

The Newcomer

Volume 18, Issue Two
Spring 2012 \$3.00

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc.
Newton County: Indiana's Youngest County

In this issue . . .

**Ella (Ade) McCray:
A Lady With Purpose
The Year 1940**

- The Census and Newton County
- Index of Names, McClellan Twp.
- Second Annual Newton County
- Music Festival at Morocco
- Morocco Wedding Anniversaries
- The Compulsive Military Act

**Another Fire Truck Story
History of St. Joseph Parish
Salt: Tom "Coyote One" Larson
The Buckhorn School, ca. 1912
Historian's Corner
President's Thoughts
Pages of the Past, Spring 1912**



The dress that Ella (Ade) McCray wore for her husband's inauguration as Indiana's 30th Governor (1921-1924), is on display at the NCHS Resource Center.

Ella (Ade) McCray: A Lady With Purpose *By Becky Lyons*

My interest in the life and history of Ella (Ade) McCray was sparked when Sue Humphrey and I put Ella's dress on the mannequin for display when the Historical Society was working at the Scott-Lucas House in Morocco. In researching her life, I gained insight into the life of a wife and mother who kept her own identity while her husband's ambitions developed into a successful business and brief political career.

Neither of Ella's parents was native to Indiana. Her father John was born September 18, 1828, in England, at Lewes, near the seaside resort of Brighton and came to America at the age of twelve. Ella's mother, Adaline Bush, was from Cheviot, Ohio.

The reason Ella's grandparents decided to leave England for America was a tax levied in Lewes to restore a ruin which was the Church of England. Her grandfather was a strong Baptist and called the tax an outrage. Ella's grandfather told his family that because of the taxation they would go elsewhere. So in June of 1840, her grandfather, his wife, and sons - Ella's father John being the oldest - set out for New York and arrived a stormy six weeks later. After one week in New York City, the family, by way of canals and flat bottomed river boats, made their way for Cincinnati, Ohio. At every landing along the way, Ella's father heard the shouting and debating for presidential candidate, William Henry Harrison, hero of the Battle of Tippecanoe. When John was told this took place in Indiana, his next question was "Where is Indiana?"

Ella's grandfather and family lived in Cheviot, Ohio, where her father John attended school. He was quite proficient in reading, writing, and spelling, and well posted in arithmetic. Because he was looked upon as quite a prodigy, he left school after 3 months to become a blacksmith. At age 19 Ella's father decided to explore the West; passing the summer of 1849 in Chicago, a growing city of 22,000. Even though he was offered two tracts of land near Dearborn Street for \$150 each, he found Chicago to be a mud hole. More importantly, while living in Cheviot, he'd met a dark haired girl named Adaline Bush; so he returned to Cheviot and resumed blacksmithing. Because of this girl, John chose to stay behind in Cheviot when his parents and family moved to Davenport, Iowa.

Adaline, Ella's mother was born in 1833. Ella's parents were married in 1851, Adaline 18, John 23. Ella's father was described as below average height, with dark blue eyes that took in everything. He wore good clothes, and was said to have had a romantic look about him. Ella's mother took great pains about her hairdressing, enjoyed earrings and pretty hats, took life seriously, didn't smile much, but was amicable, and could be called upon at any time to aid with illnesses or childbirth.

Two years after their marriage, friends in Cincinnati persuaded Ella's parents and their young daughter, to leave Cincinnati and head for Morocco, Indiana, to take charge of a store these friends were opening. The Ade family found Morocco, the only town in what was to become Newton County, to be a place where houses were very far apart, the land swampy, and the crudities of living beyond anything they had experienced. However, there was an abundance of wildlife and blooming plants. Adaline was looked upon with suspicion because of her store bought hats and dresses rather than the normal attire of homespun apparel. Buggies and carriages had not yet appeared and the mail came by horseback to Brook, 12 miles away, once a week. The store John opened dealt mainly with fur trading, the only cash crop at the time. He became the first postmaster of Morocco, but after three years was dismissed because he did not support the Democratic national administration. He quit store keeping and resumed blacksmithing.

Seven years passed. In 1860, Newton County was formed from Jasper County. John Ade was elected County Recorder. He moved his family to Kent, named for its founder, A. J. Kent, and was named the county seat because it was the only settlement on the new railroad. A court house was built for \$974 in 1861 and served the county until 1906. The open prairie and lack of trees deemed Kent unable to support a population. Trees were planted by Ella's father, John, and today, as people travel the main road U.S. 41 from Indianapolis to Chicago, they can see "the town of many trees" as it was known at one time. On the south side of the courthouse square, the Ade family built their 1½ story home. The family consisted of three boys, William, Joseph, and George; two girls, Anna and Alice. A sister, Emma, died in infancy. Ella, born October 23, 1867, was the youngest. Ella's mother was left with the raising of the *Continued on page 2 >*

2 The Newcomer

> *Continued from page 1*

children and it was a happy and harmonious home. Her mother was described as willing to help serve and give comfort. Her goodness was always supported by common sense and she was a very good cook.

During the early Kentland years, Ella's father was cashier at the Discount and Deposit Bank in Kentland. It was not a high paying position, and her mother would wash the children's underclothing each evening to dry overnight and be clean for the next day's school wear. Ella's father thought of money as something to give away either to the Church or the needy. He was believed, aside from the house he possessed, to never have more than \$1,000 to his name. Her father later became part owner of the Discount and Deposit Bank, with G. W. McCray, father of Warren T., and E. L. Umston from 1875 to 1908. John also became very active in the Republican party at local and state levels.

Ella's brother, Joe, was a bachelor, quite a character, and story teller.

Ella's brother, Will, was a different story than Joe. Will was a total abstainer and married Katie Shepard of Kentland.

Ella lived only a couple blocks away from her parents after her marriage to Warren T. McCray, and later only a few miles away; except when she was serving as Indiana's first lady. Ella's mother passed away early in 1907. Ella's father retired from the bank at age 81, and became busier than ever attending political rallies, conventions, Chautauquas, circuses, and even became an expert at pitching horseshoes. On April 28, 1914, John passed away while sitting in a chair listening to the platform he helped draft at the Republican Congressional Convention in Valparaiso, Indiana.

A short distance from Ella's early Kentland

home began the unbroken prairie described as a grassy jungle with blue and yellow flowers, water ponds, swaying cattails, millions of singing frogs, and even more large mosquitoes. This may be where Ella developed a fondness for blue and yellow flowers. Wild geese, prairie chickens, and quail were plentiful. So much so that the Ade children tired of quail pot pie and longed for meat from the butcher shop. Kentland, a town of less than 600, had one watch repairer, one druggist, one blacksmith, and four saloons. Newton County had less than 4,000 residents.

Ella's parents did not attend the same church. Every Sunday her father would walk her mother and the children to the Methodist Church, he liking more "action" in his church, became a pillar of the Campbellite or Christian Church, sometimes preaching

there. After services, her father would hurry back to the Methodist Church to walk his family home.

Ella grew up in Kentland. The Panhandle railroad went

through the edge of town and even though there were a few street lamps, residents walked around holding lanterns to light their nightly pathways. The year before Ella started school, her family moved to a house about a mile from the school. The family also had a cow. The Bible was a centerpiece in the Ade home. It is assumed Ella and her husband, Warren Terry McCray were childhood acquaintances. She was born in Kentland in 1867, and Warren T. in 1865, near Brook. Ella and her family moved to Kentland when Ella was the age of four, and both were educated in Kentland's public schools. An interesting fact: the Kent High School provided education for two years; then you were considered a Senior and in your second year. As some girls do, Ella had a memory book. Her 16 year-old brother wrote: "Be true to yourself is the wish of Your Brother, Geo. Ade."

On June 15, 1892, Ella Ade married Warren T. McCray at 8:30 p.m. in her parents' home on West Carroll Street in Kentland. Ella was 25 and Warren T. 28. The Rev. S. P. Edmondson of the Danville, Indiana, M.E. Church officiated. Promptly at the hour appointed, while Mrs. S. Hogan Skinner played the Lohengrin Wedding March upon the piano, the bride and groom, preceded by Master George Davis and Ethel Geizelman and flower bearers, entered the west parlor. The bride was radiant in her handsome bridal toilet of cream silk Bedford with trimmings of silk lace, while the groom appeared at ease, composed, with a thorough realization of the responsibilities of life about to be assumed. A reception soon followed for the invited guests. A family reception and dinner was given at the residence of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.W. McCray on North Third Street, Kentland. More than forty relatives were present after which the young couple left for Chicago via Sheldon. Their soon to be completed home would be welcome to visitors upon their return to Kentland after August 1st. The couple and residents were anxious to see the completion



The above children's items belonged to Ella (Ade) McCray, and are on display at Hazeldne, the home of her brother, George Ade, in Brook. Photos by Beth Bassett

of this handsome home. The home consisted of twelve large rooms each distinctively and comfortably furnished with antiques, including many family heirlooms. The large library with many books became one of the favorite rooms for children and later grandchildren. To this union three children were born: Lucille, Marian, and George. Ella was very active in the societies of the Presbyterian Church of Kentland and a founding member of the Kentland Women's Club. The McCray family built a cabin along the Iroquois River west of Meridian Road. Ella and Warren T. spent several years in their Kentland home while he was amassing his fortune by purchasing farm land, beginning his famous Hereford herd with buying registered heifers, and his fortunate acquisition of the Hereford bull, Perfection Fairfax. From the sale of cattle, income from farmlands, etc., Warren T. was able to establish the Orchard Lake Stock Farm.

When Warren T. was elected Governor in 1920, he and Ella were the first to live in the Fall Creek Boulevard Governor's mansion in Indianapolis. Ella was hostess at a number of teas including several celebrating the Indianapolis Centennial. She was a guest at a centennial tea given by the Woman's Press Club of Indiana at the Severin Hotel.

Their daughter, Lucille, completed high school in Kentland and was a graduate of Fairy Hill and Wells College, and then returned to Kentland. She was active in community service and was head librarian several years. She accompanied her parents to Indianapolis. Lucille was married to William P. Evans in the mansion's main living room in front of the fireplace on January 23, 1923. Lucille wore a white satin gown trimmed with imported lace and a veil of tulle with orange blossoms. Her husband was serving his second term as Prosecuting Attorney in Marion County and had attended DePauw University and was a Harvard Law School graduate. Their residence was located at 7240 North Pennsylvania Street.

Daughter, Marian, graduated from Indiana University with a degree in social work and worked in Indianapolis several years in family welfare, then moved to Kentland when her father left office. Marian was Secretary to Al Cast while he was Superintendent of Schools.

Son, George, graduated from Purdue and managed the farms within the Orchard Lake Stock Farm organization. He and Marian never married.

When Ella's husband suffered a financial down turn and was forced to leave office, Ella was saddened, but returned with Marian to her home in Kentland, and continued her serene composure -convinced he would be par-



An early photograph of Ella (Ade) McCray, on display at Hazelden.

doned. Ella returned to her active work in the Presbyterian Church and led a quiet life. The McCray family moved to the farm when Warren T. was released from prison and remained until Warren T. passed away December 19, 1938.

Ella's grandchildren, William and Barbara Evans have memories of the Kentland home and their grandmother. William remembers visiting the home as a boy, and tells of the tubes in the walls of some of the rooms. You could whistle through the tubes and get the attention of people in the kitchen and other rooms. He told of being able to see Perfection Fairfax's statue for miles around. William became a lawyer, and lived at 5666 North Delaware Street in Indianapolis. He and his wife had three daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, Katherine and a son, David.

Barbara married John C. Emison, Jr., lived in Massachusetts, and remembers her grandmother, Ella, as exemplifying all the feminine virtues expected in her generation. Ella was really beautiful, even in old age, and was sensitive, shy, and reserved. Her grandmother had unswerving loyalty to family and friends; and was never heard criticizing anyone, no matter what the provocation. She was gentle and loving, but at the same time she ran a fairly complex household in such an efficient way that no one seemed to be aware that there was any other possibility than to have everything done just right, on time, and with no apparent effort. Barbara did not know it was a rare ability until she tried to do it herself. Barbara's grandfather thought nothing of bringing home unexpected guests for meals;

and no matter how short the notice or how many guests they always felt they had had a feast. Barbara tells of her grandmother teaching them to believe in the equality of people and to treat them absolutely the same no matter what their station. She goes on to say her grandmother was an excellent cook and Barbara learned as a young girl to make cinnamon rolls under Ella's guidance. They remained a specialty of Barbara's when she had a family.

Grandma would always warn her of the hazards of grain bins, stacks of hay bales, horses, cattle, and machinery on the big farm. Then Ella gave her a kiss and sent her outside with a silent prayer. Rainy days found Barbara exploring the Kentland home and the attic's boxes or reading contentedly in the big library. No one had better grandparents.

Ella's great-grandchildren liked to hear their grandmother Barbara tell of big family holiday dinners at the Kentland home when their great-grandmother got out the Haviland china with blue and yellow flowers circling the rims. Thanksgiving at the Ade and McCray families was considered a very important holiday with family coming from miles around to eat chicken and turkey.

Ella's brother, George, left her the Streight Farm located on the South Newton School road East of the Orchard Lake Stock Farm. It consisted of 400 acres and remained in the family until Spring of 2009 when it was sold. Ella passed away December 19, 1947 in the home she and her husband had built. She'd fallen ill six days prior.

