



# Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter

## Kentucky Society

### Sons of the American Revolution



#### 4th of July Celebration



The Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter held the annual 4th of July Celebration at Owl Creek Subdivision in Louisville on July 4th. The event, organized by Charlie Scott and Scott Giltner, is a favorite for the kids and their parents and educates them about history and gives them a chance to participate in our Nations birthday. The contingent of SAR lead the kids in the Pledge of Allegiance, the reading and quizzes about the Constitution, a flag folding ceremony, a rifle salute and a flag parade. The conclusion had kids ringing the big bell and Vic Bitter doing a flintlock rifle firing demonstration allowing some kids to fire the rifle under controlled supervision. The Owl Creek neighborhood organization provided lunch for all the SAR members.



#### Chapter Officers- 2020

- President - Mike King**  
mrfking@mindspring.com
- Vice President - Patrick Wesoloski**  
65moots@gmail.com
- Secretary - Scott Giltner**  
stgilt@earthlink.net
- Treasurer - Rod Smothers**  
rodcyas@gmail.com
- Registrar- Larry Selby**  
lseyby1@bellsouth.net
- Chaplain - Eric McClain**  
ericd@yahoo.com
- Historian - Kent Hathaway**  
khathaw0@gmail.com
- Color Guard Commander - Scott Giltner**  
stgilt@earthlink.net
- Newsletter- Mike King**  
mrfking001@gmail
- Webmaster-Scott Giltner**  
stgilt@earthlink.net
- Photos By - John Clay Barnett**
- Facebook By - Patrick Wesolosky**



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## Grave Marking for Patriot John Adams Quiggins, Loretto, Kentucky

The Chapter was finally able to hold a grave marking in Loretto, Kentucky at Holy Cross Church Cemetery on July 5th, 2020 for Patriot John Adams Quiggins (1754 - March 7, 1815). The Patriot was a Corporal in the 3rd Maryland Regiment in the Revolutionary War and in the 9th Regiment, Kentucky under Commanding Officer Captain Presley C. Smith in the War of 1812. The family of Patriot Quiggins was hosting a family reunion and decided to honor their ancestor while their family was together. The ceremony dedicated a beautiful monument stone with the symbols of the SAR and Society of the War of 1812 by the old tombstone that is fading. A large number of SAR members were there to post the flags, present the wreaths and fold a flag to present to the family. The conclusion had a large number of riflemen for the gun salute and Taps to complete the ceremony. After the ceremony the family welcomed the SAR to a buffet lunch to show their thanks. Members of the SAR from throughout Kentucky came to be at the ceremony.



Mike Sullivan and Entering Color Guard



Color Guard Moving to Post



Mourn Arms - Robert Brooks, Jay Doss, Patrick Wesolosky and Rod Smothers



Mike Sullivan with Charlie Scott and Scott Giltner Playing Amazing Grace on Fife



Marika Wesolosky Presenting DAR Wreath



Closing Prayer



Larry Selby, Andrew Giltner and Charlie Scott Folding Flag



Rifle Salute



Scott Giltner Playing Taps

SAR Color Guard



Family of Patriot John Quiggins

**Announcements.** *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*



- **July 16<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm, 2020 Chapter Meeting.** The July meeting will be a Zoom meeting due to the Coronavirus isolation measures. The next in-person meeting will hopefully be in August as long as social distancing is not a problem. The location will be announced.
- **Zoom Social Call-Ins.** A special thanks goes out to Patrick Wesolosky for hosting a weekly social call on Zoom. If you would like to “Zoom In” and do not have the web link send Patrick an email to be included.
- **Events and Activities.** The Coronavirus isolation canceled many Chapter and community events. It is not known if or when many will be rescheduled. A list is shown later in the newsletter, however the *Chapter Info - Upcoming Events* on the GISSAR.org website will maintain up-to-date information and should be used to determine the status of events.

- **Tomahawk Raffle.** The winning ticket for the tomahawk that was beautifully crafted by Steve Malory was Will Hildebrand. Jay Doss delivered the tomahawk to Will who appreciated getting the tomahawk.

