



JESSAMINE COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Janelle Fain was presented with a plaque recognizing her as our charter sponsor at the gold level.

Pictured from left to right are Richard Lucas, President, Janelle Fain honoree, and Sherrell Brown, Newsletter Editor. Photo by Jerry Brown



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. This first article will be on the United States Army.

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.



Our February guest speaker Mr. Michael Crutcher Sr., as Frederick Douglas. Photo by Jerry Brown



UNITED STATES ARMY

The United States Army dates its inception to 14 June 1775 when the Continental Congress established the Continental Army to fight Great Britain and appointed George Washington as commander. After a decisive victory at Yorktown the Continental Army was quickly given land certificates and State militias became the new nation's primary ground army. The continued conflicts with Native Americans necessitated the formation of a standing army. The Regular Army was reorganized as the Legion of the United States in 1791 and renamed The United States Army in 1796.

The 19th century saw the U. S. Army fighting in the War of 1812, Northwest Indian War, Battle of New Orleans, and the Mexican–American War. The regular army proved capable of defeating the British army during the invasions of Plattsburgh and Baltimore, prompting British agreement on the previously rejected terms of a status quo ante bellum, and the relatively small U S Navy, often attached with Marines, earned most of the victory against the Royal Navy and Marines at sea. Two weeks after a treaty was signed Andrew Jackson defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans. Campaigns against the Indians were fought in Florida against the Seminoles from (1818-1858). The U. S. Army fought and won the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) which was a defining event for both countries. The U. S. victory resulted in acquisition of territory now known as the states of California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, Wyoming, and New Mexico.

The Civil War was the most costly war for the U. S. in terms of casualties. Most southern states seceded to form the Confederate States of America. CSA troops opened fire on Fort Sumter starting the war. Forces loyal to the United States were commonly known as the Union Army. General Robert E. Lee commander of the CSA surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant, Union Army leader, at Appomattox Court House ending the Civil War in 1865.

The 20th century brought a number of changes starting with their acquiring a fixed-wing aircraft in 1910. They deployed to American towns near our border with Mexico to ensure safety and protect property fighting rebels and Mexican troops from 1916 to 1918. Then came World War I in 1917 and along with our allies Britain, France, Russia, Italy and others where U.S. troops were sent to the front and were involved in the push that finally broke through the German lines. With the armistice in November 1918 the army once again decreased its forces.

The U. S. joined World War II after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Army troops formed a significant portion of the forces that captured North Africa and Sicily. On D-Day and the subsequent liberation of Europe and defeat of Nazi Germany, millions of U.S. Army troops played a central role in the Pacific. U. S. Army soldiers participated alongside the U.S. Marines in capturing the Pacific Islands. Following the Axis surrenders army troops were deployed to Japan and Germany to occupy the defeated nations. The end of World War II set the stage for the Cold War.

The Korean War began in 1950, after the Soviets walked out of a U.N. Security meeting, removing their possible veto. Under the United Nations umbrella, hundreds of thousands of U.S. troops fought to prevent North Korea from taking over South Korea. The Korean Armistice Agreement returned the peninsula to the status quo in 1953.

The Vietnam War, often regarded as a low point for the army due to the unpopularity of the war with the American public, and frustrating restrictions placed on the military by American political leaders. Although American forces had been stationed in the Republic of Vietnam since 1959 (in intelligence and advising/training roles), they were not deployed in large numbers until 1965, after the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

The 1980s was mostly a decade of reorganization. The army converted to an all-volunteer force with greater emphasis on training and technology. The Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986 created unified combatant commands bringing the army together with the other four military services under unified, geographically organized command structures. They also played a role in the invasions of Grenada in 1983 (Operation Urgent Fury) and Panama in 1989 (Operation Just Cause). As the Cold War was coming to an end Army leadership planned for a reduction in troops utilizing incentives such as retirement.

In 1990 Iraq invaded Kuwait, and U.S. land forces, quickly deployed to assure the protection of Saudi Arabia. In January 1991 Operation Desert Storm commenced to drive out Iraqi forces and the campaign was completed in just one hundred hours. After operation Desert Storm, the army did not see major combat operations for the remainder of the 1990s.

The 21st century saw the September 11 attacks in 2001 starting the Global War on Terror. The U.S. Army led the combined U.S. and NATO forces in the allied invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003. In the following years the mission changed from conflict between regular militaries to counterinsurgency. The lack of stability in the theater of operations has led to longer deployments for Regular Army as well as Reserve and Guard troops.

If you wish to read more about the U. S. Army please check out History of the United States Army at www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1963.html

REMINDER

Membership dues for our members that pay annually are now due. If you have already mailed your check or are Lifetime members please disregard this reminder. Without our membership dues we could not continue to preserve the history of our county. If you have a friend or family member that would like to join we have provided a membership application on the back of this newsletter.

