

# JESSAMINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 2 Issue 3



## “Freedom is not free” by Janelle Fain

As we celebrate Independence day ( 4th of July) we pay tribute to all veterans for giving us that freedom.

From childhood days I remember Uncle Marvin. He was a brother to my mother, Pearl Stinnett Fain; born in Jessamine Co. 15 February 1910 to Wilmert and Fannie Woodward Stinnett. He died 3 January 1999 at Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore, KY. While there he told his military stories. These would have remained untold except for the brotherhood there that aroused the past in his mind.

In his teen years he left Jessamine Co. -- found housing and employment in Louisville, KY, making a successful life of his own. 24 February 1944 he joined the Army, mustered in at Ft. Benjamin; Harrison, Indiana. Battles and campaigns were: Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe. He was on the line during the Battle of the Bulge. Countries in which he traveled in order were: Scotland, England, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, and Germany. Decorations and Citations: American Theater Ribbon, EAME Theater Ribbon, W/3 Bronze Stars, Good Conduct Medal, Victory Medal WWII, Croix De Guerre. Rank: Sergeant, Co. I, 109th Infantry. Discharge was honorable on 7 February 1946, Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Many soldiers brought home mementoes; he managed to get a violin and return to the USA with it. (not torn apart either)!!!! You see, he had taken lessons and learned to play quite well, having entertained at dinner clubs and with symphony groups in Louisville. His violin music was known in Jessamine Co. by family, friends and some churches as he played violin, Mother played the piano and sang numerous places and times.

Here I have in my possession mementos: post cards, photographs, French lesson book, money from other countries, military buttons and ribbons, V-notes, telegram, dog tag, Army exchange service ration card and my birth announcement he folded and carried; most importantly a New Testament shield Bible--with his initials engraved in gold-plated steel--protects the heart--fits snugly in uniform pocket--given to him by my Mother, (Love and Prayers, Your Sis, Pearl) handwritten inside the cover. These treasures tell of a man's service to his country and a bit of his well-lived time with us. Freedom is not free. Lives were laid on the line. History should not be ignored or forgotten.

**Correction - The Donations section, page 1 of our April issue incorrectly listed Pete Sutherland's mother as June instead of Jane. Our sincere apologies to all her family and friends for this mistake.**

### Upcoming Meetings:

July 24th, 2014—Speaker - Dr. Jack J. Early

August 28th, 2014—Speaker - State Senator Tom Buford.

September 25th, 2014—Speaker to be announced.

# Annual Picnic



We appreciate all the time and effort Charlie and Ernestine Hamm put into making this picnic possible.

A special thanks to Janelle Fain for her donation to the event. Wish she had been in town to join us.

Thanks to everyone who brought so many tasty dishes.

Glad the rain held off long enough to enjoy the fruits of their efforts.

Of course, we would love to see all of you next year. If anyone has an idea for a location next year let us know.



Dr. Ron Bryant trying to get in his brief history of Waveland before the "rains came". He is so knowledgeable that we wish there had been more time for his talk.

We thank him for being a gracious host and wonderful speaker.

The year was 1969; America watched *Neil Armstrong walk on the moon*, *Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid* was a box office hit, and *Woodstock* was the place to be that summer.

Gas cost 35 cents while the average price of a new car was \$3,270. New homes averaged \$15,500 and the median household income was \$8,550. Many of us may wish for those times again but don't forget there were no computers, cell phones, cable TV or MP3 players. There are always advantages and disadvantages to all periods of history that is part of the joy of learning about years gone by and the people that lived then.

The Jessamine County Historical Society was formed in January of 1969 with the help of our mentor the Harrodsburg Historical Society. Our first meeting was held in February of that year. Of the 81 charter members     number are members today.

Thanks to Mildred Frances Alcorn Bunch for compiling a book about our organization. The book is a treasured part of the material located at the Historical Society on N. Main Street in Nicholasville.

I hope you will consider becoming a member of the organization and help us preserve the history for future generations. Be a part of telling the story of Jessamine County and those who lived here.

Contributed by Sherrell Brown

#### President's Message

I hope this newsletter finds you all enjoying the warmer weather of spring and summer. I know I am after the long cold winter we went through. It caused me to think of the even colder winter the early settlers endured after crossing the Cumberland Gap. In October of 1779. Would I have been hardy enough to withstand such winter in a three sided lean-to as they did in the new Boone Station encampment?

My thoughts returned to those ancestors as I followed Daniel and Rebecca Boone (portrayed by Steven Caudill and his wife) and several Martin Station re-enactors over the Cumberland Gap on June 14th along with other Boone descendants and enthusiasts. Later that same afternoon "The Boone Trace" was dedicated on the grounds of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park visitor center. The approximately 117 miles of "The Trace" may be followed as an auto tour from Martin Station, VA to Fort Boonesborough, KY. I recommend our members visit the Gap and follow some of the "Boone Trace". With over a quarter of a million people following this "Trace" to settle "Cain-Tuc-Kee" I suspect we have several members of this Society with ancestors who made that trek.

I am thankful The Boone Society had their two year reunion at Pine Mountain State Resort Park at a time when we could participate in following the footsteps of our ancestors and the dedication ceremony. The Cumberland Gap Genealogy Jamboree was being held the same weekend. I am hopeful the Jessamine County Historical Society is able to participate in the Jamboree next year.

Thank you for your continued membership and support.

Richard L. Lucas

# Membership Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames Researching:

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Annual Membership Fees:

Individual	\$20.00	Lifetime	\$250.00
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Student	\$15.00		
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## Contact Us

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**We're on the Web!**

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