**Will Hildebrand with Jay Doss Admiring the Tomahawk won in the raffle.**



- **New Members.** The Chapter will be welcoming quite a few new members who will be sworn in when the in-person meetings resume. Some of the new members to be pinned at our next in-person meeting include: Kurt Hall, LeRoy Halter, Lincoln Amirault, Clyde Wilson, Matthew Coleman, Jason Coleman and Matthew Wisman. Don Gosser and John Gosser have their applications in at headquarters. We are glad to have you aboard.
- **Associates and Friends Program.** The Associates Program is a Chapter activity that is for those working on their lineage to become an SAR member. It is also for those who would like to participate with the Chapter activities but cannot become a member. The exact criteria and standards for the Chapter are still in discussion.
- **Alliances and Links Program.** The Alliances and Links is a program that is design to solicit support and communications with other organizations in our area. Many have events we are interested in, and in turn, they have activities that we may be interested in. This expanded communications will help our Chapter gain more supporting partners and observers for our events. The exact criteria and standards for this program is still in discussion.
- **Veterans Support.** During social distancing the Veterans Committee of the Chapter has continued to provide donation support to the Veterans at Robley Rex and other Veterans organizations. Larry Selby, the Chapter Chairperson for the Veterans Committee said that the active in-person volunteering at the VA Hospital is beginning again. At this time they need Kroger and gift cards. Regular donation of toiletry products and books will begin again in the future. Please let Larry Selby or Mike King know if you have donation items.
- **Scout Projects.** Before the social isolation there was a variety of Scouts events and projects scheduled with the SAR and the Chapter. All were canceled when isolation began. Lee Muncy, Chairperson for the Scouting Committee has stated that after things have returned to normal he will begin to organize and schedule the event again and get them back on the schedule.
- **250th Anniversary Challenge Coins.** Patrick Wesolosky was the first Chapter member to qualify for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary challenge coin by posting historical information on Facebook. The limited issue coin can be purchased from the SAR bookstore

**Social Events.** The following are some planned social events waiting to be scheduled. All Compatriots, families and friends are welcome to attend for casual fun filled evenings.



- **Compatriots and Family Dinner at Selena’s.** Family and friends are welcome. Pending.
- **Old Friends Equine Horse Farm Tour.** Pending.
- **Trivia Night at Mission BBQ.** Waiting for social distancing to end. Pending.

**Chapter Communications.** The following are the primary sources of communications with the Chapter.

- **Chapter Facebook.** [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). Look up: Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter Ky Sar
- **Ky Society, SAR Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/groups/1431811717073204/photos/?filter=albums](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1431811717073204/photos/?filter=albums)
- **GISSAR Chapter Website.** [www.gissar.org](http://www.gissar.org)
- **NSSAR Website.** [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)
- **Newsletter Submissions.** Send to Mike King at [mrkking001@gmail.com](mailto:mrkking001@gmail.com)
- **Mailing Address.** Send to Mike King at 9016 Willow Springs Drive, Louisville, KY 40242
- **Chapter Officers.** See the front page for the Chapter Officers email addresses.

**Recent Events and Activities.**



- **Graveyard Cleanups.** Time engulfs the Patriots who have passed before us as their memories and graves are lost. With this in mind, Patrick Wesolosky and compatriots in the Lafayette Chapter have made it a mission to find Patriot grave sites overgrown with trees, weeds, bushes and fallen stones and clean them up. These efforts help keep the memory of a Patriot alive and reminds those who live nearby about the contributions the warriors from the past have made. If you are interested in getting involved with these efforts let Patrick know. This type of effort is great for school groups and organizations looking for community service hours and involvement. (See photos on following pages).

- **Travel Plans.** There are quite a few SAR events that are outside Kentucky and require travel. A few of them include: Point Pleasant Battle Days, Gathering at Sycamore Shoals, Mount Vernon Vigil, King’s Mountain Memorial, Celtic Weekend, Yorktown Victory Celebration and Cowpens. There are many others that celebrate the Revolution War and the efforts of our Patriot ancestors to gain the freedom we enjoy today. If you are aware of an impending event that you are going to travel to, or may be of interest to other Chapter members, please let Mike King and Scott Giltner know. The event can be listed on the website and newsletter so others who might also be interested can coordinate travel and possibly meet as a group. Nothing makes a travel event more enjoyable than sharing the experience with a compatriot.
- **Educational Programs.** The use of Zoom makes it easy to host educational programs online for kids and adults. The Chapter has a variety of educational programs already developed that can be converted to power point and videos. If you would like to help with this project contact Mike King.
- **Updated Color Guard Manuals and Videos.** The Chapter Color Guard Unit, under Scott Giltner, is in the process of documenting and updating the Color Guard Manual and Protocols. This includes the new Vigil Protocol and Chaplains Post. In addition, the Color Guard and Manual of Arms videos that Rod Smothers created are also being updated. The videos and manuals will replace those on the Chapter when they are completed.
- **Educational Programs.** The use of Zoom makes it easy to host educational programs online for kids and adults. The Chapter has a variety of educational programs already developed that can be converted to power point and videos. If you would like to help with this project contact Mike King.
- **Volunteering at SAR Headquarters.** Volunteer support can always be used at SAR Headquarters doing a variety of activities. In the picture below we have SAR Quartermaster Charlie Scott and J.C. Barnett working with Patrick Wesolosky inventorying flags and accessories at the Headquarters storage area.



