

Switzerland County Indiana Families in Southern California

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By the late 1890's train travel had opened up the country to a new wave of migration. A number of residents from Switzerland County, as well as those from other areas of Indiana, went to California between the years 1890 to 1920. Many of them settled in the southern California areas of Glendale and Pasadena. Vacant land was readily available at that time.

Two newspaper articles caught my attention that name a number of those that went to live in Southern California. One article appeared in the *Madison Daily Herald* on August 25, 1921 the other from an unidentified clipping from April 6, 1931.

Some of the same ladies are named in both articles. Including those distinctive Swiss family names, particular to that place, along with other prominent families of Switzerland County, Indiana. There are numerous inter-relationships between all of those people.

The names from both clippings have been combined, alphabetized, and expanded to include full names and dates of all with their relationships to each other. The unmarried ladies are preceded by "Miss." All have been identified and researched with the exception of: Mrs. Fannie Bakes; Mr. & Mrs. Alta Clark; Mrs. Isabel Gilbert and Phyllis Summers. All comments, additions and corrections are welcome.

California Vevay Society Picnics - August 11, 1921

Madison Daily Herald, Aug.25, 1921, p.3, copied from *Vevay Enterprise* www.newspaperarchive.com

In a letter to the Vevay Enterprise from Riverside, Cal., August 11, Mrs. Tom Gordon writes of a picnic held by the Vevay Society, of that place, and among other things gives the names of those present, including some Madisonians and others well know here:

Mr. & Mrs. W. K. Riley, Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Carter, Scott Carter, Mr. & Mrs. M. D. Thiebaud, Gertrude Thiebaud, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Cole, Mr. & Mrs. Graham Ormsby, Mrs. Hannah Mead, Mrs. Lilly Spray, Miss Lilly Mead, Mr. & Mrs. Clem Walton, Mrs. Belle Long, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Tait, Mrs. Lida Walton, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Eaton, Walter Eaton, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Knox, Fay Knox, Mr. & Mrs. Alta Clark, Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur S. Bear and Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gordon.

Those invited who were unable to attend were: Senator and Mrs. John D. Works, Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Knox, Miss Madge Patton, Dr. Wm. Freeman, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Walden, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Terry, Mrs. Lizzie Redd and Miss Betty Carter.

California Tea Party - April 6, 1931

LDS Film #1311738 Items 15-18 Scrapbook Switzerland County, Indiana newspapers, 1892-1913

About 25 young ladies formerly of Vevay [Indiana] were entertained at tea at the home of Mrs. Don Lee Stewart (nee Fay Knox) in Glendale, Calif, Monday April 6th. Mrs. Elizabeth Houze Knox was co-hostess and Mrs. Julia Williams, who is a house guest of Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Knox, was the guest of honor. The tea table was very attractively decorated in yellow and orchid tulle sweet peas, yellow candles and orchid tulle. Mesdames, Eloine Patton Knox, Gertrude Houze Eaton and Lella Dufour Bledsoe assisted at the tea table and about the rooms. An amusing game originated by the hostess and featuring the names of the guest was enjoyed, Mrs. John P. Carter receiving the prize. A picture of eucalyptus trees with the names of those present was a memento to Mrs. Williams.

Those invited were. Mesdames, Eloine Knox, Gertrude Eaton, Lella Bledsoe, Bell Long, Lillie Spray, Anna Loring, Jennie Carter, Nona Walton, Bertha Bettens Debell, Martha Cole, Isabel Gilbert, Stella Bettens Storms, Edith Loring Bechtol, Lulu Dalmazzo, May LeClerc, Macaire Anderson, Graham Ormsby, Fannie Tait, Grace Shaw, Citha Bear, Fannie Bakes.

Misses, Madge Patton, Lou Owens, Lillian Trafelet, Edith Golay, Marion Dalmazzo, Jean Tait, Phyllis Summers and Elizabeth Shaw. Mrs. Williams who has been the incentive for many delightful affairs during her visit to Calif., will leave for Judson, Arizona on the 19th where she will spend a few days and will arrive in Vevay the later part of the month.

