Mercer County, Ohio History 1978

The BUILDING of OHIO

18 Land Grants

The French Grants
1795-98

The map on the opposite side graphically displays the allocations of lands through various grants of the part of the old Northwest Territory that became the great state of Ohio. Ohio became the 17th state in the United States of America through congressional action on March 1, 1803. However, as the map indicates the occupation of lands west, northwest and north of the meandering Ohio River were officially occupied several years earlier. The first of the 18 land grants in the area that is now Ohio was made in 1784; entitled Virginia Military lands. These lands were awarded to Virginia soldiers of the Revolutionary War, including our First President (The Father of Our Country) George Washington, and Generals George Rogers Clark and Daniel Morgan. General Washington's four tracts of land, comprising 3,051 acres, were located in what is now Clermont County, just north of the Ohio River and east of what is now Cincinnati.

Mercer County is in Western Ohio, in the section, Congress Lands, 1819.

(This map is made available to the public by the Auditor of State in the hopes of generating further interest by Ohioans in the development of their great state.).

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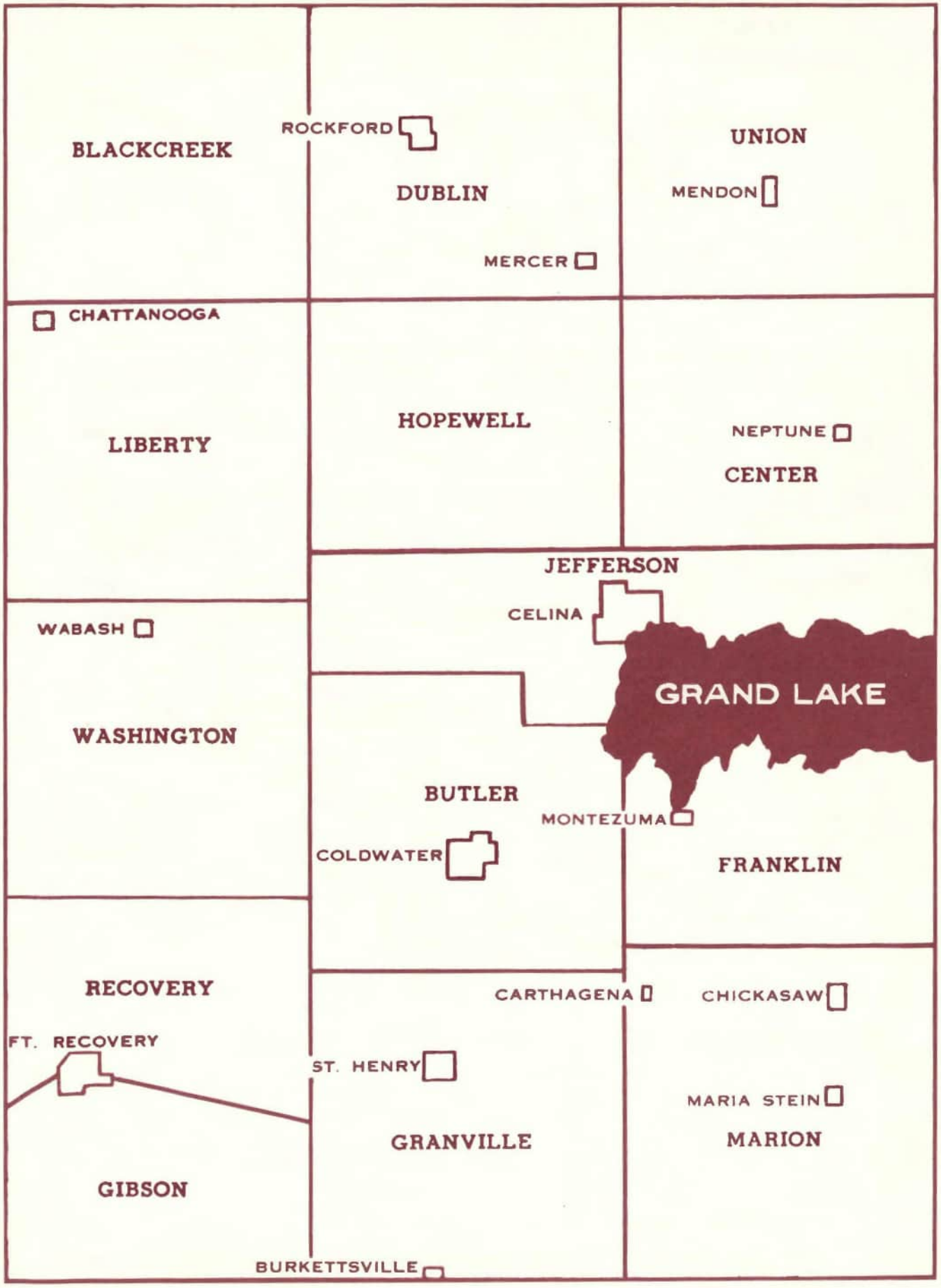

Township Map of Mercer County, Ohio

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Officers of The Mercer County Historical Society, Inc., 1978 — **Seated:** Patricia Olding, Secretary; Joyce L. Alig, President; Eugene Hirschfeld, Vice President; Ray Eblen, Treasurer. **Standing:** Board of Directors — Florence Gause, Vera Speicher, Ralph Schindler, Donald Muhlenkamp, Lee Kuhn. (photograph by Leitzell)

PREFACE

The Mercer County Historical Society welcomes the reader to the *Mercer County, Ohio History 1978.* Almost a century ago, in 1882, the first Mercer County History was written. A biographical history of Mercer County was printed in 1896. The 1907 History of Mercer County was the last major history of the county written.

Three factors gave the Mercer County Historical Society the opportunity and the responsibility to publish this *Mercer County, Ohio History 1978.* One factor was the steady request for historical research from local students and Wright State University students, and for historical and genealogical research from Mercer Countians and people across the nation and Europe. Another factor was the increasing number of requests from schools and organizations for lectures on local history by Museum Director Joyce L. Alig. The third factor was the need for incorporating the history of Mercer County for the last seventy years into the history books.

Many authors have endeavored to write the individual histories, which as a total, will present the story of Mercer County, Ohio. Specific examples of histories include Mercer County Officials and buildings, Townships, Villages, Schools, Churches, Libraries, Professional and Civic Organizations, recreation areas, and businesses. The family histories reflect the heritage of the county and how each family has played an important role in the development of Mercer County. An extensive index of family names and subject interest will contribute to historical research. May the reader have a gentle understanding of the shortcomings of this book. Any errors of commission or ommission are quite unintentional.

A number of persons have helped in the production of this book. Mercer Countians wrote the histories. Carol Thees, Florence Gause and Helen Godfrey are acknowledged on the Copyright page. Vera Speicher and Ralph Schindler offered invaluable support, time and encouragement to the Editor during the two year period of preparing this book. Don Muhlenkamp and Eugene Hirschfeld took responsibility for Museum maintenance. Ray Eblen and Bernard Gebhart are responsible for the keys to the plat maps.

May future generations look upon this *Mercer County, Ohio History 1978* as a keepsake. May future generations be inspired to accept the responsibility of taking pride in recording their heritage. May future generations respect and honor the people who gave of themselves to make Mercer County the fine community it is today.

Joyce L. Alig
Editor

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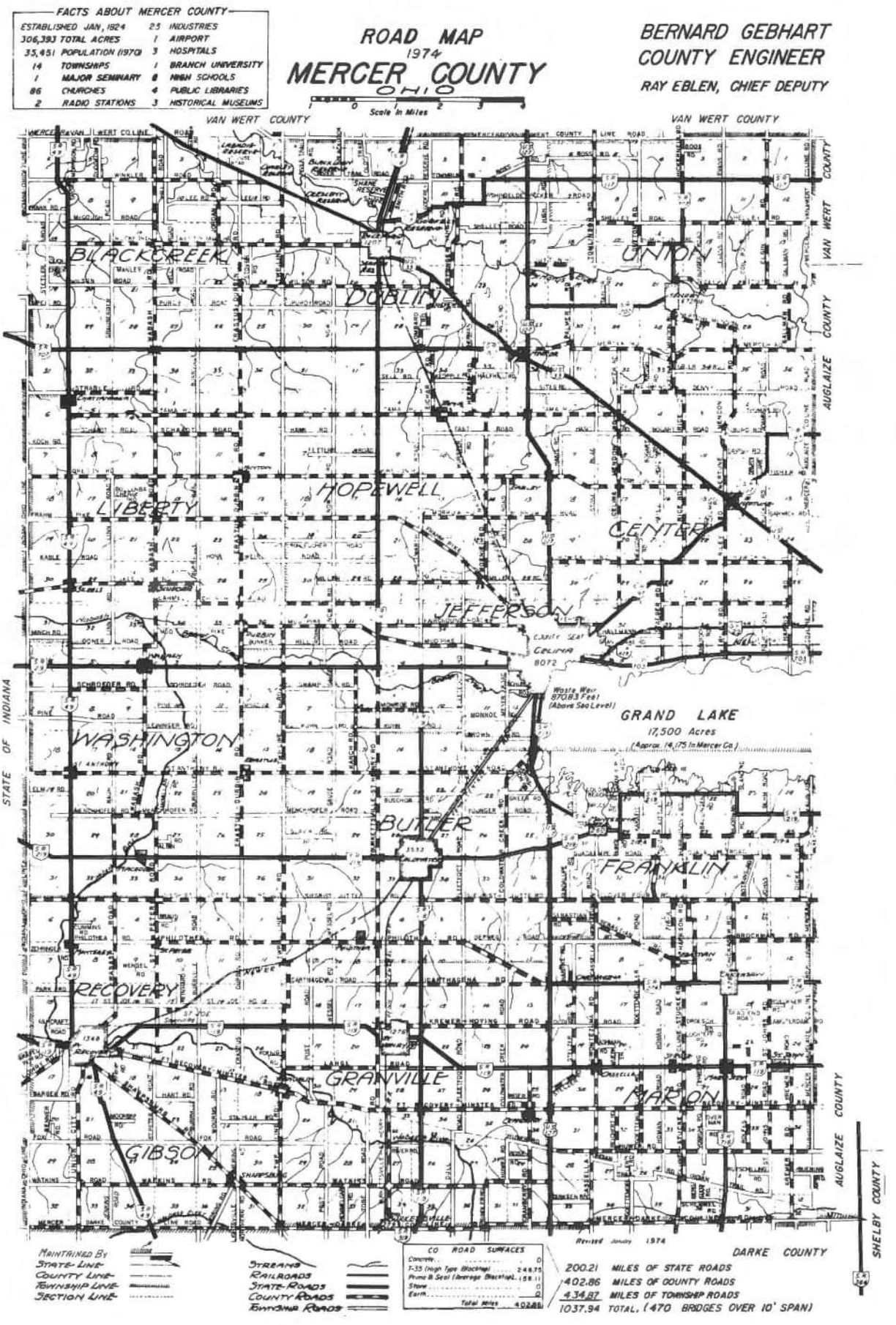

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INTRODUCTION TO HISTORY OF MERCER COUNTY, OHIO

Mercer County is located in the West Central part of Ohio, approximately sixty miles northwest of Dayton and about one hundred miles southwest of Toledo. Mercer County is bounded on the north by Van Wert County, on the east by Auglaize County and on the south by Darke County. The western boundary of Mercer County borders Jay County, Indiana. Rivers traversing the county are the Wabash and the Saint Marys.

In Mercer County, Wisconsin age glacial deposits have been superimposed over middle Silurian age dolomite. Mercer County lies in the Till Plains Region. The Fort Wayne recessional moraine passes through Mercer County. The Wabash, St. Johns, and Mississinewa recessional moraines pass through portions of Mercer County. The lobate pattern of the recessional moraines is responsible for trapping low areas, the sites of small glacial lakes in the past, and the present site of Grand Lake Saint Marys. The area around Cranberry Prairie in southern Mercer County is a peat bog, and the former site of a glacial lake.

The Ohio Legislature passed an act for the erection of fourteen counties in Northwestern Ohio, February 12, 1820; Mercer County was one of the fourteen counties. Mercer County was attached to Darke County, and was subsequently detached in 1824. The 1820 Census for Mercer County is in the Darke County Records. Mercer County was organized by an act of the Legislature, dated January 2, 1824.

Prior to this, Indians had lived in this land. As settlers had moved north and west of the Ohio River in the late eighteenth century, conflicts arose between the Indians and Whites. During that time, two forts were erected in Mercer County. On December 23, 1793, General Anthony Wayne gave orders for the erection of a fort after General Saint Clair's disastrous defeat at that site in 1791; the fort being named Fort Recovery. General Wayne's troops also built Fort Adams in section 24 of Dublin Township, in 1794. The Indian Wars were concluded with the Greenville Treaty in 1795; the Greenville Treaty Line was drawn. This Line crosses southern Mercer County. The land north of this Treaty Line was not ceded by the Indians until the Treaty of 1818. After the Federal Government acquired this land, Captain James Riley began his survey of the land.

The Census of Mercer County in 1830 was listed at 1,116. Nine Mercer County Villages were platted in the 1830's. The 1840 Census of Mercer County was 8,277. This sudden growth was due to the development of the Miami-Erie Canal. The Miami-Erie Canal bounded the eastern edge of Mercer County, which became part of Auglaize County in 1849. Grand Lake Saint Marys was developed in the 1830's, as a feeder to the Canal. The hand-dug canal provided commerce, employment, and transportation for settlers. The immigrants could work for fifty cents a day on the canal and save their money to purchase a farm. Land cost a dollar and a quarter per acre; an eighty acre farm cost one hundred dollars. The canal provided quick access to the market at Cincinnati. Wheat jumped from ten cents a bushel to one dollar.

Auglaize County was set off from Mercer County and the surrounding counties in 1849. Therefore, the towns of Saint Marys, Minster and New Bremen, previously a part of Mercer County, became a part of Auglaize County. An epidemic followed the canal north from Cincinnati. The Asiatic Cholera hit cities along the canal, and Mercer County as well, in 1848 and 1849. The canal continued contributing to Mercer County growth in population. The 1850 Census of Mercer County was 7,712; the 1860 Census of Mercer County was 14,104; the 1870 Census of Mercer County was 17,254.

During the early nineteenth century, life in Mercer County was rural. Life centered around the home, the church, and the school. Neighbors had barn-raising parties, quilting bees and platform dances. Many churches were established in the 1830's and 1840's. Log schools were built. In 1825, there was a tax of 0.5 mill on each dollar of taxable property for the support of common schools. Citizens of this area paid their taxes by hunting and trapping; in 1838, raccoon skins brought $1.00; deer skins $2.50 and venison $.20 per pound. When the boys were not working or hunting, they went to school if their parents saw fit to send them.

The first businesses were the general stores, many times operated out of the kitchens of homes. Post offices often were a part of the general stores. Early industry was tied to the abundant forests of the area. There were saw mills. Stave factories made barrels. The farmers had first used horse-powered mills to obtain their flour; these mills yielded to water-powered mills, which yielded to the steam grist mill by 1900.

Another contribution to transportation was the completion of the Ohio and Indiana Plank Road, extending from St. Marys to Fort Wayne, Indiana. The building of this road, passing through deep swamps and almost pathless forests, was a great undertaking. The road, extending through Neptune, Mercer and Shanesville, was built during the years 1850-52. Taverns and other businesses were built along the way.

During the Civil War, railroad companies were purchasing land in Mercer County. Three steam railroads were to be built. The Lake Erie and Western Railroad, passing through the county in a direction from northeast to southwest, reached Coldwater and Fort Recovery in 1879. The Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton passed through Marion Township to the County Seat. The Cincinnati, Jackson, and Mackinaw (the Cincinnati Northern) crossed the north-south direction of the county in 1884. The railroads were sources of business interaction and communication to the outside world. Grain mills were erected at intersections of railroads and communities. The farmers utilized the rail service. Rockford flour mill was built in 1880. Sawmills were numerous, and exported ship timber, hickory, ash, oak for spokes, bending timber in wagons, buggies and machinery in the cities. Blacksmiths, tinsmiths; carpenters were the craftsmen of the times. In Saint Henry, a new sawmill, a livery stable, a tavern, and a general store were built in 1884, after the Cincinnati-Jackson Railroad had come to town in December 1883. Newspapers were established. Celina had

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had the Western Standard since 1848 and the canal days; Fort Recovery had the newspaper, The New Era in 1878; Rockford, the Shanes Crossing Tribune in 1879; the Rockford Press in 1883; the Coldwater Change in 1884; the Celina Der Mercer County Bote in 1883; and the Mendon Herald in 1895. Opera Houses came with the railroads; Rockford Opera House was built in 1882 and Fort Recovery Opera House in 1884. Banks were initiated: Celina Commercial Bank was begun in 1870; Coldwater Bank in 1887; Rockford Farmers Banking Company in 1887; Fort Recovery Banking Company in 1881. Dry Goods stores, hotels; restaurants were built. The railroad played a tremendous role for two villages; Macedon was larger than Coldwater before Coldwater got the railroad. The 1880 Census for Mercer County was 21,808; the 1890 Census was 27,220.

Oil wells and gas wells saw their rise and decline at the time of the railroads. Fort Recovery's first gas well was in 1887; Celina's first gas well was in 1888. Oil wells were drilled on the reservoir in the 1890's. The anticipated wealth was short-lived. (Speculators had anticipated the wealth of Lima's oil fields.)

By 1900, Mercer County population had stabilized; the Census was 28,021. The entire nation was prospering at the turn of the century. Schools were being supported. Libraries were formed: Celina Library was formed in 1898; Rockford formed a library in 1902; Fort Recovery's library was formed in 1928 and Coldwater's library was formed in 1936.

As the communities were incorporated, village councils were formed that directed police protection and cared for the calaboose with the wooden stove. Coldwater had a town building, gravel streets, and a fire department by the 1880's. Fires which took the entire towns inspired fire departments and water systems. Celina lost the west side of Main Street, south of Market Street in the 1894 fire. Mendon lost the west side of Main Street in 1900 and the east side of Main Street in the 1907 fire. Saint Henry lost the north side of Main Street in 1905. Coldwater Fire Department was organized in 1886; Rockford in 1895; Celina in 1904; Saint Henry in 1905. Celina installed the water works in 1895; Fort Recovery in 1900; Saint Henry in 1909; and Coldwater in 1916. Electric power plants were built. Rockford formed the Electric Lighting Power Co. in 1888 and in 1899 Rockford had street lights. Fort Recovery had street lights in 1900; Coldwater in 1914 and Saint Henry in 1915. The telephones soon followed. Rockford had a telephone system as early as 1902; Marion Township had the Marion Telephone Company in 1898. Agribusiness grew in response to the needs of the rural community. Avco New Idea was begun at Maria Stein in 1899. Celina's Wilson and Bomholt, Inc. International Harvester Products began in 1888. Celina Lumber and Supply Company began in 1893. Industry was growing; Mersman Brothers began in 1900; Reynolds and Reynolds had been in business since 1866. The health needs of the county were being served. The Mercer County Medical Society was organized in 1903 with thirteen members. Dentists were serving the county.

World War I was a sad time in the county. Many Mercer Countians' parents and grandparents had emigrated from Germany. Mercer Countians spoke German in their homes and corresponded with their German cousins. The war with Germany brought a time of conflict within the hearts of Mercer Countians. A Prisoner of War Camp was maintained at the present site (1978) of the 4 H Camp, near Grand Lake Saint Marys. Schools stopped teaching German and burned German textbooks. Many families stopped all communication with their German relatives. (Today, in 1978, many Mercer Countians are trying to renew these family ties and contact their relatives in Germany. This 1978 Mercer County History Book has encouraged many Mercer Countians to seek information on their ancestors.)

Prior to the twenties, The Western Ohio Traction Company and its electric railroad was an asset to the transportation opportunities of the county, as well as helping to pay the county taxes. The advent of the automobile initiated new business; for example: car sales, garages and service stations. Spriggs Garage began in 1919; O. L. Johnson and Son Ford Dealer in 1922; Sam Dixon Motor Sales began in 1926; Liberty Tire Shop began in the 1920's.

The 1930 Census of Mercer County was 25,096. The depression of the thirties hit Mercer County with unemployment and low wages. The W.P.A. projects of building and bridge construction brought employment to Mercer Countians. It was also during the thirties that electricity reached many rural areas of Mercer County. Radios were bringing news and entertainment to the homes. The 1940 Census of Mercer County was 26,256. World War II brought another time of sadness to Mercer County homes.

The 1950 Census of Mercer County was 28,311. The fifties brought good times. Even teenagers had good employment and bought their own automobiles and went to Drive-In Theatres, and listened to Elvis Presley Records. Families watched "I Love Lucy" on their new television sets. New ranch-type homes were being built throughout the county.

The 1960 Census of Mercer County was 32,559. In the sixties, riding lawn mowers were replacing the power mowers that had been pushed. Environmental Protection publicity encouraged local citizens to work for better development of Grand Lake Saint Marys. In the homes, kitchen appliances included dishwashers, trash compactors, garbage disposals, charcoal grills and microwave ovens. Civic-minded citizens founded the Western Ohio Education Foundation to bring higher education to the four-county area of Mercer, Auglaize, Van Wert and Darke Counties.

The 1970 Census of Mercer County was 35,451. Environmental Protection of the sixties was followed by energy conservation of the seventies. People turned down their thermostats in their homes and insulated their homes. People wore more clothes; the "layer look" became a part of the clothes fashion as people added more clothes, with layers of a shirt, blouse, vest and sweater. Drivers slowed down to 55 miles per hour. In 1976, the Penn Central Railroad closed. Tom Zitter began his private railroad. The Norfolk and Western Railroad continued its operations. Local communities celebrated the Nation's Bicentennial in 1976. People stood in line to receive their swine flu shots. Snowmobiles were used in recreation and in helping stranded people in the 1978 Blizzard. Ambulance Rescue Squads were formed and volunteers served the county. Citizen Band Radios were installed in cars and homes. Garage sales and mini-calculators were also a part of the scene of the seventies.

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INDIANS OF THIS AREA

Mercer County's terrain and vegetation was conducive to two varieties of historic Indian; the woodland or forest people, and prairie or grasslands people. The woodland people were gardeners, gatherers, and hunters by the time they started roaming the area of Mercer County. At first they were occasional occupants along the streams and watering places of the larger animal they hunted. Mercer County was the hunting region for the two or three major hunts they participated in each year, but not their permanent home. As well as hunting, they gathered the edibles of the land during the various seasons i.e. nuts, berries, wild fruits, and seeds. The prairie people came into the county to hunt the large animals such as deer, elk, and buffalo and probably were more regular visitors than the woodland because they depended more on hunting as a source of food than the woodland people.

Besides the different environment and ways in which they procured their food, the woodland and prairie people differed in the style and the raw material used in housing. The woodland lived in long houses covered with bark and skins if they were Iroquoian. If Algonquin they lived in wigwams or circular shaped houses covered with bark or skins. The prairie people lived in wigwams covered with grass matting or skins. In both cases the houses were multiple family rather than single family dwellings. After white contact this architectural habitat was greatly changed and many changed to single hut or cabin type.

During the time of the exodus of the late prehistoric peoples until the first or second decade of the 1700's, there was no Indian activity in Mercer County. During the second and third decade of the 18th century, Algonquin speaking woodland and prairie Indians started to use this region as a hunting area. Possibly an occasional hunting or raiding party of the Iroquois speaking woodland people passed through Mercer County during this time. The Algonquin people were of the Miami, Shawnee, Ottawa, Mohican and Potawatomies tribes. The Iroquois people were of the Seneca, Wyandot, and Mohawk tribes.

Each of these groups had migrated to the Ohio area but were used to the life pattern they would lead in this area. The Potawatomies and Ottawa had come from upper Michigan and lakeshore Wisconsin. The Miami came from the Illinois River Valley by way of Indiana and southwestern Michigan. The Shawnee from the south and probably had lived in Ohio some 300 or 400 years prior to their return as Fort Ancient people. The Wyandot, Seneca, Mohawk, and Mohican were northeastern Indians who migrated from that area because of inter-tribal wars and white invasion of their lands.

The Indian activity in Mercer County by mid-eighteenth century had experienced a drastic change. The northern part, around the "Half-Way Cross" was considered Wyandot hunting area who allowed some Ottawa and Mohawk to use the area. Activity had increased to the point that some of these bans or fragments of tribes were "wintering" in northern Mercer County along the St. Marys. The southern area of the county was considered Miami and Shawnee hunting area.

After the British gained control of this area the Miami people became more active in the northern half. The Ottawa remained, but the activity of the Wyandot and other Iroquoian people lessened. Temporary encampments during the hunt or over the winter probably dotted the St. Marys River up until the Revolutionary War period.

During the period of the struggle between American and British control of this region (1776-1795) the Indian activity in this area experienced another change. Early in this era Miami and Ottawa were the most dominant people, but toward the end the Ottawa bans moved north and Shawnee activity from the south started to intrude. Early in the 1780's, Mark, a Mohican convert of the Moravians who had lived with the Shawnee was joined by a few other Mohicans and some Shawnee settled on the St. Mary's, a mile or so above present Mendon. Mark died in 1783 but his son Stephen held the ban together in this area. The village is referred to by various early recorders as Stephentown, Muhheconnuk, Gaunschiechgunk, or Mohican Town. This village is recorded in existence as late as 1792, and 1808 by early recorders. Regardless of this single settlement it is safe to say that Miami were still the dominant users of the land in and around Mercer County.

After the treaty of Greenville, Mercer County became part of the Indian Territory until April 1, 1820. During this period the northern part of the county was used for hunting purposes by Miami and Potawatomies. A trading station ran by Charles Murray was in operation at the site of Fort Adams in 1800 and shortly after that Anthony Shane opened trade with the Indians at the site of Shanesville. It is recorded that some Delaware from the Indiana area were active in Mercer County hunting and gathering. The southern part of the county still was considered Shawnee country, but no permanent villages are recorded.

Until the county was created, Mercer was not truly the home of any sizable group of Indians. During their occupancy in the general area, the Shawnee, Miami, Wyandot, Ottawa and Potawatomie all hunted its forests and fields. Only a small group of Mohicans and Shawnee used Mercer County as their homesite for an extended period of time. *by*

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Mercer County Courthouse (Erected in 1923)

MERCER COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The construction of a new court house was the topic of conversation in Mercer County at the turn of the century. The Mercer County Court House, which had been built in 1868, had become too small and lacked electricity, telephones, modern heating and means of sanitation. In the April 27, 1920 presidential primaries, a $500,000 bond issue for Court House construction was carried by a majority vote in Mercer County. The Building commission was appointed in May. Peter M. Hulsken, Lima, Ohio — originally from Holland — was the assigned architect; his General Specifications and Plans were approved by the Mercer County Court House Building Commission February 26, 1921. Contracts were awarded. Ground was broken May 19, 1921; the cornerstone was laid July 20, 1921.

The elegance of the Grecian architecture seemed to inspire awe in Mercer Countians and their guests on the day of dedication of the court house, September 3, 1923. The court house today is as it was the day of dedication. The Gray Bedford Limestone of the court house is cut straight and clean, to be complemented by the forty-foot high Corinthian columns. The bronze doors open for guests to be greeted by a hall of marble.

The stair well encircles the heart of the court house as the stair railings are cut concave to the radius. The baluster rail in black marble and carved newel posts lead rotunda are high panels of Vermont Marble on the circumference of the rotunda's highly polished marble floors.

Mythological figures of Greece in the frieze bordering the top floor rotunda feature the motif of Greek figures from the Athenian Parthenon, 432 B.C. Theseus killing the bull is symbolic of the law in its struggle against evil. Theseus killed the Minotaur, half human and half bull, who fed on human flesh and lived in the palace Labyrinth. The female equestrian represents the mythical combat between the Amazons, the female warriors, and the Greeks. Prometheus, with earth and water, fashioned the body of the first man and thus was creator of the human race. The mastery of fire is symbolized by Vulcan tying Prometheus. The mastery of fire was a prelude to the creation of arts and science. These scenes are repeated throughout the frieze.

The dome is shining colored glass crowning the Grecian edifice. The sun's rays filter through the art glass, forming a halo and warming the corridors below. The visitor is impressed with the quiet grandeur of this place of honor.

The elevator and restrooms were a sign of engineering and progress echoing Vulcan's mastery of Prometheus. Even the offices had restrooms — quite a change from the old 1868 court house. The 1923 newspaper stated, "Never a day in a week but that motorists passing through Celina stop at the court house to let the women and children rest." The elevator was not replaced until 1972.

The Mercer County Court House has received special care over the years. Arnold and Daniel Schoch, under Schachne & Co., original interior decorators of the court house, worked with the decorations in 1934. L. Strong, Lima architect, directed decoration in 1948. In the physical plant, new boilers were installed in 1968. The decade of the seventies included rewiring of the court house and new sidewalks around the building.

Architect Hulsken, sensitive to the beauty of Greek architecture, made his choice in reflection of the Grecian values of peace and law. The strength and symmetry of the ancient temples of Greece remain steadfast in the classical elegance of the Mercer County Court House today — standing on the acropolis of Celina.

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Mercer County Courthouse (1868-1923)

MERCER COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The first Court House was a frame structure, 20 by 24 feet in dimensions, two stories high, built in 1828-29 by W. McCluney. The price paid, $291.49, included price for lot 57, which was valued by two disinterested men at $40.00. The furniture was provided by Joshua Warfield at a cost of $57.37½. Previous to the erection of this building, the Court of Common Pleas had held sessions in the tavern of John Pickerell, to whom the commissioners on December 3, 1827 allowed $5 for the use of the same.

On September 12, 1839, the commissioners and auditor met to select 34 lots donated by the proprietors of Celina to aid in the erection of public buildings in the town. On November 5th of that year 20 of these lots were sold for $327.25 and on the 7th eight additional lots were sold for $292.50.

On September 13, 1839, the commissioners put under contract the building of a new Court House at Celina. The contract was let on December 3, 1839, to Samuel Hunter and John McGee for $1,350. The building was completed in June, 1841, but it seems that the Court House as first constructed was not plastered for on June 7, 1843, Milton M. Miller received the contract for plastering the rooms of the second floor, which were used for court purposes, consisting of a court-room and two jury rooms. At the same time W. Brandt was awarded the contract for plastering the upper story and Franklin Linzee the contract for building a fence around the Court House. In April, 1846 John Carlin and John Bolton were awarded the contract for plastering the rooms in the first or basement story. In April, 1850, William Auguster was given the contract for roofing the Court House with pine shingles and the contract for the finishing of the court-room was given to Stephen McVicker, each contract being for $110. In July of this year the contract for painting the Court House was awarded to Levi Dibble for $165. In April, 1851, Abraham Miller was awarded the contract for the underpinning of the Court House with stone and for walling and digging a well. In September, 1858, the commissioners built an office of brick for the county treasurer, 16 by 24 feet in dimensions, with stone foundation.

On April 13, 1866, the commissioners resolved to erect a Court House 58 by 70 feet in ground dimensions, three stories high, including a stone basement. At a subsequent meeting held the same month, the dimensions were changed to 60 by 97 feet. The first bids, which were opened on May 18, 1866, not proving satisfactory, no contract was awarded. On March 13, 1867, Mr. Rumbaugh, an architect of Lima, Ohio, submitted plans for a Court House which were adopted. The plans provided for a building 56 feet 6 inches by 81 feet 4 inches, two stories high — with main tower 16 feet square, four stories high and a smaller tower 14 feet square, three stories high — to be of brick work, cut stone, plastering stucco work, roof slating, court-room, painting, clock, etc. The building was to be finished by September 15, 1868. Ten bids, ranging from $39,000 to $44,850, were considered, the contract finally being awarded to R. G. Blake and F. C. LeBlond. By consent of the commissioners this contract was transferred by Messrs. Blake and LeBlond to M. P. Guffey, on the same conditions. On June 22, 1869, the commissioners sold the old Court House lot (No. 276)

General Hugh Mercer

Mercer County, Ohio was named in honor of General Hugh Mercer, a distinguished officer of the Revolution.

General Hugh Mercer was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, in the year 1723 (1720?). Educated as a physician, he acted in the capacity of surgeon's mate in the army of Prince Charles Edward, the hero of the Civil War of 1745, at the battle of Culloden. In the year 1746, he emigrated to America. He migrated to Pennsylvania in 1747, and settled on the western frontier of the colony of Cumberland County, west of the Susquehanna River, and within a few miles of Mercersburg, now Franklin County. After the peace of 1763, he settled in Fredericksburg, and married Isabella, the youngest daughter of John and Margaret Gordon.

At the outbreak of the American Revolution he joined the Continental Army, attaining the rank of brigadier-general. He was with General Washington on his retreat through New Jersey and fought at Trenton. Col. Hugh Mercer was the first officer in command of the first Fort Pitt, on the bank of the Monongahela. June 1775, Col. Hugh Mercer received from Congress his commission as Brigadier-General. Gen. Mercer was a prominent officer throughout the entire Continental service. At the Battle of Princeton, General Mercer was mortally wounded and died January 12, 1777. He was buried at Princeton, but his body was afterwards brought to Philadelphia and buried in Christ Church. However, on November 26, 1840, his remains were disinterred and removed with appropriate honor to the Laurel Hill Cemetery. A monument is there erected by the St. Andrew Society.

According to an old rhyme, "The Mercers aye are aulder than auld Perth." That the family is of great antiquity is evident from records telling of John Mercer who gave three water mills at Perth to Malcolm Canmore, King of Scots from 1066 to 1122. Other records tell of Aleimnus Mercer and his son, bearing the same name, who lived during the reign of Alexander II and Alexander III. Another of the name was Lawrence Mercer, treasurer to the Scottish Crusaders led by the Earls of Carrick and Atholl in 1270. Among the distinguished members of the family was John Mercer, Provost of Perth, who sat in the General Council of Scotland from 1364 to 1367. He also served as ambassador to England and France. His direct descendant, John Francis Mercer, a lieutenant-colonel in the British Army, was killed while in command of Fort Oswego on Lake Ontario in 1756, when the fort was captured by the French under the Marquis de Montcalm.

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RALPH DICKE
Mercer County Commissioner

Ralph Dicke was elected as a Mercer County Commissioner in 1973 to take office Jan. 1, 1974, for a 4 year term. In 1978, he ran unopposed for his second four year term to begin 1979. Prior to being Commissioner he was Township Trustee in Franklin Twp. He is married to Lavon Wiehe and they have three children who are all married and they all live in Mercer County, Ohio.

Ralph lives in Franklin Township on the same farm where he was born on Clover Four Road.

Ralph Dicke, Mercer County Commissioner

WALTER SCHMIESING

I was born in 1916 in Egypt, Ohio, the son of Anthony and Clara (Bergman) Schmiesing. I attended grade school in Egypt and high school in Minster.

In 1936 I married Mary Ann Greivenkamp, the daughter of John and Katharine (Kemper) Greivenkamp. We are the parents of one son (deceased) and three daughters. Dianne is married to Larry Dicke, and they have three children: Michelle, Denise, and Tim. Another daughter, Elaine, married David W. Brunswick and they have one son (deceased) and one daughter, Meredith. Our youngest daughter, Peg, and her husband, Mike Albers, have one daughter, Jennifer.

Before I was elected as county commissioner in 1976, I was a farmer, milk hauler, and for many years I served as an Ohio State Dairy Supervisor. During these years I also held offices in various associations, businesses, and service organizations.

Walter Schmiesing, Mercer County Commissioner

RALPH KLOSTERMAN

November 1968, Mr. Ralph Klosterman was elected to serve on the Board of County Commissioners, Mercer County, Ohio beginning January 1, 1969. He has subsequently been elected in 1972 and 1976.

Mr. Klosterman had previously served the City of Celina for four (4) years as President of Council and six (6) years as Councilman at Large.

Ralph and his wife Helen (nee Sudhoff) have resided in Celina since 1940 and are the parents of two (2) daughters and a son, namely; Jane, Joan and James.

Mr. Klosterman has been Chairman of the Mercer County Chapter American Red Cross the past seven (7) years; he is also a World War II Veteran having served three (3) years, half of the time in the European Theatre. Mr. Klosterman's hobbies are gardening and fishing.

Ralph Klosterman, Mercer County Commissioner

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James J. Highley, Mercer County Clerk of Courts

JAMES J. HIGHLEY
Clerk of Courts

Mercer County Clerk of Courts James J. Highley, 4256 Mud Pike, Celina, Ohio, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville L. Highley, Burrville Road, Celina, Ohio and has been a resident of Mercer County all his life. In 1967 he married Janet Marsee, and they now have two sons, Todd Joseph, born December 16, 1970 and Troy Allen born March 8, 1974.

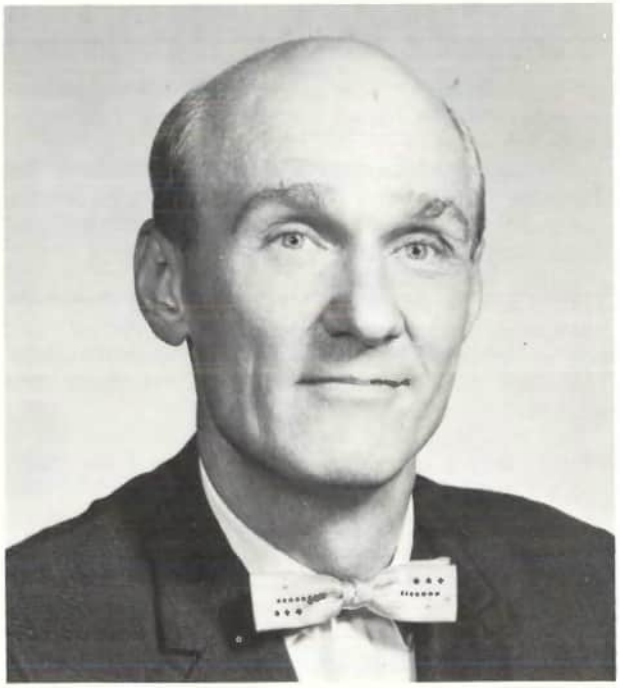
Jim is a graduate of Celina High School, and attended International Business College in Fort Wayne, Indiana before entering the US Army. While serving in the Army, he graduated from the Fort Knox Clerical School in Fort Knox, Kentucky. He then received advanced clerical training at the Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas graduating from Medical Records and Reports School. He was then permanently assigned to the Registrar Division of the Irwin Army Hospital at Fort Riley, Kansas where he worked as clerk until his two-year military service obligation ended.

Upon returning to Mercer County from his service duty, he was employed by the Reynolds and Reynolds Company, and worked in the Data Processing section for 3½ years. In July of 1969 he became a Deputy Sheriff on the Mercer County Sheriff's Department proudly serving under Sheriff W. C. Sunderhaus. While with the Sheriff's Department he received many hours of training at various law enforcement schools and seminars. He achieved the rank of Lieutenant, and headed the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Department on the third floor of the Mercer County Court House. While in that capacity he worked directly with the courts, gaining much experience with various types of legal documents, court procedures, and office management. His duties required many dealings with the Clerk of Courts Office, and he became very interested in its operation.

After learning that Clerk of Courts Dwight Laffin was going to retire, Jim ran on the Democratic ticket and was elected in November 1976. He took office on January 3, 1977.

He is now an honorary member of the Grand Lakes Lodge #19 Fraternal Order of Police, and is also a past president of that lodge. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Mercer County Society for Crippled Children and Adults and the Mercer County Mental Health Association. He is also a member of the Mercer County Joint Coordinating Council and the Coldwater Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

In his position as Clerk of Courts he serves on the Mercer County Data Processing Board and has been President of the Mercer County Elected and Appointed Officials Association. He takes a very active part in the Ohio Clerk of Courts Association, and now serves as Third Vice President. He served as 5th District Chairman in 1977, and is presently Chairman of the Membership Committee, Nominating Committee, and presides over the eight Ohio District Chairpersons.



Tom Timmerman, Mercer County Auditor

TOM TIMMERMAN
Mercer County Auditor

Born June 3, 1922 in Darke County, Ohio — moved to Mercer County in 1948 and except for temporary absences has been a lifelong resident of the Ft. Recovery area. A registered public accountant by profession having graduated from Miami Jacobs Business College in 1955. Served eight years as a Justice of the Peace for Recovery Township and a past member of the Ft. Recovery Village Council and the Southwest Local Board of Education. A combat Veteran Frogman of World War II. Married to the former Cecilia Suhy of Pittsburgh, Pa. and the Father of Fourteen children. First elected to the Mercer County Auditor's Office in November 1958 and presently serving his fifth term.

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Murph Knapke, Mercer County Prosecuting Attorney

B.R. Gebhart, Mercer County Engineer

Lewis W. Whitmer, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division

Dean James, Judge of the Common Pleas Court, General Division

MURPH KNAPKE
Prosecuting Attorney

Murph Knapke received his undergraduate degree from Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, in 1969, and his Juris Doctor degree from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, in 1972. He served as assistant Prosecuting Attorney from 1974 until 1976, when he was elected Mercer County Prosecuting Attorney.

Knapke is a member of the Ohio Prosecuting Attorney's Association and the National District Attorney's Association and is currently serving as President of the Mercer County Bar Association.

He is a life-long resident of Mercer County, Ohio, whose father, Henry J. Knapke, served as Prosecuting Attorney from 1937 to 1944.

He is married to the former Connie Bell of Celina, Ohio, and is the father of one son, Jeff Knapke.

B. R. GEBHART
Mercer County Engineer

(from 1951 to present date (1979) with the exception of one term from 1961 to 1965)

Mr. Gebhart, a Professional Engineer and Surveyor, received his engineering background from Tri-State College and Valparaiso University. He lives at 204 Dogwood Drive, Celina, Ohio with his wife, Ethel, and has one son, Bernard II (Skip), whose mother, Harriet Allen Gebhart, was deceased in 1970.

Mr. Gebhart's work career started with a small contracting business and then on to Engineer with Civilian Conservation Corps from its inception to its close; a stint with Bureau Agricultural Engineering; Soil Conservation Service; Public Roads Administration on the Alaska Highway where Mr. Gebhart was in bridge layout and field construction.

According to Mr. Gebhart he has seen the Mercer County Highway Budget increase from approximately $300,000 in 1952 to the present budget appropriation of $1,393,000 in 1979. The road surfaces have improved from 80 miles of bituminous treated and 320 miles of stone or gravel to approximately 263 miles of asphaltic concrete and 137 miles of Bituminous treated with no gravel or dirt roads in 1979. The County Engineer's Office and Highway Department, under Mr. Gebhart, has built 101 new bridges, 34 new bridge culverts, and widened and repaired 183 bridges plus many abutment repairs and guard rail installations. Since 1952 there have been 172 Ditch Petitions filed in this office with 115 of these constructed by contract. Forty five of these ditches are now under permanent maintenance. Some of the larger ditches constructed under Mr. Gebhart include Beaver Creek, Big Blackcreek, Montezuma Creek, Prairie Creek, 12 Mile Creek, 8 Mile Creek etc.

Along with the major jobs of black topping, center line and edge line striping, building and painting culverts and bridges, designing and constructing of farm drainage ditches, the Engineering Department has found time to maintain roads, mow road right of ways, install guard rails, plow snow (a major job), plus a hundred and one jobs included in the County Engineer's work load.

Mr. Gebhart says that most of the credit for the work completed should go to the men and ladies of the Engineer's Office and the Highway Department. Without these loyal people, little could have been accomplished. Mr. Gebhart can point with pride to the many improvements made in the County in his thirty years of service. Some improvements are the naming and installing of road name signs on all County and Township roads in Mercer County; the building of a modern County Garage in the County Fairgrounds; the building of an auxiliary garage building to accommodate equipment storage and certain work projects; the erection of a covered salt bin; instigating a house numbering system for all residents of the County; a complete file and detailed coverage of all bridges and culverts in the County and Township Highway System including condition and current load limits. Mr. Gebhart and Chief Deputy Ray Eblen drafted and compiled the first Mercer County Sub-division Regulations as adopted in 1966 and the Mercer County Sewerage Regulations as adopted in 1968.

Mr. Gebhart says that he designed a letterhead when he became County Engineer containing the slogan — "MERCER COUNTY — OUTSTANDING in AGRICULTURE and DRAINAGE". Today this slogan is more true than ever before.

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Walter R. Fortener, Mercer County Treasurer

E.J. Gilmore, Mercer County Sheriff

Clarence H. Post, Mercer County Recorder

Donald R. Fox, M.D., Mercer County Coroner

WALTER R. FORTENER
Mercer County Treasurer

In 1949 Mr. Fortener married the former Mary Louise Knapke and they have five sons and one daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Fortener reside in Coldwater, Ohio and are members of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Elected to the office of Mercer County Treasurer in November of 1976, the present term expires in September of 1981.

Prior to being elected Treasurer, Mr. Fortener served as Coldwater Village Councilman from 1961 to 1967 and as Mayor of Coldwater from 1967 to 1971. From 1971 to 1977 he served as Supervisor of Enforcement of Northwest Ohio for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

From 1959 to 1971 he owned and operated Coldwater Maintenance Co. and Western Auto Store.

Fortener is a former member and president of the Board of Governors of Joint Township Community Hospital, during his term as President the Hospital completed a seven million dollar expansion program.

SHERIFF E. J. GILMORE

E. J. (Joe) Gilmore, a Democrat, was elected to his first term as Sheriff in 1976. He has been a deputy sheriff since July 1, 1963, and was appointed Chief Deputy Sheriff on January 1, 1969. In addition to this experience, he is the only police officer to ever attend the FBI National Academy from Mercer County. In addition to this school, he has attended various other schools and seminars in law enforcement totaling over 1500 hours of classroom instruction. He is a member of the Buckeye Sheriffs Association, the National Sheriffs Association, FBI National Academy Associates, Fraternal Order of Police, and past member of Lions, and Celina Jaycees. He is serving on the Curriculum Committee of the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy at London, Ohio.

Gilmore was born and reared in Mercer County, is married to former Connie King, and is the father of two daughters, Mrs. Dale (Debra) Bergman and Stephanie Gilmore.

CLARENCE POST
Mercer County Recorder

In September, of 1970 Mr. Post was appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of the past Recorder. This vacancy occurred due to her death. Mr. Post is presently serving in his second full term of office.

He and his lovely wife Rosemary have been married for 33 years and are the proud parents of four children and two grandchildren.

Clarence and Rosemary live in the house where Mrs. Post (nee Schroer) was born, located on a farm in Washington Township. It has been in the family since 1840. Both of their ancestors came from Germany.

His hobbies include farming, music and collecting Avon pipes, a hobby initiated by his wife Rosemary who is a representative of Avon.

Aside from his regular duties, Mr. Post has served 10 years on the Mercer County Board of Mental Retardation Program, he serves as choir director of the St. Anthony Church and is a World War II Veteran, having served 2 years in England. Mr. Post is also a member of the Eagles and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

The most enjoyable time is Christmas and Clarence makes it even more so by playing Santa Claus to many of the local children, especially the handicapped.

DONALD R. FOX, M.D.
Mercer County Coroner

Donald R. Fox, M.D. has been the Mercer County Coroner since 1956 except for one four year term. He is an undergraduate student of the University of Alabama and graduated from Temple University Medical School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Served internship and residency at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. Married to Kathleen Shields of Pennsylvania and has four daughters. He is President of the Mercer County Heart Association and has been a member of this organization for the past 15 years. He is also a diplomate of the Board of American College of Family Physicians. His office is at 724 E. Wayne Street, Celina, Ohio.

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OFFICIALS OF MERCER COUNTY

Treasurers. — J. P. Hedges, 1824; John Manning, 1825; Robert Bigger, 1826; John Pickerell, 1832; Ed. M. Phelps, 1837; Robert B. Gordon, 1844; Benjamin Linzee, 1848; William Hunter, 1852; Benjamin Linzee, 1855; G. W. Raudabaugh, 1860; Christopher Schunck, 1863; S. M. Loree, 1868; G. W. Raudabaugh, 1870; John W. Crockett, 1872; H. H. Pulskamp, 1876; Six Staeger, 1880 (died in office); Jacob Kreusch, 1881; S. A. Nickerson, 1884; H. J. McKirnan, 1888; F. L. Tou Velle, 1892; C. H. Howick, 1896; W. H. Maehlman, 1900; and James M. Howick, 1904; C. L. Vining, Sept. 1929; O. V. Runyon, Sept. 1930; Sebastian J. Samberg, Sept. 1931; Leo Schunck, Sept. 1935; Philip Kable and Henry Forsthoefel, Oct. 1936; Woodrow L. Schunck, Dec. 1938; Jos. P. Buschor, July 1944; Delbert J. Roebuck, Sept. 1946; Richard Feltz, Sept. 1949; W. O. Wright, July 1956; John J. Fisher, July 1957; Clarence Bruns, Sept. 1969; Walter R. Fortener, presently serving, Sept. 1977.

Following is a list of all the Sheriffs of Mercer County from the first to the present with the years they took office.

W. H. Hinkle, 1825; John Murdock, 1827; Isaac Applegate, 1829; Joshua Warfield, 1833; James Brown, 1835; John Elliot, 1836; Sabert Scott, 1839; A. T. Stedman, 1841; Joseph Carlin, 1843; G. W. Timmonds, 1846; S. E. Snider, 1851; C. H. Hight, 1856; Robert Wiley, 1860; G. W. Timmonds, 1862; Henry L. Johnson, 1866; Thornton Spriggs, 1870; Henry J. McKirnan, 1874; John G. Blake, 1878; James F. Timmonds, 1884; George H. Houser, 1888; George H. Heffner, 1892; Lorenz Schunk, 1896; Joseph Hinders, 1900; A. B. Grothjan, 1907; Shell Fisher, 1911; William Humphrey, 1915; George M. Betz, 1919; Charles Creeden, 1923; George M. Betz, 1927; Ed L. Bernard, 1931; Lawrence M. Davis, (First Four Year Term), 1935; Bruce Barber, 1941; Dwight Raudenbush, 1945; Bruce Barber, 1953; W. C. Sunderhaus* (First Four Term Sheriff), 1961; E. J. (Joe) Gilmore*, 1977.

Recorders. — James Watson Riley, 1825; E. A. McMahon, 1841; L. D. McMahon, 1843; William Hunter, 1848; Jeremiah Sunday, 1851; B. B. Allen, 1855; J. W. Johnston, 1858; T. G. Tou Velle, 1861; J. B. Perwessel, 1867; Edward Landfair, 1873; S. S. Scranton, 1880; William Snyder, 1886; John E. Hamburger, 1892; Charles Fox, 1898; and Joseph F. Tebben, 1904; Joe F. Tebben, September 1904 thru September 1909; H. C. Thomas, September 1909 thru August 1913; Henry J. Stelzer, September 1913 thru August 1917; Jas E. Hart, September 1917 thru February 1918; A. B. Wolf, February 1918 thru August 1923; H. J. Hinders, September 1923 thru September 1927; S. V. Brown, September 1927 thru December 1936; C. H. Grieshop, January 1937 thru December 1943; M. R. Grieshop, December 1943 thru April 1944; Eileen Engelman, May 1944 thru June 1951; Gertrude McCain, July 1951 thru August 1970; Patricia E. Grote (acting), August 25, 1970 thru September 11, 1970; Clarence H. Post, September 1970 thru present time.

Auditors. — William B. Hedges, 1824; David Armstrong, 1825; Justin Hamilton, 1827; William Armstrong, 1827; Franklin Linzee, 1836; L. D. McMahon, 1839; B. F. Schroeder, 1841; M. W. Smith, 1844; H. F. Juneman, 1848; Elisha Phelps, 1852; G. W. Raudabaugh, 1855; R. G. Blake, 1859; S. S. Snyder, 1863; T. G. Tou Velle, 1867; S. S. Snyder, 1871; J. V. Sidenbender, 1878; T. G. Tou Velle, 1885; S. S. Snyder, 1886; Charles A. Kloeb, 1890; T. A. Weis, 1900; J. L. Morrow, Oct. 1907; Oct. 1909; J. F. Steinbrunner, Oct. 1913; E. G. Ungerer, Oct. 1917; Henry Forsthoefel, Mar. 1923; Henry A. Herman, Mar. 1931; W. O. Monroe, Mar. 1935; Fred J. Wimmers, Mar. 1943; J. A. Gilberg, Mar. 1947; Tom Timmerman, Mar. 1959; Tom Timmerman, presently serving.

Prosecuting Attorneys. — W. I. Thomas, 1824; G. B. Holt, 1841; O. C. Rood, 1842; N. H. Starbrand, 1844; S. R. Mott, 1847; F. C. Le Blond, 1849; J. W. Riley, 1853; F. C. Le Blond, 1855; N. L. Hibbard, 1858; F. C. Le Blond, 1859; W. Baker, 1861; Thomas J. Godfrey, 1863; N. L. Hibbard, 1866; Keepers Alberry, 1867; W. F. Miller, 1871; S. A. Armstrong, 1875; C. G. O. Miller, 1879; B. M. Clen Dening, 1885; H. A. Miller, 1891; P. E. Kenney, 1897; and Clarence E. Marsh, 1903.

The following is a list of all elected Mercer County Prosecuting Attorneys from 1903 to the present and the years they took office:

C. E. Marsh (D) serving from January 1903; John G. Romer (D) serving from January 1909; B. A. Myers (D) serving from October 1913; C. A. Stubbs (D) serving from January 1917; Frank L. Kloeb (D) serving from January 1921; John W. Loree (D) serving from January 1925; John R. Pierce (D) serving from January 1928; T. Donald Short (D) serving from November 1932; Henry J. Knapke (D) serving from January 1937; Walter R. Bernard (D) serving from January 1945; Don W. Montgomery (R) serving from January 1953; R. Dean James (D) serving from June 1956; Henry J. (Murph) Knapke, Jr., (D) serving from January 1977.

Engineers. — Justin Hamilton, 1827; Robert Grant, 1833; Justin Hamilton, 1835; Robert Young, 1836; Justin Hamilton, 1837; J. S. Huston, 1839; Odell Thomas, 1843; Cyrenus Elliott, 1845; Samuel Thompson, 1849; J. Crow, 1850; Smith H. Clark, 1852; A. J. Linzee, 1854; Marcus Schuyler, 1858; I. F. Raudabaugh, 1873; Marcus Schuyler, 1876; Jesse De Ford, 1881; Clyde Smith, 1887; Anthony Fishbaugh, 1890; Martin Lutz, 1896; Loree Marsh, 1906-1910; Dillon Smalley, 1911-1914; Noah L. Hinton, 1915-1919; Joe Myers, 1920-1927; Ralph G. Wright, 1928-1935; Francis D. Kuckuck, 1936-1939; Zoyd M. Flaler (6 Months 1946), 1940-1946; Jacob F. Mollenkopf (11 Months 1951), 1946-1951; B. R. Gebhart, 1951-1960; Vernon P. Anselman, 1961-1964; Bernard R. Gebhart, 1965-1980.

Judges of the Common Pleas Court, Mercer County, Ohio — Henry A. Miller, 1914-1938; Raymond A. Younger, 1939-1947; Paul P. Dull, 1947-1974; Dean James, 1975-.

Probate Judges. — W. L. Blocker, Oct. 1852; Jacob Broadwell, Oct. 1860; R. G. Blake, Oct. 1866; William Clay, Oct. 1872; D. J. Roop, Feb. 1876; H. H. Pulskamp, Feb. 1881; S. S. Scranton, Feb. 1888; F. S. Collins, Feb. 1894; J. G. Beckman, Feb. 1897; Robert L. Mattingly, May 1897; C. G. O. Miller, Nov. 1897; P. F. Dugan, Feb. 1903; Orville Raudabaugh, Feb. 1913; C. S. Younger, Feb. 1917; Frank V. Short, Feb.

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1921; C. S. Johnson, Feb. 1925; Raymond A. Younger, March 1929; John Mesarvey, Feb. 1933; Don M. Purdy, June 1953; H. J. Hinders, Oct. 1959; Lewis W. Whitmer, Nov. 1971; Lewis W. Whitmer, Present.

Clerks of Courts. — James Watson Riley, 1824; Franklin Linzee, 1841; James Watson Riley, 1848; H. F. Juneman, 1851; Hiram Murlin, 1860; John W. De Ford, 1866; T. G. Tou Velle, 1872; Edward Landfair, 1882; Henry Lennartz, 1888; J. F. Dysert, 1894; Samuel J. Vining, 1897; L. N. Johnson, 1903 (died January 18, 1905); and John L. Wyckoff, the present incumbent (appointed January, 1905, to serve unexpired term of Johnson; elected in 1905 and began his term of three years August 6, 1906); John L. Wyckoff, 1905-1911; Walter L. Johnson, 1911-1915; J. B. Haslinger, 1916-1918; Robert Schindler, 1919-1923; Phillip Kable Jr., 1924-1925; Lawrence Kable, 1926-1932; Wilbert Disher, 1933-1936; Paul Hinkle, 1937-1944; Dwight Laffin, 1945-1976; James J. Highley, 1977-.

Mercer County Commissioners From 1824 to 1906. — David Hays, 1824; Solomon Carr, 1824; Thomas Scott, 1824; Ansel Blossom, 1824; James Vanardol, 1824; Ansel Blossom, 1824; Israel Dungan, 1825; Solomon Carr, 1825; Thomas McCumsey, 1825; Joel Wood, 1826; Picket Doute, 1828; Christopher Wood, 1830; Isaac Nichols, 1831; Samuel Ruckman, 1832; W. B. Hedges, 1833; Samuel McKee, 1834; Alexander Grant, 1835; Samuel Ruckman, 1836; Picket Doute, 1836; John Wright, 1838; Picket Doute, 1839; Elisha Noble, 1840; David Anderson, 1841; Charles Boesel, 1842; Elisha Noble, 1843; John Betz, 1844; Charles Boesel, 1845; Elisha Noble, 1846; John S. McDowell, 1847; Samuel Ruckman, 1848; G. J. Sheldon, 1848; David Hays, 1848; Fredrick Elking, 1849; Thomas Roop, 1850; Nathan Vantilberg, 1851; Matthias Gast, 1852; Robert H. Dunathan, 1853; Nathan Vantilberg, 1854; Matthias Gast, 1855; John McDonald, 1856; George Speaker, 1857; Christian Schmick, 1858; John McDonald, 1859; George Speaker, 1860; Christian Schmick, 1861; Adam Baker, 1862; Joseph May, 1863; George Myers, 1864; Adam Baker, 1865; William Clay, 1866; George Myers, 1867; Jacob Gerlach, 1868; William Clay, 1869; John Betz, 1870; Jacob Gerlach, 1871; P. Harman, 1872; John Betz, 1873; Thomas Snyder, 1874; P. Harman, 1875; J. F. Romer, 1876; John Frahm, 1877; James B. Snyder, 1878; J. F. Romer, 1879; John Frahm, 1880; James B. Snyder, 1881; J. F. Romer, 1882; John Frahm, 1882; James B. Snyder, 1882; John Frahm, 1883; James B. Snyder, 1883; William Lacy, 1883; James B. Snyder, 1884; William Lacy, 1884; John H. Siebert, 1884; William Lacy, 1885; John H. Siebert, 1885; Peter Haubert, 1885; John H. Siebert, 1886; Peter Haubert, 1886; Christ Fanger, 1886; Peter Haubert, 1887; John H. Siebert, 1887; Christ Fanger, 1887; Christ Fanger, 1888; Peter Haubert, 1888; John H. Siebert, 1888; John H. Siebert, 1889; Christ Fanger, 1889; Peter Haubert, 1889; Peter Haubert, 1890; Christ Fanger, 1890; T. B. Behmyer, 1890; Christ Fanger, 1891; Abraham Mott, 1891; T. B. Behmyer, 1891; T. B. Behmyer, 1892; Abraham Mott, 1892; N. N. Schwietermann, 1892; Abraham Mott, 1893; T. B. Behmyer, 1893; N. N. Schwietermann, 1893; N. N. Schwietermann, 1894; T. B. Behmyer, 1894; William H. Lowry, 1894; N. N. Schwietermann, 1895; T. B. Behmyer, 1895; William H. Lowry, 1895; William H. Lowry, 1896; T. B. Behmyer, 1896; N. N. Schwietermann, 1896; William H. Lowry, 1897; N. N. Schwietermann, 1897; Charles Bollenbacher, 1897; N. N. Schwietermann, 1898; Charles Bollenbacher, 1898; George W. Frisinger, 1898; John W. Karch, 1898; Charles Bollenbacher, 1899; George W. Frisinger, 1899; John W. Karch, 1899; George W. Frisinger, 1900; Charles Bollenbacher, 1900; John W. Karch, 1900; John W. Karch, 1901; Charles Bollenbacher, 1901; George W. Frisinger, 1901; Charles Bollenbacher, 1902; George W. Frisinger, 1902; John W. Karch, 1902; George W. Frisinger, 1903; John W. Karch, 1903; Daniel Myers, 1903; Peter Linn, 1903; John W. Karch, 1904; John W. Karch, 1904; Peter Linn, 1904; Isaac Brandon, 1904; Peter Linn, 1905; Isaac Brandon, 1905; Daniel Myers, 1905; Peter Linn, 1906; Isaac Brandon, 1906; Daniel Myers, 1906; Isaac Brandon, 1907; Daniel Myers, 1907; Peter Linn, 1907; Daniel Myers, 1908; Peter Linn, 1908; Isaac Brandon, 1908; Peter Linn, 1909; Isaac Brandon, 1909; Daniel Myers, 1909; Fred Heiby, 1909; I. N. Kiser, 1909; Frank Dillhoff, 1909; Fred Heiby, 1910; I. N. Kiser, 1910; Frank Dillhoff, 1910; L. N. Kiser, 1911; Fred Heiby, 1911; Frank Dillhoff, 1911; Frank Dillhoff, 1912; Fred Heiby, 1912; I. N. Kiser, 1912; I. N. Kiser, 1913; Fred Heiby, 1913; Frank Dillhoff, 1913; Andrew Brunswick, 1914; Bernard Evers, 1914; Henry Behrens, 1914; Andrew Brunswick, 1915; Henry Behrens, 1915; Bernard Evers, 1915; Henry Behrens, 1916; Andrew Brunswick, 1916; Bernard Evers, 1916; Henry Behrens, 1917; Bernard Evers, 1917; Andrew Brunswick, 1917; George Hill, 1917; Robert Steinbrunner, 1917; John Now, 1917; George Hill, 1918; Robert Steinbrunner, 1918; John Now, 1918; George Hill, 1919; Robert Steinbrunner, 1919; John Now, 1919; George Hill, 1920; Robert Steinbrunner, 1920; John Now, 1920; Robert Steinbrunner, 1921; George Hill, 1921; W. A. Hamilton, 1921; Fred Miller, 1922; Frank Coate, 1922; B. F. Smith, 1922; Frank Coate, 1923; B. F. Smith, 1923; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1923; Frank Coate, 1924; B. F. Smith, 1924; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1924; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1925; Jesse T. Sell, 1925; G. W. Kinkley, 1925; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1926; Jesse T. Sell, 1926; G. W. Kinkley, 1926; Jesse T. Sell, 1927; G. W. Kinkley, 1927; Fred Miller, 1927; Jesse T. Sell, 1928; G. W. Kinkley, 1928; Fred Miller, 1928; G. W. Kinkley, 1929; Jesse T. Sell, 1929; Fred Miller, 1929; G. W. Kinkley, 1930; Jesse T. Sell, 1930; Fred Miller, 1930; G. W. Kinkley, 1931; Jesse T. Sell, 1931; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1931; Jesse T. Sell, 1932; G. W. Kinkley, 1932; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1932; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1933; Daniel Moeller, 1933; Charles Frysinger, 1933; Lewis D. Frysinger, 1933; Fred J. Goettemoeller, 1934; Daniel Moeller, 1934; Lewis D. Frysinger, 1934; Lewis D. Frysinger, 1935; Daniel Moeller, 1935; D. F. Bollenbacher, 1935; Lewis D. Frysinger, 1936; Daniel Moeller, 1936; D. F. Bollenbacher, 1936; D. F. Bollenbacher, 1937; Daniel Moeller, 1937; Henry Lechner, 1937; Henry Lechner, 1938; Daniel Moeller, 1938; D. F. Bollenbacher, 1938; Henry Lechner, 1939; Daniel Moeller, 1939; Anson Morrow, 1939; Daniel Moeller, 1940; Henry Lechner, 1940; Anson Morrow, 1940; Anson Morrow, 1941; John H. Dorsten, 1941; Gale Hook, 1941; Wayne Morrow, 1941; John H. Dorsten, 1942; Gale Hook, 1942; Wayne Morrow, 1942; John H. Dorsten, 1943; Gale Hook, 1943; Sam Rhodes, 1943; Gale Hook, 1944; John H. Dorsten, 1944; Sam Rhodes, 1944; Sam Rhodes, 1945; An-

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thony Kleinhenz, 1945; G. C. Lampy, 1945; Sam Rhodes, 1946; G. C. Lampy, 1946; Anthony Kleinhenz, 1946; G. C. Lampy, 1947; Anthony Kleinhenz, 1947; Sam Rhodes, 1947; Anthony Kleinhenz, 1948; Sam Rhodes, 1948; G. C. Lampy, 1948; Ed Fleck, 1949; John H. Dorsten, 1949; Sam Rhodes, 1949; Ed Fleck, 1950; John H. Dorsten, 1950; Sam Rhodes, 1950; Sam Rhodes, 1951; John H. Dorsten, 1951; Ed Fleck, 1951; John H. Dorsten, 1952; Sam Rhodes, 1952; Ed Fleck, 1952; Sam Rhodes, 1953; Ivan B. Davis, 1953; Dwight Raudenbush, 1953; Joseph Hartings, 1953; Dwight Raudenbush, 1954; Joseph Hartings, 1954; Ivan B. Davis, 1954; Ivan B. Davis, 1955; Joseph Hartings, 1955; Dwight Raudenbush, 1955; Joseph Hartings, 1956; Dwight Raudenbush, 1956; Ivan B. Davis, 1956; Joseph Hartings, 1957; Lawrence M. Davis, 1957; John R. Suhr, 1957; Lawrence M. Davis, 1958; John R. Suhr, 1958; Joseph Hartings, 1958; John R. Suhr, 1959; Lawrence M. Davis, 1959; Joseph Hartings, 1959; Joseph Hartings, 1960; Lawrence M. Davis, 1960; John R. Surh, 1960; Joseph Hartings, 1961; John R. Suhr, 1961; Henry N. Miller, 1961; Henry N. Miller, 1962; John R. Suhr, 1962; Joseph Hartings, 1962; John R. Suhr, 1963; Joseph Hartings, 1963; Henry N. Miller, 1963; Joseph Hartings, 1964; Henry N. Miller, 1964; John R. Suhr, 1964; Joseph Hartings, 1965; John R. Suhr, 1965; George J. Bihn, 1965; John R. Suhr, 1966; George J. Bihn, 1966; Joseph Hartings, 1966; George J. Bihn, 1967; John R. Suhr, 1967; Lester J. Brandewie, 1967; Lester J. Brandewie, 1968; George J. Bihn, 1968; John R. Suhr, 1968; George J. Bihn, 1969; Lester J. Brandewie, 1969; Ralph Klosterman, 1969; Ralph Klosterman, 1970; George J. Bihn, 1970; Lester J. Brandewie, 1970; George J. Bihn, 1971; Ralph Klosterman, 1971; Lee V. Garman, 1971; Ralph Klosterman, 1972; George J. Bihn, 1972; Lee V. Garman, 1972; Ralph Klosterman, 1973; George J. Bihn, 1973; Lee Garman, 1973; Ralph Klosterman, 1974; George J. Bihn, 1974; Lee Garman, 1974; Ralph Klosterman, 1975; George J. Bihn, 1975; Ralph Dicke, 1975; Ralph Dicke, 1976; George J. Bihn, 1976; Ralph Klosterman, 1976; Ralph Klosterman, 1977; Ralph Dicke, 1977; Walter Schmiesing, 1977; Ralph Dicke, 1978; Walter Schmiesing, 1978; Ralph Klosterman, 1978.

FARM FACTS ON MERCER COUNTY

Mercer County is one of Ohio's leading agricultural counties.

Measured by cash receipts from farming, Mercer County ranks second among Ohio's 88 counties with $78,893,000 for farm operators. (Darke County — our neighbor to the south — leads all Ohio counties with $93,701,000 in cash receipts. Darke County however is larger geographically and Mercer County loses 14,175 tillable acres with Grand Lake).

In Ohio, Mercer County ranks:

First in poultry.
$12,049,000 in cash receipts

Second in dairy.
$16,643,000 in cash receipts

Fifth in hogs. $11,879,000 in cash receipts

Seventh in corn.
$12,926,000 in cash receipts

Mercer County has about 2,080 farms, and farmland totalling 274,000 acres. That's about 132 acres per farm. Cash receipts average about $36,024 per farm, or $262.00 per acre. The average age of a Mercer County farmer is 48.4 years old.

Crop production figures for Mercer County:

Corn	8,459,000 bushels (average of 98 bushels per acre)
Soybeans	2,538,000 bushels (average of 32.6 bushels per acre)
Wheat	1,891,000 bushels (average of 43 bushels per acre)
Oats	1,097,000 bushels (average of 59.3 bushels per acre)
Hay	70,500 tons or 3.00 tons per acre

In addition, receipts from fruits and vegetables in the county total $1,117,000, consisting chiefly of tomatoes but including melons, sweet corn, potatoes and strawberries.

Livestock on Mercer County farms numbers:

30,500 cattle and calves
16,000 dairy cattle
81,600 hogs and pigs
4,200 sheep

As these figures indicate, many of the farms in Mercer County are relatively small and are family operated.

Mercer County Officials, 1971 — **Left to Right:** Dwight Laffin, Clerk of Court; Clarence Post, Recorder; Clarence Bruns, Treasurer; Bernard Gebhart, Engineer; Cherry Sunderhaus, Sheriff; Ralph Klosterman, Commissioner; Dean James, Judge, Common Pleas; George Bihn, Commissioner; Dr. Donald Fox, Coroner; Lewis Whitmer, Judge Common Pleas Court, Probate Division; Senator White; Dale Locker, State Representative; Paul Dull, Judge.

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Mercer County Administration Building

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Western Ohio Education Foundation purchased the Celina Insurance Group Building and then on April 2, 1974, Resolution #109, Page 441, Commissioners Journal #37, The Board of County Commissioners of Mercer County, Ohio purchased the building and completely renovated the building to provide more office space for Mercer County.

The offices that are in the Mercer County Administration Building are Second Floor, Mercer County Board of Education, Supt. of Schools, Boyd Granger; First Floor, Mercer County Welfare Department, Administrator, Morris Now, the CETA Programs, Director, Karen Scheer, and Social Security one day of the month. Basement, Mercer County Health Department, Commissioner, John W. Chrispin.

MERCER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Section 3311.05 of the Ohio Revised Code states:

The territory within the territorial limits of a county, exclusive of the territory embraced in any city school district, exempted village school district, and excluding the territory attached thereto for school purposes constitutes a county school district.

Five local school districts comprise the Mercer County Schools: Marion Local; Mendon-Union Local; St. Henry Consolidated Local; Parkway Local; and Southwest Local. Each district has a board of education consisting of five members. The County Board of Education, comprised of five members representing all five local districts, attempts to provide those services for the local districts which the locals are not able to provide for themselves. The county system has a student enrollment of 4,939, employs 241 certificated teachers, and 15 local administrators which includes local superintendents, high school principals and elementary principals. The total number of school buildings in the county system is fourteen — five for high school and nine for elementary and junior high. The 1907 Mercer County history lists 129 school houses in the county, of which thirteen rooms were devoted to high school purposes.

Presumably, County School Districts in Ohio were created in order to provide some form of supervision for the educational program of all boys and girls of school age in Ohio, but with particular emphasis upon the rural communities. Prior to 1914, the village and rural schools in Ohio, in many instances, received little or no supervision. In addition, it was difficult for the state to secure valid statistical reports from the schools, or to disseminate information from the state to the schools because these reports had to be secured from the county auditors, or from clerks of boards of education. Consequently, even though public education was recognized as a function of the state, approximately two-thirds of the public school pupils were enrolled in the schools with which the state had very little contact, and there was little influence on the type of educational program which was promoted in these schools.

Since the county was already a political unit for

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administrative and governmental affairs existing in the state, it was natural to turn to this unit for liaison between the state and local school districts, with the County Superintendent acting as the important link — channeling information to the state in regard to schools within the county system — representing both the county and state as distinct from the board of education.

Through the years, the position of the county superintendent has grown and is continuing to grow in importance. County boards of education were given the authority and responsibility of appointing the county superintendent, who serves as the executive officer of the board. Professional standards were established for qualifications of the county superintendent, and thereby the office has been kept relatively free from partisan politics. State statutes and directives, as well as state and local policy, have broadened the scope of the position, making possible increases in professional staffs and providing new services through the county superintendent's office to local schools.

Typical of the duties and services of the county board of education and the county superintendent are: the appointment of all county school officials; planning the budget of operating the expense of the board; providing supervision for the regular and special classrooms; in general, providing for the betterment of education in the county. The County Office acts as a partner with the local school districts and the state in the operation of a sound school system. Additional services include a county film library service; coordination of inter-school activities; providing meetings with consultants and specialists as an in-service training program; issuance of working permits; and the development of curriculum guides.

The role of the county superintendent is that of the educational planner, educational statesman, educational leader, stimulator of local effort, and the promoter of local initiative. The local superintendent of the individual districts is the director of the local programs, the leader of local lay and professional groups, and the day-by-day practitioner of educational activities. Both leaders, working within the framework, have many common responsibilities, as each supplements the other in developing a good educational program for the youth of the county.

The staff of the Mercer County School System is comprised of ten certificated employees, housed in offices provided by the Mercer County Commissioners. These offices are located on the third floor of the Court House Annex, 311 S. Main St., Celina, Ohio. The staff includes one superintendent, Mr. Boyd Granger; two general supervisors, Mr. Jon Sidenbender and Mrs. Mary Alice Anthony; two school psychologists, Mrs. Ardyth Shaffer and Mr. Tom Mosier; two speech and hearing clinicians, Miss Julie Field and Miss Jackie Kelso; one supervisor for Special Education, Mrs. Sharon Williams; one work-study coordinator, Mrs. Lois Koch; and one audio-visual director (part time), Mr. Bob Miller. The secretarial staff consists of one administrative secretary, Miss Madge Shock, and one receptionist-secretary, Miss Linda Bollenbacher.

The members of the County Board of Education are: President Robert Beerbower, Vice-President Neil Diller, Edwin Elking, John Maurer and Roger Schwieterman.

The Special Education classes were accelerated in the county schools through the efforts of Mrs. Ardyth Shaffer and Mr. Boyd Granger during the 1969-70 school year. Mercer County Schools pioneered the Learning Disability program (at that time neurologically handicapped was the term) in this area of Ohio — with one classroom unit in the Southwest Local District, Ft. Recovery where Mr. Arthur Rose was the Superintendent and greatly spurred the effort. Mrs. Connie Stocksdale served as the first consultant. Other districts provided tutoring programs, and quickly followed with classrooms in the ensuing years. Today there are nine Learning Disability classrooms and seven tutoring programs in the county schools with additional units in Celina City and Coldwater Exempted Village districts. Mrs. Sharon Williams serves all the county Special Education units and Celina and Coldwater as well.

As the work load increased, an additional psychologist became necessary. Mr. Tom Mosier filled that position beginning with the 1974 school year. The need for a work-study coordinator became apparent as the Special Education students progressed to high school. Accordingly, Mrs. Lois Koch became the first staff member to fill that position — during the 1974 school year.

A few of the names of former Superintendents or Assistant Superintendents include S. Cotterman, M. O. Krugh, D. B. Spangler, Henry Bernard, Clarence W. Specht, Glen West and Howard Smith.

Familiar names of those who served on the County Board of Education include Wm. H. Romer, W. C. Skinner, J. D. Kremer, H. O. Purdy, H. J. Bobenmoyer, John C. Weigel, Sylvan F. Bihn, Arnold Schoch, Leo B. Hausfeld, Leo E. Romer, Arnold Cron, E. J. Bomholt, Eugene Springer, Norbert Vogel, Charles J. Kaiser, L. W. Merkle, William H. Post, Clarence Post, Roman Rose, Dr. Edward Meixner, Ralph Lewis, Richard Stephenson, Dick Mescher, Alfred Homan and Mark Schwieterman.

In the field of speech therapy, begun in the fifties, the names of Esther Smith, Ethelann Stump, Diana Gallman, Joan VonderHaar, Mary Ann Thomas, Teri Stephens, Kathy Winter, and Abby Herbst will be remembered. Elementary supervision, also initiated in the fifties, includes the names of Marie Morrow, Fern Friedly and Ray Cron. Joseph Schlotterer served as the first high school supervisor beginning in the sixties.

Those who have served as secretaries or part time clerical help through the years include Ruthana Shock Regedanz, Martha Jane Shock, Kathy Kramer, Mary Jo Schmitmeyer, Kathy Young, Pam Niemeyer, Cynthia Morgan and Karen Rindler.

The names of Fred Fisher and Vincent Muhlenkamp will be remembered as having been attendance officers.

In addition to the many supplemental services provided for the staffs and students of the county system, special services are provided through contractual arrangements to city and exempted village schools. Also, regional educational needs are met through coordination of many state and federal programs.

In conclusion, the County Office of Education is truly a vital learning link in today's public education in Ohio.

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Cheryl Ann School, Mercer County Mental Retardation Program

MERCER COUNTY MENTAL RETARDATION PROGRAM

Dorothy C. Simons is superintendent of the Mercer County Mental Retardation Program. The program was started in 1956. A group of businessmen, clergy, and other interested individuals got together and decided it was time, or past time, to provide an educational opportunity for the mentally retarded.

The first class was held November 19, 1956, in space provided by the Coldwater School System with an enrollment of five. After several years the program was moved to Celina, Ohio, with a class at West Elementary School, Oak Tree Lodge, and the basement of the First Church of God.

1961

The Cheryl Ann School was constructed with funds provided through private, civic, and industrial donations, and largely through volunteer or at-cost labor. During this time the program was financed by private donations and later by State Aid, Combined Charities, and donations. Later the Mercer County voters provided an operating levy of .3 mills.

1965

The Mercer County voters again provided an operating levy of .3 mills. Total enrollment was 30, 26 of whom were from Mercer County, and 4 from Van Wert County.

1968

In January of 1968 after having been under the Mercer County Welfare Department the program was placed under its own Board, as provided by House Bill #169. Total enrollment for the year was 38, causing an overcrowded situation at the Cheryl Ann School. In the summer of 1968 the Home Training Program was started.

1969

The Adult Activity Center Program was started in early 1969 and was provided with rented space at 306 East Anthony Street. Enrollment was 13 at the Adult Activity Center. The Pre-School program was started in September 1969 and due to lack of room at Cheryl Ann, this class of 6 met in the educational wing of St. Paul's Methodist Church.

1970

Total enrollment for the 1970-71 school year at Pre-School, Community Classes, Adult Center, and Home Training programs was 93.

1971

Total enrollment for the 1971-72 school year at Pre-School, Community Classes, Adult Center, and Home Training programs was 98.

1972

Total enrollment for the 1972-73 school year in all phases of the program was 104.

1973

Developmental Classes were started with space provided at St. Paul's Methodist Church in the educational wing, and a full time Speech Therapist was hired. Total enrollment was 119 in Pre-School, Developmental, Community Classes, Adult Activity Center, and Home Training. The Commissioners allocated $250,000.00 from federal revenue sharing for construction of the new facility. Kick off for the Building Fund drive was $100,000.00. Total pledges received were $120,000.00 with matching funds assured by the State.

1974

Total enrollment for the 1974-75 school year was 103 in all phases of the program. The drop in enrollment was due to transfers to other locations.

1975

Bids were awarded for the new facility at the corner of Fleetfoot Road and Mud Pike. Construction started in April of 1975 and is due for completion in February of 1976. Total enrollment was 105 for all phases of the program.

1976

The Office moved into the new facility in March of 1976, and the Adult Center moved into the new facility in May of 1976. Community classes moved into the new school in September 1976. The Dedication was held on Labor Day, September 6, 1976. Total enrollment for all phases of the program was 106.

1978

Construction began on new workshop facility near present workshop. Facilities will be shared with main bldg. Total enrollment in program at 107. Plans are for the construction of the first residential home for adult males to begin in the winter of 1978. Services offered are: Home training services, preschool services, developmental, community class program and Adult Activity Center.

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Mercer County Fair Board, Secretary's Office

MERCER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (FAIR BOARD)

In 1975, the Society obtained this metal building, and remodeled it and made it into the present "Mercer County Fair Board, Secretary's office." It is located west of the grandstand, on the fairgrounds. This building also serves as the monthly meeting place, with a conference room. At the far west end of the building, the Red Cross operate out of this special room, during the week of the fair. This building is a great asset for before the Secretary always had to move all the records to an area under the grandstand for the week of the fair. Now the Secretary's office is permanently in this newly remodeled building, year around.

The fairgrounds is approximately 63½ acres, and there are 35 buildings on the grounds.

1978 Officers and Directors of the Mercer County Agr. Society are:
President — Paul L. Bills
642 W. Fulton St. Celina, Ohio
Vice-President — Fred Baltzell
205 N. Oak St. Rockford, Ohio
Secretary & Treasurer — Ruth Myers
3551 Tama Rd. Rockford, Ohio
Directors —
Blackcreek Township — Robert Humbert
Butler Township — John Frahm
Center Township — Tom Holtman
Dublin Township — Fred Baltzell
Franklin Township — Wallace Klosterman
Gibson Township — Aloys Link
Granville Township — Florence Evers
Hopewell Township — Gordon Hayes
Jefferson Township — Paul L. Bills
Jefferson Township — Joe Boley
Liberty Township — Arnold Fast
Marion Township — Jerry Roeckner
Recovery Township — Nick Kremer
Union Township — Gene Counterman
Washington Township — William Miller

The Mercer County Agricultural Society was organized May 28, 1847, (Ohio Cultivator, 1847, p. 95) and reorganized March 27, 1852. The first fair was held at Celina, October 28 of the same year. "This was but an experiment but the result satisfied everyone, that we can and will have a flourishing society, and that the 'Swamps of Hoop-poledom' will yet be known in Ohio as second to no part of the state in fertility and productiveness." (Agricultural Report, 1852, p. 295.)

In a measure, the county fair has been the means of bringing about the raising of better grades of stock, and the using of better and more improved farming implements and machinery, which has resulted in the securing of better prices for all the products raised on the farm. (History of Mercer County, 1907, p. 62.)

The first fair was held on the east side of the town of Celina, on the north bank of Grand Reservoir, on a plot of ground owned at that time by the State of Ohio, containing about 17 or 18 acres. It was a beautiful tract of land overlooking the Grand Reservoir — Lake Mercer. The deed records show that the society in February, 1872, purchased this tract of land from the State of Ohio, and upon this the annual fairs were held. In June, 1878, the society, foreseeing the necessity of more ample grounds for the yearly fairs bought land from the Brandon heirs, on the west side of town, which tract constitutes the present Fair Grounds. On November 2, 1893, the society purchased some land from John W. Deford. This was the beginning of what we all know as the "Mercer County Banner Fair." *Submitted By Ruth Myers*

Mercer County 4-H Camp

4-H CAMP

Harbor Point 4-H Camp located on Grand Lake St. Marys, near Celina, Ohio has a campground situated on 8 spacious acres of land in a picturesque setting. For 30 years it has been providing campers with hours of recreational fund and activity.

The camp has much interesting history, having made the transition from an Indian burial grounds to a Prisoner of War Camp and finally to a 4-H Camp within a time period of 150 years. Various artifacts, arrowheads, and trinkets have been found but relatively little is known about the Indians who occupied this land. In 1944 some 300 German War Prisoners aged 17 and 18 came to Mercer County to pick tomatoes for local canneries and were housed at Harbor Point. When the war was over it became the 4-H Camp as we know it today.

Harbor Point Camp is ideal for swimming, fishing, and boating as a result of its being situated on a lake, although out-of-state residents will need an Ohio Fishing License. Two sandy beaches border the

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camp and a beautiful wooded area on the grounds allows for nature hikes and plant and animal studies. There is also a large activity field for softball or any other field sport and a large concrete court that has enough space to accommodate four (4) basketball hoops and two (2) volleyball nets.

The camp has modern restrooms with heated showers and a nurse's station and quarters for a camp nurse. There is not a phone installed for regular use but many do have one installed for the duration of their stay at camp.

There are food stores, gas stations, hospitals, and a swimming pool all within a ten minute drive.

The main camping area is shady, quiet, and a very peaceful place to get away from it all. There is a plenty of space for recreation of all kinds.

Mr. Leon Shaner is caretaker of the camp. The Cost is $35.00 per day plus 40¢ per person camping overnight. For further information contact The Mercer County Cooperative Extension Service, Court House, Celina, Ohio 45822.

4-H HISTORY

4-H began in Ohio in 1902 through the efforts of A. B. Graham in Clark County. He believed that rural boys and girls should learn about the scientific nature of farm activities and elevate the standard of living in rural communities. That first club was called the Boys and Girls Experimental Club.

Not satisfied with what he had done, Graham wrote the Dean of the College of Agriculture at Ohio State University for help. In later years, the youth work started by Graham became part of the educational efforts of the Cooperative Extension Service as 4-H. Learning by doing has remained the major theme of all 4-H projects, as 4-H expanded into urban as well as rural areas.

The first 4-H club in Mercer County was started in 1920 in Blackcreek Township. Jesse Sell, Rockford, was its founder and first advisor. Early 4-H projects included raising market pigs, pullets, sheep, dairy cows, clothing, foods and nutrition and gardening.

The oldest 4-H club still going strong is the Chatt 49'ers. In April, 1928, Alonzo Bollenbacher helped to organize the Chatt Livestock Club. Although its name has changed, the club celebrates its 50th year in 1978.

4-H clubs are now active all over Mercer County. Young people ages 8-19 from both towns and rural areas select 4-H projects from many topic areas. Over 188 different projects are available in photography, livestock, gardening, clothing, rocketry, small engines, home furnishings, bicycle, creative arts, food and nutrition, dogs and cats, child development, woodworking and many more.

1978 MERCER COUNTY 4-H CLUBS AND ADVISORS

Burkettsville
Friendly Workers — 19th year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Ralph Schmitz
*Mrs. Cletus Schmitz
Mrs. Anthony Grillot

Burntwood Bons Amis — 1st year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Joe Langenkamp
Mrs. Fred Waesch

Carthagena Jolly Workers — 4th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Dan Schmiesing

Cassella Happy Helpers — 18th year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Ray Flaute
Mrs. Peg Hemmelgarn
Mrs. Margie Griesdorn
Ms. Teresa Gerlach

Chatt Chums — 45th year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Basil Felver
*Miss Beatrice Pifer
*Mrs. Ruth Brorein

Coldwater Cloverettes — 10th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. John Brunswick
Mrs. LaVern Fortkamp
Mrs. Wilfred Wolters

Coldwater 4-Leaf Clovers — 17th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Don Bueter

Coldwater Happy Hearts — 3rd year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Lavern Gross
Mrs. Floyd Winner
Mrs. James P. Hoyng
Miss Patti Poeppelman

Coldwater Lucky Leaves — 4th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Bernard Schaefer
Mrs. Jerome Homan

Franklin 4-H Clovers — 25th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Gregor Hein
*Mrs. Louis Doenges
Mrs. Therese Doenges

Holly Hobbies — 4th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Phillip LaRue
Mrs. Elaine Fett

Jolly Jills — 14th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Paul Robinson
Mrs. Ronald Stachler
Mrs. Charles Weitz
Mrs. David Winans
Mrs. Steve Reese

Little Homemakers — 6th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Linus Roessner
Mrs. Henry Willman

Maria Stein Pitch & Stitch — 11th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Paul Coe
Mrs. James Dahlinghaus
Mrs. Carl Pohl
Mrs. Jerry Schmackers
Mrs. Paul E. Kremer

Neptune Loyal Workers — 28th year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Herbert Ramga
*Mrs. James Cisco
Miss Jeanette Ramga

Philothettes — 7th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. James Ontrop
Mrs. David J. Siefring
Mrs. Charles L. Siefring

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Sewers & Growers 22nd year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Don Niekamp
Mrs. John Ronnebaum
Mrs. Myron Stachler
Mrs. Willard Bruns

Sharpsburg Sew & Dough 14th year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Norbert Grube
Mrs. Louis Timmerman
Mrs. Patrick Reinhart
Mrs. Kenneth Rindler

Snappy Snippers 32nd year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Glenn Pontsler
Mrs. William E. Clouse
Mrs. Robert G. Linn
Ms. Cathy McDonough

Spin and Pin 28th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Eugene Hirschfeld
Mrs. Mary Jo Richards

St. Henry Buckeye Lassies 16th year as a 4-H Club
*Mrs. Victor Schmackers
*Mrs. Bernard Lefeld
Mrs. Lester Hartings

St. Henry Sunshine Girls 6th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Alfred Homan
Mrs. Don Frilling
Mrs. John Rammel
Mrs. Lowell Hemmelgarn
Mrs. Paul Schroer

Wabash Whipper Snippers 16th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. Tom Post
Mrs. Richard Post

Willing Helpers 10th year as a 4-H Club
Mrs. David Crider
*Mrs. James Tingley

* *

Barnyard Center 31st year as a 4-H Club
Dick VanTilburg
Jonny Dicke

Buckeye 88's 18th year as a 4-H Club
*Paul Tobin
Myron Stachler
Mike Koesters

Cassella Buckeyes 15th year as a 4-H Club
*Ralph Reichert
Anthony Broering

Chatt 49ers 50th year as a 4-H Club
John L. Wendel
Kenneth Bransteter
Roy Thompson

Franklin Up & At It 32nd year as a 4-H Club
Robert Wynk
Everett Frank

Hopewell Bawl, Grunt & Grow 39th year as a 4-H Club
*Homer Frahm
Linville Gagle
Jay Clutter
Mrs. Eldon Eichenauer

Jefferson Jets 4th year as a 4-H Club
Paul Robinson

Junior Masters 4th year as a 4-H Club
*Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stukenborg
Terry Moorman

Mendon Blue Ribbon 39th year as a 4-H Club
Don and Dave Shellabarger

Mercer County Guernsey 10th year as a 4-H Club
*Carl Fortkamp

Philothea Hustlers 5th year as a 4-H Club
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Dues

Ridin and Ropin 21st year as a 4-H Club
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Pingry
Mr. Dave Puthoff
Mrs. Roger Niekamp

Rockford Rustlers 5th year as a 4-H Club
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Walls
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Berry

Rockford Thrifty 24th year as a 4-H Club
*Robert Sell
Franklin Clutter
James Stoner

St. Henry Busy Bodies 11th year as a 4-H Club
Eugene Evers
*Fred Rose
Floyd Niekamp
Bernard Bruns
Carl Spangler

Washington Winners 37th year as a 4-H Club
*Noel Leininger
Don Smith

* — 10 or more years of service

Eden Haven Park

EDEN HAVEN PARK

In 1969, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Crouch, Celina (Hopewell Township), decided on a way to leave the world a little better than they had found it. "To make payment for all the great gifts that God has presented us," is the way Mr. Crouch explained their decision. They proposed to donate twenty-two acres of land on Hellwarth Road north of Mud Pike (northwest of Celina) to anyone who would develop it for permanent public park land for all residents of Mercer County.

However, even a free gift can attract problems. Various groups were interested but had no funds for developing the area. The situation was resolved when in 1971 the Mercer County Commissioners were able to accept the donation, comply with the donors' developmental stipulations, and provide funds for maintenance as well as construction of certain park facilities. The ground work was accomplished through the efforts of Lee Garman, County

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Commissioner[1] and Lee Kuhn, local Real Estate Broker. The land was officially accepted October 22, 1971.

[1]taken from story by Scott Garwick, THE DAILY STANDARD, Lake Edition, July 2, 1974, Number 155.

In December, 1971, the County Commissioners established the Mercer County Park Board which would be responsible for developing and administering this park. Members of this first board were: Orville Crouch (for a one-month period), Lee A. Kuhn, Robert Eichar, Hugo Fahncke, Homer Frahm, Don Hover, George Carpenter, Joe Lersky, Elden Houts, Betty Dabbelt, Bernice Cisco, Tom Garman and James Tingley.

Some of the stipulations made by the Crouches included construction of a two to five-acre pond, two wells to be drilled and two windmills erected, new trees to be planted as needed, control of undesirable underbrush using proper forestry procedures, a ban on hunting, and that a name be chosen of Biblical context.

The new park board sponsored a contest for naming the park. Edith Slabaugh was awarded the winning $50 for the name Eden Haven. Miss Slabaugh lived nearby on Morrow Road and had always loved the woods. She also donated the money back to the board.

Today, the park, with approximately eleven acres devoted to natural woods with foot trails, attracts school and scout groups as well as area residents. The pond has been built, the wells and windmills erected as well as a shelter house, 24 by 60 feet with cook-out grill and restrooms. In 1978 board members hope to provide a play area for small children, procure a flagpole and also plant some new trees. Present members of the park board are: Joe Lersky, President, Mrs. Bernice Cisco, Hugo Fahncke, Homer Frahm, Robert Eichar, James Tingley, Mrs. Russell Howell, Linville Gagle, Mike Sovinski, Morris Koch, Wilfred Rosenbeck, Louis Gross, and Lee Kuhn.

In 1978 Mr. and Mrs. Crouch have discussed with the board the possibility of donating another 60 acres. This land is located across Hellwarth Road from the present Eden Haven. A federal grant is available for park development if the land donation plans are worked out.

A place for people of Mercer County to be at peace with nature was a prime intention of this area. The deed states: that it was donated "in the name of the Lord ... ... to be forever available to the public as evidence of the majesty and greatness of the Lord's work in nature."

Agriculture Department of Soil Conservation

Mercer County Highway Garage

THE MERCER COUNTY HIGHWAY GARAGE

B. R. Gebhart is the Mercer County Engineer. Ray Eblen is the Chief Deputy. The Highway Superintendent is H. E. Kuhn.

The Mercer County Highway Garage is located inside the South gate of the Mercer County Fairgrounds. This building is all brick construction, 80 feet wide by 160 feet long and is partitioned with office space, time room, mechanics room and stock room with approximately three fourths of the building for equipment parking. The building was designed by Ralph Fanning, Architect, Celina, Ohio and was constructed by H. U. Tuttle Company at a cost of $126,914.00 and was occupied in 1951. The County Engineer was J. K. Mollenkopt and Assistant Engineer B. R. Gebhart. The County Commissioners were Ed Fleck, John Dorsten and Sam Rhodes.

The Mercer County Highway Storage and Utility Building is an all metal storage building and is located in the Northwest corner of the Mercer County Fairgrounds on two and one-half acres of fenced in storage area. The building is eighty feet wide by one hundred sixty feet long with no partitions. This building was designed by Moulenbelt & Seifert, Dayton, Ohio and was constructed by Alexander & Bebout Co., Van Wert, Ohio at a cost of $140,000.00 and was occupied in 1975. The County Engineer was B. R. Gebhart and Assistant Ray Eblen. The County Commissioners were Ralph Klosterman, George Bihn and Lee Garman.

AGRICULTURE DEPT. OF SOIL CONSERVATION

In 1943 a Sponsoring Committee was formed for the purpose of promoting a Soil Conservation District in Mercer County. Through the efforts of this committee, a referendum was held in the County in September 1944 resulting in 122 for and 14 against.

On September 28, 1944 the Ohio Soil Conservation Committee legally established the District. Five Supervisors were elected as follows: John Post, Albert Pax, August Dirksen, L. R. Menchhofer and John Huwer.

The District office was located in the First National Bank Building until 1976 when it moved to its present location at 301 North Riley Street, Celina, Ohio.

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THE MERCER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Persons instrumental in founding the Mercer County Historical Society were Roscoe D. Riley, Carleton C. Reiser, and Carroll A. Stubbs.

The first meeting of the Mercer County Historical Society was held January 28, 1958. Founding members elected officers: President Roscoe D. Riley; Vice President Carleton C. Reiser and Secretary Treasurer C. A. Stubbs. At the June meeting, Bronsart Gilberg was employed as Curator. Representatives from each township were appointed and public interest grew. Officers leased the second floor of the Richardson-Bretz Building, which still stands on the northeast corner of Main and Fayette Streets. The Mercer County Commissioners allocated $4000 for the initial expenses of opening a Museum.

Mercer Countians were most generous in donating items to their Museum. September 8, 1959 the Mercer County Historical Museum opened to the public. In 1960, 3400 guests toured the Museum. Bronsart Gilberg wrote an History of Mercer County. During the years 1960 to 1964, the Society held an annual meeting. The Celina Jaycees moved the old Mathias Smith Tavern, a log structure, to the park and restored the first floor of the building in 1966.

No meeting was held between January 1967 and November 1970; the society was inactive. At the January 1971 meeting, Lee Kuhn, John Suhr and Ralph Schindler were elected as the officers of the Society. That year they sold reprints of the book, Biographical History of Van Wert and Mercer Counties, 1896. Vera Speicher contacted volunteers to open the Museum Sundays and was Chairperson of membership. The Society became active again. The Society presented Bronsart Gilberg a certificate of appreciation and a lifetime membership in honor of his years of dedication to the Museum, in 1972.

President Joyce L. Alig held quarterly meetings in 1973 and 1974. March 18, 1973 a successful display of Indian Relics was held, with Ray Eblen as Chairperson. Public interest in the Museum grew. Historical Books were rebound at the Museum; old clocks were repaired, documents and newspapers were preserved. Cemetery Research was begun. A new building for the Museum was discussed.

Members voted to have monthly meetings with special programs for 1975 because the Mercer County Historical Society was becoming so active. At that time, the Museum was given notice to move, because the lease had expired at the Richardson Bretz Building. The Mercer County Commissioners purchased the Lena Riley home from David Riley, a descendant of Captain James Riley who surveyed this territory after the Treaty of Saint Marys, and his son James Watson Riley who platted Celina. The summer of 1975, the officers and a few volunteers moved the entire museum to the Riley Home. The Autumn of 1975, Joyce L. Alig was employed as Director of The Mercer County Historical Museum.

April 25, 1976 Open House was held at The Mercer County Historical Museum, The Riley Home. Over 1300 guests toured the new Museum that first month. Over 3000 guests visited the Museum before Christmas. The bell from the old Court House, later

Mercer County Historical Museum, The Riley Home

used in Old Town Church of Center Township, was placed on the lawn between two stately brick columns by Eugene Hirschfeld. Two bronze plaques were placed; one with the name of the Mercer County Historical Museum, The Riley Home, and the second plaque, with the Riley Family History. That year, Parker Snyder, also a descendant of Captain Riley, placed a collection of Captain Riley's papers in the Museum Archives.

The following year, the Historical Society was very active. A few thousand guests visited the Museum to tour the Museum, to do Genealogy Research, and to do Historical Research. Museum Director Joyce Alig gave guided tours and gave lectures to organizations on local history. Florence Gause and Patricia Olding served as co-Chairpersons of Cemetery and Genealogy Records and Research. Eugene Hirschfeld is Director of Maintenance; assisted by Donald Muhlenkamp. Vera Speicher continued as Chairperson of Membership. Society members helped with every project. In the Autumn of 1977, the Society made the decision to publish the 1978 Mercer County History Book.

The current year 1978 has been a very successful year. Museum attendance has grown to an average of thirty to fifty guests a Sunday, many doing genealogy research for the 1978 Mercer County History Book. Mercer Countians are still donating items to the Museum. Some farm tools are in storage until another building, which is large enough to display them, is found. Deloris Imel and Bernice Baker keep the interior of the Museum shining clean. Ferd Muhlenkamp keeps the grounds in perfect condition. The 1978 officers of the Mercer County Historical Society are President Joyce L. Alig; Vice President Eugene Hirschfeld; Secretary Patricia Olding; Treasurer Ray Eblen; Three Year Trustees Vera Speicher and Don Muhlenkamp; Two Year Trustees Ralph Schindler and Lee Kuhn; One Year Trustee Florence Gause. Joyce L. Alig is Director of the Mercer County Historical Museum.

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Mercer County Home, 1978

MERCER COUNTY HOME

"Over the hills to the Poor House is not a pleasing thought, yet the dread of having to live at the County Home is some what lessened when it is known that the home in which all the modern improvements for the comfort of man or woman are to be found and under the charge of a kind-hearted superintendent. The Mercer County Infirmary is just such a home as above alluded to. It is located two miles west of Celina, on a beautiful spot of ground, presenting a perfect picture as the buildings raise their stately heads from a knoll, and the green field and long lanes spread out in refreshing grandeur."

The above quote was taken from an "Atlas of Mercer County", published in 1900.

The original brick building, now the living quarters for the Superintendent and Matron, was constructed in 1860. In 1893, a structure was built for the male residents; another wing for women was added to the first building in 1916. The Mercer County Home throughout the years was continued to be kept modern in service and facilities for its approximately 50 residents.

The following is a list of Superintendents from the Year 1863.

1863-1869	James Schunck
1869-1878	C. B. Steinman
1878-1886	Jacob Schunck
1886-1888	E. Partner
1888-1902	Michael Reusch
1902-1903	Henry Niehouse
1903-1908	Sylvester Weaver
1908-1928	Andrew Schunck
1928-1938	A. H. Beckstedt
1938-1962	A. H. Moeder
1962-	Joseph A. Moeder

Mercer County Home, 1940

Mercer County Home (The Mercer County Infirmary, 1882)

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Mercer County Jail, 1978

Mercer County Jail, 1876-1939

THE MERCER COUNTY JAIL

The Mercer County Jail as shown, operated by Sheriff E. J. Gilmore, is one of the finest jails in any rural county in the state of Ohio.

The present Mercer County Jail was constructed in 1939 at a cost of approximately $41,000 of which Mercer County paid $23,000 while the other $18,000 was paid through a grant from the federal program, Public Works Administration. The Sheriff, L. M. Davis, moved into the new jail and residence on August 4, 1939, and the old jail, located on the Courthouse square, was sold on August 25, 1939 to Shartzer Wrecking and Excavating of Dayton, Ohio for $51.00. County Commissioners at the time of the new jail were Henry Lechner, Daniel Moeller and A. E. Morrow.

There were two major renovations and additions to the jail and residence, one in 1966 when an enclosed entrance ramp was added to the rear of the building and an enclosed porch was added to the residence at the front of the jail. The largest addition and renovation occurred in 1973, when Sheriff W. C. Sunderhaus moved from the jail residence and the area that was used for the residence was converted to office spaces, more holding cells and larger radio control room. In addition to the remodeling of the residence area, a drive through garage was built on the west side of the jail for added security in transferring prisoners from cars to the jail. The latest additions and renovations cost approximately $162,000 of which 50% was paid through a federal grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

MERCER COUNTY JAIL

On December 29, 1825, the County Commissioners awarded the contract for the building of Mercer County's first jail to Asa Hinkle, for which he received lots 31, 34, 37, 42 and 50 and $150 in cash, settlement taking place June 6, 1830. In 1833 it was repaired by covering the inside of the door with sheet iron, using wrought iron nails with large heads set four inches apart.

On July 1, 1842, the contract for building a new county jail was awarded to Gustavus Darnold which was to be finished on September 28, 1842, the price of the same — $397 — to be paid in part in town lots. On March 4, 1849, the commissioners ordered an addition to the jail and debtor's room (which was a frame building) and awarded the contract to H. L. Johnson for $630, at the same time giving the contract for plastering to Levi Lipps and that for iron work to Hezekiah Trenary.

On January 11, 1860, the contract for erecting a sheriff's residence on the northeast corner of the Public Square was awarded to Valeau & Jacobs, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for the sum of $5,000. The Plans for the building provided for a structure 38 feet 6 inches by 29 feet, with an elevation of 22 feet 8½ inches to the top of the cornice, to be built of brick with stone foundation and covered with sheet iron.

In the spring of 1875 the contract for a new county jail and sheriff's residence was awarded to E. W. Wilson, of Van Wert, Ohio, for $25,500, according to plans and specifications which were prepared by T. J. Toland & Son of Delphos, Ohio. On March 8, 1876, the jail was ordered to be heated with steam and the contract was awarded to C. Buehler & Company, of St. Marys, Ohio for $935.

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LAKEFIELD AIRPORT

Lakefield Airport began in 1945 as a private airport of 20 acres owned by Perry Noll. The runway was turf and 800 feet long. More facilities were added in 1947, but from 1952 to 1954 the airport site was owned by three individuals who turned the hangars into stockyards. In the late 1950's, a group composed of area industrialists and concerned citizens formed the Lakefield Area Airport Founding Committee. The Committee purchased a 34 acre site which included the old airport. Then, in December 1961, the Mercer County Commissioners accepted the real estate from the Committee for the purpose of creating a county airport. The Lakefield Airport Authority was created by the Commissioners in June 1962 and a Board of Trustees was appointed. Two public subscription campaigns and funds obtained through Governor Rhodes' aids-to-airports legislation were used to upgrade the airport. Two runways were provided — one east-west runway and a smaller north-south runway. Eventually, the north-south runway was closed. In 1965, 24.07 additional acres were purchased and 10 more in 1976.

A facilities and service description of the airport is provided in Table 2-1.

Lakefield Airport, located on the South-West corner of Grand Lake St. Marys, serves Mercer County and the surrounding area. This facility has developed under local support combined with grants from the State of Ohio.

The runway is blacktop, 75 feet wide by 3800 feet long. This is capable of handling most airplanes in use today, including heavy twins. A Radio beacon assures all-weather operations. Hangar space is available for 30 aircraft.

Lakefield is owned by Mercer County and is directed by the Lakefield Airport Authority under authority of the Mercer County Commissioners. The airport operation is by Spillers Aviation.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES DESCRIPTION LAKEFIELD AIRPORT

LOCATION:	5 miles south of Celina, Ohio. Lat: 40°29' Long: 84°34'
ELEVATION:	895 feet
RUNWAY:	8-26/3800 x 75, asphalt
PATTERN ALTITUDE:	MSL-1700; AGL-800
TRAFFIC CONTROL:	Segmented circle and wind tee
RADIO:	Unicom 122.8
LIGHTS:	Beacon and runway (transmitter activated on 123.3/5 clicks/ hours of darkness)
SERVICES:	80 and 100 Octane, major repairs, charter, flight instruction, rental plane, restrooms
HOURS ATTENDED:	8:00 A.M. to dark
STORAGE:	Hangars, tiedowns
TRANSPORTATION:	Taxi, car rentals
NAVIGATION AIDS:	REILS RWY 8, NCB/ CQA — 205. Approved Instrument Approach
SOURCE:	*AOPA's Airports USA, 1978,* AOPA and KZF, Incorporated

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WESTERN OHIO EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

On January 24, 1962, the Western Ohio Educational Foundation (WOEF) was incorporated. Its purpose was "to provide the means and facilities for the establishment and operation in west central Ohio of a program of education beyond and above the high school level." This program of higher education was to be taught by the faculty or other qualified agents of accredited Ohio colleges or universities. The WOEF Board of Trustees were pledged to do "any and all things necessary or incidental" to accomplish the above stated purpose.

The WOEF was the creation of a group of interested citizens of Mercer and Auglaize Counties desiring a better education program than was then being offered through evening division courses at the Celina Senior High School by Ohio Northern University of Ada, Ohio. The original Board of Trustees consisted of ten members: Four from Mercer County, three from Auglaize County, and three from Darke County. Van Wert County had no representatives on this first Board. These were: *Mercer County:* Boyd Granger, Vic Fuhrwerk, Mary Esther Dasenbrock, and Wallace McMartin. *Auglaize County:* S. G. Burgess, John F. Herkenhoff, and James Dicke. *Darke County:* J. C. Patty, William McPherson, and B. D. Hensel. William Meikle, Attorney, was secretary of the corporation.

Roger Stauffer, formerly of New Knoxville, Ohio, was the first resident director of education. He served with vigor and enthusiasm for this school until it was reorganized in 1973.

Through the hard work and perseverance of these Trustees, the WOEF college program opened in the fall of 1962. The situation was unique in that Ohio Northern University served the academic program and was paid for its services, while the Board of Trustees of WOEF were responsible for all financial obligations.

An initial fund drive sponsored by the WOEF Board of Trustees raised $53,000.00 for the purchase of furniture and equipment. They leased the three-story office structure located at 315 South Main Street in Celina from the Celina Insurance Group for their physical plant. This building was purchased in December of 1965 after a second fund drive during 1964 had yielded sufficient funds to keep the program operating and to indicate the community's support of and interest in the Western Ohio College.

A. C. Lachstadter was chairman of the first drive that resulted in exceeding the goal by 100%. This drive reflected the community support of the goals of this institution.

Harold Potts, Superintendent of Schools in Celina, was Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee. Daniel Ells of Auglaize County assisted in later successful fund drives.

An enrollment of 120 was anticipated for the fall of 1962; however, 285 students were registered when classes began. The academic program at the Western Ohio College consisted of a full two-year program toward a degree in liberal arts, pre-law, pre-engineering, and secondary education. A three-year program was available toward a degree in economics and elementary education. As the enrollment continued to grow, the development of a resident faculty became necessary.

In 1967 the WOEF Board of Trustees, anticipating the termination of Ohio Northern University's involvement in the Western Ohio College program, explored several possibilities: 1) establishing a four-year college, 2) establishing an independent junior college, or 3) affiliating with a state university as a branch campus. Discussions with the Ohio Board of Regents led to the affiliation with Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio, as the Western Ohio Branch Campus in June, 1969.

In his remarks at the dedication of the Western Ohio College as a Branch Campus in June, 1969,

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Governor James Rhodes promised funds for building a permanent campus if the community would provide a suitable site. A site was purchased through community donations and ground for the first building was broken in March, 1971. In September, 1972, a student body of 757 students began classes in Dwyer Hall on the new campus.

WOBC, from the time of its affiliation with WSU, was administered by the Division of Continuing Education. During the 1972-73 academic year a proposal for reorganization of the WOBC was drafted by the WOBC Faculty Senate and approved by the WSU Board of Trustees. WOBC was then granted the status of a college at a level equivalent to that of other colleges within the university with a resident dean responsible directly to the provost. The Dean of Branch Campuses took up residence at WOBC July 1, 1973.

Currently the Trustees serving the WOEF are: Joyce Alig, Raymond Bergman, Roger Clapp, Louis Dammeyer, Dane W. Dicke, Victor Fuhrwerk, Boyd Granger, Charles J. Hein, Alma Kuffner, William Meikle, Ramona Nickol, Edward S. Noble, Kay Riffle, Marlin D. Thompson, Robert L. Wilhelm, G. Dale Wilson, and Perry Wise. Dean James Uphoff and Assistant Dean Thomas Knapke head the academic and administration staff.

WESTERN OHIO BRANCH CAMPUS WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Currently the college is administering to the academic needs of over 700 students, sponsoring a Community Arts Program, and is busy with plans for a new technical building which will add four to six technical education programs beyond the high school level.

Branch campus academic programs have been designed to meet the needs of students in our area, many of whom attend classes on a part-time basis. Varied curricula are offered which lead to a bachelor's degree in one of several four-year degree programs available through the Colleges of Business and Administration, Education, Liberal Arts, and Science and Engineering. Students are able to complete at least the first two years in these programs at WOBC, and in many cases they are able to complete much of their junior year work and some of their senior level courses. Some graduate courses in education are also offered to meet local needs.

Class sizes at WOBC are smaller than at most colleges, enabling the students to get to know the faculty better and to receive much more individual attention. As a result, WOBC students have experienced great success when they have transferred to other colleges or sought admission to various graduate programs such as law, medicine, education, and business.

All courses and programs taken at WOBC are fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. This means that all academic courses taken at WOBC have full credit value at any other university or college.

The Western Ohio Branch Campus offers a two-year Associate of Arts degree program that introduces the student to the major disciplines of the humanities and the natural and social sciences. The program includes the university's General Education requirements and is so flexible that students can tailor their programs to provide the background required for transfer to baccalaureate degree programs at Wright State University or at another college or university. Area concentrations are available in the humanities and social sciences, community rehabilitation services, elementary education, business and administration, and science and engineering. Specific requirements for the Associate of Arts programs are available from the branch campus office.

The two-year technical education programs leading to the associate degree have been offered at the Western Ohio Branch Campus since September 1974. Technical programs offered are accounting, automotive (scheduled to start in 1980), business management, data processing, electronics, mechanical drafting/design, manufacturing, retail marketing management, secretarial (executive, legal, and medical), and law enforcement technology (a cooperative program with Lima Technical College). Graduates of the technology programs are qualified to work in industry, business, or service organizations. In addition to the technical programs, specialized technical courses in real estate, banking, and agriculture are available at the Western Ohio Branch Campus.

For those individuals who are interested in learning for the fun of it, a selection of noncredit courses is offered each term for pleasure and personal development. These courses are changed periodically so the needs of the greatest number of people can be met.

A variety of extracurricular activities are available to interested students. The Student Senate seeks to improve the academic, recreational, and social conditions of the students and works cooperatively with faculty, administration and the Board of Trustees. Last year, the student senate sponsored hot dog roasts, rollerskating and swimming parties, free films, Spring Fling Day, and various tournaments. The drama club produces children's plays for presentation to area schools. The 1977 production of Androcles and the Lion helped finance the club's participation in a trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario. Sports enthusiasts can participate in basketball and softball. The Lakers, WOBC's basketball team won the WOBC Invitational and the Northwest Technical College Invitational, finishing with a 14-5 record. The softball team plays in local industrial leagues and participates in various tournaments.

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Western Ohio Branch Campus, Wright State University

Western Ohio Branch Campus, Wright State University

COLLEGE-COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

During the winter of 1970, several college and community representatives in the Mercer County area began to consider possible ways of expanding local cultural and artistic opportunities.

Present at an initial discussion meeting were two faculty members at the Western Ohio branch campus of Wright State University, Dr. Bill Norris and Kenton Strickland; three WOBC students, Susan Heckler, Beverly McOmber and Wayne Wenning; and three community representatives, Mrs. Lester Brandewie, Mrs. Louis Hierholzer and Mrs. Charles Adkins.

Out of that meeting, the College-Community Arts Council was formed. Its announced purpose was to present, promote, encourage and expand all forms of art within the geographical area served by the local Wright State branch.

The new council's first formal meeting was held in September of 1971, with 24 interested persons in attendance. The initial program offered to the community was a concert by the Albon Berg Quartet at a cost of $230. The performance drew a positive response and, shortly thereafter, the WOBC student senate proposed to support further ventures of the fledgling arts council in the form of a subsidy equal to 60 percent of each performance's cost. This guaranteed financial support provided the background for the council's gradual growth in the years to come.

Articles of incorporation for the local arts council were approved June 6, 1972, and the council gained its tax-exempt status Aug. 29, 1972.

The council's annual artist series in the years that followed brought a wide range of performing artists and art displays to the local area. A university-community chorus was formed. Funding was obtained from area corporations, businesses and individuals, but, with contract fees rising and council members seeking to expand programming, the council was faced with the need for additional money.

In 1974, a council application for funding was approved by the Ohio Arts Council. This additional money, combined with the continuing support of some 24 area corporations and dozens of private citizens, permitted the artist series to be expanded.

In 1975, the council sponsored eight performing arts programs, visual art displays, a film series, a lecture-demonstration and an in-school residency program.

The council further expanded its efforts the following year when, to commemorate the bicentennial, its first annual spring arts festival was held. The WOBC campus became a hub of activity during that two-day event, which featured 14 live performances and classrooms and halls filled with artists and craftsmen displaying their wares and their talents. The entire festival was open to the public at no charge.

The spring arts festival subsequently became an annual event.

In 1977, the council established a piano fund to raise money for the purchase of a grand piano for use during WOBC and council functions. The piano seemed about to be purchased in September, 1978.

Past presidents of the arts council include Dr. Bill Norris, Carol Snyder, Kenton Strickland, Joe Garcia, and Dr. Byron Kauffman. The current president, Joan Noren, is serving her second term, and other incumbent officers in 1978 include Mary Molitierno, vice president; Karen Geist, treasurer; and Lela Mae Baker, secretary.

The arts council's goal in 1978 is unchanged from its original plan eight years earlier. Its members are proud of what they have achieved to date and hopeful that newer and bigger challenges remain to be met in the future.

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Mercer County Medical Society — **Insert:** Donald J. Schwieterman, M.D. **Standing, Left to Right:** Robert W. Albers, M.D.; Duane Bradrick, M.D.; C.E. Pennington, M.D.; Emiliano I. Feliciano, M.D.; James J. Otis, M.D.; Mahmood Mir, M.D.; Kenneth Ziegenbusch, M.D.; Guest, Dr. Thomas C. Dozier, (an Osteopath from St. Marys, Ohio, not a member). **Seated:** Paul E. Beare, M.D.; George H. McIlroy, M.D.; John W. Chrispin, M.D.; a member from Van Wert County; Paul Schreibman, M.D.; Donald R. Fox, M.D.; E.J. Willke, M.D.; R.L. Dobbins, M.D.; Louis J. Finkelmeier, M.D. (photograph by Everett Hall)

MERCER COUNTY MEDICAL HISTORY

Since the last time the Mercer County Medical History was written in 1907 many changes have taken place in the medical field. Great advancements have been made, and the practice of medicine has changed dramatically.

Before 1907 transportation was definitely limited as the automobile had not yet come into prominence, and doctors saw their patients in the patients' home most of the time. All babies were delivered in the home. There was no preventive medicine, so no shots or vaccine could be given for typhoid fever, diphtheria, cholera, lockjaw, polio, measles, whooping cough, mumps and pneumonia. Insulin had not been discovered for the treatment of diabetes. Tuberculosis was very prevalent, because the contagiousness of it was not recognized, and there was no specific treatment, so it was frequently fatal.

Very little surgery was performed because it was always dangerous. Asepsis was poor, and the techniques had not been perfected as we see it today. Operations that were absolutely necessary were performed in the home. In some cases patients were transferred by train to Dayton, Ohio, to the nearest hospital. The first hospital in Mercer County was Otis Hospital, Celina, founded in 1915 by Dr. L. M. Otis.

Many women died in childbirth, and many people died of typhoid fever, pneumonia and other infectious diseases. There were no miracle drugs like sulfa, penicillin or antibiotics. Sulfa became available in the 1930s, penicillin in the 1940s, and antibiotics in the 1950s.

Due to the advancement of medicine life expectancy rose. The estimated average length of life was 47.3 years in 1900 compared to 72.4 years in 1975.

In 1907 there were 42 practicing physicians in Mercer County. Celina had fifteen; Rockford, six; Ft. Recovery, five; Coldwater, three; St. Henry, two; Mendon, two; Chattanooga, two; Burkettsville, Chickasaw, Mercer, Montezuma, Neptune, Wabash and Maria Stein each had one.

There are sixteen physicians practicing in Mercer County today. They are: Celina: Dr. Paul E. Beare, Dr. Richard L. Dobbins, Dr. Louis J. Finkelmeier, Dr. Donald R. Fox, Dr. George H. McIlroy, Dr. Mahmood Mir, Dr. James J. Otis, and Dr. Kenneth H. Ziegenbusch. Coldwater: Dr. Robert W. Albers and Dr. Cecil E. Pennington. Rockford: Dr. Duane Bradrick and Dr. John W. Chrispin. Maria Stein: Dr. Donald J. Schwieterman and Dr. Edgar J. Willke. St. Henry: Dr. Emiliano I. Feliciano. Ft. Recovery: Dr. Paul Schreibman.

The population of Mercer County was 28,021 in 1900 compared to 35,265 in 1970.

Physicians who practiced in Mercer County over a long period of time and were practicing in the county within the past fifteen years were: Coldwater: Dr. Charles P. Adkins, 1934 to 1972; Dr. John Helfrich, 1946 to 1974 and Dr. Manning Harnick, 1947 to 1965. Ft. Recovery: Dr. J. M. Huerkamp, 1919 to 1964 and Dr. Julius Schwieger, 1950 to 1970. St. Henry: Dr. Robert Slusser, 1936 to 1970. Celina: Dr. Ralph J. Beare, 1932 to 1965.

There are two hospitals in the county. Gibbons Hospital, Celina, was established in 1923 by Dr. John T. Gibbons, and now has 28 beds. Community Hospital, Coldwater, started as Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in 1950 with 38 beds. The Mercer County Joint Township took over its possession and operation in 1971. It was improved and enlarged to a 93 bed hospital.

Otis Hospital served the county from 1915 to 1977.

Dr. L. M. Otis and Dr. John T. Gibbons, founders of Otis and Gibbons hospitals were practicing physicians in Mercer County for many years.

There are five Nursing Homes in the county with a total of 385 beds. Colonial Nursing Home, Rockford, has 34 beds; Shane Hill, Rockford, 100 beds; Briarwood Manor, Coldwater, 100 beds; Totalcare, Celina, 50 beds, and Celina Manor, Celina, 101 beds.

The Mercer County Home, can accommodate 50 residents.

The hospitals in the county today are well staffed, have the most modern equipment, have an excellent intensive care and coronary care unit, and have full time emergency room coverage. Available are specialists from nearby cities who come to the hospitals on certain days to see patients who need specialized care.

The Mercer County Medical Society was organized Feb. 10, 1903, and its Women's Auxiliary on Oct. 18, 1949. *by: Alfrida E. Willke, Maria Stein, Ohio*

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Mrs. Reynolds
(Dorothy) Galloway

MERCER COUNTY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

The Mercer County Unit of the American Cancer Society grew out of early efforts of a group of Celina women (members of Phi Beta Psi sorority) who were interested in fighting cancer.

In the early 1940's cancer as a subject of polite conversation was largely taboo and education as well as research was paramount. The American Cancer Society was reorganized in 1945 to bring education, service programs and fund-raising right into the communities — in Ohio there is at least one local unit in every county.

The Mercer County unit received its charter April 20, 1948, with a number of Phi Beta Psi members serving on the first executive committee. It was largely through the efforts of Mrs. D. R. Smalley that the sorority was persuaded to sponsor the unit in its formative years.

First officers were Mrs. Hugo Rentzsch, president; W. W. Purdy, Rockford, vice-president; Eugene Ensman, Ft. Recovery, secretary; Earl Dull, treasurer, and Dr. A. J. Rawers, medical advisor. A few months later Mrs. Jack Davis replaced Ensman as secretary. Other charter members were Mrs. Robert Van Fleet, Mrs. R. A. Smalley, Don Coate, Mrs. Hubert Dabbelt, Mrs. D. R. Smalley, Charles A. Dick, L. Heitkamp, Floyd L. Kugel, John J. O'Grady, Aloys H. Reichert, Arthur Elam, Mrs. Charles Hess, Mrs. John Longley, John Shank and Floyd Young.

Even as the unit was being organized Don Coate and Charles Dick were heading a campaign to raise $2500, Mercer County's quota in the 1948 National Cancer drive.

Mrs. Mabel (Jerry) Ahlers was the first executive director and filled that position for six years. Headquarters were in the Stubbs building on West Market St. Mrs. Reynolds Galloway was executive director from the mid-1950's until her retirement in February 1971. At a dinner in her honor she was referred to as "Mrs. Cancer Society," for she had served tirelessly for 16 years, first in the downtown office and then from her home. (The Mercer County Cancer office has been located in the executive director's home ever since that time).

The emphasis during Mrs. Galloway's term was on public and professional education. Uterine cancer was a leading cause of death and women had to be convinced to act for themselves. The Pap Test was available, but they had to overcome the fear, take the initiative, and ask for the simple and painless examination. Dorothy Galloway and her public education chairman, Quinn Schindler, "stumped" the county, showing the ACS film, "Time and Two Women." The film explained uterine cancer, the Pap Test and the urgency for action. To promote the Pap Test the unit furnished kits to doctors and paid for the laboratory work. Eventually, the unit had to discontinue underwriting the cost of the Pap Tests because of lack of funds. By this time, however, women were convinced of the value of a yearly test.

American Cancer Society, Mercer County, 1978 Officers — **Left to Right:** Dr. Richard Ramsey, President; Mrs. Barbara Belknap, Treasurer; Mrs. Carol Puthoff, Executive Director; Mrs. Dolores Cron, Secretary; Mr. Gerald Richards, Vice President.

Following Mrs. Galloway as executive director were, for a brief time, Mrs. Phillip Schultz, and from September 1970 until mid-1973, Mrs. Warren Cooper. Mrs. Duane (Carol) Puthoff assumed the position in July 1973.

As stated in the current service policy, the purpose of the Mercer County Cancer Unit is "to relieve or minimize suffering chiefly through patient services and to aid in the prevention of deaths from cancer through education."

Services available to patients are counselling, cancer dressings and bed pads (made by volunteers), numerous equipment from the loan closet, assistance on drug and transportation costs where there is financial need, and assistance on rehabilitation expenses, including colostomy, mastectomy and laryngectomy needs.

Between 1962 and the present the number of patients has increased from 45 to over 90. We have many cured cancer patients today in Mercer County, people who are free of symptoms five years after diagnosis and treatment.

The current budget is between $25,000 and $30,000. The Unit meets most of this obligation with contributions from the community during the Combined Services Appeal in Celina and the Combined Charity Drives throughout the rest of the county, which shows wholehearted support. Special Events, memorial gifts, and other individual donations are also a valuable source of income. Over fifty percent of this money remains in the county and 45 percent is allocated to state and national education and research programs.

Three chapters of Phi Beta Psi sorority in Celina and Coldwater continue to support the unit with many volunteer hours on special projects and regular contributions to the budget and loan closet.

And groundwork laid by people with foresight thirty years ago cannot be overlooked. Their names are too many to list, but the eventual victory over this disease will be their reward. *by Carol Puthoff*

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MERCER COUNTY SOCIETY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS

The Easter Seal Society, as it is known today, started many years ago in a small Ohio town. Edgar F. (Daddy) Allen is credited with forming the first unit of the Crippled Children's Society on April 19, 1919.

A serious accident had injured several teenaged students, leaving some of them with permanent disabilities. Their parents were very concerned for they could not find even one clinic or hospital that offered any type of rehabilitating treatment for their children.

As they searched for an answer to their problem, the local Rotary Club became interested in their cause. Eventually enough money was raised to build a small hospital that could be staffed with doctors and nurses trained to work with handicapped children. From this small beginning the idea spread from state to state. Finally a National Society was formed and the word Adults was added to the name.

Although early records have been lost, there is evidence that an active Society for Crippled Children existed in Mercer County in the late 1930's. Mr. and Mrs. Adam Houser of Rockford had guided the formation of the group with help from Albert Dudgeon, Fred Tolan, Lloyd Iler and Richard Lloyd from the Rockford area. Like Daddy Allen, the Houser's son needed special therapy for a physical handicap but there were few competently trained therapists to work with him.

In 1947 the records list C. J. Rasmus, Superintendent of the Celina Schools, as president of the society. Other board members that year were Harry Buckley of Coldwater, Richard Feltz of R.R., St. Henry, Walter Mersman, Emmet Ashton, William Baucher and B. A. Rodgers from Celina.

A survey was made through all the schools in the county to locate the handicapped children. Parents sheltered their special children and many were seldom taken away from home. That Christmas thirty-one fruit baskets were delivered to the homes of disabled children by the board members.

As word of the society and the kinds of help they were providing spread throughout the area, the organization purchased braces, wheelchairs, typewriters, looms and crutches which were loaned free to any child that needed them. Medical and surgical services were also provided, one of which was open heart surgery. Speech and hearing clinics were held each summer.

During the month of August camperships were provided for two week sessions at a YMCA camp, later named Camp Pittenger near Tiffin, Ohio. These vacations were enjoyed by both child and parents. A registered nurse was always on duty to give any needed medication. College students served as counselors, lived in the cabins and supervised hikes, swimming and campfire programs. In 1962 Mercer County was honored for sending the largest number of children to camp.

In 1948 the society purchased an Audiometer for Dr. A. J. Rawers who tested 4,228 school children for hearing impairment. When further diagnosis was needed the students were taken to ear specialists and hearing aids were provided as recommended by them.

Early in the history of the Mercer County Society it was decided to try to interest responsible citizens in each town and township to serve on the board. A child's problem was more easily explained to a friendly neighbor who was able to give a more complete history of the case before the society's directors. Serving from Mendon were Mrs. Charles Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Krogman; from Ft Recovery were Mrs. Fay Hart, Don Riffle, Mrs. Gertrude McCain, Mrs. Gene Wilkerson and Arthur Rose. From Celina were Judge Paul Dull, Judge Don Purdy, Robert Brandon, Dwight Raudenbush, Dr Tennyson Guyer, Glen West and Dr. John Gregory Mrs. Hubert Dabbelt represented the Chickasaw community, William Preston and John Dorsten the Montezuma area and Anthony Doll and Jerry Forsthoefel served the Coldwater citizens. Mr. and Mrs Edwin Grubbs covered Rockford.

In 1957 the list of loan items had grown until it became necessary to find a permanent caretaker and storage space. Lowell Birley was contacted and he agreed to serve as custodian of all loan equipment. After his death, his parents continued to serve for more than twenty years. By now there were more than 60 wheelchairs, a dozen hospital beds, many walkers, several Porta-Lifts and other needed invalid articles.

Several thousand dollars were spent each year to keep the loan closet stocked and the items repaired. Much more was needed to buy orthopedic shoes and braces, glasses and artificial limbs. Many trips to doctors and hospitals for diagnosis and surgery were required.

How to finance all these services became a critical problem. Until 1955 money was solicited from door to door and by mail each spring when the Easter Seals were sent to each family on the mailing list. This year a new method of solicitation was tried with all the charities joining together in a Combined Drive. This proved very successful. Mercer County was awarded several plaques for having the highest per-capita contribution in Ohio.

During the last two decades more members were added to the board. Joseph Hartings and Carl Franzer from Maria Stein; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fahncke and Mrs. Edwin Schaadt from Liberty Township; Mrs. Kenneth Pummell, Franklin Township; Mrs. Richard Copeland and Mrs. John Woodruff from East Jefferson Township; Mrs. W. K. Wolford, Donald Tangeman and Robert Klingshirn from Coldwater; Bruce Barber, Oliver Gratz, Dr. William Dorsey, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Detrick, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Huddlestun, James Highley, Mrs. Steve Reese, Mrs. David Riley from Celina; Mrs. Phillip Larue, Washington Township; Mrs. Dale Sutter, St. Henry and Mrs. John Cheeseman from Ft. Recovery.

Father Leo J. Gaulrapp of St. Charles Seminary, a registered audiologist, serves as hearing consultant and in recent years has supervised the annual Easter Seal mailings. The envelopes are prepared by students and retired priests at St. Charles.

The Easter Seal Society is the oldest and largest voluntary agency in the world that provides direct services to the handicapped. Over the years those colorful Easter Seals have been the symbol of many useful services that are avilable to Mercer County's handicapped children and adults. *by Dorothy Pummell*

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HISTORY OF MERCER COUNTY UNIT — MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

On the evening of March 4, 1976 a group of interested people met to discuss establishing a County unit for Multiple Sclerosis. As a result of this initial meeting, ten members of this volunteer group conducted a meeting on May 3, 1976. The following officers were selected: Wanda DeMott, Chairman; Vera Speicher, Vice Chairman; Dorothy Pummell, Secretary; Jill Bradley, Treasurer; and Wanda Hemmelgarn, Patient Services Director. Mr. Robert Melig, Executive Director, West Ohio Chapter gave a general outline of the Chapter area coverage. Three important areas, Patient Services, Public Information and Fund Raising, were covered. Mr. Melig explained that MS strikes most frequently in young adults and many financial, emotional and physical problems are present.

A patient survey was conducted in the fall of 1976. There were fourteen (14) known patients in Mercer County. A visitation program was established. Information on the disease was published in local newspapers. Reserved seating spaces were obtained for the Lake Festival and Coldwater Parades. A booth was shared at the County Fair and literature was distributed.

The officers for 1977 were Mary Williams, Chairman; Vera Speicher, Vice Chairman; Dorothy Pummell, Secretary; Pat Brookhart, Treasurer; Pat Now, Patient Services Director. The Patient Services were expanded to include a summer picnic for all patients and their families. The picnic was held at the Norval Sealscott residence. Birthday, Thanksgiving and Christmas cards were sent to patients. The Parades spaces and the Fair activities were continued. In January Lela Siebert replaced Dorothy Pummell as Secretary. The other officers remained the same as 1977. Cards for all holidays were sent and a flower was delivered to all patients during the Easter season. The summer picnic, the parades, and the Fair activities were continued. Recreational and Educational MS groups were established during 1978.

The fund raising goal is met each year through Combined Services Appeal, M.S. being one of the service organizations participating in the campaign.

Mercer County Branch, CENTRAL OHIO HEART CHAPTER INC. AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, Ohio Affiliate

In 1947, Dr. R. W. Kissane, Columbus, invited a group of local physicians to sit down in his office and discuss the merits of a Heart Association for Central Ohio. From this has grown the 47-county Central Ohio Heart Chapter Inc., of which Mercer County is a branch.

Mercer County branch began in 1953 when a consultant from the Chapter office met with Dr. James J. Otis, who was to be first president; Dr. George H. McIlroy, a later president, and Mrs. Lola Ruell, first secretary.

Others were invited to join in the Voluntary Plan to raise funds for research, public and professional education and community service — the prime objectives of the Heart Assocciation. Mrs. Reynolds Galloway became, and still is, program chairman. William Marbaugh succeeded the late John Fisher as treasurer. Richard Staugler, Fort Recovery, became part of the unit as did Dr. Donald R. Fox, who now is president.

When the Heart Association efforts were directed to expanded teaching in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, Junior Robbins, now retired fire chief, and his wife, Helen, pooled their efforts.

Today, thanks to funds obtained by this branch and others, Research has been furthered, educational efforts have reached many thousands, and current statistics show a gradual decline in deaths due to cardiovascular disease throughout the United States. Mercer County Branch is proud that it has played a part in this great effort and is continuing its efforts in the conquest of heart disease.

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FARM BUREAU, INC.

In 1917 Congress passed a bill providing money to pay part of the cost of an agricultural agent for every county provided an organization was formed to sponsor an agent and share the cost of employing him.

These county groups were called Farm Bureaus and in February, 1919, farmers of Mercer County met at the Celina City Hall for the purpose of organizing the Mercer County Farm Bureau.

Officers elected were President — F. B. Birkmeyer, Vice President — Fred Goettemoeller, and Secretary-Treasurer — Harry S. Lewis. Department heads were: Livestock — Daniel Spriggs, Farm Management — D. W. Hawkins, Soils — D. R. Mott, Boys and Girls Club — W. A. Hamilton and Home Demonstration — Miss May Nuding. George F. Henning was employed as county agent.

Farm Bureau activities were many and varied in the early years with thirty-one projects underway in 1922. The Farm Bureau Service Company was formed and pooled orders for fertilizer, twine, etc. with large savings for farmers. A livestock shipping service was established and this was the forerunner for Producers Livestock Association. Activities of this kind encountered many difficulties because sources of supply were often cut off due to opposition of established dealers and manufacturers.

Mercer County Farm Bureau joined the Ohio Farm Bureau which is a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Needed state legislation dealing with schools, highways, and taxes was passed and farmers found that if they worked together their voice was effective in government.

In 1926 the Ohio Farm Bureau formed the Farm Bureau Insurance Company, which resulted in considerable savings on auto insurance. Some of the early agents were Frank Birkmeyer, Lou Merkle, Lawrence Will and Arnold Cron.

In 1948 the insurance companies were separated from Farm Bureau and are now known as Nationwide Insurance. However, strong ties still exist on a sponsorship basis and cooperation on programs and services keeps these ties strong.

In 1934 the Farm Bureau Co-op Association was formed on the state and local levels and is now known as Landmark. Mercer Landmark Incorporated now has nine locations serving in Mercer and Van Wert Counties and has a wide variety of marketing services and farm supplies available to farmers.

About this same time Ohio Farm Bureau was instrumental in getting a law passed that set up the Rural Electrification Administration and Farm Bureau helped set up rural electric co-ops all ove Ohio.

In 1936 the first Farm Bureau Advisory Council were formed and shortly thereafter the first Advi sory Council for Mercer County, Council 1-A, wa formed in Blackcreek Township consisting of fou couples, Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Bollenbacher, Mr. anc Mrs. Heber Martz, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Miller anc Mr. and Mrs. Lou Merkle. This council is still very active. Advisory Councils are the grass roots of Farm Bureau and are action groups in forming and carrying out policy on local, state and national levels by practicing and helping preserve the American tradition of democracy.

Councils work together through the Women's Committee, involved in promoting programs of health, safety, public relations, etc. Public Affairs Committee is another council supported arm of Farm Bureau and Mercer County farmers have a voice in state and national government to assure fair taxation, government regulations, etc.

Farm Bureau has always been active in local projects such as good roads, bridges, good schools, solid waste disposal and more recently obtaining extended area toll free telephone service for many exchanges in Mercer and surrounding counties.

A Farm Bureau Youth program was begun in 1937 and Mercer County has a Youth Council, the "Mercer Cletonians", who are quite active and support local and state youth activities.

The publication of the "Mercer Co-operator" was begun in July, 1952 by Farm Bureau and Landmark and was an effective member publication until 1975, when it was discontinued due to high costs of publication. Editors were Les Brandewie, Don Dammeyer, George Reichert, Rodger Storck and Billy Perry.

Farm Bureau leaders who served as president are Frank Birkmeyer, Ben Desch, Grover Nuding, John Dorsten, Lester Miller, Theodore Weinman, Alonzo Bollenbacher, Heber Martz, Russell Laffin, Albert Hassan, Lee Siebert, Paul Homan, Cletus Menchhofer, Raymond Fishbaugh, Cletus H. Homan, Luke Springer, Jerry Laffin, Leander Moeder, Carl Bettinger, Paul Eichler, Fred Rose, Dale Klosterman and Allan Adams.

We have been served by several organization directors some of whom have been Les Brandewie, Don Dammeyer, George Reichert, Rodger Storck, Bill Perry, John Wood, Leonard Ott, Tom Archer, Ned Basinger, Dick Burch, and Carol Davis, who presently holds that position.

Present Board Members are John F. Adams, Paul Eichler, James Fennig, Jerome Homan, Glenn Kable, Ted Kunkler, Carl Pleiman, Cletus Prenger, Mary Schwieterman, John Smith, Luke Springer, Mark Stose, Roy Thompson and Cletus Tobe. Women's District members of the Board are Catherine Eichler, Anna Evers, Irene Homan and Virginia Zumberge. Committee Chairmen are Women's — Anna Evers and Esther Homan, Public Affairs — Dale Klosterman, Information — Cletus H. Homan, Councils — John F. Adams, and Youth — Mark Evers.

Present membership of Farm Bureau is 995. Twenty-three councils meet monthly to discuss farmers' needs and problems and provide leadership to carry out the goal of Farm Bureau — "To improve farm income and the standard of living in rural America."

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National Farmers Organization, Burkettsville Collection Point

Mercer County Sportsmen's Club

N.F.O. The National Farmers Organization

The N.F.O. was started in 1955 in Iowa and Missouri as a protest group consisting of $1.00 a year members to go to Washington to legislate for better Farm Prices. By 1957 after very little success, being only a small percentage of the vote, the members with help of legal advice drew up the present N.F.O. Membership agreement of Collective Bargaining to unite enough production together in one block in all commodities to be able to demand cost of production plus a reasonable profit for producers as well as protection for the processors by orderly deliveries. Also fair return to Agriculture would bring free money in the National Economy to help pay off the National Debt.

By 1961 the N.F.O. had expanded to the state of Ohio and by 1962 Mercer County, after several meetings, a number of County Farmers decided this would be a just way of helping each other get justice at the market place and true money in the economy. In September the County organization was chartered.

Chairmen through the years were; Paul Miller, Wayne Kennedy, Gregor Kahlig, Richard Langenkamp, Gerald Dull, Tom Bertke, Martin Lochtefeld, Marvin Evers, Art Hess, and Edgar Dues the present Chairman. The remaining officerholders in the County are; Robert Roessner, Vice-President, Mrs. Cletus Knoth, Treasurer, Mrs. Leo Homan, Secretary.

Projects in the County are the Dairy reload and accounting office in Celina, a new N.F.O. Livestock Collection Point near Burkettsville operated by Edward Stammen and Mrs. Richard Langenkamp. Also much of the grain is being moved through Joseph Nieport's grain set-up. The N.F.O. has been through many trials and lawsuits and has been proven legal and just in every way and accepted by the industry.

Walter Albers is one of the three National Directors from the State of Ohio, he is also assistant Dairy Director. Tom Bertke is working on the Dairy Staff and Richard E. Langenkamp is on the Organization's Field Staff.

MERCER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Mercer Co. Sportsmen's Ass'n, became active during the thirties, they cooperated with the State Wildlife Dept. in the rabbit and pheasant programs — Education and Game propagation — Building pens and furnishing feed for Wildlife. The back water pool was built on the west end of the lake, also the public fishing dock and boat ramp at Celina. The club was instrumental in starting the goose program by obtaining the original flock of 23 geese, which developed into the present goose refuge.

Then in 1956 events started to happen, the club was reorganized and incorporated. In 1957 they purchased 16.91 acres of land located 5 miles east of Celina on the north side of the lake. Then in 1961 the adjoining Starr farm, consisting of 73.83 acres was purchased, which increased the club area to 90.74 acres. Since that time much has been accomplished as finances permitted. A modern Club House was built — Trap and Skeet Ranges — Outdoor Rifle Range — Indoor Rifle Range at Celina — Rifle Instructions made available — Built 2 Shelter Houses — 2 toilets — 24 Picnic Tables — Dug 2 Wells — Established 4000 feet of Fishing Channel for members — Rip-Rapped Channel banks — Buried 600 stumps for better fishing — Built Boat Ramp and camping areas for Scouts — Planted trees and Multiflora Rose for Wildlife Habitat. Provided Scholarship Fund to W.S.U. for students who work on the Lake Ecology Study. We still have 70 acres of land to be developed, future generations can and will plan to develop this area. The possibility of more lakes for fishing, planting trees and Multiflora Rose for Wildlife cover and building of Nature Trails.

We are members of League of Ohio Sportsmen and have maintained good relations with State and local departments. We welcome residents of Mercer County to join our club and enjoy the life of a Sportsman. The membership is $25.00. Annual Dues $5.00.

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The Richardson Bretz Memorial Building

THE MERCER COUNTY ARS NOVA CLUB

The Mercer County Ars Nova Club is an arts and crafts club. Ars Nova means "new art". The motto is "Art for, and by the people, enliven and enrich the land." This organization was formed in 1953, when a group of local women met to work on crafts and to do some painting. It was decided to meet once a month to enjoy the various projects, and the Ars Nova Club became a reality.

In 1973, the 20th anniversary was celebrated and this year of 1978, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary with a special dinner in July and on September 23 and 24 with the Art Show in the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building.

This is the only club of this kind surviving in Mercer County. There have been many art shows by Ars Nova though the years. Some were held in the Mercer County Court House. Others were at the Celina Fairgrounds and at the Branch Campus of Wright State University, Celina, Ohio. However, the first art exhibit was held in 1966 at the former home of the late Dr. D. H. Richardson. That included art work, crafts, and antiques and was well received by the people of Mercer County.

The Ars Nova Club gave the beautiful statue, "Girl at the Well", to the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building. This club also donated $50 to help defray the cost of the P.A. system for the memorial building.

The Ars Nova Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building at 7:30 P.M. After a business session, a project on art painting or on a craft is held; then a social hour is enjoyed. A membership of 50 adult members is maintained. Anyone interested in becoming a member has their name placed on a waiting list and as a vacancy occurs, a new member may be accepted into the club. *by Mildred J. Lininger*

MERCER COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION

This association was formed by the members at the last meeting of the Ottawa Valley Association. The hospital in Lima, Ohio, was closed by the commissioners of seven counties as there was no more need of it for patients of tuberculosis. A vote was held, and it was decided to have a new charity organization to help the nursing homes, county home and any others in need. This was April 1, 1973. The meeting took place in the former home of the late Dr. D. H. Richardson, now the location of the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building. This group was called the Celina Social Service Association.

In 1974, this group donated an electric range and a refrigerator to the Celina Senior Citizen's Center. This same year, a wheel chair was purchased for the use of ill citizens of the community.

In 1975, since we were helping people countywide, it was decided to change the name to Mercer County Social Service Association. Cancer pads are made during meetings and articles are purchased and given to nursing homes, such as house slippers, lap robes, favors, etc., thus to make patients more comfortable. This year a wall clock, pictures and a mirror were taken to Total Care Nursing Home. We also contribute to people who have the misfortune to have their home destroyed by fire.

Anyone interested in becoming a member may meet at 7:30 P.M. the fourth Monday of every month in the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building. New members are cordially welcomed. *by Mildred J. Lininger, Trustee*

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MERCER COUNTY INDIAN RELIC COLLECTORS SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Mercer County Indian Relic Collectors Society was called to order September 19, 1962, at the home of Ray Eblen for the purpose of appointing officers. Those elected to serve were: President, Ray Eblen; Vice President, Lloyd Grapner; Secretary-Treasurer, Dick Gray. Others in attendance were Doug Eblen, Herb and Dan Meyer, and Hap Smith.

Throughout the years the members have been following the object of the organization stated in their constitution and bylaws. "To encourage and promote interest in Indian relics, to cultivate friendly relations among collectors, students, and dealers, and to especially encourage and assist amateur collectors, and to provide a time and place to buy, sell or trade relics."

Membership is not limited to Mercer County residents. Many members and officers have come from the neighboring counties of Ohio and Indiana because an organization of this type was not available to them in their locale. The present slate of officers demonstrates this as President, Herb Meyer, one of the original founders, is from Celina, Mercer Co.; Garry Mumaw, Vice-president, is from Sidney, Shelby Co.; and Paul Leasor, Secretary-Treasurer, is from St. Marys, Auglaize Co. A portion of the annual two dollar membership dues is used to subscribe to amateur archaeological journals that the members may borrow to study. The journals have articles on excavations, types of relics, book reviews, and announcements of shows.

The members share their kowledge and time with the community by speaking at other area organizations, sponsoring speakers and special movies, and providing displays. The public has been invited to attend the numerous shows sponsored by the society. The members have displayed much of their personal collections and answered questions concerning Indian artifacts.

Many people do not realize that the Mercer County area had been occupied by Indians for a long period of time. Relics continue to be brought to meetings that prove Mercer County has served as a home for Indians of all the major archaeological periods. Fine fluted points show that Paleo Indians roamed the area some time during 9,000 BC thru 6,000 BC. Near the end of this period lancolate blade makers from the Plano Complex left long slender points dating 7,500 BC to 6,000 BC. As the archaic hunters occupied the area from 6,000 BC to 1,500 BC they brought flint dove tails, beveled points, bifurcated points, granite axes, and slate banner stones. The Glacial Kame Indians 2,500 BC to 1,000 BC also left their distinctive slate bird stones, gorgets, pendants and shell sandle sole gorgets as burial offerings in the various natural gravel beds left by the glacier. The Adena Indians, 1000 BC to 700 AD left their celts, leaf shaped blades, stemmed points and slate gorgets showing the distinctive feature of being drilled from one side. The Hopewell Indians 300 BC to 600 AD left an abundance of highly colorful flint ridge corner notched points and parallel sided flake knives. The Hopewell and Adena people were probably the first farmers to cultivate crops here. The bird points and triangular arrowheads of the Fort Ancient and Erie Indians 800 AD to 1,600 AD can be found also. The Historic Indians who traded with the white man left their silver ornaments and iron tomahawks behind as evidence that they too had once enjoyed living here.

GRAND LAKE RIDING CLUB

The Grand Lake Riding Club was first started on October 5, 1975, by a local group of horse and pony lovers.

The next meeting was held on October 19, 1975. The first meetings were held in the horse barn at the Mercer County Fairgrounds. At this second meeting, the bylaws were approved and officers were elected. The first president was Darrel Kinney, vice-president was Roy Christian, and secretary-treasurer was Ruth Christian. There were nineteen members present at this organizational meeting.

The club colors are blue jeans, red shirt, and a white neck scarf, which are to be worn at all parades and when in the public eye. The dues for club members are $3.00 for adults and under sixteen, $1.00. These dues are annual.

The Club holds monthly meetings on the first Sunday of the month at 7:30 P.M. Some of the early meetings were held at a club member's garage. At present, most meetings are held at a Celina bank's community room.

The club was incorporated on November 22, 1977. The purpose for which the club was formed and incorporated are: 1. To promote the enjoyment of horses and ponies by horse and pony lovers of the Celina, Ohio and surrounding areas. 2. To conduct appropriate fund raising activities for the benefit of its purposes. 3. To conduct and appear in trail rides, camp-outs, horse shows, parades, and other related activities involving horses and ponies. 4. To do any and all functions and activities as allowed by the non-profit corporation law of the State of Ohio.

The club has participated in parades in Mercer, Allen, and Auglaize counties, for which they have received several trophies and ribbons.

Also, they have had several trail rides and camp-outs in the Mercer County and surrounding area. Fund raising projects for the club are bake sales, toy parties, jewelry parties, and horse shows.

The club has donated a trophy each year, (since the club's existence) to be presented during the 4-H horse show which is held during the Mercer County Banner Fair.

The Club holds annual holiday parties for Halloween, (which includes a hayride), Thanksgiving, and Christmas for all members and their guests.

The election of officers for President, Vice-President, and Reporter are held annually. Election of Secretary-Treasurer is held every two years. Present officers are President — Ralph VanGundy, Vice-President — open at this time, Secretary-Treasurer — Peg VanGundy, Reporter — Pauline Braun. The club has a present membership of 33 members. *Respectfully submitted, Club Officers*

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BENEVOLENT PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

Mercer County Lodge No. 2170
3242 U.S. Rt. 127, Celina, Ohio 45822

Dispensation Granted
April 4, 1960

Charter Granted
June 24, 1960

PAST EXALTED RULERS

1960 — C. W. Blessinger
1961 — Herbert Houser
1962 — William Otte
1963 — C. B. Woods
1964 — Bernard Fitzgerald
1965 — Elsworth Collins
1966 — Henry Bueltel
1967 — Edward Hammond
1968 — Charles Dickman
1969 — Urban Berning
1970 — Ralph Benner
1971 — Joe Sanders
1972 — Sam H. Dixon
1973-74 — Arthur W. Krick
1975 — Edward Hammond
1976 — Jerry Shiverdecker
1977 — Calvin Scott, Sr.
1978 — Lowell Gagle

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CB Group 54 Officers — President, Jerry Miller; Secretary, Martha Houston, Treasurer, James Hart; Vice President, Harold Grace.

Three Group 54 members on snowmobiles.

C B GROUP 54

Citizens Band Group 54 was formed in 1974 by Sheriff W. C. Sunderhaus, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Shively. It is the oldest C B disaster group in Mercer County, affiliated with the Mercer County Disaster Services and the Mercer County Sheriff's Dept.

The 54 in the group's name was suggested by Sheriff Sunderhaus because 54 is the Mercer County State Identification number. Each member's vehicle is identifiable by a Green and White decal of Ohio which is placed in the window on the left rear side.

Membership is open to residents of Mercer County who have a citizens band radio license. The meetings normally are held the 1st Sunday of each month at the Citizens Commercial Bank Community Room at 1:30 P.M. Our address is P.O. Box 432, Celina, Ohio.

Members of Group 54 gladly donate their time to aid citizens of Mercer County. We have numerous members with 4-wheel drive vehicles, snowmobiles, motorcycles, tractors, heavy duty equipment and horses. Five members are first-aid instructors. Most all members have had training in first-aid and traffic control.

Members of the group have used the above mentioned vehicles, C B radios and walkie-talkies in assisting with walk-a-thons, bike hikes, Crop walks and Tractor Pulls. Also in parades — Celina Lake Festival and Mendon parade. In festivals — Mary Help of Christian Church, Fort Recovery Festival, and Mendon festival. Also in the Mendon Rockfest, and M.D. H. Rockfest and Flea Market. We also helped round up run-away cattle. We furnished the Sheriff's Dept. with Traffic Control in the Land Mark Elevator Fire and the Train derailment.

Members donated a geriatric chair to a resident at Total Care who has Cerebral Palsey. Along with two other C B clubs, a base radio and three mobile units were donated to the Mercer County Sheriff's Dept.

Group 54 is affiliated with the Mercer County Disaster Services. We furnish communications and assist with traffic control, transportation and man power. The Disaster Services has had several mock disasters in which the group has participated. These mock disasters help prepare the emergency units for a real disaster. There has been a mock plane crash, a mock major fire, and two mock tornadoes.

During the "Blizzard of '78" the members evacuated people, delivered medicine and food to snowbound residents. Last year's blizzard prompted the Disaster Services and Group 54 to set up a Central Control with a C B base and telephones in the basement of the Mercer County Courthouse. Anyone needing assistance may call. During an emergency the telephone number is 586-7001 and we will monitor channel 3 on our base.

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Front Row: Martha Kittle, Helen Bird, Lavida Grimm. **Back Row:** Everett Hall, Phyllis Bensman, Paul Baucher, Louis Zizelman.

MUDDY POND SOCIALIZERS C.B. CLUB INC.

Two women wanted a C.B. Club the entire family could enjoy. The Muddy Pond Socializers C.B. Club was formed March 16, 1975 with a coffee break and an organizational meeting, held at the Lake Shore Lodge. On March 23, 1975 a meeting of the officers was held to set up by-laws for the new Club, also naming the Club.

Several names were submitted. Muddy Pond and Socializers was chosen. They put them together making it Muddy Pond Socializers. It is now incorporated.

The Club started with 20 members and has now grown to over 400. Members are from Mercer County and surrounding areas.

Our purpose is to be Civic minded and any extra monies made from specified breaks would to to Charities in Mercer County.

The coffee breaks are held once a month, the summer months we have a family club picnic, December we have a Club Christmas Party. During the summer months members travel state wide to C.B. Jamborees that help charities.

The Coffee Breaks consist of meeting fellow CBers, raffling off prizes and having a good time, refreshments are also available.

Activities have included buying stuffed animals from Cheryl Ann School and donating them to Celina Hospitals, also monies to the Mercer County branch of the Salvation Army, Senior Citizens of Mercer County, Cheryl Ann School kitchen fund, American Legion Christmas basket fund, Bibles for Coldwater Community Hospital and shared in buying 3 mobils and base CB for the Sheriff's department of Mercer County.

Muddy Pond Socializers CB Officers — Past President, Bob Pickering; Present President, Everett Hall; Past President, John Siefring. (photography by Everett Hall)

Mercer County React, Team 3610, November 1978 — **Present, Left to Right, First Row:** Larry Hoffman, Charles Endricks, Don Wyerick, Rick Giere, Brenda Jeffries, Terry Jeffries. **Second Row:** Steve Braun, Rae Endricks, Kay Zizelman, Trula Wyerick, Mary Jo Pearson, Vi Grimm. **Third Row:** James Staugler, Louis Zizelman, Merrill Hole, Virgil Eversole, Marion Pearson Sr., Rick Grimm. **Not Present:** Dave Henderson, Connie Davenport, Paul Strait, Irma Wilt, Paul Forwerck, Kae Forwerck, Lloyd Grimm, Loren Cencebaugh, Sandra Means, Karl Giere, Marie Henderson, James Thomas, John Fella, Terry Kunkler, Steve Henderson, Frank Sessor, Rosie Sessor, Robert Grilliot, Monte Diegel, Jeffry Quaintance, James Miller, Ruth Miller, Russel Shroeder, Thelma Wolfe, Anita Wuebker, Marion Pearson, Jr.

Present Officers: President — Everett Hall, V. President — Paul Baucher, Sec'y-Treas. — Martha Kittle. Board of Directors: Lavida Grimm, Helen Bird, Louis Zizelman. Past Presidents: Robert Pickering, John Siegrist, Kay Grover, Loren Cencebaugh (Not present when picture was taken).

REACT — RADIO EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CITIZEN'S TEAM

Mercer County React was chartered on January 13, 1977, with React International. Team 3610 started with 12 members and has grown to 44 members.

The purpose of React is to monitor channel 9 on the C.B. (Citizen's Band Radio) and give assistance to the local agencies when needed.

Members have training in traffic control and first aid.

During the blizzard of 1978, members helped with 4-wheel drive vehicles and snowmobiles.

COMMANDER
DONALD WYERICK
SECRETARY
KAY ZIZELMAN
BOARD MEMBERS
TERRY JEFFRIES
LOUIS ZIZELMAN
MARY JO PEARSON
DAVE HENDERSON

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Blackcreek Township Trustees — **Standing:** Robert Humbert, Rex Bollenbacher. **Seated:** Dick Figley, Clerk; President Kenneth Luginbill.

BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP

Blackcreek township is still mainly all farming. Where almost every family had at least a cow or so for their own milk at the turn of the century, now there is only Paul Miller, Max Shock and Jim Schumm, Herbert Brandt, Lloyd Gause with dairy cows and John Myers, Tom Brandt, Gene Koch, Tom Rogers who raise beef cattle. Roma Fickert has a baby pig set-up, David and Herman Kuhn feed out a few hogs on the side as does Gene Vinings. Gale Gause has some fancy poultry and rabbits but there's no large laying-house nor broilers raised, however, Gene Koch and Jerome Bollenbacher put turkeys out on range. There are very few sheep raised yet in the township with Woody Rogers having some, also Rex Bollenbacher. Roy Thompson's have several acres in various fruits and vegetables for sale. Race horses should come nearer the top of the list, as there are several. Leo and Tom Baker; Carl Cross; Chalmer Huston; Baders Stables; Roma and Dick Fickert.

The field crops have changed also. Instead of several small fields of about everything, it's mostly wheat, corn and soybeans planted in larger fields made possible after tearing out fence rows and plowing them smooth, or by cutting off the woods and grubbing them out. In a favorable season, the wheat comes off early enough for a second crop, which has been soybeans but this year there is a new sight that is beautiful when all in bloom and that is sunflowers. Like soybeans there are several varieties. Some best suited for oil, some for bird seed, and some roasted for human consumption.

Blackcreek township roads are all sealed and blacktopped except two short roads of one-half mile each that are still gravel and another one-half mile still 'mudroad'. In the late 1940's electricity was a hundred-percent available with telephone service soon after also.

The Township is also ruled completely different. The highest official used to be the Justice of Peace who held court for misdemeanors etc. with a constable to back him up, and could also perform marriages. Since these jobs have been taken to the county seat, the trustees are at the head. Their budget was set up for care of the poor; road building; bridge fund; ditch; cemetery; soldier relief; schools that included hiring of teachers, building upkeep. Each duty had its chairman and sometimes that caused competition and conflicts.

Blackcreek township is very proud of our present team of trustees and the way they work together with each other as well as for their people. Richard Figley has been the Clerk since 1964. He is the son of LaDoyle (Farmer) and Mable Strickler Figley. His Grandparents were James and Goldie Hook Figley and his great grandfather was Nathan and Belle Figley who were the pioneer settlers of the family here in Blackcreek twp. Dick started to school the last year it was held at Center and graduated from Rockford. In 1953 to 55 he spent in Germany in the Army and began farming after his return home. He married Janice McGowan and they are the parents of Mark and Beth.

The chairman of the board is Kenneth Luginbill, a son of Roy and Goldie Bollenbacher Luginbill. He also started to grade school at Center but then attended Willshire. Kenny learned farming from his Father while helping as he farmed for the Graubergers, has worked for others and just recently bought a farm of his own and is presently building a brick house on it. He married Clara Schott and they have four children, Ruth, Kenneth Jr., Jeff and Scottie.

Rex Bollenbacher was born March 25, 1925 in Blackcreek twp., the son of Alonzo and Faye Bollenbacher. He spent eight years in Grove school, then graduated from Rockford. Between 1944 and 1946 he spent overseas in Germany and Austria. He married Mary Catharine Schaadt and they have two sons, Randell and Dennis and one granddaughter Lori.

Robert Humbert was born in Washington twp. of Mercer county, started school at Prospect and finished at Celina High. During 1944 to 1946 he served in Germany and on his return married Dorothy Carr. They have three children, Larry, Diane and Rita Kay and three grandchildren, Marc and Douglas Rich and Tara Sue Humbert. Bob started to farm while in Washington twp., but now lives on a farm for which they have the original sheepskin and owns another that Mrs. Humbert's great grandfather, Rueben Carr, was given the patent for in 18??. Bob had been clerk seven years before taking the place of Vernon Caffee, who died suddenly last December 5, with two years yet to serve on his third term. Mr. Caffee was an exceptional leader, served as chairman of the board of Blackcreek and also was chairman of the county trustee's board. He had set up the co-operative system of sharing all the extra road work, especially on the snow plow during the winters of 1976 and 77. He was the son of Howard and Caroline Caffee, had been a heavy farmer as well as being active in Church, Grange, and Council. For a number of years he and his wife Donna had one of the top registered Holstein dairy herds in the county. He is so greatly missed by three children, Carolyn Sue, Larry and Connie and by seven grandchildren. Jeffrey Scott, Jon Stuart and Jenifer Jo Caffee; Michael E. Dale, SueAnn McDonna, Mark Allen and Megan Louise Kimmel.

Lenore Springer and Bernice Warrick organized the neighborhood women in a "Farm Women's Club" in 1916. A fore-runner of the Home Demonstration Club, it was mainly just a social get-together where they put on plays; held ice cream socials, etc. Sometimes they would charge, making a little money with which they gave wedding presents;

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Charter Members in the Picture are — **Standing, L. to R.:** Flora Dilbone; Belle Spry; Adelia Williams; Nettie Comm; Maude Merinar; Sarah Smalley; Effie Morrison; Mrs. Hart; Lenora Springer; Sadie Carr; Jessie Carr; Bernice Warrick; Grace Bermis. **Seated:** Ada Smalley; Mary Smalley Becher; Hazel Carr Vining; Leona Petrie Williams; Hulda Tickle; Dencie Nutt; Lucy Purdy; Mrs. Joe Huffman.

new baby gifts or helped someone in need.

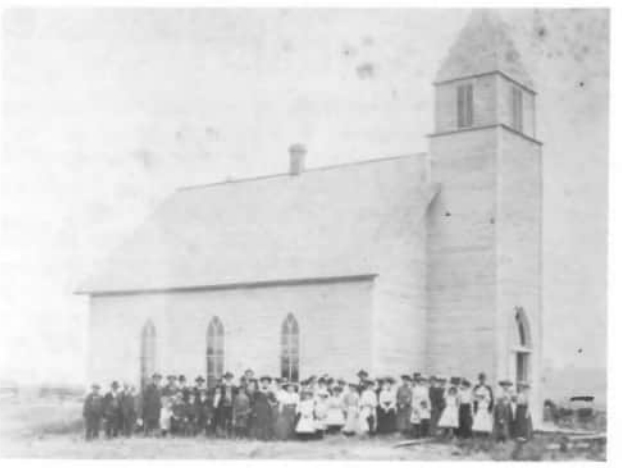
In 1922 a Home-Coming was planned by Frank and Nora Springer. The minutes of that Saturday, June 28, stated there were over 200 in attendance, using a flat-bed wagon on the west side of the building to hold food, and one on the east side for a program and speaker, using a local preacher as one of the speakers. The first Sunday reunion was in 1938, with tricks by Albert Stoner. Frank Springer had lived in the district over 80 years. Maggie Morrow came farthest, from Los Angeles, Calif. In 1955 Mrs. Ireland was the oldest present, age 91; Bob Meriner was the youngest. In 1956 Ella King was oldest at 86. In 1958 Wanna Sell gave the talk. In 1960 Rev. Walter Purdy read an old Rockford Press (1946). The last home-coming was held in 1972 when because of small attendance they voted to disband. The tables and chairs were given to the trustees who presently use the building for their meetings; occasionally it's used for a reunion and it's the voting place of the township. A Band called "The Blackcreek Specials" was organized here about 1912, lasting for several years. They would play for fairs and whenever called upon. After the band broke up some of the same men organized a baseball club with the late Bill Becher as coach.

Also on this same cross-roads was a home-stead; another corner had a store in a regular building with a high false front on it. It was closed in the early 1900's with the last owners a family named "Glass". At one time a family named "Pond" owned the store and would pick up mail when in Rockford and bring it to the store where folks could get it when in to the store. John Wileys also kept the store, Mrs. Wiley being a daughter of early settler Ernest Tickle. *by Florence E. Gause*

DUCKCREEK CHURCH

In 1859 Celina Circuit, Duckcreek society. Conference members listed as Geo. Clark, J. Koons, D. Foreman, A. M. Counterman, S. Hopkins, D. Tinkham, A. Foreman, J. Carwood, John Detterer, W. Foreman, I. Foreman, C. Counterman, M. A. Clark, N. A. Counterman, M. S. Tinkham.

In 1867 they were on the Shanesville Circuit with officers Elmer Hill as Collector, Porter Davis, Geo. Clark, James Nelson, M. H. Porter, John Frank, Dow Clark, Christiania Johnson, Mary Clark and Alex Counterman.



Duckcreek Church, Blackcreek Township

In 1868 the Duckcreek schoolhouse had become too small and they built a church house across the road and north about a quarter mile, where a cemetery had already been started on a hill above the Duckcreek ditch. The oldest stone is that of Jonathan Emery s/o John and Sarah Emery who died August 18, 1841.

In 1869 they were put on the Willshire circuit, with members reporting to conference as C. Y. Hill, collector, Christiania Johnson, Mary Clark, G. Clark, J. Johnson, P. Counterman, Prescilla Wood, John Frank, L. Tinkham and S. Hollinger.

In 1878 due to much dissatisfaction Duckcreek left the radical United Brethern circuit and went on a Shanesville circuit of Methodist churches, made up of Shanesville, Fountain Chapel, Mercer and Coss, and Willshire and Duckcreek as a Willshire circuit. 1879 officers were Stewards: John Davis, Moses Foreman; Class Leaders: D. Smith, M. Detro, H. Miller, Wm. Beall, J. Wechter, Reed Hopkins, Baldwin Clark and Alex Counterman.

Conference list of older members: Wm. McKindrick Harper, wife Matilda; Andrew Roop, w/ Ruth (Bowen) Roop; Andrew Dellinger, w/ Elphina (Warrick) d/s Catharine and Mary who m. John Stetler; John and Margaret (Pitts) Hoblet; George and Elizabeth (Bilderback) Dellinger; Orlando and Catharine (Emerine) Stetler; Enos and Sara A. (Coffit) Warrick; C. G. and Mary J. (Vian) Sell; Henry A. and Sarah A. Tindall; Alex and Ann Eliz. (Bolenbaugh) Counterman; Moses and Mary Ann (Bowen) Foreman; D. Tinkham and wife Margaret A.; Joel and Ann Koontz; Baldwin and Emily T. Clark; G. W. and Mary E. Fisher; Dr. Girard and Susan (Brewer Ellsworth) Bailey.

In 1891 the conference notes read that they are out of debt. In an 1882 report Pastor M. M. Figley wrote "Smallpox in the spring very detrimental to the work." In 1903 the officers listed were Trustees: G. Marbaugh, Wm. Tinkham, J. Davis, A. Bailey, S. Tinkham; Stewards: Wm. Tinkham, Eva Morrison; Class Leader Emanuel Stetler.

Late in the evening of March 21, 1920, just after dark, the church was completely blown apart by a cyclone. It destroyed the church building, knocked over or broke cemetery stones, but the bell came straight down and was later moved and used in the Mount Hope church in Adams county, Indiana which is some 4 miles west.

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PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH

First called Pontius class, it was started February 20, 1859 in the home of Abraham Pontius. They later met in the Pleasant Grove schoolhouse which was the #9 school in Willshire twp. of VanWert County. Nearby they started a cemetery that is also known as 'Plank' with the oldest stone being 1850.

At conference of December 25, 1869 Trustees were Silas Jordan and Phillip Swanders. Pontius class had 40 members and were assessed $86.40. A church was built in 1870 on a corner of the Pontius farm, on south side of route 33 at the end of Hill road in section 3 and across the road from the cemetery.

Some of the early members were: Abraham and Phoebe (Moyer) Pontius and Eliza J.; Silas Jordan; Phillip Swander, Amanda and Calvin; John and Catharine (Casto) Bilderback; Jeremiah and Mary (Alexander) Vian, Mary J., Louisa E.; Absolam and M. Eliz. (Stetler) Bolenbaugh; Wm., s/o A., and Malinda (Hartzog) Pontius; Levi and Sara (Butler) Pontius; Geo. and Sarah (Chilcote) Hurless; Frederick and Nancy (Bolenbaugh) Hill; S. J. and Catharine (Harrod) Robinson; Noah and Eliza (Horn) Stetler; Thomas and Rachel A. (Bevington) Morrison; Christ and Margaret Byer; Ernest A. and Christina (Vian) Tickle; Joel and M. E. (Tickle) Bolenbaugh; Gabriel and Catharine (Donat) Keopple.

In 1889 they separated from the radical United Brethern conference and later joined a Methodist one.

They were disbanded ca 1918.

The building was jacked up and moved into Rockford, Ohio, where for a number of years it was a Nazarene church until they closed in early 1978. It has recently been sold and a Baptist group are presently holding services in it.

CENTENARY CHURCH

The conference of 1874 had granted permission to build a churchhouse, land that was centrally located had been found and lumber had been bought. Then a part of the lumber was re-sold and the church was not built until 1876 on the southeast corner of Thomas Spry's land located on Manley road at the end of Burrville. It was comprised of people who had left Pleasant Grove and had been meeting in King schoolhouse as Kings class; Manlies class at Manley school; at Center school and at Winklers.

The conference of Nov. 1890 notes 'The liberals had taken out an injunction against the trustees.' Jan. 24, 1891 conference held in Manley schoolhouse and church services again being held in the four schoolhouses.

In 1891 conference granted them permission to build. The members from Kings and Manley classes to build Fairview, and the members of Blackcreek Center Chapel who were meeting in the Center township-house and Winkler school to build Zion.

Mr. Spry took the building back and made it into a barn.

FAIRVIEW CHURCH

Built in section 15, on Rockford West road near Wabash road in 1892 by members of the former Centenary group. On July 16, 1892 they elected as the first class leader, E. A. Tickle; Steward, Henon Russell; S.S. Supt. A. G. Johnson; Board of Trustees, L. F. Sapp; Sol Shock, E. A. Tickle, Geo. Hurless and O. O. Stover. It was dedicated on October 9, 1892 by Dr. C. H. Kiracofe. The first protracted meeting was held from December 12, 1892 to January 19, 1893 at which time there were 18 conversions and 20 accessions.

Fairview parsonage was located one and a half miles east of the church on the southeast corner. In 1895 the parsonage board members were G. H. Stetler; W. H. Parker; L. F. Sapp; E. A. Tickle and F. M. Smalley.

In the early 1900's some of the members were Sol Shock and wife Eliza; Carrolls; Manleys; Geo. Hills; Whitzey Carr; O. O. and Eva Stover; Geo. Stovers; Jess and Sadie Andrews, son Wm.; Ben Tickles; Mrs. Jennie Wollet; Dan Wollets; Mahlon Hills; McBrides; Burl Rumples; Bill Lees.

In 1928 the Financial board was Chas. Morrow; Geo. Stover; Sidney Lautzenheiser; W. H. Lee and H. E. Hileman.

At Conference on August 1st, 1946, Rev. Paul Parker, P.E.; Delbert Cress, Pastor; A motion was made that Fairview class be disbanded and that the property be placed in the hands of conference. Motion carried. H. F. Wilson, secretary; W. H. Lee, Treas.

In 1948 the building was cut in two and moved into Willshire where it was put back together and made into the E.U.B. church on State Street (route 33).

FOUNTAIN CHAPEL CHURCH

Built by the Methodists, it sat on the Purdy road at Erastus-Durbin. It was built beside a natural fountain fed by a spring. It had a wider than normal board walk. Its cemetery is south across the road in section 25. The oldest stone is that of Solomon Hough. Died Oct. 18, 1844. 58 years old. This cemetery is still in use.

1875 trustees were John Pifer; J. Nutt; J. Rutledge; J. M. Loree; L. Robinson; E. J. Robinson; N. Vantilburg; S. Wolff.

In 1876 it was on Willshire circuit with Duckcreek, John C. Miller, pastor. Officials were: E. J. Robison, class leader; Nathan Vantilburg; John Pifer; J. Kinney; Z. Figley, C. E. Bistle; H. Vantilburg; Calvin Figley; L. Robinson; Elisha Loree; James Williams; J. N. Rutledge; L. Word; L. Stover; Moses Stopher; L. Marks, Levi Robison; J. H. Nutt; W. M. Roebuck.

1878 Fountain Chapel was transferred to Shanesville circuit and was on with Mercer and Coss Schoolhouse.

1903 class leader was A. Roebuck; Stewards, L. E. Pifer and Wm. Vantilburg; Trustees, Ed Adams, A. M. Roebuck; J. Nutt; L. Pifer and C. Figley.

Some other members were Chris Binkleys; Rufos Stober; Frank Morrisons; Conrad Hoverman fa/o Wm.; Wm. and Asy Krugh; Clarence Felver; Pete

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Hardins.

Several people I talked with don't think a car ever came to the church. People only came in buggies or else walked there.

The church was closed ca 1916 and the building torn down. Mrs. Norah Linn has a baby cradle that was made from its wainscotting.

EAST BETHEL CHURCH

The first meetings held by Rev. Gillen in the log cabin home on a farm a short distance from where the first United Brethern church was built, ca 1855. He had organized the church of United Brethern at Montezuma in 1845, in the old Miami conference. Several relatives of the Montezuma class lived in Blackcreek twp. This class organized June 2, 1860 in home of Mother Henderson with another lady by the name of King who was well up in years. Rev. Abe Miller was the first pastor and he and Rev. John Hill were the organizers of this class. One of the first local Bible readers was a man named Martz. The first name was Pleasant-Bethel, but due to there being seven Pleasants in the community, they dropped the Pleasant and the name Bethel was used from 1884.

The name of Rev. Thomas Coates appears in 1867. The meetings were held for a time in this cabin of Henderson's until it became too small, then they were held in the Grove schoolhouse. In 1873 the effort was begun to build a church-house as they were again out-growing their quarters. In 1886 they accepted the offer from Henry and Laura Davis Morrison to buy a small tract in section 34 for $5.00. But before work could begin, this part of Mercer county was desolated by a cyclone that took many homes and other buildings, leaving a stricken but determined people who had to re-build. Add to that the next spring the community was hit with a snow storm when the fruit trees were in bloom.

The first deed to East Bethel was recorded at Celina courthouse on Sept. 18, 1886 at 1 P.M. with W. C. Snyder recorder at the time. They were members of the Pleasant Grove circuit, Auglaize conference of United Brethern (radical) at this time with R. G. Montgomery, Pastor and Willet Skinner, Circuit Steward. In May of 1886 they began a cemetery and appointed as trustees Jacob Adams; Reuben Martz; W. Steinmetz. The first burial was that of baby Floyd H. Adams, s/o Henry and Julia Ann Adams who had died Feb. 7, 1883 at age of 29 days. The new church was built that summer also and the conference under J. L. Luttrell as presiding Elder; Silas J. Robinson as secretary appointed (elected) as Church trustees: Caleb Martz; Joseph Harb and H. C. Morrison; Steward, Buel Nye; Class Leader, Wm. Steinmetz, Sr.; Sunday School Supt., L. E. Martz.

In July of 1889 conference dismissed trustees C. Martz; H. C. Morrison; Joe Harb; Wm. Steinmetz and John Ketro and elected as new ones A. B. Edmiston; F. M. Smalley; Jonathan Harb and Wm. Pontius. But the trouble persisted between the radicals and liberals and in January of 1890 they separated by Bethel leaving that conference.

Then in 1909, on April 10, the trustees of Bethel church bought more ground to enlarge the church site (for a parking lot) from John and Barbara Leistner, for the sum of $40.25. Those trustees listed on that deed were Andrew Harb; Wm. E. Counterman; Peter D. Cross; and J. J. Carr. (From the deed, the ground was from Wm. H. and Emma Leininger).

After pressure and vote of conference to close all with less than 50 on membership lists, and by vote of its remaining faithful members, on Sunday June 30, 1963, Bethel's doors were closed. The last members were Lillian Martz Carr; Edwin and Naomi Counterman; Lloyd and Florence Gause; Iris Roebuck Putman; Buress McBride; Lola Purdy Fisher; Zoa Miller Groth; Melvin and Mary Counterman Hull; Marie Counterman Schnarre; Nellie Purdy Cross; Carl Cross; Laura Wolfe Counterman; Lucille Gause; Beatrice Gause Huston; John and Icy Gehm and Melville and Louise Gehm; Glen and Sue Cross Counterman. Each family a descendant from the original members who had formed this little church group. *Florence Gause*

Blackcreek Township House

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1912 Dellinger School — **Back Row, L. to R.:** Ruby Brindle, Flossie Miller, Blanche Byer, Viola Dellinger, Naomi Baker, C.L. Vining, teacher; Blanche Ralston, Belle Ralston, Margaret (Gretchen) Brandt. **Third Row:** Myrtle Ralston, Esther Snyder, Ruth McGough, Arlie Byer, Lawrence Dellinger, Beatrice Hoblet, Gladys Hopf, Harvey Garwood, Boyd Snyder, Robert Hopf, Lillian Krall, Charles Lautzenheiser. **Second Row:** Russell Ralston, George Ralston, Lee Sapp, Carl Brandt, Joyce Baumgardner, Norman Hoblet, Mabel Tague, Esther Brandt, Hazel Nead, Helen Hoblet, Edith Tague, Edith Snyder, Opal Baker, Wanda Baker. **Front Row:** Frank Baker, Vernon Hoblet, Elmer Garwood, Orville Hoblet, Ronald Sims, Robert Snyder, Emil Brandt, Forrest Baumgardner, Hubert Byer, Fred Baker, John Miller.

LOWER DUCKCREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

The first school in Blackcreek Twp. of Mercer Co., O. was the Duckcreek School, started in 1852. The building is still standing along the west side of St. Rt. #49; ¼ mi. north of the Wilson Rd. intersection. At that time this school served the whole western area of the township, and was used for a while as a church.

Later, the township was divided into districts and Duckcreek became District #4. Another school north of it on a hill overlooking Duckcreek stream was called Lower Duckcreek District #3. This school is the subject of this sketch.

Lower Duckcreek was located 1 mile south of the Van Wert-Mercer County line and 1½ mi. east of the Indiana-Ohio state line in the extreme northwest part of Blackcreek Twp. on the Willshire-Chattanooga Pike. Later, when this road became St. Rt. #49, a big S-curve was made which caused the road to by-pass the school corner. This corner is now bounded by Short Rd. and Winkler Rd. The building has since disappeared from the scene.

In 1866, Louis Brandt bought considerable acreage in the area and granted to the school trustees ½ acre of land to be used for school purposes. The school became known as the Brandt School; and still later as the Dellinger School.

At that time much of the area was still forests and the roads were bad during the winter and the rainy season. All but the Willshire-Chattanooga Pike were mud roads. In the spring Duckcreek overflowed and covered some of the roads; in the winter the snow was deep. Most of the students walked to school except in the most severe weather. Then the parents took them to and from school in horse and buggies, sleds or carriages. Because some of the smaller students couldn't walk the distance from home to school in the winter, summer school was held for several years.

Many of the older boys were needed at home to help with the farm work; plowing, planting, tilling and harvesting; so their attendance was sporadic. Because of this, many only attended school 5 or 6 years altogether. Others were from families who did not believe in sending their children to high school, so a pupil may be found attending the grade school until they were 16 or 18 years of age. Since this was a one-room building all pupils could hear the recitation of others. In this way, many of the younger pupils picked up knowledge well ahead of their own class level.

Slates and slate pencils were used to write the lessons. Much scratching could be heard all over the room; the loudest squeaks seem to be the intentional ones. Most of the spelling classes were conducted with the pupils standing in a line; spelling for "headmarks". If one student misspelled a word, which was in turn spelled correctly by the next person; the one spelling it correctly moved ahead of the one who missed the word. Whenever a student reached the top of the line it was called a "headmark". Some teachers gave a pencil for each "headmark" received — consequently, there were some students who seldom had to buy a pencil.

A wood stove stood in the center of the one-room structure. The wood for this stove was cut by the families of the district and was hauled in early in the season and stacked in a long pile outside the schoolhouse. Not only was this pile used to heat the school, but one teacher made his unruly pupils sit outside on it as a punishment. They were sufficiently chastened and embarrassed by the fact they could be seen by all passers-by on the road.

The country school was also the social center of the area. Many former residents will remember the two-night shows that the itinerant entertainer, Jimmy Rhodes, put on with his rattlebones, slight of hand tricks and many other acts that were a novelty for country folks.

The Little Red School House of Lower Duckcreek School District #3, of Blackcreek Twp., Mercer Co.,

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Ohio was built in 1893. Early in the 1900's or at the erection of the new building, the name was changed to The Dellinger School. It served a period of 34 years; until 1929, when the schools were consolidated and the students removed to the Willshire Community Schools of Van Wert Co., Ohio.

During the 34 years several changes were made. Previous to 1912-13 the elementary school course of study had consisted of Readers; using the Primer through the 6th Reader. Some of the pupils remained in elementary school through age 16 and few went on to High School. Those who were interested in teaching, took the Boxwell Examination. If they passed that they were eligible to teach.

Around 1912-13 the system was converted into 8 grades. Most pupils finished the 8th grade around age 14 and were **required** to attend high school until age 16. The double seats and desks were changed to single ones. The pot bellied cast iron stove that had stood in the middle of the room was removed and replaced by a wall furnace in the northeast corner of the building. The furnace was larger and gave more uniform heat but still on extremely windy, chilly days the children were grouped closer to the furnace. For many years the coal was carried in buckets by the teacher, from the coalshed at the rear of the schoolhouse. In later years, one of the bigger boy students was hired as janitor and have the chore of tending the furnace, sweeping the floors, cleaning the blackboard and dusting the erasers.

There was no drinking fountain so drinking water was carried from a pump on the east side of the schoolyard midway between north and south. The boys' and girls' toilets were small buildings on the back of the lot. Around 1916 the schoolyard was enlarged, double the former size. A new well was drilled at the southeast corner of the building at the end of the porch. It was in this period of time the public became aware of how important good personal hygiene was in their lives; so the subject, "Hygiene" was added to the Physiology class. The county nurse brought each student a tube of toothpaste and told them each one should have his own individual collapsible drinking cup for use at school. Previous to this, all the students had used the same common water dipper.

On the last Friday of each month, during the last period of the day, there was a 'program'. The children spoke pieces, recitations or sung songs. Sometimes they ciphered, or spelled and once in a while the older ones would have a debate. The school had an organ, which was usually played by one of the older girls; but, occasionally by one of the boys. Each group had the privilege of choosing a favorite song to be sung and played.

About twice a year there was a 'Special' program. The little platform didn't show the pupils to much advantage, so a farmer would donate his wagon hay rack and with the help of the older students, make a "stage." (We had blue curtains with rings on wire for our dressing rooms and state curtains.) The program consisted of 3 plays, with special songs and recitations during intermissions.

The last day of school was a Gala Occasion. All of the parents and pre-school children were invited for the day. Each family brought a basket lunch and if the weather was nice there was a picnic under the trees. Otherwise, the fathers, teachers and bigger boys put boards over the desks and made tables inside. The food was always plentiful and delicious. Following the 'feast' a short program of impromptu speaking and singing preceded the issuing of Report Cards, in the afternoon. Another year ended at the Little Red School.

Most hearts were saddened at the passing of the one-room country schools, which had contributed so much to the educational and social life of the boys and girls in the rural areas.

Some of the teachers of the Lower Duckcreek/ Dellinger School were: John Pifer, Emanuel Stetler, Elmer Snyder, Roy Kindle, Mr. Hoge, Ida May Short, Ray Hitchner, Sarah Platt, Ethel Layland, Grace Meyer, Louis S. Dibble, Mr. Golden, Ella Walton, Mollie Rettig, Clarence Vining, Herbert Springer, Naomi Hart, Albert Dudgeon, Lloyd Campbell, Ored Dudgeon, Esma Riley, Vera Fisher, Dorothy Jackson, Leroy Kreischer and Roxie Bienz.

Some of the families attending school District #3 were: Brandts, Harper, Dellinger, Hoblet, Baumgardner, Byer, Hopf, Snyder, Koontz, White, Krall, Miller, Morrison, Vining, Hill, Pethel, Mason, Roop, Irelan, Sapp, Nead, Lautzenheiser, Brindle, Ralston, McGough, Baker, Saum, Wicks, Debolt, Garwood, Colter, Riley, Michaud, Kidd and Tague. There are most surely more that this author cannot recall. *by Edith Adams*

The Dellinger School Reunion was organized in 1954 by some of the former students and Clarence Vining, a former teacher. Since then it has been an annual event, held on the 3rd Sunday in July. Attendance has been from 15 to 92. This year, 1978, the attendance was 30. More of the younger ex-students are now taking an interest. The "youngest" ones are now 52 years old and the oldest one, Dora (Hupp) Riley of near Willshire, is nearly 100 years young. This group has been told by the Mercer Co. Historical Society, they are unique in being the only country school in Blackcreek Twp. to hold a reunion yet; and possibly all of Mercer Co.

The Dellinger School Reunion of 1978 was held at the Zion U.B. Church Hall; Corner of Winkler and Wabash Road in Blackcreek Township on Sunday July 16, 1978. The Former Students are — **Back Row:** Waldo Brandt, Ronald Saum, Carl Brandt, Eugene Vining and Lillian Krall Berry. **Second Row:** Harold Snyder, Fern Sapp Parrish, Madge Colter Shreeve, Larry Wick, Belle Ralston Overholt, Edith Snyder Adams and James Vining. **Front Row:** Margaret Brandt Dailey.

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Zion United Brethren Church

ZION UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

In the years preceding the conference years of 1890-1891, Pleasant Grove was a part of a five appointment circuit known as Pleasant Grove circuit. These were Centenary (later Fairview); Pleasant Grove; Union; Smith Chapel and Bethel. This Pleasant Grove church was located on State road #33 about 3 miles southeast of Willshire, Ohio. When Indiana court decision went in favor of the Liberals, Union and Smith's Chapel were dropped, leaving the two appointments of Centenary and Pleasant Grove. Centenary class divided for convenience and had two preaching places, Manley School house and the Center at the township house. In January of 1891 an injunction suit was filed, and Pleasant Grove's doors were locked. A group immediately prepared the old schoolhouse at Winkler Corners and organized a Sunday School class with John L. Hileman as class leader, G. H. Stetler, Sunday School Superintendent; F. Hill; J. M. Bilderback; Geo. Hurless; J. D. Spitler and G. H. Stetler as trustees. In this house in 1892 the Rev. W. H. Conner held a protracted meeting resulting in 28 converts and 35 accessions, making a total for the year of 34 converts and 44 accessions. Expelled, dropped, and withdrawn, 3, leaving an increase of new members of 41. Of the old members, 2 were dropped; 1 removed by letter and 1 died, leaving a membership of 53 at Pleasant Grove and 82 at Centenary. At this time it was voted by conference to build 2 new church houses and Zion was built on their land at Winkler Corners and was Dedicated on October 15, 1892 by Bishop H. T. Barnaby. The 1st conference was held there on Saturday, Jan. 14, 1893.

A baptismal service was held jointly with Fairview society, July 10, 1892, near the Feasel bridge of the St. Marys river at which time 25 were baptized. Zion and Fairview remained as a circuit until 1946 when it was voted for Fairview to disband, and Zion was put on a circuit with Willshire.

In the year 1949 the church house was in need of being redecorated, so the ceiling was lowered and covered with insulating tiles; the walls were paneled and light fixtures were installed which had been used by the Union Chapel church on Celina Circuit. In 1954 an addition 32 by 20 feet was built for class rooms and a recessed pulpit.

Under the leadership of Rev. Paul Parker during 1968, more footage was bought and a new sanctuary 54 by 34 feet was constructed which included a 10 by 15 foot foyer. Rev. Parker gave uncounted hours

Zion United Brethren Church

of labor, particularly to the inside finishing work. The men and women of the congregation gave many, many hours of their time and with liberal monetary contributions it was necessary to borrow only $6000.00 of the total cost of $25,800.00. This included work done in the former sanctuary which was converted to a fellowship hall. And this loan was paid in full and a note burning service was held on Sunday, April 1, 1973.

The first service in the new building was on Easter Sunday April 6, 1969. Isaac Hileman, Walter Winkler, Wm. Gamble, Paul Plikerd and Clarence Hamrick were trustees at this time.

In 1976 Zion church purchased the old farm house which is on Wabash road south of the church property and remodeled it into the present church parsonage.

MINISTERS OF ZION CHURCH

Zion has given several ministers to preach the gospel. Albert M. Johnson was granted his quarterly conference license on July 26, 1902, and was recommended to the annual conference the following year. He served the church as pastor; conference superintendent (presiding Elder) and Bishop for a total of more than 50 years.

In 1927 Omar Dellinger was granted quarterly conference license and became a member of the annual conference the following year. He has served for many years in a California conference.

Lee Winkler received quarterly conference license in 1929 and annual conference in 1930. He served for several years as a pastor in the Auglaize conference.

The name of Lawrence Dellinger first appears on the roll of the quarterly conference ministers at the quarterly conference of February 20, 1932 and at the 4th quarterly of that year, his license was renewed for another year. Local records give 1941 the year he was ordained. In addition to serving his conference as pastor and conference superintendent, he also served the General church as General treasurer and as general church extension secretary.

Rev. Paul Fetters was granted quarterly conference license on Feb. 10, 1951 and at the fourth quarterly conference of 1952 he was recommended to the Auglaize conference and was ordained in 1959.

John Goodwin received his quarterly conference license during the year of 1959-60 and his annual conference license in 1961. He graduated from Huntington College (Indiana) and Seminary and was ordained in 1965.

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BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP FAMILY HISTORIES

Bollenbacher Drainage Inc., Speicher Trencher

BOLLENBACHER DRAINAGE INC.

Bollenbacher Drainage Inc. was started as a family partnership on January 2, 1960, when Victor Bollenbacher and his four sons, Jerome, Lloyd, Donald, and Clifford purchased a used 302-786 Buckeye Trencher from the state of West Virginia.

James Nichols, a retired drainage contractor from Mendon was one of the first employees and he, along with Forest Lewis from Rockford, was a great help in getting the business started.

Farm drainage has been the primary work performed, and working with The Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Mercer and Van Wert counties, many systematic drainage projects have been installed on farms in the area during the past nineteen years.

The business was incorporated on December 22, 1975.

On January 2, 1977, Victor transferred his interest to the children.

Present ownership now includes: Jerome and Ruth Bollenbacher, Lloyd and Ruby Bollenbacher, Donald and Florence Eileen Bollenbacher, Clifford and Laurabel Bollenbacher, and Vernon and Martha Jane (Bollenbacher) Luginbill.

Speicher Trencher

LLOYD L. BOLLENBACHER

Born July 7, 1927, the second of five children of Victor and Martha (Fahncke) Bollenbacher. He attended school in Rockford and spent a year in Korea in the late forties in the 1097 Engineers.

On October 26, 1947, he married Ruby Pond, daughter of Denver and Mary (Baucher) Pond.

Ruby was born August 21, 1928, and also graduated from Rockford High School.

They are the parents of twin daughters born November 13, 1948.

Linda married Jeffrey Maffett and lives in Eaton, Ohio with their two children Erica and Benjamin.

Sharon married Mark Frost and lives in Columbiana, Ohio with their two children Alison and Amanda.

Lloyd has worked for the Dayton Power and Light Company for thirty years.

Ruby has worked for the Rockford National Bank and now the First National Bank of Mercer County for the last twelve years.

During their marriage they have lived in Rockford then Blackcreek Township and now in Coldwater.

Contact: Lloyd Bollenbacher

VICTOR T. BOLLENBACHER

Victor was born February 15, 1904 in Liberty Township. He is the fifth child of Anton and Catherine (Zeilinger) Bollenbacher. On October 15, 1924, he married Martha L. Fahncke and they became the parents of five children. Mrs. Bollenbacher was born January 27, 1905 in Liberty Township, the seventh child of John and Louise (Gertz) Fahncke.

Mr. Bollenbacher has been a farmer all his life. The first years of their marriage were spent with his parents on the home farm. The next two years were spent near New Corydon, then nine years near Mercer, until they purchased their first farm in section 15 Blackcreek Township in 1937. Later another parcel of land was purchased and a new home built in 1953.

Jerome the first of their children was born May 5, 1925. He married Ruth Hassan on January 18, 1947, and they have four children. Kathy (David Taylor), Lois Jean (Gerald Cox), Cinda, and Peggy.

Lloyd was born July 7, 1927 and married Ruby Pond on October 26, 1947. They are the parents of twin daughters, Linda (Jeffrey Maffett), and Sharon (Mark Frost).

Donald, born April 17, 1929, married Florence Eileen Luth on June 18, 1950. They have four children, Charlene (David Stephenson), Joyce (Douglas Laukhuff), Dianne, and David.

Clifford was born February 26, 1932 and married Laurabel Felver October 12, 1952. They are the par-

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ents of four children, Mark, Steve, Teresa, and Nancy.

Martha Jane was born on October 23, 1933 and on December 12, 1954 married Vernon Luginbill. They are the parents of two children Susan (Randy Ryer) and Neil.

Both Jerome and Donald are farmers and live in Blackcreek Township.

Lloyd lives in Coldwater and has worked for the Dayton Power and Light Company for thirty years.

Clifford is a United Church of Christ minister and lives in Marion, Ohio.

Martha Jane is a registered nurse and lives in Decatur, Indiana.

Victor and Martha have always been active in their church and community. Victor served as Liberty Township clerk and several terms as a trustee of Blackcreek Township.

In 1959, the family purchased a ditching machine and have been doing custom farm drainage since that time.

Mr. Bollenbacher has been retired for several years, but remains active and interested in both the farming and ditching enterprises.

The lineage of the Victor Bollenbacher family in America began in 1852 when, after a twenty-six day voyage, George Sr. and his wife Henrietta arrived in Liberty Township. George was born July 21, 1801 in Bedesbach, Rheinpfalz and married Henrietta Alt in 1828. In the fall of 1852 they purchased one hundred thirty-two acres of land in Liberty Township. George was the first born of Nicholas and Margaret who lived and died in Germany.

George and Henrietta were the parents of eight children. On April 8, 1863 their fifth child, Adam married Christina Koch. They became the parents of thirteen children and their fifth child Anton married Catherine Zeilinger on April 27, 1893.

Victor was the sixth child of seven born to Anton and Catherine. *Contact: Lloyd Bollenbacher*

Michael Branstetter and his wife, Leahline Josephine (Carmack) Branstetter

BRUNSTETTER BRANSTETTER

Andrew Brunstetter was born February 12, 1812 in Bavaria, Germany. His wife Annie Elizabeth was born April 26, 1810 in Heimenstorf, Germany. Andrew and Annie were married in 1844 in Butler County, Ohio. On May 23, 1855 Andrew Brunstetter became an American citizen in Mercer County, Ohio. At that time the last name was spelled Branstetter. There are six known children from this marriage — Elizabeth, George, Michael, Powell, Barbara Christine and Anna Maria. On July 15, 1867 Annie Elizabeth Brunstetter died at the family home in Liberty Township of Dropsy and was buried in Duckcreek Cemetery. By the time Andrew died on October 21, 1884 the name had been permanently changed from Brunstetter to Branstetter. Andrew is buried beside his wife in Duckcreek Cemetery.

Their daughter Elizabeth was born March 11 1846. She was married twice — first to a Reichard then to a Johnston. Their son George was born April 4, 1848. Barbara Christine known as Tina was born July 17, 1855. She was also married to a Reichard. Nothing more is known by the family about these three children.

Anna Maria was born April 24, 1858. She died September 7, 1876, a few days before she was to be married, of tuberculosis. Anna Maria is buried near her parents in Duckcreek Cemetery. Powell known as Paul was born March 24, 1852. On June 2, 1900 at the Blacksmith's in Willshire after a horse kicked him in the stomach, he died from the accident. Powell (Paul) had never married.

Son Michael who was born January 21, 1850 and died September 5, 1935 married Leahline Josephine Carmack in 1877. Leahline was born April 29, 1857 and died May 16, 1940. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Rockford. They were the parents of five children — Nora Estelle, Charles Andrew, Huldah Jane, Mary Ellen and Bertha Leota.

Nora Estelle married Charles White. They had ten children — Homer, Elmer, Oval, Floyd, Hershall, Martha, Harold, Donald, James and a stillborn son. Oval died at the age of six a few days before she was to start school in 1908. Her death was due to a ruptured appendix. Oval is buried at Duckcreek.

Charles Andrew married Nellie McGough. They had fourteen children — Argyle, Thelma, Hazel, Richard, Creva, Deloris, Wilma, Erma, Freida, Garni, William, Betty and the twins, Lester and Chester. The twins were born September 19, 1926 and little Chester died on December 26, 1926. Erma, and Chester along with their parents are buried at Swamp College Cemetery.

Huldah Jane married Earl Case. They had ten children — Cleo, Glendola, Voyd (Jack), Daimon, Madonna, Joyce, Herman, Helen, Luther and Leah. In 1929 at the age of nine as the children walked home from the Duckcreek School a car hit and killed Herman. Herman is buried in the Tricker Cemetery in Southern Adams County near his Case grandparents.

Mary Ellen was born September 21, 1884. She died January 4, 1889. Mary Ellen had been ill since birth with epilepsy and died from complications of the disease. Mary Ellen is buried in Duckcreek beside her grandparents, Annie and Andrew Brunstetter.

Bertha Leota was born twelve days after Mary Ellen's death. She married Harry Henry Baucher. They had two children — Morris and Melville. *Contact: Rebecca Baucher*

DEWEY CARR

Lillian Mae Martz, born August 11, 1898 in Blackcreek twp., the daughter of Luther and Iona Spry Martz. She attended Robinson rural school. When she went in to Rockford High School she would drive a horse and buggy to town, take her own food along and stayed with a Mrs. Karns all week. At the birth of her baby sister she returned home to do the

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housework. In 1918 she married Dewey Carr, born 1898, the son of Sam and Jessie Smalley Carr. They began married life by farming for a short time before he began doing construction work. During W.W. II while he was away, she went to work at the Decatur G.E. and that lasted for five and a half years. In 1947 they bought a ditching machine and they both ran it until his retirement.

In 1965 they lived through the tornado that took all their buildings and everything that they owned. He heard the noise of the wind above the T.V., and stepped out on the porch to look, calling her to come see too. She said it looked like a huge sewer pipe coming, and they just barely made it down their basement steps and into the coalbin when it was 'passed' and they looked up to see stars and a big tree laying kati-cornered across and down in the basement.

Mr. Carr died January 11, 1970 after being in the Bluffton Clinic for 29 days and Mrs. Carr still lives on Winkler Rd. They were the parents of, Miriam born May 21, 1919, d. December 9, 1921 of Diphtheria; Chester born in October of 1920, married Phyllis Shingledecker and has two daughters, Peggy m. Robert Birdsong and both work for Delta Airlines in Ga., and Nancy who lives in Van Wert and has two daughters Tracy and Christie Temple; Calvin born in December of 1923, married Ruth Bollenbacher and has three sons, Douglas who is married and has Jennifer Ann; Steve and Brad. *Submitted by Lillian Carr*

Wm. E. Counterman, Hazel, Vernon, Molly Cross Counterman, and Cloral.

VERNON COUNTERMAN

David Counterman had come from Penna. across Ohio and had a patent to section 31 of Blackcreek twp. in 1838. His son David Wilson had also lived there until he was killed by a run-away team very early in life. In 1898 his son Wm. Edward bought another farm in section 34 that joined a farm of his Mother's, where he lived until moving to Mill St. in Celina in 1916 where he was Partners in a car dealership with Virge Dixon and Burt Baumgartner.

Wm. E. married Mary 'Molly' Cross and became the parents of Pearly Hazel who married Gus Leininger; Vernon D.; and Cloral who married Val Bauer. Molly died in 1910 and he later married Katie Olive Miller who had been a teacher in Adams County, Indiana and they had a daughter Martha Lucille who is married to Clifford Eichenauer.

Vernon D. was born in a log cabin in Blackcreek twp., attended Grove school and moved to Celina with his Father where he enjoyed Fishing and checking out his Father's cars. In May of 1918 he entered the Army at Chillicothe, went to camp in Ga. and also Miss. and Va. Then it took 13 days to sail to France where he worked in a base hospital that had been Napoleon's old prison Camp. In July of 1919 he married Laura Ann Wolfe and next year they will celebrate sixty years of married life. They began farming on his father's farm and he still helps out his sons and grandson. Laura was the daughter of Geo. Wesley and Leota Morrow Wolfe, born 17 March of 1897 and had attended Robinson rural school and Rockford High School. Their children are 7 in number: LeRoy of Richburg, South Carolina; Edwin D.; Marie m. Ralph Schnarre; Glen of Celina; Mary m. Melvin Hull; Ray of Celina; Billy Gene of Mendon. Mr. and Mrs. Counterman have 14 grandchildren. *Pam Counterman Stapleton, Rockford, Ohio 45882*

EDWIN COUNTERMAN

Edwin D. Counterman was born August 18, 1922 in section 34 of Blackcreek twp., the son of Vernon and Laura Wolfe Counterman. He attended Grove rural and Rockford High School. In December of 1944 he began basic training at Camp Walters, in Texas. He was with the 56th Inf. Batt. in the Philippine Islands and with the 7th base Post-office in Tokyo, Japan.

In April of 1948 he began farming on his own, after his marriage to Naomi Lucille Smith who was a daughter of Raymond and Ocie Wurster Smith, born April 15, 1927 in Mercer County. She had attended several rural county schools and graduated in 1945 from Neptune High School. They presently live in section 28, on Wabash Rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Counterman have become the parents of 2 children: Duane Edwin who graduated from Parkway High School in 1968 and from Ohio State U. in 1972 and is presently farming with his Father. Pamela Kay graduated from Parkway in 1969, and Ohio State Beauty Academy in 1970 and is presently employed at Lois' Beauty Shop in St. Marys. In 1971 she was married to John Henry Stapleton and has 2 children, Lisa Kay and Aaron John Stapleton. *Pam Counterman Stapleton*

RUBY BRINDLE DUDGEON

Ruby Brindle was born in the country home of her parents near the village of Rowsburg, Ashland County, Ohio, on February 11, 1903. Her father, Simon P. Brindle, was born and raised on a farm near Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Her mother was Louisa Ellen Vian, daughter of Jeremiah Vian, an early Mercer County settler who was a farmer, teacher, and preacher during his lifetime.

As a young man Simon (Ruby's father) accepted employment with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and was stationed on different reservations to teach the Indians "modern" farming methods. Once, when

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visiting a brother near Ashland, Ohio, Simon accepted employment at the Ashland County Infirmary where he met Ruby's mother.

Louisa Ellen (Vian) Brindle was born in Mercer County, Ohio to Jeremiah and Clarissa (Grub) Vian. As a young lady she "worked out" in other people's homes as a housekeeper and maid. She ultimately found herself working at the Ashland County Infirmary where she met and married Simon P. Brindle on August 28, 1897.

Simon and Louisa Brindle moved to Mercer County when their daughter was about three years old to occupy and improve the Vian homestead in Blackcreek Township. This homestead had been purchased from the United States of America on October 10, 1840, by William Vian, Ruby's great grandfather.

The Brindle family found the homestead to be in a very run-down condition, and were deeply in debt after buying out the other heirs. With long days of arduous labor Simon and Louisa were able to prosper and live comfortably. Louisa, Ruby's mother, died June 3, 1921, while Simon lived until February 27, 1941. Ruby and O. G. Dudgeon were united in marriage on January 28, 1922.

The efforts of her parents to salvage and develop the Vian homestead apparently made a lasting impression on Ruby, for she developed a penchant for preserving relics of her parents' and grandparents' day. Ultimately this led to her salvaging a log cabin from another farm her father owned in Hopewell Township. This cabin was dismantled, each log numbered, and re-assembled in a grove of trees west of Ruby's country home which she has named Belle Meade Acres.

Later Ruby moved a second cabin to her property from a neighboring farm. This cabin was originally built in 1852, by George Dellinger, in whose family it remained until 1928. Ruby appropriately named it the "Dellinger Cabin".

Both cabins are filled with all kinds of relics and antiques of early Mercer County history. Ruby has always been delighted to show off her cabins and their contents to anyone who cared to visit. She is particularly pleased to have school children and 4-H members see her museum.

Because of a broken hip Ruby is now unable to care properly for her cabins and contents; she has arranged for Glenn and Lucile Goodwin to take care of her museum and keep it open for visitors. *Gerald V. Sell*

ROMA FICKERT

Roma (Red to everyone) Fickert was born in Liberty twp., the son of Ott and Frieda Schaadt Fickert. His father was born in Germany and was aged ca 2 years when his parents came over to America. Roma learned to speak German from the Grandmother who was in his home. He attended Landfair school before being in W.W. II where he received training in Texas and North Carolina before going overseas for 3 years. He married Helen Case and moved to Blackcreek twp. after his return, where he worked at the Chatt Elevator until its closing. He presently has a hog set-up where he keeps sows and sells the pigs to feeders. Helen had attended Duckcreek rural school and Willshire high school. She was the daughter of Earl and Huldah Jane Branstetter Case. Mr. Case had worked most of his life in the oil fields around Chatt. as a gauger. In later years he had helped his sons farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Case lived on Rockford-West Rd. in Blackcreek twp. where they became the parents of ten children: Cleo of Cincinnati; Glendola m. Glen White; Jack deceased; Madonna m. Ivan Douglas, d. 1969; Joyce of Van Wert; Damon deceased; Helen; Luther, Rockford-West Rd.; and Leahline w/o Harold Schumm.

Mr. and Mrs. Fickert have one son Richard who married Virginia Hoffman and they have two sons Ron and Todd Fickert.

James and Lucy Custer Fisher in 1943

THE FISHER FAMILY

Jacob and Catherine Fisher came from Germany to England, then to the United States in about 1800. They settled in Pennsylvania and some, if not all, of their children were born there. Thence to Holmes County, Ohio, where our ancestor John was born in 1821.

John S. Fisher married Judith Christman (1821-1858) in 1840 in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. They had eight children. The exact date of the start of their migration across Ohio is unknown, but their second son, Jacob, was born in Logan County in 1844. The fifth child, Daniel, whom we are concerned with here, was born in Van Wert County in 1851.

Judith Fisher died in 1858, and John married Catherine Billman the same year. This second marriage produced thirteen children. John and Catherine Fisher moved to Mercer County in 1861 or 1862. Then in 1878 they moved to Adams County, Indiana, where they died and are buried.

John sold the old home farm in Hopewell Township to his son Jacob. After Jacob's death, his son "Mac" took it over. After his passing, Earl Fisher, son of "Mac", kept the old homestead, and lives there today. Thus, this farm has been in the family over a hundred years.

Daniel Fisher (1851-1930) married Emma F. Wiley (1855-1943) in 1873. She was a daughter of Allen and Rachel Deal Wiley. They spent most of their lives on farms in Mercer County, retiring to Rockford in 1917 or 1918. They had three children, Allen (1874-1926), James (1880-1956), and Fanny (1891).

Allen married Lucy Rogers and had two children, Ernest (1900-1957) and Fannie (Cunningham 1902-) presently living in Florida.

James married Lucy Custer (1881-1960) on November 4, 1903, and they moved to Daniel Fisher's

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ırm (purchased in 1902) on Purdy Road in Black-
eek Township. Three children were born there —
alph (1904-), Alta (1906-), and Carl (1913-). In 1924,
ımes bought and moved to a farm on 707 (Black-
eek Twp.). Daughter Alta owns it today.

Ralph married Mildred Sielschott in 1929; and
wo years later moved on the Purdy Road farm; they
ved there until retiring to Rockford in 1978. Their
nly child, Marvin was born in 1934. He married
ınna Lee Riesen in 1956. They reside in Fort
Vayne, Indiana, with their two daughters, Deborah
1958-) and Susan (1965-).

Alta married Floyd Buck in 1924 and lives with
aughter Marilyn, her husband Tom Helmer, and
aughters Elizabeth and Camille.

Carl married Ruth E. Weisman in 1940, and soon
ıoved to their present home on Wilson Road. Son
Gary was born in 1944 and married Jane Schumm in
975. They are the parents of Abigail Jo (1976-). Sec-
nd son, Don, was born in 1947, and married Jac-
ueline Breese in 1974. Their son, Brian Andrew was
orn in 1976.

Ralph and Carl Fisher farmed with their father
ıntil he retired in 1950. Gary joined the partnership
ı 1965, which continues today. *Contact: Ralph D. Fisher*

JAMES T. FLEMING

James T. Fleming, a farmer, was born Oct. 22,
845 in Green Township, Clinton Co., Ohio, to John
leming, mother's name unknown at this time. He
narried Mary C. Cheffey, who was born Aug. 22,
845, they were married at Steunbenville, Ohio on
eb. 10, 1874. To this marriage were born eight chil-
lren: Ewing Cromwell, Mary Ethel, David Russell,
ames Albert, Cary Smith, Estus Corwin, Raymond
Milton, and Lydia Emmily.

When they came north they first lived on the Van
Wert-Mercer Co. line west of s.r. 118 about 2 miles,
hey later moved N-West of Rockford on U.S. 33
ıbout 2½ miles.

Ewing Fleming, first child of James and Mary
Cheffey) Fleming married Elizabeth Brook, they
ıad no children.

Mary E. Fleming, second child of James and Mary
Cheffey) Fleming married Chancey Gephart, they
ıad one son Robert, he married Victoria Sprunger,
hey had eight children: Norma Jean, Mary Carolyn,
Sharon, Karen, Francis, Robert, Richard, and Randy
Gephart. Norma Jean, first child of Robert and Vic-
toria (Sprunger) Gephart married Roger Hawkins,
they had two children: Jennifer, and DeLane Haw-
kins. Mary Carolyn, second child of Robert and Vic-
toria (Sprunger) Gephart is deceased. Sharon, third
child of Robert and Victoria (Sprunger) Gephart
married Carl Gangwer, they had one son, Micheal
Gangwer. Karen, fourth child of Robert and Victoria
(Sprunger) Gephart married David Miller, they had
one son Steven. They divorced. Later married Rob-
ert Ward. They had five children: Robert Jr., Kim-
berly, Ronnie, Betty, and Danny Ward. Francis, fifth
child of Robert and Victoria (Sprunger) Gephart
married Rollie Miller, they had three children: Julie,
Jill and John Miller. Robert, sixth child of Robert
and Victoria (Sprunger) Gephart married Sherry
Hey. They have five children: Billy, Amy, Timothy,
Ronald and Donald (twins). Richard, seventh child
of Robert and Victoria (Sprunger) Gephart married
Shirley Spitler. They had three children: Betsy, Ste-
fanie, and Scott Gephart. Randy, eighth child of
Robert and Victoria (Sprunger) Gephart is not mar-
ried.

David R., third child of James and Mary (Cheffey)
Fleming married Dora Schlater, they had no chil-
dren.

James A., fourth child of James and Mary (Chef-
fey) Fleming is deceased.

Cary S., fifth child of James and Mary (Cheffey)
Fleming married Zula Schlater, they had four chil-
dren: Russell, Opal, Francis, and Mary Evelyn Flem-
ing. Russell, first child of Gary and Zula (Schlater)
Fleming married Voyla Rickard, they had four chil-
dren: Opal Louise, Mary Catherine, Harold Eugene,
and Helen Joan Fleming. Opal, first child of Russell
and Voyla (Rickard) Fleming married Urban Post,
they had five children: Daniel, Paul, James, Mike,
and Bonnie Post. Daniel, first child of Urban and
Opal (Fleming) Post is deceased. James, third child
of Urban and Opal (Fleming) Post married Becky
Crouch.

Mary Catherine, second child of Russell and
Voyla (Rickard) Fleming married Carlos Marsee,
they had one daughter, Nancy. Mary Catherine is
deceased. Nancy married Harold Brock, they had
two children David and Jenie Ann Brock. Harold,
third child of Russell and Voyla (Rickard) Fleming,
married Catherine Armstrong, they had four chil-
dren Bruce, Mathew, Andrew, (twins) and Jerry Gale
Fleming. Helen J., fourth child of Russell and Voyla
(Rickard) Fleming married James McDonough, they
had two children: Cathy Sue and Larry McDonough.

Opal, second child of Cary and Zula (Schlater)
Fleming married Alva Brown, they had one daugh-
ter: Doris. Doris married Roy Line, they had two
sons: Dennis, and Doyle Line.

Francis, third child of Cary and Zula (Schlater)
Fleming married Mildred Smith, they had three chil-
dren: Yvonne, Albert, and David. Yvonne, first child
of Francis and Mildred (Smith) Fleming married
Paul Germann, they had three children: Tim, Tom,
and Mark. Tim, first child of Paul and Yvonne
(Fleming) Germann married Connie Obringer, they
had two children: Joseph, and Stacy Germann. Tom,
second child of Paul and Yvonne (Fleming) Ger-
mann married Kathy Roth, they had two children:
Kimberly, and KerrieAnn Marie Germann. Mark,
third child of Paul and Yvonne (Fleming) Germann
is not married. Albert, second child of Francis and
Mildred (Smith) Fleming married Anita Hughes,
they had three children: Richard, Robert, and Debra
Fleming. David, third child of Francis and Mildred
(Smith) Fleming married Judith Hughes, they had
three children: Sherri, Susan, and Sandi Fleming.

Mary Evelyn, fourth child of Cary and Zula
(Schlater) Fleming, married Clarence Hertensteine,
they had no children.

Estus C., sixth child of James and Mary (Cheffey)
Fleming married Flossie (Mottinger), they had two
sons: Ivan and Leo Fleming. Ivan, first child of Estus
and Flossie (Mottinger) Fleming, married Lorraine
Frahm, they had four children: Rosalie, Sharon, Dale
and Janet Fleming. Rosalie, first child of Ivan and
Lorraine (Frahm) Fleming, married Larry Hughes,
they had three children: Donald, Kimberly, and
Craig Hughes. Sharon, second child of Ivan and Lor-

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raine (Frahm) Fleming, married James Myers, they had two children: Monica and Stephen. Dale, third child of Ivan and Lorraine (Frahm) Fleming, married Natalie Zeigler, they had two children: Lisa, and Micheal. Janet, fourth child of Ivan and Lorraine (Frahm) Fleming, married Rex Emans, they had one daughter: Jill Emans. Leo, second child of Estus and Flossie (Mottinger) Fleming, married Geraldine Zizelman, they had one son: Ronald. Ronald, married Nancy Rhoades, they had two children: Jay and Vickie Fleming. Flossie (Mottinger) Fleming passed away. Estus later married Grace L. Mottinger, they had one son: Norman. Norman, married Elizabeth Croy, they had two children: Donald, and Laura Fleming.

Raymond M., seventh child of James and Mary (Cheffey) Fleming, married Goldie Schlater, they had three children: Carl, Lola, and Elnora Fleming. Carl, first child of Raymond and Goldie (Schlater) Fleming, married Nellie Wiseman, they had one son: James. James, married Rosie Langenkamp, they have no children. Lola, scond child of Raymond and Goldie (Schlater) Fleming, married Lester Bollenbacher, they had two children: Marjorie and Walter. Marjorie, first child of Lester and Lola (Fleming) Bollenbacher, married Donald Heckman, they have one son: Christopher. Walter, second child of Lester and Lola (Fleming) Bollenbacher, is unmarried. Elnora, third child of Raymond and Goldie (Schlater) Fleming, married Harold Paysen, they had four children: Kenneth, Carol, Roger, and Richard Paysen. Kenneth, first child of Harold and Elnora (Fleming) Paysen, married Wilma Schumacher, they had two children: Eric and Kevin Paysen. Carol, second child of Harold and Elnora (Fleming) Paysen, married Jack Elder, they had two children: Mark and Christopher Elder. Roger, third child of Harold and Elnora (Fleming). Paysen, married Kathleen Stone, they had three children: Chad, Rayan, and Travis Paysen. Richard, fourth child of Harold and Elnora (Fleming) Paysen, married Deborah Cornet, they had two children: Coleena and Benjamin Paysen.

Lydia, eighth child of James and Mary (Cheffey) Fleming, married Lewis Agler, they had five children: Pauline, Vonola, Robert, Dale, and Raymond Agler. Pauline, first child of Lewis and Lydia (Fleming) Agler, married Charles Points Sr., they had three children: Charles Jr., Richard, and Colvin Points. Charles Jr., first child of Charles and Pauline (Agler) Points, married Sarah Toadvine, they had four children: Kenneth, Paula, Philip, and Connie Points. Kenneth, first child of Charles Jr. and Sarah (Toadvine) Points, married Judy Cox, they had two children: Charles and Christopher. Kenneth divorced. Later married Carolyn Donavon, they had one son: Kenneth Corwin. Richard, second child of Charles Sr. and Pauline (Agler) Points, married Lois Sheppard, no children, divorced. Later married Carol Jean McCarthy, they are divorced. And unmarried. Colvin, third child of Charles Sr. and Pauline (Agler) Points, married Geraldine Meyers, they had two children: Stephen and Michelle Points. Geraldine (Meyers) Points, passed away. Not married.

Vonola, second child of Lewis and Lydia (Fleming) Agler, married Darwin Henkle, they had three children: Ronald, Marlene, and Gary Henkle. Ronald, first child of Darwin and Vonola (Agler) Henkle, married Jacquilene Poling, they had two children: Anthony and Matthew Henkle. Marlene, secor child of Darwin and Vonola (Agler) Henkle, marri Jerry Humphery, they had two children: Gaye ar Shelly Humphery. Gary, third child of Darwin ar Vonola (Agler) Henkle, married Sandra Adams, th had three children: Terri, Micheal, and Jeffery He kle.

Robert C., third child of Lewis and Lydia (Fler ing) Agler, was killed in action during W.W. II, c Aug. 6, 1943.

Arland Dale, fourth child of Lewis and Lyd (Fleming) Agler, married Margaret Nash, they ha three children: Margaret Ann, Carol Ruth, and Rol ert G. Margaret, first child of Dale and Margar (Nash) Agler, married Ronnie Lautzenheiser an they had two children: Tina and Terri Lautzenheise Carol, second child of Dale and Margaret (Nasl Agler, married Gary Kimmel, they had two childre Adam and Jennifer Kimmel. Robert, third child c Dale and Margaret (Nash) Agler, married Cynthi Knistle, they have no children.

Raymond M., fifth child of Lewis and Lydi (Fleming) Agler, passed away as a child in Januar 1926. *Mrs. Ivan Fleming, Rockford, Ohio 45882*

Ralph Gause; Beatrice Huston; Thelma Gehron; Eulah Shank Chester Gause; Anna Gehron; Lloyd Gause; Gale Gause.

GALE GAUSE

Gale Gause was born in section 28 of Blackcreek twp. and has always lived close there. He received his schooling in the Grove country school and went to work at the beanery in Decatur, Indiana, taking time out to travel with the Army during World War II. After returning home, he again worked for Central Soya for a few years and then worked for the Elevator at Chattanooga until it was sold out. He had worked for Martz Cabinets in Celina, and was retired from Huffy Mgr. Co. in 1977. For a number of years he has been a member of the Rabbit Club at Van Wert, Ohio and raised fancy rabbits and chickens for show. Since retirement he helps his son dress poultry.

Gale was born in February of 1912, the son of James Estle and Rosettie Slusser Gause, Mrs. Gause also being born on that farm. At the time of their

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narriage, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Slusser, noved to Celina and so Mr. Gause bought their arm. Mr. and Mrs. Gause became the parents of 12 hildren: Beatrice m. G. E. Huston; Ralph of Ft. Wayne; Thelma m. Rev. Lewis Gehron; Lewis d. ae 7 yrs.; Anna m. Dan Gehron; Mary Pauline d. ae 9; Lloyd; Esther and Honore' d. inf.; Chester m. Maxne Shellenbarg and Eulah m. Manford Shank, Jr.

On July 25, 1948 Gale was married to Lucille Shank a daughter of Manford and Alpha Unland Shank of Putnam County, Ohio. Due to the early leath of her father Lucille received most of her chooling while in Otterbein Home in Lebanon, Ohio and graduated from Central High School of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Gause are both members of Chatt Grange with Gale being one of the first nembers and they attend the Chatt U.M. Church ince the closing of East Bethel. Lucille was one of Huffy's employees when that company first moved nto Celina. They are the parents of Phyllis Ann, a graduate of Parkway High school and who had intruction in pastry decorating at Ft. Wayne and is ow employed at Charles Pastry Shop in Celina; and ester Lee who attends Parkway high school.

ront Row: Lloyd and Florence Gause. **Back Row:** David Gause, Vickie (Gause) Bollenbacher, Marjorie (Gause) Weikel.

LLOYD GAUSE

Lloyd V. Gause of section 28, Blackcreek twp., was born and raised on his farm as was his Mother before him. He attended Grove grade school and graduated from Rockford High school in 1935. The son of James E. and Rosettie Slusser Gause, he was born December 29, 1917 and has been a dairy farmer all his life. His father, a well-known teamster whose treating of horses earned him the nickname "Doc", was born in Adams county just across the Indiana state line but was raised around section 6 of Blackcreek twp., the son of Martin and Nancy Roop Gause. Mrs. Gause, the daughter of Jacob and Nancy Lewis Roop, who were pioneer settlers of near Willshire. Martin Gause was the first child born to David and Sarah Daley Gause after they had migrated across Ohio from Penna. with his folks. Evan and Margaret Counterman Gause left Columbiana county with her family, stopping for a time in Wayne county where her parents, Christian and Counterman died. Later the families were in Richland county, and came as a group of some six families to Mercer county in 1836. Evan had a patent to land in section 30, while David moved to corner of twp. and had deeds to section 6 and for the next forty years they deeded land back and forth among the family. Evan and wife died in Mercer county ca 1844 and 1841 but David and Martin each in turn had retired to Willshire and both died there. David in 1885 and Martin in 1891.

In 1856 Jacob Slusser came to Blackcreek twp. from Ansonia in Dark County, Ohio and in 1864 was deeded the land in section 28. At his death, in 1870 a share of it was deeded to his grandson Elias Slusser, as the share of his father, Peter, who had died in Ansonia. At one time there was 10 acres of orchard around the cabin and 3 pear and a sweet apple tree are still in use. There has been 3 houses here, each built closer to the road, the last being built in 1893. Elias and his wife Mary Ann Irelan, a daughter of Dayton and Mahala Shook Irelan also Blackcreek twp. residents, raised a family of nine children here before moving to Celina on Walnut Street in 1901. They are both buried in East Bethel cemetery. Their children were Catherine 1869-1939 who married Wm. H. Gause and they are both buried in Willshire cemetery; Susan 1871-1901, the first wife of J. E. Gause, buried at Bethel; Willis 1872-1958, married Susie Lawson, both are buried in Licking County, Ohio; Solomon 1875-1890; Anna Rosettie 1879-1943, second wife of J. E. Gause and both are buried at Bethel; Mina 1881-1903, married Sam L. Sims and both buried in Willshire; Mary Belle 1883-1971; Emma Jane 1885-1977, married Rev. Spencer, then to John Durr and is buried in Bethel; and Myrtle May born 1894, died 1971 the wife of Rev. J. Irvin Moore, buried in Bethel.

Lloyd Gause and Florence Shively were married in 1944 and became the parents of David Lloyd; Vickie Lynn and Marjorie Rose. Mrs. Gause is the daughter of Harley E. and Minnie Myers Shively, was born June 21, 1921 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Her parents returned to Jay County, Indiana in time for her to start school there at Rogers country school. Later they moved to Adams county where she graduated from Geneva High school in 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Gause are members of the Chattanooga U.M. church and both are seventh degree members of Chattanooga Grange and Mercer County Pomona Grange. *Florence Gause, 10990 Grauberger Rd., Rockford, Ohio 45882*

Glenn and Jennie Goodwin

GLEN AND JENNIE GOODWIN

The only living children of John and Jane Goodwin in 1978 are Glenn and Jennie Goodwin. The Goodwins have 100 living descendants. The roots of this family were worked on by a grandson, Rev. John Goodwin of Columbus, Ohio.

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Glenn Goodwin retired from the Borden Company of Van Wert, Ohio in 1970's. He had married Lucille and they have the following children: Rev. John of Columbus, Ohio; Phyllis Hopkins of Celina, Ohio; Mary Haddad of Sturgis, Mich.; Janet James of Decatur, Ind.; Martha Inniger of Noblesville, Ind.; and Gary of Ft. Wayne, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin also have 15 grandchildren. At the present time they are living at Belle Meade Acres where they are custodians of the museum that was begun by Ruby Dudgeon. *Mrs. Lucille Goodwin*

Seated: Jasper Hart. **Standing:** Henry Hart, son of Jasper and Carl E., son of Henry. The baby is Bob Hart, son of Carl E. (Photo taken about 1916.)

HENRY CLAY HART

Mr. Henry Clay Hart was born in Berea, Madison County, Kentucky on May 9, 1862 the son of Jasper N. and Sarah A. (Parks) Hart. After living in various places in Indiana with his parents and two sisters, they settled in Douglas County, Ill. where they were engaged in farming. Mr. Henry C. Hart married Myrtle Bowles of Cloverland, Clay County, Indiana, a daughter of Adam and Mary (Kirk) Bowles in Nov. 1883. To this union were born 8 children. Mr. Hart left Illinois in 1911 to come to Blackcreek Township, Mercer County with 7 of his children. One of his sons, Carl E., married Iva Kettenring, daughter of John and Catherine (Lieninger) Kettenring Oct. 27, 1914. The Kettenrings were also farmers. The new Mr. and Mrs. Hart also were farmers until in 1939 poor health made it impossible for Carl E. to continue farming. They moved to Celina with their two sons. Carl R. married Eileen Wilson in 1940 and enlisted in the Air Force in 1941. There were no children of this marriage. After this marriage ended in divorce, he married Mari Sakata, a native of Tokyo, Japan and they had two daughters, Lise and Lianne. Mr. Carl R. Hart died in February of 1972. He was in the Air Force for many years and also worked for NASA in Houston where his widow and daughters still live. *Refer to: James K. Hart*

GLENN AND HELEN (MARTZ) HASIS FAMILY

Helen Janice Martz, daughter of Heber A. and Hattie (Morrison) Martz, was born on August 29, 1922. She attended the Robison grade school, and graduated from Rockford High School in 1941. She worked for the Mercer County Clerk of Courts for six years and for the Rockford High School for two years. She married Glenn Hasis on August 25, 194 They lived in Neptune for six years and then mov to the Angus Miller farm in 1960. Glenn Hasis w self-employed for twenty years as manager of s veral milk routes for the Kroger Company, and lat worked for Mercer Landmark, Inc. at Celina, Ohi They have two sons: Gary, born October 17, 195 and Terry, born September 2, 1954.

Gary and Terry graduated from Parkway Hig School, Rockford, Ohio. Gary Hasis graduated fro the United Electronics Institute in Louisville, Ker tucky, and now works at Cincinnati Milicron Cor pany. He married Trudy Ware on September 1 1975. They were divorced a year later. There wer no children.

Terry Hasis graduated from Parkway High Scho as Valedictorian of his class. He was a member c the Parkway Honor Society for three years. H earned a high scholarship and attended Vanderbi University, Nashville, Tennessee. He is a member c the honor fraternity Tau Beta Pi, and is a member c Kappa Alpha. He graduated from Vanderbilt Uni versity as a Chemical Engineer on May 12, 1976. H presently holds the title of Production Engineer a Monsanto Chemical Company, St. Louis, Missouri.

THE HASIS FAMILY

George and Hazel Dell (Weaver) Hasis were mar ried on December 17, 1912. They owned 80 acres o land (Section 17) in Center Twp. on the Celina Mendon Road. They had two sons: Edwin Frederick born June 19, 1916, and Glenn Eugene born Novem ber 17, 1923.

Edwin Hasis married Ruth Irene Kruger April 12 1937. Edwin and Ruth have one son. Ted Lee Hasi was born July 30, 1937. Ted graduated from St Marys High School. He earned a scholarship to Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio and after gradua tion became a teacher.

Ted Hasis married Sandra Lee Kahl on June 20 1959. They have three daughters: Teresa Lee born May 12, 1960; Kristine Lee born March 27, 1962 and Michelle Lee born July 18, 1964. They live in St. Marys, Ohio. Glen Hasis, Rockford, Ohio 45882

ALBERT HASSAN

Albert Hassan was born in Jay County, Indiana Sept. 22, 1893, the great grandson of Amos Dixon who was born in 1813, settled in Washington twp., married Artmay Crabtree. Their oldest son John married Harriet Miller. Their daughter Harriet C. was born near Macedon, July 7, 1869 and died Nov. 14, 1949, married George R. Hassan Sept. 29, 1892. He was the son of Adonjah and Margaret (Baumgardner) Hassan, born in Hancock County, Ohio, came to Jay Co., Ind. when he was 18. Was teaching school in Wabash, Ohio when the tornado passed through and destroyed the school, he later settled in Mercer county east of Macedon and died Sept. 18, 1930. To this union was born five children: Albert; Donald; Pauline; Fern and Betty.

Albert was married to Golda Grier on Dec. 5, 1917, the only child of John W. Grier and Margaret J. (Redmond) Grier. John W. was born July 6, 1870, died Jan. 2, 1947, the son of Nathan Grier born in

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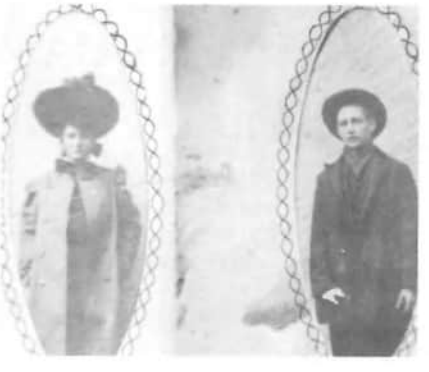
:24 in Ireland, died Oct. 1894. Came with his 'others and sisters to the U.S. while a young man, as married to Anna Ransbottom, daughter of John ansbottom Sr. She was born in 1850 and died in)21. They settled in Washington twp. on a farm on hich on the northeast corner stood the Bethel chool. Across the road, now 219, stood the Bethel hurch on the farm of John Ransbottom Sr.

Margaret J. Redmond Grier was born Jan. 18, 371, died July 1950, and born to Samuel and Esther .ustin Redmond, who came to Washington twp. nd settled east of Macedon, from the state of Pa.

Albert and Golda had three children: Paul born ane 26, 1920; Russell Oct. 15, 1922-Oct. 18, 1922; .uth Bollenbacher, born March 3, 1925. Albert oined the service in June of 1918, spent three nonths at Chillecothe and was sent to Southern rance. He was on the front at the time the Armitice was signed, and was discharged in March 1919. Ie and his wife Golda spent over 50 years on a farm our miles west and ¾ north of Coldwater, until 974 when they sold it and moved to Blackcreek wp. where they now live.

They both are charter members of the Macedon hurch and have been active through the years in he church and with the Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureau council. They have been members of the Grange for over 60 years, joined first at the Grange ocated in Erastus, which was closed down during World War I and later became the Unity Grange ow located in the old Washington twp. high school uilding on St. Anthony Road south of Wabash.

Many sad events occurred in the family history in he past 80 years. In 1894 Nathan Grier and his son William were killed in a barn fire caused by the hreshing machine running in the barn. Then in Sept. 1944, Albert's brother Donald was killed by ightning while in the field on a tractor. Albert's nother was killed by a car while on her way to church on the evening of Sept. 29, 1949. And Golda's cousin Eldon McAfee was drowned in the sinking of a ship near the coast of Ireland in 1918 during World War I. *Contact: Albert Hassan, Rockford, Ohio 45882*



Mrs. Nick Winkler; William Hole.

WM. HOLE

William Monroe Hole, son of Charley Hole (1848-____) and Sarah Reel (1866-) was born November 21, 1885. He married Iona Prudence Roebuck (b. Oct. 29, 1881) in Muncie, Indiana in 1906. They had 3 children, Inez Marie b. Jan. 17, 1908; Kester Franklin b. June 25, 1909; and Verna Minerva b. Jan. 25, 1912. They moved to the John McCristy farm on Lombard Rd. southeast of Rockford about 1914. John was an Uncle of Iona, and had never married. The children attended the Stringtown school, now S.R. 707, until they moved to Mendon in 1926. They lived on a farm north of Mendon on the Celina-Mendon Rd. for a couple of years, then moved to the Dysert Farm on Wilson Rd. After a few years they moved to Dayton, Ohio where Wm. Hole did carpenter work with his brother-in-law, Harvey Shock, who was a bricklayer. There wasn't much work then so he bought forty acres in Daleville, Indiana. Iona Hole died Dec. 7, 1938 in the Bluffton Clinic. He married Bessie Wallace in 1944 in Anderson, Ind. He had worked at Ball Brothers in Muncie, as a carpenter for 73 years. They still live on Jackson St. in Muncie.

Inez Hole graduated from Rockford High School in 1925 and then she lived in Lima, Ohio where she worked at a cigar factory. Later she moved to Muncie and lived with her aunt and uncle, Clarence and Edna Hole while she attended Ball State Univ. where she graduated and received her teacher's certificate. She married Kenneth Allison Wollet April 8, 1928 in Rockford. They lived with his parents, D. J. Wollet, one mile west of Rockford, where they became the parents of three children: Martha Lee (Schaadt) b. Nov. 9, 1932; Marianna (Sutton) Feb. 9, 1939 and Verna Allison (Winkler) Sept. 16, 1945. Inez died Feb. 16, 1976.

Kester Hole moved to Rosemead, Calif. in 1947 and had worked at Ball Brothers for 35 years. He served in W.W. II and was a cook Sgt. on the Aleutian Islands for three years. He died July 20, 1975 in Calif.

Verna Hole married Charles George in 1934. They moved to Monte Bello from Muncie in 1947. They both had worked at Ball Bros. They divorced in 1948, and she married Buel Vernon Howard in 1949. They moved to Baldwin Park and lived there 20 years. They divorced in 1973 and she moved to Celina, Ohio in 1976. *Verna Winkler, Willshire, Ohio 45898*

James, Paul, Ermon, Larry, **standing**, Chalmer Huston, Beatrice, Eugene, **seated.**

CHALMER HUSTON

Geo. Elmer Huston, born 1890 in Blackcreek twp. of Mercer county, the son of Thomas and Mary Secreist Huston. He attended Wildcat school and was a farmer until he began working as a section hand for

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the New York Central railroad out of Celina. He married Beatrice Gause and they became the parents of Vera Louise who d. in 1958; James of St. Marys; Paul of Ft. Wayne; Ermon of Mendon; Chalmer; Eugene of Celina and Larry also of Celina. Mr. Huston died February 2, 1964 and is buried in East Bethel cemetery.

Beatrice Huston was born in section 28 of Blackcreek twp. in 1903, and is the daughter of James E. and Rosettie Slusser Gause. She attended Grove school and at different times has worked as a cook and also as a practical nurse, being especially good with babies and young children.

Chalmer D. Huston was born in Blackcreek twp. in 1931. He attended Rockford school and was in the Medics with the Army in the Korean Conflict in the 1950's, and has worked at International Harvester in Fort Wayne since his return. In 1956 he was married to Roselyn Kay Charleston. They lived in Blackcreek and Liberty twps. before building a new house at the west edge of Willshire in 1962. In 1976 they bought the "County Line Stables" of Mr. and Mrs. Stan McNutt and presently has at stud "Tax Exempt" and is working Brandi Babe; My Lost Time and Doris' Dream, along with the boarding stables.

Mrs. Huston was born in Jay County, Indiana in 1939, the daughter of Thurman and Doris Miller Charleston. She attended Jefferson twp. school in Adams county, Indiana and Willshire High school and has been employed at Huffy Mfg. since 1958. Mr. and Mrs. Huston became the parents of Greg, a graduate of Parkway and who works in Decatur; Cheryl (Huston) Courtney, who works at Huffy Mfg.; and Lisa, a student in Parkway high school; and they have one granddaughter, Brandi Jo Courtney. *Chalmer Huston, Willshire, Ohio 45898*

Back Row: John Henry; Julia Catharine (Colchin); Joseph George; Magdalena Lucinda (Wenning); Otto Peter; Barbara Cecelia (Jones); Henry Anthony. **Front Row:** Katherine Elizabeth; Charles August; Mother Cecelia; George Leo; Agnes Louisa (Eichler).

JOSEPH GEORGE KUHN

Joseph George Kuhn was born September 13, 1864 on a farm in Auglaize County, Ohio where his parents had settled. Later, his parents moved to Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio, about seven miles west of Rockford. He was the eldest son of George Joseph Kuhn and Cecelia (Weirick) Kuhn.

Eleven children were born to George J. and Cecelia Kuhn: John Henry who lived near Payne; Joseph George who married Magdelina Roehm (parents of Hila Kuhn Wise, Clarence, Raymond and Le Kuhn); Anna Barbara (died in infancy); Barbara wh married John Herbert Jones (foster daughter Mr Walter (Frances) Rawley); George Leo (daughte Mabel); Agnes Louisa who married Christopher E chler (one son, John); Otto Peter (son, Russell Charles August who married Myrtle Leistner (pa ents of Leroy, Herman, Carl, Mary Ellen, Naom Helen, Bernice, and Ruth); Katherine Elizabeth Henry Anthony; and Magdalena Loucinda who mar ried Dan Wenning (daughter, Agnes and son John).

George Joseph Kuhn was born April 4, 1883 in Bavaria. Cecelia Weirick was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, October 8, 1844 and moved to Ohio at age nine. She became the second wife of George Joseph Kuhn who previously was married to Julia Zink of Wapakoneta, Ohio. Three children were born to the first marriage of George J. and Julia — Mary Catherine, John Henry and Julia Catherine. Julia Zink Kuhn died sometime after the birth of the third child.

Joseph George married Magdelina Elizabeth Roehm of Van Wert County, Ohio, daughter of Andrew Roehm and wife, nee Rettig. The family farm was located one mile north of Chattanooga, Ohio at the Wildcat School corner. The Ohio Oil Company had quite a large crude oil development in the area. There were no producing wells on the Kuhn farm. The children all attended the Wildcat School.

Mr. Kuhn was active in community affairs. Also during those early years of 1900 many people helped on the roads to pay their share of the road taxes. Mr. Kuhn served as road supervisor for many years in the area. He also helped in bringing the Farmers Institute to Chattanooga, Ohio.

In February, 1918, Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn moved to Celina, Ohio on what is now the corner of Main and Summit Streets. Mrs. Kuhn died November 16, 1934 and Mr. Kuhn died December 12, 1935. They are interred at North Grove Cemetery, Celina, Ohio. *Contact: Carole Kuhn, Celina, Ohio 45822*

LeRoy Kuhn family

LEROY KUHN

LeRoy Kuhn was born in Blackcreek twp. on Sept. 1, 1900, the son of Charles and Myrtle (Leistner)

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uhn. He attended Duckcreek and then Center ru-l schools and can remember attending some ci-ıering and debate contests that were held in Chat-nooga. As a young man he drove one of the teams ıat hauled the stone and screenings to pike Grau-ɛrger road. Since they couldn't make the screen-ıgs fast enough in Willshire, some were shipped in a railroad. Once as those cars were being re-ɔupled, the bump was extra loud and it frightened ıe teams that were in line to load at the time and ıey immediately ran, with the lead team ending up ıtraddle the gas pump (the first one) in the main reet of Willshire.

Mr. Kuhn married Opal Jackson, the daughter of ufus and Dora (Winans) Jackson, who was born ıd raised in Paulding County, Ohio. They went to ɔusekeeping near his folks and where their chil-ren Margaret (Highley) and Maxiene (Vorhees) arted to school at Duckcreek. In ca 1933 they ıoved to Hopewell twp. for several years and where enneth and Donald went to Copps and Siebert ru-ıl schools and later they, with Charles, went into elina school. In 1954 they bought a farm in Black-'eek twp. and moved back. Charles drove back to elina to graduate. Judy (Lautzenheiser) and Rita ɔwygart) graduated from Willshire High school, ita being in their last class in 1961. Tom graduated 'om Parkway.

Their present farm is located on the east side off ɛrauberger road and he can remember that at the me it was piked, his home was the second one of 5 long his lane and it was a (mud) road through from ɛrauberger to Purdy road. Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn are ɛtired but still live on their farm with all the chil-ren married and gone on their own. They have 51 randchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. *LeRoy uhn, Rockford, Ohio 45882*

ROBERT GERALD LINN

Robert Gerald Linn was born May 27, 1937, the oungest child of Otto and Norah (Stover) Linn. He raduated from Rockford High School and has been mployed at International Harvester Company in ort Wayne, Indiana, for 23 years except 6 months /hen he was in National Guard training camp. His ıther died in 1960 and his mother lives in Rockford.

In 1965 he was married to Beatrice Baucher, the aughter of Arlie and Laveda (Now) Baucher. She ttended Lincoln school, a one-room country school, rades 1 through 4, and then went to Celina schools /here she graduated in 1952. She was employed at Celina Municipal Utilities for about 14 years.

They are the parents of Edwin Alan, born March 4, 1966, Karla Sue, born July 29, 1967, and Kristi Lay, born May 20, 1969. All three children are stu-ents at Parkway Schools and all are active in 4-H Clubs.

The family lives at 11261 Erastus Durbin Road, Blackcreek Township, on the 70 acre farm where Robert was born. They purchased the farm from his ıother in 1965. It has been in his mother's family ince the 1860's when it was bought from the U.S. Government. Besides this farm they also own and ırm another 57 acres.

They attend the Grace Methodist Church in Rock-ord, and are also active members of Hopewell Grange in Celina. *Robert Linn, Rockford, Ohio 45882*

GEORGE PETER MARTZ

George Peter Martz was born near the capitol of the Grand Ducht of Hesse, Darmstadt, Germany in 1803. He was educated there and prepared for self-support by learning the shoemakers trade, and there he married Mrs. Elizabeth (Goetz) Martz, who had one child, Margaret, by a previous marriage to John Martz. Elizabeth (Goetz) Martz was born in Darms-tadt, Germany in 1801.

George Peter Martz, a shoemaker, was married in his native land, and in 1833 with his wife and three sons, and step-daughter, came to America, landing in Baltimore, Maryland. After passing ten months in that state, Mr. Martz brought his family to Ohio and leased a tract of land near Upper Sandusky, on which he erected a log cabin and for one summer engaged in farming and then started back for Mary-land, but on his way found occasion to stop in Wayne County, Ohio. There he remained fourteen years (until 1848) working at his trade and farming a tract of leased land. While there he purchased an eighty-acre tract of timber land in Liberty Township, Mercer County, on which it was his intention to set-tle; but on his way hither stopped in Hardin County, where he spent five years, and then in the fall of 1852, came to Mercer County and took possession of his wild property. To Mr. and Mrs. Martz were born eight children, viz Anthony, b. 1830, a farmer and hunter, who died January 7, 1887 in Liberty Town-ship; Caleb, who was a farmer and resided in Rock-ford, Ohio; Phillip (twin to Caleb), who resided in Salem, Indiana; Eli, resided in Dublin Township; Nancy, who died in early childhood; Elisha, who re-sided in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio; Lucinda, the wife of Abraham Orr, died in Missouri; and Catharine, d. inf. (Margaret Martz married John Deuer and resided in Jay County, Indi-ana).

Rocellus Martz and wife Ida owned a farm north of Bellbrook, Ohio and a house in Bellbrook. After the death of Mrs. Ida Martz, Rocellus sold the house in Bellbrook and bought a house in the vicinity of Martz Avenue in the north-east part of Dayton.

Sherman Martz lived on a farm near Troy, Ohio. He had children.

Eli Martz was born near Frederickstown, Mary-land on January 21, 1834. He was reared to pioneer life, and did much in clearing up Dublin Township, Mercer County, Ohio. At twenty years of age he be-gan taking contracts for clearing, chopping, etc., and in five years saved sufficient money to buy himself an eighty-acre farm in Section No. 31 Dublin Town-ship, all in timber. On January 4, 1859 he married Miss Jane Elizabeth Rutledge.

To this marriage were born eight children, viz, Granville, who died at the age of five years; Ida, who died when 3 years of age; Cordelia, who died when 18 months old; Mary, wife of John Carney of Spring-dale, Montana; Emma, who was married to Allen Coil; Cora, wife of Joseph Purdy, of Blackcreek Township; Luther, who died at five years of age; and Anna, resident of Montana. Of these Mary and Anna were school teachers. In 1879, Mr. Martz mar-ried Mrs. Mary (Rutledge) Koepple, a sister of his first wife.

Elisha Martz was a prominent and successful farmer in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County,

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Ohio. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, March 24, 1839, and was educated in Wayne, Hardin, and Mercer Counties. At the age of seventeen he left home to make his own living and after that time was self supporting. On November 28, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Seventy-first Ohio volunteer infantry, and re-enlisted in February 1864 at Carthage, Tennessee, serving until January 6, 1866, when he was honorably discharged at San Antonio, Texas.

On January 19, 1869 he was married to Rebecca A. Wolph (daughter of Sebastian and Elizabeth (Ward) Wolph). To them the following children were born; Sebastian, deceased at the age of six weeks; Vesta A. born February 10, 1872; Alice L. born January 30, 1875, died November 30, 1892; and Francis L. born in April, 1883.

After his marriage, Elisha Martz located in Dublin Township on an eighty-acre farm purchased in 1864, upon which he lived until 1874 when he moved to his father-in-law's farm in Blackcreek Township, where he lived until the fall of 1888. Then he purchased another farm, cleared and improved it, and erected good buildings upon it. *Ronald B. Martz*

Narcissus (Rutledge) Martz; Caleb Martz

CALEB AND NARCISSUS (RUTLEDGE) MARTZ

Caleb Martz (a twin of Phillip Martz) was born in Germany, February 8, 1831 and died July 13, 1900. Caleb Martz married Narcissus Rutledge. They had 12 children. As of 1933, four girls and three boys were living. They were: Mrs. Delilah Havener, St. Marys, Ohio; Mrs. Martha Hoffman, Celina, Ohio: Mrs. Minerva Bartling, Pontiac, Mich.; Mrs. Clara Thomas, Celina, Ohio; Rocellus Martz, Bellbrook, Ohio; Sherman Martz, Troy, Ohio; Luther Elisha Martz, Rockford/Akron, Ohio.

Caleb Martz owned several parcels of land in Mercer County. One parcel of land (160 acres) was on Burrville Road, Section 35. He bought the west half (80 acres) at a Sheriff's sale on June 28, 1855 and the east half (80 acres) on Decmeber 17, 1869. Another parcel of land (90 acres) was at the southwest corner of the intersection of State Route 118 and State Route 707 (Section 32). He bought this land from Daniel Fisher on January 29, 1898. He paid $5,400 for the 90 acres. Caleb and Narcissus Martz are buried in Liberty Cemetery, Mercer County.

(As of March, 1976, Ronald B. Martz, the compiler of this sketch, did not know many of the details of the children of Caleb Martz.) It is known that there were: J. S. Martz, unmarried, date of birth unknown and date of death unknown; William E. Martz born in 1856 and died in 1933. It could not be determined when Narcissus (Rutledge) Martz was born nor when she died but her death was prior to 1893. Documents show that by March 18, 1893 Caleb Martz was married to Deborah Martz.

Documents show that she was living in Celina Ohio as of October 15, 1917. *Ronald B. Martz*

The Luther E. Martz family at the Martz farm July 4, 19

LUTHER E. AND IONA B. (SPRY) MARTZ FAMILY

Luther Elisha Martz, son of Caleb and Narcissu (Rutledge) Martz, was born December 19, 1861. H received his education in the Public School of Black creek Township and at Otterbein University, Wes terville, Ohio. At Otterbein he studied to be a minis ter. Lack of money prevented him from graduating Later, he taught in the Public Schools of Merce County, always retaining his interest in farming an stock raising. He owned and raised prize horses, e.g he had two pure-bred Percheron stallions and on pure-bred Belgian stallion. The latter was shipped i from Belgium about 1907 at a cost of $3,000.

He was united in marriage to Iona Belle Spry o April 29, 1893. To this union were born 8 children Heber Ambrose Martz, Earl Spry Martz, Lillian Ma Martz, Ray Orville Martz, Wallace (NMI) Martz Donald Cicero Martz, Ronald Berdette Martz, an Lela Marie Martz.

Luther E. Martz purchased his father's (Cale Martz) farm on Burrville Road, Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio. He purchased the sout half (80 acres) in 1893 and the north half (80 acres in 1898. That is where he spent most of his life.

Luther E. Martz was a dedicated farmer. He valued education very highly and assured that his children had the opportunity to attend high school even though attending meant an ordeal of extrem hardship, such as walking, driving a horse an buggy, rooming, sharing rides, etc.

In November, 1928 Luther E. Martz, his wife Iona and daughter Lela Marie moved to Akron, Ohio t live with Wallace and Donald Martz at 1300 Diet Avenue. Ronald finished high school at Rockford Ohio, and moved to Akron in June 1929. Luther E. Martz died Nov. 9, 1933. Iona B. Martz died Aug. 25 1947.

Earl Spry Martz was born in Blackcreek Township on September 5, 1896. He married Lucy Steen, on April 13, 1914. They had three children; Donna Delores; Lilia Jean; and Paul F. Martz. Earl S. Martz divorced Lucy Steen about 1922. Earl S. Martz ran an electric power generating plant in Lafayette, Ohio, moved to Lima, Ohio and worked for the Lima Locomotive Company, and later moved to Dayton, Ohio where he operated an electrical shop.

Donna Delores Martz, born November 6, 1914, married Burris E. Willrath on November 30, 1935.

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hey had one daughter Elaine, born on October 7, 936. Elaine married Billy Boone September 8, 1957. hey had two sons, George R. born June 15, 1958, nd Paul R. born June 1, 1963. Burris E. Willrath ied March 14, 1936. Donna Delores (Martz) Willıth married John Fetters on October 12, 1940. They ad two sons; Larry Wayne born November 9, 1941, nd John Keith, born March 26, 1943. Larry married Iarjorie Poor. They had two daughters Tessie and ebbie. Keith married Lynn Hawk. They had no ıildren.

Lilia Jean Martz, born August 26, 1916, married ernard Kleimeier and lived in Dayton, Ohio. They ad three children; Benny, Jerry and Cynthia.

Paul F. Martz, born October 12, 1918, did not ıarry. He served in the U.S. Air Force in 1941 and ter joined the U.S. Army Infantry. He was killed in ction in the battle for Metz France (Battle of the uldge) on November 13, 1944. He was a S-Sgt.

Earl S. Martz married Anna Ailes about 1930. hey had one child Betty, born November 15, 1933. arl S. Martz died November 11, 1940 in Dayton,)hio.

Ray Orville Martz was born in Blackcreek Townhip, Mercer County on July 26, 1900. He graduated rom Rockford High School and later attended the Iiami Jacobs Business School in Dayton, Ohio. He ıarried Alma Eichenauer of Celina, Ohio on July 7, 1923. They had three children: a son who died hen about one year old; Pauline, born September , 1929; and Marlene born September 29, 1934.

Wallace Martz was born in Blackcreek Township n July 29, 1902. He attended the Brick, one-room, obison Grade School, and graduated from Rockord High School. He went to Akron, Ohio and orked for the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Comany. In 1928, he and his brother Donald bought the uther E. Martz farm and moved their parents to kron, Ohio. He encountered many bleak days tryng to survive the 1930 depression. He enlisted in the .S. Navy on October 19, 1942 and served two years nd two months with an honorable discharge. He vas stationed at Moffett Field, California.

On November 22, 1950 Dorothy Cessna and Walace Martz were married. Wallace Martz started to ork at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Akron,)hio in 1927. He retired on July 29, 1967. He had 40 ears of service with Goodyear.

Donald C. Martz was born in Blackcreek Townhip, Mercer County, Ohio on October 23, 1904. He ttended the Robison grade school, and graduated rom Rockford High School. Donald C. worked for he Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company for eleven ears and the Goodyear Aerospace Corporation for wenty-five years.

On May 19, 1956 Donald C. Martz and Lucille Ielen Twynham were married. They lived at 836 tadleman Avenue, Akron, Ohio. They had no chilren. Donald died Nov. 6, 1977.

Ronald Berdette Martz was born in Blackcreek ownship, Mercer County on March 16, 1911. He ttended Robison grade school, Rockford High chool. He completed the five-year Co-op engineerng course at the University of Akron in 1934 with a legree in Civil Engineering. His first job was with he General Tire and Rubber Company. On January 2, 1942 he went to Huntsville, Alabama to work for he U.S. Army's Chemical Warfare Service. In 1943 he joined the U.S. Navy as a Leiut. (J.G.). He served for nearly four years, with an honorable discharge and the rank of Lieut. (S.G.). He returned to U.S. Civil Service employment in 1946 at the Air Material Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

On August 6, 1949 Ronald B. Martz and Margaret Ann Naudascher were married. Margaret Ann Naudascher was the daughter of August and Grace (Potterf) Naudascher of Farmersville, Ohio and Dayton, Ohio. She was born November 28, 1924. They had one son — Ronald Edward Martz. They lived in Dayton, Ohio.

Mr. Martz was recognized for his work by being presented with several Honors, Awards, Commendations, and letters of Appreciation by the U.S. Air Force and the Society of Professional Engineers. He received the OSPE Citation Award, OSPE's highest award in 1973.

Ronald Edward Martz, son of Ronald B. and Margaret Ann Martz was born September 12, 1953 in Dayton, Ohio and graduated from Centerville High School, Centerville, Ohio. He was an Eagle Scout at age 13. He enrolled in the University of Cincinnati in 1971 in their 5-year Co-op engineering program and graduated June 1976 as a Chemical Engineer. He now works at the R. J. Reynold Industries, Winston-Salem, N.J. Ronald E. Martz is the only living male descendent of the sons of Luther E. Martz.

Lela Marie Martz was born in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio on January 9, 1915. She attended the Robison Grade School. She graduated from Garfield High School in Akron, Ohio in May, 1933. She worked for East Ohio Gas Company for seventeen years. She then went to work for the Ohio Edison Company and has 23 years of service with the latter company.

On October 14, 1950 she was married to William H. Garrett. Mr. Garrett died June 10, 1977. *Ronald B. Martz*

HEBER A. MARTZ AND HATTIE M. (MORRISON) MARTZ FAMILY

Heber A. Martz (son of Luther E. and Iona B. Martz) was born in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio on January 26, 1895. He attended the Robison grade school and graduated from Rockford High School in 1915. He married Hattie Morrison (daughter of Frank D. and Effie Morrison) on December 24, 1916. They had three children; a son who died in infancy; Carl Eugene Martz, and a daughter Helen Janice Martz.

Heber A. Martz was an extremely successful farmer. He was progressive, being one of the first farmers in the County to own a tractor. He used advanced farming methods and techniques. He promoted the Farm Bureau Organization by constantly getting new members and by encouraging farmers to use Farm Bureau products and services. He was President of the Farm Bureau Federation Board for 8 years. In 1950 he flew to Washington, D.C. as a delegate representing 4 counties. Heber and Hattie Martz started their farming career by renting a farm near Neptune. They moved to the Frank and Effie

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Morrison farm in 1918. They moved to the Luther E. Martz farm in 1935.

Heber purchased the Angus Miller farm (80 acres) on Burrville Road (Section 34, Town 4 South Range 1 East) on September 13, 1958, and the Virgil Fisher farm (40 acres) on the Burrville Road (Section 34, Town 4 South, Range 1) on February 14, 1961.

Heber retired in 1960. He died on July 11, 1969. Hattie Martz continued to live on the Martz farm until her death on December 24, 1975. They are buried in Riverside cemetery.

Carl Eugene Martz, son of Heber A. and Hattie Martz, was born on March 13, 1919. He graduated from Rockford High School. He attended the University of Akron for two years. He worked in Celina, Ohio at the Celina Optical Company. He never married. He died on February 2, 1945.

Helen Janice Martz, daughter of Heber A. and Hattie Martz, was born on August 29, 1922. She attended the Robison grade school and graduated from Rockford High School in 1941. She married Glenn Hasis on August 25, 1948. They have two children; Gary, born October 17, 1952, and Terry, born September 2, 1954. *Mrs. Glenn Hasis*

Jacob Miller Family — **First Row, Left to Right:** Carl Miller, Jacob Miller, John Miller; Christina Rueck Miller holding Clara Reef; Caroline Caffee. **Second Row:** Mary Miller; Peter Miller; Jacob Miller, Jr.; Christian Miller and Maggie Kallenberger.

CARL F. MILLER (1896-1973)

In 1871 Johann Mueller, the grandfather of Carl Miller, was in his sixties when he left his native land Bierbach, Kindgom of Bavaria, Germany to come to America. Coming with him was his wife Marie Kesler Mueller and their three children Katherine age 32, Jacob age 28 and Margaret. It was not known why but Johann returned to Germany within a short time. Marie, his wife, resided in Mercer County until her death on May 26, 1886.

Not too long after arriving in America, Jacob looked for land to purchase and on June 7, 1873 he purchased 80 acres in Blackcreek Township from Jesse Hartzog. It is described on the deed as follows: West half of North East Quarter (¼) of Section 30, Town-4 South, Range-1 East. Jacob died on June 15, 1918 and the farm was purchased by his son Carl on January 16, 1919. Carl died on November 25, 1973 then his son Herbert purchased it on June 11, 1974. This is a Century Farm as it has been in the Miller Family 105 years.

In 1877 Jacob married Margaret Strobel and after bearing him two sons, Peter and Christian, she departed this earthly life. In 1883 Jacob married Christina Rueck. Christina came with her parents Jakob and Regina Rueck and 11 brothers and sisters fror Gemany in 1880. They stayed in this area of Ohi for several years before going west to Oregor Christina was the only member of her family to re main in Ohio.

Christina and Jacob Mueller resided on the farr and became the parents of 7 children, Mary (1884 1905), Jacob (1886-1913), Katherine (1887-1895 John (1891-1964), Caroline 1893 living, Carl (189€ 1973) and Clara 1899 living. My dad (Carl) had tw half brothers Peter and Christian and a half siste Maggie Kallenberger.

The first house was a log house near the locatio of the present house which was built about 189€ The youngest child, Clara, was born in the nev house. The family name was spelled Mueller unti the time of World War I, after that it was spelle Miller.

In 1919 Carl married Gertrude Brewster daughte of Philip Brewster from Adams County, Indiana They became the parents of the following: Rutl Miller Werner, 12-5-1919, Harmony, Pa.; Helei Miller Linn, 12-11-1921, d. 6-11-1967, Lima, Ohic Emeline Miller Weitz, 3-9-1924, Mercer Co., Ohic Herbert Miller, 11-29-1925, Mercer Co., Ohio; Cath erine Miller Eichlar, 11-9-1927, Mercer Co., Ohic LaVerne Miller, 11-21-1929, Monroe, Indiana; Ken neth Miller, 5-30-1933, Hebron, Indiana; Anna Lor Miller Kosier, 4-10-1935, Mercer Co., Ohio.

Gas and oil were discovered on the farm in 190 and for many years oil wells protruded the field with pipelines and rods crossing wheat and corr fields. Farming was done with a team of horses dodging the oil wells and rods. A childhood pastime was sitting on the rods which were about eight or ten inches off the ground and ran from the well tc the pump house, and they would move back and forth, back and forth pumping the oil from the ground. Another childhood pastime was hunting for Indian beads along the ditch bank located in the South-east corner of the farm. Indian Arrow heads were found in the same area.

In those days store bought cookies and bread were a luxury. Most of the food came from the farm and the few staples bought were purchased from a "Huckster" which was a traveling grocery wagon. He not only sold but carried crates and containers to put the butter, eggs and chickens the housewife had to trade for the groceries she needed. I can remember one summer during the depression when the "Huckster" allowed my mother 5¢ a dozen for eggs. Things my mother used to take back in trade were coffee, sugar, salt, pepper and spices.

We walked a mile and half to school in the morning and a mile and half back home in the afternoon which eliminated the need for gym classes. Pupils from all 8 grades played together at recess time, usually baseball in Spring and Fall and Fox and geese in Winter when snow was on the ground. My first four years of schooling were in Wildcat School which was located on corner where Route 49 crosses 707. I remember the teachers Catherine McDougle, Clark Sipe, Dale Scholer, and Mable Morrison. The country schools were closed at the end of 1929-30 school year, we were then bussed to Willshire School in Willshire, Ohio.

My mother raised geese and each summer she would pluck their feathers. The feathers were put in

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huge feather tick and put on top of our straw tick ıattress. The straw ticks were emptied each sum-ıer and filled with clean new oats straw after the ıreshing was done, and we had very comfortable eds.

It's amazing in one lifetime the span has been 'om one room country school to calculators and ɔmputors, from horse and buggy to jet airplane, 'ood burning kitchen range to Microwave oven and :oal oil" lamps to electric lights. May first was a ɔecial day as then we could go barefoot for the ımmer. *Ruth Miller Werner, Harmony, Pa.*

Carl F. Miller Family — **First Row, Left to Right:** Anna Lou Kosier; Gertrude Brewster Miller; Carl F. Miller; Kenneth Miller. **Second Row:** Emeline Weitz; Catherine Eichler; Herbert Miller; Laverne Miller; Ruth Werner; Helen Linn.

HERBERT M. MILLER (1925-)

My father, Carl F. Miller (1896-1973) was born eb. 20, 1896 on the Miller farm in the first house 'hich was a log house. He spent his entire life here xcept for approximately 1 year. This was the first ear after he married Gertrude Brewster of Adams o., Indiana.

They had the following children: Ruth Werner, lelen Linn, dec., Emeline Weitz, Herbert M., Cath-rine Eichler, LaVerne, Kenneth and Anna Lou Ko-er. All spent their childhood on the farm and grad-ated from Willshire High School.

I can remember doing farm chores. Threshing and ay making were most dreaded. Manure was hauled 'om barn to fields on mud boat using a team of orses. Every horse and cow was named and we ach had certain cows to milk each day.

At one time we grew tomatoes for cannery and we vere paid 3¢ a hamper (¾ bushel) for picking them. Ve had to carry the hamper to the road where a vagon picked them up. The youngest children were iven rows closest to the road. We also grew sugar ıeets for Central Soya in Decatur, Ind. Shortly after his time Mexican labor was brought to the farm nd they picked the tomatoes and did sugar beet la-ıor. The current rate for picking tomatoes is 25¢ ıamper.

The year 1940 was a special year as electricity was ırought into area and electric lights replaced the coal oil" lamps.

I can remember oil wells pumping on the farm nd at one time there were 6 wells on the 80 acre arm. We had a large pump house which pumped all he wells plus one well on H. Caffee farm and an-ıther across road to Sipe farm. The rod went under oad thru a casing and this large casing was good for rabbit each time I went hunting. I can remember ny dad saying the underground river was discov-ered when oilmen drilled wells.

I volunteered for the draft in 1944 and spent Christmas of that year in Germany and Belgium in the Battle of the Bulge with the 84th Infantry Division. When we entered that battle we were told "No Retreat". We had to hold our ground. I was in Germany at end of war and spent a year with the Army of Occupation.

I met my wife, the former Florence Schumm, of near Willshire when going to the grain elevator where she was employed as the bookkeeper. She has been with this same firm for 31 years now.

My wedding in 1950 had to be postponed a week, as this was the year of the big blizzard and I could not make it to wedding but spent a night snowbound in 1947 Studebaker.

In 1957 we built our new home on corner of 49 and 707 where Wildcat School used to be.

We have a daughter Karen Sue, born Jan. 21, 1952 who graduated from Parkway High School, attended Bowling Green State Univ. and graduated from Indiana University School of Denistry. She is employed as a Dental Hygienist in St. Marys, O.

On Nov. 3, 1973 Karen married Joe Bennett who is employed by General Telephone Co. They are now living in their new home on Now Rd. which they built in 1976. *Herbert M. Miller*

Paul E. Miller Family, 1964

PAUL E. MILLER FAMILY

Paul E. Miller was born to Arthur and Elizabeth Miller of Hopewell twp., Mercer County, June 28, 1915. He went to Dehays grade school and graduated from Celina High School in 1933. On Sept. 16, 1939 he married Betty Kettenring. Betty was born in Blackcreek twp. to John and Dora Kettenring on June 3, 1921. She went to Grove grade school and graduated from Rockford High School in 1939.

The couple started dairy farming in 1940 on the Ed Bryson farm, known as the Leininger farm, in Blackcreek twp. In 1943 they entered the Registered Holstein cattle business and eventually bought the farm in 1947 from Ed Bryson who was an Attorney in Celina, Ohio.

The Millers' have made many changes to the farm since its acquisition. They started off modestly by building fences and implementing a conservation plan obtained from the county Soil and Water conservation district, which included tiling, crop improvement, rotation and grass waterways. In 1953 Paul and Betty accelerated the capital improvements to the farm making it one of the most modern in Mercer County. They built one of the first pole barns, with an elevated walk through milking parlor.

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Their willingness to expand and experiment resulted in the Millers receiving the "All Electric Farm" award from Dayton Power and Light in 1955. Paul received the conservation "Farmer of the Year" award in 1971. Paul was a 4H advisor for 11 years; a member of county, state and National Holstein Assn.; Supervisor of Mercer County soil and water conservation. Betty was a member of a Farm Women's club and assisted Paul in the 4H activities.

They have two sons and one daughter living. David, the oldest son, is a practicing Veterinarian in Mercer County. Mary, the oldest daughter is a Dental Hygienist in Worthing, Ohio. John the youngest son is part owner of Seiberling Associates, computer and based control systems of South Beloit, Illinois. In 1972 we lost our youngest daughter Joannie Miller, twin sister of John. In 1964 Timothy Paul died at age two days.

Paul and Betty are active members of Bethel Brethern Church of Berne, Indiana. They have been blessed with 5 grandchildren. Steven, Christy, and Misty Miller and John and Jay Gasper.

Consistent with their past, the Millers continue to expand their activities and interests. Their photography anocation has developed into a career paralleling dairy farming. They both attended the Adult Vantage Vocational school majoring in Photography, and Paul also attended Winona Lake school of Photography this year. Their Photography business has resulted in interesting assignments including aerial farm photography, cattle, high school graduates, weddings and helping the Mercer County Historical book get some of their pictures.

FRANK & EFFIE MORRISON FAMILY

Frank D. Morrison's great grandfather, David Morrison, was born July 6, 1814 in Wood County, Virginia. Malinda Sinclair was born August 12, 1814 in Harrison County, Virginia. They were married in 1832. They owned 500 acres of land in Virginia.

David and Malinda came to Blackcreek Twp., Mercer County, Ohio in 1858 with their six children, namely William M., Thomas J., Henry C., Mary A., Dolly A., and one other daughter. They settled on a farm on Stringtown Road (now S.R. 707) approximately 5 miles west of S.R. 118. David Morrison donated land for the building of the Bethel Church and accompanying cemetery. David and Malinda are buried in this cemetery.

David died February 11, 1898 and Malinda died February 5, 1891.

Henry C. Morrison, son of David Morrison and the father of Frank D. Morrison, was born in Wood County, Virginia on April 11, 1843. Henry came to Mercer County, Ohio with his parents when he was only 15 years of age. He served in the Civil war enlisting in 1862 in the 99th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was honorably discharged in 1865. He was wounded at Look Out Mountain, Tenn.

Henry C. Morrison married Laura A. Davis April 1, 1866. They had three sons, Frank D., Robert B., James P. and two daughters, Carrie (Bailey) and one died in infancy.

Henry C. Morrison died May 31, 1926 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Rockford.

Frank D. Morrison was born January 7, 1868 i Mercer County, Ohio. Frank was a farmer an owned 160 acres of land in Section 26 Blackcree Twp. He married Effie Latimer November 22, 189 Effie Latimer was born November 21, 1871.

Frank and Effie Morrison had four daughter Hattie M., Lottie L., Bessie H. and Mabel Emily.

Effie Morrison died August 1, 1945 and is burie at Bethel Church cemetery. Frank Morrison die December 17, 1964 and is buried at Riverside ceme tery.

Hattie M. Morrison was born May 5, 1896 i Blackcreek Twp., Mercer County, Ohio. She at tended Robison Grade School. Hattie married Hebe A. Martz on December 24, 1916. Heber and Hatti Martz had three children; a son who died in infancy Carl Eugene Martz, and a daughter Helen Janic Martz.

Lottie L. Morrison was born February 14, 1899, i Blackcreek Twp., Mercer County, Ohio. She at tended the one-room Robison School and graduate from Rockford High School. By working her way she attended and graduated from Miami University Oxford, Ohio, and became a teacher. She taugh school for several years in various one-room school in Mercer County. She married Dewey H. Gibbon on March 29, 1929. Dewey worked as a mechanic a the Johnson Garage, Chattanooga, Ohio. He late worked at the General Electric Company, Decatur Indiana. They lived in Chattanooga. He died Octo ber 13, 1960 and is buried at Riverside cemetery.

Dewey and Lottie Gibbons had one daughter Ann, born October 16, 1931. Ann married Gary Kes ler on November 14, 1964. They have one daughter Misti Malone born December 2, 1970. They live in Rockford.

Bessie H. Morrison was born November 3, 1903 Mercer County, Ohio. She attended the Robison School and graduated from Rockford High school She attended Miami University for her degree in Ed ucation and was a school teacher. After teaching fo several years, she attended Bowling Green Univer sity for two summers.

She married Domer Robbins in 1926. They had one daughter, Martha Jane Robbins, born April 11 1932.

In 1949, Bessie married George J. Kinder Jr George Kinder Jr. owned and operated the Rockford Printing Company located in Rockford, Ohio, and printed the Rockford Press, a weekly newspaper. He bought and operated The Bock Printing Company in Celina, Ohio. Bessie and George worked side by side in both of these businesses until his death August 4 1973. They had no children.

Martha Jane Robbins, daughter of Bessie and Domer Robbins married Fred Baltzell. They have five children, Larry, born October 28, 1950; Connie, born October 2, 1952; Laura, born May 29, 1956, Todd, born June 9, 1966 and Amy, born November 21, 1973.

Larry Baltzell married Sheila Wood. They have three children: Chris, born December 2, 1970; Scott, born March 30, 1976; and Thomas, born March 3, 1978.

Connie Baltzell married Dennis Hamrick. They have three children: Heidi, born June 25, 1972; Trent, born May 19, 1974; and Chad, born August 29, 1975.

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Laura Baltzell married Joe Whitaker May 31, 1975.

Mabel E. Morrison was born April 3, 1907, Mercer County, Ohio. She attended grade school in the one-room Robison school and graduated from Rockford High School. She went to Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio for her degree in Education. She taught school in the Rockford area for several years.

She married Carl L. Brandt April 26, 1936. They operated the Brandt Dry Cleaning Shop in Rockford, Ohio from May, 1932 and retired from the business in July, 1970. They have no children. *Sheila Boltzell, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

Nutt Home in Blackcreek Twp. in 1880. Grandmother's home. Grandfather Nutt built this house out of native walnut from the 80 acres he got from the government after he returned from the Civil War. My father was four years old when they moved in. March 1972.

JOHN HARPER NUTT

John Harper Nutt was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, August 17, 1839. He moved to Mercer County, Ohio with his parents, while a small boy.

John Harper Nutt, at age 22, enlisted in the Union Army on November 20, 1861 and was assigned to Infantry Company "H" — Ohio 71st Regiment. He was made a Corporal on April 1, 1863.

At the end of his second year in service, he came to Mercer County, where he married Miss Sharlotte Pifer. Miss Pifer was born in Pennsylvania in 1842. She came to Mercer County, at age 14, traveling in an ox cart with her parents and family.

John Harper Nutt reenlisted in November, 1864, for the duration of the war. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on March 1, 1865. He subsequently mustered out, with his company on November 30, 1865. After which, he returned to Mercer County, where he and his wife purchased an eighty acre farm, from the government, at a cost of $8.00 per acre. They built a small house on that farm, in which they lived with their growing family, for twenty years.

In the year 1885, they built the house (as shown) using native walnut timber taken from their farm. The house has nine rooms, beautifully designed, with interior walnut trim. Mr. Nutt lived in this house until his death, April 12, 1924, at the age of eighty-five years, Mrs. Nutt having preceded him in 1916, at the age of seventy-three years, five months and five days. In 1917, John Harper Nutt's son James Walter, who with his wife Dencie (Smalley) Nutt and family had been living with his father, after the death of his mother, decided to move the house from its original location, one half mile back a lane, to the main road, thus enabling the children to attend high school.

It was a tremendous task, however, it was accomplished without damage. The plastered walls did not crack and the clock on the mantle never stopped. The maple trees, adorning the front yard, were brought as saplings from the woods across the road and planted by James Walter, and his wife Dencie (Smalley) Nutt and their children.

This beautiful old house still stands on Purdy Road, southwest of Rockford, OHio. Although no longer in the Nutt family, it is occupied and being tenderly cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Samples, who really appreciate the history of the "HOME PLACE".

John Harper and Sharlotte (Pifer) Nutt had six children, born in Mercer County. Viola Forest (Nutt) West who had four children: Mildred (West) Grimm, Ilo (West) Bender, Zella West, and Orville West. Emma Della (Nutt) Petry who had two children: Stanley Petry, and Naomi (Petry) Longerbone. Thomas Franklin Nutt died at age seven. Mary Louella (Nutt) (Petry) (Werts) Merinar who had three children: Leona (Petry) (William) Stagg and Louise (Merinar) Harris. James Walter Nutt had six children: Florence Rebecca (Nutt) Turner, Oliver Eugene Nutt, Ruby Irene (Nutt) (Dixon) Brookhart, Wanda Mae (Nutt) Hubley, Esther Louise (Nutt) Bollenbacher, and Dorothy Alice (Nutt) Miller. Ida Mildred (Nutt) Lee had four children: Ruth (Lee) Newville, Paul Lee, Dorothy (Lee) Toirac and Arthur Lee. *Ruby Nutt Brookhart, Celina, Oh. 45822*

A PROPHECY OF AMERICAN SLAVERY

(See Note)

I. You tell me of a bright land far over the sea,
But Ah; can you call it the land of the free
Where the image of God for a handful of gold
Like a beast in the field in the market is sold.

II. Where the child from the mother's fond bosom is torn,
Where the father is chained leaving orphans forlorn
Where the maiden is bartered like a merchandise ware
Then doomed to the lash and the groan of despair.

III. Where was the fair land far over the main
For the canker of death dark slavery's stain
Shall gnaw to thy vitals while every sigh
From the victim's writhe mount for justice on high.

IV. And He, the Great Lord of the universe wide
Shall smite thee to earth in thy strength and thy pride
And vengence must fall for foul cruelties done
On the beings redeemed by His own Son.

V. The sound of the war drums shall thrill thee at night
As thy sons and thy brothers shall strike in the fight
The slave and the cotton shall stab thee with pain
And the North and the South be divided in twain.

VI. And brothers against brothers shall strike in the fight
And battles be fought in the dead of night
And the white maid and widow in sorrow shall mourn
And the flag of thy freedom is tattered and torn.

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VII. The North in her might like a whirlwind shall rise
And the notes of the cannon be borne to the skies
And though the warm blood of her heroes be shed
The light of her freedom shall never be dead.

VIII. The stars and the stripes an Excelsior shall be
Proud Liberty's banner from land and by sea
And the Union though spared by the slave holders scorn
Shall be guarded by North men for ages unborn.

(Author Unknown)

(Note . . . Origin of this poem . . .
In a letter from Corporal John H. Nutt, in the Union Army, Co., "H" — 71st Regiment Ohio, to his wife Sharlotte, post-dated Decherd, Tennessee, July 12, 1864 which reads as follows:

"Dear Companion: This piece of poetry was prophesied in Europe, 20 years ago, and I think every word of it is coming out to be true. I saw it in a paper and copied it out.

I am well and hearty as I just wrote to you a brief time ago, I will not write much this time. I just wanted to send this poetry to you."

Your affectionate Husband,
J. H. Nutt

LeROY AND BERTHA LEININGER PIFER

The ancestors of the late LeRoy C. Pifer first settled in America in the Pennsylvania Dutch country. John and his wife Rebecca Nutt Pifer then journeyed west and made their home in Blackcreek Township of Mercer County. Their home was on Erastus Durbin Road just north of State Route 707. They were blessed with ten children.

One of their sons, Tom, married Bertha Ginter and after her death, married Mary Dawson. Tom and his family made their home in a log cabin on State Route 707 across from the present home of Jerome Bollenbacher. From the second marriage there were two children, Raymond and Ruth. Four children were born to Tom and Bertha Pifer. The oldest was LeRoy, born in 1891, then Myrtle, Ralph and Dora. After the death of his mother, Leroy lived for a while in Michigan with an Uncle, Dan Pifer. He returned to the Mercer County area and graduated from Rockford High School in 1912. He attended Ohio Northern University at Ada and taught elementary school for a number of years in Blackcree Township. On August 21, 1917 he married Berth Caroline Leininger.

Born on April 14, 1895 in Blackcreek Townshi Bertha was in the fourth generation of Leiningers t settle in the Mercer County area. Her Grandfathe Jacob, in 1885 owned eighty acres of land in Libert Township. He was a general farmer, and also a stoc buyer and raiser. He raised fine stock, and his horse often won prizes at local fairs. He was a fine citizer serving many years as Township Trustee and as School board member. He was a Democrat an member of Evangelical Church. Jacob married Cath erine Kettenring on Ascension Day in May 185 They had ten children. The second child, born Jul 20, 1861 was Theobald. He married Catherine Kabl and together raised five children. Their only daugh ter was Bertha Caroline Leininger.

LeRoy and Bertha Pifer set up housekeeping i the log cabin which belonged to Leroy's father. I 1918, they bought the eighty acre farm on Strabl Road north-east of Chattanooga on which Berth was born, from Bertha's parents. It was known t many area farmers as the Pifer Seed Farm. Leroy' interest in the development of farming procedure and the uses of certified seeds helped to establis the County Seed Improvement Association. Thi group cooperated with the County Extension agen in various test plots. LeRoy tested plots of oats, soy beans and corn. This lead to the production of cer tified seed which was sold throughout the area Leroy believed in the use of hybrid corn and used i in his own farming practices. He set record yields a indicated in the following letter. (See Attachmen A.)

The Pifer Seed Farm was indeed a family operation. Bertha Pifer enjoyed relating to her grandchildren tales from her farming experiences. Everything from how she rode horses and drove the detasseling machine for others to the elaborate meals she helped to prepare for the hired hands. And from picking tomatoes all day long to her first experiences with a tractor.

LeRoy and Bertha were the parents of eight children. One daughter Donna Ruth, died at the age of seven. Beatrice, born in 1918, Ruby born in 1919 and Gerald born in 1934 still live on the family farm. They enjoy both vegetable and flower gardening. Beatrice is an active leader in the Chatt Chums 4-H Club and teaches a Sunday School Class at the Methodist Church in Chattanooga. Ruby's hobby is embroidery and has made several beautiful tablecloths and quilts. Glenda, born in 1920 is a Home Economist and Housing Specialist with the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington D.C. Marjorie, born in 1922 is the Department Manager in the Executive Offices of the Lazarus Division of Federated Stores in Columbus, Ohio. Twyla, born in 1926 was a contributing editor on the staff of The Farm Journal. She married Agustus B. Dudley, M.D. Both of their children, James Lawrence (born 1962) and Elizabeth Pifer Dudley (born 1964) were born in Columbus, Georgia where the Dudleys live. Verna Glee, born in 1930 married Albert Eugene Behm on December 30, 1950. The son of Albert and Marie Stephenson Behm, Eugene was born in Celina, Ohio in 1923 and raised in the Celina area. Verna is a Deputy Clerk of Courts for Mercer County. Eugene

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s a farmer and mechanic, they both enjoy camping ınd fishing and are active in their community of Chattanooga and their church, First Church of God n Celina. They are the parents of three children. Donna Jean, born in 1952, was married to Carl Eugene Pond on June 10, 1972. They reside on Schaadt Road, Rockford Ohio with their two sons, Douglas Wayne (born 1973) and Kenneth Eugene (born 1976). Donna is employed by the CTS Company in Berne, Indiana in the Research and Development Laboratory. Carl is employed by Riley Chevrolet Company Incorporated in Rockford, Ohio. Their second daughter, Debra Kay (born 1954) was married to James Lee Gibson on September 14, 1974. They live with their daughter, Sarah Gene (born 1976) on South Main Street in Rockford, Ohio. Debra is employed by the Mercer County Commissioners as Secretary for the Mercer County Emergency Ambulance Service and Jim is a Food Technologist for Sharp Canning Company at the Ohio City, Ohio tomato plant. The youngest daughter, Dana Marene (born 1956) lives in Celina, Ohio and is employed by the Empire Restaurants Incorporated working in their Commissary.

We belive we are fortunate that our ancestors chose Mercer County to settle in. Our family has enjoyed the achievements of the County and the benefits it has to offer its residents. *Debra Gibson*

REEF

Clara E. Miller Reef's husband, W. J. Reef died June 6th, 1964. His father, Oliver Reef and Mother, Margaret Whitney Reef lived near Bryant, Ind. One brother and two sisters are still living, Harley Reef of Toledo, Ohio, Mrs. Frank (May) Copic also living in Toledo, Mrs. Curney (Fern) Lindsey lives in New Cordon, Indiana.

W. J. Reef was active in his work as an electrician and farming until ill health forced him to retire.

My parents — Father, Jacob Miller and Mother, Christina (Rueck) Miller, both came from Germany. They purchased the farm in Mercer County, Ohio, which is now owned by Herbert Miller. Included in my family were two half brothers and one half sister, Peter, Christian and Maggie Kallenberger. Six full brothers and sisters — Mary, Jacob Jr., Katherine, John, Caroline and Carl Miller.

We were married (W. J. Reef and Clara Miller) the 25th day of November, 1925. We purchased our farm the 25th day of April, 1928 from Charles W. Baker in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio, known as the East half of the Southeast quarter of Section 80 — 80 acres on the corner of State Road 49 and 707. The oil company put a house on the farm for the Field Boss of the oil company, William McDougle and wife and two daughters, Ann and Catherin McDougle lived in the house when we purchased the farm. When it was no longer used for the Field Boss, we purchased the house. Our farm house is a little west of this house on 707. My Mother, Christina Rueck Miller lived with us for 14 years after my Father died until she died on June 17th, 1945. Then by adoption a little girl came into our house, Cynthia Reef, in 1948. She married I. Dean Hileman, June 21st, 1958. They started housekeeping in the house on the corner of St. Rt. 49 and 707 and are presently living there.

They have 3 children, Randy, born — June 28, 1959, Curtis — March 8, 1962 and Julie born September 25, 1964. I have one great-grandson — Jeremy Lee Hileman born May 7, 1978, son of Randy and Debbie Hileman. *Clara Reef, Willshire, Oh.*

Farm house built in 1885, now owned by Richard Samples, Blackcreek Twp.

SAMPLES

In 1969 Richard Samples and his wife Sondra moved from Willshire, Ohio, to a farm on Purdy Rd. in Blackcreek Township in the northern part of Mercer County. This was several miles from the farm where he had been raised, the son of Stanley and Marie Samples.

They now live in this rural farm community with a daughter Susan (1961) and two sons, Kerry (1963) and Steven (1971).

The original land grant for this 80 acres in section 26 was made from the sale of Public Lands in 1845 to a James Antonides of Montgomery Co. A transfer was made in 1865 to John Nutt, and the land remained in that family until 1923.

The present frame farmhouse (see picture) was built in 1885 and is still in use today without major structural changes. Native timber taken from the farm itself was used in its construction. Originally it stood at the back of the farm, accessable by a lane nearly a half mile in length. Some 30 years later Walter Nutt had the house moved up closer to the road. This across-the-field journey was accomplished very slowly over a number of days. The house was placed on large rollers and moved with a horse and winch. This relocation was somewhat unique in that the household furnishings remained in place with the Nutt family still in residence. A step ladder provided temporary access to the backdoor when needed. To complete the new homesite in about 1917 a hip-roof barn was built and a stand of maple saplings planted. Some of these stately trees remain today.

Over the next 50 years ownership of the farm changed several times to A. M. Riley, Ed Bryson, Rufus Stober, and John McPheron until the purchase in 1969 by Samples. A pole-type barn was added by him in 1976 to better accommodate the larger farm implements of this era. *Mrs. Richard Samples*

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A Surprise Dinner for the 50th Wedding Anniv. of Lewis F. and Mary Ann Wert Sapp; 1900 — **Boys on Porch Roof:** Floyd Smalley; James Sapp; Pleasant Johnson, Mary's brother. **Back Row, Left to Right:** Nathan Figley; ____ Leistner; Geo. Krugh; Geo. Brunstetter; ____ Miller; Richard Tucker; Charles Ralston; Walter Nutt; Rev. Wyer, his son Harvey Wyer; Mahlon Tickle; mustache, Sol Shock; Frank Springer holding Herbert Springer; John R. Williams; Wm. Krugh; Sam Carr; (white beard, Grandpa ____ Addy); John Skinner; Rev. Ryan; Park Skinner, (bro. John); Maynard Sapp, boy is son Russell Sapp; George Sapp. **2nd Row, L-R:** Del Sapp holding May Sapp; Bell Sapp (Johnson) Krugh holding Glen Krugh; Jane Sapp; Mrs. Jenny Wollett; Mrs. Park Skinner; Mrs. Rev. Ryan; Mrs. Martha Skinner; Mrs. Lydia Ralston holding Blanch or Myrtle Ralston; Dencie Nutt; Eliza Shock; Frank Springer's mother; Anna Krugh; Lenora Springer; Kate Krugh; Jane Warrick; Mrs. Mary Krugh; Ann Liz Steinmetz (Counterman) Williams; ____ Williams Leistner; Grandma ____ Addy; Mrs. Sam (Jessie) Carr holding Marie Carr; Mrs. ____ Miller; Floyd Miller; ____ Tucker; Lona Miller; Mrs. Maynard (Del Wilson) Sapp holding Ruby. **Seated, Chairs:** Sarah Smalley; Mrs. Geo (Rachel) Smalley; Mrs. Geo. Margaret Bolenbaugh Brunstetter; little old lady is Grandma Steinmetz; Jettie (Mildred) Stover (had a broke leg); (Marys' grandmother's sister, Aunt Lib Wirt Davis; the honor couple, Mary Ann Wirt and Lewis Franklin Sapp; Mrs. Nathan (Belle) Wagoner Figley. Children — **Seated, Front Row:** Lew Sapp; Joe Sapp, sons of Owen; Mary Smalley; Mary Johnson Hill; little Irene Smalley; Mildred Smalley; little girl in front _____; Nell Warrick; Sylvia Brunstetter; Bessie Fry; (red velvet balero, May Sapp; Mary Warrick; Dora Sapp Kettenring; **(back)** Mrs. Tom Wyer; **(front)** Arminta Sapp; **(back)** Nettie Tickle. **Standing:** May Tickle; Dewey Garr; (Aunt Lib's granddaughter Ethel Davis; Blanch Brunstetter; Bertha Clouse, a neighbor girl.
Living 6/28/1978 — Baby Ruby; Mary and Nell Warrick; Mary Johnson Hill.
The buggies met on Center school road then all went at one time. Maynard Sapp had 2 horses on his buggy and went out and around to lead parade and the buggies filled the barnyard. Was early in summer as the bannisters aren't up yet. (Grandfather took them down in fall and they were stored in that room.) This house sat on Wilson Road, next place west of Burris McBrides.

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Schumm home

AMOS SCHUMM

History of the Amos Schumm family who lived on 113 acres South side of the St. Marys river, in Charlie Reservation, Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio. The geneology of the Schumm family dates back to 1568 from church records in Ruppertshofen, Germany.

John George Schumm, born 8-4-1777 married Anna Fischer 4-28-1807. She passed away 2-5-1822. In 1833 he, a widower with 4 sons and 1 daughter, namely George Martin, Johann Friedri , Johann Jacob, George Ludwig and Maria Katherina, decided to come to America. One daughter remained in Germany to care for aging grandparents, altho they outlived her.

The journey to America was made in 62 days by sail ship. Mr. Schumm a religious man, brought the family bible, prayer books and the family trunk, made in 1814, containing family possessions. They presumably landed in Philadelphia, later traveling inland in a Conestoga wagon, settling in Holmes Co., Ohio. It was here the 5 children found their life partners.

Meanwhile, John George, not satisfied in Holmes Co., heard of cheap government land in Western Ohio and in 1837 walked 160 miles to what is now Van Wert Co., Ohio. He was favorably impressed with the land and decided to settle there. He walked back to Holmes Co., returning the following year with his family excepting 2 sons who followed in 1840. Here for $1,000.00 he purchased 800 acres of land and received a patent to the property signed by Pres. Martin Van Buren. This area was then called Schumm, Ohio and for many years had a post office. Also, here they built one of the first log houses in the county from the fine oak and walnut timber as well as having established the first Lutheran Church in the area. The present homestead which was built in 1858 is still standing and in use and it is here that the family has returned bi-annually for reunions. In 1976 around 500 persons attended. The family tree numbers over 5,000 names.

In 1860 Johann Friedrich, son of John George, and his wife Magdalena decided to purchase land in Mercer Co., a part of a tract of land ceded 10-6-1818 to the United States by the Miami Nation of Indians in a treaty made and concluded at St. Marys, Ohio, portions of which were reserved for the use of the Miami Indians, one section being granted to Charlie, a Miami Chief, S/S of St. Marys river. In 1851 Sho-Pe-Qua, wife of Charlie, and Kil So Quah, their daughter, deeded this parcel to Samuel and Susan McClure for $820.00. 9-15-1860 the Samuel McClures and James Millers deeded the land to Johann Friedrich and Magdalena Meyer Schumm. Their children were William, John, Frederick (father of our subject), Catherine, Jacob, Hannah, Maria, Louis, George, Barbara, Henry and Ferdinand. 6-13-1874 this 113 acres was given to son Frederick Schumm for $1.00 and parental love and affection.

Frederick Schumm, born 4-1-1843, married Magaret Ehrman 10-26-1871 and they were parents of Catherine, Hugo, Leona, Henrietta, Mary and William. After his wife's death in 1885 he married Mary Buechner in 1888 and they were parents of Amos, Erna and Naemi. Frederick Schumm died 12-24-1907 and Mrs. Schumm reared the family. She died 2-16-1930.

Amos Schumm married Esther nee Schumm 5-15-1918 and purchased the land in 1936 from the remaining heirs.

Amos Schumm, a lifetime farmer, died 4-13-1974 having been born and lived his entire life in the 8 room brick home built in 1886 by his father for $2,-000.00 and where Esther Schumm and daughter Betty still reside. Their other children are Ruth Buuck, Decatur, Ind., Amos Jr., Tempe, Ariz., Helen Muntzinger, Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Hildegarde Buxton, Celina, Ohio. *Betty Schumm, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

Philip and Leona B. Schumm

PHILIP F. SCHUMM

History of Philip F. Schumm family which lived on 100 A. S/E Sec. of Peter Labadie Reserve, South of St. Marys River in Sec. #1, Blackcreek Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. This is part of a tract of land ceded to the U.S. by the Miami Nation of Indians in a treaty made and concluded at St. Marys, Ohio, 10-6-1818, portions of which were reserved for the use of the Miami Indians, one section being granted to Peter Labadie.

