



The

Generation

Next

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**GOOD NEWS! The FORT building is re-open! New "open to the public" hours are Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 am to 2 pm each day.**

*Our "open to the public" means our staff is ready to welcome and help visitors. Those days tend to limit our ability and time to have meetings, special group work, workshops or social gatherings which may disturb patrons. Now, with **Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays** not scheduled for open hours, we hope to be able to offer some workshops, project collaboration, or other gatherings that may help our patrons in different ways. Genealogists or historians with similar interests or project goals meeting in a workshop setting is something we have not attempted before. It will be interesting to try this concept over the summer to see if we can offer our patrons something new, and find out if this is something that is wanted or would be welcomed by our patrons.*

**Our building on Main Street in Lexington is again open to the public**, and the volunteers of THE FORT- Lexington Genealogical and Historical Society- are ready and available to help you.

**If you have ideas for needs we might fill in a workshop setting, please let us know.** *Is there a need for a beginners genealogy workshop to help a friend get started? Do you have a need or desire to brush up on basic digital operations? Would you like to view ZOOM presentations in a group setting? Are you digging for special content...Civil War records, German relatives, Irish connections, migration or ship manifestos...that could use a helping hand and be more productive with a group?*

We **check our email daily**, so send requests to [thefortoflex@aol.com](mailto:thefortoflex@aol.com)

*We are just an email away from answering your needs, so please let us know if you have ideas. Our volunteers are really ready to get back into the fun of genealogy. We are willing to use all precautions to help you feel comfortable in our building and there are probably activities that can be done at home, too. Our work as the official CITY OF LEXINGTON HISTORIANS is also a topic we hope to put more focus on as we continue to research the homes, businesses, and people of our community.*

### Recent Loss of Outstanding Supporters of THE FORT



On March 29, 2021 we lost **John Cheever**, born and raised in Lexington, he had just been honored on March 15 at the Elmo F. Hill American Legion Post 291 for 50 years of dedicated and exceptional service, which not only served his post, but the entire community of Lexington and beyond. John's positive attitude and outlook along with his abilities in community service will be sorely missed by his family and our town.

**Judith "Judy" Claudon Lindsay** passed on April 29, 2021. Judy grew up in Lexington, graduated at the top of her class in 1960, then obtained a degree at ISU. Soon she joined husband Jim with daily activities on their Lexington farm and managed it since his death in 2017. She leaves a son, daughter, grandchildren, a brother, sister, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Jim and Judy were long time supporters of THE FORT. Jim loved to appear at our door with a page, phrase or sentence from a book giving us a new piece of Lexington history. Their faithful support was so appreciated. Their families, the Claudons and Lindsays, left a remarkable presence in the history of Lexington.



On May 9th **Robert L. Donnell** joined his beloved wife Marilyn, our long-time FORT volunteer, who left us in 2018. Always praised for their community involvement over the years, Bob continued to get Marilyn to THE FORT every week for her "volunteer duty." We liked to tease him about pulling into the alley and honking for her to come out...not the "proper way" for a guy to pick up his girl!! We will certainly miss this lovely couple!

Memorial Day 31 May 2021



**Elmo F. Hill Post 291 Lexington American Legion commemorates Memorial Day** by placing over 600 American flags in our six local cemeteries - Lexington, Pleasant Hill, Scrogin, Clarksville, Dawson, and Lawndale - a tribute from the community to those veterans' service to our country. The post has lost 20 members over the last two years and they will be especially honoring those past members. Last year the post celebrated its 100th year and received recognition from Legion Headquarters for consecutive years of membership for 8 members: Bill Tracy-78 years; Jim Alexander, Robert Fincham and Randy Hutson - 60 years; John Brown, Russell Swartz, Richard McGuire, and Donald Wey -50 years! This local post is always looking for new members and they are a busy and dedicated group of community supporters, so if you have served federal active duty since Dec. 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving, consider joining their ranks.