Index of Attendees

- Andersen, Jean Macaire Leclerc [Smith] (1909-1999)** dau. of Eugene LeClerc [Smith] and Alma May Cox, married 1930 Estel Miles Andersen. [This family dropped the Smith surname and used surname LeClerc]
- Bakes, Mrs. Fannie** [Unidentified] There are Bakes families in Switzerland Co.
- Bear, Citha E. Gordon, (1890-1969)** dau. of Thomas J. Gordon & Susan A. Rochat, married Wilbur S. Bear
- Bear, Wilbur S., (1883-1968)** son of A. J. Bear and Anna Adams, married Citha E. Gordon, lived Riverside, CA
- Bechtol, Edith Loring, (1892-)** dau. of Perry Loring and Anna Mary Armstrong, married Perry G. Bechtol
- Bledsoe, Lella Dufour (1867-1942)** married Ben Bledsoe, dau. of Francis R. Dufour & Viola Stow
- Carter, Betty, (1849-1922)** unmarried dau. of Col. Scott Carter and Susan Chalfant, sister of John P. Carter
- Carter, Jennelle "Jennie" Thiebaud (1862-1942)** dau. of Julius F. Thiebaud and Catherine E. Long, married John P. Carter
- Carter, John Purcell, (1858-)** son of of Col. Scott Carter and Susan Chalfant, married Jennelle Thiebaud
- Carter, Scott, (1888-1974)** son of John P. Carter & Jennelle Thiebaud, married 1933 Clara B. Ragland
- Clark, Alta [Unidentified]** and wife Possibly the Allie Clark married to Jennie Ford 31 Dec 1891 Switz Co. IN, and Alta Clark with wife Jennie 1920 census Belvidere, Los Angeles, California.
- Clark, wife [Unknown]**
- Cole, Clarence, (1880-1953)** son of George W. A. Cole and Rebecca J., married Martha Long
- Cole, Martha Long, (1882-1937)** dau. of John G. Long and Isabelle Russell, married Clarence Cole, sister of Nona Long Walton
- Dalmazzo, Lulu Banta, (1859-)** dau. of John W. Banta and Martha A. Vance, wife of Francis M. Dalmazzo, mother of Marion, sister of Alice Banta Works
- Dalmazzo, Miss Marion, (1883-)** dau. of Francis M. Dalmazzo and Lulu Banta, unmarried.
- Debell, Bertha Bettens, (1863-1951)** dau. of Philippe A. Betten & Clara Dufour, married Emmett Debell,
- Eaton, Earl E., (1885-1937)** son of J. Harvey Eaton and Flora Shaffner, married Gertrude Houze
- Eaton, Gertrude Houze (1888-1954)** dau. of John M. Houze and Mary Ella Northcott, married Earl E. Eaton
- Eaton, Walter H., (1914-1958)** son of Earl E. Eaton and Gertrude Houze, married 1950 Beatriz Marie Perez
- Freeman, Dr. William (1841-1925)** son of James Freeman and Elizabeth Gull, married 1st 1866 Laura C. Radley [div], married 2nd 1900 Isabel McFadden.
- Gilbert, Mrs Isabel [unidentified]** Many by this name in California.
- Golay, Miss Edith , (1880-1985)** dau. of Aimé M. Golay and Sophia E. Dickason, sister of Grace Golay Shaw
- Gordon, Susan A. Rochat (1854 -1927)** dau. of John Rochat and Harriet Riley, mother of Citha Gordon Bear
- Gordon, Thomas (1847-1933)** son of George M. Gordon and Sarah ?, married Susan A. Rochat, father of Citha Gordon Bear
- Knox, Charles D.,(1864-1932)** son of James S. Knox & Rachel Blunk, married Eloine Patton, half-brother of Clarence M. Knox
- Knox, Clarence M., (1880-1962)** son of James S. Knox and Louise A. LeClerc, married Elizabeth Houze, half-brother of Charles D. Knox
- Knox, Elizabeth Houze, (1882-1938)** dau. of John F. Houze and Mary Ella Northcott, married Clarence M. Knox, sister of Gertrude Eaton
- Knox, Eloine Patton (1865-1942)** dau. of Maj. William Patton and Amelia Danglade, married Charles D. Knox, sister of Madge Patton
- Long, Belle Russell, (1848- 1946)** dau. of Frederick A. Russell & Antoinette Tulornett?, wife of John G. Long, mother of Nona B. Walton and Martha Cole
- Loring, Anna Mary Armstrong, (1861-1951)** dau. of David Armstrong and Eliza Dumont, married Perry Loring, mother of Edith L. Bechtol, sister of Hannah B. Mead and Lilly D. Spray
- LeClerc, Alma May Cox (1880-1963)** dau of Joseph S. Cox and Sarah Bryant, wife of Eugene Leclerc [Smith], mother of Jean Macaire Andersen
- Martin, Frank J. (1860-)** son of Richard Martin and Ann C. Gusner of Rising Sun, Indiana, married Laura Rutherford.
- Martin, Laura Rutherford (1859-)** dau. of Joseph Rutherford and Margaret Brown. Married Frank J. Martin
- Mead, Hannah Armstrong, (1855-)** dau. of David Armstrong and Eliza Dumont, married Edwin H. Mead, mother of Lilly Mead
- Mead, Lilly, (1876 -)** dau. of Edwin Mead and Hannah Armstrong, unmarried?
- Ormsby, Elizabeth O'Neal (1861-)** dau. of ? , married Robert G. Ormsby
- Ormsby, Robert Graham, (1851-)** son of Col. Oliver Ormsby & Anna ? , married Elizabeth "Lizzie" O'Neal