In 1833 the section was deeded to an Elnathan Corey of Clark Co. with the approval of the Pres. of the U.S., and in 1840 was deeded to Ebenezar Godard of Mercer Co. for $3,200.00. In 1840 the above 100 A. was sold off the East side for $600.00 to Benjamin Schock and was then owned successively by the following named: Zimmerman, Cox, Conklin, Gephart, Sidenbender, Fleming and Springer. Jacob F. Schumm purchased the land from L. C. Springer in Oct. 1907 and in May, 1911 was deeded to his son Philip Schumm.

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Jacob Frederick Schumm was the grandson of John George Schumm, born 8-4-1777, who immigrated from Wuertenberg, Germany to America in 1833.

George Martin Schumm, Father of J. Frederick, was born 11-20-1812, married Maria Pflueger of Holmes Co., May 1, 1838 and lived on one of the original 5 tracts of 160 A. in Van Wert Co., clearing the land and building a cabin. They were the parents of 13 children, one of whom, John, died in the Civil War. Geo. Martin died in 1871.

J. Frederick Schumm, born 6-12-1839, married Maria Germann of Harrison Twp., Van Wert Co., and took up residence in a log house on 297 A. in Charley Reserve, Dublin Twp., and Labadie Reserve, Blackcreek Twp. They were the parents of George, Louisa Schinnerer, Rosina Germann, Emilie Germann, Mary Weck, Charles J., Philip F., Ferdinand W. and Ida.

Philip F. Schumm, born 9-12-1882, was married on 11-5-1907 to Leona Schumm, a daughter of Frederick Schumm and granddaughter of John Frederick Schumm, one of the 4 sons immigrating from Germany. They lived their married years on the above 100 A. farm. Their children are Marie Fuelling, Emma (Mrs. Otto) Boerger, Velma, who lives at the home, and Anna (Mrs. Arthur) Bischoff who lives in Benson, Az. Leona died 10-2-58 and Philip 12-29-68. The farm was purchased by Marie Fuelling and her husband Erwin in 1970.

The roots of the Schumm family can be traced directly back to a tribe of colorful peoples of Northern Europe named the Franks. The first historical mention of them was made in 241 AD by Roman soldiers returning from wars along the Rhine. In the Fifth Century one branch of the Franks was distinguished on the battlefields as well as in peacetime by an insignia of footgear which was attached to their banner. Thus, any member of the group was hailed as "Schuh-Mann", and in laters years when surnames became popular, the name was contracted to Schumann, or still later, to Schumm. *Velma Schumm, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

SNYDER FAMILY

Asa Snyder, was born 26 April 1838, Butler Co., O. the son of John K. and Amy (Hidley) Snyder, both natives of New Jersey, who migrated to Butler Co., O. then to Mississinawa Twp. Darke Co., O. and were the parents of 8 children: Sarah N., Asa, George W., Daniel, William V., James A., Cyrus G., and John W. The father died in 1849.

Asa was apprenticed at the age of 18 to his uncle, Thomas Gray of Butler Co., O. to learn blacksmithing. At the opening of the Civil War he enlisted in Co. "G" 40th Ohio Infantry where he served three years. He was wounded at Buzzard's Roost, Ga. and discharged. He returned to Rose Hill O. and blacksmithing. He married Mary E. McKibben, d/o Hugh and Demaris McKibben on 22 Dec. 1864 by J. B. Anderson J.P. They had 11 children: David H., Walter David, James Elmer, Albertus, Charles H., Magnolia, Nellie Gray, Rosey Bell and Mary Jane. Two others, names unknown died as infants. Asa died at Burkettsville, O. 2 Feb. 1912 and is buried in Rockford, O. Riverside Cemetery. His wife died 4 April 1908 and is buried at his side.

James Elmer Snyder was born 31 Oct. 1869 Darke Co. O. and when about 9 years old moved with his family to the Wild Cat Corners area of Mercer Co. As there was no rural mail delivery he would ride his horse to Chattanooga to pick up the mail for his and neighboring families.

He married 23 Aug. 1894 Martha Iona Harper d/o William Watson and Matilda Ann (Moody) Harper. She was born 11 July 1876 in Blackcreek Twp., Mercer Co., O. on what was then the Willshire-Chattanooga Pike (now St. Rt. 49). William Watson was the s/o William McKindry and Sarah (Young) Harper. Both the Youngs and Harpers were early settlers to Blackcreek Twp. The children of William W. and Matilda Ann were: Sarah Ambrosia (Broe), Martha Iona, Della, Pearl, Jesse, Maude, Grace and Mauna Loa.

James Elmer and Iona established a home at the end of Koontz Lane (now Frank Rd.). It was a 5-acre plot that had been the site of an old tile kiln and had a log house and barn. Elmer replaced the house and barn with new frame ones — doing the construction himself. For several years Elmer taught school, then worked as a pumper for an oil company that had several wells in the area. For many years he served as township enumerator, but his first love was building which he did until 1924. Many of the barns and several houses in the Chatt, Willshire, Wren, Rockford, O. and Bluecreek Twp., Ind. area are monuments of his work, still standing today.

J. Elmer and Iona were the parents of 9 children: Ralph Russell, born 29 March 1895; Robert Fulton, 25 Feb. 1898; Esther Almeda, 20 Oct. 1901; Boyd S., 30 Oct. 1903; Edith Elnora, 20 Nov. 1905; Jackson Loree, 26 Oct. 1907; Jesse Harold, 18 Mar. 1910; Grace Marie, 31 Mar. 1913; and Wilson Harper, 8 July 1915.

All 9 children attended Dellinger School 2 miles from their home down Koontz lane which was a mud road and the Willshire-Chattanooga Pike which was gravel, but still hard to walk in blizzards, thunderstorms, heat and cold. All the children walked to school so many close neighborhood friendships were accumulated. Rail fences lined the roads and most winters the snow drifts were top of the fence high. They crossed Duckcreek 3 times on the way to school. In the springtime the water was to the bridge bottom, the flood gates straight out. On rare occasions when the weather was too severe parents took the children to school in carriages or bobsleds.

In 1924, the Snyder family moved to Ft. Wayne, Ind.; where Elmer was a carpenter for the Pennsylvania Railroad Yards. The Depression of 1929 drove the family back to the farm home where Elmer resumed his carpenter work, road work, and was township trustee for 16 years. Here he died 3 Dec. 1947. His widow died 12 April 1971. Both are buried in Rockford Riverside Cemetery.

The only family member to remain in Ohio is Edith Elnora, who married 30 Nov. 1935, Harry E. Nye, a farmer, of Willshire Twp. Van Wert Co., O. He was the s/o Wilson and Ida May (Bowen) Nye, born 2 Sept. 1906. Harry and Edith were the parents of 2 children: Elodee Jean born 13 Nov. 1936 and a stillborn son born 16 Aug. 1940. They spent all their married life on the farm; Harry dying 16 Aug. 1955. On 23 Dec. 1961 Edith married secondly Glen P. Ad-

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ms, s/o Charles and Cordelia Hainline Adams, and noved back to Mercer Co., O. They now live in Celna.

Elodee Nye married 21 August 1954 Thomas E. Marbaugh born 6 Sept. 1934 s/o Clifford and Millred (Lehman) Marbaugh of Chattanooga, O. Thomas and Elodee are the parents of 4 children: Gayla Jo born 18 June 1955, married 10 Nov. 1973 to .ewis Painter s/o Charles and Jeanette (Crites) 'ainter. Lewis born 7 April 1953. They are the parnts of one son, Jade born 2 August 1976; Annette .ee born 3 Dec. 1956 married 19 June 1976 to Ronld Schumm, born 28 June 1957 s/o Fred and Rosie Fisher) Schumm; Kelly Sue Marbaugh born 22 Jan. 958 and Christopher Thomas Nye Marbaugh born 3 May 1970, all residents of the Willshire, O. area.
Mrs. Edith Snyder Adams, Celina, Oh. 45822

llen (Allison) Spry. Miss llen Allison, daughter of Caleb and Amy (McFarlen) llison, was born in Perry County on December 12, 838. She died June 11, 888. She was a member of he United Brethren Church.

THE JONATHAN SPRY FAMILY

Jonathan Spry was born in Pennsylvania in 1805. He was reared on a farm, and went to Knox County, Ohio where he married Hannah Henkens. She was a daughter of William Henkens, who was also born in Knox County. Jonathan and Hannah Spry had eight children as follows: Hiram, a farmer of Bloom City, Wisconsin; Thomas Benton who served in the army of the Union several years, was wounded twice at Cold Harbor and at Williamsburg, and later lived in Wisconsin; Timothy, a carpenter of Wisconsin; Cynthia, wife of Wesley Parrot, of Mendon, who served in the war; Simon P., a livery stable keeper of Richland Center, Wisconsin; Mattie, wife of Wesley Webley, of Wisconsin, who served in the war and came out an invalid; and Mrs. Nancy Stevens, deceased.

After his marriage, Jonathan Spry lived in Knox County until the fall of 1836, when he moved to Mercer County, locating in Blackcreek Township, upon eighty acres of land which he cleared, improved, and later exchanged for another farm, upon which he lived until his death in the fall of 1851. This event was caused by his being bitten by a wild hog. After Jonathan Spry's death, his widow married James Young. She died in Wisconsin in 1885.

Thomas Benton Spry, son of Jonathan and Hannah (Henkens) Spry, was born in Blackcreek Township on January 12, 1837. He was the first white male born in Blackcreek Township. He was reared on a farm. He was one of the most prominent and successful farmers of Blackcreek Township.

Thomas B. Spry was fourteen years old at the time of his father's death. After his father's death, he was bound out to a man in Wisconsin, with whom he remained one winter. However, he spent four years in the Badger state. He then began traveling and working on farms, and before giving up this mode of life he traveled through seventeen states. On January 2, 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Seventy-First Ohio Volunteer infantry, and served three years, five months and 13 days. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin and Nashville, and a large number of minor engagements and skirmishes. He was wounded at Dechard, Tennessee, went to the hospital, and was discharged from the service at Camp Dennison, Ohio, in May, 1865. He returned to Mercer County and bought an eighty-acre tract of uncleared land, upon which he lived and labored, and which he enlarged to 160 acres in one square quarter-section.

On March 4, 1864, while home on furlough during his war service he married Miss Ellen Allison.

Thomas B. and Ellen (Allison) Spry had seven children. They were: Byron Spry — born December 26, 1864; Cynthia Allis Spry — born November 8, 1866; Martha Ellen Spry — born May 2, 1870; Charley Spry — born January 15, 1872; Iona Belle Spry — born September 28, 1873; Thomas Garfield Spry — born July 6, 1880; Infant daughter — born September 22, 1883, died October 18, 1883.

Byron Spry was born in Blackcreek Township on December 26, 1864. He never married. He moved to Price, Utah. He owned a sheep ranch. Date of death unknown, but it was about 1915.

Cyntha Allis Spry was born in Blackcreek Township on November 8, 1866. She married Joseph Walter Hesser on August 23, 1891. To this union six children were born. Two died before 1936. As of 1936 there were two sons Thomas Ralph, and Charles B. of Toledo, two daughters Mrs. Lela Hale of Dayton, Ohio and Mrs. Ruth Seltzer of Toledo, Ohio. There were two grandchildren; Laura Ruth Hale of Dayton, Ohio and Eugene H. Hale of Lebanon, Tennessee.

Few details of Martha Ellen Spry's life are known. She married Daniel J. Wollet of Rockford, Ohio. See story of Mr. Wollet also in this book.

Charley Spry was born in Blackcreek Township on January 15, 1872. He married and had two sons; Walter and Gerald. Charley Spry and family lived near Warren, Ohio. He died May 9, 1940.

Iona Belle Spry was born on September 28, 1873. Her mother Ellen Spry died when Iona was quite young and Iona had to earn her own living at the age of 15 years. She worked on farms in Blackcreek Township. She married Luther E. Martz on April 28, 1893. She died in Akron, Ohio on August 25, 1947.

Thomas Garfield Spry was born in Blackcreek Township on July 6, 1880. He married Ora Belle Fast on December 7, 1900. They had three children. Irvin deceased at age of 2 years; Roscoe, date born unknown, lived in Lima, Ohio; Paul James, date born unknown, lived in Lima, Ohio. Thomas Garfield Spry died June 19, 1932.

Thomas Benton Spry married Martha Jane (Carr) Baumgardner on October 13, 1889. Martha Jane Baumgardner, widow of Isaac Baumgardner, had 4 children as follows: Newton, Abbie, Harmount, and Carman Baumgardner.

Thomas B. and Martha Jane Spry had two children. They were: Jesse John Spry, born July 14, 1889

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and Ansel Spry, born 1892. Jesse Spry moved to Jackson, Michigan and Ansel Spry moved to Munith, Michigan.

In politics, Thomas B. Spry was a prominent republican. He and family worshiped in the faith of the United Brethren church. He was a member of Dolph Graves Post, No. 329, G.A.R. and was highly esteemed as a citizen, as a church member, and an ex-soldier. In 1896 Mr. Spry completed a very pretentious and imposing two story brick residence in Blackcreek Township. Mr. Spry was a hunter, and was widely known as an excellent marksman.

It is not known where Thomas B. and Martha Jane Spry spent the latter part of their lives. It is believed that they moved to Bloom City, Wisconsin about 1902. No record could be found as to the date or place of their deaths. *Ronald B. Martz*

E. O. STETLER

The E. O. Stetler family have traced their roots back to George V. Stetler, Berk Co., Pa. He was born August 31, 1739. He served in the Revolutionary War. Married Eva Catherine —. They had five sons and three daughters. George, Jacob, Henry, Daniel, J. William, Eva Catherine was the oldest daughter and she married Abraham Pontius, Elisabett married Jacob Schubert and Chadrina married Hammes Barlet (Borlott).

Henry, the third son of George is the line that I will follow to show where we begin as far back as we have been able to trace. We hope to go to Pittsburg, Pa. in a few years to find more about where George V. came from. Henry was baptised on Easter Sunday, March 13, 1769, at Altalaha Ev. Lutheran Church in Rehrersburg, Berks Co., Pa. Henry's father, brought his entire family from Berks Co. in the early 1800's like 1801 to 1803 and settled around Miamisburg, Ohio. There they settled and cleared land for farming. Each of the children had a piece of land even the girls. There they formed the oldest Lutheran Church in Ohio known as the Stetler Lutheran Church. Whether they gave the name because of so many Stetlers or whether a Stetler held services at first, I don't know but plan to find this out also. The Stetler Lutheran Church was started in 1803. We went to visit the church a few years ago to attend services but it was closed so we went on in to Miamesburg and worshiped at St. Jacobs, a sister church. Now we hear that the old church is to be kept as a historical site, and we wish to get to see this soon. Henry and his wife Margaretta had six sons and two daughters. One sons's name was Daniel H. Stetler born September 24, 1796, he married Rohoda Sharits Nov. 10, 1818, she came from Whythe Co., Virginia, of Welsh origin. They had 12 children, six boys and six girls. They came to Van Wert County, near Willshire, Ohio after 1833. One of the boys named David married Louinda Cross in January 1849. It is believed that this is when our line of Stetler's came to Mercer County, Blackcreek Twp. They had six boys and one daughter. Living children were Orlando, Edmund and Levi. Orlando married Catherine Mercer Amrine. They lived on a farm south of Willshire after their marriage in March 6, 1876, on what is now known as the Stetler road west of St. Rt. 49 in Mercer County. They had 4 children, two boys and two girls. One daughter and one son died in infancy. Effie married Wm. Evans. She die at age 22 years. Emanuel married Alta Allison Octo ber 4, 1903. They had seven children, five boys an two girls. Harold the oldest married Goldie Koch they live south of Chattanooga on St. Rt. 49. The have two sons living and two girls that died at birth Eldon lives in Fort Wayne and has four girls and on son. Eldon works for Eckrich. Eldon married Ruth Kreischer. Clair married Barbara Now and they hav two girls and two boys and they live in Celina an Clair works for the Postal Service. Neva married Edgar Clouse and they have two girls and four boys Sally married Dr. Paul Wehr, they have one daughter and one son and live in Florida. Peggy marriec Sheldon Betterly; they have one son, two girls, they live in Virginia. Wm. Clouse married Sharon Hamrick and they live in Mercer County and have tw girls and one boy. Bill teaches school at Parkway Tom Clouse married Nancy Livingood and they have two girls and one boy. They live in Rockford and Nancy teaches in Parkway High and Tom teaches at the Willshire building. Jack Clouse married Gloria Weitz and they have one daughter and one son and they live in Celina where Jack teaches school. Jon married Betty Buckloh and they live between Spencerville and Lima, Jon teaches in Spencerville School and Betty works in a hospital in Lima. Florice died October 10, 1926. Basil married Irene Kingsbury; they had 5 children and live in Mercer County. Kent married Julia Suman; have one son and one daughter. Bob married Janet Mason and have two girls. Phyliss married Gene Krick and they have one son and one daughter. Bill married Ruth Wycuff and they have two sons and one daughter and they live in what was the woods on the old Stetler farm on Rockford West off of St. Rt. 49. Linda the youngest married Bill Perry; they live in Mercer County and Bill has a son and a daughter.

Lowell married Maryanna Beer, and they have two sons. Lowell and Maryanna live on Miller Road, Celina, R.R. 1. Richard married Sylvia Huttis and he teaches school in Celina and she works at Group Ins. in Celina and they live in Celina. Gary is a student in college.

Kermit married Fern Caffee and they have three children. Kermit and Fern live on a farm just halfway between Rockford and Willshire on U.S. 33, in Mercer County. Bonnie married Kenneth Lautzenheiser and they have three children and live in Rockford. Nancy married David Byer and they live in Fort Wayne Indiana, and they have three children. Kirby married Judy Stephenson and they live in Mercer County.

Laverne is not married and still lives on the Stetler farm in Mercer County. *Kermit Stetler*

KIRBY STETLER

Kirby Daniel Stetler and Judy Helen (Stephenson) Stetler live south of Chattanooga on the corner of Frahm Pike and State Route 49.

Kirby was born on April 27, 1951, in Decatur, Indiana. He is the youngest child of Kermit and Fern Stetler of Rockford, Ohio. He attended Willshire Elementary School. In 1967, as a summer school student through the University of Durham (England), he traveled to England, Scotland, and France. He

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graduated from Parkway High School in 1969. In 1973 he graduated from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, majoring in Speech and Radio Broadcasting. He then attended a semester at the Evangelical Lutheran Seminary also in Columbus, Ohio.

On February 2, 1973, at the Chattanooga United Methodist Church, Kirby married Judy Helen Stephenson, second child of Charles and Anna Lee Stephenson of Chattanooga, Ohio.

Judy was born on September 23, 1951, in Celina, Ohio. She attended Rockford Elementary, graduating from Parkway High School in 1969. In 1973, she graduated from Taylor University, Upland, Indiana, with a major in Social Work. While in College, she participated in the choral group and conducted her senior practicum in Chicago, Illinois.

After their marriage, Kirby and Judy lived in Columbus, Ohio for 1½ years, returning to Mercer County in September 1974. Judy is presently a school social worker in Adams County, Indiana and is a member of the Chattanooga United Methodist Church. Kirby is a member of the Zion Ev. Lutheran Church and is employed in Celina, Ohio. In their spare time, Kirby enjoys writing and woodworking and Judy enjoys doing macrame. *Kirby Stetler*

KERMIT STETLER FAMILY

Born in Mercer County, August 14, 1918. I was the sixth child of E. O. Stetler and Alta Allison Stetler. I married Fern Caffee August 30, 1936. We have three children, Bonnie, Nancy, Kirby.

Bonnie graduated from Willshire High School, was employed in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Married Kenneth Lautzenheiser, and live in Rockford, Ohio. They have three children. Ted who graduated from Parkway High School in 1978 and is employed for the summer months at Bordens at Van Wert, Ohio, and is enrolled at Bowling Green University.

Barbara is a Junior at Parkway High School and her extra time is used to help John and Nancy Smith with their four boys.

Darren is in the first year in Jr. High at the Willshire School building.

Nancy Jo graduated from Willshire High School and married Dave Byer and they have three children. They live in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Christy is in her third year at Purdue University and Pamela is a first year student at the University of Cinn., Ohio. Susan is in the 5th grade at Arlington Elem. school in Fort Wayne.

Kirby is our youngest, he graduated from Parkway High School in 1969 and from Capital University in 1973, he married Judy Helen Stephenson and they live in Mercer Co.

Fern and I have lived on the same farm for 35 years. We live just half way between Rockford and Willshire on US 33.

We belong to the Zion Lutheran Church in Chattanooga, Ohio. *Kermit Stetler, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

PAUL STONER

Paul Stoner was born December 22, 1816, in Richland Co., Ohio. He married Susan Pifer, born 1817, the daughter of John E. and Charlott (Harner) Pifer who came to Richalnd Co., Ohio from Cumberland Co., Pennsylvania ca 1827.

In December, 1847, Paul and Susan (Pifer) Stoner purchased land in Union Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. Also, they purchased land in Black Creek Twp., Mercer Co.

Susan (Pifer) Stoner's parents remained in Richland Co. Her father, John E. Pifer was born in Germany in December 11, 1784, and died May 30, 1852. Her mother, Charlott Harner, the daughter of a German immigrant, Michael Harner, was born in Pennsylvania December 18, 1788 and died February 16, 1856.

On September 3, 1862, Paul Stoner died in Blooming Grove Twp., Richland Co., and is buried in the German Reform Cemetery, Rome, Ohio beside his wife's parents.

Susan (Pifer) Stoner married a second time, John Smith, but again was widowed, and she came back to Mercer Co. and purchased land in Center Twp., on Route 33. She is remembered as a small woman who was very beautiful, kind, loving and generous. Although she had only one child she provided a home for other children who were in need.

Paul and Susan (Pifer) Stoner had one son, David, born December 23, 1834, in Blooming Grove Twp., Richland Co., Ohio. David Stoner was educated, especially in music. He taught vocal music in the schools and conducted music class' in church. He married in Mercer Co. November 19, 1855 to Susannah Adams. She was born March 16, 1835, in Ashland Co., Ohio to William and Mary (Hough) Adams. Her father, William Adams, (1811-1896), was born in Maryland, Mary (Hough) Adams, (1812-1892), daughter of Solomon Hough, was born in Allegheny Co., Pennsylvania, they are buried in Fountain Chapel Cemetery, Black Creek Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio.

David and Susannah (Adams) Stoner were the parents of: Rosina; Mary Susanah; Sarrah Elizabeth; William Paul; David Henry; John Jacob; Martha Forest; George Franklin; Barbry Ellen; Berty Della; Emma May.

Susannah (Adams) Stoner died 1893, and David Stoner in 1911. They are buried, along with some of

D. Henry Stoner (1863-1941) and Celia M. (Williams) Stoner (1868-1959)

their children, in the Fountain Chapel Cemetery.

Of their eleven children, eight grew to adulthood and married. The oldest son to marry, D. Henry Stoner was born September 6, 1863. He married April 7, 1886, to Celia May Williams, born May 9,

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1868, in Black Creek Twp., the daughter of John R. Williams, who was born March 9, 1844, in Ohio Co., Wheeling, West Virginia and Nancie Elisibith Purdy, born 1850, Black Creek Twp., daughter of Alban Purdy (1811-1913) and Mary (Morman) Purdy (1820-1878).

D. Henry and Celia M. (Williams) Stoner's children are: Dencie Etta; Grover C.; Thomas I.; Mabel Clair; Arnel; D. Franklin; H. Albert; Willard R.; Olan E.

D. Henry Stoner purchased the Union Twp., Mercer Co. farm after his father's death. Two of D. Henry Stoner's children now own this land. It has been in the family since Paul Stoner purchased it in 1847.

D. Henry Stoner died 1941 and Celia M. (Williams) Stoner died 1959 and are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Rockford, Ohio. *Mrs. Everett T. Dahlke*

THE CARL CLIFFORD STOVER FAMILY

Carl Clifford Stover, son of Daniel P. and Clara Jane (Skinner) Stover, was born on March 18, 1890. He represented the third generation of Stovers to reside in Mercer County.

Moses Stover, Carl's grandfather, was born in Pennsylvania, the son of John and Sarah Stover. At an early age, John moved his family to Richland County, Ohio.

On January 21, 1851, Moses married Sallie Pifer, the daughter of John and Scharlotta (Harner) Pifer. Seven children were born to Moses and Sallie Stover. They were: Daniel Pifer (1852-1921), John Elijah (1854-1859), Orciness Oliver (1856-1938), a daughter who died in infancy, Olive (1859-), Samuel Wesley (1861-1863), George Washington (1864-1943).

In 1854, Moses moved his family from Richland County to a one hundred twenty acre tract of land in Black Creek Township, Mercer County, that he had purchased from the government and private parties.

Daniel P. Stover was born in Richland County but was reared on the farm in Black Creek Township, Mercer County.

On July 3, 1873, Daniel married Clara Jane Skinner, daughter of Willets and Elizabeth (Swineford) Skinner. To this marriage eight children were born: Bertha Orilla, born on September 27, 1874; Clarence Wesley, born on December 16, 1876; Mary Lauretta, born on October 31, 1877; James Oliver, born on January 18, 1880; Curtis M., born on January 3, 1882; Julia Charlotte, born on March 29, 1886; Carl Clifford, born on March 18, 1890; Ora Sylvester, who died in early childhood.

On March 12, 1913. Carl married Florence Arazella Foor, daughter of William and Anna Belle (Cunningham) Foor. To the marriage of Carl and Florence, seven children were born.

Clara Belle was born on December 15, 1913. On October 27, 1933, she married David Eugene McCoy who died on March 18, 1941. There were no children from this marriage. On December 24, 1942, Clara Belle married Russel G. Howell who had three sons, Joe Allen, Ralph Frederick and Larry Owens. To this union one child, Thomas Gilbert, was born on April 22, 1946. The Howell Family is listed elsewhere in this history.

Elizabeth Lucille was born on September 11, 1915 On September 20, 1932, she married Francis Wilsor Bayles. To this marriage the following children were born: Elizabeth Ruth, born April 3, 1933; Jack wilson, born June 27, 1934; Patricia Ann, born May 14 1938; Nada Lou, born May 26, 1939; Sandra Lee born July 30, 1942; Gary Allen, born Feburary 15 1946.

Kathryn Irene was born on January 24, 1917. Or September 2, 1933, she married Leroy Johnson Hill Their children are Roberta, who died in infancy Barry James, born November 6, 1934; Carlton DeWitt, born February 21, 1937.

D. W. was born on August 2, 1918. On August 26 1950, he married Ruth Marie Cailey. The four children of this marriage are: Gregory D., born June 14, 1951; Brent Lee, born March 15, 1956; Galen Todd, born June 14, 1958; Brenda Ruth, born March 9, 1960.

Virginia Ruth was born November 19, 1922 and died on December 24, 1922, at five weeks of age.

Joan Evon was born on September 6, 1924. She married Francis William Burtchin on November 23, 1947. The children born of this marriage are: Tanya Jo, born August 27, 1949; Tryna Lu, born January 27, 1954; Todd William, born November 6, 1963.

Max Russell was born on April 24, 1927. On June 18, 1955, he married Betty Jean Leonard. The children born of this marriage are: Michelle Robyn, born August 15, 1958; Mark Russell, born March 19, 1960.

Space prohibits the listing of the thirty-five great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren, who are a part of the Carl Clifford Stover Family.

Carl died on April 18, 1959 and Florence died on April 30, 1972. *D. W. Stover, Celina, Oh. 45822*

DALE WILMER VANTILBURG

The VanTilburgs of Mercer County are descendants of many generations in the United States. The first man, Jan Theunissen, was married in 1655 in New Amsterdam, the southern tip of Manhattan Island and indicated that he was "van Tilburg." Van, in Dutch, means from, of, or born in a particular region or city. By 1691, Jan and his sons adopted VanTilburg as their last name.

Then, six generations moved westward by way of Wall Street, New York City (anno 1686): Staten Island: New Jersey where one VanTilburg had a well known tavern that George Washington and New Jersey governors would frequent in passing from eastern towns to Trenton. They migrated to Eastern Ohio six years before its statehood and then to the Ashland, Ohio, area.

In the early 1840's two brothers, Nathan and Henry from Ashland, homesteaded in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County. Nathan had three sons and one daughter. His occupation was farming and he was also elected County Commissioner. For 18 years, he also served as treasurer of his township.

Hulbert, youngest son of Nathan, married Florence Muterspaugh in 1884 and lived on the homestead, and then later outside Celina. They had eight sons and three daughters with many descendants now living in Mercer County. His occupation also

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was farming, the occupation of many VanTilburgs.

Edward VanTilburg, sixth child of Hulbert, married Tabitha Ruth Hooper in 1910 and they were the parents of six children: Dale, Vernon, Max, Meredith, Lois and Sally. He farmed for ten years, was a tool dresser during the oil boom in Mercer County and worked 35 years at Mersman Bros. Tables as a cabinetmaker.

Dale W. VanTilburg was born Dec. 25, 1911, the first son of Edward and Ruth VanTilburg. He married Opal Boise in 1933, the daughter of Floyd and Nellie Boise. They are the parents of Ronald, Larry, Janice (Garwick), Bruce, and Keith. Dale learned the upholstering trade at Brandt's Furniture during the depression, became a brakeman on the Nickle Plate Railroad, and during WW II was a foreman at the Lima Tank Depot. Shortly after the war, he and his wife, Opal, began VanTilburg Upholstery which they owned and operated until their retirement. *Larry Van Tilburg, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Matt Winkler, The Boy who overcame Rabies.

THE BOY WHO OVERCAME RABIES

In October of 1970 in the darkness of his Willshire rural route bedroom, six-year-old Matt Winkler was bitten by a rabid bat. Two thousand years of medical history said he had to die. Matt is nearly 15 now, because one doctor refused to take death for an answer. And because Matt became the first person on record to survive the horror of rabies, other victims now have a chance at life.

On the battle line were Lima, Ohio pediatricians C. John Stechschulte and Thomas T. Weis and Dr. Michael Hattwick, then of the Rabies Center of the Atlanta Center for Communicable Disease Control. They knew the odds. Until Matt's fight at St. Rita's Hospital in Lima, no one ever had survived rabies, a virus that attacks the central nervous system, convulsing and choking its victim to death.

The horror began Oct. 10, 1970, when the Winklers were redecorating the upstairs of their 1888 farmhouse. A hole knocked into the attic was left uncovered. Matt woke the family that night with his screaming. His father, Nick, rushed upstairs to find a furry thing dug in and dangling from the boy's thumb. Winkler took the small bat in a jar to a Vet. the next day. Four days later, state public health officials reported it was rabid and Matt began a series of 13 daily, painful injections of rabies vaccine. No alarm yet. By the end of the month, he began drifting off before his bedtime and he didn't feel like trick or treating on Halloween. The Doctor diagnosed possible flu. No alarm yet. When Matt's temperature went to 104.6 and his neck stiffened, Dr. Stechschulte diagnosed a possible vaccine reaction and had Matt admitted to St. Rita's as a precaution. No alarm yet. The Alarm came Nov. 14. Matt's speech garbled, his left side stiffened, he lost coordination and finally dropped into a semi-coma. He was moved to a private room, hooked up to heart monitors and set up a round-the-clock watch and the Doctors went to work — symptom by symptom.

When Matt's heartbeat and breathing speeded, the doctors did a Tracheotomy to help him breathe. When his left hand began opening and closing they administered anti-convulsants. The breathing difficulty was the worst crisis, but when it happened they were expecting something worse would happen still. Instead the boy began to actually improve. Three months after Matt's ordeal began, on Jan. 27, 1971, the doctors released the boy.

Nicholas and Verna Winkler, Valerie and Matthew; and Verna's mother, Inez Marie Wollett.

NICK WINKLER

Nicholas Lee Winkler, son of Martin Lee and Mildred Adella Nicholas Winkler, and Verna Allison Wollet were married July 27, 1962 by Rev. Thomas Morrison at the Presbyterian Church in Rockford, Ohio. They moved into his grandfather's house which was built in 1888 on the corner of Winkler and Wabash Roads. Verna's parents were Kenneth Allison Wollet and Inez Marie Hole. They had two other daughters, Martha Lee (Schaadt) and Marianna (Sutton). They were raised at the T. J. Wollet farm one mile west of Rockford, Ohio.

Nick and Verna have two children, Matthew James born Jan. 27, 1964, and Valerie Kay born June 29, 1965. Dr. R. D. Bradrick delivered them both at Gibbons hospital in Celina, Ohio.

On a beautiful Palm Sunday afternoon, in April of 1965, Nick and Verna went for a walk, and Nick commented that it was tornado weather. Early that evening while Matt and Valerie were watching "The Ed Sullivan Show", and Nick was taking care of the hogs, a news bulletin came on saying there was something on radar west of Berne. Nick went upstairs in the west wing of the house, and by then it was a half mile west of us on the ground and looked about a quarter mile wide. It sounded like trains. We all sat down on the floor with our backs to the west of the house. In just a few seconds the house shook and the windows rattled, and then it was gone. This tornado came from south-western Indiana and went to Toledo with a continuous path of destruction. There were tornadoes everywhere that day, but this was one of the largest. We were lucky, but some of our neighbors were killed. They allowed the school children as well as other friends and neighbors to help clean up the debris.

Our son Matt was bitten by a rabid bat on Oct.

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10, 1970 while sleeping in his bed up stairs. He had the series of shots, but still contracted the disease. We took him to St. Rita's hospital in Lima, Ohio where he was a patient for 85 days. His survival was the first documented case of anyone living from rabies. He received warm wishes from President Nixon as well as cards and gifts from people all over the world. *Verna Winkler*

Martin Lee and Mildred Nicholas Winkler

WINKLER

The Winklers of Blackcreek Twp. of Mercer Co. are one of the few families who have kept in the family the land first obtained from the U.S. Government under Pres. Martin Van Buren. It is now owned by Martin Lee Winkler and the home occupied by Nicholas and Verna (Wollet) Winkler and children, Matthew and Valerie.

Martin Xavier Winckler, 40 years of age, and wife Rosina (Gorengen) Winkler, 34 years of age, with children Sophia aged 2 years and Emma seven months of age came to this country from Genholzheim, Germany by way of the Black Forest in 1837 and bought land in Mercer Co. in 1840. They began clearing the land and built a log cabin; there were two log cabins built before the brick house, built by Martin M. Winkler in 1888. There were four children; Henry A., J. Matthias, M. William and Therese who died in infancy who were born to Martin M. and Elizabeth (Jewell) Winkler.

Henry A. Winkler married Catherine Jane Weaver, daughter of Charles Lee and Harriet (Horne) Weaver of Van Wert County. Mr. Weaver was a college professor at Athens College until poor health forced him out into the fresh air. Henry A. and Catherine were the parents of seven children: Esther (Dellinger), Martin Lee, Lucretia (Brandt), Edna (Plikerd), Walter W., Henry M., and John F., who died in 1971.

Martin Lee Winkler married Mildred Adella Nicholas of Illinois, a school teacher. She was the daughter of Rev. Charles A. Nicholas of Illinois and Catherine Ruth Beauchamp of Missouri. Rev. Nicholas' parents were Wilson Shannon Nicholas and Mary Fenton Nicholas. Wilson Nicholas contracted tuberculosis in the Civil War and died when his son Charles was twelve years old. Mary Nicholas, left with six children to raise, walked to the nearest down, Coleta, Illinois and cleaned house for friends and died an early death, of a stroke at age fifty-two. Ruth Beauchamp was the daughter of Rev. Edward M. and Mary (Glick) Beauchamp. Martin Lee Winkler born in 1908 graduated from Huntington College in Huntington, Ind. and entered the ministry of The Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Lee and Mildred had three children; Glenda (Wampler), Nicholas Lee, and Lorna (Shrider). Glenda and her husband, Melvin David and family live at Bridgewater, Va. where Melvin D. is Assistant Business Manager at Bridgewater College of the Church of the Brethren and Glenda is a teacher in the Rockingham County Schools. They have two children; Pamela Diane and Phillip David.

Nicholas Lee and Verna Allison (Wollet) Winkler and their children: Matthew James, Valerie live on the home place and farm the land. The children make the sixth generation to have lived on this farm. See page 79 for more about Matthew. Verna's parents were Kenneth and Inez (Hole) Wollet.

Lorna and Paul Shrider live in North Manchester, Indiana where Paul is the Electronics Engineer of Manchester College, Church of the Brethren, and Lorna a graduate of Western Reserve School of Nursing, Cleveland, Ohio is a practicing nurse. They have two children: Karen W., and Michele W.

Nicholas Lee and Lorna L. were victims of the polio epidemic which hit Mercer County in 1949 and as a result have permanent disabilities. *Mr. Walter Winkler, Willshire, Oh. 45898*

Daniel J. Wollet, Mina J. Wollet

DANIEL WOLLET

John Wollet was born near Lima, Ohio and died Nov. 9, 1923 in Rockford. He married Elizabeth Frysinger Jan. 16, 1866 and they had two children. Daniel Jasper born Jan. 17, 1868; and Viola Elizabeth (Coppersmith) born Sept. 14, 1869. He had Sarah L. (Tickle) by an earlier marriage. John served in the Civil War with Co. B 81st Ohio, organized at Lima in Aug. of 1861 by Capt. Mart Armstrong. He lived the greater part of his life in Blackcreek Twp. and Rockford.

Daniel Jasper Wollet married Martha E. Spry Dec. 6, 1891 and she died June 1, 1893. He married Mina Jane Allison May 1, 1895 at the Hotel Rich in Ft. Wayne, Indiana where she had been working as a seamstress. They had six children: Nora Viola (Heath) Apr. 28, 1897-June 19, 1927; John Joseph Wollet 1898-1900; Kenneth Allison May 29, 1901-Nov. 19, 1962; Ruth Lorene (Shaffer) b. Sept. 28, 1903; Martha D. July 31, 1912-May 31, 1915; and Mary Evelyn (Teal) b. June 26, 1916 who lives in Allegau, Mich. The first four children were born in Blackcreek Twp. on Hill Road. They then moved to a farm on Rockford West Road in Dublin Twp., living there the remainder of their lives.

Mina Jane lived with her sister and brother-in-law Mary Ann and Lewis Grove while growing up. Her mother died when she was 6 months old and her father when she was 6 years old. They lived at the corner of S.R. 707 and Wabash Rd. where Lewis taught school and where Mina attended. Mina died Nov. 13, 1963. *Verna Wollet Winkler*

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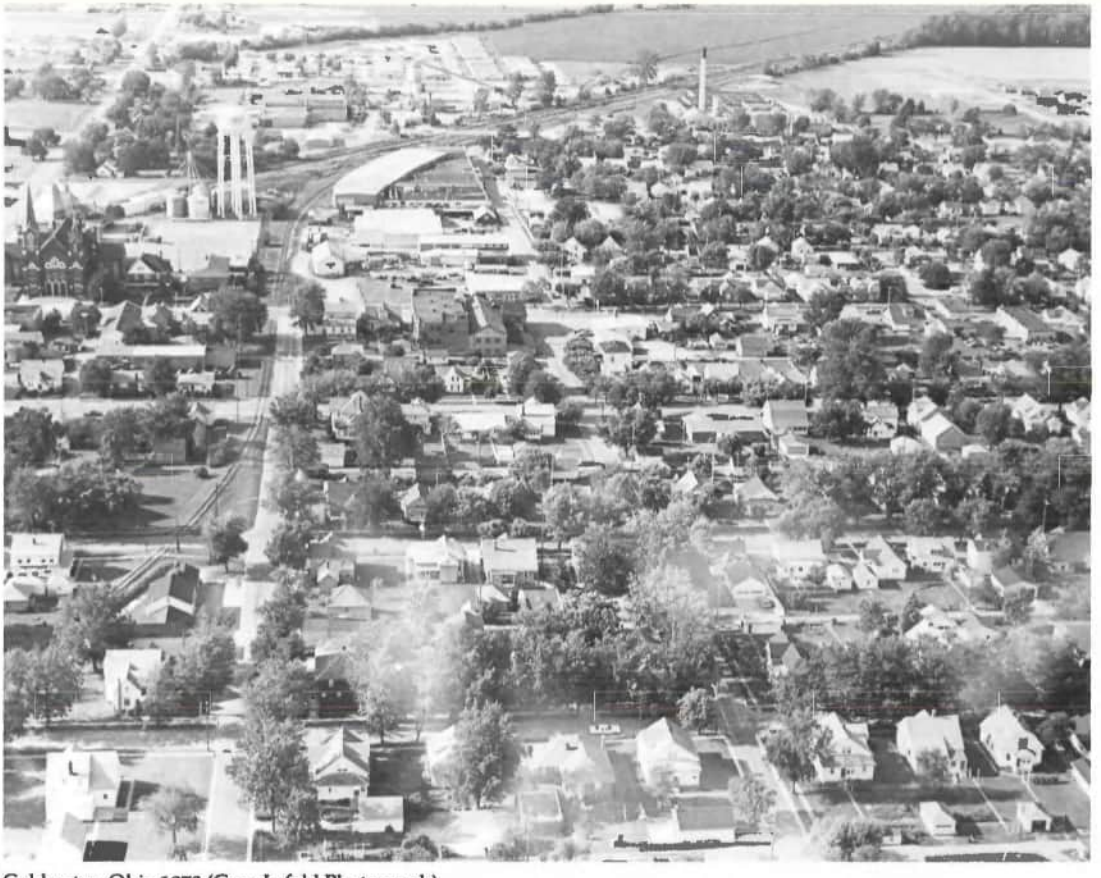

Coldwater, Ohio 1978 (Gary Lefeld Photograph)

Coldwater, Ohio 1978 (Gary Lefeld Photograph)

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Coldwater Post Office — **Left to Right:** Henry H. Schroer; Jacob Kramer; Anna Fox, Postmistress; Clarence Bernard; Henry Carmack.

Town Hall, Coldwater, Ohio

St. R. 219 West, Coldwater, Ohio, south side of street, (Gary Lefeld Photograph)

St. Rt. 219 West, Coldwater, Ohio, North side of Street, (Gary Lefeld Photograph)

BUTLER TOWNSHIP

Butler Township was constituted on June 4, 1838, by the county commissioners in accord with a request of 25 petitioners living in the area. The first election was held July 9, 1838 at the home of David Guy. Records do not indicate who was the first settler in the township, however, Joseph Shatto, who located near the present site of Coldwater in 1828, generally is given that honor. Other early arrivals were James Gray in 1835, Peter Stevens in 1837, John F. Hickman, Jerimiah Plummer, Jacob Baker 1836, William Bunch 1839, John Grunden and David Gray. Other arrivals up to 1858 were Henry Lennarts 1848, John Spoltman 1849, Joseph H. Smith 1852, John Bennet and Herman Nieberding 1855, Joseph Birkmeyer 1857 and Henry Roether 1858.

The first church organized in Butler Township was St. Marys Catholic at Philothea Sept. 6, 1851. The first building was a log cabin and the present structure was built in 1871. Holy Trinity Catholic church in Coldwater was formed in 1869 and the first pastor was Rev. Henry Drees. Coldwater Methodist church was organized about 1898. Three other congregations formed in Butler were Spring Valley, Burntwood U.B. and Ash Grove German Baptist Brethren.

Old schools in the township were Burntwood No. 1 and 2, Ebbing School, Smith School, Franzer School, Crouch School, and Philothea Special School. Presently Coldwater Exempted Village School is the only school left in the township.

Old cemeteries not in use at present include Burntwood and Young and are the responsibility of the township trustees.

The township census in 1840 was 340. In 1880 it was 1595 and July 1976 was 5673. On March 29, 1963, the old township hall was owned by the township trustees and the village of Coldwater, and then was sold by public auction to L. C. Werling also known as Werling Motors for $7000. The new township hall was built in 1963 for $9100.00. The present lot was purchased from Schoch Bros. at a cost of $3000.

Present trustees serving Butler Township are: Paul Hamburg, Chairman, Ray B. Dues, and Ed Ebbing. Leo Osterholt is clerk.

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St. Marys Church, Philothea, Ohio (and school)

PHILOTHEA

Philothea is a profound example of a village whose growth is entertwined with its church. Its history cannot be told without mention of the establishment of the church, because as did several of the other smaller communities in southern Mercer County, Philothea was formed around its church, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or as it is now called, St. Marys.

The church's dedication September 8, 1853, followed years of planning and (what was then) long trips to the Archdiocese in Cincinnati by Philothea's founders to seek permission to form a church and exploratory trips from Cincinnati by Archbishop John Baptiste Purcell to view the local people and their land. At that time it took a month's traveling to arrive in Cincinnati.

Apparently viewing the local terrain with a positive eye, Archbishop Purcell eventually bought several tracts of land, including what later would be called Philothea, in the name of the Catholic Church, and platted it as well as several other county communities.

In Philothea, he platted the streets and they were named Bremen, Linzee and West.

The purchase of the land on which the church was built was made in February of 1851, by Philothea's nine founders — Henry Weiner, Frederick Albers, Henry Wendel, John Spoltman, Henry Zumwalde, Joseph Saalman, Gaspar Borgess, Henry Phelman, and Henry Lennartz. The nine purchased the forty acres of land for $100.

The original log church was dedicated by Archbishop Purcell, who, it is said, also gave the town its name. Based on the Greek words Philos (loving) and Theos (God), the name apparently was inspired by the townspeople's love of God.

Through the years, the original log church became too small to accommodate the church-goers, who numbered 65 families by 1868. It followed that June 11, 1871, a brick edifice costing $7,000 was dedicated by Archbishop Purcell, which was followed by the erection in 1886 of a house to accommodate the teachers of the parochial school and in 1905, the erection of the first parochial residence.

Still another dedication was conducted in Philothea with the completion of the remodeling of the church August 15, 1922, which saw an addition of a tower and an enlarged seating capacity of 200.

All through the years, the town's physical aspects also were expanding, tradesmen and shopkeepers came and went and houses began being built closer and closer to the center of Philothea.

According to the History of Mercer County and Representative Citizens, written in 1907 by the Honorable S. S. Scranton, Philothea at that time saw a population of twenty persons and its streets were graced with the J. H. Bruns grocery store, the H. T. Noble tailor shop and Ben Spoltman's blacksmith shop.

Other business operations through the years included the post office, of which Irenus Quinter had charge, the Dues sawmill, and Gus Schwegman's threshing machine. Now Philothea's businesses include only two — Raffel's Store and Hemmelgarn's Poultry Co., both of which are prosperous ventures.

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Philothea School (photograph by Everett Hall)

A name often mentioned when discussing Philothea's past is that of Henry Hemmelgarn, the village's long-time schoolmaster.

According to Leo Wenning, 86, one of Philothea's oldest citizens, Hemmelgarn was his teacher for all his years in school and taught every subject the school offered.

He taught some 70 students, grades 1-8 in a one-room school house, Wenning said, and in the old-time tradition, taught "with a hickory stick". The teacher's house was next to what is now Schulze's garage, Wenning said, and was received free with the salary.

Leo's brother, Lewis, 81, had Hemmelgarn as a teacher only for his first and last years, but remembers him nonetheless as a notorious and strict man, who also served as church organist for many years.

During his school years, he said, students were taught English and German grammar, English and German reading, geography, history, orthography and arithmetic.

The present school was built in 1924, and the former one-room school house still exists, but as a family garage for the persons who reside next to it. The land where the school, then labelled Uppenkamp School, and the church stand was then termed, "The Commons", both Wennings said.

The present school no longer is in use, as it was consolidated with the Coldwater Exempted Village School System in recent years.

The Wenning homeplace, at 113 years, is one of the county's oldest, and was built by their grandfather, Joseph, after he was told that "Mercer County is the garden spot of Ohio" by an apparently smooth-talking salesman. Joseph moved to Philothea from Cincinnati.

The history of Philothea would not be complete without some mention of the black citizens of the county, some of whom lived for a time in the Philothea vicinity.

The written history of the blacks in the county is contradictory, but apparently a loosely-formed community of blacks did reside in the Philothea area and for a time attended St. Marys Church.

According to the History of Mercer County Parishes, written in 1950-51 by students of St. Charles Seminary in Carthegena, during 1857, the Rev. John Vanden Bosch baptized 43 persons at St. Mary's "practically all of whom were blacks."

In the face of both physical hardships and hostility by the white settlers, the community eventually began moving toward the Carthegena area, where a somewhat more structured and organized black community already existed.

Although a small village, Philothea has seen much during its years, the taming of the wilderness, the intermittent establishment of roads, churches, schools and businesses, the gradual changes from the German to Americanized lifestyles and both the Depression and the more prosperous years.

Philothea still is changing; young people are getting married and while some move out, still others stay or return to the village, ensuring its existence for some time to come. *Shannon McFarlin*

St. Marys Cemetery

Philothea School

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Hemmelgarn Egg Company, (Gary Lefeld Photograph)

HEMMELGARN EGG COMPANY

The start of Hemmelgarn Egg Company: I Ed Hemmelgarn started on my fathers farm. In 1928 my father gave me interest in 300 laying hens. Due to this I started buying eggs and some poultry. I got marred in 1930 to Josephine Wenning, and then we started to buy eggs from other farmers. We started with $35.00 cash and graded the eggs in my father's basement. Had a model T Ford with a trailer and hauled the eggs to Cincinnati, Ohio. Three years later we moved to Philothea and by now we were able to buy a Model A Ford pick-up truck and ran the business out of a barn. We were up to about 100 cases per week along with some poultry. In 1936 we bought the Philothea dance hall and used it for a grading plant. In 1937 bought the first 1-1/2 ton Ford truck which held about 168 cases of eggs. We were handling about 300 to 400 cases per week at this time and had six employees. By this time we were going to a number of cities in the Ohio area on sales. The price of eggs when we started when the banks closed in the 1930's was as low as 6 to 8¢ per dozen. After the banks opened again the price raised to 13 to 18¢ per dozen. Each year we kept getting larger.

By 1945 we bought our first semi-tractor trailer. This was a Mack tractor and a Gram trailer. We were now up to 600 to 700 cases per week, with twelve employees. In 1946 we got our first electric grading machine which graded the eggs. In 1950 disaster struck — the plant was destroyed by fire. In July 1950 we had a new plant built and had around eighteen employees handling 1000 cases per week. From year to year we kept growing. In 1959 we incorporated the business along with our two sons Floyd Hemmelgarn and Jerry Hemmelgarn and changed the name to Hemmelgarn & Sons, Inc. At this time our business expanded so that by 1959 we were up to 5000 cases per week and had 40 to 45 employees. We also were handling poultry for which we had a plant in Coldwater, Ohio for dressing and live poultry. In 1963 the egg business got bigger so we discontinued the poultry and went completely to the egg business. By the close of 1977 we had handled 13,000,000 dollars worth of eggs for the year, or about 800,000 cases of eggs and we employed about 100 people. The square feet in our plant where the eggs are graded and candled is 23700 square feet — 13500 square feet of this is cooler. A warehouse where material is stored — 13500 square feet. We also have a 3200 square foot garage where we do our own truck repair. To handle the business in transportation we have seven tractor trailer and seventeen smaller trucks. We cover five states in sales.

We have a warehouse in Kent, Ohio and Corry, Pa. and own part interest in a warehouse at Youngstown, Ohio and White Feather Farms in Muncie, Ind. Along with the egg business our warehouses have added all kinds of cheese, butter, margarine and many other different items.

Our complete operation: The home plant at Coldwater gathers the eggs from the farms. The eggs are taken to the plant where they are graded, candled, and cartoned ready for the retail stores to sell. We are under U.S.D.A. supervision at all times. The eggs are then taken to our warehouses ready to be sold to the stores. We also deliver out of Coldwater to many other warehouses and super markets.

This is how the company which started from nothing in the 1930's to 800,000 cases per year by 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hemmelgarn, Floyd, Jerome, and Betty continue to support Mercer County in various community ventures.

(Gary Lefeld Photograph)

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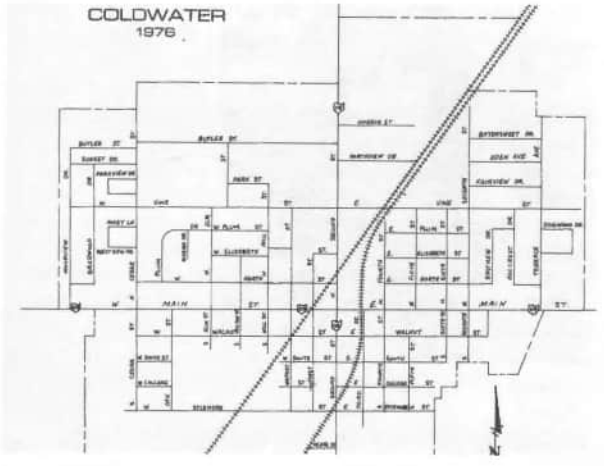
COLDWATER

by Eugene Weber



EARLY DAYS

What is now Coldwater and Butler Township, long with the rest of Mercer County, was virgin mber land when acquired from the Indians by the ew state of Ohio. As elsewhere, the first white set- lers were squatters who lived on the land without itle to the land. It is not known who was the first in his area, but it is believed to have been Joseph hatto who located near what is now Coldwater in 826. Other early arrivals in the neighborhood were . C. Grey, 1835; John F. Hickman, Jerimiah Plum- ner, and Jacob Baker in 1836, and Peter Stevens in 837.

The center of what is now Coldwater was divided ff by Federal surveyors as sections 27, 28, 33, and 4, Butler Township, Mercer County, Ohio. The our sections intersected at what is now the corner f Main St. and Second St., Coldwater. The north- ast quarter of section 33 was sold by the U.S. Gov- rnment to W. A. O. Munsel on March 20, 1837; the outheast quarter of section 28 to M. S. Franks on March 20, 1837; and the northwest quarter of sec- ion 34 to Samuel Snider on Feb. 5, 1836. These racts were divided and sold to others. Other early ettlers were William Bunch and Joseph A. Smith.

In 1838 W. A. O. Munsel built a log cabin at what s now the intersection of First St. and South St., and his date is now accepted as the birth of Coldwater. Mr. Munsel, Mr. Franks, and Mr. Snider were not peculators, but industrious farmers who were inter- sted in establishing permanent homes.

The area stayed as farm land until the Original lat was inscribed by W. A. O. Munsel on August 8, 1859. The original plat was 36 lots, bounded on he north by the present Main St., on the east by the resent Second St., on the west by the present Mill St., and on the south by what is now the alley be- ween Walnut St. and South St. The South Addition vas inscribed by Mr. W. A. O. Munsel May 11, 867, and added 10 more lots, extending the plat to the present South St. The Riggs and Geller Addition on the North extended the platted hamlet to what is now North Street and made it almost a perfect square.

Coldwater was the center of a vast and dense area of the finest virgin timber and much clearing was necessary. These huge trees, hickory, ash, oak, elm, walnut, etc., were a great deterrent to the establishment of homes and raising of crops. These thousands of forest giants had no value and the easiest riddance of such hindrances to development were huge bonfires which darkened the sky with smoke for many miles.

It was not until about 1870 that timber men from Great Lakes shipbuilding companies came into the area and began felling trees which were then cut into proper lengths for ship timber. The erection of sawmills followed as a matter of necessity and a new industry was born which added greatly to the prosperity and economic growth of the community.

The first sawmill was built on what now is the north side of West Main St. between Mill St. and Wilson St. by Peter Fox. Other sawmills followed, making such things as wheel spokes, cants, and bending timber which were sold to manufacturers who used them in making buggies, wagons, and other equipment.

Before the railroads extended their lines through Coldwater, all shipments of timber were hauled on ox and horse drawn wagons, mainly to Celina, where they were stacked in huge piles along the west embankment of the Reservoir (Grand Lake) at the foot of Main Street. There they were lashed into rafts and poled across the Lake to the Miami and Erie Canal for similar shipment to Toledo.

At that time, a sound large oak tree brought $3 "of the stump" to the farmer and was the source of much of his cash income. Labor costs were about 75¢ to $1 per day.

The first railroad, the L.E. & W., reached Coldwater in 1879. After several consolidations and name changes, this is now the Norfolk and Western line. It was followed in less than a year by the Cincinnati Northern, which, after similar consolidations, name changes, and bankruptcies, is the Western Ohio Railroad. The coming of the railroad brought an economic boom, making it much easier and cheaper to transport the timber products, and allowing the shipping of finished timber articles. The first factory using local timber was established by Clark and Co. on the east bank of Coldwater Creek. It made stove headings and handle squares, producing 2 car loads of finished products a day and the road was always lined with teams bringing in the timber or hauling the finished product to the railroad for shipment east.

L.E.&W. R.R. Depot (Gary Lefeld Photograph)

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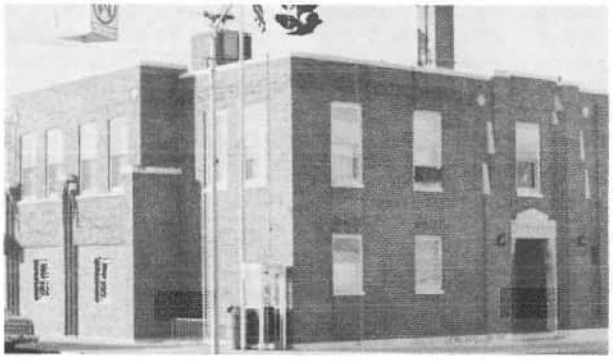
The growing hamlet, like many others, went through several name changes. It was originally known as "Buzzard's Glory", in honor of David Buzzard, who was a highly respected citizen who owned the first general store. Later it was known to some as "Franktown" because of the many families named Frank residing there. However, the name adopted by village was Cold Water, named after the clear, cold running water of Coldwater Creek. The two words later became one, Coldwater.

By 1883, the village was growing, but, and most importantly, had citizens of industry and foresight. It boasted two churches, a school system, two railroads, factories, mills, and stores. It was time for incorporation.



Coldwater Village Hall

GOVERNMENT

In 1883 the citizens of the hamlet in the center of Butler Township decided to petition for incorporation. The following voters signed the incorporation petition: Peter Haubert, J. J. Shellich, Joseph Perkins, Walter Balls, Perry Arbaugh, Anton Diebolt, J. Omlor, H. H. Houser, J. L. Weis, W. H. Finley, Henry Moeller, J. R. Brucken, Isaac Backhouse, John Baker, J. B. Hoyng, Lawrence Woeste, J. T. Omlor, Fred Karch, George Hierholzer, Charles H. Williams, Henry Wills, Charles Pitchford, J. A. Hartzell, A. W. Teagle, Cornelius C. Copsey, Charles, Fisher, John Martz, John Will, L. N. Wagner, H. C. Fox, John Cencenbaugh, John Powells, E. C. Smith, C. Worthington, William Quniton, John Williams, R. C. McMillan, W. S. Isenhart, John Moore, C. F. Bohman, W. R. Wiggner, William Carts, and D. W. Frick. Peter Haubert acted as attorney for the petitioners. The petition was granted on July 14, 1883, by the County Commissioners, John Frahm, J. B. Snider, and William Lacy.

The first election for a panel of governing officials was held in the same year with the following results: Mayor, Joseph L. Weis; Clerk, Walter J. Ball; Treasurer, Henry Houser; Marshall, Joseph Wagoner; and Councilmen, Peter Haubert, J. B. Hoyng, John Martz, George Rosenbeck, Lawrence Woeste, and S. F. Johnston. The administration met, organized, set bonds for the various officials, and began passing ordinances for the governing of the growing village. The duties must have been heavy, since both Mayor Weis and Clerk Ball resigned within months. L. N. Waggoner was appointed Clerk, and D. W. Frick was elected the new mayor.

In September of 1883 the citizens of Coldwater asked that a Village Hall, housing a Council room as well as a jail and facilities for town meetings, b built. The next meeting of the Council decided tha they join forces with the Butler Township Trustee and erect a Town and Township Hall. Plans for th proposed building progressed under Mayor Fric and a bid of $1855.50 made by D. B. Shattuch wa accepted and in July of 1884 the lot located at th corner of First St. and Walnut St. was purchased fc the hall and construction began on a two floor bric building which was to serve the community for th next seventy-nine years.

The Old Town Hall saw duty for the communit in many ways. The first High School classes held i Coldwater were on the second floor of this building as well as being the first location in Coldwater of th Buckeye Overall Co. The second floor was the scen of many community controversial meetings, was th home of the Catholic Knights of America and thei dances for the community, and housed the Librar for over twenty years. The marshall's office and jai also was a busy place for many years. They even ha a real western-style shootout about the turn of th century which left the marshall dead. According t legend, the gun fight was over a girl. The buildin also housed the fire department of the village.

The building was condemned in 1928, but it con tinued to be used until 1960, when it was finall completely abandoned. In 1929 a bond issue wa passed for the purpose of erecting a new City Hal and on February 4, 1935, the land at the corner o Main St. and Market St. was purchased. The build ing was completed in 1935 and contained a gymna sium, since the high school at that time did not hav any athletic facilities. After the high school acquirec their own facilities, the space was used for dances bingo parties, and other gatherings. Later, after a bond issue for renovation had passed, the librar was moved there from the old Town Hall in April of 1962. The fire department was housed in the 1935 building until April, 1972, when it was moved into its own new building at the corner of W. Main St. and Wilson St. The police department is still housed in the 1935 building, although jail facilities had been abandoned for many years.

The village also continued to grow by annexation: 80 acres south of Main St. and east of Second Street in 1890; north of Main St. and east of Second Street in 1907; and other early additions. After World War II, beginning in 1947, a second expansion of the village began and has continued until this day.

The first street improvements were made in 1889, when gravel streets were built by Spriggs and Sons. These were followed in 1916 by asphalt paved streets and later in the 1960's by concrete streets and curbs. In the 1930's, Mr. Harold Romer, then a councilman, was influential in having the State of Ohio pave Second Street through the village. This was the first pavement by the state of Ohio through an incorporated village.

The village government also worked to improve living conditions through various public utility franchises, to be detailed later.

In 1976, the village government made another change, hiring for the first time a full-time village administrator. Mr. Ray Kremer became the first Coldwater Village Administrator.

As far as is known, a state record has been set as Mr. Walter Bernard served as village solicitor for 42

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ears, from 1934 to 1976.

The mayors of Coldwater have been: Weis, Joseph ., 1883-1883; Frick, D. W., 1883-1884; Beams, D. H., 884-1885; Frick, D. W., 1885-1887; Schelick, J. J., 887-1887; Henley, William E., 1887-1888; Frick, D. V., 1888-1891; Brown, S. V., 1891-1893; Frick, D. V., 1893-1895; Rauh, C. J., 1895-1898; Franks, Frank A. 1898-1900; Schultz, John F., 1900-1902; Brown, S. V., 1902-1905; Franks, Frank A., 1905-1908; Shultz, ohn F., 1908-1910; Morvilius, Charles F., 1910-1911; ox, Henry C., 1911-1915; Morvilius, Charles F., 915-1916; Franks, Frank A., 1916-1918; Morvilius, Charles F., 1919-1920; Browns, S. V., 1920-1922; oss, H. W., 1922-1923; Franks, Frank A., 1923-1924; Veamer, Dr. P. F., 1924-1930; Fischer, Charles, 1930-932; Weamer, Dr. P. F., 1932-1932; Boeke, John H., 932-1936; Schoch, Arnold T., 1936-1938; Dock, Villiam P., 1938-1942; Heckman, August, 1942-946; Bernard, August H., 1946-1950; Moorman, ylvester, 1950-1953; Briner, Ralph, 1953-1954; gan, Edward, 1954-1956; Weigel, Otto C., 1956-962; Mueller, William P., 1962-1967; Fortener, Wal-er R., 1968-1971; Cron, Maurice G., 1972- .

BUSINESS

Ever since David Buzzard established the first eneral store in what is now the village of Coldwa-er, the village has been blessed with far-sighted usinessmen who have not only been interested in heir own business but also in the general welfare of he community. A complete list of all businesses vhich have ever been in Coldwater would be an im-ossibility to comply, but lists from selected years vill bring back names and provide an overall picture f the growth of the village.

At the time of the incorporation of the village in 883, Coldwater had two general stores, run by Jo-eph Perkins and Frank Rahe; a grocery of Vinard ast; the Hoyng & Weiss drug store; the Frank Veber & Bro. Hardware; two hotels, the American louse and one operated by Perry Arbaugh; Jacob wartz's restaurant; John Powell's meat market; ag-icultural implements were sold by John Schilling; ohn Martz's blacksmith shop; the warehouse run y Peter Hubbard; the grist mill of Hoyng & Voeste; John Bracken sold saddles; Joseph Wagner vas the wagon maker; and Henry Wenning, Peter echter, and A. Hoffman were carpenters.

In 1884 the first newspaper was established, the Coldwater Change. The 1900 list of businesses nclude the Coldwater Change; the general stores of Henry C. Fox, C. F. Morvilius, and Wm. Haslinger & on; the grocery stores of Joseph Franks, John Suth-rland, and Mrs. Catherine Desch; the Becker & Conrath, M. G. Martin, and James Schuckman meat narkets; N. M. Gast and Mrs. D. H. Miller sold mil-nery; Jacob Willhoff and Kleinhenz & Garner had ardware stores; F. A. Franks was a tailor; Samuel ahn sold clothing; Mrs. Anna Heman sold notions; . E. Schindler operated a drug store; P. E. Arbaugh ad a confectionary; Phil C. Stachler sold jewelry; George Heiser sold vehicles and harness; Henry andwehr sold harness; Rathweg & Hoyng sold farm nplements; the Robert Hixon Lumber Co.; Wappel-orst & Mackey had a coal yard; J. F. Hoyng and Henry Wappelhorst were tinsmiths; J. C. Miller sold icycles; J. A. Long, produce; D. H. Miller ran the hotel; J. B. Birkmeyer, the livery stable, J. J. Birk-meyer was a barber; J. R. Desch sold furniture and was the undertaker; Desch & Hummer sold monu-ments; H. B. Hoffman had a grain elevator; Fox & Hess operated a grist mill and dealt in grain; and John Martz, the Bernard Bros., and Henry Stuve had blacksmith shops.

In 1902 the People's Bank Company was organ-ized, and is on every list of Coldwater businesses since then. By 1925 the list included: Schindler's Drug Store; Henry C. Fox's general store; Harold Romer & Co., clothing; Kroger's, Busy Bee, and Schmit Bros., groceries; Smith's variety store; Morvi-lius Cut Price Store and Wendel & Sons, clothing; the Rex Theatre; Ben Lochtefeld, plumbing and roofing; J. F. Hoyng and Jacob Willhoff, hardware; the Western Ohio Lumber Co.; Boeke & Link, real estate and insurance; J. J. Mackey, shoe repair; Desch's Furniture; H. Kettler, Jewelry; Helen Geise beauty shoppe; the Union Stock Yards; J. R. Desch, undertaker; Julius Kremsner; the H. Birkmeyer Tile & Coal Co.; Heiser Bros., Fords; the City Garage; J. A. Giere; Fox & Hess; Schoch & Miller's American Restaurant; Kallmeyer Bros. Restaurant; C. W. Becker, piano tuner, sales; Henry Stall; and Fred Jamming's second hand store.

The 1937 list included: Heiser's Garage, Chevro-lets; the Coldwater Ice Co.; Schoch Bros. Paint Store; J. R. Gast Plumbing & Heating; John H. Boeke, In-surance; Sylvester Schroer, Contractor; Johnson Oil Refining Co.; N. J. Smith Ben Franklin Store; Am-stutz Hatchery; National Finance Co.; Julius Froning Shoe Repair; Schindler's Drug Store; H. P. Blaeser General Insurance; Ed Wendel Clothing; Walter Stump, Blacksmith; H. Kettler, jewelry; Jenkins Ho-tel; Romer's Store; Home Bakery (Schenking Bros.); Lady Fair Beauty Shop; Miller Barber Shop; Becker & Schlosser, Groceries; J. F. Hoyng Hardware; Cold-water Plumbing & Heating; Coldwater Oil Co.; Coldwater Implement Co.; City Restaurant; City Ga-rage; Coldwater Grain & Coal Co.; Albert Sunder-haus, Barber; Franks, Tailors; Esther's Beauty Shop; the Boston Store; Fox & Hess; Xavier Hein Barber Shop; A. J. Lechner, Insurance; The Kroger Store; F. B. Wimmers & Son, contractor; Schmit Bros., grocer-ies; the Columbia Theatre; Busy Bee Grocery; F. J. & R. A. Hoyng, sheet metal work; Coldwater Poultry House; A. Rosengarten Dairy Products; Julius Kremsner, groceries; Coldwater Union Stock Yards; Birkmeyer Bros., Tile and Coal; Western Ohio Lum-ber Co.; Home Service Station; Chronicle Printing Co.; Fred Hoyng, painter; Coldwater Guernsey Dairy; Bettie's Restaurant; Knapschaefer's Garage; Desch's, furniture and funeral directors; Wm. Well-man, contractor; A. Link, real estate; Streacher's Restaurant; Willhoff Hardware; Star Restaurant; A. R. Pontius Service Station; People's Bank; Frank H. Rosengarten, coal; and Niekamp Bros., decorators.

The 1963 list included: Schoch Bros. Paint Store; People's Bank; Kettler's Jewelry; Willhoff's Hard-ware & Furniture; K & A Pure Oil; Werling Motors; Kay's Beauty Salon; Hibner Jewelers; Francis Furni-ture Store; Coldwater Lumber Co.; Bob's Carry Out; City Restaurant; Fox & Hess; Sowar's Department Store; Coldwater Grain Co., Inc.; Dairy Maid Prod-ucts; Rish Plumbing & Heating; Kremer's Restau-rant; Home Service Station; Simpson Auto Sales; Jackson's Garage; Adams Bros. Sheet Metal; Cold-

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water Maintenance; Braun's Radio & TV; Lefeld's Welding; Custom Body Shop; Jenkins Sales & Service; Romer's Store; Royal Crest Dairy; Coldwater Home Supply; J. F. Hoyng Hardware; Pearce's 5¢ to $1 Store; Don's Flowers and Gifts; Lefeld Implement; Oberholzer Insurance; Boeke Insurance; Sanning's Service Station; Coldwater Implement Co.; Mescher's Market; Boeckman's Pure Oil; Busy Bee Grocery; Jutte's IGA; Bonifas Gulf Service; Fred H. Braun, contractor; Birkmeyer's — fuel oil; H & W Malt Shoppe; A. J. Gebele Insurance; Tangeman Cleaners; Ida's Beauty Shoppe; Home Bakery; Ray's Refrigeration; R. A. Hoyng Supply Co.; Wagner Contractors; Main Street Restaurant; Beckman's Restaurant; Rich's Drive In; Elmer's Barber Service; Sunderhaus Barber Shop; Hein Barber Shop; Central Soft Water Service; Ralph Harlamert, real estate; Schindler Drug Store; and Pla Mor Lanes.

The 1978 list includes the following: Moorman's Accounting Service; Lefeld's Welding; Ray's Refrigeration; Mercer County Chronicle; Coldwater Home Supply; Braun's Radio & TV; Coldwater Auction Service; Rentz Auction Co.; Ralph Harlamert, real estate; Custom Body Shop; Werling Motors; Knapke Motor Sales; CBS Automotive Supply; Jerry's Garage; Mall Service Center; Sanning Service Station; First National Bank of Mercer County; People's Bank; Bob's Barber Shop; Elmer's Barber Service; Larry Obringer, barber; Beauty Boutique; Joni's Fashion Salon; Mr. B's French Manor; New Image Beauty Shop; Bob's Carry Out; Knap's Carry Out; Kremer's Restaurant; Bicycle Shop; John Hartings & Associates; Pla Mor Lanes; Coldwater Shell Service; Hein Bridal Shop; Baker Bldg. & Supply Co.; Coldwater Lumber Co.; Green's Meat Service; Now's Clean Car Center; Quality Cleaners; Louis Gross Floor Co.; Schoch Paint Store Inc.; Willhoff's Furniture; Coldwater Laundry Village; Home Cleaners; Wagner Constructon; Wellman Bros.; Merle Norman Cosmetics; Ben Franklin Store; Harold Romer's Store; Sowar's Dept. Store; Kaup's Electric; Jackson's Garage Inc.; Coldwater Implement Co.; Coldwater Grain Co. Inc.; Schwieterman's Pharmacy; Roger's Flowers and Gifts; Hogenkamp Funeral Home; Home Service Station; Brodbeck's Market; Jutte's IGA; J. F. Hoyng Hardware; Mall True Value Hardware; Ace Radiator Shop; Rish Plumbing & Heating; Brunswick Maintenance Co.; ICP; Ray's Drive In; Boeke Insurance Agency; Maurice Cron, insurance; Harold Feltz, insurance; W. E. Hart, insurance; Ralph Stammen, insurance; Olding-Gebele-George Agency; Froelich's Jewelry; Hibner Jeweler; Buschur's Landscaping; American Budget Co.; Home Building & Loan Co.; Meadow Acres Inc.; Bargain Hunter Printing; Tom Homan, real estate; Bettie's Restaurant; City Restaurant; Koester's Korner; S & S Draft Haus; South Side Inn; Boeckman's Union 76; Certified Oil; Coldwater Sheet Metal Shop; Nickelodeon; Sutton's; Central Soft Water Service; and Superior Water Service.

No claim is made that any list includes all businesses in operation in Coldwater that year. The lists were taken from advertisements of the time. The oldest businesses in Coldwater were the Schindler Drug Store, which went from 1893 to 1978; the J. F. Hoyng Hardware, which, under several names, has been in business since 1891; and Willhoff Furniture, which began as Willhoff Hardware in 1899.

INDUSTRY

From the very beginning Coldwater has had mo industry than most small towns. With the countr covered with trees it was only natural that the earl industry centered on wood, with sawmills comin first. In the 1880's and 1890's there were factorie manufacturing such things as wheel spokes, benc ing timber and cants, handles, and stove heading An excelsior factory also existed. These wood indu tries were very susceptible to fire. A wagonmakin shop at Second and Walnut (Schindlers) was de stroyed by fire in 1885 and in 1892 the Bettinge Hoop Factory and Sawmill burned to the ground.

In 1898 Henry C. Fox and Edward H. He founded Fox & Hess Co., and built an elevator i Coldwater, on East Main St. at Third St. They mar ufactured flour, their three brands being "Mod Rose", "Water Lilly", and "Favorite". They discor tinued milling in 1947, and the elevator was sold an demolished in 1971.

In the early 1920's a committee of Coldwater bus nessmen were busy attempting to lure another ir dustry to the village. Their efforts, under the leade ship of John Boeke, eventually bore fruit when Pe Milk Co. of St. Louis decided to locate a milk receiv ing plant in Coldwater. In November, 1927, the re ceiving plant opened for business. In 1936 the dec sion was made to build a full operations plant i Coldwater, and the building was opened in 1937. Se veral additions have been made to this origin plant, on East Vine Street, and the plant continue operations today as Pet Inc. The 1937 plant was bui to produce evaporated milk, which is no longe produced in Coldwater; other milk products are nov the output of Pet Inc.

In 1945 Bill Pax designed a new steel hog feede The post-war shortages kept Pax from going int immediate production, but in 1947 Pax, along witl N. J. (Dick) Smith, Henry Knapke, and Bartel Desch incorporated Pax Steel Products, Inc. Original hom of the company was a 25 ft. by 50 ft. building o North Fourth Street. Today the industry has grow to Coldwater's second largest taxpayer, with man additions to the original plant, and also branches i other cities. The company, today under the presi dency of Arnold Kramer, produces a complete lin of farm feeders.

In 1949 Harold Sudhoff and Jerome Kaup began & K Metal Products, Inc., in Kaup's garage on N Second Street. Their first product was toy metal gar den tools. About 1957 they constructed a buildin on East Vine Street. Today their main product is fur niture hardware. Presently they have about 20 em ployees in their expanded building.

Zeno Schoenlein and Lee Rosenbeck founde Coldwater Machine & Tool Company in the ol Amstutz Hatchery building on N. Second Street i 1956. Soon a building was constructed on E. Vin Street, and Don Wellman joined the partnership They have, and are, producing jigs, dies, specia tools, and special machinery. Since 1976 the owner are Jerry Turner, Jerry Meyer, and Bob Moorman They presently have about 25 employees.

Superior Silo Company, owned by Bob Abels built a factory on West Butler Street in 1964. The manufacture silos and other feeding equipment.

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he original New Idea Spreader Works in Maria Stein, Ohio ·ected in 1899.

Avco New Idea Farm Equipment Division, Coldwater, Ohio

AVCO NEW IDEA FARM EQUIPMENT DIVISION

From one idea in the mind of a school teacher in ıe village of Maria Stein, Ohio, has grown Avco lew Idea, a company whose products are known nd respected by farmers all over the world.

Ohio school teacher, Joseph Oppenheim, was ·oubled over the regular Spring absence from chool of those children who were needed at home n the farm to haul out the manure accumulated ver the winter. It took a long time to spread it with ıanure forks. Oppenheim designed rotating pad-les to pulverize and spread the material as it was ıoved to the rear by conveyor chain, and this con-tituted the first successful manure spreader.

On October 18, 1899, Oppenheim broke ground or his first factory at Maria Stein, Ohio.

The first Coldwater, Ohio plant, erected in 1907, loubled production facilities. In 1910, the New Idea ·preader Company moved its entire operation from Maria Stein to Coldwater. The business was incor-·orated in 1920.

By 1924, Joseph Oppenheim's idea had greatly ex-·anded to meet the ever-increasing demand for arm machinery. The Coldwater plant had been en-arged to cover 20 acres of factory space.

New Idea continued to expand on two fronts in he late twenties. They introduced high-quality, in-ıovative farm machinery, and they purchased new acilities in order to continue their growth.

The Great Depression slowed, but did not stop, he progress of New Idea. In 1930, the Sandwich Manufacturing Company of Sandwich, Illinois, was ·urchased. It had a particularly fine reputation for ts line of corn shellers, portable elevators, side de-ivery rakes, and hay loaders.

In October of 1945, New Idea, Inc. was purchased ·y the Avco Corporation and became one of its ma-or manufacturing divisions.

Growth continued. In 1951, the Horn Manufactur-ng Company of Fort Dodge, Iowa, was purchased to ·ive Avco New Idea a line of hydraulic loaders, vagon boxes, and stalk shredders. In 1953, Ezee ·low Corporation of Collegeville, Pennsylvania, the world's largest producer of fertilizer spreaders, was acquired by Avco.

In 1963, Avco New Idea took a bold leap forward by acquiring the "Uni-Tractor" line of self-propelled, interchangeable harvesting machines from the former Minneapolis-Moline Company. In 1965, Avco New Idea introduced its own design of the Uni-System. Because of Uni, it was necessary to again expand the Coldwater manufacturing facility in 1966, adding nearly 300,000 square feet.

Avco New Idea has continually expanded its Uni-System line since its introduction, to provide better performance and greater versatility. Eleven new pieces of Uni-System equipment were introduced in October, 1976.

Marketing of these new Uni products had again made the Uni line highly important to the company, accounting for approximately 40 percent of Avco New Idea's total sales.

In further reference to marketing, there are presently five regional offices which are located in Harrisburg, PA; Sandwich, IL; Fort Dodge, IA; Cambridge, Ontario, and Coldwater, OH.

Avco New Idea is represented by more than 1,200 farm equipment dealers located across the United States Corn Belt and in Canada.

In recent years, greater emphasis has been placed on overseas sales, with distribution in 24 foreign countries. The majority of Avco New Idea's international sales have been in western European countries.

Today, Avco New Idea is a truly modern manufacturing complex. It embodies the most up-to-date equipment and procedures for efficient operation. The complete facility is located on a 66-acre site with more than 33 acres (1,446,500 square feet of floor space) under roof.

Farming is still one area which is truly independent. Avco New Idea continues to be optimistic about the future of the farmer, realizing that the farm family is still the backbone of American agriculture.

With a goal to constantly meet the ever-increasing needs of the farmer and knowing that mechanization and economics will force operations to expand, Avco New Idea remains strong to develop the highest quality machines designed to help farmers do their jobs better, faster, and easier.

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Boeke Insurance Agency — **Left to Right:** W.J. Boeke, Owner; John Boeke, Agent; Kathryn Lechleiter, Secretary.

THE BOEKE INSURANCE AGENCY

In the year 1914, John H. Boeke, who had been teaching school for 13 years in the southern part of Mercer County near Carthagena, decided to move to Coldwater. He formed a partnership with Aloys Link of Coldwater and they engaged in the Insurance and Real Estate business. They were known as the "Coldwater Insurance and Realty Company", and later as "Boeke and Link, Agents". Their office was located in the rear of the Peoples Bank Building at the corner of Main and First Streets. They remained at this location until 1930 when they moved into the Charles Morovilius Building, which stood at the present site of Willhoff's Furniture Store. They occupied this location until 1934 when they dissolved the partnership. In that same year, John H. Boeke's son, Werner, became associated in the business of selling insurance. In 1936, a plot of ground at 117 South Second Street was purchased from Tony Streacker and a brick office building was erected which still stands today. In 1959, John H. Boeke retired from the business at the age of 83 years. With the business growing at a rapid rate, the office building at 117 South Second Street soon became too small. Consequently, in 1973 an office building at 121 West Main Street was leased and renovated and is now the present location of the Boeke Insurance Agency. In 1974, John Boeke became associated with his father, Werner, in the business. This will be the third generation associated with the Insurance business in Coldwater, spanning the years 1914 to 1978 for a total of 64 years serving the insurance needs of the people living in Mercer County and the surrounding area. *W. J. Boeke*

BUCKEYE APPAREL, INC.

Buckeye Apparel, Inc., one of the area's oldest ir dustries, was established in 1898 in Versailles, Ohi The founders were Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Grilliot an was called The Buckeye Overall Company. As bus ness increased, the Grilliots joined forces in 189 with the Versailles Overall Co., and incorporated i 1917 as The Buckeye Overall Company, Inc.

In the year 1916, with the demand increasing fo Buckeye-made working garments, it became neces sary to expand to another locality. A group of Cold water businessmen, headed by J. F. Hoyng, Jacol Willhoff, and Joe Droesch, contacted Mr. Grillio concerning the possibility of a sewing operation i Coldwater. Their endeavors were successful, and o November 4, 1916, the branch operation was started It was managed by Mr. Charles Fischer until his re tirement in 1952, and then by his son, Wayne, unti his retirement in 1974. In 1938, a new building wa constructed adjacent to the old Heirholzer buildin (pictured above) and it still houses the local opera tion.

The company manufactured men's and boy' shirts and pants during those early years, supplyin many of the national chain stores, along with thei own brand, Master Buck. During the depressior years of the 1930's, Buckeye played an importan role in maintaining the economy of the village. A the years and styles changed, the company found it self making more men's and ladies jeans and style garments.

In 1970, a major re-organization of the company took place. The name was changed to Buckeye Apparel, Inc., to more adequately encompass this wide range of work and leisure wear now manufactured. The Coldwater facility now manufactures a wide variety of men's swimwear and active sportswea which is sold coast to coast and in several foreig countries. Upon Wayne Fischer's retirement, th management of the Coldwater plant was assume by Roger M. James, III.

Present officers of the company are: Roger M James, Jr., President and Treasurer; Wayne C Fischer, Vice-President; John T. Pepiot, Vice President; and Roberta M. James, Secretary.

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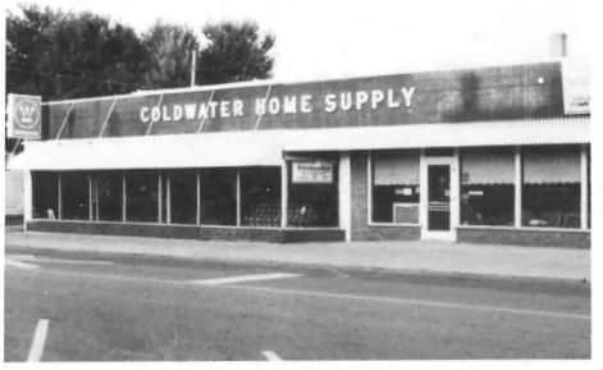

Coldwater Home Supply

Art and Salome Pleiman

Carl Sutter, Technician

Roy Pleiman, Delivery and Management Trainee

COLDWATER HOME SUPPLY

Coldwater Home Supply had its beginning in March 1948 when I, Arthur Pleiman, opened a Commercial Refrigerator Service business in Coldwater. Later that year I purchased an interest in the Coldwater Car and Home Supplies. It was a Good Year Auto Supply Store that also sold household appliances. The store was located at 217 West Main St. in Coldwater.

In 1956 we leased a building from Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hess located at 119 West Main St. and moved our store to that location. At this time we discontinued the auto supplies and expanded our appliance department.

The year 1959 was a crucial year, our country was in the midst of a recession, and I barely made a living. I almost took a job selling Nationwide Insurance figuring I wouldn't have all the money tied up in inventory. In 1960 Salome, my wife, entered the business and she deserves a great deal of credit for its success.

In the beginning a service call in the customer's home was $1.50. Due to our inflated economy the last 30 years it now costs $15.00. The Westinghouse automatic tumbler washer was on the scene when we started in business, however the conventional washer with a wringer was used by most people.

In 1966 we leased our present building at 106 S. Market St. from Bartell and Ann Desch. This is when we added furniture and bedding to our operation. This store has about three times more floor space than our previous one. Our business has grown every year since 1960.

My silent partner Dr. C. C. Feldhake was very instrumental in the success of this business from the beginning. He is no longer a partner but remains a close friend.

Our present employees beside Salome and I are; Carl Sutter, technician, he has been here 24 years. Frederick John "Bud" Bruns, salesman, 9 years. Ann Wenning, bookkeeper, 10 years. Also Richard Homan, my nephew, Lorraine Schwartz, my daughter, and Roy Pleiman, my son. He is 23 years old and says he has been here 18 years.

We purchased a building and 2 acres of land at the corner of Rt. 127 and Rt. 219 this year. Plans at this time are incomplete, however, it is possible that we might move to this location in the near future. If we do move we will adapt a new Marketing Concept that has been tried in other parts of the country.

Some of the main lines we carry are in appliances; White, Westinghouse, Maytag, Litton, Hoover and Kitchenaide. Also White in sewing machines. Furniture; Flexsteel, Sealy, American Drew, St. Johns, and many others.

I believe that the success of our business, besides hard work, was my philosophy of selling a *quality product* backed by good service to our many customers.

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Central Soft Water Service, Inc.
105 - 107 W. Main St. Coldwater, Ohio 45828
419-678-2620

CENTRAL SOFT WATER SERVICE, INC.

Starting with just a few customers in the Coldwater area in the late 1950's Central Soft Water Service expanded rapidly in the 1960's. President, William King, made purchases of other water conditioning companies in Delphos in 1961 and Van Wert in 1962.

The company's main office is located at 107 W. Main St. in Coldwater. Its services consist of automatic softener sales or rentals, tank exchange service, salt and chemical sales and repairing of water softeners.

Employees are Wm. King, Bob King, Sue Ahrens, Marlene Bertke, Gene Braun, Bill Davis, Bill and Ralph Gelhaus, Ken Gerlach, Ernie Lefeld, Tom Pleiman, Les Quinter, Linda Schoenlein, Gary Schulte and Steve Weitzel.

In April of 1978 a branch office was opened in Greenville, Ohio. The company serves customers in seven Ohio counties and three Indiana counties.

Coldwater Oil Company. Coldwater Service Station, Office and Tin Shop — **Seated, Left to Right:** Randy and Bud Griesdorn, Mark, Dan, Karen, Kathy and Jack Schenking.

Coldwater Oil Co. Coldwater Bulk Plant.

COLDWATER OIL COMPANY

The Coldwater Oil Company originated in February 1930 with the purchase by William Dock of out lot sixteen from Sims Smith. The company sold White Rose gasoline and Enarco motor oils supplied through Ohio Empire Oil Company of St. Henry, Ohio. William Dock operated a delivery truck from the St.Henry bulk plant and C. H. "Painter" Hoying operated The Friendly Service Station at 301 E. Main St., Coldwater Ohio.

In 1934 Edward Stukenborg joined William Dock in the company and purchased the old Standard Oil Co. bulk plant on North Fourth Street from Henry Amstutz. In 1942 Albert Rammel bought out William Dock and in 1950 a 55,000 gallon bulk plant was built on S. R. 118 at Hardin Creek, on land purchased from Elmer Schoeppner.

Henry and Esther Schenking purchased Albert Rammel's half interest in May 1952. In August 1963 Ed Stukenborg sold his interest and Jack Schenking joined the company. When the business incorporated in 1964 its officers were Henry Schenking, President; Jack Schenking, Vice-Pres. and Esther Schenking, Sec'y-Treas. Jack Schenking became general manager of Coldwater Oil Co. in 1965, due to the illnesses of Henry and Esther Schenking Shell Oil Co. became the company's main supplier in 1955, and continues as its principle supplier today.

Some of the main growth factors for the Coldwater Oil Co. are: Construction of new service station in Coldwater in 1967; leasing of that station to Ralph Griesdorn in 1973; relocation of its bulk plant to eight acres purchased from Mrs. Bernard Selhorst at the corner of S.R. 118 and Buschor Road with underground storage of 92,000 gallons and above ground storage of 80,000 gallons: purchase of a service station in Celina in 1966 and one in Wapakoneta in 1976; purchase of a bulk storage plant in Darke County in 1969 with a capacity of 96,000 gallons, purchase in 1974 of the former Adams Brothers sheet metal shop and relocation in 1978 to remodeled warehouse next to the company office; acquisition of Birkmeyer Brothers Fuel Oil Co. in 1977 from Harold Lefeld, who subsequently joined the company as service manager.

The present officers of the company are Jack Schenking, President; Jerry Hemmelgarn, Vice-President; Irene Woeste, Treasurer and Kathy Schenking, Secretary. Present employees are Romie Frilling, Bill Wenning, Alvin May, Hugo and Mike Adams, Jeanette Fisher, Jack Weitz, Harold Lefeld, Joe Vonder Haar and Lee Pohlman.

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Hibner Jewelers, 106-108 W. Main Street, Coldwater, Ohio.

N.J. Hogenkamp Sons, Inc., Funeral Directors, Coldwater Home.

HIBNER JEWELERS

Robert E. Hibner, formerly affiliated with Thoma welers of Sidney and Piqua, Ohio, established his welry store in Coldwater on July 7, 1951. The store as located on South Second Street, with an assort- ent of jewelry and he specialized in watch and welry repairs.

After two years at that location the business was oved to the building which had been formerly oc- pied by the Peoples Bank Company, on the corner Main and First Streets.

On April 28, 1956 he moved to a larger facility at 06-108 West Main Street, in the building he resently occupies. In 1976 he celebrated his 25th ear in business in Coldwater.In the late 1960's, a ew store front and a walk-in vault were added to e existing building.

Mr. Hibner has been assisted in business by his ife Betty, and they are the parents of five children, ob Jr. of Columbus, and John, Maria, Joe and Ann home. They reside at 206 E. College St. in Cold- ater.

N. J. HOGENKAMP SONS, INC.
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

The funeral home in Coldwater was founded in 1900, by the late Joseph R. Desch. He sold the business in 1934 to his son, G. P. Desch, who operated it for 31 years. On January 10, 1965, the business was sold to N. J. Hogenkamp Sons.

N. J. Hogenkamp Sons, Inc. presently has homes in three locations, Minster, St. Henry, and Coldwater. They are owned and operated by Nicholas A. and Bernard Jay Hogenkamp, with Nick managing the Minster Home, Jay the Coldwater Home, and Larry Heitkamp the St. Henry Home.

The Hogenkamp business was established in 1874 at Minster. Joseph Knostman, maternal great grandfather of Nick and Jay, and Bernard J. Hogenkamp, fraternal great grandfather, were in business together at the turn of the century with Mr. Knostman making the caskets for Mr. Hogenkamp.

The burial boxes at that time, before embalming came in, were lined. The inside portion contained the body and the outside compartment was filled with ice. This section would have a hole in it and water from the melted ice would drop into a bucket which would have to be emptied periodically. Bodies at that time would only be shown for a day, then buried.

In the early 1900's the business was taken over by Nicholas J. Hogenkamp, grandfather of Nick and Jay, and in 1938 their father Nicholas P. bought the business. After the death of Nicholas P. in 1967 the firm was purchased by Nicholas A. and B. Jay.

The new home on East Main Street was opened on March 30, 1975.

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Home Building and Loan Company — **First Row, L. to R.:** Carroll Klinger, Dir. and First V. Pres.; W.J. Boeke, Dir. and Sec. Treasurer; Frederick J. Bruns, Pres. and Dir.; Kathryn Lechleiter, Asst. Sec. and Dir. **Second Row, L. to R.:** Donald J. Wellman, Dir.; James Noll, Dir.; Cyr T. Steinbrunner, Dir. and Credit Manager; John Boeke, Dir. and Gen. Assist.; Robert Beer, Dir.

THE HOME BUILDING AND LOAN COMPANY

The Home Building and Loan Company, 121 West Main Street, Coldwater, Ohio, a Mutual Organization, received its Articles of Incorporation from the State of Ohio on April 11, 1888. The incorporators were men with the following names: C. C. Weiser, John Martz, Charles Morovilius, P. Haubert, W. E. Hendley and L. N. Wagner. The Articles of Incorporation stated the corporation was formed quote "For the purpose of raising money to be loaned amoung its members for use in buying lots, or in building and repairing houses, or for other purposes under and in accordance with the provisions of Section 3833 and 3836 of the Revised Code of Ohio, the acts amendatory thereto and supplementary thereto, and other corporation laws of Ohio applicable to such a corporation".

Although the Company was chartered in April of 1888, records of the minutes from that date to 1905 are not available. However, the Company's minutes from May 10, 1905 to the present date have been kept and the following information has been obtained from them. It was found that J. B. Haslinger was Secretary-Treasurer for the period 1905 to 1915. F. A. Franks was appointed for the term 1915 to 1917 and following Mr. Franks was John H. Boeke, who was Secretary-Treasurer for 42 years, from 1917 to 1959. The present Secretary-Treasurer is W. J Boeke, who was appointed in 1959.

In October of 1963, the Home Building and Loan Company became a member of the Ohio Deposi Guarantee Fund of Cincinnati. This fund is a non profit organization incorporated under the laws o the State of Ohio and its purpose is to provide secu rity, assure liquidity and guarantee deposits of th Savings and Loan Associations who are members o this fund. All of the savings accounts and certificate are guaranteed to their full amount, with no limita tion by the Ohio Deposit Guarantee Fund.

The office of the Home Building and Loan Company is located at 121 West Main Street in downtown Coldwater. The present Board of Director consists of 9 members. They are: Frederick J. Bruns President; Carroll Klingler, Vice-President; W. J Boeke, Secretary-Treasurer; Kathryn Lechleiter, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Cyril T. Steinbrunner James Noll, Donald Wellman, John Boeke and Robert Beer, Directors.

The year 1978 marks the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the Company. During this period in time, the Company has weathered numerous depressions and recessions. The Board of Directors feel the Company will be operating for many more years to come, serving the financial needs of the Mercer County area. *W. J. Boeke*

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Knap's

Knap's Carry Out, 220 East Main

KNAP'S CARRY OUT

Knap's Carry Out is located at 220 East Main Street in Coldwater, Ohio. It is the largest and one of the finest beverage and pizza carry-out stores in Mercer County.

The carry-out was originally built in 1971 by Ivo and Helen Kremer, both natives of Coldwater. They had originally owned the successful Kremer's Restaurant in Coldwater and decided that a drive-thru carry-out would prosper in the growing town. The new store was opened in July of 1971 and was called Ivo's Carry Out. They carried beer, wine, soft drinks, ice, party and picnic supplies. They also carried hard liquor products at that time.

The relatively new business was only about one year old and going well when an unfortunate auto accident claimed the life of Ivo Kremer. After his death, his wife Helen continued to run the store until 1973 when she sold the business to James and Jessie Gibson of St. Mary's, Ohio.

Jim and Jessie had originally owned a carry-out store in St. Mary's, so they were experienced in this type of business. Along with other changes, the name was changed to Gibson's Carry-Out. Hard liquor beverages were no longer sold in the store, but a kitchen was added in the back section of the store for food preparation. This was the beginning of the pizzas, submarine sandwiches and french fried foods in the carry-out store. The pizza business did very well and the business continued to grow as the drive-thru convenience began to attract people from Coldwater and the surrounding community.

Jim Gibson kept the carry-out until March of 1975 when he sold the business to Mike Knapschaefer of Coldwater.

Having experience in retail sales while working for Brodbecks Supermarket in Coldwater and Mercer Beverage in St. Henry, Mike had a good idea of how to manage the business. The name of the business was changed to Knap's Carry Out, a shortened version of Knapschaefer. With the help of his parents, Martha and Hugo Knapschaefer, his fiancee Rita Kamlig, Bonnie Jones and Tim Heinrich, the business continued to grow rapidly.

Improvements were made on the exiting foods prepared at the store and other tasty foods were added. A wider selection of beer, wine, soft drinks, party ice and party supplies were added. More employees were hired, and after a time it became apparent the store was no longer large enough to serve the needs of the customer. In 1978, an addition was added to the store which nearly doubled the size of Knap's Carry Out. The addition included a completely remodeled kitchen, a walk-in ice freezer, a large walk-in cooler for beverages and a storage room in the rear area of the store.

The carry-out which started as a small business venture for Ivo Kremer has grown to become a thriving business for Mike and Rita Knapschaefer, thanks to all of the good people of Coldwater and surrounding communities.

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J. F. HOYNG HARDWARE

In the year of 1891 Joseph Hoyng at age 14 started to work in Kleinhenz Gardner Hardware Store, in Coldwater. Kleinhenz sold to Gardner his share in 1894. In 1898 Gardner sold to Andrew Rathweg and a few years later Joseph Hoyng bought ½ interest in the hardware store. It was called Rathweg and Hoyng Hardware and Implement Co.

In 1890 Joseph F. Hoyng bought Rathweg out and took his brothers, Frank and Roman, as partners. It was called Hoyng Hardware and Implement Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Hoyng had two sons, Ernest and LaMont. In 1923 Ernest started to work in the Hardware Store and in 1931 La Mont joined his father and brother in the hardware store. LaMont carried on his trade as an armature winder and electrician. In 1931 LaMont Hoyng married Agnes Losche, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Losche. His wife is a sister to Ernest Hoyng's wife Helen. To Mr. and Mrs. LaMont a son was born, June 17, 1934. They named him James Patrick Hoyng. After James finished high school, he went to St. Joseph College for 1 year. Then the army got him. When he returned home, he traveled as a hardware salesman for Vam Camp Hardware and Iron, Indianapolis, Ind.

In 1962 Ernest J. Hoyng died and 1 hour and 20 minutes after his burial, Mr. Joseph Hoyng died. That left LaMont Hoyng alone. So after Ernest and Joseph Hoyng died, James left Van Camp, and joined his father LaMont in the business. In three generations, the Hoyng's have 173 years in the Hardware Business.

J.F. Hoyng Hardware — **Left to Right:** Frank Hoyng, Roma Hoyng, Joseph F. Hoyng. The white building at the left was th first gas station in Coldwater.

James P. Hoyng Joseph F. Hoyng LaMont B. Hoyng

MERCER LANDMARK, INC. *COLDWATER FERTILIZER PLANT*

This plant was purchased on March 1, 1971 by Mercer Landmark, Inc., from the Monsanto Chemical Company. It is located southwest of Coldwater, Ohio on the Burkettsville-St. Henry Road.

The facilities are located on 6.5 acres of ground, which include the office building as seen in the picture above; the dry fertilizer warehouse and blend plant located in the background; anhydrous storage tank, and liquid supplement storage tank. In 1975 there was added to the existing facilities a 1,000 ton liquid nitrogen "swimming pool pit" type warehouse.

The facilities along with nurse tanks, applicators, bulk spreaders, tool bars, etc. offer a "COMPLETE FARM SERVICE CENTER" to provide the farm chemicals; liquid fertilizers; dry fertilizers; anhydrous needs along with custom application programs to serve the patrons in the surrounding area.

Mercer Landmark, Inc., Coldwater Fertilizer Plant

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ft to Right: Gary
feld, David Lefeld,
seph H. Lefeld,
anley Lefeld.

LEFELD WELDING & STEEL SUPPLIES INC.

In the early 1940's Joesph Lefeld was manager of ure Oil Station on the corner of S. Second St. and V. Walnut St., Coldwater. He also did small welding jobs. In 1945 sold the Sunoco Station and joined a partnership with the late Roman Dues selling arm equipment and did some welding. This business was located on the corner of N. Second St. and V. North St., Coldwater (now Certified Oil Co.). They dissolved partnership in 1950 with oil company purchasing the property. Joesph Lefeld moved ne welding equipment and tire inventory to the resent location of 512 N. Second St., Coldwater. his location was the Amstutz Hatchery. He built ne new building at that time, but since has enarged it twice.

A corporation was formed in 1968 consisting of oesph H. Lefeld, Stanley Lefeld, Donald Lennartz. A ear later Elmer Schoeppner's Body Shop was incorporated into Lefeld Welding & Steel Supplies Inc. hortly thereafter Donald Lennartz left the corporaion. When Elmer Schoeppner reached retirement ge his shares were purchased by Marcella Lefeld. David Lefeld joined the corporation in 1975 and Gary Lefeld has joined within this year.

Lefeld Welding & Steel Supplies, Inc. became distributors for Burdett Oxygen June 1970 for all gases, xygen, acetylene, argon, nitrogen, etc., and medical ases. They also sell all welding supplies and cutting quipment. They have a delivery truck for gases on he road every day covering a three county area, also ave a van with supplies.

In the shop many things have been custom made ncluding railings, lengthing trucks, trailer hitch — oo many things to mention.

At the present time the work crews are on shop ide. Joe retired but still puts in a few days a week. David Lefeld, Gary Lefeld, Roy Kremer and Dennis Bergman. For gas sales Stanley Lefeld, Gary Kremer nd Linus Post. In the office Marcelle Lefeld and Margie Lefeld.

Paul Hoyng

Arthur E. Ranly

CHRONICLE PRINTING COMPANY AND THE MERCER COUNTY CHRONICLE

The Mercer County Chronicle has been printing on a weekly basis for nearly 100 years.

When the name of the town was changed from Buzzard's Glory to Coldwater in 1884 the first newspaper was published by C. M. Smith and Frank Omlor. The paper was called the Coldwater Change. The two men together edited and owned the paper in partnership for 18 years.

In 1902 the paper was purchased by George Phillips, owner and editor of the Celina Advocate. The name of the paper was also changed to the Coldwater Chronicle. The paper was published every Thursday by the Chronicle Publishing Co., Coldwater, Ohio and entered at the Post Office March 15, 1902 as second class matter under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

During this period, Mr. George Phillips continued printing the Celina Advocate until May 25, 1907 when it was moved to St. Henry. The St. Henry merchants helped pay the expenses to move the equipment to St. Henry.

But the Advocate in St. Henry had financial problems due to the lack of advertising, and it wasn't making any money. So in October of 1910 the Advocate was moved to Coldwater, where the Chronicle was making money for Mr. Phillips.

Before 1910 the Coldwater Chronicle was printed in a small building behind the now Peoples Bank building, the same building in which the Coldwater Change was printed in 1884.

The paper was growing, and owner Mr. Phillips needed more space, so he rented a building that was originally the St. Lawrence Hotel then later the St. James Hotel. This is the same building the Chronicle still uses as its office.

In 1920 George Phillips sold the paper to Henry Coates, who married Phillips daughter Blanche.

In 1934 the Chronicle was sold to three brothers, Paul, Sylvester and Arnold Hoyng. In June 5, 1936 it was called the Mercer County Chronicle and it covered news from the entire county. In 1944 Paul Hoyng became owner and publisher.

Arthur E. Ranly became associated with the paper in November of 1959 and was news editor and advertising manager until Hoyng sold the paper to the Delphos Herald Inc. in June of 1971. Ranly was then named manager of the paper and in 1976 became publisher.

After purchasing the paper in 1971, the composition and printing of the paper was moved from Coldwater to Delphos and was printed the offset method.

It was in Jan. 1973 when a fire damaged the printing facilities of the Ft. Recovery Journal, and owner Tom Hastings then sold his subscription list to the Chronicle, increasing the circulation of the paper by almost 1,000.

After selling the newspaper, Mr. Hoyng continued doing business under the Chronicle Printing Co., doing commercial printing in the same building.

The Mercer County Chronicle (Mercer Publishing Co.) has offices in the same building, gathering the news and advertising copy when it is gotten ready to send to the printers. The subscription list is maintained in Coldwater and the paper is also mailed from Coldwater.

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MOORMAN & MOORMAN

In May of 1955, Anthony F. Moorman started in business as Moorman's Accounting and Tax Service. His office was located in a room of his residence on state route 219, two and one-half miles west of Coldwater. He provided accounting and tax services for a portion of the businessmen of Coldwater and the surrounding community.

Due to the growth of his business, he decided to move his office from his residence to a newly constructed building located on his property. For the next six years he continued to expand his practice and in the fall of 1963 he employed his first full-time employee.

In the spring of 1964, Anthony suffered a serious heart attack and was required to limit his work activities. He therefore sold the majority of his practice to Wilson's Accounting Service, who had an office in Celina, Ohio.

Mr. Moorman continued his practice on a limited basis and in 1966, his son Samuel, a student at Miami Univeristy, began to assist him. In 1969, Samuel was drafted into the U.S. Army, at which time, Robert, another son, joined his father.

In 1971, Robert and Samuel purchased the business from their father. They continued to use their father's office until the fall of 1975, when they moved into a new building located at 815 W. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio. At this time the name of the business was changed to Moorman & Moorman.

In November, 1977, the business of John Hartings and Associates was purchased. This purchase, along with continued growth required employment of additional employees and the need for additional office area. Therefore, in the summer of 1978, the building was expanded to its present size.

Currently the office staff includes the partners, Robert E. Moorman, CPA, Samuel J. Morman, PA, and also Virginia Cron, Cindy Goettemoeller, John Hartings, and Gary Gaerke.

THE PEOPLES BANK CO.

Banking had its beginning in Coldwater when 1902, Henry C. Fox, Anthony Rathweg and H. Hoffman started a partnership and opened a ban under the name of the Peoples Bank. It was locate at the corner of S. First & Main St. The building still standing today.

As business grew, a corporation was formed i 1905 which took over the banking business formerl conducted by this partnership. The new corporatio was charted by the State of Ohio as a State Bank ur der the corporated name of The Peoples Bank C with a capital stock of $25,000.

In 1951 in August, construction of the new build ing began at 114 W. Main St. In November of 195 an open house was held for the new bank.

The banks' Drive-In was built in 1965 with or lobby window and one drive up at the corner of Mi & North St. It was remodeled in 1972 with an extr lobby window and two drive up Kiosk Tel Air Sy tem Lanes. The bank is in process of adding anothe walk-in window and another exit door in the Drive In. This being completed in 1978.

In 1975 the Bank purchased the Schindler build ing for the purpose of serving as the Loan Cente and it began operations in June of 1976.

At the close of business December 31, 1977, tot assets were $38,294.00. The Peoples Bank Co. als celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1977.

At the present time the bank has 38 full time an part time employees.

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MATT SCHWIETERMAN, INC.

Matt Schwieterman, Inc. began in 1946 and at that me was known as Matt Schwieterman. The main usiness at that time was excavation and grading hich was done with one bulldozer. One year later, crane and dump truck were added. In 1948, the rm added ready mix concrete and building supplies to their sales line. At that time, the firm employed 5 people.

The first building, a combination office and repair hop, was erected in 1948. That original 30′ x 30′ quare structure has been added to continuously nd is now practically surrounded by additions. In 950, a 30′ x 60′ repair shop was added and in 1952 n office addition was built.

In 1954, the firm incorporated under the name of Matt Schwieterman, Inc. Officers of the firm at that me were Matt Schwieterman, Sr. — President; Coetta Schwieterman — Vice President; and Roman F. Vannemacher — Secretary-Treasurer. By this time, ewer and water line installation had become a major part of the company's business.

In 1959, Matt Schwieterman, Sr. purchased the D. . Smalley ready mix plant in Celina, Ohio, which perates under the name of Matt's Redi-Mix, Inc. homas W. Smalley is the manager of the Celina lant.

As the company continued to grow, more building space was needed. In 1957, a paint shop was constructed; in 1962, another office addition was built; nd in 1963, a large, modern repair shop was added the original. This repair shop was 60′ x 120′, with de walls being constructed by the tilt-up concrete all method. This building was one of the first of its ind in the area. In 1975, a new concrete batch plant as erected. The plant is a totally automatic punch ard operation.

Today, a large fleet of vehicles and equipment serves the firm. These include six bulldozers, three earthmoving scrapers, eight cranes and backhoes of various sizes, fifteen ready mix trucks, and twenty-five other vehicles. Also, included is a concrete paving machine, which when bought in 1968 was the first of its kind in Ohio. This machine is used to install concrete streets up to 36 feet wide with integral curb.

The firm now employs 60 to 70 people, depending on the season. These employees make up 2 sewer and water line crews, 1 concrete street paving crew, 3 general concrete installation crews, and various land clearing and excavation operators. Also, 4 full-time mechanics are needed to maintain the equipment. 14 employees have been with the company more than 20 years.

Officers of the firm in 1978 are Matt Schwieterman, Sr., President; Coletta Schwieterman, Vice President; Richard (Bud) Stahl, Vice President; Bill Geise, Secretary; and Matt Schwieterman, Jr., Treasurer.

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WERLING MOTORS — FORD DEALERSHIP

In 1951 Peanuts Werling, owner of Werling Motors, started buying cars and reselling them as a sideline while working at the Pet Milk Company. He had also sold used cars part time for Rudy's Auto Sales in Celina. Eventually he started a used car lot called Midway Auto Sales located on State Route 118 between Coldwater and St. Henry. A year later his father, Carl J. Werling, joined Peanuts as a partner in the used car business. Dusty Bomholt, an implement dealer from Celina, financed and held an interest in this business till 1953 when Peanuts and Carl purchased his interest.

In July, 1954, the Werlings took over the Ford Franchise known as Willett Motors in Coldwater and the Ford Garage building was sold to and is presently occupied by Dayton Power and Light Company. The Werlings then leased the former City Garage owned by Ed Stukenborg and remodeled it to become the new Ford Dealership. In 1956 the father and son team purchased the St. Marys, Ohio, Ford-Mercury Dealership and Carl Werling managed that establishment. The St. Marys dealership was sold in 1957 and Peanuts purchased his Dad's interest in Coldwater in 1959. Peanuts Werling was the youngest dealer.in the Detroit District at 28 years of age. In 1960 Peanuts purchased the building from Ed Stukenborg and in 1963 he purchased the old City Hall to be torn down and the present dealership built in its place, with the Stukenborg building to be used entirely as a Service Department. The new Parts Department and showroom is the largest in the area holding 26 cars under roof, which attract buyers during bad weather who are interested i purchasing a new car that hasn't been weather beaten.

The garage that was purchased from Ed Stuker borg was once the town's largest livery stable (a pictured). The old City Hall was also used as a cit jail and fire department; the upstairs was once use as the Buckeye Overall Company, skating rinl dance hall, Nazarene Church Services and meetin hall. The last years the building was used as th Coldwater Public Library.

Peanuts has purchased the old Tile Company of fice and lot as well as the Sinclair Service Station o the south end of town which is used as the Werlin Motors Body Shop and used car operation.

The year 1979 marks the 25th year for Werlin Motors.

Old Coldwater City Hall (Site: 1978 Werling Motors)

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WILLHOFF'S FURNITURE

Jacob Willhoff was born in Lawerenceburg, Tenn 1876 the second son of Martin and Catharine Willhoff. The family moved to Trinity, Ind. in 1880 where he spent his boyhood days. He came to Coldwater in 1894 and worked for the Henry Fox General Store for five years.

In January 1899 he opened a hardware store in the building what is now the I.C.P. Ice Cream Parlor. After several years in that location the business expanded and moved to what is now Roger's Flowers and Boeke Insurance immediately west of the present store. 1931 he expanded with a hardware store in Burkettsville operating it until 1947. A complete new building was erected in 1937 and Mr. Willhoff entered the furniture business which he operated until his death in 1945.

Mr. Willhoff was a member of the 4th degree K of C, Elks, charter member of Coldwater Lions, Director of Peoples Bank, Village Council member, and Treasurer of Holy Trinity Church. During its long retail history one employee, Vincent H. Woeste was associated with Willhoff's for 57 years.

Mr. Willhoff's three sons, Othmar, Elmo, and Robert, continued the business with expansions of furniture stores in Greenville, Ohio 1954-1972 and Wapakoneta, Ohio 1959-1973; closing the hardware business in 1967. Robert's son James is now with the organization. Today "Willhoff's" under the ownership of Robert offers a complete decorating store including draperies-floor covering-wall covering and accessories in addition to furniture, and looking forward to the future.

Jacob Willhoff

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Sowar's Department Store

SOWAR'S

In 1937, David Sowar and his wife Mildred opened a clothing store called Sowar's Dept. Store. It was located in the building now occupied by Boeke Insurance Co. Mr. Sowar became seriously ill and died on June 23, 1944, at the age of 50. Mrs. Sowar continued to run the store and was joined by her eldest son, David Sowar, Jr., in 1945. The store expanded and in 1951 was moved to its present location on West Main St. On February 28, 1952, there was a grand opening for the new store.

In December, 1962, Sowar's became a corporation with David Sowar being the president. The Shoe Store was added in December of 1963 and is managed today by Steve Pleiman. In May, 1967, the Men's Store was opened for business with Tom Stelzer as manager. Mr. Sowar along with his mother Mildred, continued to run the store until Mr. Sowar's death in 1970 at the age of 51. Mr. Sowar's son-in-law, Robert Beer, came to the store at this time. Mr. Beer along with Mrs. Sowar and Dave's wife Thelma ran the store. In 1972, Mr. Beer assumed the duties of general manager, and continues today along with Mrs. Thelma Sowar Link who is president of the corporation.

THE COLDWATER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Coldwater Area Chamber of Commerce is comprised of business men and women for the purpose of advancing commercial, industrial and professional interests of Coldwater and its trade area.

The first Businessman's Club was founded in 1883. Its name was later changed to Commercial Club, and July 1, 1966, became the Coldwater Area Chamber of Commerce. Officers in 1966 were as follows: Joe Daffler, President; A. J. Gebele, Vice President; Harry Watts, Treasurer; Ralph Harlamert, Secretary.

Present officers are Clem Ebbing, (representative of First National Bank) President; Jim Noll, (representative of Avco New Idea) Vice President; and Linda Bandelier, (representative of American Budget Company) Secretary-Treasurer. The Board of Directors consist of Mel Bertke (Betties Restaurant), Dave George (Olding, Gebele & George), Paul Lefeld (Lefeld Implement), Floyd Hemmelgarn (Hemmelgarn and Sons), Sam Moorman (Moorman and Moorman), Linus Zumberge, (representative of Schwieterman's Pharmacy) and Lloyd Bollenbacher (representative of Dayton Power and Light).

The Chamber has done much in the past to help insure the economic well-being of Coldwater. Some of the highlights are as follows: The Chamber has shown support of various school bond issues when it felt that passage was in the best interest of the community; the Chamber has provided money for Christmas lights and decorations downtown; the Chamber has contributed money for the purchase of trash containers; the Chamber has always been in support of the park and library by operating a stand at the Community Picnic; the Chamber donates money to see that flags are flown downtown on all holidays; the Chamber donates money to the Jaycees to operate Santa's castle during the Christmas season; the Chamber sponsored a speed-reading course for members and their employees; the Chamber has sponsored a candidates' forum prior to the election of city officials, and school board members; the Chamber supported and donated to the Joint Vocational School and also hosted JVS information meetings; the Chamber held an appreciation banquet for the Sisters of Mercy from Our Lady of Mercy Hospital for their 20 years of service to the hospital; the Chamber donated to the Community Hospital Fund; the Chamber participates with other organizations in providing chaperones and funding for After-Prom Parties for high school juniors and seniors; the Chamber donated money for the purchase of uniforms for the Coldwater Baseball Club and the Coldwater City Girls Softball team. The Chamber supports the Combined Charities Drive; the Chamber gives honorary memberships to retired business people who have been active members; the Chamber has had representatives attend hospital board, city council and school board meetings; the Chamber takes an active part in physician recruitment; the Chamber compiled and printed a Coldwater Brochure; the Chamber purchased a flag pole for Community Hospital; the Chamber sends bouquets or plants to new businesses and grand openings; the Chamber takes an active role in the Lake Improvement Association; the Chamber compiled and printed a "Welcome to Coldwater" leaflet containing information of interest to new residents.

Past Presidents include Joe Daffler (three terms), Maurice Cron (Cron's Nationwide Insurance), Jack Schenking (Coldwater Oil Company, two terms), Bob Baumeier (Baumeier Rentals), Bob Willhoff (Willhoff's Furniture), Ed Thomas (Avco New Idea), Robert King (Central Soft Water).

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Coldwater High School (Everett Hall Photograph)

Coldwater East Primary School (Everett Hall Photograph)

Coldwater North Elementary School (Everett Hall Photograph)

Coldwater West Elementary School (Everett Hall Photograph)

Public School, Coldwater, 1900

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COLDWATER SCHOOLS

The first school built in the area to serve the children of Coldwater was north of the village and opened on December 8, 1848. The teacher for this one room school was Mr. D. Franks.

The first school built within the village was a frame building consisting of one large room and erected at the corner of Second St. and North St. This building was erected, during the summer of 1864.

On July 21, 1880, construction started on a two room brick school building on the corner of Market and North Streets (the present site of the Methodist Church). The first teachers in this two room school were J. L. Weiser and H. C. Fox.

The first High School classes, a few years later, were held on the second floor of the Old Town Hall, on the corner of First St. and Walnut Street. This was unsatisfactory, so in 1898 the citizens made the decision to erect a High School building. This building was erected adjacent to the 1880 building at the site of the present United Methodist Church. It was expanded again in 1921 and last expanded and fully modernized in 1933.

Earlier, in 1882, Joseph L. Heis started construction of a privately owned Coldwater Normal School between South Street and College Street along First Street. Before the building was completed, he sold it to Ben Hoying, Peter Haubert, and Peter Wagner, who completed the building and opened it for instruction on the first Monday of September, 1883. The instructional staff consisted of Thomas O. Farrel, H. F. Mooney, P. Biovenac, L. N. Wagner, and P. C. Fox. The college continued for six years, then in 1889 the Normal School moved to Portland and was incorporated into the Portland Normal School and Business College. The building was destroyed by fire in 1896.

In 1913, after the great increase in the size of Coldwater due to the growth of New Idea, the Holy Trinity Catholic Parish decided to form their own school. Construction of their building started in 1913, but the school started operations before the building was built. Sisters of the Precious Blood from the Maria Stein convent provided the teachers, and rooms were rented from the Public School, and also the Hall of the Knights of St. John was used. The first teachers were: Sister Innocentia, principal; Sr. Alodia, Sr. Adalinda, and Sr. Illuminata. In 1914 the school moved into their new building located north of the Holy Trinity Church at the corner of Second and North Streets. The building had six classrooms and an auditorium. Later the auditorium was converted into classrooms, as was the basement area. In 1935 the Holy Trinity school system ceased operations, and the building was rented by the Public School system as East School. The students became public school students.

In 1938, after a very close election decided by one vote over a 65% majority, the citizens of Coldwater began the erection of a new High School, which was opened in 1939. The new school was built on North Second Street on the west side of the street and north of Elizabeth Street. The old high school on the site of the present Coldwater United Methodist Church was razed.

In 1953, the members of Holy Trinity Parish buil a new elementary school on First and Elizabet Streets, which was rented to the Public School. A addition was constructed to this building in 1960.

Meanwhile, in 1955, an addition was built on th North Side of the High School, also for elementar purposes, complete with multi-purpose room an cafeteria kitchen. An addition to the High Schoo was completed in 1964, and another addition to th north side in 1967.

These additions were necessary not only becaus of the growth of the village, but also, under Ohio' changing laws, from 1930 on rural one room school were closing and students were being transporte into Coldwater's schools.

Presently, the Coldwater school district stretche west to the Indiana border. The 1913 building serve as East Primary, the buildings built by Holy Trinit in 1953 and 1960 serve as West Elementary, th north additions to the high school built in 1956 an 1967 serve as North Intermediate School, and th High School consists of the 1938 building with th 1964 addition.

The Coldwater School System became an Ex empted Village School District on July 1, 1952 which made the system independent of the Merce County School System.

The superintendents of the Coldwater School have been: 1907-1916, August H. Bernard; 1916 1936, Hugo J. Antony; 1936-1953, Perry N. Noll 1953-1963, Thomas M. Ryan; 1963-1975, Hugh D Rossi; 1975-1977, Walter J. Schrof; 1977- , Wayne E Miller.

In 1904 Coldwater graduated its first Class of 4. I 1978 168 were graduated.

In 1938 Coldwater won the first County Basket ball Tournament Trophy. The baseball champion ship was also won.

The same year, 1938, Coldwater presented th first operetta, *The Sunbonnet Girl.* Coldwater's de bating team won the County Championship. The band made the highest rating at the state contest i Columbus.

Coldwater's first Annual, called *The Telescope* a published in 1937. The next annual was in 1938. N further annuals were published until 1946. Sinc 1948 an annual has been published each year. I 1948 the name of the annual was changed to *Cava lier.*

The first Coldwater High Newspaper was printe at Coldwater High School when Hugo Antony wa superintendent. Type was set and copy run by hig school students in the print shop from 1916 thr May 1936. The first name was *The Comet.* Later th name was changed to *Cavalier* and was printed b the *Mercer County Chronicle.*

Soon after implementation of a 1937 study or Mercer County school district reorganization, Butle Township, Dahlinghaus Special school districts, an parts of Franzer-Uppenkamp and Oakland district became a part of Coldwater district. In September 1946, part of Burntwood became part of Coldwate and the larger remainder was assigned to Celina Ex empted Village. In September, 1950, part of Wash ington Township district joined Coldwater, and i 1958 Philothea Local became part of Coldwater. I 1958, also, a corridor of land to the West was trans ferred out of the newly created Southwest Loca

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School District to Coldwater, which enabled St. Anthony (combined in 1937 with Loughridge) to join Coldwater in that same year.

Enrollment peaked in school year 75/76, in which it was 1874. After declining birthrates, experienced throughout the state and nation, of the past few years, it stands at 1,708 for the 78/79 year. However, appearance of new households in the district will result in stabilization and growth in succeeding years.

Staff now includes (95) certificated personnel and (39) non-certificated employees.

Since 1920, 46 citizens have served as Board of Education members. Only 5 were appointed to serve out unexpired terms, due to death and/or resignations. 3 of these were subsequently elected to a successive term and 2 chose not to run. Long-term members include: Paul J. Froning served as an elected member for 16 years from Jan. 1926 thru Dec. 1941, with 4 of those as President. He was appointed Clerk-Treasurer in Jan. 1936 and served until his death in Feb. 1956 in that office for a total of 30 years of association with Board and district.

John F. Hartings served as Board member for 15⅓ years from Jan. 1962 thru Apr. 22, 1977 (resigned) and as President 3½ years.

Fred Janning had served as President for 5¼ years from Jan. 1926 thru Mar. 30, 1931, when he died in office.

George R. Billerman served 12 years from Jan. 1948 thru Dec. 1959 and as President 3 years in that time.

Paul H. Hoyng served for 12 years from Jan. 1952 thru Dec. 1963 and as President 5 years during that time.

Current members of the Board include: John C. Pax, President in his third year on Board; Floyd C. Winner, Vice-Pres., past President and in his sixth and three quarters year; James D. Slavik, D.V.M., past President for 2 years, in his seventh year, LaVern W. Stammen in his first year and Jerome F. Meyer, also in his first year; Maurice E. Froning, Treasurer, in his thirtieth year, including service as Assistant Clerk-Treas. before 1956. *By Eugene Weber*

Loughridge School (Everett Hall Photograph)

Wenning School (Everett Hall Photograph)

Crouch School, Butler Township, (photograph by Everett Hall)

MEDICAL

The citizens of the village of Coldwater have always worked to assure themselves of adequate medical care. The directory for 1882, at the time of the incorporation of the village, lists three physicians — Drs. Whittaker, Baldwin, and Schuyler. In 1900, the three physicians listed were Drs. Chas. Mackenbach, C. F. Bolman, and P. F. Weamer. Dr. P. F. Weamer was in Coldwater many years, serving as mayor from 1924 to 1930 and again in 1932, dying in 1934. Then Dr. Charles Adkins began practicing in Coldwater, continuing until his death in 1972. Dr. Brumm also practiced in Coldwater during the '30's. Dr. Manning G. Harnick practiced in Coldwater from 1947 until 1964. Dr. Helfrich maintained a practice from 1948 until his death in 197 . Dr. Harnick built a medical clinic at the corner of W. Sycamore St. and S. Oak St. during the spring of 1959. This clinic has been staffed since July, 1959, by Dr. Cecil Pennington, and since July, 1960, by Dr. Robert Albers.

Since August 1, 1975, a mental health clinic has been in operation.

Also, for medical care Coldwater presently has two optometrists: Drs. Chas. Dickman and Wayne Kettler; three dentists: Drs. C. Feldhake, K. Grossman, and R. Hoyng; and one chiropractor, Dr. J. Rudd.

In 1968, a nursing home, Briarwood Manor, opened on West Main Street, immediately west of the hospital.

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MERCER COUNTY JOINT TOWNSHIP Community Hospit

In 1942 there was talk of a need for a hospital in Coldwater, Ohio but it all began in 1945 in an empty storeroom where Hibner Jewelry is presently located. Joseph A. Oppenheim, part owner of New Idea Inc., felt it essential the community have ready access to medical services. He asked all interested persons to attend the meeting. That evening nine persons were appointed to a Board of Trustees, with Joseph A. Oppenheim as president. This new corporation was to be named Coldwater Mercy Hospital Association. The corporation agreed to financially support the construction of such a facility. The project was to be erected as a non-profit organization. Those who formed the incorporators were: Joseph A. Oppenheim — President, Charles A. Fischer — Vice President, Forest E. Ensign — Secretary, Anthony J. Birkmeyer — Treasurer, Norbert J. Smith, John W. Salm, Rudolph R. Mueller, Erwin C. Oppenheim and Russell C. Reed. Later, Reed was succeeded by Zoyd M. Flaler who was then succeeded by Raymond K. Clark.

With the decision to build, the corporation immediately made plans for raising the funds and well-planned drives were started. The first sizeable donation came from several local families, the principal owners of the New Idea, Inc. All of the community gave its enthusiastic support, surrounding parishes, businessmen, organizations, and citizens contributed generously. The entire building project was assumed by the people of this community. The land, consisting of approximately ten acres belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Selhorst, was donated by a few individuals. The deed was then turned over to the Board of Trustees.

While the community financed the building of the hospital, the Sisters of Mercy Catholic Nursing Order, Cincinnati, Ohio had expressed an interest and willingness to operate the facility once it had been established. They also agreed to equip it with the latest modern equipment. It was the Sisters' desire that the hospital be named Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, dedicated to the Patroness of the Sisters of Mercy. So it was, on November 6, 1949, groundbreaking services were conducted with Rev. Louis H. Yauss, Pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Coldwater, Ohio officiating. The contract for the architecture and construction was awarded to Walter Butler Building Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, and the work began.

For twenty-one years and four months, the Sisters of Mercy provided medical services to the surrounding communities. However, in 1969 the Sisters advised the Board they could not continue operating the hospital.

On November 6, 1969 a committee consisting of Don Desch — Temporary Chairman, Maurice Cron — Secretary, Walter Fortener, Ed Schwieterman, Art Pleiman, Bill Otte, Bill Oberherolzer, Denny Hein met to discuss and consider the possibility of a hospital in Coldwater. Others present at this first meeting were Arnold Kramer, Rolly Braun, Harold Romer, Ralph Mueller, David Sowar, Bob Hibner, Tom Homan, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hall and Dr. Donald Schwieterman.

Subsequent meetings followed on November 13, 1969 and on November 26, 1969 a public meeting was called at the Coldwater City Hall which was attended by approximately 350 people. This meeting was called by Mr. Harold Romer for the express purpose of maintaining the hospital in Coldwater as a general hospital.

On December 4, 1969 a committee consisting of Maurice Cron, Don Desch, Art Pleiman, Everett Hall and Dr. Charles Dickman visited a Board of Governors meeting of St. Marys Hospital to acquire information and suggestions as to how to proceed with a Joint Township Hospital organization.

On December 29, 1969 a meeting was held with Sister Mary Albert of Cincinnati to discuss possible financial arrangements in acquiring Our Lady of

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Our Lady of Mercer Hospital

Mercy Hospital. The committee that met with Sister Mary Albert was Jerry Dull, Harold Romer, Arnold Schoch, Maurice Cron and Lee Dabbelt — Attorney. January 27, 1970 a meeting was called with 17 of 21 township trustees plus 15 other interested persons attending. A letter from the Sisters explaining the financial arrangements that would be expected if the hospital were purchased by the seven townships was discussed. In this letter it was pointed out that 66⅔% would go to Coldwater and the surrounding community and 33⅓% would go to the Sisters for their original investment in the hospital. Mr. Dabbelt was hired by Mr. Romer to handle any legal problems involved with the acquisition of the hospital.

On June 18, 1970 all seven townships voted unanimously in favor of forming a hospital district. This came about as a result of two meetings held by the township trustees which were open to the public and held at the Coldwater American Legion Hall. The townships involved in the new hospital plans are Butler, Marion, Granville, Franklin, Washington, Gibson and Recovery. The action by the trustees came about after the new proposed county hospital was defeated at the November, 1969 general election.

The Board of Trustees were: Butler — Ed Ebbing, Ray Dues, Paul Hamberg, Franklin — Ralph Dicke, Wilson Klosterman, Norbert Wilker, Gibson — John Griesinger, Art Hemmelgarn, Otto VonderHaar, Granville — John Balster, Vic Boeke, Mark Kremer, Marion — Ray Bruggeman, Ralph Reichert, Albert Schoenlein, Recovery — Roger Lochtefeld, Harold Willmann, Aloys Bachs, Washington — Otto Muhlenkamp, Merle Rabe, Glen Florence.

On June 23, 1970 a meeting was held at the home of Harold Romer and a Board of Governors was appointed. The seven members appointed by the seven townships were Naomi McAfee — Washington, Ralph Jutte — Recovery, Ed Piekenbrock — Marion, Jim Gast — Granville, Cy Brockman — Gibson, Lee Garman — Franklin and Joan Braun — Butler. Judge Dull was contacted and names suggested for the three persons qualified to sit on the Governing Board in addition to those appointed by the seven townships. Those appointed by Judge Dull were Dr. John Helfrich, Walter Fortener and Sophia Bomholt.

A petition seeking validation of the issuance of $777,000 in bonds for the purchase and renovation of Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, Coldwater, Ohio was filed in Mercer County Common Pleas Court.

The bond issue would be financed by 1.48 mill, ten year tax levy in the seven townships. The original proposal consisted of $162,000 for the purchase of the present hospital $400,000 for remodeling and fire proof construction and $225,000 for equipment. At the same time Joint Township District voters approved the bond issue, they rejected a proposed .25 mill levy for operation of the hospital following its purchase. However, the Community Hospital District board resubmitted that issue for a second vote in the May primary which was approved.

On March 18, 1971 a large ad was run by the physicians of Mercer County opposing the purchase of Our Lady of Mercy Hospital and requesting the citizens to build a new and larger hospital. Those physicians were D. J. Schwieterman — Chief of Staff, Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, R. W. Albers — Secretary, Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, C. E. Pennington — Executive Committee, Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, E. Feliciano, C. P. Adkins, J. Chrispin, D. Fox, R. Dobbins, L. Finkelmeier, G. McIlroy, R. Riesz and R. D. Bradrick.

On March 24, 1971 Dr. Robert Albers and Dr. Cecil Pennington, Coldwater and Dr. Donald Schwieterman, Maria Stein filed a complaint with Mercer County Common Pleas Court seeking to halt any further action in connection with the proposed sale of Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, Coldwater to the Mercer County Joint Township Community Hospital District. In a related action, they filed an answer to the bond validation petition brought by the hospital district, claiming that preceedings are illegal. The three doctors contended that "The sale and issuance of the bonds by the defendant of the proposed application of the proceeds were illegal". The Judge ruled in favor of the Hospital District.

Following the court encounter the necessary steps were taken to purchase the hospital property and

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Ruth Willman, Director of Nursing; Lyle Schmidt, Administrator.

the Joint Township Hospital District took possession and assumed operations of the facility on April 1, 1972. Several remodeling and expansion alternatives were considered. Amidst much controversy and differences of opinion, approval to construct and remodel the hospital was received from the Health Planning Agency, the State of Ohio and HEW. It was mandated that the hospital must be built to serve the entire county and its size was determined to be 93 beds plus the necessary ancillary services needed to support that size institution. Charles Dale DeMott was hired as the first Administrator of the hospital under the Joint Township operation. The original Hewitt and Royer construction estimate was $2,524,000 for new construction and $325,000 for remodeling of the original structure for a total cost estimate of $2,849,000. On May 30, 1974 bids were opened and the bid cost was $4,275,915 approximately 30.5% higher than the original estimate. On June 10, 1974 contracts were signed for a total cost of $4,486,277 this was $1,700,000 more than originally estimated. The problem of how to secure the additional funds was resolved by requesting an additional one million dollars in federal Hill-Burton Funds for a total of $2,400,000 and increasing the amount of revenue bonds from $2,400,000 to $3,100,000. At the June 10, 1974 meeting of the Board of Trustees action was taken to apply for the additional funds and increase the bond issue to $3,100,000. Total cost of construction and remodeling and related site development and financing costs came to $5,960,783. A fund drive for additional new equipment for the hospital was conducted and netted $225,000. This brought the total project amount to $6,185,783. Under Mr. DeMott's direction the hospital plans were finalized and in June, 1974 groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the new 6.5 million dollar construction and remodeling project. Mr. Ed Ebbing served as the first President of the Board of Trustees. I. Ralph Dicke suceeded Mr. Ebbing as President of the Board of Trustees and held that position through the planning stages of the building program. Due to Mr. Dicke's election to the position of Mercer County Commissioner, he was succeeded by Art Hemmelgarn as President of the Board of Trustees who served in that capacity through the completion of the building program. Joan Braun, the first President of the Board of Governors, was succeeded by Walter Fortener. Mr. Fortener served in that capacity during the years of continued planning and building and resigned in August, 1977 to accept the elected position of Treasurer of Mercer County. Mr. A. G. Pleiman assumed the Presidency in August, 1977. Rev. Henry Seibert served as secretary of the Board of Governors for several years but resigned as he moved out of the county.

On September 18, 1977 dedication and open house was held for the completed hospital facility. Dr. John Ackerman, Director of the State of Ohio Department of Health was the speaker for the special occasion.

In November of 1977 Mr. DeMott resigned as Administrator to accept a new position in another Hospital. Lysle Schmidt, Hospital Controller, was appointed as Interim Administrator and on March 1, 1978 was hired as Administrator of Mercer County Joint Township Community Hospital.

The 1978 Board of Trustees are: Butler — Ray Dues, Ed Ebbing, Paul Hamberg, Franklin — Thomas Niekamp, Louis Doenges, Norbert Wilker, Gibson — Aloys Link, Arthur Hemmelgarn, Otto VonderHaar, Granville — Cyril Dues, Victor Boeke, Mark Kremer, Marion — Ralph Reichert, Raymond Bruggeman, Albert Schoenlein, Recovery — Orville Dues, Harold Willmann, Roger Lochtefeld and Washington — Ralph Heyne, Jerry Powell, Jerry Laffin.

1978 Board of Governors — **Front Row:** Mrs. Marjorie Fisher, Treasurer; Mrs. Marguerite Schroer; Mrs. Lucille Doenges, Vice President; and Ms. Bertha Sanderell. **Second Row:** James Gast; Richard Berkenstock, Secretary; Dr. Robert Albers; Louis Otte; Robert Moorman; and Art G. Pleiman, President.

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HOLY TRINITY PARISH

The desire to have a church was expressed by three ardent Catholic farm families; Henry Kallmeier, Henry Boese, Joseph Pohl. They sought the aid of Rev. Jacob Rengele C.PP.S., Pastor at Philothea, who heard them favorably. Together their efforts were dedicated to the Holy Trinity and a site selected in 1867. Thomas Buxom, a non-Catholic, gladly deeded the ground to them for $1.00. By the next meeting three more families were represented; John Birkmeyer, Henry Fisher, Henry Gottemoeller. Plans for a frame church were drawn by John DeCurtins, architect of Carthagena, Ohio. The men were busy sawing lumber at Henry Boese's mill when their spirit was dimmed. He died from an accident at the mill. Work resumed in the spring and on October 8, 1968 a 30x60 foot church was dedicated where the present church stands. Father Rengele now was in charge of both parishes. He celebrated his first Mass on Sunday at Coldwater until 1871 when he was relieved by Rev. Henry Drees C.PP.S. who made many trips from St. Charles Seminary by buggy and horse-back.

The parish grew steadily. Under Rev. Paulinus Trost C.PP.S. the church was extended at the north end in 1886. Growth allowed only temporary relief. Ten years later it was decided to build a new church. Rev. George Hindelang C.PP.S. added a strip of ground on the north and began collecting funds. Under Rev. Lawrence Schirack C.PP.S., the firm of DeCurtins & Co. of Lima, Ohio was engaged to draw the plans. The old church was moved 100 feet farther east. The dedication on October 9, 1899 was celebrated by crowds of people and priests with sermon and singing and music and visiting. John B. Albers, the organist, directed a mixed choir. Bands from Ft. Recovery, Landeck, Minster and Montezuma performed while booths for entertainment were scattered over town. The building committee for the 54x145 church was John B. Albers, John Birkmeyer, John Hageman, John Hamberg, Herman Knapschaefer and John Stukenborg.

At this time the shuttling of priests from St. Charles Seminary was ended. At first the priest boarded with Blasius Birkmeyer and then rented a house across from the church. In 1905 the residence was built east of the church.

Catholic schooling began in 1913 after the New Idea Spreader Co. came to Coldwater. The public school could not accommodate the many additional children from the rapid population increase. This community difficulty together with the religious purpose moved the parish to build the eight room school north of the church. Since it would not be ready until the following school year, three rooms were rented from the public school and with the use of the Knights of St. John Hall, four sisters from Maria Stein began teaching 217 children in September 1913. A frame house was put up east of the school site for the Sisters. Rev. John Schopp, priest of the Archdiocese who succeeded the Precious Blood Fathers who cared for the parish until 1906, directed the committee of Frank S. Bettinger, Frank B. Birkmeyer, Joseph R. Desch, H. C. Fox, Chas. Stukenborg, Henry Synck. The parish enrollment had risen to 254 families.

Rev. Louis Yauss piously guided the parish 42 years, 1915-1957. In 1935 the 459 pupils in the school were consolidated with the public school program. In 1951 the West Elementary School was built and then the brick Sisters' Convent. When Monsignor Clarence Leibold became pastor in 1966, the families had doubled from the 403 in 1935 to 850. Once more enlarging the church was necessary. In 1967 the east and west wings were added.

To help nurture the first sparks of parish life the St. Ann Altar Society was formed January 1, 1868. It is the oldest one in the parish and for the first year men were also members. Other groups followed to play a vital role in parish life, The Holy Name Society, The Catholic Youth Organization, The Legion of Mary on the adult and junior level, The Young Active Christians. Other organizations, though not parish based, arose to provide support to parish life and efforts, The Catholic Knights of America, The Catholic Knights of Columbus and The Columbian Squires, The St. Cecilia Auxiliary of the Knights of St. John, The Third Order of St. Francis, and the Prayer Group. Community organizations also helped parish programs, such as the Coldwater Kiwanis Club aiding in publishing this article.

At the present the parish has 1150 families. It is administered by Rev. Glen Perin, Pastor, and Rev. Oscar Seger, Associate. In the year 1977 they baptized 115, officiated at the marriages of 40 couples, conducted the funerals of 32 faithful departed. On Sundays they celebrated the six scheduled Masses and preached with an average total attendance of 3175 per Sunday, and in week-day Masses and devotions with more than a thousand total weekly attendance.

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THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE METHODIST CHURCH

THE COLDWATER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodists in Coldwater, Ohio had their first "meeting house" at the corner of Vine and Second Streets, the site where the present high school now stands. This was prior to 1860 and located on a half acre of land on the Southeast corner of Jacob Frank's eighty acres. The structure burned down about 1870 and the congregation met in numerous places until around 1879 when the railroad came to Coldwater; the congregation then met in the Lake Erie and Western depot, until Joseph Perkins led the congregation in the construction of a new church building at the corner of Elm and Main Streets (516 W. Main St.).

The farmers of the congregation contributed the logs, hauled them to the mill, and erected the small, framed building at the new site. It was dedicated in 1881 and served its purpose until 1951 when it was sold to Reigelsperger Brothers who stored feed in it for a while; they in turn rented it to the church of God to whom they eventually sold it. It was finally torn down and is the present site of the Thomas Homan residence.

In 1882 the Celina Circuit was formed out of two new societies organized at Coldwater and Montezuma, and two from Mendon Circuit. The records indicate that "Reverend John W. Holland has been in charge for the last half year. He held a meeting at Coldwater, resulting in 54 conversions and as many accessions to the church. The new church at that place was finished and the money raised for the payment of the debt." At that time John W. Holland was a local preacher as he was not admitted to the conference on Trial since 1883.

Brother George Smith and James Day served as supply pastors for the next two years, with Brother Day seemingly in charge as the "detailed missionary report for 1883-1884 given at the 1884 Conference bears his signature." In 1885 Coldwater was transferred to the Ft. Recovery Circuit which included Ft. Recovery, Murfreshburg (now Erastus), Washington, and Coldwater. Reverend Lemuel Herbert was pastor and John F. Davis was the District Superintendent. Hopewell Church was added to this circuit in 1886.

In 1888 Coldwater was returned to the Celina Circuit until in more recent years she has become a station. The district report for 1892 reports that "a great revival for the whole district occurred in 1891." The churches on the district now included Center, Copps, Montezuma, Coldwater and Neptune. The pastor was Benjamin W. Day and "he preached three times on one Sunday and twice on the next. This arrangement continued for a few years and Neptune was dropped and the others continued as a four point circuit, paying a salary of $600 with no parsonage."

A parsonage was obtained during the Conference Year 1900-1901 and located in Celina. In 1948 the first parsonage located in Coldwater was obtained. It was at 260 Sycamore Street and was built by Cy and Harold Andrew. This parsonage was— maintained until 1967 when the new parsonage at 209 Eastview Drive was purchased.

After sixty-one years of service the old church building began to show signs of extensive remodeling needs. As the church recalls: "In 1942 Reverend and Mrs. G. I. Meyers came to serve the Circuit, and it wasn't long after they arrived and had taken a good look at the situation as it existed in Coldwater that they caught a vision undaunted by the heavy clouds of war which were hovering low and having an effect on everyone. They saw a need for a new church."

"Yet, it was not until two years later the vision manifested itself. At the December meeting of the Women's Society in 1944, held at the home of Mrs. C. A. Schwartz, the matter of starting a building fund was presented to the Women's Society by its president Mrs. Murl (Ruth) Carmack. Her suggestion met with the hearty approval of the entire group and there is an entry in the Treasurer's book in the amount of $200 under the disbursements dated February 1, 1945 that marks the actual beginning of the Building Fund."

A building committee was shortly thereafter selected, consisting of Wayne Fischer, Pat Murlin, Charles Jenkins, Ed Moore, John Knous, Paul Adams, Harold Peters, Forrest Ensign, Murl Carmack, and Charles Fischer. On April 27, 1949 they negotiated with the Avco New Idea for the purchasing of the land and the old high school building at the corner of W. North and Market Streets, for $5,000. On May 3, 1949 a contract was signed with Kenneth Jackson in the amount of $600 to raze the building by September 1949. In June of 1950 contracts were let for general construction to Schultz Construction Company of St. Marys, Ohio in the amount of $72,-000.94. The Architect was F. E. Freytag of Sidney, Ohio.

Raising the money involved a lot of hard work

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nd cooperation. Yet it resulted in much fellowship nd gained widespread community and conference upport. By September 25, 1950, a period of nine- een months, the Women's Society had raised hrough dinners, bake sales, bazaars, ice cream so- ials, rummage sales, etc. a total of $1,986.80. One of he memorable experiences occurred on the evening f October 12, 1948 after the women had served the ion's Club. As they were tidying up the kitchen the omment was jokingly made: 'Next time we'll have o make a little dish of gravy for Clarence Bruns no natter what kind of meat we serve just so he can't ay we didn't serve a complete meal.'

The Youth Fellowship worked diligently at a vari- ty of projects to help equip the new church. Among heir contributions are the paraments. Personal gifts f both money and furnishings poured in from the ommunity as well. And on June 7, 1951 the Board f Missions of the Methodist Church forwarded to he congregation a check for $5,000, and another 10,000 would result from our church being desig- ated an "Advance Special" for that year.

The cornerstone for the new church was laid Oc- ober 22, 1950. The pastor was Reverend Elden Win- et and the District Superintendent was Dr. Carl Hickey. The guest speaker was the Reverend Mr. Carl Plummer, a native of Coldwater and at the time was serving as a Methodist Pastor at the Bigelow Methodist Church, Portsmouth, Ohio. In his re- marks Rev. Plummer noted that "the cornerstone of he building is important not in having any differ- nce in size or weight from the other stones but in he significance that is attached to it." He called it a oundary line between the new and old; he then re- minded the audience that "the new building is not n end in itself but a tool for better serving of God's rinciples by the congregation," and "that thirty-six ercent of Mercer County were found to have no hurch attachment. We have a responsibility to hem."

The building was completed for the first worship ervice on September 23, 1951, the Rev. Winget reaching. On October 21, 1951 the first Baptism as held in the new church: Suzanne Murlin, infant aughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Murlin. The first mar- iage ceremony held in the church was that of Miss Catherine Gengler and Mr. Dallas Pierstorff on No- ember 4, 1951. The first church funeral in the new tructure was the funeral service of Mrs. Oscar Agnes) Snider, July 19, 1952.

The offering on September 18, 1960 was sufficient o pay off the mortgage. On January 22, 1961 the ervice of Dedication was held with Dr. Harold Kel- ong, Administrative Assistant to resident Bishop Hazen G. Werner, in charge. Rev. John Petrie was astor and Rev. Albert L. Slack was district superin- endent.

In 1960 the Bell Tower was added as a memorial ift by Dr. and Mrs. Charles Adkins in the memory f Dr. Adkins' parents. It houses the original bell rom the old church. Also recalling the past for us re the lights at the front entrance way — they came rom the front of the old high school which stood in he same spot. In more recent years a new Allen Di- ital Computer Organ, new glass doors, and carpet n the Narthex have been added. Beginning as a andful of persons in 1860 the congregation has teadily grown to its present membership of 191, serving a larger constituency who look to the church for her ministry.

The story has been one of continual progress and change. Beginning as the Methodist Episcopal Church, on May 10, 1939 at Kansas City, Mo., she became the Methodist Church through merger with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South and the Methodist Protestant Church. Then, on Tuesday April 23, 1968 at 8:30 a.m. the Ceremony of Unification of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church took place in Dallas, Texas, and she became the Coldwater United Methodist Church.

The church congregation looks back with pride and thankfulness, and forward with hope and purpose. May she continue to minister to the needs of her congregation, her community, and the world. In 1981 she will celebrate her 100th birthday of organized ministry to her Lord, Jesus Christ! *Rev. Mr. Jerry R. Cole, present pastor; Mrs. Ruth Carmack, church historian*

PASTORS. — John W. Holland, 1881-1882; George Smith*, 1882-1883; James G. Day*, 1883-1884; Lemuel Herbert, 1884-1886; Granville M. Hemphill, 1886-1887; Ellis T. Daily, 1887-1889; John F. Naugle, 1889-1890; W. J. Hagerman, 1890-1892; Benjamin W. Day, 1892-1893; Charles M. McCord, 1893-1894; Charles B. Cramer, 1894-1896; James J. Richard, 1896-1898; J. M. Longsworth, 1898-1899; F. M. Houser, 1899-1901; John S. Bell, 1901-1903; A. H. Weaver, 1903-1906; Ray Dunham, 1906- ; C. M. Baker, 1906-1909; Lemuel Rice, 1909-1912; R. E. Woodruff, 1912-1916; Rev. Isnagle+, 1916-1917; Clarence Wallick+, 1917-1918; Rev. Green+, 1918-1919; M. L. Massie, 1919-1931; D. V. Shaw, 1931-1932; L. J. Poe, 1932-1935; Rev. Shambaugh, 1935-1937; Russell C. Kimble, 1937-1941; George I. Meyers, 1941-1947; J. B. Meyers, 1947-1948; Raymond S. Daniels, 1948-1949; Elden B. Winget, 1949-1953; Edward H. Jones, 1953-1956; Wayne Ries, 1956-1957; Aaron C. Sharp, 1957-1960; John Petrie, 1960-1965; Dow Chamberlain, 1965-1967; Dale Gensler, 1967-1972; J. Hugh Price, 1972- ; Lynn Harris, 1972-1973; Terry J. Powell, 1973-1977; Jerry R. Cole, 1977-Present.

*Supply Pastors
+Clarence Wallick gave assistance from 1916-1919

The Methodist Episcopal Church, 1881

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OTHER CHURCHES

The Coldwater Nazarene Church was started in November, 1952, meeting on the second floor of the Village Hall. In 1956 the congregation built a church on North Second Street, on the banks of Hardin Creek. The church building was built with mainly volunteer labor of the members. The church suspended operations in 1977.

A Coldwater Church of God existed for about two years in the late 1960's. They were organized and met first in a farm home south of the village. Later they bought the old Methodist church on West Main Street, and used the building until 1970, when the church ceased operations.

There are no existent records of any other church having been organized in the village of Coldwater.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Fire Department

The first fire department of Coldwater was formed by a group of civic-minded citizens. In 1886 the following: S. T. Johnson, J. B. Hoyng, J. S. Allen, J. F. Beams, C. E. Smith, Lawrence Woeste, D. W. Frick, Jos. Perkins, Anthony Diebolt, John Martz, John Swartz, Chas. Spornhauer, Jos. B. Arbaugh, Frank Rabe, M. Y. Snider, K. J. McDonald, and John Rhein, petitioned the state legislature to allow the village council to buy fire fighting equipment. The act was passed, and the village bought a hand propelled engine with five hundred feet of hose. The engine was called the "Fire Queen" and the fire company took the name as the Fire Queen Company. The name, Queen Fire Company, was used until very recently. The fire engine was housed in the old Town Hall.

During the history of Coldwater, several large fires have occurred. The first large fire of record, before the purchase of any equipment, destroyed the home, office, and contents of the buildings, of Dr. C. F. Bohman. The bucket brigade was unable to save anything of the property which stood at Second and North Streets. On January 1, 1885, the Schindler Blacksmith and Wagon Making shop at the corner of Second and Walnut Streets, was destroyed by fire, which also destroyed the home, business place, and barn of Jacob Swartz, just across the street. In 1887, almost a complete business block was lost, and in 1892, the Bettinger and Company Hoop Factory and Sawmill was burned to the ground. Another serious fire destroyed the business block between Mill and Market Streets, north of Main to North Street. Three homes were also lost in this block. On June 18, 1896, the Coldwater Normal School, on College and First Streets, was destroyed. During this fire the original fire engine was also lost, and since that time the village has had power driven equipment.

Another large fire on December 26, 1926, destroyed the business building then occupied by the Harold Romer Co. at the corner of Main and Market Streets, where the City Hall now stands. On April 22, 1974, the Coldwater Lumber Co.'s largest building burned to the ground, with the fire companies present being able to save the surrounding buildings.

The fire chiefs in Coldwater history have been: John Martz, Anthony Rathweg, Frank Rosenbeck Wm. Fetzer, Frank Hoyng, Chas. Jenkins, Ed Stukenborg, Clarence "Pete" Tangeman, Ed Severt, and Stan Lefeld.

The fire department was housed in the old Town Hall until the City Hall was built in 1935, when the fire station was included in that building. In 1972 a new fire station was constructed at the corner of West Main and North Wilson Streets.

Police

When Coldwater was incorporated in 1883, the post of Town Marshall was one of the elective offices. The first elected Marshal was Joseph Wagoner. There seem to be no records of who the succeeding marshals were, and Coldwater was not a Wild West town where the Marshal had to keep order by gun play. However, there is a story of one town marshal shot dead on the steps of the old Town Hall, about 1900. It seems to have been a fight over someone stealing someone else's girl friend.

Another crime in the annals of Coldwater history, maybe the largest crime, came on August 25, 1932. At 12:30 a Buick stopped in front of the People's Bank on the corner of Main and First Streets. Two men went inside, ordered the people inside, Urban DeCurtains, Charmie Granger, and Joe Huelskamp to stand still, and began scooping up money. John Schroeder, working at a gas station across the street decided that a robbery was in progress and sounded the fire alarm. At the sound of the alarm, the robbers left the bank and opened fire in the street. Harold Romer, from his store across the street, fired at the robbers, as did Edward Knapke, who was in Romer's Store. It is believed Romer hit one of the robbers as they sped away. No arrests were ever made in the case, and the $1500 stolen was never recovered. The Town Marshall at the time, Spain James, patrolled entirely on foot. The County Sheriff and the State Highway Patrol attempted to set up road blocks, but did not intercept the robbers.

Today Coldwater has a modern, well equipped police department with trained, professional officers.

Public Utilities

Soon after its incorporation, the village of Coldwater granted a franchise to the South Western Ohio Natural Gas and Petroleum Company on April 12, 1887, to furnish the village with lighting, heating and power. The gas light era had come to Coldwater. Later, the village operated its own gas works from about 1890 until 1895. Today the Western Ohio Gas Company has the village franchise.

In 1900 the Co-operative Telephone Company received a franchise for furnishing telephone service to the village. Today the General Telephone of Ohio furnishes this service.

In 1911 the Coldwater Lighting Company built a power plant in the village and started the process of electrification of the town. In 1914 the streets were lighted by electricity. Today the Dayton Power and Light Company has the franchise for the village.

Other franchises granted by the village were for garbage disposal to Kenneth F. Moorman on June 3 1946 (presently held by Elmer Klenke) and for cable television, granted to Tele-Media Company on August 27, 1973.

In 1916 the village waterworks were completed

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ıd the village had a water storage system. That year so saw the village sewer system installed, but it was ɔt mandatory for villagers to use the system. In ')38 the modern sewage plant on North Second reet was constructed, with an addition in 1968. The ater plant on West Sycamore Street was conructed, with an addition in 1968. A second well eld, at the southwest corner of Sycamore and Cedar :reets, was purchased in 1968. A second water wer, northwest of the village was constructed in)70.

COLDWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Coldwater Public Library has been in existnce since 1936, when a group of interested citizens nder the leadership of Mayor Arnold Schoch, deided that a library would be a vital part of the eduational program as well as a cultural center for oldwater. At first it was just a series of discussions bout the possibility of a library for the community. Ir. Goode, editor of the Coldwater Chronicle, met ith Mr. Schoch and his council, Norbert (Dick) mith, Howard Colby, Roman Gast, Forest Ensign, alph Hess, and Mark King, and with City Solicitor Valter Bernard, to discuss ways and means by hich Coldwater could secure a library.

Council met with the State Librarian several mes, and it was decided that Coldwater would esıblish a municipal library. The mayor appointed ıe first library board and the following members ere chosen to serve: Joseph McDevitt, Forest Engn, Cyril Schindler, Mrs. R. J. Dreffer, Mrs. Carl less, and Mrs. Oscar Moore. The first meeting was eld in the council room of the city hall, and the ame "Coldwater Public Library" was chosen. The brary began very modestly in one upstairs room of ıe present city hall building. Mr. Goode used the hronicle to aid the board in obtaining gifts of ooks, and the fire chief and firemen helped collect ıe books. The entire book collection of the Buckeye)verall Company, Schindler's Rental Book Library, nd a large donation of books from William Foss elped to swell the collection. Mrs. Moore made seeral trips to Lima to Johnston's Gift Shop to buy ooks from the rental collection, and eventually ıere were approximately 500 books to be placed on ıe new shelves. Miss Rita Schmit was hired as the rst librarian. The doors of the library were opened n June 17, 1936, and nineteen books were checked ut that first day. At the end of the first year, there were 1050 books in the library, and they had been circulated a total of 2100 times.

After a short period, the old quarters were outgrown, and the Township Trustees donated a room to the library in the old town hall, now the site of Werling's garage. In 1938 the library was again overcrowded, and two additional rooms in the town hall were given to the library. It remained at that location for the next twenty years. In the 1950's the library was again overcrowded, and a bond issue for a new building was defeated. It was then decided to remodel the gymnasium at City Hall into a library. This time a bond issue for $15,000 was passed, but it fell far short of paying for all the furnishings, so a drive was made for donations and the necessary capital was raised to complete the work.

In April, 1962, the library was moved to the present location at 305 West Main Street. It is still growing, with approximately 1700 new books added each year. There are now more than 48,000 books in the library. The circulation has increased from the original 2100 per year, to approximately 90,000 per year.

In addition to books, the library has available records, large-print books, art slides, a speed-reading machine, films, projector and screen, cassettes and a cassette player, magazines, newspapers, story hour, tours, reference service including interlibrary loan service, talking-book machines for the handicapped, encyclopedias, atlases, and a photocopy machine. A collection of books is kept at the Community Hospital for the use of patients and their families.

The library has participated in federally funded programs which have purchased many new books for the library. The library is a member of an 8-county regional area library organization, the Western Ohio Regional Library Development System, also known as WORLDS, through which workshops are provided for training personnel, films are made available, inter-library loan service is provided, and cooperation between member libraries is enjoyed.

In 1961 all of the organizations in town banded together to hold a Community Picnic, the proceeds of which are to benefit the library and the park. The Coldwater Public Library has been fortunate in being able to share in the profits of the annual picnic, which has purchased many items for the library, and today it is one of the best.equipped small libraries in the state.

No history of the Coldwater Public Library would be complete without credit being given to Mildred Sutter, who was appointed librarian in 1939, and served as librarian for thirty years, until her death in 1969.

RECREATION

The early pioneers had no time for organized recreation, although Farmer's Institutes, church picnics, and many of their "work parties", such as barn raisings, husking bees, and threshing days, gave opportunities for socializing.

The earliest organized group in Coldwater was the "Alycon" Society, formed in the 1880's as a literary, discussion, and musical society. Debates by students of the Normal School and of the high school were highlights of their meetings. Musical evenings also occurred frequently.

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During the 1890's a Coldwater Band was formed. In one form or another, this group continued into the 1930's, and provided much entertainment with their music. They were a part of every occasion in the village. For many years it was known as the Albers Band.

After the building of the high school in 1898, the high school students gave many dramatic presentations. A Holy Trinity Drama Club also existed which provided another outlet for the demand for entertainment.

With the invention of the silent movies, Coldwater became one of first sites in the area for a theatre — an open air nickelodean, showing such classics as "The Great Train Robbery" and "The Perils of Pauline". The Rex Theatre, operated by Chas. Jenkins, was located on West Main St. (where Kremer's Restaurant is now) during the 1920's and showed not only films, but the Coldwater Dramatic Club also performed on their tiny stage.

In 1926 the Coldwater Council of the Knights of Columbus built a building at the corner of Second Street and Walnut Street. This building was intended to serve the recreational needs of the village. The "Columbia" Theatre was in this building, which also included the first gymnasium in the village, and a dance hall. Prior to this time dances had been held on the second floor of the old Town Hall, and later in the Knights of St. John's Hall, which was on the second floor of the old People's Bank building at the corner of Main St. and First Street. The first basketball team, the Coldwater Athletic Club, played on the top floor of the K. of C. building. During the Depression, the K. of C. lost this building, and it was acquired by Holy Trinity Church, which used it as a welfare center. The Columbia Theatre continued operations until 1961, when television forced the closing. The theatre was also the scene of live dramatic presentations for many years. The building is now the home of the Coldwater Eagles Lodge.

A playground existed for many years at Waterworks Park, which was north of Sycamore Street, across from New Idea, and east of the railroad. In 1944, the Lions Club, along with other groups, proposed the building of a Park. The last remaining wooded area in the village was selected as the site.

In 1944-45, soliciting began on a voluntary basis among the business places and industries, which ended in approximately $6000 being donated to purchase the land. The land was purchased from Mrs. Selhorst, who always had a true civic spirit. The total of approximately 12 acres was purchased for $200 to $300 per acre. The area was dedicated as Memorial Park. Drainage was installed, a baseball field was laid out and graded, and tennis courts installed. In 1947, after a Carnival to raise funds, a shelter house was built.

Several years later, the site of a swimming pool was chosen and another solicitation was made to raise funds. The whole-hearted co-operation of the community raised approximately $30,000. An oval shaped design was selected (because of cost) and the entire community, under the direction of the Matt Schweiterman Construction Company, pitched in to make the pool a reality. High school boys and the men of the area provided the volunteer labor, and Coldwater had a swimming pool, opened in August, 1954, for much less than an estimated cost of $100,000. This included a bath house.

In 1958 more land was acquired for Memori Park; more baseball diamonds, more picnic are and more shelter houses were located in this area. I 1961 Coldwater's unique organization, the Commu nity Picnic Association, was formed, under the lead ership of Bob Hibner and Don Luken. This associa tion annually holds a two day carnival, which ha grown every year, with all proceeds going to th Memorial Park for capital improvements, and als to the Coldwater Library. In 1973-74 four new tenni courts were constructed. In September of 1974 th old swimming pool, which had been outgrown, wa torn out, and by May of 1975 a new pool con structed on the same site and using the same batl house. The cost of the new pool was $190,319.

Memorial Park is now recognized as one of th finest village parks in Ohio, as well as one of th most used.

A newer playground, acquired in 1973, is for sma children on Hillcrest Avenue in the east part of th village.

Very important in the recreational pattern i Coldwater today are high school sports. The earlies high school sport undoubtedly was baseball, proba bly existing during the 1910's. There seem to be n records from those days. The first high school bas ketball team seems to have been in December, 192 when the K. of C. building opened, and a gymna sium was available. The high school basketball tean continued to play there until 1936, when the presen City Hall was built, and games were played in th auditorium of this building, which is the Municipa Library at this time. In 1939, the present Hig School was built, which included a gymnasium. Th high school basketball team has since used this gym

The first high school football team was organize under William Oberholzer in 1936. The first seaso they played their games on a field on W. Main St across the road from the present Community Hospi tal. The next several seasons they played thei games on a field owned by the Forsthoefel Dairy o South Second Street. The cows used the field al week, and before game time it was part of the fiel preparation to remove the reminders of their pres ence left behind by the cows. Necessarily, all game were played during daylight. In 1940, under th leadership of the Lions Club, funds were solicite and a new, lighted football field was constructed im mediately west of the high school. This field was th home of the Cavalier (a name adopted in the earl '40's after earlier being called the Yellowjackets football teams until 1968, when a new stadium wa erected on W. Butler Street. Cavalier Stadium wa erected with much donated labor, under the leader ship of the Coldwater Jaycees. The stadium also in cluded Coldwater's first cinder track, although high school track team had been organized in 196 by Kent Darr.

Coldwater High School today has eleven varsity sports — football, golf, cross-country, volleyball boys basketball, girls basketball, wrestling, gymnas tics, boys track, girls track, and baseball.

The school system is also today the locale of mos of the musical programs and dramatic presentation in the village.

The scene of most dances and social meetings to day are the American Legion Hall, on N. Second

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treet, and the VFW Hall, south of Coldwater on tate Route 118. *By Eugene Weber*

BOY SCOUT HISTORY

Boy scouting has been in existence in Mercer County as far back as the early part of the century, but records in the area are more recent, with the oldest chartered being Troop 96 of Coldwater.

Since 1945 Troop 96 has been continuously active. This troop is sponsored by the American Legion Post #470 with some of its past scout masters being: Merle Brookhart, Norb Kunk, Tony Doll, Frank Muskus, and Ted Smith. The present scoutmaster or the past 13 years has been Jim Forsthoefel and he troop now has 18 active scouts who make money or their troop outings and trips by raising and low- ring the American flags displayed downtown on holidays, by cleaning up the football stadium after ome football games, and by collecting newspapers nonthly for recycling. Troop 96 also makes house to ouse collections for the Epilepsy Drive and chari- ies as a service. Each year at the Coldwater Com- nunity Picnic they operate a fund raising stand as nother community service. This troop has so far roduced 14 Eagle Scouts (the highest rank in scout- ng), and presently has seven scouts in the Order of he Arrow (an organization in scouting). Troop 96 as been on several "High Adventure" trips to Na- ional Camps such as: Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimmeron, New Mexico; Northern Wisconsin Ca- oe Base at Boulder Junction, Wisconsin; Land Be- ween the Lakes in Golden Pond, Kentucky; and the Great Smokey Mountains Appalachian Trail. Troop 96 enjoys hiking, camping, swimming, canoeing, fishing, cycling around Grand Lake St. Mary's, and yearly week of camping at Camp Lakota in Defiance, Ohio, where many merit badges are earned.

Coldwater has a second troop that was started in 1972 with Steve Edwards as scoutmaster and sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. Troop 100 now has 18 scouts and the present scoutmaster is Paul Honigford. Troop 100 sells peanuts annually as a money making project.

Troop 99 of Ft. Recovery has been in existence since 1958, and is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The present scoutmaster is Linus Mescher who has served for 6 years. Troop 99 presently has eight scouts, produced one Eagle, and sells products for money making projects.

Troop 165 originated in 1961 and is sponsored by St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Celina. The present scoutmaster is Willard Jenkins, while some of the past scoutmasters were: Merle Brookhart, Terry Wolf, Mark Carr, Mike Jenkins, Howard Coats, Guy Snider and Jerry Boecke. Troop 165 now has 24 scouts who make money for their troop by operating a concession stand at the ballpark. Troop 165 helps Seniors Citizens, the P.T.A. and the Mercer County Sportsman's Assocation as community services. Their favorite activities are camping and hiking.

Troop 210 of Celina was first chartered in 1963 and is organized presently by Gary Harner. They are sponsored by the West Elementary School Community Organization. James D. Fox and William Bollinger served as past scoutmasters. Troop 210 enjoys hiking, camping, cooking and sports. With 14 scouts in the troop, one has reached Eagle rank and one is in the Order of the Arrow.

Troop 97 of Maria Stein originated in March of 1969 and is sponsored by the American Legion Post #571 with Eugene Bruns being the present scoutmaster. In the past, Robert Neiberding, Ed Garman, Ralph Wenning, Norman Bohman and Tom Mescher have also filled this position. Troop 97 presently has 26 members who make money for their troop by quarterly paper drives and operating a game stand at the annual Legion Picnic. They also participate in flag raising at home games and help the community when asked for services. Four scouts have reached Eagle rank in Troop 97 and seven scouts are in the Order of the Arrow. These boys all enjoy Summer Camp, the Klondike Derby, Cottonwood Campouts, Bowling parties and swimming.

Troop 199 of Ft. Recovery organized in 1978 with William B. Bridges as scoutmaster. This 10 member troop likes to build their own campsites and go camping.

Other troops in Mercer County are Troop 108 of Celina with Scott Brookhart as scoutmaster; Troop 98 of Rockford with Randy Rumple as scoutmaster; and Troop 231 of Mendon with Rich Chaney serving as scoutmaster.

Mercer County presently has 10 scout troops and about 150 boys in Boys Scouts. Thirty-five scouts have obtained Eagle and 20 scouts are in the Order of the Arrow in Mercer County.

This history of Boy Scouting in Mercer County is not complete, but gives the best information available to Karl Forsthoefel of Troop 96, who did this research and wrote this report as his service project toward earning his coveted rank as an Eagle Scout.

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Kiwanis Club of Coldwater, Ohio — **First Row, Left to Right:** Mel Bertke, James Hoyng, Douglas Spicer, Dennis Piper, Art Ranly, William Randall, Ralph Mueller. **Second Row, Left to Right:** Robert Willhoff, Leroy Pohl, Paul Dilworth, Lloyd Bollenbacher, Ray Kremer, Richard Balster. **Third Row, Left to Right:** Thomas Stelzer, David George, Harry Watts, Dr. Robert Hoyng, David Halterman, Arthur Pleiman **Fourth Row, Left to Right:** C.W. Blessinger, Alfred Pax, Dr. Wayne Kettler, Paul Honigford, Robert King, Dean Schaller, John Schenking Wayne Miller.

KIWANIS CLUB

The Kiwanis Club of Coldwater was chartered May 1, 1969. As a service organization, their motto is "Community Service — We Build". The Coldwater Club was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Lima and the Kiwanis Club of St. Marys.

Some of the projects they assisted in were: furnishing and placing books in the public library, assisting in improving Coldwater Memorial Park, taking the aged for automobile rides around the county, giving financial assistance to various religious and civic organizations, sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 100, working with the youth in various ways; such as anti-drug programs, and the Appalachian Program.

The only ways and means project for the club is the Hamburger Frying Machine, which was designed and built by member Art Pleiman. They fry "K-Burgers" at local softball tournaments and football games with all the proceeds going back into the community.

The Charter Members were: President — Arthur Ranly, 1st Vice President — Thomas Stelzer, 2nd Vice President — Rolland Braun, Secretary — Ralph Mueller, Treasurer — Ray Kremer. Other members were Paul Adams, C. W. Blessinger, Robert Cherry, Paul Dilworth, Roman Dues, David George, B. J. Hogenkamp, Paul Honigford, David Hoover, Thomas Hoyng, Neal Jenkins, Joseph Jutte, Ed King, Carroll Klingler, James Knapke, Ernest Kuess, Avie Lake, Jr., Russell Lefevre, William Mustard, Arthur Pleiman, Leroy Pohl, Dean Schaller, Linus Schoen, Ken Schwieterman, James Hoyng and Rev. Dale Gensler.

The 1978 officers and members are: President – Arthur Pleiman, 1st Vice President — Robert King 2nd Vice President — David George, Secretary – Ralph Mueller, Treasurer — Ray Kremer. Other members are: Richard Balster, Mel Bertke, C. W. Blessinger, Lloyd Bollenbacher, Don Desch, Paul Dilworth, James Fleck, David Halterman, Paul Honigford, James Hoyng, Robert Hoyng, Wayne Kettler, Carroll Klingler, Ernest Kuess, Wayne Miller, Sam Moorman, Alfred Pax, Dennis Piper, Leroy Pohl, William Randall, Arthur Ranly, Dean Schaller, Jack Schenking, Doug Spicer, Thomas Stelzer, Forrest Swigart, J. E. Vogt, Harry Watts, Robert Willhoff, Roger James and Jerrill Lacy.

Kiwanis Club — **Left to Right:** Carroll Klingler, Ernest Kuess, Roger James, J.E. Vogt.

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May Tea, 1971 — L. to R.: Mrs. Naomi Birkmeyer, Mrs. Odelia Blaeser, Mrs. Pat Sheeley, Mrs. Sue Pax, Mrs. Myrna Niekamp, Mrs. Dorothy Benner.

THE MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

Our Lady of Mercy Hospital was dedicated on December 3, 1950, and in the spring of 1951 our Auxiliary was organized with the assistance and guidance of the Auxiliary from Our Lady of Mercy Hospital of Springfield, Ohio. Our first officers were: Mrs. Josephine Werner, President; Mrs. Mary Hess Winkeljohn, Vice-President; and Mrs. Agnes Mueller, Secretary-Treasurer. A tea was held the very same year and became an annual event as well as the May Crowning, sponsored by the Auxiliary until the Sisters of Mercy left Coldwater.

Among the first purchases of the Auxiliary were sixteen sets of card tables and chairs to enable us to sponsor monthly card parties. It was also decided in the first year of organization to begin an annual "Charity Ball." The first one was held in the Coldwater High School Gym in November, 1951, and proceeds from this dance were used toward the purchase of cubicle curtains for hospital rooms. Through the years other money-making projects were undertaken. More recently, with the construction of the new hospital, the Auxiliary opened a gift shop.

Proceeds from these activities have enabled the Auxiliary to purchase kitchen equipment, office supplies and anesthetic equipment; to finance the installation of piped oxygen to all hospital rooms; and to support a coronary care unit. For a number of years, two girls were sponsored in practical nurses training.

Volunteer programs have been a vital part of the Auxiliary's function. Volunteers maintained the gift case and operate the gift shop in the hospital lobby. Through the years volunteers have performed personal services for the patients, now included in Project 9. At one time they supervised the visitation card system. A Sewing Committee was established in 1951 for the weekly sewing of new items and the necessary mending. This project is still active and ladies from Coldwater and surrounding communities sew for the hospital every Tuesday afternoon.

For many years there were very active auxiliaries in both Minster and New Bremen; however, these groups have phased out in recent years. *By Judy Wimmer*

COLDWATER

LIONS INTERNATIONAL CLUB

LIBERTY • INTELLIGENCE • OUR • NATIONS • SAFETY

COLDWATER, OHIO 45828

COLDWATER LIONS CLUB

The Coldwater Lions Club was chartered on January 31, 1934, making it the oldest service club in Coldwater. The sponsoring club was the Celina Lions Club. The first president of the Coldwater Club was Mr. Carl Z. Hess. There were 25 charter members of the Club. The last active charter member was Mr. Arnold Schoch, who was a member for forty years, until his death in 1974.

During the past 45 years the Coldwater Lions Club has had many service activities. Some of their earlier activities included: leading the campaign to build the first lighted football field, behind the present high school; working to establish Memorial Park; working for the building of the first swimming pool in Coldwater; and taking the lead in the building of Our Lady of Mercy Hospital. They have always been active in the development and betterment of the community, including working on all school issues and village projects.

Their main projects in 1978 include: organizing the Community Picnic Parade; sponsoring, with other groups, the After Prom Party; sponsoring a boy to Boys State; sponsoring an Invitational Cross Country Meet for boys; sponsoring an Invitational Track Meet for girls; sponsoring a Little League Team; working with other Lions Clubs on Eye Research, International Relief, Blind Welfare, and CARE; and running fund raising projects to fund yearly projects.

Present officers are: Bob Baumeier, President; Bill Donauer, Bob Beer, and Dave Bruns, Vice Presidents; Wallace Hart, Lion Tamer; Gene Weber, Secretary-Treasurer; John Rudd, Vince Gruss, Bob Hibner, and Vint Walls, Directors; Jim Slavik, Tail Twister; and Clarence Bruns, Immediate Past President.

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BAILEY-SCHOCHMAN POST NO. 5135 AND THEIR LADIES AUXILIARY VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.

When the flag waving and cheering, attendant upon wars has died away, men find it natural to seek from time to time, the companionship of others with similar experiences and memories. The veteran does this thru membership in a veterans' organization.

However, the V.F.W., a natural for men with overseas service records, was not available to the men of this community.

This is the story of Post No. 5135 and their Auxiliary from meetings in an auto garage to this commodius and well equipped home, shelterhouse and wooded park-site.

Dec. 16, 1945 — With 62 members present (out of 82 signed up), Bailey-Schochman Post No. 5135 is instituted by Comrade George Fetters, Commander, Dept. of Ohio. An election is held and Marinus Romer is installed as first Commander. It is interesting to note that the Post took its name from the names of the first two servicemen, from this area, to be killed in action in World War II. New City Hall was the scene.

Feb., 1946 — Colors and 10 ceremonial rifles are purchased; discussed formation of a Ladies Auxiliary; engaged in joint action with the local American Legion Post to sponsor bigger and better Memoria Day Services; made a sizeable contribution to th Mercy Hospital Assocation, just then beginning th hospital construction drive.

June, 1946 — Moved to new quarters on secon floor of the Old Town Hall, in which Post and Aux iliary remained until completion of New Home i 1951.

August 18, 1946 — With 35 members present, th Ladies Auxiliary to Bailey-Schochman Post No 5135, is instituted by Elizabeth Paige, District Presi dent. Louise Wiedeman is installed as President a result of first election.

Jan., 1947 — Post membership has grown to 180 charter membership had closed at 159.

April, 1947 — Joseph McDevitt is installed a Commander and Ruth Romer as President; decisior is made to conduct a new car lottery with a Chevro let as the one and only prize; lottery was a feature o the first Fall Festival.

December, 1947 — Post and Auxiliary remem bered Gold Star Mothers with appropriate gifts, a custom continued to this day at Christmas.

February, 1948 — Dawning interest in a new building; plans drawn, considered, and rejected at a joint meeting with 49 members present.

NOTE: It should be noted in passing, that in these early years, the officers and men of this Post provided dignified and full military funeral honors with escort from train to home, to church, and to cemetery for many fallen comrades of World War II recalled by their families from overseas cemeteries.

April, 1948 — Maurice Froning is installed as Commander and Frances Sunderhaus as President; Post and Auxiliary operated a concession stand in an "all organization" picnic for benefit of Memorial Park.

June, 1948 — Building Committee of the year investigates possibility of buying and converting old, abandoned, High School Building into Post and

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BAILEY-SCHOCKMAN
POST-NO-5135
COLDWATER,OHIO
FOUNDED
DEC.16.1945

uxiliary quarters; Bank loan possibilities investited; decision to build out of town, sometime in the ture, is arrived at. Ed Homan, with Post recomendation, is appointed to Mercer County Draft oard.

April, 1949 — Robert Kallmeyer is installed as ommander and Marie Schilling as President; Kallyer resigns because of illness after two months; uis Heyne is elected and installed as successor; arie Schilling finds it necessary to resign because impending motherhood and Helen Behm finishes it the year as President. Things begin to move; st is incorporated August 3, 1949; Building Comittee is appointed, including Fred Heyne, Chairan, William Donauer, Cy. Gross, Val Behm, and ntony Link.

July, 1949 — Six (6) acres are purchased from Arur Bettinger; Post treasury balance stands at $4,-0.00; and plans are ordered drawn.

September, 1949 — Building Committee has aterwell in operation on site south of town on ate Route 218.

LATE 1949-1950 — Business and professional en of Coldwater are solicited for donations and 36 sponded generously; Post No. 5135 thanks these ople sincerely; all were invited and many are here share in culmination of a project begun 10 years go.

June, 1950 — Ground is broken for foundation id The People Bank Co. lends $4,000.00 to speed e work.

April, 1950 — Post doesn't change horses in the iddle of the stream — Louis Heyne is installed for 2nd term and Rose Heyne is installed as President.

NOTES ON CONSTRUCTION — Except for me experienced or specialized construction services, Post members provided the needed labor, with ie end result, this building as you see it today, a edit to Post and Community.

April, 1951 — Val Behm is installed as Comander and Olive Giere as President.

October, 1951 — Post Home is dedicated with appropriate fanfare and picnic and speaker of the day is Carl V. Weygandt, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio.

April, 1952 — Don Hay is installed as Commander and Ocie Hay as President; interest is taken in athletics ($100.00 is appropriated); usual interest in District, Department, and National V.F.W. conventions and politics; a public picnic is held on these grounds and $600.00 in prizes given away; members volunteer to clean up the grounds and woodlot in preparation for the picnic; Post buys Cadillac ambulance which becomes a familiar sight to our townsfolk; ceiling is installed in this hall.

April, 1953 — Ralph Giere is installed as Commander and Rose Braun as President; Louis Heyne receives his first 5 years appointment to the Mercer County Soldiers and Sailors Relief Commission; another picnic; Post donates $100.00 to Coldwater Swimming Pool Association; progress is made in constant improvement in building and grounds.

April, 1954 — Clarence Gross is installed as Commander and Alice James as President; Post hosts a District Encampment; cabinet is built in auditorium to house rifles and helmets; professional wrestling exhibition staged; vandals break into lounge and do some damage.

April, 1955 — Gene Schilling is installed as Commander and Mary Gross as President; addition to kitchen is discussed; V.F.W. vehicle is lent to Village for bird scaring purposes (car worked and scaring device did not); Post vehicle (mascot) is sold; Post assists in Cancer Fund Drive in Butler Township; Auxiliary makes clothing and food gifts to needy families in fall.

April, 1956 — Linus Huelskamp is installed as Commander and Kate Yaney as President; joint meetings relative to kitchen enlargement are held; donations made to Boy and Girl Scouts; 10-year membership pins are presented at a special party; contribution made to Retarded Children's Class;

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baseball uniform shirts and caps bought for ball team.

April, 1957 — Leo Rosenbock is installed as Commander and Bertie Gross as President; Post and Auxiliary improve picnic grounds; Post joins Community After-Prom Dance and Breakfast Committee; driveway is repaired; $500.00 payment on Building Mortgage is made; plans to enlarge building are abandoned; ceremonial rifles are chrome-plated; contribution is made to C.H.S. School Band; fish frys are re-inaugurated.

April, 1958 — Leroy Heyne is installed as Commander and Bertie Gross stays on for a second term as President; Post helps Community After-Prom Committee again; chicken bar-b-que scheduled; lane resurfaced with hot-mix; final payment against mortgage is discussed; contribution made to Eaton Rapids, Michigan Home for V.F.W. War Orphans (not the first or last — just worthy of mention); plans for this MORTGAGE BURNING CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION are made and the following are appointed to Committees: Leroy Heyne, General Chairman; Leo Rosenbeck and Maurice Froning, Co-Chairmen of Program; Linus Huelskamp, Chairman of Entertainment; Clarence Gross, Linus Hausfeld, Bertie Gross, and Barbara Huelskamp, Co-Chairmen and Ladies of Banquet and Reservations; LaMar Giere and Ralph Giere, Co-Chairmen of Invitations; Paul Bettinger and Louis Heyne, Co-Chairmen of Stage and Public Address; Fred Heyne and Florian Stelzer, Co-Chairmen of Parking and Traffic; and ALL MEMBERS, Cleanup Committee.

NOTE: Many of the Committee Members and past officers are not here to take a bow, because the business of this day, just begun, requires their service on other committees concerned with the full enjoyment of this day.

March, 1959 — Motion is made to pay off the balance due against the MORTGAGE — a fateful action and the one responsible for this day of superactivity.

April, 1959 — Wilfred Homan is installed as Commander and Norma Heyne as President; auditorium is lent to Coldwater Baseball Club for a fund raising dance; action taken to paint building and restone the parking area; special identifying overseas caps for members being bought at members' own expense.

June 13, 1959 — Mortgage is burned with program and festivities.

May 4, 1963 — Earned perpetual charter; 25 life memberships in last 5 years.

1964-1969 — Home enlarged; shelter house built; Post and Auxiliary keep active and productive.

Oct. 25, 1970 — 25th Anniversary Dinner-Dance at "Carousel Ballroom"; (47) 25 years service pins awarded.

1975 — Quarter-mile drive/approach to homesite is concrete paved and boulevard lighted.

PAST COMMANDERS, POST 5135 INCLUDE: Marinus (Louie) Romer (Deceased), 1946-47; Joseph McDevitt, 1947-48; Maurice Froning, 1948-49; Louis Heyne (2 years), 1949-51; Val Behm, 1951-52; Donald Hay, 1952-53; Ralph Giere, 1953-54; Clarence Gross, 1954-55; Eugene Schilling, 1955-56; Linus Huelskamp, 1956-57; Leo Rosenbeck, 1957-58; Leroy Heyne, 1958-59; Wilfred (Willie) Homan, 1959-60; Richard Luken, 1960-61; Dennis Heyne, 1961-62; Florian Stelzer, 1962-63; Ernest (Doc) Stahl, 1963-64; Robert Gerlach, 1964-65; Al Kanney, Jr., 1965-66; Lavern Bettinger, 1966-67; Melvin Dues, 1967-68; Arnold Kramer, 1968-69; Cyril Gross, 1969-70; Cletus Bettinger, 1970-71; Cy Dezeith (Deceased), 1971-73; Robert Birkmeyer, 1973-74; Lou Geier, 1974-75; Ernie Kuess, 1975-76; Ernie Miller, 1976-77; Tom R. Homan, 1977-78; Joe Borgerding, 1978-79.

PAST PRESIDENTS — AUXILIARY 5135 INCLUDE: Louise Wiedeman, 1946-47; Ruth Romer, 1947-48; Frances Sunderhaus 1948-49; Marie Schilling, 1949-50; Rosa Heyne (Deceased), 1950-51; Olive Giere (Deceased), 1951-52; Ocie Hay (Deceased), 1952-53; Rose Braun (Deceased), 1953-54; Alice James, 1954-55; Mary Gross, 1955-56; Kate Yaney, 1956-57; Bertie Gross (2 years) (Deceased), 1957-59; Norma Heyne, 1959-60; Lois Weitzel, 1960-61; Joan Staugler, 1961-62; Barb Huelskamp, 1962-63; Lois Hemmegarn, 1963-64; Thelma (Gross) Barber, 1964-65; Charline (Homan) Schmit, 1965-66Jane Clune, 1966-67; Della Kanney, 1967-68; Addie Delzeith, 1968-69; Wanda Weigel (2 years), 1969-71; Delphine Quinter, 1971-72; Alice Eyink, 1972-73; Gladys Kuess 1973-74; Ruth Birkmeyer, 1974-75; Ruth Drees, 1975-76; Mary Geier, 1976-77; Mary Kay Homan, 1977-78; Elsie Gerlach, 1978-79

The Post and Auxiliary have been active in the things that VETERANS naturally do, such as biennial MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAMS and have thru the years furnished members for the County Selective Service Board and Soldiers and Sailors Relief Commission.

In a civic sense, they've assisted in the sponsorship of youth activities, such as baseball teams, Easter Egg Rolls, Halloween Parades.

Participation in Park Swimming Pool drive and the annual charity drives, and After Prom Parent committees, is also on the list of accomplishments.

This building, this Home, has not only served the needs of the Post and Auxiliary membership but also lent its facilities to the many community social and business gatherings of a public and private nature.

Its decor has improved thru diligent planning and untiring efforts of its loyal members.

Loyalty of the members is exemplified by the fact that many 25 years pins have been presented to Post and Auxiliary members.

Now, hundreds of regular and special meetings and work parties later, hundreds of picnics, dances and fish frys later, and hundred of community projects later, standing on a new, debt-free threshold, free to emphasize the positive, to build for the veteran, his widow, and his orphan, for the living comrades, their Post and their communities.

And this we pledge to do, knowing that the moral and financial support of a community, which so ably demonstrated itself 33 years ago, is yet now and will be with us in the future — a living testimonial to the results of cooperation between the veteran and his community.

In this way, throughout the last 33 years, the best interests and welfare of both the veteran and his community have been attained and will be maintained.

In behalf of Post No. 5135 and the Auxiliary, the Historian thanks all who lent, who gave, and who worked to make our homesite and activities dream a reality and guarantee their survival.

We take pride in our strong and loyal membership: Post — 206 regular; 117 life; and 112 social; or 435 members; Auxiliary — 153 members.
Many, if not most, plan to be on hand for our 50th anniversary in 1995. Why not? Such is the indomitable spirit of the overseas veteran! *By: Maurice E. Froning Post Historian*

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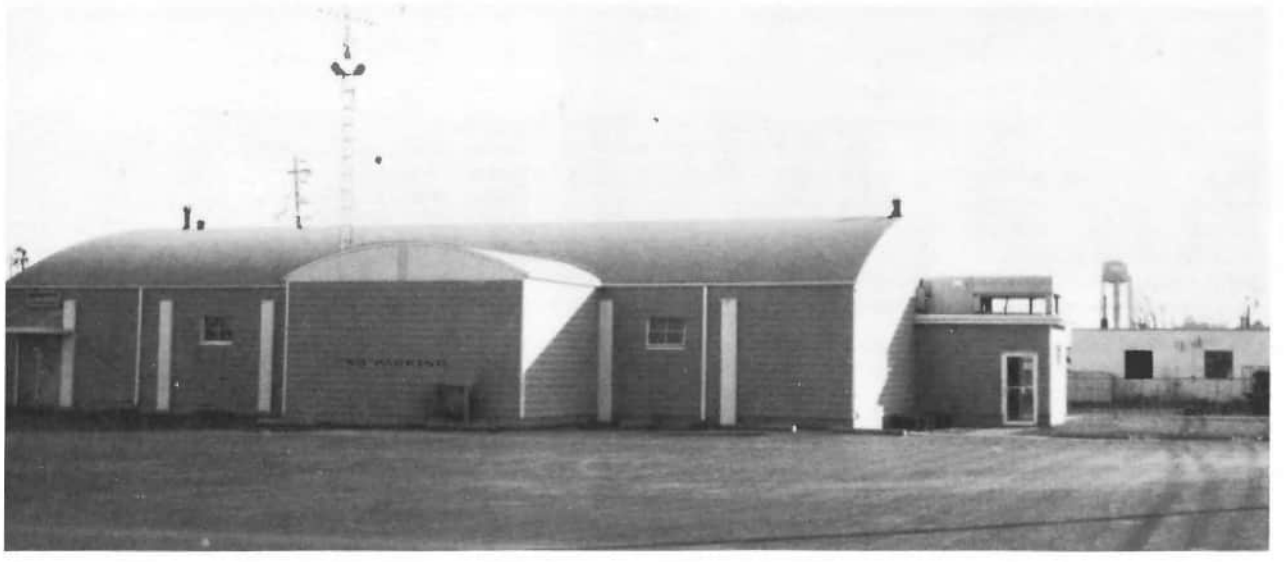

AMERICAN LEGION PATRIOTISM POST 470

The Coldwater American Legion was founded be-ause a new organization for veterans was created y American soldiers in France. This new organiza-on was established with its aims and purposes, onstitution and by-laws designed to be of assist-nce to veterans and/or their widows and orphans.

A small group of World War I veterans held a ieeting in the mayor's office to find out what this ew organization called the American Legion was all bout, what it stood for and how a local unit could e established. Interest developed to the extent that x-servicemen were invited to attend subsequent ieetings which culminated in the determination to ave a legion post in Coldwater. Skepticism was resent, some ex-service men may have equated be-ig a member of this new organization might make iem liable to be called back into service, a thought bominable to many who found it difficult to adjust) the regimented life in the service as they had ex-erienced it. This was in evidence at one of the ieetings when about half of the thirty in attendance 'alked out.

The desire to organize a post was so strong that if meant going out on the highways and by-ways to ound up enough eligible signers to obtain a charter iis was to be done. The effort of the early enthusi-sts culminated in accomplishing this endeavor. The ame of the post was to be Patriotism as this selec-on represented a letter of the name of each boy om this village and township who gave his all in ie service of his country. The date of the issue of ie charter was August 11, 1920.

The first hurdle, organization, was fairly difficult. lowever, the second, financing the infant organiza-on was more difficult. The Legion arranged with Ir. Charles Jenkins to hold Sunday movies, which as in violation of the Ohio Blue Law. As a result Ir. Jenkins was hauled into court and given several 1.00 fines. As the situation became more grave Mr. enkins turned his Rex Theater over to the Legion resumably believing that an organization of ex-ervice men should be exempt from this ruling. In spite of the fact that the prosecuting attorney was a legionnaire the opponents of Sunday night movies pressured him to serve notice. It was then decided to give up the idea of raising funds in this manner.

In 1921 the government assisted by the Legion and the American Red Cross started a plan to get in touch with any and all disabled veterans to help them straighten out their claims for compensation. The local post was to assist local veterans.

The Post put on its first street fair in 1922. This continued for a number of years as a carnival. Much of the success of the carnival was due to the splendid cooperation of the local city administration. In the same year the Post took over the Mike Link Pool Room on West Main Street and operated the American Legion Billiard and Pool Hall which was short lived. This year the Legion procured a bronze plaque on which the names of fifty-eight World War I veterans who made the supreme sacrifice was inscribed. This plaque was to be placed in the veterans room of the new Mercer County Courthouse.

In 1925 the Post booked Roy Smith's Scot Highlander Band, a fine music organization. A guarantee of $500.00 was required. The tickets were high priced (in those days) and sales were low. The young Post was saved because the committee had taken out rain insurance and were bailed out of their financial dilema because of a downpour.

Another venture which was financially profitable in the 20's was the home talent plays put on under the auspices of the Post.

On January 28, 1927 the Legion moved its quarters to the City Hall Building.

The Post was in danger of losing its charter in 1929 because there were but twenty members on the roster; however, a successful membership drive boosted the enrollment to forty-four.

In 1931 the Legion started the Christmas Party for children.

In 1932 Post 470 was one of the first Posts in the state to go over the top in memberhip.

The Ladies Auxilliary of the American Legion Post 470 was formed in 1932.

During the depression years the Legion and Legion Auxilliary provided services for the poor of the community by raising large sums of money to pro-

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Back Row:
Leo Rosenbeck, Finance Officer
Carl Hasenjager, Trustee
Donald Bruns, Trustee
Louis Gross, Chaplain
Harry Watts, 1st Vice Commander
Samuel Moorman, Trustee
Front Row:
Ted Mescher, Adjutant
Wallace E. Hart, Commander
Robert Heinrichs, Trustee
Gary F. Koesters, Immediate Past Commander and Truste
Not Pictured:
Louis Reigelsperger, 2nd Vice Commander

vide food, fuel, clothing and toys.

The Turkey Festival was started during this time. The 1978 festival will be the 47th conducted by the Legion. The Turkey Festival started with live poultry — turkeys, ducks and chickens. How many people today would attempt the task of preparing a live bird?

In 1937 the Legion members rounded up boats from lake resort owners and loaned them to the Cincinnati flood victims during the terrible Ohio River flood. Food and clothing were also trucked to Cincinnati.

Coldwater's first centennial celebration was organized by the Legion Post in 1938.

The Post continued its quest for a home. In 1952 the headquarters was moved from the city building to the top floor of the Jenkins building on North Second Street. In 1957 the Post acquired a parcel of land north of Coldwater and started plans for a home. Much of the work was done by members. By means of various and sundry money raising enterprises the Post Commander, Carl Hasenjager and the original signers of the mortgage, were enabled to burn the mortgage at the 50th anniversary of the Post in 1970.

Although in the past great obstacles had to be overcome, the present is not without its attainments.

In 1975 the Post representative, Don Feltz, became the Second District Commander — a first for Post 470.

Present Commander Wallace Hart has been a trustee for Buckeye Boys State and is now the finance director of that activity which is sponsored by the Ohio State American Legion.

The Post donated $2000.00 to the local hospital addition. The Legion, VFW and K of C's provided funds for a biofeedback machine at the Coldwater Community Hospital.

The Legion and VFW provided for the Veteran's Monument at Coldwater Memorial Park. The Post also provided for the Veteran's Monument at St. Elizabeth's Cemetery.

For thirteen consecutive years the Post was awarded the merit of accomplishing an all-time high in membership.

The Post provides its facility to the Bloodmobile for collecting blood for the blood bank.

The quarters are donated free of charge to th Senior Citizens for their meetings.

The local Boy Scout Troop 96 is given storag space and a meeting room in the Legion home.

Annual pinochle tournaments are held in the Pos home.

This year the American Legion Slo-Pitch Softbal Tournament at Mansfield was won by the Post 47 team.

At present the Post has a membership of 41 members. Present officers are: Wallace Hart, Com mander; Harry Watts, First Vice-Commander; Loui Riegelsperger, Second Vice-Commander; Tec Mescher, Adjutant; Louis Gross, Chaplain; Leo Ro senbeck, Finance Officer; Carl Hasenjager, Rober Heinrichs, Gary Koesters, Donald Bruns and San Moorman are the Trustees.

Since its beginning the Post has been under th leadership of the following Commanders:

1920 Horatio Gates; 1921 Alex Giere; 1922 Glen Yaney; 192 Harley Thees; 1924-25 and 28 Robert Kahlmeyer; 1926 Arnol Schoch; 1927 A. H. Hierholzer; 1929 J. Albert Volz; 1930 Loui Kantzer; 1931 Frank Wuebker; 1932 W. R. Foss; 1933 Willian M. Werner; 1934 Theodore Oppenheim; 1935 David J. Sowa 1936 Dr. L. G. McClennan; 1937 C. H. Hoyng; 1938 Martin Le feld; 1939 Spain James; 1939 Al Hartings; 1940 Herbert Wendel 1941 O. L. Coate; 1942 H. R. Millet; 1943 G. P. Desch; 1944 Ed ward Hamberg; 1945 Frank Kittle; 1946 Lorenz Rosengarten 1947 George Borgerding; 1948 George Swertelle; 1949 Werne Boeke; 1950 Merle Peterson; 1951-52 Jerome Vogt; 1953 H Thomas Brown; 1954 Arthur Plieman; 1955 Norman Schoch 1956-57-62 Robert Rish; 1958 Carl Hasenjager; 1959 Urba Naseman; 1960 Don Forsthoefel; 1961 Paul Hartlett; 1963 Henr Selhorst; 1964 Neil Jenkins; 1965-66 Wallace Hart; 1967 Orvill Ranly; 1968 Donald Feltz; 1969 Leo Rosenbeck; 1970 Art Ram mel; 1971 Don Mescher; 1972-73 Maurice Feltz; 1974 Ted Dem bowski; 1975-76 Gary Tekamp; 1977 Don Reed; 1978 Gary Koes ters; 1979 Wallace Hart.

Thus while the American Legion Patriotism Pos 470 points with great pride on the accomplishments of its over fifty years of existence it looks with even greater expectation toward the challenges and opportunities of the next half century.

Arthur Plieman
Carl Hasenjager
Wallace Hart
Jerome Vogt
Written by Jerome Vogt

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IOTA MU Chapter of PHI BETA SORORITY

Phi Beta Psi Sorority was founded 74 years ago by young girls in Columbus, Ohio. Their dream was) found a national non-academic sorority, which ras duly recorded as such in the state of Ohio on ebruary 15, 1904. Our sorority was founded on the rm principles of: Loyalty, Courage, Benevolence, olerance, Dedication and Commitment.

Iota Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Psi Sorority, Coldwa-er, Ohio was organized and chartered on November 8, 1951. Iota Gamma Chapter of Celina, Ohio was ur sponsor. Charter members were Lucy Bucceri, lyce Helfrich, Helen Uhlenhake, Natalie Desch, Norma Lou Ebbing, Alma Henry and Kathy Plaas. Mrs. Roman Rauh was chosen as their advisor. Within a year they had five new members: Ruth Willhoff, Betty Hibner, Kay Donauer, Elnore Jenins and Marian Brown, making a total of 12. Today ve have 30 active members, who are Peg Muhlenamp, Marian Grossman, Helen Homan, Lou angeman, Ann Jackson, Barb Rudd, Jean Dickman, Caty Mestemaker, Vi Albers, Judy Bills, Ann Fronng, Joan Slavik, Mary Winner, Rita Boeckman, Betty Hibner, Kay Donauer, Dorothy Walls, Barb ost, Mary Ann Meyer, Ruth Willhoff, Karen Kettr, Audrey Huelsman, Genevieve Vogt, Nancy Hoyng, Linda McClurg, Elaine Turner, Pat Hennesey, Dianne Lefeld, Cindy Pax and Sue Pax.

During the 27 years of Iota Mu's activity we have vorked tirelessly with Cancer Research as our main roject. Though our national project is cancer reearch we, also, conduct or participate in many other haritable and civic projects. In addition to helping ight cancer, Iota Mu has contributed to the local Girl Scouts, Coldwater High School band, Briarwood Manor Christmas party and instigated and supported the annual Christmas party for Cheryl Ann School. Several items: a Webcor record player, file abinets, coat rack and money for books were donated to the local schools. A magazine rack and dictionary stand were donated to the Coldwater public ibrary. Money was donated to the Coldwater Community Hospital general fund raising drive. We have donated hospital beds, wheel chair and leg rests, walkers and bed pads to the local Mercer County Cancer unit as well as money to the local chapter and the National Phi Beta Psi organization. These monies have gone to transporting patients and supplies on the local level and sponsoring cancer research grants to various doctors and hospitals devoting their time to fighting cancer.

Our largest money raising project is our annual Holiday Bazaar. We also sell pecans, calendars, purses and have a silent auction in the beginning of the year. In the spring our big project is a Bowling Tournament. We help during the Community picnic by conducting a fish pond for children. Our goal is to continue working for the betterment of our local community and county and supporting the national fight to cure cancer. *Ruth T. Willhoff*

Dr. C.P. Adkins

DR. C. P. ADKINS

Mercer County has benefited greatly by the contributions of Dr. Charles Phillips Adkins. He was born in Albertville, Alabama on April 3, 1905, the only son of Louis Conrad and Catherine (Phillips) Adkins. He had four sisters. In 1930 he graduated from Emory University of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. In 1933 he married Seressa Odell Smith of Lynchburg, Virginia who was the daughter of Robert Glenn and Emma Edelaide (St. John) Smith. She had graduated from Lynchburg Hospital and Cleveland Univeristy Hospital as an anesthetist. They had two sons, Charles Phillips, Jr. and William Conrad.

In 1934 while working as a surgeon at Hamilton, Ohio, Dr. Adkins was persuaded to come to Coldwater by a drug salesman. He told Doctor of the pressing need for a surgeon in southern Mercer County. Dr. Weamer had died and Dr. Brumm was very ill. Most surgery patients were sent to Lima. Poor road conditions made this arrangement hazardous and inconvenient.

Doctor moved his family to Coldwater for a three month trial period. Fortunately for Mercer County, this trial period stretched into a lifetime. He rented the former office of Dr. Weamer and he and his family boarded with Mrs. Weamer. A year later he bought the home and office from Mrs. Weamer. Miss Cleo Muhlenkamp became a part of the Adkins' household in 1936 as housekeeper and caretaker of the children.

Doctor was able to perform most of his surgery at the office-hospital of Dr. John Gibbons in Celina. Dr. Gibbons shared his office with a dentist, Dr. Guy Bryson. Two rooms in the back served as hospital and surgery ward for the doctors. Because Mercer County now had a surgeon, Dr. Gibbons was able to expand his facilities.

Doctor's daily routine started early in the morning and often lasted far into the night. Mornings were taken up by surgery either at Gibbon's in Celina or minor surgery in his office. With Mrs. Adkins as anesthetist, they could do as many as six tonsillectomies and drive them all home before preparing afternoon office hours. Afternoon office hours lasted from one until six. This was followed by evening office hours six days a week from seven until all patients were cared for. After midnight he was often called out for an emergency surgery or a late night birth. It has been estimated that Doctor Adkins had delivered over 5000 babies.

The hard times of the 1930's were reflected in Doctor's practice. Many paid the $15 he charged for deliveries in vegetables and meat. At times he found the homes without electricity too dim to work. With his usual resourcefulness, Doctor drove his car up to

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the house and delivered babies by headlights!

When the Oppenheim and Synck family owners decided to sell their interest in New Idea, Doctor approached them about the need for a hospital in Coldwater. He convinced them to use part of the proceeds from the sale to build a hospital in Coldwater. He was very active in the fundraising for the rest of the cost of the hospital. In 1950 Our Lady of Mercy Hospital was dedicated.

Doctor Adkins somehow found time to pursue other interests. He was a major contributor to the Methodist Church in Coldwater. He owned a Guernsey farm south of Coldwater. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Whenever possible he and his family would camp and hunt in the Canadian wilderness. Doctor took extended sporting trips to New Foundland and Nova Scotia, Alaska where he shot a polar bear, and Africa where he killed an elephant. These and his other kills are displayed in the large trophy room of his lakeside home.

Doctor's son Charles married Donna Smith of St. Marys. He is Vice-President of Central Trust Bank in Canton, Ohio. They have three children, Charles Phillips the Third, Alexander and Claire.

William married Elizabeth (Lynn Ann) Stedem of Columbus. He is an urologist at Erie, Pennsylvania. They have three children, William, Jr.,Rebecca, and Thomas.

Doctor Adkins became ill in early 1972. On November 29, 1972 he died. All who knew him share a common memory of his gruff voice, brisk manner, and his love of a good joke. All also have a personal memory of the heroic efforts Doctor used to accomplish a miracle, or of the sincere grief he felt when all his skills were not enough. Doctor Charles Adkins' epitaph reflects his life of service:

"When I was sick you visited me,
enter into the joy of the Lord."

BERGMAN

Bernard Bergman* (1-2-60 — 5-13-24) married Katherine Luttmer* (6-22-65 — 2-1-27). Bernard Bergman was the son of Stephan and Adelaide (Hagert) Bergman. Katherine was the daughter of Joseph and Bernadine (Feldkamp) Luttmer. They had nine children: John (8-28-89); Mary (8-14-91) who married John Schlarman* (4-29-14); Philomena* (5-18-93) who married Aloysius Heuker* (10-26-15); Clara* (7-21-93) who married Anthony Schmiesing* (5-18-15); Adeline (8-12-97) who married Edward Stuckenborg; Edward* (6-25-99) who married Olivia Brunswick (6-8-21); Kathryn (6-18-01) who married Robert Winner* (6-8-21); Elizabeth (3-7-03) who married Robert Stueve (10-26-21); Clarence (1-31-08) who married Rose Neiberding* (11-17-34).

Mary Bergman married John Schlarman. They had the following children: Herbert; Rosella; Velma; Eileen; Clara Marie; Lucille; Imelda; Hugo; Lois.

Herbert (3-14-15) married Julia Anna Grilliot (1-30-43). They had seven children. 1. Linda (9-5-44) married John Wuebker (2-16-63); they had four children: Kimberly (8-2-63); Mellisa (8-1-65); Cheryl (5-16-67); and Brian (2-11-72). 2. Kenneth (12-3-46) married Mary Nance (5-15-71); they had three children: Tina (5-4-72); Jeffrey (6-28-73); Teresa (1-1-76). 3. Michael (3-1-48) married Roberta Nance on 6-3-72; they had three children: David (4-3-7 Pamela (11- -); and Bradley (1-19-77). 4. Kathle (10-28-50) married Theodore Mescher on 8-8-7 they had two children: Neal (1-7-72) and Nicole (20-75). 5. Aubrey (9-21-53) married Susan Hartke 10-22-76. 6. Lois Ann (8-27-56). 7. Suzanne (8-2 56).

Rosella (9-20-16) married Wilfred Tanner on 7-2 55; they had one child, Christine (4-29-58).

Velma (3-30-19) married Ralph Magoteaux on 15-42; they had five children. 1. Marcia (6-7-4 married David Muhlenkamp 6-16-67; they have fo children: Chris (7-13-68); Trisha (5-11-71) Sean (27-72) and Melissa (4-8-77). 2. Janice (6-26-49) ma ried David Vehorn on 11-23-71; they had one chil Leah (3-13-73). 3. Shirley (3-19-52) married Pa Fleck on 7-15-72; they have three children: Matthe (5-8-73); Jill (6-1-75); and Jodi (2-21-77). 4. Mary (8-54) married Michael Hall on 1-19-74; they ha two children: Mindy (1-3-75) and Amy (3-23-76). Karen (6-28-55).

Eileen (10-13-21 — 10-11-42).

Clara Marie (6-6-24) married Ohmer Brandewi on 8-31-52.

Lucille (3-17-27) married Bill Ketring on 9-27-5 they have five children: 1. Judy (2-1-49) who marrie Steve York on 12-23-67 and have two children, Mi chael (9-8-68) and Shawn (12-9-71). 2. Cynthia (7 23-54) who married Bill Atkins on 4-3-71; they hav two children Shannon (11-14-71) and Chris (9-25 73). 3. Larry (5-8-56). 4. Michelle (11-7-58) who mar ried Douglas Petry on 7-23-77. 5. Terry (6-29-61).

Imelda (4-28-29) who married Roman Stucke o 10-9-51; they have the following children: Gary (8 18-52) who married Marilyn Sordelet; Keith (3-2 54); Sheila (2-2-56); Myron (4-2-58); Kevin (4-9-61 Gail (6-4-65); and Allison (8-27-72).

Hugo (4-23-31) married Elizabeth Wenning on 9 17-55; they had five children. 1. Jerome (7-2-64 — 1 3-67). 2. Thomas (6-20-66 — 6-21-66). 3. Anna Mari (10-5-67 — 10-5-67). 4. Ronald (12-4-68). 5. Tina (1 3-72).

Lois (6-4-34) married Cletus Wenning on 5-14-55 They have six children: Robert (11-17-56); Lisa (2 28-60); Timothy (7-7-62); Steven (12-19-63); Dougla (6-27-68); and Jonathon (7-5-73 — 7-6-73).

Philomena Bergman married Aloyious Heuker They had the following children: Mildred, Jerome Mary Louise.

Mildred (8-31-16) married Robert Bellville on 6-19-48; they have the following children: Mary Katherine (6-29-49) who married Robert Metzler on 7-18-70 and have one child, Amy (6-2-76); Theresa (6-17-52); Robert (12-18-53); Richard (10-29-56); Jeanne (6-28-59).

Jerome (4-17-19) married Norma Wuebker* on 8-4-45; they have four children. 1. James (5-1-46) who married Joyce Rammel. 2. Robert (2-20-48) who married Cheryl Todd. 3. David (8-5-50) who married Phyllis Goubeaux on 8-7-71 and have one son Duane (4-1-73). 4. Dolores (8-22-53) who married Art Dehay.

Mary Louise (2-13-21) married Frank Ryan (9-10-49); they have three children. 1. Thomas (7-21-50) married Teresa Wint on 2-16-74 and have one child, T. J. (7-30-76). 2. Christine (8-8-52) married F. Michael Demick on 9-2-72. 3. Patrick (3-18-56).

Clara Bergman married Anthony Schmeising. They

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ve one child, Walter (6-27-16) who married Mary ın Grevenkamp on 10-24-36. Walter and Mary ın have four children. 1. Robert* (2-25-39). 2. Di- e (12-5-42) who married Larry Dicke on 4-20-63 d have four children: Michelle (1-25-64); Denise ·20-66) and Timothy (3-25-69). 3. Elaine (1-1-52) ırried David Brunswick on 8-11-73; they had a n* (5-20-76) and Meredith (4-26-77). 4. Peggy (9- -58) married Mike Albers; they have a daughter ınifer (4-22-76).

lward Bergman married Olivia Brunswick. They d the following children: Mary Evelyn, Henry, alter, Dorothy, Joan, Ruth, and Patricia.

Mary Evelyn (3-12-22) married Floyd Schweg- ın* on 6-25-49. They have four children. 1. John ·9-50) married Debra Dumbauld on 11-25-75. 2. ıarles* (12-5-51). 3. Diane (9-23-53) married James ·eiwe 11-23-74. 4. Jane (10-11-55). 5. Deborah (10- -58).

Henry (4-10-24) married Betty Donnerberg on 7- 46. They had eighteen children. 1. David (1-1-47) ırried Kathy Staton on 9-20-69; they have three ildren: Tammy (3-15-70); Lauri (4-21-73) and Mat- ew (7-29-75). 2 Judy (4-7-48) married James Kistler 7-12-69; they have four children: Kim (11-2-70); na (5-31-72); Nichole (9-18-73) and Jack (12-9-75). Nancy (5-24-49) married Jerald Koesters on 5-29- ; they have two children: Kevin (5-26-72) and ıwn (5-21-73). 4. Tom (8-15-50) married Sandra elleman on 5-20-72; they have three children: ıristopher (5-28-73); Tanya (9-20-74) and Patrick. Sandra (4-16-52) married Dale Schafer on 2-24-73; ey have two children, Danielle (1-13-74) and An- ew. 6. Mary Jo (7-9-53) married David Bellman on -22-72; they have one child, Shaney Jo (4-6-73). 7. ·rald (7-3-54) married Lynn Meiring on 1-10-76. 8. anley (8-11-55). 9. Christine (1-26-57). 10. Phyllis ·22-58). 11. Edward (4-7-59). 12. Peggy (7-29-60). . Alan (11-16-61). 14. Bruce (11-9-62). 15. Terrence ·14-64). 16. Mark (11-29-65). 17. Ronald (10-15-). 18. Sara (3-5-71).

Walter (1-3-26).

Dorothy (6-8-28) married Henry Beckman on 10- -47; they have the following children: Linda (3-27-) who married Roger Knost on 8-28-71; Anthony ·17-55); Karen* (2-4-61); James (7-5-63); Michael ·15-66).

Joan (5-8-34) married Donald Eilerman on 10-6- . They have the following children: Donna Jo (7- -55); Carol (8-14-56); Robert (8-13-57); Betty Jean ·28-58); Teresa (9-15-59); Paul (3-14-61); Kathleen ·11-63); Steven (1-12-65); Barbara (3-10-66); and yce (3-3-67).

Ruth (5-1-37) married John Barhorst (10-6-56); ey have the following children: William (11-20-); Joseph (11-8-59); David (7-28-61); Eric (8-20-62); d Ronald (5-24-65).

Patricia (3-16-41) married James Winner on 8-19- ; they have the following children: Theodore (2-2-); Robert (3-18-66); Joseph (10-19-70) and Charles)-24-73).

ıthryn Bergman married Robert Winner. They ve the following children: Vernon, Robert, Ralph, ·ban, Vera, Thomas, John, Kenneth, Karen.

Vernon (3-14-22) married Agnes Borchers on 6- -48; they have three children: Jay (5-24-50); Mark ·8-54) and Craig (11-4-59).

Robert* (10-15-23).

Ralph (9-13-24) married Elsie Schulze on 10-19- 50; they have four children. 1. Brenda (11-10-51) married Richard Vagedes on 5-20-72; they have two children, Keri (7-8-73) and Gail (11-25-76). 2. Bruce (1-29-55). 3. Alan (1-27-59). 4. Brian (12-15-63).

Urban (8-13-26) married Kathryn (Babe) Aselage on 5-3-50; they have three children. 1. Sharon (8-16- 52) married William Wink on 11-23-74 and have one son Brian (10-24-76). 2. Sandra (1-17-57). 3. Stacy (3-13-68).

Vera* (8-21-28).

Thomas (9-25-30) married Henrietta Grilliot (9- 18-52); they have five children. 1. Michael (4-6-54) married Nancy Tangeman on 11-13-76. 2. Steve (8- 16-55). 3. Terry (4-1-57). 4. Lynn (8-17-62). 5. Ted (11-5-69).

John* (1-22-37 — 9-27-39).

Kenneth (9-17-39) married Beverly Olding (12-1- 62); they have two children: Pamela (1-1-68) and Eric (1-22-70).

Karen (7-6-42) married Ronald Schwieterman on 4-2-64; they have four children: Brad (9-2-66); Lori Ann (9-24-67); Tracy (3-17-72); and Kelly (3-7-77).

Elizabeth Bergman married Robert Stueve. They have the following children: Oscar, Marcellus, Doris, Norma, Betty.

Oscar (8-18-22) married Edna Clune on 5-8-48; they have four children: 1. Charles (6-5-49). 2. Michael (7-27-52) married Marly Senter on 8-25-73; they have one child, Cari Lynn (6-5-76). 3. Dianne (3-31-54). 4. Thomas (2-17-60).

Marcellus (10-16-24) married Mary Helen Bauer (10-10-53); they have six children: 1. Jane (7-24-54) married Mike Ringlespaugh on 10-21-72. 2. Mark (7- 21-56). 3. John (5-12-58). 4. Linda (5-11-60). 5. Nancy (6-12-62). 6. Sharon (5-16-67).

Doris (9-4-27) married Orville Wannamaker on 8- 18-49; they have three children: 1. Jerry (6-10-50) married Susie Frantz. 2. Marcia (3-3-52) married Dan Worthington on 6-2-73; they have one child, Christie (6-30-76). 3. Dan (4-31-57) married Donna Gaier on 10-29-76; they have one child, Jason.

Norma* (11-15-34 — 4-20-69) married Jerry Dah- linghaus on 5-8-54.

Betty (2-4-41) married Leon Voisard on 9-16-61; they have three children: Eric (8-1-62); Beth (3-6-64); and Joe (5-28-68).

Clarence Bergman married Rose Nieberding. They have five children: Gerald, Robert, Barbara, Linda, and Kathy.

Gerald (12-1-35) married Jerrie Claphan on 2-20- 60; they have three children: Jodi (1-6-61); Jill (11-20- 65) and Jamie (7-26-70).

Robert married Wilma Jolley on 2-1-63; they have three children: Lisa (8-16-64); Jeff (8-30-69) and Ste- ven (2-25-70).

Barbara (7-23-45) married Sam Bricker (10-7-65); they have five children: Kim (11-23-66); David (11- 26-67); Krista (9-4-68); Kathy (2-3-73); Kelly (3-15- 74).

Linda (7-31-47) married Richard Dull (1-15-70); they have three children: Chris (6-26-70); Jonathon (3-22-73) and Nathan (11-26-77).

Kathy (12-7-48) married Dick Fennig on 9-5-70. They have two children: Benjamin (2-18-75) and Emily (12-15-77). *Clarence Bergman*

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The Jacob Francis Beams Family — **Standing:** Lola, Tobitha, Russell, Hulda. **Seated:** Lydia, Jacob.

BEAMS

Jacob Francis Beams was born Sept. 30, 1849 near the Susquehanna River and Luthersburg in Clearfield Co., Penn. At age 19, with his parents, and at least one sister (Caroline Munn) he moved to the area of Celina, Ohio. Jacob's first marriage was to a young woman by the name of Green. To that marriage was born one daughter, Estella. She married Will Dibble, but died of blood poisoning not long after.

Jacob's second marriage was to Lydia L. Hay, in April of 1880, to which marriage were born five children, the baby Ethel died at the age of a few months, and the four others are pictured in the accompanying photograph. Jacob Beams was a hard worker, very strong physically, and at various times worked at butchering, had his own shop for a while, hauled pipe stems on his "uncoupled" wagon for the oil fields of Lima, Ohio, farmed, broke horses for himself and friends, and had his own livery stable in Coldwater, Ohio, for a time. He died of an accident in Indiana on June 13, 1917. He was plowing corn with a riding cornplow and a team of horses when a storm frightened the team and they ran straddle of a stump in "new ground" and threw him from the plow, breaking his back. He was never able to speak after the accident, and died shortly thereafter. He was buried at The Burntwood United Brethren cemetery, as he had been a member of the United Brethren Church for over 35 years.

The four children pictured from left to right in the photograph are: Lola K., Tobitha M., Russell W., and Hulda J.

Hulda married John Donovan and lived most of her life in Indianapolis, Ind. Related children are Donovan, and a daughter married to Sam Toscano, now near Salsberry, Ind.

Tobitha married John A. Myers, only son of Jesse W. Myers of Coldwater area. Decendants carry such names as follows: Carter, Bollinger, Crouch, McDowell, Wood, and Hobbs. These families are found in Mercer Co. for the most part. In the Dayton, Montgomery Co. areas the names of descendants include Votaw, Portash, Matherlee, Barnes, Dearth, Anspaugh, Myers, and Oren. Bealer is also a Beams descendant, born in Indiana and Michigan, now living in Warren Co. Ohio. Reid family children were born in Cincinnati, Ohio, (children of the writer who is a granddaughter of Jacob Beams).

Russell Beams, only son of Jacob, married Mary Alexander and settled in the area of Greencastle, Ind. Descendants there include many Beams families, and Varvel, and Murphy families, with other names not known at this writing.

Lola married James B. Carter of Indiana. She a her only child, a girl named Lydia, died of the flu e idemic in 1918, and are buried together in one gra at Swamp College Cemetery, in Mercer Co.

A family history is in preparation by members the Beams family and information can be sent Earl Eugene Eminhizer, Th.D. 1125 Trumbull A S.E. Warren, Ohio 44484. Mr. Eminhizer is d scended from a sister of Jacob Beams who remain in Penn., when the parents came to Ohio. *Compiled Lola M. Reid, Springboro, Ohio*

Bettinger-Hemmelgarn Pict — Four Generations Pictu Taken at the 50th Anniver of Arthur and Regina Bettin — **Seated:** Margie Lefeld, R ina, her first great-grand Ken Lefeld, Clarina Lefe **Standing:** Robert Lefe Arthur, and Seraphim Lefel

BETTINGER-HEMMELGARN

Adam Bettinger was born in Bavaria, Germany Sept. 8, 1834. His parents John (D. 1856) and Barb Swartz (D. 1871) Bettinger brought their family America in 1846. They arrived at New York City a eventually settled in Lucas County, Ohio. In 18 Adam married Mary Omlor (Jan. 25, 1845-Jan. 1932), daughter of Theodore Omlor. Her pare brought the family to America from Germany 1847. In 1869 Adam and Mary bought a farm in s tion 28 of Butler Township. They had thirteen ch dren: John, Frank, William, Charles, Jacob, Cath ine (J. Wentzel), Mary (O. Rhoades), Rose Fullenkamp), Stephen and four more who died children. For over 20 years, Adam Bettinger wa member of the school board. He died June 8, 1917.

His son Frank (May 18, 1865-May 17, 1949) m ried Josephine Albers (Oct. 25, 1868-Jan. 23, 195 She was the daughter of John F. Albers (May 1822-May 4, 1896) and Eliza Droppelman. John Albers emigrated to the United States from Olde burg, Germany in 1841. While in Cincinnati he m ried Eliza Droppelman in 1842. Eliza had emigrat to the U.S. from Ankum, Germany with her fam as a youngster. Recently a descendant visited h hometown and found her birthplace still standi John and Eliza Albers came to Mercer County 1844 and bought land south of Coldwater. They h nine children: Mary (B. Tangeman), Anna (F. Rah Elizabeth (J. Birkmeyer), John B. (K. Moeller), a Josephine (F. Bettinger), and four who died as ch dren. John F. Albers was a Justice of the Peace for years.

When Josephine married Frank Bettinger, th bought a farm from her father. They had six ch dren: Eulalia, Arthur, Oscar, Hilda, Adeline, and l ter. The only surviving members of the family, Eu lia and Adeline (Aunt Bunny), are unmarried a

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ve on the homeplace. Ester married Cyril Steinrunner and had one stepson, Thomas Steinbrunner f Coldwater. Arthur (April 15, 1893-March 19, 978) married Regina Hemmelgarn (Dec. 30, 1896-ne 12, 1972) of Burkettsville.

Regina was the daughter of Anthony Hemmelarn (March 8, 1868-April 12, 1935) and Magdalena chindler (April 6, 1873-May 2, 1943). Regina's nother Magdelena was one of the first teachers at ne Burkettsville Parish School. Magdalena was the aughter of John J. Schindler (June 2, 1838-June 7, 920) and Mary (D. Nov. 15, 1912). Anthony Hemnelgarn was the son of Theodore Hemmelgarn Sept. 4, 1829-Sept. 30, 1915) and Mary Hulsman (c. 334-June 21, 1890). Anthony and Magdalena had nirteen children: Aloysius (died at 19), Alvina (Leo ettinger), Regina (Arthur Bettinger), Ernest (Lena ottkutter), Leona (Louis Lingerich) Charles (Kathne Schmit), Adolph (Leona Boehmer), Roman (died t age 19), Walter (Alberta Meyer), Florian (unmarred) and three more who died as children.

The family lived on the farm Anthony's father heodore purchased in 1864. Theodore Hemmelarn was six years old when he emigrated to Amera in 1835 with his parents Henry and Mary (Deras) Hemmelgarn. They settled in Cranberry Prairie. heodore Hemmelgarn with his wife and family ere one of the first six pioneer families that estabshed St. Bernard's Church in Burkettsville in 1874. lis oldest son Theodore, Jr. and Mary Nordenbrock ere the first couple married at the new parish. heodore's wife Mary was the daughter of Herman nd Margaret Hulsman. Her family emigrated to the .S. about 1835 when Mary was a baby.

Arthur Bettinger and Regina Hemmelgarn were narried on April 25, 1917. They lived on a farm outh of Coldwater. Like his father Arthur was a rmer and carpenter. They had twelve children: lerman (Bud) (Rita Schloeter), Clarine (Seraphim efeld), Lucille (Harold Bergman), Mary Ellen (died t age 3), Paul (Angie Wehrkamp), William (killed n WWII), Marguerite (Clete Griesdorn), Grace (Paul utschilling), Cletus (Norma Frantz), Robert (Barara Zehringer), Lavern (Marlene Baltes), and Carl Ruth Schockman).

On April 25, 1967, Arthur and Regina celebrated neir 50th Wedding Anniversary. This was the third eneration of 50th Wedding Anniversaries. Arthur's arents celebrated theirs, as did both sets of his randparents. Arthur and Regina had 43 grandchilren. *by Janet Lefeld*

WERNER BOEKE FAMILY

The earliest ancestors of the John H. Boeke famy, Coldwater, Ohio came to this country from Hanver, Germany about the year 1834.

Bernard Boeke I, was born near Hanover in 1800. Ie migrated to America, came to Mercer County, Ohio via Cincinnati. He acquired land which adoined the Elking homestead in Marion Township, ngaged in farming and married Elizabeth Knapke bout the year 1835. To them was born 3 children, ernard II, Herman and Heinrich Boeke.

The father, Bernard Boeke I died January 3, 1857. n the year 1868, Herman Boeke married Katherine Maria Elking. To them was born 9 children: Bernard, Elizabeth, Henry, Catherine (Died in infancy), Joseph, John, Margaret, Fred and Clement. One of these sons, John H. Boeke was born September 23, 1879 on a farm one mile south of Cassella Ohio. He married Amelia Dabbelt on June 15, 1904. To this union was born 6 children; Raymond, Coletta, Madgalene, Carrie, Werner and Paul Boeke. The eldest son, Raymond Boeke married Marcella Luthman, and they live in Dayton and Naples, Florida. They had 2 children Carol Ann and Edward, both married. Coletta and Madgalene both unmarried and living in Coldwater. Carrie married Paul Hoyng, they live in Coldwater and have 5 children, Mary Ann, John, Rita, Karl and Mark. Werner married Lucille Orf, they live in Coldwater and have 6 children, James, John, Mary Jean, Jerome and Thomas. Paul married Ann Siefert, they live in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, they have 4 children, Ellen, Eric, Eve and Eloise. *By Werner Boeke, Coldwater, Ohio*

Seated: Dale and Carolyn Brandon, with Granddaughter Ann Adams. **Standing:** Ellen, Kenneth, Steve, Mary, Mike, Joyce Brandon and Janet Adams.

BRANDON

Dale W. Brandon is the youngest son of J. Van and Mollie Cook Brandon. He was born on the family farm in 1926; and has spent his life in Mercer County, except two years he served in the army. He spent most of his service time in Italy.

Dale dropped-out of school when he was sixteen and worked at Mersmans. Later he hauled milk for Delos York and then purchased a milk route of his own. His first route was an open bed truck, when all the milk was hauled in 10 gallon cans. He now hauls packaged milk from Beatrice Food Co. to the distributors. He has been hauling milk since 1943.

Dale married Carolyn Roll in 1948 and they lived in Celina for eight years. In 1956 they bought a farm in Butler Twp. and moved there in the spring of 1957. After the death of his mother, Dale bought the family farm in Jefferson Twp. in 1976 — one hundred years after his grandfather James C. bought and cleared the land.

Along with the milk hauling they have a small chicken and hog operation and general farming.

Dale is the seventh generation of Brandons to live in Mercer and Darke County. His great-great-great grandfather was Richard Brandon (1751-1835) who was one of the first settlers near Versailles, O. "Old" Richard (as he was known) came to Darke County

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about 1816 with his wife Mary (1753-1821). He was from Virginia and of Scotch-Irish descent, of low stature and stout build, and well along in years on arrival as his seven sons and one daughter were all married and even some of his grandchildren were grown on arrival. He has been accepted by the D.A.R. as a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

"Old" Richard's parents were John (D-1774) and Mary of York County, Pennsylvania.

"Old" Richard's oldest son was Walter (1778-1835) and his wife Alice (1780-1850) are believed to have come to Versailles with his father. They had four sons and three daughters.

James Brandon, oldest son of Walter, and grandson of "Old" Richard, perhaps brought his bride Susannah Stark (B-1789) to Versailles around 1820. Susannah's parents were John and Hannah Stark who lived near Carlisle, Kentucky in 1829 and we believe moved to Illinois in 1829. James and Susannah's oldest son was David Brandon b Ca 1822, who married Ellen Hole in 1847 and he passed away in 1851. They had three children, one of them being James C. who was the grandfather of Dale. The four generations of Brandons from "Old" Richard which includes Walter, James and David are buried in Black Swamp Cemetery, which is the old part of Greenlawn Cemetery at Versailles.

Carolyn Roll, wife of Dale, is the daughter of Herbert E. (1897-1971) and Esther Martin Roll and was born near Ansonia, O. Her ancestors are also among the early settlers in Darke Co., some of whom came about the same time the Brandons did — names as — York, Ward, Martin, Bashore, Flory, Shields and Stauffer.

Carolyn has one sister, Roberta Davis, living in California, three brothers: Gerald and Byron living in Darke Co. and Dwight of Englewood, Ohio.

Dale and Carolyn are the parents of six children: Michael, Microbiology Supervisor at Children Medical Center, Dayton. He is married to the former Joycelyn Weadock, a teacher. They live in Vandalia, Ohio. Janet E. Adams, is a supervisor at Huffys, she lives in Celina. Kenneth, a business teacher and Asst. Varsity Coach at Defiance High School, Defiance, O. Mary E. is a bookkeeper at Mercer Landmark, Inc. Steven works at Huffys and helps with the farm. Ellen is a freshman at Celina High School. There is one grandchild, Ann Adams.

The Brandons are members of the Mercer Co. Historical Society and attend Beaver Chapel Church.
Mrs. Dale Brandon, Celina, Ohio 45822

VICTORIA HEYL AND FRANK BRAUN

Victoria Braun was born Feb. 12, 1898, at St. Henry, Ohio, the fifth child and only daughter of Jacob and Susan Heyl. Her grandfather was Lawrence Heyl. He was married twice and had no children from his second marriage. Her father was Jacob Heyl, the second oldest of seven children. Her uncles and aunts were George, John, Lawrence (died when he was one year old), another child died in infancy, Mary Buschur, and Elizabeth Forsthoff. Her grandparents were Luxemborgs and Schweitzers and they came from Germany.

Victoria Braun's mother, Susan Therry Heyl, was born in New Reigel, Ohio; the second oldest of fi children. Her uncles and aunts were Theodor Mary Leslie, Margaret Borer, and Elizabeth Grun mel. Her parents (Susan's) had a limestone kiln New Reigel. Things did not fare well and Susan's f ther hung himself. The children were forced to go work after Susan's mother remarried. Susan som how came to Mercer County and worked at Hen Goettemoeller's home. Here she learned to spea low German.

On May 3, 1889, Susan Therry married Jacc Heyl and they were blessed with six children. The were: Leo, Washington, Alex, Dayton, Adolph, Da ton, George (Dutch) Coldwater, Joe, Dayton, ar Ray (died at 11 years of age from pneumonia. Befo this he had never been sick a day in his life). Th family resided at St. Henry, R.R. until the hou burned down in 1939. They then purchased lan across the road from Isadore Braun because h wanted to move to Dayton. The family lived the till they had all married and Susan was not able stay alone. George (Dutch) lived there till aroun 1954. He had a sale and moved into town at Phil thea. Later he was very ill and was confined to Bria wood Nursing Home. When he was well enough h came to live with Victoria Braun until he died in h sleep.

Frank Braun was born Feb. 18, 1894, at St. Pete He was the son of Peter and Philamena Jacob Braun. His brothers and sisters were Anthon Eleanora Ozar, Leo, Victoria Luken, Christina Koe ters, Sylvester, Marcella Krieg and Alvera Voge Another sister, Cordulla, died when she was or year old.

On Oct. 18, 1916, Frank Braun married Victor Heyl. They had six children — Ralph, Dayton, Els Hemmelgarn, Dayton, Werner, Lima, Herbert, S Henry, Walter, Coldwater, and Waneta, Fairbor They lived quietly in Coldwater all their lives. Fran worked in the Wood Room at New Idea until he ha to go to the Lima T.B. hospital because of silicosi During World War II, they had four sons on the ba tlefronts — three of them in the Pacific theatre war and one, Werner, a gunner in the European th atre. Werner was missing in action and a prisone for 13 months. However frightening it all was, a four boys came home safe and sound. Frank Brau died Jan. 7, 1963 and Victoria Braun lives alone qu etly and spends her time embroidering. *Prepared Evelyn Braun, Coldwater, Oh. 45822*

BROWN

Bessie Brown Lacy was the daughter of Julius an Jane Hemick Brown and was born in Jefferson Twp on the Fanger farm in Mercer Co., Ohio. Julit Brown (1857-1929) was born at Delisle, Darke C She was one of 6 children: Daisy was born in Yor Twp. Darke Co., (1880-1881), Bertha (1882-189 was born in Wabash Twp., Darke Co. on the Mo ton farm, Ris (1885-1933) was also born where Be tha was, Carrie (1888-1966) was born on the LaRu farm in Darke Co., she was the wife of F. J. Welke Gladys (1901-1963) wife of Clarence Nichols wa born also on the Fanger farm in Jefferson Twp.

Julius' parents were Sarah Ann Snider (1837-187 and James W. Brown (1832-1888). He was a Vetera of the Civil War serving Co. 1 152 Ohio N.G. In

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heir children were: Emaline (b 1856) wife of John osalee, Julius, Hez, Elizabeth, wife of E. M. Del-ıger, Elisha (b 1865) Willis and twins Martha (died infancy) and Maude wife of Chester Adams, Geo. eeman, Clyde Trenary and Chars. Bordeaux. mes W. Brown's second wife was Mrs. Arminda Voten of Darke Co. Mrs. Woten had 2 children — i of Lima and Miss Mary Woten who was a nurse Otis Hospital, Celina. James and Arminda had 2 ıughters: Rosie born in Darke Co., wife of Henry tchford and Annie who married a Mr. Bassett. Jul-s and his wife Elizabeth were parents of James, Dr. ezekiah V. (1840-1916), W. B., and Elizabeth Fulck. r. Hezekiah Brown was a Physician, who enlisted Piqua, O. with Co. H. 94th Ohio Volunteers in the ivil War. His wife was Mary M. Pitzenberger (Aunt Polly) of Darke Co. They lived at Portland, Ind., W. lived at Versailles, O. and Elizabeth at Terra aute, Ind.

Jane Hemick Brown (1860-1927) daughter of Jesse 821-1839) and Jemima Blalack Hemick (1823-1875) as the eleventh child in a family of 14 was born on farm in Mercer Co., near North Star near the Mer-r Co. line (back of the Karch farm on St. Rt. 127). sse's first wife was Arena Sutton (1821-1841) and ey had one child, Sarah (1841-1842). Other of chil-en of Jesse and Jemima were: Rebecca (b. 1844) ife of Lewis Shaner, Celiann (1846-1865) wife of hn M. B. Cottrel, Amanda Elizabeth (1847-1850), eorge Washington (1849-1850), David Oliver (b. 851), John (1852-1871), Tabitha (1853-1910) wife of las Shaner, William (b. 1855) Lewis Albert (b. 857), James Madison (b 1858), Barbara Ellen Jane alled Jane) (1860-1927), Joshua (1862-1935), twins seph and Jess (1866-1866).

Some of this family are buried at Shooks Chapel emetery west of North Star. Jane, Joshua and Tabi-a are buried at Swamp. *Faye Miller, Celina, Oh.*

eo Henry Bruggeman Family — **Row 1:** largaret, Eleanora, Leo, Edna. **Row 2:** Gene, arl, Lester, Thomas, Bob.

THE LEO HENRY BRUGGEMAN FAMILY

Leo Henry Bruggeman, 7 November 1892 to 14 ıly 1974, and Eleanora Mary Hausfeld, 13 October 898 to 13 December 1969, were born in Maria ein, Ohio, Mercer County, on farms owned by ıeir respective parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Kuess ruggeman and Anton and Mary Kramer Hausfeld.

Leo spent 1917-18 in the Rainbow Division of the merican Expeditionary Forces in France, being ounded on his birthday. Upon return to the United ates on Christmas Day 1918, he came back to Ma-a Stein and worked as a hired hand for Anton ausfeld. On 17 November 1920, he married Eleanora at St John's Church in Maria Stein, trudging through seven feet of snow with their horses and a sleigh. He subsequently worked for the New Idea Spreader Works in Maria Stein and in Coldwater, Ohio, until his retirement in 1960. In 1921, they built the family residence at 427 E. College Street, a parcel of land on the southwest corner of the Joseph Severt farm. The family lived in their two story, seven-room house until 1975.

All seven children: Margaret, 28 February 1922, Cheyenne, Wyoming; Eugene, 12 March 1923, Auburn, New York; Edna, 9 May 1925, Dayton, Ohio; Carl, 17 January 1928, Sylvania, Ohio; Lester, 7 April 1931, Coldwater, Ohio; Robert, 2 July 1936, Centerville, Ohio; and Thomas, 18 April 1939, Dayton, Ohio; were born at the home on College Street. All attended Holy Trinity Church and grade school and the Coldwater High School.

Margaret graduated from Miami-Jacobs Business College, worked for the U.S. Government for 31 years and is retired. Eugene served as a Lieutenant in the US Air Force 1942-45, flew B-17's and B-29's and upon his return to Coldwater, taught flying at Lake Field, Montezuma, Ohio. Edna also retired in 1976 after working 30 years for civil service at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Carl served a tour in the Air Force in Legal Services and is a Vice President and corporate lawyer with a firm in Toledo, Ohio. Robert is in Computer Sales and Marketing with National Cash Register, Inc., Dayton, Ohio. Thomas served a tour in the U.S. Army Communications, and is now a Certified Public Accountant with a Dayton firm. Carl, Robert and Thomas graduated from Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. Lester is the only one still living in Mercer County, and he, his wife and five children are active in the community and Catholic church in Coldwater. Lester has worked for 25 years for Matt Schwieterman, Inc.

There are eleven grandchildren. Deborah, daughter of Gene, is a nurse. David, Adrianne and Martha Ann are children of Carl. Susan, Leslie, Michael, Theresa and Elaine are Lester's children. Kent and Kevin are Bob's sons. David is working; Susan, Kent and Kevin are in college; Leslie, Michael and Adrianne are in high school; Elaine, Martha Ann and Theresa are in grade school. *Submitted by Margaret Bruggeman Woofter, Cheyenne, Oh. 82001*

Michael Brunner

MICHAEL BRUNNER

My father came to America at the age of ten. In 1850, he was born in Landau Germany. When he was 20 years old he enlisted in the Union Army, 59th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was shot up, locked up and blown up. When his regiment was ordered to Louisville, he was not long in encountering real service. During the first two years of service, he had a taste of real warfare, figuring in the historic engagements of Perrysville, Murfreesboro, Shiloh and Chicamauga.

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He was captured by the Confederates at Chicamauga in September and confined in a southern prison camp at Dalton, Ga. A few weeks later he was removed to Richmond, Va., where an old warehouse, known as the Smith building had been converted into a military prison. It was just across the street from the famous Libby prison. From there, he was taken to Danville prison.

With a few companions and an iron bar pried from a grating in the old warehouse, Brunner entered heartily into the digging of a tunnel from the cellar of the building. Late on the night of its completion, Brunner and all four companions crawled through it. For the first time in months fresh air was a welcome thing on the outside. They were heading for the Blue Ridge Mountains. Then the four were captured by a scouting squad of the Confederates and were returned to Danville.

The following March, he was transferred to Andersonville prison and there remained for a year. Andersonville was constructed on 36 acres. At one time there were 35,000 prisoners quartered there. Naturally, there was poor sanitation and much sickness. During August and September alone, the death toll ran from 125 to 175 daily.

Joe Pritchard, another man and my father bribed a guard with a $5 Confederate bill and a blanket from a dead man, to help them over the fence. They laid within hearing distance of the prison all night. Before daylight, they ran toward the hills and made their way down Flint River. They were captured at Albany and again were back at Andersonville.

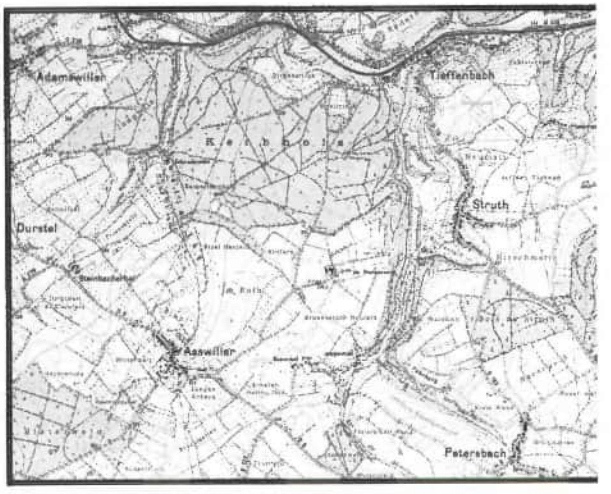
On March 21, 1865, he was sent to Vicksburg, Miss. He was there when news came that Lincoln had been assassinated. He was awaiting transportation back to the North. They were herded onto a steamer at Vicksburg known now in histories as the Sultana. It was a great boat as Mississippi river boats went in those days. Twenty-one hundred men were placed aboard the Sultana. It was so crowded there was no room for all of them to sleep at one time. Some had to stand up while others were lying down.

The hold of the vessel was loaded with mules and horses. At Memphis, the first night out, about all of this was unloaded. Whether removal of cargo lightened the boat and made it top-heavy, no one knew, but at any rate, Brunner was lying with the sleeping men near the pilothouse out on deck. Just before daybreak they heard peculiar hissing comming up the pipes. Everyone was awakened when the heat was terrific. Then came an explosion. Many got boards and planks to hold them afloat. My father was lucky to get a board as he could not swim very well. Every once in a while he would leave his body down to see if he could touch bottom. Finally he was scraping cottonwood and then pulled his way to land. A little boat picked him up and he was taken to Memphis.

There they gave him food and clothes and he was then taken on the Belle of Memphis steamer to Ciro. From which point they were sent by train to Columbus and mustered out of service. He then settled in Georgetown, married, had six children and his wife died.

He then married my mother, Elizabeth Barta, and had nine more children. I being the last one at his age of 65. My father died in 1929 in Dayton, Ohio.

Mrs. Wm. Reier, Coldwater, Oh. 45828



Brumm — Durstel, Adamsweiler, Patersbach, Wingen, (the Ge man **Lüzelstein** is translated to the French, **la Petite-Pierre,**) we the places in France at which the Brumm family lived. Ha Mathis Brumm was the Chief Forester at Wingen. His son, Ha Adam Brumm, on July 29, 1664, married Maria Ursula Ott, daug ter of Hans Bernard and Anna Catharina ____ Ott, at Lutzelstei (Hans Ott died Dec. 17, 1645 at Lutzelstein; Hans Ott was the Ba ber for the Lords there.) Hans and Maria (Ott) Brumm's so Johann Adam Brumm, born Jan. 26, 1673, at Lutzelstein, was Butcher, and the Innkeeper of the "Ochsen." Johann Ada Brumm married Susanna Christina ____, (ca. 1671-April 2, 172 their son Johann Adam Brumm, on May 25, 1723, at Adamsweile married Catharina Barbara Wagner (Aug. 13, 1702-Dec. 29, 178 daughter of Simon and Anna Christina (Dietrich) Wagner. (Simo Wagner (1659-Nov. 18, 1725) was the Mayor, the Judge, and c the Church Board. Simon Wagner's parents were Johann and E Wagner; Anna Christina (Dietrich) Wagner's parents were Johar Martin and Anna Maria (Eberhardt) Dietrich of Durstel.) Johar Adam and Catharina Barbara (Wagner) Brumm's son was Johar Peter Brumm (Aug. 10, 1732 Durstel-Feb. 23, 1801), who on Ja 22, 1760, married Maria Magdalena Hoffmann (Oct. 18, 17 Assweiler-Jan. 5, 1794 Durstel), daughter of Jacob and Magdaler (Hoffmann) Hoffman. (Jacob was the son of Henrich and ___ Hoffmann, a judge at Assweiler; Magdalena was the daughter Johann Friederich and Dorothea (Lögel) Hoffmann, who had bee married Jan. 6, 1711; Dorothea was born at Obersulzbach, ne Buschweiler.) Johann Peter and Maria Magdalena (Hoffmani Brumm's son was Johann Peter Brumm, born ca. Aug. 1765 Durstel; who on Mar. 6, 1794 married Christina Margareth Parsch (born about Oct. 1770 at Ludweiler (Saar), daughter Christian and Maria Magdalena (Bohn) Parsch. Johann Peter an Christina Margaretha (Parsch) Brumm's son was Peter Brum (June 1, 1795-Oct. 1, 1860 Galen, Wayne Co., New York), who c April 2, 1816 married Catherine Salome Scherrer (Oct. 9, 179 Petersbach-July 19, 1870 Nashville, Mich.), daughter of Johan Freiderich and Christina (Jung) Scherrer. Peter and Salom (Scherer) Brumm and eleven of their thirteen children emigrate from Patersbach, France about 1847. They settled in Wayn County, New York; Nashville, Michigan; Jay County, Indiana; an Mercer County, Ohio. (A relative, Adam Brum, b. Department Lamart, France, age 38, left Havre de Grasse in 1831, and landed i Baltimore in June 1831, with his sons, Peter, 18; Nicholas, 1 Adam 6; and Jacob, 5. Naturalizations at Dearborn County, Ind ana, 9-29, 1832.)

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ederick Brumm Home

FREDERICK HERBERT BRUMM, M.D.

Frederick Herbert Brumm, M.D. was born in 1884 n Coldwater, Ohio. He was the son of Lewis Daniel rumm, M.D., Celina, Ohio. (See Lewis Daniel rumm history in Jefferson Township.) Frederick rumm had one brother, Jerry Brumm, and a sister Jellie Brumm, who married William Kopp. Jerry rumm operated a five and ten cent store in Cold- vater, Ohio. Nellie Brumm and William Kopp pened a jewelry store in Celina, Ohio, under the ame of Kopp Jewelry Store.

Frederick Brumm was born in 1884 in Coldwater nd soon thereafter the Brumm family moved to elina, Ohio. Frederick Brumm attended public chools in Celina, Ohio and was graduated from igh school in 1903. After high school graduation, e attended the Ohio Medical College and after four ears was graduated in 1907. In 1910, the Ohio Med- al College combined with Miami Medical College, his forming what is now known as University of incinnati, College of Medicine. In his junior year of edical school, he married Rose Blanche Dugan. Af- er completing his four years of medical school he nterned at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. After completing internship he and his wife settled n Coldwater, Ohio, where he practiced medicine for 7 years. Needless to state, these were the horse and uggy days, and in the winter time "a one horse pen sleigh."

Lewis P. Brumm, M.D. was born in December 909, attended Coldwater High School, and then Ohio Wesleyan University. He was graduated from edical school in 1938, and followed with a resi- ency in Ophthalmology at Cincinnati General Hos- ital.

Frederick and Rose Brumm's second child, Paul rederick Brumm was born in 1913. After he com- leted high school training in Coldwater, Ohio, he ttended Ohio State University for two years, Pre- Dentistry. He was graduated from Ohio State Uni- ersity, College of Dentistry, in 1937. Throughout is entire college career he was an honor student. rom 1937-38 he had a residency in dental surgery t Cincinnati General Hospital. He then proceeded o practice dentistry in suburban area of Cincinnati, nown as Wyoming, Ohio. He practiced dentistry ntil 1952, when he was afflicted with multiple clerosis. He was a hospital patient for fourteen ears and then expired in November 1966.

Lewis P. Brumm, M.D. married Celia May Nelson; hey had three children: Lewis Patrick Brumm, Jr., eter Nelson Brumm, and Paula Cecilia Brumm. hey are all college graduates and all three gainfully mployed. This marriage ended in divorce in 1969. n 1971, Lewis Brumm married Elizabeth Ann Rousch.

About 1942 Paul Brumm married Jeane Faine; they had two children: Karen Brumm and Michael Brumm. *Lewis P. Brumm, M.D., Cincinnati, Oh. 45219*

Seated: Anthony and Sophia Buschur. **Standing:** Aloys, Stephen, Urban, Sophia, Alphonse and Richard.

THE ANTHONY AND SOPHIA (KOBES) BUSCHUR FAMILY

In the early 1890's Anthony Buschur (b. 8-25-1868, d. 1-14-1942) married Sophia Kobes (b. 9-21-1871, d. 12-27-1948). Anthony's grandparents, Morand and Maria (Frotinger) Buschur lived in Ohio awhile and then moved to Illinois around 1881 close to Sigel, Ill. Their children were Frank (father of Anthony), Jacob, Joseph, Stephen and John.

Besides their son Anthony, Frank (6-15-1842, 11-20-1921) and his wife Mary Burgois (b. 8-26-1847, d. 2-11-1927) had seven other children, namely, Martin, Ben, George, Joseph, Annie, John and Sophia.

Anthony's wife Sophia was the daughter of Henry Bernard and Lizetta Kobes. Lizetta had come from Germany on a sailboat all by herself at age 13 and was on the ocean for twelve weeks. She settled in Coldwater, Ohio and later married Henry. They had four children who were Elizabeth (married Joe Karch), Henry, Sophia (Anthony's wife), and John (married Clara Heiser).

Anthony was a farmer. He and Sophia lived at Rural Route, Celina, Ohio, Coldwater, Macedon, Montezuma and St. Henry in town, all in Mercer County. Twice, on farms they rented, the barns were struck by lightning and burned. Before they retired in St. Henry they lived on and farmed their 40 acre farm northwest of Coldwater, Ohio what is now the Paul Huwer farm on Menchhofer Road. They and their children well remember the Depression of the 30's ... the soup lines and how some dug ditches and cut fence rows after which the government fed them and paid them a small amount for food for their families.

The children of Anthony and Sophia were: *Sophia* (b. 9-10-1893, d. 6-12-1963) who married Clem Delzeith (b. 11-22-1888, d. 2-09-1957) and had Anthony Nicholas, Rita (Walter), Alvira (Hasenkamp), John, Richard, Sylvester, Cletus, Cyril and Ann Marie (Geise); *Anne Philomene* (b. 6-11-1895, d. 10-06-1898); *Joseph* (b. 12-25-1897, d. 10-05-1918 of the 1918 influenza while training in the Armed Forces at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio); *Aloys* (b. 3-27-1899, died Nov. 1978) who married Emma Winhoven (b. 9-03-1899, d. 12-13-1953) and now lives in Dayton, Ohio. They had nine children, namely, Joseph, George, Robert, John, Louis, Harold, Norman, Lillian (Martin) and Donald; *Stephen* (b. 3-13-1901) who married Anna Stukenburg (b. 10-18-1900) and

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lives in Coldwater, Ohio. They had three sons, Paul who died at sea at Pearl Harbor, World War II, Carl and Jim; *Urban* (b. 5-07-1903) married to Rosena Dippold (b. 4-14-1908, d. 5-24-1972) and had five children, Urban, Jr., Thelma (Homan), Marilyn (Koch), Ronald, and Marvin. Urban lives on Rural Route, Celina, Ohio; *George* (b. 2-18-1906, d. 3-19-1906); *Alphonse* (b. 8-03-1910) married to Emaleen Bohman (b. 8-30-1918) and they live in St. Henry, Ohio. Their children are: Eugene, Karen (Koesters), Jerelyn (Hunt), Shirley (Beighley), Marceil, Jerry and Neil; *Richard* (b. 3-15-1916, d. 4-01-1965) who married Kathleen Minch and had two children, Richard and Jacquelyn Kurker. *By Mrs. Thelma Homan*

NOAH COATE

Noah Coate, son of Benjamin Coate and Mary (Yaney) Coate was born December 20, 1853. Noah was reared and educated in Miami County, Ohio remaining on the farm with his father until 1885.

He married Catharine Cordier, daughter of Adam and Hannah (Golder) Cordier. Catharine was born May 10, 1860 near St. Henry, Ohio.

Noah and Catharine lived on a 188 acre farm located on the St. Anthony Road, East Butler township (now the Alvin Goettmoeller farm).

Noah built a large brick home with a basement. In 1902, he erected a large barn on the opposite side of the road. He had one of the best improved farms in the county.

Noah and Catharine were parents of nine children: Rosetta was born May 20, 1884. She married William Bang. They have a son, Paul. They resided in Gettsburg, Ohio for several years. Rosetta passed away May 5, 1963. William lives with his son and family in Kingdom City, Missouri.

On October 30, 1885, Ray Coate was born. He and his wife, Nellie (Frank) Coate lived in Coldwater. They had no children. Ray passed away August 12, 1965 and Nellie's death was October 14, 1968.

Lillie Coate was born September 22, 1887. She was the wife of Thomas McGee. They were parents of Norma (McGee) Bauer, Mary, Edward, J. Lowell, Esther, Orville (deceased), Gladys, Miriam and Russell McGee.

On April 12, 1889, William Vernal Coate was born. He was married to Iva Benner. They had no children. They lived in Greenville and cared for his mother until her death. Vernal died November 27, 1973 and Iva's death was June 1, 1964.

Clifton Coate's birth was June 13, 1891. He was married to Electra Ballinger. On June 25, 1918 he left for World war I and was assigned to Co. C, 334th Infantry, where he remained for a short time then crossed the Atlantic Ocean landing in France about September 1918. Clifton's health was not strong enough to withstand the hardships and exposure of war and he took ill with pneumonia in a camp hospital in France. He passed away October 19, 1918. He is buried in Swamp College Cemetery on Karch Road.

Mary (Mellie) was born April 6, 1893. She married Earl Snider. He was in the army during World War I from May 17, 1918 until April 29, 1919. He served in France. He and his family resided in Coldwater, Ohio. They have four sons; Donald, Wayne, Lyl and Robert. Mary's death was March 19, 1971 an Earl passed away June 13, 1953.

On August 4, 1895, Pearly was born. She wa married to Ralph Andrews. Ralph enlisted in th service on August 3, 1914 and was honorably dis charged on December 5, 1918. They have tw daughters; Ruth (Andrews) Ault and Marjorie Ar drews. They lived in Celina.

On April 21, 1901 twins were born to the famil Melva and Myrtle. Melva was married to Guy Br son. They have two daughters; Donna (Brysoi Lyons and Evelyn (Bryson) Swank. Guy passed awa September 3, 1970 and Melva resides near Tro Ohio.

Myrtle is married to Ellis Weimer. They have son, Robert. They reside in Darke County.

Noah and family were members of the Church the Bretheran, where he served as deacon. He wa also a member of the school board. All the childre were born in East Butler township, Mercer County.

The family moved to Greenville in 1919. Noa passed away on August 4, 1935 and his wife, Catha rine, on December 14, 1953. *Melva K. McGee, Celina, O*

GIRARD P. DESCH

Girard P. Desch, son of Joseph R. Desch and Stell Girardot, was born at Coldwater, Ohio, June 6t 1900.

He attended the Coldwater Public School and wa graduated from its high school in 1917.

After graduation, he was employed at New Ide Coldwater as a time-keeper until September, 191 when at the age of eighteen, he enlisted in the U.S Army during W.W. I. His army career was short a the war ended in November, 1918 and he was hor orably discharged in December the same year.

Returning to Coldwater, he was employed by hi father in the furniture and funeral business. In 192 he entered the Columbus College of Embalmin from which he graduated. Taking the Board of Em balmers and Funeral Directors examination, he re ceived his state license the same year.

On June 14, 1922, he married Henrietta Alber daughter of John B. Albers and Catherine Moelle at Holy Trinity Church, Coldwater, Father Loui Yauss officiating.

Due to poor health, in 1924, he and his wife an son, Donald, went West where they spent the nex nine years in Arizona and California.

Returning to Ohio, he purchased his father's fu neral business in 1934 which was successfully oper ated until his retirement in 1965 when the busines was sold.

Mr. Desch was always active in his community af fairs. He was a charter member of Patriotism Pos 470 and was a Past Commander; past president an secretary of the district Funeral Director Assoc.; pas member and president of the Coldwater Board o Education. He was the first president of the Marc of Dimes committee.

A member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, h was secretary of the St. Elizabeth Cemetery Asso for over 30 years. He became a member of th Knights of St. John and Knights of Columbus i 1919, serving the latter as financial secy.

He and his wife, Henrietta, were the parents o

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our children:

Donald, born in 1923 at Coldwater, married to Kathleen Selhorst, parents of one son, six daughters, reside at Coldwater.

Fr. Paul Desch, born 1929 at Fresno, Calif., a member of the Cincinnati Province of Franciscans.

Mary, born 1931 at San Diego, Calif., married to James Sowar, parents of five sons, one daughter, reside at Coldwater.

Joseph, born 1935 at Celina, Ohio, married to Patricia Ebner, parents of two daughters, reside at La Crosse, Wisc.

June 14, 1972 was a happy occasion for Mr. and Mrs. Girard P. Desch as they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniv. It was however saddened in March, 1975 by the death of a beloved wife, mother and grandmother who passed to her reward a few days after her 75th birthday.

Girard P. Desch has literally grown-up with Coldwater remembering when the village was practically between the railroad tracks; when it was served by ten passenger trains a day; the horse and buggy; cow and sleigh bells; bobsled; watering troughs; hitching racks; fire cistern; fire-bell; gas lights; kerosene lamps; livery stable; blacksmith shop; sprinkling wagon; ice box, ice house and pond; chicken coops; mud streets and boardwalks; medicine, dog and pony shows; Uncle Tom's Cabin; Labor Day celebrations; base burners; woodshed, ash pile and privies. Seeing Halley's Comet in 1910, the coming of New Idea in 1908 and the automobile and airplane about the same time.

What a wonderful age to have been born! *G. P. Desch*

JOSEPH R. DESCH
1873-1949

Joseph R. Desch, son of Caspar and Mary Roecker Desch (both born at St. John, Marion Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) was born January 4, 1873 at Coldwater. His parents having bought and moved to Butler Twp., Sec. 27 a few years prior to his birth. The farm was at the north edge of Coldwater, the present site of the Pla-Mor bowling alleys.

His father died of typhoid fever in his 45th year; his mother was left with four sons and four daughters.

As a boy he helped with the farm work and as a young man learned the blacksmith trade, working both in Coldwater and Dayton.

In 1896 he married Stella Girardot at St. Louis Catholic Church, Besancon, Ind. She was the daughter of Charles Girardot and Frances Converse both born in France, coming to America by sail ship in the 1850's settling in Allen Co., Indiana.

In 1900 he bought out Iva Smith, a cabinetmaker of Coldwater, who operated a furniture store and also made coffins when called upon. There was no Funeral Director in the community and embalming was unknown.

At that time he attended the Indianapolis College of Embalming. After graduation he took the Ohio Embalmers examination and received his license 19A, one of the earliest licensed embalmers in the State of Ohio.

He started in business — Joseph R. Desch, Furniture & Undertaking — on South Market St., Coldwater, the present site of the Coldwater Home Supply and continued in business there until 1934 when he sold the Funeral business to his son Girard and in 1944 the furniture business to his son Bartel.

He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Coldwater and was always active in its affairs. He was Secretary of the St. Elizabeth Cemetery Assoc. for 30 years. He was past President of the Knights St. John Com. 289 and also past Grand Knight of Council 1991 of the Knights of Columbus both of Coldwater. In civic affairs he served on the Village Council and was an active member for a good many years of the Queen Fire Department.

He died in July, 1949 and is buried at St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Coldwater.

His wife, Stella, died in 1906, the mother of four sons and two daughters: Clotaire, who died in 1918 at the age of 21 during World War I at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Chicago; Bernadette 1899-1977; Girard 1900-; Ursula 1902-; Bartel 1904-1976; Lester 1906-.

He later married Elizabeth Alt of Ottowa, Ohio who died in 1924.

In 1926 he married Amelia Steffan of Leipsic, Ohio who survived him by four years, passing away in 1953.

Paul W. Dilworth Family

DILWORTH

Paul W. Dilworth, son of Gerald G. and Grace P. (Kochersperger) Dilworth, was born at Fort Recovery, Ohio July 27, 1933, and married Betty M. Wade August 23, 1953. She is the daughter of Francis Q. Wade and Mary (Kindell) Wade. She was born April 26, 1933 near Celina, Ohio. They are parents of 2 sons, Robert W., born August 8, 1955 and Gary P., born April 17, 1957. He is employed at Matt Schwieterman, Inc. since 1953 and is past President and member of the Coldwater Exempted Village School Board of Education, past member and officer of the Coldwater Jaycees, member of the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater. She is employed by Willhoff's Furniture, Coldwater. She is past President and member of the United Methodist Womens Group. They are members of the Coldwater United Methodist Church. They have resided at 563 S. Second Street Coldwater, Ohio since 1958. *Paul W. Dilworth, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

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DOLL

Robert Anthony Doll was born in Celina, Ohio March 12, 1947 the eldest of two sons born to Anthony Joseph Doll and Helene M. Schilling of Coldwater, Ohio. Robert is the owner of Bock-Printing Division in Celina. He is married to Phyllis Ann Rutschilling the eldest daughter of Vincent Henry Rutschilling and Anna Rita Bruns dec'd. Robert and Phyllis have three children Jerriann Marie born Oct. 19, 1968, Jennifer Jean born Oct. 24, 1969, and Barton Jerome born July 21, 1973.

Roberts family can be traced back to a prominent Mercer county pioneer, Joseph Doll who came from Oensbach in Baden Germany. We do not know when he arrived in America, but he lived for a time in Perry County, Ohio because one of his grandsons was baptized there in 1836. The Dolls possibly lived there a number of years, for they had to have considerable means to buy up 800 acres of land in Mercer County near what is St. Joe today, the following year. Joseph died in August, 1837 at the age of sixty-two, survived by his wife and six children. The original homestead of Joseph Doll was where Linus Huelskamp now lives, the first farmhouse northeast of the church in St. Joe. We are not certain why the parish was named in honor of St. Joseph, but it is more than a guess that the Dolls chose the name. The church was built on property bequeathed for that purpose by Joseph Doll, and the church they attended in Perry County had also been St. Joseph's (incidentally, the first Catholic Church in Ohio).

In 1866 a large group of settlers in St. Joe moved to Minnesota including most of the Dolls. Joseph Doll's grandson also named Joseph remained in Mercer County. The younger Joseph was born April 3, 1834. He married Blandina Siegrist and they had six children, five sons and one daughter, Julius S. Corneluis, Bernardin, Anthony, Barbara Anna, and Ambrose. Ambrose the youngest was born Sept. 8, 1878 in St. Joe. On Feb. 4, 1914 he married Elizabeth F. Colle and they were the parents of four children Julius, Anthony, our subjects father, Marcella and Linus. The Dolls have been in Mercer County for over 140 years. *Robert Anthony Doll, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

DUES

All the Dues families in Mercer County and surrounding area have their roots from the George H. Dues family. George H. Dues (also known as Gerhard) came to Mercer County in 1858 and located a mile and a half northwest of Philothea. He was born in 1821 (died in 1900) in Westphalen, Prussia, Germany. In 1843 he came to Cincinnati, Ohio coming by way of New York. About 1850 he married Mrs. Elizabeth Shaffer (1828) who had a child Elizabeth. George and Elizabeth had two sons, George H. (1852) and Bernard (1853). After Elizabeth died, George then married Anna Vogelsong (1831-1898). Anna was born in Hanover, Germany. George and Anna's first child Henry (1857-1932) was born in Cincinnati. Then George with his wife Anna and sons George 6, Bernard 5, and Henry 1, moved to Mercer County in 1858.

The following children were then born: John (1858-1928) married Katie Will and lived at Chickasaw; Katie (1860-); Mary (1862-1932) married Her man Zumberger; Joseph (1864-1931) married Ann Kemper and lived at Minster; Harmon (1866-1891 William (1867-1919) married Pauline Windker an after her death, married Bessie Coughlin of Ft. Re covery; Elizabeth (1870-1938) married Jos. Kempe and lived at Toledo, Ohio; and Frank who died in in fancy.

George H. (1852-1924) married Catherine Hage dorn (1857-1944). They lived about a mile east o Philothea on Philothea Rd. George and Kate had family of eight. Henry (1880-1933), Mary (1883 1968), Francis (1885-1887), Edward (1888-1959), Le (1890-1943), Anthony (1893-1971), Clara (1896-1968 and Gregory (1899-1928). They were all born in Phi lothea and all are buried in Dickinson, Texas.

George and Kate took their family and moved t Dickinson, Texas in the early 1900's. Their oldes daughter Mary had married August Fischer (1882 1939) who was a thresherman and a sawmiller. H died in a sawmill accident. Their home was in Philo thea. Mary in her later years joined her relatives i Texas.

The Dues family started in the nursery busines and during the depression became dairy farmers.

Hal Dues, grandson of Ed and Adele Dues, is nov a pitcher for the Montreal Expo's baseball team. *Georgiana Meiring, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846*

DUES

Bernard (usually called Barney) Dues (1853-1932 married Elizabeth Windker (1862-1942) on Nov. 5 1881. Her parents were Henry Windker and Ger trude Lennartz of Philothea. They lived on a farm mile east of Philothea on Philothea Rd. Besides th farm Barney was a thresherman and for years oper ated a thriving sawmill. The Cincinnati Northern railroad had a switch into their millyard from whicl they shipped lumber. They employed several me called hired hands. They usually lived in with th family.

Barney and Elizabeth had eleven children, includ ing twins John and Geo B. John (1883) died at months. Geo. B. (1883-1958) married Veronica Thie man (1890-1919). Catherine (1885-1977) marriec Bernard Fortkamp (1869-1921) and later Jos. Kaup (1884-1961). Rosa (1887-1977) married Jos. Braun (1883-1951). Bernard (1889-1965) married Katherine Schoenlein (1890-). Herman (1891-1957) married Katherine Sauguinet. Joseph (1893) married Mary Kaup (1898). August (1895) married Ethel Entrup (1896-1925), later married Cecelia Eyink. Pauline (1898) married Bernard Siefring (1896-19). Conrad (1900-1957) married Henrietta Brocker (1903). Heler (1903-1940) married Edward Knapke (1903).

The family was Catholic and attended St. Marys Church in Philothea and the local schools. In later years Barney was a director of the Peoples Bank in Coldwater.

The farm was taken over by Conrad Dues (son) in 1930. The farm is now owned by David Siefring, a grandson of Barney Dues.

Geo. B. Dues, the oldest son of Barney, had very little formal schooling. By the time he got to the sixth grade he had to ride the log wagons and help wherever needed. George was self educated. He was especially well versed in history and politics. George

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is his father before him, was a staunch Democrat. He was clerk of the Philothea School Board for over fifty years. He was active in the Farm Bureau in the 1920's. Later he became tax assessor in Butler Township. When his eyesight failed he missed his yearly visit as the assessor.

Geo. B. married Veronica Thieman (1890-1919) in 1913. Her parents were Steve Thieman and Mary Ann Gelhaus of St. Henry. George and Veronica had two children. Georgiana (1916) married Herbert Meiring and Norman (1918) married Merilda Meiring. Veronica died in 1919 with the flu.

George with his two children moved across the road to live with his parents. They lived with them until the children married. Geo's. farm is now owned by his son Norman and wife Merilda. Norman and sons own and operate the sawmill that belonged to his grandfather Barney Dues. *Georgiana Meiring*

THE PATRICK DUGAN AND JOHANNA COTTER FAMILY

It is not known when the first Dugans came from Ireland to the United States. The first Dugan to be recorded locally was Patrick Francis Dugan, a probate judge in Mercer County who married Johanna Cotter. They lived on N. Main Street in Celina, Ohio. They had five children between 1880 and 1900: Margaret, who died in childhood, Bertha, Blanche, John Cotter, and Mary. The family attended Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Celina and the children attended the parochial school.

Bertha Dugan married Edward H. Hess, manager of the Fox and Hess Milling Company, Coldwater, Ohio. They milled Water Lily, Favorite, and Model Rose Flour and jobbed Polar Bear Flour. They also owned an elevator and coal yard. Edward Hess, along with other members of the Board of Directors, lent money to the People's Bank Company of Coldwater after the Bank Holiday was declared in 1933. This enabled the bank to remain open. Bertha and Edward had two children: Edward and Charles.

Edward A. Hess, a salesman, married Clara Homan, daughter of Frank and Philomena Homan, in 1948. They live in Coldwater and attend Holy Trinity Catholic Church. They have three children: Janet, a high school teacher; Mary Joan, a Ph.D. candidate in clinical psychology; and Anita, a high school student.

Charles Hess, a lumber broker, married LouAnn Gibbs in 1947. They reside in Columbus, Ohio. They have four children: Catherine, married with one child; Charles II, presently working with his father's business; Robert, third mate in the Merchant Marine; and Andrew, student at Drake University, Iowa.

Blanch Dugan married Fred Brumm M.D. He set up practice in Coldwater. Like all doctors at that time he made house calls day or night. They had two children: Lewis and Paul. Fred died in 1935. Blanch until recently lived in Coldwater, but she now resides in a rest home in Cincinnati.

Lewis Brumm M.D. married Celia May Nelson M.D. and now resides in Cincinnati. They have three children: Patrick, who works for General Mills; Peter, who sells life insurance; and Paula, an assistant buyer in a department store. The children are all college graduates. Lewis and Celia May's marriage was terminated in 1969 and in 1971 he married Elizabeth Rousch, a graduate of Skidmore College.

Paul, a dentist, married Jean Faine and lived in Cincinnati. They had two children: Mike, a banker; and Karen, who is married and has a family. Paul suffered from multiple sclerosis before his death in 1966.

John Cotter Dugan married Anna Kloeb. They had two children: Donald and Frank. John, a lieutenant, died while in the army during World War I. Donald, a World War II veteran, died February 26, 1946. Frank, a rural mail carrier, married Virginia Huelsman in 1973 and has a stepdaughter named Marsha. The Dugans are presently living in Coldwater.

Mary Dugan married Carl Hess, manager of the Coldwater Lumber Yard. They were both interested in the welfare of Coldwater. He was instrumental in forming the Lions Club in Coldwater and he was the first president of the local chapter. They had two children: Nancy and James. Carl died in February, 1971. Shortly thereafter Mary married Ferd Winkeljohn. Nancy has a Ph.D. in marketing and is a professor at a university in Gainesville, Florida. James, manager of a lumberyard in Bellefountaine, married Ann Elder in 1956. They have three children: Jane and Patrick, both studying at the University of Dayton; and Daniel, a high school student. *Mrs. Edward A. Hess*

FELTZ-GARMAN

Harold and Kathy (Garman) Feltz live in Coldwater with their four children. Todd, born in 1963, is studying German so that he can trace the family tree. Brad, who likes football, was born in 1965. Tanya, the only one born outside Mercer County, was born in 1968, and Melissa, the youngest, was born in 1973.

In 1975, Harold became a State Farm Insurance agent. He now has his own office in Coldwater, and takes part in many community activities.

Harold is the son of Oscar and Anna (Heinrichs) Feltz. He was born in St. Henry in 1940 and has three brothers and two sisters: Wilbur, Donald, Virginia, Anthony and Barbara.

Oscar is the son of Frank Feltz, a farmer and blacksmith from Cassella, and Philomena Cron. He was one of fifteen children. Anna is the daughter of John & Mary (Dierkers) Heinrichs. The Heinrichs family eventually settled in the Burkettsville area.

Frank was born in Cassella, son of Louis and Rosalia (Schuyler) Feltz. Louis came to Cassella at a young age with his family who had come to America in 1840 and shortened their name from fels d Olerstahl. Philomena was one of nine children born to John and Elizabeth (Beckman) Cron. John Heinrichs was the son of John and Bernadine (Bany) Heinrichs, and Mary was the daughter of Henry Dierkers, who lived around Cranberry.

Kathy Garman and Harold Feltz were married in Immaculate Conception Church in 1962. They lived in St. Henry for two years before moving to Piqua

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where Harold worked for United Parcel Service. In 1971, it was back to Mercer County when Harold's job took him to Celina and Lima. Finally, he ended up with his own business in Coldwater.

Cletus and Ena (Haslinger) Garman are life-time residents of Celina, where they raised three daughters. Audrey, who married Don Niekamp, and lives in Chickasaw; Janet, who moved to California, and Kathy. Cletus, or Chalk as everyone calls him, is the son of William and Bertha (Schlosser) Garman. William was the owner of the local cream station and went out each day to collect milk from farmers to sell in town. He was the son of George and Sarah Jane (Lincoln) Garman.

Bertha is the daughter of Charles Schlosser, who operated a saloon on Main Street in Celina, and his wife Elizabeth Wehrkamp. William and Bertha had six children.

J. Bernard Haslinger and Catherine Saalman were the parents of Ena, who was raised in Celina and Coldwater, where her father owned a grocery-dry goods-and shoe store.

J. Bernard died of the flu in the big epidemic of 1918. Catherine, the wife of John Bernard, was also the daughter of Herman and Catherine (Lennartz) Saalman, farmers from the Philothea area.

William Haslinger, the father of J. Bernard, came to the United States in 1831 at the age of nine from Waldhausen Rhenish Prussia. He followed the settlers west during the gold rush years, and became a miner. After he made his fortune, he came back to Mercer County and bought a store in Coldwater, where he also made boots. After his return, he married Catherine Schmeising and raised seven children.

Most of our ancestors are of German extraction, who came to this area in the 1800's. Down through the years, their descendants, for the most part, were born, married, raised their children and died in Mercer County. *Todd Feltz, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

JAMES AND CLARA FORSTHOEFEL FAMILY

On Oct. 19, 1957 James Lee Forsthoefel and Clara E. Art were united in Catholic marriage.

James was the youngest of eight children of William and Cecelia (Schwieterman) Forsthoefel. His paternal grandparents were Frank and Mary (Staugler) Forsthoefel and maternal grandparents were Charles and Caroline (Will) Schwieterman of Carthegena, Ohio. James grew up on the family dairy farm on the south edge of Coldwater and attended all twelve years of school at Holy Trinity Catholic school and Coldwater High School graduating in 1953 and served with the U.S. Army until 1956, after which he came back to run the family milk delivery business. Today he is still known as "Jim, the milkman," to many youngsters in Coldwater and surrounding areas as his truck approaches their homes and the school with their favorite milk, as he is a self-employed distributor of Royal Crest Dairy Foods. When he was growing up his family milked cows and bottled the milk which was delivered twice daily before refrigeration was developed. Now the milk is packaged in cardboard cartons with plastic coating and is delivered as retail and wholesale in Coldwater, Montezuma, Philothea, and St Henry areas.

Jim spends his spare time as Scoutmaster of Troop 96 Boy Scouts of America and loves to play tennis and racquetball, besides being an avid hunter. He has taken his scouts on trips all over the USA.

Clara was the seventh of ten children of Henry and Lucina (Rammel) Art. Her paternal grandparents being John Bernard and Anna (Winklejohn) Art of Cincinnati, Ohio and Voltlage, Germany and maternal grandparents being John and Katherine (Borgerding) Rammel. Clara lived on Morton Street in Celina, Ohio and walked one and a half miles daily to go to Immaculate Conception Grade and High School graduating in 1955. She worked as newspaper carrier and sold ice cream in summer besides babysitting as teenager and later was a clerk in a shoe store. After graduation she graduated from Electronics Radio Television Institute in Omaha, Nebraska and found a position with Western Union in Cleveland and later as receptionist and teletype operator at the Reynolds and Reynolds Co. in Celina.

Jim and Clara made their first home at 702 West College St. in Coldwater and were blessed with six healthy children all baptized in the Catholic faith. In 1969, the family built a split level home at 610 South Second St. which was the northernmost part of Jim's parents home place and he eventually bought the farm.

The Forsthoefel children, four boys and 2 girls helped with the early morning delivery of milk before going to school. All were very good students and were active in sports and cheerleading, as Holy Mass servers, in the school band, in scouting and held various part time jobs.

Greg, born in 1958, was successful in Cross Country Running, Wrestling, and Track. He became an Eagle Scout and graduated high school at Coldwater in 1977. He entered the US Army in Aug. 1977 and took training at Ft. Dix, New Jersey and specialized training at Ft. Devens, Massachusetts. At this time he is stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas as PFC in the security field of Radar Control with the 2nd Artillery Div.

Neal, born in 1959, was very quick to learn, and favored the sport of baseball and wrestling. He graduated in 1978 and is now doing automotive body repair work besides being relief driver for his fathers milk route.

Matt, born in 1960, liked school from the first day and plans to continue on to college after graduation in 1979. He, also, earned the Eagle in scouting and won merit awards for outstanding newspaper carrier in scholarship contests. Football and wrestling were his active sports in high school besides being clerk in Sowars Mens Store, to save money for college.

Julie, born in 1962, was a beautiful and cheerful first daughter and a great help to her busy mother in keeping house and cooking. She was a Girl Scout and played French Horn in the school band. She did babysitting and waitress work for spending money and became cheerleader in both Junior high and High school and is now studying the secretarial courses. After graduation in 1980 she plans to become a beautician or secretary.

Karl, also born in 1962 in December, followed his brothers through school and scouting and is presently working on his Eagle rank. In high school

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e is majoring in FFA and is raising beef steers. His lans after graduation in 1981 are uncertain.

Amy, born in 1967, was quite a joy for Julie after) many years as the only girl in the family and so ıey became very close knit sisters. Amy loves ıvimming, dancing, riding her bike and now in rade 5, she is learning to play the clarinet in school and and someday would like to be a majorette.

This family enjoys being together and looks for-'ard to every holiday so they can hold a reunion ıd reminisce the good and bad of the past and ıoks forward to a long and good future. *Jim or Clara ɔrsthoefel*

THE EARLY GAUS' FAMILY

Ludwig H. Gaus was born in Germany, June 22, 817, and his wife Dorothea was born October 14, 818. They had a son, Henry Ludwig Gaus, who was orn March 31, 1849 in Hanover, Germany, and two aughters, Dorothea and Caroline. When Henry ras seven years old, his family came to America, nd located in Ohio. On Christmas Eve, 1856, the ımily landed in the city of New York, after thirteen 'eeks of crossing the Atlantic in a sailboat. They ınded in the midst of a snowstorm that made fur-ıer transportation impossible for a short time. The 'avelers found difficulty in making their way to helby County, where relatives were already settled. 'hey finally reached Sydney and secured sleds to lew Bremen. The distance to the home of their rela-ves was still four and a half miles, and this they 'alked, through the biting cold of the New Year, nding a hearty old country welcome at its end.

Ludwig Gaus purchased 110 acres of land in helby Country, on which a log house was built, and ıe family made itself very comfortable while clear-ıg the land. In 1880 he sold his farm and moved 'ith his family to Butler Township, Mercer County. lere he purchased 205 acres, and placed the land in ıe name of his son, Henry L. Gaus. 120 acres was ıter added to the farm, making a total of 325 acres f land. Ludwig died on May 27, 1898 and Dorothea ied Jan. 10, 1903.

On October 21, 1875, Henry L. Gaus was married) Wilhelmina (Minnie) Caroline Keck 2½ miles east f New Knoxville, by Rev. L. Heiser. The bride was orn at New Knoxville on January 10, 1858, and had twin brother, John, two other brothers, and two sters. For the first five years of their marriage, they ved in Shelby County, coming to Butler Township 'ith his family in 1880. They built a log house on ıeir land, and in 1892 Henry L. Gaus erected the andsome large brick residence on Gaus Rd., which 'as torn down in the 1960's. They had a family of ine children, as follows: Henry Jacob, Lewis, ieorge, Louisa, Clara, John, Arthur, Cora, and one aughter died in infancy. The couple moved to Cel-ıa in 1919, and lived to observe their sixty-third 'edding anniversary. Mr. Gaus died December 28, 938 and Minnie died in 1939.

Henry Jacob Gaus, Jr. was born in Shelby County,)hio on December 12, 1876 and came to Mercer 'ounty with his family at the age of 4. On Novem-er 13, 1898, he was married to Nellie Maude Smith t the St. Paul's Lutheran parsonage in Washington Township. His wife was born February 16, 1881, the daughter of Jacob and Laura Smith. After their marriage, they lived in the log house that was built when the family moved to Mercer County. The log house was later used as a blacksmith and tool shop for nearby relatives. Their oldest son, Orville Loree was born December 28, 1900, and then they built a house on a 60 acre farm, owned by his father, H. L. Gaus. This farm was south of where his father lived. A second child, Beulah Louise was born November 21, 1901, and another daughter, Mildred Pauline, was born January 6, 1906. Henry Jacob did barber work in his home for the surrounding community, and was lineman for the Wabash Mutual Telephone Company.

In the spring of 1919, his father sold the land and Henry Jacob moved with his family to Coldwater. He was employed by John Long on the farm and continued as telephone lineman. In April of 1923, he lost his right leg in a tractor accident, while plowing on the John Long farm, just west of town.

Following his accident, he took up the trade of shoe repairing, and opened a shop on Main St. in Coldwater, and later moved his business to his residence.

He met a tragic death on New Year's Eve in 1933, when his automobile was run into by a freight train at the Cincinnati Northern crossing on East Main St. in Coldwater. Mrs. Gaus was with him, and was also injured, but she recovered, only to suffer her own tragic death, when she was hit by a car on January 27, 1936. She was crossing the icy street in front of her daughter Mildred's house, after returning on the bus from Celina. She lived until February 4, 1936, when she died in the hospital of her injuries.

See the Harold O. Peters Family History. *Janet J. Adams, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Mike Gerlach farm home

MICHAEL GERLACH

Most of the Mercer County Gerlachs descend from the family in this photo taken around 1903 at the Mike Gerlach farm home (now occupied by grandson Robert Gerlach, Butler Twp., sec. 2) on the Coldwater Creek Road. Left to right are: *George* (b. 5/5/88; d. 11/19/62), who married Elizabeth Behrens; *Minnie* (b. 4/18/86; d. 2/4/62), who married Herman Bruggeman; *Ben* (b. 8/11/83; d. 3/25/62), who married Katherine Bruggeman; *Mike,* the father (b. 4/17/52; d. 11/29/35); *Henry* (b. 10/5/90; d. 8/25/66), who married Catherine Fullenkamp; *Frances* (b. 9/20/96; d. 5/4/27), who married Ray Spornhauer, a school teacher; *Elizabeth,* the mother (b. 3/1/59; d. 3/14/36); *Anna* (b. 3/21/93; d. 8/12/69),

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who married Bill Schoenlein and later Frank Wenning; and *William* (b. 9/8/95; d. 11/29/71), who married Minnie Clune. Three children, Christina, Mary and Elizabeth, died in infancy.

Mike Gerlach said that he still wore a baby dress when he came to America around 1854. His father was *Veit* (Fidelius) Gerlach (b. 10/31/1810; d. 11/12/1869), his mother *Katharina* (b. Dec. 1811; d. 6/20/1893). Mike's older brother *John* later settled in Chickasaw. His sister *Frances,* born in America, married Bernard Greiwe (a son became Fr. Nicholas Greiwe, C.PP.S.) and later August Hamburger. The Gerlachs came from the Kingdom of Bavaria in Germany and settled on property now owned by Ernest Schwieterman (Marion Twp., sec. 8). A barn still marks the old homestead.

In 1878 Mike Gerlach married Elizabeth Ruemping, daughter of Adam and Adelheid (Mescher) Ruemping of Maria Stein and first settled on the farm now occupied by John Wermert at the corner of the Depweg and the Cassella-Montezuma Roads in Franklin Twp., sec. 6. In 1882 he moved to the afore-mentioned Robert Gerlach farm in St. Aloysius parish, where he raised his family. Here there were still many Black families. The older Gerlach children attended a local Negro school, and Mike engaged Blacks as live-in hired hands on his farm. Mike was always something of a character. He dressed quite informally (no socks or ties) and defied all fancy manners. His front yard, they said, was an overgrown weed patch that sometimes threatened to obscure the house. In Coldwater, where he lived in retirement, he was long remembered for his tall stories and accordion playing. He also had a knack for stirring up arguments by teasing remarks. To the grandchildren he was "grumpy." But his family remained close. Especially memorable were the birthday celebrations when the children and grandchildren came for an evening of music and dance and a good supply of "home brew," even though it was the Prohibition Era.

A related Gerlach family had come to Mercer County even earlier. *Adam* Gerlach (b. 12/20/1804; d. 9/14/1857), most likely Veit's older brother and therefore Mike's uncle, and his wife, Anna Maria Trimbach (b. 1808; d. 1/29/1885), first settled near Columbus, Ohio (1833), and in 1837 re-settled on a farm on the Sebastian Road now occupied by David Moeller (Franklin Twp., sec. 5). Adam had seven children, but only one boy, *Jacob,* born 1838. Jacob later married Barbara Hierholzer and built a stately house on his father's farm. In 1876 he moved to Celina, where his wife died. He then married Sophia Renn. Leona Gerlach and Mrs. Carl Bauer are children of the latter marriage. *Fr. Dominic B. Gerlach, Rensselaer, Indiana*

WILLIAM GERLACH

William Gerlach was the seventh child of Mike and Elizabeth Reumping. He was born September 8, 1895 on the farm which is now owned by his son, Robert Gerlach, and located in Butler Township. His brothers were George, Bernard, and Henry. His sisters were Minnie (Bruggeman), Anna (Schoenlein), and Francis (Sponhaur). One sister died in infancy.

William (Bill) attended a one room schoolhouse

William Gerlach Family — **L. to R., Back Row:** Ruth (Niekamp), Victor, Pauline (Klosterman), Clarence, Dorothy (Niekamp). **Front Row:** Minnie Gerlach, Robert, James, Harold, William Gerlach.

which was located on the now Siegrist-Jutte Roa until the age of 12. After his schooling, he helped hi father and brothers on the 160 acre farm which hi father Mike had purchased. Sometime before 191 William bought 80 acres from his father for $100 a acre and engaged in farming until his retirement.

On April 16, 1918 William married Minnie Clun daughter of Casper and Kathleen (Dabbelt) Clune i Precious Blood Church, Chickasaw, Ohio. Thei children are: Pauline (1918) who married Lero Klosterman of Montezuma, Ohio. Leroy and Pau line's children are: Marlene (Rutschilling), Sharo (Nixon), Geralyn (Buening), Theresa, and JoAnn Harold (1920) who died in infancy. Clarence (1922 who married Pauline Rosenbeck of Coldwate Ohio. Their children are Barbara (Heitkamp), Mar (Hoeni), Janet (Dues), Betty (Kremer), Sue (Fennig Kenneth, Nancy (Moeller), and Sandra. Victo (1924) married Betty Borgess of Osgood, Ohio. Vi and Betty's children are: Victor Jr., Joyce (Covault John, Mike, and Vickie (Steinke). Dorothy (1926 married Mark Niekamp of St. Sebastion, Ohio Mark and Dorothy's children are: Ronald, Jan (Weitzell), Charles, and Virginia. Ruth (1929) mar ried Paul Niekamp of St. Sebastion, Oh. Paul an Ruth's children are: Diane (Wagner), Marily (Nerderman), Linda, Roger, Timothy, and Randal Robert (1931) married Elsie Krieg of St. Anthony Ohio. Robert and Elsie's children are: Steven, Dan iel, Douglas, William, and Alan. James (1934) mar ried Lenore Little of Nashville, Tenn. Harold (1937 is not married. As of the writing of this history Wil liam and Minnie have 33 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

William was elected Mercer County Trustee i 1936 and served Mercer County in that position fo several years. He farmed until his retirement whe he sold his farm to his son Robert and moved t Coldwater, Ohio. William died November 29, 1971 As of this writing Minnie celebrated her 80th birth day with her family. *Diane Wagner, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Green Home

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GREEN FAMILY

The Green family which originated in England was established in Ohio at an early date. The first known descendant was John Green. His obituary written by Jas. C. Clemens, one of the pioneer circuit riders of Mercer County, has this to say in part: "John Green was born in Ohio on April 27, 1791. He was converted and joined the church at the age of eighteen at a camp-meeting held in Butler County, Ohio. He departed this life near Montezuma, in Mercer County, Ohio, the 2nd day of May, 1869; hence he lived over half a century in the pales of the Methodist Episcopal Church." The marriage license of John Green and Elizabeth Roseboom, married by the Reverend Francis Montford on January 24, 1822, appears in the records of Butler County Courthouse in Hamilton, Ohio. He is said to have been married more than one time. Elizabeth, according to cemetery records, is buried in Coldwater, Mercer County, Ohio.

John came from Hamilton, Ohio, to Mercer County at a very early day and first entered land in Franklin Township and later the family home in Butler Township, the date of this transaction being September 4, 1838. These records appear in the Mercer County Courthouse. The original deed, bearing the signature of Martin Van Buren, President of the United States, is still in possession of the family. The land is now occupied by a member of the fifth generation, namely, Gene H. Green.

John Green's son, John W. Green, according to the Green family Bible, was born March 5, 1826. His name appears in the 1850 census. He was married to Isabel McGuire who was born March 2, 1827 (father was William McGuire of Piqua, Ohio). Isabel and John's marriage license June 26, 1849, appears in Mercer County Courthouse records. John and Isabel had three children: Hiram who married Elizabeth Hoel; George who married Catherine Smith, a daughter of Joseph and Caroline (Frick) Smith, the former who was born in New Jersey and the latter in Pennsylvania. Joseph Smith came to Ohio at an early day and was married in the vicinity of Dayton. The third child of John W. and Isabel, William, died at the age of twenty-two.

George Green was born November 29, 1851, and was married to Catherine Smith who was born April 7, 1856. They were married July 2, 1876. George and Catherine had nine children, seven of whom lived to adulthood. They were as follows: Ira, who married Emma Hitchens and had one daughter, Doris Ollene (Straley); Harley, who served in the Spanish-American War, who married Maude Wade had Thelma Opal, Francis (deceased), Audrey, George, "Bob" (girl); Isabel Catherine, who married James Mowery and had Benjamin Franklin, Vera Pauline, Millard, and Robert; Blanche Belle who married Will Cook and had a son who was accidentally killed as a young man; Bessie Hazel who married Jess Ream and had two sons, Oliver (deceased) and James; Grace Glenna who married William McGee and had three children: Florence, Howard, and Virginia; Cassius Ford who married Gertrude Moore and had seven children: Mary Catherine, Allen Gale, Paul Edward, Chester Cassius, Wayne Carroll, Murle Eugene, and Gene Harold. George and Catherine gave land for the original Burntwood School, a frame building. The school was later removed to a more central location and the land reverted to the Green family.

George Green died October 20, 1893; Catherine died December 1943. They are both buried in Swamp College Cemetery in Mercer County, Ohio.

The Green home from early days has been a hospitable one. Even to this day Gene has his immediate family numbering in the 50's each New Year's Day.

Gene is much interested in family history and has in his possession many items: such as pictures, sale bills, deeds wills, tax duplicates, Methodist Church records of pledge payments, and other memorabilia.

Both John Green and his son John Green W. Green are buried in a Montezuma Cemetery. *Gene M. Green, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Edward W. Hammond II and his wife Jane (Sowar) Hammond

EDWARD WHEELER HAMMOND II

The Hammonds, the Wheelers and the Harveys were all early settlers of Stratford, Connecticut. They were close neighbors who lived on a large tract of land known as "Harvey's Farm". Today this is East Main St. of Stratford.

In due time Charles Hammond, the great, great, great grandfather of E.W.H. II married Mary Ann Wheeler in the First Congregational Church of Stratford, Conn. in the year 1792.

Mary Ann, daughter of Nathan and Deborah Sanford Wheeler of Stratford was the direct descendant of Moses Wheeler, first settler of Stratford. Tradition tells us that Moses was a very strong and powerful man, of whom even the Indians feared. It was said that he could use a barrel of cider for a drinking cup. The first Ferry conducted on the Housatonic River between Milford and Stratford, Conn. was by

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Moses Wheeler in 1648. Moses died in 1698 at the age of 100, leaving many generations of Wheelers behind him.

From records available, Charles and Mary had five children in this order: Sally, Nathan Wheeler, Harvey, Hanah and Mary.

