

Delaware Crossing Chapter
The Kansas Society of the
Sons of the American
Revolution

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Monthly Patriot: General Fielding Lewis, Sr.
Patriot Ancestor of Delaware Crossing Compatriot, Michael Frost



General Fielding Lewis, Sr.

General Fielding Lewis, Sr. of Kenmore, Fredericksburg, Virginia, born July 17, 1725, at Warner Hall and became one of the most successful planters in Fredericksburg. His wife, Betty Washington was the only sister of George Washington. Fielding was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Continental Army and then a General of the Virginia Line. Although he did not lead troops, Fielding did produce rifles in his Fredericksburg Gun Manufactory for the Virginia and Continental Armies. This was his major contribution to the war effort. However, even with President George Washington as his brother-in-law, General Lewis could not get the Continental Congress to pay the invoice for the rifles he had supplied and Fielding lost his armory in 1783 and eventually his plantation due to this debt. General Lewis died in January 1782 at Fredericksburg, a man financially broken, but he never expressed regret for his contribution to the Revolutionary War.



DXSAR WANTS YOU!

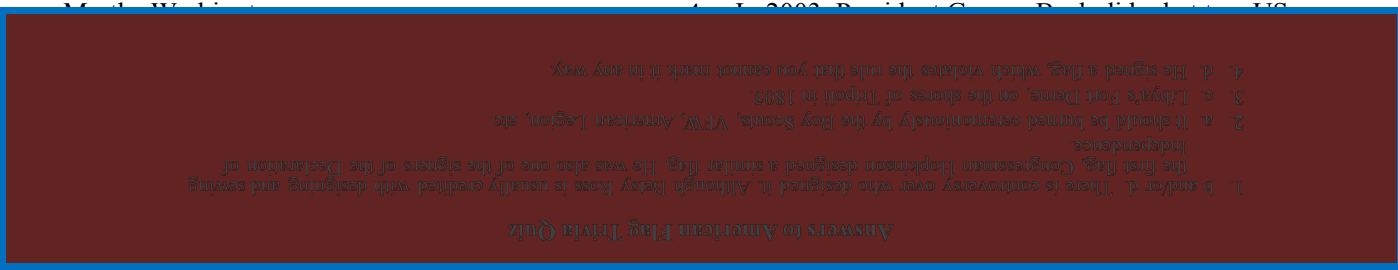
Please complete a short biography of your qualifying patriot ancestor for DXSAR archives.
E-mail to mail@librarian@yahoo.com. You may be featured in a future Delaware Crossing Patriot!

AMERICAN FLAG TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Who designed the first US flag?

d. Kuwait

2. Flag it is



c. Folded in the ceremonial manner and stored in a box.

d. Given to the US Navy to bury at sea

3. Which of the following countries was the first to have a US flag fly over one of its forts?

- a. Israel
- b. Saudi Arabia
- c. Libya



Sons of the American Revolution

The Delaware Crossing Patriot Kansas Society

Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

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Upcoming DX Meeting

Program: *Basic Genealogy Tools and Methods for Finding Patriot Ancestors* by Bob Capps

When: Saturday, July 17, 2010, 9:00 AM

Where: Holiday Inn, Overland Park, 87th Street & Highway 69

Reservations & Cost: Members, wives and guests of the SAR are invited. For reservations, e-mail reserve@dxsar.com or call Jamie Riddell at 816-935-0160 before 3:00 PM, Wednesday, July 14. Reservations are \$12.00 or \$13.00 at the door. Includes a sumptuous, all you can eat, breakfast buffet. *Please note the change for e-mailing RSVP's.*

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

July 17 Monthly Chapter Meeting - 9AM

Aug 21 Monthly Chapter Meeting - 9AM

Color Guard at Liberty Memorial



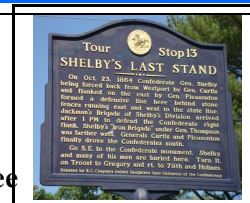
(L to R): Bob Grove, Jake Scott, Dirk Stapleton, Fred Kaffenberger, Bob Capps and Kyle Kesler

What a beautiful morning as the Color Guard marched at the head of the Memorial Day Parade in front of thousands of onlookers! Our Color Guardsmen from area Chapters stood attentive to the morning's speakers for over an hour in the blistering sun. We appreciate these loyal men who braved the heat and the march, much like our patriot ancestors.

Color Guard turnout is needed for the South Central District Meeting, August 20-21 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Contact Bob Capps, bobcapps@msn.com to participate. Car pooling may be available.

The Undeclared

**Bob Capps, KSSAR
Color Guard Commander
NSSAR Color Guard Committee
NSSAR Info. Tech. Committee**



My son, Compatriot Robert Capps III, and I made our traditional Memorial Day journey to Forest Hill Cemetery in Kansas City. On top of a hill in the cemetery is a monument to the Confederates and the grave of General Joseph O. Shelby.

What a surprise to learn that the John Wayne/Rock Hudson movie, *The Undeclared*, was based on General Shelby and his men. "In June 1865, rather than surrender, Shelby and approximately 1,000 of his remaining troops rode south into Mexico. For their determination not to surrender, they were immortalized as *the undeclared*."

"Their plan was to offer their services to Emperor Maximilian as a 'foreign legion.' Maximilian declined to accept the ex-Confederates into his armed forces, but he did grant them land for an American colony in Mexico near Vera Cruz. The grant would be revoked two years later, following the collapse of the empire and Maximilian's execution. Reportedly, Shelby sank his battle flag in the Rio Grande River near present-day Eagle Pass, TX on the way to Mexico, rather than risk the flag falling into the hands of the Federals. The memory of Shelby and his men is used as a distant basis for the 1969 John Wayne-Rock Hudson film by the same name."

I was fascinated by the Partisan/Guerrilla graves at Forest Hill. While I had ancestors on both sides of the Civil War, my great-great-great-grandfather, William Gabbert, led a guerrilla unit. Of course, to find a Revolutionary War Patriot, we must journey through the Civil War period.

William, born in Kentucky in 1814, married Rebecca Wade in Washington County, Indiana in 1834. He was 19; she 18. "Old Man" Gabbert, as he was called at 47, became the leading spirit of a band of some 25 men, known as **Gabbert's Missouri Guerrilla Command**. His sons, John and Jeff, were active members; his daughter, Eliza, at 27 an old maid, was second only to her sister-in-law, Ella Mayfield, as a "Lady



William and Rebecca

Bushwhacker." William died in Arkansas in October 1863 of unknown causes.

You can also find graves online with photographs and details at: <http://www.findagrave.com/index.html>