Charlie Scott and J.C. Barnett in SAR HQ Storage room.

**Planned Events and Activities with No Chapter Date Yet.** The following are some events and ceremonies in the planning or the verification process to determine if they will be scheduled and the date they will occur. Some of the activities are travel events. Due to the Coronavirus social distancing and changing conditions some planned events will not occur. As mentioned elsewhere, before any activity is official it will be verified and placed on the Chapter website events list that is maintained by Scott Giltner.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Black Powder Rifle Training. Date pending.                   | Yorktown Day, Virginia. October 19h.                           |
| Color Guard Training Sessions. Date pending.                 | Week of Valor Event - Veterans Week (Nov 1-11) Pending.        |
| Flag Retirement Ceremonies. Date pending.                    | Vigil - George Rogers Clark, Cave Hill Cemetery. Date pending. |
| Gathering at Sycamore Shoals, September 19th.                | Vigil -Zachary Taylor Grave, National Cemetery. Date pending.  |
| Vigil - George Washington’s Grave, Mt. Vernon. September 19. | Vigil - War Memorial, Frankfort, Kentucky. Date pending.       |
| Battle of Pt. Pleasant, West Virginia. October 7-9.          | Wreaths Across American. December 19, 2020.                    |
| Celtic Weekend, Shepherdsville, October 3rd.                 | Gold Star Garden Ceremony – Zachary Taylor Nat. Cemetery.      |
| Battle of King’s Mountain. October 7th.                      | Floyd-Breckinridge Historical Cemetery Rededication. Pending.  |

## **Upcoming Scheduled Events.**



The following list is for events being planned for the Chapter. Due to social isolation all events should be verified before planning to attend. Correspondence will be sent out when an event will occur and the [www.GISSAR.org](http://www.GISSAR.org) website link, *Chapter Info*, *Upcoming Events* should be referenced. The status of a meeting may change at any time. And, many new events are being added as the isolation period ends.

### **AUGUST**

- **15th - 15th Annual Battle of Blue Licks Memorial Service.**  
(Will have limited ceremony due to social isolation. See email from Scott Giltner before planning to attend.) Location: Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, 10299 Maysville Rd., Carlisle, KY  
Time: 10:00 a.m. (color guard muster at 9:15 a.m.)
- **15th - KYSSAR Summer Meeting & Luncheon.**  
(Will have limited ceremony due to social isolation. See email from Scott Giltner before planning to attend.) Location: Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, 10299 Maysville Rd., Carlisle, KY  
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- **20th - GISSAR Chapter Meeting.**  
Location: To be determined.
- **21st - Gold Star Monument Dedication at Veterans Memorial Park.**  
Location: South Oldham H.S., 5901 Veterans Memorial Prkwy, Crestwood, KY, Time: 11:00 a.m.

### **SEPTEMBER**

- **11th - Painted Stone Living History Event - School Day.**  
Location: Red Orchard Park, Shelbyville, KY, Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- **12th - Painted Stone Living History Event - Long Run Massacre.**  
Location: Red Orchard Park, Shelbyville, KY, Time: 10:00 a.m. (SAR flags - 1:45 p.m.)
- **13th - Memorial Service.**  
Location: Nolynn Baptist Church, Intersection of Glendale / Dorsey Lane, Hogdenville, KY  
Time: 1:30 p.m.
- **13th - Hogden and McDougall Grave Markings.**  
Location: Nolynn Baptist Church, Intersection of Glendale / Dorsey Lane, Hogdenville, KY. Time: 2:30 p.m. (immediately following program at 1:30 p.m.)
- **13th - Anthony Phelps Grave Marking.**  
Location: Barren Run Church, 3875 Airline Road, Sonora, KY  
Time: 4:30 p.m. (immediately following program at 2:30 p.m.)
- **17th - GISSAR Chapter Meeting.**  
Location: TBD, Time: 7:00 p.m.
- **19th - Vigil at George and Martha Washington's Tomb.**  
Location: Mount Vernon, VA, Time: TBA (muster TBA - Cunningham Bldg)
- **24th - Fall Leadership Meeting.**  
Location: Brown Hotel, 335 W Broadway, Louisville, KY, Time: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **25th - Fall Leadership Meeting.**  
Location: Brown Hotel, 335 W Broadway, Louisville, KY, Time: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **26th - Fall Leadership Meeting.**  
Location: Brown Hotel, 335 W Broadway, Louisville, KY, Time: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **27th - Jenkin Phillips Grave Marking (tentative).**  
Location: Louisville Zoo, 1100 Trevilian Way, Louisville, KY, Time: TBA
- **27th - Gold Star Families Memorial Monument Dedication.**  
Capital Grounds, Frankfort, KY (additional information pending).

