



The Kentuckian

Journal of the First Families of Kentucky

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Greetings from the Governor General

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the fifth Governor General of the First Families of Kentucky. I'm very proud of the society we have become, and the things we have accomplished since our founding in 2005.

One of our most important goals has been to identify and honor the men and women who settled this dangerous and beautiful area before we gained statehood on June 1, 1792.



To paraphrase an expression - No one truly dies until the last person speaks their name. We are proud to remember our early Kentucky ancestors and keep their

memory alive through our research and sharing their stories. As I write this, we have identified and proved 195 ancestors, and have 234 members. Thank you for your interest in genealogy and history, your pride in your heritage, and for helping us preserve these priceless records. If you have not already done so, please write a story about your entry ancestor for our newsletter. We will all be informed and inspired by your efforts.

First Families of Kentucky

Luncheon

Saturday, the 5th of October

Two thousand and thirteen

Lexington Country Club

2550 Paris Pike

Lexington, Kentucky

Luncheon at twelve noon

\$30.00

Program by

Stephen L. Collins

"Tales from Two Houses"

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Founded 30 April 2005

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Our annual banquet on June 2nd at the lovely Pendennis Club in downtown Louisville was well attended, and we all enjoyed the delightful and educational after-dinner presentation by our own member, Mel Hankla, as he portrayed General George Rogers Clark. This Kentucky Chautauqua program was made possible by a grant from the Kentucky Humanities Council.

I hope to see you at our luncheon in Lexington on October 5th.

Sincerely,
Lynn Shea, Governor General



The home of Judge John Rowan, "Federal Hill", located in Bardstown, Kentucky, was the inspiration for Stephen Foster's song "My Old Kentucky Home, Goodnight" published in 1852.

Preserve your ancestors' Kentucky history by sending his/her story to *The Kentuckian*. Stories should be approximately 600 words or less and all stories will be edited for clarity and length. Copyright material must be accompanied by a signed release from the publisher and the author. Please send photos and articles for the next newsletter to the Editor at 600 Hatherleigh Lane, Louisville, KY, 40222.

Please keep your address current.

First Families of Kentucky Banquet



Presenter Mel Hankla



William & Bette Buckaway



Sharon & Dennis Withers



Linda & Gary Tanner



Ron & Lynn Shea



Bob & Mary Anne Richardson



Larry & Joyce Miller



Barb & Ken Bohn



Anne & Bill Swinford



Nancye & Jack Early



Rachel Mazzanti, Gregg Collins



Jane & Robert Wagel



Art & Jean Dietz



Jerry & Fay Ford



Audrey Pulliam



Laura Jones, William Schrader, Betty Beliveau



Kathy Hall



J. Murel & Frieda Wheatley



Amy & Betty Stokes



Lucy Jacobs, Anne Rodick



George Earl Meyers



Susan & Rev. Paul Smith



Katherine Ratliff & Col. Douglas Harper



Frances Barr



Ronald Bryant



Margaret Sooy, Jean Pollard, Dorothy Wilks



Sharlene Cooper



First Families of Kentucky members who joined in 2013



Giles Light, DJ Tabb



Betty Miesner, Myrna Parsley, Alex Probus, & John Parsley



Judge John David & Mary H. Myles, Bill Swinford, Mary David Myles



2013-2015 First Families of Kentucky Officers were installed

Martain/Martin

William Martin was an immigrant to America in 1742 with his parents, Hugh and Sarah Martin, at the age of nine years. He was born in Carnmoney, Antrim County, Ireland on May 25, 1733. The Martins were French Huguenots who had migrated from France to Scotland and on to Ireland. They came to the Colonies into the area of Orange County, Virginia, which became Augusta County and later Rockbridge County, with several other Scotch-Irish families. Hugh was listed in Capt. John Christian's militia company under Col. James Patton. (The year was fixed as 1742 by Joseph Waddell's history in *Annals of Southwest Virginia*.) The older Hugh and his son, William, had several land purchases and transfers on The Bull Pasture, Calf Pasture, and Christian Creek. William was a member of the Augusta County militia under Patrick Martin, his cousin. William married Agness Hodge, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Hodge, ca. 1756 in Augusta County, Virginia. William and Agness Martin had the following children: Hugh, born August 22, 1759; Sarah (Sally), born ca. 1758; John, born 1760; William Jr., born March 8, 1762; Samuel, born ca. 1765; James, born November 1, 1767; and Henry, born October 5, 1770.

