

May the hard work, the foresight, the determination, the inventiveness, and the ingenuity of our pioneer ancestors serve as an inspiration to us in preserving what we can of their rich heritage.
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Dues are valid January 1- December 31 of current year.
Membership includes free copies of **The Newcomer**.

The Newcomer

A publication of the NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. BOX 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Just a reminder, our 2008 membership begins in January and ends in December. Notices will be mailed in December! Remember, memberships make great gifts!

What's On Our Agenda . . .

The Newton County Historical Society meets every fourth Monday of each month, on the same day, the Family History Division meets at 2:00 at the Resource Center in Kentland and the Society general meetings are held in different locations in the County at 7:00 p.m. Local members are notified of the place and time each month.

Resource Center Hours - all CST - Monday and Thursday, 1:00-5:00; Friday 11:00-3:00, located at the junction of U.S. 24 and 4th Street, 310 E. Seymour, Kentland, Indiana.

The Newcomer

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. A 501(c)(3) approved organization.

Articles for submission are encouraged and may be sent to The Editor, P. O. Box 303, Kentland, IN 47951. newtonhs@ffni.com

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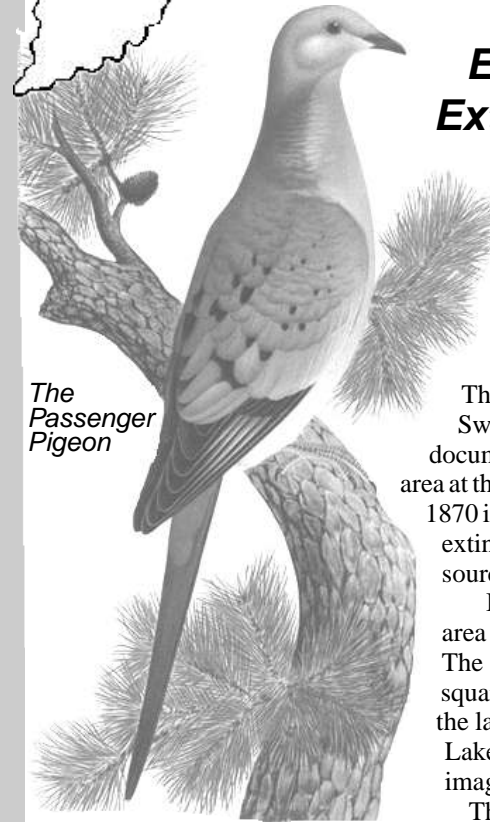
The Newcomer

Volume 12, Issue Three
Summer/Fall 2007
\$2.25

A publication of the NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
Indiana's YOUNGEST County

Endangered, Extirpated and Extinct Birds of Newton County

By Beth Bassett



The Passenger Pigeon

Several species of birds at one time migrated through northwest Newton County for hundreds of years, some of them are endangered, extirpated (no longer occurs in Indiana, but occurs elsewhere,) or extinct (not found anywhere.) The Indiana Audubon Association has a web site that lists these birds, five of them known to have migrated or nested in Newton County.

The Passenger Pigeon, the Carolina Parakeet, Trumpeter Swan, Whooping Crane and the Great Prairie Chicken. Not documented, but also may have been here due to the fauna of our area at the time, was the Eskimo Curlew. A few of them were noted in 1870 in White and Knox Counties. Oddly, its extinction was due to extinction of the Rocky Mountain Grasshopper—a primary food source for the species during its northward migration.

Beaver Lake and its surrounding swampland constituted an area of 36,000 acres amounting to one-seventh of our county. The lake itself was an open body of water approximately 25 square miles or 16,000 acres in size. To get an idea of how large the lake was, one should stand on the bank of the J. C. Murphey Lake at the Willow Slough Fish and Wildlife Area, and then imagine a body of water eleven times larger.

The lake covered most of McClellan Township, extending into Lake Township on the north, Colfax Township on the east, almost to the Illinois state line on the west, and to within a few miles of Morocco on the south. The 36,000 acre tract of lake and swamp began just above the Oakland cemetery and extended seven and one-half miles north, roughly to the site of the old town of Conrad. At its greatest width, it extended ten miles. There were two other small lakes nearby, Little Lake and Mud Lake, located south and east of Beaver Lake in Colfax Township. Beaver Lake was the largest body of water in the state of Indiana in its time. It was a shallow lake, at its deepest point it was only 12 to 14 feet deep.

John Ade, historian and one of the founding fathers of our county wrote, "It was celebrated as a wonderful fishing resort, and amazing stories were told of the vast numbers of birds caught, sometimes by a single draw of the seine. At certain times of the year, myriads of geese, ducks and swan as well as other game birds would be found there. As a spot for hunting and fishing it had not an equal in any other part of the state."

In Elmore Barce's book, "Beaver Lake, Land of Enchantment," he described the Passenger Pigeon's migrations as follows: "With the coming of the first mild day of spring and with the blowing warm winds from the south the pinions of these flyers filled the whole heavens from the east to the west, the north to the south—in the words of the ancient chronicler, 'neither beginning nor ending, length or breadth, of these millions and millions.'"

One sportsman who observed the scene at Beaver Lake and the nearby swamps of the Kankakee River marsh during the transitional phase of the lake was Morocco physician L. H. Recher, whose office walls were filled with stuffed and mounted wildlife of the region. In 1916 he penned this description of the area as he found it in 1860. "Indiana, 40 years ago, was famous for the wild fowl shooting it afforded. Hunters came from all parts of the country to the Kankakee marshes.

"Perhaps the greatest refuge for wild fowl around 1885 was the Gaff reservation in Beaver Township. Thousands of acres of marshland, including Little Beaver Lake, were fenced in and policed by a force of constables in the employ of the Gaffs, of Cincinnati, who used the land in the summer time for grazing cattle. Big Beaver Lake had been drained and converted into cornfields. Mallards and wood ducks bred in the reservation and other migratory wild fowl, including white swans, rested there in comparative security, except for the fusillade of shotguns that assailed them as they entered and left the

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Landowners 1874-76 Jefferson Township

reservations one

“What was known as the South Kankakee Marsh comprised about 10,000 acres, which was the roosting place for wild fowl at night. It is no exaggeration to say that almost every foot of the marsh was covered with wildfowl.”

The Passenger Pigeon

Prior to 1898, the Passenger Pigeon migrated and nested in Indiana. Spring migration took place mostly in February and March. In some years, fall migrants arrived in Southern Indiana in September, but most passed on southward as severe weather occurred. Timothy H. Ball reported that immense numbers used to be present in Lake County in August, and there are accounts of large numbers passing through the general region in September.

The Passenger Pigeon was once the most common bird in North America. It is estimated that there were as many as five billion in the United States at the time Europeans colonized North America. They lived in enormous flocks, and during migration, one could see flocks of them a mile wide and 300 miles long, taking several days to pass.

The Passenger Pigeon was a very social bird, practicing communal breeding with up to a hundred nests in a single tree.

There are surprisingly few data regarding nesting, probably because the abundance of the birds and the general feeling at the time that recording egg dates, number of nests, and other details of nesting were unimportant. Nesting reports were confirmed in Newton County. They were said to have nested “in great abundance” along the Kankakee River. Most authorities agree that this pigeon normally laid a single egg per nest, so two-egg clutches must be viewed with suspicion.

Sightings of passenger pigeons were falsely reported for many years after the species became extinct in Indiana, and it is difficult to determine just when the last one actually graced our area. The last recorded sighting was on April 3, 1902 in Franklin County. This is a woodland bird, and by 1900 many of the great forests that once covered Indiana, including oak and beech woods that had provided most of the pigeons' shelter, food and nesting areas were gone.

The primary factor in the decimation of the bird began when pigeon meat was commercialized as a cheap food for slaves and the poor in the 19th century, resulting in hunting in massive scale. There was a slow

decline in their numbers between about 1800 and 1870, followed by a catastrophic decline between 1870 and 1890, at the end of which they were rare and beyond the point of recovery. “Martha,” thought to be the world's last passenger pigeon, died on September 1, 1914 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Trumpeter Swan

Our area was the extreme eastern edge of the trumpeter swan's breeding range and with the drainage of the lake, initiated in the 1850s, was practically completed thirty years later, and may have been an important factor in the disappearance of the swan as a nesting bird in Indiana.

Surrounding states have introduced the trumpeter swans in the last 20 years, and it now winters in Indiana in low numbers. A few birds have been seen in summer in recent years, and it is likely that it will be found nesting in Indiana at some point in the next 10-20 years.

If measured in terms of weight and length, the Trumpeter Swan is the largest native North American bird, and the largest waterfowl species on earth. Males typically measure from 57-64 inches and weigh 26 lbs.; females range from 55-60 inches and weigh 22 lbs. Exceptionally long male Trumpeters can reach a length of a 72 inch wingspan and weigh 38 pounds.

These birds have white plumage with a long neck, a black bill subtly marked with a salmon-pink along the mouth line, and short black legs. The young are grey in appearance, becoming white after the first year.

Their breeding habitat is large shallow ponds and wide slow rivers. The female lays 3 to 9 eggs in a mound of plant material on a small island, a beaver or muskrat lodge, or floating platform. The same location may be used for several years. The eggs weigh about 11.3 oz., with an incubation period of 32 to 37 days. These birds often mate for life, with both parents participating in the incubation and brooding. The young are able to swim within two days and usually are capable of feeding themselves after almost two weeks.

Fledgling stage is reached at 3 to 4 months.

These birds feed while swimming, sometimes up-ending or dabbling to reach submerged food. The diet is almost entirely aquatic plants. In winter, they may also eat grasses and grains in fields. The young are fed on insects and small crustaceans along with plants at first, changing to a vegetation-based diet over the first few months. The bird was named for its trumpet-like honk which some compare to the sound of a French horn.

The trumpeter swan found its home during certain times of the year at Beaver Lake. Barce described it as “the largest of North American wild fowl, and the most graceful voyager in the upper air.”

Ned Barker, who grew up on Beaver Lake, recalled, “Standing on Bogus Island I have seen hundreds of acres of these swans at a time. At a distance they looked like a white island and would remain in the same locality for a month at a time, feeding on



The Trumpeter Swan. Source: Wikipedia.org

water celery. They would then pair off and locate a nesting area in the swamp.”

In the published “The Birds of Indiana,” Mumford and Kelley, A. W. Schorger (1964) researched the bird and concluded from written interview of several early residents that the birds nested at what was then Black Marsh in the Beaver Lake area as late as 1872 or 1873. The settlers told of taking the eggs from these nests and hatching them under a domestic goose or hen. Swans reared this way were reputedly easily tamed. They said the swans laid from five to seven eggs per nest. These nests were on floating bogs in the marsh, very treacherous quagmires of moss or turf. One could easily sink down into the ooze and slime and

Newton County Historical Society

2007 McCray Scholarship Winners

North Newton High School, Phylcia Kelly

The Town of Conrad

About seven years ago, I moved to the small town of Lake Village here in Newton County. Everyday on the way to school we passed the Conrad Curves on US 41. I did not know this particular area, south of Lake Village, as the Conrad Curves. It was just another road on the way to school. Little did I know, these curves are the only part of the town of Conrad that was once built and now known as the Ghost Town? How and why did the town diminish? Who started the so-called town? What was the town like?

Jennie M. Conrad inherited six thousand acres of land from her parents and became the founder and owner of the town of Conrad. The dynasty of the town began with the draining of Beaver Lake, which was the largest in Indiana. The town was all marshland and was then drained and transferred to agricultural. Jennie Conrad was quite a business woman. As she was in the process of developing this town, she designed her own blue print of exactly what the town would look like. The town consisted of a store, stockyard, saloon, blacksmith shop, cement block factory, church, hotel, and many houses. She painted the entire town the color of yellow as a way of marking her property. Why yellow, everyone says? It is an ugly color, but it was the color that Jennie M. Conrad set for her town. She named the town and the streets after her husband, her son, her relatives and other unknown people (History of Newton County.)

Jennie was also the largest breeder of the spotted Poland China Hogs. She raised and sold hogs and they became widely known. Her livestock operation was about 7,000 acres. She was very famous for this developing town in Lake Village, but she definitely was not well liked (Morocco History.)

Jennie M. Conrad was a woman dressed in her men's clothing, riding in her carriage pulled by two horses, with a shotgun at her side to run people off of her property. She was a very rugged, aggressive woman in which no one cared for her. She had trouble keeping hired help; she couldn't stand people on her property therefore, some worked only stayed for a few weeks. There are stories about how she would ride out on her horse and buggy with her German police dog and run people off her land. She would go out when people or children would go berry picking or apple grazing on her property and she used her whip on them. Jennie Conrad did not get along with most of the civilians of Lake Village. Since there was much hatred between her and the community, Jennie Conrad would travel five miles out of her way to Schneider or Lowell to catch a train rather than staying and boarding in Lake Village. Jennie tried to avoid the town members as well as they tried to avoid her (History of Newton County.)

The decline of the town took place in the early 1900s when the school was closed. After the school closed, the rest of the town began to diminish. Jennie could not hold on to the town any longer. It was hard already because of her relationship with the people of the community. It came to be that only 20 or 30 people lived there and little by little the town and people disappeared. After the people left, the railroad pulled out. Then, it became hard to hold on to the town because without a railroad, Jennie could not take care of her cattle or businesses the way she should have. She had to sell her property little by little just to make it (History of Newton County.)

It was said that when Jennie died in 1939, she had only 1,597 acres left of her entire town. Still today, there are a few foundations and unpaved roads that are dreams of Jennie M. Conrad and her developing town (History of Newton County.)

