



VOLUME 18 - ISSUE 2

2025



THE SHELBY SENTINEL

PRESIDENT: JOHN DOSS

VICE PRESIDENT: CHRIS CANINE

SECRETARY: SCOTT GILTNER

TREASURER: REED MARTIN

REGISTRAR: JON CANINE

HISTORIAN: JOHN DOSS

CHANCELLOR: KARL TRUMAN

CHAPLAIN: KENT HATHAWAY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Compatriots,

Let me start by saying that it has been a pleasure serving as president of the Governor Isaac Shelby chapter. The past two years have come and gone, I can't hardly believe it. I love this chapter and everything it stands for. I am happy to say that when I became president, I wanted us to focus more on getting out to the public, and I think we most definitely have done just that! Thanks to all of you who made this happen. I know that there a few more Governor Isaac Shelby chapter compatriots that have expressed interest in doing programs as well. I am also proud to say that Compatriot Scott Giltner and Compatriot Chris Canine have started a fife and drum corp. This is taking off fast! It opens up a lot of doors for our chapter name to get out there to the public. They already have several events lined up. But enough about that. On April 24th we will have a new chapter president. It is my honor to introduce Compatriot Chris Canine. He will be an exceptional president, I am confident of that! He has told me a few ideas he has for the chapter and they are really good. SO please, give him all the help you can in making this chapter even better!

Thank you all,
John Doss

UP COMING EVENTS

2025

April

19th - Frankfort Ave. Easter Parade

Location; St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2822 Frankfort Ave. Louisville, KY

Time: 11:30am (muster at 10:30am)

19th - Patriot Memorial Service

Location: KY Veterans Cem. West, 5817 Ft. Campbell Blvd. (HWY 41 A)
Hopkinsville, KY

Time: 2:00pm (central time) (muster at 1:00pm)

22nd - Coffman's Station Pioneer School Day

Location: Anderson Co. Fairgrounds, 725 W. Broadway, Lawrenceburg, KY

Time: 9:00am - 2:00pm

24th - GISSAR Chapter Meeting

Location: Middletown United Methodist Church, 11902 Old Shelbyville Rd.
Louisville, KY

Time: 7:00pm

(Pre meeting meal at Hometown Pizza, 11804 Shelbyville, Rd.)

25th - VAVS/CDCE Meeting

Location: Robley Rex Med. Center (room E005), 800 Zorn Ave. Louisville, KY

Time: 3:00pm

27th - Pegasus Parade

Location: (Muster at SAR Headquarters at 1:15-1:30pm), Louisville, KY

Staging Location: Barret Ave, Louisville, KY

Time: 3:00pm to ?? (muster at staging area 2:10pm)

* See the gissar.org website for more events *

* ANNOUNCEMENTS *



After a long time coming we finally have the 250th Anniversary bench ready! Compatriot Scott Giltner is heading down on Monday to pick up the bench in Princeton Kentucky. We have a place to store it until Ron Cundiff (head of Prospect Parks Department) are ready for us to finally bring it home!!

If you have been on the Governor Isaac Shelby website you may have noticed in the menu, under Education we have a new category you can click on "Music". It is loaded with all kinds of exciting information about the music during the Revolutionary War, and it also has the dates for the upcoming events for our fife and drum corp.



Don't forget the upcoming Return of Lafayette events coming up in May!! These events are going to be exciting so you don't want to miss out!!
(please see the events section on our website for more info.)

The Frankfort Ave Easter parade is coming up next Saturday. This is a very good event, so all of you new members who want to get active in the chapter this is a great time to do so! Contact Scott Giltner or John Doss for more information if you are interested.



Its Derby time folks!! and you know what that means? Pegasus Parade! If you are interested in joining us, information is on the Governor Isaac Shelby website under events, for any questions contact Scott Giltner.



