

Beegie Adair

A Talent That
Couldn't Be Taught



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943 South First Street Louisville, Kentucky 40203 502-266-6114 www.KyColonels.org

From the Commanding General

The past. The present. The future.

In our last Bugle, we highlighted the many ways Kentucky Colonels across the commonwealth, nation, and globe supported the people of western Kentucky following the devastating tornados. Now, seven months later, in the wake of devastating floods in eastern Kentucky, the citizens of the commonwealth are once again demonstrating their resilience and compassion for their fellow man. The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels is working with nonprofit organizations in eastern and western Kentucky to help with the rebuilding process, with over \$1,215,755 raised. Our next Bugle will feature ways in which your gifts have helped our fellow Kentuckians.

In this issue, we celebrate the life of jazz pianist Beegie Adair; the work of the Post Clinic, in Mount Sterling, Kentucky; and the Franklin County Women and Family Shelter in Frankfort, Kentucky.

We introduce you to new Kentucky Colonels who are having a positive impact in their communities and to the Shelby Society, an organization that exists to preserve the history of the governors and their families and to contribute to the quality of life in Kentucky.

We also feature Colonel John Early Klopp, Honor Flight sponsor,

> Gary Boschert Commanding General, Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels

whose friends have established the Colonel John Early Klopp Classic, to be run at Churchill Downs at Homecoming each year.

Since our last issue, which provided information about Kentucky Colonel Chapters, sixteen Chapters have been established, from Switzerland to Pennsylvania.

This year, we are recognizing Colonels for cumulative years of giving at the 10-, 25-, and 50year mark. If you have faithfully supported the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, you will be receiving your recognition in the mail. Through your continuing contributions, we can accomplish so much, Because a Colonel Gave.

Cordially,

Gary W Boschert

Gary Boschert Commanding General HOKC 👼



Welcoming New Colonels

by Colonel Heather Campbell, Director of Colonel Relations

The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels is represented in 50 states and 59 countries. Meet two of our most recently commissioned Colonels:



Jeffrey Luke Bramon

After seeing a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant as a child, Luke told his grandfather that he wanted to join the military to become a Colonel like Colonel Sanders. His grandfather told him there were other ways to become a Colonel, and the desire to become a Kentucky Colonel was born.

Colonel Bramon grew up in
California and attended the University
of Southern California, earning a
bachelor's degree in Marketing and
Communication. As a rugby player,
he received a scholarship to study at
the University of Sydney, where his
team won a national championship.
At the University of Sydney, Colonel
Bramon earned a master's degree
in Media Communication. He later
earned a master's degree in Business
Administration in Wine Marketing at
the University of Adelaide.

Now back home in California, Colonel Bramon has worked for San Diego State University as a wine consultant. Traveling to Kentucky frequently, he has used his expertise to consult with a bourbon distiller and a vineyard on international marketing.

Colonel Bramon shared that on one trip back to California from

Kentucky, he forgot he had a flask with premium bourbon in his carryon luggage; he also had Kentucky
Colonels items as he still dreamed of being a Colonel. Kentucky Colonels in the airport with him noticed the items, saw the exchange with the bourbon, and offered to help drink the bourbon with him so it would not be wasted, solidifying his impression of the generosity of a Kentucky Colonel.

In recognition of his work in Kentucky, Colonel Brian Brown and his wife, Ashley Ryamer-Brown, nominated Bramon. To this day, even with the degrees he has earned, the Kentucky Colonel commission is the only thing Colonel Bramlage has framed and hung on a wall. He said his life has been in California, but his heart is in Kentucky.



Lisa Bramlage

"When I grow up, I want to be a Kentucky Colonel." These words came from Colonel Lisa Bramlage as a child, seeing her father's commission on the wall in his office, the decal on his car, and the Kentucky Colonel pin he wore on his lapel every day. As one of eight children, Bramlage witnessed her parents providing for others and especially remembers welcoming children from a local orphanage into their home every Christmas break.

After receiving her degree in marketing management from Wright State University, she had a career in sales and

marketing and was recognized for her service to her clients.

Colonel Bramlage is now the Executive Director of Kaden's Cause, a nonprofit named for a 16-monthold baby girl who died in 2009. The cause of her death is unknown and was classified as SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood.) A Good Works Program grantee, Kaden's Cause brings awareness to SUDC, supports families affected by the tragedy of losing a child; assists low-wealth individuals and families with funding to cover funeral, cemetery, and monument costs; and spreads kindness throughout our communities in honor of Kaden.