**July 3rd Patriot Remembrance in Lexington.** On Friday July 3, 2020, members of the Lexington, Bryan Station, and Piankeshaw Chapters of the DAR joined members of the Lafayette and Governor Isaac Shelby Chapters of the SAR to place American Flags on 26 Revolutionary War Patriot Graves in Lexington Cemetery. Over 30 people came out for this event, which was covered by news station WKYT. The Patriots were from Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. There were two women Patriots, one of which was Henry Clay's mother who gave horses to the cause. Fifteen Patriots were soldiers, nine Patriots gave aid or supplies, one Patriot was a teamster, and one Patriot was even a military surgeon during the Revolutionary War. The group also placed an American Flag at the grave of a founder of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Mary Desha. An American Flag and a SAR flag was placed at the grave of former President General of the Sons of the American Revolution (1900-1901), Major General Joseph C. Breckinridge.



Compatriot Patrick Wesolosky giving instructions to attendees.



Compatriot Patrick Wesolosky being interviewed by WKYT.



Compatriot Mike Sullivan taking photos of a Patriot James Bullock's (Rendered Aid) headstone.



Some of the over 30 attendees including Compatriot Jay Doss and John Buckler.



Compatriot Jay Doss saluting the grave of Lt. Colonel John Buck.



Past President General - Sons of the American Revolution, Joseph C Breckinridge (1900-1901).



Compatriot Steve Gahafer placing an American flag for a Patriot.

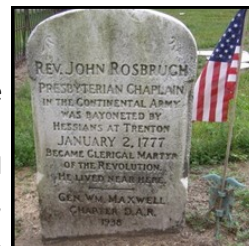
## **Cross Roads by Chaplain Eric McClain.**

**Patriots Award for Chaplains.** Eric McClain has been working on the development of an award named after a Revolutionary War Chaplain to be given out by the Chapter annually to a Military or Veteran Chaplain. Eric reviewed a number of Chaplains from the Revolutionary War period and found two that were significant "firsts" in United States history, the Reverends William Emerson Sr. and John Rosbrugh. Both of these Patriots contributed significantly and without regard for their own safety, to the cause of freedom and spiritual care for their fellow comrades. Due to their significance, Eric selected both to provide the name for the award as the Emerson-Rosbrugh Chaplain Patriot Award. The criteria for the award is being developed. The Chapter membership will be asked to give their approval in August for the award and criteria. Nominations for the inaugural award will begin in October. The backgrounds of these award namesakes follow.

**Reverend William Emerson Sr.** 31 May 1743 to 20 Oct 1776 (aged 33). He was the minister in the town of Concord, Massachusetts, from 1765 to 1776. In 1770, near the soon-to-be-famous North Bridge in that town he built his home, which would later become known as the "Old Manse." From his pulpit he preached resistance to oppression by the English Parliament. On April 19, 1775, the first day of the American Revolution, he pleaded with the leaders of the American militia to launch an immediate attack on the British regulars instead of waiting for reinforcements. His demands were ignored, but when the fighting did begin, Emerson anxiously watched the battle unfold from his own land. In August of 1776, he left the Manse to serve as chaplain of the American army at Fort Ticonderoga. It was there he caught dysentery, which led him to resign his commission to return home. He was able to make it as far as Rutland, Vermont, before becoming too ill to travel. He died and was buried in an unmarked grave.



**Reverend John Rosbrugh.** 1714–1777. He was a graduate of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton) where he studied and was ordained a Presbyterian minister. In 1776 with the outbreak of war with the British, Rev. Rosbrugh stirred his congregation against the British and the men of the congregation formed a company of militia to go to war if Rev. Rosbrugh would lead them to join General Washington and the Continental Army in Philadelphia. It was determined that Rev. Rosbrugh would be company Chaplain, which he readily accepted. He was killed at the Battle of the Assunpink Creek, (Second Battle of Trenton), the first U.S. chaplain killed in battle when Hessian soldiers captured him and bayoneted him to death.