Harvey, the great, great grandfather of E.W.H. II was born on December 22, 1799 in Stratford. His wife's name was Joanna (maiden name unknown). Joanna's will dated Aug. 3, 1881 proved they had a daughter Cornelia Blackman, daughter, Fanny Osborn and grandchildren, Harvey C. Hammond, Edward W. Hammond, Cornelia Hammond and a granddaughter named Georgie Ogden Benedict.

Edward, the great-grandfather of E.W.H. II was born to Harvey and Joanna in 1841. He died a year before this will was written. He was married to Ann Elizabeth Clark in the First Congregational Church of Milford, Conn., Dec. 30, 1867. Ann E. was the daughter of Hezekiah and Jane (Fenn) Clark of Milford, born Sept. 1, 1840, direct descendant of Deacon George Clark. George C. was the first settler of Milford. Lt. Samuel Clark, who served under Benjamin Peck, 1772, in the American Revolution was also Ann's ancestor.

Edward Wheeler Hammond I was born to Edward and Ann on Nov. 27, 1870, in Stratford. It was in 1881 that Edward died and in 1882 that Anne E. passed away, leaving their child an orphan.

At this time a Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sammis, cousins of the child Edward Wheeler, took him in their home to raise.

Edward Wheeler Hammond I, grandfather of E.W.H. II was very fond of Speed Boat Racing, in which he won many trophies. He married Julia Shanahan, of Catholic faith, in Waterbury, Conn. Feb. 10, 1898. Edward and Julia had two children, Wilson and Eunice. Eunice still living today in Long Island, N.Y.

Wilson married Helen Golden from the Bronx, N.Y. Their son, Edward W.H. II was born Feb. 26, 1922. Helen died of tuberculosis in 1923 and wilson, contracting the disease from her died on Oct. 16, 1925. It was at this time that Edward's grandfather adopted him as his son. Prior to this, Edward W. I had remarried a Harriet L. Steinmetz from Philadelphia. Together they raised their child in Larchmont, N.Y.

Edward Wheeler Hammond II attended Iona Prep School, New Rochelle, N.Y. He played football and baseball, and his friends called him "Ace". He attended Colgate University, then entered the Navy Air Corps during the War. It was at Seattle Naval Hospital that he met Jane Sowar, formerly of Coldwater, daughter of the then David Sowar Sr. and Mildred Francis Groman Sowar. They were married May 2, 1946, Seattle Naval Hosp. Chapel. It was in the Navy that Edward was nicknamed "Duke".

Duke and Jane lived in Hamilton, N.Y. where Duke finished his schooling at Colgate. Two children were born in N.Y. Edward Mark, April 1, 1947 and Patricia Marie, Feb. 11, 1948. Edward Mark is now married to the former Sherri Engle of Celina, O. and living in Chicago, Ill. Patricia is married to Richard Wuebker, formerly of Coldwater, now living in Dayton, O. They have two children, Kristen Elizabeth born May 12, 1975 and Richard Louis II born Jan. 20, 1978.

In 1948 the Hammonds moved to Coldwat where Duke began teaching in the local Hig School, where he is still teaching today. His mai courses have been Latin, World History, Drivers Ec ucation and served as Athletic Director about 1 years. Jane did part-time nursing at the former Ou Lady of Mercy Hosp. and at present is Chairwoma of the Adult Education of the American Cancer So ciety of Mercer County. Both Duke and Jane are ac tive in various organizations of Coldwater.

While living in Coldwater, Duke and Jane had si children, three having died in infancy. The remain ing three are:

Marcia Ann, born May 21, 1956, now teachin Special Education at Wellington, Ohio.

Joseph Gerard, born July 29, 1957, now in his thir year at Miami University, Oxford, O.

Jean Marie, born July 11, 1959, now in her secon year at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

The Hammond Family belong to the Holy Trinit Catholic Church of Coldwater, Ohio. They live a 610 West Walnut St., Coldwater, O. *Jane Hammond*

JOHN BERNARD HASLINGER

John Bernard Haslinger was born in Maria Stein Mercer County, Ohio on April 26, 1872. He was th son of William and Catherine Haslinger. Through out his life, he was known to his friends and ac quaintances as Ben or J.B.

He received his early education at Maria Stein an there laid the foundation for his future career in th business world. Later he took a special course i penmanship, bookkeeping, typewriting and stenog raphy at the Coldwater Academy. After graduatin there, he entered his father's shop at Maria Stein fo a short time. He then came to Coldwater and en tered the general store of John L. Phellis, as an as sistant. The business was located at the corner o Main and Market Sts., where the Coldwater Cit Hall and library are now located.

After a brief experience as assistant to Mr. Phellis he formed a partnership with his father, and the purchased the business from Mr. Phellis. He wa then 25 years of age. The store, under the manage ment of J. Bernard Haslinger, soon came to be recog nized as one of the leading business places in tha part of the county. The business handled groceries dry goods and shoes, and also ran a huckster wagon to accommodate the rural areas. The huckste wagon was horse drawn and carried almost all th unperishable items from the grocery department. A that time everything came to the store in bulk candy in wooden pails, crackers in barrels and vine gar in wooden kegs, to name just a few. Everythin had to be weighed out or measured. (Times have certainly changed.) Mr. Haslinger's brother, John ran the huckster wagon. The horses were kept in a barn back of Mr. Haslinger's home. The family home was located in the rear of the business build ing with sleeping area on the second floor. Mr. Has linger's mother and sister also helped in the store.

J. Bernard soon took over the business and his fa ther retired to his shoe repair shop which was also located in the rear of the building.

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On January 10, 1905, J. Bernard married Catherine Saalman in Philothea, Ohio. Catherine lived on a farm and assisted with the chores at home including working in the fields. They took up residence on Main Street in Coldwater, directly across from the business place.

Mr. Haslinger continued in the business until 1914 when he was elected to the office of Mercer County Clerk of Courts. At that time he sold his business and moved with his family to Celina, Ohio. While in Coldwater, he served as Corporation Treasurer, a position he held for three successive terms. He was also a director and stockholder of Peoples Bank in Coldwater, a position he held until his death.

Mr. Haslinger was completing his second term as County Clerk when he passed away on December 6th, 1918 at the age of 46 years. Catherine, his widow, moved back to Coldwater with her four young children in the Spring of 1919. They resided in the same home they had vacated in 1914.

The children are as follows. Ivo, who married Dolores Hoyng, of Coldwater, Ohio. They have 4 children. Ena, who married Cletus Garman, of Celina, Ohio. They have 3 children. Isabelle, who married Marlin Winder, of Mt. Victory, Ohio. Monica, who married Omar Siefring, of St. Henry, Ohio. They have 1 child. All of the 4 children reside at present in Mercer County. *Mrs. Marlin Winder, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hemmelgarn and Family. 25 years of marriage in 1955 — **Seated:** Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hemmelgarn. **Standing:** Jerry, Betty, and Floyd.

ED HEMMELGARN

Ed Hemmelgarn was born June 15, 1906 on his father's farm ½ mile west of Philothea to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hemmelgarn. He went to school and Catholic church at Philothea and stayed at home through his younger life. He helped his father on the farm and got other small jobs along the side.

In 1930 Ed got married to Josephine Wenning. She was a daughter of Gerhard and Margaret Wenning. They were married at the St. Marys Catholic church by Rev. Father Jerome Hueber in Philothea. Josephine's mother died at her childbirth and she made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schwegman at Philothea until her marriage in 1930. She went to school at Oakland and Catholic church in Philothea.

At this time the couple started in the egg business. The grading and candling of eggs was done in the farmhouse basement of his father, and a Model T Ford and trailer was the means of transportation. In 1931 a son was born to them and he was named Floyd Hemmelgarn. In 1932 another son was born to them and his name was Jerome Hemmelgarn. In 1933 the Egg and Poultry business grew large enough that they could go on their own. They rented a house in Philothea and used a barn for their grading and candling of eggs. In 1936 the barn got too small for the business kept on growing and they bought the Philothea Community dance hall and used that for their warehouse of packaging and grading of eggs. In 1938 a daughter was born to them and she was named Elizabeth Hemmelgarn and this was the size of their family. Ed and Josephine always rented until 1945 when they bought the Henry Pohl home and other buildings and 12 acres of land in Philothea which gave them more room for business. In 1950 we built a new plant on the same grounds of today. Ed and Josephine are on part-time retirement working part-time at the plant. Ed and Josephine are enjoying their retirement at their home and part-time work at the plant.

Ed Hemmelgarn is President of Hemmelgarn & Sons Inc., Coldwater, Ohio and Treasurer of White Feather Farm Inc., Muncie, Indiana. The couple intends to stay and spend their retirement as it is now.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hemmelgarn and Family. 25 Years of Marriage in 1977 — **L. to R.:** Rick, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hemmelgarn, and Larry.

HEMMELGARN

Floyd Hemmelgarn, the oldest son of Edward and Josephine Wenning Hemmelgarn married Lois Ann Dorsten in the old Our Lady Guadalupe Church near Montezuma, Ohio 10/11/52. Lois the youngest and only daughter of Rudolph Dorsten (10/11/92-11/7/77 the son of Frank Dorsten and Anna Bertke) and Olive Schwieterman Dorsten (1/2/96-9/12/63, daughter of Benjamin Schwieterman and Ida VanDonBosch). Lois was raised on a farm four miles east of Montezuma with her eight brothers who are Arthur Carl 10/3/16 of Dayton; Gerald Theodore 7/16/18-9/15/23; Othmar Henry 2/29/20 of Dayton; Robert Rudolph 8/31/22 of Celina; Ermal Mathias 3/10/25-8/19/57; Harold William 2/26/27-5/4/38; Cyril Bernard 2/9/29 of Dayton; Clyde Kenneth 5/10/31 of Xenia. Lois attended the one room Franklin Twp. School two years, then went on to the larger Franklin Twp. School when four area schools consolidated near Montezuma.

Floyd was born 7/14/31 on his Grandpa and Grandma's farm near Philothea. He went to the Philothea Special Elementary School and Floyd and Lois both graduated from Coldwater High School. Floyd enjoyed sports very much. He played baseball every chance he got and rode his horse. He played baseball and football in high school. He also played on the All Far East baseball team in Japan after he came back from Korea while he was in the army. Floyd has worked in the egg business all his life except for his two years in the service. He is plant manager of Hemmelgarn & Sons Inc. in Philothea, Ohio.

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Floyd is a member of The St. Henry American Legion; the Bailey-Schockman V.F.W. Post 5135 in which he is in the Firing Squad; Coldwater Eagles Lodge; the Mercer County Elks; Coldwater Knights of Columbus; F.F.A. Alumni Ass'n. He also served on the Ohio Egg Processors Board of Directors 5 years and was president 1 year and a member of the National Poultry and Egg Board 2 years.

Lois worked at Bay View Lodge during high school. She was in school activities as well as being a cheerleader four years. After graduation Lois worked at General Telephone Company then went on to New Idea to work until she had children. Lois and Floyd had three sons. Martin James born 1/27/55 went to Coldwater schools. He enjoyed sports but as soon as he was able he helped in the business. He later took an active interest in the business until he died of an auto accident in his senior year on 10/15/72. Larry Joseph born 5/7/57 always wanted to become a priest so he attended Brunnerdale Seminary, Canton, Ohio and graduated with honors. He is now a senior in St. Joseph's College, Renssalaer, Indiana. Larry is majoring in music. Eric (Rick) Allen born 9/23/59 also enjoys sports. All the boys went to work at the plant as soon as they could and Rick is no exception. Rick is continuing to work in the business since his graduation from Coldwater High School. He is entering Wright State, Celina, Ohio in the fall. Martin and Rick belonged to the C.Y.O. of which they were both officers and to the F.F.A.

Lois is a member of V.F.W. Auxiliary, Coldwater in which she was president one year and the Rosary Altar Sodality in which she was secretary one year and president two years. She taught religion four years in the Coldwater School System, and is now teaching in Philothea where they live and go to the St. Mary's Catholic Church. *Floyd and Lois Hemmelgarn*

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hemmelgarn and Family. 50 years of Marriage in 1952 and Their Children — Edward and Marcella Hemmelgarn (Lefeld).

FRANK HEMMELGARN

Johan Heinrich Hemmelgarn was born in Germany 1802 and in later years married Anna Maria Dierks. They were married in Neuenkirchen Hulsen Germany and came across to this country in the year 1822 and landed in Philadelphia, Penn. and later came to Ohio and got a Homestead Farm, one half mile west of Philothea. While coming across on the sea a son was born to them by the name of Joseph Hemmelgarn. Jos was Frank Hemmelgarn's father and Johan Heinrich was Jos' father.

In 1893 Johan Heinrich died and the son Joseph Hemmelgarn took over the farm. Joseph Hemmelgarn married Mary Geise and had nine children: Herman, Henry, Ben, John, Joseph, Frank, Catherine, Anna and Maria Hemmelgarn. Frank Hemmelgarn remained on the farm and in 1902 he married Anna Pleiman and they kept farming the home place. A son was born in 1906 and was named Edward Hemmelgarn and in 1915 a daughter was born and her name was Marcella Hemmelgarn, and this was the family. Frank Hemmelgarn had a Model T Ford car and all farm machinery was drawn by horses. Frank's father Joseph died in 1914 — age 92 and Frank Hemmelgarn died in 1959 — age 82 Anna Hemmelgarn died in 1971 — age 94.

JERRY HEMMELGARN

Jerry Hemmelgarn was born November 12, 1932 in Philothea, Ohio. He is the son of Edward and Josephine Hemmelgarn. Jerry went to school in Philothea and attended Coldwater High School.

In 1951 he married Miss Shirley James. He and Shirley are now living in Kent, Ohio and the parents of six children; Frank, John, Joy, Janice, Kim and Beth. Their youngest; Beth, is still at home. Joy has one child and lives in Corry, Pennsylvania. Janice has two children and lives in Youngstown, Ohio. John who has one child, Kim who has one child and Frank all live in Kent.

The family moved to Kent in 1961 to open a distribution center for the family egg business located in Philothea. Along with the family business Jerry is affiliated with businesses in Muncie, Indiana, Youngstown, Ohio, a seafood distribution center in Canton, Ohio, a shopping center and supermarkets in Alliance, Ohio and with T&H Enterprises of Kent, Ohio.

L. to R., Seated: Mr. Hemmelgarn, Esther, Ruth, Mrs. Hemmelgarn. **Standing:** Sr. Laurena, Louis, Cyril, Arnold, Fr. Werner, Robert, Ralph, and Mary Kaye.

THE LEO J. HEMMELGARN FAMILY

Leo Joseph Hemmelgarn, farmer, teacher, organist, banker, is a fourth generation member of early 1800 German immigrants who were originally attracted to the flat, fertile lands of the Mercer, Auglaize, and Darke County area.

Leo's grandfather Henry came to the United States from Germany with his parents at 2½ years of age, who settled first at Springfield, Ohio, then at Minster and Cranberry Prairie. He married Catherine Smith, who came from Germany at six years of age. They had six children, of whom Henry was the youngest.

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Henry and Catherine cleared the land near Cas-ella, erected a round log cabin, and were the par-nts of eight children: Paul Henry, father of Leo, heodore, Catherine, Bernard, John, Charles, Wil-am, and Elizabeth.

Paul Henry always lived in Mercer County and as a farmer all his life. He served several terms on ie school board. He purchased a farm near Wende-n in 1877 from Mr. Fraser. This farm was the old andon Bennett place which was entered in 1835 in ie U.S. Land Office at Lima, the deed to which is gned by President Van Buren.

Paul Henry married Elizabeth Lemm at Cranberry rairie in 1875. They became the parents of 10 chil-ren: Catherine, Cecelia, Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, harles, Henry, Leo, Theresa, and Maggie.

Leo Joseph, third youngest was born June 15, 1891 n the farm near Wendelin. He attended Wendelin rade school, St. Henry High School, and was a raduate of St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana. is first teaching assignment was at Fink School in arke County, 1911-1912.

On June 16, 1914 Leo married Catherine Backs, aughter of German immigrants Herman Backs and atherine Buehler. Catherine was born on the farm ear New Weston on October 16, 1892. Mr. and Irs. Backs were the parents of 10 children: Rose, en, Mary, Joe, Catherine, Frances, Aloys, Andrew, eo, and Raymond. Catherine attended Burkettsville hool, Fink school, and a boarding school in Min-er, Ohio.

Leo and Catherine became the parents of 10 chil-ren, all born in Mercer County: Fr. Werner C.PP.S., larch 28, 1915; Ralph, January 19, 1917; Sister aurena C.PP.S., May 17, 1918; Arnold, August 18, 919; Mary Catherine, December 1, 1921; Cyril, Au-ust 1, 1923; Louis, March 11, 1925; Esther, February 3, 1927; Robert, November 18, 1929; and Ruth, Au-ust 8, 1933.

Leo's next teaching, sexton, and church organist ssignment was at Carthagena from 1912 to 1919. Verner (Fr. Werner now), Ralph and Laurena and rnold were born in Carthagena. Then the family oved to Cassella from 1919 to 1933, where Arnold, lary Kaye, Cyril, Louis, Esther and Robert were orn. He then taught at St. Joe, where Ruth was orn, until 1943, then at Cranberry Prairie until his aching retirement in 1950.

They then moved to Ottoville, Ohio where Leo orked in the Ottoville Bank until retirement in 960, and remained as secretary of the Ottoville elephone Co. until a few years before his death at ie age of 83 in 1974. Mrs. Hemmelgarn died July 978 and is buried in St. Marys Cemetery, Ottoville, hio.

At this time Fr. Werner C.PP.S. is pastor of St. Ed-ards Catholic Church, Henning, Minnesota; Ralph arried Elsie Braun in 1939, now living in Kettering, hio; Sister Laurena C.PP.S. Dayton, Ohio; Arnold arried Ruth Lause in 1941 and Irmgard Gressman 1971, Louisville, Ky; Mary Kaye R.N. married dw. Dondero in 1950, Long Beach, California; Cyril arried Romana Alexander in 1946, Worthington, hio; Louis married Gertrude Horwarth in 1947 and Marie Nunn Edstrom in 1960, South Bend, Indiana; sther R.N. married Ralph Link in 1949, Kettering, hio; Robert married Elinor Jane Presar in 1954, ayton; Ruth married Raymond Miller in 1954, Ot-toville, Ohio.

All six sons served in various branches of U.S. Armed Forces during the World War II conflict.

Currently, there are 28 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. *Ralph Hemmelgarn, Kettering, Ohio 45440*

THEODOR HOMAN

Theodor Homan was born 21 Aug. 1847 and arrived in the United States in April, 1873 from Westhatern, Hanover, Germany. He met Mary Pleiman, daughter of Bernard Henry Pleiman and Catharine Kraemer and they were married in St. Mary's Church, Philothea, Butler Township on 11 May 1875. From that union 13 children were born: Bernard (1876), twins Anna Catharine (1878 — who lived 1 day) and Mary Katharine Philomena (1878-1916), Elizabeth (1879-1934), Josaphina (1882-1886), Mary Elizabeth (1881-1957), Francis Henry (1884), twins Theodore Jr. (1886) and Joseph (1886-1969), Rosa Maria (1888-1956), Anna (1890), Mary Julia (1893-1978), and George Joseph (1895-1965).

Theodor became a naturalized citizen on 17 Dec. 1880. He died 28 June 1924 at the age of 76 years and his wife Mary, born 29 Oct. 1851, died 15 Nov. 1936 at the age of 85 years. Both are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Philothea.

Bernard married Elizabeth Kessens on 9 Apr. 1907, Mary Katharine married Joseph J. Saalman on 7 Aug. 1900 and their children are listed under history of Herman Henry Saalman. Elizabeth (1879) married Bernard S. Jutte on 24 Oct. 1899, Frank married Philomina Kessens, Theodore Jr. married Veronica Stall on 24 Apr. 1911 and after her death in 1919 married Matilda Brown. Joseph married Mary Osterholt on 21 May 1913, Rosa married George H. Dues on 25 Apr. 1906, Mary Elizabeth (1881) married Frank Penno on 9 Oct. 1900, Julia married Albert Boeckman on 4 May 1920 and George married Veronica Severt.

Anna died in her teens with typhoid fever. *Roxanne Framme Hemmelgarn*

THE JEFFRIES FAMILY

Milton Jeffries (our great-grandfather) an early settler of Plain Township was born in Clark County, Indiana, on January 8, 1814. Son of Francis and Margaret Jeffries. Natives of Kentucky. Francis was born in 1781 and died in 1865. It is known that two Jeffries brothers came over from England. Someone over here paid their passage over for them to serve in the Revolutionary War. After the war one went to Kentucky and the other to Indiana. It was Francis' father that served in that war, I have no information on the other brother.

Miltons parents had thirteen children. Six of whom survive: Milton; William Mary; Elizabeth; Salem and Nancy. (The book from which this information came was printed in 1887). The deceased were Robert; Malinda; Benoni; Sarah; James; Allen and Rebecca. His father came to this State while it was yet a territory, and settled in Clark County.

In 1835 he went with his parents to Kosciusko County, Indiana, settling in Van Buren Township. His parents both died in this County.

Milton was reared on a farm and educated in common schools. He was married three times, and

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had ten children. He first married Elizabeth Catey, by whom he had six children. Two of whom survive. Francis M. and Allen (our grandfather). His second wife was Nancy Blue. Two of their children survive. Salem Orlando, and Nannie E. His third wife was Rebecca Ann Edmund, widow of E. Edmund.

Milton owned 144 acres of land, served creditably as school director, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. And was a Republican. Four of his sons were soldiers in the Civil War. Henry C.; Francis M.; Allen and James. Henry was born July 10, 1838, served over three years, and was wounded and taken prisoner at Chickamauga, and spent seven months in Richmond Prison. He died from effects of the war on October 21, 1865. At age 27. Francis M. was born December 1, 1893, served fourteen months in the war. He never married, and died at the age of 89. December 27, 1928. (He was our old Uncle that lived with us a lot, and died at our place near Ira, Iowa). Allen our grandfather was born February 10, 1842. He served three years and participated in many battles. He died at the age of 71, November 17, 1913. At the folks place in Ira. James died in the service there is no record on him, so I don't know where he placed in the family.

Miltons other two children by his second wife, Salem Orlando and Nannie E. Salem married Clara Ellen Meek. They had four children. Ralph; Fred; Ruth and Helen. Only Ruth is still living (1968). She had four children. Ralph had one daughter. And Fred one son. We had the pleasure of having Ralph, his wife Bea and daughter June visit us during the 40s, and I still write to Bea and June. Dad visited the family in Indiana in the 40s while Ralph and Helen were living. Nannie married Wm. F. Armington. They had three children. John; Charles and Eva. I understand the boys were twins.

In Miltons first family only Allen married. He was married to Rebecca Elliott November 1, 1868. They went to Iowa and settled near Ira in October of 1869. They had five children. Elizabeth; Axie May; Thomas Milton; Francis Henry and Curtis Elliott. Elizabeth was born May 11, 1870, and died June 7, 1878 at the age of 8, of Diphtheria; Axie May was born June 29, 1872, and died March 15, 1890 at the age of 17. Thomas was born April 7, 1874 and died June 8, 1878 at the age of 4 of Diphtheria. Francis Henry was born June 18, 1879. He was married to Mayme Proctor, February 28, 1911. They had two children Allen and Avis. Allen married Freida and they had two sons Larry and James. Avis married Ross Simmonds. They had four sons: Richard; Douglas; James and Thomas. Francis died in Idaho and was buried at Gooding where they had made their home many years. He died May 3, 1946 at the age of 67. The youngest son Curtis Elliott was born July 17, 1882. He married Murle Ilene Stewart December 25, 1912, at Ira, Iowa. They had four children. Francis E.; Mary I.; Curtis J.; and Arthur W.; Francis E. was born May 31, 1914. He married Pat McGuire. They have three children, Theressa; Robert and Gregg. Mary I. was born June 27, 1917. She married Oral Patterson. They have two daughters. Lela May and Norma. Lela May married Merle Barnes and they have two children Micky and Linda. Norma married Darwin Werner and they have Jeffrey Ray.; Curtis J.; was born June 25, 1925. He married Mona Elser and they have three children. Phyllis, Beverly and Curtis Francis. The youngest s Arthur W. was born October 31, 1926. He marri but doesn't have any children. Curtis Elliott pass away June 17, 1955 in Kansas. Just a month befc his 73rd birthday. He was layed to rest in Uni Chapel Cemetery near Ira, Iowa where most of l close family is.

Of Francis and Margarets other children, Eliz beth was born December 22, 1819 in Indiana, a died at Ira, Iowa April 16, 1893, age 74. She was ma ried to Joseph Rippey. They had five sons. Wm. Mathew Z.; James Allen; John and Milton D.; M thew and James were killed in the Civil War a John and Milton died at their Indiana home. M Rippey died in 1848. And Elizabeth married S.B. C tey in 1852. They had one daughter Eva. Th moved to near Ira, Iowa in November of 1890. M Catey died April 24, 1893 a few days after his wif passing. Elizabeth's son Wm. F. was the father Frank Rippey that we knew and liked so well.

Nancy another daughter of Francis and Margar was married to Samuel Davis. She had four childre John; Mary; Samuel and Sarah. John died of co sumption at the age of 38 leaving a wife and thr children. Nancy was later married to Moses Wallac By not having mentioned any surviving children his obituary I am led to believe the children were l her first marriage.

Salem a son of Francis and Margaret was marri twice. First to Jane W. Edgar. They had one son A drew born in 1846, and died in 1931. Andrew w married to Emily Keyes. They had four daughte Grace; Vesta; Kezia and Xantha. Grace was marri to Frank Tramel and they lived near Union Chap at Ira. They had Mildred and Howard. Vesta ma ried Frank Pease; Kezia married Burgess Montgon ery. They had John and Ray; Xantha marri Charles Rumbaugh. They had five children. Vivia Harry; Hugh; Luther and Mabel.

Salem later married Eliza Ann Tramel. They ha five children; Martha Jane; Hiram; Joseph A.; Cyn hia Belle; and Carrie Lenore. Martha Jane marri Ed Hendersen, they had three children: Harve Ada; and Grace. Hiram was born in 1858 and died i 1930. He married Barbara Witmer. She was born i 1860 and died in 1936. They had four children: A thur; Vera Belle; Maude and Nellie. Arthur was bor in 1881 and died in 1964. He married Daisy Cros They had two children, Gladys and Dennis. Glad was born in 1904. She married Frank Hamilto They have two children Dale and Barbara. Denn was born in 1906. He married Marie Tight. Arth married Effie Rumbaugh several years after Dais died. Vera Belle was born in 1884. She married Ha rold Ellis; Maude was born in 1885, and died i 1902. And Nellie was born in 1894. She marri Robert Craig. He died in 1952. She married Frank Colby, he died in 1964. Arthur was like an uncle t us kids. We thought so much of him. He lived clos to us than the rest of the family. So we saw him of ten when we were growing up.

Joseph A. son of Salem and Eliza Jeffries marrie Lillian Webb. They had nine children: Bessie; Flor ence; Mabel Esther; Joseph Sidney; Charles Harold Holly; Grace; Morris S.; and Eliza Frances. Bessi married H.P. Williams; Florence married a Daly an had three children; Mabel passed away while quit young; No information on Joseph and Morris

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Charles married and had two children; Holly married and he had six children including a set of twin girls; Grace married a Stoakes and had one child; Elzia married a Wiseman and had one son.

Salems other two children, Cynthia passed away at 16 years old and Carrie Lenore married Nicholas Maas. They had two sons. Richard Harlan, and Joseph Leonard. Richard was married to Mary Griffin, and had one daughter Joan Marie. He died at age 29. The daughter Joan is or was Production Assistant on Bob Hopes T.V. Shows. Joseph Leonard married Pauline Hamilton. They have two children. Samuel Nicholas, and Elsie Caroline.

This History was written by Mrs. Oral Patterson in 1968. From information from Mrs. Frank Hamilton of Marshalltown, Iowa. Mrs. Ruth Kern of Syracuse, Indiana and her daughter Mrs. Katherine Baugher. And from Nellie Colby of Upland, California. And from old obituaries in the family Bible. *Mrs. Forest Lovett, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

L. to R.: Beatrice L. (Porter) Jeffries, June L. Jeffries, Lt. Ralph M. Jeffries. Taken at Farragut, Idaho Naval Training Station, 1943.

RALPH M. JEFFRIES

The following newspaper article appeared in the Farragut, Idaho Naval Training Station paper. LIEUTENANT RALPH M. JEFFRIES RETIRES. Orders received Monday ended the long and colorful Navy career of Lt. Ralph M. Jeffries USN (Ret.), last Executive Officer of the Recruit Training Command. Lt. Jeffries, who has served on various ships and naval bases around the world for almost 35 yrs., received his commission Dec. 15, 1917. He reported at Farragut on Sept. 14, 1942 and has been identified with recruit training here almost since the first recruit company was formed. He is retiring to inactive duty and will make his home in San Diego, Cal.

I remember well my childhood years spent traveling with my parents (when I was old enough to remember). I especially remember 2 places — San Diego, Calif., and Hayden Lake and Farragut, Idaho. My memories of Hayden Lake, Idaho include the mountains and snow, sledding and making snowmen in the winter and our cabin. It and others like it in the small summer resort of Hayden Lake, served as temporary housing for Navy families while permanent quarters were being constructed at the nearby Navy base at Farragut. We had to endure the bitter cold weather of our 1st winter in Idaho and even with our large fireplace and oil heater going full tilt it was still hard to keep warm. I remember getting ready for school and Mom struggling to put chains on the tires of our old 1940 Mercury so we wouldn't get stuck in the snow. Of course we always did and so the other kids Mom took to school and I would get out and push the car out of the rut it was in. In summer I remember swimming in Hayden Lake (a Navy Lifeguard taught me how) and exploring the woods and gathering wildflowers and pine cones which were in abundance. And there was always that wonderful smell of the pine forest. One thing I can remember that I *didn't* like was having to have tick shots. All the children at school had to take them. They made you very sick and sometimes I would make up a story and tell my mother I had had them when in fact, I hadn't. But she always caught on and so I ended up having to take them anyway. Eventually we were able to move on the Navy Base at Farragut. I enjoyed the spectacular scenery there including the mountain which overlooked Lake Pend d' Oreille. I enjoyed watching the sailors rowing their boats on the lake in perfect unison and also watching them parade past our house. When we heard the sailors on the march we usually went outdoors and, in winter, threw snowballs at them. Since they were ordered to remain standing still at certain times, they were perfect targets! I remember the sound of the foghorn mournfully sounding out across the lake and echoing off the mountains. I also remember "Bambi" our favorite deer who would make my mother angry by nonchalantly nibbling at our shrubbery. "Bambi" was a pet of the sailors who fed him.

My memories of San Diego, Calif. include dancing lessons, horseback riding lessons and of course the mild climate. I enjoyed the normal childhood activities and even had my own banana tree growing in our back yard. Occasionally, we would visit our cousin's who lived up the coast in Santa Barbara and I enjoyed the trips along the Pacific Ocean immensely. I remember my playhouse in the back yard, running through the sprinklers in bathing suits on hot days, the "good humor man" and Mom's beautiful rose garden.

Finally, during Christmas vacation from school when I was in 7th grade my father decided to move to Syracuse, Indiana. This was the place of *his* childhood as he was born on a farm near there at Leesburg, Ind. I attended Syracuse High School and graduated in 1953. I loved Indiana too and esp. living right across the street from Syracuse Lake. I enjoyed swimming, fishing and in winter ice-skating on the lake. It also became my favorite spot just for thinking. *by June Jeffries (Lovett)*

The following newspaper article dated May 9, 1957, further documents my father's military career.

LIEUT. RALPH JEFFRIES *RETIRED AFTER MUCH EXPERIENCE*

Syracuse, Indiana — Ralph M. Jeffries, 67, is a retired Deputy Marshal of the Syracuse Police Force after 5 years, and a retired Navy man with Lieutenant rating.

He holds World War I and II Ribbons, European Medal, and Pacific and At Sea at time of the Blitz. In Mr. Jeffries' words he "is on Navy Retirement Pay, Social Security, and at present works 3 days a week."

Jeffries went in the Navy in 1909, met his wife in 1919 in Boston, Mass. and married her in New York City in City Hall.

He retired from the Navy after 35 years of active duty; was placed on the retired list, October of 1942; but continued active duty; and was released from active duty, August 15, 1945.

"Taking it easy in San Diego, Calif. in the interim, the Jeffries' came to Syracuse, Ind. because their daughter, June liked the lake and wished to attend school here."

Jeffries was in the 1st Convoy of Ships out of San Francisco that left for Pearl Harbor. His ship was the Cuyama, an oil tanker carrying diesel oil, ammunition, aviation gasoline, and fresh water. In World War I he was in the Grand Fleet, American Unit 1 on the USS Florida.

As an E. and R. officer, he opened the Farragut, Idaho, Naval Training Station, and was Security officer at Farragut Station for 68,000 people, making the Station from scratch.

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After that he had Re-training Command, taking boys that had General Court Martial, for re-training who, if they made good, would be restored to active duty.

Jeffries also had charge of 150 musicians of the bands, keeping track of all instruments and had to answer all USO calls for men and instruments.

He was a member of the General Court Martial Board, had his own Summary Court Martial Board, and then Deck Court Martial for recruit training.

My father, who was the 2nd son of the union of Salem O. and Clara E. (Meek) Jeffries (see early history) was born Jan. 11, 1890 and passed away May 16, 1961 at Syracuse, Ind. After the funeral, his body was put on the train at the Syracuse depot for burial at Arlington National Cemetery. My mother accompanied the body and impressive graveside services were held at Arlington May 22, 1961. Afterward, Mother was presented with the flag that had draped his coffin. I will always remember my father as a wonderful, kind, courageous man whose family as well as serving his country meant a great deal to him.

Today, his widow, my mother Beatrice L. Jeffries, 77 resides at 421 E. College St. having come from Syracuse, Indiana in 1967. My oldest son Brandon (Lovett), 21 lives with her. I live with my husband Forest Lovett and 2 other children Janet, 17 and Glenn, 15 at 600 W. Walnut St., Coldwater. My oldest son Brandon graduated from Coldwater High School in 1975 and my younger children attend Coldwater High School. We have lived in Coldwater since 1963. My husband's employment at New Idea was our reason for moving here. I am an artist who is planning to have my 1st one-woman exhibit of paintings and needlework at Wright State Branch Campus, Celina this winter. *Mrs. Forest Lovett*

First Row, Front: Fred, Frances, Wilfred. **Second Row:** Mark, Margaret Dues, Kari Bruggeman and Karen Klenke. **Third:** J. Edward, Roger, Bill. **Fourth:** Thomas, Mary Kremer, Daniel.

WILFRED KLENKE FAMILY

Wilfred and Frances Klenke took over the Ferd Selhorst farm in 1954. They resided in Ft. Recovery, Ohio for five years prior to farming. Their ten children are: Thomas, St. Henry; Daniel, St. Marys; Mrs. Ken (Margaret) Dues, St. Henry; Mrs. Fred (Mary) Kremer, Maria Stein; J. Edward, St. Henry; and Karen, Roger, Bill, Mark, and Fred, all at home, and two foster daughters, Charlene Bruggeman, Columbus, Ohio, and Karen Bruggeman at home. One son, Gerard, is deceased.

Fred and Mary Kremer had the first grandchild, Aimee Jo, on August 24, 1972. Margaret and Ken Dues adopted a son, Kevin, in August of 1976. Ed and Connie Klenke had a daughter, Carolyn Marie, on August 2, 1978. *Mrs. Wilfred Klenke, Coldwater, Oh.*

ADOLPH JOHN KNAPKE

Adolph John Knapke, born 1916, was the child of Frank Joseph Knapke (1881-1965) and Philomena Pohlkamp (1885-1964).

Adolph and Frances Jutte Knapke Family

Frank Joseph, more commonly known as Joe, and Philomena owned a 80 acre farm near St. Henry when Adolph was born. This farm was sold in 1926 when Adolph was 10 years old and the family moved to St. Peter where they purchased 150 acres (Section 33, Washington Township).

Adolph attended St. Henry School. At the age of 16, he found employment in Rome City at Knapp's Sanitarium for three years. He became employed at New Idea in 1938 and presently works there as a job setter. His love and knowledge of plants and trees has grown with the years due to his part-time employment with Foss' Nursery, West of Coldwater and Benanzer's Nursery of Coldwater of previous years. He has currently built up his own clientele to service in the area of lawn and shrubs.

In 1940, Adolph married Frances Jutte, born 1920 the daughter of John C. Jutte (1853-1926) and Elizabeth Koesters (1885-1974) from near St. Peter. For the majority of their early married life they lived near St. Peter and Macedon but would move frequently as they improved each of the houses they owned for resale. In 1947 they moved to Coldwater and now reside at 809 Parkview Drive South in a home they had constructed.

Adolph and Frances had nine children: Tom, born 1941, married Ann Schenking of Coldwater, has two children, Gregg and Beth, and resides in Coldwater. Janice, born 1944, married Jerry Gobrecht (d. 1974) of Dayton, married Larry Gruebmeyer of New Bremen, has one child, Geri Ann and resides in Celina. Mike, born 1947, married Teri Meininger of Dayton, has twin girls, Michele and Kimberly and resides in Englewood; Larry, born 1952, married Carol Uhlenhake of Celina and resides in Coldwater; Gary, born 1953, resides at home; Leon, born 1955, resides in Denver, Colorado; Joyce, born 1957, resides at home, Beverly, born 1958, married Kraig Klosterman of Coldwater and resides in Coldwater and Nancy, born 1961, resides at home.

By her unending stamina and organization, Frances has supplemented the family income through the years by part-time employment.

The joys and problems of raising a large family are many but Frances and Adolph have managed to raise a fun-loving and industrious family. *Mrs. Thomas A. Knapke, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

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Thomas A. and Ann (Schenking) Knapke Family

THOMAS A. KNAPKE FAMILY

Tom Knapke was born in 1941 and was the oldest f nine children of Adolph John Knapke, born in 916, and Frances Jutte, born in 1920. He was raised n the St. Peter area and Coldwater. After graduation rom Coldwater High School in 1959, Tom attended Defiance College on an academic and basketball cholarship. He graduated with a degree in educaion from the University of Dayton and began teachng in the business field and coaching at Marion Loal in 1963. Tom received a masters in business dministration from Ball State University in 1968. When he left Marion Local in 1970 to go to Minster s superintendent, he was athletic director and prinipal of the high school. In 1973, Tom was employed y Leugers Insurance Agency, Maria Stein until he hose to return to the field of education in 1974. At his time he became superintendent of Parkway Loal Schools, for two years and was successful in passing a levy which enabled the school to renovate heir existing buildings and to add on a new structure under his direction. In 1976, Tom was awarded n internship to study at Bowling Green University o obtain his Ph.D. in educational administration. He was then employed in 1977 as assistant dean at Western Ohio Branch Campus at Celina, Ohio.

In July of 1964, he married Ann Schenking, born n 1941, of Coldwater. Ann was the daughter of Henry (1905-1970) and Esther Nordenbrock Schenkng (1913-1968). Upon graduation from Coldwater High School in 1959, she attended the College of Mount St. Joseph, Cincinnati, receiving a degree in nursing in 1963. Since Ann was unable to find her nain interest of pediatrics in the field of nursing in a rural area, she chose to teach elementary school at Marion Local from 1963 to 1966, and at Coldwater rom 1966-1968. During this time she worked partime at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital and received certification in elementary education. After the birth of their children; Gregg, born in 1968, now in the fourth grade, and Beth born in 1972, and now in grade one, Ann received her masters in Special Education from Wright State University in 1973. From 1974-1978, she was employed by the Van Wert County Board of Education as a supervisor in the field of learning disabilities. Since the family moved back to Coldwater, Ann found employment in the St. Henry Local Schools as nurse and learning disabilities tutor in 1978.

The family has enjoyed camping, gardening, athletics and music. Tom is an avid sports fan and Ann appreciates the time to sew, read, and play the piano. The children have participated on the swim team and Gregg is involved in scouting and piano.

Mrs. Thomas Knapke, Coldwater, Oh. 45828

L. to R.: Kevin, wife Gladys, Ernest, Brenda, and Linda Kuess. This 1929 Model Sedan Ford is owned by Ernest Kuess since June 1970.

KUESS

Herman Kuess came from Prussia, Germany around the 1840's and on 4-11-1859 he purchased a farm at Egypt, Ohio. He was born in 1822, died 10-18-1890. His son Henry was born 7-1-1865 at Egypt. Henry married Catherine Boeke on 1-21-1894 and settled north of Chickasaw, Ohio; Henry died 5-21-1949; Catherine died 12-8-1942. Henry had 5 children; Aloysius 3-16-1896 died 2-22-1902; Roman 2-26-1899; died 1-2-1963; Lorreta (Schwieterman) 7-3-1901, died 7-12-1975; Tony died as infant 1-5-1904; Richard 9-1-1911 and living at Chickasaw at present.

Henry Kuess farm is still in the family which was purchased 7-5-1893, 110 acres for $4,800, then Roman took over and Henry bought a neighboring farm in 1934, which was 82 acres for $8,250 for Richard.

Roman's son Lavern farms the 110 acres since Jan. 1973 and Richard's son Virgil farms the 82 acres since 1975.

Roman had 4 daughters and 3 sons: Mildred 7-27-27, Dorothy 6-16-29, Ernest 4-23-31, Elmer 7-17-32, Lavern 11-13-33, Dolores 7-11-37, Irene 5-12-42.

Ernest has 2 daughters Linda 3-10-61 and Brenda 9-23-63 and 1 son Kevin 2-5-65. Ernest also is a collector of Antiques.

Elmer has 5 daughters and 1 son Gary 6-11-59.

Lavern has 3 sons Michael 5-20-64, Roger 12-27-65, Robert 11-12-71.

Richard had 2 sons Othmar 9-18-36, Virgil 1-11-40.

Othmar has 5 daughters and Virgil has 2 daughters and 2 sons Ronald 8-28-63, Randall 7-1-72.

So the Kuess name shall stay for awhile. *By Ernest Kuess, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

Nora Langenkamp

THE JOSEPH LANGENKAMP FAMILY

Joseph Henry Langenkamp married Shirley (Tobe) Langenkamp on April 22nd, 1967. Joseph, was the eldest son of Norbert and Margaret Langenkamp and are proud parents of sixteen children. Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Langenkamp reside at 5181 Coldwater Creek Rd., Celina, Ohio. Mr. Norbert Langenkamp died in 1972 and the farm is being managed

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and operated by his son Walter Langenkamp. Mr. Norbert Langenkamp was engaged in farming and also dairyman, sold registered collie pups. Mr. Norbert Langenkamp's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Henry and Anna (Brockman) Langenkamp. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Langenkamp were from St. Henry, Ohio and were parents of 11 (eleven) children. Mr. Langenkamp was engaged in farming. Mrs. Anna Langenkamp is still living and is ninety years of age and resides at 181 South Sycamore St., St. Henry, Ohio. Mrs. Margaret (Stammen) Langenkamp, is a housewife, mother, and 4-H advisor. Mrs. Margaret Langenkamp's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Josephine (Weis) Stammen and they lived in Burgettsville, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stammen were parents of 14 children, and Joseph was engaged in farming and he also was a manager of the New Weston Grain Company, New Weston, Ohio. He came from a family that did costume work for other farmers such as, thrashing, silo filling, clover hulling, and shredding corn. His wife Josephine was from Putnam County and was a housewife and mother.

Mrs. Shirleyann (Tobe) Langenkamp is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cletus and Verena (Moeller) Tobe and they are proud parents of 13 children. Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Tobe reside at 1455 St. Rt. 49, Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Mr. Cletus Tobe is engaged in farming and operates a hen house (layers) and a dairyman and carpenter. He is an active member of the Farm Bureau. Mr. Tobe was born in St. Henry, Ohio and the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto and Phileameana (Schmitz) Tobe and they are proud parents of 8 children. Mr. Otto Tobe was engaged in farming and was a choir member of the St. Henry Church. Mrs. Phileameana Tobe was a housewife and mother, Mrs. Tobe is still living and resides with Mrs. Mary Schwieterman, Harrison Rd. Celina, Ohio.

Mrs. Verena (Moeller) Tobe was the fifth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry and Eleanore (Wilker) Moeller of Montezuma, Ohio, and proud parents of 8 children. Mr. Henry Moeller was engaged in farming and owned 120 acres and dairyman. Mrs. Eleanore Moeller was a housewife and mother and died of childbirth at an early age. Henry Moeller was later married to Mary Hoober, who after a couple years of marriage, Mrs. Mary (Huber) Moeller died from cancer. Mr. Henry Moeller, years later then married Mrs. Agnes (Kramer) Moeller, from Philothea, Ohio. Mrs. Agnes Moeller is still living and is residing at St. Henry, Ohio.

The Joseph and Shirley (Tobe) Langenkamp's are presently residing at 5713 Younger Rd., Celina, Ohio, and they are the owners of the S&J Ranch. They are proud parents of six children: Angela, Debra, Lynn, Tony, Sara, and Nora. Joseph is engaged in grain farming, boards horses, goose hunting with blinds and pits, and sells hay and straw, sells registered collie (sable) pups, and is a job-setter at Avco New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio. Mr. Langenkamp enjoys his guitar for his favorite pastime, boating, and fishing.

Mrs. Shirley Ann Langenkamp is a housewife and mother and is involved in politics. She is presently corresponding secretary of the Ohio Federation of Republican Women and Sacristan at Immaculate Conception Parish, 4-H advisor of the Burntwood Bons Amis Club. Mrs. Langenkamp was also one of the five princesses chosen for the 1966 Centenni celebration of the Saga of Fort Recovery, Ohio. Mr Langenkamp enjoys piano, archery, and singing fc her pastime. She also has a hobbie of raising unu sual chickens. Miss Nora Langenkamp, daughter c Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Langenkamp, was chosen a only two weeks old in May of 1977 as an honorar member of the Ohio Federation of Republica Women "The Littlest Republican Women". *Shirle Langenkamp, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Joseph H. and Marcella Lefeld Family — Back Row, L. to R.: Don ald Lennartz, David Lefeld, Stanley Lefeld, Gary Lefeld, Josep Lefeld, Ronald Catanzaro, Joyce Catanzaro. **Second Row:** Lind Lennartz, Therese Lefeld, Margie Lefeld, Vickie Lefeld, Marcell Lefeld, JoAnn Catanzaro, Lusie Catanzaro, Mary Francis Catan zaro. **Third Row:** Mike Lennartz, Mitchel Lefeld, Cindy Lefelc Amy Lefeld, Tony Catanzaro, Vincent Catanzaro.

JOSEPH H. AND MARCELLA LEFELD FAMILY

Joseph H. Lefeld, son of George and Bernadine (Schmackers) Lefeld of St. Henry, Ohio, married Marcella Hemmelgarn, daughter of Frank and Anna (Plieman) Hemmelgarn of Philothea, Ohio, on September 5, 1936 in St. Marys Catholic Church.

First years they were married they lived with Frank and Anna Hemmelgarn in Philothea. Joseph worked for the Hemmelgarn Egg Business until 1940. He managed the Sunoco Station in Coldwater until 1945. He and the late Roman Dues started an Implement store on the corner of W. North St. and N. Second St. in Coldwater. In 1950 Joe moved the welding and tire business to 512 N. Second St., Coldwater, now Lefeld Welding & Steel Supplies Inc.

Joseph and Marcella and three children moved to 495 W. North St., Coldwater in April of 1945.

Six children were born to them. The first son Melvin on October 24, 1938. He graduated from Coldwater High School and worked for his father in the welding business until his death due to a car accident the day of the Holy Name Rally October 24, 1958.

JoAnn, was born November 8, 1940, graduated from Coldwater High and Computer School in Dayton, Ohio. She worked in Dayton until she married Ronald Catanzaro son of Joseph and Viloa (Kluesner) Catanzaro of Dayton, Ohio, on July 11, 1959. They have five children Joyce born May 21, 1960, Lucie born December 13, 1961, Mary Francis born December 19, 1963, Vincent, born November 6, 1968 and Anthony, born June 9, 1972. Ronald is sales manager at Monarch Marking in Miamisburg, Ohio. They reside at 446 Carlwood Dr., Miamisburg, Ohio.

Stanley, was born April 21, 1944 attended Coldwater Schools, worked at New Idea while attending

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illege. He worked at Stole Co., Sidney, Ohio for a hile then joined his father in the welding business. e married Margie Kremer, daughter of Elmer and ilda (Bohman) Kremer of Chickasaw, Ohio, on July 1964. They have two girls, Cindy born May 13, 969 and Amy, born March 4, 1974. Stanley is a lesman at Lefeld Welding & Steel Supplies Inc. id a part of the corporation. He also is the Fire hief for Coldwater Fire Dept. They reside at 817 /. Vine St., Coldwater.

Linda, was born August 1, 1945. She attended oldwater Schools worked at Jutte's Foodliner as a iecker and Reynolds & Reynolds in Celina. She arried Donald Lennertz, son of William and Nettie Zaup) Lennertz of St. Peter on May 15, 1965. They ave one son Mike, born January 31, 1968. Donald orked for a short time at Lefeld Welding and at linster Machine, now is raising turkeys and doing irpenter work. They reside on Indiana-Ohio State ne Rd., Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

David, born May 8, 1950 attended Coldwater chools and Computer School in Ft. Wayne, Ind. He pent two years in service, ten months in Vietnam. /hen he returned from the Army he worked for his ther in the welding business.

He married Therese Rose, daughter of Edwin and lathilda (Evers) Rose of Cranberry, Ohio on Sept. 5, 1975. They have one son Mitchel born August 5, 1976. David joined the Lefeld Welding Corporaon in 1975 and is Shop Manager. They reside at 07 W. Market St., Coldwater.

Gary, born October 18, 1955 attended Coldwater chools, worked for Lefeld Welding and is a partme photographer for weddings etc. He has joined ie Lefeld Welding Corporation recently. He mared Vickie Kanney, daughter of Al and Della Brunswick) Kanney of Coldwater on July 15, 1978. hey reside at 345 W. Elixabeth St., Coldwater, hio. *Marcella Lefeld, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

OHN HENRY LENNARTZ

John Henry Lennartz, his wife Catharine Engles id three children came to the United States, spent me time in Cincinnati and them came to Mercer ounty buying land in Section 6 on 1 May 1849. wo more children were born in Ohio.

The John Henry Lennartz family were one of the irly settlers of Butler Township and helped in the lanning and building of St. Mary's Catholic Church 1851. John Henry became a naturalized citizen on 3 Mar. 1858.

Their children are Catherina Sybilla (1834-1922) arried Herman Henry Saalman; Henry (1836-1886) arried Anna Maria Winners; Gertrude (1839-1908) arried J. Henry Windker; Mary (1843-1871) maried John Wenning; and Agnes (1855).

John Henry was born in 1808 and died 21 Dec. 395 at the age of 87 years. Catharine, born 1812 ied 11 Oct. 1877 at the age of 65 and both are burd in St. Mary's Cemetery, Philothea.

Catharine Saalman had 6 children as listed under istory of Joseph Saalman.

Henry and Anna were married 5 May 1868 and ad 8 children — Anna Katherine (1869-1875), Mary gnes (1871), John Bernard (1873), Herman (1876), dward (1879), Bernadena, Elizabeth and Nettie 884).

Gertrude Windker had 8 children — Mary Elizabeth (1862), Catherine (1865), Henry (1866), Gertrude (1868-1901), Mary (1869), Pauline Agnes (1871), John Herman (1873), Anna Marie (1876).

Mary Wenning had a daughter Catherine (Katie), who married Mr. Ellis. *Prepared by: Roxanne Framme Hemmelgarn*

THE LOSHE FAMILY

John Lothschutz was born January 29, 1834 near Zweibrucken, Germany. He came to the United States in 1846 and became a citizen December 7, 1857 at Pottsville, Pa. where he worked in the coal mines.

As far as known he had two brothers; Jacob of Dunzweiler, Germany and Michael of Breidenbach, Germany. There might have been another brother Peter born September 26, 1846, but this information is not confirmed.

John Loshe, as his name was changed to later, met and married Amelia Omlor the daughter of John and Catherine "Johns" Omlor IV from Frankenholz, Germany.

John Omlor was born in the year 1803 and died January 26, 1867. Catherine was born November 12, 1803 and died January 5, 1896. Both are buried at New Riegel, Ohio.

John and Amelia Loshe are buried at St. Anthony, Ohio. John died October 10, 1905 and Amelia died December 15, 1935.

Their family had consisted of 8 boys and 4 girls: John born Aug. 21, 1865 died Apr. 10, 1945; Jacob born May 3, 1867 died Mar. 7, 1916; Joseph born Dec. 26, 1868 died Aug. 14, 1953; Anna born Feb. 17, 1870 died Jan. 31, 1888; William born Aug. 22, 1872 died Dec. 27, 1954; Mary (Kahlig) born July 15, 1874 died Feb. 2, 1952; Henry born Jan. 11, 1877 died Sept. 10, 1958; Amelia (Sanning) born Nov. 26, 1878 died Jan. 7, 1943; Elizabeth (May) born Oct. 9, 1880 died Apr. 4, 1957; Frank born Sept. 19, 1882 died Oct. 2, 1937; Peter born Sept. 19, 1884 died Jan. 3, 1948; Charles born Jan. 2, 1887 died Oct. 23, 1956.

Amelia married August Sanning May 6, 1902.

See the Sanning Family for furhter information. *Alfriedce or Betty Sanning, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

LOUIS AND ROSE (SPOLTMAN) MESCHER

Eberhard Holthause came to America around 1815 with his wife and children. His fourth child, Mary, was very young when they settled in Cincinnati. The family soon grew to include seven children: Eberhard, Jr., Henry, Joseph, Mary, Elizabeth, Catherine, and Angelica. Mary grew up in Cincinnati and there she met and married William Fiely.

William Fiely was born in Holland near the German-Dutch border. He sailed to New York as a young man and worked on board the ship for a few days before setting out for Cincinnati. He remained in the Ohio River town for two years, working at odd jobs. It was during this time he met and married Mary Holthause.

Shortly after the birth of their first son, the Fiely family moved north to Mercer County where they purchased 40 acres in Granville Township. The land

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was covered with trees and William's first task was to erect a shelter for his family since it was already the fall of the year. With only $5 and an axe, William constructed a rough log stable. He purchased a steer from a Mr. Spoltman and paid for it by work. The following summer, William carried brick for the St. Henry Church then under construction. With the money he earned, he bought another steer and soon made great progress clearing his farm. There were many hardships for the pioneer family but food was to be had for the taking. Wild game of all sorts was plentiful, and, to the Fiely family, necessary, since they didn't have enough land cleared to grow much of their own food.

After William cleared his land, he took to farming in a big way; eventually owning about 340 acres. He was the first owner of a reaper in his part of the county. It was a very awkward machine and while operating it, William lost his arm.

William and Mary were the parents of fourteen children: Mary, Elizabeth, Anna, Catherine, John H. Bernardina, Frances, Joseph, Bernard, Henry, Philomena, and Christina. Another daughter, Louise, died at age 18, and a son, Henry died in infancy. William Fiely died March 8, 1894 near Cranberry Prairie.

In 1849, forty-five years before William Fiely's death, John B. Spoltman arrived in the United States from Holland. His family accompanied him and they settled in Section 32 of Butler Township, northwest of the small village of Coldwater. The land was covered with virgin forest and the family's first task was to clear enough land to farm. The family prospered and in due time, John J. Spoltman, son of John B., assumed ownership of the land.

John J. was born in Holland on August 27, 1840, and came to America at the age of nine. He grew up on his father's farm and on June 3, 1870, he married Mary Fiely, oldest daughter of William and Mary (Holthause) Fiely.

John and Mary Spoltman lived on the farm of John B. Spoltman. Their neighbors to the east were Anton and Mary (Fischer) Mescher, both second generation Americans of German stock. The Mescher's had a family of eight children four boys and four girls. The son, Louis, married Rose the daughter of John and Mary Spoltman. Louis and Rose took over the farming operations of the Mescher Homestead. They were the parents of seven children: Carl, Ralph, Lucille, Linus, Wifred, Pauline, and Donald. *Charles Mescher, Celina, Oh. 45822*

WALTER DARST MYERS

Walter was born April 8, 1891 in Circleville, Ohio to John Wallace and Mary Catherine (Campbell) Myers. They were of German and Scotch Irish ancestory. He was the third child of a family of seven. His father worked all his life as an Engineer at the water dept. in that city. Walter grew up next door to Ted Lewis and remembers him practicing his horn. He had grade school education and worked at age nine in the canniers. As a young man he learned the milling and millwrigt trade.

At age 19 he came to St. Henry, Ohio as head miller at the St. Henry milling Co. He roomed with a Mrs. Barther at her rooming house and she became a close friend for life. He courted Altha Belle Dav whose father owned and operated the St. Henry El vator. The mother set down a rule — no shop tal this worked; they were married Dec. 21, 1914 l Rev. Leo Mytton. They drove to Coldwater by slei to catch a train for northern Ohio and Michigan.

Altha Belle's parents were Joseph and Laura Ell (Radabaugh) Davis; well-known and outstandi citizens. During W.W. I Walter worked many hou making flour for our troops and at times were bot ered with rumors of bombs by persons who were favor with the Germans. In 1919 he took the job Coldwater, at Fox and Hess Milling; worked there years as miller, millwright and engineer. Their hon was on a 3-acre lot at the south edge of Coldwate they planted an orchard and raised all their foo The barn was rented to men working at New Id Spreader Co. to keep their horses in while at wor many were colored men from Carthagina. Alth taught Walter math at night so he could take ar pass the tests to get his Engineer license. She did th testing of the flour by baking bread with the first the new wheat every year. Hobos were a commc sight along the tracks in back.

Four sons and one daughter were born and raise during the depression. The children learned bot town and country living. All the children had the 12 years of education at Coldwater High School; th boys all had further education. All the sons were the armed forces during 1941-1946 and a son-in-la During the war years Walter worked as an engine at Mersmans in Celina. The family belonged to th Presbyterian Church. Altha died in 1939 and Walt in 1970; both buried at Versailles, Ohio.

The children were: Walter Meyers Jr. 1916-197 married Edith Hyland, 1 son, 2 daughters; Carme Doris 1917 married Kenneth Wallick, 1 son; Howar Oliver 1920 married Laura Mae Luken, 5 sons; Fo est Joseph 1923, married Reba Moore, 1 son; Rog Kenneth 1924 married Vonola Barkley, 3 sons. *Ke neth Wallick*

ALFRED C. PAX

Alfred C. Pax was born in New Weston, Ohi March 18, 1930 — the son of Jacob G. Pax and Ar toinette Nordenbrock. In 1962 he married Marily Sue Stoecklein of Dayton, Ohio — daughter of Ec ward J. Stoecklein and Irene Wourms — born Janu ary 19, 1940.

After graduation from the University of Dayto and service in the United States Infantry, Alfred Pa taught mathematics and sciences at Marion Hig School, Maria Stein, Ohio. After obtaining his Mas ters degree in school administration from Notr Dame University he served as principal of Mario High School for a total of eight years at Marion. I 1961 he moved to Coldwater Schools serving tw years as a classroom teacher and since 1963 ha served as high school principal.

Sue Pax taught in the Coldwater elementar schools for several years, and has been an active vol unteer worker for the school, the cub scouts, and th community hospital.

Children in the family are Catherine, Linda, an Gregory. *Alfred C. Pax*

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PLEIMAN FAMILY

I am Arthur George Pleiman of 810 W. Vine St., ɔldwater, Ohio. I was born October 22, 1921 one ile south and ½ mile west of Coldwater, Ohio. My ırents were Joseph John Pleiman and Theresa Stahl eiman. My father was born Sept. 8, 1886 at the me place as I was and died Aug. 19, 1965. He was a rmer all his life. My mother was born Aug. 28, ;96 at Philothea and she died July 10, 1978. She fulled the duties of a farmer's wife.

My paternal grandparents were Joseph Pleiman ıd Theresa Zumberg Pleiman. Grandpa was a rmer, raised barns and had a sorghum factory. He as born in Mercer County in 1847, died May 31, ;96. Grandma was born in Hanover, Germany pril 24, 1856 and died November 9, 1941 on the rm one mile south and ½ mile west of Coldwater. ıe raised six of her children plus three stepıildren after her husband died when the oldest of ɛr children was 12 years old. My father was 10 en. I can still remember working in the fields with y grandmother when she was 80 years old.

My maternal grandparents were Henry Stahl 857-1925) and Agnes Brinkman Stahl (1867-1946).

I remember my mother and I cutting all our corn ı a sled when I was 12 years old. Later that year all e neighbors came over one day and finished the ll harvest.

I was the second oldest of nine children, five sisrs and three brothers. My oldest sister Alvera marɛd Florian Stelzer. They live at Philothea, Ohio. ıcille married Richard Fleck. She lives at R.R. Cela. Richard died about four years ago. Rose Ann arried Ralph Post and they live on a farm at R.R. . Henry, Ohio. Ernest married Emma Opperman ıd they live at Spencerville, Ohio. Alice married ɔnard Homan and their address is Maria Stein, hio. Robert married Betty Grilliot, and they live in ɔldwater, Ohio. Thomas married Marlyn Beeching ıd they live in Medina, Ohio. Marjorie married ıul Dirksen and they are farmers in Marion Twp., hio.

I worked for my father as a farmer until I was 22. I ıit school at the age of 13 to work at home. You e my father had TB and couldn't work for about a ɛar. These were trying years, the great depression the 30's were with us.

At age 22 I was drafted into the U.S. Navy and rved 2 years. This was during World War 2. After scharge from the Navy I learned Mechanical Reigeration using the GI Bill and that set the stage for e getting into the Appliance Business.

On December 26, 1944 I married Salome Dorothy ɛrgman at St. John Catholic Church, Maria Stein, hio. We have four children, two boys and two rls.

Arthur Joseph was born February 28, 1946 and he arried Joan Martin in Baltimore, Md. on July 8, ?72. They live in Kensington, Md. Joe is a stock ɔker. They have two sons, Arthur Joseph age 2 ıd Thomas George age 6 months.

Lorraine Catherine was born September 16, 1947. ıe married David L. Schwartz September 21, 1968. e was from Minster, Ohio. They now live in Coldater, Ohio. Their three children are Lisa 9, Brian 7, ıd Amy is 5. David is a machinist.

Mary Theresa was born June 4, 1954 and lives in Baltimore, Md. On June 24, 1978 she married Salvatore Anthony Jordan in Holy Trinity Catholic Church. His home was and is Baltimore, Md. He works for the State of Md. and Mary is an Interior Decorator.

Roy Jerome was born October 5, 1955. He lives at home and works for me at the store. He also is attending Wright State University Branch at Celina, Ohio.

I have been a Catholic all my life and presently belong to Holy Trinity Church in Coldwater. I am a member and past Grand Knight of Council 1991 K of C's. I am a life member and past Commander of American Legion Post 470 Coldwater, Ohio. Member and past President of the Coldwater Area Chamber of Commerce. Past President of the Coldwater Jaycees, past President of the Coldwater Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. Also a charter member of Coldwater Kiwanis and President this year. Member and President of Our Community Hospital Board of Governors.

I work full time at the Coldwater Home Supply which is my company. Many of my recreation hours are spent at my Ranch on the State Line. I enjoy the 26 acres of woods, fishing in the pond, and gardening. I enjoy traveling, have been to Europe 3 times and am going to Spain in October. I have been in most of our 50 states and plan to visit all before I die. *Arthur Pleiman*

PLEIMAN-BERGMAN

Since April 1964, 810 West Vine St., Coldwater, Ohio has been *home* to Mrs. Arthur (Salome Dorothy Bergman) Pleiman born 11-19-1924 in Maria Stein, Ohio, the youngest of five children in the family of Joseph C. Bergman and Catherine Schmitt Bergman; two miles south of Maria Stein on Huwer Road. Her parents built a new house on their farm before their marriage, 5-4-1915, and remained there through their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Joseph C. Bergman, born 4-30-1886 and died 11-23-1969, the sixth child of nine to Stephen C. Bergman and Anna Evers Bergman who were married in 1874. They also engaged in farming until their retirement when they moved into town on St. John's Road.

Stephen's father, H. Arnold and H. Arnold's brother Stephen, and their father, who died at 96, emigrated from Oldenberg, Germany. They purchased 240 acres in Marion Township from the U.S. Government in 1836. They had been sailors on the Atlantic Ocean and in Cincinnati they sold their vessels. H. Arnold's wife was Anna Honn Bergman. Stephen married Anna Evers, daughter of Frantz Evers and Mary Anna Frilling Evers.

On a farm just west of St. Peter, R. #2, Ft. Recovery, Ohio was where Catherine Schmitt Bergman, who was the oldest of ten children, was born 8-13-1893 to Bernard Schmitt, born 2-21-1869 and died 5-2-1944; and Anna Schoenlein Schmitt, born 10-5-1874 died 10-20-1918. They owned and farmed the land presently owned by Henry Grieshop. Bernard's parents were Clement Schmitt and Catherine Fullenkamp Schmitt both of Maria Stein.

Salome's brothers and sisters are: Wilfred who married Juliana Bensman, farms the homestead;

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Ann Rita, Mrs. Joseph Sanders, farm at Ft. Loramie, Ohio; Linus and his wife Rita Selhorst have a farm south of Egypt near Minster, Ohio; Merilda, Mrs. Herman Hoying, are farmers near Carthagena, Ohio.

Salome went to Puthoff grade school and had just one teacher through the eight grades, a very able educator, Vincent Muhlenkamp of St. Henry, Ohio.

On a bright and sunny winter morning 12-26-1944, Arthur and Salome were married in St. John's Church in Maria Stein. Arthur was in the U.S. Navy and after the wedding they lived in Galveston, Texas where southern hospitality abounded in full measure!

Arthur Joseph Pleiman, their first child, was born in St. Mary's Hospital, Galveston Island, 2-28-1946. Kensington, Md. is home to Joe and Joan Clarke Martin of Baltimore, Md. married 7-8-1972 and their two sons Arthur Joseph 2-22-1976 and Tommy George 3-19-1978.

After Arthur's discharge from the Navy they moved to a farm southwest of Coldwater. On 9-16-1947 Lorraine Catherine was born. She and David L. Schwartz of Minster, Ohio were married 9-21-1968 and reside in Coldwater with Lisa Mary 9-13-1969, Brian David 8-6-1971, and Amy Lorraine 4-7-1973.

After purchasing Coldwater Home Supply the family moved to 409 East Plum St. in November 1950 and became members of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

A second daughter, Mary Teresa 6-4-1954, a recent bride of Salvatore (Tony) Jordan of Baltimore, now lives in Randallstown, Md.

Roy Jerome, their fourth child was born 10-5-1955 and is attending Wright State University. *Salome Dorothy Pleiman*

BERNARD HENRY PLEIMAN

Bernard Henry Pleiman and his wife Catharine (Katie) Kraemer came from Hanover, Germany to the United States. It is not known if they married in Germany or Ohio. Their 7 children were born in Ohio. Bernard bought 160 acres of land in Section 6 of Butler Township on 4 May 1837.

Their children are Bernard Heinrick (1844), Gertrude (1845), Joseph (1848-1896), John Henry (1850), Mary (1851-1936), Mary Elizabeth (1854) and John Bernard (1856).

Bernard Henry, born 1803 died 8 Apr. 1880 at the age of 77 years. Catharine, born 1816 died 14 Jul. 1892 and both are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Philothea.

Bernard Heinrick Jr. (Ben) married Elizabeth Tebbe on 24 Aug. 1869 and had 7 children. Anna Marie (1871) married Joseph Schwegeman, Catharine Marie (1872), Anna (1874), Mary Elizabeth (1875), Mary Ann Catherine (1876), Catharine Elizabeth (1878) and Rosa (1881).

Joseph married Anna Catharine (Katie) Tebbe on 29 Apr. 1873 and had five children before Katie's death in 1881. Mary (1874), Elizabeth (1877) who married Henry Rentz, Katie (1875-1959) who married Carl Stukenberg, Bernard (1878), and Anna (1880). Joseph then married Theresa Zumberge on 12 Sept. 1882 and had 5 more children. Josephine (1884) married Joseph Wiemann, Joseph (188 Frances (1890) married Anthony Hemmelgarn, Ma Rose (1892), John Franciss (1894).

John Henry married Catherine Abels on 10 Ja 1882 and had 3 children Henry (1883), Bernard J seph (1886) and Jon (1888).

Mary married Theodor Homan on 11 May 18 and had 14 children as listed under History of The dor Homan.

Mary Elizabeth married Henry Homan on 30 Ap 1878. *Prepared by: Roxanne Framme Hemmelgarn*

Front Row: Debra, M dred, Edwin Preng **Back Row:** Daniel, Ke neth, Nicholas.

PRENGER

Herman Marcus Prenger and his wife Katherir (Middendorff) who was born in Oldenburg, Ge many, November 1, 1806, came from Dinklage, O denburg, Germany to America in 1838 with the two children Bernard and Maria Katharina, the tr took 11 weeks. Another son Herman Jr. was bo September 20, 1838 shortly after they came to th country. Herman Marcus Prenger bought a farm Northern Shelby County, Ohio. After Herman Ma cus death Katherina married Johann Matthi Melcher, who was born in 1803. Johann Matthi Melcher died in Minster, Ohio, August 27, 1876 an Katherina Prenger Melcher died in Minster, Ohi August 16, 1899, she was 92.

Herman Prenger Jr. was married to Catherir (Rolfes) in 1861. After Catherine (Rolfes) death He man Jr. married Catherine (Dahlinghaus) in 188 who was born in St. Rosa, Ohio, January 3, 1854 an was the daughter of Bernard and Mary (Mesche Dahlinghaus. Herman Jr. and Catherine had fi children Anna, Joseph, Henry, Frank and Bernar who died in infancy. Herman Jr. and Catherine an their family lived on a farm near Egypt, Ohio, whe Herman Jr. died February 7, 1904 and Catherir died September 26, 1935.

Henry Prenger was born August 15, 1890 an bought a farm near Maria Stein, Ohio. Henry ma ried his first wife Bernadine (Bergaman) in 191 who was born in Egypt, Ohio, August 18, 1896 an was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Bergama Henry and Bernadine had three children Alvin Norbert, and Leonard. After Bernadine's death Jul 2, 1921, Henry married Clara (Schlarman Rutschil ing) April 17, 1923, who was born in St. Rosa, Ohi March 16, 1896 and was the daughter of Henry an Mary (Heuker) Schlarman. Henry and Clara ha nine children Edwin, Viola, Werner, Delores, Mar Ann, Ralph, Alma, Cletus, and Therese. Henry an Clara have 77 grandchildren and 34 grea grandchildren. Henry Prenger died in Egypt, Ohi November 2, 1966. Clara is still living on the sam farm with her youngest son Cletus.

Edwin Prenger was born in Egypt, Ohio May 1 1924. Edwin served two years in the U.S. Army du

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g World War II. Edwin married Mildred (Kuess) ay 3, 1952, who was born in Chickasaw, Ohio, July ', 1927 and was the daughter of Roman and Justina vers) Kuess. Edwin bought a home in Coldwater, hio and works as a jobsetter for Avco New Idea. dwin and Mildred have four children Nicholas rn August 11, 1954, Kenneth born October 5, 55, Daniel born August 24, 1959, and Debra born ecember 1, 1964. *Written by: Daniel Prenger, Coldwater, h. 45828*

JOSEPH SAALMAN

Joseph Saalman, Anna (Hannah) (Windker) hristine his wife, and four year old son Herman enry landed in the US in Baltimore and arrived in lercer County, Ohio, from Ahaus, Hanover, Germany. He bought 80 acres in the SW quarter of Section 32 of Butler Township on 17 Jan. 1845. There is o record of any other children. Joseph was born 24 n. 1801 and died 26 Sept. 1893 at the age of 92. nna was born in 1799 and died 20 Aug. 1855 at the ge of 56. Both are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, hilothea.

There have only been 9 male descendants of Joph Saalman who carried the name SAALMAN, nd 5 are living in 1978.

There was a Mrs. Gertrude Saalman born 1801 nd died 27 Aug. 1877 who lived with Joseph Saalan. She was either wife #2 or sister-in-law.

Joseph Saalman was one of the first German seters of the St. Mary's, Philothea parish. He was reponsible for providing food and assistance in nabling new settlers to survive the first winter.

HERMAN HENRY SAALMAN

Herman Henry Saalman, born 1 Apr. 1840 in haus, Hanover, Germany, arrived in this country ith his parents when he was four years old and ame to Mercer County, Ohio, in 1845. See History Joseph Saalman, his father, for more details.

Herman Henry married Catherina Sybilla Lenartz, daughter of John Henry Lennartz and Catharne Engles at St. Mary's Church, Philothea on 23 ov. 1865. They had six children: Joseph John (1866-954) married Katharine Homan; John Henry (1868-917); Gertrude (1870-1947) married Jacob Heyne; gnes (1872-1935); Catharine (1874-1946) married ernard Haslinger; and Antonetta (Nettie) (1878-959). Herman died 30 Sept. 1911 at the age of 71 ears and his wife Catharine, born 20 Dec. 1834 died Dec. 1922 at the age of 88 years. Both are buried in t. Mary's Cemetery.

Herman Henry Saalman was a co-founder of the larion Mutual Insurance Company.

JOSEPH JOHN SAALMAN

Joseph John Saalman, son of Herman Henry Saalan (1840-1911) and Catherina Sybilla Lennartz 834-1922) was born on 15 Oct. 1866 at Philothea, hio. He married Katharine Homan, daughter of heodore Homan (1847-1924) and Mary Pleiman (1851-1936) on 7 Aug. 1900 at St. Mary's, Philothea. They had eight children: Katheryn (1901) married Norbert Hemmelgarn; Marie (1902-1931) married Henry Severt; Herman H. (1904) married Eleanor Knapke; Verona (1907) married Clarence Johnsman; Julia (1910) married Clem Hemmelgarn; Alma (1912) married Lawrence Schlater; Roman (1914) married Rosemary Hoying; and Clarence (Bill) (1916-1946). Joseph John Saalman died 6 Jan. 1954 at the age of 87 years, and his wife Katharine who was born 15 Jan. 1878, died on 29 Jul 1916 at the age of 38 years. Both are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.

ROMAN BERNARD SAALMAN

Roman Bernard Saalman, son of Joseph John Saalman (1866-1954) and Mary Katharina (Katherine) Homan (1878-1916) was born on 11 Aug. 1914 at Philothea, Ohio. He married Rosemary K. Hoying who was born on 19 Oct. 1923 at St. Patrick's, Shelby County, Ohio. Rosemary K. Hoying is the daughter of William Hoying (1893) and Regina Bernard (1902). Roman Saalman and Rosemary Hoying had seven children: Joyce Ann (1946) married Neal Muhlenkamp; Gloria Jean (1948) married Herbert Brackman, Jr.; Clarence J. (Bill) (1949) married Karen Moore; Joseph Jacob (1951-1971); Marilyn Janet (1953) married William Freytag; Jacqueline Sue Grace (1959); and Gerard John (1962).

Joyce Saalman and Neal Muhlenkamp have four children: Matt (1971), Krista (1972), Mark (1975), and Kara Marie (1978).

Clarence (Bill) Saalman and Karen Moore have two children: Elizabeth (1975), and Katherine (1977).

Marilyn Saalman and William Freytag have one child: Melissa Ann (1977). *Roman Saalman, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

THE SANNING FAMILY

August Sannig was born September 25, 1865.

He and his sister, Mary, came to the United States in 1883 from Eastern Germany. The town might have been Kansinka but that is not verified. It took them 17 days to travel to New York. They came to this area because distant cousins, the Metzner's, resided here.

He became a citizen May 23, 1888.

At first August traveled as a hobo by train to see this country trying to decide where he would want to settle. The Dakotas were one of his destinations.

At some time during this period he decided to change the spelling of his name by adding an N, SANNING, to Americanize it.

On May 6, 1902 he married Amelia Loshe in Padua, St. Anthony Parish, Ohio. They were married by Rev. M. Flalz and the witnesses were Joe Loshe, Joseph Heckler, Elizabeth Metzner, and Rose Bettinger.

After marrying they lived on a farm he had cleared himself located one mile north of Coldwater.

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His sister Mary and her husband John Heckler lived on the next farm to the south.

During his lifetime he served as a trustee for Butler township and was noted for raising silver mane and tail horses.

August and Amelia had nine children: Albert, July 14, 1903-April 21, 1964; Bertha, 1906-1914; Leo, October 8, 1908-December 30, 1975; Helen, December 25, 1910-April 23, 1975; Julius, July 27, 1913-February 26, 1964; Clarence, August 29, 1915; Dorothy, October 9, 1917; Alvera, March 6, 1920; Herbert, April 7, 1923-June 28, 1944.

They attended Holy Trinity Catholic Church and school in Coldwater.

Albert married Louise Reigelsperger July 27, 1926 and had sons Robert and Richard. He owned Sanning's Service Station in Coldwater and lived near Philothea.

Bertha died at the age of eight from diptheria.

Leo was never married. He lived with his brother Albert near Philothea. He was employed by the New Idea Co.

Helen married Paul Kaiser October 9, 1943 and had one daughter, Judy. They resided and owned Paul's Place in Fort Recovery.

Clarence lives on a farm northeast of Coldwater. He has never married.

Dorothy married Herbert Gaerke June 15, 1940. They lived on a farm near Burkettsville and had six children; Shirley, Ronald, Robert, Kenneth, James, and Joan. They now reside in Coldwater.

Alvera married Arthur Wehrkamp September 21, 1940. They lived on a farm near Sharpsburg for many years then moved into the town. They had seven children; William, Kathleen, Ruth, Carolyn, Margie, Don, and Marybeth.

Herbert was never married. He was killed in Burma while serving in the Army.

My father, Julius, married Alfrieda Dorsten September 18, 1943 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Montezuma, Ohio. They resided on his father's farm north of Coldwater and had five children; Patricia, Betty, Marilyn, Marvin, and Janice.

We attended Holy Trinity schools and church as our aunts and uncles did and now: Patricia born August 6, 1944 married James Sudhoff September 6, 1965. After working at the Reynolds and Reynolds Co. she is now the mother of sons William (January 22, 1967) and Daniel (December 26, 1969). They live on a farm near Trinity, Indiana.

Betty born October 16, 1947 works at the Reynolds and Reynolds Co. and lives at home.

Marilyn born August 9, 1949 married Tom Bruns September 26, 1970. After working at the Reynolds and Reynolds Co. she is now the mother of three children; Robert (August 11, 1972), Theresa (February 13, 1974), and Joanna (March 16, 1975). They reside in St. Henry.

Marvin born June 30, 1954 graduated from the Nashville Auto Diesel College and worked as a diesel mechanic at Greenville Mfg. Co. until his death July 23, 1977 resulting from a motorcycle accident.

Janice born June 9, 1955 married Richard Bertke September 3, 1977. She works at the Jamesway Discount Store and lives in Celina.

August, Amelia, Albert, Leo, Julius, Herbert, and Marvin are buried at Coldwater. Helen is buried at Fort Recovery. *Alfrieda or Betty Sanning, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

Henry and Esther (Nordenbrock) Schenking

HENRY SCHENKING FAMILY

Henry Schenking (1905-1970) was one of twel children of Bernard Schenking (1862-1931) ar Catherine Dabbelt (1869-1944). He was born ar raised in St. Anthony.

In 1934, Henry married Esther Nordenbroc (1913-1968), the youngest daughter of Anton (186 1923) and Anna Moorman Nordenbrock (1866-193 of Burkettsville. There were four children: Joh (Jack), born in 1935, who married Kathleen Lidc from Dayton, Ohio, has 3 children, Mark, Dan, ar Karen, and resides in Coldwater; Frederick (Frec born in 1937 who married Marg Bricker from Por land, Indiana, lives in Dayton and has four childre Susan, Michael, Lisa, and Steven; Ann, born in 194 who married Tom Knapke from Coldwater, has children, Gregg and Beth, and lives in Coldwate Elaine, born in 1946, who married Elsworth Rocqu Kramer from Washington, D.C. and lives in Arlin ton, Virginia.

Upon completion of high school at Washingtc Township in 1923, Henry worked for his brother Jc at the Home Bakery in Coldwater until 1934 whe Paul and Henry bought out their brother Joe. Th partnership continued until 1944 when it was pu chased by Joseph Weiskittle. Henry then purchase Hole's General store in Montezuma, at which tim Esther joined Henry in the management of the bus nesses. They operated the store until 1949 when was decided to move back to Coldwater. In 195 Henry purchased Albert Rammel's interest in th Coldwater Oil Co. With the inclusion of the elde son, Jack, as a partner in 1963, the business becam the Coldwater Oil Co. Inc. Due to the illness Henry in 1962, Esther became the manager and cor tinued operating the business. The son, Jack, toc over in 1965 when Esther became ill and is currentl president of the company.* (See Coldwater Oil Co. hi tory)

Henry and Esther were active in community an church affairs. Their personal enjoyment of exce ling in academics and athletics was evident i Henry's participation in K of C basketball in th 1920's and 1930's, and in their involvement in th interests of their children. A love of music was ir stilled in the children by Esther who had a fine voic and played the piano. She was also a fine seam stress. *Mrs. Thomas Knapke*

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JOHN H. SCHENKING FAMILY

John (Jack) was born in 1935, the eldest son of enry and Esther Nordenbrock Schenking. He grad-ıted from grade school in Montezuma, Ohio where s parents owned a general store. After graduation om Coldwater High School in 1953, he enrolled at e University of Dayton earning a degree in me-ıanical engineering in 1959. Returning to Coldwa-r, he worked at New Idea in product design. Soon ter a stroke incapacitated his father, he joined the oldwater Oil Co.* (see company history)

Jack met his wife, Kathy Liddy in 1963. She had een born in 1940 in Dayton, Ohio, the second ıughter of Robert and Catherine Kisner Liddy. She aduated in 1958 from Julienne High School and ıen entered the University of Dayton where she ırned a "cadet" degree in elementary education in 960. Kathy accepted her first teaching assignment age 19, at Our Lady of the Rosary school, the rade school she had attended. She furthered her ducation at night school and graduated with a B.S. ı elementary education in 1963. That year she and friend, Louise Hand, came to Coldwater to teach chool.

Jack and Kathy were married at Our Lady of the osary Church in Dayton, Ohio, in April 1964. They ave three children, Mark presently a fifth grader ho was born in 1967; Dan a fourth grader born in 968, and Karen a kindergarten student, born in 972. Together the family enjoys traveling, fishing nd boating, wood crafts, scouting, and music. *Mrs. homas Knapke, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

Ice Cream Parlor in Schindler's Drug Store about 1916

RALPH & RUTH SCHINDLER

Grandparents on my father's side were; Stephen chindler born 1835 in Germany, died 1895, and nna Mary Rist born 1830 in Germany, died 1897. hey were married April 25, 1864 in Auglaize ounty, lived in New Bremen for a time where their wo children Gustave and Charles were born. Ste-hen Schindler worked on the canal before joining he army, Co. C 37th Ohio Vol. Inf. on Aug. 25, 1861, the Company being made up of men from the New Bremen and St. Marys area. He served a 3 year term which included action in the Vicksburg Siege, Missionary Ridge, and the Atlanta campaign. From New Bremen they moved to a farm near Skeels Cross Roads in Mercer Co. and later to a farm in the Trinity area of Jay County, Indiana. They were members of Holy Trinity parish, New Corydon, Ind. and are buried in the church cemetery.

My father Charles E. Schindler (Jan. 15, 1869-July 11, 1949) taught school for several years before attending Pharmacy College at Ohio Northern, Ada, from which he graduated in 1894. He opened a drug store in Coldwater in 1895 and this store was family operated for 82 years until its closing in Dec. 1977. He married Mary E. Laux (Dec. 19, 1872-Nov. 2, 1953) in 1894 in Holy Trinity Church, New Corydon, Ind. and their children were: Victoria, Alfred, Ralph, Stephen, Cyril, Helen, Agnes and Paul. Charles E. Schindler patented several inventions the most practical of which was a contact measuring device, in 1908. He was an active member of the Republican Party and served as Postmaster of Coldwater for 12 years from 1921 to 1933.

My mother Mary E. Laux was the daughter of John Laux born Aug. 14, 1839 in Germany, died July 22, 1915. He came to this country in 1844 when his father Peter Laux brought his family and settled in Lorain County, Ohio. The family came to Wabash Twp., Jay County, Indiana in 1860. John Laux enlisted in Co. E. 84th Indiana Vols. in August, 1862. After seeing action at Chickamauga and other battles he was wounded at the battle of Kennesaw Mountain in June 1864. After spending most of the next year in hospitals and on leave he was discharged on account of disability in May 1865 and returned home. Jan. 9, 1866 he married Elizabeth Stelzer in Holy Trinity Church, New Corydon, Ind. Their nine children were: Veronice, Rosa, Frances, Mary, Joseph, Victoria, Helena, John and Frank.

Ralph A. Schindler born April 13, 1899 in Coldwater, graduated from Coldwater High 1916, received degree in Pharmacy in 1920 from Wilmington College, Veteran of World War 1. Worked in Schindler's Drug Store Coldwater 14 years, then with brother Paul operated Schindler's Drug Store in Celina for 40 years 1934 to 1974.

Ruth E. Smith born Dec. 29, 1911 in Monnette, Ohio daughter of Christian Smith and Charlotta Monnette, the Smith family coming to this country from Germany and her mother Charlotta Monnette being of French extraction. Ruth graduated Spencerville High in 1930 and from St. Rita School of Nursing in 1933, worked as registered nurse in Lima and for a time in Gibbons Hospital Celina.

Ralph Schindler and Ruth Smith married July 17, 1940 in Holy Trinity Church Coldwater. Their four children are: Patricia, Robert, Elaine and James. There are four grandchildren: Patricia married to Edw. A. Golda of Remsen, N.Y. and living in Huntington, Conn. They have a daughter, Melanie. Robert married Jackie Emch of Woodville, Ohio and living in Maumee, Ohio. They have a daughter Andrea and a son Mark. Elaine married to Willard H. Frazier of New York and living in Napa, Calif. They have a daughter, Kimberly. James married Judy Winner of North Baltimore, Ohio and living in New Orleans, La. *Ralph A. Schindler, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

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JAMES SCHMACKERS & GERALDINE HECKMAN

James G. Schmackers was born on August 25, 1940 at Gibbons Hospital Celina, Ohio. He is the third son of Henry G. and Anna M. Lefeld Schmackers. James entered school at St. Henry at the age of 6 in September of 1946. After graduation he entered St. Henry High School and graduated in May of 1958. While he was in high school he was active in FFA all four years. He held the position of Vice President of FFA in his senior year. He was also on the FFA team that placed first in the Ohio State Hereford Judging Contest, in 1958. During his Senior year he worked for Beckman and Gast Canning Company. After graduation he got a job at Hemmelgarn & Sons Inc. After fifteen years with them he quit and started his own business, in 1975 which is called Superior Foods. On September 26, 1959 James and Geraldine Heckman were married in St. Henry's Church, St. Henry, Ohio. They are the parents of the following children Michael J., David V., Douglas L., Joan M., Sandre A., Debra J., and Tom M. James and Geraldin owned their first home in Philothea, Ohio on Tangeman Rd. Later they sold that home and built a new one on the lot north of them.

Geraldine is the daughter of Leander B. and Loretta A. Braun Heckman of St. Henry, Ohio. After graduation Geraldine worked at Avco New Idea for two years until the birth of their first son Michael. In 1971 she applied and was accepted at Hemmelgarn and Son. She worked there until January 1978.

As of this writing Michael is also associated with his father in Superior Foods. The Schmacker family are of Catholic faith and attend St. Mary's Church in Philothea, Ohio.

James also farmed with his father until Henry's death in 1963. *Marceil L. Wenning*

Mr. and Mrs. Schroer

SCHROER

For over a century, Schroers have lived on the forty-acre farm located at the corner of State Route 219 and Fleetfoot Road east of Coldwater. The history of the farm, however, predates Schroer ownership and contains names familiar to many Mercer Countians. According to a document dated 1837 and signed by President Martin Van Buren, the first owner was John Reed who purchased the land from the General Land Office of the United States. Later the land was acquired by Henry and Elizabeth Snider who sold it to Henry Snider, Jr., in 1873. That same year Henry Snider, Jr., and Catharine sold a ten-acre strip off the west side of the farm to Henry Schockman and Anton Rhine. In 1874, Henry and Barbara Schockman and Anton and Theresa Rhine sold the parcel to Bernard Strethold. In 1876 Bernard and Anna Strethold sold the land back to Henry Schockman. George Lucas Schroer purchased tl ten-acre tract from Henry and Barbara Schockm in 1877 and purchased the remaining thirty acr from the Henry Snider family in 1879. After tl death of George Lucas Schroer, his son, Henry H purchased the farm from the other heirs in 192 Following the death of Henry H. and of his widov Rose, the farm was purchased from the other hei by Henry E. and Emerita Schroer Schulte in 1976.

George Lucas Schroer was born May 23, 1838 Recke, Westphalia, Germany. He migrated to Ci cinnati where he became a United States citizen c April 4, 1864. He married Anna Bruns in Cincinna on January 25, 1867. Anna Bruns was born Ann Purk on June 3, 1840, daughter of Gerhard Heinric and Helena Purk of Hanover, Germany. After th death of Gerhard Purk, his widow along wit daughter Anna and son John migrated to Cincinnat It was around this time, for reasons unknown, th their surname was changed to Bruns.

In 1877 or 1878 George and Anna Schroer loade their possessions and their children aboard a can boat on the Miami-Erie Canal in Cincinnati to d sembark eventually at New Bremen and to journe to their newly-purchased farm east of Coldwate Their first house was a log cabin on the ten-acı plot; their second house was a log cabin located nea the site of the present farm house which was built i 1902. George and Anna Schroer were the parents c seven children, some of them born in Cincinnati an some of them born after the move to Coldwate There were two sons, Henry H. and Anton, and fiv daughters, Anna Wischer, Josephine Billerma Wynk, Rose Busemeyer, Frances Zerhusen, an Catherine (Sister Mary Emerita, C.P.P.S.). Georg Lucas Schroer died in Coldwater in 1903. After h death, his widow, Anna, lived on the farm with he son and daughter-in-law, Henry and Rose Schla gheck Schroer, until her death in 1920.

Henry H. Schroer was born on March 24, 1874, i Cincinnati. His early schooling was in the Burnt wood School, a little red schoolhouse on what i now the Siegrist-Jutte Road. He later attended Ohi Northern University and earned teacher certifica tion. His teaching appointments included elemer tary classes in the Philothea school, the Wennin School west of Coldwater, the Dahlinghouse Schoc on U.S. 127, and the Coldwater Public School. Whil teaching in Coldwater, he also taught classes in Ger man in the high school. He left teaching for a time to become the Deputy Treasurer of Mercer County during the tenure of John Albers (c. 1911-13). In 1919, he left teaching and assumed a position as clerk and later as assistant postmaster of the Cold water Post Office. (At the time he joined the post of fice staff, the postmistress was Anna Fox and the other members of the staff were all women.) While holding these several positions, Henry Schroer farmed the land and continued to do so after his re tirement from the post office in 1939 until forced by advanced age to rent out the land. Throughout his life, he served on many committees at Holy Trinity Church and held various offices in the St. Joseph's Men's Society, the Holy Name Society, the Knights of Columbus, and the Knights of St. John. He diec on December 25, 1963.

Rose Schlagheck was born on February 6, 1886 in Minster. Her Grandfather Schmiesing had migrated

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)m Prussia to Cincinnati and had traveled up the iami-Erie Canal seeking farm land. In Minster, the nal boat was quarantined because of a cholera epimic. He survived the epidemic and eventually set-d on a farm nearby. His daughter, Josephine, mar-:d Herman Schlagheck and they lived for a time in :th Minster and St. Henry but soon moved to To-lo where Herman Schlagheck was a cabinet maker the shipyards. They had three daughters, Rose hroer, Mildred Markwood, and Eunice Dancer, d four sons, Louis, Harry, Charles, and Edward.

Rose Schlagheck Schroer began her education in e Toledo schools but attended grade eight in Cold-ıter while living with her aunt and uncle, the Has-ıgers, who operated a general store in Coldwater. :r teacher that year was John Albers (later presi-nt of the People's Bank in Coldwater) who urged r to attend high school. She returned to Toledo to :end and graduate from Toledo High School in 02 at the age of sixteen. She continued her educa-)n at the Toledo Normal School and earned ıcher certification at the age of eighteen. Because her young age, she at first could get only substi-te teaching jobs but eventually got a full time job Navarre Elementary School in Toledo. She taught total of five years before her marriage to Henry hroer on August 24, 1909 in Toledo. After her ar-val in Coldwater, she became active in many civic ıd church organizations. She was a member of the)ldwater Unity Club, the Coldwater Garden Club, e Delphian Study Club, and was active in Mercer)unty Extension work. She served as president of e Ladies' Altar Sodality of Holy Trinity Church ıd was local and district president, and for many :ars district organizer, of the Ladies' Auxiliary of e Knights of St. John. She died on April 3, 1974.

Except for a few years when they lived "in town" ıd a few years when they lived in Celina, Henry ıd Rose Schroer spent their married life on the mily farm. Their seven children all graduated from)ldwater High School and went on to some form higher education. Marcella attended Lima Busi-:ss College and the University of Cincinnati, orked in an office in Cincinnati, married Ben H. ihman, and lives near Sidney. Helene attended ma Business College, worked in offices in Lima ıd at New Idea in Coldwater, married Philip W. aas, and lives on Seminole Island on Indian Lake. Villiam earned an M.D. degree from The Ohio ate University and practiced medicine in Ft. Lora-ie until his death in 1969. His wife is the former len Boyer of Miamisburg. John (Jack) attended iss College in Columbus and was an accountant at ew Idea in Coldwater and later at Goodyear in St. arys until his death in 1961. His wife is the former)se Agnes (Biddy) Dorian of St. Marys. Rosemary rned a B.S. Ed. degree from Bowling Green State niversity with majors in mathematics and science. ıe taught several years in Spencerville, in the eveland area, and in Coldwater. She now works in e Bureau of Weights and Measures in Washing-n, D.C. George earned an M.D. degree from The hio State University, practiced medicine for a ımber of years in Sidney, and now practices in Ft.)ramie. He is married to the former Mildred Hoy-g of St. Patrick. Emerita earned a B.S.Ed. degree)m Bowling Green State University, an M.Ed. de-ee from Miami University, and a Ph.D. degree from The Ohio State University. She taught for a number of years in Mercer County schools and in Coldwater and at Miami University and The Ohio State University. She is now Professor of English at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. She is married to Henry E. Schulte and they live on the Schroer family farm. *Emerita Schroer Schulte, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

FERDINAND SELHORST FAMILY

Ferdinand Selhorst married Theresia Hemmelgarn on November 9, 1915 in St. Wendelin. They had three sons and four daughters. They are: Ludwig; Mrs. Ray (Juliana) Wilker; Mrs. Homer (Clara) Schieltz; Mrs. Wilfred (Frances) Klenke; and Henry, all of Coldwater, and Bernard, North Star, Ohio. A daughter, Odelia Bruggeman, passed away in Columbus, Ohio in 1967, leaving eleven children. Odelia and Frances had a double wedding on September 4, 1948, and each had eleven children.

Ferdinand purchased sixty acres, which made his farm a total of 140 acres. In 1950, Ferd and Theresia moved to the town of Coldwater, and Bernard and his wife took over the farm. Theresia passed away in 1963 at the age of 69 and Ferd in 1970, at 81 years of age.

In 1954, Wilfred and Frances Klenke moved to the farm, and Bernard and his family moved to North Star, so that Bernard could help his father-in-law in the implement business. *Mrs. Wilfred Klenke*

Back Row, L. to R.: Ben Selhorst, Mrs. Frank Hoyng (Eleanora); Anthony Selhorst; Mrs. Roman Hoyng, (Clara); Ferdinand Selhorst. **Front Row:** Mrs. Henry Forsthoefel (Agnes); Mrs. John Selhorst, (Philomena); Mr. John Selhorst; Mrs. Al Gels (Anna).

THE JOHN SELHORST FAMILY

John Selhorst immigrated to Butler Township in Mercer County from Westphalia, Germany in approximately 1874. On February 22, 1876 he married Philomena Kemper from St. Henry, Ohio. They were married in the old Abbey Church of St. Charles Seminary at Carthagena, Ohio by Reverend Henry Drees, C.P.P.S., a well known pioneer priest. They raised three sons and four daughters. Daughters were, Mrs. Henry (Agnes) Forsthoefel; Mrs. Al (Anna) Gels; Mrs. Frank (Eleanora) Hoying; Mrs. Roman (Clara) Hoying, who resides in Coldwater, and is the only living member. Sons were: Anthony, Ben, and Ferdinand Selhorst, all of which are deceased. *Mrs. Wilfred Klenke*

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SHIVELY

David Shively of section 23, Butler township, Mercer county was born October 3, 1803 in Clermont county, Ohio, the son of Isaac D. and Lydia Miller Shively. His mother died before he was two years old so with his Father and Grandfather David Millers families, lived a time in Hamilton and Butler counties, Ohio as they moved northwest. Isaac D. died in 1823 in Montgomery county, Ohio.

David married Hannah Clapp, a daughter of John and Mary Clapp and she died in 1842 in Dark county, Ohio leaving Children: Mary Ann born 1827; Lydia 1830; Wm. M. 1833 who died at Shiloh in 1862; Harvey 1836, married Sarah Jane Lacy; Abraham W. 1839, a familiar figure about the store of nephew J. W., died 1925 at home of another nephew David at Bryant, Indiana; David M. born 1841 and also died in civil war.

In 1843 David married Mrs. Esther (Angle) Rush and with their family moved to Butler township ca. 1851. Their children were John who died in infancy; Isaac born 1847 and raised one daughter and nine sons, the last surviving, Ray, died in Feb. of 1978; Jacob Calvin born 1851, has children living in Shelby and Auglaize county; and Esther who died age 6 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Shively are both buried in Burntwood Cemetery on Coldwater Creek road, he having died in July of 1883 and she in Feb. of 1888. *Florence Gause, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

HARVEY SHIVELY

Harvey Shively of section 17 in Butler township, Mercer county was born in Dark county, Ohio March 4, 1836 and died Jan. 29, 1916 in Mercer county. He was the son of David and Hannah Clapp Shively and was a farmer all his life. He married Sarah Jane Lacy who was born in 1840 the daughter of Job and Margaret Hickman Lacy and they became the parents of six children: Anna born in 1859 married John Shatto; Phoebe 1863 died young; Margaret S. born 1865 married Oliver Findley; David born 1867; and twins Sarah Elmira (married Henry Schwartz) and Levi (married Effie Smith) born in 1871. Mrs. Shively died in 1892 and they are both buried in Swamp cemetery.

David (no middle name) Shively was born in Mercer county August 24, 1867, married Ida Belle Burris born 1870 the daughter of Martin and Margaret Woods Burris and had the following children: Fanny born 1890 married Chas. Leonard, died 1912 and is buried at Swamp; Roy E. 1891-1962 married Ida May Hole, buried at Swamp; Floyd E. 1894-1971 is buried in Michigan; Margaret E. 1896-1970, married Roy Mills and raised a family in Celina, is buried in Gravel Hill, Jay County; Harley Elwood 1899-1972, for last several years was president of the Old Buck school reunion, is buried also in Gravel Hill; Louise 1901 — married Arley Young, lives Muncie, Indiana; Clyde 1905-1968 also buried Michigan; Beryal 1907-1972 buried at Muncie; and Velma E. born 1912 married Ed Steinke and lives in Muncie.

In ca. 1916 David and family moved west in to Jay county, Indiana where his wife died in 1925. He died in Delaware county in 1945 and both are buried at Swamp. *Florence Gause, Rockford, Oh 45882*

LEVI (LEE) SHIVELY

Levi (Lee) Shively was born on a farm in But Township, Mercer County, Ohio, of Pennsylva Dutch ancestry.

His grandfather, David Shively, was born in Cl mont County, Oct. 10, 1803. In 1824, he marr Hannah Clapp, daughter of John and Mary Clapp, Darke County. To this union were born six childr Mary Ann, Lydia, William, Harvey, Abraham, a David M.

Following the death of Hannah in 1842, Da married Esther Angle Rush. Their children we John, Isaac, Jacob Calvin, and Elizabeth.

In 1851, David moved his family to Mer County.

Two of David's sons, William and David M. di in the Civil War. Abraham also served, and fou in many of the most important battles. Harvey, ther of Lee Shively enlisted, but was not sent ir combat because of his youth. He served as a bugle

In 1857, Harvey married Sarah Jane Lacy, daug ter of Job and Mary Margaret (Hickman) Lacy. Th children were: Anna, David, Margaret, twins L and Elmira, and Phoebe.

Lee Shively was brought up in the German Bapt (Dunkard) faith. He had only a few years of form education, but had an alert mind. He enjoyed givi his children the answers to their Algebra and Arit metic problems without benefit of paper and pen while they struggled to work them out on paper.

As a young man, Lee worked in the Willshi Ohio area, hauling ship timber. He later spent sor time in Ft. Recovery, where he learned the plasteri trade.

On August 26, 1897, Rev. Franklin Cordier offi ated at the marriage of Lee Shively and Effie Smith, daughter of Jacob and Laura (Olive) Smit To this union were born the following childre Opal, Otis, Lillian, Arvesta, Laura, Vernon, Valo Loren, Paul, Myrna, and Edwin. Two of these ch dren, Laura and Loren, died in infancy. Lee's fath Harvey, made his home with them for the first eig teen years of their marraige. His presence was e joyed by the family. He often helped care for t children.

Lee Shively spent most of his life working at t plastering and mason trade. His sons have follow this trade, with two of them making it their life work. During World War II, when help was difficu to obtain, Mr. Shively came out of retirement to s pervise much building, because he felt that the was a need for his services.

Mr. and Mrs. Shively moved into their retireme home in Erastus in 1945. Here Mr. Shively had beautiful flower garden. In addition to caring for h flowers, and doing some wood working, he did vo unteer work, such as caring for the lawn and shru bery at the Methodist Church, and doing odd jo for his neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Shively celebrated their Golde Wedding Anniversary in 1947. Three years late Mrs. Shively passed away. Mr. Shively was able t stay in his own home until after his ninety-secon birthday. He spent his last few months with daughter in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He died at the ag of ninety-two years, eight months and twenty-fou days. Among his descendants are twenty-one grand

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ldren.
Mr. Shively was highly respected in the commu-
y in which he lived, because of his kindness and
pfulness to neighbors and friends. *Mrs. Ed Glass,*
ina, Oh. 45822

Back Row: Elaine, Kenneth, Diana, Melinda. **Middle Row:** Michelle, Kevin, Christopher. **Front Row:** RoseAnn, Eric, Roger, Kathleen Siefring, Roger F. Siefring Family.

THE ROGER F. SIEFRING FAMILY

Roger Francis Siefring, tenth of twelve children of rnard and Pauline (Dues) Siefring was born Feb. 1936 on a farm 1½ miles northwest of Philothea. attended grade school at Philothea Special, a o-room, modern brick, built next to the Catholic urch. Miss Clara Moeder was his teacher the first ır years, the same teacher who taught the rest of brothers and sisters.

During the summer, Roger and his brothers rode ir bicycles to Mass, seldom ever missing a morn-. The rest of the day was spent helping with farm ores and always managing to get a softball game too.

n 1950, Roger started high school at Coldwater. this time the Korean War was going on and three his older brothers were drafted. So when Roger ished his sophomore year, he quit school and yed home to help his father do the farming. By 56, his other brothers home from service, Roger cided to join the Army Reserve. He served six nths active duty and then attended weekly meet-s and summer camp for 4 years to complete his ligation.

Rose Ann was born April 1, 1940, the youngest of boys and six girls born to Julius and Anna inkeljohn) Moeder on their farm 1½ miles west St. Henry. When she was six years old, she began ıool in St. Henry. When Rose Ann began the ırth grade, her sister Mary Adeline went to the ıvent to become a nun, thus leaving Rose Ann me with five brothers, as all her older sisters and oldest brother had gone to Dayton to work after ıduation. So she played baseball, football, and sketball with her brothers and learned to like all orts. She played the piano, played in the school ıd, sang in the glee club and church choir and er played for the Chickasaw Chicks girls' softball m.

n 1958, Rose Ann graduated from St. Henry High ıool and soon after began doing office work at the ynolds & Reynolds Co. in Celina. In the fall of 58 she began dating Roger Siefring and on anksgiving Day, November 24, 1960, they were rried at St. Henry.

They moved on their farm one mile west of Philothea which was purchased in 1957 by Roger's father from Leo Uppenkamp. Another forty adjoining acres was bought from Herman and Victor Kremer and in 1965 another forty acres was bought from John Steggeman.

They raised their family of nine children here. They are: Diana (1961), Kenneth (1962), Melinda (1963), Elaine (1965), Kevin (1966), Christopher (1967), Michelle (1969), Kathleen (1975), and Eric (1977).

The girls all play piano and belong to the Coldwater School Band. The boys all played Little League ball in the summer and enjoy all sports. They all belong to 4-H and take clothing and cooking projects and calves to the fair every summer. The entire family works together to make the large dairy farm successful. *Rose Ann Siefring, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

John Stelzer Family — **Seated:** John Stelzer Sr., Imelda (Stelzer) Puthoff, John Stelzer Jr., Nothburga (Stelzer) Geise, Bernadina (Wuebker) Stelzer. **Standing:** Norbert Stelzer, Elenora (Stelzer) Schockman, Henry Stelzer, Florian Stelzer, Francis Stelzer, Lidwina (Stelzer) Bergman, Willibald Stelzer, Delphina (Stelzer) Quinter, Werner Stelzer.

JOHN STELZER FAMILY

In the 1880's John Stelzer married Wilhelmina Nietfeld. They had seven children: John, Elizabeth, August, Victoria (died when she was four years old), Philomena (died when she was one year old), Catherine, and Anna.

John, the oldest met Bernadina Wuebker and they were married May 25, 1910 in Carthagena, Ohio. They lived on a farm on Stelzer Road, near St. Charles Seminary. They had thirteen children: Elenora and Corinne (twins), Corinne died shortly after birth, Henry, Lidwina, Florian, Willibald, Delphina, Werner, Norbert, Francis, Nothburga, Imelda, and John.

The children were all born in Carthagena, and they all attended school there except John the youngest. In 1938 the family moved to Coldwater. John Sr. went to work at Mersman's in Celina. That same year Elenora married Walter Schockman. They had one daughter Ruth. Walter died in 1942. Elenora moved back home with her parents. In the next nine years the family had a lot of weddings. Henry married Marcella Quinter and they had three children: Madonna, Larry, and James. Lidwina married Albert Bergman and they had eleven children: Kenneth, Patricia, Dennis, Thomas, Paul, Charles, Harold, Doris, Louis, Roseann, and Karen. Albert died in 1976. Florian married Alvera Pleiman and they had three children: Mary Ann, Richard, and Janet. Willibald married Alma Overman and they

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had one daughter Jean. Willibald died in 1974. Delphina married Irenus Quinter and they had six children: Judy, James (deceased), Daniel, William, Diane, and Sharon. In the next few years WWII was being fought. Five of the Stelzer boys were in the service at one time. In 1944 the family received word that Francis had been killed in action. When the war was over, Werner married Rosella Bergman and they had four children: Nancy, Randy (deceased), Virginia (deceased), and Laura (deceased). Norbert married Adele Brunswick and they had four children: Gary, Joan, Betty, and Kathy. Nothburga married Elmer Geise and they had six children: Connie, Janet, Sandra, Deborah, Donald, and Patricia. Elmer died in 1974. In April 1947 John Sr. died. He is buried in St. Elizabeth Cemetery in Coldwater. Imelda married Lawrence Puthoff and they had two sons: Roger and Jerome. John Jr. married Ruth Reichert and they had six children: Joseph, Ronald, Barbara, Linda, Mathew, and Mark.

In 1960 Elenora Shockman built a new home and Bernadina sold her home and lived with Elenora until 1969 when she was admitted to Briarwood Manor in Coldwater. She died Mar. 16, 1971 and was buried in St. Elizabeth Cemetery in Coldwater.

Front Row: James, Eileen and Robert. **Middle Row:** Julie, Ann and Jane. **Top Row:** Daniel ad William Stelzer.

ROBERT A. AND EILEEN H. STELZER FAMILY

Robert Anthony Stelzer is the son of August John Stelzer and Lorena Huelsman of Celina, Ohio. He was born Sept. 28, 1934 at Celina, Ohio. His parents are of German descent and they were originally from the Cassella and Cranberry area.

Eileen Hilda Pohl is the daughter of Leo John Pohl and Pauline Bernadine Rammel and she was born Mar. 28, 1934 at New Weston, Ohio, where her parents owned a farm. She is also of German descent. Her father is from the Philothea-St. Henry area and her mother is from the Sharpsburg Burkettsville area.

Robert A. Stelzer and Eileen H. Pohl were married on May 14, 1955, in St. Bernard's Catholic Church at Burkettsville, Ohio, by the Rev. John W. Hamme, C.PP.S., a personal friend of the couple. They have the following children: Ann Marie born Nov. 17, 1956 and a senior at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; Anthony John born Dec. 18, 1957 and died Dec. 20, 1957; William Joseph born Nov. 19, 1958 and now living at Centerville, Ohio; Daniel John born Dec. 12, 1959 and now a student at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; Julie Annette born Feb. 17, 1963; Jane Ann born June 27, 1964; James Robert born Sept. 10, 1965; Amy Joan born Jan. 27, 1967 and died Jan. 30, 1967.

Robert and Eileen have spent most of their married life in and around the Coldwater area. They presently live in a new home on St. Anthony R just east of State Route 118. They and their fan are members of Holy Trinity Catholic Church Coldwater, Ohio, and he is a commentator. Rol has been employed at Avco New Idea for most of life and at present he is a Product Engineer in Engineering Department. He has been very activ community affairs and has received many awa for his outstanding service to the community. Eil has been a wife and mother and is kept busy dc volunteer work in the school system and with hobby of collecting antiques. *Submitted by, Eileer Stelzer*

LEONARD BERNARD STREACKER

Leonard Bernard Streacker was born (Septem 1, 1904) in Egypt, Shelby County, Ohio to An Bernard Streacker (May 19, 1872) and Sophia Zac rias Streacker (November 8, 1873). He was the s ond son in a family of seven children.

When Leonard was only one year old his pare moved to a farm near Coldwater, Ohio where tl resided for the next three years. They again mov this time into Coldwater where his father purcha a restaurant.

Leonard attended Holy Trinity Catholic Sch with his older brother John and his sisters Mart Anna, Bertha, Mary and Caroline. With his fan he was a staunch member of the Catholic Church

After graduating from school Leonard worked ten years at Mersman Brothers. Often working l hours so that he might realize his dream of ownir business of his own.

In 1929 Leonard had saved sufficient money purchase his first restaurant. It was located on So Second St. Coldwater. He operated this successfi until 1944 at which time he decided to sell and p chase another restaurant. It was known as the M St. Restaurant and Pool Hall, Coldwater. This a was a fine business, combining good food an chance to play a friendly game of pool. In 1954 leased the place to his brother-in-law Dick Wenn and son-in-law Lowell Dues. He then managed Coldwater Bowling Alley for three years. After t venture he worked as Business manager for Werl Motors, Coldwater.

Sometime later he again went into business himself, this time purchasing the Coldwater Ne Agency. He enjoyed that business from 1960-19 he then decided to sell the business and retire. T idle period was very brief and Leonard started work again running a local pool hall, which he a owned. Later he sold this business, but continued manage it until he retired at the age of 73 years.

Leonard is a member of the Holy Name Soci and Knights of Columbus and is an usher in Holy Trinity Catholic Church. For many years L nard was a member of the Coldwater Volunteer F Department. He also served a four year term a councilman for the Village of Coldwater from 19 to 1950.

Leonard is now retired and keeps in touch w many of his old customers and friends on his da ten mile bike ride around the town and surround countryside.

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On August 11, 1931, in the Holy Trinity Church, ldwater, Monica Anna Wenning (July 30, 1913), ughter of Bernard Henry Wenning was married to onard Streacker. They then settled down in Coldter.

Monica and Leonard are the parents of nine chilen. Their first born was Joan Clara (Streacker) ies (May 28, 1932). The second child was another l Jeannette Martha (Streacker) Lambert (January , 1936). Then came Mary Evelyn (Streacker) Heckin (February 15, 1937), followed by Patricia Louise reacker) Wynk (January 10, 1943), Barbara Cathne (Streacker) Fisher (March 22, 1944). It seemed Monica and Leonard that they would have no , but then twins were born, a boy and a girl, Paul onard Streacker and Pauline Bertha (Streacker) erman born (May 22, 1945). The family was overed to welcome a boy. Two more girls would comte this family, Kathleen Rita (Streacker) Eyink pril 16, 1948) and Constance Sue (Streacker) Rossi uary 21, 1955.

The Streacker family enjoy each others company mensely and visit each other often. They have a nily reunion each year which is always very well ended. It is usually held at the Coldwater Memol Park. Leonard and Monica, who both enjoy fish; share vacations at a resort on a lake with differt members of their large family each year.

The Streacker family now proudly boasts of the enty-seven grandchildren and two great grandldren who all live very close and for whom Moa has baby sat for a number of years. *Gwenda Weng, Celina, Oh 45822*

ANTON BERNARD STREACKER

Anton Bernard Streacker (May 19, 1872-July 26, 40), was born on a farm in Shelby County, Ohio ere he resided until 1905. He then moved to a m near Coldwater, Mercer County, Ohio where family lived for three years.

In 1909 Anton moved into Coldwater and bought aloon on West Main Street, it became known oly as Streacker's Cave. In later years he bought a taurant on South Second Street. Beer was 10 nts a glass or bottle, soft drinks 5 cents, sandches were 5 and 10 cents and a hearty bowl of memade soup was also 10 cents.

Anton married Sophia Zacharias in 1896. Sophia s born in Willowdell, Ohio on (November 8, 73-January 28, 1959), she was 85 years old when e died.

Anton and Sophia were the parents of eight chilen. The eldest was Martha (Streacker) Belsher ovember 2, 1897-March 22, 1976). Anna reacker) Krisher (January 14, 1899). A son was rn to the young couple, John Streacker (April 30, 00) then another daughter Bertha (Streacker) eyers (February 19, 1902). A second son who was med Leonard Streacker was born (September 1, 04) followed by Mary (Streacker) Miller (July 18, 07), Caroline (Streacker) Roechner (March 20, 10) and Elizabeth Streacker (June 22, 1913-June , 1913). *Gwenda Wenning*

THE DAVID SOWAR FAMILY

David Joseph Sowar, at the age of 37, moved with his family to Coldwater from Muncie, Indiana in 1930. Mr. Sowar, born in Brazil, Indiana, was the third youngest of seven children of Joseph and Anna (Davis) Sowar.

David's wife, Mildred (Groman) Sowar was born in Blue Island, Illinois in 1893; the second of three children of Frederick and Frances (Beal) Groman.

At the time of their arrival in Coldwater, the Sowars had five children: David, Jr. 12, Joseph — 10, twin daughters Mary Jean and Elizabeth Jane — 8, and John — 4. The Sowars' sixth child, James was born the following year.

Mr. Sowar managed a clothing store, The Boston Store, which was located where the present Peoples Bank now stands. Mrs. Sowar assisted her husband in the clothing business and in 1937 the Sowars began their own clothing store, naming the firm Sowar's Department Store. The store was originally located on the south side of Main Street, in the building now occupied by the Boeke Insurance Company.

During his residence in Coldwater, Mr. Sowar was an active member of various civic organizations, holding responsible positions on the town council (president), the Lions Club (president), and the American Legion (commander). During World War II, four children of the family served in the military; David, Jr. — Army; and Joseph, Jane and John — Navy. During this period Mr. Sowar became seriously ill and died on June 23, 1944 at the age of 50.

Mrs. Sowar continued to operate the store and in late 1945 she was joined by her oldest son David, Jr. in the business. The store expanded and in 1951 was moved to its present location on West Main St. Ten years later the shoe store was added to the east of the store. In 1966 the men's store was also added, located at the corner of Main and Market Streets.

During this time David, Jr. and his wife Thelma (Mellon) raised a family of four children; David III, Donald, Richard and Mary along with 8 grandchildren. David was an influential member of the business community and also served as president of the local school board and as a director of the Celine branch of Ohio Northern University. In 1970, David, Jr. died at the age of 51 following several major operations.

Mrs. Sowar, Sr. continued the store operation along with David Jr.'s wife Thelma until Mrs. Sowar's retirement in 1976. Thelma Sowar Link and her son-in-law, Robert Beer have continued the operation of the store.

Mrs. Sowar, Sr. passed away in 1978, leaving five children, 32 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren.

Her son Joe is presently residing in Vienna, Virginia. He is a retired Naval Commander and is presently working for the FAA. Joseph and his wife Mary (Combs) have raised five children; Douglas, Timothy, Johnathn, Steven, and Nancy and also have 6 grandchildren.

Jane Sowar married Edward Hammond and resides in Coldwater. The Hammonds have five children; Mark, Patricia, Marcia, Joseph and Jean. They

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also have two grandchildren. Mr. Hammond is a teacher in the local school system. Mrs. Hammond in addition to being a housewife is also a registered nurse.

Jean Sowar married Gregory Fuller and resides in Cincinnati. Mr. Fuller is a retired distributor for the Cincinnati Post. The Fullers have six children: Marlin, Ronald, Diane, Cathy, Mary, Jane and 5 grandchildren.

Jack Sowar is employed in Dayton as an industrial equipment salesman. He and his wife Dolores (Backs) have five children; Jack, Jr., Barbara, Susan, Judy and Melinda and 3 grandchildren.

Jim Sowar is employed at AVCO New Idea in Coldwater as a data processing systems manager. He and his wife Mary (Desch) have six children; Christopher, Maribeth, Nicholas, Gerard, James, Jr., and Frederick. *James Sowar, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

SWARTS

John R. Swarts born in Perry county, married Mathilda J. Sawyer, who was born in Licking County. They purchased 160 acres east of Wabash at Burrville road and route 29. (80 acres on the NE corner and 80 acres on the SW corner.) They had the following children: Milton, Archabold, Wallace, James, Mary who married Robert Landfair (Grandmother of Robert Norberg) and Doris who married Henry Adams.

Milton (Civil War Veteran), Grandfather of Sam D. Dixon, married Martha J. Smith and they had the following children: Bertha, Nettie, Minnie, Ada (Steve Powell) and Pearl (who married Virge Dixon).

SMITH

Joseph H. Smith, son of Gideon and Jane Smith, was born in 1837 and raised as a farmer. He entered his land in 1837 and settled in 1852. He married his first wife Catherine in 1835, and his second in 1857. The children from his first wife were: William F., b. 4-8-1837; James A. (11-16-1839 to 1921 Civil War Vet, with Sherman on Burn Atlanta); Irvin I. (10-28-1842 born, and killed in battle of Chicamauga, buried at Lookout Mountain); Mary E. (married a Doctor McDonald and lived in Rockford, Ohio); Martha J. (b. 6-10-1849, died 12-29-1938, Grandmother of Sam D. Dixon.). His second wife Caroline (b. 3-13-1826); the children from this union were: Dr. Joseph L. Smith (b. 2-7-1852 and practiced in Hoagland, Indiana); Margaret E. (b. 3-3-1852); Catherine Ann (b. 4-7-1856) and married a Green; Elbertine E. (b. 5-18-1858); Louisa (b. 5-19-1858); Laura O. (b. 6-16-1863); Eddy Marilla (b. 12-6-1868).

Joseph H. Smith was the first settler on Section 32, Butler Township, (West of Coldwater). His deed was signed by Martin Van Buren. The Indians were his nearest neighbors on the west. He assisted in raising the first school house in the district. When the family moved on the land they had a big oak tree for their shelter, until they raised a cabin to live in. Wild animals of all kinds abounded. Sons James and Irvin were in first group of Volunteers from Mercer County to be raised at beginning of Civil War.

Henry and Wilhelmine Synck

HENRY SYNCK

This year being the hundredth anniversary of h father's birth, I, his youngest child, am writing t account.

Henry John Synck was born July 30, 1878, at Sebastian, the only son of John and Katherine Wi Synck. John Synck was the second child of Bernha and Johanna Kortbojer Synck from Westphal Germany. John and Katherine came to the U about 1875, settling near Sebastian.

Henry had six younger sisters: Catherine (Gage 1880, Maria Stein; Elizabeth, died at birth; Rc (Gesing), Cleveland; Agnes, 1887; Mary, died birth; and Sophie, 1889. The family moved to Ma Stein, where some of the children were born.

He attended a two-room schoolhouse near Seba tian under John Birkmeyer. He also learned carpe try from his father and worked on several farms. A ter moving to Maria Stein, my father worked Kramer's machine shop; he also did office work a learned bookkeeping. In 1899 his aptitude for m chanical invention was tested when Joseph Oppe heim, later to be his father-in-law, conceived t idea for a spreading device for manure spreaders. J seph, who was teacher, organist and choirmaster St. John's, asked my father, a member of his choir, he could build a working model based on Josepl idea. Henry said he would try. The first moc worked poorly, but with modifications which my f ther made, he produced one which did work. Josej had the conception; Henry was able to make t idea work. The invention was patented in Josepl name; Henry, age 21, was Joseph's junior by twer years, in no position to take credit for work on t invention.

Joseph Oppenheim started the business in a sm building at Maria Stein Station. The company w named The New Idea Spreader Works; Henry Syn and Fred Heckman became operators of the facto Henry would test each machine after delivery, ma ing sure of proper operation. Two years later Josej Oppenheim died. His widow, Anna Mary Ellerbro Oppenheim, owned the business, with only Hen and Fred to run it since her oldest son, Bernard, w just fifteen. She decided to continue the business.

On Oct. 6, 1903, my father married Wilhelmi Oppenheim, the widow Oppenheim's oldest chi Wilhelmine was born Jan. 4, 1885, at Freiburg Ohio. Henry and Wilhelmine lived in a small hor at Maria Stein Station. Their first child, Mary, bo Sept. 29, 1904, is now Mrs. Oscar Moore of Coldw ter. A son, Adolph, born Jan. 15, 1908, also lives Coldwater.

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In 1908 Wilhelmine's mother, Anna Mary Oppenim, passed away. As all of Wilhelmine's younger others and sister were still at home, the Synck nily moved into the Oppenheim home and cared all the children: Bernard, 21; Cecilia, 18; Joseph Theodore, 11; and baby Justin, 6. Daughter Mary s 4 and Adolph 4 months. Henry assumed this reonsibility when he himself was only 29.

Henry and Ben Oppenheim managed the busiss, gradually taking each of the younger Oppenim children in as full partners. After Ben and cilia had left the home, my parents continued to e for Ted and Justin.

Henry's third child, Sophia, now Mrs. Victor mholt of Coldwater, was born May 25, 1909.

As New Idea needed better shipping facilities, an sembly plant was built in Coldwater in 1908; Ben penheim and Bernard Selhorst managed it. Manacturing of basic components was continued at aria Stein until the business was transferred to ldwater in 1912.

Henry built a home in Coldwater at 413 South arket Street where the family moved in 1913. A arth child, Louis, now living at Amarillo, Texas, s born March 8, 1922.

Henry was responsible for more than twenty adional patents on the manure spreader. He was inumental in development of a two-row corn picker 1928. Throughout this time he was manager of tory operations, responsible also for purchasing d new product development. When Ben Oppenim died in 1935, Henry was elected president of e company, continuing in that post until 1945.

Aside from his prime occupation, my father ved on the building committee for the first paroial school in Coldwater in 1913. Always active in airs of Holy Trinity parish, he was a charter memr of the Knights of Columbus and a member of e Men's Society, serving some years as its presint. He was also active in civic affairs; during his m as president of the Board of Public Affairs the st Coldwater waterworks was completed.

He served many years as director of the Peoples nk Company, assuming the presidency from 1932 1952. My parents' pledge of personal assets dur g the Bank Holiday of 1933 contributed to saving e institution from bankruptcy.

He and my mother worked diligently to bring a spital to Coldwater, and contributed toward its nstruction.

My father loved classical music and in his unger years learned to play the flute. He and my other attended many concerts and operas and aveled extensively.

My mother's death March 27, 1953, was a severe ow for him. Six more months would have marked eir golden wedding anniversary. After her death, nry continued living in the family home until his vn death on Dec. 7, 1966. He and my mother are ried at St. Elizabeth Cemetery in Coldwater. *Mrs. car Moore, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

TANGEMAN FAMILY

John F. Tangeman, born in Philothea, Ohio, November 25, 1862, bought ½ acre of land in Coldwa-, Ohio, in 1911 from the heirs of Fred Spoltman. e sold one half of the land to Clem Huelsman in 1914. This home place is at 407 West Main Street. At that time it was the last house on West Main Street. John's father was born in St. John, Ohio, and his mother, Agatha Ruetchelling, in Germany. He was employed at New Idea for a number of years. John married Mary C. Kremer, February 1, 1898. She was born in Philothea, Ohio, May 26, 1875. Her parents, Henry Kremer and Katherine Steggeman, were born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mary was employed as cook by the Sisters of the Precious Blood at Holy Trinity Parish from 1937 to 1953. John died May 9, 1927 and Mary died August 10, 1966.

The John Tangeman Home in 1916 — L. to R.: John F. Tangeman, Pete Tangeman, and Mary C. Tangeman.

They had two sons, Ferd and Clarence (Pete). Ferd was born August 17, 1899, in Philothea, Ohio. He worked at New Idea for 48 years. He married Rose Pottkoetter from Ft. Recovery, Ohio, June 16, 1925. Her parents came from Tennessee. Ferd died December 31, 1968. His wife still owns and lives in the home place. The second son, Clarence (Pete), was born January 6, 1910, in Coldwater. He married Ann Losekamp from St. Henry, Ohio, January 19, 1939. Her parents, Joe Losekamp and Catherine Barther, were both born in St. Henry. Joe's parents were both born in Germany. Catherine's mother was born in St. Henry and her father was born on the sea coming from Rumania to America. The Barther's owned and operated a rooming house on Main Street in St. Henry for many years. Pete and Ann live at 115 North Mill Street in Coldwater. He owned and operated Hi Speed Service Station in Coldwater. He sold it in 1949. He continued working at service stations or driving an oil truck until 1965. He then worked as plant guard at New Idea. He retired November 30, 1976. Pete graduated from Coldwater High School and Ann From St. Henry High School.

They have three sons and one daughter, Bob, Kay, Jim and Dick. Bob is a High School and Ohio State University graduate. He lives and is an Industrial Arts teacher in Troy, Ohio. He married Sue Guter, from Charleston, West Virginia. They have one son, Jeff. Kay is a High School and School of Cosmetology graduate. She owned and operated a shop in Coldwater for 10 years. She married Paul Dapore from Houston, Ohio. They have four children, Alan, Carol, Mark and Brian. They live 10 miles north of Greenville, Ohio. Jim is a High School and Bowling Green University graduate. He lives in Charleston, South Carolina. He is employed as a Sales Executive for Top Value Enterprises. He married Judy Mahar from Elyria, Ohio. They have one son, Craig and one daughter, Linda. Dick is a High School and Bowling Green University graduate. He lives in Temperance,

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Michigan, and is employed as an executive for Bay Corrugated Container Company from Monroe, Michigan. He married Marcia Hille from Port Clinton, Ohio. They have one daughter, Ann. All the families belong to the Catholic Church. *C. H. Tangeman, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

WEBER

Eugene and Eileen Weber came to Mercer County in 1964, settling in Coldwater where Eugene became a teacher at Coldwater High School. Mr. Weber is a native of Putnam County (Ottoville), Ohio, where his parents, Frank X. Weber and Mary A. Honigford, were also born. Three of his grandparents — John Weber, John Honigford, and Anna (Eberle) Honigford, were also born in Ottoville. The fourth grandparent, Rosalia (Gasser) Weber, was born in Wolfurt, Austria. The other great grandparents were all of Germanic descent.

Eileen (Freund) Weber was born in Landeck, Allen County, Ohio, as were her parents, Ralph Freund and Loretta Hotz. Her grandparents were Charles Freund, who was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France; Catherine (Krebs) Freund, who was born in Ottoville, Ohio; William Hotz, who was born in Norwalk, Ohio; and Lucy (Kill) Hotz, who was born in Landeck, Ohio. All were of basically Germanic descent.

Eugene and Eileen Weber have four children: Michael, born on August 27, 1958; Maria, born on January 20, 1960; Karen, born on March 6, 1961; and Patrick, born on May 8, 1962.

In 1978 Mike is a junior at Ohio University, Athens, and is a graduate of Coldwater High School, where he participated in football and track and was editor of the yearbook. Maria is a freshman at the Indiana Institute of Technology, Ft. Wayne, and is a graduate of Coldwater High School, where she participated in band and track, and was photographer for the yearbook. Karen is a senior at Coldwater and participates in volleyball. Pat is a junior at Coldwater, runs track and cross-country, and is in the band.

Gene is a math and physics teacher at Coldwater High School, and is also athletic director. Eileen is a private piano teacher. Gene is also a member of the Coldwater Village Council.

BERNARD WENNING

Bernard (Ben) Henry Wenning was born on April 1, 1887 in Philothea, Ohio the son of Gerard and Margaretha (Sünk) Wenning, the third son in a family of 14.

At a very early age Ben showed great interest in his father's carpenter work and in a short time he became quite handy with the tools of this trade.

After completing 4 yrs. of school at the Oakland School on Fort Recovery Road, 2 miles from Philothea, he continued to self educate himself in his spare time. As he grew older his interest in carpentry work continued to grow and was put to practice around his own home repairing the house, barn and other buildings.

His favorite hobby was playing the violin. He played well enough to accompany his sisters songs and entertain friends at his home.

Ben was also an accomplished barber, cutting the hair of all the members of his immediate family a some very close friends.

On October 30, 1912 he married Olivia M. Wei (born Dec. 23, 1889) at St. Anthony, Ohio in her p ish church.

They made their first home on a small farm in Henry, Ohio where their first two children w born. Two years later they moved from St. Henry Coldwater, Ohio and then to Philothea where th had two more children. On Oct. 6, 1921 Olivia di in her home in Philothea at the age of 32 and is b ied in St. Anthony Parish, Cemetery, Ohio. Her h band Ben survived with four children, Monica, Di Werner and Edward. After the death of his belov wife Ben moved the family to Coldwater where rel tives could help look after his small children.

While in Coldwater Ben met Bernadine Weitz (September 29, 1895) who would soon become h second wife. Ben and Bernadine were married July 3, 1923. There were five more children of th marriage, Paul, Rosemary, Otto, Ernest and Viola.

Ben was employed at New Idea, Coldwater for s veral years and continued his carpentry work in ar around the community. He built several houses Philothea, numerous barns, chicken houses, garag and other multi-purpose buildings. He was an e pert in all phases of remodelling and could figu everything he would need to complete a job, dow to a minimum. He loved to wallpaper houses an would be most upset if one of his children didn't a for his help.

In 1929 Ben bought a 42 acre farm in Carthager which he enjoyed farming; he also continued to d his carpentry work until the end of his life.

Ben was a most respected member of the commu nity, beloved by young and old alike. He was a faith ful Catholic and served his church well. Like his F ther, Gerard Wenning, he was a very happy ma and he enjoyed community affairs.

Ben lived on the farm until his death on Noven ber 16, 1968, he was 81 years old. He is buried in S Aloysius Parish cemetery in Carthagena. The churc was full of his friends and relatives who had come t pay their respects. His wife still lives on the farm.

Bernard Henry Wenning was the proud grandf ther of thirty grandchildren and twenty-two gre grandchildren. Other survivors were his wife Bern dine, five sons, Dick of Coldwater, Paul of Ca thagena, Werner and Edward both of Celina, Ernes New Bremen, Mrs. Leonard (Monica) Streacker c Coldwater and Mrs. Richard Miller of Fort Recover Edward died on April 21, 1974, age 52 years, 1 months. *Mrs. Werner Wenning, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Bernard Henry Wenning and Olivia Weigel Wenning.

Gerard Wening, o Heck, Wespalia, Ger many.

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GERARD WENING

Gerard Henry Wening was born in Heck, Westalia, Germany on (Feb. 6, 1854), the son of Berd Wening Sr.

He came to America in 1883. He purchased 98.5 es of land in Philothea, Ohio shortly after his aral in this country.

Two years later in the Holy Trinity Church in ldwater, Ohio Margaretha Anna Sünk, (Aug. 4, 54) daughter of Bernard and Johanna (Kortbojer) nk of Willen Kreis Haus, Munster Westphalia, rmany became his bride.

After their marriage they resided on the farm in ilothea, where he made a living as a farmer and a penter. To all of his friends and neighbors Gerard was known as a very jovial person who enjoyed going to all of the local weddings and dances. In his free time he would often take on a friendly game of cards with one of his neighbors or relatives.

Gerard and Margaretha were the parents of 14 children (Henry, Bernard, Johanna, Gertrud, Joseph, Elifabeth, Katharina, Anna, Rofa, Jofephina, Rinder, Maria and Reinhard).

Margaretha died on (May 4, 1904) at the age of 39 yrs. 9 mo. in Recovery Township while she was visiting her sister. She is buried in the church cemetery in Philothea, Ohio.

Gerard died on (April 2, 1923) in the home of his daughter Johanna in Philothea, Ohio at the age of 69 yrs. 2 mo. He is also buried in Philothea Cemetery.

Mrs. Werner Wenning

Place your Family History in this Space.

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Center Township Hall, May 29, 1978 (Built in 1975)

CENTER TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF NEPTUNE

Center Township became a political entity June 2, 834, by action of the Mercer County commissioners upon a petition by citizens of Town 5 south, ange 3 east. The first election was held at the ouse of William Bonifield, June 21, 1834.[1] It was ormed from the south half of Union Township, hich had been formed from Dublin Township in 828.

Bonifield completed the survey and platting of eptune Dec. 2, 1837.[2] It was located on the Old lank Road originally traced by Gen. Anthony ayne, and one of the main roads of the Northwest erritory, running from Columbus, Ohio, to Ft. ayne, Ind., and now known as US 33. Even as at s founding, this highway remains today as the rincipal traffic artery of the township, although it as not until about 1927 that the last section was onverted from mudroad to concrete paving beween Rice Rd. and Mercer.

Neptune immediately became the political and ultural center of the township, and until the autootive era, its principal trade center.

Michael Harner is credited as the first settler in enter Township, moving from Dublin in 1820. enjamin Roebuck arrived soon afterward, and Boifield in 1821-22.[3]

Other names appearing in the list of early settlers, any still present in the area, were Spicer, Cain, hanklin, Howick, Hankins, Copeland, Coil, Davis, ast, Bogart, Townsend, Carroll, Nickel, Nolan, urlin, Nottingham, Piper, Rice, Craft, Ashbaugh, rookhart, Dibble, Fowler, Webb, Newcomb, Drury, alick, Hall, Keyser, McKirnan, Copps.

By 1880 over half of the land area, 19,188 acres, ad been cleared of timber. Population peaked at 1,39 in the 1890 census, then began slowly declining, ecoming static about 1950. By 1970 it again was enering a period of moderate growth. The 1970 census recorded 916 residents. Woodlands continued to disappear, but at a slower pace, until a good estimate today would place less than one-tenth of the land area in woodlots.

Livestock production, at one time highly diversified in hogs, dairy, beef and poultry, began declining in the post World War II period until the farm acreage is now almost entirely cash grain, with the principal crops corn, soybeans and wheat.

A post office was established in Neptune and served the entire community until the establishment of Rural Free Delivery by act of Congress in 1890.

By 1882, Neptune had 125 residents, two dry goods and general stores, one grocery (with the post office), three wagon and three blacksmith shops, one steam sawmill, one milliner shop, two physicians, a two-story brick schoolhouse, a township hall, and two churches.[1] In its earlier days it also had boasted a hotel, operated by Bonifield assisted by Benjamin Nickel who arrived in the area in 1838, and became operator of the hotel and store when Bonifield died in 1841. In 1839 Jason and Atwater Hall brought their families to Neptune. Atwater Hall married Caroline Bonifield, daughter of William, according to Mrs. Joseph (Mildred) Fischer, Hall's granddaughter. They had two children, L. A. "Lute" Hall, and Ada Hall Hamilton, Mrs. Fischer's mother. Bonifield is buried by a large tree in the field across from the Community Park.

Lute operated a general store and barber shop where John Flowers' second hand store is today. Lute retired to his farm across the road from what is now the Center Community Park, and sold the store and barber shop in 1927 to Emerson Pond who traded 80 acres about two miles west of town for the store. In 1928 Emerson sold the store to his daughter and son-in-law, Elsie and Guy Wolfe, who operated it until 1945, when they in turn sold to Newell and Ann Cunningham, retaining the poultry and egg business they had established shortly before. The Cunninghams operated the business until Newell's death. Ann continued for a time, but ultimately the store was closed.

In 1865 Henry Lacamp opened a second general

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Old Center Township Hall, June 23, 1974 (Built in 1903)

store, stocking in 1866 what he advertised as "the largest and best stock of dry goods that had ever been brought into Mercer County."[4] The ultimate history of Lacamp's store is not recorded in previous historical accounts, but well may be the store operated by Tom Williams through the teens and 1920's. He was aided by a brother, Clarence, who drove the huckster wagon. Tom's wife, Leah Hankins Williams had a niece, Rue Hankins, who had married C. G. Roebuck, and "Buck" came to barber for Tom in 1928. About 1930 Tom was elected to the state legislature, and in 1932 took a state government position in Columbus. Tom moved his family to Columbus then, leaving C. G. and Rue in sole possession of the store and barbershop.

About 1940 C. G. bought the grist mill from Lutz and Crow and moved it to a location behind the store, probably, in the memory of Mrs. Fischer, the location of the original Bonifield Tavern. The grist mill began to grow rapidly in volume and diversity, and about 1945 the store was closed, and became a warehouse for bagged feed supplements. Fertilizer and other farm supply items were added to the feed sales.

Then in 1953, Feb. 19, fire destroyed all of the elevator and grinding facilities.

However, a week later a rebuilding program was underway, and a far more efficient and modern structure took its place.

The Roebucks continued to operate the business until 1966, when they sold to Jack Harmon, who continued its operation as the Neptune Elevator. Ill health and financial problems overtook Harmon in 1973, and the business was sold to John Sites. Under Sites' management growth has resumed, storage and grain handling facilities expanded and separate livestock feeding operations organized. It employs six people, making it the largest employer in the township. Grain bins, dump pits and elevator legs now occupy the place of the old store building.

The advent of the automobile that spelled the ultimate doom of the general stores, also wrought a change in the blacksmith shops. They began to turn into garages for auto repair and gasoline retailing. Charles Young, who had had a blacksmith shop where the elevator office now stands, moved to a new location on the Old Plank Road across from the Township Hall. In 1925 he hired Hiram Crow as mechanic. In 1931 Marion Lutz came to work ar with Hiram has operated the business ever sinc Charles Young traded his interest for a farm on tl Auglaize County line in 1931, and in 1937 Lutz ar Crow bought the building and took complete owi ership of the business.

The business included a grist mill establishe about 1925, which was operated along with the g rage until 1940, when it was sold to C. G. Roebuck.

Hiram Crow probably had the first airplane in tl township, a Waco biplane he bought in 1931, plane that became a familiar sight to Center Tow ship residents as "Hiny" cruised the area on sun mer evenings and Sunday afternoons.

William Berry, who lived in the southwest corn of the township, made headlines in local papers a early as 1912 with a plane he designed and cor structed himself, but there is no record that it eve got off the ground. Berry also attempted a perpetu motion machine.

Another early aviator in the township was Geral Springer, who became the first "flying farmer" i Mercer County in the 30's. Springer bought the fir combine in the county in 1926, and the first rubbe tired tractor. He also taught tractor courses, sol Case farm machinery, operated a fruit orchard, ha one of the larger farming operations in the towr ship, plus an orange grove in Florida.

In 1923 Ralph Schnarre opened Wayne Way Ga rage on the site of the blacksmith shop of his mate nal grandfather, Levi Baker. Guy Lemunyon becam associated with the business in 1930. The partne ship was dissolved in 1947, when the buildin Scharre had built across the street from the ol blacksmith shop, was sold to a Mr. Dodge. Howeve Dodge turned it back after a year, and it was sold t Guy Wolfe, who closed down his poultry and eg business and began operating a farm machiner business about 1947. In 1956 he sold the shop an business to Stanley Roediger, the present owner.

Meanwhile Schnarre built a new cement bloc building about 150 yards east and opened Schnarre' Garage, the business now operated by his son, Ralp Schnarre, Jr.

March 19, 1948, a tornado destroyed the bloc building, and the present frame building was buil to replace it.

Another business liquidated by changing trad patterns about mid century was the cream station located in a small building between Flowers' antiqu and used furniture store and Lutz and Crow garage Nellie Piper operated it for White Mountain Cream ery at New Bremen. Nellie would buy the crean brought in from local dairy herds (commonly two t five cows, hand milked and milk separated at th farm with the skim milk usually fed to hogs). A truck picked up the accumulated cream and haule it to New Bremen for churning into butter.

Another business lost in antiquity was a tile mill probably located just north of Neptune on SR 19 where a shallow pond still exists.

Another business responsible for much improve ment in the agriculture of the area was that of Har vey Shimp, a tile drainage contractor. He installe many miles of clay tile most of which is still func tioning. He was an early advocate of deep place ment, when many farmers were still arguing fo

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shallow lines with the argument that "the water will never get down to the tile." A son, Brooks Shimp, became the inventor of the tandem axle for the ditching machine, a concept still used on the Speicher machines manufactured in Celina today.

Another business that flourished in Neptune from the late 1920's to the late 1940's was the stockyard operated by Vaughn Hall, forerunner of the Western Ohio Livestock Exchange near Montezuma. The latter is now Middendorf stockyards.

Early Christian worship was conducted mainly by circuit riders from Celina or St. Marys, in homes or schoolhouses.

The first minister to settle in Center Township was Rev. Timothy Hankins who came in 1838. He was also the first school teacher in the area, holding classes in the kitchen of James Thompson.[3] Rev. Hankins helped build the first church in Mercer County, Bethel Methodist, on the Eight-Mile Creek in Union Township. The usual pattern was to organize a congregation which met in homes or schools, then erect a building when the congregation was large enough to support it.

Bronsart Gilberg, in his History of Mercer County, gives considerable detail of the growth of the early churches.

By the turn of the century, seven churches had been built in Center Township: Center Methodist, on SR 197 at Howick Rd.; Fairview Church of God, Celina-Mendon Rd. at Oregon Rd.; Zion United Brethren, Celina-Mendon Rd. at Hasis Rd.; Neptune Baptist, SR 197 by the Township Hall in Neptune; Neptune Church of God, SR 197 on the north edge of Neptune; East Oldtown and West Oldtown United Brethren a mile apart on Oldtown Rd., actually in Jefferson Township but drawing much of their congregations from Center Township.

By mid-century, attrition was setting in for the church membership rolls, aided by faster and more dependable autos. By 1975 only three active churches remained: Zion United Methodist, (from denominational mergers with Evangelical United Brethren); Neptune Baptist; and Neptune Church of God.

The latter had relocated with a new building in 1957, on US 33 just northwest of Neptune. Fire having destroyed the original building in 1955.

Center Township was among the first in the county to consolidate its one-room school buildings into a central building. In 1928 school opened about a month late to allow completion of a modern building at Neptune. Five school buses, privately owned and contracted to the local board of education, picked up students living a mile or more from the school. The districts replaced were Mt. Hope (Rice and Bogart Rds.), Piper (Rice and Oregon Rds.), Frog Pond (SR 197 at Burd Rd.), Plank Road (Celina-Mendon near Hasis Rd.), Kaiser (Stose and Oregon Rds.), Adams (U.S. 33 near Harris Rd.), and the Neptune 2-room elementary and high school. Another district, Hard Scrabble (Riley Rd. near Howick Rd.) had been closed earlier, and two other districts, Maple Center and Beougher, on the west side of the township opted not to join the centralized school (they later became part of the Celina City School District).

The first class was graduated from Center High School in 1905, then a 3rd grade high school, which meant that students had to take the fourth year in Celina or St. Marys.

Center Township Trustees, May 29, 1978 — **Seated:** Ruel Harner, William Cisco. **Standing:** Calvin Houts, Clerk; Lewis Gray; Russish Flore, Employee.

The high school was granted first class accreditation in 1917, and continued in the new building until 1952, when state regulations forced the board to contract with Celina City Schools for high school instruction. Grade school continued in the Center building. The district was merged with Celina City Schools in 1967, and all pupils transferred to Celina. The building was razed in 1975, after being severely damaged by fire Aug. 30, 1973, while occupied by the Auglaize-Mercer Bi-County Community Action Commission. The fire was declared arson by the state fire marshal, but no prosecutions resulted.

Center Township shared the experience common to all rural areas in the last century, of exporting a large share of its talent to the cities. Center Township sent Henry J. McKirnan to the sheriff's office for two terms in 1874. George Raudabaugh went to the state legislature in about the same period, and Tom Williams, a proprietor of one of the general stores in Neptune, went to the state legislature about 1930, later moving to Columbus to work in state government. Ivan Davis served as a County Commissioner in the late 40's.

A number of Celina's successful businesses today were founded by Center Township natives. Early in the 20th century, Walter H. Dick, a member of the second graduating class from Center Township High School, founded W. H. Dick and Sons, Inc., funeral parlor. George Thomas formed an insurance agency in Celina. Ben Nickel founded Nickel Hardware. Mary Hale formed what is now Jack Hover Ins. On toward mid-century Willis Bair owned and operated Bair's Drug Store. John Bair for years operated an upholstery shop. In more recent years Owen Hall founded Owen Hall & Associates, Inc., a nationally known realty firm. Eldon Houts, president of the Citizen's Commercial Bank, was one of the later graduates of Neptune High School, along with Chester Stephenson, another Citizen's Commercial officer. Dana Piper owns a bulk petroleum fuels route out of Celina.

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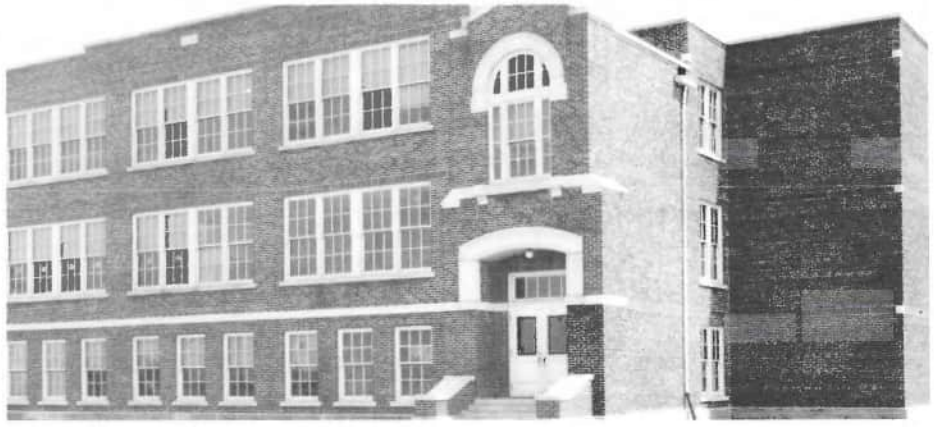
Ruel Harner and Grandchildren, Leisa and Mark Florence, at the old Plank Road or Roebuck School, after the roof had blown off. Ruel attended this school for seven years; then later used it as a hog pen.



Center Township School Building, built in 1928

The first high school class in 1905 graduated three students, Ray Murlin, Raymond Cain and Laura Stansberry. The last class in 1952 graduated nine: Doyle Ballinger, Romilda Becher, Henry Greber, Richard Grimm, Don Harris, Don Heppeard, Marilyn Matthews, Chester Stephenson and Ted Yewey.

Following the razing of the Center School, the Celina City School Board leased the grounds to the Center Township trustees. A Community Park committee was formed, and in 1978 a new community gathering place was added to the community to augment the new Township Hall built in 1974.

A baseball diamond, tennis and volleyball courts, horseshoe bays were built, toilets and a shelterhouse.

The township trustees in 1978 are Ruel Harner, William Cisco, Lewis Gray, and Calvin Houts, clerk. The Park Committee was Doyle Ballinger, Richard Grimm, Lavern Wendel, Steven Farnsworth, William Germann, Mrs. Stanley (Shirley) Roediger, Mrs. James (Bonnie) Hume, Mrs. James (Dorothy) Rutter, Mark Van Tilburg, Terry Williams and Dan Lehman.

To see the many people of the area using the park, especially on Sunday afternoons, is reminiscent of the earlier days in the community, when such things as a baseball team with an every-Sunday schedule held forth on the school diamond, and every winter the entire community gathered in the Township Hall and later in the school building for the Community Institute, replete with a community orchestra and a home talent play to climax the occasion.

Such community cooperation, so common in the early history of rural communities, appears to be rising anew. *As Written By John W. Townsend*

Ruel Harner, Glen Harner, Floyd Christian. Drilling for oil on Merk Yewey Farm, Center Township, 1971. Total depth 3220 Ft.

Ruel and Glen Harner having a well drilled on Abe Wurster Farm Section 4, Center Twp., first of March 1977, after most of the snow from the Winter Blizzard had melted. (Total Depth 3228 Feet)

Ruel Harner, Glen Harner, Oreal Harner, Floyd Christian. Shooting a well on John Townsend Farm, Section 10, Center Twp. Sept. 1, 1967.

THE MOUNT ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

In September of 1850 the Rev. James Lay organized the society of the Mount Zion United Brethren Church in a school house on the banks of the Twelve Mile Creek, two

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nd one half miles north of the present church. The congregation was Micheal Harner, and wife, Sylvester Rider nd wife, Lewis Bolton and wife, and James Harner and ife. For fifteen years they held their meetings in this chool house, with a circuit rider bringing a sermon from me to time.

On June 7, 1851, Daniel and Laura Murlin sold one cre of land for ten dollars, for a church lot and "burying round" to George Siler, Sylvester Rider and Micheal larner, trustees of the church. This was located north nd east of the present church. No church was ever built n this location.

In 1868 Christian and Mary Deidrick sold a tract of nd for ten dollars, to the church. On this land, one half ile south of the present church, the congregation ected a hand hewn log church. At this time the membership was forty, with John Siler as class leader and mes Harner as steward.

January 30th, 1883, Benjamin and Hannah Harner sold ne acre of land for fifty dollars to Noble King, John Siler, nd James Harner, Trustees. This is where the present nurch is located. Carpenters building the present church ere Noah Ginter, Abe Ginter and Phillip Fast. To help ise money, to build the church, Noble King sold his nly cow and turned all the money over to the building nd.

In 1896 Mount Zion had its first pastor, a Rev. Tommy oat.

In 1945 a house, given by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hasis, to ie church was moved in beside the church, and was remodeled and re-decorated for a parsonage. On Sept. 29, 946, a Parsonage Dedication service was observed. This ork was done under the leadership of Rev. Carl Ayres, astor. Later Rev. Ayres was called into Missionary work nd left the church to serve in Moyamba Seirra Leone, Vest Africa. It was under the leadership of Rev. and Mrs. arl Ayres, the Zion Missionary Organization was organed in September 1946, and is now called United Methlist Women.

In 1950, the church building was completely remodeled nd re-decorated, a basement added, and the new enance was moved to the middle of the church. A new eating system was added, also. The cost of the remodelg program was approximately fifteen thousand dollars, nd on the day of the dedication, the church was free of ebt thru the sacrificial giving of its members, neighbors nd interested friends. On December 10, 1950, Mt. Zion bserved its Centennial Anniversary with a special serve, along with the re-dedication service of the church uilding. Rev. Argo Sudduth was pastor at the time. Reval meetings were held jointly with the Fairview Church God, many souls were won to the Lord thru these serces. The Zion Youth attended the Youth Rallies, bringg home trophies for best attendance, or most miles traved. The membership at this time was one hundred irty-four. Several car loads of the Zion people drove to e Otterbein Home, taking boxes of canned food to the eople who lived in this church home.

In October of 1958 under the leadership of Rev. Kenth Martin the congregation agreed to set a goal that in ve years they would build an educational unit at Mt. on. March 22 the Willing Workers Sunday School Class mpleted the sidewalk around the church. The Ladies id of Mt. Zion, with the help of all the women of the urch, compiled a Cook Book in honor of the Ladies id's Golden Anniversary (1908). The profit from the oks was given to the Building fund. The ladies of the urch hosted a Mother and Daughter Banquet with the irview Church of God and Rockford East Bethel Ladies ere guests. The Revival meeting was led by Rev. Lou erry, and 26 souls were won to the Lord. The Junior apel reached their project's winter goal of having the sement floor tiled.

In 1960 with Rev. Delbert Cress, pastor, the church obrved its 110 anniversary. Former pastors Rev. Carl yres and Rev. Sudduth brought the messages. The

young ladies of the church organized a Friendship Circle and were busy doing things to help the church. This year we had the "Parable of the Talents" which brought over one thousand dollars into the building fund. Also, additional land was bought for volleyball court and parking area.

Feb. 24, 1963 a vote was taken and the majority voted to proceed with the Educational unit. A special Dedication and note burning service was held on March 3 for the new organ and piano. Two pilgrimages were made with the Youth visiting Flat Rock and the older group visiting the Otterbein Home.

The Rockford East Bethel Church, our sister church, closed its doors this year. Bethel and Zion had worked together for years. This closing made Zion feel very sad. On May 3, 1964 a ground breaking service was held on the south lawn of the church, with the congregation pulling a breaking plow. On Nov. 8, 1964, a dedication service of the Educational Unit was observed with Bishop Paul M. Herrick and Dr. David Corl bringing the messages. The cost of the Educational Unit was $46,921.23.

In 1967 The Friendship Circle adopted, thru the Foster Parent Plan, an 8 year old Ecuador girl. And the Women's Missionary Society have been schooling an African Student for several years.

Rev. Walter Adams became our pastor in 1968. During the year of 1948, Mt. Zion United Brethren became Evangelical United Brethren and now this year, 1968, the name, thru the merger, is changed again to United Methodist. The revival meeting was well attended and received. Both conversions and renewals were made. Then it was cider and apple butter making time, sponsored by the Friendship Circle. Work, fun, and fellowship was enjoyed by all, and the profit was given to the building fund debt.

Rev. Phyllis LeMasters was Mt. Zion's first lady pastor. A very kind and sincere pastor; she was a friend to all.

Rev. Donald Ricard became the pastor in 1973, and is the present pastor. Under his leadership the parsonage was completely redecorated. A new concrete entrance was built. In 1975, the older part of the church building was covered with aluminum siding. The sanctuary was redecorated and new glass entrance doors were installed. Later the church pulpit and sanctuary was completely carpeted.

Mt. Zion observed its One Hundred Twenty-Fifth Anniversary with a special service, the Gospel Crusaders bringing the music. The Willing Workers class constructed a new lawn sign for the church's name. The last payment was made on the educational unit loan.

Three young men have been called into the ministry from the Mt. Zion congregation, Richard Lamb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Webb; and brothers Dean and Neil Elam, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Elam.

1978 finds the Mt. Zion congregation looking forward with faith in their hearts and a prayer on their lips, that God will continue to bless their efforts to serve Him. *By Mrs. Norma Tigner*

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NEPTUNE BAPTIST CHURCH 1861-1978

The Neptune Baptist Church, located on State Route 197 and South Street in Neptune, had its beginning in 1843 on Eight Mile Creek, in a woods pasture, on ground later to be owned by the late Henry Suhr, across from the Charles Williams home. Rev. James Drury was its founder.

A dissension among the members as to the merits of missions resulted in the withdrawal of those in favor of missions. They organized the Mt. Gilead Baptist church and were known as missionary Baptists. On Feb. 25, 1861 they bought two lots in Neptune from John and Mary Lumb for the sum of $30.00 and built a frame church for $1,000.00. A few of its earliest pastors were Brothers Jackson, Manning, Graham, Griggs and Willard.

In the early days, the church was used by other denominations, including Methodists and Lutherans, and was used by the Church of God until they built their own church. In the years 1894-1897 the Farmers' Institute paid $3.00 yearly for the use of the building.

The ordinations of Rev. Manning in 1870 and Denis Rockwell in 1968 also took place here. The Baptist Association met here in 1888.

From the minutes: "On March 7, 1882 a meeting was held for the purpose of considering the propriety of repairing the Mt. Gilead church house in Neptune, and resolved to proceed to repair it immediately".

The church was repaired and rededicated in 1882. In 1884 this item is found: "voted to circulate a subscription to raise means to purchase stoves and a bell".

The earliest minutes in our possession were written March 2, 1867. The doors of the church were open often in those days and the church grew rapidly as brothers and sisters presented themselves for membership and baptism at most every meeting. Discipline was also a stern master as the minutes frequently state: "The right hand of fellowship was withdrawn from some members for conduct unbecoming a Christian."

We find that expenses were met by circulating a subscription among the members for pledges.

Extensive remodeling was done in 1949 and the church was rededicated March 27, 1950.

More recently a well was drilled, rest rooms installed, carpeting and drapes added. Pews were purchased from the West Old Town Church.

Down thru the years the church has been faithful in its giving to missions. The Ladies Missionary group also supports several missionaries and has sent many boxes of clothing to needy persons.

Our interim pastor is Rev. Lynn Harris who, with his wife, Phyllis, has been with us since 1972. Willard Wurster and Ronald Smith serve as deacons. The church stands ready to welcome all who enter its doors.

This history was taken from the minutes and from facts told to Nelva Drury Davis by her father, H. F. Drury, told to him by his father, W. L. Drury.

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WILLIAM BONIFIELD

Deceased, was born in Virginia about the year 802. He came to Clinton County, Ohio, where he ıarried Miss Hannah Wright. In 1823 or 24 they ıigrated to Mercer; remained several years until in 827 or 28 he entered, made improvements, and ıoved with his family on the land where Neptune is ow located, in Center Township. He was the first ettler within two miles of where the village now tands, except a man by the name of Crawford, who ved one half mile east of Mr. Bonifield's. He laid ut the town of Neptune, and gave it its name. He as the first hotel keeper in the village, and conucted the business for several years. He was a carenter by trade, and that, in connection with farmıg and hotel keeping, was his avocation through fe. He filled the office of justice of the peace for a umber of years. He died January first, 1841. His ompanion survived him until October sixth, 1880, hen she died at seventy-five years. They reared a ımily of seven children, Arnold, Mary, Andrew, Margaret, Abel, Elisha, and Caroline.

Abel Bonifield 1833-1913 William's son lived and ied one mile north of Neptune on Route 197. He as married to Quintilla Upton. They had six nown children, Minnie, Tom, William, Etta, harles and Dora. Abel was a farmer by trade.

Charles Bonifield 1875-1941. He moved to an area pproximately five miles due east of his father Abel fter marrying Addie Hile. He was also a farmer by ade. Charles and his spouse had eleven children, len, Clarence, Ralph, Homer, Carl, Ernest, Frank, Vayne, Ruby, Ruth, and Edna. Of this group, four re still living in Ohio; Carl in Spencerville, Frank in t. Recovery, Wayne south of Coldwater and Ruby onifield Engel in St. Marys. *Mr. and Mrs. Ted Colby, St. Marys, Oh.*

CHARLES CONNER FAMILY

Charles Conner was born in Bluffton, Indiana on ıne 30, 1865 the son of David and Sarah Conner.)n December 25, 1884 he married Matilda (Kate) weigart a native of Auglaize County a daughter of enjamin and Nancy (Stout) Sweigart. Matilda was orn December 11, 1868. After their marriage they ıoved to Center Township in Mercer County and tarted farming. To this union was born three chilren namely; James Elzwerth who was born on Febıary 8, 1886. Elza as he was known was married to annie Mae Wurster, daughter of Michael and Cathrine Wurster. They were married on October 28, 906. Elza died October 22, 1944 and Fannie died Iay 24, 1939. The couple are buried at Swamp Colge Cemetery. Benjamin Conner was born May 19, 889 and married Maud Blanche Beougher, daughr of Harvey Beougher and Evangeline Lohr eougher. They were married August 14, 1909 in elina, Ohio. Benjamin is deceased and buried at wamp College cemetery in Celina. He died April 2, 973. Wilbert Urva Conner was born September 18, 894 in Center township, Mercer County, Ohio. He as married to Bessie Ester Beougher, daughter of Harvey and Evangeline Lohr Beougher, April 26, 913. Urva as he was known died October 27, 1959 nd Bessie died February 20, 1964. They are both buried in Swamp College cemetery in Mercer county. Bessie and Urva had three children Homer Dwight, Gertrude Celina, and Ruth Ellen. Homer is deceased and buried at Swamp college cemetery. Gertrude is married to Raymond Smelser and Ruth is married to Denzel Howell. The Smelser's have a son Ronald who married Barbara Ann Schmaltz and a daughter Connie married to James Snyder. Connie has four children Yvonne, Adam, Eric and Rebecca. The Howell's have a son Denny and Paula married to Gregory Byers. The Byer's have two children Tamara and Teresa. The Howell's also have a daughter Pamela deceased and buried at Swamp College cemetery.

Elza, Benjamin and Urva attended a one room school house. The boys when old enough worked out for farmers in the community. In the late 1900's Charles, the father, moved to Celina and worked for the J. A. Long poultry house. The poultry house was situated at the corner of Ash and Warren Streets. His son Urva also worked at the J. A. Long Company. Urva used to ride on the train to New York to feed the chickens they would ship to market. He would return by train. Then in the 1920's J. A. Long Company went bankrupt and Urva went in business dealing in poultry, wool and hides. His place of business was at his home on Vine Street. Charles would drive through the country and make arrangements for Urva to pick up the poultry. Benjamin and Elza were both farmers in Auglaize County.

Charles died January 2, 1944 and Matilda died June 26, 1930 and both are buried at North Grove Cemetery in Celina, Ohio. *Paula Byers, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Francis Copeland With Deer — **On Porch:** Sally (Real) Copeland, her mother, Mrs. John Real, (Sarah Jones Real).

FRANCIS ABNER COPELAND

Francis Abner Copeland, son of William and Susan Fleming Copeland who came from Somerset County, Pa., was born February 14, 1859. William was born August 3, 1829 in Greene County, Ohio, Susan Fleming was born May 19, 1832 in Somerset County, Pa.

Francis was born in Center township, and lived his entire life in Mercer County, Ohio. Mr. Copeland was a successful farmer of Center township where he lived in a big brick house near the Maple Center church on what was then known as State Line Pike or now is called 197. On November 12, 1882 he was married to Sarah Elizabeth Real, daughter of John and Sarah A. Jones Real. Sarah or "Sally" as she was called was born March 9, 1863. (Another biography in this book).

Francis and Sally were the parents of four children: Zilphra Anise (Ervin Christian), Purn Ray (Rhoda Hannah Newcomb), Ada Belle (Dan Fisher), and Freddie Gilbert, who died in infancy, in 1894.

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After the children were married (about 1908) Francis and Sally moved to 221 South Sugar street in Celina, Ohio. Mr. Copeland purchased a feed barn on West Fayette street, in partnership with George Garman of Celina, Ohio. His son Purn stayed on and farmed the place. (Another biography in this book).

Shortly after moving into the city he became a member of the Western Ohio Hunters Association. He made many trips to Quebec Canada, Carry and Jackman, Maine and the Northern Wilds of Wisconsin. From the first trip in 1904 to the last trip in 1922 he bagged twelve deer. One trip he made, there was a party of eighteen including eleven from Celina on October 26, 1908; they chartered a car over the Cincinnati Northern and left for Long Pond, Maine, where they spent a month hunting. The hunters from Celina were: John Raudabaugh, club president, Francis Copeland, Al Raudabaugh, S. K. Copeland, George Garman, William Newcomb, Miletus Newcomb, Tom Scott, James Monroe, D. E. Green and Robert Andrews. Francis was one of the lucky ones to get a deer. The hunters would rent a cabin and take turns doing kitchen work, some of the "grub" eaten by the hunters was apples, hickory nuts, turnips and potatoes. When company came they would pass around the hickory nuts. Their cabin was usually located near a river and if deer were scarce they could always catch some fish to eat. After 1922 the custom officers were more strict, if they took any deer or moose with them it would cost them four cents a pound duty, besides three and one-half cents a pound express. One hunter said that took all of the hunt out of us. Five of the crowd that hunted together were over 60 years of age and the hills were too much for them.

In 1922, friends, family and neighbors gathered at the Copeland home for a surprise party in honor of their fortieth wedding anniversary. Mr. Copeland was heard recalling that today was a lot like the Sunday forty years ago, only it was a little muddy. He recalled, in those days, "we had to pay toll east of St. Marys to get to the home of Rev. Marion Morris, who pronounced us man and wife."

Mr. Copeland died at his home on Sugar St., Celina, Ohio, after being an invalid for four years, at the age of seventy-one. Sally passed away on January 23, 1946. *Grace Now, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Mr. and Mrs. Copeland

PURN RAY COPELAND

Purn Ray Copeland, a well known and respected farmer of Center township, was born in Center township, Mercer county, Ohio, on his father's farm on the State Line Pike or what is now known as 197. He was born August 24, 1886 the son of Francis Abner and Sarah Elizabeth Real Copeland. He also had two sisters, Zilphra Anise and Ada Belle and also a brother, Frederick Gilbert, who died in infancy. His sisters biographies can be found in this history book.

After his marriage to Rhoda Hannah Newcomb September 6, 1908, he remained on his father's farm and his parents moved to 221 South Sugar street in Celina, Ohio. Rhoda Hannah Newcomb was the daughter of Miletus and Mary Jane Raudabaugh Newcomb, and was born in Center township, Mercer county, Ohio, September 17, 1886. (Her biography can be found in this history book)

While living in the brick home, near the Maple Center church, five daughters were born to Purn and Rhoda. They stayed on his father's farm until March, 1920, when they purchased a farm that belonged to Rhoda's father, Miletus Newcomb. Miletus had built a new house on the farm after the former house had burned.

Three more children were born to the Copeland family in their newly purchased home. There were now eight children as follows: Nellie Elizabeth, Alberta Bernice, Mary Kathryn, Grace Alice, Ida May, Florence, Carl Ray, Hazel Margaret and George Robert. Many happy times can be recalled by this family and some not so happy, like the crash in the late twenties and early thirties. So many families, just getting started, had to have a sale and sell everything and start all over again. After the sale Purn rented a farm three miles south and east of Mendon on the Union and Center township line, known as the Cal Jordan farm. The children all pitched in and helped with the farming until such time one by one they all left the farm, scattering to all parts of the country. Leaving all the work for their father to do in his declining years. Purn also worked at the Community Sale Barn in Mendon, Ohio owned by Coony Hamilton.

A short while before his death he purchased a small home in Mendon, Ohio, preparing to retire but the day never came, it was not to be, because he died before he got that accomplished. He departed this life on February 4, 1949, at the age of 63 years.

Purn and Rhoda made several trips to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to visit relatives, the John Christian family. Purn also went with some of his friends Ted Worrell, Roger Sites, Joe Krugh, Richard Smith Sr. to California, in 1946. While there he visited with his daughter, Mae and family, who were living in Porterville, California. Purn and Rhoda also went to Florida, with their daughter, Nellie and her husband *Floyd Rogers, Sacramento, Calif. 95821*

Abner Copeland Homestead, erected 1840

WILLIAM COPELAND

William Copeland, son of Abner and Margaret Morgan Copeland, was born August 3, 1829 in Greene County, Ohio. On September 21, 1851 he married Susan Fleming. Susan was born May 19 1832, she moved with her parents from Somerset County, Pennsylvania to Holmes County, Ohio in 1840. William and Susan had nine children: Margaret Irene (Henry Stanley Stanbery), Harriet (W. A. Hile), Mary, (James Brubaker), Francis (Sarah Elizabeth Real), John Calvin (Emma May Lamond), Min-

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rva Ann, Effie Jane (Albert Lynch Bay), William, ertha (Robert D. Denman). William died October 3, 1907. Susan Sept. 22, 1899.

Abner Copeland, son of John and Judith Rawson Copeland, was born June 15, 1790, in Surry County, Iorth Carolina. He married Margaret Morgan, who vas born July 20, 1797 in Frederick County, Virinia. Abner emigrated to Greene County, Ohio in 315, with his father, John. In 1817 was married to Margaret Morgan, later moved to Allen County then) Auglaize County, Ohio in 1834. He was married 7 years, was the father of 11 children, ten of whom ved to attend his funeral. Abner also had 68 grandnildren and 25 great-grandchildren at the time of is death. His children's names were as follows: Joeph (Mary Ann English), Madison (Catherine Hulnger), James (Sarah Ann Looney), Mary, Wesley Mary Ann Perkins), John Franklin (Rachel Williams Manning), William (Susan Fleming), Sarah, Elisha Sam Harrod), Luesa (Perry Harrod), Margaret Leander Wierman). He died in Auglaize County, Ohio on May 2, 1874 at the age of 84 years. Margaet died September 13, 1876.

John Copeland Sr., grandfather of William, was orn April 1, 1755 in England. He was married to Juith Rawson born March 30, 1755. Their family was s follows: Richard, Elisha, John Jr. (Cynthia Scroggs n N.C.), William (Sarah Lucas), Sarah "Sally" (Jacob Hussey in Greene Co.), Abner (Margaret Morgan), oseph, Rebecca (Isaac Ellis), Mary, Nancy (Deboro). ohn and wife, Judith, both died in 1826. *Bob Copeland, Delphos, Oh.*

Justice B. Davis

SAMUEL DAVIS AND HIS FAMILY

Samuel Davis was born in Rutland County, Vermont, in May, 1786. His grandfather was born in Wales and emigrated to Vermont in an early day where his father, John Davis, was born. Samuel Davis emigrated to New York State, where he married Miss Laura Spicer, born Jan. 12, 1797. They remained in New York State about four years after marriage, or until the spring of 1817, when they migrated to Ohio, and located in Cincinnati. They lived in Cincinnati and in different counties in southern Ohio until April 19th, 1834, when they came to Shelby County, remained until the 1st day of September of the same year, and then came to Mercer County. They settled in Union Township, on a part of section 35, where they remained until 1861, when they moved to Center Township. They passed the remainder of their days with their son, Samuel Davis. Mrs. Davis died April 1st, 1866. Mr. Davis departed this life November 10th, 1868. Mr. Davis served in the War of 1812, and received a land warrant for the services rendered. He was considered one among Mercer County's most worthy pioneers, and left the world honored and esteemed by all who knew him. He followed farming as his principal business through life. He and his wife reared a family of six children, viz., Samuel, Laura, Justus B., James C., Mary, and Eliza, all of whom married and reared families.

Justus B. Davis, second son of Samuel and Laura Davis, was born in Miami County, Ohio, March 18, 1825. He was brought to Mercer County in September, 1834, by his parents, who settled on a part of Section 35, in Union Township, where he grew to manhood. On September 28, 1848, he married Miss Susanna Murlin, daughter of Daniel and Sally Murlin. Miss Murlin was born in Hardin County, Ky., Dec. 26, 1832, and was brought to this county by her parents in 1833, who located in Union Township. Mr. and Mrs. Davis settled in Center Township, on a part of the northeast quarter of section 11, on which he made improvements and resided. He had one of the best improved farms of the area which was principally the result of his own hard labor. They reared a family of four children, viz., Sarah, Mary E., Eleanor J., and Sabert Scott. Mr. Davis served about four months in the Civil War in Company K, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Regiment, Ohio National Guards. He died Apr. 21, 1900. Mrs. Davis continued to reside on the home farm with her son Sabert until her death in 1916, June 26.

Sabert Scott Davis was born April 5, 1861, the only son of Justus and Susanna Davis. He grew to manhood on the farm in Center Township, owned by his father. On September 2, 1880 he married Clarissa Wines. Their children were Warren A. Davis, James Carney, and Ella who died in childhood, Ivan Byron, Mary E., Ethel and Ruth Clarissa, who grew to adulthood and married. Mrs. Davis died in 1901. Mr. Davis and his mother, Susanna, cared for and reared the children. Mr. Davis succeeded his father in the management of the home farm and lived all his life there until retirement. He was noted for his up-to-date farming methods. In Aug. 1911 Mr. Davis married Anna Teachout. In 1932 they retired and moved to Mendon where they resided until his death in 1933. He is buried in Bethel Cemetery in Center Township, also the burial place of his father and grandfather.

Ivan Byron Davis was born Nov. 28, 1885, son of Sabert and Clarissa Davis. He grew to manhood on his father's farm in Center Township. On Aug. 14, 1912, he married Miss Nelva Drury, daughter of Horace and Elizabeth Drury. Miss Drury was born May 18, 1892, in Center Township. Two children were born to them, Beryl, Feb. 19, 1915 and Marvin Eugene, Nov. 5, 1920.

Mr. Davis lived most of his life on the farm purchased by his grandfather and he, in turn, purchased it from the other heirs after his father's death. Along with farming his farm and others nearby, he drove the school bus for the Center Township School at Neptune for twenty years. He served as County Commissioner for Mercer County and was active in Masonic work, Grange and various other community activities. His death occurred Aug. 29, 1961. His widow, Nelva Davis, still resides on the home farm.

His daughter, Beryl, married Delbert M. Dolphin,

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a teacher from Hillsboro, Ohio, Dec. 20, 1933. They have two children, Jacquelin Lee, born Feb. 12, 1938 and Michael Byron, born Sept. 11, 1942. Jacquelin Lee married David G. Greenlee of San Diego, Calif., on Mar. 16, 1958. They have three children, Christopher David, born Aug. 10, 1959, Mark Michael, born Mar. 20, 1961, and Lynn Suzanne, born Mar. 29, 1963. Michael Byron Dolphin married Kathleen Hope Starke of San Diego on June 16, 1963. They have one daughter, Michaela, born Mar. 21, 1971. All of this branch of the family reside in California.

Mr. Davis' son, Marvin Eugene, married Pollyann McCue, May 23, 1941. They have two sons, Berry Byron, born Jan. 28, 1953 and Scott Eugene, born Mar. 24, 1958. Eugene Davis served in World War II with the Naval Seventh Fleet, in the South Pacific. Mr. Davis works for Burroughs Corporation in Detroit, Michigan and the family resides near Detroit, Michigan.

The Davis farm has been owned by some member of the family for one hundred and thirty years, being passed down from father to son. The farm is situated on Davis Road between the Mendon-Neptune Road and State Route 197. It is treasured by all members of the family. *Mrs. Nelva Davis, Celina, Oh. 45822*

L. to R.: Merle Drury Grant, Horace F. Drury, Nelva Drury Davis, Elizabeth Craft Drury, Edna Drury Piper.

DRURY FAMILY

Somewhere in the eighteenth century, there was born in the state of Vermont, a boy who was given the name of Samuel Drury. It was in the state of Vermont where he grew to manhood.

He then married Hannah Bronson whose family had been in America for sometime. Hannah had several brothers who served in the Revolutionary War with some distinction. Some served with the Green Mountain Boys.

Samuel Drury learned the hatters trade and did very well. He moved across the river to Albany, New York and then to Syracuse. Here he became the victim of a land shark. He traded all his property in New York for a thousand acres in Kentucky. They traveled by land and flat boat and finally landed at the desired place in Kentucky.

When he located his land he found it to be worthless.

Seven children were born to them. Two boys and five girls.

The boys were named James and Bronson. The girls were Hannah, Olive and Mary. Others were unknown.

Bronson settled in Cincinnati. He became the father of two sons. Other than that nothing is known of them.

James Drury received a good education for a boy at that time. He chose the Ministry as his profession.

Reverend James Drury married Miss Sibyl Murlin on September 12, 1820. In 1839, James and his family emigrated to Ohio. They located in Center Township in Mercer County where they passed the remainder of their days.

He died August 1855. His companion survivec him until August 28, 1877.

He served as Justice of the Peace and Constable of Center Township for a number of years. He was one of the first Baptist Ministers in the county and assisted at the organization of several churches of that denomination in Mercer and adjoining Counties.

He reared a family of seven children — Laura F. Horace H., Samuel M., William L., George N., Sarah and Walter H.

Laura F. and Sarah died in Center Township. Horace M. in the army June 12, 1864 at Falmouth, Kentucky. Samuel M., William L., and Walter H., all served in the War of 1861. Samuel M. was with General Sherman on his march to the sea.

James Drury purchased land in Center Township on which the buildings on the Drury farm are now located. They took possession of this new home in 1840 and it has been in possession of his descendants until the present time.

William L. Drury was born to Reverend James Drury and Sibyl Drury on October 29, 1830. He married Charlotte Brown and they had two children. William S., born July 6, 1864 and Calista born August 5, 1861. The mother of these children died when they were small. Mr. Drury then married Mary Jane (Fast) Webb. Their children were Horace, born July 12, 1868, Fredonia Ann, and Abraham B., born November 27, 1871 and died May 9, 1890. William spent his life farming the home farm near Neptune and also teaching school.

He retired to live in St. Marys and came often to visit where his son Horace was living. He drove a black horse named Bird who was hitched to a buggy. His last years were spent with his son on a farm and in 1920 he died. He and his wife are buried in Elm Grove Cemetery, St. Marys, Ohio.

Horace Franklin Drury was born July 12, 1868 the second son of William L. Drury. He grew to adulthood on the family farm near Neptune. On October 11, 1889, he married Elizabeth Edith Craft, daughter of William and Matilda Craft of Center Township. Elizabeth was born August 6, 1871. Mr. Drury continued to live on and farm his father's farm. Upon the death of his father, the farm was divided among the four heirs. Mr. Drury obtained the forty acres containing the house and other buildings. He served as Justice of the Peace for Center Township and was active in the Neptune Baptist Church as teacher, Sunday School Superintendent. He also was on the Center Township Election Committee, and County Board of Elections. He spent several years living in Lima, Ohio, but he returned to the farm for awhile. He built a home in Neptune and retired there.

Mr. and Mrs. Drury had three daughters — Nelva B., May 18, 1892, Edna B., May 30, 1897, Merle born September 1, 1899.

Nelva married Ivan B. Davis on August 14, 1916, Edna married Oreal E. Piper on August 14, 1916. Merle married Robert J. Grant of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan B. Davis had two children. They were Berle D. born February 19, 1915 and Marvin Eugene B. born November 5, 1920.

Beryl D. Davis married Delbert Dolphin Decem-

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ır 1933. They had two children, Jacqueline Lee and ichael. M. Eugene Davis had two children. They ere Berry Davis born January 28, 1954 and Scot avis born March 24, 1958.

Mr. and Mrs. Oreal Piper had three children — lwyn Drury Piper deceased, Lyndel A. Piper who as born July 15, 1920 and Dana Lee Piper who was rn November 9, 1925.

Lyndel Piper married Ruth E. Baker on January 1. ıey have two children, Lynda Ruth Piper Yocum ıd Tom Allyn Piper.

Dana married Mary Lou Cisco September 18, 1945 ıd they had five children. Dennis Lee Piper born ctober 29, 1946, James Allen Piper born November 1947, Jerry Dean Piper born May 21, 1952, Mary ıildren Piper born December 3, 1953, and Dana ndrew Piper born October 14, 1958.

Oreal E. Piper and Edna Drury Piper purchased e farm from Horace and Elizabeth Drury Novem- ır 1938 which was formally owned by Reverend rury.

The farm is located in Center Township, Section , Mercer County, on Drury Lane, one mile north Neptune. *Edna Drury Piper, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Front Row, L. to R.: Kay Elam, Hollie Elam, Lucille Elam, Karen Tindall, Joyce Tindall, Allison Tindall, Judith Riesser. **Second Row:** Rev. Dr. Dean A. Elam, Sharon Riesser, Mathew Riesser, Beth Riesser. **Third Row:** Melvin Tindall, Larry Riesser, Neil A. Elam, Cheryl Elam, Jill Rae Elam.

THE ELAMS

Work was hard to come by back in '39 especially ır a college graduate seeking a teaching position. rthur Lawrence Elam pushed his '32 Chevy deep to Mercer County to a little town called Mendon. ne position as an industrial arts teacher was open ır the Fall in the High School but things looked eak as Art placed his application on top of a awer full of similar applications! The following eek fortune smiled as he was called for an inter- ew and after a long day of waiting the school oard adjourned and welcomed Art to his new aching job. This event, more than any other, elped to determine the establishment of the Elams Mercer County.

Art, being single, stayed at Mrs. Ona Boland's ıoming house where one of the men that shared ıe costs was Tennyson Guyer (now U.S. Represent- ive, 4th district). In the spring of '41 one could ear wedding bells ringing as Art walked down the sle with his college classmate and sweetheart, Edna ucille Johnson, the oldest daughter of Indiana State epresentative, Charles R. and Hazel I. Johnson. The lams went to housekeeping in a little house a block two from the Mendon school and after a proper oelling" by the town folk all seemed ready for a uiet life in a beautiful community. Tranquillity was broken first by the birth of little Judith Sharon and then Pearl Harbor and the war years. Art moved his little family to Truax Field Air Force Base in Madison, Wisconsin to serve his country as a civilian instructor in Communications and Intelligence.

Moving back into Mercer County in '44 Art and Lucille lived for a while at the Floyd Purdy farm while Art accepted the position of Principal for the Center Township Schools at Neptune, Ohio. The following year found the Elams being moved by their neighbors on hay wagons and trucks to the recently purchased Silas Harner homestead. The year of '45 was also eventful in that Dean Arthur was born and Art started commuting to Indiana University to work on a Masters Degree in Administration. Upon graduation Art served as Principal for the Mendon Village Schools. In '60 Art accepted a teaching position in the area of his first love, mathematics and science, at the Celina Senior High School. It was while serving as chairman of the Science Department that his career was ended by an untimely death in '71.

After three more children; Joyce Marcile, Neil Allen and Jill Rae, Lucille began teaching again, first at the Franklin School in Montezuma, Ohio and then at the East Elementary School in Celina where she is still employed. Lucille has held the family together after the passing of her mate and is seeing that each of her children receives a college education and a good start in life.

Art and Lucille found the Church (Mt. Zion) to be a very important part of their Christian lives. Art served twenty-five years as Sunday School Superintendent and Lucille served as Sunday School Junior Department Director for as many years, plus. Regular worship and service in the Church has had a marked positive influence on each of the Elam family members.

Presently Lucille is teaching school, farming, and enjoying her children and grandchildren. Judy married Larry T. Riesser of Tipp City, Ohio who is now Head Hospital Administrator for five Detroit, Michigan Hospitals. Judy is teaching and finishing her Masters Degree in Education while raising their three lovely children: Sharon Tweed, Matthew Lawrence, and Beth Elaine.

Dean married Kay Marie McCracken of Nicholson, Pennsylvania. Kay is presently teaching in the Milton-Union City Schools and using her double major degree in biology and mathematics. Dean is serving as the minister of the Laura United Church of Christ and has recently graduated with a Doctor of Ministry degree from the United Theological Seminary. He previously has earned a B.A. from Ohio Northern University and a Masters of Divinity from Dayton. The Elams have two charming daughters; Hollie Kay and Megan Suzanne.

Joyce, after graduating with a B.S. from Ohio Northern University married Melvin Westwood Tindall III, an engineer graduate, also of O.N.U. Presently Mel is an engineer for the Reed Sod Farms in New Jersey while Joyce is teaching in the Princeton School system. Mel and Joyce are enjoying raising their two beautiful daughters; Karen Kristine and Allison Elaine, in their new home located near Dutchneck, N.J.

Upon graduation from Wright State University, Neil Allen taught Chemistry in the Northmont

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School system and then married Cheryl Sue Greenwalt also a graduate of Wright State University and Bacteriologist for St. Elizabeth Hospital in Dayton. Presently the Elams are in Columbus while Neil finished his Doctor of Denistry degree at Ohio State University. Cheryl is employed in the Bacteriology Department at Riverside Hospital.

Jill Rae is now into her second year at Michigan State University in the area of Electrical Engineering.

Arthur once wrote a short novel entitled, "A Rolling Stone Gathers No Moss" depicting the many moves in his early childhood and the many fascinating people he met. I dare venture to say that if Art were alive today, he would see that there is still little moss gathering in each of his scions as the "stone" continues to roll throughout Mercer County and now into many new communities, touching, caring, and sharing even as his children were touched, cared for and shared with by Art and Lucille Elam. *Rev. Dr. Dean A. Ela, Celina, Ohio 45822*

Russish and Eddy the Webb Flore

RUSSISH FLORE

Russish P. Flore, the son of George W. and Minnie Tester Flore was born September 8, 1905. He had one brother Floyed, born February 1, 1901 and died at one month of age. Also a sister Silva Lucille born October 11, 1902 and died September 28, 1908. His mother, Minnie died September 20, 1908. Both Minnie and Silva died with Typhoid Fever. Russish father, George W. Flore was born March 8, 1868 and died September 19, 1948. (see Jacob Tester).

Russish attended the Kaiser and the Piper schools, both near his home. He married Eddythe Idora Webb, daughter of Ira and Maria Donovan Webb, on September 16, 1924 and celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary September 1974. The children of this union are;

1. — Helen Marie — born August 8, 1925 and married Dale D. Parker, son of David Larkin and Anna Deniza Coffield Parker of Ashland, Kansas on October 10, 1954. They live on U.S. 33, Helen's birthplace, and have no children. After graduating from Neptune High School, Helen worked at The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. in St. Marys, Ohio until retiring March 1972 because of disability. Dale was a painter and paper hanger. Both being retired, they now have "The Crochet Shoppe" in their home, doing crochet work and making bead flowers.

2. — Robert Angus — born December 2, 1928 and married Dorothy Enyart, daughter of Sherman and Carrie Williamson Enyart on June 5, 1954. They have two daughters; a. — Deborah Diane born June 11, 1956, and b. — Barbara Elaine born August 14, 1958. Deborah and Barbara graduated from Celina High School. Deborah married Frederick Roll April 1, 1978 and lives in Greenville, Ohio. Barbara is in her third year at The Mount Vernon Nazarene College.

Robert graduated from Neptune High School and went into the Army March 1951. Cpl. Robert Flore was a member of Med. Co. 350th Infantry Regt. of the U.S. Army and was stationed at Camp Roeder Austria. He was honorably discharged February 16 1953. Robert now works for Thermogas Co. and Dorothy works at the Empire Restaurant of Celina.

3. — Ray Junior, born October 14, 1931, and married Patricia Wallen, daughter of Carl and Isabell Hammond Wallen on September 2, 1967. They have no children. Ray graduated from Neptune High School and entered the service on October 16, 1952 He served in the Med. Co. 7th Inf. of the U.S. Army and was stationed in Korea. Sgt. Flore was honorably discharged August 19, 1954 at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. Ray is now working at The West Ohio Gas Co. and Patricia works at the Huffman Manufacturing Co. of Celina.

4. — Lester Lee — born January 30, 1938, graduated at Celina High School, because of Neptune High School being discontinued. Lester married Sharalene Secrest, daughter of Lloyd and Luella Scheblo Secrest. Lester and Sharalene worked at Mersman Corp. before marriage. Now Lester works for Reynolds and Reynolds of Celina. They are the parents of three children, namely; a. — James Lee — born March 29, 1971; b. — Jonathan Ray — born May 26, 1973; c. — Jessica Marie — born September 18, 1978.

Russish has been caretaker of the Center Twp Cemeteries since March 1, 1957. Mrs. Flore is retired from The Style Shop where she was a seamstress for over thirty years. She now does sewing and makes wood fiber flowers in her home. *Compiled and written by Helen M. Flore Parker, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

LEWIS M. FRISBIE

Lewis M. Frisbie son of Josiah and Rebecca (Bond) Frisbie of Westford, Chittenden Co., Vermont, was born in 1826. He came to Licking Co., Ohio with his parents, three brothers and a sister in the 1830's.

Josiah Frisbie, son of David and Mary (Field) Woodford Frisbie was born in Connecticut. This Frisbie family are descendants of the Frisby's who came to America on the ship Jonathan, and landed May 27, 1620, in the Virginia Colony, at Jamestown.

In Licking Co., Ohio Lewis M. Frisbie married Nancy Trout, born 1827, in Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of John and Nancy (Tedrow) Trout.

Lewis M. and Nancy (Trout) Frisbie's children are: Sylvester (1849-); John; Molly (1855-1925) and her twin brother (1855-1857); George; Emma Iona (1861-1937).

Lewis M. Frisbie's younger brother, Rev. Andrew J. Frisbie married Adelaide McDowell on July 22, 1854, and they had a son, Arthur Leroy. When Nancy (Trout) Frisbie died soon after the birth of Emma, the two older children, Molly and George, went to live with Rev. A. J., Mrs. Frisbie and their son.

On March 19, 1865, Lewis M. Frisbie married Kathryn Sherrick, (1844-1922), in Mercer Co., Ohio and their children are: Alma (1867-1947); Lona (1870-1957); Lulu (1874-1933).

At the time Lona was born Lewis M., Kathryn,

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mma, and Alma lived in Illinois, but they returned Centre Twp., Mercer Co., Neptune, Ohio. Here ewis provided a good living for his family as a wagon maker". He was devoted to his family and is religion. He not only delivered a sermon, but he ved it.

He built a "plank home" on the corner of North nd Alpha Streets in Neptune where he lived the remainder of his life. He died November 20, 1891, and buried in the Neptune Cemetery, near his home.

George Frisbie went west; Molly Frisbie married mes M. Fee, he died, and she married Madison Edcomb and lived in Allen Co., Beaverdam, Ohio.

Emma Iona Frisbie married Philip S. Hitchner Jr., nd lived on the Hitchner home place in Hopewell wp., Mercer Co., Ohio the rest of her life. After hilip Jr. died Emma Hitchner married James B. ler.

Alma Frisbie married Joseph Laffin; Lona Frisbie arried George C. Breo and David F. Gilliland; Lulu isbie married Lewis Wilkin and they lived with er mother in Neptune until the Frisbie family ome, Lewis had built, burned in ca. 1919. They oved to St. Marys, Auglaize Co., Ohio. *Mrs. Everett Dahlke, Cridersville, Oh. 45806*

ASA HALL of Wallingford, Conn.

th generation LEE HAMILTON FISCHER 1931

Lee Hamilton Fischer born on March 2, 1931, at elina, Ohio, to Joseph N. Fischer and Mildred Carine Hamilton Fischer. He married Dorothy Kinky. She was born to Brice and Gertrude Wille Kinky, February 12, 1934, at Celina, Ohio. Lee's great-eat-great grandfather was Justin Hamilton.

5th generation
MILDRED CAROLINE HAMILTON FISCHER
1905

Mildred Caroline Hamilton was born on May 23, 905 at Celina, Ohio, to Lee Ivan and Ada Hall Hamon. On December 3, 1926 she married Joseph N. scher at St. Sebastian, Ohio. He was born on April 1905 at Celina, Ohio to Frank and Gertrude Funk scher. He died January 10, 1963.

5th generation
JUANITA MARGARET HAMILTON 1903

Juanita Margaret Hamilton was born on March ', 1903 to Lee Ivan and Ada Hall Hamilton at Cela, Ohio. She went to Miami University at Oxford, hio and taught school in the Rural District, at Cela, Ohio. After several years of teaching she went Bliss College at Columbus, Ohio, and was a comercial instructor at Wellsville high school Wellsle, Ohio.

She married Harold Francis Brooks son of Wilson nd Sarah Jane Lown Brooks on August 24, 1929 at elina, Ohio. He was born March 29, 1902 at Fredoa, Ohio. Juanita died August 3, 1969.

4th generation ADA HALL HAMILTON 1880

Ada Hall was born July 28, 1880 at Neptune, Ohio Curtis Atwater Hall and Caroline Bonifield Hall. ied at Celina, Ohio August 8, 1959. Her husband e Ivan Hamilton, born on November 23, 1880 to Moses Silas Hamilton (youngest child of Justus and Mary Jane Panabaker Hamilton) and Frona Belle Dutton Hamilton at Mendon, Ohio. He was one of the first Rural Mail carriers. He took his Civil Service examination February 13, 1903. He retired after serving 31 years and 7 months. He died June 6, 1956 at Celina, Ohio.

(3rd generation) CURTIS ATWATER HALL 1825

Curtis Atwater Hall was born on February 13, 1825 at Atwater, Ohio to Atwater and Permelia Haskins Hall. Died at Neptune, Ohio, June 28, 1890, his second wife Caroline Bonifield, born on May 12, 1837, at Mercer County, Ohio. Died at Neptune, Ohio, on May 26, 1914, was married on May 30, 1857. She was the daughter of Hannah Wright Bonifield and William Bonifield (who founded Neptune, Ohio, in 1837).

(2nd generation) ATWATER HALL 1799

Atwater Hall was born on January 28, 1799, at Atwater, Ohio to Elizabeth and Asa Hall. He died October 22, 1860 at Neptune, Ohio. His wife Permelia Haskins born on March 17, 1798, at Armenia, N.Y., died at Neptune, Ohio on December 27, 1866, married on May 10, 1820.

(1st generation) ASA HALL 1760

Asa Hall was born on about 1760 at Wallingford, Conn., died at Portage County, Ohio, in 1814 and his wife Elizabeth, died at Mercer County, Ohio, on October 20, 1844. Married in 1787. *Mildred C. Fisher*

VAUGHN E. HALL (3-14-01 12-22-62)

Vaughn Eugene Hall, great grandson of Dow and Mary Ann (Wine) Hall, grandson of Alexander and Rachel (Harter) Hall and John and Emma (White) Walls and the eldest child of five children born to Emmert and Bertha (Walls) Hall. The Hall family migrated to the Neptune area of Mercer County from Portage County and the Walls from Salmonia, Ind.

Vaughn graduated from the former Center Township High School, attended Ohio Northern University, taught school for several years and during vacation worked with Decorators in Celina and St. Marys. He later became interested in farming and the Live Stock trade operating his Yards at Neptune, Ohio. He helped establish and was part owner of the Western Ohio Livestock Exchange south of Celina. He spent his entire life in the Neptune area of Center Township.

On 8-1-25 he married Lois Elder (8-27-04) also a teacher and resident of Center Township. She is the great granddaughter of Singleton and Elizabeth (Cox) Buxton and Jerrimiah and Nancy (May) Plummer. The granddaughter of Frances Marion and Cylinda Jane (Plummer) Buxton and Hamilton and Elizabeth (Palmer) Elder. The daughter of Owen T. and Elizabeth (Buxton) Elder. The Buxton family migrated to Franklin Twp. of Mercer County from Butler County in the 1830s, the 160 acre farm bought directly from the U.S. Government. Frances served in the Civil war.

Children born to this union are Owen Vaughn and Ruthann Hall. Owen is married to the former

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Madonna Harner and they are the parents of Jonathan Micheal, Jerold Leigh and Janette Suzanne. Jonathan is married to the former Krisann Linder and are the parents of Micheal. Ruthann is married to Eldon Eichenauer and they are the parents of Gwyn Anette and Greg Alan.

The Vaughn Hall family have been and are active members of the Churches of God located at Neptune, Ohio. They have and are holding offices in the Church and Sunday School and have been and are active in the music departments of the Church.

Since 1964 Lois has been employed by the Ohio Department of Welfare as a caseworker working out of the Mercer County Welfare Office. Since 1966 she has resided in Celina.

Owen with his wife and sons are active in the real estate business having offices in Celina, Greenville, St. Marys and Wapakoneta. Both Owen and Jon are auctioneers. Jon and wife are graduates of Findlay College. Krisann has taught in the business department of St. Marys and Celina high schools. Jerry attended Ohio State University and Middletown branch of Miami University. Jan has just completed her senior year at Northwood Institute at Midland, Mich.

Ruthann a graduate of Ohio Northern University and a former teacher in the Coldwater schools is now teaching in the Celina system and student at Wright State University. Also an employee of General Telephone for several years. Eldon farms extensively and specializes in the feeding of beef cattle. Has been Hopewell Twp. clerk for several years. Gwyn, a high school freshman and Greg a Junior Hi student are active in 4H and school affairs. *Lois E. Hall, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Silas Harner Home and Children's Families

HARNER 1727 to 1978

Christian Harner was born in England in 1727 and migrated by the way of Rotterdam, Holland on the ship Frances & Elizabeth, and qualified at Philadelphia Sept. 21, 1742. He married Barbara Krebs March 8, 1750 by Rev. Henry H. Muhlenburg of the Lutheran Church at Trapps Co., Pennsylvania. A farmer, and a member of George Washington Militia, and crossed the Delaware with Washington was also skillful hunter with rifle and bow and arrow and competed with the Indians whose language he spoke fluently. A loyal defender of the constitution and voted for George Washington in the first el tion held in New York City. Michael Harner I w born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania and is su posed to have died near there. He was a son Christian Harner.

Michael Harner II was born in Bedford Co., Pen sylvania January 18, 1794. He was a soldier of t War of 1812. He migrated to Ohio locating in Fa ette Co. He married Hannah Roebuck in 1818. and two others came to Fayette Co. in 1816. 18 came to Mercer Co. having received a land grant 640 acres for his service in the war of 1812. His p sessions were a grub hoe, an axe and $1.00. He liv in a bark hut near where the Mayfair Hotel n stands. Having raised a crop, he returned in the f having raised a crop to prove his claim, he return and brought his family to the first settlement in t wilderness after signing the treaty of St. Mar Building a cabin near St. Rt. 33 and Celina and Me don Rd. he was a member of the Whig party a later a Republican. A charter member of the fi United Brethren Church which he helped to bu on the bank of the 12 mile creek on the Mercer F Later S. B. Collins farm Church was also used a school. A circuit rider Rev. James Lay was the first which there were 36 and was dedicated under ministry. Michael and Hannah raised 7 childr Ruel, Michael and William died in the Civil war. M chael on Look Out Mt., William at Nashville, Ter Ruel in Andersonville prison.

Ruel Harner I was born in 1823 in Center Tw Sept. 1823. Married Sally Anne Rider born Aug. 1827. They were married by Elisha Heck on 23 May 1849 witness J. W. Riley. Six children we born to them, and were raised in the cabin whi was built by Michael III. Ruel being a teamster a patriotic enlisted at the age of 39 in the Civil W was captured while trying to get supplies to his b sieged comrades at Shiloh. He was sent to And sonville prison where so many died of starvati and was buried in an unknown grave at Americ Georgia. Sally Anne raised six children near t place I was born and now live. Planting, cradli wheat, and corn, raising, free food, spinning wo for clothes and blankets for her family. She died the age of 87. Having lost both legs with phlebitis in a wheel chair telling us stories of grandfather p ting her and children on the horse and going to t meeting with cornbread for lunch. Piecing quil singing old hymns, Johnny Appleseed planting 2 a ple trees just outside her door and rolling there sleep. Indians propping the papooses against t cabin and asking for mulh for the poosies.

Silas Harner was born April 24, 1854. Died D cember 9, 1932. Died. Married Celina Kiser bo 1853 — Died January 7, 1893. Eight children we born to them. Clem Oct. 8, 1878, Iva February 1880, Lonnie Sept. 25, 1881, Morty July 1, 1883, Ba deceased, Arley December 15, 1885, Jesse Decemb 3, 1887 Gail November 1891. Celina died January 1893.

Silas Harner then married Tarsa Ellen Zarbau daughter of Jacob and Margaret Armpriester Za baugh of Fairfield Co. She died August 12, 1927. S children were born — Loren E. April 11, 1897, Ru A., December 14, 1898, Martin S., March 21, 19 Silas A. January 28, 1902. Walter D. March 6, 190 Paul M. June 27, 1905.

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Ruel Harner 11 and Ruth Harner Meyers are liv-ıg on the original land grant of 1819 for service in Var of 1812.

Facts for this history were furnished by Celia Har-er Cavanaugh and Ruth Harner Meyers gathering ɔme local, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C. Ar-hives. *Ruth Harner Meyers, Celina, Oh. 45822*

RUEL HARNER

The subject of this sketch is a successful farmer of :enter Township, Mercer County. Mr. Ruel Harner, ɔn of Mr. Gail Harner and Hazel Webb Harner was orn in Center Township, Mercer County June 27, 915. He has five brothers and sisters; Oreal of St. Marys, Ohio; Glen of Mendon, Ohio; Herbert of :elina, Ohio; Dorothy Manier deceased and Delores uxton of Celina, Ohio.

In early life he went to school at the Plank Road Roebuck) one room school. In 1928 the small coun-y schools were closed and he went into Neptune,)hio, where he graduated from high school from :enter Township School in 1933.

After graduating from high school he started ırming and operating a milk truck. He hauled milk ıto the pet milk plant in Coldwater and later to roducers in Celina. He stopped driving the milk ·uck and began farming more land and doing cus-ɔm work for other farmers.

On February 17, 1938, he was united in marriage ɔ Eathyle Delores Kuhn, daughter of Clarence and dna Kuhn of Center Township. To this union was orn two daughters, Betty June and Kathleen Ann. etty June later married Glen Florence Jr. of Cold-ater, Ohio, to this union was born four children: eisa, Mark, Douglas, and Lorna. Kathleen Ann ıarried Lavern Wendel of Celina, to this union ·ere born five children: Christopher, Gregory, Lori, .ngela, and Derick.

Along with farming Mr. Harner has spent several ears serving his community of Center Township. le served for a period of eight years as Clerk of the ownship Trustees, Center Township Board of Edu-ation for twelve years, and presently is serving as ownship Trustee in his tenth year. He is chairper-ɔn of the County Trustees Organization. He has een very active in making the old Center Township :hoolyard into a park for the community to use as a :creation area for the young and old. In spring of 968 along with brother Glen and Oreal decided to ɔ in the oil business. So they purchased a well drill-ıg rig, leased some land besides their own, and :arted drilling. Putting down six wells of different epth. One to a depth of 3220 ft. The deepest in this art of the state. It did not prove to be successful. lthough gas or oil was found in each well, in small uantities. So they gave up; being too expensive a roject.

He has served as Republican Chairman of Center wp. and calls himself a "Conservative Republican". e goes to church at the Mt. Zion United Methodist hurch which his forefathers helped to organize and uild as a United Brethren Church. He has always ɔne there and is proud of these facts. When the ed-:ation unit was built he donated the corner stone ɔr the building. This church is located on Celina-lendon Rd.

His wife Eathyle passed away Apr. 20, 1973, being buried in North Grove Cemetery. Later marrying the widowed Margaret Jane Hutchinson Dickey of Center Twp. A school mate who has two children, Clarence Eugene Dickey and Rosemary Blessinger of Garrett, Indiana.

In 1976 he decided to build a new home on his farm in Center Township along Celina-Mendon Rd. Where he expects to spend the rest of his days. *Written by his granddaughter Leisa Florence*

THE HAYES FAMILY

The Hayes Family located in Mercer County, Center Township, in about 1837. The Elanson Hayes family being first. In 1838, the Enos Hayes family (Amanda Smith) came to Center Township from Licking County, Ohio. They first were located in Essex County, Whitehall, New York. From New York, they went to Licking.

Enos Hayes bought a parcel of land from Elanson Hayes. The Enos Hayes family lived in Center Township about 30 years and then moved to Carrol County, Mo. A son Levi Hayes remained to live his life in the county, but not on the same farm.

Levi Hayes married Eliza Fortney. Their children were: Albert, Edward M. (father of Meredith Hayes), Charlie, deceased at about 13 years and Ida.

Levi Hayes bought a farm about a mile north of the home place in 1870. Here they raised their family. He died in 1924 at age 82. His wife died in 1919.

Edward M. Hayes, the son of Levi and Eliza Hayes continued to live on the home farm, located in sec. 16, Center Township, Mercer County. On June 16, 1902, he married Belle Springer and their children were: Ruth, wife of Arlie Rhodes (He's deceased), Orville Dee (deceased at 5 months), and Clifford Meredith Hayes.

They spent their life on the farm until retiring in 1945. They then moved to Celina. Mr. Hayes passed away in 1956 and Mrs. Hayes died in 1959.

Meredith Hayes farmed the family farm. On January 1, 1932, he married Reba Miller. Their children are: James Dee, Van Wert and Janis Ann Bishop, Perry, Maine. Their son married Alice Driver and their children are: Deborah, (deceased), Melinda (Mrs. David Milander), Mitchell, Eric and Beth Ann.

Their daughter married Harry Bishop. Their children are: Linda, Susan, Patricia, Penelope and Danny.

Mr. Hayes still resides on the home farm.

HAROLD HOWICK FAMILY

Harold Howick is a well-known and much respected farmer of Center Township of Mercer Co. Harold was born May 12, 1918 and is the son of Ed-

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win (Nov. 20, 1894) and Clara (Maurer) (Sept. 15, 1891) Howick also of Center Twp. Harold's mother Clara is the daughter of J. B. and Callie (Hegloch) Maurer of Mendon. J. B. Maurer was the owner of the Mendon Hardware Store. Edwin and Clara were married February 20, 1916 in her parents' home in Mendon. Edwin and Clara now live in a home which was built in 1954 and beside the old home place where Harold and his wife Lavaun (Hellwarth) (February 25, 1922) live. Lavaun is the daughter of Richard and Melva (Ferguson) Hellwarth of Hopewell Twp. Harold and Lavaun have two sons; David (Sept. 17, 1954) and Dennis (Oct. 2, 1957). David and Dennis both help their dad with the farming of their 280 acres. David also works as a mechanic at a farm implement store in Celina. Harold is well known to the people of Mercer County because of his job as local weatherman for the Celina's Daily Standard. He has had this position for 22 years.

Harold Howick Farm, 1978

It is interesting to consider that Harold is still farming on the same fertile soil that his great-great grandfather farmed in the mid-1800's. Edwin remembers the house Harold lives in to have once been a two room home, made of logs which was built by Edwin's grandfather David and most likely Edwin's great-grandfather Stephen. This home is on Section 29 of Center Twp. Harold also farms land in Section 32 of Jefferson Twp. The very first Howick home was east and north of Harold Howick's home. It was a huge brick farmhouse with a separate servants quarters and a big brick barn. These buildings have all been torn down although some of the bricks can still be found in the field. This land now belongs to Mrs. Monica Bomholt and is farmed by Virgil Guingrich. It is located in Section 28 of Center Twp. The old bricks, which were hand made by Harold's great-great grandfather Stephen Howick, were reused to build the home which the granddaughter of Mrs. Monica Bomholt lives in. This house is located on State Route 197 on Section 28 of Center Twp.

Edwin Howick is the son of Stephen F. and Edith (Yocum) Howick. Edwin had a sister, Mary, who married A. Holmes Stoops and they settled in the Van Wert area. Stephen F. Howick was a farmer too and lived on the original home place. Stephen F. Howick, Harold's grandfather, was the son of David and Maria Jane (Lehman) Howick. David was born March 4, 1842 in Center Twp. He lived at home until he was 25 years old. He engaged in farming and also he helped run the sawmill for 15 years. David and Maria had four children; Amanda, who married Charles Schunck of New York; Ida, who married Edward Raudabaugh; Stephen F. who married Edith Yocum; and Ada, who married Dr. George Johnson who was a dentist in Celina.

David Howick, Harold's grandfather, was the son of Stephen and Eva (Minhart) Howick. Stephen was born November 5, 1812 in Surrey Co. Engla which is south of London. He was a full blood Englishman. In 1831, at the young age of 19 he i migrated to the U.S.A. He landed in Quebec a from there went to Buffalo, New York. From Buff he went to Lancaster, Ohio. There he emgaged laying brick. In 1835, he came to St. Marys un 1837 when he moved to Mercer Co. On Oct. 1836 he married Eva Minhart. She was the daugh of Jacob Minhart who was one of the first settlers Fairfield Co. Jacob was the chairman on a surveyi party to survey where Columbus is now. Althou Stephen Howick came to the U.S.A. with only cents to his name he became one of the wealthi men in Mercer Co. He settled on 80 acres of land b soon added to his farm until he had 320 acres pl he gave 80 acres to each of his children. Two of h sons were given 160 acres each. Stephen engaged farming, raised 100's of head of sheep, had a tile a a sawmill. He had up to four hired hands to he with the work and two hired girls to help with t housework. Stephen's living children were: Davi Jacob who moved to Idaho; George, Center Tw Robert, killed by lightning; and Daniel, moved Washington. *Harold Howick, Celina, Oh. 45822*

LAYLAND-LEHMAN

Benjamin P. Layland, a Mercer County farme was born in Lancaster County, Penna., on Feb. 2 1809. He was the son of Perry Layland, who was school teacher in Ireland. Perry came to the Unit States in the late seventeen hundreds, and was Irish and French extraction. He resumed his teac ing in his new home state, Pennsylvania.

In 1827, Benjamin and his mother came to Fa field County, Ohio. His father died prior to th date. Mr. Layland was a clerk in a clothing store f 12 years but returned to farming in 1839. At th time, he married Margaret Parker of Fairfie County, who was the daughter of David and R becca Parker.

In 1844, they migrated to Mercer County a bought a farm in Center Township. Mr. and M Layland were active Christians and were chart members of the Center Methodist Church whi was built just north of their home.

In their log cabin home, they raised their five ch dren. Perry D. who married Mattie Leblonde, a after her death he married Melinda Brookhart. C rus married Betty Sherman, John married Nan Moore, George M. married Rose Meade, and R becca Jane married Daniel Lehman. All of their ch dren received their schooling in the little Cent School across from the Center Church.

Rebecca Jane married Daniel Lehman, son Adam Pixler Lehman, farmer of Hopewell Twp., a began their married life on the Lehman homeste near Early, Ohio (Oregon), and had the followi children: James, who married Mary Michiels, Ma garet, and Ursula (died in infancy), Lucy B., wh married A. D. Brookhart, Adam, who married M. Mote, Wilshire, who married Lucy May, and Eli Jane, who married Porter Edson Stiverson.

Porter Edson Stiverson was the son of Samuel and Caroline (Warthman) Stiverson of Hocki County, Ohio. Mr. Stiverson's mother died when was a young child, therefore he made his home f

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everal years, with his Aunt and Uncle Ephraim and usannah (Stiverson) Harden of Van Wert.

Mr. and Mrs. Stiverson began their married life ving in Lima, where he was an employee of the ima Steel Foundry. After a few years they moved ack to Mercer County and lived in Celina. Mr. Stiverson owned and operated a gas engine powered portable) saw rig, which he took to the farmers' oods to saw wood for their heat in the winter. He lso sheared sheep for the farmers. The balance of heir lives was spent in or near Celina.

Mr. and Mrs. Stiverson had the following children: an infant, Kenneth Dwight, and Farland Otis, ll three died in infancy; C. Xenia (deceased), who arried LeVertie McDaniel of Ft. Wayne. They had son Ronald LeVertie who died at birth, Edna May, who married John Heil of Lima, Norma Almita, who arried Floyd J. Tigner (son of John and Maggie Simmons) Tigner of Center Twp.), Fay Delbert, who married Alberta June Hoel (daughter of Ray nd Golda (Pheil) Hoel of Jefferson Twp.).

Mr. and Mrs. Fay D. Stiverson have the following hildren: Edson Ray who married Sandra Sue Evans f Texas and they have a daughter, Natasha Kolleen; ohn Floyd, who married Gail Parry of Warsaw, Ind.; Cecil Fay, who just returned home to Celina after erving five years in the United States 8th Air Force t the Pease Base in New Hampshire; and Dawn Lu ae who married Wayne Allen Feece of Plymouth, ndiana. *Mrs. Norma Tigner, Celina, Oh. 45822*

LUTZ FAMILY

Charles F. Lutz, one of the successful farmers of enter Township, Mercer County, Ohio, was born n Wurtemberg, Germany, May 13, 1847. He is the nly child of Frederick and Frederika (Hopf) Lutz, who were married June 28, 1846. In company with is mother, Frederick Lutz and his younger brother, udwig, he emigrated to the United States in 1853, is youngest brother, John, having preceded him to is country by about two years, for the purpose of vading service in the German army. The family nded in New York May 1, 1853, started immediately for what was then the "Far West," and ended eir journey westward at Eaton, Preble County, hio. Here they remained until the autumn of 1854, hen they removed to Center Township, Mercer ounty, where they remained up to the time of their eath, the father, Frederick, dying April 11, 1888, nd the mother, Frederika, May 7, 1893. Mary Lutz, e paternal grandmother of the subject, died in ercer County, Ohio, in 1864, when she was sevnty-eight years of age. Upon landing in the United tates Frederick Lutz at once renounced his alleiance to his native country, and as soon thereafter s possible became a citizen of the United States. He llied himself with the democratic party, and reained a loyal supporter of that party until his eath. By occupation during his whole life he was a rmer, and in religious faith he was a member of e Church of God, or Winebrennerian denomination, of whom there were in the United States 22, 11 members at the time of taking the census in 890.

Charles F. Lutz received his education in the pubc schools of the neighborhood where he now lives. le was married September 28, 1871, to Miss Elizabeth Beery, who was born June 30, 1853. To this marriage there have been born seven children, as follows: Mary, an infant that died unnamed, Benjamin Franklin, Margaret, Elizabeth Grace, Nellie and Charles F. Benjamin Beery, father of the wife of the subject, was a son of Christopher Beery, who settled in Center Township at an early day, on land which he pre-empted from the government, and of which he gave to each of his six children 160 acres. Benjamin Beery died February 18, 1873, leaving a large family in comfortable circumstances.

The paternal grandfather of our subject died in Germany. The maternal grandfather of our subject was named Charles Hopf. He also died in Germany. Both grandfathers were farmers.

The farm of Charles F. Lutz contains 120 acres, finely improved, which was all timber when he was a boy. Mr. Lutz knows how the farm was cleared, and has a keen recollection of much of the muscular labor he expended to that end; but he has the satisfaction of knowing that he now owns one of the best farms in Center Township.

Charles F. Lutz served six years as a member of the Board of Infirmary Directors, and has also served as trustee of his township; has filled other minor offices, and for a number of years was a member of the Democratic Central Committee of Mercer County. He is a very progressive man in every respect, being unusually full of public spirit, and devoted to the best interests of the county in which he lives, as well as to the entire country. He fosters educational institutions, believing that only through an intelligent citizenship can the government stand, and he also believes in the support of religious institutions, for the reason that they are the conservators of the morals of the community.

L. L. MARTIN FAMILY

L. L. Martin, son of Mark and Evaline Colvin Martin was born in Washington County, Kentucky October 30, 1864 and died February 20, 1937.

When Lafe was 19 years old he came to Mercer County on horseback and worked as a farm hand for the late Matt Benzing and Silas Miller.

From the meager wages he earned he made a trip back to Kentucky and with a team and wagon brought to Ohio his father and mother and eleven younger brothers and sisters. He helped to support this large family for many years by his labors.

In the winter of 1888 he again returned to Kentucky on horseback and married Willa Jane Perkins, daughter of Arch and Sarah Jane Taylor Perkins of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, January 14, 1889.

Returning to Ohio they bought 40 acres of land just back of the Ward Piper home, now owned by Max Walters. Access to this forty acres was a lane just off highway 33 across from the Arland Bair home. Later they bought 8 acres of land from the Kelleys. This 8 acres lies on the Neptune-Mendon road between the Walters and Gifford Bair farms.

Some time later they purchased two parcels ground totaling 110 acres and in 1915 built a new home which is still standing. This ground lies along Route 33 and Kuck road, one mile east of Neptune.

Lafe Martin and Willa Jane Perkins Martin had two children; Fetta and Harley. Fetta married Russel C. Springer. They had six children; Kenneth, Mabel

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Springer McDade, Helen Springer Overfield, Wilma who died of diphtheria at age 5, Anna Lou Springer Prescott Arthur, and Gaynell Rose Springer Webster.

Harley Martin married Hazel Krugh. They had five daughters. Vera, Ada, Mary June, Fetta Grace and Betty. After a divorce Harley married Myrtie Perkins Fenwick. Vera married Ward Piper and they have four children. JoAnn Youngblutt, Karen Guinrich, Wilson and Phillip Piper. JoAnn and William Youngblutt have three sons. Tom, Jerry and Steve Youngblutt.

Karen and Ralph Guinrich have three children. Renee Dalton, Clifford and Hugh Guinrich.

Wilson Piper married Donna Carpenter. They have two children; Shane and Michelle. After a divorce Wilson married J. J. Bass.

Phillip Piper married Janelle Murlin. They have two children; Jason and Jenny.

Ada Martin married Lowell Piper and they have two sons; Delbert and Kurt. Delbert married Judith Hone. They had four sons; Robin, Randy, Rodney and Rex. After a divorce Delbert married Beverly Christian. They have one son; Travis.

Kurt Piper married Sue Hertenstein. They have five children; Julie, Mary, Jill, Chad and Kelly Sue.

Mary June Martin married Robert Krogman. They had six children; Thomas, Barbara, Becky, Terry, Tim and Tony.

Grace Martin married Joseph Voisin. They had five children; Joseph Voisin Jr., Bonnie Voisin Kiefer, James Voisin, Cynthia Voisin Miars, Mary Helen Voisin Settlage. After the death of Joseph Voisin, Grace married David Hainline.

Betty Martin Fisher was adopted and raised by her Aunt and Uncle Fred and Lucille Fisher. She married Keith Hoffman and had six children; Kathy, Noel Keith, William, Vicki, Patty and Kelly.

The Martin family is grateful to L. L. Martin for the effort he made which brought the Martin family to Center Twp. *Ada Piper*

GARY L. AND JANET E. MORRISON FAMILY

Gary Lee Morrison was born in Decatur, Indiana June 3, 1948, the son of Leonard and Eileen Bowman Morrison. He has one sister, Cheryl, born June 3, 1953. Gary attended Decatur Elementary School until 1955 when his family moved to Marion, Ohio where he attended George Washington Elementary and Eber Baker Jr. H.S. In 1963 his family returned to Decatur where Gary graduated from Decatur High School in 1966. Gary then attended Indiana University until enlisting in the U.S.A.F. in 1967. He worked in munitions being stationed at Spangdahlem Air Force Base, Germany for three years. He was discharged in July, 1971 and returned to Decatur to work at Central Soya and again attended Indiana University. In April, 1974 Gary began working at Celina Group Insurance as a computer operator and transferred to programming in Aug., 1975 where he continues to work at the time of this writing.

Janet Elaine Morrison was born in Celina, Ohio July 18, 1947, the daughter of Harold and Helen Schaadt Van Tilburg. She has two brothers, Mark and James VanTilburg. Janet attended Center Twp. School and Celina High School graduating in 1965 She then attended Wittenberg University where she played varsity volleyball and basketball and was a member of Gamma Phi Beta National Sorority. She graduated in June, 1969 with a B.S. in Health and Physical Education. From 1969 to 1971 she taught Physical Education at Clinton Jr. High School, Columbus, Ohio. August 14, 1971 Jan and Gary were married at St. John Lutheran Church, Celina. They lived in Decatur, Ind. where Jan worked at Decatur Bank and Trust and completed her M.S. in Ed. at St Francis College. In April, 1974 Gary and Jan moved to Celina, 6910 Hasis Rd. on one of the Van Tilburg Farms where they presently reside. Jan is a school counselor at Marion Local Elementary and Jr. H.S She has done additional graduate work at O.S.U and presently continues graduate work at B.G.S.U in Guidance and Counseling.

Gary and Jan have two children, both were born in Celina. Scott Van was born Oct. 4, 1974, and Julia Lee was born July 7, 1977. *Jan Morrison*

ALBERT R. NEWCOMB

Albert Raudabaugh Newcomb was the 12th and youngest child of Miletus and Mary Jane Raudabaugh, both born in Celina, Ohio. Miletus Newcomb was a fourth generation descendant of Hezekiah Newcomb, who married Jerusha Bradford great, great granddaughter of William Bradford governor of the early Massachusetts colony.

Albert R. Newcomb was born on April 6, 1891, in Center Township, Mercer County, Ohio. He served with the U.S. Armed Forces in France during WW I In 1918 he was married to Opal Margaret Price, born December 13, 1888, daughter of Nelson Lewis Price and Margaret Belle Dunathan, Spencerville, Ohio Most of their married life, Opal was plagued with bad health, and she died December 13, 1932. To this union were born 2 children: Irvin Lewis, born 1921 lived 4 months, and Margaret Jean, born June 27 1924. Albert Newcomb studied X-ray technology after his wife's death and worked in that field until he retired in 1956.

(Margaret) Jean Newcomb attended Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 1942-46 and received a Bachelor's degree in Music Education. On June 22, 1946 she was married to Roland William Stroh, son of Vernon E. Stroh and Ella Vordermark. Vernon Stroh is the grandson of William Smith, a prominent citizen of Mercer County, through Smith's daughter Hattie Amelia.* In 1956, upon his retirement, Albert Newcomb took up residence with his daughter and son-in-law in St. Marys, Ohio, and lived there until his death on January 9, 1970.

To Roland W. Stroh, born October 7, 1919, and M. Jean Newcomb Stroh were born 2 children Elaine A., born October 27, 1947, and Gary R., born September 28, 1951. Roland Stroh has been engaged in the furniture business for the past 30 or more years, at one time in Celina, Ohio, and later in St. Marys and Wapakoneta, and at the present, in Lucas, Ohio. Jean Stroh has taught music in Mercer County schools and also in St. Marys, and has been active in church music and other music activities.

Elaine A. Stroh attended Miami University 1965-69 and received a Bachelor's degree in Education. In 1969 she married Dennis Hartnagle, of Greenville,

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hio, and they had one son, William Michael, born ne 19, 1970. Both Dennis and Michael Hartnagle e now deceased. On July 19, 1975, Elaine married rry A. Lease, of Greenville, Ohio, and they now ve in Worthington, Ohio.

Gary R. Stroh attended Miami University 1969-74, ıving studied Journalism. He has also been associed with his father in the furniture business. On bruary 2, 1978, he married Cheryl L. Granter, of ansfield, Ohio, and they now live in Sarasota, Flo-ıa.

ernon Stroh was the only child of William Stroh, an Auglaize unty farmer and Hattie Amelia Smith. *Mrs. Roland Stroh, Lu-s, Oh. 44843*

RHODA HANNAH NEWCOMB

Rhoda Hannah Newcomb was born in Mercer ounty, Ohio, on September 17, 1886. Her father as Miletus Newcomb, son of Miletus M. and Marıret Catherine Ellis Newcomb. Margaret, was the ıughter of William and Hannah Ferrell Ellis. Anher biography in this history book. Rhoda's other was Mary Jane Raudabaugh daughter of eorge Washington and Catherine Roberts Raudaıugh.

She had six brothers and five sisters. They were as llows: Winfield, a teacher, Leona, both from Cela, O. Ernest, from Columbus, Ohio, Margaret atherine, married John Dedrick, farmer, from Cela, Ohio, Phena, who died in infancy, Clyde, from elina, Ohio, Ellis, married Sylvia Shanklin, Celina, hio, Lillian, from Celina, Ohio, Rhoda, married ırn Copeland, Center Twp., George Madison, mared Hazel Beiersdorfer, Celina, Ohio, Floss, married stus Gilberg, Celina, Ohio, Albert, married Opal ice, Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Rhoda's father, Miletus being a teacher, taught ost of his children how to play musical instruents. They would play music for family get-tothers and sometimes for church or other special casions. Miletus's father, Miletus M. was a S.S. acher of the Maple Center church or as it was lled Centre Chapel, M.E. Church. Center Church ıs been closed since June 2, 1963.

Rhoda received part of her education in St. Marys hools and partly in Celina, Ohio schools, graduatg from the latter school, in 1907. After her marıge, September 6, 1908 to Purn Ray Copeland, she ed at the Francis Copeland farm near the Maple ntre Church. Rhoda and Purn lived in the brick ıuse until after the birth of five daughters, then ey purchased a farm from Miletus Newcomb, ıoda's father, in 1920. This farm was located arly halfway between Celina, Ohio and Neptune, hio on 197. The Copeland family lived there until e early 1930's when they were forced to sell during the depression years. The family now consisting of six girls and two boys, three of the girls left to get work and also to get married. Their education was received from the little country school called Maple Center School for six years and from there to the Neptune High School where they graduated. Eventually all the children left home to get married, moving to all parts of the country. The Purn Copeland family, after selling their farm moved to the Cal Jordan farm on the Center, Union Township line, about 3 miles south and east of Mendon, Ohio.

Nellie is now living in Huntington, Ind., Alberta, is living in Rockford, Ohio, Mary, in Ft. Wayne, Ind., Grace, on a farm south and east of Mendon, Ohio, Mae, is living in California, Carl, in Rockford, Ohio, Hazel, on a farm north of Mendon, Ohio, and Bob, is living in Delphos, Ohio.

After Purn's death, February 4, 1949, Rhoda moved into the little house in Mendon, Ohio, which Purn had bought for them to retire. She lived there until 1965 when she moved into an apartment house, owned by her daughter, and son-in-law. Orville and Grace Now. Rhoda made several trips to California and Florida. One trip to California was made in the winter of 1947, with her sister-in-law, Ada (Copeland) Fisher. They visited with Rhoda's daughter Mae and Floyd Rogers in Porterville, California. She went again in 1950 to visit the Rogers family. For three years before her death 1964, 65 and 66 she spent the winters in Ft. Lauderdale, with her two brothers, George and Albert Newcomb. Rhoda died July 24, 1967. George and Al died in 1970. *Mae Rogers, Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46808*

MILETUS NEWCOMB

Miletus Newcomb, son of Miletus Madison and Margaret Catherine Ellis Newcomb was born June 13, 1849. He was a prominent citizen and an industrious farmer from Center Township, Mercer County. His mother, Margaret Catherine, was the daughter of William and Hannah Ferrell Ellis, born November 21, 1828. Miletus's father, was Miletus Madison, son of Philetus and Rhoda Hayes Newcomb, born July 26, 1825.

Philetus Newcomb, born December 28, 1798 and came to Center Township from Licking County was the son of Dr. Luther and Pamela Kennedy Newcomb. He married Rhoda Hayes, June 8, 1820, who was born September 14, 1802 in Essex county, N.Y., daughter of Alanson and Rhoda Slaughter Hayes. After purchasing the southeast quarter of Section 20, in Center Township, he then returned to Licking county for his family, but he died before he could return with his family. In 1841, Luther Newcomb, came on, and built a cabin, he then returned for the mother and her children: Miletus M., Joseph B., and Milla Ann. Not long after this Luther left to make a

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home for himself, leaving the work for the oldest, Miletus M. then only a boy of sixteen years of age. He worked faithfully clearing land to make a living for his family.

Philetus and Rhoda's children were: Luther, Alanson, Miletus M., Joseph B., Samatha, Milla Ann and Rosetta who died in infancy. Philetus Newcomb died September 14, 1837 and Rhoda died September 30, 1848.

On March 6, 1848, Miletus M. married Margaret Catherine Ellis, who came to Mercer County with her parents in 1835, and located in Franklin Township. After their marriage they settled on a part of his mother's home place, which he inherited from his mother. Children of Miletus M. and Margaret Catherine are as follows: Miletus, William Ellis, Isaac, Sarah Hannah, Melissa, John Francis, Alexis B., Minnie, Oran, and Margaret May. Miletus M. died July 9, 1904, Margaret died December 2, 1915 in Celina, Ohio.

Miletus Newcomb remained on the farm until his marriage. In the meantime he secured an excellent education in the public schools and in the high schools at Celina, Ohio, and for some years afterward taught school in the winter seasons, and worked on the farm the rest of the year. At the time of his marriage, March 18, 1872, he had saved enough to buy a portion of the farm on which he lived as a boy. He married Mary Jane Raudabaugh, daughter of the late Judge George Washington and Catherine Roberts Raudabaugh, born September 18, 1851. Miletus and Mary Jane were the parents of twelve children, as follows: Winfield, Leona, Ernest, Margaret Catherine, Phena, Clyde, Ellis, Lillian, Rhoda, George, Floss and Albert. Miletus was a farmer and was also engaged in selling farming implements and in baling and shipping hay. In the latter business he was in partnership with his father. He was a member of the Methodist church, and at one time was a member of the township board of education, and the election board in Center Twp. His farm contained 60 acres, four and a half miles from Celina, Ohio. He improved buildings on his farm and even built a large frame house after fire destroyed the old house. Some years before his death he moved into Celina, Ohio. Miletus died in 1926. *Carl Copeland, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

JOHN WILLIAM RAUDABAUGH

John William Raudabaugh, son of Albert and Melissa (Newcomb) Raudabaugh, was descended from a long line of patriotic ancestors bearing the names Raudabaugh, Newcomb, Bradford, Carpenter, and Zeller. Carrying on this same service to their country were two of his own sons and four grandsons.

"Will", as he was familiarly known, was a lifelong resident of Mercer County and a graduate of its schools. Following advanced study of the National Normal University, Lebanon, Ohio, he returned to Center Township to engage in farming. As a young man he was a member of the uniformed Neptune Cornet Band. In sports he was a pitcher of considerable ability and might have had a successful career in baseball had he not decided to return to the ancestral farm.

Will married Mary Ethel Dine, daughter of William and Fannie (Siler) Dine, who was his helpmee and inspiration for over fifty years. They were bot active in the Center Methodist Church which the attended regularly as a family. Upon retirement the moved into Celina, transferring their membership t St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Training of both spirit and mind were of keene importance to Mr. and Mrs. Raudabaugh who ir sisted that their children have the best possible edu cation. Following graduation from Celina Hig School all had an opportunity to attend the Ohi State University, as well as other institutions (higher learning. Their six children were: Duar (1903-1977) Celina, married Beryl Wurster, the children being Donald, Richard, Madonna Barr, an William, deceased Korean veteran; Beatrice, Orlan Indiana, wife of John Pichon: their children are Johi Jr., Larry, and Wilma Rumsey; Vivian, Allen, Mich gan, wife of Wayne Lewis: their children are Roge Mary Jo Godfrey, Carol Helmer, and Douglas; Rhe died in infancy; William Gerald (1915-1970) Pipe City, Illinois, married Mary Ruth Cline, their chi dren being Shelley Hancock and Margo Broeh Robert, Villa Park, Illinois, and his wife Julia are pai ents of Randy, Gary, Darlene, Roberta, and Ron.

John William Raudabaugh (1878-1966) his wif Ethel (1883-1954) daughter Rhea, sons Duard an Gerald, and grandson William are buried in Nort Grove Cemetery, Celina, not far from Albert an Melissa Raudabaugh and William and Fannie Din Margaret Lohrenz, Celina, and Sada Olds, Wooste Ohio, are the only living children of Albert and Mel issa Raudabaugh. Belva Dine Stubbs, Celina, is th surviving member of the Dine family.

The land which was in the Raudabaugh family fo generations is now owned by the Rev. Mr. Stan Cha pin, but is still called the Raudabaugh Farm.

John William Raudabaugh was a man who did hi duty with his whole heart; a man without deceit o guile. *Mrs. W. G. Raudabaugh, Clearwater, Fla. 33516*

SARAH ELIZABETH REAL

Sarah Elizabeth Real, daughter of John and Sara Jones Real, was born in Fayette County, Ohio o March 9, 1863. At the age of nine she came with he parents to Mercer County, Ohio.

John Real was born in Hardy County, West Va March 16, 1832, he moved from Virginia to Athen County in 1855, then to Fayette County, Ohio i 1862, then to Mercer County, Ohio in 1872, spend ing the rest of his 71 years in Mercer County, Ohic John was a well known and respected pionee farmer of Center Township, Mercer County, Ohic September 22, 1852 he married Sarah A. Jones i

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ardy County, West Va. Sarah A. Jones was born in Vest Va., June 16, 1834. John and Sarah for many ears lived on a farm in Center Township, where ıey raised a family of eight children. Three of hom died at an early age. The children were as fol-ws: Mary Real (Robert Howick), Emma 'Carlie" eal (Eli Copeland), Martha "Mat" Real (Waters), enry Stingley Real (Margaret Armstrong), Sarah lizabeth Real (Francis Abner Copeland), Alice Real George Tester), Lethia Real (Ed Sutton), John Alfred eal (Gabrilla Bolton).

John Real died at his home in Mercer County, hio December 23, 1903, age 71 years. They at-nded U.B. Church of Old Town. Sarah Real died at ıe home of her daughter, Sally Copeland in Celina, hio on December 28, 1919 age 84 years.

Sally attended school in Mercer County, Ohio and ıurch at Maple Center Methodist Church. On No-ember 12, 1882 she was married to Francis Abner opeland at St. Marys, Ohio. To this union were orn four children: Zilphra (Ervin Christian), Purn ay Copeland (Rhoda Hannah Newcomb), Ada elle (Dan Fisher), Frederick Gilbert Copeland (died one year). Sally and Francis lived on a farm in enter Township located on 197 near Maple Center hurch, about four and a half miles from Celina. round 1908 they moved to 221 South Sugar Street elina, Ohio where they lived the rest of their lives. ancis died August 24, 1930.

Sally went with Francis to Florida and brought ack shells to make jewelry for her granddaughters. ıe also made quilts for each of her grandchildren, ıe had 17 grandchildren and 33 great grandchil-en. Some of quilts she quilted herself, one of hich she quilted on her 80th birthday. She enjoyed orking in her garden and raising house plants and aking cookies, her cookie jar was always full. She so wrote news items for the Celina Daily Paper.

She accompanied her husband and other friends ı a fishing trip to Crooked Lake in Michigan, June 2, 1911. They went by train from Celina at noon on uesday arriving at Jackson at 4:30 P.M., ate supper ıd did some sightseeing then took train to Grand apids arriving at 11:00 o'clock P.M. Wednesday orning up at 4:00 A.M., visited Crescent Park left rand Rapids at 7:30 for Bitely, Michigan arrived 0:12 met by a man with his two horse wagon to aul them to their five room cottage, two and a half iles from Bitely, along Crooked Lake. For their first al meal they gathered strawberries and had short-ıke and sassafras tea.

Sally's daughter, Ada, lived with her and cared for er the last years of her life. She died peacefully Jan-ary 23, 1946 at her home on Sugar Street, Celina, hio. *Hazel Fireoved, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

SEARIGHT FAMILY

James Searight, son of George and Aldula Sea-ght, was born February 28, 1876. He married Bessie ordon on February 16, 1902, Daughter of Mary erry Gordon; she was born in Hopewell Township. his union was blessed with eight children: Gladys lurlin, Wilma Swander, Marguerite Carr, Frank, orrest, Fred, Charles, and Lee.

Lee spent almost 3 years in World War II, worked t Goodyear, and had cattle. On September 14, 1946, e married Mamie Josephine Nuding, Daughter of Grover S. Nuding, Son of Joseph and Effie Roberts Nuding born in Hopewell Township, Mercer County, March 9, 1885, departed this life on February 15, 1937. He married Icy Fast on December, 1910, Daughter of Abraham and Loverda Doty Fast. Blessed by this union were six children: Helen Harner, Bernadine Krugh, John, Charles, Donald, and Mamie Josephine.

Lee and Josephine was blessed with a Daughter, Jean Ann, born on September 30, 1947; she attended Neptune School and graduated from Celina High School. She married Gene Ireland of Bluffton, Indiana. They both work at Corning Glass, and have a Son, Brent.

Also, our Son, Ronnie L. was born May 20, 1956, went to Neptune School and graduated from Celina High School in 1974. He works at Goodyear in St. Marys. Ron married Mary Lou Cheek and she works at Huffys in Celina.

Lee and Josephine Searight first moved on a farm in Center Township and still live there. Their Church over the years has been and is Mt. Tabor Church of God.

On January 26, 1978, we will never forget The Big Blizzard. Lee almost got lost coming from the barn to the house. The electricity was off for several days. Some folks couldn't cook or keep warm. Lee's Sister, Wilma, passed away and they had to change the funeral arrangements three times. Our road was closed from Thursday till Monday afternoon; then we had to get permission to go on the roads. There was no place to put the snow, so they put some in our yard. Some of the elderly people in their nineties said: "They had never seen a winter like it." *Josephine Searight, Celina, Oh. 45822*

B.F. and Elsie Webb Simmons Home

BENJAMIN SIMMONS

Benjamin Franklin Simmons was born around Fredericktown, Ohio, in 1880 to Elza M. and Sarah Jane (Coleman) Simmons. His grandparents were Ignatins and Delilah (Leedy) Simmons. He moved with his parents to Center Twp. in Mercer Co. and settled on Tama Road. Benjamin had three brothers, Jacob, Harve, and George, and two sisters, Maggie (Tigner) and Nancy (Richardson).

Benjamin Simmons married Elsie Webb, daughter of Harrison and Sarah (Harmon) Webb. They had four children, Stanley, married to Berdette Linnenger; Bernice (Harold) Lowry, Edith (William) Stillberger, and Eugene Simmons, married to Zola Shimp. His grandchildren are Mary Jean Grandlienard, Celina, Ohio, Nancy Lott, Charles and Howard Simmons, all of Columbus, Ohio and Darlene Whited, Celina, Ohio.

The first three years, the family lived in their home at the N. Brunner's sub-division, Mishawaka, Indiana. Stanley and Bernice were born there. They moved back to 6560 Tama Road in Center Twp. and there Edith and Eugene were born.

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The rest of his life, Benjamin was engaged in farming and died in 1949. His wife, Elsie, is 94 and resides at the Tama Road address. *Edith Stillberger*

SPICER FAMILY

Loyal Spicer was born in England, July 23, 1797. Died in 1865. He came to this country as a small boy with his parents and settled in Vermont. As a young man he came to Ohio and established a home on the banks of the Eight Mile Creek in Center Township when there were only five voters in the township.

His son Samuel Spicer — born 1838 — died 1915, was born and raised on this same farm. Later he married a young widow Angeline (Craft) Drury — born 1834-died 1875. To this union were born three children, two girls and a boy, Loyal Spicer.

Loyal Spicer — born 1868-died 1934. Loyal also chose farming as his occupation, and in about 1890 he bought a farm in Union Township on Mercer Rod. which is still in the Spicer family, owned by Orville and Luella (Spicer) Crouch. Loyal Spicer married Emma Hasis — born 1870-died 1923. To this union was born six children. Samuel (died as a baby). Fred Spicer, Bradenton, Florida, deceased, Mrs. Ray (Mamie) High, Mendon, Ohio, deceased. Miss Hazel Spicer, Total Care Nursing Home. Walter E. Spicer, Howick Rd., Celina, Ohio, deceased, and Mrs. Orville (Luella) Crouch, Hellwarth Rd., Celina, Ohio.

Walter E. Spicer — born 1905-died 1972, spent his young life working his father's farms and lived across the road from the home place on Mercer Rd. He married Florence Ickes, born 1903, daughter of Anderson and Roseanna Ickes from North of Rockford. To this union was born one daughter Ruth, born in 1926. In 1935 after the death of his father, Walter bought a farm in Center Township on Howick Rd. where his widow, Florence Spicer lives at present.

In 1946, Ruth M. (Spicer) Gray married Lewis A. Gray son of Arthur F. and Roxie Gray of Celina, Ohio. To this union was born two daughters, Constance S. Lehman of New York City, and Sharon L. Gray, Grand Manor Rd., Celina, Ohio. Lewis and Ruth Gray lived seven years on a farm in Auglaize County. In 1957 they moved to their present farm in Center Township, 8637 U.S. Rt. 33. *Mrs. Lewis A. Gray*

WILLIAM HENRY SPRINGER

Have you ever noticed the unusual walnut tree near the front of Northgrove Cemetery? Today only the Y-shaped trunk still stands, while logs cut years ago lie stacked around its base. Ferns and lilies now grow from the woodpile, and ivy winds up the trunk to what remains of the lowest branches. Yet wood, fern, and ivy are all made of stone, for this tree marks the grave of William Henry Springer, my great great grandfather. Like the tree, William Henry's roots are buried, and the branches of his family have scattered to many places. But William was a Mercer County man. During his life from 1847 to 1902 he saw the land and the people change from the boisterous frontier to victorian small towns. For some of his descendants, he is an important lir with ancestors of the more distant past, since mar of us have heard stories about him from those wl knew him. Yet, like everyone else who lived throug that half-century, he is also a link between Merc County's past and present.

William Henry Springer was born on July 17, 18 in Perry County, Ohio. Before he was 3 years ol his family moved to Center Township, Merc County. He was only 14 when the Civil War brol out. Later, at the age of 17 (1864), he served in th 156th Regiment of the National Guard. On Octob 2, 1870 William married his first cousin, Carolir Sheets, who also lived in Center Township. The first lived at Neptune and later settled in Celin Their children were Ora Arminda (Minnie) 187 1960, who married Charles A. Wagoner; Emanu Spencer (Manuel) 1873-1945, who married Mayn King; Ida Izora 1876-1888; Mahala Elizabeth (Halli 1879-1961, who married Frank Northcutt, Willia Nokes, and Ben Adams; a daughter who lived only days; Chester Blaine 1884-1961, who married Madi Caldwell; Lillian H. 1882-1903; and Albert Ros 1887-1888. Caroline died in 1891, at the age of 4 Caroline, Ida, Lillian, and Albert Ross are all burie near William's marker in Northgrove Cemeter That same year, William married Martha Elle Miller (neé Musselman). Their children were Irer Clara, born 1892, who married Oran Monroe; Wi liam McKinley 1894-1973, who married Daise Bates; Donald Hobart, born 1896, who marrie Velma Ruble; and Margaret Ellen (Peg) 1898-197 who married Barney Grimm, Jay Folkerth, Jc Downs, and William Nickson. William Henry die on April 15, 1902 in Celina. He was only 54 yea old. Martha Springer remarried. She died in 194 and is buried beside William Henry under a ston inscribed "mother".

William H. Springer worked mainly as a carper ter. One advertisement reads, "W. H. Springer, Cor tractor and Builder. Makes a specialty of Movin Buildings and Hoisting." Another says, "Dealer i New and Used Furniture, Bananas and Peanuts Specialty." He also made furniture. He rode his b cycle to the job and would often stay there all weel if it was far away. One house which he built sti stands at 525 Lisle Street in Celina. William passe these skills on to his children, because the daughte of Minnie and Hallie both remember that the mothers could make anything they wanted to out c wood.

William's daughter Irene describes him as a stric man, but a good provider. He did not allow his chi dren to attend school past the eighth grade. A hig school education was of no practical use, and he fe that children of that age should earn their keep. H was an elder in the Church of God and belonged to fraternal organization called Woodmen of th World, whose sign and motto are displayed on hi gravestone.

Irene paints quite a different picture of William' mother, Elizabeth. Granny Springer was a tiny, fier woman who wore long black dresses and lit her cla pipe with live coals from the fire. She kept her shot gun handy, and anyone who knocked on her doo was well advised to identify himself quickly an clearly! Elizabeth had moved to Mercer County wit her husband, Jacob A. Springer, and their youn

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amily. Their children were Lydia J. 1834-1897, who narried Joe Crow; Elizabeth 1836-1893, who married Michael Lougul; Sarah Ann 1837-1857; Belinda 840-1842; Delila 1842-1915, who married Daniel F. Doty; William Henry; and Jacob B. 1851-1860. Jacob he father died in 1867, at the age of 52, but Elizaeth lived until 1897, to the age of 82, filled with the pirit of the frontier. They are buried next to their ittle boy Jacob in the Neptune Cemetery.

Jacob and Elizabeth Springer both grew up in the rea of central Ohio where Perry, Hocking, and Fairield Counties come together. Jacob was the son of acob Springer and Kassiah Fast. Elizabeth was his ousin, the daughter of Jacob Fast and Sally pringer. Jacob and Sally Springer were children of George Springer. The Springers and the Fasts had ome to Fairfield County by 1811, for Jacob and Kasiah were married there in May of that year. By the 840's, a few original settlers had become dozens of amilies, and many felt that it was time to move. When William Henry's parents decided to pull up takes from what had been home for four generaions of Springers and Fasts, they had good comany. It appears from the 1850 census that Jacob's rothers Andrew and Noah also moved to Mercer County. Later his brothers Abraham and Henry oined them. And Elizabeth's sister Mahala, with her usband John Sheets, came too, bringing Caroline heets who was to become William Henry's bride.

William Henry was a child of that westward narch. He saw the wilderness being cleared away nd the industrial revolution begin. Most of his chilren continued to move west after they grew up. But or William Henry Springer, Mercer County was ome. *David W. Chamness*

lack Row: Elizaeth Tigner ones, Levi Tiger, Frank Tiger, John Tigner. **econd Row:** ose Tigner oby, Edward igner, Clara igner Griggs, hristina Strohl igner, Sarah igner Barnes. **ront Row:** Iva igner Graham.

TIGNER

Edmon (Great grandfather of Floyd Tigner, Celna), and William Tigner, brothers, came to America round 1835 to start their life in the new world they ad heard so much about. They were of Dutch and nglish extraction, and were carpenters by trade, tho hey did some farming also.

Edmon Tigner was born May 24, 1819. He met nd married Jemima Fast Dec. 18, 1842, and this unon was blessed with twelve children. Edward maried Christine Strohl, William married Louisa Turner, Jane married David Disbennet, Isabelle maried A. Helber, Martha married G. Frasure, Mary Ann married Thomas Frasure, Delilah married a Weaver, Minerva died when a youth, and the names of the wives of David, Leviary, Perry, and Nicodenus is unknown. Edmon Tigner was a deeply religious man, and raised his children by the rules of he 'Good Book.'

Edward, first son of Edmon, along with his brothers and sisters were born in Hocking Co., Logan, Ohio. Edward migrated to Mercer Co. and settled in Center Township. He married Christine Strohl, and they raised the following eight children. Sarah who married John Barnes, Levi married Mary Manley, John married Maggie Simmons, Ben Franklin married Matty MacCormack, Mary Elizabeth married James Janes, Rosa married Benjamin Roby, Clara married Frank Griggs and Iva married George Graham. Edward like his father Edmon, was a religious man, and would walk for miles to attend the services of his church, even when the snow was deep.

John Tigner, son of Edward, also made his home in Center Township. He married Maggie Simmons, also of Center Township, Mercer Co. This couple was blessed with six children: Floyd John who married Norma Stiverson, Lula Mae who married Clem Webb, both resides in Center Township. Grace married Arnel Stoner and Beatrice married Rolla King, both of Allen County. Two sons died in infancy.

Floyd John Tigner married Norma Almeta Stiverson, daughter of Porter and Eliza Jane (Lehman) Stiverson, Dec. 24, 1933, and have lived their entire married life on his home place where he was born.

Mr. Tigner is a farmer of Center Township, and also employed by the trustees of Center, Hopewell and Jefferson Townships to mow the roadsides, which he has done for the past 20 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Tigner are active members of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church on the Celina-Mendon Road, both being Sunday School teachers, and also serving in other offices. They are also charter members of the Mercer County Gideon Association.

Mr. Tigner received his elementary education at the Plank Road School (Roebuck), and attended the Center Township High School at Neptune.

The Tigner families are scattered all over the United States, but no trace can be found of Edmon's brother William who came to the states with him. *Norma Tigner, Celina, Oh. 45822*

THE TOWNSEND FAMILIES

Moses and Smith Townsend were Quakers from Bucks County, Pa., who settled in Center Township in 1849 after stopping first in Mahoning County, Ohio. Descendants of Moses still operate Mt. Hope farm two miles northwest of Neptune.

Descendants of Smith moved to Indiana, where only one survives, Helen Townsend, a retired school teacher at Lebanon.

Moses had one son, William Walter, born Sept. 8, 1851, who married Mary Frances Hankins, daughter of Rev. Timothy Hankins, another pioneer in the area. Walter (as he was known by) and Mary Frances had three sons when Mary and the infant son contracted a fever and died in March 1881.

Walter took the older son, Ray, and went to Wyoming to homestead. The other son, Willis H., then only 4 years old, was too small to go along, so he was left with friends, and ultimately was taken by his Grandfather Moses, with whom he lived to maturity.

Walter returned from Wyoming and married Maria Wollam, who bore him a daughter, Ellen, in

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1890. They lived in Neptune, where Walter taught music until his death in 1916. Ellen married Rev. Crisman, and moved to a Church of God pastorate in Illinois. About 1955 Ellen retired to Mendon, Ohio, and gave private music lessons until her death in 19 . One son, Merwin, survives today, in Atlanta, Ga., where he became director of music for the Atlanta Schools and a member of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Willis Townsend married Mary Margaret Bowland in April, 1898. She was the daughter of Robert Bowland, who had moved to Jefferson Township from Perry County, Ohio, in 1889. Mary Margaret was a teacher at our Four Turkey School, and they were married at the end of her school term. She was a beautiful young woman. Standing erect, her thick black hair when unbraided would sweep the floor. But her motto was "Pretty is as pretty does," and she pitched in to help her husband operate grandfather Moses' farm.

Willis became nationally known as a breeder of registered Hackney carriage horses, and later, English Suffolk draft horses. Besides local fairs, he showed regularly at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago, from which he accumulated a trunk full of purple, blue and red ribbons.

Animals were shipped by rail from Celina to Chicago and back again, Willis riding in the freight car with them. One of his principal competitors at the International was Hawthorne Farms, owned by Samuel Insull, the famed Chicago utilities magnate who died in disgrace after the exposure of his financial manipulations at the time of the Great Depression.

A progressive farmer, Willis was an area pioneer in the use of deep-placed tile drainage systems, fertilizer grain drills and corn planters, and hybrid seed corn. The 9-room farm home he built in 1903 featured central heating, running water and a full bathroom, and an acetylene generating plant for lighting. Willis died in 1937, and in January 1943, this beautiful landmark home burned, the victim of arson. *John Townsend, Celina, Oh. 45822*

WILLIS TOWNSEND CHILDREN

Willis and "Maggie" had 8 children, three of whom died in early childhood. The eldest, Eugene, became an attorney in the Michigan State Highway Department, where he became an expert in the adjudication of suits stemming from the laws of eminent domain. One of his best known assignments was right-of-way clearance for the Straits of Mackinac bridge. Eugene left three sons (two of them attorneys) and a daughter, all residing in Michigan. He was a World War I veteran.

Daughter Mary married her high school teacher, Haskell Nichols, after first attending Miami University two years and teaching two years at Piper School. Haskell joined his father in law practice at Jackson, Mich., where they have resided ever since. Haskell also served in the Michigan Legislature for 30 years as representative and senator. They have 2 sons and 2 daughters, all with professional degrees. of which two reside in Jackson.

Daughter Grace graduated from Miami University, then obtained her masters degree on an assistantship at Ohio State University, then her doctor philosophy in physiology from the University Chicago. She taught several years in various colleg before marrying Dr. Bernard S. Meyer, then hea (now retired) of the Botany Department of Oh State University.

Sarah M. also graduated from Miami Universit and taught home economics at Rockford Hig School for a year. She then married Arlen R. Hel warth, a Hopewell Township native and Universit of Michigan graduate in electrical engineering. The now reside in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Arlen r tired as assistant dean of engineering at the Unive sity of Michigan. They have four sons, all enginee ing graduates of the U of M.

The last-born of Willis and M. Margaret is Joh Willis Townsend, who presently operates the orig nal Moses Township farm. He is a graduate of Ohi State University and served two years on the facult in the technical journalism department of Iowa Stat University at Ames. He enlisted in the Navy at th start of World War II, and was serving as commun cations officer of the destroyer USS Fitch when sh fired the first shot of the Normandy invasion June 1944. The Fitch's sister ship, the USS Corry, becam the first naval casualty a few minutes later, and th Fitch aided in the pick-up of her survivors. The Fitc subsequently participated in the invasion of Soutl ern France, and in late summer, 1945, led the battl fleet into Tokyo Bay to accept the Japanese surrer der.

John married Jessie Marie Bagnall, of Detroi Mich., Oct. 31, 1942. She was assisting John's siste Sarah, in the primary department of their churc Sunday School at the time. John and Jessie had si children: Willis Hugh, a National Merit Scholarshi Finalist, killed in an auto accident near Woodburi Ind.; John Edward, a graduate of Purdue Universit and Vietnam veteran, now in Anchorage, Alask with his wife Judy Goecke from Maria Stein, an their son Dylan Willis; Jessie Marie, accidentall drowned at 18 months of age; Sarah Christine, graduate of Findlay College in music performanc and married to Steven Lee Farnsworth, from An werp, Ohio, a graduate of Heidelberg College an now a teacher at Celina Junior High School; the have one daughter, Christina Maria; Tim Richar employed with his father in business, and a profes sional guitarist; Thor Thomas, a senior at Celin Senior High School. Jessie was a first grade teache at Lincolnview School System at the time of he death, March 27, 1978.

Among the sixteen grandchildren of Willis an Mary Margaret Townsend are three physicians, on veterinarian, two attorneys and four engineers, tw of which hold doctorates in their fields. If spouse are added to these totals, they become six physician and three attorneys. *John Townsend*

BOYD VANTILBURG FAMILY

Jan Theunissen came from Holland in the mi 1600's. In 1690, he changed his name to Van Tilbur which in Dutch means "from Tilburg" which wa Jan's home town.

Nathan Van Tilburg was the first Van Tilburg t

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ıme to Mercer County. His father Henry II had ɔmesteaded in Ashland County in 1821. Nathan, llowed in his father's footsteps set up a homestead ɛar Rockford in 1840. In 1841 he married Nancy gley. They had a son Hulbert. Nathan was very ac-ve in community affairs and served for eighteen ɛars as township treasurer.

ur Generations of ın Tilburg Farm-, September 1975 L. to R.: Boyd Van lburg, Mark and ʼan Van Tilburg, att and Jim and ırold.

Nathan's son, Hulbert, lived in Blackcreek Town-ıip and was engaged in farming.

Hulbert's son, Boyd, was born on October 6, 1890. s a young man, Boyd helped cut the wasteway rough the west bank of Grand Lake with a team of ɔrses. On March 14, 1914 Boyd married Icie ɛougher who was the daughter of William and lary Now Beougher. Icie was born August 22, 1892.

In 1914 Boyd started sharecrop farming in Center ɔwnship with a team of horses which he'd bought r $150.00. Boyd also did custom work with his am of horses. He earned $3.50 to $4.00 a day by ıuling loads of logs from the oil fields to St. Mary's wmill.

During the blizzard of January 18, 1918, Boyd had walk to the courthouse in Celina in order to regis-r for the draft. Harold Van Tilburg was born to ɔyd and Icie on September 22, 1924. Boyd farmed ,5 acres with horses until 1944. With a one horse ill, Boyd could plant fifteen acres of corn a day ıd he could then cultivate that with a double ovel plow. He could plow with five horses; three ɔrses would pull the riding plow and then Boyd ɔuld take the walking plow behind two other ɔrses. Corn had to be picked by hand which in rn was sold for twenty cents per hundred pounds.

ɔyd bought a corn picker in 1943 and when Harold turned from the army in 1945 they began farming gether and switched from horses to tractors. Boyd as one of the first men in the area to do so. The rm which he and Icie bought in 1936 on Celina-lendon Road for one hundred dollars an acre is still s residence today. Icie passed away on May 31, ʼ75.

In all his years of farming, Boyd Van Tilburg has en only one crop failure. In 1916, after the wheat as cut Saturday, a heavy rain flooded the field that ght. Boyd still remains active with farming and mily and spends the winters in Bradenton, Florida. e is still healthy at the time of this writing. *Annie ınTilburg, Celina, Oh. 45822*

HAROLD VAN TILBURG

Harold married Helen Schaadt (born Oct. 14, ʼ25) daughter of Lawrence and Esther Schaadt of ɔpewell Township on November 14, 1944.

They started farming after Harold got out of the rmy in 1945. They lived on Hasis Road until they moved to the other farm on Celina-Mendon Road in 1962. They have three children; James (married to Brenda Dieringer) born June 16, 1946, Janet (married to Gary Morrison) born July 18, 1947, Mark (married Anna Lees) born April 6, 1952. Harold and the boys are now farming 1100 acres which have been incorporated to form Van Tilburg Farms.

Harold and Helen have six grandchildren; Ryan and Amy, children of Mark and Anna, Matt and Kyle (sons of Jim and Brenda), and Scott and Julia Morrison, children of Janet and Gary Morrison. The children all live on the farms in Center Township. Harold and Helen live at 531 Maple Street in Celina. *Harold Van Tilburg, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Harold and Helen Van Tilburg.

Mark and Anna Van Tilburg, Ryan and Amy.

MARK VAN TILBURG FAMILY

Mark Van Tilburg was born on April 6, 1952. He lived at 6830 Hasis Road until 1962 when his family moved to the farm on Celina-Mendon Road. Mark attended grade school and junior high school in Neptune, Ohio. Mark's eighth grade class was the last class to attend Neptune before it consolidated with Celina. He graduated from Celina High School in 1970 and attended Wright State University until he decided to farm with his father and his brother.

Mark met Anna Christine Lees (born Aug. 20, 1952) while he was in Columbus, Ohio attending a Future Farmers of America Convention at Ohio State University. Mark received his state farmer's degree at the convention. Mark and Anna were married on December 19, 1971 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Celina, Ohio. They moved into Mark's former home on Hasis Road.

Anna is the daughter of Anna Vigdal Lees, Reynoldsburg, Ohio and Howard Lees, Canal Winchester, Ohio. Anna Vigdal Lees was born in Sojundal, Norway in 1923 and moved to the Fort St. John region of British Columbia, Canada in 1929. During World War II she met and married Howard Lees who was working on the Alaska Highway and moved to his home Columbus, Ohio. They had four children; Karen Lees Messmer (June 22, 1947), Patrick Lees (March 28, 1949) and twins Inga Frances Lees and Anna Christine Lees Van Tilburg (August 20, 1952.).

Mark and Anna Van Tilburg have two children; Ryan Joseph Van Tilburg born Jan 20, 1974 and Amy Lee Van Tilburg born Dec. 24, 1975. Both were born at the Van Wert County Hospital, Van Wert, Ohio.

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Some of our family activities are butchering our farm raised beef and pork. It is a full day of fun and work to cut up and wrap the meat to put in the freezer. Anna, Ryan, and Amy like to ride in the tractors and combines and to help with the spring and fall farm work whenever they get an opportunity. In addition to Mark's responsibilities with Van Tilburg Farms,Inc. he serves on the Center Township Park Board which has been instrumental in establishing the park at Neptune. He also operates the township snow plow. He enjoys fox and deer hunting in the winter months. *Mark Van Tilburg*

JIM VAN TILBURG FAMILY

The origin of the Jim Van Tilburg family began one fine Father's Day, June 16, in the year 1946. This was the day James Wayne experienced his first view of a new world: Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio, and his parents, Harold and Helen (later called Pop and Honey by their grandchildren). In the same location on October 16, 1952, (although unknown to Jim at the time) Brenda Kay, the first born daughter of Eugene and Mary (nee: Linn) Dieringer, made her appearance.

After recovering from polio in 1952, Jim proceeded to grow as quickly as other normal boys. He attended Neptune School until 1960. After graduation from Celina High School in 1964, this young man became what he had always aspired to be — a full time farmer. Meanwhile in the city of Celina, Brenda (unaware of Jim's existence) gained both stature and knowledge at East Elementary. She completed high school at Celina Senior as valedictorian (4.0 average) in 1971. Her education was continued at Wright State University, Celina Branch, and Lima Technical College. Following this her employer was Citizens Commercial Bank in Celina.

Both Jim and Brenda were active in youth group activities as participants and sponsors at the church. As a Luther League song states "it only takes (took) a spark to get the fire going". On December 21, 1972, Jim asked Brenda to be a farmer's wife. In the spirit of Christian joy the ceremony of union was shared on Sunday, the twenty-sixth of August, nineteen hundred and seventy-three, at four-thirty o'clock, at St. John Lutheran Church, Celina, where both were members.

At this time Jim stayed home while the "old (?) folks", his parents, moved to town to become city farmers. The newly-weds resided at R.R. 4, Box 134 Q. This has since been changed to 8398 Celina-Mendon Rd. and is still their present address.

The miracle of birth was experienced on July 6, 1974. A nine pound, ten ounce Matthew Ben entered the family circle. The couple was blessed with a second half grown farmhand (eleven pounds, ten ounces) named Kyle Wayne on March 29, 1978.

A portion of the Earl and Cloe Poor property was purchased in the autumn of 1975. It is located in section eight of Center Township on the northeast corner at the intersection of Celina-Mendon and Oregon Roads.

Van Tilburg Farms currently is Jim working with his father and brother, Mark, raising corn, soybeans, and wheat. They also have a small beef herd. Matt and his cousins are eager to help whenever somec allows. He has discovered the combine cab is a gr place to "catch twenty winks". Brenda does t bookkeeping.

The entire household enjoys gardening, readi and sports. Even the baby likes to swim. Softb volleyball, water skiing, and winter fox hunting among the favorites. Most of all the family relis being together. *Brenda Van Tilburg, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Harrison E. We house as it looked 1923.

REZIN B. WEBB

Rezin (Reason) B. Webb, 1812-1874, gre grandfather of Esther Snider was of English desce and came to Mercer County in 1828. He married L cinda Hays, settling on a farm in Union Twp. 1835. This twp. was later changed to Center. To t union nine children were born; David Hays Web 1837-1925, Joseph Davis Webb 1839-1967, Matil Jane 1841-1860, Sally Ann 1843-1874, Polly 184 1893, Lewis C. 1848-1937, Harrison E. 1850-191 Milford 1853- , and Maggie 1855-1940. David ma ried Ellen Aller, Joseph married Mary Jane Fa Sally Ann married Hiram Siler, Polly was the wife Lorenzo Williams, Lewis married Louise Fast, Har son married Sarah Harmon, Milford married Lavi Fast twin of Louise, and Maggie married Rual Ha ner, then a Hunt and later a VanWormer. Lucin Hays Webb, 1820-1858, was the daughter of Jud David Hays who settled Mercer Co. in 1823. Jud Hays married Polly Boroff and were parents of Ha rison, Wm., Alford, Jackson, James, Milton, Lucin and Matilda. Lucinda married Rezin and she died early age of thirty-eight. In 1862 he married A Jemina Young and were the parents of Idabell, W and Ira. (see Ira Webb history). Harrison E. Web son of Rezin and Lucinda, married Sarah A. Ha mon, 1855-1894, in the year 1873. Sarah was t daughter of Godfrey and Belinda Moodespau Harmon of Dublin Twp. Harrison settled his fami on a 110 acre farm in Center Twp., living first in plank house, which was later replaced with a ne structure. These buildings still stand and are own by John Stose located on Stose road south of rou 33. Harrison and Sarah were the parents of, namel Delbert L. 1875-1964 who married Mable Bowe Geneva (Jennie) 1882-1965 married Otis Bogart, O 1880-1952 married Harvey Grosnnickle no livi children, Elsie born in 1884 married Benjamin Sin mons and is living with her children, Clem 188 1973, married Lula Tigner daughter of John a Maggie Simmons Tigner, and Jesse Franklin died 1897 at the age of four. Delbert lived his entire ma ried life in Muncie, Ind. and has only two survivi granddaughters, Betty Hahn and Rosemary Flo Jennie, who lived almost entirely in Michigan h the following children. Clem, Ralph, Blanche Gira Opal Verna, Bea Raab, Betty Williams, and Geor

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who died in his teens, Homer deceased also. Edith tillberger, Bernice Lowrey, Stanley and Eugene are he children of Elsie. All residents of Mercer Co., except Eugene who resides in Columbus.

Upon the early death of Sarah, the family left notherless for several years until Harrison married Cora Viola Graham in 1903. To this union were born Kenneth, married to Mary Williams, Velma Mae Webb McCall, Spencer married Catherine Holtman both deceased. Also Myrtle Graham Real, daughter f Cora's by a previous marriage.

Clem, youngest of Harrison's family, lived his entire life only short distance from where he was born. Married in 1916, that same year built his house, and radually over the year added buildings which can e seen on route 33. Living until his eighty-fourth ear, Clem filled his life with many hobbies along with farming. One outstanding past-time was his un work. He assembled Muzzle-loaders almost entirely from the butt of the stock to the end of the arrel. He loved to pass on to the younger generation his volume of knowledge regarding the gun rade. He gave his life to the Lord, and was a faithful ember of Mt. Zion Evan. Church on Celina-Mendon Rd. Clem and Lula Tigner Webb were the arents of two, one son died in infancy, and daughter Esther-Evelyn born in 1919. She married Lyle E. nider in 1942, he is son of Earl and Mary Coate nider of Coldwater, Ohio, both deceased. William J. married to Caral Welker, Brenda K. married to M. Eugene Hicks, and Gary E. married to Joan Borof are their family. There are the following grandhildren, Kelly Lyle, Jeffrey Neal, Mark Duane Snier and Todd Eugene, Tonya Kay and Travis Edson Hicks. This completes the Webb history from 1812 o 1978. *Esther Snider, Mendon, Oh.*

CECIL CHARLES YEWEY

Cecil Charles Yewey was born in Mendon, Ohio, Union Twp. February 17, 1886.

He was the youngest of three children born to George Yewey and Mary Ann (Harris) Yewey. The ames of the three children were William, Ida Bell Yewey) Wurster, and Cecil.

George Yewey, his father, came to Ohio from West Virginia. His move to Ohio possibly was at the me when Grand Lake was being contained by the uilding of the West Bank. Later he lived in Menon, where he had worked in a grocery store.

Cecil's mother, Mary Ann Harris was from Union ownship. Her parents lived on the Denny Rd. here Donald Preston now lives.

George Yewey died in 1888 at the age of 34 years, Cecil the youngest child being 2 years old. He is buried in Hamilton Bethel Cemetery, Union Township.

Mary, his mother, worked hard to keep her little amily together. A few years after George died, Mary married Silas Nolan. Silas had five children rom a former marriage, two sons and three daughers.

Mary and Silas had two sons, Ernest and Jesse. At his writing Jesse is the only surviving member of oth families. Mary again was to become a widow. he traveled to California to live with her two sons, esse and Ernest. She died in 1937 and is buried in a emetery in Taft, California near where Jesse now ves.

Cecil attended High School in Mendon for a short time. But for financial reasons had to quit and find employment.

He always told the family how he had worked for a Mr. Joe Drake, who lived just west of Mendon on a farm.

At the age of 20 years in 1906 Cecil married Stella May Shanklin, daughter of James and Susan (Rider) Shanklin. They made their home on the James Shanklin farm, Rice Road, Center Township. Cecil farmed for his father-in-law and also for his mother, Mary, who at that time lived about ½ mile away.

To Cecil and Stella were born five children. Merle William, who resides on the home farm, Hazel Marie, deceased Dec. 1958, Thelma (Yewey) Betz, Wayne, Michigan, Ferne (Yewey) Clay, Wayne, Michigan, and Dorothy (Yewey) Barber, corner of Rice and Denny Rd., Center Twp.

Cecil died in December, 1923, at the age of 37 after a long illness. He is buried in Hamilton Bethel Cemetery. Stella is, at this writing, 94 years old and living on the home farm on Rice Rd.

Being a devout, active Christian man, Cecil attended Hamilton Bethel Methodist Church. His one great desire was to see his family become Christians. As a family, we hope we have fulfilled that desire. He taught us how to pray in family devotions. We faithfully attended church and all do to the present.

He packed into 37 years a lot of living and influence that can never be forgotten. *Submitted by Ferne Clay, Wayne, Mich. 48184*

REV. MISS HAZEL YEWEY

Hazel Yewey was born March 3, 1909. She was the second child of Cecil and Stella (Shanklin) Yewey. Her birthplace was Center Twp., Mercer County, Route #4, Rice Road.

Hazel attended Mt. Hope country school and graduated from Center Twp. High School, Neptune in 1926. She was a good student and rated among the highest grades in her classes.

Following her completion of High School she worked for some time at a small factory in Celina.

In 1928 she enrolled in college at Kingswood, Ky., in a Pilgrim Holiness school. It was while attending college here that she felt the call to be a minister. She traveled as an evangelist following 2 years in college in Kentucky. Her work took her into Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. She was accompanied part of this time by her younger sister, Dorothy (Yewey) Barber. Many of her meetings were held in local churches in the area in which she was raised and attended school.

Feeling the need to complete her college education in 1943 she enrolled in Findlay College, graduating in 1945 with honors. She also attended Indiana State University where she received her degree of Master of Science in Education in 1950.

Hazel spent 7 yrs. as pastor of the Neptune Church of God. At this time she was also teaching in High School in Neptune, and teaching a Sunday School class of young married people.

She received life ordination to the ministry by the Ohio Eldership of the Churches of God in 1951. In all she spent 22 years in active ministry.

In 1952 she accepted a teaching position at Ft.

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Wayne Bible College, Ft. Wayne, Indiana. She still found many opportunities to speak in religious meetings conducting weddings and funerals of friends and neighbors.

Hazel was a very active person. She never knew the experience of having children and home, but to her mother, brother, and sisters, she was a tower of strength and wisdom. To her nephews and nieces she was that very special aunt.

Hazel died Dec. 12, 1958 at the age of 49 years. She is buried in Hamilton Bethel Cemetery, Union Twp. *Mrs. Dorothy Barber, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

MERLE WILLIAM YEWEY

Merle William Yewey was born September 29, 1907 in Center Township. He is the oldest of five (5) children born to Cecil Yewey and Stella (Shanklin) Yewey.

Merle grew up on the farm where he now lives. He attended school at Mt. Hope School. The school was located at the corner of what is now Rice Rd. and Bogart Rd. just a short distance from the Yewey home.

When his father, Cecil, died Merle was only sixteen (16) years of age. Even so, he took on the responsibilities of farming and caring for his mother and four younger sisters.

At the age of nineteen (19) Merle was married to Minnie Viola Shank, daughter of Pearl and Isaac Shank. They made their home on the family farm and Merle continued farming. In 1934, a son, Theodore Lee Yewey, was born to Merle and Minnie. He is a Minister in The United Methodist Church and now resides near Cincinnati, Ohio.

During the 1940's Merle continued farming and also worked at the St. Marys Woolen Mill. Then in 1949 Merle began work as a carpenter. Through the years since then he has built many fine homes in the surrounding communities and done repair work on many others. Merle is a well known and respected carpenter and is sought out by local residents for his quality craftsmanship and attitude of friendly helpfulness.

At this writing, both Merle and Minnie are in good health and reside at the family farm on Rice Road. Both are active in Church work and Merle continues to work, along with a grandson, in the construction of homes. *Submitted by Theodore L. Yewey, Batavia, Oh. 45103*

GEORGE MADISON NEWCOMB

George Madison Newcomb was the tenth child o Miletus and Mary Jane (Raudabaugh) Newcomb born October 3, 1887. He attended schools in Celina and St. Marys, Ohio. George, had five brothers and six sisters; Winfield, Leona, Ernest, Catherine Phena, Clyde, Ellis, Lillian, Rhoda, George, Floss and Albert.

On July 21, 1912 he married Hazel Margaret Beiersdorfer, daughter of Philip and Sarah Ungerer Beiersdorfer of Celina, Ohio. At the time of the marriage George M. was employed at the J.A. Roemer Shoe Store. A son, Frank Albert, was born to the July 3, 1919. Frank went to school in Wapakoneta O., he was married to Mary Kathryn Wilt, daughter of Lawrence Walter and Beulah Link Wilt. "Kaye" was born December 13, 1921, in Columbus, O.

Frank and Kaye were married on October 27 1945.

From 1916 to 1919 George M. was co-owner f the Newcomb-Zimpfer Shoe Store in Celina, O. In 1919 he moved to Wapakoneta, O. and became proprietor of a shoe store. While in Wapakoneta, George M. was quite active with the Elk Lodge, being secretary and treasurer for several years. He also served on the city council. For a few years 1936-41 he resided in Columbus, O., where he traveled for Foot-So-Port Shoe Company (then called Healthy Spo Shoes). In 1941 he moved to Detroit, Michigan and when hs son returned from the armed services in 1945, they were partners in Foot-So-Port Shoe Stores in Detroit and Saginaw, Michigan until his death, December 8, 1970. His wife, Hazel Newcomb died February 16, 1959.

Frank and Kaye are still operating show stores in Detroit and Saginaw, Michigan. *Frank Newcomb*

Place your Family History in this Space

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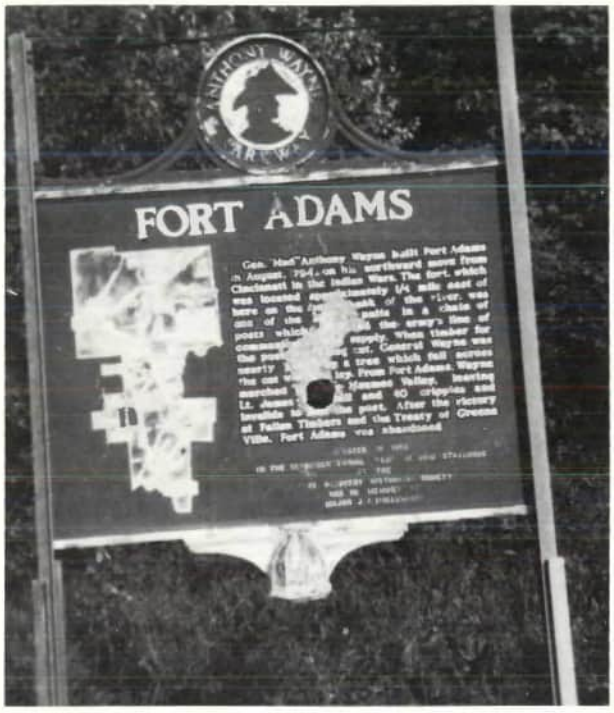

Site of Fort Adams, Dublin Township

DUBLIN TOWNSHIP

When Dublin Township was organized on June 7, 1824, it included all the north part of Mercer County. No exact date is available for the organization of the other townships that were struck off from it as the records up to 1838 are missing, which include the early elections and names of the first officers.

The Ottawa Indians were the first settlers — one village which has disappeared from the scene is "Old Town" where they lived, one and one half miles up the river from Shane's Crossing. Later the Shawnee and French-Indian descendants of these tribes received the only land reserve grants ever made in Mercer County. These were given to the Godfrey's, Shane, Black Loon, Cresent, Charlie, and Labodie — all relatives or friends of John B. Richardville. This man was then the big chief of the Miami Indians, brother-in-law of Little Turtle, a well-educated and wealthy man.

While northwestern Ohio was generally unsuited to occupancy of Mound Builders, being very low and swampy, there was a small number of the Hopewell culture that reached Mercer County. This group existed about the time of Christ, but little is known of them, except their highly developed earthworks, as well as geometric designs. It is not known if this was a migration group or only a fringe area. They left five enclosures, thought to be public meeting sites, ceremonial grounds, or maybe observation posts, in Mercer County. Three of these were along the St. Mary's River, east of Rockford in Dublin Township, one each of the rectangular, circular, and crescent designs.

Dublin Township is bounded on the north by Van Wert County, on the east by Union Township, south, by Hopewell Township, and west by Blackcreek Township. The St. Mary's River flows across it from the eastern side to the northwest corner, crossed by three bridges, the fourth bridge shared with Blackcreek Township. There is a historical marker at the Hays Bridge on Route 127, commemorating Fort Adams, which had been a fortification about one fourth mile east for protection of the trail to Ft. Wayne. To facilitate the operation of the Rockford Stone Company, owned by Hale Beerbower and Sons, the river bed was moved in 1960 with Robert Beerbower, an engineering graduate of Ohio State University, in charge of the procedure.

The soil is very fertile and the principle crops are wheat, oats, corn, and soybeans. Sugar beets were grown for a number of years, but gave way to tomatoes and cucumbers when the Sharp Canning Company came in. Livestock which used to be raised on every farm is not a big business anymore.

In 1824, the whole township tax was $46.66. There were 20,104 acres, valued at $38,220, each acre worth $17.66. At the present time, land in the township sells from $2200 to $3000 an acre. In 1840, the census was 705, in 1880, 2027, in 1975, (projected) 2080 this figure included Rockford.

The Toledo, Delphos, and Burlington had a narrow gauge railroad in 1880, from the north ending at Shane's Crossing. The C.J. & M, later the Cincinnati Northern, still later, New York Central, went through the township. However, transportation by truck took over and only a short local line from Delphos and Spencerville comes as far as Rockford in 1978.

In addition to the road, bridge, ditch, and outlet problems, the trustees take care of all the cemeteries, having accepted the books of Riverside Cemetery in January, 1957, when the town lacked funds for the project. The latest improvements in Dublin has been the new building at Riverside (1977-78) for Machine storage. It is heated and was used last winter for interment services for several funerals. A flag pole was installed in 1976, for which the American Legion furnished the flag. The Town and Country Club has attractive flower beds at its base, all adding a patriotic touch to the cemetery. An interesting item is that snow removal in the township, January 1918, by 23 men with shovels, cost $185.35. For the Blizzard of '78, the January cost of removing snow by the Trustees was $2703.62 plus help from the Jones Engineering Company of Cincinnati.

Trustees from the early 1900's to the present have been Marion Pond, B. F. Blossom, Robert Lee, Clyde Rutledge, H. A. Copeland, C. D. Koontz, Charle Chivington, Roscoe Shindeldecker, Clefford Shindeldecker, Dwight Koeppel, Homer Hall, Paul Williams, Victor Shindeldecker and Philip Runyan.

Clerks have been D. C. Kinder, A. H. Pontius, W E. Doran, Clarence Morrow, and Earl Lee. The incumbent clerk is Mrs. Margaret Stewart, 509 W Front St., Rockford. The present trustees are: Edwin Farmer, Mercer-Van Wert County Line Road, Rockford; Russel G. Howell, Frysinger Road, Rockford Glen Pontsler, Walls Road, Rockford.

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Public School Building, Rockford

MERCER, OHIO

The village of Mercer was platted in 1833 along resent U.S. Route 33 and contained 30 lots. It was amed for General Hugh Mercer, a Revolutionary Var hero.

An 1882 map of Mercer County shows a railroad om Mercer to Shane's Crossing (Rockford). The llage was also served by the CH & D R.R., more failiarly known as "Charges High & Darn Rough iding." This railroad was abandoned in 1923. Pat falone was a gruff but kind conductor on this line.

Mercer was one of the first communities to use ectricity around 1917. Some of the early businesses ere: Michael Adams, Dry Goods & Groceries; Samel Elberson, Groceries & Liquors; Albert Wertz, roceries; H. Davis, Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, & ardware; Graham & Thompson, steam saw and tile ill; Abel Harden, blacksmith; J. McKaig, Mercer ouse (hotel); Joseph Harris and O. C. Phares, physcians; and Baptist and Methodist churches. Mrs. emuel Daughtery managed her husband's grocery ore after his death. She also conducted a dressaking and millinery business and was Postmaster. ater, Mrs. Dollie Halfhill took over this post and as the last postmaster in Mercer. In 1927 the Belen Bros. built a filling station and restaurant on the outhwest corner of the intersection of Routes 33 nd 127.

Businesses operating in Mercer today include: Iotor Inn Truck Stop, Mayfair Motel, Snider TV, rier's Power Digging, Landmark Grain Elevator, haron Walls' beauty shop, Floyd Davis Upholstery, . A. Beougher's lawn mower service, and Kimmel's oadside Market. *By Mrs. John Maurer*

Students attending Mercer School, 1910-1911

Public School Building, Mercer

MERCER SCHOOL

Mercer Special School District was organized in August of 1880 with an enumeration of 139. It was composed of sections 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36 in Dublin Twp.

School was held in a log building during the 1830's and 1840's. A frame building was built probably in the 1860's, later moved, and now the dwelling of the Paul Beougher family. A later 2-story frame school house was destroyed by fire around 1907 and was replaced by a 2-story brick building. Originally there was a high school, but due to economic pressures, it was discontinued in 1927. The school was finally discontinued in 1939 and joined the Rockford School System. That year the building was sold to the Union Grange.

Former teachers still living today include: Lorena Stuckey Weinman, Lela High Dudgeon, Dee Jackson Lewis, Ruth Wollet Shafer, Betty Dicke Dabbelt, Alice Kantzer, Ford Koepple, Reah Tickle Strayer, and Clara Maurer Howick. Mention should be made of the janitor, Mr. John Green, who not only tended to the usual chores of firing the furnace and sweeping floors but also made beautiful the plain school rooms with lovely house plants. *By Mrs. John Maurer*

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Mercer Methodist Church, built 1900

MERCER METHODIST CHURCH

Sutton's (1882) "History of Van Wert & Mercer County" and also Winter's History lists and tells of the earlist Methodist families to have settled near Shane's Prairie or Mercer village after 1833. These families who settled here and carved out their homes in the wilderness were the Andrew Coils, David Hay's, Chivington's and the three Roebucks.

Every year brought other families to this land without roads, bridges or much cleared land, to make a better living for themselves and their children.

Records show the circuit riders, often Methodists, called on every log cabin and established classes, meetings or societies, which usually became churches.

Mercer's first reported Methodist Church was a one room log cabin located near West Mercer Village and used from about 1833 to 1848.

The second Mercer Methodist Church, built in 1848, cost about $800 and was across the road from the present edifice. According to conference records, it was about 33 ft. wide and 60 ft. long, and its attendance was often near 150.

The present red brick building was built and dedicated in 1900, costing about $10,000, and is 56 ft. by 73 ft. The church is famous for its stained glass windows, which were donated by its member families or their children in their honor. Rev. M. M. Markwith was pastor then and newspaper reports thei estimated 1000 people attended the May 6, 190(dedication. A history was written in 1970 "Sesqui centennial of Mercer Methodism" giving all availa ble historical material. This was the start of a num ber of annual homecomings.

In 1975, we celebrated 75 years in the presen building with a great homecoming historical churcl displays and the publication of a second book "Family Histories of Mercer Methodism" listing th detailed history of some 30 families whose devotio and Christian dedication of over a half century past.

These yearly homecomings brought back man former Mercerites. Over the years, hundreds cam back to the church of their childhood and younge days. Words fail me now trying to describe the af fection, love, devotion, and appreciation these for mer members had and still have for their church The writer cannot tell the depth and extent of thei faith, but we know that they, the Mercer Methodis Church, has had a worthwhile influence on thei lives.

Many church improvements have been made ove the past few years and we look to the future wit more spiritual hope and divine guidance.

We pay tribute and praise to the many devotec and dedicated Christian ancestors of ours, who hac the stamina, fortitude and devotion to carve a lanc out of the wilderness for the betterment of them selves and their children and children's children. *Pau E. Hosack, Church Historian*

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Main Street North, Rockford, early view

SHANESVILLE SHANES CROSSING ROCKFORD

Deep into remote times dips the history of what ınce was Shanesville, later Shanes Crossing, and last ›y Post Office Department decree, Rockford, a community rich in lore and legend.

No doubt but what the high ground adjacent to he St. Marys river here was the camping ground ınd village sites of Indian tribes long before Columıus discovered America. Weapons, tools, arrow ıeads and stone axes tell of long occupancy.

From time immemorial the St. Marys river has ›een a busy thoroughfare for traders, trappers and ıdventurers. Trails along the banks of the river were ısed greatly, one of these became known as the Piıua-Fort Wayne trail, which crossed to the north ide of the river here, a part of the journey from the Great Lakes to the Ohio River.

The first history of this community of which any ecord has been found, begins with that of Anthony Madore, a French-Indian who ran a trading post loıated just north of the Junction of Route 118 and 33, ınd east of the Rockford American Legion home. It s not known how long Madore owned the post, but ıround 1815 he died.

A few years before this period were the bloody Inlian Wars. The Miamis and Shawnees and other ribes were then intrenched in their stronghold at Fort Wayne. General Josiah Harmar and his army vent through Rockford enroute to Fort Wayne vhere he was more or less defeated.

During the War of 1812, Rockford heard martial music. General William Henry Harrison camped here with his army enroute to Detroit to fight the British and their Indian allies. He was joined at Rockford by 200 mounted Ohio Volunteers and 800 foot soldiers. The Indians who were besieging the garrison at Ft. Wayne fled when Harrison's army approached. When Tecumseh, the famous Indian warrior was killed in a duel with Col. Richard M. Johnson at the Battle of Thames, this almost ended the War of 1812 in this county.

Town Hall, Rockford, 1907

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Main Street South, Rockford, early view

ANTHONY SHANE

Anthony Shane, a French-Indian and his wife lived for years in a double-log cabin, just north of the town. He ran a trading post and for his services as a scout for the army of General Anthony Wayne was given a large tract of land known as the Shanes Grant, and all abstracts or title for realty here start with this grant. The grant consisted of 640 acres north of the town and 320 acres at the town site.

June 23, 1820, Shanes filed his plot to the town of Shanesville which then comprised 42 lots on the south side of the river.

Shanes lived here until 1832 when he acted as government agent and accompanied the Shawnee Indians to Kansas. It is not known if he ever returned to this part of the country.

William Hedges who came from Boone County, Kentucky was employed as a clerk at Madore's Trading Post and after Madore's death took over the business. Hedges was married in February, 1823 to Susan Greaves and they reared a family of ten children. William has two brothers, John and Samuel and all three Hedge boys served as the town's first postmasters.

William bought the reservation of Anthony Shane where he lived a long and useful life, becoming one the outstanding pioneer citizens of this part of Ohio.

LAND GRANTS

These grants of land to the French-Indians in Dublin Township are of particular interest since they were the only reserve grants ever made in Mercer County.

These grants were made to the Godfreys, Shane, Black Loon, Crescent, Charlie and Labodie, all relatives of friends of John B. Richardville.

John B. Richardville, the Big Chief then of the M ami Indians and brother-in-law of Little Turtle was well educated and wealthy man. He would not pla ball at the St. Marys Treaty until these grants wer made.

Shanesville "Half Way Cross"

Old French maps indicated it "Half Way Cross which meant it was half way between the India towns of Piqua and Ft. Wayne.

Shanesville was the first town laid out in th county and the first seat of justice in Merce County. Judge Nathaniel Law presided at the firs term of court in 1820.

The original plat of the town was laid out with th streets, six perches (rods) wide, crossed each other a right angles and intersected with alleys two perche wide, Lot No. 1 of the original plat is the Legio Home and River Street was just at the rear. In 182 this lot was owned by John Hedges and valued a $250.00.

In the early days North Franklin Street, a squar west of the present Main Street was the busines and residential section of the village. It was not unt 1850 that Main Street began to grow up. Shane original plat shows land set aside for a small publi square.

The name of Shanesville was applied to the tow from its foundation up to its incorporation, althougl the Post Office name was always Shanes Crossin from the first.

In 1838 the record of residents lists only nin names: C. B. Whitley, blacksmith; W. B. Hedges landholder; David Work, tanner; Robert Gordon storekeeper; J. D. Ralston, shoemaker; Rasil Lint, ho tel keeper; Samuel Drayer, wheelwright; Abrahan Meller, blacksmith; and Solomon Barks, farmer.

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March 7, 1866, a petition signed by forty-one citi-:ens was filed for the incorporation of the town. On he 5th day of June, 1866 the Commissioners after lue examination deemed it right and proper to grant he petition for the village of Shanes Crossing to be ncorporated and organized. Received for record on une 12 and recorded on June 19, 1866.

The first election of officers was held on Septem-)er 24, 1866 with forty-four votes being cast.

1880 statistics show that the return made by the .ppraiser reads: taxable property of the district, ex-ept a per capita tax on dogs was $49,270. The num-)er of dogs was 42 and the dog tax $42.00.

Drs. Tippie and Budd were the earliest physicians nd there were several doctors and dentists that vould come to the town for a day or two and offer heir services.

The town went by the name of Shanes Crossing ntil 1890 when a town meeting was held and it was ecided to change to another name of historical sig-ificance. The townspeople picked Lacine as their hoice, but while this matter was pending the Post)ffice Department took it upon itself and desig-ated it Rockford. No one knows where this idea vas hatched.

The settlement's first post office was opened in 838 with William Hedges postmaster. This office vas located on Franklin Street midway between ront and Columbia Streets, then moved to West Market Street and in 1938 moved to its present loca-on on Main Street.

The town's first railroad was the Toledo, Delphos nd Burlington railroad. It was an extension of the ystem of narrow gauge roads which converged at)elphos and Toledo, which originally had Delphos nd Shanes Crossing as Termini, later this line was xtended to Dayton. In 1872 this whole line of nar-)w gauge roads, was consolidated into one system nd named the St. Louis Narrow Gauge System. In 883 the Mercer and Shanes Crossing branch was ffered for sale by the Sheriff.

Since the need for a north and south line was ex-ressed by the people the Van Wert, Celina and tate Line Railroad was built of narrow gauge track nd then in 1881 was changed to standard gauge and lso was extended to Paulding, and known as the incinnati, Van Wert and Michigan. This was a usy thoroughfare for passengers and freight.

The passenger service was discontinued on the incinnati-Northern in 1938 and on November 1, 960 the Rockford depot was also closed.

Rockford holds the distinction of being the first)wn in the county to have electric lights which were rst turned on in 1899 after The Rockford Electric ighting & Power Company was formed in 1888. 'here were seventy street lamps of 32 candle power. ı 1903 the Rockford Milling Company was hired to upply the power to run the dynamos in 1903 until 908 when the Milling Company was completely de-troyed by fire and all new equipment was installed.)ayton Power and Light Co. bought the company in 945.

Petitition for the water works was voted on Sep-:mber 18, 1895 and passed by 165 yes to 48 nos, the roject was completed in 1897. The first machines to ush the water were steam driven and when the ew water pumps were installed in later years the 'ater pressure was much improved. A new water tower, mains and fire hydrants were installed in 1931. Another advancement was made in 1957 when the Sewage Treatment Plant was undertaken. The village received a Federal Grant of $50,032.00 to apply on the plant. Fourteen acres of land for this purpose was purchased, located north of Rockford on Route 117. A new riser was installed in the tower in the spring of 1978.

Early Businesses

The lumber business no doubt was the communities greatest business in the early years. Around fifty men used horse teams to haul in logs from mills around, many more were timber cutters or employed in the saw mills.

One of the largest sawmills in east Rockford was along the narrow gauge lastly known as the Hawk Mill. East of the C. N. depot at the side of the stock yard, was a spoke mill, where hickory was roughed out for wagon and buggy spokes. At the location of the Rockford Lumber Co. was another large mill, run by Jim Pennell. Baird's Saw Mill was located on the west bank of the river, just at the rear of the Sivey and Pond home.

There was also a handle factory, where a number of kinds of ash handles were turned out.

But the largest of all was the stave, hoop and hub factory just west of the home of Mrs. Grant Frysinger. Storage sheds for this mill covered about all of the then open space south across the road.

Shanes Crossing was also a big grain and livestock market, and farm products were hauled in from miles about. When folks brought in farm products in the fall and spring, they came to spend the day. The local merchants would have a record business, the restaurants served a big dinner with pie for 25¢, the free lunch on the bars in the gin mills took quite a beating. Everyone who went home hungry had no excuse.

In the late 1800's a terrible fire started in the McSherry-Smith Brock block, a telegraph message was sent to the Van Wert Fire Department for help. After this great loss the town decided the bucket brigade should be replaced with a steamer.

In 1900 four new brick businesses on Main Street were erected, this started the move of other proprietors from Market to Main. At this time the town had five clothing stores and the population had grown to 1500.

There were no regular saloons, however the principle business of the hotels and inns were serving liquor. You could buy real squirrel whiskey at the grocery or general store for 25¢ a gallon. There were four or five gin mills built in the town.

The jail, considerably used, stood at the northeast corner of the Lloyd Garage. It was a building about 8 x 12, made of 2 x 6's spiked flat. It had a barred window and a heavy door, fastened with a big padlock.

