OPINION

Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

AS THE RIVER FLOWS
September 9, 1778

Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

By Charles Mattox

Faith begets hope.
Without hope, life is nothing.

Most of the gruesomely painted warriors kept their distance as the talks progressed, but some of them stood close enough to Captain Daniel Boone and the others that their sneers and hateful looks were unmistakable and undeniable.

The Shawnee did not like these frontiersmen living in their sacred lands, and it was an affront to their sensibility that they would be allowed to continue to live near the mouth of Otter Creek, where Fort Boonesborough stood, along the "River of Blood" as they called the Ken-tah-ke River.

Capt. Boone let his gaze sweep before him from where the peace talks were taking place, back to the fort, where pitifully few men and women stood watch along the ramparts, approximately 75 yards away.

They had made their decision to stand against the enemy. They would not surrender. They had faith and hope.

Boone grinned to himself as he saw his daughter Jemima, dressed in men's clothing and sporting a broad rimmed hat and carrying an extra rifle, standing along the front gate wall of the fort. It had been a wise move to dress the women thusly, as it gave the enemy a false sense of the strength of the small wilderness fortress.

The peace negotiations had went surprisingly well thus far and the 40-or-so men of the fort were anxious for the enemy force of nearly 500 to be on their way back north as they promised they would at the end of this day's negotiations.

The only terse moment came on the opening day of discussions, when the ancient Shawnee Chief Molunthe lost his composure.

"You killed my son on your expedition up the Sciota River, Sheltowee," Molunthe had hissed under his breath while using Boone's adopted Shawnee name.

The comment caught Boone by complete surprise and he immediately remembered the young Shawnee warrior Simon Butler (Kenton) had shot from the Shawnee horse as that engagement near a village along the Sciota River only a week earlier.

Simon had taken the warrior's life and also his scalp.

Neither party mentioned the subject again, but Boone felt Molunthe's cold gaze upon him throughout the entire proceedings.

On occasions, when thinking of how he had found the tortured remains of James, who had died at the hands of Shawnee warriors, he met Molunthe's stare with his own.

Between Molunthe's cold eyes and Colonel Richard Calloway's blunt and harsh comments, Boone was tested not to lose his own temper before the day ended.

Colonel Calloway hated him for the loss of two of his own sons, James and Micajah, surrendered at Blue Licks by Boone himself six months earlier.

Calloway's nephew, Flanders, was now Boone's son-in-law, having married Jemima Boone a year earlier.

It was a complicated situation.

When the time came to sign the formal peace treaty, Boone had suggested that each man among the fort's peace ensemble load his musket and place it just inside the fort's gate.

"Just in case," Boone had said before they had all exited the fort with no weapons, as they had agreed.

The nine frontiersmen; including Capt. Boone, Colonel Calloway, Major William Bailey Smith, Captain William Buchanan, Flanders Calloway, John South and Squire Boone, met 18 Shawnee leaders to sign the formal peace treaty document.

Black Fish said the peace between the Kentuckians and the Shawnee would last "as long as the river flows and the trees grow."

It had been perceived as a trap by the Kentuckians and, as the 18 Shawnee clan leaders and chiefs shook hands with the Kentuckians, a clumsy movement among the group that involved the frontiersmen extending both arms to be embraced by two Shawnee each, and an alleged Shawnee signal, led those in the fort to unleash a furious volley of musket fire into their very midst as they had been ordered by Calloway and Boone to do at the first indication of trouble.

The grappling began in earnest then as Boone and his companions struggled to free themselves and race toward the fort gate. In the chaos of that initial volley, one of the warriors who held William Bailey Smith was killed, just as Capt. Boone grabbed Chief Black Fish and threw him violently to the ground. When he turned toward the fort a warrior struck him in the head with a steel-bladed tomahawk.

Boone detected the blow an instant before it landed and moved his head lower, which caused the brass-studded bandle of the weapon to land on his head, slicing a two-inch-long gash in the scalp, with the blade striking Boone a glancing blow between the shoulders. A second swing from the warrior missed Boone completely but did strike William Bailey Smith.

Squire Boone was shot in the back. He and John South were the last two Kentuckians to stagger through the gate as Hell broke lose in earnest, with hundreds of shots being fired as quickly as all could reload and fire again.

Ambrose Coffee had positioned himself atop one of the fort's bastions to watch the peace negotiations and when the chaos began, he fired one shot and then lay flat on his stomach on the bastion's roof as many of the Shawnee fired at him, one of their seemingly singular clear targets.