The funeral was held in her home and pallbearers were John Ade, Charles Kleinkort, George Herriman, William Rathbun, Elmore McCray and George VanKirk. Ella was a 50 year member of the Presbyterian Missionary Society; 17 years she was President of this organization. At a meeting the previous fall, she was voted a life membership in the national Presbyterian Missionary Society. Ella was survived by two daughters, Mrs. Lucille Evans of Indianapolis, Marian at home along with a son, George at home. Two grandchildren, William Evans of Harvard Law School and Mrs. Barbara Emison of Massachusetts. Ella's brothers Will, Joe, and George and two sisters, Mrs. Anna Randall and Mrs. Alice Davis all were deceased.

In closing, it has been a very interesting journey getting to know Ella (Ade) McCray. She lived during a period of time when not much information was written about women. Thankfully, Ella had a famous brother who compiled his family history and put it into book form.

President's Thoughts

By Bernie Murphy

Since my last column your Newton County Historical Society has been very busy, as seems to be more usual lately than not. During our April business meeting we honored Ron, Sue and David Humphrey for all their contributions over the years; they are moving to Lafayette to a new beautiful home; however, the good news is that they will still be active in the Society from a distance.

In February the Local History Division of the Indiana Historical Society visited our Resource Center to assess our collections and displays; the specialist who visited us gave us some invaluable advice on our collections and how best to preserve them; she did compliment us on our displays and accompanying documentation.

New shelves were installed to better hold our collection of newspapers, thanks to the design of Harold Martin. We have hosted several groups at the Resource Center and in the field; namely, the Retired Teachers Association; Larry Lyons entertained two classes of fourth graders from Lincoln Elementary on the subject of Beaver Lake and Bogus Island. A special guest that day was member Tom "Coyote One" Larson, a local hunter and trapper dressed in early costume also entertained and enlightened the students on this topic, and showed pelts and furs.

North Newton English teacher Julie Decker and her students studied the book, "Ralph - the story of Bogus Island" in their classroom. So that they might get a better awareness of the location of tale, they were given a tour of The Nature Conservancy by their staff members. Society members Janet Miller, Sig Boezeman and Beth Bassett gave a brief presentations on Beaver Lake and Bogus Island that day as well.

Early this year, the Family History Division distributed the Historical Coloring Books to the Newton County elementary fourth grade classes for classroom study of local history. This spring, the annual coloring contest was judged by Barb Wilfong, Janet Miller and Greta Taylor and the prizes awarded to the winners by Larry and Becky Lyons and Beth Bassett.

Finally, we agreed to run an ad in the *Newton County Enterprise's* planned brochure

"41 Things To Do Along Hwy 41" which is scheduled to be distributed this summer.

Photos by Beth Bassett



New shelving for our local newspaper collection allows easier access as well as better storage of these hardbound editions.



Fourth graders pose with "Mr. Bones", our local "Bogus Island bandit", a favorite display of visitors to the center.



Stephanie Frische (in straw hat), begins the trek to the last remains of Bogus Island at the TNC this spring with North Newton eighth grade English students.



Back, right, members Larry Lyons, Sig Boezeman and Tom Larson inform the fourth grade classes of Lincoln Elementary on the proper way to handle a firearm when hunting.

Family History Division Coloring Contest Winners

A first, second and third place winner is selected from each class at each elementary school in Newton County. Those winners receive three one dollar coins: Susan B. Anthony, Presidential coin and Sacagawea. From the class first place winners at each school, an over-all school winner is selected and awarded a copy of "Ralph-the story of Bogus Island", written by Jethro Hatch. An over-all county winner is then selected from the school winners and is awarded a copy of "Beaver Lake, Land of Enchantment" written by Elmore Barce.

Morocco Elementary

Mrs. Misch: 1st, Jenna McCann; 2nd, Gabe Gonczy; 3rd, Tessa Voeller. School winner was Jenna McCann.

Lake Village Elementary

Mrs. Prohosky: 1st, Christopher Cain; 2nd, Hayden Lomax; 3rd, Mark Levy. School winner was Christopher Cain.

Lincoln Elementary

Mrs. Reyes: 1st, Samantha Allen; 2nd, Devin Hinds; 3rd, Megan Fricke.

Mrs. Gray: 1st, Keegan Clauss; 2nd Macey Allen; 3rd, Logan Drinski. School winner was Keegan Claus.

South Newton Elementary

Mrs. Dewing: 1st, Kevin Aguilera; 2nd, Andrew Conrad; 3rd, Kolbie Smiley.

Mrs. Groover: 1st, Terron Welsh; 2nd Lilly Hartman; 3rd, Tyler Risher.

Mrs. Hoffman: 1st, Angelina Small; 2nd Gavin Andrew Farley; 3rd, Kiarra Battering. School winner was Terron Welsh.

The over-all county winner was Terron Welsh, Mrs. Groover's class.

The Family History Division has placed coloring books in the fourth grade classes of all Newton County schools beginning in 2000 with Volume One; in 2008 Volume Two was published. There are 48 pages in both volumes depicting local historical scenes illustrated by local artists. Students in the fourth grade study local history, and the goal of this project is for the children of Newton County to enjoy the book and become more familiar with the history around them through the publication.

The 1940 newspapers all published the following stats on the Sectional Basketball Tournament winners since it's inception in 1923. Newton County schools won 14 of the 18 sectional tournneys. Brook had won nine of this number.

Year	Won	Lost	Score
1923	Brook	Rensselaer	15-14
1924	Otterbein	Brook	18-6
1925	Brook	Remington	33-28
1926	Brook	Morocco	22-9
1927	Kentland	Goodland	25-24
1928	Goodland	Remington	28-26
1929	Brook	Goodland	24-12
1930	Brook	Goodland	18-11
1931	Brook	Morocco	29-28
1932	Brook	Goodland	24-13
1933	Brook	Goodland	45-30
1934	Morocco	Kentland	28-27
1935	Kentland	Morocco	46-17
1936	Rensselaer	Goodland	26-21
1937	Goodland	Kentland	36-4
1938	Rensselaer	Goodland	45-30
1939	Rensselaer	Brook	34-19
1940	Brook	Rensselaer	35-29



The Resource Center Window Display "Life on The Farm"

When the call is sent out to members regarding the theme of the window display, the organizers never know just what will appear, but the results are always phenomenal, interesting and historically significant to Newton County.

Such is the case with our latest farming display. Russ Collins, Rich and Janet Miller, Jennie Washburn, Beth Bassett and Barbara Wilfong worked together to create the display. Many of the tools on display were loaned to us by Sig Boezeman, and with his knowledge of the tools and their usage, the historical aspect was put into place with the objects.

6 The Newcomer

Newton County In 1940

Events From the Local Newspapers

January: Cold weather sets in after warm, unseasonable spurt; 2 degrees below – firing furnaces and thawing out automobile radiators; 32,000 pieces of mail passed through the local post office (Kentland) in 1939

February: The REA (Rural Electric Association) was going to receive new equipment to improve lines in the county

March: A new industry was considering purchasing the old Kentland Coliseum

April: Newton County is 80 years old this month

May: Bandits at Mt. Ayr

June: Oil discovered in Thayer; Vocational Ag is added at Mt. Ayr and Morocco High School

July: Home Economics and Physical Education added to regular courses at county schools; Chick Evans plays golf at Hazelden Golf club; a historical marker is placed in Morocco for the first school house in Newton County by the Kentland Chamber and Morocco Lions Club.

August: New factory in Kentland at Coliseum begins operation, the Dean Davis Company; additional oil strikes at Roselawn; 1940 census report for the area

September: Schools back in operation; County Fair underway

October: Draft laws explained; County Draft Board named; 1,024 register for draft in Newton County; first ten names drawn for the draft.

November: FDR is elected for third term; the state quota of 395 is announced for those to be inducted, Newton County had to produce 1 quota: Class A 1st; Brook boy is the first county draftee.

December: George Ade is ill in Florida, reportedly in coma; Oil is discovered in McClellan Township.

A Close Look at the 1940 Census Form

The 1940 census was one of the richest enumerations ever in terms of data collected. The census form itself was an unwieldy 23 ¾ x 12 ½ inches, printed on both sides, with room for 40 individuals on each side, plus two extra lines for additional questions asked of five percent of those listed. Those whose names fell on lines 14 and 29 of each side of the form – made up that five percent of everyone listed. (See “The Five Percent” following this article).

For the first time, the enumerator had to enter a circled X after the name of the person furnishing the information about the family. Many of the questions on the 1940 census are standard: name, age, gender, race, education and place of birth. All information was to be correct as of the official census day, April 1, 1940. Each question was numbered, beginning with two about the location of the household: “Street, avenue, road, etc.” and “House number” (in cities and towns). Question 3 through 6 reported the household’s number in the enumerator’s order of visits, whether owned (O) or rented (R), value if owned or monthly rent, and whether it was on a farm.

Finally, line 7 got to the name of each person usually living there as of April 1; those temporarily absent from the household were marked with AB. Newborns not yet named were marked Infant. Each individual’s relation to the head of the household came next, followed by sex (M or F) and “Color or Race.” Codes used for this 10th question were W for white, Neg for Negro, In for Indian, Chi for Chinese, Jp for Japanese, FIL for Filipino, Hin for Hindu and Kor for Korean; others were to be spelled out.

Column 11 asked for age at last birthday; the age of children less than one year were to be given in fractions of 1/12-so, for example, 9/12 for a child born in June 1939. Last, under “Personal Description,” was marital status: single (S), married (M), widowed (Wd) or divorced (D).

Next came two questions about education: whether the person had attended school or college any time in the previous month, and highest grade of school completed, indicated by 1 through 8 for elementary and middle grades, H-1 through H-4 for high school, C-1 through C-4 for college and C-5 for subsequent higher education.

The instructions for question 15, place of birth, were a reflection of the times. For those born in the United States, the state, territory or possession was listed. For those foreign born whose countries of origin might have been overrun by Nazi Germany, enumerators were told to “give country in which birthplace was situated on Jan. 1, 1937.” Those born in French Canada were also to be distinguished from “Canada-English,” as were those born in the “Irish Free State from Northern Ireland.” Foreign born individuals were asked their citizenship in question 16.

The next batch of questions relate to where the person lived five years prior, on April 1, 1935. If that was a different city or town (rather than a different address in the same “place”), the enumerator was to fill in the name of the city or other place of more than 2,500 population (otherwise, R for rural), county, state, and whether the home was on a farm.

Not surprisingly given the Depression, several questions asked those age 14 and older about employment. For those not employed or seeking work, codes indicated home housework (H), in school (S), unable to work (U) or other (Ot). Those with jobs were asked about their occupation, industry, number of weeks worked in 1939, and income. The census asked whether each person worked for Depression-era employment programs (CCC, WPA or NYA) the week of March 24-30, and income for the 12 months ending December 31, 1939.

That was it for the regular questionnaire. Although important questions were asked, only that random five percent answered in a genealogist’s mind, the most valuable questions.

The Five Percent

Those whose names fell on lines 14 and 29 of each side of the regular form – about five percent of everyone listed – were also asked supplementary questions 35 through 50. If you’re lucky enough to have an ancestor among this five percent, you’ll also learn:

Place of birth of father and mother

“Language spoken in the home in earliest childhood”

Veteran status, including whether the person is a wife, widow or under-18-year-old child of a veteran. Codes used to indicate which war were: W for what we now call the First World War; S for Spanish-American War; Philippine Insurrection or Boxer Rebellion; R for peacetime regular military; and Ot for other.

Social Security status, including whether the person had a Social Security number.

“Usual Occupation, Industry and Class of Worker” – for the unemployed, this was a way

to gather information on what people would be doing if they had a job.

For all women who were or had been married, whether married more than once, age at first marriage, and total number of children not counting stillbirths.

You might wish that these supplemental questions had been asked of everyone, but unfortunately this sampling technique was the shape of things to come. Only in 1980 would everyone again complete the long form. The latest census, in 2010, used just 10 questions and skipped the long form entirely. So relish the cornucopia of data released at least with the 1940 census. Future genealogists won't be able to use the census to learn nearly as much about us – no matter how patient they are. *Submitted by Beth Bassett*

The Newton County 1940 Census: McClellan Township People, Occupations and the Five Percent

The enumeration of McClellan Township began on April 3, 1940 and was finished by Mary Williamson on April 17th. Upon completion, there were 275 men, women and children listed as residing in the township. Out of the 68 households, 37 of those had resided in the same place on April 1, 1935. There were 268 white individuals and 7 Negroes enumerated, 154 of them male; 119 women. Sixty of the children were listed attending school. There were 51 married couples and 18 widowed.

The working force consisted of 100, with the majority being 37 farmers and 24 farm laborers. Other occupations included a retired farmer, a farming partner, three farm managers, two truck drivers and one laborer for the State Highway, a waitress at a lunch room, two gas station workers for Enos Service Station, one telegraph operator for the New York Central, two school district bus drivers, a seamstress, a housekeeper in a private home, a teacher, four woodcutters employed in the timber industry, one mechanic for a construction company, one CCC Camp laborer seeking work, one sales lady for Watkins Products, one bookkeeper, one worker and one truck driver for the Enos Grain and Lumber Company, one steel mill laborer, one lineman for Western Union, as well as a merchant of retail grocery.

The 5 Percent

The residents whose names appeared on either line 14 or 29 were asked additional questions, as explained in another article in this edition.

Harrison Bingham, head of household, age 51, white, was born in Illinois. His father was born in Michigan, mother in Illinois. He grew up speaking English in his home. His wife, Margaret, 37, was also born in Illinois; their children were Ray, 19; Alice, 17; Juanita, 13; Audrey, 9; Myrtle Marie, 7; Larry, 2; all the children were born in Indiana, except Larry, Iowa. Harrison worked 52 weeks in 1939 as a farmer, in the same place. Harrison was educated to the 7th grade.

