



The Kentuckian

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Greetings from the Governor General

Half way through my term as Governor General, I think I can say that the Society of the First Families of Kentucky continues to prosper. We continue to add members, with our numbers now up to 313, with several more in the pipeline, and enquiries coming in on a steady basis. Our annual meeting at the Pendennis Club on May 28 was held with considerable success. Our speaker, Rev. Clyde Crews, presented an informative and very positive talk on the role of religion in antebellum Kentucky, and the recipients of our semi-annual donation, the Cane Ridge historical site, seemed appreciative.



Of course, we would always welcome more of you at our meetings, which would make them even more a success.

Our meeting in the fall will take place on October 15. When

I assumed this role, I

was informed that I must take care NOT to schedule the fall meeting in Lexington on the same day as a home UK football game, or no one would come. On October 15 there is not a home game. In fact, there is no game at all. So, we've avoided this conflict, and everyone is free to attend, right?

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First Families of Kentucky

Luncheon

Saturday, the 15th of October

Two thousand and sixteen

Lexington Country Club

2550 Paris Pike

Lexington, Kentucky

Luncheon at twelve noon

\$30.00

Program by

Dr. Jonathan Coleman

“The Visit of the
Marquis de Lafayette to Kentucky”

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Nancye Bruce Whaley Early, wife of Honorary Governor General Jack Jones Early, passed away on 15 June 2016 at the age of 90. She was a native of Bath County, Kentucky, and a graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College. She served as a Sunday school teacher, a girl scout leader, and a member of the Women's Society in various Methodist churches. The funeral was held at St. Matthews United Methodist Church with burial in Cave Hill Cemetery.



Bette Cross Buckaway, wife of past Governor General William A. Buckaway, Jr., departed this life on Monday, August 1, 2016. She was a graduate of Centre College and George Peabody College. She served as a teacher of English, and later in real estate sales. Bette was a member and past President of the Kentucky Society of Colonial Dames, as well as the John Marshall Chapter of the DAR. She was a member of the Women's Club of Louisville, the American Association of University Women, the Board of Liberty Hall, the Filson Historical Society, and the Speed Museum. She was a strong supporter of Governor Buckaway.

Crews



Rev. Dr. Clyde Crews, Professor Emeritus of History at Bellarmine University, spoke on “Wilderness Faith” at the First Families of Kentucky banquet.

Lee—Yates—Stewart

The scanty records of the migrations of these families provide just enough data for descendants to reconstruct their life on the frontier, their movements, and in a few cases, their hard-earned prosperity. All three of these families moved on, like Daniel Boone, as the United States expanded west, and have left progeny far beyond the borders of the Commonwealth. Even so, it is important to recognize and preserve their contributions to the settlement of Kentucky.

Peter Lee, son of William and Mary Thornton Lee, was born in 1750 in Richmond County, Virginia, served in Lord Dunmore's War (1774) with his brothers, Mark and Richard, was a private in the Revolution in the Virginia State Line for three years, and received a warrant for 100 acres in Kentucky for his services (8 Nov. 1790). He had married Rebecca Taylor in 1778, and they were living in Hampshire County (now in W Va.) until at least 1783. By the summer of 1785 he was in Kentucky, settling on

Pitman's Creek (also called Sinking Creek), in what was to become Nelson County where he farmed near his brothers, William and Mark. After 1794 he joined his brother, Mark, in Louisiana, and he died there in 1823, in La Fayette Parish. Family historians believe that the seven Lee siblings, Peter, William, Richard, Charles, John, Mark, and Nancy had all migrated to Kentucky around 1783/1784.

Peter's land was on Pitman's Creek, which with its branches arises in Taylor County and empties into the Green River. The Lee farm was near William Pitman's second station, founded after 1784 in today's Green County. Most settlers left the area between 1781-1784 because of Indian depredations. There are no vestiges of Pitman's fort; but it is likely to have been at the lower end of the creek, which was navigable.

It is possible to trace the Lee family's migrations, thanks to a deposition made in 1828 by Peter's nephew, William, the son of Richard Lee. William says that he, his father Richard, and (uncle ?) John Lee had spent time at both Rogers' Station and Goodin's Station. Rogers' Station, built in 1780, was four miles west of Bardstown, somewhere near the junction of Hwy 62 and Ben Irvine Road; and Goodin's Station was eight miles south of Rogers' Station, on Rolling Fork, near Boston, Kentucky. William Lee knew Col. James Rogers and members of his family and Samuel Goodin, the builders of the frontier stations. Rogers had come from Hampshire County, Virginia, as had the Lees.

