

The Newcomer

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Indiana's YOUNGEST County



Ladies and Gentlemen . . . Dick Potts, the Hurry'n Hoosier

By Beth Bassett

"When the Modifieds move to the track, I always experience a cold chill of excitement. These are the best, the champions of speed at the track. Hundreds of dollars go into their care and construction. Special suspension, quick change gears, wide tires for traction and powered by motors that defy description. The fastest things on wheels at Henry's Speedway. Piloted by a rare breed of men, these cars can always be relied on to provide the spectators with heart-stopping thrills aplenty." Reprinted from Race and Rant by Buddy Pullins 1972.

Over the past 50 years, Dick Potts of Morocco has spent most of his weekends turning left. Dick Potts is a race car driver, a very accomplished race car driver. He also owns and operates Dick Potts Auto Parts in Morocco. His roots go deep into the community, and his story is one for the record books.

Dick is the son of the late Raymond and Artis (Camblin) Potts of Morocco, born in 1937.

His Grandfather was Everett Camblin who owned the Hilltop Farm, which was located southwest of Morocco. When Dick was six years old, his sister Millie died of appendicitis. After this tragedy, it was hard for the family to remain at Hilltop farm, so it was sold, new acreage purchased and they moved to another farm, just south of Dick's present home.

Over the next few years, Dick's childhood would once again cross paths with the loss of a loved one, his mother. At this point, his grandfather, Charles "Kite" Potts, was living at the farm where the Cowichan totem pole is located – the former Deardurff home; Dick spent a lot of time visiting his Grandpa Potts, and eventually, he and his father would move in with him there.

It would be his Aunt Margaret who suggested he join the service. So, when he was 17, he joined the Air Force, and immediately was shipped to California for basic training, and then to Texas, then to Virginia, and eventually to the North Carolina Air Force Base. After 2 ½ years, he returned to Virginia and worked as a painter. He returned to Indiana

in the 1960s. He did a variety of things during that time period, such as towing wrecks or abandoned cars for the county and state; owning a Standard Service Station located at the junction of US 41 and Hwy 114, in Morocco, and he continued to do carpentry work.

The towing service opened the doors to what would later evolve into Dick Potts Auto Parts.

"At that time, after an accident, or abandonment, the officials would just leave the car there and call me to come pick it up. I owned a lot just east of the trailer park in Morocco and I would park these vehicles there. If someone would come into my service station looking for a part, I would send them to that lot to look for the part they needed. It was good money, but I'm sure I lost quite a bit too in stolen parts."

With the building of I-65 east of Morocco, the business along Hwy 41 dwindled, and he eventually moved out to his current location, west of Morocco at his

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Dick Potts took his first checker in this 1936 Coupe with a 1947 Ford engine at Rensselaer's Raceway Park. Frank Kay was the owner of the #92, the number Potts has taken to 23 Track Championships. Dick Potts Collection.

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home, working at the Auto Parts full time. Well, maybe not all the time, for what we all know best about Dick Potts is that he is a winning race car driver, and I don't believe Dick thinks stock car racing is work.

"I drove for the first time in 1960. One day, Frank Kay and I were watching Maynard Derflinger (of Morocco) race at Rensselaer Raceway Park, I turned to Frank and said we should be able to do that!" Dick said.

In time, the two purchased a '34 Ford Coupe from Howard Purdy and they took it to Rensselaer Raceway for their first run.

"We wrecked. Bent everything," he said. Dick would not drive the next car that Frank bought, perhaps because of the results of the first race/first car – but Frank didn't have any success at all with his replacement driver, and eventually, Dick and Frank would team up again to hit the track. They went back to Rensselaer Raceway on a Sunday night. Dick won the second heat and finished second in the slow consolation race. This was 1961.

"Our speed was about 70 mph, hitting the 20s and 19s seconds, driving Ford engines at the time. I turned the track record twenty years later in the 14s." he said. They were running Chevy engines at that time.

From there he went on to own his own car, collecting numerous sponsors along the way. They included Buddy Pullins of Rensselaer in 1965 and 1966; Lyn Sonders of Hebron, 1969; went back into

the circuit on his own; returned in 1969 with a Ford engine driving late models for Jim Putts of Rensselaer. Later Jerry Barrett of Boswell bought the car and Jerry drove for it for a while. B&G Citgo at Gary was a sponsor for four to five years; and then he went back to own sponsorship.

"My best sponsor was Johnson's Well Drilling of Valparaiso. We had two cars on our team at that time, the #92, my car and the J4, belonging to Johnson. We were a team for five to six years, and upon Mr. Johnson's passing, I went back to sponsoring my own car." Dick recalled.

Dick's job at the factory was paying him about \$300.00 per week; winning a race he could bring home up to \$1,200.00. The money would only get bigger as Dick's career would expand to bigger races throughout the country, collecting the checkers along the way.

"What is this rivalry I've heard about between you and Earl J. Hubert?" I asked.

A wry smile comes to Dick's face and said that they were shirt-tail relation. They were both racing at Rensselaer Raceway and Henry's Speedway at the time.

"We were friendly rivals, a lot of beating and banging, knocking around at each other. During one season I was leading him in points, and the final race was at Rensselaer Raceway. I had arrived at the track not seeing Earl J. anywhere, so I just figured he wasn't going to show up and I was going to win the championship right then. I looked

up at one time, and there was Earl J's car being towed into the track, by him in MY tow truck!" Dick explained.

"Apparently he had broken down on 114 on the way to the race, not too far from my place. He had walked across the fields and borrowed my tow truck" he finished with a grin.

That would be one of the 10 Championships Dick would claim at Rensselaer Raceway. Earl J passed away in 2009.

One season after seeing Larry Day run 6 straight races at Rensselaer Speedway with a super modified, - and win those six races, Dick Potts decided to change from the coupes he'd been driving since 1961, to super modifieds.

"Larry interpreted the rules better than any of us and developed a super modified with a D Wing. This was in the 1970s, at that time I was driving a '36 Chevy Coupe. One day, a farmer from Fowler by the name of Mr. Ed Gaylord asked me if I knew where I could find a car like Larry's. I told him I did, a man by the name of Larry Cope at LeRoy, Indiana, an engine builder had one for sale."

Gaylord bought it, nicknamed it the "Virgie Mae Special," after his wife, and Dick Potts drove it, another page added to the history book.

The year 2010 marks Dick's 50th year in racing. His top speeds at Kamp are averaging 110 mph. I asked him what has changed the <Continued on page four>



Fifty years of driving brought several styles of the #92 race cars. Upper left, 1990s; upper right, '70-80s car; bottom left, the '36 coupe spins out, but recovers to continue the race, this was in the 1960s; lower right, the car that Dick drove for Buddy Pullins in 1965-66. Dick Potts Collection.

ON LINE WITH OUR OFFICERS

It's here! 2010! Newton County's birthday! Newton County's Sesquicentennial! Newton County is officially 150 years old! Imagine life as it was 150 years ago! Our county was all prairies, lakes and swamps, with a few groves of trees standing here and there! But, look what has happened in the last 150 years!

The Newton County Historical Society is excited about helping the different Newton County communities with information and research so that each community may have their own "Sesqui celebration"! A letter has been sent to all town boards and to township trustees where there is no town, to offer our services for their celebration this year! Let's get excited! Let's all celebrate!

If you missed our February meeting, you missed a wonderful "Sesquicentennial Landmarks" power-point presentation designed by Beth Bassett. This presentation takes you through each of our ten townships showing the landmarks that are already marked in those townships and the ones the Society is marking in honor of our 150 year celebration! This spring watch for these new signs and markers in your community!

Our sign committee has already installed signs on major roads at the entrances to our county proclaiming Newton County's Sesquicentennial. Look for these as you travel in and out of the county. Our Society will be hosting other events throughout the year, so watch the local newspapers for announcements.

Did you enjoy the last "Newcomer?" It was our first issue with color. The Cowichan Tribe Totem Pole looked so great in color! We hope to have more color issues in the future. Keep those memberships coming in!

The Society has had some wonderful programs at our meetings this fall and winter. In August we were treated to the story of Kentland's "Murphy's Food King". Bernie Murphy, with the help of store owners, Colleen Clifton and Shannon Hutsell, told the history of their store. Murphy's has had three locations in Kentland and this year they will be celebrating their 66th anniversary. When their first store opened there were seven grocery stores in Kentland.

"A Tour of Northern Newton County with Sig Boezeman" was presented in September by member, Larry Lyons. This

power point presentation made us all much more familiar with points of interest in Lincoln Township.

For October we were pleased to have Stephanie Frischie provide us a program about The Nature Conservancy in Newton County. Stephanie is the Seed Manager at the Nature Conservancy and presented us with a power point presentation of the area. In 1996 the Indiana Chapter of the Nature Conservancy acquired 7,200 acres, most of which lie in the former lake bed of Beaver Lake.

At our November meeting we laughed all evening as Mike & Mara Davis with their sons, Garrett and Trevor, furnished us with "A Humorous Recollection of John Yost!" John Yost, among many other endeavors, was a past president of our Society. We enjoyed the evening immensely and were honored to have John's brother, Don, and family from Wingate IN, with us for the evening's entertainment.

Christmas, 2009, is past, but we want to stress how we enjoyed the Christmas Open House and all the decorations, music, Christmas "goodies", and window displays our members and friends provided for the community to enjoy. Thanks to all of you.

We are happy to announce that Donna LaCosse has accepted and that the Indiana State Historical Society and Indiana Historical Bureau have approved her as our County Historian. Donna wears many hats, and we happy that she (and Harold) have chosen us to be one of her favorites to wear! Donna has a lifetime of experience in collecting and preserving, as well as sharing the history of our county. She is an asset to our society, and as a volunteer along with her husband, Harold, at the Resource Center, they have assisted visitors to our county seeking information about their ancestors.

Stop by our Resource Center and get a hands-on close-up look at Newton County History. -Janet, Mike, Becky and Darlene

Family History Division and the Resource Center

With the winter months, we have assisted several ancestors of Newton County residents locate and expand their family trees. Our website, www.ingenweb.org/innewton has had over 100,000 visitors since its inception, and many accolades have been sent our way regarding the informa-

tion that it contains for research. It is without a doubt, the easiest way to find your Newton County roots, as it contains county and local records that can validate anyone's assumptions regarding their heritage.

The website is achieving what we had hoped that it would accomplish. We have had digital transmissions of several family histories for our records, as well as publication in our newsletter, The Newcomer. After all, this is the purpose of our society - to collect and preserve, as well as educate those inquiring about Newton County and her residents.

Becky Lyons has been busy keeping the acquisitions desk clear at the Resource Center. Our wonderful window displays have prompted many donations of local memorabilia for preservation. Becky has volunteered to enter into our journals each gift, tag it or stamp it with an identification number - an endless job - just her organizational skills keep her on top of this game!

There is a lot of excitement in the air about your Sesquicentennial this year - members have put their thinking caps on - and we hope to educate and reacquaint our residents to the heritage of our county. Decisions are in the works as to the best way to accomplish this in new and exciting displays at the Resource Center.

We invite you to join us at a Family History Division meeting on the 4th Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Resource Center in Kentland. We are a small group with BIG ideas, and could utilize the skills and abilities of our members! Here's to a great spring! - Beth, Janet and Donna

Join Our Membership!

Annual dues are valid Jan. 1 - Dec. 31. Must be a member of the general society to join the Family History Division.
 General Society: \$17.00
 Family History: \$5.00
Total for both: \$22.00
 Lifetime General Society: \$125.00
 Lifetime Family History Division: \$50.00
Total for both \$175.00

Membership includes free copies of *The Newcomer*; monthly notification of meeting programs.

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years.

“Money – the cost of sponsorship is expensive; parts are double the price they used to be and so are the tires.”

Speaking of tires, how do you suppose Dick got the nick name Hurry ‘n Hoosier? At one time, Hoosier Tire sponsored seven dirt track racers to test new tires. They dubbed them the Magnificent Seven. During the introductions at one of the races, as Dick approached the place on the track for driver introductions the announcer stated: “and last but not least, we have Dick Potts of Morocco, Indiana – the Hurry ‘n Hoosier!”

“It just kind of stuck with me after that,” he said.

“So, what do you think of Dale Earnhardt, Sr.?” I asked.

“People used to say that I was as intimidating as him and that I would run down my own grandmother to get the checkers. I wouldn’t run down my grandmother, my grandpa maybe, but I’d sure go after the checkers,” he said.

Dick attributes Bud Webber as the biggest influence of his racing career; he patterned himself after him while racing alongside. From watching Bud beat and bang and win races, he created his own style. Bud Webber was from Streator, Illinois. He drove a Hudson Terraplane. Dick describes him as “big, bald headed and an aggressive driver.” When Dick was a rookie, the top teams were the Leaches and the

Gilberts.

Dick has a friend that built modified frames, a fabricator by the name of Denny Kingman who lived at that time in Danville, Illinois. He told Dick that he wanted to go to South Carolina and work there, so he sent out resumes to various owners. One day Denny got a call from a fellow who said he was Richard Childress. Naturally, who would believe that Richard Childress would call you? Denny told the caller: “Quit screwing with me Dick, where are we racing this weekend?”

Childress replied: “This isn’t Dick Potts, here’s my number, call me back.”