Alma Ann Jackson, age 83, white, was residing with her son, Elmer, 54, born in Indiana, and his wife Margaret, 54, born in Indiana. She was born in Indiana, and both her parents were born in Pennsylvania. English was spoken in their household. She was married once at the age of 17, and had four children. She was residing in the same place on April 1, 1935. Alma was educated to the 8th grade.

Fred Zacharias, head of household, 49, white, born in Illinois, and his wife Florence, 49, born in Kentucky, had lived in same place since 1935. His parents were born in Germany, and grew up in a German speaking household. Fred worked 52 weeks as a farmer in 1939. Fred was educated to the 8th grade.

Tillman Borem, head of household, age 31, white, was born in Mexico, and his wife, Sybil, age 28, was born in Indiana. Their children were all born in Indiana: Denzie, 9; James, 7; Betty Jane, 6; David, 3; Judith, 1. His parents were both born in Indiana, and he grew up in an English speaking household. Tillman worked 52 weeks in 1939 as a farmer, and had resided in the same place in 1935.

Maxine Harper, age 21, white, was residing with her father David, 48, and mother Myrtle, 44. Her siblings listed are Eloise, 19; Paul, 17; Donald, 12; Betty, 8; Richard, 6; Larry 2. The entire family was born in Indiana. She grew up in an English speaking household. She was working as a housekeeper in a private home, earning \$62. She resided in the same place in 1935. Her father was a farmer. She was educated to the 12th grade.

Fred Cato, head of household, age 30, Negro, was born in Florida and was living with his wife Cora Lee, age 20, Negro, born in South Carolina. They were both living in Florida in 1935. Fred's parents were also born in Florida, and he grew up in an English speaking household. He worked 16 weeks in 1939 as a farm laborer, with wages of \$150. He was educated to the 7th grade.

Cora Tracy, age 66, Negro, born in Indiana, was the wife of Walter *Continued on page 9*

Those Were the Days

... in 1940

- The US population was 132 million
- The national debt was \$43 billion
- Average salary was \$1,725 a year
- Minimum wage was 30 cents an hour
- A new car cost \$850, a gallon of gas was 11 cents
- A gallon of milk cost 54 cents
- A first-class stamp was 3 cents
- Fifty-five percent of US homes had indoor plumbing
- Life expectancy at birth was 65.9 years for females, 61.6 for males
- The Academy Award for Best Picture went to Rebecca
- Glenn Miller's "In the Mood" was the No. 1 song
- The Pulitzer Prize for best novel went to "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck

In Indiana:

- There were 1,725,201 males and 1,702,595 females
- 1,887,712 people lived in urban areas and 1,540,084 lived in rural areas
- 2,597,509 people were born and lived in Indiana in 1940
- 712,438 people lived in Indiana in 1940 but were born in another state
- 110,992 people lived in Indiana in 1940, but were born in another country.
- 681,167 pupils attended school, 59% of children aged 5 to 24
- 1,151,703 people were employed and in the work force
- Within Indiana the top countries of birth outside the US were: German, 18,784 people; Poland, 14,257 people; Italy, 6,309 people; Czechoslovakia, 5,782 people; Canada: 5,588 people; England, 5,562 people; Yugoslavia, 5,342 people.

Depending when these sites upload records for your ancestor's states, you may or may not find the records there. Registration is not required to use 1940census.archives.gov, but you may need to register to take advantage of additional features.

- Ancestry.com <ancestry.com/1940-census>
- Archives.com <archives.com>
- Censusrecords.com <censusrecords.com>
- FamilySearch.org www.familysearch.org
- MyHeritage.com <myheritage.com/1940census>

McClellan Township 1940 Census Name Index

Household	Name						
1	Williamson, Loyd Williamson, Mary A. Williamson, Thomas Williamson, Benny	15	Moorman, Harden	29	Mashino, Fred Mashino, Ruth A. Mashino, Wandalee Mashino, Donald Gene	43	Tracy, Walter Tracy, Cora Hayes, Norma Hayes, Elsie Hayes, Warren
2	Purdy, Orville Purdy, Mable Purdy, Leith Purdy, Virgil Purdy, Arlington Purdy, Quintin Rady, Marie Rady, Melvin Sellers, Alex	17	Brunton, Harry Brunton, Ella Brunton, Dean Brunton, John Dale	30	Lade, Randolph Lade, Eva Lade, Dorothy Lade, Murle Lade, Leona Lade, Thelma Lade, Donald Lade, Betty Jean Lade, Louise	44	Swart, Roy Swart, Nellie Swart, Richard 45 Bailey, Earl Bailey, Rose Bailey, Delorse Bailey, Earl Jr.
3	Bingham, Harrison Bingham, Margaret Bingham, Raymond Bingham, Alice Bingham, Juanita Bingham, Audrey Bingham, Myrtle Marie Bingham, Larry	18	Brady, ?William Brady, Nanie Brady, Ira Brady, Helen McGinnus, Martha	31	Rainford, Irvin Rainford, Ina Coatney, Robert	46	Brownfield, Walter Brownfield, Katherine Brownfield, Edna Brownfield, Raymond Brownfield, Maurice Brownfield, Marion Brownfield, Cecil Brownfield, Lester Brownfield, Pearl
4	Cox, Floyd Cox, Eva Johnson, Zerao Banister, Raymond	19	Borem, Tillman Borem, Sybil Borem, Denzie Borem, James Borem, Betty Joyce Borem, David Borem, Judith	32	Rankin, Ralph Rankin, Ethel Rankin, Warren Rankin, Nelson Rankin, Norma Jean Rankin, Kathleen Rankin, Velda Rankin, Ruth Ann	47	Printy, James Printy, Bill Printy, James Jr. Henning, Ada
5	Jackson, Elmer Jackson, Margaret Jackson, Alma Ann	20	Sipe, Roscoe Sipe, Gwendolyn Sipe, Gordon Sipe, Gaynelle Sipe, Gaylen	33	Smart, Donald Smart, Esther Smart, Nancy Ann	48	Eberle, Julius Eberle, Aliwine Eberle, Bernice Page 6 Eberle, Marvin
6	Bingham, Fred Bingham, Clifford Bingham, Lenoard Bingham, Norma Lee	21	Styck, Franklin Styck, Pauline Styck, Donald Styck, Beverly Styck, Madline Styck, Eileen Styck, James F. Styck, Flora Styck, Fern	34	Stalnecker, Edison Stalnecker Oacie Stalnecker, David Stalnecker, Donald Stalnecker, Joyce Sayler, Vern Sayler, Adam	49	Tuttle, Elva Halarwiesh, Edward 50 Harper, David Harper, Myrtle Harper, Maxine Harper, Eloise Harper, Paul Harper, Don Harper, Betty Harper, Richard
7	Flagg, Elizabeth	22	Styck, James Styck, Francis Styck, Helen Styck, James E. Barker, Leverett	35	Denton, Vern Denton, Bernice Denton, Vern Jr. Denton, Gene Denton, Dean	51	Smith, Vandy
8	Lomax, George Lomax, Nancy	23	Davis, George Davis, Sue Davis, Ronald Davis, Betty Ann	36	Cooley, Bedford Cooley, Eveline	52	Smart, Alva Smart, Mildred Smart, Floyd Smart, Kenneth Smart, Ethel Mae
9	Lomax, Frank Lomax, Adeline Dexter, Inez	24	Huderlider, ? Raymond Huderlider, Agnes Huderlider, Kenneth Huderlider, Sandra Carol Criswell, Mason	37	Abbott, Ben Abbott, Ethel Rodman, Elizabeth	53	Cato, Fred
10	Geesa, Bena Gessa, Zella Geesa, Bena William Ray	25	Warne, Kenneth Warne, Jeaneete Warne, Joyce Rees, Paul	38	Dana, Ralston Dana, Louise		
11	Cox, Albert Cox, Alice Cox, Johnnie Anderson, Laverne Deardurff, Dale	26	Beckwith, Robert Beckwith, Anna	39	Zring, John Makatown, Harry Syoss, Steve		
12	Potts, Fay Potts, Bessie Potts, Phylis Potts, Jimmy	27	Wooten, Walter Wooten, Mary	40	Parviucki, Andrew		
13	Zachariais, Clifford Zachariais, Ethel	28	Faus, Hazel Faus, Barbara Faus, Shirley	41	Mott, Eugene Mott, Nellie Mott, Eugene Jr. Mott, Barbara Mott, Jean Ellen		
14	Zachariais, Fred Zachariais, Florence						
							54 White, John White, Bernice 55 Griffin, Ralph Griffin, Marie Griffin, Donald Griffin, Ruth Griffin, Duane Griffin, Leslie Griffin, Jerry 57 Denham, Clarence Denham, Ida Denham, Russell Denham, Elma 60 Severs, Harold Severs, Florence 61 Lawson, Ervin Lawson, Laura Lawson, Doreen Lawson, Melvin Lawson, Lester Lawson, Leverne Lawson, Elaline 62 Nelson, Harvey Nelson, Margaret Nelson, Donald Nelson, Zalpha Nelson, Margaret Nelson, Gloria 63 Keifer, Elizabeth 64 Love, Oscar Love, Blanche Love, John Love, Belva Blanke, Robert 65 Landon, William Landon, Ethel Towne, Sydney Lock, Collins 66 Archer, John 67 Wood, Ray Wood, Gertrude Wood, Lois Wood, Duane Wood, Laura 69 Bingham, William Bingham, Etta

Look for additional township name indexes coming to our web site soon! *Census index compiled and submitted by Beth Bassett.*

< Continued from page 7

Tracy, age 61, Negro, born in Kentucky, had resided elsewhere in Newton County in 1935. Both of her parents were born in Kentucky, and she grew up in an English speaking household. Living with her were her step-grandchildren, Hayes, Norma, 19, Negro; Elsie 17, Negro; Warren, 16, Negro; all born in Chicago, Illinois. Cora was educated to the 8th grade. She was married once at the age of 18, and had four children.

Nelson Rankin, 15, white, born in Illinois, the son of Ralph, 42 and Ethel, 39, both born in Illinois. He grew up in an English speaking household. He was educated to the 7th grade, and his siblings listed were: Warren, 17; Norma Jean, 14; Kathrine, 12; Velda, 11; Harold Dean, 4; Ruth Ann, 1. They resided in Kankakee, Illinois in 1935. His father was a farmer.

Donald Stalnecker, age 4, white, born in Kentucky, was the son of Edwin, 26, born in Canada, and Oacie, 24, white, born in Kentucky. He grew up in an English speaking household. Siblings listed were David, 7; Joyce, 1. Listed also in the household was Vern Salyers, brother-in-law, 30; Adam Salyers, hired hand, 27. They both were born in Kentucky. In 1935, the Stalnecker family was living in St. Anne, Illinois. His father was a farmer.

George Davis, head of household, 37, white, born in Indiana. His parents were both born in Indiana and he was raised in an English speaking household. He worked 52 weeks in 1939 as a farmer, and was in the same place in 1935. His wife, Sue, 32, was born in Austria. Their children, Ronald, 10; Betty Ann, 9, were both born in Indiana.

Walter Wooten, head of household, 40, white, was born in Indiana. His parents were both born in Indiana, and he grew up in an English speaking household. His wife, Mary, 29, was born in Indiana. He worked 52 weeks in 1939 as a farm laborer; his wages were listed

as \$375. They were in the same place in 1935. Walter was educated to the 6th grade.

Donald Nelson, age 9, white, was born in Missouri, and was the son of Harvey, 34 and Margaret, 30, who were both born in Missouri. He grew up in an English speaking household. His father was a farm laborer. He was educated to the 2nd grade. Siblings listed were Zalpha, 5; Margaret, 2, Gloria, infant. In 1935, they were living in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Ray Wood, age 52, white, was born in Indiana. His wife, Gertrude, 56, was born in Illinois. His parents were both born in Indiana, and he grew up in an English speaking

household. He worked as a farmer, and was in the same place in 1935. He was educated to the 8th grade. His children were Lois, 18; Duane, 10; his mother, Laura, 88, widow, was listed with the household.

Maurice Brownfield, 7, born in Indiana; son of Walter, 46, born in Missouri, and Katharine, 40, born in Indiana, had resided in another township in Newton County in 1935 along with his siblings, born in Illinois: Edna, 13; Raymond, 9; born in Indiana: Marion, 6; Cecil, 2; Lester, 18, born in Illinois; Lester's wife, Pearl, 18, born in Kentucky. He grew up in an English speaking household; his father was a farm laborer. *Submitted by Beth Bassett*



The Buckhorn School Circa 1910-12

Eleanor Bailey recently submitted these two photographs from her collection of the Buckhorn School, that was located in Lincoln Township across the road from the Knight Ditch. The school was located east of the intersection of present day 400E and 800N.

The school was sometimes used for church and Sunday school, shown above is a group of church members: left to right, back, Minister and son; Guss Stahl; Harley Harsha; Ernest Iliff; Ethel Harsha (in front of Iliff); Ray Cox; Gladys Cox; Matilda Cox (hat visible); Viola Cox; May Harsha; Israel Cox; Emerson and Mary Manter; left to right, Marie Studer or Flatt; Charles Bailey; Stella Bailey; unknown girl and boy; seated, left to right, Maude Cox; Essie Flatt; Grace Cox; Clara Studer.

Below, Her uncle, Harley Harsha, is the boy on the right end, he was married to Ethel Bailey; Grace Cox, daughter of Schuyler and Maude (Goldsberry) Cox is the blond girl on the left end of the photo. Edith Wilder is the teacher. Several other Cox children are in the photo, but she is unsure who and where.