Peter's wife, Rebecca Taylor Lee, already had relatives in Kentucky when they arrived. Rebecca was the daughter of Simon Taylor and Anna Marie Hite, whose father was Col. John Hite of Winchester, Virginia, the county lieutenant of Frederick County, Virginia. Col. Hite's sister married Col. Abraham Bowman (originally Baumann), a Revolutionary soldier, Kentucky pioneer, and one of the founders of Fayette County. Her cousin, Isaac Hite, (whom Peter Lee once sued) had arrived in Kentucky before

the Revolution. Her great-grandmother was Rebecca Van Meter, a member of another family that provided early settlers. Rebecca Van Meter's nephew, Jacob Van Meter, and several of his children had come to Kentucky in 1779. Rebecca Lee died in Louisiana sometime after 1830.

John Yates, Sr. (c. 1755-1826), arrived in Kentucky, probably from North Carolina, and settled in Madison County, where on "the 5th of August 1790, John Yates purchased of John Bryant, of Lincoln County, Kentucky, 100 acres of land on the waters of Taylor's Fork of Silver Creek in Madison County ..." Taylor Fork, as it is now called, is the source of a reservoir west of Richmond. Yates subsequently acquired several other properties, including land on Little Muddy Creek, a stream that flows from the lake east of US 421 at Duncannon Lane into Muddy Creek. It was in this area that Yates and his Stewart connections had built their houses. In *Madison's Heritage Recovered*, Robert Grise states that the first roads in the county followed buffalo traces, and one of the major trails led from Otter Creek to Log Lick, on Muddy Creek. Reliable published sources identify six children of John Yates, Sr., and wife Margaret: Margaret, Nancy, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Patsy, and John, Jr.

The Special Collections of the library at Eastern Kentucky University holds an enormous amount of genealogical material on the early families of Madison County compiled by William H. Miller (d. 1907). Before his death, Miller made extensive notes on the Yates family, interviewing descendants; and he attempted to untangle the households and the Christian names, to several Yates' lines. Recent research by Ron Yates, who has a carefully documented site for his Yates ancestors (www.yatesville.net), casts doubt on Miller's reconstruction of the list of offspring. Future investigation may be able to prove that other members of the Yates family, Benjamin Yates

(b. 1732, d. 4 Dec. 1786 in Ky.) and Elizabeth Wallace (b. Va. 1735, d. Ky. 1781), were in Kentucky by 1781 and to connect John Yates' family to James Yates, who was at Ft. Boonesborough in 1775.

William Stewart's parentage and previous places of residence are currently unknown. He appears in Madison County court records in early 1791 as a plaintiff in a long-drawn-out suit against Isaac Ingram; and he married Margaret "Peggy" Yates in late 1791. In 1795, he bought land on "a branch of Taylor's Fork of Silver Creek," near his father-in-law, John Yates. Silver Creek, into which Taylor's Fork flows, begins south of Berea and ends northwest of Richmond, where it enters the Kentucky River. The now disappeared town of Milford, near where Taylor Fork meets Silver Creek, was the first county seat, and Stewart's and Yates' farms were in this area.

A few years later, perhaps as early as 1808-10, in the company of Joshua Yates, William moved his family to Bedford County, Tennessee (created in 1807). The Stewarts traveled to Tennessee in a covered wagon, the ox-yoke of which is still in possession of their descendants. In 1814, William acquired 122 acres from Joshua Yates, and seems to have prospered. He died in October, 1834, and is buried at the Sugar Creek Meeting House, near Flat Creek, Bedford County, Tennessee. In his will, now disappeared, he left sixteen slaves, animals, property, land, and cash to his family. The children named in the will were Joshua (dec.), William (C.?) Jr., Samuel, and John (a minor), Rachel Barrett (dec.), Jemima Gurley, Malinda Hix, Patty Gambill, and Nelly Hix. His widow, Margaret Yates Stewart, appears as head of household in the 1850 census, age 76. She died in 1858.

Joseph R. Jones

Please keep your e-mail and address current.

Martin

John Martin was the son of Valentine Martin and Jane Bridgewater of Goochland County, Virginia and was one of eleven children. Valentine Martin lists the children in his will probated 20 July 1760 in Cumberland County, Virginia as John, Orson, Valentine, Jobe, Samuel, Isom, Easter, Sarah, Jane, Mildred, and Ann. John's father, Valentine, is listed as a property owner in Goochland County as early as 1739 when he purchased 200 acres of land for eight pounds.

John Martin married Rachel Pace January 3, 1757 in St. James Parish, Goochland County, Virginia by the Episcopal minister, Rev. William Douglas. His presumed father-in-law was Joseph Pace according to Harry G. Enoch (Martin historian). Rachel Pace is tentatively identified by researchers of the Pace Society of America as a daughter of Joseph Pace and Anne Basford of Middlesex County, Virginia.