**Patriot Award for Women.** This award is being organized to honor a modern woman Patriot who is in the military, a Veteran or with law enforcement. DAR members Laura Jones, Shelly Doss, Marika Wesolosky and Sally McClain are helping with the name selection and criteria. The selection recommendation and criteria will be given to the Chapter for approval in August. The selection list of historic Patriot women for the award are:



**Laura Sybil Luddington.** At age 16, she made an all-night horseback ride to alert militia forces in the towns of Putnam County, New York, and Danbury, Connecticut, of the approach of British forces. On April 26, 1777, Colonel Ludington received word from a rider that Danbury was under attack by British troops and needed help. At the time, Ludington's regiment had disbanded for planting season, and his men were miles apart at their respective farms. Colonel Ludington focused on preparing for battle, young Sybil rose to the cause by riding through the night alerting the Colonel's men and urging them to return to the fight. She rode all night through dark woods and in the rain, covering anywhere from 20 to 40 miles.

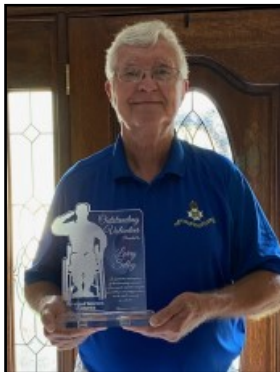
**Shelly Margaret Cochran Corbin.** November 12, 1751 – January 16, 1800. She took her wounded husband's place defending Fort Washington. On November 16, 1776, her husband, John Corbin, was one of some 600 American soldiers defending Fort Washington in Manhattan from 4,000 attacking Hessian troops under British command. Since she was a nurse, she was allowed to accompany her husband as a nurse for the injured soldiers. John Corbin was on the crew one of two cannons the defenders deployed; when he fell in action, Margaret Corbin took his place and continued to work the cannon until she too was seriously wounded. This impressed the other soldiers and was the beginning of her military career. She later became the first woman in U.S. history to receive a pension from Congress for military service because she could no longer work due to injury and was enlisted into the Corps of Invalids.



**Deborah Sampson Gannett.** December 17, 1760 – April 29, 1827. Was a Massachusetts woman who disguised herself as a man in order to serve in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. She is one of a small number of women with a documented record of military combat experience in that war. She served 17 months in the army under the name "Robert Shirtliff", was wounded in 1782, and was honorably discharged at West Point, New York, in 1783. Sampson married, later received a pension and died of yellow fever at the age of 66 on April 29, 1827, and was buried at Rock Ridge Cemetery in Sharon, Massachusetts.



## **Military Veteran Support by Larry Selby.**



**Larry Selby with the award from the National Veterans Wheel Chair Games.**

The Governor Isaac Shelby works hard to support Veterans with donations and time. One of the biggest supporters is Larry Selby, the Chapter Registrar and Chairman of the Veterans Committee. Recently Larry was honored by the Robley Rex Veterans Administration Volunteer Services (VAVS) as the Robley Rex VA Hospital Volunteer of the Year and the Kentucky Indiana Paralyzed Veterans of America Chapter Volunteer of the Year. These prestigious awards are well deserved by Larry for the time and effort he spends at the VA Hospital as highly respected volunteer and representative of the Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter and SAR. Larry said "I would like to thank the Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter for making the Robley Rex VA Hospital Volunteer of the Year and the Kentucky Indiana Paralyzed Veterans of America Chapter Volunteer of the Year awards possible. I'm honored and thrilled to receive the



**Larry Selby being presented a clock award from Trent Stivers, VA Volunteer Coordinator and Suzanne Harrett, Chief, Volunteer Service.**

awards. The Shelby chapter lead the way from the opening to the closing of the five day 19 events National Veterans Wheel Chair Games last July. The chapter's continued support with the Thanksgiving Food donations and Christmas request donations were among the best that the RRVA received. Again, Thank you, Larry".

## **Chapter Projects.** The Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter has a variety of projects and activities that are ongoing or being planned.



If interested in helping on a project or you have an idea for a project let Mike King know. Many of these efforts earn points for the Chapter and member towards medals and awards. Submit any project ideas to Mike King. A brief description of some of the projects follows.