The rest is history for Denny Kingman – he went on to build all of the frames for Dale Earnhardt’s cars for 10 years. Then he joined the Quaker State Team, whom Steve Kinser of Southern Indiana drove; then on to Daryl Waltrip’s team and eventually back to Childress. Eventually he became owner of a successful fuel pump manufacturing company, and a sponsor for Dick Potts. The friendship remains today.

On occasion, Dick would take his dirt track set up to several asphalt tracks. He was very successful, and in the late 1970s the opportunity to drive full time asphalt came his way. At that time he was driving for Jim Putts of Rensselaer, and had a season to finish with him, so he turned down the offer. Had he taken that offer, Dick’s life may have changed completely, as the offer included a possible USAC contract.

Local fans were happy to hear that he wasn’t leaving their tracks – watching Dick race was always a thrill.

Today he races at Kamp Motor Speedway and Kankakee Raceway Park. In 2006 he was inducted into the Dirt Track Hall of Fame in the Six Time Category. Much like his friend Denny who received the call from Richard Childress, Dick didn’t believe that the Hall of Fame was calling him. He too asked for a phone number to call back and legitimize the call. My guess is this kind of “prank” calling happens quite a bit amongst good racing friends.

One race in West Virginia in 1995 went wrong for Dick. He explained that they inadvertently left the collar off the steering column and he lost control of the car. As he went careening toward the fence he saw people standing there and did his best to avoid hitting them. This resulted in his leg being broken in four places, cracked elbow, concussion and several abrasions and bruises. Another race at Henry’s later broke his pelvis. But still he races – and still he loves it.

“And, what would you say was your sweetest race?” I asked.

“Well, my sweetest race, I didn’t win. It was the World Dirt Championship race in 1986. \$60,000 to win, \$10,000 for second place. I qualified third and eventually made it up to second. Freddy Smith, a well-known gentleman racecar driver was leading the way. He pulled away from all of us



Upper left, the Super Modified #92, the “Virgie Mae Special.” owned by Ed Gaylord; bottom left, the #92 driven from 1970-73; right, Dick accepts a 1973 Feature Winner Trophy from Ed White at Rensselaer Raceway. Dick Potts Collection.

and we couldn't catch him. I made it up to second, and by chance there was a yellow flag at the end of the race with about 10 laps to go. I thought, well, I might as well try for that \$60,000, thinking I might catch him. I couldn't keep up with him, he pulled away and I finished second."

Dick recalled a race that he and friend Dick Ludlow participated in Eau Claire, Wisconsin - the Budweiser 200.

"It was really, really cold. The purse was \$11,500 to win. We arrived late, but they added a heat, which I won and was able to get into the big race the next day.

"It was so cold, that the water pump blew and the fan went through the radiator. Well, here we were in an area where we knew no-one. So we asked around, and someone asked if we had talked to Pete Parker. Now Pete was a BIG iron worker - a very BIG guy, and was the pole sitter for the next day's race. He told me he could find them a radiator and get the parts store in town to open for a new water pump, but first asked, do you guys drink beer?"

After a pause, Dick continued, "well, we did and at 4 o'clock the next morning we were invited to stay at Pete's house." Dick and Ludlow didn't realize that Pete lived north of Milwaukee . . . now consider how far apart Eau Clair and Milwaukee are . . . by switching drivers off and on during the ride, they made it safely and hit the sack for the night. They let Dick sleep in and when he awoke, Pete's wife fixed breakfast and offered to take him to Pete. On the way over, she said that she hoped that the race that day didn't turn out like last year. Dick said he asked her what happened, and she explained that Pete got mad at the flagman, didn't agree with the call he had made, climbed up the flag stand and beat him up. From this point Dick said he knew a bit about Pete's temperament.

"With the help of Pete, we were ready to run the race. I started in the back of the race, and won it, passing Pete Parker on the way. After the race, Ludlow and I discussed between ourselves as to who was going to return the parts they had borrowed from Pete. Knowing Pete's temper, and the fact that we had just won the race, Ludlow refused to do it, so I walked over and handed him the parts, slowly. He looked at me and exclaimed "How could you do this to me after I got you fixed up for the race? This is my hometown and people are never going to let me forget this!"

"I didn't booger you did I?" Dick replied.

"No, you didn't." Pete returned.



The brand new #92 race car driven in 1995 in West Virginia that wrecked. He received a broken leg, concussion, cracked elbow and several bruises and scrapes as his trophy from this race. Dick Potts Collection.

Over the years Pete has remained a good friend. As he showed me the trophy he won later, he stated, "This trophy is willed to Pete Parker."

Pete was also part of the Class of 2006 inducted into the Hall of Fame, along with other drivers Vern Lefevers, Jack Pennington and Ken Essary.

From an article in "Dirt Late Model Magazine," 2006, "all the obvious national names are in the archives, so it is the duty of the Hall's members to elect the regional heroes who contributed so much to the sport, while laying the groundwork for Dirt Late Model racing, as we know it now. While most of this year's driver inductees are still quite active, they came along during a time when the giant purses, extensive media coverage and souvenir sales of today were nonexistent. It's heartwarming to see most of them get their due while they can enjoy it."

Dick and I went into the back rooms to look over his memorabilia, trophies and treasures. Here I found a gallery of photographs from past races; trophies of all sizes and shapes; tributes to others who have helped him along the way; and year after year of scrapbooks from his racing career.

As we were having our interview, two fellows were in the shop revving up an old '34 coupe that he and Bernie Castongia raced over the years. He has had it restored, and they are working on the engine. It is quite a tribute to two top-of-the-line individuals who just happen to love the art of racing.

"Bernie and I were such good friends. We were the opposite in everything. We be-

came acquainted through business. Bernie was the Service Manager at Snell Chevrolet in Lowell, and I bought wrecked/junked cars from them," Dick said.

We then walked up to his home where I met his wife Tressie. Their comfortable home contains many tributes to him from fans and co-workers. The back room is where all of the Championship Trophies and special Earnhardt memorabilia can be found. It is a sight to behold. But, it is not the trophies that tell the story of Dick Potts; it is the man himself - he lives it - and loves it.

Between Dick and Tressie, they have two sons, five daughters, three stepdaughters, more than 25 grandchildren and step grandkids, and some half-dozen great grandkids - impressive home stats as well.

Over the years, Dick's business has helped out many a backyard mechanic make the repairs to their vehicle. Potts was known as the place to go to find a part that you needed - at a reasonable price. And, if you needed a bit of advice, that was provided as part of their service. How many remember needing to replace a part on their car but didn't want to pay the labor prices that were expected at service stations - or just wanted to do it yourself? If you were on a limited budget, you knew you could call Potts Auto Parts and possibly find the part you needed. You might have to extract it yourself - or they might have it stocked on the shelves.

As it was then, so it remains today - while I was interviewing Dick, Tressie called the office and asked Dick about a Vortex engine < *Continued on page six* >

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did they have one – without referring to any inventory records, Dick knew they did not. The phone rang consistently throughout my time spent in the office – something every business owner strives to accomplish daily. Dick has provided a service over the past 50 years to Newton County and the surrounding community that is still thriving today.

I asked him about any unusual items he may have encountered over the years by being the auto parts business – and he couldn't really remember anything remarkable.

“Any coins or money in the seats?” I asked.

“No nothing big.”

Brian Cain, one of his trusted employees and current crew member piped up and said “Well, maybe I just didn't tell you about it!”



Tressie and Dick Potts, 2010

Dick chuckled and said, “Well that might be true!”

His son Dickie started a beer can collection while in high school which is on display in the parts office, as well as photos of his grandfather and classmates from 1946 (fourth grade) at Morocco.

I should probably mention that Dick was a schoolmate of my older sister and brother, Shirley and Dale. I was pleased to hear a couple of stories regarding their fun days on the playground, and perhaps will relate those to you in another story.

Dick's mind is as sharp as his driving skills. I mentioned that he should be writing all of this down – and Tressie added, “Oh, he is.”

Oh, and here are the numbers:

521 Feature Wins

23 Track Championships

38 Runner Up Championships

7 Northern Indiana Clay Track Championships

2 Eastern Illinois Clay Track Championships

2006 National Dirt Late Model Hall of Fame Inductee

Dick and his crew Chad Laffoon, Tim Davis, Leon Batchelor and Jim Mather – will be hittin' the clay again in 2010. I wish him the best of luck in his 50th year of racing!

Dick and Tressie have donated trophies and photos to the Newton County Historical Society to display in their Resource Center in Kentland. We appreciate this donation very much, and invite everyone to stop in and view the display.

With that, I leave you with a morning spent driving through time with Dick Potts. A memorable one for me – and one I hope that you have enjoyed. Thanks Dick and Tressie, and for the shirt too!



Dick's grandpa, Charles "Kite" Potts, taken September 3, 1956. Dick Potts Collection



Fourth Grade, 1946, Morocco Elementary. Front row, l-r, Buzz Bryant, Dick Potts, Ronnie Rush, ?, ?, Pat Denton, Barbara Woods, Virginia Guthrie, Sandy Merriman, Linda Hunter, Peggy Hiestand; middle: Ronnie Baird, Phil Johnson, Paul Turner, G. Emmrich, ?, Bill Wiltfang, Augustine, Neil Barnett, ? Tater Williams, Bill Bowers, ?; back, Mrs. Murphey, ?, ?, Shirley McGregor, Woods, ?, ?, Stella Call, Kick Wiltfang, ?, ? Dick Potts Collection

HISTORICALLY YOURS

By County Historian, Donna LaCosse

It has been a few months since I last wrote this column, and so many things have happened in th House of Confusion, beginning with our not having fall at all - we went from summer to winter before we really had time to think about it! And, winter is not becoming spring quickly enough to suit me!!

On November 15, our little Trenton Thomas was born; Belle Kathleen arrived on December 7 and Madalynn Elizabeth made an appearance on January 24. We now have five great-grandsons and four great-granddaughters. Our family is growing.

Our baby, Gina, and her husband pre-

sented us with our first grandchild, Damian on my 50th birthday; Gina's son, Jaman and his wife made her a grandmother for the first time on December 7 when "Miss" Belle was born on great-grandpa's 84th birthday. How cool is that?

I still have not mastered my new computer, so the headaches happen on a daily basis. We finally broke down and went for high speed service instead of the old dial up system and I am still not making much progress. Our computer doctor is coming again this week and I have a list of questions a mile long to ask him!

Our refrigerator laid down and died after soaking the kitchen carpet. That was

a fun time too. It took a shop vac to draw the water out of the carpet and three days to dry it with a fan running full blast each day. Then we waited a week before the new one arrived and several days to get the food organized again. This sort of things should not happen to old people.

The Indiana Historical Society and Indiana Historical Bureau have once again appointed me as Newton County Historian, with a term of two years, so I will continue to keep you updated on the history of our county over the next two years!

Remember, that each day is a day in the history books of you and your family! So, keep on making history!!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON?

By Janet Miller, answers on page 19

1. Do you know when the Morocco High School Band was created? What was the name of the band before it became the Morocco High School Band?
2. The town of Kentland has had four different names, can you name them?
3. What native plant helped the early settlers find their way on cloudy days?
4. What famous boxer had a training camp located west of Lake Village?
5. What Goodland graduate played basketball at Indiana University in the early 1940's?

Visit our Resource Center

310 E. Seymour Street

Kentland, Indiana

Open to the public

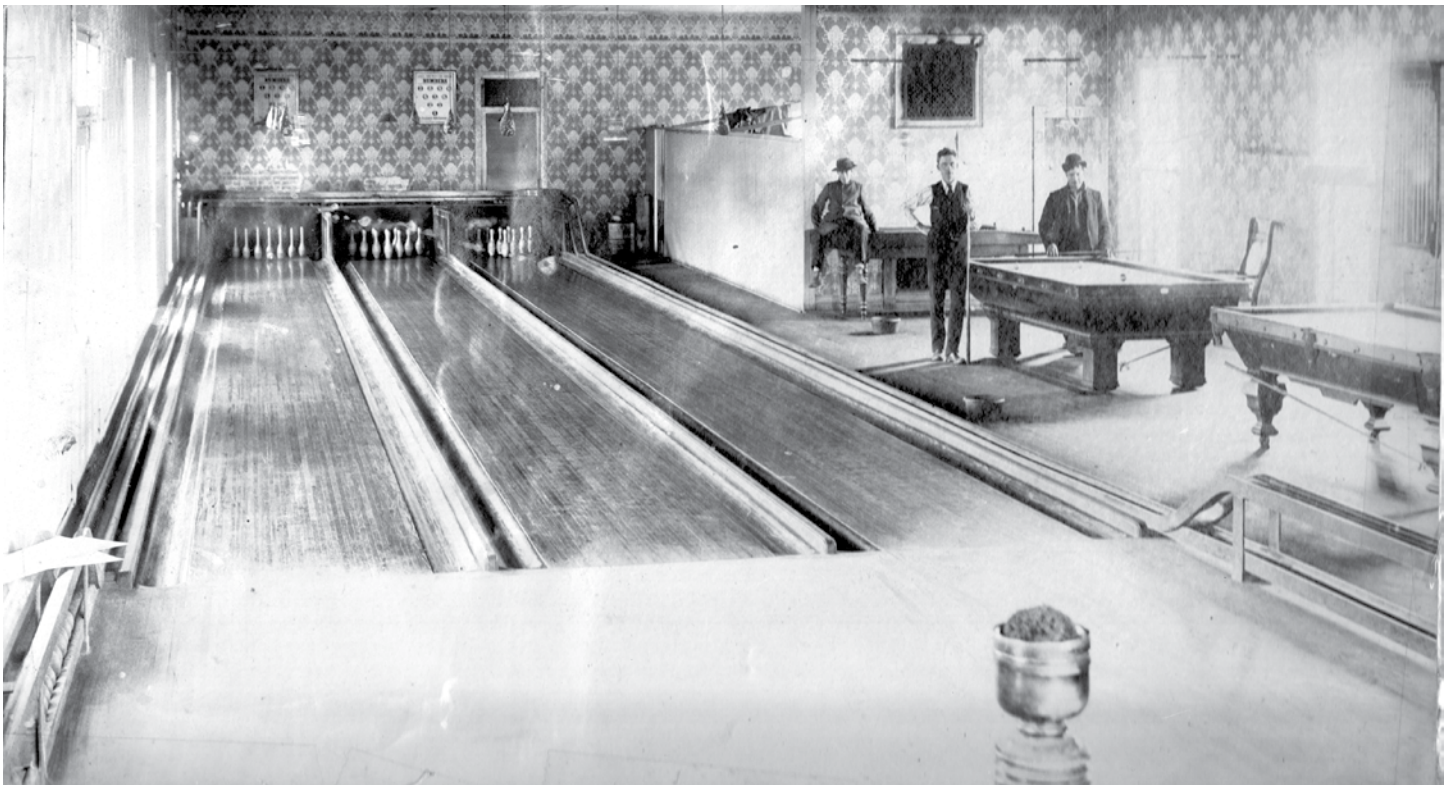
Monday and Friday

11:00 - 3:00

Thursday 1:00 - 5:00

219-474-6944

newtonhs@ffni.com



A photo of the Morocco Bowling Alley, mid 1930s. It was located in downtown Morocco, where State Street Auto is located today.