Last year, Kaden's Cause supported 21 families; this year, they have helped over 50 families. Recently, General Alex Lyttle, HOKC Trustee, contacted Colonel Bramlage to request help for a colleague who had just lost a child. Colonel Bramlage says that, although her work is hard emotionally, she feels gratified supporting families during this most difficult time. When presented with her Kentucky Colonel commission, she wept saying that the commission is a privilege and is not the end as there are still many more people to help.

Kaden's Cause nominated Bramlage for her commission. Colonel Bramlage is leading the establishment of a Kentucky Colonel Chapter in Florida, hoping to connect Colonels and do more good in the local community. She reminds herself and hopes other Colonels will remember "to be even better today than the day you received your commission."







of what we can be

by Colonel Leslie Watkins, Director of Major Gifts

John Early Klopp was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel in 1977. While he was recognized at that time for his previous service, Klopp spent the remainder of his life exemplifying qualities that set Kentucky Colonels apart: noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to our community, state, and nation.

Born in San Antonio, Texas, in 1940, Colonel Klopp spent his early years moving around the United States as his father's business required. His family eventually settled in Erlanger, Kentucky, when he was three. He attended Beechwood High School in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, where he played center for the football team.

After beginning college at the University of Kentucky, Klopp later transferred to Oklahoma State University for their Chemical Engineering program and earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees there. The OSU College of Engineering inducted him into their Hall of Fame in 2017.

Klopp spent the early part of his career in Licenses and Acquisitions

for DuPont Medical Products. He had a special talent for business strategy, and, during his 28-year career with DuPont, he held positions of increasing responsibility in new venture development, turnarounds, partnerships, joint venture development, and mergers and acquisitions.

Upon retirement from DuPont, he moved to Palo Alto, California, and went to work for Johnson & Johnson, ending his career as Worldwide Vice President for Business Development for the J&J Diabetes Care Franchise.

During his sixteen-year career with J&J, he led a \$2 billion acquisition of a diabetes monitoring technology which brought in over \$40 billion in revenue, saved over 1500 jobs, and improved the lives of countless patients living with diabetes.

One of his many accomplishments was an agreement for Lifescan that led to the development of technology for insulin pumps which allowed the pumps to communicate with glucose monitoring devices. Connectivity between insulin pumps and diabetes monitors is now standard in diabetes care. Recognized as an industry expert on diabetes, Klopp joined the Research and Development Committee of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in 2010.

With this passion, Klopp considered it his mission to see the trajectory of juvenile diabetes, which he considered an epidemic, contained. In 2010, he was appointed as a Director of SpeeDx Pty Ltd., an Australian-based private company specializing in molecular diagnostic solutions.

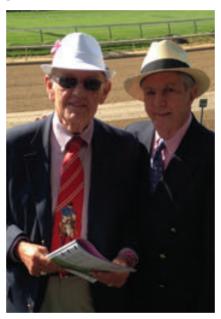
Klopp was as generous as he was talented. After a visit to Oklahoma State University, to visit with the School of Chemical Engineering, he asked what he could do to help the school and established an endowment to provide stipends for two peerteaching assistants.

In speaking of him, Rob Whitely, retired Bartlett Chair and Professor and Head of the School of Chemical Engineering, said "the more I have learned about John, the more overwhelmed I am with his selfless service to others."

According to Whitely, there were few people who made a stronger

impression on him than John Klopp, saying his combination of talent, personality, and compassion for others was off the chart. He described Klopp as one of those rare individuals who goes through life leaving a trail of success in his wake, but, most importantly, he encouraged, expected, and empowered success from those with whom he came in contact.

Classmate Colonel Alan Tye and colleague Colonel Fred Tennille said Klopp was passionate about developing and supporting young professionals in their careers and was



a mentor to many, including Yoolie Chong. Chong remembers having been on her new job with Johnson & Johnson for only two weeks when she met Klopp at a dinner. He introduced himself to her, knew who she was, and soon offered to mentor her. Exceedingly generous with his time and talents with Chong and other mentees, he ended every conversation with a question: "How can I help you?"