According to the Douglas Register, John Martin and Rachel Pace had the baptism of a daughter, Hannah, recorded May 24, 1761 and the birth recorded as April 11, 1761 in Goochland County, Virginia. John Martin is recorded on the tithable tables in Goochland in 1763, 1766, 1767, and 1769. In the years 1770-1771, John Martin moved to Albemarle County that became Fluvanna County in 1777. He was one of the first members of Lyles Baptist Church in Fluvanna County. In 1779, John Martin received a Virginia patent for 209 acres of land, signed by Thomas Jefferson, to which he paid taxes on from 1782-1790.

I descend through John and Rachel's daughter, Hannah, that married Obadiah Baber. They were married by the Baptist minister Philip Webber, who became the first pastor of Lyles Baptist Church in 1774. John Martin gave his surety bond for the marriage of Obadiah Baber, a bachelor, and Hannah Martin, a spinster, recorded April 3, 1782. John Martin's daughter, Hannah, and her husband,

Obadiah Baber, came to Kentucky in March 1786. By the fall other children, William, Orson, John, Valentine, Elizabeth and Rachel followed to what is now known as Clark County, Kentucky.

In 1787, John Martin and wife, Rachel, settled on Lower Howard's Creek in Clark County and joined the Providence Baptist Church and were received by letter. This is the first record of them in Clark County. John was called as an Elder of the church in 1788. John Martin was a blacksmith by trade and appears on Clark County tax lists in 1793-1798, 1800-1803, 1808 and until his death in 1821. John and Rachel Martin are buried on the plantation they owned in Clark County and the graves are recorded in the "Old Graveyards of Clark County, Kentucky" by Kathryn Owen.

John Martin is listed in the Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Index along with his son-in-law, Obadiah Baber.

Obadiah Baber was the son of Thomas Baber and Elizabeth Lawson of Fluvanna County, Virginia and served as a private in the American Revolution. He died January 22, 1822 in Clark County, Kentucky and his wife, Hannah, died in 1847 in Kentucky. The children of Obadiah and Hannah were Rachel, Hiram, Isham, Lucy, Elizabeth, Mary (Polly), Hannah Delilah, Nancy and the twins, Thomas and John. Hannah Delilah was my direct ancestor and married Daniel Lowe. Daniel served in the War of 1812. This family served its country well as patriots.

Donna K. West Stoessner

Please share your ancestor's Kentucky history by sending his/her story to *The Kentuckian*. Stories should be approximately 600 words or less. All stories will be edited for clarity and length. Copyright material must be accompanied by a signed release from publisher and author. Mail to Editor at 600 Hatherleigh Lane, Louisville, KY, 40222.

Montgomery

John Montgomery (1764-1845) and his brother, Alexander Montgomery, left descendants in Magoffin County, Kentucky. John and Alexander were the sons of Alexander Montgomery and Martha Walker. John Walker and Ann Houston were the parents of Martha Walker. Life along the Clinch River before and during the Revolution was so hazardous that without extended families experienced in Indian wars, John and Alex could not have survived. The Walker and Porter men were Longhunters.

Susannah Walker married Patrick Porter, Mary Walker married Andrew Cowan, Jane Walker married William Cowan, Hetty Walker married Robert Bell, John Walker married a Miss Long, Samuel Walker was killed by Indians on the Clinch River in Virginia in May 1778, Margaret Walker married John Snoddy, Martha Walker married Alexander Montgomery, and Ann Walker married Samuel Cowan.

John Montgomery (A079041 DAR S33124 SAR) was thirteen years of age in June of 1777 when he and Alexander enlisted for five years under Captain Nathan Reed. John served as a private in Virginia under his uncle, Captain John Snoddy, and Captain Dazy and Col. William Campbell. Captain John Snoddy at one time owned Moore's Fort (known as Snoddy's Fort while under his command), but sold it to Frederick Fraley. In 1777 *Draper Manuscripts* say Patrick Porter was in charge of Moore's Fort. In the *Kentucky Historical Register* page 33 Col. John Snoddy deposes that he was with Daniel Boone when he moved to Boonesborough. Depositions in 1801, Richmond, Kentucky by Col. John and Sam Snoddy were taken at the house of John Kincaid.

A list of troops at Moore's Fort: (Draper MSS I XX 20 and I XX 24) Patrick Porter, Sergeant, Lewis Green, Jr., Robert Kilgore, James Alley, Charles

Kilgore, Samuel Alley, John Montgomery, Samuel Porter, Zachariah Green, John Alley, Alexander Montgomery, Sr., Alexander Montgomery, Jr., Andrew Cowan, Frederick Friley, John Kinkead, John Barksdale, James Ozburn (Osborne), Thomas Osborne, and Nehemiah Noe.