South Newton High School, Phillip J. Westrick

The 2006 South Newton Rebel Football Team

If someone was asked to write a paper covering a historical point of interest in Newton County, he may go ahead and pick an entity such as the Newton County Court House, Beaver Lake and its infamous Bogus Island, or even the homestead of George Ade. While these are all very important places in the history of Newton County, I believe that another topic exists

that will be more exciting for the reader to read. I of course am talking about the grassy field on which the 2006 South Newton Rebels fought with their might to earn very prestigious titles and created an exciting chapter in that history book of Newton County. It was here that they brought together not only the school, they also connected the community, and they set themselves up to enter the history books of South Newton.

The success of the rebels for the 2006 season brought a great unity to all the students attending South Newton High School. It was here that we would come in on Mondays to see the new decorations and of course the updated ranking of the football team. It was at the lunchroom on Fridays where “We are the Champions,” and “We will Rock You” would be played. Fridays were filled with “Hey are you going to the game tonight?” We would also have pep session schedule almost every Friday. The season success brought together cliques of people that would not usually interact with each other. Not only was the school unified by the success of the Rebels, the community also came together to congratulate and recognize the football success.

The communities of Brook, Goodland, and Kentland all played a big part in the support of the Rebels during the 2006 football season. Almost every downtown business in Kentland used window paint to paint either a scene or a quote that would connect their business while congratulating the Rebels. One such window, which resided on the front of NAPA in Kentland read, “NAPA Knows Auto parts . . . South Newton knows Football.” The Newton County Enterprise also has great coverage of the weeks past game during their weekly printing. Local radio stations were making sure that the rebels were broadcasted so that the entire community could experience the thrill and rush of South Newton's last minute comebacks for wins. All of this success would create a very important place in the history books of Newton County for the 2006 South Newton Rebel Football Team.

The rebels earned many awards during their winning stint of 2006. They were undefeated with a record of 9-0, they were the Newton County Champions, Midwest Conference Champions, Sectional Champions, and finally were Regional Champions. Those who attended a South Newton game during either the regular season Pioneer game, or the post season Regional game will recall the very exciting, adrenaline driving force of South Newton's late game winning success. They were the first team in school history to become regional champions. Thanks to a certain Ms. Lori Murphy their season was very well photographed so that other generations can enjoy the excitement that we were given the opportunity to enjoy this year as well.

So while the 2006 Rebel Football Team may not have any place in current history books on Newton County, they may not have a chronological records of title transfers in the county recorder's office, they will always have a place in the back of our minds for anyone that was lucky enough to enjoy the spectacle that was the 2006 South Newton Rebel's Football Team.

2008 McCray Scholarship Information

The society encourages high school seniors from both North Newton and South Newton High School who are continuing their education after graduation to submit an essay regarding the history of Newton County.

This year, one scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$500.00 to the most worthy entry from all the entries of both schools.

Guidelines, topics and deadlines are available from the High School Guidance Department at both schools.

Be sure to read the enclosed flyer in this edition regarding the McCray Scholarship.

Newton County Historical Publications/Post Cards Available

?Postcards of Newton County

Series includes 7 different views of the current and past Courthouse, one view of Bogus Island. \$1.00 each or the entire set \$8.00 plus tax.

?“An Archaeological Report On Newton County” Soft cover \$5.00 plus tax.

Written by Joseph E. Hiestand in 1951, and published originally by the Indiana Historical Bureau. There are more than 45 Indian villages and 51 campsites identified and described in this reprint of the original publication.

?“Beaver Lake, The Land of Enchantment” - Hard cover \$20.00, soft cover \$10.00 plus tax.

Written by Elmore Barce in 1938 after his visit with Alexander Lanier Barker near his cabin, east of Sumava Resorts, and listened to his inimitable tales of Beaver Lake and it's surrounding area. Barce felt that after a life of seventy-six years, “Ned” Barker, the stories and traditions that came from this visit were worthy of publication.

?The Morocco Sesquicentennial Historical Collection - \$60.00 plus tax.

Over 400 pages, 200 photographs and 13,000 family names are included in this one-of-a-kind publication, compiled by Gerald Born and Beth Bassett in 2002. Articles written by local historians Gerald Born, Clay Blaney and Donna LaCosse, featuring the earliest settlers, businesses, community organizations, churches, friends and neighbors, are complimented with photographs from that era. Family histories, Beaver Lake, Bogus Island, Sam Rice, Jennie Conrad, The Gaff Ranch, the “Wildcat” Bank of North America, Indian Chiefs Turkey Foot and Bull, are just a few of the people, places and things that make up the heritage of Beaver Township and the Town of Morocco.

?The Newton County Historical Coloring Book - \$5.00 plus tax

Line drawings suitable for coloring with captions using Newton County Landmarks drawn by local artists and a must for anyone interested in Newton County History. Suitable for youngsters and adults alike, this unique view of the county is informative, educational and a delight to view.

?“Ralph, The Story of Bogus Island” - \$5.00 plus tax

Originally written by Jethro Hatch as a serial for the Newton County Enterprise, this romantic tale of old Beaver Lake country and the island that stood in its midst captures the essence of the era when the banditti made the island their home. Interwoven is a tale of a boy who was orphaned, raised by a family who lived near the lake, searches for the truth about who he is and where he originated, meets a girl, falls in love and the resulting adventures of his quest.

?Morocco Centennial Days (Only in Compact Disc) - \$20.00 plus tax.

The Morocco Sesquicentennial Celebration has prompted a look backward to the events of the Morocco Centennial of fifty years ago. Photographs of the pageant and parade are featured with documents relating to the events which have been offered to the Society for its use. These, along with the Centennial booklet written by Ruth Corbin have been combined to form a unique view of those events of long ago.

?“The Newcomer” (Limited copies available) One Year Group - \$10.00 or \$2.25 each, plus tax.

The official newsletter of the Newton County Historical Society began in April of 1994. Initially published quarterly through 1996, and then published once again in the winter of 1999, it continues today as a link to Society members.

To order any of these publications, please send check or money order payable to the Newton County Historical Society to P.O. Box 303, Kentland, IN 47951. Please include \$3.00 postage and handling for each publication ordered, and 6% tax for Indiana customers. The Resource Center located at 310 E. Seymour Street, Kentland, Indiana is open on Monday afternoon 1-5, and Friday, 11:00 - 3:00 CST, or contact County Historian Donna LaCosse at 219-285-2861 to place an order for your books. All proceeds utilized for future publications.

NOW YOU KNOW!

Janet Miller's
Answers to
Do You Know?

1. In the 1933 diary of Dr. Recher, Morocco, he attended patients in Mottville by the name of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kutcyk. Another resident was Simon Filipek. According to the diary, Mottville was three miles northwest of Lake Village. Can anyone give us any more information? Was this in Newton County?

2. The five items given to a Civil War prisoner when he left the Michigan City prison were: a horse, a rifle, \$20.00, a dog and a chew of tobacco.

3. Enos was at one time called by the name Oak Grove.

4. Mr. Hershman's biography states that the first gravel road ever built in the county was the Lincoln Township gravel road, that being the first modern highway in Newton County. Does anyone know which road the biography is referring to?

5. The old Pogue depot was torn down by the DNR. The bricks were dumped into Murphey Lake on the west side of the Willow Slough headquarters to make a boat ramp.

Demonstration Notice!

Our new microfilm reader will be professionally installed on
Thursday, December 6, 2007
at 1:00 pm. at our
Resource Center in Kentland.

A demonstration and training session will be held, and anyone who is interested in learning about this new piece of equipment is invited to attend.

The training session should only last about one hour. We have added several new rolls of microfilm to our collection!

We hope to see you there - and bring a friend!!

decayed vegetation beneath, which was eight to ten feet in depth. According to one resident, “the nest of the swan was always in a position where the water could seep up through the soil from below. Occasionally the mother bird would thoroughly drench her feathers, stand up over the nest and shake herself, so as to sprinkle the eggs.” It has been assumed that the trumpeter swan nested in this region because of the submerged aquatic plants called “swan celery” that grew in Beaver Lake.

L. H. Recher wrote “one of the prettiest sights in the Gaff reservation was the view of six or eight flocks of swans high above the marsh, seemingly playing leapfrog under the direction of a leader. One of the swans could be heard giving a call then others would take short flights and make somersaults in the air. The wild swan, whether floating on the water or playing in the air, with the sun shining on its white feathers, is the most graceful of birds.”

John D. Sink, a long time resident of Lincoln township, and in a 1901 memoir in the Newton County Enterprise provided the following description which shows how dense the waterfowl was in this hunter's paradise, “To hear the early settlers tell of the game seen in those days sounds like fiction, but the largest bird killing story told is that of W. and Isaac Knight killing 140 swan one afternoon in the Black Marsh, and of the latter killing 24 mallard ducks at one shot, and quite a number that were winged escaped in the tall grass.”

The Whooping Crane

This splendid crane, once reportedly present in unknown numbers in Indiana, passed from the Hoosier scene before much was recorded concerning it. By 1897, the whooping crane was a rare migrant to our area. The last Indiana sighting was April 4, 1907 in DeKalb County.

The Whooping Crane is named for its whooping call, is a very large and one of the tallest North American birds. Adult cranes are white; they have a red crown and a long, dark, pointed bill while the immature cranes are pale brown. They have long dark legs which trail behind in flight and a long neck that is kept straight in flight. Black wing tips can be seen in flight on the adult crane.

The species stands nearly 5 feet tall with a wingspan of 7.5 feet. Males weigh on average of 16.5 lbs., while females weigh

about 14.3 lbs. They nest on the ground, usually on a raised area in a marsh. The female lays one to three eggs, usually in late April to mid May. The blotchy, olive-colored eggs average about 2.5 inches in breadth and 4 inches in length. The incubation period is 29-35 days. Both parents brood the young, although the



The Whooping Crane. Source: Wikipedia.org

female is more likely to directly tend to the young. Usually no more than one young bird survives in a season. The parents often feed the young for 6-8 months after birth and they are generally out on their own after about one year.

The Whooping Crane forages while walking in shallow water or in fields, sometimes probing with their bills. Fish, berries, snakes and aquatic plants, as well as smaller birds, mice, frogs, dragonflies, and other aquatic insects and more are part of their diet.

Observers often heard their wild cries but could seldom see them as they passed flying overhead in the early evening, about dusk. There was never very many, and they always headed southwest.

In the spring of 1983, it was reported that there were three different sightings in the northwestern part of the state where nine to ten birds were believed to be whooping cranes. Although this may seem unlikely, all of the observers stressed that the sightings involved large white, long-necked and long-legged birds with black wingtips. One group was in a field with Sandhill Cranes.

The Carolina Parakeet

This bird was only known to have been in southern Indiana and the species pretty much extirpated from the state by the mid 1800's. There are no known claims or records of the bird from northern Indiana except maybe a few dubious reports. Southern Indiana would have formed the

species' extreme northern edge to its breeding range. It could have occurred in Newton County, but probably well before European settlers moved in, if at all.

The Greater Prairie Chicken

The Greater Prairie Chicken is a large bird in the grouse family. Once abundant, it has become extremely rare or extinct over much of its range due to habitat loss. One of the most famous aspects of these creatures is their beautiful mating ritual called booming.

Adults of both sexes are 14 inches tall, medium sized, stocky, and round-winged. Their tails are short, round and dark. Adult males have yellow-orange combs over their eyes. Males also have dark, elongated head feathers that can be raised or lain along the neck. A circular, orange unfeathered neck patch can be inflated while displaying. Adult females have shorter head feathers and lack the male's yellow comb and orange neck patch.

These birds prefer undisturbed prairie and were originally found in tall grass prairies. They can tolerate agricultural land mixed with prairie, but the more agricultural land the less prairie chickens. Their diet consists of primarily seeds and fruit but during the summer they also eat insects and green plants.

The Greater Prairie Chicken is not threatened by severe winter weather. When the snow is thick, they “dive” into the snow to keep warm. A greater threat comes in the spring rains. These sometimes drenching rains can wreak havoc on their chicks. Another major natural threat is drought, which can destroy food and make it difficult for chicks.

Prairie Chickens do not migrate. They are territorial birds and often defend their booming grounds. These booming grounds are the area in which they perform their displays in hopes of attracting females. Their displays consist of inflating air sacs located on the side of their neck and snapping their tails. These booming grounds usually have very short or no vegetation. The male stays on this ground displaying for almost two months. The breeding season usually begins in April or early May. During this time the males establish booming sites where they display for the females. The one or two most dominant males will do about 90% of the mating. After mating has taken place, the females will move about one mile from the booming grounds and begin to build their nests. Hens lay between 5 and 17 eggs per

clutch and the eggs take between 23 and 24 days to hatch. There are between five and nine young per brood. The young are raised by the female and fledge in one to four weeks, are completely independent by the tenth to twelfth week, and reach sexual maturity by age one.

One problem facing the Prairie Chicken is the ring neck pheasant. Pheasants will lay their eggs in the chicken's nest. Their eggs will hatch first; this causes the prairie chickens to leave the nest thinking that the young have hatched.

Mumford and Keller's "Birds of Indiana" gave an account of this species in Newton County.

"A few miles north of Enos (Newton County), it was possible in the spring of 1950 to stand in one spot and listen to greater prairie chickens booming simultaneously on at least four different booming grounds. North, south, and east of Bogus Island was some of the best remaining prairie chicken habitat in Indiana and bird watchers would flock to the region each April to watch (and listen to) the birds perform their distinctive courtship display-one of Nature's prize shows. On a cold, cloudy, windy morning in April 1950 (not unusual for Newton County at this season), Mumford was fortunate enough to witness the last large gathering of prairie chickens on an Indiana booming ground. The site had been original prairie, first plowed in 1949 and planted to wheat. Seventy-five male prairie chickens were performing on the courting grounds-strutting, giving their low, moaning calls, cackling, squabbling, jumping into the air, and otherwise engaged in their ritual dance. The following spring, less than half this number returned to the booming ground, and later the site was abandoned altogether as the birds disappeared from the region. Those early April mornings were memorable, for there were shorebirds and waterfowl on the wetter prairie sites, and Smith's longspurs and Lapland longspurs in huge flocks. Once, when we were watching prairie chickens booming from a nearby blind, a large flock of lesser golden-plover alighted amidst the courting birds and remained feeding with them for a short time.

