

Bugle

WINTER 2024



**DIANE
SAWYER**

From Bluegrass Roots
to Breaking News

A PUBLICATION OF
The Honorable Order of
 **Kentucky
Colonels®**



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From the Commanding General

An openhearted outlook

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well. In 2023, with the distribution of 343 grants totaling \$3.1 million, you, as Kentucky Colonels, have been useful, honorable, and compassionate.

You have made a difference.

Local nonprofits are the lifeblood of any community. Through your donations to the Good Works program, a single fund made of hundreds of large and small donations pooled together, these nonprofits are fortified. Two nonprofits receiving grants, Brighton Center and Safe Harbor of Northeast Kentucky, Inc., are featured in this issue.

Generals, the HOKC board members, donate their time and talents to the Honorable Order. In this issue, we meet three "retired" Generals and learn about how Generals are appointed and the work they do on your behalf.

Journalist and Kentucky Colonel Diane Sawyer represented the Commonwealth around the world while she tackled some of the biggest issues of our time.

Colonels Cynthia Shaw and Kay Foy left a legacy with the Kentucky Colonels through their estate gifts. Colonel Shaw's gift was a surprise, not giving us the opportunity to learn more about her wishes and express our appreciation. We are grateful that Colonel Foy shared her plans with us and knew the impact she would have. If you have included or are thinking of including the HOKC in your estate plans, please let us know. We would like to say "thank you" even if you choose to keep your gift confidential.

In the meantime, we thank you for your continuing support of HOKC and the difference you make in the commonwealth, its communities, and its citizens.

Cordially,

Gary W Boschert

Gary Boschert
Commanding General
HOKC



BRIGHTON CENTER

Written by
Lauren Copeland,
Senior Director

At Brighton Center, we deeply believe in the potential of all people and that everyone deserves to have the best quality of life possible. We partner with individuals and families through a comprehensive array of programs and services impacting the lives of everyone, from infants to older adults. We accomplish this through a strength-based approach of creating opportunities for individuals and families to reach self-sufficiency. Since our beginnings as a community-based organization in 1966, we have grown to provide a holistic community of support, allowing families to reach financial stability and independence.

During our last fiscal year, we impacted the lives of 24,986 individuals across all eight counties of Northern Kentucky.

Knowing that the challenges families and communities face are often complex and that making positive change requires long-term holistic

and comprehensive services, Brighton Center provides support through eight areas of impact and 45 programs. Our programs include meeting basic needs, adult and early childhood education, youth services, child and family development, parenting services, housing and financial wellness, workforce development, substance abuse recovery for women, and neighborhood-based programs.

We know that for families, all things are interconnected – a child's success is interdependent on the success of their parent(s) or caregiver, and the parents' success is interdependent on the support of their family, friends,

and community. Offering holistic services to parents and children not only reinforces impact but also accelerates it as both children and their parents build a solid foundation for the future.

It is through our community of support and their belief in our mission that we can provide the long-term, comprehensive support families need to achieve their hopes and dreams. The Kentucky Colonels are a steadfast supporter of Brighton Center, and their support of our Center for Employment Training (CET) results in a multigenerational transformational impact.



24,986 lives across Northern Kentucky were impacted by the Brighton Center last fiscal year.

Workforce Development
Director Jonika Greene explains that CET's purpose is to create education and employment opportunities for our trainees so that they achieve a higher level of self-sufficiency. She said, "The generosity and support we've received from Kentucky Colonels have enabled us to purchase new textbooks for our three career training programs. Overall, training is 60% hands-on; however, textbooks are the foundation of the learning process. Having current textbooks allows our trainees to enter the workforce with the most up-to-date knowledge in their chosen field. They provide the framework that constructs our competencies and serve as a vital tool in transmitting

knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values. Education plays a critical role in assisting families in reaching self-sufficiency. Our ability to provide a robust training experience that is relevant and in demand is fundamental to our agency's mission."

CET offers adults life-changing skills to help them find good jobs with a livable wage and build a successful future. Instruction is hands-on, practical, and personal, designed to get people working as quickly as possible to begin their path to a promising future. CET is accredited by the Council on Occupational Education and provides competency-based skill-specific training in Medical Assisting, Health Technology Administration, and Human Resources and Payroll Specialist.