YARD SALE

Our yard sale in June is an annual fund raising event and we need your help to make it the best ever this year. If you have items you would like to donate to our sale please call Richard Lucas at 859-885-0305, Ernestine Hamm at 859-885-6240 ,e-mail us at jessaminehistorical@gmail.com or drop the items at our office any Thursday afternoon between 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.

Cemetery Report by Ernestine Hamm

In our last newsletter I talked about the Alexander Wake cemetery that had been bulldozed. At that time we had a new fence and now we have a new headstone. This is a very historic cemetery because Alexander Wake was the first county judge under the Constitution of 1850. His wife and son are buried in this graveyard that dates back to 1821.

It's almost time for spring cleaning in our cemeteries. This year is going to be a challenge as I was diagnosed with breast cancer and am currently taking chemo treatments. Surgery is planned in April and I will be down for a while. I am working on a plan to get us through this year. We have restored 60 cemeteries, only about 6 of these have no maintenance, about 23 are maintained by families or land owners. The other 31 are maintained by the Historical Society with donations from families and a yearly donation from the Fiscal Court. We will have more information in our next newsletter.



Presidents Message

I am sure we are all ready for spring. It has been a tough winter, and for me not just the record cold. A little before Christmas dad, Virgil Lee (Luke) Lucas was called home. I drove to the state of Washington to be with Mom, Mary Evelyn (Ev) (Turner) Lucas, through the Celebration of Life Service on the 17th of January, then down to northern California to check on my mother-in-law, Prima (España) Valverde, who was in a rehab facility recovering from a minor heart attack. I also, more recently, lost a good long time friend.

Dad was a World War II veteran, serving in the Army in Europe. That was when he picked up the nickname Luke, which he would go by the rest of his life. The only person I ever heard call him Virgil, or Virg, was his mother Elsie Lee (Laurence) Lucas. Like many of his generation he seldom spoke of his experiences during the war, and a very little about growing up during the Great Depression. It was from Aunt Helen (Cooper), his eldest sister, that we learned he almost froze to death during the Battle of the Bulge. It took him and Mom coming to stay with us in southern Maryland to attend the dedication of the World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C. to learn he actually landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day. We fortunately got to celebrate his 90th birthday last April. Both his sons, all nine grandchildren, and all eighteen great-grandchildren were present, as were all but one of his grandchildren's spouses. The second thing you would learn from him when you met him was the number of great-grandchildren he had; numbered 19 now. His legacy is the example he set for us all, from 68 year marriage to his love of people and his bright smile.

Daniel (Danny) Fernandez is also a retired Special Agent of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. I met Danny when we were both assigned to the operations office at the Naval Base, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines know as NISRA Philippines. For the first year we were there we worked very closely together with the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit (CANU) nightly on the streets of Olongapo. Following a distinguished career with NCIS Danny because the Sheriff of Hawaii County, Hawaii.

I did not get an opportunity to conduct an Oral History interview with Dad, and I have been thinking such an interview would have been good to have with Danny as well. We have taken a break from conducting such interview at Thomson Hood and we haven't resumed them to date. Weather and my being a bit down are my excuses. We do need to resume them, and I am hopeful there is another member or two, or more, who would like to get involved. Maybe even a high school or middle school student involved in their history class and/or projects would be willing to participate. Please let us know of anyone who would be interested.

I am looking forward to spring, and hope to see as many of you as can make it to our office in Nicholasville as the weather warms up.

Research news

Updating our website and establishing an e-mail address has resulted in an increased number of inquiries from individuals researching their Jessamine County roots. I'd like to share the names of those Individuals we have received inquiries on to date. William Bronson Lear, George O'Neal, Archibald Craven, Mahin Family, Nancy (aka Frances A) Frankum, Alfred Estes, Thomas "Tommie" Estes, Mary Lady Woods, Mrs. Nellie Hall Goodlet, Shelby Steele, Mastin Fain, Frederick Zimmerman, Zephaniah Nimrod Nooe, Rev. Frances Poythress, William Hawkins, Elizabeth Wall, Mary Martha Hawkins, Nathaniel (Richard) Evans, Andrew Evans, Nancy Elizabeth Harbison, William Harbison, Mary Aston Harbison, Samuel Tatum, Rebecca Burrous McGee, James Sadowski, Andres Sadowski, James Sandusky, Katherine (Catherine) Corn, Ellis Corn, Emily Thompson Corn, William Lloyd, Charles Wesley, Samuel Wells and Elizabeth Slemp Wells.

A number of requests for information regarding houses, places, and cemeteries were received. Those questions ranged from how Brannon Road got it's name, to the History of Keene Lodge, The Nave Cemetery, Duncan Cemetery on Duncan Lane, Sageser Mill, and the Old Wilmore High School. History of houses at 202 Richmond Ave, M. T. Lowry house on West St., 128 N. 4th St., and 300 W. Oak St. If you have information on any of these individuals or places that you would like to share we would love to hear from you.

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:

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We're on the Web!
www.jesshistorical.com