John Klopp's generosity extended to the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels. Upon learning through the Colonels about the Honor Flights, which flew veterans and their families to Washington, D.C. to visit the World War II and other memorials, he called the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels to ask about sponsoring an Honor Flight. He chartered the flight that year and continued to do so, always anonymously, for several years. In addition to the Honor Flights, Klopp arranged visits for the veterans with members of Congress.

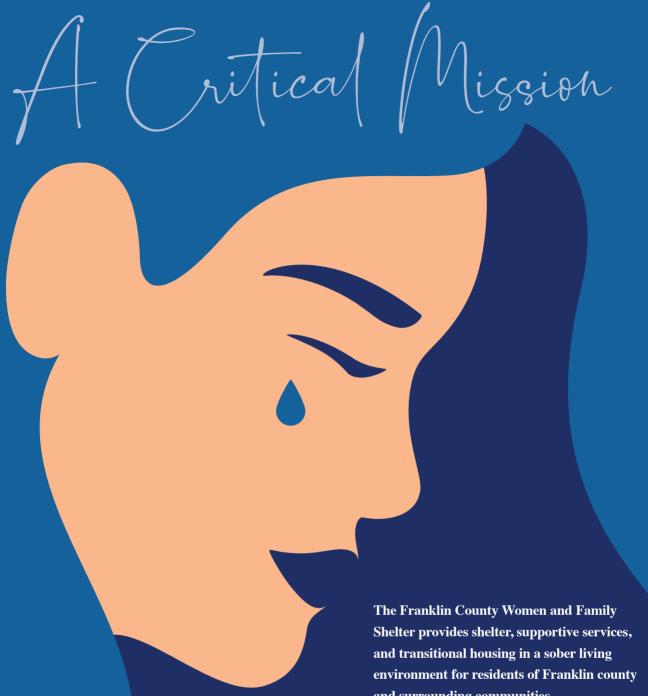
Devoted to his family, especially his sister, Colonel Jane Klopp Giltner, and his niece, Colonel Emily Jane Giltner, Klopp included them in the Honor Flights. According to Jane, her brother was extremely generous and told her never to allow any of the veterans or their companions to spend any of their own money on the Honor Flights.

With a love for travel, Klopp circumnavigated the globe numerous times for both business and pleasure and asked family and friends to accompany him in his worldwide travels. Family and friends said that he especially appreciated the United States National Parks, and his generosity included hosting family and friends for Christmas at Yosemite National Park.

Klopp frequently visited Australia, where he was able to invest in another passion, horses and horse racing. Along with his partners, he developed a stable of promising thoroughbreds in Australia. To honor Colonel Klopp, a group of friends established the Colonel John Early Klopp Classic, a race to be run at Churchill Downs during the annual Kentucky Colonels Homecoming.

Klopp's friends described him best when they said he represented the best of what we can be.





and surrounding communities.

The Simon House had been established in 1987 and housed single women (who were not domestic violence survivors) with children and pregnant women. However, there were no services provided for single women without children and with no domestic violence history. Thus, concerned community members, coworkers, friends, and area churches worked together and paid, with their own money or donations, to house these single homeless women temporarily in hotel/motel rooms.

Franklin County **Women and Family Shelter**

by Janet Gates, Executive Director

By the early 2000s, Frankfort had established a shelter for homeless men over the age of eighteen and a shelter for women who were victims of domestic violence. This grassroots movement gave birth to the Franklin County Women's Shelter. As word spread about the emergency shelter services available to this demographic of homeless single women, more women came forward expressing the need for shelter. In 2004, the Franklin County Women's Shelter (FCWS) became an official non-profit, receiving 501(c)3 status.

In early 2006, FCWS partnered with the Franklin County Council on Family Abuse and the Simon House, hiring a caseworker to provide case management services to the three agencies, and FCWS maintained a 24/7 crisis hotline for homeless women. At first, hotel/motel stays were the only shelter services offered. After a one-night stay, a caseworker conducted an assessment and connected women with other agencies to assist with their needs.

FCWS secured an apartment as a supplementary housing option for those experiencing homelessness. As the need for emergency shelter services grew, a nonprofit working with the Housing Authority of Frankfort donated a rental property, and the FCWS opened an eleven-bed facility. FCWS used funds from the Kentucky Housing Corporation to renovate the shelter, increasing our number of shelter beds to thirteen.