What makes CET so different is the intensive and integrated experience trainees have while attending. In addition to skill-



specific training, individuals also benefit from learning critical workplace skills, access to on-site financial coaching, job search assistance, and additional support that offers stabilization through case management.

Gaining employment with a livable wage and benefits is often one of the most challenging issues faced by individuals and families working toward self-sufficiency. One of our focuses within CET is creating opportunities for people



to gain the training, skills, and credentials they need to obtain not only a job but also a career that will create a stable foundation to build upon and opportunities for advancement.

Since opening the doors of CET in April of 1997, over a thousand individuals have benefited from “Real Training that is Life Changing.” Jamie is one individual who has experienced firsthand our amazing community of support. “I was a month into being a single mom. I had no idea what I was going to do to provide for myself and my children. I went to Brighton Center for help with childcare and saw a familiar smiling face. He told me about CET. I’m so thankful for that day because it led me to much more. I’ve had the pleasure of meeting amazing people who haven’t for one minute let me feel like I’m in this on my own and pushed me to become the best version of myself. Not only have I developed and improved my Medical Assisting skills but also my life skills. I’m grateful for the sheer amount of confidence this program has instilled in me. The opportunities I’ve been given, the love I’ve been shown while here, along with the wonderful people, are what I’ll never forget and always cherish,” said Jamie, a CET Medical Assisting graduate.

As we work in partnership with families, we know that it is not only what we do but HOW we do it that can make the most profound difference. That is why we provide our services in a judgment-free, strength-

based approach driven by a deep belief in the potential of all people and their ability to make decisions that impact their lives. Thank you, Kentucky Colonels, for being a partner in creating opportunities for individuals and families to reach self-sufficiency. 🇺🇸

“I’m grateful for the sheer amount of confidence this program has instilled in me. ”

-Jamie, a CET Medical Assisting graduate.



DIANE SAWYER

FROM BLUEGRASS ROOTS TO BREAKING NEWS

Written by Colonel Leslie Watkins

Winter 2024

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The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels

Diane Sawyer's journey from a small town in Kentucky to becoming one of the most respected journalists in the world is a testament to her work ethic, relentless pursuit of the truth, and the deep-seated values instilled in her during childhood.

With a career spanning several decades, Sawyer, who is known for her in-depth research, has conducted interviews with almost every major newsmaker of our time, including world leaders. She has showcased her interviewing skills with world leaders including Fidel Castro in communist Cuba, Boris Yeltsin at the pinnacle of the 1993 Soviet coup, and Hosni Mubarak during the Gulf War, as well as celebrities like Whitney Houston and Brad Pitt.

Sawyer has traveled the globe delivering thorough and breaking news reports. In October 2006, she was the

first American journalist ever to report live from inside North Korea. She reported on the 1983 United States invasion of Grenada, numerous presidential elections, and the Boston Marathon bombing. She reported live from New Orleans on the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and from the Vatican during the historic transition to a new Pope, solidifying her reputation as a trusted and skilled journalist.

Soon after Sawyer's birth in Glasgow, Kentucky, in 1945, her family moved to Louisville, Kentucky. She grew up in a modest, close-knit family that instilled in her the values of hard work and determination. Through her father, Erbon Powers Sawyer Jr. (a county judge), and her mother, Jean W. Sawyer (a schoolteacher), she developed a strong sense of responsibility early in life, along with a love for learning and a deep appreciation for the

power of knowledge. These early influences would eventually steer her toward a career that revolved around uncovering the truth and sharing it with the world.

Sawyer attended Seneca High School in the Buechel area of Louisville, where she excelled academically. She served as an editor-in-chief for her school yearbook and took piano and ballet lessons. In 1963, as a high school senior, she won the national Junior Miss scholarship pageant, with judges commenting on her poise during the interview round and the strength of her essay comparing the music of the North and the South during the Civil War. Sawyer thought touring the nation as the national Junior Miss would be terrifying but later said it taught her to think on her feet. After high school, Sawyer attended Wellesley College on scholarship and majored

"Kentucky is known for its hospitality. The people are warm, friendly, and welcoming."

-Diane Sawyer



in English. Upon graduation, Sawyer had not chosen a career path and consulted her father, who asked her what she enjoyed doing most. Her response was "writing," as she realized she liked the power of the word and had a curiosity about world events. Her father suggested a television career, something Sawyer had not considered.

