



# JESSAMINE COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 3 Issue 2

June 2015

## *Annual Members Picnic*

*June 27th at 12 noon at the Camp Nelson Honor Guard Headquarters, 215 Christopher Lane, Nicholasville, Ky. Guest Speaker is Pat Lovett, Director at Camp Nelson and other cemeteries in Kentucky and Indiana.*

*Directions: Take US 27 south. When you pass the main gates of Camp Nelson National Cemetery, take the very next left, Note: this will bring you back on old US 27 two-lane road. There will be a lot of junk on the side of the road. This is not a dump; apparently it is a Jessamine Historical Landmark, since 1906. As you go around this landmark, the road will straighten out. Go about 50 yards south on this road. On the left side of this road will be a sign that says Camp Nelson Honor Guard HQ. Make a left on Christopher Lane. It's a one-lane black top road. We are the 4th house on this lane. Please RSVP to Richard Lucas at 351-2867 or Jerry Brown at 887-9669.*

## Camp Nelson Honor Guard

*"Poor is the nation that has no heroes: Shameful is the nation that has them and forgets." -Unknown author.*



The honor guard is comprised of member of the community, American Legion Man-0-War Post 8, retired military, military families, friends and individuals who donate their time, energy and compassion. Using rescued horses, and based on our unique Kentucky Civil War heritage at Camp Nelson, the Honor Guard brings honor and dignity to our Military and Veterans by performing enhanced military funeral rites. They are an integral part of approximately 300 funeral services annually. They participate in many civic and patriotic events, assist families in one of their darkest hours, and are dedicated wholly to their mission. Trained at Arlington National Cemetery, using period Civil War style uniforms, they are like no other in the United States.

An average funeral using the caisson & horses incurs about \$250.00 in expenses. An honorarium is requested to cover expenses, however, no veteran has every been turned away due to inability to pay. The Camp Nelson Honor Guard is a 501c3 non-profit organization, donations are tax deductible. [www.campnelsonhonorguard.org](http://www.campnelsonhonorguard.org).





# UNITED STATES NAVY

"It follows then as certain as that night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive and with it, everything honorable and glorious." - George Washington"

The Navy was rooted in the American seafaring tradition, which produced a large community of sailors, captains and shipbuilders in the colonial era. In the early stages of the American Revolutionary War, Massachusetts had its own navy. The establishment of a national navy was debated by members of the Continental Congress. Supporters believed the navy would protect shipping, defend the coast, and make it easier to seek support from foreign countries. The opposition believed challenging the British Royal Navy, the world's best at that time was foolish. George Washington settled the matter by commissioning seven ocean-going cruisers.

The Naval Act of 1794 established a permanent standing navy. The act ordered construction and manning of six frigates and by October 1797 three years later, the first three were welcomed into service. USS United States, USS Constellation and USS Constitution. The U. S. Navy saw substantial action in the War of 1812, where it was victorious in eleven single-ship duels with the Royal Navy. They drove all significant British forces off Lake Erie and Lake Champlain and prevented them from becoming British controlled zones of conflict. Thus preventing the invasion of New York State. Unfortunately they could not deter the British from blockading American ports and landing troops on American Soil.

During the Mexican-American War the U.S. Navy contributed by instituting blockades of Mexican ports, capturing or burning the Mexican fleet in the Gulf of California and capturing all major cities on Baja California peninsula—later returned. The navy conducted the U.S. military's first large-scale amphibious joint operation by successfully landing 12,000 army troops with their equipment in one day at Veracruz, Mexico. This successful landing and capture of Veracruz opened the way for the capture of Mexico City and the end of the War.

Naval power played a significant role during the American Civil War, where the Union had a distinct advantage of the Confederacy on the seas. A Union blockade on all major ports shut down exports and the coastal trade, but blockade runners provided a slim lifeline. The war saw ironclad warships in combat for the first time at the Battle of Hampton Roads in 1862, which pitted USS Monitor against CSS Virginia.

The Navy saw little action during World War I. It concentrated on mine laying operations against German U-Boats. Naval Construction, especially of battleships was limited by the Washington Naval Conference of 1921-1922. Battleship Division Nine was dispatched to Britain and served as the Sixth Battle Squadron of the British Grand Fleet, its presence allowed the British to decommission some older ships and reuse the crews on smaller vessels. Destroyers and U.S. Naval Air Force units contributed to the anti-submarine operations. The strength of the Navy grew under an ambitious ship building program associated with the Naval Act of 1916. The aircraft carriers USS Saratoga (CV-3) and USS Lexington (CV-2) were built on the hulls of partially built battle cruisers that had been cancelled by the treaty. The New Deal used Public Work Administration funds to build warships such as USS Yorktown (CV-5) and USS Enterprise (CV-6). By 1936 USS Wasp (CV-7) was completed.

The U. S. Navy grew into a formidable force in the years prior to World War II, with battleship production being restarted in 1937, commencing with the USS North Carolina. Japan attempted to neutralize this strategic threat with the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. The U. S. Navy participated in many significant battles, including the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Battle of Midway, the Solomon Islands Campaign, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the Battle of Leyte Gulf, and the Battle of Okinawa. By 1943, the navy's size was larger than the combined fleets of all the other combatant nations in World War II. By war's end in 1945 the United States Navy had added hundreds of new ships, including 18 aircraft carriers and 8 battleships..