Since then, FCWS has provided emergency shelter/housing and support services to hundreds of homeless women and children. In the beginning, we provided shelter and longer-term transitional housing options to single adult females only. Because we identified that there was no provider in our county providing shelter and transitional housing opportunities for men caring for children or couples (male plus female) with children or extended family members caring for children, we acquired a donated duplex through an agreement with the Housing Authority of Frankfort and opened the first Family Shelter in Franklin County providing emergency housing and support services to intact homeless families, blended families, couples with children, and men with children in their care. This Family Shelter

enrolls and works through our programs leaves us with the staying power to endure obstacles and setbacks that will occur in life and feel empowered and confident based on the skills, positive connections, and levels of stability achieved while working through our transitional housing program.

Because data shows that 84% of residents served over a five-year period had substance use disorders, a barrier to obtaining and maintaining housing, our agency implemented a recovery housing program as an integral part of our transitional



Groundbreaking ceremony for the new 300 Murray St. Building.

Program increased our capacity to serve the homeless population with an additional 21 beds. We are now officially named the Franklin County Women and Family Shelter and offer a safe, sober living environment for those in need.

Our agency individualizes case management, life skill classes, and connection with community partners/ agencies as each person is ready to learn new skills to become self-sufficient, financially independent, and emotionally and physically stable. We hope each person who

housing programs and discontinued the 24-hour emergency shelter services to focus solely on providing transitional housing with a recovery housing component.

One success story from our program is a married couple with two elementary school children. The father, just released from a rehabilitation center for an addiction to opioids, had recently reunited with his wife and children. They had lost their housing and were seeking shelter. The family moved into our Family Shelter, but the

father soon relapsed and agreed to return to an inpatient rehabilitation program with our agency assuring him that his wife and children could remain stably housed in our Family facility while he was in treatment. The school year began, and the children settled into classes. Their mother, who did not have any issues with substance use, continued working with our case manager and participated in life skill classes, support groups, and counseling sessions showing great motivation and drive to gain stability for herself and her family. She searched for employment and obtained a fulltime position at a restaurant, quickly moving up to manager. The father became a full-time parent, involved with his children's school and extracurricular activities. Through our agency's supportive services and individualized case management, this family completed assessments and applied for permanent stable housing vouchers, which they received because of their circumstances and length of homelessness. They secured a three-bedroom apartment, successfully exiting our Family Shelter program into a stable housing situation in the school district of their choice. This family flourished after leaving our program. The mother transferred into a higherlevel managerial position, and the father gained full-time employment at a local factory. That family now volunteers at our agency.

Through a generous gift, we were able to acquire a historic two-story building. After extensive renovations, we moved our offices into that building, and the upstairs provides an apartment to house three more women. Our current capacity is five apartment-style units for single adult females with a total of sixteen

beds and a duplex for families. The Transitional Housing Program for families consists of two two-bedroom apartments allowing FCWFS to enroll couples with children, men caring for children, and blended families with children in their care. All enrollees agree to the responsibilities listed in our Transitional and Recovery Housing Programs.

Our transition from a 24-hour emergency shelter to a transitional and recovery housing program has been challenging and a huge learning curve for our FCWFS team and partners to identify issues and create a plan of action to overcome barriers and actively learn new skills to move beyond life circumstances that brought them to our program and gain stability.

Since 2013, we have been blessed to receive \$49,397.90 from the generosity of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels Good Works Program, providing needed updates and furnishings to our three buildings, new energy efficient windows, keyless entry door locks for all exteriors doors and security



Volunteers for FCWFS prepare for a cold and rainy (but rewarding) day.

Board of Directors. One year in, we have implemented a strong, safe sober living program for adults ready to commit to a structured program with agreed-upon program fees after the first four weeks of residency; previously all shelter, housing, and supportive services were free to all. Now potential residents know up front that enrollment in our programs is an agreed-upon financial commitment based on a modest \$100 weekly fee or 30% of stable income, as well as a commitment to work with the FCWFS team and community

camera updates, construction of a second-floor emergency egress staircase and fire safe doors, matching funding for an on-site storage building, filtration systems to our heat and air-conditioning units and wall mounted hand sanitizer dispensers for COVID mitigation, and computers and supplies for resident programming and life skills training. This support has allowed our agency to continue to provide more effective, safe, and stable housing for those experiencing homelessness and seeking transitional housing.



Jazz pianist Beegie Adair was recently honored with the Arts of Southern Kentucky 2022 Lifetime Achievement in Arts & Humanities Award. Accepting the award for Adair, friend and musical collaborator Monica Ramey said that the three things Adair was most proud of were her education, her family, and her music, all of which began for her in Kentucky.