Sawyer returned to Kentucky and convinced the news director at Louisville's WLKY-TV to

hire her as a weather and news reporter. She told *Guidepost* magazine that she considered the weather report to be boring, so she often added variety - including one evening when she added information for tobacco farmers, saying the temperature would be "too cold for stripping."

In 1969, while she was working at WLKY, her father was killed in a car crash. Experiencing her father's death and having

grown tired of local television news, Sawyer began to consider another career and was encouraged by one of her father's associates to consider a move to Washington, D.C. This encouragement included a recommendation to Ron Zeigler, the White House Press Secretary, to interview Sawyer.

Without a job lined up, Sawyer moved to Washington, D.C., but was quickly hired to write press releases as an assistant to



Diane Sawyer and Richard Nixon. The U.S. National Archives.





"Kentucky is a place where time seems to slow down. It's a state of relaxation and tranquility."

-Diane Sawyer

the White House Deputy Press Secretary. Seeing her talent, her supervisor soon had her drafting public statements for President Richard Nixon, and she was quickly promoted to staff assistant for President Richard Nixon. Working for Nixon at the time of his resignation, she was part of the team preparing for the transition to Gerald Ford. Impressed by her work, Nixon asked her to assist him in writing his memoirs, so Sawyer moved to California.

In 1978, on her return to Washington, D.C., Sawyer joined CBS News as a general assignment reporter and later a political correspondent. In 1984, Sawyer became the first female correspondent on *60 Minutes*, a CBS News investigative television news magazine.

Sawyer becomes the first female correspondent on *60 Minutes* in 1984.

During this time, she met and married Mike Nichols, a film and theater director, producer, and actor.

Sawyer, in 1989, joined Sam Donaldson at ABC as co-anchor on *Primetime Live* newsmagazine and then *20/20*. One of her most iconic moments came in 1999 with her exclusive interview with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House intern at the center of the Bill Clinton scandal. The interview garnered record-breaking viewership and solidified her status as a respected journalist. Another highlight was her eye-opening *20/20* story on ISIS recruiting Americans.

While co-anchoring *Good Morning America* with Charles Gibson on September 11, 2001, Sawyer was the first to announce that the first plane had crashed into the World Trade Center. In the days that followed, she reported live from ground zero and later interviewed more than 60 widows who gave birth after the World Trade Center attack.

From 2009 to 2014, Sawyer was the anchor of *World News with Diane Sawyer*, ending each broadcast with "I'll see you right back here tomorrow night," and was the network's

principal anchor for breaking news, election, and special events coverage. Under Sawyer's leadership, the award-winning "Hidden America" series expanded into ongoing reports across ABC News to shine a light on the people, places, and stories of struggle and hope that were not well known to many Americans. The reports also spotlighted the creative and innovative actions of some extraordinary Americans to help people in their communities. As part of this series, she and her team of producers spent two years in the hills of Appalachia. They reported "A Hidden America: Children of the Mountains," which won a Peabody Award and a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award.

Sawyer also created ABC's signature "Made in America" series that focused on products manufactured in the United States and ways to support American jobs and the economy. The series notably reported that the 2012 USA Olympic team's opening ceremony uniforms had been made overseas. In 2014, she stepped down from the anchor chair to focus on

creating specials and conducting high-profile interviews. Sawyer has been recognized with numerous awards, including duPonts, Emmys, Peabodys, the Walter Cronkite Award for Excellence in Journalism, and the Investigative Reporters and Editors Association Lifetime Achievement Award.

While Diane Sawyer's career in journalism was flourishing, she never lost sight of the importance of giving back to society. Her passion for philanthropy is deeply rooted in her upbringing in Kentucky, where she witnessed firsthand the power of communities coming together to support one another.

One of her most significant philanthropic endeavors was her involvement with *Good Morning America's* annual "Gifts of Life" series, which raised awareness about organ donation. She is also a strong advocate for children's education and has used her platform to shed light on important social issues, such as poverty, hunger, and healthcare disparities. Her reporting often highlighted the struggles of marginalized communities, bringing these issues to the forefront of public discourse. Sawyer has also worked with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, the Stand Up To Cancer Foundation, and the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation.



U.S. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, left, ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer and U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus. Cherie Cullen.

Diane Sawyer's journey from the hills of Kentucky to the anchor desk of major news programs is characterized by her journalistic integrity and her unwavering commitment to making a positive impact on society. 🇺🇸





SAFE HARBOR OF NORTHEAST KENTUCKY, INC.