In the *History of Scott County, Virginia* by R.W. Addington, an account of Southwest Virginia militiamen organized under Col. Campbell to drive back Ferguson is given. Patrick Porter raised 42 men in the Clinch Valley and marched to the place of rendezvous.

On the 1773 tax list of those delinquent in that part of Fincastle County settled on the waters of Clinch River were Alexr Montgomery, Samuel Cowen, Patrick Porter, William Houston, Andrew Cowen, William Cowen, John Snoddy. Alexander Montgomery and family were at the Moore's Fort area on the Clinch River in Virginia in 1773 at the same time Daniel Boone and his family returned to the Clinch River. They lived there together 1773-1775 for the duration of Dunmore's War. Daniel Boone was placed in command of Moore's and Blackmore's Forts as Captain of the militia until he returned to Kentucky in the spring of 1775.

John Montgomery served in the 7th Regiment for the Virginia line. He was in a skirmish at Whitsells Mill and in the Battle of Guilford Court House after which he was sent back to Moore's Fort and placed under Captain Snoddy.

Terry Anderson

McGuire

James McGuire was a Revolutionary War soldier who served as a Lieutenant at the time he was killed in battle. McGuire and Israel Boone, son of Lt. Col. Daniel Boone, rode to the rescue of Bryan's Station. Bryan's Station was under siege by British troops and more than 200 Indians from

under the command of Major Caldwell. Lt. McGuire and Boone both went on to fight at the Battle of Blue Licks Springs. This was in pursuit of the British and Indians who had attacked Bryan's Station days earlier. They were killed in action on the 19th of August 1782. The British never returned to Kentucky and this was considered the last battle of the Revolutionary War on the western front. The Battle of Blue Licks is commemorated annually.

A monument now stands at the site of the Blue Licks Battlefield State Park. It memorializes the men who fought in this last battle of the Revolutionary War in Kentucky. The names of the soldiers who fought in this battle are inscribed on the monument. Many of these men were recent immigrants from Ireland who had left the home country to escape the British tyranny. They now encountered both the same tyranny and religious oppression here on the American frontier.

James McGuire was born in Orange County, Virginia about 1745. His ancestry is from Ireland. He was married to Elizabeth Black, who was born in Ireland, in 1740. She is buried at Beattyville, Lee County, Kentucky.

Barbara S. Philpott

Governor General continued from page 1

The fall meeting is always a luncheon, and will again be held at the very pleasant Lexington Country Club. Our speaker will be Dr. Jon Coleman, who may be known to those of you in the Lexington area, as he conducts regular walking tours of the city, imparting historical insights. For us, he will talk about the visit of the Marquis de Lafayette to Kentucky. Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert de Motier, Marquis de Lafayette (whew, that's a mouthful!) not only played a significant part in the American Revolution, but returned to tour the United States in 1824 at the invitation of President James Monroe. This will be the subject of Dr. Coleman's address.

At that same meeting, we will again present a

donation to some site which is of historical or cultural significance for Kentucky. On this occasion, our donation will go to Ashland, the historic home of "the Great Compromiser" Henry Clay, located in Lexington. Some, especially visitors to Lexington, may wish to schedule visits to the home while in the city.

In other respects, your society is also in good shape. Our Treasurer General, Bob Hughes, keeps an eagle eye on our expenditures. He assures me that we are solvent. I also want to thank our Corresponding Secretary General, Laura Jones, for her continuing work on a variety of matters, from getting invitations printed to decorations for the tables at our meetings. I want to put in a special vote of thanks to our Registrar General, Sharon Withers. She has had to deal with a couple of especially difficult cases lately, and has done so with consummate diplomacy. I want, at this time, to make a special plea to the members. If you are applying for a supplemental membership, or are sponsoring someone for membership, please try to get your materials in some decent shape so they make sense. Do not assume that everyone knows what you think you know. Sharon has spent countless hours trying to straighten out badly jumbled applications, which is really not her job. Finally, I also wish to thank Steve Collins, who holds the appointive post of Parliamentarian. He not only attends all the Council meetings, but even had the program for the annual banquet printed at his own cost. With officers like these, there is no secret as to why the First Families continues to prosper.

I encourage everyone to attend our fall meeting on Saturday, October 15. I hope to see all of you there.

William Schrader
Governor General

General James Wilkinson built this double-log house on the banks of the Kentucky River in Frankfort ca. 1784. Because the construction of Kentucky's first permanent statehouse was not completed in time, the second session of the legislature met in this house located on the corner of Wapping and Wilkinson Streets. The log house was later covered with wood siding. It was razed in 1870.

(Photo courtesy of Capital City Museum, Frankfort)