The potential for armed conflict with the Soviet Union during the Cold War pushed the U.S. Navy to continue its technological advancement by developing new weapons systems, ships and aircraft. The navy was a major participant in the Vietnam War, blockaded Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and through the use of ballistic missile submarines, became an important aspect of the United States nuclear strategic deterrence policy. The U.S. Navy conducted various combat operations in the Persian Gulf, most notably Praying Mantis, Urgent Fury, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Deliberate Force, Allied Force, Desert Fox and Southern Watch.

The United States Navy continues to be a major support to U. S. interests in the 21st century. It has shifted focus from preparations for large-scale war with the Soviet Union to special operations and strike missions in regional conflicts. The navy participated in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and is a major participant in the ongoing War on Terror, largely in this capacity. Development continues on new ships and weapons, including the Gerald R. Ford-class aircraft carrier and the Littoral combat ship. Because of the size, weapons technology, and ability to project force far from U.S. shores, the current U. S. Navy remains a potent asset for the United States. Admiral Carlisle A. H. Trost said “When a crisis confronts the nation, the first question often asked by policymakers is “What naval forces are available and how fast can they be on station?”

References: [http://www.ask.com/wiki/United\\_States\\_Navy](http://www.ask.com/wiki/United_States_Navy); Famous Navy quotes: Who said Them...and When” Naval History & Heritage Command, United States Navy Retrieved 29 November 2008; Love, Robert W. Jr. (1992) History of the U.S. Navy Volume one 1775-1941 Harrisburg Stockpile Books; Pater, Michael A., “The Navy: The Continental Period, 1775,- 1890, Navy History & Heritage Command; McPherson, James M. (2012) War on the Waters: The Union and Confederate Navies, 1861-1865, University of North Carolina Press; Hocker, B. C; Vining Margaret (2007) American Military Technology, John Hopkins University Press.



This year we are honoring our military history from the Revolutionary War to the current War on Terror. Each newsletter will contain an article on a different branch or branches of the military. The first 2015 quarterly newsletter featured the United State Army. This second quarter we are featuring the United States Navy.

Plans are underway to continue our oral history project at Thompson Hood Veterans Center. Highlights of those interviews will be included in our newsletters.

We hope you enjoy this project and if you have military stories you would like to share with us we would be happy to hear from you.

## President's Message

We have made it to June, and I for one will not complain about any hot weather this year. I was not fond of the cold and snow we went through this past winter. We seem to have also hit a cold spell at our Society. Our membership is way down! In fact we are below a sustainable level. This comes at a time when we seem to be getting more people visiting for research and more phone calls and email requests for research than before.

Our website is obviously working well now, and we are also managing to get a newsletter out quarterly. So, if you know a former member who has not yet renewed their membership remind them to get their dues in; or have friends who are interested in Jessamine County, Kentucky and United States history and genealogy have a talk with them about joining our society.

We still open the office on Thursday afternoons for research. Stop by and join us, you never know what you may learn. We are also looking forward to our yearly members picnic on June 27th, 2015. Tracy Lucas has kindly invited us to use the facilities at his Camp Nelson Honor Guard property for this years picnic.

I look forward to greeting you all soon.

Richard Lucas

### Living Treasures

The Living Treasures program honors Jessamine County residents 65 or older who have made significant contributions to the community over 20 years or more. The program is a partnership that currently includes Bridgepointe at Ashgrove Woods, the Jessamine County Chamber of Commerce, Jessamine County Historical Society, Jessamine County Public Library, and the Jessamine Journal. Each Living Treasure will be honored with an award, a reception, as well as, a feature in the Journal. Oral histories will be recorded and compiled for our honorees. To suggest someone as a potential Living Treasure call Bridgepointe's Kim Gooch at 859-885-3000.

### Election of Officers

This fall will find our members electing officers and one board member for next year. Richard Lucas, President appointed Jerry Brown as Chair of the nominating committee. He drafted Janelle Fain, Bev Zuck, and Sherrell Brown as committee members. Their charter is to compile nominees for each position and conduct the balloting. Those members wishing to be considered for any of these positions should submit their request and bios to Jerry Brown at 240 Bernie Trail, Nicholasville, Ky. 40356, call him at 859-887-9669 or e-mail him at [jsb98ret@windstream.net](mailto:jsb98ret@windstream.net)

Positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one board member.

# Membership Application

## Sponsorship Levels

### Annual Membership Fees:

Individual \$20.00  
Student \$15.00  
Lifetime \$250.00

Bronze	\$250.00 to \$500.00
Silver	\$500.00 to \$1000.00
Gold	\$1000.00 to \$5000.00
Platinum	\$5000.00 plus

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

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

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

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

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

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

Surnames Researching:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Jessamine County Historical Society

216 North Main St.  
Farmers Square  
Nicholasville, Ky. 40356

**Phone:**  
(859) 361-2867

**E-mail:**  
jessaminehistorical@gmail.com

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.jesshistorical.com](http://www.jesshistorical.com)