Another Fire Truck Story

By Kyle D. Conrad

Editor's Note: This article first appeared in the Vintage Ford Magazine in 2011. Special thanks to them and the Model T Ford Club for allowing us to reproduce the article.

What a treat it was to receive my first edition of *The Vintage Ford* after recently joining the MTFCA and finding Jay Klehfoth's article on the MTFCA's 1925 Model T firetruck. (July/August 2011) It was, after all, my volunteer fire department's 1925 Model T that sparked my interest in someday becoming a Model T owner myself. And with a recent purchase of a 1927 Coupe, that dream has become a reality.

As a kid growing up in the small, rural town of Brook, Indiana, I remember distinctly the 'old fire truck' that was brought out twice a year. Once during the town's annual fish fry where kids could be given rides for 25 cents, and once for the July 4th parade. The firemen always seemed to be having as much fun as the children who were riding around the block during the fish fry event.

In later years, I began hanging around the fire station when I'd hear the fire whistle blow or when the department was having their monthly meeting. I would enjoy listening to the stories being told when the discussions turned to "the good old days".

By the time I was on the department, getting our Model T truck out for the fish fry was a thing of the past. but we would still revive it for the town's annual

July 4th parade. This endeavor was usually headed up by Clyde "Cider" Martin. The reason for this was simple. Cider joined the fire department in 1926, just a couple of months after the Model T was placed into service. It was Cider who for years I'd listen to rattle off story after story about fires of the past, many of which involved the Model T. The fact that Cider was one of a few around who could still drive a Model T was probably another factor.

In 1997, when the T was being prepared for the annual trip down main street in the

parade, it was discovered that the head was cracked. For the first time in decades, the T would miss the parade. After some discussion on what to do about our repair issues, the department decided to not only fix the engine, but to do a restoration of the truck. With the assistance of the Town of Brook, a grant from the Newton County Community Foundation, and some fund raisers, the work on the truck was started.

Being a fan of history, this also afforded

soda mixed with the water and created its own pressure. The truck also carried hose that was hooked up directly to the town's fire hydrants, using whatever water flow and pressure the town's system could provide.

What led up to the purchase of the Model T is, in itself, an interesting story. In 1916, the Town of Brook installed a municipal water system and purchased a new hand pulled hose cart from New Jersey Car Spring and Rubber Company. The cart was manufactured by the Miller Chemical Company. In 1922, the town board then bought a used hand pulled chemical cart and a used ladder cart from the Sheldon, Illinois fire department. With the advent of automobiles, these hand pulled carts were rigged up to be pulled behind cars, many times behind a convertible while someone riding in the back seat was holding on! That arrangement took its toll, however, as in the April 3, 1925 edition of *The Brook Reporter* an article reported that the chemical truck was badly damaged when rounding a corner en route to a fire on the north end of town. The cart took a tumble and was virtually destroyed. All but the tanks, that is. The paper editorialized that it would be a good idea to get a Ford chassis and mount the chemical tanks on it.

That advice was apparently heeded by the town council, who at their July meeting, decided it was time to purchase a motorized fire truck. On August

3, 1925 the town paid Brook Motor Sales, the local Ford dealer, \$458.33 for a 1925 Model T Chassis. That price included the 22 horsepower car with a Model TT two speed rear end, freight, oil, and gas. The T was then taken to Boswell, Indiana to the I.B. Eberly Blacksmith shop where the bed was built and the tanks from the chemical cart, the hose and nozzles from the hose cart, and the ladders from the ladder cart were installed. The town paid \$575 to Eberly for the bed's construction. The new fire truck was placed into service in December



Top photo shows the fire truck when it was originally purchased, bottom photo is the fire truck today. Kyle Conrad photos.

me the opportunity to do some research as to the history behind the Model T. My first source was to sit down and record an interview with Cider Martin, who was still an inactive member of our department and in his 70th year of service. Cider gave me some great background on the Model T and told of some great fire stories. Considering the truck had no pump, it is hard to believe it was ever very effective at fighting fire. There are two 30 gallon Obenchain-Boyer soda acid tanks, similar to the old soda acid fire extinguishers where the

of that year with a total cost of \$1033.33

During the course of this research, our Model T was in various stages of work. Only after the body and paint work as well as the new running boards were built by two firms in Sheldon, Illinois did I discover a part of this truck, namely the ladders and chemical tanks, actually came from that town's fire department. What a coincidence that was.

With a new coat of paint, new running boards, new seat covering and a few other minor touches, our truck was back home. That July 4th, Clyde "Cider" Martin was named grand marshal of the local parade and proudly road shotgun as yours truly drove him in the newly restored fire truck. It was a dual purpose drive, as Cider shared with me the "tricks of the trade" to driving the old T. We lost Cider in 2002 after 76 years on our department.

A few years after our initial restoration, I was given the name of a man in Bismarck, Illinois who I was told would be a great person to do some additional work on our truck. All of the work, except the new engine head, was cosmetic. It didn't take much arm twisting to get Russ Potter to come up and replace and adjust the bands, rebuild the carburetor, and rebuild the original coils. The coils were Russ' idea, after he saw we had purchased new ones during the restoration process. Thanks to his expertise, we now sport the original coils once again.

Today, our 1925 T is the pride and joy of the Brook-Iroquois Township Volunteer Fire Department. She's been the subject of an article in the *Lafayette Journal and Courier*, which spurred a follow up article on the I.B. Eberly Blacksmith Shop in Boswell, Indiana. She's seen every July 4th at the head of the parade and on occasion when the urge strikes me, or my daughters want to go for a ride. After spending years in a tool shed and the storage area of our town's museum, she now has a stall all to herself in our new fire station, which construction was just completed this spring.

While I can't relate to fighting fires back in the days when the Model T was all we had, I can share the stories told to me by Cider Martin, and instill upon the men and women of my department that, in order to appreciate where we are, we need to appreciate where we've been. We are very fortunate to still have a very important piece of our past with us, and our efforts have ensured it will remain that way for generations to come.

Editor's note: Conrad is a 28 year veteran and chief of the Brook-Iroquois Township Volunteer Fire Department in Brook, Indiana.

Historian's Corner

By Diana Elijah, Newton County Historian



Left to right, back row: Elsie Eulalia Elijah, age 17; Miriam Ruth Elijah, age 14; middle row: Frank Elijah, age 49; Belle (Handley) Elijah, age 39; front row: Markin Lawson Elijah, age 10; Kinder Allen Elijah, age 4; Frankie Elijah, age 1; and Daily Virgil Elijah, age 7. Diana Elijah photo.

I'd like to share a word or two about Isabelle "Belle" (Handley) Elijah. I would like to have known her – she must have been some woman. Like her mother, she took really good care of her six kids and taught her daughters well the crafts an English girl should do and know. She loved to saddle and ride her horse; she had her own saddle. She was a crack shot with any gun. Further, I have never heard anything but "she was a lady" from anyone who knew her. She must have been an interesting combination of a velvet glove with an iron fist!

As you know, my grandpa Frank Elijah, died young, so I know little more about Belle. She must have had a lot of compassion because, after they built the new house she had seven of the family spend the last days of their lives with her family. She took her children to Indianapolis for any surgery, such as tonsillectomies to Methodist Hospital. Back then, that had to be time consuming and expensive to boot. She had a hired girl most of the time. She must have also had a sense for adventure and a fair amount of courage, for as a bride she went to California, Owens Valley, near Bishop to ranch with her husband Frank. They raised irrigated alfalfa and raised mules. They sold hay to the 20 mule team Borax Company, as well as selling trading and boarding mules for them. In the winter the shepherds would bring a large circus type tent to the ranch, buy hay, and have the spring lambing season there.

They hired Indians to do work on the ranch. While they were in California, she had several miscarriages and Aunt Elsie and Miriam Ruth were born in California. She came back to Indiana two times prior to 1900. The first time by stage coach, the second by rail. It is said that it was in California that she learned to ride and shoot. I believe there were two reasons why they left California to come back to Indiana.

1. She was homesick. 2. The Los Angeles Aqueduct fiasco. It was a deadly time in the Owens Valley. Either you were for, or against the aqueduct. No matter which side you were on when someone came over the horizon, you had to know if they were for or against the project. If they were of the same mind, both lived. If not only one of them rode away. So they sold the ranch. When Grandpa came back to Indiana he gave his gun to his brother Alex. He never carried a hand gun again. He had had his fill of kill or be killed. He didn't hunt much with his brothers.

From Our Files

Submitted by Janet Miller
The History of the St. Joseph Parish

The first St. Joseph Church was built in 1864 on a two acre site donated by Alexander J. Kent. Rev. Joseph Steven, who made monthly visits to Kentland, was instrumental in building the first church. It was a wooden frame, 24 by 40 feet, and cost \$800. Mr. Kent also donated five acres of land a mile south of town for the St. Joseph Cemetery.

The first parishioners were approximately 20 Catholic families of Irish, German, and French descent, who lived within a radius of 12 miles. The first recorded baptism at St. Joseph was on April 3, 1870, when Maria Hilda Bertram, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. and L. Bertram was baptized. The first wedding was on June 1, 1870, when Stephen Hubertz and Margaret Duffey were married at St. Joseph Church.

On April 1, 1870, Rev. Anthony Messman was appointed the first resident pastor. A rectory was built in 1872 and the first parochial school was built. Lay teachers taught the few children but the school was closed for lack of cooperation and support.

Rev. Francis X. Baumgartner was appointed to succeed Father Messman on Dec. 19, 1880, and served until 1883. At that time Rev. William C. Miller was appointed Father Baumgartner's successor. Father Miller reopened the parochial school in 1885. For two years the school was taught by two lay teachers, Miss Mary O'Donnell and Miss Katherine Cunningham. In 1887, the school was placed in charge of the Poor Sisters of St. Francis from the Motherhouse in Lafayette.

In 1888, Father Miller built the present church, a brick structure, on three lots donated by Father Messman next to the Kent Ditch. It had a seating capacity of 400 and cost \$9,000. After the new church was built, the old church was remodeled into a two room school and the old school remodeled into a Sisters' residence.

Rev. Charles Ganzer became pastor on August 30, 1891, and remained until his death, December 10, 1902. During his short pastorate, he made many necessary improvements: a new altar, way of the cross stations, electric fixtures, heating plant and new pipe organ.

Following Father Ganzer's death, the parish was served by priests from St. Joseph's College until Very Rev. Charles Stetter, Ph.D., DD., was appointed pastor on February 13, 1903. Father Stetter's zeal for the spiritual and material welfare of the parish was evident during his entire pastorate at Kentland. In 1916, he had the old rectory razed and the present, modern, two story nine room rectory erected at a cost \$11,500. The congregation at this time numbered 120 families. The present parochial school and Sisters' convent were built



A photocopy of a postcard of the early church and school was attached to the article in our files at the Resource Center in Kentland.

in 1927 at a cost of \$40,000. Father Stetter died on Christmas morning, 1929, and is buried at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Rev. Father Rothermel was appointed pastor of St. Joseph on February 6, 1930. The lean years of the Depression in 1929 to 1932, made it very difficult to reduce the debt of St. Joseph parish. Only the very necessary improvements were ever contemplated.

Rev. Edward Fallon succeeded Father Rothermel. Through the zealous and persistent efforts of Father Fallon and the generosity of the parishioners, an indebtedness of \$27,500 was soon liquidated. In 1949, the church was renovated and redecored; new floors and pews were installed, the old large Gothic stations of the cross were removed and more

modern stations purchased. Through the generosity of several parishioners a new \$28,000 electric organ was installed in the church in 1957. A disastrous wind storm in May, 1962, caused extensive damage to the church steeple, and a new modernistic tower was erected.

Father Fallon died suddenly June 24, 1964, and was buried at St. Joseph Cemetery. Priests from St. Joseph College served as administrators pro tem until July 15, 1964, when Rev. George Lanning was appointed pastor. A memorial to Father Fallon was erected in the north end of St. Joseph Cemetery, and the bodies of Rev. Charles Ganzer, Vy. Rev. Charles Stetter, and Rev. Edward Fallon were exhumed and interred in the memorial plot. A new ornamental iron fence, shrubs and altar completed the 1964 project.

At the beginning of Father Lannings' pastorate, he instituted an elected parish council to be responsible for parish affairs. The elected council members, in turn, appointed chairmen for the following apostolates: Building and Maintenance, Ecumenism, Education, Family Life, Liturgy, Social Concern, Youth and Communication.

In the spring of 1966, the Sisters of St. Francis notified St. Joseph Parish that only two teaching Sisters would return in September. The Sisters of St. Joseph, Tipton, were contacted to take charge of the school. They accepted and sent four teaching nuns for the September 1966 school term.

The reconditioning and redecoreating of the church to implement the new liturgy was

completed in the summer and fall of 1966. In January 1967, the parish had 285 families with 135 children in the parochial school, grades 1-8.

In the spring of 1970, the parish was dismayed to learn that the Sisters of St. Joseph would not be sending any sisters to our school in the fall and the school was reluctantly closed. Since that time the religious education of the elementary school children have been carried on by lay men and women of the parish.

Recent years have increased lay participation in the liturgy. Adult servers, offertory processions, lectors, and Ministers of the Eucharist are part of the scene each Sunday at St. Joseph. In 1975, a Reconciliation Room was constructed in the rear of the church to accommodate the new Rite of Reconciliation.

St. Joseph parish is justly proud of the thousands of members who have worshiped here since 1864. It is especially proud of sons of the parish who became priests: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Andrew J. Burns, Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Keefe, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Arthur Segó, JCD., Rev. Joseph Nagele, and Rev. Thomas Zimmer. It is also very proud of the daughters of the parish who became sisters, among them, Ella Reinhart, Cecelia Strasser and Mary Strasser – all of whom entered the Franciscan order at Mishawaka, and Rosemary Coughlin, who entered St. Joseph Order at Tipton.