- **Grave Yard Cleanups Process.** Going to Patriot graveyards that need to be identified, cleaned up and recorded is an important process. Due to the efforts of Scott Giltner and Patrick Wesolosky it has become apparent that a documented process to help with these type efforts would be beneficial. This effort will begin in July. Any suggestions or issues for graveyard cleanup processes can be sent to Patrick Wesolosky.
- **Floyd - Breckinridge Cemetery.** The historical cemetery needs a cleanup and removal of bushes, tree branches, raking, etc. To be organized in August.
- **Zachary Taylor National Cemetery.** Tombstones need to be washed with water and a soft plastic brush to remove tree sap and dirt. To be organized in August to earn points from the Chapter.
- **Memorial Stone Marker at Locust Grove.** A proposal last year was made to do an SAR marker stone at Locust Grove near the DAR marker near their front entrance. This project will be organized during the next few months.
- **Dog Tag Project.** The goal of the project is to have a hanging dog tag for each of the Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter members, past and present. Each tag will have the members and their ancestors name on it. While the dog tags are not Revolutionary War period, they are inexpensive and can create a unique exhibit for SAR members. The planning includes finding a location for the exhibit, determining costs, updating, structure, associated ceremonies, etc. It could be open to others and used for public relations efforts. If interested contact Mike King.
- **The Lafayette Trail.** This project works with Julian Icher, honorary SAR member, to mark the historic 1824 farewell tour trail of the General Marquis de Lafayette, famous French General during the Revolutionary War. The project is now being submitted to the Kentucky State Legislature for approval and acknowledgement. When completed, road signs will be posted throughout Kentucky marking his trail. Middletown, Kentucky will have one of these designated markers. The trail extends through 25 states. Scouts, historical, military veterans and other groups will be involved in placing the road signs and doing dedication ceremonies. See Mike King if interested.
- **Chaplains Badge and Protocol.** A Chaplains badge for the Chapter is now in the design phase. The badge will be worn by the Chaplain to indicate that position at ceremonies and events. And, the protocol for the role of Chaplain is also being defined for grave markings, parades and other ceremonies. Eric McClain is overseeing the design effort.



### **Compatriot Corner by Melvin Rowe.**



Each newsletter highlights two Compatriots with personal biographies so we can get to know each other a bit better. It will be nice to know a about what a compatriot does, or did for a living if retired, their family and interests in and outside the SAR as well as their ancestors who they used to enter the SAR.

**Compatriot Charles “Charlie” E. Scott, Jr.** Charlie has been a long time member and stalwart of the Chapter for many years. He was born on April 26, 1939 in Louisville, Kentucky and went to DuPont Manual High School where he was a sprinter on the track team running the 100 and 220 yard dashes as well as being on the state runner-up 880 yard relay team. He also played a clarinet in the high school marching band. He graduated from the University of Louisville with a BSC (business) degree and from Webster University of St. Louis with a Master’s degree in Marketing. Charlie also attended and graduated from the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin. He started a 42 year banking career with Lincoln Bank & Trust Co. in 1956 and survived two mergers with First National and National City banks. He retired in 1998 as a Vice President in the retail area of the bank. It was at Lincoln Bank that Charlie met Forrest Chilton. Both played outfield on the bank’s county championship softball team. In 1960 Charlie joined the Kentucky Air National Guard. After six years of service he received an honorable discharge with a rank of Staff Sergeant. Charlie married in 1961. He and his wife of 59 years (Deanna) have two children and four grandchildren. Other than the SAR, Charlie has been a Mason for 58 years and was also Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball Commissioner for about 20 years. He enjoys fishing and holds an Extra license in ham radio which means he can send and receive 20 words a minute in the Morse code.



About twenty five years ago Charlie became interested in his family history and started going to the Filson Club and the Sons of the American Revolution Library to do research. In 2004 he joined the SAR being the Fourth Great Grandson of Thomas Scott a Patriot of the Battle of Kings Mountain. In October of 2005 while attending the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain Forrest Chilton called. He was planning a grave marking service a few weeks later and invited Charles to attend. He did not have any colonial clothes but went anyway. That was his first of about 175 grave marking services. Forrest was starting a new chapter and Charles transferred his membership and tried to help wherever and whenever he could. One thing he did was purchase a fife to add some music at the grave marking services. The new chapter, the Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter, became one of the most active chapters in the nation. All who know Charlie appreciate all he has done and having him as a friend and compatriot.

**Compatriot Allen Rushing.** Allen Rushing joined SAR in 2015. He entered with a ancestral background that more than qualified him to enter the SAR with six proven Revolutionary War ancestors. The first proven ancestor was Uriah Brock, a private and fifer in the 1st Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army. After the war, Uriah Brock migrated to Cape Girardeau, Missouri Territory where he lived his life with is family and died there in 1845.