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WWI Bonus Bonds

By Beth Bassett

Last summer, Terry Dieter and Bill Phillips dropped into the center and donated a ledger book from the American Legion that was used upon its conception in 1919. Inside you find the charter members listed and the amount of dues they paid annually. Terry showed me a piece of paper that had list of names on it with certificate numbers listed beside their name, as well as a dollar amount. He was not sure what the list pertained to, and thought I might be able to find something out about it - what follows is the result of my search.

The practice of war time military bonuses began in 1776. Soldiers would receive payment for the difference as to what he might earn and what he could have earned had he not enlisted.

Before World War I, the military bonus, which was adjusted for rank, was land and money. For example, a Continental Army Private would receive 100 acres plus \$80.00; a Major General, 1,110 acres. In 1855, Congress increased the land-grant minimum to 160 acres and reduced the eligibility requirements to 14 days, or one battle. Veterans of the Spanish-American War did not get anything; but it became a political issue after World War I when those vets received only a \$60.00 bonus.

In 1919, the American Legion was formed and led a political movement for an additional bonus.

In 1924, over-riding President Calvin Coolidge's veto, Congress legislated compensation for veterans to recognize their war-time suffering: receive a dollar for each day of domestic service, to a maximum of \$500; and \$1.25 for each day of overseas service, to a maximum of \$625. Amounts owed of \$50 or less were immediately paid; greater sums were issued as certificates of service maturing in 20 years.

Some 3,662,374 military service certificates were issued, with a face value of \$3.638 billion. Congress established a trust fund to receive 20 annual payments of \$112 million that, with interest, would finance the \$3.638 billion dollars owed to the veterans in 1945. Meanwhile, veterans could borrow up to 22.5% of the certificate's face value from the fund. In 1931, because of the Great Depression, Congress increased the loan value to 50 percent of the certificate's face value; yet, by April 1932, loans amounting to \$1.248 billion dollars had been paid, leaving a \$2.36-billion-dollar deficit. Although there was Congressional support for the immediate redemption

CAUTION: If a loan has been obtained from the Veterans Administration and not repaid the application must be forwarded to the office which made the loan. Failure to obey this instruction will cause delay in settlement.
Do not write regarding application. All applications will be handled in order of receipt. If you do write for any purpose other than to notify of change of address, you will only delay action in your case.
Filing application or calling in person will not expedite settlement.

APPLICATION

(Application may be filed at any time prior to maturity of certificate)

READ INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE OF APPLICATION


(Location of station making settlement. Not to be filled in by applicant)

Penalty for making false or fraudulent statement in application

"Whoever knowingly makes any false or fraudulent statement of a material fact in any application, certificate, or document made under the provisions of this Act, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both."

I hereby make application to the Administrator for the settlement of any amount due and payable to me on adjusted-service certificate No. 949099, dated JAN. 1925, amount, \$ 821.00, further identified by No. A. 2413879, which was issued to John J. May, based upon military or naval service during the World War, who was born at Proquis Co. ILLINOIS on SEPT. 6, 1886 and who may be further identified by Army, Navy, or Marine Corps Serial No. 4069178, date of enlistment July 26, 1918, date of discharge OCT. 19, 1919, and rank and organization at date of discharge PRIVATE 1ST CLASS, Co. H, 54th PIONEER INFANTRY.

I hereby surrender all right, title, and interest in the above-described adjusted-service certificate.



Fingerprints of Right Hand of Veteran
(Imprints of four fingers taken at same time in presence of person)

(Sign here) John J. May
(Signature of veteran)

Please print or type, write address of veteran here. (This is address to which settlement will be sent.)

KENTLAND, INDIANA
(City or town and State)

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION

(NOTE.—Certificate should be executed by some authorized person as set forth in item 6 on reverse side of application.)

STATE OF INDIANA } ss:
COUNTY OF NEWTON }

I, GLENN J. HODSHIRE, do hereby certify that I am NOTARY PUBLIC
(Name of person certifying) (Title of office or position)

and that the person applying for settlement, evidenced by the above application, is known to be the veteran named and referred to therein and that the signature and fingerprints thereon are his and were made in my presence.

Glenn J. Hodshire
Notary Public.

(If the person certifying is a notary the above certificate must bear the notarial seal; if a postmaster, an impression of the postmark stamp of the postal station should be made on the above certificate.)

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
Adjusted Compensation Form 1701
January 1936

15-785

This is a copy of the application for bonus bonds made by John May in 1925, (top) and the at the bottom the notarized proof of payment in 1936.

(payment) of the military service certificates, President Hoover and Republican congressmen opposed that, because it would negatively affect the Federal Government's budget and Depression-relief programs. Meanwhile, veteran's organizations pressed the Federal Government to allow the early redemption of their military service certificates.

The Bonus Army of 1932

The self-named Bonus Expeditionary Force was an assemblage of some 43,000 marchers - 17,000 World War I veterans,

their families, and affiliated groups, who protested in Washington, D.C., in spring and summer of 1932. Called the Bonus March by the news media, the Bonus Marchers were more popularly known as the Bonus Army.

The Bonus Army massed at the United States Capitol on June 17, 1932, as the U.S. Senate voted on the Patman Bonus Bill, which would have moved forward the date when World War I veterans received a cash bonus. Most of the Bonus Army camped in a Hooverville on the Anacostia Flats, a

swampy, muddy area across the Anacostia River from the federal core of Washington, just south of the 11th Street Bridges. The camps, built from materials scavenged from a nearby rubbish dump, were tightly controlled by the veterans with streets laid out, sanitation facilities built and parades held daily. To live in the camps, veterans were required to register and prove they had been honorably discharged. The protesters had hoped that they could convince Congress to make payments that would be granted to veterans immediately, which would have provided relief for the marchers who were unemployed due to the Depression. The bill had passed the House of Representatives on June 15 but was blocked in the Senate.

On 28 July, 1932, Attorney General Mitchell ordered the police evacuation of the Bonus Army veterans, who resisted; the police shot at them, and killed two. When told of the killings, President Hoover ordered the U.S. Army to effect the evacuation of the Bonus Army from Washington, D.C.

At 4:45 p.m., commanded by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the 12th Infantry Regiment, Fort Howard, Maryland, and the 3rd Cavalry Regiment, supported by six battle tanks commanded by Maj. George S. Patton, Fort Myer, Virginia, formed in Pennsylvania Avenue while thousands of Civil Service employees left work to line the street and watch the U.S. Army attack its own veterans. The Bonus Marchers, believing the display was in their honor, cheered the troops until Maj. Patton charged the cavalry against them — an action which prompted the Civil Service employee spectators to yell, “Shame! Shame!”

After the cavalry charge, infantry, with fixed bayonets and adamsite gas, entered the Bonus Army camps, evicting veterans, families, and camp followers. The veterans fled across the Anacostia River, to their largest camp; President Hoover ordered the Army assault stopped, however, Gen. MacArthur—feeling this free-speech exercise was a Communist attempt at overthrowing the U.S. Government—ignored the President and ordered a new attack. Hundreds of veterans were injured, several were killed.

The Posse Comitatus Act — forbidding civilian police work by the U.S. military — did not apply to Washington, D.C., because it is the federal district directly governed by the U.S. Congress. The exemption was created because of an earlier “Bonus March”. In 1781, most of the

Continental Army was demobilized without pay, two years later, in 1783, hundreds of Pennsylvania war veterans marched on Philadelphia, surrounded the State House wherein Congress was in session, and demanded their pay. The U.S. Congress fled to Princeton, New Jersey, and, several weeks later, the U.S. Army expelled the war veterans back to home, out of the national capital.

The acts by the federal government against the Bonus Army had its affects this day, but they had not heard the last of the protests.

After his election in 1932, Franklin Roosevelt did not want to pay the bonds either, so he offered 25,000 vets a job with the Civil Conservation Core – to work in forests. When they marched again in Washington in May, 1933, FDR sent his wife Eleanor to chat with the vets, pour coffee with them and see if she could persuade them to sign up for jobs. She was successful, as many of them signed up to build the roadway to the Florida Keys, later called the Overseas Highway. After this, smaller protest forces returned to Washington.

In September of 1935, the third largest hurricane to hit Florida killed 258 vets working on the highway. Most were killed by storm surge flooding.

After seeing more newsreels of veterans giving their lives for a government that had taken them for granted, public sentiment built up so that much, that Congress could no longer afford to ignore it in an election year, 1936. Roosevelt’s veto was overridden, making the bonuses a reality.

But the greatest accomplishment of the Bonus Army may be the piece of legislation known as the G. I. Bill of Rights, passed in July, 1944. It immensely helped vets from World War II secure needed assistance from the federal government to help them fit back into civilian life; something World War I Vets of the Bonus Army had not received.

So the documentation that Terry showed me was an actual application for bonus money, made in January, 1925. On the bottom, it was notarized that settlement was made on May 13, 1936. The lists are those who had applied for bonus pay, and were on file at the Ora Hedrick Post No. 23 at Kentland. The “1/2” may indicate that they were paid for ½ of the amount they were to receive. Further documentation of the record could not be found.

In the June 11, 1936, edition of the *Newton County Enterprise*, it was announced by A. M. Schuh, local postmaster,

would be distributing the bonds to veterans beginning June 15th. If they wanted to cash any, or all of their bonds, they had to take them to a designated post office, which would in turn send them a check. The statement was made that the veteran must be known by the postmaster, or they were instructed to bring someone with them that knew the postmaster.

It’s interesting to note that within two weeks of the distribution, veterans had cashed in 46% of their total bonus, an amount nearly one percent of the annual GNP. The economic recovery in 1936 was more than 2.5 times bigger than in the preceding two years, probably because of the effects of the Bonus.

Bonus Bond Payments Made Through the Kentland Legion

Ade, Rolland C.
 Arnold, A. G.
 Arnold, Ray
 Blanke, Ruben J.
 Breese, Moses E.
 Breese, Walter E.
 Brewer, Wm. B.
 Brown, Elmer L.
 Bruck, William A.
 Burk, Wm. A.
 Clinton, William E.
 Cole, Gray
 Davidson, Vernon
 Davis, Carl E.
 Delay, Chas. Freeman
 Gadson, Gail F.
 Gott, Merle L.
 Haendry, Wm. J.
 Hall, Wm. L.
 Hoover, Floyd E.
 Krohn, H. A.
 Limp, H. J.
 McCarthy, Bert W.
 Miller, Lee T.
 Molter, Chas. L.
 Monroe, Geo. R.
 Morine, Paul G.
 Mosier, Chester C.
 Mullen, Jos. F.
 Mulligan, Christopher,
 Murphy, Ed. W.
 Murphy, Lee R.
 Ortner, Irvin
 Presler, Edgar B.
 Rasher, Howard A.
 Reed, Leo
 Reed, Wm. R.
 Rheude, Nich. G.
 Schuh, W. B.
 Talley, John F.
 Walker, Glenn
 Walker, Reed. F.
 White, Harry H.

HOME IS WHERE YOUR STORY BEGINS . . .

Thomas Boyd migrated from Ireland in 1832 at the age of two years. His family landed in Canada and he spent about forty plus years in New Brunswick where he married and had three sons. Around 1874 he migrated to the U.S. and moved to Grant Park, IL where he worked in the hay fields. In 1874 he married Sarah Stanton, a resident of Grant Park, and they stayed in the Grant Park area having two children, William and Cora. In 1889 they purchased 80 acres of land west of Lake Village from Solomon Kenrich for \$400.00. They were the second owners as Solomon had homesteaded the land acquiring it around 1840. The farm was in two 40 acre parcels with the eastern parcel containing a home, barn, tool shed, milk house and chicken house.