"Butler listed the prairie chicken as a resident and "formerly very abundant over the original prairie district and now approximately confined to that district." He further stated, "In most places becoming scarce, in some very rare." It was evidently an abundant species in the mid-1880s, for

one shipment from Michigan City to Chicago in 1851 contained 6,000 birds. About the same time, 20,000 were shipped from Lake County, Indiana, to Detroit, within six weeks (Schorger, 1944). The Prairie Chicken formerly occurred in at least forty-four counties.

"The hunting season on prairie chickens was closed in 1909; hunting was again allowed (on a limited basis) in 1915. The Commissioner of Fisheries and Game wrote that in 1912 there were certainly more than 100,000 greater prairie chickens in the state. We suspect that this number was considerably larger than the actual population. In any event, it was found necessary to close the hunting season again in 1937 for a five-year period. But there were only about 1,000 birds left in Indiana by 1941, and the hunting season was never reopened. Personnel of the Indiana Division of Fish and Game, as it was then called, began an annual census of all known prairie chicken booming grounds in the spring of 1942 and continued it until 1973, when no more courting birds could be found.

"The prairie chicken thrives on native prairie grasslands, which provided food, cover, and open spots with low vegetation for booming grounds. The original prairies of Indiana were well suited to the birds, but unfortunately the rich prairie soils were found capable of producing high yields of corn, soybeans, and other crops.

For a time, the establishment of pastures of Reed canary grass postponed the extirpation of the prairie chicken on some lands, but changes of farm ownership and land use and the eventual elimination of virtually every acre of original prairie eventually spelled doom. Even the fences, telephone wires, power lines, windmills, and buildings that sprang up on the flat prairies were hazards; many birds were killed when they flew into such new obstacles.

We have little information regarding the nesting of this grouse in Indiana. Nests were on the ground and in eight nests for which we have records the clutch size ranged from ten to eighteen and averaged

thirteen. Eggs were observed in nests from about April 26 to July 4. Nest sites included prairie grasses, railroad rights-of-way, and clover fields. The birds evidently nested about marsh borders, for on June 5, 1892, Ruthven Deane found seven prairie chicken nests under water due to flooding at English Lake (Starke County). The last recorded prairie chicken nest in Indiana was found on June 13, 1964, in Newton County. Several of us examined it, and the fourteen eggs it contained were pipping. The last brood observed, to our knowledge, was by Russell R. Hyer, who saw a hen with nine chicks along the Jasper-Newton County line on May 25, 1970."

In the 1950's an attempt was made to maintain the last remaining flock in Newton County. The Department of Natural Resources purchased 640 acres of land just north of North Newton High School. However, in 1970, the last Greater Prairie Chicken died. At that time, the land was handed over to the DNR's division of Nature Preserves for a natural area.



The Greater Prairie Chicken. Source: Wikipedia.org

Sources used for this account were many. John Yost's preliminary draft of his history of Bogus Island; Mumford and Keller's "Birds of Indiana;" Mike Schoonveld's column, *Newton County Enterprise*, September 19, 2007, "Outdoor World-Prairie Chicken Refuge Deer Hunt;" the knowledge and resources of Don Gorney, the Indiana Audubon Society; and the web site, Wikipedia.org.

Understanding Epitaphs On Tombstones

Deciphering old epitaphs can be difficult until the eye becomes used to the flourishes and styles of old calligraphy expressed in stone. An immediate guide though can be offered to unlock some of the Latin inscriptions – here is a useful key to have when visiting old graveyards (all are garnered from actual tombstones.)

A. D. (Anno Domini) - In the Year of Our Lord

Ad perpetuam rei memoriam - For a perpetual record of the matter

Adsum - Here I am

Aetas suae - aged

Amicus humani generis - A humanitarian; a philanthropist

Ars longa, vita brevis - Art is long, life is short

Beatae memoria - Of blessed memory

D. - Died

Dei gratia - By the Grace of God

Deo volente (DV) - God willing

Durante vita - During life

Elapso tempora - The time having passed

Errare humanum est - To err is human

Et sequentes (sequentia) - And those that follow

Et sic de ceteris - And so of the rest

Faber suae fortunae - A self-made man

Favete linguis - Keep Silence

Fecit - Made it; executed it

Fidei defensor - Defender of the faith

Filius terrae - A son of the soil

Gloria patri - Glory be to the Father

Hac voce - Under this word (phrase)

Hic jacet - Here lies

Hoc nomine - In this name

In articulo moris - At the point of death

In facie ecclesiae - Before the church

In futuro - Henceforth

In memoriam - In memory of

In nomine Domini - In the name of the lord

In perpetuum - For ever

Tedium vitae - Weariness of life

Sharing Family History



Researchers visiting the Resource Center this summer shared this photograph of People's Drug Store in Morocco from 1941-1942. Their family member, Earl Coatney, born 1921, worked in the store during that time, he is pictured to the left. Center, back is Bertha James and right is Ross Padgett.

Pioneers in Attendance

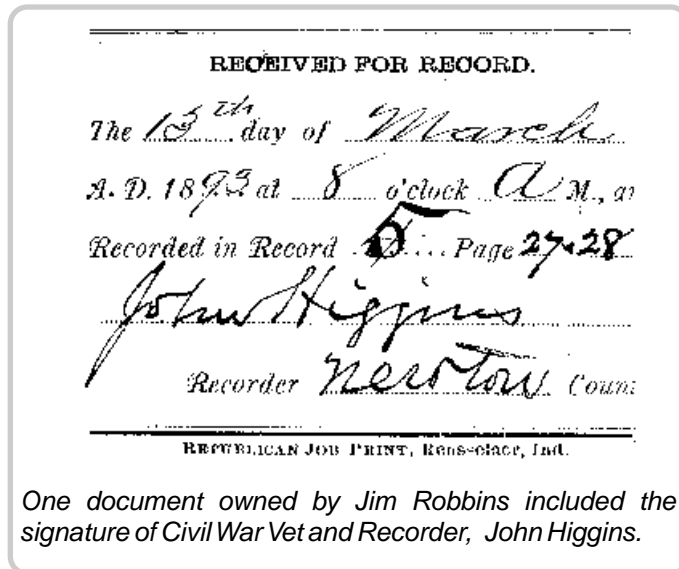
The following table presents the names of the venerable pioneers in attendance at this meeting, their residence and age at that date (1879), the date of their arrival in this part of the country, and the state from which they came. It will be observed that the greater number came prior to 1845, and some as early as 1820. This list does not include the pioneer women, whose names were unfortunately omitted from the list:

Name	Residence	Age	Arrival	From
Hon. Micajah Stauley, Watscka.	69	1839	Ohio	
G. Courtright, Watscka.	69	1830	Indiana	
F. Fagan, Watscka.	57	1810	Indiana	
W. S. Moore, Watscka.	67	1881	Ohio	
David Cass, Watscka.	52	1849	Ohio	
H. W. Hedger, Watscka.	60	1853	New York	
S. Hetfield, Watscka.	58	1850	Illinois	
John L. Donovan, Watscka.	54	1843	Kentucky	
S. C. Taylor, Watscka.	52	1849		
John Reader, Watscka.	60	1854	England	
John Fry, Watscka.	74	1834	Ohio	
J. M. Murray, Watscka.	65	1835	Indiana	
J. Moore, Watscka.	75	1831	Ohio	
R. Adsit, Watscka.	71	1853	New York	
James Hoagland, Iroquois.	61	1845	Ohio	
Putnam Galsfield, Iroquois.	68	1857	Ohio	
H. D. Strickler, Iroquois.	84	1835	Ohio	
W. Lander, Iroquois.	78	1841	Ohio	
William Dunning, Iroquois.	64	1834	New York	
James Harding, Iroquois.	68	1843	Ohio	
John Wagner, Iroquois.	68	1838	Ohio	
Gess Markley, Iroquois.	59	1855	Ohio	
S. R. Caggatt, Iroquois.	68	1845	Pennsylvania	
Anderson Tyler, Iroquois.	59	1847	Indiana	
Thomas Markley, Iroquois.	50	1851	Ohio	
Isaac Markley, Iroquois.	63	1845	Ohio	
Elijah Fry, Iroquois.	62	1844	Ohio	
Elijah Karr, Iroquois.	56	1835	Ohio	
J. Williams, Iroquois.	53	1856	Kentucky	
A. Sword, Iroquois.	64	1855	Scotland	
Abram Coughneur, Iroquois.	69	1836	Ohio	
Samuel Warriek, Iroquois.	68	1853	Ohio	
James Whiteman, Iroquois.	64	1839	Ohio	
Charles Hoagland, Iroquois.	73	1836	Ohio	
William Young, Iroquois.		1853	New York	
Leonard Hogle, Iroquois.	72	1837	Ohio	
Neighbor Dean, Iroquois.	72	1828	Virginia	
Jackson Torbet, Iroquois.	76	1847	Ohio	
Robert Caldwell, Sheldon.	48	1852	Ohio	
J. W. Murray, Sheldon.	47	1836	Ohio	
S. D. Fry, Sheldon.	48	1836	Ohio	
William Shortridge, Sheldon.	45	1859	Indiana	
W. Atwood, Sheldon.	61	1844	New York	
J. C. Switzer, Sheldon.	58	1828	Ohio	
Molby Potter, Sheldon.	52	1852	New York	
Isaac Thomas, Sheldon.	52	1835	Virginia	
David Gay, Sheldon.	66	1852	Ohio	
J. Marlay, Sheldon.	58	1844	Germany	

Name	Residence	Age	Arrival	From
E. Burchchitt, Kankakee.	57	1838	New York	
D. VanMeter, Kankakee.	70	1845	Ohio	
J. Flagoie, Kankakee.	65	1834	Canada	
Noel Vasseur, Kankakee.	82	1821	Canada	
J. Youngar, Kankakee.	64	1842	Connecticut	
R. Nichols, Kankakee.	67	1832	Pennsylvania	
A. Webster, Kankakee.	67	1845	New York	
T. N. Pangburn, Onarga.	73	1837	Ohio	
R. D. Pangburn, Onarga.	66	1837	New York	
M. H. Messer, Onarga.	50	1855	Mass.	
James Padgett, Newton Co.	55	1852	Indiana	
Joseph Law, Newton Co.	52	1830	Ohio	
Henry Rider, Newton Co.	63	1836	Ohio	
William Best, Newton Co.	57	1857	Ohio	
J. Mirus, Newton Co.	44	1837	Indiana	
W. Littlejohn, Newton Co.	53	1856	Ohio	
P. H. Hunter, Newton Co.	79	1861	Maine	
W. Sallee, Newton Co.	59	1855	Ohio	
T. Barker, Beaver Tp.	66	1831	England	
J. L. Purigo, Beaver Tp.	70	1860	New Jersey	
F. Moore, Beaver Tp.	78	1831	Ohio	
F. Elijah, Morocco.	58	1835	New York	
D. M. Pulver, Morocco.	50	1830	New York	
L. Sladdard, Mommence.	71	1842	Canada	
Ben Stearman, Mommence.	74	1839	Virginia	
S. L. Sparling, Jasper Co.	70	1836	New York	
C. Wadley, Waldron.	53	1828	New York	
J. Macalay, Tucker.	54	1856	Pennsylvania	
Potter Austin, Wellington.	51	1852	New York	
J. L. Bailey, Belmont.	59	1854	Indiana	
W. H. Henry, Indiana.	52	1830		
Hyram Vennum, Milford.	65	1834	Pennsylvania	
William Best, Indiana.	57	1837	Ohio	
W. Harritt, Indiana.	56	1848	Indiana	

This is an excerpt from "A Centennial History of The Iroquois County and Concord Township." Member Greta Taylor recently shared this history book with our group.

This was part of an account of the Old Settler's Reunion that was held in Bunkum in 1879. Several local notables made speeches, as well as attended the affair, including an oration by George Ade.



NCHS & RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE

New Lettering Added to Resource Center

Did you notice it the last time you drove by our Resource Center at 310 E. Seymour in Kentland? Our name has been added to the front of the building, adding to the awareness of our society!

The center is open Monday and Thursday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. We hope to eventually have the building open more often, volunteers are needed! We currently have two volunteers that will work Thursday nights from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., but we need two more to share the load before we officially advertise that time. There are tasks that can be done, or you can relax and explore the center yourself! Give us a call at the center, 219-474-6944 if you would like to know more!



Resource Center Hosts D. A. R. Meeting

Members of the Kentland Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held their opening meeting at our Resource Center in October. After their business meeting, Beth Bassett, Building Chair, gave a brief account of the contents and resources available to the public for research. Members were then encouraged to casually browse through the displays and discover a bit about Newton County.

Those attending were front, left clockwise: Alice Musser, Marilyn Whaley, Esta Stevens, Sharon Yates, Janet Miller, Rose Ferguson, Pat Haynes, Margaret Lah, Fannie Sue Henry. Photo by Beth Bassett.



online with our officers

Janet Miller, President; Mike Haste, Vice-President; Darlene Truby, Treasurer; Becky Lyons, Secretary
Jim Robbins, Ex-Officio; Sig Boezeman, Member-At-Large; Donna LaCrosse, County Historian

Hello from the 2007-2008 slate of officers! We are excited about our new fiscal year that began in July. Our new research center location at 310 E. Seymour Street is a wonderful place for welcoming the public who are interested in Newton County history and research. Each week brings in more items of interest. We appreciate all of the acquisitions that have been donated. Stop and visit when you have time.