Allen has a major creative talent demonstrated with him holding thirty-six United States patents. Allen was an engineer working mostly for Eastman Kodak in Rochester, New York. He worked in imaging technology and five of his patents he not only invented but also prosecuted them himself through the Patent Office. Allen is now retired and now lives in Corydon, Indiana, so he can be close to family. He was married in 1973 to Ellie and they have three children and four grandchildren. Ellie is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. For fun, Allen enjoys playing the mountain dulcimer, bicycling, and is always on the look out for pins and buttons, such as campaign buttons, to add to his collection of hundreds. All the members of the Chapter appreciate Allen coming from Corydon to Louisville as a compatriot in the Chapter and participating in the ceremonies and functions.

**Next Month:** Compatriots Jay Doss and Bill Lawrence to be profiled in the next newsletter.

### **The Trading Post.**

The Trading Post is open for Chapter members to communicate with others about a variety of activities, events, interests and transactions. The Trading Post can be used to sell, trade, buy or locate items that someone no longer needs or is interested in acquiring. It can also be used to post announcements and other communications about any kind of event or activity in the community. If interested in posting something please send the details to Mike King.



- **“Colonel Mel and his Old South Cure All Elixir”.** Fellow member, Melvin Rowe has written a book about Colonel Mel. It’s a collection of humorous short stories about a con artist snake oil salesman traveling the state. Despite these bad qualities, Colonel Mel usually ends up doing the right thing. The book is titled and is available for \$5.00 for a paperback copy. If mailed there is an extra mailing cost of \$2.80. The book is available on Kindle or paperback through Amazon and on Melvin’s website: <http://potteryrowe.com/shop/book/colonel-mel-and-his-old-south-cure-all-elixir>.

- **Historically Accurate Shooting Bag.** Leather, oil tanned leather, pillow ticking. They were called possibles bags because in them you carried everything you could possibly need to maintain and load a flintlock rifle or musket. They are also known as



hunting bags or shooting bags. This one is based on a historic bag from the period of the American Revolution. It is made out of oil tanned leather and is lined with pillow ticking. The pillow ticking has been ever so slightly dyed with dye made from black walnut hulls to give it that aged look. The flap can be secured with a wooden button. The bag measures 9" wide and 8" high and opens up 2 1/2" front to back. The strap is 1 1/4" wide and is adjustable from 57" to 62.5". This bag would be perfect for the juried history reenactor, Revolutionary War, SAR, or even the War of 1812. <https://www.etsy.com/listing/790143270/possibles-bag-colonial-style-american>

- **Revolutionary War Period Accessory Items.** Muzzle loading items, leather bags, power horns, knives, straps and over 50 other items to address period dress for SAR and other uniform needs. <https://www.etsy.com/shop/TheTradersBlanket>
- **Other Items.** Other wood and handcrafted items can be found at: [www.PotteryRowe.com](http://www.PotteryRowe.com), and <https://www.etsy.com/shop/KentuckyRootsWood>,
- **“In Search Of” Unused Revolutionary War Period Clothes and Accessories.** Chapter and new members are often looking for period clothing, uniforms and accessories. If you have any outfits or accessories you have outgrown or no longer use please send in to the newsletter for listing in the Trading Post. Provide a description, rough cost and picture. \_You may be looking for a hard to find item that someone else has or know where to get it. If you are looking for something feel free to list what you are looking for in the Trading Post. If searching please list what you are looking for, your name and email address. Or, the Trading Post can be discrete and just list what you are looking for. Some items currently being sought include:
  - Kentucky flintlock rifles.
  - Period clothing.
- 4 left handed archery bows. Call for price. Contact: Melvin Rowe. [melvinrowe@potteryrowe.com](mailto:melvinrowe@potteryrowe.com)
- Left handed .22 rifle. Call for price. Contact: Melvin Rowe. [melvinrowe@potteryrowe.com](mailto:melvinrowe@potteryrowe.com)
- Left handed deer rifle. Call for price. Contact: Melvin Rowe. [melvinrowe@potteryrowe.com](mailto:melvinrowe@potteryrowe.com)
- Pair of colonial shoes, string ties, \$20.00 - Eric McClain. [mclain.ericd@yahoo.com](mailto:mclain.ericd@yahoo.com)

### **Correspondence.**

The Chapter has many associates and friends in the community with similar interests in genealogy, history, Veteran and military support and projects to help others. The Chapter will be sending our newsletters to the list and working to communicate with them about our events and theirs. The Social Page will list events by other organizations and give links to their information. If you would like to add a person or organization to the list let Mike King know.