Thomas and his family worked the farm until he turned it over to his son William in the early 1900's. At that point Thomas and Sarah moved into a home they purchased in Lake Village on U.S. Hwy 41. Thomas died on March 3, 1909, aged 78 years and is buried in Grant Park. There never was an explanation of the reason he left Canada or whatever became of his first wife and three sons.

Shortly after Thomas's death Sarah moved back to the farm with her son William and his wife



Standing, back, William and Cora Boyd; seated Thomas and Sarah (Stanton) Boyd.

Josephine. Sarah lived with her family until her death on July 8, 1916 at the age of 68. Sarah was buried next to Thomas in Grant Park.

Upon her death the farm was split with the west 40 acres going to Cora (Boyd) Ainsworth and the east parcel going to William. In the 1950's Cora sold 10 acres to Roy Boyd and 30 acres to Chet Boyd. William continued to farm the land after his Mother's death along with working as a hired hand for other farmers and as a carpenter for Albert Graefnitz, to keep bread on the table for his growing family of seven children.

William married Josephine Sorenson who was the daughter of Soren and Christena (Christenson) Sorenson. Soren and Christena along with other family members migrated to America from Denmark and ultimately ended up in Lake Village. They had seven children – Adley in 1905, Chet in 1907, Roy in 1910, Orville in 1915, Lawrence in 1917, Pauline in 1927 and Shirley in 1929. The boys attended school at the old State Line School which was located just north of the home place. Later on the school was closed and they boarded a horse-drawn school bus and travelled into Lake Village to attend a new grade school which was built there. By the time Adley was out of grade school there was no opportunity to go on to high school in Morocco because there was no transportation. The year Roy graduated from the 8th grade in 1924 Lake Village had initiated a bus to transport the children on to Morocco High School and he was the first in his



Top: Nora, Effie, Josephine and Oscar Sorenson; left, Christena (Christensen) Sorenson.

family to get through high school.

- Information on the Sorensons taken from Wayne Sorenson's with input from Adley Boyd -Soren (born on August 21, 1846 in Copenhagen, Denmark and died August 21, 1916 in Lake Village, Indiana U.S.A.) came from a family of land-owners who would be considered from the upper class people in Denmark. In the 1800's there were basically two classes of people, the land owners and the peasants that worked for the land owners. Christena was born September 8, 1849 in Vendsyssel, Denmark (baptized name was Martine Christine Christendatter) and she died on April 12, 1934 in Lake Village, Indiana. She came from a peasant family, at the age of four she was sent to work for a rich cattle owner to help with the chores. She remembered that she only had one dress to wear and if it got wet she would hang it up to dry so she could wear it the next day. The food that she was given were the scraps left over from the kitchen table of the land owner.

Soren met and fell in love with Christena and they married in 1869. Christena was the daughter of Christen Christensen and Ane Pedersdatter. Their decision to do this had serious consequences because it was not proper to have a peasant girl of the lower class marry into a family of land owners. Consequently Soren's family dis-

owned him. Because of the hard feelings caused by this action, to my knowledge Soren never mentioned his parent's names to his children, so it's sad to say that that part of the family history is lost. Sorens father had a total of 4 children and their names are also unknown to me, except for Soren's. In the year 1914 Soren's mother was 90 years old; therefore her birth date would have been 1824. She would have been 22 years old when Soren was born.

Soren worked for a shipping line and was a sail rigger and sailor. He had sailed to America on two previous occasions and had an idea of what it would be like to live there. Records obtained from Copenhagen indicate that on July 7, 1876 Soren at age 30 and Christina at age 27 set sail on an ocean voyage from Aalborg from an open port known as Jutland and their destination was Chicago, U.S.A. Apparently there were a lot of Danes settling in the area and they thought they would be comfortable there amongst their own culture.

Their sailing vessel was transporting cattle and it must have been a trying journey for their family because of the squalid conditions. The voyage took 28 days to sail across the Atlantic Ocean. Because of limited space on the ship they had to leave their three oldest children, Walter was the oldest at 6 years old (born January 5, 1870) and Oscar who was 3 years old (born April



William and Josephine (Sorenson) Boyd

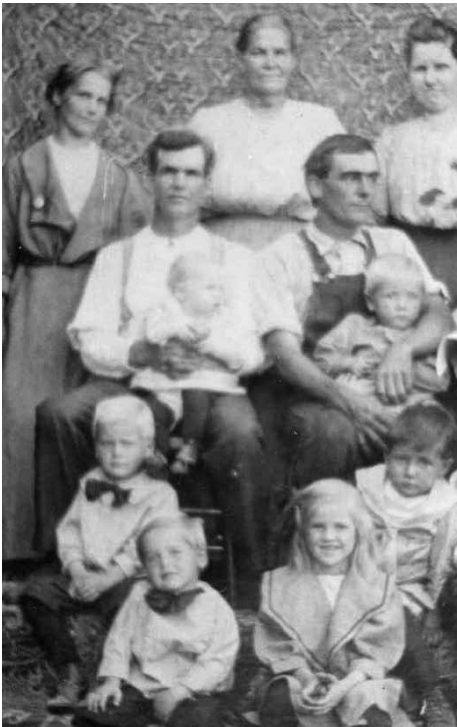
22, 1873 in Jutland, Denmark), who was to become my Grandfather and Caroline who was born in 1876. They also left their children behind with Christena's sister and husband the Madison's'. Christena's parents had eight children and came to America in 1874, their name was Christensen.

Soren's family settled close to a little

place called Lake Village (Newton County) about a mile and a half away from the Kankakee River in Indiana. In those days there were about 12 homes in Lake Village. Obviously the village has grown since then and the population was 800 in the year 2000. During the first three years Soren hired himself out as a farm worker on the state side of Illinois, eventually making enough money to return to Denmark to get the three children he had left behind.

Adley Boyd, Soren's grandson said he remembers his grandfather Soren as being short and stocky and would come over to visit his son Lancy on his farm to help cut grass and also split wood using his axe. He also said that he thought people took advantage of Soren's generosity and so he didn't prosper as he could have. Apparently land could be purchased for 50 cents an acre in those days but he never took advantage of that opportunity. At some point in his life he became a heavy drinker but must have straightened out as Adley remembers him as a very kind grandfather who was dedicated to his community, the Lutheran Church and he loved the outdoors and had a reverence for all of life.

Soren and Christina had 13 children, but only 10 survived to live out a full life. Their names were Walter, Tenus, Lancy, Emery, Edward, Caroline, Nora, Effie, Josephine and Oscar. Their young son Joseph



Left: Boyd family, back, ?, Sarah, Josephine; middle, William, Roy; front, ?, ?, ?, Chet and Adley; center, Roy, Chet and Adley Boyd; right, back, Roy and Chet, front, Orville and Lawrence Boyd.

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Left: 1931, Walter, Tenus, Lancy, Emery and Edward; front, Josephine, Nora, Mother Christena, Effie and Caroline; right, front, William, Lawrence, Roy, Orville, Adley and Chet Boyd.

(born 1882) died of diphtheria on November 12, 1887 at age 5 years, 10 months and 10 days. Their other son Lyence (born 1883) died from diphtheria about a year later on October 8, 1888 at the age of 5 years 10 months and 26 days. They had a 4 week old daughter that also died of unknown causes. There was a 23 year spread between the oldest and the youngest child. Apparently the only thing that Christena feared in her life was that her children would get sick and she always cautioned them not to lie on the damp ground or wear wet clothing because medical treatment in those days was very limited. I guess that the loss of two of her sons and one daughter was all she could take.

Adley remembers his grandmother Christina as being frail and small, probably weighed 90 pounds but was wiry and tough. She kept a clean house and had flowers she gathered from their farm which she placed in every room. They didn't have the money for cloth curtains so she made them from whatever paper she had available. On the farm they had chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, cows, milk and cream. She milled

their own grain and she was an expert at making butter and cheese, preserving meat, making bread and waffles which her family was grateful for.

Their children walked to the "State Line" school which taught grades 1 to 8. It was a typical rural school, the toilets and drinking water pump was outside and a pot bellied stove was located in the middle of the classroom. School recess games that were played were baseball, tag and drop the handkerchief. The happiest day for the children was the last day of their school year when everyone brought food to share at their year end picnic.

Descendants of Thomas Boyd

Generation One. Thomas, b. 10/16/1830, in Ireland, d. 03/03/1909, in Lake Village, IN. He married (1) unknown and had three sons, names unknown. He then married (2) Sarah Lucinda Stanton, b. 03/02/1848, in Grant Park, IL, d. 07/08/1916 in Lake Village, IN. They had two children William L. and Cora A. Boyd.

Generation Two. William L. Boyd, b. 05/31/1877, in Momence, IL, d. 05/26/1956, in Lake Village, IN. He mar-

ried Josephine Mary Sorenson in 1907, b. 03/12/1885 in Lake Village, IN, d. 07/10/1969, in Lake Village, IN, she was the daughter of Soren Sorenson and Christena Christensen. They had seven children: Roy C., Adley Ray, Chester Harry, Orville Leo, Lawrence Woodrow, Pauline Evelyn and Shirley June Boyd.

Generation Three. Roy C. Boyd, b. 05/27/1910, in Lake Village, IN, d. 12/10/1997, Lake Village, IN. He married Edith C. Berg on May 07, 1934 in Chicago, IL. She was the daughter of William and Olive (Pilditch) Berg, b. 11/10/1915, in Chicago, IL, d. 11/09/1978, in Lake Village, IN. They had four children: Dennis Paul, Carol Elaine, David Roy, and Richard Charles Boyd.

Adley Ray Boyd, b. 07/04/1905 in Danville, IL, d. 08/25/1997 in Morocco, IN. He married Esther Arlene Deardurff April 15, 1939. She was born 07/06/1915, in Morocco, IN, d. 2001 in Morocco. They had three children: Douglas R., Bonnie L. and Ronald K. Boyd.

Orville Leo Boyd, b. 04/15/1915, in Lake Village, IN, d. 2002 in Lake Village,



Left, Pauline (Boyd) Peterson and Shirley (Boyd) Storey; right, Pete, Adley, Roy and Lawrence.

IN. He married Shirley Rainford in Lake Village, IN, born in Lake Village, IN. They had one child, Gary D. Boyd.

Lawrence Woodrow Boyd, b. 12/22/1917, in Lake Village, IN, d. 10/2005 in Momence, IL. He married Virginia Mae Race on May 28, 1950 in Lake Village, IN. She was born 06/05/1924 in San Pierre, IN. They had two children: Jeffrey and Daniel.

Pauline Evelyn Boyd, b. 01/19/1927, in Lake Village, IN. She married Elwin "Pete" Peterson in Lake Village, IN. He was born in Momence, IL. They had four children: Cheryl, Diane Lynn, Vickie Jean and Larry Alan Peterson.

Shirley June Boyd, b. 01/04/1929, in Lake Village, IN. She married Leonard Storey in Lake Village, IN. He was born 10/10/1927, in Morocco, IN, d. 1983 in Morocco, Indiana. They had three children. Stephen, Paula and Kurt Storey.

Generation Four. Dennis Paul Boyd, b. 04/23/1943, in Chicago, IL. He married Roslynn Ruth Merchant on August 22, 1964, in Morocco, IN. She is the daughter of Roy Merchant and Ruth Graefnitz. She was born 01/03/1943 in Chicago, IL. They had three children: Kevin Roy, Bryan Ross and Kristin Kae Boyd.

Carol Elaine Boyd, b. 11/24/1936, married Donald J. Olson, 10/1957, in Momence, IL. He was born 1934 in Milaka, MN. They had five children: Lynn C., Richard D., Phillip R., Paul E. and Rodney B. Olson.

David Roy Boyd, b. 11/01/1938 in Chicago, IL, married Colleen Bannon in 1962, in Los Angeles, CA. She was born 1940, in Milwaukee, WI. They had three children: Kerry A., Robert David and Stephen Boyd.

Douglas R. Boyd, b. 10/22/1939 in Rensselaer, IN, married (1) Judy Birren, b. 02/20/1939. He married (2) Jayne E. Garvick, b. 06/20/1947. Children of Douglas

and Judy were: Cheryl Rae and David Ross Boyd.

Bonnie L. Boyd, b. 12/18/1943, married David W. Wagner, June 19, 1963, in Morocco, IN. He was born 10/06/1939. They had two children: Lori L. and Jill C. Wagner.

Ronald K. Boyd, b. 06/11/1950, d. 03/01/2003, married Elizabeth Gonzy on 01/24/1970. She was born June 13, 1951. They had four children: Michele L., Melissa A., Adam M., and Mark D. Boyd.

Gary D. Boyd, b. 1946, had one child, Christie Boyd.

Daniel Boyd, b. 07/27/1956, married Tammy Irene Kindle on May 14, 1977. She was born 06/05/1961. They had two children, Kelley Coleen and Candice Marie Boyd.

Cheryl Peterson, b. 1952 in Kankakee, IL, married Maruice Woosnam in 1970, in Momence, IL. He was born 1952 in Kankakee, IL. They had four children: Keri, Kyle, Kirsten and Kale.