We would like to thank Jim Robbins who has been our president for several years. Through his efforts we have continued to grow and gather history for Newton County. The Newton County Fair booth is a project that Jim has fostered and through which we have been able to meet and greet the public. Thanks Jim for all your time and knowledge!

Programs and projects are two of the goals of our society. At our July meeting member Larry Lyons, Brook, spoke on Two Famous Brook Grads, Donald Berlin, engineer of WWII fighter planes, and his sister Janice Berlin, a famous home economist. In August, member David Truby of Kentland explained to us the

history of the Kentland VisKase Corporation as well as the history of the hot dog/sausage casings industry. Ron Humphrey, a member of our society, spoke to the organization in September. His topic Kentland Bank - 75th Anniversary gave everyone insight about the bank and its various locations. He also told of the four banks that existed in Kentland prior to the Kentland Bank. Through all of these programs each of us learned a little more about our own Newton County.

Nancy Jo Prue is the Chairman of our Oral History Project. Nancy has interviewed many people throughout our county and continues to retrieve information that might otherwise be lost. If you are interested in doing an interview with Nancy please contact her. She is an able listener.

We welcome anyone to attend our meetings held on the fourth Monday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. You may call the Research Center for more information.

Again, stop by our Research Center and get a hands-on close-up look at Newton County history!

Do You Know?

Submitted by Janet Miller

1. Have you heard of the town of Mottville?
2. In 1860, a Civil War prison was located 60 miles northeast of Newton County in Michigan City, IN. When a soldier was released from prison he was given five different items to take with him. Can you name them?
3. At one time, Enos was called by another name. Do you know what it was?
4. Brook resident, John R. Hershman's biography states that he served as viewer on many gravel roads, and that he was one of the viewers on the first gravel road ever built in the county. In what township was it located?
5. What happened to the old town of Pogue depot?

You'll know the answers if you look on page 22.

Family Documents From The Past

One of the favorite programs that the general society holds is "Show and Tell." Members bring a personal item to the meeting and tell the story behind the artifact. Recently, Jim Robbins shared a binder that contained several documents from past transactions of his ancestors at one of these meetings. Some are reproduced throughout the pages in this edition, and more will be included in upcoming issues.

*Fair Oak Ind.,
Aug 11th 1886*

Artical of Agreement

F. E. Russell agrees to set a Sawmill on Dr. Robbins land about 80 or 100 rods north of his home in the spring of 1887 after the seting is sawed out east of Pleasant valley schoolhouse and thoes drawing in logs and concerned in the set to help move said mill to the ground.

And in order to give all a chance Will saw partly on the shair that is thoes who can pay just as easy pays \$5.00 per Thousand.

And one fourth of every mans sawing to be cash and the balance on the shair if he wishes.

As shair Terms on cash \$5.00 per thousand or half of the lumber

Hoping all will feel interested in this interprise will do what tha can and will do all in my power to give each man good satisfaction for his labor. Francis E. Russell

Sigment List

Names of signees	No of Logs	Names of signees	No of Logs
J. Kosky	50		
C. Thompson	26		
M. F. Smart	50		
H. Swanke	25		
James Robbins	25		
A. B. Robbins	25		

Artical of Agreement to Set a Sawmill; Fair Oaks, Ind., Aug. 11th, 1886.

F. E. Russell agrees to set a Sawmill on Dr. Robbins's land about 80 or 100 rods north of his home in the spring of 1887 after the seting is sawed out East of Pleasant valley schoolhouse and thoes drawing in logs and concerned in the set to help move said mill to the ground.

And in order to give all a chance Will saw partly on the shair that is thoes who can pay just as easy pays \$5.00 per Thousand. And one fourth of every mans sawing to be cash and the balance of their shair if he wishes in short terms or cash \$5.00 per labor or half of the lumber.

Hoping all will feel interested in the interprise will do what tha can and will do all in my power to give each man good satisfaction for his labor. Francis E. Russell.

Names of Signees, No. of Logs: J. Kosky, 50; C. Thompson, 26; E. Cotton, 10; M. F. Smart, 50; H. Swanke, 25; James Robbins, 25; A. B. Robbins, 25. (Note reprinted as written.)

Historically Yours

By Newton County Historian Donna LaCosse

As I write this, I can see by the calendar that we have one more week and October is all finished for this year! As usual, I am still behind on my summer projects and not quite ready for that time of the year to be over. One thing I am thankful for is that I have not had to wear my winter coat yet!! I hate to wear a coat – they are bulky, heavy and a pain in the neck, but I guess wearing a coat is much better than shivering to death during the winter months.

We were in Tacoma, Washington in August to an army reunion and enjoyed seeing that side of the country where we had never ventured. I am not a mountain person but I must admit the scenery was beautiful.

Speaking of "going" someplace, have you taken a trip down Memory Lane recently? If not, you may be missing something quite enjoyable.

I have found myself "remembering" a lot lately and have been quite amused at what has been hidden in this old brain for so many years.

Way back, when I was a sophomore in high school, I remember being really upset at the way several of the "guys" treated the car they were driving. One young senior boy seemed to be such a show-off when he sat behind the wheel – the stones in the school drive-way would fly through the air quite freely when he took off with his cutie-pie and I thanked my lucky stars that I was riding on the school bus and not in that car.

I remember telling my friends I wouldn't ride with that "guy" if he were the last man on earth!

Two years later, back in 1946, I was riding in that same car with that same guy, and I have been riding with him for almost 62-years. The car has changed and so has the man behind the wheel! Another difference between then and now is that after being married for almost 60 years, I tell him how to drive and he tells me where to go!!

It's a Family Tradition

As editor of this publication, I am always open to ideas regarding stories and research. I had an idea pass through my mind that I thought I would share with you and hope that you will respond with your thoughts.

With the onset of fall, there are typical chores that need to be done, some of which I ask why, only because I don't want to do them – like washing windows – but I do this, not only because they need it, but it's a tradition. Many of my friends wash their windows in the fall, something they always do. Packing up the summer clothes and bringing out the warm sweaters is another tradition that I began when I realized I didn't have enough dresser space for all four seasons!

So this is idea, sharing family traditions. One that I always enjoy is gathering flower seeds from the zinnias and marigolds for next year, storing them away in an envelope and then a Miracle Whip jar. My mother has always enjoyed this fall tradition, and when I do it, I remember she and I doing this task together.

So what do you do? Are there tasks that you perform each year just because you always do it? Did you acquire this tradition, or have you created a new one? Share them with me for the next *Newcomer*. email newtonhs@ffni.com, or call!

We have had a great summer – our oldest LaCosse grandson returned home from a year in Iraq and has settled in nicely using his degree from Purdue in a management position at Lowe's in Lafayette. He is not finished being a soldier as yet but hopefully will remain on this side of the ocean. When asked, he said he would go back if they sent him there to defend his country. What a good attitude these returned veterans have.

Our foster grandson married his dream girl in July and they are happily settled in an apartment in Indianapolis where Brock is using his degree from IUPUI at an Insurance firm. His wife, Brittney, is in her junior year at IUPUI and is also employed as a Nanny on a part time basis.

Our oldest grandson found his true love in Boston and they are planning a May 2008 wedding. They had to travel so far to meet each other – he was born in Lafayette and raised in Indianapolis; she was born and raised in Greenfield, about thirty-minutes from Indianapolis. It really is a small world!!

And, once again, we have a family member enrolled at Purdue University. Grandson Micah began his freshmen year at Purdue this fall. It doesn't seem possible that Gina's chicks have all left the nest. Ron and Ann still have three in high school (as freshmen) so we have lots of "good stuff" ahead of us.

Hope to see you in the next issue of *The Newcomer* and, until then, keep on making history, both family and in the community. Stay well and enjoy the holidays that seem to be arriving rather quickly.

Recipes From Days Gone By

Peanut Butter Fudge

Submitted by Jeanette Hall

- 6 cups sugar
- 1 1/3 cup evaporated milk
- 2-3 cups peanut butter
- 1-13 oz. jar of Kraft marshmallow cream
- 1 1/2 Cup Parkay Margarine

Combine sugar, margarine and milk in 5 qt. pan. Bring to a full rolling boil, stirring constantly. Boil 18 minutes over medium heat or until candy thermometer reaches 235 degrees, stirring constantly to prevent scorching. Remove from heat, stir in peanut butter and marshmallow cream. Beat until mixed well. Pour into two greased 13x9 inch pans.

This recipe is an annual event for Jeanette and her family. She gives it as gifts at Christmas, but has to make plenty of extra for her family – because they always ask "When are you going to make your peanut butter[fudge Aunt Jeanette?"

Submit your "never fail" and handed down recipes for publication!

Pages of the Past

Transcribed by Janet Miller

These excerpts are taken from *The Newton County Enterprise*, Summer, 1918.

Seventy-Nine Men Report Yesterday: Seventy-nine young men who have reached the age of twenty-one years since last June, registered before the Conscription Board yesterday. Below we give the names of the registrants:

Brook: Cass Coffin, Carl Coffin, Merl L. Strain, William A. Watt, Russell T. Whaley, Terry G. Brady, John W. Kline, William Barr, Carl H. Eckstrom, John F. Whaley, Edward Hiestand, George Snyder, Roy Holder, Russell Clinton, Clyde Recher, George Ekstrom, Ira Honn, Floyd Weishaar, Leonard Crudden, and Elmer Plott. **Morocco:** Russell Brown, Chester L. Kay, Abner B. Miller, Oscar E. Watkins, Everett E. Kalfise, Lloyd Deardurff, Vernon C. Russell, Chester L. Woods, Pearl Hendrickson, Denver Padgett, Roy Jessen, Lowell Zoborosky, Everett Graves, Charley Davis, Logan McClatchey, Cody Penrod, Walter Simpson, Charles LeCosse, and James Dowling. **Kentland:** Thomas Dewing, James T. Couch, Russell D. Virgin, Leslie S. Wershaar, Bernard G. Hassett, Theodore J. Dieter, Ernest White, Fred Morse, John Easter, Gerald Prue, Ira Gerrich, John Foltz, Clarence Messman, Vernon Hedrick, Clarence Flach and Curtis Kindig. **Fair Oaks:** Otto J. Herre. **Goodland:** Milo T. Ryan, Leroy Tice, Archie Turner, Frank Miller, Ralph Heck, Benzil Harmon, Edmund Renter, Frederick Griffin, Jake Bokma, Wilbur Sanasac, Clifford Mead, Marvin Beadle and Fremont Stambaugh. **Mt. Ayr:** Alvin J. Yoder, Clarence Meharry and Hollis Brown. **Thayer:** John Roorda and Chester Fuller. **Conrad:** Clarence Jones. **Lake Village:** Milford Bingham and George Atwood. **Rensselaer:** Estus Selby. Roselawn: Clifford David.

Demonstration Classes: Miss Reba Smith of Purdue University is spending four days in the county this week giving demonstrations before the recently organized Food Clubs. She spent Tuesday at Kentland, Wednesday at Brook, and will spend today at Roselawn, and Friday at Lake Village and Mt. Ayr. Some of these clubs asked demonstrations on wheat substitutes, and others on Cold Pack canning methods, and others on both.

Jury Hears Many Odoriferous Cases: The Court and jury have had their nostrils well filled this week, through the hearing of lawsuits concerning fertilizer, onions, and reduction plants. And the air was stifling hot in the courtroom.

Miss Adah E. Bush, Chairman of the Women's Section of the Newton County Council of Defense, has made the following appointments of Newton county women to act as township chairmen, carrying on the women's war activities throughout the county, as outlined by the Newton County Council of Defense: Jefferson township, Mrs. Adda V. White; Grant, Mrs. W. W. Washburn; Washington, Mrs. Ray Risley; Iroquois, Mrs. John F. Lawrence; Beaver, Mrs. C. E. Triplett; McClellan, Mrs. Mark Templeton; Jackson, Miss Blanche Merry; Colfax, Mrs. George Hillis; Lincoln, Mrs. Clara Boyle; Lake, Mrs. Rufus Robinson. Miss Bush also announces the appointment of Miss Francis Ott of Morocco as County Chairman of Child Welfare to succeed Mrs. M. E. Graves, resigned.

The Enterprise is being sent, absolutely free, to nearly one hundred Newton county boys in service. Many copies following the boys right up to the trenches, carrying them news from home. We would ask the friends of the boys to keep us advised promptly of

any change of address and we will do the rest.

"Adeway" Chicago-Indianapolis Route. Chicago Motor Club lays out new route through Newton County. Chicago and Indianapolis tourists will now travel back and forth between those two cities over what has been named the Adeway. The Adeway is a route picked by the Chicago Club as the best route for automobile travel between Chicago and Indianapolis and it was given its name in honor of George Ade, a member of the club. The Adeway leaves Chicago over the Dixey Highway to Chicago Heights, then on Lincoln Highway to Dyer, then south through Lowell, Lake Village, Morocco, Ade, Kentland, Attica, Crawfordsville, and on to Indianapolis. Members of the Chicago Motor Club were over the line Friday and marked the route the entire distance. This is claimed to be the shortest route between the two cities, and also embraces the best improved roads.

The harvest season is approaching, and labor will be scarce. The Editor of *The Enterprise* stands ready to help out if needed. We may carry too much fat to make a full hand on a hot day, but still we have faith in our own ability, and we have two husky lads in the office who we will bring along, and we know either of them will do a man's work. This is no joke, we stand ready to go. Would prefer last three days of the week, as we can better sidetrack our own work on those days. We feel confident any number of the businessmen of Kentland will do the same thing. The crops must be saved, and the farmer need only make his wants known.

