

Stone is dedicated to wife of Revolutionary War soldier

A fairly large group gathered at an ancient cemetery in the middle of a pasture in the Sandhill area near the banks of the Kentucky River on Saturday for the dedication of a grave marker for the wife of one of Estill County's earliest pioneers who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The local Daughters of the American Revolutionary War (DAR) chapter is named for Elisha Witt and he was the first Estill County soldier whose lineage was used to connect to the

DAR. Elisha and his wife, Phoebe Dodd Witt were among the first settlers in Estill County and lived nearby in the early 1800's. A clear water spring box and a nearby sulphur spring are still found in the area where they lived.

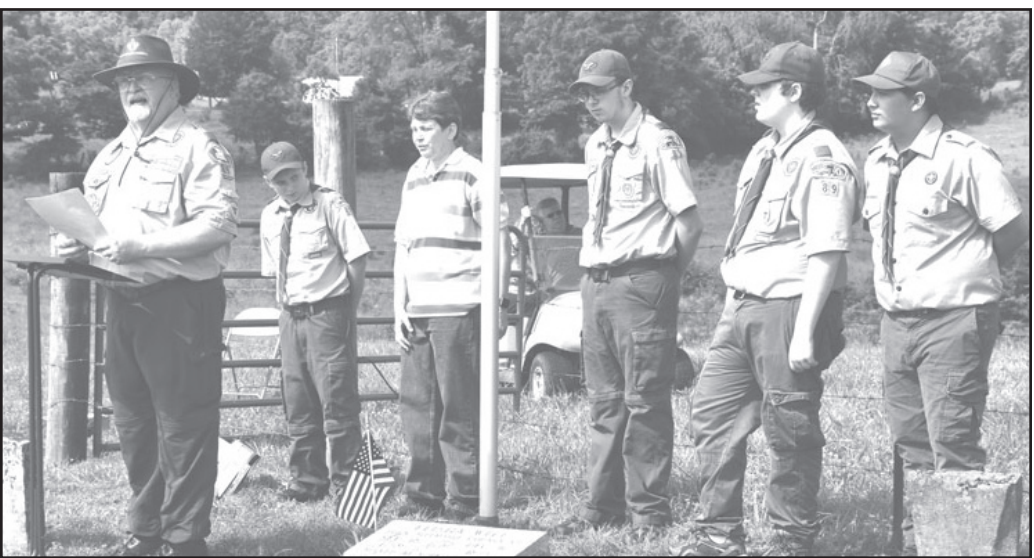
Several years ago, a cemetery stone was set for Witt, and the cemetery was cleaned up and fenced through a collaborative effort of the Boy Scouts, DAR, the Estill County Historical and Genealogical Society, and many others

including Witt descendants. Thousands of people from Estill County are direct descendants of Elisha and Phoebe Witt and many used the lineage of others as a stepping stone for entry into the DAR which requires a link to a Revolutionary War soldier.

In addition, DNA links have been found to hundreds of descendants through Ancestry and other companies. The family links come from as many as ten children with several

hundred linked to their son, William. Among speakers at Saturday's event were Jerry Rose who has done extensive research in the Sandhill area and Regent Janice Bush representing the local DAR chapter. Others who participated were the local Boy Scout troop who replaced the flag in the cemetery and many others including several descendants of the Witts.

More information is available about the Witts from the DAR and the local historical society.



ABOVE: James Hill and the local Boy Scout troop
BELOW: The gravestones of Elisha and Phoebe Dodd Witt



Historian Jerry Rose



DAR Regent Janice Bush

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