When Coffee finally came staggering down the bastion ladder, he removed his hunting shirt and examined his body for wounds. He greedily guzzled down a large dipper of water and was dipping a second gourd in a wooden bucket carried by Keziah Calloway, one of Colonel Calloway's daughter's, who calmly asked about the red marks on his side and the holes she saw in his shirt.

"What holes?" Coffee asked.

"Looks like about a dozen of them," she said as she grabbed the pail of water and continued on to the other thirsty men, leaving the bewildered frontiersman alone with the ragged and torn remains of his shirt.

18 Shawnee bullets had passed through his shirt and left individual bullet holes, and yet Coffee was not struck. He said a quiet and quick prayer and reloaded his musket

His gaze fell upon Capt. Boone who was reloading his musket as his daughter Jemima wrapped his bleeding head with a bandage.

The two men's eyes met through a cloud of gun smoke, and Boone simply nodded toward him before sighting his rifle, firing, and taking a second rifle from Jemima's hands as she reloaded the first.

Ambrose Coffee ended his prayer, clenched his jaw and climbed back up the ladder to the bastion once more.

Faith begets hope.
Without hope, life is nothing.

To be continued.

Courthouse Square Arts Guild

By Regina Barnes

As we have discussed in this article previously, there are many types of art other than putting paint on a canvas. While for me this is great fun for others art is appreciated in different forms.

The "good ole" Webster dictionary defines music as, any art over which the muses presided, esp. music, lyric, poetry set and sung to music. Also the science and the art of tones, or musical sounds. 2. Sound of higher or lower pitch.

Another more modern version of this definition of music is: An art of sound in time that expresses ideas and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony and color.

Many poems are written to try to express the meaning of music as this poem by John Keefe, Soft Music:

Soft music floating through the air, now 'tis lost and gone forever. Where does it Go? What does it Seek?

Winging. Winding like and everlasting creek. Full of life, bringing pleasure, full of death and the buried treasure. Going onward, upward, finding home, soft music floating thought the air.

Now for just plain country folks like me, music is a good fiddle, guitar, banjo, piano or saxophone playing good bluegrass or rhythm and blues. Which takes me to this month's artist of the month, Jerry Galbraith.

Mr. Galbraith is a resident of Nicholas County and can play a MEAN tenor sax. The tunes range from the old stardard to our favorite shows tunes.

He starting playing the saxophone in the 1960's at 11 years old. He went to school at Headquarters where his band director and mentor Carroll Hall encouraged his talent. Jerry's attributes his musical abilities coming from his mother's side of the family. They had fiddles and the band was pickers and grinners. His mother and Harry and Martha Galbraith were always encouraging him to do the music he loved.

In 1966 he was in a sock-hop band "The Vibrations". "We wore light blue shirts and paisley vest!" Said Mr.Galbraith light heartedly, "Sixteen years old and playing in a band around Owingsville and Carlisle, it was fun!"

In the early 1980 the fancy keyboards that can make sounds of different musical instruments became all the rage, and this interrupted his music, but his passion for his art never ceased. He continued to play at different functions with different bands. He was the tenor sax, soprano sax, alto sax, flute and clarinet. Some songs sound better in certain instruments, for example, some of Kenny Gee songs sound much better with a certain type of saxophone.

On July 28th he played dinner Music at Blue Licks State Resort Park. "I was really proud," he states "The people at the park said it was one of the largest numbers that they had dine on a Monday night. He also plays with the group, Kenny Whalen and the Travelers in Paris Kentucky every Saturday night at Music Land from 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm.

There are about four other bands he plays with in Lexington, West Liberty and Richmond KY. He also plays for any special events including weddings and birthday parties.

Mr. Galbraith has a CD called Sax-sensational Moments with Jerry. Some of the selections on it are Green, green grass of Home, Night Train, and My favorite Last Date (made famous by Floyd Kramer) are only a few. They can be purchased at Blue Licks or in many places he plays, or simply call him!

His wife Donna, daughter Andrea and granddaughter Sidney are all special fans of his music and rightfully so.

Get out and enjoy the sounds of and sights with your family this fall. There are a lot of exciting events happening around the area. And remember ARTS NOT A THING, IT'S A WAY!

TRIVIA ANSWERS: The two leading roles for the classic movie Casablanca is Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

(2) Humphrey Bogart won an Oscar for this performance.

TRIVIA: Lets continue on with trivia questions about Boggie and McCall (1) What were the pet names they called each other? These names were used by the characters in the wonderful movie "To Have and Have Not?" (2) Their real-life love continued to grow on and off the camera. One of the most famous lines in movie history was from Lauren Bacall. "You know how to whistle, don't you Steve? You just put your lips together.... And blow." Name the movie that line came from.