Threshermen Met at Brook Saturday. In response to a call by our County Food Director, Dr. T. E. Collier, the 44 threshermen from all over the county met at Brook Saturday afternoon to make plans for the conservation of grain, time and labor in the coming threshing season. County Agent Davis told of the thresher's organizations in other counties and suggested plans to be followed in this county. Dr. Collier, in an interesting talk full of information, emphasized the necessity of our people saving to the utmost this year. He suggested that an organization be affected at once, with the election of the proper officers: accordingly, George Galbraith of Grant township was chosen president, and Fred Chidester of Jefferson, secretary-treasurer. A committee was appointed to draw up plans for conservation in conference with Dr. Collier and Mr. Davis. These will be printed by the County Food Director and posted on each separator for the guidance of machine men and farmers throughout the season. The matter of prices was then taken up: the following prices were set as the minimum, which in most cases throughout the county will also serve as the maximum: oats, 2 cents; wheat, 6 cents; rye, 7 cents per bushel; these were concurred in by Dr. Collier and County Agent Davis as being only fair increases over last year's threshing prices.

In Appreciation: My call has come and I must report in New York on July 1st for overseas service. Before departing I desire to extend thanks to the good people of Kentland for the courteous treatment and patronage they have extend me during my residence here, and to state that I will be back when the war is over. In order to adjust my personal affairs I will ask that all parties knowing themselves indebted to me to call and settle by Saturday of this week. Prompt action in this regard will be appreciated. Dr. C. W. Doyel.

Observations of the Birds in Newton County Back Yards and Orchards

Reprinted from a John R. Hershman document, 1920

Submitted by Beth Bassett

Among the John R. Hershman collection of papers recently revealed to our society, was a six page document describing the common wild birds of the time, that being 1920. It was obviously prepared for an oral presentation. Upon reading it I discovered a new twist to recording history. I realized that John had documented the "goings-on" of his backyard of the wild birds, and that all of the species that he described are still among us today. So, are we observing the descendents of those birds today? It sure puts a new twist on the "family tree!"

I added line drawings reprinted from the "Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources Annual Report," by State Geologist, W. S. Blatchley, 1897 to help identify our feathered neighbors.

"I shall confine what I have to say on birds and their relation to the gardens and orchards, to the most common varieties, of which we have, I think over thirty.

"It seems to be a rule of Mother Nature to keep in balance the population of her children. Hence they in some way are created with the desire to prey upon each other, vegetation devouring the elements in the soil and animal life devours the vegetation, making clear the aphorism "great fleas have lesser fleas upon their backs to bite 'em and these fleas, have other fleas, adinfinitum."

If there was nothing to hold in check the ravages of the insect life, their great productiveness is such that they in a few years would be so numerous that they would destroy all vegetation.

Many female insects will lay several thousand eggs in a day each. Only a short time is required for the development of the larva and we have the full fledged insects ready to carry on. Fortunately Mother Nature here steps in and fills the air with myriads of birds with voracious appetites for insects. If we destroy the birds the insects will destroy us.

Nearly all birds are more beneficial than destructive. It is true that a voracious insect eater will not discriminate between a harmless insect and a harmful one, but as the latter predominates, we can easily forgive him.

Of our resident birds the most common of all is the **English Sparrow**, which might be put down as a general nuisance. It is a grain eater, a fruit bud destroyer, a garden plant eater, a fruit eater and a carrier of bird mites and will alight among the chickens and rob them of their food. The insects that it eats are generally of the harmless variety. The only thing I ever observed in their favor was, that I have seen them eaten locust or cicadas when they were numerous.

The **Blue Jay** is the next most numerous resident. Very little can be said in its favor. Arrayed in his suit of blue he is a handsome fellow, not much music to his voice, quarrelsome, and domineering, and will rob other birds' nests, not only for their eggs, but of their young, a voracious eater and no doubt destroys many harmful insects. Makes a nest of twigs and grass usually in low bushes. Four greenish eggs specked with brown.

The **Cardinal** is a very amiable bird with no bad traits, beautiful plumage and crested; a fine singer and feeds on insects and wild berries. The male is a bright scarlet, the female a brownish color splashed with scarlet, and is also a singer, 'tho not so strong as the male. Nests in low bushes, four bluish, green eggs.

The **Scarlet Tanager** keeps to the woods. The male is a beautiful bird, scarlet in color except the wings and tail which are black. The female is a lightish brown. Entirely beneficial. Nests in the bushes, of rootlets and twigs, eggs, four, of a pale bluish green.

We once had the **Snow Bunting** as a regular winter resident but they have been driven off by the English Sparrow so that now they only appear occasionally. Many are found in the north part of the state.

The slate colored **Junco** is usually seen in late fall and last of winter. It



English Sparrow

disappears in midwinter. Nests north of Indiana. To distinguish it from the snow bunting or white snowbird it is sometimes called the black snowbird. It is a dark slate color on the head and back. Two outer tail feathers white. In winter it lives principally on weed seed. Is seen mostly about thickets and hedges. It can hardly be called a winter resident.

Our greatest aid in combating insect pests comes from the **Robin**. It is one of the first arrival, often appearing in February, and by the middle of March are plentiful. We often have severe storms after their first appearance but they come to stay, though they must suffer from want of food and shelter. He is a cheerful fellow with his early morning song of cheerup; cheerup; from the old cherry tree or garden fence. A good many accusations can be brought against him. He is fond of cherries, strawberries, raspberries, and the angleworms that he devours with such avidity, but are a benefit to the soil. But notwithstanding his faults we freely forgive him on account of his many good qualities. He is plucky, will fight for his home even against the hideous bull snake that tries to take the young birds from the nest. Can drive away the inquisitive Jay



Robin

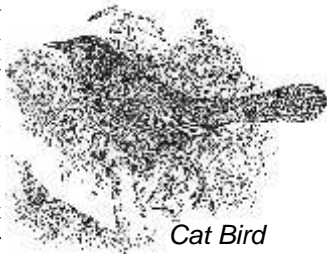
or the quarrelsome boat tail blackbird if they come too near his home, beside he destroys thousands of harmful insects. The robin builds a very substantial nest of grass, bound together with mud, generally raises two broods, but builds a new nest each time, in low bushes or on ledges around buildings. Three to five plain bright blue eggs.

The **King Fisher** lives along rivers and skims the water - diving down suddenly for a small fish.

The **Brown Thrasher** is an early arrival and fond nesting in shrubbery near house or walks. Or if near the woods in brush piles, or low bushes. It is a fine singer and has no bad habits.

The **Wood Thrush** is very much like the thrasher in appearance, not quite as large, a little shorter tail but has very much the same cinnamon brown color, and speckled breast. Not quite so full of song. Nests in brush piles, thorn bushes or low bushes in thickets.

The **Cat Bird** arrives about the first of April, is rather silent on first appearance, but later about nesting time he finds his voice and makes the welkin ring on fine mornings. They spend much time in and about the garden and according to government bulletins is deserving of much respect. It is of a dark slate color above and grayish below. Is somewhat of a mocking bird and can imitate to perfection the mew of a kitten. Many a boy has been led away from its nest to seek the kitten supposed to be somewhere in the thicket. It migrates early in fall, but don't journey far south to winter.



Cat Bird

The old time **Martin** and **Bluebird** are seldom seen with us so much now, tho 50 or 60 years ago almost every farmhouse where there were boys had one or more houses up for them. On the advent of the English Sparrow, the other house birds are required the same entrance were driven out or got disgusted with the pesky persistence and left.

In and about the garden we have the crested **Fly Catcher** and the Blue Gray Fly Catcher. Birds about the size of the House Wren but longer bodied and longer tail, nests usually in holes in trees in old orchards. Great insect catchers.

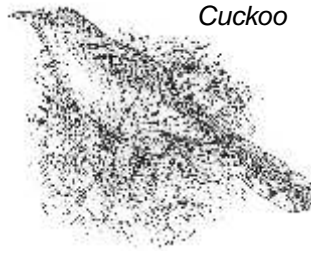


Fly Catcher

The **King Martin or Bee Bird** is one of the most voracious feeders on insects we have. It is a migrant and noted for many good deeds. It has a keen eye and watches its nest with eternal vigilance. If a hawk or crow comes near its nest it pounces down upon his back in a way he will not return as long as Mr. King Martin is on guard. It was supposed that he was a marauder on the bee colony but it has developed that he is of more benefit than injury to the bees. The bees he catches are mostly drones, and while in the business he catches honey flies, moths and other insects that more than

make up for the few bees that he catches. He is of dark slate color with white markings. Has border of white on the sides and across the end of the tail. Nests in old trees 15 to 40 feet up. Three to four eggs of creamy white blotched with bright spots.

The **Cuckoo** is a very common bird in many parts of the state. Back and tail black or nearly so. Under part of body grayish. Not quite as large as the Jay. Often around old orchards where it destroys the tent caterpillar and other insects. From its habit of giving its call just before a rain it is sometimes called the Rain Crow. It has been supposed by some that it, like its European cousin, lays its eggs in the nest of other birds, but such is not the case. It makes its own nest and hatches its eggs by incubation the same as other well-behaved birds. Builds a platform nest and lays four to six greenish blue eggs.



Cuckoo

The **Cow Bird** is the only bird we have that never builds a nest. It deposits one egg in the nest of some smaller bird that she happens to find away from home. The egg is hatched and the bird reared by the foster parents, often to the destruction of the rightful offspring by crowding them out of the nest, or by starving them to death by absorbing all the attention of the parent birds. In appearance, this bird resembles the rusty blackbird. It follows the cows about in the pastures or rides on their backs, feasting on the flies or insects that the cows stir up. The only harm it does to other birds is cheating them as before mentioned.

The **Bronze Grackle or Boat Tailed Blackbird** is one of our largest migrating birds. He is a handsome fellow with the metallic shimmer of his neck and shoulders he makes quite a gay appearance. He is quarrelsome and has been accused of destroying the eggs of other birds. Certain it is he hasn't many friends outside his own tribe. He is said to be very fond of roasting ears. But I believe that he destroys enough obnoxious insects to pay for all the corn he eats. Nests pretty well up in a tree and is among the first to start building.

It is hard to conceive of a more desirable bird than the **Baltimore Oriole**. It charms us with its sweet song and we are delighted with its bright orange colors as it flits from tree to tree among their leafy branches. It is the most unique nest builder of all our birds. Makes its purse shaped and suspends it from a branch so near the end that it is safe from any predatory animal and hidden under the leaves so that predatory birds will not discover it, or if they should they cannot get into it, and you will have to wait till the leaves fall to discover it yourself. They raise only one brood and migrate early. They are great insect destroyers and very beneficial birds.

The **House Wren** is a very desirable bird about the lawn or garden. Lives wholly on insects. It is very friendly and seems to prefer being near to man. It will make its nest in any sort of a box or birdhouse put up for it. The entrance should not be large enough for a sparrow to get in. About an inch is the proper size. It will raise two or three broods in a season. About seven or eight days is required for the incubation; another two weeks and they are ready to leave the nest. The male spends a great deal of time in the singing, yet helps feed the young. There is a small wren with a short tail known as the Winter Wren. Nests along fence row, or old logs and woodpiles.



House Wren

There are many kinds of **Owls** in the state, large and small.

We have several varieties of **Woodpeckers**, some of the wintering in the state. The **Red Head** has a fiery red neck and head, black shoulders and on the tip of the wing. The under part of the body and middle of the wing are white. It nests in old trees or telegraph poles, on bare wood. Four to six eggs.

The **Hairy Woodpecker** is a little smaller than the Red Head, and is mottled black and white with a small red spot on the back of it's head. Nests in deep woods in holes in trees. Three to six eggs.

The **Downy Woodpecker** is an exceptionally fine little fellow. The smallest of the lot and most friendly. Mottled black and white; nests in holds in trees; four to six eggs, and one brood in a season. Sometimes a winter resident. Woodpeckers are all fond of grubs, and are provided with a hard sharp bill for drilling into trees where they locate a

Oscar Owen, aka "Jake," would grow up in Goodland and marry Doris Kay on November 23, 1925. We know she had at least two sisters, Florence who would marry a Taylor, living in Kentland and Mary, who would marry a Mead and live in Morocco. Could the Mead that she married be a member of the Samuel Mead family that Jacob and Fannie lived with in Benton County in 1900? Possibly.

Doris was born on July 3, 1904 in Warsaw, Indiana. Jake was mentioned in the Goodland Centennial publication as a shoe salesman, both he and Doris were active members of the Goodland Baptist Church, Doris a lifetime member of the Royal Neighbors. They had one daughter that was stillborn, another daughter, Judith Carol, and three sons, Owen Frank "Duke" born September 8, 1926; Richard E. "Dick," born September 23, 1932; Robert L, who is living today in Rensselaer, Indiana.

Jake died on September 2, 1962 after three months in the St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lafayette, Indiana, of lung cancer. Doris died on March 27, 1980. She and Jake are buried in the Goodland Cemetery.

Duke graduated from Goodland High School in 1944, and was a member of the United States Navy from November 2, 1944 to August 16, 1946. He returned to Goodland after the service and remained there until his death on July 6, 1997. Richard and his wife Arlene are retired and live in Florida. Robert, graduated in 1957 from Goodland High School, and is currently living at the Alternacare Wing of the Jasper County Hospital.

Judith Carol, born February 4, 1940 also attended Goodland schools. On August 4, 1955, she married Frank Nuss. They later divorced. Judy had three children, Stephen, Lisa Ann and Lori Ann. She along with her two daughters were living with her mother Doris in Goodland at the time of her death on March 1, 1967. She died in an automobile crash, and is buried in the Goodland Cemetery.