Diane Lynn Peterson, b. 03/29/1954, in Kankakee, IL, married Timothy Ernest Ohlendorf, 07/15/1978, in Momence, IL. He was born 12/07/1951. They had two children: Mathew Eric and Erica Vicki Ohlendorf.

Vickie Jean Peterson, b. 07/26/1957, in Kankakee, IL, married Mark Francis Carrino, 08/21/1976, in Grant Park, IL. He was born 09/03/1952. They had two children: Rachael Diane and Jessica Nicole Carrino.

Stephen Storey, b. 1952 in Morocco, IN. He married (1) Debbie Bannon, b. 1953. Then married (2) Paula Corkins in 2000. Stephen and Debbie had two children: Shane and Jennie.

Paula Storey, b. 1953, m. (1) Larry Kemper and (2) Roger Richard in 1990. They make their home in Baton Rouge, LA. Paula and Larry had three children:

Cameron, died in infancy, Kourtland, b. 1980, married Amanda Gary in 2007 and live in Texas, Kass Adrian, b. 1982, lives and works in Baton Rouge, LA.

Obituary - Thomas Boyd

Thomas Boyd was born in Ireland, October 16, 1830, and died at Lake Village, Ind., March 3, 1909, aged 78 years, 4 months and 15 days. At the age of two years he, with his parents, moved to New Brunswick, Canada. About the year 1872 he moved to Grant Park, Ill. In 1874, he was united in marriage to Sarah L. Stanton of Grant Park, Ill.; in 1884, with his family he moved near Lake Village, Ind., where he resided until Sept. 30, 1907, when he moved into Lake Village and resided there until his death. Those left to mourn his loss are his beloved wife, one daughter, Mrs. Cora Ainsworth of Morocco, Ind., one son William L. Boyd of Lake Village, Ind., and three sons by a former marriage, who reside at New Brunswick, Canada, and many relatives and a host of friends. The funeral took place from the Methodist church in this city Feb. 5, preached by Rev. G. C. Chaffer, Interment at Union Corners.

Obituary - Sarah (Stanton) Boyd

Mrs. Sarah L. Boyd died at the home of her son, William Boyd, three miles west of Lake Village, Indiana, on Saturday, July 8, 1916. Her death was due to an attack of heart disease, she being sick less than an hour. Her age was 68 years, 4 four months and six days.

Sarah L. Stanton was born in New York State, March 2, 1848. At the age of seven years she came with her parents moved to Illinois and settled on a farm two miles west of Grant Park where she resided for many years.

October 1, 1874 she was united in marriage to Thomas Boyd, who died about six years ago. She was the mother of two children: Mrs. Frank Ainsworth of Morocco, and William Boyd with whom she lived.

In her early childhood she united with the M.E. church and through life lived a devout Christian in faith. Mrs. Boyd enjoyed the acquaintance of a wide circle of friends in this vicinity, who are saddened by her sudden death.

Besides her two children she is survived by two brothers and a sister, G.A. Stanton, Mountain Grove, Missouri; J.W. Stanton, Humbolt, Iowa and Mrs. B.A. Blasey, Brook, Indiana. The funeral services were held from the home at one o'clock Tuesday afternoon, conducted by Rev. G.M. Boswell and the remains laid to rest in the Union Corners cemetery.



The old home place of Thomas and Sarah Boyd.

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Our 2010 Membership Post Card The Morocco Gymnasium

By Beth Bassett

This year's membership postcard featured the Morocco High School Gymnasium, pictured below right. The history of the building follows, created from articles found in the Morocco Courier, 1936, and the Morocco High School Alumni Site, Old Black and Gold Articles, submitted by Judy Schultz.

Evidence of the possibility of building a new gymnasium for Morocco High School began appearing in October of 1935 in the *Morocco Courier*. Work began in the May, 1936, and on December 3, 1936, dedication ceremonies were held for the structure dubbed "the pride of the community." Forty-five percent of the cost was sponsored by the WPA, Henry Brandt was the trustee at the time, and C. A. Grayson was the principal. The gym is still used today by Morocco Elementary, and hosts the annual Morocco Alumni Reunion.

In May of 1936, five to twenty five men began the construction of the gymnasium, measuring 130' x 92'. It is connected to the main high school building by a corridor and is heated from the main heating plant which warms the high school building. Good ventilation and good lighting provides the perfect atmosphere for school gymnastics and auditorium purposes.

Made from brick with a concrete foundation, subfloors and ramps with tile lining; it has a composite roof. The gymnasium floor is hardwood, as well as the bleachers that surround the floor.

Facing on College Avenue, two concrete walks lead up to two corner entrances facing north. The main entrance on the northwest corner leads to a spacious ramp going directly in to the building proper. Back in its hey-day of high school sports, to the right of the entrance, a ticket office was located, and a door leading to the right sub-floor, where a double shower was located with toilet and dressing rooms on each side. This was the "away team" locker room during the basketball season. The entrance on the northeast side likewise led to a subfloor with a double shower and dressing rooms – the "home team" locker room. I remember this part of the gym also being used as the "spook house" during the Halloween carnivals of the late 1960s. Emergency exits are located on both sides.

From a *Morocco Courier* article dated November 19, 1936, "On the south end is the huge elevated stage for which drop curtains with valance and scenery drops will

be located. The stage opening back of the opening is 20' x 36' in size. The proscenium wall is of tile, behind which is ample dressing room space as the elevated stage extends the full 93' of the building. The scenery and also retractable baskets for basketball are not included in the contract for the building and a subscription list is in the hands of Trustee Henry Brandt to raise funds for these necessary adjuncts of the gym. Community pride should see to it that funds are forthcoming for these and probably at some future date for other necessary accessories.

"The bleachers constructed on three sides of the building, with the stage on the fourth, will hold approximately 1,250 people and this seating capacity can be increased for basketball, when necessary, by placing of several hundred seats on the stage. Floor seating capacity is about 900. The size of the floor permits a regulation interscholastic basketball floor 50' x 74' with a 7.5' margin on each end and 2.5' on each side.

"Under the stage is an excavation 20' x 93' which can be finished in the future for library or any other practical purposes. (Eventually this would become the cafeteria.) Entrance to this area was through a sub-stairway leading into the room."

The dedication program was a great success, attended by about 400 people, with local dignitaries speaking and the newly formed (1935) Morocco High School Band, under the direction of L. B. Elmore provided the music; the Girls' Glee Club, directed by Miss Bertha Moore sang two songs. The Rev. J. Oliver Carder officiated. Following the program, the crowd was able to examine the large building with its many features.



The first Junior Class play debut on December 11, 1936 on the stage with "Growing Pains," with cast members: Joe Padgett, Mavis Stine, Evelyn Purdy, Damon Bernwanger, Bernice Russell, Jean Hafstrom, Cad Shuey, Lloyd Lane, Mary Grayson, Howard Padgett, Alberta Daddow, Dean Manchester, Donald Warrick, Stanley Harrison, Clifton Garrard, Ruth Blann, Lenore Smart, Ruth Padgett, Mary Jane Graves, Barbara Hanger, Ruth Roadruck, Bonnie Hammell, Janice Williamson, Raymond Bingham, Marvin Laffoon, Ansel Best, and Evan Whiteman; Wardrobe Mistress, Roberta Padgett; Door Keepers, Ressa Collins, Helen Hammond, Shirley Rainford; Ticket Sellers, Roy Swartz, Bertha Pluimer, Jack Wells, Ray Griffith, Helen Warrick, Dorothy Swartz, Evan Whiteman, Blanche Bryant; Stage



Decorators, Ruth Blann, Mildred McClatchey, Galen Deardurff; Stage Properties, Warren Gorman, Richard Tebo, Rex Sowers; Ushers, Richard Tebo, Bud Garrard, Raymond Bingham, Rex Stowers, Marvin Laffoon, Warren Gorman; Candy Sale, Blanche Deardurff, Jennie Braaksma; Advertising, Mildred McClatchey, Warren Gorman, Richard Tebo, Galen Deardurff.

The first basketball team was a victory. About 750 fans were on hand to see the Morocco High School Beavers initiate the new gym by nosing out Lowell with a score of 20-19. Here are the team stats: Best, Forward, 2 FG, 4 FT; Long, Forward, 2 FG, 0 FT; Brunton, Forward, 0 FG, 0 FT; Padgett, Center, 0 FG, 4 FT; Garrard, Guard, 0 FG, 0 FT; Larlin, Guard, 1 FG, 1 FT; Gorman, Guard, 1 FG, 0 FT. Total 6 FG, 8 FT.

For Lowell, Kenney, Forward, 4 FG, 5 FT; Blach, Forward, 0 FG, 0 FT; Combs, Center, 1 FG, 1 FT; Roberts, Guard, 0 FG, 0 FT; Burninhan, Guard, 2 FG, 0 FT; Total 7 FG, 4 FT.

Second team, Morocco 28, Lowell, 12; Junior High, Morocco 18, Lowell, 2.

However, in the second game, Kentland defeated Morocco by a score of 21-19. Morocco took an early lead and was out in front 8-2 at the end of the first quarter. Padgett, Morocco center, was called out on personals and from then on Kentland began to get the lead.

The Morocco boys failed to hit and at no time during the game were they able to connect with any consistency. Coach Pearson tried several different combinations but none of them were able to turn the tide in their favor.

Old Gold and Black, March 11, 1947

"While serving Beaver township as Trustee, I learned I had many responsibilities about which the lay public knew little. For instance, in the fall of 1935, Cecil A.

Grayson, principal of the Morocco school; Roscoe Pierson, industrial arts and physical education teacher; Walter Atkinson, an alumnus, and John Colbourne, an athletic fan, and several other alumni and citizens frequently reminded me that Morocco's "pit" gym was very inadequate for modern school purposes. I agreed with them but my chief worry was where and how to get the money to build a new community building and gym, and whether or not, the people desired such an addition to the school plant. About this time the government through W.P.A. appropriations, offered to assist the communities desiring to provide such facilities for their citizens, and this seemed to be my opportunity.

"The Lions Club and the Farm Bureau were used as sounding boards and the sounds that came forth seemed to voice approval for the new project.

"Principal Grayson, Coach Pierson, John Colbourne and myself went to Lebanon to inspect a gym which had been praised quite highly by state officials. We like it very much and got some good ideas which were later used. As soon as we were able to get a promise of a government grant to pay about forty per cent of the entire cost, we became really interested. The matter was referred to the Advisory board who authorized me to hire an architect and an attorney and start proceedings at once for the new building. After many headaches, induced by two unsuccessful attempts to get bids to construct a building with our appropriations, we made a third attempt which happily proved successful and the contractor and all others connected with the construction and equipment of the building, worked very hard in order to have it ready for use during the school year 1936-1937. The building was formally dedicated December 3, 1936. The general approval of the public on that day made the advisory

board members day in carrying out our plans to provide recreational and health facilities for the student body and a center for all kinds of community activities. When completed, the gym had and still has the largest seating capacity of any building within the county. It will seat 2600 people. The playing floor will seat 1000, the bleachers 1400, and the stage 200.

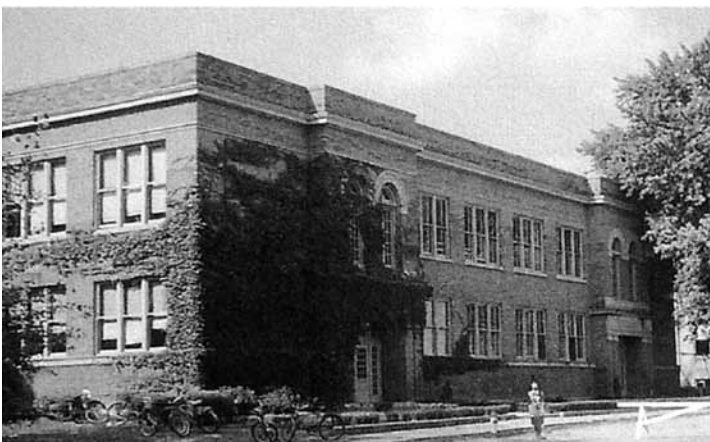
"When I first observed the foundation of the building, 130 feet long and 92 feet wide, I was panic stricken. It seemed altogether too large. It did not require, much time after completion, however, to prove that this personal alarm was unfounded.

"It should be of interest to readers of *Old Gold and Black* to know the distribution of the costs of the building which amounted to \$54,850.60. Advertising and printing cost \$234.03; building supervisor, \$858.00; general construction, \$40,776.35; plumbing and heating, \$7,351.00; electrical work, \$1,337.00; architect, \$2,473.12; equipment, \$360.00; and legal services, \$1,350.00. The government paid \$23,771.00 of the costs; leaving only \$31,079.60 to be paid by local taxes. In the light of present day prices for construction, it perhaps would cost this community five times as much money to duplicate the project.

"I had hoped, for the benefit of posterity, to place a plaque in the building, showing the date of construction and the names of officials having charge of same but the architect failed to make good on this part of his agreement.

"The many purposes for which the building has been used, have exceeded my expectations, I am extremely happy to have had the opportunity to serve the school and the township and to know the money invested is now paying big dividends to us all."

