

Personal Pleas from Old Bill

November, 2025



Still with full intent to comply with the charter of the PKFA being an IRS approved 501 (c) (3) organization, as past contributor in several ways over the past 30 years, I feel the pressing need to share this heart felt message to whoever has chosen to open this site:

This United States of America in 2026 will acknowledge the survival for 250 years of this grand "Experiment of a Republic". Such a miraculous achievement would have never been possible without the efforts of generations of patriotic individuals, and the blessings of a Higher Being.

Among those who were already there to participate in the first of these 249 years of freedom to follow was the namesake of this PKFA organization. In 1776, when our Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia, where he had landed, Peter Kivett with wife Anna Barbara and his family had already been in the backwoods of central North Carolina over 25 years building a new life from one he left far behind in Amsterdam in 1749. With him from the beginning was a dream of something better and a faith exhibited in his still surviving Bible.

Countless caring descendants of this legal immigrant (yes, he entered legally - as signatures on oaths of allegiance show) remembered and passed on the location where he finally was laid to rest in 1794. They thought his burial site was worth preserving by keeping his grave stone and the surrounding private cemetery from being lost forever to the ravage of nature's covering weeds and trees – Mc Masters Cemetery in far northeastern rural Randolph County, NC. Equally important, these descendants passed on his story. One can see throughout this web site much about this first American family, what they did, as well as their burial place..

Since his body was lovingly placed in the red soil of this gently sloping hillside 231 years ago – just 27 years after that part of this continent was known as the USA - mostly simple farmers with hand tools kept this historic site clean and preserved, never asking for

compensation or credit for their efforts - generation after generation of free service in Peter's honor. Others kept records about his and Anna's children beginning with his preserved will.

But the time has come that the few remaining Officers of the PKFA who have managed to keep this place and the story "alive", and even a little more presentable with simple fencing, mowing, signage, and whatever publicity could be afforded, reluctantly has come to you with a plea for help. Frankly, we need some more money to afford today's increased cost for professional help to restore damaged and broken old burial stones, 44 year old perimeter fencing, contract mowing, web site maintenance, and secure preservation of thousands of pages of associated supporting genealogical documents. I defy anyone to question the need for any of these carefully prioritized requirements to not be absolutely necessary over the next few years. In summary, the few old people directly involved can not do the increasingly physically demanding and much more expensive critical tasks all by themselves any longer.

To not provide a timing plan and reasonable funding for these needs is to risk the past efforts of all these years to degenerate into a forgotten part of the founding of this part of a 250 year old America. How or why you do it, we don't care – but check out this IRA Tax advantaged [RMD option](#). You might qualify now, if you act within a few weeks. Cutting to the chase, as personally being a directly involved part of all this for over 30 years, this 86 year old 7th generation descendant of my namesake immigrant comes to you with hat in hand and says:



“Please Help Us – We Need Right Much Money”

In closing I would also strongly suggest that whatever your own surname, Many of you also have ancestors with a story of helping America be this strong and proud Nation in 2026, and a need for also preserving your story for future generations to know. This connected other plea is to you young people: Another generation of actively caring Americans who will take us on through another century of recognition of our heritage must come forward. Don't leave all the work to old folks – get involved, and make your lives so much fuller by learning about and honoring those in your families who made your Promise of America a reality. Help make some history of your own, Be proud of what you, too, can do. Look [HERE](#) for more about what the PKFA does and pick a part you would like to help with. Free training is available!

It's been a rewarding journey through history for me, but now I've done about all I can do.

William D. “Bill” Kivett