In the summer of 1980, a new and unexpected chapter has been written in St. Joseph parish. Within 60 days, the parish refurbished the convent, rearranged the school, welcomed five sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis from Bartlett, Ill.; and enrolled more than 72 students in the reopened St. Joseph School in grades 1 to 6. Enthusiasm and cooperation in the parish are at an all time high. St. Joseph parish faces the 1980s with renewed confidence.

Note: Much of this material was taken from a history compiled by the late Msgr. A. J. Copenolle, pastor of St. John the Baptist parish, Earl Park, Indiana.

**Newton County Historical
Society Resource Center**
**Open Monday and Friday
and now Thursday**
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM CST
219-474-6944
newtonhs@ffni.com

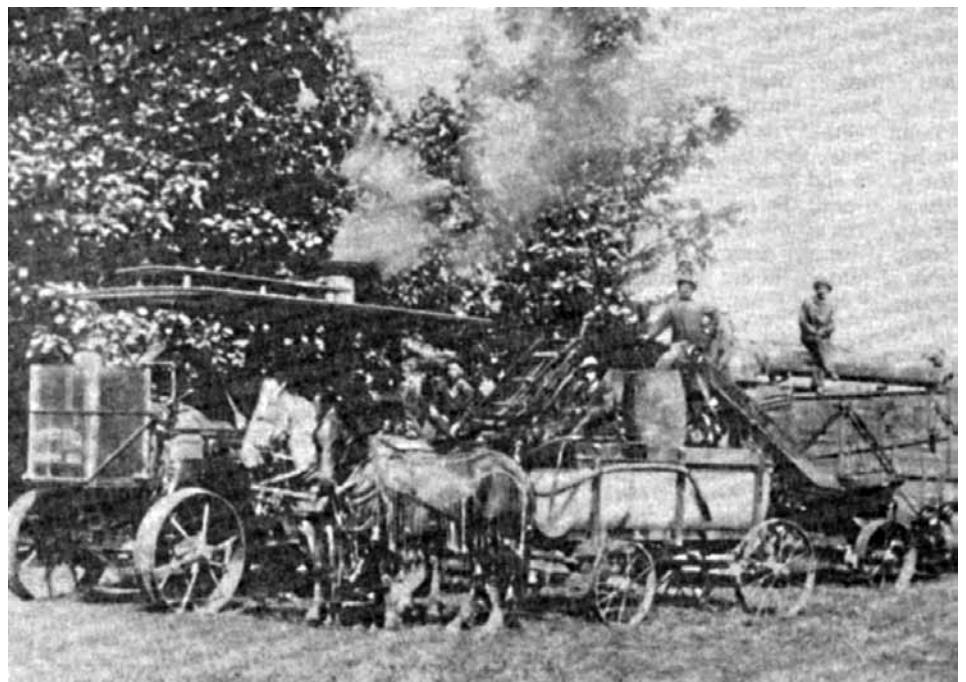


South Newton Rebel Marching Band Appears at the Indiana State Fair, 1975

Does anyone remember the details of the South Newton Rebel Band appearing at the Indiana State Fair in 1975?

Janet Miller submitted this cover of "the Hoosier Farmer," August, 1975. We are hoping someone can tell us details and names of those students shown here . . . nothing was published locally regarding their appearance at the fair.

Good Old Days - Wabash Magazine - Journal and Courier Steam Tractor Was Modern - Goodland, Indiana



A standing feature at one time in the *Lafayette Journal and Courier's Wabash Magazine* was entitled "good old days." Janet Miller found this item in her files.

"This old steam engine rig was put to good use on the Ed Strubbe farm south of Goodland, but it still needed the horses to haul the water. The 1915 photograph was lent to us by Floyd Weihermiller of Lafayette, who said as a young man he used to drive the horse-drawn water wagon. In the photo are l-r, Floyd's dad, George Weihermiller, who lived in Attica, Edwin Smith, Goodland, and Ed Forney and Tom Schlater.

The Black Gold Discovery in Lincoln Township, 1940 Submitted by Beth Bassett



THAYER-Principals in the Calumet region's first major oil strike are shown examining crude oil at the rig on the farm of Radion Yacuk, center, west of here. The drilling was under the direction of William J. Vaughn, left, and R. Heber Smith, right, both of Chicago. Drillers are acidizing the well to determine the rate of flow which has been estimated at 200 barrels a day. Production has been contracted for by a Calumet region refinery. - *Newton County Enterprise*

If you have picked up a copy of the "Roselawn, Thayer and Shelby Historical Collection", then you may be aware that in the early 1900s, oil was discovered on the Yacuk farm in Thayer. While researching the year 1940, I was happy to come upon several articles and a photo regarding the reprise of this bit of history. I also found a small article that stated oil was also found in McClellan Township, however details were sketchy, and further articles did not appear in 1940.

Oil Found On Radion Yacuk Farm Near Thayer Last Week; Will Drill Soon - *Morocco Courier*

"Oil has been found on the Radion Yacuk farm near Thayer and Mr. Yacuk had a sample to show an Enterprise reporter Monday of this week. The Yacuk farm west of Thayer joins the Grant and James Black farms and as soon as equipment arrives pumping will start. The oil seemed to be of good quality and a lease has been offered already. It was also said that there is a possibility that the well will produce up to 100 barrels per day. The oil was found at 900 feet and is the first to be found in the county in recent years although small amounts of natural gas were found here a number of years ago."

Oil Driller Reports Gusher Near Thayer - *Morocco Courier*

"Southern Lake county's oil strike in Thayer vicinity apparently bears

the stamp of a bona fide gusher and the region buzzes with excitement as it drips with oil for the first time in history.

"The well gushed at a 200-barrel rate a day until drillers halted the flow in preparation for acidizing operations which will extend through the great part of this week.

"This well is a scant 600 feet from a well which, coincidentally was "shot" with nitroglycerine 30 years ago in a vain attempt to find crude oil.

"The drillers, Heber Smith and William Vaughn, were exuberant as oil gushed from the well and covered surrounding territory. After taking a sample to be tested they plugged the well as the first step in acidizing.

"This process, a relatively new development in the petroleum industry, requires that acid be forced to the bottom of the well to eat away a large section of the lime formation. The method is used widely where the lime is in "closed" formation of the type encountered at Thayer.

"After allowing an interval for the acid to erode the lime, it is cleaned out of the well with a suction pump and the daily crude output then may be judged accurately.

"Drilling operations began in February when Smith and Vaughn acquired the oil lease on the 70-acres farm of Radion Yacuk just west of Thayer. Drillers struck several pockets of gas soon after operations began and small quantities of oil in non-paying quantities were encountered.

"Smith and his crew sensed that they were near a pool last week when they encountered Trenton lime near the 820 foot depth. The gusher was their answer.

"Smith announced that he has acquired oil rights for much of the surrounding land and that the Trenton lime field will be developed fully before experimenting in other lime formations. It is a common practice drillers to encounter oil at one level and dig through to another formation to double or triple the well's output.

"The entire production of the Thayer field has been contracted for by a local unnamed refinery, Smith said.

"The oil strike may prove a bonanza to the farmers in the vicinity at the current price of crude oil. The price ranges between \$1 and \$1.15 a barrel and the land owner's share in the daily output is one-eighth of the well's output.

"Smith anticipated a rush of drillers to the adjacent territory similar to that in Southern Indiana a few years ago when several minor wells were brought in."

Join Our Membership!

Annual dues are valid Jan. 1 - Dec. 31

Must be a member of the general society to join the Family History Division

General Society: \$17.00

Family History Division: \$5.00

Total for both: \$22.00

Lifetime General Society: \$125.00

Lifetime Family History Division: \$50.00

Membership includes free copies of the Newcomer and monthly notifications regarding meeting programs.

Salt

by Jeff Manes
Tom "Coyote One" Larson

*"...we can skin a buck; we can run a trot line -
And a country boy can survive..."*

-Hank Williams Jr.

Fifty feet east of where highways 55 and Harrison come to a T in Shelby is Bayou Road.

At the south end of that gravel stretch is the Kankakee River – and the home of Tom Larson. He and his wife Cathy have lived there for 23 years. The Larsons have raised three daughters. Tom is 55 years old.

It was late October when I interviewed Larson. He had just finished up work for the year. Larson is a pipefitter by trade and a member of Local 597.

By choice, he has not worked a winter as a fitter in more than 20 years. He also is a trapper. Larson's nickname is Coyote One.

There is a full moon. A man in a jon boat can be seen drifting by Larson's picture window as we sit down to talk.

"I got into the fitters September of 1977. I've been trapping for 43 years," Larson began. "During the '80s there was (pipefitting) work in Louisiana. Cathy and I lived down there for about 3 1/2 years.

"I chose that location because I wanted to extend my commercial fishing and trapping knowledge."

"We lived near Bayou Nezpique. The Cajuns kind of adopted me – took me right in. The fiddle player in the movie 'Southern Comfort' was my daughter's school bus driver. I think he also appeared in the film 'The Big Easy,' too. Quite a guy. He also owned a furniture store in Basile."

"I just waxed up my traps and put out 19 coyote sets. Caught three opening day. Caught six more today and a fox. Coyote, fox, and skunk are the only thing open right now. They prime up a little bit sooner."

How many coyotes have you trapped in your career?

"Six more and I'll be at 1100. Caught my first one in '77. Then there was a dead spell until the mid-eighties before any more showed up."

What do you use for coyotes?

"A No. 3 coil (jaw trap). They're a little

more sturdy than the old No. 2s that were used for fox."

Do they pay you bounties for coyotes?

"No, I sell the pelts. They use them in coats – collars and trim mostly. My best year was '01, I caught 126. I use road kill for bait. Gary Airport hired me to trap coyote about 10 years ago."

They're very intelligent animals.

"A coyote is much harder to catch than a fox – and a fox is smart."

Do you consume any of these fur bearers?

"I don't eat as much beaver as I used too. Cathy and I are getting older now; we go out to eat a lot."

Muskrats pretty tasty?

"Oh yeah, the hams. 'Rats are vegetarians – clean animal. We've had years where we caught as many as 3,000 muskrats – 150 to 200 per day. I had a partner back then, Jimmy Gatlin. Phenomenal trapper.

"I make my own muskrat traps. It's like a tube they swim in – they drown. I can skin 60 'rats per hour.

"I was Northwest Fur Company's first fur skinner. They were located up by Ramsey's Landing. They'd pay me a penny for fleshin' it and penny for stretchin' it.

"I've caught more than 2,000 beavers – 171 in one year here in Indiana. I use snares for beaver."

A beaver can do a lot of damage.

"I have to do a job for a lady next week. She doesn't believe in hunting or trapping of any kind. All of a sudden beavers are damming up her ditch and all the trees are disappearing. Now the beavers have to go.

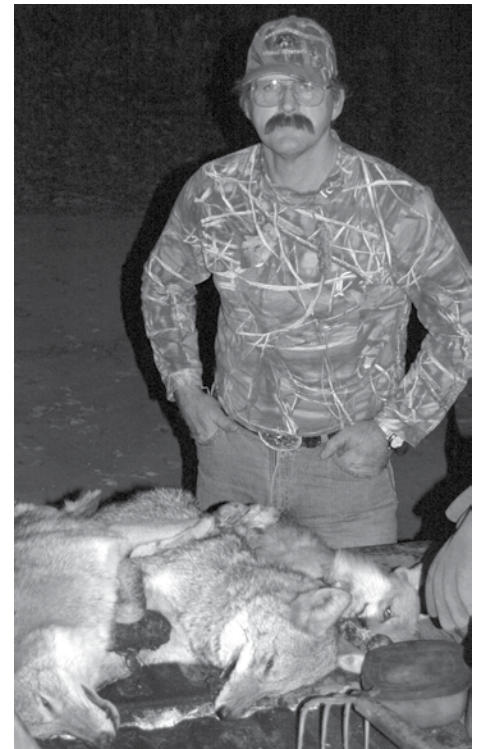
"It would have been a sin to kill those beavers if they were chewing her neighbor's property. But the beavers set up shop on her land... I see that all the time."

You're kind of a mercenary at times.

"I contract out for different counties. The farmers have formed a conglomerate that all their money goes into.

"I also trap beaver, otter and bobcat out of state. I'm paid a bounty for every beaver tail I turn in. I've done some removal work for the state of Arkansas."

What was the highwater mark for fur?



Coyote Larson with the results of a hunt.

"The late '70s. Ninety percent of the fur in the world is fur farmed now. The Scandinavian countries are huge on fur farming. Most of the fur sold in the world is ranch mink."

How much do you get for a mink nowadays?

"A large buck mink will go for about \$15 – \$10 for a good female.

It's all speculative as far as the prices right now.

"Hopefully a good blanket beaver will go for about \$25."

You mentioned commercial fishing.

"I kept a commercial license for about 10 years on the Wabash River down by Attica. Gill nets, trammel nets, hoop nets, trot lines.

"I'd fish commercially on weekends. Catfish, dogfish, carp, buffalo, shovelnose sturgeon – rough fish are all you're allowed to take out of fresh water."

As a kid I caught a few buffalo. They look just like a carp, but have a bluish-gray tint to them. They're served in fine restaurants, correct?

"Oh, yeah. Jewish people eat them a lot. They say a 10-pound carp in England is worth a huge amount of money – big sport fish over there. I put out 20 fiberglass bank poles the other day for channel cat. I fish the surface with the hook half out of the water. I bait the hooks with catalpa worms or minnows."