Written by Henry Brandt



Morocco High School and the Morocco Elementary School, circa 1960s. All photos courtesy of moroccohigshoolalumni.org

16 The Newcomer

The Schools of McClellan Township

In 1915, five one-room schoolhouses were consolidated to the newly built schoolhouse in section 27 of McClellan Township, or at Enos. Those were #1. Skinner or Ellis South, Section 30; #2. Cherry Island, Section 8; #3. Oak Grove, Section 30; #4 Ellis or Ellis South, Section 32; #5 Templeton, Section 24. Fires had destroyed two of the schools, first the one-room school Oak Grove; later the new structure upon consolidation was destroyed in 1920, but the final brick building still stands today. It was last used in 1965-66, upon the further consolidation to the North Newton School Corporation. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Cox bought the school building, and later sold it. Today, apartments utilize the well-built structure of the 1920s.

In 1936, the editor of the *Newton County Enterprise* and County Superintendent of Schools W. O. Schanlaub travelled the county and visited all of the schools. The editor then wrote a weekly feature entitled "The Editor Visits School." The articles covered the school history as well as current teachers and descriptions of the building. With little known to this writer regarding the Enos School, the article is reproduced here for posterity's sake.

The Editor Visits School

"Our trip last week took us to Enos School in McClellan Township. I might say that by this time, I begin to feel like a pupil again. The previous visits have been an education for me, and I expect a treat for the children, because I must admit when we first started, when a youngster smiled at me I was almost afraid to smile in return, and when one of them winked at me, I looked cautiously at the teacher, and answered with the best wink I could muster.

"Consequently when we arrived at Enos, I felt sure that it would be a repetition of what I had seen and experienced before, but a new experience awaited me, the particulars of which I shall relate below if you will bear with me.

"McClellan Township is unique in the fact that it was the first corporation to break away from the "shoe-box" type of one-room school buildings. The structure, a frame building shown in the illustration, was erected by Ora Sellers, Township Trustee, in the year 1915. The main schoolroom was 23 by 33 feet; the recitation room, 11 by 6 feet; and the library room 8 by 11 feet. It was planned to make it a model from which other townships might pattern a new

type of building to take the place of old, one-room buildings that should be replaced by new ones. Where needed, it provided amply for a second teacher. In fact, Miss Lenore Winters, our popular primary teacher, was one of the two teachers employed by Mr. Sellers to teach in this school. The building was heated by schoolroom furnaces. It was used for Sunday school, church, and other community purposes.

"The construction of this schoolhouse was made necessary because a fire had totally destroyed the old "Oak Grove" school located on the present site. The latter building had been erected by Elmer Skinner, now deceased, who was then the trustee of the township. The people were very proud of their new building. It was the best schoolhouse ever provided for their children. In five years, 1920, however, it, too, was in ashes. Two of the county's voting machines were destroyed in the fires that wiped out the foregoing building.

"In the meantime, the idea of consolidating one-room schools had gained such headway, that the Trustee Sellers and his advisory board, composing of William J. Bingham, M. W. Templeton, and Elmer O'Brien, adopted plans for the fine building which we visited last Thursday. The building has two large recitation rooms, a rest and library room, and a large community room in the basement. A stage, dressing room on either side, adequate number of folding chairs, tables for banquets, a stove and dishes, were in evidence in this room. It seems to be adequately equipped for all kinds of community meetings, as

well as a playroom for the children during inclement weather. As we have found in all of the consolidated buildings, thus far visited, it has modern water pressure indoor toilets, a furnace room, and smaller rooms for supplies and the water pressure tank. It is heated by one of the best steam heating boilers we have seen up to date. Electricity is furnished by a utility power line. The water system is controlled by an automatic electric pump. In fact, everything about the building is modern.

"The building was completed in 1921, at a cost of \$31,000. About two months after the building was completed, just when the hearts of the McClellanites were once more filled with pride, because of their latest school building achievement, an attempt was made to burn the brick building. Entrance to the building was gained by breaking one of the basement windows. A pile of oil rags, bean bags from the primary room, and other materials were placed in one of the small dressing rooms on the side of the stage in the community room. This happened to be the only place where a wood partition was used. The materials were then ignited and the door was closed, evidently to prevent discovery before it made good headway. This act, no doubt, saved the building. As soon as the oxygen was used up in the closed room, the fire was extinguished. The fire proceeded far enough to leave its charred marks under the door, leading to the stage.

The Teachers

"Cecil Bingham, is principal and teacher of the advanced grades.



Original school structure that burned.1915.

Mr. Bingham received his training in DePauw University; State Teacher's College and Central Normal College in Danville.

"He has had one previous year's experience, in the Gobin School in Illinois, where he taught all eight grades. In extracurricular activities, Mr. Bingham has stressed basketball, and it was our good fortune to be there at the recess period, when the entire student body hurried to the gymnasium to enjoy a contest between the fifth and sixth grade boys.

"Mr. Bingham is to be commended for his interest in this activity. In conversation he informed me that he felt that these youngsters were entitled to this preliminary athletic schooling, so when they entered high school competition, they would know the fundamental principles of the game, and their muscles would be properly developed for competition. Mr. Bingham also says that the change in the length of the school term this year seems to be popular. This is the first year the Enos School has adapted a nine-month schedule.

"Phyllis Merrill is teacher of the primary grades.

"Miss Merrill's teacher training has been received in the State Teachers' College and Central Normal School. This is her first year of teaching experience.

"Upon entering this room, the layman observer was struck by the homelike appearance of the interior of the room. It looked so colorful that little folks had good reasons for the apparent happiness that beamed on their upturned faces of a room full of children ranging in ages from six to twelve years. Easter suggestions, in bright colors, were arranged tastefully on display boards, especially built for such purposes. Other places about the room were health posters, suggestive of habits of cleanliness, what to eat and how to eat it. In the front of the room it seemed that a child in native costume from every country in the world was shown, where children might visualize, the work for future information and use. Near at hand was a new duplicating machine, which showed evidence of being much in use. Most of our time was spent in the advanced grade room, but even our short visit in this room was most enjoyable. It was a good illustration of how quickly the modern trained teachers can adjust themselves to their work, even though actual teaching experience may be lacking when they begin. We take off our hat to the patience, courage and painstaking work of all teachers whose business it is to take the



The final Enos School, in use from 1921-1966.

little folks of tender years and mold them into happy, working boys and girls, who after a few weeks of training, are able to read, write, do some counting, follow directions in performing seat work tasks assigned to them, and make many adjustments to playmates and schoolroom situations.

Trustee and Advisory Board

"George Bingham is trustee of McClellan Township. Mr. Bingham is a Democrat, and is serving his first term. The Advisory Board members elected at the last election consisted of William Bingham, Robert L. Beckwith and Joseph M. Flagg. Mr. Flagg, however, passed away several months ago, and no new member has been elected to succeed him.

Bus Drivers

"J. A. Printy, Clifford Bingham and Fred Zacharias make the rounds each school day, taking pupils to and from school. Mr. Zacharias has a new bus. He carries pupils to the Enos School and also takes seventeen pupils to high school at Morocco. We did not meet any of them, however.

The Janitor

"Fred Bingham is janitor at the Enos building. We had a very pleasant visit with Mr. Bingham. He has been janitor at the Enos School for twelve or thirteen years, not consecutively, however. Mr. Bingham is a splendid janitor. He takes great pride in keeping the building clean, and his furnace room was as clean as the recitation room."

Teachers of McClellan Township

In the "History of Schools in Newton County," written by the retired teachers of Newton County, the following list was given as to the teachers of McClellan Township. Unfortunately, the list did not cover 1932-1950.

"In 1907, the four one-room schools in this township had been reduced to two and the teachers were Jesse Hunter and R. C. Bowton. Since that time, the following teachers have been employed:

"1908-9, R. C. Bowton, Carrie Sowers; 1909-10, Estella M. Clarkson, Viola McCabe, Lawson L. Archibald and Ina Hess; 1910-11, Iva Winters, Sadie E. Illingworth, Lenora Winters; 1911-12, Mrs. J. C. Hodgson, Sadie E. Illingworth; 1912-13, Harrison Williamson, Sadie E. Illingworth and Bessie Rust; 1913-14, Harrison Williamson, Margaret Silver, Bessie Rust; 1914-16, Ruth Archibald, Harrison Williamson; 1916-17, Estella Clarkson, Lenora Winters, Clinton Williamson; 1917-18, Bernice Kitts, Estella Clarkson; 1918-19, Bernice Kitts, Mary Brown, Ruth Dodson; 1919-20, Bernice Kits, Olive Morgan and Ruth Dodson.

1920-21, Ruth Dodson, Marie O'Reilly; 1921-22, Zoe Hoard, Opal Boughner, Marie O'Reilly; 1922-23, Sidney Carlson, Advance, Tessie M. Timmons, Primary; 1923-24, Mayden W. Williamson, Advanced, Tessie M. Timmons, Primary; 1924-25, Estella Clarkson, Advanced, Tessie Timmons, Primary; 1925-28, Estella Clarkson, Advance, Cora M. Kalfise, Primary; 1928-29, Kenneth K. Edwards, Advanced, Tessie M. Sheets, Primary; 1929-30, Sydney Carlson, Advance, Tessie M. Sheets, Primary; 1930-31, F. H. Scott, Advanced, Beulah Bowers, Primary; 1931-32, Ottis Smith, Advanced, Tessie Timmons Sheets, Primary.

1950-54, Hilda Suddarth, Grades 5-8, Flossie Perkins, Grades 1-4; 1955-56, Hilda Suddarth, Grades 5-8, Flossie Perkins, Grades 1-4 and Betty Cook, Music and Art; 1956-59, Dennis McDonald, Grades 5-8, Flossie Perkins, Grades 1-4; 1959-60, Virginia Davis, Grades 4-6, Esther Donovan, Grades 1-3; 1960-63, Virginia Davis, Grades 4-6, Bernice Lyons, Grades 1-3; 1964-65, Virginia Davis, Grades 4-6, Pauline Parke, Grades 1-3; 1965-66, Virginia Davis Grades 4-6, Billie Sue Bingham, Grades 1-3."

18 The Newcomer

Have You Noticed the Joint Grass in the Area?

Scouring Rush (*Equisetum hyemale*)

“As early settlers moved westward through Indiana, they faced challenges such as hunger and disease, but filth was a problem as well.

“Retaining a semblance of comfort was difficult. Scouring rush, a common plant in the state, possesses a variety of qualities that helped the first Hoosiers keep their equipment clean and in working order.

“The wagons of early arrivers to Indiana were filled to capacity with items that were virtually impossible to replace on the frontier trail. The settlers were forced to create expendable tools from whatever the land offered.

“Perhaps the most important of those tools allowed them to maintain their other tools. The folk name for scouring rush is pewterwort, because it was used to clean and polish pewter and other metals.

“While the highly valued character of this plant is not really apparent by appearance, it contains tiny particles of silica, a crystalline compound used in the production of glass, throughout its tissues.

“The presence of these abrasives, packaged in a convenient straw like structure, allowed creation of its namesake tool. The fine grit embedded in the plant has a hardness that stands up to steel.

Anyone who has tried to scrub stuck-on eggs from a cast iron skillet can testify to the luxury of having something gritty to help clean it, which was scouring rush’s role. The plant was also integral in removing rust from a rifle bore, and honing burrs from delicate firing pins. When woven into pads, scouring rush is also excellent for sanding wood to a fine finish.

“Scouring Rush also had a variety of other uses. Its stems are hollow, allowing them to collapse under weight. Scouring rush also contains chemicals that deter insects such as fleas. These properties made it ideal for constructing makeshift bedding.

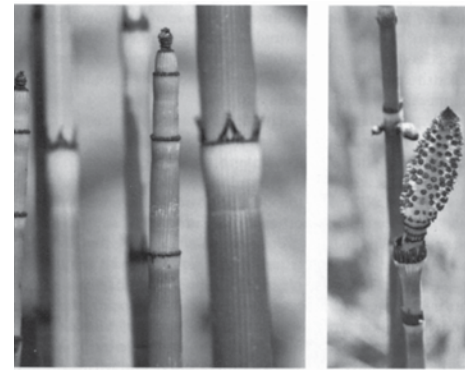
“Children used the plant, too. Most kids with outdoor hobbies and activities have been compelled to disassemble the stems, which can be broken into segments of similar length with a slight pop. The segments are wonderful toys that can be used to construct miniature fences, cabins and forts.

“Scouring rushes (and horsetails) are closely related to prehistoric treelike plants that existed 300 million years ago during

the Carboniferous Period. They have long been considered fern allies and referenced as such in contemporary field guides. However, some current experts now consider them to be true ferns.

“They reproduce by spores rather than seeds, as is the case of flowering plants. At the tip of the fertile stems of scouring rush resides the cone-like structure that bears microscopic spores.

It can be found along pristine streams, as well as on the highest, steepest railroad grades. It is also an evergreen plant that often forms dense thickets that are noticeable in dreary winter landscapes.”



Have you seen Joint Grass in the ditches and roadsides of the county?

NOW YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON

by Janet Miller, questions on page 3.