Members of the Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution are invited to take part in the Lafayette Fete Celebration, the Kentucky Historical Society's recreation of the Marquise de Lafayette's 1825 Ball filled with enchanting period music, lively dancing, specially curated selections of food and drink, a captivating address by expert Lafayette historian Julien Icher, and a display of Lafayette artifacts, offering a rare glimpse into Lafayette's life and times. Period attire is encouraged but not required. It's all designed to toast Lafayette's lasting legacy of America's French hero, and the profound impact he had on Kentucky!

Saturday, May 17, 2025

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

RSVP by April 16

Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History

100 West Broadway, Frankfort, Kentucky

*\$50 Members • \$60 Non-members**

*** KYSSAR is being offered a discount of membership pricing!**

Scan or click on the QR code to register (simply select Member Adult).

Other Lafayette events are also occurring for this celebration;

*go to **history.ky.gov/events** to find more.*

Kentucky
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



AMERICA
250
* KENTUCKY *

Lafayette's Return

May 12, 2025

Jeffersonville...Louisville



Compatriots of the Sons of the American Revolution, are invited to take part in the Return of Lafayette Celebration. There will be costumed interpreters, period music and educational activities. The SAR along with the DAR and many others will escort Lafayette across the Big Four Walking Bridge. We will be carrying flags and muskets/rifles. Near the bottom of the bridge (Jeffersonville side) Lafayette will be welcomed and he will give a short speech. After that we will proceed to the memorial park to honor 40 Patriots buried there. Following the memorial service we will take a short walk to where Lafayette stepped off the boat into Jeffersonville where a Pomeroy foundation Marker will be dedicated and a military salute will follow. There will be refreshments after the ceremony. Please let us know if you wish to attend so we can get a count of who is coming. Also let us know if you wish to participate in the military salute, Thank you.

*Please contact Shelly Doss
shelly9074@att.net*

*The Program starts at 1:00 pm
Muster at 12:00 noon
on the Louisville side of the walking bridge.*

*If you don't wish to walk the bridge, you can fall in
on the Indiana side, at the bottom of the walking bridge..*



MUSIC OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



"Liberty Tree"

Article by Scott G. Giltner, Ph.D

THOMAS PAINE IS WELL KNOWN FOR HIS AUTHORSHIP OF "AN AMERICAN CRISIS" AND "COMMON SENSE". BOTH WERE INFLUENTIAL PAMPHLETS THAT PROMOTED THE AMERICAN CAUSE IN TERMS WITH WHICH THE AVERAGE COLONIST COULD IDENTIFY. WHAT IS LESS KNOWN ABOUT THOMAS PAINE ARE HIS ENDEAVORS IN CREATING PATRIOTIC POEMS AND SONGS. ONE SUCH SONG PENNED BY THOMAS PAINE IS THE "LIBERTY TREE". [N.B. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS "LIBERTY TREE" SONG BEARS NO CONNECTION BEYOND THE TITLE TO THE LIBERTY TREE SONG MADE FAMOUS IN THE 1957 DISNEY MOVIE "JOHNNY TREMAIN".] PAINE WAS A PROLIFIC WRITER HAVING PRODUCED OVER 14 POEMS AND SONGS, INCLUDING THE LIBERTY TREE, 18 ESSAYS ON THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 26 MAJOR WORKS, AND NUMEROUS LETTERS PROMOTING LIBERTY.

THE "LIBERTY TREE" WAS FIRST PUBLISHED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE IN JULY 1775, PRIOR TO PAINE'S MORE FAMOUS PUBLICATIONS OF "COMMON SENSE" (JAN 1776) AND "THE AMERICAN CRISIS - NO. 1" (DEC 1776).¹ (PAINE WAS THE EDITOR OF THIS MAGAZINE AND USED THE PSEUDONYM ATLANTICUS FOR THE SONG, WHICH HE FREQUENTLY DID FOR HIS SUBMISSIONS IN THE PUBLICATION.) THE BALLAD PAINE WROTE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE THEN 130 YEAR OLD AMERICAN ELM THAT STOOD NEAR BOSTON COMMONS.