16 The Newcomer

Can you fish commercially here on the Kankakee?

"No; you can run trot lines and limb lines, but not commercially."

Tom, the first time I ever met you was at a Friends of the Kankakee River meeting held at the Grand Kankakee Marsh a few years back.

"Most hunters and trappers love nature. I'm a past president of the Isaak Walton League.

"I'm the proxy for Lake County surveyor George Van Til on the Kankakee River Basin Commission – I go to every meeting.

"If it wasn't for the hunters and trappers there would be species that would go extinct."

Like the passenger pigeon and the buffalo? (I couldn't resist)

"Jeff, a pair of fox stay within a square mile. The adjoining square mile? Another pair of fox. They'll wipe out every rabbit there is in that square mile.

"Coons, possums and skunks would wipe out the eggs of ground nesting birds like pheasants and wild turkeys.

"The areas that don't have a predator control program? Up to 99% of the eggs get destroyed every year.

"The difference between us and an animal activist? We are biologically sound. We have proof that you need to depopulate.

"The animal rights people have nothing biological behind them – strictly emotional. They don't want to see the animal killed because their heart bleeds for it."

A wildlife rehabilitator friend of mine mentioned oral contraceptives as possible solution.

"Purdue University tried that in Wheatfield. They experimented on deer. They found out a year later if an animal came by and fed off the carcass of one these dead deer – they'd become sterile. It went right on down the food chain. They had to destroy all the tagged deer, called them white buffalos."

You're saying if a hunter ate one of those deer, he could be shooting blanks in the future?

"It's quite possible."

As a young man he read Jack London. One of those tales featured a fellow named Wolf Larsen.

Tom says he enjoyed London's Alaskan stories the most. "To Build A Fire" being his personal favorite.

Here in Indiana they made a drainage

ditch out of the river the Potawatomi named Aukiki.

The dredgers had ambitious thoughts of doing the same on the Illinois side. French-blooded trappers bearing guns and knives convinced them it wasn't a good idea. Today the Kankakee River remains its serpentine self in Illinois. Wildlife abounds.

I do believe the Billedeaus and Boudreaus of Bourbonnais, Momence and Kankakee

could have counted on a rugged Hoosier standing amongst them – watching their backs.

But as fate would have it, Coyote Larson was born a century too late.

Written and submitted by Jeff Manes. Salt#150, first published Post-Tribune 11/25/07 and Lowell Tribune 11/27/07.



Above, the society's annual meeting was held at the Iroquois Conservation Club in Brook, an excellent stage for Coyote's presentation on hunting and trapping; lower left, Larson demonstrated on the banks of Lake Kenoyer how he sets a beaver trap, part of his presentation on hunting and trapping; lower right: this spring the Lincoln Elementary fourth graders listened to Coyote share his interest in hunting and trapping at our Resource Center Beth Bassett photos.



Home is Where Your Story Begins

Submitted by Beth Bassett



“We have an opportunity this week to print the picture of another Morocco couple which has resided here for over fifty years. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Murphey celebrated their golden wedding in 1939. Both were born in Newton county and spent their entire lives here. Mr. Murphey, who was a great grandson of John Murphey, founder of Morocco, was born in Washington township and has been practicing law here for 35 years, while Mrs. Murphey was born in Beaver Township.” *October 8, 1940, Morocco Courier*



“A golden wedding is not an every day event, but Morocco has a couple that has celebrated the anniversary of their wedding day a decade and a half beyond the fifty year milestone. Mr. and Mrs. Ira J. Biesecker celebrated their 65th anniversary on September 26, on which occasion the above picture was taken at the home. Mr. Biesecker, now retired, was for years a prominent banker in the community.” *October 17, 1940, Morocco Courier*



Wedding Celebrations Featured in the 1940 Morocco Courier

“Here is another Morocco couple familiar to every resident, old and young. Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Smart have enjoyed 58 years of married life in Morocco. The picture was taken by their grandson, Ivan Hafstrom on the occasion of the Smart reunion on Labor Day. Standing behind the couple are left to right, Mr.s O. A. Diegal of Lakewood, Ohio; Mrs. F. G. Behmlander of Lowell, Byron of South Bend; Mrs. Hazel Hafstrom of Morocco and Mrs. S. T. Hensel of South Bend. Mr. Smart is a native Morrocan, having lived his entire 77 years in the community.” *September 25, 1940, Morocco Courier*

18 The Newcomer

Second Annual Newton County Music Festival

Friday Evening, April 5, 1940 – 8:00 p.m.

Editor's Note: Gleaned from the pages of the Morocco Courier, 1940, is the following article regarding the second annual Newton County Music Festival. Seems as though if you were in school, you were also a part of the band or the chorus. Submitted by Beth Bassett

Participating schools and music directors: Brook, Paul D. Egli; Goodland, Miss Delia A. Yochem; Kentland, Miss Elizabeth Knauer and Louis B. Elmore; Morocco, Miss Arlene Van Auken and Hilmer E. Jacobson; Mt. Ayr, Mrs. Emma Jacobson.

Music Directors: Orchestra, Hilmer E. Jacobson; Mixed Chorus, Miss Delia A. Yochem; Girls' Chorus, Miss Elizabeth Knauer; Boys' Chorus, Miss Arlene Van Auken; Mt. Ayr Acappella Choir (special); Band, Paul E. Egli.

Roster of the Band

Cornet: Brook High School (BHS) members: Richard Myers, Ruth Whaley, Norman Heuser, Helen Whaley, Russell Lyons, Donald Clark, Betsy Johnson. Morocco High School (MHS) members; Clay Blaney, Buster Reames, Elvin Smith; Goodland High School (GHS) members: Mary Jo Davidson, Lowell Mead, Ruth Good, James Louette, Shirley Hancock, Robert Lyons, Mary K. Dietrich;

Kentland High School (KHS) members: Carlin Brandt, Ross McKee, Willard Groscoat, William Rasher, Jim Portteus, Catherine Ann Smith, Marian Wilson.

Clarinet: BHS: Virginia Robbins, Wanda Anderson, Lois Sell, Monford McClatchey, Fulene Reed, Della Light, Helen Weishaar, Lois Rothrock, Albert Kindig, Gaylord Lawrence, Martha Lyons; Mt. Ayr High School (MtHS) members: Betty Werre, Helen Rae Elliott, Wilda Rockwell, Donald Kennedy, Ruby Jane McAleer, Richard Schanlaub; KHS: John Pontius, Mary Barce, Gloria Blanke, Audrey Cochrane. GHS: Robert Cloutier;. MHS: June Christenson, Evart Kessler, Elsie Smart, Garylord Brunton, Dana Gulley, Wilbur Peters, Joe Hayworth, Evelyn Christenson, Ronald Carlson, Lorraine Clark, Luella Davis, Norris Deardurff, Patricia Brunton, Dorothy McClatchey.

Saxophone: BHS: Betty Noland, Floyd Cooper, Joyce Rothrock, Medford McClatchey, Mary Lou Tinder; KHS: Bernard Reed, Glenn Dixon, Howard Rasher, Wayne Morgan, Gene Richardson; MtHS: Robert Battleday; GHS: Dickey Molter, Burdell Owenby; MHS: Bill Blaney, Dale Merchant, Bernard Hanger, Donald Moore.

Trombone: BHS: Marvin Pruett, Jean

Kemper, Bob Cooper, Malvin Dewees; MtHS: Harlan Chamberlain, Betty Shaw; KHS: Bill Bair, Earl Kohl, Howard Dolch; GHS: Lloyd Molter, Marcelline Molter, Ardis Reed; MHS: Carroll Russell, Donald Hosutt, James Collins.

Baritone: BHS: Margie Harris; MtHS: Opal Horton, Bela Roberts; KHS: Joe Bill Mullen; GHS: Shirley Green; MSH: Enlen Brandt, Gailord Hickman.

Horns and Mellophones: MtHS: Bobby Shaw, Robert Hayward; MHS: Victor Carlson, David Carlson, George Blann, Buna Kessler; BHS: Ethel Rae Gentry, Ted Ricker, Lloyd Stonehill, Marvin Whaley, Donald Lyons; GHS: Nelda Mae Turner; KHS: Betty Morton.

Bass: BHS: Russell Light, Harold Herath; KHS: Harold Walkup; MtHS: Harold LaCrosse; KHS: Rita Diedam; MHS: Jack Hafstrom, Norbert Brown, Gordon White.

Flute: BHS: Martha Hess; GHS: Delores Graham; MHS: Richard Augustine, Virginia Sheldon.

Bells: GHS: Patty O'Neil.

Bassoon: BHS: Velma Jean Barten; MHS: Roberta Russell.

Glockenspiel: KHS: Alice Diedam.

Tuba: GHS: Eugene O'Neil.

The Mt. Ayr High School Acapella Choir, 1940



This photograph of the Mt. Ayr Acapella Choir appeared in all of the local papers prior to the music festival, but names were not given under the photographs. This choir was a special feature of the festival, singing "Adoramus Te" by Palestrina, "Nightengale" by Tashchikowsky and "Lo, A voice to Heaven is Sounding" by Bortniansky.

Drums: BHS: Russell Clinton, Jane Wadleigh, Alva Hoover; MHS: Dick Smart, Russell Garrard; GHS: Janice Lowe; KHS: Barbara Marvin, Joan Mullen; MtHS: Patty Hoon.

Roster of the High School Orchestra

Violin: MHS: Norma Porter, Barbara Williams; BHS: Phyllis Hess, Ethel Rae Gentry, Betsy Johnston, Marjorie Vest, Barbara Myers; KHS: Gunner Hansen, Ellen Hansen, Norinne Hagan; GHS: Georgia Bell, Bob Bower, Grace Bower, Lorain Dexter, Donna Jean Hanna, Martha Jane Hendry, Agnes McGraw, Harriet Mitten, Martha Lou O'Neil, Barbara Perkinson, Eileen Reuter, Lois Schriener, Rosemary Woodard, Tommy Zimmer.

Cornet: MHS: Clay Blaney, Buster Reams, Elvin Smith, Mary Graefnitz, Margaret Christenson, Harry Lane; BHS: Helen Whaley, Donald Clark; KHS: Carroll Wittenberg, Katherine Ann Smith; KHS: Willard Groscoast; GHS: Robert Lyons, Jimmy Louette.

Trombone: MHS: Carroll Russell, Donald Hosutt, James Collins; KHS: Earl Kohl; BHS: Marvin Pruett; GHS: Marcelline Molter, Ardis Reed, Lloyd Molter.

Saxophone: MHS: William Blaney, Dale Merchant, Bernard Hanger, Donald Moore; KHS: Howard Rasher, Gene Richardson; BHS: Medford McClatchey.

Baritone: MHS: Enlen Brandt, Gailord Hickman; GHS: Shirley Green.

Horns, Mellophones: MHS: Victor Carlson, David Carlson, George Blann, Buna Kessler; BHS: Marvin Whaley, Margie Harris; GHS: Nelda Mae Turner.

Clarinet: MHS: June Christenson, Evert Kessler, Elsie Smart, Gaylord Brunton, Dana Gulley, Wilbur Peters, Patricia Brunton, Dorothy McClatchey; KHS: Mary Barce, Gloria Blanke; BHS: Betty Noland, Lois Sell; GHS: Robert Cloutier.

Bass: MHS: Jack Hafstrom, Norbert Brown, Gordon White; BHS: Harold Herath.

Bass Violin: KHS: Rita Diedam.

Flute: MHS: Richard Augustine, Virginia Sheldon.

Bassoon: MHS: Robert Russell; BHS: Velma Jean Barten.

Piano: BHS: Virginia Robbins.

Bells: GHS: Patty O'Neil.

Drums: MHS: Dick Smart, Russell Garrard; GHS: Janice Lowe; BHS: Alva Hoover, Jane Wadleigh; KHS: Barbara Marvin.

Roster of the Newton County High School Chorus Kentland

Soprano: Virginia Bassett, Juanita Arnold, Mary Jean Hagan, Marguerite Shidaker, Marjorie Molter, Joan Hall, Marjorie East, Dorothy Pontius, Leona Morton, Margaret Hall, Mary E. Tuberty, Wanda Murphy, Jane MaHaffey, Evelyn Kindig, Ann Knowlton, Eileen Coughlin, Alice Diedem. Alto: Norinne Hagan, Doris Green, Shirley Schaeffer, Barbara Oliver, Fanny Perry. Tenor: Glen Burton, Donald Hall, Vernon Delay, William Floyd, Louis Funk, Duane Hall, Charles Vanderwall. Bass: Wilmer Walkup, Gene Richardson, Paul Turnpaugh, Kenneth McCartney, Willard Groscoast, John Delay.

Brook

Soprano: Martha Hess, Helen Whaley, Evelyn Nichols, Betty Warwick, Nancy Beagley, Joyce Rothrock, Ruth Hoagle, Louise Wooten, Annabelle Ford, Betty Vestal, Mercile Whaley, Delores Whaley, Margie Harris. Alto: Velma Jean Barten, Greta Padgett, Ethel Rae Gentry, Mary Lou Tinder, Elizabeth Unger, Jean Kemper; Tenor: Marvin Pruett, Medford McClatchey, Ted Moyar, Malvin DeWees; Bass: Billy Hogle, Monford McClatchey, Elmer Cory.