1. The Morocco High School Band was created in October, 1935, from what had previously been known as the Morocco Boy Scout Band. The Morocco Lions Club was the sponsor of the Boy Scout Band and continued their support of the High School Band. Charles Bassett was director of both bands.
2. The names of Adriance, Kent, and Kentland were the names always associated with the current town of Kentland. Recently, while reading John Yost’s “Second Helping” he added another town name to the list. The town was incorporated under the name Kentville in the year 1868. The name, Kentland, was suggested by Schuyler Colfax who had represented the county in the U.S. House of Representatives. A year after naming Kentland, he was elected as Vice President of the United States.
3. It was the compass plant that helped settlers find their way. They used the leaves of the plant, which are often oriented in a north-south direction, to help them find their way on cloudy days. In spring and summer these compass plants may be seen on the south side of U. S. 24 between Kentland and Goodland. Thanks to Stephanie Frischie of the Nature Conservancy for this information.
4. The training camp west of Lake Village was owned by Joe Louis, Heavyweight Boxing Champion. It was located south of Highway 10, about 2 miles west of the state line.
5. The Goodland High School graduate that played basketball for Indiana University was Andy Zimmer. Recruited by Coach Branch McCracken, Zimmer went on to earn All-Big Ten and All-American honors on those famous “Hurryin’ Hoosier teams of the early 1940’s. Thanks to John Yost’s “Second Helping” for these last two questions.

Landmarks Crossword Solution

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Nu-Joy Hotel

This postcard was donated to the society this past year. It was used to create business for the Nu-Joy Hotel. It was located 2 blocks north, 2 blocks east of the Nu-Joy; or 1 block east, 2 north and 1 east of the Nu-Joy. Your stay would cost \$1.25 to \$2.00, which included a tub or shower bath.

The hotel boasted a large lobby, telephone booth, spacious porches; beautiful grounds with lakes and trees, with free parking. The \$2.00 rooms have a free garage.

The description continues, "This is the pioneer home of Kentland, 81 years old – a historic place that you should see. Dine at our Nu-Joy Restaurant and then rest here. Ask the Nu-Joy manager or cashier. The card was posted in 1943.

In further research, I found an article in the April 9, 1936, Newton County Enterprise stating that the Nu-Joy had purchased the old Kent estate.

"Last Saturday, the Nu-Joy, Inc. and the executors of the Kent Estate, H. L. Sammons, A. D. Washburn and H. C. Washburn entered into a contract, whereby the 57 acre tract became the property of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Reinhart. The sale price agreed upon \$13,000.

"Mr. Reinhart informed us that he intends to raise poultry and hogs, the barn there being adequate for this purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kline will reside there and care for the premises. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Burton, who have been residing there, will move into the house on east Carroll Street vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Kline.

"The southwest corner of the newly purchased property, known locally as "Kent's Pasture," will be subdivided into town lots, and a new addition to the town opened. This has been a problem in Kentland for a number of years, and Mr. Reinhart is to be commended for paving the way to a new and modern residential section. It is planned to erect a bridge on east Dunlap Street, to make the new subdivision accessible by automobile.

"The Nu Joy is offering \$200 cash prize for a name for the new addition. Full particulars may be secured there."

A Bit of History on the Nu-Joy

The original Nu-Joy was located at the northwest corner of Fourth and Seymour Streets, at the intersection for U. S. 41 and U. S. 24.

The basic building had been a livery barn when it was purchased from Warren



This post card depicts the home of A. J. Kent as the Nu-Joy Hotel.

T. McCray in 1916, by Henry A. Reinhart and Will Simons. The building was converted into a skating rink and dance hall in 1921. Throughout the early 1920s the Nu-Joy was a popular stopping place for some of the nation's leading orchestras. The orchestras of Wayne King, Guy Lombardo, and the King of Jazz, Paul Whiteman were among the bands to perform there.

On April 13, 1929, the Nu-Joy was opened as a restaurant and filling station. Following repeal of prohibition, a bar was added and the building was remodeled to accommodate travelers to the 1933 Worlds' Fair in Chicago. The Nu-Joy was also a rest stop for the Greyhound Bus Company.

The Nu-Joy was destroyed by fire on September 7, 1945, and the restaurant moved to the old Kent Estate and opened there in December, 1945. By October 7, 1954, the Nu-Joy Restaurant had expanded the old estate for larger dining capacity. The restaurant remained a popular eating establishment through the mid 1980's, when the business closed its doors for the last time.

Today, the structure houses the offices of Crows/Channel Seeds.

Submitted by Beth Bassett. Sources: John J. Yost's "Second Helping;" "Kentland Centennial, 1860-1960."



The remodeled Nu-Joy at the corner of Fourth and Seymour Streets, Kentland, where the current Newton County Historical Society Resource Center now stands.

PAGES OF THE PAST

Submitted by Janet Miller

Excerpts were taken from *The Newton County Enterprise, Fall, 1909*

Kentland

The keen edge of these fall mornings develops an abnormal appetite for pumpkin pies, and makes one listen for the call of the hickory groves and hazel brush. We love you summer, but oh, you fall.

Jira Skinner went to Indianapolis yesterday to attend the annual reunion of the 51st regiment, at the home of the widow of Col. Streight.

Dr. Godfrey was in Chicago Tuesday on business and while there purchased a typewriter. The Dr. gave us plainly to understand that the typewriter was of the metal kind and not of the blond variety.

A new price has been fixed on land in this township. Warren Myers yesterday sold his 240 acres north of Kentland to Thomas Mulligan for \$165.00.

The Horse Show a Pleasing Success. Big Crowds, Both Days. Plenty of Horses, Lots of Amusements and a Good Time for All. Kentland scored another big success with its Horse Show last week. After the equinoctial storms of Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the weather settled down and wore a blue ribbon the balance of the week. The show opened Thursday morning and closed Friday night and the din and clamor of a happy and satisfied crowd. The show of horses was about the as former years and judging took up the best part of the two days, terminating at five o'clock Friday evening with a parade of all premium stock. Col. Claude Madden of Kingman, Ind., tied the ribbons and his decisions gave general satisfaction. There was a good crowd Thursday and Thursday night, and the attendance on Friday night was regarded as a record breaker. Friday night the crowd seemed to have diminished but little, and they were entertained by a concert by the Earl Park band and by the free street attractions. Owing to the high wind the balloon ascension on Thursday was a failure, but Friday afternoon Miss Clark of Fowler made a pretty ascension, alighting near Fairlawn cemetery—an overly suggestive place for an aeronaut to head for, and especially, as in this case, when the navigator was making her first trip. For some reason Miss Clark was unable to operate the parachute, but she made a safe land, and was doubtless glad that the sexton had locked the gates of the cemetery before her arrival. The baseball games, football game and other features were pulled off to the enjoyment of those who take to that form of sport.

The Merry Milkmaids of Sheldon filled a three nights engagement at Kentland's new Opera House last week, and carried home with them brimming pails full of

applause and encomiums. The people were pleased with the production is shown by the attendance. The Thursday night audience numbered about 500; Friday night the capacity of the opera house was taxed to its limit, chairs were placed in the aisles and the balcony was crowded. Saturday night the attendance was not so large, but under ordinary circumstances would have been considered a good first night crowd. The Milkmaids may be said to have spread the butter over Kentland in the most pleasing fashion.

The average farmer dislikes jury duty at any time of year, but pen him up in the jury box during the corn husking season and those Sunday clothes gall furiously.

Brook

Several moving bees took part last week: J. B. Lowe moved into the Israel Light property in west Brook; Fred Longwell moved into the house Lowe's vacated, and James Davis took the house Longwells left.

Quite a number from this place attended the old soldiers camp-fire at Brook last night, and many more will be in attendance at the reunion today. At two o'clock this afternoon the beautiful monument purchased by the patriotic people of Brook and Iroquois township and dedicated to the soldiers of the Civil war who enlisted from that township, will be unveiled. John Ade will make the introductory address, and speeches will be made by Congressman Crumpacker and Hon. William B. Mason of Chicago.

Lake Village

I. W. Burton, the man who dishes out hospitality to the fisherman and hunters of Newton county, was down from his home on the Kankakee Tuesday. His house was crowded all summer with pleasure seekers and he is thinking of enlarging the same before another year. Frost hit in spots all over the north end last week and considerable damage resulted.

Joe Wells was in Kentland yesterday and tapped a fifty pound watermelon at the Court House, treating the council, commissioners, county officers and a number of friends to the delicious fruit that grows on his farm in Lake. "Best ever" was the unanimous verdict.

Mt. Ayr

Jacob Brown's running mare, Pretty Girl, won \$200.00 in the races at Kankakee last week.

Jasper Wright met with an accident last Thursday that was very serious and one that might easily have proven fatal. He was at W. W. Miller's north of town and was loading a

beef into the butcher wagon to take it to the slaughter house. Jap had hold of the windlass pulling the critter into the wagon and at a moment where he slacked his hold the animal flew back, thus causing the crank to fly from Jap's hand and strike him a terrific blow on the head. It inflicted a very serious wound and would have caused instant death had the handle struck him an inch or two higher. His wounds were promptly dressed and he was able to be around the next day. His hand was also struck by the revolving crank badly injuring it.

Roselawn

A fishing party composed of J. W. Smith and family, Mrs. Otis Phillipps and daughter, Mr. Jensen and daughter, Mrs. J. W. Crooks and children spent Tuesday at the river. Charles Cooley gave them a pleasant ride on the river in his launch, which they enjoyed very much.

Ben Darroch of Roselawn spent Saturday and Sunday in Kentland. Mr. Darroch claims the distinction of being the oldest resident of the Beaver Lake country, the four north townships of the county. That is, the oldest in point of residence, not in years.

Ade

Work on the new Presbyterian Church at Ade is progressing nicely, and the building will be under roof by the end of the week. It is expected that the church will be ready for dedication by the middle or latter part of December.

Uncle Sam is having trouble to find a postmaster for the town of Ade. The office pays the munificent salary of \$52.00 a year. Nobody seems to want the job. A civil service examination was advertised to be held in Kentland Oct. 30 to fill the post, but no applicants put in their appearance. Another examination is scheduled for December 4, and if the people of Ade wish to maintain their post office they had better get busy and produce a candidate.

Morocco

Ross Hagen, Leonard Bartholomew and young Camblin, after a few days of silence, returned home, having enjoyed the sensation of being runaways much more than did the parents at home.

The Rich elevator at Morocco was totally destroyed by fire last night. We have no particulars regarding the origin or loss sustained.

Goodland

Jake Hazen and daughter, Mrs. Clifford Carlock, were in Kentland Friday night on their way to Goodland, where Mr. Hazen has bought a bakery. He also recently bought a farm near Rensselaer.

QUILL & INK WILEY STONE

Wiley Stone wrote a poetry book in 1966 entitled "Echoes of Home." This is but one of fifty-six selections. Please turn to pages 22-23 for more information regarding the Stone family of Lake Village.

Saturday's Chore

The hardest job I ever had
When I was but a boy,
Was the one my Mom would give me
And the methods she'd employ;
For every time I took a bath
She'd say, "Now mind you scrub
Those dirty hands and feet, and when
You're through, wash out the tub."

Sometimes she'd take the yardstick
And say, "Now, little man!
You water's ready. Hop right in
And see how fast you can.
And don't forget your neck and ears,
And scrub behind them, too,
Hang up the towel and wash the tub,
As soon as you get through."

Each year as I grew older
I found mothers all the same,
I could see their only difference
Was, they had a different name;
For today they still are saying,
As they have since time begun,
"See that everything's in order, and
Wash the tub when you get done."

Though Mom long since has left us
And now dwells in heaven, bright,
I'm sure that I could find her
If I went up there tonight;
She's somewhere near the doorway
With a hair-brush up her sleeve,
To make certain all the angels
Wash the tub before they leave.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR

- Cemetery Records
- Census Records
- Obituaries
- Maps of the County
- School News/Items
- Digital Versions of Past *Newcomers*



These are photographs from the collection of Don and Phyllis Gerrich. Don's grandfather ran a grocery store in Kentland, these dated 1912. From the top photo we can see the courthouse windows reflected in the glass, placing the store on one side of "Court House Square."

QUILL & INK . . . WILEY STONE

Lake Village Poet, Wiley W. Stone

Working at the Lake Village Library one day, in their history room, they had a copy of a poetry book entitled "Echoes of Home," by Wiley W. Stone. Sandy, the librarian, told me that he was a Lake Village resident, and reminded me that I had gone to school with some of the stones, (she was a North Newton grad too), and it dawned on me who the family might be.



Wiley Stone (Oct., 1900-Dec., 2000)

When I returned home, I went to my favorite "old book" web site, abebooks.com, and searched for the book. I was able to pick up a copy of it, and with it finally in hand, I began the search to find out more about Mr. Stone.

The jacket of his book contained this information: Wiley William Stone was born in Newton, Jasper County, Iowa, on October 17, 1900. His family moved to Kansas and he lost his mother there in 1911 in one of the terrible cyclones that sweep the plains states. Unwilling to give up the chance for an education, he worked and attended school. He tried everything from telephone switchboard operator to clerical work to washman in a laundry. Later he went into construction work and rose rapidly to foreman. Through all this he studied and his physical energy never seemed to dim his mental desire for knowledge.

Not content with work that would weary the average man, Wiley filled every free hour with the extras of life. He found such joy and peace in his home and family after his marriage that he became interested in youth movements. He became a Scout Leader and received the Order of the Silver Star in 1937 for his work in the National CYO. He became Youth Advisor to the Indiana State Youth Committee and Lecturer of the Indiana State Grange in 1947. In this, too, he stressed the work of young people. He has been active for years in work in Grange papers.