Written by Colonel Ann Perkins, Executive Director

Winter 2024

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The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels

Safe Harbor of Northeast Kentucky, Inc. has been blessed for many years with funding from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, enabling us to buy vans, furniture, and equipment we would never have had the money to purchase. Transportation is a huge barrier for most domestic violence victims, so being able to get our clients to doctor's appointments, court, schools, and jobs has been a tremendous help. Being able to buy all new beds for victims helped us have comfortable, safe places for families to sleep. The Kentucky Colonels funding is a source of essential, lifesaving items that assist the most at-risk families in Kentucky.

Established in 1983, Safe Harbor was one of the first domestic violence shelters in Kentucky. Today, the facility is one of the state's largest domestic violence shelters and outreach

facilities. During the past three-plus decades, Safe Harbor has provided shelter, food, clothing, case management, and a wide variety of other services to more than 20,000 women, children, and men in the Five County Area Development District, consisting of Boyd, Greenup, Carter, Elliott, and Lawrence counties. Safe Harbor's programs are housed in a former

state tuberculosis hospital and ancillary buildings in Ashland. The former nurses' quarters serve as the Emergency Shelter, and the former administrators' and physicians' housing is the Transitional Shelter.

In 2009, Safe Harbor teamed up with the Kentucky Housing Corporation, the city of Ashland, PNC Bank, and our





developer AU Associates for a \$4.5 million renovation of the old hospital. The former hospital—now called Harbor Hill—is utilized for Safe Harbor’s administrative offices, meeting rooms, counseling offices, childcare area, cafeteria/kitchen, and rental space for Mountain Comprehensive Care to provide onsite counseling and Peer Support services for victims.

This project renovated the old hospital into 34 permanent, supportive housing units that offer one-, two- and three-bedroom living areas for survivors of domestic violence. The apartments are administered

through Housing and Urban Development and managed by AU Associates. One of the key components to the success of the project is the 34 Section 8 project-based vouchers promised by the city of Ashland for 15 years to ensure the viability of the tax credit project.

Our three-tiered Continuum of Care approach makes Safe Harbor unique, both in the commonwealth and in the nation. Continuum of Care gives victims and their children the opportunity to regain their lives through a carefully structured program:

- Emergency Shelter is a 60-bed facility that treats the victims’ (and children’s) immediate physical and emotional needs. The average stay in the Emergency Shelter is 30 to 90 days. There is no charge to victims and their children for any services.
- Transitional Shelter, which occupies two buildings, offers ten bedrooms and 30 beds for women who choose to stay in Safe Harbor’s program and are out of the emergency phase. This program allows up to two years of residency while the individual works on a life plan (continued intensive case management, education planning, re-entering the workplace, finding housing, etc.). This gives individuals and families who have multiple barriers to self-sufficiency time to work through the barriers to be independently successful right away.
- Permanent supportive housing focuses on achieving independent living skills that include budgeting, credit repair, etc., and is available at Harbor Hill’s 34 apartments. Safe Harbor provides case management and wrap-around services for families who have little or no support systems.

Safe Harbor houses over 150 women, children, and men each day. Our program offers families opportunities to transition to independent living by providing the case management that most successful families have through



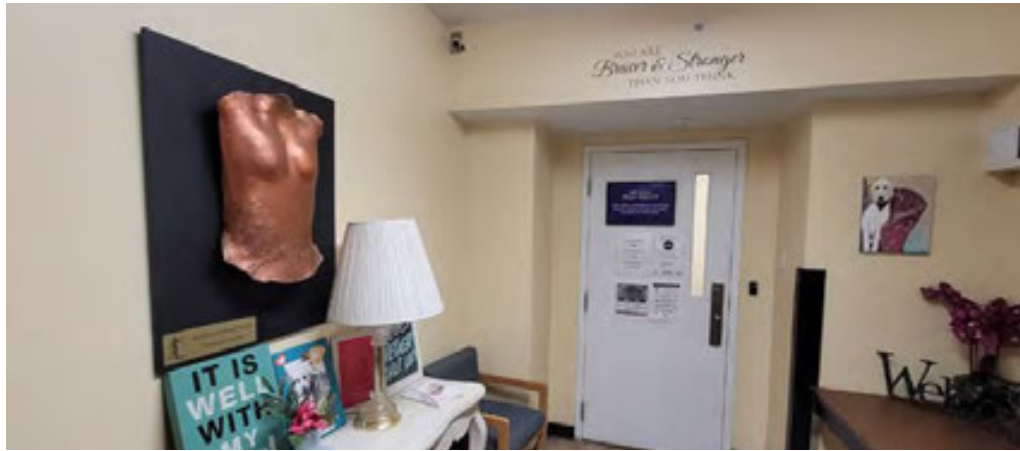


family and community support. The families that need us the most are the hardest to serve, especially when they suffer from generational poverty, foster care, mental health issues, and substance abuse.