At one time, family traditions and stories were passed amongst the members of this family. Proof is in repeat of names throughout the generation. There had to be a story linked to these members, as several of the names passed through every generation. The ribbon that runs through this family history is that family is first. Over the generations, family looked after family—they took care of their own. This sense of integrity continues to wind through the family, as Lori, Lisa and Stephen's families reflect this family tradition.

Indiana Resources For Genealogy Research

- Statewide Libraries and Archives**
- Genealogy Division, Indiana State Library
- Indiana Division, Indiana State Library
- Manuscript Section, Indiana State Library
- Indiana State Archives
- Indiana Historical Society Library
- Nationwide Libraries and Archives**
- Historical Genealogy Department, Allen County Public Library
- National Archives – Great Lakes Region, Chicago
- Family History Library System, Genealogical Society of Utah
- Statewide Organizations**
- Indiana Historical Society
- Indiana Genealogical Society
- Society of Indiana Pioneers

French Family Photographs



Top, left, Jake French; top right, Richard and his wife Arlene French.

Right, we do not know who this young fellow might be, but in the background is the Goodland Depot.



Below, the Dolan Garage of Goodland. There are a couple of additional photos taken in front of garage, perhaps they are of the Dolan.



sister of Juditha, Charity are living in Warren County, Indiana with Juditha's children George, Humphrey and William They had two children of their own, Owen, born about 1837, Mary, born 1841. It was thought that there were two additional girls, Judith A. and Anna, but nothing in the records reflected these children. Again, they may have died in infancy, and also may have caused the death of Charity on December 22, 1847, the same year Warner's father died.

On August 16, 1848, Warner married Mary Lester. They had three children Isaac, born 1849; Elizabeth, born 1854; Jacob Owen, born January 15, 1856. Jacob Owen is the great-grandfather of Lori and Dick. Mary died with the birth of Jacob in 1856, and his father died soon after. It was at this point that he and his younger sister Elizabeth would be placed with a relative, Jacob and Diannah French, living in Illinois. They were only babies. Where the other children lived is not known.

This Jacob and Diannah would play an important role in Jacob Owen's life. By 1860, he and Elizabeth were back in Indiana living with their uncle Felix and his wife Nancy. Our Illinois Jacob and his family had decided to homestead to Kansas, after the Indian territories opened up, probably taking one of the offers that the railroad companies had offered to homesteaders. It is known that they would pay the settlers to move their entire household, livestock and family, with the purchase of land along the railroad. This move may have been the reason Jacob and Elizabeth stayed in Indiana.

However, in 1870, Jacob and Diannah, as well as Jacob Owen, would be found in Kansas, living in separate counties, farming. Elizabeth would have been married by this time to Caleb Hopkins, and would eventually live in the Lafayette area. An 1885 mid year census of Kansas listed Diannah as a widow. This may have been when Jacob Owen returned to Indiana.

Something motivated Jacob Owen to locate to Jasper County, Indiana. Where, when and why is not known, but we do know that he met and married Fannie Hoyle in Rensselaer, on June 16, 1890. Fannie was the daughter of George W. and Hester A. (Knowel) Hoyle. Her siblings were Cynthia A., John N., Nancy J., Blanch, Mary and Amanda. Mary would marry a Sears and live in Danville, Illinois and Amanda would not marry, and live in California.

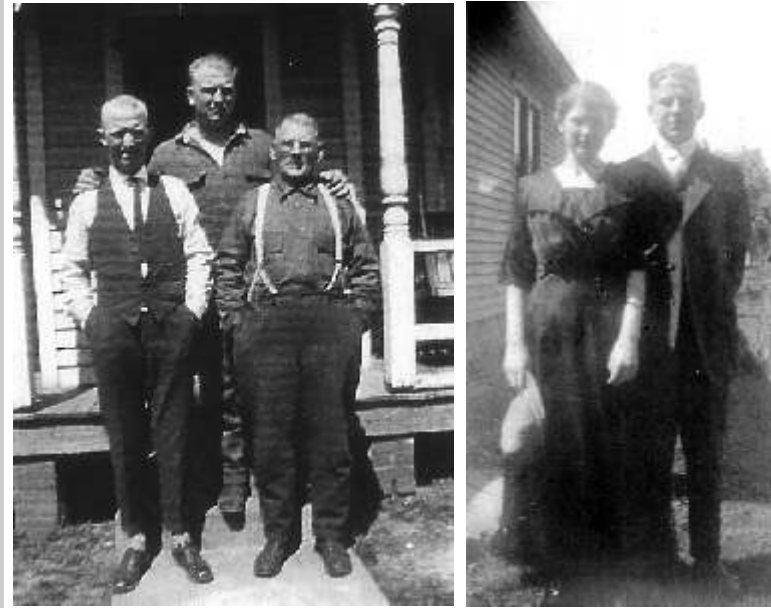
Jacob and Fannie were living in Union Township, Benton County, Indiana, in 1900. They were living with Samuel Mead on his farm. Jacob worked as a farm laborer, while Fannie kept house and raised their two children, Leonard, born about 1891 and Addie, born 1895. In 1894, they moved to the town of Goodland, Jacob still working as a farm laborer. On March 4, 1904, Oscar Owen was born.

Jacob and Fannie were members of the Goodland Baptist Church, with Fannie remaining a member of the Royal Neighbors organization for 51 years. Jacob died on August 30, 1934, at the age of 74 and Fannie in her home on Perry Avenue, on April 22, 1955 at the age of 85. They are both buried at the Goodland Cemetery.

Leonard would never marry, and would live in Chatsworth, Illinois for most of his life. His sister Addie, remained at home with her mother, working at Dormeyer's in Goodland. She died on September 25, 1979, and is buried in the Goodland Cemetery.

French Family Photographs

Jake French's family album was packed with photographs, none of them identified. Lori was able to identify some of them, hopefully someone will eventually fill in the blanks for her.



Left, back is Jake French, to his left is his father, Jacob French, the fellow on the left is unknown. Right photo, Addie and Jake.



Doris (Kay), Jake and Fannie (Hoyle) French. This photo was taken at the same time as the one on page 12.



To the right pictured are Owen F. "Duke," Doris (Kay) French and Richard, "Dick," French.

grub. When they have cut the wood away to the grub, they thrust their tongues into it and draw the worm out. The tongue is provided with barbs which hold the victim on the tongue. All beneficial about old orchards by destroying grubs and moths that infest orchard trees.

One of the most interesting of the woodpecker family is the **Flicker**, synonyms: High Hole, Yellow Hammer, and Goldwing Woodpecker. It lives mostly on the ground and feeds on ants, devouring them by the thousands. It makes its nest by excavating a cavity in a tree or snag. Eggs, four to nine, in May, generally.

The farmer has no better friend than the **Field Sparrow**, a little gray brown bird, a little larger than the English Sparrow. Nests on the

ground in fields or pastures, sometimes right in the middle of a corn hill. Feeds on insects and raises two broods in a season. In September, they begin to gather in flocks and feed on weed seeds. A little later they head for the south.

Our list of useful birds would not be complete without the **Ruby Throated Hummingbird**. In color, a metallic green on the back, white below, a ruby red spot

Quill & Ink

Small Change

By Marian Strosinski

Although I'm not a Newton County native
(I was born elsewhere you see)
I Love my adopted hometown
In a small community

At first I wasn't pleased with my lot
(The house was smaller)
My furniture was NOT!
But my husband assured me, that this was the best.
Compared to the city, we'd left.

Away from the constant rat race
To retire in peace at a much slower pace.
Now over the years with the ebb and the flo
I have to concede
He was right, you know!

Marian Strosinski was inspired to write a poem about being a 30 year "newcomer" to the town of Brook.

under the throat, and a forked tail. The female a little plainer. Small nests set saddle-wise on top of a horizontal limb. Lays two eggs. Last year these birds were very numerous over fields of red clover, whether they aided in distributing the pollen and fertilizing the clover blossoms, I am not able to say. They visit about all of the late flowers in the gardens and may aid in their fertilization. They are late arrivals in spring and late in leaving in the fall. It is a great favorite with the children and also with the grown-ups. We like to watch it dart in and out among the Nasturtiums gathering nectar from the flower then to disappear and as suddenly reappear from nowhere and away again, seeming to never tire, and we never tire watching it. We see it occasionally in repose. They are said to father in flocks in autumn in certain places.

The **Meadow Lark** is perhaps the most voracious destroyer of grasshoppers and crickets of all the wild birds. It may eat a little corn and wild berries in season, but its principal food is composed of insects. Its familiar whistle is a harbinger of spring. As it comes in March, it often has to battle hard snowstorms for its life. Many a cutworm meets its Waterloo by way of the early morning lark.

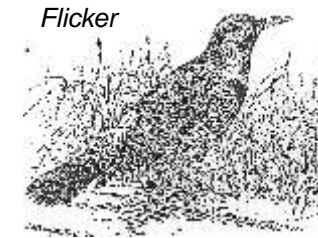
The **American Gold Finch** whose synonyms are: Yellow Bird, Lettuce Bird

and Wild Canary. It is a bright yellow. Crown, wings and tail black. The female is yellowish gray. Nests usually in forks of a bush, five to 25 feet up. Nest structures of grass, strips of bark and plant fiber, lined with plant down. Eggs three to six pale blue. In fall, the color becomes mottled; goes mostly in flocks. They spend a good deal of their time in and about the garden in the summer months, and remain late in autumn.

They are seedeaters. The sunflower is a favorite food. The dandelion too comes in for a share of their attraction.

Ever since the **Dove** brought back to Noah in the Ark the olive branch, it has been hailed as the harbinger of peace, and it is certainly the most peaceful of all our birds. It builds a careless nest and lays two eggs. Both sex take part in incubation. It raises two or three broods.

Birds, like man, choose only one mate. I have tried to be as brief as possible in my description of our common birds. I have left out several that are worthy of notice, lest I become tedious. I have always loved birds. My conception of the land of bliss is a place where there a lot of birds and no one disposed harm to them. I thank you. - John Hershman"



Flicker



Meadow Lark

Sing Little Bird

By Shirley Boyd Storey

Sweet little bird
high in the tree,
Come and sing
your song to me.
Fly upon my
window sill,
Sing agin your
melodious trill
You seem so happy
singing there
Free to flye
without a care

God provided
for your needs,
Just as He
remembered me.
Teach me how
to flye so free
To live my life
the same for Thee.
Come little bird,
and sing to me
Sing your Happy Melody.

Its amazing to me at times when I am putting together each issue of The Newcomer, how things seem to fall from thin air to help me fill the pages for our members. Well, it just so happened I needed another entry for the Quill and Ink section, and from my bookshelf I pulled my signed copy of Shirley Boyd Storey's poetry book, "Because He Lives," and found "Sing Little Bird" immediately. How appropriate for this page, as well as this edition. - Editor

What Good Is A Map?

Submitted by Janet Miller

The Newton County Historical Society has been gifted with three single maps of Beaver, Washington and Jefferson Townships. These maps all appear to have come from some sort of atlas. There is no printed date on any of the maps. On the Jefferson Township map the year 1873 is written in pencil on the edge of the map. After doing some research we believe these maps are from the years 1874-1876. This is a time period that we have little information about residents in our county. We have very little newspaper coverage at this time. So, what good is a map? It shows us landowners and names associated with our county that perhaps no one was aware. It also shows us roads that were located in different places than they are today.

In the last issue of *The Newcomer* we featured the Beaver Township map. Ross McKee, Kentland, gave us the Jefferson Township map that is printed in this issue. The Washington Township map will appear in the next issue. Also, included here is a list of Jefferson Township landowners and the commentary that accompanied the map.

Jefferson Township, Newton County, 1874-1876 Landowners

Range 9 West, Township 27 North

Section 1: P. Ferris, Geo. Pierce, T. S. Brecount, Charlotte Karson, Wilderson, Wm. Niese; **Section 2:** T. S. Brecount, Wm. Littlejohn, School House, Timothy White, G. W. White, Charlotte Karson; **Section 3:** Timothy White, J. Johnson, P. Wolf, T. W. Jones, Jos. Staton, Sarah Staton, Samuel Humbert; **Section 4:** C. T. Martin, R. N. Reed Hrs., I. C. Denney, M. Crawn; **Section 5:** Eli Pence, School House, John Whitaker, James Martin, S. Biddle, Jane Biddle; **Section 6:** James Martin.

Section 7: James Martin, Addison Williams; **Section 8:** M. Crawn, Joel Anderson, Addison Williams, John Whitaker, Elizabeth P. Montgomery; **Section 9:** Julia A. Knoff, M. Crawn, Elizabeth P. Montgomery, Moses Breese, A. G. Withrow, Mary J. Stonehill;

Section 10: Joseph White, W. B. West, J. Sell, Sarah Howenstine; **Section 11:** S. A. Strole, W. A. Strole, G. W. White, J. D. Conklin, Sarah Howenstine, J. Mc Adams, John H. Wyatt, R. D. Silliman; **Section 12:** J. Thompson, Jno. E. Patterson, Wm. L. Strole, J. H. Haworth, Charlotte Karson.

Section 13: A. J. Kent, R. D. Silliman, A. W. Kenoyer, N. Cook, G. Cummings; **Section 14:** Wm. Littlejohn, G. M. Herriman, A. Brown, C. Rettinger, J. Jackson; **Section 15:** A. J. Kent; **Section 16:** A. Rudesill, Moses Breese, Aaron Meyers, Richard White, A. J. Kent; **Section 17:** Jas. E. Watts, Addison Williams, John Shoaf, School House, James Kenoyer, C. B. Cones; **Section 18:** Addison Williams, G. M. Herriman, A. Shilling.