"For all of his practical work, Wiley is a dreamer. His poetry reflects his great faith in goodness of man and the wonderful opportunities open to all. He sees beauty in little things and manages to convey the wonder and joy he feels to the reader. His poems of home reflect the happiness of that lost little boy who found the home and love he wanted so very much. There's a bit of the dream we all hold here in the work of one who knows how to dream and how to accomplish." – Mildred Leisure Irvin, Past President, Indiana State Federation of Poetry Clubs, Inc.

Then, I hit the jackpot. Jeff Manes, whose writings are included in this article, and elsewhere in this edition, gave me some facts he knew from growing up with the Stone family, and he had his own personally signed copy of "Echoes of Home." With those in mind, I visited ancestry.com, finding just a bit of information, but not enough to be sure it was really Wiley.

So I think I'll let Jeff's "Salt" article that appeared in the *Post Tribune*, on featuring Wiley's grandson, Kenny Stone give you a bit of an idea as to the life of the Stone family.

SALT

Salt. The human body contains about four ounces of it. Without enough salt we perish. It was for salt that Mahatma Gandhi marched.

Around 1900, certain social leaders in New York claimed that there were only 400 people worth knowing. In disagreement,

*author O. Henry wrote a volume he called *The Four Million*. He thought everybody was worth knowing.*

In more recent times Raymond Carver, dubbed the American Chekov, spoke of the laborers and service workers who formed his submerged population. "They're my people, I could never write down to them." If Carver had condescended to his characters, he would've condemned the first 40 years of his life. Ray Carver grew up on a small river town of 700 souls.

I have had the advantage of growing up on the banks of the Kankakee River and the coke batteries of the Indiana Harbor. I've worked hard and played hard with folks from Chicago to Valpo, from Lake Village to Lake Michigan. I'd like you to get to know your neighbor, those living, sometimes eking out a living, just around the corner or down the road. All worth their salt.

Everyone has a story to tell. - Jeff Manes

Kenny Stone

Salt #188, Aug 10, 2008 Post-Tribune/Aug 12, 2008, Lowell Tribune

"...When these sounds I hear, my soul fills with cheer – Each one is an Echo of Home." – Wiley Stone

Kenny Stone has been fiddling around most of his life, but he's clearly not a slacker. At the age of 7, he first resined up his bow and played his fiddle hard.

He and his wife, Robin, have resided in Dyer for seven years. The couple has two sons, Kenny, 7, and Connor, 4. At the age of 38, Stone is president of Chicago Laser and Computer Services in Lansing, Ill.

Kenny, you didn't follow your father or eldest brother's footsteps in becoming a pipe fitter, but you share their love of playing music. You've played the violin nearly all your life. What piqued your interest?

"I can remember Dad playing his guitar along with some of his buddies in our kitchen. He also had an old mandolin that he brought back with him after serving in the army overseas. I'd pretend that Japanese mandolin of his was a guitar – it fit me just right. I was 2 or 3 years old. Music just came natural.

"When I was 7, Dad asked me if I was interested in playing the fiddle. I started out playing classical. My first week of lessons consisted solely of how to hold the instrument. Like most kids my age, I also liked being outdoors playing baseball, etc.

"I tired of playing 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' but really started picking up things when I'd accompany Dad while he played his guitar. I play by ear; I've always had good pitch. After a while, you start to improvise.

"When I was 9, Dad started a group called Kenny Stone and the Kinfolk.

"Our first gig was at the Hornet's Nest restaurant west of DeMotte going toward Wheatfield – it was originally a Friday show from 8 p.m. to midnight. We ended up playing there for seven consecutive weeks. I was making 25 to 40 bucks a night playing country songs."

Big money for a little shaver.

"Yeah, then we started playing bluegrass. We never had thoughts of being great – we were just having fun. I started getting noticed by other bands.

"In '87 we won the National Grange Talent Contest in Syra-

cuse, NY – first time Indiana ever won nationals. I was considered a soloist, although Dad backed me up on guitar. The contest was comprised of all kinds of music. Piano, saxophone, classical, jazz...”

Kenny, we'll get back to the violin. You're the youngest of six children.

“Actually, there were eight of us. I had two sisters who died when they were infants. But, yes, I’m eight years younger than my brother Raymond and 18 years younger than my brother Bobby.”

You also worked for Bobby. He is a tradesman who also has raised pussy willows for the florist trade.

“From junior high school until I was a sophomore in college, my Saturdays were spent cutting willows from Thanksgiving through January.”

Kenny, I remember your grandfather, Wiley Stone. When I was 9 years old my mom bought me his book of poetry, “Echoes of Home”. He signed it for me. I still have it.

“Grandpa was a Sagamore of the Wabash. He was born in Kansas in 1900. He died in 2000. He eventually moved from Kansas to Chicago. During the 1940s, the family moved to Lake Village. Dad was about 14 years old. Both my parents were native Chicagoans. My mother was raised in an orphanage for Polish children on the north side of Chicago – St. Hedwigs.”

You graduated from North Newton High School in 1988. You mentioned college.

“I have two bachelor’s degrees from IUN. They gave me an academic scholarship – if I maintained a 3.0 G.P.A. But it didn’t cover books or my gas money to drive back and forth from Lake Village and Gary. I drove an old Monte Carlo that I’d bought as a junior in high school with 90,000 miles on it.

“There weren’t many kids attending IUN from North Newton at that time, but I met a lot of students from other high schools – I made a lot of friends up there.

“IUN not only covered my first scholarship, they covered my second major, too – because I kept my grades up. I became real active on campus and was part of Beta Gamma Sigma. I received the Wall Street Journal Outstanding Manager Award, and was president of International Fairs Club my last two years – I had dinner with former head of the CIA, William Colby, who was a guest speaker. I also worked in the admissions office – I’d leave Mom and Dad’s house at 7 a.m. and often times wouldn’t get back home until 11 p.m.

“In ‘93, after 170 credit hours and five years of driving up and down the highway, I graduated college with a 3.8 GPA. My Monte Carlo had 193,000 miles on it – I knew where every pothole was on I-65.

“My parents had always taught me to study hard, work hard, and treat people like I want to be treated – basic salt-of-the-earth values. I enjoyed going to college in Gary. I had some excellent professors – I didn’t have to go to Bloomington to get a good education. School is what you make of it.

“Most people took it for granted that I’d move away and become a professional musician. I figured if I got my degrees no one could take them away from me. If I wanted to play music after I graduated, I could still play music.”

You continue to moonlight three nights a week.

“Yes, I’ve been teaching the fiddle since I was 16. Currently, I have students ranging from a six year-old kid from Briar Ridge to a 52-year-old bank president from Warsaw.

“I won’t teach a child who is forced to play. Keep your money. I don’t want it. I only want those who are willing to learn.”

Let’s back up again. Somewhere along the line you become Ward Cleaver rather than Charlie Daniels.

“I hired in on the shop floor at Chicago Laser 15 years ago. It was a decent job. I saved some money. I met my wife. It was time to start a family.

“I’d had fun traveling across the United States and Canada playing music. I remember Dad and I taking the train from Chicago to Spokane for a competition – 36 hours one-way. We played in the snack car for three days each way. People tossed money in the hat; I was 11 years old.

“I’ve had the best of both worlds. I’ve got a home life; I’m not on the road. The guys in the band were going the opposite direction. It’s not the kind of life a family man wants – it’ll run you ragged.”

Kenny, I realize you're the top dog for a small company. You work 11-hour days and wear many hats. Does the thought of early retirement and making a living with your fiddle ever cross your mind?

“The only possible way I’d put my family through that would be if I hooked up with some studio musicians in someplace like Nashville where I wouldn’t have to go on the road or if I was playing in a place like Branson – where I could leave the theater after a day’s work, go home, see my wife and kids, and sleep in the same bed each night.

“Jeff, I’ve shared the stage with the likes of Mac Wiseman and Bill Monroe. There are a lot of people who say, ‘I could have done this or that.’ There are fewer people who can say, ‘I did it.’ Whether you succeeded or not isn’t what’s important – at least you tried it. I don’t live with regrets.

“I still play locally. And if I’ve promised to perform in Wheatfield and then someone from Lake Forest offers me four times as much money to play at their venue, guess what? I’m thinking about entertaining those folks in Wheatfield – not what I’m going to miss in Lake Forest. By the way, there will be some great bluegrass played at the Earl Park Fall Festival on Labor Day Weekend – and it’s free.”

Kenny Stone is a Catholic who married a Baptist. Because of the style of music he plays, perhaps, he has played his fiddle at more than a few Baptist funerals. His way of saying goodbye to close friends.

Although raised near the Kankakee River, he connected with those raised near Lake Michigan while attending IUN. Although seemingly opposite ends of the spectrum, a ragamuffin from rural Lake Village and a poor boy from the streets of Gary might have more in common than they would with those residing somewhere in between – an unbroken circle.

It’s what they make of it.

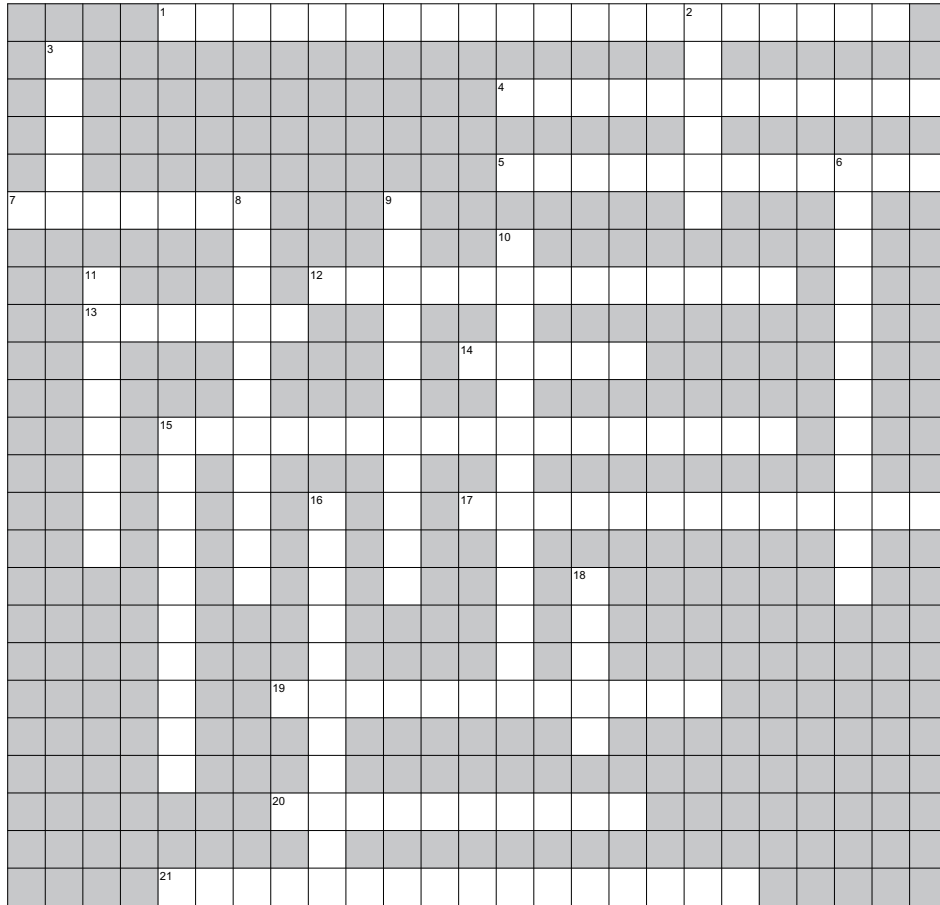
Jeff Manes hired in the steel mills of East Chicago back in 1977 at the age of 20. He began to write in January of 2000. After a quarter-century, Jeff lost his job in the mill. Since the millennium, he has seen his fiction, poetry, and essays published across the country in literary magazines of every ilk - from Communist to Christian. He has read his work throughout the United States and was named “Adult Learner of the Year” by the Association in New York City.

Today, the former welder makes his living with words. With both muscle and heart, Jeff Manes writes a syndicated weekly column about the working class of the Calumet Region entitled “Salt.” To date, he has penned more than 300 “Salt” columns and has been urged to make a book of them.

Historical Crossword Puzzle

NEWTON COUNTY LANDMARKS

Have fun filling in the blanks and learning a bit about our county landmarks.
Happy Birthday Newton County! Answers on page 18.



ACROSS

1. Home of Perfection Fairfax
4. One of two in Indiana, one found in Roselawn.
5. Another name for the stone quarry in Jefferson Township.
7. Name of first known owner of land where Blann Cabin was built.
12. Indiana's 30th Governor from Newton County
13. Donated land for the town of Kent.
14. Name of the Hunt Club located in Thayer.
15. King of the Herefordshire.
17. One of the largest dairies in the country.
19. Location of a portion of the Old Chicago Road in the county.
20. Newton County's first born white child.
21. Local name for Newton County Bridge #57.

DOWN

2. Platted by Jennie Conrad in 1905.
3. Hotel used by hunters and visitors to Water Valley.
6. Nickname for Newton County's first church.
8. Top symbol carved on Cowichan Totem Pole
9. Newton County's only African American cemetery.
10. Place in Lincoln Township that was once used as a garden spot by the Indians.
11. Name of Ade's home.
15. Name of Jackson Township's early Post Office.
16. Home of horsethieves, 1839.
18. Birthplace of Warren T. McCray.

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