On Saturday the regular "fete" day, one or maybe a half dozen fellows got blooded up and landed in jail.

When the city building was built, the town went modern and put in a steel cage.

St. Marys River

The river channel was much different, being like a W. The river went northeast of the C.N. railroad,

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then came back south on the west side, west over Route 118, then north and west again.

A cut off was made under the south railroad bridge, and another under the present cement span.

For many years a red wooden bridge spanned the river at the head of Main Street.

In local option times the island under and at the side of the bridge was "Oklahoma" and you could drive out on the bridge. Order 'em up, and you would get them sent up to you on a tray, operated by a block and tackle rigged up in a leaning sycamore tree, refills were gotten the same way.

The old red bridge was supplemented by the iron bridge, after it collapsed and dumped two trucks and drivers the present cement bridge was built in 1939. The C.N. railroad built the cement abutments with steel structure over the river in 1903.

The new bridge was really christened in 1940 when the thieves that robbed a grocery in Ft. Wayne came thru and tossed a suitcase containing $5000.00 over the bridge. The case flew open and bills were scattered along the river bank and through the trees. People still speak about the large number of people coming to Rockford to find some money.

Barna's Garage and the take off from Route 118 to 33, is all over what once was the bed of the river.

Early Social Notes

Our small town was very active in the social set in the early days. There were a great number of secret societies, clubs and organizations. Probably the best remembered organization in the early years was the Red Men Lodge and Pocahontas Lodge for the ladies.

The Dysert Opera House built in 1882 by J. P. Dysert, located on South Main Street was the scene of many plays, socials, parties, banquets and other gatherings. It had beautiful Italian scenes painted on the drop curtain. This building was condemned and completely torn down in 1969.

Large political meetings, both Republican and Democrats would hold large torch light processions. Electors of both parties would hold meetings to select candidates for the various offices of the village and school board. There was also a non-partisan party called the Citizens Corporation.

The Retail Merchants was organized in 1890, a branch of the Merchants Retail Commercial Agency of Chicago.

Driving Park Association was organized in 1890 and a race track built on the north west side of the river. By 1894 Rockford had the finest ½ mile track in the area.

The Rockford Farmers' Institute began in 1895 and in 1896 a stock company for prospecting oil was started. Tho some wells were drilled, none were too productive.

Rockford Commercial Club was incorporated in 1916.

Rockford Industrial Development was organized in 1957 for the purpose of encouraging business to come to Rockford. 47 shares of stock were sold and the corporation purchased 10 acres of land at the northeast corner of the village. In 1963 they built a building which was rented to Joytime-Travel Trailers Co. Later the building was rented by Tu-Way Products Co. and when Tu-Way purchased the land and building the R.I.D.A. was disbanded and the stockholders paid a profit on their investment.

In 1972 a Medical-Dental procurement board wa formed. This board is funded by private contrib utions from individuals and organizations to brin professional business to our village.

FIRST IN THE COUNTY

Rockford had the first airport in Mercer Count located west of the swimming pool and owned b Elvin Rager. The swimming pool was built by CW. Labor in 1934.

The swimming pool had a sand bottom for man years but is now a cemented modern pool.

SESQUICENTENNIAL

Rockford celebrated their sesquicentennial i 1970 with the entire community getting involved i the celebration, which lasted for five days and was great success. On the final day when the great pa rade thru the town was formed this little village wa busting at the seams with people.

For several years after this an annual program wa planned for a day and after Shanes Park, formerl the Auglaize-Sciot Camp for the Church of th United Brethren in Christ was purchased by the vil lage an annual Bean Bake has been held in Jun This undertaking grows each year with gospe groups from a large area coming to entertain th crowd.

20th CENTURY CLUB

In November of 1923, the urge of a musical an literary club became strong enough to induce group of nine women to organize themselves. Tha same November, a constitution was adopted, th colors of green and gold chosen, and the club flowe a chrysanthemum.

The first meeting was held in the home of Mrs. M L. Downing. The officers elected for the new organi zation were Mrs. Paul Fishbaugh, Pres., Mrs. Ro Bissel, Vice-Pres., Mrs. Lillian Coates, Sec'y, an Mrs. E. E. Jackson, Treas. It was decided to meet th fourth Tuesday of each month, September thru Ma in the homes. Membership to be held to twenty-fou ladies with an object of promoting a broader an better culture, intellectually, and socially, among it members.

Following is a list of community projects whic this club did or helped to sponsor: 1. Sponsored th clean-up of dump grounds at edge of Rockford. 2. I 1923 and 33 paid lights, coal, water, and cleanin bills for library. 3. In 1934 sponsored the building c Public restrooms on West Market street. 4. Boug bookcase for paperback books in library. 5. Fift year club members bought bookcase for librar books at Shane Hill Nursing Home. 6. Contribute annually to Combined Community fund drives. Donates to Carey, Bill, and Benny Scholarshi funds. 8. Contributes to Girl's State project. Bought a lighted globe for Library. 10. Contribute to library bldg. fund in 1970.

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MERCER LANDMARK, INC. Rockford, Ohio

Originally the plant was built in the early 1900's, nown as "The Little Elevator". In 1921 it was pur-ıased by Albert Dudgeon and Lee Little. At that me the total storage capacity was 8,000 bushel. A ıodern feed mill was added to the elevator in 1940. ı 1950 additional storage of 117,000 bushel was ıdded. A new seed house was constructed in 1952. he Albert Dudgeon family operated this plant until ıly 1969 when it was sold to Landmark Inc., Co-ımbus, Ohio, and leased to Mercer Landmark Inc.

In July, 1975 this plant was purchased by Mercer andmark Inc. Additional grain storage has been ıdded totalling 856,000 bushel, a 1500 BPH grain ryer, liquid fertilizer storage and plant, new scale nd scale house and a 1,000 ton liquid fertilizer swimming pool type pit) warehouse.

The Rockford facilities along with nurse tanks, pplicators, floatation applicators, tool bars, bulk preaders etc. offer a "COMPLETE FARM SERVICE ENTER" to provide farm chemicals, seeds, liquid ertilizers, dry fertilizers, anhydrous, etc. offers a omplete program to serve patron's farm supply eeds and grain marketing.

Little Elevator, Home of Rockford Feeds

MERCER LANDMARK, INC.

Mercer Branch located in Mercer, Ohio just west of the junction of Ohio SR 127 and U.S. 33.

Originally it was owned by Albert Dudgeon and known as the Mercer Grain Company. Later on ownership and management was taken over by Cloise Dudgeon, Albert's son.

Landmark Inc., Columbus, Ohio purchased this facility from Mr. Dudgeon and leased the facilities to Mercer Landmark Inc., in July 1969. Mercer Landmark Inc., purchased this facility from Landmark Inc. in January 1975.

The facilities include a feed mill, fertilizer warehouse, anhydrous storage, liquid nitrogen storage and has storage for 116,000 bushel of grain.

With the facilities, nurse tanks, applicators, tool bar, floater unit, bulk spreaders, etc. this plant offers a complete program to serve patron's needs in the community for all farm supplies and grain marketing.

Mercer Grain Co.

Mercer Landmark, Inc., Rockford, Ohio

Mercer Landmark, Inc., Mercer, Ohio

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Shane Hill Nursing Home, 1978

Left: John and Nancy Smith. **Right:** Olen and Mildre Ransbottom.

SHANE HILL NURSING HOME

Shane Hill Nursing Home, RR #3, Rockford, Ohio was founded by Olen C. Ransbottom and his son-in-law John L. Smith. The original fifty bed unit was built in 1971 with open house held December 12, 1971 and the first patients taken on December 16, 1971. The home was soon full and a continual waiting list prompted the building of an additional fifty beds. The new addition was opened in May 1976.

Olen Ransbottom had been a life-long resident of the Rockford area, and had been in the dairy business some 39 years. Following a heart attack in 1970, Olen sold his dairy business which was known as Ranny's Home Dairy. John Smith had been in the nursing home business since 1964. He, and his mother, Florence Smith were in business together in the Smith Nursing Home in Rockford. Smith Nursing Home was founded in 1961 by Florence Smith and her late husband Rev. Harry L. Smith. Rev. Smith passed away in late 1961. Smith Nursing Home was closed in 1976 at the time that the new addition to Shane Hill Nursing Home was opened.

Shane Hill Nursing Home was incorporated in 1971. The original officers of the corporation were: Olen C. Ransbottom — President, Nancy A. Smith — Vice-President, Mildred O. Ransbottom — Secretary, and John L. Smith — Treasurer. Each officer owned one-fourth of the stock of the business. Olen Ransbottom passed away in 1977 and his stock was divided evenly among his three children, Thomas, Robert, and Nancy.

The nursing home was placed on five acres of land which belonged to Olen Ransbottom. The land had previously belonged to his parents Clifford L. and Charmie A. Ramsbottom. The land was the highest land and nearest town and had frontage on State Route 118.

The name for Shane Hill was decided upon by the family after thinking of many possibilities. The Shane came from the history of the community as Anthony Shane founded Rockford. Rockford had previously been known as Shane's Crossing and later Shanesville. The Hill part came from the fact that it was the high ground of the Ransbottom farm and was always called the hill. A good part of th hill was lost while leveling the land to build upon.

Shane Hill is one of the few individual famil owned and operated one hundred bed nursin homes in a day of large corporations and chain oper ations. The motto "Shane Hill Care is a Family Af fair" was originated by Olen Ransbottom. He wa known within the community for his sayings an home spun poetry. The family affair thought wa brought out to emphasize the personalized opera tion of the home.

The home provides 6 private rooms, 47 semi private rooms, and an isolation room, making 10 beds plus the isolation room available. Shane Hil provides 24 Hour Skilled Nursing Care. The hom has six lounges, two dining rooms, beauty and bar ber shop, therapy, three patio areas, and activity ar eas. Activities include weekly Protestant and Catho lic services, crafts and ceramics, card parties, bingo sing-a-longs, Bible study, exercises, and other activi ties. Special events are held such as Mother an Daughter Tea, Father and Son Banquet, 4th of Jul Picnic, Halloween Party, Christmas Party, and a other holiday times. Complete dietary services ar provided as well as laundry service.

Visiting hours are open so that friends and lovec ones can visit at their convenience. Each room has a restroom, closets, nurse call system, individual con trol of heat, and other conveniences. The home ha its own well and sewage system. There is ample parking area for employees and guests.

The staff includes 80 employees to care for the 100 residents. John Smith has served as Administra tor and Mary King as Director of Nursing since the home began operation in 1971.

Shane Hill became a reality because of a concerr for a better life for those who must look to others. The desire of the Ransbottoms and the Smiths is that this personal care always be a prime concern o all persons involved.

THE ROCKFORD PRESS

DeWitt Clinton Kinder came to Shanes Crossing in the spring of 1883, and established "The Free Press", the first issue being put out on Saturday, June 30, of that year.

The first office of "The Free Press" was in the north-west corner room upstairs of the building at Main and

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larket Streets now owned by Ernie oodwin. This building was put up by T. J. Courtright ıd at the time was occupied by the Courtright & Miller eneral Store, the office was later moved to a building, ıat stood where the driveway and show room of Riley hevrolet.

While printing in the upstairs room much of the small quipment was damaged by a cyclone which took the lock tin roof off the building, rolling it up like a big cigar ith the chimneys inside.

The history of the second location is not known, but as said to have been a doctor's office or drug store. The uilding was later used by Jay Tolan for his Monument hop, and was torn down.

Mr. Kinder next purchased lots of John F. Barks on Vest Market Street and built the east brick part of the resent Press Office. The west cement block additions ere later erected by George R. Kinder and George J. Kin-er. In its ninety-six years of continuous publication, the aper has been housed in only three locations.

In the publication of "The Press" Dewitt Clinton Kin-er was most ably assisted by his wife Mary E. Kinder, ıd sons George R. and Jean R. who started in the busi-ess at an early age.

George R. Kinder took over the printing of the paper in 906, and later had much help from his wife, Nelle O. inder, daughter, Katharine and son, George J.

When George R. Kinder was appointed postmaster in 935, George J. Kinder, who had just graduated from Mi-ni University, took over the management. Bessie, his ife, later became actively associated with The Press.

George J. Kinder developed the plant into a live com-ercial printing institution doing work for patrons over a ide area.

In 1957, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Baltzell assumed active anagement of The Press.

The commercial printing of the Press over the years ıs consisted of coin catalogs for Numismatist dealers in ayton and Cleveland and Cincinnati, monthly publica-ons for churches and factories. Several telephone direc-ries for small independent telephone companies are so printed in the plant.

When Mr. Baltzell became part of the operation in 953 he took over the telephone department. His wife, lartha has spent much of her time as secretary, proof ader and bindery helper over the years.

Their three older children Larry, Connie and Laura also egan working at an early age with their first job as veepers.

At one time the Press printed The Ohio City Progress ıd The Mendon Herald and The Convoy Radar which ere all purchased from various owners by Mr. Baltzell. hese papers have now been consolidated into one.

In June of 1977, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Baltzell and Mr. ıd Mrs. Gary Baltzell took over the management of the ant, with Fred and Martha assisting.

Sheila Baltzell, wife of Larry is employed at the First ational Bank of Mercer County but spends many hours the evenings helping by proof reading and typing bills. an Baltzell, wife of Gary works part-time in the office ıd pays the bills.

Other employees at this time are Gale Butcher, press-an, Vincent Westgerdes, linotype operator and Bessie inder is still on the job working part-time in the office ıd bindery. Mike Baltzell, son of Gary Baltzell and Todd ıltzell, son of Fred Baltzell take care of the janitorial ork.

Over the past years many people have helped with the ork at the Rockford Press, too many to mention, but ch one has contributed something towards the success the plant. A sound wheel must have a sturdy hub but also takes many spokes to keep it turning.

The Press will be celebrating 100 years of continuous rvice in just four years, a long time for a business to ep going.

ROCKFORD LUMBER CO., INC.

In May 1923, Mr. W. W. Dye and Mr. B. A. Constable purchased the Rockford Lumber Co. from Walter R. Lewis. The Rockford Lumber Co. is located on the north side of Columbia Street, East of the C.N. Railroad and was managed by Mr. Dye until his death.

Mr. Arthur Pond, an employee, took over the manager position, which he held until his retirement in 1960.

In January 1961, the Rockford Lumber Co. was Incorporated with four shareholders, Mrs. W. W. (Vida) Dye, Mrs. Endora (Dye) Burris, Mrs. Irene (Dye) Gordon and Elbert R. Schumm, Sr. James W. Dye serves as President of the Board of Directors. Mr. Schumm has served as Secretary and Treasurer and General Manager of the Company to the present date. The present Stockholders are Mrs. Endora Burris, Miss Carol Gordon, Jeffrey Gordon, Michael Gordon, and Elbert R. Schumm, Sr.

Mr. Schumm joined the company in 1946 after discharged from the U.S. Army. Mrs. Lulu Frye has been bookkeeper since 1951, and Robert Schumm has been millman and clerk since 1967.

Rockford Lumber Co., Inc. retails in lumber, and most types of building materials. They have had Kurfees Paints for more than 40 years. The Lumber Co. is one of the few small lumber businesses with a mill to manufacture special mill work and do small repair work on doors, windows, cabinets and furniture. Some of the original equipment is still being used in the mill.

The aim of the Lumber Co. is to provide the people with Old Fashioned service and friendliness.

Rockford Lumber Company Employees

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Groundbreaking for New Medical Arts Complex — L. to R.: Randy Brunswick, Michael Bruns, (Bruns Building and Supply Co., St. Henry, General Contractors), Mrs. Diane Schumm, Thomas Schumm, R.Ph., Dr. Jerry Sell, with shovel, Mrs. Constance Sell, Russell Fetters, Robert Clay (Members of Rockford Village Council).

SCHUMM PHARMACY

Schumm Pharmacy originally was VanFleet Drugstore. The VanFleet Drugstore was started in Rockford approximately in 1908 by Charles M. VanFleet. Mr. VanFleet and his son Robert and long-time employee Genevieve Snyder Lee continued the business at the 123 S. Main location until it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Gene Arnold in 1963. In January, 1978, the business was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Schumm. At that time the name was changed to Schumm Pharmacy. Schumm Pharmacy remained at the S. Main location until completion of a new building — medical arts complex at a 500 S. Main Street location on land formerly owned by Mrs. Lela Dudgeon in the summer of 1979. The medical arts complex will also house the offices of Dr. Jerry D. Sell.

Thomas Schumm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick Schumm, Willshire, Ohio, and his wife Diane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kimmel, Mercer, Ohio, are parents of a son, Brian, born in 1978, and a son Kyle, in 1979. Schumm is a 1967 graduate of Parkway High School, 1971 graduate of Miami University (B.S. in Secondary Education), and 1973 graduate of Ohio Northern University (B.S. Pharmacy). At Ohio Northern, Schumm was a member of RhoChi, a pharmacy honorary fraternity, and Phi Delta Chi, pharmacy fraternity.

Schumm Pharmacy features quality prescription care, health and beauty items, McJon photofinishing, Ambassador cards, Russell Stover candy, and gift items for every occasion. Ample parking is available at the new location. In addition to Schumm and his wife, present employees of Schumm Pharmacy are Debra Schumm, Becki McMillen, Joan Kimmel, Ruth Leininger, and Ronda Stetler.

Dr. Jerry Sell, who will begin his practice in Rockford in July, 1979, in offices in 500 block of S. Main, is son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sell, Rockford. He and his wife, Constance Sue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beougher, Rockford, are parents of two children Jennifer (born in 1974) and Jonathon (born in 1976).

Dr. Sell is a 1965 graduate of Parkway High School. He spent three years in U.S. Army in San Antonio, Texas, as Preventive Medicine Instructor. He graduated 1973 from Ohio State University wit B.S. degree cum laude in microbiology. In 1976, h graduated from Ohio State College of Medicine wit Doctor of Medicine cum laude. Dr. Sell completed three year family practice residency and served a Chief Resident at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Day ton, Ohio, prior to beginning practice in Rockford.

THE SIELSCHOTT ENTERPRISES

The Sielschott Enterprises of Rockford, Ohio ar owned and operated by B. L. (Len) and Joan A. Sie schott who came to Rockford in September 197 from Lima, Ohio to operate the Rockford Carryout.

The Rockford Carryout is located on the south west corner of Main and Columbia Streets directl across Main Street from Lloyd's Ford Dealership Ambitious capital improvements produced an at tractive store with a new floor and heating system an enlarged cooling capacity, and increased spac for warehousing, all designed to provide greater se lections of popular beers and wines, soft drinks, an selected grocery items. The Carryout kitchen pro duces excellent pizzas in 9", 12", 14" and 16" sizes steak, submarine and fish sandwiches, and the pop ular deep fried "Chicken Crisp" in 11 and 21 piec buckets. Carryout 4 piece chicken dinners and piece Arctic Cod fish dinners are also available. Th Carryout employs six Rockford people full and par time and is managed by Judy Avery under policie established by the Sielschotts. The success of th Carryout depends on fast and friendly service, qual ity products, and the lowest possible prices.

The Ranchhouse Restaurant was acquired in Oc tober 1977. It is located on S. Main Street next to th library near the bank in Rockford, Ohio. Featurin American style breakfasts, lunches, and dinners a reasonable prices, the Ranchhouse offers a wide va riety of dining pleasures to its patrons. The Ranch house Super Salad Bar, featuring over 18 side dishes salads, and desserts, a fast-food soup & sandwich warmer, and a complete soda fountain resulted from the immediate capital improvements program Prompt, pleasant, attentive service is emphasized constantly at the Ranchhouse. The Ranchhouse em ploys fifteen people full and part time and is man aged by Jim Sielschott under policies established by Len & Joan Sielschott.

Sielschott Business Services offices are located on Columbia Street immediately behind the Rockford Carryout. It provides management, tax, and bookkeeping services to the Ranchhouse Restaurant and Rockford Carryout as well as to other small businesses and individuals in the Rockford area.

Len Sielschott is a graduate of Upper Iowa University and Northwestern Business College. His business experience of 35 years includes service in manufacturing, banking, retailing, public utility, and government organizations with 28 years in management. Joan is a graduate of Northwestern Business College and has managed both the Rockford Carryout and Ranchhouse Restaurant. Her business experience includes retailing, commercial bookkeeping and ten years as a legal secretary.

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Parkway High School

Parkway School

THE PARKWAY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Parkway Local School District officially came ıto existence on December 31, 1960. Parkway is a onsolidation of the Rockford and Willshire Local chool Districts and was approved by the State Deartment of Education even though Rockford is in Mercer County and Willshire is in Van Wert County. The voters in the Ohio City-Liberty Local chool District voted against joining with Rockford nd Willshire to create a new school district.

The State Board of Education selected the follow-ıg persons from the two districts to serve on the oard of education for the newly consolidated chool district: Herbert Brandt, Kenneth Dellinger, Glenn Miller, Lloyd Bollenbacher, and Donald Siebert.

On January 2, 1961, the new board met in the office of the Mercer County Board of Education in Celina for the organizational meeting of the new chool with Howard P. Smith, county superintendnt, acting as chairman pro tem.

Lloyd Bollenbacher was chosen president and Kenneth Dellinger, vice president. Jane Alspaugh, Rockford clerk, was elected clerk-treasurer; and Lesıer Miller, Willshire clerk, was named assistant lerk-treasurer. Dale Schlatter, Rockford superinendent, was chosen to be the executive head; and Ray Balck, Willshire executive head, was selected ›rincipal of the Willshire building. At the regular neeting, held on January 7, 1961, Boyd Granger, Rockford High School principal, was retained as ›rincipal of the new high school.

At this meeting on January 7, it was decided by he board that the Rockford and Willshire Schools vould each graduate the present senior classes for 961. Athletic contests for 1960-61 had been canelled at an earlier date by both boards of education.

The high school was set for Rockford and the junor high for Willshire with elementary classes to be n both buildings. The first graduating class was in May, 1962, with seventy-one students receiving dipomas.

For the 1978-79 school year, Mark Rutledge serves ıs the executive head; Norman VanTilburg, high chool principal; Robert Ransbottom, junior high ›rincipal; Arthur Krick, elementary principal; and ane Alspaugh, treasurer. Boyd Granger is the county superintendent.

The Parkway Board of Education is composed of Paul Hays, president; William Now, vice president; Gary Pierstorff, Norman Fleming, and Gene Morrison. There are fifty-nine teachers and thirty-one other employees.

In 1978, the actual assessed real estate value for taxing purposes was $31,575,703 or 29 percent of the market value of the property. In 1978, for insurance purposes, the buildings at Rockford and Willshire were valued at $5,779,352 and the contents at $377,400.

The total enrollment as of October 6, 1978, certified to the State Department of Education by school officials, was 1,137 students.

Going back into history, Rockford was known as Shanes Crossing. On April 6, 1874, at the first election held in the Shanes Crossing Village School District, the following persons were elected to the board of education: C. B. Whitley, Cornelius Smith, D. H. Robinson, P. F. Robinson (Robison, spelling variation), Henry VanTilburg, and J. P. Dysert. The enumeration in 1874 showed sixty males and forty-two females.

In 1886, a two-story, eight-room brick building was erected. J. H. Barnett was the superintendent and Samuel Cotterman was the high school principal. The high school had seventy-five pupils.

The first elected school board of Shanes Crossing had a very busy April back in 1874. On April 20, 1874, at the organizational meeting, C. B. Whitley was chosen chairman; P. F. Robinson, clerk; and J. P. Dysert, treasurer. This must have been a morning session because the board adjourned to meet again on the same day at 1:30 p.m. At this meeting the clerk and treasurer were required to furnish bonds, and the board met in joint session with the Board of Education of Dublin Township to set boundaries to be under the jurisdiction of each board of education.

After the session was over with the Dublin Township Board, the Shanes Crossing Village Board met in another session and, by motion, ordered that a seven-mill tax levy be ordered on all taxable property in the district. This first board, also by motion, resolved that there should be a three-month summer school term in the district.

On April 27, 1874, the board hired Miss Anna Robinson (Robison) to teach in the summer school at $1.00 per day beginning on the first Monday in May. The board also ordered the township clerk to draw up a map of school lands to be presented to the county auditor. Tuition rates were set for nonresidents and students over school age at $1.00 per month for attending the primary department, and $1.50 per month for attending the grade department.

The board did not meet again until August when

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teachers were hired, wood purchased for fuel, and a four-month term of school voted to start the third Monday in October.

It was noted that at the board meeting of July 15, 1881, a motion was made to have an eight-month school term starting the third Monday in September.

In a special election held on June 16, 1884, the voters approved by 106 votes for and 17 against, to build a schoolhouse for the village district. On September 2, 1834, the contract was awarded to O. J. Hager, contractor, to construct the school. His bid, No. 14, was for $11,815.00.

As time passed, it brought changes including the name of the village, changed to Rockford in 1890.

It is impossible to put everything in this brief history. Can you imagine that the board of education hired a woman for an assistant principal back in 1917 for a salary of $85.00 per month? She was Nora Borchers. Also, in 1918, the board passed a resolution stating that there shall be no more semester-end examinations in the Rockford Public Schools. At the same time, the board also stated that no such thing as an excused tardiness shall be registered against the pupil. This resolution was passed out of consideration for the large number of tuition pupils who had to come a considerable distance to attend the high school.

In July, 1919, the board voted to ask the people for a $50,000 bond issue to build a new high school building. The old school building was no longer adequate to fill the needs of the district. The rooms were overcrowded, there was a lack of facilities, and many classes were being held in various places in the village.

A special election was held on August 12, 1919, for the issuing of $50,000 worth of bonds to build a new high school. It was passed by 145 votes in favor, and 122 votes against it.

However, by March, 1920, inflation had taken its toll, and the board soon discovered that the $50,000 voted on and passed in 1919 would not be enought to build the proposed school building. On account of the increased price of building materials, equipment, and labor, the board found that $50,000 was insufficient to build and equip a modern school to accommodate both the elementary and high school students and also conform to the building laws of Ohio and meet the approval of the State Department of Education. It was decided to hold another election on April 27, 1920, for an additional $50,000.

The school issue must have failed in April because on September 7, 1920, it was decided to have the voters decide again on the issue in November to build the new school. It again failed with 268 votes yes and 289 votes no.

At the November meeting, a group of women, led by Mrs. Ocie Behymer, presented a petition with 312 signatures requesting a special election for a new combined grade and high school building. The board decided to have the election on January 4, 1921. This time it was defeated by a vote of 335 against the issue and 332 for it.

It was decided to try again on February 2, 1921. The date was later changed to March 1. This time the proposal passed with 383 in favor and 201 against it. Finally after much legal work, more votes concerning the issuance of bonds, and the fact that

Parkway Junior High

the old building had been condemned by the Stat for school purposes, a general contract was awarde on May 9, 1922, to H. L. Frysinger & Co. of Rockfor to construct a new grade and high school building i Rockford, Frysinger's bid was accepted from six tha had been submitted. This building is still in use an forms the central part of the Parkway building lo cated in Rockford.

Finally, by the middle 1930's the State Depart ment of Education was recommending the reorgani zation and consolidation of many school district eliminating most of the one-room schools foun throughout Ohio. Some of the one-room school had already consolidated with one another.

The process was begun in 1938 when 65 percen of the electors in the Rockford School district ap proved the construction of an addition and altera tions to the school building. The board of educatio was also able to get a grant from the Federal Gov ernment through the Public Works Administratio to aid in the construction costs. The firm of Hise and Bebout, Van Wert, was contracted for th project. This insured that Rockford High Schoo would continue to serve the needs of the area an make it possible to consolidate most of the one room school districts into the Rockford Local Villag School District.

For the newly consolidated district, it was neces sary to have a new board of education and the fol lowing persons were selected: H. O. Beerbower Walter Shaffer, Jesse Crabtree, Sr., William Shane barger, and a Mr. Stoner. Beerbower was electe president, Shaffer was elected vice president, an Truman Abbott was chosen clerk. It seems that Mr Stoner resigned because by July 6 Lewis Merkle' name was in the minutes instead of Stoner's. (The organizational meeting was held May 22, 1939)

The new board had many duties to perform in the hiring of teachers and providing for transportatio to the school in Rockford. Many of the teachers in the one-room schools were hired to teach in the newly consolidated school. School began in the new district in September, 1939.

In August, 1940, the Rockford Board of Education held a public sale which was advertised according to law to dispose of seventeen "school districts" which were now a part of the consolidation. The sale included the fixtures and the buildings.

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The schools were as follows: Frysinger, Baltzell, rks, Manley, Black Creek Center, Grove, Robinn, Red, Stringtown, Copps, Siebert, Stedke, Hinn, Deitsch, Chattanooga, Weisenborn, and Mer-r.

According to the minutes, the total amount for tures and buildings received was $4,467.50; and e total received for the school lots was $750.00. A ove was later sold for $10.00.

The Black Creek Center School and lot were purased by the Black Creek Township trustees; and e Mercer School, including the building, grounds, d out-buildings were purchased by the Union range #2578.

On an old map of northwestern Mercer County, her one-room schools are indicated. They were eier closed or consolidated into other schools. Those ose to Willshire probably merged with Willshire in an Wert County.

The names of these schools were Henderson and airie in Dublin Township; Hinton, Joint, and Libty Center in Liberty Township; Wildcat, Duck eek, Winkler, King, and No. 3 all in Black Creek ownship.

In November, 1952, the voters of the district apoved the addition to the north side of the building. ne general contract was let in April, 1952, to Hisey id Bebout Contractors of Van Wert to erect the adtion.

In November, 1974, Parkway School District vots approved a bond issue of $1,775,000 for addions to the south and northwest parts of the ockford building and to make alterations to the exting buildings both in Rockford and Willshire. In e spring of 1975, the general contract was given to . A. Dorsten, contractor of Minster.

The Parkway Local School District covers approxiately 120 square miles. In Mercer County this inudes all of Dublin and Black Creek Townships, the orthern half of Liberty Township, and the northern ne third of Hopewell Township; in Van Wert ounty, the district includes the southern half of Willshire Township.

The Parkway Schools own fifteen buses which rve twelve regular routes covering approximately 0 miles per day.

The school district is so large that many town and mmunities are within its borders, namely: Tama, Mercer, Chattanooga, Rockford, Willshire, chumm, Glenmore, and Abanaka. *Compiled by Ernest Thompson*

EARLY SCHOOL HISTORY BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP

The Oil and gas wells are all gone, almost forgotn is Wildcat corner, where the pipe and equipent were stored on one side, and on another was ne only two-room school of the township. Lee uhn, presently a realtor in Celina; Leo Baker living earby, are but two who graduated from Wildcat, presenting early families. #9 was torn down and ne corner today holds the beautiful home of Hert and Florence Schumm Miller.

#8 school was Grove, near the corner of 707 and Wabash Rd. It had a natural spring for drinking water and was very near Blackcreek ditch, for skating during winter. It has been torn down and there's nothing there today except memories for some Gauses; Homer Carr; Vernon Counterman; Kettenrings; Roebucks; and a few of their children.

#7 on 707 at Erastus Durbin was called Robinson. Lillian Martz Carr started there in 1904 and years later her sons also attended. Some of its teachers were Mable Wolf; Mary Coil; Ned Place and Buress McBride. In the winter the children would go into the woods to a patch of ice and play shinny (hocky) and the teacher would give a five minute whistle for them to get back.

#6 school was called Manley in section 14 on Erastus-Durbin Rd. at the end of Manley Rd. The first was a log building, later a frame school was built but it caught fire and burnt when the stove door was open and sparks spit out. The third was brick and had vestibules. Boys still sat on one side and girls on the other as most schools did. For several years, off and on, it was also used for church services as well as other social activities, a most important one being their Box socials.

#5 Center, and sometimes called Central, was one of the last to close, when the school hacks began hauling the country children into Rockford and to Willshire. It is the only one of the nine still in public use. It was started about 1859, built with a stove in the center. Once it caught fire and had to be rebuilt and then the furnace type stove was put in a corner. It was rebuilt in 1885 with the brick house being in 1894. Among its list of teachers were: Nelson Bricker, Lee and James Addy, Doc Kennel, John Ray, Lewis and Albert Johnson, Sam Vining, N. L. Hinton, LeRoy Pifer, Clark Sipe, Edith Dudgeon (Bowen), Edna Winkler, Lottie Morrison, Esther Morrow, to name a few, with Carlotta Smith (Gilbert) being the last for the term of 1938-39.

#4 school was Duckcreek, one of the earliest schools in the township, was also the center of several community activities. It served as a hall for Grange number 402 (which caused no little amount of controversy because it was also used as meetinghouse for a religious sect that did not believe in secret organizations). Its last building of brick is still being used as a machine shed.

Dellinger, the #3 school, was at first called lower Duckcreek, is the only group still having a reunion and their complete story has been written up by Edith (Snyder, Nye) Adams and is elsewhere in this book.

#2, Winkler school is still standing as a storage shed, near the Zion church. Its early log cabin had been replaced with a larger, frame building that was in turn moved and served as a meeting place for a time of the Pleasant Grove members who later built Zion, and was also used as the dwelling of the Frank Stetler family. Just before the school closed, its pupils were bused to Center.

Named for one of the first settlers in the twp. and called King, #1 school had also been used by the United Brethern for their meeting house. It sat on the east side of the road with a small cemetery called Zimmerman on the West side. One of the first schools to be closed, its few pupils were bused to Center. The building has long been torn down. *by Florence E. Gause*

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rockford

In 1829, Brother Robert Finley, having served the Presbyterian Church for 25 years and the Methodist Church the same length of time, held a Camp Meeting at St. Marys, assisted by William H. Raper and John P. Wright. This Methodist society was built up and the Mission extended westward to Twelve Mile, Shane's Prairie, and Willshire.

George Armstrong was the Missionary and Elmer Yocum the presiding elder in 1838 when the work included some of the following appointments — Mercer, Shanesville, Willshire, Van Wert, Tomlinson, Duck Creek, and Mendon. The Methodist Church at Rockford is one of the oldest organizations in Western Ohio, so about this time it is probable that a pioneer preacher found his way to Shanes Crossing (the name changed several times).

As far back as 1840, a class of six members met at the home of Joseph and Ann Sidenbender, the preaching place for an early circuit rider. In 1847, the class was reorganized with Joseph and Ann Sidenbender, Solomon Barks, Jane Barks, Dr. John W. Barks, Elizabeth Barks, Jacob Barrick, Susan Barrick, and Polly Barrick as members — Reverend C. B. Bradbury and Elijah Hook as pastors.

Meetings were held at various homes until a building was available. The first church, built in 1851, cost $130.00 and stood on the site now occupied by the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford.

Under the pastorate of Zachariah Layton and Gershom Lease, a large frame building was completed on the present site in 1854, costing $1000.00. This house of worship was replaced by a brick structure during the pastorate of Reverend C. B. Hickernell between 1887 and 1890 for $5000.00. The first parsonage was built on the lot east of the church for about $1200.00 while Reverend John T. Bower w minister.

In 1878, the society severed its connection with S Marys, Celina, and Willshire and was made a ci cuit, called after its own name — the Shanes Cros ing, with John T. Bower as first pastor. This circu consisted of four appointments — Shanes Crossin Fountain Chapel, Mercer and Copps.

In 1895, under direction of Reverend Willia Hook, Fountain Chapel and Mercer were transferr to other works — Copps had been transferred Celina in 1892 — and Rockford was made a static with some 200 members. But in 1898, Founta Chapel was again added to Rockford and receive preaching each alternate Sunday P.M.

Expansion by the addition of Sunday Scho rooms was accomplished while Reverend Burtc was pastor (1908-1912). In 1910, Verne Bisse painted a beautiful reproduction of "Christ in th Garden" on the north wall of the sanctuary over th entrance, in memory of his mother. This was a casu alty when the sanctuary was remodeled.

During the residence of Reverend Birney Rober (1936-1940), a pastor's study addition was com pleted. In 1940, the church had its 100th anniversa celebration — Reverend Leroy Rhodeback wrote th pageant for the occasion with the aid of many men bers.

A beautiful new Memorial parsonage, across th street from the church, was dedicated in 1967, du ing the ministry of Reverend Merl Young — a lon time member, Lee Little, had willed a fund for th purpose. A building committee was organized i 1972 to plan the remodeling of the existing sanctu ary and the construction of a new education build ing. Ground was broken on November 24th, 197 and the Consecration service for this project wa held June 6th, 1976, with Pastor Denver Noggle i charge.

Reverend Merl Young was minister for 11 yea (1961-1972), the longest stay of any. Reverend Der ver Noggle followed him and the present incumber is Reverend David R. Wilson, one of the younge pastors of the Rockford church. Janice Frederick ha been church organist for many years. The office for 1978-79: Chairman of Administrative Boar Martha Sidenbender; Lay Leader and Church Trea surer, Ernest Thompson; Church School Superin tendent, Tom Williams; Building Fund Treasure Dan Henkle; Finance Committee Chairman, Orv Habegger; Building Committee Chairman, Clo Dudgeon; Council of Ministries Chairman, Marci Winscott; Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Chai man, Marshall Bash; Lay Member, Martha Habeg ger; President, United Methodist Women, Beverl Gable; President Methodist Youth, Tim Taylo Higher Education Chairman and Historian, Hele Runyan; Financial Secretary, Berdine Secaur; Mem bership Secretary, Brenda Barker; Secretary for Ca reer Planning, Lela Dudgeon.

Trustees of 1978, 1979, 1980; Shirley Scarpella Maurice Lee Williams, Dale Zizleman, Jerry Freder ick, Orval Habegger, Peggy Williams, Richard Fig ley, Carl Gable, Edwin Kimmel.

Appropriately, a copy of this Mercer County His tory will be placed in the Church Library by Jon an Tom Sidenbender and their families — direct des cendants of Joseph and Ann Sidenbender of 1840.

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OTTERBEIN UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST CHURCH

In the year 1841, meetings were begun in private omes with 8 members: Michael Keoppel; Andy Keppel, and wife; Jacob Hollobarger, and wife; Conod Keoppel and wife; and Thomas Shew. These ieetings continued for nearly two years without ny regular organization or preacher, although Rev. .bram Miller and Rev. Shindeldecker preached ocasionally. As the congregation became larger, they 'orshipped in a school house until 1851. The first uilding the congregation erected was built of logs nd named, "Union." This building was used until 869. The membership was now 200 and the buildng was too small. The old building was moved two iiles away and a new frame building erected. A lass was organized in the old building and another lass was organized 1½ miles west, known as the airview class. Many of our members transferred to iese two classes. When the Fairview class was discontinued in 1882, those members returned and we gain grew to 130 members.

When the Church of the United Brethren in :hrist divided in 1889, the society at Stringtown Otterbein) also divided. About 85 members reiained with the old church. The two groups worhipped together for some time, and in the Spring of 891, a small building was erected and used until the all of 1896, when it became too small. On Septemier 14, 1896, a contract was let to build a new hurch. The building was completed on January 9, 897, and it was dedicated on January 10. This uilding was just West of the original frame buildng and just South of the new Church.

The bricK building was used for many years until t was destroyed by fire. At this time the old frame hurch was moved to the West to replace it. The ongregation once again worshiped in this building ntil the present structure was built.

Ground was broken for the new church on July 1, 1966, with Bishop R. W. Rash bringing the sermon. The entire congregation joined in pulling an ld plow guided by the Pastor. This was to symbolze the fact that the entire congregation was "pulling ogether" to build the church. On October 25, deails of the contract were completed with Mr. Enos chrock and on October 27, the site of the new uilding was staked off. The actual work of excavatng got under way on October 28, 1966. Although he work was often delayed by the winter weather, he arches for the main sanctuary were erected on ebruary 10, 1967. The cornerstone was laid followng the morning worship service on April 9.

Even though the building was not completed, the iew sanctuary was used for the first on July 2. The Christian education facilities were not occupied unil September 24.

On September 17, 1967, friends and loved ones vere invited to share in the final service to be held n the old church before it was to be demolished. At his time a Dedication lifting was held, removing the ledication that had been placed upon it many, nany years before.

The Dedication service for the new church was held on November 12, 1967, at 3:00 P.M. with Bishop R. W. Rash bringing the message. Several former Pastors were present and brought greetings. The contractor, Mr. Schrock presented the keys of the church to Mr. Gordon Leistner, who represented the building committee. The total cost of the building and its furnishings was $75,000.

Members of the building committee at the time construction was begun and throughout most of the construction were: Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Johnson, Mrs. Lisle Eichenauer, Mr. Gordon Leistner, Mr. Smauel Sell, Mr. Carl Sell, Mr. Gerald VanTilburg, Mr. C. B. Keoppel, and Mr. Joseph Rhoades.

The new building contains many features that have been badly needed for several years. The basement boasts of a fellowship hall, class rooms and a children's chapel. The main sanctuary has a seating capacity of more than 200.

At the present time, those serving on the Board of Administration are as follows:

Pastor	John Barnett
Lay Leader	Brooks Buel
Sunday School Superintendent	Rod Farmer
Treasurer	Elsie Farmer
Financial Secretary	Betty Johnson
Secretary of Administrative Bd.	Bonnie Leistner
Women's Missionary Soc. Pres.	Esther Buel
Trustees	Gerald Lautzenheiser
	Ken Fetters
	Charles Beougher
	Merle Yewey
	Herman Beeks
Finance Committee	Wayne Johnson
	Gordon Leistner
	Peggy Warthman
Members-at-large	Wilma Monroe
	Keith Rutledge
	Carl Sell

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CALVARY UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST

In 1942 a survey of the community was taken by the Reverends L. D. Dellinger and Paul D. Parker and found that a sufficient number of people appeared interested to see a United Brethren Church in Rockford. As a result the church building located on the corner of South and West Streets was purchased from the Quaker (Friends) Church and in July of 1944, the class was officially organized with a total of thirteen charter members. Rev. Lawrence Dellinger served as pastor from 1944 to 1949.

On September 22, 1969 the congregation purchased the dwelling just east of the church and in 1972 completely remodeled the dwelling as a home for the pastor. The remodeling project was done by the congregation of the church.

The church has experienced substantial growth, and now have Morning Worship Service, Sunday School, Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting, Radio Ministry, Women's Missionary Association, Cubyia (Youth Group), Jet Cadets, and Space Cubs. The church has a membership of forty members, and an average attendance of sixty-two.

The people feel that through the years God has blessed them and the church here in Rockford. They believe the church will have many future years of growth and service to the area, and that the Bible is the only true word of God.

Rev. Daniel E. Melvin, Jr. is the present pastor.

THE FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The First United Presbyterian Church of Rockfo was founded in 1856. The Rev. Thomas Elcock Van Wert rode on horseback every two weeks meet with the congregation in the Methodist Episc pal Church building.

Charter members were Mr. and Mrs. Geor Wert, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Brewer, Mr. and Mr Thomas Miller, Dr. Andrew Tolan, Mr. John Gil and Mrs. A. E. Gill. Dr. Tolan and Mr. Brewer we elected elders.

The sanctuary was built in 1877 to meet the nee of the growing congregation. It was built of brick from the Steve Caly farm. The pulpit was at th back of the church with the people facing north. I 1906 the sanctuary was rearranged so the congrega tion faced west, where the organ loft was built. Tha organ continues in use today. Sunday School room were also added. The one ton bell was lifted to th belfry by local residents in 1907. New Sunda School rooms and a new fellowship hall were adde in 1961, bringing the building to its present size.

Twenty-nine pastors have served the congrega tion, the current pastor being Richard S. Hays.

Nearly 100 people have been members of th church in its 122 year history. Over 700 were admit ted on confession of faith and over 200 were bap tized as infants or adults. There are currently 14 members.

Current officers are: Elders, Roger Andrews, Olg Nave (Clerk), Robert Lloyd, Dr. and Mrs. R. Duan Bradrick, and James Baltzell; Deacons, Carl Kimmel Kenneth Zizelman, Constance Hawk, Laura Whi taker, Charlene Hawk, and Gary Baltzell; and Trus tees, Lowell Temple, Carl Brandt, and Russel Ho well. Herman Bricker is Financial Secretary an Treasurer.

There is an active United Presbyterian Women' Association, a United Presbyterian Youth group, a choir, and church school. Average church school at tendance is 32, worship, 64.

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Rockford Carnegie Library, (Photograph by Jinny Wood Sutton)

ROCKFORD CARNEGIE LIBRARY

The date January 17, 1902 can be referred to as ıe birthday of the Rockford Library. The Rockford ibrary Association, under the leadership of Mrs. arbour, helped to inspire the town to set up a li- rary.

On January 1, 1903 the first library room was pened in the Dysert Opera House. Each resident of .ockford could register and borrow books at the rice of 10¢ each or $1.00 for a year. In 1905 the own council agreed to add a 1½ mill tax levy with roceeds of $175.00 a year to go to the library.

In 1906 the Library Association marked the begin- ing of the Free Rockford Library with Mrs. D. C. Cinder as librarian working for 50¢ a day. In 1910 he library was opened free to Dublin Township res- dents and later to the whole county.

About that time Miss Mary E. Downey, Ohio tate Organizer, advised the library to apply for a rant from Andrew Carnegie for a building. The re- ults of the $10,000 grant was the dedication of the Rockford Carnegie Library on May 1, 1913. It is the mallest Carnegie Library in the country.

The Library was reorganized under the School Board plan in 1927 and the building was doubled in 969. Librarians have been: Mrs. D. C. Kinder, Mrs. Vida Smith, Mrs. Elsie Keopple, Mrs. Ethel McSherry, Mrs. Harriet Pugh.

Members of the Board in 1978: Roy Thompson, vo Greishop, Willard Winscott, Ted Kolter, Bessie Cinder, Zona Shindeldecker and Warren Weisen- born. Director — Marcia Winscott.

ROCKFORD TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

The Rockford Town and Country Club met for the first time on April 30, 1963 in the Rockford Library basement. Thirteen persons become members at that meeting.

Election of officers was held. The following were elected: Mrs. Charles Wolf, President; George Wilson, Vice President; Mrs. Florence Smith, Secretary; Charles Wolf, Treasurer. With dues set at $2.00 and the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month as their meeting time.

The first 13 members were: Hilda Becher, Kate Eichler, Joan Hall, Maxine Hone, Marilyn Smith, Bess Tickle, Dollie Wilhelm, LaVerne Wolf, Charles Wolf, George Wilson, Iris Wilson, Marcella VanTilburg, and Florence Smith. There were 18 more ladies joined that same year.

The Club sponsors a Flower Show each year in July, which is open to the public. We do sunshine work for the local nursing home patients on Valentine's Day. In 1968 we started doing garden therapy work with patients at the Mercer Co. Home on the third Wednesday of each month.

We donate money to the following funds: Girl's State in Rockford; Wahkeena, a nature park; Victor H. Ries Fellowship Fund; OAGC Public Beautification; and Doctors Procurment Fund.

We have an "Open Meeting" each year, inviting the public and the Mendon and Celina Garden Clubs.

We take flowers to shut-ins and Community Churches. We decorate the Rockford Carnegie Library for the Christmas Season. We sponsor a Club tour each year for our club members, and sometimes make it a family affair with a picnic.

Each year we decorate the tables for the Mercer Co. Soil and Water Conservation District Banquet. We sell the decorations and use the money for Therapy at the Mercer Co. Home.

We do Civic beautification work by planting flowers at the Library, Hedges Memorial Park, Rockford Fire Station, and Riverside Cemetery.

We help with Daffodil Days for Mercer Co. Cancer Society. We belong to the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Region II from which we receive many Awards on our Civic, Therapy Programs and Publicity books.

We have a bake sale each year, and plant auction in our May meeting these are our money making projects.

We still have five charter members in the club, we also have 23 members: Madylin Anderson, Hilda Becher, Ocie Beougher, Bertha Beougher, Eileen Bollenbacher, Kate Eichler, Florence Finch, Lorraine Fleming, Bernice Fleming, Alice George, Maxine Hone, Isabel Lavy, Hulda Luth, Esta Luth, Olga Nave, Nellie Shaffer, Florence Smith, Freda Smith, Lydia Weinman, Mildred Winkler, LaVern Wolf, Doris Stover and Karen Bennett.

1978-1979 Officers: Pres.: Florence Finch; V. Pres.: Madiline Anderson; Sec.: Isabel Lavy; Treas.: Olga Nave; Member-at-Large: Lorraine Fleming; Reporter: Ocie Beougher. *Mrs. Ivan Fleming*

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ROCKFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The oldest preserved minutes of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce revealed that Vern Clay was the president in 1937. Newly elected officers for 1938 were: President, John Lloyd; First Vice President, Carl Brandt; Second Vice President, Adam Houser; Secretary, Paul Hinkle; Treasurer, Mayme Martin. This organization has always been community minded.

In the early sixties the Chamber of Commerce was instrumental in promoting land which resulted in bringing industry to Rockford.

In 1970 the week long Sesquicentennial brought in profits that helped cement the swimming pool.

The medical Procurement Board, created by and working within the structure of the Chamber of Commerce, has secured two dentists and two doctors for Rockford.

The Ham and Bean Soup Picnic at Shanes Park has become an annual community affair with the addition of a day long Gospel Sing.

Each year the Chamber of Commerce sponsors a girl for Girls' State and also one for the Celina Lake Festival Queen Contest. Other continuing projects of this organization are the annual variety show, Christmas decorations for the town, Santa Claus and Christmas treats for everyone, donations to the Halloween Contest and Little League Baseball and the organization sends a student to the Teenage Alcoholism Seminary.

The officers for 1978 are: President Myrna Arnold; First Vice President Willard Winscott; Secretary-Treasurer Vernon Winkler. Mrs. Arnold is the first woman President of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce.

BOROFF

Mildred Perl Van Horn was born March 17, 1897 in Paulding County, Ohio. Her father James Elliott Perl was born May 22, 1866 in Allen County, Indiana and died September 23, 1923 in Allen County, Indiana. Her mother was Cora Leah Lucinda Goodwin, born April 5, 1872 and died September 1, 1857 in Allen County, Indiana. James and Cora (Goodwin) Perl were married October 28, 1891 at Paulding County, Ohio. Cora's father was John Harvey Goodwin, born October 17, 1848 in Mercer County, Ohio and died August 6, 1937 in Van Wert County, Ohio. John H. Goodwin's wife was Alma Boroff, born September 6, 1850 Elgin, Ohio and died August 22, 1887 in Paulding County, Ohio. Alma (Boroff) Goodwin's father was Samuel Boroff, born April 12, 1828 and died July 26, 1903 at Ohio City, Ohio. Samuel Boroff married Leah Snyder December 27, 1846 at Van Wert County, Ohio. Leah Snyder was born November 7, 1831 and died April 3, 1907. Samuel Boroff's father was Michael Boroff, born May 19, 1779 in Virginia and d;ed January 16, 1868 in Mercer County, Ohio. He married Elizabeth Baltzell about 1810 in Hamilton County, Ohio. Elizabeth was born August 17, 1789 and died September 4, 1874. Elizabeth's father was Henry Balser (Baltzell) who served in the Revolutionary War. *Mildred Pearl VanHorn, Monroeville, Indiana*

EARL AND VIOLA BREHI

Viola Grace (Carr) Brehm was born May 19, 1' near Geneva, Indiana to Lorin (Polly) B. Carr a Zelma (Burley) Carr. Both parents are deceased. T grandparents were Wm. Carr and Zorada (Nor Carr of Mercer Co. Ohio and J. Thomas Burley a Mary (Showalter) Burley from Adams Co., Indian

Viola married Earl E. Brehm in Lexington, I Oct. 15, 1936. Earl was born Nov. 16, 1916 to F Brehm and Leota (Kanorr) Brehm. Both parents deceased. The grandparents were John Con Brehm and Margret (Weinman) Brehm from Mer Co. Ohio and Clark Kanorr and Sarah (Fisher) K norr also from Mercer Co. Ohio and later Conne ville, Indiana.

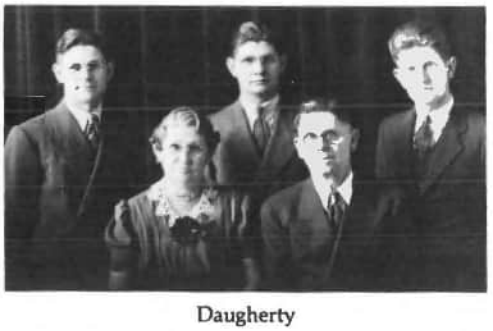
Viola attended school at Rockford Public Schc Earl attended Landfair School at Erastus-Durbin I and Frahm Pike.

Earl did trucking for himself and others until induction into the Army. He served with the 27t Engineer Combat Battalion in the European Thea of Operators. He was licensed to operate all arr wheels and heavy equipment, operated tractors, e cavators, carry-alls, bulldozers, graders, pre-m plant and all army trucks, up to 10 ton semi-trail in the construction of roads, highways and airstri He performed maintenance and minor repairs a adjustments to vehicles and equipment. He receiv a letter of commendation from 1st Lt. Joseph P. Ki for ability in operation and maintenance of co struction equipments. He served from Nov. 2, 19 to April 13, 1946; 18 months being overseas.

After the Army he did road construction with s veral companies, mostly D. R. Smalley and Sor We made lots of friends during Army and constru tion days; most of which I keep in touch with yet.

Earl and Viola resided on a 32 acre farm, whi they owned in Dublin Twp. and also own 80 acres Blackcreek Twp. on St. Rt. 707.

Earl passed away Dec. 30, 1973. At present tin Viola lives at 904 So. Elm St. Celina, Ohio.



Daugherty

DAUGHERTY

Carl Daugherty married Lula Agnes Felver i 1905. The death of Carl was due to an auto accider October 27, 1947. His wife died December 9, 1954 i Spencerville, Ohio. They are buried in Rockfor Cemetery.

Carl bought a 40 acre farm on Five Point Road i 1909. Before the year was over he sold it and bough the Mercer General store and operated it till Decem ber 1924. He sold it and bought a 110 acre farm i

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blin Township. He lived on this farm till Decem- · 1929. In 1930 he purchased a grocery store in encerville, Ohio which he operated till 1944 when retired.

Carl and Lula had three children. Herschel C. rn July 1, 1906, Paul LeRoy born June 5, 1908 and d October 7, 1975 and Russell Eugene born Sepnber 6, 1914.

Paul LeRoy married Glady Siler and they had two ldren, Robert Paul and Mary Lou. Robert Paul rried Katie Bowersock and they have four chil- n, two daughters and two sons. Mary Lou was a rse in Lima Memorial Hospital at Lima, Ohio. She narried to Edward Schick and they have two sons. Russel Eugene lives in San Bernadino, California h his wife. He has a son and a daughter, Carl nley who lives in Lima, Ohio and has several ldren and Donna Gene who lives in Spencerville, io with her husband Larry Boyer and two chil- n.

Herschel C. married Neoma Bailey and they have daughers, Nancy Ann and Marilyn Jean. Nancy narried to Clifford Sommers and lives on a farm ar Waterloo, Indiana. They have three sons. Jona- n Craig born July 28, 1958, Scott Allen born May 1960 and Todd Michael born July 14, 1962. Mari- Jean has two children Brett Alan born April 11, 7 and Matthew Douglas born December 17, 0. They live at 937 Echo St. in Celina, Ohio. *By schel C. Daugherty, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

L. H. AND ALICE DAUGHERTY FAMILY

Alice Mogle Daugherty was born in Darke unty February 6, 1865. She died in Mercer unty May 18, 1947. Her husband Lemuel Hernel Daugherty was born in Darke County, June 3, 60 and he died in Mercer County August 3, 1905. They were married February 4, 1882 in Greenville, io. In 1886 they moved with their family from rke County to Mercer County. They were mems of Mercer First Baptist Church and served as acon and deaconess until their deaths.

On moving to Mercer County they became farm-. Later they owned a general store in Mercer, io.

Alice and her sister, Sophiona Alvira Mogle Hahn, d a dress making and millinery store in Mercer. ter Lemuel's death, Alice took over management the store and was also postmistress until she red in 1939.

Alice and Lemuel H. Daugherty had four children: ra Mae born April 30, 1882 in Preble County, rl born December 23, 1883 in Darke County, Amy e born December 28, 1892 in Mercer County and adys Gay born November 28, 1899 in Mercer unty and she died November 3, 1905.

Dora Mae never married and died August 31, 61. She was a dressmaker.

Amy Fae married Paul Bietry, Sr. in 1918. She d December 9, 1969 at the age of 77. They had ee children. Virginia Mae born June 16, 1918, ul Ronald Jr. born January 6, 1920 and Earl Gene rn October 22, 1923.

Virginia Mae married Clinton D. Gracely Decemr 24, 1937. They have three children. Marlene Sue rn August 2, 1943, Sharon Louise born August 5, 1946, and Dan Clark born August 26, 1951.

Marlene Sue married Vernon E. Cellar July 21, 1963. They have three children. Renee Lynn born May 26, 1965, Mark Edward born May 31, 1967 and Michele Ann born August 8, 1977.

Sharon Louise married Rev. Donald A. Lohr, Jr. July 3, 1965. They have two children Lisa Dawn born May 29, 1968 and Christy Gay born June 4, 1971.

Dan Clark married Jackie Musser February 8, 1975. They have one child Shawn Patrick born January 6, 1978.

Paul Ronald married Betty Hoover November 26, 1942. He died December 3, 1966. They have two children. Timothy Paul born July 10, 1945 and Susan Christine born June 26, 1952.

Timothy Paul was married. They have two children. Brendan born July 16, 1975 and Christian born October 28, 1977.

Earl Gene married Regina Cunningham April 2, 1943. He died April 21, 1974. They have three children. Vicki Lynn born October 28, 1943, Greg born July 3, 1947 and Alan Scott born December 21, 1950.

Vicki Lynn married Nick Miller June 27, 1964. They have two children. Timothy Edward born January 4, 1965 and Torey Alan born January 10, 1969.

Greg married Joyce Lora July 3, 1974. They have one child Brad born October 27, 1972.

Alan Scott married Cathy Lavender August 2, 1974. *By Mrs. Clinton D. Gracely, Lima, Oh. 45801*

John Arthur and Nellie Maxine (Shaffer) Dilbone

CHARLES WESLEY DILBONE

This Dilbone family dates back to the Massacre near Piqua, Ohio in Miami County, August 1813. A monument stands yet today marking the site. The massacre and history of the family were written in the *Record of Mercer and Van Wert Counties,* Ohio, history book, 1896.

When the Indians killed Henry and Barbara Dilbone they had John 7 years, Margaret 5, Priscilla 3, and William 9 months.

William married Lydia (Baltzell) Dilbone, daughter of Mary and Benim Baltzell on March 1831. They had ten children Priscilla; John; Henry; Jane; Margaret; twins, Eliza and Isaac; David; Charles Wesley and William.

Charles Wesley (the subject of this) was born near Rockford, Ohio in Mercer County (8-14-1849-d 9-19-1920) married Matilda Dull on August 14, 1872. They had two sons John Arthur (b 9-26-1875-d 9-19-1920) and Ansel (b 6-10-81-d 3-27-1934) in Mercer County.

Ansel married Pearl King they had no children.

John Arthur married Nellie Maxine Shaffer (b 8-10-1880-d 8-9-1962) on September 22, 1899 they had

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five children. Loretta Faye (b 8-23-1900-d 3-1970) Darst Carleton (b 1-27-1903) Floriene (b 4-10-1904-d 3-1-1954) twins Lena Almeda and Leah A. (b 3-10-1906). Lena died 11-17-1906 with diphtheria and Leah died 1-11-1912 of burns.

Loretta married Adoph Richert in 1920 divorced and married Sherman Sell in 1934. She had no children.

Darst Carleton married Florence Henrietta Proffitt (b 3-23-1906) on March 23, 1923. They have five children Harold Lee (b 9-23-1906-d 11-16-1972) Janet Jo Ann (b 8-26-25) Charles Gordon (b 9-10-1928) Martha Ruth (b 1-24-1933) Douglas Duane (b 10-9-1944).

Harold Lee (farmer in Allen County) married Nova Heffner (b 12-23-1923) daughter of Edgar and Bea Heffner on March 19, 1943. They have seven children Wendla L. (b 9-6-1943) Stephen C. (b 6-19-1945-d 11-23-71) Curtis Van (b 10-11-1950) Calvin B. (b 8-12-1953) Gregory C. (b 12-31-1956) Todd A. (b 9-8-1959) and Darin K. (b 1-30-1965).

Wendla married Bruce Black of Lima on 10-9-1965 they have two boys Bruce Mathew (b 11-30-1966) and Carey Stephen (b 3-9-1972).

Curtis married Nancy Corbet on 8-5-1973 they have two girls Tina Ann (b 1-29-1974) and Angela Marie (b 9-19-1976).

Calvin B. married Cheryl Gallagher in Lima on 2-4-1977.

Janet Jo Ann married John Doyce Griggs (b 4-3-1923) son of John and Vergil West of Mendon. They were married in September 1946 and have no children. They live in Mendon where John and his brother Don have a used car garage which has been in the Griggs family since 1913.

Charles Gordon (a graduate of Ohio State University, a teacher and farmer) married Kathryn Marie Hoffman (b 7-15-21) daughter of Laurel Brown Hoffman (b 3-12-1891-d 8-10-1971) and Myrtle Garnet Smalley (b 6-26-1892-d 1-30-1939) daughter of William Henry and Ida Viona Krugh of Van Wert County. Charles and Kathryn were married 12-10-1950 and have three children Charles Gordon, Jr. (b 8-16-1952) Sue Lynn (b 6-30-1954) and Brocklyn Dee (b 3-26-1956). Charles Jr. (a graduate of Muskingum College teaches and coaches at Zanesville High School) married Cynthia Plottner (b 6-23-1954) a teacher, on June 14, 1976. They have no children.

Martha Ruth married Don Edward Griggs (b 4-9-1929) brother of John Griggs. They were married March 16, 1953 and have three children Michael Edward (b 1-16-1955) Scott Alan (b 5-16-1957) and Stacy Jo (b 7-8-1969) Michael graduated from Rose Homan Tech. School as a Mechanical Engineer works for Proctor & Gamble, Green Bay Wisconsin married Sarah Kratz (b 7-23-1958) on August 5, 1978.

Douglas Duane married Gwen Peterson on May 3, 1975 in Winter Park, Florida. They have no children.

Floriene married Floyd Cooke (b 9-25-1903) in December 1921. They have two children Billy D. (b. 12-7-1921) and Barbara Ann (b 7-1-1924).

Billy married Charlotte in Chicago, Illinois. They have two girls Debra Louise (b 7-30-1949) and Laurie Denice (b 5-18-1951).

Barbara Ann married Robert Burbrink in Cincinnati. They have two boys Bruce Robert (b 1-10-1952) and Bradley Joseph (b 12-13-1954).

Donovan

JAMES DELBERT DONOVAN

James Delbert Donovan was born, February 1881 in Dublin Township, Mercer County, O., s of George and Barbara Sutton Donovan. Jim h four brothers and three sisters; Russell, John, F more, Charles, Sarah Ferguson, Oma Heckler a Mariah Webb. Jim received his schooling in Merc O., and spent his entire life in the vicinity of Merc O. At one time he farmed and he also worked f the Railroad in Crestline, O.

July 1, 1905 he was united in marriage to Blanc Miller, daughter of George and Philena Crou Miller, who was born in Jefferson township, Mer County, O., October 16, 1882. To this union fi children: Myrtle Naomi was born April 6, 19 twins: Edith Mae and Edgar Ray, who only livec few weeks; Lawrence Delbert was born June 1913 and Robert was born in 1918 and died on Ap 11, 1922.

Myrtle Naomi, at the age of four years had an tack of typhoid fever which weakened her system that she was never a robust, healthy child, which doubt made her an easy prey to the dread disea which carried her off at so early an age. She wa quiet, thoughtful, obedient child, a great comfort her parents. She attended the M.E Church and Su day School at Mercer, O. On Sunday morning o week before her death she was baptized by her pa tor, Rev. C. A. Moore, at her home. Myrtle loved l and was loved by her family and all who knew h she passed away quietly April 20, 1922.

Before Jim really had a chance to get over t death of a son and a daughter, his wife, Blanc passed away on September 12, 1925. This left Ji with his mother, and young son Lawrence. He on had his mother for two more years for Jim's moth Barbara Sutton Donovan, passed away on April 1927 at the age of 76 years. George Donovan pass away in 1917. Barbara Donovan had been livi with her son and grandson, since the death of Jim wife, Blanch, two years previous.

Lawrence was married to Hazel Margaret Cop land, on August 16, 1940. They stayed on in t home to take care of Jim, who had lost his eyesig and could not care for himself. Jim passed away Se tember 20, 1944. Lawrence spent his entire life Mercer, O. was well known and liked by everyo who knew him. He was a member of the M. Church in Mercer, O., and also a member of Unic Grange. Lawrence was a dealer in hay and grain ar hauled hay to Kentucky.

Lawrence and Hazel had two sons: James Ray D novan was born October 28, 1941 and died Februa

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944; Larry Roger Donovan was born January 11, 5.

awrence became seriously ill about a week be- his death. Everything was done that could be e, but to no avail. He passed away August 26, 9. Hazel and Larry moved to Mendon, to live ı her mother, Rhoda Copeland.

arry Roger Donovan was married to Lucille ise Kennedy in 1967. Lucille is the daughter of yne and Betty Miller Kennedy near Mendon, O., was born April 23, 1948. They have a son and a ghter: Larry Roger was born September 11, 1967 Lucinda Marie was born December 17, 1972. y was Industrial Arts teacher for three years and ow manager for McDonald's restaurant in Fosto- O. Lucy works in the office of Chrysler Corpora- ı in Fostoria, Ohio, as a Compensation and Em- yment Supervisor. *Larry Donovan, Sr.*

hur and Minnie Maude l, Oldest daughter Bernice, na, Grace, Kenneth

DULL-SHIPLEY

Arthur Pierce Dull, graduate of Delaware College ilt the Rockford Elevator, was the first flour miller d flour tester there, and was active for grain deal- ; for the Board of Trade. He was born April 13, 70, Dull, Ohio to James Monroe Dull and Martha ın Lintermont. On October 2, 1894, he was united marriage to Minnie Maude Shipley by the Pres- terian Minister, Rev. George A. Wilbur. Minnie ıude, birthdate of April 18, 1873, was the daugh- of Samual B. Shipley and Sara Ann Eliza Clifton ipley. Their four children: were Amanda Bernice ıll Smith, Moore, Burch, Roberts, Bullock, born ptember 18, 1895 in Rockford, Ohio; Velma Mae ıll Huffman, born July 11, 1902, died February 16, 31 and buried in Rockford, Ohio; Kenneth Mor- e Dull born January 20, 1905 died June 17, 1919 d buried in Rockford, Ohio; Martha Grace Dull ilson, born January 4, 1907, died June 27, 1969 and ıs buried in Rockford, Ohio.

Arthur's family consisted of 8 brothers and 3 sis- s; Wilbur, Willshire, Ohio, elevator; Lenhart, ckford, Ohio, grain dealer; Curtis, Ohio City, ıio, grain dealer; Edgar (Doc), Celina, Ohio, eleva- and feed store; James, Celina, Ohio, feed store, rbert, Dull Town, Ohio, farmer; Cleveland, Phoe- x, Arizona, orange groves and mortician; Thur- ın, oil wells; Shernee Dull Taylor; Fannie Dull ıster; and Daisey Dull Miller. *Bernice Bullock*

THE FAMILY OF PETER DULL

Peter Dull Great, Great, Grand Father of Leo Dull was one of the early settlers of Mercer County. He was born in Pennsylvania June 4, 1800. He married Cathrine Schlater of Fayette County Ohio in 1834. He came to Dublin Twp. Mercer County in 1840 and was a Farmer. They had thirteen children. One son John Dull born in 1837 married Susan Roebuck born in 1839. They had two children. Savanna Dull born in 1861 and Claborn Dull born in 1862. They were Farmers. Claborn Dull was First cousin of Curtis Roebuck the Roebuck of Sears and Roebuck and Co. Susan Dull died in 1862 when Claborn was eight months old. John Dull then married Louisa Dilbone. Claborn Dull married Anna Harruff. They had four children. Charlie born in 1887 died in infancy. Audie born in 1890, Marie in 1898, and Lulu in 1901.

Audie Dull married Fannie Roebuck in 1907. They had three children. Leo born in 1908, and twin boys Gale and Dale in 1913. Dale died in 1916. Audie was a Drainage Contractor. Leo Dull married Dorothy Shock daughter of Harvey A. and Sarah Kull Shock in 1933. He is a retired Farm Drainage Operator and spends his time now working in his shop with wood. They have two children. Janet born in 1937 and Dennis born in 1941. Janet married Costas Vasiliadis in 1957 he is the manager of Sabena Air Line Office in Cincinnati. They have two daughters Stasia born in 1959 and Stephanie in 1962. Dennis married Barbara Gantz of Ft. Wayne in 1966. He works at General Electric at Ft. Wayne. They have three children Keith born in 1968, Kathy in 1970, and Shelly in 1972.

JOHN H. DYSERT

John H. Dysert, of Dublin township, one of the oldest settlers of Mercer county and one of its oldest inhabitants, was born in Ross County, Ohio, October 30, 1810, and is a son of Stephen and Susannah (Hannanan) Dysert, both natives of Westmoreland County, Pa.

Joseph Dysert, the grandfather of our subject, came from the North of Ireland, settled in Westmoreland County, Pa. and died in 1813, while on his way home from his service in the war of 1812, in which war he also had two patriot sons, Joseph and Stephen. Joseph, the grandfather, was a man of powerful frame and great agility, was a carpenter and woodworker, and was the father of seven children: Joseph, Stephen, John, Solomon, David, Polly and Rachael. The father of our subject, Stephen Dysert, was but twelve years of age when the family came to Ohio and located in Scioto County, near Portsmouth, but afterwards moved to Ross County; thence they moved to Fayette County, and later to Union County, where Stephen died July 5, 1852; a Universalist in religion, a republican in politics, and in paternity the father of ten children, viz: John H., Polly, Susannah, Rachael, Pricilla, Nancy, Euphenia, Juliann, Joseph and Betsey, all now deceased with the exception of John H., Rachael and Juliann.

John H. Dysert, the venerable subject of this mention, was reared a thorough farmer and was educated in the subscription schools. He filially re-

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mained with his parents until he had passed twenty-one years, and then began life on his own account by farming and stock raising on rented land in Union County; the later purchased ninety-six acres of land, which he occupied two years, and in 1837 came to Mercer County, entered 160 acres of land in March, worked it during the summer and fall, then brought his family, permanently settled on it and still owns it. This farm, now highly improved, lies in section number 33, Dublin township, which was then a vast wilderness through which he had to cut his way two miles from the nearest road to reach. He at once built a round log cabin, 16 x 18 feet, with a puncheon floor, and otherwise constructed in the backwoods style of that early day, and then set to work clearing off the forest. But being a lover of the chase, he would often take his dog and gun and go off hunting deer, of which he has killed as many as seven in one day, and one season killed 115 head; encountering during his hunting expeditions, many thrilling experiences and desperate adventures. He also endured all the privations, indomitable will, that overcome all obstacles, and he now owns one of the largest and best farms in the county consisting of 435 acres in one body, all well ditched and otherwise thoroughly improved; he also owns 100 acres in Black Creek township, and has owned considerable quanties of other lands, which he has disposed of; all this property being the outcome of his industry and good management. He has been phenomally successful in all his undertakings, but the merit is all his own, as he full well knew how to engineer his affairs, as may well be illustrated by the relation of the following incident:

One fall, in the early life of Mr. Dysert in Mercer County, he had 17 hogs to carry through the approaching winter, but he had no corn, and there was a scarcity of nuts in the forest. The problem was: how were the hogs to be safely and profitably kept? Here Mr. Dysert qualifications as a huntsman came into play, and he came to the decision to feed the animals deer meat that season, so went hunting. The hams of the deer that fell before the rifle he reserved for his family: the remainder of the carcasses he fed to the hogs, the result being that in the spring the swine all turned out in fine and healthy condition.

The marriage of J. H. Dysert took place in October 1883, with Miss Mary Longbreak, who was born in Clark County, Ohio, March 15, 1815, and who died April 3, 1876. There were born to this union the large family of thirteen children, as follows: Samantha J., widow of Elias Deal, of Dublin township; John P., of Rockford; Euphremia, wife of William Rutledge, of Dublin township; Levi L., and attorney at law, of Dayton; Henry Stephen N., farmer of Dublin township; George W., clothing merchant of Rockford; Joseph W., farmer of Dublin township; Mary, widow of Milton Yocum, of Union township; Sarah, widow of Frank Black of Dodge City, Kans.; Matilda, wife of Jacob Eichar, both deceased; William, farmer of Black Creek township; Annis wife of Mathias Wright, of Hopewell township; and James V. on the homestead with his father. Mr. Dysert is a member of the Friends Church, or a Quaker, and in politics has been a staunch republican ever since the formation of the party, and no more public spirited gentleman can be found within the bounds of Mercer County.

JOHN L. EICHLER

John Eichler was born Oct. 17, 1891, in Me County, Ohio. He was an only child of Christo and Agnes Louisa (Kuhn) Eichler. Christopher chler was born in Butler County, Ohio, on Oct. 1866. He died on Dec. 20, 1957. His parents v Andrew (1818-1894) and Barbara (Eichler) Eic (1825-1898). They were both born in Boyern, G many and were parents of 12 children. Ag (Kuhn) Eichler (1872-1954) was born in Me County. Her parents were George and Cecelia (V rick) Kuhn. She had 5 brothers and 4 sisters.

John Eichler was married to Marie Elizabeth H ner from Chattanooga, Ohio, on August 3, 1919. was one of three daughters born to William (18 1920) and Elizabeth (Wendel) Heffner (1870-19 Her grandparents were Conrod (1822-1878) a Anna Margaretha (Miller) Heffner (1829-1908) a her great-grandparents, from Germany, were Jo and Margaret Beecher. John Beecher was stepfat to Conrod.

Marie's maternal grandparents were John a Kathern (Rohr) Wendel. John Wendel was also b in Germany.

John and Marie Eichler were parents of 5 so John Jr., Joyce (died at age 10), Dale, Paul and D ald.

The Eichlers were farmers and members of t Lutheran Church. John Eichler died on March 1960 and Marie died Nov. 11, 1975. They are bur in Northgrove Cemetery, Celina, Ohio. *Paul Eichler*

PAUL EICHLER

Paul Eichler, son of John and Marie (Heffner) chler was born March 8, 1928 in Center Townsh At the age of 4, he moved to the family farm State Route 118, south of Rockford, where he n resides. The Eichler's had purchased this farm 1919.

In 1956, he married Catherine Miller, daughter Carl and Gertrude (Brewster) Miller. She was bo November 9, 1927 near Chattanooga, Ohio in Blac creek Township.

They are parents of three children: Edward born Nov. 19, 1957, Kathy Ann, born December 1 1959, and Robert Paul, born October 27, 1966.

Mr. Eichler is a farmer and he and his family a members of St. John Lutheran Church, Hopew Township. At the present time, Edward is a stude at Defiance College, while Kathy is a student at A derson College, Anderson, Indiana. Robert atten Parkway School. *Mrs. Paul Eichler*

EDWIN OHIO FARMER

Edwin Ohio Farmer of 5216 Mercer — Van We County Line Road, Dublin Township, Merc County, Ohio, is a native of Auglaize County, Ohi On February 20, 1917, he was born in St. Mary Ohio to Edwin Henry Farmer, a native of Akro Ohio, and Ida Caroline Lietz Farmer, a native of Au glaize County. In August, 1918, Edwin Henry passe away leaving Clara Irene (8), and Edwin Ohio (1 y 5 mo.). His mother, Ida Caroline Lietz Farmer rema ried on November 4, 1920, to Jesse Lyman Foor

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ı Wert County, Ohio, a widower with two chil-
n, Robert Sherman and Kathryn Elizabeth (Lu-
n). Frances Naomi (Overly) was born to this un-
on October 9, 1921. The Foor-Farmer family
d on a small farm in Liberty Twp., Van Wert Co.,
io.

)n Nov. 21, 1940, Edwin Ohio Farmer was united
narriage to Kathryn Rosalie Williams, native of
:kcreek Twp., Mercer County, daughter of John
lard Williams, native of Auglaize Co. and Louie
ce Stober Williams, native of Blackcreek Twp.,
rcer Co. She is the youngest of a family of five
s namely: Jessie May (Berger), born April 18,
0, Mary Lois (Eckhart) born Sept. 14, 1904, Gret-
n Eileen (Webb), born March 23, 1909, Virginia
ınor (Walker) born Feb. 8, 1914 and Kathryn Ro-
e (Farmer) born June 6, 1917.

dwin and Rosalie Farmer have two sons. Roder-
Edwin Farmer was born March 24, 1942. On May
1965, he married Elsie Marie Miller, daughter of
:ph and Edna Mary Berkey Miller of Ft. Wayne,
iana. To this union Anita Renee Farmer was born
Jan. 24, 1969. They reside on E. Route #33 in
:kford.

)hn Michael Farmer was born Aug. 14, 1943. On
e 9, 1963, he married Judy May Miller, daughter
Glen Edwin Miller and Dorothy Emma Sealscott
ler, both of Mercer County. To this union were
n Jodi May Farmer on Feb. 27, 1965, and Jeffrey
:hael Farmer on Aug. 13, 1968. They reside at
46 Frysinger Rd., Dublin Twp.

:dwin is a member of the Olive Branch Church of
d, Liberty Twp., Van Wert Co., served on the
m Home Administration Board, Mercer Co. Soil
ınservation Board, and at the present time is on
Mercer Co. Landmark Board and a Dublin Twp.
ıstee. He has been an active farmer on the same
n in Dublin Twp. all his married life. Rod and
n farm with him as Farmer Bros. and also work in
factory, International Harvestor and B.F. Good-
ı. Rosalie attended Manchester College, North
nchester, Ind., and was an elementary teacher in
blin Twp., 3 years (1936-1939) at Frysinger
ıool (one room) on Ross Road and 27 years in
:kford-Parkway retiring in 1972. *Edwin Ohio Farmer*

DEE WALTER FAST

The Dee Walter Fast family lived in Hopewell
vnship on #127 on a 132 acre farm. He was mar-
d to Edith Hellwarth on 6-3-09 and to this family
re born 8 children. Paul Hellwarth 3-22-10, de-
sed as an infant with pneumonia; Mable Olene
5-11, died of spinal mengitis at the age of 9; Rob-
Edson 10-1-13, minister, died at the age of 45
h a heart attack. Five surviving children are Mil-
:d 10-21-15; Katherine 4-17-18; Mary Helen 5-7-
Betty Dee 2-26-24; and Ruth Mae 3-25-27. Mr.
it was a well known and well liked citizen of
pewell township. All the family were members of
Mt. Tabor Church of God until they married and
ved away. Mr. Fast was township clerk, church
ıcon and trustee for many years. Their home was
ways open to ministers or visitors at any time and
en the children were growing up their home was
athering place for other young people to play ten-
, basketball, etc. Robert went to Findley college to
a minister and was serving the Wharton Church of God for the 16th year when he had a heart attack and passed away. He was married to Mary Eloise Hallowell from Findlay, Ohio and they had two children, Sandra Kay 3-16-45, wife of Jerry Snyder. They are the parents of two sons, Jeff 10 and Todd 7; Betty Sue 7-16-53 married to Jim Machwart, an employee of the State Landmark Co-Op. Mildred was married to Olen C. Ransbottom, Rockford, Ohio, Dairyman and later Co-Owner of Shane Hill Nursing Home. Mildred retired from the Mercer County ASCS Office after 20 years of service. They had three children, Thomas DeRoy 9-28-40 married to Neva Jolly, have 3 children Joni 13, Scott 11, and Kent 2; Robert Olen 3-20-43 married to Mary Kay Burke and have two daughters Holly Jo 6 and Heidi Kay 4. Katherine is a Registered Nurse, married Walter E. Baney, Ohio Steel Foreman, Lima and they have three children; Rick 6-10-54 married to Terri Morris; Ron 6-10-54 married to Barbara Fritz; and Susie 10-16-60. Mary Helen, school teacher, married Floyd Arnold, manager of Xenia Landmark Co-op are the parents of two sons, Gayle 6-24-50 married to Becki Gentile; and Douglas 10-3-51.

Betty Dee, Office and Factory, married Maurice Hinkle, farmer and rural mail carrier, have two children, Dennis 12-23-47 married to Lynn Miller. They have two children Robby 4 and Curtis 1.

Ruth Mae, school teacher, married John Schanbacher, Co-Manager of a Marathon Station. They have two adopted children Brenda 4-3-59 and Jim 9-16-63. *Mildred Ransbottom, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

GARY A. FISHER FAMILY

Gary Allen Fisher, a farmer of Mercer County, Dublin Township, was born February 23, 1944. He is the son of Carl Jennings and Ruth Evelyn (Weisman) Fisher. Both of his parents are natives of the Rockford area.

Gary, who was reared in the rural area on Wilson Road, South of Rockford, attended Rockford High School. In 1962 he graduated with the first graduating class of Parkway High School, which was the result of the consolidation of Rockford and Willshire School Systems. From 1964 to 1970, Gary was a member of the Ohio National Guard, Van Wert Unit.

Since Gary's early years he has enjoyed hunting. He hunts all kinds of wild game native to this area. In 1968, he made his first hunting trip for deer, when he went to Northern Michigan with several older men. He now enjoys going to the Western States each fall to hunt deer and has been successful in Montana, Wyoming, and South Dakota.

During the winter months, he enjoys repairing machinery and hunting when the weather permits. He also enjoys tinkering with guns and reading history books; his favorite subject being the "Old West".

He was united in marriage with Jane Elaine Schumm on September 6, 1975. She is the daughter of Elbert R., Sr., and Elva Jane (Martin) Schumm. Born January 8, 1951, Jane is a native of the rural area of Rockford. She graduated from Parkway High School in 1969. She is also a graduate of Ohio State School of Cosmetology.

Since the solemnization of their marriage, Gary and Jane have resided on Wilson Road South of

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Rockford. They are presently blessed with one child Abigail Jo born December 4, 1976.

Jane is a homemaker and mother. She loves to do crafts of all kinds, play the piano and organ, and keeps house for her family.

Gary and Jane are members of Grace United Methodist Church. Gary is a trustee and holds other positions in the church. Jane is assistant organist and accompanist for the Junior Choir.

Gary and his family enjoy living and working in the Rockford area. *Gary Fisher*

CARL JENNINGS FISHER

Carl Jennings Fisher was born April 6, 1913 in Blackcreek Twp. Mercer County on what is now Purdy Rd. near Rockford, Ohio. He was the son of James O. and Lucy (Custer) Fisher. Both parents were natives of this area.

Carl started grade school at the old Robinson School which was located on what is now Rt. 707. He also attended Rockford Public School (High) 1 year.

At an early age he started farming with his father and brother Ralph. He has been a farmer all his life.

On April 10, 1940 he was united in marriage to Ruth Evelyn Weisman. She was the eldest daughter of Edward and Myrtle (Brough) Weisman. She was born on Jan. 8, 1918 in Liberty Twp., Mercer County. She is the first generation born in America of German descent, her father being German. She attended "Joint" grade school called so because it combined Hopewell and Liberty Twps. and Celina Public High School from 1931-33 then attended Rockford Public High School in 1933 graduating in 1935. She was always interested as a hobby in artistic design such as oil painting and cake decorating.

In Carl's younger years he has been the owner of beautiful Belgian horses, which he took special care of and farmed with. He has always had a special interest in horses and attended horse shows etc. throughout his years. He also owned several ponies.

To this union was born 2 sons, Gary Allen Fisher, born Feb. 23, 1944 and Don Stephen Fisher, born Oct. 4, 1947.

At the time of Carl's marriage he was a member of what was known as United Brethren Church and is now Grace United Methodist Church on West Market St., Rockford. Ruth joined this church shortly after their marriage. She has served as the secretary of the church for 6 years under the leadership of Rev. Larry D. Hopkins.

Carl still resides with his wife on Wilson Rd. at the same location on which he moved after his marriage. *Mrs. Carl Fisher*

THE KEITH GEHLE FAMILY

Keith Gehle and Margaret Homan were married on Saturday — August 27, 1966, in the St. Henry Catholic Church at St. Henry, Ohio.

Keith, the youngest son of Aloys B. and Florence (Leugers) Gehle, was born May 19, 1945 at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio. Marge, the eldest daughter of Alfred B. and Bernadine (Lefeld) Homan, was born July 15, 1946, at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio. Keith graduated from Marion Local H School in 1963 and I graduated in 1964 from Henry High School. In February of 1965, I becan licensed cosmetologist, having attended Ohio S School of Cosmetology in Lima, Ohio.

After our marriage, Keith and I first rented house on the former Louis Uhlenhake farm just of St. Henry on Fleetfoot Road. For one year K worked for his brother Delaine. He operated a b dozer, clearing woods and digging ponds, et worked as a typist at Mersman's office in Cel Ohio and also worked part-time as a beauticia Lois' Beauty Shop in St. Henry. Shortly before first son was born, I quit working away from hc and Keith quit working for Gehle Excavating to to work at Minster Machine in Minster, Ohio a welder. Steve was born June 28, 1967, at Our Lad Mercy Hospital in Coldwater, Ohio.

In 1968, Keith quit working at Minster Machin go to work at Tranco Sales and Service in New E men, Ohio, as a diesel mechanic and body-man. November 7, 1968, our second son, Allen, was b at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Coldwater, Ohi

In March of 1969, we decided to move to N Bremen. We rented a large house from Bob Nage 18 S. Main Street. On October 13, 1970, our f daughter was born at Our Lady of Mercy Hospita Coldwater. We named her Jennifer Kaye.

In October of 1971, we purchased the Vornh home next door to the Vornholt Funeral Home New Bremen.

In November of 1972, Keith was offered a job a diesel mechanic at United Parcel Service in Obe near Columbus, Ohio. Since he could double his come he could not refuse this offer. Keith rente room in Grove City until we sold our home in N Bremen. We had a new home — a four-level split built in Grove City at 558 Blodwen Circle. moved to our new home April 1, 1973.

On February 22, 1974, our third son was born Mt. Carmel Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. We nam him James.

In the beginning of 1976, Keith decided to q working at U.P.S. to operate a semi of his own hauling cement to St. Henry Tile Co., Inc. and Be Ready Mix, Berne, Indiana. That meant anotl move for our family. We sold our home in Gr City. May 1, 1976, Keith started hauling cement a named his business Gehle Transport. On June we moved to our new location. We rented the ho on the former Evelyn Schaeffer farm on Herm Road east of Rockford.

On February 21, 1977, Marie, our second daugh was born at Van Wert County Hospital.

In June of 1977, we bought the former Willi Now residence at 107 W. Columbia Street in Ro ford, Ohio. This is our present address. *Keith Gehle*

THE JOHN GRIER FAMIL

John Grier, son of Nathaniel and Ma (McQueen) Grier was born in the County of Cork Ireland about 1835, although there is no record the actual date.

After the death of his father, Mr. Grier came America, being about 18 years old. John was one five children. He had a brother Nathan and a sist

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a who settled in Ohio, a brother James who set-
d in the South, and a brother Robert who went
est and settled.
John landed in New York in 1854, having made
voyage on a sailing vessel which took 31 days.
obtained his first work in a straw hat factory as a
acher and later as a presser. Afterwards he went
Newark, Ohio and worked in a house-furnishing
re for a time, and then returned to New York,
ere he remained three years and then came back
Ohio and settled on a farm, which he had pur-
ased several years before. He cleared the farm and
ide a great many improvements and became one
the finest farms in Butler township.
Mr. Grier was married first in New York during
early residence there to Catherine Patton. He
d his wife had one child, Susanna. Catherine died
elve days after the birth of her daughter and Su-
na died in September 1867, being only three
nths old. He was married second to Caroline
alters, who was born in Guernsey County, Ohio,
t raised in Mercer County. They became the par-
ts of seven children, namely: John James, who
d at the age of twenty one; Catherine Ann; Wil-
m Edmund; Mary; Ralph; Amy Caroline; and
gh Arthur, who died at the age of fifteen.

William Edmond Grier's children: John, Emma, Floyd, Nellie, Gerald, Dorothy. Aug. 6, 1965

Catherine Ann (Kate) was never married, Mary
a married Robert Larmore and they had one
ild. Ralph married Caroline McDonald and they
d twelve children. Amy married Ruley Monroe
d had one daughter. William Edmund married
ary Snider December 31, 1898 and they had six
ildren: John Newton, born January 7, 1904, and
rried Kittie Smith August 15, 1924, and they had
e children namely: LeRoy, Irene, Virginia, Joy,
d Mary. John died February 5, 1968. Gerald Ar-
ur, born December 20, 1906 and he married
vesta Shively October 12, 1925. They are the par-
ts of two daughters, Janet married Cliff Imhoff
d they have three children, and Barbara married
illiam Whitman and they have two sons. Nellie
ne, born August 9, 1909 and she married Kenneth
ed June 9, 1935. They had one daughter, Donna,
o married Joe Whitacre and they have two chil-
en. Emma Genevieve, born December 11, 1911
d she married Charley Denney October 19, 1935.
e died February 3, 1970 and survives with one
ughter Betty Lou who married Jack Jameson and
ey have one son. Dorothy Ann, born August 22,
14 and married Elroy Shank June 6, 1937. They
ve a daughter Sondra Sue who married Steve
Smith and they have two children, and Daryl who married Susan Handel. Floyd Edmund, born December 1, 1916 and married Mary Beougher Oct. 6, 1940 and she died Aug. 6, 1950, he then married Helen Hole July 7, 1951. They have three sons, James Howard, who married Lana Miller and they have two children, Larry Lee, and William Albert both at home. Gerald owns but is now retired from a garage in Michigan, now run by his son-in-law. Nellie's first husband died and she is now married to Kenneth Metzner and they reside on a farm near Portland, Indiana. Dorothy and Elroy reside in Dayton, Ohio where they are both very active in their church and community. Floyd and Helen reside in Mercer, Ohio where he is owner-operator of Grier's Power Digging. He has a very successful business and is known by many throughout the area. He owns the Grier's home place in Union township consisting of 97 acres, as well as other properties in Union and Dublin township. James and William are both employed by their father in his business and Larry is associated with Paul Clark Realty, Inc. in Celina, Ohio. *Submitted by Larry Grier, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

WILLARD AND HELEN (COUNTERMAN) HAYS FAMILY

Willard Charles Hays was born May 14, 1899 the son of Charles and Alta (Wagner) Hays at Spencerville, Ohio. He lived around Monticello, Ohio until his marriage. March 11, 1921 he married Helen Geneva Counterman, daughter of General Marion and Vannie (Sutton) Counterman. They were married in the Methodist parsonage in Rockford, Ohio.

The first year of their marriage they lived on a farm near Monticello and then they moved back to Mercer County taking over the management of the farm west of Mercer where Helen was born. They took care of her father and her grandmother, Rozann Sutton, until their deaths at which time they purchased the farm and lived until their deaths. Helen died Feb. 29, 1972 and Willard, July 15, 1976. They are both buried in Mercer Cemetery.

Willard was among the first farmers to own a tractor which he bought in 1929 and did a lot of custom plowing for farmers who only had horses. He also had a threshing machine and had a threshing ring around Tama and Mercer.

Willard and Helen were the parents of four children: Joann, Janet, Lois Jean and Paul. They had thirteen grandchildren.

Joann Hays was born October 12, 1927 in Mercer County. May 30, 1953 she married Jack O. Now, son of Jay and Thelma. (Siler) Now. They were married at the Mercer Methodist Church. In 1963 they moved to Rock Island, Ill. and after the death of her parents bought the house and an acre of the farm where she was born and are living there. Jack Now served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946 and was in the invasion of Normandy on the LST 75.

They are the parents of three daughters: Rozann born Feb. 26, 1954 and married Robert P. Maurer, son of John and Winifred (Skinner) Maurer, Sept. 16, 1978. Anita Marie born Oct. 14, 1955 married

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Dan L. Edwards, son of Loyd and Nellie (Stemen) Edwards, Aug. 5, 1978. Judy Kay born Aug. 21, 1960.

Janet Marian Hays was born April 4, 1931 in Mercer County. Aug. 27, 1949 she married William B. Pond, son of Leon and Mary (Coil) Pond. They were married in Mercer Methodist Church. They purchased three acres of land west of Mercer on U.S. 33 and built a home. William Pond served in the Navy from 1944 to 1946 on the USS LST959 in the South Pacific. They are the parents of three children: Kenneth William born July 26, 1953 who married Karla Sullivan, daughter of Don and Marion Sullivan. He is serving in the U.S. Air Force, Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico. Joan Lynn born Aug. 31, 1955 lives in Celina, Ohio. Jennifer Kay born July 13, 1957 married Scott Ralston, son of Donald and Betty (Caywood) Ralston. They live in Rockford, Ohio and have one son Chad Alan born Oct. 26, 1977.

Lois Jean — see under Jack Powell.

Paul Willard Hays was born Sept. 25, 1936 in Mercer County. Nov. 22, 1958 he married Delilah Kuhn, daughter of Herbert and Viola (Bollenbacher) Kuhn. Paul served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956 in the 37th Engineer Batallion in Germany. In 1963 they bought 100 acres on U.S. 127 about 5 miles north of Mercer where they live. He also purchased the home farm after the death of his parents and another 178 acres on Shindeldecker Road. They are the parents of four children; Jeffrey Paul born April 19, 1959. Brenda Sue born March 8, 1960. Lori Lynn born March 8, 1961. Lisa Gaye born Sept. 3, 1962.

All of the family of Willard and Helen Hays are members of Mercer United Church, Mercer, Ohio.

Mrs. Jack Powell, Rockford, Oh. 45882

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hosack, serving as hosts for Open House Celebration at the Mercer County Historical Museum

HOSACK

Paul E. Hosack was born in Morrow County, Ohio, June 17, 1900, the eldest son of Frank E. and Ella Zantha Levering Hosack. He attended Stack house, a one room, eight grade country for 8 years, and also taught there two years.

It might be well to mention that all eighth graders wishing to enter High School had to go to the county seat, usually one day in May, and take the Boxwell-Patterson examination in some 7-8 subjects. Spelling was oral and one must write quickly and carefully, always trying to keep a spare lead pencil or two sharpened with a folding blade knife.

After H.S. one could go to a college for 12 weeks each summer and take an examination for a temporary certificate till one had completed 2 years training, or Normal School.

Paul graduated with a Bachelor in Education fr Ashland College (Ohio) and with a Masters Deg from Miami University of Ohio. He belonged to National Honorary Industrial Arts Fraternity, Ep lon Pi Tau, and retired after teaching 43 years.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau there some 840 Hosack name families in U.S. and t geneology has been traced back to Ireland and Sc land, and they came from Austria some via Frer Huguenots.

The Levering genealogy listing thousands g back to the days of William the Conqueror 10 Our copy has 975 printed pages up to 1897, and addition since.

Paul came to Mercer County in 1937 and t school teachers met in Paulding County Schools.

Orpha Heath Hosack was born in Mercer Cou November 3, 1901. Her parents were Charles a Jennie Coil Heath. She went eight years to Stump one room country school, graduating from Mend High School in 1920. Orpha went to Miami Univ sity of Ohio Summer School in 1919 and 1920 a taught two years at each; Fryer and Blue Corner Union Township.

She received her B.S. in Education from Weste Michigan University. Kalamazoo in Home Econo ics in 1929.

Paul met Orpha when she was Secretary of t Paulding County Teacher's Institute. These we usually a two day session with speakers, prograr schedules and information for the year to start so after. Here one met the staff of your school, old a new friends and the co-workers.

Orpha taught 27 years in High School, a total 31 in Ohio. She married Paul Hosack. She taug vocational Home Economics at Shawnee near Lin at Clay High School near Toledo, then at Holla High School until retirement.

Our last move was to our farm; near Mercer af retirement where we still live, spending winters Sarasota, Florida.

Traveling was one of our hobbies. By the time o children had graduated from High School, they h traveled through all 48 states, Canada and Mexico.

Our children Robert and Jennie were rais around Mercer. Both also taught school. Dr. Rob Hosack, a dentist near Kalamazoo, and his wife Sa (Hoagland) who also taught, have two childre Pamela in High School, and Rob in grade school.

Jennie Ella Hosack married Tracy Hord from Ha fax, Virginia at Mercer Methodist Church. Bo taught school. Tracy is Sergeant of Jefferson Coun Police, Louisville, Kentucky; and is a Major in Ke tucky National Guard. Their two children are Ti and Chad.

Retirement has brought many benefits. Traveli in some fifteen foreign countries, including the Hc Land twice. There have been many phases of wo in the United Methodist Church. Charter membe of two retired county teacher's association, the Me cer County Senior Citizens and both are Life Mer bers in the Ohio Retired Teachers Association, a the National Campers and Hikers Association.

Orpha and Paul hope to enjoy the rest of their r tirement traveling, visiting and praising the Lord f all their successes.

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THE RUSSEL GILBERT HOWELL FAMILY

Russel Gilbert Howell moved with his wife and ıe son from Darke County to Mercer County in arch of 1936 to operate one hundred twenty acres land in Dublin Township owned by his mother--law, Leota E. Owens.

Russel was born in Preble County on September 1907, the second child of Orville D. Howell and ssie Fellers Howell. His brother and sisters include ez Oliver Roll, Ethel Johnson, and Anna Mae gler, who now reside in Darke County; Paul Hoell, who now resides in Arizona; and Grace Howell, :eased.

In June, 1933, Russel married Helen E. Owens. hey had three sons: Joe Allen, born July 17, 1935; alph Frederick, born August 16, 1937; Larry Owıs, born November 26, 1938.

Helen Owens Howell died unexpectedly on larch 1, 1942.

Following her death, Russel married Clara Belle :over McCoy, daughter of Carl Clifford and Florıce Foor Stover, on December 24, 1942. They had ıe son, Thomas Gilbert, born April 22, 1946.

The Stover Family history appears in another part : this book.

Russel bought the farm from Leota Owens in 1949 ıd he continued to farm and also work at Avco ew Idea, Coldwater, Ohio, until he retired in April, 974, after twenty years with the company.

Russel G. and Clara Belle are currently members ıd ordained elders in the First United Presbyterian hurch in Rockford, Ohio. Russel also holds membership in Shanes Lodge Number 377, F. and A.M.; ncient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Dayton; nd Antioch Temple, Dayton, Ohio. He also is a ıember of the Mercer County Farm Bureau Federaon and has served several years as a Trustee of the rganization. He is now serving his third full term as)ublin Township Trustee. During his second term s Township Trustee, the roads in the county were amed. Russel, as a trustee, helped to name the)ublin Township Roads. The names were chosen :om The Indian History of the area and also family ames that go back to the early settlers of the townhip. During this time the first roads in the township ere blacktopped.

He also has served as Dublin Township Republian Central Committeeman since 1956. Clara Bell is lso a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, :hapter No. 152.

His children are all married.

Joe Allen Howell married Delores Kay Simpson, aughter of Robert L. and Mabel Simpson, on Deember 14, 1974. There are no children of this mariage.

Ralph Frederick Howell married Betty Gertrude :oil, daughter of Foster and Gertrude Stetler Coil, n October 17, 1959. To this union, three children ere born: Annette Sue, born August 9, 1960; Diane ynette, born December 31, 1961; Arlette Kay, born Aarch 19, 1963.

Larry Owens Howell married Ardith Rae Yoh, laughter of Harold E. and Marvel Basil Yoh, on Sepember 27, 1962. To this union two children were orn: Jeffery Russel, born October 31, 1963; Kimberly Dawn, born September 27, 1965.

Thomas Gilbert Howell married Eleanor Mae Roehm, daughter of George and Edith Gribler Roehm, on September 25, 1965. To this union three children were born: Staci Renae, born February 4, 1966; Twins: (Todd Russel, Tony Gilbert) born July 8, 1970.

Russel and Clara Belle, at this writing, still reside on the farm at 12565 Frysinger Road, Rockford, Ohio.

Seated: John and Lydia Karns. **Standing:** Augustus, John Francis, Thomas, Mary. about 1895.

KARNS

Jacob Karns (1823-1898) was born in the Canton of Berne in the free Republic of Switzerland. It is recorded that he came to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, about 1833 and married Elizabeth Robinson there in 1848. The 1850, 1860, and 1870 Census' note they lived in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, with their post office address, Shanesville in 1850 and 1860 but Shanes Crossing in 1870. There is a deed for forty acres registered in their names in 1851.

Four children were born to them — John, Mary Ann, Sarah Jane and Jacob. In the 1860 Census, also in Blackcreek Township, is listed a family — Jacob and Elizabeth Fox — with children, Elizabeth, Lydia, and George. It is said Jacob Fox was a descendant of the Quaker George Fox in England.

Later, John Karns, born in 1852, married Lydia Fox, born in 1856. She had been orphaned at the age of four. Neighbors with two younger children gave her a home and she always said she earned her way from that time on — starting with baby sitting. John was a master carpenter, building many of the houses and barns on farms near Rockford and in the town.

John and Lydia reared three sons — John Francis, Thomas, Augustus, and a daughter Mary. There was also a daughter who died in infancy, Lutinny, Thomas' twin. While the boys were growing up, John was busy with his crew of carpenters — working as far away as Paulding County. Lydia and their sons did the farming, gardening, and butchering. Lydia, five feet tall, was a whiz at wood chopping — the boys would help saw the trees and block them, then she did the splitting.

They had acquired eighty more acres of land, so when Francis went to college, Augustus went to High School, and Thomas was married, Lydia couldn't manage the farming, and John built her a home in Rockford. Thomas and his wife (Ida Bury) moved on the farm.

During those years, Francis had graduated from

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Ohio Northern University (1901), married Tennie Rutledge (1902), a daughter of Levi and Lucinda Wiley Rutledge. They had lived four miles apart on the same road but never met until both attended the same college. They had gone to South Dakota, where he was Superintendent of Schools at Chamberlain when Thomas decided he didn't want to farm any more. Father John wrote to Francis asking if he wished to buy the farm — if not, he would sell it outside the family. Having spent ten years in South Dakota, Francis thought he'd like to return to Ohio, and with their nine year old daughter, Helen, the family came back to farm in 1912.

In the next ten years, they had a stone "pike" — replacing the mud road which had foot-deep ruts in winter and nesting killdeers in summer — a phone, electricity, and a new home. In 1893, the house where the Karns' had lived in Blackcreek Township had been moved a half mile across the road to Dublin Township and six rooms added. This was a one floor plan with twelve foot ceilings and very hard to heat, so it was torn down in 1920. Since all the timber in the house had come from the family woodland, it was saved and reused in the new home. There was enough finishing lumber — quarter-sawed oak — for all except one bedroom, where black walnut was used — which had been curing in the barn.

John Francis passed away in 1931 and his widow in 1969. Since she was an invalid for thirty-five years, the daughter, Helen, married in 1931 to Philip Runyan, Milford, Ohio (another college romance, this time at Miami University), returned to the farm in 1933 to care for her. After Philip's death in April, 1978, Helen remained in the family home. Their daughter, Mary Runyan Davis, her husband, Lowell Davis (son of Basil and Alma Davis, Dublin Township), their children, Vaughn and Valerie Davis, and son John Runyan do not live in the county. Hopefully the farm will remain in the family — though never again under the Karns name.

G. CONRAD KOEPPEL

G. Conrad Koeppel was born in Germany in 1815 and came to the United States in 1835. In 1840 he became an owner of a homestead in Dublin Township, Mercer County, Ohio. This was during the Van Buren Administration. The homestead is located on the south side of what is State Route 707. This state route was known for a long time as the Stringtown Road. This homestead is now owned by a great-grandson of Conrad Koeppel, Armond Jerome Frederick, "Jerry".

By the trading of land, a track of 25 acres was annexed to the west of the original 80 acre homestead making a 105 acre farm.

Mr. Koeppel had 12 children. Two sons served in the Union Army during the Civil War. His youngest son, Allen W. Koeppel, became owner of the homestead.

Several of Conrad's children went into the state of Iowa to make their homes. Jacob, William, Allen, Katherine, and Amelia remained in Ohio.

Allen's widow, "Sadie" Sarah Jane (Ford) Koeppel left the homestead to a son, Chester Eli Koeppel. Eli willed it to his nephew "Jerry" Frederick, the present owner.

Allen's youngest son Jacob served in the Uni States Armed Forces during the Second World W in the South Pacific area. Another son, Theodc barbered for 50 years in Celina, Van Wert, and Li areas. Ford taught in what is now the Parkway Lo School District for 45 years. Eli took care of t Dublin Twp. roads for several years. Edna, Mart Harriet and Clara were homemakers and stayed the local area. Martha located in Ft. Wayne, Harr in Willshire, and Clara in Van Wert. Edna locat on a farm — address of Rockford, Ohio.

Dwight Koeppel, Rockford, Ohio, is the grands of William Koeppel (Conrad Koeppel's son). C. Koeppel, Celina, Ohio, is the son of Jacob Koepp (Conrad Koeppel's son). *Ford Koeppel, Rockford, Oh.*

LAWRENCE KOONTZ

Lawrence Koontz was born on a farm near Roc ford, Ohio to Charles Dale and Hila (Figley) Koon on Oct. 2, 1913. His parents moved on a farm ne Wilshire, Ohio, but in a few years moved back clo to Rockford. He went to a country school, where l graduated from the eighth grade. He attended Roc ford High School, where he graduated in 1930. Aft graduation, he moved in with his Grandfather, Ca vin Figley and farmed for him.

He married Mabel Now, the daughter of John I and Nettie (Smith) Now. They have 2 children, Ev lyn Joan, who married and later divorced Lewis Sn der. Later on she married Dicky Stetler, and Dwigl Richard, who married Madonna Spohn. They hav eight grandchildren, namely: Curtis, Stephe Pamela, and Richard Snider, Lisa and Douglas Ste ler and Kevin and Kerry Koontz. They have fiv great-grandchildren, namely: Angela Snider, Joni Robbie and Mindy Snider, and Bryan Taylor.

They spent 28 years farming and then Lawrenc and his son Dwight bought the Gamble Store i 1962, located on Main Street in Celina. Lawrenc and Mable moved to Celina in the fall of 196 Dwight left the store after five years and went t work at the First National Bank in Celina. Lawrenc and his wife continued operating the store unt 1973, when they sold out and sought employmen elsewhere. At the present time they are both em ployed at the Barr store in Celina.

Lawrence and Mabel were active members of th Grace United Methodist Church in Rockford until i 1974 they transferred their membership to the Be thany United Methodist Church in Celina.

They are also members of the Hopewell Grange *Lawrence Koontz*

LINCOLN

In 1637 the Lincolns left Hingham in Lincolnshir County, England and landed at Hingham, Massa chusetts. A descendant, Alfred Lincoln of Connecti cut, was a cousin of Thomas Lincoln, father of Abra ham Lincoln.

Alfred Lincoln and his wife, Pheobe moved tc Pennsylvania from Connecticut. They were parents of Emily Ann (who married John Miller in Richland County), Harriet, Fellows, Maria Betz, Alfred II and Jane. Jane married Reuben Bucks and was mother of Pheobe Wallace.

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In 1837, the Lincolns came to Mercer County and ught a farm where Mud Pike crosses what is now ute 118. Alfred II and his wife, Mary, were the rents of Caroline, Luther, Mary and Thornton io died in childhood, and Alfred III, Levi, and ie.

Alfred III married Dulcina Green and they had e children: Nora (married Chris Reiff with two ildren, Edgar and Audale), Mary Almeda (married wton York and had two sons, Delos and Willard), ornton (married Rosella Parlette and had four ildren, Gerald, Alfred, Raymond, and Ruth Jean-e) and John (married Bess Pumphrey and had ur children, Lione, Vivian, Lowell, and Max). *Mrs. almer Kuhn, Celina, Oh. 45822*

JOHN W. MAURER

John Wiley Maurer, son of Ora and Nora Miller aurer, was born on May 6, 1913 in Mendon, Ohio. e is descended from Christian Maurer, a Mendon oneer from Wurtenberg, Germany. John and his fe, Winifred (Skinner), live at 4853 Mercer Road. ieir farm was homesteaded around 1840 by John d Hannah Palmer from Miami County, Ohio, eat-grandparents of Winifred.

John and Winifred were both born and raised in ercer County. In 1931 John graduated from Men-in High School, and Winifred graduated from Cel-a High School. Both were employed during the 40's at the Producers Creamery in Celina. John en-red the Armed Forces on April 1, 1941 and served erseas in North Africa and Italy until July, 1945, nen he was honorably discharged.

John and Winifred have four children: John L., obert, Margaret, (Mrs. Dale Snider), and Pamela Mrs. David Young). They have one grandson, yan Young.

The Maurer family has membership in the Mercer nited Methodist Church in Mercer, Ohio. John so belongs to the American Legion at Rockford id the VFW at Spencerville. *Winifred Maurer*

MARTHA OLEVIA (WALLICK) NUTT

Martha's father Willis P. Nutt was born April 17, 55 in Fulton County Ind. His ancestors came from ngland to Lancaster County, Pa. They were miners England and in Pa. and also near Aurora, Ohio. ear Aurora stands the Century Building Church uilt 1851 and the Nutt family burial plot. Willis aveled with a thrashing crew in Mercer and Van ert counties. He married Dec. 22, 1876 to Mary aroline Coffits; they had two daughters, Zora Ellen orn 12-16-1878 died 1947 and Martha born 7-21-82. Willis died 9-27-1888 when he was thirty-ree years old of a bursted appendix. The Nutts ere known to have been Shakers.

The mother Mary Caroline made the living by do-g housework taking the small daughters with her. ie was a charter member of the United Brethren nurch in Rockford, Ohio. During Martha's school ars she attended one school term at Rockford 92-93. Others were spent at one-room country hools a month or two at a time. Martha, as a young lady worked at the glove factory in Van Wert.

She married Earl Cranston Wallick Sept. 4, 1907. He was from a well-known family in Van Wert County. His ancestors were from Pa., mostly farmers. Earl did cement work in Van Wert and many sidewalks are still in use there. Later they lived in Dayton; then to a farm in Auglaize county and back into Mercer. Martha's married life was spent in her home; sewing for the family, tending the garden, making butter; baking, and cooking the way people did in the early 1900's.

They had two children Blendene and Kenneth. Earl died Feb. 26, 1960 and Martha died Feb. 26, 1964. *Mrs. Kenneth Wallick*

JACK D. POWELL FAMILY

Jack Douglas Powell, son of Benjamin and Louetta (Curless) Powell, was born in Mercer County May 26, 1931. July 19, 1952 he married Lois Jean Hays born Feb. 13, 1933 daughter of Willard and Helen (Counterman) Hays. Jack served in the U.S. Army from Feb. 1952 until Nov. 1953 in the infantry with the 5th Regimental Combat Team in Korea.

In 1956 they purchased 30 acres on the Halfhill Road and lived there for 10 years. They bought the adjoining 50 acres which had belonged to Lois Jean's Great-great-grandfather John Sutton who for one dollar an acre purchased the farm in 1837 and it has been in the Sutton Family ever since. The house was built in 1897 after the log cabin burned down. After remodeling the house in 1967 they moved to their present home west of Mercer on State Route 707.

Jack farms the 80 acres and has been employed at Karch Stone Company for the past 23 years, the last five as plant superintendent.

They are the parents of one foster son, Grant (Pete) Willeman born Dec. 15, 1969 in Lucas County and three sons: Steven Douglas born March 6, 1954 living at home. Michael Dee born Aug. 2, 1956 who married Debra Lynn Porch, daughter of John and Viola (Jordan) Porch, Sept. 17, 1977. They live on Halfhill Road. Keith DeWayne born Sept. 12, 1957 living at home.

All are members of Mercer United Methodist Church. *Jack D. Powell*

RALSTON

Darrell Lloyd Ralston and Wilma Madonna Barker were married on June 8, 1947, in Rockford, Ohio. They have lived in Rockford from that time to the present.

Darrell Ralston was born August 13, 1922 in Miami County, the son of Verde and Nellie (Allen) Ralston. He attended school in DeGraff and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, from 1943 to 1946. He worked for and later owned the business started by Clyde Montague. He used trucks to spread agricultural limestone from the Rockford Stone Co. on fields.

Darrell is an active member of the Masonic Lodge, serving as master of Shanes #377 in 1962 and also in 1978; and as District Deputy Grand Master in 1968 through 1970.

Wilma Barker Ralston was born in Rockford, on April 10, 1924, the daughter of Everett and Mary

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(Brookhart) Barker. She attended schools at Gomer and Wren, graduating from Rockford High School in 1942. She received a B.Sc. in Music Education from Ohio State University and a Master of Arts degree from Wright State University. She taught instrumental and vocal music in area schools from 1945 to 1952. From 1952 to 1968 she worked with her father in his income tax service, and with her husband in the trucking business. In 1968 she started teaching in the St. Henry Elementary school in a regular classroom.

Darrell and Wilma Ralston have one child, Mary Jane Ralston Schumm, and one grand child, Jeremiah Allen Schumm. Their son-in-law is Gregory Schumm, the son of Henry and Norma Jean (Carr) Schumm. *Wilma Barker Ralston, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

RANSBOTTOM

Olen C. Ransbottom was born in Dublin township 8-7-12. His parents were Clifford L. Ransbottom 12-22-87 and Charmie Burch Ransbottom 5-11-88, both were from Mercer County. Olen had one sister, Orel Ruth, who died in infancy.

Olen was married to Mildred O. Fast 2-12-39. She was the daughter of Dee W. Fast and Edith Hellwarth Fast, Hopewell Township, Mercer County. Olen and Mildred are the parents of three children; Thomas 9-28-40, who married Neva Jolly and have three children, Joni 13, Scott 11, and Kent 2. Tom is an Industrial Arts teacher at St. Henry, Ohio; Robert Olen 3-20-43 is married to Mary Kay Burke. They are the parents of two daughters, Holly Jo 6 and Heidi Kay 4. Robert is Principal at the Parkway Junior High at Willshire, Ohio; and Nancy Anne 2-26-47, wife of John L. Smith, Administrator and Co-Owner of the Shane Hill Nursing Home, Rockford, Ohio. Nancy taught school one year. They are now the parents of four sons; Eric 7, Ryan 5, Spencer 2, and Douglas 1. Olen was in the dairy business and had a door to door milk delivery in Rockford for 39 years. In the beginning, he and his mother and dad had their own dairy herd, milked, pastuerized, and bottled the milk for delivery. Later he purchased the bottled milk from the Meadow Gold Creamery for his business. He also had an Ice Cream and Dairy Store. In June of 1970 Olen had a heart attack and had to sell his business. As he was convalescing, he and his son-in-law, John L. Smith began to plan for a Nursing Home on the Ransbottom farm. John and his mother, Florence Smith, were already engaged in a 32-bed home in Rockford. In December, 1971, Shane Hill Nursing Home was opened as a 50-bed home. This was a dream come true for Olen. With his great sense of humor, he was just what the elderly people needed to talk to and be uplifted, and the employees enjoyed him for his jovial spirit. In May, 1976 50 more beds were added on to the Shane Hill Nursing Home. Olen was active in church, school, and community activities. He enjoyed writing poetry and being an actor in plays. He was one of the organizers of Rockford's Softball Club called the Rockford Reds in the Twilite league sponsored by the Rockford Merchants. He also was one of the original black face end men when Rockford was presenting an Annual Minstrel show. But above all, he was considered Rockford's funny man and clown. He wrote his own epitah for his tombstone: "Have I left a memory, No act unkind, A smile, a laugh, a friends behind".

THE DREAM

I dreamed a dream for quite sometime
Of a home for my family, would be just mine.
But then I said, "This is really selfish of me."
Why not a new home that others might see?
The growing things, in the fresh country air
With help from others, who with loving care
Would be a blessing, for those later years
Helping each other, might avoid some tears
A dream's not real 'till it's tried out
So John and I began to look about.
We checked other homes for good points and bad
Came up with plans, chose the best we had
It is now newly done, and all will see
What we both wanted, not just for me.
But for many others, that our lives will touch
May comforts of our home be so very much
Like the better ones should always be
With kindness and patience from our family.

* * * * * *

I'm still dreaming, four years have gone by
We've added to our home, we'll tell you why
So many loved ones, who needing care
Have come for comfort and our love to share
We are very pleased that it's possible today
To have room for others, and in this way
A kindly staff, as our family
Fulfilling THE DREAM . . . that has come to be
Olen C. (Ranny) Ransbotto

Mildred Ransbottom, Rockford, Oh. 45882

ELBERT R. SCHUMM, SR.

Elbert R. Schumm, Sr., a skillful carpenter of Mercer County, was born March 19, 1918, in Willshir Ohio. He was the son of Louis Frederick and Co Eva (Roop) Schumm both natives of Willshire.

Elbert is presently manager and part owner of tl Rockford Lumber Co. His early years consisted working with his father building barns, houses ar doing remodeling jobs. Once he was on his own h got a job at the Willshire Lumber Co. Next he wei to Dayton as a Maintenance Carpenter. By the World War II was upon us, so he served thirty-nir months for his Country. Thirty-two of these montl were spent overseas fighting for America. He r turned from the war to take a job for ten years at th Rockford Lumber Co. Then he received an opportu nity to manage a Lumber Co. at Wapakoneta, Oh for four and a half years, after which he returned the Rockford Lumber Co., where he is presently en ployed.

Elbert graduated from Willshire High School an attended Huntington College. He was united in ma riage with Elva Jane Martin on September 22, 194 She is the daughter of Frank Oscar and Sarah Mar (Arnold) Martin, both were natives of Kirklan Township west of Decatur, Indiana. Elva was bor August 26, 1920 in Decatur, Indiana. Upon the sc lemnization of their marriage, they resided in Mer cer County in the Village of Rockford. In 1955 the purchased five acres of ground on Rockford We

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ad and moved to the country where they still re-
e. Their marriage was blessed with the birth of
ır children. Elbert R., Jr. was born September 22,
47; Robert J. was born March 4, 1949; Jane Elaine
s born January 8, 1951; and Herbert Arnold was
rn February 21, 1960. At the present time they are
: proud grandparents of five grandsons and two
ınddaughters.

Elva's life has consisted of being homemaker and
ɔther to her children. She is also there to lend a
lping hand to someone in need in the community.

Elbert and his wife are members of the Calvary
ıited Brethren Church of Rockford, Ohio. They
ve both held several offices in the church and the
nference. They are both Sunday School teachers.
ıey are very involved in the church camp (Camp
ɔtubic). Elbert is a member of the Camp Board of
.rectors.

The Schumm's life consists of trying to be a credit
the community and helping people along life's
ıy. *Elbert Schumm, Sr.*

GEORGE SHAFFER

George Shaffer (1843-1914) was one of three sons
ho came over from Germany in the late 1830's or
rly 1840's. They settled along the Mercer Van
'ert County line in the northern mid section of
ercer County as a farmer. George married Eliza-
:th Flager (1845-1919) and to this union there were
ne living children and four deceased in infancy.
ıeir names were George Adam, William Henry,
:rtie Frank, John Simon, Jacob Clarence, Nellie
ıaffer (Dilbone), Otie Shaffer (High), Grace Shaf-
r (Good) and Cecil Shaffer who never married.

John Simon Shaffer (1868-1965), the fourth child
the above union married Elizabeth Denman
873-1946) on July 5, 1892. They settled in a log
bin on St. Rt. 117, then moved to a frame house
ı Frysinger Road. John was a farmer and also
:lped drill water wells with Fred Butler. Approxi-
ately 1895, they moved with their two children to
ɔdfrey Reserve Rd. in a four room frame home and
the late fall of 1917 they moved the home across
e road and added two more rooms. This was com-
eted before the blizzard of December 1917. Here
eir other six children were born. Their names are
anche Shaffer (Bennett) Dec. 1892; Howard (Ben)
ıaffer (Sept. 1894-1973); Leo Shaffer, Oct. 22, 1896;
ılph Sandy Shaffer, Oct. 1, 1898; Estella Shaffer
ichar) Dec. 1902; Berlin (Bill) Shaffer, Nov. 1908;
ıul (Buck) Shaffer, Feb. 9, 1913, and Mildred Shaf-
r (Nichols), Sept. 5, 1916-1942. These children at-
nded the Baltzell one room school house and the
lount Olive Christian Union Church on St. Rt. 117.
ere John served as an elder of the church and son
:o was hired as a janitor in his teens. Leo was also
ad singer of a quartet of John Shaffer (bass), Hoyt
ıaffer (tenor), and Angealy Baltzell, (alto).

Leo George Shaffer was the third child of this un-
n and was the average boy — sometimes playing
ɔoky from school but helped his father on the
rm. At the age of 21 years he tried his hand at the
elco power plant in Dayton but in six months de-
ded to return to farming. He met Velma Hisey at a
hool box social at the Hisey one room school just
est of the Ohio-Indiana State Line near Chatta-
ɔoga. Sept. 21, 1921, at the age of 25 years he mar-
ried Velma (May 23, 1900-May 23, 1961) Hisey. Leo continued farming in the area of St. Rt. 117 near U.S. Rt. 127, until Dec. of 1941. He then worked at Goodyear Tire and Rubber St. Marys, Ohio until 1946. Then at New Idea Coldwater 1946-1949. He retired after working for Hisey and Bebout Construction in the late 1950's. Leo and Velma had ten children: Glenn, Dec. 24, 1921; Robert, May 11, 1923-Dec. 8, 1944 service; Thurman, Aug. 28, 1924-Oct. 16, 1976; Basil, April 6, 1927; Leland, Aug. 11, 1928; Don, Mar. 21, 1930; Charles, Nov. 29, 1932; Leo, Jr. Sept. 23, 1934; Martha Jane Shaffer (Sidenbender), June 3, 1936; Mary Ann Shaffer (DeLong) June 29, 1938.

Don Shaffer was the sixth son and was raised on the farm with his family. He attended the Frysinger one room school and graduated from Rockford High School in 1948. He was a member of the football and basketball teams. The basketball team of 1947-48 had an impressive record and many of the Rockford fans will long remember those thrilling games. He helped farm, then worked with Standard Oil at a station in Rockford, returned from service and started(and still is) with Bordens Ice Cream in Celina in Aug. of 1955. He married Norma Allmandinger on Oct. 18, 1953. She is a registered nurse and has practiced in Celina since her graduation from Ft. Wayne Lutheran Hospital, Aug. of 1952. They have five children Michael, Jan. 20, 1955; Mark, Nov. 7, 1956; Kent, Oct. 22, 1958; Steven, Oct. 14, 1960; and Donette, Dec. 11, 1961.

Don and Norma with their children have been active members of St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Township on St. Rt. 118, and Oregon Road. *Mrs. Don Shaffer*

THURMAN EUGENE SHAFFER

Thurman Eugene Shaffer was the third son of Leo and Velma Shaffer's union, born on August 28, 1924 on a farm in Dublin Twp., near Rockford. He attended the Frysinger one room school and graduated from Rockford High School in May of 1941. He served in World War II for approximately 3 years. After returning home he started working with Goodyear Tire and Rubber at St. Marys.

On May 28, 1949 he married Virginia Mae Brown Schulte, native of Celina. To this union were born three children. Paula Kay Shaffer on Dec. 31, 1949, she married Larry Klosterman Nov. 2, 1968 and they have a daughter named Lisa Ann. A son, Lynn Alan Shaffer, born Sept. 13, 1952; he married Rhonda Courtney on Aug. 19, 1972 and they have four children, Sandra Kay, Christie Lynn and twins Amy Elaine and Aaron Eugene Shaffer. Their third child is Cathy Arlene Shaffer, born Mar. 21, 1958; he adopted daughter Charlotte Marie Schulte, who was born June 4, 1948. She married James W. Myers II on Feb. 26, 1966 and they have children James W. Myers III (Chip) and Victoria Leigh Myers.

Thurman worked approximately 32 years at Goodyear at the time of his death from a heart attack on Oct. 16, 1976.

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BASIL REED SHAFFER

Basil Reed Shaffer was the fourth son of the Leo and Velma Shaffer union, born Apr. 6, 1927 on a farm in Dublin Twp. near Rockford. He attended the Frysinger one room school and Rockford High School. He served in World War II from June 1945 until Dec. 1946. After discharge he worked at the Continental Container Can in Van Wert, Ohio. He started with Goodyear Tire and Rubber in St. Marys in 1950 and has been with them 28 years at this time. On July 11, 1947 he married Wilma Dean Bollenbacher, native of Celina. Wilma expired on Aug. 30, 1977, from cancer.

To this union were born two children: Robert Reed Shaffer, born on Jan. 26, 1948 and he married Nancy Feasel on Nov. 20, 1971. They have daughter Tara Leighann. Daughter Linda Sue Shaffer was born on Mar. 7, 1950 and she married Eugene W. Roehm on Jan. 17, 1970. This union has Melissa Sue and Brett Matthew.

LEO JUNIOR SHAFFER

Leo Junior Shaffer was the 8th child born of this union on Sept. 23, 1934. He lived on a farm near Rockford with his family until his graduation from Rockford High School. On June 6, 1953 he married JoAnn Roettger of Celina and they have three daughters. Traci Jo born Feb. 18, 1959; Julie Ann was born April 10, 1961; and Nicola Lee was born on June 23, 1963.

After spending two years in Germany with the U.S. Army they settled in Celina. For several years he owned a filling station and then joined the Citizen-Commercial Bank staff. At this time he holds the position of Assistant Vice President.

MARTHA JANE SHAFFER

Martha Jane Shaffer was the ninth child and first daughter born of Leo and Velma Shaffer on June 3, 1936. She lived on a farm until graduation from Rockford High School in 1954. She graduated from the School of Cosmetology in Fort Wayne, Indiana and worked there for approximately 1½ years.

She married Jon Sidenbender on Nov. 13, 1955. To this marriage were born four daughters, Karen Roe Sidenbender, born Aug. 29, 1956 and married Casey Nuttle on Mar. 19, 1977. Kaye Lynn Sidenbender was born on Sept. 3, 1958 and married Keven Ross on Nov. 19, 1977. Kelley Jane was born Jan. 6, 1961 and Karla Ann was born Jan. 17, 1962.

After living near Bowling Green, Ohio from 1955 to 1960 while her husband attended B.G.S.U.; they moved back to Mercer County and settled on a farm near Rockford on Eichar Rd. Jon taught school in Parkway School District from 1960-1967. The past 11 years he has been Secondary Supervisor in the Mercer County Schools. Martha has been a substitute rural mail carrier since 1969. *Mrs. Don Shaffer*

SHIPLEY-CLIFTON

Samuel B. Shipley

Samuel B. Shipley was a brick mason and had tile and brick kils in Mercer County. The City Buildi is one landsite that is still in use in Celina that built and owned. He was born February 5, 18: Wheeling, Virginia; served in the Civil War; a died in Mendon, Ohio February 22, 1897; buried Celina, Ohio. His parents Peter A. and Rochel Shi ley were Pennsylvania Dutch. Samuel married Sar Ann Eliza Clifton; born February 8, 1831 in Cla County Ohio to Rhoda Nichols Clifton, English d scent from London, England and William Clifto Clark County Ohio; died September 24, 1894, buri in Celina, Ohio. Samuel and Sarah Ann were ma ried June 22, 1853. Their five children were: Ali Jane Shipley Armstrong born April 25, 1854, di February 13, 1925 and buried in Celina, Ohio; Frar Shipley born July 31, 1858, died and buried in Ka sas City, Kansas; Richard Shipley born July 5, 196 died March 10, 1887 and buried in Celina, Ohi Blanche Shipley Tedrow born October 18, 1871, di May 12, 1924, and buried in Celina, Ohio; Minn Maude Shipley Dull born April 18, 1892, died Mar 15, 1945 and buried in Rockford Ohio. Samuel granddaughter is Amanda Bernice Dull Bulloc *Bernice Bullock, Kenton, Oh. 43326*

THE SMITLEY AND CUSTER FAMILIES

Casper and Catherine Smitley, believed to b from the Austria-Switzerland area were the paren of Frederick Smitley, who also married a Catherin and whose children were born in Pennsylvania.

Their son Frederick (1807-1894) married Cathe ine Hanger (1815-1881) in Ross County, Ohio, i 1836. So the Smitley's must have started migratin westward around 1830. Frederick and Catherin came to Mercer County in 1838 and had eleven chil dren: Jacob — 1837-?; Charles — 1838-1913; Freder ick — 1840-1925; Joseph — 1843-1876; George – 1845-1907; Mary — 1849-1935; Emily — 1850-191 John — 1852-1924; Sarah — 1854-?; Martha — 1856 1903; Amos — 1859-1943.

Charles married Frances Custer Jones in 1873. A few years later they moved to Glasco, Kansas. O their trip they crossed the Mississippi in a prairi schooner on a raft, and lived in a sod house whe Kansas was still wild prairie. They had Allan, Grace Mary and Opal. Eventually they divorced and Fran ces is buried at Glasco. Charles, having served in th Civil War, is buried at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Th lone surviving descendant of this branch is Ernestin Stone, (Opal's daughter), who lives in Los Angeles California.

Mary married Charles Wilson, and her descen dants live in Michigan and the Van Wert-Convo area.

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Emily married William Custer on November 10, 870. Emily died of cancer at the family farm on oute 707 on May 10, 1919. They are buried in Otrbein Cemetery. A detailed account of their chil-en follows:

Part II — The Custers

Pittsburgh-born Mary S. McMichael (1820-1864) id Maryland-born Joseph Custer (1816-1894) were arried in Mercer County in 1841. Their family nsisted of: Sarah Frances — 1843-1930; William — 845-1899; David — 1847-1923; James — 1852-1904; arrison — 1855-1902; Alfred — 1861-1934.

After losing his first wife in death, Joseph married ary McCristy in 1865, and they had: Nancy Arsula 1866-1912; Andrew — 1867-1946; Susan — 1869-02; Jesse — 1875-1935; Wesley — 1878-1966.

Mary Custer died in 1882 and is buried close to r husband. Most of these people are buried in Otrbein Cemetery.

William was born January 18, 1845 and married nily Smitley in 1870. They had seven children: ary Frances (Molly) — 1871-1922; Anna Viola la) — 1874-1943; James — 1877-1947; Lucy, twin 1881-1960; Louie, twin — 1881-1929; Allen — 84-1962; Elva — 1889-1890.

Molly married Bill Ralston and had: Clifford, Jes-(Valentine), David, Arthur, Lawrence, Wade, Edr. She died of cancer February 2, 1922 and is burd at Riverside Cemetery in Rockford. David alentine, who owns the Rockford Hardware is one the very few living descendants of Molly.

Lucy married James Fisher on November 5, 1903. detailed account is in "Fisher Families" elsewhere this book.

The rest of the children never married. William ed while the children were young, on April 8, 99. Allen was the last survivor of this family. The d Custer homestead on Route 707 was in the famalmost 80 years, and was sold in 1962 to settle Al-n's estate. *Mr. Don S. Fisher, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

JACOB TESTER

Jacob Tester was born in 1798 — Died October 19, 878. Buried at Stringtown Cemetery in Dublin ownship, Mercer County, Ohio.

David Tester — son of Jacob was born December , 1825 and died November 25, 1895. He married izabeth Clutter who was born May 17, 1824 and ed November 19, 1903. Both are buried beside Jab at Stringtown Cemetery. David and Elizabeth ester had four children.

I. — Willis Tester — who married Alice Kimmel id they had three children; 1. James Tester — (Deased) who lived in Jackson, Michigan. 2. Mae Tesr — who married Ira Snyder and lived in Bluffton, diana. 3. Isea (Ira) Tester, who married a Bowen id lived in Indiana.

II. — Amos Tester — who married Maggie Black, ughter of Andrew Black and they had two chilen.

Charles David Tester — born October 17, 1878; he arried Hattie Custer born May 6, 1889. She was e daughter of Harrison Custer, who was the son of seph Custer. After tracing back, it is believed now be very probable that Joseph Custer was a brother Emanuel Custer, who was the father of Gen. Geo. Custer. The Custers came from the border line of Holland and Germany, a place called Krefeld. (see Charles Tester)

2. — Minnie Tester — daughter of Amos and Maggie Tester was born January 31, 1881. Minnie was first married to Arlie Spicer and they had one son, Millard A. Spicer. (see Minnie Tester). Minnie later married George Flore and they had two sons, Floyed and Russish. (see Russish Flore) and one daughter Sylvia Lucille. George Flore was the son of the former Ellen Jane Harner, whose father Michael Harner II, came to Mercer County in the spring of 1819 with an ax, a grub hoe, and $1.50 in money and settled in Union Township. Ellen's grandfather Michael Harner I was a native of Germany, and a sailor by occupation. After leaving the sea he lived in Bedford County, Pennsylvania and later moved his family to Ohio.

III. — Hulda Tester — daughter of David and Elizabeth Tester first married a Wise and later she married Elliot Dull. They lived at Pittsford, Michigan. Both are buried at Riverside Cemetery, west of Rockford, Ohio. They had no children.

IV. — Sarah Tester — daughter of David and Elizabeth Tester married a Kimmel. They went to Kansas to live. They had one son.

These are the children and grandchildren of David and Elizabeth Clutter Tester. Willis Tester and his wife Alice are buried at Riverside Cemetery — west of Rockford. Amos Tester and his wife Maggie; Minnie and George Flore and children, Floyed and Sylvia; Charles and Hattie Tester and daughter Flora Mae and son Clifford are all buried at the Fairview Cemetery on Celina — Mendon Road.

The Tester Family came from England by the way of Canada to Mercer County, Ohio. *Compiled by the late Daisy Tester Stetler, Updated and written by Helen M. Flore Parker*

THOMAS

Charles W. Thomas and Margaret (Snavely) who resided in Mercer were my grandparents. My childhood recollection of the early nineteen hundred were that they belonged to the Baptist Church, which ceased its operation in Mercer Village about 1918 or 19.

My grandfather Charles W. ran away from home during the Civil War at the age of 16 and enlisted in the 81st Ohio Volunteers. Charles W. ( ) and Margaret ( ) were blessed with 6 children, George (who was the writer's father), Walter Edward Maude, Margaret and Eva. All are deceased.

My father, George ( ) married Minnie Shinaberry also of Mercer. Both were teachers in their early career years. Later my father George bought a farm in Allen, Ohio, and my parents resided there until their death.

When Henry Ford built their factory in Lima, Ohio, he purchased the farm which then belonged to my oldest brother Martin Thomas, deceased but whose widow Sylvia and her son Richard reside in Kettering, Ohio.

Alva served for 20 years as the business agent of the Lima Trades Union, and also as president of the state organization. As a retiree he spends his time between his home in Lima and his cottage on the Auglaize River near Defiance. He has a son Roger living in Lima, and a daughter Dorothy Coleman,

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who is a free lance writer in Darien, Conn.

Vada was married to Clarence Baker and both are deceased, survived by a son George.

I became a teacher and taught in the Lima City Schools until my marriage to William Schmitt of Toledo. When he passed away, I returned to the educational field to complete my Bachelor of Science and a Master's degree.

At the time of my retirement I was administrator in the Washington Local School of Lucas Co. serving as a federal coordinator of government of programs.

I have one son William Thomas Schmitt who is the claims manager for the Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. He has 3 sons; Dean, David and Dan.

Edward Thomas, my next younger brother, now deceased, lived in Celina. His daughter Erma Resh who lives in Celina. A son Hobart was burned to death in an automobile crash between Toledo and Bowling Green.

Maude Thomas Myers is deceased, buried in Plymouth Ind. She had one daughter Madge Myers Krueger also deceased.

My grandparents, aunts, uncles, Eva, Margaret Thomas Hooker. Walter and Edward are all buried in the Mercer Cemetery.

My father, George Thomas and Mother were Billy Sunday converts with his world famous "sawdust trail." They united with the Blue Lick Brethren Church, both very active. My father served as Sunday School Supt. and Mother as pianist, and both taught S.S. classes.

Both are buried in Blue Lick Cemetery. *Gladys Thomas Schmitt, Toledo, Oh.*

ERNEST CLINTON THOMPSON

Ernest Clinton Thompson came to Rockford in September, 1939 to teach in the Rockford High School, which on December 31, 1960 became a part of the Parkway School District when Rockford and Willshire School districts consolidated. He retired in 1974 after having taught 35 years in the Rockford-Parkway Schools.

He was born in Ordway, Colorado on January 5, 1916 and moved to Jefferson County, Ohio in 1923. He attended the public schools of said county and was graduated from Ohio Northern University, Ada in 1938.

He was married to Gertrude M. McBride, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert McBride, Ada, on August 31, 1941. Gertrude's paternal great, great grandfather, Griffith John, who came from Pennsylvania, was the founder of Elida. He came to Ohio in 1831 and platted the village in 1852.

Five children were born to Ernest and Gertrude. They are Robert D., April 2, 1944; Steven M., February 17, 1948; Paul C., April 8, 1950; Ann Elizabeth, September 4, 1951; and Philip C., February 6, 1954.

Robert is married to Gail Knudson of Alma, Michigan, and they have three children, Linda, Cheryl, and Mark. They live in Coldwater and Robert teaches business office education in the St. Henry High School. Steven is married to Marcia Johnston of Continental, and he is a self-employed contractor in the painting and carpentry business in the Rockford area.

Paul is married to Kathy Amano of Pueblo, Colorado, and they live in Gallup, New Mexico where h is employed by the Gallup Lumber and Supply C Ann is married to Gary M. Brown of Warsaw, Inc ana. They live in Hooppole, Illinois, where he is tl pastor of the Calvary Evangelical Congregation Church. They have two sons, Christopher and N than. Philip lives in Rockford and is employed l the Tu-Way Products Co. of Rockford. The cor pany manufactures mops and related items.

The ancestral Thompsons moved to Jefferso County, Ohio from Pennsylvania in 1801, and th lineage can be traced back to 1747 in Pennsylvania.

Ernest is the son of Jasper J. and Lorena J. (Gree Thompson. Through his grandmother, Clara Mar Pittis, who married James Green of Freeport, Ohi the ancestry can be traced back to 1480 to the Isle Wight just off the coast of England in the Englis Channel. *Ernest Thompson, Rockford, Oh.*

THE FAMILY OF MARY JANE VIAN SELL

Mary Jane Vian, the daughter of Rev. Jeremia and Clarissa (Grub) Vian, was born in Blackcree Township on February 13, 1860, one of seven chi dren. (See also the family history of Ruby Brind Dudgeon in Blackcreek Township.) She spent h entire lifetime in Mercer County except for a sho period spent in Kansas. She taught school a numb of years before marrying Charles G. Sell in 1882. Sh and her husband lived on farms, first in Blackcree Township, then in Dublin Township.

To the marriage the following children were bor Harvey on June 1, 1883; Arminta, the only daught to live and who married John Harden, on Novemb 1, 1884; Samuel O. on October 9, 1886; Jesse T. o April 2, 1889; Chas. Dillon on Nov. 15, 1890; Grov on June 21, 1892; J. Sherman on May 14, 189 Thomas O. on May 24, 1896; A son born dead o August 20, 1899; A daughter born dead on March 1902.

She died on Nov. 20, 1907 at the age of 47 and wa buried in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery, but her re mains were afterwards exhumed and laid to rest i the Stringtown (now Otterbein) Cemetery besid her husband and some of her children. Her obituar read in part as follows:

> "Being burdened with maternal duties, she was not as regular in attending public worship as others, but this did not affect her zeal. She was zealous of good works and devoted energies to the good of others, especially for the moral elevation of her children, her efforts having been rewarded by the conversion of her children. She leaves her devoted husband, seven sons and one daughter, two sisters, one brother, and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn her departure."

Her last place of residence is now owned by on of her grandsons, Gerald Vian Sell, son of J. Sher man. Although she did not live to see her grandchil dren, ten of her grandsons served in the duty o their country during World War II and all of them returned safely.

In 1978, only two of her children are living: Dil

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ı, whose home is at 3805 Purdy Road near Rockrd, and Thomas, who lives in St. Marys.
One of her greatgrandsons, Jerry D. Sell, M.D. ın of Carl and grandson of Samuel) is committed open his office for the practice of Family Mediıe in Rockford by 1979.

VIAN FAMILY

This historical sketch is of a prominent family, me of whom have been early pioneers in the seral different regions in which they have lived, and ve always been noted for their uprightness, abil-, progressiveness, and good-will to all men.
The founder of this family in this country was Jon Vian who came to America as a soldier in the my of King George the Third, during the Revoluınary War, and was taken prisoner and after the ır he decided to make America his home and refed to return when the remnant of the British my returned to their Island home. He settled in aryland and married Catherine Root, a native of ermany.
To them four children were born namely — Hanh, who became the wife of Mr. O'Brien; Polly, ıo married Mr. Howell. Both of these were ealthy slave holders of Maryland. Katy, became e wife of a noble in Ireland; and, William a short ne after whose birth the father died.
The mother, a second time accepting for her husnd, Jacob Swales, who with the children moved to ıox County, Ohio, in 1816, where they lived until eir death and where the children grew to manod and womanhood.
William Vian the youngest child, and only son of ın Vian was born in Fredrick County, Maryland, ptember 1, 1796, and there passed his boyhood ys and at the age of the early twenties came with s mother and step father to Knox County, Ohio, d entered 60 acres of government land, which he ared and converted into a fine farm.
In 1822 William married Jane A. Perkins. Her fader was of English parentage and served in the nerican Army in the Revolutionary War. After his arriage to Miss Perkins, William took his young fe to his farm which he, with fortitude and much oor had made for himself in Knox County, Ohio. ıere they lived and prospered until their death, the ther dying in 1879 and the mother two years later.
William Vian was a prominent and influential citen and a Democrat in politics, and one of those ry rare men who will not hold public office even ıen it is offered to them.
The children of William Vian and wife — fourən in number — are recorded as follows: Mary, ıo became the wife of William Downs; John, who as killed while serving his country in the Civil ar, near Nashville, Tennessee; Hannah, who beme the wife of John Hoover of Knox County, hio; Enos, a farmer of Dekalb County, Indiana; illiam, who moved to Wisconsin; Jeremiah whose story will be later referred to; Rebecca, who beme the wife of Theodore Eals, of Michigan; Sarah ne; James, deceased; Ira, who moved to Kansas; bner, who died in infancy; Amanda Ellen; Elijah, ho moved to Oklahoma; and Benjamin Franklin, ho remained on the old homestead in Knox ounty, Ohio, and there reared a large family, and many of his descendants are still living in the Mt. Vernon vicinity.

Jeremiah the fourth son was born in Knox County, Ohio, April 18, 1829, and there passed his boyhood days and received a good education in the neighboring schools. He learned both the carpenter's and the blacksmith's trades and taught school for two years near his home, and two terms in Mercer County, Ohio, after his removal here.

On March 5, 1851, he married Clarissa Grub, who was born in Knox County, on March 15, 1832. Her parents were of Dutch descent and Dunkards in religion, and were early settlers in Knox County.

One year after their marriage, Jeremiah Vian, with his wife moved to Mercer County, Ohio, on a farm which his father had entered for him. He set resolutely to clear his land, but misfortune came to him after two weeks. He was injured and was obliged to go about on crutches for a year. Although, thus discouraged, he did not give up, but finally succeeded in clearing his farm and in building a home, but not until after many hardships and trials.

In 1861, he taught school near his home, and in this home the following children were born namely — Christianna, who became the wife of Ernest A. Tickle; John S. who moved first to Oklahoma, and afterward to Alberta, Canada, where he died on June 10, 1945; Mary Jane who became the wife of Charles George Sell; Louise Ellen, who was married to John Wise and afterward to Simon P. Brindle, Ruby Dudgeon's parents; William Ezra, who died at the age of three years; Sarah Ellen, who also died at the age of three years; William Curtis, who died on his thirteenth birthday. The good wife died on Feb. 9, 1865 and was buried in the Duckcreek Cemetery, seven miles west of Rockford, Ohio. (Her grave is located in the third row from the road and about the middle of the row.) On February 19, 1866, Jeremiah Vian was again married, this time to Mary Alexander.

Jeremiah was converted under the ministration of Rev. Michael Johnson, on February 22, 1861, in Mercer County, and joined the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, on that date, and was baptized in the St. Marys River, in Van Wert County, on October 15, 1861. He remained a faithful and active member of the church and on October 15, 1871, he was licensed to exhort. On January 13, 1875, he was licensed to preach and received the Annual Conference license on August 29, 1877. He was ordained Elder on September 11, 1881, at the Centenary Church, and on June 9, was appointed to the Geneva Circuit, and served there until the close of the conference year. At the division of the church in 1889, he adhered firmly to the Constitution of 1841, (Old Constitution, or Radicals) and the Confession of Faith of 1815. In the autumn of 1889 he was appointed to the Greenville Circuit. He was one of the Examiners of the Annual Conference, and held all the different offices of the church, and performed the marriage ceremony for a great number of couples. During all this activity in the church work he carried on farming, and was considered one of the best and most progressive farmers of the Township. He availed himself of all the modern machinery for farming and readily adopted new ideas for the improvement of crops and live-stock. In every respect he was a progressive man and foremost among petitioners for roads, bridges, etc. He helped to build a

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number of bridges and every church in the Township, regardless of denomination. He took particular interest in the schools and did his best to keep them abreast of the times. He was very charitable and beside raising his own family he raised twelve orphaned children, one from the age of six weeks until eighteen years of age. Several of them were converted in his own home. Politically, he affiliated with the Prohibition Party. He once held the office of Constable, and later was candidate for County Treasurer on the ticket of his party and received the largest number of votes ever received by any candidate of that party in Mercer County. He never sued anyone and never turned a stranger or a beggar from his door. He was preeminently a good man, loved, respected, and trusted by all. In all causes that will help the coming of his Master's Kingdom, he was interested. He was a great Bible reader and had read the Bible through 21 times. He died on April 1, 1899, and his funeral was held at the Zion United Brethren Church, Mercer County, Ohio, with the sanctuary completely filled. He was buried in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Van Wert County, Ohio, State Route #33, at the age of 69 years 11 months and 13 days. His tomb-stone still remains, a perpetual reminder of a life well lived, not for himself alone, but for all with whom he came in contact.

God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, that their seed would be as the stars of Heaven and as the sand of the sea, has also been applied to the soldier boy John Vian whom King George III sent to America to fight the Colonists, inasmuch as his descendants are now scattered over the United States and Canada, comprising an innumerable multitude, as the stars of Heaven and the sand of the sea, for number.

After considerable research for a number of years among books, historical records, and personal interviews, C. Dillon Sell, (son of Mary Jane Vian Sell,) has compiled the above record. The copies have been prepared in their present form by Miss Wanna Sell, daughter of Samuel Sell, and granddaughter of Mary Jane Vian Sell.

Should anyone reading this record know other items of interest that should be placed in the copy, or any corrections that ought to be made, feel free to contact either of the persons associated with this present production.

JOHN SMITH VIAN

John Smith Vian, son of Rev. Jeremiah and Clarissa (Grub) Vian was born in Mercer County, Ohio, on February 24, 1854. There he grew to manhood and on August 13, 1882, he was united in marriage to Caroline Sell, daughter of Dr. Charles Thomas Sell, an immigrant from Bath, England.

To this union were born nine children namely — Jeremiah; Willis who died at the age of 11 years, (his grave is located in propinquity of that of his grandfather, Jeremiah Vian, in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Van Wert County, Ohio, State Route #33); Ernest; Pearl; William; John V., who died in infancy; Charles Clyde; Archibald; and Ezra Eli.

It is apparent that John S. Vian inherited the pioneer characteristic of his progenitor, the first John Vian, for he was not content to remain in his home community, but moved his family first to Oklahoma, then to Alberta, Canada, thence to Chouteau County, Montana, where he homesteaded and where his younger children grew to manhood

Here in 1917, he saw his son Archibald march to war to defend his country. No doubt, due to t prayers of his father and mother, this son was turned to them, whole and unscathed.

After all his children had married and were bidi aloof from his sheltering roof, he, with his life pa ner returned to Alberta, Canada, to be near th eldest son, Jeremiah. There he spent the sun years of his life, and was known to the towns-folk "The Grand Old Man." He passed away on June 1945, after living a devouted Christian life, being member of The Church of the Brethren since 18 His songs, stories, and good nature will always rememberd by his family and by all who knew hin

Pearl Viola Vian, the only daughter of John S. a Caroline (Sell) Vian, was born on Wednesday, Se tember 28, 1887, in Mercer County, Ohio. When years of age she moved with her parents Oklahoma, and after a short sojourn in that Sta her parents took her with them to Alberta, Canad where she grew to womanhood and on April 1 1904, she was married to Isaac Bailey. They hom steaded a tract of land near Brant, Alberta, Canad and here were born three of her five childr namely — John E. born January 9, 1905 and died February 22, 1909; Lola V., and Elva A. In Februa 1910, they moved to Oklahoma and here their thi daughter, Myrtle May was born. But the warr damp climate of Oklahoma did not agree with h so in 1912, her husband with his sick wife and thr small daughters moved to Chanteau County, Mo tana, where they homesteaded another tract of lar Here Pearl and Isaac Bailey spent a prosperous li Here their children grew and married and here Isa Bailey passed to his award on December 27, 1945.

Pearl (Vian) Bailey now lives at 907 Frankl Street, Fort Benton, Montana. In the autumn 1960, she, with her brother Ernest Vian, made a tr to Ohio where they visited with friends and relativ they had not seen for 59 years. Everyone in the cor munity did their best to make them happy and some who formerly knew them it was as if the de had come to life.

JOHN VIAN, WILLIAM VIAN, JEREMIAH VIAN, MARY JANE VIAN — (SELL)

Mary Jane Vian was the daughter of Rev. Jer miah and Clarissa (Grub) Vian. She was born Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio, on F burary 13, 1860. She spent her entire life in Merc County with the exception of one short period spe in Kansas. She taught school a number of terms b fore her marriage. In the year 1882, she was marrie to Charles George Sell, and lived on their farms Blackcreek and Dublin Townships, Mercer Count Ohio, for the remainder of her life, and where th following children were born namely — Harve born June 1, 1883; Arminta, the only daughter live; born November 1, 1884, and who was marrie

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› John Harden, November 5, 1910; Samuel O., born ctober 9, 1886; Jesse T., born April 2, 1889; Charles illon, born November 15, 1890; Grover, born June l, 1892; John Sherman, born May 14, 1894; Thomas ., born May 24, 1896. One son was born dead on ugust 20, 1899; and a daughter was born dead on larch 3, 1902.

She accepted Christ as her Saviour at the age of venty and joined the Zion United Brethren Church. ıe departed her life on November 20, 1907, at the ge of 47 years, and was buried in the Pleasant rove Cemetery, but her remains were afterward chumed and laid to rest in the Stringtown (now Otrbein) Cemetery, beside her husband and departed ıildren. Her obituary reads as follows:

"Mary Jane (Vian) Sell, was born in Mercer ounty, Ohio, on February 13, 1860, and died at her ome three miles south of Rockford, Ohio, on Noember 20, 1907, aged 47 years, 9 months, and 7 ays. On July 20, 1882, she was united in marriage Charles George Sell and to this union were born n children, of this number two preceeded her to ıe Great Beyond. At the age of twenty years she ought God in the pardon of her sins and experiıced the washing of regeneration, since which time ıe lived a consistent Christian life.

Being burdened with maternal duties, she was not regular in attending public worship as others, but ıis did not effect her zeal. She was zealous of good orks and devoted her energies to the good of oths, especially for the moral elevation of her chilren, her efforts having been rewarded by the conersion of her children. She leaves her devoted usband, seven sons and one daughter, two sisters, ıe brother, and a large circle of relatives and iends to mourn her departure. Her funeral was eld at the Stringtown (now Otterbein) United rethren Church, conducted by Rev. C. L. Culbertın."

Her last place of residence is now owned by her ın John Sherman Sell. It is located approximately ½ miles south of Rockford, Ohio, on State Route 118, and is now (1961) occupied by a grandson ıd his family. (Carl Sell, son of Samuel Sell.) Alıough she did not live to see her grandchildren, ten the grandsons served in the duty of their country uring World War II, and all of them returned afely and not seriously harmed.

At this present time (1961-January-) only one livıg child, Harvey has departed this life. From the 27 randchildren born in this family line, 23 of them re now living and there are a great many grandchilren.

Two of Mary Jane's sons, several of the grandchilren and great grandchildren are active members of ıe Otterbein United Brethren Church.

As one generation passes on and another takes its lace Psalm 103:17, is as a priceless gift, which is not ıken away.

Place your Family History in this Space

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FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

This township is bordered on the north by the rand Reservoir, forming a very irregular boundary; ast by Auglaize County, south by Marion, and west y Butler Townships. It is six miles in extent from ast to west, and has an average width from north to outh of about three and a half miles, and contains bout twenty-one sections.

This township was organized December 7, 1841; s boundaries commencing at the northwest corner f section 19, range 3 east, township 6; thence south, n township line, to the center on the west line of ownship 7, range 3 east; thence east to the center ne of section to the east line of section 12 in said ownship; thence north to the place of beginning.

Election ordered to be held December 24, 1841.

Franklin Township contains 14,386 acres, and, vith the buildings, valued at $283,300, it has 7295 cres of arable land; 727 acres meadow land and 364 acres woodland. (written in 1882)

At the settlement two small bands of Indians occupied part of this territory. They were known as he "Big" and "Little" Chickasaws, and from these, wo streams of the township took their names. These Indians were peaceable disposed, and never gave any trouble or alarm to the settlers.

The first death is claimed to have been that of Miss Anna Miller.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Education, eld April 17, 1854, necessary repairs were ordered o be made to each schoolhouse in the township, nd that a tax of $5000 be levied to defray the expenses of the board.

Apportionment of common school fund received rom the State for 1854: Sub-district No. 1, 31 pupils, $47,061. Sub-district No. 2, 60 pupils, $91,083. Sub-district No. 3, 72 pupils, $109,299. Sub-district No. 4, 50 pupils, $75,903. Sub-district No. 3, 16 pupils (colored), $24,291.

Amount collected on entire taxable property of ownship, as levied in 1854, and not apportioned, $52,574.

Written March 8, 1854 by J. M. Long, township Clerk.

The five one room schools in Franklin Township were The Klosterman School on Guadalupe Road, Center School on 219, Franklin School on Co. 219A, Liberty School at the corner of St. John's Rd. and Clover Four Rd. and Montezuma School in Montezuma. In 1941, the one room schools were closed and a township school was built on the edge of Montezuma. This was called the Franklin School and is still in use. The schoolboard at that time was W. A. Preston, Pres., John Klosterman, Vice President, Frank Kittle, Rudolph Dorsten and Worley Frank with Louis E. Kittle, Clerk. Peter M. Hulskamp and Lyman T. Strong were the architects with Jos. Uhlenhake and sons Contractors. This was a four room school with 2 grades in each room.

In 1955, it was decided to add four more rooms as here were too many pupils in each room. Members of the school board at that time were Ray Wilker, Pres.; Kenneth McQueen, Vice President; Worley Frank, Norbert Dabbelt and Albert Wynk. This allowed one room per grade. In 1960 by a vote of the people the Franklin School District was added to the

Lake Mercer — Oil Wells were prosperous in the Lake in the 1890's. (Today's name: Grand Lake Saint Marys)

Celina City Schools and the high school students all were to go to Celina. Prior to this high school students had had their choice of going either to Coldwater or Celina. In 1964, the seventh and eighth grade classes were sent into the Celina Junior High School and this gave the Franklin School extra rooms to use for special classes. They now have a kindergarten and a media center. Art, music and gym classes are taught by teachers who come to Montezuma.

Franklin Township has four public cemeteries: Long, Burge, Ellis, and Botkins. There is also Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Cemetery.

The township has only one town, Montezuma. Its location on the south side of Grand Lake makes the tourist trade important. There are numerous landings, several marinas, trailer courts and camp grounds. There are a lot of cottages that belong to people from Cincinnati, Dayton, Springfield and other cities who come here for vacations and weekends.

The area is agricultural with farms of all sizes. There are some who specialize in dairy, grain, poultry, hog, or beef feeding, turkeys and alfalfa.

The Lake Airport is located in this township as well as the Mercer County Waterfowl Refuge. The Bunker Hill Disposal is the county landfill, which is in this township.

Business located in Franklin Township include Pax Steel Products, Middendorf Stockyards, Meckstroth Farm Service, Ohio Plumbing and Electric, Inc., Meadow Acres Manufactured Housing Sales and Service, Brock's Camper Rental and Davis Welding Shop. Scott's Gift Shop on ST Rt. 219 is known for its greenware and ceramics.

The township is serviced by three telephone companies, St. Marys, New Bremen, and Celina which makes for poor communications.

The 1970 Census showed Franklin Township, including Montezuma, had a population of 1346 and a tax valuation of $11,348,098.

At one time there were numerous oil wells, more than in any other township. But they soon proved to be gas wells. There are only a few producing at this time.

In the late 1880's the C.T. and St. Louis Railroad went through the township and the town of Montezuma. It was later called the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton.

The present trustees are Norbert Wilker, Tom Niekamp and Louis Doenges with Arnold Reichert as clerk.

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Village Officials of Montezuma, Mercer County, Ohio, 1978 — **Back Row:** Lysle Lacy and Jimmie Grunden, Council; LeRoy Tobin Mayor; and John Chaney and Ronald Rutschilling, Council. **Front Row:** Esther Lacy, Clerk Treasurer; Richard Kittle and Patricia Stucky, Council.
Editor's Note: Mayor Tobin passed away November 24, 1978. Richard Kittle was sworn in as Mayor on November 27, 1978.

MONTEZUMA

Montezuma was founded by William Beauchamp, a farmer-physician from South Carolina, about 1834. He came to Mercer County in 1832, cleared a farm, and laid out the original village, 35 lots which he registered in 1835. The choice of name probably reflects the presence of a nearby tribe of Chickasaw Indians, descendants of the Aztec Indians in Mexico, and may have represented an attempt on the part of Mr. Beauchamp to maintain friendly relations with this tribe. Some early settlers referred to this tribe as the "Montezuma" Indians.

In 1838 Mr. Beauchamp and John Wyatt added 32 lots, and in 1839 George Marsh added 84 more.

Montezuma grew rapidly during construction of the Reservoir, and its completion about 1580 paved the way for one of Montezuma's main industries, fishing. From the 1870's until into the 1900's, large quantities of fish and turtles from the lake were harvested and sold commercially.

The discovery of oil in the area also led to increased prosperity. At one time Montezuma had 2 hotels and numerous boarding houses, as well as several saloons and a distillery, to serve the workers in the oil fields. The drying up of the oil field and the end of the demand for fish early in the 20th century dealt quite a blow to the thriving village.

Organized education began in 1837, with 13-year-old William Lacey as teacher; the first school, the "Wolves' Den", a 12' x 14' round-log structure, was constructed in 1864 ½ mile south of town. The first high school class graduated in 1900 with 3 students.

The first church was the Disciples' Church, organized in 1842, followed by the United Brethren Church in 1845 and the Methodist Episcopal Church soon after. The Catholic church, now Our Lady of Guadalupe, was established in 1903.

In 1881 a narrow gauge system, later the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad, was extended from Shane's Crossing to Dayton, passing through Montezuma. By 1882 Montezuma had a steam sa mill, a tile factory, three stores and the Montezun Hotel. Within the next 20 years there were a carria and buggy manufacturer, a grain elevator and a co fin factory, which used the black walnut so plentif in the area. (The first person to die in the villag Noah Beauchamp in the 1830's, was buried in a ho lowed out black walnut log, as there was no lumb available.) The early 1900's saw the addition of thre groceries, a meat shop and several barber shops an taverns. There was also the beginning of the touri industry, thanks to the CH&D Railroad. Discontir uance of this railroad in late 1923 signalled the en of the growth of the village.

From the late 1800's on, the area was known fc its sport fishing and hunting, and several area guide achieved renown throughout southern Ohio. Toda many of the descendants of these first "tourists" re turn to the area and a large number have settled i and around Montezuma after retiring elsewhere.

The present Montezuma is a neat clean villag whose wide streets show unusual foresight on th part of William Beauchamp. Its atmosphere is sleep and peaceful, but by no means stagnant. Houses ar neatly kept and the general air is one of quiet pros perity.

Today Montezuma offers the services of 2 ga rages; 2 combination tavern/restaurants; 1 carry out; rental cottages; a grain elevator; a barber shop an insurance agency; a small engine shop; and a pos office which the residents hope to keep.

Public School Building, Montezuma

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OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PARISH

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish is located in Montezuma, Ohio. The present pastor is Rev. John Spatt, PP.S.

Church records reveal that in February of the year 1903 a number of Catholic men in the area of north Franklin Township determined to establish a new parish of their own. They met at the home of George Klosterman who donated one and a half acres of his farm for this purpose. At considerable expense and personal sacrifice and without first seeking proper ecclesiastical approval, they prepared to build the church. A special subscription was taken up and showed a return of $4,660.00. The men then proceeded to the woods on the farms of George Klosterman, Henry Ronnebaum and Henry Schwieterman to cut the trees needed for the construction of the new church. Upon its completion in the Fall of 1903, the frame church was entirely paid for.

It was only after the church was completed that the people of the area approached Archbishop Henry Moeller and petitioned him to dedicate the church and to provide a priest for the parish. At the corner stone laying of the new St. Sebastian Church on August 30, 1903, the Archbishop promised a delegation of this area that their new church would be dedicated and he placed it into the hands of the priests of the Society of the Precious Blood. The dedication date was set for Ash Wednesday of 1904, and Father S. Kunkler, C.PP.S., and Father Cosmos Seeberger, C.PP.S. performed the rite of blessing the new church as official delegates of the Archbishop. The first Mass was said in the new church on February 27, 1904 by Father G. Jussel, C.PP.S. Father Cosmas Seeberger, C.PP.S. was the first priest put in charge of the mission parish. The new church was dedicated under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The Faith of the parishioners was to be tried very early in their history, for on Sunday, June 19, 1904 at 9:00 a.m., fire destroyed the entire church with all of its contents. On the following day, June 20, 1904, the parishioners reached an unanimous decision to have the church rebuilt. However, Archbishop Moeller was not inclined to give permission for the rebuilding, since there were dissenting voices heard from the neighboring areas. When the Archbishop finally granted permission, the work of building a brick church began almost immediately. On March 29, 1905 the cornerstone was laid by Father Quatman of Holy Angels Parish, Sidney, Ohio. While the church was in the process of being built, Services were held in the public school which was nearby.

On October 9, 1905 the second church was dedicated to the great joy of the people of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Archbishop Henry Moeller was present for the ceremonies. His presence at least quieted any opposition if it did not completely end it. Adjoining the church was a one room frame building that served as an office and overnight shelter for the priests who administered the mission. There was also a cemetery on the same plot of ground.

Our Lady of Guadalupe remained as a mission for forty nine years under the care of the Precious Blood priests with residence at St. Charles Seminary in Carthagena, Ohio. But in the Fall of 1952 at the call

of Archbishop Karl Alter and through the appointment made by Fr. Seraphin Oberhauser, C.PP.S., the Precious Blood Provincial, a new pastor came to the parish. It was the expression of both ecclesiastic authorities that a residential pastor be established in and for the parish, since there had been a steady growth of members and the future promised an even greater growth. Members were appointed to a Parish Council which was to assist the pastor in drawing up the plans for the future parish and to help in the important task of raising the funds which would be needed.

The first important decision to be made was to choose a site for the parish home that would be close to the people; on well traveled roads; and convenient to utilities with fire and police protection. It was decided not to build next to the church in the country, but close to the village of Montezuma, Ohio. A choice and beautiful piece of property was purchased just East of the village of Montezuma. Wilbur Wurst, an architect from Dayton, Ohio drew the plans for the new rectory, and Harold Dorsten, the contractor from St. Henry, Ohio, built it. Fr. Joseph Zimerle, C.PP.S. took up residence in the new rectory upon its completion in April of 1954.

Due to the fact that the people living in the large cities became more recreation minded, Lake St. Mary's became a very popular resort area. The large crowd of Lake visitors, together with the increased membership of Catholic families moving into the area, made the church in the country too small to handle the congregation, so that on some occasions many people were standing outside the entrance doors during Sunday Services. This called upon the parishioners to make still another important decision. It was decided to build the new church next to the recently constructed rectory close to the village of Montezuma. A decision which caused many a heartache because of the fond memories associated with the church in the country. However, most members agreed that it was the only way to proceed.

The present stone church, a beautiful yet simple structure, was completed and Blessed by Archbishop Karl Alter on Ascension Thursday, May 11, 1961. At that time the Archbishop declared Our Lady of Guadalupe in Montezuma, Ohio a parish and no longer a mission.

A matter of note — The beautiful statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe that graces the front of the church was cut from white Italian Carrara marble. This 6½ foot high statue conforms in detail to the original portrait of Our Lady of Guadalupe miraculously imprinted on the humble cloak of the Indian Juan Diego of Tepeyac, Mexico in 1531.

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CLUB ISLAND — GRAND LAKE ST. MARYS

Club Island, a privately owned community, is located on the southern shore of Grand Lake St. Marys, midway between Celina and St. Marys, on Route #219, four miles east of the Village of Montezuma. (Section 23, Town 6, South, Range 3 East in Franklin Township, Mercer County, Ohio)

Club Island is owned by the Club Island Association, Inc., and as of July 1978, consists of forty-nine (49) homes, thirty (30) of which are occupied as full-time or permanent residences, and Nineteen (19) are used as part-time or summer cottages.

Prior to the formation of Club Island, the land on which the island now stands was originally farm land. At one time, this area actually was an "island", connected to land only by a small built-up road entering just east of the entrance to Lee's Landing. Remains of this old road still exist.

In the 1880's, a group of people from Cincinnati, Ohio formed an organization called the "Cincinnati Club", and purchased the section of land which is now Club Island. They built a Club House located just in front of where the Robert Case home now stands. Crowds of people from Cincinnati would make the trek on weekends aboard the CH & D Railroad to Montezuma, then would travel by horse and buggy from there to their Club House for weekends of relaxation and enjoyment. The CH & D Railroad then went out of business in 1918.

After the Cincinnati Club abandoned the Club House, it was purchased, about 1909, by J. August Laufersieck and a Mr. Schulenberg, owners of the New Bremen Bridge Company. Many of the old iron bridges in this area, including the one located between Club Island and Behm's Landing were products of this company. Around 1912, a new Club House called the "Kylo Lodge" was constructed, and for many years, it served as a meeting place for local residents. Social highlight for many years was the annual Farmers Picnic held at the Kylo Lodge the first week of August.

During prohibition, in the 1920's, two working stills were flourishing on the Island, one located in front of what is now the Hugh Knox residence, and the other across the road from the present Zerkel residence. Around this time, Frank Rodabaugh, Celina surveyor, was commissioned to survey the Club Island area, and was assisted by Wilbur Strasberg, who was 16 years old at the time. Mr. Strasberg and his wife still reside just north of Club Island Road, on Route #219, in a big farm house, portions of which were built in 1910 by his parents.

The State of Ohio owned most of the Club Island land until around 1880, until as the years went on, portions of the land were sold to various individual owners. Although an exact listing of consecutive owners is not available, it was learned that Mr. Laufersieck sold portions to B. Romer in October of 1918. Mr. Romer sold to Frank Reichart in 1920. Approximately 1938, Beatrice Hecht Kessler owned portions of Club Island, and sold her properties to Ellsworth Dorsten in 1950.

When Ellsworth (Whitey) Dorsten bought the land in 1950, he plotted several lots for sale for small cottages for vacationers and fishermen. Dorsten resided in the small cottage which has since becon the Case property.

A well was drilled and roadway rights were pu chased by Mr. Dorsten. He charged lot owne $10.00 per year for use of the well, and $10.00 ann ally for use of the roadway. He also set up a few m nor building rules and regulations.

In mid 1955, Paul Ringelsbaugh purchased the e tire section of land from Mr. Dorsten, whi included Dorsten's Club Island Addition, Dorsten Second Addition and Ringelsbaugh's Club Islan Addition, including canals, roadways, the water sy tem, and all unsold lots.

In 1956, the residents of Club Island decided t purchase the rights to the roadway and the wat system from Mr. Ringelsbaugh. The State of Ohi required that it was necessary to have a written Cor stitution and By-Laws before an Incorporation ca be formed, so this was done, and on May 31, 195 Club Island Association, Inc., officially came into be ing. Monies for the purchase of roadway rights, th well, etc. was raised by selling debenture bonds.

After the Club Island Association was formec new building codes were formulated, which re quired minimum sizes of houses to be larger, and c more solid construction, etc. to encourage the influ of more permanent residents, in addition to part time residents.

Thus, Club Island has grown to a total of forty nine (49) homes, and provides a quiet, lovely mini community to grace the southern shore of Gran Lake St. Marys.

Current property owners on Club Island are as follows: Ca Adams; Leo Anticoli; Dr. George Baujan; Gerald Beard; Kennet Beckman; Fred Braun; Mrs. Marjorie Kellar; Oscar Carlin; Rob ert Case; Howard Coats; Ernest Deal; James Dingledine; Mrs Jean Droesch; William Dustman; Joseph Elam; Dr. Donald Fox Robert Gardner; Floyd Gatchell; Wavel Gibson; Gerald Haley Michael Haley; Sid Haller; Phyllis Heckler; Betty Heiby; Da Hollinger; Joseph Hunter; Stephen Karafit; Ray Knostman; Hug Knox; Frank Kuenning; John Leahey; Henry Leugers; Elmo Lo chtefeld; Ralph Martin; Robert Michaels; John Mikesell; Russel Miller; James D. Moran; Pat Moran; Adrian Muhlenkamp Randy Niblick; Ira Pippenger; Dr. Collier Powell; Sam Riesen Carl Ripley; Donn Roberts; Richard Schumm; Rex Pierce; Rus sell Tesno; James Warnell; James Welch; James Wills; Dr Thomas Wilson; M. K. Zerkel; Linus Zumberge.

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U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
Montezuma, Ohio 45866

The first place that I can remember the post office ing located was on N. Canal St. It was in a small ilding owned by Joel White, known as Dad hite. (1893-1897) Later it was moved to 31 E. Main . The Helmstetter family lived here and the post fice was in a large room. (1897-1902) After years of rvice by the family, it was moved to 33 W. Main . and W. A. Lacy was the Postmaster serving from 02 to 1907. Later, it was taken over by Levi ringer and daughter, Savella. At this time, it was oved to the corner of S. Canal St. and W. Main St. r. Springer served until 1914. After his retirement, was taken over by Ethel (Wills) Stafford and a few nths later, it was moved to the Stafford home lo- ted at 54 W. Main St. It remained here until her irement in 1956. She served faithfully for 42 years the U.S. Postal Service. Forest Palmer served as ral carrier during this time and, when he died, it is put on Celina rural route. During part of my ne in office, wages were paid by a percentage of e cancellations, therefore, causing the postmaster keep an accurate count of all letters passing rough the office. (This information was submitted Mrs. Ethel Stafford.)

Jean Springer assumed charge in June 1956 and ved until 1963. During her service, it was moved 72 N. Canal St. Pauline Garman was appointed ing postmaster on June 28, 1963, at the same loca- n as above. On August 23, 1963, Laverne Kittle is appointed and is still serving as postmaster of s office. Shortly after her appointment, it was oved to 99 W. Main St. The office has been a ird Class office all the years that I have served ex- ot one year, 1964, when it was a fourth class of- e. The office has no rural route but serves the all community of Montezuma and surrounding ea. *Mrs. Laverne Kittle*

Postmasters serving you
since August 19, 1840
at the Montezuma Post Office

ntezuma, Mercer County, Ohio
ablished on August 19, 1840

tmasters	*Appointment Dates Through September 30, 1971*
raham Miller	August 19, 1840
lliam Beauchamp	February 9, 1841
lliam Lacey	September 29, 1852
lenry Bosche	June 1, 1854
n Adam Hoesmann	June 2, 1855
don Bennett	May 2, 1857
ıry R. Potter	March 26, 1861
n A. Hoesmann	March 22, 1864
es Johnston	March 30, 1865
nis Kelly	November 14, 1865
id Richardson	January 6, 1866
n T. Miller	November 19, 1868
nis Kelly, Jr.	May 19, 1869
liam Palmer	March 11, 1872
rris Kelley	May 8, 1874
vton B. Long	December 17, 1884
lis W. Beauchamp	November 5, 1890
C. White	April 28, 1893
l Helmsteter	June 9, 1897
liam A. Lacy	October 23, 1902
i E. Springer	March 9, 1907
el M. Wills	May 6, 1914
Mrs. Ethel M. Stafford	November 30, 1915
Mrs. Jean M. Springer	June 30, 1956 (assumed charge)
	July 16, 1956 (acting)
Mrs. Pauline M. Garman	June 28, 1963 (acting)
Mrs. Laverne A. Kittle	August 23, 1963 (assumed charge)

We can furnish for a total cost of $1.00 electrostats of site location reports relating to this office.

Elmo and Irene Bruce
Sons Ronnie and Eric. 1954.

ELMO BRUCE

In 1945 Irene and Elmo Bruce came from Dayton, Ohio and purchased ten (10) acres of land from Leroy Ballinger on Grand Lake near Montezuma in Franklin Twp., Mercer County. The landing was known as Ballingers Park, consisting of a few rental boats, obsolete cottages and a lunch room. The lake had been neglected by the State, full of mud and silt, and business was poor for all the landings.

The Bruces started repairing and building more cottages, restaurant and developed a modern mobile home resort with one hundred (100) modern units which were soon filled with people from Dayton, Hamilton, Cincinnati and parts of Indiana.

Elmo was one of the five (5) men that went to Columbus to seek state aid for cleaning and restoring of the lake. They were told they would have to be backed by an organization before they could be recognized. The five (5) men started the Lake Improvement Organization and membership grew to one hundred (100) including landing owners and business men around the lake.

The Department of Natural Resources came in with drag lines and a suction barge and cleaned all the mud and silt out of the mouth of the channels leading into the lake. This was a great help to the fishermen and soon there was a demand for larger boats and motors and the lake served as a recreation for skiing, boating and swimming.

The Bruces built a marina featuring sales and service of boats and motors. Other marinas began springing up around the lake and business was booming.

The Bruces dedicated to Mercer County the Resort entrance and it is known as Bruce Road, from 703 to Park Grand Resort.

The Lake Improvement Association held an annual boat parade and awarded prizes for the best decorated boat. Park Grand won twenty seven (27) prizes the second year and was awarded the trophy for having the best representation.

The Bruces had two (2) sons. Ronald who graduated in 1958 from Celina High School and took over the management of the Marina. He married Nancy Sue Swander, daughter of Wilma and Ray Swander of Rockford, Ohio and had three (3) children, Karla

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Kay, Todd James and Darrin Eric. He was killed in 1969 and his wife and family reside in Montezuma.

Eric Bruce graduated from Celina High School in 1964. He enlisted in the Infantry and served two (2) years in the States and one (1) year in France, during the Vietnam war. He married Nancy Louise Briggs, daughter of Ruth and General Fleeman of Hinekley, Ohio. They have one (1) child, Jeffry Allen and reside in Karafet Rd. near Montezuma.

The Bruces sold the resort and have retired to Homosassa Springs, Fla. The Resort is now owned by Mr. Goodman, superintendant of public schools in Dayton. The Bruces enjoyed the twenty (20) years they spent at the resort serving their customers and enjoyed friends and neighbors and will always have roots in Mercer County. *Elmo Bruce*

CHARLES BRUNS

Charles Bruns was born on December 3, 1876. He was the son of John Bruns and Catherine Kaiser. He married Rosa Niekamp on October 14, 1903. She was the daughter of Gehard Niekamp and Elizabeth Mestemaker. Rosa was born on April 3, 1882. They lived on a farm in St. Sebastian and were members of the Catholic Church.

Charles died on March 19, 1935, at the age of 59. He is buried at St. Sebastian Cemetery. After Charles's death, Rosa made her home among her children. She died December 7, 1968, at the age of 86. Charles and Rosa were the parents of six children: Roman, Leo, Hilda, Corrine, Urban and Linus.

1. Roman married Rita Kremer. They lived on a farm along State Route 118 near St. Henry. Roman died of complications on May 27, 1977, at the age of 71. Roman and Rita were the parents of eight children: a. Robert married Joan Pax; b. Gerald married Ethel Reinhart; c. Arlene married Paul Dirker; d. Judy married Dave Didier; e. Jean married Joe Hahn; f. Margie married Don Nottingham; g. John married Jean Siebert; h. Beverly not married.

2. Leo married Josephine Olding. They lived at Versailles, Ohio. Leo was employed at Piqua, Ohio until his retirement. Josephine died August 1, 1963, and is buried at St. Aloyious Cemetery, Carthegena, Ohio. Leo died March 28, 1976, and is buried at Versailles. They were the parents of two children: a. Joann married Virgil Dieter; b. Leroy married Alma Rita Dinger.

3. Hilda married George Will. They live on a farm at St. Sebastian. They were the parents of four children: a. Roselyn married Ralph Bruns; b. Charles married Roberta Thobe; c. Roger married Irene Homan; d. Barbara married Donal Knapke.

4. Corrine married Oray Blok. They live at Saugatuck, Michigan. They were the parents of one son: a. John married Alys Ekdol.

5. Urban married Bertha Wenning. They live at Coldwater, Ohio. Urban is the caretaker of Holy Trinity School. They were the parents of six children: a. Paul married Judy Kaiser; b. James not married; c. Ruth married John Peters; d. Kenneth not married; e. Donald is a patient at Orient, Ohio; f. Cindy died a few days after birth.

6. Linus was born on July 5, 1918. He died in September, 1923 at the age of 5. *Submitted by: Hilda Will*

RAYMOND BRUNS

Raymond Bruns and Viloa Wehrman were ma
ried on April 24, 1940 at St. Joseph Church, Egyp
Ohio. They moved to a farm in Franklin township
6670 Cloverfour Road.

To this union were born the following childre
Margie, now Mrs. Walter Albers of Maria Stei
Ohio, Bonnie, now Mrs. Thomas Hogan of Enun
claw, Washington, James, of Celina, Ohio, Linda,
Dayton, Ohio, Christopher, of Township Line Roa
Celina, Ohio, and Karen of Dayton, Ohio.

The father, Raymond Bruns, died on Sept. 2
1963. He is buried at St. Sebastian Catholic cem
tery. *Viola Bruns, Celina, Oh. 45822*

The Don Colson Family — L. to R. Front Row: Robin. **Second Row:** Mary, Don, Diana, Sheri, and Marsha. **Back Row:** Gordon, Allan, and Randy. This picture was taken at the wedding of Gordon in 1975.

JAMES R. COLSON

James R. Colson was born November 16, 1849 ar
his wife Maggie Pitsenbarger was born January
1847. We think they were born in the Cranber
Prairie area in Ohio. They were married January 2
1873.

James and Maggie had seven children. They we
Vennie, Jenney, Minnie, James, Plezzie, Williar
and Frank.

James died in a steam freighter explosion c
Grand Lake on September 12, 1895. Maggie die
October 31, 1919. They are buried in Ellis Cemete
near Montezuma.

James's son Frank was born April 11, 1890. H
married Mirtie Moser from the Montezuma area c
April 4, 1915. They lived for a time in Lima but mo
of their life they lived in Mercer County.

Frank and Mirite had four children. They we
Mrs. Gerald (Burnell) Deitsch, Mrs. Frank (Luc
Karafit, Donald, and Richard.

The Colson family were members of the Monte
uma Church of Christ for many years. They owne
and operated Colson's Boat Landing on the sout
side of Grand Lake for several years. Frank als
worked at Mersman Brothers in Celina.

After Mirtie died on June 27, 1943, Frank move
to the Celina area. He later married Charlot
Gunkel from Osgood, Ohio. After her death he ma
ried Edith Hines from Saint Mary's, Ohio.

Frank loved to hunt and fish and was very activ
in these sports until a few months before his deat
He loved to play horse shoes. This was his favori
activity at family reunions.

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rank died October 30, 1977, at age 87. He and rtie are buried in Ellis Cemetery near Montez-a.

rank's son, Donald, was born in Lima, Ohio, on y 7, 1924. He grew up at their boat landing on the th side of the lake. He served in the army for two rs and was wounded while serving in Italy during rld War II.

Don married Mary Deitsch on March 28, 1944, ile he was still in service. They made their first ne in a cottage at his father's landing. They lived several years near Montezuma before moving to ina in 1969.

Don and Mary have owned and operated Colson ital since January 1, 1965. This is a tool rental and air shop located at 121 West Logan Street in Cel-. Their children are Mrs. Wayne (Marsha) Will-, Gordon, Allan, Randy, Mrs. John (Diana) Chaf-, Sheri, and Robin. A daughter (Rebecca) died at hteen months.

The Colson's are members of the Celina Church Christ which meets at 2035 East Livingston Street Celina. Don and Mary are charter members of the sent congregation which was organized Septem-26, 1948.

Marsha is presently living in Hanau, Germany, ere her husband is serving in the army. They e a son Karl who was born there July 22, 1978.

Gordon and his wife Jennie live in Lima, Ohio. He in architectural draftsman. They have a daughter rrie (January 29, 1976).

Allan and his wife Rose live in Celina with their Nicholas (September 6, 1977). Allan is the man-r of the Bonded gas station in Celina.

Randy and his wife Candy live in Saint Mary's, io. He works at Jim and Paul's Trailer Sales in ncerville, Ohio.

Diana is a military policewoman in the army. She tationed with her husband, also a military police-n, in Erlangen, Germany.

Sheri is a student at Wright State Branch Campus ir Celina.

Robin is in sixth grade at Celina East Elementary ool. *Mary E. Colson, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dicke

RALPH HENRY DICKE

Ralph Dicke was born in 1915 to Alvin John and ura (Bertke) Dicke; the eldest son of a family of ee children. He attended a small school house on ection of the present Louis Dicke farm on Clover ar Road, through the eighth grade. He attended New Bremen High School and became the first president of the Future Farmers Association in New Bremen.

He married Lavon Caroline Wiehe; the youngest daughter of Ervin and Emma (Schnelle) Wiehe on September 15, 1937.

The couple purchased the home farm from Ralph's father and engaged in general farming and the raising and dressing of turkeys. They have resided on the home farm for 41 years, which is located at 8729 Clover Four Road, Mercer County, New Bremen, Ohio.

Three children were born of this union; Stanley Wilton Dicke, Larry Ralph Dicke and Oneta Cretoria (Dicke) Lyda.

Ralph and Lavon were 4-H leaders in Mercer County for many years and associated closely with the State 4-H Council.

As the children grew, Ralph decreased the general farming occupation and became a purchasing agent for Bremco Mills and later a farm business salesman for fertilizers and seeds. In traveling through the area, he became keenly aware of the plight of governmental restrictions and legalities confronting the farmers and became a Franklin Township Trustee. While serving in this capacity, he was then chosen to serve on the Coldwater Community Hospital Board. Ralph became chairman of the building committee in 1974 during the major initiation, planning, and construction of the hospital's new addition.

While serving in these capacities he became interested in county government and was endorsed and encouraged by fellow countians to campaign for County Commissioner. He won his first term of office in 1974 by a majorite vote of the county. During his first term as county commissioner, he was instrumental in promoting the new Cheryl Ann School and program initiation for the new workshop.

He was elected commissioner incumbent to a second term of office beginning in 1979 to 1982. He believes in a logical approach to local politics with a strong emphasis on getting things done and constantly striving for the people of Mercer County. Ralph's hobbies are raising ponies, gardening and ballroom and square dancing. Lavon has been an Avon representative for 14 years.

Their three children are married and have children listed under their names following: Stanley Wilton Dicke; Janell (Suhr) Dicke; 1. Lynn Dicke; 2. Cheryl Dicke; 3. Kim Dicke; 4. Mike Dicke; 5. Scott Dicke. Larry Ralph Dicke; Dianne (Schmeising) Dicke; 1. Michelle Dicke; 2. Denise Dicke; 3. Tim Dicke. Christopher K. Lyda; Oneta Cretoria (Dicke); 1. Melissa Lyda. *Ralph Dicke*

DOENGES

Louis and Lucille Doenges moved to their farm on April 25, 1948. This farm consisting of 40 acres of Franklin Township had been in the Doenges Family since 1883. B. W. Preston sold the farm to Louis and Elizabeth Doenges on Dec. 3, 1883. At that time there were no buildings on the land. In 1889 Louis Doenges built a 7 room T shaped house on the land and in the following years more buildings were added. This Louis Doenges was the great grandfa-

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ther of the present Louis Doenges. This house is still standing after being remodeled.

On April 23, 1908 the farm was sold to August Doenges, the son. Gus, as he was known, was a bachelor and remained one the rest of his life. He lived for nearly 50 years alone in the house. He was a livestock buyer, having installed a scales on the farm in 1910. He was killed by a car in October of 1947 at the age of 79.

In January of 1948 the farm was sold on a public auction and was purchased by Louis and Lucille Doenges. The farm was deeded to William and Marie Doenges with a land contract to Louis. Before the family could move into the house it had to be wired for electricity and a new chimney installed.

Louis and Lucille had two children when they moved into the house, the first children to live there. In the next 20 years 13 more children joined the family.

Louis graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1938. He was in service from Feb. 1942 til Oct. 1945. He married Lucille Huecker on August 19, 1944. Lucille was a graduate of Anna High School in 1939 and Miami Jacobs College in 1941. She worked as a bookkeeper in Dayton until October of 1945.

On Sept. 18, 1953 the farm was deeded to Louis Doenges and on April 24, 1958 they purchased 75 acres of the adjoining Temple farm.

The Doenges Family are members of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church of Montezuma. Their children attend the Celina Schools. All of the children have been members of the 4-H Clubs in Mercer County. Both Mr. and Mrs. Doenges have been active with the Mercer County Farm Bureau. Lucille teaches a CCD class in their church, was active with the St. Marys Deanery Council, is a member of the board of governors of Mercer County Community Hospital. Louis is a member of the Mercer County Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and a Franklin Township Trustee. He is employed at Avco New Idea.

Susan Doenges graduated from Celina HS in 1964. She married James Wagner in 1966. They have three children: Charles, Christopher, Cheryl and Curt. They live on a farm east of Celina.

Andrew graduated in 1965. He was in the Navy for 4 years and in 1969 married Janice Goodpaster. They have two children Jason and Nicole. He lives in New Bremen and works at Crown Control.

Joseph graduated in 1967. He was also in the navy. He is a professional appraiser for the Sabre Company of Dayton.

Nancy graduated in 1968. She is a registered nurse having graduated from St. Rita's Hospital School of Nursing in 1971. She married Patrick Fitzgerald in 1972. They have two girls, Katie and Kerri. She works at St. Charles Hospital. They live in Pemberville, Ohio.

Frances graduated in 1969. She graduated from Columbus Business University in 1970. She married Michael Hanselman in 1972. They have one daughter, Sara. They live in Ashtabula and she is in business with 2 sister in laws operating Your Special Place.

Bill graduated in 1970. He was in the army in Germany. He married Edith Schwieterman in St. Sebastian Church in 1975. They have two children Jennifer and Michelle. He works for the Maria Stein Elevator. They have a country home near his p ents.

Mark graduated in 1971. He married Terri Da in Celina in 1973. He has one son Brian. They l near New Bremen and he works for C and C M Wright of St. Marys.

Rita graduated in 1973 and then attended Wrig State University. She received an associate degree Biology in 1977. She married Ralph Tobe of Coldv ter in 1977. Rita works for the First National Bank Coldwater. Their home is in Coldwater.

Greg graduated in 1975. He married Carol Knc also from Celina in July 1978. They live near Henry. He works for C and C Mill Wright.

Therese graduated in 1976. She is living at hor and works at the Joint Township Hospital in Marys as a clerk.

Ed graduated in 1978 and works for the Brur wick Maintenance Co. of Coldwater.

Kathy will be a junior and Barbara a freshman the 1978-79 school year.

Jeff will be a sixth grader and Amy a 4th grader the Franklin Elementary School. *Mrs. Louis Doeng New Bremen, Oh. 45868*

THE FRANK DORSTEN FAMILY

Frank Dorsten and Anna Stammen were marri in the 1800's and lived on a farm near Montezum Ohio. They had eight children: Theodore, Hen Mathew, Veronica (Depweg), Rose (Hein), Rudolp Leona (Banford), and Mary (Rengers).

Theodore, born January 4, 1886, married Jos phine Bruggeman, born in 1887, in Guadalu Church, Montezuma, Ohio on April 21, 1912 a they lived on a farm south of Montezuma until h retirement. Then he lived with his son, Ernest, e of Montezuma.

Henry married Clara Rose and they lived on t farm he purchased from his father.

Mathew married Ida Stukenborg and lived on farm north of St. Marys, Ohio.

Veronica married Aloys Depweg and they liv on a farm south of Coldwater, Ohio.

Rose married John Hein and lived in Dayt where he worked as a barber until his retirement.

Rudolph married Olive Schwieterman and liv east of Montezuma until his retirement. Then moved to Dayton to live with a son.

Leona married Merrel Banford and lived in Da ton.

Mary married Anthony Rengers and they own and operated until their retirement The Town Ta ern in Chickasaw where they live.

My father and mother, Theodore and Josephin had six children.

Leander born June 11, 1911 was killed in an au accident on July 14, 1937.

Clarence born June 1, 1913 married Marcel Bruns. After her death he married Melba Bird. The three sons were named James, Ronald, and Danr Lee. Now he and his wife Mary live in Uniopoli Ohio and he is employed at Scot Lad in Lima.

Adolph born December 30, 1918 married Ma Ann Wilker in Montezuma and they now live Dayton. They had four children; Nancy, Gary, Dal

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ıd Phyllis. He is retired from NCR.

Alfrieda born September 12, 1921 married Julius ınning September 18, 1943. They lived on a farm ırth of Coldwater and had five children. Patricia ıs born August 6, 1944 and married James Sudhoff Trinity, Indiana September 6, 1965. They have ⁄o sons William (January 22, 1967) and Daniel (December 26, 1969). Betty born October 16, 1947 lives home by Coldwater. Marilyn born August 9, 1949 arried Tom Bruns September 26, 1970 and lives in . Henry with their three children Robert (August , 1972), Theresa (February 13, 1974), and Jodi Aarch 16, 1975). Marvin born June 30, 1954 died ɔm a motorcycle accident July 23, 1977. Janice ɔrn June 9, 1955 married Richard Bertke Septem-ɛr 3, 1977 and lives in Celina. Alfrieda is employed ⁄ the Huffy Co.

Ernest born April 15, 1923 married Patricia Flore ıd they live near Montezuma. Their five children e Connie, Linda, Susan, Steven, and David. Ernest a retired plumber.

Rosella born July 14, 1928 married Oliver Gast ıd lives in Coldwater. Their three children are ianne, Kathy, and John. She is employed at the eynolds and Reynolds Co.

Theodore died May 10, 1973 and Josephine died pril 30, 1944. Both are buried at Our Lady of Gua-ılupe Cemetery. *Alfrieda or Betty Sanning, Coldwater, Oh.*

Seated: John Dorsten, Viola Dorsten. **Standing:** Evart, Frances (Mrs. Donald Mescher), Carolyn (Mrs. William Staugler), Berniece (Mrs. Harry Bell).

JOHN H. DORSTEN

John H. Dorsten, was born on February 24, 1895, ranklin Township, Mercer County, Celina, Ohio nd died on January 4, 1964 in the Columbus Uni-ersity Hospital, Columbus, Ohio. A leading citizen f Franklin Township, lived on his 80-acre farm in ɛction 22 for 45 years. His schooling consisted of ight (8) years between Chickasaw Grade School nd Klosterman Grade School.

Mr. Dorsten was a Democrat in politics and has lways been a staunch supporter of the principles of ıat party. His entrance into politics started when he ⁄as elected to the office of Franklin Township Trus-ɛe in 1936. He faithfully served the township as a ·ustee for four (4) years. Served as County Com-ıissioner of Mercer County from 1941 thru 1945 nd 1949 thru 1953, filling the office with satisfac-on of his fellow citizens. Employed by the State of)hio as a State License Inspector for ten (10) years ·om 1954 thru 1963. He has always taken an intelli-ent interest in local matters and as a man of judge-ıent and integrity has been invited on many occa-ons to accept political office.

Being a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Montezuma, Ohio his participation in the fund raising church picnics which helped make it possible for a new Our Lady of Gaudalupe Church to be built in Mercer County, Montezuma, Ohio. The new church was dedicated on May 11, 1961. A life time member of the Moose Lodge and a member of the Eagles Lodge No. 1291. In his spare time he managed the Montezuma Ducks baseball team which consisted of boys from the area surrounding Montezuma.

The farm buildings that now stand on the Dorsten farm are all new except for two of them. The farm house was destroyed by fire on Sept. 25, 1941. The small chicken house and all of the baby chicks burned to the ground on Oct. 4, 1946. Twelve years later the barn also burned to the ground on Oct. 9, 1958. A new house was built on the farm in the summer of 1948 and a new barn was built the year of 1960.

On January 10, 1923 was married to Viola Cook, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William Cook, both of whom are now deceased. John and Viola started their family with a daughter, Berneice Ellen born Oct. 24, 1923 at Moulton, Ohio Auglaize County. Her first husband, Othmar Klosterman, whom she married on April 3, 1945 with the marriage ending on Sept. 2, 1945, when she received word that her husband had drowned at sea. He was in the Navy. Married her second husband, Harry Bell from Van Wert, Ohio, on May 21, 1960 and have one (1) son, namely Kevin Richard, born on December 15, 1964 and a step-daughter, Vicki Bell Davis. Their residents being on the Ballinger farm in Franklin Township.

A second daughter, Carolyn Ruth was born on September 7, 1925 at Franklin Township, Mercer County, Celina, Ohio. On June 6, 1953 married William Staugler from Coldwater, Ohio. They were blessed with two (2) sons, namely, John William, born July 13, 1954 and a second son Neal Edward born on July 18, 1963. Caorlyn and William reside just 2½ miles west of the home farm on the Hole residence. One grandchild, John Paul, son of John William and Pam (Adams) Staugler, was born on May 25, 1977.

A third daughter, Frances Janet was born on February 23, 1928, at Franklin Township, Mercer County, Celina, Ohio. January 2, 1971 married Donald Mescher from Coldwater, Ohio. A new home was built on the north west corner of the home farm in 1969 and there is where she resides with her husband and mother.

The fourth child was a boy, Evart Eugene born on April 5, 1931 at Franklin Township, Mercer County, Celina, Ohio. Evart and Ruth Niekamp, daughter of Alfred and Martha (Deppen) Niekamp, were united in marriage on June 22, 1957 and four (4) boys were born to this marriage, namely, Aaron Alfred born on May 9, 1958; Damian John born on Dec. 17, 1959; Gerard Evart born on March 20, 1962 and John Harlan born on February 25, 1964. They all reside on the home place.

John was the son of August and Bernadine (Rose) Dorsten and had eleven (11) brothers and sisters, namely, Louis born Aug. 1884 and died Nov. 28, 1886; Caroline born on Jan. 7, 1886 married Theodore Will and died on Sept. 28, 1965; Rose born on Sept. 22, 1887 married John Klosterman and died on

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June 6, 1964; Aloyuis born on April 23, 1889 and died on Dec. 17, 1955; Julius born on April 17, 1891 and died March 9, 1912; Amelia born on Feb. 17, 1893 married Julius Mestemaker and died on Jan. 25, 1962; Alfred born on Feb. 21, 1897 married Emma Goecke and died on Nov. 24, 1965; Anna born on April 11, 1900 married Joe Schwieterman and died on Oct. 12, 1975; Mary born on Aug. 30, 1902 married Arthur Schweiterman (deceased) and then married Ted Jutte; Agatha born on May 28, 1908 married Richard Kleinhenz (deceased).

Johns grandparents, Henry and Cathrine (Osterfelt) Dorsten, came to this country from Germany in 1840 and settled in Minster, Ohio. In 1863 Henry moved to Mercer County where he brought 150-acres of land, of which about seventy acres were cleared and there had been erected on it a home and log stable. *Frances Mescher, Celina, Oh. 45822*

George and Helen Godfrey

GEORGE A. GODFREY FAMILY

George A. Godfrey married Helen Segui, a descendant of Mercer County pioneer residents, and now reside in their lakefront home in Franklin Township.

George, born Oct. 25, 1925 at New Carlisle, Ohio, was the first son of George A. Godfrey, Sr. and Una Virginia Weaver. He has two brothers; Robert Franklin and James William, and eight sisters; Gladys Stiffler (deceased), Betty Kuntz, Mary Ellen Payne, Virginia Fidler, Phyllis Troutman, Ethel Mae Boville, Carolyn Susan Gau and Emma Linder.

Helen, born Jan. 7, 1924 in Dayton, Ohio, is the daughter of Vernon L. Segui and Leona A. Gross. She has one brother, Richard J. Segui, and five sisters: Agatha B. Schmid, Marianna L. O'Brien, Vernadele E. Lucas, Madonna J. Schweickart and Amelia C. Segui. Another brother, Robert Paul died as an infant.

George and Helen had four children. George Vernon born Feb. 21, 1951, was killed in an automobile accident on Sept. 13, 1970. Richard Joseph, born Nov. 15, 1952, is married to Susan Marie Voelkl. Therese Marie born Jan. 18, 1956, is married to Robert E. Newnam. Robert Francis was born Feb. 9, 1959.

Richard and Susan (Voelkl) had a son, Brian Christopher, May 19, 1977, at Dayton, Ohio.

Helen's mother was born and raised at Ft. Recovery, Ohio and she still has many relatives living in the Mercer County area.

George was recently retired from the Airtemp Division of Chrysler Corporation after 30 years of service. He was a marketing executive, traveled and lectured nationally on air conditioning marketing te niques. He is a published author of consun education articles which appeared in over 100 Me Media newspapers and magazines such as, Teach Edition of Coed, Family Circle and Popular Mecha ics.

He attended the University of Dayton and Sincl College.

During his active business career, George and l wife Helen were travel host and hostess for hu dreds of corporation clients taking incentive awa vacations to Europe, Asia Minor, the Caribbea South America and South Pacific areas.

George was the first Grand Knight of Our Lady Peace Council 4424, Knights of Columbus. He h been active in many Catholic Church activities su as Parish Council, Chairman of Religious Educatic Lector and C.C.D. Teacher. He also served on t Board of Directors of the Migrant Ministry and t Monroe Township Council of Churches.

Helen too has done much volunteer work for h Church and Civic Organizations, and Merc County Museum. *George Godfrey, Celina, Oh. 45822.*

HEYNE FAMILY

My great, great, great grandpa Jacob Heyne w born in Germany. He left his native country wh he was quite young, for England, where he learn bakers trade. While he was in England he marri Miss Elizabeth Ball. After this event they came United States and landed in New York. They can directly to Ohio, locating in Sebastian. There l purchased a forty acre tract of wooded land. He in mediately began to clear and prepare it for a hom for himself and a family. After he had a home bu he bought 40 more acres of land. He died arour 1892. His wife was 68 when he died, and still a men ber of St. Sebastian Catholic Church. Jacob and h wife Elizabeth, were the parents of 14 children: Eli abeth, Mary, John, Jacob, Clara, Catherine, Barbar Fredrict, Jacob, Mathis, Christine, Michael, and tw that died in infancy.

Mathis Heyne is my great great grandpa. He w born September 28, 1833. He died June 13, 1892. H was 58 when he died. Mathis married Elizabet Lutz. There were no birth records on Elizabet Mathis then bought his dad's (Jacob) farm. Math and Elizabeth were the parents of some childre one of them was Henry Heyne.

Henry Heyne is my great grandpa. He marrie Mary Daulinghause. He then bought his dad (Mathis) farm and lived there also. Henry and h wife Mary had 4 children and their names were, Jo sephine, Helen, Frank and Catherine. Henry die the year 1955 and Mary died the year 1946.

Frank is my grandpa (born Feb. 24, 1903). He ma ried Alvina Reier (born March 19, 1907). The bought a farm about a mile away from where h mom and dad lived. The farm that he bought where I live now. Frank and Alvina have 7 childre Their names are, Lester, Rose-Evelyn (Rosie), Osc (Shorty), Norma-Jean (Jean), Ralph, Earl, and Joyce.

Earl is my dad, he worked at Copelands for tw years before he was married. A few years later h married Ruth Diller. After they were married da worked at Minster Machine for 1 year. After tha dad bought grandpa's (Frank) farm. Earl and Rut

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e the parents of six children. Their names are, ndy, Lois, Judy, Darlene, Earl Jr. and Karen. Dad ıs born June 11, 1941. Mom was born August 19, 42. I (Cindy) was born December 13, 1964, Lois ıs born November 23, 1966. Judy was born April , 1968, Darlene was born November 2, 1970. Jr. ıs born December 11, 1974, and Karen was born arch 23, 1977. *Cindy Heyne, Celina, Oh. 45822*

irschfeld Century ırm

HIRSCHFELD CENTURY FARM

00 year Farm
larch 24, 1870 to Adam Henry Hirschfeld

ıly 15, 1896 to Edward Henry Hirschfeld — son

,pril 8, 1942 to Gilbert Hirschfeld son — present wner

EDWIN HIRSCHFELD FAMILY

The Hirschfelds living in Mercer County have a ommon ancestry. It starts with the emigration on une 14, 1834, of Charles (Christ) age 60, Ludwig age 8, Charles (Henry Carl Johann) age 28, and George Ernst George Charles William) age 18, from Ottenstein, Braunschwieg. They boarded the Brig Serene ıt Bremen, Germany, along with 125 other passengers and arrived in Baltimore, Maryland, July 31, 1834. They purchased farms about one half mile ıorth of Maria Stein on the St. Johns Road. Charles Christ) and Ludwig died in 1842. George moved to Auglaize County. Charles (Henry) was married to Maria Hosmann on June 18, 1837. Their first child Adam Henry (1838-1885) married Sarah Fark (1838-1913) and was the father of Edward Hirschfeld (1864-1944) Elizabeth Bergsieker (1873-1942) from Cleveland, became the wife of Edward. To them was born Victor 1898, Edwin 1899, Leroy 1900, Gladys (1903-33), Ada Johnson 1905, Frieda Ankerman 1980, Gilbert 1910.

Edward bought the farm on Clover Four Road just west of St. Johns Road from his mother after the death of his father. Edward's youngest son Gilbert now lives on the farm on Clover Four Road.

Edward and his brother John ran a threshing machine one year while their father was sick and two years for their mother after their father died. Then Edward and John started in business for themselves. They traded their portable D June steam engine (which had to be pulled from farm to farm by horses) for a new D June 16 horse power traction engine (able to move under its own power).

They had no money so they bought the engine on a two year time note. After the note was paid the brothers bought a saw mill to run in the winter time. They ran the saw mill for 20 years. Then finally they bought their second complete threshing outfit and covered the area as far south as the White Mountain Creamery farm, to the west as far as Sebastion, northwest to Montezuma, north to St. Marys and all along highway 66A between St. Marys and New Bremen. Edward was in the business of threshing, hulling clover, shredding and sawing and buzzing wood for 51 years.

While Edward was threshing his wife Elizabeth managed the farms on Clover Four Road. She raised the food on the farm and cooked and canned on a wood burning stove. They used a horse and buggy to travel to New Bremen where they were members of St. Pauls Church. Elizabeth died in 1942 and Edward in 1944.

Edwin, the second oldest son of Edward and Elizabeth was born August 9, 1899. On June 11, 1924, he married Esther Schmidt (1903-1978) and they have six children, Robert 1925, Nathan 1927, Laverne Kittle 1929, James 1930, Frederick 1932, and Stanley 1934. Edwin and Esther started their married life on the second farm west of St. Johns Road on the south side of Clover Four Road. In 1929 Edwin purchased the farm, which he had been renting, and remodeled the barn. In 1933 he purchased the farm on the north side of Clover Four Road from his brother Victor.

These were difficult times and it was not unusual to trade the farm produce in town at the grocery for sugar, salt and flour. Edwin cut his boys hair and put half soles on their shoes, while Esther made her own soap and clothing for the family. Most of their food was raised on the farm.

Gradually through government programs the prices of farm products raised and Edwin and Esther built a new home in 1937 about the time rural electricification brought electricity to the farm. Horses were replaced with tractors and bigger machinery. Edwin served on the Liberty Special School Board and both he and Esther were active in the St. Pauls Church in New Bremen.

In 1963 Edwin and Esther moved to New Bremen and their son Frederick took over the farm. They continued to be active in church and community affairs and traveled extensively until Esther died, August 20, 1978.

Their oldest son Robert is married to Evelyn Moore (both have been married before) has four children and three step children, and is a building contractor in St. Marys.

Nathan married Jeanine Sheely has two children, and is a building contractor in New Bremen.

Laverne married Richard Kittle has seven children, and is the postmistress in Montezuma.

James married Evelyn Wietholter has two children, and owns and operates a motel in St. Marys, and sells real estate.

Frederick married Phyliss Moore has two children, and lives on the farm on Clover Four Road and is an attorney in Celina.

Stanley married Dorothy Beckett has three children, and lives in Noblesville, Indiana. He is Vice President and Treasurer of Anacomp Company.

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Edwin and Esther have 23 grand children and 15 great grand children living in this area. *Robert L. Hirschfeld, St. Marys, Oh. 45885*

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hirschfeld

LEROY HIRSCHFELD

The first record of the Hirschfeld family is Henry Carl Hirschfeld born in Germany in 1810. He came to America in about 1834 to 1837.

My grandfather Adam Henry Hirschfeld was one of the five children born to Henry Hirschfeld and Catherine Hosmann. He was born November 19, 1838. He married Lora Fark on June 2, 1859. Of this union were born 13 children. They lived on a farm in Mercer County on the corner of St. Johns Road and Clover Four Road. He died at the age of 47 years.

My father, Edward Hirschfeld, was one of the 13 children. He was born on April 25, 1864. He married Elizabeth Bergsicker on November 26, 1896. He was a farmer and bought his father's farm. He was well known as a thresherman in Auglaize and Mercer Counties. He also owned one of the first automobiles in the county. He died on March 31, 1944, at the age of 79.

Seven children were born to Edward Hirschfeld and Elizabeth Bergsicker, six are still living. They are: Victor, Edwin, Leroy, Gladis, Ada, Frieda, and Filbert.

I am Leroy Hirschfeld. I was born on Dec. 12, 1900. We live one mile north of the home place on Guadalupe Road. I married Goldie Nevergall on May 9, 1928. We have 3 children — Mary Ella, Eugene, and June. We have 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. We are retired and still living on our first farm.

We are active members of the St. Paul's United Church of Christ in New Bremen and the New Bremen Senior Citizens. *Leroy Hirschfeld, New Bremen, Oh.*

HENRY KLOSTERMAN

Henry Klosterman was born in Franklin Township near Montezuma, Ohio, September 6, 1872. Henry was the son of Rudolph and Mary (Niekamp) Klosterman. Rudolphs father was Henry Klosterman who came from Oldemburg Germany. Henry had four brothers Edward who went west to Colorado. William from Celina, Louis who lived in St. Marys, and Aloys the only surviving brother, he lives in Celina and also one sister Mary who married Frank Linneman. Mary is also deceased. Henry married Anna Wilker November, 1898. Anna was born May 20, 1879. She was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Schmitmeyer) Wilker. Henry farmed 80 acres on a farm east of Montezuma on Kittle Rd. Anna died November 10, 1955 at age of 76. Henry died Ma 13, 1966 at the age of 93. They attended Our Lad Guadalupe Church.

L. to R.: Paul, LeRoy, Lawrence, Anna, Henry, Walter, Bill Klosterman. Taken November 1948, on their 50th Anniversary.

Henry and Anna had six boys. Lawrence, Leona Walter, Wilson (Bill), LeRoy, and Paul. Lawrer was born May 24, 1900. He married Florenti Kramer May 4, 1926. They had six children Ma Catherine, Elmer, Esther, Norman, Erma and V non. Lawrence is now retired and lives on his 80 a farm east of Montezuma on 219 A.

Leonard was born July 25, 1903. He married A Kramer August 28, 1927. They also had six childre Lavaun, Virgil, Roger, Janet, Leonard Jr. and Melv Leonard died on November 29, 1941 at the age of Ann now lives in Edgerton, Ohio.

Walter was born December 22, 1910. He marrie Alvina Ranly July 15, 1936. They had ten childre Earl, Tom, Arlene (Sister Benadicta), Mark, Jud Victor, Connie, Robert, Luke, and Gary. Walte who is now retired and living on his farm east Montezuma on Kittle Rd. He worked for the Sta Highway Dept. until 1976.

Wilson (Bill) was born March 6, 1913. He marrie Esther Rhyne on December 26, 1936. Wilson ha been engaged in farming until the year 1968. He wa Franklin Township Trustee for eight years, als drove school bus for 26 years. He is now employe by Citizens Commercial Bank. They now reside i Montezuma.

LeRoy L. was born October 9, 1918. He marrie Pauline Gerlach February 6, 1946. They had fiv daughters Marlene, Sharon, Geralyn (Jerri), Joan an Theresa. LeRoy bought his fathers farm in 1966. H was engaged in Plastering until 1973 when he bega working at the Mercer County Courthouse. LeRo worked at the courthouse and farmed until he die April 19, 1977 at the age of 58.

Marlene, was born December 21, 1948. She mar ried Fred Rutschilling June 27, 1970. They have tw children Douglas and Amy. Fred works at the Min ster Machine Co., and also farms. Marlene is a nurs at Jt. Township Memorial Hospital, St. Marys. The reside in Minster.

Sharon was born August 31, 1950. She marriec James Nixon April 24, 1970. They have two children Timothy and Daniel. Jim is employed by Avco New Idea. Sharon is employed at Huffy's Celina. They re side at Montezuma.

Geralyn (Jerri) was born February 21, 1955. She married Ronald Buening May 15, 1976. Ron is em-

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yed by Avco New Idea, Coldwater. Geralyn re-ed her Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1978. ey reside in Coldwater, Ohio.

oan was born July 16, 1959. She presently works he office at Mersman Tables (Sommers) Corpo-on.

Theresa was born November 19, 1961. She is a ior at Celina High School. She also belongs to I and CYO.

'aul the youngest son of Henry, was born June 26, 0. He married Mary Ann Knapke October 25, 7. They had two boys Ronald and Michael. Paul ns and they reside on State Route 219, East of ntezuma. *Pauline Klosterman, Celina, Oh. 45822*

UDOLF KLOSTERMANN

Rudolf Klostermann, one of the representative n and substantial farmers of Franklin township, ning and operating a valuable farm of 120 acres section 28, was born September 28, 1848, at Cin-nati, Ohio, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Hull-n) Klostermann.

Henry Klostermann came to America from Ger-ny in young manhood, but subsequently urned to Germany and there married Mary Hull-n, and with her came back across the Atlantic. ey located at Cincinnati, Ohio, and there eight ildren were born, namely: Mary, who died in ildhood; John, who died at the age of 19; Joseph, o married Mary Ann Cramer and is now de-ased; Rudolf, of this sketch; Henry, who married rst) Mary Mestemaker and (second) Catherine cks, and lives in Franklin township; Frances, who ed in childhood; George, who married Mary A. hwietermann and lives in Franklin township; a be that died in infancy.

Rudolf Klostermann was reared to the age of 17 ars at Cincinnati, and then, in 1865, accompanied s parents to Mercer County. He had received a od, common-school education and after his father d mother settled here he took up farming and has ntinued this calling ever since. His mother bought 5 acres of land in Mercer County and later 160 res and at the death of his parents he received 80 res of the 160-acre tract, and his brother Henry e other 80 acres. The remainder of the 120 acres owns he purchased from various parties. He car-es on general farming and raises considerable live-ock, paying particular attention to his swine. He is nsidered a first-class agriculturist. His home is fit-d up in a more modern way than are many rural sidences, being lighted by gas piped from a gas ell in the neighborhood, of which he is a one-fifth wner.

Mr. Klostermann was married to Mary Niekamp, daughter of Frederick Niekamp, who was born in ermany and came to America in young manhood. t Dayton, Ohio, he married Catherine Newhouse, ho left four children at death, viz.: John, Joseph, lemmens and Mary, the wife of Mr. Klostermann. ater Mr. Niekamp married Catherine Stammen, nd to that union were born 10 children, of whom ve are now living, namely: Henry, Gerhard, Peter, rank and Philomena. Frederick Niekamp and his econd wife both died in 1894.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Klostermann ere: Samuel and Catherine, both of whom died young; Anna, who married John Kroeger and at her death left one daughter Minnie, who has since lived with her grandfather, our subject; Henry, living in Franklin township, who married Anna Wilker, and has two children — Lawrence and Leonard; Edward, who went West, married and lives in Colorado; and William, Lewis, Mary and Aloys who live at home.

Mr. Klostermann is superintendent of the Bennett turnpike, which passes by his farm, and he has also served as township supervisor.

Hugh and Shirley Knox

SHIRLEY (CULL) KNOX

This is a continuation of the history of Silverius Gebele family which is entered on pages 669-70&71 in the 1907 history of Mercer County. My mother is Louella Gebele of this family which five other children were born after this book went into print. Dana married to Mable (Ft. Recovery, O.) five children, twins, Jeanette and Jeannine, Helen, Irene, and Mary: Armilla married to Ray Hollingsworth both deceased, two boys, Donald and Phillip: Paul married to Esta (Bluffton, Indiana) two children, Joan and Eugene: Catherine, unwed (Ft. Recovery, O.) and Georgine married to Victor Robbins (Dayton, O.) four children, Beverly, Margie, Ginger and Georgine. The children entered in the 1907 history are, Edwin married to Marian (Los Angeles, Calif.) children Gloria, Robert, and Mary: Viola, deceased married to Fred Ritz, no children: William, married to Hazel (Ft. Recovery, O.) No children: Marcella married to Anthony Vonder Haar, deceased (Ft. Recovery, O.) children, Patricia, Robert, and Mary: and Louella married to Russell Cull (Dayton, O.) children, Shirley, Richard T., Viola, and David. These were the children of George and Mayme (Zehringer) Gebele. George died before Georgine was born.

In 1927 Louella married Russell T. Cull. Russell is the son of George and Anna (Leonhardt) Cull. I was the first born, Shirley and married Hugh L. Knox we have no children and reside in Mercer County. My brother Ted (Richard Theodore) and wife Theresa (Search) reside in Dayton, O., have four children: Karen married to Larry Gray, no children; Rick (Richard Theodore 2nd) is married to Lynn (Wimsatt) one daughter, Kareena; Dennis is single, and Debbie married to Floyd Dempsey, with two children, Shawn and Jill.

My sister Viola is married to Don Weeks and reside in Dayton. However she has six children from a previous marriage to William Dunaway. They are: Carol wed to William Askew Jr., three children, Robby, Christopher, and Angela. They live in Wamego, Kansas. Michael Dunaway is married to Mary Etta (Haas) and they have one son Andrew and live in Paducah, Ky. Patty is deceased. Stephen Dunaway is wed to Debbie McCallister. Both are deaf and

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have no children, live in Glasgow, Ky. Daniel and David are single.

Our youngest brother David George and wife Joyce (Thornhill) reside in Dayton, O. have four children Tony, Tina Rae deceased twin of Tammy, and Tracy.

Hugh and I married in 1952. We liked the idea of having a place at the lake and bought property here, but lived in Dayton until 1963, when I lost my leg to cancer. Before that I enjoyed water-skiing. We moved to the lake at this time to make it our home and built two businesses, Beach Point Billiards & Pizza and Best Par Golf & Driving Range. We took the name Beach Point from the names of the two roads at the corner of our business, Windy Point Road and Coldwater Beach Road. We felt that this would make people remember the name. We liked the initials of B.P. so decided to keep them and our golf and driving range naturally became Best Par Golf & Driving Range. Some of the highlights of our lives were a trip to Hawaii and a pig-roast given by us children and spouses, for our parents' 50th wedding anniversary.

My father's family is listed in the 1922 Jay County history. They lived on a farm near Salamonia, Indiana, but my father (Russell Cull) graduated from Ft. Recovery, O. High School. During the days on the farm Anna (his mother) was in a wheelchair. She had a nephew in Chicago a doctor, who said all that could cure her was a severe shock. She was to get that shock when my father was still a small boy. A tramp came off the railroad and cut his father's throat from ear to ear. My father's oldest brother Herman was in the barn with his father when this happened and they ran to the house. Blood was everywhere and Anna jumped out of the wheelchair and ran across the road for help. Another brother John and my father were at school and Maurice was only 3 years old. Needless to say Anna could walk again and she really needed to. When George healed from this, he was injured when a run-way horse dragged him. He was laid up for some time and this left the chores to Anna and the boys. During the depression they lost most everything and in 1955 the farmhouse where this happened burned to the ground.

Anna and George spent their remaining years together living in Ft. Recovery, O. They had five children. Glenn died when he was a baby. The others are Herman wed to Inez, with three boys Harold deceased, George Jr. and Everette: John wed to Lura, three children, Yuvonne, Robert, and Wilma: Russell, my father and our family mentioned earlier in this writing: Maurice wed to Anna Louise with three children Patty, deceased, David, and Janet. Herman — John — Russell — Maurice and wives are all still living.

When I was a little girl sitting on my grandfather's lap looking at the scar on his neck I thought that someday someone should write about it all. *Shirley (Cull) Knox, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Ezra and Bessie (Brc
Lacy

LACY

Faye Lacy Miller was born in Butler Twp. to E (1895-1964) and Bessie Brown Lacy (1898-1970). S has 2 brothers — Carroll and Lowell both of n Lima, Ohio. Ezra was the son of George Frank L (1862-1929) and Anna (Lacy) Lacy (1873-1895) b in Montezuma, Ohio. Ezra was the founder of original Senior Citizens in Mercer Co., George Fra (known as Frank) and his brother William (18 1935) were born on a farm near Montezuma. W liam married Olive Potts. After Anna's death E was given a home with the Redmond family and brother George (1892-1952) and sister Goldie (18 1954) wife of Guy Betz were reared by the Fisl family. Frank married Ida Hair (1876-1967) and th had 2 daughters, Alma Holtrey of Columbus a Dora (1909-1978) wife of Omer Tangeman of N Bremen. Frank and William were the sons of Geor (1820-1892) and Anna Coate Lacy (1822-1901). Th were married at Chickasaw by Justice of Peace I. Wright. Anna was dismissed from the Dunka Church when she married a member of the Disci Church. George was born in Hamilton Co. and car to Mercer Co. with his parents when he was 12. I died 2 days after he was gored by a cow by hemmc aging of the lungs. His parents were: Thomas (179 1847) born in Pennsylvania and Elizabeth Brov Lacy (17 -1852). They are buried in Long Cem tery. Anna Coate was born in Miami Co. to Thom (1799-1876) and Sarah Patte (1801-). Thom was the son of Moses Coate and Elizabeth Coppo Coate. The tract of land including the Mercer C Home was occupied by Uriah Mead and after h death was sold to Thomas, who later sold it to Wi liam Hale and he then sold it to the County. Thom Coate and his brother Joseph then bought land Franklin Twp. They owned a farm and a saw m which became a part of Grand Lake St. Marys. The were never paid for their land.

George had 2 brothers: Job (1817-1836) and Wi liam (1824-). Job married Mary Ann Hickmar Children of Job: Miles (1838-1861), Augestin H. (1 1839), Sarah Ann (1840-1892) wife of Harve Shively. Thomas (1842-1870), Olive (b. 1844) wife c Thomas McGuire, William James (b. 1845), Elizabet (1848-1850), Phebe E. (b. 1851) wife of Willian Burch, second husband Wilson Kerns, Prisilla (1 1853) wife of John W. Morris. After Job's death sh married Joseph Burch and had 2 children: John S. H Burch and Lizzie Burch Buchanan.

Thomas and Elizabeth Cruiting Lacy of New Jer sey were the parents of Thomas. The father was Revolutionary War Vet of New Jersey. They had 1 children before coming to Hamilton Co. Their son Thomas came to Mercer Co. and in 1842 helped es tablish the Disciples Church which was located close

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Long Cemetery. All is gone except the steps.
William Lacy, a brother of George and Job, was n in 1824 in Hamilton Co. He married Amelia auchamp, daughter of William Beauchamp. She s born in 1826. William came to Mercer Co. about 2. He bought land where Montezuma now stands d laid out the town. He was the means of securing ost-office and was first postmaster. At the same e he kept a tavern, bar and grocery store. He died his daughter's home in Madison Co. in 1867. He d his wife had 13 children, 10 living to be adults. ey were: William B., Thomas W., Francis M., Lav-, wife of W. H. Carter, Mary A., wife of Henry ng, Alvin, George W., Homer (who died at 17) ra wife of Charles A. Burdge and Kate wife of Jo-h Walkup.
William James (1845-) a Civil War Vet of Co. 1 5th Reg. Ohio Inf. married Malinda Hole, they d a daughter Phebe Ann (1869-1941) who married lam Hawk. He was married after Malinda's death Delila Redmond. Their children were: George omas (1871-1935), Lulu (1872-1921) wife of arles Wyncoop, Anna (1873-1895) wife of George nk Lacy, William (no dates). William James died d Delila married Nathan Mead. Their children: than, Arthur, Sarah, Emma, Myrtle and Sam. hen the mother died Sam was given a home with e Long family. He went by their name but he was t adopted. *Faye Miller, Celina, Oh. 45822*

oel Wilker Picture — Wedding of Joseph and Philomena Woelk) Wilker, double line. The witnesses, Henry Moeller and eanora Wilker, single line, were later married.

MOELLER-WILKER

Adam Moeller was born in Halgenhaus, Germany ear Frankfurt on April 3, 1845. He married Mary itter. Several of her brothers and sisters had emi-ated to Auglaize County. In the 1860's Adam and lary joined them. He became a shoemaker in New eman. They had a son Fredrick born on Oct. 14, 868, and a son John who died as a baby. Mary was nhappy in her new homeland so in the early 1870's ey returned to Germany. There four more chil-en were born: Sophie, Elizabeth, Daniel and Au-ust.

As a youngster Fred joined his father Adam work-g for the German railroad. When he was 14 years d, Fred's uncle Daniel Ritter paid his passage to uglaize County and Fred returned to America. He rived in New York with a quarter in his pocket and a note pinned to his coat. He spoke no English. An unknown New Yorker befriended the boy, fed him and saw to it he was on the right train to join his relatives. Eventually he became a hired hand for Mr. John Dorsten of Saint Sebastian. He was paid $50 a year, most of which he sent home to his parents. Later he bought the farm from Mr. Dorsten. He married Theresa Brockman (Mar. 15, 1866 — June 4, 1940) whose father Henry owned the farm next to the Dorsten farm. After they were married about 15 years, Fred caught his hand in a corn picker. After the accident Fred had an artificial hand covered by a black leather glove. Fred and Theresa had seven children: Mary (A. Schwieterman), Henry, Frank, Richard, Daniel, Gerhard, and Lawrence. Daniel is the only surviving member of this family. Richard was killed in France on the last day of WW I. Fred's youngest brother August was also killed in WW I, but on the German side.

Fred helped others to reach America. In the 1890's he brought his brother Daniel and his sister Elizabeth to America. Daniel later married Anna Severt and had four children: Fredrick (died in infancy), Marian (U. Huber), John (B. Gels), and Monica (A. Franz). Elizabeth married Theresa's brother Gerhard Brockman and had six children: Mary (J. Steinke), Henry, Daniel, Cecilia (C. Nagel), Elenora (L. Fortkamp) and Aloys.

After his mother's death Fred brought his father Adam back to America along with his sister Sophie's second daughter Philomena Woelk. Adam died on April 4, 1921 and is buried at Guadalupe Cemetery. Philomena married Joseph Wilker (picture, double line) in 1912. They had seven children: Loretta (R. Conner), Raymond, Sylvester, Cletus, Edna (C. Shunk), Ethel (L. Klosterman), and Mary Ann (A. Dorsten).

The families reassembled 3 years later on Oct. 15, 1915 for the wedding of the best man and maid-of-honor (picture, single line). They were Fred's son Henry Moeller (B. April 4, 1893) and Joseph's sister Eleanora Wilker (B. May 9, 1893).

Joseph and Eleanora were part of the large family of John and Elizabeth Wilker of Saint Sebastian. There were fifteen children: Anna (H. Klosterman), Ben, Rosa (P. Nerderman), Louis, Henry, Joseph, Elizabeth (J. Weitzel), John, Eleanora (H. Moeller), Katherina (U. Boehmer), Louisa (E. Schweller), Lawerence and Julius and two children who died as infants. John (Feb. 2, 1853-April, 1933) was the son of Joseph Wilker and Elizabeth Woenmeyer. He was born in Hanging Rock in Lawrence County, Ohio. John's wife Elizabeth Wilker (Jan. 28, 1858 — April 8, 1903) was the daughter of Fred Schmitmeyer and Ezzetta Lamping of Minster. Fred had emigrated to America in 1834 with his parents, John Henry and Gertrude (Richter) Schmitmeyer and brothers and sisters from Assenbruck (near Hamburg), Germany. His older brother Eberthard had paved the way for his family by coming to America in 1832 at the age of 17.

Henry and Eleanora Moeller settled in Montezuma. They had eight children: Alvira (Richard Boeckman), Viola (Vincent Ontrop), Wilbert (Rita Cron), Dorothy (Eugene Schoenlein), Verena (Cletus Tobe), Richard (Doris Muhlenkamp), Arthur (Florentine Knapke), and Ellen (Andrew Kramer). Eleanora died on Christmas Eve in 1929 when the chil-

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dren were very young. Ten years later he married Mary Huber who died in Oct. 31, 1947. In 1951 he married Agnes Kramer Depweg. Henry died on Nov. 21, 1967 at 74 just three years after his father Fred's death on June 22, 1965 at the age of 97. Henry and Eleanora had 72 grandchildren and 92 great-grandchildren. *Janet Lefeld, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

THE PUMMILL FAMILY

My father, son of Andrew Murray Pummill and Zenetta Mercer Pummil and my mother, Madge daughter of John Hill and Sara Coyle Hill, were not pioneers of Mercer County, but came to the county in 1910. At that time my brother, Kenneth was 7 years old. Two years later I arrived in the world and so was the only member of the family to be born in Mercer County.

My father's brother, Harry and his wife, Rebecca, son Clarence and daughter, Lorene had moved to Mercer County two years previously. Their brother Robert decided to come in 1918. His family members were, his wife Minnie Oliver and children, Lora, Lula Homer, Robert, Wessely, Delbert and Lucille.

The Pummill family had grown up in Highland County in southern Ohio, but were all happy in Mercer County and lived there the remainder of their lives excepting the last few years of Uncle Harry's life. (This means the parents, not the next generation) The Pummell brothers were all farmers and each one owned his own land and contributed much to the quality of life in their community (Butler and Franklin Townships). They were active in church and community affairs. My generation produced farmers, teachers, clergymen, as well as newspaper, business and professional people of other kinds. My feeling for Mercer County, is that it is a locality with fertile soil to produce the bounty of the earth, as well as being a business and manufacturing community. It is representative of "Middle America", both productive in the riches of human and natural resources.

It is fitting that our family should have lived in Mercer County, as the County was named for our ancestor, General Hugh Mercer. As I mentioned, my father's mother was a Mercer and a direct descendant of the General. General Mercer was a friend and neighbor of George Washington as well as being his personal physician. His Apothecary Shop has been preserved as an historic landmark, in Alexandria Va. He was very innovative in the field of medicine, very advanced for the methods of his time.

When the Revolutionary War began, General Mercer was with General Washington, was wounded in the Battle of Trenton, and died 11 days later. George Washington had deeded him several large parcels of land for his outstanding service to the community. General Mercer was considered such an important person that many states have counties named for him. *Contributed by: Mildred L. Gants*

RINGELSPAUGH & CUMMINS FAMILIES

In the Spring of 1948, the families of Paul Ringelspaugh and Marion Cummins moved from Piq Ohio to Mercer County, Ohio. The Paul Ring paugh family consisted of his wife, Lucille (maiden name was Cummins); and two daught Joan, Judy; and a son, Jim.

The Cummins family consisted of Jacob Mar Cummins and Anna Marie Cummins, (the pare of Lucille Marie Cummins Ringelspaugh). They a have a son, William F. Cummins and his wife, Ja residing in Piqua, Ohio. Marion and Marie Cu mins also had a daughter named, Helen, who diec infancy at the approximate age of 22 months.

Mr. Ringelspaugh and Mr. Cummins purcha farm land located in Franklin Twp. on the Nor west corner of Windy Point Road and Coldwa Beach Road, and State Route #219, and buil neighborhood grocery which they called C R CC NER (Cummins & Ringelspaugh) and two hon and a large garage. Mr. Ringelspaugh planted fi (50) trees upon the land, many of which are s standing.

In Jan. of 1952, Marion Cummins died, and P. Ringelspaugh continued to operate the Grocery.

In 1954, Mr. Ringelspaugh built a boat Mari next to the Grocery and had a channel dug, and cc tinued to build the corner into an enterprising bu ness.

The Ringelspaugh's had three children, Joa Judy, and Jim. Joan Arlene, was the eldest daught and she married Carl F. Barhorst. Their only child daughter named Teresa Lee, married Frederick Giesige and they have a son, Bradley John, and daughter, Jennifer Marie. Judith Ann (Judy) marri Marvin Gray, and they have two sons, Paul Jeff son, and Brian Dwayne. James Russell (Jim) marri Barbara Hawkey, and they have two daughte Laura Lynn, and Beth Ann.

In July of 1965, Lucille Ringelspaugh died at tl age of 48. Her friendly smile and warm personali will live forever in the memory of her many frien and family in this area. With her passing, Paul r tired and moved to Florida, where he spent the re of his life commuting between Mercer County ar Homosassa Springs, Fla. He died in Oct. of 1977, the age of 62. His powerful and pleasant personali will always be remembered by all, who came know and love him and recognize his laughter. H was a licensed pilot of small aircraft, and also ope ated an airboat. In his 50's, he became a license scuba diver, and also taught himself to play th Thomas Organ, and attended night classes to lear Spanish.

Marie Cummins is still living, and now resides a the Piqua Manor Nursing Home in Piqua, Ohio. Sh is 86 years old.

The home she had lived in for many years, is no occupied by her great granddaughter, Terri Giesig and her family.

Jim Ringelspaugh and Carl Barhorst operated th Corner Marine Store after Mr. Ringelspaugh's (Paul retirement. They have since, divided the Marin Store into — Corner Marine (Jim Ringelspaugh op erates it); and — Carl's Outboard Service, (Carl Bar horst operates it.)

The Grocery had changed hands several times since 1954 and is still in business under the name o Rands' Corner Market, and has been expanded ove the years.

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'aul Ringelspaugh also helped develop and sell ; for homes on the land, now known as Club Is- d, also located in Mercer County. During his life Homosassa Springs, Fla., he also had a home re, and developed land and Real Estate and ved on the Board of Directors of the Homosassa ings Bank.

Since the death of his wife, Lucille, he remained a dower and lived in Homosassa Springs, Fla. and intained a home in Mercer County, sharing it h his Mother-In-Law, Mrs. Marie Cummins, en he commuted back and forth from Fla. to rcer County, until Mrs. Cummins returned to e in Piqua, Ohio.

At the present time, Jim Ringelspaugh and his nily, Carl Barhorst and his wife, Joan; and Terri esige and her family, still reside on land in Mercer unty, which Mr. Ringelspaugh and Mr. Cummins rchased in 1948. *Mrs. Carl F. Barhorst, Celina, Oh.*

nry F. Ronneb- m, Philomena nebaum. 1927

HENRY F. RONNEBAUM FAMILY

Henry F. Ronnebaum, the son of Henry and Clara illing) Ronnebaum, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio April 2, 1851 and his family came to Mercer unty when he was about 13 years of age and set- d in Franklin Township where his father pur- ased a 120 acre farm in 1864. In 1882 he bought e farm from his father and he lived there until his ath on July 15, 1929.

He became a well known progressive farmer and 1896 purchased the 80 acre farm just north of his ere his grandson, John Hess, now lives, bringing s total acreage to 200 acres. In 1900 he was elected wnship Trustee of Franklin Township and served several years. He was a hard working man, ready assist those less fortunate and was greatly re- ected by all his neighbors and friends. When the st Catholic Church near Montezuma was built in 03 he and several of his neighbors donated trees m the woods on their farms for the lumber.

Henry was twice married, both of his wives pre- ding him in death. His first marriage was to Eliza- th Albers of Egypt on June 13, 1876 and she died January 5, 1881. They had three children: Ber- rd and Elizabeth both of whom died before they ere a year old, and Bernadine, born October 22, 78 who was married to John Falke on June 5, 1901. ey had three children: Rosa, Leo, and Anna. Her andson is Lee Falke, Prosecuting Attorney for ontgomery County. She died on January 22, 1971 the age of 92 years.

His second marriage was to Philomena Sudbeck of Cassella on February 9, 1882. She was born on June 26, 1858 and died on March 21, 1928 and was an invalid the last nine years of her life. They had seven children: Bernard, who died at the age of one year.

Anna, born March 11, 1884 and died on July 2, 1950 was married to Bernard Wilker on September 23, 1908 and they had three children: Linus, Albert and Norbert.

Rosina, born on February 3, 1886 was married to Clem Dahlinghaus on November 11, 1908. She died on November 14, 1978 at the age of 92 at Briarwood Manor Nursing Home in Coldwater where she had resided for 5½ years. They had one son who died in infancy and also a foster son, Frank Marchino who died in 1977.

Mary, born on October 17, 1888 was married to Michael Hess on June 20, 1917 and died on January 24, 1939. They were the parents of five children: Eleanora, Alma, John, Robert, and Ruth.

Clara, born on May 25, 1890 died at age 18 on September 29, 1908.

Henry born on November 11, 1892 and died on June 8, 1967 was married on June 16, 1920 to Helen Bomholt and she still resides in Montezuma. They had two children, Giles and Mary Ann.

Frances, the only surviving member of this family was born on November 17, 1896 and was married to Leo Broeker on October 27, 1931 and is 82 years of age. She is living at Totalcare Nursing Home in Celina. She took care of her parents until they died and the home farm was willed to her and she still owns it. *Eleanora Zumwald, Maria Stein, Oh. 45860*

John Ronnebaum family — Margie, Mark, John, Karen, Kevin, Laura, Gerry

JOHN MATHIAS RONNEBAUM

This is the fourth generation of Ronnebaums' to live on this farm. It is located in Franklin Twp. in Mercer County in two separate parcels. Parcel 1 is the west side of the northwest quarter of section 2, town 7 south, Range 3 east. It contains 71.25 acres of land. Parcel 2 is the east side of northeast quarter of Section 3, town 7 South, Range 3 east. It originally contained 71.82 acres when the Ronnebaums first owned it but 29.5 acres and 21.82 acres were sold to leave the farm now standing at 93.07 acres.

When the Act of Congress first offered land for sale to the public in Piqua, Elizabeth Watkins was the first owner of Parcel 2 containing 71.82 acres. That first deed was signed to her on April 18, 1827 and it has the official Washington Seal and was signed by President John Quincy Adams.

Parcel 1 was first deeded in a Section of Land Granted to Jermiah Watkins and it was signed by Wm. A. J. Sparks, the Commissioner of the General

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Land Office for the United States. It was signed on May 10, 1826 and it contined 146.08 acres.

Jermiah Watkins sold Parcel 1 to Levi Hatfield and his wife Rachel. They sold it to James Stephenson and his wife Ann on May 14, 1832 for $250.00. James Stephenson and Ann sold Parcel 1 to Israel Harris for $275.00.

The first owner of Parcel 2 Elizabeth Watkins married Peter Morris. They sold Parcel 2 containing 71.82 acres to Israel Harris. Israel Harris now owned Parcel 2 containing 71.82 acres and Parcel 1 with 146.08 acres. Israel Harris and his wife Elizabeth sold this land to Thomas Brown on Feb. 16, 1849 for $1000.00. Thomas Brown died a few years later and his widow sold some of the land to pay off their debts. Their two daughters Casander and Ella Brown inherited the remainder of the land which now was Parcel 1 with 71.25 acres and Parcel 2 with 71.82 acres. They married Benjamin and William Preston.

On February 11, 1875, Benjamin & Casander Preston and Ella & William Preston sold this land to my Great Grandparents, Henry and Clara (Frilling) Ronnebaum. They were Catholic farmers and had three sons, John, Fritz and Henry and five daughters Clare, Bernadine, Kate, Anne and Elizabeth.

My Grandfather John B. Ronnebaum bought the land from Henry on June 4, 1883 for $7,200.00. He was married to Philomenia Niekamp. They had three sons, Mathias, Joseph and Henry and one daughter Philomenia. John B. Ronnebaum sold parcel 2 containing 71.82 acres to his son Joseph on August 27, 1918 for $3,500.00 and Parcel 1 containing 71.25 acres to his other son Mathias for $5,680.00. Their other son Henry had died in 1910.

My father Mathias married Ruth Zahn on June 25, 1930 in St. Francis Catholic Church at Cranberry Prairie. They had six children but two girls and two boys died as infants leaving a son John and a daughter Rose Mary living. At that time my grandparents, my parents, my uncle Joseph and Aunt Minnie and my sister and I all lived in the same farm house. Joseph and Philomena had remained single and at home. My mother Ruth, the wife of Mathias died on December 12, 1938 of pneumonia when I was four years old.

After Joseph died in 1945, 40.82 acres of land were deeded to his sister Philomena. Thirty one acres had been sold to Alfred Dorsten. When Philomena died in 1950 the land was deeded to her brother Mathias Ronnebaum on March 25, 1950.

On April 18, 1952 Rose Mary, the daughter of Mathias was married to Bernard Ahrns at Precious Blood Catholic Church in Chickasaw. They lived on the farm for a few years. They had four daughters, Ruth Ann, Barbara, Linda and Irene and three sons Herman, William and Robert.

After the death of Mathias Ronnebaum on November 2, 1958, the estate was deeded to his son John Mathias Ronnebaum on August 3, 1959. There were now 93.07 acres left to the original farm. John Ronnebaum married Margie Muhlenkamp on May 6, 1961 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church near Bryant, Indiana. They had two daughters Karen and Laura and five sons, Gerry, Kevin, Mark, Michael and Patrick. Michael died at two months in 1962 and Patrick died at four days in 1971.

Some bulldozing and many improvements were made over the years to the farm. The house was remodeled in 1961, the garage in 1967 and the barn 1971. The land is now rented out as I work a welder at Thieman Stamping near New Brem Our family belongs to the Precious Blood Cath Church in Chickasaw. *John Ronnebaum, Celina, Oh.*

LOUIS A. SCHMACKERS AND CLEMENTINE STACHLER

Louis was the son of Henry and Anna Lef Schmackers. He was born on the home farm on J 14, 1919. The farm was started by his Great-Gre Grandfather in 1876. Louis attended Home Sch for eight years and then went on to St. Henry Hi School where he graduated on May 20, 1937. Wh in high school he was a member of the basketb team.

After graduation he took a job with George I feld, until he was hired at New Idea in October 1937. He worked there until January 1941, wh they had a cut down in production. He then went Ft. Wayne, Indiana where he took a job with Ge eral Electric, as a milling machine operator a setup man. On June 22, 1943 Louis was induct into the U.S. Navy. He went to boot camp at Gre Lakes, Illinois. From there he was sent to NUTTC Norman, Oklahoma for six months schooling in a craft engines and Morse Code. Upon graduation was sent to Gunnery School for two weeks, then a signed to V.P.B. 1 Patrol Bombe Squadron at Bono Rivers, Florida. They flew missions over the Atlan Ocean on Submarine Patrol. In November 1945 was transferred to V.P.B. 99 in Alemeda, Californ with his complete flight crew. Louis served as Flig Engineer and assistance Crew Chief, on the Pla called "Flicker". V.P.B. 1 accounted for 10 Germ subs and Flicker had one to its credit. On Decemb 25, 1945 he was discharged from active duty Shoemaker, California.

Louis went back to New Idea and work until t strike, when at that time he took up farming. H rented land from John Breitenstein, Isadore Droes and Susan Heyl. Due to the deaths of these peopl the farms were sold and Louis quit farming. He th drove semi-truck for awhile hauling tomatoes f Beckman and Gast, and coal for Siberling Lastex ar Beatrice Foods at New Bremen. In November 19 he drove for Ed Hemmelgarn And Sons Inc.. C May 26, 1960 he opened up Schmackers Sincla Service in St. Henry and remained there until Febr ary of 1967. At the present time he is working as mechanic.

On October 12, 1940 he married Clementine St chler, daughter of Henry and Bernadine Post St chler, of St. Wendelin. She was born on April 2 1918. Clementine is noted by many people for han ing wallpaper. She started this in April of 1944 an is still doing it. From 1957 to 1966 she was employe at Buschors Store in St. Henry. On July 27, 1965 sh was hired at Huffy's in Celina where she is sti working.

Louis and Clementine are the parents of eig children; Jerome, Bernice, Marceil, Paul, Harold, E mer, Lois Jean, and Lester. Louis and Teen lived i

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Henry for a number of years but now reside on west of Montezuma. They belong to Our Lady Guadalupe Catholic Church. *Marceil L. Wenning*

t Row: Mr. and Mrs. John Sears. **Back Row:** Mary Sears, y Strain, Bertann Lyons and Linda Botkins. (This photograph donated to the Museum by Mrs. Thelma Henne, Great-ıddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sears. Virginia Bowden is Thel-s daughter.)

s Reunion, Picture of 1904 — **Front Row:** Linda Botkin, Mary s, Ernie Strain, John Sears, Alfred Lyons, Orville Temple, setta Lyons, Mrs. John Sears, Lee Masarvey, Bertann Lyons, ie Strain. **Second Row:** Ervin Strain, Alta Lyons, Ervin Strain's ghter, Russell Botkin, Elsie Lyons, Grove Lyons, Cloy Strain, ık Botkin, Roy Botkin, Bertie Strain, Nellie Temple (Thelma ıple in her arms), Grace Lyons (Mildred Lyons in her arms), Lyons, Amy Masarvey, Abe Masarvey, John Lyons.

JEROME STEINKE

The Steinke ancestry in the midwest section of io dates back to approximately 1830 when John J. inke came from Germany and settled in Rhine, io which is a small village about three miles east Botkins, Ohio. John had fathered eight children; ır of whom were John, Leo, Bernard, and the ıngest son Henry who was born March 29, 1858.

When John J. died, he was buried in the Rhine Church cemetery next to the parish priest. Later, his wife married Joe Thieman.

In 1878 at the age of twenty, Henry John Steinke married Elizabeth Werling and moved to St. Joe near Burkettsville where he established himself as a blacksmith and a manufacturer of carriages and buggies. He had learned this trade while working for Ben Hemmelgarn in Cassella, Ohio. Henry and Elizabeth had four children; Agnes, Ferd, Bill, and Laura. In 1890, Elizabeth died while giving birth to a fifth child.

Henry, needing a mother for his small children, then married Celesta Robbins. Their first three children, Raymond, Frank, and Rahlia died during birth. Then followed the births of five more children all well and healthy. They were Jerome, Isador, Jacob Werner, Rosaline and Edmund. The oldest son, Jerome, moved to Southeastern Mercer County and married Mary Anna Brockman. Mary Anna's mother was born in Frankfort Germany on January 25, 1879 and came to the United States at the age of fifteen when she met and married her husband Gerhart. Mary Anna had five brothers and sisters; Henry, Danial, Celia, Ellnora, and Aloys.

Jerome and Mary spent their early married life engaged in share crop farming while raising their six children; Marcella, Delores, Alvin, Geraldine, Victor and Robert. In the mid 1920's they moved to Celina, Ohio and spent the next 15 or 16 years making a living at various jobs: basically manual labor and carpentry. In 1942 during World War II, Jerome started working at a defense plant in Lima. Ohio. This is where he met his death on September 29, 1943 at the age of 45 in an industrial accident. *Vic Steinke*

Welsh Bible

A WELSH BIBLE

I, Dorothy Boyer, Mendon, Ohio, have a Welsh Bible that was printed in London, England, in 1690. It was given to me by my Aunt Darrah (Miller) Ritchison, in 1968, whose father, John Odell Miller*, gave it to her in 1924. He received it from his mother, Colista (Beauchamp) Miller in 1887. She was given it in 1862 by her mother, Jane (David) Beauchamp*. Other names and dates in the Bible (which was badly burned in a house fire in Montezuma), are: 'Frances David, her book, gift of her Mother,' and 'Martha Edwards, her book, given her by her father-in-law, John Edwards 1739'

Jand (David) Beauchamp's father came from Wales. Jane's husband was Willis Beauchamp, the son of William Jr. and Anna (Willis) Beauchamp who lived in Delaware County, Ohio.

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*John Odell Miller's parents came from Fairfield County, Ohio in 1856 and were George and Colista (Beauchamp) Miller. They owned 89½ acres of farm land on the south edge of Montezuma. This was in the family almost 75 years.

*M. L. Beauchamp owned 190 acres south of Montezuma to Whiskey Run and then west and south. W. W. Beauchamp was a Merchant and Teacher in Montezuma in 1863.

William Sr. and Elizabeth Beauchamp lived in Richmond County, North Carolina and were members of the Friends Piney Grove Monthly Meeting. William Jr. was born January 9, 1790, and April 20, 1811 transferred his membership to Ohio. The Beauchamp family can be traced to England in the early 1600's. About this time a Thomas Beauchamp of Cosgrove in County Northamptonshire married Dorothy Clarke of Rode in the same county. (The name Dorothy that old?)

A John Beauchamp financed his brother-in-law, Edmund Freeman, to 'make the venture in America', and was a stockholder in the Mayflower Enterprise.

In 1666 Edmund Beauchamp was sent to "Old Somerset of Eastern Shore of Maryland" by Governor Calvert, to be a County Clerk.

Going back to William Jr. and Anna (Willis) Beauchamp — the Willis' have been traced to a Colonel Henry Willis whose third wife was Mildred Washington, an Aunt of President George Washington. It was said of him that he courted three maids and married them as widows.

(This information came in part from Nora (Hoel) Ulrich, who, in 1940, received much of it from Mrs. Grace Wingert, 1789 Woodward Ave., Springfield, Ohio.)

JOSEPH G. WENNING AND JOSEPHINE C. DEPWEG

Joseph G. Wenning was born on February 6, 1884 at Philothea, Ohio. Joseph was the oldest of eight children. He was raised on his father's farm, just west of Philothea. Joseph and his brothers would clear trees from the land. Eventually each boy earned enough money from the sale of these trees to buy themselves each an 80 acre farm.

In 1916 he married Mary Post and they had the following children; Juletta, Hilda, Isadore, Norb, Rosemary and a child who died at birth. Mary died on March 20, 1925 from a hemorrhage. On July 17, 1928 he married Josephine C. Depweg Moeller. Josephine was the daughter of Charle Depweg of St. Sebastian. She was born on October 2, 1900. Her first husband was Frank John Moeller. The following children were born to them; Louis, Fred, Rita, Martha and Francis who lived to be about a year old. Frank died following an accident. Joseph and Josephine's children from this union are; Bernice, Mark, Virginia, Ma Donna and Kenneth.

Joseph eventually learned the carpenter trade and started to build homes in the Ada area. After building homes he got a job with the St. Marys Paper Mill, where he worked until his retirement. After retirement he built homes for some of his children, five which stand along Rte. 219 west of Montezuma.

Joseph's parents were George J. and Berna Tecklote Wenning. George was born April 23, 1 in Philothea and Bernadine was born April 27, 1 in Germany. Joseph always wanted to be a do but being financially unable he bought some m cal books and studied on his own. Eventually he veloped a patent on a liniment which was good sore muscles. Josephine also had a good drav salve made from rabbit fat. As they were avid g ners, they loved to watch their garden grow and r the harvest. Josephine worked at the Good Y Plant, approximately 25 years until retirement. T moved to Montezuma in 1948 into a new home seph built. They started a nice orchard in the b yard. Many a celebration and good times were by all. When Joseph died in 1974 the house was s to Louis and Clementine Schmackers. Joseph and sephine were members of the Guadalupe Cath Church and were faithful workers at their chu picnics. *Marceil L. Wenning*

WILL FAMILY

My great, great, great, great grandpa, John W was born April 25, 1808 at Hess, Prussia. He mar Eva Schwanzer. There were no birth dates on I He (John) received his U.S. Citizenship on July 1842 at Celina, Ohio. They went to Lillyville in 1 where he died June 13, 1883. They were the pare of nine children. Their names were, Christi Henry, Mary, George, John, Elizabeth, Catheri Peter, Theresa. After Eva's death John Sr. mar Margaret Meir, who was twice a widow before married John Will. She was born February 4, 1 died March 15, 1906. John and Margaret had t children. Their names were, Lawrence (Lorenz) a Anna.

Henry was my great, great, great grandpa. He w born November 9, 1834 at Wheeling, West Virgi and died March 11, 1912 at St. Sebastian at the of 77. He married Carolina Kremer. She was b May 24, 1839 and died June 17, 1925 at the age of years. They were farmers and lived at St. Sebasti They were the parents of nine children. Their nar were, John, Henry, Ann, Mary, Maria, Frank, Ca line, Rosa, Theodore.

Henry was my great, great grandpa. He was b October 26, 1862 and died July 10, 1950 at the age 88. He married Elizabeth Fortman of Minster. S died at a very early age. Then he married Veron Buehler of R.R. Chickasaw. She was born Septem 26, 1865 and died January 31, 1950 at the age of They lived on a farm at St. Sebastian until 19 when they moved to Coldwater, Ohio. They w buried on Coldwater Cemetery. They were the p ents of 10 children. Their names were, Julia, La rence, Aloys John, Ferdinand, Frank, Otilla, Alfr Theodore, Isabelle, and Henry who died at 2.

Lawrence is my great grandpa. He was born Se tember 27, 1891. He married Theresa C. Jacobs of Peter. She was born January 29, 1893 and died Se tember 18, 1972, at the age of 79. She is buried on Peter Cemetery. They lived on a farm at St. Pet He also sold Insurance. They were the parents of children. Their names were, Anna Marie, Dortl Ruth (nun), Viro, Rita, Luke, Rosella, Laura (nu Clara Jane, Patricia Mary (nun).

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ınna Marie is my grandma. She was born April 1916 at St. Sebastian, Ohio. She married Zeno er on August 26, 1939. They live on a farm in Ft. overy. They were the parents of 8 children. Their nes are, Robert, Ruth, Neil, Alan, Arthur (died at ınt), Louis, Alice, and, Daniel.

uth is my mother she was born August 19, 1942 Celina Ohio. She married Earl Heyne on February 964 at Sharpsburg. He was born June 11, 1941 at ina, Ohio. They live on a large poultry farm in St. astian. They have six children. Their names are, dy (myself), Lois, Judy, Darlene, Earl Jr., and en. Cindy was born December 13, 1964, Lois was n Novem6er 23, 1966, Judy was born April 21, 8, Darlene was born on November 2, 1970, Earl was born December 11, 1974 and Karen was born rch 23, 1977. *Cindy Heyne*

l Family
n

THE WILL FAMILY FARM 1842-1978

ohn Will was born in Hesse, Prussia in the year 08. He married Eva Schwanzer and they came to nerica in early 1830 and first settled in Wheeling, Va. In 1842 they came to Mercer County where ey received their citizenship at Celina, Ohio. They ed on a farm in Sec. 5, Franklin Twp., two miles rthwest of St. Sebastian Church, which he helped establish in 1852. They were the parents of nine ldren: Christine, Henry, Mary, George, John, Elizeth, Catherine, Peter and Theresa. After Eva's ath, John married Margaret Meir and they were parents of Lawrence and Anna. In 1874 they oved to Lillyville, Ill. where he died on June 13, 33.

After his departure in 1874, Henry took over the nily farm. He was born Nov. 9, 1834, at Wheeling, Va. and came to Mercer Co. with the family in 42. He married Carolina Kremer at Maria Stein, io and they were the parents of nine children: n, Henry, Ann, Maria, Elizabeth, Frank, Mary, roline, Rosa and Theodore. They lived on the ill Homestead in Sec. 5, till 1901 when they oved to an 80 acre farm bought from Peter Heyne Sec. 4 Franklin Twp. ½ mile north of St. Sebasn. He died March 11, 1912 at St. Sebastian and rolina died on June 17, 1925.

Henry Jr. who was born Oct. 26, 1862, married zabeth Fortman of Minster, Ohio. She died a ort time after and he then married Veronica Buehof Chickasaw, Ohio on Nov. 9, 1889. They opered the farm ½ mile north and ½ mile west of St. bastian in Franklin Twp., which was bought in 90 from his dad. The house was built in 1884 and e 42 x 72 bank barn was built in 1894. The farm is typical of the area farms at that time with livock and grain their main source of income. In 1928 they left the farm and moved to Coldwater, Ohio. They were the parents of ten children: Julia, Lawrence, Aloys, Ferdinand, Frank, Otilia, Alfred, Theodore, Isabelle, and Henry. They both died in 1950, Veronica in January and Henry in August. They are buried in Coldwater Cemetery.

After their departure in 1928, Alfred took over the farm on which he was born March 5, 1900. He married Luetta Reichert of Maria Stein, Ohio on Oct. 17, 1928 and lived his entire life on the farm until his retirement in 1976. Many changes occurred on the farm during his time. They got their first tractor in 1936 and went from threshing machines to combines in 1944 and horses were no longer used for farming. In 1953 a milking parlor and milk house were built on the soutwest corner of the barn and a pipeline milking operation was begun, which ended many years of milking by hand. Besides farming he worked many years with the ASC in Celina. They are the parents of Lillian, Jerome, Virgil, Marilyn and Ronald. They presently reside in Coldwater.

The farm was then taken over by Jerome who was born on Feb. 2, 1934. He married Doris Ann Homan on May 7, 1955 at Coldwater, Ohio. They first bought the former St. Sebastian school house, which was close to the family farm, and remodeled it for their home until their move to the farm in 1976. They are parents of Kathleen, Cynthia, Jerome, Marilyn, Timothy, Andrew, Sharon, Sandra, Joan and Robert.

In the summer of 1978 an 18 x 60 ft. silo was built along with an addition of 24 x 72 ft. to the north side of the barn. The farm today consists of feeding beef type cattle, hogs and general grain farming. *Alfred Will*

FRANK WILL

Frank Will was the son of Henry Will and Caroline Kremer. Frank's father, Henry, was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, on November 9, 1834. He moved to St. Sebastian, where he bought some land and farmed. He lived in a log structure, west of the present house. He died at St. Sebastian on March 11, 1912, and is buried at St. Sebastian Cemetery.

Frank's grandfather, John Will, was an immigrant from Hesse, Prussia. He was born Apr. 25, 1808. He received his U.S. Citizenship on July 27, 1842, at Celina, Ohio. He married Eva Schwanzer.

Frank was one of nine children. He was born on Oct. 31, 1871 and died Dec. 14, 1921 at the age of 50. He married Elizabeth Segar of Chickasaw. She was born on Aug. 22, 1874 and died Oct. 1, 1916, at the age of 42. He farmed the land his father had purchased at St. Sebastian. He built a new two story dwelling and a few other buildings closer to the road.

After Frank and Elizabeth's death, Frank's brother Henry was named guardian over Frank's young family of seven children. Frank and Elizabeth were buried in St. Sebastian Cemetery.

Frank and Elizabeth were the parents of seven children: Mathilda, Rosa, John, Hilda, Bertha, George and Alma.

1. Mathilda married Richard Wolters. They lived on a farm near Coldwater. Mathilda died on May 12, 1970 after a lingering illness. Richard died of a sud-

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den heart attack on Nov. 27, 1965. They are both buried in St. Elizabeth's Cemetery, Coldwater, O. They were the parents of four children. a. Mildred married Jerome Selhorst; b. Lucille married Rudolph Link. Lucille was severely burned and died on May 29, 1949 leaving one son, Marvin. Rudolph then married Mary Schleueter. c. Delores married Ludwig Wuebker; d. Lavern married Alfreida Schoenlein.

2. Rosa married Constance Schwieterman. They had three children. 1. Luella married Andrew Luthman; b. Evelyn married Robert Giese; c. Harold married Ruth Braun; Rosa died after childbirth. She is buried at St. Sebastian Cemetery. Constance then married a Homan. They had a son: d. Edgar married Helen Huelsman; Constance's second wife died and then he married Olive Buehler.

3. John Will was born on May 25, 1902. He died on May 2, 1926 at the age of 24 years. He never married. He is buried on St. Sebastian Cemetery.

4. Hilda married Clem Schwieterman. Hilda died in an auto accident about three months after their marriage. She is buried at St. Sebastian Cemetery. Clem then married Loretta Kuess. Loretta died July 12, 1975 and is buried at St. Sebastian. They had four children. a. Ulanda married Gregor Schmiesing; b. Virginia married William Pottkotter; c. Erwin not married; d. Earl not married.

5. Bertha married Aloys Brunswick. They lived on a farm near Coldwater. Aloys was killed in a farm accident on March 11, 1965. He is buried in St. Aloyious Cemetery, Carthegena.

6. George married Hilda Bruns. They live on a farm at St. Sebastian. They had four children. a. Roselyn married Ralph Bruns; b. Charles married Roberta Thobe; c. Roger married Irene Homan; d. Barbara married Donald Knapke.

7. Alma married Egbert Heirholzer. They owned and operated a grocery store-filling station operation at Trinity, Indiana. Egbert died of a sudden heart attack on April 20, 1956, at the age of 48. Alma died of a lingering illness on Jan. 10, 1970. She was 60 years old. They are both buried at Trinity, Ind. They were the parents of two children. a. Lester not married; b. David married Rachael Stoltz. *Submitted by: George Will*

GEORGE WILL

George was the son of Frank Will and Elizabeth Segar. He was born on Feb. 8, 1908. His mother died when he was eight years old and his father died when he was thirteen years old. His only brother, John, died when George was eighteen. Under the guidance and guardianship of his Uncle Henry Will, George and his sisters managed to keep the family farm going.

George married Hilda Bruns on June 22, 1932. She was born on Feb. 24, 1911. George and Hilda have been active in their church. They have been members of the St. Sebastian Catholic Church all their lives. George is an active choir member in which he participated for over 50 years. He also was a school board member when they had the two room school at St. Sebastian.

Butchering, hay making, threshing, corn shredding and silo filling were some of the things done in company with the neighbors.

In 1977, a new one story brick home was bui the farm in which George and Hilda now reside.

They were the parents of four children: Ros Charles, Roger and Barbara.

1. Roselyn was born May 20, 1934 and ma Ralph Bruns, who was born July 23, 1930, on 27, 1956. Ralph is employed at New Idea in Col ter. He is a graduate from St. John High Sc They live on Walnut St. in St. Henry. They ar parents of eight children. a. Teresa born Sept 1957; b. Marvin born May 22, 1959; c. Diane Sept. 7, 1960; d. Cindy born Dec. 19, 1961; e. A born Apr. 20, 1963; f. Mary Elaine born Jan 1965; g. Lori born Oct. 18, 1968; h. Jennifer born 25, 1975.

2. Charles was born Jan. 8, 1937, and married berta Thobe, who was born on March 16, 193 May 2, 1959. They are both graduates from St. High School. Charles is affiliated with Wes Southern Ins. Co. They reside on a small farm a Wendelin, Ohio. They are the parents of five dren. a. Gary born Oct. 15, 1960; b. Sandra Dec. 19, 1961; c. Sharon born Mar. 2, 1963; d. S born Sept. 28, 1964; f. Sheila born Mar. 20, 1969.

3. Roger was born on Sept. 1, 1938 and ma Irene Homan, who was born March 6, 1938, on 14, 1959. They are both graduates of Marion L High School. Roger farms the family farm. The the parents of six children. a. Nancy born Aug 1960; b. David born Aug. 5, 1961; c. Linda born 19, 1963; d. Jane born Feb. 19, 1965; e. Carmen June 2, 1969; f. Lisa born Jan. 12, 1972.

4. Barbara was born April 1, 1940 and ma Donald Knapke, who was born Mar. 4, 1938, on 23, 1963. Barbara graduated from Marion Local H School and Springfield School of Nursing. She i LPN and is currently helping her husband who veterinarian. Donald graduated from Coldw High School and Ohio State University. They re at 1379 Wysong Road, West Alexandria, Ohio. T are the parents of two children. a. Angela born 21, 1964; b. Fred born July 6, 1967. *Submitted by: Will*

HENRY AND VERONIC BUEHLER WILL

Henry Will, who was born October 26, 1862, c farm at St. Sebastian, Ohio, was the son of He and Carolina Kremer Will. He had three brot and five sisters. His grandparents were John and Schwanzer Will who came to America in 1830 fr Hesse, Prussia. He married Elizabeth Fortman Minster, Ohio. She died a short time after, and November 9, 1889 he married Veronica Bueh who was born October 26, 1865, at Chickas Ohio. They were farmers and lived ½ mile north ½ mile west of St. Sebastian in Franklin Twp. 1928 they moved to Coldwater, Ohio, where Ve nica died on January 31, 1950 and Henry on Aug 10, 1950. They are buried on Coldwater Cemetery

They were the parents of ten children:

Julia, born August 19, 1890 and died Novem 15, 1964 at the age of 74. She entered the conv and became Sister Mary Scholastica. She did dom tic work at St. Joseph College and Rome City, In

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na, St. Joseph Orphanage in Dayton, St. Charles eminary, and Burkettsville Novitiate. She is buried n the Relic Chapel Cemetery at Maria Stein, Ohio.

Lawrence August, born September 27, 1891. He narried Theresa C. Jacobs of St. Peter, born January 9, 1893 and died September 18, 1972 at the age of 9. She is buried on St. Peter Cemetery. They armed at St. Peter, Ohio. Lawrence also sold insurnce. They are the parents of ten children. Anna Maria, who married Zeno Diller. They reside in harpsburg, 8 children. Dorothy, who married Ben leimers. They reside in Lima, 1 child. Ruth, Sister uth, second grade teacher at Minster, Ohio. Viro, who married Henrietta Siefring. They reside in harpsburg, 4 children. Rita, who married Richard oeckman. They reside in Coldwater, 7 children. uke, who married Mildred Huelskamp. They reside n St. Peter, 10 children. Rosella, who married Haold Broering. They reside in Cassella, 5 children. aura, Sister Laura, teacher at St. Marys. Jane, who narried Eugene Ballweg. They reside in Chickasaw, children. Patricia, Sister Pat, member of Retreat eam at Maria Stein Retreat House.

Aloys John, born February 27, 1893 and died Noember 10, 1918 at the age of 25. He was drafted nto the Army July 13, 1918 and left for Camp Shernan in August of 1918 and went overseas, where he as killed in action at Argonne Woods, France. He buried in France.

Ferdinand D., born October 4, 1894 and died Janary 13, 1975 at the age of 81. He left for Camp herman October 5, 1917 and returned from France ebruary, 1919. He married Ida Kaup of St. Peter, orn November 16, 1903. They were farmers and ved at New Bremen, Ohio. Ferd is buried on Minter Cemetery. They are the parents of five children. lmer, who married Lela Bauer. They reside in New remen, 1 child. Wilbert, who married Treva Poepelman. They reside in New Bremen, 4 children. ouis, who married Marie Heitkamp. They reside in lew Bremen, 4 children. Donald, who married oris Egbert. They reside in Ft. Wayne, 10 children. eroy, who married Linda Cerola. They reside in Ft. Vayne, 4 children.

Frank, born August 24, 1896 and died October 22, 897 at the age of 14 months. He is buried on St. Sebastian Cemetery.

Otilla, born March 19, 1898 and died June 23, 965 at the age of 67. She entered the convent and ecame Sister Mary Remberta. She did domestic ork at St. Gregory Seminary, Cincinnati, St. Joe ollege Rea, St. Louis Ray, California, and Burkettsille Novitiate. She is buried on the Relic Chapel emetery, Maria Stein, Ohio.

Alfred Henry, born March 5, 1900. He married uetta Margaret Reichert of Maria Stein, born Octoer 1, 1905. They farmed the Will farm at St. Sebasan. He also worked with the A.S.C. (Agricultural tabilization Conservation) as part-time employent. They are the parents of five children. Lillian, who married Leonard Gaerke. She resides in St. Anony, 9 children. Jerome, who married Doris Ann loman. They reside in St. Sebastian, 10 children. Virgil, who married Melinda McNeese. They reside n Citrus Heights, Ca., 2 children. Marilyn, died at ne age of 20 months. Ron, Fr. Ron C.P.P.S. Parish ork at Garden City, Kansas.

Theodore Henry, born May 24, 1902. He married Margaret Byrne of Glynwood, born September 29, 1906. He went to Loyola University in Chicago where he graduated in 1930 with a degree in medicine. He is a family physician in Minster, Ohio. They are the parents of three children. Mary Ann, Registered Nurse and Teacher. Theodore Jr., who married Mary Margaret Deal. They reside in Minn., 6 children. Thomas, who married Sandra Gorecki. They reside in Cleveland, 2 children.

Isabelle C., born September 24, 1904 and died October 10, 1973 at the age of 69. She married August Stukenborg of Coldwater, Ohio, born July 28, 1902 and died July 2, 1976. They lived at Coldwater and Gust was a milk hauler for Beatrice Foods of New Bremen. Isabelle and Gust are buried on Coldwater Cemetery. They are the parents of three sons. James, who married Joan Reynolds. They reside in Dayton, 2 children. Robert Lawrence, who married Susan Martin. They reside in Celina, 3 children. Dennis, who married Mary Ann Ruback. They reside in Minnesota, 1 child.

Henry, born July 4, 1907 and died July 23, 1909 at the age of two years. He is buried on St. Sebastian Cemetery. *Jerome Will*

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GIBSON TOWNSHIP

Gibson Township is located in the southwest cor- of Mercer County, Ohio; was originally in Darke unty, Ohio, and became a part of Mercer County 1849. It is bounded on the north by Recovery wnship, on the east by Granville Township, on south by Darke County and on the west by the iana State Line. It is six miles long from east to st and has an average width from north to south hree and one-half miles, the only variation being northern line which corresponds to the Greene Treaty line; which bears left till it strikes the abash River at Ft. Recovery, continuing southwest ough Ft. Recovery, continuing southwest to the te Line.

Much Indian history is connected with this township. Azariah Denney came to Gibson when he was years old and at that time there were twenty six milies of Miami Indians and the young Bucks were playmates. The Hopewell tribes also were in the a. Alex Robbins lived along Sharpsburg Rd., one le northwest of Sharpsburg, and often told how ey watched the Indians walk past their home on eir way to their Indian burial grounds, located e-half mile southeast of Sharpsburg. Indian skeles were found in this spot when it was later excated for gravel; as well as the hill along Fox Rd. out two miles west of Sharpsburg. A smoking pe carved out of stone, a rare copper arrow-head, ny flint arrow-heads, beads, and other Indian rel were found, many of which are preserved in the useums at Ft. Recovery and Greenville, Ohio. An dian mound containing remains of the dead is loted on the George Bihn and Leo Kaiser farms be cut through by the Meiring Rd. An enclosure, ought to have been used as a public meeting place, uncil assemblies, ceremonial grounds, and obsertion post is located on the Melvin Stammen farm e-half mile south of Sharpsburg.

edication June 18, 1959, Iris ngley President of Fort covery Historical Society. Richd Lawwill, Director Anthony ayne.

The monument marking the source of the great Wabash River is in Gibson Township, at the intersection of State Rt. 49 and Mercer-Drake County ine Rd., four miles south and one-half miles east of t. Recovery. From this beginning in the area formerly known as Hog Prairie, the river winds around orth and west through the area of Cranberry Praie, a distance of sixty miles, and arrives in Ft. Recovery within four miles from its source. In 1959 the Wabash Conservancy was formed with members in Darke and Mercer counties. Dams were built and wo dry lakes were formed in Gibson Township for ne purpose of holding the overflow from the Wabash, to keep the lands along the river from being flooded. This project has been very successful in controlling the flooding.

A family of Simison's was among the first to settle in Gibson Township. One William Simison, who refused to serve in the Union Army was hunted by soldiers and bounty hunters. He continuously retreated to and hid in the boggs in Cranberry Prairie where everyone feared to go. Simison's Creek near Ft. Recovery bears his name.

Cummins families also settled here. A Mr. Cummins from West Virginia came to Gibson to serve as marshal for the township. Today law and order is maintained by the county sheriff.

In the Atlas of 1880 Charles J. Pratt is listed as Justice of the Peace. This office continued until 1955 when Charles J. Kaiser resigned as Justice of the Peace of Gibson Township and no-one was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Small family farms, with a small number of cows, chickens, and hogs were the main source of livelihood. The thick wooded area furnished fuel to heat the homes. Records show that bounties were paid for wolf pelts. Other industries were: a cider press located on the Flaler farm along Flaler Rd., a fertilizer plant on the corner of St. Peter and Ft. Recovery-Minster Rds., good gravel banks in the section of the township near Ft. Recovery, a brick yard on the Breymaier farm along Burrville Rd., Meiring blacksmith, Wourms sawmill, near the town of Violet, now Sharpsburg. Later, three chick hatcheries near the town of Sharpsburg, Sylvan Bihn, Albert Bihn, and Pete Klingshirn helped the area to be near the top in the production of eggs and poultry. Today poultry industry has become a major source of income with pullet starting (Cage) houses and layer (cage) houses.

Ben Knapke, Louis Moeller, and John Pottkotter began raising bronze turkeys in the 1930's. Joe Olding and his wife Lou began raising them around 1944. Joe had a hatchery and raised the poults through to market. By the year 1957 and 1958 things didn't look too rosey because of bad market in the nation and particularly in this part of Ohio. But Mr. and Mrs. Olding, having a streak of gambling blood in their make-up developed a better, larger, quality bird with more finish, introducing the white turkey also. With the help of a few more growers, by the year 1959, the turkeys grown in Gibson and the surrounding area had a net worth of a million dollars. Today many turkey starting houses range houses and range fields dot the countryside, with a million and a half birds being grown and a net worth of seven million dollars with nearly all of these being fed through St. Clair Mills located near Ft. Recovery.

In the late 1880's and early 1900's there was one school district under the direction of the Gibson Township school board. This district was divided into Sub-districts and the schools were numbered one — six. Section 16 of the township was set aside for the support of the schools. This land was rented to a near-by farmer and the proceeds went to the school funds. The years 1914-1916 saw many changes in the schools: plans were made for consolidation or centralization, transportation was furnished for pupils living more than two miles from school, special school districts were created and named: Koesters, Jones, Golder, Hastings, College

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Hill, College Corner or Fox, uniform textbooks were adopted for the entire county, and a .004 mills tax levy was approved. Today with the exception of a few acres in the northeast corner of the township, which is in St. Henry school district, all of Gibson is in the Southwest Local School district with a building at Sharpsburg for grades 1-6, a building at Ft. Recovery for grades 1-6 (West) and the East building at Ft. Recovery for grades 7-12. Busses furnish transportation for children living a distance from school.

The following churches are in Gibson Township: St. Paul's Catholic at Sharpsburg and the Pleasant Ridge Christian church on the corner of Wabash and Union City Rds., the Church of the Nazarene, United Church of Christ, Mary Help of Christians Catholic, and the First Church of Christ in the town of Ft. Recovery. The Pisgah Congregational Church, organized in 1851 is no longer in existence; however the Pisgah cemetery, located at the corner of Fox and Union city Rds. is the responsibility of the township trustees. Graves there contain the remains of a colored man, a soldier who fought in the War of 1812, and one grave contains the remains of a cemetery formerly located on the Tom Olding farm. After the bones were moved to Pisgah, the Trustees sold the land at public auction.

The Trustees are responsible for the upkeep of the roads. At present all roads are blacktopped with the exception of two miles of St. Peter Rd., which is gravel, and part of the Hart Rd. is still dirt. They share the expenses of the fire truck with Recovery and Washington Townships. In 1970 they joined the Joint Township Community Hospital at Coldwater, Ohio, and continue to serve on the board.

Population of Gibson, excluding the town of Ft. Recovery, in 1880 was listed as 1,462; in 1900 as 1,568; and in 1970 as 918. In the late 1930's and early 1940's electricity was brought to the farms, changing their whole life style. Homes are now heated with electricity, gas or fuel oil. Farms have gotten larger with large fields of corn, beans, wheat and hay. Milk is now sold by grade and large dairy herds averaging fifty to a hundred cows, large beef cattle and large hog, and poultry set-ups are a specialty. Many smaller farmers supplement their income with a factory or other jobs. Some deer and foxes are found in the sparse woods that remain.

The present officials are: trustees, Arthur Hemmelgarn, Aloys Link and John Griesinger. John Griesinger had previously retired but was reappointed to fill the vacancy left by the death of Otto Vonderhaar. Charles Schmitz is clerk. *by Mrs. Cleopha Link*

SHARPSBURG

Sharpsburg is a small village five miles southeast of Ft. Recovery, Ohio along the old Indian treaty line, running between the townships of Gibson and Recovery, and extending through Granville and Marion townships. Around 1867 the families residing in and around the village were thrifty farmers and predominately Catholic. It was then known as Violet, Ohio but later called Zenz City because of the Zenz family starting the first large store there.

In 1867 George Zenz of Lorain County, Ohio 12 miles from Cleveland, came to Mercer County and settled in Gibson township where he bought land and established himself in the store business. He operated the store until 1885 when he devoted his time to farming and his wife Barbara took charge of the store. In 1903 she retired and John Zenz, one of their three sons, became the owner. In 1899 John married Rose Brandewie, the daughter of Bernard and Elizabeth (Beart) Brandewie, and he constructed a large cement block home in 1905 near the store where he and his family resided. This home is still standing and in good condition.

Store of John and Barbara Zenz, Violet P.O. (Sharpsburg, Ohio)

Mrs. Barbara Zenz

Mr. John Zenz

In 1917 the large store building, which was also built by the Zenzs, was sold to Andrew Forthofer and the Zenz family moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky and later to Cincinnati, Ohio. Some other places of business through these years were John Sommers's Blacksmith Shop, John Schmitz's carpenter shop, Peter Klingshirn's Photography Studio Killien Schneider's small grocery store, William Schmitz's tin shop, Schoenberger's blacksmith shop William Rheinder's tavern, Albert Bihn's box factory, hatchery and mill, Ben Rammel's garage, and Pete Klingshirn's hatchery and poultry farm.

In 1926 Andrew Forthofer sold the store building to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Brunswick, his son-in-law John Miller operated the store. In 1933 Andrew Forthofer bought the contents of the store from Mr. and Mrs. John Miller and leased the building from Mr.and Mrs. Andrew Brunswick. Mr. Forthofer continued in business until 1939.

In 1936 his son, Walter, started the restaurant business in the building adjoining his father's store. In 1937 Walter had an outdoor dance platform constructed to the rear of his restaurant. It was called "Wonderland." It was in operation until 1939 when he, Walter, bought the land and building from Mrs. Andrew Brunswick. Walter then built and enclosed dance pavilion added to the larger building. It retained the name "Wonderland." The grocery department was moved to the restaurant room and the

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taurant moved into the larger building.
n 1957 he remodeled the dance pavilion and con-
ted it into a larger I.G.A. Supermarket and res-
rant area into a Modern up-to-date restaurant
ich he and his wife, Regina, operated until they
red in 1974. The restaurant, supermarket and its
ıtents were sold to Sylvester and Jovita Broerman.
ey are presently in business at this location.
The village to-day consists of the St. Paul's Catho-
Church, Primary elementary school, a part of the
ıthwest Local School System, Broerman's Restau-
t and I.G.A. Supermarket, Big K. Mills, and a
ıuty salon. *by Florence M. Rose*

rpsburg, Ohio, 1953

thofer Store, 1953,
ırpsburg

Ben Rammel's old Garage,
1953, Sharpsburg

T. PAUL'S, SHARPSBURG

St. Paul's church, Sharpsburg is located in the
ıth east corner of Gibson township, Mercer
unty near the Darke county and Indiana line.
In early spring, 1868, nine families residing in and
ound the small village now known as Sharpsburg
ınned to build a Catholic Church. The first step
ıs to contact the Precious Blood Fathers for their
l and advice. Permission was granted and under
e capable guidance of Rev. Vanden Broeck C.PP.S.
e church was completed and that same year, in the
mmer it was dedicated to the great apostle of the
ntiles, St. Paul.
The spiritual cares of the parish were immediately
ken over by the Precious Blood Fathers and they
ve ever since remained in charge. The first pastor
ıs Rev. Paul Reuter C.PP.S. The first organist was
ter Jacobs who was also the village school teacher.
ithin a few years, the small church was inade-
ıate to accomodate the constantly increasing con-
egation. Before reaching a decision as to the advis-
ility of building a new larger church, the small
urch was struck by lightning in the summer of
87. The steeple was completely destroyed and
uch damage done to the interior. Under the direc-
ın of Rev. William Russ, C.PP.S. the plans for the

St. Paul's Catholic Church,
Sharpsburg, Ohio

building were drawn by DeCurtins. The work of construction then began and in June 1888 less than a year later the corner stone was laid by the Most Rev. Archbishop Henry Elder by whom the church was consecrated the following spring.

In 1902 Rev. Goldschmidt, the pastor at that time, had the ground under the church excavated and a new steam heating system installed. At practically the same time he directed the building of a new parsonage which still stands to-day.

While Rev. Nicholas Welsch C.PP.S. was pastor around 1921, the parish purchased a house across the road from the church to be used as a home for the organist, who was also the church janitor and teacher of the Sharpsburg one room school. This was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rose and family for forty-six years after which the parish sold it.

The church continued to grow in membership through the years. In 1970 under the direction of Rev. Marcellus Fortman C.PP.S. the church was completely renovated and in 1973 a new parish hall and Catachetical (C.C.D.) center was annexed to the south and west side of the church. This building has six rooms. C.C.D. classes are held for grades 1-6 on Saturday mornings and 7-12 on Wednesday evenings during the school year.

At the present time there are around 180 families with a membership of 800.

The parish looks back on its one hundred and ten years of existence with pride and appreciation. St. Paul's owes a special debt of gratitude to all the priests of the Society of the Precious Blood who have served as pastors.

Rev. Fortman C.PP.S. retired in 1975 followed by Rev. Edward Zukowski who is presently the pastor of St. Paul's Parish (Sharpsburg) R.R. 1 Ft. Recovery, Ohio. *by Florence M. Rose*

Interior. St. Paul's
Catholic Church,
Sharpsburg, Ohio

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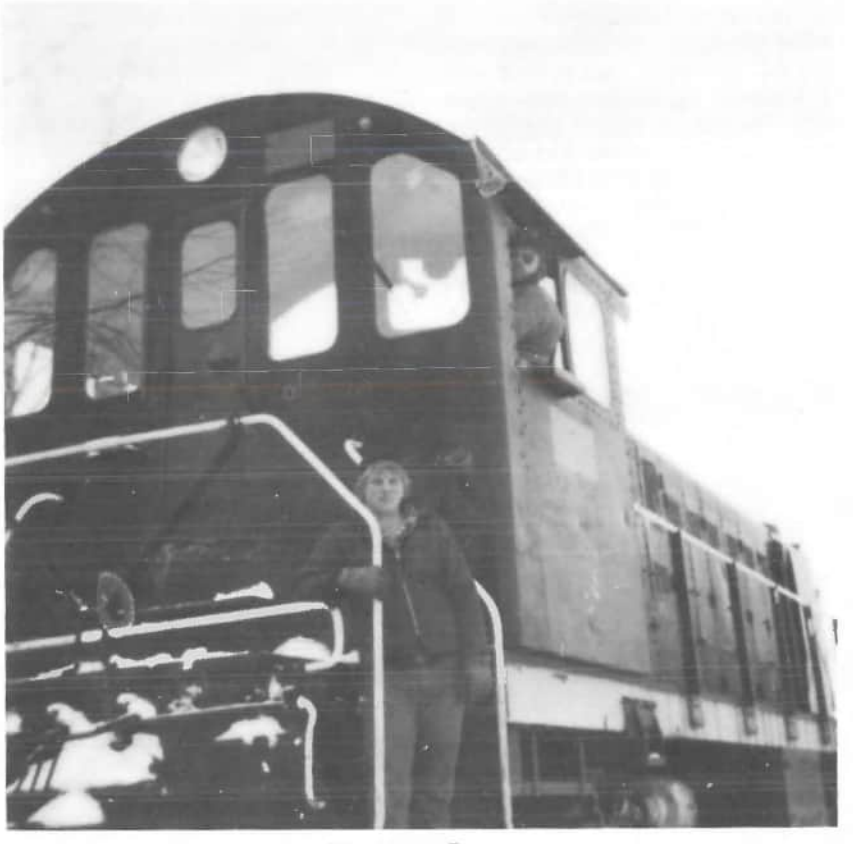

Tom Zitter's Engine

WESTERN OHIO RAILROAD

In March of 1976 the Penn Central Railroad bankrupt, abandoned its track between Ansonia and St. Henry. The track had been part of the original Cincinnati, Jackson and Mackinaw Railroad which laid the tracks in December 1883. Several businesses in the area were still interested in rail service so Thomas Zitter, with the encouragement of St. Henry businessmen Al Homan of St. Henry Tile and Al Romer of Shockman Lumber applied for and was granted permission to operate a shortline railroad. Western Ohio Railroad began operations in November of 1976 and serves the area between St. Henry and Celina. Tom Linn of Ft. Recovery is Engineer and Dave Steinbrenner of Ft. Recovery is brakeman.

BIG K MILLS, INC.

(2485 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery, Ohio 45846)

In 1969 Thomas Zitter and his brothers William and John began operating Big K Mills in Sharpsburg. In 1972 they purchased the Landmark Mill in the town of Sharpsburg. The original mill had been built in the 1800's and was replaced with the present structure in 1954. The mill is currently being managed by Gene Siefring.

KLINGSHIRN POULTRY FARMS, INC.

(Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery, Ohio 45846)

Around 1900 Peter Klingshirn started a photogr phy studio in Sharpsburg. He enjoyed his work b the chemicals he used in developing the film start to affect his health. In 1924 he gave up his photogr phy business and entered the poultry busines which he operated until his death. After his deat his son William continued the business and e panded it to include a hatchery. William's siste Regina Klingshirn Zitter of Huntington West Vi ginia, son Thomas took over the operation of th poultry farm after his death in 1966. Thomas and h brothers William and John continue the operatio today.

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:heson Family — **Back** ow: Ginny, Marilyn, Larry utch), Rodney. **Front** ow: Lynn, Mike Acheson.

ACHESON

Great-Great-Great Grandfather of Larry J. Ache- on was Francis Acheson. He was born April of 1835 ı Cavan County, Ireland and was the son of homas and Elizabeth (Johnson) Acheson. In 1854 at ıe age of 19, he left home and embarked on a sail- ıg vessel for the United States. He landed in New ork and went directly to LaFayette, Ind. arriving ıere with only one gold dollar in his pocket. He ob- ıined employment as a farm hand for $13.00 a ıonth. In 1860 he bought eighty acres in Jackson ownship for $25.00 an acre. In 1869 he bought 465 :res more.

Francis married Taligha A. Wade in 1860. They ad nine children; Taligha was an orphan and was :ared by David Meharry. James William, George homas, John Francis, Robert Erwin, Jesse Mortor, izzie Jane, Alexander Deloss, Charles Emery and Valter Garfield. James Wm. was the father of Fran- s Arthur who had two sons, Charles Edward and rthur Howard. (This information can be found in ıe 1868 Tippecanoe County Indiana History book, y The Lewis Publishing Company.)

Charles Edward married Freida Louise Calloway, aughter of James and Catherine (Wolfe) Calloway f Cass County, Ind. Freida's Grandparents were ohn and Emma (Penrose) Calloway. C. Ed and reida had five children; James Edward, Ronald Eu- ene (Dutch), Charles Dean, Saundra Sue (Krill), nd Larry Joe (Butch). In 1944 Chas Ed. moved to Mercer Co. and was in construction work for many ears. Chas Ed. died Feb. 24, 1968 and was buried in Davenport Memorial Park in Iowa.

Freida has been employed at Hein Ins. Agency for ıe past 19 years. She is also Town CLerk of Ft. Re- overy and a member OES 111 and an active mem- er of the United Methodist Church.

Larry (Butch) married Marilyn Gayle Brumm who the daughter of Luther Waldo and Agnes Marie etter) Brumm. Marilyn's Paternal Grandparents ere Harley Elmer and Marguerite (Kimble) rumm, her maternal grandparents were Charles David and Minnie Melissa (Atkinson) Jetter.

Butch and Marilyn have four children; Virginia uRie Sept. 11, 1966; Rodney Joe, March 31, 1969; Michael David, Oct. 21, 1971; and Gayle Lynette, March 30, 1974. Butch is a long distance truck driver who makes a run to Calif. every other week. Each ummer the kids enjoy summer vacation making a trip to Calif. with their father.

Butch and Marilyn are both active members of the United Church of Christ, Ft. Recovery. They own a home three miles south of Ft. Recovery, Gibson Twp., section #28.

Ginny is now 12 and very active in 4-H, Church youth group, Church choir, plays drums in Jr. Band and plays the piano by ear. Rodney is now 9 and involved in Little League, Cub Scouts and Church youth group. Rodney is a very sincere and hard little worker. Mike is 7 and is in Little league and Church youth group. Mike has a clever remark for everyone and a winning personality. Lynn is 4 and the apple of her Daddy's eye. She has a sweet little grin for everyone. *Larry Acheson*

Minnie Melissa Atkinson, wife of Charles David Jetter

MINNIE MELISSA ATKINSON

Stephan A. Atkinson came to Lancaster, Pennsylvania about 1700. He owned a mill and manufactured clothing. He married Ann Wilton; they had four children: Matthew, Rachel who married Joshua Minshall, Elizabeth who married Thomas Doyl and a daughter who married Samuel Reed.

Matthew Atkinson married Margaret Thorbrugh, daughter of Thomas Thorbrugh. Matthew's will was probated December 7, 1756. They had five children: Stephen, Wilton, Anna, Margaret and Hannah.

Stephen Atkinson (1765-6-1813) married Mary McMahon (May 13, 1773 — Feb. 7, 1840). They had six children: Matthew, Stephen, Joseph, Isaac, Thomas and Margaret.

Thomas Atkinson (July 5, 1795 — Oct. 4, 1885) was bound out at an early age until he was of age. He had to work on the farm when it was fit and when it was not, he was compelled to pound and crush limestone rocks to lime the poor soil of the fields. His taskmaster deprived him of any school privileges. Thomas went to Fairfield County and married Elizabeth Hartsock (May 14, 1795 — Mar. 11, 1876) whose father Thomas Hartsock had come from Holland. Thomas and Elizabeth moved to Wayne County about 1819 and in 1837 moved to Madison Township, Jay County, near Salamonia, Indiana and settled on a 153 acre tract of land and about 1842 hewed a log house. In 1855-56, they built a one-story frame house which burned April 25, 1872, destroying most of their possessions. They then built a story and a half house, where they spent the rest of their days. Thomas and Elizabeth (Hartsock) Atkinson were the parents of thirteen chil-

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dren: Isaac, Thomas, William, Peter, Elizabeth, Jacob, Mary Ann, Margaret, Daniel, Matthew, Jackson Ray, Henry Harpster, and Telitha Ann.

Daniel Atkinson was born in Wayne County, Ohio July 4, 1831. When Daniel Atkinson was twenty years old, he passed the county teacher's examination and was licensed to teach in the public schools. After eight years of teaching, he began farming. Daniel Atkinson married Sarah Long; their children were Eliza Jane, Henry Noah, Albert Monroe, Elizabeth Ann, Mathias J., Effie Moody and George Washington. After Sarah's death, Daniel married Barbara Ellen Zeiler; their children were John Thomas and Margaret Catherine. After Barbara's death, Daniel married Melissa Lindley. They had two children: Dora Ellen, born Aug. 31, 1881 and died Feb. 10, 1904 and Minnie Melissa, born Oct. 17, 1883 and died September 11, 1939.

Minnie Melissa Atkinson married Charles David Jetter (Sept. 9, 1882 — Aug. 14, 1960), son of George and Nancy (Imel) Jetter of Salamonia, Jay County, Indiana. (See Nancy Imel History.) Minnie Melissa Atkinson was a school teacher. Family history tells of their first car being an old touring, side-curtained Maxwell. In the winter they had to take the battery out of it so it did not freeze. Thus, it was never driven in the winter; and only driven in nice weather in summer because they lived on a mud road. Their next car was a Ford Sedan which they had to crank by hand to get it started. Their younger daughter cranked the car by hand to get it started, when she was of age to drive. While cranking the car one time, the car kicked and nicked her front tooth. Minnie Melissa Jetter never learned to drive the car. Charles and Minnie (Atkinson) Jetter spent their years farming near Salamonia, Indiana. Their daughter Onda Jetter married Kenneth Stump and remained on the home place and continued farming. (See Kenneth Stump history.) Charles and Minnie Jetter moved into Fort Recovery, Ohio and lived their last years with their other daughter, Marie Jetter who married Luther Brumm. (See Luther Brumm History.)

ANTHONY

Phillippe Antoine, or Antonie, was born in France on December 11, 1793. Family history relates that the family had emigrated from Rome to France a generation or two before Phillippe's birth.

He served in Napoleon's army, and after the defeat of Napoleon, emigrated from France to Kaiserslautern, Bavaria. When his first child, Jacob, was born, he decided to move with his family to America in 1829.

The family settled temporarily in Wayne County, Ohio, and at Wooster, Phillippe received his citizenship papers in 1834. Shortly after this, he purchased land in a heavily wooded area near Cassella, in Mercer County. This he cleared and began farming.

There are two stories that are told of the family at this time. One relates that wild animals ate all their livestock. The other tells that the Anthonys, as they now called themselves, kept a record of the passage of time by cutting, on a big tree, notches to represent the days. Two families living at a distance of several miles on either side of them could not agree on the question of whether "today is Saturday, Sunday, or Monday". They decided to go together to consult the Anthony tree, and thereupon found that it w Sunday — if the notches had been kept correctly!

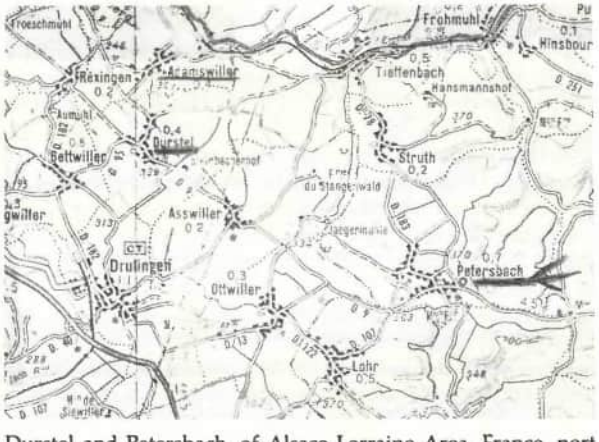
Phillippe and his wife reared seven children. (these, the eldest, Jacob, opened a sadler's shop Fort Recovery in 1853. Since that date, there has ; ways been an Anthony in business in Fort Recover

To Jacob and his wife, Cunigunda Weis, we born thirteen children. Two died in infancy. (these, their son Jacob was owner and manager of grocery store for many years. This store stood at t corner of South Wayne and East Butler Streets. A ter selling the store, he was manager of the Fort R covery Building and Loan.

This Jacob married Agnes Cantwell, of Celina, a to them were born seven children. Of these ch dren, Harold and Zeno spent their lives in Fort R covery as cashier and assistant cashier of the Fc Recovery Banking Company.