Section 19: Richard P. Harden, Ad. Williams, Catharine Parker, A. J. Kent; **Section 20:** C. B. Cones, Alex Meyers, James Kenoyer, Theodore Drake, Chas. V. Lupton, A. J. Kent, John Ade, E. L. Urmston; **Section 21:** A. J. Kent, G. A. Voss, C. B. Cones, H. S. McCullough, Flax Mill, Alex Sharp, M. R. Comparet, J. E. Brown, Town of Kentland, Brick ?; **Section 22:** A. J. Kent; **Section 23:** D. Denneau, Albert Moore, A. J. Kent, Chas. McNowum; **Section 24:** J. B. Thornton, John Stillman, J. W. Thornton, Wm. Foster, J. H. Perkins, Richard Currens Est., Stone Quarry. **Section 25:** McKee & Means, Stone Quarry, Peter R. Vanatta, W. L. Watson, Stephen Altpetre, Geo. McIntosh; **Section 26:** Peter R. Vanatta, L. Shipman Est., R. Spaulding;

Section 27: A. J. Kent, Edwin H. Ney, Wm. Burns, John McDermot; **Section 28:** Town of Kentland, A. J. Kent; **Section 29:** A. J. Kent; **Section 30:** A. J. Kent. **Section 31:** Edgar Preshler, N. West, D. T. Gillett, J. J. Bonham, H. L. Hinkle; **Section 32:** E. L. Urmston, Mary J. Cross, M. Jene, Edgar Preshler, J. C. D. Hinkle, John Stinebeck, A. Assendrop; **Section 33:** R. F. Seal, C. Ward, Gilbert Goff, A. J. Kent; **Section 34:** John McDermot, Edwin H. Ney, Wm. Burns, L. R. & C. F. Shackelford, John Shackelford, Wm E. Chancellor; **Section 35:** Wm. Ferguson, James Ferguson, Thos. Ferguson, T. & P. Mulligan; **Section 36:** J. McCabe, A. J. Kent, John Weist Est., Stephen Altpetre, Thos. McRoberts, T. & P. Mulligan, Henry Bers.

Range 9 West, Township 28 North:

Section 34: Wm. Littlejohn; **Section 35:** Wm. Littlejohn, Wm. A. Strole Est.; **Section 36:** John Sell, Wm. A. Strole Est.

Range 10 West, Township 27 North:

Section 1: James Martin, I. V. Speck, Kenoyer Hrs.; **Section 2:** James Crawl, A. J. Kent etal, O. Bush; **Section 11:** O. Bush, D. Reigart, H. East, I. V. Speck; **Section 12:** Sarah V. Speck, I. V. Speck; **Section 13:** J. Pierce, I. V. Speck, J. W. Dodson; **Section 14:** I. V. Speck, F. J. McHarvey, J. C. Boatman, School House.

Section 23: J. C. Boatman, A. J. Kent, Oscar Phelps; **Section 24:** Saml. Meyers, Wm. H. Drake, Warren Drake, L. E. Drake, F. Austin, John Strohme Est., Almond Houghton; **Section 25:** Almond Houghton, P. Easchback, F. Austin, G. Porteus, Thos. Cartan, Peter Easchback; **Section 26:** Oscar Phelps, L. J. Burditt, Michael Stienbeck, James Ferguson; **Section 35:** Chas. O. Smith, John Graves, Wm. O'Connell, Thos. Reynolds, S. B. Gillett; **Section 36:** N. West, School House, P. Gaynor, M. Gaynor, Nicholas Kirch, Wm. Childress, J. J. Bonham, Geo. Porteus.

and sister placed in Vermillion County in 1860 with her son Felix, and had noted that the Jacob and Elizabeth E. enumerated with that same family in 1870 had stated they were born in Illinois, made me think they were not Warner's children, as they were born in Indiana.

At that point, I had pretty much given up to the fact that I would not find Jacob between 1860-1890. I knew he had married Fannie Hoyes in Rensselaer in 1890 through marriage records, so I was able to locate him after that date in the Indiana census, but this 30-year period was a big, black hole!

One more attempt was made by searching 1880 utilizing the birth date of Jacob in the ancestry.com search one more time. This time, I found a Jacob, and much more! All of the clues from previous finds were coming together to reveal the story of the French family.

Had it not been for ancestry.com, I probably would still be searching microfilm records and racking up miles on the Buick!

After the facts were gathered, I wanted to work on the photographs. Since the French family had members who attended Goodland High School, I thought they could be found in yearbooks. The society website has a complete list of Goodland High School graduates, as well as other schools, so finding the French boys was easy. The Goodland library has copies of several "Tivoli" yearbooks, and I did find a few pictures. To my surprise, they had elementary yearbooks as well, and I cannot wait to show Lori her fifth and sixth grade class photo! Unfortunately, I was unable to identify any of the photographs.

I searched through the Veteran's records that we have at the Resource Center and found a file for Owen F. "Duke" French, Lori's uncle. The family group sheets that Gerald Born created and donated to the center from Beaver Township had a Charlie French, a possible cousin, but my search didn't include him. There was a John French family in Kentland. John was the owner of the *Kentland Gazette* from 1877-1891. In fact, Lori's aunt Addie was the Goodland correspondent for the *Kentland Enterprise* and the *Brook Reporter* during her lifetime. My instinct tells me that the Kentland French family is related to Lori, but that would be another search for another time.

I had exhausted all of the resources, so now it is time to begin writing the family history.

Organize your paperwork, and then

your thoughts. You might want to make an outline of the generations—you could use an ancestry chart or utilize software such as Family Tree Maker to organize your data. It will give you reports, ancestry charts, and



Towbridge Cemetery, 2007. Many members of the French Family are interred here. Photo by Beth Bassett.

can even guide you through publication and booking your family tree. It has many features that can enhance your family story. There are other software programs as well. I hope my search for the French family has encouraged you to shake the leaves of your family tree—it's never too late!

The French Family of Newton County

Philip French was a farmer who was born March 3, 1790 in Kentucky. Little did he know that 240 years after his death, his great-great-great-great grandchildren, Lori Richey and her cousin Dick French, would be interested in how their family tree developed over the years.

Philip married a young woman named Sarah from Virginia and settled in Kentucky making their way of life. Their first born, a son, Warner was born in Kentucky in 1812. He was the first in a family of ten children that grew up in Vermillion County, and it would be his lineage that Lori and Dick belonged.

Warner's siblings included Margaret, born between 1810-15, married Christian Leatherman on October 19, 1831; Susan, born between 1815-20; Melinda, born between 1815-20, married an Abraham Lester on December 21, 1843. Abraham had a sister Mary that would become Warner's third wife. Records indicate that these four siblings were born in Kentucky.

Dick's information about the lineage showed a child named Lovis. There are no records that match this child's name, so it is

possible that he died at birth, or in infancy. Had he lived, there would have been four boys listed under the age of five in the 1830 census, as Warner was 28 in 1830. Other family members we know were born in Indiana. They were Jacob, born 1827; Felix, born 1829; Isaac, born 1831; Elizabeth B., 1834; Sarah E., born 1837.

Philip and Sarah lived and farmed in Helt Township, Vermillion County, Indiana, by 1827, they may have owned land, as they were noted in census records as farmers. They are buried in the Towbridge Cemetery, near Hillsboro, Indiana; Philip passing on March 31, 1847, and Sarah, many years later, dying as a widow on September 15, 1880.

Not much can be found regarding the lifestyle of the

family through most of the years of their lives, only facts and documents remain to tell their story. They document the advancement in the years of the family members, the prosperity that would reflect in the farm, eventually placed in Sarah and Philip's son Felix, and the coming and going of the neighbors. Death was also reflected in the census records, and grandchildren of Sarah would be listed in the 1860 census records in her household, and possibly another by the name of William.

In 1870, Felix had chosen a bride, Nancy A., and they had three children, Isaac, age 7, Mary, age 6, and George, age 1. Also listed was Jacob, 14 and Elizabeth, 16, who were placed in the home after the death of their parents, Warner and Mary French. In a separate household, next door was Sarah.

Warner must have had a hard life. He would have three wives, and raise ten, possibly eleven children. State marriage records indicate that at one time he spelled his name as Warren. His first wife was Juditha A. Rush. They were married on January 29, 1829, and were living on their own in 1830 in Vermillion County, Indiana with their first son, William D., born about 1830. They had two more children, George, born 1834 and Humphrey, born 1835. Juditha died in 1836. Where she is buried is not known. She must have left quite a legacy, as her name would be carried into future generations.

In 1840, Warner and his new wife, the

there were ten children listed, with three boys between the age of under five years of age, and only nine children listed. Where was Warner? Knowing that Philip had died in 1847, after the 1830-1840 search, I moved on to the 1860 census records. Eventually I would search all of the years of the census records, filling in details about births and creating an ancestry chart for the French family. Prior to this family search, I wasn't aware that the 1850 federal census was the first full enumeration of households in Indiana. My family arrived in America 1857, so I had naturally began looking in the 1860 census for the Zoborosky family. The 1850 census filled in a lot of unknown information on the French family.

Not only did I find Sarah and the remains of her family in 1860, Vermillion County, Helt Township, but I found here other French families as well. I would be able to tie these families together with further research. An abbreviation of the enumeration appears in diagram C.

Take a close look at these entries – what can you determine from them?

Did you notice that Warner was not listed here? Where is he? The obvious place to look would be the 1850 federal census.

Work on one generation at a time. Answer all of your questions for each generation as much as you possibly can—this will help you when you go to the next generation line. Write your speculations down, and any questions you might have about the other generations for future reference. This will keep your thoughts focused on the particular line you are working now.

I found Warner in the 1830 Indiana census, he had ventured out on his own, and had married his first wife Juditha and had a child. We were on our way! My methods of searching census records each generation continued through all of the census years, giving me a better idea of the family line. I then went on to look up birth, death and marriage records.

When I began working on the third generation that resided in Newton County at the turn of the century, Jacob Owen, I knew that obituaries would be available, as well as

the United States, as well as International sites. Each site is unique and created by volunteers, therefore content can be extensive to bare bones.

I visited the Vermillion County web site thinking I might find some information there on the French family, as well as a listing for the Trowbridge Cemetery. Sure enough, they had a listing. Instead of the spelling being Trowbridge, it is *Towbridge*, and many members of the French family were listed there. Volunteers in 2000 and 2004 had walked and transcribed the information from the stones. I visited the cemetery, and was grateful to those volunteers, as many of the stones were unreadable today. Seeing the stones validated many of my speculations, such as the daughter of Philip and Sarah, Margaret, as well as other children that died at a young age. My advice - take a few minutes and read through the different links found at the different web sites—you never know what you can find!

The death records and cemetery listings for the local French family revealed enough information for me to look for obits at our resource center. That was my next step. The early newspapers, prior to 1900, rarely printed a death notice as we have come to appreciate in today's publications. From time to time a mention would be made in the local news columns. If you can take a friend along to assist you with the process of "the hunt," not only will you enjoy the research a lot more, their help will be greatly appreciated.

A key piece of information about the second generation, Warner French, was revealed in Jacob French's obit. It stated that his mother died at

childbirth and his father not long after and that he grew up in the homes of relatives. Now there is some information! We know when Jacob was born (1852,) so we now know when his mother and father passed. When I was searching for Jacob Owen in 1860 and 1870, I could not find him in Indiana. His obituary told me that he had lived with relatives, so naturally, being an infant, he had to be placed with family members. I began searching census records.

This time I searched for Warner's siblings. I already had Jacob's grandmother

Newton County was organized in 1860. Alexander Sharp was elected Auditor; Z. Spittler, Clerk; John Ade, Recorder; Elijah Schriver, Sheriff; Samuel McCullough, Treasurer; and William Russell, Thomas R. Barker and Michael Coffelt, County Commissioners. The present county officials are, J. S. Veach, Auditor; D. A. Pfrimmer, Treasurer; Andrew Hall, Clerk; Ezra B. Jones, Recorder; and Jira Skinner, Sheriff.

Washington and Jefferson Townships were originally one, and bore the name of Washington. Jefferson Township was organized later in 1860, Reuben White being elected Trustee. The same office is now filled by his son, Joseph White. James Martin, Isaac Speck, William Ross, John Peacock, William Littlejohn, A. J. Kent, John Ade, Nathaniel West, Sylvester Root, George Herriman and Alexander Sharp, were among the first settlers. Dr. J. A. Hatch, a member of the last Legislature, was the first physician and surgeon.

At the first election for county officers, Jefferson Township cast only 17 votes. Miss Lillie West, daughter of Nathaniel West, was the first child born in the town. The first death occurring was that of Samuel, son of Cyrus Leaming.

Kentland, the county seat, is located in Jefferson, on Sections 21 and 28, on the line of the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis R.R. It was laid out by A. J. Kent, and was named after him. He also built the first hotel, and D. A. McHolland, afterward Col. of the fifty-first Indiana Infantry, the first residence. John Peacock and William Ross were connected with the first business house established in the place. The population at the present time is estimated at 1,200 to 1,500. This is one of the great grain depots of the county, having four elevators, and shipments amounting to about 1,000,000 bushels annually.

Kentland has a very fine public school building, erected in 1872, at a cost of about \$25,000. The Principal of the school, B. F. Neisz, is also the County Superintendent. There are four churches in the place. In 1870 almost the entire business part of the town, including the hotel, was destroyed by fire, but it has since been rebuilt in a more substantial manner. There are at present about 40 business houses, 1 bank, 6 law firms, 6 physicians and 3 real estate agencies. All lands embraced in the township are tillable. The principal products are corn, oats and flax.