THE ORIGINAL LIBERTY TREE WAS PLANTED IN 1646, 16 YEARS AFTER THE FOUNDING OF BOSTON ALONG ORANGE STREET WHICH WAS THE ONLY ROAD IN AND OUT OF BOSTON AT THE TIME. TODAY THE LOCATION OF THE LIBERTY TREE WOULD BE IDENTIFIED AS BEING ON BOYLSTON STREET NEAR ITS INTERSECTION WITH WASHINGTON STREET. THE TREE RECEIVED ITS MONIKER AS IT WAS A FAVORITE LOCATION FOR THE DEFIANT CITIZENS OF BOSTON TO EXPRESS THEIR GRIEVANCES AND DEMONSTRATE AGAINST BRITISH POLICIES TOWARDS THE AMERICAN COLONIES.

AFTER THE STAMP ACT PROTESTS OF 1765, AND IN THE YEARS PRECEDING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, THE LIBERTY TREE WAS THE VENUE FOR NUMEROUS RALLIES, PROTESTS, PATRIOTIC DECLARATIONS, AND NOTIFICATIONS DENOUNCING BRITISH POLICIES, THEREBY ESTABLISHING THE TREE AS AN ICONIC SYMBOL OF REVOLT. AS AN INDICATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE TREE TO THE CITIZENRY, THE FUNERAL PROCESSION FOR THE BOSTON MASSACRE VICTIMS INTENTIONALLY PASSED BY THE LIBERTY TREE. BECAUSE OF THE TREE'S CONNECTION TO ACTIONS OPPOSING BRITISH POLICIES, IMAGES OF THE LIBERTY TREE BECAME COMMON THROUGHOUT NOT ONLY NEW ENGLAND, BUT THE OTHER COLONIES AS WELL. SIMILAR LIBERTY TREES WERE ESTABLISHED ACROSS MANY OF THE COLONIES.²

AS ONE WOULD ENVISION, THE TREE WAS NOT POPULAR WITH THE LOYALISTS AND BRITISH OFFICIALS. ONE LOCAL BRITISH OFFICIAL WROTE IN HIS ACCOUNT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION THAT "THIS TREE STOOD IN THE TOWN AND WAS CONSECRATED AS AN IDOL FOR THE MOB TO WORSHIP".³ IN AUGUST 1775 DURING THE BRITISH OCCUPATION OF BOSTON AND FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE BATTLES OF LEXINGTON AND CONCORD, THE LIBERTY TREE WAS CUT DOWN BY THE BRITISH AND LOYALISTS, LEAVING ONLY A STUMP. IT WAS REPORTED THE TREE WAS USED FOR FIREWOOD AND PRODUCED 4 CORDS OF WOOD.⁴ AFTER THE EVACUATION OF THE BRITISH FROM BOSTON IN MARCH 1776, A LIBERTY POLE WAS ERECTED WHERE THE LIBERTY TREE HAD ONCE PROUDLY STOOD.

THE CUTTING DOWN OF THE LIBERTY TREE, ALONG WITH PAINE'S SONG, INSPIRED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL LIBERTY TREES AND LIBERTY POLES THROUGHOUT THE COLONIES. SOME OF THE BETTER KNOWN LOCATIONS FOR OTHER LIBERTY TREES INCLUDE: LEXINGTON AND ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS; PROVIDENCE AND NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND; NORWICH, CONNECTICUT; ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND; AND CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.⁵

PAINÉ CHOSE THE TUNE FROM THE SONG "THE ORIGIN OF ENGLISH LIBERTY", ALSO KNOWN AS "ONCE THE GODS OF THE GREEKS [IN AMBROSIAL FEAST]", AS THE MELODY FOR HIS NEW SONG.^{6,7} "THE ORIGINS OF ENGLISH LIBERTY" WAS WRITTEN BY GEORGE ALEXANDER STEVENS AND PUBLISHED IN 1772.⁸ TUNES WERE FREQUENTLY SELECTED TO INDUCE THE MOOD OR INTENT OF A SONG BASED NOT ONLY ON THE MUSIC, BUT ALSO THROUGH ASSOCIATIONS WITH THE ORIGINAL LYRICS TO THE TUNE. PAINÉ'S SELECTION OF THIS TUNE WAS NO EXCEPTION.