Bobbe Long "Beegie" Adair was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel in 2013 when the Cave City (Kentucky) Convention Center was named in her honor. Adair grew up in Cave City, began taking piano lessons at age five, and eventually joined one of the most exclusive rosters in the world when she was designated a Steinway Artist, an honor bestowed upon only 1,600 pianists worldwide, including such greats as Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Arthur Rubinstein, and Billy Joel.

Critics have said that what Adair had was a talent that could not be taught.

As a teenager, Adair had regular musical gigs, alongside her work at the family's petrol station. After graduation from Caverna High School, she attended Western Kentucky University (where she was inducted into the 2005 class of the Hall of Distinguished Alumni) and planned to major in journalism. Her grandmother, recognizing her musical talent, made a deal with her that if, after one semester as a music major, she still wanted to major in journalism, her grandmother would pay for her college degree, wherever she wanted to go and whatever she wanted to do, but Adair soon realized music was her life.

During college, she played jazz professionally every weekend and babysat for John Carpenter of Halloween fame (and also a

Kentucky Colonel), graduating in 1958 with a degree in Music Education. For the next three years, she taught elementary school music in Owensboro, Kentucky, but spent her summers working in Nashville, Tennessee.

She began her graduate studies in Education at Peabody College (now part of Vanderbilt University) but dropped out to pursue her music career full-time, playing in nightclubs and restaurants and becoming a session musician for a range of artists, including Dolly Parton.

Adair was in Nashville during the heyday of country music, allowing her the opportunity to accompany such legendary performers as Neil Diamond and Peggy Lee. She also was the staff pianist for WSM-Radio and Television and served as a singer on WSM-Radio's "Walking Crew." Adair also worked as a rehearsal and



orchestra musician on ABC's The Johnny Cash Show, performing with noted artists including Chet Atkins, Dinah Shore, and Mama Cass Elliot.

In 1982, Adair partnered with Denis Solee to form the Adair-Solee Quartet, which eventually became the sextet Be-Bop Co-op. During the late eighties, Adair hosted Improvised Thoughts, a popular radio talk/music show for NPR, featuring local and

George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, Hoagy Carmichael, and Irving Berlin became an instant collectible classic upon its release. Her first live album, *The Real Thing*, spent over 12 weeks in the Top 20 on the JazzWeek charts and was named one of the "Top 100 Best Jazz Albums."

During her 65-year career, Adair appeared on NBC's "Today Show," "Kraft Music Hall," "The CMA

In what might be called her "retirement," Adair continued to play solo concerts at Steinway & Sons galleries across the United States, selling out within days and attracting fans from around the world.

international jazz artists, including such greats as Tony Bennett, Joe Williams, Marian McPartland, Benny Golson, and Helen Merrill.

She released her first album, *Escape to New York*, in 1991, and soon established The Beegie Adair trio, which featured Roger Spencer on bass and Chris Brown on drums. Together, they recorded more than 30 studio albums, which sold over two million copies, and performed around the world, drawing crowds in London and in Tokyo, where Adair topped the list of best-selling jazz artists.

Her repertoire ranging from Cole Porter standards to Frank Sinatra classics to romantic World War II ballads, Adair appeared on over 100 albums. Her 6-CD Centennial Composers Collection of tunes by Awards," and "The Grammy Awards." She was a sought-after studio musician and vocalist, recording and performing in concert with legendary performers such as Dolly Parton, Perry Como, Vince Gill, Henry Mancini, Johnny Cash, Delbert McClinton, Lucille Ball, Englebert Humperdink, Boots Randolph, Danny Thomas, Ray Stevens, and the Little River Band. Ray Stevens, said of Adair that "she makes you forget that what she does is hard."

Although she was a sought-after studio musician, Adair loved to play for live audiences and delighted fans in New York with annual appearances at the legendary Birdland Jazz Club. In the first appearance by a jazz trio in Carnegie Hall's history, The Beegie Adair Trio sold out their debut performance on October 7, 2016, and

returned to Carnegie Hall for sold-out appearances every October.

Beyond her recording career and live performances in Carnegie Hall, Adair was happy to "make music" for varied audiences, sometimes performing at retirement homes; writing jingles for commercials with her husband, jazz artist Billy Adair; and playing for movie soundtracks such as "Smokey and the Bandit," "The Villain," "Every Which Way But Loose," and "Perfect World." Her writing credits include jingles for Gulf and Western Industries, HCA, Quincy's, Texize, American General, and Wrangler.