Morocco

Soprano: Wanita Bingham, Elenor Du-bea, Doris Hayslip, Marjorie Rainford, Barbara Hanford, Lorraine Nightlinger, Celina Bennett, Thelma Lane, Mary Graefnitz, Gaynelle Sipe, Juanita Wells, Patricia Pollock, Margaret Price, Elsie Smart, Patricia Brunton, Connie Fortune, Theda Padgett, Martha Spradling, Virginia Corbin; Alto: Barbara Williams, Helen Kessler, Ruth Graefnitz, Wanda Purdy, Betty Garrard, Virginia Sheldon, Norma Porter, June Campbell, Delores Manchester, Doris Severs, Genola Porter; Tenor: William Blaney, Norbert Brown, Leo Bernwanger, Stanley Davis, Victor Carlson, Richard Augustin, Harry Lane; Bass: Hubert Sutton, Lloyd Goddard, Donald Hosutt, Dick Smart, John Cox, Clay Blaney.

Goodland

Soprano: Martha O'Neil, Rosemary Woodard, Agnes McGraw, Delores Bower, Marcelline Molter, Betty Harwood, Delores Graham, Ruth Ann Pilotte, Shirley Hanna, Mary K. Diethrich, Alma DeGroot, Dorothy Sell, Mary Ellen Ellsworth, Marjorie Ann Babcock, Mildred Reuter, Betty Lou Nevitt, Loretta Zimmer, Patty O'Neil, Janice Lowe,

Betty Stombaugh, Evelyn DeGroot, Marjorie Fry; Alto: Georgina Bell, Lois Harwood, Lois Schriener, Genevieve Graham, Marjorie Welsh, Helen Welsh; Bass: Paul Bower, Wm. Burns, Thomas Bogan, Kenneth Hotler, Robert Illingworth, David Lowe, Robert Lyons, Lloyd Molter, Bob McClellen, Burdel Owenby, Edmund Reuter, Cletus Schneidt, Floyd Sell, Donald Wildasin, Kenneth Schmidt.

Mt. Ayr

Soprano: Mary Shinkle, Eula Wilson, Betty Todd, Dorcus Stroube, Evelyn Clinton, Kathryn Smith, Maxine Hoon, Louise Agate, Dorothea Horton, Geraldine Potts, Marilyn Casey, Marjorie Kiefer, Anna Yacuk, Helen Yacuk, Mae Cyphers, Lottie Potts; Alto: Berniece Baker, Mada Brown, Carline David, Opal Horton, Freida Jo Garriott, Edna Belle Burton, Vivian Rusk, Fernie Styck, Velma Miller, Ruby Jean McAleer, Irene Ziogas; Tenor: Harlan Chamberlain, Donald Miller, Elwyn Studer, Billy Sanders, Donald Viers, Calvin Lafoon; Bass: Lloyd Hoover, Lawson Hayward, Donald Hiestand, Arthur Sinks, Daren Spitler, David Lynch, Jack Elijah, Clarence Armstrong, Bob Stump, Alex Yacuk, Bill Boswinkle, Kenneth Martin, Dwight Brown, Donald Lee Miller, Harold LaCosse, Bill Miller, James Pritchett, Elmer Rimer.

Looking for your Newton County Ancestors?

Check out our web site:
www.ingenweb.org/innewton

- Census Records
- Cemetery Records
- Marriage Records Index
- Death Records Index
- Landowners, 1904
- Newton County/Indiana Maps
- Past editions of *The Newcomer*
- Obituary Indexes
- Biographies
- Society News
- Military Information
- School Information
- Family Surname Helpers

The Compulsive Military Service . . . aka the Conscription

Perhaps the most unforgettable event of 1940 for generations to follow would be the introduction of Compulsive Military Service, or the Conscription.

An illustration of the Military Registration Certificate used in World War I was published in the August 15, 1940 edition of the *Morocco Courier*. War, and rumors of the United States involvement, had circulated throughout the country for the past two years, and now it seemed that it was finally at our own back door.

The caption below the illustration read: “The revised Burke-Wadsworth bill, that would make 12,000,000 men between the ages of 21-31 liable for registration for one year training as part of the national defense program recommended to the Senate by its Military Affairs Committee. Debates on the conscription measure is expected to wax torrid, and won’t be enacted before August. 12,000,000 Americans will soon witness the reappearance of the above registration form - used in the last war.”

Why did the government introduce conscription? They realized that they wouldn’t have the manpower they needed to fight on multiple fronts with a volunteer only military. Research provided a history of Compulsive Military Service.

By the summer of 1940, as Germany conquered France, Americans supported the return of conscription. One national survey found that 67% of respondents believed that a German-Italian victory would endanger the United States, and that 71% supported “the immediate adoption of compulsory military training for all young men. Similarly, a November 1942 survey of American high-school students found that 69% favored compulsory postwar military training.

The World War I system served as a model for that of World War II. The Selective Service and Training Act (STSA) of 1940 instituted national conscription in peacetime, requiring registration of all men between 21 and 45, with selection for one year’s service by a national lottery. The term of service was extended by one year in August 1941. After Pearl Harbor the STSA was further amended (December 19, 1941), extending the term of service to the duration of the war and six months and requiring the registration of all men 18 to 64 years of age. In the massive draft

of World War II, 50 million men from 18 to 45 were registered, 36 million classified, and 10 million inducted.

President Roosevelt’s signing of the STSA on September 16, 1940 began the first peacetime draft in the United States. It also established the Selective Service System (SSS) as an independent agency responsible for identifying and inducting young men into military service.

By 1942, the SSS moved away from administrative selection by its more than 4,000 local boards to a system of lottery selection. Rather than filling quotas by local selection, the boards now ensured proper processing of men selected by the lottery. On December 5, 1942, a presidential executive order changed the age range for the draft from 21-45 to 18-38, and ended voluntary enlistment.

Paul V. McNutt, head of the War Manpower Commission, estimated that the changes would increase the ratio of men drafted from one out of nine to one out of five. The commission’s goal was to have nine million men in the armed forces by the end of 1943. This facilitated the massive requirement of up to 200,000 men per month and would remain the standard for the length of the war. The World War II draft operated from 1940 until 1947 when its legislative authorization expired

without further extension by Congress. During this time, more than 11 million men had been inducted into military service. With the expiration, no inductions occurred in 1947. However, the SSS remained intact. Compulsory Military Service was utilized through the Vietnam war, but was discontinued in 1973.

In October, articles appeared in all three of the local papers announcing that October 16, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. all male citizens between the age of 21-35 inclusive would be required to register under the new national conscription law. The schoolhouses in Enos, Rose-lawn, Mt. Ayr, Ade; the Lake Village gym; the home of Ross Hillis in Colfax township; the Brook and Goodland libraries; the Morocco American Legion; the county courthouse were the designated locations.

In an article dated October 17, 1940, *Morocco Courier*, entitled: “Draft Machinery In Motion” 157 men had registered at the Morocco American Legion by 7 p.m., with Stanley Kain being the first there at 7 a.m.

Governor Clifford Townsend named the local selective service board members: Roy King of Goodland; J. R. Sigler of Mt. Ayr; Voris B. Service of Kentland.

The government representative appointed to act as judge in cases appealed from the decision of the board was H. L. Sammons;

World War I Draft Registration Card C—(12 September 1918)

REGISTRATION CARD									
SERIAL NUMBER								ORDER NUMBER	
1									
File name			Middle name			Family name			
2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS									
(No.) (Street or R.F.D. number) (City or town) (County) (State)									
Age by Years		Date of Birth							
3 4 (Month) (Day) (Year)									
RACE									
White			Negro		Oriental		Indian		
Citizen				Non-Citizen					
U.S. CITIZEN					ALIEN				
Native Born		Naturalized		Citizen by Father's Naturalization before Registrant's Majority			Declarant		Non-declarant
10 11 12 13 14									
15 If not a citizen of the U.S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?									
PRESENT OCCUPATION					EMPLOYER'S NAME				
16 17									
18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS									
(No.) (Street or R.F.D. number) (City or town) (County) (State)									
NEAREST RELATIVE		Name							
		20							
		Address							
(No.) (Street or R.F.D. number) (City or town) (County) (State)									
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.									
R.M.G.O. Form No. 1		(Registrant's signature or mark)							

MyFamily.com, Inc. © 2002

REGISTRAR'S REPORT									
DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT									
HEIGHT			BUILD			COLOR OF EYES		COLOR OF HAIR	
Tall	Medium	Short	Slender	Medium	Scout	27	28		
21	22	23	24	25	26				
29 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, eye, or is he obviously physically disqualified? (SPECIFY)									
30 I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:									
Signature of Registrar									
Date of Registration									
(The stamp of the local board having jurisdiction of the area in which the registrant has his permanent home shall be placed in this box)									

For more helpful family history charts and forms visit www.ancestry.com/save/charts_and_forms.htm

The World War I Draft Registration Card was used as a model for the Selective Service upon registration for World War II. Ancestry.com illustration.

the advisory board appointed to assist the man who had been called for service in filling out his questionnaire consisted of Alvin Cast, Kentland, chairman; Harland White, Morocco and Charlie Robertson of Brook. Frank Manning of Lake Village was appointed an associate on this board for the convenience of people living in the northern part of the county, and Lyle Constable at Goodland.

In the first week of November, the *Morocco Courier* headline read: "None in County to Be in First Call."

"Quotas for each of Indiana's 152 selective service boards have been announced by the state selective headquarters.

"The first state quota of 395 men will be inducted into the army at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis between November 19 and 25, with the contingent of 75 scheduled to arrive at the army post on the 19th.

"Local board quotas for the first call range from one to five. Until it is possible to establish definite credits for men already in the various branches of the armed services from the board areas of the state, quotas are being figured on the basis of to-announced registration as of October 25 in each area.

"Newton county has already had two registered men volunteer, according to information received by the *Courier* from the local board. Since the county's quota for the first call is estimated at only one, this will probably mean that no one will be called." A list of the registered men from the post office at Morocco was then given.

From the November 14, 1940 *Morocco Courier*: "Six Men Called for Examination"

"Six registrants of Newton county placed in class 1 by the local board have been called for medical examination before the examining physicians, Dr. Glick of Kentland and Dr. G. D. Larrison of Morocco. Although it appeared last week as though none from the county would be called to service in the first call, which is to be November 22, the board has received notice that one man will be called.

"The board has been busy sending out and receiving questionnaires and classifying them.

"Following are the names of the first 50 men in Newton County to whom questionnaires have been sent: Ronald W. Sarver, Goodland; Clarence E. Woods, Morocco; Forest Troup, Kentland; Glen W. Cundall, Brook; Garold Roy Baldwin, Morocco; Lee C. Mattocks, Thayer; Delos P. Warne, Morocco;

James O. Dexter, Lake Village; Thomas A. Kenney, Goodland; Loyd R. Roberts, Kentland; Leo J. Schneidt, Goodland; Herschel T. Young, Morocco; Frank W. Kline, Morocco; Kenneth S. White, Brook; Ovie R. Denham, Kentland; Oran P. Shuler, Lake Village; Lewis Dain Hess, Brook; Marian Dean Smart, Morocco; George O. Sypult, Lake Village; Richard F. Heine, Goodland; Paul Henry Sallee, Morocco; Herman R. Satterfield, Aurora, IL; George R. Chancellor, Kentland; Earl Lester Royce, Goodland; Alvia M. Bullis, Brook; Fred McClure, Kentland; Harold L. Stonecipher, Kentland; Richard A. Tebo, Morocco; Glen V. Morgan, Morocco; Charles W. Holley, Morocco; Gerald H. Goddard, Morocco; Russel H. Henderson, Kentland; Ellsworth E. Wilson, Kentland; William A. Slattery, Goodland; Harry H. Denton, Lake Village; Reuben E. Bartholomew, Morocco; Richard L. Constable, Goodland; Harold R. Purdy, Morocco; James R. Grant, Brook; Leroy M. Smith,

Kentland; Glen C. Patterson, Brook; Floyd O. Lyons, Brook; Newell A. Lamb, Kentland; Freeland R. Nelson, Brook; Ollie Hoskins, Kentland; Lawrence W. Vestal, Kentland; Harold M. Oliver, Kentland; Wayne W. Hickman, Mt Ayr; Arthur A. Voglund, Kentland, Leo M. Polfer, Lake Village."

And, finally, on November 18, 1940 in the *Morocco Courier*:

"The local board has received notice from the governor that Newton County's gross quota of men to be called by July 1, 1941 will be 137, less credits of 53, making a quota of 84.

"One Volunteered: Glenn William Kendall of Brook has volunteered his services and will be the first to go in the next call, which will probably be January 2. To date ten men have received medical examinations, one has been called, two pronounced unfit for military service and seven, including the one volunteer, are ready for service." *Submitted by Beth Bassett*

Make These Stores Your Shopping Center When In

Goodland

HARRY H. HAWN, INC.
Complete Automotive Service
Coal Ice
Phones { Office 282 }
 { Yard 88 }

Goodland Drug Company

Enjoy a few minutes at the
Chocolate Cup
Goodland, Indiana

Get that Clock and Watch Repaired Now
Get ready for Spring at our Special Price.
Green's Jewelry

R. L. Constable
Federal Farm Loans and Insurance

BALL BRAND FOOTWEAR
For the entire family
C. L. TEDFORD & CO.

Dee's Electric Service
Phone 66
We repair anything that is operated by electricity
(We do all types of wiring)

Insurance
E. E. Thompson
Phone 268

Businesses in Goodland, advertising in the *Brook Reporter* in 1940. Submitted by Beth Bassett

Pages of the Past

Extracted from the Spring, 1912 Newton County Enterprise by Janet Miller

Kentland

Old Bank Will Move Into New Quarters. Handsome Home of Discount and Deposit State Bank is Ready for Occupancy. The Discount and Deposit State Bank is the oldest bank in Newton county, and one of the most solid and conservative financial institutions in northwestern Indiana. It was established in 1873 by C. B. Cones. In 1874 it was purchased by G. W. McCray, John Ade and E. L. Urmston. Mr. McCray was elected President, which position he continues to fill.