When we offer families opportunities for improved health, education, and jobs, we are helping families break the cycle of violence that has made Kentucky one of the leading states to suffer from domestic violence.

One of our latest projects was the renovation of the old laundry facility to create an art studio where victims learn new skills and hobbies, providing therapeutic time to create and express trauma, violence, and recovery through art. We offer pottery, painting, sewing, knitting, and crafts to victims, giving them a platform to express themselves with a wonderful gift of new skills and lifelong hobbies.

In 1989, Safe Harbor gave half of our state money to DOVES,



another domestic violence shelter, and they became independent from Safe Harbor. They serve the Gateway Area Development District and are better able to assist with emergencies that could be over two hours away from Safe Harbor, which allows more efficiency in services.

Over the years, Safe Harbor has served the most at-risk families in Kentucky in which women have been isolated, beaten, threatened, and humiliated. Our program sets victims up to become independent through safe and affordable housing, counseling, advocacy, and referrals.

One of our most tragic families had three little children who were in a car their perpetrator set on fire. Luckily, they escaped and came into Safe Harbor, which helped save their lives. They are now safe and well, living in an apartment, and the perpetrator is in jail.

We have hundreds of families with related stories; tragically, not all survive. In domestic violence cases, a gun is the weapon used most frequently to threaten, hurt, or kill a victim. Last year, 20 of the 23 domestic violence deaths in our area were the result of guns.

Safe Harbor is dedicated to eliminating violence through prevention, education, and intervention; empowering individuals in these ways breaks the cycle of violence that affects one in four in our country. 🇺🇸

Over 150 women, children, and men are housed each day because of the work of Safe Harbor.





DONOR SPOTLIGHT: SHAW & FOY ESTATE GIFTS

Written by
Colonel Leslie Watkins

Beyond receiving a few gifts from Colonel Cynthia Shaw in the years after she was commissioned and meeting her at Oaks Day, the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels knew little about Colonel Shaw. However, in 2019, she had a tremendous impact on the Honorable Order by including this organization in her estate plans as a beneficiary of a retirement account, creating the first Legacy of Honor fund (a Legacy of Honor fund is a fund of \$100,000 or more). HOKC eventually learned that Shaw had included up to 40

other nonprofits in her plans, including many the Good Works Program supports.

Jennifer L. Scott, Director of Development and Marketing at The Cabbage Patch Settlement House, shared with us that Colonel Shaw had made one gift to their organization before her death. The notification of Colonel Shaw's gift came at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. According to Scott, "The Cabbage Patch was uncertain about meeting our annual fundraising goals because we needed to cancel

our two large fundraising events that year, which would normally raise about \$225,000. Ms. Shaw's gift was a godsend as we were pivoting how we provided programs, shifting to become a daytime learning hub, and needing to upgrade our internet connection and purchase equipment to meet the changing needs of our children."

The Kentucky Humane Society received a gift of \$35,094 through Colonel Shaw's IRA, which allowed KHS to rescue and find new homes for 20 needy horses.





According to Kristen Binkowski, Donor and Estate Planning Specialist of KHS, one of the horses helped by Colonel Shaw's gift is Cheyenne, a 39-year-old mare who was a former children's trail horse. Cheyenne arrived at the KHS as a senior mare looking for a retirement home. Despite her advanced age, Cheyenne was still a sound, spry, and vivacious mare and is now living out her golden years at a Kentucky equestrian facility that specializes in therapeutic riding for individuals with special needs, where she continues to delight children and adults alike with her gentle and calm demeanor under the saddle.

According to Dreams With Wings Executive Director Jenifer Frommeyer, Colonel Shaw had no involvement they were aware of with Dreams With Wings before receiving notification of her gift, so they were surprised to receive her donation and said it was "like manna from

heaven!" Frommeyer said, "We work so tirelessly to find ways to fund programs, and to receive an unexpected gift was a true blessing. There were no parameters for usage associated with the gift, so we used it to fund our growing Teen and Young Adult Program."