Adair continued teaching throughout her career, serving as an adjunct lecturer in Jazz Studies at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music. She was a faculty member of the Nashville Jazz Workshop and the first recipient of its Heritage Award. She regularly provided masterclasses to students in the music program at Western Kentucky University, along with a concert to benefit the music department, which she played with a broken finger.

In April of 2021, HOKC General Bill Samuels joined Adair for her YouTube Happy Hours, during which she played staples from her repertoire. In the Samuels/Adair Happy Hour, they discussed Adair's career, bourbon, and their shared love for basketball. Samuels had learned of Beegie Adair after asking Rosemary Clooney about her favorite musicians; Adair was at the top of the list. Samuels came to call Adair his musical hero.

Adair, whose credits encompass virtually all aspects of the music business, died in January of 2022 at age 84.





Manning the Post

By Colonel Louise Summers, Executive Director, Post Clinic

Kentucky Colonel Dr. L. Edward Roberts established the Post Clinic in 1996 to serve the unmet healthcare needs of people in Montgomery County and eastern Kentucky. At the time Dr. Roberts began the Clinic, there was a large population of people who did not go to the doctor because they could not afford the cost, and, as a result, they used emergency rooms for basic and chronic healthcare needs. The Clinic is now a nonprofit corporation under the direction and governance of a Board of Directors, with a mission to provide free

ongoing primary medical and dental healthcare to thousands of residents of Montgomery, Bath, Bourbon, Clark, Menifee, Nicholas, and Powell counties who meet eligibility requirements. Dr. Roberts continues seeing patients at the Clinic, where he serves as Medical Director and President of the Board of Directors.

Since the Clinic's inception, free medical and dental healthcare has been provided to over 4,300 uninsured and under-insured individuals throughout the Gateway region and beyond. The Clinic takes referrals from medical and dental groups/affiliations and doctors from all areas of Kentucky. No one seeking medical and/or dental care is turned down for free healthcare. The Clinic has served patients from as far away as Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa.

The Clinic is licensed in Kentucky as a Special Health Clinic and is a State Registered Charitable Health Care Clinic. A CLIA waiver has been obtained to permit limited laboratory testing. All professional staff members are licensed in their respective specialties.



Colonel Dr. L. Edward Roberts, MD (left) with Dr. Charles Tingle, DMD.

Medical healthcare services provided at the Clinic include initial assessment, treatment, management of acute and chronic problems, and referrals for specialty and other levels of care. Follow-up is provided until the episode is completed. Emphasis is placed on prevention as is patient/caregiver education. COVID rapid tests are available at no cost. Dental services include X-rays, cleaning, filling, extractions, oral healthcare education, free dentures on the recommendation of a dentist, and annual follow-up. Medical and dental care provided focuses on quality management and continuous service improvement as part of a comprehensive care plan for all patients.

The Post Clinic, working in collaboration with a local pharmacy, helps with patient prescription costs. A part-time Director manages the program. A part-time Physician Assistant is a primary provider under

a collaborative practice agreement for prescriptive medical authority with the Clinic's Medical Director. Three physicians, an orthopedic surgeon, two dentists, and five registered nurses volunteer monthly, providing specialty services as needed by Clinic patients. The Post Clinic provides malpractice insurance to our medical volunteers.

A local optometrist provides free eye exams to Clinic patients, with emphasis on those diagnosed as prediabetic and diabetic. Many specialty physicians volunteer their services free to patient referrals. Several lay volunteers are available during Clinic hours and provide a variety of ongoing and needed services.

The Clinic works in collaboration with CHI Hospital Mt. Sterling, the Montgomery County Health Department, the DuBois Community Center, the County Judicial System, KY CancerLink, Surgery on Sunday,

Mt. Sterling Clinic, Affordable
Dentures, and LabCorp Services.
These agencies provide needed
medical and dental care to Clinic
patients. The City of Mt. Sterling,
through the mayor's office, provides
free transportation for patients living
in Montgomery County for medical/
dental appointments.

The Post Clinic began in the old Post Office building located next to the First Presbyterian Church, which provided the space and paid operational costs for the Clinic and continues to financially support the Clinic. In 2017, Dr. Byram Ratliff and his wife, Jennifer, donated a 2,200-square-foot medical building to the Clinic. The building, built in 1957, provided needed space and aided in the expansion of services provided to patients.