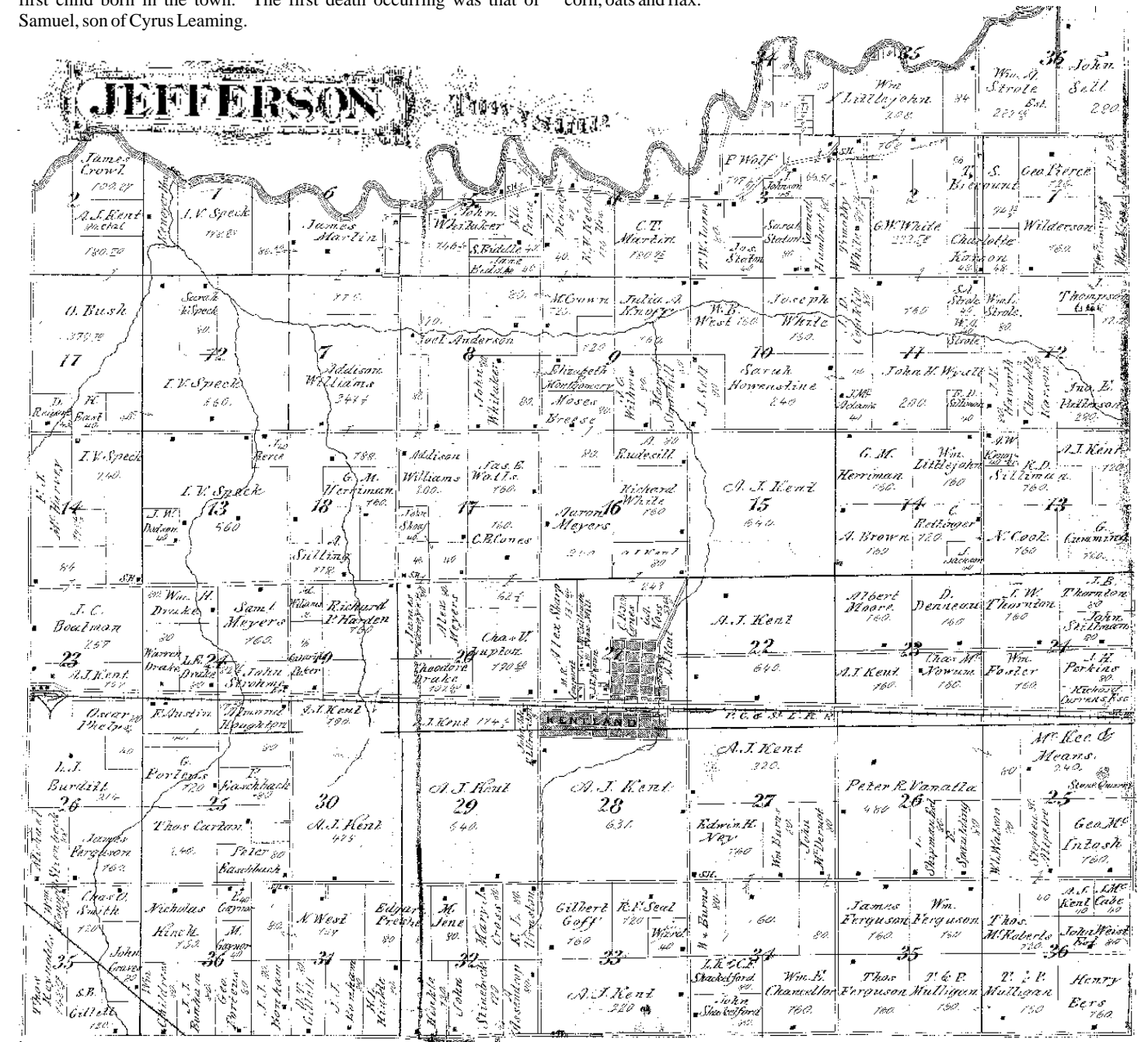
Diagram C
1860 US Federal Census - Vermillion County, Helt Township, Indiana

Persons at this abode as of June, 1860 in this family:	Age	Sex	Profession	Real Estate /Property Value	Birth place
French, Sarah	63	F			Virginia
French, Sarah E.	22	F			Indiana
French, Felix	29	M	Farmer	2200/765	Indiana
French, Elizabeth	7	F			Indiana
Henrietta Lester	13	F			Indiana
William French	22	M	Farmer	/100	Indiana
Separate household – two households from Sarah:					
French, Jacob	33	M	Farmer	800/507	Indiana
French, Johanna H.	30	F			Ohio
Phillip	11	M			
Thomas H.	8	M			
Mary E.	6	F			
Issac R.	2	M			
James E. Harris	25	M			Ohio

This is when speculation begins. Get your calculator out and keep it handy. You will want to determine the year of birth of each person by subtracting the age from the year of the census. Take note of the birthplace of the individuals. This will place the family in a location (place of birth,) at a specific time (age.)

Take a look around the neighborhood. Many times you will find other family members nearby—as in this case, or you might find neighbors that could eventually be spouses of your family members.

cemetery records. Thanks to the hard work of the Newton County Historical Society members in 1997, our cemeteries were walked and recorded. These files are currently on the society's web site, with a surname search for easy access for most of them. The Newton County WPA birth and death records, marriage and census records are located there. The Indiana State Library has an online search capability for marriage records in Indiana. Our society's web site is hosted by rootsweb.com. This is a free access site that has links to every county in



HOME is where your story begins

by Beth Bassett

My association with the historical society began in 1999 when I visited the Resource Center in Kentland to research my ancestors. Since that time, my interest has expanded to researching local history as well as helping others discover and follow the paper trails that lead to their ancestors.

These discoveries at one time could take weeks of visiting libraries, courthouses, and local historical societies, sometimes traveling great distances to visit cemeteries to become more familiar with the area where our ancestors lived. But to the earnest researcher, you really do not mind "the hunt," as I call it, as these time-consuming tasks are usually well worth the effort.

Utilizing federal, state and local records such as census enumerations, birth and death records, obituaries and marriage records is highly recommended to begin a family search. Accessing these records years prior usually turned out to be a tedious task. As time has gone by, access to many of the records in these facilities are now available on the world wide web, aka the internet, making research as simple as a click away—well, sometimes!

There are several free sites you can access for information, but the paid subscriber sites usually go into much more detail, and generally have the sources of the information documented with the records.

Probably the most important tool you can have is an open mind. You must acknowledge the fact that mistakes may have been made when the records were created. I honestly think that all census takers used goose quills for pens when enumerating the citizens of their district . . . taking a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the enumerator's writing can help deciphering the writing, but not always. It is also true that names were spelled as they sounded, and since there wasn't a given time when the census taker would arrive, it is quite possible that not all members of the household were present. Therefore the person giving the information may not have been fully informed as to ages and places of birth. My advice if this happens to you is to

document the information and then compare it to other records you research along the way.

Two of my favorite sources are the census records and obituaries. It is amazing what you can find in the neighborhood around your family in the census records, and the obituaries often reveal many personal aspects of the individual, such as their interests or hobbies. I have discovered the maiden and married names of parents, sisters, brothers, cousins, aunts and uncles, as well as their locations at the time of the



The Goodland branch of the French family tree. left to right, Addie, Joann, Judy, Owen "Duke," back row, Doris, Jake and Fannie. - Lori Richey Collection

deceased death in obituaries. Knowing the location of close relatives opens the door to other research areas, adding to your family history.

You can expect to create a mountain of paper during your research, so be prepared to organize and file them upon creation. When a researcher can turn one piece of paper into a three inch thick folder, a sense of satisfaction comes over you—because that file is proof that you may have fallen down the rabbit hole—but you found your way out and a bit of your family beginnings along the way!

My goal with this story of the French family is to share with the *Newcomer* readers my methods of researching a family history, and stimulate an interest in them to

French Family of Goodland

seek their ancestors, and ultimately submit it for publication in this space in upcoming editions! Selfish, I know, but my hope is that if you do decide to jump into the rabbit hole, you will have a great time and share your experience and family story with others.

My beautician for the past 20 years has been Lori Richey. She is a shirt tail relative, and over the years our association has turned into a solid friendship. She is very much aware of the interest that I have in researching local history, as more often than not I carry my laptop in with me during my appointment, to write or review articles and stories for an upcoming book or newsletter during my beautification process, which takes hours, by the way. She frequently mentioned her family ties over the years. I asked if she had any kind of documentation on her ancestors, the French family of Goodland, which she replied that she did, but not much. I offered her my assistance in finding more about them and she took me up on my offer, sharing her information emailed to her from a cousin Richard E. "Dick" French in 2000, naming her great-great-great grandfather and his family members.

Analyzing Lori's Information

Dick's email revealed four generations of the French family, Lori and her cousin shared the same great grandfather, Jacob French.

Here is Dick's email:

"Our first known relative was Philip French, born March 3, 1790, He was traced to Kentucky. He married a Sarah about 1825. She died September 15, 1880 after at least ten children. She is buried in Trowbridge Cemetery near Hillsboro, Vermillion County, Indiana. Philip died March 31, 1847 and is buried near Sarah. Their children were: Margaret, Susan, Malinda, Warner, Lovis, Jacob, Felix, Isaac, Elizabeth B., and Sarah Ellen. Warner is our great grandfather, born in Kentucky, lived in Vermillion County, Warren County and Jasper County, Indiana. No record of him can be found after 1856.

"Warner had four wives, Juditha Rush, married January 29, 1829 died 1836, their

children were William D. born 1832, George, born 1834 and Humphrey, born 1835; Charity Rush, probably a sister of Juditha, died December 22, 1847, children of Charity were Owen, Juditha A., and Mary. There may have also been an Anna; Mary Luster, married August 16, 1848, died February 26, 1856, their children were Isaac, Elizabeth and Jacob, my grandfather; Elizabeth, papers of Aunt Addie indicated that she was Warner's fourth wife. There is doubt that she was his wife, probably a sister. Elizabeth was born 1854 and died in 1940. She is buried in Rensselaer, but we never found a grave.

"Jacob married Fanny Hoysse of Rensselaer. They had three children, Leonard, Addie and Owen "Jake" Owen was my father. Addie never married and Leonard had no children.

"There are a lot of questions about the family we can't answer and no one is left to ask."

She also had an email from another cousin, who was tracing the very early generations in England for the French family.

Getting Started

One of the first things that you should do is take note of what you know now, and work back from there if you do not have any information at all. Who are the parents; the grandparents; their occupations; where did they live; where are they buried. These simple questions can bring forth information to get you started with your research. Lori filled me on her generation information that would bring us up to date on her family.

There was a reference to a family feud in Lori's info, but I

was unable to follow it via the internet. Perhaps that is path she will want to follow some day. She also had 20-30 pictures from an album that at one time belonged to her grandfather, Jake French. We speculated that the photos may be cousins and others of his generation. Lori recognized some of them, but not many.

Checking Official Documents

My first task was to use the email information to fill out a family group record (see diagram A.)

The first know generation, Philip and Sarah (Unknown) French originally were in Kentucky. We know their birth and death dates, and that they were buried in Trowbridge Cemetery near Hillsboro, Vermillion County, Indiana. Since they were buried there, it is likely that they lived there.

This generation lived at a time when there were federal census records, but they only enumerated the head of the household, and counted the number of male and females in the household with an age range, not their exact ages, (see related diagram B.) In Indiana, 1850, they began a more detailed enumeration, and since Sarah did not pass until 1880, there would be some details available on the family. We knew that Philip and Sarah were buried in Vermillion County, and he died in 1847, so he should be in the 1840 Federal Census. So that is where my search began.

I turned to the internet for this information. I have a personal subscription to www.ancestry.com, a wonderful research tool. However, if I would not have had accessibility to the web, I could have gone to the libraries to use a computer, or to read the census records on microfilm if I was unable to operate a computer. Most of our local

libraries have our county census records, but rarely state or nationwide. That is why [ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) is a wonderful site—you have the entire universe at your fingertips. Other records on line, such as other census years, social security death index information, birth and death records that could be associated with your search are also displayed.

The Valparaiso library has a great genealogy department and were very helpful to me in 1999 with my family research project. The internet was not as popular at that time as it is today, so I manually searched through their microfilm records. I know of others who have researched at the Tippecanoe Historical Society and Library, the Indiana State Library and Historical Society, and the Allen County Library with much success.

After finding Philip and Sarah in the 1830 federal census of Indiana, I could estimate birth dates for all of the family members. Except,

Family Group Record Ancestry.com

Prepared By _____ Relationship to Preparer _____ Date _____ Ancestral Chart # _____ Family Unit # _____

Address _____

Husband		Occupation(s)	City	County	State or Country	Religion
Born	Date—Day, Month, Year					
Christened						Name of Church
Married						Name of Church
Died						Cause of Death
Buried		Gen/Place				Date Will Written/Proved
Father		Other Wives				
Mother						
Wife		Occupation(s)	Religion			
Born						
Christened						Name of Church
Died						Cause of Death
Buried		Gen/Place				Date Will Written/Proved
Father		Other Husbands				
Mother						

Sex	M/F	Children	Birth			Birthplace			Date of first marriage/Place		Date of Death/Cause			Employer
			Given Names	Day	Month	Year	City	County	St./Ctry.	Name of Spouse	City	County	State/Country	
		1												
		2												
		3												

Diagram A. The Family Group Record is an essential tool when researching, recording and organizing family facts. You may download this free of charge at www.ancestry.com.

Ancestry.com 1850 United States Federal Census For more family history charts and forms, visit www.ancestry.com/save/charts/anchart.htm

Page: _____ State: _____ County: _____ City: _____ Call Number/URL: _____ Enumeration Date: _____

Dwelling—houses and other buildings in the order of enumeration	Language spoken at home	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family	Description			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age	Value of Real Estate	Place of Birth Naming the State, Territory, or Country	Married with wife the	Number of years	Foreign born 20 years and over	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict
			Age	Sex	Color or race							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Diagram B. This census form as well as other years are available at www.ancestry.com, free of charge. Many other research forms are also available.