The estate gift allowed the organization to provide guest instructors for yoga, drama, music, and boot camp and increase the number of individuals served. At the time of Cynthia's gift, the program averaged ten participants a week. Today, they have 35 to 40 participants each week. As Frommeyer said, "Cynthia's gift has changed the lives of many teens in our community and has enabled them to live enriched lives."

Through the estate gift to Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana, 875 Girl Scouts received membership financial aid. Dream Factory, the Kentucky Derby Museum, WellSpring, Honor Flight of the Bluegrass, and Seven County Services were also beneficiaries of Colonel Shaw's estate.

Colonel Shaw's estate gift had an immeasurable impact on the Honorable Order and many other nonprofits, and we regret we did not have the opportunity to thank her and share with her what a difference she is making.

Colonel Kay Foy, commissioned in 2003, attended several HOKC homecomings, and we were fortunate to visit or talk with her frequently over the years.



Colonel Foy, who lived in Pennsylvania, shared with us her plans to include HOKC as a beneficiary of an IRA. With her \$100,000 estate gift, Foy created the Kathryn W. Foy Legacy of Honor fund, documenting the categories in the Good Works program that were important to her. It was especially important to us to be able to express to her our appreciation for her gift and share with her the tremendous impact her gift would have. We were grateful to have that opportunity.

Colonels Michael Emerson, Sherry L. Crose, Jason Alexander Rodriguez, and Mary Vitale, in addition to several Colonels who have requested to remain anonymous, have documented estate gifts to HOKC in the last year. Also, this year, HOKC received gifts from the estates of deceased Colonels Jacques and Marjorie Crommelin, Markham Levy, Charles Joseph Preston, Lyman Moored, Martha S. Pfeiffer, and Ralph W. Hegner, Jr.

The generous spirit of all Colonels who have included HOKC in their estate plans is an example for us all. Colonel Shaw's obituary said she "gave of herself to help others in ways that made a difference. Her kind and generous spirit is an example for us all."

Senior Vice President and Charitable Solutions Strategist with Baird Trust, Jonathan Raymon, works with individuals to determine the best strategy for their charitable giving and offers advice to Kentucky Colonels considering an estate gift.

Raymon says, "Any distribution from a traditional retirement account will be taxable to the recipient, thereby decreasing the net value of the inheritance. If those same recipients inherited under your will or trust from your other assets that received a stepped-up basis, they would enjoy the full value without incurring the tax liability." Because 501(c)(3) organizations,

such as HOKC, are tax-exempt, they could receive retirement assets without incurring the tax liability.

Beneficiary designation forms (not your will) determine what happens to your IRA or 401(k) at your death. These forms allow you to divide the assets among several organizations or individuals in whatever proportion you wish, making it easy to provide for the organizations and individuals you care about. This strategy provides a significant opportunity to accomplish tax-efficient charitable giving while still providing for family or other individuals.

Raymon recommends reviewing the forms periodically, especially after life events like births, deaths, or divorces, to ensure that the proper individuals inherit your retirement account assets. Be clear about your wishes with your spouse, lawyer, and any financial advisors, giving a copy of the completed





beneficiary forms as necessary. The Honorable Order also appreciates being notified of your plans so we can document your wishes and thank you for your estate commitment.

Beyond estate gifts, Raymon also encourages Colonels to consider a qualified charitable distribution, which can be made by anyone over 70½ with an IRA. A QCD is a distribution that goes directly from your IRA to your preferred public charity. With this approach, the

distribution is never recognized as income and, therefore, is not taxed. (Note that if your retirement assets are currently held in a 401(k), you would need to first roll the assets from the 401(k) into an IRA.)

“There is a palpable feeling of satisfaction from giving, and the impact here in Kentucky cannot be overstated. We want to help ensure those gifts are as effective as possible and support the causes important in the Commonwealth of Kentucky,”

Raymon says. Depending on your situation, there may be even more charitable giving strategies that can help you support the HOKC. 🇺🇸

Colonel Foy, who lived in Pennsylvania, shared with us her plans to include HOKC as a beneficiary of an IRA.