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Letters to the Editor

Editor,

The Silly Season: Rep. Nancy Pelosi and Sen. Harry Reid along with their liberal colleagues (liberal defined as to liberate us from our traditional values) are perplexing as to whether they really believe what they are saying about drilling for oil. They say, if we drill now it will take ten years to come on line, whereas the experts say there are some areas such as the ANWAQR and in the Gulf of Mexico, which could come on line in eighteen months. They also say, if we drill today it will not change the price at the pump. What a brilliant deduction.. Are we to believe that, because this is true for those who can only think in terms of the next five minutes, those who do think ahead should not plan ahead? They would also have the oil companies drill on the 68 million acres now allowed them where the financial risk of not finding oil is high and will not allow drilling where the oil is known to be known to be plentiful. In the North Sea, 76 dry holes were drilled before they struck oil in a mega-deposit.

Finally, the liberals/socialists in Congress threaten to have the government take over the oil industry; whereas, socialist/communist systems for the past century have conclusively proved that in economic matters they fail miserably. A saying in Russia over the years was, "They pretend to pay us, and we pretend to work." Russia and China have given up on the socialist economic system and become Fascist. Their economies are now booming. Also, oil shares are owned primarily by the public and by pension funds, not the super rich. With the share that the oil companies keep, they invest in oil discovery and vital infrastructure, as in how to get the oil processed from the oil sands of Canada and from the shale environment of the mid-west. An excess profits tax would seriously impact necessary investment. Imagine how with government control our highly politicized Congress would stall and debate the process, ad in how windmills and solar panels in twenty years could provide 10% to 20% of our needs, so we don't need to drill now where the oil is.

Of course, our capitalist system is not perfect, as indicated by the subprime mess and the near bankruptcy of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which hold some five trillion dollars of mortgages and are considered too big to fail; so the costs of their mismanagement will be shifted to the taxpayer. A significant part of their problem was their implied government sponsorship and from pressure from Congress for the mortgage industry to give subprime loans (we have all seen TV commercials to the effect that "bad credit doesn't matter"). It is also true that the bonuses and retirement benefits corporate executives extend themselves to the tune of the 10's and 100's millions of dollars are obscene and represent grand theft from the share holders. In 2004 Michael Eisner retired from Disney with a half trillion dollars in Disney stock options. Disney hasn't' yet recovered from that immense shareholder dilution.

Hopefully the neo-con republicans who have joined the big government liberals in recent years to accelerate our political and economic decline will have learned the lesson that they are not in tune with the American people. If so, and they campaign showing they will uphold traditional vaules, there is a change we can weather the economic difficulties at home and military exposure abroad which threaten to destroy us.

Domenica B. Di Mieri
Louisville KY

Editor,

I am from Nicholas County. I was born here. I have lived here. I have lived and worked here for most of my adult life. My husband has lived and worked here for many years. We have paid our taxes and supported the community.

My husband and I are retired and own a small concession stand. My husband is also a beekeeper and we sell honey on the side of our concession stand. It is just a way of making a little extra income and we enjoy doing it.

Last year were just getting started and set up at "Saturday in Carlisle". In the summer of this year, we received a letter inviting us back for this year. I sent in the application and money to reserve a spot after we had already set up at the Blackberry Festival and Nicholas County Fair. A few days later we received a phone

See LETTER Page 15

OBITUARIES

Stephen D. "Danny" Morris
1965-2008

Stephen D. "Danny" Morris, 43, husband of Michelle Asbury Morris, died Saturday at St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Morehead of injuries received in a motorcycle accident during a charity benefit ride.

He was born July 9, 1965 to the late Bennie, Sr. and Janet Spigles Morris. He was employed with Western Pacific Storage Solutions in Paris.

Survivors include three sons, Matthew Morris (Andrea Snapp), Bradley Morris, and Dustin Morris, all of Carlisle; four brothers, Bennie (Crystal) Morris, Jr., Carlisle, Larry (Gwen) Morris, Carlisle, Darrin (Rachel) Morris ,Paris, and Patrick (Emma) Morris , Carlisle; along with several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held Tuesday, August 26, 2008. Services were held 4 p.m. Wednesday, August 27, 2008 at Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home by Rev. Howard Livingood with burial to follow in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Casketbearers were Eslie Asbury, Jr. , Jeff Asbury, Richard Dailey, Christopher Snapp, Johnnie Snapp and Robert Wilson. Honorary bearers will be Tony Asbury, Jr. and Rick Chitwood.

Guestbook and video tribute available at www.mathers-gauncefuneral.com.

Genova Hildreth Hammonds
1917-2008

Geneva Hildreth Hammonds, 91, of Cowan died Wednesday Aug. 20, 2008 at Pioneer Trace Health Care in Flemingsburg.