THE LYRICS TO "THE ORIGIN OF ENGLISH LIBERTY" IS A MYTHOLOGICAL RETELLING OF THE CREATION OF EARTH AND MANKIND. IN THIS VERSION OF CREATION, THE ENGLISH WERE BESTOWED WITH THE GIFTS OF THE FOUR CARDINAL VIRTUES (PRUDENCE, JUSTICE, FORTITUDE, AND TEMPERANCE) ALONG WITH COMMON SENSE AND LIBERTY.⁹ IT MUST BE IMAGINED THAT PAINÉ'S USAGE OF THIS TUNE, LOOKING BEYOND THE IRONY EXPLICIT IN THE TITLE, WAS IN PART TO CONVEY THE SUBTEXT THAT THE ENGLISH HAD SQUANDERED THESE GIFTS.

SUBSEQUENTLY, THESE GIFTS WERE REMOVED FROM THE BRITISH AND THEN BESTOWED UPON THE AMERICAN COLONISTS WHO EMBRACED THE GIFTS AND UTILIZED THEM TO THE FULLEST. IT IS ALSO INTERESTING THAT APPROXIMATELY SIX MONTHS LATER, WHETHER INTENTIONAL OR NOT, PAINÉ WOULD APPROPRIATE ONE OF THE GIFTS, COMMON SENSE, AS THE TITLE FOR ONE OF HIS PAMPHLETS.

THE TEXT OF THE "LIBERTY TREE" EMPLOYS SYMBOLIC IMAGERY AND OPENS WITH A THEME MIRRORING THE GREEK MYTH OF PROMETHEUS. IN THIS MYTH, PROMETHEUS BENEFITTED MANKIND WITH THE GIFT OF FIRE. IN THE "LIBERTY TREE", THE GODDESS OF LIBERTY BLESSED THE COLONISTS WITH THE GIFT OF LIBERTY. THE SUBSEQUENT LINES DEPICT LIBERTY AS A TREE THAT WAS PLANTED AND FLOURISHED IN THE COLONIES. THE FRUIT BORNE OF THE LIBERTY TREE IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING ATTRACTED PEOPLE FROM NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD WHO SOUGHT FREEDOM WHILE SHEDDING THE OUTDATED TITLES AND SOCIAL STATUS OF THE OLD WORLD.

THE THIRD STANZA IS AN ACCOUNT OF HOW THE LIBERTY TREE PROVIDED EVERYTHING THE COLONISTS NEEDED TO SUCCEED. THE STANZA CONTINUES WITH THE COLONISTS HAVING SHARED THEIR BLESSING WITH ENGLAND THROUGH COMMERCE AND SUPPORT DURING WAR.

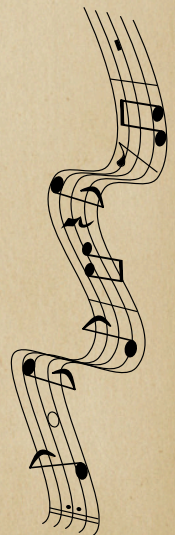
THE LAST STANZA DESCRIBES HOW AN UNGRATEFUL ENGLAND RESPONDED TO THE COLONIST'S SUPPORT WITH TYRANNY AND ATTEMPTED TO STRIP THE COLONISTS OF THEIR LIBERTY. PAINÉ CLOSED HIS COMPOSITION WITH A CALL TO ALL THOSE DEVOTED TO LIBERTY TO UNITE AND SAFEGUARD THEIR FREEDOM.