Harold and his wife, Frances Phillips, were t parents of eight children. One son, Tom, gave h life in the service of his country in World War Luke, or J.L., remains in Fort Recovery. For ma years he was owner and manager of Anthony's Ser ice Station on South Wayne Street. He has sin sold this station and is now semi retired in Fort R covery.

Luke and his wife, Mary Alice O'Dell, are the pa ents of five children and they live at present in t old family home, built by his father in 1913. The son, George, is carrying on the family tradition of li ing and working in Fort Recovery. He is owner a manager of the Sohio Station at the corner of Ea Butler and South Elm Streets. *Mary Alice Anthony*



Durstel and Petersbach, of Alsace-Lorraine Area, France, nort west of Strasbourg, home place of Peter and Catharina Salor (Scherrer) Brumm.

BRUMM

Johann Peter Brumm (ca 1733 — Feb. 23, 18(Durstel, France) married Maria Magdalena Hof mann. Their son, Peter Brumm (ca Aug. 1765, Du stel —) on Mar. 6, 1794 married Christina Ma garetha Parsch (ca Oct. 1770, Luttweiler — — daughter of Christian and Maria Magdalena (Boh Parsch. Peter and Christina (Parsch) Brumm had a least three children: Peter (June 1, 1795 Durstel - Oct. 1, 1860 Lyons, N.Y.); Christina (May 6, 1797 -); and Christian (May 8, 1797 —). On April 1816, at Durstel, Peter Brumm (1795-1860) marrie Catharina Salome Scherrer (Oct. 4, 1799, Petersbac — July 19, 1870 Nashville, Michigan), daughter c

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riederich (ca 1775 —) and Christina (Jung) cherrer (ca 1774 —). Friederich Scherrer was ıe son of Johann Scherrer, Schullehrer in Lohr, and atharina (Bebion) Scherrer. Christina Jung was the aughter of Phillip and Margaretta (Kassel) Jung. These records are at Strasbourg, France and are on ıicrofilm at Salt Lake City, Utah.)

Peter and Salome (Scherer) Brumm and eleven of ıeir thirteen children emigrated from Patersbach, rance about 1847. While traveling a canal in New ork, they passed under a low bridge; a daughter, alome, was sitting on the top deck of the canal boat ıd was hit; her back was broken in the accident. his incident caused the family to stop at Lyons, .Y., instead of coming to Ohio as they had lanned.

The thirteen children of Peter and Salome ;cherer) Brumm were: Peter Brumm, Frederick, Villiam, Louise, Charles, Salome, Charlotte, George, hillip, Lewis (Louis?), Harry and Caroline, who ɔth died in infancy, and Caroline.

Peter Brumm (4-17-1817 — 5-17-1886) was a Minter in the Evangelical Church, Michigan.

Frederick Brumm (4-20-1819 — 1-30-1887) in 1850 arried Elizabeth Minung; they had seven children; ɔuisa Slamb, William, Charles, Dr. Lewis Daniel rumm, George, Salome, and Elizabeth. Their desendants live in Mercer County, Ohio and Jay ounty, Indiana.

Louise Brumm remained in France.

Charles Brumm (Jan. 8, 1824 — Mar. 18, 1904, Vayne County, N.Y.) married Barbara Oswald; ıeir children were: Lewis, Catherine; Louisa, Mary, ıd Charles. Descendants (1978) are Mrs. Marian ıas, 228 Winchester St., Rochester, N.Y. 14615; ordon and Harold Brumm and Helen Fuller of lewark, Wayne Co., N.Y. 14513.

Salome Brumm (Oct. 8, 1823 — May 9, 1890) mared Jacob Lentz.

Charlotte Brumm (6-15-1827 — 2-25-1894) mared Charles Tindall of Lock Berlin, N.Y.; children ere William, Louisa, Sarah, Julia, Edwin, Orlena, ıd Lillie.

George Brumm (5-28-1829 — 10-7-1903) married lizabeth Baltz; children were William, Bertha, mma, George, Frank, Philbert, Coy, Roy, Eva, and lizabeth. 1978 descendants are Enid Holliday, Birıingham, Mich.; Robert, Muskegun, Mich.; and ruce Brumm, Nashville, Mich.

Phillip Brumm died at age eight in France.

Rev. Lewis Brumm (Mar. 6, 1834 — Jan. 19, 1913) ıarried Louisa Baltz. He was a Minister in the Evanelical Church. A son, John Lewis, was Chairman of ept. of Journalism at University of Michigan, Ann rbor, Mich.

Caroline Brumm (May 1, 1837 —) married ıcob Young.

William Brumm died at age 15, 4-22-1860, Lyons ural Cemetery, N.Y. *By Joyce (Brumm) Alig, St. Henry, h. 45883*

LUTHER BRUMM

Luther and Marie (Jetter) Brumm came to Fort Reɔvery from Jay County, Indiana. Marie was born larch 8, 1908 in Jay County, Ind. Luther was born larch 17, 1907 in Jay County, Indiana. Both are raduates of Fort Recovery High School. Marie was

Luther Brumm Family — **Top Row:** Joyce (Brumm) Alig, Myron Noel Brumm, Luther Waldo Brumm, Marie (Jetter) Brumm, and Marilyn (Brumm) Acheson. **Center Row:** Lorna Alig, Alvin Alig, Karen (Cooper) Brumm, Larry Acheson, Virginia Acheson. **Front Row:** Rodney Acheson, Suzanne Brumm, Lynn Acheson, Colleen Alig, Brenda Alig, and Michael Acheson. (Photograph by Rich Hull, Fort Recovery, Ohio.)

Valedictorian of her class.

Luther and Marie Brumm were married June 26, 1933 and bought their present home in 1934 during the depression. Money was very limited in those years. The house was built by Mahala and Fremont McDaniel. Luther taught school for 26 years. After retiring from teaching, he bought the grocery store on State Route 49, at the south edge of Fort Recovery. Luther and Marie had the store for 16 years and retired in 1970.

Marie worked at the Peoples Bank for nine years after high school. During that time the bank was held up by two robbers. They did not wear masks but carried guns. No one was harmed, but they were never caught.

Luther and Marie Brumm have three children: Myron Noel, Joyce LuRie, and Marilyn Gayle. Noel married Karen Cooper, daughter of Knowles and Betty (Steelman) Cooper of Cincinnati, Ohio; they have one daughter Suzanne Elizabeth and live in Danville, Indiana. Joyce married Alvin Alig, of Jay County, Indiana; they have three daughters: Lorna, Brenda, and Colleen, and live in Granville Township, Mercer County, Ohio. Marilyn married Larry Acheson of Rural Route, Fort Recovery, Ohio. They have four children: Virginia, Rodney, Michael, and Gayle Lynette; and live on Union City Road, Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Marie (Jetter) Brumm is the daughter of Charles David and Minnie Melissa (Atkinson) Jetter. Charles Jetter farmed in Jay County, Indiana; after retiring, he was caretaker of the Fort Recovery State Park. Charles Jetter was the son of George and Nancy (Imel) Jetter, Jr. George Jetter, Jr. was born April 25, 1843; Necher Weiner, Germany and died Dec. 14, 1911, Salamonia Cemetery, Jay Co., Ind. George Jetter, Jr. came to America at the age of nine years in 1852-53, with his parents George and Justhena (Myers) Jetter, Sr., and settled in Madison Township, Jay County, Indiana. Nancy Imel's children always told the family story that Nancy's mother, Catherine (Hazelton) Imel was scalped by Indians in an attack; she did not die but forever after wore a little white cap to cover her missing lock of hair.

Luther Brumm is the sixth generation of the Brumm family to live in America. Family history

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tells the Brumm family had originally lived in the Ukraine, S.E. Russia, c. 1300, where they had their own shipping line on the Black Sea. The name was spelled Brumagen; in World War I, there was a Russian Battleship by that name. The Brumm family migrated across the Balkan Peninsula to Alsace Lorraine.

Peter and Salome (Scherer) Brumm and eleven of their thirteen children emigrated from Patersbach, France, about 1847. Some of the family settled in Lyons, Wayne County, N.Y.; others settled near Nashville, Michigan. The son, Frederick Brumm, who married Elizabeth Minung, had seven children: Louisa Slamb; William; Charles; Dr. Lewis Daniel Brumm; George; Salome Hearn Barnett and Elizabeth Grile.

The son, William, married Hester Adair, daughter of Mahala (Mercer) Adair. William and Hester had four children: James, Harley, Mahala Brumm Reichard of Mentone, Ind., and William Allison.

Harley Elmer Brumm (Oct. 5, 1879 — Jan. 8, 1957) married Margaret (Kimble) Brumm (Nov. 18, 1880 — April 9, 1972) of Jay County, Ind.; they are buried at Springhill Cemetery, Fort Recovery, Ohio. Margaret (Kimble) Brumm was the daughter of Benjamin and Laura (Shimp) Kimble. Harley and Margaret Brumm had one son, Luther Waldo Brumm, who married Marie Jetter. *Luther Brumm, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846*

ADAM GREEN

Adam Green History — House on Fox Road and farm (3 miles S.E. of Ft. Recovery) Adam 1856-1894 Alice 1859-1940

Adam and Jacob Green, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Green, met and married sisters, Alice and Annie Schimpf from Crawford County, Ohio. They brought their brides to Ft. Recovery.

In 1875, Adam, age 19, and Alice, age 16, began working and building their own farm located 3 miles SE of Ft. Recovery, on Fox Rd.. They had 3 children: Caroline, William, and Sophia. When Sophia was 8 years old, the family gained a new member when Adam's sister-in-law died in childbirth, leaving 5 orphans. Adam and Alice took and reared the new born Otto.

The young couple worked hard and were gradually putting together the farm when Adam died of pneumonia at age 38. The widow and children struggled to maintain their farm on Fox Road.

William, then 14, and small for his age, used a chair to stand on when harnessing his horses for work in the fields.

The oldest, Callie (Caroline) 1879-1918, soon passed the State Board Exams and became the teacher of the neighborhood one-room school. Her checks helped build the barn that was so badly needed.

Sophia baby-sat Otto and told of walking to Sharpsburg, a mile away, to mail Callie's letters to her beau, for the reward of a penny.

Romance broke up the family team when Callie married a neighbor, Charles Watkins, who had just graduated from Ohio State University Medical School. In 1904 Charles Watkins began his practice of medicine in Chattanooga, Ohio. Two children, Clovis and Helen, were born there.

This young family was also visited by death 1918 when Callie died of a heart ailment which l gan when she ran the ladder in a bucket brigade a fire next door.

William (1880-1952) married Catherine Rc (1882-1955) of Ft. Recovery and they purchased t farm neighboring the home place, on Watkins Ro They spent their entire lives working it. They h two girls, Naomi (1915-1973) and Norma (19 1937). Norma died of meningitis and pneumonia the age of 10.

Naomi walked to Goulder School on Watki Road and graduated from Ft. Recovery High Scho She graduated from Capital University, Columb Ohio and taught in Darke County Schools for ni years.

She married Kenneth Medford in 1938, and th built a house on the farm on Watkins Road next her parents. They raised 8 children: William, Ch lotte (Frank), John, Katherine (Adams), Rober Martha, David, and Margaret. Naomi died in 19 Kenneth survives and lives on the farm.

Sophia never married but moved with her moth when she retired to Ft. Recovery, along Route 49, the edge of town. She cared for her mother until h death just a few days short of 81 years.

Otto married Frona Hoffman of Chattanooga a moved into the home place on Fox Road. They hac children: Edward (Ft. Recovery), Paul (Portlar Ind.), Onnalee (Bickel, Ft. Recovery), and Ru (Reier, Ft. Recovery). *Katherine Adams, Fort Recovery, O*

Mr. and Mrs. Orville E. Grile

GRILE

Grile, Orville E., a farmer of R. #1, Ft. Recover Ohio, born Sept. 3, 1885 m. Phyllis (McCain) bo Feb. 4, 1890 and to this union were born eight ch dren: Charles V.; Willard H.; Margaret E.; Mildr P.; Edith E.; Robert P.; Wanda R.; and R. Dwigh Charles V. (m.) Ada (Philebaum) of Hebron, Nor Dakota and their four children: Merrill L. (m.) Ba bara Perry of St. Cloud, Minn. and their childre Perry W. and Donna M.; Charlene (m.) Orlin Bre land of Williston, N.D. and their two daughter Rhonda and Leah; Carol (m.) Ronald Coram Brookfield, Mo.; Ronnie L. (m.) Linda Steen of S Cloud, Minn. and their two sons: Jeffrey and Phill J. Willard H. (m.) Ilah Ogan and their son, Micha (m.) Gilda Givens and their son, Ryan, Pennville, I Margaret E. Grile (m.) George Howell and had fi children: Joshua (m.) Norma Jean Enyart of R. # Dunkirk, In., and their three daughters: Cynthi Rebecca and Dawn; Earl (m.) Wanda McKeown an their children: Catherine, Deborah, Timothy an

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lelinda of Churubusco, In.; Floyd Howell (m.) gnes Neal of R. #1, Pennville, In., and their children: Keith F., Karen E., Steven N., Susan E.; Phyllis owell (m.) Larry Bradburn of Union City, In., and ieir children, Daniel, Penny, Rodney, Donald and evin; Dale Howell (m.) Joyce Dale of R. #5, Celina id their children, Sharon and Connie. Mildred P. rile (m.) Clarence E. Howell of R. #1, Maplewood, hio and three daughters: Sondra (m.) Wm. Kilgore id their son, Douglas W. of Mt. Orb, Oh.; Clara lae (m.) Jack Oakley and their sons, Roland L. and avid D. of Botkins, Oh.; Betty Ann (m.) K. Joe endall and their son, Paul D., Jackson Center, Oh. dith E. Grile (m.) Ural J. Shook and their three children: David D. of Ansonia, Oh. (m.) Pat Smith and ieir sons: Darrin and Ryan; Donald, deceased; Dina (m.) Paul Armstrong of Toronto, Canada and ieir children: Beth and Donald.

Robert P. Grile, deceased (m.) Lena Stults and ieir three children: Peggy Sue of Portland In. (m.) arry Ellsworth and their children: Dan, Mike, avid, Billy Bob, and Marie; Kathy Grile (m.) Darryl rayer of Wabash, In., and their son, Troy; Robert J. n.) Diana VanTrees of Ft. Recovery, Oh. and their aughter, Denise J.; Robert P. also (m.) Evelyn mith, Portland, In. — no children. Wanda R. Grile n.) Walter Smith, of Bryant, Ind. — no children. R. wight Grile (m.) M. Ruth Pyle and their three children: Lynne M., Myrna Jean, Stanley W. of Ft. Recovery, Oh. Orville E.'s grandfather, John Fredrick rile, Born Feb. 20, 1834 — Feb. 1906 (m.) Mary nyder born June 19, 1831 — Nov. 4, 1921 and of iis union were born ten children, John, Christina, lary, Jacob, Adam, Charles W. Matilda, George, osa and Lucinda. Charles W. was this subject's father. John Fredrick's parents were born in Wirtenarg, Germany and were Lutherans.

Charles W., this subject's father (m.) Sarah E. lcConaha and three children were born of this nion: Orville E., William F., unmarried and Ethel E. n.) Ray Cook — one child was born: Marceil (m.) erling Bickle and their children, David and Linda ay. *Mrs. Dwight Grile*

GRAND-PA GRUSS

(as sometimes he was called)
Died in 1950 — age 91 years.

Grand-pa Grūss," as sometimes he was called.
y his little friends, he so loved
s he walked down the street.

Grand-pa Grūss" thus sometimes he was called.
hough many years have gone by,
le is still remembered
s the man who rang the church bells
You could set your clocks by."

e was born in Seneca County
ater to Mercer County Came
or work he came to seek
When soon he met a sweet little dame
1 1888 they married
s time went on, had children, 4
hich enriched their lives
ater years they married, then
ad grand-children, 7

Having grand-children, he truly was "Grand-pa"
This man was Joseph Grūss
Neither legendary, nor fiction,
But a man of 90 years, plus.
This little story is so true
I know as he was my father
This man of 90 years plus
Was indeed privileged to be called
"Grand-pa Grūss."

This sweet little dame he married
Was Catherine Eischen.
Then became Catherine Grūss
Several years later became
My mother, this Catherine Grūss.

His early years he engaged in farming
He bought some land, cleared it
and built, with some help all the buildings
That were needed to live on and to do farming.

In 1917 he retired there
My brother married, took over then
We moved to Fort Recovery
An Historical town that I grew up in
Where he was engaged in other work

In 1938, they were both blessed
In having been privileged
To celebrate their Golden Wedding.

Their children had a very impressive program for them. A grandson (who in later years became a professional musician) played Ave Maria and Silver Threads among the Gold on his violin. A granddaughter spoke a poem titled "Grand-parents Golden Jubilee" which was composed and written many years earlier by an old friend of our mother who had composed a book of poems. It seemed very touching to them, but very beautiful and impressive to all. In 1942 our mother died and went to her reward, which she so richly deserved. Not only was she a good wife and mother, but in her loving kindness, always ready to help in need and cared for many people in sickness. *written by Bertha (Gruss) Sutter, Coldwater, Oh.*

GUGGENBILLER

The American Guggenbiller family had its beginning in a John Guggenbiller who migrated from Bavaria, Germany with several Fink brothers and thereby avoided military service in his native Germany. In correspondence with relatives in Germany we found that they never heard from him in America.

He told once about going west through the woods for some distance after he had established his home. He came to another home owned by a man named Jones. It is interesting to know that there are still people by that name living in that area.

His youngest and fourth son was born in 1871. By then his family also had two daughters. Don't ask who his wife was. More of that later. In order of age, there were John, Mary, Joe, Anna, and Aloys. The one skipped died as a youth and I think is buried on St. Paul's cemetery at Sharpsburg, which is just south of where the family lived with the other High German families of Esser, Hoening, Lieser, and Breig. There may have been others.

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John avoided the German draft but was conscripted to serve in the Civil War. He told his son he once just made it into the corn field behind the house when they came for him. Then I can understand why his wife lost her mind and later died in the Toledo State Hospital where she was also buried. His youngest son, my father the baby was kept for time by a Mr. and Mrs. Reese. When John found out they were going to move, he feared his son would be lost to him so he took him back. Neighbors, very good people, helped the family with bread baking, washing, etc. since Mary was only nine at the time.

In time, the son John Guggenbiller Jr. married Kathrynn Griesdorn of St. Rose and settled on Fox Road just one and a half mile south of Wendelin. There were to be ten children in that fmaily. They took exceptional pride in their home, scrubbing the walk from house to barn on their knees, keeping the yard really cared for, the garden without weeds and straight clean paths and the house immaculate. The boys learned to play stringed instruments. They played at barn dances for neighborhood weddings and many evenings at home were spent with music.

Most of the family lived to be fairly old and all the girls are still living. So is the youngest boy, Henry, who lives on his father's farm with his wife and a child, Thelma in the original house built for his father. His wife was Kunkler from West of Wendelin. The youngest son of Henry also lives on the farm in a newly built house. Henry also had a number of other children, among them twin girls but the author is only aware of where one lives, Mrs. Luthman.

Son John had a son, John, the oldest son who married Miss Hemmelgarn from Wendelin and they had a fairly large family but the parents died fairly early and the children are somewhat scattered. One lived in St. Henry and probably still does.

Vincent, the second son limped with a leg injury and had a smaller farm out of the north side of his father's farm after he married Cecile McFarland from Darke County. Vince's oldest son, Clarence, who lives in Darke County has a son named John who lives on the Miller place just west of Henry's farm and is married to a great-granddaughter of Aloys.

Vincent's one son lives in Darke County and there are girls whose whereabouts the author does not know.

Vincent's younger brother, Aloys, named after his baptismal sponsor, Uncle Aloys, lived on Fox Road on his Uncle Joe's farm before his death a few years ago. His widow must still live there, where a new house has gone up for a boy who runs a fine dairy farm. Another boy lives in the same vicinity and raises purebred pigs. One of the girls is Mrs. Broering from Cassella. If we've skipped some of the children in this history it was not intentional. The relationship is too large to keep track of everyone when most of your time was and is taken up with daily work.

GUGGENBILLER

To my knowledge, all of John Guggenbiller, Jr.'s girls are still living. There's Mary Schmitz who lived in Celina. One of her girls is married to Edwin Pottkotter. The Schmitz family lived first in Darl County, south of Sharpsburg. Mary must ha Great-Grandchildren.

Clara Jutte was still living at the edge of St. Henr One daughter lives also in St. Henry, a son lives the Sam Jutte farm on Siegrist Jutte road. One so Orville lives at Wendelin with his family. Tl whereabouts of three other children are not know to me.

Minnie Meiring, John Jr.'s daughter lives Sharpsburg on the Meiring farm with a son and h wife and family amid high silos that help the fami raise a lot of livestock and put Minnie's grandchi dren through college.

Elizabeth Backs lives on 119 not far from a daugl ter, Mrs. Adrian Kaup. The other Backs children a not known by the author.

Carolyn Kaiser lives across from the High Scho in Ft. Recovery. The youngest daughter lives on farm south of Coldwater. The older children liv somewhere in the cities, the oldest one in Dayton.

Theresa Brunswick lives in a new house west Sharpsburg. She also lived on a farm where her hu band lived as did Carolyn Kaiser. While all of th John Jr. Family had families to my knowledge, nor was the size of their father's family.

Mary Guggenbiller Rindler who at nine bega learning to manage a house was the finest perso I've ever known. One of her relatives said she'd tak in any old tramp who came along asking for hel She married Jacob Rindler and they lived south Cranberry on a good farm where they prospere and reared a family of seven boys and two gir namely Frances and Anna, Ferdinand, Sebastia John, Joe, William, Edmund and Sylvester.

They all lived on farms except John and Edmun John worked at New Idea. John's wife a Miss Bertk also from Cranberry had hearing problems but the lived in Coldwater with their family, not as large a Jacobs.

Edmund still lives at Chickasaw with his wife. Th children are all on their own. He had a garage ther until retirement that I think a son took over. Ed mund had a crippled foot and leg so farming woul have been difficult. In youth his folks sent him to S Louis for treatment and a shoe fitting while he a tended school.

Ferdinand whom they always called "Fairy" wa the oldest son and lived on a farm near North Star a did Joe. Fairy had a pleasant personality like hi mother, but his family was smaller than Joe's. Hi and Joe's sons still live on farm near North Star.

Sebastian, always nicknamed "Cabot" had a farn just east of Burkettsville where once in the earl twenties a tornado did some damage. Now he has house in Burkettsville and still lives though his wife ____ Bowman died just this year (1978). His was fairly large family with some carpenters especially.

Joe Rindler married a niece of Mrs. Jim Coughli from St. Henry and theirs is a fairly large and livel fun loving family who lived near North Star but botl parents are now dead.

William Rindler lives southeast of St. Henry an has a daughter whose family lives in St. Henry. H was almost the smallest of the Rindlers with whom was not well acquainted.

Anna Reier is still living on the farm they move

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n that is on Road 119 where she started housekeep-
ıg. One son lives with her while the other son lives
n route 119 west of St. Henry with his family. Anna
lso has twin girls who are old enough to have their
wn homes.

John's second son, Joe, had an exceptionally appy home as long as his first wife lived. She was a liss Siegrist from St. Joe. They also lived on Fox oad just one farm from older brother John. None f Joe's children live near the home place now. lostly they went to the city as soon as they could nd jobs there. Their mother died early and their fa-ıer married Kathryn Wappelhorst. The children ere Roman, Constant, Tony, Olivia and another irl whose name is forgotten.

GUGGENBILLER

Anna Guggenbiller's husband was John Brackman om St. Joe and Grandpa John made his home with ıem. He lived to be 96 and is buried in the St. Joe emetery. While he lived with them he kept busy elping, like splitting the wood for the fire even in is nineties. In the Brackman family were the chil-ren Rose, Veronica Giere from Maria Stein, Eulalia, Odelia Reinhart on a neighboring farm, Helen Nie-erding now in Fort Recovery, Willabald who is ead and the youngest, Florenz, also dead.

Rosa died soon after entering a convent. Veroni-a's boys still farm the Giere farm near Maria Stein o make it look prosperous and progressive. One of ıe girls, Cordula Post lives and works in St. Henry ince her husband's death. There are some other hildren. Veronica was killed by a cow when she ent to milk it one morning quite a few years ago. he father Joe Giere died before his wife.

Odelia Reinhart, wife of Jone Reinhart, lived with ıis father's family, neighbors to the Brackmans and eared a large family. One girl is a nun in Cincinnati. ion Jerry is Recovery's milkman and has a large amily of his own. Another daughter is the wife of it. Henry's soft drink salesman, Mr. Bruns. Two ounger Reinhart sons live near Ft. Recovery. The oungest son is Robert whose whereabouts are un-:nown to me.

Helen Nieberding's husband has been dead a ıumber of years. Helen lives with a son in the for-ner John Shindler home in Ft. Recovery. I think the on has a car body repair shop. Another of Helen's ons is a barber in Eaton. A daughter, Mrs. Joe Re-naklus (Mary Ann) has grown twin sons, two laughters and at least two other sons. The family perate Miracle Lanes Bowling Alley.

Another Nieberding daughter Alma, Mrs. Alvin Kaup, lives just west of Ft. Recovery near the Roller Rink. Two of her children are married and she has grandchildren. Several other children are still at ıome. Alvin works at St. Clair Mills.

Willabald Brackman, third oldest child in Anna's amily has been dead for several years and his wife ınd family's whereabouts are unknown to me. The amily once had a farm where they lived, not far rom his father's farm. His wife was Marcella Omlor rom Dayton. He helped his father with the steam ngine, saw mill and other tools to do custom work.

Florenz, the youngest child finished High School ınd worked in Troy until his death a few years ago. His wife was a Roessner girl from St. Peter's Parish.

L. to R.: Leo, baby Christina, Martha, Dad Aloys Guggenbiller, Mama, Mary Brackman Guggenbiller, Emma and Ida. The family was about to take Aunt Minnie, the picture taker, to visit another relative.

ALOYS GUGGENBILLER

Aloys Guggenbiller, John's youngest child had a chance to play under the bridge sometimes instead of going to school since he was the only one going after Anna quit to help her sister keep house and to keep it alone after Mary married. That's why he'd sometimes ask us, his children, how to spell some words when he was writing a letter or an order.

Aloys got a farm just east of son John's but it was only eighty acres. His interest was fifty dollars a year payable to his father. And his father would usually have to come to collect it. At that time though many farmers started with only forty acres. There were forty acres cleared when he moved on it. And when we moved to town another thirty acres had been cleared. But you could hire help then for very little but the little wasn't so easy to come by. A lot of timber was cut and hauled a distance to be sold for cash.

Ours was a house with three rooms up and three down and a one room cellar. The cistern and well were outside. The kitchen served also as a dining room and had wainscoating around the walls.

When I was little we almost always had hired men helping since Aloys did more than farm. In time we had a steam engine and the tools that went with it, threshing machine, clover huller, corn shredder and saw mill.

The triplet's grandparent's (Gregor Post) wedding picture and the grandparent's grandparents, Mary Guggenbiller and Ben Post.

When Aloys Guggenbiller sold Fords, Pullsman, Dodges, and finally Chevrolets, when automobiles came into the country. And the boys, Florenz and Leo became automobile mechanics. They were both sent to mechanic schools connected to automobile companies. Our third boy, Carl, died at six of diptheria, the greatest tragedy of our young lives

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and the family. That was the first time I saw my father cry.

We moved to town and my oldest sister, Cordula and her husband, John Post, and oldest child Rita lived on the farm they had bought for $16,000, I think.

Both John and Cordula Post are dead but they left behind twelve children, two sets of twins in succession among them. The second son, Gregor lives on the Esser farm and has fifteen children, among them, the mother of the Kremer triplets of Chickasaw.

Across the road from Gregor is his brother Ben's farm. There are fourteen children in that family with no twins. They live in what was the Breitenstein home. The house was built after 1910 after the home before it burned down. Ben owns a sand pit on the Sharpsburg road and hauls it out to sell besides farming his farm.

The oldest Post child, Rita, is dead, but she left behind a husband Herman Nerderman and one son and several daughters, some of whom live in St. Henry.

The second Post child, Eugene and his wife live in Wendelin but they still milk cows on their farm, the Miller place where his youngest daughter and her husband, the youngest John Guggenbiller, Vincent's grandson and their two children. Two other daughters of Eugene live on farms in the county. His only son died as a result of an injury in a neighborhood football game.

Emma Guggenbiller Zumberger taught several years in Mercer County Schools. Her largest class was 51 pupils in 8 grades at Hopewell School in Shelby County about 1930.

The Twin Guggenbiller girls, Agnes Fullenkamp at St. Peter and Alma Ranly at Philothea have grown families, Alma's with several teachers.

Zita Guggengiller at Wendelin with three girls and Zeno at Versailles with his family are the other twins.

That leaves Mary Alice Faller with her husband and family on a farm at Rose Hill and Rosalyn Vondrell on the State Line east of Geneva with her husband and family whom I haven't seen since the oldest daughter was a baby.

Also, the youngest son, Alvin and his family on our home place though he farms additional acres. His oldest daughter was top graduate in her class at St. Henry. They've made real changes and additions on the place.

Florenz left behind a wife, Pauline Gebele and five year old son when he died at the Toledo State Hospital where his grandmother once was. Pauline and Carl operate a business north of Troy serving dinners.

Martha Fecher, the second daughter, wife of Norbert Fecher died a few years ago at Dayton State Hospital and her husband died at Carthagena just lately. Thelma, the oldest child is also dead leaving a husband Roy and one daughter living on Nort Main Street, Dayton.

Joe, married to a Smith daughter from Coldwate lives with his family in Brookville. He spent som time as a Naval Cadet in World War II.

Aloys Guggenbiller with two daughters and niece Armella Eifert on a Dayton outing.

Ernest the oldest son of Aloys Guggenbiller spen some time in Japan as a Marine in World War II, bu I've lost trace of him a few years ago.

Catherine Gremline, the second daughter als lives in Dayton with her husband and family c mostly boys whom I haven't seen since we've move to Indiana.

Marion and Constance, the two youngest childre stayed with their grandmother Guggenbiller unt Thelma was old enough to keep house when th family moved back on the farm, the Lennartz hom on Minster Recovery Road between Fort Recover and Wendelin.

Now all of the children except Ernest live an work in or near Dayton. Marion just had his firs Grandchild this year. There are four boys and tw girls in his family. We haven't seen Constance for long time and know little about her family, the Eck steins.

Leo, second son of Aloys retired some time ag from his garage and automobile business with Chev rolet. Lately he has his third wife, widow of Mr. Sut ter. Alberta Vogel and Dr. Huerkamp's daughter, hi two former wives are both buried on Mary Help o Christians Cemetery in Fort Recovery. His so David lives in St. Marys, daughter Marlene Winne and family with Dr. Winner live along the Reservoi Grand Lake Saint Marys. Two babies are decease and two daughters live at a distance.

Ida lives in a Trailer House on E. Broadway in For Recovery, retired from work in the Standard Offic in Celina. She helps out with sitting with an age lady in town and generally seems to enjoy life.

Christina Leugers lives with a youngest daughte and husband Frank on 118 near the Raceway. The have dogs, a fine garden, big lawn, giant trees and leisurely life. They can, preserve and store most o the year's food. Christina just retired this year fron teaching since her family could spare her. Frank re tired several years ago. There are six children. Rutl Ann Baer with her husband Clete and six childre live in Fort Loramie and she is a nurse at the hospita at St. Marys.

Clarence, one of the twin sons teaches at Vers ailles. Marion, the other twin operates a cemen

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ant at Union City with a partner. Both have a fam-
y.
Janet lives near Dayton with a family.
Robert lives near Lightsville with his family of
ght (I think) children and is kept busy at the car-
enter trade.
That leaves the author, Emma Guggenbiller Zum-
erger, who is kept busy in retirement from teach-
ig in canning and preserving, cooking, keeping
ouse, feeding pigs, cows and calves, making gar-
en, harvesting, writing, etc. With husband Joe, I
ve on Mercer Darke County Line Road twelve
iles west of Burkettsville. To make up for poor
randfather I served about three years in World
Var II in the U.S.A. mostly cooking, with ten
ionths overseas duty. This is an invitation to come
isit, relatives and friends.

GEORGE HEDRICK

George married Sarah Clark and they had at least
hree daughters that died young. A son Albert grew
o manhood and had children, and one daughter
vas Myrtle. Myrtle had several children.
George enlisted in 1862 in Company C 118 Ohio
olunteer Infantry, of the Civil War. After the war
e bought 60 acres in Gibson township. They moved
nto town but were still in Gibson Township. Uncle
Joerge, as he was known, walked with a cane to the
hurch of Christ and when Asked how he was, an-
wered "I'm well all but my walking."

Nancy Imel's Famly — **Standing:** George Jetter, Pearl (Jetter) Bibler, Charles Jetter. **Seated:** Sarah Elizabeth (Jetter) Shoemaker, Miller. (Children of George and Nancy (Imel) Jetter).

NANCY IMEL

Henry Imel was one of five brothers brought over
by England in 1776, during the Revolutionary War
s "Hessian" soldiers. These brothers: Henry born
756, Thomas born 1757-8, Jacob born 1760, Joseph
born 1762, and Peter born 1764, left the British and
oined the Continental Army shortly after arriving
n America. Peter was a drummer boy in General
Morgan's Virginia Riflemen. Both Joseph and Henry
ived in Maryland and then both later moved close
o each other in Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

Henry Imel (Jan. 5, 1756 Germany — Nov. 5, 1848 Pennsylvania) married Margaret Disher (Sept. 29, 1756 New Jersey — Nov. 29, 1841 Imel Cemetery, Fayette County, Pennsylvania). They had eleven children: Isaac, James, Mary Imel Bailey, Sophia Imel Strait, Jacob, Samuel, Elizabeth Imel Henry, John, Henry Imel Jr., and two daughters names unknown.

John Imel (Nov. 23, 1879 Maryland — May 16, 1861 Salt Lick Twp., Perry County, Ohio) had one son by his first wife who died. Then John Imel married Sarah Skinner (April 23, 1788 Somerset County, Pennsylvania — October 12, 1847 Saltlick Twp., Perry County, Ohio) daughter of Reverend Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Harned) Skinner. John and Sarah (Skinner) Imel had seven children: Margaret Imel Tharp Bickel, Nathaniel Imel, Henry William Imel, Samuel S. Imel, Thomas King Imel, Nancy Anna Imel Rugg, and John Imel.

Nathaniel Imel (Aug. 29, 1815, Fayette Co., Pennsylvania — Nov. 23, 1868 Boundary Cemetery, Jay County, Indiana) married on January 19, 1839 in Perry County, Ohio Marriage license, Vol. I, 1818-1840, page 283, to Catherine Hazelton (Jan. 30, 1817 Perry County, Ohio — Jan. 29, 1892, Boundary Cemetery), daughter of Samuel and Nancy Hazelton. They had eight children: Sarah Imel Eley, John Imel, Samuel Lewis Imel, Nancy Imel Jetter, Ezra Imel, Elizabeth Imel Coby, Nathaniel Imel, Jr., Thomas Imel. Nancy Imel's children always told the family story that Catherine Hazelton Imel was scalped by Indians in an attack; she did not die but forever after wore a little white cap to cover her missing lock of hair.

Nancy Imel (Nov. 5, 1848 Perry Co., Ohio — March 16, 1897 Salamonia Cemetery) on November 19, 1865 in Jay County Indiana married George T. Jetter, Jr. (Apr. 25, 1843 Necher Weiner, Germany — Dec. 14, 1911 Salamonia Cemetery). George Jetter, Jr. came to America at the age of 9 years in 1853 with his family. His parents were George and Justhena Jetter. The 1880 Census of Madison Township, Jay County Indiana lists the Jetters as being born in Wurtemberg, Germany. The family was Lutheran; they settled near Salamonia, Indiana. Nancy Jetter died after surgery in Cincinnati General Hospital March 16, 1897. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Salamonia.

George and Nancy (Imel) Jetter had six children. Justina Catharine (Aug. 17, 1866 — July 18, 1928) married William Freemyer. Sarah Elizabeth (Dec. 16, 1871 — Apr. 17, 1953) first married Albertis Shumaker; after his death she married J. Frank Miller. George Frederick Jetter (Oct. 11, 1874 — Feb. 27, 1961) married Rebecca F. McLaughlin and lived at Portland, Indiana. John William Jetter was born Jan. 20, 1877 and died of croup Oct. 14, 1880. Charles David Jetter (Sept. 9, 1882 — Aug. 14, 1960) married Minnie Melissa Atkinson; they first lived as farmers near Salamonia, Indiana; they lived their last years with their daughter at Fort Recovery, Ohio. Minnie Pearl Jetter (July 9, 1888 — Jan. 6, 1969) married John Wesley Bibler; they are buried at Oakhill Cemetery, Oakhurst, California.

From the original Henry Imel who came from England, there are many descendants of the Imel line in Mercer County. *Marie Brumm, Ft. Recovery, Oh. 45846*

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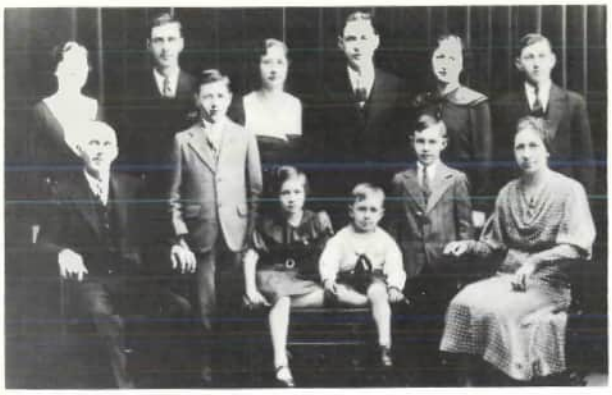

Henry Kaiser Family

HENRY E. KAISER

Henry Edward Kaiser lived his life in four locations, Minster, St. Patricks, Sharpsburg, and Burkettsville. His grandparents, Theodore Johann (1805-1880) and Anna Elizabeth (1822-1908) Stegemann Kaiser were both born in Germany, he in Herzebrock, Prussia (probably Westphalia) and she in Handorf, Oldenburg. Theodore came to the United States with his widowed mother, his brother, and his brother's family. Arriving in Glandorf, Putnam County, August 14, 1836, they moved to Minster, Auglaize County, after a little more than a year. Theodore then helped to dig the Miami and Erie Canal. Elizabeth came with her parents, grandmother, three sisters, and one brother in 1836. Passing through Cincinnati, Elizabeth and her next oldest sister remained there to do housework as their parents were not financially able to take their whole family to Minster. Later joining their family in Minster, the two women helped their parents on their rented farm. Theodore Kaiser and Elizabeth Stegemann were married in Minster November 10, 1840, and made their home on a farm two and a half miles northwest of Minster, later in the possession of John Kaiser and his descendants. They became the parents of Henry, William, Bernard (Henry's father), Mary, Anna, Mary, John, Joseph, Frank, and Anton. William and the two Marys died in infancy while Henry died at the age of forty-nine on his farm near Chickasaw due to a gas well accident. After Theodore's death at the age of seventy-five, Elizabeth remained on the home farm a few years and then lived with her son, Frank, about one and a half miles southeast of Sharpsburg where she died at the age of eighty-six. Theodore and Elizabeth were known as good, whole-souled, kind-hearted people and were buried in St. Augustine Catholic Cemetery, Minster.

Henry's parents, Bernard (1846-1916) and Elizabeth (1845-1888) Möller Sprehe Kaiser lived in a large house on Fourth Street near the west edge of Minster. Bernard operated his farm implement business at this same location. Elizabeth was the widow of Carl Bernard Sprehe and the mother of Frank Sprehe. Bernard and Elizabeth had four children, Rosa, Pauline (Timmerman), Henry, and Frances (Liening). Apparently, Henry was only five years old when his mother died at the early age of forty-two. Katherine Adelina (1851-1911) Gerdes kept house for the Kaisers after Elizabeth's death and later married Bernard. Bernard and Katherine were the parents of Charles (Justice of the Peace in Merc County for many years), Lawrence, Oliver, Eleano (Sister Gervase), and Gertrude (Giere). Therefore, addition to his two sisters, Henry had one ste brother and five half brothers and sisters.

Retiring early because of diabetes, Bernard spe his later years repairing implements and visiting h farms. It was on one of these, a two hundred ac farm near St. Patricks that Henry went to live an work the land. His sister, Rose, kept house for hi till her untimely death. Having helped her sister an brother-in-law, Pauline and Joe Timmerman Sharpsburg, recover from typhoid fever, she r turned to St. Patricks to die from the disease, he self, at the age of thirty December 31, 1906.

May 1, 1907 Henry Kaiser married Emma Hube the daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann Deppen Hu ber of Sharpsburg. They continued to rent the far at St. Patricks. As a council member Henry helpe in the building of the Catholic Church at St. Pa ricks.

Bernard Kaiser died July 14, 1916 and was burie with his wives in St. Augustine Cemetery, Minste When the St. Patrick's farm was put up for auctio the major portion was bought by Joseph Hoying f his sons, Frank and Bill. Henry and Emma boug an eighty-acre farm near Sharpsburg onto whic they moved in sub-zero weather the winter of 191 There they farmed, reared a large family, and Henr was trustee for Gibson Township for over twent years.

Henry and Emma were the parents of the follow ing eleven children: Stella (1909) who married Law rence Broering in 1934 and now lives in Cranberr Prairie, Leo (1910) who married Alma Wendel 193 — Sharpsburg, Luetta (1912-1945) who married Joh Reichart 1938, Edward (1914) who married Doroth Faller 1935 — Fort Recovery, Bernard (1916) wh married Mary Barga 1944 — Burkettsville, Marcell (1919) who married Richard Hemmelgarn 1939 – Celina, Joseph (1921-1978) who married Adella Ma Borger 1945, Albert (1923-1926), Richard (1925-1974 who married Eileen Rauh 1948, Rosella (1927) wh married Walter Hierholzer 1947 — Burkettsville Herbert (1930) who married Rosemary Griesho 1957 — Coldwater.

After retiring Henry and Emma sold their farn and moved to Burkettsville in 1967 to be near thei daughter, Rosella. Emma died March 2, 1971. Henry like the patriarchs of old, was surrounded by hi family and friends, walking and talking with them even puffing on his customary cigar, during hi ninety-fifth birthday celebration. He died the fol lowing day, August 29, 1977. Deeply loved and re spected, he was a sincere, honest, and kind man. A the time of his death he and Emma had fifty-seve grandchildren and ninety-six great-grandchildren The remains of these two gentle people are in St Paul's Cemetery, Sharpsburg.

KELLER FAMILY

This family's origin is Swiss German. Our ances tor came from Switzerland and settled near Crest line, Ohio, in Richland County. His name was Jo seph Keller (1811-1901). He married Lucardia Mot (1826-1903) and was a farmer. They had eight chil dren: Joseph, Peter, Morris, Willie, John, Mary, Eliz

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beth and Rose. Two of these children, Joseph and eter Keller, came to Mercer and Darke County area ear Fort Recovery, after their marriages. Peter Keller (born Nov. 17, 1862) married Anna Weaver and st lived in Darke County. They later bought and oved to a farm, called the Convent Farm, on State oute 119 near St. Henry, Ohio. They had eleven ildren: Ann, Francis, Linus, Victor, Monica, Urla, Wilbert, Ray, Marcella, Joseph and Helen. Peer Keller died Feb. 17, 1942.

Keller

Joseph Keller (born Oct. 14, 1850 died Feb. 12, 932, at 82 years of age) came to Mercer County, ought a farm on Watkins Road near Sharpsburg, hio and married Emma Miller (born May 17, 1855 ed April 21, 1949 at age 94 years of age). They had ur children: I. Rose Keller Wagner (born May 16, 377) married John Wagner. They had seven chilen. Rose died Aug. 25, 1972 at the age of 95 years. . Henry Keller (born Oct. 15, 1879) was never mared. He died Feb. 13, 1965 at the age of 85 years. III harles E. Keller (born March 1, 1881) (he is our dict descendant) married Elizabeth Clune. Charles ied April 6, 1969 at the age of 88 years. IV. Cora eller Kaiser (born July 13, 1896). Cora and her husand Ray Kaiser still reside on Watkins Road near . Recovery, Ohio.

Joseph Keller bought land in Mercer County beuse the land was cheap and the community ooked promising and thriving. His son Charles ought a neighboring (Pearson) farm of 70 acres. harles married Elizabeth Clune (born Nov. 17, 382) on April 16, 1907. They lived on this farm all eir lives, building a home and all their farm buildgs. They had nine children: Dorothy (Feb. 5, 1908), obert (May 1, 1909), Edward (May 9, 1911), Alvin Nov. 17, 1913), William (Oct. 29, 1915), Raymond May 14, 1918), Mildred (July 29, 1921), Mary (Aug. 1, 1923), Paul (May 15, 1927).

The family being Catholic attended St. Paul's hurch at Sharpsburg, Ohio. Most of the children tended small country schools and later went to the ligh School in Ft. Recovery. Dorothy married John ngle and they live in Dayton, Ohio. Robert married rances Kronenberger (now deceased — May 23, 968).

Robert lives in Jay County, Indiana. Edward mared Rita Kessens and they live in Cranberry, Ohio. lvin married Mary Sanderell and they live on Watins Road, three miles south of Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Villiam married Esther Jutte and they live in Dayon, Ohio. Raymond married Rita Thieman. They now reside in Dayton, Ohio. Mildred married Louis Bolton and now live in Dayton, Ohio. Mary married William Woeste and they live in Coldwater, Ohio. Paul married Berdella Schmitt. They also live on Watkins Road, Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

Charles Keller lived to the age of 88 years. Charles died April 6, 1969 and his wife Elizabeth lived to be 90 years of age; she died on April 21, 1973. Dan Kaiser, a great nephew, now owns the farm where they lived.

Alvin Keller married Mary Sanderell on Sept. 25, 1937. They have five living children and one daughter deceased. I. Charles John Keller (born Dec. 12, 1938) married Mary Jane Hilgeford (Oct. 21, 1941) on Nov. 18, 1961. They have eight children: Connie Marie Keller (Oct. 16, 1962); Pamela Mary Keller (Jan. 31, 1964); Joan Elizebeth Keller (June 21, 1965); Gary Ronald Keller (May 25, 1966); Beth Carol Keller (May 18, 1967); Irene Margaret Keller (June 20, 1969); Charles Richard Keller (Jan. 29, 1972); Kimberly Martha Keller (Mar. 26, 1975). II. Joseph Alvin Keller (born April 4, 1940) married Mary Catherine Homan (Aug. 24, 1944) on July 2, 1966. They have six children: Theresa Ida Keller (Feb. 16, 1967); Ivan Joseph Keller (Aug. 14, 1968); Eric Charles Keller (Oct. 14, 1969); Michael Ronald Keller (Aug. 24, 1971); Ann Marie Doris Keller (Sept. 21, 1973); Norma Jean Keller (June 27, 1975). III. Ronald Edward Keller (born Mar. 17, 1942) married Carolyn Schlamb (April 30, 1946) on Jan. 4, 1964. They have seven children: Cynthia Ann Keller (Jan. 4, 1965); Ronald Joseph Keller (Dec. 13, 1966); Donald Charles Keller (July 11, 1968); Laura Sue Keller (Sept. 25, 1969); Sharon Elizebeth Keller (May 17, 1971); Bradley John Keller (Aug. 26, 1973); Marlene Marie Keller (April 10, 1975). IV. Lawrence Paul Keller (born Aug. 29, 1945) married Diana Link (June 7, 1946) on June 1, 1968. They have four children: Timothy Alan Keller (Feb. 22, 1969); Suzanne Marie Keller (Aug. 25, 1970); Julie Ann Keller (June 21, 1972); Brenda Kay Keller (April 14, 1977). V. Ann Marie Keller (born Dec. 9, 1948). She died Dec. 10, 1948. VI. Carolyn Mary Keller (born July 17, 1950) married Kenneth A. Gaerke (Sept. 30, 1948) on Oct. 9, 1971. They have two children: Travis Alvin Gaerke (Sept. 2, 1972); Tracy Mary Gaerke (Nov. 18, 1976). This is a six generation history of the Keller family! *Mrs. Alvin Keller, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846*

Dick, Bill, Kathy, Bob, Nancy Knapke. Picture taken on the New Jersey coast while visiting Nancy's sister, Jeanne Belle and her family at Holmdel, N.J. 1978.

RICHARD AND NANCY KNAPKE

Richard and Nancy Knapke reside at 839 Watkins Road. They were married on Aug. 22, 1964 and have

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three children: Kathryn Louise (4-17-69), William Richard (3-6-72), and Robert Meiring (11-4-76).

Dick is the son of William and Edna (Moeller, Koesters) Knapke and the grandson of Bernard and Sophia (Hartings) Knapke, and Louis and Rosa (VandenBusch) Moeller. Nancy is the daughter of Herb and Georgiana (Dues) Meiring and the granddaughter of Wes and Philomena (Guggenbiller) Meiring, and George B. and Veronica (Thieman) Dues.

Both Dick and Nancy graduated from Ft. Recovery High School in 1961 and from the University of Dayton in 1964, (Dick with a B.A. in Business Administration and Nancy with a B.S. in Elementary Education). Both also have an M.A. in Elementary Education from Ball State University.

Dick taught math in the Southwest Local School District until 1971 when he joined the Ft. Recovery Lumber Co., a family owned business. Nancy began teaching in Montgomery Co. in 1963. She then taught six years in Southwest Local District and the next seven years at St. Henry. In 1977 she resigned her position in order to spend more time with her family.

Kathy is in the fourth grade at Sharpsburg. She takes piano and baton twirling lessons and enjoys entering twirling competitions. Bill is in the first grade, raises chickens for a hobby and wants to be a farmer. Bobby, at 20 months, presently spends his time "perfecting oneriness" and playing with Molly, the family's new Golden Labrador Retriever. Nancy's hobbies include crewel embroidery, baking, raising flowers, and teaching religion at St. Paul's Church in Sharpsburg. Dick is an avid fisherman and the whole family enjoys water-related sports.

Richard & Nancy Knapke, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Meiring taken in November 1976 at the baptism of Robert Meiring Knapke. In the center are Herb and Georgia with Herb's mother (center) Mrs. Wes Meiring. The family: Richard and Nancy Knapke with Bob, Kathy and Bill. Russ and Jeanne Belle, George and Elizabeth. In the center, Jack and Anne Meiring. Jim and Sharon Zehringer and Julie. Cy and Helen LeFevre, Tom, Angie and Greg. The baby Robert wore his Grandmother Georgia's Baptismal Gown.

HERBERT MEIRING

Herbert Meiring and Georgiana Dues were married Jan. 17, 1942 and moved to the farm one mile west of Sharpsburg, Ohio now 2062 Watkins R where they still reside. Herb's parents were W Meiring and Philomena Guggenbiller of Sharpsbur Georgiana's parents were Geo B. Dues and Veroni Thieman of Philothea. All of their known ancesti were German. Their grandparents were first gener tion Americans. Herb and Georgia's family consis of Jeanne Marie (1942), Nancy Louise (1943), He bert John (Jack) (1945), Helen Jane (1946) an Sharon Kay (1952). All of the family is of the Roma Catholic faith and attends St. Paul's Catholic Churc in Sharpsburg. All the children attended the loc school in Sharpsburg and Ft. Recovery High Schoc Jeanne, Nancy and Helen received a B.S. in Educa tion from the University of Dayton. Sharon earned B.S. in Education from Bowling Green. Jeanne has M.A. in Education from U.D. while Nancy receive hers from Ball State. Helen and Sharon are workin towards their Masters from Ball State.

Jeanne married Russel Belle in 1969 and lives i Santa Ana, California. Their children are Elizabeth 6, and George, 3. Nancy married Richard Knapke i 1964 and lives at 839 Watkins Rd., Ft. Recover Their children are Kathy, 9, Bill, 6, and Bob, almo 2. Jack married Anne Weisenborn of Mansfield i 1974 and lives on their beef farm on Rd. 180, Rt. Union City, Indiana. Anne is also a teacher, em ployed by Randolph Co. Schools, Union City, Inc She has a B.A. from St. Francis College of Joliet, Il and a M.A. from Ball State. Helen married Cy Le Fevre in 1968 and lives at 1318 Fox Rd., Ft. Recover Their children are Angie, 8, Greg, 6, and Tom, Sharon married James Zehringer in 1973 and lives a 799 Watkins Rd., Ft. Recovery. They have a daugh ter, Julie, 3. Sharon teaches 3rd grade in Sharpsburg

As a teenager Herb started with a few chicken and has been connected with different phases of th poultry and egg industry ever since. The first chick ens he raised were Klingshirn Leghorns. The chick were grown in brooder houses on range. In 1948 th Holtzapple White Rock, a dual purpose bird bred b Oscar Holtzapple of Elida, was introduced. In 194 the Meirings produced hatching eggs for Holtzap ples. Herb also started his career as a salesman sell ing chicks and later poultry equipment.

Next came the Kimberchix from California. Dur ing this time a double story chicken house was buil then another layer house. All the Meiring famil worked with the packing and handling of eggs. Nex came the starting houses 240 by 40 ft. and when Nc 6 house was built, it was the first cage growin house in this vicinity. It held 20,000 pullets. Later, a five houses and a layer house were converted to cag growing. Now over 100,000 pullets are grown at on time.

In 1964 Herb with Vere Cochran and Dick Stau gler started "Pullets Unlimited". They contracte pullet growing and egg production using Babcoc chickens from Ithaca, N.Y. Later Pullets Unlimite switched to the DeKalb chicken.

In 1974, Herb with Vere Cochran (hatcherymai from Portland, Ind.) and John Weaver (egg processo of Versailles, O.) became partners in Mississinaw Poultry Farm. This farm had a capacity of 300,00 laying hens. This farm was sold in 1977.

Herb was a member of Poultry Producers Cooper ative of Versailles, Ohio for many years and serve as president at one time.

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Mr. and Mrs. Meiring attended many of the poul-y conventions in different states and the Interna-ional Poultry Congress held in Madrid, Spain in 970.

Herb is a director of the Ft. Recovery Banking Co. e has recently installed wood working tools and is ursuing his hobby, designing walnut tables.

Mrs. Meiring has taught C.C.D. religion class for ie past ten years and enjoys her hobby of raising owers indoors and out. *Georgiana (Dues) Meiring*

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Meiring

MEIRING

Karl Wilhelm Meiring (1846-1909) married Ka-arina Meinerding (1851-1933). Their known an-stry was German and both come from the Maria ein area. After their marriage they moved to a rm one half mile south of Sharpsburg, Ohio. This rm has always been in the Meiring family. When Vilhelm came to Sharpsburg he was primarily a acksmith and later acquired more land that he rmed.

There were ten children born to Wilhelm and atherina. They were: Elizabeth (1872-1960) mar-ed to John Hemmelgarn, Mary (1874-1940) married John Huelsman, Bernadine (1877-1954) married to hn Schmitt, Frank (1880-1881), Anna (1882-1963) arried to Peter Klingshirn, William (1885-1974) arried to Edith Warren, Wesley (1887-1961) mar-ed to Philomena Guggenbiller, Bernard (1889-944) married to Julia Fiely, Charles (1891-1970), and arah (1894-1923) married to Steve Evers.

The family grew up in the Catholic faith and all tended the local school. William, Bernard and harles were educated at St. Joseph College, Rensse-er, Indiana. William became a mining engineer nd lived in Washington D.C. Bernard was a teacher nd taught all his life in the local schools. Charles as a well known dentist in the village of Fort Re-overy. Wesley became the farmer and took over ie family farm.

Wesley (1887-1961) married Philomena Guggen-iller (1896) on June 20, 1916. Her parents were John uggenbiller and Catharine Griesdorn of Wendelin. Ves and Minnie had six children. Herbert (1917) arried Georgiana Dues. Richard (1919) married lary Helen McConaha. Sylvester (1921-1923) died n infancy. Merilda (1924) married Norman Dues. larold (Tom) (1926) married Audrey Jean Gehle. olores (1935) married Donald Kahlig.

The family, being Catholic, attends St. Paul's in harpsburg and have attended the Fort Recovery chools. Wes was a member of the local school oard over thirty years. As a young man he hauled ravel to pike the local roads. All of the roads in the rea south of Ft. Recovery-Minster Rd. were mud oads.

Minnie lives in the Meiring home which is a large brick house built in 1890. The bricks were hauled from Rose Hill just south of Sharpsburg in Darke County. The barn was built in 1885. The farm is now owned and operated by the Tom Meiring family. *Georgiana Meiring*

VERN AND MARVIN MOTT

Zacariah Mott was one of the earliest settlers of Ohio. He came to Ohio in 1818 and locating in Darke County near Gettysburg, but now it is Miami County. He was a blacksmith by trade and a well to do pioneer. He removed to Tippecanal County in 1824 and later to White County in the same state and there died.

Abraham Mott Senior, a son of Zachariah Mott, was born in Pennsylvania where he was reared and educated. He lived for a short time in Warren County and also in Miami County, subsequently settling in what is now Gibson Township in Mercer County, but at that time included in Darke County, where he entered 80 acres of land. Later, he bought 23 acres of land in the same township. The farm on which he located was later owned by his son Abraham Junior. He was one of the earliest settlers of the township, locating there in 1835. He was married to Abigail Coates, a native of Virginia. They were the parents of twelve children — Elizabeth, Moses, Mary, Maria, Abraham Junior, James Z., Nancy A., and Lucinda. All children lived to mature years. He and his wife were members of the German Baptist Church. All were good, highly esteemed people and he died in Gibson Township at the age of 76.

Abraham Mott, Jr. born November 1, 1838 was reared and educated in what is now Gibson Township, Mercer County. He remembered when the land was all a wilderness and deer and wild animals were often seen. In 1836, he enlisted in Company D 134th regiment and served in the Army under General Butler in Virginia. He was educated in the district schools but never had more than three months of schooling in any one year. He was obliged to help his father in clearing the land and doing farm work in the summer months. After returning home from the war, he taught school for 27 years during the winter months and farming during the summer. He was first married to Delilah Wagoner, who died in 1874. She had one child, Allen Noble, a railroad engineer, who lived and died in Joliet, Illinois.

In 1874 he married Sarah Mahala Travis, who died in 1899, leaving four children. The names of the children were Russell Tilden, Delphos Elra, Minnie Ola, and Arlie Walter. In 1905, he married Sarah (Moyer) Bobb, widow of John Bobb. He served his township as a trustee and a clerk. He was County Commissioner for three years and a member of the German Baptist Church. He owned 240 acres of land in Gibson Township. Delphos E., his son, remained on the Mott homestead.

Delphos E. Mott was educated in the Goulder school, located east of the military road (now known as State Route 49) on what is now known as the Watkins road. He was a member of the first class to graduate from the Gibson Township 2 year high

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school in 1896, known as College Hill located west of State Road 49 on Watkins Road. He finished his education at Tri-State Normal College at Angola, Indiana.

In 1905 he married Nora Leona Heis. They were the parents of three sons, Milo Roger, Vernon Adali, and Marvin Lee Clair. He was a school teacher, farmer and at the time of his death in 1924 was manager of the Fort Recovery Equity Elevator.

After the death of their father, Vernon and Marvin, along with their mother remained on the farm. In 1935, their mother married Charles Miller and moved into Fort Recovery. Vernon married Florence Lee in 1935 and they live in the house built in early 1870's by Abraham Mott, Jr.. They are the parents of two daughters, Roberta Lee and Julia Ann.

Marvin married Ruth Emeline Bryan in 1937 and built a house south of the main homestead. They are the parents of two children, Linda Clair and Dean Elra. Vernon and Marvin Mott own the land once purchased by their great grandfather, Abraham Mott, Sr. in 1835.

Milo Mott, the eldest, married Irene Beatrice Rench and they live in Gettysburg, Ohio. They are the parents of two children, Janice Louise and Esther Marie. *Marvin L. Mott, Ft. Recovery 45846*

Joseph Bernard Olding

JOSEPH OLDING

Joseph Bernard Olding was born April 16, 1910 at Carthagena, Marion Township, and went to school until the 8th grade in the schoolhouse at the intersection of Carthagena and Philothea Roads. When he was 20, the depression forced him and several other young men of the area to go to Syracuse, Kansas, to work in the wheat fields for the summer. In 1934 he married Luella Marguerite Magoto from Frenchtown, Darke County, and bought a farm in Gibson Township, Section 20. About 1947 he began one of the first turkey businesses in this part of Ohio. This operation proved successful so that eventually he owned farms with over 1200 acres in Indiana and Ohio. He also ran a hatchery and had just opened a feed mill for the 700,000 turkeys he financed in 1965, when he died suddenly at the age of 54. Luella died in 1969. They were members of Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church where Joe sang in the choir. He also belonged to the Knights of Columbus, 4th degree and the Elks. His parents were Peter and Clara Barhorst Olding.

Their three children live in the area. Pat, born in 1936, graduated from Miami Jacobs Business School and is a legal secretary for Myers & Myers in Celina. She married Ronald "Dutch" Acheson, Ft. Recovery, in 1956, and had four children. Jeff, born 1957, plays football for Defiance College and is a senior. He married Cindy Lou Smalley in August, 1978. Ann, born 1958, is a sophomore at Otterbein College, Westerville. John, born 1960, is enrolled at I. Technical Institute in Dayton. Linda Lorraine w born in August 1961, and lived only three days. F married Eugene Crouch of Erastus, Ohio, in 19(and moved to Jefferson Township, Section 31. She a trained genealogist and secretary for the Merc County Historical Society.

Tom and Jerome, twins, were born in 1937, wi Jerome dying shortly after birth. Tom attended Oh State University before he began farming. He serv in the Army from 1957 until 1959 and was station in Germany. He married Marlene Franck of S Henry in 1963 and moved back onto the home pla after his father died and his mother moved to tow He continues to farm and operate the Olding Hatc ery, which was started by his parents. Their fi children, Terry, born 1965; Tim, born 1966; Aaro born 1968; Jennifer, born 1969, and Jane, born 197 are all at home. Tom is very active in the Knights Columbus and also sings in the choir.

Mary Ann, born 1939, graduated from Wrig State University with a master's degree in educatic in 1976. A former schoolteacher at St. Henry, she now the regional director in Historic Preservatic for this seven county area with the Ohio Historic Society. She married Jerry Brown in 1957, now high school principal in New Bremen, where the live. Their children are Joe, age 20, a junior in pr med at the University of Toledo; Dan, age 19, sophomore at U.C.L.A.; and Steve, age 16, and Juli age 14, both in high school. Mary Ann is Presider of the New Bremen Historical Society and a Gi Scout cadette leader. *Patricia Olding*

The Painters - Robert, Don, Be trice, Juanita an Helen. In Fron Wayne and Donalc

PAINTER

Don M. Painter, of Gibson Township, Merce County, Ohio, born May 2, 1912 and Olive Beatric Miller, of Mississinawa Township, Darke County Ohio, born April 7, 1915, were united in marriag December 25th, 1937 at the Methodist Parsonage Greenville, Ohio. The Painter's moved to thei present home on Fox Road, April 11, 1941. Th Painter's through the years have made many im provements on their home.

Don and Beatrice had two daughters and thre sons. All attended school at Fort Recovery. Attende the Bethel E.U.B. Church at Fort Recovery.

Juanita Carol, born October 9, 1938, she marrie Herbert Calvin McClain, January 31, 1969. Th McClain's have their home and business in Green ville, Ohio.

Helen Louise, born June 7, 1940, was employed a the Celina Insurance Company, Celina, Ohio for fif teen years. She married Ronald Lewis Story of Rich

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ond, Indiana, September 7, 1974. The Story's have eir home in Richmond, Indiana.

Robert Eugene, born March 17, 1944. Entered the .S. Navy after graduating from High School. He rved aboard D.E.R. 251 out of Newport, Rhode Isnd. EM 3 Painter received the Good Conduct ledal and Honorable Discharge from the Navy, lay 30, 1968. Robert attended Electricians School in ma, Ohio. He is a Lifetime member of the National ifle Association, and enjoys big game hunting.

Wayne Allen, born October 11, 1947, enjoyed rming, entered the U.S. Army, June, 1967. Spec. 4 ainter was killed in action in the Republic of Vietam, May 27, 1968. Sp. 4 Painter was awarded Posumously the Purple Heart with Certificate, and e Bronze Star Medal with Certificate, and Citation r outstanding performance against a determined id aggressive enemy. In addition to the above recgnition, Sp. Painter was also awarded, the Good onduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, ietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, ombat Infantryman Badge, Sharpshooter Badge, ith Machine Gun and Rifle Bars.

Donald Lee, born March 15, 1951, was a member the first Kindergarten class in Fort Recovery. Afr completing school in Fort Recovery, he entered hio State University, Columbus, Ohio. After cometion, received Bachelor of Arts, from the Colleges the Arts and Sciences.

Beatrice has served on the Board of Elections for e past several years. She is a member of The Naonal Historical Society.

Don has been employed at the Fort Recovery Eqty for the past twenty seven years.

George Painter, born 1807 in Tennessee, the great randfather of Don, lived in a log cabin across the eld from Don's home. George was married twice nd had 18 children.

Daniel Brock, born 1832, married to Jemina Veaver, born 1839, both from Ohio, great grandparnts of Beatrice, moved to Gibson Township in 1870, ney had 6 children and a foster daughter. He rected a log cabin where they lived.

Our forefathers came from Germany, Ireland and ngland. *Beatrice Painter, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846*

eter Rammel Family — **L. to R. Front Row:** awrence, Barbara, Margaret, Peter, Marie, Fran-s. **Back Row:** Teresa, Adolph, Paul, Othmar, loys, Loretta Rammel.

PETER RAMMEL FAMILY

Peter Rammel (April 10, 1870 — Feb. 9, 1956) arried Margret Lieser (Feb. 17, 1874 — March 20, 955). They lived on a farm on the Mercer-Darke ounty Line. They went to St. Paul's Church at harpsburg.

They had 14 children. Barbara (Dec. 4, 1894) married Leo Braun (May 6, 1896 — July 10, 1951) They have 7 children, 37 grandchildren, and 21 great grandchildren; Teresa (Oct. 27, 1896 — Aug. 11, 1944) married Clem Eckstein (March 3, 1893 — April 16, 1978) They had 11 children, 69 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren; Aloys (Feb. 24, 1904 — March 25, 1977) married Hilda Brunner of Hamilton; They had 4 children, 1 deceased, and a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren; Frances (June 23, 1900 — May 26, 1971) married Anthony Timmerman (May 28, 1895); They had 11 children, 61 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren; Lawrence (Jan. 9, 1902 — Jan. 12, 1968) married Adelle Wolff. They had one daughter, 8 grandchildren and several great grandchildren; Adolph (Feb. 24, 1904 — March 25, 1977) married Clara Scheon, daughter of George and Rose Schultz Scheon. Of St. Henry. They had 3 children, 1 deceased, 6 grandchildren; Loretta (Feb. 7, 1906) married Henry Heuker (Aug. 30, 1897 — April 19, 1956). They had 10 children, 3 deceased, 48 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren; Marie (Nov. 17, 1907) married Anthony Broeker (Feb. 27, 1901). They had 7 children, 17 grandchildren; Othmar (March 29, 1912) married Florence Gehle, daughter of Herman and Rose Gehle of St. Henry. They had 7 children, 1 deceased, 18 grandchildren; Paul (Nov. 20, 1915) married Alvina Schulte (Oct. 28, 1916) daughter of Charles and Agnes Schulte of Chickasaw. They had 8 children, 1 deceased, 21 grandchildren. Fred died in World War I. Three children died as infants, including a set of twins.

L. to R.: Ernie Crabtree, Walter Roop, Stanley Eneson, Zema Roop Broad, Grandmother Roop, (Hannah) Mrs. John Roop.

THE ROOP FAMILY

The Roop family was among the early pioneers of Mercer County, and the name has been one that has stood for the best in community life for more than a century and a half. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Roop came to this vicinity in 1837.

Thomas Roop was of Swiss-German ancestry. He was born in Pennsylvania, May 31, 1807. Was married to Elizabeth Junot of a French Huguenat family. It is somewhat uncertain as to the date of their arrival in America. The Junot family had a long and glorious history in France, but being of the Huguenat faith, were forced to flee from their native land and chose the new American Republic as the haven of religious and civic liberty. Their voyage consumed three months hardship at which time their father died and was buried at sea. The mother and six children continued their journey and found a haven at Jersey Shore near Meadville, Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Roop had two children

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born in Pennsylvania. When Thomas was thirty years of age, he joined the new frontier village, where nine more children were born. Several of the children lived their entire life around this area. Zema L. died in infancy and lies in the Pioneer Cemetery. John B. Roop was one of the children who was known and loved by all that knew him. Thomas Roop was a shoemaker and conducted what amounted to a family factory in the old home which stood in what is now the middle of Wayne Street, west of the K of C Hall. As he worked at his bench, his good wife, with a child on her lap, and one at each side, sat and sewed on the shoes, for which they found a ready market. They supplied shoes for the laborers who were at work in that important engineering project, the Grand Reservoir.

In 1880 the Roop family purchased land east of the village and lived there until 1883. Their last days were spent in the old homestead which was occupied by their grand daughter Nellie Roop Schwartz. Today Nellie I. Roop Franklin and her husband Derrell live in the same location. Nellie is a great grand daughter of Thomas Roop. *Nell Franklin, Fort Recovery*

The descendants of the Roop Pioneer Family are shown in this picture. L. to R.: Terry Johns, D. Michael Johns, Myron and Zemabella Johns, Derrell (Ted) and Nellie Franklin, Larry, Larry Jr., Susette and Brian, Iris Roop, Jeanette and Joseph Bey. (Hull photo)

JOHN ROOP

Thomas Roop sold the farm land to his son John B. Roop in 1883. John married Hannah McAlexander. They were blessed with three children, Zema, Nellie and Walter.

Zema taught school in this vicinity. Later she moved west and married James Broad and they had one son James. Her health was poor,and after many trips to Washington by her parents, sister and brother, she passed away and was buried in Spokane, Washington.

Nellie married George C. Schwartz who was a brother of the wife of one of the village merchants, Russell Morvilius. Nellie spent the first years of married life away from Fort Recovery, but much of her adulthood life was spent in this area. "Aunt Nellie" as the people of Fort Recovery knew her, had many many friends, both young and old alike. She was active in her church and the Order of Eastern Star having been a member for over sixty years. She was never too busy to help some one in need. She passed away at the age of 85 in the home that her grandfather and father had lived.

Walter Roop was born on the old homestead and helped his father on the farm. His father purchased more land at this time. As years went on, Walt also purchased more land in the same section of t township. His entire life was spent in farming t land that was first owned by his grandfather. Walt did not go far from home to get his wife, Grace. S was the daughter of Harmon and Mary Hall Hil bold, whose ancestors had come to the new count from Switzerland. Walter and Grace had three ch dren who all live in or near Mercer County, they b ing Nellie I., ZemaBelle and John H. Roop.

Nellie now lives at the corner of Boundary a Oak Street, the same site in which her great grar father had lived. Nellie owned and operated Ne Beauty Shop for many years and retired in 1978. H husband Derrell (Ted) Franklin owned and operat The Fort Recovery Monument Shop for 27 yea Following the footsteps of her forefathers, Nellie h kept quite active in the Methodist Church, and a Republican Politician she has now served as Fort R covery mayor for eighteeen years. They do not ha any children.

Zema was named after two aunts, one who died infancy and also Walter's sister. ZemaBelle has ways lived within 50 miles of Fort Recovery vicini She married Myron Johns of Saint Mays, Oh They make their home in Versailles, Ohio in Dar County. They have raised four children.

Susette the oldest is married to Larry Kruckebe another frontier name in Darke County. Suse teaches in the Versailles school system, and alo with her husband and his two boys, live at Bro Ohio.

Jeanette married Joseph Bey of Versailles, Oh They both work in Versailles, but live in Fort R covery and help farm the land that her great gr grandfather help to clear. The Roop family are esp cially happy that these young heirs have decided help keep the two hundred and twenty-seven a inheritance land in the family. The Roop farm now known as "Heritage Acres".

D. Michael and Terry are both employed in family IGA grocery store in Versailles, of whi their father Myron owns and operates. Both bc live at home and assume much of the stores ope tion. At this time, plans are being made for a n enterprise in the Darke County area.

John was the youngest of Walter and Grace's ch dren. He too married a local girl, Iris Whites whose family had lived in the Fort Recovery area many years. John and Iris did not have any fami They lived in Union City and Richmond, India during all their married life. John had been in t grocery business in his earlier years and later w co-owner of the State Auto Supplies store in Ric mond. John's life was short. He passed away in C tober of 1977 which left a deep sorrow in the Ro family. His wife is still residing in Richmond.

Many years have gone by with its changing tim hard times and good times. Our greatest hope is see, that the heritage the Roop forefathers start will be continued by the future generations. *N Franklin*

WM. J. SCHMITZ

Joseph J. Schmitz, born June 9, 1821, along w his brothers, Matthias and John, left Alsace, L

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ine, Germany, in 1844. They sold all their goods in ermany, and with the gold, bought land soon after eir arrival in Lorain County, Ohio.

Joseph married Gertrude Kalsch in Avon, Ohio, d raised a large family. In 1864, he and his family d his brother, John, and family, moved to Sharps- rg in southwestern Mercer County. Joseph pur- ased 240 acres in Mercer and Darke Counties. Be- les farming, he was a pattern maker (learned this Germany) and he invented a skein that enabled agons to track properly. A Union City, Indiana, undry that executed his patterns for him, pat- rned his skein and produced it. The foundry is still existence and has his skein on display with his me on it as the inventor. His farm implements are display in a Richmond, Indiana, museum.

John J. the oldest son of Joseph J. was born Octo- r 8, 1848, in Avon, Ohio. He married Anna Tim- erman on November 16, 1876, in St. Paul's Catho- Church, Sharpsburg. He inherited part of the rm when his father died. He was a carpenter by ade. Of this marriage, there were seven children, cluding a set of twins who died just after birth.

William J. the oldest was born October 20, 1877. e married Eleonor Ruschau, June 12, 1906, in arpsburg. They had nine children. Werner, born arch 5, 1907, married Rita Doll, worked at the elco and lives in Dayton. Marcella, born January , 1909, married Albert Knapke. He died in 1954. e still lives on their farm at Sharpsburg. Gregory, rn March 22, 1911, married Genevieve Dues, orked at Goodyear in St. Marys and lives in St. enry. Victor, born March 27, 1913, never married. orked at VonderHarr Meat Market and as a cash- at Ft. Recovery Banking. Died May 13, 1960, after dergoing open heart surgery. Norbert (Curly), rn February 18, 1916, served about 4 years in the r Force in World War II as a S/Sgt. in the U.S. and gland. He married Cordula Schwieterman and es at Burkettsville where he does roofing and gut- work. Cletus, born May 25, 1919, also served out 4 years in the Air Force in World War II as a Sgt. in the U.S. and England. He married Helen hwieterman. Works at Monarch Marking and es in Dayton. Donald, the youngest, born March , 1924. He graduated from Ft. Recovery High hool and entered the army on May 11, 1943. Went erseas November 1, 1943. Participated in D-Day ne 6, 1944, and fought in Europe where he was lled in action somewhere in Germany, November, 44. He served as a Tech S/Sgt. 5 in the 18th Infan- Division of the First Army. Two daughters, na, was born and died on April 4, 1915, and Hilda s born May 23, 1921, and died Sept. 1, 1921.

William followed in his father's footsteps and did rpenter and roofing work. He built many homes d farm buildings around Sharpsburg and the im- ediate area. He built his own house just across the eet from the Catholic Church in Sharpsburg, nich he and his family attended. He also sang in e Church choir for many years. *Mrs. Norbert Schmitz*

WILLIAM RILEY SNYDER

William Riley Snyder, married to Sarah Runkle unkel), had ten children: 1. Sarah Elizabeth married Carl R. Sutton. 2. Paul William never married and is deceased. 3. Mary Isabelle married Ralph P. Crum and has one daughter, Sherron Lynn, who married Eldon C. Taylor. Their children are Sheri Ellen, Ralph Winstead, and Eric Lee. 4. Jacob Washington, deceased, married Lucille Marie Rammel and were the parents of four daughters: Patricia Ann married Norman F. Hull, Jr. Their children are Robert James, David Wayne, Thomas Alan and Barbara Claire. Sarah Suzanne, married to William G. Bridges, has two daughters, Eleanor Suzanne and Sabrina Ann. Margaret Jo is the wife of John Eckenwiler. Jane Ellen is married to David Wuest. 5. John David, deceased, was the husband of Mabel Ernestine Lake and the father of Marceen Lee, Thad Allen, and Joy Lisbeth. 6. Martha Lucretia married William F. Schmidt. Their sons are William F., Jr., and John Robert. 7. James Carlton is a bachelor. 8. William Runkle, Jr. married to Madelyn Anna (Nonte) Shepard, has three children, Edward Eugene, William Nonte and Virginia Lee. William (June) is the step father of Eileen Shepard Keen and Kathleen Shepard Thobe. 9., 10. The twins, Charles Edward and Marshall Eugene, died in infancy. *Patricia Hull.*

Nordenbrock family

WILLIAM SONDERMAN

He was born to John Anton Sonderman (Dec. 12, 1825 — March 16, 1896) and Agnes Harter Sonderman (Nov. 12, 1841 — Oct. 27, 1939) at Ft. Recovery, Ohio. John, a wagon maker, along with his brother Joseph, a blacksmith, migrated from Germany about 1843.

William (Bill) had two brothers: Frank (Jan. 7, 1870 — Jan. 25, 1966), John (1861-1882) and one sister Louise (Jan. 20, 1867 — Dec. 13, 1943), who married Stephen Seifert. They lived in Ft. Recovery and attended the school and the Catholic Church at St. Joe until Mary Help of Christians was founded in 1881.

Bill worked for Dr. McLaughlin, a veterinarian, and later clerked in Krenning's Dry Goods Store.

In 1893 Sonderman's Store for Dry Goods, Clothing and Furnishings was established at the location of the present Citizens Commercial Bank. Frank, Bill and Louise were co-owners. In 1903 they moved to a larger building, which is now the Ft. Recovery Library. The store was in operation until 1965, with the last owners being Vincent and Margaret Seifert.

William Sonderman married Veronica T. Recker (Nov. 12, 1880 — July 23, 1966), a graduate nurse from Lima City Hospital on June 4, 1913. They had three daughters: Helen, born May 3, 1914, Rita, born Nov. 20, 1916, and Lucille, born Feb. 6, 1922. All are graduates of Ft. Recovery High School.

Helen is a registered nurse, receiving her training

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at St. Rita's Hospital in Lima, Ohio. She practiced her profession until Oct. 7, 1947 when she married Henry J. Nordenbrock (June 9, 1900 — March 18, 1975), a native of Burkettsville. He had three children from a former marriage. John Bower (Dec. 22, 1940 — May 27, 1976) who married Marie Stammen. They had five children: Monica, Julie, Theresa, Matthew and Nathanael. Anne Margaret was born Dec. 16, 1941. Thomas Henry was born Nov. 10, 1942 and married Paula Brown. They have five children: Troy, Shari, Thomas, Todd and Sarah. Helen and Henry had three more children: Rita Marie born August 15, 1948 who married James Larkin. They have three children Lisa, James and Mary Anne. Vera Mae was born March 23, 1952 and married Joseph Koesters. They have three sons Eric, Kevin and Brian. William Anthony was born Feb. 21, 1955.

Rita entered the Society of the Sisters of the Precious Blood on August 14, 1938 and made her final profession August 15, 1944. She received her B.S. in Ed. at the University of Dayton. Since that time she has been engaged in teaching in both public and parochial schools.

Lucille graduated from Miami Jacobs Business College and did secretarial work and clerked in her father's store. She married Sylvester Knapke on June 4, 1946. They have six children: Thomas William was born May 14, 1947 and married Linda Hess. They have two daughters Jennifer and Jessica. Steven Bernard was born April 6, 1949 and married Dorothy Brunswick. They have four sons Joe, Ben, Paul and Charles. Kenneth Joseph was born March 20, 1950 and married Patricia Westgerdes. They have two sons Scott and Matthew. David John was born June 24, 1955. Daniel Gerard was born July 20, 1960. Karen Marie was born March 30, 1963. *Mrs. H. J. Nordenbrock*

Timmerman Family — **Seated:** Frances, Joan, Bernice, Esther, Anthony. **Standing:** Erma, Gerald, Lucille, Louis, Wilfred, Edna, Richard, and Ruth.

ANTHONY TIMMERMAN FAMILY

Anthony Timmerman was born May 28, 1895. He is the son of Henry Timmerman (March 27, 1864 — Nov. 10, 1942) and Catherine Schwartz (April 20, 1869 — July 24, 1946). He is a veteran of World War I. On Oct. 26, 1921 he married Frances Rammel (June 23, 1900 — May 26, 1971) the daughter of Peter and Margaret Leiser Rammel of Sharpsburg. He was a farmer and lived most of his life in the Sharpsburg area. When he retired he moved to Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

They had eleven children, Wilfred lives at Ft. Lo amie. He married Rita Wagner, daughter of Hen and Hildagard May Wagner of Versailles. They ha the following children, James, Barbara, Tom, Jo Steve, Ray, Paul, Mike, Patrick, Norbert, Mauric and Theresa. Erma married Arthur Eischen son Peter and Veronica Klaus Eischen and lives at S Anthony. They have four children. Marilyn, Robe Donald and Carl. Gerald is a dairy farmer and liv on New Weston R.R. He married Irene Gru daughter of Isidore and Mary Gaerke Gruss of S Anthony. Their children are, Edward, Thelma, Patr cia, Susan, Mark, Lois, Anthony, Marcella, Davi Kevin, Joyce, and Roger. Ruth married LaVern Gru son of Isidore and Mary Gaerke Gruss of St. An thony. They live on a farm near Portland, Indian Their children are, Ronald, Dianne, Dale, Lind Dennis, Doris, Mary Lou, and Jeanette. Richard liv at Ft. Recovery and works in a factory. He marrie Loudonna Reier, daughter of Lawrence and Mar Siefring Reier. Their children are, Luella (July 1 1954 — Aug. 14, 1974) Harold, Ernest and Marjori Joan married Gregory Hartings son of Albert an Anna Homan Hartings of Chickasaw and they liv in Coldwater. Their children are, David, Mary, an Marvin. Louis lives on a farm near Sharpsburg an drives school bus. He married Alma Hoehne daugh ter of Joseph and Anna Klingshirn Hoehne of O good. They are the parents of, Nancy, Shirley, an Bonnie. Esther lives near St. Henry. She marrie Bernard Hartings son of Albert and Anna Homa Hartings. Jane, Daniel, Debra, and Karen are thei children. Edna lives in Coldwater. She married Pau Klingshirn, son of Leo and Lena Sandrell Klingshirn Their children are Gary, Lois Ann, and Alan. Lucill is not married and she lives in Ft. Recovery. Bernic married Urban Dirksen, son of Edwin and Katherin Kramer Dirksen of Versailles. They live on Ft. R covery, R.R. 3. Their children are, Lawrence, M chael, Daniel, Mark, Jeff, and Karen.

There are 61 grandchildren, and 50 great granc children.

Henry Timmerman Family — **Seated:** Fred, Henry, Pauline, Catherine, Stella. **Standing:** Ben, Elizabeth, Matilda, William, Veronica, Marie, and Anthony.

HENRY TIMMERMAN FAMILY

Henry Timmerman's father John Henry was bor in Germany in 1824. He died Nov. 10, 1876. His wif Dorothea Bergman Timmerman was born in Ger many in 1836. She died Nov. 28, 1908. They wer

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ried in Germany. When they came over from nany they moved to Cincinnati. Henry's broth- ınd sisters were, John, Anna (July 27, 1857), Phi- ena (1863), Henry (March 27, 1864); George 9); Anna (Jan. 10, 1869); Dorothea; Joseph (Feb. 1873); Mary (Feb. 25, 1873); Elizabeth, Joseph ıard (April 24, 1877); Mary and Joseph were ıs. One Anna and the twin named Joseph died as nts.

atherine Timmerman's sisters and brother were, ıbeth, Gertrude, Emma, Mary, Barbara, Kuni- da, Frank, Catherine, Anna, and Sarah Schwartz. hn Henry Timmerman moved on a farm in the psburg area when Henry was a young boy.

enry Timmerman (March 27, 1864 — Nov. 10,) married Catherine Schwartz (April 20, 1869 — 24, 1946) daughter of Anton and Gertrude nidt Schwartz on May 19, 1890. They had 10 dren. Elizabeth, Bernard, Anthony, Fred, Ma- , William, Marie, Stella, Veronica, and Pauline.

izabeth (April 15, 1892 — Oct. 20, 1977) and ıs Schmiesing (Jan. 26, 1883 — Dec. 27, 1955) e married June 13, 1911. Bernard (May 25, 1893 Oct. 19, 1975) and Catherine Bruns (Sept. 13,) were married Feb. 7, 1917. Anthony (May 28,) and Frances Rammel (June 23, 1900 — May 1971) were married Oct. 26, 1921. Fred (Aug. 8, — March 3, 1976) and Louise Rosenbeck (Aug. 1903 — March 31, 1977) were married May 26, . Matilda (March 7, 1899) and Julius Brunswick . 17, 1895 — Jan. 23, 1967) were married Oct. 29, . William (April 11, 1901 — March 4, 1970) and Borgerding (April 21, 1903) were married July 28, . Marie (June 15, 1903) and Theodore Hemmel- ı (April 3, 1898) were married Aug. 17, 1921. la (Sr. Emelita) (June 15, 1905) entered the con- : April 30, 1926. Veronica (Sr. Lucianna) (Jan. 28,) entered the convent Aug. 30, 1926. Pauline (Sr. ilda) (April 10, 1910 — May 2, 1976) entered the vent Oct. 15, 1931. They all three belong to the ious Blood Order. Sr. Emelita, and Sr. Lucianna brated their golden jubilee in 1976.

lizabeth's children are, Wilber, Alvira Boeke, nilda Reigelsperger, Melvin, Delores VanWinkle Eugene. There are 37 grandchildren and 34 ıt grandchildren. Bernard's children are, Leander, Wendel, Tom, Melvin, Bill, Rose Mary Metzgar c. 25, 1927 — June 12, 1977) Robert, Dorothy , and Betty Lou Pax. They have 64 grandchildren greatgrandchildren. Anthony's children are, fred, Erma Eischen, Gerald, Ruth Gruss, Richard, ı Hartings, Louis, Esther Hartings, Edna Klings- ı, Lucille, and Bernice Dirksen. They have 61 ıdchildren, and 50 great grandchildren. Fred's dren are, Herbert, Marie Weitzel, Clarence, ph, Alvin, Evelyn Kuether, Mary Catherine ndel. There are 26 grandchildren and 10 great ıdchildren. Matilda's children are, Mary Agnes be, Delores Brackman, Della Mae Kanney, Don- and Ruth Ann Koesters. They have 33 grandchil- ı and 9 great grandchildren William's children Laura Wendel, John (Sept. 28, 1928 — May 5, 6), LeRoy, Roscue, Mary Lou Hughs and Eugene. re are 22 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchil- ı. Marie's children are, Elmer, Wilma (Jan. 22, 3 — Oct. 10, 1973) Alton (Feb. 15, 1934 — Nov. 1957) Marjorie Diller, Janice Berger. They have grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

THE SANFORD WATKINS FAMILY

Sanford Watkins and family moved from Darke County, over the line into Mercer County, when he purchased the farm on the corner formed by Greenville Pike and Watkins Road. He was widowed and left with a family of three children. They were Charles (1877-1950), Annie (1878-1968) and Jim (dates unknown).

Charles taught at Golder School, a one-room school on Watkins Road, to earn money to attend Ohio State University. Here he received his prized Medical degree. He married his neighborhood sweetheart, Callie Green and began his practice in Chattanooga, Ohio in 1904. They decided to move to Ft. Recovery, Ohio, in order that their children, Clovis (1908) and Helen (1914), would be near the school. When, in the process of this move in 1918, Callie died of heart complications, Charles answered his country's call for doctors and took a Commission in the army. He served his tour of duty at Camp Zachariah Taylor Hospital near Louisville, Ky..

With this duty finished, he began his medical practice in Ft. Recovery, where he was still the family doctor when he died in 1950.

Clovis served the peace time army in Panama and returned to live in Miamisburg, Ohio.

Helen was the last teacher in the Golder School where both her father and mother had taught. When the school was razed, Clovis bought the bell from the tower to have his hand in ringing the bell his whole family had used. Helen married Pastor Otto Schnetze.

In 1920, Dr. Watkins married Clara Sunderman, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sunderman of Fort Recovery. They had one son, Robert, who was killed in a car crash at age 20.

Annie Watkins married Amos Ulmer and after living in Michigan, they returned to live on the Watkins farm until retirement. Their son Oscar and his wife, Mildred (Froonmel) bought the home place.

Grace Ulmer married Floyd VanTrees and they raised their family in Fort Recovery. Sanford Ulmer did a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy, then returned to Ft. Recovery to marry Clarissa Bryant. They still live in this community.

Ruth Ulmer married Jimmy York of Louisville, Kentucky.

Sanford Watkins' younger son, Jim, had his family in Jackson, Michigan. *Katherine Adams*

Helen Snyder Wright Family — Dorothy, Helen, Albert and Lloyd.

HELEN SNYDER WRIGHT FAMILY

James Riley Snyder (Snider) came from Pennsyl-

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vania when he was eleven years old. Married Lydia Gilbert, a descendant of the Bidlac family. They settled in Gibson Township, and had four children. He was killed at a barn raising at the age of thirty-three.

Riley married Caroline Passmore and had four children. James Riley married Clara Brock and had seven children. Dave and Ola died young. Charles married Minnie Knoll and had two sons. Dwight and Mildred live in Florida and have four children. Joe and Nola Eley had five children, Betty Jo, Dwana, Ted, Annette, and Joe Jr., all of Darke County.

Monroe married Mary Morningstar and had one son Harry. Washington married Lucretie Clark, settled in Gibson Township. 12 children. Isaphine married Joe VanKirk and had eight children, William R. married Sarah Runkle and had ten children. Wellington Wiley married Viola Brookins and had three children. Marshall married Faye Haminitt and had one son. Charles G. married Mona Lotz and had six children. Fanny married William Rabe and had three girls. Ross married Merle and had four children. Don married Marie Jackson and had four children. Lucretia married Ray Karr. They had two daughters. Louden married Katy Ullom and had four children. Edwin and Arlie never married. Susan Bender had no children.

Wellington Wiley married Viola Brookins, granddaughter of Fred Blume who was in the German Army and deserted and came to America, worked and sent for his wife, Mary Kilmeyer and daughter. They were remarried in Cincinnati using the name of Blume. They had seven children. Daughter Susan Jane married John Brookins. He was the son of Tom and Nancy Brookins. They had six children.

Wiley and Viola had three children.

Glen Bernard married Mabel Straley and had one son, John Wiley. He married Inga and had one daughter, Susanne.

Lloyd Frederick married Della Selterlin, and had one son, Lloyd Frederick Jr.

Helen Esther married Albert Wright and lived on Sharpsburg road, where Cyril Homan now lives. They had four children, twin sons lived three hours. Dorothy Jane Wright works at Purdue University. Lloyd Edwin Wright married Sharon Hoover. These are their children: Shawna Helen Wright, 1967; Robert Edwin Wright, 1968; Dennis Edward Wright, 1971; Holly Diane Hoover, 1969; Andrew Philip Wright, 1976; Catherine Marie Wright, 1978.

Helen, and Albert Wright and their family are members of the Church of Christ.

Wellington Wiley or W.W. as he was known, worked for twenty years as Secretary of Mercer County National Farm Loan Association of Federal Land Bank of Louisville, Kentucky.

AMBASSADOR PARK

Fort Recovery in recent years has been known for good basketball teams under the leadership of Coach Al Souder. A community group called the "Booster Club" was very active in promoting various sport programs. From this group several other local people became interested in bigger things for the community.

Ambassador Park Tractor Pull, 1978

A new organization was formed and they cal themselves "The Ambassadors". It was formed year that Fort Recovery won the State Basketl Tournament in 1971. The group helped to p many of the activities and helped with the celeb tion of winning this great event. At the very beg ning it was decided there should be a park for ages. Fortunately there was some land available a it was decided to purchase 47 acres located on banks of the Wabash River, between State Rou 49 and 119.

Since the first land was purchased additio tracts have been added making a total of 52 ac The property is being paid for on "as planned" b while a group of willing workers are looking forw to a total park. No federal funds have been used to this time.

As we look at the many accomplishments si 1971, the Ambassador Club can be proud. One first projects was the restoring of the old de which now looks as it did in the early days. E year in July the annual Harvest Jubilee is held wh young and old enjoy various activities. Another tertainment has been a fast growing sport cal Tractor Pulling. In the last 5 years it has becom national past-time for tractor pullers with a very thusiastic audience. The National Pulls are held Ambassador Park during the months of July a August each year. 1978 Pulls had a record atte ance. The seating capacity is around 12,000, ad tional seating of 3,000 is in the construction stage.

In 1976 the park was used for a "Area Bicent nial Celebration" which was a historical pageant Fort Recovery, Ohio.

The park besides a tractor pull track also has t nis court, basketball courts, horse-shoe pitch courts, modern rest rooms, and a camping area. T Boy Scouts are planning a Scout Shelter for the selves on part of the land.

The Ambassadors are now looking forward providing a year around pool.

Everyone is welcome to visit both the Ambassa and the Historical parks.

The slogan of The Ambassadors is "People of Fort Recovery Area Striving for a Better Tomorro The 1978 officers are Cy Brockman — preside Norbert Metzger — vice president, Nell Franklin secretary, and Bertha Sandrell — treasurer.

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Fort Recovery Monument (Hull photograph)

ORT RECOVERY, OHIO

he present site of Fort Recovery was the scene of
very important events in the early history of
rthwest Territory. Some of the greatest Indian
es cherished this area as their favorite hunting
unds. As the white man pushed forward, the re-
t was a conflict between the races.

Attempts at peaceful settlements had failed. The
lians repudiated the treaties of their chiefs and re-
ted the sound of the woodsman's ax.

n 1790 the first military governor of the North-
st Territory, General Arthur St. Clair, dispatched
neral Josiah Harmar with thirteen hundred men
o the wilderness. After destroying some deserted
ages, they continued to the Maumee River where
Indians under Little Turtle inflicted a harrowing
eat. This encouraged the Indians to become in-
asingly aggressive.

Although the newly created government of the
ited States earnestly desired peace, the petitions
t to President Washington were so urgent that it
s decided to send a formidable army against the
lians.

Governor St. Clair, far from young, and broken in
alth, accepted command of this important under-
ing. With fifteen hundred regulars and volun-
rs, he set out for Fort Washingon, now Cincin-
ti, in September 1791, to subdue the Indians.

Building Fort Hamilton at the crossing of the Great Miami Fort Jefferson, 40 miles farther north, St. Clair's army advanced into the wilderness. On the evening of November 3, 1791, the troops, weary and dejected, reached a point twenty-nine miles northwest of Fort Jefferson and encamped on a slight rise of land on the banks of the Wabash River. Here, before daybreak on the following morning, November 4, 1791, they were surprised by an attack by 2000 Indians of the Miami, Delaware, Pawnee, Shawnee, Wyandot, Seneca and Ottawa tribes.

The army as a whole fought bravely, encouraged by their officers, but after about three hours of fighting further resistance was hopeless and retreat was ordered. The road by which the army had advanced was the only possible line of retreat. St. Clair mounted on one of the few horses left, gathered the survivors of the different battalions and ordered them to charge and regain the road. Lead by Colonel Darke and a few other officers the soldiers fell on the Indians with such fury that an opening was made through which all rushed in full retreat leaving more than nine hundred men dead and wounded on the battlefield.

When the disaster was reported to President Washington, a commission of inquiry was appointed. While St. Clair was almost universally censured, the investigations proved that he had not had

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support to make a successful campaign possible and that he had acted with utmost bravery on the battlefield.

Brigadier General James Wilkinson, veteran of several Indian campaigns, succeeded General St. Clair as commander at Fort Washington and in the following February led a detachment of one hundred fifty mounted men to the scene of the disaster to bury the dead and recover anything of value that might remain at the camp site. On the battlefield the slain lay thick, scalped and stripped of their clothing, many showing evidence of torture.

President Washington was determined to assure a successful defense of the Western frontier and chose General Anthony Wayne, Revolutionary War hero, to lead another expedition into the wilderness. Arriving at Fort Washington in April 1793, with an army of 2600 men, he began intensive military drill, and late in 1793 he began his advance to the north.

About eighty miles north of Fort Washington, he built a strong fort and named it Fort Greenville. From this place, in December, he sent forward a detachment of troops to the site of St. Clair's defeat. On Christmas day their tents were pitched and the next day they buried the bones that were still above ground and began the building of a fort which was named "Fort Recovery".

On June 30 and July 1, 1794, determined assaults were made by Indians on the fort, but the garrison re-enforced by Major William MacMahan's force withstood the assaults and the Indians were forced to withdraw with heavy losses. Captain Gibson, in command of the fort, was highly commended for great gallantry.

This victory over 2000 Indians and British was soon followed by General Wayne's successful campaign on the Maumee. The Treaty of Greenville signed August 3, 1795, brought to a close the Indian hostilities in this vicinity and established a boundary line between the Indians and Whites; a line extending from Fort Recovery to Loramie's Store, now Fort Loramie in this area. Our Boundary Street is a part of that line, ever since known as Old Indian Boundary Line.

With the treaty the need of Fort Recovery was very much diminished. However, it continued for a few years and in 1798 had a small garrison of about sixty men. It probably was used until after the War of 1812.

Later when the garrison was withdrawn, David Conner had a trading post within the stockade.

In 1817 the John Simison family came as the first permanent settlers. By 1830 there were several families living around the fort. Peter Studebaker married Mr. Simison's daughter Margaret, on February 21, 1821.

The original plot of Fort Recovery was made in 1836 when Daniel Beardsley laid out land north of the Indian Boundary Line, and William McDaniel and his father-in-law Thomas Larkin, laid out the land south of that line. Mr. Beardsley filed his plot as "Village of Recovery", which is still the official name of the village.

Dr. J. S. Fair was the first physician to practice in Fort Recovery. Dr. J. C. Richardson, father of Dr. Vincent Richardson, came in 1843. Dr. Dixon Milligan and Dr. W. Campbell who came in 1851 were among the first village doctors.

Fort Recovery Town Hall, on South Main Street. This bui was donated to the Village by Mrs. Pearl Wagner.

The Post Office was established in October 1837 and John S. Fair was appointed postma Twenty-four other citizens have served in this p tion, with Richard M. Mohler appointed Octobe 1975.

In 1848 a new county line was established and McDaniel's section of the village was changed f Darke to Mercer County.

The first school in the village was a log struc built in 1837 on the south side of West Butler St In 1868 a brick building was erected on what is our Monumental Park. In 1888 a school house built on the present site of the East School. In 1 an addition was added to the south and in 1954 original 1888 building was demolished and a building erected and attached to the 1931 additio

The Commencement exercises of 1958 reflect change. The Fort Recovery School became a par the Southwest Local School District. It includes East School, St. Peter, Sharpsburg and the West mentary Schools.

In 1962 additions were made to all buildings in 1974 construction was begun on a new gym sium with dedication services held in the new bu ing on January 26, 1975.

September 10, 1851, known as "bone bur day" brought 5,000 people to the village (200 pc lation), as the bones of the soldiers of the Inc Wars, found around the old fort site were bu with fitting ceremony in the Pioneer Cemetery.

June 15, 1858 the town was incorporated as "Village of Recovery". Fifty citizens signed the p tion and Isaac Foster became the first mayor. He signed to enlist in the Civil War, and to date, record of mayors have been found from that t until 1888 when J. S. Clum was the mayor. Also found in the village records, but found in ot records, were the names of Theodore Scheid date), A. J. Denniston April 1880 and J. S. Clum 1882. From the town records the names of 21 zens has been recorded starting with Jesse S. Cl July 4, 1888 to Nell Franklin, January 1, 1961.

The first copy of the newspaper "The New E appeared in 1878. The editor was A. A. Sipe and newspaper was printed in a room above the J. Adams Drug Store which at that time was on W Butler Street. The next newspaper was started 1885 by J. S. Watkins and Arthur Sutherland called the "Fort Recovery Times". The "Fort covery Journal" was published by Henry

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:hwartz in January 1892. After the Journal Office as destroyed by fire January 13, 1973 the Journal ews is now published by the Mercer County hronical.

The Lake Erie and Western Railroad constructions egan in1878 and no doubt the excitement which re-ılted accounts for the fact that the old town hall as built the same year. The first train came ırough the village on November 1, 1879. Today ıly freight service is continued.

The first bank was established by John C. Porter-eld and George R. McDaniel in 1881, and occupied ıe small building south of the Gagle Laundermat ı South Wayne Street. It was known as the Porter-eld-McDaniel Bank. When Mr. Porterfield with-rew, it then became the George R. McDaniel Bank. ı January of 1907 it was incorporated as the Fort ecovery Banking Company. The Peoples Bank was stablished February 1, 1908 with the late E. N. loore, cashier. It was joined with the Citizen Com-ıercial Bank in Celina Oct. 2, 1972. The Building & oan was founded and has now merged and is nown as Mercer County Savings & Loan.

A woolen factory established by Krenning & Son ı 1870 had four looms, two weaving and spinning ıachines with twenty-four spindles, three carding ıachines and a packing machine, all driven by a ıirty horsepower engine. By 1882 this first-class oolen facility was moved to Celina.

The Centennial Year of St. Clair Defeat 1881 was elebrated by a three day program October 14, 15 nd 16. The bones of the heroes were moved from ıe Pioneer Cemetery and re-interred on what is ow Monument Park. For twenty one years their urial place was marked by a fenced enclosure and a ag-staff. It was not until 1910 that Congress appro-riated money for a memorial. Work began in 1912 nd the dedication of the monument was held on ıly 4, 1913.

The first gas well was struck in Fort Recovery on larch 28, 1887. It was lighted and burned day and ight for several months, with a flame one hundred eet high. People more than a mile away were able) read by the light of the high flame.

At the Harvest Jubilee on August 6, 1912 mail was arried by airplane for the first time in Ohio.

The Fort Recovery Welfare Association (Chamber f Commerce) in 1935, purchased ten acres around ıe original fort site and the first fort construction egan in 1936. The construction of the present fort egan in 1956.

Through the combined efforts of the Ohio Histor-al Society, the Fort Recovery Chamber of Com-ıerce and the Business and Professional Women's lub, a Library and Museum Building was erected n the site adjacent to the re-constructed fort and edicated October 16, 1938.

Today, Fort Recovery with a population of ap-roximately 1,350 villagers, offers many advantages) its people and those in the rich surrounding agri-ultural community. In the midst of a fertile soil rea, farming is a major source of income. In recent ears production of turkeys and chickens has be-ome another major source. Manufacturing of farm nplements has also developed.

Seven churches offers a choice of religious ser-ices. An up-to-date library furnishes books to wide

The following people are the Village Officials of 1978 — L. to R.: Albert Hart; James Westgerdes; Marie Brumm, Clerk; Freida Acheson, Clerk; Earl Arnett; Nell Franklin, Mayor; Richard Miller; Weldon Van Skyock; Gerald Collins; Kenneth Romer; Terry Smith. Victor Wuebker was absent when this picture was taken.

reading tastes. The Southwest Local School District provides educational facilities to meet the need of all students.

The business section of town, with many of the old building fronts have been replaced with new ones, and offers merchandise not usually found in small village stores. There are many industries in and near the village. A list of these would include Fort Recovery Industries, Inc., Fort Recovery Lumber Company, Inc., Granite Company, J&M Manufacturing Company, Fort Recovery Equity Exchange Company, Fort Recovery Equity Dairies, St. Clair Mill, Inc., Hartwig Poultry, Inc., Schmitt Fur Farm, VonderHaar Meat Processing Plant and Wendel Poultry.

Organizations working for the improvement of Fort Recovery are numerous. The most active include the Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce, The Ambassador Club, Business & Professional Women's Club, the Community Yard & Garden Club, American Legion and its Auxiliary, The V.F.W. and its Auxiliary, Fort Recovery Fire Department and its Auxiliary, Fort Recovery Riding Club and the Fort Recovery Historical Society.

Down through the years, there have been many many changes, many people involved and land purchased to help make Fort Recovery a thriving community. The Village Officials are continually working and looking forward in making a better community for its people and also to help them enjoy its historical heritage.

The 1978 list of Fort Recovery officers are as follows:

Mayor:	Nell Franklin
Coundil:	Richard Miller, President
	Gerald Collins
	Kenneth Romer
	Terry Smith
	Weldon VanSkyock
	James Westgerdes
Clerk	Freida Acheson
Treasurer:	Marie Brumm
Board of Public Affairs:	Albert Hart
	Earl Arnett
	Victor Wuebker

by Nell Franklin

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Krenning Lot

FORT RECOVERY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

In response to a notice in the September 27, 1946 issue of the Fort Recovery Journal thirty citizens of Fort Recovery met at the Library September 30th. Mrs. Iris Longley was appointed chairman and she spoke of the need for an organization to preserve and promote interest in our historical background.

In the discussion which followed, it was decided that it would be best to organize as a nonprofit organization. Various committees were appointed and the time for the next meeting was set for October.

The report of the committee on nominations presented names for fifteen trustees. Those to serve for three years were Charles Barrenbrugge, Floyd Freemyer, Iris Longley, Aldes Mott, and Elizabeth Hedrick. James Boggs, Derrell Franklin, Fay Hart, Mabel Ickes, and Leo Hildbold were to serve two years. Those named for one year were Harvey Ashcraft, George Davis, Martha Rohr, Mildred Stevenson, and Savella Wagner.

The official charter of the Society dated October 26, 1946 was presented at the November meeting, and from the fifteen trustees the first officers were elected: President — Iris Longley; 1st Vice President — Floyd Freemyer; 2nd Vice President — Fay Hart; Secretary — Elizabeth Hedrick; Treasurer — Leo Hildbold.

Standing committees were announced at the next meeting and the Fort Recovery Historical Society, Inc. was firmly established with 17 life members and 308 yearly members. Dues were set at 1 year, $1.00; 3 years, $2.50; 5 years, $4.00; 10 years, $7.50; and a life membership, $25.00. No changes in these have been made to date.

The first projects discussed were the possibility of stopping the destruction of small cemetery plots, the arranging for their permanent care, and the preparing of a room to place collections and gifts that may become property of the Society.

In 1947 the Society received two gifts. Mrs. George Krenning, New Haven, Connecticut, gave the Society the deed to the Krenning Lot on Wayne Street in memory of her husband, George Campbell Krenning; and Mrs. Celeste Lipps gave a framed collection of Indian flints.

October 30, 1947 was the date of the first annual meeting. A report of the Membership Committ under the chairman, Sebastian Ranly, showed a to of 610 members.

The Committee for the Krenning Memorial L reported that the front sidewalk and retaining w were completed. Later the lot was landscaped, cha were added, and it was used as a park.

The program included a summary of the yea work by Mabel Ickes, a monologue by Wanda Bo trager, and an excellent talk on our historical bac ground by Frazer Ells Wilson of Greenville, Ohio.

After completing the work on the Krenning Par the Society planned to restore the Pioneer Cemete on Gwendolyn Street. Much credit must be given two new trustees, Otto Vonder Haar and Mauri Denney. The plot was cleared, trees were trimme and gravestones were replaced. Later a sidewalk w laid on the east and in 1951, on the 100th annive sary of Bone Burying Day, the Society erected tv markers with appropriate legends. One was plac near the original gravestone of Samuel McDowe the other to the west honoring the armies of Gener Arthur St. Clair and General Anthony Wayne.

Mrs. Florence Rapp Cowie financed the placeme of a fountain on Old Fort State Park in memory her father, Charles Rapp, and the Society supervis the work.

Plans were made to secure the relics and cas from the Fort Recovery Banking Company and start a museum in the balcony gallery of the Libra Museum Building on Old Fort State Park.

In 1948 the Society received its first contributio from the County Commissioners. This help has be given every year since.

On May 1, 1949 the Museum was opened. The were 350 registered visitors; a tea was held in tl building club room.

A card party in October and a play later, "Tl Absent-minded Bridegroom," directed by Iris Lon ley and Coda Hull, added needed funds to the trea ury.

Even though the monthly meetings are trust meetings, any member of the Society or citizen Fort Recovery may attend any meeting and prese ideas. There are annual meetings for all membe and interested citizens. At those meetings committ reports are given and interesting programs planned

To mention a few: An illustrated lecture by Ra mond S. Baby on the excavation of Dunlap Mound; lecture by Elmer Glaser on Manuscripts of Gener St. Clair; a lecture by Paul W. Wehr on The Trea of Finney; an illustrated lecture on Life of Lincoln b J. Albert Volz; talks given by respresentatives Frank Cline's Junior High School History Club c Indiana Pioneer Families; a film, Wonderful Wor of Ohio, from Ohio Bell; the History of Vincennes b Gus Stevens; Ohio Indians by Monsignor Joh Vogel.

The tenth annual meeting program was a great enjoyed magic show by Richard Hull.

At other meetings various members gave illus trated talks, namely: the Longleys' tour to the histo ical places in Virginia and Pennsylvania; the Frank lins' tour in Europe; the Stauglers' visit to Easter

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rope with People to People tour; Joyce Alig's pic-es of historical places in Mercer County; an ormative explanation by Joseph Thatcher on the ıovation of the museum; a display of pictures m the Harry McDaniel negatives by Mike Ranly; recall of the 175th Celebration by pictures of the al parade by Don Duweling and Derrell Franklin; review of the Sesquicentennial Celebration with tures taken by Lee Guggenbiller and Richard ll; and a film, American Harvest, by Lee Guggen-ler.

After opening the Museum, the society issued a der with pictures and historical data to be given to itors, and copies of "Historic Fort Recovery" were ɔt on hand until the closing of the Museum.

While the trustees cared for the Museum when it s first opened, they soon realized that a caretaker s necessary. Glenna Sanner, Clara Scheid, and zel Hoke helped the Society in this work.

Another publication of the Society was a revision "Historical Sketch of Fort Recovery" by Martha E. hr. To the original booklet, pictures and new data re added. This booklet is available at the Public ɔrary and the present Museum.

Beginning in 1959 postcards of places of interest re made available. These, too, may be purchased Sutton's Store and the Public Library.

The Society has taken an active part in county and vn celebrations. When the county celebrated the)th anniversary of Mercer County and the State of ıio in Celina, July 20-26, 1953, the Society fur-ished a float for the parade and the people needed depict the early history of the area Indians, Gen-ıl Arthur St. Clair, and General Anthony Wayne, d wrote a short account of Fort Recovery for the ɔgram booklet.

Starting in 1953 the Society, aided by the Anthony ayne Parkway Board, erected several historical ırkers. One was placed and dedicated near the site Fort Adams about seven and a half miles from lina on Route 127. This marker with map and leg-d calls attention to Anthony Wayne's movement troops in the summer of 1794.

Another was a marker on Old Fort State Park plaining with a map and legend the Indian Wars that ground. It was dedicated July 4, 1954 with ks given by Floyd Freemyer, Paul Hinkle, and J. chard Lawwill, whose topic was Our Historical eritage.

A marker marks the source of the Wabash River the Darke and Mercer Co. Line and S.R. 49.

At the same time, June 18, 1958, a marker was ıced at the site of General Richard Butler's death General St. Clair's battle November 4, 1791. This located On Wayne Street.

In 1936 when the first stockade restoration was ıilt, a stake was found that revealed the exact loca-ɔn of the boundary of the Indian Territory estab-hed by the Treaty of Greenville in 1795. Here a arker was placed and dedicated during the Jubilee 1961. Speakers of the occasion were Harold ɔmer, Carlton Reiser, John Suhr, Henry Miller, and chard Knoff, the latter a representative of the ıthony Wayne Parkway Board.

Explosion of 1906

With the help of the Gibson Townships's Trustees and the Society's Committee, Otto Vonder Haar and Maurice Denney, the Pisgah Hill Cemetery south of Fort Recovery was restored in 1971.

Tours sponsored by the Society include: A dinner at Guy Williver Smorgasbord in Hagerstown, Indiana and a tour of Preble County's covered bridges; a Region 6 Rally at Piqua with a tour of the Johnston Farm; a Region 6 Rally at Fort Amanda and a tour of the Allen County Museum and the McDonald House Restoration; a dinner at the Golden Lamb, Lebanon, and a tour of the museums of Warren County, Glendower, and Fort Ancient; a Region 6 Rally at the Darke County Museum, Greenville, visiting the Lowell Thomas and Annie Oakley rooms; a tour of the various markers and parks in our locality which was followed by a dinner at Thobe's Restaurant in honor of Elmer Glaser; a tour of Kingswood Center and Malabar Farm at Mansfield; and, perhaps the most interesting of all, a tour in 1970 when the Society chartered a bus and spent the day at the Ohio Historical Center in Columbus.

In 1968 when the Public Library moved from the Library Museum Building on Old Fort State Park, it was necessary to make other plans for our museum.

The Ohio Historical Society planned an excellent museum which was opened in 1970. The museum exhibits use mannequins to portray the dress of Indians and of Wayne's legionnaires, fort construction, and use of the pack cannon. Other exhibits depict the Indian Wars of the 1790's. A balcony gallery is devoted to the historical collections of our Society.

The pioneer cabin was declared beyond repair and the various articles are stored. The Society began planning for its own museum on the Krenning Memorial Park. These plans were slow in developing, but a contract for at least a part of the proposed building has been signed in 1978.

Present officers of the Society are President — Robert Freemyer; 1st Vice President — Patricia Hull, 2nd Vice President — Richard Mohler, and Secretary Treasurer — Margaret Schroer, with the following serving as trustees: Maurice Denney, Cathy Franke, Nell Franklin, Eva Gordon, Elizabeth Hedrick, Charles Hein, Leo Hildbold, Mabel Ickes, Edward Livingston, Dr. Richard Meiring, Evelyn Muhlenkamp, Arthur Rose, Elizabeth Sutton, and Otto Vonder Haar.

by Elizabeth Hedrick and Elizabeth Sutton

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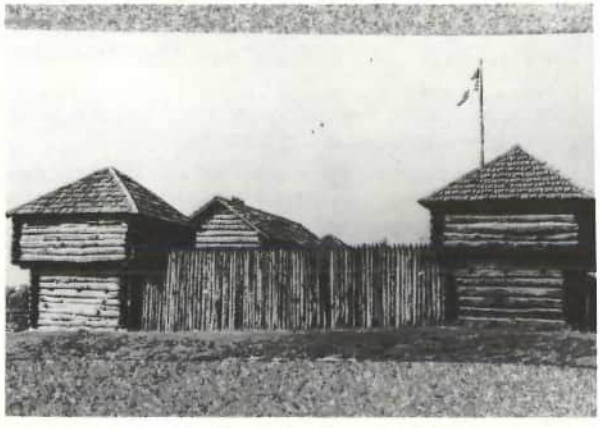
Fort Recovery Monument

Original Well. This well was located within Gen. Wayne's Sto ade Fort Recovery. The well was dug in 1794. The wood curb constructed by Wayne's men is still in the well. (This photogra was taken within the First Reconstruction of the Fort. The structure behind the well is no longer there in 1978.)

Pioneer Cemetery

Second Reconstruction of the Fort

First Air Mail Service in Ohio. Harvest Jubilee 1912, Fort Recovery, Ohio



First Reconstruction of the Fort

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t Recovery Junior and Senior High School Building. All activi- s for these two groups take place here. The building at present ıe houses around 485 students. (1978)

The West Elementary School houses around 220 students of which the majority of them are pictured. This building is located on South Wayne Street in Fort Recovery and contains grades K through 6.

SOUTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

There are no official records available for the first hool in Fort Recovery, but it is believed to have en built of logs in 1837, and located on West But- . Notes from the Clerk's book of 1852 state that illiam Rood was employed to teach with a salary one dollar a day. In 1853 the Board of Directors ade final payments to Robert Blake for the frame ilding he had erected to replace the log structure. laries increased and in 1856 W. F. George was em- oyed as Principal for eight months at $44.00 per onth, with M.S. George as assistant at $16.00. At- ndance increased and in 1859 A. Wallingsford was ued orders amounting to $195.00 for building an dition to the school. Later this structure was made to a dwelling.

In May, 1869, Ft. Recovery citizens voted an ap- opriation of $5,000 to build a school house at undary and Elm streets, a location now known as onument Park. The final cost of this building was ,000. It had two rooms on the first floor, two on e second, and was called the Fort Recovery Union hool.

Official school records are available from April 15, 79. At that time the board members were: Wil- m Koch, G. R. McDaniel and John S. Rhoades, th John S. Fox as Clerk. Records dated August 4, 79 show at that time Principal Miles Moore was nployed at $3.25 a day for eight months, with Miss aggie McGriff and Miss Jane Ann Rhoades each ceiving $1.50. Later in that year Sol McGriff Jr. was ded to the staff at $1.25 per day.

In January 1887, the Board of Education voted to bmit to qualified electors of the Special District of rt Recovery the question of levying a tax on real tate for funds to erect a new school house. The m of $15,000 was decided on, a special election as held January 20, 1887, and the levy passed by a te of 128 to 11. This marked the beginning of a o-story, eight room brick building erected at the esent location, corner of East Butler and High reets and known as the Fort Recovery Public hool. Bonds in the amount of $15,000 bearing 6% erest were issued. Later it was necessary to ask for additional levy of $3,000. The Board accepted the d of Kreusch and Fauger for the complete build- g. O. J. Hager was chosen to superintend the construction of the new school with a salary of $375.00 for his services. A bell weighing 800 pounds was ordered from the Cincinnati Bell Foundry. In recent years this bell has been permanently mounted in a corner of the school yard as a reminder of the many times it called children to school. After contracts were let for school furniture and other equipment, including lightning rods, James Hedrick Sr. was employed to supervise grading of the new lot. The first teaching staff in the new building included D.W.K. Martin as Superintendent with four other teachers. Salaries ranged from $30 to $75 per month.

Floss Johnson and Clyde Oswald had the distinction of being the first graduates, Fort Recovery High School Class of 1889. Commencement ceremonies were held in the Opera House. From that time until 1931, with only three exceptions, graduations continued to be held in the Opera House. Later the scene was changed to the High School gym-auditorium. The Senior Class to be presented there this year numbers 89. In 1930, it became evident that more room was needed and a competent architect was employed to draw plans for an annex to the present building. The Board of Education resolved to submit to the voters the question of issuing bonds in the amount of $58,000 for a fire-proof building, the furniture, and equipment. The Board members taking this action were Leo E. Hildbold, President, William McConaha, and J. H. Bowers. The bond issue carried in November 1930, by a vote of 390 to 162. Contracts were let, and in October 1931, the new annex was ready for inspection and acceptance by the Board. An elaborate dedication was held October 14, 1931, with public inspection of the building as an opening event. A four-part pageant depicted school in the former west building, in the old building on the Park, the present old building, and school in the year 1931. L. W. Reese, High School Supervisor, State Department of Education delivered the address.

In 1940 state inspectors informed the Board of Education that part of the new school addition was in a hazardous condition and must not be used until rebuilt and repaired. Voters were asked to approve a bond issue of $15,563 for this repair. At a special election in February 1941, the issue passed. That same month the Board of Education employed Thos. D. McLaughlin and Associate Architects of Lima for the rebuilding. In November 1941, their work was accepted as completed.

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The Sharpsburg Building is located in Sharpsburg and houses around 163 students in grades 1 through 6. Pictured are a great number of these students.

The St. Peter Building is located at the corner of St. Peter and P lothea Roads northeast of Fort Recovery. Pictured are most of t 157 students in grades 1 through 6 that use these buildings.

Later, more room was needed and in May 1953, voters approved a bond issue of $265,000 for razing the 1888 building and erecting a new one on the same site. The contract was awarded to McLaughlin and Keil, Architects, who completed the building in September 1954. This meant an addition of twelve classrooms, a sound proof bandroom, cafeteria with adjoining dining room, storage space and a main office with reception room. Formal dedication was November 21, 1954. After the presentation, George Jetter, President of the Board expressed acceptance. An address was given by W. D. Darling, Assistant State Director of Education, and Jerome J. Dilts, Local Superintendent led the formal dedication in which the audience participated.

Kindergarten was added to the school program in 1958. The first classes, with morning and afternoon sessions, were held in a room at the high school. Impressive graduation exercises at the end of the school year were directed by the teacher, Dorothea Brown. Later, kindergarten was moved to the West Building and the graduation program was closed.

Again voters approved a levy, and in 1962, additions to all the buildings were made at a cost of $544,000. This helped in making possible a new program in 1966, when the seventh and eighth grades were moved from St. Peter, Sharpsburg, and the West Building to form a consolidated Junior High in the East Building.

When it became evident that the size and facilities of the gym were far too inadequate, in 1973, voters approved $650,000 for an addition to the high school building. The general contract was awarded H. A. Dorsten, with at least eight sub-contracts to other companies. In addition to the playing floor area there was to be one designated for a stage, two large balconies, adequate dressing rooms, rest rooms, storage space, spacious lobbies and trophy cases. The building was completed by January 26, 1975. On that date impressive services were held, with William Wells, architect, presenting the building and Maurice Denney, President of the Board, accepting. Si Burick, well-known sports personality, gave the dedicatory address. The formal service of dedication was led by Cy LeFevre, President of the Booster Club. The printed programs gave due recognition to the citizens and organizations whose major contributions had helped in the building project.

The trophy cases held many awards signifying many achievements. Perhaps the most noteworthy are those won by the Class A State Champion Ba ketball Team coached by Allen Souder in 1971, a the Superior Rating won by the High School Ba under the direction of Douglas Johnson, at the Oh State Fair in August 1975.

Local Superintendents from 1889 to 1978 inclu the name of D. W. K. Martin, J. C. Gebney, T. V Shimp, W. T. Bushman, James Ross, Carl Heiby, B. Prior, L. E. Opliger, Pearl Wagner, J. H. Henk Walter Young, Guy Garwood, E. D. Jarvis, W. V Coy, Wade Wolfe, M. J. Clark, J. J. Dilts, A. Stoner, Philip Williams, Jack Salmon, Arthur Rose, Paul A. Beisner and John T. O'Donnell.

For the year 1978-79, there is a total school enro ment of 1030. The Board of Education maintai four buildings and a fleet of ten buses. Total er ployment includes a staff of fifty-six teachers ar thirty-six non-teaching employees.

Goulder School. S.E. Corner of Watkins Road and St. Peter Roa — **Front Row:** Vic Metzgar, Mildred Keller (Bolton), Thelr Golder, Eleanor Kaiser Smith, Marilda Now, Celestine No Lucille Now, Helma Golder (twins), Vivian Trieschman Gilp Faye Van Trees, Paul Kaiser, Lowell Golder. **Back Row:** Elm Robbins, Raymond Keller, Ed Robbins, Vernon Golder, Eva M Van Trees, Esther Reichart Klingel, William Keller, and Harc Robbins. (photograph from Alvin Keller)

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Fort Recovery Public School (1888-1953)

In the area now comprising the Southwest Local hools, (Fort Recovery) there were formerly thir-en one-room schools: to the south were College rner, College Hill, Goulder, Jones, Koesters and arpsburg; to the north were Bethel, Heintz, Mace-n, Monterey, Oakland, St. Joseph and St. Peter. ıe Bethel and Jones buildings were abandoned ior to the 1920's; later the Bethel building was oved to St. Peter to serve as a second room during e era of the two-room schools. Sometime during e 1920's, the Heintz and Monterey Schools came to disuse. The College Hill school burned during e Christmas vacation in 1929-30; students were nt to the Goulder School. In the late 1930's, Koes-s, College Corner and Goulder schools were ab-rbed into the Wendelin and Fort Recovery Dis-cts. The bricks from the latter two buildings were aned and used to build the present shop building the High School. Harold Hiatt and other former ıdents of both schools helped with this task. Koes-s pupils attended the Wendelin school for a time fore consolidation with Fort Recovery and St. enry. Oakland was consolidated with St. Peter and ilothea in the late 1940's. It was in 1940 also that ore than 75% of the qualified electors of Wabash Twp. and Allen Twp. School Districts of Darke County, Ohio, filed petitions for transfer to the Mercer County School District. Said territory was accepted by the Mercer County Board of Education. Students from those townships, as well as from Mississinewa Twp., attended school at Sharpsburg, Fort Recovery and Burkettsville. D. B. Spangler was the County Superintendent. County Board members were Wm. H. Romer, Pres., J. D. Kremer, W. C. Skinner, H. J. Bobenmoyer, V. Pres., and Eugene Springer. St. Joe students merged with St. Peter students in the late 1950's when on January 1, 1958, the Southwest Local District, as such, was created. Of the thirteen one-room schools, Sharpsburg and St. Peter remain in use, both having had additions and/or new buildings added. Within the present Sharpsburg structure is the original one room. At St. Peter, the original school, located on the southwest corner of the St. Peter-Philothea Roads intersection, was razed, and a new structure built on the opposite corner. The Oakland and Koesters one-room schools remain standing; the former located on the Philothea road east of St. Peter; the latter on the Fort Recovery-Minster Road east of Fort Recovery. *By Mrs. Fannie Wolfe and Miss Elizabeth Hedrick*

Old St. Peter Schools, 1950 (photograph from August Jutte)

Oakland School, closed in 1950. (photograph from August Jutte)

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Brockman Funeral Home

BROCKMANS FUNERAL HOME AND HOME FURNISHINGS

W. H. May started in the Funeral and Furniture Business around 1890, then located on W. Butler Street between Meinerding Restaurant and L. H. Wagner Ford Agency. He built the present brick building (now Brockman Furniture, 107 N. Wayne Street) about the year of 1896. This building housed both the funeral home and furniture store. It was called May's Undertaking and Furniture Dealer. Leo Hildbold tells me this is the oldest going business Fort Recovery, meaning this store as being a furr ture store since 1896. Donald E. Riffle became partner of W. H. May about 1937 and Riffle boug out Bill May about 1947 or 1948. Riffle added to tl present funeral home about 1954 and the comple funeral business was moved to 413 W. Wayne that time. After being discharged from the Mari Corps in May 1946, I came to work for May and Ri fle. Other than the time I spent at the Cincinna College of Embalming, I have spent here in this bu iness. I bought the business from Donald and Katl erine Riffle, August 1, 1963. *Cy Brockman*

Brockman Furniture

Brockman Furniture

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Fort Recovery Bank

Fort Recovery Bank

Fort Recovery Bank

Fort Recovery Bank (Janes Shop 1978)

Fort Recovery Bank, 117-119 North Wayne Street, (built in 1922)

THE FORT RECOVERY BANKING CO.

Ft. Recovery's first bank, the Porterfield-McDaniel Bank, was established in 1881 and occupied the building south of the Gagle Laundromat. When Mr. Porterfield withdrew, it became the George R. McDaniel Bank and finally in January 1907 was incorporated asThe Fort Recovery Banking Company.

In September of 1912, a published statement of condition indicated total resources of $416,827.31 and loans outstanding of $342,167.94. Total deposits amounted to $360,256.33. As of September of 1978, total resources had grown to over $16,000,000.00 and loans outstanding in excess of $10,000.00. Total deposits have surpassed $14,000,000 during this same period. This growth in deposits and loans is an indication of the excellent financial progress of the Fort Recovery Agricultural community.

The above pictures show the physical changes of the bank's premises over the years.

Current Directors of the Fort Recovery Banking Company are: Richard J. Meiring, President, Ronald W. McClurg, Executive Vice President, Floyd Eichenaurer, Vice President, H. J. Franke, George Jetter, Herb Meiring, Herman Stocksdale, W. J. Staugler, and Norman "Buzz" Hull.

Operating officers in the bank are Ronald W. McClurg, Executive Vice President and Bertha Sanderell, Asst. Cashier.

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Fort Recovery Equity Exchange Co. (Hull photograph)

FORT RECOVERY EQUITY EXCHANGE COMPANY

On May 10, 1919 the Fort Recovery Equity Exchange Company became a chartered organization with paid in capital amounting to $23,600.00. This was made possible by 118 farmers, who were interested enough to invest $200 each.

They then elected a board of five directors who were to head the newly organized cooperation. Their first official progress was the purchase of the Jay Grain Co. for $10,000. The new business was opened on July 1, 1919. Its location was on the North end of Fort Recovery along the railroad tracks.

In the early years the Equity handled all kinds of grain and seeds used in farming, coal, hay, oil, and up to ten different kinds of flour. Sales of flour were nearly as much as feed. The first year sales amounted to $213,000.

During the year of 1926, the Farmer Feed and Sales Barn was rented and the equipment and supplies were purchased from H. W. Rabe. The following year the Farmer Feed and Sale Barn was purchased for $8000.00. Its location is along the side of the Fort Site Park. This was also the first year that electricity was the source of power replacing the gas engine on the line shaft.

On March 1, 1927, Floyd A. Freemyer was secured as the manager of the two places of business. In its first eight years there were four managers. Floyd held this position for the next 24 years. Under his leadership, in 1928 the second dividend payment was made. This was a twenty-five percentum, taking up the four delinquent years.

In 1932, the Totten Coal Yard was purchased f $200.00 along with the scale. This being the heart the depression, wages had to be cut. Help work only four days a week.

A parcel of land was donated by the Equity 1934, which is now Fort Site Park. At that time t Ohio State Geological and Historical Society were charge of the park.

In 1941 an addition was made to the elevator the farmer could secure better service. Also, a ne seed cleaner was installed in this remodeling. It w not until 1948 that a seed treater was added.

The first forward contracting of beans before ha vest was done in 1949. The price per bushel w $2.50. This concept of marketing was slow catchi on until the 1970's. It is now used as an insurance part of the harvest from decreased price on t amount not being able to hold in storage.

In March 1951, Floyd Freemyer resigned as ma ager; Norbert Vogel was named as his replacemer In his first year, sales reached the one million mar Feed sales were starting to take hold with farme mixing concentrates with their grain for productic of meat, milk and eggs.

In 1956 a new grain elevator was built. This co sisted of five Marietta Silos and two grain dump This was constructed so ear corn would be shell and weighed. This way the farmers would be pa for shelled corn. The elevator also gave the compar storage for 72,000 bushel; this being a great increa from 12,000 bushel. The cost was $110,000.

1961 brought another change in the feed oper tion. Both the feed store and elevator were remo

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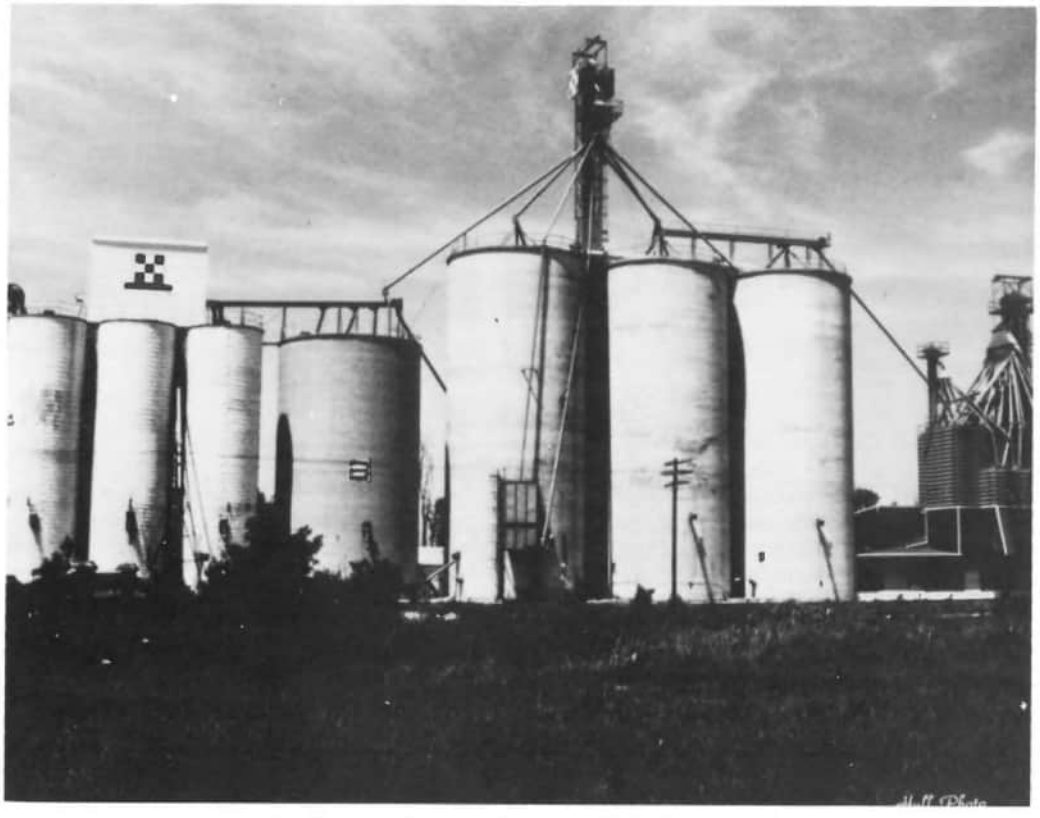

Fort Recovery Equity Exchange Co. (Hull photograph)

ed so the company could offer bulk delivery. This as done because the farmers were becoming more ›ecialized in production of eggs, meat, and milk. lling a bulk bin was much easier than the handling : bags.

In 1967 a new 36 × 65 silo was added. This gave ıe company an additional 53,000 bushel storage. his showed that as the volume grows, the more orage it takes to satisfy the farmers' needs.

Bulk fertilizer came in 1970 at the Equity. This as starting to replace the bags. So, a bulk ware- ›use was built. Today, over 80% comes and goes in ılk.

Norbert Vogel retired from the Managership of ıe company in March of 1971. This was after 20 ears of leadership. The volume grew from less than ne million to over three and one-third million. /ith this growth, it was decided by the Board of Di- ctors, to hire Virgil Krieg as its Manager and Linus art as Co-Manager.

In 1974, the old elevator of Jay Grain Co. was torn own. This site was used to build a new feed mill, ain dump, along with three new silos holding 225,-)0 bushels of grain. Beneath these silos is a tunnel, › grain can be transferred to feed mill without the se of trucks. This feed mill has a bin capacity of)0 tons of concentrates and also truck loading out : 40 tons. These supplement bins are operated by a ydraulic system. This construction was done at a ›st of $800,000.00. It is now considered as one of ıe most modern mills in this part of the midwest.

Having been a Ralston Purina dealership since)34, we now ship around 18,000 tons of chow per ear; this being the largest dealer in the Circleville, hio area. We also carry a full line of health aid oducts. This tonage is about 40% poultry concentrates, 25% dairy and 25% hogs; the balance being beef, horse, turkey and specialty chow.

Today, after 59 years in operation, the company now has over 1200 stockholders. The present Board of Directors are: President Luke Will; Vice-President Vernon Eichenauer; Secretary Earl Brumm and Directors Jim Moneysmith and Virgil Huelskamp. No one on the board can serve over six consecutive years.

The present employees are Millmen: Bernard Nearon, Walter Rammel, Don Painter, David Will, Curt Armstrong, and Henry Fortkamp Jr.,; Grain Truck drivers: Ralph Rammel and Keith Hiser; Grain Department: Fritz Wendel, Paul Hiser and Bob Schlarman. Bulk Truck drivers are Kenneth Stammen, Bill Bechtol, John Will and Thomas Post. Bookkeeping is done by LaVerne Adams, Alberta Beeks, Jean Ballard and Joyce Hall and Karen (Alig) Barton. The customers are serviced by Maurice Collins and Louis Diller. Linus Hart, Co-Manager, is in charge of poultry. Ordering department manager Virgil Krieg takes care of grain, seed, fertilizer and serves as Treasurer of the Company.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who served on the Board in the past, from its beginning to the present time. For without their foresight in both good and hard times, many a day it would have been easier to give up, like many private co-op, than stay in there fighting. This also goes for all employees who stayed working long days at less wages than most union scales. Today we have a volume of over twelve million dollars. We are very proud the door is always open for criticism, praise or advice. We feel grateful to serve all stockholders and non-stockholders, as long as the Board permits. *Present Manager Virgil Krieg*

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FORT RECOVERY INDUSTRIES

In 1895 Edward Koch began making stirrups in Fort Recovery. Fort Recovery Stirrup Company became the world's largest manufacturer of bent wood stirrups. Large numbers of them were produced for the U.S. Cavalry in World War I. Following a fire which destroyed his original factory, Mr. Koch moved the business to a former flour mill on Broadway St.

The Stirrup Company was purchased by George Jetter of Cincinnati when Ed Koch retired in 1946. Mr. Jetter moved to Fort Recovery and continued manufacturing stirrups. He soon began making saddle trees, also. These are the wood frames upon which the saddle is built. The trees required an aluminum horn to be used in securing the rope when ranging cattle. The present metal casting operation was begun when George began to cast these horns in the back yard of his home on Boundary Street by piping gas from the kitchen and blowing the fire with his wife's vacuum cleaner.

Present Manufacturing Plant, State Route 49 North of Fo Recovery, 1977

In 1948 an abandoned church was purchased ar turned into a foundry. The company which by nc had changed its name to Fort Recovery Industrie Inc. began making brass cast, plumbing products. shed was later added to the building when zinc d casting was added. In 1951 the die cast machin were moved to the former Reuter Saw Mill whi was located at the site of Ambassador Park.

A concrete block factory was built on State Rou 49 north of the Wabash River in 1954. The compar offices and all manufacturing operations, except f the making of stirrups, were moved to the new loc tion. These operations included the production die cast parts for the plumbing, saddlery and RV i dustries. The brass foundry continued for son time, but was later phased out.

Plastic products were added when a division Borg-Warner Corporation that made containers f chemicals was purchased. Additional blow moldir machines have expanded the line of containers mar ufactured.

The Stirrup Factory was sold in 1972. It continue operating for a few years in Fort Recovery and w then moved to Alabama.

Additions have increased the size of the factory approximately 95,000 square feet located on 23 acr of land. An office-lunchroom complex has bee added in 1978.

There are now about 220 employees. Wes Jette son of George Jetter, joined the firm in 1976 ar looks toward a greater future for Fort Recovery I dustries. *Esther M. Jetter*

Fort Recovery Stirrup Co., Broadway Street, Fort Recovery, 1941

1978 Office and Lunchroom Addition

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Hull Bros., Inc. (Hull photograph)

"HULL BROS."

John Hull started working in the Farm Equipment usiness in the year of 1896, selling Osbourn Farm quipment in the area. In the year of 1906, John ull's brother Manuel and John formed a partner- iip. Both of the partners put in a total of $375.00 ich into the business; making a total of $750.00 pital.

John Hull died in 1934 and in the same year, Nor- an Hull (John's son) and Manuel became partners. orman Hull thus became the second generation in e business. Manuel Hull died in 1941. Norman ull became the sole owner of the company. In the ear of 1951 Richard Hull (Norman's second oldest n) came into the business. Richard Hull thus be- me the third generation in the business. Norman ull Jr. (Norman's youngest son) came into the busi- ess in the year of 1960. In the year of 1966, Hull os., Inc. was formed. Norman Hull died in 1974. orman, Jr. and Richard Hull continued the corpo- tion. In the year of 1976, Paul Evans (son-in-law) Richard Hull began his work as Parts Manager in e business. Thus the 4th generation is now work- g in the business.

In the year of 1977, Hull Bros., Inc. was presented, the International Harvester Co., the "XL" Dealer- ip Award. This being the highest level of excel- nce the dealer can receive from International.

Hull Bros., Inc. sells and services farm equipment, wn and garden equipment, chain saws, appliances d related items. It extends into a 10 county area in hio and Indiana.

Hull Bros. 1906 (Hull photograph)

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Fort Recovery office as it appeared in 1978.

THE PEOPLES BANK COMPANY CITIZENS COMMERCIAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

The Peoples Bank Company, Fort Recovery, Ohio, was organized as a State Bank September 6, 1907. A Charter from the State of Ohio bears this date. Bank was organized by Mr. E. N. Moore and Mr. Everett Blackburn, two bankers from Kentucky. The Bank opened for business February 1, 1908 with $15,000.00 Capital. Officers of the newly formed Bank were as follows: Harvey Drake, President, John F. Adams, local druggist, Vice President, E. N. Moore, Cashier. Directors were — T. Harvey Drake, John F. Adams, Fred Wagner, Charles Schneider, Henry Kleinhenz, Albert Muthert, Anthony Kahlig, Al Snyder and E. N. Moore. The resources of the Bank were $48,982.28 on August 18, 1908.

On the 25th anniversary of the Bank, the Capital was $25,000.00 and the Surplus $26,000.00 and this gave the Bank the distinction of being an Honor Roll Bank.

Mr. Drake was President of the Bank for a short time and then Dr. W. R. Taylor was elected. Dr. Taylor served until 1924 and was succeeded by Mr. W. H. Warnock who held this office until 1945. Norman F. Hull was elected President in 1945 and remained President until the Bank's merger with The Citizens Commercial Bank of Celina, Ohio on October 2, 1972.

Mr. E. N. Moore was the first Cashier and held this office until his death in 1947. Mrs. Marguerite Schroer was elected Cashier in 1947 and remained thus until the merger in October 1972, with the exception of a period from 1950 to 1954 when Norman Kuhlman was employed as Cashier.

Officers and Directors at the time of the merger in 1972 were — Norman F. Hull, President, Dorsey McAfee, Vice President, Ernest Moore, Calvin Loy, Richard Hull, Wm. Knapke and Marguerite Schroer.

During the period 1908 until October 2, 1972 the following had also been elected and served as Directors; but were not mentioned above — T. W. Clark, Eli Miller, Wm. V. Sonderman, Frank J. Sonderman, H. W. Rabe, August F. Seifert, Cletus Wangler, John P. May, Samuel Anspach, Charles Miller, Joseph A. Reinhard, T. J. Sauer Sr. and Norman Kuhlman.

St. Clair Mills, 1978, St. Rt. 49

ST. CLAIR MILLS, INC.

Downtown Fort Recovery, where Spencer's Driv In now stands, was the location of original m building which was built before the turn of the ce tury, but the exact date is unknown. In 1936 Wern "Dick" Staugler began working for Harry Im owner of the mill. At that time the number of tu keys being fed were about 1,000.

Four years later in 1940, Dick Staugler and Ralp Heil became owners of St. Clair Mills. The followir year Dick's brother, Ralph was hired as the first en ployee.

An extensive remodeling of the mill building w done in 1952. After other business interest toc Ralph Heil out of this area, Dick Staugler becan owner of the operation along with Quaker Oats Co

On June 25, 1960 the mill was completely d stroyed by fire and was then reconstructed at i present location in 1961. The new facility was cap ble of producing over 200 tons daily.

Another feed mill located in Union City, Oh was purchased in 1965.

A new turkey processing plant, known as Flav Best Foods, Inc. was added to the operation in 1967.

In 1969 Quaker Oats Co. discontinued their Agr cultural Division and sold all their feed operations Allied Mills, Inc. During their ownership the con pany name was changed to Wayne Poultry Co.

During 1973 Allied Mills, Inc. decided to dispo of their turkey operations, so in January, 1975, th feed mill at Union City, Ohio, along with 400,0 laying hens were sold to Hinton Hatchery, Inc. Ashland, Kentucky. Only six months later the tu key processing plant was purchased by Hartw Poultry, Inc.

In January 1976 the Fort Recovery feed mill w purchased by Cooper Hatchery, Inc. of Oakwoo Ohio; Werner J. Staugler, Ralph P. Staugler and Le ter M. Staugler all of Fort Recovery. With the ne ownership, the old name of St. Clair Mills, Inc. w restored. Presently over 1,500,000 turkeys are fe along with 3,000,000 broilers annually plus laye pullets and customized feed.

St. Clair Mills, South Wayne Street

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J & M MANUFACTURING CO. INC.
FT. RECOVERY, OHIO

J&M MANUFACTURING CO., INC.

J&M started business in July of 1960. The owners ere and still are Jerry and Maurice Grieshop. The rst year in business there were a total of six emloyees and the gross sales amounted to approxiately $100,000.00.

In 1960 the only product made was a 125 bushel ravity flow box. In 1961, J&M added a 6 ton farm agon and a farm elevator. By 1964, sales had grown approximately $500,000.00 and employees numered seventeen.

July 1, 1965, J&M incorporated as J&M Mfg. Co., ic., with Jerry and Maurice Grieshop as President nd Vice President, respectively, of the corporation.

In 1967 a fertilizer auger was added to the J&M ne and in 1968 a 7 ton farm wagon was added.

In 1969 J&M came out with a new gravity box that as 7' wide × 10' long and a 10 ton farm wagon. hese two items are still among the best selling ems. By 1970 sales had grown to $1,250,000 and mployees to 24.

J&M has grown at a steady pace over the years nd now does approximately $3,000,000.00 in sales ith 40 employees. Their farm equipment is sold in ourteen states and Ontario and Quebec in Canada. &M now has a full line of farm wagons, in 6 ton, 7 on, 8 ton, 10 ton, 12 ton, and 14 ton, also 150 Bu., 00 Bu., 250 Bu., 300 Bu., 350 Bu., 450 Bu., and 500 u. gravity flow boxes, also 10', 12', and 14' hydrauc augers.

THE FORT RECOVERY LUMBER CO.

The Ft. Recovery Lumber Co., Inc. was organized n Fort Recovery, Ohio at the location on Broadway treet. The franchise was incorporated in June, 1915. ouis Moeller, who moved to Fort Recovery from Minster, was president and manager of the comany. He had managed the Minster Lumber Comany previously for eight years.

Peter VandenBosch joined the company as Vice-resident several years later and was part owner unl 1951. Mr. VandenBosch was a brother-in-law of Mr. Moeller. Louis Moeller remained president and anager of the company until his death in June 954.

William Knapke and Albert Bubp were employed in the early 1930's. After the death of Louis Moeller the presidency was voted to William Knapke and Albert Bubp was made Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Bubp died in 1968.

James Bubp and Richard Knapke, sons of Albert Bubp and William Knapke, respectively, joined the Lumber company in the 1960's and David Bubp also a son of Albert Bubp came to the company several years later.

The company has been in the same location since 1915, but two other locations were purchased several years ago. One location is on State Route 49 and has a building where trusses are built and is used also as a storage building. The last purchase of land is at 2550 Wabash Road and several buildings are erected at this location. A new office and display building will be completed in the fall of 1978 and eventually the building on Broadway Street will be vacated and all of the operation will be at the Wabash Road address.

A fire of unknown origin destroyed the building on Broadway Street on January 12, 1949. A fire was discovered about 8:30 on the evening on January 11, 1949 and the fire was extinguished. Approximately at 5:00 o'clock the next morning (January 12th) the building was burning again and only the safe was saved at this time. The safe was composed of walls of 24" cement surrounding and nothing inside was damaged. Shortly, after the fire, reconstruction was started and business was resumed.

The building industry is very interesting. Years ago wood was plentiful and barns and houses were built of large beams and wooden pegs. As time passed and as wood was more scarce, metals and plastics became available to replace sidings, roofs, and other building materials.

The Ft. Recovery Lumber Company serves a large farming community. Many of the services are to help the farmers build the poultry and hog buildings for their operations. Mr. Moeller started several people in the poultry business in the 1930's. Since that time the poultry business has grown so that this area is one of the largest in the country. The first buildings were round brooder houses which held approximately 500 turkeys. Now the houses are climate controlled and many of the chicken buildings hold between 10,000 and 30,000 chickens. The company furnishes buildings for the cattle industry and many of the buildings have to pass inspection for Grade A milk. This requires special products that are easily cleaned.

Many homes have been built since the lumber company was organized in 1915. Styles of homes also have changed. The two-story home was popular for many years, then the bungalow, the ranch style, split-levels and now the two-story home is again a favorite.

Broadway Street

Wabash Road

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Mrs. Schlarman in the store

SCHLARMAN'S NATURAL FOODS

Today, when the interest in nutrition and natural foods has grown to the point where schools and institutions are incorporating it into their systems, opening a health food store isn't news.

Back in 1942, when we bought this farm from Anna Fecher, farmers had already adopted the use of synthetic agricultural chemicals and pesticides. We might have done the same thing, except for the blessed fact that Father Herman Goldschmidt came to visit us. He was the pastor of St. Wendelin parish, and he had a real interest in the production of quality food, produced as God and Nature decree.

Father Goldschmidt explained to us that if we build up the soil with cover crops and re-mineralization, we wouldn't need poison chemicals that upset the balance of nature. The next step was for Father to guide us to books and magazines that taught organic farming, and he lent us his books until we could secure our own copies and subscribe to the magazines he recommended.

Soon I started attending health conventions and lectures on nutrition, and my interest in the continuing study of this fascinating subject grows with time; there is something new to learn every day!

We learned about a natural food store in Indianapolis, Ind., and went there once a month for a supply for our own family. Later we found a store in Dayton, which was closer to home. The owner of this store opened a branch in Greenville, and our son, Gerald was asked to manage the new store, which he did until the owner moved to Florida and closed it.

Soon neighbors and friends learned about the store in Greenville, and many in Mercer County asked us to maintain supplies for them, at our farm. There were simply too many of them to make it practical for us to accommodate them, and they begged us to open a store in Ft. Recovery.

We thought about it a lot, and decided that our three daughters, still in school, had to come before anything that would take me too far from home, and after a lot more thinking and planning, we decided to take a room on the back of our home and make it into a small store. Not only could I be with the children this way, and see to proper meals, but it gave the girls an opportunity to learn about the importance of good nutrition, and the joy of sharing with their friends what they were learning. Father Goldschmidt always taught that if man is spiritual, mental and physical, it is our duty to give proper attention to each of those aspects of his being-ness, and always to seek BALANCE. Now our girls are teaching these same truths to their children, and there is no greater satisfaction in raising a family than to welcome healthy, happy grandchildren into the family, and watch them grow, and learn, too.

This was in 1959, and from the very beginning, we found people hungry for the information about nutrition, and how it is related to the prevention of diseases, and premature aging. As they asked questions, often it forced me to seek out the information for them, which in turn added to my knowledge, and I was always grateful when I was forced to do just a little more each day than I had thought possible.

Schlarman National Foods, Fort Recovery-Minster Road, East of Fort Recovery, at Wendelin

It soon dawned on me that some of the little naggir things which used to bother me so much had simply gor away, although I was working harder than ever. ar longer hours. And the children didn't have as many cold and flu and lost days from school.

As business increased, from word of mouth advertis ing, we were forced to get larger quarters, but I still rel used to be away from home to run a business. In 1962, w built a new building near the house, where our preser store is located. Now, we had room for larger refrigeratio and storage, and more shelf room for display to mak room for the increasing number of new products w wanted to handle, although we have always been highl selective in quality brands.

A true health food store is more than selling merchan dise: it is education and knowledge about how to hel themselves that most people come seeking — especiall at first. With the new store, we had room to add educa tional books, and some really good, pure cosmetics. Fror the national conventions, we were able to secure profes sionally recorded lectures, so that those who couldn't at tend, could learn too.

Today, with health food stores opening in every city there has been the usual attraction of "big business" t become involved in what many see as the fastest growin industry in America — health, in all aspects. This is goo in some ways, but it concerns me too, because the rea health food business was started, nurtured and grew, be cause people who were helped themselves wanted t share, and help others; there was almost a "brotherhood among all of them — manufacturers, distributors and re tailers, all interested in educating people to take responsi bility for their own health, as much as possible, and t take nutrition more seriously than what looks and taste good.

With huge investment complexes buying establishe businesses all down the line, I hope and pray that th health food business will never lose its individuality, it dedication to serving mankind, while making an hones living. If profit is the bottom line, the most important rea son for getting into the health business, then almos surely quality will be compromised. This has come t mean that another kind of education is necessary for con sumers; they must learn to read labels, know what th terms mean, and literally be "label detectives." That i why I try to explain the differences between syntheti and natural, to my customers and why the highest qualit of food is the most economical, any way you figure it THE BEST IS NOT TOO GOOD FOR MY FAMILY, and try to impart this philosophy to all who are interested.

Father Goldschmidt went to his reward Feb. 1, 1977 but from 1942 until 1973, he visited the store at least onc a week, and was always so encouraging and generou with his help and advice. His spirit lives on through hi teachings, and his efforts in enlightening me to a bette way of life. Because of him, the dream I cherished fo years of wanting to do something to help mankind, ha come true. With humility, I say that having a small par in helping others to help themselves to a more full, joy ous life has materialzed into a lot more than the first an only natural food store in Mercer County — it has mad me richer in satisfaction than can be measured in dollars for profit-making has never been the reason for the lon hours necessary, and the hard work involved. But wor comes without effort, I've found, when you're doing wha you love and have an interest in. *Mrs. Clarence Schlarman*

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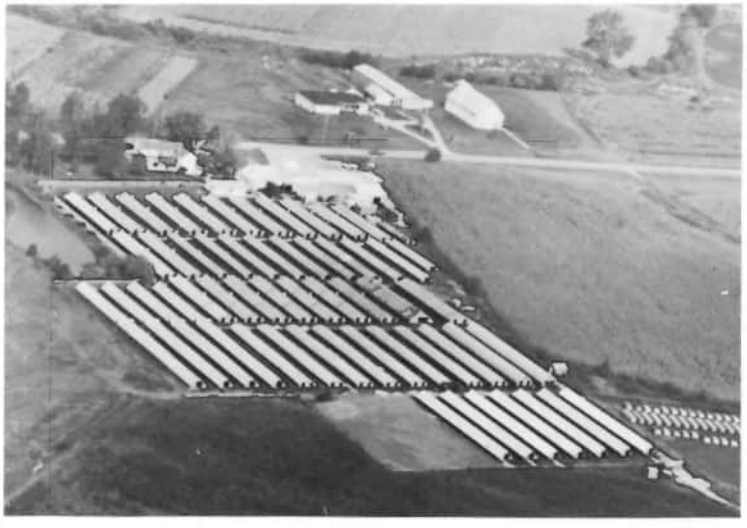
Joseph H. Schmitt



SCHMITT FUR FARMS, INC.

Schmitt Fur Farm, Inc. located at 1038 State Rt. 19, Fort Recovery, Ohio has been in existence for ver the past forty-eight years. The conception of ıe business was founded by the late Joseph H. chmitt and his surviving widow, Beatrice (Lauber) chmitt, in 1930. The success of the Fur Farm, remiisces Mrs. Schmitt, has developed from the hard ork of all eleven children. "The girls, Joann, Mrs. seph Vormohr, Portland, Indiana, Rosemarie, Mrs. hn Molnar, Chillicothe, Ohio, Bernadette, Sister of harity, Cincinnati, Ohio, Virginia, Mrs. Don Becert, Piqua, Ohio, Mary, school teacher, Dayton, hio and Barbara, Mrs. Richard Yannelli, New ork, didn't have it any easier than the boys, Joseph ., Amherst, Ohio, John, Sidney, Ohio, Edward, Ft. ecovery, O. Denis, Greenville, O. and David, Ft. ecovery, Ohio.

The business of raising mink and fox has changed rastically over the years claims Denis and David chmitt, present owners of the internationally nown Company. From approximately four pair of ox and a nominal amount of mink the business has rown to over 100 pair of fox and 20,000 mink.

Mink ranching is no easy task. The laborous ıonth of March is the only time the 4500 females an be mated to the approximate 900 males, keeping ratio of 1-male to mate 5-females. With the gestaon period of approximate 55 to 65 days, much ork has to be completed before the females whelp ı late April and early May. The ranch at this time is evoting much of its time to cleaning and bedding est boxes for the arrival of the highly desired kits. Vith the changing of Spring to Summer and then all, the tiny kits also change. From the size of a perons small finger, they grow to that of half the size f a man's arm. This change is not only caused by enetics, but that of the highly nutritional diet the nimals are fed. Cereal, meat, cooked eggs and poulry by-products, which would normally have been asted, are formulated into a highly palletable diet. he consumption of nearly one and a half million ounds of mixed feed is fed to the animals yearly roducing the highly fashionable fur. The fall months of the year bring out the best of the animals fur at which time those not kept as breeders are pelted. The pelts are taken from the animals, the body fat removed by machines, are dried, and then sent to market. At that point, the furs from the Company, comprising colors of Violte, Sapphire, Lunaraine, Pastel and Darks are sold at auction in New York. From there they are exported to Italy, Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria and Japan.

The fox kept at the fur farm is no side line business. The ranch is composed of 100 pair of fox and with the off-spring the number rises to 550 foxes. The foxes are raised basically the same as the mink, except for the breeding practices. The foxes are paired as opposed to polygamous mating and will only mate in January. "Pups" as the new born foxes are called, arrive in the late dates of March and early days of April. The new born are about the size of a baby kitten but grow in size must faster.

There are four colors of foxes raised at the ranch, comprising Pearls, Silvers, Platinum and Amber-Glo. The Silver fox has traditionally been the fur of high fashion. In the late 20's and early 30's, Silver fox was the fur seen with many movie stars and opera goers.

The fox population has dropped sharply since the days of its wild popularity. In 1942, Ohio boasted of its 46 fox farms. Today we find only about 5 established farms and Schmitt's farm is the largest. The late Joseph Schmitt was not one to conform to the ideas of many. Instead of "pelting out" of the long haired animals, he cut back his fox production and raised his number of mink, waiting for its comeback. Come back it did. Today fashion in the United States and Europe have a great demand for the flashy, soft fur. With relatively few fox farms and the demand so great for domestically raised fur, the Schmitt farm will probably expand its fox operation.

The demand for fur is extremely high, company officials claim. With the ever increasing problem of inflation, people want something of value and fur along with diamonds and other items of investment, seem to ease the problem. The advent of fashionable dress for both men and women, and the fall of the once popular mini-skirts, the United States, once claimed the "Sleeping Giant" in terms of fur consumption, is awakening from its sleep.

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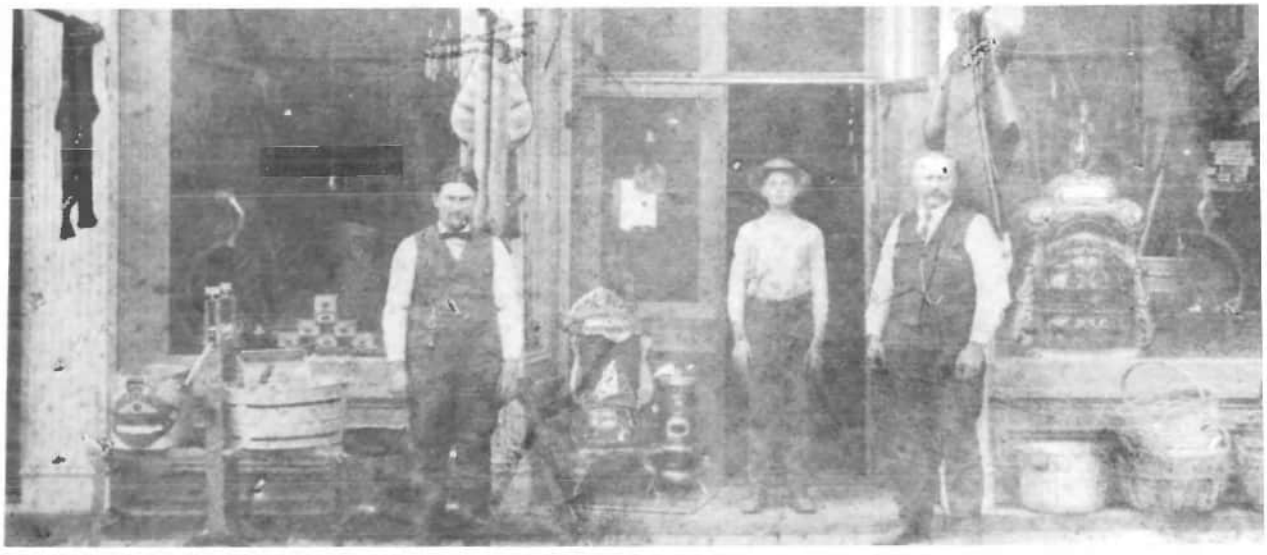

Since E. Wangler Hardware began, no one outside of family has ever been employed there.

WANGLER HARDWARE

Ehrhart Wangler moved from his hardware/ implement business in New Riegel, Ohio, establishing E. Wangler Hardware on April 1, 1916.

The store, previously owned by Joseph Meinerding was the originating scene of the explosion that rocked the town in 1906.

Three of Ehrhart's children helped him during th years and eventually, Cletus took over managemen of the store with the help of three of his children. I 1944 Cletus and son William formed a partnershi which remained until he retired in 1963. At this tim a new partnership was formed with William and hi sister Eileen. Bill's sons worked at the store over th years and in 1977 the business went to the 4th gen eration; his daughter and her husband.

Aerial view of Westgerdes Furniture, about 1977

Westgerdes Furniture, about 1950

Westgerdes Furniture Warehouse

WESTGERDES FURNITURE

Westgerdes Furniture is located on State Rout 49, on the South edge of Fort Recovery, Ohio. Clar ence Westgerdes is the owner. Westgerdes Furniture has furniture, custom made cabinets, floor cover ings, and drapery. Clarence Westgerdes has owned the business since 1948.

The Warehouse for Westgerdes Furniture is lo cated on West Butler Street, in Fort Recovery. The building for this Warehouse, was originally a buggy factory, owned by Chris, Sebastian, Joe and Henry Ranly from 1916 to 1927. After the buggy business Chris began putting tops on cars and upholstering furniture. Sebastian and Joe Ranly had the black smith shop. Today this building is the Warehouse for Westgerdes Furniture.

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THE METHODIST CHURCH

The pioneer history of the Methodist Church of rt Recovery begins with the coming of the early ttlers in the vicinity.

In 1832 we were a part of the St. Marys Circuit. In ose days the pioneer homes were opened for ser-es and there the circuit riders lived.

In 1845 the need of a permanent church was be-ming urgent and in that year, the lot now occu-ed by the residence of Mark Westgerdes, was ocured. Here was erected the first church in the mmunity, with the exception of the log church ıilt in St. Joe in 1838. The new church was dedi-ted in 1845. This was one of the first frame build-gs in Fort Recovery, with a well built structure, the ame being heavy hand hewn timbers.

For years 1862-68 the church was on a circuit ıown as Coldwater Circuit. In 1868 Fort Recovery as made part of the Celina Circuit and in 1870 it as made a part of the Hill Grove Circuit including number of churches from here to Versailles, Ohio.

The old church had been used for almost thirty ears and the congregation had grown steadily as ore families moved into the vicinity. In 1875 it was cided to build a brick church on this present site. ıe work was begun in the autumn of 1875 and the rner stone was laid on October 28 of that year. 'hen the work was well under way, a wind storm ew down the walls and many were so discouraged at they might well have given up the work had it ɔt been for the untiring work and energy of the inister, Rev. Benjamin Day, who helped clear away e debris, cleaned the bricks and salvaged materi-s. All winter he worked, sometimes with help, metimes alone. It was a familiar sight to see him iving a team of oxen hauling material to be used the construction. The church was again dedicated ı October 22, 1876.

Thomas Roop, a member of a pioneer family in e community donated to the Methodist Trustees, lot on the north side of East Boundary Street, site the present church. He was the great grandfather Nellie I. Roop Franklin, who is a member of this ıurch today.

In 1892 the first church building which had been modeled into a dwelling, was purchased by the ɔngregation, to be used as a parsonage.

On May 23, 1893 a tornado swept the community ɔing much property damage. The church was recked at that time and once more had to be re-ıilt. For several months services were held in the ɔera house, in the Morvilius building. For newcom-s to our community, this is the building now wned by Terry Smith. Late in the summer, a gen-al appeal was sent out over the conference and the ma District especially; and again the church was built, and again it was Rev. Benjamin Day who ok as grievous a burden as ever confronted a min-ter and congregation.

In 1898 the old parsonage was traded for another. he lot adjoining the present church site, being the ost suitable site.

In 1906 The Epworth League reached its highest ate of efficiency and was of great spiritual value to e youth.

Fort Recovery Methodist Church (Hull Photograph)

Sunday August 16, 1925, the fiftieth year of our church in this present building was celebrated.

In 1942 the old Fort Recovery Circuit was changed and it became a part of the Landfair and Chattanooga churches. The women's societies of home and foreign missionairies, and the Ladies' Aid were joined and became the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

In 1949 an extensive remodeling program was planned with the present arrangement as the results. The Annex construction followed, this addition has proven very satisfactory, not only to the church members, but also to the community.

In 1958 the church was made a 'two-point charge, with Erastus as the sister church; this arrangement still exists in 1978.

During Rev. Chamberlain's ministry in 1966, Fort Recovery celebrated its 175th anniversary. In keeping with that spirit, a special service was held. When the church history was read, a special tribute was paid Walter Roop for his many years of service, and members went on record as upholding Mayor Nellie (Roop) Franklin and all other officials in seeking to provide a moral, just and holy community.

During the year of 1968, under the leadership of Rev. John Holderman, serious discussions were held concerning the proposed merger with the local United Church of Christ. Although united in spirit, it was voted to remain as separate churches. In the year of 1969 a merger of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church took place and the congregation of Bethel E.U.B. Church was welcomed.

Great plans were made for the Centennial year, many former pastors and members were invited to attend. Bishop Werner being the main guest and speaker. This occured on October 22, 1976. All members of the United Methodist Church are proud of their religious heritage that has been handed down to them by the early founders of Methodism.

The church has passed its centennial year and now under the guidance of Rev. Mike Madison, his wife Margaret and daughter Laura, the members with faith and hope look forward for the second hundred years of the church to continue to grow and progress upward and onward.

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United Church of Christ (Hull Photograph)

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The United Church of Christ on Elm Street, Fort Recovery, is the result of the merger of three churches. It is difficult to do justice to the history of all, in the space allotted. The present church is made up of the Congregational, Christian, an Evangelical Churches.

The Congregational Church had its origin at Pisgah Hill, two miles south of Fort Recovery on the Union City Road. The date of the organizing was May 25, 1850 and the names of the few members on that day were Hastings, Taylor, Hays, Briner, Collins and Topping. Rev. I. N. Taylor preached the first sermon. A small frame church was built at Pisgah, and used until it got too small. In 1897 a larger brick church was built on Center Street, at Fort Recovery and used until the 1931 merger, after which it was torn down. Rev. Diggs was the pastor at the new church, where he served for fifty consecutive years.

Family names in 1897 were Hasting, Young, Coffman, Warnock, Scheid, Reuter, and Wilson to mention some of them.

The Christian Church was organized in 1867. Meetings were held in private homes, until a church was built in 1877, on the same Elm St. site which is now occupied by the United Church of Christ in 1978. Rev. Lewis Lundy was the first minister after the building of the 1877 church. In 1889 the members purchased a bell, the first to ring in Fort Recovery and this same bell, in 1978, is mounted in t United Church of Christ yard as a memento for t public to see.

The original Christian Congregation contained t names of George Hedrick, Sanford Warnock, Was ington Snyder, Wiley Clark and Fremont McDani The above persons, with their families, split fro the congregation, to organize the present West Bu ler St. Church of Christ.

Another split in the Christian Church occurred 1928, when the Church of the Nazarene organiz their present (1978) church.

Prominent names at that time were Jones, Gra ger, Kreider, Hilliard, Cummins, Brigner, Stone ar Rev. Oren. Some of the families who remained wi the Christian Church were Schlamb, Keller, Norr Campbell, Rapp, Johnson, Whitesell, Flayler, Ar stutz and Nickerson. The merger in 1931, put bo the Congregational Church, which was losi ground, and the torn apart Christian Church ba on their feet. The Congregational Church aba doned their building, and moved to the Elm St. si It was then called the Congregational-Christi Church.

The Bethel Evangelical Church was organized 1858 and called the Stuber Class. They met homes and school houses until the first church w built, three miles south of Fort Recovery on the U ion City road. This church was built in 1872 at a co of $1200.00, ground and all. The first minister w Rev. George Clouse. The members were all of Ge man origin and the family names were Stuber, Hc stein, Orth, Shaffer, May, Heis and Cristofer. Aft 1872, the membership became more English, ar the name of Bethel was adopted. In 1913, the fir church was torn down and a new church built, c the same site, with John Shomber in charge of buil ing. The minister at this time was Rev. Wyant. Aft the merger in 1934, the Bethel Church was sold Pleasant Ridge, and in 1978 that congregation st hold their services there. When joining with the Fo Recovery Church, Bethel brought with them th names Eichenauer, Mott, Johnson, Ulmer, Brin and Gagle.

After the merger with the Evangelical Reforme Churches in 1934, the entire body was called th United Church of Christ.

During the past 47 years, since the 1931 merge the United Church of Christ has grown and pro pered. Membership stays at 125 and interest in a tivities runs high. The members coming in 19 from the Congregational Church now number One member, Tom Hastings, is the great grandsc of Waitman Hastings, founder of Pisgah. Origin members of the Christian Church number 6, whi Bethel still have 12 who came in 1934.

The present brick, United Church of Christ wa built in 1942. In 1941 fire destroyed the church bui in 1877 and remodeled in 1912. In 1978, Rev. Rich ard Bailey was the pastor. The 1978 Deacons wer Rod Thobe, Tom Hastings, Jack Evans, Dale Har Paul Evans, Ed Willman. The Deaconnesses wer Coda Hull, Carol Evans, Irene Stone. Flowers wer taken care of by Janice Painter. Jayne Evans was o ganist. The Sunday School Superintendent was Pa Evans. The Historian was Anna L. Miller. The Clerk Treasurer was Lois Amstutz and the Assistant wa Marie Brumm. *written by Anna Louise Miller*

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WEST BUTLER STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

For more than a century the Church of Christ as :ablished at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost D. 33 has been organized and assembling in this :a. The West Butler Street Church of Christ had beginning in Indiana at Poplar Grove.

Even before this time, Thomas Wiley, a Mr. Vint, and Enos Polley Thompson came to the vicin· of the Fox School (College Corner) on the arpsburg Road in Gibson Township, Mercer unty, Ohio and organized the church about the ar 1850. Among the first members were John cDaniel, Elizabeth McDaniel and their children ıncy, Mary Jane, and W. F. McDaniel; Washing-ı Snyder, Lydia Snyder, Susanna(h) Snyder, Bennin Clark, and Fanny B. McDaniel. Others that at-ıded were the Johnson, Hedrick, and Myers nilies. Barton W. Stone and Alexander Campbell e thought to have preached to this assembly in or out 1877.

At this time a group known as the New Light ıristian Church, which stood on the present site of e Lutheran Church, met; among the members ere the Stone, Rantz, and Wilson families.

Each of these congregations desired a new buildg, but neither was able to build a house of worip. So a church building was constructed in 1877 · the congregation from the country and the Christian Connection" — the so-called New Light ıristian Congregation (where the United Church Christ now stands on Elm Street). The rough timr for this meeting house was cut from the McDanand the Clark farms and hauled to Union City ıere the lumber was prepared for use.

This arrangement of a partnership church was not ry satisfactory, but it continued about twelve ars. Each church maintained its own organization, well as doctrine. However there was one Sunday hool with teachers chosen from each congregation. ıe Disciple church, as it was frequently called at at time and not having contributed so much as the hers, was to have its services there on the first ınday of each month and at any other time when ot occupied by the Christian congregation.

This plan proved less desirable than the previısly mentioned one, and it resulted in a very short al with few questions asked by the Judge who deled that the Disciples were to have their rights ıck in the church as usual. Since, under such existg conditions, no one felt like returning, a proposiın was made that the "Christian people" buy the are of the Disciples or sell to them. They would do ither. Consequently the Disciples withdrew and the "Christian Congregation" have the building thout the money and without a price.

The approximately twenty members, having the mpathy of the community, started a campaign for bscriptions for the constructing of another buildg and eight months later the church now known as e First Church of Christ was dedicated in Novemr of 1889.

About eleven years later (1900) a rift occurred that caused much dissension and culminated in the Mercer County, Ohio, Circuit Court Trial No. 195 with George Hedrick, et al. Plaintiffs vs. Andrew Gilbert et al. Defendants. Primarily the differences were doctrinal; the court could not and would not legislate on these issues, but it did decide that the defendants were the owners of that building.

In 1901 the losers of the trial withdrew, bought the old Lutheran Church which formerly stood where the Fort Recovery Lumber Company is now, and finally moved the building farther east on the north side of Broadway Street. About 1918 the East Broadway Church divided and those without a meeting place erected the West Butler Street building where the present Church of Christ meets.

In 1930 these two groups resolved their differences, abandoned the Broadway Street house of worship, and since then have been holding their services on West Butler Street regularly. As a people endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, they stress the divinity of Jesus Christ, the belief that the Bible is the Word of God, immersion in water for baptism, observation of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week (Sunday), a cappella singing, and freewill offerings to meet expenses; also they maintain that all ordinances must be observed as they were instituted by the apostles (in the first century A.D.) with the local church as the basic unit.

Although the number is quite small, their belief in the gospel of Jesus Christ is still strong after a century of worship in and around Fort Recovery.

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Present Church Edifice

THE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

July 14, 1978 marked the 50th anniversary of the Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene. She was born in a little brown tent with a halo of glory about her, the stars of the heavens her canopy and mother earth's beautiful carpet of green beneath her feet. The tent was located in the southeast section of the village where the Sharpsburg road junctions with State Route 49 on a portion of ground belonging to our good friend Brother Charles Miller.

At the climax of this campaign, on July 14, 1928 the Rev. Charles A. Gibson, District Superintendent, Church of the Nazarene, organized the local congregation by extending the right hand of fellowship to twenty-three individuals. The charter was kept open for a short time during which period ten additional members united with this body constituting a group of thirty-three charter members.

Among the charter members was the Rev. R. R. Oren who served as the pastor of the new church for three years. Acting upon the suggestion of the District Superintendent, the pastor appointed C. O. Brigner, George Stone and E. C. Granger to serve on the Board of Trustees. Two additional members were later elected: Charles Middaugh and A. B. McAlexander. Esther Brigner, Ella Stone, Nettie Hilliard, Mabel Starr and Viola Cummins were elected stewards. Brother A. B. McAlexander was elected Sunday School Superintendent and served faithfully in this capacity for eleven years.

The thirty-three charter members included Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Brigner, John Jr., Peter, Erma and Esther Brigner, Rev. Dwight Boice, Viola Cummins, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Granger, Anna Granger, Nettie Hilliard, Elma and Cleo Kreider, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Middaugh, Ethel and Mary Middaugh, Kenneth Middaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Middaugh, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. McAlexander, Mary (McAlexander) Smith, Rev. R. R. Oren, Essie Port, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Stone, Mary Stoner, Mabel Starr, Mabel Bechtol and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Teeters.

The church was organized during the course of a revival meeting conducted by Evangelist Ernest J. Haerr of Springfield, Ohio. Brother Haerr was a dynamic holiness preacher and his stirring messages still linger in the minds of some present today. The crowds attending this revival campaign were immense, many of them curious to witness the stran things that were taking place in this fanatical grou who had suddenly become mentally unbalanc over religion. Some shouted, some went into trance, but great grace was upon all who believed.

Having withdrawn from another church, the a tivities of the group were not looked upon with ar degree of favor by the public. Some persecution e sued but this only drove them to prayer and unite them closer together. Much difficulty was encou tered in securing a place to worship. A room was f nally secured over what is now the Journal offic Here we quote from the Ft. Recovery Journal of Jur 11, 1928, "At the quarterly conference of the Fir Christian Church last Saturday evening a body members numbering 23 made known their decisic to retire from the Christian Church organization. difference in regard to the degree of holiness a tained by an individual it seems was the main cau of the disruption which brought about this step. Th outgoing members have withdrawn themselves to room above Woeste's Garage where they have sin been holding services. The minister, Rev. R. R. Ore who stands with the dissenters, resigned his charg Sunday night" end of quote.

The approach to the worship hall was mad through a dingy, covered stairway and the place i self was everything but attractive. For the first fe weeks a card table served as a pulpit and the varie of old chairs and benches that were pressed in service almost equalled the Heinz varieties in nun ber. However, the presence of the Lord was manife in every service, and many spiritual victories we won. It was never necessary to appoint a pray meeting leader. Someone always volunteered. looked for a time like they all might turn in preachers.

After worshipping some months in this place, th Lord in answer to prayer opened up the way to ob tain a choice location as a site for a new churc Knowing it was God's leading, the transaction wa quickly made, and plans for a new building began take form immediately. Depression days were no dawning upon us but this did not dampen the ard of the newborn church. The lot was purchased

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ptember, 1928 and in November of the same year, evival was on in a completed basement church, th Rev. J. L. Glascock of Cincinnati as evangelist. e excavating for the basement was done by hand, th horses and mules, plows and scoops and men erally covering the place. In the above mentioned vival, Prof. and Mrs. R. A. Shank were the song angelists. The pews were made by the pastor Rev. R. Oren and a few are still in use.

At the close of the first year the financial report owed receipts approximating $2000. One hundred llars was paid to district and general interests. Enlopes were sent to friends soliciting one dollar ntributions toward the building enterprise and the sponse was very generous. They not only came in om local friends but friends in far away cities, wns and states have an investment in the Fort Revery Church of the Nazarene. May God bless evyone of them.

The depression was becoming more pronounced it so was the zeal of the church. Eight months after e completion of the basement, the board conuded it was time to put on the super-structure. his project was soon under way, "for the people id a mind to work." Among the group were found rpenters, electricians, architects, masons, painters id plumbers. None of them too skilled, but they d the job. Not one carried a union card and 40 our week was not observed. Building codes did not other, for time was not taken to investigate hether or not there were any in existence. With vo or three exceptions, the church was completed ith volunteer labor, and two months from the day e building was begun, another revival meeting was n in the new church with the Charles A. Fishe arty as evangelists.

The next revival was held in June, 1930 with one our beloved charter members, Rev. Dwight Boice the evangelist. Brother Boice has held six revivals the church, besides filling the pulpit on other ocasions. He has made a great contribution to the urch down through the years and God has marelously used him in promoting some of our best revals.

In 1931 Rev. and Mrs. A. M. Moorehead came to rve the church as pastor. Their ministry was lessed of the Lord and perhaps the outstanding reval of the church's history took place under their adership in February, 1933. It was one of those visations of the power of God, which produced filled tars in nearly every service and penetrated the ountryside for miles around.

Rev. C. N. Hutchinson was called to serve the urch as pastor in 1933. After serving the church ell for thirteen months he resigned to accept a pasorate in Toledo, Ohio.

Rev. and Mrs. G. E. Schell succeeded the Hutchinons and served the church for six years, a longer eriod than any other pastor to this date. The hurch prospered under Brother Schell's leadership. With this beautiful spirit and pleasing personality, e succeeded in winning many friends not only to imself but to the Church of the Nazarene.

Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Landgrabe came to the church n 1940. Brother Landgrabe was a very godly man nd an outstanding holiness preacher. Ill health indered his ministry and he was compelled to retire n April, 1942.

First Church Building 1930

Rev. W. Crain succeeded him and served until June, 1944 when also found it necessary to resign due to Mrs. Crain's health. The Crain's were splendid young people and left a wholesome influence in the community.

Rev. G. R. Evans and wife accepted a call to pastor the church following Brother Crain. Brother Evans was also a very popular young preacher. He was especially used of God in visitation work often making visits to sick rooms not only in his own parish but wherever he found an open door. Many of the townsfolk expressed regret when informed that he was resigning to enter the Theological Seminary at Kansas City.

Following Brother Evans was our good pastor Rev. C. T. Moore, who very ably shepherded the flock for six years. Brother Moore has been preaching the glorious gospel for nearly seventy years and even today he occasionally fills the local pulpit. It is a high privilege to feast upon the messages that come not only from his heart but out of the richness of his experience in walking with God these many years. Few men have succeeded in rearing a family that is not only 100% Christian, each with a college degree, but with three of them preaching the gospel. Several grandsons are ministers, a granddaughter is a minister's wife and one grandson is a missionary. Rev. Moore's influence through the people he has served and his own family has helped to spread the gospel across the United States and even to the Dominion Republic.

Rev. Lester Meyers, our next pastor and his wife were in the local church for six years. Under his supervision the parsonage to be used as the pastor's home was constructed.

Following Rev. Meyers was Rev. and Mrs. Verl W. Ballmer who would serve the church and the community for seven years. As a younger couple they along with their large family served the needs of the young people of the community. Rev. Ballmer directed the conversion of the old sanctuary into an educational unit and the construction of a new sanc-

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tuary. Mrs. Ballmer served the people as much as her husband in her service to the people. She was often found in the various homes helping the wives and mothers to cook, clean, can and care for their children. In times of illness or need she was always doing things for the families. The young families of the church were like her own in that she was always willing to do for them. Mrs. Ballmer was and is truly an inspiration as a pastor's wife.

Under Rev. Ballmer the first associate pastor came to the local church. Ed Selvidge served the teens well and left the church to return to college for further training in Christian work.

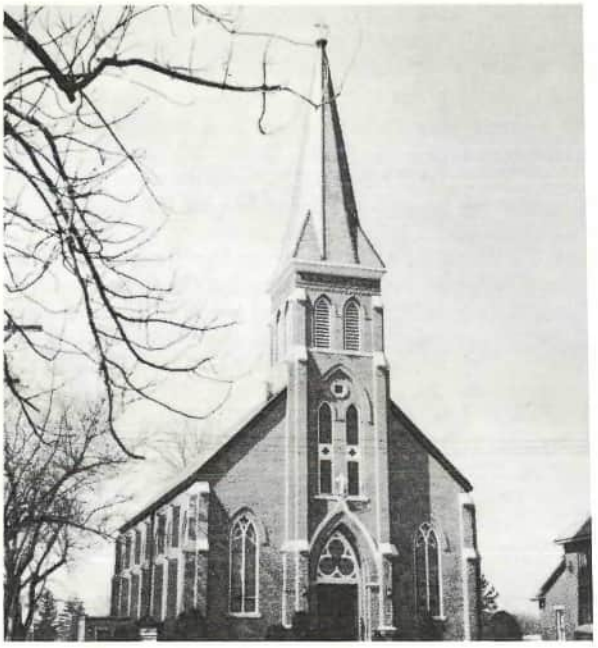
Under the present pastor Rev. Jim Paul Stewart the church has acquired a farm where there is a picnic grounds and started the Bus Ministry. The farm was given to the church by a dedicated Christian member. The associate pastor under Rev. Stewart was Chuck McKinney. Chuck McKinney served the church adequately as the teen pastor, quiz director, Sunday School teacher for a new and expanding young adult group and continually visited the church family and friends. The McKinneys, to the church's loss, have left to serve in Cincinnati in a community Christian Fellowship capacity.

Being a 10% missionary giving church for the last 26 consecutive years, her only purpose is to spread scriptural holiness. The Fort Recovery Church is very proud of the two missionaries from this home church who serve the Lord on the field. Our own Ruth Matchett serves the Lord as a nurse in Transvaal, Africa. Our second missionary is the missionary family of Rev. Paul and Mary Jetter and sons Brian and David serving in the Dominion Republic.

Pastors from the local church are: Rev. and Mrs. Russell Smith serving on the Northwestern Ohio District; Rev. and Mrs. Chas. Grile in North Dakota; Rev. and Mrs. Dwight Boice of the Michigan District; Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Roberts of Waukesha, Wisconsin; Rev. Samuel Norris of Churubusco, Indiana; Rev. Ralph Wood, Calvary Nazarene Church, Bethany, Oklahoma in the Children's Ministry. Laymen in full-time Christian service include; Mrs. John (Jill Cheeseman) Bowling, teacher and Resident Director of the freshman girls dorm at Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Illinois; Mrs. Don (Debbie Ballmer) Neal serving the church at Colorado Springs, Colorado until their appointment to the mission fields; Mrs. Richard (Jeannine Jetter) Warner; pastor's wife, serving the church in Oregon and Bruce Granger, Professor of Sociology, Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Illinois. Earl Granger, official church historian serves as he has since the first day of the church's existence.

The church has been blessed with local ministers, preachers, missionaries and song evangelists. At one time the church had six ministers on the roll. The Sunday School has made a steady growth down through the years. Her only purpose is to spread scriptural holiness over the earth. Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace is the only Hope of this war-weary world and may God help the Church of the Nazarene in Fort Recovery to lift high the gospel torch. May the Church always proclaim loud and long as she always has the message that saves men from sin.

Questions about the church history should be directed to Earl Granger. Appreciation goes to Earl Granger for this church history.



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Early Lutherans in the community worshipp with those from the Salamonia, Indiana, territory early as 1847. Trinity Lutheran Church and James Lutheran Church grew from this experien and have existed as a parish to this day.

Trinity Lutheran Church was formed by fourte voting members in 1869. The Rev. H. M. Kreiter w called as the first pastor. They held worship servic in the Methodist Church building until the fir church building was erected in 1873. The fir church building stood on Broadway Street near th site of the present Fort Recovery Lumber Compan The first parsonage was built in 1883. The parish o erated a parochial school from 1891 to 1905.

Preparations for erecting a new church buildir were begun in 1901. The cornerstone of the prese church building was laid August 2, 1903. A new pa sonage was built adjacent to the church in 1905.

Between 1871 and 1900 the parish was served b Rev. Carl Benzin, Rev. F. A. Franke, Rev. A. J. Feege Rev. George Wolfe, and Rev. A. A. Dapper. Betwee 1900 and 1949 the parish was served by Rev. Wi liam Benzin, Rev. William Emch, Rev. Dennis Hoh and Rev. V. Richard Hefner. Dr. Edgar P. Ebe served as supply pastor in 1949 and 1950. The Re Frank Dell served 1950-1960 during which time th church was completely renovated.

The Rev. Paul Young was installed in 1961. A ne pipe organ was installed in the sanctuary during hi stay. The Rev. Charles Carlson arrived in 1966 an in 1969 the parish celebrated its 100th anniversary Three sons of Trinity who entered the ministry, Rev Ewald Bash, Rev. William Bash, and Rev. Willian Medford, assisted in this celebration.

The Rev. Francis Bock served as pastor from 197 to 1974. The present pastor, Rev. Donald Pletcher was installed in August, 1974. Major renovation o the parsonage was completed in 1977.

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MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH in hisric Fort Recovery was organized in the summer of 381 with an original enrollment of twenty-five famies. The first Mass was celebrated in the former sidence of Doctor Milligan. By the end of the sumer a parish school was readied for classes taught / the Sisters of the Precious Blood. In the following ear a modest, frame Church was constructed under e supervision of the founding Pastor, Father Auıstine Seifert.

Ever since its founding, the parish has been under e care of the Precious Blood Fathers. The Pastors rough the past 97 years were: Fathers Augustine eifert, Otto Missler, Joseph Heitz, Martin Dennger, Joseph Marte, Michael Muehe, Anselm chmid, Willibald Sliemers, Mark Hamburger, Louis efele, Bernard Dickman, Raphael Schmaus, nilemon Notheis, Nicholas Greiwe, Albert Gerardstein, Rudolph Stolz, Aloys Cook, George Heinn, John Wilson, Leonard Sudhoff and Frederick ılce, who is presently leading the parish through a eriod of major change and development.

The Sisters of the Precious Blood, too, have been osely and constantly associated with the parish. nce 1881 until the present, one hundred Sisters ave served as teachers and guides of youth in both ıe parochial school (until 1952) and the public West School."

Contractor Matthew Guese fashioned the 1882 hurch to accommodate one-hundred worshippers; small annex off the sanctuary was reserved for the sters. Mrs. Jacob Anthony, Sr., was given the onor of choosing the patronal name of the new hurch.

Some ten years later a small gallery was added, ıd priest-artist Paulinus Trost embellished the ceilıg with a mural of the Blessed Mother and Christ hild.

Within the next decade of years the parish grew some sixty families. Plans were then set for a new othic-style, brick Church, seating about three hunred. The cornerstone was laid in 1901 and Dedicaon Day was held on August 15, 1902.

In 1956, when the parish marked its 75th Anniversary, the number of families had nearly quadrupled to two hundred, twenty-five. Twenty years later, on March 28, 1976, as Groundbreaking Ceremonies for the new Mary Help of Christians Church were held, the parish register of members included one hundred, fifty more families.

Solemnly dedicated on December 11, 1977, the impressive new Church is decorously designed for parish liturgies in a modern and devotional setting, and is spaciously suited to the present and future needs of the parish. The stained-glass windows, preserved from the old church, lend their old special luster to the new edifice. Beneath the church, a full basement, or undercroft, accommodates a wide variety of parochial activities and apostolates. The seating capacity in the main church is six hundred. A separate Chapel, seating fifty, is used for the weekday liturgies. The main church, the undercroft, and the Chapel have their own heating and air-conditioning systems.

Adjoining the church, a new rectory stands ready for finishing touches and the completion of the modern parish plant on a ten-acre site at the junction of State Route 49 and Sharpsburg Road. Four acres of the plot were donated by Mrs. Beatrice Schmitt, in memory of her husband Joseph.

The new complex was designed by Freytag and Associates, Architects-Engineers, of Sidney, Ohio and constructed by H. A. Dorsten, Inc. of Minster, Ohio. Both structures were built under the pastorate of Father Fred Falce, C.PP.S. Father Ernest Lucas, C.PP.S. is the present Associate Pastor. Father Richard Schalk helped out for a time during the construction years.

Meanwhile, at the former parish site, along South Wayne Street, the old church has been razed and removed from the scene, and the former rectory (built in 1941) is now a private family residence.

The Cafeteria and Parish Hall (built in 1961) and the St. Mary's School (1921) still remain on the scene, along with the Sisters' Convent on Gwendolyn Street (built in 1958).

For seventy-one years the parish maintained its own private or parochial school. But then, in 1952, an agreement of consolidation was made between the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, the Congregation and the Public School Board, and St. Mary's School became a part of the Southwest Local School District.

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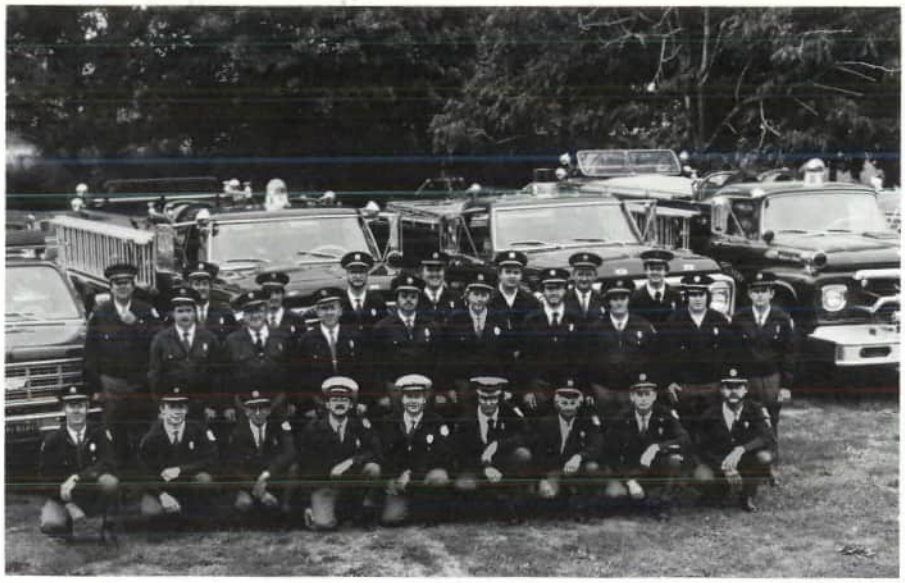

Fort Recovery Fire Department — **First Row, Front:** Ken Romer, Curt Armstrong, Melvin Wendel, Ass't Chief Steve Franke, Chief Alvin Wendel, Ass't Chief Carl Hastings, Carl Adams, Secretary Floyd Bergman, Dale Thobe. **Second Row:** Mike Collins, Gerald Collins, Bud Granger, Mike Laux, Lieut. Ed Wehrkamp, Mike Thobe, Mark VanTrees, Tom Winchester, Leo Snider. **Third Row:** Treasurer Jim Bubp, Richard Jackish, Marvin Collins, Rodney Thobe, Chuck Hein, Ivan Kaffenberger, Jerry Pearson, Capt. Mike Hickerson. (Hull Photograph)

Fort Recovery Fire Department

1928 Reo. — Bill Faller, Wes King, Henry Ranly, Baldy Miller, Chas. Golden, Jim Coughlin, Henry Vogel, Chief.

Fort Recovery Fire Department 1952 — Cecil (Sparkplug) Bickel, Corky (Fireball) Zehringer, Kurt (Inspector) Jackisch, James (Red Light) Brannan, Jim (Starter) Zehringer, Maurice (Smoke Eater) Denney, Bill (Assistant Chief) Knapke, Wm. (War Horse) Faller, Sr.

FORT RECOVERY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fort Recovery Hook and Ladder Compar was organized July 23, 1885. Twenty-six dedicate and courageous citizens gave of their time to prote the village. They met weekly at the "Engine Roor located at the present water plant, to train and ha equipment ready. Having equipment "in readines in the 1880's meant cleaning and filling lantern scouring and polishing the brass fixtures, washir and greasing hand drawn hose carts and a har pumper and checking the condition of picks, axe and chains. After the work was finished there w time for good fellowship.

Early water sources were from three cisterns l cated in strategic areas of the village. During th early 1900's a water plant was built and water lin and hydrants were installed.

The city council purchased the first truck, a 19 Reo. At first funds were derived from dues of mer bers and the village paying for equipment. Danc and suppers were also held to support the depar ment. During the 1940's, the village and the tow ships of Gibson, Washington, and Recovery join together to form a community fire department.

The department has agreements of "mutual aic with most other area departments in the event of major fire or disaster and belongs to Mercer Coun Fireman's Assoc., Darke County Fireman's Asso and Central Western Fireman's Assoc. They are al able to communicate with one another through a r dio system.

New trucks and equipment have been added du ing the years as funds allowed or law require. present, the fire apparatus includes three pumpers, tanker, grass truck and varied equipment. It housed at its station on North Wayne Street.

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FORT RECOVERY FIREMEN'S AUXILIARY

The wives of the firemen joined together to ena- them to better help the firemen and as a social oup. Organized in 1958, it was the first firemen's xiliary in Mercer County.

During the past two decades these ladies have ved hot coffee and food at major fires and acted hostesses at some of the firemen's functions. ntributions of time and energy have been made community projects such as the "Jubilee" and the ntennial celebrations. Sponsoring Red Cross and R classes have been other activities.

They've had fund raising projects such as prepar- ; and serving meals for local groups, making car- l corn and homemade noodles, having lunch- nds at auctions, etc. The profits were used to rchase uniforms, kitchen equipment for the fire ll and various other projects.

Over the years, the ladies have participated in emorial Day and Firemen's Convention parades d area waterball contests. Family picnics and Hal- veen parties were planned and enjoyed by the nilies.

The ladies meet on the first Wednesday of each nth.

Fort Recovery Firemen's Auxiliary — **First Row:** Kathy Thobe, Cathrine Franke, Edith Bickel, Vice-President Joan Bergman, President Martha Wendel, Secretary Sandi Armstrong, Harriett Pearson, LaVerne Adams. **Second Row:** Jan Hickerson, Rosie Snider, Roxanne Winchester, Kathy Laux, Donna Collins, Rita Jutte, Charlene Bubp. **Absent:** Treasurer Rita Granger, Mary Kay Jackish, Ann Steinbrunner, Regina Wendel, and Rosemary Zehringer. (Hull photograph)

'SI IOTA XI SORORITY — THETA ZETA CHAPTER

Psi Iota Xi, Theta Zeta Chapter, of Fort Recovery is formed because of the interest and enthusiasm Mrs. Ralph West and our sponsoring chapter, mma Alpha of Portland, Indiana.

On June 9, 1971, eighteen members signed the arter in the sanctuary of the United Methodist urch, thus forming the first social sorority in Fort covery's history. Charter members were: Carol ach, Dolores Beyke, Charlene Bubp, Marilyn rke, Cathy Etzler, Janice Fiely, Carol Good, Patri- a Hull, June Jackisch, Mary Meixner, Elaine mer, Marlyn Schlemann, Irene Stone, Jane Tebbe, leen West, Donna Wilberding, Joan VonderHaar d Mary Pat Zitter.

Community service, with financial and charitable nations have made up the work done by the so- rity since 1971.

Psi Iota Xi's National interest is in the field of eech and hearing. Also being a cultural organiza- n, the sorority supports music and art projects th on the local and national level. Due to the suc- ss of our annual Christmas Bazaar and other oney-making projects, the sorority has been proud contribute in excess of $10,000 to our community d schools.

In 1973 a Memorial Scholarship was established memory of our Psi Ote sister, Dolores "Peachy" yke. The chapter delights in helping to further the ucation of a deserving Fort Recovery High School nior. Recipients of this scholarship have been: 1974 Tom Souder, 1975 Virginia Snyder, 1976 Joe Fiely, 1977 Margaret Zehringer and 1978 Charmaine Bergman.

Charter Officers, Psi Iota Xi Sorority Theta Chapter, Fort Recovery, Ohio — Dolores Beyke, Carol Beach, Cathy Etzler, Eileen West, Donna Wilberding, Jane Tebbe.

Theta Zeta Chapter looks forward to the ensuing years with a promise to continue to search for and find areas of need and give freely of our time, talents and funds to further charitable enterprises.

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L. to R.: Virginia Staugler, Assistant Librarian; Evelyn Snyder, Head Librarian.

FORT RECOVERY PUBLIC LIBRARY

When the Fort Recovery Business and Professional Women's Club organized in 1928, the club's first project was the opening of a reading room in a former grocery store on the corner of Wayne and Butler Streets. The shelves were soon filled with books given by interested citizens. Members of the club donated their time and kept the reading room open several hours on certain days.

For three years all expenses were paid by the club and voluntary donations. April 24, 1931 the reading room became the Fort Recovery Public Library when an organization meeting was held and seven members appointed by the Fort Recovery School District became the first Library Board. Those appointed were Ethel Johnson, Edna Krenning, Martha Rohr, Elnora Keller, Ida H. Frazier, Maude Rose and E. D. Jarvis.

The first officers of the Fort Recovery Public Library Board of Trustees were Ethel Johnson — President; Edna Krenning — Vice President; Martha Rohr — Secretary; E. D. Jarvis — Treasurer. Maude Rose and Ida H. Frazier were appointed to draft and present bylaws which were adopted at the May 1, 1931 meeting.

Mrs. Hazel Hoke was elected librarian and was to be paid once each month at the rate of $5.00 per week. A report of the first month showed circulation of 324 books. The magazine total was 35.

On May 5, 1932 check number 1 was issued by the Fort Recovery Public Library. Previous bills had been paid by the Fort Recovery Board of Education or the Business and Professional Women's Club.

At the first annual meeting the librarian's report gave the yearly circulation of books 5099 and magazines 429.

At this meeting the maximum amount to be appropriated by the Board of Education was given and the amount made it necessary to reduce expenses. It was decided to place the librarian's salary at $4.00 per week and reduce the number of hours the library would be open.

In 1933 mention was made of a new law which would be a tax to help support libraries. The secretary was to secure information about this intangible tax.

July 1933 the Library Board presented an estimate of expenditures to the auditor of Mercer County, and from the new intangible tax revenue the libra was to receive money in 1934 May and October se tlements.

Income became higher and the librarian's sala was raised and the library was open more hours.

At the Board Meeting November 27, 1935 a lett from H. R. McPherson of the Ohio Archaeologic and Historical Society was presented. It was relati to a building which had been proposed for locati on the New State Park Site. It suggested the possib ity of its being a Library Museum Building. Tl Board was definitely interested and set aside mon in a building fund at the same meeting.

By 1937 the Library reading room was open 1: hours per week and the salary of the librarian i creased.

Board meetings were regular and called ones the plans for the Library Museum Building were di cussed and arrangements were made to move to new location.

A lease for ten years was signed with the Ohio A chaeological and Historical Society and a form dedication was held October 16, 1938. Greetin were given by Mabel Curll Neely, a member of tl Business and Professional Women's Club when tl first reading room was formed. An address w given by Dr. Harlow Lindly, Secretary and Librari of the Ohio Society.

At the December 1938 Board meeting the clerk the board was paid for the first time. All service that date had been free.

Many things were needed for the new buildin The bill for the furnace was paid by the board. Tl American Legion and Auxiliary furnished some t bles and chairs. The Business and Profession Women's Club added more matching furnitur Mrs. Neely furnished the ceiling lights.

The Business and Professional Women's clu equipped the basement club room, placing in table chairs, and window drapes. The kitchen w equipped and a small charge was made for its use.

In 1940 the Board of Education needed a room f first and second grades and arrangements we made to use the reading room. Desks and sma chairs soon filled the library space.

At the annual meeting Januray 1942 Mrs. Eliz beth Sutton was employed to replace Mrs. Haz Hoke who had been librarian since the beginning the reading room in 1928. For the first time an a sistant librarian was employed.

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As the years passed many served as librarians and ıistant librarians. Some served short periods; some ıg periods. Among the latter were Ruth Hagle, anda Bontrager, Lois Amstrutz, Cordula Kessler d Anna Louise Miller.

The lease with the Ohio Historical Society was re-wed in 1947 but the building was soon filled with oks and magazines and it was necessary to place elves wherever space was available and add also to stacks by increasing their height. In doing so the w of the fireplace and west windows was blocked. donation by the Ta Ho Club helped purchase ta-lamps for better lighting.

In 1960 the Board established a branch library in Fort Recovery High School and the librarians ved in both the High School and Public Library. is service continued until 1969 when Lois Am-ıtz resigned from the Public Library to serve full ıe in the High School Library.

Realizing that more space was necessary the ard presented plans to the Ohio Historical Society enclose the porch or build a wing on the west. ither plan was approved by the Ohio Society. hen the lease on the building was renewed until cember 1968, the Board was informed that the ıio Society would like to use the entire building a museum.

In 1964 the Library Board decided to look for me other building suitable for a library, and a year er through two large donations, it was able to pur-ase the Fetter Building on Wayne Street.

Meeting with a representative of the Milosevich autwein Company, the Board asked for plans to novate the building. A drive for funds showed citi-ns approved and the building deed was trans-red to the Library Board.

The contract for renovation by the Milosevich autwein Company was signed in March 1966 but was not until late in that year that contracts were ade for renovation, with Hartford Glass Company, itkamp Construction Company, and Rammel eating and Plumbing Company.

Various changes were made following state in-ection but gradually the building was ready for rpet by Brockman's, interior painting by Kreider int Store, tile flooring by Bob's Cabinets and acks, magazine racks, catalog files and other neces-ry equipment by the Heller Company.

The move to the new building was done in early 68 but the Library was not dedicated until June 30, 68. Greetings were given by Carl Hagle, President the Board. There was an address by Mr. R. J. auffer, Director of the Western Ohio Educational undation and tea and cookies were served to the citizens attending the service by Mrs. Spencer and her committee.

A change in the front of the second story was made by its being faced by the Condit Construction Products Company.

This same year the Library Board, as successor-donee to a trust fund established earlier, received a $10,000 trust fund when the Fort Recovery Better-ment Corporation gave up control of the Wagner Medical Center.

The Board approved entering a library organiza-tion called Western Ohio Regional Library District System "Worlds" and became a part of that group of libraries September 28, 1971.

Through this organization funds have been re-ceived for various library projects. Not only books and magazines but audio-visual aids could be pur-chased. The Library added records and films for public use. The librarians and trustees have at-tended meetings of WORLDS in different libraries throughout the district.

A copy machine paid partly by a donation of the Psi Iota XI Sorority was added to the library equip-ment. Later another donation by the same sorority helped pay for a projector.

For many years the Franke Agency has furnished twelve magazines. They are chosen by the librarians and are on a special magazine rack in the library.

The Fort Recovery Public Library is a member of the Ohio Library Trustees Association and the Ohio Library Association.

The library continues to grow; stacks, magazine racks and card catalogues have been added and when the stacks were placed in 1978, the Board real-ized that some expansion must be considered. There is the possibility of using the second story or build-ing a wing on the west parking lot.

The 1977 yearly report of the Fort Recovery Public Library gave the following data: Registered borrow-ers — 2874; Total book circulation — 58,277; Films loaned 603; Recording loaned — 2,486; Hours open — 34½ per week.

The 1978 Library staff members are Evelyn Sny-der — Head Librarian; Velma Boroff and Virginia Staugler — Assistant Librarians; Cordula Kessler — Substitute; and Tamela Mohler — Student page.

There have been many citizens who have been ap-pointed by the Board of Education who have served faithfully on the Library Board. Present members are Arthur Rose — President; Jean Spencer — Vice-President; Secretary — Mary Alice Anthony; Clerk — Bertha Sanderell; George Jetter, Elizabeth He-drick and Rev. Richard Bailey. *by Elizabeth Hedrick*

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EMMET MANNIX, POST 345, AMERICAN LEGION Fort Recovery, Ohio

On August 6, 1918, Pvt. Emmet Mannix, 38th Infantry, 3rd division, was killed in action. He was a native of Fort Recovery. So in 1921, when the veterans were all back home again, they decided to form a Legion Post in Fort Recovery. Harold Ulmer was the first commander, and there were 60 members. Naturally the Post was named after our hometown boy, Emmet Mannix. Their first meetings were held in a converted grainery north of Fort Recovery. These men kept the organization going, always working for their fellowmen and the community.

In 1946, after World War II, the Post grew to great proportions, member wise. Space, however, was now the main problem. So land was purchased at the present site, and a large building program was begun. The members voted on a quonset type building, and plans were laid. They salvaged the grainery and made a kitchen out of this, added a bar area onto the kitchen and then proceeded with the quonset hall. The estimated cost was $13,250.88. When it was completed, the actual cost was $30,808.38. Then in 1949, the Emmet Mannix Post 345 was incorporated. The new building was finally completed and dedication was held June 24, 1951 with a membership of 225.

In 1951, there were 2100 veterans of World War II and 600 World War I veterans eligible to join the Legion in Mercer County alone. The quonset type hall was a very active place throughout the 50's and 60's. Field trails are held semiannually, March and November, and they have just completed their 30th annual November trails, with people participating from all over the county. Bingo was also held every Wednesday night, with the Legion members working together to make it a success. Weddings, reunions, Christmas parties, and dances were forever happening at Post 345.

In 1964-65, another building project was underway. The old grainery and bar area in the Front Hall had to be replaced. A new addition was added on the east end of the quonset. It was 40 x 40 ft. and a beautiful new bar area and kitchen was installed. At this time, a club room was also put in the basement, and things were still very active around Post 345. This new addition cost approximately $45,000.

In the early 70's, talk began again about building a larger hall. The quonset had served the purpose, but more room was needed to accomodate more people. So in 1972, another building committee was selected and plans began again for a new hall. This present American Legion Hall in Fort Recovery was built over the top of the quonset hall. It is 80 x 80 ft. and modern in every way. While being built over the top of the old building, business was being conducted as usual in the hall and the club room in the basement all through this project. Bingo was played as usual, and other business and meetings as well. On October 6, 1974, Post 345 held another dedication to one of the most beautiful and spacious halls in the country. It is fully air-conditioned, seats 500 comfortably and hospitality is great.

What started in 1921 as a few men's dream is now one of the most active Legion Posts in the countı Their membership now stands at 289, with many these being very active members at all times.

Emmet Mannix Post 345, American Legion is a tive in all civic and community affairs. The membe are ever willing to lend a hand whenever they a needed. We are proud of our Post and all our mer bers.

AUXILIARY UNIT #345

Records of how the Auxiliary of Emmett Manr Unit #345 of Ft. Recovery, Ohio was formed and Charter obtained at the time when the Legion was its infant stage cannot be found. It has been hand down by word of mouth that there had been a Auxiliary Unit and the Charter was lost wh through possible lack of interest the Unit was di solved. Records of the Unit after its reorganizatic in 1934 show a carry-over of $5.62 from 1922.

On April 9, 1934 an organization meeting w held for the purpose of securing members. On M 14, 1934 the first organized meeting was held wi Fay Wagner as president. Plans were made for dra ing up a constitution. There were 23 charter mer bers and the dues were $.65 per member. Meetin were held in the homes of various members.

Since this second beginning the Auxiliary h been a very strong Unit, supporting the programs the American Legion: aiding the Veteran and t children of the Veteran, especially in the hospita and children's homes, promoting Americanism the schools, being of service to the Community. Tw of the largest community projects are helping t needy especially at Christmas time and being charge of the bingo stand at the Harvest Jubilee wit the entire proceeds donated to the community. Eac year, March finds us celebrating the birthday of t Legion with a joint Legion-Auxiliary birthday part consisting of a dinner followed by a dance for all t members.

A member, Peg Roessner served as Second Di trict President for the years 1965, 66 and 1966, 6 The Junior Auxiliary was added to the Unit in 196 These young girls are semi-active with their bigge project the selling of poppies near Memorial Da The total sale of these poppies is donated to the Ve erans hospitals.

Today the membership total is 141 with five these ladies, Pauline Ranly, Mary Helen (McCor aha) Meiring, Jessie Beach, Odelia Heuing, and Fer Noble charter members.

Seven members are Gold Star Mothers: Leon Bollenbacher — W.W. II, Moacha Kaffenbarger – W.W. II, Mabel Golder — W.W. II, Fannie Wolfe – Korean Conflict, Olive Painter, Adeline Pottkotte and Ellen Barga, Vietnam. These Gold Star mothe are honored at a banquet each year at the Apr meeting.

The meetings are held the second Tuesday of th month at the American Legion home on State Rt 49. The present officers are: Alvera Schmitz, presi dent; Irene Timmerman 1st vice.; Veronica Stachle 2nd vice., Eileen Schmitz, secretary, and Janice Har treasurer.

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FORT RECOVERY COMMUNITY YARD AND GARDEN CLUB

The Fort Recovery Community Yard and Garden Club was organized April 18, 1932 when members of the Business and Professional Women's Club, the Men's Welfare Association, and the Gibson and Recovery Township Farm Bureaus met at the Public Library to formulate plans for a yard and a garden club.

Short talks were given by those present showing interest in such an organization. Officers were elected; President — Dr. J. M. Huerkamp, Vice-President — Mrs. Fred Breymier, Secretary-Treasurer — Mrs. C. E. Pope. The name of the club was decided. The time of the meeting, the third Monday of the month and membership dues of twenty-five cents per family were recorded.

With many changes in membership and officers this organization has taken an active part in the community. Fifteen different members have served as presidents. Memberships have increased and decreased in number. Dues have been increased to fifty cents and later to one dollar per person. But the aim of the club has remained as adopted forty-six years ago. "The object of this club is for the purpose of improving the condition and appearance of our individual homes and of our community and conserving the natural beauty of our surroundings" — 1932 Constitution.

From 1937 for many years the club was a member of the Ohio Association of Garden Club, District 2, and county and regional meetings were attended. Later this membership was dropped. The club holds charter membership in the Fort Recovery Historical Society.

For many years spring and fall flower shows were arranged by the club. Later only one a year was planned at Harvest Jubilee time. The most successful according to record was the 1960 show when 892 visitors registered.

Another worthy of mention was the flower show and tea given June 13, 1957 celebrating the 25th anniversary of the club. The twenty-five candles on the tea table were lighted by former presidents who gave brief resumes of events in their administrations.

While a great number of changes have been made in the forty-six years in membership, in many ways the organization follows the original pattern. There is a monthly meeting with timely topics and interesting entertainments. A magazine is furnished to the Public Library. The July family picnic, the October guests nights, the November white elephant sales continue as the years go by. The summer tours to nearby gardens are continued by small groups. The December tour to nearby floral shops has been changed to a family dinner. The club is responsible for the planting and care of the planter at Ambassador Park.

Present officers of the club are: President — Jackie Bergman, 1st Vice president — Mary Bergman, 2nd Vice-president — Sue Jutte, Secretary-Treasurer — Harriet Pearson. The membership list shows thirty-two names. *by Elizabeth Hedrick*

TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB

On October 30, 1901 a meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Ernest Louden to organize a literary club. The following officers were chosen; President — Mrs. Charles Rapp, Vice President — Mrs. Martyn Taylor, Secretary — Mrs. Russell Morvilius, Treasurer — Mrs. Ernest Louden. Other charter members were: Mrs. Frank Speak, Mrs. Joe Denny, Miss Nellie Roop, Mrs. Jewett, Mrs. Lafe Boueshe, Mrs. Fred Cribbe. The name Twentieth Century Club was chosen and the object of the club as stated in the constitution was to promote sociability among its members, to make a study of English Literature and to acquaint the members with the great movements of the day, both literary and historical."

For many years the works of Shakespeare were read and studied. By 1920 the present type of program had evolved. Each member is responsible for a report on something of interest in the literary, civic, or historical field.

Twelve members are preparing to celebrate the 77th birthday of the organization this year. We believe this is one of the oldest social clubs of the county.

Present members are: Frieda Acheson, Ruth Beach, Nell Franklin, Peggy Galdeen, Gladys Hildbold (joined in 1917) Coda Hull, Mary K. Jackisch, Esther Jetter, Gretchen Kolp, Libby Krieder, Opal McCord, Fan Wolfe. *by Gretchen Kolp*

1791 Monument, Main St., Ft. Recovery

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Building Footer for Club House — Al Keller, Bob Smith, Ma Kaiser, Harold Willmann, Joe Keller, Larry Keller.

THE FT. RECOVERY GUN CLUB

Pull ... Bang ... Hit! Another clay target was just demolished by a Winchester 12 gauge shotgun. The year was 1967.

It was a Sunday afternoon at the Andy Beumer farm just before fall hunting season and all the local hunters were sharpening their aim. The clay targets were coming out from behind a stack of straw bales where they were manually being set on the machine by some of the shooters.

Everyone was having a great time when someone suggested that we should do this more often, maybe even start a shooting club. Paul Kaiser (owner of Paul's Place) was elated by the idea and from that moment on he worked endless hours to form the ground work for our shooting club.

The first meeting was held in September of 1967 with Larry Keller acting as chairman. The first order of business was to elect officers. They were as follows: President — Larry Keller, Vice-President — Paul Kaiser, Secretary — Bob Smith, Treasurer — Ronald Keller, and Field Captain — Andy Beumer. It was decided the first couple shoots were to be open to members only. The quota of forty charter members was suggested and approved by all present. The charter members are: Ted Franklin, Maurice Grieshop, Melvin Wendel, Andy Beumer, Charles Keller, William Post, Urban Post, Ed Keller, Paul Keller, Paul Kaiser, Robert Smith, Larry Keller, Ray Smith, Virgil Krieg, Walter Steinbrunner, Gary Olwine, Norbert Vogel Jr., Ronald Keller, Joe Keller, Marvin Kaiser, Viro Will, Harold Willmann, Adrian Moneysmith Jr., Adrian Kaup, Jerry Grieshop, Don Klenke, Melvin Bergman, Joe May, Ervin Schindler, Dennis Laux, Ernest Kunkle, Urban Wendel, John Alig, Gerald Collins, Carl Steinbrunner, Norb Roessner, Bob Post, Merinus Wuebker, John Fisher and Cy Brockman Sr.

The first shoot was held on September 24, 1967 the CK of A grounds at St. Joe. Clay birds w bought at a price of $2.20 per case and shells c $2.00 a box. There were thirty-two 10 bird matcl held that day. A van owned by J&M Manufactur was parked on the grounds and was used as an fice to sign up for the shoots, it also served as a st age area after the shoot.

That first shoot by the Ft. Recovery Gun Club v all that was needed to build the enthusiasm of t members. They became very active and work even harder to improve their club. Turkey shoc raffles and Sunday shoots were held regularly raise money.

In early 1968 it was decided to make a move. Tl move was made to the Ft. Recovery American l gion grounds, where the club is still located tod Two trap houses were built, cement walkways w poured and a 20′ × 40′ club house was built. Al Keller was chairman of the building committee. T momentum was so great that all the members spe every spare minute helping with the work at t club grounds. There are far too many people tl should be recognized, who made the club such success. Although we want to mention the deceas members that worked so hard: Andy Beumer, P Kaiser and Walter Steinbrunner.

The past Presidents of the club are: Larry Kell Ray Smith, Joe Keller, Melvin Bergman, Bob Smi Alvin Alig, Jack Kaiser, Harold Willmann, Gary (wine, Don Loy, Karl Leuthold and our new preside for 1979 will be Tom Linn.

The club is still very active and promote many a tivities such as gun safety, good sportsmanship a National Child Safety Consul. We host many l tures by our local Game Warden regularly.

These facts and figures were taken from t records of the secretary's minutes. *Respectfully subn ted by Larry Keller*

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DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA OUR LADY OF FATIMA CIRCLE #810

The formation of our Circle was started June 1949 ıder the direction of Margaret Quinlick — State gent, Mildred Bowman — State Secretary, and a Bruns — Regent of Ave Maria Circle, St. Henry. ıth O'Dell was chosen to be the Circle's first Re- nt. Gertude Lennartz was the first Past Regent. n members of Ave Maria Circle, St. Henry pre- ıted petitions for transfer in order to help organ- the new circle. When the Charter was presented February, 1950, seventy-five names were written it as Charter members.

Daughters of Isabella is foremost a spiritual and charitable organization.

The first minstrel presented was "The Lady Minstrels from Dixie". Later "Crib to Cross" was presented. Proceeds of $659.00 was sent to Fr. Paul Buehler for the Chilean Missions.

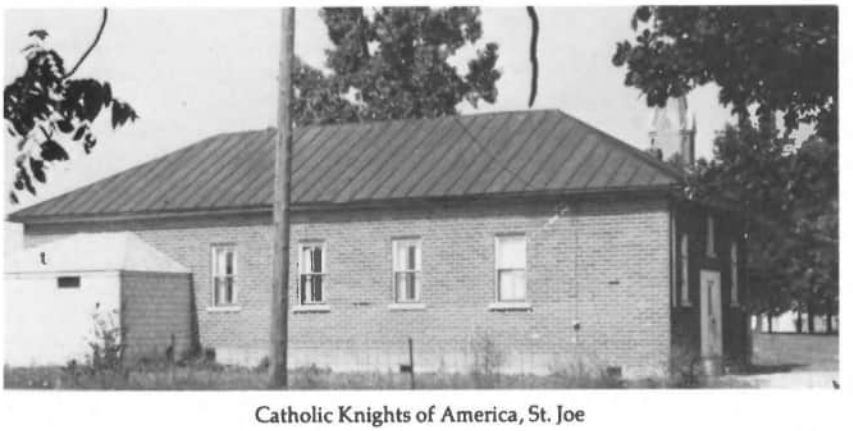
The Circle furnished a room at the retreat house at Maria Stein cost $150.00. We sponsor a student to the Priesthood $50.00 each year.

In August 1950 Fr. Nicholas Grieve, Our Chaplain, died so the charter was draped. In 1952 our charter was again draped for our first member, Othelia Brunswick.

Our Chaplains over the years were Fathers Nicholas Grieve, Aloyius Cook, George Heinzen, John Wilson, Leonard Sudhoff, and our present Chaplain, Fr. Ed. Zukoski.

September, 1978 we have 150 members, 11 honorary members. We contributed $6,291.00 to Charities, made 13,847 bed pads, 6,768 cord rosaries, 1,061 hospital gowns and 4,815 rolled bandages. We collected religious articles, used eye glasses and infants clothing for the Pope's warehouse.

Regents over the years were: Ruth O'Dell, Cordula Kessler, Mary Bergman — also State Trustee 1955, Mary E. Romer, Mary Bergman — also State Secretary 1959, State Regent 1963, Supreme Director 1968, Supreme Advocate 1972 and International Vice Regent 1976. Marguarite Schroer, Anna Brackman, Bertha Sanderell, Berdella Keller, Peg Roessner — also State Trustee 1968, State Treasurer 1971, State Vice Regent 1975, State Regent 1978. Irene Livingston, Rita Jutte, Mildred Will, Cleopha Brunswick, and our present Regent, Anna Brackman.



Catholic Knights of America, St. Joe

CATHOLIC KNIGHTS OF AMERICA, BRANCH 1118 St. Joe, Ohio

The Catholic Knights of America, Branch 1118, St. e, Ohio was chartered November 11, 1921 with ev. Ludger Huber, C.PP.S. as Spiritual Director and charter members.

The hall was built in 1924. A number of our 50- ar members remember that very well and a lot of hard work was put into it. All of our activities are held here. It is rented out for reunions, parties, showers, and etc.

In 1926 the hassenbeffer was started and that continued for some 30 or 40 years. Also, about the same time, plays were put on twice a year, all home talent.

The plays and hassenbepper were dropped due to lack of interest. Many a good time was had by the members.

In recent years a lot of interest has been lost.

Fourteen of our charter members are still living. *by Agnes Lamm, Secretary*

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RECOVERY TOWNSHIP

Recovery Township was organized May 5, 1831. ıe first land entry, 37A to A. J. Parrish, was corded in 1830. It is bounded on the north by 'ashington Township, on the east by Butler and ranville, on the south by Gibson, and on the west ' the State of Indiana. It is six miles from east to est and about four miles from north to south. The uthern line is irregular, being the Greenville eaty line now the Ft. Recovery-Minster Road till . Recovery town where for a short distance it fol- ws State Route 119, then Boundary St., to the fort, en converges southwest to Lowry Road which it llows to Ohio-Indiana State officials are: Trustees ›ger Lochtefeld, Harold Wellman, Orville Dues ıd clerk Larry Keller.

One of the first arrivals was John Simison who oved his family into the trading post which was elve (12) feet square surrounded by an eight (8) ot high stockade. His daughter married Peter Stu- rbaker and their first born was the first white ild born in the area. Joshua Nickerson came in 27, John McDaniel in 1828, and a Miller family in 29. David Anderson built the first grist mill on the abash River and P.D. Moss built and operated an mill. Prior to the Civil War the first steam mill ıs built by John Oswald which may have been the st in the county.

Although only a very small part of the village of Recovery is in Recovery Township, the industries at fall within its boundaries are Ft. Recovery In- ıstries and St. Clair Mills on State Route 49, J&M anufacturing Co. on Lost Road, Hartwig Poultry ı Burrville Road, and Equity Exchange on Wabash ›ad. The township is still a farming region, but in- ead of farmers having small acreages of corn, ıeat, oats, hay and pasture and a few hogs, chick- s, cows, and sheep, they have larger acreages of rn, beans, and/or hay and some wheat combined th large dairy, beef, turkey or laying hen set-ups. ith the large mechanized equipment, the fields are ger and fences are disappearing.

The roads, always the job of the trustees, were of creasing importance as horses gave way to the au- mobile. Each year the township put gravel on the ud roads starting with the most used. In the early 00's gravel was obtained locally from gravel pits d creeks and hauled with flat bottomed wagons at e cost of 6¢ a load or 24¢ a ton. Later blue stone ıs shipped in by railroad until the stone could be ıught locally from Karch's. Today stone is $2.80 a n, but black topping is expensive.

Today the township roads are blacktopped except : dead ends; namely, Reinhard Road, Braun Road, Wendel Road, and St. Joe Cross Street. In 1888 what is now State Route 119 was located one fourth mile farther north and went through what was then Victoria to St. Peter Road (Denny Pike), then backtracked to what is 119 today. State Route 49 was a county road known as Willman Pike. St. Peter Road was also a county road called Denny Pike. The other county road was the Greenville Treaty Line — Ft. Recovery Minster Road today. Besides St. Peter Road and Ft. Recovery Minster Road, other county roads today are Siegrist-Jutte, Township Line, Lowry, Wabash, and Philothea.

Two towns no longer appear on the map — Ferner and Monterey (treated separately). In the 1870's when the Lake Erie and Western Railroad, then the Nickel Plate, and now Norfolk and Western was extended from Celina to Ft. Recovery, a mile and half siding was built from what is now Erastus Durbin Road eastward almost to the Post Road. This siding was called the Oakland Spur. A station was established at the western end of the siding and a town was started there called Ferner. Near the station, Geo. W. Fernas established a dry goods and grocery store. S. S. Mill had a post office in his home. Other residents were Frederick Mertz, a carpenter, Emma Lotham, and E. Hardin. A short distance away a school was built which later was replaced by the Oakland School.

St. Joseph's Church was built in 1829 or 1840 and a town laid out in 1861. In 1880's several businesses were established in the town south of the track. A log house was converted into a store by Henry Tebben and also became the post office. St. Joe became Victoria at that time as there was another St. Joseph, Ohio. There was a boot and shoemaker shop, a wagon-making shop, a barbershop, a saloon, and a sawmill. After Tebben's store burned down in 1888, the post office was moved to Shenking's Shoe Repair Shop which was attached to the house where Ed. Kemper now lives. Theodore Shenking was post master till he died in 1932 and the post office was discontinued. In 1888 John Stachler built a general store to replace the one burned down in a new location across from the church.

Through the years the store had several owners. In 1940 Leo Shenking traded the store for the farm and cider mill of Ben Westgerdes east of St. Joe. Alfred (Cappy) Westgerdes took over the store from his father. Since Cappy's death early this year, the store has been operated by his widow, Ruth. The sawmill was discontinued in 1974 after the death of Walter Steinbrunner.

St. Peter, before rural free delivery, had a post office in the house of Frank Jacobs west of the church. Jacobs also had a shoe repair shop in his house.

The first school was erected by Robert G. Blake in 1859. In the 1880's there were five schools in the township and went by numbers. Today the township is mostly in the Southwest School District with the only buildings at St. Peter.

The township shares the responsibility of Greenmont Cemetery on State Route 119 with Ft. Recovery town. In 1976 a cemetery on the Braun property was moved to Greenmont.

Trinity Lutheran, United Methodist, and a Church of Christ are located in Ft. Recovery. St. Peter and St. Joseph are the churches in the township. *by Mrs. Linus Huelskamp*

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Recovery Township — John Lamm, Clerk and John Sanderell, Treasurer. 1918

Jutte Roadside Market 1975 — This market is operated by the Oscar Jutte family. It is best known for fine quality muskmelon. The old "Monterey Store" was located on the opposite side of the road.

MONTEREY

Monterey is an unincorporated village located in the northeast quarter of section seven and the northwest quarter of section eight in Recovery township, about three miles north of Ft. Recovery on state route 49. It was laid out in November of 1849 by Isaac Raus. There are 56 lots containing 1/5 acre each and two lots containing 1.7 acres each. Looking at deed transfer records it would appear that activities were at a peak in Monterey during the 1860's and 70's. Possibly if the railroad had passed through Monterey it would be what Ft. Recovery is today. Most of Monterey is presently owned by Ralph Jutte Farms Inc. Main Street at one time called Willmann Pike, and also at one time called Willshire Pike, is presently state route 49. Bremen street is now Philothea Road. In one of the old Mercer County Histories the Nickerson family history mentions how that family settled land in 1837 near a small settlement north of Ft. Recovery called "The Second Crossing." An old map shows J.C. Nickerson owning land south of the Wabash River up to the north side of Monterey. "The Second Crossing" could have been the forerunner of Monterey. Another old map shows what appears to be the location of 14 residences in Monterey. The Lawerance Meehan family now has a home on the site of the one room brick school house. (See photo of children in front of the school). It is said that after the school was abandoned "Gypsies" traveling by wagons often camped there. Thr rentals owned by Ralph Jutte now occupy the ar on the west side of route 49 in blocks three and fo where Celia Sanders and her son Martin had a re dence and a general store in the early 1900's. (S photo of little girl and man in front of store). On t opposite side of route 49 (main street) a sawmill w located east of the roadside market (see Photo) op ated by Ralph Jutte Farms Inc. and on the prese site of their farm buildings.

The big house where the Sanders family lived believed to have been built by the uncle of Dr. J. Huerkamp. The uncle is said to have operated a loon in the building that later became the gene store. A wagon shop was operated on a two a tract at the south edge of Monterey where the E ward Wellman family now resides. It would appe that the blacksmith shop was probably in the cl vicinity of what is now the Norbert Vogel Jr. fam residence. There was also a house on the north a south side of Zehringer Road. John and Armir (King) Gross built the house where Ralph Jutte n resides. There had been a house on this site bef owned by Jos Gerche which burned down.

The Gross family had lived in a smaller house the east and the north before building the n home. When they moved, there were five childr and after moving six more. Mr. Gross operated t Sawmill. There was also a residence north of Phi thea Road up on the hill just east of route 49.

Dorothy (Sanders) Teeters recalls a story abou huge three forked tree west on route 49 on Ze ringer Road on the north side where a man w murdered and hung. The man traveled on foot a made a living mending umbrellas and repairi other things. Since he had no known relatives etc. was buried beneath the tree. This had happen long before Dorothy's time and she recalls taki visiting cousins there to show them the grave site it was sunken in. Dorothy also recalls a huge rock the woods west of the Sanders home that had crawfoot carved into it pointing north, it w thought to have been made by Indians as a tr marker.

At the present time most of the activity at Mon rey revolves around Oscar Jutte's homegrown m lons, pick-your-own strawberries and re raspberries. Parking space at Jutte's Roadside M ket is sometimes at a premium on Sunday aft noons in August. *by Oscar W. Jutte*

Front of Monterey Store, c. 1916 — The child in the photograph is Dorothy Sanders. Her father Martin was one of the last operators of the store. The man in photograph is Will Runkle, a blind man who lived nearby and often passed the time on the bench in front of the store.

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nterey School, c. 1909 — **Back Row L. to R.:** Godfrey llischek, ——, Edward Willmann, Ernie Sauntman, Fox (teacher), Goldie Lehman, Rosie Scott, Helen lmann, Gladys Scott, Zula Murphy. **Front Row:** Virgil t, ——, Donald Gross, Henry Willmann, Flossie ntman, Leona Gross, Vivel Sanders, Murphy girl, a Wallischek, ——, ——, Helen Gross, —— (names en by Dora Wallischek).

Sawmill owned by John P. Gross at Monterey

ST. JOSEPH'S Victoria, Ohio

St. Joseph's parish (or St. Joe, as the community s generally been called, or Victoria, the name ap- ed to St. Joe when it had a post office, 1882-1932), now one of the smallest Catholic parishes in Mer- r County. However, in history and tradition it nks among the earliest. The original members of e parish were part of the general migration from rmany which had begun to pour into southern ercer County beginning with Minster in the early 30's. These immigrants were neither uneducated r destitute. They were drawn here by the prospect getting cheap land and improving their status. A w "Yankee" settlers had settled here a little earlier Mercer County was thrown open to settlement in 20), but the Germans bought them out. They were so a religious people, especially the early families St. Joe, a good percentage of whom had come om the Archduchy of Baden and spoke a "High" rman in contrast to the majority of "Low" (or rth) German settlers around Minster and St. hn's. But they were even more distinguished by eir strict religious and moral code, which paradox- lly occasioned the worst local religious scandal in 66 when their pastor, Fr. Joseph Albrecht, C.PP.S., d a large part of the parish into rebellion against e bishop and moved as a schismatic group to Min- sota to carry on their religious convictions.

The parish of St. Joseph's began probably in late 39 when a log church was built. Greatest credit for establishment should go to a Joseph Doll, whose mily had settled on the site now occupied by Linus Huelskamp, for his family donated to the bishop the 80 acre tract of land on which the log church was built and the town later laid out (both in Sec. 15, Recovery Twp.).

In the very early years St. Joseph's was served by diocesan priests, or more accurately, missionaries on a somewhat irregular basis. After 1851 the priests were of the Society of the Precious Blood, but they did not become resident pastors until 1906. From 1853 to 1881 they came from Himmelgarten Convent, which was over three miles distant to the east. From 1882 to 1905 they came from a mission house in Ft. Recovery. Only in 1906 was the present rectory built. The present brick church had been erected in 1861, a new tower and entrance were added in 1902, and the church was enlarged and its interior remodelled 1918 to 1920. The parish was never really large. When the population growth warranted it, new parishes were created. Thus St. Joseph's has four daughter parishes: St. Anthony in 1852, St. Wendelin (shared with St. Henry) in 1856, St. Peter in 1858 and Our Lady Help of Christians in Ft. Recovery in 1882. St. Joseph's reached its high point with 70 families in 1880.

St. Joe, Victoria, taken 1961

St. Joseph Church, Victoria, Ohio, c. 1910

St. Joseph's Church, c. 1910. (see large stove pipe)

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St. Joe Store, Between 1905-1908 — **Far Right:** Pete Sanderell.

As a town, St. Joe dates back to 1861 when Bishop Purcell divided his 80 acres into lots. Thereafter from time to time St. Joe had a saw mill, a blacksmith shop, a wagon shop (the latter hired four workers), a barber shop, a shoe repair shop and for a time a saloon. The present store dates back to 1888 (John Stachler), but it was preceded by another store which had been built next to the railroad by Henry Tebben in 1880. The Lake Erie and Western Railroad had been built through St. Joe in 1879. This made possible the establishment of a post office in 1882 (Henry Tebben was also the first postmaster) and of railroad passenger service as a flag station.

St. Joseph's Public School, completed 1884; torn down in the 1960's. (photograph from Mrs. Catherine Gerlach)

St. Joe had three schools over the years, beginning with a log school at Harlett's corner, then a frame school during the 1860's, and finally a brick school built in the 1870's. The latter had a second room added in 1884. This was technically a public school, but it was intimately connected with the parish. The teachers were often also the church organist and choir director and served in various capacities in the church and the community.

The C.K. of A. Hall was built in 1926 and was originally equipped with a stage. This recalls that St. Joe had among other community activities an active drama club, not to mention a brass band which played for numerous occasions. In the 20's and 30's the building was used in connection with the annual parish chicken supper and carnival. Now the building is used for community, parish and family events.

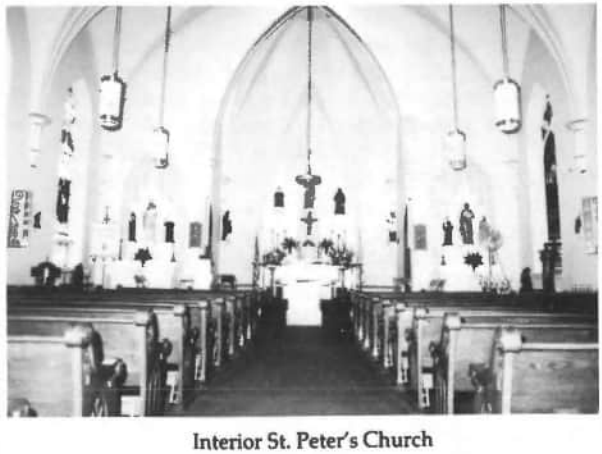
by Rev. Dominic Gerlach, C.PP.S., St. Joseph College, Rensselaer, Ind.

St. Peter's Church, 1978

ST. PETER

St. Peter, which is located at the intersection Philothea and St. Peter Roads, is a daughter pari of St. Joe which was founded in 1829. As more in migrants from Germany came, they settled nor and west of St. Joe. These hardy pioneers mac weekly pilgrimages to St. Joe to attend Sunda Mass. After St. Anthony (1852) and St. Wendel (1856) were organized, the St. Joe congregatic wished to replace their log church with a more in posing structure of brick. Those farmers living a fe miles north of the log chapel urged the building on site on what they considered the center of their pa ish, while those nearer the old church wished the l cation to remain the same. Feelings ran pretty hig over the differences, but that is understandab when we consider that in those days people as ofte as not walked to church and an extra half mile ma a big difference.

When permission was granted in 1858 by t Archbishop of Cincinnati, work was begun. Su names of some of the early settlers were Wend Gaerke, Roessner, Trautman, Braun, Schoch, Stud Vonderhaar, Jutte, Lennartz, Ontrop, Post, Schoe lein, Siegrist, Jacobs, Wellman, Uhlman, Gro Knoth, Ontrop, Buschur, Eischen, Mertz, Murph Klosterman, Portz, Weis, Doll, Waller, Kin Schmidt, Stelzer, etc.



Interior St. Peter's Church

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St. Peter Church, 1906-1907

School and Church, St. Peter. 1912?

When it came time to choose a patron for the new ngregation several saints were suggested. The llingness of one Peter Kerber to do the extraordinary was the deciding factor in the choice of St. ter.

A log schoolhouse was converted into a church to used until a church could be built. This first edif- was a brick structure the work being done by the rishioners even the making of the bricks. The st Mass was celebrated on Jan. 1, 1860. The first stor came each week from Mary's Home (Trinity, diana) to conduct services. For a time St. Peter ared a pastor with a neighboring parish alternat- the first mass and the later High Mass on every her Sunday. In 1886 the parish had a pastor of its n.

In 1902 steps were taken to build a new church ıich resulted in the present day structure. It was mpleted in 1905. The present rectory was built in 12. More recent changes — in 1964 a basement ıs dug and finished complete with kitchen. The ıished basement is used for C.C.D. classes and rious social community activities. In 1968 the stee- was removed and rebuilt forty feet lower than original. In 1972 a new garage was added.

Twenty daughters of the parish have become Sis- s of the Precious Blood and five sons have be- me priests. Today the community has 82 house- lds.

The first school was a log structure at a place which now corresponds to the southwest corner of the present church lawn. In the year preceding 1878 a new log school was built south of the road south of the church. In 1910 a new one room frame building was constructed on the same school grounds. With the advent of the school buses in the early 1940's the one room schools were closed and children bused to the small towns. An outlying frame building, Washington Township School, was moved beside the one already there. There were then two teachers with four grades in each room.

In the 1950's the state began pushing that the small school districts consolidate with the neighboring towns that had high schools. Officials of the St. Peter Public School District couldn't do much about the dilapidated conditions of the two frame buildings because spending money on buildings about to be abandoned was a "no-no." The members of the tiny farming community, however, agreed with the pastor of their church that small schools have better control over children and voted to build a new school with parish funds. The building east of the church was the result. It contains four classrooms and is rented by the Southwest Local School District and houses grades one through three and a special class. In 1962 another separate building was constructed by the Southwest District north of the church owned building. Grades four through six attend this building which also has a library and general purpose room used as a cafeteria and a gym. Sister Othilda Fullenkamp, a daughter of St. Peter's, is head teacher at these two buildings. *by Mrs. Linus Huelskamp*

Interior St. Peter's Church, early 1920's

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FATHER JOSEPH ALBRECHT

Mercer County has had its share of colorful characters but one of the most controversial and complicated men to pass through the county was Father Joseph Albrecht.

Father Albrecht came to America as a layman in 1848 and had formerly been mayor of his hometown of Kirchenzarten, Germany.

He followed his wife, Mary Ann, to America, after she was ordained as a Sister of the Catholic religion. Their daughter, Rosalie, also became a religious Sister, died in October of 1847 at the age of twenty and is buried at New Riegel, O.

Albrecht was ordained to the priesthood in June of 1849 at the age of forty-nine. Tumultous years followed for Father Albrecht, who gained a devoted following of persons who ascribed miracles to him and called him "Holy Father Joseph".

Albrecht was the first pastor at St. Marys Church in Philothea and also pastor at the former Himmelgarten convent and St. Joseph's Church in St. Joe.

He was an extremely righteous and charismatic man and is described in "Not With Silver or Gold" by the Sister Octavia, C.P.P.S., as having a disposition "inclined toward vigor, self-will and scrupulosity" and as being "Rigorous to the extreme, distrustful of the hierarchy, obstinate in his views, he pursued his own course of action, which he considered the only right one . . . The psychological influence he was thus able to exercise over his subjects largely accounts for his success in gaining a following."

Although much respected and a personal friend of Father Frances de Salles Brunner, who established the Society for the Precious Blood in America, Father Albrecht's stridency led to his fall from grace with the Church, when one Sunday morning while at St. Joseph's Church, in the summer of 1866, using a hickory stick, he literally drove a group of girls from the church. The girls were wearing hoop skirts, which he found offensive for church wear.

Conditions for Father Albrecht to follow in the future were then laid down by Archbishop Purcell. Albrecht refused to comply and was suspended.

The suspension led to his establishing, with fifteen Sisters, eight Brothers and a number of parishoners, a communal settlement in Rush Lake, Minn.

In 1871, his community still in operation, Father Albrecht finally was excommunicated on the charge of hearing confessions, from which he had been barred. Father Albrecht died in the spring of 1884, apparently still unreconciled to the Church. *Shannon McFarlin*

CHARLES CLEMENT BARRENBRUGGE

Charles C. Barrenbrugge, born March 1, 1912, at Fort Recovery, Ohio, eldest son of Frank (born January 20, 1884, died November 2, 1958) and Bernadine (Hornick) Barrenbrugge (born October 3, 1893 — 1978). His grandparents were Clemens (died February, 1917) and Gertrude (Wesker) Barrenbrug (born 1840, died March 13, 1921) who came to M cer County from Munster, Germany, in 1882 a settled at Celina. Grandparents on his mother's si were Charles and Elizabeth (Siefring) Horni Charles Hornick was born in Vienna, Austria, Jar ary 16, 1853 and died April 28, 1937. He came to F Recovery October 19, 1880. His first wife died May, 1891 and on June 14, 1892 married Elizabe Siefring (born January 22, 1859, died February 1941). From this marriage came three children: B nadine, Ben (born August 29, 1895, died Decemb 26, 1962), and Joseph (born November 8, 1897, di November 1964).

Charles Hornick, my grandfather, a section fo man, helped build the Lake Erie & Western Railro (now Norfolk and Western) through Mer County. When Mr. Hornick retired in 1928 Fra Barrenbrugge, my father, became foreman until retired in 1948. He and Bernadine had four childr Charles, Robert (born April 9, 1914, died Novemb 16, 1947 at age 33) and Helen (born February 1916) who married James Crist and reside in Fort F covery. They have four children: Galen (born Mar 29, 1941), Marilyn (born June 19, 1943), JoAnn (bc December 31, 1952), Vicki (born June 29, 1958), a Agnes (born July 28, 1918) who married Maur Denney, Fort Recovery. They have four childr Dennis (born December 29, 1944), Diane (born Se tember 27, 1951), Beth (born June 5, 1953) and Mi (born November 24, 1954).

Charles C. Barre brugge, Vice Presid Production, Teledy Portland Forge. Last c at office before reti ment after 43 ye service, July 1, 1977

Charles Barrenbrugge attended Mary Help Christians Catholic School and graduated from Fc Recovery High School in 1929. Received his Bach lor of Science degrees in Aeronautical & Mechanic Engineering in 1932 from Tri-State University, A gola, Indiana, and started working for Portla Forge, Portland, Indiana, in 1934 as Designing En neer being promoted to Production Manager in 19 and to Vice President Production in 1961. He retir at age 65 in 1977.

In 1934 Mr. Barrenbrugge married Maxine Fra ces Harlan of Indianapolis, resided in Fort Recove on West Center Street until 1956 when they bu and moved to a new home south of Portland, Inc ana, on U.S. Route 27 across from the Portla County Club. They had one son, Thomas Robe born October 8, died November 7, 1945.

In 1939 he was elected to Recovery Village Cou cil. In 1942 elected Chairman Mercer County Dem crat Central Committee, in 1953 elected Preside Mercer County Election Board. In 1941 he served General Chairman of Fort Recovery Sesqu Centennial Celebration. For this occasion brought to this historical spot such notables as Oh Governor John W. Bricker, U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Sr., U.S. Senator Harold H. Burton who lat

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ecame a U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Congressman obert Jones, and State American Legion Com- ander Ralph Stone. He arranged the first radio roadcasts from Fort Recovery by WLW Cincinnati, /HIO Dayton, and WOWO Fort Wayne.

He was active in many civic activities to promote ie history of Fort Recovery. Served on Board of Di- ctors, Fort Recovery Building & Loan for many ears.

His wife Maxine, died in 1960 and in 1961 he mar- ed Helen Molnar of Cincinnati, a native of Martins erry, Ohio.

While employed by Portland Forge he wrote any technical articles concerning methods to forge 7, 75, and 81 MM shell projectiles that were pub- shed in Iron Age Magazine. In 1943 during World Var II he taught a Job Training class at the Penta- on, Washington, D.C., for the Manpower Commis- on. Served five years as President Portland County lub. Present member of Board of Aviation Com- issioners, Portland Airport, member Elks Lodge, loose Lodge, and Knights of Columbus, and Imma- ulate Conception Catholic Church.

On June 27, 1977 he was commissioned a Ken- ucky Colonel by Governor Julian M. Carroll of entucky.

A recent research indicates there are less than 49 ouseholds in the United States with the name Bar- enbrugge. *Charles C. Barrenbrugge*

hn Boroff (1843-1865) Mary noades Boroff 1842-1904

BOROFF

Richard E. Boroff, minister of Ft. Recovery Chris- an Church since 1972, traces many of his roots to ersonages in the early history of Mercer and Van Vert Counties. Five generations of Boroffs have ontributed to Mercer's growth, and ancestors with : least six other surnames have played their part in s development.

Richard's father, Clayton E. Boroff, was born in lendon August 16, 1895, son of William Harrison .866-1954) and Lurinza (Dull) Boroff (1877-1948). fter service in France in the First World War, Clay- on married Mary Iola Patterson, daughter of Loren . and Margaret (Billings) Patterson of Allen Co. and ney settled in Findlay, Hancock Co., where they ised three children: Richard, Donna (LeMay), and avid Boroff.

Grandmother Lurinza (Dull) Boroff was three gen- ations removed from John Dull (1778-1834) and anna (Lenhart) Dull (1780-1834) whose children eter, Jacob, and Elias were settlers of Van Wert Co. efore 1840. Peter and Catherine (Schlater) Dull's on Josiah (1829-1909) was Lurinza's father. Her nother, Mary Ann (Miller) Dull (1836-1889) was a daughter of Abraham and Martha Miller, who came from Perry Co. to Mercer and Van Wert in 1838.

Grandfather William Harrison Boroff's parents were John R. (1841-1918) and Mary Catherine (Rhoades) Boroff (1842-1904). John served in Co. A of the 46th Ohio Veterans Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War. Both William and John and their spouses are buried in Tomlinson Cemetery. Mary Catherine Rhoads' father, Jacob, was born in Bucks Co., PA, but early migrated to Ohio in 1835, living in Licking, Delaware, Franklin, and by the 1850's Mercer and Van Wert Counties.

John R. Boroff's parents were William Harrison (1812-1896) and Rebecca (Ross) Boroff (1821-1896). Rebecca was daughter of John and Mary (Tomlinson) Ross. John Ross acquired land in Van Wert and Mercer Cos. in 1835. His wife's parents, John and Rebecca (Foster) Tomlinson came to Mercer Co. in 1826 and were instrumental in beginning the Wesley Chapel Methodist Church opposite the Tomlinson Cemetery east of State Route 127 on the county line.

William Harrison Boroff (1812-1896) was son of Michael (1779-1867) and Elizabeth Baltzell (1789-1874) Boroff. Elizabeth's parents, Henry (1735-1821) and Mary (Alexander) Baltzell (1741-1821), were born in Klingen, Germany, and one of their nine children, Peter, settled in Mercer Co. in 1830. Michael and Elizabeth Boroff came to Mercer before 1840 from Hamilton and Miami Cos.

Most of these ancestors were farmers, though some had mills, and several had children who were successful in business. Scores of their descendents remain in Mercer Co., though hundreds have scattered across this land. Their ancestors, many of them refugees from religious persecution in Germany and other parts of Europe, came to America, worked for their freedom, farmed our land, fought in our wars, and became the great middle class which is the backbone of America. *Richard Boroff; Lester LeMay, Meza, Ariz. 85202*

Front: Anna, Jacob, Jr., Katherine, Mary. **Back:** Antonetta, Cecelia, Catherine, Veronica, Philomena, Rose, Johanna Braun.

JACOB BRAUN FAMILY

When Jacob Braun, Sr., who had learned the carpenter trade in Germany, was eighteen years old he came to America with only 50¢ to his name and settled one mile east of St. Peter, Mercer County, Ohio. His brother Peter and several sisters were also in America.

Jacob married Anna Buschor, and they had five boys and two girls. In 1915 he died having lived past the age of 90.

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One of Jacob and Anna's sons was Jacob, Jr. (b. 2-12-1852, d. 8-18-1920) who in 1875 married Mary Fullenkamp and they had one daughter, Anna (b. 2-05-1876, d. Nov. 1958) and twin sons who died shortly after birth and Mary died shortly, too. Anna married Alex Siegrist on 4-19-1898.

In February 1887 Jacob married Katherine (Turlie) Middendorf (b. 8-26-1858, d. 4-17-1937) whose parents Theodore Middendorf and Katherine Turlie were married in Germany and then came to America. Jacob and Katherine had eight daughters, namely: Mary (b. 11-22-1881, d. 11-01-1967) who married Joseph Link; Philomena (b. 11-12-1884, d. 5-04-1947) who married John Siegrist; Veronica (b. 1-01-1887, d. 6-21-1964) who married Peter Schoenlein; Cecelia (b. 8-04-1889, d. 2-01-1970) who married Frank Link; Rose (b. 3-17-1892, d. 7-07-1956) who married Steve Jutte; Catherine Louise (b. 9-14-1894, d. 4-29-1939) who married August S. Homan; Johanna (b. 2-28-1897, d. 7-21-1969) who entered the Sisters of the Precious Blood and became Sister Johanna Marie (formerly Sister Mary Peregrine); Antoinette (b. 5-15-1900) who never married and lives in Dayton, Ohio.

The girls attended the one-room Oakland School, which still remains two miles east of St. Peter Catholic Church, and lived with their parents on the farm that is now the farm of Jacob and Katherine's grandson, Ralph Link and family at 2314 Philothea Road, Recovery Township, Ft. Recovery, Ohio, Mercer County.

Jacob's primary occupation was farming but he also was a successful stock-trader, buying and selling horses but mainly hogs until he retired in 1918. He and Katherine and their daughter, Antonetta (Nettie) then moved from their farm to Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Two years later Jacob died of a stroke and seventeen years later Katherine passed away.

BREYMAIER

The beginning of the Breymaiers in Mercer County was when Michael and his wife Anna Barbara, with their three sons, George, Jacob, Michael Jr., and a daughter Mary came from Ratenacher, Germany in 1872 and settled briefly in Crawford Co., then moved on to near Fort Recovery, Mercer County in 1874.

George, the eldest son, was married to Pauline Walter in 1880; to them, six children were born: Fred, Lorena, Katherine, Daniel, Otto and Eda. George became a brickmaker to the Fort Recovery area. He with his family made brick for the power house and the Lutheran parsonage in Fort Recovery and the Catholic Church in Saint Henry, and several houses and other structures. Later their son Daniel took over the brick making for the Catholic Church in Burkettsville; the interior of the Saint Charles Seminary. Fred was, for a time, a machinist at Fort Recovery Industries. Otto painted many houses and barns. Fred married Ella Schulz; to them five children were born: Harold, Louise, Ruth, Mildred, William. William died at the age of one year. Harold is carrying the name with a son Frederick; Fred and his wife have a son Paul William.

Jacob, son of Michael and Anna Breymaier, married Anna Smitt; their children are Minnie, Albert, Linda, Augusta, Lula, Luther, Walter, Helen and Dorothy. Jacob became a thresher as well as farmer as did his sons. They did thrashing in Merc County until the harvester came upon the scene.

Michael married Katherine Green; their twel children were Manuel, Emma, Clara, Alice, Willian David, Herbert, Freda, Marie, the twins Lawrenc and Florence; Hilda. Michael was a farmer and we driller. Manuel continued to drill water wells an services oil wells. William died in World War David was the carpenter; Herbert a dairyman; Lav rence the Salvage man. David has one son, David J Herbert has a son, Herbert Jr.

Mary, daughter of Michael and Anna Breymaie married David Green; they had one son Ben; wh has a son Luther.

Breymaier descendants who still live in Merc County are Mrs. Gard Yaney, St. Henry and in Fo Recovery: Mrs. John Griesinger, Mrs. George Clarl Mrs. Gordon Foster, Lawrence Breymaier, Davi Breymaier, Jr., Martha Fisher; with a number of the children.

Person to contact for information: Mrs. Gar (Breymaier) Yaney, Saint Henry, Ohio. *Gordon Foster*

Harry E. Hildbold, W. Gay Hildbold, and Marvin B. Hildbold

DUMBAULD

Ernst Frederick Dumbauld came from Cantor Bern, Switzerland and signed and qualified Oct. 1 1736. Being able to write his name which was ver unusual at that time. The name being spelled i Switzerland Duimbauld, the I being dropped in th U.S.A.

Ernst Frederick came over on the ship Brigantir John Parth Amboy, Capt. George Frazer master; em barking from Rotterdam, Holland. The Netherlan with emigrants from Palatenate, Germany. Then t Dover, England for more emigrants.

They qualified and took oath and subscribed Oc 19, 1736 to the Government.

Settled in Milford Twp., Bedford Co., Penn.

Abraham Dumbauld progenitor of the family (so of Frederick) settled in Elizabethtown, now know as Hagertown, Maryland where he married Hager i Hagertown, Md.

He came to the Ligneer Valley in Pennsylvani and laid claim by tomahawk right to large tract c land in Four Mile Run, west of Chestnut Ridge an Champion and Indian Creek in Salt Lick Twp Penn.

Jacob Dumbauld, fourth generation from Abra ham, born Sept. 28, 1833; died Nov. 12, 1934, bein 101 yrs., 12 wks., 14 da. Buried in Spring Hill ceme tery at Ft. Recovery, Mercer Co., Ohio. Parents wer John and Elizabeth Vought Dumbauld at Chestnu Ridge, Penn. and when four years old came dow

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e Ohio river with parents and settled on a farm in cking Co., Ohio.

He married Matilda Boyer and farmed 180 acres r parents gave her and her children. Farm being in 'ashington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio located on the rtheast corner of rts. 29 and 49. The farm dated 84 in State Archives Library.

When he was 100 yrs. old the family and Masons lebrated his birthday on the grounds of the Manic Home in Springfield, Ohio. The Associated ess said he was the oldest Methodist and Mason ring at that time being over 75 yrs. member to both ganizations in the U.S.A.

Children: Dilemma; Sarah Ellen; Lester; Emmitt ho was my father); Michael died at six weeks old. nnie was a child they took and raised from 2 yrs. d.

Emmitt, was the fourth child of Jacob and Elizaeth Vought Dumbauld, born Dec. 1, 1883 on farm Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. Married Lita Jane Runyon from Clay Co., Ill. Resides on umbauld farm for about 2 yrs. then moved to Ft. ecovery, Mercer Co., Ohio. The oldest child, Karyn, (Carrie) being 4 weeks old. He was foreman railroad then he had a Planing Mill on the corner north Wayne St., selling the land to the Lutherans ne land) for a church. Then just buying and selling nber. Children: Kathryn, Hazle, Dessa and Gay.

Gay Dumbauld married Harry E. Hildbold Oct. , 1914. He died Dec. 8, 1976. He was employed by ne Erie Lackawanna R.R. for 42 yrs. in Marion, hio. He was in World War I. Was in the Aviation the Navy. Child: Marvin Boyer Hildbold.

Marvin B. Hildbold, born Oct. 23, 1915, Ft. Reivery, Ohio was in World War II on the "Mighty enver" until the end of War. Received commendaon and has 19 bronze stars; was congratulated by es. F. D. Roosevelt, Admiral King, Admiral Nim, and other officers.

Married Thelma G. Snyder, child: Charles Boyer. cond wife, Alma L. Thorsen: Children: Gay Lee; ary Wayne. Third wife, Mardell Susanna Green. ay Lee married James Allan Tuccy. Children: Grechen Lee and Kyle Erick. Gary Wayne married Paicia Gannon. Child: Gary Wayne Jr. *W. Gay Dumuld Hildbold*

opold Eckstein Residence, 1906, and original log use Fort Recovery Minster Road, Fort Recovery, hio — Clem, Henry, Leopold, Frances; two women known and one man unknown.

ECKSTEIN

Leopold Eckstein and Frances Schuh came to merica, from Baden, Baden, Germany. Were mared at Saint John Catholic Church, Cincinnati, hio, on September 28, 1869. They traveled north to settle on a farm in Recovery Township, Mercer County, Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Leopold purchased at auction from John Diebold Estate on December 18, 1869 for the sum of $872.00 a total of 51½ acres more or less. Deed Was signed by T. J. Godfrey, Notary Public of Mercer County. Leopold purchased 36 acres adjoining from Agnes Meinerding. Recovery Township on March 13, 1888.

They lived in a log house till they built a new six room house about 1900 and used the log house to store their grain till it was torn down in 1928; a new Grainery was built later.

Leopold and Frances raised a family of 12 children as follows: Charles, Rosa, Caroline, Joseph, John, Ferdinand, Louis, William, Henry, Nichlous, Teresa and Clem.

Rosa joined the Sisters of the Precious Blood Convent, Religious Name: Sister Mary Melentine. Caroline, joined the Sisters of Providence Convent, Saint Marys of the Woods, Terre Haute, Indiana. Religious Name: Sister Mary Barbara. Ferdinand died at birth, William became a teacher in North Dakota, Nichlous never married.

As of August 17, 1978 Leopold and Frances had 12 children 45 Grandchildren, 185 Great Grandchildren, 225 Great Great Grandchildren, 16 Great Great Great Grandchildren, a total of 483 Descendants.

Leopold and Frances children attended Koesters' Special Saint Wendelin Catholic Church.

Clem married Teresa Rammel May 1, 1917 at Saint Pauls Catholic Church, Sharpsburg, Ohio.

Leopold died February 4, 1918. Frances died June 6, 1931 after the death of Leopold. Their youngest son Clem, continued farming the homestead on August 18, 1934 the farm was turned over to Clem from the will of Leopold Eckstein.

The depression years was very hard to raise his family of 11 children; Leopold, Cleopha, Herman, Margaret, Clarence, Hilda, Imelda, Eugene, Irene, Clem Jr. and Teresa.

Clem and Teresa's children also attended the little Red School house called, Koesters Special and attended Saint Wendelin Catholic Church. Teresa died on August 11, 1944.

Three of the boys were in the army at the time of their mother's death. Leopold was stationed in Brazil, South America, Herman served with Air Force in England, Clarence at Camp Croft, South Carolina. Later, another son, Eugene, entered Armed Services he was stationed in Anchorage, Alaska.

After their return from duty Leopold went to Verona, Penn., Herman to Dayton, Gene is a Supervisor at Pax's Company in Coldwater, Clarence became a Rural Postal Carrier at the Celina Post Office and Clem Jr. is a teacher in Greenville school system.

Five of the girls, Cleopha, Margaret, Hilda, and Teresa married farm boys and still live on farms in Mercer County or an adjoining Counties and one girl, Irene, is married and is a seamstress at Lima, Ohio.

The family farm remained in Clem's name until February 1946, when he sold the 90 acres to Aloys Schuh and he moved to Celina, Ohio.

Clem died April 16, 1978, the last of his immediate family. And was buried along side of his wife Teresa in Saint Wendelin Cemetery. *Cleopha Brunswick, St. Henry, Oh. 45883*

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FELVER

James Snyder's daughter Ada married Charles Reef, son of Madison Reef.

Ada and Charles' daughter Mabel married Raymond McKee, son of Lillie Myers and William McKee.

Ray's daughter Luada married O. W. Katterhenry. They had three children: Marilyn Maloy; Carolyn Hall; and William Katterhenry. They live around Fort Recovery.

Ray's other daughter Margaret married Carl Felver. They had three children: Joseph; John and Anna Mae. They live in Rockford, Ohio.

Joseph Felver married Eva Miller. Their son was Carl Felver; his wife is Margaret Felver. *Margaret Felver*

Front Row: Anton Fullenkamp (father), Catherine, Mary, Anna (mother). **Back Row:** Herman, Anna, Leo, Hugo, Elizabeth, Nicholas.

ANTON FULLENKAMP

Anton Fullenkamp was born in Maria Stein son of Nickolas Fullenkamp and Maria Vonderhaar who came from Germany. He married Anna Westgerdes of Maria Stein, daughter of Henry Westgerdes and Maria Goecke. In their childhood the parents were land neighbors.

The father of Anton obtained a 90 acre farm for him in Recovery Township Sec. 13. This is where Anton and Anna settled in 1888 when they got married.

This farm had a frame house and a summer kitchen with an old fashioned smoke house. The land had much timber on it and lots of stones. Some of these stones were used in the Grotto at St. Charles Seminary. They later obtained 40 more acres. The roads at that time were all mud roads. They attended St. Joseph parish, Victoria, Ohio. The language spoken was low German. Anton and Anna had 10 children. The children all settled in Mercer County also.

Leo, born 1889, married Frances Schuh and had 10 children. Leo died 1964 and Frances died in 1967.

Anthony was born 1891 and died in infancy.

Catherine, born 1891, married Henry Gerlach and had four children, two living and two sons died. Henry died in 1966.

Gregor, born 1894, died in Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio in 1918.

Mary, born 1896, remained single.

Elizabeth, born 1899, remained single and died in 1969.

Nickolas, born 1901, married Celesta Mader. Nickolas died in 1957.

Herman, born 1904, married Mary Hess and th had seven children.

Anna, born 1906, married William Fleck and h four children. William died 1972.

Hugo, born 1909, married Mathilda Keller a they had twelve children. Hugo died in 1975.

The children received all their education at Hoi School which is now the Albert Pottkotter residen They walked two miles a day for school. Then thi days a week they also walked five miles for religi classes at St. Joseph Parish. English and German w taught at school till World War I, when German w dropped.

Gregor was drafted into World War I and was Camp Sherman during the flu epidemic. When died from the flu, his father and an undertaker, M Tohle, had to get his body. The sermon at the f neral was spoken in English, which was new at th time.

Most of the families work consisted of farmi and housekeeping. At certain times of the year sor of the sons worked in factories or helped build t pike. The daughters worked as hired girls doi house work for relatives or acquaintances who we in need of help.

They raised all their own food and made all the own clothing including knitting socks and mittens.

Fullenkamp

FULLENKAMP

All the Fullenkamps in Mercer County deri from the Fullenkamp family on this photograp taken near the turn of the century. Standing left right are: *Anton* (b. 1/16/64; d. 4/22/38), who ma ried Anna Westgerdes and live at St. Joe; *Frank* (3/22/68; d. 10/1/38), who married Anna Bruns a lived at St. Joe; *Nicholas* (b. 8/1/61; d. 11/5/20), wh married Mary Hausfeld and lived on the home pla at Maria Stein. Seated are: *Barney* (b. 7/12/56; d. 14/39), who married Anna Braun and later Mrs. Ph lomena (nee Ranly) Fischer and at this time lived St. Joe; *Henry* (b. 11/4/48; d. 1/31/18), Who ma ried Mary Huelskamp and lived at Maria Stein *Mary Adelheid,* their mother (b. 5/27/26; d. 12/ 09); *Joseph* (b. 1/8/51; d. 1/21/37), who marri Mary Knapke and lived at St. Peter; and *John* (b. 31/59; d. 5/11/36), who married Mary Bruns a lived at St. Joe. Two girls were no longer livin namely, *Catherine,* who married Clemens Schm and later Henry Beisick and lived at St. Peter, an *Mary,* who married Jacob Braun and also lived at S Peter. Another boy had died in infancy.

The Fullenkamps were a close family who reg larly visited and helped each other, especially such occasions as childbirth, illness, butchering, e

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et they were also competitive and could on occaon quarrel loudly. The most striking character, owever, was their mother, a headstrong and indusious woman, who is said to have provided farms or all her sons. She regularly visited her children, hich signaled the grandchildren to be on their best ehavior, for she would not hesitate to discipline ven her married sons.

The father of the family, *Nicholas* Fullenkamp, ied in 1889, and so does not appear on this picture. e came from Ankum, a town in northwest Gerany in an area then known as the Kingdom of annover. According to relatives in Germany the ame Fullen-Kamp ("colt-field") derived generaons earlier when the family had actually engaged horse-breeding, a considerable step above being easants. But by 1834 part of the family had come pon difficult times. Nicholas' father was a "laorer," and it is not unlikely that he had to supplement his income by annual migrations into the peatmaking fields in Holland and Denmark. By 1833 ven such employment had become scarce, and hen permission came to migrate there was an exous from Ankum. The Fullenkamps migrated as a mily. Nicholas (age 18) was accompanied by his faher *Henry* (age 63), his mother *Katharina* (age 45), is sister *Elizabeth* (age 7) and his brother *Henry* ge 5). They boarded the Cassander in the harbor of remen and arrived in Baltimore August 22, 1834. ravel in America was still primitive and possibly eir destination was not definite. Anyway, they did ot arrive at Minster until 1836-37. The father died the 1840's, the mother in 1853. Nicholas himself ound employment on the construction of the Mimi-Erie Canal and thus was able to marry and start farm. His girl friend, Maria Adelheid Von der laar, followed him to America in 1844 and they ere married in Minster April 22, 1845. Then they egan the hard, pioneer labors of converting a piece f untamed wilderness into a substantial and productive farm. This farm is now owned by Henry hobe and is located south of Route 119 just east of ie Mercer-Auglaize County Line (now Jackson wp., sec. 30).

Nicholas' sister, Elizabeth, married a Henry ertke. His brother, Henry, raised a family in Cinnnati. There is a tradition that Nicholas had two rothers in New York. Perhaps they were older rothers who had migrated independently. *Fr. Doinic Gerlach, Rensselaer, Ind. 47978*

Seated: (Mother) Matilda, Sylvia, Karen, Matthew, (Father) Hugo. **Standing:** Luke, Eileen, Loren, Ruth, Ralph, Martin, Madonna, Roman, and Anna Marie Fullenkamp.

FULLENKAMP

On March 6, 1909, a son Hugo, was born to Anton id Anna (Westgerdes) Fullenkamp. He was the youngest of ten children, Leo, Catherine, Gregor, Mary, Elizabeth, Nicholas, Herman, Anna, and Anthony who died an infant.

They lived in Recovery township on a farm near St. Joe, Ohio. Hugo liked to trap and sell furs when he was young. He married Matilda Keller, daughter of Adam and Mary (Quinter) Keller of Carthegena, Ohio, on Aug. 23, 1938.

When they were first married they lived with Hugo's mother. In 1942 they moved to a 130 acre farm adjoining the home place. There he continued to farm. They milked cows, raised hogs, chickens, and grain. Hugo also raised sheep for over 40 years. He enjoyed long walks and would often tell his children funny stories. On Oct. 2, 1975, he died of heart failure and is sorely missed by all. He is buried at St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery, St. Joe, Ohio.

Hugo and Matilda reared twelve children and all of them graduated from high school.

Ralph is the oldest, born July 16, 1939. He served two years in the army and was a Military Policeman. He married Onalee Krieg and they have a son, Todd. They live near St. Joe.

The second, Martin, born August 10, 1940 served six years in the Ohio National Guard. He also lives near St. Joe.

Loren was born Nov. 3, 1941. He enlisted in the army and served two years in Germany as a nuclear technician. He now lives near St. Joe.

The first girl, Madonna, was born January 23, 1943. She is a nurse and worked for Drs. Pennington and Albers in Coldwater, Ohio. She married Robert Keller and they live at Centerville, Ohio, with their four children, Angela, Teresa, Andrew, and Brenda.

Roman came along on April 12, 1944. He served for a year in Vietnam and then in Germany. He married Marlene Braun and they live at Trinity, Indiana with Steven, Christopher, and Nicholas, their sons.

Anna Marie, born June 6, 1946, is a nurse and also worked for Drs. Pennington and Albers. She is married to Kenneth Brunswick and they live at Bryant, Indiana. They have four children, Thomas, Lisa, Anthony, and Mark.

On Feb. 22, 1948, Ruth came into our world. She teaches at St. Henry Elementary School at St. Henry, Ohio, and has a Masters degree in education from Wright State University. She married Dale Wendel and they have a son, Jason. They also live near St. Joe.

Luke, born June 25, 1949, also served a year in Vietnam, in the infantry. There he was shot in the ankle and suffered from malaria. He is married to Sharol Green, and they live near Salamonia, Indiana.

On December 9, 1950, Eileen was born. She also is a nurse and worked at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Dayton. She married Donald Hoying and they have two sons Jacob, and Peter. They live at Ft. Jefferson, Ohio.

Karen, born July 16, 1952, worked as a nurse for Drs. Feldman and Horwitz of Dayton. She married Lester Berning, and they live in Troy with their daughter, Sarah.

Matthew, born Oct. 25, 1953, likes to travel. He co-owns "Old Cherry", a bright red bus, redone as a camper. He and his buddies have traveled to the west coast and into Canada. Matt still lives at home.

On July 24, 1955, Sylvia, the youngest of Hugo's

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family was born. She worked at Huffy Corp. as an accounting clerk. She now lives near St. Joe with her husband, Matthew Stammen and son, Dennis.

All six sons work at Avco New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio, and farm. *Matilda Fullenkamp*

Leo Fullenkamp Family — **Seated:** Frances, Sister Leona, Father Leo, Sister Mary Rita, Leo. **Standing:** Vickie (Carney), Edward, Clara, Bernard Ivo, Catherine (Steinbrunner), Aloys, Frances (Rowley).

LEO HENRY FULLENKAMP FAMILY

In a rural farm community, in southern Mercer County, a son was born to Anton and Anna Westgerdes Fullenkamp. The year was 1889. The farm was located in Recovery township, on St. Joe Road, in St. Joe, (Victoria), Ohio. His name was Leo, the eldest of ten children. His brothers and sisters were also born on this farm; Catherine (Gerlach), Gregor (who died at Camp Sherman, during W.W. 1), Mary, Elizabeth, Nicholas, Herman, Anna (Fleck), Hugo. A brother Anthony died in infancy.

In 1919 Leo married, Frances Schuh, also of Victoria, Ohio, daughter of Lewis and Catherine Stelzer Schuh.

Leo and Frances made their home, in Recovery township on the present 119. The farm is now owned by Orville Dues.

Before Leo moved onto this farm he had to clear the land. He built a house and barn. There were four daughters born here: Catherine (1920), Mary (1922), Leona (1924), Clara (1925).

The family then moved in 1927 to an 80 acre farm on Burrville Road, Recovery township. This farm now has been divided into two smaller farms. Martin Fullenkamp, a nephew, owns the back acres. The youngest son, Edward, owns the front acres. There were seven children born here: Greg (1927), Leo (1929), Aloys (1931), Victoria (1933), Frances (1935), Bernard (1937), Edward (1940). There were many good and fun years on this farm.

In 1945 Leo bought the farm he had been born on, and the family moved again. This farm brought many changes. The family all helped to farm this land. They had always farmed with horses and threshing machines. As time went on Leo finally changed to modern day machinery.

Leo died on November 21, 1964. He is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, St. Joe, Ohio.

His wife Frances went to live with her daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Clarence Steinbrunner. Frances died on June 22, 1967. She was laid to rest next to her husband Leo, in St. Joseph's Cemetery, in St. Joe, Ohio.

The family has grown through the years: Catherine married Clarence Steinbrunner in 1944. The have six children (Judith, Joseph, Jane, John, Jane Joyce). Mary entered the convent of the Society the Precious Blood, Dayton, Ohio in 1948. She now stationed at Brunnerdale Seminary, Canto Ohio. Leona had entered the same convent in 194 She is stationed in San Luis Rey, California. Clara a housekeeper of St. Dominic's parish, in Cincinna Ohio. Gregory lives on the farm of his father's birtl place. Leo was ordained a priest of the Society of th Precious Blood on June 2, 1956. He is now statione at St. Michael's Church in Kalida, Ohio. Aloys ma ried Connie Rutschilling in 1962. They have fi children (Tom, Dan, Paul, Rose, Roy), resides Montezuma, Ohio. Victoria married Paul Carney 1960. They live in Tempe, Arizona with their so (Kevin, Brian, Scott). Frances married John Rowle in 1957. They have eleven children (John, Tina, Da Cathy, Ambrose, Patrick, Mary, Angela, Barbar Clarence, David) and they reside in Dayton, Ohi Bernard married Mary Kunk in 1960. They and the five children (Leo, Cindy, Michael, Lisa, Angela) li in Columbia, South Carolina. One son Randy is d ceased. Edward married Janice Mawhorr in 196 They have three daughters (Julia, Kimberly, Lori).

The grandchildren of Leo and Frances have man good stories passed down through the years by the parents. They knew from these stories how they ha always kept God the head of their household, an how they worked hard in everything they did. *Jani Fullenkamp*

Jonathan Greene

GREENE

The family of Rev. Orrin Syvester Greene ha made their home in Recovery Township, Merce County, Ohio since Rev. O. S. Greene married Caro line Wylde March 30, 1854. Rev. O. S. Greene wa the son of Rutluff W. and Mary Goodsell Greene; h was the grandson of Jonathan Greene. Rutluff W and Mary Goodsell Greene were both born in th state of Vermont and married in Vermont. Thei first three children — all daughters — Jane, Cather ine and Emily — were born in Vermont. Rutluff an Mary Goodsell Greene then moved to Volna Oswego County, New York where their two son were born — namely Orrin and Charles. The Ru luff Greene family then moved to Liverpool, Medin County, Ohio in 1839 where Rutluff Greene wrot his will. By 1850 the Greene family had moved on t Jay County, Indiana.

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Greene

GREENE

On November 16th, 1855 Rutluff Greene's will was filed in Jay County, Indiana. In his will the three daughters — Jane who nothing else is ever heard of, Catherine who was already married to Runsford Stowel (Rutluff's spelling of his daughter's married name) and Emily who would later marry Mark Warner — were each given 80 acres of land in Wabash Township, Jay County, Indiana. The two sons Orrin and Charles were to share equally the "wild lands." In his will he stated that additional land was to be purchased for any children born after he wrote the will or after his death. He also provided amply for his wife Mary and his "aged parents" who were still living in 1839. At least, one additional child was born after the will was written. This child was a daughter born in January, 1840 who was named Harriet E. (probably Elizabeth) and she married a Franklin.

Rev. Orrin S. Greene, Caroline Wylde (first wife)

GREENE

Rev. O. S. Greene married his first wife Caroline Wylde on March 30, 1854. Caroline Wylde was born February 25, 1836 in Leicester, England. Orrin had been born July 5, 1834 in Volna, Oswego County, New York. To this union three children were born — Juliette born in 1858, Emery (Emory) Charles born December 14, 1862 and Francis who died as an infant. Juliette Greene married John Wortz. John and Juliette Greene Wortz had two daughters — Nettie and Cora.

After the birth of Emery Charles, Orrin enlisted in the Union Army and fought in the American Civil War until its conclusion in 1865. He served in COD 193rd Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Rev. O. S. Greene founded more than seven churches in Mercer County, Ohio and Jay County, Indiana between 1865 and 1880. Among those he founded were Beaver Chapel Church west of Celina, Christian Church on Elm Street in Fort Recovery, Center Church near Westchester in Jay County, Wabash Church and Bethel Church. Rev. Greene served as a circuit minister from 1865 until 1925 when he began to slow down. At this time in his life he served as a speaker but age prevented him from pastoring a church or beginning new churches. As a minister he married most members of the family and their children and continued to do so as long as he lived. He will always be remembered for beginning each and every prayer, "Most Holy and Righteous Father."

Rev. O. S. Greene's first wife Caroline Wylde died on July 21, 1896. He subsequently married Esther Jane Ireland.

Rev. O. S. Greene, second wife, Esther Jane (Ireland) Greene

GREENE

Esther Jane Ireland Greene had been born on March 21, 1854 and died on May 1, 1925. There were no children from his second marriage.

In August, 1925 shortly after the death of Rev. Greene's second wife the ninety-one year old patriarch of the Greene family would attend the second annual Greene, Warner, Franklin Stowell Reunion in Portland, Indiana. He would tell his and his three sisters' descendants the history of the Greene family. His talk would include the reasons the family came to the New World, when and why. It is tragic that the message of the family's history that Rev. Greene wanted remembered has been lost through the years. Unfortunately those who heard him talk can not remember the story of the Greene family for the present generations. Rev. O. S. Greene died on November 11, 1927.

Emery Charles Greene

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GREENE

Emery (Emory) Charles Greene married Mary Sussanah (Molly) Grier. Mary Sussanah Grier was born on November 13, 1868. To this union two children were born — Orrin Nathan on December 26, 1893 and Daisy Anna Caroline Carleena Grier Greene on May 1, 1898. Their daughter Daisy died of tuberculosis of the bone on May 7, 1914. Emory served for many years as a Justice of the Peace in Noble Township, Jay County, Indiana. Emory Charles worked as a contractor doing cement work and foundations coupled with moving buildings. The son Orrin would join his father in the family business and add farming. Emory and Molly Greene lived on the Indiana side of the State Line in Jay County. Mary Sussanah Greene died March 2, 1927. Emory Charles Greene died December 7, 1954. Today, their farm is owned and operated by a great-grandson.

Orrin Nathan Greene, wife, Daisy (Dougherty) Greene

GREENE

Orrin Nathan Greene would marry Mildred Totten on June 25, 1917 in Jay County, Indiana. His wife was born November 19, 1899 to W. I. and Alice M. (Wilkinson) Totten. To this union three children were born — Russell who died February 15, 1918, Orrin Edward who was born April 14th and died April 16th, 1918 and Marie Daisy born February 19, 1919. He subsequently married Daisy Dougherty on September 3, 1921.

Daisy (Dougherty) Greene was born May 7, 1897 in Hoopston, Illinois to Robert and Mary Elizabeth (Hailman) Dougherty. Robert Dougherty was born in Clinton County, Indiana on November 11, 1858 and was gone before Daisy was born in 1897. Mary Elizabeth (Hailman) Dougherty was also born in Clinton County, Indiana on August 20, 1855.

Daisy grew up following the railroad since mother Mary Elizabeth followed in order to keep house and cook for her son Bert who worked on the railroad. Of her ten children only three lived beyond early childhood. Four of the other seven died of the diphtheria epidemic in 1894. The oldest of the three living children Bert was killed in a railroad accident in 1907 shortly after his marriage. There were no children.

Daisy Dougherty Greene spent her entire married life in Recovery Township, Mercer County, Ohio. Mrs. Greene's mother, Mary Elizabeth (Hailman) Dougherty lived with her son-in-law and daughter. She died at the Orrin N. Greene home on Septem ber 18, 1934. Mary Elizabeth (Hailman) Dougherty buried in the Macedon Cemetery.

Orrin Nathan and Daisy (Dougherty) Greene ha three children. Donifred Jacob born on September 1922, Leonard who was born and died on May 1 1929 and Leora Boneta born on July 23, 1930. Orri Greene spent his life doing construction work an operating the family farm in Recovery Townshi This family farm which originally belonged to Re O. S. Greene (Orrin's grandfather) is now owned b his daughter Leora Boneta Greene. A great-granc daughter and great-grandson now live on the famil farm. Orrin N. Greene died July 25, 1951 of hea failure and dropsy. Daisy Dougherty Greene die January 22, 1976 of pneumonia and cancer. Orrin' third child from his first marriage, Marie Dais Greene had died on July 25th, 1942 nine years to th day before her father died of tuberculosis.

Donifred Greene

GREENE

Donifred Jacob Greene served with the Unite States Navy in the Second World War. On Februar 5, 1946 he married Mary Lee Mount Castle in th Baptist Church of Norfolk, Virginia. His wife wa born in Norfolk, Virginia on August 16, 1920. Don ifred and Mary Greene for health reasons live i Michigan. They are the parents of four daughters – Gail Lee born January 12, 1947 in Norfolk, Virginia Sharon Marie born November 27, 1950, Bethan Donna born October 27, 1954 and Robin Kay bor July 25, 1960 all in Michigan.

On August 30, 1969 Gail Lee Greene marrie Wayne Lucasko of Cleveland, Ohio. The Lucasko live in a Cleveland suburb. Sharon Marie Green married Michael Nolan on September 2, 1971. Th Nolans live in DeWitt, Michigan. They have tw children — Adam Jacob born August 31, 1975 an Michelle Sacha born September 27, 1976.

JOHN PETER GROSS

John P. Gross, a native of Macedon, Ohio, whic is located in the southeast area of Mercer County was born on Nov. 28, 1869. John Peter was the sec ond oldest child of Jacob Gross and Mary Kerber and the oldest son of their ten children. Jacob Gross John's father, had immigrated to the United State and on to Mercer County at an early age, and even tually practiced his skill of farming learned in the

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ussian region of old imperial Germany.

John was baptised in St. Peter's Church and attended the St. Peter's Parochial School. He served s Church as altar boy and later as a member of the urch choir.

John spent his early adulthood working on his fa-er's large farm and was 26 years of age when he arried Arminta M. King on Sept. 29, 1896 in Mary elp of Christians Catholic Church, Ft. Recovery, hio. Arminta was born at Danville, Knox County, hio on Oct. 2, 1876, the oldest of twelve children rn to Peter King and Anna Miller.

By age 27 John had acquired sufficient financial sources to purchase a small farm (38 acres) near lonterey, Ohio (a few miles from his father's omestead). John and Arminta established their me on this farm, subsequently renting large adja-nt acreage for commercial farming purposes. John id Arminta lived on their Monterey farm for 14 ars during which time they established and oper-ed a saw mill for rough cut lumber, and two com-ercial threshing rigs for contractual harvesting of ain and clover seeding. Ten children were born on is farm at Monterey.

In November of 1911, John and his family joined her Northern Ohio farmers and moved to McKin-n, Wayne County, Georgia. This was a coloniza-on development venture of predominantly Ohio atholic farmers of German heritage to Wayne ounty, Georgia.

Traditional Northern Ohio farming methods ap-ied in this southern agricultural zone proved gen-ally disappointing. John, like the majority, stayed ly five years. During their stay in Georgia, one her child was born.

Returning with his family north to Dayton, Ohio, hn began a career of carpentry by building bar-cks at Patterson Army Air Field. Having acquired echanical skill as well as carpentry, John was con-acted by the Sisters who operated St. Elizabeth's ospital to handle carpentry specialty projects. John as employed by the "hospital Sisters" until his re-rement in the late thirties.

John and Arminta raised eleven children. The eld-st, Leona Anna Marie married Vernon Segui from runswick, Georgia. Now widowed and the mother f seven children, Leona maintains her summer resi-ence in Celina, Mercer County, Ohio and winter me in Kettering, Ohio.

Cletus Vincent, John's eldest son, married Rhina Veigand from Ft. McKinley, Ohio and they raised ne daughter. Cletus was co-owner of an automotive rvice business, then later joined local manufactur-g industry. Cletus died Apr. 30, 1967. His wife hina preceeded him in death on Feb. 21, 1947.

Helen Elizabeth is the second eldest daughter and single. Helen practiced nursing and now lives in tirement in Dayton, Ohio.

Donald Phillip married Susan Frawley from Day-n and they raised one daughter. Donald was co-wner of an automotive service business, then later ecame a management executive of a large automo-ile agency. Donald died July 23, 1970. His wife Su-an died Feb. 6, 1973.

Raymond John married Thelma Mort from Day-n and they raised four children. Raymond is tired from manufacturing, and also from having rved for many years as fire chief of his Township. Raymond and Thelma make their home in Dayton, Ohio.

Eva Mary, John's youngest daughter, is single. Eva was a government executive secretary and lives in retirement in Dayton, Ohio.

Twin sons, Bernard Joseph and Philo Frank both retired from Dayton area manufacturing industry, having achieved leadership positions during their careers in this field.

Philo Frank married Geneva Loser from Dayton. They raised four children. Geneva died May 13, 1968. Frank lives in retirement in Dayton and is an active sports director in C.Y.O. activities.

Bernard Joseph married Irene Zink from Dayton, and they raised one son. Bernard and Irene reside in retirement in New Germany, Ohio.

Otto Leroy married Ruth Oswald from Dayton. They raised three children. Otto engaged in manufacturing industry and retired as a corporation executive. Otto and Ruth live in Dayton, Ohio.

Clarence William married Florence Shilt from Lebanon, Ohio and they raised one son. Clarence was engaged in Dayton area manufacturing industry, achieving a specialist position in that field. Clarence died Sept. 24, 1975. Florence preceeded him in death on Mar. 24, 1971.

Francis Henry, John's youngest son, married Jeanette Brown from Waynesville, Ohio. They raised two sons. Francis engaged in manufacturing industry and served a position of management leadership in that field. Francis and Jeanette live in retirement in Kettering, Ohio.

John Peter Gross died Jan. 11, 1959, and his wife Arminta died Apr. 28, 1969. *Submitted by: Leona A. Segui, Kettering, Oh. 45429*

NICKALOUS HARLETT FAMILY

Nickalous Harlett was born in Bavaria, Germany October 17, 1837. As a young boy he came to America and settled in Knox County, Ohio. He married Catherine Eifert in 1860 in Knox County. He had four sons and one daughter — John, Joseph, William, Frank, and Mary.

John was the oldest and when he was two years old his parents moved to Mercer County as the land was too hilly in Knox County.

They moved to St. Joe and lived in a one room log house that had only one door and one window and ground floor. They lived in it until land could be cleared and another log house built. He bought the farm June 28, 1864 for $1500.00 from a Daniel and Sarah Jones.

At the early age of eight John had to quit school to help his Dad with the Farm work. Time goes on.

On February 15, 1887 John married Anna Schneider at Wendelin. They had eight children — Henry, Leo, Edward, Rose Harlett Huelskamp, Ray, Rudy, Clara Harlett Koverman, and Agnes. After various moves due to renting farmland John bought this farm from his Dad, Nickalous, in 1907. Ray and Agnes bought this farm from their Dad in 1931 and it has been in the Harlett name from 1864 to the present time.

John was hard of hearing, as a result of walking to St. Henry to get the funeral director at the death of

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his grandfather, in January 1862. This hearing loss resulted in his tragic death at age of 82 of being hit by a train — the tracks which ran through his fields. This happened June 17, 1944. His wife survived until August 30, 1948 when she died of complications at the age of 84.

Neither Ray nor Agnes married. They devoted their lives to the care of their parents. Agnes died of a ruptured esophagus on January 6, 1972. After her death Clara took over Agnes' duties.

At the present time Ray and Clara reside in the log house which their grandfather built in 1865.

THE HEDRICK FAMILY

Peter Hedrick and his wife, natives of Glasgow, Scotland, migrated to the United States in the early 1800's.

Their eldest son, John was born in Pennsylvania November 2, 1805 and his gravestone in the Pisgah Hill Cemetery dates his death June 27, 1862. Other stones mark members of this family.

John and his wife Rebecca (Runkle) came to Mercer County in 1837 according to the 1882 Mercer County History. Another record gives the date 1839. He was a farmer and miller with a homestead of 120 acres in Gibson Township near the Sharpsburg Road. He was a member of the Pisgah Hill Church. The family was one of the oldest in Fort Recovery — John Hedrick having been the seventh voter in the area.

John and Rebecca had a family of twelve children. Four passed away at an early age — William, Hannah, Sarah and Daniel. Three moved away from the village — Henry, Simon and Philip. Five had homes in Ft. Recovery — John, Mary Ann, George, James and Rebecca.

At the present time descendants of John and Rebecca residing in the village are Elizabeth Hedrick, granddaughter of John, and Emily Sawyer Barger, granddaughter of Rebecca. *Elizabeth Hedrick*

Mr. and Mrs. Heiby

THE HEIBYS

In 1870, five Heiby brothers came from Crawford County and bought farms in the area just northeast of Fort Recovery. John Heiby owned the farm now owned by Onalea Armstrong. Phillip Heiby owned the farm where Mike Fullenkamp now lives. William Heiby lived on the farm where Jerry Griesop now lives. Valentine Heiby lived back of this land on the St. Joe Road. These four brothers raised their families on these farms. At the deaths of the family heads, the land passed into the hands of strangers.

The farm at 2600 Wabash Road, purchased by the fifth brother, Fred Heiby, in 1870 is still in the family. When his estate was settled, Frank Heiby became the owner of the farm on which he was born on September 23, 1882. He has lived on the same farm all his 96 years. His wife, Lydia (Heidegge Heiby, born May 11, 1885, has lived there since the marriage April 30, 1910.

The Heibys have three children, including Erne P. Heiby, Alexandria, Virginia, Mrs. Herbert (Eliz beth) Kandel, Marysville, Ohio, and David F. Heib Portland, Indiana. There are ten grandchildren an five great-grandchildren. *David Heiby*

ALOYS HUELSKAMP FAMILY

John Huelskamp was born at Maria Stein, Ohi son of Dietrich Huelskamp and Elizabeth Tang man, Jan. 24, 1857.

Mary Heitkamp was born Dec. 13, 1863 in Egyp Ohio daughter of Joseph Heitkamp and Maria Eliz beth Goecke.

John Huelskamp and Mary Heitkamp was ma ried Aug. 7, 1882 in Maria Stein, Ohio. They move to a farm in St. Peter, Sec. 11, Recovery Twp. The were parents of four sons and four daughters as fo lows:

Elizabeth born in 1885, died in 1957. Sophia bor in 1887, died in 1972. William born in 1889, marrie Caroline Selhorst, died in 1969. They had eight chi dren.

Henry born in 1891, married Nora Nieberdin They had five children. Henry died in 1969 an Nora in 1976. Aloys born in 1893, married Rose Ha lett. Aloys died in 1974 and Rose died in 1935. Jo seph born in 1896, married Anna Jutte and had te children. Joseph died in 1968 and Anna in 1947.

Anna was born in 1898, married Fred Roessne and had eleven children. Anna died in 1937. Fre later married Clarice Wherle. Fred and Clarice die in 1955. Frandes (Frances?) was born in 1901 an died in 1901.

Aloys Huelskamp married Rose Harlett Nov. 1916 at St. Joseph, Ohio. They had the followin nine children:

Alfred was born March 14, 1918. In 1949 he ma ried Luella Tiell and they have three sons Tom, Do and Allen. Alfred lives in New Reigel, Ohio an works in Tiffin, Ohio.

Ernest was born Dec. 21, 1919. He married Eilee Kemper in 1953. They have a son and a daughte Paul and Rebecca. Ernest lives in Dayton and work in the Post Office.

Margaret was born November 22, 1922. She die in 1929 of Diphtheria.

Alma was born Feb. 28, 1925. She is a nun an lives in Denver, Colorado.

Theresa was born Jan. 9, 1927. She married Sylvi Brockman in 1949. They live in Ft. Recovery, Ohi and Sylvin works in Union City, Indiana. They hav nine children, Rosemary Brockman, Bertke, Edwar Hilda, Joan Brockman Sutton, Roger, Jerry, John Dennis, Marilyn.

Luella was born Oct. 20, 1928. She is a nun an lives in Ottoville, Ohio.

Mildred was born July 25, 1930. She married Luk Will in 1951. They are farmers living in the St. Pete Ohio area. They have ten children, Jim, Joyce Wi Puthoff, Margaret Will Muhlenkamp, Pat, Virgini Mark, Joe, Mary, Carl and Steve.

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Arthur was born March 30, 1932. In 1956 he married Janis Byrum. Arthur lives in Ft. Recovery and works there too. They have three children, Jeff, Andy, and Dawn.

Eugene was born Jan. 10, 1935. He married Mildred Fullenkamp in 1962. He lives in St. Henry and works in Ft. Recovery, Ohio. They have three sons, David, Ron, and Nick.

Aloys was a farmer most of his life. When his sons were able to help farm he sometimes worked in factories. During the 1930's it was pretty rough for most everybody.

Aloy's wife Rose died January 13th, 1935 leaving him to raise the family. Two of Aloy's sisters, Elizabeth and Sophia, who never married, helped him to raise the children, except the youngest Eugene. He was raised by the Sylvan Bihn family at Sharpsburg, Ohio. At the age of ten he returned to Aloys family. They then lived on a farm on the Sharpsburg Road.