William Martin was the executor of his father's estate on May 21, 1766. William's daughter, Sallie, married John Williams in 1778 in Augusta County. John Williams had been to Kentucky and earned a 400-acre preemption for making a settlement and raising a crop before 1778. This entitled the landowner to purchase another 1,000 acres. He was a member of the commissioners and the secretary who issued the warrants in Kentucky and Fayette Counties. His warrant was located on Sinking Creek, which is now the northern edge of Versailles, and runs up Big Sink Pike north of Payne Pike bordering Buck Pond (Col. Thomas Marshall's warrant). This is where William Martin, Sr. made his

home for he, his wife, and younger children after living in Lexington as a lot owner for a while. He also stayed at McConnell's Station. His son, Hugh, had purchased and entered a preemption or a treasury warrant of John Martin's or one of the McDonald brothers on the Kentucky River, in what became Clark County, west of Winchester on Hancock Creek. Hugh married Mary McDonald in Augusta County, Virginia before coming to Kentucky in September 1779. Members of the McDonald family lived next to Hugh in Clark County. Several families from Augusta came to Kentucky together and were original lot owners in Lexington. Hugh, along with his brothers and brothers-in-law, sons of widow Sarah, Mrs. Francis McDonald, Sr., helped to lay out the town and were carpenters on the fort and the first buildings in Lexington. They were members of the Fayette County Militia, including James who was very young but filed for and received a Revolutionary pension in Woodford County. After improvements were made on the land they had in warrants, William Sr. moved to Sinking Creek on William's farm with his younger children. William died in September of 1795 in Woodford County, Kentucky. James was the administrator of his estate.

In 1803, Hugh left Clark County and moved to Muhlenburg County, Kentucky with his family where he had other land warrants on Isaacs Creek and Cypress Creek. James stayed on the original land of his father's, located on Sinking Creek in Woodford County, until his death in 1837. Hugh was the first elder listed representing Salem Presbyterian Church in Clark County in 1784. James was one of the elders listed as receiving the land for the Pisgah Presbyterian Church and Pisgah Academy before uniting with the Lexington Presbyterian Church to form what is now Transylvania University. Salem and Pisgah are still going strong.

I go back through this line to two of William Martin's sons: William Martin, Sr., colonial militiaman, was my 5th great-grandfather, to his

eldest son, Hugh Martin, Revolutionary War militiaman, to his son, James D. Martin, War of 1812 militiaman, to his son, James Cleland Martin, Captain in the Union Cavalry, to his son, James Hodge Martin, Sgt. in the Union Mounted Infantry, to his daughter, Mary A. Martin who married Benjamin M. Thompson, and then to his daughter, Ellen Thompson Rarden, and to myself, Harold William Rarden. I also go back to William Martin, Sr. through his son, James Martin, Revolutionary War militiaman, to his daughter, Jane Martin, who married James Cleland Martin, listed above, to her son, James Hodge Martin, listed above, father of Mary A. Martin, who married Benjamin M. Thompson, then to my mother, Ellen Thompson Rarden, and myself.

Harold W. Rarden

Deats

Michael Deats was born in Germany. He came to America and the story is told that he was a German Baron and a Catholic Priest who settled in Hagerstown, Maryland. However, he left the priesthood and married Catherine, a French Norman, before the year 1780. The story continues that Michael and Catherine traveled from Pennsylvania down the Ohio River to Kentucky with Daniel Boone. Their first stop, in the spring of 1780, was near present day Shepherdsville, Kentucky, at a location later called Fort Mud Garrison. Supposedly Michael and Catherine helped to build the station at Mud Garrison which was used for the protection of families working to extract salt from the Salt River area.

Michael served in two Revolutionary War campaigns led by George Rogers Clark. In 1780, Michael was in Capt. Lewis Hickman's Company when they marched to Chillicothe and Piqua, Ohio against the Shawnee Indians. The second campaign was under the command of Capt. James Samuel in

1782, when they traveled up the Miami River to destroy the Shawnee villages at Chillicothe. That was one of the last battles of the Revolutionary War. George Rogers Clark was well known for using Kentucky long-rifle militia, Kentucky ammunition, and salt from the Salt River area in his campaigns. Michael is listed as Michel Tech on this record. The connection for Michael Deats with the George Rogers Clark campaigns has also been proven through a DAR application. Daniel Boone was also involved with the Kentuckians in some of the Indian battles. Michael was a member of the Jefferson County (Kentucky) Militia in 1782 and was on the 1785 Nelson County tax list. Therefore, this makes the Deats family a "first family of Kentucky", who helped settle this area and make it a state.

Later, Michael and Catherine moved closer to Cox's Creek (Station) with other settlers around Boston, Kentucky. They settled in an area known today as "Deatsville". (The Samuel's Distillery is located here.) The Deats purchased 150 acres of land on Crooked Creek, where they were neighbors of the Hart family. Michael died August 20, 1832 in Belmont Furnace, Bullitt County, Kentucky. Catherine died in 1837 at Crooked Creek, Bullitt County. The couple had five known children: Elizabeth, born 4-14-1774 PA; Piety Susannah, born 1775 PA; Mary, born 1777 PA; Nancy, born 1780 Mud Garrison, Nelson Co. KY; and John, born 1784 Nelson Co., KY. In 1800 their daughter, Nancy Deats, married John Snellenbarger in Bullitt County, Kentucky. Their son, David Snellen, was born in 1808 in Bullitt County and apparently he dropped the "barger" from the name. David is my 4th great-grandfather.