THOMAS PAINÉ'S SONG "LIBERTY TREE" IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF HOW ALLEGORY WAS USED TO PROMOTE THE PATRIOT CAUSE DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. THE SONG ALSO DEMONSTRATES HOW SYMBOLIC IMAGERY CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE MEANS TO RALLY PEOPLE OF SUNDRY INTERESTS TO BE OF ONE ACCORD TOWARDS A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL GOAL.

LIBERTY TREE (1775)¹⁰

IN A CHARIOT OF LIGHT, FROM THE REGIONS OF THE DAY,
THE GODDESS OF LIBERTY CAME, TEN THOUSAND
CELESTIALS DIRECTED HER WAY, AND HITHER CONDUCTED
THE DAME. A FAIR BUDDING BRANCH FROM THE GARDENS
ABOVE, WHERE MILLIONS WITH MILLIONS AGREE, SHE
BROUGHT IN HER HAND AS A PLEDGE OF HER LOVE, AND THE
PLANT SHE NAMED LIBERTY TREE.

THE CELESTIAL EXOTIC STUCK DEEP IN THE GROUND,
LIKE A NATIVE IT FLOURISHED AND BORE;
THE FAME OF ITS FRUIT DREW THE NATIONS AROUND,



TO SEEK OUT THIS PEACEABLE SHORE. UNMINDFUL OF NAMES OR
DISTINCTIONS THEY CAME, FOR FREEMEN LIKE BROTHERS AGREE;
WITH ONE SPIRIT ENDUED, THEY ONE FRIENDSHIP PURSUED,
AND THEIR TEMPLE WAS LIBERTY TREE.

BENEATH THIS FAIR TREE, LIKE THE PATRIARCHS OF OLD,
THEIR BREAD IN CONTENTMENT THEY ATE,
UNVEXED WITH THE TROUBLES OF SILVER OR GOLD,
THE CARES OF THE GRAND AND THE GREAT.
WITH TIMBER AND TAR THEY OLD ENGLAND SUPPLIED,
AND SUPPORTED HER POWER ON THE SEA;
HER BATTLES THEY FOUGHT, WITHOUT GETTING A GROAT,
FOR THE HONOR OF LIBERTY TREE.

BUT HEAR, O YE SWAINS (?TIS A TALE MOST PROFANE),
HOW ALL THE TYRANNICAL POWERS,
KINGS, COMMONS AND LORDS, ARE UNITING AMAIN
TO CUT DOWN THIS GUARDIAN OF OURS.
FROM THE EAST TO THE WEST BLOW THE TRUMPET TO ARMS,
THRO' THE LAND LET THE SOUND OF IT FLEE;
LET THE FAR AND THE NEAR ALL UNITE WITH A CHEER,
IN DEFENSE OF OUR LIBERTY TREE.

- ¹ Atlanticus, Liberty Tree, The Pennsylvania Magazine or American Monthly Museum, Volume I, 1775, pages 328-329.
- ² Trickey, Erick, The Story Behind a Forgotten Symbol of the American Revolution: The Liberty Tree, 19 May 2016, Retrieved 21 February 2025 from www.smithsonianmag.com/history/story-behind-forgotten-symbols-american-revolution-liberty-tree-1809591621/
- ³ Oliver, Peter, Origin and Progress of the American Rebellion, A Tory View. Edited by Douglass Adair & John A. Schutz, Huntington Library Publications, 1961, page 54.
- ⁴ Trickey, Erick, The Story Behind a Forgotten Symbol of the American Revolution: The Liberty Tree, 19 May 2016, Retrieved 21 February 2025 from www.smithsonianmag.com/history/story-behind-forgotten-symbols-american-revolution-liberty-tree-1809591621/
- ⁵ Moore, Frank, Liberty Tree, American Revolution War Song, Retrieved 17 February 2025 from www.samericanrevolution.org/liberty-tree-song/ .
- ⁶ Schrader, Arthur, Songs to Cultivate the Sensations of Freedom, 2017, Retrieved 21 February 2025 from Colonial Society of Massachusetts, <https://www.colonialsociety.org/node/2011#rch03> , pages 108-109.
- ⁷ Atlanticus, Liberty Tree, The Pennsylvania Magazine or American Monthly Museum, Volume I, 1775, pages 328-329.
- ⁸ Stevens, George Alexander, Songs, Comic, and Satyrical, Oxford, printed by the author, 1772, pages 1-4.
- ⁹ Stevens, George Alexander, Origin of English Liberty, In the digital collection Evans Early American Imprint Collection. <https://name.umdl.umich.edu/N12361.0001.001> . University of Michigan Library Digital Collections. Accessed 21 Feb. 2025.
- ¹⁰ Atlanticus, Liberty Tree, The Pennsylvania Magazine or American Monthly Museum, Volume I, 1775, pages 328-329.