Henry Huelskamp and Eleanore Nieberding wedding photo, May 5, 1920

HENRY AND NORA (NIEBERDING) HUELSKAMP FAMILY

Henry Huelskamp was born July 6, 1899 in St. Peter and died Jan. 29, 1969 in Coldwater hospital. His father John Huelskamp and his mother Mary Heitkamp were born in Maria Stein. He had three brothers William, Aloys, and Joseph and three sisters Anna (Mrs. Fred) Roessner, Elizabeth, and Sophia all deceased. He grew up on his father's farm in St. Peter located on the southwest corner of Burrville and Philothea Roads. He attended (Oakland) school, and after finishing school like all farm boys, he helped his father on the farm and also neighboring farmers. For a time he was with a threshing ring in Maria Stein helping his Heitkamp uncles. After about 1913 he worked in the foundry at New Idea in Coldwater until he was drafted for the army. After basic training at Camp Sherman, he was sent to France where he was in the thick of the fighting in the Argonne forest driving the horse drawn ammunition wagons. After the war he bought the Dull farm in St. Joe at 3837, St. Joe Road.

On May 5, 1920 he and Eleanore (Nora) Nieberding were united in marriage in Coldwater. Nora was born in Philothea on July 22, 1898 the daughter of Bernard and Caroline (Stukenborg) Nieberding. Her father was born in Philothea and her mother in Maria Stein.

She had four brothers — William, Leo, August (Gus) all deceased and Aloys who lives in Maria Stein and four sisters — Ida who died at age 11, Rose (Mrs. Clarence) Bergman (deceased), Ann (Mrs. Carl) King of St. Joe and Leona (Mrs. Norbert) Post of St. Anthony. Nora died in St. Mary's hospital April 14, 1976. Her father owned a farm on St. Henry Burkettsville Rd. east of Philothea. In 1909 they sold this farm and bought a farm northwest of Coldwater on the St. Henry Burkettsville Rd. Nora attended school in Philothea and Coldwater. They had five children all born in St. Joe — Linus, Lester, Leroy, Donald and Bernice. The children attended St. Joe grade school and Ft. Recovery High School.

Linus Huelskamp was born May 21, 1921. After he finished school, he worked for farmers. He was drafted into the army and served in the cavalry in the Pacific Theater and was with the occupation army in Japan. After the war he again worked for farmers until he took over the home operation for his father. Later he bought the homestead from his parents. He rents land from his brother Lester and neighboring farms and does custom combining, shelling and picking. On August 6, 1958 he married Juletta Homan in Philothea. Juletta, the daughter of Joseph and Mary Osterholt Homan, taught school in Cranberry and St. Henry.

Lester Huelskamp was born May 27, 1923. While in the navy he served on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Champlian. After his discharge he worked for the O'Conner Construction Co. changing the right of way of the Nickel Plate Railroad from Oakland through St. Joe. Then for a time he worked in Fairborn at Wright Patterson Airport. Finally, he was hired by Matt Schwieterman in Coldwater for whom he still operates a bulldozer. On public sale he bought the farm at 2763 St. Peter Rd. in St. Joe from the Tony Kahlig estate where he resides with his family. On Oct. 17, 1959 he married Mildred Watercutter, the daughter of Edward and Rose (Wuebker) Watercutter in McCartyville. Their five school age children are Kenneth, Sharon, Dale, Diane, and Janet.

Leroy Huelskamp was born March 7, 1925. After he served in the navy on the cruiser U.S.S. Dayton, he attended Ohio State University graduating Summa Cum Laude with a degree in engineering. He continued his studies at Ohio State and received his masters degree. After graduation he was recalled by the navy and served on a destroyer in the Korean War. He worked for General Motors in Dayton until 1958 when he was transferred to Buick in Flint, Michigan. On June 1, 1957 he married Elizabeth (Betty) Hoying, the daughter of Frank and Elizabeth (Bernard) Hoying in St. Patricks, Shelby County. Betty is a registered nurse and prior to her marriage was employed at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Dayton. Their children are Luke who is a junior at Michigan State in Lansing, Mary Ann a sophomore at General Motors Institute in Flint, Edna who is in her first year of nurses' training at Nazareth College near Kalamazoo, Michigan, Ruth, Paul, Mark, Beth and John all attending Holy Rosary School in Flint.

Donald (Boone) Huelskamp was born May 17, 1927. After his service in the navy he attended ITT in Ft. Wayne, Indiana graduating with a degree in mechanical engineering. He is a designer of machines for manufacturing plastics at HPM in Mt. Gilead, Ohio.

Bernice Huelskamp was born Nov. 11, 1933. After graduating from high school she was a bookkeeper in the office of New Idea, Coldwater. On Aug. 6,

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1955 she married Thomas Barhorst in St. Joe. He is the son of Edward and Agnes (Garriety) Barhorst of Ft. Loramie. After renting for several years, they bought the farm at 11521 Loramie-Swanders Rd. in Shelby County where they now live. They attend Sacred Heart Church, McCartyville and are in the Anna School District. Their children are Mike who works for Monarch in Sidney, Steve a junior at Ohio State, Joan who is employed at GW Tool and Die in Ft. Loramie, Robert, Mary, Ronald, Donna in high school, Carol, Linda, Jim, Julie in grade school, Keith, twins Cathy and Connie, and Lori at home. *Juletta Huelskamp*

JOHN THEADOR JUTTE

John Theador Jutte was the son of John Henry (Heinrich) and Katharina Jutte. According to the 1907 Mercer County History, John Theador and his wife Katharina (Flotama) Jutte came to America in 1846. John Theador was born May 10, 1810 and Katharina October 18, 1821. The 1907 history says they were both born, reared, educated and married in Germany. John Theador died September 7, 1887 and Katharina on August 17, 1890. John Theador's father John Henry (Heinrich) Jutte, according to the 1907 history, came to America two years earlier in 1844. The Mercer County Courthouse records show that John Henry purchased 80 acres (the west half of the east quarter of section 35) in Washington Township on March 5, 1845 from John H. and Rebecca M. Lulman of Cincinnati, Ohio for the sum of $125.00. The records also show that John Henry and his wife Catharine (Katharina) deeded 40 of these acres to John Theador on September 25, 1848 for the sum of $350.00. The remaining 40 acres were deeded to John Theador by John Henry's widow on August 6, 1862 for the sum of $450.00. This land lies on the north side of Seigrist-Jutte Road and is presently owned by August Jutte, son of Bernard Jutte and Grandson of John Theador.

According to an inscription on the bottom of John Theador's and Katharina's tombstone in the St. Peter Cemetery, John Henry's wife was born October 21, 1783 and died April 3, 1865 at age 81. Thus she would have been 61 years old if she came with John Henry in 1844. From all indications there isn't a gravesite for John Henry at the St. Peter Cemetery. According to Bernard's son, August Jutte, John Henry died of Cholera in 1849 while on a trip to Minster for supplies. August thinks he was probably buried somewhere between Minster and St. Peter in a mass unmarked grave. August believes the Jutte family came from Holland and not Germany. According to August his grandfathers John Theodor Jutte and Bernard Post were noted in the area for building log houses.

Wilma Huelskamp of Dayton, Ohio has an old Strausburg Bible dedicated to an Armado Gaston Von Rohan September 24, 1734. The art work in this book was done by Danneker a very noted German artist. According to Wilma this book has passed down through the Jutte side of the family. This is interesting from the standpoint that there were very few bibles and they were very expensive at that point in time. According to Halbert's Inc., Beth, Ohio the colors and symbols in the Jutte coat of arms indicates royalty. This might explain how th Jutte family had a bible of this nature in the earl 1700's.

John Theador and Katharina had six childrer Mary, Theador Jr., John, Bernard, Peter and Ph lomena. Mary and her husband, Samuel Jacob an Peter moved to Uniontown, Washington, Theodc Jr. moved to Genesee, Idaho; Philomena died at ag nine; John and Bernard remained in Mercer Count Thus it would appear that all of the Jutte's in thi area are descendants of John and Bernard. Word ha it that if you look in the Seattle, Washington phon book you will find a whole page of Jutte's listec Also as another point of interest, there are Jutte's i Northeastern Missouri whose ancestors Frederic and Andreas Jutte come from Germany and up th Mississippi in 1869 and settled in Clark Count Missouri.

Information available indicates that in 1970 ther were less than 300 households in the U.S. with th old and distinguished Jutte name. *by Oscar W. Jutte*

JOHN JUTTE

John Jutte, (son of John Theador and Katharin (Flotamas) Jutte) was born on February 27, 1853. H resided on a 100 acre farm on the south side of Seig rist-Jutte road in Section one of Recovery townshi — Charles Jutte owns this land now. He reside there from the time of his marriage on November 1875 to Johanna (Hannah) Whitman (sometime spelled Wittman), until shortly before his death a age 73 on June 12, 1926. Johanna was the daughte of Michael and Mary (Penter) Whitman. The Whi mans lived 1½ miles north of Ft. Recovery on Wa bash Road on the old Henry Lennartz farm no owned by Bernard Overman. Johanna was bor April 11, 1854 and died October 16, 1911 at age 5 According to the 1907 Mercer County History, Joh and Hannah turned 100 acres of timberland into on of the best improved and highly cultivated farms i the township. He also operated a cane press and ha a tile kiln on the farm. The tile kiln was operated b two of Hannah's brothers. John stabled horses an also bought and sold livestock. He even had a scale for this purpose.

John and Hannah reared nine children as follow (1.) Catherine, who married Joseph Post and ha three children — John, Ferdinand, and Minnie; (2 Minnie, who married Jacob Wikle, and had eigl children — Emma, John, Henrietta, Albert, Wilm Syril, Nioma, and Hilda; (3.) Bernard, (Benny), wh married Elizabeth Homan and had nine children - Mary, Theodore (T.E.), Edward, Walter, Charles, Jo seph, Ernest, Martha, and Alvina; (4.) John C., wh married Elizabeth Koesters and had ten children - Loretta, Alfred, Florentine, Justine, Ralph B., Mi dred, Johanna, Francis, Albert, and John (Johnnie (5.) Peter, who married Clara Minnich and had fou children — Arthur, Marie, Alice, and Louis; (6.) Wi liam, who married Catherine Koesters and had tw children — Lester and Elma; (7.) Clara, who died age eight; and (8.) Mary, who married Frank Po and had five children — William, Clara (died at ag two), Matilda, Norbert, and Urban; (9.) Anna, (a adopted daughter from New York City) who ma ried Alfred Fiely and had ten children — Eugen

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:hard, Luella, Harold, Viola, Ekna, Louis, Robert, ıus and Ruth Ann.

According to the 1907 history John was consid-:d a prominent Democrat and had already served ice on the Democratic County Central Commit-. He also served on the School Board and was a :mber of St. Peter's Catholic Church. *by Oscar W.* e

BERNARD JUTTE

Bernard (Barney) Jutte, a son of John Theador and tharina Jutte, was born February 17, 1855. He ırried Mary Post, daughter of Bernard and Ger-de (Freeline) Post. Mary was born February 20, 59 and died August 5, 1936. Bernard and Mary :d on a farm on the south side of Siegrist-Jutte ad in section two of Recovery Township. At one ıe Mr. Jutte owned a considerable amount of land the area. He died October 29, 1932 at age 77.

Bernard and Mary had nine children as follows:) Henry, who married Mod Wheeler; (2.) Samuel, o married Clara Guggenbiller and had six chil-:n — Jerome, Leona, Werner, Melvin, Orville, and ıus; (3.) Stephen, who married Rose Braun and d eight children — Catherine, Anna-Rita, Rich-l, Earl, Erma, Bernard, Agned, and Herbert; (4.) gust, who married Mary Moeder and had fifteen ldren — Ester, Paul, Mary, Luella, Luke, Joan, ırk, Julius, Aloys, Adelight, August, Carl (died at ıe months), Helen, Zeno, and Leonard; (5.) Frank, o married Rose Seifring and had one child — Al-; (6.) Theodore, who married Monica Muhlen-mp and had three children — Ruth, Evelyn, and eodore Jr.; (7.) Anna, who married Joseph Huel-ımp and had ten children — Celesta, Virgil, lma, Lucille, Ivo, Ethel, Norma, Delores, Urban, d Margie; (8.) Rose, who never married; (9.) Celia, o married Steve Ontrop and had three children Vincent, Hilda and Victor. *by Oscar W. Jutte*

ohn C. Jutte and Elizabeth Koesters family

JOHN C. JUTTE

ohn C. Jutte (son of John and Johanna (Whitman) te) and his wife Elizabeth A. (Koesters) Jutte lived er sixty years on a farm in Washington Township t west of Macedon next to the Wabash River on south side of route 219 and adjoining the Mace-n Cemetery. John and Lizzie were the first couple be married in the new St. Peter church — Febru-20, 1906. When the church was being built, John helped lay the corner stone and he hauled it from Ft. Recovery with his team and wagon.

John and Elizabeth moved to the 100 acre farm immediately after their marriage and remained there until the fall of 1966, at which time John decided they should retire completely and move into Ft. Recovery. The land was then sold to Alfred and Cleo Sudhoff. Cleo was one of their 36 grandchildren. Cleo and her husband already owned land on the north side of route 219. John was born March 4, 1883 and died March 20, 1968 at age 85. Elizabeth was born December 17, 1885 and died March 8, 1974 at age 88.

Elizabeth was born and raised on an 80 acre farm 1½ miles west of Wendelin on the south side of Ft. Recovery-Minster Road, just east of the old one room school house. The farm is now owned by Melvin Evers. Elizabeth's father Ted came from Germany by himself at the age of twelve. His parents wanted to get him out of the country because they didn't want him being taken into the military like his older brother. According to Elizabeth, Ted came up the Miami-Erie Canal and disembarked at New Bremen and found a home with an Evers family near St. Rose. Ted was born December 8, 1853 and died July 12, 1917. He married Anna M. Post of Wendelin. She was born April 25, 1862 and died February 7, 1941. Ted and Anna had six other children in addition to Elizabeth as follows: (1.) Rose, who married Joe Myer and had 11 children — Anne, Mary, Albert, Lawerance, Joseph, Urban, Edward, Clara, Emma Wifred, and Alice; (2.) Will, who married Louise Kamp and had three children — Fred, Elmer, and Margaret; (3.) Ben, who married Alice Muhlenkamp and had two children — Lucille and Edna; (4.) Katherine, who married Willman Jutte and had two children — Lester and Elma; (5.) Frank who married Christine Braun and had six children — Francila, Harold, Katherine, Frank Jr., Virginia, and Shirley; (6.) Francis, who married Rudolph Van Den Bosch and had six children — Earl, Ester, Cleo, Marie, Edna, and Carl.

Back to John C. Jutte — he liked to trade livestock and at one time was an active horse trader. He was considered a very good farmer, always among the first, if not the first, to have corn planted etc. He liked to go to bed early and get up early, often before day light. Some of his grandchildren used to kid him about "going to bed with the chickens".

John and Elizabeth reared ten children — (1.) Loretta, who married Aloys Braun and had three children — Ruth, Cleo, and Paul; (2.) Alfred, who married Virginia Beams; (3.) Florentine, who married Herbert Fiely and had five children — Wilma, Alice, RuthAnn, Margie, and Lavern; (4.) Justine, who married Raymond Bader and had four children — Richard, Wanita, Irene, and Julius; (5.) Ralph B., who married Marcella Keller and had two children — Oscar W. and Ralph Jr.; (6.) Mildred, who married Henry Knoth and had five children — Jerry, James, Jane, Janet, and John; (7.) Johanna, who married Wilbert Keller and had three children — Robert, Carl, and Harold; (8.) Francis, who married Adolph Knapke and had nine children — Thomas, Janice Ann, Mike, Garry, Larry, Leon, Joyce, Beverly, and Nancy; (9.) Albert, who married Ethel Faller and had three children — Jack, Joan, and James; and (10). John (Johnnie), who married Luella Wendel and had

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two children — Charlene and Donald. *by Oscar W. Jutte*

Ralph B. Jutte 1936 — 1936 McCormick Deering Tractor model W K 6. It was purchased new from Hull Bros. at Fort Recovery. This was one of the first tractors in the county with rubber tires. Ralph owned this tractor along with a rubber tired threshing machine in partnership with his brother Alfred.

RALPH B. JUTTE

Ralph B. Jutte, retired, resides at the site of the old town of Monterey (see article about Montery). At one time the entire town of Monterey was owned by Ralph. He was born just a few miles away in Washington township September 9, 1912 on the 100 acre farm of his parents John C. and Elizabeth (Koesters) Jutte. He was the fifth child of ten. The house on the farm where John and Lizzie moved after their marriage was in bad shape and another house from Macedon was moved to the farm just prior to Ralph's birth. The lower part of the old house was torn away and the upper part put into use as a grainery. Ralph was unable to finish high school as he was needed at home to help work the farm etc. It was the beginning of the Great Depression and he recalls hauling logs for Rutter Saw Mill at Ft. Recovery and how they would leave home before daylight with the teams and wagons. They also worked for the county and township hauling gravel from the Wabash River for road improvements. He recalls working for neighbors for the sum of one dollar a day. Ralph started working for a bridge construction company in 1929 that was putting in the concrete bridge on route 219 over the Toti for the WPA. He then traveled with this company and helped construct bridges in many areas of Ohio. In June of 1936 Ralph and his brother Alfred went into partnership on a new threshing machine and tractor. It was the first threshing machine in the area with rubber tires and one of the first tractors in the area with rubber tires. Ralph and Alfred remained in partnership for five years; then Ralph bought Alfred's interest when Alfred came home from WW II and from that time forward Ralph did a considerable amount of custom harvesting. In 1937 Ralph purchased a tractor drawn 2 row New Idea corn picker. Then a hay baler and later self propelled combines. In 1938 he purchased his first combine with a motor.

In 1941 Ralph started a milk route picking up the product from farms in ten gallon cans and delivering it to the Equity Dairies Inc. at Ft. Recovery. He owned the route for 21 years and drove the route himself for 17 years.

He married Marcella Keller, daughter of Peter and Anna (Weaver) Keller in 1939 (See Keller Family History). Marcella was born December 4, 1911 a died on January 3, 1978 from a three year illness cancer. Marcella (Sally) became well kno throughout the area for growing strawberries a selling them on a pick-your-own basis. She start selling them on a pick-your-own basis in the ea 50's.

Ralph and Marcella (Sally) lived in Ft. Recove until 1941 in the house presently occupied by t Dennis Fett Sr. family. In 1941 they purchased home three miles north of Ft. Recovery on st route 49; it was an old home that Ralph remodel in his spare time. This home is presently occupi by the Edward Wellman family. It is located on t south boundry of the present farm where Ral now resides; which was purchased in 1945 from A drew (Andy) Birkmeyer. This first farm consisted 107 acres. In 1951 fifty acres of the Daniel Runk farm (which had been in that family since the m 1800's) was purchased. In 1963 the Dell and Flo Cummins farm, consisting of 171 acres ½ mile nor of Ralph's residence was purchased. The farms we all incorporated in 1967 as Ralph Jutte Farms Inc.

Ralph and Sally had two sons, Oscar born Janua 16, 1941 and Ralph Jr. born November 3, 1943. O car and his family live on the farm in a new hon built in 1969 just south of his father Ralph. Ralph married Janice Bubp, daughter of Al and Ma (Moeller) Bubp of Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Ralph Jr. ar Janice have three children — Douglus, Pamela, ar Amy. Ralph Jr. is a chemical engineer with Owe Corning Fiberglass Co. He and his family reside Granville, Ohio.

Ralph Sr. has served on the Community Hospit Board of Trustees, Coldwater, and as a trustee f Recovery Township. He has always been considere a hard worker and like his father John C. Jut among the first to have corn planted etc. *by Oscar Jutte*

Oscar W. Jutte Family, October 1977 — Suzanne 34, Scott F. 10, Eric J. 6, Brian A. 3, Karen R. 8, Oscar W. 36, Paula Keskikastari 17, Finnish Exchange Student. Picture is in front of pumpkin display at their Roadside Market.

OSCAR W. JUTTE

Oscar is the son of Ralph B. and Marcella (Kelle Jutte. At this time he operates Ralph Jutte Farms In The operation consists of 330 acres. At this writing is the only farm in Mercer County using irrigatio In addition to the usual field crops of corn, so beans, wheat, hay, etc. 10 acres of strawberries, acres of vine crops (muskmelons, watermelor squash, pumpkins etc.) and 4½ acres of re raspberries are grown. Livestock are also a maj part of the operation. Approximately 100 sows a

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pt the year round and their offspring kept to mar-
t weight. Approximately 36,000 turkeys a year are
ırted as day old poults and kept to eight weeks of
e; there is also a small beef cow herd of 25. Their
fspring are also finished to market weight.
Oscar moved to this farm in 1945 with his parents
the age of four. He graduated from Ft. Recovery
gh School in 1959. In 1963 he entered the United
ates Air Force as a 2nd Lt. upon graduation from
ıio State University in Agriculture Economics. He
rved as a Minuteman Launch Control Officer for
ur years at Whitman Air Force Base in Knob
ɔster, Missouri. During the last two years there he
ıs a member of the chief instructor crew.
On September 18, 1965 he married Suzanne
ıughn daughter of Frank and Margurite (Green)
ıughn of Youngstown, Ohio and sister to Dr.
nes Vaughn who located in Ft. Recovery as a den-
t. Suzanne graduated from Ohio State University
ɔllege of Nursing in June 1965. Scott F. Jutte, Oscar
d Suzanne's first son was born at Whiteman AFB,
ıob Noster, Missouri April 7, 1967.
In January of 1968 Oscar and Suzanne returned to
Recovery to farm with his parents. His mother,
ally) was already well known in the local area for
awberry growing; she and Ralph had kept the me-
n enterprise going which they helped Oscar and
ılph Jr. start in the early 1950's.
In addition to Scott, Oscar and Suzanne had three
ore children — Karen R. born April 19, 1969; Eric
born January 8, 1971; and Brian A. born March 4,
'74.
Of all the farm enterprises Oscar takes most pride
the growing of muskmelons ... Jutte's Melons
e known throughout a large area of west central
hio and east central Indiana. People drive as much
125 miles to the Jutte Roadside Market for these
p quality fruit. Other fresh fruit such as; peaches,
ɔples, plums, blueberries, etc. sold at the market
e brought from Michigan.
Like his father and grandfather, Oscar is consid-
ed progressive and innovative. Oscar and his fam-
are active members of Trinity Lutheran Church
Ft. Recovery. Due to the disregard for the demo-
atic process and the devisive activities of a Father
ed Falce concerning the restoration of the old
ary Help of Christians Church, Oscar and Su-
nne decided to abandon the Roman Catholic reli-
on in September of 1974. This family also partici-
ıtes in the U.S. Youth for Understanding program
which they host foreign exchange students for
ıe year; having had a student from Finland in 1977
ıd one from Bogata, Columbia in 1978. *by Oscar W.*
tte

KAFER AND HEIBY DESCENDANTS

John Kafer and his wife Fredricka (nee Loyer)
ere the parents of Rosina (Kafer) Heiby. Rosina
afer was born in Liberty Township, Crawford
ounty, Ohio on October 12, 1851. She was one of a
mily of six daughters and one son. She spent her
ırly life in Crawford County until Rosina Kafer
as married to Phillip Heiby on March 23, 1871.
ıe following year, the young couple moved to a

Phillip Heiby
Homestead

farm near Fort Recovery, Ohio. Phillip and Rosina Heiby were the parents of four children. Fred Heiby was born at Sulphur Springs, Ohio on December 31, 1871. For 44 years he worked as a bookkeeper beginning in 1908 with the Koch Stirrup Factory; he passed away in February 1954. Charles Oscar Heiby was born in 1883 in Fort Recovery, Ohio; he married Pearl Fennig and they were the parents of a daughter, Helen (Heiby) Lallement who resides in Auburn, California. Two sons were born to Helen and Emile Lallement, Emile, Jr., and Phillip Lallement. Charles O. Heiby died at the age of 68 years old in 1951. Otto B. Heiby was born at Fort Recovery, Ohio, March 31, 1886 and departed this life August 25, 1932 at the age of 46 years. In the morning Otto Heiby went out to cut down a tree in the woods and the tree fell on him killing him instantaneously. He was married to Nell Bellis and the father of one daughter, Ruth (Heiby) Hamlin of California. Mrs. Matilda (Heiby) Rabe was born October 23, 1875 at Fort Recovery, Ohio and reached the age of 83 years when she passed away in 1959. She was married to Sam Rabe in 1903 and they resided in Mercer County, Ohio in Washington Township. Sam and Matilda (Heiby) Rabe were the parents of Clarence Rabe, born in 1907; Clarence lives on the home place. Clarence Rabe is married to Ruth (Frazee) Rabe. Matilda and Sam Rabe had a daughter, Bertha (Rabe) Schaadt of Celina, Ohio. Sam Rabe passed away at the age of 53 years in 1926; he had been born August 16, 1873 in Washington Township. He died of blood poisoning caused by a scratch. Phillip Heiby, who was born in 1845 in Sulphur Springs, Ohio, the son of Valentine and Magdalena Heiby, passed away Dec. 26, 1933. Rosina, his wife, died at the age of 78 years in 1929.

KERBER-GROSS

John Gross (1796, Prussia (Germany) — 1856, Cemetery ¼ mile north of St. Anthony, O.) married Mary ——. They had four children: 1. Barbara Gross Schillick lived in Missouri. 2. Elizabeth Gross Bristley had two children; Mary Tangeman and Margaret Tangeman. 3. Peter Gross, lived in Decator, Ind. and had two children; Jacob Gross and Katherine Gross Edding. 4. Jacob Gross who married Mary Kerber (See Kerber History). 5. Anna Gross Brown (Braun) who had three children: Margaret White Chesmore who had two children; Leona and Albert White. Mary Kreusch who had two children, Victor and Viola Gambler. Anna Linn.

Peter Kerber married Eva Braun in Germany, came to this country, settling at Reading O. Two children were born to them in Germany. Rosina born 1836 and Adam. Two more children were born to them at Reading, O. Margret, born 1842 and

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Mary Ann born 1848. They worked a truck farm selling fruits and veg. to the city. A few years later they moved by way of the Canal, to New Bremen, O. Then traveled by foot to a farm near what is now Ft. Recovery, O. At that time a Log School House stood at the place where the St. Peter Church stands. That School House is the spot where the First Mass was read. Peter Kerber wrote to a friend of his former home, asking him to order an Altar Stone and Chalice, these were shipped to Union City, Feb. 1858. Peter Kerber and Jacob Roessner walked a distance of nearly 20 miles across swollen streams to bring the precious relics and sacred vessels. This, and a constant hardy spirit of Peter Kerber it is said to be the deciding factor in giving the New Parish its name of St. Peter. Mary Ann Kerber the daughter of Peter Kerber married Jacob Gross 1865 or 66. To this union were born ten children. *Anna* Gross born 1867 at Macedon, O., Mercer Co. She married Philip Diller Nov. 1897. Anna died Sept. 17, 1952. They had five children; *John* Gross born at Macedon 1869, married Arminta King. John died 1959. They had 12 children; *Rosa* Gross born Macedon, O. 1872, married Fred Janning. Rosa died Aug. 2, '63. They had five children; *Elizabeth* Gross born in Missouri 1875 married John Fortman. Elizabeth died 1922. They had two children; *Joseph* Gross born 1877, at St. Peter, O. married Marie Gast. Joseph died 1924; *Frank* Gross born 1879 at St. Peter, O. married Antionette Uehleman; *Mary* Gross, born 1882 at St. Peter, O. married John Diller June 18, 1906. They had 8 children. Mary died Jan. 11, 1972; *William* Gross born 1884 at St. Peter, O. married Antionette Wellman. William died 1947. They had 8 children; *Adam* Gross born March 17, 1887 at St. Peter married Catherine Braun. He died Jan. 1972. They had 9 children; *Emelia* Gross born 1892 at St. Peter married Ignatius Wellman Feb. 13. She died 1971. 6 children.

Jacob and Mary Gross lived in Macedon, O. Jacob was a blacksmith. They moved then to Missouri and lived there for a short time. They moved back to Decatur, Ind. About 1875, to a farm, again doing blacksmith trade. When Peter Kerber died Mary and Jacob Gross moved to St. Peter to live and farm with Mary's Mother. Work, save, and slave, was the motto to make a living. Jacob Gross passed away 1896. The youngest child Emelia Wellman lived on this farm with her Mother Mary Ann (Kerber) Gross who died Dec. 2, 1932. The farm is still in the Wellman Family. The Fourth Generation. *Ethel Boeckman*

Peter King

PETER KING

This book would not be complete unless some mention was made of Peter King, an early resident of Mercer County. A grand old man who lived to be 101 years, 4 months and 27 days old. He was my great-grandfather, and I have many pleasant memories where he is concerned. We used to have King Reunion which was an annual affair held a park called Millers Grove in Dayton, Ohio. We looked forward to this "get-together." It was only time we got to see a lot of the relatives, an was a nice feeling to see all those people and kn that they were all part of your family. We still h an occasional "King Reunion" but they aren't same. Two whole generations are gone now.

Great-grandpa lived for a time with his daugh Arminta Gross (my grandmother) before he died. was very clean and particular about his appearan He wore a full suit, white shirt and tie every day. chewed tobacco, but most people never knew t because he kept an old Alka Seltzer bottle in his side coat pocket and when necessary he very c creetly turned away, spit in the bottle, and slippe back in his pocket.

He was an avid fan of the Cincinnati Reds, a carried a small transistor radio around with h with the ear plug in his ear. We never heard the dio, but we sure heard grandpa grumbling when game wasn't going to suit him.

Our family has always played a card game cal "Sheephead" which is a lot of fun, but no one co ever enjoy the game more than great-grandpa Ki and grandpa Gross (John P. Gross) my grandfath Those two old men spent years trying to see whi one could cheat the other without getting caug We kids were drafted as their partners and loved Of course we knew they were cheating, but none us had the nerve to accuse them and spoil their fu

Grandpa King was never senile. He had control all his faculties until the day he died. He died pneumonia on Jan. 20, 1952, but while he was in t hospital he wouldn't stay in bed. The nurses had go looking for him every time they needed to gi him his medication. They always found him talki to another patient. He would say, "I was just visiti with that old man."

He knew he was going to die. He told the doct and nurses to get him a birthday cake so he cou have a party. They did, and had a birthday party f him in his hospital room. He died a few days later.

One of Grandpa King's most prized possessio was a telegram from the President on his 100 birthday. He was also interviewed on television st tion WLW-D in Dayton along with his olde daughter Arminta Gross, her oldest daughter Leo Segui (my mother), and Leona's oldest daught Agatha Schmid, thus featuring four living gener tions. When our first child was born, we took pi tures of the five generations.

Peter King was the third child of Anthony Ki and Gertrude Kiever Who moved to America fro Urlufen, Germany in 1845. They first located Holmes County, Ohio, but moved to Danville, Kn County, Ohio in 1882. They later moved to Merc County, 1½ miles East of Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

Anthony and Gertrude had seven children; A thony, Lawrence, Peter, Andrew, Katherine, Josep and Julia.

Peter, born Aug. 24, 1850, married Anna Mill whose parents were Vincent Miller and Magdalir Stillinger. They had twelve children: Cletus (marrie Caroline Weis), Arminta Mary Gross (John), Franc Mackey (Henry), George (married Mary Sho macher, then after her death he married Nellie. H

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st name unknown). Joseph (married Clara Merkle), ose Stachler (August), Herman (married Theresa ron), William (married Anna Bergman), Aloys narried Viona Bensman), Laura Grote (Clement), ernard (married Mae Barhorst), and Roman (mar-ed Agnes Moorman).

Arminta King Gross was my grandmother and ie, like her father lived a long life. She was 92 years d when she died in 1969 in Dayton, Ohio.

I might mention too that Peter King's father also ved to be over 100 years old. *Submitted by: Helen (Se-ii) Godfrey, Celina, Oh. 45822*

THE LAMM FAMILY

The Lamm farm at 1303 St. Joe Road, in 1976, was warded a "Century Farm Citation". The same farm ill owned and operated, and the century brick ome still occupied by the Herman and Theresia amm family. Their grandchildren are the fifth gen-ation of the Lamm family.

The roots go back to Anton Lamm, who came om Kappelrodeck, Baden, Germany and settled in Iercer County. Here he met Catherine Blum, who s a small child also came with her family from Ger-iany and settled in Perry County before moving to ie St. Joe area.

Anton and Catherine were married in 1857 and urchased the present farm from the government, nd began farming on what was still mostly forest nd. Here they built a log cabin, one and one-half iiles N.E. of Fort Recovery and a mile (walking dis-ince) West of the St. Joseph Church. The couple ad 9 children and were quite active in establishing nd supporting the church and congregation, as well s civic projects. A new brick home was built in 1874 hich is still occupied. Their family included; six aughters all married, Caroline (John Coughlin), Iagdaline (John Speck), Clara (Mike Schoch), Cath-rine (George Lauber), Margaret (John Volz), Mary Adam Hoening), and three sons; Peter died age 19, nthony first married Lena Frey, after her death iarried Angeline Ranly, and John married Anna echner.

On May 7, 1901 the youngest son John was mar-ed to Anna Lechner of Wendelin. Anna's father nd mother, Bernard and Mary Ann (Agney) Lech-er, for many years owned and operated a saw mill n that area. The young couple took over the farm nd the elder Lamm's moved to the village of St. Joe, ien known as Victoria.

The John Lamm's continued to be active in both eligious and civic projects of the community. John as one of the founders of the "Victoria Dramatic lub", their first performance was "The Heroic)utchman". He was also an organizer of the "John : Bill" picnic which was a forerunner of the present larvest Jubilee. For a number of years these picnics ere held in the woods on the Lamm farm. A Delco ower plant and a car became a part of the family's ssets. John and Anna were the parents of nine chil-ren; Matilda Grieshop (deceased), Charles (de-eased 1977) married to Leona Dillhoff, Alvira (Her-ert Becker), Elizabeth (Thomas Connell), Emma Virgil Bey), Robert (deceased 1978) married Agnes utte, Herman (deceased 1968) married Theresia eumer; 2 sons died in infancy. John died in 1932, but by working together the family survived the depression years.

In 1943 Herman and Theresia, a graduate nurse, were married; Theresia's ancestors had also come from Germany from areas of Westphalia, Hanover, Osnabruck and Billerbeck. The maternal grandfather, Frank Kemper, arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio as a teenager and unable to find a job, joined the Union Army and served during the Civil War. The Beumers and Kempers had settled in the South, Tennessee and Alabama, but in 1919 when Theresia was a small child the family moved from St. Joseph, Tenn. to Mercer County, Ohio. These were war years and Robert was drafted and served two years in the army, while Herman and Theresia remained on the farm, in order to meet the government demands production was increased — more grain, more cattle, more hogs, more tomatoes to feed the hungry nations. Gas rationing, food rationing, sugar stamps, meat stamps, shoe stamps, all became a part of living.

In 1945 the war was over, Robert came home safely, and the long awaited power lines became a reality. A new well and the wind pump came down, tractors replaced horses, combines replaced the threshing machine. Grandma Anna lived with the family until her death in 1957. Robert was married and left. There were six children in the family now; Barbara, Kenneth, Paul, Joan, Thomas and Anna Marie. Herman a life member of the St. Joseph's choir enjoyed singing. Truly these were the best years of our lives. Changes came and Herman died suddenly in 1968. Theresia continued with her nursing career. The family all graduated from Fort Recovery High School and continued to operate the farm. As Herman often sang "As Time Goes By", so names changed and new members arrive. Today we have Barbara, a L.P.N. married to Ed Muhlenkamp, three children — Amanda (Mandy), Eric and Todd. Kenneth, served two years in the U.S. Army, an Accountant and Farmer, married to Janice Kremer, two children — Sherri and Tricia. Thomas married to Joan Jutte. Joan, Social Worker, married to Harry McPheron. Paul in electronics, presently of Alexandria, Va., and Anna Marie, student at Wright State University.

The year 1978 will find Sherri and Mandy in kindergarten — the fifth generation of the Lamm family starts to school. And again "Times Goes By" *Theresia Lamm, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846*

LENNARTZ FAMILY

Frederick William and Catherine (Kloeters) Lennartz from Hoch Neukirchen, Germany came to America in 1870. They stayed with a family at Philothea for sometime. They had three sons and one daughter. Gustav, Henry, Meinrad, and Antionette. After some time they settled on a farm in the Fort Recovery territory on Saint Peter Road, ½ mile south of the Parish Church. The old log cabin is still there. Gustav, who was 18 years stayed on the farm with his parents. Henry studied for a teacher. He taught school in Saint Joe (at that time was called Victoria, Ohio) and was the parish organist for a good many years. He married Mary Vonderhaar. Later they moved to Celina, Ohio. They had four daughters

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Katherine (Stock), Victoria, Pauline, and Agnes. Mr. Lennartz was the cashier in the Citizens Bank, and later became the president until he retired. Their daughter, Agnes passed away at the age of 18 years. Then his wife passed away and he married Lillian Assenbeck from Cincinnati. The family was well known and liked. Henry passed away in 1929-76 years. Lillian passed away in 1947-77 years. They are all buried in Celina Cemetery. Meinard Lennartz went into the Seminary and was ordained a priest in 1884. He was stationed in the south, passed away and was buried in Galveston, Texas in 1932-78 years. Antionette became a nun in the Precious Blood Order. She passed away in 1883-23 years. The parents, Frederick passed away in 1878-55 years. Catherine in 1883-57 years. The three are buried in Saint Peter Cemetery, marked with one Tombstone.

Nice to remember are the times the family got together and told us about how their times differed from ours. They always walked to school and church, some lived 2½ to 3 miles from their schools and churches. Then how the whole families would go in the fields at harvest time. The neighbors would help each other. In the fall they would make cider and cook applebutter in large kettles outside. In the winter the neighbors got together and did the butchering, mostly pork for the coming year. They cured their own meat. In the evenings they would play cards, have sausage fries and drink cider. There usually was several among the crowd that played the harmonica, so they sang and danced. The women made all their own clothes. Baked bread and made two kinds of cookies, Sugar and Mollasses. They churned butter and sold it as well as eggs, lard and applebutter to the grocer. They also made their own soap. They always had coffee, flour and sugar on supply in case of bad roads, snowbound, or other emergencies. *Louis Lennartz*

LENNARTZ FAMILY

Gustav Lennartz married Clara Ronnebaum from Saint Sebastian in 1883. They raised seven children, three boys and four girls. Three daughters, Matilda, Emma and Elizabeth passed away in their youth and are buried in Saint Peter Cemetery.

At this time Gustav and his three sons Henry, William, and Bernard farmed 400 acres. Gustav Lennartz passed away 1947-96 years. His wife, Clara passed away in 1940-79 years. They are buried in Saint Peter Cemetery. Anna (their daughter) married August Link (a farmer) and moved to Cassella. They raised eight children. All living except one son, Roman. They are Leonard, Meinrad, George, Dr. Edward, Gustav, Victoria and MaryAnn (Klosterman). The children all live around this territory. August passed away in 1958-68 years. Anna (his wife) in 1962-71 years. They are buried in Cassella.

Henry Lennartz married Catherine Greishop and raised three children. Albert, Rosemary and Antionette. Catherine (his wife) passed away in 1926-33 years. Henry remarried to Mary Boeke from Germany. The children grew up and married. Albert passed away in 1970-53 years. Rosemary (Torshia) lives in Dayton and Antionette "Nettie" (Schultz) in Cincinnati.

William Lennartz married Antionette "Nettie" Kaup in November 1926. They resided on the farm in Saint Peter and raised eight children. They are married except one, and are well known. They a Lillian (Brockman), Melvin, Paul, Robert, Euge Donald, Dorothy (Wendel) and William "Billy" home with his mother. After they retired th moved to Coldwater, where Mrs. Lennartz still sides. William passed away in 1972-78 years and buried at Coldwater Cemetery.

Bernard "Ben" Lennartz married Gertrude He kamp in June 1926. He was the youngest son. that time the tradition was for him to live with l parents on the home place. They have two childre Louis and Dianna. Ben passed away in 1970-73 ye and is buried in Saint Peter Cemetery. Gertrude (l wife, retired) lives across the road, from her son a daughter-in-law and family.

Dianna Lennartz graduated from Cincinnati Co servatory of Music. She married Eldon Leinen fro Cincinnati in October 1964. They have four ch dren. Gregory, Maria, Jeffrey, and Zachery. *Louis L nartz, Fort Recovery, Oh. 45846*

LENNARTZ FAMILY

Louis Lennartz married Ruth Bey from Versaill Ohio in November 1952. They have eight childre Linda, Karen, Thomas, Jane, David, Roger, Dua and Brenda. Linda was born in Portsmouth, Virgir while Louis was in the army at Fort Story, Virgin The other children were born in Mercer Coun Linda married Thomas R. Boeckman in July 19 They have a son, Neil. They live on Route 1, Col water. Tom farms and works at New Idea, Coldw ter, Linda is a homemaker. Karen married Raymo Timmerman in November 1974. They have tv sons, Gary and Eric. They live on Route 1, New Br men. Ray works at Crown Controls, New Brem and Karen is a homemaker. Tom graduated fro high school in 1977 and is working on the farr with his father. Jane is a senior in high school a enjoys baking and decorating cakes. David, a soph more in high school, and Roger an eighth grader a tend school at Fort Recovery. Duane a sixth grad and Brenda, a second grader attend Saint Pet School. The younger children help around the farr with the chores and have various hobbies they e joy.

Louis and Ruth own and operate the homeste of four generations. They live on the family hom stead and also own the former farm of William Le nartz, which they bought when he retired. The farms are located in sections 9 and 10 of Recove township on Saint Peter Road, Northeast of Fort R covery. *Louis Lennartz*

McDOWELL FAMILY

One of the earliest settlers of the For. Recover area was Samuel McDowell, who was born in 177 He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1791 and was member of General Butler's regiment of General S Clair's army in the disastrous defeat of St. Clair the battle of Fort Recovery. Here he proved himse in battle. When the retreat was sounded, all th could run rushed pell mell to the rear in shamefu confusion. Samuel McDowell was among those wh

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ered the retreat and kept the enemy in check.
He saved the life of one wounded soldier, barely e to limp along, by catching a fleeing horse and ping the soldier to mount.
Samuel McDowell married the daughter of Pete debaker and they were the parents of four chil-n: William and Samuel, Jr., and two girls. Samuel ouried in a little cemetery on South Gwendolin eet, Fort Recovery; his grave is marked by a ilder split in half with "Samuel McDowell, that ped fight the Indians" inscribed on the stone.
The first grist mill in Mercer County was started 1830 by David Anderson. The stone used in the l was quarried and dressed by W. M. McDowell, brother of Samuel.
Samuel McDowell, Jr., born in Fort Recovery on rch 27, 1827, married Bessie Davidson, who was n in Ireland on February 10, 1832. Bessie's father, lliam Davidson, came to Mercer County to work the digging of the Reservoir, for which he was d $.25 (25¢) plus a jigger of whiskey a day. Out of s salary he managed to save enough money to ng his family to Mercer County from Ireland.
Samuel, Jr., and Bessie had nine children: Wil-n; Elizabeth; Margret; Johnny; Maria; Samuel III; arles; Susie; and Mary.
Mary McDowell married Archibold Shook, a mer in North Star, and they had one son, Frank. chibold died when Frank was quite young and in 6 Mary married Henry Arnold. Henry was a mer in Wabash Township, Darke County, who d been married previously to Victoria Ross. Victo-died after giving birth to the couple's first child, a. Henry and Mary had two children, Minnie and sea, and in 1907 they moved with the four chil-n to Mercer County.
Frank Shook became a carpenter and married ace Brookhart; they had three children: Ruth, la and Bernice.
Lida Arnold married Ward Shaw and they had o daughters, Pauline and Crolla.
Hosea Arnold married Alvera Hoel and they had ir sons: Gene, Alvin, Boyd and Paul. (See Arnold d Hoel family histories)
Minnie Arnold married C. Boyd Kettring, a car-nter, painter and taxidermist from Montezuma, d they had one daughter, Hazel.
Hazel Kettring married Robert E. Cole, son of Mr. d Mrs. L. H. Cole, in 1941. In January, 1946, they rchased the Pete Fischer Grocery on East Living-n Street in Celina. During the last forties and rly fifties most Celina High School students ate eir noon lunch at Bob's Market. Bob and Hazel set a cafeteria line, with hot dogs, buns, potato chips d cookies, as well as milk and pop, and the stu-nts passed along the line, paying at the end. This s reportedly better, and faster, than the high-hool cafeteria.
By 1957 Cole's had outgrown the small store and ey built and opened what is now Cole's Market on st Market Street. They also built and operated the st drive-in restaurant in the Celina area on that e.
Bob and Hazel Cole are the parents of four chil-en.
Robert K., a teacher, married Elizabeth Earman m Eaton, Ohio, and they have a son Brent and a ughter Tamara and reside in the Troy, Ohio, area.

Thomas, an electrician, was married to the former Nancy Otis and is the father of two children, Thomas Lloyd and Julia Elizabeth.
Susan Diane married Donald Heyne of Coldwater, Ohio, and both are now employed in the field of data processing in Dallas, Texas.
Stacy Ann graduated from Celina Senior High School and is employed at Mersman Sommers Corporation in Celina. *Minnie Kettering*

Overman Family — **Back Row:** Patricia, Jean, Bernard, Julitta, Carol, Mary Kay, Susan. **Front Row:** John, Charles, Daniel, Angela, Marjorie, Mark, Robert.

BERNARD A. OVERMAN

Bernard Overman, a farmer and seed salesman, lives at 1215 Philothea Road in Recovery Township. The 70 acre farm he lives on was purchased from William Lennartz in 1955. At that time only a house and barn were on this farm. They were built by the Braun family around 1917-1918.
He owns and farms 290 acres in Recovery Township, 90 acres in the state of Indiana, and rents another 280 acres.
Bernard was born June 7, 1925 in Marion Township near Maria Stein, the son of Leo J. and Mary (Stammen) Overman. His grandparents were Bernard and Bernadine (Brinckman) Overman whose family history is in the 1907 Mercer County History. Leo and Mary were married in 1923. They were the parents of six children: Mary Ann (Louis) Rutschilling, Coldwater; Bernard; Elizabeth Kelley, St. Marys; Bernadette Frey, Dayton; Robert, who died in infancy; Thomas, who lived on the home farm on Huwer Rd. in Marion Township. He died in 1967 at the age of 36 years. Mary died May 18, 1976 at the age of 76 years. Leo died a year later, May 13, 1977 at the age of 85 years. Bernard has three stepbrothers: Edwin and Harold, Dayton; and Norbert, Maria Stein.
Bernard attended Puthoff School, south of Maria Stein; served his country under General Clark, 5th Army, 10th Mountain Division, 87th Regiment, 2nd Battalion, Co. H as a machine gunner in Italy during World War II. He is a charter member of American Legion Post 571, Maria Stein; Life Member of VFW, Ft. Recovery; and a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, Mercer County Chapter 76. He worked for 15 years at Avco New Idea, Coldwater and is now a full time farmer.
Bernard married Julitta Meier May 11, 1948 at St. Rose, Ohio. She is the daughter of Aloys and Rose (Bruns) Meier. Her father died at the age of 71 in 1974 while on a tour in Germany. Her mother now resides in Osgood, Ohio.
Julitta was the oldest of 15 children. She attended

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Dwenger School, south of St. Rose and was a 1945 graduate of St. John High School. Her brothers and sisters are: Eileen (Bernard) Plieman, Osgood; Velma (Richard) Hartke, Carthagena; Lillian (Arnold) Homan, New Bremen; Marilyn (Ernest) Uhlenhake, Coldwater; Edna (Lavern) Reichert, Russels Point; Joan (Donald) Hummel, St. Henry; Anita (Lester) Homan, Cassella; Diane (Donald) Albers, Osgood; Larry, St. Rose; Dale, Versailles; Nick, who lives on the home farm on Homan Rd., south of St. Rose; and Mary Lou (Richard) Broerman, Yorkshire. Two children, Mary Margaret and Marvin died in infancy.

Bernard and Julitta are the parents of thirteen children:

Marjorie — born April 22, 1949, Married July 4, 1969 to Richard Keller. They live in St. Henry and have four children: Laura, Richard, Julie and Nicole.

Jean — born January 4, 1951, Married September 24, 1971 to John Keller. They live east of New Bremen and have two children: Terry and Cindy.

Daniel — born April 14, 1953, married July 10, 1976 to Sandra Heyne. They are building a home on Wabash Rd., Ft. Recovery and have a son, Shawn.

John — born July 22, 1953, married June 12, 1976 to Mary Grevenkamp. They live in Philothea and have a son, Nathan.

Susan — born November 11, 1955, married February 5, 1977 to Robert Osterfeld. They reside in Coldwater.

Charles — born November 19, 1956, married July 28, 1978 to Kay Kremer. They reside on Wabash Rd., Ft. Recovery, and he helps his father farm.

Patricia — born October 8, 1958, works at the National Farmers Organization Dairy Office and lives at home.

Robert — born March 26, 1960, works at the Ft. Recovery Industries and lives at home.

Joseph — born March 23, 1961, was injured in a farm accident and died June 10, 1962 at the age of 14 months.

Mary Kay — born January 24, 1964, Carol Sue — born March 31, 1966, Mark — born May 28, 1968, and Angela — born November 16, 1970 are attending Ft. Recovery Southwest Local Schools and still live at home. The family attends St. Peter Catholic Church of which they are members. *Bernard Overman*

Wiley Reynolds

WILEY REYNOLDS

No history of Recovery Township would be complete without the name of Wiley Reynolds. Wiley was born December 28, 1898 to George W. and Elizabeth Reynolds. He always lived in Noble Township on the Jay County side of the State Line.

It will always be remembered by those who cared that neighbors Orrin and Daisy Greene took Wiley into their home. The Greenes nursed him back to health when the Reynolds home burnt in Mar 1939. The fire left Wiley homeless and desperat ill with pneumonia.

It was a very rare day when the community Fort Recovery did not see Wiley on his trusty Ford tractor with a bushel basket tied on the hit Wiley became almost a fixture in the homes a hearts of his neighbors. For it was through neighbor children he lived having no family of own. *Rebecca Baucher*

THE KARL SCHUH FAMILY

Karl Schuh was born in Gamshorst Amt Gr Baden, Germany, on Nov. 4, 1822. He married F nadine Allgeier, also of Gamshorst Amt Grozh den, Germany. Bernadine was born on Sept. 1825.

When Karl came from Germany, first settled Cincinnati, Ohio, then came to Ohio in Mer county. On a map of Mercer county 1876, can seen the Schuh farm. It is located in Recovery tov ship, St. Joe, (Victoria, Ohio), on Burrville Ro This farm is now owned by Roger Lochtefeld.

Karl and Bernadine had eight children. FRANC born May 1, 1847, died June 6, 1931. She married opold Eckstein, born Nov. 14, 1880, died Feb. 1918. Their children were Charles, Rose (Sister M letina), Carolina (Sister Barbara), Joseph, John, F dinand died an infant, Louis, William, Henry, Ni olas, Theresa, Clem.

CAROLINA, born Sept. 9, 1851, died at the age 29 on Jan. 9, 1880. She married Phillip Stein, bo June 24, 1841, died Mar. 13, 1915. Their children Jacob, Leo, and Frances.

NICHOLAS, born Jan. 10, 1859, died Dec. 1942. He married Anna Braun, born Jan. 3, 18 died Nov. 27, 1944. Their children are Charles, M garet, Ann, Leo, Henry, Armella, and Agnes.

LEWIS, born Feb. 7, 1861, died Dec. 23, 1943. married Catherine Stelzer, born Sept. 30, 1868, di Dec. 1910. They were married on Nov. 24, 1891. this union ten children were born, Elizabeth, Ma Margaret, Frances, Charles, Caroline, Joseph, Aln and Aloys. Years after Catherine's death, Lewis m ried Bertha Granacher. Five children were born them: John, Joann, Lewis, Betty, and Eugenia.

MARGARET, born in 1863. She was a pries housekeeper in New Riegel, Ohio. She died and w buried in a cemetery in New Riegel, Ohio.

There were three daughters of Karl and Berr dine, who entered the Society of the Precious Blo Community. Asselina, entered Feb. 2, 1882, and di Feb. 19, 1934. Rosina, entered Mar. 9, 1885, and di May 21, 1906. Desideria, entered Apr. 12, 1888, a died Jan. 28, 1936.

There were some Schuh and Allgeier famili that came from Germany, who remained in Cinci nati, Ohio. Correspondence with these families we kept up for many years.

Karl and Bernadine lived most of their marri life in St. Joe, Ohio. Karl died Sept. 8, 1893, and Be nadine died Sept. 23, 1902. They are both buried the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, in Mercer coun St. Joe, Ohio. *Catherine Steinbrunner, Ft. Recovery, Oh.*

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Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Schuh

THE LEWIS SCHUH FAMILY

.ewis Schuh, was born on Feb. 7, 1861. The son of rl and Bernadine Allgeier Schuh. He was born on 'arm in southern Mercer county, in Recovery vnship, on Burrville Road, St. Joe (Victoria), Ohio. .ewis married Catherine Stelzer on Nov. 24, 1891, St. Joe, Ohio. Catherine was the daughter of Rein-d and Elizabeth Boise Stelzer. Catherine was rn on Sept. 30, 1868.

Catherine and Lewis were blessed with ten chil-n. ELIZABETH, born in 1892. She was a house-eper, and died in the flu epidemic, in 1918.

MARY, born in 1894. She was a housekeeper for a ouse family, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She died in 35.

MARGARET, born in 1896, married John Jansen. r husband was a plasterer. They had a large fam-, and lived most of their married life in St. Henry, io. They are both laid to rest in the St. Henry netery, St. Henry, Ohio.

FRANCES, born in 1897, married Leo Fullenkamp 1919. Leo was a farmer. They had eleven children. o and Frances are both buried in the St. Joseph netery, in St. Joe, Ohio.

CHARLES, was a W.W. 1 veteran. He remained gle. He is also buried in the St. Joe cemetery, St. , Ohio.

CAROLINE, born in 1900, married Herman Beu-r. Herman, was a farmer, and drove a school bus. ey were foster parents for many years. They had e daughter.

ROSE, born in 1902, married Henry Grieshop. nry was a farmer in the St. Peter area. They had ven children. Rose is laid to rest in the St. Peter netery, St. Peter, Ohio.

OSEPH, born in 1904. He worked in Middletown, io, and was killed, as he was leaving work in 9. He is buried in the St. Joseph cemetery, St. Joe, io.

ALMA, lived and worked at home until 1944. She n went to work at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dayton, io, until her retirement. She still lives in Dayton, io.

ALOYS, married Mary Wapplehorst. They had ee sons. He worked and lived in Dayton, Ohio for ne time. He then bought a farm near Fort Re-very, Ohio. He is laid to rest in the St. Wendelin netery, St. Wendelin, Ohio.

The family was shocked by the death of their ther, Catherine. She died six weeks after giving th to their son, Aloys. She died on Dec. 1, 1910, d is laid to rest in the St. Joseph cemetery, St. Joe, io.

Many years later Lewis remarried. He married Bertha Granacher. Bertha was born 1880, died in 1966, and laid to rest in the St. Joseph cemetery, St. Joe, Ohio.

Lewis and Bertha had five children. A son JOHN died at infancy. LEWIS, married Charlotte. They have two children. They live in Dayton, Ohio.

JOANN, had two children by a first marriage. Later she married Chester McEldowney. She is buried in the St. Dennis cemetery, in Versailles, Ohio.

BETTY, married Al Heistand and lives near Greenville, Ohio. They have a son.

EUGENIA, married Adelbert Borger and had six children. They reside in St. Henry, Ohio.

Lewis and his family, lived and farmed the same farm, on Burrville Road, where his own parents Karl and Bernadine had lived, farmed and raised their family.

Lewis was struck at a early age with rheumatism. He was so crippled that his children helped to put on his shoes. He also needed help with the farming, so he had to hire men.

Lewis, also owned and farmed a second farm, on Burrville Road. This farm is now owned by Mrs. Agnes LeFevre.

Lewis, died Dec. 23, 1943, at the age of 82. He is also buried in the St. Joseph cemetery, St. Joe, Ohio.

The grandchildren of Lewis Schuh have branched out and moved to different areas of the country. *Janice Fullenkamp, Ft. Recovery, Oh. 45846*

ANDREW SIEGRIST FAMILY

Andrew Siegrist was born in Obergrombach, County Bruchsal, Baden, Germany in early 1800. There he married Barbara Sieberle. Andrew was a colonel in Bismark's army. In serving as a cavalry officer he was thrown from the horse and thereafter had a maimed arm.

He and his wife decided to go to America where they might have new opportunities. So taking their two young sons, Andrew and Stephen, and daughter Mary they migrated to America arriving in 1849. Enroute, their small daughter died and was buried at sea. They arrived at Mercer Co., Ohio through Cleveland and Medina County.

They made their new home and farm near St. Joe (Victoria) on St. Peter Road. There seven more children were born. They were Blandina, Barbara, Philomena, Anna, Ignatz, Joe and Anton.

Andrew, Jr. was born July 1, 1839 in Untergrambback, Germany. He married Caroline Kalig and lived on a farm on Siegrist-Jutte Rd., St. Peter. They had three children: Anton, Mrs. Rose (John) Guggenbiller and Mrs. Anna (Ben) Schoenlien. Andrew, Jr. died in August, 1909 on the homeplace.

Stephen was born 1841, married Elizabeth Borns and were the parents of Joseph, Alex, Steve, John, Mary (died in infancy) and Albert. They built their home and farmed on Albin Rd. Stephen died July 1905.

Blandina (1842-1899) and Joseph Doll were parents of Julius, Cornelius, Bernard, Anthony, Barbara and Ambrose. For their livelihood they farmed. They lived east of St. Joe on a farm.

Barbara and Joe Doll had a family of six. They

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were August, Veronica, Joe, John, Frank and Mary. In 1866 they moved their family to Perham, Minnesota and took up farming. There they were members of St. Lawrence Parish on the banks of Rush Lake.

Philomena and August Miller had three children: Mrs. Caroline (William) Siefring, Joseph and Anthony. They lived south of St. Wendelin on Township Line Rd., on a farm. Philomena died 1888.

Anton inherited the home farm at St. Joe. He and his wife Margaret Borns had two sons, Bert and Joe. Bert now has the home place at St. Joe.

Anna (1849) was the second wife of Joe Borns. They lived on a farm a mile and a half east of St. Anthony. They had two sons here, Julius and Leo. In 1928 Joe and Anna moved their family to Gary, Indiana. Anna died later and they both were buried in Gary, Indiana. Their son Leo died in 1972. Julius is 90 years old and presently living in Celina, Ohio.

Joe lived in Medina County. He was a cobbler by trade and never married.

Ignatz was born in October of 1851 and died in July of 1923. He was the father of Alex. Ignatz and his wife Caroline ran a livery stable in St. Henry.

Anton's wife Margaret and Stephen's wife Elizabeth were sisters. They were daughters of Fred Borns and his wife Bihn of St. Joe area. *Alfrieda Siegrist*

Ida Volz Smith — William Smith

WILLIAM P. SMITH

William P. Smith (1856-1933), and Ida Volz Smith (1872-1952). William Smith was born on the River Road in Sidney, Ohio, son of John H. (18-1870) and Margaret Reier (1831-1859).

William Smith married Anna Mary Catherine Platvoet (-1900), in 1879. They made their home in Fort Recovery. There were three children of this marriage, Clara, Helen and John.

After the death of his first wife, William married Ida Volz, in February, 1902, at Mary Help of Christians Church in Fort Recovery, where they raised their family —

Luella (1903-1978), who married Alexander Steinbrunner of St. Henry; Frank Joseph (1904-1909); Alphonse, (1906-1963); Cecilia, (1910-); Mary, (1913-); and Roman (1916-).

Ida Volz emigrated from Bavaria in 1888, sponsored by her brother John Volz of Celina. John emigrated in 1880, and lived for a while with his aunt and uncle, Henry and Mary Heil. Later, he operated a restaurant in Fort Recovery.

William Smith worked as a drayman in Fort Recovery.

In 1925, the family moved to Piqua, Ohio. *Joanne Steinbrunner Brady*

HENRY J. STACHLER AN BERNADINE POST

Henry J. ("Henry") Stachler married Bernad Post on November 28, 1905. He was a farmer a stock raiser, served on the school board, and wa church warden. In 1923 approximately twelve wells were found on their farm (described belo The gas from these wells was used for cooking, he ing the home and provided a source of incor Henry and his sons assisted in drilling these we and the wells on the Breitenstein farm, then th helped move the rigs to Moulton, Ohio.

Bernadine was the daughter of Andrew Post a Elizabeth Marie Evers, who had eight childr Anna, Henry Francis, Bernard Theodore, Mary El abeth, William Sr., Elizabeth Barbara, *Bernad* and Christina. As far as we know, Bernard or Barr Post, Andrew's father, and Frank Evers, Elizabet father, settled in Mercer County in the early 183 around St. Rose. Andrew Post and his wife Elizabe eventually bought a farm in Recovery Township 1861, Section 26, of 145 acres, where they rais their family. Bernadine loved to buy property. one time she and Henry owned the old Fecher, N port, Lauber and Crabtree farms around St. Wenc lin. They also owned a house in Ft. Recovery. Ber dine loved to sew and made many quilts which we given to the grandchildren as wedding presents. S also made alot of other arts and crafts.

Henry and Bernadine were the parents of six ch dren, Raymond A., Edmund T., Clarence H., Gre ory A., Leona K. and Clementine M. Henry died 1958 but the farm remained in the family until af Bernadine's death in 1969 at which time it was so to the sons of Rochus Wendel from St. Peter who, of this writing, resides on the farm.

Henry's great grandparents Henry and Elizabe Dillhoff, emigrated to America arriving on Mar 10, 1851. Henry then bought 80 acres in Section Granville Township, near Cranberry, on June 1852, from Fred and Susana Sower. On March 1869 Henry sold the 80 acres to his son Henry (H.J.) for $1200.00. After nine years Henry ("H.J sold the farm to B. Romer who in turn sold it Henry John Feily. Henry ("H.J.") then purchased farm in Recovery Township, Section 25, of 200 ac on July 24, 1880. Henry J. ("H.J.") was born Augu 15, 1838, in Merpsein, Prussia, Germany. A farm and stock raiser he married Dorothea Heinrich who was the daughter of John and Catherine Hei richs. She was born July 13, 1844, at Meisenhie County of Hessen, Hamburg, Prussia. Their childr included Mary E., Catherine, John H., Mary Clara, *Henry,* Adam, Mary A., Dorothea, Agust Joseph, Katherine and Frank.

Henry and Bernadine received the education th they acquired from the St. Wendelin School. Th and their parents belonged to St. Wendelin's Cath lic Church. *Marceil Wenning*

ALOYS STEINBRUNNER

Aloys, the sixth child of Robert and Barbara Stei brunner, was born at St. Joe on November 16, 18 When he was a young man he married Elizabe

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Steinbrunner home in 1975; Wabash River in background

ckman. After their wedding in Saint Joseph's urch on February 19, 1919, the couple lived on family farm. Seven children were born to them: ert, Rose Mary, Andrew (died at birth), Carl, len, Delores, and Harold.

arning a living during the depression years was easy. A farmer's wife invariably carried a basket eggs into the store to exchange for groceries. nted 'feed' sacks were made into dresses. Any ld who owned two pairs of shoes at one time was sidered very lucky indeed. Remember the old ing, "Eat it up, wear it out, make it do, or do hout!" And most everyone did without, but ev- one was poor, so no one thought much about it.

There were happy times, too. Uncles, aunts, cous-, and neighbors came to visit, and when a family ne a considerable distance, all the relatives gath- d for a reunion. Lively card games were pleasura- pastimes that cost nothing. Children amused mselves; they seldom tired of softball, or games Tag, Hide-and-seek, Go Sheep Go, or Pretend.

When World War II began, Albert was drafted o the Army. While he was in the Pacific, his ther died, August 1, 1943. Harold, the youngest, s nine years old at the time. The girls took over housekeeping, and when Carl was called for vice in the Navy, Helen helped with the farm res until the brothers returned.

After the war ended, Albert helped his father with farm, and Carl worked at the New Idea Farm Im- ment factory in Coldwater. Rose Mary moved to Sebastion after her marriage to Mark Schwieter- n. The same year, 1949, Albert married Teresa mmelgarn, and they remained on the farm. The er sisters and brothers married, one by one, and ved elsewhere.

When Aloys retired, Albert bought the farm ere Aloys has spent more than eighty of his hty-two years. Many changes have occurred in lifetime: from washboards and sadirons to auto- tic washers and dryers, from pot-bellied stoves to tral heating, from fruit cellars, sauerkraut crocks, l salt-pork barrels, to refrigerators and freezers, m farming with horses to fully mechanized plant-, cultivating, and harvesting of crops, from horse l buggy and the Model "T" to modern automo- es, diesel engines, jet planes, and space capsules. e list is almost endless.

Albert and his wife have twelve living children: ern, Daniel, Steven, Kathleen, Robert, David, h, Joan, Christine, Mary, Jim, and Barbara. Four their children are married: Lavern to Joann Tobe, n to Marion Wasenda, Steve to Linda Knoth, and hleen to Thomas Stammen. There is one grand- ld, Brent, son of Kathleen and her husband.

Because of its many rural churches, southern rcer County was often called "God's Country" we who live here really appreciate the rich herit- that is ours? Our ancestors were God-fearing, hardworking, and self-sufficient. "A day's work for a day's wage" was a well-known motto in days gone by. Their lives and their accomplishments have made our years on this earth very comfortable, even luxurious when compared to theirs. We would do well to follow the example set for us. *Albert Steinbrunner*

Clemens Steinbrunner

THE CLEMENS STEINBRUNNER FAMILY

Clemens Steinbrunner was born in Grunern, Germany on Oct. 22, 1820.

Agnes Meyer was born in Staufen, Germany on Jan. 23, 1828.

Clemens of Grunern traveled to Staufen, which is less than a mile southwest, to court Agnes.

From a xeroxed copy of an atlas of Germany, one can clearly see the towns of Staufen and Grunern. Staufen is a town of 4000 inhabitants. Grunern less than a mile to the southwest, is about half as large. Both are located in the extreme southwest corner of West Germany, which 150 years ago was called Archduchy of Baden. It is now in the province of Baden — Wurttenberg.

Their marriage certificate states: This is an official testimony that the single Clemens Steinbrunner, Grunern, and the single Agnes Maier of Staufen were on the 23rd of January, 1849 joined in matrimony according to the present law. Grunern, in the grand duchy Baden.

From another certificate (translated from the original one) states: To Agnes Meyer, wife of Clemens Steinbrunner in Galion, town of Ohio in North America in an amount of (money) Fl. has come as inheritance by the death of her brother John Meyer of Staufen. She is hereby notified about that with the remark that Emilian Steinbrunner of Grunern has been appointed and given the obligation to represent her in her absence. Staufen, May 23, 1851, Probate Court of the Grand Duchy of Baden. (These certificates are here to state their birthplace and the spelling of the name Meyer and Maier). In Ohio on different occasions, it is spelled Meier.

After their marriage, they left their native land for a new life together in the United States of America. The trip took them six weeks. They first settled in Crawford County, Galion, Ohio. John and Robert were born here.

Clemens became a United States citizen on Oct. 1, 1852 in District Court of Crawford County at Bucyrus, Ohio.

Clemens and two brothers joined in the gold rush to California. It proved to be a fruitless trip. They found gold, but were robbed of most. Enough gold was left, which was made into a ring.

After their return Clemens and his family moved

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to Allen County, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Three children were born here: William, Mary, Henry. Clemens brother Robert, settled in Fort Wayne, Indiana, married and had a family. These families kept in contact with each other.

Dec. 16, 1865, Clemens purchased land, southeast of Fort Recovery, Ohio, from Daniel and Sara Jones, in Recovery township, Victoria, Ohio. His family moved here. Emelia, Joseph (father of Clarence), Frank, and Elizabeth were born here.

Clemens and Agnes children married: JOHN, married Rosa Weiss. (August, Charles, William, Rosa, John, Mary, Father Joe, Nick, Louise, Lena, Roman, Dan, Alva.)

ROBERT, married Barbara Johe. (Agnes, John, Clem, Mary, Aloys, Cyril.)

WILLIAM, married Philomena Walters.

MARY, married John Reinhard. (Rose — Sister Tharsilla, Matilda, Margaret, Ida, Leo, Joe, Colletta, Aloys.)

HENRY, married Theresa Lenartz. (Sara — Sister Julitta, Otto, Vincent, Alfrieda, Robert, Anna, Pauline, Victoria, Carl.)

EMELIA, married Andrew King. (Gertrude, Markus, Matilda, Agnes, Clem, Theresa, Elnora, Edwin.)

JOSEPH, married Theresa Hemmelgarn. (Estella, Irma, Henrietta, Odelia, Clarence, Ferdinand, Agnes, Arthur.)

FRANK, married Magdaline Buschor.

ELIZABETH, married Jacob Eifert. (Joseph, Roman, Leo, Victor, William, Marcella, Agnes, Ferdinand.)

Clemens died Oct. 14, 1889. Agnes died on June 14, 1911. Both are laid to rest in St. Joseph's Cemetery, (Victoria) St. Joe, Ohio.

Clemens and Agnes moved three times in their married life. They first settled in Galion, Ohio. When they lived on a farm in Fort Wayne, Indiana, they found the land to be too swampy for farming. In 1865, they bought the present homestead in Victoria, Ohio, on Burrville Road. Their grandson, Clarence, now owns and occupies this farm. *Catherine Steinbrunner*

Joseph Steinbrunner

THE JOSEPH STEINBRUNNER FAMILY

Joseph Steinbrunner, son of Clemens and Agnes Steinbrunner was born Oct. 28, 1869. He was born on the Steinbrunner family farm, in Recovery township, St. Joe (Victoria), Ohio.

Theresa Hemmelgarn was born Jan. 30, 1877 on a farm in Burkettsville, Ohio. She was the daughter of Theodore and Mary Huelsman Hemmelgarn. She was a twin, her sister's name was Josephine.

Joseph married Theresa on Nov. 23, 1897 in Burkettsville, Ohio. Theresa came to live with her husband and his family. They are members of St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Joe, Ohio.

Joseph and Theresa were blessed with ei children and all were born on their farm: Est (1898), Irma (1902), Henrietta (1904), Odelia (19 Clarence (1911), Ferdinand (1913), Agnes (1915), thur (1917).

Sad days came to the Steinbrunner family in 19 Their mother, Theresa, died after a long illness Aug. 27, 1920. She was laid to rest in the St. Jose Cemetery, (Victoria), Ohio.

Some of the children were very young, so the e est daughter, Estella, stayed at home to take care the family and the home. She died, 1945.

Irma married Urban Delzeith. She died Nov. 1958.

Henrietta married Arthur Pletcher, lives in So Bend, Indiana.

Odelia married Henry Miller. They live in So Bend, Indiana.

Clarence married Catherine Fullenkamp Nov. 1944 and lives on the Steinbrunner farm.

Ferdinand married Irene Wasikowski, 1937, a lives in South Bend, Indiana.

Agnes married Henry LeFevre 1934. Her fam lives near her birthplace.

Arthur married Harriet Mrozinski 1938. They South Bend, Indiana residents.

Joseph Steinbrunner had been well known in community for his threshing rig, steam engine, la a large tractor.

In threshing season, neighbors would go fr farm to farm to help each other. Several wom would come to the house, where the men w threshing, to prepare meals. Older children wo bring water to the men in the barn and fields. T was hard work for all, but also a fun time. Dur meals or when work was finished, the neighb would talk, laugh, tease, and have an occasional gument. The children enjoyed this time, too.

Joseph was one of the first residents in the area have a car.

He used it for the first time to take them church in December. Their daughter Agnes v baptized. On their return home, the car was p away for the winter. It was not used until the follo ing spring or summer because of snow drifts a mud roads.

Joseph and family farmed this land until his de Aug. 20, 1941. He was laid to rest next to his wife St. Joseph Cemetery.

A son, Clarence, then bought the farm, livesto and machinery. He continued threshing wheat, and oats for the area farmers until the fall of 19 The machine was then sold. In 1955 a new ho was built. The old one was torn down, a year late garage was attached to the home where the house had stood.

Children of Clarence and Catherine are: Judi employed at Hartwig Poultry and lives at home. seph, married Ruth Kolodzy, their children Beth a David reside in Lynchburg, Virginia. Jane marri Rick Round, have Debra and Diane, live in Eng wood, Ohio. John married Lucy Meier, have sc Adam, Lance, and Amos and lives near Ft. Recove Ohio. Janet is employed at Mercer Co. Home, li at home. Joyce, student, lives at home.

Joseph's farm is one of the few farms with t family name for over 100 years in the St. Joe ar *Catherine Steinbrunner*

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OBERT STEINBRUNNER

'he second eldest son of Clemens and Agnes Ste-runner, Robert was born on May 5, 1852 in wford County near Galion, Ohio. The family) lived on a farm in Allen County, near Fort yne, before moving to St. Joe in 1865.

ıfter Robert and Barbara Johe were married, they d on a farm on Erastus-Durbin Road. They were parents of seven children: Agnes, John, Clara, m, Mary, Aloys, and Cyril. In the spring of 1897, :n Aloys was a year and a half old, they moved to ıt is now 2380 Burrville Road, a farm along the .ks of the Wabash River. There Cyril was born the children grew up.

ı certain amount of self-sufficiency was required n and most of their needs were supplied through .r own efforts. They butchered animals for their ıt, hunted, fished, preserved vegetables and ts, made firewood to heat their homes, often de their own clothes. The general store in the vil-: had a huckster wagon that made weekly nds. (At one time, the local schoolmaster was) the proprietor of the store.) Men who repaired :ks, or sharpened knives and scissors, traveled ɔugh the countryside, staying overnight wherever ımily would provide him with food and lodging.

'wo of the girls were courted by, and eventually rried, young men who were schoolteachers. Their ınger brother, Aloys, held the enviable position being taught successively by prospective broth--in-law. Clem owned and operated the sawmill in Joe for many years. Aloys often worked with his er brother. When cutting trees for lumber for a ghbor's house, his wages were 75 cents a day. m also owned threshing machines, the first of ich was purchased in Ferdinand, Indiana, about 2, and was transported to Fort Recovery by rail. : water used by the steam engine was supplied m a tank on a horse-drawn wagon. Aloys was of- the driver, or 'water boy'.

Robert served as county commissioner for one n, for which he was paid ninety dollars a month. th horse and buggy, Aloys would often take his ıer to Celina, where Robert would remain for the ek, returning to St. Joe on Friday by train. During father's absence, Aloys stayed with his mother l tended the farm. His younger brother, Cyril, rked in Dayton.

When Aloys married, his parents moved to the age. Barbara died in 1928 at the age of 71, and bert went to live in Clem's home nearby. In April 1933, when he was 80 years old, he died in Day- at the home of his son, Cyril.

All the children married and had families: Agnes Henry Brackman, John to Zita King, Clara to John tz, Clem, first to Regina Brockman, and after her ıth, to her sister, Anna, Mary to Joseph West-des, Aloys to Elizabeth Brockman, and Cyril to sella Mestemaker.

JOHN KENNETH AND ONDA STUMP

ohn Kenneth Stump, son of Washington and ra (Jones) Stump, and Onda Iona Jetter, daughter Charles and Minnie (Atkinson) Jetter were united in marriage April 4, 1925. Kenneth was born on August 10, 1905 in Darke County in Ohio and died on Oct. 24, 1950. Onda was born on Oct. 25, 1905 in Madison Township, Jay county, Indiana. They were both buried in Salamonia Cemetery, Salamonia, Indiana in Madison Twp., Jay County, Ind. Their first year of married life was spent in Darke County, then the second year they moved to Madison Township, Jay County, Indiana. Then they moved to the home farm place where Onda was raised. In 1940, they purchased the farm from Onda's father, Charles Jetter, and there they stayed the rest of their lives. Kenneth and Onda enjoyed their farming and the community in which they lived. Their lives were centered around their families.

Children of John Kenneth and Onda Stump — **Seated:** LaVerne Stump Adams, Phyllis Jean Stump Ballard. **Standing:** James Stump, Larry Stump and Steve Stump.

Kenneth enjoyed baseball games. In the summer on Sunday afternoon, you would find him with a group of boys, organizing a ball team and playing with them.

Kenneth spent his childhood in Mississinewa township in Darke County, Ohio and went to the eighth grades in school in that township. He then moved to Fort Recovery to High School.

Onda spent her childhood in Madison Township, Jay County, Indiana and attended Madison Township School.

Unto this union were born six children: LaVerne, born Sept. 21, 1926; Robert Lowell, born May 26, 1929; James Jay Stump, born March 17, 1932; Phyllis Jean, born Sept. 23, 1933; Larry Kenneth, born April 28, 1941; and Steven Michael, born May 26, 1948.

Carl and LaVerne Adams and daughter Deborah Kay

CARL H. AND LAVERNE ADAMS

Carl H. Adams, son of Whitridge Adams and Carrie E. Andrews, and Wanda LaVerne Stump, daughter of John Kenneth Stump and Onda Iona Jetter, were united in marriage on Sept. 23, 1950 at the home of her parents. Carl was born in Washington Twp., Mercer County, Ohio on Feb. 10, 1920. LaVerne was born in Madison Twp., Jay County, Indiana on Sept. 21, 1926.

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Carl attended grade school at Erastus, and high school at Washington Twp. LaVerne attended all twelve grades at Madison Twp. School. She was graduated with top honors as Valedictorian of her class.

Unto this union of marriage was born one daughter, Deborah Kay on July 2, 1957 at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio. She attended grade school and high school at Fort Recovery. She attended Ohio Academy Beauty School at Lima, Ohio and after graduation now has her shop at Burkettsville, Ohio.

On Aug. 6, 1978 she became the bride of Ivan Max Prescott of Union City, Indiana, he was born Sept. 27, 1948. They are living in Ansonia, Ohio. Max Prescott is the son of Robert Prescott and Edith Hiatt.

Carl has spent his time with farming and helping on his parents' farm and then around 1960 he started getting in a business of his own; the Used Cars and Junk and Wrecker Business, with the farming still to be done. He maintained this business on his father's farm in Washington twp. till the year of 1975. Then LaVerne and Carl purchased a place in Madison Twp., Jay County, Ind. Road 132 and there he set his Used Cars and Junk and Wrecker Business. In the spring of 1978 he got the idea to make a car crusher and with the help of Joe Lefeld of Coldwater, Ohio, the machine was made. On Aug. 2, 1978 they moved the machine into place and the first car was put through.

LaVerne worked at the Jay Garment Portland, Indiana after graduation for three years. Then she went to work at the Fort Recovery Equity Exchange Co. There she has been employed as Bookkeeper of the company since then.

Carl and LaVerne are both active in the Methodist Church at Fort Recovery. They both have held various offices in the church.

Carl also takes active part with the Fort Recovery Volunteer Fire Dept., with LaVerne in the Ladies Auxiliary Fire Dept.

They also enjoy taking part with the Jay County Antique Car Club and are proud owners of a 1927 Model T Ford and 1954 Hudson.

Both take active part with other community affairs. Carl has been the Co-Chairman of the Demolition Derby, that the Ambassador Club has been putting on these last few years.

ROBERT LOWELL AND PHYLLIS MAE STUMP

Robert Lowell Stump, son of John Kenneth Stump and Onda Iona Jetter, and Phyllis Mae Nixon, daughter of Russell Nixon and ____ Hanks were united in marriage on Sept. 3, 1949.

They lived in Salamonia, Ind. and Portland, Indiana before moving to Landess, Ind. There Robert was employed with the Fisher Body at Marion, Ind.

Robert died on May 1, 1962 and he and his son are both buried in the Salamonia Cemetery, Salamonia, Madison Twp., Jay county, Indiana.

Unto this union were born five children: Bruce Allen, born 1950, Diana Lyn, born Sept. 11, 1952; Nancy Jo, born Jan. 20, 1954; David Lowell, born Dec. 4, 1954 and died Dec. 5, 1954; Christa A born July 21, 1959.

Their children married. On May 27, 1972, Br Allen Stump married Mary Jane Lloyd, born Jan. 1954; unto this union was born the following c dren: Amy Elizabeth, born Oct. 16, 1973 and Jes Lyn, born Mar. 11, 1976. On Oct. 30, 1976, Di Lyn Stump married George R. Parr, born Sept. 1945. On Sept. 7, 1974 Nancy Jo Stump mar Randall Craig Lee born July 21, 1953; unto this ion was born Robert Craig Lee, born Jan. 9, 1976 a second child. On July 2, 1978 Christa Ann Stu married Michael Scott Swagger.

After Robert's death, Phyllis remarried to K neth Wolfgang, on Feb. 10, 1968. Kenneth was b on Nov. 4, 1925. Unto this union was born Lisa Ja on Oct. 1, 1968.

Standing: Troy Ballard, Phyllis Ballard, Frank Howard Ball **Seated:** Terri Ann Ballard, Tim So worth, holding Stacie Southwo Connie (Ballard) Southworth.

PHYLLIS JEAN AND FRANK H. BALLARD JR.

Phyllis Jean, daughter of Kenneth and Onda (ter) Stump, was born September 23, 1933, in Ma son Township of Jay County. She grew up in Ma son Township, and graduated from Madison H School in 1951. On September 20, 1952, she marr Frank Howard Ballard Jr., son of Frank (Sr.) a Sarah (Potts) Ballard. Frank Howard Ballard Jr. v born June 18, 1930, in Detroit, Michigan. His pare and he came to Madison Township when he was years old. After he graduated from high school 1948 he enlisted in the United States Air Force four years. The Korean War was started during t time, but he spent his enlistment in the state Texas as an instructor. He returned to Jay Cou after his discharge and began work at Hardy Ch rolet garage in Portland. He and Phyllis Stump w married in 1952 and to this marriage were b three children: Connie Sue July 30, 1954, Troy I October 21, 1956, and Terri Ann October 15, 19 The three were each born at Jay County Hosp and are presently living in Jay County. Connie m ried Timothy Paul Southworth, born July 14, 19 (Portsmouth, Ohio) and they have one daugh Stacie Jean, born February 1, 1977. Connie is e ployed at Jay County Hospital and Tim is with Body Company at Union City, Indiana. Troy grad ated from Ball State University and is a chemist the Indiana State Police. Terri is a freshman at Jay County High School. Frank has completed twenty-third year with the Indiana State Police a is presently the district commander at the Redk post. Phyllis Jean is a bookkeeper at the Fort F covery Equity Exchange.

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JAMES JAY AND HELEN LOUISE STUMP

ames Jay Stump, son of John Kenneth Stump and da Iona Jetter Stump, and Helen Louise House, ıghter of Thurman Theodore House and Edith ırie Fourman, were united in marriage on June 22, 52. They spent their early married life in Madison wnship, Jay County, Indiana; then moved to Fort covery, Ohio. Jim entered the army and spent his ıe in Missouri and California. After service, he re-ned to Fort Recovery and took employment in t Recovery. At present, he works for Fort Re-ery Industries. Helen is employed as Secretary the Southwest Local School District.

Jnto this union were born three children: Cheri, nnis and Kimberly. Cheri was born June 28, 1953 l attended grade and high school at Fort Re-ery, and attended Miami Jacobs at Dayton, Ohio. en on May 3, 1974, she married James Mench-fer, son of Albert Irvin and Mary Menchhofer. ıes Menchhofer was born April 1, 1950. They ve three children: Kelly Jo, born Feb. 17, 1975; niel Edward, born Jan. 24, 1976; and Jeffrey Jay, n Nov. 8, 1978. They live on a farm in Washing- Township.

Dennis Jay Stump was born August 24, 1954 and d June 7, 1970.

Kimberly Jo Stump was born April 15, 1958. She ended grade and high school at Fort Recovery. At sent, she is attending Miami University at Ox-d, Ohio.

nding: Mary Jo l Larry Stump. **ıted:** Lori, Tim Cynthia Stump.

LARRY AND MARY JO STUMP

Larry Kenneth Stump, son of John Kenneth ımp and Onda Iona Jetter Stump, and Mary Jo einerding, daughter of Herb Meinerding and ıry Ellen Faller Meinerding, were united in mar-ge on June 17, 1962 at the Catholic Church in Fort covery, Ohio. Larry was born in Madison Town-p, Jay County, Indiana, on April 28, 1941 and ıry Jo was born in Fort Recovery, Ohio on Nov. 1941.

Larry attended the first seven grades in Madison wnship, Jay County, Ind. After the death of his rents, he made his home with his sister, Mrs. Carl ams, and attended Fort Recovery High School. ıry Jo attended school in Fort Recovery. Both were mbers of the graduating class of 1959. Mary Jo at-ıded University of Dayton and earned her Bache- of Science in Education at Ball State University, ıncie, Indiana and earned her Master's Degree in ucation and Administration in August 1978 from the College of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Larry and Mary Jo have three children: Cynthia Marie, born April 5, 1963; Timothy, born Aug. 29, 1964; and Lori Ann, born Oct. 10, 1966.

After their marriage, they lived in Fort Recovery for two years before moving to Hartford City, Indiana, and Larry was working for 3 M and in 1975 the 3 M Company moved them to Aberdeen, South Dakota.

STEVEN AND AUDREY STUMP

Steven Michael Stump, son of John Kenneth Stump and Onda Iona Jetter Stump, and Audrey Winterhalter, daughter of Paul Winterhalter and Delores August Winterhalter, were united in marriage on June 26, 1970 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Steven was born in Gibbons Hospital, Celina, Ohio on May 26, 1948. Audrey was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

After the death of his parents, Steven made his home with his sister, Mrs. Carl Adams, in Fort Recovery, Ohio. Steven attended school at Fort Recovery, Ohio. He was graduated from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, May 1970, with a Degree in Mechanical Engineering. While attending Ohio University, he met Audrey. He married Audrey, June 26, 1970. Audrey also attended Ohio University, and was graduated with an Associate Degree in May 1970. She was graduated from high school from American School of London, London, England.

Steven and Audrey Stump had a son, David Scott, born June 1, 1971. On April 13, 1978, Steven and Audrey adopted a daughter, Amanda Lee, born Jan. 26, 1978. At present, Steven is working with Ford Company, as an Engineer, at Detroit, Michigan. Steven and Audrey and their family live in Plymouth, Michigan.

THE VAN TREES

The Van Trees of Mercer County have as their pioneer progenitor Daniel Van Trees, Esq. (Justice of Peace, Recovery Township 1853-1856) who was born northwest of Cincinnati June 25, 1807 and married Mary Ann Downs along the Whitewater River in Franklin County, Indiana July 26, 1832.

The first four children of this union (Hezekiah, Clarica, Elizabeth, and James Frederick) were born in Butler County, Ohio. Historically the Van Trees have always shown an avid interest in new land opportunities and accordingly have made frequent moves. In 1840, after some pioneering work in the area, Daniel brought his family to Mercer County and settled on a farm of eighty acres just east of Fort Recovery where eight more children were born. Daniel was laid to rest June 28, 1873 in the old cemetery west of Fort Recovery and Mary Ann was placed beside him in 1901.

Four of Daniel's children headed west with Nathaniel and John settling in northwestern Indiana. Alexander and the oldest son (Hezekiah) made their homes in western Missouri. A great grandson of Hezekiah (Dr. Harry Leslie Van Trees, Jr.) graduated number one in the West Point Academy Class of

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1952 and currently resides in McClean, Virginia.

James Frederick Van Trees (1838-1890) made his home west of Fort Recovery just across the state line in Jay County, Indiana and was a gunsmith of some repute. The rifles he made are collector's items today and a grandson (John L. Van Trees) provided one of these rifles to the Fort Recovery Museum where it is displayed along with other pioneer artifacts. A marking tool used to imprint "J. F. VAN-TREES" on the barrel has been passed down through succeeding generations and today is a prized possession of Junior Floyd Van Trees.

In 1860 James Frederick married Matilda Cummins and they were blessed with two daughters and a son. One daughter died at an early age and the other (Rosetta) married Thomas A. Chamberlain. J. F.'s son Daniel E. Van Trees was a Fort Recovery blacksmith and married Almeretta Atkinson. To this latter union were born James Floyd; Clyde Eugene; Cecil Fay; Guy Carlton; and John Lyle Van Trees, World War I Veteran. With the exception of Cecil Fay, who married O. V. Ault and moved to Bartley, Nebraska, the other children made their homes in and near Fort Recovery. Still residing in Fort Recovery and now eighty eight years of age, Clyde Van Trees and his wife (Ica Irene, nee Golder) celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary in 1977.

Although many of the descendants of Daniel and Mary Ann have scattered, two great-great grandsons (Bruce Allen and Junior Floyd Van Trees) still live in Fort Recovery. Floyd's grandson, Jason Floyd Van Trees (born 1973) is the youngest boy of the family progeny carrying the family name in Mercer County. Another great-great grandson (Robert V. Van Trees, Major, USAF Retired) put aside his pilot's wings in 1961, worked as Cubic Corporation's mid-west representative for more than 17 years, and now lives in Dayton, Ohio where he is continuing a research of historical data on the Van Trees genealogy hoping to tie the Van Trees progenitor to the Conrad, Hartman and Emanuel Vantrees who reportedly came from the Monocacy Settlement, Frederick County, Maryland to Bedford County, Pennsylvania and then about 1795 to southwestern Ohio.

Robert V. Van Trees, Dayton, Oh. 45424

WILLMANN FAMILY

Henry F. Willmann came to this country in 1856 from Hanover, Germany. He first settled in Baltimore, Maryland. After six weeks there he could see nothing promising. His brother was established in Cincinnati and also an uncle, so he decided to join them. He had 6½¢ pocket money and his clothes tied in a handkerchief. He worked along his way for board and room. He then secured a job in a shipyard; determined to get ahead, he worked much overtime. This over taxed his body and he became seriously ill. As soon as he was well, he started again for Cincinnati.

When he reached there, he immediately went to work with his uncle, Mr. Evers, who was a gardner. He then took up the coppers trade. He had to borrow $10 to buy his tools. He then went to Indianapolis to work. In the spring of 1858, he became sick with typhoid fever. After he regained his strength he returned to Cincinnati, almost as poor as he was a year and a half before.

In 1861, he enlisted in the First Regiment, C Volunteer Cav. for 3 months. The company t disbanded and he went to work on a farm 30 m from Cincinnati.

Mr. Willmann was working on this farm wher got the news of the battle of Bull Run. He made way to Rising Sun, Indiana and enlisted on July 1861, in the Second Indiana Battery. He muste out on Sept. 4, 1864, at Fort Smith, Arkansas, be finally discharged and paid at Indianapolis the s ceeding month.

Mr. Willmann participated in 28 different battl

Upon his return, he tried work again at his cop trade, but rheumatism had attacked him and found himself unable to keep on in this line.

After trying several different jobs, in 1865, went to work for the Wiederman Brewing Co. filled positions as salesman and foreman. In 1868, left this and went into the wholesale liquor busin for himself with Mr. Krenning and George H. Br shire as partners. In 1872, he sold out his inte and 10 days later went back into business with Jc G. Glentrip as a partner. They continued until 187

In 1865, Mr. Willmann married Louisa Muther Cincinnati. In 1877 Mr. Willmann had purcha 469 acres in Mercer County — the land being in covery and Washington townships. In 1878 he a Mrs. Willmann moved to the homestead in covery township — 3 miles north of Fort Recove This union had 6 children. Mrs. Willmann died 1910 and Mr. Willmann in 1915.

The children are: The older son Harry, who married Ida Rabe, maintained the homestead. Th had 4 children.

Edward H., who married Elva Jones, Helen who married Walter Heldbold, Henry F. who m ried Anna Hehmeyer, and Hazel L. who marr Wm. Gebele.

Harry E. Willmann died in 1922, his wife Ida 1931. His son Edward H. has 8 children — 5 bo and 3 girls; his daughter Helen — 2 girls; his s Henry — 1 boy and 5 girls; and his daughter Ha has no children. Henry and Helen are deceased.

The original home place has been sold, but m of the acreage in Recovery township is still own and farmed by Willmann heirs. *Cleo Willman*

HENRY AND FRIEDA WILLMANN

Henry F. Willmann, son of Harry and Ida Wi mann, was born on June 1, 1901.

He attended Ohio State University in Agricultu In 1926, he married Anna Frieda Hehmeyer, daug ter of Ferd and Christina Hehmeyer. Together th resided in Recovery Twp. and there they owned a farmed 200 acres. They were the parents of sev children. Richard, who died in infancy, and the fo lowing.

Henry Frederick was born on April 28, 1930. H attended Ft. Recovery High School. On June 7, 195 he was married to Delores Nadine Linder at t Presbyterian Church, Portland, Ind. Delores teach school at St. Peter School and Henry is employed

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ledyne Portland Forge, Portland, Ind. They make
eir home in Gibson Twp., Mercer County. They
: the parents of two daughters and two sons.
ren Ann, born Sept. 26, 1954, Victoria Lynn, born
ıe 14, 1956, Henry Frederick, born March 8, 1958,
d Donald Lee, born June 7, 1960. Karen Ann was
ırried to Melvin Bertke on November 24, 1972.
ey are the parents of two sons, Chad Jeremy born
1973 and Clint Michael, born in 1976. They make
eir home in Recovery Twp., Mercer Co. Victoria
ın was married to David Michael Hoying on June
1974. In 1975 a son Shane Christofer was born.
ey make their home in Noble Twp., Jay County,
l. Henry Frederick is a student at Ball State Col-
e and Donald Lee is employed at Teledyne Port-
d Forge.

Mary Jean was born on May 4, 1932. She gradu-
d from Ft. Recovery High School and attended
ami Jacobs College in Dayton, Ohio. On April 15,
51, she was married to Lawrence Roscoe Meehan
Trinity Lutheran Church, Ft. Recovery, Ohio. On
ıuary 17, 1962, a daughter, Darlene Kay was born.
ıry Jean has been employed by Agricultural Stabi-
ıtion Conservation Service since 1952. Lawrence
employed by United States Post Office at Ft. Re-
very. The Meehan family make their home in Re-
very Twp., Mercer County.

Doris Joan, born June 1, 1934, graduated in 1953
m the Ft. Recovery High School. On Sept. 6, 1953
s married to Ernest Leon Bentz, who reside on
ral Ave., Portland, Indiana. They were the par-
:s of the following children: Carol Ann Bentz,
n Sept. 29, 1954 and married to Michael Wayne
ing on April 27, 1974. They have a son Kyle Ma-
w Poling, born Feb. 26, 1978. Max Leon Bentz
s born on Oct. 22, 1957. He is employed at CTS,
ne, Ind. Roger Allen Bentz, born on Feb. 3, 1961,
ı student at Jay County High School, Portland, In-
na.

anet Ann attended Ft. Recovery High School and
er graduated from Central Technical Institute,
nsas City, Mo. In 1963 she married Donald Lee
ıith. He is the only child of Clifford and Clela
ıith (Diener). Donald and Janet own 200 acres and
ıt, from his father, an additional 250. They also
ve beef and cage layers. Donald is the President of
: Wabash Telephone Co. and a 4-H advisor. On
ırch 6, 1964, a daughter, Linda Ann, was born.
e is a student at Celina Senior. Another daughter,
Leigh Smith, was born May 7, 1969 and is a stu-
ıt at Celina West Elementary.

Shirley graduated from Ft. Recovery High School
1957. In 1959 she married Leo Ray Counterman in
nity Lutheran Church at Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Leo
y is the son of Vernon and Laura Counterman
olf). Shirley has been employed at West Ohio
s Co. since 1958. Leo Ray is a farmer and raises
d races Standard Bred race horses. They reside in
pewell Twp., Mercer County, on Hoenie Road, on
80 acre farm which they own.

Linda Carol Willmann was born Dec. 11, 1943.
e graduated in 1961 from Ft. Recovery High
ıool. On Nov. 5, 1961, she was married in the
nity Lutheran Church in Ft. Recovery, Ohio, to
nneth Wayne Stolz. Together they bought an 80
e farm in Bearcreek Twp. in Jay County, Ind. On
ırch 20, 1963, a son was born — Gary Wayne
lz — and on June 18, 1964, a daughter, Linda Di-
ane Stolz was born. Both are attending Jay County High School. *Mary Jean Meehan*

Wood Family, 1977 — **Seated:** Edw. and Rieth Wood. **Standing:** Barbara, Ralph, Donald, Richard and Carolyn Wood.

EDWARD WOOD

Edward and Ruth Wood arrived in Fort Recovery, Ohio, in July 1946, during the Harvest Jubilee, when it was held in the middle of Wayne St. uptown. They visited with R. W. and Mrs. C. L. Moore, their former pastor in Lakewood, Ohio, and George G. Jetter and Ester Marie (Moore) Jetter, the Moore's daughter and son-in-law. They visited the stirrup factory that Mr. Jetter had recently purchased.

Upon returning home to Lakewood, Ohio, Edward received a job offer at the stirrup factory — the only one in the United States at that time, from Mr. Jetter. Edward had just returned from overseas, Japan, where he had been in the Army for 1½ years. He had no job to go to, so accepted this opportunity. He started to work in August, 1946. He is now retiring as of January 1979, after about 32½ years, at the Fort Recovery Industries, where he was plant manager. Ruth has been working there also for about 6 years.

Their family helped them celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary, with a dinner at Bearcreek Farm, in July 1978. They plan to retire in Fort Recovery. They bought their home from Mr. E. G. Henderson, 508 S. Wayne St.

Their children are Donald Edward Wood, residing in Celina, Ohio, and working at Huffy Bicycle Co. in quality control. Richard William Wood resides in Fort Recovery, and is die cast supervisor at Fort Recovery Industries. Barbara Ruth (Wood) Lockwood, Ft. Recovery, is a plater assistant at Fort Recovery Industries. Ralph Eugene Wood, living in Bethany, Oklahoma, is minister of children's work at Calvary Nazarene Church there. Carolyn Rose Wood, living in Fort Recovery, is working as chemical, water, and metal tester at Fort Recovery Industries in the plating department.

There are 15 grandchildren, David William Wood, who is the oldest, was married to Karen Place in June 1978. There are also James Edward Wood, Steven Richard Wood, Phillip Andrew Wood, Thomas Christopher Wood, and Charlotte Ann Wood. Also, there are Donette Elaine Wood, Lezette Wood, Tefferey Grace Wood, Gerry Dale Wood, Sandra Elaine Lockwood, Gerizer Ruth Wood, Jeremy Thad Lockwood, and Jerry Wayne Wood, who is deceased.

Edward and Ruth are residing at 508 S. Wayne St., Fort Recovery, their family home of the last 32½ years. *Mrs. Edward Wood*

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Edward Wood, Father; Bertha Elizabeth, Mother; Edward Wm. Wood, son; Mildred Mae, daughter. about 1922.

EDWARD WILLIAM WOOD AND RUTH C. (JENISEK) FAMILY

John Peter Berg was born in Lavonger, Norway in 1851 and he died in Cleveland, Ohio in 1926. He had a fondness for the sea, and became a sailor and traveled all over the world and in many strange ports. He married Jane (Corbett) Berg (1859-1924), and they were on their way to America from Swonsee, S. Wales, when Bertha Elizabeth (1879-1937) was born. John sailed the lakes for a few years and finally became a stationary engineer. He made a model of the ship he had sailed. Bertha helped him with the small parts. It is now in the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio.

After living around Cleveland, Ohio with her parents and family, Bertha married Edward Wood (1862-1928), from England. To this union was born Mildred Mae Giddings (1911) and Edward William Wood (1916).

Emil Jenisek (1888-1972) was born to Michall Jenisek and Carolina (Glaser) Jenisek, both from Germany. Edith Martha Witzke (1890-1948) was born to Otto Witze and Henrietta (Krosminowski) Witzke (1861-1926). They were both from Germany. Otto spoke 8 different languages. Henrietta was a sewing teacher in Germany. The Witzke family held the title "Von" Witzke. Otto came to America to get away from serving in the Army. Of course he lost his title and inheritance. They had a family of 16 children. Edith was the eldest of 4 daughters, born on July 25. Edith was born in Glenwood, Wisconsin, in a log cabin. The log cabin is still there but has been modernized. Otto Witzke worked the land and earned 3 farms. Her family was the beginning of the "Land o' Lakes" dairy farms. The Krosmnowski name is still known in Glenwood, Wisconsin.

Edith arrived in Cleveland, Ohio with her family when she was 9 years old. In about 1908, her family moved to San Jose, California. She stayed behind and in August 1910 married Emil Jenisek. To this marriage there were 6 children. Three boys are deceased. Ruth Carolina Wood, Ft. Recovery, Ohio, Lorna Jane, Lyndherst, Ohio, and Harold Eugene, South Carolina are the other children.

Edward William Wood born August 22, 1916, and Ruth Carolina Rose Jenisek born June 21, 1916, both in Cleveland, were united in marriage, May 28, 1938, by Rev. J. Carey Campbell. There were 5 children to this marriage. They are Donald Edward, April 28, 1939, Richard William, July 22, 1941, both born in Cleveland, Barbara Ruth, January 20, 1948, Ralph Eugene, December 11, 1951 and Carolyn Rose May 15, 1954, in Fort Recovery, Ohio. *Mrs. Edward Wood*

Hazel Marie (Young) Pyle and Rus Leroy Pyle.

HAZEL MARIE YOUNG

Hazel Marie Young, born Sept. 7, 1891-Apr. 1947, wife of Russell Leroy Pyle, born July 31, 18 Nov. 22, 1934, son of James W. and Rosan (Flesher) Pyle of Jay County and Veteran of Wo War I. After his death the family moved from I rain, Ohio to Ft. Recovery. Descendants are: M Donald (Betty M. Pyle) Harter, Ft. Recovery; M Robert (J. Mae Pyle) Norberg, Willoughby, C Mrs. Dwight (M. Ruth Pyle) Grile and Bonnie Pyle of Ft. Recovery. Descendants of J. Mae a Robert Norberg are: Mrs. Harold (Diane D. Norbe Ashbrook, Delaware, Oh. (no children) and Gary Norberg and wife, Roxann (Jeffries) and their s Gregory A. of Celina, Ohio. Descendants of Ru and Dwight Grile are Lynne M., Myrna J. and Sta ley W. Grile.

The above subject's parents were Jacob A. a Mary (Clester) Young who resided for sometime Macedon around 1873. To this union were bo William H., George E., Opal M., and Hazel Marie.

The above subject's grandparents were Willi and Ellen (Gibson) Clester — Ellen (Gibson) Cles is the daughter of Wm. and Ellen (Hamilton) Gibs who arrived in America from Ireland around 18 William Gibson was a weaver by trade. Mrs. W Gibson's (Ellen Hamilton) brother, a Mr. Hamilt accompanied the family as far as the present site Hamilton, Ohio, where he stopped and opened "trading place." It is said that the city of Hamilt was named in honor of its first merchant.

The above subject's father was Jacob A. You son of Henry Young of Alsace-Lorraine, France w brought his family to America in 1856 to avoid t wars in Europe. Jacob was just eight years old at t time of the crossing of the Atlantic.

Descendants of William H. Young and K (Wortz) are Ernest F., Greenville, Oh., Mrs. Kenne (Erma) Wells, deceased; Mrs. Paul (Ruth Irene) W son, Greenville, Oh., and Clarence, deceased. D cendants of Ernest F. and Letha (Barger) Young a Mrs. LeRoy (Pauline L.) Imel, Ft. Recovery, Oh. a their children: Mrs. Randall (Kay R.) Petit; W Keith and Mrs. Gary (Karen L.) Hargis. Descenda of Kay R. and Randall Petit are twin sons, Mich and Mitchell, Ft. Recovery, Oh. Descendants W Keith and Sandra (Addington) are one daught Michelle, Ft. Recovery, Oh. Descendants of Karen and Gary Hargis is one daughter, Crystal R., Po land, Ind. There were no descendants of Mrs. Ke neth (Erma) Wells.

Descendants of Mrs. Paul (Ruth Irene) Wilson a Mrs. Lowell (R. Joan Hildbold) Sickles, Celina, O and Dennis Wm. Houser (m.) Jane Ellen Todd a son, Nicolas Wm. of Englewood, Oh.

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Descendants of George E. Young and Dollie (Vanarden) of Barnsdall, Okla., are: Verl, deceased; rs. William (Marjorie Young) Bell, Barnsdall, kla.; and Mrs. Richard (Lucille Young) Henderson Tulsa, Okla. Verl (m.) Margaret (Learcher) and eir children: Don and Peggy of Raytown, Misuri; Mrs. William (Marjorie Young) Bell's descents are: Bob, Bill, and Larry, of Barnsdall, Okla. rs. Richard (Lucille Young) descendants are: Patsy .) Cledith Barnes and their three sons, Richard, ger and Alan.

There were no descendants of Opal M. Young, ly a foster daughter, Faye (Cole) Sheffer (m.) Er- Sheffer, Portland, Ind. *Mrs. Ruth Grile, Fort Recovery,*

JOHN H. ZEHRINGER

John H. Zehringer, one of the oldest businessmen Ft. Recovery, was born December 25, 1878, the n of Henry and Margaret (Cashman) Zehringer. is father was born in Germany in 1841 and in his fancy emigrated with his parents to the United ates. His mother, the daughter of Irish immiants, was born in Pennsylvania in 1855. They reded on a farm north of Ft. Recovery and in 1893 oved into town. Here he (John) spent his early outh and began his business career. Seeing the eed for a hotel since many traveling men arrived / train to spend several days in the area, he conructed a large modern hotel and tavern in 1912 on orth Wayne Street. In 1915 he traded the hotel to iram Green for a farm north of Ft. Recovery. To is he added part of the Doc. Miller and part of the avid Teeters farm which comprised in all 244 res, always farmed by tenants. After his death in 56 it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Harold (Bob) Bergan who presently resides there. He also built a cement block garage next to his home on N. Wayne . and for some time this was operated by the udebaker Car Agency.

In 1920 he bought the grocery business of Mr. and rs. William Snyder. A short time later he joined e Clover Farm Stores, a new agency originating in uncie, Ind. and was one of the oldest members of at organization.

Hiram Green sold the hotel to William Timmerman in 1946. He completely remodeled the first oor under Kroger specification and they took a ase on it. The second floor was made into apartents. Dana Gebele was the manager. After ten (10) ears in Ft. Recovery, the Kroger Grocery Co. sold e contents to Dana Gebele and Melvin Bergman in 56. This then became an I.G.A. Store. After seeral years of partnership, Gebele purchased Bergan's interest in the store and continued the busiess until his retirement in 1970. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry dams bought the contents of the grocery store and ie building from William Timmerman. They cometely remodeled the exterior and interior of the uilding. They presently operate it and is known as The Ole Fort" I.G.A.

In 1902 he (John Zehringer) married Elizabeth randewie, daughter of Bernard and Elizabeth leart) Brandewie of Sharpsburg, Ohio. She was orn in Cincinnati in 1884 and died in 1946. He red in 1947 after fifty years in business and the ore was sold to his sons Ralph, James and Jerome and known as "Zehringer Brothers."

He and his wife were the parents of the following children. Ralph, deceased; Florence married to Arthur Rose; George (Whitey) married to Salome Harting; John married to Flossie Gilbert; Loretta (Doll) married to Martin Sudhoff who died in 1955, married in 1957 to Karl Boland of Saginaw, Mich.; Mary married to Ernest Zimmerman (Ernest) deceased; Robert, deceased; Delores (Peachey) married to Lee Beyke — both deceased; William married to Jeanette Kremer (Bill) deceased; James married to Rita Fortkamp; Jerome (Zeke) married to Katherine Schoch; Richard (Corky) married to Rose Mary Westgerdes (Richard) deceased. *Florence M. Rose, St. Henry, Oh. 45883*

Place your Family History in this Space.

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GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP

Granville was first organized on June 5, 1837. It vas struck off from Recovery Township and origi-ıally comprised only those sections of the present ownship that lie north of the Greenville Treaty .ine. The southern portion was added in 1847, thus orming Granville as it is today. The township con-ains sections from town 7S, range 2E; town 15N, ange 2E; and town 13N, range 3E. It is bounded on he west by Gibson and Recovery Townships, on the ıorth by Butler, on the east by Marion, and on the outh by Darke County. The present trustees are Cyril Dues, Mark Kremer, and Victor Boeke. The lerk is John Dippold. The last township constable vas Jacob Kunkler who served in 1938-1939. Ferd Cengers was the last Justice of the Peace. This posi-ion was abolished on Dec. 31, 1957 when its duties vere absorbed by the Municipal Court.

The township has shown steady growth over the 'ears. The population in 1900 was 2329, today it is 326. It has two incorporated villages, St. Henry and Burkettsville.

Granville contains approximately 24,618 acres of enerally low and level land. In 1900 about 16% of :s land was covered with trees, today about 5% is till woodland. Corn, wheat, oats and hay were the ıajor crops at the turn of the century. Most individ-ıal farmers raised livestock. Today many acres of oybeans must be added to the above list of grains. 'he silver-domed silos scattered across the land-cape indicate the growth of dairy farming in the rea. There are about 50 Grade A dairy operations in ıe township. There are also some hog, chicken, and teer raisers.

1900 found Granville with 518 individual farms aving an average size of 46 acres. Now there are ess than 250 farm owners and the average size has ıcreased to somewhat over 100 acres. This move to ırger farms can be attributed in part to the advent f mechanized farm machinery. Early in this century ırmers had to rely on human labor and animal ower to plant, cultivate, and harvest crops. The ork was hard and slow, and productivity was lim-ed. This changed dramatically with the coming of ıe tractor. The Farmall with steel wheels first ap-eared on the scene in 1922. In 1937 Fordson came ut with a popular rubber-tired model. Power com-ines brought an end to the picturesque fields of ıocked wheat seen at harvest time. Custom com-ining in the late 30's cost from $1.50 to $2.00 an cre with wheat selling at 39¢ per bushel. Today the ost is $15.00 per acre and wheat sells at about $3.25 bushel. One Granville farmer with a self-propelled ombine can harvest between 30 and 40 acres a day. he many improvements in farm machinery have ıcreased both the speed and the efficiency of farm-ıg operations. Crop yields have risen accordingly. ı the 1930's corn averaged 41.4 bushels to the acre, ı 1977 the average yield was 91.6 bushels per acre.

The early 30's were the years of the Great Depres-on and farmers were sometimes so hard pressed ıat they were forced to sell their land. $1.00 a day lus board was considered good wages for a day's ork as a farmhand. Adult laborers were plentiful at ıis price. Federally funded WPA projects brought mployment to the township through the construc-on of the St. Henry High School, the building of cement bridges, the laying of concrete sidewalks, the clearing of ditches, and the building of roads.

The "muck" soil of the Cranberry Prairie has been very good for the growing of Granville's specialty crops of potatoes, tomatoes, and snap beans. These crops have led to the development of two large farm related enterprises, Stucke Farms Inc. and the Beckman and Gast Canning Co.

Henry Stucke began growing potatoes on 1 acre of rented land in 1932. He harvested his crop by hand and sold his produce to local stores and other farmers. He bought his first 60 acres in 1934. His business continued to increase in size utilizing migrant labor in the 60's. The switch to mechanical harvesting came in 1969. Today the company raises over 400 acres of potatoes a year. They still supply the local markets but the majority of their crop is sold to the Frito Lay Chip Co.

The Beckman and Gast Co., celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, packs tomatoes, tomato juice, and green beans. The original Pioneer Canning Company, started in 1901, packed tomato puree in wooden barrels and 5 gallon square cans. During the first half of this century tomatoes were grown and picked by individual farmers. In the beginning of World War II migrant labor was recruited and the raising of tomatoes gradually was done by a few large acreage growers. In the last 5 years the Beckman and Gast Co. has raised most of their own supply. Although most of the harvesting is still done with migrant labor, the choosing of tomato variety and the spacing of the plants in the fields are done to accommodate mechanical harvesters which were first used in 1969. Originally all tomatoes were peeled by hand but lye-bath peeling was introduced in 1970.

Green beans became a specialty crop in the late 1950's. They were first picked by hand, but mechanical pickers have been used since 1958.

Himmelgarten Convent, which was located 2½ miles west of Saint Henry. (photograph by Allen Bernard)

At the turn of the century Granville had six churches; four Catholic, St. Bernard's at Burkettsville, St. Francis's at Cranberry, St. Henry's at St. Henry, and St. Wendelin's at St. Wendelin; one Baptist church in section 12 along Philothea Road which served the Negroes in that area, and a Campbellite church in Burkettsville. Only the four Catholic churches remain today. These have been served over the years by the Fathers of the Most Precious Blood. This Society established Himmelgarten Convent, located west of St. Henry, in 1852 to house the priests, brothers, and sisters who served the German

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Novitiate of the Fathers of the Most Precious Blood, Burkettsville, Ohio

Catholic settlers in the surrounding area. The sisters opened a school in 1871 which later became the Home School. A novitiate to train priests was established in 1893 near Burkettsville. It continued in operation until the spring of 1969. In the summer of that year the Community Action Commission, CAC, used the facilities as an experimental school for troubled teenagers from the city areas. It was called Project Liberation. On January 1, 1971, a disasterous fire destroyed the oldest wing of the main building. The remaining buildings stood empty until the fall of 1978 when they were razed.

Home School, west of Saint Henry

Granville had 11 schools in 1900, nine of these were one room country schools. Today they have been consolidated into one school district utilizing 4 buildings. Three of these are located in St. Henry; the 1961 elementary, the 1903 junior high, and the 1939 high school. The 5th and 6th grades have used the 1939 Burkettsville building since 1961. School bus service began in 1934 when St. Henry first purchased buses. Other areas of the township received bus service a few years later. Cafeteria lunches became available in 1952. Kindergarten began in 1971. Due to a Supreme Court ruling, religion is no longer taught in the schools but released time is given so the students can attend the Catechetical Center which was built south of the St. Henry Church in 1964.

The schools have shown considerable growth throughout this century. The first high school graduating class in 1905 had one student, Alfred Davis. This year's class of 126 seniors will be the largest class ever to graduate. Thirty years ago about 50% of the student body graduated; today over 95% does so.

Township library services began with the founding of the Granville Township Library on July 4, 1976. This branch of the county library is located in the Granville Township House in St. Henry.

Granville has had fire protection since 1905 when St. Henry founded the first volunteer fire department. Burkettsville's volunteer department was organized in 1909. The Rural Fire Protection Association was formed in 1960. They purchased their first pumper-tanker truck in 1963 thus giving extra protection to the farmers who were assessed $10 a year for this service.

All roads in the township are paved. There are miles of state highway, 40 miles of county roa and 30 miles of township roads. The last gravel ro was Tobe Road which was tarred in July of 1970.

Although a few Granville citizens had autom biles before 1910, it was several decades before t car replaced the horse and buggy. Since 1950 t number of cars and trucks in Mercer County h more than doubled. 31,639 motor vehicle licen plates were issued in the county in 1976. During th same year, 1,594 car licenses were sold in Granvi Township.

Granville's only railroad had stations at St. Hen and Burkettsville. It began as the Cincinnati Nort ern, later became part of the New York Central Li and finally was absorbed by Penn Central. The fi train arrived in the fall of 1883 and the last Pe Central train rumbled through in the spring of 197 Tom Zitter, a private operator, still uses some of th track to ship freight between St. Henry and Celina.

Gone are the windmills which once stood li proud sentinels in most farm-yards. They have be replaced by the electric pump. St. Henry had ele tricity as early as 1915 but this only provided ci zens with 2 hours of service a day. Farmers had rely on Delco plants which consisted of a series batteries charged by a generator. Western Farm B reau Electric Cooperative, which later became Mi west Electric, brought electric lines to rural Granvi in 1937.

Along with electricity came the wonder of rad In the late 1920's only a few people owned a "wi less" and often the neighbors would gather arou eager to listen to the latest program. It was well in the 30's before most households had their own r dio. Television was not common until the midd 1950's.

Telephone service which was available before th turn of the century has improved over the yea Seven-digit telephone numbers and nationwide d rect-distance dialing were introduced in the ear 1960's.

Although there were many natural gas wells the township in the early 1900's, West Ohio Gas C was the first large distributor to bring natural g from the southwestern part of the United States Granville. They laid lines to St. Henry in 1965 b had to stop adding new customers in 1972 due to nation wide shortage of gas. They hope to increa their lines as soon as the gas becomes available.

In order to stop the serious flooding of the W bash River a group of farmers formed the Granvil Township River Commission. This commission w responsible for the formation of the Upper Waba Watershed. In 1962 three dam-like structures we built; one in Darke County, one in Gibson Tow ship, and one in Granville Township. This wa ershed project had a total installation cost of $1,26(911. Farmers in southern Granville benefitte greatly from this conservation project. Now that th annual flooding has ceased, the rich farmlar drained by this river brings premium prices as hig as $3,125 per acre.

Fertile land, advanced machinery, new varieties seed, better fertilizers and weed controls, fin strains of livestock; all of these are making Granvil one of the wealthiest and most productive areas Mercer County today. *by Mary Niekamp*

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WENDELIN

At the intersection of Township Line Road and Ft. ecovery-Minster Road is the little community of /endelin. Although it has never been incorporated a village, Wendelin has been a religious, social, id business center for many years.

In 1856, St. Wendelin Catholic Church was organ-ed, a daughter parish of the Ft. Recovery church, ith a membership of eight families. They met in a nall frame building until 1867, when the brick and one church (still in use today) was built, at a cost $1200.00. The parsonage was constructed in 1905, sting $3500.00. By 1907, the parish had grown to ty-four families, which is about the same as to-y's membership.

WENDELIN STORE

In 1869, a general store was opened at Wendelin y Sebastian Lauber, who was a prominent busi-essman and farmer in the area. He bought),000.00 (quite a large sum in those days) worth of oods on credit in Dayton and brought them back to /endelin himself. On January 2, 1870, the store was estroyed by fire, started, according to one source, by a rough gang of the locality." The store was re-uilt soon after, and apparently did a thriving busi-ess, as Mr. Lauber had many offers of credit to fi-ance his new venture.

From 1873-1877, Lauber and his brother Valentine perated a saw, planing, and shingle mill at Wende-n. Lauber later sold his interest in the businesses to ke up other ventures in Ft. Recovery. He also had vo oil wells on his farm, located on the Lauber rnpike (now Lange Road).

The store changed hands several times in the next w years, but was bought in 1895 by John Cough-n, who ran the business with his family for over venty years. Around 1900, there was also a post of-ce located in the store, although it is unknown how ng it operated.

In April of 1922, Henry and Odilia Heuing bought e store. In it, they stocked everything from grocer-s to hardware to auto tires, and had gas pumps out ont and a tavern in the back. During the Christmas ason, business was unusually brisk. Mr. Heuing ways made a trip to Dayton and came back with s car loaded down with toys and such, which peo-e came from miles around to buy.

In October of 1947, the store was again destroyed fire, this one caused by faulty electrical wiring. ree fire departments battled the blaze, but were able to save the old two-story building. For se-ral months afterwards, business was carried on in e basement of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lefeld (the Heu-gs' daughter) across the street. The next Spring, e store was re-opened in a new brick building, hich is still in use today.

After 50 years, the Heuings retired and sold the ore to Charles Bornhorst, who changed the name Charlie's Bar, and enjoyed quite a success with it a night spot.

The present owners, Tom and Diane Weller, pur-ased the store in June of 1978. Very little has anged here over the years. They still have the gen-al store, gas pumps, and the ever-popular tavern.

SCHOOL

Although old records are unclear, the one-room schoolhouse at Wendelin was opened around 1890. In 1892, the Sisters from the Society of the Precious Blood took over teaching duties for the students, grades 1 through 8. At some later date, the school was partitioned off into two rooms, one housing grades 1-4, and the other 5-8. The Wendelin Local School District was terminated on December 31, 1957, when students were divided between St. Henry and Southwest Local schools. *by Kathy Snider*

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ST. WENDELIN PARISH

St. Wendelin Church is situated in the Northwest Corner of Section 17 Granville Township on the Greenville Treaty line. The parish members are mostly German and some English and German.

In the year 1856 John and Valentine Esser went to Archibishop Purcell in Cincinnati to ask permission to build a Church at the present site. His Grace told them that if the neighboring pastors were satisfied they should bring a written permission from the Respective Rev. Neighbors. Frs. Van Den Bosch-St. Henry, and Joseph Albrecht of St. Joseph Victoria gave their consent and the Archbishop gave the permission to organize. The following organized St. Wendelin Parish; John and Valentine Esser, Adam Fliehles, Peter Writz, Balthasser and Henry Hoening, Hubert (Robert) Lennartz, Micheal Hammann, John Weber. Five acres of land was bought with an unfinished frame building 22x30 for a sum of $200. Every member was to pay $20. Hubert Lennartz bought a lot off the five acres where he built his cobbler shop. Altar and benches were furnished by home talent. The Church was blessed by Fr. Maximillian Homburg. An oil painting of St. Wendelin was secured from a painter in Europe for $100, donated by Adam Fleigher. This was the beginning of St. Wendelin.

Fr. Engelbert Ruf was the first pastor, he resided at Himmelgarten Convent. The first marriage was John Esser and Elizabeth Schweable. First death, Mrs. Micheal Hammann.

1868, Fr. Paul Reutter found it necessary to enlarge the Church to a 42x100 ft. brick church. This was agreed upon. The members of the parish made the bricks themselves and the stained-glass windows were donated by different members of the parish. The Church was finished in two years, it was dedicated on St. Wendelin's Day, October 20, 1870. Of special note Adam Fleigher was the most zealous worker for both the first and second Church and was the first to be buried from the new brick Church.

1875 — October, the Way of the Cross w erected.

1895, a second hand Melodian was bought for tl Church.

1896-1899, an addition to the Church in the for of a sanctuary and transcept and frescoed for tl sum of $3285. The baptismal font was also includec

1899-1902, a beautiful Sacred Heart and a Cro with Mary Magdelene and new pews were added.

1902, Fr. Jerome Wever became the first reside pastor. He bought new Communion railings, i stalled steam heat, and the two side altars were d nated for $215 each.

1905, the present eight room frame Parsona with its furnishings cost $3974.45.

1908, an eight-stop pipe organ was bought for $1 000 and the cemetery received a stone monument.

1909, the Parish bought the old school and lot f $290. The 15 light acetylene machine was exchan for a 35 light acetylene machine and the Church w furnished with acetylene light.

1910, Church, parsonage, and school were co nected with cement sidewalks, first class work dor by willing hands of the Parish. The Sacristy was fu nished with vestment case and vestment costir $500.

1911, the Parsonage was furnished with a h water system.

1918, Lourdes Grotto was built by the men of tl Parish.

1940-1955, extensive repairs and improvemen on house and Church for the sum of $14,000.

1975-January, the church was painted for the su of $7250.

St. Wendelin had six societies: St. Joseph Men; S Stephen Young Men, now Holy Name; Christi Mothers; St. Teresa Young Ladies, now Rosary A tar; Purgatorial Society of the Poor Souls, and Ho Childhood.

Priestly Sons of the Parish; Revs. Godfrey Schl chter, Benedict Boebner, William Lennartz, Alio Brunswick, Andrew Brunswick, Julius Fecher, ar Linus Evers. All belong to the Precious Blood Orde Nuns of the Parish; Sisters Quietia Fecher, Bertranc Fecher, Rose (Melentine) Eckstim, Sisters of the Pr cious Blood Order; Caroline (Barbara) Eckstim, Si ters of Providence.

October 20, 1931 marked the 75th anniversary. Solemn High Mass was celebrated in the Churc with Rev. Edmund Lahmiller, Deacon; Semanaria Julius Fecher as Sub Deacon, and Otto Mueller master of ceremony.

1956, St. Wendelin's 100th anniversary, a Solem Pontificial High Mass offered in Thanksgiving b Rev. Karl J. Alter, Archbishop of Cincinnati.

Number of families is 69, population is 306.

Former pastors are Revs. Engelbert Ruf, Paul Re ter, Sebastian Ganter, Erhart Glueck, Joseph A frecht, John Van Den Broek, Rochus Schuele, Jacc Ringele, Peter Capeder, Rudolph Abredesis, Joh Ferricks, Joseph Heitz, Seraphim Kunkler, Ignati Selb, Richard Zoller, Constantine Vogelman, Juli Heffner, Jerome Weber, Faustine Ersing, Edmun Lohmiller, Linus Stahl, Herman Goldschmidt, Joh RayCroft, and Henry Balster, the present pastor, an all were Precious Blood Order. *Submitted by: Rosary A tar Society, Joan Garke, President*

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Cranberry Store

CRANBERRY PRAIRIE

Most probably Bill Simmison (1827-) is the most idely known and wrote about person from the ranberry Prairie area. Many articles were wrote of im and his many escapades with the draft board nd soldiers who came to arrest him for evasion of ıe draft during the Civil War. A biographical ıeme was presented about him at OSU in recent ears.

The Bertke store was founded in the late 1800's by . J. Bertke. In 1924 his son, Frank, purchased the ore and he or his family operated it until 1971. Mr. ud Whitsett then operated the store until 1977 hen the building was purchased by the Archdioc- se of Cincinnati.

Since then the building has been used as a His- anic center with a chapel and social center for the panish speaking people in this area of Ohio and In- iana. Father Quentin Hauer, OFM, is the resident irector for the approximately 200 settled out fami- es.

Through the years, Cranberry residents were ranville Township trustees or Mercer County ommissioners. Among those were Frank Dillhoff nd Joseph Hartings.

In the late 1930's John Fullenkamp of St. Henry egan purchasing land in the prairie one-half mile est of church. In the 1940's he built the large quon- t buildings on what is known as Black Acres. It has oused various businesses such as: selling muck for rtilizer filler and additives for soil, plastic injection olding for industry from 1970 to 1973, tire recap- ing 1974 through 1978.

Bill Kaiser operated a large sawmill (½ mile north f the church) from approximately 1915 to the early 920's. Shortly thereafter he moved to Indiana.

Henry Stucke began the Stucke Potato Farm (1 ile south of the church) in 1934. His sons continue ıe operation and today they are one of the largest otato producers and shippers in the state of Ohio.

Ray Stachler had a carpenter service (2 miles west f the church) from the 1930's until his retirement in 972. His sons are operating the business today as tachler Bros., Inc.

Cy Schwieterman, Inc., (½ mile north of the church) began operating a farm drainage service in 1950 and continues today.

Bruns Building and Supply began operations in 1953 and operates today with R. E. Bruns and Jack Bruns. They service the area with erection of steel buildings, farm drainage, and all forms of excavating.

John Karch, founder of Karch Stone Co., was born and raised on a farm three miles southeast of the church on State Route 127. His heirs still own the farm.

Some of the names of families that were early settlers in Cranberry Prairie were: Bernard, Dirksen, Fiely, Hemmelgarn, Huwer, Karch, Knapke, Langenkamp, Link, Nietfeld, Reier, Rindler, Schmitz, Stachler, Staugler, Wehrkamp, and Zahn.

ST. FRANCIS PARISH

St. Francis Parish was organized in 1858 through the efforts of Christopher and Jacob Schunk and Henry Hemmelgarn. A brick church was built in 1860 and was used till the present church was erected and dedicated in 1906. The church was built during the pastorate of Fr. Edmund Lohmiller C.PP.S. It was designed by William P. Ginter an architect in Akron, Ohio. Construction of the church was in the hands of N. A. Ley, a contractor, of Minster, Ohio. The church has been in the care of the Society of the Precious Blood during its entire history. The present rectory was built on the site of the first church. The congregation of St. Francis is made up of 60 to 65 families, which figure has never fluctuated much either way from the founding of the parish to the present day. The parish cemetery lies immediately to the west of the church. The total picture is an appealing rural parish plant. Rev. Cletus G. Bihn, C.PP.S. is the pastor of the St. Francis Church, Cranberry Prairie.

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Picture of a Speicher 7060 Trencher installing a concrete main on the Dull Farm in 1978

CY SCHWIETERMAN INC.

On August 10, 1946 Cy Schwieterman along with his brother Louis and Father Ed began a new farm drainage service in southern Mercer and northern Darke counties. Cy just being discharged from the Navy in July of 1946, began the operation by working for neighbors and friends. In a short while Louis left for employ elsewhere.

As it was after the war and the demand was great for this service, Cy purchased a new Buckeye ditching machine in October of 1947. In May of 1949 he married Merdella Borgerand in 1950 they purchased a small farm at Cranberry Prairie and continued his operations from this location. In 1953 another Buckeye was added and in 1954, he purchased a new trencher from Speicher, which began manufacturing this product in Celina. Another new Speicher was added in both 1955 and 1956 along with a used Speicher in 1959.

In 1958 he began taking aerial photos of completed systematic drainage jobs and this practice still continues to this date.

In the early 1960's, the clay tile manufacturers began palletizing and concrete manufacturers began shuttle service with wagons to deliver their products. In 1962 an auger backfiller with a backhoe mounted on the rear was added, which greatly improved the quality and ease of backfilling the trenches.

In 1962 Cy Schwieterman became incorporated under the laws of the state of Ohio.

By the late 1960's corrugated plastic tubing and the laser lite was introduced. Both of these new products made farm drainage easier to install and decreased the man power needed. The Laser is an automatic grade control that eliminated the need for setting targets.

Installation of home sewage systems began in 1965 and continues today with Vern Lange performing this service in a 6 county area.

In 1974 a new 8000 sq. ft. maintenance shop was built at 1663 Cranberry Rd., thereby satisfying a need for a place to repair the machinery and fabricate the many things needed for their operations.

Due to the necessity of faster operations, Speicher began to build an experimental model for which they chose Cy to do the field experimenting. From 1970 to 1974 this machine was operated in all conditions. In 1975 when the machine was ready for production, a new Model 7060 was purchased. Another was added in 1976.

In 1976 a Buckeye 318, which digs 7 ft. deep an 36"wide was added. This machine is used to insta large farm drainage tile from 12"to 30"inside diamete

Today Cy has approximately 20 employees whic include three of his sons, Mike, Jerry and Dav Some of the other long time employees are: Ver Lange 26 years, Lester Harting 23 years, Jerry Wate cutter 20 years, Ron Schwieterman 11 years, Nic Bruggeman 10 years, Ed Knapke 5 years and Stev Lange 5 years.

Some of the other services covered today ar trenching with small chain trenchers, backhoe serv ice of all kinds and snow plow service for parkin lots.

Members of the Burkettsville Town Council — **Front Row:** B. Kaiser; Marie Heitkamp, Clerk; James Garke, Mayor. **Secor Row:** Dennis Hemmelgarn, President of Council; Ed Ahler David Hemmelgarn; James Werling; Roger Siefring.

BURKETTSVILLE

The Village of Burkettsville was platted by Be nard Romer, Jr., Edward Frummel, William Suthe land and Jackson Golder in November, 1876. Ear settlers here had formed a colony in 1871. Earli records show that one John B. Borgerding born i 1832, settled in Mercer County in 1852 and marrie in 1859.

Burkettsville was given the name, honoring one its pioneer settlers, Mr. Burkett. Burkettsville ol tained its first Post Office in 1872, when in 1871 th settlers decided that they should have mail servic Before this they received their mail from the Po Office from North Star once a week when a rider b the name of William Mung brought all of that ma to a designated place and the people would get the mail at that place. One can imagine that in the wil erness area here only a few settlers that it was problem. One must realize that the roads were di and only routes until engineers and surveyors lai out the sections and roads.

The religious services for the Catholic people an the church is given under another space in th book. The Protestants in this area also had the church, called Disciples of Christ, however n records are known of their parishoneers. They wer disbanded around 1920 when more and more of th population were Catholic. The church building wa

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Old St. Bernard Church, c. 1923

old and it now is located at what was once known as Hierholzer Garage, east of town. The Asiatic Cholera was a problem also here as many of the citizens lost their lives. A cemetery which is located on the Hemmelgarn property, west of here but hardly noticeable, contains the bodies of many of the victims. Early records of Darke County (1844) lists among the property owners the names of Theodore Hemmelgarn, Henry Rutschilling, M. L. M. Bingham, W. H. McFarland, Henry Middendorf, Andrew Kunkler, Bernard Stuckenborg and Paul Heinseth. Mercer County records (1883) lists among the pioneers as John C. Gilbert, A. E. Gilbert, Ann Gilbert, . N. Schoenberger, F. Z. Mory, Mary E. Pepple, Louis Krockebert, W. L. Bingham, W. Neal, C. J. Tius, Joseph Anthony, J. W. Birt and August Knosman.

Burkettsville's first Doctor was a Dr. Inman. He was succeeded by Dr. Brown and then Dr. Charles Sullivan and later around 1940 was a Dr. M. E. Harell who was also our last Doctor. The Veterinarian was Dr. Neal McNeal who had his office in the old livery stable. He called on customers around 1940 from Ansonia and later retired.

Our Town Hall Building was built in 1906 several years after Burkettsville became an incorporated Village. It was on April 21st, 1902 when the first Council set in session with S. S. Earhart, as Pres. of the Council, C. C. Snyder was Clerk. Members of the Council were James Birt, William Arnold, Cass Arnett, William Shook, H. Mills, Joseph A. Werling and J. B. Hemmelgarn. Their first business was to procure a site for the meetings, set a time for the meeting, purchase a seal, obtain a minute book, criminal docket, order book and ordinance docket. They met at first on each Monday evening at 7 P.M. standard time. From the records their first Ordinances were in re to Fighting on streets of public places, that no company give shows or theatrical performances without first having a license therefor, buying lot and placing a building on it and also install a jail for not more than $250.00; prohibit racing on streets by horse or mule; illegal throwing stones or objects against buildings or windows. Other Ordinances followed in sequence as their needs were met. It has been the custom, that through the years qualified men have fulfilled the Offices of Mayor, Clerk and Council. At the present time 1978 Hon. James Garke is Mayor, Mrs. Marie Heitkamp, serves as Clerk and the Councilmen are B.J. Kaiser, James Werling, Dave Hemmelgarn, Dennis Hemmelgarn, Roger Siefring and Edward Ahlers.

OCCUPATIONS

During the growth of Burkettsville it had a stave factory manfacturing Barrels in the early part of the century. The first house was built in 1840 in Section 30. Township Fifteen was given to Mercer County from Darke County in 1848. Bids for the erection of a railroad bed were begun in 1858 and completed in 1883 when the first Mackinaw railway system was established, later known as the Cincinnati Northern. The railroad depot was named Gilberts in honor of the Gilberts family who donated the ground for the station. The railroad had a single track with a siding for loading and unloading freight. Some of the early stationmasters were R. W. Herman, Willis Jones, Murl Carmack and Clarence Manning. In the early days of the Railroad they loaded livestock, sugar beets and grain besides freight shipped for various merchants.

Mr. Aaron had the first brick yard in the early 1900's. The tile factory owned and operated by Mr. Lewis Minch had a good business with two kilns and made some of the best tile in the country, but it was destroyed by fire around 1945 and was then operated by the Hancock Tile Co., of Findlay, but later discontinued. A pond had taken the site of the excavated tile yards location.

Lawrence Wimmers was the cement and mortar man in the early 1900 to 1920. One of the most widely known stores in the area was the Birt's Store in general merchandise, and then purchased by Joseph Frank, who operated this store until his demise in 1926. Another general store was the Kaup's Store, the first being operated by Gehrhart Kaup and upon his death was succeeded by his sons Jos. A. and William. Joseph became the sole proprietor when William became cashier at the Farmers & Merchants Bank. This Bank operated from around 1910 to 1926

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St. Bernard Church Cemetery, Burkettsville, Ohio

and did a good business but was forced to close by the State Department of Banking, because Mr. Henry Reichert had made too many bad loans. However upon liquidation nearly 70% was paid to its creditors.

At one time this town boasted of having three saloons, up to and until Prohibition. When Darke County elected to have its county dry, Mr. August Kothman moved across the street. Later operating this saloon, converted from a buggy and wagon shop, is the present tavern owned and operated by Ivo Schwieterman. Former owners of this tavern were Joseph Dresher, John Heinrichs and Leo A. Huber who operated for 37½ years.

We also had a few blacksmiths the best known was Henry Steinke, whose shop was located on the now Walter Hierholzer property. Upon his death he was succeeded by his son Isadore. He quit around 1925. Fred Hoorman, Joseph Bruggeman, Dave Sargent and Dave Marker operated in the building known as the Nick Cordonnier Shop years ago. This building was located on the property that is now the Romer's IGA Store. Another blacksmith who did minor repairs was John Will who had a small shop located on the property now owned by Mrs. Marie Rindler.

William McFarland operated a Hotel Service and was later purchased by Joseph A. Werling who did a livery service in addition to the Hotel. After working for the Kleinhenze Stock Yards, Albert Brunswick and Albert Werling opened and operated the live stock market at the present location. In addition to the live stock operation Werling and Sons also operate a fine custom butchering, service and meat packing plant, doing a very fine business today.

Another good business is operated by the B. J. Kaiser Trucking, Inc. who gather milk from the areas. Starting out with a small truck around 1930 picking up can milk, he now operates a five truck milk hauling business for Miami Valley, Neal's et al for the outlet of this product. The Hardware stores operating with D. Kent, followed by George Van den Bosch, Henry Dahlinghaus, William Link, Henry Schlarman, Jacob Willhoff, E. J. Hierholzer, Howard Best, Victor Lochtefeld and finally William Hemmelgarn. Today we have no Hardware Store. In the early fifties, Frank Kramer and Herbert Gottes operated an Electrical Appliance Store, which la only a short time. They operated in the old ban building. In a series of barber shops, it began wit John Bowers, later at Ft. Recovery, William Brun John Ullman and now we have Matthias Kelch.

In the early days of road building were contra tors, Joseph Flayler, Harvey Manning, Matt Staugl and the bridge builder was Henry Balmert. Walt Lorton operated a saw mill around 1930 to 1940 l cated on the present W. L. Rammel property.

The first grain elevator was operated by Stok Earhart, followed by John Homan and now E. Klosterman. They also sold coal years ago. Prior t October 21, 1923 the village owned and operated i own power plant, with the generator being locate in the Grain Elevator's seed cleaning building. Aft above date the Ansonia Lighting Co. furnishe power for street and domestic lighting until April 1930 when the plant was sold to the Ohio Electr Power Co., Sidney, Ohio, when they in turn sold t the present Dayton Power & Light Co.

After the dirt roads, gravel was made possible an after a good bed was formed, the first oil treatmer to our streets was made July 26, 1953 at a total co of $156, and the next year oil was again applied at cost of $180. This was done annually until 192 when tar was applied. This was done each year, unt the center of the streets became too high, and i 1976, all of the old material was removed and a ne cement road was built from the railroad tracks we to the west end of the church property line.

A Hardware and implement store was operated b George Rammel and sons, the main office was in th building now operated by Matt Kelch. This store op erated around 1915 to 1930. The building on th north side and east was taken away before ceasin operations. When they ceased operation Anthon Vonderhaar of Ft. Recovery put in a meat mark service for a year or so and sold out to Urban Hem melgarn and after a few years it was sold to A. W Gottes who operated a short time. When he close out business, William Bruns bought the buildin and operated a barber shop, which is the present lo cation. He also operates a bicycle shop across th street, formerly being the hardware store. On th east side of the old hardware store building was small building, now razed, which was the site for a ice cream parlor operated by Aloys Kothman, later meat market operated by one Jesse Pierron for short time and it was after that, when Wm. Brun operated the barber shop there, until he move across the street. Before being in the past locatior Mr. Bruns operated his shop in the east room of th Werling Hotel for a long time. When he move from the Werling Hotel building, this locatio housed a meat market service operated by Pete Stammen for a short time.

It must have been in the late forties that Linus an Esther Wehrkamp operated a meat and grocery fo at least ten years in the front part of the Augus Kothman building, now razed. Years ago, Mr. Koth man operated a saloon in this building. Before th Wehrkamp's had this store, it was occupied at on time by Dennis Eyink as a shoe repair shop and late by John Uhlman as a barber for about a year.

Louis Dorner operated a shoe repair shop at on time in the east room of the Werling building bu most of the time he had his shop at his home on th

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Burkettsville Fire Department — **Seated:** Roger Siefring; Jerry Siefring, Chief; Bob Hemmelgarn, Assistant Chief; and B. J. Kaiser. **Standing:** Ralph Dahlinghaus, Neal Romer, Ken Lorton, Steve Heitkamp, and Bob Brunswick. **Back Row:** Jeff Hierholzer, Gary Delzeith, Julius Hierholzer, Ed Werling, Dennis Hemmelgarn and Gerald Homan. **Absent:** Jim Garke, Bill Wuebker, Paul Kunk, Bob Schmitz, Matt Kelch, Ivo Schwieterman, and Jerry Rose.

orner of East Main and Jefferson, where Stanley runs and family reside.

In the old days before the auto, J. B. Hemmelgarn perated a livery barn the site being on West Main reet, immediately east of the home of Henry Hemelgarn. In the front part of the home of Mr. Hemelgarn, Joseph Frank operated a small general ore, before acquiring the Birt's Store. Later this ont part was the home of the Catholic Knights of merica's Fraternity Branch 1044, which was later ansferred to St. Joseph's Branch.

In the early 1900's the Fourth of July was celerated by having a large dance floor on the street, etween the Werling Hotel and August Kothman uilding. The saloons were opened early and closed ite, as they always expected a large crowd in town. he one saloon netted around $400 for the day's reeipts, by today's standards is small, but it was quite ood when beer sold for a nickel a large glass and a not of liquor for a dime, plus free lunch.

Herman Quinter had a drilling rig for oil and ater around 1940 and dug quite a few wells. It is ow operated by his son Ronald, who has a very odern well drilling equipment.

After the decease of Joseph Frank in 1926, the tore was liquidated by his nephew, Edward Klingsirn. This same store building was purchased by Verner Romer and operated as a general store for a hort time, and after being vacant for a short time, it as purchased by John Heinrichs, who operated a eer and restaurant, and in the front part a fresh eat and small grocery store business was conucted by his daughter Veronica. Then after a few ears it was sold to Clete Albers, who obtained a ight club license. After a few years it was sold to Vilfrid Bruns, and this place exchanged hands quite ften, now being owned by three young men of St. Henry.

Rose Schwieterman operated a beauty parlor at er home and Mrs. Debbie Adams Prescott operates he Joyce Parlors, located in the old Kaups Building. dward Kunk has a welding and repair shop located t the northeast end of the village at the present ime.

Be it remembered that prior to 1900 when much and could be purchased for around $10.00 per acre. ecently, Victor Lochtefeld sold his farm of 69 acres or $3160 an acre, a record high for real estate in this odern time. *Your Historian, Leo A. Huber*

BURKETTSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Burkettsville Fire Department was organized October 26, 1909 with about twenty members, with Stephen Oliger as chief. The department first had a hand pumper. They had monthly meetings and examined the fire equipment. Other members on the fire department were Nick Cordonnier, Wm. Leugers, George Spillers, Ora Walls, J. A. Flayler, John Leugers, George Sanderell, John Byrne, Peter Sanderell, Herbert Wimmers, John Werling, Lawrence Cordonnier, Hosea Birt, James Birt, Frank Birt, C. C. Corwin, Gerhart Kaup, Edward Jones, Mart Sanders, Frank Flayler, Aloys Kothman, Wm. Blakeley, Cary Birt, Roy Blakeley.

For water supply, the town dug cisterns located at various places in the middle of the street. January 11, 1915, the Fire Chief asked the board of council to put up markers at the village cisterns so that they could be found easily. The old pumper type was discontinued around 1920. The 1936 truck was the first truck. On August 4, 1936, the present fire department was organized with John Homan as temporary President, A. W. Gottes, Chief, Jos. A. Kaup, Treas. and Leo A. Huber, Sec. and the Burkettsville Council as executive committee. The new officers were elected as follows to serve one year terms, unless changed later: John Homan, President; O. A. Willhoff, Vice President; Leo J. Klingshirn, Secretary; Jos. A. Kaup, Treasurer; Albert Werling, Chief; A. W. Gottes, Assistant Chief.

The next truck was a 1952 truck and the 1936 truck was converted to a tank wagon. The 1952 truck was replaced in 1968.

The number of fires varies from year to year. Some years there were as many as twenty fires or more a year. Other times there were as few as a half a dozen. The biggest fire the department ever had was the Burkettsville Novitiate on State Route 118, which burned January 1, 1971.

Today the department serves an area of over 200 certificate holders (farmers), in addition to the residents of New Weston and Burkettsville. Today the department has three trucks: a 1975 grass fire unit; a 1968 pumper and a 1968 tank truck. There are twenty-three members on the Burkettsville Fire Department. The department is all volunteer and has monthly meetings. Every Monday, a group from the department checks the equipment, cleans the equipment and makes necessary repairs. Funds which come to the department are from assessments from the townships, the towns, and the farmers.

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ST. BERNARD CHURCH

St. Bernard Church is located in the extreme southern part of Mercer County. The parish boundaries extend into both Mercer and Darke counties, including the villages of New Weston and Rossburg in Darke County. The church and rectory are in Mercer County, the cemetery in Darke County. Parishioners worship in Mercer, but go to Darke for their final resting place.

The story of St. Bernard Parish, centering around its imposing church edifice which dominates the village scene at Burkettsville, began in 1874. A small group of German pioneer settlers in the area — six families in all — made the beginnings. These were the families of Theodore Hemmelgarn, Sr., John Borgerding, Sebastian Fink, Joseph Nordenbrock, Frank Beckman and Henry Borgerding. Fifty years later, a commemorative booklet published for the Golden Jubilee notes that there were about five hundred parishioners. At the present time there are about a thousand members of the parish.

The first church, a frame structure, was dedicated in 1875, enlarged and embellished in 1902. The present impressive brick structure was begun in 1915, but World War I shelved all building plans and the basement was covered with a roof. Construction work was taken up again in 1922 and brought to completion in 1924, the golden jubilee of the parish. Major repairs and improvements have continued. Most recent, renovation of the sanctuary and blue carpeting of the entire church during the centenary year, 1974. The St. Bernard rectory, a large, red brick structure was built in 1906.

From its founding in 1874 up to 1902, St. Bernard parish was served by fourteen different pastors, with most of these being in charge for comparatively short terms. In the spring of 1902 this pastoral pattern changed completely with the appointment of Fr. Denis Schweitzer, C.PPS. as pastor. Fr. Denis led the Burkettsville parish through the next thirty-seven years, years of constant progress for the parish. Upon his retirement in 1939 there again followed a period of comparatively short term pastorates: Fr. Francis Krull, C.PP.S. (1939-1945), Fr. Jerome Hoepf, C.PP.S. (1944-1945), Fr. Theodore Koenn, C.PP.S. (1945-1948), Fr. John Zeller, C.PP. (1948-1957). Fr. Erasmus Gengler, C.PP.S. becam pastor in 1957 and promptly offered added impet to the parish's improvement program which conti ued for the next sixteen years. The present pasto Fr. Mark Dorenkemper, C.PP.S., coming from S Lawrence, Rhine, Ohio, replaced Fr. Gengler in 197.

In less than six years after the founding of th parish, St. Bernard Parochial School appeared on th Burkettsville scene. A frame building (18' by 20 housed a small flock of scholars under the directio of teacher Magdalena Schindler. In 1893 the fir parish school was replaced by a new and larger or (30' by 50') and in 1907 more space was gained f classes with a thirty-five foot addition. Followir Miss Schindler in the role of teacher in the St. Be nard Parochial School were: J. Omlor, H. Schal Francis Mueller, V. Samberg, Frank Harlett, Joh Dwenger, B. N. Natheis and Ferdinand Mader. Th Sisters of the Precious Blood began to staff th school in 1904. In 1927 the parish school became a elementary public school under County supervisio The Precious Blood Sisters, however, remained part of the teaching staff of the public scho through the following years up to the close of th 1970-1971 school year.

"Church Wardens", "Trustees", "Council Mem bers", are just so many different titles for those pa ishioners chosen or elected to work with the past in the decision making process of the parish com munity. The present members of the St. Bernar Parish Council are: *Ex officio Members:* Cordul Schmitz, CCD Coordinator, Jim Werling, Financ Leo Huber, Buildings & Grounds; *At Large Mem bers:* Elmer Klosterman, President, Mary Gelhau Vice President, Lou Donna Van Den Bosch, Lloy Groff, Mary Mestemaker, Deanery Representativ Steve Heitkamp, Deanery Representative; *Commi sion Representatives:* Mary Liette, Education, Fran ces Siefring, Laity, Earl Schlater, Missions, Marily Schlater, Worship, Rosella Hierholzer, Ecumenism Dick Shook, Communications.

Parishioners at St. Bernard, by the Parish Const tution, are not only members of the parish, but ar also members of one of the three officially estab lished societies of the parish. The following are th officers of these three societies. *Ladies' Guild:* Jud Stemley, President, Lillian Knapke, Vice Presiden Alvera Schmitz, President Elect, Anna Lee Dahlin ghaus, Secretary, Betty Dull, Treasurer. *Men's Soc ety:* Norbert Kremer, President, Eugene Hoening Vice President, Victor May, President Elect, Jame Naseman, Secretary, Leonard Hemmelgarn, Trea surer, Jerome Siefring, Marshal, Terry Stammer Marshal, Carl Miller, Marshal, Thomas Stammer Marshal. *C.Y.O.:* Ann Werling, President, Jacki Siefring, President Elect, Vice President, Wand Schoen, Secretary, Donna Gelhaus, Treasurer, Pan May.

The story of St. Bernard Parish would be incom plete were nothing said of those parishioners mos responsible for the daily operation of the parisl plant by the many tasks they do that are so ofte taken for granted until not done. The present custo dians of St. Bernard Church are Elmer and Dolore Buehler; preceding them were Henry and Marth Hemmelgarn, Sebastian and Catherine Rindler, Wil liam and Clara Bruns.

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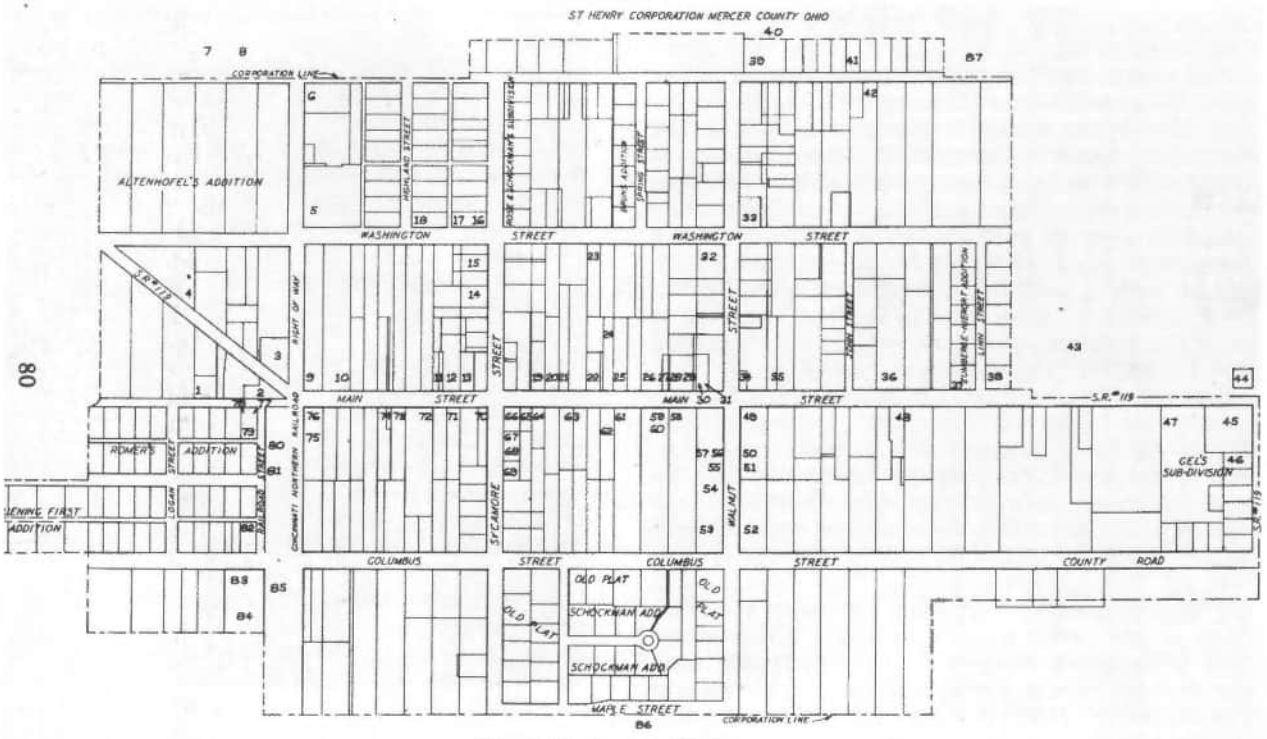

Map of St. Henry village

Key to Map
of St. Henry Village

.. St. Henry American Legion Post 648
.. Bany Washing Machine Factory
.. Twentieth Century Storm Buggy Factory
. Ron's Service
. Mobil Oil Company, Inc.
. Rutschilling Sawmill
. Hartings Sawmill
. Fox and Hess mill
. Weingartner Tannery
. St. Henry Tile Company
. The Beckman & Gast Company
'. Tile Factory
. Lois' Beauty Shop
). Mercer County Landmark, St. Henry Branch
). Blacksmith William Uhlenhake
. Bittersweete Shoppe
. B. J. Lammers' Shop
. Palm Hotel
. Wimmers' Upholstery
. St. Henry Glove Company
. St. Henry Fire Department
. St. Henry Council Chamber
'. Water towers
). Carl Knapke, Barber
). Old post office building
). St. Henry Laundromat
). Albert Gulde Store
). Uhlenhake Butcher Shop
. Bruns Barber Shop
. Knights of Columbus
. Ray Wuebker, Real Estate Broker
. Jutte White Villa
. Gerlach Elevators
26. Bruns' Buildings
26. N. J. Hogenkamp Sons, Inc.
27. St. Henry Bank
28. St. Henry Hardware
29. Romer's Store
30. Buschor Department Store
31. St. Henry Hardware
32. St. Henry Convent
33. Fullenkamp Distributors, Inc.
34. United States Post Office
34. Old Township House
35. St. Henry Furniture Company
36. Site of first post office
37. Site of Goettemoeller Store
38. Luttmer Garage
39. St. Henry Gun Club 1940's
40. St. Henry Village Park
41. Gene Buschur, Realtor
42. Pete Stammen Insurance
43. Nieport Custom Farm Service
44. Osterholt Sohio Service
45. Gels I.G.A. Super Market
46. Dairy Dream
47. Osterholt Rambler Sales
48. Steinlage Leather Tannery
49. Bostick Service Station
50. Granville Township House
51. Emiliano Feliciano, M.D.
52. St. Henry High School
53. Site of Grotto
54. Catechetical Center
55. Second Church, 1854
56. St. Henry Church Rectory
57. St. Henry Catholic Church
58. Possible site of first church, 1840's
59. School, 1840's
60. Junior High School
61. Michael Schlegel building
62. Site of first cemetery
63. Panning Shop
63. A. J. Gels Cream Station
64. Frilling's Restaurant
65. Schoeneberger Blacksmith Shop
66. Schlosser Butcher Shop
67. Franck Plumbing
68. Gels Locker
69. Bruns Distributors
70. Rammel Dry Cleaning
71. Lefeld Plumbing
72. J. A. Schirack, M.D.
73. Lefeld Hardware
74. Ignatz Siegrist Shop
75. Lammers Concrete Specialties
76. Kleinhenz Carry Out
77. Kite and Katy's Restaurant
78. City Hotel
79. Livery Barn
80. Railroad Station
81. Poultry House
82. Mobil Oil Company, Inc.
83. Schockman Lumber Company
84. Flour mill, 1885-1908
85. Stockyard
86. Cemetery
87. Sewage Treatment Plant

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ST. HENRY

The village of Saint Henry, Ohio, located in the southern part of Mercer County in Granville Township, was being settled in the early 1830's, at the same time much of Southern Mercer County was being settled by the German Immigrants. Many of the early settlers told of working on the Miami Erie Canal in order to earn money to purchase farms. The area consisted of virgin deciduous forest inhabited by wolves, deer and other forest fauna. Times were difficult for these pioneer settlers. They had to build log buildings and hunt wildlife for food until they cleared the land and began raising crops.

The Romer (then spelled Roemer) family was among the early settlers. Mrs. Herman Henry Romer and her children; Henry, Bernard Frank, Herman I, Herman II, Fred, Agnes, Frank, and John Joseph emigrated from Ehlerup, near Damme, in the province of Oldenburg, Germany in 1834. Oldenburg was in the northern part of Germany, near Holland. After arriving in New York, about 1836, the Romers traveled over land and down the Ohio River to meet relatives in Cincinnati. Three of the sons, John Joseph, Bernard Frank, and Henry, traveled to Saint Henry. The rest of the family stayed in Cincinnati. (In 1849, their mother, while traveling via the Miami Erie Canal to Minster to escape the cholera of Cincinnati, died en route. After she was buried in Minster, her sons were told she had had several gold pieces sewn into her clothing.)

The Bruns family arrived at Saint Henry about six months after the arrival of the Romer family. The obituary of Gerhard Bruns stated he was one of the first settlers in this area because he came in the year 1838. The Beckman family arrived in St. Henry in 1839.

The Romer brothers made the decision to purchase land from the government and establish a town. On the fourteenth day of October 1836, Franz Romer of Hamilton County, Ohio, entered at the land office at Lima, Ohio the following real estate: All of the East Half of North West quarter of Section (21) twenty-one in Township Number (7) Seven South of Range Number (2) two East containing eighty acres of land. This eighty acres, at one dollar and a quarter per acre, cost Franz (Frank) Romer one hundred dollars. On July 7, 1837, Franz Romer sold this eighty acres to his brother Henry at the handsome price of one hundred and fifty dollars; whereupon Henry Romer laid out the town of Saint Henry, Ohio. The Romer Brothers erected a log home and in the hastily constructed home, seven families spent their first winter. Henry Bruns built the second home in Saint Henry.

John Henry Lange, Jr., born in 1855, spoke of hearing his father tell of the wild condition of the country when he first settled here. On many occasions he had had to drive the deer out of his wheat field. He raised flax and kept sheep for wool, which the women of the household spun and then wove into fabrics with which they made clothing for the family. (This material was sometimes known as "hard times' stuff.") The people were accustomed to going to church in wooden shoes. At first, they went forty miles with their grist to secure flour for bread. No mention was made as to the name or place of this mill; it may have been at Piqua.

Important as a stimulus to the economic develo ment and to the population growth of Saint Hen was the construction of the Miami and Erie Can Early settlers arrived in Cincinnati and many them took the canal north. Some worked on the c nal to earn money. Others used the canal for tran portation. At first, they could not travel the enti distance by canal because of partial completion the canal. The canal was completed to Dayton l 1829 and the thirty-two miles between Dayton ar Piqua were completed in 1837, with the next thirt two miles to Saint Marys completed by 1839. Tl following years, laborers worked on this canal, un by 1845, the canal was completed between Tolec and Cincinnati. Numerous settlers followed the c nal north from Cincinnati and embarked from tl canal at Minster and New Bremen. Going west fro Minster, men chose the higher ground for hom steads, rather than the swampy ground. Thus, Sai Henry became settled early. This route betwee Minster and Saint Henry became marked with n merous German Catholic settlements.

Several men claimed the distinction of being tl first businessman in Saint Henry. John Josep Romer, arriving in Mercer County in October 183 started a store in 1840. Before completion of the M ami Erie Canal, he transported farm produce to Ci cinnati by wagon and returned with merchandise f his store. For example, he took furs, dried veniso rabbit, quail, and roots and herbs, e.g. snakeroot ar seed turnips. Romer would return with such iten as rice, coffee, crackers, sugar, vinegar, starch, o meal, paints, varnish. Occasionally, he sold all th items on the return trip from Cincinnati before h arrived home; once, he even sold the hat off h head, and had to borrow a cap from Mr. Drahman return to Cincinnati. John Joseph Romer's son, Joh Henry Romer, told how he assisted his father durir boyhood, on the farm and in the store, and lat hauled goods between Cincinnati and Saint Henr with a four horse team. The trip required three four days. Henry Beckman was a pioneer Justice the Peace as early as 1839. Henry Bruns, Josep Drahman, and Henry Steinlage were also early bus nessmen in the 1840's and 1850's. Henry Steinlag born in Hanover, Germany July 27, 1830, emigrate to America with his family in 1846, being on th ocean nine weeks and two days before landing i Baltimore. He learned the trade of tanner in Colun bus, Ohio, and moved to Saint Henry in 1851 an opened the first tannery in St. Henry. He had onl the sixty-three dollars which he had earned. At firs his tanning was accomplished in a few whiskey ba rels which he bought, and later he put up a large va increasing the capacity of his tanyard as necessit required. He built his home in 1855; added a stor room in 1884 and began operating his tannery i 1887. He tanned a large amount of leather accordin to the old traditional method. He received from Ch cago ox-skins weighing 75 to 100 pounds eacl which he processed into leather for heavy horse ha ness.

Michael Schlegel was born in New York in 185 and came to Saint Henry in 1866 and went to wor for George Guenther. Schlegel went into busines for himself in 1878. He not only manufactured fu niture, but also had an undertaking business, a jo printing press, sold a line of paints and varnishe

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d in 1891 established a quarterly journal newspa-
r, called the Economist, which he was still pub-
hing as late as 1908. Schlegel did printing for busi-
ssmen and the church, both in German and
iglish. He also constructed a great deal of church
rniture, until his death in 1920.
John Panning (1859-1930) was in the hardware
d roofing business for fifty years, 1877-1927. He
is the church organist from 1870 until 1903; he
so taught school.
Joseph B. Drahman began operating his harness
op prior to 1882; Bernard Lammers purchased the
op in June 1895.
The Bruns family was one of the original settlers
Saint Henry. An ink drawing in the 1882 History
Van Wert and Mercer County Book illustrated
e Paint Shop, the Feed Stable and the Bruns House
they appeared. Henry Bruns' blacksmith and
igon making business grew until he added a steam
achine and employed five workers in his shop in
98. In 1881, Frank Bruns took over the hotel be-
n in 1870 by his father. Frank Bruns began build-
g a new hotel early in 1902, for twenty guest
oms at two dollars a day. Frank Bruns also built a
w livery stable in 1904. This entire complex of
ildings burned in the fire of 1905.

J. Bruns & Bros. Carriage and Wagon Manufactory, Paint Shop, Feed Stable and Bruns House, Frank Bruns, Proprietor. 1882.

By 1884, Saint Henry had become an established
mmunity. What makes this year important is not
mething special that occurred in Saint Henry it-
lf, but that someone or several people were inter-
ted enough to report what was going on in the
mmunity to the newly established weekly news-
per, Der Mercer County Bote, which had begun
iblication in Celina the year before under the
me of Deutsches Kleeblatt. There is slight suspi-
on that the weekly reports were at times more
wsy than factual, more opinionated than objec-
e. Thus, a study was made of the social, business,
d political activities of the village in the year 1884.
The year of 1884 was preceded by a gala celebra-
on in December 1883. The second Wednesday of
ecember about six o'clock in the evening, the rail-
ad workers, about seventy in number, were a good
stance to the south of town. Townspeople prom-
ed them a treat if they completed the laying of the
ils to Saint Henry yet that day. The workers la-
red with lanterns under the moonlight on the
ncinnati and Jackson, Michigan railroad until they
ached the village about nine o'clock that evening.
ie news spread quickly and the inhabitants gath-
ed under the sounds of the Germania Music Band.
grand banquet was served the workers.

February 3, 1884, the Germania Band put on a small festivity in order to gain money to pay for their new band wagon. The band also played in May at the thirty-ninth birthday party of the Justice of the Peace, John G. Beckman.

Another gala day was celebrated in June when over two hundred people gathered in Saint Henry to see the parade which was arranged by Jacob Bany, agent of the Champion Reaper Co. During the season, Mr. Bany had sold twenty-three machines which were delivered that Saturday. After the machines were taken from the train and loaded onto the wagons, Mr, Bany treated his customers to a free dinner at the American House which he later purchased from J.F. Romer in 1885. A man by the name of Otis from Montezuma recalled having attended one of these dinners and having a dish which was new to him — rice with red sugar. A parade followed, with grand speeches given in German, concluding with a couple of barrels of genuine Gerstensaft, 'barley juice.' There was truly something to celebrate for during this decade, Jacob Bany sold between thirty and sixty machines — self-binders, mowers, and reapers — each season.

The fourth of July was celebrated in a true German way. Parishioners found great pleasure in socializing. The well-attended picnic was accompanied by the music of the band. Two fiddlers played for the dance. The Germania Music Band also took part in the Jubilee festivities in Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Whenever the newspaper correspondent announced a child's birth, he utilized the story story; for example, "The stork flew over the house roof of Joseph Mackey and Joseph Mackey became the father of a twelve pound girl. The mother was not mentioned.

The October game of 1884 between the St. Henry and Burkettsville baseball clubs ended with a victory for the latter. The Burkettsville team had good players brought in from Greenville. When the game was over, there were four people with scars; one lost his eye; another had his nose broken. The newspaper correspondent suggested, "This kind of ball, especially during church services, should be brought to an end!"

Religious celebrations were an integral part of the life of the people. Corpus Christi Day and the Feast of the Precious Blood were observed with a procession around the church property stopping at the chapels built the previous decade by Anton Mueller. The Priest then gave a blessing. The throng of people, proceeding on the first Sunday to the first and third chapels, sang, *Grosser Gott, Wir Loben Dich,* (Holy God, We Praise Thy Name). Altar Boys carried the Blessed Sacrament with a canopy above it, and others carried banners. The second Sunday, the procession was to the second and fourth chapels. The chapels were used until they were sold in 1914. On July 15, St. Henry's Day was celebrated. In August, the feast of St. Cyriacus, patron Saint of the sick, was marked with impressive services. This day was important because of the epidemics of cholera and diptheria and other illnesses which were serious due to the helplessness of medicine.

Businessmen were very active in the year 1884. Frank Bruns opened a livery stable, enlarged his saloon to make space for a pool table, and placed a lantern in front of his business that year. The men

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employed in building the Cincinnati Northern railroad stopped at Bruns' Tavern; Bruns housed and fed daily forty to fifty men. It took two hours to serve one meal; they ate in three shifts of about fifteen each. Next to Bruns' Hotel was the carriage and wagon manufactory of blacksmith Henry Bruns. (The Bruns' buildings stood at the site of the Hogankamp Funeral Home today, 1978.) John G. Beckman, son of Henry, was justice of the peace, appointed postmaster since 1871, township clerk, and a dealer in medicine, books, and notions. Caspar Schoeneberger worked as a blacksmith in the old building on lot 30.

The Moeder brothers operated their sawmill and dealt in lumber at the site of Rutschillings, on lot 18 in Altenhofel's Addition. Anton Mueller made furniture and built homes. Joseph B. Drahman had a harness manufactory on lot 61. Frank Bernard Romer built a twelve room brick home. John Henry Romer had a general mercantile store which he had operated since 1867 at the site of J.J. Romer's Store. John Panning was a dealer in stoves, tinware, roofing, and spouting. J.B. Kipp put his saloon on wheels in 1884 and moved it to the lot next to the railroad station; the newspaper correspondent's description, declared, "Kipp drove close to the train doors and extended to the passengers whatever the human heart desired. Michael Schlegel manufactured furniture and was in the undertaking business, on lot 34. In 1884 Albert Gulde arrived in St. Henry and embarked in the General Merchandise Business. Henry Steinlage operated a tannery; in 1884 he erected a storeroom, on lot 43. Ignatz Siegrist had a harness shop. There was a flour mill built at the site of Schockman Lumber Yard.

Every winter the newspaper pages were filled with people having the grippe. Prior to 1877, Dr. William Jones had been the local physician and surgeon. Dr. Adam Edelman, suggested home cures. There was a Dr. Ryan. Doctor J.J. Mory built a new office in 1902.

Dr. William Jones

The year 1884 saw the Democrats in firm control in St. Henry during the national elections. In the first week of September, the Cleveland and Hendricks Club of St. Henry held a meeting "for political freedom and against bigotry and 'know-nothingness.'" The newspaper correspondent told how the club met and subjected Blaine's life to sharp criticism and proved from his deeds that he was a corruptionist. On election day, "many hard words were said; the Republicans were insulting." That day citizens of Cranberry Prairie came to St. Henry on a wagon pulled by six horses in order for to the citizens to vote; forty-two voters were on the wagon — all for Cleveland and Hendricks! The election passed with 354 Democratic votes to 46 Republican votes in Granville Township. Jacob Bany had a rooster put on a pole so that it would announce the victory for Cleveland and Hendricks. A victory celebration w held. A manikin which represented Mr. Blaine w put on a pole near the train station to greet the tr from Celina. A parade was held; short speeches w given. Thereupon, the effigy of Blaine, after the n sic band had played several funeral songs for it, w blasted apart by explosives for the enjoyment of Democrats and to the sorrows of the Republicans.

Politics was often a topic of conversation; whet at party rallies, at places of business or at so events. A Democratic assembly took place at Henry in October 1889. Speeches were given on issues of the times; especially that of the tariff qu tion. The May 21, 1891 Bote mentioned that Champion Reapers were selling well despite hard times. It was the era of McKinley's campa for Ohio's governship. McKinley was well-kno after the passage of his tariff law in 1890, but w defeated for re-election to Congress by a Democra gerrymander. Although McKinley was elected G ernor of Ohio in November 1891, he lost the electi in Granville Township. The Republican McKin received 65 votes and the Democrat James Campb received 316 votes. Democrats seemed to domin the Grenville Township elections; even in 18 Cleveland received 354 Democratic votes to the Republican votes of his opponent, Blaine. At a other Democratic rally in November 1893, M Schlosser gave his speech in low German which ga merriment to the crowd.

On August 1, 1885, the St. Henry Band attend the annual picnic of the Negroes at Carthage which celebrated the freedom of their brothers. T Negroes and Whites amused themselves together the dance floor and ate from a common table. O Negro commented, "If the Democrats in the Sou were as good-natured as the Democrats in Mer County, then things would go far better."

Bany Washing Machine (Photo copy by Jim Miller)

Bany Washing Machine Factory, W. Main St Saint Henry, Ohio. Jacob Bany, Jr. standing doorway by the Washing Machine. This taken after the death of Jacob Bany, Sr. in 1 They also made the lawn swing in the pict The barn is in the background.

In the 1880's Jacob Bany was a dealer in agricu tural implements, engines, threshers, Champi Binders, Reapers and Mowers, wind pumps, gra drills, cultivators, plows and harrows. Jacob Bany i vented the Bany Washing Machine and beg producing them in the early 1890's. He accept bids for 250 washing machines from Springfield a Cincinnati in October 1894. The following spri Bany put an addition of sixty feet to his buildir besides sending a carload of washing machines Cincinnati and another to Fort Wayne, Indiana, the railroad. Bany put a new patent on his washi machine, called the "ladies' friend," that sprir Bany and sons improved their business by addi steam power the spring of 1897. More additio were added to the factory in 1899 and 1900; th even had their own electric plant. Washing m chines were bound for Minnesota, Dakota, Col

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lo, California, and Texas in the spring of 1901. y 1902, Jacob Bany received a patent on his adtable awning, his adjustable parasol and his "Oh--Easy Lawn Swing." Mayor Bany died September 03; his son, Jacob, Jr., continued the business until ey moved it to Delphos late in 1907. A year later ny resigned his position with the washing maine company at Delphos and returned to St. nry. One of the old Bany Washing Machines is display at the Mercer County Historical Muum.

Parishioners proudly viewed plans of the new urch in June 1893. In the summer of 1894, John Curtins was awarded the contract for building new church. John DeCurtins' father, Anthony Curtins, had built the earlier brick church in 54. The Architect was Mr. A. Druiding, of Chigo, Illinois. The cornerstone was laid June 1895. A ge celebration was held in the village. Profound emonies were held at the new church grounds. en greater celebrations were held when the urch was dedicated in July 1897.

J.J. Schlosser was in the butcher shop for thirtyne years, c. 1889-1928. A frame building preceded s brick building for his butcher shop. In 1897, hlosser had a glass front built on his butcher shop. 1903, he not only renovated his butcher shop, but o built a new ice house. He continued in the shop til 1928. August Luttmer, the shoemaker, folved Schlosser in the building.

Henry Feldhake improved his saloon with a new box in 1899; six months later thieves broke into saloon and stole ten dollars worth of whiskey, bacco, and cigarettes. By December of that year, ldhake opened a new saloon. Among those esent were Mr. Louis Huedepohl and Mr. Pruelge of Cincinnati, who were managers of the Buckeye Brewery there. Henry Kevelder followed Feldke, c. 1907; Bob Sutter followed, c. 1927; John ndrell had the business next. Carl Knapke had e business from 1950 to 1955; then the Rinderle others to 1957, then Donald Frilling had the Frillg's Restaurant until it burned down in 1963.

In 1890, Clemmens Meinerding built the liverym which stood south of Kite and Katy's Restaunt. His son, H.C. Meinerding drove the livery gon and took salemen "drummers" around to the ms and returned in the evening. Andrew Buschor d the livery barn next. Later Buschor bought and ld and traded draft horses. During World War I, bought horses for the army. William Uhlenhake t shoes on the horses. Then they were shipped t on the train. Buschor closed the livery barn in e twenties.

William Romer had a hardware store in an old log ilding which stood at 255 East Main. He was agent r the Osborne Mowing Machines in 1895, and in 96, was selling buggies and building material. By 00 Romer had a complete selection of farm implents, binders, and threshers. The building was a rdware store in the following years. The business sed in 1971; today the building is the eastern half the St. Henry Bank.

In 1896, Mrs. Christina Weingartner advertised r trade as a leather shoemaker and saddler; she ntinued her tannery as late as 1909.

The flour mill stood slightly behind the office of hockman Lumber Company. The mill was erected in 1885; by August, they had cemented in the steam boiler. That autumn they were prepared to produce flour. Kreusch, Hoying and Company purchased the mill and sold it the following winter to J.F. Romer. George Hirsch of Rossville purchased this mill in 1893. Bernard Plummer of Coldwater took over the mill in 1904. The mill made "White Queen" and "Log Cabin" patent wheat flour and whole wheat flour and did general custom grinding. The mill was totally destroyed by fire in 1908. The machinery, grain, and several hundred pounds of flour were a total loss. The city scales, owned by a company of St. Henry citizens, and located east of the mill were also burned together with the building in which they were located. The Cincinnati Northern stock yards were also damaged.

Dr. J.A. Schirack moved from Cassella to St. Henry about 1896. He built a new office on West Main Street in 1902. He served the villagers' medical needs for several years. Dr. Schirack was also a partner of Sebastian Ranly in the Storm Buggy Plant, c. 1910.

On the northwest corner of Main and Linn Streets, Henry Goettemoeller conducted a sa' n, a general store, and a millinery store which burned down in 1898.

The Bimel Wheel and Spoke Factory, later known as the Bimel Handle Factory, began operations in 1899. The Bimel Company purchased the Moeder Brothers Sawmill in January 1903. J.H. Hartings was the manager of the Bimel Company, c. 1907, and in 1910, Hartings purchased the sawmill. Hartings had the mill until his sons, Aloys and Urban, took over the mill operations in 1925. The following article was included in the newspaper review of the 1937 St. Henry Centennial: "Most of the dimension stock cut at this mill is trucked to St. Marys Wheel and Spoke Co., St. Marys, Ohio. At present time they are cutting out an order of stock for this particular firm for Ox Cart billets, which are to be used in the rice swamps and canebrakes of Louisiana and Mississippi. They also transport to several industries in Sidney and Piqua where there is a ready market for this type of material. All types of native hardwood timbers are cut and sold. Thousands of feet of lumber are also cut each year for general building purposes throughout this community and for many miles around." Hartings continued the mill until selling it to Lawrence Rutschilling late in 1952.

The number of St. Henry businesses had increased considerably the last two decades of the century. The population had increased from 200 in 1880 to 682 in 1890. Not only did the railroad play a part in this expansion of St. Henry, but the attitude of the people also played a role. The Mercer County Bote commented about the new houses being built and that the people could not complain about a lack of business. A July 1897 Bote told about everything being built up; the McKinley prosperity was slowly coming in. In spite of the acknowledged prosperity of the Republican administration, a Democratic William Jennings Bryan Club (versus McKinley) had been organized in 1896 at St. Henry. Amid this prosperity, people were complaining about the "lousy streets and sidewalks" and that the town's incorporation would be the best remedy to receive modern streets. As early as 1893, a petition had been circulated for incorporation of the town. The telephone

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was also a topic of conversation as it was completed to St. Henry by November 1898; the line was extended to Burkettsville the following spring. Besides the topics of McKinley, the telephone, and incorporation, the war was the general subject of conversation in 1898; the newspaper stated, "There is no lack of patriotism and there are many who would want to fight for the rights of their country and to do something worthwhile for their country in the form of soldiering." Politics were again taking a strong hold on St. Henry citizens. They went to Celina to hear William Jennings Bryan speak in October 1899. Bryan was again nominated for the presidency and was again defeated, by McKinley.

The tramps apparently presented a very real problem to the townspeople. The September 10, 1885 Bote entered a long bitter article about tramps in the area here. The tramps were so bold as to threaten physical harm, even the burning of buildings, if the farmers did not feed them properly. A murder in July, 1887 was attributed to one of these tramps. Still, a building stood on the west side of town, known as the tramp house, and was used for shelter by these people of the road. Apparently, not all tramps were considered a negative influence within the village. In the early 1900's this tramp house was dismantled.

Numerous varieties of recreation were available to the villagers during the 1890's. The citizens met at the town hall in September 1891 to make plans to take part in the German Day at Celina. At this holiday 10,000 persons attended the German Day Celebration. The Barlow Brothers Circus gave presentation and was well attended in 1899. An innovation came to St. Henry in the form of 5000 pictures which were to be shown to the public at lightning speed; many were disappointed because it took only twenty minutes to see the entire 5000 pictures! Moving pictures was a new form of entertainment. Euchre and Pedro parties were being held. The gun club held stationary and trap shoots in the 1890's and early 1900's; an 1893 contest offered $28.25 and a steer worth $16.00 as prizes. Sleighing was good winter fun besides being good transportation; the town streets were filled with sleds on Saturdays when people came to town to do their trading.

Mr. Joseph Macke, Sr., (1848-1920) with horse and cutter in Panning Back Yard. 1912.

By 1890, underground natural gas wells were dug. Many of the people began digging gas wells and using gas in their homes. By Christmas 1890, the church was also using gas. The Natural Gas Co. was incorporated in 1892 in order to furnish gas for the village, including the school. The Citizens Gas Co. was formed and by 1894 was free of debt and paying dividends of eleven percent. As the old village gas well began failing, a new derrick was built and the well dug in 1898. Accidents occurred with this new fuel. People went down into their basements and lit matches in order to see and caused explosions. The regulator on the gas well was not working correctly; the summer kitchen of Ben Romer went up flames. Innovations were needed and acquired. Consumers were asking for gas meters for justice prices for individual consumers. Others complain about having two gas companies and still n enough gas to keep a warm house. Their soluti was to return to the old way; heating with wood!

The Mercantile Agency Reference Book, Volur 123, New York, 1899, page 80 listed the various bu nesses in St. Henry. The chart gave insight into t kind of business life which was active in this ru community at the turn of the century. The bu nesses were: Jacob Bany and Sons, manufacturers washing machines; Frank Bruns, hotel, saloon a livery; Henry Bruns, blacksmith and manufactu of wagons; Joseph Bruns, general store; Augu Buckholtz, merchant and tailor; Henry Feldhake, S loon; Joseph Gardner, hotel; Fred H. Goettemoell undertaker; Albert Gulde, dry goods; George Guenther, furniture; George Heiser, wagonmak J.B. Hoyng, flour; Kuntz and Herr Co.; Antho Lammers, shoemaker; B.J. Lammers, harness; J. Langenkamp, saloon and restaurant; Mader Brot ers, sawmill; H.C. Meinerding, livery; J.J. Mo drugs; John Panning, stoves, tinware; Bernard Re ing, shoemaker; Henry Romer, drugs and station J.H. Romer, general store; Jos. J. Romer, groceri and millinery; Wm. H. Romer, hardware; M. Schlegel, furniture, undertaker and publisher; Jos. Schlosser, meat; Joseph Schoeneberger, blacksmi J. A. Schirack, drugs; Ignatz Siegrist, harness; H. St inlage, leather and tanner; Mrs. Theo. Weingartn tanner and leather.

The election for incorporation of St. Henry Villa was held August 17, 1901 with 71 votes cast; 54 vot for and 17 against incorporation. The proceedings incorporation were presented for record August 2 and were recorded September 9, 1901 at the Merc County Court House. The following week, Preside William McKinley was assassinated at Buffalo, Ne York, where he had gone to deliver an address at t Pan — American Exposition. The bells of St. He ry's Church were tolled at the news; mourning pra ers were offered and business houses and priva homes were decorated with flags at half-mast which a mourning crepe had been attached.

Nominations for village officers were made in O tober and the following gentlemen were elected office in November: Mayor, Jacob Bany, Sr.; Ma shal, Joseph Schoeneberger; Treasurer, Edward Romer; Clerk, H.A. Beckman; Council, J.H. Rom A. Gulde, Caspar Schoeneberger, Joseph Moeller, J seph Davis and J.A. Schirack. These elections we held in the old township hall which had been bu in 1887. The council accepted their responsibiliti and held their first meeting November 21, 1901. T council discussed bonds and ordinances and by Ja uary 20, 1902, a total of 38 ordinances had be adopted. They also appointed a board of health; Henry had been plagued by diphtheria epidemics the extent the school was often closed for weeks at time. Also, during the first years of the new formed town council, the jail cells were order from Detroit. They were installed in the town h by March 1902. At the November 28, 1903 Villa Council meeting, a motion was made that H. Beckman see to get a stove and a cord of firewoo for the calaboose.

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St. Henry Jail cells

At the October 27, 1902 Village Council meeting, Mr. E. Buck from Portland, Indiana was present d wanted to sell a one hundred gallon Babcock e Extinguisher (chemical) for six hundred dollars. o action was taken by the Council. In September 03, the drain tile factory was almost destroyed by e; the larger part of the plant was saved. Later, ouncil allotted fifty dollars for a fire protection nd in January 1904. The calm village remained lm until July 1905. FIRE! The following account as written about one of the largest fires in the history of St. Henry Village in the Bote, August 3, 1905: "he little village of Saint Henry was subject to a nflagration on Monday around one o'clock in the orning and only by the combined work of the citins and the people who live in the neighboring area as the damage limited to a small space. It is also rtly circumstance that the fire was immediately scovered and the neighborhood had been well uipped with cisterns and deep wells. The alertness the citizens themselves is the reason the town es not now stand totally in ashes. The fire had its igin under the roof in the hay mow in Bruns' Livy Stable. A customer who had just returned from a p noticed the smoke when he wanted to enter the very stable and when he looked up he saw that it as burning under the roof. He immediately awaked Oscar and Robert Bruns who were sleeping in e bed in the stable. They gave the alarm. Pretty on the bell in the town hall and the church bell as ringing. And this brought the citizens to the e. The horses, the carriages and the horse harness ere saved, but the fire raged so terribly and the eat became so great that other buildings caught fire id the men fighting the fire had to give their attenon to saving the other buildings. The fire was not ought under control until the hotel, nearby buildgs, and the carriage and Smith's workshops had en destroyed. The livery stable and another stable anding next to it contained forty tons of hay, seral hundred bushels of wheat, oats, corn and seral wagonloads of unthreshed oats and wheat. The sidence of Elizabeth Miller was saved after it had en considerably damaged. Also the furniture store M.A. Schlegel over the street, the hardware store the Gels Brothers, and the residence of William . Roemer were saved in time. A large part of the ouse and hotel furniture of Mr. Bruns was saved ut his damage will run at least ten thousand dolrs, and his loss therefore will be at least seven ousand dollars."

The citizens and the town council gathered on uesday evening in a communal session and deded to organize a Fire Department and to purchase ich apparatus to provide the necessary fire protecon. At the July 31 special meeting, council made otion for purpose of issuing bonds in the amount \$6000 for City Hall and fire protection. By Sepember, council had bought a chemical fire apparaus.

St. Henry Depot — After the February 15, 1906 fire, a new railroad station was built. Mr. Ben Spoltman was the ticket agent; Mr. Henry Meinerding was an assistant and baggage man; Mr. John M. Tohle was the drayman. The new railroad station is shown.

The Volunteer Fire Department was organized. That November, John Losekamp, contractor for building the town building, completed his task. The fire fighting machine had been purchased that fall; none too soon. Fire destroyed the Cincinnati Northern Railway Station early one Sunday morning in February 1906. Fire destroyed the flouring mill two years later. The following description of the mill fire was given in the July 18, 1908 St. Henry Advocate: "Had the flouring Mill fire communicated to the Tumbusch property on the north from the mill, there is no doubt that most of the west end of town together with the big lumber yard would have gone up in smoke, as St. Henry's facilities for fire fighting are poor and her supply of water is limited. This is the second time within the past few years that the village has narrowly escaped being wiped out and it is time some action was being taken to provide better means for fighting fires. We have an efficient fire company but they are powerless to fight flames without proper equipment. It would give us better protection and lower insurance rates."

Citizens rallied to the cause, or rather to the need. The September newspaper gave notice for an election to be held on the third of November for the purpose of putting in water works at St. Henry. The returns were favorable and the bonds were sold. By September 1909, the water works were nearing completion. The mains were laid; the pump was in position; the engine house was about finished; the tower, and tank had been erected. The tanks and mains were filled with water and tested. The supply of water and pressure was more than anticipated. October 12 the water works were opened and the firemen celebrated with exhibitions of throwing water. The first water tower was built in 1909.

The Water Works was not the only improvement in the village! The Gem City Acetylene Generator agent from Celina exhibited this type light to St. Henry citizens in 1907. The gas can could also be used for cooking and heating purposes and was inexpensive to operate. Barney Bertke bought an acetylene plant for his hotel, the building west of Kite & Katy's, which was torn down. Of course, the village streets were still being illuminated by gas lights. A. Barther was being paid a nickle per light for lighting the gas light and another nickle per light for extinguishing each gas light in 1907. Eight years later the Village Council passed a motion to pay \$4000 to Jaspensen Supply Company for completion of an electric light plant. Jaspensen Supply Company was awarded a franchise in 1923 to furnish St. Henry Village electrical energy for twenty years. Citizens in 1971 recalled the first generators at the site of the 1971 fire department building. The citizens received two hours of electricity a day. Gasoline engines ran the generators from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. daily. The church also began using electricity. The church

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wardens met with Rev. Kunkler in November 1917 and signed a contract with the Beerman Electric Co. of Covington, Kentucky to wire the church building for electricity and to furnish chandeliers, etc., everything complete for $1,625.00.

Progress at St. Henry! During this first decade of the incorporated village's history, much effort was spent constructing sidewalks and curbing, allowing for proper drainage, repairing and cleaning streets, repairing street lamps, giving adequate care to ditches, and watering the streets with the sprinkler to control dust. Houses were being built. The St. Henry Advocate advertised fifty businesses. People were buying automobiles and selling them. Dr. Glew, the dentist, traded his auto to Mr. Donovan at Celina for a horse and buggy, and Fred Romer sold his auto to Dr. Miller at Ft. Recovery, in 1908. Dr. Schirack owned an auto even though he was part owner in the buggy manufacturing plant. Remarks were made in the newspaper comparing the cost of keeping horses and automobiles and that once a person got outside the corporation with a horse and buggy, it was very seldom that anyone had to haul the driver home! However, the automobile did remain on the scene. The January 22, 1912 Village Council members put a speed limit on automobiles and autocycles, etc., a limit of eight miles per hour.

The first decade of the century included the following highlights. Forty-nine local farmers faced legal action involving their land. Prohibition, politics and local news filled their newspapers. Their routine work of caring for their land and livestock consumed the majority of their time. Also, during this decade, the parish built a grotto, and bought new altars for the church.

Between 1902 and 1912, several Negroes brought suit against area landowners; claiming that they, the Negroes, owned the land. Their claim was based upon a purported will of John Randolph (1773-1833) an American Lawyer and statesman, who by the provisions of his will, set apart $8000 to transport his newly emancipated slaves and to buy lands for their settlement. Randolph died in 1833 at Roanoke, Virginia, but his will was never recorded in that county. William Leigh undertook the task of carrying out the provisions of the will. William Leigh bought land in 1846 in Mercer County, Ohio. However, there is no evidence that Randolph's money was invested in Mercer County lands. Randolph's slaves set out for Mercer County in 1846. Upon reaching Cincinnati, they then took the canal to New Bremen; where they were met by groups of hostile citizens. They returned on the canal to Piqua and camped there until taking to future places of residence. It was then Leigh's duty to change his plan, dispose of the lands in the hostile neighborhood and settle the Negroes in a friendly one. Then Leigh authorized Joseph Plunkett to sell the Mercer County lands, which he did sell between 1848 and 1852. It must be remembered that these lands did not belong to John Randolph, and were no part of his estate. The Negroes did nothing to determine if Leigh had the right to purchase or sell this land. They discussed this land in Mercer County among themselves over the years, but did nothing to try to gain this land. Finally, succeeding generations, descendants of these Negroes, decided to take the case to court. On January 12, 1904, a purported copy of Randolph's will was recorded in Mercer County, Ohio. The Negro had decided to reclaim the land which had be bought and sold by William Leigh. August 15, 19(forty-nine people around St. Henry gathered to fig the Randolph Land Suit and protect each of th own properties. Each party involved was assess twenty-five dollars which was paid to the committ to defray the legal expenses. The amount collect totaled $1225.00. The Negroes tried to prove fra on the part of Leigh or the persons who had pu chased the land. Thus, instead of bringing su against all the landowners, the suit was broug against one man, Gerhard Kessens. Forty-nine pa ties gathered to fight the case, jointly, as a who Between 1902 and 1912, studies were made and d fendants and plaintiffs were heard by the court. T decision was made that "how, when, and where t executor was to settle the slaves, were entire within the discretion of the executor," i.e. he pra ticed no fraud. The judge concluded that each own of the land believed the land to be his and that f thirty-six years prior to the beginning of the actio Gerhard Kessens had taken possession of this lar and paid for it and by unremitting toil and indust had changed this land from a wilderness to ferti and productive fields. Even if Kessens had made search concerning Leigh, he would have found not ing illegal. Thus, it was ordered that the claims ar demands of plaintiffs be declared null and voi Kessens was given full right to his land, as were th other landowners who were also fighting this case.

Prohibition became a major topic in the 1908 ele tions; newspapers were filled with pros and con The newspapers claimed sixteen counties had gon dry under the Rose law and 287 saloons were pu out of business. Mercer Countians were warned the amount of money to be lost if the revenue fro liquor sales was lost; for example, the collections f the year from St. Henry amounted to $2500.99; th distributed Mercer County funds amounted $1075.01 to St. Henry. An advertisement called f sale of whiskey sandwiches, a method of evadir the law. The elections influenced the Democrats i Granville Township to review the William Jennin Bryan Club; they went to Dayton to hear him spea in September. Elections passed. Bryan and Ker were "beated to a frazzle" by William H. Taft. Bu 'twas a wet victory for the county on the prohibitio question; wets carried Mercer County by 243 majo ity votes.

Local newspapers covered other news events. Ap parently, an explosion, high wind, or earthquak took place in 1903; the newspaper stated enti houses were shaken to their foundations and a things were thrown into the streets; it looked like small cyclone had hit St. Henry. Several citizer took the excursion train to the Celina Chautauqu in 1907. Citizens visited the Fort Recovery Harve Jubilee. Citizens went to Piqua, Ohio to watch th Buffalo Bill Show. The May 13, 1910 St. Henry Ad vocate contained an unusual article: "At three in th morning Thursday, the south side slumberers wer aronsed by the click of the alarm clock to see Ha ley's Comet. Our young hustling merchant at th East End injured his right toe while descending i the elevator. Such pandemonium took place o Main St. that it required the best efforts of our loc police and militia to keep some of the panic stricke

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zers from committing acts of violence. Gradually, the comet disappeared, all subsided." Fox and

ine of Mary — Help of Christians, ssed Casper of Buffalo's Roman donna, of the Most Precious Blood. dicated by the Most Rev. Arch-hop Henry Moeller D.D., July 15, 17. (Photocopy by Jim Miller)

ess built their elevator in 1901. J.H. Romer, Henry mer, William H. Romer, John G. Romer and Ed-ard Romer organized the St. Henry Bank and ened January 5, 1905. The Pioneer Canning and anufacturing Co. built its first building and began cking tomatoes in 1907. The Farmers Grain and illing Co. built their elevator in 1910.

Agriculture was the major business of the St. enry parishioners. Wheat, oats, and corn were pular crops. Winter activities consisted of butch-ng and making sausage and cutting trees and tak-g tree trunks to the sawmills via sleighs. In the ring, livestock were shipped to the larger markets; g. ten loads of cattle and three carloads of pigs re shipped out on the Mackinaw Railroad in arch 1899. Farmers were buying threshing ma-ines, self-binders, self-band cutters and straw owers before 1900. Horses were used a great deal the farm; therefore, horse sales were frequent. r example, twenty-nine horses were sold at one e in September 1900. A year later, a notice was ven on a public auction of three wagonloads of stern horses. Farm prices in July 1897 were wheat, ty-eight cents per bushel; oats, seventeen cents r bushel; corn, twenty-one cents per bushel and e, twenty-five cents per bushel. The local hard-re stores served the farmers' needs. The St. Henry rdware Co. advertised shelf and heavy hardware, ints, oils, glass, roofing, farm implements, the ker windmill, pumps, piping and fittings, wire ncing, rock and barrel salt.

St. Henry parish members built a Grotto to the uth of the church, at the site of the present Ele-ntary School Building. The day was spent in cele-ation, at its completion, in 1907.

In the early spring of 1908, a company was formed the manufacture of gloves and mittens. Land was rchased from Henry Wimmers, and workmen be-n on the foundation. The first building was enty feet by forty feet and was two stories high. e upper room was used for the machinery and the ver room for the office, cutting and packing de-rtment. The company was incorporated with Pres-nt Dr. J.A. Schirack, Vice President J.J. Moeller, easurer F.H. Gels, and Secretary Manager H.M. inkeljohan. Later, Ben Reiling managed the busi-ss. Reiling would do the cutting on the main floor. out a dozen girls upstairs did the sewing. A cou-e days a week Ben would go out and sell gloves to e stores. This business lasted about five years.

The autumn of 1910, Sebastian Ranly and Dr. J.A. hirack leased the old Bany Factory and began to ake storm buggies. Previously Ranly had a black-

Twentieth Century Storm Buggy: Neat, cozy, are the striking features of this storm buggy. This storm buggy insures protection from rain, snow, and mud, and overall it is a wind-splitter, by being much narrower in front than the rear, making it easier for the horse, and at the same time sufficient room for the parties within. Manufactured by Ranley and Schirack, St. Henry, Ohio. (Photocopy by Jim Miller)

smith shop at the site of Wm. Uhlenhake's shop, and did blacksmithing, horseshoeing, and repairing, and manufactured farm wagons. Ranly was previously in the coal business with Gels, which they sold to the Pioneer Canning and Manufacturing Co. in 1907. Ranly disposed of his blacksmith shop to Gerhard Leugers in September 1910. Then Ranly devoted his attention to the Storm Buggy on which he and Dr. Schirack had received a patent. By October they had the buggy on the market. The buggy insured protection from rain, snow, and mud and was an overall wind-splitter, by being much narrower in front than the rear. They did a constantly increasing business; by 1910, the newspaper stated they were doing a rushing business and were constantly adding to their force. They had fifteen people working there and were unable to keep up with their orders. However, the automobile was coming of age and progress gradually left the buggy to become obsolete. Even Dr. Schirack owned an auto as early as 1907 because the newspaper commented how he met the Bishop in his auto when the Grotto was dedicated.

Bany Building, West Main St., Saint Henry — L. to R.: Flora Bany, Loretta Bany, Mrs. Anna Bany, Ralph Bany, and his father, Jacob Bany, Jr.

Mrs. Jacob Bany built the Bany Building in 1910. On the south side of the building, there were three places of business. Wallpaper was sold on the west side; pianos were sold in the center; an ice cream parlor was managed on the east side. Harry Romer had a dry goods business in this building in the 1920's, until he moved to Buschor's Department building about 1929. Other businesses, e.g. a grocery store, were also housed in this building. Dances and programs were held on the second floor of the building. Charles "Tubbie" Schrage had the station from 1937 until 1957; Oscar Borgerding and Alvin "Squeak" Uhlenhake were his employees; Schrage sold out to Nip Wehrkamp in 1957; Ron Moeller bought the station in April 1970. The Mobile Oil Company office is in the south side of the building at 331 West Main.

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In 1912, a Broom Factory was the family operation of Henry A. and Clara Rinderle. They did custom work and sold to local stores. The site was 121 Kremer Hoyng Road.

William Uhlenhake started his blacksmith shop on July 10, 1911 at 241 West Main Street. When he was twenty, he started in the blacksmith business with Ben Wimmers. A little later he worked for Sebastian Ranly and then the Hinkle Brothers until 1911. In 1970, Uhlenhake recalled that he had shod thousands of horses; one cold winter he put 82 shoes on horses in one day, and that he had not shod a horse after 1951. In the sixties and seventies, he made artistic railing and porch rails, besides other iron work.

April 28, 1914, a train wreck at one and a half miles north of St. Henry drew crowds and photographers. Twenty-one railroad cars were strewn across the tracks, their contents dumped wherever the shattered cars lay.

Young men from St. Henry Parish served their country during the war. Many citizens ceased speaking German; the school suspended German classes and discarded German texts, because of the war with Germany. Finally, terms of the armistice were accepted November 11, 1918 and the Peace Treaty was signed at Versailles, France June 28, 1919. (The older generation spoke German among themselves and in their homes, but refrained from encouraging the children to continue speaking German at school.)

The decade of the twenties found the parish growing. Two hundred families were listed with a total of nine hundred and ninety souls in 1920. Thirty-eight baptisms, thirteen marriages and eighteen deaths were recorded that year. Rev. Pious Kanney replaced Rev. Kunkler in 1925. Rev. Kanney visited the parishioners in 1925 and spoke about buying an organ and reported everybody in favor of the same. Thus, in 1926, St. Henry Church bought a new organ from the Votteler-Holtkamp Sparling Co. The church's annual financial statement of 1926 listed the cost of the organ at $13,243.52

Stanley Romer purchased Romer's Store in 1923 from S.J. Samberg.

March 27, 1927 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kemper moved to St. Henry from Dayton. They bought the building from Sunderhaus and operated the Palm Hotel. In 1929, they remodeled the hotel by removing rooms from the front of the building and discontinued the hotel business. Mr. Kemper then was an undertaker from 1929 until his death in 1953. (Gebele had earlier operated a saloon in this building; he sold out to Frank Sunderhaus in 1904.)

A poultry house was built on Railroad Street by The E. L. McKinley Co. of Piqua in 1927. Frank Morsey and Sons acquired it early in 1930. The building was a collection point for poultry and eggs. For a few seasons, eggs were graded there and shipped from there in carloads. A few cars of live poultry were also taken care of. Later the grading of eggs was discontinued and the building was sold to the Schockman Lumber Company about 1949.

A highlight of the 1930's was the Village Centennial Celebration in 1937. The centennial of the recording of the plat of St. Henry in 1837 was celebrated. The Dayton Daily News, June 27, 1937, entered a large article about St. Henry's past and present activities; plus articles about the busine men and various businesses and the baseball cl which had played games with the Cincinnati Tige Dayton Shroyers, Dayton Marcos, Cincinnati Wh Sox, House of David of Benton Harbor, Michig and the Black Barons of Birmingham, Alabama. T newspaper also commented that during May a June of 1937, a W.P.A. project was completed which 28,000 square feet of sidewalks were laid, g ing the village approximately one and one-half mi of new walks. The St. Henry School Band, whi had been organized in the autumn of 1935 wi forty members, with newly purchased uniforms red coats, white trousers, Sam Brown belts a swagger caps, was the outstanding show of the ce tennial.

In 1930, Ferd Rengers constructed the Reng Service Station building. The station was leased May 1, 1956 to Thomas and Norbert Osterhc Thomas Osterholt tore down that building and bu a new station in 1975. It is now known as Osterhol Sohio Service.

John Fullenkamp sold soft drinks and ice prior the end of prohibition. He began the distributi business. In 1930, 1931 and 1932 he got the ice fr the old brewery pond east of the Beckman and G Co. About fifty people were employed to remove t ice. There was a long pulley and cable attached the building; as John Heinrichs had his mules p away from the building, the ice was pulled off t pond onto a ramp. It was stored in the ice house a covered with sawdust and straw. As much as 2 tons a year were removed. When the ice house w full, the workers held a celebration. Then the m had to take the ice and peddle it to the area custo ers, for the entire summer. They would haul it to t homes and wash it under the pump and then put in the ice box. They delivered twice a week; m boxes held about fifty pounds. About 1932, Jo Fullenkamp started buying artifically-made ice fr Minster. About 1933, Fullenkamp moved to 2 North Walnut. In 1936, Fullenkamp constructed t present building and later added to it. In 1946, t sons, Ray, Louis, Marinus "Tiny" and Alfred "Re took over the business. It is now known as the M cer Beverage Company.

Bernard Bruns began his barber shop in 1934, a built his present barber shop in 1955. He has tried please his customers with such styles as the flat t butch, pineapple, princeton, crewcut, duck tail a now the longer hair styles.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Bruns operated the groce store at 122 East Main between 1934 and 1965. B fore the grocery business was there, the buildi was a blacksmith shop, owned by Joseph "Buc Schoeneberger, c. 1897-1923. Before Joseph, his f ther Caspar Schoeneberger was also a blacksmit Many citizens recall the village dances which th attended on the second floor of this building. M and Mrs. August Jutte had the grocery store un 1971 until they moved to their new site, behind t Knights of Columbus Hall, in the center of t block. Ralph Bertke purchased the building at 1 East Main in 1971 from the owner, Mrs. Lamme Bertke TV Service is now located in the building.

In 1934, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Coffield began the Henry Furniture company at 341 East Main, a have operated it until the present time. This buil

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was built by Beckman and Goettemoeller in the ly 1900's. H.A. Beckman had the post office on east side of the building; he sold hardware, roof- and articles, such as found in a dime store. The st office was later moved to the site of 121 East ain. Fred Goettemoeller was the undertaker on the st side of the Furniture building. Various owners d the building before 1934.

Dr. Robert Slusher came to St. Henry on August 1936. He first used the quarters of Dr. J.J. Morey, ct to the St. Henry Furniture Store, to practice m 1936 to 1940. He moved into his then new ne and office on Holy Thursday in 1940, at 161 S. alnut St. While at St. Henry, the doctor delivered r 3,000 babies and gave over 20,000 anesthetics. er serving the community for thirty-four years, Slusher retired on March 28, 1970. His wife, be- a registered nurse, had done the office work for husband. Dr. and Mrs. Slusher then moved to ir new home near Columbia Falls, Montana. Dr. iliano Feliciano began general practice in St. nry on October 1, 1970.

The Granville Township house was built in the e 1930's. The earlier township house, which stood 301 East Main, where the U.S. Post Office is to- , was built in 1887. That building housed the jail ls in the early 1900's, and was not only used for age meetings, but also for social, political, dra- tical and recreational meetings, e.g. Democratic ty rallies were held; school programs were given; ys were cast; and basketball games were played. e building was torn down when the new Town- p house was built.

Late in 1941, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor ought the United States into the Second World ar. Once again, sons of the St. Henry Parish fami- went to war. The war had intense emotional and nomical effects on the people. A local effect of war was illustrated by records of the March 23, 42 Village Council, who discussed the possibility sending interested parties to a meeting in Colum- s in regards to civilian defense; no action was en. However, the next month, the village solicitor see the county auditor in regards to an addi- nal allowance for civilian defense. Another local ect of the war was the council's decision to nge the time to Eastern War Time in the spring 1943 and to change back the following fall. The r came to an end as Japan surrendered in 1945. A all notation was entered in the village council nutes, October 8, 1945, to transfer the balance of Civilian Defense Fund to the General Fund.

Professional Baseball players from St. Henry re- ved recognition in the latter half of the 1940's. e Stammen and Ed Post were graduated from h School in 1945. Pete signed a professional con- ct and played for one year when he had to go to service in 1946 and 1947. Ed served with the 5th Force in Japan for eighteen months and in the ing of 1947, started his career with Muncie Indi- a Reds, a farm team of the Cincinnati Reds. Being ifted in the winter of 1947 by the Boston Braves, w known as the Atlanta Braves, he went to Florida spring training with the Boston Braves. In 1948, st played at Hartford, Connecticut in the Eastern gue and 1949 at Bluefield, West Virginia in the ountain State League. Post played at Greenville, as in 1950 in the Big State League. Due to an in-

Wally Post

Edward Post

jury to his pitching arm, he returned to St. Henry. Pete Stammen returned to baseball to play with the Brooklyn Dodger Organization from 1948-1951; at 23 years of age, he quit due to the rigors of traveling with his family. He played catcher for over 500 games of pro baseball. He then played semi-professional ball at Fort Wayne, Indiana between 1953 and 1957, which he enjoyed more than professional baseball. His team, composed of ex-professional baseball players, won the world's semi-pro championship at Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1956.

Walter "Wally" Post, Ed's brother, also joined the professional ball players in 1947, in the minor leagues with the Muncie Packers. Wally pitched for his first two years and then moved to the outfield. Between 1949 and 1963, Wally played the major leagues, with the Cincinnati Reds, Philadelphia Phillies, Minnesota Twins, and Celveland Indians. The Saturday Evening Post, June 30, 1956 carried a highly complimentary article, "Cincinnati's Wally Post," by Harry Paxton. Paxton stated that Wally Post became a star by the simple technique of lambasting the daylights out of the ball. Wally played in the 1961 World Series with the Cincinnati Reds against the New York Yankees. After that, St. Henry had a big welcome home party at the Nite Club for Wally. The October 12, 1961 Mercer County Chronicle carried the following article: "A proud St. Henry village turned out in force to welcome home Wally Post of the Cincinnati Redlegs. Post led the Reds in hitting during the recent World Series with a .333 mark and led both teams with a slugging percentage of .556.

Joe Nieport began his Nieport Custom Farm Service at 572 East Main when the first combines came out in 1941. He does custom work, drying grain, custom harvest work and filling silos. His sons help in the business and his wife does the bookkeeping.

P. Kuntz and Herr Lumber Company was incorporated in 1896. January 1, 1944, Louis, Clarence, and Carl Schockman bought the lumber company from Joe Moeller and Henry Fiely.

Ed Franck began Franck Plumbing at 121 South Sycamore in 1944. They do plumbing, heating and air conditioning work for commercial and domestic work.

Arthur Bostick opened the Bostick Service Station, 312 East Main Street, in 1946. He sold Firestone Home and Auto supplies and did automobile overhaul and repair until he closed it in 1964.

The Gels brothers, Norbert, Raymond, Arthur and Jerry, built the Gels Locker in 1946. In 1950, Jerry sold out to his brothers when he built his I.G.A. Supermarket. At first, there were about 600 lockers rented for people to store their meat. Private

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rental decreased as people bought their own home freezers. Jerry built the Dairy Dream on St. Route 118 in 1952.

Howard Osterholt began his business in 1947 as a garage and body shop in the building which is presently the site of Bruns' Pepsi Distributor, 151 South Sycamore Street. In 1953 Osterholt began selling cars. He built the present building in 1967. Osterholt Sales and Service deals in a complete line of service in the automotive line and trucks.

In 1949, Al Feldhake bought the Hardware Store at 202 West Main from his mother, Mrs. Anton Schuerman, who with her husband had owned the business since 1904. In 1959, Al Feldhake sold the hardware store to Bernard Lefeld who still owns the business.

Mr. Joe Gerlach manufactured farm elevators on Main Street between 1952 and 1957, when he moved the business to Fort Recovery. Ray Wuebker started in the real estate business in 1955.

Mr. Carl Knapke began barbering at 161 Washington St. in 1958.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kohn had the dry cleaning business at 102 West Main from 1959 until 1963 when Ott and John Rammel bought the business. The Bruns family had owned the business back when Mr. Joseph Bruns had built the building as a general store in 1898.

Highlights of the 1960's in St. Henry included the St. Patrick's Day Parade, an early snowstorm, and the village's installation of the sewage treatment plant.

The first St. Patrick's Day Parade in March 1964 began with a dare; three Irishmen in town said they would rch down the street on St. Patrick's Day. Each year the size of the parade increased and the size of the crowd increased. The 1970 parade, despite the snow, had 65 entries in the parade with an estimated 4000 to 5000 persons on hand to help celebrate. The largest crowd in the history of the parade was the 1971 parade when the spring-like weather brought people by the thousands; net receipts were unofficially listed at over $2500, earmarked for the St. Henry Park Fund. The crowds became too large; local citizens complained. The public parade was discontinued. Local citizens still have their own Saint Patrick's Day celebration.

The first of November 1966 brought an early snow storm. The roads became dangerous quickly. People going home from work had to stop and stay at homes along their route. Some busloads of children spent the night in area homes whose families kindly took them in.

Another improvement within the village during the sixties was the installation of the sewage treatment plant. The question was brought to the voters in the November 1957 elections with 61 favorable votes and 243 negative votes. The issue was put to the ballot again in the 1963 elections, with 275 in favor and 129 against. A great deal of work went into this project by Mayor Heitkamp and the Council (1964-1966): John Borgert, Leander Eyink, Thomas Livingston, Ralph Broker, Arthur Gerlach, William Wourms, Lester Buenning, Robert Kanney, Edward Zumberg; Paul Niekamp, Clerk-Treasurer; Dean James, Village Solicitor; Anthony Nieport, Street Superintendent; Sylvester Delzeith, Assistant Superintendent; and the Board of Public Affairs: Flo Cron, Herbert Wehrkamp, Edward Westgerdes, and Ke neth Coffield, Clerk. The Contractor was Encr Construction Inc., of Dayton, Ohio; the consulti engineers were Finkbeiner, Pettis and Strout of T ledo, Ohio. The extended aeration treatment pl was placed in operation in 1966 and as of Decem 1966, seventy percent of the potential custom were connected to the system. When the project w completed, the total cost of the program was $44 000.

Various business began in the 1960's. Linus La mers began his concrete specialties business of h troughs, lawn trim, stepping stones, fireplaces a incinerators, in 1960. Louis Schmackers opened t Schmackers Sinclair Service Station June 1, 1960 a operated a filling station and did mechanical wo until he closed in May 1966; in the spring of 1969 Luttmer bought the building for a body shop. 1961, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dues bought the restaura known as Kite and Katy's at 312 West Main. P Kleinhenz opened his Carry Out at 272 West M in 1963 and continued in business until he closed 1971. Ray Wuebker opened the St. Henry Laund mat at 131 East Main in 1963. Gerald Bruns beg his distribution of Pepsi Products in Septem 1965. In October 1965 the St. Henry Gun Club h its first meeting. Ben Romer bought the Rome Building from Mrs. Harry Romer in November 19 and put in the Saint Henry Hardware on the e half of the building (owned by Larry Balster in 19 and Jake Buschor continued his dry goods on t west half (Joe Romer's Store in 1978). July 11, 19 N. P. Hogenkamp bought the funeral home fr Stanley A. Romer, who had been with the busin since 1921. Al Homan, Robert Boeckman and R Kremer bought the tile yard April 1, 1960 from nus Lammers. The Bittersweet Shoppe at 131 W Main was begun by Mrs. Joanne Kaiser in Nove ber, 1968, now Orville Jutte has the Bittersweet G and Flower Shop. Gene Buschur began his Real E tate business in 1964.

In 1971 a group of concerned Jaycees started Pool Fund. By 1974 a total of $13,800 was raised th a variety of projects. In 1975 a Pool Committee w formed to raise money to help the Jaycees in t project.

The first $13,800 was used to purchase appro mately ten acres of land north of the new housi development off of Kremer-Hoying Road. After t purchase of this land, there was enough money install sewage and water lines, grading and sowi of grass.

The Pool Committee Pledge Program was start in February, 1975 with 811 pledge letters being se to area citizens. With about a 40% return of pledg and private donations there was about $72,000 ceived. The total cost of the Pool Complex was a proximately $124,000 which left about $52,000 de which was pledged thru private notes. We have pa this balance off at a rate of $10,000 a year. The po was completed in time for the summer of 1975. that time the Pool Complex was turned over to t St. Henry Village Council. Thru the village coun and hard work of all community organizations, t added improvements in the park have been a n shelter house, kiddie-land, softball field, parki area, tennis courts, basketball court, and a hors shoe court.

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1971 water tower next
ıe old tower, built in

Construction of the new water tower for Saint nry was completed in the autumn of 1971. The v water tower was 140 feet tall and held 150,000 lons of water. The rust removal plant was com-ted in 1973 at a cost of $70,000.

Another project that citizens had worked for over years was a library. Late in 1974, Mr. Louis Hu-nan, Superintendent of Saint Henry Local ıools, began contacting people about the possibil-of establishing a library in Saint Henry. January 1975, Mr. Huelsman and four citizens sent a let-to the Mercer County District Library, requesting t the Board of Trustees establish a joint commit-with Saint Henry Citizens to investigate the es-lishment of a branch library in Saint Henry. Rep-entatives of organizations and communities in anville Township, joined these citizens and all rked together; this group of people became the anville Township Branch Library Promoters in 75. This organization's work resulted in the open-; of the Granville Township Branch Library in the anville Township House, on the Fourth of July, 76, the year of our nation's Bicentennial.

Of course the people of St. Henry will not forget blizzards of 1977 and 1978. January 25, 1977 was d but January 26th and 27th, 1978 were even rse days weather wise for the people of St. Henry many did not get home from their place of em-yment, etc. for several days. Many families had anded motorists staying with them three to five ys. The K of C Hall on Main Street was used as a nporary shelter for stranded motorists during th storms. There were many snow drifts in St. nry eight to ten feet high driven by winds of 60 PH to 70 MPH.

nie Bruns, riding her tricy-; after the blizzard.

Bulldozer opening up Maple Street, January 27, 1978, after the blizzard.

ter the blizzard, view of metery

After the blizzard, St. Henry Catechetical Center; photo-graph by Jim Niekamp.

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The good times at the old Kevelder Hall, now living quarters above Bertke's TV in the 20's.

When ice was delivered to homes by a horse and dray wagon in the 20's.

The exciting Land-O-Dance, now the American Legion Hall in the early 40's.

The medicine shows and dance hall at Bany's Hall, now above Ron's Mobil Oil Station.

The cinder basketball court behind the Lammers property on Main Street where a lot of fun was had by kids in the late 30's and early 40's.

The swimming, ice skating and fishing done at the old Brewery Pond in the late 30's and early 40's, now parking area for Beckman & Gast Canning Factory.

The first lighted croquet court where the lights had to be turned off when trains were passing thru the village in the early 40's.

When St. Henry had train service from Van Wert to Cincinnati in the early 1900's.

When a person could ride a bus to Celina from St. Henry. Bus service ran from Van Wert to Dayton twice a day in the 30's and 40's.

The Gun Club along Kremer-Hoying Road and the Sunday afternoon shooting matches in the late 40's and early 50's.

The tallest Christmas Tree on the old water tower sponsored by the St. Henry Fire Department in the 50's and 60's.

Miss Leona Panning as a grade school teacher.

Mr. A. J. Collins warning the high school students he was nearby by the rattle of the loose change in his pockets.

Beck's Pond, now Lammers Pond, owned by Linus Lammers, where for 30 years Linie has allowed children to fish and ice skate, etc., while he watches and keeps the bonfire going.

The Hobo Camp south of St. Henry along the railroad tracks.

The first lighted baseball field on the west edge of St. Henry in the early 30's.

When George Schoen would clean the sidewalks after a snowfall with a horse and plow in the 30's and 40's.

When Wally Post blasted a line drive thru a house window behind grade school in 1945 and the controversy that followed as to who would pay for the broken window. This house is now owned by Mrs. Marie Schwieterman.

When Andrew (Mike) Buschor would buy furs from area residents at the livery barn which stood south of Kite & Katy's restaurant in the 40's.

When Lawrence Heitkamp served St. Henry as Mayor from 1938 thru 1973, considered to be one of the longest consecutive terms as Mayor in the State of Ohio.

Julius Moeder as the first official basketball coach of St. Henry in 1923.

When St. Henry had a speed limit of eight mile per hour in 1912.

Mayor Lawrence Heitkamp took the oath of office before Justice of Peace Wildenhaus, as recorded by the January 3, 1938 St. Henry Village Council Meeting. Mr. Heitkamp had previously served five years on the Village Council. His hard work and sincerity was greatly appreciated by the villagers as they re-

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Mayor Lawrence Heitkamp

Town employees Dan Miller and Mike Niekamp

elected him continuously until 1973 when he resigned due to ill health. His 35 years as Mayor is considered to be one of the longest in the State of Ohio. Also he and his wife Ruth taught school in the St. Henry School District during this period.

St. Henry Village Council — **Clockwise, Starting on Left Side:** Joseph Droesch; Alfred Luttmer, President; Gerald Dippold, Clerk; Robe Kanney, Mayor; Lester Bruns; Daniel Link; Joseph Barlage; and Anthony Nieport.

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Clerk Gerald Dippold and Mayor Robert Kanney

MAYORS OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. HENRY

The election for incorporation of the Village of St. nry was held in August, 1901, and in November, 01 Jacob Bany, Sr. was elected the first mayor of Henry. The following men have accepted the re- onsibility as the mayor of St. Henry Village.

1901-1903 — Jacob Bany, Sr.
1903-1904 — Frank H. Gels
1904-1905 — Joseph J. Moeller
1905-1906 — Albert Gulde
1906-1913 — George Schlosser
1913-1922 — Henry M. Winkeljohn
1922-1925 — Anthony W. Bernard
1925-1925 — John W. Losenkamp
1925-1927 — Henry M. Winkeljohn
1927-1937 — Ben Dierkers
1938-1973 — Lawrence Heitkamp
1973-present Robert Kanney

ard of Public Affairs — L. to R.: Edward Westgerdes, Jr., John mmel, Mayor Robert Kanney, Ivo Link, Dan Broerman.

ST. HENRY POLICE DEPT.

Years ago law enforcement officers were known as Marshalls and Deputy Marshalls and all worked on a part time basis. The first Marshall of St. Henry was Joseph Schoeneberger. He was appointed to preserve the peace of the community, when St. Henry became incorporated in 1901. In January, 1942, the Village Council appointed William Uhlenhake as the first Chief of Police and William Bernard was appointed Assistant Chief of Police for the purpose of forming a separate department. The following men have served as Marshalls and Police Chiefs of the St. Henry Village.

1901-1903 — Joseph Schoeneberger
1903-1905 — John Vian
1905-1907 — Ignatz Siegrist
1907-1914 — John Gardner
1914-1915 — J.W. Rish
1915-1915 — Alex Romer
1915-1915 — John Gardner
1916-1916 — John Vian
1916-1916 — Joe Uhlenhake
1916-1919 — John Gardner
1920-1922 — Ignatz Siegrist
1922-1925 — James Rafferty
1925-1926 — Anthony Kemper
1926-1926 — Anthony Bohmmer
1926-1928 — William Hart
1928-1938 — William Uhlenhake
1938-1940 — John Plieman
1940-1942 — Clarence Rinderle
1942-1948 — William Uhlenhake
1948-1954 — William Bernard
1955-1956 — Sylvester Delzeith
1956-1967 — Anthony Nieport
1967-1968 — David Studer
1968-Present — Arthur Bernard

St. Henry Police Cruisers

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Police Chief Arthur M. Bernard

ST. HENRY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Arthur Bernard has been the St. Henry Police Chief since 1968. In 1976 he assumed full time duties and now dedicates his time serving the community. He was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding service to the community by the St. Henry Jaycees in 1970. The Standard Oil Company presented him an Appreciation Award for outstanding performances as a law enforcement officer in 1972. Also the youth of the community presented him with an appreciation plaque in 1976.

In 1970 he had the Christmas house built and since that time Santa has had his own little castle near the church in front of the school during the holiday season. Each year the small children of the community come to visit Santa and tell him their wishes, all made possible through the efforts of Arthur Bernard.

In 1978, St. Henry has a population of approximately 1600. The rapid growth of the 70's has seen approximately 125 new homes and 15 new apartment houses built in St. Henry. The closing of open ditches and the building of a 5000 square foot town building to house town equipment have been major projects of the village in the late 70's.

In the future there probably will be other community services and facilities which the village will consider supplying for its citizens. St. Henry will be continually on the alert in order to furnish those things which make St. Henry a better place to live.

Businesses in St. Henry in 1978 are: Buschur's frigeration, Mercer Landmark, Inc., Bittersw Shoppe, Hogenkamp Sons Funeral Home, S Henry Furniture, Osterholt A A A Sohio Serv Ron's Mobil Service, Gels' I G A Supermar Jutte's White Villa Supermarket, Saint Henry Ha ware, Franck Plumbing and Heating, Stammen surance, Buschur Real Estate, Mobil Oil Co., and Katy's Restaurant, Stanley Romer's Store, Ji Drive Thru Carry Out, Rutschilling Sawmill, Uhl hake Refrigeration, J.J. Romer Clothing Store, Henry Locker Co., Rammel Dry Cleaners, Lefeld Hardware, Beckman and Gast Co., Shockman Lu ber Co., Saint Henry Tile Co., Mercer Beverage Saint Henry Nite Club, Lois' Beauty Shop, Chatt Curl Beauty Shop, Armella's Beauty Shop, Sa Henry Bank, Osterholt Sales & Service, Tumbu Home Improvements, Bertke TV, Bruns Pepsi Se ice, Wuebker's Real Estate-Laundermat-Self Serv Gas Station, B & L Construction Company, Lu mer's Body Shop, Barney's Barber Shop, Chic Barber Shop, Jacobs' Logging and the St. He Dairy Dream, Dan's Bicycle Shop.

Saint Henry's medical doctor is Dr. Emiliano F ciano. Saint Henry's dentist is Dr. Edward H. B nard.

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AINT HENRY CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Saint Henry Catholic Church stands on Main eet, Saint Henry, Ohio. The parish is supported about 550 families in the northern part of Granle Township. Father Raymond Bauer, C.PP.S. is pastor.

Myron Huelsman is the church organist. The astant organists are Annette Sutter and Mary Alice ans.

Christian Education is taught in the St. Henry Cahetical Center which was dedicated May 31, 1964. e Sisters of the Most Precious Blood are the inuctors. They live at their home at 172 North Walt Street; the home was built by the parish in 1968. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jansen are custodians for the urch. They also care for the Catechetical Center. ey also maintain the grounds for the church, the techetical Center, and the Church Cemetery.

The first settlers of Saint Henry had to go by rseback or on foot to Minster to attend Mass. But on, as settlement moved westward from the Mii-Erie Canal, a priest came out occasionally to celrate Mass in a private log cabin. By 1839, there re enough settlers in St. Henry to lead Bishop rcell to grant permission for the formation of eir own parish. Mass was celebrated once a month the Henry Beckman home, on the northwest cor- r of Main and John Street, by Reverends Francis rtels and Henry Herzog.

Rev. Louis Navarron attended the parish once a nth from December 1841 until October 1845. Un- r his direction the first church was built. This ilding, fifty by twenty-five feet, was made of logs d weatherboards, hewn by hand. The church aprently stood on lot number 33. The Most Reverd Archbishop Purcell dedicated this church in 42 to the honor of St. Henry, the pious Emperor nry II of Germany; also honoring incidentally ur of the first six church wardens: Henry Romer, nry Bruns, Henry Wimmers, Henry Hemmelrnn, Gerard Beckmann and Bernard Romer. Aprently, there was a rectory at that time because ere is an inventory of the kitchenware in the 'par- house' dated 1842.

The Society of the Most Precious Blood served the rrounding parishes when the Maria Stein Convent as established in 1846. Himmelgarten Convent was ilt in 1852. This convent stood across from the me School, on the north side of the road, two and alf miles west of town on route 119. This convent rved the needs of the congregation until it was ld in 1901. A few sisters remained to live in St. nry and teach within the local school system until ey left the village in 1904.

By 1852, the parish population had increased to rty-one families; the need for a larger church was cognized. Anthony De Curtins built the church in 54, and it was dedicated in 1855. The increasing mber of settlers in the neighborhood gave rise to o filial parishes. St. Wendelin's was founded in 56; St. Francis' at Cranberry Prairie in 1858.

As the parish population increased, plans were ade for a new church. In 1892, bricks were being ade; a well of eighty feet was dug and a windpump as purchased. The Cornerstone was laid in June 1895, with great celebration. July 25, 1897 was the day of dedication of the new church. The church was a magnificent edifice of the Gothic style of architecture, built in the form of a Latin cross. It was built of brick, ornamented with blue Bedford stone, and had an entire length of 163 feet. The width of the church proper was 66 feet and the transept width was 86 feet. Ten stone columns, 19 inches in diameter, supported the arched ceiling, the center nave of which was 52 feet above the floor. The church had an approximate seating capacity of 1200.

The parish continued growing. A stone grotto was built to the south of the church in 1907. A tower clock was installed in 1914. A new organ was purchased in 1926. The 1950's and 1960's were years of changes within the church. An electrified tower clock was installed. The concrete walks about the church and street were replaced; new steps were included. A new red carpet was laid in the sanctuary. Wooden transoms in the stained glass windows were replaced with steel frames, and the glass replaced and releaded. The church organ was rebuilt. The church basement was renovated. A new oil heating system was installed. This care for the church reflects the pride and generosity of the parish in her church.

The Second Vatican Council opened in Rome October 12, 1962. The council initiated a wide range of changes for the St. Henry parishioners, not only in the church's religious services but also in the hearts of the people. Changes were difficult. The church interior was completely renovated in 1970. In 1978 the Parish Council renovated the church basement.

Interior St. Henry Church (before it was remodeled; notice the alters and art work)

Interior St. Henry Church (remodeled)

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Saint Henry High School

SAINT HENRY CONSOLIDATED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Saint Henry Consolidated Local School District is located in Granville Township. Three buildings are located in the Village of Saint Henry: Saint Henry High School, 181 South Walnut; Junior High School, 212 East Main, and Elementary Building, 192 South Walnut. The Fifth and Sixth Grades are at the Burkettsville School, Main Street, Burkettsville.

The 1978 Members of the Board of Education are William A. Gels, President; Frederick R. Rose, Vice President; Raymond H. Puthoff; Edward J. Werling; Paul L. Broering, and Mrs. Rita E. Feltz, Treasurer.

Louis C. Huelsman is the Superintendent. Principals are: Arthur S. Brophy, High School; James L. Dippold, Junior High; Dennis F. Brackman, St. Henry Elementary, and Forest L. Yocum, Burkettsville Elementary.

There is a total of 1286 students in the District in the 1978-1979 school year; which includes 448 students in the High School; 208 students in the Junior High; 188 students in the Fifth and Sixth grades at Burkettsville Building; and 442 students at St. Henry Elementary Building. There is a total of 63.5 certified teachers and administrators in the St. Henry Consolidated School District in the 1978-1979 school year. There is a total of twelve bus routes, run by ten buses; two have double runs.

Extracurricular activities include such sports as Boys and Girls Basketball; Boys and Girls track; Boys Football; Boys Baseball; Girls Volleyball; Cross Country; Golf and Cheerleading. The organizations include: Girls Athletic Association; High School and Junior High School Band; Chorus; Future Farmers of America; Future Teachers of America; Futu Homemakers of America; Intensive Office Educ tion; National Honor Society; Drama and the Yea book. The St. Henry Education Association w founded in 1964.

EARLY SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Quinter School, located on the Northwest corn of Watkins Road and Cranberry Road, closed 1938 and its students went to Cranberry School.

Gilbert School, located on the South side of Wa kins Road between St. Rt. 118 and Dull Road, in se tion 35 of Granville Township, closed the spring 1936; its students then went to Burkettsville.

Rammel School, located on the Northwest Corn of Watkins Road and Post Road, in section 28 Granville Township, closed in 1938 and the studen went to Burkettsville.

Rammel School, 1918-1919 — Boys: Bert Tobe, Farrie Winhoven, Emil Klingshirn, Henry Gehle, Ivo Winhoven, Raphael King, Vincent Gehle, Othmar Rammel, Henry Tobe, Hugo King, Aloys Gehle, Sebastian Klingshirn, Adolph Rammel, Victor King, Cornelius Tobe. Girls: Helen Buehler, Luella King, Marie Klingshirn, Loretta Rammel, Carrie Winhoven, Marie Rammel.

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Wendelin School closed in 1958 and most of the ıdents went to Saint Henry. Students living in the stern part of the Wendelin School District went Fort Recovery School.

Cranberry District was annexed to Saint Henry y 1, 1959; Cranberry closed the school building in ay 1961.

Home School, located about two miles west of int Henry on St. Rt. 119, closed in 1944 and the ıdents went to Saint Henry. (The old Himmelgar- ı Convent, 1852-1901, had stood across the road ım the Home School.)

Gelhaus School, located on the Southwest corner Fort Recovery-Minster Road and St. Rt. 118, in ction 33 of Granville Township, closed in 1945 d the students went to St. Henry.

Carthagena School district was consolidated in cember 1959; they closed their buildings in May 61. The students went to Saint Henry Consoli- ted Local School District. The "Colored" School in rthagena closed May 1, 1922. The Dahlinghaus hool on St. Rt. 127 in Butler Twp. between sec- ns 1 and 6, closed and transferred 554.40 acres to rthagena District July 13, 1940.

The Franzer and Uppenkamp School, first located Fleetfoot Road on section 10 and 11 on the line tween Granville and Butler Township, was abol- ıed July 1, 1936. The frame building was moved to rthagena, next to the Carthagena brick school ilding on the Northwest corner of Stelzer Road d St. Rt. 274, and used until Carthagena District nsolidated with Saint Henry Consolidated Local hool District in 1961.

Leo Huber wrote about the early Burkettsville hool. From the records, it appears that a public ıool was started in 1875, with a two room struc- re. It was located on the grounds, immediately rth of the present Werling and Son Meat Market. ɔout 1880 a new St. Bernard Parochial School ıme building was built. For some years prior to is the children of the pioneer families attended the rthwest Rammel School or the northeast Gilberts hool, or a small log cabin school west of the vil- ge where Mrs. Elizabeth Nordenbrock taught. In 93, the first parish school was replaced by a new d larger one. An addition was made in 1907. The sters of the Most Precious Blood began to staff the hool in 1904. (May 10, 1910 minutes of the Board Education, a bill was submitted for $4.30 for kin- rgarten supplies.)

Burkettsville Board of Education minutes in 1922 l of a high school. (The minutes tell of high school ıdents' tuition being paid to Ansonia and St. enry.) The Board held their meetings at Werling otel and later at the school. April 27, 1927 Darke ɔunty School Board passed a resolution offering ırkettsville District to Mercer County Board of Ed- ation. Mercer County Board of Education ac- pted the Burkettsville School District September , 1927. The Burkettsville High School was discon- ıued in 1937; the high school students then went Saint Henry. The present Burkettsville Elemen- ry Building was erected by Architect F.E. Freytag Sidney, Ohio, in 1938, with the help of a P.W.A. oject. An addition to that building was made in 58. Burkettsville District was annexed to Saint enry Consolidated Local District July 1, 1959. The ecious Blood Sisters remained a part of the teach-

Burkettsville Elementary School

ing staff of the public school until the spring of 1971.

At the Village of Saint Henry, the earliest school building was a one story building which stood on Main Street, just west of the Church and in front of the present Junior High School Building; this first school was built in 1842. In 1893, this old building was remodeled and used as a kindergarten; hence, the appellation, "baby school," which was given to the school.

The School Teachers met to organize a Teachers' Institute in Granville Township in October 1886. At their meetings, discussions were held about such subjects as, "Teachers should choose the books;" "It is the duty of the parent to have an interest in the schools;" and "Should girls receive a better education than boys?" In November 1886, the German Teachers Institute of Mercer County was organized; their purpose being, "to meet once a year for the purpose of encouraging the German language in the schools." (German was spoken and taught, in addition to English, in St. Henry Schools, until World War I.)

In 1887, a new school building was built, about the site of the present Junior High School Building.

School 1888-1903

Diptheria epidemics closed the schools. In the 1890's, the attendance records between September and December, have notes about school being closed due to Diptheria. One of the latest school closings due to Diptheria was in November and December of 1913.

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Saint Henry Elementary School

The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood taught at St. Henry from 1891 until 1904, when they left St. Henry. In the forenoon, school was conducted in German and in the afternoon, English. There were no grades in school. There were five reading texts, each more difficult than the preceding one. After the most difficult reader was completed, the student quit school. After three years of schooling, the students were taught English. School attendance was not mandatory at this time.

When the school building of 1888 became too small, a new school was built to the west of the church, on Main Street. The old school was torn down and the new building erected on the same site in the summer of 1903. The school was built with six large rooms, a basement; complete with steam heating. This building not only was for the first eight grades, but also for the high school. Thus, in 1905, the first high school graduate was Alfred Davis. As the number of students increased, an addition was put onto the back of this building in 1924.

In the 1930's, other changes were being made. The August 28, 1937 Board of Education members passed a resolution for the purpose of installing sa itary toilets indoors, constructing a cesspool outsi and purchasing land for same. The May 27, 19 Board of Education members accepted a contr with the Soft Ball Division of the athletic assoc tion, in regards to permitting the Community Cl of Saint Henry, the Soft Ball Division to install lighting system on the school ground for playi softball. The High School was built in 1939 on lot at the northeast corner of Walnut and Columb Streets; an addition was made in 1959 and in 19 which included expansion of the gymnasium.

In 1961, due to an increased number of studer plus additional students when surrounding scho districts were annexed or consolidated, a new El mentary Building was built at 192 South Walnut. Kindergarten was begun in the autumn of 1971.

In 1978, plans were being prepared for a new Mi dle School Building to be built just South of the pre ent High School Building. *By Joyce L. Alig*

Saint Henry Junior High School

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ST. HENRY TILE CO., INC.

Al Homan, Robert Boeckman, and Ray Kremer ɔught the tile yard April 1, 1960 from Linus Lam-ıers. At that time, the business was basically a ıanufacture and resale of farm drain tile and con-ete block. They bought the building, land, por-ons of equipment which could be used, and the ɔal resale business for residential homes, schools, :c. Homan, Boeckman, and Kremer proceeded to uy a new tile machine in 1960.

In 1966, they expanded operations and began sell-ıg ready-mix. They also expanded the number of :ockholders in 1966.

In 1969, they bought the builder supply business ·om Rutschilling Sawmill. (Linus Lammers had riginally had this business and then sold it to utschilling which in turn sold it to St. Henry Tile :o.) The Tile Company added brick, block and vitri-ed sewer pipe at this time.

In December of 1972, Robert Boeckman sold out is stock, and at this time Louis Stahl became active ı the business.

Between 1970-1978 the company bought up se-eral properties to expand on storage space. Land nd a building were purchased from St. Henry andmark. The Alvin Uhlenhake property was pur-hased and the house was moved to a lot purchased ·om the Henry Fiely property. The barn and rear lot of the Joe and Edith Mader property was purchased. Part of the Ray and Freida Moeder property was also purchased on which a new building was built in 1978 to be used for truck and products storage.

At this time (1978) St. Henry Tile Co. employs 18 full-time employees and 5 part-time employees.

On April 1, 1974, St. Henry Tile Co. purchased the Berne Ready Mix in Berne, Ind. which also sells ready-mixed concrete and concrete tile. This company employs 12 people, and Robert Homan is the manager.

The history of the tile company goes back to the early 1900's. Mr. Herman Knapke, brother of Mrs. Bernard J. Lammers, came from Maria Stein to St. Henry in the early 1900's. Herman "Kroger" Knapke bought the St. Henry Tile Company from Ben Macke, who also had the canning factory. The tile yard adjoined the canning factory on the north end. Knapke made cement tile and began making cement block. He sold coal, cement, and gravel. He stopped manufacturing cement products during World War II and traded his building to Beckman and Gast Co. in 1944, for the building on Main Street housing Julius Bruns Grocery and Luttmer Shoe Shop. Knapke sold the coal and cement business to Linus Lammers in 1946. Mr. Lammers built a new concrete products plant to the south of the canning factgory, which he sold to Homan, Boeckman, and Kremer in 1960.

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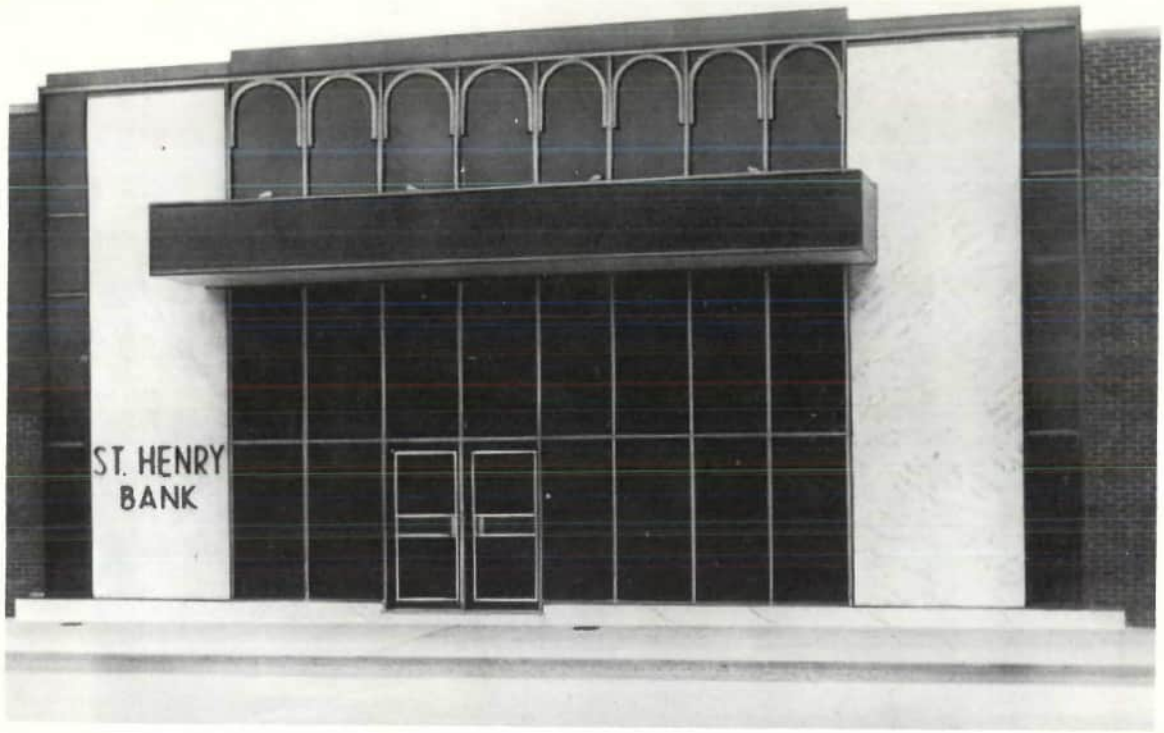

St. Henry Bank, remodeled in June of 1973, which consists of original bank and old hardware store combined.

THE ST. HENRY BANK

It took a great amount of planning and organizing by the minds of the late J. H. Romer, Henry Romer, William H. Romer, John G. Romer, and Edward F. Romer to establish The St. Henry Bank in 1904.

They did not open for business until January 5, 1905, in temporary quarters. This was truly a new business venture for St. Henry, because from the start the bank seemed to fill a great need. The southern part of the county was practically without direct banking service until then. The business grew steadily, and in 1906 a two-story brick building was erected.

To make the bank a standardized institution, complying with all the laws of the state, it was incorporated under the seal of Ohio with a state charter on March 11, 1913.

J. H. Romer was the first President, being active in business and seen practically every day in the banking room until his death January 5, 1918, just 13 years after the opening of business.

Henry Romer, Vice-President and Assistant Cash ier, then assumed the title of President; but he he that position for a very short time, for on May 1918, he passed away. He devoted thirteen years conscientious and careful effort to promote the we fare of the institution.

In 1924 the original bank built in 1906 became to small, and a new modern bank was erected at th present location, which is where the old saloon use to be located. Total resources at that time was $50C 000.

William H. Romer, who from the beginning wa Cashier, became President and General Manager a ter Henry Romer's death. He held these position until his death on March 18, 1941.

Miss Elizabeth A. Romer was then elected Pres dent, after having worked in the bank from its be ginning. She studied every aspect of banking, star ing as bookkeeper, then to teller, then Assistan Cashier, then President, till her death on Septembe 4, 1951.

In 1959 the bank was remodeled. Total resource at the time was $3,400,000.

The First Bank (on the east side of J. J. Romer Store)

Bank built in 1924

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J. H. Romer, Jan. 5, 1905-Jan 5, 1918.

Henry Romer, Jan. 5, 1918-May 5, 1918

William H. Romer, May 5, 1918-March 18, 1941

Miss Elizabeth A. Romer, March 18, 1941-September 4, 1951

Leo E. Romer, Sept. 4, 1951-June 8, 1974

John F. Romer, June 8, 1974-

Leo E. Romer, son of the late William H. Romer, ıen succeeded Miss Romer as President. He began is career with the bank as Assistant Cashier in 1925 nd later advanced to Cashier and General Manager, ·om which positions he was promoted to the office f President on September 4, 1951. He had been on ıe Board of Directors for nearly 45 years. His expe- ences as a banker had been many and varied, and e can be proud of the fact he was instrumental in uiding the bank through the depression of the 'hirties without any loss to its depositors or stock- olders. Mr. Romer was also President of The Otto- ille Bank Co. in Ottoville, Ohio.

John F. Romer started his banking career in Janu- ry of 1961. As Assistant Cashier, he was promoted ɔ Cashier on July 1, 1967, and elected Secretary of he Board of Directors.

Donald F. Evers was employed on July 1, 1967, as \ssistant Cashier and was elected as a Director on anuary 8, 1971.

On December 30, 1967, Leo E. Romer decided to etire from the bank. However, he remained Presi- lent of the Bank until his death on June 8, 1974. At his time John F. Romer was elected President of the Board, and Donald F. Evers was elected Secretary of the Board and Cashier.

In January of 1972 the building just east of the present bank building (the old hardware store) was purchased from Ferd Franck. This building and the present bank building were remodeled to make one large bank building to handle the growing needs of St. Henry and the surrounding area. Open house of the new facilities was June 24, 1973. The total resources was $12,300,000.

On November 2, 1973, the Board of Directors decided to build a branch bank in Maria Stein, Ohio, for the convenience of their many customers in that area. Opening date of the new Maria Stein Branch was March 31, 1975.

In May, 1977, the bank purchased a vacant lot from Loretta Romer to further expand their facilities when needed.

Today, June, 1978, the total resources of the bank are $25,000,000. The Directors of the bank at present are: John F. Romer, President; Leo A. Huber, Vice-President; Donald F. Evers, Cashier and Secretary of the Board; Clem Bills; and Albert Romer. We want to thank the community for their fine support.

Bank remodeled in 1959 and old hardware store

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THE BECKMAN & GAST CO.

Quality Food Products

BECKMAN'S AND
CANDY CANE BRAND

B G

TOMATOES • CUT GREEN BEANS • TOMATO JUICE • TURTLE SOUP

PLANTS:
ST. HENRY, OHIO
OSGOOD, OHIO

GENERAL OFFICE
Kremer - Hoying Road
P. O. Box 307
ST. HENRY, OHIO 45883

ST. HENRY Phone 419 - 678-4195

THE BECKMAN AND GAST COMPANY

The Pioneer Canning and Mfg. Co. was established in St. Henry, Ohio about 1901. Products packed were canned tomatoes, tomato puree in barrels and 5 gallon square cans, canned peas, and a canned wheat cereal.

Lewis H. Gast and Luke F. Beckman purchased the plant and equipment of Pioneer from Ben H. Macke in 1928 and incorporated in 1930 as The Beckman and Gast Co.

In 1951, the Gast family purchased the interests the Beckman family and continued operations u der the Beckman and Gast name up to the prese time.

The plant size has enlarged considerably, a though some of the original buildings are still in us A plant is also operated at Osgood, Ohio.

Products packed are green beans, tomatoes, t mato juice. Management consist of James W., Wi H., and Robert A. Gast sons of Lewis H. Gast and J. Bergman, a son in law. Two members of the thi generation with the firm are Nick Gast and Wm. Gast.

This is our 50th year.

LEFELD PLUMBING AND HEATING

The Lefeld Plumbing and Heating Company is owned and operated by Henry J. Lefeld. It is located on Main Street in St. Henry. Mr. Lefeld started his business in 1955 and his first plumbing shop was established in the building formerly occupied by the Henry Wimmer's Upholstery Shop on Sycamore Street. Later this building was replaced by a new one on the same location. As his business grew, he moved his shop to its present site in 1962.

Through the years, there have been many change in the heating of homes. First, hand-fired coal an wood stoves were used. Then, fuel oil and gas fur naces came into use with hot air or hot water sys tems. Next we saw the electric furnaces and then th heat pump to help supplement the electric furnac and also used in air-conditioning. Now, we are expe rimenting with solar heat. Today, with the high cos of producing electricity, oil and gas, people are re turning to wood burning stoves and fireplaces.

Plumbing has seen as many changes or more. A first, we used soil pipe and galvanized pipe, exclu sively. Next, came the copper plumbing and today plastic is used extensively. Bathroom and kitcher fixtures have made significant changes. Not only have styles changed, but we have gone from the basic white to an array of colors. Material to make these fixtures has included china, cast iron, fiber glass, imitation marble and stainless steel.

Pumps are another major area of change. We have progressed from hand pumps to windmills to automatic jet pumps and ones that are submerged.

Progress seems to be limited only by a lack of imagination. There has been no such lack in the plumbing and heating industry.

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ROMER'S STORE

Mr. Stanley Romer purchased Romer's Store in 923 from S. J. Samberg. Mr. Romer managed the tore until his death in March 1971. Mrs. Stanley Romer has continued the business. There was an old og building on this site which originally was Wiliam Romer's Hardware Store. They sold the busiess to Frank and John Gels and they moved to the uilding west of Romer's building, 241 East Main, in 905. In the spring of 1908, S. J. Samberg and Alfred Davis moved their stock of wallpaper, stationery and nedicines and added a soda fountain and an ice ream parlor. (They had bought the business from H. M. Winkeljohan in December 1907.) That sumner, Samberg bought out his partner, Alfred Davis. That November, Samberg had a gasoline light system installed. Samberg continued in business until ie sold out to Stanley Romer in 1923. Stanley coninued in this building until he built the present uilding in 1940.

J. J. ROMER CLOTHING

Joseph J. and Patricia A. (Hoelscher) Romer purchased Buschor Department Store on July 1, 1976 from Louis and Verna Buschor. This business has been operated by families who are descendants of the earliest businessmen in St. Henry.

J. H. Romer, who originally operated the store on this site from 1867 to 1903, sold his business to his nephew, Joseph J. Romer, who is the present owner's grandfather. The May 25, 1907 St. Henry Advocate advertised J.J. Romer's general store as carrying an immense stock of dry goods, clothing, furnishings, shoes, hats, and caps — everything that went to make a general store. After J.J. Romer's death, Harry, Harold and Stanley Romer sold this business to Beckman and Gast who had a retail grocery and dry goods business at this site between 1923 and 1927. Harry ran the store until his sons, Harry, Jr. bought the dry goods side on the west and Lowell bought the grocery side on the east. In 1949 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Buschor purchased the business from her brother Harry Romer. Jr.

The merchandise today includes ready-to-wear clothing, notions, drygoods, and shoes. The present owners reside in St. Henry. Joseph J. Romer was born and reared in St. Henry and is the son of Stanley A. Romer. His wife, Patricia Ann, is the daughter of Clem Hoelscher of Yorkshire, Ohio. After living in Tipp City, Ohio for twelve years, they moved here with four daughters — Jill Marie, Patricia Lynn, Gwen Elizabeth, and Leah Jo.

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1922 Romer Hearse

N. J. HOGENKAMP SONS, INC.
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

The early history of the funeral home in St Henry, goes back to Fred Goettemoeller. He sold th funeral home to Henry Schmidt who later sold t Harry and Harold Romer.

In the early 1920's Stanley Romer bought part o the business from Harold Romer. Stanley an Harry, and later Harry's son, Lowell, continued th funeral home. Eventually Stanley Romer becam sole owner of the business.

Hogenkamp's bought the funeral home July 1 1960 from Stanley Romer. It was operated by N. F Hogenkamp until his son B. Jay Hogenkamp joine the operation in 1961. In July, 1963, the funera home was operated by B. Jay Hogenkamp. Februar 1, 1965, Edmund Garmann became manager of th funeral home. In October, 1967, the business wa known as N. J. Hogenkamp Sons Inc. and is no managed by Larry Heitkamp.

SCHOCKMAN LUMBER COMPANY

Saint Henry's Schockman Lumber Company was originally established in 1896 as the P. Kuntz and Herr Lumber Company. Over the next fifty years ownership changed several times and it wasn't until 1944 that the business acquired its present name. On January 1st of that year the Schockman Brothers, Clarence, Carl, and Louis, bought the lumberyard from Joseph Moeller and Henry Fiely. Clarence managed the company until 1956. Louis then took over and ran the business until his retirement in 1970. Longtime employee Al Romer then became manager. On January 1, 1978 he bought the lumberyard from Schockman Brothers and became the owner.

Today's Schockman Lumber Company is a mod ern, efficient operation offering a complete line o building materials as well as a free planning service It has also continued to expand in the area o kitchen supply, a field Schockman's entered in 1963 The Kitchen Supply end of the business, managed by Ralph Liette, now accounts for about one third o the company's revenue.

The Schockman Lumber Company has expanded its size and personnel as well as product lines. The two employee, one truck operation of 1944, has grown to ten employees, five trucks, and two hydraulic lift trucks. The four buildings of 1967 are now ten buildings spread along Railroad and West Columbus Streets. Today's Schockman Lumber Company furnishes all the material and services of a fully stocked, well staffed, modern lumber company.

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RUTSCHILLING INC.

Rutschilling Sawmill was founded in 1952 when wrence Rutschilling bought the sawmill from oys and Urban Hartings. In 1961 Leroy and his other, Wilbert took over the sawmill when their :her retired. They then purchased the old Fox and :ss Mill building which had been standing empty r a number of years. The summer of 1962 they :cted the present block and brick building on the e. This contained the new lawn mower and chain- w sales and service business they also started. In 61 they also purchased the Builders Supply busi- ss from Linus Lammers which they operated. In 69 this part of the business was sold to the St. :nry Tile Co.

In 1966 the sawmill was completely destroyed by e and was rebuilt and enlarged. The mill produces ade lumber, pallet material, structural timber for J M wagons, and lumber for the farm trade. The wdust is used by the area farmers for bedding. so in 1974 a chipper was installed and all slabs d waste are chipped and trucked to Franklin, nio where roofing is made from them.

In 1973 they purchased the Lammers Cement Spe- lty property east of the railroad. This is used for rage of logs and lumber. In 1975 Leroy purchased brother's share of the business and in 1978 med Rutschilling Inc. In 1978 another large addi- n was added to the sawmill and additional new uipment installed.

The lawnmower and chainsaw part of the corpo- ion has grown and at present, a large number of pular brands are sold and serviced. It carries the gest inventory of mowers and accessories in the :a.

The Landman Milling Co., and Fox and Hess Elevator

MERCER LANDMARK INC.
St. Henry Branch

The Farmers Grain and Milling Company built their elevator in 1910. It was later known as the Landman Milling Co., and the United Grain and Milling Co. Circa 1939, they installed a new scale, and built a new two story warehouse to handle their increasing business. Landmark purchased the elevator from United Grain and Milling Co. in December of 1957. Equally historical was the old elevator which was built by Fox and Hess in 1901; Joe Davis was in charge of this elevator. Fox and Hess were the sole owners of that mill until its sale to Landmark about 1947 or 1948. It was operated until 1958 when it was torn down. The Fox and Hess building stood at the site of Rutschilling Sawmill.

The present elevator made bran, midds and bagged Silverleaf Flour until 1950-1951. The equipment was run by steam engine power until that time. In 1961, an 850 ton fertilizer warehouse was built for bagged facility and then was converted to a bulk warehouse and blend plant in early 1967. In 1962, 20% N solution (aqua ammonia) became available to the farmers as a side dress for corn to be knifed into the ground. A 300 ton bag fertilizer building was built in early 1970 with a heated room to keep farm chemicals from freezing. A few years later, 28% nitrogen solution was made available to be used as topdressing over wheat in early spring, or as a plow down or side dressing (knifed in) in corn. Certain chemicals can be mixed with 28% at the same time to be put on top of the soil. 82% anhydrous nitrogen was also made available to the farmer around this time, with equipment for the farmer to use as a preplant or side dressing of corn.

In 1976, a capacity bin of 25,000 bushel, with aeration floor was erected. Construction was started in Sept. 1978 of a grain pit dump, a 3000 bushel per hour grain elevator leg, a 2000 bushel wet holding bin above a 500 bushel per hour batch grain dryer, and two 20,000 bushel grain storage bins with aeration floors. Landmark's services to its customers are marketing of grains, handling of complete feeds, feed formulation, grinding and mixing of feeds, animal health products, seeds, chemicals, farm supplies, livestock equipment, custom delivery of bulk and bag feeds, and custom application of chemicals and fertilizers to name only a few items. Landmark employs one woman and five men.

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St. Henry Squad, Mercer Cou Squad No. 3, Emergency Amb lance — **L. to R. First Row:** M Henry, Steve Osterholt, D Hummel, Owen Rinderle, C Hart, Eugene Evers, Leroy Rut hilling and Harold Balster. **Seco Row:** Barb Brophy, Doris Rut hilling, Margaret Schmit, Ed Lange, Mary Buzard, Joan Hu mel, Marie Hummel, Ca Wehrkamp, Rose Mary Moec and Johanna Bruns. **Third Ro** Stella Heitkamp, Vic Moed Dennis Hemmelgarn, Dick Fran Larry Dues, Millie Frilling, a Thelma Fortkamp. **Fourth Ro** Bob Cramer, Don Frilling, Cl Lange, Bill Huber, Harold Dorst and Walter Fortkamp. **Abse When the Picture Was Take** Bonnie Knapke, Gayle Johnson Fort Recovery, Art Gerlach, J Frilling and Nancy Ross.

ST. HENRY SQUAD THREE

The St. Henry Branch of Mercer County Ambulance Service came into being when Don Hummel became interested in attending classes on Emergency Victim Care. This course began in August of 1974 and was held in conjunction with the Celina Fire Department personnel.

After the completion of the classes, in September of '74, Hummel approached the St. Henry Fire Department members with the possibility of having them run an ambulance service in St. Henry.

It was decided this would be impossible, so Hummel, Gerald Bruns, and several others decided to approach the public with the possibility of acquiring an ambulance squad for the southern portion of Mercer County. A public meeting was held in November of '74 with 44 people in attendance. Twenty-four people volunteered to attend the first session of classes to become EMT's (Emergency Medical Technicians). Chuck Miller, of the Celina Department, was to be the instructor.

In December, 1974, the Mercer County Commissioners, the Mercer County Ambulance Board with Junior Robbins as President, met with St. Henry personnel and it was decided to have a volunteer Emergency Branch in St. Henry. This branch would be in charge of giving emergency care to residents of Southern Mercer County.

A committee was set up to find proper housing for the ambulance and an organization meeting was held to elect officers. Elected were Carl Hart, President; Gerald Bruns, vice president and Doris Rutschilling, Secretary-Treasurer and Don Hummel, Coordinator.

A lot was purchased, on the corner of East Main and Linn Street, from Ed Zumberge. The commissioners agreed to the building specifications and Bud Wagner Construction of Coldwater was the low bi der on rental of the building.

The first training class began April 12, 1975, wi 26 completing the course.

On August 25, 1975, the ambulance, Merc County Squad 3, arrived in St. Henry. Dedicati and open house ceremonies were held Septemb 14, 1975.

Monitors were received Sept. 19, 1975, at 9:. p.m. and the squad was on call and ready to mal their first emergency run.

A new class began Oct. 1, 1975, and after comple ing their required 60 hours classroom, six hours vit signs and 20 hours in hospital training, were put squads giving St. Henry eight full squads; fo squads for days and four squads on night duty.

The week on call begins on Wednesday at 6:(a.m. with the night squad going on duty from 6:(p.m. until 6:00 a.m.

Another Squad has completed their training ar the membership list shows a total of 36 membe who leave their jobs or home when there is an eme gency call during the day or night, on a complete volunteer basis.

Five of the members, Barb Brophy, Mary Buzar Edna Lange, Carol Wehrkamp and Bob Cramer, a para-medics. Nine of the members are also CPR i structors.

Charter members are Harold Bergman, Jam Braun, Barb Brophy, Susan Brophy, Ethel Brur Gerald Bruns, Johanna Bruns, Ann Evers, Euge Evers, Donald Frilling, Jeff Frilling, Mildred Frillin Arthur Gerlach, Carl Hart, Stella Heitkamp, Thom Henry, Marge Hoying, William Huber, Marie Hun mel, Clete Lange, Edna Lange, Daniel Link, Marc Link, Owen Rinderle, Leroy Rutschilling, Dor Rutschilling, Robert Cramer, Harold Dorste Thelma Fortkamp, Walter Fortkamp, Don Humme Joan Hummel, Rose Mary Moeder, Victor Moede Margaret Schmit and Carol Wehrkamp.

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St. Henry Fire Department — **1st Row:** Mike Henry, Larry Dues, Gerald Droesch, Cyril Delzeith, Leroy Siefring, Dale Delzeith, Augie Jutte, Cyril Droesch, Norman Alt, and Donald Hummel. **2nd Row:** Bob Uhlenhake, Jack Rammel, Harold Dorsten, Mike Niekamp, Walt Fortkamp, Romie Frilling, Pee-Wee Bruns, Linus Lefeld, Joe Nietfeld, Chief Leroy Rutschilling. **Absent:** Art Gerlach, Ben Lefeld, Allen Langenkamp, Ron Ontrop, Gary Broering, and Jeff Frilling.

Auxiliary — **1st Row:** Betty Jutte, Ruth Delzeith, Merdella Nietfeld, Kathy Droesch, Mary Ann Droesch, Joan Hummel, and Rosie Lefeld. **2nd Row:** Doris Rutschilling, Mary Jane Siefring, Thelma Fortkamp, Eileen Delzeith, Mary Agnes Langenkamp, Mary Lou Alt, Eileen Dues, and Linda Rammel. **Absent:** Sheila Dorsten, Agnes Lefeld, Ethel Bruns, Elaine Broering, Mildred Frilling, Kathy Ontrop, and Norma Rutschilling.

ST. HENRY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The St. Henry Volunteer Fire Department was ɔrmed after the late summer fire of 1905 which urned the Bruns Hotel, the carriage and Smith's orkshop and nearby buildings and threatened the ntire town. Fire fighting equipment was purchased. better water supply was made available to the dertment with the erection of the water tower in 909. After not arriving at a fire with the hand rawn cart of fire fighting equipment when they ere needed, Joe Bruns took up a collection in town buy a motor driven truck. A 1917 model T Truck as bought in 1924. Eleven men donated labor to uild, paint, and equip the truck with fire fighting quipment; two of these men live in St. Henry today - Urban Hartings and William Wourms. This 1917 ıodel T was redecorated in 1970 and is driven in arades. Another truck was purchased in 1937. This also driven in parades. In the 1940's, the depart-ıent purchased a 5 H.P. siren and remote control, n raincoats for the firemen, a gas mask, and a first d kit, boots and a resuscitator, which was donated y the people of St. Henry and Granville Twp. Anther truck was purchased in 1950. The new fireouse was built and dedicated in August 1958. A ural Firemens' Association was formed in 1960. his association helped purchase new trucks in 1963 and 1970. Also in 1970, a truck was bought and the firemen built a grass fire truck. These trucks are entered in local parades also. The Fire Department Auxiliary was formed in the autumn of 1969. The women take lunch to the firemen when they are fighting big fires. The fire department had a fire siren installed on the new water tower in September of 1971. In 1978 the department bought foam fighting equipment. At present, there are 26 members on the department with Leroy Rutschilling, Chief; Larry Dues, President; Ron Ontrop, Vice President; and Mike Niekamp, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Auxiliary has 23 members with Joan Hummel, President; Kathy Ontrop, Vice President; and Mary Agnes Langenkamp, Secretary-Treasurer.

ST. HENRY FIRE DEPT.

The St. Henry Volunteer Fire Dept. was formed in 1905 with John Andress appointed the first Fire Chief.

1905-1911 — John Andress
1911-1915 — Sebastian Ranly
1915-1918 —William Uhlenhake
1918-1923 — Joseph Losenkamp
1923-1938 — William Uhlenhake
1938-1946 — William Wourms
1946-1959 — William Bernard
1959-1966 — Norbert Dippold
1966-present — Leroy Rutschilling

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First Officers — **L. to R.:** Secretary Eileen Whitsett; Treasurer Alice Rose; President Anita Bible presenting check to Mr. Dale DeMott, Administrator of Community Hospital. **Second Row:** Vice-President Eileen Delzeith, Santa.

1977-1978 Officers — **L. to R.:** Secretary Ilene Lange; Treasurer Carol Bruns; President Mary Ann Mescher; 1976 President Marjorie Stachler; Vice President Carolyn Hoyng. Shown with the delivery table purchased by the Hospital Auxiliary for the O.B. department at Community Hospital in 1976.

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

The Saint Henry Hospital Auxiliary was organized in January of 1974 by Mrs. Anita Bible. Mrs. Bible had become involved with the hospital due to an illness in the family, and realized how important a well equipped facility was to this area. After getting some of the Saint Henry women involved it was not difficult to start an organization. The first goal was to provide equipment for the pediatric wing of the new hospital.

The auxiliary quickly got to work raising money for much needed crib beds, high chairs, feeding trays, and rocking chairs. With these purchases our first goal was accomplished. We then acquired enough money to purchase a delivery table, 61 clocks, for the patient's rooms, and a warming cabinet for surgery.

To list some of the means of raising the much needed money are as follows: 1. Bake sales twice a year. 2. Fancy stand at the community picnic. Tickets sold for raffle at the community picnic. Lunch stand at various public auctions. 5. Refundi and saving cents-off coupons. 6. Chinese auction Christmas time. 7. Sale of Christmas candy. A these projects bring money to make Communi Hospital the best medical facility it can be.

This year the organization has grown to 79 mer bers with three types of memberships. Active · $1.00 dues, take part in all activities, have a voice all matters and the right to vote. Inactive — $2.(dues, these members have no duties and no vot may attend meetings and functions and may mal suggestions. Volunteer — No dues, no vote, but he when necessary.

Each year the auxiliary holds elections in Octob and the new officers take office in January. Thank to the dedication and support of the women in th area the past four presidents, Anita Bible, Eilee Delzeith, Marjorie Stachler and Mary Ann Mesche the organization has prospered and grown. Ne members are welcome to join at anytime.

THE ST. HENRY COMMERCIAL CLUB

The businessmen of St. Henry, Ohio, met in the Catholic Knights of America hall on April 12, 1907. They discussed possible means of locating a proposed business in St. Henry. This subject was dropped temporarily, and a motion was made to organize a Board of Trade or Commercial Club.

At the first meeting a motion was made to call the organized club the Board of Trade. However, at the next meeting it was unanimously changed to the St. Henry Commercial Club. The new officers were: George Schlosser, President; Joseph J. Romer, Vice-President; Joseph J. Moeller, Secretary; and Frank H. Gels, Treasurer.

In the early years the club was very active in attempting to locate new business in St. Henry. Throughout the next seventy years it remained active in promoting social intercourse and good fellowship among its members and to advance the business interests of the community.

The present officers are: Charles Gels, President Dick Francks, Vice-President; and Gerald Bruns Secretary-Treasurer.

One of the main projects of recent years has bee raising money to help pay off the debt of our com munity swimming pool. The total cost of the projec was $121,359.00 in 1975, and there is a balance o $27,540.00 remaining today.

The Commercial Club holds an annual Irish Da Sweepstakes at the Irish Day Celebration with al proceeds to the pool. They also hold a ticket at th annual July 4th picnic, with all the merchandis given away being donated by the area businessmen They have been very successful in the past fou years in that they have raised approximately $20, 000. for this project.

Another important project of the Commercia Club is conducting the annual Combined Charitie Drive. For the past several years they have been ver successful in raising money for this worthy cause.

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SAINT HENRY AMERICAN LEGION POST 648

Saint Henry Legion Post 648 was organized in .946. There were nineteen potential members ›resent at the first meeting held, April 9, 1946. Tem-›orary officers were elected and Linus Lammers was he first commander. After the charter was granted, he temporary officers were then installed. The Post ıad various fund raising projects from fish fries, to lances and to picnics. The first dance netted 3304.00. The Auxiliary Unit was organized in May ›f 1947, with Lois Lammers as the first president. It ıas been a strong link for the Post since then.

The Legion members met for several years in the ›ld Commercial Club Hall, which would now be ıbove Bertke's T.V. Store, then known as Mupps 3runs Grocery Store. Then, the members purchased :he Nite Club Building from Julius Rose, and had :he building converted into a bar, and a meeting ·oom. The building has been extensively remodeled several times. The Nite Club side is now being ·ented and managed by Edna Koesters.

The Legion has always donated to all civic activi-ies, Children's Christmas Parties, Legion Baseball, 3oys State, Veterans Hospitals and Orphans' Parties. Also, the Legion members have been large contrib-ıtors and volunteer workers for the Saint Henry Park and Pool Project.

Probably the most important project that the members started in 1947 to get funds for a building, was the Fourth of July Picnic. The members contin-ued this project for several years. Then the firemen joined the Legion members for several years in order to get a new fire truck. When the firemen dropped out, it became a Community Picnic, with all organi-zations participating in the work and profit. The Le-gion members are very proud of the new park and pool are the main recipients of the proceeds of this Fourth of July Picnic. The Legion members also pro-vide the facilities and a lot of the help for the fa-mous Irish Day Parades and programs, to help pro-vide funds for the pool and park.

The 1978 Officers are: Al Homan, Commander; Ron Rindler, First Vice Commander; Victor Moeder, Adjutant; and Ron Clements, Treasurer. *prepared by: Linus Lammers, Former Commander and Mercer County Commander*

ST. HENRY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The first meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary, St. Henry Unit 648, Department of Ohio, was held on May 14, 1947, at the home of Lois Lammers. Officers elected at that first meeting were: President, Lois Lammers; First Vice President, Verna Mary Buschor; Second Vice President, Fern Bernard; Secretary, Mary Ellen Homan; Treasurer, Bernadine Homan; Historian, Geraldine Gast. Other charter members were Bernadette Fullenkamp, Wilma Gels, Dorothy Niekamp, and Ethel Rinderle. In less than six months, the membership grew to thirty-nine.

Monthly meetings were held on the second floor of what is now Bertke's T.V. At that time, the building housed a grocery store operated by Julius Bruns and the Luttmer Shoe Repair Shop. Meetings were held here until the American Legion purchased the "Land O' Dance" in 1949, after which time the meetings were held in the new Legion Home.

Over the years, the Auxiliary has been involved in many projects, some for the purpose of raising money to carry on the works for which the American Legion Auxiliary is noted: Child Welfare, Community Service, Americanism, and many others. There were bake sales, sales of greeting cards, sales of rugs, catering of dinners, collection of sales tax stamps, sponsoring of dances and bingos and card parties. For many years, the Auxiliary was in charge of the Fancy Stand at the Community Fourth of July picnic. Each year there is a sale of veteran-made poppies.

Help was given to many people in various ways. Members assisted at birthday parties at veterans hospitals; gifts were sent to the hospitals and for a number of years, a ward was adopted; milk was purchased for school children; books were donated to libraries; shut-ins were remembered with gifts at Christmas time; a baby sitting course was sponsored at the local school; members helped with Easter Egg Hunts and Santa's yearly visit to the Legion Home. For many years, a high school junior girl has been sponsored at Buckeye Girls' State. A marching unit was established in the early 70's and a number of prizes have been won by this unit.

Gold Star Mothers have always been very special members of the Auxiliary. These mothers gave a son to our country: Sophia Buschor, Regina Bernard, Stella Brunswick, Loretta Siefring, and Rose Wimmers.

Officers for 1978 include: President, Agnes Lefeld; First Vice President, Jane Woods; Second Vice President, Mary Clements; Secretary, Doris Rutschilling; Treasurer, Jane Moeller; Chaplain, Mary Ellen Linn; Historian, Lidwina Bergman; Sergeant-at-Arms, Thelma Thieman.

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Daughters of Isabella

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA AVE MARIA CIRCLE 417 — St. Henry, Ohio

The first Circle of the Daughters of Isabella was instituted as an auxiliary to Russell Council No. 65, Knights of Columbus in New Haven, Connecticut on May 14, 1897. On July 7, 1907, by a special act of the General Assembly the Daughters of Isabella Secured a National charter, and since have become an international organization of Catholic women. Not only were organizations spread across the United States, but also in Canada and the Philippines. The St. Henry Circle was organized in 1927 with fifty names appearing on the charter. On November 21, 1927, the first initiation was held in the local Knights of Columbus Hall. Thus, Ave Maria Circle, 417, St. Henry, Ohio was instituted into the national organization of the Daughters of Isabella. With special emphasis toward Christian works, and uniting all Catholic women, the organization embraces charitable tasks to missions, schools, hospitals, convents, seminaries, orphanages, and homes for the aged. Civic projects become a conscious duty, such as the St. Henry Park Fund. All such expressive observances realistically portray the key virtues which constitute the motto of the Daughters of Isabella, "Unity, Friendship, Charity, Sanctity."

A celebration was in order in 1977 when the Ave Maria Circle celebrated their 50th Anniversary. Many charter members were present as well as many other Catholic women from the neighboring circles. The activities were opened with a special Mass for the Daughters of Isabella and closed with a dinner and entertainment for all those in attendance.

Current officers in the organization are: Past Regent, Wilma Dues; Regent, Judy Stachler; Vice-Regent, Judy Heitkamp; Recording Secretary, Annette Sutter; Financial Secretary, Pat Osterholt; Treasurer, Nancy Broering; Chancellor, Mary Puthoff; Custodian, Henrietta Nerderman; Monitor, Marcelyn Meinerding; First Guide, Rita Borger; Second Guide, Pat Kunk; Guards, Pat Uhlenhake and Pat Kaiser; Banner Bearer, Margie Lefeld; Organist, Genevieve Schmitz; Scribe, Marie Schwieterman; Trustees, Lidwina Bergman and Mary Tumbusch; Senior Trustee, Loretta Rinderle; Chaplain, Fr. Ray Bauer.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, COUNCIL 2640, St. Henry, Ohio

Catholic men one hundred strong in the year 1927 decided to form a Knights of Columbus Council in the St. Henry parish and neighboring parishes. Consequently, Knights of Columbus 2640 was chartered on May 8, 1927. Spiritual advisor and chaplain was Rev. P. Kanney. The first Grand Knight was Aloys Hartings. The Knights of Columbus is an association of Catholic men, faithful to the Church and dedicated to the four cardinal principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The challenge of the Knights of Columbus is to make Christ's Church present and operative in the world. The Knights sponsored and participated in community programs such as blood donors, League of Decency movement and aid to the youth of the area. Activities are many and varied to give every Knight a chance to participate; to mention a few: Fourth of July picnic lunch stand, the annual chicken barbeque in May, helping with the St. Patrick's Day parade and celebration, Halloween Party for the youth, Easter Egg Hunt, Catholic advertising to spread the faith, donations to the C. C. D. Programs, sponsor of Pony League Softball team. In 1958, the council puchased the Hartings property which is the site of the present council home built in 1960. Present membership of Council 2640 is about 180 members.

Officers for 1978-1979 are: Chaplain Father Wolf; Grand Knight Paul Rauh; Deputy Grand Knight August Jutte; Chancellor Mike Henry; Recorder Bob Cramer; Financial Secretary Paul Kleinhenz; Treasurer Lavern Schulze; Advocate Leon Brunswick; Warden Al Luttmer; Inside Guard Ralph Gelhaus; Outside Guard Dale Hess; Trustees Don Miller, Ron Wolfe, and Tom Rose.

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GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP BRANCH LIBRARY MERCER COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY

A new era of reading started in Granville Township on July 4, 1976. The formation of a branch library started in the fall of 1975 by a concerned group of Township citizens.

In January of 1976 the Library Promoters of Granville Township was formed. The new officers were Joseph Huelsman, President; Ralph Ording, Vice President; Pat Post, Treasurer; and Molinda Miller, Secretary. These officers spent a busy six months organizing and planning for this branch. Through a series of meetings with the Mercer County Library Board and Granville Township Trustees, the grand opening of the Granville Township Branch Library, under the jurisdiction of the Mercer County Library, was held on July 4, 1976.

With the newly appointed librarian, Ruth Laux, the branch was underway with approximately 1500 books. The following year of 1977 was a successful year with an increase to 2200 books, magazines, and periodicals, in addition to other equipment, such as a copy machine and duplicator.

In 1977, a successful reading program was started with 129 preschool thru 1st graders participating. A home book delivery service to the sick and the senior citizens was also started. Our circulation the first year was 15,286 books — an average of 1,234 per month!

With the increased growth of our library, a volunteer aides program was started for those who were interested in being a librarian. Aides for 1977 were Mary Ording and Lynn Speck. Aides for 1978 are Joe Bruggeman, Sheila Clements, Mary Jo Droesch, Tammy Droesch, Kelly Heitkamp, Jenny Laux, Francie Sheila, and Sue Miller, and Wayne and Toby Miller; also, an assistant librarian, Bea Lammers, was added to our staff.

The branch kept growing with a second year circulation of 20,405 books — a 1,700 per month average! New equipment and programs for 1978 were the addition of a phonograph and headphones, cassette player and tapes. An interlibrary loan program, where we can borrow books from any library in the state, was added. Plus the prescool reading program — a new reading program consisting of children 2nd thru 8th grade was started with 152 participating and a total of 2,151 books read!

Two new features added in 1978 was a Bicycle Safety Program and the availability of 40 different types of films.

There has been over 900 library borrowing cards issued!

To keep the library growing, the present officers: Ralph Ording, President; Jane Woods, Vice President; Lois Dilhoff, Treasurer; and Ann Huwer, Secretary; are looking in the future of having a new library facility. With the help of the building planning board, a new facility is in the planning stage with part of the cost shared through 40,000 revenue sharing funds!

THE EDWARD AHLERS FAMILY

The Ahlers family in Mercer County descended from Johann H. Ahlers (1818-1895) and Anna Marie Heilman Ahlers (1828-1900). According to tradition Johann had come from Hamburg Germany and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. Johann H. Ahlers is listed as a shoemaker in the 1846 Cincinnati Directory and was also a property owner. He married Anna Marie Heilman, daughter of Bernard and Anna Heilman of Hamilton County, Ohio. Bernard Heilman is listed in the 1850-51 Cincinnati Directory as a carpenter. Johann and Anna Ahlers purchased eighty acres of land northeast of the village of St. Henry, Ohio for $468.00 and began farming. Their children included the following:

Katherine (Henry Borger) (1851-1914), John (Elizabeth Prishoff) (1852-1940), Henry J. (Katherina Duesman) (1855-1931), Anna Marie (Herman Severt) 1859-1947), Elizabeth (Albert Bramlage) (1861-1944) Anna (Herman Nuzoll) 1867-1957). Low German was the primary language of the home. A two hundred dollar military conscription was paid so that he did not have to serve in the Civil War, which was a common practice at that time. They continued to live on their farm during their entire lifetime together. Johann was a large man in stature, died of pneumonia in 1895 and Anna Marie consequently stayed with various children until her death of "lung fever" in 1900. Both are buried in the St. Henry, Ohio cemetery. Two of their children Anna and Joseph went West circa in 1900 and with their families were pioneer settlers in both Greencreek and Cottonwood, Idaho. They wrote letters to their families describing the Indians and their trading experiences with them. Their families still live in that region of Idaho.

Henry J. married Katherina Duesman (1855-1917) on April 1, 1877 in St. Henry's church. She was the daughter of Bernard H. (1815-1870) and Elizabeth (Borgerding) Duesman (1817-1884) also immigrants of Germany. The Duesman family had purchased eighty acres of land in 1849, the farm of which is presently owned by Cyril Dues, and built a log cabin there. Henry and Katherina were classmates

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throughout their schooling years. After their marriage they lived on a farm north of St. Henry but later purchased the Duesman farm where most of their children were born. The following children were born to them: Louis (Rose Langenkamp) (1878-1943), Catherine (Edward Schoemaker) (1881-1919), Rose (John Kanney) (1884-1943), Matilda (George Heinrichs) (1886-1966), Edward F. (Elizabeth Uppenkamp) (1889-1957), Sophia (Joseph Wenning) 1881-1958), Anna (William Dues) (1894-1973) Ada (William Bernard) (born 1897). Katherina died in 1917 and Henry continued to live with his family until his death in 1931. Edward F. (1889-1957) married Elizabeth Uppenkamp (1901-1970) in St. Marys Church, Philothea, Ohio on August 18, 1926, she was the daughter of Ben and Anna Elizabeth Langenhoff Uppenkamp who had immigrated to Mercer County from Westfalen, Germany.

They purchased eighty acres of land bordering the village of St. Henry. The following children were born to them:

Edward Jr. (Catherine Creekmur), Betty Jane (Albert Buening), Betty Lou (Lester Buening), Armella (Gerald Yaklin), and David (Judith Huber). One son, Joseph died during infancy. Edward was engaged in farming during his lifetime. He died of a stroke on December 15, 1957. Elizabeth (Susie) moved to St. Henry shortly thereafter and lived there until her death on June 8, 1970. Edward Jr. (Bud) lives in Burkettsville, Ohio, Betty Jane in Coldwater, Ohio, Betty Lou and David continue to live in St. Henry, Ohio, and Armella lives in Riveria, Texas. David continues to farm the family farm near St. Henry. The grandchildren of Edward F. and Elizabeth Uppenkamp Ahlers include the following:

James J., Phillip D. and Kimberly A. children of Edward Ahlers Jr., Linda, Sharon, Connie, Joseph, and Angela, children of Betty Jane (Albert Buening). Gary, Daniel and Joannie children of Betty Lou (Lester Buening). James, Edward, Donald, Diane, Daniel, Dennis and Martin children of Armella (Gerald Yaklin). Also Michael, Jeffery, Lori, and Scott children of David Ahlers.

There are five great grand-children of Edward F. and Elizabeth Ahlers. They are the following:

Jennifer, Daughter of James (Brenda Bushman) Ahlers of Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Kathy and Karylon daughters of Gary (Juanita Smith) Buening of Burkettsville, Ohio. Sara, daughter of Linda (Ron Schoenlein) Cassella, Ohio and Justin, son of Edward (Tammy Grant) Yaklin, living in Riveria, Texas.

ALVIN ALIG

Alvin Gerhard Alig, born April 28, 1938, Jay County, Indiana, is the son of Henry and Philomena (Homan) Alig. Alvin Alig's great grandfather John Alig was born in Konigreich, Bavern, Germany and emigrated from Baden, Baden, in the 1830's. Alvin's paternal grandparents were William and Veronica (Krieg) Alig. Alvin Alig's maternal grandparents were Gerhard and Catherine (Muhlenkamp) Homan. Gerhard Homan's parents were Gerhard and Maria Katherina (Rhein) Homan from Herbern, near Muenster, Westphalia. Catherine (Muhlenkamp) Homan's parents were Herman Muhlenkamp from Billerbeck, Westphalia, and Elizabeth (Emmerich) Muhlenkamp from Coesfeld, Westphalia.

Alvin and Joyce
home, 3054 Burk
ville — St. Henry I
Saint Henry, Ohio

Alvin Alig married Joyce LuRie Brumm, daugh
of Luther and Marie (Jetter) Brumm, on Novem
22, 1962. Joyce (Brumm) Alig was born July 17, 1
at Fort Recovery, Ohio. Joyce Alig's paternal gra
parents were Harley and Margaret (Kimble) Brum
Harley was the son of William Brumm and gra
son of Frederick Brumm and Great-grandson of
ter Brumm, who came to America from Patersba
Alsace Lorraine, France in 1847. (William Brum
wife was a Mercer). Margaret (Kimble) Brumm
the daughter of Benjamin and Laura (Shimp) Ki
ble; Laura Shimp was the daughter of Jesse and E
ily (Heistand) Shimp; and Benjamin Kimble was
son of Caleb and Margaret Kimble and the grand
of Benjamin and Avesta Kimble. Joyce (Brum
Alig's maternal grandparents were Charles Da
and Minnie Melissa (Atkinson) Jetter; Charles J
ter's parents were George and Nancy (Imel) Jetter.

Alvin and Joyce (Brumm) Alig have three dau
ters: Lorna Marilyn, Brenda LuRie, and Colleen B
Lorna M. Alig was born March 18, 1966; she belo
to the Sunshine Girls 4-H and plays the flute a
piccolo in the school band. Brenda L. Alig was bo
October 21, 1968; she enjoys outdoor sports. Colle
Bea Alig was born May 22, 1973 and began kind
garten at St. Henry Schools the autumn of 1978.

Alvin Alig attended school at Saint Anthony E
mentary School and was a graduate of Coldwa
High School and Allied Technical Institute, Chica
Illinois. Alvin is employed as a toolmaker by Co
water Machine Company, Coldwater, Ohio. Alvin
a member of the Fort Recovery Gun Club and t
Ohio Progressive Sportsman's Club, Inc.

Joyce (Brumm) Alig is a graduate of Fort Recove
High School. She attended Bowling Green St
University and received her Bachelor of Science
Education from Wright State University, Dayt
Ohio. Joyce taught elementary school at Saint Her
Schools. Joyce is Director of the Mercer County H
torical Museum and President of the Mercer Cour
Historical Society. Joyce was Chairperson of t
Founding Committee of the Granville Townsh
Branch Library of The Mercer County District
brary in 1975. She is Chairperson of Mercer Cour
for the Ohioana Library Association. Joyce is Cha
person of the Community Academic Needs Co
mittee of the Western Ohio Education Foundatic
an advisory Board of Trustees, Western Oh
Branch Campus, Wright State University, Celi
Ohio. Joyce is author of *An History of Saint Hen
Ohio,* 1972. Joyce is a member of the Fort Recove
Historical Society, The Ohio Academy of Histo
The Society of Ohio Archivists, and Kappa Delta
Joyce is Editor of the 1978 Mercer County Histo
Book. *Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Alig*

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ob and Anna
ny Sr.

BANY

Jacob was the son of John Bany, born in Germany, ho came to America and married Katherine Anony in 1848. She was a daughter of Philip and ary Anthony. Jacob was born March 31, 1849 at anberry Prairie. When 5 months old, his mother ed. His father then married Catherine Schuck. wo children were born to them, Katherine and hn Bany. In 1855, Jacob's father, John, died and his ife later married Peter Kriegel. They had the folwing children: Sam and John (twins), Pete, Joe, id Adam.

Anna Herman was born March 6, 1850 at Maria ein. She married Jacob Bany Sr. in 1869, and had e following children: John, born July 27, 1870, died ugust 13, 1871; Jacob Jr., born June 2, 1872, mared Rosa Macke, and died March 30, 1937; Frank, rn March 18, 1875, married Grace Gebele, and ed April 6, 1908; Rose, born September 21, 1880, arried Henry Charles Meinerding, and died Noember 12, 1946; and William, born July 21, 1884, id died September 23, 1894. Charles, born Aug. 19, 90 and died July 19, 1965.

Anna Herman's father, Andrew Herman, was rn in Germany in 1807 and died in 1879. He was st married to Mary Schwerer, and four children ere born to them. They were Mary Fortener, Elizeth Bloom, and Eva and Agnes, who died young. heir mother died of dropsy. His second marriage as to a widow, Magdeline (Vierman) Stucke, who id four children who died of cholera. The first ild of the second marriage was Mathias, 1845-29, married to Mary Stahl. Following were Phimena, 1847-1926, who married Frank Romer, nna, 1850-1927, married to Jacob Bany Sr., Henry, 51-1906, who married Anna Kallmeyer, Margaret, 54-1919, married Frank Beckman, Andrew, 1856-35, who married Elizabeth Borgerding, and John, 59, who died with his Mother.

Jacob and Anna Bany lived at Coldwater before ming to St. Henry in 1879. He was a dealer here in . Main Street, selling agricultural implements, enes, threshers, Champion Binders, reapers, mows, wind pumps, grain drills, cultivators, plows, harws, and binder twine.

Later, he invented the Bany Washing Machine ong with his sons, especially Jacob Jr. He received e patent in 1894 and sold machines all over the ates. He was killed at Greenville, Ohio, September , 1903, after falling 20 ft. at the D. and U. trestle ilroad bridge. He was 54 years old. He was the first ayor of St. Henry, serving his second term. He ected the brick building for his washing machine usiness which is the St. Henry Legion Home and ite Club.

After her husband's death, Anna Bany, built the two story brick building in which she operated a wallpaper store in the west room. The other two rooms were rented out for an ice cream parlor and grocery store. The upstairs was used as a dance hall and also for medicine shows.

Jacob and Anna lived in the brick home between the Nite Club and the Mobile Oil Co. building. Her father, Andrew Herman Sr., was a former owner of the house, having bought the lot from Henry and Agnes Altenhofel.

Anna Bany died August 31, 1927 at St. Henry. *Marcelyn Meinerding, St. Henry, Oh. 45803*

BEHRNS — BEHRENS — BERNS — BURNS

Jacob and Catherine Barbara Behrns were born in Darmstadt, Germany, the children of Jacob and Katherine (Simmer) Behrns. When the children were 4 and 12 respectively, the father brought them to the United States and to Mercer County. Property records indicate that Jacob farmed an 80-acre tract in the county; however family tales say that he died very soon after his arrival in the United States in 1850, and the children were put into foster homes.

The children were educated in the public schools. Jacob, Jr. married Catherine Weis in Mercer County in 1878 and then moved to Perham, Otter Tail County, Minnesota, where they raised a family of nine children. Jacob built the first building in Perham, and he was a successful farmer, merchant and manufacturer.

Catherine Barbara married Andrew Wagner on June 13, 1865 at St. Mary Church in Philothia. She was widowed in 1879, and raised her family on a farm located in Granville Township. She died at the home of her daughter Philomena and son-in-law, Andrew Brunswick, of Mercer County, on February 14, 1925. She is buried in St. Paul's cemetery in Sharpsburg. *Mrs. Alfred Walters, Burkettsville, Oh.*

THE WILLIAM BERNARD FAMILY

The Bernard family in Mercer County traces its origin to Leon Bernard (1788-1861), a shoemaker, who came with his wife Catherine (b. 1788) and family from France, arriving in New York in 1828. They had sailed from Le Havre aboard the ship "Leonarde." His children included Joseph, then sixteen years old, Magdalena, 15 years, Catherine, 13 years, Frank, 8 years, Peter, 5 years, Anton, 2 years, and Leon, then eight months old. Land was purchased in Reading Township in Perry County, Ohio. They stayed there only a few years but three additional children were born: Louis, John, and Dennis. In 1836 Leon purchased 160 acres in Marion Township, Mercer County, Ohio. He erected a log house and moved there with his family. The family spoke both French and high German and were members of St. John's parish. Tradition states that John and Louis became separated from the family and moved West. Anton, Peter, Frank, and Magdalena continued to

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Louis Bernard Family — **Seated:** Louis, Edward, Caroline (Karch) Bernard. **Standing:** George, William, Dorothy (Rush), Clara (Schwieterman), Anthony, Mary (Huwer), Frank.

live in Marion Township. The oldest son, Joseph H. (1817-1886) married Anna Marie Kemper (1819-1894), who was born in Pennsylvania, in St. Augustine's Church, Minster, Ohio on June 13, 1839. It is felt that they were neighbors in Perry County. They purchased land near Maria Stein, Ohio. The father Leon continued to live in Marion Township until his death in 1861. The mother Catherine had previously died between 1840 and 1850.

The oldest son Joseph and his wife Anna Marie Kemper had eleven children. These included Elizabeth Overman (1841-1862), James (1843-1863), Frank (1846-1915), John (1848-1883), Joseph (1852-1942), Magdalena Rolfes (1856-1922), Louis (1858-1922), Peter (1859-c1897), Henry (18—1909), Mary Goeke, and Dan. They lived on the original farm until Joseph's death in 1886. Thereafter Anna Marie made her home with various children until her death in 1894. Both are buried in St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein, Ohio.

Louis Bernard (1858-1922) married Caroline Karch (1865-1947) daughter of George Karch (1827-1896) and Walburga Riedl Karch (1826-1907) in St. Francis Church at Cranberry Prairie on September 28, 1886. Her parents had come from Germany via Cincinnati, Marysville, St. Marys, to Cranberry Praire around 1868. The following children were born to this union: Frank (Adeline Henry), George (Gertrude Fischer), Mary (William Huwer), Anthony (Regina Stammen), Elizabeth, Clara (Albert Schwieterman), William (Ada Ahlers), Charles, Dorothy (Claren Rush), Edward (Augusta Heckler), and Leonard. T family had been engaged in farming near Cranbe Praire.

William married Ada Ahlers in St. Henry on A gust 11, 1926. She was the daughter of Henry Ahl (1855-1931) and Katherina Duesman (1855-191 who were also engaged in farming near St. Hen The following children were born to them: Ed (John Fox), Norman (Ruth Fink), Lillian (Euge Sherman), Arlene (Maurice Brandewie), Arth (Janet Steinlage), and Allen. For many years Willia had worked at the Landman Milling Company in S Henry and was later engaged in roofing sales. H also served as Fire Chief and Police Chief for the S Henry Community. In 1976, with their famil friends, and relatives, they celebrated their fiftie wedding anniversary. They currently reside at 142 Main Street in St. Henry.

The grandchildren of William and Ada Ahle Bernard include: Deborah (Victor Hemmelgarn daughter of Edna Bernard Fox; Karen, Dale, Patrici Cynthia, Karla, and Gary, children of Norman Be nard; Rebecca, daughter of Lillian Bernard Sherma Robert, Beverly, Barbara, Brenda, and Bonnie, chi dren of Arlene Bernard Brandewie. There are tw great grandchildren, Robert and Chad, sons of D borah Fox Hemmelgarn, residing in St. Henry. *All Bernard, Cincinnati, Oh. 45202*

VICTOR BOEKE FAMILY

Married in 1868, the grandparents, Herman an Catherine (Elking) Boeke lived on a farm in sectio 32 of Marion Township bordering the Cassella Cor vent farm. Often they helped the Sisters with butch ering hogs, sawing firewood, digging graves an helping at funerals of the Sisters, serving Mass i their Chapel. Joseph and Mary (Dahlinghaus) Boek lived here after their marriage in 1900. A sad da came when the Sisters moved away during th growing-up years of their children. Cornelia is Siste M. Euthalia of the Sisters of the Precious Blood. L nus and wife, Mildred Grilliot, are in Piqua, O. an have six children, Mary Ann, Janice, Rosalyn, Jo seph, Jean and Kathleen. Edmund is single. Leo, de ceased, was a priest of the Cincinnati Archdioces Adele is Sister M. Adele of the Sisters of the Pre cious Blood. Victor and his wife Luella Hemmelgar have twelve children. Clement died as a college stu dent for the priesthood. Aloys and Anselm are pri ests of the Cincinnati Archdiocese. Viola and hus band, Leo Hess, are in Dayton, O. and have seve children, Rosemary, Edna, Martha, Joseph, Carl, Les ter, John. Edmund and Victor continue in Merce County. Edmund is on the Cassella farm acquire by his great grandfather, Frederick Elking, in 185(Victor is located at Burkettsville in section 33 i Granville Township which acreage was acquired b his father in 1932.