She was married to Gilbert Tilton Hammonds whom died March 1, 1998 after a 60-year marriage. She was born in Nicholas County, March 8, 1917, the daughter of the late Robert Hildreth Sr. and Shirley Hunter Hildreth.

She is survived by a son, Joseph Tilton (Beverly) Hammonds of Cowan, four grandchildren, Tracy (Debbie) Hammonds of Cowan, Ricky Hammonds of Cowan, Lori (Kelly) Caudill of Maysville, and Scott (Stephanie) Hammonds of Penn. Eleven Great Grandchildren also survive.

Preceding Geneva in death beside her parents and husband are two brothers, Austin Hildreth and Robert Hildreth Jr.

Funeral Services were Saturday, August 23, 2008 at the Mt. Tabor Methodist Church with Rev. Gaylord Gillespie Officiating. Burial followed in the Elizaville Cemetery.

Price Bros. Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Cecilia "Sis" Kelsch Gasser
1914-2008

Cecilia "Sis" Kelsch Gasser,94, of Cynthiana, died Sunday, August 24, 2008, at her residence.

Born in Bracken County, February 4, 1914, to the late George and Mary Leduc Kelsch, she was a homemaker, part owner of Gasser's Greenhouse and a member of St. Edward Catholic Church. She was a member of the Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438, Democratic Women's Club of Harrison County and the St. Edward Altar Society.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Aloysius D. "Ollie" Gasser; three sons, David Gasser, Jerry Gasser, and Michael Gasser; four brothers, Eugene Kelsch, Robert Kelsch, Charles Kelsch, and George Kelsch and a sister, Helen K. Hennessey.

She is survived by a son, Roger (Brenda) Gasser, Cynthiana; a daughter, Rosanne (Bruce) Hampton, Cynthiana; a daughter-in-law, Judy Gasser Florence, Cynthiana; a brother Paul Kelsch, Augusta; ten grandchildren, Adam (Sheila) Gasser, Scott (Dawn) Gasser, Tony (Julie) Gasser, Kenny Gasser, Nathan (Megan) Gasser, Mary (Joey) Grubb, Heather (Matt) Moore, Wesley Hampton and Jenny (David) O'Donnell and twenty-one great grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday August 27, 2008, at the St. Edward Catholic Church by Rev. Douglas Lauer. Visitation was held Tuesday August 26, 2008 at Ware Funeral Home. Burial was in St. Edward Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Edward Catholic Church or School, 107 North Walnut Street, Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031.

Active pallbearers were Adam Gasser, Scott Gasser, Tony Gasser, Danny Gasser, Wesley Hampton, Joey Grubb, Matt Moore and David O'Donnell.

Honorary pallbearers were Dr. Don Stephens, Ed Culbertson, Ralph Coppage, Charlie Garrison, Charlie Switzer, Huck Turner, Melvin Hampton, Charles Feix, Jack Durkan, Larry Soabe, Jim Furnish, George Furnish, Robert Kelsch, Vaughn Kelsch, Shawn Hennessey, Ronnie Kelsch, Donal Isaac and Harold Gasser.

Charles William Feeback
1924-2008

Charles William Feeback, 83, of Phoenix, AZ, died Saturday, August 16, 2008. He was born in Carlisle, Kentucky on November 15, 1924 and moved to Arizona in 1950. He worked for Sears in Tucson for 19 years then moved to Phoenix and was the owner of PV One Hour Martinizing dry cleaners, and was also a decorated World War II veteran.

He is survived by his two children, his son and daughter-in-law; Ron and Toni Feeback of Morrisville, PA and Cheryl and Don Lozier of Phoenix; his grandchildren, Nicholle Woods, Charlie Lozier, Heather Fleener, Jenelle White, Jennifer Sinkey; and his great-grand children, Zoee, Arianna, Will, Rio, Isabella, and Jace.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Rosanna Feeback, his second wife, Janet Feeback, and a daughter, Diane Zeman.

He will be deeply missed by all his family and his many friends.

Services were held Wed. August 21, 2008 at Shadow Mountain Mortuary, 2350 E Greenway Rd. Phoenix AZ. Burial service immediately followed the ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery.

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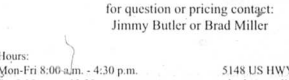

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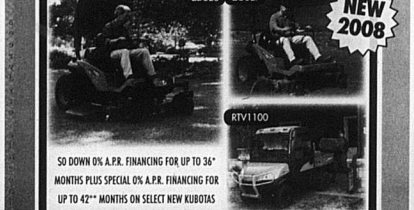

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