The newsletter format is new and still undergoing changes and tweaks. If you have any suggestion, submissions or items you would like to hear about please let Mike King know.

## **RamRod Tales by Rod Smothers.**



This series of articles will begin with a very general approach and over the next few months focus on the flintlock weapons appropriate to our time period. We will attempt to provide the kind of information needed by those who are still considering the purchase of a weapon as well as those who may want to build their own gun or otherwise improve their impression of our time period.

**A Brief History of Black Powder Weapons.** The earliest reference to black powder, a combination of sulfur, charcoal, and saltpeter (Potassium Nitrate), may have occurred in China as early as 142AD. By the 9<sup>th</sup> century, the Chinese were definitely making and using black powder. The first appearance of a formula in Europe was published in Roger Bacon's OPUS MAJUS in 1267. The first weapons to use black powder were fire arrows, bombs, and the fire lance. Guns were widely known by the 1300's and had evolved from cannon to simple handheld barrels with a touch hole on the top.

The ignition system improved with the matchlock around 1475. The match was a loosely twisted rope of hemp that had been dipped in saltpeter and spirits of wine so that it would burn slowly and hold a coal. Now the gunner was free to leave the fire that had been necessary to ignite pre-matchlock guns. The Wheel lock followed the matchlock during the 1500's and 1600's. The ignition system was very much like a cigarette lighter with a wheel of steel which was "wound" by tightening a spring. When the trigger was pulled, the wheel spun and the roughened edges struck a piece of iron pyrite which sent a shower of sparks into the pan thereby igniting the main charge through the touch hole. The Flintlock era began around 1550, overlapping the matchlock, and it was the weapon of choice for almost 300 years. Although it had many advantages, weather conditions adversely affected it and even in the best of conditions, the ignition was too slow.

The percussion lock was developed by Scottish Clergyman and water fowl shooter Alexander Forsyth in 1805. He was convinced that the waterfowl he loved to hunt were alerted to his presence by the flash of the priming charge of his flintlock. He was an amateur scientist and thought that he could eliminate this problem by employing some newly discovered materials. Forsyth used fulminates (salts produced by dissolving metals in acids) as a priming charge to achieve a faster ignition. He developed a "scent bottle" lock (name describes the shape) that would direct the flame into the breech when a "hammer" struck the rod poised above the fulminate in the "scent bottle". Forsyth patented his lock in 1807. Many other inventors followed Forsyth's footsteps. One method used a "patch primer" with the fulminate sandwiched between two pieces of paper. These were stuck to the nose of the hammer and exploded against a hollow tube or nipple at the breech of the barrel. There were also pill locks in which the fulminate was mixed with gum Arabic or some other binder, and rolled into little pellets. These were inserted in touchholes and struck by a sharp-pointed hammer. There was also the tube lock (patented 1818) which made use of short soft-metal tubes filled with fulminate. One end was inserted in the touchhole while the remainder of the tube rested upon the anvil for the hammer to strike.

Many developers struck on the idea of the percussion cap between 1815 and 1820 and this was to be the final chapter in the saga of the weapon that led directly to modern cartridge guns. The percussion cap was a highly efficient primer. The thin metal casing was shaped somewhat like the top hat of the period. Inside, at the bottom of the cavity, a small amount of fulminate of mercury or potassium chlorate was covered with a disc of tin foil and sealed with a drop of shellac to make it waterproof. The cap was placed on a tube or nipple leading directly to the main charge in the breech. The hammer struck the cap a sharp blow sending flame into the bore and igniting the charge. This lock was obviously superior and was quickly adopted by civilians.

As early as 1817, the Gentleman's Magazine carried this warning about percussion weapons, "If however, this system were applied to the military, war would shortly become so frightful as to exceed all bounds of imagination. Future wars would threaten, within a few years, to destroy not only armies, but civilization itself. It is to be hoped that men of conscience will militate most vehemently for the suppression of this new invention."

By 1840 most civilized militaries had converted to the percussion lock although in tribal areas of the middle east, Asia, and Africa, the flintlock was in use much later. One journalist even reported that US special forces had witnessed the use of flintlocks by the Montagnard tribesmen of Vietnam early in the war. What was the advantage to these tribal groups? If you had powder, anything could serve as a projectile!!!