Terry Lynn Pyles

Information: *The Land of Salt River to Pitts Point and Associated Families* by Janet Hickey Upton, *George Rogers Clark and His Men* by Harding

McAfee

Ancestors on both sides of my family were early Kentucky settlers. On my mother's side were the McAfees who came to this country during the Revolution that brought William of Orange to the throne of England. James and Jane McAfee emigrated to Lancaster, Pennsylvania initially and finally settled in Virginia. Their three sons were born in Virginia. Upon the reports of hunters Walker and Boone, a grant of 400 acres was made to all soldiers of the French & Indian War. It was then that James, George, Robert, and Samuel McAfee came to Kentucky in 1773. After visiting Big Bone Lick, and the site of our present capital, they moved south into what is now Mercer County. James stuck his surveyor's staff into the bluff heading at New Providence spring and said, "Men, you may hunt much more land as you please, as for me, I intend to live my days out here by the blessing of Providence." The McAfees returned to Virginia to move their families, but were delayed due to Indian hostilities and the plundering of their household goods stored along the way. They were further delayed in 1777 and 1778 to fight in the Revolutionary War. Finally, 1779 found them in the (Kentucky) cane breaks of the Salt River with their families.

In 1781 McAfee Station suffered the most severe attack in its history. Also in that year the mother of the McAfees died. The Indians continued to come but the McAfees were able to stay on their land the rest of their lives.

The McAfees were, as the Scotch, clannish. They were brave, enterprising, ambitious people. The family was devoted to General Washington, their old military chief. Robert B. McAfee, my ancestor, was the first Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky. They were thoroughly Presbyterian. After building their own log cabins, they erected a house for religious worship which continues today as New Providence Presbyterian Church on US 60 outside of

Harrodsburg. They chose the name in memory of the one in which they had worshiped in the mother state. One brother turned back and lived in South Carolina. The little village of McAfee is named for this pioneer family.

Anna Lee Demaree

Reference: *History of Mercer and Boyle Counties*

Connely

Thomas Connely, his brother, Arthur, and his sister Mary, along with their parents emigrated from Ireland to the state of Virginia (date unknown). They left behind a married sister who never had any children. Thomas married a Virginia lady named Walker who bore him nine children: Arthur, Thomas, Alexander, Robert, Martha, Mary, Jane, Elizabeth and Isabella.

Thomas Connely married and emigrated to Boone County, Kentucky where he died leaving five children. Alexander settled and lived in Covington, Kentucky where he raised eight children. Robert settled in Boone County, Kentucky where he died leaving 11 children. Martha married her cousin, Arthur Connely. Mary married George Berry but had no children. Jane married Charles Patterson and had two children, a son and daughter, before Patterson was killed by a fall from a horse. Elizabeth married Samuel Tharp to whom she bore several children, most of whom emigrated to Springfield, Illinois. Isabella married Samuel Gowdy and settled in Xenia, Ohio where she died in 1838, leaving a large family.

Arthur Connely, brother of the first above named Thomas, married in Virginia and raised nine children: Thomas, Robert, John, David, Arthur, James, Mary, Jane and Sarah. Thomas was killed in the Revolutionary War. Robert was killed by the Indians while on a surveying expedition in Kentucky. John never married and died near Xenia, Ohio. David left a family near Xenia, Ohio but also lived in Illinois and Mississippi. Arthur married his cousin, Martha,

and settled in Kentucky. James left a family in Scott County, Kentucky. Mary married Joseph McCauley. Jane married David Williamson. Sarah married John Walker, brother to her uncle Thomas' wife. Sarah lived to a very great age and died in Augusta County, Virginia.

Arthur Connely, oldest son of the first above named Thomas, married Jane Dale in 1785. Jane was the daughter of Alexander and Isabella Gilmore Dale, both natives of Ireland who emigrated from Augusta County, Virginia to Montgomery County, Kentucky in 1791, where he died. Arthur and Jane's fourth child, Arthur, my third great-grandfather, was born December 19, 1790, the last of their children born in Augusta County, Virginia. Their next child, Margaret, was born in 1792 in Kentucky.

Bible information: Arthur Connely born

December 19, 1790; Jensey Steele born November 18, 1793; the two married March 2, 1815 in Montgomery County. The marriage is recorded in Rev. Joseph P. Howe's *List of Marriages*. Children: Gilmore Franklin Connely born 12-7-1815; Ninian born 11-7-1817; Elizabeth born 11-18-1819; Robert Alexander born 1-23-1822; Cynthia born 6-2-1824; Mary Osborne born 9-1-1827; and Arthur Connely Jr. born 9-27-1829.

Arthur Connely, the immigrant to Kentucky, died August 9, 1815 in Montgomery County, Kentucky. His name also appears in the *Little Mountain Congregation Petition*.

This information was entered into the Connely Family Bible ca. 1850 by Arthur's grandson, Gilmore Franklin Connely born December 7, 1815, my second great-grandfather.

Jack Idenden