Financial support from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels has enabled the Clinic, in its new location, to mount solar panels on the roof, install new windows throughout the facility, replace an old gas furnace with a new electric furnace, and install new air conditioning units, reducing utility and operating costs. The electric furnace was installed with an ultra-violet purifier that kills airborne germs/viruses on contact. The ability to kill airborne viruses has helped greatly in combatting COVID-19 especially when patients are in the building for their appointments. The reduction of operating costs allows resources to be used for medical and dental supplies, patient medication, and blood pressure.

The history of the Kentucky Colonels is closely tied to the governors of the Commonwealth; the title of Kentucky Colonel dates to around 1813, with Governor Isaac Shelby's commissioning of Charles Todd as an Aidede-Camp with the rank of Colonel. Colonels in uniform attended functions at the Governor's mansion standing as symbolic guards at state events. Another governor, Flem Sampson, gave his blessing to the formation of a society of Kentucky Colonels in the late 1920s.

The Shelly Society

by Colonel Leslie Watkins, Director of Major Gifts

The seventeenth state admitted to the union, Kentucky has had 59 individuals to hold the office of governor, beginning with the first Governor, Isaac Shelby. Prior to a 1992 amendment to the state's constitution, the governor was prohibited from succeeding himself or herself in office, though four men (Isaac Shelby, John L. Helm, James B. McCreary, and A. B. "Happy" Chandler) served multiple nonconsecutive terms. Paul Patton, the first Kentucky governor eligible for a second consecutive term under the amendment, was reelected in 1999. James Garrard was the longest serving Governor, serving for a total period of eight years and 90 days.

Elected in 1899, William Goebel is the only governor of any U.S. state to die from assassination while in office. Goebel is also the shortest serving governor, serving for only three days. Martha Layne Collins, who held the office from 1983 to 1987, was the first woman to serve as governor and was only the third woman to serve as governor of any U.S. state who was not the wife or widow of a previous governor.

The year 2014 marked the 100th anniversary of the Executive Mansion, which housed the governors of Kentucky and their families, and then-Governor Steve Beshear and First Lady Jane Beshear hosted a celebration, inviting the governors and their families who had occupied the mansion. The old Governor's Mansion was the first governor's mansion built in the United States after the Revolutionary War and served as the governor's home from 1798 to 1914 and then as the home of the lieutenant governor from 1956 to 2002, at which time it was the oldest executive residence still being used as

an official executive residence. The residence is also three years older than the White House in Washington, D.C.

At the centennial celebration, the descendants decided to meet again, and the Shelby Society, named in honor of our first and fifth governor, General Isaac Shelby was born.

Members of the Shelby Society are the descendants of the governors, lieutenant governors, or first ladies of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The organization was the brainchild of Steve Collins, son of Governor

educational and charitable programs or projects that will enhance the quality of life in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and preserve the historical legacies of our governors, lieutenant governors, first ladies, and first families.

In 2015, the society was incorporated as a non-profit entity. The Shelby Society has a board of magistrates (directors) which meets bi-monthly to address organizational duties and concerns, with Steve Collins serving as the first President-General.



"I adored my grandfather and learned so much from both my grandparents. The Shelby Society allows me to continue their dedication to Kentucky and to celebrate my grandfather's proud history as a two-term Kentucky governor with the good work The Shelby Society is involved in today."

Celeste Chandler Lewis
Granddaughter of Governor A. B. "Happy" Chandler

Martha Layne Collins, and is the only organization in the United States for descendants of a state's governors, lieutenant governors, or first ladies.

Currently, there are 101 members from fourteen states, the District of Columbia, and India. Like the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution, a descendant must prove his or her descent.

According to Collins, the Shelby Society exists to support and sponsor

The society's first 50 members are identified as "Charter Members."

The work of the Shelby Society focuses on education, preservation, economic development, and the environment. They seek to collect and maintain biographical and genealogical documentation, photographs, and other such historical information and material pertaining to the governors, their spouses, and descendants and material pertaining to the Executive Mansion and the Old Governor's Mansion.



...from Ashland to Paducah, 3.9 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 314 nonprofits receiving grants from us this year. And we committed over \$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.

2022 \$3.1 Million 314 Grants



Since 1951 \$60 Million 8,155 Grants