This information was prepared as an informational piece for the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels and is not intended as legal or financial planning advice. It is important that you consult with your attorney or other financial advisors as to the applicability of any item relevant to your own situation prior to making a gift to HOKC. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your advisors to establish individualized gift arrangements.

FORMER GENERAL *Features*

Written by Colonel Leslie Watkins

“We look for talent from every area of Kentucky. We want our board to be all-inclusive and represent the people of the Commonwealth.”

-General Gary Boschert

The trustees of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, known as Generals, provide oversight to the organization and are appointed through a nomination, interview, and approval process. Commanding General Gary Boschert said the board looks for individuals with time to attend meetings and vet 20 or more grant applications and nonprofits each year. Each General appointed to the board can serve three terms, each being three years long.

Here’s a look at three Generals who have represented you on the HOKC board:

JAN DEMPSEY CAMPLIN

"Kentucky is a better place because a Colonel gave..."

General Jan Dempsey Camplin said remembering her fifteen-year tenure as an Honorable Order trustee.

One of General Camplin's earliest memories of the Kentucky Colonels was of attending picnics at Wickland Mansion in Bardstown, Kentucky, with her parents, Colonels Loran and Betty Dempsey. When the picnic was no longer financially feasible for the Honorable Order, Camplin, who had coordinated day-long, domestic, and international trips for a local bank, suggested a fall event, which became Romp and is now the Colonels' Homecoming.

Memories from Camplin's time on the board include the work Colonel Barbara Dutschke led to set up guidelines for the Good Works Program. A Boys and Girls Club in a rural area of Kentucky also stood out to her. When she went to vet the grant application the organization

submitted, she learned that the club provided daycare for hundreds of children but had asked only for a few life jackets, two basketballs, and four board games. When Camplin asked the program director why, when they had such great need, they had not asked for more, the director responded that they did not want to ask for too much. Camplin found as she vetted grant applications that small non-profits across Kentucky usually accomplished amazing things on a shoestring budget.

While Camplin served as a General, the HOKC moved its headquarters from the Kaden Tower to the Blankenbaker office and then to the current building owned by HOKC. Guidelines were also established for the addition and terms of new trustees.

Camplin's life included the Kentucky Colonels even before she was commissioned in 1987. Beyond her parents, her husband (also named Jan Camplin) was Commanding General at the time of his death in 2006. Camplin's sister, brother-in-law, their children, and the children's spouses are all Kentucky Colonels.



Beyond HOKC, Camplin's philanthropic activity includes the Woman's Club of Greenville, especially its literacy programs and scholarships for local high school graduates. Thriving on volunteering, General Camplin was once licensed to drive an emergency response vehicle for the Red Cross. Driving the ERV, she was frequently one of the first to arrive on the scene, delivering blankets, water, and ready-to-eat meals and working at the sight of the disaster.

Camplin, who majored in business at Western Kentucky University, retired from Dempsey Furniture and Appliances in 2006. Because she had traveled extensively (46 states and 55 countries), she began to coordinate trips for a local bank and then was recruited to be a sales representative for a company that sold hand-knitted rugs.

In 2021, Camplin retired permanently, and, although she became a Florida resident, she remains active in HOKC activities. 🇺🇸



PAUL SCHULTE



Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, General Paul Schulte came to Louisville to attend Bellarmine College (now Bellarmine University). While a student at Bellarmine, he became engaged in the political process and met Romano Mazzoli, who was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives and then to Congress, representing the third district. Mazzoli hired Schulte as a research staff member and was so impressed with him that, in 1970, he nominated him to be a Kentucky Colonel. (Schulte was familiar with the Kentucky Colonels because his father had been commissioned.)

Upon graduation, Schulte pursued a graduate degree at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, Illinois, and then decided to return to Louisville and was hired to work as a survey field coordinator for Vollmer Engineers, Inc.

After several years working in survey research for Highland Community Ministries, Inc. and serving as the director of the Survey Research Center in the Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, Schulte established the Horizon

Group International. Serving as chief executive officer and as chairman of the board of Horizon InFocus, a subsidiary of HGI, he managed over \$3 million of research yearly, mostly in the private, for-profit sector, with Brown-Forman, Humana, Inc., Kentucky Fried Chicken, Siemens, and Valvoline as clients. He currently serves as chairman of HGI.