Victor served on the School Board in Burkettsvill for 18 years until 1960 and is in the 19th year as Trustee of Granville Township. In 1937 he marrie

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ella Hemmelgarn. They are the parents of Joann, arried to John Pax, Theresa, married to Paul Lankamp, Robert, married to Rita Fiely, Rosemary, arried to Daniel Janselewitz, Mary, married to Fred eppelman, Barbara, married to William Marshal, audia, married to Kenneth McMurry, Paul mard to Karen Braun, Louise, married to John Grilliot, d Vicki, David and Fred. Paul is the only fifth genation Boeke who, at the time of this writing, has tablished his own home in this county. He and ren have lived in Coldwater since their marriage 1975. *Fr. Anselm Boeke, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

ndpa and Grandma d Borger, Borger m 1 mile NE of St. nry

FREDERICK BORGER

Frederick was the son of Joseph Borger and Elizath E. (Ronnebaum) Borger, born in Granville wnship of Mercer County, Ohio, on March 31, 50. He died March 18, 1924 at St. Henry, Ohio.

The father of Frederick Borger was born in or ound Oldenburg, Germany on July 14, 1813. He me to America when he was twenty-one years old d located immediately in Cincinnati, Ohio. He rked there until 1835 when he bought governent land in Granville Township, near St. Henry, hio. Carrying his purchase money, three hundred llars in silver, in a bag on his back, he walked the stance from Cincinnati to Wapakoneta. Mr. Borger ed to become one of the largest landowners in ercer County. He married Elizabeth Ronnebaum, ho was born October 14, 1815 in or around Oldenrg, Germany. They had seven children: Bernard, ederick, Henry, Joseph, Mrs. John (Frances) Uhlenke, Mrs. Henry (Mary) Dorger, and one child who ed in infancy. Joseph Borger died on April 14, 1887 the age of 74 at St. Henry, Ohio. His wife survived s death by seven days at the age of 72. They were ost worthy people and were beloved by those who new them.

Frederick Borger married Anna Margaret Steinge on November 27, 1878. They were the parents twelve children, four of whom are still living. hese are: Farry Sylverius of Celina, Ohio; Agnes d Margaret Borger of Briarwood Manor Nursing ome, Coldwater, Ohio, and Elizabeth Borger, of olumbus, Ohio. Those who died are: Joseph J., enry H., Ferdinand, Urban, Mrs. John (Mary agdeline) Uhlenhake, Albinus, and Veronica aristina, twin to Elizabeth. A boy died in infancy.

Frederick farmed 120 acres which his father Joph purchased. This land was located one mile rtheast of St. Henry, Ohio, along the Kramerpying Road. It was directly across the road from s parent's homestead. They built their house out bricks which were made on the farm. The house is still being occupied today. They were all members of the St. Henry School District.

Their son Farry Sylverius served in World War I. He was inducted into the Army on September 18, 1917 at Celina, Ohio. He went overseas on June 11, 1918 and fought with Co. E. 38th Infantry Division which was nicknamed Rock of Marna. He was engaged in four battles which were Ammiena Maine — July 15 to 27, Vesle — August 4 to 12, St. Mihiel — September 12 to 14, and Neuse-Argonne — September 30 to October 27. The battles were fought in France. He was in the army of occupation before coming home on August 23, 1919, and was discharged on the twenty-ninth day of August 1919. He then took over his father's farm and his parents bought a house in St. Henry. His sister Agnes kept house for him until he married, then moved in with her parents. Farry married Cecelia Schmalstig the daughter of George and Josephine (Brunswick) Schmalstig on November 9, 1920. They are the parents of seven children: Gerald J., Mrs. Victor (Helen) Bergman, Alfred U., and Mrs. John (Roselyn) Birkmeyer, all of Celina, Ohio: Louis J. of St. Marys, Ohio; Mrs. Louis (Mildred) Homan of Dayton, Ohio; and Mrs. Urban (Lucille) Berning of Maria Stein, Ohio. One son died in infancy.

Farry Borger gave up farming at St. Henry in 1938 and moved onto a 160 acre farm one and one-fourth miles northeast of Celina on Meyers Road. He continued farming until 1950, when he purchased a house in Celina on West Livingston Street and worked for the County Highway Department until his retirement in 1960.

The Frederick Borger farm at St. Henry was sold in 1941 to Albert Steinlage. Pictured below was the home of the Frederick Borger family and also the Farry Borger family. Frederick and Anna Margaret Borger are pictured. *Mrs. Helen Bergman, Celina, Oh.*

Seated: Thresia and Urban Borger. **Standing:** Merdella Schwieterman, Carl, Robert and Melvin Borger.

URBAN BORGER

Urban Borger was born in St. Henry, Ohio September 11, 1899 son of Frederick Borger and Anna (Steinlage) Borger.

Frederick Borger was born in St. Henry March 31, 1850 son of Joseph Borger, who had been born July 14, 1813 in Germany and Elizabeth (Ronnebaum) Borger, who had been born October 14, 1815 in Germany.

Anna (Steinlage) Borger was born July 24, 1856 in St. Henry daughter of Henry Steinlage, who had been born July 27, 1830 in Limburg, Germany and Elizabeth (Andres) Steinlage, who was also born in Germany date unknown.

Urban's paternal grandfather, Joseph Borger, settled on what is now the Walter Dues farm or Section 15 of Granville Twp. He died April 14, 1887 and his wife died April 21, 1887.

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The maternal grandfather, Henry Steinlage, came from Germany at the age of 15 first settling in Columbus, Ohio and at the age of 20 came to St. Henry where he farmed for a number of years. He then moved to what is now the residence of Ray Heitkamp or Lot 43 in the Original Plat. Beside his home he established a tannery which ran for 70 years. He died March 18, 1921 and his wife died 1864.

Urban's parents Frederick and Anna settled on what is now the Albert Steinlage farm or Section 22 of Granville Twp. when they were married November 26, 1878. They had the present house built at this time and here is where Urban and his brothers and sisters were born. Frederick died March 14, 1924 and Anna died July 10, 1936.

Frederick and Anna Borger's children were:

Joseph born September 14, 1879 married Katherine Kemper. He was a farmer and died October 29, 1964.

Henry born November 8, 1880 married Emilia Kevelder. He was a carpenter and factory worker and died January 3, 1969.

Agnes born September 22, 1882 remained single and cared for her mother until she died.

Mary born April 10, 1885 married John Uhlenhake and died January 23, 1975.

Margaret born February 13, 1887 remained single and was a housekeeper.

Ferdinand born February 23, 1890 married Elizabeth Uhlenhake. He was a railroad worker and died February 28, 1967.

Albinus born February 23, 1892 died April 12, 1893.

Farry born October 13, 1893 married Cecelia Schmalstig and was a farmer.

William died in infancy. Dates unknown.

Elizabeth born March 12, 1897 remained single and worked in a factory. It is believed she and her twin sister Christine, were the first babies baptized in the present St. Henry Church.

Christine born March 12, 1897 died in infancy July 29, 1897.

Urban, the youngest child, attended St. Henry Schools through the 10th grade. He assisted with his father's farming and in 1919 began to assist William Bruns as barber where he worked till 1924. He married Thresia Uhlenhake May 30, 1922. Thresia was born March 17, 1900.

They first lived on Lot 15 in the Original Plat or the Home owned by Louis Heitkamp. In 1924 they moved to what is the present Carl Borger farm or Section 7 in Granville Twp. In 1954 Urban and Thresia moved to St. Henry town at her present residence. Urban died January 1, 1974.

Urban's children are:

Robert born August 16, 1923 married Mary Rita Kaup born August 14, 1921. They were married June 14, 1947. Robert's occupation is an electrician. Their children are: James born March 18, 1948; William born June 18, 1949; Patricia born October 14, 1951; David born August 26, 1954; Marvin born June 3, 1958. James married Dorothy Fullenkamp and their children are: Anne born February 7, 1975; Benjamin born August 3, 1976; Susan born April 18, 1978. William married Mary Franck and their children are: Julia born February 21, 1974; Martin born January 7, 1977.

Merdella born March 5, 1926 married Cyril Schwieterman born July 9, 1925. They were marr May 14, 1949. Their children are: Joyce born Ma 6, 1950; Sharon born June 27, 1951; Michael bc August 30, 1952; Barbara born October 6, 1953; G ald born June 12, 1955; David born July 4, 19 Connie born March 12, 1958; Jane born February 1959; Sandra born June 21, 1960; Robert born Oc ber 11, 1961; Cynthia born December 29, 1962; Ma Beth born September 9, 1964; Infant Son Schwiet man stillborn September 24, 1966. Joyce marri Kenneth Gerlach and their children are: Brian bc February 3, 1974; Bradley born August 23, 19 Christina born February 12, 1978. Sharon marri Michael Roddy. Michael married Linda Bergma Barbara married Larry Abels and their children a Collin born April 10, 1975; Monica born Novemt 6, 1977.

Carl born April 9, 1927 married Ethel Huelskan born August 23, 1930. They were married Novemb 8, 1952. Carl's occupation is a farmer. Their childr are: Dale born August 26, 1953; Fred born Septemb 18, 1954; Beverly born October 25, 1955; Gary bo October 2, 1959; Mary born July 2, 1959; Bren born September 17, 1961; Charles born February 2 1963; Ruth born September 15, 1964; John born Ma 24, 1966; Jean born March 24, 1969. Beverly marrie Steven Ford.

Melvin born March 17, 1931 married Esther Klos erman born July 14, 1932. They were married Ap 30, 1955. Melvin's occupation is a machinist. The children are: Ronald born January 21, 1956; Nan born July 26, 1957; Michael born January 3, 1969

James Borger, St. Henry, Oh. 45883

BRACKMANN

Mrs. Anna Brackmann Langenkamp's grandfathe changed his name from Vorbrink to Brackman when he moved on the Brackman farm. Her fathe Joseph Brackmann, born Feb. 13, 1828, died Dec. 2 1905. Her mother Maria Katharina Brackmann, bor Feb. 6, 1840 at Vinte, Germany. Died there Feb. 192 Her maiden name was Maria Böwer, brothers an sisters Elizabeth married Henry Lührman in 188 Joseph Brackmann born April 1868 died Oct. 195 Bernadine Kemme born Feb. 10, 1870 died Dec. 1 1960. Johanna and Katherine died in infancy. Henry Rev. Theodosius C.PP.S. born May 18, 1873 a Neuenkirchen, Hanover, Germany died April 4 1964; August, Rev. Didacus C.PP.S. born Dec. 2 1875 died July 24, 1929. Theresa born 1876 die about 1885, Otto, Anna born May 18, 1886 marrie Henry Langenkamp. Anna, is still living.

BRUNSWICK FAMILY

1. Bernard Brunswick married Bernadine Greven kamp. They had six children namely, Andrew, Ber John, Frank, Henry and Mary.

Bernard died leaving Bernadine to raise the fam ily. Bernadine (Grevenkamp) Brunswick bought 6 acres from Sophia Hulskamp and Joseph Hulskam for the sum of $2400.00 on February 26, 1884, Gran ville Township, Mercer County, Saint Henry, Ohio.

2. Henry Brunswick married Mary Boeke at Sain Rose Catholic Church, on November 19, 1895. Mar

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ke the daughter of Henry Boeke and Mary Kle-
enz.
Henry Brunswick and wife, Mary bought 90 acres
n Bernadine Brunswick on February 10, 1896.
y cleared the land, and used the timber to build
barn in 1896. The four room house was moved
n the Wagner place, a near by farm land now
ied by Clarence Siefring. Later four more rooms
e added two on south side, two on north side.
Henry and Mary had one daughter, Olvia and
it sons, John, Lawrence, Ferdinand, Aloys, Au-
:, Joseph, Norbert and Linus. As of August 22,
3, Henry and Mary had 9 children, 38 Grandchil-
ı, 139 Great Grandchildren, 30 Great Great
ndchildren a total of 216 descendants.
hey attended Saint Wendelin Catholic Church
Wendelin School. John died at birth, August
l at age 9 months, the rest of the family all
'ed on the farm. Henry's wife Mary died March
923. On July 16, 1924 Henry married Margaret
ıkman, they had no children. Margaret died July
1939. Henry continued farming with his sons till
ruary 19, 1940, when Henry sold 90 acres to son,
:ph, Granville Township Mercer County.
. Joseph Brunswick married Cleopha Eckstein,
tember 6, 1941 at Saint Wendelin Catholic
ırch. Cleopha Eckstein daughter of Clem Eck-
n and Teresa Rammel. They had six sons, 3
ghters namely; Leon, Anna Marie, Kenneth, Ei-
ı, Eugene, Roger, Cyril, Lester, and Virginia.
:ir children also attended Saint Wendelin Catho-
Church and Wendelin School. School was closed
1958, the children were bused to Saint Henry
de and High School.
)n January 30, 1947 Joseph bought 10 acres from
us Brunswick. On January 8, 1948 Henry sold 20
:s more to Joseph.
Henry died December 5, 1951. On March 20, 1952
:ph bought 40 acres from the will of Henry
nswick. On Sept. 8, 1952 Joseph traded 12½ acres
h John and Cordula Post.
)seph and Cleopha children, Leon works for
nmelgarns and Sons; Kenneth enlisted in the
ional Guard. After he returns, he wants to work
a factory and farm. Eugene was drafted for 2
rs — 1 year overseas in Vietnam and is a com-
er programmer at Mersmans in Celina, Ohio.
;er also was drafted into the army for 2 years — 1
r also in Vietnam. Roger returned to the farm;
'il works at Crown Control; Lester was killed May
1966 in an auto accident while mowing lawn in
ıt of his home. Anna Marie married Elner
lanb, he works for Dayton Powers and Light Co.
Greenville, Ohio. Eileen married Jerome Bohman.
is a computer programmer at Minster Machine,
ıster, Ohio. Virginia married Paul Fortkamp and
works at Huffy's in Celina, Ohio.
)seph retired and sold 4 acres with the building
son, Roger and wife Kathleen in December 1976,
l rents the 156 acres. Joseph and Cleopha built a 3
lroom home on the farm nearby in 1976. *Joseph Cleopha Brunswick, St. Henry, Oh. 45883*

ALFRED JAMES DAVIS

Alfred was born Feb. 28, 1886; the first child of Jo-
h F. and Laura Ellen (Radabaugh) Davis. He lived all his life in St. Henry, Ohio. Attended two years of High School in Versailles; last two at St. Henry and was the first and only graduate in 1905. He belonged to the local ball team and the rifle club. He was employed at the Fox and Hess Milling Co. for thirty five years and was manager for eighteen years following the death of his father. He served many years as clerk of public affairs and was a Republican Committee member and a member of the Holy Name Society. He married Bernadine Romer June 6, 1911 in St. Henry.

Bernadine was born July 3, 1891 to Bernard J. and Elizabeth (Trimpe) Romer. When her mother was nine she and her parents came by Erie Canal to Minster and then to Philothea. The father died during the last part of the journey. Elizabeth married a Landwehr; after he died she married Bernard Romer. Bernard and his brothers founded St. Henry. Bernadine was born in a log house the same being the one where the first white child was born in the village.

Their children were: Thelma Ellen (Fiely) born April 10, 1912, 1 child; Verna Edna (Thomas) born May 4, 1914, 4 children; Mary Bernice (Alexander) born July 26, 1916, 5 children; Laura Ellen (King) born April 1918, 4 children; Anna Leota (Fink) 6-5-1921, 4 children; Mildred Alma (Hausfeld) born Feb. 27, 1923, 8 children; Harold Joseph born Feb. 10, 1925, (Esther Stahl) 6 children.

Alfred died Sept. 3, 1945 and Bernadine died May 14, 1976, both are buried at St. Henry Cemetery. *Mrs. Kenneth Wallick*

JOSEPH FRANKLIN DAVIS

Joseph was born Dec. 10, 1859 near Pyrmont in Preble County Ohio to Jermemiah and Lydia Davis. Lydia's first husband's name unknown; second husband; Leichty and had a son George. Jermemiah was her third husband and he had four or five children when he married Lydia. Brothers and sisters of Joseph's were Joseph, Barbara, Alice, Laura and Jacob. Lydia married a Fuch after Jermemiah died and she is buried in St. Henry Cemetery. Jermemiah died in 1869 and is buried south of St. Henry in a small family plot.

Joseph was two when the family moved from Preble Co. to near Wendelin, in Mercer County and then to St. Henry. At nine Joseph played the fiddle for dances, walking barefooted in winter across fields. As a young man he worked at threshing and later did elevator work; later was manager of the Fox & Hess Elevator.

He was a leading citizen of St. Henry and was one of the first councilmen in 1901. He was also on the first school board and one of the subjects that often came up was; How important was it for girls to have an education? He thought it very important; all three daughters graduated and had certificates to teach school and also his son. German was taught half day and English the other half.

On April 19, 1885 he married Laura Ellen Radabaugh. She was born Feb. 18, 1860. They were married by J. G. Beckman J.P. and witnesses were Frank Radabaugh and Flora Burns. Her people were railroad workers and had a very historic history in

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Darke County. Her parents were Joseph Radabaugh born Jan. 13, 1833; died June 1915 and her mother was Rebecca Ward born July 12, 1835 and died Dec. 1911. Her brothers and sisters were Harry 1856-1923; Isabell 1857-; Frank 1865-1925; Charles 1868-; J. Ward 1870-; Grace 1872-; and Tom 1872-. Laura Ellen's paternal ancestors were of German extraction and were first early settlers in Wayne township in Darke County Ohio. Her maternal side were from England House of Lords and were forced to leave because of treasonable utterances of the grandfather. They settled near Jamestown, Va. and thought to be among the earliest settlers in the first colony.

Joseph and Laura Ellen saved $1.00 a week towards building their home, of four rooms; later an upstairs was added and a summer kitchen. The house still stands at the south end of Main Street in St. Henry.

Their children were; Alfred James 1886-1945; Alma Grace (1890-1919; Altha Belle (Myers) 1892-1939; Joseph Guy 1895-1896; Nellie Rae (Hopper) 1900-1978. Laura Ellen died June 18, 1918, funeral at the Christian Church in Versailles and was buried there. Joseph remarried Mrs. Anna McClellan of Ft. Recovery. He died Dec. 11, 1927 and was buried at Ft. Recovery. *Mrs. Kenneth Wallick*

LEANDER EYINK

Leander Frank Eyink was born September 15, 1915 at St. Henry, Granville Township, the son of Anthony and Catherine (Knapke) Eyink.

Leander attended the St. Henry Schools until he was 16 and then apprenticed as a shoe repairman to August Luttmer in St. Henry. In 1936, he became a band saw operator at the Mersman Brothers Company in Celina. He married Helen Elizabeth (Geier) Laux and they moved to Celina, Ohio.

Leander, better known as "Peg" because of a leg deformity due to polio when he was young, returned to St. Henry to operate the Luttmer Shoe Repair Shop on Main Street after the death of the owner in 1944.

In May, 1948, Peg began working at New Idea as a machinist while still maintaining a small shoe repair shop at his home. After 30 years he retired from New Idea to enjoy hobbies of fishing, gardening, and shoe repair.

Leander and Helen are members of the St. Henry Catholic Church and its sodalities. Peg is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles.

Thomas Carl Laux, the son of Carl and Helen (Geier) Laux was born December 6, 1938 at St. Henry, Granville Township. He married Jane Dues, daughter of Sylvester and Wilma (Lange) Dues at Philothea, Butler Township, April 4, 1970. Holly Ann Laux was born Feb. 15, 1971 and attends St. Henry Schools. Jeffrey Carl Laux was born Aug. 10, 1973. The family lives in St. Henry and Tom works at New Idea. After the death of Carl, Helen married Leander Eyink and the following children were born:

Robert Lee Eyink was born December 17, 1943, in Celina, Mercer County, Ohio. He married Linda (Olding) Eyink, tbe daughter of Othmar and Mildred (Mumaw) Olding, August 5, 1967. Scott Lee Eyink was born March 14, 1970 and attends the Coldwater Schools. Cara Rene Eyink was born January 26, 1976. The family lives on Gause Road, half mile north of State Route 219, west of Coldwater, Ohio. Robert is employed at New Idea and Li teaches in the Coldwater Schools.

James Alphonse Eyink was born April 11, 194 Celina, Mercer County. He married Lilia Mor originally from Maguatzen, Mexico, in Portland, diana on May 10, 1969. Tracy Marie Eyink was b July 13, 1970 and attends the Coldwater Scho Andrew Eyink was born April 12, 1973 in Mad California. Justin James Eyink was born August 1977 in Coldwater, Mercer County. The family li in Coldwater. Jim is employed at the Minster M chine Company.

Daniel Lawrence Eyink was born February 6, 1 in Coldwater, Mercer County. He married Dor Hess, daughter of Jerome and Eleanora (Frilli Hess on July 13, 1974 at Carthagena, Granv Township. Jason Michael Eyink was born April 1976 in Coldwater, Mercer County. The Dan Ey family lives in Coldwater, Ohio. Dan is employed Mercer Beverage Company in St. Henry, Ol *Robert L. Eyink*

A. J. FELDHAKE FAMILY

Aloysius John Feldhake, son of Frank Feldha and Frances Moeller Feldhake, was born in St. Hen on June 24, 1893. Eleanora Christina Winkeljohn the daughter of Mathias Winkeljohn and Ros Dabbelt Winkeljohn. She was born in Jay Coun Indiana on Sept. 16, 1891. Al and Nora were uni in marriage on June 2, 1920. They have two daug ters — Mary Margaret Feldhake Mestemaker a Geraldine Mary Gast. There are ten grandchildr and fourteeen great grandchildren. Al was in t hardware business in St. Henry for more than fi years. Although he is retired he still spends a f hours each day at the hardware store helping in a way he can. He served on the St. Henry school boa for four years. He was clerk of the village of Henry for twenty four years. Al has lived his wh life in St. Henry and Nora has spent most of her l there. *Ms. J. E. Mestemaker, Celina, Oh. 45822*

The Forsthoff Family, Henry and E abeth Forsthoff — **Four Stand Children:** Herman, Heinrich, An and Bernadina. **Three Children Front:** William, Louisa and Cla (Joseph and Ella were born lat (copied from an old tintype tal about 1880. Notice that everyone held, is leaning, or is supported someone else. It took a long time make a tintype and it was hard to h still. William and Louisa moved th heads!)

THE FORSTHOFF FAMILY

Herman Henry Forsthoff was born Bernard He mann Heinrich Vorsthoven in Germany in 182 How his name came to be changed, we don't kno We suspect that his German accent and the ears the English speaking clerk at the immigration de in 1855 were never in harmony. He was the fi

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n and we are the only family named Forsthoff of ich we have ever heard. We have been tracing the ıily in Germany and in the United States for se- al years and have found that our name is unique. Henry first settled in Cincinnati, which was the ;est settlement of Germans in Ohio at that time. had ample opportunity to practice his trade as a :k maker in that booming, building town. After en years, he bought land in Darke County and in ınville Township, Mercer County, Ohio, and he l his second wife, Theresia, moved north by ca- . She died in 1863 and is buried in an unmarked ve in the St. Henry's Cemetery in St. Henry, io.

n 1866 he married Agnes Bernadina Ashman, the ıghter of John Henry Ashman, the second pio- r to come to Mercer County and settle in Cas- a, Ohio. They had twelve children including ee sets of twins of which only three of the six ldren survived. He built a brick home on what is v the corner of Spring and Washington Streets in Henry, Ohio. It has solid brick outside walls lve inches thick and inside walls and doorways lt comparably heavy. There were outbuildings l a barn and a fence when he and Bernadina were ing their family, but the property has changed ough the years. It is now owned by their grand- ıghter's stepson, Eugene H. Buschur, and is num- ed 181 East Washington Street.

Many of the bricks Henry made are a part of St. ıry Catholic Church and other homes and build- s in the area. His eldest son assisted him in the :kmaking and laying for many years. Later he erintended the work on his two farms and served a prominent member of his church and commu- y. He died May 8, 1893 and is buried with his e and a grandson in the family plot in the ceme- y at St. Henry, Ohio.

The nine children who lived and their descen- ıts unto the sixth generation from Henry are be- traced and a detailed history is to be published, we have space here only to outline the nine. ey are listed in order of their birthdates.

ohan Heinrich "Henry" (1867-1933) married Eliz- th Mary Heyl. Three daughters, two sons were n to them. They moved to Vattman, now Riviera, berg County, Texas.

Elizabeth "Lizzie" (1869-1941) married Frank eder (1854-1923). They had three daughters and sons and lived in St. Henry, Ohio.

Henry Herman "Herman" (born 1869) married ıline. They moved to Kansas and then to Kirk- d, Washington. Nothing further is known of m.

The fourth child, Anna "Annie" (1875-1951) mar- l Clement "Clem" Kesson (1874-1947). Four ıghters and nine sons were born to them. They d in Celina, Ohio.

Fifth born, William Henry "Will" (1878-1948) rried Anna Catherine Kaus (1884-1970). One ıghter and three sons were born to them. They ded in Dayton, Ohio.

Maria Louisa "Louise" (1881-1953) married in 8 to Thomas Brooks (1877-1973). Two sons were n to them. They lived in Dayton, Ohio and ved to Chicago Heights, Illinois. Maria Louisa s the Grandmother of the family historian and ıealogist and author of this article.

Seventh born, Clara (1883-1961) married in 1923 to Anthony Rindler (1876-1952). They had one adopted daughter. Celina was their home.

Joseph John "Joe" (1885-1968) married first Cynthia Heyne (1892-1946) and had two sons. His second wife was Christina Heyne, sister to the first wife (1888). They had no children. They lived in St. Henry, Ohio.

Ella Lena "Ellen" (1886-1918) married Russell Wyant (1885-1961) in 1909. They had one daughter who lives in Saginaw, Michigan. *Lyle Brooks Watson*

LEWIS H. GAST

Lewis Henry Gast was born on June 25th, 1895 in Chickasaw, the son of Lewis and Mary Koenig Gast. He was born at the home of his aunt and uncle, Henry and Rosa Koenig Everman.

His father died prior to his birth and his mother followed in just a few years. When a young boy he moved with his aunt and uncle and family to Celina where he attended I. C. parochial school and graduated in the class of 1913.

He worked for "Big Pete Schunck's Shoe Store" until he was called into the ranks during World War I, and resumed working there after his return in July, 1919.

On November 6, 1919 he was married to Leona Beckman, who is the daughter of the late Henry and Clara Gottemoller Beckman of St. Henry. Leona was born on September 20th, 1897.

Lewis and Leona Gast made their first home in Celina and their first son was born there on March 12, 1921 and was named James Warren.

In September 1922, Lewis Gast joined his wife's father and brother, Henry Beckman and Luke Beckman, in purchasing the general merchandise store of Mrs. J. J. Romer in St. Henry. This partnership was called the Beckman and Gast Co. At that time, Lewis, Leona and son James moved to St. Henry. In April 1923, Henry Beckman died and his wife Clara took his place in the store.

On August 30th, 1923, the family added another son, William Henry. John Lewis was born on September 24th, 1925, with Robert Allen joining the family on January 30th, 1927. A daughter, Jean Ann, was born September 7th, 1935.

In 1928 Lewis Gast and Luke Beckman bought the Macke Canning Co. of St. Henry, and in 1930 sold the "General Merchandise Store". At a later date the Minster Canning Co. was purchased and during World War II a cannery at New Carlisle, Ohio was bought. The latter, however, seemed too far from home and was only kept for a few years.

Sometime after World War II, in which three sons participated, it was decided to divide the holdings of the company; Luke Beckman taking the Minster Canning Co. and Lewis Gast keeping the home plant. Lewis then took his sons and later his son-in-law into the business with him. The company had purchased the small Osgood Canning Co. in Darke Co. John Gast left the company around 1960.

The children of Lewis Gast are all married. William (Bill) married Geraldine Feldhake, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Feldhake of St. Henry in July 1945. John married Marjorie Buschor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Buschor of Coldwater R.R. in April 1946.

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She has passed away and John has since re-married. Robert (Bob) was married to Joan Backs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Backs of Montezuma in June 1950 and James' (Jim's) wife is the former Beatrice Froning, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Froning of Coldwater. They were married in November 1950. Jean married Charles (Jack) Bergman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bergman of Ft. Recovery in October, 1956.

Lewis' health began to fail in the mid 1950's. In the summer of 1964, during a terrific heat spell, he became ill with pneumonia from which he never recovered. He died on November 20th, 1964.

Leona, who had always helped in the office at the canning factory, continued to work during packing seasons for another ten years. She is now retired, and after selling her home lives in an apartment at 242 Washington St., St. Henry. She spends about four months of the year in Florida.

All of the children live in St. Henry except John who has his business in Indianapolis, and makes that city his home.

Lewis Gast's descendents are five children, 24 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. *Leona M. Gast*

WILLIAM H. GAST

William Henry Gast was born on August 30, 1923, in St. Henry, Ohio. He was the second son of Lewis Gast and Leona Beckman Gast. James and William were later joined by brothers John and Robert and by a sister, Jean.

Bill attended St. Henry schools for twelve years, graduating from St. Henry High School in 1941.

After the United States became involved in World War II, Bill served his country for two and one-half years in the Air Force. About eleven months of his tour of duty were spent overseas in the European field of operations. From September of 1944 until May of 1945, he was a prisoner of war in Germany. After he was liberated, he returned to the United States in June of 1945 and received an honorable discharge in October of 1945.

While home on leave in July, 1945, Bill married Geraldine Feldhake, a high school classmate and a teacher in Minster High School. They settled in St. Henry and in time became the parents of six children: Elaine (Mrs. Gerald Broering), Margaret (Mrs. Richard Harkins), Kathleen (Mrs. James Broering), William Joseph, Dorothy, and Steve.

Bill became a partner in the family business, serving as Vice President and Field Man for the Beckman and Gast Company, food processors of green beans and tomatoes.

Active in business affairs, Bill was president of the Ohio Canners and Food Processors for one year; in civic affairs, he was a member of the St. Henry Village Council and also the Board of Education; a lifelong Catholic, he was a member of the Knights of Columbus, a Past Grand Knight and a Fourth Degree Knight; as a veteran, he was a member of the American Legion and a Past Commander of the St. Henry Post. *William H. Gast*

Joseph Hartings Fa
— **Seated:** Mary, I
beth, Evelyn, Pat
Thelma and Jos
Standing: Lester, L
Ernest, Myron and
gil.

JOSEPH HARTINGS FAMILY

Joseph and Mary (Evers) Hartings made t
home on a farm in Granville Township, Sec
thirty-two, consisting of 160 acres more or less. T
bought eighty acres in 1925 and the balance in 1
and 1938.

Joseph was born August 21, 1900 at St. R
Ohio. He went to Dwenger School which was
cated about a mile from his home. He was a Gr
ville Township trustee and a Mercer County C
missioner for many years. He died July 6, 1969.

Mary was born March 1, 1906 at Cassella, C
and also went to school in Cassella. They were n
ried in the Catholic Church at Cassella on May
1925 and had ten children.

Ernest was born October 6, 1926, married Alfri
Wuebker on October 21, 1950 and have six child
Constance married to Robert Homan has three c
dren, Bryan, Renae and Jaclyn; Ronald married
vian Heitkamp; John married JoAnn Uhlenha
Steven; Gary and Douglas. They live in Cass
Ohio and he works at New Idea.

Evelyn was born July 3, 1928, married Lo
Bertke on June 20, 1953 and had eight childr
Daniel (deceased) Kenneth married Angela Richa
Barbara; David; Roger; Mary; Timothy and Mich
They live on a farm at Cassella, Ohio.

Thelma was born August 10, 1929, married L
rence Broerman on June 23, 1951 and have ei
children; Thomas; Virginia; Charles who was m
ried to Becky Vela has one child, Craig; Phy
Nancy; Mark; Walter and Sandra. They live o
farm near Cranberry Prairie, Ohio.

Virginia was born August 15, 1931 and died
vember 11, 1946.

Patricia was born January 4, 1933, married Alf
Broerman on June 9, 1956 and have four childr
Debra; Jeffrey; Susan and Robert. They live o
farm near New Bremen, Ohio.

Virgil was born December 4, 1934 and never m
ried. He lives on the home place and does the fa
ing.

Lester was born August 19, 1936, married Dolo
Clune on September 16, 1961 and have eight c
dren; Joyce; Dianne; Nancy; Lisa; Kevin; Scott;
frey and Amy. They live on a farm at St. Her
Ohio and he is employed by Cy. Schwieterman, In

Elizabeth was born January 12, 1938, married Jo
Romer on November 22, 1958 and had five childr
Karla; Matthew (deceased); Kathleen; Lynn a
David. They live in St. Henry, Ohio.

Linus was born October 10, 1941, married Ca
Schmitz on July 14, 1962 and have four childr
Cynthia, Pamela, Eric and Debra. They live in Co
water, Ohio and operate the Pla-Mor Lanes.

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Myron was born February 20, 1943, married Mary n Uhlenhake on August 24, 1961 and have three ldren: Lori, Julia and Angela. They live in St. nry, Ohio and he is an electrician and plumber.
The older children attended the Quinter School ich was located about a half a mile from home d when it closed they went to the Cranberry and Henry Schools. They belong to the St. Francis tholic Church at Cranberry Prairie, Ohio.
oseph's parents were Henry (January 30, 1875-cember 27, 1927) and Rosa (Breuning) Hartings ugust 21, 1878-March 31, 1961). His grandparents re Matthias and Caroline (Reulman) Hartings and rman and Anna (Gerwing) Breuning. They all ed in Marion Township.
Mary's parents were Frank (February 5, 1874-braury 17, 1967) and Anna (Holdheide) Evers bruary 14, 1883-February 13, 1959). Her Grand-ents were Clement Evers and Anna (Hoehne) Ev-, and Anton and Elizabeth (Goettemoeller) Hol-eide. They all lived in Marion Township.
His Great-grandparents, Wilhelm and Johanna tilda (Kronenbruck) Hartings came from Ger-ny in 1847 and settled in Marion Township.
Her great-grand-parents were Francis and Mary illing) Evers, Bernard and Anna Maria (Hagadorn) ldheide, Bernard and Bernadina (Kemper) Goet-noeller, and great-great-grandparents were Hein-n and Elizabeth (Tangeman) Goettemoeller. They o all lived in Marion Township. *Mrs. Evelyn Berkte*

J. Henry Hartings Family, St. Henry, Ohio — Edna, Leona, J. Henry, Aloys, Elizabeth, Emma, Urban and Irene

J. HENRY HARTINGS FAMILY

. Henry Hartings was born in Granville Township st of St. Henry on January 29, 1866 the son of n Hartings and Katherine Schuerman. His grand-ents William and Matilda Kronenbruck Hartings d come from the District of Geldern near the tch border in northern Germany about 1848. On uary 13, 1891 he married Elizabeth Brinkman, the ghter of Joseph and Katherine Ashman Brink-n. They lived first on the Hartings farm west of Henry and for a short time in Philothea and Cel- before settling on Columbus Street in St. Henry. e family have always been parishioners of St. nry Catholic Church.
Henry owned and operated a clover huller, corn edder and threshing machine for farmers in the Henry area and surrounding farms. He also pur-ased lumber for various mills in the area. From 10 to 1918 he served as a Director on the Board of Ohio Threshermen's Ass'n. Mr. Hartings also ved several terms on the St. Henry Village Coun-

In 1909 he purchased the sawmill in St. Henry owned by the Bimel Company of Portland, Ind. and operated the sawmill with his two sons, Aloys and Urban, until his death on July 23, 1925. Lumber for the mill was purchased from farmers within a 5 mile radius of the village. His wife, Elizabeth, died on February 29, 1940 and both are buried in the St. Henry Cemetery.
Elizabeth and Henry were the parents of seven children. Aloys was born in 1891 and died in November, 1972. He graduated from St. Henry High School and served with tbe U.S. Army 20th Corp of Engineers in France during World War I. He and his brother operated the sawmill in St. Henry until 1952 at which time it was sold to Lawrence Rutschilling and Sons. Aloys was a Charter Member of the St. Henry Knights of Columbus and served as its first Grand Knight (1927-1929). Antonetta died in infancy and was buried in Philothea cemetery. Miss Emma Hartings was born in 1895 and died in September 1974. She was the housekeeper for the family. Edna, born in 1896, married Harry J. Winkeljohn of St. Henry. They live in Celina and their 8 children were reared there. Edna died in February, 1974. Urban was born in 1899 and operated the sawmill with his brother. Later he worked as fireman and boiler operator at the Beckman & Gast Canning Company, St. Henry, and Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Coldwater for 12 years. He presently lives in St. Henry. Leona was born in 1901 and served as Bookkeeper for the J. H. Hartings Sons Sawmill and later worked as Clerk of the St. Henry School Board. She retired in 1969. Presently she resides at Briarwood Manor in Coldwater. Irene was born in 1904 and married William Moorman of St. Henry. She now lives on the Theodore Moorman farm in Granville Township. Nine children were born of this union. *Urban Hartings or Mary E. Winkeljohn*

Joseph and Anna Hemmelgarn's house, after the cyclone on Palm Sunday in 1920.

RICHARD HEMMELGARN FAMILY

Joseph and Anna Hemmelgarn were married April 23, 1913. Anna's parents were Frank and Catherine (Sutter) Rammel. Anna was the oldest child and had two brothers — Charles and Albert and two sisters; Rose married Joseph Kaup and Pauline married Leo Pohl.
Joseph was the fourth child of Henry and Elizabeth (Rutschilling) Hemmelgarn. Joseph had four brothers: Bernard who died as an infant in 1883; Frank was born in 1884; Anthony in 1886; Joseph in 1888 and Ferdnand died as an infant in 1895. He also had five sisters: Mary was born in 1890 and married Joseph Miller; Thresa, born in 1892 and married John Obringer; Rose, born in 1896 and married Edward Ruther; Agnes, born in 1898 and married

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Alfred Buehler, and Cecilia, born in 1900, who is a Precious Blood Nun.

Henry's father and mother were Theodore, Sr. and Mary (Huelsman) Hemmelgarn. They were one of six pioneer families of the St. Bernard Parish of Burkettsville.

Their children were: Theodore, Jr., Henry, Joseph, Bernard, John, Anthony and William, and the girls were Josephine, Theresa and Elizabeth.

They were all farmers in the Burkettsville and New Weston area with the exception of Bernard, who had a general store at Burkettsville, and Joseph who farmed at Perham, Minneosta. It is said that he had asthma so bad that he was told to go west for his health. He got as far as Minnesota and his money ran out and he had to go to work. While working there his asthma got better and that is why he became a farmer in Minnesota.

Theodore Sr. was born in 1829 and he died in 1915, his wife Mary was born in 1836 and died in 1890.

Joseph and Anna Hemmelgarn lived one mile east of Burkettsville. Their children were Richard and Harold.

Richard married Marcella Kaiser in 1939. Their children were: Joanne, Ronald, Virginia, Alice Mae, Marjorie, Edward Gerald and Joseph.

Harold married Alma Kramer in 1939. Their children were: Lowell, Patricia, Fred, Ned, Grace and Mary.

The picture shows how Joseph and Anna's house looked after the cyclone on Palm Sunday in 1920.

Richard Hemmelgarn, Celina, Oh. 45822

JOHN HEINRICK HEMMELGARN

John Heinrick Hemmelgarn, his wife Anna Maria Dierkes and 5 children came to the United States in 1834, stayed in Springfield, Ohio for a little while and then came to Mercer County, Ohio. John Heinrick bought land in Section 36 of Granville Township on 6 Sept. 1837 and settled there. Two more children were born in Ohio. From their union the following children: Anna Marie (1826-1899), John Theodore (1829-1915), Henry (1832-1908), Elizabeth, Theresa, Bernard Joseph (1838), Maria Catherina (1841-1857).

The only reference to John Heinrick's death is a Will recorded 22 Oct. 1849 and a death record of a John Heinrick (no last name) in St. Henry Church on 20 Oct. 1849. Anna Maria, born 18 Feb. 1798, died 8 Nov. 1857 at the age of 59 years and is buried in St. Henry's Cemetery.

Anna Maria married John Bernard Drahmann on 27 Jan. 1844 and had 10 children. John Henry (1844), Maria Bernardina (1846), Maria Anna (1848), Maria Theresa (1850), who married Joseph Macke, Elisabeth (1852), John Bernard (1854), Mary Margaret (1856), Henry Joseph (1858), Frances (1861) and Francis Bernard (1863).

John Theodore, born 4 Sept. 1829 in Neuenkirchen in Hulsen, Germany married Mary Huelsman daughter of John Herman Huelsman and Anna Marie Margaret Ording on 14 Apr. 1853 at St. Henry, Ohio. See History of John Theodore Hemmelgarn for descendants.

Elizabeth was probably born in Germany and d in Massachusetts as a nun in a religious institutio

Theresa married Mr. Hackmann.

Bernard Joseph married 24 May 1859 to Gertr Schmith and had following children: Paul (18 Maria Catherina (1861), Maria Clara (1864), Jos Henry (1866).

Henry married Catherine Schmith on 30 Jul. 1 and had 11 children: Henry Paul (1853-1875) m ried Elizabeth Lemm, Bernard Theodore (1855 d as infant), Maria Catharine (1857) married Jos Hagedorn, John Bernard (1859) married Bernard Albers, Bernard Joseph (1862-1879), John (18 1950), Charles F. (1867-1947) married Philom Goettemoller, Anna Maria (1870 lived 1 day), M Elizabeth (1871) married Herman Brandewie, A Rinata (1871) and William (1873 lived 1 day). *Prep by: Roxanne Framme Hemmelgarn*

THE HENRY HEMMELGARN FAMILY

Henry Hammelgarn and Mary Derkas were b and married in Germany. The family came fr Neuen Kirchen, Hulsen, Hanover, Germany.

Henry and Mary had six children. Mary born 1826, married Bernhard Draham. They are both b ied in the St. Henry cemetery, St. Henry, O Theodore born on Sept. 4, 1829, married Mary H elsman, she was born in 1836. Henry born in 18 married Catherine Smith. A daughter Elizabeth came a nun. A daughter Catherine died very you Joseph married Gertrude Smith.

When the family left Germany to come to Am ica, they first settled in Springfield, Ohio in 1835.

A few years later Theodore's parents bough farm near Cranberry Praire, Ohio, in Mer County. They cleared the ground, built a log cab Here is where they raised their family. Henry a Mary passed the remainder of their days here. Th dore stayed with his parents until he married M Huelsman in 1853.

Mary was born of Herman and Margaret Hue man. She came to America in 1835.

Theodore and Mary lived near St. Henry, O for about ten years. Then bought a place near Bu ettsville, Ohio. Here Theodore farmed the land a he and Mary raised their family. They had ten ch dren.

Theodore died Sept. 30, 1915. Mary Huelsm Hemmlegarn died June 21, 1890. They are both b ied in St. Bernard's cemetery, Burkettsville, Ohio.

The children of Theodore and Mary are; Th dore, married Mary Nordenbrock. Their ten ch dren are Kate, Rose, Anna, Agnes, Joseph, Alex, L Theodore and Olga.

Elizabeth married John Rutschilling and to t union four daughters were born Mary, Anna, Ro Kate.

Henry married Elizabeth Rutschilling. Their eig children are Frank, Mary, Theresa, Joe, Tony, Ro Agnes, Cecelia (Sister Everista).

John married Elizabeth Meiring. They had elev children Josephine, Norbert, Clem, Theresa, Fra Catherine, Christina, John, Clarence, Robert.

Joseph married Anna Wagner. Their children Rose, Clara, Martin.

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ien married Anna Krimmelbeck. Their four chil-
n are Urban, Ruben, Henry, Gertrude.
nthony married Lena Schindler. They had ten
ldren Aloys, Alvina, Regina, Ernest, Charles, Le-
, Adolph, Roman, Walter, Florian.
Villiam married Thecla Nau. Their nine children
e Elanore, George, Frances, Mary, Luella, Ursula,
red, Agnes, Hilda.
heresa a twin married Joseph Steinbrunner.
y had eight children Estella, Irma, Henrietta,
elia, Clarence, Ferdinard, Agnes, Arthur.
osephine the twin of Theresa married John
sher. They had five children Julius, Edwin,
da, Justina, Marcella.
he Hemmelgarn family are Catholics. Some of
earlier residents of Granville Township, Mercer
nty, in Ohio. *Catherine Steinbrunner*

Theodore Hemmelgarn Family — **Back Row L. to R.:** Henry, Joseph, Bernard, John, Anthony. **Center Row:** Theodore Jr., father Theodore Sr., mother Mary, Elizabeth. **Front Row:** William, twins Josephine & Theresa.

VILLIAM HEMMELGARN FAMILY

Mr. Hemmelgarn was born February 15, 1875, at
kettsville, Ohio, son of Theodore and Mary Hu-
nan Hemmelgarn.
heodore was born September 4, 1829, and came
America 1835. He bought tbe Hemmelgarn farm
st of Burkettsville 1864 and it is still in the family.
Villiam married Thecla Nau on September 11,
6, in St. Lawrence Church, New York Mills, Min-
ota, where he met Thecla when he went to visit
brother, Joseph Hemmelgarn. Thecla's father, Jo-
h Nau, and Joseph Hemmelgarn were on the
ool board in Perham, Minnesota. They came to a
m west of Burkettsville and raised two sons and
en daughters: Eleanor, George, Frances, Mary,
lla, Ursula, Alfred, Agnes and Hilda. Thecla died
gust 11, 1928. William died February 9, 1942.
leanor married Paul Schenking. Their children
: Virginia, William, Phyllis, Roger, Richard and
ce. They have 22 grandchildren and 5 great-
ndchildren. Paul died October 4, 1963.
George married Catherine Weickgenant. Their
ldren are: Mary Ann, Joseph, John, Grant, Marga-
. They have 15 grandchildren.
Marie Saalman married Henry Severt. Their chil-
n are: Evelyn and Norman. Marie died 1931. In
tober of 1940, Henry married Frances and had
ee children — Charles, Jane, and Irene. There are
grandchildren. Henry died on April 13, 1978.
Mary married Joseph O. Grillot and had 8 daugh-
s: Annette, Patricia, Mary Jo., Carol, Louise, Joan,
bara, Nancy. Joseph died February 25, 1974,
ey have 16 grandchildren.
uella married Wilbert Gagel. Their children are
nald, Roselyn, Janet. They have four grandchil-
n.

Ursula married Marion Barga and have 6 children: Nicholas, William, Bonita, Joseph, Kathleen and Ann. Ursula and Marion have three grandchildren.

Alfred married Emma Scherer and they have three children — Ronald, Janice, Timothy. They have two grandchildren.

Agnes married Robert Zimmer. Their children are: Elizabeth, Mary Jean, Joseph, Julie and Robert. They have two grandchildren.

Hilda married Russell Catanzaro and had one son, David. Hilda died December 1, 1952. David is married and lives in San Diego, California. *Mrs. Henry Severt, Celina, Oh. 45822*

John and Josephine Hess

JOHN HESS

John Hess was born June 19, 1877, the son of Henry Hess and Barbara (Schoenlein) Hess.

Henry was the son of William Hess and was born 1849 in Germany. He came to the U.S. with his parents when he was ½ year old.

Barbara Schoenlein, daughter of John and Margaret Schoenlein, was born in 1851 in Germany. She came to the U.S. with her parents at age 2.

Henry Hess and Barbara Schoenlein were married in Carthagena January 17, 1871. Henry and Barbara settled in Carthagena on an 80 acre farm in Granville Twp., Sec. 13. They had 7 children, 4 sons and 3 daughters.

Michael married Mary Ronnebaum in 1917 and lived on a farm in Cassella. He died in 1951 at age 78.

Casper married Rosa Hoelscher in 1910 and lived on the home place. He died in 1924 at age 49.

Catherine married Joseph Dahlinghaus in 1901 and lived in Carthagena. She died in 1918 at age 38.

Mary was born in 1883. She died in 1902 after being struck by lighting.

Henry Jr. married Margaret Hoelscher in 1914 and lived at Carthagena on a farm. He died in 1960 at age 75.

Elizabeth married William Franzer in 1913 and lived on a farm in Carthagena.

John married Josephine (Reier) Mader November 16, 1909 in St. Henry. Josephine was adopted by Robert and Catherine Mader at the age of 2½ years. They lived in St. Henry and had four children, 3 sons and 1 daughter.

John worked at Hardings' sawmill in St. Henry for quite a few years. His work consisted of running a thrash machine in the summer season and a pony mill in the winter months. The time out of season he was a fireman at the sawmill.

Two years before he died he worked at Landman's Flour Mill, where he was injured and blood poison set in. This then was the cause of his death in September 1920.

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Josephine Hess and her three sons moved to Osgood in November 1931, where she and her oldest son had a shoe and harness repair shop.

It was in the depression time and work was hard to get, so in 1935 Al and George went to Columbus and found work there. They sold their repair shop and Josephine and her third son also moved to Columbus. Josephine died in 1975.

Al born 1914 married Clara Stukenborg and they had four children: Harold, Thelma, Dennis, and Larry.

George, born 1916, married Margaret Conway and they had two children: Judy and Donna. Margaret died July 1970.

Roman, born 1920, married Mary Sprouse and they had 14 children: John and Donald, twins, Joanne, Beverly, Patricia who died at 5 months, David, Diania, Jim, Thomas, George, Steven, Mary Beth, Michael, and Paul. Mary, Roman's wife, died in July 1965.

Mary, born 1911, married Herman Fullenkamp and moved on a farm in Recovery Township in Victoria, Ohio. They attended St. Joseph parish. They had 7 children.

Mildred married Eugene Huelskamp and they have three children: David, Ronald, and Nickolas. They live in St. Henry, Ohio.

Bernice married Paul Gehret and they have seven children: Joan, Doris, Andrew, Daniel, Richard, Ivan, and Gary. They live in North Star, Ohio.

Robert married Delores Huelskamp and they have six children: Deborah, Michele, Patricia, Robert Jr., Michael, Carol. Robert took over the home place in 1971 when Herman and Mary moved to St. Henry.

Mary Ann married Edward Dirksen and they have two children: Christopher and Julie. They live in Sharpsburg.

Anthony married Rosie Knapke and they have two children: Lisa and Karen. They live in Ft. Loramie.

Jeanette married Larry Meyer and they have two children: Joseph and Kelly. They live in Chickasaw.

Dorothy married James Borger and they have three children: Anne, Benjamin, and Susan. They live in St. Henry.

Mary and Michael Hess

MICHAEL HESS FAMILY

Michael Hess was a resident of the southern part of Mercer County all his life, and was born on Sept. 29, 1872 on a farm just west of Carthagena Church, the son of Henry and Barbara (Schoenlein) Hess. Michael's father, Henry was born on October 8, 1848 and died on July 3, 1901. His mother was born on February 2, 1851 in Germany and came to America with her parents when she was two years of age. She died on March 11, 1926. They had seven children: Michael, the eldest and subject of this sketch, Casper, 1875-1924; John, 1877-1920; Catherine, v of Jospeh Dahlinghaus, 1880-1918; Mary, born 1883 was killed by lightning when she was a yo girl; Henry, 1885-1960; and Elizabeth born in 1 was married to William Franzer of Carthagena. is the only member of this family still living an 89 years of age.

Michael, as a young man, worked for a numbe years at the old Gruenenwald Convent farm abo mile south of Cassella Church which belonged the Sisters of the Precious Blood. The old conv buildings are no longer standing and the farm v eventually sold by the Sisters.

In 1906 Michael bought an 80 acre farm in Gr ville Township from C. D. Hierholzer for $6,3 What a difference in the price of land seventy ye ago! In 1927 he bought a 20 acre strip of land alc the entire west side of his farm from Mary Hue man, thus increasing his acreage to 100 acres. T farm is located on State Route 119 about ½ m west of U.S. Route 127.

On June 20, 1917 he was married to Mary Rc nebaum who was born on a farm a mile north of Sebastian Church on October 18, 1888, the daugh of Henry F. and Philomena (Sudbeck) Ronnebau They were the parents of five children:

Eleanora born on Mary 4, 1919 and married 1947 to Louis Zumwald of Maria Stein where th now reside. They have six children: James, Ma Ann, Patricia, Gerald, Joseph, and Karen.

Alma, born on July 25, 1921 and married in 19 to Richard Ruschau of Maria Stein, are now living Danville, Illinois and are the parents of six childre Dennis, William, Marjorie, Victoria, Douglas a Gregory.

John now resides on a farm southeast of Monte uma on Guadaloupe Road. He was born on June 1924 and was married to Esther Budde of Ma Stein in 1948. They have eight children: Rona Richard, Kenneth, Michael, Charles, Gary, Ca and Mary. A son, Stephen, died in 1962 at the age five years.

Robert, born on May 9, 1927 and married in 19 to Eileen Rose of Cranberry are the parents of eig sons: Thomas, Daniel, Dale, Carl, Leonard, Ala Craig, and Chris. A daughter, Sandra died in 1958 the age of five years. Robert and his family live the home farm and in 1977 built a new brick hom The old frame house which is now being torn dov was built in 1884 by John Theodore Ruschau, gran father or Richard Ruschau mentioned above, wh he owned the farm.

Ruth, the youngest daughter, was born on July 1 1929 and was married in 1950 to Louis Hamberg Coldwater and they live on a parcel of land pu chased from the Hess farm. They have five childre Constance, Nancy, David, James, and John.

In 1929 Michael bought the 80 acre farm from th Henry Ronnebaum estate where John and his fami now reside.

Michael Hess and his family were members Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church in Cassel and he was a member of the church choir for mar years. He died on June 21, 1951 at age 78 and Ma was 50 years of age when she preceded him in deat on January 24, 1939. *Eleanora Zumwald*

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HENRY J. HEUING

Henry J. Heuing was born in Cranberry Prairie, io to George W. and Mary (Rengers) Heuing on e 5, 1891. He served in World War I overseas as a chine Gunner with the U.S. Army. Prior to enter- the Army he was employed by John Kleinhenz St. Rosa. On his return from the service he was ployed by Henry Rengers who operated a general re at Chickasaw, Ohio. He worked in the store d drove a huckster truck.

On May 24, 1921 he was married to Odilia Roeck- the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hinders) eckner of Chickasaw. They bought the General re at St. Wendelin which they operated along h a huckster truck. Then on October 17, 1947 the store burnt to the ground. A new brick store was lt, and they were again back in business, minus huckster truck, on June 1, 1948. On May 23, '1 they celebrated their Golden Wedding at St. endelin Church with a reception at Ft. Recovery ion Hall. Then on June 1, 1972 they retired and d the store and home to Charles Bornhorst from w Bremen. They moved in a new home north of store.

They have three daughters, Betty who lives in St. endelin and Viola who married Edward Lefeld d lives in St. Wendelin, Irene who married Alfred d) Fullenkamp and lives in St. Henry. Also ven grandchildren, Edward Lefeld, Jr. (Edna Zum- g) Logan, Patricia Lefeld (deceased) (Dale) Win- , Piqua, Alberta Lefeld (Larry) Behr, Ft. Loramie, yllis Lefeld (John) Krieg, North Star, Madonna Le- d (Francis) Grieshop, Chickasaw, and Allen Le- d, St. Henry, Paul Fullenkamp, Dayton, Mark ithy Kaup) Fullenkamp, St. Henry, Jean, Kevin d Ruth Fullenkamp, St. Henry.

They have eight great grandchildren, Douglas, rick and Jason Winner, Lisa and Lori Behr, nda and Michael (deceased) Krieg, and Brad Ful- kamp.

Henry J. Heuing died at Community Hospital, ldwater on June 15, 1978. He had three brothers thony, Dayton and William, St. Wendelin both eased and Ferdinand who resides at Sharpsburg. o sisters died in infancy.

Odilia Heuing has a brother John Roeckner in yton and Norbert in Nocedah, Wisc. She had ee brothers William, Otto and Werner and three ers Leona (August) Knapke, Agnes Dexter and semary Brandt all deceased.

AL AND BERNIE HOMAN FAMILY

Alfred Bernard Homan, son of Theodore and Ma- la (Braun) Homan and Bernadine Agnes Lefeld, ughter of George and Bernadine (Schmackers) Le- d were married on Tuesday, August 21, 1945, in St. Henry Catholic Church by Rev. Pius Kanney, P.S.

Alfred (Al) was born in Philothea, Ohio on March 1921. He attended Philothea School until his six- teenth birthday. He then helped his father on the farm, which is the present Edwin Homan farm, a mile west of Philothea.

In 1939 he started working at the Pet Milk Company in Coldwater. During World War II, he was inducted into the Army on October 28, 1942. He served in the Infantry. He was awarded the Purple Heart medal for being wounded in action in the battle of Saipan. He received his honorable discharge on May 31, 1945.

He again worked at the Pet Milk Co. as a laboratory technician until 1960, when he and two other gentlemen bought shares in the St. Henry Tile Co., Inc.; where he is presently general manager.

I was born in St. Joe (Victoria), Ohio on March 26, 1922. I attended St. Henry School until I was sixteen. In 1940 I started working at the Buckeye Overall Co., in Coldwater, until our marriage in 1945.

We bought the former Herman Meyer farm of ten acres located on Burkettsville-St. Henry Road, just south of St. Henry. The house was completely remodeled and we lived there for six years. We sold this place to Herbert Brackman in 1951 and bought the eighty acre farm located on State Route 119, just west of St. Henry, from Dan Breymeyer. This farm was in need of many tile and it was getting difficult to get plenty thus giving Al the idea to going into the Tile business.

The log barn was torn down and the new barn was built in 1956. After living here for twelve years, we sold it to Paul Broering in 1963 and we bought the former Harold A. Dorsten residence on North Sycamore Street in St. Henry, where we are now living.

We were blessed with nine children. Margaret was born July 15, 1946, married Keith Gehle on August 27, 1966. They have five children. Jane was born February 5, 1948, married William Woods on June 6, 1970. They have two children. Susan was born March 13, 1949, married William Freisthler on June 26, 1971. They have four children. Robert was born on July 3, 1950, married Connie Hartings. They have three children. Madonna was born on July 24, 1951, married Robert James Foote on July 19, 1974.

Nancy was born June 17, 1953, married Eugene Subler on August 4, 1973. They have two children. Michael was born January 8, 1956, married Joyce Osterfeld on June 4, 1976. They have one child. Grace was born on June 24, 1957, married Eugene Fortkamp. They have three children. Lisa Maria was born on May 4, 1964 and is a Freshman in St. Henry High School.

Through Youth for Understanding, we welcomed Miss Sibylle Hagenbuch from Mülacker, Germany, into our home from August 28, 1977 to July 17, 1978. On August 21, 1978, we welcomed Miss Eleftheria Kzounia from Eleftherapolis, Greece, who will be with us until July, 1979.

Al served on the St. Henry School Board and also the Mercer County School Board. Al and I are both active in Church and Community affairs. Our hope is that the little we contributed will make St. Henry a better place to live. *Bernie Homan*

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37th Wedding Anniversary, May 21, 1950, Joe and Mary Homan

JOSEPH AND MARY (OSTERHOLT) HOMAN FAMILY

Joseph Homan was born Oct. 23, 1886 and died May 1, 1969. Mary Osterholt was born June 25, 1882 and died May 29, 1959.

On August 21, 1848 Joseph Homan's father, Theodore Homan, was born in Westfallen, Germany. He served in the German Army in the Franco-Prussian war under Bismark for three years. In 1871, at the age of twenty-five (25) he came to America. He journeyed to what is now Mercer County working for one year for Joe Homan, a first cousin, at St. Rose to pay his passage over. He worked for farmers for several more years. In 1875 he purchased 100A of woodland in what is now Granville Township. This farm is now owned by his grandson, Arnold. He had been told by a friend that Bernard Pleiman, who owned a neighboring farm, had two lovely daughters — Mary and Elizabeth. When Theodore asked Mary to marry him, she wanted time to think it over. He told her that she had a week, then if she did not accept, he would ask her sister. So Mary accepted. Later Theodore wrote his brother Henry in Germany telling him about Elizabeth. Henry came to America and married Elizabeth.

When the banns were published, the whole congregation came to help build a log house. They were married May 11, 1875. After the wedding the congregation came again to clear some land. They had a log-rolling, clearing about five acres. After seven years a frame house replaced the log house still in use today.

There were no roads in those early days. The pioneers traveled through the swampy woods on foot, on horseback, or with wagons. When going to church with a wagon, other parishioners were picked up along the way.

To sell their produce they had to journey to (New) Bremen. If they had butter or eggs to sell, it was put in a pillowcase, tied to a pole, and carried over the shoulder. Livestock was driven through the woods.

The children born to this marriage were Bernard, twins Katherine (Mrs. Joe Saalman) and Anna who died in infancy, Elizabeth (Mrs. Ben Jutte), Mary (Mrs. Frank Penno), Frank, twins Theodore and Joseph, Rose (Mrs. George Dues), Anna who died of typhoid at age twenty-four, Josephine who died at age of 4, Julia (Mrs. Albert Boeckman) and George.

Theodore died in 1924 and Mary in 1936.

in 1842 Bernard Pleiman and his wife Catherine came to Philothea. Bernard bought government land and settled on the farm that is now at 3297 Philothea Road. There the children were born — Mary (Theodore Homan's wife and Joseph Homan's mother) on Oct. 29, 1851. Bernard helped dig what is now Grand Lake St. Marys. He worked for 50¢ a day and a ger of whisky.

In Westfallen Germany an Osterholt family two sons, Bernard and John. The father died and mother married Henry Teklote. The Teklotes two daughters, Mary (Mrs. Henry Dues) and Bei dine (Mrs. John Wenning).

In 1865 Henry Teklote brought his family America. They first stayed with Tekamps at wh now 4293 Burkettsville St. Henry Rd. (The H dheide) farm). He rented the farm across the roa 4100 Burkettsville St. Henry Road (The Pe Farm). Later he bought the farm at 3691 Towns Line Rd. This farm now belongs to Cletus Due great-grandson.

In 1874 Bernard married Mary Wenning and quired the farm at 3352 Philothea Rd. which r belongs to his grandson Paul Homan. Bernard Mary had two sons, Henry and Herman Osterh His wife died in 1878 and in 1880 he married An Pohl. To this marriage five children were born, E nadine (Mrs. George Teepen), Mary (Mrs. Jos Homan), Joseph, Bernard, who died of diptheria the age of nine, and Louise (Mrs. Edward Milk land). After his wife Anna died in 1913 Bernard s the farm to John Dues, a nephew, and went to with his daughter Mrs. George Teepen. He died Celina in 1917.

On May 21, 1913 Joseph Homan and Mary Ost holt were married in Philothea. A short time bef the wedding, Joseph bought the homestead from father, Theodore. A 1916 county directory put by the Farm Journal listed Joseph and Mary Hom as owning a 100A farm, 2 children, 12 head of ca and 3 horses. The young couple prospered adding their acreage, their cattle, (their horses later repla by a tractor) and four more children. They are Pa Anna, Juletta, Cletus, Arnold and Cleopha.

Homan Family **Standing L. to** Arnold, Paul, Cle Anna. **Seated:** Cleo Joe, Mary, and Julett

THESE ARE THE CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND MARY (OSTERHOLT) HOMAN

Paul Homan — On May 10th, 1939, in Philoth Paul married Irene Dues the daughter of August a Ethel Entrup Dues. Paul was a member of the Phi thea School Board, president of Mercer Cour Farm Bureau, and is a member of the Democra Central Committee. He bought the Osterholt fa Butler Township, Philothea mentioned earlier, fr his dad who had purchased it from John Dues. Th union was blessed with six children — Donald, Ri Kenneth, Mary Ann, Daniel and Timothy. Don married Madonna Moorman on Nov. 5, 1966 in qua. She is the daughter of Ben and Mildred (Vo ard) Moorman. Their children are Dennis, Jo Angela, and Mathew. Donald is a graduate of t University of Dayton, is an electrical engineer, a is employed by Monsanto. They live in Ketteri Rita, a graduate of the University of Dayton and

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cher, married Gene Schrack, son of John and da Schrack on June 12, 1968 in Philothea. Gene is najor in the air force and is stationed in New mpshire. Their children are Bill, Joyce and Tom. nneth married Esther Lochtefeld, daughter of Ro- ın and Bernadine (Nieport) Lochtefeld on Dec. 28, 58 in St. Henry. He is a business graduate of Sin- ir College and is manager of Landmark in Rock- d. His children are Karen, Charles, and Joseph d they live on a farm at 3442 Wessel Road, Philo- a, Butler Township. Mary Ann — married Luke man, son of Sylverius and Anna (Siefring) Ho- ın on April 18, 1972 in Philothea. They live at 34A ilker Rd. Their children are Doug (deceased) Nick d Greg. Daniel graduated from ITT in Fort Wayne electrical technology and works in Berne, Indiana. ı July 20, 1978 he married Cathy Atkinson, ughter of John and Carmen (Rodriquez) Atkinson Ft. Recovery and lives at 3282 Philothea Rd., Phi- hea. Timothy — is helping his father on the farm home.

Anna (Homan) Evers — before her marriage rked at New Idea, Inc. Coldwater, Ohio as a secre- y. On Oct. 8th, 1941 she married Florence Evers, son of Clem and Theresa (Lange) Evers. They ught the farm at 3504 Lange Rd. in St. Wendelin. eir children are John, Linus, Joseph (deceased), lph and Mark. John married Mary Jean Wendel August 29, 1964. She is the daughter of Aloys and mella (Kremer) Wendel. Their children are Mike, vin, Janice, Linda, Alan, Douglas, and David. They e on a farm on the Mercer Darke County Line Rd., arpsburg. Rev. Linus Evers, C.PP.S. was ordained ne 19, 1971 at St. Charles Seminary, Carthagena. is associate pastor at St. Anthony's Church, Park lls, Wisconsin. Ralph — married Irene Brackman, ughter of Ivo and Norma (Mescher) Brackman at . Peter on Oct. 13, 1972. Their two sons are Craig d Bradley. They live at 2560 St. Rt. 219, Coldwater, ashington Township, St. Peter where they own d operate a farm. Mark married Mary Lou Puthoff ı Aug. 29, 1960 in Maria Stein. She is the daughter Norbert and Esther (Rutschilling) Puthoff. Mark ught the home farm at 3510 Lange Rd. To this ıion five daughters were born — Melissa eceased), Nancy, Marie, Susan and Teresa, eceased).

Juletta Homan Huelskamp — graduated from owling Green, the University of Dayton, and right State. She taught in the Cranberry and St. enry Public Schools. On Aug. 6, 1958 she married nus Huelskamp, the son of Henry and Nora (Nie- rding) Huelskamp, in Philothea. They bought the uelskamp farm at 1837 St. Joe Rd., Recovery ownship, St. Joe (Victoria) from Linus' parents. Li- us is a veteran of World War II.

Cletus H. Homan — married Viola Homan, the ıughter of John and Elizabeth (Post) Homan in St. nthony on May 14, 1946. He bought the farm at 515 Carthagena Rd., Granville Township, Philothea om his father who had purchased it from Joe Wap- elhorst. Clete is active in several civic organizations - The St. Henry Rural Fire Protection Ass'n. He rved on the board of trustees of the Mercer Co. ırm Bureau of which he was president for three ears. He is Public Affairs Chairman of the Farm ureau and headed the effort to get extended area lephone service for Mercer County. He is Farm Bureau Youth Council Advisor and information chairman. He is also a member of the board of West Central Ohio Health System's Agency and serves on its executive committee. Viola and Cletus are the parents of five children — Laura, David, Sandra, Alvin and Gary. Laura Jane is an Ohio State University graduate and teaches special education in Centerburg School. David is an electronic technician and is a graduate of ITT. On June 15, 1974 he married Joan Steltzer the daughter of Norbert and Adella (Brunswick) Steltzer in St. Henry. Their two girls are Sara and Jill and they live in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Sandra graduated from the University of Dayton as an accountant. On Dec. 20, 1971 she married Thomas Schauer in Philothea. Tom is a graduate of U.D. and Ohio State and is a CPA. They live in Dayton and have two daughters, Cara and Abra. Alvin graduated from Ohio State and is a registered Pharmacist. On Nov. 20, 1976 he married Eileen Brackman, daughter of Ivo and Norma (Mescher) Brackman in St. Peter. They live in Minster. Gary graduated from St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana in data processing. On Nov. 12, 1977 he married Jane Kremer, the daughter of Arnold and Ruth (Kemper) Kremer in Coldwater. They live at 3242 Wessel Rd., Philothea. Gary is engaged in farming with his father.

Arnold Homan — married Marcella Eischen, the daughter of Joseph and Dolores (Mertz) Eischen on Aug. 3, 1960 in Sharpsburg. Arnold bought the homestead from his father at 3213 Post Rd., Granville Township. They have six school age children — Geraldine, Martin, Dominic, Philip, Lisa and Adrian.

Cleopha (Homan) Link — On June 7, 1949 Cleopha Homan and Aloys Link were married in Philothea. Aloys is the son of Charles and Anna (Wuebker) Link. They bought the farm at 1289 Burrville Rd. in Gibson Township, Sharpsburg. Aloys is a veteran of World War II, a Gibson Township Trustee, and, as such a member of Coldwater Community Hospital Board. They are the parents of ten children — Dennis, Carl, Rose Ann, Bill, Tom and Jerry (twins), Madonna, Paul, Edward and Marie. Dennis is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati in electrical engineering. On Nov. 17, 1972 he married Becky Klosterman in St. Marys. Her parents are Arthur and Viola (Osterfeld) Klosterman. They live at Bethel, Ohio. Carl, a poultry service man, and Bill, a truck driver, work for St. Clair Mills. Rose Ann graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a physical therapist and works in Cincinnati. Jerry married Debra Dysert, the daughter of Bill and Myra (Korfhagen) Dysert on June 26, 1976 in Philothea. They have a son Jeremy and live at 1310 Burrville Rd., Sharpsburg. He works for Pax Steel Products. Tom works for Pax Steel, Madonna for Ft. Recovery Industries, and Paul for Huffies. Marie and Ed are still in school. *Mrs. Juletta Huelskamp*

LEO A. HUBER

Leo A. Huber was born at Sharpsburg on December 21, 1901, the seventh child of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Huber. Joseph Huber's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Peter Huber and mother was Appolonia Haffa who resided at St. Rosa. Leo's mother's parents were Joseph Deppen and Mary Ording of St. John.

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He is a graduate of Sharpsburg Elementary school, St. Henry High School and Miami-Jacobs Business College. He purchased the Johnn Heinrich's restaurant at Burkettsville and began operation on April 13, 1924. He married Olga Hemmelgarn, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Hemmelgarn on June 4, 1924 and to them were born eight children. The oldest son Marvin is manager of Minster Insurance Agency Co.; Lester is in public relations with Frigidaire Corp., at Dayton; Alfred is a dealer for Frito-Lay Corp., Dayton; Harold is a draftsman with Monsanto Corp., at Dayton; Jean married Daniel Schmidt, Hamilton and he is in the Chemistry department with National Lead at their plant near Cincinnati; Ralph is in Real Estate with Heritage Realtors, Dayton; Gladys married to Luke Kremer at Dayton and he is with the U.S. Internal Revnue Service and Carol (deceased 1971) married Ferd C. Wint, proprietor of Esquire Shop at New Bremen.

Mr. Huber operated the restaurant-tavern for 37½ years, and was widely known for the famous beef sandwiches. During this time he also served as Clerk of the Burkettsville Board of Education and Clerk of the Village of Burkettsville for nearly 20 years. He was also a Notary Public since he was 21 years of age. He was the financial secretary for the local C. K. of A. Branch 1044 for nearly 30 years when the branch was transferred to the St. Joseph branch, in 1960.

He is a member of Greenville Elks Lodge, Past Grand Knight of St. Henry Council 2640 Knights of Columbus and Past Faithful Navigator of St. Gaspar del Bufalo, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

He has been a director of The St. Henry Bank for nearly 40 years. After selling his business to Ivo Schwieterman in 1961, he was a representative for Field Enterprises, Chicago, Ill. selling World Book for a few years and then became a deputy treasurer in the Darke County Treasurer's Office, where he served until he became ill with Guillian-Barre Syndrome. He was hospitalized at St. Rita's Hospital for three months and four months at a Greenville Nursing Home for recovery.

He is now living in retirement at their home at Burkettsville. He enjoys fishing for a hobby and loves baseball. *Leo A. Huber*

Mr. and Mrs. August Jutte & Family in 1976 — **Standing L. to R.:** Kenney, Jerry, Joseph, Edward, Connie. **Seated:** Mr. and Mrs. August Jutte (Betty Hemmelgarn-Jutte) Dave and Jeanie.

BETTY AND AUGUST JUTTE JR. AND FAMILY

Betty (Hemmelgarn) Jutte daughter of Edward and Josephine (Wenning) Hemmelgarn was born August 7, 1938. Betty was the youngest and the only daughter. Betty lived in Philothea all her school days. She belonged to St. Mary Catholic Church and went her 8 years of grade school at Philothea Special. Betty went to Coldwater High School and graduated in 1956. She then continued working for her fathe the egg plant. Betty got married to August Jutt from St. Peter, Ohio June 16, 1956. Auggie is the of August Jutte Sr. and Mary (Moeder) Jutte. Au came from a family of 14 children. His father farmer and his mother was a housewife and sc teacher. Auggie went to Oakland School for 8 y then he went to Coldwater High where he gradua in 1953. Auggie then worked at Pax Steel of Cold ter. After Auggie and Betty were married Au then started working for his father-in-law in the plant. Auggie worked there for 8 years and deci to buy a grocery store in St. Henry. The groc store was a small store on Main Street. We bought a home in St. Henry on Main St. In 1968 built a new grocery store known as Jutte's W Villa. It's located on East Main of St. Henry. Au and Betty have been kept busy with their store they have been very active in church and comm nity activities belonging to numerous organizatio

Auggie and Betty have 7 children. All seven c dren are living at home. Connie Susan born Aug 1957. Connie graduated from St. Henry High Sch (75). She worked in the store for her father dur her high school days and for one year follow graduation. Connie then went on to Continer Beauty School in Piqua. She graduated from th and is now working at Simplicity Beauty Salon Celina.

Jerry Edward was born Nov. 3, 1958. Jerry also tended all 12 years of school in St. Henry. He gra ated in 1977. Jerry worked for his father while in first couple years of high school then he worked Hemmelgarn's Egg Plant till after graduation. now works at Crown Control of New Bremen.

Kenneth Joesph born Sept. 8, 1959. Ken went St. Henry school for 8 years, then he attended Br nerdale Seminary for two years and came back to Henry to finish his High School. Ken worked p time at Hemmelgarn's his last two years of sch He graduated in 1978 and now works at Crown C trol of New Bremen.

Joesph Lee born Nov. 29, 1960 is now a Senior St. Henry High and he works part time for his fat in the store in the meat department.

Edward Lee born Feb. 3, 1963. Ed is now a sop more in St. Henry High School. Ed also helps out father in the store part time.

Jean Ann born May 22, 1968. Jean is also atter ing St. Henry School. She is now in the 5th grade.

Dave Alan born June 5, 1971. Dave is in 1st gra at St. Henry School. *August Jutte*

JOHN KANE

Born?? Died June 24, 1941. Approx. 65 yrs. of ag

Who was this man that practically everyone Mercer Co. knew, but nobody really knew? Wh did he come from? Why did he decide to settle in Henry and Mercer Co.? What was his real nam Why with all his talent, did he live a life similar t pauper? I have seen this man give his last dime t hobo that asked for it.

He was a brilliant speaker and orator, a master the English language. He was an artist and made l living painting signs. A superb singer, organist, a

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ıer talents, besides a broad knowledge of world airs.

Sitting on a store bench, he could hold your spell- und for hours with his oratory.

He stayed at the Tohle boarding house, when he ıld afford it, and knowing Mrs. Tohle probably ıny times when he couldn't afford it. Many times stayed in vacant buildings, hay lofts, etc. How- er he was welcomed to stay at many places where painted signs or mail boxes.

He had a horse and buggy for sometime, and he d me a nickel or a dime to feed it, which was a lot money for a kid those days. But, sorry to say, I n't think Dad, Bernard Lammers got much money the feed, but Dad didn't seem to care.

He liked to imbibe at times, and sometimes had to lect part of the sign money before he started to ady his hand to paint the sign.

Myron Huelsman, our present organist, gave me s information as John Kane was very close to his cle, and I quote; "To the best of our knowledge, ın Kane studied for the priesthood and this per- ps explains his expertise at oratory and also his od background in music. For many years, John ne, played the organ for the Keith circuit, and fol- ved these films to all the large cities. Why he set- d here, no one really knows."

Who was this man that could sing and play the gan better than anyone in the area? He played the gan in Church, but got fired by Fr. Kanney when played Yankee Doodle as the closing tune. I her liked it myself, at least everyone was listen- g.

He was found dead in a school bus, by some chil- en two days after he died on June 24, 1941. His th date was unknown, but Fr. Kanney assumed was about 65 yrs. of age. He had two cents in his cket when he died.

Many people like myself, respected this man, and eel he belongs in history, and I am proud to con- bute this to the Mercer Co. History Book. *Linus B. nmers*

EDWARD J. AND RITA KELLER

Edward Joseph Keller (born May 9, 1911) was arried to Rita Kessens (born Feb. 25, 1917) on Apr. , 1942. Edward's parents were Charles and Eliza- th (Clune) Keller of Gibson Twp. Rita's parents ere Henry and Ida (Dahlinghaus) Kessens of Burk- sville, Ohio. Edward and Rita live in the village of anberry Prairie, Granville Township. Ed worked New Idea Implement Factory, Coldwater, Ohio for nost 39 years.

Edward and Rita have twleve children: Mary Ann, ay 7, 1939; John H., Nov. 12, 1944; Karen M., Apr. , 1949; Thomas W., Dec. 13, 1951; Rosella M., Jan. 1955; Anthony P., Dec. 26, 1959; Betty Jane, Apr. , 1943; Richard L., Apr. 3, 1946; Norma J., July 21, 50; Margie R., June 1, 1953; Jerome W., Sept. 2, 57; Ruth Ann, Nov. 28, 1961.

Mary Ann married Tom Lajcik Feb. 1960; their ildren are: Thomas, Oct. 10, 1960; Linda, Apr. 17, 63; and Tim, June 21, 1965.

Betty Jane married Robert Kates Feb. 5, 1966; their children are: David T., Dec. 4, 1967; Kevin R., June 16, 1969; and Sharon M., Dec. 4, 1972.

John H. married Jean Overman, Sept. 4, 1971; their children are: Terry B., Dec. 19, 1972 and Cynthia E., Apr. 23, 1974.

Richard L. married Marge Overman July 4, 1969; their children are: Laura Ann, Mar. 31, 1970; Richard A., Apr. 1, 1971; Julia M., Mar. 7, 1972; and Nicole Lyn, Apr. 24, 1974.

Karen Married Tom Kovac June 20, 1970.

Norma Jean married David Will, May 13, 1972; their children are: Brian D., Dec. 30, 1973; Bradley J., Feb. 4, 1975; and Ted L., Mar. 6, 1976.

Thomas W. married Ruth A. Wilker, Aug. 10, 1973; their children are: Christopher T., Jan. 25, 1974 and Lisa Ann, May 16, 1976.

Margaret R. married Eric Vagedes July 6, 1974; their children are: Erica Ann, May 10, 1976 and Gregory, Mar. 22, 1978.

Rosella is an Occupational Therapist and works at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dayton, Ohio. Jerome works at Huffy's Bicycle Factory, Celina, Ohio. Anthony works at Mersmans Factory, Celina, Ohio. Ruth is an eleventh year student at Saint Henry High School, Saint Henry, Ohio. *Ed Keller*

KELLER

Linus Keller and Josephine Knapke married the year of 1930 in Saint Louis Church, North Star, Ohio. Began our married life on a farm west of St. Henry. After six years we sold this farm and bought a larger farm north of Burkettsville. Now retired and still live on the place. We have a family of six children. Imogene Keller and John Hart married in 1950. They now live on a farm south of St. Henry. John Hart also works at Avco New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio. Waveline Keller and Herbert Selhorst married the year of 1954. They are living on a farm east of Coldwater and have seven children. James Selhorst and Theresa Mescher were married in the year of 1976. They have two children. They have a girl Angel and a boy Brian and live in Coldwater, Ohio. Diana Selhorst, who attends the University of Dayton and is majoring in computer science. Judy Selhorst attends the University of Dayton and is majoring in Criminal Justice.

Mary graduated in 1978. Works at Mersman Bros. Terry goes to Coldwater High School. He is a sophomore.

Scott and Jeff attend a grade school. Hubert Keller lives and works on a farm near Burkettsville. He has two daughters — Angela Keller and Daniel Linn in 1977. They live in St. Henry. Sharon Keller works in St. Marys.

Joann Keller and Ernie Barhorst married in 1959. They live west of Ft. Loramie. He works at Stolle factory at Sidney, Ohio. Joann works at Crown Control in New Bremen, Ohio. They have four children. Karen Barhorst and Phillip Hurley married in 1978. They reside in Jackson Center. They work in a factory.

Cindy Barhorst is a Junior in Ft. Loramie school. Nancy Barhorst is a freshman in Loramie High School. Gerald goes to Ft. Loramie grade school.

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Raymond Keller and Madeline Shellenburg married in the year 1966 and live near Arcanum, Ohio. He works in Dayton. They have two children: Sandra who goes to kindergarten and a son Steven Keller.

Luke Keller and Jayne Davis married in the year 1963. They live on a farm north of Burkettsville and have four children: Ronald, born in 1963 and died in 1976; Patricia Keller, age 14, goes to St. Henry school; Daniel Keller, age 4 and Timothy age 3. *Linus Keller*

The Kesson Family in 1940 — **Front Row L. to R.:** Dora, Anna, Clem, Viola. **Back Row:** Russell, Marcella "Stella", Walter, Arthur, Norbert, Bernadina "Bernie", Clarence, and George.

THE KESSEN FAMILY

Clement Clarence Kessen (27 December 1874-13 May 1947) was born in St. Henry, Granville Township, Mercer County, Ohio, the son of George and Anna Shribber Kessen. His wife, Anna Clara Forsthoff (12 January 1875-22 September 1951) was the daughter of Henry Herman Forsthoff and Bernadina Agnes Ashman Forsthoff, also of St. Henry. They were married in 1894 and were parents to thirteen children and twenty-one grandchildren and, at least, thirty-five great-grandchildren. There have been five generations of this family in Mercer County.

"Clem" was a carpenter and carftsman in furniture making. He worked at Mersman Brothers Furniture Factory in Celina for thirty-five years and became an expert table maker. He built the house at 649 North Mill Street in Celina, Ohio in 1914. It was one of the first homes to be built on that street.

A brief review of some of the facts about the thirteen children follows in order of their birth.

First son, George Bernard "George" Kessen was born the 27th of October 1897 and married 16 August 1920 to Lulu May Dock. They had three children; William Bernard, who lived only two days in 1921; Juanita Jean (1924-1944); and Melvin Harold born 18 November 1922 who married Leah Doris Wiegman in 1953 and is living in Cincinnati with their children.

Second born to Clem and Anna on 15 December 1899 were twins Dora and Viola. Dorothea Ann "Dora" married in 1946 Aloys H. Buschur (1889-1958). They had no children, but Dora has raised twenty-one foster children, seven of whom were Al's by his first marriage. Dora is now living in Celina.

Viola Elizabeth "Viola" who died in 1971 was married in 1923 to Julius Froning (born 1899) of Coldwater, Ohio. They had one son and three daughters: Ruth (born 1924) married Donald Deitch and has two sons; Rita (born 1926) married Richard Kittle and has four daughters and one son; Marie (born 1928) married Glenn Powell and has ten children; and Charles (born 1938) married Anna Jackson and has one adopted son and a daughter.

Next born to Clem and Anna on 22 June 1902 Bernadina Clara "Bernie" who married first in 1 Leander "Dusty" Bomholt (1902-1972). They one daughter and lived in Celina, Ohio. Her sec marriage in 1954 was to Walter John Verrick (1 1978). They had no children. Bernie still lives in ina.

The second son born to Clem and Anna was C ence Henry Joseph "Dutch" (1904-1967) who n ried in 1925 Stella Louise Anna "Stella" St (1900-1976). They lived in Dayton, Ohio. Their son Eugene born in 1927 was murdered in 1947 before his discharge from the armed services. murderer was never caught.

Marcella Elizabeth "Sally" born in 1907 was fourth daughter and sixth child. She married in 1 Lawrence John Fortkamp (born 1906). Their hom in Celina. They have one son, Fr. Thomas He Kessen (born 1935) and a daughter, Marceil Rosa (born 1940) married in 1959 to Charles Hartii Marceil has two daughters and a son and live Fort Recovery, Ohio.

The next three children were boys who diec birth.

Next came the third son to live who was nar Arthur Bernard and called "Art" (1913-1978) who married in 1942 Florentine "Flo" Heckr (born 1912). They had one daughter and two s and made their home in Dayton, Ohio. Karl ment was born to them in 1944 and he marriec 1966 Carol Schmalstic. He and Carol have one and also live in Dayton. Brenda Rose was borr 1946, married in 1969 and she and her husband V lard Long III have a son and two daughters and in Houston, Texas. Roger Bernard was born in 1 and married in 1976. He and his wife Judith Brc had one daughter and they reside in Dayton.

The next child born to Clem and Anna Kes was a son, Russell William "Russ" (1916-1978). married in 1945 Dorothy Louise Fleck (born 19 and they have two daughters and one son. They sided in Bryan, Ohio. Linda Jean (1947) married 1973 Lee Mark Weiser. Paul J. (1951) married 1974 Pamela Lynn Harding. Judith Ann (1959) is married.

Next born on 28 May 1918 were twin b "Norb" and "Walt". Norbert Ferdinand married 1954 Lydia Maria Gerlach (born 1921). They have children and live in Celina.

Walter Hillery "Walt" who died in 1971 was m ried in 1943 to Helen Gilig. Four daughters w born to them: Carol Ann; Catherine "Kay", wife Ernest Henne; Joyce Ann, wife of William Foull hamp of Decatur, Indiana; and Eileen, wife of K Lesh of Decatur, Indiana. *Lyle Brooks Watson*

KNAPKE

Herman Knapke (1647-1709) in 1677 married T pke Steinkampf (1650-1712). They had two childr Anna Aleth Knapke (1678-1754) and Cathar Knapke (1681-?) who married Christian Hussman

Anna Aleth Knapke (1678-1754) married Herm Diderich Stickfort (1670-1751) in 1701. They h five children: Anna Aleth Knapke (1702-1707); Jn cob Knapke (1704-1782); Anna Dorothea (1708-?),

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John Knapke

eodore Knape (1713-1719) and Jn Henry Knape 17-1782) who in 1745 married Anna Cath Von ele (1728-1795).

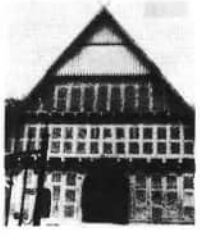
ohn Jacob Knapke (1704-1782) who in 1734 mar- d Catherine Margaret Schwarte (?-1777); they had ır children: Anna Adelheide Knapke (1735-1771); n Henry Knapke (1739-1829) who in 1765 mar- d Catherine Adelheid Von Wahle (1744-1777) and er her death, in 1778 married An Maria Over- nn (1744-1821); Jn George Knapke (1743-1828) in '3 married Catherine M. Elis Renneker (1745- 1); and Maria Margaret Knapke (1743-1777) who 1769 married Jn Herman Westerhaus.

Anna Adelheid Knapke (1735-1771) in 1763 mar- d Jn. Theodore Rehling (1727-1784) and had three ldren: John Henry Knapke (1765-1825); Jn Theo- re Knapke (1769-1794) and Herman Henry apke (1771-1828) who in 1804 married M. Ger- de Lienesch (1776-1851). Herman Henry Knapke d Gertrude Lienesch had three children which ne to America: Catharine M. Knapke (1850-?); M. zabeth Knapke (1807-1882) who married Bernard eke (1800-1857); and Bern Henry Knapke (1812- 34) who in 1849 married Catherine Kramer (1829- 35).

ohn Henry Knapke (1765-1825) married M. Adel- id Overman (1766-1815) in 1793. They had three ildren that came to America: John Heinrich apke (1797-1874) who in 1821 married Elisabeth debecke (1799-1850); John Bernard Knapke 00-1872) who in 1836 married Margaret Mescher 08-1856); and Jn. Frederick Knapke (1811-1855) o in 1838 married Christina Deters (1824-1851) d after her death, in 1852 married Anna Maria ieger (1822-?).

My great grandfather John Heinrich Knapke, their st child, (1797-1874), in 1821 married Elizabeth debecke (1799-1850) and had two children, J. Jo- ph and Bernard. The first child, J. Joseph Knapke 25-1858) in 1846 married his first wife, Mary na Vonderhaar (1823-1856) and had four chil- en: The first child, Henry (1847-1906) married ary Bertke in 1870; the second child, Anna Maria 51-1853); the third child, John Joseph who in 1879 arried Elizabeth Roeckner; and the fourth child, aria (1856-1856). J. Joseph Knapke married his sec- d wife Mary Ann Baumhold (1830-1912) and had o children: the first child Mary A. Catherine in 76 married Joseph Fullenkamp; the second child na Maria (1859-1932) in 1878 married Bernard ierott. The second child of John Heinrich Knapke d Elizabeth Hodebecke Knapke, Bernard, (1827- 82) in 1802 married Elizabeth Brandewie (1835- 07) and had eight children. The first child, Maria rolina (1835-1863) married Herman Knuefner 345-1904); the second child, Joseph (1856-1917) ver married; the third child, John Henry (1859-1861); the fourth child, Bernardina (1861-1935) in 1889 married Bernard Billerman (1865-1948); the fifth child, Bernard Henry (1865-1934) never married; the sixth child Catherina in 1888 married Bernard Zumwald; the seventh child John Joseph (1871-1948) married Elizabeth Huelskamp (1881-1922) and the eighth child Mary Elizabeth married J. B. Bremke.

In this part of Germany (Oldenburg) the oldest living child inherited the land when the father died. This could be either a girl or boy. If a girl inherited the land she kept the name also. This way the farm name stayed the same from one generation to the next. Inheritance laws were different at different places and times. *Carl Knapke*



A typical Farm Home

KNAPKE

Heinrich Knapke (1797-1874) was the oldest of the three brothers that came to Mercer County, arriving at the port of Baltimore on November 4, 1833 aboard the Lucilla, sailed to Bremen, with his wife, Elizabeth, and two sons, Joseph and Bernard. They came from Oldenburg and their destination as Cincinnati. Others of his family settled in Mercer County was Bernard Henry, Great-grandfather of Luke Knapke, Minster. (Much credit due Luke Knapke for getting records back to 1647.)

The ship Lucilla was quite small, only 368 tons carrying from 75 to 175 passengers. The immigrant ships varied in size. Time length of voyage took from 3 to 8 weeks until about 1850 when all the ocean crossings were made in sailing ships often at the mercy of the weather and the passengers suffered hardships if the voyage took more than the average time. Food and water often became short. Bad weather, the passengers would stay in below decks in cramped, uncomfortable conditions.

Heinrich recorded his deed for 160 acres on December 20, 1833. Land bought was then from Government land offices for $1.25 per acre. His land located on SW corner of Ohio 119 and 364. He and his family listed on the earliest roster of St. Augustine Church, Minster, joining the parish in 1834.

Heinrich took his oath of allegiance to the US November 11, 1840. In 1837, he sold 40 acres to brother, Frederick. On February 9, 1850, wife Elizabeth died. Both sons, Joseph and Bernard, are listed as coopers on 1850 census, an important industry at that time. Much of the local farm produce was shipped in barrels on the canal boats which traveled through Minster in 1845. Many of the new settlers helped dig the Miami-Erie Canal in Minster for 50¢ a day, real cash desperately needed. The wife helped by making a week's supply of pancakes (very necessary to make them palatable). The man would set off through the woods and walk miles to work at Minster.

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Depending how desperate the contractor was to get laborers, whiskey furnished by the contractor (4 to 16 drinks per day) was part of wages. Life then was difficult for new settlers. Very hard task clearing land; back breaking "dawn to dusk".

Tragedy of sickness and early deaths plus fear of the unknown. Just imagine the terror when they heard the wolves howling, fear for their livestock's safety. It's a credit to those people. They faced their problems and didn't scurry back to Germany. Incidentally, bounty hunters got $4.25 per wolf's scap.

Heinrich's son, Bernard, married Elizabeth Brandwie. Children: Caroline 1853 — Joseph 1856 — John Henry 1859 — Bernardine 1861 — Bernard 1865 — Catherina 1868 — John J. 1871 — Mary 1874.

John J. married Elizabeth Huelskamp in 1902. She died December 23, 1922. A sad Christmas it was. Left 8 children behind to do for themselves. That they did in helping each other. Were members of North Star parish. Home place on 127, north of North Star. *by Josephine Keller, daughter of John and Elizabeth Knapke*

A Farm House in Germany

KNAPKE

Knapke family ancestors are traced back to Herman Knapke (1647-1709) married — 1677 Taupke Stenkampf (1630-1712). Children: Anna (1678-1751) and Catharina (1681-?).

Later on, Heinrich Knapke (1797-1874) wife Elizabeth, sons Joseph and Bernard. Heinrich, first of the 3 brothers lived at Neuenkirchen, Oldenburg, Germany, located near southeastern boundary of the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. Town lies 5 miles west of Damme, only 40 to 50 miles east of the Holland border. Much of this is flat crisscrossed with drainage canals. Large areas are Moorland — Marshy — Canals part of which is farmed. The country side was not too different from the land our ancestors found here. Our ancestors were mostly small farmers. Perhaps a few acres 10 or 15 which were part of a large estate. Perhaps for the right to farm, a portion he paid for the right to farm it.

They did not live on this land but rather in a small cluster of houses nearby along with similar people from which he went out to his land each day either on a bike or horse and wagon. Also had bike trails along side the road, as my sister saw on a tour through Germany in 1972. They also pitched hay up on a wagon. Women helping the men. One Sunday my sister went to a church that was built in the seven hundred. They built them to stay and lasted for centuries.

The parish of Neuenkerchen Oldenburg Germany had about 3000 people in 1810, but supposedly lost half of its people. They immigrated during the 1830's, 1840's and 1850's. Most went to the United States. Some went to Brazil or Australia. Then so emigrated to the US in the 1700's. People w mostly of the southerly areas in Germany settlec Eastern US. Well known as the Pennsylvania Dut

Life must of been incredibly difficult after com over for the new settlers. Not much shelter to live Also, late in the fall. More stayed in one cabin pr ably were hastily constructed.

Minster parish has records of births, deaths a marriages for a very large area surrounding the e liest years 1830's and 1840's. Was the only chu around. Minster priest would travel through area saying Mass in the homes of settlers wh neighbors could congregate. Minster church reco include places as far away as Troy, Wapakone and West to Indiana line. One must credit th poeple with much courage to risk exchanging land of their birth for the unknown.

After Egypt parish was founded in 1852, the fa ily became members there, much closer than M ster. Later they shifted to St. John Parish. Perha the road was better.

The older son Joseph married in 1846 to Ma Vonderhaar. Much tragedy. Anna Maria died age first burial in Egypt church and Maria lived 1 d then the mother 2 days later.

Heinrich son Bernard Knapke, my grandfath John and Elizabeth Knapke my parents. *Henrietta lenhake*

ANTHONY LAMMERS

Prepared by Linus B. Lammers, grandson of tl man, whom I never knew. Most of the informati was checked, years ago by my older brother and s ters.

Anthony, my grandfather was born in Nienbu Kreisuhaus, Westphalem, Germany Oct. 5, 18 My great grandfather Bernard Lammers, his wi and two sons Anthony and Bernard Jr. came ov from Germany, but my great grandmother died the boat from Germany. They first settled in Cinci nati, since Anthony and Bernard Jr. were qui young. Then they came to Mercer Co. which w still all woods. Bernard Sr. died in St. Henry Oct. 1872 at age 69 yrs.

The home place of four acres was on East Main which is now the site of the Rescue Squad Bldg. a many new homes on Linn St. They also owned a other six acres west of St. Henry.

Anthony and his brother Bernard Jr. both enlist in the Civil War. Anthony served in nine battles a was discharged Nov. 30, 1865 at San Antonio, Tex and returned to St. Henry. I have his gun above m fireplace, and also have his knapsack, skillet, etc.

Bernard Jr. was in at least three battles and w wounded in the battle at Shiloh. He returned to Henry also. Born in 1838, a carpenter by trade, h had several businesses in St. Henry, one was a ta ern, which he sold Dec. 11, 1884, after his bartende Mr. Storp died Nov. 6, 1884. Bernard married Bern dine Romer July 24, 1866 and they had one daugl ter, Mary. They moved to Pinkneyville, Ill. and th Lammers name died out for my great uncle.

Anthony was a shoe cobbler and according Mercantile Agency Reference Book, his credit w good for $500.00. He married Anna Lange Nov. 2

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57 and they lived on the home place. She was rn Sept. 5, 1848 and died Nov. 26, 1910. Anthony s born Oct. 5, 1841 and died Nov. 2, 1913.
The first three children born to them died of chol- at ages of 1, 3, and 5 yrs. all buried at St. Henry metery.
Other children born were; Monika M., Born Feb. 91, Died Jan. 22, 1912; Maria M., Born July 22, 75, Died Sept. 23, 1910; Henrich M., Born Apr. 25, 32, Died Oct. 17, 1906. Henry was killed in the big plosion at Ft. Recovery, he was a clerk in the hard- re store that blew up.
rnard J., Born July 2, 1873, Died Apr. 12, 1936 at e of 62.
This was my father and he married Catherine apke on Jan. 15, 1902. They had seven children, e died in infancy. At this writing, my mother is ll living at age 96.
Since my ancestors were all Catholic, I can only sume that they had a part in not only helping ild the town, but the church as well. The corner- ne was laid in 1895.
My dad died when I was sixteen, and I never ew any of my aunts, uncles or grandparents. It kes me appreciate my grandchildren a lot more, en they sit on my lap, and I tell them a story.
When I look at my Grandpa's gun over the fire- ce, I can dream, but I can't hear the stories he uld have told me, if I could have sat on his lap. *Pre- ed by Grandson Linus B. Lammers*

BERNARD J. LAMMERS

Bernard J. Lammers, commonly called B.J.L. by ople who knew him, was born July 2, 1873 to An- ony and Anna Lange Lammers and died on April , 1936 at age 62.
His father was a shoe cobbler, and Bernard spent apprenticeship in the leather business, working r the Joseph B. Drahman harness shop. On June , 1895, he purchased the shop from Mr. Drahman, age 22. According to Mercantile Agency Refer- ce Book, his credit was good for $1000.00
Besides other employees, Mayor George Schlosser ade and repaired boots and shoes. George was an cellent fiddle player, and played for activities. He ught Clarence, my older brother to play.
Bernard was active in civic and Church affairs, K. of A. and was street commissioner in 1909. I'll t that was some job with the mud roads they had en.
Bernard invested in many of the new factories in e area, but unfortunately picked the wrong ones, e the Durant Motor Car Co. of Indianapolis for 500.00. Can you imagine his wealth if he had cked Ford Motor Co., instead.
In the shop they made new horse harness, re- ired and oiled them, also repaired binder canvas r reapers. They sold horse collars, shoes, whips, unks, lap robes, curtains for buggies, etc. They ould make or fix anything from a leather watch b, to a fancy leather belt, or even a saddle, or a n holster.
On Jan. 15, 1902, Bernard married Catherine napke, born May 11, 1882, daughter of Bernard d Mary Bertke Knapke of Maria Stein. As of this riting she is still living at age 96. They lived in the nine room house, adjoining the shop, on Main St. just east of the present flower shop. A bell would ring in the house when a customer entered.
They had seven children; Clarence A., Born Feb. 12, 1904, Married Amy Grimm, had one daughter. Helen, Born Nov. 7, 1907, Died same day. Marie A., Born Sept. 20, 1910, Died Sept. 23, 1971, Married John T. Kiser. Olive R., Born June 26, 1913, Married John C. Cramer, had two daughters. John died Sept. 8, 1966, and Olive married George Weyrauch May 14, 1971. Rita R., Born April 29, 1916, Married Robert E. Gelhaus, Feb. 8, 1947. Linus B., Born July 8, 1919, Married Lois E. Westerbeck, Mar. 2, 1946, had five children, four boys and one girl. Paul D., Born Jan. 28, 1925, Died June 21, 1971, Married Virginia Rose, had nine children, one boy and eight girls. Paul, a Notre Dame graduate played on their baseball and basketball team. Then pitched for Los Angeles Angels for several years. Then became a very prominent businessman in Dayton, also very active in Catholic School Building programs. His sudden heart attack at age 46 cut short a very promising career.
Due to Dad's illness of 4 yrs., I learned the trade and Mom and I continued to operate the shop, while I was in the Navy, the shop was condemned and tore down in 1944. It was a shame the antiques that were discarded. Ken Jacobs bought and tore down the house in 1978. The staircase, doors, trim, and some joist were all walnut wood.
Dad never drove a car, so I drove 1919 touring Buick at age 10. Farmers didn't have money, so we would collect a sack of wheat, oats, chickens, meat, etc. to pay off their accounts. In a dark stable one night we traded in a fresh cow with calf. The next day we brought home a dry cow with calf.???
Dad always had chickens, pigs, and one or two cows, but some times, the eggs were gone and the cows were milked before we got to the barn. Many families were hungry, and many people don't remember the big depression. I do! *Preparer Linus B. Lammers, Son*

JAMES AND BEATRICE LAMMERS

This family was formed on April 27, 1968, when James Bernard Lammers and Beatrice Kay Henry were united in marriage in St. Henry Catholic Church, St. Henry, Ohio.
James (Jim), the son of Linus and Lois (Westerbeck) Lammers, was born December 24, 1946, in Celina, Ohio. Beatrice (Bea), the daughter of Basil and Henrietta (Losekamp) Henry, was born November 12, 1947, also in Celina. Both Jim and Bea grew up in St. Henry where they learned to enjoy being part of the small town community.
There are four sons: Joseph Bernard, born May 19, 1971; John James, born June 3, 1972; Michael Thomas, born June 21, 1974; and a bicentennial baby, Douglas Mark, born April 16, 1976. All four sons were born at Coldwater, Ohio.
The family presently resides at 142 N. Walnut Street, St. Henry.
Jim is employed by I.D.S. (Investors Diversified Services) as a District Manager, selling investments and insurance.

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Bea, besides being a housewife and mother, is employed part-time at the St. Henry Granville Township Branch Library.

The children attend the St. Henry Consolidated School system. The family is a member of the St. Henry Catholic Church. *Jim or Bea Lammers*

LINUS B. LAMMERS

Linus B. Lammers was born to Bernard J. Lammers harness maker and businessman of St. Henry and Catherine Knapke Lammers on July 8, 1919. Linus graduated from St. Henry High School in 1937. He played on the basketball team for four years and was president of his class for three years.

He learned the harness trade from his father and after his death, April 12, 1936, Linus and his mother continued to run the harness shop.

Linus and Asst. Pastor Fr. Otte started the summer playground recreation program in 1938, with some funds from W.P.A. This program has continued to this day, but the funds come from different sources such as Little League, softball, etc.

The old timers will remember that we started 8 adult softball fast pitch teams in a league, and with volunteer help, we installed lights behind the old school. Some of the older players were Leo Romer, Stanley Romer, Clifford Jacobs, and Gus Seifring. We installed an old dinner bell, and when someone cursed or argued too much, the bell was rung and the argument stopped immediately. Linus won the batting average one year with 444 Ave. Aloys Hartings was the official scorer and we had a loudspeaker system.

Linus worked at Wright Patterson in 1941, and enlisted in the Navy Air Corps Oct. 8, 1942, to Nov. 22, 1945, serving in seven battles in the Pacific and received two Presidential Citations aboard the Carriers U.S.S. Yorktown and U.S.S. Bennington. Out of the original Air Group of 300, only 50 returned safely.

On Mar. 2, 1946 Linus married Lois E. Westerbeck of New Bremen. They had five children.

James B. born Dec. 24, 1946, a college business student, and now a securities investment salesman. He married Bea Henry and they have four boys.

William J., a Miami Business and C.P.A. graduate, employed in South Bend, Ind. He married Margaret Peg Moorman of Minster. They have two boys and a girl. Bill was born Apr. 7, 1948.

Daniel J. Born Mar. 18, 1951 also a Miami business graduate.

Mark A. Born Aug. 23, 1953 also a Miami business graduate, and employed with Reynolds & Reynolds at Ft. Collins, Colo.

Connie J. Born Feb. 12, 1956, one year in music at Miami Univ. and a Columbus Technical graduate in animal technology, working in a Veterarian Clinic in Worthington, Ohio.

In 1946 Linus built a new Cement Block and Tile Plant and operated it until 1960. He was the first Legion Commander and also Mercer Co. Comm. Was active in the K. of C., Church Actiivities, Commercial Club, Fire Dept., V.F.W., C.Y.O., and other communities activities. As chairman of the Red Cross, Linus, Audrea Creeden, and Faye Hart after ma trips to Ft. Wayne, and talking to many organi: tions, and getting many volunteers, we started t Blood Donor Program that we have today.

Lois Lammers, a beautician, started a beauty sh in her home, Lois' Beauty Shop, in 1960 and still operating it today. She worked for Mary Borge shop at 142 N. Walnut St. in 1940 and 1941. She w the first president of the Legion Auxiliary and acti in D. of I., Band Mothers and Church Council.

Linus had a Builders Supply business on Main until 1964, and is now employed at New Idea.

The Lammers will always be remembered by e ery kid in town, for their three ponds. Several gene ations have enjoyed fishing, ice skating, hockey, e on the ponds. *Linus B. Lammers*

FRANK LANGENKAMP

The parents of Frank Langenkamp were Joh Henry Langenkamp and Marie Elizabeth Holthau Frank H. Langenkamp born Jan. 1857 and Doroth Timmerman born May 14, 1860 married 1878. Dor thea died June 29, 1911. Then Frank married Ani Bruggeman. Children of Frank and Dorothea, Ro married Louis Ahlers, Henry married Anna Brac mann, John married Mary Kemper, Mary Lange kamp married Frank Bueter who died then she ma ried Joe Schwieterman. Veronica married Augu Otte, Leo married Justina Bruggeman, Clara marri Edward Reichert, Joseph married Elizabeth Kempe Clarence married Anna Kemper, Eleanor (half siste married Don Stewart.

HENRY LANGENKAMP FAMILY

Henry Langenkamp born April 1881, died Ja 1961, married Anna Maria Brackmann born Ma 1886 still living. Their children Marie, married Fran Mohlman, Norbert married Margaret Stammei Lauretta died in infancy. Sister Anastasia C.PP.S John died in infancy, Anna married August Mille Sister Norberta PHJC, Brother Berchmans, Richar married Verena Bills, Dorothy married Paul Muh lenkamp, Father Arnold, Ralph married Laur Grieshop, Father August.

MARIE (LANGENKAMP) MOHLMAN FAMILY

Marie Langenkamp married Frank Mohlman fror Northrup, Germany. Her children Henry marrie Mary Lou Kunk their children Jennifer, Jeffery Kathleen, Nancy. Marie married Elmer Eyink thei children Karen, Diane, Debra, Gregory, Jason. Lor etta married Delbert Albight their children Shery Pamela, Douglas. Frank Mohlman married Norm Hartings their children David, Linda, Julie diec Anna. Norma died then Frank married Virgini Muhlenkamp.

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.ICHARD LANGENKAMP

Henry and Anna Brackman Langenkamp, their
ı Richard married Verena Bills; their children Rita
ırried Ronald Kremer, their children Gregory,
:nda, Susan. Irene married Robert Kuenning,
nes married Thomas Wermert. Henry and James.

nard Lefeld Family
1908 — **Back Row:**
drew, George, Mary
essner), Henry, Her-
n, Michael. **Front**
w: Martin, Bernard,
na (Schmackers),
toinette, Elizabeth
ey).

LEFELD

Bernard Lefeld was born in Newport, Kentucky on
ıg. 20, 1853. Shortly afterwards he was orphaned
d raised by Andrew Ungruh and his wife. His sis-
· Mary Lefeld Axer (1847-1930) remained in New-
rt. Ungruh bought an 80 acre farm west of St.
:nry in 1864. Ben and the Ungruh's only son Her-
ın married cousins. In 1879 Ben married Antoin-
:e Kessen (B. Aug. 26, 1860), oldest daughter of
:orge and Anna (Shribers) Kessen whose farm was
arby. Herman married her cousin Mary Ann Kes-
n from Cincinnati. Ben was a concrete contractor
d farmer. He and Antoinette settled in St. Peter.
ıey had nine children: Andrew, George, Herman,
:nry, Mary (Roessner), Elizabeth (Frey), Michael,
artin, and Anna (H. Schmackers). After retiring
ey moved to Coldwater where Ben died Sept. 8,
'19. Mrs. Lefeld lived to be 91 years old and died
ct. 2, 1951.

Their son Geroge (B. July 17, 1885) married Berna-
na Schmackers (B. Dec. 12, 1886) on Sept. 8, 1909.
is youngest sister Anna later married Bernadina's
other Henry. Bernadina was the daughter of
enry Schmackers (Feb. 13, 1857-Oct. 30, 1921) and
izabeth Wessel (Sept. 26, 1860-April 21, 1895). The
:hmackers and Wessels had neighboring farms
est of St. Henry. The Wessel farm was adjoining
e Ungruh farm where Ben Lefeld was raised. Ber-
ıdina's mother Elizabeth was the daughter of
iedrick Wessel (April 24, 1830-June 11, 1916) and
:rnadine Steinlage (July 17, 1837-Sept. 28, 1896).

Friedrick was born in Bramsche, Germany. He
me to America with his parents Herman and Ber-
ıdina Wessel and family. Friedrick's wife Berna-
na was the daughter of John T. Steinlage (1800-
ıne 19, 1865) and Mary Ann Schroder (1800-March
5, 1868). They were born in Hanover, Germany and
ıarried there in 1828. John T. Steinlage was a cabi-
etmaker and farmer. The Steinlages and their
:ven children emigrated to the United States in
346. They lived in Columbus for a time. In 1852
ıey moved to Mercer County.

When Friedrick and Bernadina were married, they
ought land west of St. Henry from H. Hemmelgarn
n June 13, 1854. The Wessels built a log cabin where some of their children were born. This was followed by a larger log cabin and eventually a frame house was built. They had nine children: Mary (A. Barther); Henry; Elizabeth (H. Schmackers); Frierick; twins — Katie (H. Wimmers), and Bernadina (W. Behrens); Theodore; Annie; John, died at age 2; and Agnes. None of the sons, nor Annie or Agnes ever married. They remained on the farm all their lives. Fred was the oldest surviving member of the family. He died in 1961 at the age of 98. The farm now belongs to the Wessel's great-grandson Seraphim Lefeld.

George and Bernadina Lefeld bought land from her grandfather Friedrick Wessel. Like his father Geoerge Lefeld was a concrete contractor and a farmer. They had ten children: Joseph (Sally Hemmelgarn); Alvina (William Stammen); Dorothy (Harold Seger, dec., Joseph Buening, dec., Richard Kuess); Seraphim (Clarina Bettinger); Edward (Viola Huening); Agnes (Otto Pohlman, dec.); Bernadina (Al Homan); Bernard (Agnes Weitzel); Henry (Trudy Heckler); and Martin (Mary Ann Prenger). Martin Lefeld now owns this farm. Mrs. Lefeld died March 29, 1964 and George Lefeld died Dec. 31, 1976 at the age of 91. There are 75 grandchildren and over 90 great-grandchildren. *Janet Lefeld*

THE SERAPHIM LEFELD FAMILY

The Seraphim Lefeld farm on Wessel Road has been in the family for 124 years. The farm was originally owned by Mr. Lefeld's great-grandfather J. Freidrick Wessel who purchased the 80-acre farm on June 13, 1854. Mr. Wessel later added 47 acres and Mr. Lefeld added 40 acres.

Seraphim Lefeld was born Sept. 17, 1915, the son of George and Bernadine (Schmackers) Lefeld. As a boy he spent much of his time on the farm of his great-uncles and great-aunts, Fred, Ted, Henry, Ann, and Agnes Wessel. They were the unmarried children of J. Freidrick Wessel and the brothers and sisters of Mr. Lefeld's grandmother, Elizabeth (Wessel) Schmackers.

In 1942 when he married Clarina Bettinger (B. March 30, 1919), daughter of Arthur and Regina (Hemmelgarn) Bettinger, the couple resided at the Wessel farm. The Lefelds are dairy farmers. They are active members of the Farm Bureau and several church related organizations. Mrs. Lefeld is well-known for her beautifully decorated cakes. The Lefeld's are the parents of eight children and seventeen grandchildren. Three of their sons have their own construction firm, B&L. Their children are: Robert, co-owner of B&L, married to Margie Nederman have six children: Ken, Karen, Kristina, Kim, Kay, and Kevin; Linus, co-owner of B&L, married to Rose Hartings have four children: Brenda, Bonnie, Debbie, and Darin; Ernest, welder at Pax Steel, married to Janet Moeller have two children, Christopher and Amy; Thomas, co-owner of B&L, married to Judy Schroer have three children, Marsha, Greg, and Matthew; Leo, farming with his father, lives at home; Arthur died at age 20; Mary married to James Jutte has two children, Marla and Betsy; and Valentine, works for B&L, lives at home. *Janet Lefeld*

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ROMAN — BERNADETTA LOCHTEFELD

On a crisp sunny fall day (Sept. 13, 1941), Roman Lochtefeld and I, (Bernadetta Nieport), spoke our marriage vows in the St. Henry Church, St. Henry, Ohio.

Roman was born June 20, 1919 and Bernadetta March 12, 1922.

We later became the parents of five living children; all of whom are now married and have presented us with 14 grandchildren.

Virgil was born in 1943 and is married to Mary Lynn Nieberding. They have 2 children — Betsy and Michael.

Martin, born in 1945, is married to Elaine Knapke. They are the parents of David, Nancy, and Kevin.

Esther, born in 1948, is married to Kenneth Homan. Their children are Karen, Chuck, and Joe.

Alice, born in 1950, is married to Donald Rammel. They are the parents of three daughters — Marcia, Lisa, and Sara.

Henry, born in 1953, is married to Freda Dues. Their children are Craig, Darrell, and Jill.

All of our children presently live here in the Mercer County area.

We have farmed here in Granville Twp. most of our married life. Also, Roman has worked for 32 years as a jobsetter for the Minster Machine Co., Minster, Ohio. He also is a World War II veteran, having served in the Pacific area.

And now something about our ancestors. Roman's parents were Joseph and Rose (nee Luttmer) Lochtefeld. Roman's grandfather was Henry Lochtefeld and great-grandfather was Henry Lochtefeld, Sr. They all resided on a farm north of St. Rose. The farm is still presently in the Lochtefeld name — has been for over a hundred years. All of Roman's ancestors were of German descent.

Bernadetta's parents were Henry and Mary (nee Borgerding) Nieport. My grandparents were John and Anna (nee Nordenbrock) Borgerding and William and Louisa (nee Uhlenhake) Nieport. My grandparents from my father's side were deceased before my parents were married.

I have vivid memories of my grandparents from my mother's side. Also I remember my great-grandmother (Anna Nordenbrock) who lived to be just over 100 years old. She and her husband came to the United States from Germany in 1865. She taught school in a small log schoolhouse.

The Nordenbrocks and Borgerdings were some of the earliest settlers of southern Mercer County around Burkettsville, Ohio.

Roman and Bernadetta have now been married for 37 years and reside at 5059 Kremer-Hoying Rd., St. Henry, Ohio. *Mrs. Bernadetta Lochtefeld*

H. C. MEINERDING FAMILY

Henry Charles Meinerding was born December 31, 1870 at St. Henry, Ohio, the son of Clemens and Agnes (Romer) Meinerding.

Rose and H. C. Meinerding son Wilbur on his Solemn C munion Day, May 6, 1928

Clemens was born February 2, 1834, the son Wesley and Elizabeth Meinerding, who came fr Oldenburg, Germany. Elizabeth was born January 1804 and died May 8, 1890 at Maria Stein. Clem was a farmer and stock raiser. In 1857 he was m ried to Agnes Romer, the daughter of Bernard Fra Sr. and Agnes (Gravenkamp) Romer. Agnes v born in 1840 and died January 19, 1875 at age They had the following children, John and Benjan who died small, Anna who married Henry Wink john in 1891 and died one year later at age 26, Eli beth, born November 14, 1863 and married Jose Gardner and died June 21, 1933.

Henry Meinerding's mother, Agnes (Rom Meinerding, had the following brothers and siste Elizabeth, the first white child born in St. Henry a the godmother of Henry and daughter, myself (M celyn Meinerding). Elizabeth married Fred Athm Bernadine married Henry Lennartz, Catherine m ried John Beckman, Mary married Dr. Meyers, An married Henry Doess, Bernard Frank Jr. marri Mary Anna Beckman.

In 1890, Clemens built the livery barn which sto south of Kite and Katy's Restaurant, the site of t former Saloon owned by Henry Langenkamp in t 1890's, then Louis Kotchman between 1901 and 19 or later. His son, Henry, had the livery stable ne He drove a livery wagon taking salesmen with th trunks of samples to neighboring villages.

The Germania Hotel, owned by Clemens in t 1890's, then by Joseph and Elizabeth (Meinerdir Gardner, stood next to the saloon on W. Ma Street.

Clemens died May 26, 1895 at St. Henry.

On Oct. 24, 1905, Henry C. Meinerding marri Rose Bany, the daughter of Jacob and Anna (H man) Bany Sr. at St. Henry. Henry built the hor on West Main and Logan Street when they we married and they lived there the rest of their liv They had the following children: Frieda, born Oct ber 6, 1906 and died May 2, 1976, who married R Moeder, who died in 1969 at age 71; Evelyn, bo March 21, 1901 and died at five weeks; Marcely born December 12, 1910 and residing on Sycamo St.; Wilbur, born on November 3, 1912 and marri Matilda Guggenbiller and lives on Washington St.

Henry worked for many years in the depot or ra road station as clerk and baggage man, and w quite active with the Mercer County election boa and village election with the Democratic Party. H was a Township assessor for many years. He di January 26, 1943. Rose died November 12, 1946.

The families attended St. Henry School a Church. Rose and son Wilbur had been in the chc many years. *Marcelyn Meinerding*

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MOEDER (MADER)

I am the oldest in a family of twelve, born in 1921, the Moeder (pronounced "Mader") Home still occpied by my brothers — Richard and Charles, on ate Route 119, 1 mile west of St. Henry, Ohio. My andfather (Joseph) and Grandmother (Adelheit) oeder lived in the red brick home about threeurths mile west of St. Henry, still occupied by my ther's sister Eleanora. Route 119 was still a gravel ad in those days. Traffic was minimal in those ys. I can remember taking walks with my sister ary and Dad to Grandpa's house in the evenings pick up our milk. We would have fun splashing ater from the puddles with our bare feet. We also arned about the Big Bear and Little Bear and other anets from our dad while we were walking. My ter died at the age of 2 years and 8 months in a me accident. That was in 1925. It took years for y father to get over this tragedy as he always anted to blame himself for her death.

I can remember my Uncle Aloys (who lived at andpa's house) and my Dad driving Grandpa's illys-Knight — a big black touring car with collapble seats which folded into the back of the front at. This was in the early 1930's. My sister Rita and would enjoy using those seats when we were inted to take little trips with Grandma and Grandpa such places as the Maria Stein Convent to visit e Sisters of the Precious Blood. Grandma would ing clothes and rags to the Sisters who in turn ade beautiful rugs.

There were days in the 1930's when I would help y mother plant and hoe garden, we would can vegables. I would help my aunt Tillie to milk somenes and then we would separate the cream in the mmerkitchen, which is still standing. It has a ick oven in it where Grandma baked all her bread d pies. I would ride to St. Henry in a buggy, somenes a two-seated surrey, with a horse driven by y Aunt. We went to the White Mountain Creamy to sell the cream and eggs. Grandma Moeder alays churned her own butter to serve her family d even our family got lots of it.

I remember a Huckster Wagon coming to our use every week (in the late 1920's and early 30's) to bring all kinds of staple foods, dry goods, c. Our flour that Mother used to bake her bread as ground from the wheat that was raised on our rm and taken to St. Henry Mill for grinding. We oduced almost every kind of food in our garden d canned it for use all through the winter months. randpa and Grandma butchered at least 16 or 18 gs in the wintertime, plus 4 or 6 cattle, for our eat to be eaten during the winter and summer onths. Grandpa, my Dad, and two uncles farmed ree farms and four families lived off the things oduced there. Threshing and butchering times ere like big parties to the young generation in ose days. It was hard work for the oldsters. These vo functions brought all the families together, plus l the neighbors, to do these jobs and then randma and all the wives of family and neighbors ould prepare meals for the men. Grandma even t out her best dishes and made the best meals ith lots of pies.

Mother had quilting parties (Grandmother too); d our front room was always closed off in the wintertime so that mother could let her quilting frame in position. Two or three weeks at Christmas time were used for our funmaking with our new toys. Then back to the quilting frame. Mother made lots of our clothes. Dad enjoyed music and taught us lots of sacred songs in addition to modern songs of the time. He also played Piano, Organ, Cornet and Violin. So we had many evenings of entertainment.

Mrs. Aloys H. Larger, Dayton, Oh. 45405

Julius Moeder Family — **Standing L. to R.:** Leander, Charles, Victor, Jerome, Richard, Norbert. **Seated:** Anna; Ruth; Marcella; Sister M. Julian, C.P.P.S.; Rita, RoseAnn, Julius Moeder.

THE JULIUS R. MOEDER FAMILY

Julius Robert Moeder was born June 18, 1888 in a log house on the family farm one mile west of St. Henry. He was the fifth child, third son in a family of eight children born to Joseph and Adelheit (Haubert) Moeder. He attended school in St. Henry where he graduated in 1908. Julius then went to St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana. While there he played basketball and baseball and established a school record of 21 strike-outs in one game. He graduated in 1910.

He returned home and began teaching in St. Henry, teaching all the science and math subjects as there were only two high school teachers at that time. He began a basketball program and became the first basketball coach of St. Henry High School.

During the summers he took extra courses of study at Bowling Green State University and Miami University, at Oxford.

In 1915, Julius and his brother, Aloys, traveled to California by train to attend the International Exposition (world's fair) in San Francisco. One of the highlights of their trip was a stop in Utah to see the Morman Tabernacle Square in Salt Lake City.

On April 14, 1920 he married Anna Winkeljohn in St. Henry. This was quite an exciting day for the young people of St. Henry to see their teacher get married!

Anna was born July 22, 1895 on the Ben Borger farm, now known as the Walter Dues farm, northeast of St. Henry. She was the third child, third daughter in a family of eleven children born to H. Mathias and Rosina (Dabbelt) Winkeljohn. She attended primary school in St. Henry. When she was 15, her Aunt Elizabeth wrote and asked if Anna could come to Cincinnati to help her do housekeeping at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish. She went there and stayed until her mother called her home

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when her younger brother, Ed, was born in 1912. She worked at home until her mother was able to manage herself and then went to Ft. Wayne, Indiana to do housework for the Karns family, a very strict Jewish family. She worked for about five years and returned home at Christmas in 1917. She worked at home until she and Julius were married in 1920.

They moved on their 80 acre farm 1½ miles west of St. Henry. Here they raised their family of six daughters and six sons: Marcella (1921-), Mary (1923-25), Rita (1924-), Norbert (1925-), Ruth (1927-), Richard (1929-), Victor (1930-), Jerome (1933-), Mary Adeline (1934-56), Charles (1936-), Leander (1938-), and Rose Ann (1940-). Mary died in 1925 at the age of two when she ate some of her father's pills. Mary Adeline, who became Sister Mary Julian in 1954, died of a brain tumor in 1956.

Julius retired from teaching in 1935 and became a full time farmer. He enjoyed music and directed and sang in the church choir for over 60 years. He was assistant organist for some years and also played the piano, violin and harmonica. When he retired he was proud of his large garden, much of which was raised for their children.

Anna was always ready to lend a helping hand to her children and helped the families when many of the grandchildren were born. In later years crocheting was her favorite pastime, and making quilts and comforts kept her busy in the winter months.

Anna died December 15, 1975 of heart disease and Julius died April 8, 1977 of complications of age. The family farm passed on to their sons Richard and Charles. *Rose Ann Siefring*

Victor Moeder Family

VICTOR MOEDER FAMILY

Victor Moeder was born on October 15, 1930 on a farm west of St. Henry to Julius and Anna (Winkeljohn) Moeder. He was the 7th child and 3rd son of 12 children. He attended the Home School on St. Rt. 119 west of St. Henry for 7 years.

He graduated from St. Henry High School in 1949. After graduation, he worked as a sub for the rural mail delivery and Francks Plumbing and Heating. In 1951, he was drafted to serve 2 years in the United States Marines. After serving the two years in the Marines, he went back to work for Franck Plumbing and Heating.

On November 26, 1955, he married Rose Mary Clune. She is the daughter of Alex and Eleanora (Neargarder) Clune and was born on August 14, 1935 near Burkettsville. Rose Mary is the 3rd child and 2nd daughter of 5 children. She attended Burkettsville Grade School and graduated from St. Henry High School in May of 1953 with a class of 48 st dents. After graduation, she worked for the Bucke Co. until the birth of their first child. After th marriage, Vic and Rosie lived on Vic's uncle's fa west of St. Henry on the Burkettsville-St. Henry F Vic and his brother, Rich Moeder, purchased tl farm in the spring of 1957 from their Uncle Jol Moeder's estate. John Moeder had received the fa from his father.

Vic and Rosie's first child, Michael John, was bo on October 26, 1956 at Our Lady of Mercy Hospi (now Community). He graduated from St. Hen High School in May of 1975 and started working f Harold A. Dorsten Construction of Minster, Ohio.

Their second child, Ann Teresa, was born March 27, 1958 at Community Hospital. She grad ated in May of 1976 and in August started worki for a degree in Secretary Technology. She also co tinued to work full time at Celina Group Insuran where she is Secretary to the Vice President of Pe sonnel.

Linda Marie was born May 4, 1959 and graduat from St. Henry High School in May of 1977. In tl fall of that year, she entered Miami Valley Hospit School of Nursing. She will graduate from Miar Valley with the class of 1980.

Janice Ruth was born on February 16, 1961. Sh will graduate with the class of 1979.

David Lee was born on September 12, 1963 ar will graduate in 1981 from St. Henry High School.

Sharon Kay was born on June 11, 1974 at Con munity Hospital, Coldwater.

Vic continued to work at Franck Plumbing ar Heating and in 1967 purchased a fifth interest in th business.

In December of 1970, Rose Mary and Vic went work part time for the St. Henry Schools as custod ans of the Jr. High. In 1972, Vic sold his interest i Franck Plumbing and Heating and went to work fu time as custodian of the Elementary School. In 197 he was hired by the St. Henry Schools for mainte nance work for all the buildings in the school di trict. Rosie continued to be custodian of the Jr. Hig *Mr. and Mrs. Victor Moeder*

MOORMAN

The family of Franze and Leiseta (Seamer) Moo man settled on a farm in Mercer County that wa south and east of the town now of St. Henry.

Their family consisted of four sons: August, Thea dore, Ben and Henry and two daughters: Anna an Mary.

Theadore, the second son, married Catherin Bramlage. They resided at the same location a Franze Moorman. From this marriage there were 1 children. Edward, died single at the age of 31 fro the flu; George, died at the age of 4 from an acci dent; Alex, married Irene Bowel, they had 4 chil dren; Ida, married Ben Goecke, they had 5 childre John, married Alvina Schmalstig, they had 9 chil dren; Joseph, married Viola Schoeneberger, the had 3 children; William, married Irene Harting they had 9 children; Alvina, married Ralph Osten dorf, they had no children; Raymond, married Doro thy Kriebel, they had 1 child; Clarence, married An Kuhl, they had 3 children; Eulitta, married Sylveste

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ıdler, they had 3 adopted children; Marcella, mar-
d Otto Rammel, they had 4 children.
William, the seventh child of Theadore and Cath-
ne, married Irene Hartings, on June 15, 1927.
ɔm this union 9 children were born. William died
ıvember 21, 1967 living on the same farm that his
her and grandfather lived on. The nine children
William and Irene are listed below: 1) Gerald
ınry, May 20, 1928, married Eloise Miller (6/6/29)
May 15, 1951, children: Bernard, 1/21/52; Ann,
24/53; Steve, 5/11/56; Charles, 2/19/58; Cather-
ɛ, 3/17/59; Paul, 12/2/64.
Bernard, the oldest son of Gerald, married Teresa
hubler on August 28, 1976.
2) Cletus Aloys April 17, 1930 Eugenia Flaspoh-
· (11/17/31), 8/18/56, children, Ellen, 8/9/57;
ary Linda, 10/29/58; William, 9/17/60; Michael,
28/65; Thresa, 2/24/70.
3) Mary Ruth, 5/1/32 Harold Willmann (7/24/
), 11/28/53, children: Theadore, 4/23/55; Lucille,
5/56; Richard, 5/26/57; Virginia, 12/26/59; Patri-
ı, 8/6/64.
4) Thomas, 3/20/34 Marie Bruns (2/2/33), 6/
·/57, children: Joyce, 5/14/58; Ronald, 11/10/64;
aine, 2/3/67; Daniel, 5/4/70.
Joyce, the oldest daughter of Tom and Marie, mar-
ɛd David Barga March 31, 1978. They have one
ıild. Ronald, the second child of Tom and Marie,
ed 2 days after birth due to prematurity.
5) Helen, 10/28/37, Professed in the order of the
ɛcious Blood August 15, 1955.
6) John Henry, 3/13/41.
7) Robert, 5/18/42 Rebecca Romer (9/10/43),
'15/65, children: Karen, 9/16/66; Keith, 5/28/70;
ımela, 11/6/74; Neil 12/15/78.
8) Marjorie, 7/15/43 Roger Stachler (10/14/35),
'6/63, children: Jennifer, 3/26/71; Chad, 8/23/72.
9) Edward, 11/17/47.
Irene, wife of William still lives on the farm that
ranze and Leiseta settled on. Edward her youngest
ɔn resides with her.

VINCENT MUHLENKAMP

Vincent Muhlenkamp, son of Theodore Muhlen-
amp and Frances Fortman, married Beata M.
Knapke, daughter of Anthony Knapke and Anna
Hemmelgarn.
They are the parents of the following ten children:
Ann Frances. Nancy; who married James B. Lynch;
hey have two children, Wendy and Tara. James;
who married Mary Vita Mascio; they have two chil-
lren, Tony and Nick. Neal J.; who married Joyce
Baalman; they have four children, Matt, Krista,
Mark, Kara. Sam P.; who married Marcia Huelsman;
hey have two children, Greg and Sandra. Karen;
who married Ronald Steventon; they have two chil-
lren, Brian and Renee. Gary J.; who married Mary
Agnes Hoying; they have one child, Denise. June;
who married Luke Fullenkamp. Lyn. and Jill; who
narried Mark Otte. *Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Muhlenkamp, St.*
Henry, Oh. 45833

THOMAS FRANK NIEKAMP

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Niekamp

Thomas Frank Niekamp was born at 510 Mill Street, Celina, Ohio on June 17, 1928. His parents were Andrew and Alma, Bertke, Niekamp. Paternal grandparents were John Henry and Catherine, Borgert, Niekamp. Great grandparents were J. G. Friedrick and Catherine, Niehaus, Niekamp. Friedrick Niekamp migrated to America from his birthplace in Essen, Oldenburg, Germany in 1833. In 1848 he came to Mercer County purchasing 120 acres of land in Section 10 of Marion Township. This land is still owned and occupied by one of his descendants.

Maternal grandparents were Bernard J. and Catherine, Knapke, Bertke and great grandparents were H. Bernard and Liberatta, Kunkler, Bertke. H. Bernard also came to America from Germany.

In 1934 during the Great Depression Thomas moved with his family to St. Sebastian where he entered the one room school which was located one mile west of the village. The distance to and from school was traveled by foot.

Four years later, in 1938, the family moved to Cranberry Prairie. Thomas received the balance of his elementary education at the Cranberry school which by the Fall of 1938 was a two room school with school bus service.

The Niekamps moved to St. Henry in 1943, Thomas graduating from St. Henry High School in 1946.

On October 15, 1949 Thomas Niekamp and Mary Lee Beckman were married in the St. Henry Catholic Church.

Mary, the daugher of Luke F. and Lorine, Stammen, Beckman, was born in St. Henry on February 15, 1930. Her paternal grandparents were Henry and Clara, Goettemoeller, Beckman. Great grandparents were Frank and Margaret, Herman, Beckman. Mary's maternal grandparents were Peter and Anna, Mestemaker, Stammen and great grandparents were Gerhard and Elizabeth, Kremer, Stammen. Gerhard and Elizabeth were both born in Germany.

Mary received her primary and secondary education in the St. Henry schools and attended St. Marys of the Springs College in Columbus, Ohio, for one year. She returned to college in 1962 graduating from Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio in 1968. She taught in the public school system at St. Henry resigning in 1977 to accept a position with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at the Western Ohio Branch Campus at Celina, Ohio.

In January of 1951 Thomas began employment with the Minster Canning Co. at Minster, Ohio. The Canning Co. was engaged in the processing of

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canned tomatoes and was owned by Luke F. Beckman. Today the Minster Canning Co. Inc. grows, processes and markets approximately 400 acres of tomatoes and tomato products. It is now owned by Thomas Niekamp, Harold Thieman, and Walter Post.

On June 1, 1957 Thomas, Mary and family moved into their present home which they had built at 571 Columbus St. in St. Henry, Ohio.

The six children of Thomas and Mary are Joan, Ann, William, Margaret, Catherine, and James.

Joan, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, married Andrew Fescoe of New Providence, New Jersey on July 27, 1973. They reside with their son, Brian, at Toledo, Ohio. Ann, a graduate of Wright State University, married Howard Stammen of Cranberry Prairie on June 15, 1974. They and their children, Jeff and Lorine, live on a farm near Burkettsville. William married Joanne Hemmelgarn of Burkettsville on October 24, 1975. They live in the Eastview addition at St. Henry with their son, Scott. Margaret, a graduate of Wright State University's Branch at Celina, married Philip Fullenkamp of St. Henry on July 30, 1977. They are presently residing at Dayton, Ohio. Catherine and James are both single and are living at home. *Thomas F. Niekamp*

Anthony Nieport Family — **Seated:** Dolores, Anthony Nieport and Greg Heitbrink. **Standing:** Janet, Jerry, Judy, Nancy, Ernie, Lucy, Steve Nieport and Sharon, Michael and Steve Heitbrink.

ANTHONY AND DOLORES NIEPORT

Anthony Henry Nieport, born April 29, 1920, (grandson of Wilhelm and Maria (Uhlenhake) Nieport), is the son of Henry Nieport (born May 4, 1883 — died May 7, 1936) and Mary (Borgerding) Nieport (born February 17, 1890 — died April 29, 1959). They were married September 6, 1911 and had five children — Rose (Nieport) Zumberge, Joseph, Alberta (Nieport) Weitzel, Anthony, and Bernadetta (Nieport) Lochtefeld.

Dolores Kathryn (Abels) Nieport, born February 15, 1928, is the daughter of Urban Abels (born November 5, 1902 — died November 24, 1969) and Mary (Braun) Abels (born July 2, 1905, and living in Sharpsburg, Ohio). They were married April 27, 1927, and had ten children — Dolores (Abels) Nieport, Elmer (deceased), Ralph, Joan (Abels) Neargarder, Walter, Paul, Eugene, Carroll, James, and Mary Jane (Abels) Larger.

Anthony and Dolores were married February 15, 1949 and live in St. Henry, Ohio. Tony was employed by the town of St. Henry in charge of town maintenance (water, sewers, streets, etc.) from 1 until 1968 and 12 of those years he was also the lice officer for St. Henry. In 1968 he went to w for the Beckman and Gast Company in St. Her Dolores works part time in the St. Henry Sch Cafeteria.

They have six children — Sharon Mary, b March 8, 1950, Steven Joseph, born September 1952, Ernest Ralph, born December 29, 1954, Ja Louise, born July 7, 1958, and the twins, Jerome P and Judith Ann, born July 22, 1961.

Sharon married Steven Heitbrink (born Octo 30, 1947) on February 12, 1972. Sharon is a re tered nurse and works at the Coldwater Commun Hospital in Coldwater, Ohio, and is also a Lam Instructor. Steve is in general management at Minster Machine Company in Minster, Ohio. Th have two sons, Gregory John, born January 8, 19 and Michael Anthony, born August 15, 1977. Th reside in St. Sebastian, Ohio.

Steve married Lucy Ann Alig (born February 1952) on January 31, 1976. Steve is a dairy accou tant for the National Farmers Organization's Off in Celina, Ohio. Lucy Ann is a secretary at Teledy Portland Forge in Portland, Indiana. They reside St. Henry, Ohio.

Ernie married Nancy Wenning (born January 1958) on September 10, 1977. Ernie is a welder Pax Steel Products, Inc., in Coldwater, Ohio a Nancy works for Huffman Corporation, Celi Ohio. They reside in St. Henry, Ohio.

Janet recently received her Associate of Appli Science Degree in horse reproduction and manag ment technology from the Agricultural Technical I stitute in Wooster, Ohio, and is now living Wooster, Ohio.

Judy and Jerry are living at home and attendi St. Henry High School. *Lucy Ann Nieport, St. Henry, C 45883*

The Joseph and Gertrude Nieport Family, 1976

THE NIEPORT FAMILY

The first Nieport (Wilhelm F.) in Mercer Count worked as a hired hand on the Henry Brinkma farm, of St. Henry, according to the 1870 count census reports. Wilhelm F. Nieport was born i Ohio on September 29, 1844 and died at St. Henr May 17, 1908. Who his parents were and where the lived or came from is presently not known. In th mid 1870's, he married Maria Louise Uhlenhake an the two raised a family of six, three boys and thre girls. They were Elizabeth (b. 10-10-1876, d. 9-30 1926); Mary (b. 8-26-1878, d. 12-21-50); John W. (b 4-24-1881, d. 11-28-1965); Henry B. (b. 5-4-1883, d 5-7-1936); Frances (b. 5-28-1886, d. 1-23-1963); an William (b. 1889, d. 1961).

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Henry B. Nieport married Mary Borgerding on eptember 6, 1911 and raised five children on a farm uth of St. Henry, near the old Gelhaus School. This is the famous school where mysterious earth emors would tip the outhouse over, coincidentally nly when in use by girls of the school). Their five ildren are Rose (b. 1-15-1914), Joseph (b. 6-26-916), Alberta (b. 6-19-1918), Anthony (b. 4-19-920), and Bernadetta (b. 3-12-1922).

Joseph married Gertrude Weitzel on May 30, 1942 nd they raised seven boys and two girls. Joseph ontinued farming after his father died at a young ge. He has always been a very innovative and head-of-his time farmer in that he was one of the arliest farmers to use tractors, balers, self-propelled ombines, grain dryers, and the like. Because of ese equipment purchases, he began doing a lot of ustom farm work for others. At one time he baled ay 30 and 40 miles from St. Henry, then moved on om farm to farm with his stationary baler until re-rning to home ground with his crew of workers.

Children of Joseph and Gertrude Nieport are Her-ert (b. 5-11-43), David (b. 2-6-45), Leroy (b. 11-7-6), Stanley (b. 10-4-48), Michael (b. 3-31-50), Mary . 1-16-53), Melvin (b. 1-29-54), Terry (b. 5-1-57), nd Brenda (b. 11-3-62). Presently there are thirteen randchildren. *Written by Leroy Nieport, Kettering, Oh.*

Family of Anton Anna Moorman Nordenbrock

ANTON NORDENBROCK

Anton (Anthony) Nordenbrock (1861-1923) was he son of Joseph (1821-1879) and Anna Elizabeth ergmann Nordenbrock (1829-1929).

When Anton married Anna Moorman (1867-939), they lived on the Nordenbrock land of 160 cres adjacent to Burkettsville.

The children of this marriage were: Frances (1889-954), married Ed Goeke, had 9 children and lived in Dayton; Elizabeth (1890-1966), married Henry Goeke (brother of Ed Goeke), had nine children and ived in Richmond, Indiana; Joseph (1892-1973), narried Helen Brunsman, had six children and lived n Portland, Indiana; Antoinette (1893-1973), mar-ied Jacob Pax, had twelve children, and lived near New Weston and in Dayton; Theodore, born 1895, narried Lucille Romer (1899-1956), married Modena nd lives in Dallas, Texas; Anna Marie (1898-1964), narried Con J. Fecher, had five children and lived in Dayton; Henry (1900-1975), married Sarah Bower (d. 1946), had three children, married Helen Sonder-nan, had three children and lived in Ft. Recovery; Carl (1903-1975), married Agnes, had three children and lived in Dayton; Gregor (1906-1951), married Imo Hoag, had two children and lived in Dallas, Texas; Rufus (1907-1908); Bernadette, born 1909, married Tony Kaup, had four children and lived in Hamilton and Middletown and Esther (1913-1968), married Henry Schenking, had four children and lived in Coldwater.

The lives of the children were greatly influenced by the family's close association with the religious of the area and strong, unselfish personality of the grandmother, Elizabeth, who lived with them. The children were taught to shoulder responsibility but this was interlaced with music and trips to visit relatives.

After the death of Anton, the family experienced the loss of the two Nordenbrock farms in 1925. Anna and her daughter Esther then lived in St. Henry for a period of years until 1934 when Esther married and Anna made her home with this daughter in Coldwater. *Mrs. Thomas Knapke*

MR. AND MRS. RALPH ORDING

Ralph Ording, youngest son of seven children of Henry and Mary (Leugers) Ording, whose brothers and sisters are Urban, Helen, Bernadine, Alma, Arthur, Edward, Ralph, born March 2, 1928 in St. Henry, Ohio. Married to Mary Agnes Post on January 17, 1953. Mary Agnes Post was the sixth child of John and Agnes (Schroer) Post whose brothers and sisters are Rita, Leona, Leila, Catherine, Margaret, Victor, Rose. Born on April 10, 1933 in Trinity, Indiana. Born of this marriage were five children: Mark, Sept. 30, 1955, Cindy, Sept. 6, 1956, Bill, Oct. 18, 1958, Mary, Nov. 16, 1960, Tom, March 26, 1964.

Cindy Ording married Randy Brunswick on April 21, 1978.

ROBERT L. OSTERFELD

Bob Osterfeld is the only son of Thomas and Alma (Dues) Osterfeld, 424 E. Main St., Coldwater. His maternal grandparents are the late William and Anna (Ahlers) Dues. His paternal grandparents are the late John Osterfeld and Clara (Kesser) Osterfeld who resides in Coldwater. Bob has four sisters, Mrs. Steve (Barbara) Kahlig, R. R. Coldwater, Mrs. Joe (Mary) Braun, Coldwater, Ruth and Rita at home. He is a 1972 graduate of Coldwater High School.

Bob married Susan Overman on February 5, 1977 in St. Peter. She is the fifth child of Bernard and Julitta (Meier) Overman of 1215 Philothea Road, Ft. Recovery. Sue's maternal grandparents are the late Aloys Meier and Rose (Bruns) Meier who resides in Osgood. Her paternal grandparents are the late Leo and Mary (Stammen) Overman of Maria Stein.

Sue has eleven sisters and brothers, Mrs. Richard (Marjorie) Keller, St. Henry, Mrs. John (Jean) Keller of R.R. New Bremen, Dan of R.R. Ft. Recovery, John of R.R. Coldwater, Chuck of R.R. Ft. Recovery, and Patricia, Robert, Mary Kay, Carol, Mark and Angela, at home. She is a 1974 graduate of Fort Recovery High School.

Bob and Sue reside on 320 E. Plum Street in Coldwater. Bob is an employee of Avco New Idea, Cold-

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water, and Sue is employed by the Huffy Corp., Celina. They are members of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Coldwater. *Bob Osterfeld*

Henry A. and Anna M. Pohl

HENRY A. AND ANNA M. POHL FAMILY

Henry Pohl was a son of Joseph Pohl and Anna *Mary* Kallmeyer (Kallmeier) and they were both German immigrants. Joseph was born in Hanover, Germany, and Mary was born in Antum, Germany.

Anna Hemmelgarn was a daughter of John *Frederick* Hemmelgarn and Elisabeth *Mary* Schmachers. Fred was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to America with his parents in 1834 or 1835 when he was still a small boy. Fred's father was Herman Hemmelgarn and he was the man who sold the land to the sisters of the Precious Blood for the old Himmelgarten Convent that stood on St. Route 119 west of St. Henry. He thought that the house was haunted and the sisters would keep the ghosts away with their constant praying. The German, Himmelgarten, or the English, Hemmelgarn, means "Heaven's Garden".

As children, Henry and Anna grew up as neighbors because both of their parents lived on farms in the immediate area of Township Line Road and Carthagena Road west of St. Henry. And as happened many times in those days, the neighbor boy married the neighbor girl. And it was quite often that brothers and sisters from the same families married, and the Hemmelgarn and Pohl family was no exception.

Henry and Anna were married on November 16, 1897, and they had the following children: Joseph born Oct. 24, 1898 and married Estella Omlor; Leo born Aug. 23, 1901 and married Pauline Rammel; Edward born Oct. 10, 1905 and married Margaret Gasson; Hilda born Jan. 15, 1908 and married Albert Rammel; Esther born Apr. 25, 1911 and married Arthur Meyer; Mary born Mar. 2, 1914 and married Clarence Huelsman; Agnes (Stillborn); Erma born May 10, 1920 and married Donald Dellinger on Nov. 16, 1943. He was killed in WW II and she then married Walter Riegel on Nov. 28, 1946.

In addition to the fine family just listed, the family includes a great number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Among the grandchildren is Dr. Kenneth Pohl of Kettering, Ohio. He is well known in this area as an excellent orthopedic surgeon doing hip and knee replacements.

As a young married couple, Henry and Anna lived on a farm west of St. Henry. They later moved into St. Henry into a very large white house at the southwest corner of Washington Street and John Street. At this time they still owned a few acres of ground at the east end of Washington Street. In this pasture, they kept their cow and during the late 1930's and early 1940's, the cow was brought into the little barn on their property and milked twice a day. The mi not needed for the immediate family was sold to tl people in the neighborhood.

Henry was a highly respected person and serv for many years on the village council at St. Henr Anna was a very smart woman and an excelle cook. She had a great deal of good, old-fashion "common sense" and was called upon many tim by the people in St. Henry because of her know edge of home remedies in helping the sick. They w also be remembered as having "boarded" many the single school teachers in their big house on t corner, including the late A. J. Collins and Walt Weisenbach. *Written by Eileen H. Stelzer, a Granddaughte*

OTHMAR RAMMEL FAMILY

Othmar Rammel, son of Peter and Margar (Leiser) Rammel, of Mercer Darke County Line Rd R.R. #1, Ft. Recovery, Ohio was born on March 2 1912. He attended the Rammel School at Burkett ville. On June 13, 1936 at St. Henry Catholic Churc he married Florence Gehle, daughter of Herman an Rose (Meier) Gehle, of St. Henry. Florence was bor Feb. 20, 1916. They lived on Kremer Hoying Rd. a ter their marriage and are the parents of seven chi dren, six living and one deceased.

Kenneth Herman Rammel was born May 5, 193 attended St. Henry School and was employed New Idea in Coldwater until his accidental death o Oct. 18, 1966, at the age of twenty-nine years.

Donald Peter Rammel was born Oct. 10, 1938. H graduated from St. Henry School and enlisted in th Marine Corps at Parris Island where he was in spe cial services for two years. On May 14, 1960, he ma ried Judith Rauch at Immaculate Conception Churc in Dayton, Ohio. They have five children, Don 1 Lynn 16, Dave 15, Doug 12, and Lori 8. He was em ployed at N.C.R. In 1975, they moved to Springfiel where he is supervisor of the Springfield are B.M.A.

Mary Elaine was born March 23, 1942. She gradu ated from St. Henry School and moved to Dayto there she was employed in the Clerk of Courts O fice for the City of Dayton. She met James Vanden Bosch of Dayton and on Oct. 12, 1963 they wer married in St. Henry Catholic Church. They hav five children, Susan 14, Sandra 12, Sharon 11, Jimm 9, and Shirley 7. They live at Greenville where he i associated with Griffin and VandenBosch Surveyor Mary is employed as their secretary.

Carolyn Rose was born Nov. 29, 1945; she gradu ated from St. Henry School and was employed a Celina Insurance Group. On Aug. 14, 1965 she ma ried Gerald H. Bruns at St. Henry Catholic Churc They have five daughters, Cindy 12, Shelly 10, Kell 8, Holly 6, and Stacy 1. They live at 2457 St. Rt. 11 at St. Henry. He is employed as a meat cutter a Busse's Meat Market in Ft. Loramie, and Carol i employed in the office of Rutschilling's Inc.

Marjorie Ann was born Oct. 7, 1949. She attende St. Henry School. On April 19, 1967 she marrie John Langenkamp of Osgood, at St. Henry's Catho lic Church. They are the parents of three children Pam 11, Beverly 10, and Roger 8. They reside a Weitz Rd. in Celina. They are both employed at Cel ina Insurance Group at Celina.

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Angela Cathrine was born March 25, 1951; she aduated from St. Henry School and Lima Beauty cademy. She was a beautician at Penney's, and ter joined Reynolds and Reynolds as a secretary. n Feb. 4, 1978 at St. Henry Catholic Church she arried Kenneth Philpot from Versailles, where ey now reside. He is employed with a construction mpany from that city.

William Howard was born June 25, 1958. He grad-ıted in 1976 from St. Henry School. He is em-oyed as a clerk at St. Henry Hardware and also ith United Parcel Service of Celina for the past ar. He resides at home.

In 1973 Mr. Rammel retired and sold the farm to chard and Rita Stachler who now reside there. The ammels built a home at 252 Anthony Dr. in St. enry. They belong to the Senior Citizen Bowling ague and also occasionally play cards. They enjoy king trips. He is a part time clerk at Lefelds Pro ardware in St. Henry.

JOSEPH J. ROMER FAMILY

The Joseph J. Romer family has resided in St. enry, Ohio since the summer of 1976. Twelve ars prior to this time they lived in Tipp City, hio. Joseph John and Patricia Ann Hoelscher were arried August 7, 1962 in St. Nicholas Church, Os-od, Ohio. Their four daughters were born in Mi-ni County and are as follows: Jill Marie born Janu-y 29, 1969; Patricia Lynn, born November 18, 1970; wen Elizabeth, born June 14, 1974; and Leah Jo rn July 16, 1975.

Joseph J. was born October 9, 1937 in St. Henry, hio, the son of Stanley and Marie (Lange) Romer. e has four sisters and a brother: Mrs. Flora Koh-en, Mrs. Irene Kinkley, Mrs. Betty Seifried, Barbara ıd Daniel. He attended St. Henry Elementary hool and is a graduate of St. Henry High School. e was in the U.S. Navy and following discharge he tended the University of Dayton. In 1960 he grad-ıted from the Ohio State Barber School in Colum-us, Ohio. He owned and operated a barber shop in ipp City, Ohio for twelve years and at present is e owner and manager of J. J. Romer Clothing in St. enry.

Patricia Ann was born February 23, 1941 in York-ıire, Ohio, the daughter of Clem and Mary Grieshop) Hoelscher. She has seven sisters and four rothers: Mrs. Mildred Frilling, Mrs. Julia Pleiman, Irs. Theresa Pleiman, Mrs. Theckla Hoying, Mrs. osalee Holdheide, Mrs. Margaret Snider, Mrs. yce Liette, Richard, Henry, Victor, and John. She tended Patterson No. 1 School, a one room ele-entary school near her home. She is a graduate of linster High School and St. Elizabeth Hospital hool of Nursing. She is a registered nurse of the ate of Ohio.

The family attends St. Henry Catholic Church in . Henry. Joseph at this time is a member of the ıurch council, the Knights of Columbus, and the cal civic organization. Jill Marie and Patricia Lynn tend St. Henry Elementary School. The family wns a home on Balcony Ave. in St. Henry.

THE STANLEY A. ROMER FAMILY

The Stanley A. Romer family continues from the line of one of the oldest families of St. Henry and Mercer County. Their first ancestor to come to America was John Joseph Romer in 1834. He and his first wife, Anna Marie (Klinetrimp) met and lived in Cincinnati until October, 1838. At that time they moved to Mercer County, where John Joseph became one of the founders and first businessmen of St. Henry.

Many people and eventful years lie between the time of Stanley A. Romer and his great-grandfather, John Joseph. However, this sketch must limit itself to Stanley A. Romer and his family.

Stanley Alexander Romer, son of Joseph John and Anna Marie (Hartings) Romer, was born May 27, 1901. His father had been married once before, having four children from that marriage.

Stanley and his brother, Harry A. Romer, were well known in St. Henry, having serviced the community as funeral directors. After Harry's death, Dan C. Romer joined in partnership with his father, Stanley. Stanley's ill health caused him to sell the funeral home to N. J. Hogenkamp in 1960. However, he continued to operate the variety store that he owned, until his death in 1971.

Stanley married Marie Lange, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Dwenger) Lange, on October 15, 1923. They had five children, as follows: Flora E. born September 11, 1925; Irene P., born April 15, 1928; Daniel C., born October 29, 1930; Elizabeth A., born December 23, 1932; and Joseph J., born October 9, 1937.

He later married Loretta E. Osterfeld, daughter of Henry and Elnora (Dabbett) Osterfeld, on September 1, 1943. They had one daughter, Barbara A., born August 30, 1947.

Flora E. Romer married Tony kohnen (born Feb. 12, 1923) on July 18, 1950. They have six children, as follows: Katherine M. born Sept. 27, 1951 who married Joe Farrey; Robert L. born Oct. 29, 1952 who married Gayle Herman; Kenneth E., born July 27, 1954, who died Aug. 24, 1975; Richard, born Jan. 13, 1957; Douglas M., born May 7, 1962; and Charles A., born April 28, 1967.

Irene P. Romer became the bride of John Kinkley (born Oct. 21, 1925), of St. Marys, Ohio, on August 30, 1949. They have seven children, as follows: Michael, born June 16, 1950, who married Marianne Mutert; Margaret M., born August 3, 1952, who married Charles Knueve; Ann T. born Jan. 22, 1954, who married Mark Stollewerk; William J., born May 11, 1955, who married Ann Cosnellia; Mary Beth born March 1, 1957; Nicholas P., born Oct. 30, 1958; and Matthew J., born July 30, 1963.

Daniel C. Romer married Joan E. Rapp (born June 6, 1936) on November 25, 1961. Their children are as follows: Ellen M., born Aug. 17, 1962; Chris D., born Jan. 13, 1964; and Mark E., born July 20, 1967.

Elizabeth A. Romer was married on August 21, 1956 to Richard D. Seifried (born June 23, 1928). Their five children are as follows: Steven E., born May 1, 1957; Carol M., born Sept. 15, 1958, who married Ercell Day; Jane E., born Oct. 8, 1960; Julie M., born July 29, 1962; and Amy J., born Aug. 30, 1966.

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Joseph J. Romer married Patricia Hoelscher (born Feb. 23, 1941) on August 7, 1962. Their children include: Jill M., born Jan. 29, 1969; Patricia L., born Nov. 18, 1970; Gwen E., born June 14, 1974; and Leah J., born July 16, 1975.

Barbara A. Romer, born August 30, 1947, is living in Dayton, Ohio and working for the Federal Government.

Arthur H. Rose

ARTHUR H. ROSE

Arthur H. Rose, a prominent retired educator was born in St. Sebastian July 7, 1900. His grandfather Henry Rose, son of Bernard and Mary Rose, was born in Germany June 11, 1829 and came to this country in August 1860 and purchased a farm near Chickasaw, Ohio. He then married Bernadine, the daughter of Garret and Elizabeth Knoeber. She was born in Mercer County in 1843. Their children were Bernard, Mary, Herman, Henry, Anne, John and Elizabeth. The son, John, married Mary Unrast, the daughter of Bernard and Clara (Hein) Unrast in 1899 and they (John and Mary) were the parents of Arthur Rose. He received his early education in the St. Sebastian elementary school and graduated from St. Henry High School in 1919. He then attended Bowling Green State University where he received a two year diploma in 1930. His Bachelor of Science degree in education 1956 followed by a Masters Degree in Administration 1961.

He taught at the Home School District in Rural St. Henry 1920-1922 then on to the Sharpsburg School District where he taught from 1922-1958. Consolidation of schools took place January 1, 1958 which included Fort Recovery, Sharpsburg, St. Peter, St. Joe, and the Western Portion of the Wendelin School District. The new district was called "The Southwest Local Schools." He was elementary supervisor of the school system 1958-1963 and was the clerk of the Board of Education during the same period of years. He then was appointed Superintendent of the school system in 1963 until his retirement in 1970, completing fifty years in the educational field.

He was also the church organist of St. Paul's Catholic Church from 1922-1968 and the clerk of Gibson Township 1949-1970.

He is presently the chairman of the Fort Recovery Library Board, a trustee of the Fort Recovery Historical Society, a member of Phi Delta Kappa, National Retired Teachers Assocation, Ohio Retired Teachers Association and the Mercer County Retired Teachers Association.

On June 16, 1926 he married Florence Zehringer of Fort Recovery, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Brandewie) Zehringer. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Rose resided in Sharpsburg from 1926 to 1968. In 1968 they purchased a home in St. Henry, Oh where they now reside.

Their children are:

Thomas John Rose married to Alice Gehle.

Mary Alice E. Rose married to Donald L. Bruns.

All are residents of St. Henry and members of tl St. Henry Catholic Church. *Florence Rose*

RUTSCHILLING

Leroy V. Rutschilling of Osgood, Ohio, Darl County and Doris Ann Hoelscher of St. Marys, Auglaize County were married August 30, 1955 Holy Rosary Church in St. Marys, Ohio. Leroy is tl son of Lawrence Rutschilling born in Maria Stein 1898 and living, who was a farmer and log buy and Rosa Henke born in Ft. Loramie, Shelt County, in 1899 and living, lived at Osgood, Ohi Doris is the daughter of Daniel R. Hoelscher born London (Sebastian) Ohio in 1907 and living was farmer and Bernadine Prenger born in 1911 Egypt, Ohio, Auglaize County and living, lived fir in Minster and then in St. Marys, Ohio.

Leroy has eight sisters and brothers, all livin Norma, Esther, Elmer, Bernadetta, twins Wilbe and Gilbert, Roseann and Connie. Doris also h. eight sisters and brothers, Thelma, Norma Jea Robert, William, Jerome, Daniel, Mary Elizabet and Michael.

Leroy and Doris purchased the Carl Jackson hon on St. Rt. 119 in 1955. They have six children, Jam L., born 7-31-56; Susan M. 09-03-58; Joseph D., 1 22-62; Rose C., 6-24-68; Sharon J., 09-07-71; and K. thy Ann, 09-03-76.

Leroy first worked for his father in the sawm and in 1961 purchased it in partnership with h brother Wilbert. They then added the lawnmow and chain saw business. In 1975 Leroy purchased h brother's share of the business and in 1978, forme the corporation Rutschilling Inc. Leroy is the timb buyer for the business. Doris for several years fro 1957 to 1962 baked wedding cakes for young brid of the area, after this she worked in the office of th business.

Leroy served in the Korean War from 1953 1955 and spent 18 months in the Korean field.

Both Leroy and Doris are active in Community a fairs. Leroy has belonged to the St. Henry Voluntee Fire Dept. since 1956. He has been chief of the de partment since 1966, he is active in the America Legion Post 648 where he was commander. Also th St. Henry Emergency Squad since its beginning i 1975, the FOE of Coldwater, VFW of Coldwate FOP of Celina, K of C of St. Henry, the St. Henr Commercial Club, St. Henry Lot Development Clul Mercer County Elks, and also is a Republican Cer tral Committeeman.

He enjoyed trapping and hunting and for man years bought and sold raw fur. He also has won tr phies racing go-karts. He now enjoys wild turke and white tail deer hunting with bow and arrow an rifle in Ohio and Penn. He is an avid bowler and ha trophies. Golfing is his latest sport.

Doris belongs to the American Legion Auxiliary the VFW Auxiliary, The St. Henry Fire Dept. Auxil

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ry, the St. Henry Emergency Squad since 1975 here she was the first secretary-treasurer, she is so a CPR Instructor for the Red Cross. She also enys bowling and golfing. She is a member of the St. enry Church Choir.

Son Jim works as an engine repairman for Rutscelling Inc. He graduated from St. Henry High :hool in 1974 and has attended several engine serve schools. He enjoys go-karts and has won several ophies in karting and also is an avid bowler and so has trophies to show for his efforts. He is a ıarter member of the Wendelin Sportsclub and so is a K of C member. He was a ten year member the Busy Bodies 4-H club and was a junior leader ır 5 years. He served three years on the Jr. Fair oard, and the County 4-H Committee.

Daughter Sue graduated from high school in 1976 here she was a member of the National Honor Soety. She played flute in the high school concert and and was a majorette for four years with the ıarching band being head majorette in her senior ear. She traveled to Chicago and Kansas City with ıe OEA Club as a voting member and received naonal recognition. She is active in church work beıg a reader and serving on the worship committee. he was in the Buckeye Lassies 4-H Club for 10 ears being a Junior Leader for five years and servıg on the County 4-H Committee for two years. he won many blue and purple ribbons for her rojects. Since graduation she has worked in the ofce of Rutschilling Inc. and is also attending night lasses majoring in Accounting at the Wright State ranch in Celina Ohio.

Son Joe is a Sophomore in high school. For five ears he was in the St. Henry Busy Bodies 4-H Club. Ie is active in school sports especially football and aseball. He enjoys biking and swimming.

Daughter Rose is a fifth grader and is starting in and with the flute. She has belonged to the Buckye Lassies 4-H Club for two years and has won "A" nd Outstanding ribbons on her projects both years. he also enjoys reading and swimming.

Daughter Sharon is a second grader and enjoys eading and swimming.

Daughter Kathy the baby is two years old and is oved and spoiled by the whole family. *Leroy Rutschillıg*

HENRY SCHMACKERS AND ANNA LEFELD

Henry Schmackers was born on his father's farm, n Granville Township, Section 17 East, on August 5, 1889. He as a small child lived in a log cabin built oy his father. The education that he had received vas from the Home School, west of them on State Route 119. Henry helped his father build a new barn on the farm in 1915. As Henry was planning on getting married in 1916, his father promised him the farm. With the upcoming marriage Henry and his father erected the house which now stands to this day. Before the house was very far along George Lefeld, a future brother-in-law fell into the basement. Grandpa was a general farmer and stock raiser, and served on the school board.

On October 11, 1916 Henry married Anna Lefeld daughter of Bernard and Antionette Kessen Lefeld. The wedding reception for friends and neighbors was held in the new barn. Anna was born at St. Peter, Ohio on September 20, 1888 and went to school in St. Peters. Later her parents moved to Coldwater. After her marriage she moved on the farm with Henry. Among the many duties of being a wife, she took care of Henry's mother and father, who stayed with them. Later on in life her mother moved in and was well cared for by them. After the death of her husband she moved in with her brother George, in St. Henry. Henry and Anna are the parents of three sons: Victor H., Louis A., and James G.

Henry George Schmackers, father of Henry, was born February 13, 1857, and came from Germany. Gerhard Schmackers, father of H. G. Schmackers, purchased 40 acres from Herman T. Jaspers, on February 23, 1876. When he bought the land it was nothing but woods. The logs that were made from clearing the land were used to build the log cabin, which was on a brick foundation. Herman T. Jaspers was a brother-in-law of Gerhard's. Henry G. married Elizabeth Wessel and they were the parents of four children, Anna, Bernadine, Henry G., and John Laurentius, who died when he was two years old. Elizabeth Wessel was born on September 26, 1860, G. H. and Elizabeth deeded the farm over to Henry and Anna on April 20, 1922.

When Henry died in 1963 the oldest son Victor took over the farm which by now was 100 acres. Anna as of this writing is still living, but being in poor health she is in the Shane Hill Nursing Home, at Rockford, Ohio. The Schmackers family is of Catholic Faith, and belong to the St. Henry Parish. *Marceil L. Wenning*

Victor Schmackers Farm, 1974

VICTOR H. SCHMACKERS AND MARY ANN REIGELSPERGER

Vic was born Sept. 1, 1917 on his father's farm. He received his schooling at the Home School for eight years and then went on to high school in St. Henry. After high school he applied for a job at New Idea in January 1936 and was hired on Jan. 9, 1936. He remained at New Idea until February 28, 1941 at which time he was inducted in the Coast Artillery at Port Sevens, Oregon, C. Battery. After basic he was transferred to Fort Columbia, Washington.

When they started to draft, 4F Vic was sent to Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky for approximately six months, then on to Fort Sill, Oklahoma which was Officers learning school for field artillery, and finally on to South Camp Hood, Texas. He stayed here until he went on maneuvers overseas. He boarded the U.S.S. Urquary on February 26, 1945 from Camp Shenks, N.Y. on his way to Le-Harve,

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France. After getting their equipment ready, they moved on to Reims which was a staging area getting troops ready for the front line. The day President Roosevelt died, they were moved to Triere ready for action.

On August 6, 1945 Vic arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, the day the first atomic bomb was dropped. After a brief period of leave, he was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indiana and from there to Fort Bliss, Texas, where prisoners of war were kept. He remained here until he was discharged.

After his return he picked up his job at New Idea and became a molder. When the new foundry was built he was a job set-up man from 1951 to 1975 on the A and B line. He then retired.

Mary Ann Reigelsperger and Vic were married on March 31, 1951 and purchased a home in St. Henry on Walnut Street. Mary Ann was born and raised in Coldwater. After graduation she took a job with Hemmelgarns Egg Plant, where she remained for ten years. They are the parents of eight children: Richard V., Elaine A., Janice J., Gary T., who is deceased Nancy M., Joyce M., Dale P., and Roger H.

After his father's death in 1963 they purchased the home place on Wessel Road. Before moving they remodeled the house and the barn, with a dairy setup. The barn burnt in August of 1971, and was rebuilt in November of 1971. A whole beef was consumed by the workers that helped rebuild. The farm now consists of 99 acres. The farm has been in the family for over 100 years. *Marceil L. Wenning*

The George Schmalstig Family, December, 1922 — **Front Row L. to R.:** Alvina Moorman, George, Josephene and Louis. **Back Row:** Mamie Obringer, George, Rosa Elking, Joseph, Josephene Dresher, John and Cecelia Borger.

GEORGE SCHMALSTIG

George Schmalstig, the son of John and Maria Anna (Kramlage) Schmalstig, was born Oct. 14, 1859, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He died Dec. 6, 1942, in St. Henry, Ohio. His mother was born in Ankurm, Hanover, Germany and his father was also born in Germany.

George and his sister Mary were taken from their home when their parents were unable to care for them and were placed in the St. Aloyius Orphanage on Reading Rd., Cincinnati. George left the orphanage on Oct. 11, 1873, when he was almost 14 years old and was placed in the home of Henry and Mary (Borger) Dorger in Granville Twp., Mercer County, Ohio. There he helped with the farm work.

His sister Mary was about two or three years younger and lived in Cincinnati all of her life. She married Anthony Kliebecker and they had one son, John.

George married Josephene Brunswick, the daug ter of Morris and Anna (Wessel) Brunswick on O 28, 1880. They were the parents of twelve childre one of whom is living, Mrs. Farry (Cecelia) Borg born June 7, 1897, of West Livingston St., Celir Ohio. They are the parents of eight children: Gera J., Alfred U., Mrs. Victor (Helen) Bergman, and M John (Roselyn) Birkmeyer, all of Celina, Louis J. Bc ger of St. Marys, Ohio, Mrs. Urban (Lucille) Berni of Maria Stein, Ohio, and one son Elmer died in i fancy.

Mrs. John (Anna) Wappelhorst born Sept. 3, 18 they were the parents of two children and lived Dayton, Ohio.

Joseph B., born on Nov. 16, 1883, married Ma Kraudelt and they had seven children. Jose farmed for about four years in the St. Henry ar before moving to Celina where he purchased home, grocery store and meat market on Touvel Street.

Clara, born Nov. 16, 1885, died in 1900.

Mrs. William (Josephene) Dresher, born Aug. 3 1887, had four sons and lived in Dayton. Mrs. Fre (Rosa) Elking, born Sept. 1, 1889, had six childre and they lived in Dayton. George E., born Sept. 1 1892, married Grace Breen and they had four chi dren. George farmed for several years in Xeni Ohio, and was also a fireman on the railroad. Aft farming for a while he sold his farm and moved Columbus, and later was promoted to a railroad er gineer.

Mrs. Peter (Mary) Obringer, born Nov. 20, 189 had three children and lived in Coldwater. John A born Nov. 26, 1899, married Virginia Bettinger. The were parents of nine children. John worked in foundry in Dayton, where they lived, until his re tirement.

Mrs. John (Alvina) Moorman born Aug. 27, 190 and were the parents of ten children. They lived i Sidney, Ohio.

Ferdinand was born in 1905 and died in 1905.

Louis B., born Nov. 21, 1907, married Alice Bus chor and had two sons. Louis worked in a foundry i Dayton until his retirement.

George and Josephene lived on a fifty acre farr which Josephene inherited from her parents whic was 1¼ miles west of Cranberry, Ohio. They wer members of the St. Henry Catholic Church, S Henry, Ohio. The family was educated in the Gel haus one-room, brick school, which was 1 mile wes of their home. Their house was made of logs and i still standing today, but renovated and made into beautiful and modern home owned by Mr. and Mrs Raymond Stachler. *Cecelia Borger*

EDWARD G. SCHWIETERMAN

Edward G. Schwieterman, oldest son of Henry A and Catherine Grieshop Schwieterman, was born November 17, 1887, in St. Sebastian on the farm now owned by Ernest Schwieterman on St. Rt. 274 This is where his father was born and lived all his life. Edward's grandfather Gerhard came from Germany in 1837 when he was only three months old.

Edward was a farmer all his life. In 1909 he married Eleonora Goecke of Maria Stein. They lived or

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Schwieterman Family

John and Clara Seitz

farm just north of his father's, now owned by Lawnce Schwieterman. He, too, had a big brick home ıd bank barn. On December 18, 1910, a daughter, lvera, was born. She married Lowell Clericus and ves in Dayton. Shortly after Alvera was born, her other died.

On October 15, 1913, Edward married Eleonora ramer, daughter of John Kramer, in St. John's atholic Church in Maria Stein. To this union eight ıildren were born. Arnold, born November 9, 1914, arried Luella Bruns. After working in Dayton, he oved to Burkettsville and farmed. He died March 1976. Louis, born September 24, 1916, never mared. Served in Air Force in World War II in the U.S. ıd Alaska. Was in a car accident in 1967. Died at larion, Ind. Veterans Hospital April 12, 1976. Maıew, born March 31, 1918. Married Coletta Luthan. Hauled milk for Pet Milk Co. for several years. ow owns Matt's Redi-Mix Company in Coldwater ıd also has a plant in Celina. Cordula, born Deember 1, 1919. Married Norbert Schmitz, lives at urkettsville where they bought 2 acres of land from er father and built a home. Rita, born July 9, 1921, ıarried Roman (Ronnie) Wannemacher and lives in oldwater. Ronnie died of a heart attack in 1968. elen, born March 23, 1923, married Cletus chmitz, brother of Norbert, and lives in Dayton. yril, born July 9, 1925, married Merdella Borger. fter serving in the Navy during World War II, he ow has a complete farm drainage service in Cranerry, Ohio. Ivo, the youngest, was born in Burktsville, on October 19, 1931. Married Mary Ann eichert. After serving in the Armed Forces he orked for his brother Matt. Now owns and operes Ivo's Restaurant in Burkettsville.

Edward lived at St. Sebastian and farmed there till 926 when he bought a 100 acre farm at Burkettslle on the Post Road, which at that time was still a ıud road. He lived there until his death in 1964. His randson, John Schwieterman, bought the home and ow lives there. Edward and his family belonged to t. Bernard's Catholic Church. He served on the chool board of Rammel School for several years. ll his children but Ivo attended this one room chool. By the time Ivo was old enough to go to chool, Rammel School had been closed and he went) Burkettsville Public School. Eleonora continued to ve on the farm after Edward's death until her death n November 1, 1969. She enjoyed working with her owers and made many quilts by hand. These are ow treasured by her children. *Mrs. Norbert Schmitz*

SEITZ

John Seitz was well known as an educator in Mer-er County having taught school in that area for thirty plus years. John, the third child in a family of eight was born to Joseph (Oct. 14, 1852) and Elizabeth (Knapke) Seitz (June 11, 1855) on August 21, 1879 at Chickasaw, Ohio. Other members in the family were Ben, Mary, Anthony, Anne, Rosa, Charles and Albert. He attended school in Chickasaw and later obtained a degree in education from St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana. A man of high integrity and Catholic beliefs, he was a dedicated teacher and disciplinarian.

While teaching in a one room schoolhouse in St. Peter, Ohio, he met and married Clara Steinbrunner, the daughter of Robert, a farmer and cobbler who was born in Crawford County, Ohio on May 5, 1852 and Barbara (Johe) who was born in Columbus, Ohio on April 27, 1857. Clara, the third child of eight children was born June 10, 1885 in the small town of Victoria (St. Joe), Ohio. Other members of her family were Agnes, John, Clem, Elizabeth, Mary, Aloysius and Cyrillus.

John and Clara were married on August 31, 1903 in St. Joseph, Ohio. She was a devout Catholic and worked very hard in the rearing of eleven children. Besides the normal household chores, many hours of back-breaking labor were spent in the preparation and canning of foodstuff for storage in the cellar for winter use.

After a short period of time in St. Peter, Ohio, they moved to St. Anthony, Ohio where their first child, Alma (1906) was born. Subsequently, the family moved to Ft. Recovery where Esther (1908) was born. Then they moved to Chickasaw where Helen (1910) was born. During these years, John was employed in the banking business. In 1913 he moved the family to the Cranberry Prairie where he taught the next twelve years. It was here that six sons, Harold (1913), Leon (1915), Seranus (1917), Robert (1919), Luke (1921) and Arthur (1923) were born.

He then moved and taught in St. Henry where he supplemented his income by selling for Delco Light Co. of Dayton, Ohio. Virginia (1925) was born within this three year period. In 1925 the family moved to Dayton, Ohio. During the next four years he continued to work for the Delco Light Co. and various other places of employment due to economic conditions. During this time their son, John (1928) was born. Foreseeing the dreadful "Crash of 1929" approaching, the family returned to the small farming community of St. Henry, Ohio where he taught for another twelve years.

In 1941 due to ill health, he retired and moved his wife and two youngest children back to Dayton, Ohio where the older children, now married, had established their homes. During periods of time when his health permitted, he taught at Chaminade High School and later obtained bookkeeping jobs for small businesses.

In addition to his career in education, Mr. Seitz was also known for his artistic abilities. He was an

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accomplished organist and director of church choirs. He was active in community affairs, painted backdrops and assisted in the directing of local theater groups. Being an enthusiastic gardener, his home in St. Henry was always a showplace with its beautiful flowers and ornamental rock gardens. He died May 17, 1950. His wife died October 10, 1972.

Their grandparents, both of German descent, arrived in this country circa 1840's. *Mr. Arthur L. Seitz*

Stammen Family — Mother, Louise and Father, Pete in center. **Children starting at bottom left, clockwise:** Robert, Shirley, Charles, David, Patricia, Mark, Thomas, William, Carolyn.

ORVILLE AND LOUISE ANNA STAMMEN FAMILY

Orville "Pete" Stammen born in New Weston, Ohio, son of John and Odelia (Mader) Stammen and Louise Anna Wourms, born in St. Henry, Ohio, daughter of William and Cora (King) Wourms, were married on Feb. 19, 1949, in St. Henry Catholic Church, St. Henry, Ohio, by Rev. John Martin.

The first three years of their marriage, Pete played professional baseball as a catcher in the Brooklyn Dodger Organization from February to October each year. They spent the first summer in Miami, Florida, the second in Greenville, South Carolina, and the third in Elmira, N.Y. Each winter they returned to St. Henry and resided with Louise's parents and Pete worked in the factory at Mersman's, Celina, Ohio.

During those baseball years, they had two children. The first child, Shirley, born Dec. 24, 1949, graduated from Good Samaritan School of Nursing, Dayton, Ohio, in 1971. She married Eric Luttmer of St. Henry, Ohio on July 28, 1972, and they are now living in Wilmington, N.C., with their son, Justin. The second child, David, born Jan. 8, 1951, married Deborah Wehrkamp, St. Henry, Ohio. They have a daughter, Lynn, and a son, Brian. They reside in St. Henry, Ohio. David is employed at New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio.

After the ball season in Elmira, N.Y., Pete and Louise returned to St. Henry in Oct., 1951. Because of the rigors of traveling with a family and the financial responsibilities, Pete resigned from pro-ball.

On Nov. 1, 1951, Pete went to work as purchasing agent at Mersman Bros., Celina, Ohio. Louise took up permanent housekeeping in a newly purchased home where they live now at 412 E. Kremer — Hoying Rd., St. Henry, Ohio.

The first baby to arrive after moving into th new home was the third child, Charles, born Feb. 1952. He married Collette Weaver of Versaill Ohio and they reside in St. Henry. Charles grad ated from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, June 1974. He joined his father in the "Pete Stammen I surance Agency" on June 10, 1974.

After resigning from pro-ball, Pete caught on Botkins, Ohio, team in 1952. Then in 1953-1957, caught for a semi-professional team in Ft. Wayr Indiana. He played there two or three nights a we through June, July, and August for those five yea The team, composed of ex-professional baseb players, won the world's semi-pro championship Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1956.

In January 1953, Pete started studying for au and fire insurance selling and received his license April 1, 1953. Life Insurance selling was begun A gust 1, 1954. Pete continued to work at Mersmar and sell insurance part-time from April 1, 1953, February 1, 1958. At that time Pete and Louise mac the very important decision for Pete to quit th Mersman job and go into insurance full time. The operated the business out of their home for twent three years.

Also in the spring of 1958, Pete, along with th help and cooperation of many men and fathers, w instrumental in organizing "little league" in S Henry. He managed a team and was involved wit the organization for nine years. Then in 1967, Pe organized Acme baseball in St. Henry and manage Acme for five years.

The insurance business grew as did the famil William, the fourth child, was born Feb. 8, 1953, an presently is single and resides in Atlanta, Ga., work ing for Danon Yogurt. June 18, 1954, a fifth chil Thomas, was born. At this time, he is single and re sides in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He graduate from Miami Univ., Oxford, Ohio and is a salesma for McGraw and Hill. A sixth child, Patricia, wa born Jan. 16, 1956. Pat married Frank Puthoff, S Henry, on Feb. 28, 1975. They reside in St. Henr with their two daughters, Carla and Jeanette. No 17, 1958, a seventh child, Mark, was born. He is no (Sept., 1978) in his second year of college at Wrigh State, Dayton, Ohio. Carolyn, the eighth chil joined the family on May 3, 1962. She is a junior i St. Henry High School. Robert, child number nin was born Oct. 3, 1964. He is in the eighth grade a St. Henry Jr. High.

It was on May 17, 1976, that the insurance offic was moved to 253 E. Main St. in St. Henry. Beside son Charles in sales, a daughter, Patricia Puthof and daughter-in-law, Deborah, work part-time a secretaries in the office. This year April 1, 1978, wa the twenty-fifth year for "Pete Stammen Insuranc Agency". The business has grown very successfull since the first policy written in 1953.

EMIL STEINBRUNNER AND STEPHANA STIEVATER

The Steinbrunner name is old, in the Unitec States, and in southern Germany, where, in numer ous small villages in Baden-Weurttenberg, the nam

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nil Steinbrunner — Stephana einbrunner

found in records dating back to 1678. Further research is being done at this time to establish connections.

Jakob and his wife, Marte Steinbrunner, were the rst to arrive in America, in September, 1752.

Another line, brothers Clemson, Robert, and another arrived in 1849.

Emil Steinbrunner emigrated in 1887, from Grurn, Baden. Shortly thereafter, his bride-to-be, Stehana Stievater, embarked to cross the Atlantic. hey were married the same year in Emanuel hurch in Dayton, Ohio. Emil found work with hio Northern Railroad, and they moved to St. enry, where they raised their family:

Jon Albert (1890-1965); Barbara (1892-); Caroline 896-); Joseph (1898-); Frank (1900-1977); Alexander (1903-1975); Charles (1905-); and Robert (1908-

In 1918, Stephana moved the family to Dayton, nd all the children subsequently made their homes, nd raised their families, in Dayton, except Albert, ho settled in Fort Wayne, Indiana. *Joanne Steinbrunner Brady*

THE STEINLAGE FAMILIES

The Steinlage families that now reside in Mercer County, Ohio have their ancestral roots in Hanover, Germany. Mr. John T. Steinlage (1800-1865) was born in Hanover. He married Mary T. Schroeder 1806-1868) and they emigrated to Columbus, Ohio with their family in 1846. They had three boys, Harmon, Henry (1830-1921) and Joseph (1835-1915), nd four girls, Mary, Dena, Agnes, and Elizabeth. ohn T. Steinlage was a farmer, cabinet maker, and lso quarried stone for the building of the state capiol building in Columbus, Ohio. In 1852 he and his amily moved to St. Henry, Ohio where he purhased a tract of land on Fleetfoot Road.

His one son, Henry developed a prosperous tanning industry. He married twice and had three girls nd two boys, John and "Little" Henry W. Neither f these sons married. "Little" Henry (1855-1917) ontinued in his father's successful tanning industry ntil his death.

John T. Steinlage's other son, Joseph, purchased a arm on Kremer-Hoying Road in St. Henry. He married Anna Mary Plota (1841-1913) and they had hree boys, John J. (1864-1931), Johann Frederick 1870-1949), and Adam Henry (1878-1940) along with three girls, Annie, Rosina (1872-1922) and Mary (1867-1933). Mary, the only daughter to narry, married Frank Lange. They had three girls, Bernadine (1903-1978), Anna (1893-1928), and Rose 1907-), who never married and one son Henry who died in infancy.

The only son to marry was Johann Frederick (1870-1949). He married Frances Doerger (1873-1951) in 1897 and continued in the farming and carpentry business. They had five boys, Edward (1902-1903), Joseph (1906-), Leo (1909-1937), Albert (1912-), and Wilfred (1917-), and two girls, Veronica (1899-1959), and Justina (1904-). Johann Frederick and Frances Steinlage have 25 living grandchildren and two deceased. They had seven grandsons to carry on the Steinlage surname.

Veronica married Albert Muhlenkamp and they had one son Richard (1921), and four girls, Armella (1924-1966), Pauline (1925), Ruth (1928), and Joan (1935). Justina married Edward Homan and they had one son Elmer (1938), and one daughter Delores (1935).

Only three of the sons, Joseph, Albert, and Wilfred married as both Edward and Leo died early in life. All are farmers/carpenters and now reside on Kremer-Hoying Road in St. Henry.

Joseph Steinlage married Hilda Pleiman and they have five sons and six daughters. Ralph (1940), Lester (1943), Roger (1945), Dale (1951), Daniel (1954), Eileen (1942), Doris (1944), Bernice (1947), Verna (1949), Betty (1953), and Karen (1956).

Albert Steinlage married Cecelia Bergman and they had one son Gerald (1942), and five girls, Janet (1941), Bonita (1944), Phyllis (1947), Patricia (1949), and Kay (1953). Albert's first wife died in 1960 and in 1978 he married Esther Linthicum.

Wilfred Steinlage married Leona Hein and they had two sons and one girl. James (1948), Ronald (1953-1971), and Lois (1945). At present, January, 1979, there are fifty-five great grandchildren and five deceased great grandchildren from the marriage of J. Frederick Steinlage and Frances Doerger in 1897. However, there are only three great grandsons who have Steinlage as their surname. They are Michael (1973), Greg (1970), and Matthew (1977).

Richard Muhlenkamp married Vera Gelhaus and their children are David, Paula, Michael, Ann, and Christopher. Armella married Robert Waters and their children are William, Ronald, Robert, and Julia. Pauline married Frank Axe and their children are Gary, Jeannie, Robert, and two deceased, Mary and Joseph. Ruth married Herman Kunk and their children are Madonna, Daniel, Ann, and Kathy. Joan married Earl Russell and their children are Larry and Leslie.

Elmer Homan married Elsie Poeppelman and their children are Linda, Elaine, Karen, Dean, Tricia, and Robert who is deceased. Delores married Neal Wolters and their four boys are Dale, David, Roger and Alan.

Ralph Steinlage married Mary Rammel and they have three girls, Cynthia, Victoria and Laara. Eileen married William Huber and their children are Kevin, Douglas, Denise and Sandra. Lester married Marjean Knapke and they have two children, Darlene and Gregory. Doris married Ronald Rindler and their two boys are Dean and Scott and one son Brian is deceased. Bernice married Kenneth Koesters and their children are Tara and Craig. Verna married Daniel Ahlers and their two boys are Robb and Brad. Dale Steinlage married Joan Riethman and their daughter is Sara. Dan married Paula Schiebrel and their son is Matthew. Karen married Roger

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Ranly and their son is Daryl. Roger and Betty are single.

Gerald Steinlage has not married, Janet married Arthur Bernard, Bonita is a religious nun with the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor, Phyllis married Robert Reier and their children are Steve and Stacy. Kay married James Grieshop and their children are Mark and Evelyn. Gerald and Patricia are single.

James Steinlage married Helen Rammel and their children are Michael and Julie. Ronald Steinlage was killed in an auto accident in 1971 and Lois married Robert Gaerke and their children are Jeffrey, Lori, Brian and Kevin.

Sunderhaus Clan in the 1960's at Coldwater, Ohio

THE SUNDERHAUS

The immigrant ancestor was Franz Johann Sunderhaus who was born in Oldenburg, Germany on May 6, 1812, and died in St. Henry, Ohio on February 15, 1898.

Franz moved to Mercer County, Granville Township, near St. Henry, Ohio. Franz Sunderhaus first appears on the records of Mercer County, Ohio on the 24th day of March, 1848, when a deed is registered transferring 40 acres in the NW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 27 in Granville Township from Bernard and Agnes Roemer to Franz Sunderhaus for $80. In 1854 he purchased an additional 10 acres of land from John and Elizabeth Ainsworth for $55. On this 50 acres of land Franz and later his son, Frank, paid taxes until 1905. The farm was sold in 1906.

The next evidence of Franz's life in Granville Township is his marriage to Maria Angelo Sunderhaus and the birth of two daughters, Mary born in 1850, and Agnes born in 1853. Maria Angelo Sunderhaus died on September 8, 1858.

The 1860 census shows that Franz had a new wife, Mary Ann Nieman Sunderhaus born in Hanover, Garmany. In 1860 they had a daughter, Bernadine, and in 1862, a son, Frank J.

Franz's daughter, Agnes, by his first wife, died in November, 1873 and Mary Ann Nieman Sunderhaus died in 1880, age 57.

Frankz and Mary Ann's daughter, Bernadine, married John Kuhn and she died in 1935 and is buried at St. Henry.

On January 18, 1887, Franz and Maria Ann's son, Frank J., married Mary Catherine Kate Stab, daughter of John and Theckla Hein Stab.

Franz Sunderhaus died in St. Henry on February 15, 1898, age 85. In his will he gave the farm in Granville Township to his son Frank who remained on the farm from 1887 to 1905 where all eight of his children were born. Mary Monika Rose, born October 20, 1887, died Sept., 1971; Agnes Bernardina, born May 5, 1889, died Feb., 1966; Henry Edward, born December 21, 1891, died Aug., 1968; Henry Albert, born October 1, 1892, died 1966; Mary An Francis, born December 1, 1895, died Oct., 19(Carolina Mathilda, born October 30, 1896, (Livin Henry Leo, born March 13, 1900, (Living); John M thew, born October 23, 1902, died May, 1973.

Frank Sunderhaus, Jr. was not the farmer his f ther was and sold the farm to Joseph Steinlage a Henry Grieshop, Jr. for $3400 and bought the S corner of lot 60 in St. Henry from H. & L. C. Gebe for $1500.

From this beginning in business Frank is listed Mercer County history as City Assessor, Wat Commissioner, Meat Market Owner, proprietor of livery stable and finally the owner of the Palm Hot and Cafe, which was well known in Mercer Coun where Frank supervised the saloon. His wife Ma Catherine or Kate had a fine reputation as a coo and with the help of their eight children, who h such jobs as delivery boys, meat cutters, dishwas ers, and waitresses, all helped Frank with the work.

These seem to have been the happiest of times f the Sunderhaus family. But life and death move o In 1912 Frank Sunderhaus died at age 53. He left widow and eight children.

In 1912 Kate (Stab) Sunderhaus was left with t management of the Palm Hotel and Cafe and eig children. Rosie, her oldest daughter had marri John Losekamp in 1907. John was a carpenter t trade and lived in St. Henry for 25 years and lat moved to Celina and Dayton. He had a family three girls, Alma, Bertha, and Lillian plus three boy Cletus, Richard, and Ralph. A fourth boy, Clarenc died at age five. John built the house of Anna Su derhaus Sacher in Celina at 319 N. Mill Street.

Kate and the kids kept things going up to 192 One by one the children left home so that by t time of Kate's death, March 30, 1926, only two chi dren were at home.

Henry Ed Sunderhaus, oldest son of Frank, was carpenter and married Mamie Huber and moved t Lima, Ohio where they raised a large family of te children, Adeline, Ursula, Louis, Frank, Bill, Eddi Ruth, Rita, Mary and Bob.

Henry Albert Sunderhaus, also known as "Ca per", was the town barber in Coldwater, Ohio f fifty years. He married Francis Huelsman. The raised three girls, Luella, Vivian, and Esther, and tw boys, Wilfred and Thomas.

Wilfred or "Cherry" was a career Navy man f over twenty years and on retirement from the Nav he was the sheriff of Mercer County for three term

Mary Ann Francis Sunderhaus married Ver "Mox" Sacher and lived in Fort Recovery and Celin at 319 N. Mill Street. Mox worked at the Ranl buggy shop when he lived in Fort Recovery an worked at Mersman Brothers when he moved t Celina. They had a family of four boys and one gir James, Rita, Donald, Thomas, and Jerry. Anna die in October 1966.

Caroline Mathilda Sunderhaus married John Wi son. They met when John stayed at the Palm Hot in St. Henry in the early twenties. They lived in Fo Recovery for five years and then moved to Musk egon, Michigan where John was an oil drilling con tractor. They had three children, Leland, Gladys and Nellie.

Henry Leo Sunderhaus married Verona Hinder and she died in childbirth. His second wife, Ann

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d after ten years of marriage. His third wife, also n, had two children, Michael and Marcie. Leo es in Dayton, Ohio, where he was a Philco distrib- or and appliance repairman until his retirement.

ohn Matthew Sunderhaus, the youngest of the nderhaus children, moved to Celina after his mar- ge to Levon Schlosser. They had three daughters, n, Hannah, and Margaret. Matt worked at Mers- ns till his retirement. He died in May 1973 and von still lives on N. Sugar Street in Celina, Ohio. *nald M. Sacher*

Timmerman Family

FRED TIMMERMAN

Fred Timmerman was the son of Henry and Cath- ne (Swartz) Timmerman of Sharpsburg, Ohio, rn August 8, 1897. Fred was from a family of ten ldren. He attended school in Sharpsburg, Ohio in child years. In his first years after school he was ployed as a hired hand to the area farmers. After umber of years Fred moved to Dayton, Ohio and rked for the NCR Company. While in Dayton, he rried Louise Rosenbeck of Coldwater, Ohio. In late twenties Fred and Louise moved to Philo- ea, Ohio.

When moved to Philothea, Fred purchased his st truck and started hauling milk to the Pet Milk mpany in Coldwater, Ohio for the area farmers. number of years later, Fred acquired his first m, sixty acres in size, which was located at St. nry, Ohio. This is where Fred spent most of his as a farmer and continued the hauling of milk. hen time permitted he hauled tomatoes from the lds for the St. Henry Cannery. The farm was lo- ed south side of State Route 119, one mile west of Henry, Ohio.

Through Fred's marriage there were four sons and ur daughters. Herbert Timmerman born July 9, 25 and is still living. He married Dorthy Weitzel Sharpsburg. Marie Timmerman born September 1927 and is still living. She married Lawrence eitzel of Sharpsburg, Ohio. Clarence Timmerman rn April 20, 1930 and is still living. He married Pa- cia Watren of Russia, Ohio. Ralph Timmerman rn February 13, 1932 and is still living. He married lores Coby of Coldwater, Ohio then Naomi Jean evens of Celina, Ohio. Alvin Timmerman born ne 2, 1934 and is still living. He married Rose urke of Coldwater, Ohio. Delores Timmerman rn August 9, 1936, died at six months of age. Eve- n Timmerman born February 25, 1938 and is still ng. She married Donald Kuether of Egypt, Ohio. ury Catherine Timmerman born June 2, 1943 and still living. She married Lawrence Wendel of endelin, Ohio.

The Fred Timmerman family were members of St. nry Catholic Church in St. Henry, Ohio. The chil- en attended the schools in St. Henry, Ohio. Fred was a strong supporter in the founding and support for the erection and founding of Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Coldwater, Ohio in the forties. *Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wendel*

Rammel School, 1924 — **First Row L. to R.:** Mary Schlarman, Farrie Winhover, Bert Tobe, Richard Rammel. **Second Row:** Ivo Winhover, Othmar Rammel, Henry Tobe. **Back Row:** Carrie Winhover, Marie Rammel Broeker, Loretta Rammel Heuker, Amy Ainsworth, teacher.

FAMILY AND FARM OF BERT J. TOBE

Current records show that it all began with Joseph Tobe Jr. He was born April 4, 1853 and the oldest of 4 children: Bernard, Fritz, and Mary. On November 24, 1878, he married Anna Siefring and they had 2 children, Joseph Jr. and Veronica. Joseph Jr. became Brother Isidore C.P.P.S. in 1906. Anna died and Joseph married Caroline Kahlig in 1891 or 1892. Caroline's parents were Frank and Judith (Bayer) Kahlig, both from Germany. The family lived in St. Peter, Ohio.

Joseph and Caroline had 7 children: Catherine and Rosa died in their childhood from black fever. The other 5 were Leo, Isabelle, Cornelius, Henry, and Bert. Bert married Margaret Wenning from Coldwater in 1950. Their 7 children are Joann, Virgil, Elizabeth, Lester, Evelyn, Michael, and Dorothy.

Our Century Farm was purchased by Constantine Gardner and his wife, Anna, from Bernard Romer Jr. and his wife, Mary. The 80 acres are situated in the West half of the South West quarter of Section 28, Township 15, Range 2 East, which is on the corner of Watkins and Post Roads. Mr. Gardner bought the land on March 30, 1874 for $1,250.00 and sold it to my grandfather on April 17, 1878 for $1,500.00. Barely half the price for one acre of ground today!

Rammel school was a wooden frame structure built on the corner acre of Watkins and Post Roads. Three of its teachers were Leo Klingshirn, Lucile Kenney, and Amy Ainsworth. The school board consisted of Joseph Tobe: President, Henry Herman: Clerk, Joseph Klingshirn, Albert King, Albin Gottas, and H. J. Bernard: Superintendent.

Students walked to school 8 months of the year, from September to April and in all kinds of weather, rain or shine. The school closed around 1935 and was torn down in the 50's when Bert Tobe bought the corner acre from Frank Kremer. Joseph Tobe had given the one acre to the school board and the school board sold it to Frank Kremer. Bert Tobe now owns the entire 80 acres and it is farmed by his son, Lester. *Dorothy Tobe*

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EDWARD AND HENRIETTA KNAPKE UHLENHAKE FAMILY

Edward Uhlenhake, Born July 25, 1908
Henrietta (Knapke) Uhlenhake, Born May 6, 1912

Edward Uhlenhake, son of Bernard and Mary Uhlenhake. They lived on a farm East of St. Henry, Ohio. They were members of St. Henry Church. Henrietta Knapke, daughter of John and Elizabeth Knapke, also were farmers and belong to St. Louis Parish, North Star, Ohio.

We were married February 24, 1938 at North Star Catholic Church. When we were first married, we lived ½ mile east of St. Henry on State Route 119 on the old Uhlenhake farm for three years. It was sold and then we bought a farm 1½ miles south of St. Henry on State Route 118.

Henrietta belongs to Rosary-Altar Society, St. Henry Church, American Legion Auxiliary, and Daughters of Isabella — Ave Maria Circle 417.

Edward died on June 30, 1958. I lives on the family farm until November, 1968. I then moved to town (St. Henry) and my son, Robert, farms the property.

Oldest daughter, Betty Lou, (born May 9, 1939) married Gerald L. Dull (born June 20, 1939) on September 5, 1959. Betty and sons Daniel D. (born July 1, 1961) and Ronald R. (born November 13, 1967) reside on the Dull farm, Dull Road, about 2 miles northeast of Burkettsville. Jerry died on May 19, 1973 as a result of injuries suffered in a farm accident on his own farm two days earlier. Daniel is a senior at St. Henry High School and plans to enter Ohio State University after graduation. Ronald is in sixth grade at the Burkettsville Building of St. Henry Schools.

Daughter, Delores, born October 3, 1941, lives in Dayton, Ohio, and works for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Son, Robert E., was born May 13, 1945, and married Helen Droesch, born July 27, 1947. They were married May 11, 1968. They are the parents of three children: Diane J., born November 14, 1970, a second grader at St. Henry Elementary. Beverly B. was born on July 14, 1972 and is in the first grade at St. Henry. Greg E. was born on February 14, 1974. Robert farms the family farm south of St. Henry and is an assembler at Avco New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio.
Written by Henrietta Uhlenhake

WILLIAM BERNARD UHLENHAKE

My grandfather, William Bernard Uhlenhake, was a blacksmith in St. Henry for 63 years, but it wasn't the only thing he did. Around 1920 he pitched for the St. Henry Hardball Team until he broke his finger. He also belonged to the gun club. From 1931 to 1948 he worked second shift at the New Idea and blacksmithed during the day. He was firechief off and on during the 20's and 30's. From June 1928 to January 1938 he was town Marshall and Constable. December 29, 1941, he was appointed Chief-of-Police until September 13, 1948, when he resigned. He also belonged to the Sheriff's Association.

In 1924 a 1917 Model-T truck was boug
Grandpa built the back end in his shop and oth
helped remodel the truck into St. Henry's first
engine.

Grandpa was a typical law officer of a small to
in a very rough period of time. The pay was $150
per year. He acquired his nickname, "Bill Butt
while holding down the job of Marshall.

During Prohibition, open air dances were h
west of town. Bootleggers would come to sell th
wares. People drinking whiskey would hide th
pints behind the wheels of their cars. Granc
would walk through the parking lot and finding
whiskey he would empty it. He had fun doing th
but caused a great deal of embarrassment for
daughters attending the dances.

One day Drydicks came into town in a car w
expired license. When they stopped to eat Grand
waited outside of the restaurant. When they
turned he refused to let them in their car. Th
showed their badges to him, but he told them
made no difference; everyone had to obey the la
He called the Sheriff and took them to Celina. Th
they called their Superiors to prove they were F
venoorers, but they still had to pay the fine for
pired plates and resisting arrest. They never did
the bootleggers they were after and took quite a r
bing from both the Sheriff and their Superiors
being collared by such a small town cop.

Grandpa worked on the Dillinger investigati
Once he received a tip Dillinger was going to rob t
St. Henry Bank. He laid on the balcony behinc
clock with a sawed-off shot gun, loaded with ba
bearings, waiting, but Dillinger never showed up.

He was also involved in the capture of Putman
Van Wert County on a Sunday morning. Putm
was shot and wounded by Spain James, Marshall
Coldwater, during the capture.

Another Sunday afternoon, while relaxing wi
the family in the front yard, the gas station acr
the street was robbed. The robbers hit Char
"Hickory" North over the head as they left, but
didn't black out. He ran across the street yellir
"Bill, they got me!" Grandpa ran down the str
putting five shots into the back of their car. This l
to their capture later in Dayton where Grandpa a
Hickory went to identify them.

Not many people wanted to mess with Grandp
He was a strong muscular man. A favorite story
his will illustrate this. One night two young m
were causing trouble uptown so Grandpa arrest
them and was walking them to jail to allow them
cool off overnight. They asked him if he thought h
was big enough to handle both of them. He advise
not to try anything. One said, "Let's take him!" B
fore they could do anything, he picked them bo
up off their feet, slapped them together, ar
dragged them the rest of the way to jail.

My grandfather, William Uhlenhake, is an atyp
cal man. He worked hard all his life and took his r
sponsibilities seriously. He has earned the respect
all who have known him. *Kenneth Uhlenhake*

WILLIAM BERNARD UHLENHAKE

William Bernard Uhlenhake, my grandfather, wa

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rn July 23, 1888 on Fleetfoot Rd. just north of St. . 119, where his father, Henry, Jr. (1853-1936) was rn and raised. Henry, Jr.'s brothers were Ben and ın; their father was Henry, Sr. Grandpa's mother ıs Elizabeth Gravenkamp (1853-1928). His broth- ; and sisters were Eleanor, Francis, Louis, John I., ary and Philomena. Grandpa's ancestors were me of the earliest settlers in the St. Henry area.

Grandpa first worked as an apprentice for the nkle Brothers in Ft. Recovery when he was 16 or years old. He rode there on a bicycle, stayed there ring the week, and rode home on weekends. He rned a silver dollar and four bits for a week's ork. At 20 he worked for Ben Wimmers and Se- stian Ranly in St. Henry. Wimmers had a black- ıith shop on the ground floor and Ranly, a buggy op on the second floor. Grandpa bought the ilding from Mrs. Westerheide, the equipment ım Wimmers and went into business for himself ly 10, 1911. He blacksmithed there for 63 years.

A year later he married Catherine Link (Septem- r 20, 1891-July 30, 1974) from Cranberry Prairie. er parents were Charles Link (1861-1926) and ary Margaret Wendel. Her paternal grandparents ere Valentin Link (1816-1906) and Katharina Stau- er (1835-1910). Her maternal grandfather was Wil- m Wendel whose parents were William and Mary endel. The maternal grandmother was Elizabeth outman. Her brothers and sister were Elizabeth, lward, Alfred, Cornelius, and Adolph. Grandpa d Grandma were married on August 28, 1912 and d six children, Rosina (1914), Helen (1916), Arthur im" (1919), Armella (1921), Paul "Casey" (1924), d Alvin "Squeak" (1926).

Grandpa shod thousands of horses in his lifetime. ıe largest number of shoes shod in one day was 82. e shod his last horse in 1952 during the Mercer unty Fair. One particular day the race horses ere extra lively. It took three men to hold the rses to be shod. Grandpa decided then that he as too old for that kind of work.

As a young man he was very strong and powerful. nce he was shoeing a farmer's horse that was act- g up quite a bit. Grandpa hit it on its side with ch force that he knocked it off its feet. He didn't ive any trouble with the horse after that. It was the ily time he had ever hit a horse that hard.

Grandpa did other kinds of work as a blacksmith. 'agon and buggy wooden wheels would shrink. ıe iron tires would have to be removed, made naller, then remounted. He also sharpened and shaped plowshares. He could do as many as 80 in day's time. Grandpa enjoyed making hatchets and ıives.

He gradually worked into ornamental iron work. is iron works can be found all over Mercer County ıd neighboring areas. He made the railings for the . Henry Church and Rectory. He has iron works in veral states, such as Indiana, Pennsylvania, Ken- cky, and all over Ohio. Even a man, passing rough town, stopped and bought something to ke back to Colorado. Grandpa retired in 1974 at ;e 86, shortly after his wife died. *Rebecca Uhlenhake aun, Celina, Oh. 45822*

The two room log house was replaced by this log house in 1858 built by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Greive; later the home of Bernard and Mary Uhlenhake. The boy standing by the well in front of the house was Lawrence Uhlenhake when he was about five years old; he died when he was sixteen years old.

THE UHLENHAKE FAMILY

The Theodore Uhlenhake family was among the first to settle in Mercer County.

Listed on the following pages are the descendants of Theodore and (Mary) Elizabeth Kine Uhlenhake.

Theodore Uhlenhake was born December 18, 1816 in Bonn, Germany, immigrated to America and came by canal to Minster, then to St. Henry, Ohio. He married (Mary) Elizabeth Kine who also was born March 9, 1826 in Germany and came to this country; they built a two room log house on the north side of the road on State Route 119 about a mile east of St. Henry. This farm is still owned by the Uhlenhake descendants over one hundred and twenty-five years or more.

To this union three children were born. The oldest child Anna M. Uhlenhake born February 13, 1853. The second oldest John T. Uhlenhake born May 26, 1854. The third oldest Bernard Gerard Uhlenhake born September 4, 1856. Theodore Uhlenhake was a farmer and stock raiser and died April 17, 1856. (Mary) Elizabeth Kine Uhlenhake then married Henry Greive born in Hanover, Germany May, 1825. He came to America in 1852, after living in Cincinnati for several years then came to Mercer County. He located on Section 5 and owned land on Section 28, 320 acres in all, one hundred and fifteen of which was cleared; he was a farmer and stock raiser and died September 25, 1891. His wife, Mary Elizabeth Kine Uhlenhake Greive died September 28, 1895. They came across the ocean with sailboats, and endured many hardships leaving behind relatives and friends and then getting settled in America.

J. THEODORE UHLENHAKE

J. Theodore Uhlenhake married Elizabeth M. Kine. Their first child, Anna M. Uhlenhake married Bernard Gelhaus; they had three children: J. Bernard H. (Feb. 13, 1878-Feb. 5, 1899); Anna Mary (Jan. 24, 1884-July 10, 1950); Henry John (Sept. 15, 1879-Oct. 30, 1943).

Henry John Gelhaus married Philomena Kramer (Nov. 8, 1889-Feb. 4, 1974); they had eight children: Mary Lillian, Herbert Bernard, Edward William,

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Mary Elizabeth Kine, wife of Theodore Uhlenhake. After Theodore's death, she married Henry Grieve and was the mother of Anna M., John T., and Bernard Gerard Uhlenhake.

Mary Anna, Lucille Elizabeth, Norbert, Gertrude and Raphael.

Mary Lillian Gelhaus was born Dec. 13, 1913 and died Dec. 14, 1913 at St. Henry, Ohio.

Herbert Bernard Gelhaus was born Jan. 5, 1915 and in 1946 married Irma Pfeiffer who was born Sept. 23, 1919. They had five children. Barbara Joan, born Dec. 24, 1948 who married Ronald Freudenberg who was born Jan. 28, 1949; they had two children; Andrea Lynn, born April 29, 1971 and Ronald William Jr. born Feb. 23, 1976. Herbert Carl, born March 18, 1951 and married Cynthia Schmidt who was born Jan. 6, 1953; and had two children: Herbert Carl Jr., born Aug. 25, 1976 and Emily Jane, born Mar. 24, 1978. John Raymond, born Nov. 17, 1952 and married Linda Bertke who was born July 2, 1953; they had two children: John Raymond Jr., born April 11, 1975 and Joshua Richard, born April 6, 1977. Richard Harold was born August 31, 1955. Joseph Ralph was born May 1, 1958.

Edward William Gelhaus was born Jan. 4, 1918 and married Mary Ann Baumer who was born Feb. 13, 1922; they had three children. Kenneth, born August 8, 1947, married Bertha Guthrie, born Feb. 8, 1947 and had two children: Jeffrey, Feb. 6, 1971 and Kelly, born Feb. 14, 1974. Marlene, born Oct. 25, 1951, married Larry L. Stange who was born Nov. 22, 1952. Judith, born May 4, 1954, married David Benanzer, born May 31, 1953.

Mary Anna Gelhaus, born Aug. 22, 1919, married Raymond Herb II who was born Nov. 3, 1917 and live in Fort Wayne, Indiana. They had four children. Raymond III born July 27, 1946 and married Barbara Ernest who was born Sept. 23, . Steven was born Feb. 11, 1951. Marilyn was born Dec. 27, 1952 and married Mark Platt who was born Mar. 16, 1950. Thomas was born May 19, 1958 and married Janet Balock who was born in 1958.

Lucille Elizabeth was born June 7, 1923 and married Adrian Ramey who was born Sept. 1, 1922. They live in Hartford City, Indiana. They have six children. Dennis, born May 20, 1947 and married Ann Rogers who was born Feb. 1, 1951 and have two children: Kimberly, born June 26, 1970 and Brian, born May 15, 1973. Michael, born May 14, 1950 and married Janis Sills who was born Feb. 6, 1952 and have two children: Jason, born Nov. 13, 1973 and Brad, born April 8, 1976. David was born Jan. 18, 1953 and married Yvonne Varela who was born Aug. 8, 1953 and have one child, Ryan, born Aug. 4, 1977. Timothy was born June 19, 1956. Gregg was born Aug. 27, 1960. Elizabeth Ann was born July 16, 1964.

Norbert John was born Jan. 23, 1925 and married (Peggy) Margaret Wangler who was born June 11, 1926; they live in Sidney, Ohio. They have two children: Diane Lynne, born Feb. 10, 1957 and Maria Elaine. born Jan. 25, 1958.

Gertrude Mary was born May 9, 1927 and married James Schaab who was born June 23, 1927 and liv in Ft. Wayne, Indiana; they have six children. M chael Robert was born Mar. 27, 1952. Daniel Josep was born Dec. 20, 1953. Joseph Edward was bo Mar. 29, 1956. Veal Christopher was born Aug. 1957 and married Barbara Joyce Gutman who w born Aug. 8, 1957. Teresa Ann was born June 1 1959. Kathleen Marie was born April 4, 1962.

Raphael Bernard was born April 22, 1934 ar married Mary Ann Josephine Kremer who was bo May 28, 1934. They have six children. William He bert was born Dec. 28, 1959. Ronald Herman w born May 31, 1961. Bonnie Marie was born Nov. 1962. Karen Ann was born July 27, 1964. Don Mae was born Oct. 12, 1967. Daniel Raphael w born May 28, 1969.

JOHN T. UHLENHAKE

John T. Uhlenhake was the son of J. Theodore ar Elizabeth (Kine) Uhlenhake. John T. Uhlenhake w born May 26, 1953 and married Mary Frances Hei erman who was born in Dusseldorf, Germany Au 20, 1858 and died May 13, 1938. They had ten chi dren. 1. William Uhlenhake was born Feb. 21, 18 and died March 27, 1892. 2. Emma M. Uhlenhak born Nov. 6, 1883 and died Oct. 28, 1952; she ma ried John Moeder; no children. 3. Joseph A. Uhle hake, born July 16, 1885 and died Mar. 7, 1892. Emilie Uhlehnake was born Jan. 28, 1887 and die May 11, 1904. 5. John G. Uhlenhake was born Ja 14, 1888, died as an infant. 6. Maria Frances Uhle hake was born Sept. 22, 1892 and died Mar. 1 1909. 7. Leo Uhlenhake was born Mar. 1, 1895 an died July 15, 1895. 8. John H. Uhlenhake was bo March 25, 1891 and died July 21, 1965; he marrie Josephine Braun who was born May 2, 1890 an died July 7, 1968. 9. Albert Uhlenhake was bo April 11, 1897 and died Sept. 26, 1924. 10. Alphons Uhlenhake was born Mar. 18. 1902 and died Ap 21, 1957; about 1950 he married Lucille ; n children.

JOHN H. UHLENHAKE

John H. Uhlenhake was the son of John T. Uhle hake and Mary Frances Heiderman Uhlenhake. Joh H. Uhlenhake married Josephine Braun. They ha eight children: Rose Ann; Hilda; Herman; Richar Clarence; Paul; Lawrence; and Delores.

Rose Ann Uhlenhake, born Sept. 25, 1917 an married Leander Timmerman, Dec. 25, 1917, St. Jo they have four children: Diane, Elaine, Kenneth an Steven. Diane Timmerman was born Feb. 16, 194 and married Larry Runkel, born Nov. 17, 1946; tw children: David, born Nov. 11, 1968 and Kevin, bor Jan. 26, 1977, at Ft. Wayne. Elaine Timmerman wa born May 12, 1950 and married Correll, born Jan. 1 1949; they have two children: Christopher, bor Mar. 4, 1975 and Jeffrey, born May 19, 1978, at Le bamon, Penn. Kenneth Timmerman, born Feb. 1 1953 and married Lynne Wilt, born Jan. 18, 195 one child, Kyle Lee, born Sept. 4, 1975 at Greenvill Ohio. Steven Timmerman was born Dec. 12, 195 and lives at Rossburg, Ohio.

Hilda Uhlenhake was born Mar. 24, 1919 an

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rried Vincent Schlueter, born Oct. 21, 1917; they ve seven children: Paul, James, John, Judith, omas, Joe and Jane. Paul Schlueter was born May 1942 and married Mary Bey, born Aug. 31, 1934; y have one child: Veronica, born Feb. 19, 1974; glaize County. James Schlueter was born Jan. 1, 14 and married Norma Rambo, born Apr. 14, 37. John Schlueter was born Feb. 10, 1948 and rried Connie Gutman, born Mar. 21, 1938; one ld: Max, born Feb. 19, 1974. Judith Schlueter, rn Sept. 21, 1949 and married David Millisoe who s born Jan. 7, 1948 and have one child: Jennifer, rn Feb. 19, 1972. Thomas Schlueter, born Aug. 4, 51 and married Mary Stroh, born May 26, 1950; o children: Shane, born Sept. 10, 1973 and Stacy, rn Feb. 10, 1976. Joe Schlueter was born July 23, 57 and lives at Findley. Jane Schlueter was born t. 1, 1960 at Celina married David Springer, Oct. , 1978.

Herman Uhlenhake was born Dec. 5, 1920 and rried Bernice Sudhoff, born Feb. 1, 1920; they ve three children: Marlene, Shirley and Linda. arlene Uhlenhake was born Mar. 24, 1947 and rried Harold Rome, born Nov. 9, 1946; two chil- en: Nikke, born Apr. 3, 1972 and Tony, born Aug. 1975. Shirley Uhlenhake, born Oct. 1, 1949 and rried Gary Cuncan, born Dec. 20, 1943; three ildren: Tammy, born May 18, 1969 and twins rry and Kurt born May 29, 1972. Linda Uhlen- ke born Dec. 6, 1952 married Robert Schwieter- an, Oct. 31, 1952; one child: Amy M., born June , 1977.

Richard Uhlenhake was born Oct. 27, 1922 and arried Lucille Noonan, born May 26, 1921; they d four children: Brad, Stephen, Daniel and Mary. ad Uhlenhake was born July 14, 1947 and married rolyn Losee; one child: Peter, born Oct. 16, 1976. ephen Uhlenhake, born June 6, 1952 and married verly Seffernisk; one child: Stacey, born Oct. 12, 77. Daniel Uhlenhake was born Oct. 7, 1955 and arried Beth Barga. Mary Uhlenhake was born pt. 9, 1958.

Clarence Uhlenhake was born Nov. 15, 1924 and es at Celina.

Paul Uhlenhake was born Feb. 25, 1927 and mar- d Joan E. Oswald, born Mar. 21, 1927; they have ildren: Ann Maria, John, James, Lisa, Mark, Mi- ael, Ellen Kay. Ann Maria Uhlenhake, born July , 1955 married Ronald Heitbrink, born Aug. 15, 54. John P. Uhlenhake, born Oct. 14, 1956 and arried Ruth Ellen Ward, born Mar. 13, 1957; two ildren: Amy M., born Dec. 28, 1974 and John P., rn Jan. 18, 1977. James A. Uhlenhake was born ec. 28, 1957. Lisa J. Uhlenhake was born Apr. 11, 58. The Twins, Mark J. and Michael J. Uhlenhake ere born Aug. 30, 1960. Ellen Kay Uhlenhake was rn Nov. 13, 1966, at Celina.

Lawrence Uhlenhake was born Sept. 2, 1928 and arried Marita Hoyng, born July 4, 1928; they have ree children: Carol, Robert and Donald. Carol Uh- nhake, born Oct. 28, 1955 married Larry Knapke, rn Jan. 23, 1952. Robert Uhlenhake was born Nov. , 1957. Donald Uhlenhake was born Oct. 31, 1959.

Dolores Uhlenhake was born Oct. 28, 1930 and arried Joseph Kuhn, born Oct. 18, 1928; two chil- en: Daniel J. Kuhn was born Aug. 28, 1955 and yne L. Kuhn was born Feb. 26, 1957 at Hummels- wn, Penn.

BERNARD GERARD UHLENHAKE

Bernard Gerard Uhlenhake, born Sept. 4, 1856, on Oct. 18, 1884 married Anna Marie Wappelhorst, born Sept. 16, 1863. They had ten children: Joseph T. Uhlenhake, (Jan 14, 1886-Feb. 18, 1959) who married Elizabeth Boehmer (Sept. 16, 1890-July 10, 1969); Rose Mary Elizabeth Uhlenhake (Feb. 19, 1887-Oct. 31, 1918) who married William Bruns (Dec. 21, 1889-Oct. 10, 1966); Elizabeth Anna Uhlenhake (Nov. 3, 1889-Jan. 5, 1941) who married Ferdinand Fred Borger); Bernard Uhlenhake (Aug. 7, 1892-) who married Frances Feltz, born Dec. 13, 1894; Henry Uhlenhake (Oct. 22, 1894-) who married Hilda Nieberding and lives in Coldwater, Ohio; Josephine Uhlenhake (Sept. 18, 1897-Jan. 17, 1794) who married Fred Severt; Theresie Uhlenhake born Mar. 17, 1900 who married Urban Borger (Sept. 11, 1899-Jan. 1, 1974); Lawrence J. Uhlenhake (Aug. 26, 1902-Jan. 30, 1919); Marie Uhlenhake, born July 12, 1906, who married Bernard Hummel (Dec. 11, 1901-May 28, 1977); and Edward Uhlenhake (July 25, 1908-June 30, 1958) who married Henrietta Knapke, born May 6, 1912. (For the Theresie Uhlenhake history, see the Urban Borger history.)

JOSEPH T. UHLENHAKE

Joseph T. Uhlenhake (Jan. 14, 1886-Feb. 18, 1959) was the son of Bernard Gerard and Anna Marie (Wappelhorst) Uhlenhake. Joseph T. Uhlenhake married Elizabeth Boehmer (Sept. 16, 1890-July 10, 1969) and had seven children: Bernard J.; Edna; Alice; Betty; Marcella; Harold; and Addline.

Bernard J. Uhlenhake (April 15, 1912-July 14, 1954) on Feb. 24, 1962 married Cleopha F. Dillhoff (Oct. 4, 1909-June 19, 1976); they had four children: Carol, James, Mary, and Connie. 1. Carol A. Uhlenhake, born June 3, 1939, on Feb. 24, 1962 married Carl Bauer, born April 27, 1937, and had three children: Carla Bauer, born Jan. 14, 1963; Caryn Bauer, born Mar. 11, 1964; and Cheryl Bauer, born May 7, 1967. 2. James B. Uhlenhake, born May 31, 1914, on Sept. 21, 1963 married Ronda Culver, born Oct. 22, 1942, and had three children: Douglass Uhlenhake, born June 19, 1964; Jeffery, born Jan. 28, 1966 and Debra, born Sept. 9, 1967. 3. Mary Jean Uhlenhake, born Nov. 19, 1944, on Aug. 24, 1963 married Myron Hartings, born Feb. 20, 1943 and had three children: Lora, b. May 4, 1965; Julia, b. Mar. 19, 1967; and Angela, b. Feb. 18, 1971. 4. Connie L. Uhlenhake, b. Nov. 13, 1947, on June 8, 1967 married Robert Harting, b. Oct. 6, 1946; and had two children: Diane, b. Nov. 1, 1967 and Steven, born July 4, 1969.

Edna M. Uhlenhake, b. Aug. 12, 1914, on Aug. 26, 1933 married Nestor J. Mader, b. Nov. 29, 1908; and had four children: Barbara, Madonna, Harold, and Harriet. 1. Barbara Mader, b. June 29, 1934, on Oct. 29, 1955 married Max Bartley who died Sept. 10, 1963; then Barbara married Dennis Borhorst on May 20, 1967 and had three children: Michael, b. May 8, 1968; Melanie, b. May 2, 1970; Maria Ann, b. Oct. 18, 1973. 2. Madonna Mader, b. April 19, 1936, on Aug. 24, 1957 married Donald Hilgeford and had six children: Dennis, b. April 5, 1958; Denise, b. Mar. 2,

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1959; Dina, b. Feb. 3, 1960; Darla, b. Nov. 26, 1960; Devon, b. June 18, 1962; and Drew, b. Mar. 2, 1971. 3. Harold Mader, b. Oct. 27, 1939 on June 6, 1959 married Jean Manahan of Dayton, O. 4. Harriet, born May 17, 1946 on Nov. 18, 1967 married George Loney and had two children: Brett, born Oct. 7, 1969 and Erik, born June 9, 1973.

Alice Uhlenhake, b. Feb. 9, 1917, on July 1, 1939 married Harry Bennett, b. April 11, 1916 and died Sept. 24, 1978, and had five children: Suzanne, Glenna, Roberta, Elizabeth and Janet. 1. Suzanne Bennett, b. Oct. 18, 1940, on Dec. 1, 1962 married Ronald Whitaker, b. April 5, 1938. 2. Glenna Mae Bennett, b. May 4, 1943 on Jan. 16, 1965 married Douglas Collins, b. Aug. 22, 1944 and have one child: Linda Sue Collins, b. July 9, 1974. 3. Roberta Lee Bennett, b. Sept. 24, 1945 on Aug. 4, 1962 married Terry Scearce, b. Mar. 13, 1941 and had three children, Debbra Scearce, b. Mar. 3, 1963; Terry Dean Scearce, b. Mar. 17, 1964 and Robert Lee Scearce, b. Nov. 3, 1968. 4. Elizabeth Jo Bennett, b. Aug. 16, 1953, on Sept. 16, 1971 married Dewight Alleback, b. Jan. 23, 1949 and have one child: Carrie Ann Alleback, b. Nov. 23, 1974. 5. Janet Lynn Bennett, b. Nov. 25, 1955, on Jan. 26, 1973 married William McHugh, b. Nov. 12, 1951; and have three children: Jennie McHugh, b. Aug. 6, 1973; Jule McHugh, b. Aug. 6, 1973 and Lora McHugh, b. Jan. 2, 1976.

Betty Uhlenhake, b. Feb. 21, 1920, on Sept. 14, 1940 married Anthony Mader, b. July 3, 1918; they had nine children: Charles, Nancy, Thomas, Larry, Ronald, Patricia, Anthony, Ann, Theresa. 1. Charles Mader was born May 2, 1941. 2. Nancy Mader, b. April 21, 1943, on Dec. 31, 1961 married William Rauch, b. Dec. 25, 1942 and have four children: Cathy, b. Dec. 13, 1962; Billy, b. Dec. 26, 1963; Michael, b. Oct. 26, 1965; and Suzie, b. Oct. 16, 1966. 3. Thomas Mader, b. Dec. 13, 1946, on Nov. 5, 1976 married Linda Thomas, b. Oct. 28, 1947 and have one child: Christi, b. Feb. 22, 1978. 4. Larry Mader, b. Sept. 6, 1949 on Sept. 29, 1973 married Cheryl Griess, b. Mar. 18, 1949. 5. Ronald Mader, b. June 11, 1951, on Nov. 5, 1971 married Patricia Cabblett, b. Sept. 10, 1952 and had four children: Antionette, b. June 1, 1972; Joe, b. Aug. 28, 1973; Andrea, b. May 13, 1975; and Renee, b. Mar. 13, 1978. 6. Patricia Mader, b. Oct. 5, 1952, on Aug. 5, 1972 married Carl Edmondson, b. June 23, 1951 and have one child: Keri Ann Edmondson, b. Jan. 7, 1975. 7. Anthony Mader, Jr. was born April 22, 1955. 8. Ann Lynn Mader, b. Jan. 17, 1957, on April 29, 1978 married Frank Detmer, b. May 10, 1957. 9. Teresa Lee Mader was born June 21, 1958.

Marcella Uhlenhake, b. Feb. 11, 1923, on Jan. 11, 1947 married John H. Kantner, b. Jan. 11, 1921; they have seven children: Pamela J., b. Sept. 11, 1947; Cynthia A., born Mar. 20, 1949; Katherine J., b. Aug. 27, 1950; Geri L., b. Aug. 10, 1953 and on May 10, 1974 married James Pearson; Mary E., b. July 12, 1954; John M., b. Jan 7, 1957; and Julia A., b. Nov. 6, 1963.

Harold Uhlenhake, b. Mar. 13, 1925, on Aug. 2, 1952 married Irene Metzger, b. June 20, 1931 and have five children: Joseph J., b. Oct. 19, 1954; Daniel D., b. Dec. 25, 1954; Mark M., b. Dec. 23, 1957; Jane A., b. Oct. 29, 1961; and Robert R., b. Oct. 6, 1964.

Addline (Addie) Uhlenhake (1928-1973) on Oct. 30, 1948 married Sylvester Delzeith, (1927-1973) a had five children: Gary Delzeith, Kenneth, D. Joyce and Nicholas. Gary Delzeith, b. Dec. 20, 1 on Aug. 24, 1974 married Ruth Kircksen, b. Jan. 1955 and have two children: Eric, b. Oct. 16, 1 and Lisa, b. Sept. 27, 1976. Kenneth Delzeith born June 18, 1951. Dale Delzeith, b. July 14, 19 on Nov. 8, 1975 married Ruth Sanders, b. Jan. 1950 and have two children: Brenda, b. July 5, 1 and Brian, b. Jan. 9, 1978. Joyce Delzeith was b Nov. 6, 1958. Nicholas Delzeith was born April 1960.

WILLIAM AND ROSE MARY ELIZABETH (UHLENHAKE) BRUNS

William Bruns, (Dec. 21, 1889-Oct. 10, 1966) May 9, 1911 married Rose Mary Elizabeth Uhl hake (Feb. 19, 1887-Oct. 31, 1918) daughter of B nard and Anna Marie (Wappelhorst) Uhlenha They had two children: Bernard August and Lon Mary, who died May 1, 1977.

Bernard August Bruns, b. May 30, 1913, on A 14, 1947 married Armella Wendeln, b. Mar. 1914; they have two children: Frederick, b. Jan. 1950 and Michael, born May 4, 1951.

Loneta Mary Bruns, (b. Jan. 8, 1915-May 1, 19 on Sept. 11, 1940 married Albert Frank Hickey Jr. April 16, 1915. They had six children: Albert, P rick, Theodore, Janet, Thomas and James. 1. Alb Frank Hickey III, b. Oct. 9, 1941, on Oct. 17, 19 married Jeanne Carol Snyder, b. Dec. 9, 1944 a have two children: Albert Frank IV, b. July 26, 19 and David Earl, b. Dec. 18, 1967. 2. Patrick Char Hickey, b. Nov. 23, 1942, on Jan. 8, 1966 marri Phyllis Ann Kline, b. Dec. 11, 1942; they have fo children: Michele Marie, b. March 2, 1967; Chris pher Patrick, b. May 11, 1968; Andrew Louis, April 3, 1970 and Kimberly Ann, b. April 28, 1973. Theodore William Hickey, b. Jan. 27, 1947, on J 18, 1969 married Katherine Emma Loeber, b. Aug. 1947; they had three children: Laura Katherine, Feb. 13, 1970; Melissa Kristine, b. Sept. 24, 1972 a Theodore Louis, b. May 30, 1978. 4. Janet Ma Hickey, b. Dec. 1, 1950, on June 8, 1974 marri Frances Eugene Gaier, b. July 13, 1949 and have o child: Bridgette Ann, b. Mar. 28, 1976. 5. Thomas seph Hickey, b. Nov. 28, 1952, on May 1, 1976 m ried Edna Irene Johnson, b. Mar. 3, 1953; they ha one child: Amy Marie, b. Aug. 5, 1978. 6. James F drick Hickey, was born Aug. 13, 1958.

FERDINAND AND ELIZABETH ANNA (UHLENHAKE) BORGER

Ferdinand Fred Borger (Feb. 23, 1890-Feb. 1967) on June 6, 1916 married Elizabeth Anna U lenhake (Nov. 3, 1889-Jan. 5, 1941), daughter of B nard and Anna Marie (Wappelhorst) Uhlenhal They had two children: Irene Mary Borger a Wilma Borger.

Irene Mary Borger, b. Sept. 23, 1917, on Sept. 1

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40, married Norman Joseph Eckstein, b. Aug. 11, 16; they have five children: John, Craig, Paul, Ste- n and Charles. 1. John Norman Eckstein, b. Oct. 1941, on Feb. 8, 1964 married Roberta Ann Orf, Nov. 12, 1942; they have three children: Teresa nn, b. May 9, 1965; Matthew John, b. April 27, 67; and Mark Robert, b. July 12, 1968. 2. Craig Mi- ael Eckstein, b. Sept. 16, 1943, on Nov. 23, 1968 rried Carol Ann Miller, b. July 9, 1943 and have e child: Brian Joseph, b. Dec. 5, 1970. 3. Paul Fred- ck Eckstein, b. Oct. 8, 1950, on July 5, 1975 mar- d Brenda Gail Clemons, b. Oct. 27, 1952. 4. Steven wis Eckstein, b. Sept. 3, 1952. 5. Charles Joseph kstein, b. July 28, 1954.

Wilma Borger, b. Apr. 12, 1919, on Nov. 6, 1943 rried Robert Krebs St., b. Dec. 19, 1914; they have ee children: Robert, William and David. 1. Robert Krebs, Jr., b. Feb. 24, 1947 in Aug. 1972 married nces Lee Kleismit. 2. William A. Krebs was born ay 19, 1950. 3. David L. Krebs, b. Feb. 26, 1952, on ay 21, 1977 married Elizabeth Jane Westendorf; ey have one child: Anthony David, b. July 28, 78. Robert Krebs. Sr./ died0 March 7, 1979.

BERNARD UHLENHAKE

Bernard Uhlenhake, b. Aug. 7, 1892 was the son Bernard and Anna Marie (Wapplehorst) Uhlen- ke. Bernard married Frances Feltz, b. Dec. 13, 94. They have eight children: Mary, Marvin, Ruth, ma, Florence, Margie, Walter, Ann.

Mary, b. 1920 married John Majeski; they have o children: Susan Mary, born 1948, who married ter Bondy; and Cynthia, born 1952, who married vid Field. Live in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Marvin, born 1921, married Elaine Shane; they ve three children. Joann Marie, born 1947 married n Clark and have one child: Ann Marie- thleen. Janet was born in 1950. Jane married Dr. uce Bohman. Live in Newport, Oregon.

Ruth Esther married Arthur DeCurtins; they have o children: Jeffrey, b. 1951 and Kathleen, b. 1954. ve in Monterey Park, California.

Roma, born 1925, married Bob Tilger; they have ree children: Timothy, b. 1957; Mark, b. 1958; and roline, b. 1961. Live in Dayton, Ohio.

Florence, b. 1927; married Marvin Huber; they ve five children: William, b. 1949; James, b. 1950; ren, b. 1951; Constance, b. 1956; and Susan, b. 60. Live in Minster, Ohio.

Margie, b. 1928, married Leon Hitner. Live in Fort orth, Texas.

Walter John, b. 1932, married Jane Bernard; they ve four children: Jeffrey, b. 1958; Ann Marie, b. 59; Gregory, b. 1963 and Michael, b. 1966. Live in ayton, Ohio.

Ann, b. July 26, 1935, married Dr. Phil O'Neill; ey have one child, Patrick, born 1965. Live in Co- mbia, S.C.

HENRY UHLENHAKE

Henry Uhlenhake, b. Oct. 22, 1894, was the son of rnard and Anna Marie (Wapplehorst) Uhlenhake. n May 16, 1922, Henry Uhlenhake married Hilda Nieberding (Jan. 11, 1900-June 3, 1969); they have five children: Tom, Rita, Ernest, Wilma and Mary Lou.

Tom Uhlenhake, b. Sept. 11, 1924, on Aug. 2, 1947 married Marie Brunswick, b. May 7, 1926; they have four children: Bob, b. July 10, 1948, on Sept. 28, 1973 married Alice Borger, b. Feb. 1, 1951 and they have two children; Robert Thomas, b. April 30, 1976 and Janelle Marie, b. Feb. 21, 1978. Jim was born June 13, 1952. Dave was born Oct. 28, 1955. Mary Ann was born Feb. 26, 1965.

Rita Uhlenhake, b. Nov. 20, 1925, on Oct. 9, 1948 married Omer Klosterman, b. Dec. 26, 1921; they have four children: Dianne, b. July 11, 1949; Kenneth, b. Nov. 2, 1950; Steve, b. Feb. 2, 1953; Annette, b. Sept. 17, 1955 and on Nov. 15, 1975 married Joe Bath, b. Nov. 1952 and have one child, Michael, b. Sept. 11, 1977.

Charles Gaerke, b. July 6, 1926, on May 14, 1949 married Wilma Uhlenhake, b. July 11, 1927-Mar. 13, 1968; they had six children: Bill, b. July 5, 1950; Jack, b. Sept. 12, 1951 and on May 3, 1975 married Judy Koesters, b. Oct. 9, 1955 and have two children, Mandy, b. May 16, 1976 and Sara, b. Mar. 22, 1978; Dale, b. Aug. 6, 1952, Randy, b. Jan. 29, 1956; Theresa, b. Sept. 27, 1960; and Robbi, b. Aug. 4, 1962.

Ernest Uhlenhake, b. Jan. 26, 1932, on April 28, 1956 married Marilyn Meier, b. April 27, 1934; they have five children: Rick, b. Mar. 15, 1957; Marvin, b. Feb. 4, 1958; Gary, b. Dec. 10, 1959; Linda (July 8, 1961-July 24, 1977) and Brenda, b. April 15, 1967.

Donald Unrast, b. Dec. 2, 1934, on July 9, 1955 married Mary Lou Uhlenhake, b. Feb. 1, 1935; they have four children: Patricia, b. Jan. 20, 1957; Carol, b. Feb. 15, 1958 and on Aug. 5, 1978 married Marvin Tuente; Jerry, b. Oct. 10, 1961 and Jim, b. Oct. 10, 1961 (Twins).

FRED AND JOSEPHINE (UHLENHAKE) SEVERT

Fred Severt (April 10, 1895-Jan. 12, 1955) on Oct. 15, 1919 married Josephine Uhlenhake, (Sept. 18, 1897-Jan. 17, 1974). They had nine children: Wilfred, Ralph, Edward, Alvin, Victor, Arthur, Mary, Mildred, and Esther.

Wilfred Bernard, b. Aug. 15, 1920, on June 12, 1943 married Betty Grigsby; they had two children: Wilfred and James. 1. Wilfred Jr., b. Jan. 30, 1944 on Mar. 21, 1964 married Sharon Fenerick; they have two children: Todd Douglas, b. Sept. 26, 1964 and Mindy M., b. Nov. 10, 1967. James, b. Feb. 25, 1946, on April 2, 1971 married Becky Severt; they have two children: Lee M., b. Aug. 21, 1968 and Neil A., b. Dec. 20, 1973.

Ralph Bernard, b. Jan. 3, 1922, on Nov. 15, 1947 married Esther Homan; they have six children: Jane, Gerald, Robert, Karen, Linda, and Joyce. 1. Jane, b. Feb. 24, 1950, on May 16, 1970 married Lavern Fiely; they have three children: Amy, b. Feb. 8, 1971; Jennifer, b. Feb. 5, 1974; and Christopher, b. Dec. 29, 1974. 2. Gerald, b. Oct. 23, 1953 married on Sept. 11, 1976 Teresa Adams. 3. Robert, b. April 27, 1955, on July 13, 1973 married Debra Reigelsperger; they have two children: Jamie, b. Oct. 15, 1973 and

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Angela Marie, b. June 5, 1978. 4. Karen was born Oct. 15, 1973. 5. Linda, b. Oct. 16, 1958, on Oct. 7, 1977, married Mark Backs. 6. Joyce was born Jan. 22, 1961.

Edward Richard, b. Sept. 16, 1923, on May 7, 1949 married Anna Marie Liening; they have eight children: Gerard, (Apr. 14, 1950-Apr. 15, 1950); Patricia, b. Nov. 24, 1951, and on Feb. 14, 1974 married Michael Franzer and have one child, Neal, b. Sept. 26, 1975; Marilyn, b. Dec. 1, 1952; Virginia, (June 16, 1954-June 5, 1959); Barbara, b. April 1, 1958; Thomas, b. July 22, 1959; John, b. June 13, 1961; and Kathleen, b. Feb. 28, 1967.

Alvin Charles, b. May 9, 1925, on Nov. 27, 1952 married Mary Ann Gross; they have seven children: Joseph Herbert, b. May 14, 1954 and on Dec. 16, 1977 married Peggy Snider; Charles Arthur, b. June 30, 1955 and on May 20, 1978 married Ann Bruggeman; Diane Elizabeth, b. Mar. 25, 1957; Peggy Ann, b. Jan. 10, 1959; Frederick Edward, b. June 20, 1960; David Clarence, b. April 16, 1963; Shirley Esther, b. Feb. 9, 1965.

Victor died at birth in 1927.

Arthur Adolph was born Jan. 22, 1928.

Mary Ann, b. June 16, 1930, on June 18, 1955 married Daniel Seitz; they have four children: Richard, Steven, Mark and Kenneth. 1. Richard Alan, b. July 4, 1956 on May 13, 1978 married Carol Frey. 2. Steven Daniel, b. Sept. 17, 1958, on Jan. 12, 1977 married Teresa Puthoff and have one child: Kevin Michael, b. July 10, 1977. 3. Mark Joseph, b. June 30, 1961. 4. Kenneth Michael, b. June 12, 1966.

Mildred Marie Griesdorn, b. Aug. 7, 1932, on Jan. 22, 1955 married Ralph Griesdorn; they have seven children: Randy, b. Apr. 2, 1956; Nancy, b. Nov. 17, 1957 who on June 17, 1978 married Dan Gerlach; Gary, b. Sept. 16, 1958; Tim, b. Oct. 17, 1959; Lori, b. Sept. 27, 1961; Carol, b. Dec. 6, 1965 and Todd, b. June 17, 1968.

Esther Francis Severt, b. Aug. 7, 1932, on May 30, 1953 married Robert E. Fleck; they have six children: Cynthia Kay (Feb. 25, 1954-Apr. 12, 1954); Michael George, b. Mar. 9, 1956; Douglas Edward, b. Mar. 7, 1957; Dale Robert, b. Feb. 1, 1959; Pamela Sue, b. Apr. 6, 1961; Julie Ann, b. Oct. 21, 1962.

BERNARD AND MARIE (UHLENHAKE) HUMMEL

Bernard Hummel (Dec. 11, 1901-May 28, 1977) on June 1, 1926 married Marie Uhlenhake, born July 12, 1906. They had three children: Ruth Marie, Helen J., and Donald Bernard.

Ruth Marie Hummel, b. May 4, 1929, on Jan. 31, 1947 married Lionel Herbert Krieg, b. Jan. 19, 1927; they have nine children: Harold, Patricia, Jean, Donald, Larry, Cynthia, Marlene, Marvin and Karl. Harold Bernard Krieg, b. July 28, 1948, on June 17, 1972 married Doris Rosemary Bornhorst, b. Dec. 28, 1948; they have three children: Susan Ann, b. Aug. 3, 1973; Sebastian John, b. Dec. 21, 1974 and Matthew Carl, b. Sept. 22, 1976. Patricia Marie Krieg, b. Sept. 26, 1950, on Aug. 20, 1976 married Joseph Kent Wilson, b. Feb. 9, 1941. Jean Ruth Krieg, b. Nov. 1, 1951, on Nov. 27, 1976 married Ronald Lawrence Olberding, b. Aug. 20, 1947; they have one child Marcee Marie, b. Aug. 31, 1977. Donald Wilfred Krieg Dec. 1, 1952, on Oct. 5, 1974 married Dorotha Lo Meiring, b. Mar. 1, 1956. Larry Joseph Krieg, born Dec. 1, 1954. Cynthia Lou Krieg, was born D 28, 1956. Marlene Rose Krieg was born April 1957. Marvin Lionel Krieg was born March 27, 19 Karl John Krieg was born April 19, 1965.

Bernard J. McEvoy, b. Apr. 26, 1927 on Sept 1951 married Helen J. Hummel, b. Aug. 28, 19 they have eight children: Daniel J. McEvoy, b. A 30, 1952, on June 15, 1973 married Barbara Glow Marilyn S. McEvoy, b. Aug. 1, 1953; James M. Sept. 28, 1956; Janet M., b. May 28, 1958; Mark E nard, b. Feb. 16, 1960; Kay Ann McEvoy, b. Feb. 1962; Karla Joan, b. Aug. 7, 1964; Ann Margaret July 2, 1965.

Donald Bernard Hummel, b. May 23, 1935, Oct. 31, 1959, married Joan Meier, b. Sept. 18, 19 they have five children: Patrick, b. Feb. 24, 19 Beth, b. July 17, 1962; Joseph, b. Aug. 24, 1963; Ja b. Feb. 7, 1966; Bernard, b. Apr. 26, 1969.

EDWARD UHLENHAKE

Edward Uhlenhake (July 25, 1908-June 30, 19 was the son of Bernard and Anna Marie (Wapp horst) Uhlenhake. On Feb. 24, 1938 he married H rietta Knapke, b. May 6, 1912; they have three c dren: Betty Lou, Delores and Robert.

Betty Lou Uhlenhake, b. May 9, 1939, on Sept 1959 married Gerald L. Dull, b. June 20, 1939, died May 19, 1973; they had two children: Daniel b. July 1, 1961 and Ronald R., b. Nov. 13, 1967.

Delores H. Uhlenhake was born Oct. 3, 1941.

Robert E. Uhlenhake, b. May 13, 1945, on May 1968 married Helen A. Droesch, b. July 27, 19 they have three children: Diane J., b. Nov. 14, 19 Beverly B., b. July 14, 1972 and Greg E., b. Feb. 1974.

Philomena Wagner (later Brunsw with her mother, Catherine Behrns W ner. (c. 1885) (Photocopy by Sorenson

WAGNER

Andrew Wagner was born 15 June 1832 in Ol He was the son of Joseph and probably Elizab Wagner, and was one of five children.

Andrew married Catherine Behrns on June 1865 at St. Mary's Church in Philothea, Ohio. was a farmer, on land situated in what is now Gr ville Township. The log cabin he built stood on w is now Post Road, alongside a deep woods the ch dren called "Bugger Woods".

In 1876, Andrew traveled to Sharpsburg, Ohio care for his sister and family who had smallpox. contracted the disease, and died on December 1879, and was buried at St. Paul's Cemetery

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ırpsburg, Ohio. Andrew's sister was Rosina Al-
's, who with her husband M. Gorgan, died leaving
› small children.
Andrew left his widow and five small children:
ıry Catherine (1867) married Henry Hinders; Phi-
ıena (1869) married Andrew Brunswick; Cather-
Barbara (1871) married John Theodore Wilden-
ıs; John (1863) married Rose Keller, and Henry
o died in California in 1925.
oseph Wagner, father of Andrew, is buried in the
netery at St. Paul's. There is no date of birth,
ne of wife, or place of birth or marriage. Records
being researched. His children were Andrew,
ilip (a veteran of the Civil War), Joseph, and two
ıghters, Rosina who married M. Gorgan Albers,
d Magdalena who married John Turches.

.INUS (NIP) WEHRKAMP

Linus William Wehrkamp was born December 30,
12 in Cranberry, Ohio, one of fourteen children of
eph Wehrkamp and Elizabeth Staugler. He mar-
d Esther Van Den Bosch on June 27, 1936 at Cran-
ry, Ohio. She was the daughter of Rudolph van
n Bosch and Frances Koesters. Linus attended
anberry schools for eight years.
Their early married years started in St. Henry,
ıio with Linus employed at Piqua, Ohio after
ıich he bought a grocery and meat market in
rkettsville which he and his wife ran from 1946 to
55. At this time he bought the Mobil station in St.
ınry which he managed until 1969. Nip is a third
d fourth degree member of Knights of Columbus.
They are the parents of three sons, James of St.
ınry born February 24, 1937 in Mercer County. He
ırried Kathleen Murray of Dover, Ohio, the
ughter of Bernard M. Murray and Concepta Con-
i Rimer. They have two children, Terry Michael
rn in 1959. He is a freshman at Ohio State Univer-
y and Beth Anne born in 1961, a senior at St.
ınry High School. Jim owned and operated a hard-
ıre store in Orrville, Ohio for 20 years before mov-
; to St. Henry and joining his brother in Wehr-
mp Bros. Poultry.
Kenneth, now residing in Troy, Ohio was born
ay 4, 1938 in Mercer County. He is married to Su-
ı Dull of Cranberry, Ohio, the daughter of Wel-
me Dull and Freda Renner. They were married on
:tober 25, 1958. Ken is a consulting engineer asso-
ıted with Helmig, Lienesch, Doench & Assoc. of
ıyton, Ohio. They have four children, Joseph,
rn in 1960 a freshman at Utah State University,
ichelle Marie, born in 1963 a sophomore at Miami
st High School, Michael, born 1965, an eighth
ader at Miami East Grade School, Amy Marie,
rn in 1967, a fifth grader at Miami East.
Thomas, born in 1940 on May 11, in Darke
›unty now resides in St. Henry. He is married to
ırol Olding, daughter of Othmar Olding and Mil-
ed Mumaw. He is co-owner of Wehrkamp Bros.
›ultry of St. Henry. They have two children, Doug-
; James born in 1961 and a senior at St. Henry
gh School and Lisa Marie, born in 1963 a Sopho-
›re at St. Henry High School. They were also the
rents of three stillborn children: Peggy Lynn,
62, Carol Frances, 1964, and Thomas Joseph, 1968.
. & Mrs. Thomas Wehrkamp

WENNING

Bernard Wenning married (unknown) and they had a son named Gerard H. Wenning. Bernard was born February 6, 1854 at Heck-Westphalia, Germany. Bernard married Margretha Anna Synck (Zink). She was born August 4, 1864 at Willen Kreis Haus Dist. Government Munster, Westphalia, Germany. She died May 4, 1904 in Granville Township, Philothea, Ohio. Margretha's parents were Bernard Synck (Zink) and he married Johanna Kortbajer, Germany. Before Bernard died April 2, 1923, in Philothea, Ohio, he and Margretha had the following children: Henry Gerard Wenning, Joseph D. Wenning, John Wenning, Bernard Wenning, Rino Wenning, Johanna Wenning, Rose Wenning, Gertrude Wenning, Kate Wenning, Anna Wenning, Josephine Wenning, Elizabeth Wenning, Mary Wenning, and a stillborn child.

Henry Gerard Wenning was born January 21, 1886. Later he married Anna Iserving. They had four children: Ben, deceased; Leo married (unknown) and had three children; Isadore married Mrs. Bruns, and they had three children; and Margaret who married Bert Tobe and they had eight children. Anna died in 1919. Henry married for the second time to Anna Bonifas, who was born February 8, 1883. They had the following children: Pauline, who married Anthony Moorman, and they had sixteen children; Eldore married Mrs. Huwer and they had one son; and Ivo married (unknown) and they had three children. Henry died October 13, 1856, and his second wife, Anna, died January 2, 1963.

Joseph D. Wenning married Sophia Ahlers. He was born January 26, 1895, and she was born May 30, 1891. They had the following children, while they resided in Coldwater, Ohio: Clotaire married (unknown), and they had one son, deceased; Adaline married (unknown), and had five children; Lavern married (unknown) and had four children; Donald, deceased; Lester, single; Charlotta married Mr. Link and gave birth to three children. Joseph died December 19, 1946 and Sophia died December 17, 1958.

John Wenning was born in 1889 and he married Mary Eyink, who was born April 28, 1890. They had the following children: Wilbur; Luella; Arthur; Ralph; and Hilda is deceased; Dorothy married Mr. Uhlenhake, and they had eight children; Anna married Ralph Bertke, deceased, and they had ten children. Mary died March 21, 1946, and John married Nellie Livingston. They had no children in this marriage. John died in 1953.

Ben Henry Wenning was born April 1, 1887 at Philothea, Ohio. Ben married Olivia Weigel, who was born December 23, 1889. They had four children: Monica, who later married Leander Streaker and had seven children; Dick married Rita Moeller, and they had four children; Weaver married (unknown) from England and they had four children; Edward married Miss Feltz and had five children. Edward died April 21, 1974. Olivia died October 6, 1922. Ben married his second wife, Bernadine Weitzel. They had the following children: Paul, who later married Miss Evers, and they had two children; Rosemary was born March 21, 1928 and died January 29, 1955. She married John Zimmerman and they had three children; Otto was born December 22,

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1929 and died March 28, 1962. He married Rita Hammond and they had one son; Ernest married (unknown) and had two children; Viola married Mr. Hemmelgarn, deceased, and then married Rich Miller. From the second marriage she had three children. Ben, the father, died November 16, 1968.

Rino Wenning died as an infant.

Johanna Wenning married Bernard J. Osterholt. She was born August 17, 1888 and died June 10, 1963. Bernard was born March 29, 1878 and died February 2, 1967. They had the following children: Tony, Rose, Kate, Walter, Leo, Edward and Herman.

Rose Wenning married Ben Wenhoven. She was born August 18, 1901 and died February 23, 1923. Ben died in 1978. They had Alfreda, who was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hoying, who married Joe Jutte, and had three children; Almo married (unknown) and had five children. They reside in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Mary Wenning died when she was four years old.

Elizabeth Wenning was born October 3, 1896 and died March 10, 1916. She was single.

A stillborn baby was born.

Kate Wenning was born March 23, 1898. She married Harry Livingston, who died June, 1945. They had no children. Kate then married William Speck, who had had two children by a previous marriage. They, Kate and William Speck, had no children.

Anna Wenning married Aloyius Reigelsperger, who died in 1943. She was born March 15, 1900. They had the following children: Rita; Norbert (deceased); Richard; Joan; and Martha (deceased). Anna then married C. Calvert, now deceased. Then she married Rudy Bertke, who died in 1975.

Josephine Wenning was born April 26, 1904. She married Edward Hemmelgarn, Nov. 11, 1930. They had the following children: Floyd who married Lois Dorsten who had three children; Jerry who married Shirley James and had eight children; and Betty who married Auggie Jutte and had seven children.

Gertrude M. Wenning was born March 31, 1892. She married George B. Steggeman, who was born Dec. 30, 1884. They had one child, who was born May 3, 1911, Matilda Bernadine, who married John Hare, deceased in 1968. Tillie and John had two children: Donald who had five children, and Robert who had two children. George died March 25, 1913. On Oct. 6, 1915, Gertrude then married John Reigelsperger, who was born Oct. 28, 1871. He died Feb. 1, 1946 and Gertrude died September 2, 1974. They had the following children: Raymond Valentine, who was born Dec. 28, 1916 and died Jan. 18, 1917; Clarence Joseph, who was born April 25, 1918, and died Dec. 12, 1973. He married Alma Hoying, who was born Aug. 20, 1918. They had the following children: Larry married Janet Knoth and they had two children; Ronald married Diane Sutter and they had two children. Urban Aloyius Reigelsperger was born Sept. 7, 1920, and died Feb. 12, 1962. He married Jean Schierholt, who was born Aug. 2, 1925. They had the following children: Bruce, married and has no children; John who wed and has one child; and Nancy, single. After Urban was Walter Frank Reigelsperger. He was born May 5, 1923, and died Aug. 26, 1925. Louis Lee Reigelsperger was born Mar. 14, 1932, and he married Joann Heitkamp. They had the following children: Linda married Kurt McAfee and they had two children; Debra mari Robert Severt and had two children; Jodie Sandy still single, Paul Edward Reigelsperger born June 16, 1939 and married Rita Wagner; t had three children: Theresa, Joe and Anna. M Ann Emma Reigelsperger was born at Coldwa Ohio Aug. 7, 1926 and married Victor He Schmackers, on Mar. 31, 1951, who was born S 1, 1917 St. Henry, Ohio. They had the follow children: Richard Victor was born Oct. 31, 195 St. Henry and married Martha Bruns, May 5, 19 Martha was born Oct. 5, 1952. They had the foll ing children: Amy, was born May 21, 1974; Tra was born March 31, 1976; Sarah was born Aug 1977. Elaine Ann was born Oct. 23, 1952 and m ried Eugene Grube Oct. 5, 1973. Gene was born J 29, 1949. They begot the following children: C was born Jan. 4, 1975 and Brian, who was born F 1, 1978. Janice Joann was born Apr. 4, 1954 and m ried Jerry Buschur, Oct. 8, 1971, who was born M 6, 1952. They had the following children: Craig born Mar. 10, 1972; Trent was born Sept. 23, 19 Sept. 26, 1974 Keith was born; Bill was born Aug. 1975; and Mark was born Oct. 15, 1977. Gary was born July 5, 1955, and was killed Oct. 14, 19 Nancy was born Mar. 20, 1957 and married Oct 1974 to Dennis Muhlenkamp. Dennis was born D 14, 1955. On Mar. 11, 1975, Sandy was born; Phi was born Oct. 5, 1976 and Matt was born Nov. 1977. Joyce Schmackers was born May 3, 1958, single, Dale was born July 6, 1960 at Celina, O and is single. Roger was born Aug. 25, 1961 at Cel and is single. *Mrs. Victor Schmackers*

REIGELSPERGER

Joseph Balmert married a Hassman, and they h a daughter called Caroline. They lived in Cincinn Ohio.

Valentine Reigelsperger was born Oct. 28, 1841 Germany, and later moved to Cincinnati, where met and married Caroline Balmert. In 1883 th moved to Mercer County. They had the follow children: 1. Carrie; 2. Katie; 3. Mary; 4. Barbara Christina; 6. Anthony (Tony); 7. Joseph; 8. John; twins: 9. Aloys (Ollie) and 10. Valentine (Wallie); Louise; 12. Charlie; 13. Andrew; 14. The ch dren's father died Aug. 16, 1924.

Carrie Reigelsperger married Joseph Bucholz, a they had one son called John Bucholz, and they liv in Dayton, Ohio.

Katie Reigelsperger married Mr. Schegel and th had the following children: Ivan, who married Jo Albers, now deceased; Ike, who married Helen ser; Jesse, who married Marie , now deceas Julius and Justine, both were bachelors and both ceased; Henrietta, who also has died; Louis, who priest; and Emma, who married Joseph Wise n deceased.

Mary Reigelsperger married Chris Zenz, and th adopted two children, Louis Schegel and Chris Sch gel. The now Louis Zenz is a priest at Bremen, In ana.

Barbara Reigelsperger married William Sro (Dayton). They had the following children: Charles, who married Betty, now deceased and th had three children; 2. William who married u

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)wn, and they had two boys; 3. Donald, deceased; Robert married Katherine, no longer living; 5. lter, married Marcella, and they had five chil- n; 6. Marie married Ray Landis; 7. Bessie, who rried someone not known to us, the present Reig-)erger family.

Christina Reigelsperger married Frank DeChant. : was born March 10, 1886 and died July 9, 1941. nk died in 1948. In their life, they had two chil- n: Bernard who later married and had eight chil- n, and they live in Texas. Marie was their only ighter, now deceased.

Tony Reigelsperger married Anne Rhinehardt, l had the following five children: William, who rried Zehpha Medford, deceased; Edward, de- sed; Pauline married Mr. Crane, deceased; Betty, :eased; Louise married Albert Sanning, and they l two boys, Robert and Richard.

oseph Reigelsperger married Louise Speck. Jo-)h was born October 6, 1876 and died April 27, 50. Louise was born Oct. 6, 1882 and died July 7, 53. They had four sons: Frank, who died January 1978; John was born January 22, 1906; and is still viving; and two boys who died as infants.

ohn Reigelsperger married Gertrude Wenning. in was born October 28, 1871 in Cincinnati, Ohio l died February 1, 1946. Gertrude was born irch 31, 1892 and died September 2, 1974. They l the following children: Clarence, who married na Hoying; Urban, who married Jean Schierholt; uis, who married Joann Heitkamp; Mary Ann o married Victor Schmackers; Paul who was wed Rita Wagner; Raymond who died when only six eks old, and Walter, who died when only two ars old.

Aloyius Reigelsperger married Anna Wenning. ey had the following children: Rita, who wed arles Oaks and they had one son Robert (de- ased); Norbert (deceased) who married Anne Gal- gher; and they had two sons, Danny and Norbert ; Martha died October 7, 1934; she was only elve years old; Richard married Romelda hmiesing and they had three children, Bonnie, nny, and Roland; Joan married Earl Dedrick and d the following children: Pat, Dennis, Tom and illiam.

Valentine Riegelsperger married Mary Rhine- rdt. They had these children: Carrie, who wed hn Staher, deceased; Clara married Arthur O'Neil, ceased; Maria married Mr. Osage; Christine mar- d (unknown) (deceased); Isabel married (un- own) (deceased).

Louise Reige.sperger married Joe Mark and had e following children: Marie, who married Earl owler, deceased; Christine who married (un- own) (deceased); Eleanor who married Mr. aner; Barbara who married Joseph L. Davis; eresa who married Mr. Jarvis; Joseph married atherine (unknown) (deceased); Carrie who mar- d (unknown) (deceased); Louise who married (un- own) (deceased).

Charles Reigelsperger married Helen Roseboom, w deceased. They had the following children: arl, who married Opal Bland, and they had two ns, Dale and Don; Alma, single; Vera married Paul ing and they had three girls and one boy; Wilbur arried Helen Jacobs and had five children; Robert arried Adeline Stukenborg and had five children; and Chris who is single.

Andrew Reigelsperger married (unknown) and had a child called San Ignoiz. *Mrs. Victor Schmackers*

Schmackers Family — **Standing:** Richard, Nancy, Dale, Elaine, Roger. **Seated:** Mrs. Victor Schmackers, Joyce, Janice, Victor Schmackers. **To the Right:** Gary Schmackers.

SCHMACKERS

(To see the family of Henry Schmackers and Anna Lefeld refer to Granville Township.)

Valentine Reigelsperger was born in Germany. He came to Cincinnati and married Caroline Balmert. They had nine children while in Cincinnati. They then moved to Sharpsburg, Ohio in Mercer County in 1883, and had four more children. The children received very little education. The family worked on a farm and cleared woodland. Half of the family died at a very early age.

Bernard Wenning was born in Germany, and he had a son named Gerard Wenning, who was born in Germany, also. The son came to the United States after he married Margretha Anna Synck. They had thirteen children, and they lived on a farm in Philothea, Ohio. Most of the children attended Philothea Special School. Margretha died at the age of thirty-nine from infection in the womb, leaving eleven surviving children, one of which was just one week old. This caused very deep hardships for the family.

Gertrude, was one of the older children, and she had to quit school to help out at home. When Gertrude was eighteen she married George Steggeman in 1910. He lived only three years and died. They had one daughter during this short marriage. After George's death, Gertrude moved back home and raised her daughter, and helped raise some of her sisters, until she married John Reigelsperger on October 6, 1915. John was employed at New Idea and farmed. They had seven more children in St. Henry and Coldwater. Two of the children died in early childhood. One of their sons died in a burning egg truck and the other died of lung cancer. So now, there are three surviving children, one of which is Mary Ann.

Mary Ann Reigelsperger was employed at Ed Hemmelgarn's egg plant as Ed's secretary for ten years, then she married Victor Schmackers on March 31, 1951 at Coldwater, Ohio. They had six children while in St. Henry, the first eight years of their marriage. They moved to Celina on a 40 acre farm and had two more children. Vic farmed the land, and worked at New Idea in the foundry. They lived at Celina until shortly after the death of Henry

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Schmackers in 1963. In October of 1964, they moved back to St. Henry, on the home place of Henry Schmackers, into a partially remodeled house, and a Grade A milk set-up. In August of 1971, they had a fire, which started in the barn, and continued on to destroy everything, but the house and garage. The barn was rebuilt to a modern dairy set-up, which is still present today.

After the fire in August, Janice, one of Vic Schmacker's children, got married in October, and now resides in St. Henry. The following year, their second son Gary was killed in an automobile accident. In the spring of the year, Richard got married and he built a home on an acre of ground, close to home, and helps do the farming. Elaine got married five months later and they live in Sharpsburg, Ohio. One year later, Nancy got married, and she lives on a two-acre farm in Indiana. In July of 1975, Victor had a heart attack, totally disabling him, and so they converted the farm into the Schmackers Holstein Farm Inc. Joyce, Dale and Roger are at home to help with the farm yet, but Joyce will be getting married May 19, 1979 to Dave Bruns. *Mrs. Victor Schmackers*

Catherine Barbara Wagner and John Theodore Wildenhaus — On their wedding day, 2 October 1887 at St. Paul's Church, Sharpsburg, Ohio. (photocopy by Sorenson)

JOHN THEODORE WILDENHAUS 1860-1943

John Theodore Wildenhaus was born February 3, 1860 at Wessum, Westphalia, Germany, son of Gerhardt Herman Broeker Wildenhaus and Elizabeth Flahr (Flayer) Wildenhaus. Gerhardt was a veterinarian, and the family were Roman Catholics. Only three of the children migrated to the United States: Henry, who settled at St. John (Maria Stein); Gertrude Elizabeth (18) who was accompanied by her father when she came to the states. The father visited with his sister, Mrs. Joseph Brueggeman of Maria Stein. John Theodore came to the US at age 13, and made the journey alone. He made his way across Holland to Amsterdam, then boarded a sailing ship for New York City. From there he made his way by train and canal boat to Cincinnati and then to Maria Stein to the home of his brother Henry.

A fondly remembered experience was the purchase of a bright-red "apple" from the train "butcher boy". One bite, and he thought he was poisoned — the apple was a tomato. Grandchildren loved that tale — wise grandpa had gotten fooled.

J. T.'s first job was operating a buzz saw after school hours. An accident caused the loss of thumb and finger on the right hand, and saw the end of the craftsman's job. He then sold apple trees for an apple grower, and from his earnings saved money for advanced education. His adventures included sales as far north as Toledo, a train wreck on the old C.H. & D. railroad (narrow gauge) at the town of Spenc ville, and his day long walk from Spencerville to John.

When he was 23 years old he enrolled in t Coldwater Normal School. The school closed Christmas time, and the students had to seek an e ucation in Portland, Indiana. A group of 15 stude spent 40 weeks studying for the test that would er ble them to be teachers. Only John passed on t first try. His first teaching job was at the Ramn School. He remembered that on August 27, 18 corn in the low fields of the Cranberry area we frozen during an unseasonal cold snap. At St. Joe taught school and operated a blacksmith shop. Th he moved to Sharpsburg, where he met and marri Miss Catherine Wagner. She was one of his a vanced students, and upon completion of sch married her schoolmaster. They lived just across t avenue from St. Paul's Church in Sharpsburg. 1895 the Wildenhaus' moved to Burkettsville, Oh And therein lies another interesting family tale.

The Oakes farm, on Watkins Road was availab however, word had it that the house was haunte The land was good, two acres were cleared, and t 2-up/2-down room house was sturdy. J. T. ma short shift of the ghost. Noting that the ghost w heard only when the wind blew from a certain dire tion, he climbed onto the roof, nailed down loc shingles — and made an end to the unwelcome vi tor. One daughter, Ursula, remembers that none the family ever suffered frost bite, although winte were harsh and miles long. Each morning of t year, each child was required to run around t house barefoot — with no excuses because of co snow, rain or heat. Even then conditioning was pra ticed, although under another name. Victoria r members smoke blown into the ear to relieve an ea ache, and granddaughter Kathryn remembers m on wasp bites and spider webs on bleeding cuts. this day all remember, "if you give in to a sick fe ing, you'll be sick — but if you get busy, you'll wo it off." Viola was most blessed of the children, s returned to the homestead, and is there to this day

Catherine Wagner Wildenhaus (Kate) died 1925, and J. T. raised his family alone. He had t satisfaction of seeing each established in a life wo Leo (1889) married Rose Heinl, Regina (1891) b came a Sister of the Precious Blood Order, Elizabe (1893) married Henry A. Herman, Victoria (189 married Archie Gulick, Hugo John (1899) marri Alvina Schmidt, Ursula (1903) who married Robe H. Miller, Viola (1906) married Alfred Walters, Ire (1908) married William Smart, Cletus (1910) marri Irene Meeker, and Alvin (1914) who married Ve Wilson. Andrew (1897) died in infancy.

J. T. was a good citizen. He served as Justice of t Peace for more than 50 years, as land appraiser ar assessor for Granville Township, as a member of t board of directors of the Farmers and Merchan Bank of Burkettsville, and as county sealer weights and measures. He managed a cannery Burkettsville, and was a successful farmer for mo than 50 years. Even for his varied career, he was teacher to the end of his days. His many grandchi dren were the grateful and loving recipients of h great wealth of facts, folk lore, and common sens Today much of that knowledge is being passed on his 100 great grandchildren, who are scattered ov

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: United States.
ohn Theodore Wildenhaus died on November 2, 13 at Burkettsville, Ohio. He was laid to rest in the netery of St. Bernards, near the church where he rshiped for so many years. *Mrs. Alfred Walters*

WIMMERS

On September 9, 1967, Thelma J. Wimmers and alter R. Fortkamp were united in marriage. There lots of southern Mercer County history in this arriage. This is the Wimmers family of St. Henry, anville Township.

The parents of Thelma are Victor H. Wimmers d (Mary) Dolores Tobe. They were married on pril 28, 1945. Thelma was the first child, born 8--46, married to Walt Fortkamp on 9-9-67, and ee children, William, b. 8-30-68, Lynn, b. 10-9-69, d Julie, b. 2-3-71. The next is Robert (Bob or Doc"), born 10-19-48, married to Elizabeth Kay ecky) Wise on 8-30-69, and two children, Tracie, 1-6-70, and Robert (Robbie), b. 12-17-75. Mary s third, born on 5-26-50, married on 12-28-74 to ichael J. Vagedes, and two children, Natalie, b. 11--75, and Michael John Jr., b. 5-21-77.

Vic and Dolores lived on the family farm, most of eir married life. Vic was a pattern maker at Mers-n Brothers, and died approximately one month er he retired.

Victor H. Wimmers was the son of Bernard Wim-ers (b. 2-7-1876, d. 4-25-60) and Rose Boeckman 5-22-1884, d. 4-7-68). They were married on pril 20, 1904. Ben and Rose had ten children. The st child was Anna and she died two weeks after th. Mark was next, born 5-16-06, married to Mary oying, and died on 8-10-44 (killed in France during . W. II). Bernadetta was third, born 7-16-08 and ed 12-29-39, she was never married. Fourth was fred (Perry), born 8-28-10, married to Beulah So-rs, two children, and died 4-4-73. Victor was the th child, born 7-8-13, married to Dolores Tobe on 28-45, and three children. The sixth child was len, born 12-13-15. Mary was born 7-23-17, mar-d to Fred Budde on 7-8-44, and five children. Leo eighth, born 1-19-21, married to Edna Depweg on -21-50, and five children. Ninth is Rose, born 1-30-, married to John Cron on 10-19-46, and five chil-en. Vera is the tenth child, born 6-10-25, married Don Winkeljohn on 6-22-46, and four children.

Bernard was the sixth of six children of John immers and Mary Hummler (B. 9-8-1839, d. 5-22-19). John was killed digging a well when Ben was a ung boy. John's parents were Godfrey and Eva immers, who came from Germany. John and ary had a farm south east of St. Henry, on what is w the Tom Moorman farm along Lange Road. hen Ben and Rose were first married, he was one two blacksmiths in St. Henry. In 1926, they ught the current Wimmers farm along Kremer oying Road.

Rose was the fourth of ten children of Henry eckman (b. 9-20-1845, d. 4-20-13) and Catherine artin (b. 12-16-1855, d. 1-4-15). Her maternal andparents were Henry Martin (b. 4-28-1820, d. 5-87) and Teresa Sachs (b. 1-3-1824, d. 5-8-88) from sasa-Lothringen, Germany (Alsace-Loraine, ance). They had a farm south of St. Rose. Rose's ternal grandparents were Henry Boeckman (5-16-1811, d. 12-6-02) and Elizabeth Todt (b. 9-16-1812, d. 11-13-54) from Dazenburd, Herzogthum, Oldenburd, Ant Damme, Deutschland. Their farm was north east of Cassella.

Dolores Tobe is the daughter of Bernard Tobe Jr. (b. 8-14-1887, d. 10-2-55) and Bertha Muhlenkamp (b. 3-16-1891, d. 6-29-30). They were married on October 8, 1912. Ben and Bertha had ten children. The first was Alma born 2-27-14, married to Walter Sutter (d) in 1934, and ten children. Alfred is second, born 12-25-15, married on 11-22-45 to Genieve Simmons, and five children. Werner was born on 8-16-17, married to Marie VanDenBosch on 4-27-40, and three children. Fourth is Rita born 5-27-19, married on 10-14-39 to Malcolm Franck, and seven children. Edward was born 6-14-21 and died 7-2-21. Dolores was born 10-6-22, married to Vic Wimmers on 4-28-45, and three children. Herbert was born 10-22-24, married to RoseMary DeMange on 10-26-46, and eight children. Carl was eighth born 1-31-28, married on 2-14-47 to Dorothy Hueing, and ten children. Ninth was Paul born on 6-23-30, married on 10-10-53 to Anne Klenke, and five children.

Ben was one of six children. His parents were Bernard J. Tobe Sr. (b. 2-7-1857, d. 2-21-1929) and Bernadine Dahlinghaus (b. 11-11-1859, d. 7-4-1930). They had a farm south west of St. Henry, near Minster-Ft. Recovery Rd. and Tobe Rd. Bernard Sr.'s parents came from Germany.

Bertha was the oldest of nine children. Her parents were John Muhlenkamp (b. 12-30-1866, d. 3-9-1941) and Catherine Homan (b. 2-17-1871, d. 4-19-1947). They had farm along Minster-Ft. Recovery Rd. near Cranberry. Bertha died of meningites six days after giving birth.

After eleven years of marriage, we considered ourselves established in the community. Doc is a Mobil consignee out of the St. Henry bulk plant. Besides this, he farms and does some mechanical repair. I help with the business doing the books, reports, and phone messages. When he has nothing better to do in the summer months, Doc plays slo-pitch softball (fifteen years). We are also active in various organizations.

The Fortkamp biography is listed under Marion Township. *This has been submitted by Thelma J. Fortkamp.*

Standing: Willis, John, Lowell, Sherm, Dale. **Seated:** Esther, Ernest, Ellen, Crystal Yaney.

JOHN A. YANEY

It was in the year 1636 that three Jenne brothers came from St. Gallen in Switzerland to Woffenwiler and Baden, Germany. It was from one of these families that we are descendants. Records found in Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botzingen, Germany.

John A. Yaney's great-grandfather and great-grandmother, Johann Jakob Jenne and Anna Katha-

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rine (Stein) Jenne, came to America circa 1818 with their children Johann Georg and Catherine. They landed at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and settled in York County, Pennsylvania. Children born there were Israel Putman, John, Daniel, Mary, Elizabeth, Christopher and Benjamin. The father was a baker. In 1838 the parents together with their oldest son Johann Georg and his wife Barbara (Schafer) came to Ohio by wagon. Johann George and Barbara (Schafer) Yaney were the grandparents of John A. Yaney.

The family settled in Mercer County, the first land purchased in June 1849 by George Yaney from John Sharp situated in South half of the South East Quarter of Section Twenty-Three in Township Number Six South of Range Number Two East consisting of eighty acres of land, more or less.

Johann George and Barbara Yaney's son, William Yaney, married Sydnia Ann Vangordon, and had nine children. Their second child, John A. Yaney, married Mina Bell Buck. John A. Yaney and Mina (Buck) Yaney had seven children: Ernest, Arthur, Florence, Gard, Paul, Clarence, and Thelma. Their fourth child, Gard, married Goldie Swatwood. Gard and Goldie Yaney had two daughters: Helen Ruth Yaney who married Ralph Benner, and Marcella Bell Yaney (1923-1940). Gard's second marriage is to Eda Breymaier. Gard was an automobile mechanic in Dayton and came to Mercer County in 1932. He farmed in Butler Township near St. Henry, selling his farm off into plats for building homes, which is known as Yaneytown. Gard's daughter Helen also lives on a farm near by. Gard's sister, Thelma, of Lewisburg, Ohio, married James Bigham. They have one son, Gale Bigham, who married Nancy Snyder, and had three children: April, Sharon, and John. Thelma Fay (Yaney) Bigham published the book *JENNE to YANEY,* 1976, at Eaton City School, Eaton, Ohio. This book is the family tree of the Yaneys from 1636 to 1976 and is in the Celina Library at Celina, Ohio.

The eldest son of John A. Yaney, Ernest was a farmer and also the owner and operator of the Yaney Sawmill located on St. Anthony Road in Butler Township in Mercer County.

Ernest married Ellen Smith, July 16, 1911. They were the parents of 10 children: DeLaura (Heindel), Kathryn (Link), Crystal (Willrath), Sherman, Dale, Esther (Gallihugh), Charles, Willis, John, and Lowell.

In 1935 the Yaney Sawmill was built on St. Anthony Road and continued business there by Ernest and Sons until 1962 when Ernest met his death by a falling limb. His son, Charles had met his death in 1951 by a log rolling on him while loading a truck. The Yaney Sawmill was destroyed by fire in 1964.

Willis, the 4th son of Ernest and Ellen Yaney married Kathryn Casperson in 1945. They have three children: Pamela (Coolman), James, and Cheryl (Vannette).

In 1965 Willis started another sawmill on Kuhn Road just a couple miles from the original one. It was destroyed by fire in 1970. In 1971, Willis and son James started, once again, another mill on Monroe Road. It was continued until ill health of Willis forced the closing in 1973.

Willis's son James married Jennifer Springer in 1968. They have two sons: James and Loren. James is a carpenter and farmer in Mercer County. *Gard Yaney*

Place your Family History in this Space.

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HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP

Hopewell Township was organized December 6, 1842. It consists of an area of 30 square miles. Today we find not only well kept farms but new homes on small acreages scattered throughout the township. Farming is mainly grain with a few dairy, beef, swine and poultry enterprises. The township is bounded on the north by Dublin township, on the east by Center township, on the south by Jefferson and west by Liberty township. There are no streams of importance within its borders. The Board of Health was organized in April 24, 1893 to adopt rules and regulations for the prevention of contagious diseases and to abate nuisances which are detrimental to health. There were 16 Resolutions:

1st It shall be the duty of every physician called to attend a case of cholera, smallpox, diphtheria, yellow fever, typhus fever or scarlet fever in the township, to report the case within twelve hours thereafter, to the health officer giving the name and place of residence of the patient.

2nd It shall be the duty of the health officer, when a case of contagious disease is reported in the township to at once notify the superintendent or teacher of the school attended by any person residing or lodging in the house with the patient. No pupil or teacher from such house will be permitted to attend school until the board of health issues a certificate that all danger from contagion has passed.

3rd Where death occurs from a contagious disease the body shall be buried as soon as possible. Section 2137 Revised Statutes of Ohio.

In October 1897 11 cases of diphtheria were reported. September 26, 1903 1 family was reported to have scarlet fever. January 11, 1904 1 family scarlet fever. February 4, 1904 2 children tonsillitis 1 Humor of the blood and the baby the rash. April 1905 smallpox and in October 31, 1908 Stedcke school closed because of diphtheria. The telephone central (operator) notified the public via party line, using one long ring denoting an announcement was to be made and all people should take down their receiver and hear the announcement, that the Board of Health agreed to close the Miller, Pierstorff, DeHays and Hair schools. The churches were also closed for several weeks because of an outbreak of diphtheria. There were 3 general country stores in operation in the 1800's. The Shively store at Stedcke (Shively's Corner) opened in 1888 and closed its operation February 1922. Oregon Station (Early) store closed in the 1930's. Tamah store was the first building to be erected in the 1870's and remained in business until 1971 when its present owner ceased to operate the store. This building is still standing and is well cared for. The country store is history in Hopewell Township but Tamah still has two businesses in operation in 1979. The Tamah Elevator, owned and operated by John Krugh and the Canary & Sons tile mill owned and operated by Ralph and sons. This business was started by William Canary in 1917, Ralph's father. A new business was opened in 1978, Leugers House and Garden Center located on Eichar road. Other businesses in the township are Johnsman's Auto Service located on Frahm Pike was started in 1974. Beougher & Stachler Engine & Welding l cated on Schleucher road was started in 1977. C& Grain located on St. Rt. 118 opened in August 19€ Schroyer Inc. located on St. Rt. 127 was started 19£ Heckler's Slaughter House, Weitz road opened f business in 1946. McAfee's Communications start its operation on Weitz road in 1964. Jane's Beau Shop, Fast road was opened in 1961. There is abo 80 rods of the old Cincinnati, Hamilton, Delph railroad bed that is still visible east and north of tl Copp school on the Fast road. East of this school an Indian burial grounds and west and north of tl Copp school is a small woods remaining where it h been passed from generation to generation that tl Indians grew their herbs calling it their herb wooc We do not know the name of the tribe. This woo is located between the Carson and John Fast farm The Cincinnati Northern railroad ceased to opera its passenger train in the 1940's. A resident neighb of Tamah related this story, It was publicized th the president was coming via this railroad thru T mah to Rockford which is a few miles north of T mah. There were about 100 students of the Rockfo school who patiently awaited his arrival, much their chagrin, who turned out to be the president the railroad instead of "the president of the Unite States."

Excitement is no small stir in the rural comm nity.

The through freight ran from Cincinnati thru A sonia. Tamah to Jackson, Michigan until Augu 1962. The local freight service thru Tamah w stopped October 1975. Jack Rutledge, a native Me cer countian, resident of Dublin township was t last engineer to pass thru Tamah. Thus ending a era of trains for Tamah and community. The or room country school was a place of learning th many a scholar can recall. The teacher taught a eight grades and in 1907 their salary for nine mont of teaching was $420.00. The Siebert, Copp, Mill structures are still standing though long vacant ar void of childish laughter. The Hair school has bee converted into a dwelling. The 5 Point school w moved from its location at Hoenie road and Frah Pike and moved to the corner of Hellwarth and Or gon Rd. and was converted into the Hopewell tow ship hall. This building has been remodeled sever times, the last date being September 1977. The cei ing was lowered, new windows, paneling an drapes. The old floor was sanded many time thanks to our trustees, and beautifully preserve The new siding is aluminum. This hall is availab for public use for a fee.

The roads in Hopewell township are all blacl topped with the exception of .47 not treated. In 19£ one mile of Hellwarth road was the first to be blac topped. In June 25, 1948 the Hopewell townshi purchased their first new road grader from Galio Iron & Mfg. Co. They previously had owned a use grader with the first equipment being unmotorize and was pulled by horses or later by tractor. Toda the township boasts of a new truck and snow plo that was acquired in 1976. Our grandparents tell u of the dirt and the 1 inch, at least, of dust on the to of the road, and the dust especially on Saturday nite

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member the town was open until at least 11:00 :lock, so it seemed like a dust storm on the week- ds. We are so thankful for our good roads of to- y.

Hopewell township has three cemeteries that are :ll cared for; Friends, Buck and Union.

In 1971 Mr. and Mrs. Orville Crouch donated ap- oximately 22 acres to the township for a park. ıis was given with the stipulation that new trees :re to be planted when needed for the preserva- ɔn of wild life and "to the Glory of God". 60 acres ross from the now developed park was given in '79 by the Crouches. A federal grant was acquired the amount of $186,000 this transaction shall be nsummated this spring or summer. The park ɔard has plans for this new park with the possibil- / of an animal exhibit. The existing park has a elter house and lake and nature trails. These facil- es are available for church groups and baptismal rvices by checking with the park president and ar- nging by date.

The name of the park was chosen by holding a ɪntest for the naming of the park. Edith Slabaugh as the winner with the name "Eden Haven" being ıosen.

This township has 5 churches namely, Friends hapel Church located on the corner of St. Rt. 118 ıd Tamah road. St. John's Lutheran church on the ɔrner of St. Rt. 118 and Oregon road. Landfair nited Methodist formally (Hope) is located on St. t. 118. Pleasant View Church of God located at St. t. 118 and Miller road. Mt. Tabor Church of God ı the corner of St. Rt. 127 and Tamah road. These 'e all lovely country churches that are up-dated, ell cared for and in very good repair. The Union hurch was torn down in the early 1940's. Union is ıe only one of the original churches that ceases to ɪmain since their birth in the 1800's. I think this ɔeaks well of the God fearing people of Hopewell ɔwnship.

The pioneers who came to this township when it as a wilderness, cleared it and improved it were rgely of German descent. The northern and east- n part were settled by English speaking people om the older counties of Ohio. The early families f German people were those of Wilhelm Fetter, Mi- ıael Hellwarth, John Miller, John Frahm, Frederick ielschott, Henry Beathler, John Now and the Sie- ert family. John and Adam were residents in 1907. ıcob Eichar, one of the pioneers, came from Stark ounty, Ohio September 10, 1837. William Morrow, Villiam Buck, Peter W. Shimp, Edward Willcutt, W. . Groves, John Lehman, Lewis Smith, Henry Crog- ıan (Krogman), J. C. Brookhart, Samuel Brookhart .mos Chapman Pierstorff family came from Ger- ıany prior to the Civil War and settled here. Wil- am Y. Wallace. Moses McChrisym, Fast family. ɔhn E. Smith, William Regedanz. Tobias Eiche- auer, Frederick Stedcke were all instrumental in eveloping and improving the township. I am sure ıe people justly named would be proud of the rogress and improvement of our great heritage. We 'ear our names proudly, for indeed, these are our ɔots and they were born in Hopewell township, lercer county, Ohio. Pioneers we salute you!

A few items of interest compared to todays infla- on.

397	Election expense	24.82

Eden Haven Park

1901	Burial	18.00
	Casket and hearse	15.00
	Clothing	3.00
1905	Cord of Wood	1.75
1908	Dr. M. L. Dowing bill	
	Medicine	.30
	Medicine for 3 patients	1.00
	4 Vaccination and visit	7.00
1928	Funeral	40.00
1936	40 hr. Road labor	10.00
1969	Election expense	120.00
1974	Election expense	300.00
Population in 1880		1,185
Population in 1890		1,414
Population in 1900		1,313
Population in 1960		901
Population in 1970		961

Our records start in 1859 with the following people performing their trustee and clerk duties thru 1979.

Enoch G. Johnson, Jonas Lehman, Charles Dieller, clerk, C. Now, J. S. Fisher, E. G. Johnson, John Miller, P. S. Keitchner, Christian Now, William Morrow, Jocob Beaghler, clerk, William Hair, L. T. Copp. William Hainline, William Grube. David Snyder, Federic Stedcke, Joseph Hellwarth, Joseph Miller, Jocob Rutledge. William Rutledge, John Riese, Joseph Nuding, Jocob Eichar, George Klinger. Daniel Weaver, F. B. Behynier, S. H. Peterman, John Tilton, Reuben Wagner. William Eichar, Henry Beagller, clerk, Jonas Weist, S. V. Slabaugh, clerk. Charles Pierstorff, John Wilson, clerk, Joseph Miller, J. L. Morrow, J. F. Frahm, clerk, John Hair, B. F. Smith, William Hair, G. F. Sielschott, E. F. Hellwarth, clerk. J. F. Frahm, J. E. Reynolds, John Eichar, William Pierstorff, Dee Fast, clerk A. T. Rhoades, John Hansel, Frank W. Eichenauer, J. E. Reynolds, Homer Adams, E. J. Lehman, Earl Schleucher, D. W. Eichenauer, Adolph Hoenie, J. H. Now, F. F. Orr, John Luth, W. F. Hoenie, clerk, Joseph Hansel, Ed. M. Siebert. Edward Pierstorff, Carson Fast, clerk, Urban Buschur, Floyd Deitsch, Orville Weir, John Hoenie, clerk, Eugene Howell, Harry Luth, William J. Hoenie, Richard Schleucher, Dillon Eichenauer, Eldon Eichenauer, clerk. *by Marjorie Pierstorff*

Old home of Abraham and Loverta (Doty) Fast in Hopewell Twp.

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OREGON STATION

Not a trace remains of the little station called Oregon, except a small portion of the old railroad bed, a few chunks of cement, and the house that the switchboard of the former Home Telephone Company (central) occupied. It was founded as Earley in 1881 on the south side of Oregon Road at Weitz Road, and changed to Oregon in 1888. At the peak of prosperity, a cream station, cider press, tile mill, elevator, train station, and store were there. The Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton Railroad ran from Cincinnati to Delphos. Some men who owned or operated the store were: Shell Johnson (preacher), Bill Witter, Frank Algeyer, Jim Weaver, Dee Now, Grover Nuding, Charlie Siebert, Charles and Frank Hainline. The discontinuation of the railroad precipitated the death of Oregon, as the businesses closed one by one in the 1930's. The lone exception was the switchboard, installed in the house in the early 1900's, which closed in August 1949. *by Marjorie Buck Pierstorff and Marilyn Buck Helmer*

SHIVELY'S CORNER

The government named it Stedke, but to everyone, far and wide, it always has been, and always will be "Shively's Corner". John Shively opened a general store at the intersection of State Route 118 and Frahm Pike in 1888. A post office was in a corner of this store until the late 1890's. Then a wagon wheel mounted on a post, with a mailbox on each spoke was installed on the southwest corner, on the Henry Krogman farm. Families came to pick up the once-a-week mail. The store was the social hub of the community. Many a yarn was spun there and several friendships led to matrimony. In the days of the huckster wagons, if a housewife purchased more than $4.00 worth of supplies, the driver would have had to help her carry it into the house, a far cry from 1978. Included in this thriving trading center were a barn, blacksmith shop, sawmill, warehouse and two huckster wagons and sheds. The buildings disappeared one by one, following the demise of the store in February 1922. The old store, which is converted into a granary, stands today on the Wayne Shively farm. Mrs. John (Sarah Buck) Shively was killed in the tornado of 1888, leaving two children. Mr. Shively later married Eliza Crouch and had five more children. Still later, the twice widowed Mr. Shively married Mandy Young. Ernest (a son of John) and Fannie Fisher Shively still live on the corner. *by Marjorie Buck Pierstorff and Marilyn Buck Helmer*

Old Store at Shivley's Corner, moved and converted into granary on the Shivley Farm north of former location.

Tile Mill at Tama

TAMAH

Tamah, in its heyday, more widely known th Rockford or Celina, was from all indicatio founded in the 1870's. The store was the first buil ing to be erected, and has been owned and operat by Tom Groves, Perry Miller, Ferd Smith, George S ebert, Clyde and Frank Davis, George Schroyer. T last owner, Richard Sealscott, took over in 1947 a closed it in 1971. For a few early years there was post office in the store. George Painter started blacksmith shop in the 1920's, followed by son Ji There was also a basket weaver named Baxter. T mah also had an inventor and medical doctor, D Vaughn, who, legend says invented, or at least i proved upon, the couplings for train cars. He al donated land for a roundhouse, since Tamah w the midway point between Jackson, Michigan a Cincinnati, Ohio. The Cincinnati-Northern Railro never built the roundhouse because "there w never a legal deed and something crooked to place", as the residents of today tell us. The ve busy, popular depot was located on the west side the tracks on the south side of Tama Road. This pa senger train (but not the depot) was in operation u til the 1940's. There are two businesses still in oper tion today, the elevator and the tile mill. Present the elevator is owned by John Krugh, Elgin, Oh Other owners and operators were: George Dustma Jim Stammen, Palmer & Miller, Berne Equity, a Landmark (who never opened it). The tile mill w started by William Canary in 1917. Ralph Cana and sons presently own and operate the mill, whi makes concrete drain tile and septic tanks. A ne business, located on Eichar Road, Leuger's Hou and Garden Center, opened in 1978.

Earl Fisher, who resides on the old homestead th has been in the family for 118 years, Richa Hughes, Dick Sealscott, and Ralph Canary are that remain of the "old timers". Though not as a tive as it once was, Tama is still on the map. *by Ma lyn Buck Helmer and Marjorie Buck Pierstorff*

Old Store and Elevator at Tama

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Miller School, Hopewell Township, District #8 Taken in 1926 — **Front Row L. to R.:** John Barna, George Hellwarth, Joe Barna, Eugene Freeman, Fuhrman Miller, Eugene Archer. **Second Row:** Florence Eichenauer, Verna Alice Miller, Dorothy Zimmerman, Mabel Now, Verna Now, Pauline Bradford, Ruthaleen Krogman, Mary Catherine Hellwarth. **Third Row:** Kenneth Eichenauer, Evelyn Barna, Dorothy Now, Loretta Now, teacher Mildred Wood, Margaret Hellwarth, Clifford Eichenauer, John Hellwarth. **Back Row:** Clarence Crider, Chester Zimmerman, George Barna, Dale Now, Chester Bradford, Earl Freeman.

1917 Miller School — **Back Row:** John Adams, Ira Smith, Will Eichenauer, teacher, Mae Freeman, Beulah Now, Hulda Roediger, Bertha Now, Salome Adams. **Second Row:** Earl Freeman, Dale Now, Lueatae Garman, Chester Zimmerman, Leatta Garman, Laveda Now, Goldie Now, Margaret Now. **Front Row:** Howard Schleucher, George Garman, Clarence Schleucher, Russel Armstrong, Clifford Armstrong, Forest Smith, Willie Smith.

Copps School, Hopewell Township, District #2 Taken in 1925 — **Front Row L. to R.:** Carson Fast, Kenneth Highley, Robert Fast, John Nuding. **Second Row:** Alma Swanders, Kathryn Fast, Mabel Grossnickle, Luella Siler, Josephine Nuding, Mildred Fast. **Third Row:** Wilbur Graham, Wilbur Grossnickle, Orville Siler, teacher, Daisy Beery, Katherine Murphy, Helen Nuding, Nellie Wilson.

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The First Church 1861

Second Church, 1881

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FIRST CHURCH — 1861

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was formed the years 1858-1860. The first pastors who served here were circuit riders on horseback. Services were probably held in the homes until the first structure was built, which was a log church located southeast of the crossroads. In 1861 the constitution was drawn up and adopted.

On July 29, 1863, a congregational meeting was held by Pastor George Heintz, and the following church officers were elected: Elder, George Weier, 2 years; Fred Sielschott, 1 year; Deacon, William Regadanz, 2 years, and Fred Berlin, 1 year; Treasurer, William Regadanz; Secretary, Fred Berlin.

The first German Hymnals were purchased in 1864. The church was incorporated as the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hopewell Township in 1866, and about this time the first church bell was also bought.