On March 29, 2025, the Kentucky Society, Sons of the American Revolution color guard, presented the colors for the Kentucky Society Daughters of the American Revolution's Annual spring meeting. Below are some of the Governor Isaac Shelby Members.



Photos by Kelly Beverley



A FEW MEMBERS OF THE KENTUCKY SOCIETY COLOR GUARD MET AT THE MIDDLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH GYMNASIUM TO LEARN MUSKET\RIFLE SAFETY AS WELL AS GO THROUGH THE 1764 MANUAL OF ARMS DRILLS, AS WELL AS FLAG FOLDING, WREATH PRESENTATIONS, AND DRESSING THE FLAG.



The Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter would like to thank these Amazing folks for their wonderful contribution to the Wreathes Across America Ceremony. Huzzah!!!!



Jason Buckner, Assistant Director at Zachary Taylor National Cemetery.



Tim Hagan,
For the donation of shuttles from Kentucky Bourbon Boys



Steve Ilari,
for helping with the PA system

A FEW OF THE GOVERNOR ISAAC SHELBY CHAPTER MEMBERS WERE INVITED TO THE OLDHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL CENTER TO GIVE SOME PROGRAMS TO SOME AWESOME SCHOOL STUDENTS!!



SCOTT GILTNER SHOWS A GROUP OF STUDENTS HOW TO SURVEY THE LAND!!



ROD SMOTHERS IS TEACHING THESE FINE STUDENTS ABOUT HOW TO TURN FLAX INTO CLOTH, TO BE USED FOR CLOTHING.



JOHN DOSS TELLS THESE STUDENTS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF OUR NATION'S FLAGS!



Members of the GIS
went to Shelbyville
to replace a stolen
SAR Marker



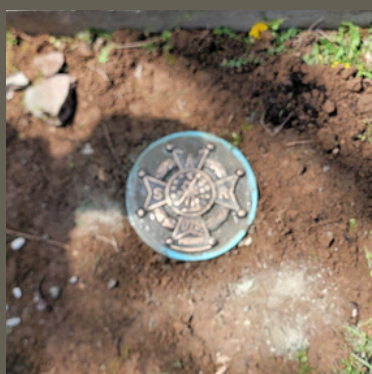
We need more dirt!



Its level already!!!



Compatriots,
Lee Muncy & John Doss



The finished Product!!



Compatriots, Scott Giltner &
Lee Muncy



John Doss being Chris
Canine!



Lee & John
Digging their way to
China!!



Scott adjusts the SAR Marker

Compatriots, Robert Ward of the Capt. William Prince chapter & Scott Giltner of the Governor Isaac Shelby chapter presented Wounded Warrior coins to some of our nation's heroes in Crider, Kentucky.



Huzzah!!!!

Its been a long time coming and our 250th Anniversary bench is finally finished!

Compatriot Scott Giltner volunteered to drive to Princeton, Kentucky to pick up our bench. It is being stored in an undisclosed location!!! lol! More details to come soon!



The Secret Location!!!

250th Bench

Don Boone does the heavy lifting (at least his tractor does) to unload the granite bench to the barn. Thank you Don for all your help, Huzzah!!!