Jeptha Staton Married. Picks Charming Young Lady of Goodland for Bride. The home of Mrs. David Stocksleger was the scene of a very pretty home wedding when on Wednesday evening, February 21, her youngest daughter, Miss Eva, was united in marriage to Mr. J. B. Staton of Kentland. Miss Eva is one of Goodland's excellent young ladies and is favorably known in our community. The groom is a prosperous young farmer and owns a farm near Kentland where the happy couple will make their future home.

The two banks of Kentland, in sworn statements made elsewhere in these columns, show an aggregate business of \$620,782.13. This is nearly double the business of three years ago, and taking these figures as a barometer of the town's financial health, Kentland must certainly be enjoying splendid business prosperity.

The Flag of Our Country. Orders have been issued requiring all flags of the United States; all unions of the national ensign and all union jacks to contain forty-eight stars because of the admission, on February 14, of Arizona as a state.

The detective brought down from Chicago last week to ferret out the one who touched the match to the Hess pool room, failed to land his man. After running down a number of street rumors, each of which evaporated in hot air, he left the job. Some evidence was secured that might be of use, or lead to something, if a grand jury investigation was made. And so long as a fire-bug is at large the safety of the town is imperiled.

Newton County Land Takes Another Jump. Scales the \$200 Mark, Fixing a New Price for Farm Lands. The Martin Jackson farm, of 120 acres, three miles northeast of Kentland, was purchased a few days ago by

Warren Unger at the topnotch price of \$200 an acre. The deal was made by Miss Adah Bush. This fixes a new price for Newton county farm lands. When land in this section sold around the \$75 mark people generally believed that \$100 an acre would be the limit. This farm has only ordinary improvements, and there were no conditions or circumstances that particularly influenced the price. Good roads, good markets, ideal social surroundings and good towns, all lend their influence in increasing farm values.

John T. McCutcheon to Give Chalk Talk. John T. McCutcheon, the noted cartoonist, will entertain the members of the Woman's Club and their guests at the annual reception of the Club to be held next week. The Club reception is to be held in the assembly room at the Public Library and admission will be by invitation, each member of the Club being privileged to bring two guests.

McClellan Township

Henry Cannon, trustee of McClellan township, filed his resignation with Auditor Bringham last Thursday, and Mark Templeton was appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Templeton qualified Friday and entered on his duties. The new trustee is a son of Henry Templeton of Morocco, formerly of this place (Kentland).

Mt. Ayr

John Burns of Mt. Ayr was accidentally killed at about 8:30 last night. He had spent the evening in town and shortly after he started home James Holly, living west of town, phone in that he had stopped a runaway team and the buggy was empty. Search was immediately begun and near the residence of C. H. Stucker the lifeless body of the young man was found lying in the road. Near the scene of the accident was a large pile of ashes in the street and it is generally believed that the buggy struck this with great force, frightening the horses and throwing the young man out. He was about 26 years old and was a nephew of William Dowling. At the last term of court he spent several days in Kentland serving on the petit jury.

Morocco

Lake Township Girl Wins Spelling Bee. Miss Maymie L. Davis of the Lake Village School won first prize in the county spelling contest at Morocco Saturday, and Miss Sophia

Hanson, of the same school, captured the second prize. The eleventh prize also went to the Lake Village school, the fourth, sixth and seventh to Colfax township, and the eighth and ninth to Lincoln township, giving to the three north townships eight out of the twelve prizes. The contest was a splendid success. It opened at 1:30 o'clock in the Morocco public school building, and the assembly room was filled with visitors, school patrons and teachers and friends of the contestants. Superintendent Schanlaub explained the rules under which the contest would be held, and named Mrs. Elbert Kessler, Mrs. Audrey Ellis and Mrs. George Murphey as judges. L. Paris Bulta pronounced the words in the oral contest and Rev. Bates in the written contest. Thirty-nine contestants took their place on the floor, representing every school corporation in the county excepting Kentland.

Washington Township/ Mt. Zion Neighborhood

Jerome Voglund is moving to the farm recently vacated by Harry Herriman.

Mr. & Mrs. James Whaley celebrated their silver anniversary Saturday. In the evening about 140 friends surprised them and spent a most delightful hour.

April 18 - New Brick Church to Be Built at Mt. Zion. One of the Oldest Religious Organizations in County to Have New Home. A new \$7,000 brick church is to be built in Washington township. This fact was determined at a meeting of the trustees and building committee Tuesday after a few hours canvass when over \$4,000 was subscribed to the building fund. The United Brethren church was organized in this county in an early day and the Mt. Zion class is one of the oldest U. B. societies in northwestern Indiana. For a few years services were held in a log church near the home of George Herriman. In 1869 those of the church residing in west Washington built a new church and called it Mt. Zion. A few years later River Chapel was erected in the eastern part of the township. Since the building of the Mt. Zion church there have been services almost continuously, and Sunday School every Sunday. The congregation numbers about 140, the most of whom are well to do farmers. The trustees are James Whaley, Elmer Light and Lemuel Riskey, and these gentlemen, together with the

pastor, Rev. W. B. Taylor, and a committee of five, C. E. Hatch, Lewis Kenoyer, George Spitler, James Padgett and Abner Whaley, will constitute the building committee. The committee expects to erect a brick church to cost between six and seven thousand dollars, and work will be started on the new edifice as soon as plans can be secured and a contract let.

Goodland

Passenger Train Derailed Near West Lebanon Thursday afternoon. Four persons were killed and 36 injured in a wreck that occurred Thursday afternoon on the Wabash railroad near the town of West Lebanon in Warren county. Among the injured was D. E. L. Mitten, of Goodland, who was cut about the scalp and face and had one wrist and one ankle sprained. Bonfires were built along the railroad track and West Lebanon people made coffee and performed whatever aid they could for the sufferers.

Brook

Davis & Stonehill report quite a brisk business in the automobile line, having so far this season sold sixteen cars, most of which has

been delivered, seven Overland and nine Ford cars. They report new Overland car owners as W. D. Sell, J. E. Stonehill, Otto Hareth, Chris Burton, of this place, and Thomas Mulligan of Kentland, and new Ford owners as Bert Miller, Henry and John U. Myers.

Lake Village

The Lake Village blacksmith shop has been re-opened and ready to accommodate customers in general blacksmithing. Horse shoeing a specialty. Also agent for farm implements and refined oils. Earl Warner, Proprietor

Roselawn

John W. Crooks, the Roselawn druggist, was placed under arrest Thursday by Deputy Sheriff Walter Rainford, on a charge made by Lewis Wein, Jr. who is said to be in the employ of the anti-saloon league. There are said to be three affidavits to the effect that Crooks sold liquor in half pint quantities without a doctor's prescription. Crooks was brought to Kentland Friday and placed under bond. His bondsmen are Harry Baxter and Humphrey Barber.

Stop in the Resource Center and check out the many local history books that we have for sale to the public.
 "Ralph, The Story of Bogus Island"
 "Hoosier Hunting Ground"
 "Newton County Landmarks"
 "Beaver Lake, Land of Enchantment"
 Past editions of the *Newcomer*
 Post Cards - Coloring Books

We are looking for volunteers to work at our Resource Center. One day a month is all that is required, but more would be greatly appreciated. We also could use some help transcribing records for placement on our web site. This can be done from your home - anywhere in the world if you have internet access! Send us an email if you can help newtonhs@ffni.com or call us at 219-474-6944

More Lake Village Memories from Ed and Joanne (Iwinski) Miller

"Last night I saw my brother Ed Iwinski Jr. for the first time in 14 years! We had an amazing time at dinner and swapped a few Lake Village stories as the night went on. I want to share this one particular story with everyone. Make sure you read the entire story especially the end.

"When Ed, whom I refer to as Eddie, was a young boy he used to help our mother with pumping gas at the gas station. Now mind you this was in the late 1940s. Our mother Alvina and her mother Emily Schmidt ran the gas station and diner in Lake Village. Times were different than they are today obviously. Back in those days the main highway ran through Lake Village. If you were traveling from Chicago going south on Highway 41, chances are you went through our tiny town.

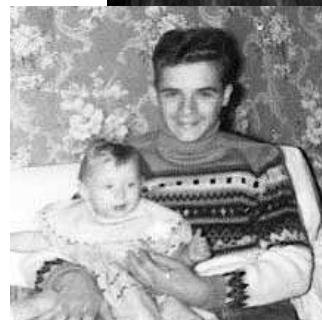
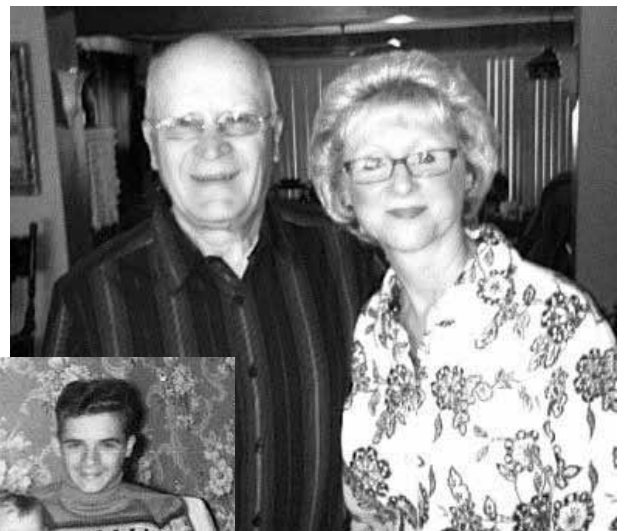
"Black folks traveling along that highway were a lot of times met with prejudice and racism. One time a black man went to the back door of the diner and asked if he could buy sandwiches. Our grandmother said "of course, but you go right around to the front, have a seat and we will serve you."

"Some gas stations along that highway would not allow blacks to use the bathrooms, eat in the diners or even buy gas. Our mother and grandmother were God-fearing Christian women. To them, and I remember hearing it myself throughout the years, "All men were created as equals". Travelers black, white or any other race were treated with respect and were allowed to be serviced as equals.

"Word spread among the black travelers and they always stopped at the gas station and did business with our family. They told their families and friends and business grew because of this.

"Now back to the beginning of the story. My brother used to pump gas for our mother. He always pumped gas for black travelers and treated them with upmost respect. One black man in particular used to stop as he traveled weekly and my brother pumped gas for the

man. One day the man stopped in and my brother was not outside pumping gas. So the man came in and asked my grandmother and mother "Where is Eddie today?" and to "be sure to tell him he was in to say hi!" So my mother asked what was his name so she could tell him, the man replied "Hank Aaron." Yes, the famous baseball player was one of our regulars in Lake Village. Of course they asked for his autograph and of course my brother still has that slip of paper. My brother told me that Hank Aaron had the first Sinclair gas card he ever saw and it was metal. My brother said to me "amazing a man like that asked for Eddie by name!" Great Story! - Submitted by Joanne (Iwinski) Miller



Thanks to Ed and Joanne for sharing their Lake Village and Conrad memories and photos. Here they are today, and when they were children (lower left).



1953-54 Mt. Ayr High School Band

First row, l-r: Donna Lindahl, Sharell Schultz, Suzie Roadruck, Reba Lamb; Second row, l-4: Ronnie Blankenbaker, Geraldine Baldwin, Geradine Able, Carol Warne, Beradine Schoon, Carol Haidacher; third row, l-r: Clara Arnold, Judy Hoon, Patricia Pieper, Marge Murphy, Penny Williams, Beverly Bupp, Lois Brunton, Marcia Clark, Kirk Clark, Mr. S. Amsler, Director; Fourth row, l-r: Ronnie Hickman, Judith Cupp, Patricia Kriz, Mike Murphy, Donald Hoon, Scott Clark, Gary Clark, Harold Clevinger, Janet Merriman; Fifth row, l-r: Judy Sullivan, Harold Smith, Walter Leichty, Virginia Sutherlin, Marvin Baldwin, Richard Rusk, Peggy Williams, Carol Collings, Roger Chamberlain, Darrel Elijah. *Submitted by Judy (Cupp) Schultz.*

The Newcomer

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc.
Post Office Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Local Historical Compilations Underway

There are two history books that are currently being compiled locally for publication in the very near future.

They are looking in particular for family histories and photos. Old historical photos are in need of the area, and you can email them to us. We prefer a high resolution for publication. A JPG at max if you scan them as 300 dpi work. Please tag each photo with description, history that you know about them and so forth. All photos will be returned as quickly as possible. Please contact the individuals listed for more information.

"The Mt. Ayr, Jackson and Colfax Township Historical Collection." Contact Donna LaCosse at 219-285-2861. email newtonhs@ffni.com. This book is being published by the Family History Division of the Newton County Historical Society.

"History of Goodland and Grant Township." Contact Anne Meyer at jmamgood@mchsi.com or Karen Schuette at kasch67@embarqmail.com. They are heading up an independent committee that will publish their book.

You may also contact each party if interested in reserving a copy for your personal collection.

PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT
NUMBER 27
BROOK, IN 47922

The Newcomer is a publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. A 501(3)c approved organization. Send membership dues/inquiries to: PO Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951; 219-474-6944 - newtonhs@ffni.com; Officers of the Newton County Historical Society: President, Bernie Murphy, Kentland; Vice President, Russ Collins, Kentland; Secretary, Becky Lyons, Brook; Treasurer, Darlene Truby, Kentland; Member at Large, Sig Boezeman, DeMotte, County Historian, Diana Elijah, Morocco; Ex-Officio, Janet Miller, Kentland. Printing by Rensselaer PRINTCO.