- Owens, Lula Bell, (1860-1933)** dau of William B. Owens & Henrietta A. LeClerc, unmarried, sometimes lived with nephew Eugene LeClerc [Smith]
- Patton, Miss Madge, (1867-1934)** never married, dau. of Maj. William Patton and Amelia Danglede, sister of Eloine Patton Knox, She was secretary to John D. Works and went to California with him about 1883/1890 while he was still an attorney. He became a Judge, State Senator and then a U.S Senator. She also worked for him in senate at Washington. DC.
- Redd, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Shaw (1883-1928)** dau. of William Shaw & Linda Rous, married James E. Redd, son of Barby Redd & Elizabeth Cotton.
- Riley, Alice M. Smith (1853-1937)** daughter of Benjamin F. Smith and Nancy Callender, married William K. Riley
- Riley, William K. (1853-1925)** born West Virginia parents not known, married 1890 in Colorado to Alice Smith Riley
- Shaw Elizabeth, (1925-)** dau of Uly J. Shaw and 1st wife Caroline Craig, step-dau of Grace L. Shaw, married 1947 to Ray T. McCord
- Shaw, Grace Louise Golay, (1891-1980)** dau. of Aimé M. Golay and Sophia E. Dickason, 2nd wife of Uly J. Shaw, sister of Edith Golay
- Spray, Lillie D. Armstrong, (1857-1942)** dau. of David Armstrong and Eliza Dumont, married Horace Spray, sister of Hannah Mead and Anna Loring
- Stewart, Ellouise Fay Knox, ((1907-2002)** daughter of Clarence M. Knox & Elizabeth Houze, married 1930 Don Lee Stewart, niece of Charles D. Knox
- Storm, Stella Bettens, (1867-1940)** daughter of Philippe Betten & Clara Dufour, married Frank R. Storm, sister of Bertha Bettens Debell
- Summers, Phyllis, (1898-)** Unidentified unknown connection, she was a lodger with Lilly D. Armstrong Spray on 1940 U.S. census
- Tait, Clarence, (1875-1930)** son of William Tait & Mary E. Pogue, married Frances "Fannie" Walton
- Tait, Frances "Fannie" Gertrude Walton (1877-1956)** dau. of Joseph E. Walton and Eliza Gravener, wife of Clarence Tait
- Tait, Jean W. (1902-1979)** dau. of Clarence Tait & Frances G. Walton, married John Sterling Comstock
- Terry, Anna P. Ormsby, (1886-1961)** dau. of Graham Ormsby and Elizabeth O'Neal, married 1921 to Edward P. Terry
- Terry, Edward P., (1882- 1980)** son of Edward W. Terry and Elmina Prentice, married Anna P. Ormsby
- Thiebaud, Lillie M. DeBarth (1862-1908)** dau of William DeBarth/Barth and Sarah Snyder, wife of Morton D. Thiebaud
- Thiebaud, Miss Gertrude (1908-)** adopted dau. of Morton D. Thiebaud and Lillie M. DeBarth
- Thiebaud, Morton D., (1861-1947)** son of Justi Thiebaud and Mary Banta, married Lillie M. DeBarth
- Trafelet, Miss Lillian "Lela", (1905-)** dau. of Charles Trafelet and Hannah B. Mead, granddau. of Edwin H. Mead & Hannah B. Armstrong. Believed to have been traveling with Julie LeClerc Williams, did not live in California, although she was related to others there.
- Walden, Jennette/Jennelle T. Northcott (1862-1940)** dau of Benjamin H. Northcott & Jennette H. Stevenson, married Marion C. Walden
- Walden, Marion C. (1858-1922)** son of Henry C. Walden & Amanda R. McHenry, married Jennelle Northcott
- Walton, Clement C. (1879-1944)** son of Clay C. Walton and Margaret H. ?, married Nona B. Long
- Walton, Eliza "Lida" Gravener (1853-1937)** dau. of Luther Gravener and Frances Green, mother of Frances "Fannie" Gertrude Walton Tait, wife of Joseph E. Walton,
- Walton, Nona B. Long, (1879- 1952)** dau. of John G. Long and Isabelle Russell, married Clement C. Walton
- Williams, Julie Elise LeClerc , (1851-1935)** dau. of Robert E. LeClerc & Julia Morerod. She did not live in California but was visiting about 1930 and was related to many there. Married John E. Williams
- Works, Senator John D. (1847 - 1928)** son of James A. Works and Phoebe Downey, married Alice Banta. He went to California about 1883/1890 while he was still an attorney. He became a Judge, State Senator and then a U.S Senator. Madge Patton was his secretary.
- Works, Alice Banta, (1848-)** dau. of John W. Banta and Martha A. Vance, married John D. Works, sister of Lulu Banta Dalmazzo.

Additional information on these individuals, with sources, may be found on LDS FamilySearch/FamilyTree. A free website but you must register. <https://familysearch.org/>