Schulte's philanthropic interests were broad; he served on the boards of the Felix E. Martin Jr. Foundation, Inc.; the Christian Care Communities; Trinity High School Foundation; The Speed Art Museum; the Louisville Science Center; the Passionists of Holy Cross Province Lay Advisory Board; and the Catholic Education Foundation. He also served as a teacher and consultant to Junior Achievement and was an ad hoc member of their marketing and planning committee.

General Schulte was also appointed to the advisory board of the Bellarmine University Ruebel School of Business, serving from 2002-2006, and the Bellarmine University Board of Overseers, from 2003-2009.

In the mid-1990s, General Jim Lindsey asked Schulte's company to survey Kentucky Colonels. Research from that survey showed that Kentucky Colonels knew about the social events and considered their donation each year to be a membership fee, but only 20 percent were aware of the Good Works Program.

Appointed to the HOKC board in 2003 and serving until 2018, Schulte said three areas of growth were especially rewarding to him. Because so few Colonels knew about the Good Works Program, they developed a new model for asking for support and reporting on the activity of the organization. Also, during his tenure, the organization went through a strategic planning process. It developed mission and vision statements and the bylaws were revised regarding the organizational structure and board rotation, positioning the organization for the future. Schulte served as Commanding General from 2015 to 2018. 🇺🇸



JOHN SHROPSHIRE



John Shropshire's career in banking brought him to the Kentucky Colonels. While Shropshire was president of Farmers Bank (which became Town and Country Bank), the Kentucky Colonels executive committee met at the bank. General Lynn Ledford asked Shropshire to join the meeting and meet the other Generals. Because of his experience, the Generals wanted him to be part of the organization, so he was quickly nominated to be a Kentucky Colonel and appointed to the board.

Born in Lexington, Shropshire attended the University of Kentucky and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in business. Narrowly avoiding the Vietnam War draft, he joined Central Bank in Lexington to work in bank operations, basically as the bank's treasurer. He was soon recruited by Citizens Fidelity Bank in Louisville and then by Kentucky Finance Company, where he served as assistant secretary and assistant treasurer. During this time, he studied accounting and took the exam to become a certified public accountant. Returning to Citizens Fidelity Bank, first in Louisville and then in

Lexington, he focused on equine lending.

With experience in lending and operations, Shropshire spent the remainder of his career running community banks in Flemingsburg, Bowling Green, Pikeville, Morehead, and Augusta. He was frequently recruited to clean up banks. Soon after arriving at one specific bank, in one week, he discovered fraud in two departments.

Shropshire's background in banking and accounting made him a perfect fit for the HOKC board. He served on the finance committee, chairing the committee for several years. During his tenure, with good investments made by the committee and significant estate gifts, the endowment doubled. While he was on the board, they hired General Lynn Ashton as interim executive director and Colonel Sherry Crose as executive director.

General Shropshire called the board of directors a collegial group, saying the Generals were a quality group wanting to do their very best for the organization. He appreciated the grants given by the Good

Works Program to organizations he called "too big to be tiny and too tiny to be big," saying their size would keep them from qualifying for grants from other organizations. At that time, the average grant given was \$10,000, and the organization granted from \$1 million to \$1.5 million. He also shared that vetting grant applications always gave him a renewed sense of appreciation for the purpose of HOKC.

Shropshire, whose wife and three of his children are also Colonels, has been involved with Delta Tau Delta, both locally and nationally, industrial development boards, chambers of commerce, and the Makenna Foundation. He is also a UK Fellow.

General John and Colonel Judy Shropshire decided when they married that they wanted to travel as much as possible, and they have, visiting and frequently sailing in countries from Spain, Tahiti, the British Virgin Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, and France to Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong, and Greece. 🇺🇸





Because a Colonel Gave...

...from Ashland to Paducah, 3.8 million Kentuckians benefit from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels' Good Works Program. Children, veterans, people with disabilities, the hungry, and the homeless all find help through the services of 343 nonprofits receiving grants from us this year. And we continued to fulfill our commitment of \$4.5 million to tornado and flood relief across the state.

A commission as a Kentucky Colonel is the highest civilian honor a Kentucky governor can bestow. And many Colonels consider annual or monthly contributions to the Honorable Order to be a continuation of the altruistic activity that earned them that commission.

If you are a Kentucky Colonel, please consider a contribution to the Good Works Program. Call us, or visit KyColonels.org, today.

2023
\$3.1 Million
343 Grants



The Honorable Order of
**Kentucky
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Since 1951
\$63.1 Million
8,498 Grants