It was during the history of the first church that the old parsonage, now housing the janitor, was built in 1873. It was believed to have been the first frame house in the community. The building committee for this was Adam Siebert, John Frahm, and John Riese. In 1874 they built the stable, and the members of this committee were Karl Silk, Frederick Frahm, and John Siebert.

SECOND CHURCH — 1881

The second church building was constructed in the year of 1881, and was erected on the site of the present Parish Hall.

The land was purchased from William Pierstorff. The building was 40 x 60 feet, and was erected at a total cost of $5,016.52.

In 1909 the first furnace was installed in th church. Art glass windows were installed in the yea 1914 at a cost of $50.00 and the next year the firs sidewalks were put around the grounds.

The first minutes written in English were recorde in 1913 when Arnold Hoenie was secretary. W were united with the Celina congregation from 190 to 1918. The old acetylene lighting system was in stalled in the church in April, 1914, on a total basis and in January, 1915, they decided to accept the nev lighting equipment.

The present home of the pastor was built in 191 at the cost of $3,785.84.

The German language was the basic language and all who were instructed in the Word of Goc were instructed in German. In the early 1920's, the German language was dropped.

In 1931 we united with St. Paul's Church, Liberty Township. These congregations were served by one pastor until 1947 when partnership was dissolved.

In connection with our 75th Anniversary in 1937 the pipe organ was purchased.

The Luther League purchased the bell we now use in 1916.

The Ladies Aid began in August of 1919, with Mrs. Rudolph Frahm serving as the first president.

The Luther League organized on May 28 in the year of 1914.

The Junior Mission Band, now known as the Junior Lutherans, started in the 1930's. Miss Hazel Regadanz was the first leader.

The beginning of St. John's Brotherhood dates back to February, 1938.

The Fellowship League, now known as the Young Married Adults, met for the first meeting January 22, 1947 with six families present. The Young Adults were officially reorganized on October 23, 1963.

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St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Township

THIRD CHURCH — 1955

Our church fathers must have had foresight for the need of a larger church and Sunday School room, as the improvement and building fund was set up in 1942. In 1951 the building committee was appointed.

On Palm Sunday, 1953, it was voted to build our present church and to convert the old church into our present Sunday School rooms and Social Hall. The following members served on the Building Committee: George Luth, Irvin Meyer, Howard Frahm, Ole Sites, Urban Hoenie, and Cletus Frahm.

On the fourth day of September, 1955, this church was dedicated to the service of the Triune God during the pastorate of Rev. Clyde P. Miller. The total bids of the contracts were $75,754.00. The pews, pipe organ and alter were transferred from the old church.

The membership of St. John's has grown to 361 baptized members and 232 confirmed members. Only with the cooperation of every member in the congregation can we hope to remain an active church and in this way be assured of the future of this congregation.

Much progress has been made during the last few years. We hope that St. Johns congregation will continue to progress during the next one hundred years and that our congregation will continue to be a source of spiritual blessings to us.

David Sites was the first son of the congregation, ordained on August 25, 1974.

Rev. Martin Zulauf is the present pastor of the congregation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The first Sunday School at St. John's was held on Sunday afternoons and only during the summer months. This was stated by Grandpa Grube (step grandfather of Misses Mary and Lydia Siebert and Mrs. August Willrath) when he came to the church on a rainy afternoon to carry wood into the church and found a group of boys who had gathered there in the corner to kill snakes. The boys helped Mr. Grube carry the wood into the church, and to show his appreciation, Mr. Grube told the boys a story — the story of creation. From then on, the boys came to the church on Sunday afternoons during the summer to hear the Bible stories told by Mr. Grube.

This Sunday School continued until Rev. Melcher came to be the pastor at St. John's. He thought that Sunday School should be like an evergreen tree — keep it alive the year round. So Rev. Melcher changed it so that Sunday School was held the year round and in the morning instead of the afternoon.

Special recognition should be given to Miss Lydia Siebert who was a teacher in our Sunday School for over fifty years. She retired from teaching in 1960. *by Vera Speicher, Celina, Oh.*

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THE PLEASANT VIEW CHURCH OF GOD

The Pleasant View Church of God is located in Hopewell Township, five miles Northwest of Celina on State Route # 118.

It is difficult to pinpoint the actual beginning of the Pleasant View Church. As early as 1835, Jacob Keller, Thomas Hickernell, and John Greeger were appointed by the Churches of God in Eastern Pennsylvania to serve the Ohio Circuit. One of the ministers was Christopher Now. His membership in the Pleasant View records is given as 1851, which was many years before the organization of this church.

A congregation sometimes referred to as Now's Appointment and at other times as the Church of God in the German Settlement of Hopewell Township emerged. This association was incorporated on Sept. 6, 1860 in the Lincoln schoolhouse. The following names appear on the statement of incorporation: Michael Hellwarth, Margaret Hellwarth, John Now Sr., Mary Now, Caroline Now, Catherine Crouch, Mary Thomas, Mary Magdaline Meyer, Mary Jane Wallace, Emily Garman, Magdaline Garman, Lydia Zimmerman, and Philip Smith. Chris Now was elected as clerk and Michael Hellwarth, John Now Sr., and Chris Now were elected as trustees. A bethel was built by this congregation just one-half mile north of the present church, probably in the early 1860s. C. H. Forney stated that "The mistake had been made here years before of building on land for which they had only the promise of a deed. The man died, and later the house was sold to the Evangelical Church."

During the ministry of Rev. C. N. Belman the church re-organized and began building a new bethel. The first organization of the Pleasant View Church of God was February, 1876. At that time, Lafe Now, a brother of Christopher Now and son of John Now, Sr. was serving as clerk of the church. He reported in The Church Advocate that a protracted meeting by Brother C. N. Belman was being held in "our vicinity, formerly known as Now's Appointment." The new bethel was built on the Frank Miller farm and became known as the Pleasant View Church of God and was sometimes referred to as Miller's. The bethel was completed in 1878 and dedicated that same year. On May 14, 1886 the church was destroyed by a tornado. "Only the floor remained along with the lectern which was no moved. On it was the Bible still closed and undisturbed." Some of the testaments were found in the Neptune area. It is very probable that the first church records were lost in this tornado because the records of the church are somewhat incomplete for the first ten years and in them, after a reference to service in the new bethel is a statement that, "The above has been kept and entered by Lafe Now as a record."

After the tornado the group used the Lincoln schoolhouse again for services for a period of three years and until a new building was built on the present site on the John Miller farm, which is East across State Route # 118 from where the other bethel was destroyed. The new bethel was completed in 1889 and dedicated on June 2, 1889.

On Jan. 22, 1879, Lafe and Margaret Now deeded an acre of ground from their farm to the church for $5.00, to be used as a parsonage. On Oct. 13, 1900 this ground was deeded back to the Nows for $40.00 since it was no longer used as a parsonage.

In 1898 the bethel was repaired and repainted, a new bell purchased, and a new bible placed on the pulpit.

In the early 1900s the small congregation became discouraged and wanted to close the church. John H. Now, son of Lafe Now, and Janitor of the church from the 1890s until the time of his death in 1959, and his wife, Nettie Now, by their faithfulness kept the church doors open.

In 1911-1913, an addition was constructed on the front of the church, the pulpit area enlarged, the belfry made higher, and new pews purchased at a cost of $334, and these same pews were refinished in 1975 at a cost of $1439.50. There have been many improvements since that time. The lectern which came through the tornado was used in the church until 1967 when new pulpit furniture was purchased. In 1957, additional ground was purchased for a parsonage adjacent to the church property and a house was moved on it and remodeled. In 1976, the church observed their 100th anniversary. *Margaret Weitz*

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MOUNT TABOR CHURCH OF GOD

Mount Tabor Church of God

This church is located on the corner of St. Rt. 127 and ma Road, in Hopewell Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. It was ilt on a corner of farm land granted by a patent deed to illip Hitchner, Sr., in 1824, and given to the congrega- n by his widow, Rhoda C. (Hinkle) Hitchner.

Joseph Hansel wrote a history of Mt. Tabor Church me time ago up to 1941 and follows: On April 18, 1879, v. J. H. McNutt held a meeting in the Baptist Church at ercer, Ohio, and organized a Church of God. Those io became members at this first meeting were; Jacob st, Sarah Fast, W. S. Hansel, Sarah A. Hansel, Sam rry, Zoe Berry, Wm. Banan, Sarah Banan, Tom cLaughlin, Emma McLaughlin, and Floyd Purdy.

The officers elected were; Ruling Elder, Jacob Fast; eacon, W. S. Hansel.

On March 2, 1881, Rev. C. N. Bellman held a meeting Mercer and six more members joined the organization. ptember 11, 1881, Rev. Bellman appointed Tom cLaughlin, Elder and Sam Berry and W. S. Hansel as eacons.

In the fall of 1881, Rev. E. Poling came on the work. uring the two years he was on the work, J. G. Fast was der and W. S. Hansel, Deacon. Also during this pastor- e, preparation was made to build a church building. veral other members were added to the church being; . G. Fast, Laverta Fast, Rhoda Hitchner, Chris Anspaugh, cky Anspaugh and Anderson Chapman and Elsa Chap- an.

In 1883, the building was erected about one mile south Mercer. On September 9, 1883, it was dedicated by ev. Koogle and named the Mt. Tabor Church. Other inisters present at this service were; Poling, Heppert, oss and Dolson.

The ministers who followed Rev. Poling and dates of eir pastorates are as follows: McNutt, 1883 who re- gned in 1884 and Voss finished his work. Cassle 1884- 886; Richie 1886-1888; Lemunyon 1888-1890; Hoover 890-1893; Rothrock 1893-1896; Poling 1896-1897; Osborn 897-1898; Witham 1898-1903; J. T. Miller 1903-1905; hnson 1905-1907; (during 1907 the building was struck y lightning and rebuilt the same year); Manchester 1907- 908; Buaders 1908-1910; Charles Berey 1910-1911; Lemu- yon 1912-1913; Musgrave 1913-1914; Winger 1914-1915; eff 1915-1916; Snavely 1916-1918; (in 1918 the building as again remodeled) Lyons 1918-1920; Cheney (1920- 923; Neff 1923-1926; Bauders 1926-1929; Tippie 1929- 931; Forest Beery 1931-1934; Elza Beery 1934-1938; Myrl ephart 1939-1941 (our present pastor). Built to the urch in 1940 and dedicated May 4, 1941.

There are seventy-six members on record that are ithful to God's cause.

Additional information has been supplied by Mrs. lelen (Nuding) Harner to bring history up to the present ate. It follows:

1884, while Rev. Cassle was on the work, women of the hurch (Becky Amspaugh, Elsie Chapman and Laverta ast) raised money for a bell that cost $35.00. Each of the adies had a territory around the church to gather money. ecky Amspaugh had the section around Tama. Several aid not to call on a certain man that all she would get ould be a good tongue lashing. Becky felt it would do o harm to call on him and he gave $5.00, the most she received from any one person. She said, "See, the outsiders are more concerned than you think".

When the church was first erected, it faced the west. There were two doors. The pulpit was along the east wall with a door on the east wall. It was one step high with an altar rail all around it. There were two rows of seats with an aisle down the middle of the church. While the Belfry was changed from the center of the church to the corner of the church, the bell had to be taken down and some- one stole it. The new one cost quite a bit more than $35.00. The church has been broken into several times with Bibles, rugs and other items stolen, besides the bell.

In the early days, the Sunday collection would be about 36-38 pennies. There were two men in the men's class who would ask for change for a nickle. A nickle was too much to give on one Sunday, they thought. When Rev. Bauders first came on the work, he rode horseback to church. He would sleep and eat at Laverda Fasts.

1918-1919 saw the people of the church and Rev. Snavely raise $2,000. The house was put upon a better foundation, stuccoed, and stained glass windows replaced the more common ones. A small room to the South was added enlarging the seating capacity. New seats at a cost of over $600.00 were added. Carpet and linoleum and rubber matting were put down. Painting and varnishing were done and new spouting put up.

The church first had gas light, then gasoline lanterns and finally electric lights. Gas stoves and lights were given to the church by Emma Siler. The stoves first used natural gas from Hitcheners gas wells. They were con- verted to coal and from coal to oil. An oil furnace was put in during the remodeling of 1955-1956.

At one time, Mt. Tabor was part of a four church cir- cuit. (Neptune, Fairview, and Pleasant View — the others) Neptune left the circuit during the pastorate of Royal Smith. Fairview broke from the circuit when Rev. Binkley was on the work. The Eldership placed Pleasant View with Mt. Carmel.

Other pastors serving Mt. Tabor are as follows: Shelby Stratton 1941-1944; Royal Smith 1944-1946; Sam Bauders 1946-1949; Norman Folk 1949-1952; Kenneth Laffin 1952- 1956; Carl Binkley 1956-1965; Geoffrey Clay 1965-1972; Lewis Johnston 1972-1974; William Smith 1974-1978; and James Pommert is the present pastor.

The church purchased a 40 Acre farm in 1946. A new parsonage was built in 1964-1965. January 30, 1972 was a "Day to Remember". There was a Note-Burning cere- mony during the morning service marking the successful conclusion of the Building Fund for the new parsonage. The day was celebrated with former pastor Carl Binkley as speaker in the morning service. A carry in dinner fol- lowed. Rev. and Mrs. James Wallace from our mission work at Borel, Haiti were the evening speakers.

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LANDFAIR CHURCH

On the corner of Frahm Pike and Erastus Durbin Roads, the Center Chapel Methodist Protestant Church was built around 1887, on the ground owned by John Stoll. The carpenter was Nathan Baucher. Pews were built in a barn owned by George Felver.

Some of the first trustees were: John Stoll, George Felver, Ben Baucher, George Hines, and Jack Snavely. One of the earlier ministers was Rev. Albright. At the time of the transfer from the Indiana to the Ohio Conference, the name was changed to Landfair.

It was remodeled, with work done by the congregation in 1950. In 1961 a fire in the attic made it necessary to have a new ceiling installed.

In 1971 the church moved to the former Hope United Bretheran Church on State Route 118. The present minister is Rev. Wayne Reis. Church activities include a women's organization and a youth group. *submitted by Mildred Sheets*

KARL M. ALLMANDINGER

Karl Michael Allmandinger and Chloa live in Hopewell Twp. Section 17. Mr. Allmandinger farms 40 acres of land and is employed at the Buel Lumber Co. in St. Marys.

Karl was born in 1905, the son of Frederick and Anna Allmandinger. Although he was born in Mercer Co., he spent most of his youth in Van Wert Co. He returned to Mercer Co. when he married Chl Estella Smith on September 19, 1928. They are tl parents of three living children, Marcella, Norn and Karl E. Marcella is married to Harold Buel ar presently lives near St. Marys. They own and ope ate the Buel Lumber Co. Norma is married to Dc Shaffer and they live in Celina. Norma is a regi tered nurse. Karl E. is married to the former Hele Howell and they reside near Celina. Karl E. is inte nal auditor for the Celina Group. The Allmandin ers have 12 grandchildren and 3 grea grandchildren.

The family ancestry is German. John L. Allmar dinger and Rosina came to this country in 1856 an settled in Butler Co. In 1877 they came to Merc County and bought land in Black Creek Twp. The were the parents of 10 children, one of which wa Frederick, the father of our subject. He marrie Anna Kathrina Kallenberger in 1895. The followin children were born to them — George, Pauline, Ru dolph, Karl, Elizabeth, and Matilda. The family's oc cupation has been mostly farming and carpentry.

Chloa Smith Allmandingers' ancestry wa strongly German also. Her grandfather Lewis Smit was born in Germany and was brought to this cour try by his parents at the age of 8 years. He served i the Ohio Volunteer Infantry from 1861-1865. Whil yet in the infantry, he married Wilhelmina Frahm i 1864. They were the parents of 5 sons, Willian Charlie, Frank, Albert and Ferdinand. In 1866 Lewi purchased 80 acres in Hopewell Twp. Section 17, fc $1,000. One of his sons, Franklin Smith, acquired 4 acres of this land in 1891.

Franklin L. Smith was married to Rosine Wasbr in 1896. They were the parents of 4 children — Wal ter, Esther, Cora and Chloa. Frank Smith died at fairly young age but his wife Rosine kept the farr going. Chloa Smith Allmandinger has resided o this farm all of her life. The land has been in th Smith family since 1866, well over 100 years.

Throughout his life Karl Allmandinger's occupa tion has been mainly carpentry and farming. Th Allmandingers have been lifelong members of th Lutheran Church. *Chloa E. Allmandinger*

THE URBAN H. BUSCHUR FAMILY FARM

In 1857 the U.S. Government deeded to Willian Search the southwest quarter of Section 24, towr five south, range two east, containing 160 acres o land in Hopewell Township, Mercer County, Ohio Down through the years various other peopl bought different sections of the land.

Seventy-five years later, in 1932, Urban H. Busc hur and his wife, Rosena M. of Coldwater, Ohi bought part of the land from the two Celina Banks They purchased 66.67 acres off the north side of th north half and this included ten acres off the eas end of land that is now the property of Ed anc Esther Heckler.

Except for the north end which was already grav eled, the south end of the road (that is presentl Weitz Road) was still a mud road when Urban anc Rosena moved there in early 1933.

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Farm of Urban H. and Rosena Buschur on Weitz Rd. from Mrs. Thelma Homan

Their 66.67 acre farm at 8206 Weitz Road included a barn, granary, chicken house, summer kitchen and seven-room one-story-home which they, in time, remodeled. Their children well remember electricity being added, plus kitchen cupboards and a bathroom. The back and front porches of the house were closed in and a new garage erected in the barnyard.

It was 10-01-1930 when Urban Henry, son of Anthony and Sophia (Kobes) Buschur of Rural Route, Coldwater, Ohio married Rosena Marie Dippold, youngest daughter of John and Mary (Huelsman) Dippold of Cassella, Ohio, Marion Township, Mercer County. Rosena had done housework in Dayton before her marriage. Before moving to their farm, Urban and Rosena rented a home west of Coldwater, Ohio on St. Rt. 219 from Henry Osterholt while Urban was employed at AVCO New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio until being laid off at the onset of the Depression. Urban recalls Depression Time when 200.00 horses were bought for $35.00, hogs sold for ¢ a lb. and he cut corn for $1.00 a day.

Rosena was a homemaker and member of Celina Immaculate Conception's Ladies' Society until she passed away with acute leukemia on May 24, 1972. She and Urban had a dairy herd and farmed for many years until recently Urban rented his farm to a neighbor, George Hoenie and sons.

Besides farming, Urban was Trustee of Hopewell Township for 12 years, a DeKalb Seed Corn Dealer for 15 years, Central Committeeman for 3 years, a member of Celina Immaculate Conception Parish's Holy Name Society, and he had also been active for most ten years in the Celina Moose Lodge of which he was a trustee for awhile. Years back he was a Celina Eagle's Lodge Member and then reinstated in 1972. In March 1977 he married Eleanora Dortman of Rural Route, St. Anthony, Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Eleanora has two children, Vickie, married to Rick Dues, and John, unmarried.

Urban H. (b. 5-07-1903), Rosena M. (b. 4-14-1908) and their five children; Urban (b. 9-17-1931), Thelma (b. 2-09-1934), Marilyn (b. 1-17-1937), Ronald (b. 9-07-1943) and Marvin (b. 1-10-1946) were members of Celina's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and the children graduated from Immaculate Conception Grade and High Schools.

Their oldest son, Urban, (married to Mary Lou Popp of St. Marys) is Engineering Manager at Tamco in New Bremen, Ohio and they have 5 children, Mark (m. to Patricia Cacchione and 1 child, Tony), Debra, Kathy, Tim and Larry of New Bremen. Thelma is married to Jim Homan and they live on Rural Route Coldwater, Washington Township, with their five children, Randy, Loraine, Patricia, Pamela and Brian. Marilyn is married to C. O. Koch with the State Highway Patrol at Findlay, Ohio and their children are Michael, Mark and Julia. Ronald is married to Joan Heitkamp and has six children, Nicholas, Rene, Cynthia, Keith, Thresia and Chad. Marvin, married to Susan Shinaberry has three daughters, Michelle, Kimberly and Stacey. Both Ron and Marvin are employed at Reynolds in Celina, Ohio. *Mrs. Thelma Homan*

WILLIAM AUSTIN CARPENTER

William Austin Carpenter, son of Noah and Rachel (Beery) Carpenter, was born Sept. 6, 1853 and died Feb. 25, 1928. He was married to Mary Lovina Fisher who was born Feb. 19, 1857 and died Feb. 27, 1936. Mary Lovina Fisher was the daughter of Peter and Mary M. (Stuck) Fisher who were natives of Pennsylvania.

Mary M. (Stuck) Fisher came from Pennsylvania to Mercer County with her parents around the year 1842. They purchased eighty acres of timberland about seven miles west of Celina, Ohio on Frahm Pike and forty acres along Schleucher Road, close to their eighty-acre tract of land.

Mary Lovina (Fisher) Carpenter's great grandfather, Michael (Stock) Stuck was a soldier in the Revolutionary War of the 1700's. The family name was changed from Stock to Stuck in the 1800's.

William and Mary Carpenter moved their family from Center Township to their eighty-acre farm in Hopewell Township on Morrow Road around the year 1881 when their eldest child was three years of age. The eldest child was eight years of age at the time of the tornado of May, 1886. She remembered standing at the door of their home with her mother during the tornado and listening to the storm and the screams of the people who were in the path of the tornado along Frahm Pike which was about one-half mile south of their dwelling.

William cleared his eighty-acre farm of trees, and split rails to build fences. He also built some picket fences with the help of the oldest child who turned the crank of the picket-weaving machine. William had built their dwelling of logs and chinked it with clay mud to keep out the cold, which was the method used in building homes at that time. It was later sided and painted. When the house was being torn down around the 1960's, it was taken to Mendon, Ohio where a part of it was reassembled into a small cabin for the Boy Scouts of that area.

William and Mary (Fisher) Carpenter were the parents of six children: Lura Clyde, Emmett, Bessie, Lucy, Leonard Cecil, and Minnie. The oldest child, Lura Clyde, married John Roberts Hoenie who owned a tract of land across the road from the Carpenter farm. Their children were Ray, Ross and Ethel. Ethel, the writer of this sketch, married James E. Marbaugh and they have one son, James A. Marbaugh.

William and Mary's second child, Emmett, married Blanche Weaver, and their children were Lowell, Lloyd, Donald, Dale and Dorothy; their third child, Bessie, died at about eighteen years of age; Lucy, the fourth child, married Daniel W. Weaver, and their children were Cloyd, who died in infancy, and Robert Daniel Weaver; the fifth child, Leonard Cecil, died in infancy; the sixth child, Minnie, married Herschel Jeffries. They were the parents of one

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child, Mary Linda.

William and Mary (Fisher) Carpenter attended the Union United Brethren Church which was more than a mile from their home. They lived on their Hopewell Township farm until their death and were laid to rest in the Union Cemetery of that township.
Mrs. Ethel M. Marbaugh

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Deitsch

MR. & MRS. BEN DEITSCH AND FAMILY

Benjamin John Deitsch married Mary Electa Eichenauer, October 12, 1922. Ben Deitsch was born May 15, 1901, son of John Jacob Deitsch (born 1876) and Christina (Bollenbacher) Deitsch (born 1877), in Liberty Township. Electa Deitsch was born May 14, 1901, daughter of Justus Eichenauer (born in Germany 1868, and came to the U.S. at the age of 16) and Lillie Belle (Miller) Eichenauer (born 1872), in Hopewell Township.

Ben was next to the oldest in his family, of one brother and three sisters. Their names according to age, Lawrena Alt (deceased), Ben, Edna Bauer, Floyd Deitsch, and Alice Hoehammer.

Electa had one brother, Dr. Lester Eichenauer, D.D.S. (deceased).

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Deitsch have two children. One son, Kenneth Lowell Deitsch, born March 9, 1927. And one daughter, Ruth Genevieve Myers, born April 24, 1937.

Lowell Deitsch married Marilyn Irene Cotton, (daughter of Paul and Irene (Buel) Cotton, from Whitehall, Ohio) on April 4, 1954. Lowell is employed by American Honda Motor Co. as a district representative. Marilyn is a homemaker. Lowell and Marilyn have four sons: Bruce, born November 26, 1956; Brion, born March 1, 1959; Brent, born May 1, 1963; Benji, born October 12, 1971. They reside on Upp Rd. Van Wert, Ohio.

Ruth Deitsch married Richard Hoenie, (son of Elmer and Mildred (Monroe) Hoenie), on October 22, 1955. They had two sons: Mark, born May 28, 1957; and Max, born July 5, 1961. Max Hoenie was killed in an automobile accident December 1, 1977, at the age of 16. Ruth and Richard divorced, September 5, 1965. She later married Terry Joe Myers, (son of John and Cora Fae (Harb) Myers), on February 14, 1970. They have one son, John J., born September 21, 1971. Ruth is employed by the Mercer County Agricultural Society (Fair Board), as secretary and treasurer. Terry is self employed as owner of Myers Implement Sales, Inc. They reside at 3551 Tama Rd. Rockford, Ohio. (The home place)

Ben and Electa retired from farming in 1956, and now live by the lake, south of 703 on Lake Acres D They are both 77 years old and in fairly good healt They have always loved to travel, and have travel in all 50 states, Mexico and Cuba, to the Holy Lan to many of the European and Asian countries, in the northern section of Africa and into seven pro dences of Canada. *Mrs. Ben Deitsch*

Adam and Anna (Smith) Eichenau Feb. 7, 1949, 60th Wedding Anniv sary

THE ADAM EICHENAUEI FAMILY

Adam Eichenauer (June 14, 1813-Nov. 16, 195 was born in Tann Kreissliesdt, Germany to Freder ick and Katherina Roediger Eichenauer. While i Germany he was taught the skills of a Cabine Maker. As such, it was his job to make coffins. H was confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Germany At the age of 17 years he sailed for America, and i the same year was converted in the old Hope Evar gelical Church in 1881. At one time he took up homestead in Kansas, but later returned to this sec tion of Ohio.

Adam's brothers, Justus (Gus), Conrad, Tobia and sister Elizabeth also came to America about th same time, leaving the rest of the family behinc One brother, Jno. Eichenauer, and two sisters Mr Margaret Hoenackle, and Mrs. Katherine Werne remained in Germany.

Adam married Anna Catherine Smith (June 4 1869-Feb. 28, 1958) on Feb. 7, 1889, and they becam a prominent couple in the community, who man truly admired. Adam and Anna lived on a farm which they owned and farmed on what is nov Hone-Weir Road in Hopewell Twp. for many years Later they moved to N. Sugar St., Celina, and Adan worked for Mersman Bros. for 8 years. Their las home, and the one most remembered by thei grandchildren was on the corner of Summit an Frahm Pike.

Adam and Anna were active members of Hop Evangelical United Brethren Church when they live in the country. Adam served as trustee, class leader and Sunday School Supt. there. In Celina on Dec 19, 1920, they became members of the Bethany EUI Church on N. Walnut St.

Adam and Anna Eichenauer had four children: 1 Bessie Amelia (April 11, 1890-May 26, 1976) wh married John Philip Smith. She had two children Leonard Richard Smith, and Leanna Mary who mar ried Russell L. Howick; 2. Edward (April 29, 1892 Nov. 15, 1975) who married Florence Nungester Their children are: Nelson Adam who married Jane Daugherty; Vivian who married Dillon Laffin; Mar jorie who married Robert Ellis; Joan married to Pau Kimmel; Imogene married to Robert J. Homan; and Virginia married to Lisle Strable. 3. Harold (Jan. 22

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'1) who married Barbara Elizabeth Ferguson, and ir three children are: Esther married to Elmer ndon, Dillon, who married Marceilla Siebert; and nley, who married Shelomith Corl. 4. Leonard ıgust 21, 1901-March 1, 1977) married Erna eser. They had two children, Eldon married Ju- ı Stahl, and Marilyn who married Wayne Twitc- l.

Anna (Smith) Eichenauer was the daughter of nry (Jan. 1, 1837-) and Sarah (Bever, later spelled ber, (Feb. 2, 1844-Aug. 1, 1890) Smith. Sarah was daughter of Enoch and Elizabeth Bever of Pennvania. Henry Smith, Anna's father, was born near ssen, the principal town of the Upper Hessen, sse-Dormstadt, Germany. His parents were Fredk (April 8, 1807-June 30, 1906) and Ann Elizah (Gerlagh) Smith (March 21, 1808-Sept. 1847). nry Smith's father, Frederick was the son of ristopher and Elizabeth (Bender) Smith of the ne place. Christopher was a farmer and cooper. derick, his son, was the second from the youngof eight children. Frederick worked on a farm, in iron mines, and also served six years in the regu- German Army. Frederick married Elizabeth Geıh in 1832. They had seven children: Elizabeth, o married Conrad Smith, Hopewell Twp.; Cather- , who married George Wappus, Indiana; Henry rried Sarah Bever, Hopewell Twp.; George, Hopell Twp.; Andrew, Hopewell Twp., who married zabeth Smith, daughter of Philip and Elizabeth ıft Smith; and Lena, who married Frederick dcke. Frederick Smith emigrated to the USA in 46 with his wife and children. They were 28 days the sea, and came directly to Mercer County. His t wife, Elizabeth, died the following year. He rried in 1848 to Susan Hull of Seneca County, io. Henry Smith, son of Frederick Smith, and fa- r of Anna Eichenauer purchased 80 acres of land Hopewell Twp. Later he purchased 80 acres more ich all developed into a very fertile farm. He ared the farm and added all the improvements nself. He lived on this farm until his death. Henry rried Sarah Bever March 9, 1862. They had seven ldren: Elizabeth (Lizzie), who married Cyrus ith, and after his death she married Conrad Eienauer; William Henry, who married Josephine dcke, and later was married to Stella (Leininger) t; Malinda, who married Charles Rutledge; Anna, o married Adam Eichenauer, subject of this hisy; Hattie Amelia, who married William Stroh; Edrd married Matilda Stroh; and Antonette (Nettie), o married John Now. On August 14, 1890, Henry ith's wife died of typhoid fever. His youngest ghter, Nettie, kept house for him after that. He d his wife were always devoted members of the ngelical Association. *Janet A. Miller*

CLIFFORD EICHENAUER

Clifford Eichenauer was born in Hopewell twp. in 13. He attended Miller 'University' of Hopewell p. for his schooling, worked at Mersmans furnie factory before he bought the Andrew Smith m. There he raised registered Angus cattle along h his general farming. Since 1957 he has sold Fire d Casualty insurance for Brotherhood Mutual of Wayne; and since 1962 Auto Insurance for Goodville Mutual of Lancaster, Pa. and Lightning Rod Mutual of Wooster, Ohio.

Front Row, L-R: Richard Eichenauer; Paul Wehrner (cousin); Wm. Eichenauer; Frank Eichenauer; Roy Eichenauer. **2nd Row:** Mrs. Richard (Fanny) Eichenauer; Mrs. Ben (Maude) Eichenauer; Mrs. Paul Wehrner; Mrs. Wm. (Fanny) Eichenauer; Mrs. Tony (Nora) Bice. **3rd Row:** Ben Eichenauer; Tony Bice; Mrs. Dan (Flonie) Eichenauer; Mrs. Roy (Iva) Eichenauer.

He was the son of Roy and Iva Albin Eichenauer who also lived in Hopewell twp. where they had Kenneth who married Louella Hellwarth; Florence m. Cletus Wooster; Mildred d. inf.; Lyle m. Dorothy Rhoades.

Clifford married Martha Counterman who was born in Black Creek twp., in 1915, the daughter of Wm. E. and Katie Miller Counterman. She had moved into Celina at an early age, is a graduate of Celina High School and also Ohio Northern and has taught at Lincoln rural in Jefferson twp. and the 4th grade at West Elementary. She also did substitute teaching at Ohio City, Mendon, Neptune, Rockford and also Celina East and West.

Edgar Eichenauer Family — **Seated:** Ina with Sharon. **Standing:** Larry, DeWane, Edgar and Hubert.

EDGAR LOWELL EICHENAUER

Edgar was the third child of William and Fannie Smith Eichenauer, and was born July 18, 1914 in Hopewell Township. He attended Pierstorff rural one room school on Frahm pike. He graduated from Celina Sr. High School in 1932. He wanted to go to Ft. Wayne Business college in Indiana, but instead stayed home to help his father on the farm, who had blood poison on his hand, and couldn't do his own farm work. Edgar worked a few years for Mersman Furniture Factory before starting farming for himself.

Nov. 28, 1935, Edgar married Ina Britton of Lynchburg, Highland Co., Ohio, the third child of Leslie and Sallie Sharp Britton. She was a First Grade teacher in the Celina Public Schools. The young couple lived on the William Eichenauer farm until 1943, when they moved to the Henry Lehman farm on State Route 118, which they had bought in 1941.

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In 1946 they purchased the Ben Lohrentz farm on Fetters Road, adjoining their other place.

Edgar and Ina had four children: DeWane, Hubert, Larry, and Sharon. They all graduated from High School and went on to receive college degrees. DeWane is an accountant for Stolle Corporation in Sidney, Ohio. Hubert is a C.P.A. and works as a controller for Leasing Association in Houston, Texas. Larry was an Industrial Arts teacher for 5 years, and later became an Arts Designer of boxes and product display stands in Houston, Texas.

Sharon is a Primary teacher in the Houston, Texas school area.

The family attended Hope Evangelical church until 1948, when they transferred their membership to Rockford Evangelical U.B. church. Here, Edgar was Sunday School Supt. for 8 years, and Ina helped in the church as a teacher, Summer Bible School, and served as a counselor for youth at Camp St. Marys.

The children helped out on the farm — running tractors, helping with milking chores, harvesting tomatoes and other farm crops. The boys were 4 H club members, and Sharon was a member of the Girl Scouts.

In the Fall — 1964, the family moved into a new home at 323 Johnson Ave., Celina, Ohio. There they became members of Bethany U.M. Church, Edgar quit farming in 1960, and started working in the County Engineer's Office under Engineer Vernon Anselman, and later B. R. Gebhart at the Mercer Co. Courthouse. He worked there 16 years and retired on Aug. 1, 1977. Edgar was a State Executive Board member of Ohio Civil Service Employees in Ohio. Its purpose is to improve working conditions of public employees in Ohio. He served on this Board from 1968 until 1975.

After the children were all in school, Ina started teaching again in the Celina Public Schools — First and Third Grades. Later she did tutoring and taught First Grade Remedial Reading classes. She retired 1974, after teaching a total of 16½ years and all for the Celina Public School district. She started teaching under Supt. F. D. Swigart and retired under Supt. D. W. Stover.

Edgar and Ina enjoyed traveling with their family and visited most of the States of our country, and took trips to Canada and Mexico. They have seven grandchildren; Tim, Todd, Melanie, and Jill — children of DeWane and Sarah Enyart Eichenauer of Sidney, Ohio; Steven and Susan — children of Hubert and Connie Rhoades Eichenauer of Houston, Texas; and Alan — son of Larry and Sharon Schoenleben Eichenauer of Houston, Texas. *Edgar L. Eichenauer*

RUSSELL KENNETH EICHENAUER

Russell Kenneth Eichenauer, second of three children, was born to William Henry and Fannie Dell (Smith) Eichenauer of Hopewell Township, Mercer County, Ohio. Russell, born October 17, 1907 in Hopewell Township, attended the Pierstorff one room school and Celina High School. He worked at Frigidaire, Dayton, Ohio and Mersman Brothers, Celina, Ohio, retiring in 1942 to engage in full time

Russell and Ruth (Tee Eichenauer and child Eldon Jay and Reitta An

farming. He married Ruth Evangeline Teeter at l parental home in Jefferson Township, Ada County, Indiana on December 24, 1930. Ruth is t daughter of Jesse Otto and Ethel May (Campbe Teeter. Mr. and Mrs. Eichenauer are prominent r ral Celina Republicans. He served as Republic Chairman of the Central and Executive Committe for many years. In 1968 he was chosen as one of t 26 Ohio Electoral College Members to cast a vote f the President of the United States. He retired Mar 1, 1978 having served just short of 25 years on t Mercer County Board of Election. Active as a Fa Bureau member, he served as Chairman for seve years. The Eichenauers were members of Ho Evangelical Church, Hopewell Township, la transferring to Bethany United Methodist Churc Celina, Ohio. They served on the Church Admin tration Board. Russell served as a church choirist at Hope Church and Ruth as a Sunday Schc teacher. They own 298 acres of well improved lan all located in Hopewell Township but in six parce They reside on 40 acres, on Frahm Pike and one h mile west of State Route 118. The Eichenauers h one daughter and one son. Reitta Anne, born Oct ber 17, 1932 in Hopewell Township, was married Kenneth Eugene Bransteter on March 1, 1953. Th have four children; James Eugene married Kathle Sue Beerbower, parents of Jason Eugene; Terry Al married to Vivian Louise Dudgeon, parents of Tra Alan, Trent Adam — stillborn; and Tara Amy; Co nie Sue and David Wayne. Eldon Jay, born Octob 11, 1937 in Hopewell Township was married to R thann Hall on November 2, 1958. They have tv children, Gwyn Annette, and Greg Alan. *Mr. and M Russell Eichenauer*

Eldon and Ruthann (H Eichenauer and childı Gwyn Annette and G Alan

ELDON J. EICHENAUER

Eldon Eichenauer, is a prominent farmer and ca tle feeder living on State Route 118 in Hopew Township, Mercer County, Ohio. He is the son Russell Kenneth and Ruth Evangeline (Teeter) E chenauer. He was born October 11, 1937 in Hop well Township and is a graduate of Celina Hig School, Celina, Ohio. He served six years in the N tional Guard. On November 2, 1958 he was marri to Ruthann Hall. She was born December 11, 193 daughter of Vaughn Eugene and Lois (Elder) Hall Mercer County, Ohio. They are the parents of tv

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ldren: Gwyn Annette, born September 25, 1963 l Greg Alan, born October 24, 1965. Both chil- n were born in Celina, Ohio. Gwyn, a 1978 hth grade student at Celina Junior High, is active he music and athletic organizations. Greg, a sixth de student, is interested in sports and assists his ıer in their feeder cattle operation. Gwyn and ɛg are members of the Hopewell Bawl, Grunt and ɔw 4-H Club. Greg won the Grand Championship ɔphy at the Mercer County Fair in August 1975 h his cross-bred steer. This was his first year in 4-H Club. The Eichenauer's live on an 80 acre m formerly owned by the grandparents William nry and Fannie (Smith) Eichenauer. This home is ated on State Route 118 and North of Frahm Pike ee fourths of a mile. They own 226 acres of pro- ctive farm land, all located in Hopewell Township t in three separate parcels. Additional land is ıted for the farming and large cattle feeding pro- ım. Eldon's wife Ruthann is a teacher in the Cel- Public School system. The Eichenauers are active ɛmbers of the Neptune Church of God, Neptune, ıio. In politics they are Republicans. Eldon serves Hopewell Township Clerk. *Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Eiche- ıer*

William H. Eichenauer Family, 1919 — L. to R.: William, Alma, Edgar, Russell and Fannie.

WILLIAM HENRY EICHENAUER

William Henry Eichenauer, a teacher and farmer, ıs the fourth child of ten children, born to Tobias d Elizabeth Smith Eichenauer, on May 28, 1880 in ɔpewell Township. Tobias, his father, was born in ɛsse-Cassell, Germany, Dec. 30, 1850, and came to e U.S. at the age of 16. He often told his children his ocean trip, lasting six weeks. Tobias died 1937 age 87. His wife, Elizabeth, died 1929 — age 80. ıey were buried in Buck Cemetery.

William attended a one room school in Mercer ɔ., Ohio. He prepared himself for teaching at Ada ɔllege Normal School in 1898. He started teaching 1899 and taught in Hopewell, Liberty, Dublin and ackcreek Townships for 18 years.

William married Fannie D. Smith Sept. 26, 1901. nnie was the eighth child born to George and agdalene Myers Smith. George, a Civil War Vet- an, was born in Germany, and emigrated to Penn- lvania with his parents. He later moved to Mercer ɔ., Ohio and became a farmer there. George died '20 in a train-car accident, age 81. His wife died '25 age 81. They were buried in North Grove Cem- ery, Celina, Ohio.

William and Fannie had three children: Alma '03, Russell 1907, Edgar 1914. All three children ıve remained citizens of Mercer Co. While the ıildren were growing up the family was members Hope Evangelical church, where William was ınday School Supt. and teacher for many years. ıter when they moved to Celina, Ohio, they be- came members of Bethany U.M. church and Wil- liam taught a class there.

William and Fannie had no modern conveniences but farmed their land with horses, used a windmill to pump water for livestock, and a gasoline engine to wash clothes. They raised a herd of guernsey milk cows. The family lived mostly off their large vegeta- ble garden, fruit trees, and meat from their own live- stock. They made their own butter, cottage cheese, and dried and canned fruits and vegetables. They used a wood range in the kitchen and a baseburner in the living room to keep warm.

William and Fannie retired from farming in 1936, and moved to Celina, Ohio, from their farm on State Route 118 south of Rockford. The couple never trav- eled much farther than Ind. from their home in Ohio, until 1955, they took a car trip to Florida with their son, Edgar and family. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary Sept. 23, 1951 at their home 240 Touvelle St. in Celina. Fannie died July 9, 1958 age 76. William lived alone there until 1976, when he moved into Shane Hill Nursing Home, near Rockford. He celebrated his 98 birthday there May 28, 1978 with a family dinner. William died July 7, 1978, at the age of 98 yrs. 1 month and 9 days. His survivors are: 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and three great, great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a grandchild, a great grandchild, and one great great grandchild. He was the last surviving member of the family of Tobias and Elizabeth Eichenauer. William and Fannie were buried in North Grove Cemetery, Celina, Ohio.

William lived to see many changes in his lifetime. He remembered teaching for one dollar a day, being his own janitor and walking on a mud road five miles to his school. He also remembered when he was a child, many families put straw under carpets to help keep their homes warm in the winter time. He lived from the horse and buggy days to the Space age when men could walk and talk on the moon, and be watched by television here on Earth. *Edgar L. Eichernauer*

Carson Fast Family

CARSON FAST

Carson Fast, the son of Eathen Henry and Allie Crain Fast, was married to Loretta Mildred Now, whose parents were John Henry and (Augusta An- toinette) Nettie (Smith) Now.

Carson and Loretta were married on October 26, 1933 and took up housekeeping at the home where Carson was born on Fast Road north of Celina, Ohio.

To this union, the following children were born: John Eathen who married Ada Ruth Enyart is en- gaged in farming and also works at Huffy's Mfg. Co. in Celina where his wife also works. They are the parents of two children Twyla Kay and (John) Doug- las.

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(Donald) Dean married Mary Evelyn Weisman. They are both Manchester College graduates and teachers in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Juli Jane is their only child.

Wilma Jean graduated from Findlay College where she met Gary Snyder from Penna. They were married and moved to Midland, Mich. where he worked for Dow Chemical Co. They became the parents of Ryan Garret. Wilma is an elementary teacher near Midland.

Larry Lee graduated from John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark. He married Mary Lou Maher from Cheyenne, Wyo. Larry had studied building construction and design. After spending 2 years in the U.S. Army, they took up residence in Archbold, Ohio where he worked as a builder. Mary Lou was graduated in elementary education. They had 2 daughters: Lovanda Lynn and Jocelyn. Janis Loretta and James Carson are twins. Janis graduated from Parkview School of Nursing in Ft. Wayne. While there, she met her husband Dennis Fakes from Jetmore, Kansas. He graduated from Concordia College in Ft. Wayne and from the Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. After working as a chaplain in St. Elizabeth Mental Hospital in Washington, D.C., he pastored a Church in Oregon, Ohio. Cara Elizabeth is their only child.

James graduated from Asbury College in Wilmore, Ky. and married Catherine Grace Clay. He is a carpenter and builds houses. They live on Tama Road near Rockford, Ohio. His wife Cathie works at the nursing home. They have three children: Thomas James, Timothy John and Tara Joy.

Vickie Jane, the youngest of the Carson Fast children, graduated from Wright State University in elementary education. Her husband David Gerber was a native of New Jersey, graduated from Asbury College in Wilmore, Ky. and from the Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, and was later ordained in the United Methodist Church. He is presently pastoring the Church in Lafayette, Ohio.

Carson and Loretta, the parents in this article, have lived all their married life on the same farm in Hopewell Township where he engaged in farming, auctioneering and selling real estate. He was forced to retire from active labor after a severe heart attack in 1964. His wife Loretta began her teaching career in the one room rural schools of Hopewell Township. After a long interruption to rear a family, she began teaching in Parkway Schools in 1964, where she is still. They have been affiliated with the Mt. Tabor Church of God. *Carson Fast*

FAST

The good ship ROYAL UNION, commanded by Clement Nicholson, sailed from Rotterdan, Holland and arrived at Philadelphia by way of Portsmouth, England, August 17, 1750.[1] It carried 500 passengers. On the day of landing, Nickle Faust, whose name appeared 52nd in the list of passengers, and Nickle Fass, whose name is 57th on the list, both signed in Philadelphia the Declaration of Fidelity and Abjuration required of all immigrants by Act of the Legislature of the Province of Pennsylvania from the year 1729. In this list of the passengers of the ROYAL UNION both names were clearly written by the men themselves; asterisks were placed by those nar which were recorded by clerks.[2] One of these mer the progenitor of the family in America which t research concerns: however, the information asse bled for this manuscript assuredly concerns founder of the American family; for it leads direc and logically, through varient spellings, includ both "Fast" and "Faust," as well as others, to Will, his gravestone, and the names of his wife a children, known to most of his descendants. At time of his landing, reckoned from the date of birth carved on his gravestone, he was 22 years age. He came from the ancient town of Zw brucken, Germany, in the section known as Pfalz or Palatinate. A grandson, John Jacob Fast son of Francis, in a brief autobiographical sket written in his 65th year names Zweibrucken as ancestral home of the family and further states t his grandparents, Nicholas Fast and his wife Cath ine Terner came from near Zweibrucken in th single days. Dr. Allen K. Faust, President of Miy College, Sendai, Japan, in a letter to the autl writes: "The first Faust of my line seems to hi come to Philadelphia sometime between 1735 a 1760. He was a redemptioner and a carpenter. Af working two years as an indentured servant, went to the south side of the Blue Mountains, n the Schuylkill River and took up some land fr Pennsylvania. The original home of the Germ Fausts was the Pfalz or the Palatinate."

The word "Nickle" is probably the nickname us by this youth of 22 years, and the spelling "Ni leus" is that used in his signature to his Will and Name carved on his gravestone. In all probabil the correct form is "Nicholas," which spelling v used by him a few times in his lifetime.

[1]Volume 17 of the 2nd series of the Pennsylvanis Archives, p 312; also, Volume I, page 432 and Volume II, page 497, *Penn vanis German Pioneers,* a publication of the Pennsylvania G man Society.

[2]Photostatic copies of these lists showing plainly the signatu of Nickle Faust and Nickle Fass, may be secured from the S Archivist of Pennsylvania. A facsimile of these signatures pears on page 432, Volume I, *Pennsylvania German Pioneers.*

Seated: Walter E. Ollie Fetter. **Standi** Louetta, Russell Helen.

FETTER

Walter E. Fetter(s) born Oct. 6, 1876 to Daniel a Sarah Smith Fetter, and Olive L. Miller born on Ju 9, 1878, to Franklin P. and Margaret Smith Mil were married Dec. 22, 1898 at the bride's home Rev. J. W. Schnitz, pastor of Hope Evangeli Church, Hopewell Township. Walter's grandparer were Johann Whilhelm and Anna Clappen Fett Wilhelm's parents were Johann Peter and An Margarethe Schneider Vetter. (Probably because the difficulty of learning to speak English, the nar was changed to Fetter, and an (s) added, although German name ending in "er" should end in (s).)

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Whilhelm came to Fredericktown, Maryland, ɔm his home in Wersau, Hesse-Darmstadt, Gerany, in 1832. Anna Clappen came on the next ship d they were married. He followed his trade of ɔod worker in Fredericktown, until 1837, when ey came to Hopewell Twp., Mercer Co., in 1837. ıey bought the farm on Rt. 118 where Mr. and rs. Gordon (Gretchen Fetter) Hays, their great-eat-granddaughter now lives.

Walter's mother's parents, also from Germany, ere John and Anna Bechtol Smith.

Olive's grandparents were John and Emily Ann ncoln Miller. John's parents were Israel, born Oct. 1788 and Regina Kitch Miller, natives of Pennsylnia of German descent.

John and Emily Ann Miller came to Hopewell wnship in 1850 with six children and bought the rm on St. Rt. 118, where their great-grandson, Ivan iller now lives.

Emily Ann's parents were Alfred and Phoebe Diond Lincoln, natives of Massachusetts. The first ncoln colonist came from Hingham, England to ingham, Mass., in 1637. Alfred Lincoln was a usin of Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham.

Olive's mother's father, born Feb. 7, 1828, in ɔthhime, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, was George nith, son of John and Margaret Dengas Smith, ho came to America in 1840. George married Gerude Wappas, daughter of Casper and Margaret appas on August 19, 1852. They bought a farm in berty township, three miles west of Hope Evangelal Church, where they were members.

Walter's brothers and sister were: John, Frank, his vin, Rose, Wilbert and Herbert twins, Moody, ımuel and Wesley. Olive's brothers and sister ere: Gertrude, Clarence and Richard.

Their children are Helen, Celina, retired after rty-four years of teaching in Mercer Co. and Decar, Indiana. Mrs. Harry (Louetta) Roediger, Troy ho have Robert, president of Arcair, Lancaster, hio. He and his wife Mitzie Wagner have Christine ıd Robb. Richard, architect, Trotwood, Ohio, and is wife Johanna Steinmetz have James, David, homas and Michael. James, realtor, Springfield, hio, and his wife Judy Woodrow have Jeff, Joel ıd Jimmie. Russell, retired farmer, Rockford and is wife Ocie Roebuck have Mrs. Harold (Phyllis) uhn, who have Gary, Marsha and Mark, and Mrs. ubert (Carol) Allen, who have Michael and Conie.

Walter was an excellent farmer and stockman. His ops were always abundant, although he was alays sure they wouldn't be. He was a devoted memer of Hope Evangelical Church, and a gracious host ɔ the family's many guests. With his good wife, Ole, he especially liked to entertain the evangelists ho came every winter to hold revival meeting at lope. One was George Bennard, author of the ymn, "The Old Rugged Cross" who came in 1916. t that time Walter rededicated his life to the Mas:r.

Ollie was his capable helpmeet. Besides caring for ıe children, she did the washing either on the oard or a hand operated washer, until a gasolineowered washer was purchased. Ironing was done ith flat irons heated on a woodburning range. A itcher pump was in the washroom. All other lumbing was outside with the wood and coal.

Vegetables and fruits were canned all summer and meat in the winter. She raised chickens by means of mother hens, cooked, baked, milked cows, churned butter and made cottage cheese. It was rare not to have extra people at the table.

Yet she found time to teach Sunday School classes and be an officer in the missionary society. She delighted to recite poetry to her children while she was sewing. Her family's stay in Kansas in 1885-1886 was a never-ending source of stories. A favorite was walking to school with her sister, past prairie dog holes, where they lived with owls and rattlesnakes. They lived in a sod hut, warm in winter and cool in summer. Her father loved to sit on the roof of the hut and sing hymns on Sunday morning.

She was released from the dread Parkinson's disease on Jan. 19, 1949. Her husband had preceded her to that better land on Oct. 6, 1936. *Helen Fetter*

FETTERS

Dedicated to the memory of my mother, Sarah Evaline Fetters Behm, who was always very proud of her lineage.

> "... Mr. Fetters, Mr. Now, Mr. Gump and Mr. Hellwarth being the first settlers to the township of Hopewell," from "A Portrait and Biographical Record of Mercer and Van Wert Counties, Ohio." 1896 p. 349.

Mr. Fetters was my great grandfather, William Fetters, born Johann Wilhelm Vetter, July 29, 1905, in Germany. According to the Family Book of the Lutheran Church of Wersau Parish, his father, Johann Peter Vetter, had come from Oberkainsbach, was a Communal Official (Gemeindemann); Lutheran Evangelical, married Anna Margarathe Schneider, and died in 1849.

His son, William Fetters, came to America in 1837 and married Anna Smith from Hesse Darmstadt. In 1843 he renounced his allegiance to a king of Darmstadt, Germany, and became naturalized. By trade he was a turner, learned farming from other settlers. He was a member of the Evangelical Church for 40 years, died on the place he entered from the government in Hopewell Township, and is buried in the old section of the Hair Cemetery on Frahm Pike. His household spoke only german, he signed legal papers with an "X" but his Last Will and Testament bears his signature in beautiful German script.

His son John, my mother's father (1843-1909) was born in Mercer County and married Catherine Miller in Indiana in 1865. His home farm was south from Shively's Corner where at the corner of the first east and west road he donated land for a Lutheran Evangelical Church where he and his family were members for many years. In conjunction with farming he raised fine livestock for sale. He was also a supervisor and school director.

My mother, John Fetters' second child, (1868-1949) married, on Feb. 14, 1889, John F. Behm, who was brought from Prussia as a young boy by his mother and his father, Christian. Christian Behm also settled in Mercer County on a farm on the first road west off of Route 127, going south from Celina.

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He was a salesman as well as farmer, one of his items was the first cream separators. He later, after my father's death, became interested in oil fields in Kansas and died there.

John and Evaline Fetters Behm, members of the Evangelical Church, had six sons and two daughters, all born in Mercer County. My father was a farmer too but had a business of buying and selling hay, grain and seed, much of which was shipped to other areas by train. In 1906 my father died and my mother moved us to a farm on Frahm Pike which she inherited from her father. Our house had been built from lumber on the farm by her father, using hewn beams, wood pins and hardwood.

The house was later acquired by my oldest brother, Albert, who literally pulled the house apart and put it together as it had been originally constructed at 240 Leona Street, Celina. He lived in the house with his family until his death in 1977.

Albert Ellsworth, born Dec. 25, 1889. Two sons, Rex and Eugene are still residents of Mercer County.

Myrtle, the second child, born December 7, 1890, lost her life in the 1913 flood.

Christopher, born February 2nd, 1890; six of his children were born in Mercer County; all residents of Defiance County.

Howard, born Feb. 14, 1893, owns and lives at Behm's Landing on the south side of Lake St. Marys, which is operated by his only living daughter, Bernice.

Domer, born Nov. 16, 1896, deceased.

Raymond, born Oct. 16, 1898, deceased. One son, Harold, born in Mercer County. Two were born at Piqua.

Mabel, born Dec. 23, 1900. One son, Jack Duncan, lives in Louisiana.

Delbert (called Dick), born Nov. 16, 1903, was born in Paulding County, shortly thereafter the family returned to Mercer County. He lives in Miami County. One child, Virginia, was born in Mercer County.

No matter what the avocation of my mother's descendants they largely display the love of the land, preferring to make a home in open spaces, if possible, even into the sixth generation. *Mabel Ruhl*

JOHN HENRY FRAHM

John Henry Frahm, a wagon maker and carpenter, was born in Germany in 1831. When a boy, he disliked the military rule of Germany and enforced armed service which he wanted to avoid. He worked as a wagon maker and carpenter for $24 per year and at the age of 14 he had saved enough money to pay his passage to America.

He landed in New York City, after spending nine weeks of stormy passage on a sailing vessel. He traveled by rail to Buffalo and from there took passage on Lake Erie to Toledo, Ohio.

At Toledo, he embarked on a canalpacket and several days later, reached Spencerville, Ohio. His plan was to continue on to St. Marys, Ohio, from there go to Mercer Co. Fate ruled otherwise and the packet was frozen in the ice. Young Frahm with a small amount of luggage walked through bitter cold to Mercer Co.

Soon afterwards, he returned with a team horses and a wagon to get the rest of his luggage a also the young lady, Sophia Schmidt, who came o on the voyage with him. Several days later they turned to Mercer Co. to Hopewell Twp. near Frah Pike and were married. John was a well liked m by his friends, in a few years he was elected cour commissioner. He served two years.

It was during his public service that he was recc nized for building the first pike in Mercer Co. N known as Frahm Pike, which extends from nort west of Celina to Shively's Corner (Ohio 118) o time known as Stedke's Corner and then on West the Indiana State Line.

He also opposed all wooden bridges, finally h them replaced by iron ones.

In 1858, he built a log church at Frahm's Corn (intersection Orgen Rd. and S.R. 118). In 1881 headed a movement to have it replaced by a bri structure. In 1955 a new church was dedicated whi is known as St. John's Lutheran Church Hopew Twp. Mercer Co., Celina, Ohio, R.R. 3.

To this couple were born the following childre Minnie (Frahm) Hoenie, August Frahm, Liz (Frahm) Brauch, Ricky (Frahm) Rhaun, John Frah Charles Frahm and Anna (Frahm) Luth.

John Frahm, married Lousia Sealschott and to t union were born the following children: Clarenc Otto, Hilda, Edgar, Harold, Howard, and Florence.

Clarence, the first child of John and Lousia (Se schott) Frahm married Dorothea Siebert, they ha one daughter, Francis (Frahm) Rupert. Dorothea Si bert passed away in 1918. Clarence, married his se ond wife, Nettie Sudman. They had two childre Homer and Mary Frahm. Francis, Daughter of Cla ence and Dorothea (Siebert) Frahm married Richa Rupert. They have one daughter, Dorothy, w married David Kiel. Homer, first child of Claren and Nettie (Sudman) Frahm married Julie Carlstro To them were born three children: Mary Lou, Shi ley, and David. Mary Lou, first child of Homer a Julie (Carlstrom) Frahm married Charles Wurst and they have two children: Scott and Brad. Shirle second child of Homer and Julie (Carlstrom) Frah married Terry Teeters. They have two children: M cheal and Jamie Teeters. David Frahm, third child Homer and Julie (Carlstrom) Frahm is not married.

Mary Frahm, second child of Clarence and Nett (Sudman) Frahm married Lester Miller. They ha two children: Paul and Miriam Miller. Paul, fi child of Lester and Mary (Frahm) Miller marri Sharon Luth and they have a daughter Stacy Mille

Otto Frahm, second child of John and Lous (Sealschott) Frahm married Leona Pierstorff. Th had three children: Lorraine, Bernard, and Marlen Lorraine, first child of Otto and Leona (Pierstor Frahm married Ivan Fleming. They had four chi dren: Rosalie, Sharon, Dale and Janet. Rosalie, fi child of Ivan and Lorraine (Frahm) Fleming marri Larry Hughes, and they have three children: Donal Kimberly, and Craig Hughes. Sharon, second chi of Ivan and Lorraine (Frahm) Fleming married Jam Myers. They have two children: Monica and St phen Myers. Dale Fleming, third child of Ivan a Lorraine (Frahm) Fleming married Natalie Zeig and they have two children: Lisa and Micheal Fle ing. Janet, fourth child of Ivan and Lorraine (Frah Fleming married Rex Emans and they have o

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ghter, Jill Emans.
ernard Frahm, second child of Otto and Leona erstorff) Frahm married Marjorie Gray, and they e two children: Terry and Randy Frahm. Mare, third child of Otto and Leona (Pierstorff) hm married Joseph Suhr and they have four chiln: Dawn, Valerie, Julie, and Jodi Suhr. Dawn ır, first child of Joseph and Marlene (Frahm) Suhr rried William Greenwood and they have a son on Greenwood.
Hilda, third child of John and Lousia (Sealschott) hm married William Becher and they had a ghter, Doris. Doris, daughter of William and da (Frahm) Becher married Robert Stover, and y had five children: Cindy, Brian, Rodney, omas, and Julie. Cindy, first child of Robert and ris (Becher) Stover married Keith Canary. omas, fourth child of Robert and Doris (Becher) ver married Penny Long and they have a daughCourtney Jo.
Edgar, fourth child of John and Lousia (Sealschott) hm married Cora Hoenie, and they had three ldren: Marcella, John, and Marilyn. Marcella, first ld of Edgar and Cora (Hoenie) Frahm married Lee bert, they have four children: Ruth Ann, Patty, da, and Marie. Ruth Ann, first child of Lee and rcella (Frahm) Siebert married William Evers, y have a daughter Julie Marie. John, second child Edgar and Cora (Hoenie) Frahm married Majorie hmeyer and they have two children: Diane and bra. Marilyn, third child of Edgar and Cora (Hoe-) Frahm is not married.
Harold, fifth child of John and Lousia (Sealschott) hm married Luetta Schaadt, they had four chil-n: Kenneth, Karen, Ronald, and Donald. Kenh, first child of Harold and Luetta (Schaadt) hm is deceased. Karen, second child of Harold d Luetta (Schaadt) Frahm married Dick Sapp, they ve a daughter Tanya Sapp. Ronald, twin third ld of Harold and Luetta (Schaadt) Frahm married eryl Clark and they have three children: Jennifer, ad, and Mark. Donald, twin fourth child of Hard and Luetta (Schaadt) Frahm married Pat Karsh d they have one daughter, Jane.
Howard, sixth child of John and Lousia (Sealott) Frahm married Mabel Weisman, and they d two children: Larry and Beverly. Larry, first ild of Howard and Mabel (Weisman) Frahm mard Vicki Linn, and they have two children: Brent d Amy Frahm. Beverly, second child of Howard d Mabel (Weisman) Frahm married Tom Zizeln, and they have three children: Kellie, Julie, and frey.
Florence, seventh child of John and Lousia (Sealott) Frahm never married.
Put this on record in Hopewell Twp. Mercer Co.
s. Ivan Fleming

HAINLINE

The German name, Hainline, in Mercer County, ssibly dates back to the late 1700's or early 1800's. o record is available of a John Hainline, but a fam- member said he and _____ Brandon were the rents of Isaac Hainline who died in 1872 at the age 56 yr. 6 mo. and 3 days and is buried in Roberts metery located on Oregon Road. Isaac Hainline d Mary Roberts were parents of Nathan Hainline and after Mary Roberts died, Isaac married Mary Fisher and they had Isaac, Ellen, and Peter.

Nathan Hainline married Elizabeth Grant and owned farms on Morrow Road and Oregon Road in Hopewell township in the late 1800's and early 1900's. They were the parents of six children, Cora (married Charles Weaver), Charles (married Iola Cowan), Stella, Pearl (married Ben Winkeljohn), Frank (married Mabel Lang), and Herbert (married Clara Bauer).

Frank and Mabel Hainline are the only living members of the above Hainline family. Frank was born May 24, 1894 and Mabel was born December 18, 1897. They were married December 23, 1915 and farmed in Hopewell township after their marriage until 1943. They then moved to Celina and Frank worked at the Stearic Acid Factory and later at the Celina Power Plant until his retirement.

From the marriage of Frank and Mabel were born three children. Helen Pauline was born June 2, 1929 and died shortly after birth. Ruth Elaine was born March 13, 1932 and Robert Eugene was born May 24, 1941 on his father's birthday. Ruth married George O. Weidman, Jr. and their children are H. Kent born September 21, 1955 and Kathy E. born March 14, 1958. Robert married Marcia Crouch and their daughter is Toma born October 22, 1966.

Ruth Hainline Weidman lives in Celina and is presently a teacher in the Celina City School System. Robert Hainline lives in Wabash and works at Reynolds and Reynolds Co. *Ruth Hainline Weidman*

ORVAL HARNER

Orval G. Harner born, December 3, 1910 in Center Township to Clem Harner, born October 7, 1878 and Laura Etta (Donovan) Harner, born April 10, 1880. Orval married Helen Berniec Nuding, November 10, 1934 in the Church of God Parsonage by Rev. Elza Berry. He was the oldest of three children. The other two are Howard Richard Harner and Glayds Mae (Harner) Kuhn. The night he was born the Doctor had to come by horse and stay all night because of the bad weather. His hobbies are fishing and hunting. After his marriage they moved to Hopewell Township and lived there their whole life. He farmed until he retired. He attended the country schools. They are members of the Mt. Tabor Church of God. He also was active in the church, holding offices.

Orval Harner the oldest son of Clem Harner. Clem Harner was the son of Silas Harner and Selina (Kiser) Harner. Silas was the son of Ruel Harner and Sally Ann (Rider) Harner. Ruel was the son of Mickel Harner and Hannah (Roebuck) Harner. Orval's mother, Laura Etta (Donovan) Harner was a daughter of George Donovan and Annie (Shupp) Donovan.

To get more history on the Harner family refer to Mrs. William (Ruth Harner) Meyers write-up.

Orval and Helen Nuding Harner had two children, Carl Eugene and Martha Jane. Carl Eugene, born September 6, 1936 married April 28, 1956 to Marilyn Jean Hare. They had five (5) children Gary Eugene Harner born April 3, 1957, Lisa Renee (Harner) Strable, born July 14, 1958, she married May 7,

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1977, to Darl Marlin Strable, born November 28, 1955, Karla Kay (Harner) Quinter, born December 19, 1960 and married August 26, 1977 to Mark Allen Quinter, born March 25, 1959, Timothy Allen Harner, born January 13, 1963, Bruce G. Harner, born April 29, 1968.

Our second child, Martha Jane (Harner) Oberlitner, born April 14, 1939. Martha Jane Harner married February 8, 1958 to Harold Gene Oberlitner, born August 23, 1935. To this union were four (4) children, Todd Eric Oberlitner, born May 2, 1960, Kim Zua Oberlitner, born January 9, 1962 deceased March 10, 1962 with crib death, Chris Allen Oberlitner born December 23, 1963, Lori Kay Oberlitner born May 18, 1975. *Orval Harner*

Hellwarth

BENJAMIN HELLWARTH

Benjamin Hellwarth was born and died at the 160 acre homestead in Hopewell Township that was first settled by his father George Michael (1803-1866), a native of Wurttemberg.

Caroline Lachenmeier (1808-1841) sailed to America in May 1831 with George and his father Uhlerich (1772-1846). They married at York, Penn. George worked at York, then on the National Pike between Columbus and Springfield. They arrived at the homestead October 1837 with two children Caroline (1833-1900) and John (1836-1881); Michael (1840-1901) was the first born at the homestead. As with any successful pioneer family, the test for endurance in establishing a home and farm economy included a combination of faith, courage, determination, hard labor, and perseverance. Tragedy soon struck with the death of Caroline and of a new-born baby in 1841.

George was fortunately blessed when in 1842 he married Margaret Wappas (1822-1899) who at age twelve migrated with her family from Bavaria. This union gave renewed encouragement for the future. To them were born eight sons and four daughters — five dying in infancy.

Joseph (1844-1911), David (1845-1927), George (1848-1927), Benjamin (1854-1924), Stephen (1858-1935), Lydia (1862-1939), and Louisa (1865-1909) were living at the time of their father's untimely death.

George adopted America as his new homeland, becoming a citizen in 1842 and contributing to the establishment of local government, schools and church. Scattered widely are descendants to the fifth and sixth generations who enjoy the rich inheritance of freedom and opportunity made possible by the lifelong dreams, the willing sacrifices, and inspirational influence of George Michael, his two partners, and the eleven sons and daughters.

Benjamin married Lena Will (1861-1927) in 1884. She was a daughter of nearby settlers George Will (1838-1865), who died after return from Civil War service, and Sarah Raach (1840?-1905). They gair ownership of the Hellwarth homestead in 1885 which they raised their family of four sons. T three eldest continued living at the homestead or jacent farm.

(1) Ronello (1884-1972); (2) Richard (1888-19 married Melva West Ferguson (1897-), descendar Lavaun, Maurice, Don; 7 grandchildren, 3 gre grandchildren; (3) Ray (1894-1953) served U.S. Na World War I, married Mae Sielschott (1899-19(descendants: Dillon, Dean; 5 grandchildren; (4) len (1903-) married Sarah Townsend (1905-); liv Ann Arbor, Mich., descendants: Robert, Geor James, John; 5 grandchildren.

The lives of Benjamin and Lena spanned an int esting period of our country's history from the C War through World War I. They knew pioneer l ing in a log cabin. They experienced the introd tion of machines and power and electric energy t reduced the hard labor of farming and upgrad their way of life in the home. They saw the ho and buggy replaced by the automobile; they m veled at the airplane overhead and at such inv tions as wireless communication. What a story t could tell their 20th century descendants! *submitted Arlen Hellwarth*

Hellwarth family

DILLON C. HELLWARTH

Dillon Hellwarth was born in Hopewell Townsh Mercer Co. on November 28, 1923. He lived with parents Ray and Mae (Sielschott) Hellwarth on t Hellwarth homestead on Route 118. His boyho life was doing farm chores, walking and riding a cycle with his brother Dean to a one room sch house for all eight grades. He graduated from Celi High School in the year 1941. After graduation was employed at New Idea, as a farm hand Charles Schumm and engaged in farming with father. He was taken by draft into the United Sta Navy in 1944 to 1946.

When returning from the Navy, Dillon was e ployed with the Ray Martz Cabinet Co. under t grandstand at Mercer Co. Fair Grounds. That sa fall they moved into a new building at the corner Market and Enterprise Streets which is in its pres location. He worked for the Martz Cabinet Co. 20 years.

On April 2, 1949 he married Dorothy Jean Le inger of Chattanooga, Ohio who had been a sea stress for the Berne, Indiana Winner Co. prior to h marriage to Dillon. They have lived all their marri life in the Celina area.

In 1966 Dillon quit Martz Cabinet Co. and went work for the Reynolds and Reynolds Co. in Celi but the woodworking trade never left him. He bu a small workshop at his home on Frahm Pike a you can see him in his spare time making gran

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ıer clocks, picture frames, cabinets, refinishing niture and etc.

'o this marriage of Dillon and Dorothy Jean were n two daughters. (1) Doris Ann (March 28, 1952) duated from Celina High School in 1970, Wright te University in 1974 with a degree in Anthropol-', and Indiana University in 1978 with a Masters gree in Library Science. She married Ned Goins Trotwood, Ohio August 3, 1974. Doris was the li-rian at Parkway High School Rockford, Ohio for ears. In the summer of 1978 she and her husband ved to Plymouth, Indiana where she is the Chil-ns Librarian of Plymouth Public Library. Her sband Ned was employed by Mersman Bros. as a ck driver but is now employed by American Op-il Co. at Plymouth, Indiana.

2) Karen Sue (January 11, 1955) graduated from lina High School in 1973. After graduation Karen s employed at the Celina Insurance Co. in the ta Processing System as a Key Punch Operator d still holds this position. She also went to the St. ais Conservatory of Music in the summer of 1975. ren married Thomas Kuhn of Geneva, Indiana in ırch 8, 1975. They own a home on 5 acres east of neva, Indiana. Her husband is a farmer and is an ployee of All American Homes Decatur, Indiana. *mitted by Dillon Hellwarth*

SAM HELLWARTH, JR. FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hellwarth, Jr. are dairy and ain farmers at 3081 Carmel Church Road in Hope-ll Township.

Sam Hellwarth, Jr., son of Sam and Bernadine ımphrey) Hellwarth was born in Celina, on April , 1940, on his father's birthday. He was raised on a m in Hopewell Township, one mile from the farm now lives on and owns.

Sam married Nita Hoblet, the fourth daughter of nneth and Gertrude (Baker) Hoblet from Chatta-oga, Ohio. She was born June 12, 1942 at the me place in Chattanooga, Ohio.

Sam and Nita were married February 4, 1961. ıey are the parents of four sons. Gregory Scott rn August 10, 1962. Grant Eric born November 19, 63. Garrett Lee born June 4, 1966 and Galen Joe rn September 28, 1971.

The entire family is active in Bethany United ethodist Church. They are also active in various m organizations including 4-H and F.F.A. and ıe Farm Bureau. *Nita Hellwarth*

EUGENE HIRSCHFELD FAMILY

Hirschfeld — Eugene L. and Patricia S. have lived Mercer County all of their lives and are residing the home they designed and built at the begin-ng of their married life in 1956. It is located in 'eitz Woods off Frahm Pike.

Eugene is the son of Leroy and Goldie Nevergall ırschfeld. He was born June 14, 1932 in Franklin vp. He attended New Bremen High School. He served 2 years in the army and was stationed in Korea.

Eugene Hirschfeld Family October 1977 — Timothy and Mary Jo Richards, Pamela, Timothy, Alice, Eugene Bryan, Pat and Rodney Hirschfeld

Patricia Deitsch Hirschfeld was born on Oct. 1, 1933 in Liberty Twp. She is the daughter of Lawrence V. and Emma Willrath Deitsch (both who are deceased). Her step-mother is Wilma Weitz Deitsch. She graduated from Celina High School and Lima Memorial School of Nursing in 1954. She worked several years at Gibbon's Hospital in Celina as a registered nurse.

Eugene and Pat were united in marriage on May 12, 1956 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Twp. They have five children and one grandchild.

Mary Jo was born Feb. 24, 1957 and married Timothy Richards in May 29, 1976. They have one son, Bryan who was born Nov. 19, 1976.

Rodney Eugene Hirschfeld was born Nov. 25, 1958 and is employed as a carpenter by his father.

Alice Sue Hirschfeld was born on July 7, 1960 and will be attending Capital University in Columbus, Ohio in the fall.

Pamela Kay Hirschfeld was born March 20, 1965 and is in Celina Junior High School.

Timothy Edward Hirschfeld was born Jan. 14, 1968 and is attending Celina East Elementary.

Eugene has been a local Building Contractor since 1971. He has built several prominent homes in the Celina and surrounding areas.

They are active members of St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Twp.

They are also active members of the Mercer County Historical Society. Eugene has been a past board member of the society and is presently serving as vice-president. He and his wife designed and built the sign in front of the present museum.

They are active in 4-H work and Pat is an advisor of the Spin and Pin Club. *Eugene Hirschfeld*

HITCHNER

The family of Clyde and Margaret Wilson Hitchner (deceased). Seven children Earl and Verl, twins (deceased), Herman, Miriam, Ruth, James, and Clara Jane. Verl (deceased) married to Florence Archer (deceased). Two children Kenneth, married to

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Clyde and Margaret Wilson Hitchner and family

Donna Coci, no children. Louise married to James Hogrefe, five children, Michael James married to Cheryl Joy, no children, Sherri Louise married to Mark Miller, one child, Stephannie Nolle. Not married are Mark, Sarah, and Mathew. Herman married to Florence Mann, one child Judith Annette married to Loren Pfaffenberger. Mirian married to Carl D. Emans (deceased), two children Ruth Ann Rickard married to Donald Rickard, five children Timothy W. married to Martha Mihm (divorced), one child, Scott Jason, Timothy married to Monica Gamble, no children. Donna married to William Jones two children Heather and Kyle. Not married are David, Bruce, and Lori. Vivian married to Buddy Frank five children, Carl, Paul, Robert, Todd, and Melinda. Ruth married to William Mercer, three children, Patrica, William Jr. and Edwina. Patrica married to Albert Coci Four children Albert Jr., Jane, Robert and Donna. William Jr. married to Mary Sue Bihm. Edwina married to Donald Biel. James married to Shirley Johnson (divorced) one child Robert Pacquin. James married to Lois Morehead (divorced) two children, Mary Louise married to James Hogan, one child, Lynn Marie. Richard (divorced) two children Julia and Rebbecca. James married to Mildred Gouge one child Tina Marie. Clara Jane married to John Q. Murphy, three children, Joe (divorced) two sons, Bradley and Michael. James married to Sandra Donath, two children, Jason and Sarah Margaret married to Everrette Gordon no children. *Miriam Emans, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

Picture Taken ca 1891 — Philip S. Hitchner Jr. holding Arthur Lewis, age 2, Emma (Frisbie) Hitchner. **Left:** Clyde, age 5. **Back:** M. LeRoy, age 10. **Right:** Pearlie, age 8.

PHILIP S. HITCHNER

Philip S. Hitchner was born July 19, 1791, in Salem Co., New Jersey, son of Andreas and Anna Sarah (Jarman) Hitchner. He married Rebecca Lambson (1796-1851), on September 17, 1817. Their children are: William (1818-1874) born Salem Co., N.J.; Eliza (1819-1854); Sara (1821-); Hannah (1823-1859) born Warren Co., Ohio.

In 1824, in what is now Hopewell Twp., Mercer Co., Philip Hitchner was granted a patent deed for land he lived on the rest of his life. He also purchased land in Black Creek Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio.

He traveled to California, once by sailing around the horn, and when gold was discovered with neighbor friend, Abner Davis, and five other a men crossed the plains by ox-team. It took 116 d after they left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

After Philip returned home his wife died on S tember 5, 1851. He married March 23, 1852, Rhod C., born August 27, 1816, Hamilton Co., Ol daughter of Captain Asa and Mary (Brecount) H kle. Rhoda, the widow of Thomas Doty and th three children: Ethan; Rhoda; Laverda, lived in A glaize Co., Ohio.

Philip and Rhoda Hitchner's children are: Rebe (1853-1854); Rosella (1855-1929); Philip Jr. (18 1893); Asa (1858-1859). Again Rhoda was widov when Philip Sr. died March 29, 1864. He is buried his first wife in the Mercer Cemetery, Mercer, Oh

The Mt. Tabor Church of God, St. Rt. 127 a Tama Road is built on land given to the congre tion by Rhoda Hitchner, a corner of the Hitch homestead.

Rosella Hitchner married Theodor Albin and liv nearby; Philip Hitchner Jr. born March 10, 18 married Emma Iona Frisbie, January 30, 1879, a they lived on the family farm with his moth Philip Jr. cleared more land, farmed, had oil we and prospered. While preparing to build a new b he died March 6, 1893, from complications cau by measles.

Emma born June 25, 1861, daughter of Lewis a Nancy (Trout) Frisbie, was raised in Centre Tw Mercer Co., Neptune, Ohio. She died June 17, 19 in the home she came to as a bride. She is buried, her husband Philip Jr., and some of their childr and Rhoda C. Hitchner who died November 1885, in Elm Grove Cemetery, St. Marys, Ohio.

Philip Jr. and Emma Hitchner's children are: Ch tie (1879-1879); LeRoy (1881-1957); Pearlie (18 1895); Clyde (1886-1933); Madie (1888-1888); Lew Arthur (1889-1957). Emma Hitchner married Jam B. Siler and they had Ray and Madison.

LeRoy Hitchner married Bertha Gilliland a lived in Mishawaka, Indiana.

Clyde Hitchner married Margaret Wilson a lived in Toledo, Ohio.

Lewis Arthur Hitchner married Mabel Cl Stoner, July 24, 1910. She is the daughter of Henry and Celia M. (Williams) Stoner. She was bo September 11, 1892, in Hopewell Twp., Oregon, f merly Early, Mercer Co., Ohio. In August, 1916, A thur and Mabel Hitchner moved to Allen Co., Lin Ohio. Their children are: Eldon; twins Dallas a Alice; Vivian; Emma; Lewis Arthur Jr. *Mrs. Everett Dahlke*

JOHN B. H. HOENIE

John B. H. Hoenie and wife Margaret (Whi Hoenie came from Hannover, Germany to Amer about the year 1837. They were married in Germa and the next day they boarded a sailing ship America. They were on the ocean for about thr months. Their first child, Henry, was born June 1838 in New Bremen, Ohio when New Bremen w a Mercer County town. The county lines have sin been changed.

When Grand Lake Saint Marys was being forme Margaret helped to prepare meals for the worke and John kept the fires furnished with wood.

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They then bought a tract of land (it was mostly all odland at that time) northwest of Celina along at is now called Frahm Pike. While John was lding their dwelling, the family lived among acaintances about a mile south of their newly-rchased tract of land. John had blazed a trail (by rking trees along the way) from where they were ying, to their newly-acquired land and worked h day at erecting a home. One day he worked too e and the sun set quickly, making it impossible to the next blaze on the trail. He walked around s one blazed tree all night to keep warm and to ep from going to sleep. Margaret, fearing he had t his way, blew on a conch shell all night so he uld know which way to go to arrive home safely. t he was afraid that she would become tired and it blowing the conch snell, so he decided to stay at tree which he knew was on the blazed trail.

Eventually the buildings were all completed and land cleared of trees. In time, the farm became property of the oldest son, Henry. At the present ıe it is owned by one of Henry's grandsons, Cor-ı Hellwarth. This farm is located in Hopewell wnship and has been in the possession of some mber of the family for over 100 years.

The family name was changed from Hoene to enie around the latter part of the year 1888. A ool teacher, Ben Klinger, helped to bring about change in the spelling of the name, stating that it uld be more like an English name with the new elling.

ohn and Margaret were the parents of six chil-n: Henry, born in 1838, married Sarah Ann od, daughter of Joseph Good, and became the fa-r of seven sons and six daughters; Mary, born in 40, married John C. Riese, six sons; Julia Ann, rn in 1842, married William Sealscott, two daugh-s; John, born in 1844, married Minnie Frahm, four ıs and three daughters; George, born in 1845, rried Caroline Sealscott, four daughters; and Wil-n, born in 1846, married Mary Frahm, three sons d two daughters.

One of Mary's sons, Professor George Riese, was sident of The Normal School at Portland, Indi-a. (See page 486 of the Bowen History of Van ert and Mercer County, 1896 for the account of John C. Riese family). George was the author of iese's Arithmetic" book which was used in the blic schools of the area.

ohn B. H. Hoenie and Margaret embraced the Lu-eran faith. John died June 30, 1888, aged 80 years d Margaret died Dec. 21, 1888, aged 82 years. ey were laid to rest north of Celina, Ohio in rth Grove Cemetery.

ohn Roberts Hoenie of Hopewell Township, son Henry H. Hoenie and grandson of John B. H. enie, married Lura Clyde Carpenter. Their chil-en were Ray, Ross and Ethel. Ethel, the writer of s sketch, married James E. Marbaugh. They have e son, James A. Marbaugh. *Ethel M. Marbaugh*

EDWARD PIERSTORFF FAMILY

Grandfather John Pierstorff was born in Germany ıy 4, 1841. He was the son of Charles and Sophie d they settled in Mercer county in 1857. He married Annie Bartell in 1876. He had 10 children. We are considering his son Edward and his descendants. Edward was born Apr. 1, 1880. He married Hazel Loverta Fast Oct. 13, 1921. They had 2 sons, Edson Leon and Dallas Ernest.

Edson married Marjorie Lou Buck Feb. 18, 1950 and Dallas married Kathryn Gengler Nov. 4, 1951. Edson and Marjorie have one son Niles Edward born Oct. 11, 1956. Dallas and Kathryn (Kitty) have three children Eric born July 6, 1963. Rebecca Loverta born March 20, 1957. Diane born March 2, 1954. Diane married Cliff Gibson and they have one daughter Kathryn Jean Rebecca born Dec. 19, 1977.

KROGMAN-BUCK

Great grandfather Henry Krogman (Crogman) was born in Mecklenburgh Schwerin Germany August 25, 1828-1913 and came to Mercer County in Oct. 1852. He married Frederica Reese in 1859 who was also born in Mecklenburgh Schwrerin, Germany in 1838-1923. They reared 7 children. We are considering one son Charles, Carl John born Dec. 6, 1859-1943 and his family and descendants. Charles married Sophia Mary Uhlenhake. They reared 3 children Roy, Leona, Myrtle. Myrtle married Rheuben N. Buck, son of Benjamin Franklin Buck-Martha Lehman Buck, June 20, 1925. They had one daughter Marjorie Lou who married Edson Leon Pierstorff Feb. 18, 1950. They have one son Niles Edward who married Carolyn Rasawher Oct. 14, 1977. It is interesting to note, quite by accident, not planned, and recently found that Niles was married the same date Oct. 14, one hundred years later than his great grandfather Buck was married Oct. 14, 1877. Niles lives on his great great grandfather Krogmans farm. We are reminded that the land lives on but the generations come and go. *Marjorie Pierstorff*

LEHMAN FAMILY

The members of the Lehman family currently residing in Mercer County trace their beginnings in Mercer County to the year 1846. At that time Adam Pixler Lehman (born 1806) along with his wife Julia (Griggs) and their seven children left Perry County, Ohio. They traveled in a covered wagon to where Julia's sister, Mrs. John (Maria Griggs) Wilson lived north of Celina in Hopewell Twp.

When the family first arrived they lived in a log cabin six miles north of Celina along the road that went straight north from town. On April 22, 1853, Adam purchased an eighty acre farm from John Wilson for $500. This farm was located just south of Early, Ohio. Early consisted of a general merchandise store and three houses built along the C.H.&D. railway. Later Early became known as Oregon, Ohio.

The land purchased by Adam was all forest, so many hours were spent clearing the land for a house and farming.

When the Civil War broke out Adam and four of his sons left the homestead to serve their country. William, the youngest son born after the family came to Mercer County, was left to care for the

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homestead until his father and brothers returned. Though Adam and his four sons all served in the army, each was sent to a different territory; so none of them fought side by side. It was a day of great celebration when Adam and his four sons all returned home safely, reuniting the family.

Soon the sons and daughters were all married. John married Rebecca Webb, James married Phidella Snyder, Abraham married Nancy Hiles, William married Charlotte Fisher, Daniel was first married to Mary Harden and after her death married Rebecca Layland, Julie married David Hull, Sarah married Albert Ford, and Mariah married David Howick.

Daniel was first married to Mary Harden. Two children were born of this marriage: Mary and William. On July 4, 1867, Daniel married Rebecca Jane Layland daughter of Benjamin P. and Margaret (Parker). Daniel and his family remained on the old homestead following the deaths of Adam in 1882 and Julia in 1891. The children of Daniel and Rebecca included: James B. who married Mary Michiel, Margaret and Ursula who died in infancy, Lucy who married A. Dick Brookhart, Adam Perry who married May Mote, Eliza Jane who married Porter Stiverson, and Willshier Stephen who married Lucy May.

Adam P. and May were blessed with three children: Edith who married Thomas Wirebaugh, Ada who married Ervin Andrews, and Kenneth who married Esther Gardner. After Esther's death, Kenneth married Marjorie York. Born to Kenneth and Esther were two sons, Michael Dennis and Eric Allen. Eric married Linda Michael and they reside in Toledo with their sons, Adam Michael and Casey Sean. Michael married Jane Murlin and they reside in Celina with their children, Timothy Cyle and Ellen Melissa. Michael is a partner in the Stein and Lehman Funeral Home.

Willshier and Lucy had five children. Raymond and Hubert both died in their youth, Nellie who married Robert Morrow, Paul Robert who married Mildred Hutchinson, and Wilson who was killed in World War II. Paul and Mildred had one son, Daniel Judson who married Mary McCallister. Daniel and Mary with their children Daniel Judson, Jr. and Kara Marie reside in the Neptune area. Daniel is a teacher in the Coldwater Schools.

Willshier Lehman, grandson of Adam Pixler, wrote a book about Adam and his family's journey and subsequent settling in Mercer County as told to him by his grandfather. Willshier wrote the book at age eighty shortly before his death. This unpublished book written in a simple narrative style provides the descendants of Adam Pixler Lehman with a priceless gift on their heritage. The book is entitled, *And They Got There.* ***submitted by Daniel J. Lehman***

LEHMAN-BUCK

John Lehman I was born in Germany, came to the U.S. with his father, and settled in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. His son, Christian married Elizabeth Bookwalter, and in the winter of 1841-42 they came to Richland County, Ohio. In 1847, they moved further westward to Allen County, Ohio. John Lehman II and several other children were born there.

John Lehman II (1832-1876) married Debo White (1836-1925), a daughter of Adam and Rebe Walton White, in 1853. They moved to Mer County in 1854. Their daughter Martha was b September 15, 1859. They also had Quincy, Ma Sarah, Levi, Elias, John, and Henry. John served the Civil War.

William Buck (1828-1902), a son of Elizabeth a Christian Buck, came with his family from St County to Hopewell Township in 1838. They w some of the very first settlers. He married Edi Crane (1833-1917), a daughter of Benjamin and R Longshore Crane, in 1855. They had Benjan Franklin Buck on October 5, 1856 — also: Abn Harvey, and Ida (Rhoades), Shelby and Ruth w died as babies.

B. Frank Buck and Martha E. Lehman united marriage on October 14, 1877. They had a large fa ily — my grandfather, Perry, was the first born, Fe ruary 22, 1880. A detailed list accompanies t story. Frank Buck died September 29, 1922 and M tha died October 6, 1939, at the Buck family farm Route 118. They are buried at Hopewell with their children.

Perry married Dove Springer in 1903 and my ther, Floyd, was born the same year. They also h Hila (1907-1908), Helen (1910-1930), and Willi (1920). An unhappy marriage ended in divorce the spring of 1925. Perry then went to Detroit work with his brother and son. He fell beneath t wheels of a train in a freak accident on August 1925.

Floyd married Alta Fisher on September 5, 19 and I was born several years later. I married Thom Helmer of Lima, Ohio in October 1956. Elizab Jan was born in July 1957, and Camille Robin in A gust 1962. After 20 years in the Air Force, my h band retired and we are presently living on r Grandfather Fisher's farm on 707. My father died cancer, here, in 1965, and is buried at Riversi Rockford.

List of Buck Children: Perry, 1880-1925; Kir 1882-1911; Grace Rebecca, 1884-1911; Amanda Ar 1886-1902; Leroy, 1887-1902; Nora Editha, 18 1914; Jane Laura, 1891-1908; Ida Viola, 1896-, (ne married and presently living in Centerville, Ohi Rheuben Niles, 1900-1971, (he married Myrtle Kr man in 1925 — they had one child, Marjorie Lou 1928. Mrs. Buck died in 1961, and Rheuben marri Lela R. Baucher in 1965.); Clarence, 1905-1972; (b ter known as "Bird", he married Nellie Byers 1935. They had no children.); Mary Elizabeth 1906-1935.

The old Buck homestead on 118, after being in t family for 135 years, was sold soon after Clarenc death. ***by Marilyn Buck Helmer***

NUDING

Helen Bernice Nuding the subject's wife was bo in Hopewell Township, August 8, 1911, the eldest six children born to Grover Stanley Nuding bo March 9, 1885 and Icy Sciota (Fast) Nuding, bo September 21, 1888. The other five children are M mie Josephine (Nuding) Searight, John Rober Charles Stanley, William Donald and Mary Bern dine (Nuding) Krugh. To this marriage was born o

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., Carl Eugene and one daughter, Martha Jane. e attended Mercer grade and high school and duated at Celina High School. Her hobbies are ving and crocheting and keeping up her scrapok. She has had people come as far as Ft. Wayne, iana and Piqua, Ohio to prove deaths and etc. by clippings in the scrapbook. She was always ace in the church, holding offices in the church, las aid, WCSC, also she taught a Sunday School ss for more than 20 years. She is also a member he Daughters of the Revolution.

Helen (Nuding) Harner was the oldest daughter of over Stanley Nuding and Icy Sciota (Fast) Nuding. Sciota Fast Nuding was the 12th child of Abran Ginter Fast and Laverda (Doty) Fast. Abraham s the 9th child of John Jacob Fast and Mary (Gin) Fast. John Jacob Fast was the second son of klaus and Cadarina (Donner) Fast. They came to nerica in 1750. Laverda (Doty) Fast, my grandther was a daughter of Thomas Doty and Rhoe (Clark) Hinkle. Thomas Doty was a son of Joh Doty but do not know his wife's name. odale Clark Doty was a daughter of Asa Hinkle d Mary (Burcount) Hinkle. This is all we can find about our grandparents on Grandma Laverta oty) Fast side.

On the Nuding side my father, Grover Stanley ding was the oldest son of Joseph Nuding and Ef- P. Roberts. Joseph was the son of John Fredrick d Barbara (Engle) Nuding. John Fredrick Nuding s the son of Joseph and Eva (Shawl) Nuding ich you can read in 1896 Record of Van Wert and ercer County page 455 and 56 in Mercer County. andma Nuding, Effie P. Roberts was the daughter John Roberts and Harriet Hainline. John Roberts s the son of Joshua Roberts and Elizabeth (Beag) Roberts. Grandma Effie (Roberts) Nuding's other Harriet (Hainline) Roberts was a daughter of an Hainline and Mary (Miller) Hainline.

Helen (Nuding) Harner's father, Grover Nuding s very active in civic and community affairs. He s president and a director in the Mercer Co. op., a director in Mercer County Auto Club, dictor in the Federal Farm Loan Association, also ved as appraiser in the Production Credit Corp. d the Federal Farm Loan Association. He was a ember of the American Jersey Cattle Club of the io Seed Improvement Association and of the ange. He was a director in Rural Electrification. sides being active member of the Mt. Tabor urch of God holding different offices, he was a ge farmer raising registered Jersey cattle, Belgium rses, and Duroc hogs.

My grandfather Abraham G. (Ginter) Fast was in e Civil War. On February 22, 1864 he enlisted for rvice, entering company D 71st Reg. Ohio Vol. Inf. is in the service for two years under General Sherman and Thomas. Discharged in November 1865 at lumbus, Ohio. Although he was subjected to any dangers, he escaped them all and has the cord of a brave, cheerful, faithful, soldier.

My grandfather Nuding you can read about in the st Van Wert and Mercer History, pages 455-456.

What Revolutionary war service Jacob Fast had is t definitely known, there being no record of such rvice in Washington but that he enlisted for serv- is known. The Pension of his brother Christian ates that in May or June 1780, he Christian, substituted for this brother Jacob at Jared's Fort and served in Colonel Miners Virginia Regiment for 1 month. (Revolutionary war Pension claim of Christian Fast, W. 4195. Such record of service is accepted by National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution as an eligibility for membership. *Helen Harner*

NUDING

Charles Stanley Nuding, 9031 US 127 North, Celina, son of Grover Stanley Nuding and Icy Scioto Fast Nuding, listed in previous history books. Attended 8 year school at Copp's one room school, Daisy Berry, teacher. Graduate of Rockford High School and attended Findlay College and Ohio State University before joining the US Navy during World War II. Serving in both theaters of war, while on Philadelphia Naval Hospital staff as a Pharmacist First Class officer, met Grace B. Hammond, daughter of William Bradley Hammond and Lula Chavis Hammond, of North Carolina. Grace, of Philadelphia, Pa. We were married after World War II on April 5, 1947. While engaged in farming and selling farm equipment, became the parents of three sons.

Charles Stanley Nuding Jr., born August 16, 1949. After graduating from Celina Senior High School, married Carolyn Ann Hoyng, a graduate of Coldwater High. They are the parents of a son, Charles Stanley Nuding III. Stan farms and works part time at Nuding Farm Supply Co.

Grover Bradley Nuding, born March 12, 1952. After graduation from Celina High, married Patricia Lynn Hoffman, also a Celina High graduate. Grover also graduated from ITT Technical School in Dayton, Ohio with an Associate Degree in Architectural Engineering Technology. He farms and Patricia has an upholstery business. Parents of three children: a daughter, Amanda Dru; a son, Cory, stillborn and buried in North Grove Cemetery; and another daughter, Sherry Ann.

Henry Dee Nuding, born February 6, 1953. Married JoAnn Vorhees. Both graduated from Celina High Schools. They are the parents of a son, Aaron Dee; and a daughter, Christina Renee. Dee is a part time farmer and parts manager at Nuding Farm Supply, Inc.

Nuding Farm Supply, Inc. was the first full line Massey Harris store in Mercer County. Later it changed to Massey Ferguson, Inc. Located on the Andy Deisch farm on US 127 North, Celina. Operated by Charles Nuding and sons Dee, Grover, and Stanley. *Chas. S. Nuding*

Mr. and Mrs. John Now

NOW

John H. Now, the son of Lafe (Godlieb) Now and Margarette Bickel Now, was born in Hopewell

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Township, Mercer County, Ohio on April 19, 1878. He married Nettie (Antoinette) Smith on December 18, 1902. Nettie, the daughter of Henry Smith and Sarah Bieber Smith, was born on March 31, 1881. After their marriage they built a house on an acre of ground located on the farm of his birthplace on the present Now Road in Hopewell Township where they lived throughout the life of Mr. Now who died on May 8, 1959. After his death, Mrs. Now purchased a house at 132 East Anthony Street, Celina where she resided until she went to live in Totalcare Nursing Home in March of 1977, where she resides at the time of this article at the age of 97 years.

Six children were born in this family, namely: Beulah (Mrs. Willis) Bradford of Wapakoneta, Ohio, Herbert Now (wife Helen Alexander) of Findlay, Ohio, and Laveda (Mrs. Arlie) Baucher, Margaret (Mrs. Clarence) Weitz, Loretta (Mrs. Carson) Fast, and Mabel (Mrs. Lawrence) Koontz all of Celina, Ohio.

John was basically a farmer all of his life and owned sixty acres of land, a part of his father's homestead. His farming operations consisted of general grain farming and livestock. In addition to his own farm he usually rented from eighty to one hundred twenty acres of land. He did his farming with horses all his life and he was quite proud of the quality and appearance of his horses. Besides being a farmer, John was a lumberman, and assisted in the operation of a sawmill on his father's farm; he was a thresher and in his later life he was a carpenter and did some cabinet work.

Mr. and Mrs. Now did not confine their life activities to their livelihood. They were quite community and church minded. He served on the Hopewell Township Board of Education, was a Trustee of Hopewell Township, and was a charter member and also was instrumental in reorganizing the Hopewell Grange. Mrs. Now was a member of the Hope Evangelical Church at the time of their marriage and Mr. Now was a member of the Pleasant View Church of God. After their marriage they both held their membership with the Pleasant View Church of God for the rest of their lives. He served as janitor of the church for most of his lifetime, mostly without pay, and Mrs. Now was by his side in caring for the church property. He walked the mile and a quarter to the church to get the fires started so the building would be warmed some by the time his family arrived.

Theirs was a life of dedication, sacrifice and devotion. They were very religious Christians and so were dedicated to the work of the church, having served as delegates to the annual sessions of the Ohio Eldership of the Churches of God many times. They were willing to sacrifice much to provide for the essentials of life for their children and always were proud of the accomplishments of their children. *Herbert Now*

NOW

Lafe (Godlieb) Now, the son of John and Mary Now, was born in Hopewell Township, Mercer County, Ohio, on May 23, 1847, his parents having settled in this county in 1837. His wife's name was Margaret Bickel, the daughter of Henry and Catherine Bickel, who came from Van Wert County to Mercer County. She was born in Marion County Aug. 7, 1848, and they were married on Dec. 1868. Her mother was born in Pennsylvania.

John, Lafe's father, was one of three brothers v came from Germany. Their original name was N One brother settled in the Kansas City area; other two, one of which was John, settled in Mer County and changed their name to Now.

Lafe and Margaret purchased a 40 acre farm Feb. 7, 1872, and a joining 40 acres on Dec. 11, 18 Later they purchased another 40 acres across road West of the 80 acres making a total of 120 ac they owned in Hopewell Township. They first li in a log house, then later built a frame house, wh burned in 1930. Along with farming their farm, tl owned and operated a saw mill and a threshing r chine. They were active members in the Pleas View Church. At the time the church was organized in 1876, Lafe was serving as clerk of church. In 1879, they deeded an acre of ground the church along with a frame house to be used a parsonage. In 1900, the trustees of the chu deeded it back to the Now's since it was no lon being used as a parsonage.

Lafe died on Mar. 1, 1913; Margaret died on F 8, 1922. Lafe had two brothers and one sis namely John, who remained single; Christian, w had 3 sons and 4 daughters; and Catherine, w married Hiram Crouch and they had 1 son an daughters. Margaret had a half-brother, Geo Ehni; a sister, Sarah Steinbrenner; and possibly other half-brother, Frank Bickel.

Lafe and Margaret had 9 children: namely; M Ann, who married William Beougher; Sarah a Aaron, twins, Sarah married Joseph Hansel a Aaron died in infancy; Ella, who married Irvan Ar strong; John H., who married Nettie Smith; Jose A. (Dode) who married Margaret Houser; Myr and Infant, twins, Myrtle married Charles Freem and the twin died in infancy; and Ida, who marr John Buck. *Margaret Weitz*

Picture of home of Jame and Marian Scheuerma

JAMES F. & MARIAN (SCHOCH) SCHEUERMAN HOME

In February of 1956 James F. Homan, son of t late August and Catharine (Braun) Homan of St. I ter, Ohio, Mercer County, Rec. Twp., purchased t corner lot at Weitz and Miller Road (now 7740, B 243, Weitz Road), Hopewell Twp., Mercer Coun Ce-
lina, Ohio, from William Weitz of the city of Celi Ohio. This was the first lot bought in what later w known as the Weitz Addition. Total cost of the and agreement was $600.00.

Clearing the wooded area and bulldozing soon b gan. By October, when James (Jim) married Thel

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Buschur, daughter of Urban and Rosena (Dip-d) Buschur also of Weitz Road, a new five-room ıch style home constructed by Alph Buschur of Henry, Ohio (uncle of Thelma), was almost com-ted. In December Jim and Thelma moved into ir new home and added the finishing touches.

On August 31, 1957 Jim and Thelma's first son, ndall James, was born at Our Lady of Mercy Hos-al, Coldwater, and their daughter, Loraine Marie, ived on October 3, 1958 also at the Coldwater spital.

im had been an Insurance Underwriter at Celina ıtual Insurance Co., South Main St., Celina, Ohio several years after working at Mersman Bros. on his discharge from the Air Force. Thelma was tenographer-Secretary at the General Telephone mpany in Celina, Ohio for five years. Early in 59 Jim became a partner in the Stroeffer Insurance ., West Market St., Celina, Ohio. It was at this ıe that Jim and Thelma sold their country home Weitz Road and moved into the town of Celina, ıio. They sold their home to James F. and Marian hoch) Scheuerman. James (Jim) was formerly of ledo, Ohio and Marian was from Coldwater, ıio, and they have four children, Stephen, Mary, rol and Bill. Jim is a Director of Finance Control-at Avco New Idea in Coldwater, Ohio, and Ma-n is a second-grade teacher at Immaculate Con-otion Elementary School, Celina, Ohio. Stephen, rn in 1949, lives in San Francisco, California; ıry, born in 1952, is married to John Stanton and ey live in Hartford, Connecticut; Carol, born in 56, attends college as does Bill who was born in 58.

lim and Marian still live at the corner of Weitz d Miller Roads and have done some remodeling ce their arrival there in May of 1959. They have ıverted the breezeway into a family room, added patio behind their home and a white board fence t front. *submitted by Mrs. Thelma M. Homan*

SCHLEUCHER

Edward M. Schleucher, born December 30, 1913, d a resident of Hopewell Township. He has been gaged in farming his entire lifetime. He has been leader and teacher in his church for 40 years. Ed-rds great-grandfather, Herman Schleucher was rn in Germany. (1848-1919) At the age of eight he d his widowed mother came to the United States 1856. They settled near Carmi, Illinois. Herman came a minister of the gospel, being one of the ltime circuit riding preachers. In 1873 Herman ırried Mary Beck whose parents also came from rmany in the early 1800's. Seven children were rn from this union.

In 1900 the family moved to Mercer County and rman was the minister at Hope Church. In 1902 e family left Mercer County except one son, Earl hleucher. Earl worked on the Joe Hellwarth farm, e next year married Charlotte Tilton, daughter of ın and Sidney Crane Tilton. The newlyweds oved to Chicago and Earl worked in the Pennsyl-nia Railroad Freight office. Charlotte became ex-mely homesick and they moved back to Mercer unty. They took up residency on the Joe Hell-ırth farm in Hopewell Township and Earl farmed. Three sons were born in this home, Howard, Clarence and Edward, the subject of this sketch.

In 1919 Earl bought 80 acres for $14,000 from John Now and the family moved to their new homestead just north of their present home. Another son Paul, was born.

During the winter of 1932 their home burned but most of the contents were saved. The family moved in with Rev. Eugene Kunce and family. Their new home was completed that fall.

In 1933 Edward married Anna Weitz, daughter of Charles and Katie Hone Weitz. They lived on the farm adjoining the homeplace, now the Cliff Eichenauer farm. Edward and Earl farmed together. Three children were born, Donald (1934), Richard (1935) and Marjorie (1936).

Earl became employed at Karch Stone Company and in 1939 he and Charlotte moved to a home there. Edward then bought the homeplace and moved his family there. In December 1941 Earl and Charlotte's home was destroyed by a gas explosion. They lost everything including Christmas gifts, family albums and keepsakes. They moved back with Edward and family until spring and then moved to Celina on Logan Street.

In 1951 Earl bought the John and Bessie Smith farm, 55 acres for $200.00 per acre. This parcel also being in Hopewell Township and Edward and his sons farmed it.

Edward and Anna's oldest son Donald, graduated from Celina High School and Ft. Wayne Business College. He married Shirley Ashcraft, daughter of Lehr and Ruby Ashcraft. They have two sons Douglas and Terry.

Richard, the second son, also a graduate of Celina High School, went into farming with his father Edward. He married Jacqueline Kelner, daughter of Robert and Evelyn Thomas Kelner. They have three children, Christine, Rick and Cindy. Cindy married James Andrew and they have one son Jason, a great grandson of Edward and Anna.

Marjorie, a daughter and a graduate of Celina High School and Bowling Green University married Sam Rhodes, Jr. They have four sons, Mark, Timothy, Steven and Jeffrey Greg.

At this writing Edward and Anna reside on the homeplace on Schleucher Road. *Jackie Schleucher*

J. W. SHIVELY

John William Shively was born in 1861, the only child of Wm. M. and Sarah Eliz. Carr Shively. His Father was lost in the Battle of Shiloh in the Civil War. He married Sarah Edith Buck and they had the general store and P.O. at Stedke. Mrs. Shively was killed in the 1886 tornado leaving 2 children, Melvin and Oral. Melvin began working in public driving the huckster for his Father's store and later clerked sales for auctioneer Floyd Purdy, and Bill Cisco and had trained Geo. Schroyer. He married Molly Snyder and had a family of 4 sons, Vaughn, Earl, Russell and John Edward who lives in Florida. Oral married John Sealscott and raised a family of 9. Harry, Richard, Edgar, twins Bessie (Trissel) and James, Mary E. (Long), Paul deceased, Leo, and Charles Edward, d. inf.

J. W. married second Eliza Crouch and they had 5

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children. Chloe (Hoenie) has children Clifford, Florence and John W. Hoenie; Florence D. (Hill); Walter H.; Norah (Young) and Ernest B. They were all raised around the store as a close-knit family because their Mother always said she had 7 children. After her death in 1922, J. W. sold out to Al Kanorr of Durbin store.

Ernest B. was born March 5, 1899 and lives on the home-place. He married Fanny Fisher and they are the parents of Wayne, a teacher at Parkway, and Warren of Columbus. They also have grandchildren Curtis, Kevin and Christine here and Blake, Brenda and Brett of Columbus. *Ernest Shively*

EDWARD MARTIN SIEBERT

Edward Martin Siebert was born March 6, 1883, the son of John Henry and Wilhelmina Sophia Feldhaus, in Hopewell Township. He was a farmer and a township trustee. He was married on November 21, 1908, to Alvena Augusta Luth, the daughter of Joachim and Sophia Mueller Luth. She was the granddaughter of John and Dorothea Willrath Mueller and the great-granddaughter of Carl Joachim Christian Willrath and Anna Dorothea Elizabeth Miller Willrath, who were originally from Mechlinburg, Germany.

All the descendants of Edward M. and Alvena A. Siebert still live or did live within a radius of less than 125 miles from Hopewell Township.

Edward M. and Alvena A. Siebert were the parents of five children: Estella M., Vernon J. (John), Earl J., Edna C. and Marcella E. (Sally).

Alvena died on August 21, 1950, and Edward on March 24, 1952.

Vernon J. married Joyce Van Ausdale and he lived a good part of his adult life in Indiana. He died September 27, 1974. There were two children: Cheryl Siebert Richards (Mrs. Michael) and Bruce E. Cheryl and Michael Richards have two children: Michelle and David. All live in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Earl J. Siebert married Audrey Joyce Visser (daughter of Jacob and Goldie Lumbert Visser). Their three children are Steven Jay, Sandra Jean and Donna Jane, all living in Hopewell Township.

Edna C. married Richard Frahm and are the parents of Sue E. and twin daughters Sherry L. and Jerry L. Sue is married to Albert Fullenkamp and they have two sons: Chris and Jay. The Albert Fullenkamps are residents of Spring Valley, Ohio. Sherry is married to Jon Campbell and they reside at Bryant, Indiana. Jerry is married to Rick Minch and they are the parents of one daughter Amy. Their home is in Geneva, Indiana.

Marcella (Sally) is married to Dillon Eichenauer; they live in Hopewell Township. Their three children are Kathy A., Brenda K. and Marcia L. Kathy is married to Thomas Kimmel. They live in Celina and are the parents of Tara, Daniel and Gregory. Brenda is married to Terry Harmon. They have two daughters: Tricia and Julia and live in Convoy, Ohio. Marcia is married to Ronald Sipe. They and their two sons, Ryan and Carey, live at Willshire, Ohio.

All the children of Edward M. and Alvena A. Siebert and all the grandchildren, with the exception of Cheryl Richards and Bruce Siebert, were at one time members of St. John Lutheran Church, Hopev Township. *Estella Siebert*

HENRY GERHART SIEBERT

Born 1800 — Germany

Henry Gerhart Seibert left Bonn, Germany, in 1830's for the United States. His friend, A Schultz, a maid in their home, left at about the sa time and met in Bonn, Ohio, and were marr They were forbidden to marry in Germany beca of the class system. After their daughter, Cathe Elizabeth, was born, they started for Michigan settle. When they got as far as Mercer, Ohio, daughter became ill and died, so they settled Hopewell Twp. near the site of the present towns house.

Since Henry was a well-learned man for his ti he taught the young people in the community d ing the winter months in his home. He wrote hand a reading book and an arithmetic book for in teaching.

Two sons were born: John H. 1842-1919 Adam 1845-1924. Henry G. Siebert later died 1846.

Adam was a blacksmith by trade and also ra tile mill and cider mill. He married Fredricka Fe house and they had the following children: Jo 1870-1955 — a bachelor; George 1876-1942 — m ried Mary Elizabeth Frahm; Catherine 1881-1967 married Charles Weisman; Ben 1886-1950 — m ried Bertha Armstrong; Francis 1887-1962 — m ried Flora Pierstorff; Dorathea 1890-1919 — mar Clarence Frahm; Robert and Minnie died in infan

George and Francis took their families and thre ing rigs to Richland Co. near Greenwich, Ohio the early 1920's and their families are all settled that area. John and Ben were farmers in Hopev Twp. and operated threshing machines and a s mill. Catherine and Dorathea also lived on farms Hopewell Twp. They all attended the Siebert sch and were members of the St. John's Luthe Church in Hopewell Twp.

HENRY GERHART SIEBERT

Henry Gerhart Siebert came to the United St from Bonn, Germany, in the 1820's. He was a sch teacher there and had fallen in love with A Schultz, a maid in his family home. Henry's pare refused permission for their marriage. Henry Anna agreed to go separately to a place called Bo Ohio, and were married there. Three children w born to this family: Mary Elizabeth, John Henry Adam.

The couple started off in a covered wagon fr Bonn, Ohio, on their way to Michigan when M Elizabeth was nine years of age. She died at Mer Ohio, and was buried there; that event was a dec ing factor for them to stay in this area.

The exact date of the death of Henry Gerhart S bert is not known but he died while his two s

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ere quite young. The widow Anna remarried a an by the name of Grube.

John Henry Siebert was born September 22, 1842, Hopewell Township. He was a veteran of the Civil 'ar. While serving with Company I, 34th Regiment the Ohio Infantry, he was taken prisoner for a ort time. He was housed in Libby Prison, Richond, Virginia, a notorious facility second only to ndersonville. Libby was used primarily for the nfinement of army officers. He was honorably scharged on July 27, 1865.

He was married November 19, 1868, to Wilhelina Sophia Feldhaus. She was the daughter of edrick and Dorothea Feldhaus. Wilhelmina was ought to this country by her parents when she as only two and one-half years of age. Her parents id come from Graban, Mechlenburg, Scherein, ermany, and they settled in Hopewell Township, ecember, 1854.

Except for the time he served in the Civil War hn Henry spent his entire life on the farm where was born in Hopewell Township. He was primar- a farmer and also served as County Commisoner. He was a long-time member of St. John vangelical Lutheran Church, Hopewell Township.

John Henry and Wilhelmina were the parents of ght children, five boys: William, Henry, Charles, dward and Grover; three daughters; Mary, Lydia id Anna (Mrs. August Willrath).

John Henry died on his seventy-seventh birthday 919) and Wilhelmina died March 21, 1923.

Adam Siebert was married to Wilhelmina's sister. he couple also lived in Hopewell Township. *Estella ebert*

GEHRNARD FREDERICK SIELSCHOTT

Frederick is the name he used in most records. See bstract of Titles in Mercer Co. and History of Van ert and Mercer Cos. for year 1882. I will from here fer to him as G. Frederick.

G. Frederick (b) 1807 (d) 1865 and his wife Marie) 1809 (d) 1891 came to America from an area of anover, Germany in 1834. G. Frederick had 5 others and 1 sister that also came to America — l came at the same time. They first came to Cinn., hio where for 3 years they all worked as butchers. . Frederick and Marie had a son die on the voyage America and was buried in the Atlantic Ocean. he sister died while still in Cinn., Ohio. The boys l came to Mercer Co., 3 to Hopewell Twp. and 3 to enter Twp.

G. Frederick came to Hopewell Twp. in 1837 here he and Marie became the first settlers in Secon 10. From the Abstract of Titles in Mercer Co., it ows 80A was deeded to him in 1840 from the U.S. overnment through the Land Office in Lima, Ohio id signed by Martin Van Buren who was at that me the 8th President of U.S. (1837-1841). At his eath this farm became the home of son Reuben id family. The Sielschotts were members of the utheran Church.

G. Frederick and wife had 6 sons and 2 daughters. ne son and one daughter died as infants. Their ildren all remained in Hopewell Twp., except enry's family who settled in Van Wert Co., Ohio. Their children were — Henry, Philip, William, Elizabeth, G. Frederick and Reuben.

Henry's children were Sarah Chicadance and William. Henry's grandchildren from William are Samuel and Lester Sealscott and Lilly Weldy. These became the Van Wert Co. people.

Philip's children were Ida Schaadt (Dave), Anna Schaadt (Bill), Margaret Smith (Charles) and Jacob.

William's children were Louisa Frahm (John) and Roseltha Lemke (Henry).

Elizabeth Pierstorff's (Bill) children were George, Mary Willrath (Charles), William, Anna, Charles, Flora Siebert (Franc), Albert and Roy.

G. Frederick's children were Edward, Lillie Weber, Grover, Fanny Kuhn (Philip), Pearlie Groth (Otto), Lewis, Walter and George.

Reuben's children were John, Charles, Martin, Laura and Lawrence.

Prior to his death, G. Frederick and Marie had acquired over 400A of land which later was divided among their children. All land was in Section 10 in Hopewell Twp.

The name Sieschott has over the years acquired several spellings. Sielschott the German, Sealscott and Sealschott. I can only say what my parents told us as to the Sealscott spelling. G. Frederick's son Reuben had their spelling changed to Sealscott. It looked, at one time like some of their sons would be drafted by U.S. and sent to Germany to fight in a war. Not wanting their German cousins to think their American cousins were coming back to fight against each other, they changed the spelling of their name. All turned out well as no one was drafted to go back to Germany in Reuben's family till in World War II. At that time, Reuben's grandson Dewan Sealscott, son of Charles, was drafted and sent to Germany to serve in the 80th Division in General Patton's Army. He, however, had to do no fighting in that war as he served his time in the Medical Corps.

The U.S. census of 1850 does show the name as Sealscott for the early settlers. This probably was because the Sielschotts only knew the German language and the census taker the English, so he wrote the name like it sounded in English.

In many cases I have not shown the names of young children who died because I could not find records of some and many names were not readable.

JACOB SIELSCHOTT

Jacob Sielschott was born June 19, 1871 Hopewell Township son of Philip and Matilda Heffner Sielschott. After his father's death (born 1844-died 1894) he made his home on the family farm with Joseph and Effie Nuding. On January 5, 1899 he married Laura Almeda Grim daughter of Christopher and Lydia Brookhart Grim. They moved on one of the Nuding farms north of Celina where he continued farming for twenty-three years. In 1929 he purchased the Christopher Eichler home and worked for Celina Telephone Company. His wife died February 6, 1932. He never remarried. At retiring age full of energy, he sold Whitmer products visiting with old friends and became known as the Black Diamond Liniment Man.

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Mae and Mildred were daughters and with their parents attended church in Celina at Beery Bethel which was torn down and Mt. Tabor Church of God, teaching Sunday School classes, etc.

Mae and Mildred attended Beougher Elementary school and graduated from Celina High School. Mae attended Bowling Green College and taught school four years in Center and Jefferson Township. Later worked at Otis Hospital.

Mildred attended Findlay College and Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio receiving her Elementary Life Certificate on January 24, 1930. Took a correspondence course from Indiana University Business College, Fort Wayne. Taught school for seven years in Hopewell and Jefferson Townships.

Mae married Ray Hellworth a Hopewell Township farmer on February 11, 1923. He died April 23, 1953. Two sons, Dillon and Dean served with the Navy in World War II. Dillon married Jean Leininger of Liberty Township on April 2, 1949. He worked for Charles Schumm, farmer and Martz Cabinets, Celina for twenty years. He now works for Reynolds & Reynolds, Celina, Ohio. Two daughters Doris Goings, Plymouth, Indiana and Karen Kuhn, Geneva, Indiana.

Dean married Marilyn McElfresh of Mushingum County on November 21, 1953. Kim Joyce born January 11, 1957-died December 5, 1957 and Calvin their children. Dean farmed and now lives in Celina working at New Idea, Coldwater. Mae died December 27, 1967.

Mildred married Ralph Fisher, farmer Blackcreek Township, Rockford, Ohio on November 9, 1929. One son, Marvin who married Anna Lee Riesen of Celina on November 16, 1956. They have two daughters, Deborah Sue and Susan Marie. Marvin attended International Business College and works as an Accountant-Comptroller for Telectro-Mek, Inc., Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Our subject lived to a full age of ninety. Died September 30, 1961. *Ralph Fisher*

February 1976 Walter and Sadie Sielschott, 60th Wedding Anniversary — **Front Row:** Walter and Sadie Sielschott. **Second Row:** Dorothy Johnston, Bernice Roebuck, Louise Sielschott, Helen Fahncke. **Back Row:** Robert Johnston, Max Roebuck, Edgar Sielschott, Martin Fahncke.

WALTER AND SADIE SIELSCHOTT FAMILY

Walter Arnold Sielschott was born in Hopewell Twp., July 12, 1892, the son of George Frederick and Sarah (Leininger) Seilschott (see history of Gehrnard Frederick and Marie Sielschott). He married Sadie Mae Meyers the daughter of Henry William and Fredricka Louisa (Gottschalk) Meyers. She was born June 8, 1894, in Noble Twp., Auglaize County, Ohio. Shortly after her birth her parents and family mov to Center Twp., livestock farmers in Center a Hopewell Twps. ever since their marriage of years at the time of this writing. They have been a tive members of St. John Lutheran Church in Celi since their marriage and Walter prior to then wa member of St. John Lutheran Church in Hopew Twp. Their children are: Edgar Walter, Helen L cille, Myrtle Bernice (Bea) and Dorothy Jean. Edg Walter Sielschott married Mary Louise Haw daughter of Charles E. and Pearl (Baird) Haw Their children: Jane Ellen (lived one day), Gail Je — married Alvin Lewis Fennig and Larry Walt Helen Lucille married Martin John Fahncke, son Otto M. and Eda Fahncke. Their children: Shar Mae — married Ralph H. Stonerock and they have son named Aaron Martin. Barbara Ann — marri Duane Allen Baker.

Myrtle Bernice (Bea) married Max Roebuck, s of Harry and Otie (High) Roebuck. Their childre Keith Allen, Danny Lee — married Linda Ann Ba gett and they have a daughter named Jennifer Lyn Janet Sue married Rodney Dean Garn and Ga Gene.

Dorothy Jean married Robert G. Johnston, son Paul G. and Grace (Hoel) Johnston. Their childre Mark Robert and Steven Paul — married Carc Jean Swallow Neuendorff, her daughter Dawn R Neuendorff. *Mrs. Martin Fahncke*

FREDA REGEDANZ SMITH AND FAMILY

My grandfather, William Regedanz, was born c October 2, 1827, in Mecklenburg, Germany. H came to this country with his parents, John and Fr derica, in 1852. The family settled in Mercer Coun when it was still one great wilderness. His fath soon owned 159 acres of land.

William married Dorothea Reese and they b came the parents of eight children: Henry, Joh Minnie (Mrs. Henry Wenker), Louisa (Mrs. Ca Schmidt), three sons who died in young manhoc and another daughter who died at an early age.

Besides clearing the land William was engaged i blacksmithing and horticulture. He planted seec and grafted many apple and other fruit trees. H also knew about the medicinal value of variou herbs and plants. At the age of 30 years in 1857, h purchased 99 plus acres in Hopewell Township, Se tion 21. In 1873 he built a frame house and a larg barn, replacing the original log cabin and small st ble. The house still stands, and with the improve ments added over the years, is the comfortable an spacious home of his great grandson.

William's son John became the owner of the far in 1903 when there was still a lot of clearing to b done. In 1891, John married Mary Alma Muthert c Ft. Recovery, whose parents were William and Ann (Kruse) Muthert, born in Hanover, Germany. Whe they came to America they settled in Wheelin West Virginia but after a short time they came to F Recovery where William was a miller by trade. H was a kind man who helped many people wh couldn't afford to buy flour.

John and Alma Regedanz became the parents c six children: Hazel, born in 1893, Freda (Mrs. Georg Smith) born in 1896, Lena (Mrs. John Hensley), bor

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1898, Mabel (Mrs. Raymond Hoenie) born in 01, Florence (Mrs. Robert Luth) born in 1903 and lbert who was born in 1905 and died in 1930. John egedanz's occupation was livestock farming.

Freda Regedanz married George W. Smith in 18. He was the son of William Smith and Etta Fetr Smith. William's father was Lewis Smith who as born in Germany and came to this country at e age of 8. He was a veteran of the Civil War.

In 1939, Freda and George Smith became the owns of the Regedanz homestead which they named rlane Farm. Their children are Margaret, born in 20, who is married to Paul Fahncke, John, born in 29 and Donald, born in 1930.

Margaret and Paul Fahncke live on the Fahncke omestead in Liberty Township. Their children are hn, born in 1959, Joseph, 1960, Charles, 1963 and ra, 1966.

John Smith married Carolyn Brandon and they d 2 sons. Clinton was born in 1956 and Daniel in 58. In 1966, John married Carolyn Sue Adams, the ughter of Bruce and Velma Adams, now deceased. hn and Carolyn have 2 sons: Andrew born in 1971 d Douglas born in 1974.

Donald Smith married Marilyn Lehman in 1957. e is the daughter of Kenneth and Marie Lehman. eir children are Richard born in 1961, James, 61, and Annette, 1964.

George Smith died in 1958. Since that time John d Donald have been partners in farming. In 1959 8 us acres were added to the original 99. In 1977 hn and Don purchased the 108 acre homestead. ey also own 80 acres in Section 32 near where onald and his family live. John and his family live the Regedanz homestead where Freda Smith and r sister Hazel Regedanz also occupy a mobile me. Besides grain farming John and Donald are eeders of registered Holstein cattle. Their herd is own for its high production and they have reived trophies for showing at State and County irs. The children of the last two generations have en 4-H Club members and all the families are ace members of the American Lutheran Church. hn's sons are the fifth generation to have lived on is homestead which has been in the family for er a century. *Freda Smith*

John P. and Bessie A. Smith, 50th Wedding Anniversary, Oct. 31, 1959

THE JOHN PHILIP SMITH FAMILY

John Philip Smith (June 4, 1886-May 13, 1963) and ssie Amelia Eichenauer (April 11, 1890-May 26, 76, daughter of Adam and Anna (Smith) Eicheuer) were married Oct. 31, 1909. They spent most their lives on their 75 acre farm located on what is w Schleucher Rd. in Hopewell Twp. They were tive members of Hope EUB Church on Rte. 118 ar their home. When he was 65 years of age they moved to Celina, where they bought a home at 122 N. LeBlond St. When they moved to town they became active members of the Bethany EUB Church on Walnut St.

John and Bessie had two children: Rev. Leonard Richard Smith (Sept. 28, 1910), and Leanna Mary (Smith) Howick (Mar. 20, 1913). Leonard and his wife Mildred (Stafford) Smith, the daughter of W. Merritt and Iola Jessup Stafford, Carthage, Indiana, met at the Fort Wayne Bible College. After serving the EUB and United Methodist Churches in Michigan and Ohio, Leonard and Mildred have recently retired in Celina at 132 Margo Lane.

Leonard and Mildred have two sons: David L. (born May 26, 1947 in Dodge City, Kansas) who is a School Teacher in Toledo, Ohio. He has a daughter, Rachel Anne (Aug. 29, 1970); and William P. (born Dec. 18, 1950 in Stockbridge, Mich.) who works for a Surgical Supply Corp. in Detroit, Mich. They also had a son, James Lee, who died at birth (Feb. 27, 1948) in Bucklin, Kansas.

Leanna Mary (Smith) Howick was married to Russell L. Howick June 17, 1934. Leanna and Russell have spent most of their married life at 719 E. Market St. in Celina. There Russell became one of the first radio and TV repairmen in the area. Although semi-retired, he still does some repair work in his shop on Market St.

Leanna and Russell raised his nephew, Fredric A. May (born Nov. 3, 1937). Fred and his wife Carolyn are stationed in Germany, where Fred serves in the U.S. Army. They have two daughters, Tina (born Jan. 21, 1966), and Tammy (born Aug. 10, 1969). Fred also has two sons by a previous marriage, David A. May (born Mar. 18, 1957), and Richie L. May (born Dec. 22, 1958).

Leanna and Russell also have a daughter, Janet Ann (Howick) Miller (born Jan. 22, 1945). She is married to Joseph G. Miller and they live at 136 Margo Lane, Celina. Janet and Joseph both graduated from Ohio Northern U. in 1969. Joseph majored in Physica and Janet in Education and Music. Joseph works for the Celina Financial Corp. in the research Dept., and Janet is a Music teacher at the West Elementary School in Celina. The Millers have three children: LeAnne Marie (born April 10, 1965), Joseph Grant III (born Aug. 13, 1971), and Elizabeth Elaine (born Nov. 2, 1972). They as well as Leanna and Russell, Leonard and Mildred, are active members of the Bethany United Methodist Church.

John Philip Smith, subject of this history, was the second child of Philip (April 4, 1858-May, 1944) and Mary (Will) Smith of Hopewell Twp. Other children of Philip and Mary Smith were: 1. Clarence, who married Katie Alt, and had one son, Lloyd married to Mable Williams; 3. Nellie Viola, who married Arthur Freeman, whose children are Mary, married to Leonard Felix Rain; Glen; Chester, married to Bernice Gordon; Gladys, married to Naaman Boyce; Lester, who died in a fire in 1930; and Alvin, married to Doris Dyer; 4. Richard Benjamin, who married Ethel Now, whose children are Dorothy, married to Byron Chapman; Opal married to Willard Hamilton; and Richard B. Jr. married to Louise Marbaugh. Two other sons, Delbert and Daniel died while quite small.

Mary (Will) Smith, mother of John Philip, was the daughter of George and Sarah (Roach) Will. Philip,

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John's father was the son of Philip (Sept. 7, 1818-Feb. 21, 1869) and Elizabeth (Kraft) Smith (Sept. 16, 1825-Oct. 26, 1893) who was the daughter of Ernest and Margaret (Smith) Kraft. The Philip Smith family came from Hessen Dormstat, Germany in 1847 to Sidney, Ohio. The Ernest Kraft family came to the USA from Hessen Dormstat, Germany in July, 1848, after his wife, Margaret, died in April, 1848. Philip Smith and Elizabeth Kraft were married Nov. 3, 1850. Their children were: Elizabeth (July 21, 1851-Oct. 26, 1893) who married Andrew Smith son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Gerlagh) Smith; George (Oct. 28, 1853); Charles (Sept. 8, 1855); Philip (April 4, 1858-May 1944); Henry E. (Sept. 2, 1860); Louisa (Sept. 21, 1864-Oct. 22, 1865); Benjamin (Dec. 3, 1869). *Janet A. Miller*

SMITH

Conrad Smith — came from Germany — date?
Elizabeth Smith Smith — Oct. 26, 1884
- Joseph Conrad Smith — June 8, 1855-June 6, 1926
- Sarah Weil Smith — Apr. 4, 1857-Feb. 2, 1921
  - Walter Smith — July 3, 1879-Mar. 6, 1937
    - Anna Smith Hoel — Sept. 23, 1881-Mar. 6, 1937
    - Charley W. Hoel — July 23, 1871-Mar. 13, 1950
      - Alvera Hoel Arnold — Aug. 29, 1902
      - Hoses E. Arnold — Mar. 4, 1901
        - Gene E. Arnold — June 20, 1923
        - Myrna Nell Moon Arnold, Mar. 15, 1923
          - Lois Jean Arnold — Dec. 21, 1946
          - Eric Widell — Apr. 2
          - Kathy Marie Arnold Gunyou, Dec. 25, 1948
          - John Mark Gunyou, Aug. 21, 1948
          - Ann Elizabeth Arnold Gibson, Nov. 10, 1950
          - Ronald E. Gibson, Dec. 5, 1950
            - Elizabeth Ann Gibson, Aug. 8, 1970
            - Heidi Marie Gibson, July 7, 1971
          - Mitchell Lee Arnold, Oct. 12, 1959
        - Alvin Wm. Arnold, Mar. 25, 1925-Dec. 13, 1977
        - Jeannette Mertz Arnold — Sept. 28, 1926
          - Joyce Jodette Arnold Ockenhouse, Feb. 27, 1955
          - Brian Ockenhouse
          - Kevin Arnold, Sept. 13, 1962
          - Ryan Arnold, Mar. 3, 1965
        - Boyd Edson Arnold, Apr. 17, 1927
        - Betty Jean Rhyne Arnold, Dec. 21, 1934
          - Cheryl Lynne Arnold, Nov. 14, 1958
          - Scott Allen Arnold, Apr. 7, 1964
        - Paul Franklin Arnold, Dec. 10, 1931
        - Edith Odell Beasley, Jan. 22, 1931
          - Timothy Paul Arnold, July 18, 1954
          - Kay Gillespie Arnold, Mar. 10, 1954
          - Daniel Louis Arnold, Aug. 30, 1956
          - Gregory Keith Arnold, July 6, 1959
      - Hosea and Alvera Arnold lost 2 sons at birth.
      - Emma Smith Obrien, 3-5-1883
      - Wm. Obrian Apr. 5, 1881
        - May Obrian Remo, 5-1915
        - Mario Remo, died 12-4-72
        - Foster Obrian, 10-7-13
        - Dorothy McCabe, 8-21-21
        - Pamela Obrian Pottkotter, 6-19-48
        - Tom Pottkotter, 1-1948
          - Peggy Obrian Swaney, 6-52
          - Robert Swaney, 7-19-52
        - Mary 4-20-1917
        - Adam Pickran
      - Nellie Obrian Link, 10-14-19
      - George Link, 2-22-1922
        - Sarah Jane Link, 10-9-1953
        - Paul Joe Link, 4-10-55
        - Lost one child in infancy
    - Mary Smith Holsinger, 11-30-1886
    - John Holsinger
      - 3 boys
      - Kenneth, Mar. 27, 1910 died
      - Lester Holsinger (no dates)
      - Edgar Holsinger — 9 children
      - Rosemary?
    - Ellen Smith Yaney, 10-9-1893-3-11-71
    - Ernest Leroy Yaney, 2-4-1891-6-27-67
      - Deelaura Yaney, 2-2-12-3-4-54
      - Robert Lowell Heindel, 11-3-10
        - Marian Leroy Heindel, 5-15-1935
        - Elnora Jean Heindel, 4-19-37
        - Leo Levi, 9-6-58
          - Jeffery Levi (step son), 9-6-55
          - Dennis Levi, 7-16-56
          - Evelyn Sue Heindel Wilder
          - George Wilder, 12-18-55
            - Ricky Jo Wilder, 5-17-56
            - Samuel Dean Wilder, 3-22-58
            - Roxanne Sue Wilder, 4-26-58
            - Roxanne Sue Wilder, 3-26-62
            - Katrina Lucille Wilder, 3-28-69
            - Deelaure Lynn Wilder, 3-21-71
          - Mark Anthony Heindel
          - Linda Sue Heindel, 31-13-51, d vorced
      - Crystal Marie Yaney Willrath, 11-21-13
      - Edwin Karl Geo. Willrath, 2-5-13-5-1 65
        - Wayne Eugene Willrath, 10-14-47
        - Marsha Colson, 11-11-48
      - Kathryn Annabell Yaney Link, 12-13-1 5-28-77
      - Henry Paul Link, 1-14-1921
        - Larry Lee Link, 2-1-43
        - Janet Ann Link, 11-7-46
        - Sue Ann Link, 7-9-48
        - Paula Mae Link, 11-6-50
      - Sherman Chester Yaney, 1-7-18
      - Wilma Linton Yaney, 7-2-19-12-13-72
      - Robert Dale Yaney, 9-23-19
      - Betty Wyrick Yaney, 10-6-23
        - Roberta Yaney, 1-4-47
        - Carolyn Yaney, 2-29-48
      - Esther May Yaney Gallihugh, 10-5-21
      - Dillon Gallihugh, 1-5-20-1-16-78
        - Rebecca Gallihugh, 5-5-41
        - Nancy Gallihugh, 12-5-42
        - Randy Gallihugh, 3-1-55-10-9-76
        - Charles Wm. Yaney, 12-5-23-10-8-51
        - Marguerite Linton Yaney, 8-10-21
          - Jerry Yaney, 5-12-43
          - Barbara Yaney, 2-28-47
        - Willis Lavern, 4-16-26
        - Kathryn May Casperson Yaney, 5-1 26

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Pamela Kay Yaney, 10-1-64
James Willis Yaney, 6-3-49
Cheryl Ann Yaney, 6-10-56
John Eugene Yaney, 5-10-29
Eileen Loretta Brown Yaney 5-23-29
Linda Ann Yaney, 5-6-49
Diane Rose Yaney, 8-31-50
Doris Marie Yaney, 8-26-52
Janice Kay Yaney, 7-8-56
Richard John, 9-6-58
Brenda Ellen Yaney, 7-6-61
Jolene Angela Yaney, 10-18-62
John Ernest, 4-18-65
Jack Joseph Yaney, 10-6-67
Lowell Lee Yaney, 3-29-32
Gloria Freesh Yaney, date?
Garry Lee Yaney, 5-30-55
Karen Sue Yaney, 10-4-56
Jeff Alan Yaney, 9-1-59
Ralph William Smith, 3-1-1897/3-11-42
Cola Rutledge Smith, 11-10-1894/2-28-72
Hubert Otis Smith, 1-12-1918/3-1970
Opal?
Paul Eugene Smith
Larry Smith
Wayne Smith
Sharon Smith
Dalton Davis Smith, 6-10-21
Margaret Walker Smith
Linda Kay Smith, 11-20-46
Susan Marie Smith, 12-5-48
Michael Davis, 1-11-53
Kathy Jean Smith, 9-13-56
Douglas Wm. Smith, 5-13-59
Randy Dean Smith, 1-14-63
Jill Christine Smith, 4-20-66
Paul Eugene Smith, 2-14-24
Ann Monaham Smith
Paula Ann Smith
Marjorie Marie Smith Brookhart, 6-19-29
W. Merl Brookhart, 9-13-36
Stephen Merl Brookhart, 10-21-51
Bruce Alan Brookhart, 12-20-53
Scott David Brookhart, 7-28-55
Lisa Marie Brookhart, 12-10-59
Stefanie Ann Brookhart, 12-29-69
Ralph William Smith, Jr. 9-10-31
Ruth Vanderhorst Smith
Elaine Kay Smith, 10-29-55
Karen Sue Smith, 1-7-58
David Allan Smith, 1-20-57
Joseph Charleton Smith, 9-15-33
Norma Irene Abel Smith
Leah Irene Smith, 6-14-59
Laura Jo Smith, 6-1-61
Garth Joseph Smith, 6-13-64
Garret Hugh Smith, 3-6-69
Deelaura Smith Rutledge, 3-27-1901
Rev. Otis Eli Rutledge, 11-1-1896

Conrad Smith and Elizabeth came to this country om Germany and settled here. He bought 120 :res which he gave to his son, Joseph Conrad mith. He bought the land from the United States iovernment for $1.00 an acre. It is located about six miles northwest of Celina on the Miller road.

Joseph donated enough land for a school which still stands but hasn't been used for some time and was supposed to go back to his estate when he died. The farm has been sold and the new owner has replaced the old buildings with new. *His granddaughter*

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Weitz

CLARENCE WEITZ

Clarence Weitz, the son of Charles and Katie Hone Weitz, was born in Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio on Jan. 30, 1909. He married Margaret Now on Oct. 4, 1930, the daughter of John H. and Agusta Antoinette (Nettie) Smith Now. She was born Sept. 20, 1909 in Hopewell Township, Mercer County, Ohio.

They are the parents of three children, all born in Liberty Township, namely: Patricia Ann, born June 19, 1932, married Norman Gottschalk of St. Marys, Ohio. They own and operate an egg business near St. Marys, and he is also a substitute mail carrier. They have 2 children, Paula and Bruce, both at home. Clara Virginia, born Oct. 6, 1933, married Lavern Musselman of West Mansfield, Ohio. They live in Xenia, Ohio, and she is an assistant teacher in the retarded school near Xenia. Lavern served 14 years with the Air Force and is now an Electronic Technician at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Fairborn, Ohio. They have 5 children: Paul born in Biloxi, Miss., married to Barbara Jones, they have 1 daughter, April; Daniel and Joanna, both born in Lincoln, Nebraska. Joanna is married to Roger Hollingsworth, they have 1 son, Daniel; Stephen, born in Logansport, Ind., married to Deborah Caudill; and Ruth, born in Stephensville, Newfoundland.

Max Eugene, born Dec. 8, 1935, married to Alice Muhlenkamp, of Celina, Ohio. He served 5 years with the Air Force, and is now Director of Manufacturing with SRL Medical, Inc. near Dayton, Ohio, where they make Stress Testing Equipment and Pulmonary Testing Devices. He is also a Mechanical Engineer on the side. They live in Beavercreek, near Dayton, and have 5 children, Teresa, Joey, Nicholas, Andrew, and Samuel, all born in Dayton, and reside at home.

Mr. Weitz was educated in the Landfair School, a one room school near their home. After his marriage, they lived in Liberty Township and he worked with his father on the farm, both farming and operating the threshing machine for 7 years. Then he and his family moved to the Lafe Now farm near his father-in-law in Hopewell Township, the farm being owned by Mrs. Weitz's brother Herbert. He worked with his father-in-law, farming both the farms where they lived along with other rented land. In Feb. 1947, they purchased the farm from Herbert. In Jan. 1951, he went to work at the Mersman Furniture Factory in Celina along with the farming opera-

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tion. In Feb. 1962, they rented the farm and moved to Celina on East Livingston St., where they now reside. In 1975 they sold the farm to a neighbor. Lafe Now was a grandfather of Mrs. Weitz, and he had purchased the farm in 1872, so the farm had been owned by the Now family over 100 years.

Clarence was raised in the Landfair Methodist Protestant Church. Margaret was a member of the Pleasant View Church of God. After they moved to Hopewell Township, Clarence transferred his membership to the Pleasant View Church near their home, where he became an active member, serving the church in the various offices. He and his wife are charter members of the Hopewell Grange, and members of the Mercer County International Gideons. *Clarence Weitz*

Place your Family History in this Space.

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JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

Jefferson Township is 12 miles long from east to est; the east half of the township has an average idth from north to south of one and a half miles, hile the west half of the township has an average idth from north to south of three miles. It is ounded on the south by the Grand Reservoir and utler Township, on the east by Auglaize County, the north by Hopewell and Center townships and the west by Washington and Liberty townships.

The proceedings of the Board of Commissioners Mercer County on March 5, 1839 would indicate at Jefferson Township was organized at this time. he first election was held in the spring of 1840. The rst settlement of the township was on farms both ist and west of the county seat, Celina. Of the early ttlers of the county and of Jefferson township, we nd that Robert Linzee moved from Athens County, hio in the fall of 1832 and located on a farm east of elina on the north bank of the Grand Reservoir, alough at that time the reservoir was not built and othing in the shape of a road existed save the trails ade by the Indians. Mr. Linzee located his son anklin on a farm later known as the Huston farm, d on what is known as the Stearns farm he located is nephew, Robert Linzee, Jr. In his lifetime, Mr. nzee gave the school district land, the deed for hich is in his own handwriting, specifying the fact at it was to be used for that purpose "as long as ater runs and wood grows". A young man by the ame of Wesley Herbert was the first teacher emloyed in the first log schoolhouse built in Jefferson ownship.

Jefferson township contains 16,526 acres of land. he present appraised value of the lands and buildgs of the township, outside Celina corporation, is 57,204,077. The farm buildings of today are of subantial make, constructed on modern and up-toate plans. The farm land is well tilled. The soil is ell adapted to raising corn, soybeans, wheat and egetables in abundance.

Jefferson Township has within its road system 34 iles of road. Beginning in 1940 the township roads ere converted from mud and stone roads to hard rface roads, the last mud road being surfaced in 946.

Part of the 34 miles consists of streets located in ural sub-divisions within East and West Jefferson ownship. During the "Great Blizzard of 1978", the ustees provided adequate snow removal for the oads and streets with township equipment and asistance from private contractors.

The first divided four-lane highway in Mercer ounty is located in East Jefferson Township being ast Route 29 linking with Route 703 and extending o Interstate 75. Old Route 29 is now State Route 03.

The Trustees, on October 28, 1962, passed a resoution authorizing the Board of County Commissioners and the City of Celina, Mercer County, Ohio, both acting on behalf of the East Jefferson ewer District in Jefferson Township, to construct nd use water and sanitary mains and laterals upon he right of way of township roads within the district. The installation of the water and sewer lines nabled more expansion and development of residential homes in the rural areas of East and West Jefferson Township. The water and sewer lines extended to the present sight of Wright State College, located on State Route 703.

The Gallman Sub-Division, platted by L.R. Gallman, and Menchhofer Woods Sub-Division, platted by Orland Menchhofer, were developed and many new residential homes constructed. The Jefferson Township Trustees contracts with the City of Celina for fire protection for all the residents of Jefferson Township.

Jefferson Township has numerous industrial and commercial businesses. One of the larger industrial business being Pax Machine Works located on Monroe Road in West Jefferson Township.

Upon receiving a petition from the residents of East Jefferson Township, the Township Trustees recommended to the Mercer County Commissioners that zoning for East Jefferson Township be placed on the ballot. In 1972, by vote of the residents, East Jefferson Township was zoned. The Mercer County Commissioners then appointed the first East Jefferson Zoning Board of Appeals, the members were, Mrs. Betty Scott, Mr. Gene Riesen, Mr. Donald Huser, Mr. Jonny Dicke and Mr. Thomas E. Green.

On April 29, 1974, the Jefferson Township Trustees accepted an Emergency Ambulance Service contract between the Board of Mercer County Commissioners and the City of Celina. This Emergency Ambulance Service has since become a county wide service.

Petrie, Oldtown and Swamp College Cemeteries are located in Jefferson Township. Petrie and Oldtown Cemeteries are inactive cemeteries. In 1977 the Mead cemetery was studied, about 40 rods west of the Mercer County Home Buildings and is on the list of inactive cemeteries in Jefferson Township.

Swamp College Cemetery located on Karch Road is the only public owned Cemetery in Jefferson Township that is currently used. Swamp College Cemetery is located on both the east and west side of Karch Road. The East side was used for burial until recent years when it was necessary to make available additional burial sites which are located on the west side of Karch Road.

The present officers of Jefferson township are as follows: Trustees — David E. Pax, John H. Zumberge, Wilfred Albers; Clerk, Maxine M. Green. *By Maxine M. Green*

West Shore, Grand Reservoir, Celina, 1940's.

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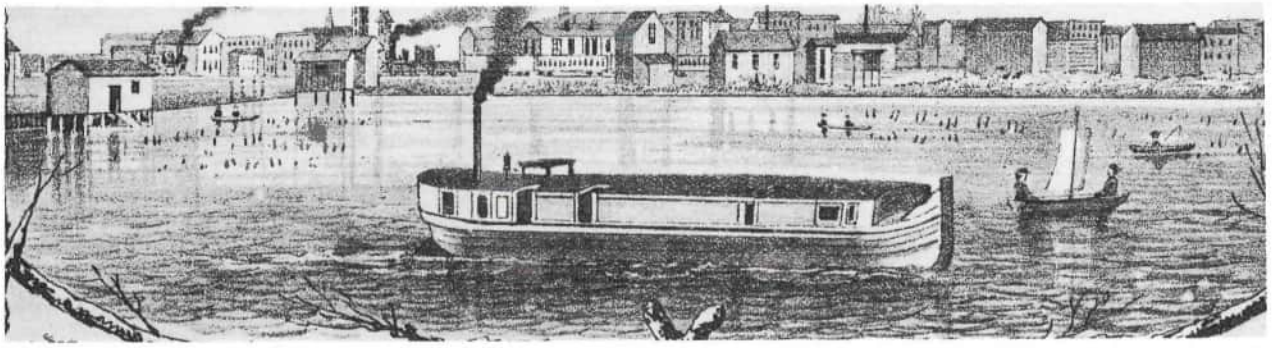

Celina from the Reservoir; canal boat in foreground; c. 1882

GRAND LAKE ST. MARYS

Grand Lake St. Marys is an artificial or man-made body of water. Approximately ⅓ of the water area lies in Auglaize County and the remainder in east central Mercer County. It is bounded on the north by Jefferson Township, on the south by Franklin Twp., on the west by Butler Twp. and on the east by Auglaize County.

The original purpose of Grand Lake was to store and supply the water necessary to keep the Miami and Erie Canal at the level needed for navigation.

Upon examination of the territory, it was decided that this area would be most suitable for the construction of such a reservoir. A glacier had formed a groove or dip across mid county, making a natural low area — ideal for the needed water storage. The north side shoreline was considerably higher, which prevented overflow to the north. Although the south side elevation was less than the north, it was still adequate to contain water, except during spring high water periods.

Thus it was necessary for the state to build levees or embankments on the east and west sides only. A Bulkhead on the east bank would be joined to the Miami and Erie Canal by a feeder canal.

Sources of water for the lake were the following: Coldwater Creek, Big Beaver Creek (Montezuma Creek), the Big and Little Chickasaw Creeks and several smaller inlets on the south side. There were no inlets or creeks on the other three sides.

In 1830 Mr. Mitchell, an engineer, ran the first line around the reservoir. Samuel Farrer, commissioner, reported to the General Assembly, after an examination of the banks, that the cost would be about $90,000.

In 1837 a line was again run by Messrs. Barney and Farrer, compassing a circumference of 18,000 acres. This area was a vast expanse of swampy land — a wet prairie (known as Beaver Prairie) with tall grasses and the accumulations of growth of years of decayed grasses, leaves and fallen timber. More than half the area was covered with many thousands of virgin trees: walnut, hickory, oak, beech, sycamore and many others. It was originally planned to girdle and then remove this timber before letting the water backup, but the cost became so excessive that most were left standing.

Work began on the lake in 1837. Approximately 1700 men were employed in constructing the ea and west banks. Most of those employed were Ge man and Irish immigrants. The Irish were escapir the Potato Famine. They worked from sunrise t sunset. Wages amounted to 30¢ a day plus a jigg of whiskey (which was considered necessary to wa off malaria and a help to boost morale).

The men dug the dirt for these embankments b hand. They carted and wheeled it either by whee barrow or by specially constructed one horse cart which when a pin was pulled, the dirt was dumped

Houses built of logs were erected for the laborer One stands yet today, the Mathias Smith Tavern, a authentic log house of 1840. It is located at th North Shore Park on S. Main St., Celina, Ohio. has an unusual construction. All the logs are mo ticed and tenoned and held in place with larg wooden pegs — not the ordinary type of notche cross log corners.

It was restored and moved to its present locatic through the efforts of the Celina Jaycees.

For nearly three years all was properly conducte until the State and banks failed to maintain the credit.

Their notes and bonds depreciated to such a "m inous percent" that the workers were cheated out half their earnings.

In 1843 the West Bank was completed, backing u a lake about half the size of the finished reservoi The water filled in at the upper end to the depth several feet but as the ground rose gradually to th east, it overflowed for several miles to a depth of few inches only.

About 150 inhabitants feared that this shallo water, exposed to the rays of the sun, would, if a lowed to stand, produce disease. So with spades an shovels, they made a passage for the water throug the embankment. It cost the state several thousanc of dollars to repair this break.

$20,000 had been secured from the State to com pensate for the removal of timber and loss of crop of those early pioneers who had settled along th north and south banks of the reservoir. This mone was squandered by state officials and land specula tors. When the water was let in, there was nothin left to pay the land owners.

A meeting was called in Celina on May 3, 1843 t decide what course of action the citizens shoul take. Benjamin Linzee was elected to go to Piqu the head of the Board of Public Works, and lay the

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ievances before them.

He returned to Celina with Messrs. Spencer and amsey's answer, "Help yourselves if you can."

Another meeting was held on May 12. It resulted Mr. Linzee's return to Piqua with the answer, that they did not pay for the land and let off the water, ley would cut the bank on the 15th.

The reply came back, "The Piqua guards will be ith you and rout you on that day."

When the people heard this response, their anger id excitement mounted.

On the morning of the 15th, more than 100 citi-ns gathered with their shovels and spades. They et at the strongest place on the Bank, in the old eaver channel. Their object was not to damage the ate, and the dirt was wheeled back on the bank on ich side.

One day and a half later, a cut was completed six et below the level of the water, and a flimsy reastwork was the only thing holding back the ater.

"Who will start the Water?" asked Samuel Ruck-an.

"I," said John Sunday. "I," said Henry Linzee; in a oment the waters were rushing down 50 yards be-w the bank. It was six weeks before the water sub-ded.

When the Board of Public Works heard about iis, warrants were issued for the arrests of all who ad participated. Thirty-four of the leaders, includ-g all the county officers, judges, sheriffs, clerks, iditor, treasurer, deputy treasurer, recorder and irveyor, with merchants, farmers and private citi-ns were arrested and bound over to the next term court.

The grand jury refused to find a bill of misdemea-or, and so the matter ended.

It cost the State $17,000 and some red faces to re-air the damages.

Construction of the lake was completed in 1845 at total cost of about $600,000. The lake was approxi-ately nine miles long and three miles wide and ad 52 miles of shoreline. It covered 17,500 acres at average depth of 10 feet. Today due to erosion it ow covers 19,000 acres and 10 feet is its maximum epth.

The completion of the Canal and Reservoir had a reat effect on freight charges. Rates dropped from 1.00 for hauling a bushel of wheat 100 miles to 15¢ r hauling a ton of wheat 100 miles.

Once the feeder canal was completed, Celina had cess to both the Cincinnati and the Toledo mar-ets. Boats from either city could travel via the canal the feeder to the East Bank Bulkhead to the lake across to Celina; where they would deposit pas-ngers and cargo before loading on Celina's goods r the return trip.

These canal boats were some 80 feet long and 14 15 feet wide. They were equipped with a steering idder, a captain, mules, a cook and a roustabout or vo. The boats were moved across the lake by set-ng a long pole at one end on the boat and then, by ushing, the man would walk the length of the boat ius moving it the length of itself. These poles were ften worked down to a satin smoothness.

The flat bottomed canal boats were soon aided by nall steam boats. The steamers were used to do the owing. They were also used to give local citizens leasure cruises on the lake.

In the early days of the lake, the water was cool and clear and was often used for drinking by the hunters and fishermen who worked and played there.

Waves were not a problem then. The moss and thousands of stumps and logs were able to keep this under control.

Commercial benefits of the lake included the Ice Industry in the winter months and the Commercial Fishing Industry during the rest of the year. The Western Standard reported on May 10, 1855, that two or three men with a seine could catch as many catfish as a team could haul in half as many hours — yet this didn't seem to diminish the quantity of fish still in the lake.

The fish were choice bass, sunfish, catfish, perch and pike. They were packed in ice and shipped to such markets as New York, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Dayton. Frogs were also shipped along with the fish.

Commercial fishing was dealt a death blow when state laws were passed in 1884 to prevent the taking of fish in inland waters by means other than a hook and line.

Another factor that contributed to the end of commercial fishing in Grand Lake was the Drought Period between 1890-1900. Due to the low water, there was a great loss of fish. Heavy ice during this period was also responsible for the loss of a tremendous amount of fish.

It was reported that the water level was so low that Edward Frey waded across the lake in hip boots, from Villa Nova on the north side to the south side.

Hundreds of acres of corn were raised on the exposed lake bed and thousands of feet of timber were removed at this time also.

Another short-lived, but important commercial venture of the lake was the discovery that it was on the fringe of the Findlay and Lima oil fields. Between 200 and 300 wells were drilled. They produced hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil.

At night, the burning gas from the derricks lighted up the roadway along the eastern shore.

As the oil supply was exhausted, the wells were abandoned. Most of them were pulled but not capped when production ceased. Wastes were allowed to spill into the lake. This pollution had a bad effect on the vegetation and fish life.

Today only one derrick remains. It serves as a refuge for boaters in stormy weather and is a favorite fishing spot in hot weather when fish move to deeper waters.

The coming of the railroad in the late 1800's affected the lake in two ways. The most important was that it made the Miami and Erie Canal's importance as a trade route a thing of the past. This in turn changed the main role of the lake from that of a source of water for the canal to that of a source of recreation for the public.

The second effect of the railroad was that it brought great numbers of sportsmen to this area. Hunting and fishing lodges, complete with professional guides, were established around the lake. (Until about 1890, 75% of the shoreline was timber covered.) Large parties constituting excursions from all parts of the middle west came to visit during the summer and during the hunting season. Many were just sightseers who had come to see the world's largest artificial body of water.

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Lake Mercer by Moonlight (c. 1890's)

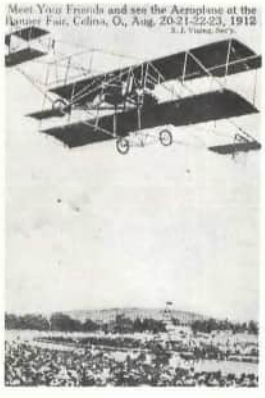
These vacationers would sometimes take a shuttle boat out to an island in the lake. They could picnic or party, hunt or fish. It is reported one island was a resort complete with "gambling, liquor and rouge-cheeked girls".

Today Safety Island remains as a haven during turbulent weather. It is vacant except for rats and an occasional hunter.

In 1915 an Act was passed by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio. It stated that this body of water and adjacent lands owned by the State were to be dedicated and set apart forever for the use of the public, as public parks or pleasure resorts.

The name Lake St. Mary's was also introduced at this time as per the Revised Code Section 1541.06. This was not a popular name with the people of Celina. Eventually a compromise was reached and the Ohio Legislature changed the name on maps to read Grand Lake St. Marys. Since its beginning, this body of water has been known by such various names as: the Grand Reservoir, Lake Mercer, Lake Celina, Grand Lake and finally Grand Lake St. Marys.

Since the Act of 1915, the State of Ohio has spent thousands of dollars in the development of state parks.



Private investors have spent many more thousands to provide for amusement and relaxation. In a booklet titled: "Celina on the Grand Reservoir" the Play Ground of Ohio, the following resorts and parks were mentioned: Mercelina Park, Pullman Bay Park, Edgewater Park and Edgewater Park Gardens (included an amusement center, dance pavillion and board walk along the water's edge), Harbor Point, Highland Park, Lakeland Beach, Sandy Beach, Northwood, Ballinger Park, and Windy Point.

In 1930 the Lake was transferred from the Dept. of Public Works to the Dept. of Conservation for recreational purposes.

The newly created Div. of Parks assumed contr of the area in 1950. They have maintained parks an picnic areas for public use. Two large dredges hav been put to use in dredging and cleaning the chan nels of the estimated 5 tons of sediment that are de posited per acre per year into the lake.

A Lake Patrol Service has been maintained to en sure the safety of those using its facilities. Becaus of the shallowness of the water and also because th length of the lake is in the direction of the prevailin winds, the water can get exceptionally rough an dangerous during stormy weather.

In earlier days, the Lighthouse located at North wood, operated under a government license durin the months from April 1 to November 1. Now th Eddystone lighthouse copy is just a monument t the original English Channel Beacon.

Grand Lake St. Marys today is still a valuable as set to the communities surrounding it. The water used by Celina and St. Marys' municipalities and in dustries.

This area stands as an oasis of bird life in centra western Ohio. The Mercer County Waterfowl Re uge, located on the SW corner of the lake, provide for acres of unmolested territory and it also has winter feeding program.

Recreation is still its most important use. Boatin has always been a popular pastime. There are wel marked channels for boaters and there are spee and ski lanes that go from one end of the lake to th other with leads to channel landings.

The month of July around Grand Lake is noted fo the Celina Lake Festival. It is a time when the com munity gets together for a parade, a queer crowning, sidewalk sales, street dances, firework over-the-lake and boat races.

When all this hustle and bustle is over, the Gran is still there for the fishermen in the spring, th swimmers in the summer, the duck hunters in th fall and the ice skaters and snow mobilers in th winter. *by Carolann Kincaid Thees*

Boating on Coldwater Creek Grand Lake St. Marys. **L. to R Front seat:** Annamary Imel Larry Imel. **Back seat:** Delo Imel, Cindy Black.

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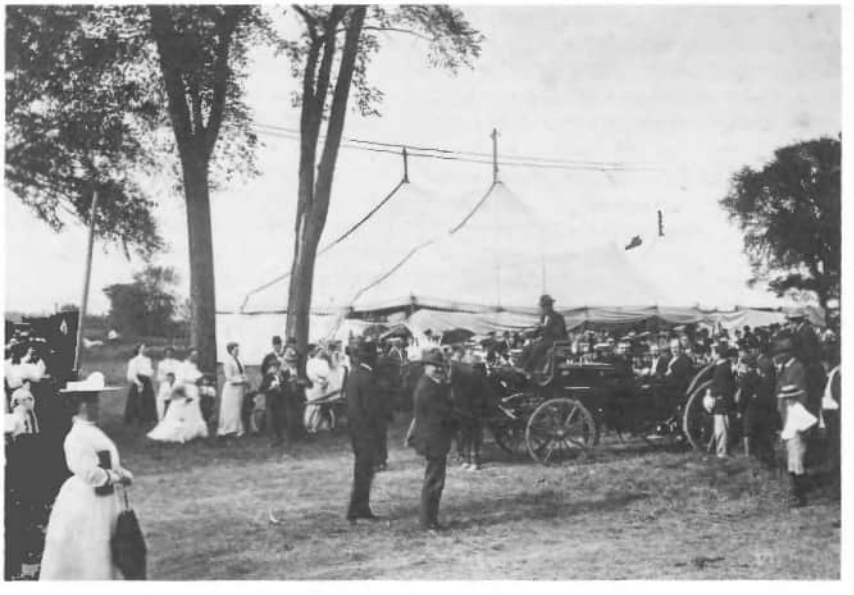
Celina Bar, c. 1900 — **Top Row:** John Schlosser, Frank Short, Byron Clendening, United States Representative Francis C. LeBlond, Charles LeBlond, James G. Loughridge, Robert Mattingly. **Center Row:** Chris Miller, State Senator James D. Johnson, Honorable John T. Kenney, State Senator Thomas J. Godfrey, Probate Judge Charles Younger, Steven Armstrong, Edgar Bryson, William E. TouVelle. **Bottom Row:** Henry Miller Judge of Court of Common Pleas, Archelaus D. Marsh, John Loree, John Kramer, Patrick E. Kenney, James H. Day Judge of Court of Common Pleas, Israel F. Raudabaugh.



CHATAUQUA

Seated in the horse drawn cab is William Jennings ryan, preparing to depart after his oration, accom- anied by Mayor Patrick E. Kenney and Senator ames D. Johnson. The lake and canvas roof of the utdoor auditorium with lingering attendants form he background. Noticeable are the women's long ull skirts and tight bodices, the children's black tockings and the many hats.

The Celina-Mercer County Chatauqua may well e regarded as the most momentous communal, cul- ural effort made in this part of the state. Conducted or two weeks of each summer during the years 1905 to 1909 and in 1911, 1912, and 1914, it was held in a large, outdoor auditorium arranged in Mercelina Park. It consisted of a series of entertainment in the form of lectures, concerts, and various activities, and was notable for the celebrated character of the talent — persons politically prominent, nationally and internationally; leaders in religious thought and in philosophy, and performers expert in the arts. As an added feature, it was valuable in the contacts made and in the mingling of the many people in a common, enjoyable experience, with the gracious memory, left, to be cherished throughout the coming years. *by Claudia Kenney*

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CELINA
1834-1920

Celina, located in Jefferson Township, is the county seat of Mercer County. It was founded in 1834. Four men — Peter Aughenbaugh, Rufus Stearnes, James Watson Riley, and Robert Linzee, 2nd — entered into an agreement on August 25, 1834. Each was to pay in $100 for the purchase of land in the center of Mercer County to establish a town named Celina. This agreement was entered for record on September 8, 1834. When all the costs were totaled, each man actually paid in $117.29.

Included in the agreement were the following donations: 3 lots for Church use only, 2 lots for school use only and 3 acres of land near the town for use as a cemetery.

J. W. Riley, as deputy surveyor, laid out the town. Recalling the teamsters, who, when bogged in the mud on the narrow eastern city streets, beat and shot each other, as their wagons collided, Mr. Riley measured Celina's streets in rods rather than feet; making Celina's main streets wider than most small towns. Because of an error in platting the out lots, a corrected survey was entered for record in October, 1840.

The name Celina was derived from Salina, Onondaga County, New York. Mr. Riley, while on a trip to New York to have maps of the new town lithographed, stopped at Salina. He noted the similarities of the two towns. The surface of each was level and both were situated at the head of a lake — one a natural lake (Lake Onondaga) and the other an artificial lake (Grand Lake). To avoid confusion at the post offices, he changed the orthography.

At that time, Celina consisted of one sawmill; which had been built near the lake for the purpose of providing lumber for the construction of the embankment, only one store; owned by Mr. Riley, which also housed the clerk's office, and two hotels. One was owned by Mr. Simmons and the other was owned by Franklin Linzee. The residents at that time numbered about 15 families.

The settlement was situated among the tall, virgin trees of the forests. The only roads were those trails made by the Indians. The trees were so dense that the sun could not reach the land to dry up the knee-deep mud and water that stood everywhere.

To solve this problem, a Chopping Bee was held on November 18, 1840. Over 70 of the finest woodsmen answered an invitation to help clear Celina of its trees. The entire day was spent working in squads of 15 to 20 men, felling the giant trees. They started at the corner of Buckeye and Market Streets and working westward, cleared all timber south of Market to the west line of the town plat. (The public square, containing 5 acres of heavily timbered land, was cleared during the following year.) With their task accomplished, the workers enjoyed a grand supper and a dance which lasted till the next morning. It is reported there were no injuries and no confrontations. A full and enriching day was had by all.

The small settlement now began to grow into a town. The sun dried up the mud and water, and in the spring, grass sprouted everywhere. Because it was more centrally located, the county seat was moved from St. Marys to Celina in 1840. A court house was built in 1841 and completed in time fc the spring term of court to be held there. Two bric buildings were also erected at this time — one b Mr. Beach and one by Mr. Benjamin Linzee.

Another factor which contributed to Celina' growth was the construction of the Grand Reservoi as it was called then. Many Irish and German imm grants came to work on the Lake and the Miami – Erie Canal. After their work was completed, they de cided to settle in this area.

The population of Celina in 1850 was 222. In cluded in this number were 5 doctors.

According to the Western Standard, Celina's firs newspaper, established in 1848 by Mr. Barringto and Mr. Hunter, the first County Fair was held o October 28, 1852. Much of the newspaper date from April 22, 1852, to July 8, 1852, was devoted t publishing the Laws of Ohio. The editors felt it wa their duty to inform the people about their govern ment.

Operating a newspaper in those days had it problems too. In January of 1856, the weather was s cold (-20) that the paper had to be thawed before i could be printed. The Western Standard, at thi time, was being published by the Snyder Bros.

By the end of 1850's, Celina's businesses includec John M. Hayes' Fashionable Taylor Shop, Mrs. M. E Haller's Ambrotype Gallery, Lehmkuhl & Bros. Gro cery, the Celina Planing Shop owned by James W Carlin and John Castleman, G. & F. C. LeBlond' Mill, Celina Stove & Tin Store, operated by G. E Wilson, Abner Davis Grocery, and the Thompson & Morford Grocery. Mr. Jacob Broadwell and A. J. Lin zee established a Land Agency business in conjunc tion with their drug store. There was a Boot an Shoe Shop owned by William Roether & Jame Watson Riley, Jr., and the Michael Kuntz Barbe Shop. Two local nurseries were also established, on owned by J. Broadwell, Esq. and one by Danie Brookhart located five miles north of Celina. Resi dents also had several lawyers available to assis when needed.

The people of Celina could join various organiza tions at this time also. There was the Lyceum Soci ety, J. B. Werts, President; the Celina Literary Asso ciation, the Agricultural Society, and variou political clubs. (Mercer County was a Democrati stronghold in Ohio during this period). There was new Masonic Hall, located at the LeBlond House completed in 1858. The men could join the Celin Guards, an independent military company, organ ized in 1857, with H. L. Johnston, President and A. F J. Snyder, Secretary. There were also religious affili ated organizations. One was called the Merce County Bible Society, William Hunter, President. A Bible in every home was one of their goals. A Teach ers' Association was organized in February, 1855 with Wm. L. Blocher as President.

On February 15, 1857, Celina's old school hous fell down. Because it was Sunday, there were no in juries. Until the fall of 1859, school was taught ir various buildings, chiefly, in the old Presbyterian Church on E. Fayette St. The school employed tw teachers during the winter season and one teacher ir the spring. In 1859, a four room brick school wa built on the west side of town. In order for the par ents to know what their children and teachers wer doing, school exhibitions were held regularly.

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Although things seemed to be prospering, there ıs a prediction made by Messrs. Abraham Flavell d J. Decker and printed in the newspaper on Feb-ary 10, 1859, that the "END OF THE WORLD" ›uld come during Passover that year.

Celina had grown enough to be incorporated as a lage on June 2, 1860. Its population then was 307. '. Joseph N. Hetzler was elected as the first mayor 1861.

During the 1860's the newspaper reported out-eaks of measles, diphtheria, and small pox. It pub-hed the supposed cures and preventions of the y for these diseases.

Correspondence from Celina's Civil War soldiers ere printed during the war years. Requests for ırm scarves and gloves, woolen socks and letters ›m home were often included in these letters. Re-ırts on conditions and accounts of battles were ven. Mercer County sent enough men (about 450) form four companies to assist in the Northern use.

1867 was a year of growth. The town acquired ›out 30 new buildings and a Baseball Team — the elina Forrest Ball Club. The cornerstone for the w court house was laid in September, 1867. It was mpleted in April, 1869, at a cost of $43,773.51. It ıs a 2-story brick building with one main tower, 4-›ries high and a smaller tower, 3-stories high. The ıilder was M. P. Guffey.

Celina extended its Corporation limits in early 70. Other improvements and growth during the 70's included: the first bank, the Citizens Bank of elina, established on May 1, 1873, the Commercial ınking Co. (1874), an eight room addition to the wn's west school house made it a 3-story building, ıd a new jail and sheriff's residence was built in 75. Street lights were installed in 1879. They con-sted of 17 coal oil lamps.

The town council funded the grading of Celina's reets with gravel. During these early years, the wn was plagued with deep mud after the rains, ep ruts after a freeze (On Dec. 12, 1872, the temp-ature was -21) and poor sanitation during the hot ımmer months (On July 18, 1872, the temperature as 124.) Reminders were published in the newspa-r to keep alley ways and streets free of garbage in der to help prevent the spread of disease.

Travel was quite difficult to say the least. It was ported that a trip made in December of 1875, from elina to St. Marys, via plankroad, took 4 hours. he coming of the railroads in the late 1870's ıanged this. Not only did it make travel more pos-ble and pleasurable, it also opened up the com-ercial markets into and from Celina. The Miami — ie Canal, the first important means of transporta-›n, now gave way to the railroads. The three rail-›ad companies that passed through Celina were the ake Erie & Western, the Cincinnati Northern, and ıe Cincinnati, Dayton & Hamilton railway.

Population was also influenced by the advent of ıe railroads. The 1880 census for Celina gave its ›pulation as 1,346.

Oil and gas wells made their appearance in the te 1880's. The first gas wells in Celina were drilled 1888. The Celina Gas Co., formed by local citi-ens, installed a gas plant in town and furnished the cal homes with fuel and light for a number of ears. They offered cheap gas to homes and free gas to factories. An Ordinance was passed in July, 1888 to contract for the supply of natural gas to encourage manufacturers to locate in Celina. Franklin Township, southeast of Celina, was the chief source of this gas supply. Later a second plant was formed by local people. When the field was depleted, both plants were sold at a sacrifice.

The oil industry followed the finding of gas. By the turn of the century, 2,700 wells had been drilled in Mercer County. The field had reached its peak by 1900 and the production followed its course to the end of a prosperous era for the local residents.

In 1890, the Town Hall or City Building was constructed at a cost of approximately $20,000. A portion of this building was used as a City Opera House, seating 500 people. Traveling theatre groups as well as local talent provided entertainment for Celina and its surrounding areas.

A terrible disaster struck on July 26, 1894. The Great Fire destroyed the heart of Celina's business section. The exact cause unknown, it started during the night in a hay filled barn, located at the present site of McKirnan Bros. An entire block — the area bordered by Main, Fayette, Market and Walnut Streets — was destroyed. Most of the buildings were wood frame constructions with wooden shingled roofs. The Celina Fire Dept. consisted of Chief Leifeld, his volunteer crew, a hand pumper, hose cart and a bucket brigade. Van Wert and Lima Fire Departments, with their steam pumpers, arrived by railroad. When the fire cisterns were pumped dry (the fire was preceded by a drought period), hoses were stretched to the Reservoir and lake water was pumped to fight the flames. Some of the contents of the buildings were carried into the streets. There were reports of theft and looting. The only injury reported was when a man jumped from a 2nd story window and hurt his leg.

Although the fire was indeed a tragic event, Celina learned and grew from the experience. On August 29, 1894, the town council passed Ordinance # 131. This provided for the Issue and Sale of $50,-000 worth of Bonds of the Village. The money was used to purchase a Fire engine, hose and other fire fighting apparatus, and for the erecting and purchasing of a water works and water supplying system to the corporation and its inhabitants.

The ruins of the fire were replaced with more substantial, brick buildings; thus improving and aiding in the growth of the town. The water works building was erected in 1895 at the north end of Celina. Drilled wells were the source of the water supply. In 1900 an electric light plant was installed in the same building at a cost of $50,000.

Scene after 1894 fire; west side of Main Street, from Fayette to Market looking north on Main Street. (Old Court House in background and County Jail to the north of the Court House)

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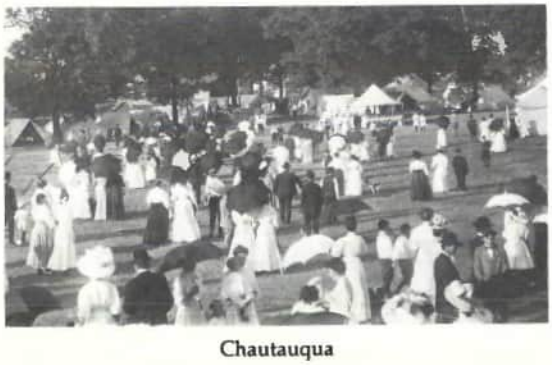
The 1900 census shows Celina's population to be 2,815. Along with the population the industrial expansion began at this time. Some of the businesses established at about this time were: Mersman Bros.-Brandts Co., furniture factory, William Cron's carriage factory, Ames Bending Co., Crampton Canning (vegetables), A.B. Grothjan (Blacksmithing), John Leifeld's carriages and buggies. Other industries included Krenning Woolen Mills, Celina Mach. Works, A. Wykoff & Sons (carriage), W. B. Nimmons (barrel heads).

Other improvements made were brick paved streets; with W. Fayette St. being first in 1902, Livingston St. in 1903, and Main St. in 1905. Celina's home mail delivery began in 1908, and the Public Library formally opened on Jan. 1, 1907.

The Western Ohio Electric Railway extended its line to Celina, connecting it to Lima. Trolleys left town almost hourly for Lima. This business thrived for about 25 years. Then automobiles became numerous. Celina's first concrete highway was built in 1912 — State Road 566. It was what is now known as West Bank Road. It was two miles in length and 10 feet wide. Automobiles also brought new businesses to town. Garages (Lake View Garage), service stations and car dealerships (The Fuhren Bros. Co.) came into being.

In the summer of 1905, the Celina Chautauqua Assembly held its first session. It was held at the site of the old Fair Grounds, located on the north shore of the Reservoir. Due to the huge success of the first season, an auditorium was built to accommodate the large number of interested people. Some of the best talent in the land was scheduled for appearances. It was under the leadership of Milton I. Brown of Cincinnati, John E. Hamburger and Ira Crampton of Celina.



Chautauqua

As the world became involved in World War I, did Celina, Ohio. It is thought that in excess of 9 men served from this County.

An airfield and flying school was located fi miles north of Celina on U.S. Route 127. Large nur bers of pilots trained there. The majority wl trained there were Canadian and other foreign-bo men.

This was a very difficult time for the people this area. Many of Mercer County's and Celina's c izens were from Germany. They still had paren brothers, sisters and friends living there. For th reason, people were suspicious of each other — n knowing where their neighbors' true loyalties lay. was during this period, in area schools and churche that the German language and German texts we replaced with English. Some of the German-bo citizens even went so far as to change the spelling their last name; to prove they were loyal American

When the war ended, Celina, like the rest of th world, returned to the business of developing ar improving its community. *by Carolann Thees*

Celina Band

The Celina band photo was given by Mrs. Ca Hamilton, of Dayton, Ohio and had belonged to h Father, a former Celina resident.

The young man with the snare drum was Urba Hinders, an Uncle of Atty. John Hinders. It is know that the Roesner and Zender brothers were all mem bers of this Band. Jerome Roesner is the other drum mer, while his brother is the first one to the left i the second row. Jerome Roesner was the father Richard Roesner, a Celina resident. Frank Zender thought to be the last one to the right in the top rov while his brother Andy is the second one to the le in the second row. Frank Zender was the father Mrs. Francis Smith, and Thomas Zender, Asst. Pos master of Celina. Before construction of the ne County Jail and Courthouse, both the old red bric jail and court house faced on Main Street, while th rest of the square was made into a park with plent of shade trees and some benches here and ther The band stand was in the middle of the shade park area, and drew large crowds on band conce nights, however, it is not known if the persons mer tioned above were members of the Celina band this time.

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CELINA 75 YEARS AGO DESCRIBED BY WASHINGTON MAN

POETICAL HISTORY WRITTEN BY WALTER McMURRAY

Mr. McMurray Left Here As A Boy Three-Quarters Of A Century Ago — Is Now Blind, But Able To Write

Walter McMurray, as a boy of 10, left Celina 75 ears ago. He now lives in Zillah, Washington.

He has written his memories of the town three-uarters of a century ago in poetry.

Mr. McMurray was the son of William McMurray id Amelia Riley McMurray.

William McMurray was a captain in the Union valry during the Civil War. In 1863 he was cap-red by Confederates.

He was last heard of in Libby Prison, deep in the onfederacy. Probably his body lies in some un-arked grave near the old prison.

A monument to his memory now stands in North rove cemetery, at the grave of his wife.

His son Walter, the author of the poem printed elow, is now blind. He writes by means of a me-anical device which spaces his lines.

"MEMORIES OF CELINA"

By W. R. McMurray

am thinking of my boyhood days
nd of the place where I was found,
'was a little country village
Vith dense forests all around.
he people there were humble folks
lad not much of this world's goods,
Volves, deer, black bear and turkeys
ambled freely through the woods.

Ve ate lots of fish and water fowls
nd lye hominy made of corn
nd buckwheat cakes and honey
n this land where I was born.
hose pioneers were honest folks
ach as good as virgin gold,
Vhen I was born in Celina
he town was but eighteen years old.

here were no brick, concrete or gravel
hen upon that village street,
leither was there on the sidewalks
Ve thought plank walks were hard to beat.
lo railroads or interurban
o add to our lives a joy
)ccasionally a canal boat
ame across the reservoir.

remember the first canal boat
hat ever came across by steam.
Vhen the people heard the whistle
heir excitement was extreme.
hey rushed down to the landing
Vonder written on each face
o see just what had happened
nd learn what was taking place.

kating, hunting, fishing, swimming
n that grand old reservoir
Vas a real inspiration
To most any normal boy.
Oh, that sandy bottom swimming hole
With both men and boys alive
And the dandy great big spring board
Off of which we used to dive.

I remember the big frame courthouse
Such today would be a joke.
The county jail across the street
Went up in a cloud of smoke.
I do not think we had a bank
We had no need for banker's docket
Every man was his own banker
And his bank was in his pocket.

I saw them build two churches there
In which the people worshipped God
And thanked Him for food and raiment
And that He smoothed the path they trod.
Thanked Him for hope and courage
To sustain them on their way
And for loved ones, friends and neighbors
And grace sufficient for their day.

Uncles Calvin and James Riley
Then the millers of the town,
Of good grain made meal and flour
On mill stones that spun round and round.
They sawed lumber for the builders
In the village and country round,
'Twas before the days of buzz saws —
Their saw ran only up and down.

Dave Overley, the village smith
How he made his anvil ring,
And Mr. Charles Gillispie
Drew horse hair on his fiddle string.
Mr. Wyckoff made our wagons
In that good old wagon style,
And John Hole through his big whiskers
Would greet me with kind word and smile.

There was Uncle Oliver Ellis
Landlord of our town hotel,
Congenial and generous
And he served his patrons well.
Celina had her own Dutch Henry
A fixture we could not do without,
He sold both fruit and vegetables,
Ginger cakes and sauerkraut.

I think one doctor's name was Finley,
When he was sober, he was sane,
To take his nasty bitter powders
Would make most any man profane.
And we had a Dr. Hetsler
Who dealt in bitter powders too,
We had our choice to die or take them
For there was nothing else to do.

There was Judge Broadwell and Judge Bleucher
Both men of sterling worth,
Dr. Davidson, the merchant
Sold nigh everything on earth,
When his store was overflowing
And would not hold anymore,
He stood the bamboo fishing poles
On the sidewalk near the door.

My father and my Uncle James
Both went away to war,
Which is a thing I do detest,

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The very name I do abhor.
Uncle James came home a cripple
My father came home no more.
He sleeps now in the sunny South
A land once drenched with human gore.

The Brandon's too were merchants,
They sold drygoods, boots and shoes.
Park Snyder and his brother Seth
Printed all our weekly news,
In the Mercer County Standard,
I think that was the name
It served the people many years,
Then the Daily Standard came.

Uncle Alfred Hodder built a mansion
And he beautified the ground,
It astonished all the natives
Of the village and miles around.
It joined an humble neighbor,
Though a man of much renown,
'Twas my grandfather, James Watson Riley
Who was the founder of the town.

Mr. Gable was our tailor
I did not know him very well,
But I knew his little daughter,
Among small girls, she was a belle.
Long hair was every woman's pride
And our fathers long whiskers grew,
That was the good old days of old —
But now, everything is new.

There was Uncle Dave McMurray
Lafe LeBlond and his brother too,
There was a Mr. Winters
And Ben Lindsey, good and true,
There are some I have forgotten,
Their names I cannot now recall
And there were some I never knew
Because I could not know them all.

Captain Legg and Thomas Godfrey
Came much later to our town,
A tinner and a banker.
Both fine fellows all around.
Could I name all those pioneers,
It would multiply my joys,
But I cannot name the women
Nor the little girls and boys.

To the women of that early day
There is so much honor due,
For those men without the women
Could have hardly brought us through.
They were homemakers, wives and mothers
And the spirit of every good
The success of any people,
Is its noble womanhood.

Those pioneers have gone their way,
But they surely left behind
A younger generation
Who were congenial and kind.
They made of that country village
That was born out in the woods
A pretty growing city,
They delivered well the goods.

Celina still young and growing.
But I know I'm growing old,
The story of Celina
Has not nearly half been told,
And the time is fast approaching
When I must say to earth, goodbye
and join Celina's pioneers
In that city beyond the skies.

Now I feel my way in darkness
With my good trustworthy cane,
Or led by kind and loving hands
But have no reason to complain.
Eighty-five years filled with blessings
Leaves me nothing more to crave,
But to be at home with Jesus
In that land beyond the grave.

Old Mercelina Hotel (possibly Fourth of July Parade?)

Old Celina Band at Chautauqua Grounds, now Mercelina Parl Celina

Celina Mercelinas (1910 - 1913) — **First Row:** Alfred Rinehart William Schoch, Edward Durbin, ___ Pulskamp. **Second Row** Albert Betzel, Zender Laudahn, Ralph Hight.

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CELINA
1920-1929

The new year, 1920, was heralded in Celina along th the "harvest of the best ice that has ever been t from the Grand," according to the Mercer unty Standard. M. J. Hemmert reported the big house at the foot of South Main filled with ice of ystal clearness and the desired eight inches and ore in thickness. A "good" harvest was 5,000 tons cked in straw and sawdust to be delivered to lina homes the following summer.

Some winters, however, were so open that there as no ice to harvest, and it had to be purchased ewhere. And sometimes by the middle of a very t summer there was none to be had at all.

There were frequent news items that winter of ople ill with the grip; entire families were shut in. en were advised in a news headline, "Retain Your ead Covering . . . flu is spread by the practice of ffing the hat in salutation . . . such a large number males attacked because of the constant drain on eir vitality by the nature of their daily occupa-n."

Many deaths from pneumonia were listed, includ-g two or three small children each week. Appendi-tis was also a frequent cause of death. In funeral tices the offer of cars was always gratefully ac-nowledged.

A 20-year Celina business, Crampton and Son anning Factory, passed into the hands of A. L. arp, Herbert Kriemendahl and H. C. Bowman this ar and would can peas and tomatoes. Fred Diener rchased the Elmer Gagle Restaurant and Cafe, d Dr. R. M. Pierson was associated with Dr. D. H. liller in the practice of medicine.

Alice M. Flanders, Beauty Doctor, advertised Hair dryer has arrived and can do your work on ort notice." The Rudolph Wurlitzer Company at 2 Fayette, "next to the Picture House," was having introductory exhibition and sample sale of the Wurlitzer Piano Fortes. "Open evenings till 10 o'-ock. Pay after the crops are in."

The summer of 1922 there was excitement in the ty when an airplane dropped into the Reservoir at ighland Park; three young men were injured. The lane was carrying passengers from other parks on ght-seeing tours over the Grand.

Also, in 1922, John W. Karch purchased the Huey lant in Indiana for $22,000. "With this acquisition Mr. Karch owns two of the best stone crusher plants this section of the country . . . to help carry out e new roads program."

As for crime, there were frequent arrests for boot-gging and hundreds of quarts of "booze" were said be sold in Celina each week. Chicken stealing was evalent and victims and witnesses were reluctant give information for fear of reprisals. A front-ge editorial decried the operation of a skating rink Mercelina Park on Sunday "when the lid is amped on Sunday operation of picture shows of a ligious nature." The rink was a portable one rought to Celina by an out-of-town man and the mbling noise of it was said to be heard to the orthern limits of the city.

Probably the outstanding event in Celina in 1923 as the completion of the new County Courthouse. City streets, previously "almost impassable because they were so rough and rutty," were graveled in anticipation of the crowds who would travel to the dedication on September 3. It was the first day of school and they were opened long enough for roll to be taken and then all were urged to attend the festivities.

Attorney C. A. Stubbs gave the opening remarks and a bronze tablet was dedicated to 58 Mercer County veterans whose names had been previously displayed on the Memorial Arch on Main Street. "People gathered and greeted one another in the huge rotunda like it was homecoming." Fireworks followed in the evening.

The courthouse was started in 1921 and financed by a $500,000 bond issue that required at least three election campaigns to pass. The old brick courthouse was torn down by Gus Jackson, and the old jail moved as it was felt the imposing new building should command the entire square.

The busiest place in Celina the last day of 1923 was the office of the County Automobile Association. As people lined up to buy their auto tags, Secretary Herb Schindler "was several times compelled to lock the door so those within could be waited upon . . . " There were problems as the gasoline buggy competed in popularity with the horse and buggy: noise, speed, passing. A typical accident report:

"A buggy was overturned on Frahm Pike about dark when a man in his car went to pass . . . in trying to get out of a rut his car hit the buggy, overturned it in the ditch, broke the shafts and the horse ran away." He had sounded his horn, it was reported, but " . . . she did not hear it, being in a closed buggy." No one was seriously injured.

A spectacular storm hit the Grand in May, 1927. A funnel-shaped cloud dipped down in the center of the Reservoir, "throwing water and waves upon the north shore to a great height . . . water literally lifted up in the air . . . dashed over the shore more than the distance of three city squares, sweeping loose planks and board walks away." One boat was carried 30 feet back of a retaining wall.

The sixth annual Mersman Bros.-Brandts Furniture Company picnic was at Edgewater Park in June 1927. A mile-long parade of 500 people marched from the factory through town and out to the park. Fifty automobiles were on hand to transport the older employees. The day ended in near tragedy when a section of platform over the water on the south side of the dance pavillion gave way and 100 people fell into the mud and water. There were no serious injuries.

Celina Manufacturing Company on the east side was gearing to meet the demand for new laundry tubs and collapsible benches. Orders were coming from every state in the Union. Local people were impressed to see their product advertised in the October 1927 Ladies Home Journal, and with a local girl, Anne Hemmert, pictured in the ad to show with what ease the tubs could be handled. The company organized in 1909 as a windmill factory and reorganized in 1919. They also made galvanized steel tanks, stock fountains, tank heaters and septic tanks.

In the summer of 1928 a caravan of Boosters ventured to Wapak, Greenville and Dayton to advertise

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June 26, 1928 — Celina Boosters, Troy, Ohio (Boosters for Grand Reservoir) — **Kneeling:** ____, Herbert Schindler, Roy Wycuff. **Standing, Center Row:** I.W. Polle, Mae Ayers, Margaret Godfry Menchoffer, Clara Menchoffer, ____ Pulskamp, Art ____, Pacifica Forsthaefel, ____, Joseph Depweg, ____, Ruth Hoel Brandts, ____ Pulskamp Creeden. **Back Row:** Carper Meyer, ____, ____.

Celina and the Reservoir as a playground area. Expenses for the trip to Dayton were $615.35, one of the items being "bathing suits for the girls, $27." Results of the Booster activities were surging crowds along the lake. On Labor Day tourists had to be turned away; uptown hotels and private rooms were filled, and even tents were pitched to accommodate visitors from almost every state.

Skating on the Grand was reported good in January 1929, also ice boating. One of the outstanding feats that winter was said to be that of Dow Roettger and Paul Krause, who skated to St. Marys and back, "jumping the three-mile crack." Celinans were boosting the Reservoir now as a winter playground also.

During this decade the community was privileged to hear many fine speakers in their "Chautauqua" auditorium at Mercelina Park, the old Fairgrounds. Two such visitors were Revivalist Billy Sunday and three-time presidential candidate, William Jennings Bryan.

Celina had access to public transportation from the 1900's on, being served from the east (St. Marys and Lima) by an electric trolley. During the 20's it made almost hourly stops at Main and Market Streets. Later, there was a daily train on the Nickel Plate Railroad between St. Louis and Buffalo, making regular stops in Celina and Lima. *by M. Fuhrwerk*

Traction Line, First car, Celina, Ohio (Old Court House is visible in background)

CELINA HISTORY
1930-1939

The research for the thirties comes from the lo newspapers. At that time Celina was described being located at the intersection of U.S. 127 a state route 32. The unofficial census for 1930 was 658 living in Celina with 25,091 living in Mer County.

The researcher will briefly cover this period time in the following areas: world affairs that aff Celina, a partial list of the businesses, the weathe influence on Celina's history, the crime, pric sports we don't hear too much about today, chur and school affairs, a few Grand Lake accounts, a just some interesting facts, plus some good old C ina humor stories.

The world events that had impact on those livi in Celina were the depression, the beginning of t German invasions, Herbert Hoover's term of offi ending and Franklin D. Roosevelt's long term b gins. Roosevelt's terms in office brought about ma programs that changed the way of living both loc and national.

A partial list of the many businesses were as fo lows: Celina had a bus line, an interurban line, thr jewelry stores, twenty groceries, eleven meat ma kets, one health doctor, six medical doctors, two ve erinarians, six dentists, two laundries, seven sh stores, six department stores, eight barber shop three taxi companies, three grade schools, two hig schools, four hotels, ten insurance offices, three f neral directors, six restaurants, fourteen attorney one bottling plant, five real estate agents, three se ond hand stores, two lumber yards, ten factorie one catholic church and seven protestant churches.

The weather always played a part in the history the community. In January of 1930 flood wate were said to have been higher than in 1913. The l cal reservoir was over its banks. The farmers alon Beaver Creek suffered livestock loss. Almost a doze farmers living along the turbulent flood stream water were forced to put their household on secon stories of their homes and move with neighbors relatives.

Mercelina Park in Celina was literally a sea water. The waste weier resembled Niagara Falls wit a furious cataract of white water pouring over th twin spillway.

November 1932 brought the heaviest snowfall in decade that blanketed Celina. The schools were di missed, all trains off schedule. The rural deliveri were curtailed. It was claimed to be the deepe snow since January 12, 1918. The rain and sleet th preceeded the two feet of drifting snow made a roads impassable.

May 10, 1934 it was reported that the crops wer withering. The most disastrous drought in a half century was taking place. The fourteenth day of ex treme heat as the temperature soared into the 10 degrees again and again.

In January 1937 twenty-five refugees were sent t Celina from the Cincinnati flood area.

Heavy ice downs many power and telephone line on April 7, 1938.

The newspapers were filled with crime stories i this decade. The housewives of Celina were con

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ining that thieves were stealing the glass milk ttles with the money in them. This brings to mind e horse drawn milk wagons delivering milk door- door early each morning.

A raid at Edgewater Park resulted in a man being ested for the possession of approximately two llons of liquor. The fine was $516.84. An under- ound still was found by sheriff Russell. He noticed e ground near the garage had been disturbed. out fifteen pints were drawn from a barrel for ev- ence. Yes, this was the period of history that you ght read about, three million American women edge their support to prohibition, or April 3, 1930 e Congress is expected to give more funds to rid e country of dope smugglers for narcotic enforce- ent.

January 21, 1932 arrests and raids were made on a ty gallon still and a large amount of alleged whis- y was seized.

John Dillinger lodged in an Indiana jail made any law officers take elaborate precautions. After s capture many Celina residents were relieved. any Celina people were reading about kidnap- ngs in almost every edition of the newspaper. The ndbergh baby kidnapping was followed very care- lly in the local news. April 1930 many slot ma- ines were removed from the Celina area. 1937 ought an interesting and daring robbery. A thou- nd dollar brooch was stolen while the owner was ending an evening on her own front porch. The elina mail pouch robbers stole from a small truck st after the 4:11 a.m. drop. The Nickel Plate Rail- ad flier had just gone by. Many shoplifting arrests ere made in those days. This was the period of ne during the depression. In 1930 prices for food id clothing were: butter 35¢, eggs 20¢, heavy hens ¢, old roosters 10¢, lettuce two heads for 15¢, ce- al 15¢, oranges 13¢-18¢, bananas five pounds for ¢, A&P coffee three pounds for 49¢, celery two rge stalks for 15¢, boneless T-bones 25¢ per ound, roasts 13½¢ sausage 18¢, ground beef 19¢, logna 12¢. Prices at the clothing stores: men socks a pair, shoes $1.99 to $3.99, girls anklets 10¢ a ir, house slippers 49¢. The car market: a standard rd V-8 in 1938 started at $599.00 for a tudor se- n. The car got 22-27 miles per gallon of gasoline.

The sports and sportsmen of Celina also plays an portant part in the lives of many local people. uno Betzel joins his ball club at Topeka, Kansas in 30. He was the manager of the Topeka ball club. ter in 1935 he was manager of the Ft. Wayne hiefs.

In the year of 1935 night baseball was inaugurated the playground at the Mercelina Park in Celina.

Corn husking contests were held, ox roasts spon- red by the Sportsmen Association. In 1936 the ow shooters ended the season with the high man agging 145 birds.

March 1938 the third annual homemade kite con- st was held at the Mercelina playgrounds.

Back in the 1930's the Celina checker players trav- ed to Lima to play the Lima players who were assed among the best in Ohio. They used restric- ve move openings with referees as required by the merican Checker Association. Don VanTilburg re- ived the Golden Glove crown in 1938. Another outh won the lightweight champion title at Ann rbor, Michigan. He was the son of Mayor Rice.

The church and school affairs were an extensive part of the social gatherings. The entire Sunday School lessons were printed in the newspaper. The combined Sunday School celebration Picnics with the CHS band leading the Sunday Schools of the town to the fairgrounds. There was lots of good food, contests, singing, and prizes for the best program presentation and the best banners displayed.

An annual school exhibit composed of all work done by all grade levels were popular in the thirties. The weekly summer band concerts with the entire program printed took place in front of the courthouse or at the North Shore Park. The bands took part in many district band festivals. On April 23, 1931 the Sunday afternoon and evening movie showing was legalized. In 1934 as part of President Roosevelt's proclamation to establish the Warm Springs Foundation for the fight against infantile paralysis, the Celina mayor, A.B. Grothjan, made proclaims support for the relief of those afflicted with the disease.

Another social affair was the May Day celebration in 1935. It was held at the Mercelina Hotel. The May Pole contest was open to any school.

Many new building and improvement programs appeared in Celina. Many of them were supported by the New Deal. In February of 1930 a Parochial High School was planned. The new building was to be erected on lots bought from J.E. Hamburger. These lots were located across the street from the Catholic church and grade school.

In 1930 the Celina Manufacturing Co. prepared to build near railroad facilities. March 8, 1934 the post office site was selected at the North Main Street location.

The drinking fountains in front of the courthouse and in front of Rentzches were installed in July of 1936.

In 1939 the TWA leases one hundred acres for the purpose of building a landing field for private planes just northwest of Coldwater.

The Producers Creamery and Cold Storage open in 1937.

The J.C. Penney Co. moves into the former Remaklaus & Beckman Co. location in 1939.

A new Barr Store was completed in 1938.

The Kroger Grocery opens a new self-serve market.

Lots for a new jail are bought. A grant of $18,000 from the PWA office helps build the jail. This was part of the New Deal programs that gave jobs to many during the depression revival. The old jail was sold for $51.00. A sizeable addition to the Celina High School, including the new gymnasium seating 2500 to 3000 was part of the history made in the thirties. The North Grove Cemetery added to the mausoleum. Many ditches and bridges were projects of the WPA. A new disposal plant was erected, and the Stearic Acid built a new office on South Ash Street.

By the year 1938 one family out of every twelve was on WPA payroll. Also the CWA, Civil Workers, projects give Celina curbing, gutter improvements, repainting the courthouse, work on the Tama Road, side ditches worked on, the South Bank Road improved.

The CCC, the Civilian Conservation Corps sent many Celina boys to different parts of the U.S. for

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the reforestation work.

Other interesting events to the researcher are: in 1932 the school revenues were cut. Celina had nine months of school with the teachers volunteering to teach for half pay.

1932 the Bi-centennial year, Mersmans contribute a dining room suite which was a reproduction of the ones used by George and Martha Washington at Mt. Vernon.

May 31, 1934 the famous quintuplets were born.

The Crampton Canneries have their own fleet of freight cars for their large output all over the U.S.

In 1935 during fire prevention week the Brandts Furniture Co. had a big fire.

In 1930 a $50,000 blaze of undertermined origin threatened the Brandts Chair Co. as it was called then.

The Garden Club of Celina was organized on March 19, 1936.

Dr. D.H. Richardson dies at his residence in 1936. He at that time was the oldest practicing physician in Celina.

Governor Martin Davy visited Celina. He crowned the Lake Festival Queen. The Queens contest was viewed by 10,000 people in 1937.

The local auto show featured local talent in the 1937 era.

In 1938 the last child of the founder of Celina expired at the age of 94. She was the daughter of James W. Riley.

The Fanger store in 1938 displayed the skills of a blind man's whittling. Betty Pulskamp senior at IC High School broke the worlds recorded typing speed record.

Appearing in the newspaper was a list of sixty-one mother's names on the pension list from the probate judges office.

1938 the Celina High Tatler appears in the newspapers, also a section called Jr. High Affairs. The Sidelights also made its appearance about the same time.

1938 Amelia Earhart's flight causes many Celinians to read the daily news.

In 1939 a community movie was produced in Celina. It was called "Life in Celina." It was shown in technicolor at the Lake Theater.

A war correspondent for the Standard was killed in England as he leaped from a train during a London blast. Webb Miller was his name.

Celina enjoyed the writings of many local persons. A Celina girl received a check from a publishing company for her poem entitled, "Snow."

Many interesting articles appeared that were written by J.E. Hamburger, called "Survey of Mercer County's Early Settlers." The Rev. U.F. Mueller CPPS wrote of the county and the local history. Numerous local citizens were reading the history of Ohio as written by Albert Volz of Coldwater, Ohio.

In 1932 the comics first appear in the newspaper. The series was called "Reg'lar Fellers and Cuddles."

Speaking of the comics, the researcher had many smiles as the pages of the newspapers were read. The researcher will try to share a few of those humorous moments as Celina history was being made.

Believe it or not, a well known Celina man of the early thirties who was very fond of bologna said he could eat three feet of bologna at one meal and wish for more. The one who listened to this collected $5.00 for the bet. He proceeded to find the bigg bologna he could find. The bologna vanished to t amazement of his companion. Needless to say was declared the bologna champion eater in t part of the state. After pocketing the money t winner stepped into a restaurant, he came out witl sandwich to show the loser he wasn't exactly fill with the bologna.

In 1932 a large safe was dynamited at the Dar-M Milk office on West Warren Street. The yeg showed how unusually bright they were. They c namited a safe which had not been locked for yeai

An island disappears. In 1938 the island in Gra Lake that the state had started in the fall was c clared as lost in the depths of Grand Lake. It cou not be found after a diligent search.

Another deep tale. A sea monster is captured by local woman at the North wall. It was believed to a lamprey. Could the monster have swallowed t island?

Remember the man from India? The hypnot would hypnotize a young lady. The young la would rest on a Perfect Sleeper Mattress at the C ina Furniture store. During the twenty-four hour p riod many spectators would pass by the furnitu store window to see if the young lady was still slee ing. After twenty-four hours she was transported the Lake Theater and the hypnotic spell was brok by, Kirma, the man from India?

The Mercer County Fair has made history f many years. In the late thirties a mystery pair was be married at the Mercer Co. Fair. The names we not revealed until after the "Hats Off" show w over. Sure enough the couple appeared on stage ai the Rev. Tennyson Guyer officiated. *by Mrs. Euge Dieringer*

CELINA 1940-49

Shortages, substitutions and rationing affected tl daily lives of the citizens of Celina during the fatef and fabulous forties. Wars and rumors of wars we rampant in the village and throughout the world the onset of World War II rapidly neared. It was ev dent that the United States was becoming involv in the world holocaust as the Selective Service Sy tem, commonly known as the Draft Board, was e tablished in October, 1940.

During the war years, practically everything r motely connected with war activities was ratione Sugar, meat, flour and gasoline could be obtaine only with coupons or tokens that were skimpily i sued to everyone. The normal allotment of sug was twelve ounces per person per week. No new ai tomobiles were available from 1941 to 1946. Tir were more valuable than gold and strictly ratione The allotment to the Mercer County Ration Boai for one specific month was one and one-fourth tire It is not known to whom the one-fourth tire was i sued. Metals were in such short supply that or could purchase a tube of tooth paste only by turnir in a used tube.

Celina was a typical rural village in the decade c the forties. This was clearly illustrated when a del gation of farm folks appeared before the villag Council to protest the adoption of 'War Time' (th equivalent of Daylight Savings Time). They re

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inded Council that this was a rural community ıd depended, to a large extent, on the rural people r its existence. The 1940 census showed a total of 65 residents, an increase of only 161 over that of 30.

One would drool today over the average prices ıoted in the newspapers of that period. The ercelina Hotel featured a complete Sunday dinner, ith drink and dessert, for fifty cents. Bananas were ıoted at five pounds for 25¢, butter 25¢ per pound, ıcon three pounds 25¢, and sugar (when available) 10 pounds for 49¢. Even the Daily Standard was ailable by carrier at $4.00 per year. The tax rate in elina for all purposes — county, township, schools ıd municipality — varied from 13.8 mills in 1940 to .8 mills in 1949.

As a village, Celina was governed by a Mayor and six-member Council. During this decade, C. D. ice, Tennyson Guyer, Henry Herman and Ralph urlin held the office of mayor. All utility services - water, sewers and electrical — were supervised ıd controlled by a Board of Public Affairs. Fre-ıent, and often heated, were the disagreements be-veen the Council and the Board of Public Affairs as how the utilities should be operated. In the sum-er of 1948 the controversy became so bad that the hamber of Commerce asked that the entire Board sign 'due to a lack of future planning'.

Despite all of the criticism, the utilities of Celina ere not neglected. The first and only sewage treat-ent plant was put in operation in 1940. A new ectrical generating plant, capable of producing 00KW, at a cost of $340,000, was constructed in 42. The old plant on Touvelle street was retained ı a stand-by basis.

Recreational activities in Celina received quite a ɔost in 1946 when a group of public spirited citi-ens purchased eight acres of land on the west side Mercelina Park and donated it to the village for ayground purposes.

During the ı r years two industries of relatively ıort life were established here. One of these was ıe Scientific Specialty Company to make lenses for ar-related optical instruments. The Winner Co. of erne, Ind. set up a branch operation to produce the mous "Safety Legion Togs" for boys.

After the war, several acres of land in the south-est part of town were purchased by several busi-ess men of Celina and given to the Reynolds and eynolds Company for a branch facility. Open ɔuse in their new building was held in the fall of 48. This plant has since developed into one of the rgest manufacturers of business forms and similar ems.

The outbreak of a serious epidemic of polio in 949 brought everything to a virtual standstill. chools were closed and church services cancelled as strict curfew was enforced by the village officials. here were over 800 cases reported in Ohio and 36 ı Mercer County. Several deaths in the County re-ılted from this epidemic.

By a 3 to 1 majority the voters of the Celina chool District approved, in November 1949, a 975,000 bond issue for a new elementary school. his school, to be constructed on East Wayne St. ould replace the old East and West elementary ıildings. The bonds were to run for a period of 24 ears at an average of 3.80 mills. *by D. B. Spangler*

Celina Main Street looking South, Grand Lake in the Background, 1955

CELINA: 1950's

Industries

Ever since the earliest settlers came to Celina, lumber has played an important role in this community. Large lumber mills were set up which attracted woodworkers and cabinet workers, and the manufacture of furniture became the leading industry. It retains that importance today because of the presence of Mersman Brothers Corporation. They are one of the largest manufacturers of tables in the United States and produce other types of quality furniture. Stokely-Van Camp, Inc. specializes in canning tomatoes, corn, peas, pork and beans, sauerkraut, mushrooms, beets and asparagus. Other industries contributing to the communities payroll are Martz Cabinet Company — custom cabinets; Pratt Bros. & Boise — cement blocks; Baker Electric — electric motors; Grand Lake Mushroom Co., mushroom growers; Rastetter & Son — furniture; Celina Lumber & Supply Co. — lumber and supplies; D. R. Smalley & Sons, Inc. — lumber ready mix concrete; Amstutz Hatcheries — baby chicks; Reynolds & Reynolds — standard automotive forms; The Celina Manufacturing Co. — steel products; The Daytol Co., drug manufacturers; Wollam Aircraft & Marine Products Co. — aeroplane floats; The Celina Stearic Acid Co. — stearic acid, red oil, oleic acid, fatty acids, and refined glycerine; Mercer Metal Corporation — metal products; Fisher Manufacturing Co. — upholstered furniture; Huffman's Manufacturing Co. — bicycles and power mowers; home offices of Celina Mutual Insurance Co. and National Mutual Insurance Co.; General Telephone Co. — telephone.

Hotels, Motels, and Tourists Homes

Mercelina Hotel with 30 rooms, and C. & B. Hotel with 15 rooms, Elron, Headington House, and smaller homes offer accommodations of various types. Hoffman's Motel, Northmoor Motel, Van's Grand Motel, South Bay Motel and Wrights Motel, Mayfair, all of which are new and very comfortable places to stop. There are several outstanding restaurants in Celina, serving excellent food.

Bus

The Greenville-Dayton Bus Line and the Columbus-Celina Coach Line operate buses from Celina.

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Railroads

Celina has two railroads serving the community, The Nickel Plate, and the New York Central.

Trucks

Commercial Motor Freight, Ohio-Indiana-Michigan Transit Company, Duff Trucking, and Russell Trucking Co.

Highways

U. S. 127, and State Routes 29, 197, and 703 provide good connections with main truck highways in all directions.

Taxation

The total city tax rate is $22.60

State	.20
County	3.10
Local School	14.50
Township	.20
Corporation	4.60
	$22.60

The tax rate outside the city is $17.60. The total assessed valuation of Celina is $11,927,121 on a 40 per cent of true value basis and the total bonded indebtedness is $990,000 which are mortgage revenue bonds.

Financial Institutions

Three banks serve the city as well as two building and loan associations and Finance Companies. The First National Bank — $10,640,589.54; Commercial Banking Company — $6,537,874.59; Citizens Banking Company — $2,971,579.14; Mercer County Building and Loan Association — $1,531,753.79; Mutual Savings and Loan Association — $1,705,014.30; City Loan — $126,863,135.04; and National Finance — $31,911,522.26.

Business Facilities

Celina has a prosperous, diversified and neat looking business section which is clustered around the imposing Mercer County Court House. There is a wide range of retail stores and of service establishments, with courteous and efficient clerks. Celina, being the largest city in Mercer County and the county seat, is logically the trading center of the surrounding territory, and is far enough from larger cities to hold its business at home.

Market Data

July 1, 1955

Population of Celina City Zone	15,117
(U.S. Census 1950) Celina	5,703
Celina Trading Territory	45,117
Mercer County	38,311
Number of Families in Celina	3,891
Retail Sales 1954 — Celina	$26,367,000
1954 — Mercer County	$39,979,000
Farm Income 1954 — Mercer County	$20,020,600

The Mercer County Sesqui-Centennial Program, in honor of Ohio Sesqui-Centennial 1803-1953, was held the third week of July, 1953. An Historical Pageant Spectacle "Mercer County Cavalcade" was held. The Court included Queen Alice Ann Hull, and attendants, Shirley Gardner, Sally Cook, Norma Jean Werling, Joan Hoyng, Diana Lennartz, Shirley Schwieterman, Mary Linda Maurer and Shirley Ashcraft. Many local programs and festivities were held at this time.

CELINA
1960-1970

The "Soaring Sixties," as realtors liked to ter them, began with a spirit of optimism and plans f continued building in Celina. Members of the S John's Lutheran Church set a $250,000 building gc and those of St. Paul's Methodist Church, a goal $350,000.

The Franklin Township School District voted join the Celina District, and East Jefferson Townsh property owners voted to join Celina as a water ar sewerage district.

The Mercer County Sportsmen's Association pu chased the 78-acre Starr farm east of Celina to used for conservation.

Plans for building laid in 1960 were carried out 1961, with the starting of the new St. John's L theran Church and the educational wing at St. Pau Methodist. The block-square new Celina Insuran building was about to free the old building at 3 South Main Street for the establishment of a ne junior college, a branch of Ohio Northern Unive sity, Ada.

Celina revived the festival it had held annual many years before, as the Lake Festival. Jul Menchhofer was elected queen.

A $100,000 fire in January had destroyed Gerer Supermarket, which was rebuilt by November.

The goal of the Celina Combined Drive was set $31,200.

The year 1962 was another good one for fun raising in Celina. After an intensive campaign u derwritten by local businessmen, the bond issue f a new high school was passed by Celina voter Western Ohio College was opened after the ca goal of the fund-raising drive was not only made b doubled.

Celina Insurance Group opened its new buildi and announced it had grown from two to three cor panies.

Celina realtor Carroll Stubbs donated 17½ acr for a new city park, Eastview, on the east side of Ce ina, and another 11 acres were purchased for the ci with money from the Bryson estate.

The Lake Festival was even more successful tha the one the preceding year. An estimated 30,000 a tended with Carolyn Zumberge named queen.

Celina purchased the D. R. Smalley and So property on West Market St. to be used for city c fices.

On the dark side, Stokely Van Camp closed i Celina tomato plant. Little work was done in remo ing stumps from Grand Lake St. Marys in spite much publicity. The year 1963 also was disappoin ing as far as state help with lake improvements w concerned — the state allocated only $338,000 f improvements.

The Western Ohio College was off to a good sta with an enrollment of 320. Malcolm Wallace w elected judge of the Municipal Court and Bob Hec was elected mayor. The East Jefferson Sewer ar Water District became a reality. Mersman Brothe Corporation was sold to Congoleum-Nairn of Ke ney, N.J. for $4,597,040.

An explosion and fire destroyed the Bruce Gree Ford sales on West Fayette St., but Green rebu

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ıin east of Celina.
Another drive for Celina's college, now the West- ı Ohio Educational Foundation, dominated the ws in 1964. Vicki Otis and Leah Boise were voted ce Festival Queen and princess. Harold Wagner ılaced Rudy Barkley as safety-service director.
n 1965, "A Go Go," a short-lived teen center was anced by many Celina organizations. A "biggest er" Lake Festival saw Mary Jane Anderson of St. ırys elected queen. John Porch replaced veteran ic leader A. C. Lachstadter as manager of Huff- ın's. Bob Hecht was re-elected mayor.
In 1966, Reynolds and Reynolds announced plans · a $300,000 expansion at the Celina plant. The ıamber of Commerce named a new Community provement Committee aimed at attracting new lustry to Celina. Shelley Stachler was elected Lake stival Queen. Center Township joined the Celina ıool system.
The Celina city council and the Mercer County mmissioners jointly appointed a planning com- ssion which in turn okayed a contract for hiring ofessional services in drawing up a master plan for e city's growth.
By 1967, the need for a new hospital in Celina was parent, but all attempts to pass levies to finance ch an endeavor failed, as did attempts to secure nds to erect a vocational school in Mercer County. allace McDougall was elected mayor.
St. Marys and Celina Chambers of Commerce be- n to meet with one another to work together for ce improvement. The Celina Civic Theatre was ac- 'e in 1967 and the historic Matthias Smith Tavern ıs moved to the South Main St. Park. Valerie erce was Lake Festival Queen.
In 1968, hopes were high for the ill-fated new $5 illion municipal power plant. Radio station 'MER was started by Celinans Elmer Schweizer ıd Phil Moore. The Huffy Co. purchased 77 acres st of the plant. JC Penney announced plans to ıild a new store on the north edge of Celina. ızanne Murlin was Lake Festival Queen. In June, e local college severed ties with Ohio Northern ıd became a part of Wright State University. On ly 30, ground was broken for a new Presbyterian ıurch on North Main. On August 24, plans for a ew public library were announced, and these plans ere approved on November 13 by the Ohio State brary Board. Plans for a new Kroger Store in the orthern part of Celina were announced in 1969, hich was the year Celinans voted to switch from a atutory form of government to a charter form. ıroughout the year, civic-minded Celinans worked ı framing the municipal charter. The Celina James- ay store was built on a 10-acre tract on Ohio 197. overnor James Rhodes announced he would ask e Ohio General Assembly for $2 million for the nstruction of a new branch campus of Wright ate. The planning commission was active in inves- gating and making recommendations for school eeds, roads, fire protection and recreation.
The year of 1969, however, saw a "tax rebellion" ı Mercer County, with six money issues failing to ass at election time, including those for a new hos- ital and new building for the retarded. Production ıutdowns at Avco New Idea and layoffs at Huffy's ere thought to be responsible. *by Pat Amato*

CELINA: 1970 THROUGH AUGUST 1978

On January 1, 1970, Safety-Service Director Frank E. Sullivan praised Street Department personnel and their boss, Tom Anderson, for doing a really fine job of opening and keeping open the City's streets after the 8.5 inch snowfall which closed out 1969. The City's four snowplows, plus three rentals, were put into action at midnight, and by 9:30 a.m. the next morning the slightly more than 40 miles of City streets were sufficiently open to permit traffic flow.

Mayor Wallace McDougall, delivering his second annual "State of the City" message at the regular City Council Meeting of January 12, 1970, disclosed that plans have been dropped for construction of a reservoir within Grand Lake, aimed at clearing up longstanding taste and odor problems in Celina's drinking water. McDougall said it now appears that an in-lake reservoir would not solve the problem. Mayor McDougall unveiled the following five-point program for 1970:

(1) Creation of a Department of Recreation within the Department of Service to manage and increase the various recreational programs.
(2) A program to expand present business and industry and encourage new industry to keep pace with the growing community.
(3) A program to encourage the annexation of areas at the City's perimeter for future orderly growth.
(4) Providing of a cable television system by the end of the year.
(5) Implementation of a plan for modernizing and improving the street lighting and traffic control system equipment.

Celina City Council met in special session February 2, 1970, and passed emergency ordinances establishing a Department of Industrial Development and amending the City's salary schedule to include the position of Director of Industrial Development. George W. Gaw, who moved to Celina in 1967 and held various management positions with Avco New Idea in Coldwater, was appointed to fill the position of Director of Industrial Development. McDougall said that Gaw will organize, develop, and establish the requirements related to the activity of the recently established Department of Industrial Development. He (Gaw) was also to review CATV (Community Antenna Television) alternatives and help develop a plan for presentation to City Council that would make the service available.

The annual appropriation ordinance of $3,050,-211.73 for 1970 was passed March 30, 1970. $1,617,-515.00 was appropriated from the Electric Light Fund, $241,871.00 from the Water Works Fund, $346,280.00 from the Sewage Works Fund, and $844,545.73 from the City's General and Special Funds. Finance Committee Chairman Don Grimes explained that the increase of $675,191.23 over 1969 expenditures was due largely to sewer line expansion and costs incurred in the municipal power plant expansion.

Carl Campbell, Celina Fire Chief since mid-1966 and a veteran of 35 years with the local Fire Depart-

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ment, resigned effective at midnight May 6, 1970. Chief Campbell had suffered a heart attack the previous May and felt a younger, more active person was needed to do the job justice.

On May 27, 1970, Celina City Council authorized the expenditure of $22,514.56 for the purchase of 11.9 acres of land to serve as the site of new sludge disposal lagoons for the municipal water treatment plant. The acreage, located on the east side of U.S. 127 south of the generating plants, was purchased from Mrs. Charles Gorsuch. The City had been under mandate from the State Department of Health to install new sludge disposal facilities for some time.

Mayor Wallace McDougall announced the appointment of Junior L. Robbins as Celina's new Fire Chief effective May 8, 1970. With the exception of a two-year period of military service, Robbins had been with the Celina Fire Department since July 1, 1950.

Frank E. Sullivan, who served as Celina's Director of Public Service and Safety since January 4, 1969, announced his resignation from that post effective October 2, 1970, due to family health reasons. Celina had, in Frank Sullivan, an extremely dedicated and capable public servant with managerial skills that would be very difficult to replace. Mr. Sullivan stood on principle when he felt it necessary and he refused to knuckle under to either executive or legislative pressures when he felt they were misplaced.

Celina's new J.C. Penney Company shopping complex officially opened for business October 1, 1970, with Celina Mayor Wallace McDougall on hand for grand opening ceremonies. The Penney complex included a supermarket, an auto center, and parking for 600 cars.

Lowell Dock was appointed to the position of Director of Public Service and Safety effective October 3, 1970. Dock, Superintendent of Celina's Water and Sewage Treatment Plants, filled the position of Safety-Service Director until a replacement for this position was chosen.

Problems had cropped up in Celina's power generating plants over the past few months, including power outages, equipment malfunctions and labor unrest. Hans Comprix, Power Plant Superintendent, resigned October 23, 1970, complaining that Mayor McDougall was trying to oversee the entire operation of the power plant as well as other City Departments, and causing problems in the process. Plant personnel organized a local chapter of the International Union of Operating Engineers and sent a letter to Mayor McDougall which threatened the taking of drastic action if the City did not rescind the recent order laying off six plant employees. James P. Johnson was appointed Superintendent of Electric Generation effective November 9, 1970, and talks continued between Union Representatives and Director Dock to resolve the labor problems.

Power Plant Superintendent Johnson announced that Celina's new $5.1 million generating plant was placed fully on the line around 10:50 A.M., February 24, 1971.

The City of Celina showed a population increase of only 1.6% for the 10-year 1960-1970 period according to official U.S. census figures published in early March. The City's population showed an increase of 120 residents from 7,659 to 7,779.

Municipal Power Plant employees notified City officials that they had voted 100% to launc strike unless the City approved a labor agreem with their union by 12:01 A.M. Tuesday, March 1971. The employees were sent a letter signed McDougall and Council President D.B. Span which stated that "all (City) employees are part our common destiny and all must be considered a whole. We cannot consider fragmented bargain units with special interests and concerns." McD gall said a second letter would be sent to all empl ees proposing creation of a City-wide employ committee consisting of one member from each partment selected by their fellow employees. T group would meet monthly with management o cials to communicate general employee problems management and seek a solution. He (McDoug also warned Power Plant employees that a strike illegal and all municipal employees who walk their jobs will be fired. At their regular meeting March 22, 1971, City Council again refused to rec nize Local 20 as bargaining agent for Power Pl workers. Since the new plant was closed for mir adjustments, picket lines were set up at the old pl and the strike was on. However, the plant remain in operation with some regular employees and s pervisory personnel in charge. Striking employe (20 of the 23 workers) received letters signed Mayor McDougall informing them they would fired if they did not report for work on their regu shifts. The City also obtained a temporary restra ing order against striking workers, restricting the d fendants from interfering with, hindering, threate ing or intimidating plaintiff's officers, agen employees, representatives or anyone else havi business with the City; from interfering with anyo entering or leaving the Power Plant or parking are from blocking drives and gates at the plant a parking areas: from engaging in action or conduct interfere with or hinder by destruction or damage property or threats thereof the free use of the pla Labor Unions in the area were unanimous in th support of the strikers offering facilities for mee ings and threatening to boycott Celina businesses the Mayor and City Council continued to refuse re ognition of Local 20. The strike ended April 6, 197 with City officials agreeing to a negotiating comm tee made up of one employee from each departme and a union official to represent Power Plant er ployees. Strikers who had been fired were reinstat with no loss of benefits.

Council met in special session March 31, 197 and passed the annual appropriation ordinance. $3 818,342.00 was appropriated from the Electric Lig Fund, $241,417.00 from the Water Works Fun $148,281.00 from the Sewage Works Fund, ar $764,300.50 from the General and Special Funds f a total of $4,972,340.50. The budget eliminated th City's Industrial Development Department effecti April 16, 1971. According to Finance Committe Chairman Don Grimes, this was necessary to me inflationary costs in other departments and to retai funds needed for a City-wide pay increase in th near future.

Larry Haas, who had served as Financial Assistar to the City for approximately one year, was elevate to the post of acting Director of Service and Safe

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May 1, 1971. Lowell Dock had expressed a desire eturn to his former position of Superintendent of ıter and Sewage Treatment as large capital im-ıvements were planned in this area and he felt his ticipation in these projects was important.

d Londt, who completed work in March for a helor of Science Degree in mechanical engineer- at Tri-State College, Angola, Indiana, was named gineering Administrator for the City effective y 17, 1971.

Power Plant personnel problems rose again when Mayor and Service Director reduced the plant rk force to 14. This action met with opposition m Plant Superintendent Jim Johnson and Chief gineer and Assistant Superintendent Don Free-n, and let to the resignation of both effective July 1971. Failure of the new plant's second boiler d pump necessitated closing the new plant on gust 9, until repairs could be made. The old plant s started up again on August 18, until the City ıld come to some agreement with Worthington rporation to repair the boiler feed pumps in the w plant. An explosion in one of the boilers at ap-ıximately 11:15 A.M. Sunday, August 22, put the plant out of commission. With both plants inop-ble, all Celina's power was purchased from the yton Power and Light Company.

Mayor McDougall announced the appointment of arles McKnight to the new position of Electric lity Manager effective October 25, 1971. The ap-intment was made with D. B. Spangler's approval, emed necessary by Council since McDougall was t a candidate for re-election and Spangler was the ly mayoral candidate whose name appeared on November 2nd ballot.

n the election of November 2nd, D. B. Spangler s elected Mayor over write-in candidate, Walter ırlin. Another write-in candidate, R. H. Bane, was idly defeated by John Garman for the 3rd Ward uncil Seat. Unopposed Celina candidates were ger Stauffer, Council President; Victor J. Pul-ımp, City Auditor; James W. Myers, City Solici-; Don Grimes, 1st Ward Councilman; and Roland ɔore, 2nd Ward Councilman. Five candidates, nes Lawrence, Ted Gilliland, R. W. Barkley, ayne Rexroat and Walter Fleck, ran for at-large uncil Seats with Barkley, Rexroat and Fleck win-ıg the race.

A windstorm, more typical of April than Decem-r, ripped the County Friday afternoon, December with high winds knocking out electric services d causing considerable other damage. Wind-ıpped power poles and downed lines caused the sing of at least two highways, while fierce gusts rooted trees, damaged some buildings, and blew er television antennae and Christmas decorations.

Mayor-elect Spangler confirmed reports of last ek and officially announced the appointment of eodore C. Gilroy, Wapakoneta, as Celina's new rector of Service and Safety effective January 1, 72. A native of Waynesfield, Mr. Gilroy had ved as Safety-Service Director at Wapakoneta for nost 11 years after serving for some 6 years as ad lineman for the Wapakoneta Electric Distribu-n System.

The first four months of 1972 were devoted al-ɔst exclusively to electric system problems. Last ar's Council was aware the electric utility was on shaky financial ground with the new generating plant still not on the line and large outlays required to retire bonded indebtedness, but the new Council was made aware early in January just how shaky that ground was when a financial statement was presented which showed an outstanding debt of almost $500,000.00 and a cash balance of approximately $23,000.00. Toward the end of March, Council passed an ordinance authorizing entry into a 10-year contract to purchase electricity from The Dayton Power and Light Company under terms of a tariff on file with The Federal Power Commission.

The annual appropriation ordinance for 1972 was passed March 27, with Finance Committee Chairman Grimes emphasizing that the entire budget had been cut to the bone to ensure financial stability. $1,621,699.00 was appropriated from the Electric Light Fund, $276,757.00 from the Water Works Fund, $144,060.00 from the Sewage Works Fund, and $994,665.00 from the General and Special Funds for a grand total of $3,037,181.00.

In late June, fire destroyed the Celina Equity Exchange main building and elevator on West Market Street. In addition to the main building, at least two trucks and a large amount of stored grain were destroyed in the blaze. Three units from the Celina Fire Department, along with units from St. Marys, Coldwater, Rockford and Mendon, battled the blaze, but were unable to save the structure.

On July 7, 1972, the City filed a $2.36 million lawsuit against three firms involved in designing or equipping the new, but non-operational, $5.2 million electric generating plant. The suit was filed with the understanding that it will not be pressed to any final legal decision if negotiation between the City and the three firms reach a mutually acceptable conclusion. Defendants in the action were May Engineering Company, Worthington Corporation, and Erie City Iron Works.

A cable television system had been under study by Council for quite some time and on October 16, a 15-year franchise was awarded to Tele-Media Company of State College, Pennsylvania.

With the new generating plant on and off the line, excessive power outages, and release of a report on the electric system done by Pfeifer and Shultz of Minneapolis, which recommended shutting down the new generating plant and buying all the City's electric requirements from The Dayton Power and Light Company, the year of 1972 was pretty well summed up in a Daily Standard editorial heading which read, "A New Day, A New Power Discussion".

The 1973 Annual Appropriation Ordinance was passed March 26, 1973, with $1,879,056.00 appropriated from the Electric Light Fund, $503,908.00 from the Water Works Fund, $184,881.00 from the Sewage Works Fund, and $944,526.00 from General and Special Funds for a total appropriation of $3,512,371.00.

At a special Council meeting held May 22, 1973, an ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of $1.6 million worth of mortgage revenue bonds was approved to finance water plant and system improvements. This action made it possible to enter into a contract with Peterson Construction Company for expansion of the Water Treatment Plant which would almost double its capacity.

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An ordinance to shut down the electric generating plant, which had been idle since May 6th, was passed on to second reading by a 4-3 vote on June 25th. Cincinnati Attorney Henry C. Kasson had notified City officials approximately a week earlier that the earliest possible trial date in the City's $2.3 million damage suit against three firms involved in designing and equipping the new electric generating Plant would be the Spring of 1974. Kasson stated that attempts were still being made to settle the case.

The Ordinance to shut down the Power Plant passed on 3rd reading by a 4-3 vote on July 23, 1973. Immediately after the vote, Mayor Spangler announced his intention to veto the measure. His contention was that the Ordinance was in violation of the Bonding Ordinance and might lead to foreclosure. Trust officers from The National City Bank in Cleveland agreed with Mr. Spangler and cited the portion of the bond indenture which stated that the City must maintain and operate its electric system. Mr. Spangler did veto the Ordinance and no attempt was made to override the veto, but the plant has remained idle since May 6, 1973.

Ernest Evans was appointed by City Council August 27, to fill the unexpired term of R. W. Barkley who retired for health reasons.

Charles McKnight, Municipal Electric Utilities Manager, announced his resignation effective October 1. He (McKnight) said he liked the job and the people, but felt he must consider the long-range situation. Assistant Plant Manager Richard Shinn was placed in charge of electric generating activities until a replacement could be found for McKnight.

The election of November 6, 1973, saw R. W. Barkley, Walter Fleck and Ernest Evans elected to at-large Council seats over write-in candidates Kathryn Hierholzer and Davis Welker. Barkley had tried to withdraw as a candidate because of illness, but his name remained on City ballots because the withdrawal notice arrived after the legal deadline. Other municipal candidates (all unopposed) were: City Treasurer, Paul Badger; Council President, Don H. Grimes; First Ward Councilman, James T. Scales; Second Ward Councilman, Roland Moore; Third Ward Councilman, John Garman; and Fourth Ward Councilman, Henry Bueltel.

Mayor Spangler's 1974 "State of the City" message was presented at the January 28th Council meeting and contained the following twelve-point program:

(1) A new study of downtown parking problems.
(2) An attempt to alleviate the problems of crime, vandalism, and juvenile delinquency.
(3) Revamping of the City's refuse collection system.
(4) Providing of additional space for the housing of a new fire apparatus and the new ambulances purchased for the Countywide program.
(5) An upgrading of City fire engines to meet the ever increasing demands of the Fire Inspection Bureau.
(6) Completion of the previously proposed City Hall remodeling project.
(7) Replacement of a two-inch water main on North Walnut Street with a six-inch main.
(8) Adoption of the new Zoning Ordinance (this had been in the works since 1970).
(9) Application of Council pressure on the P Central Railroad to complete installatior warning signals at the Schunck Road cr ing.
(10) An across-the-board 10% electric rate crease with an accompanying fuel adjustm clause which was needed to cover an incre in purchased power costs, to finance c struction of a new Celina-Dayton Power Light substation, and to provide funds to grade the City's electric distribution syster
(11) Application of constant pressure on the S Department of Transportation to comp the Ohio 29 bypass around Celina.
(12) Investigation of the possibility of constri ing an ice skating rink in Celina to prov recreation in the winter as well as in the su mer.

On February 11, 1974, Council unanimously proved the appointment of David Welker to fill at-large Council Seat vacated by the resignation R. W. Barkley.

In early February, Council unanimously appro an Ordinance designating the newly reorgani Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) of C ina as the City's official agency "for the industr economic, civic, commercial, distribution and search development". Key purpose of having CIC become a formal agency of City Governm was that this arrangement would allow the group issue tax-free municipal industrial revenue bonds finance land acquisition, construction, or oth projects deemed necessary to help attract new dustry, or meet the needs of current industry.

The 1974 Annual Appropriation Ordinance tot ing $3,824,184.72 was passed March 25, with fur allocated as follows: Electric Light Fur $2,110,659.00; Water Works Fund, $398,968.00; Se age Works Fund, $161,893.00; and General and Sp cial Funds, $1,152,664.72.

On June 1, 1974, a new garbage collection syst was put into effect. Instead of paying a set montl charge for the service, customers would purcha plastic bags. These bags would come in two col and sell for 25¢ and 35¢. Subscribers putting out c bag would use a 35¢ bag; two bags would requir 35¢ and a 25¢ bag; and three or more bags could be 25¢ bags.

The Mercer County Emergency Ambulance Se ice, which officially began operations September announced, in mid-September, the delivery of t new ambulances. This brought the total emerger vehicles to four, which are manned on a 24-hour p day basis by members of the Celina Fire Departme whose personnel has received special training perform the service.

Celina's new 50-page Zoning Ordinance was a proved on third reading by a 5-1 vote September 1974. Only Councilman Walter Fleck opposed pa sage of the Ordinance.

On October 14, Blair Williams, former Vice Pre dent and General Manager of Avco New Idea Coldwater, accepted appointment as new Counc man-at-large replacing the resigned David Welk Welker resigned last month when he accepted er ployment outside the City.

At a special meeting October 22, Council autho

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d Mayor D. B. Spangler and City Auditor Victor J. lskamp to enter into an agreement with the Ohio ater Development authority for a Preliminary aste Disposal Engineering Study around the and Lake St. Marys area. The Study was the first p in a comprehensive $14 million project (with % of the total financing hopefully to come from deral and State sources) aimed at upgrading waste posal facilities around the Lake. On November , representatives of Auglaize and Mercer Coun-s, the Cities of Celina and St. Marys, and the Vil-ge of Montezuma signed a formal agreement un-r which a Study of the Grand Lake St. Marys ainage area was to be undertaken by The Ohio ater Development Authority. The Study was to be nducted by Toledo Consulting Engineers Fink-iner, Pettis and Strout.

The 1975 Annual Appropriations totaling $4,208,-2.57 was approved March 24. $2,559,561.00 was propriated from the Electric Light Fund, 30,800.00 from the Water Works Fund, 35,551.00 from the Sewage Works Fund, and $1,-2,610.57 from the General and Special Funds.

The addition to the north end of City Hall on orth Main Street, which was constructed to house re Department equipment, was completed in early pril. Fire Chief Robbins noted this was the first ne since February 1, 1968, that the department's ur fire trucks and five emergency ambulances ere housed in one location.

There were only two contested races in the pri-ary election of June 3, 1975. Don H. Grimes car-ed all eight precincts to win the Republican nomi-ation for Mayor over former City Councilman Wayne Rexroat. Grimes will oppose Democrat Lisle chmidt and Independent Martha Kittle in the No-ember general election. Republican James Law-nce won a narrow victory over Henry Bueltel for e Council Presidency. Lawrence will be unopposed November.

Water and Sewage Treatment Plant Superintend-nt Lowell Dock announced June 25 that Celina's ew $1.5 million Water Treatment Plant was on the ne with no operational problems. The Plant is ca-able of treating up to three million gallons of water er day. The expansion was undertaken because the d facility had reached its 1.5 million gallon per day ted capacity.

On July 11, Mayor Spangler announced tentative pproval of a Farmers Home Administration Grant Celina of $200,000.00. The Grant was to be ap-lied toward the purchase of approximately sixty-ne (61) acres of land located at the northeast corner f Grand Lake Road and Havemann Road for use as n Industrial Park. The $200,000.00 Grant was ap-roved and turned over to the City on August 26. ombined with additional funds provided by the ommunity Improvement Corporation, the City urchased the 61 acre parcel of land mentioned bove for $4,000.00 per acre.

Winners in the November 4th election were Don I. Grimes for Mayor in an easy victory over his Democratic opponent, Lysle Schmidt and Independ-nt Martha Kittle; Roland Moore over Wally El-nger for 2nd Ward Councilman; John Garman over leanore Alt and Dan Hartsock for 3rd Ward Coun-ilman; and Robert Gibson over Tom Rable by a 2-ote margin for the 4th Ward Council Seat. Candi-dates Blair Williams, Ernest Evans, Walter Fleck, and Kathryn Hierholzer sought the three at-large Council Seats with Williams, Evans, and Fleck coming out on top. Elected to uncontested posts were James Scales, 1st Ward Councilman; James Lawrence, Council President; Victor Pulskamp, City Auditor; and incumbent Celina Solicitor James W. Myers, Judge of Celina Municipal Court.

In early December, Council approved issuance of $500,000.00 in electric notes to finance a new Celina-Dayton Power and Light substation.

Also, in December, Ted C. Gilroy, Safety-Service Director announced his resignation effective January 1, 1976, stating only the resignation was for personal reasons and submitted with considerable regret. Mayor-elect Grimes stated that Lowell Dock, Superintendent of Celina's Water and Sewage Treatment Plants, has agreed to accept the Directorship on an interim basis until a permanent replacement was found.

D. B. Spangler wound up a quarter of a century in municipal service on December 31, 1975. He said that his "biggest regret" was "getting older and realizing it's time to quit".

The 1976 Annual Appropriation Ordinance was passed March 22, with $1,336,316.00 appropriated from General and Special Funds, $3,881,289.00 from the Electric Light Fund, $451,609.00 from the Water Works Fund, $156,008.00 from the Sewage Works Fund, and $23,300.00 from the Gasoline Account.

At a special meeting April 5, 1976, Council approved emergency legislation creating a new Department of Industrial Development and confirming the appointment of D. B. Spangler as its part-time Director.

Jeffrey Ingraham, who had been appointed as Acting City Solicitor by Mayor Grimes, was officially appointed on April 12 by the Mercer County Democratic Central Committee. This action was necessary because the last person elected to the office was James W. Myers, a Democrat.

On May 20, a joint announcement was made from the offices of U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Representative Tennyson Guyer that an Industrial Development Grant totaling $213,300.00 had been approved by the Farmers Home Administration for the City of Celina. Mayor Grimes, who had reported filing the Grant Application the previous month, expressed surprise and great satisfaction that action had come so quickly.

After months of negotiation aimed at settlement, trial delays, and postponements, the City's $2.3 million damage suit, which had been filed in July of 1972 against May Engineering Company, Worthington Corporation, and Erie City Iron Works, who designed and/or supplied equipment for the municipal generating plant, opened before Judge Nicholas Wallinski in U. S. District Court in Toledo, Ohio on August 11, 1976. Opening witnesses for the City were Joe Lersky, Managing Editor of The Daily Standard who has reported on municipal affairs since the plant was first planned, and Municipal Court Judge James W. Myers, who served as City Solicitor during the same period. Former Mayor D. B. Spangler was the next witness for the City, followed by Acting Superintendent of Gener ion, R. L. Shinn. Two former Celina Superintendc of Electric Generation, Hans Comprix and Charles

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McKnight, testified to problems encountered with the new power plant. Bernard Nagle, a partner in May Engineering Company, who had testified earlier as a substitute for Gail May who was ill and unavailable to testify, was recalled briefly to the witness stand. Jack Patterson of the consulting engineering firm of Pfeifer and Shultz, Minneapolis, Minnesota, testified regarding plant design, and John Alico, Engineer and Appraiser from Southfield, Michigan, testified to the present value of the plant. Art Knox, a Cincinnati Mechanical Engineer testified that, in his opinion, the plant was a victim of faulty design. City Utilities Accounting Supervisor, June Moothart, testified regarding monetary damages incurred as a result of plant malfunctions. Cincinnati Accountant, Dale Weizker testified to approximately $290,000.00 in damages resulting from repeated failures in the new plant and resultant delays in the projects completion. Celina's Attorney, Henry Kasson, wound up the City's case with testimony from power plant employee Howard Toler, and Safety-Service Director Lowell Dock. May's Attorney, John Eastman, began the defense presentation by recalling June Moothart as his first witness. Kasson was prepared to recall Ms. Moothart for cross-examination, but Eastman elected to call her as a defense witness. The second defense witness was Mechanical Engineer, Herman Ehrhard, who had been employed by May Engineering and was responsible for piping design at the Celina facility. Jerry Reschlay, a Mechanical Engineer with Detroit Stoker Company and Jerome Kelly, Manager of a Toledo Financial Planning and Consulting Firm, were the final witnesses as the defense brought its case to an abrupt close on the tenth day of the trial. Judge Wallinski's decision, received in early March, 1977, ruled that Celina was entitled to a judgment totaling $42,652.21 from May Engineering Company and Worthington Corporation. The case against Erie City Iron Works was dropped.

Subzero weather, heavy snow, frozen water services, frozen gas services, and shortages of fuel and power led to closing of businesses and industries, and conservation measures by residential users in early 1977. By mid-January, the frost depth had hit 40 inches leading to more and more frozen water services and broken lines.

City Auditor Victor Pulskamp announced his retirement effective March 1, 1977. Pulskamp had served as Auditor for nine (9) years and two (2) months with the current term running through 1979. His replacement, former Celina Superintendent of Schools, D. W. Stover, named by the Republican Precinct Committee, served until January 1, 1978.

On March 28, Council passed an Ordinance, which had been under consideration for quite some time, to reorganize the City's Recreation Department. A five-member Recreation Board was created to oversee and administer the program, and establish a new full-time employee position of Program Director.

The Annual Appropriation for 1977 totaling $6,-100,601.00 was passed at the same meeting with Electric Department spending set at $3,891,934.00, Water Department at $547,929.00, Sewer Department at $168,642.00, and General and Special Funds at $1,492,096.00.

Kevin McKirnan was appointed City Solicitor May 27, 1977, replacing Jeff Ingraham whose res nation was effective on that date. Ingraham had su mitted his resignation last month stating that it w not possible to continue to practice law privat and to perform the duties as City Solicitor in an ac quate, professional and proper manner.

The only contest in the June 7, 1977 primary el tion was for three at-large Council Seats. Four R publican candidates, Kathryn Hierholzer, Pen Thompson, Ernest Evans, and Michael Hull ran the three spots available, with Evans, Hierholzer a Thompson emerging victorious.

Mercer County Republican Central Committ Members from Celina named Blair Williams to out the unexpired term of the recently resign James Lawrence as City Council President. Willia assumed his duties at the Council meeting of Aug 8th. Larry Hofferbert was appointed to fill the large vacancy created by Williams' resignation wh he accepted appointment to the presidential post.

As a result of the November 8 election, Pen Thompson became Celina's first Councilwoma Candidates for three at-large Council Seats we Walter Fleck, Ernest Evans, Penny Thompson, a Kathryn Hierholzer, with Fleck, Thompson and E ans elected. Bob Morin won the 2nd Ward Coun Seat over Larry Hofferbert and D. W. Stover was d feated by Patrick Smith for the City Auditor po Running unopposed were Blair Williams, Coun President; William Bertke, City Treasurer; Kev McKirnan, City Solicitor; James Scales, 1st Wa Councilman; John Garman, 3rd Ward Councilma and Robert Gibson, 4th Ward Councilman.

Mayor Don Grimes announced the appointme of Wilson J. Myers, Canton, as Celina's new Safet Service Director effective December 1, 1977. Mye replaced Lowell Dock, who had served as interi Director since January 1, 1976. Dock returned to h former position of Water and Sewage Superinten ent.

Retiring Fire Chief Junior Robbins will assun duties of Coordinator of the Mercer County Eme gency Ambulance Service on December 5th, thr days after his retirement from the City. Robbins ha announced his retirement from the Fire Chief's pos tion quite some time ago due to health reasons.

At the January 23, 1978 meeting, Mayor Grim reported on 1977 achievements which included uti ity installation and street construction at the City Industrial Park at a cost of $195,743.00, completic of the 4.16 KV switchgear project for the municip electric utility for $156,663.00, installation of slud lagoons at the Water Treatment Plant at a cost $85,098.00, installation of a backwash water basin the same plant for $89,670.00 and boiler replac ment at City Hall for $25,673.00. He also reporte that an Electric Rate Study compiled by Pfeifer an Shultz, Minneapolis, was being reviewed by Cit Officials, and that a position classification and Wag Rate Study by Yarger and Associates, Falls Churc Virginia, had been delivered to the City Administra tion.

A blizzard hit the City in late January causin widespread electrical outages and 12 to 15 foot sno drifts. A "State of Emergency" was declared wit citizens requested to stay home and businesses an industries asked to stay closed unless they provide

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in Street, Celina, July 5, 1906. (Old Court House isible)

ential services. City crews worked around the ck clearing streets and restoring electric service, ile snowmobilers, CB groups, and owners of four- eel drive vehicles aided in transportation, food liveries, and relaying messages since many tele- one lines were also down.

On February 27th Mayor Grimes accepted, on be- lf of the City, a Farmers Home Administration eck for $213,300.00. The check represented a ant for installation of roads and utilities in the y's Industrial Park and was used to retire notes is- ed earlier to finance said Industrial Park improve- nts. At the present time Celina Moving and Stor- e operations are located in the Park and a mmissary and food processing plant is planned by mpire Restaurants, Inc.

Jerry Baucher was appointed to the position of e Chief, effective at midnight, March 24, 1978. ucher said he came to the position with high pes and a little apprehension, but looked forward the challenge.

The 1978 Annual Appropriation totaling $6,310,- 5.00 was approved March 27th. Electric Depart- nt spending was set at $3,753,383.00, Water De- rtment at $594,943.00, Sewer Department at 00,177.00, and General and Special Funds at $1,- 2,352.00.

Mayor Grimes announced in late May that Gover- r James A. Rhodes had signed a bill conveying ti- for the Lake Shore Drive area from the Ohio epartment of Natural Resources to the City of Cel- a, Ohio. The transfer, effective August 21, involves proximately 4.7 acres, including Lake Shore Drive, e Pullman Bay area, and the State Boat Dock area mediately south of Mercelina Park.

In late June, traffic signals and additional over- ad lighting were installed at the dangerous inter- ction of Ohio Routes 29 and 703 and Grand Lake ad. This intersection had been the scene of many rious accidents since the new Route 29 opening d had been of great concern to Mayor Grimes and ner Officials.

On August 28, Celina City Council authorized eking a Federal Grant to finance a sewer system aluation study to determine the location and ex- nt of existing problems in Celina's sanitary sewer stem. This is one of the first steps necessary in the grading of the sanitary sewer system and plant to able it to handle the increased load when the Au- aize-Mercer regional sewer system scheduled to circle Grand Lake St. Marys is completed. *by Don Grimes*

CITY OF CELINA, OHIO DEPARTMENTS and HOUSING FACILITIES

CELINA CITY HALL

Above City Hall was built in 1890, and houses various City Departments, including the Mayor's Office, the Municipal Court, the City Auditor's Office, and the City Income Tax Administrator. The City Police Department, under Chief Robert Humbert, is also located in this building. The function of the Police Department is to preserve the peace, to enforce all Federal, State, and Local laws; to regulate traffic and render assistance when needed, while protecting the rights and property of the citizens of the City of Celina. The Celina Fire Department, headed by Chief Jerry Baucher, is also headquartered in the City Hall. This department provides the full spectrum of fire protection for the City of Celina, including fire inspections. The department provides response to calls for fire runs to Hopewell, Jefferson, and Center Townships, and Fire Department personnel are used to man the Mercer County emergency ambulance service.

The 85 foot aerial tower quint shown above is Celina's most impressive piece of fire equipment. It was purchased from the Sutphen Fire Equipment Company, Columbus, in 1974 at a cost of $159,113. and delivered in April, 1977.

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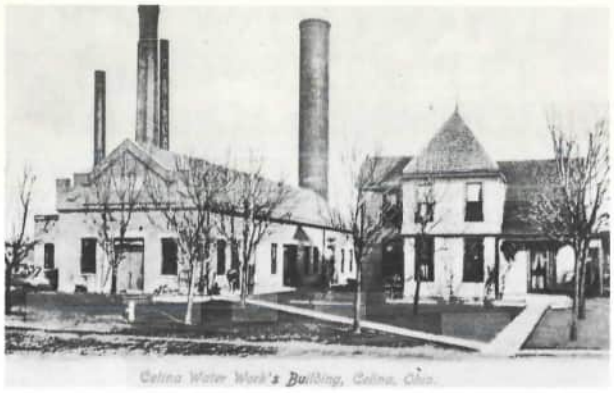

Celina Water Work's Building, Celina, Ohio.

Above photo was dated 1908 and depicts the "Waterworks" which was built in 1895. The first well was drilled in 1894 and pumped by air-lift pumping equipment. In 1900, the operating Board of the Celina Waterworks, with the approval of the electorate, installed in the waterworks pumping station a 100 KW Skinner Slide Valve engine belted to a single-phase electric generator, as a move to expand Celina's utility services and provide the first centralized electric power plant.

The old plant, in 1978, is used as headquarters for all City Street Department activities. This department, headed by Superintendent Tom Anderson, is responsible for the rebuilding and maintenance of streets, cleaning and maintenance of storm and sanitary sewers, maintenance and mowing of parks, leaf pickup, street sweeping, spring and fall trash pickup, snow and ice removal, erection and maintenance of street markers and signs, and the supervision of contract work in the above categories.

SWIMMING POOL

The Mersman Swimming Pool, dedicated May
1954, was a gift from The Mersman Civic Foun
tion to the citizens of the community in memory
J. B. Mersman, founder of the Mersman Broth
Corporation. Present pool activities are under
Supervision of Parks and Recreation Director J
Hoess. The Parks and Recreation Department a
provides and maintains equipment and areas nec
sary for recreational programs planned by the
partment for both young and adults of the comm
nity.

CELINA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

The office of Wilson J. Myers, Safety-Servi
Director, is located in this building on West Mark
Street, along with the Utilities Accounting Depa
ment under the supervision of Administrative A
sistant June Moothart, and the Customer Accou
Department headed by Supervisor, Doris Grunde
Dennis Zahn and Michael Sovinski comprise t
City Engineering Department housed on the seco
floor of the Utilities Building. Headquarters for t
Electric Distribution crew, under Superintende
Lowell Sickles, is located at the rear of the utiliti
office building. This department is responsible f
construction and maintenance of overhead and u
derground power distribution lines, plans and i
stallation of service to new subdivisions, and pro
sion of continuous service to electrical custome
The activities of the Water Distribution crew,
charge of Water-Wastewater Superintendent Low
Dock, are directed from this same location. This d
partment installs, maintains, and repairs wat
mains, makes water taps and sets meters, and pe
forms other duties necessary for the maintenance
proper service to customers.

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CELINA MUNICIPAL POWER PLANT

This plant was constructed in 1941 and was uipped with a 2,000 KW generator. In 1952, a 3,-0 KW unit was put into service, and in 1961, a 7,-0 KW unit was added bringing the total capacity 12,500 KW. This plant served the City's electrical eds until completion of the new generating plant. ıe 7,500 KW turbine-generator and accessories ere sold to Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., Akron, in d-1975 for $85,000. The radial brick stack was ppled in the same year because of its unsafe con-ion.

CELINA WATER TREATMENT PLANT

This plant went into operation in 1952 with a rated capacity of 1,500,000 gallons per day of clear potable water for the citizens of Celina. An expansion was completed in 1975 bringing the present rated capacity to 3,000,000 gallons per day. Water-Wastewater Superintendent Lowell Dock is in charge of this facility which is under the supervision of Arthur A. Fishbaugh, Jr.

NEW GENERATING PLANT

The above plant produced its first electricity in 70. It contains a 12,500 KW turbine-generator and 20,000 KW unit which was never used. The plant s been idle since May, 1973, due to equipment ılfunction and economic reasons. Three (3) people e employed at the facility under the direction of perating Engineer, R. L. Shinn.

CELINA SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

The plant, designed to handle a flow of 900,000 gallons per day of domestic and industrial wastes, went into operation on February 15, 1940. In 1962, it was expanded to its present capacity of 2,000,000 gallons per day. Water-Wastewater Superintendent Lowell Dock is in charge of the facility which is supervised by Carl Cook.

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Celina High School, built in 1963

CELINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Continental Congress of 1785 passed a law on May 20 which led to the creation of the public school system. The law stipulated that lot number sixteen in each township be preserved from sale and set aside for public education purposes. A subsequent act was passed on January 22, 1921, which outlined the procedure for establishing the boundaries of a public school system. By majority approval districts were laid out with twelve to forty householders in one district. A schoolhouse was built upon the approval of two-thirds of the residents.

A local school became a reality on November 30, 1926, when a deed was recorded by an early settler, Robert Linzee. On that date he conveyed and quitclaimed a parcel of land east of Celina. This land was to be used as a graveyard, school yard and a school house. In the early 1830's the first log school house was built on this site by donated labor and donated logs.

During this same period of time the center of Mercer County (200 acres of land) became Celina. Approximately fifteen families resided on these two hundred acres and decided to build a worship house on lot number one hundred forty-nine which is located at the corner of Fayette and Ash streets. The church did not survive; thus, in the early 1840's, it was used as a school house. The early 1850's produced a one-room school house in Celina on the corner of Fulton and Walnut Streets. The building collapsed within a few years, and in 1859, a four-room school was built on this same site and was called Union School. This site and school became the foundation for the future of the schools in Celina.

Union school was serving the educational needs in Celina for several years and a decision was made to organize a high school in this same building. In 1866, S.F. Deford was hired to teach high school and also to serve as the superintendent of schools. The high school aroused controversy due to the need for higher taxes to provide a few students an opportunity to learn algebra, geometry, rhetoric, and composition. In May 1878, the first graduate of a high school in Celina emerged — Lizzie Snyder McKim.

As Union School organized into high school, a grammar department, intermediate department, a primary department, organization also took pl among the teachers. Teachers were hired and p as high school teachers ($40.00 per month) a grade teachers (30.00 per month). This organizat of schools, accompanied with an increase in s dents, required a new school in 1894, a grade bui ing on the east side of town, at the corner of Wa and Buckeye. It was a two-story brick building a provided room for students from the rural areas the interest in education of children spread throu out the county.

The old West building was deteriorating and v condemned. A special election on July 10, 1906 p vided an approved bond issue to build a new sch at the old site. During the construction of the W building, the high school was moved to the E Building with the overflow of the one hundred s dents occupying vacant buildings around Celi Soon the new West Building became available a the top story of the two story structure was used high school. Eight classrooms on the first floor w used by the grade pupils. The remaining grade p pils in the Celina schools were housed in the E building. With this new emphasis for high scho many pupils were enrolling at the high school fr the rural areas of Mercer County. Overcrowding sulted and on November 6, 1923, a bond issue v presented and approved for $150,000 (yes votes 1452; no votes — 429).

In September, 1925, the high school students Celina occupied a new modern building on East L ingston Street. A faculty of fourteen had the respo sibility to educate the 290 students enrolled. An a dition to the high school on Livingston Street v necessary. The local voters approved a three-m levy for two years and this money, combined w $45,000 as a result of a PWA federal governm grant, provided the funds to build rooms for sh instruction, arts, and physical education. The bu of the structure was the auditorium/fieldho which provided the area with one of the finest a letic facilities in the state. A second addition, for p marily classroom space, was necessitated in 19 and this total complex served the high school s dents until a new structure was built on East Way Street in 1964.

The grade schools followed similar courses aged schools deteriorated and needed replaced newer one-story expansive structures. The beg ning of the end of the old West building located Fulton and Walnut Streets came as a result of a Ju 11, 1948 building inspection. The wood supports the roof were mandated to be changed to brick su ports. Architects were hired to investigate the con tions of the West school as well as East school a the High School. On October 31, 1949, the Board Education published a joint statement on a bond sue. They noted the age (East Building — 55 ye old; West Building — 42 years old) and conditio of the two buildings. They took a position to buil new elementary building and to solicit voter a proval on November 8, 1949 for 3.8 mills in order finance construction of a $975,000 structure. An tempt was made to secure land for the new buildi through condemnation proceedings against the Jo Diener property in the northern section of Celi An offer was produced to sell Staeger property

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)proximately twenty-eight acres and Smalley prop-
ty of approximately nine acres. The board agreed
ıd the new East building would occupy the site.
n November 8, 1955, district voters approved 2.4
ills for the construction of a new West building at
ıe west edge of Celina at a cost of $862,000. This
)w allowed Celina to have two modern elementary
hools. The $1,698,000 new high school approved
November 1962 and the $2,426,000 new junior
gh school financed with federal funds supplied the
elina School District with needed facilities through
)79. Another building in use is the Franklin Ele-
ıentary building which came under the Celina
hools as a result of a multitude of consolidations.

While Celina schools grew in size and facilities,
ıe rest of Mercer County was phasing out one-
)om school houses and petitioning for assignments
larger districts. The Celina schools attracted early
ıterest due to the high school. Prior to consolida-
on efforts, the students in Jefferson township as
ell as students from Burntwood, Center, and Ma-
le came to Celina to attend high school. The town-
ıips of Liberty, Washington, Hopewell, and Butler
ad regions where some students were taken to Ce-
na for high school.

On April 27, 1936, Maple and Center townships
resented petitions to the controlling Board of Edu-
ıtion for membership in the Celina Schools. This
ltimately led to the township's small rural school
ktinction. Early schools such as Mount Hope,
eougher, Kiser, Adams, Piper, Plank Road, Hard-
:rabble, and Maple Center schools soon became
ıemories of early education in Mercer County. The
ırge central school in Neptune lasted many years
)r its residents, but it too gave in to larger centrali-
ıtion. In 1937, additional petitions from the re-
ıaining section of Jefferson township applied for
ıembership. The early schools in Jefferson town-
ıip were: Brock school, Lincoln, Bunker Hill,
wamp, and Elm Grove school. As these schools be-
ıme vacated, they were either converted into town-
ıip halls or as residences for area families.

Continuing with the trend, several years later,
arts of Liberty, Hopewell, and Washington town-
hips became affiliated with the school in the county
eat. Soon schools with names such as Washington
:hool, Erastus school, Wabash school, and Prospect
:hool became history in the western part of the
)unty. Landfair, Scudder, and Mount Carmel
:hools seemed so far from the main school in Cel-
ıa, but they also gave way to the movement. The
tudents from these western regions would ride
uses instead of walking to familiar areas for school-
ıg. Hopewell township schools with names such as
Iair, Pierstorff, Siebert, DeHayes, Miller, Clutter,
nd Five Point were phased out of operation. In the
)uthern regions, in the townships of Butler and
ranklin, Burntwood school, Klosterman school, and
ranklin school joined the rest of Mercer County in
)oking for a larger school for opportunities for its
)ung residents. The school in Montezuma has been
ınmune from the destiny of the multitude of
chools already mentioned. In fact, an addition was
dded to the largest school in Franklin township and
s still in use today.

The net effect of the years of consolidation even-
ually led to a school district with 148.14 square
ıiles and a composite evaluation of over 100 million
dollars in 1979. The enrollment peaked in the mid 1970's at 3500 plus students with multiple curricular offerings. The land of the Black Prairies changed to the now recreational reservoir known as Grand Lake; the fifteen families of Celina, Ohio soon became many hundreds approaching 10,000 individuals; the one-roomed log schoolhouse now has six successors surviving with many, many rooms; one graduate of Celina High School in 1878, Lizzie Snyder McKim, would become 240 graduates of Celina Senior High School one hundred years later in 1978. Such is history.

New Junior High School, being built in 1979

East Elementary School, built in 1951

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West Elementary School, built in 1956

Celina High School, 1959

Old Junior High School, built in 1925, addition in 1939, addition in 1957

West School Building, 1900 (same building as Celina High Scho 1959)

Franklin Elementary, built 1941, addition 1955

East School house, Celina

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CELINA FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

Early in the year of 1916, Rev. W. E. Turner made s appearance in Celina with a determination to es-blish a Church of God Church. The county seat wn of Mercer County seemed to be an especially vorable place for planting a new church there were ready nine Church of God Churches in the county id people were constantly moving into Celina from ese outlying districts. Many were waiting and oping that such a church might be established.

Rev. Turner worked in and around Celina, look-g for prospects who would be willing to put their forts back of trying to organize Church of God hurch in this city. Then on June 11, 1916 the first eeting was held in the City Hall. There was a very ne response, showing their high spirited interest in aving a Church of God Church in Celina.

At the first meeting officers were elected for a Tabernacle Association" and the following were ected: P. W. Bowser, President; Floyd Houts, Sec-tary; and Frank Stoner, Treasurer. The next ques-on was: how to house the congregation? It was nanimously agreed to buy a tent and Floyd Houts greed to loan the Church the money to purchase ie tent, without interest.

r. R. E. Riley heard of the plans for this new urch and offered a lot on West Market Street for ie church to erect the tent. This lot was at the cor-er of West Market and Brandon Avenue.

The first Revival meeting was held in the tent as on as everything was in place. Rev. W. E. Turner rved as Evangelist, Bennie Weaver as Song Leader, nd Ralph Turner was Pianist. It was a successful mpaign both from the standpoint of conversions nd of recruits among those who had no church ome in this city.

The first Sunday School was organized with 36 embers present. W. R. Thomas was chosen Super-ntendent; Miss Inez Hines, Secretary; Benny Hines, reasurer; and Miss Hazel Frysinger, Organist. The llowing teachers were appointed: Jason Frysinger, . M. Ellinger, Mrs. George Lynch, Mrs. W. R. homas, Mrs. Minnie Berry, and Miss Hazel Frys-ger. The congregation grew and so did the Sunday chool. By the Time of the Eldership, September 2, 916, when the Church was recognized, an organiza-on of 36 members could be reported, with a Sun-ay School enrollment of 105. The first officers ere: Elders — W. R. Thomas, and F. M. Ellinger; eacons — Frank Chrisman and Ben Hines; Clerk – Floyd Houts; Treasurer — Arthur Siler; Trustees – C. O. Swanders, W. R. Thomas, and Jason Frys-ger.

With the chilly breezes of fall they realized the tent would have to be replaced with a tabernacle. Again, Dr. Riley offered a building site and with help of the men of the congregation a building was erected with no labor cost. The people over town often referred to the tabernacle as the "Sheep Pen". But the people placed great faith and confidence in the word of the Lord when he said, "Lo I am with you even unto the end."

With this faith and confidence plans were made to build a new bethel. Thanks again to Dr. Riley who donated the two lots on which the church building now stands. The corner stone was laid in 1918 and the Sunday School and Church met in the basement until the Church was completed. On June 6, 1920 the Church was dedicated with Rev. J. L. Undegraph giving the dedicatory sermon.

One of the milestones in the church's history was reached on November 20, 1927 when the debt was brought to an end, and the mortgage note was burned at the Annual Pre-Thanksgiving service. Since that first milestone many more have followed. Shortly after the first debt was paid the property at 540 W. Livingston was purchased so that a parsonage could be built. Then later in the 1940's the lot west of the Church was bought for future expansion and in 1954 the Educational Unit was added.

Our latest milestone was October 22, 1978 when two worship services were offered to accommodate our growing attendance. The faith and confidence of our forefathers is still evident in our congregation today as we make plans to expand in order that we may serve our Lord and minister to our community.

The following ministers have served the Church and the Lord faithfully: W. E. Turner (1916-1922); S. F. Bauders (1922-1926); Leroy Cabbage (1926-1928); F. D. Rayle (1928-1936); Tennyson Guyer (1936-1946); Paul Tewell (1946-1951); Leland Barnes (1951-1956); Norman Folk (1956-1959); Paul Tewell (1959-1969); C. Q. McMillion (1969-1976); Morris Now (Interim) (1976-1977); and Richard VanHorn (1977 — our present pastor).

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Bethany Evangelical Church, built 1911

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CELINA, OHIO

The Bethany United Methodist Church 416 East Wayne St., Celina, Ohio, had its beginning in 1909. Rev. J. M. Lantz was pastor of Celina Circuit, including the Hope Evangelical Church five miles west of Celina. Several members from the Hope Church moved to Celina and Rev. Lantz saw the need for services there. In the Spring, 1909, he organized the first class in Celina at the home of Andrew Smith. The eleven charter members that responded were: Andrew Smith, Elizabeth Smith, George W. Smith, Maggie Bollenbacher, Catherine Squires Hines, Mary Miller, Bertha Mercle, Anna Hole, Catherine Fetters, Jonathan Bodkin and Lottie Hoenie. Rev. Lantz continued preaching in different homes in Celina until 1910, when Rev. A. D. Kroft was assigned to Celina Circuit. He also, continued to hold classes at various homes.

In the Fall, Rev. Kroft, J. J. Wise, and Rev. B. R. Weiner (evangelist), held a camp meeting in Celina that was an inspiration to the community and several souls were saved. At one meeting, steps were taken toward building a new church. At the Indiana Conference session of 1911, Celina Mission was added and Rev. B. E. Koenig was assigned as the first full time pastor of Celina Bethany. He found only 31 members, no Sabbath School, and an inadequate place of worship. He held Sunday and Midweek prayer Services regularly at various places in Celina.

In June, 1911, ground was broken on the corner of Blake and Walnut Streets, for a new church. The Trustee Board and Building Committee were: Andrew Smith, George W. Smith, William Smith, Clinton Smith, Jonathan Bodkin, and Benjamin Lo rentz. In October 1911, the first Sabbath School w held in the basement with 68 present. On Jan. 1 1912, the congregation met for the first time in the new church auditorium. This was Dedication Da Bishop S. C. Breyfogel gave the sermon and dec cated Bethany Evangelical Church to the service God. One week later they held their first revival ar 68 united with the church. The word went out th they were a spiritual and moral uplift in the comm nity and by 1915 had a membership over 200.

During the pastorate of M. O. Herman, Nov. 2 1919, the church debt was paid and the mortga was cancelled. A Jubilee Service was held Feb. 2 1920 to celebrate and praise God for this accon plishment. Four months later the congregation pu chased their first parsonage at 673 N. Walnut S This was used until 1943, when it was sold and the bought one at 527 N. Sugar St.

Between the years of 1920 to 1945 several in provements were made in the church. A new pip organ was installed. The basement was complete remodeled to provide for a new Children's Chapel, new steam heating system installed, and the kitche was remodeled with new equipment. Many gif were donated to the church, including money, ca pets, and an illuminated Cross for the Sanctuar There was a marvelous spirit of giving and servir the Lord at Bethany.

Rev. Walter Adams came to Celina in 1943, an through his efforts, a building fund was started for later date. Bethany membership was growing as Go had richly blessed them.

On Nov. 16, 1946 the Evangelical Church merge with the United Brethren Church and this churc became Bethany Evangelical United Brethre Church and changed from the Indiana Conferenc to the Ohio Sandusky Conference. The latter Cor ference built the Evangelical United Brethren Cam St. Mary's, to be used for Christian Youth activitie and the Yearly Conference meetings. Bethan helped support this Church Camp.

In 1952 Rev. M. W. George came to Celina, and i this year one of the biggest decisions in Bethany history was made, when it voted to buy the old Ea School lot at the corner of Wayne at Buckeye, an build a new church there. Feb. 28, 1957 their ol building was sold to the local Nazarene Churcl Ground breaking for the new church was held Apr 28, 1957. The Corner Stone was laid Oct. 13, 195 with Dr. V. H. Allman, Conference Supt. in charg The building committee consisted of — Reube Amstutz, Oliver Nutt, Dussell Lohrentz, Raymon Meyers, Jacob Bauer, Corwin Hellwarth, Cheste Schmidt, Rita Gagle, and Clarence Baucher.

After a year of hard work, prayers and planning the 350 members of Bethany and their pastor, M. W George, saw their beautiful Gothic Contemporar Indiana limestone church become a reality. The in terior of the sanctuary was finished in white oa with a beechwood finish. Most of the inside finish ing and outside pitching was done by the member including the large active group of young people.

The last service in the old Bethany Church was o Palm Sunday Mar. 30, 1958, and the first service i the new Bethany Church was on Easter Sunda April 6, 1958. Guest speakers for Dedication Wee July 23-28, were former ministers of the church; Rev

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. W. Loose, Rev. M. O. Herman, Rev. Walter Adms, and also Bishop Harold R. Heininger.

April 23, 1968 the Evangelical United Brethren ıurches and the Methodist churches merged and ecame known as the United Methodist Church.

All the classes of Bethany, the United Methodist Vomen and the Youth Fellowship worked hard on ıany projects to help pay off the debt on their eautiful new church. After much praying, work nd generous giving a note burning service was held larch 22, 1970, to celebrate the termination of the ıurch debt on the new building. Rev. Burton rosby was the minister. The guest speaker was Dr. ɔseph Graham, the Conference Supt.

In the Summers of 1973, '74, '75, '76, '77, Bethany hurch sent groups of young people and older youth ɔ help repair homes of the poor in the Appalachia lountain regions. The United Methodist Women of ıe church helped support this project, as well as ther worthy Missionary work at home and abroad. ethany has always been a Missionary minded hurch and down through the years has contributed ɔ the support of missions, both financially and by ending young people out to serve at home and broad. Approximately 25 Bethany youth have erved Christ in full time service.

Bethany church has been served by 18 pastors and their faithful wives. They are: Rev. J. M. Lantz 1909-1910, Rev. A. D. Kroft 1910-1911, Rev. B. E. Koenig 1911-1915, Rev. Frank Hartman 1915-1917, Rev. P. L. Brown 1917-1919, Rev. M. O. Herman 1919-1922, Rev. D. O. Wise 1922-1927, Rev. W. E. Snyder 1927-1930, Rev. O. A. Overholser 1930-1932, Rev. B. E. Koenig 1932-1935, Rev. M. W. Sunderman 1935-1939, Rev. R. W. Loose 1939-1943, Rev. Walter Adams 1943-1952, Rev. M. W. George 1952-1959, Rev. Lynn Harris 1959-1965, Rev. Burton Crosby 1965-1970, Rev. Charles Miller 1970-1976, Rev. Robert Williman 1976-

Our pastor since 1976 is Robert E. Williman. He and his wife, Eva, live in the parsonage at 536 East Wayne St. which was bought in 1963, since it would be closer to the new church.

Many consecrated men and women continue to work faithfully in Bethany's future as they did in the past by maintaining and continually adding to the beauty of their church.

May our Bethany United Methodist Church continue to be a light in the community that leads to peace and good will among men, and a spiritual enrichment for all who seek the Lord and His Blessings.

Submitted in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Eichenauer.

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United Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church (Old Johnson home, North Main Stre

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Celina Presbyterian Church was organized in 1839-1840 by a small group from Pennsylvania and Virginia, of the very earliest pioneers into Ohio. Early in 1800, these first pioneers settled in Marietta and St. Clairville in Washington County. From there they made their way to what is now Chillicothe. Then they moved to Mercer County, Ohio. The members were Andrew Crockett, Elder; his wife Maria Bitcher Crockett; Samuel Jackson; Nathan Mead; Abigail Mead; Ezra Hiatt; Mrs. John Brown; Mrs. Davenport; Samuel Ruckman; Mrs. Ruckman; Mrs. C. Maurer; and her sister.

They immediately made plans for erection of a house of worship on lot 149, at the corner of Fayette and Ash Streets. This lot was one of the three lots set aside for churches, together with a cemetery, by the proprietors. Rev. J.N. Taylor was the first pastor, serving from 1840-1844. The church building was shared with the Methodist and Baptist denominations that had organized.

In 1847, the church was re-organized by the Rev. Templeton, with Samuel Ruckman and Stephen Hight added as Elders. Members added at this time were: Mrs. Catherine Timmonds; Miss Frances A. Timmonds; Catherine Hight; and William Hight.

The times of the Civil War and decade following the war were difficult for the church. Visiting ministers were relied upon. June 12, 1870, the Presbytery of the Synod of Cincinnati appointed the Rev. Telford and the Rev. Cunningham Kerr to re-organize and renew the church at Celina. Another re-organization was held on July 19, 1878, when the Rev. E.S. Scott, Delphos, Elder Oliver Jay, St. Mary's and D.W. Roebuck of Center Presbyterian Church, re-organized the church with ceremonies held in the Lutheran Church on Anthony Street. (The original church structure had been abandoned years before and was now being used for various purposes.)

The 1878 re-organization was made which lasted to the present day. The following members were admitted: Marcus Schuyler; Mrs. M. Schuyler; Mrs. Eliza Schuyler; Miss Mahala Stevens; Mrs. Helen Smith; and Mr. John P. McAfee from the U. Church. On June 13, 1878, a Sabbath School was o ganized by the Rev. LaPort, with 80 scholars and teachers. On April 7, 1878, the Rev. M.M. Lawsc accepted the call to the combined pastorates of C lina and St. Mary's. The pastor lived in St. Mary commuting back and forth over muddy roads. Th Rev. Lawson served the two churches until 188 when he resigned to devote his time to the S Mary's and Salem Churches.

The brick church was erected in 1882 at the co ner of Fulton and Walnut Streets. The church cor tinued growing. During Rev. Kreager's pastora from 1901 to 1905, a manse was completed and th church repaired at a cost of $2,875. During Re Lindsay's pastorate from 1924-1928, Church parlo and kitchen were added.

In 1949, the congregation decided to remodel th building at the corner of Walnut and Fulton. Aft the work had begun, it was discovered there wer problems in the foundation and walls and the build ing was condemned by the State. Because they wer unable to purchase additional property in 1950, was decided to buy the J.D. Johnson home whic was owned by the D.R. Smalley family. The insid of the building was remodeled to accommodate th growing congregation. The membership grew to 26 under Rev. John Gregory's ministry.

The First Church built in Celina, built by the Presbyterians; late used by the Methodists as a school house, also used by the Bap tists, built on lot number one hundred forty-nine, on the corner c Fayette and Ash Streets. Built in 1840, the church was twenty b thirty feet, the ceiling finished with paneled boards instead c plastering.

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The construction for the next manse was started larch 1956 and completed March 1957. In the early 960's plans were begun for the new church and the rst fund raising campaign was held. Ground breakg took place on July 28, 1968. Dedication was held ne 14, 1970.

Special dedicatory services for the newly installed eeple and signs on the north and south side of the urch were held Sunday, May 25, 1975 with Rev. anley R. Chapin presiding. The steeple was dedited in memory of the late Roscoe D. Riley while e Magnolia St. sign was dedicated to the memory the late Howard Leffler. The Johnson Ave. sign as dedicated in the memory of the late John iener.

On Sunday, September 12, 1976, in commemoraon of the bicentennial and the nation's religious eritage, a special re-creation of an eighteenth cenry communion service was conducted by Rev. hapin, outdoors at the farm of Timothy and Sanra Kennedy, Mercer and Auglaize County Line Rd.

Following a Scottish Irish tradition, bagpiper Robrt Wallace, Norwalk, Ohio piped the Bible to the ulpit where Sherman Mackey opened it to the conregation. Rev. Chapin used seventeenth and eighenth century liturgies and prayers. He was assisted y ruling elders of the church and Merilee Walter, e church organist.

June 4, 1978 an Allen Digital Computer organ, urchased with donations from church members nd replacing the 1937 Hammond organ, originally onated by Lib and Herb McClure in memory of hilip Redfern was dedicated.

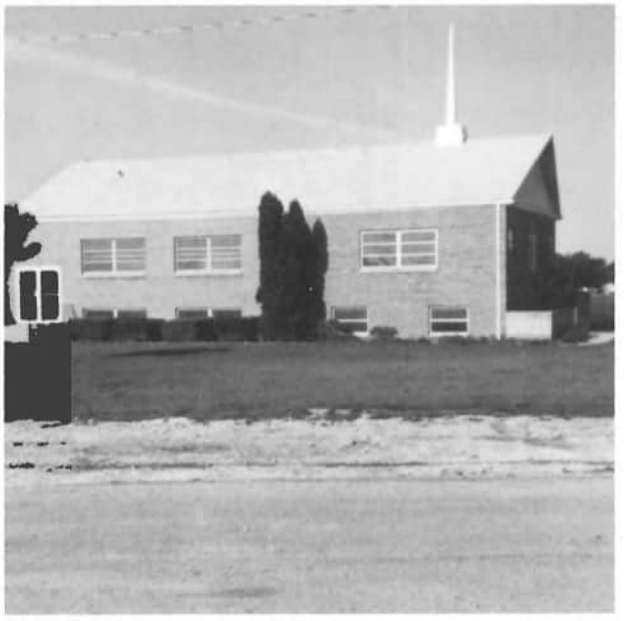
Rev. Chapin resigned from the pulpit June 11, 978, which left the church without a resident minster. A pulpit supply committee was formed and ey are now in the process of searching for a new inister.

CELINA CHURCH OF CHRIST

The present church was organized September 26, 948, by Robert Powell who served as their first inister. Worship services were held in the old Ea-e Hall on West Market Street in Celina. The young ongregation also held cottage prayer meetings each Vednesday evening in the homes of members.

After a time they purchased a house on the corner f East Livingston Street and County Road. This erved as a combination meeting place and a home or the minister's family until it was sold to buy land or a house of worship.

The Richardson Bretz Memorial on West Fulton treet was used as a meeting place until the present uilding was erected at 2035 East Livingston Street. Ground breaking ceremonies for the building were eld September 21, 1958. The outside structure was uilt by Stein Builders. The interior was completed y members and friends.



Celina Church of Christ, 2035 East Livingston Street, Celina, Ohio

Charter members of the church are Iris and Jim Rodgers, Mel Bodkin, Marjorie Bodkin, Evelyn Hone, Jim Hone Jr., Robert Olwine Jr., Gerald and Burnell Deitsch, Robert and Eleanore Powell, Robert and Nellie Woods, and Donald and Mary Colson.

The church decided to incorporate in 1958, so they applied to the state for Articles of Incorporation under the name of Celina Church of Christ. They learned that an earlier body of Christians had existed in 1892, with that name. Those signing the 1892 incorporation were: W. F. McDaniel, A. D. Marsh, Frank Betz, C. E. Riley, T. J. Godfrey, and James M. Taylor. The incorporation was notarized by Attorney John W. Loree.

It is not known how long this early group existed or where they met. There isn't any mention of them in earlier local histories. The articles were renewed, May 19, 1958, and the present group continues under the original name.

The Elders of the church are Arthur Parker Sr. and Gerald Babb. Deacons are Fred Tyo, Allan Colson, and Donald Colson.

The minister is Charles R. Houp. He will begin a full-time ministry October 1, 1978. He and his wife Jenna are moving to Celina from Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.

The purpose of the Celina Church of Christ is to reflect the attitude, doctrine, and worship of the church as described in the New Testament.

All Christian Churches/Churches of Christ follow no creed or doctrine other than the Bible. They fully accept the inerrancy of the scriptures and the divinity of Jesus Christ.

Each congregation is self-governed by a group of elected men called Elders. Elders have the responsibility of the spiritual growth and welfare of all local members.

The leaders and minister of the Celina Church of Christ have recently been instructing the church in spiritual unity and growth, personal evangelism, Bible study,. and family life. *Mary E. Colson*

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Grace Missionary Church, 1971

GRACE MISSIONARY CHURCH

On March 9, 1954 a group of Bible-believing Christians began meeting together to seek God's guidance for a place of worship. On June 3, 1954 an organizational meeting was held, and the group officially became a church and voted to make application to the Missionary Church Association for membership. Approval and acceptance of this membership by the Missionary Church Association was received on June 10, 1954.

The name of Grace Missionary Church was chosen by congregational vote, and the Andrews property, consisting of 5 lots — or ½ block — in the southwestern section of Celina, was acquired as a site for the new church.

The first trustees elected for Grace Missionary Church were: Elmer Hanni, Henry Amstutz, and William Stillberger. The first deacons were Lawrence Felver and Rufus Kneuss. Kenneth Grandlienard was the first Sunday School superintendent with only 5 classes under his supervision. The average Sunday School attendance for 1954 was 51 while the average attendance for morning worship was 57.

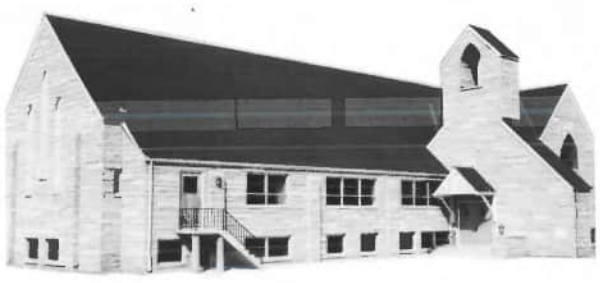
The congregation met in the Amstutz Hatcheries from June 3, 1954 until June 12, 1955 when they moved into their newly built church at the corner of Portland and Sycamore streets.

On August 1, 1954, 33 people were accepted into Grace Missionary Church as charter members. 18 of these charter members are still active in the church 24 years later.

The first pastor of Grace Missionary Church was Ralph E. Ogden, who served from July, 1954 to September 1957.

The new church building was dedicated on September 18, 1955 with 653 persons attending the afternoon service and many more being turned away for lack of room.

The next big project was the building of the parsonage adjacent to the church. This project was started in 1956 with just the basement, walls, and roof of the house being finished. In August 1958, it was decided to complete the parsonage. This was accomplished by March 6, 1959 when an Open House was held before the pastor moved from the basement to the first floor.



Grace Missionary Church, 1955

In the meantime, Rev. Leroy Rusher accepted th call as the second pastor of Grace Missionar Church beginning in September of 1957. He serve faithfully until September 1963, at which time Re Glen D. Head became the third pastor of the churcl a position which he kept until July 1, 1978.

It was under Rev. Head's leadership that th church bought 5 more lots as they became availabl so that today the entire block is church propert with ample parking space and room for more expar sion when needed.

In January of 1971 the congregation voted the approval of a new building program proposed by th church board. During this project 8655 square fe were added to the existing building. The sanctuar was enlarged, an addition was built on the east en of the church, a large fellowship hall was erected t the north, and the entire church was ai conditioned. This increased the number of Sunda school rooms by 10, provided for 2 new Sunda school departments, added 2 more rest rooms, large foyer, and the fellowship hall with complet kitchen facilities and nursery. These have adde greatly to the usefulness of the church.

This new building program was completed an dedicated on October 31, 1971. The total churc property is now evaluated at $500,000.

The present Sunday school is under the directio of Steven Howell as general superintendent with departments and 19 classes. The average Sunda school attendance for 1977 was 177 with an averag attendance of 187 for morning worship.

The 1978 church board consists of the followin Kenneth Grandlienard, Marion Freeman, Cliffor Eichenauer, William Enyart, Steven Howell, Robe Eichar, Bill Springer, Ralph Schultz, Edwin Stone Gerald Van Tilburg, John Cordier, and Charle Lynn.

On July 1, 1978 Rev. David D. Biberstein came a the fourth pastor of Grace Missionary Church. Th church is expecting great things for the future unde his leadership.

Grace Church has since its beginning been an avi supporter of missions. Over the years the followin missionaries have received support: Mrs. Timoth Warner, Rev. and Mrs. Ron Hodgin, and Mr. an Mrs. Bruce Head in Sierra Leone; Dorothy Rothsu and Stanley Kabaishai in Hawaii; Rev. and Mr Richard Starr, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Weyeneth, and M and Mrs. Jack Harrison in Ecuador; Zelda Pierson i Haiti.

The congregation is deeply grateful to the Lord fo His blessings during these first 24 years and is trust ing Him for an even more blessed future.

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1864 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH 1978

Immaculate Conception Parish, according to hurch records, was organized in 1864 by Rev. Jo-:ph Dwenger. He was a member of the Precious lood Order, serving as Bishop of the Ft. Wayne, In-.ana Diocese. He attended the Celina people as a lission Station from St. Marys during the years 364 to Dec. 1866. He visited every two weeks to old services in Joseph Zender's factory.

Assured of spiritual care, more Catholics moved Celina, making it necessary to build a house of orship.

Father John Van den Broeck, C.PP.S., directed a ubscription building fund during 1864 and 1865.

On Aug. 31, 1865, Archbishop Purcell came to elina to preside at the laying of the cornerstone of ie first parish church.

Completed three months later, the church was lo-ated on the corner of Anthony and Walnut Streets. brick construction, it measured 40 by 60 feet and ost $7,000. On Mary's feast, Dec. 8, 1865, it was edicated and officially placed under the patronage f the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin.

Rev. Bernard Dickman, C.PP.S., attended the par-h from Carthagena during the years Dec., 1866 to ine, 1869.

In addition to the priests already mentioned, other recious Blood Fathers serving the parish between ie years of 1864 and 1876 were: Mathias Kenk, Mi-hael Graf, Thomas Eisenring, and Ignatius Selb.

In 1876, Father Theopistus Wittmer, C.PP.S., be-ame the first resident pastor. A small frame house, ear the church, was his rectory.

With the help of a building committee, Pastor Vittmer supervised the erection of Celina's first pa-ochial school. It measured 35 by 40 feet, accommo-ated ninety pupils, and cost $1,200. In 1879 a small onvent was built and two Sisters of the Precious lood arrived to take charge of the school.

Because the number of scholars had doubled by 886, Pastor Andrew Geith, C.PP.S., began a drive or school funds. In the fall of 1889, a new Immacu-ite Conception Grade School opened its doors to ccept 220 students.

Pastor George Hindelang, C.PP.S., arrived at I.C. 1 1899. Under his guidance a building committee vas appointed to organize a fund drive for building new church.

Work began in 1900 and when completed three ears later, the grand Romanesque-style church ominated the Celina scene. The contract price was 52,000. The large glass-stained windows cost $3,-00. The women's Altar Society donated the main ltar. The communion railing, stations, Pilcher organ nd church bells were donated by parishioners, as vere countless hours of labor.

A new parish rectory was built in 1908. Located n the corner of Anthony and Sugar Streets, the arge brick residence was erected at a cost of $10,-00.

Continued parish growth made it necessary to aze the 1889 school and replace it with a modern chool. In September of 1918, the school complete with a gymnasium and auditorium was opened to the grade and high school students of the parish. The high school department offered only a three-year course until 1928. Then a fourth year of study was added and I.C.H.S. was granted a charter from the School Association of the State of Ohio.

The increase in high school applicants made it necessary to add to the parish plant. On Thanksgiving Day in 1933, the new high school building was dedicated. Erected on the corner of Anthony and Wayne Streets, it cost $72,000.

During the 1940's Pastor Albert Gerhardstein, C.PP.S., cared for the parish's needs. The Sisters' convent was purchased in 1949.

Pastor Marcellus Fortman, C.PP.S., helped to improve and enlarge I.C. Parish during the 1950's. The church roof was replaced and the interior was cleaned and redecorated. The total cost was $52,000.

By 1958 the Grade School was crowded with an enrollment of 560 — and so again the parish began to build. A 15-room addition plus the conversion of the gymnasium in the older section to an efficient cafeteria brought the I.C. school system up to date.

The 1960's brought more changes to Immaculate Conception Parish. A school board of lay advisors was formed to assist the educational process and a Co-ordinating Council was installed to assist with parish management.

Father Charles Bricher served at I.C. from 1963 to 1970. Father Cornelius Fenton then became pastor. Due to financial problems the parish high school was forced to close its door. The class of 1972 was the last to graduate from Immaculate Conception High School.

Fathers Joseph McNicholas and Robert Hunt were co-pastors during the year of 1972-73. It was during this year that the convent was sold.

Former Assistant Pastor Louis Osterhage returned in 1973 to become Pastor. During his stay, the rectory was completely remodeled, the church's interior was cleaned and outside ramps installed. Also, the annual July Church Festival grew to become an important fund raising and social event.

In 1977, Father Gregory Moorman took on the responsibilities of guiding and caring for the 1,200 families and nearly 5,000 souls who make up Immaculate Conception Parish today.

For a more detailed account of parish life, refer to the booklet published in 1964, I.C.'s centennial year.

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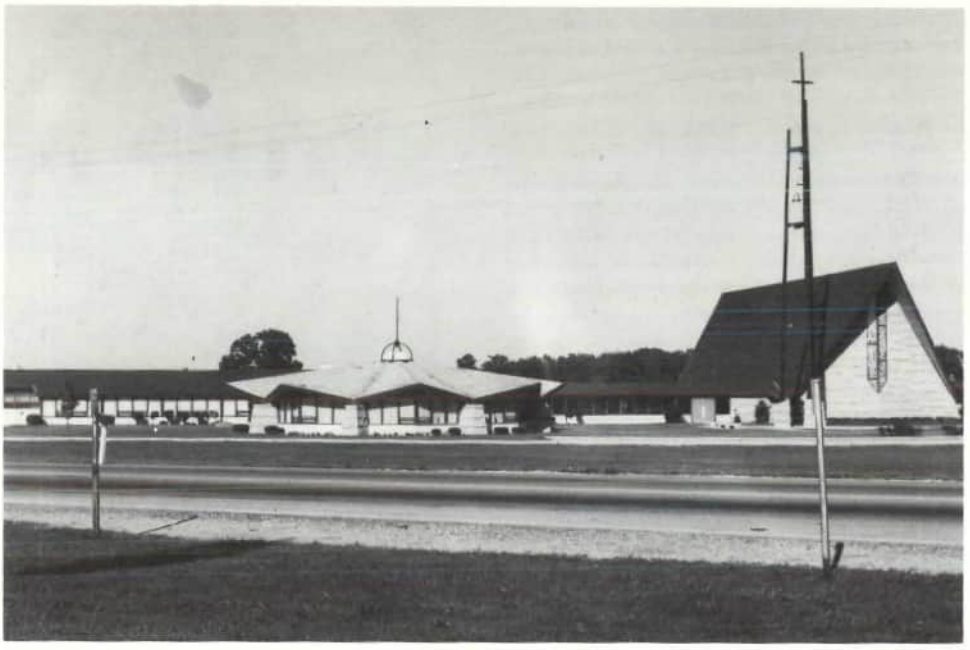

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

It is not known that there were any Lutherans in Celina when the City was founded in 1834. Records of early Lutheranism here are very meager. Lutheran services were held here as early as 1853, when pastors from neighboring towns and communities served occasionally. The services were held in the school house, private homes and the Presbyterian Church.

On June 21, 1858, one Maria Prior conveyed to Christian Fanger, John Pohlman, and H. F. Juneman, Trustees of the German Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed Church and their successors, Lot Number 248 Old Plat, Celina. The transaction was a gift.

The Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed Congregation of Celina was organized on January 6, 1869, and a church building completed on the above described lot in 1870. However the arrangement of Lutheran and Reformed Churches using the same property soon became unsatisfactory and they separated; the Reformed faction keeping the above property while the Lutherans bought elsewhere.

According to the best information obtainable, the congregation was organized in 1870 as the Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Congregation. The first page of the old record bears the date of May 16, 1870, and the minutes record an election of officers in 1871.

On May 5, 1871, one, A. J. Hodder for the consideration of $125.00 conveyed to Charles Fanger, John Luck and Michael Feldheiser as Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Congregation Lot Number 197 Old Plat, Celina, Ohio, at the northwest corner of Fayette and Cherry streets.

The first church was a plain frame building without steeple or bell, which still stands, remodeled into a duplex. Its erection was begun in 1874 and was dedicated in 1875. At this time the congregation did not have its own pastor, but was served by pastors from neighboring churches.

There is no record of a constitution having bee adopted in the seventies. It may be that the fir members simply drew together with the unde standing that theirs was to be a Lutheran Churc without setting down definite and specific rules. Th first recorded constitution was adopted in 1888.

In October, 1911, Rev. F. G. Reitz of Danbur Ohio, became pastor. At that time the communicar membership was between 100 and 120.

Almost immediately pastor and congregation be gan making plans for a new church. At a speci meeting held February 11, 1912, John Mesarve made a motion, seconded by George Heffner, t build a new church. The motion carried. On Augu 4, 1912, the church purchased the Roop Propert (now the site of the First Baptist Church at th northeast corner of Main and Anthony Streets) fc $3000.00. The dedication of the church took plac on Pentecost, May 23, 1915. Pastors serving the con gregation in this location following Rev. Reitz were J. C. Einfalt (1918-1933), F. T. Florstedt (1933-195 and Don R. Bachman (1960-1965).

In the Spring of 1945 a church building fund wa discussed. On February 22, 1955, a meeting wa called to study the need, and determine the approxi mate cost of a new church, which after severa months consideration was estimated to b $250,000.00.

At a special meeting on February 14, 1957, it wa unanimously voted to build a new church. At meeting on May 14, 1957, several building sites wer discussed, the most favorable being the Paul Re maklus property of approximately twenty-seve acres at the northeast corner of Route #127 anc Meyers Road for $37,500.00 and at a meeting or June 19, it was decided in favor of said site.

On June 21, 1959, Pastor Florstedt celebrated hi Forty-fifth Anniversary in the Ministry and tend ered his resignation to take effect November 1, 1959 A Letter of Call sent to Rev. Don Bachman was ac cepted and he was installed on the first Sunday ir May 1960.

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On September 2, 1962, the last complete service as held in the old Church with Holy Communion.

On Dedication Sunday, September 9, festivities egan at the site of the old Church where a farewell ervice of Thanksgiving began. With the conclusion f the Recessional hymn, "Onward Christian Soliers" the congregation filed out reverently and the rocession wended its way to the New Church at 10 North Main Street. There the congregation asembled and a Church Opening Ceremony was conucted, Pastor Bachman receiving the keys from the rchitect, William Gilfillen. Following the dedicaon of the Church, the Altar was dedicated to the lory of God and to the memory of the late Pastor F. . Florstedt, who passed away January 1, 1962.

The beautiful stained glass windows of St. John's re one of its most outstanding features. Stained lass is an ancient art in the Christian church. The indows that are used in St. John's, while very modrn in appearance, are a revival of an ancient ıethod of the use of stained glass. They are made of ıceted pieces of stained glass set in epoxy resin. he Willet Stained Glass Studios of Philadelphia ere the designers of these windows.

The stained glass windows depict the life of Christ y the use of symbols. Starting with the full bay on ıe north side of the church, there is depicted the Messianic prophecy. The north-east bay of windows ontains symbols from Gethsemane to the crucifixon. The south-east bay of windows presents the ord's Supper and the Resurrection. The full bay on ıe south pictures the Ascension, Pentecost, and rinity. The small windows in the back of the hurch symbolize St. John and Martin Luther. The hoir room windows are an abstract break-up of olor with musical notes defined in the matrix. The alcony window in the west end of the church deicts Christ enthroned in glory. Due to the large perentage of faceted glass used, it seems to shimmer in he light and can be seen from a distance outside the lumined church at night.

A complete Carillon Set, including automatic laying equipment, a one hundred foot bell tower, ontaining three bells was raised and hoisted in lace by the Don R. Fruchtey Steel Erectors of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and dedicated on June 27, 1965, at :30 pm with a Carillonneur presenting the concert.

The Carillon was made possible by a gift from Mrs. Marie Schlenker in memory of her husband, Dr. Ralph Schlenker.

On November 26, 1969, a full house witnessed the Church Mortgage Burning Ceremony, which was a art of the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service to our Good and Gracious Lord for all of His Blessings.

An organ fund was established and on January 21, 973, a Schantz organ was purchased. It was erected n the fall of 1973. It has two manuals with sixty-one ıotes and pedals for thirty-two notes. The organ has wenty ranks consisting of 972 pipes.

Pastors that have served at St. Johns: 1892-1898, rnst Schulz — first resident pastor; 1899-1900, E. ehne; 1901-1904, William Emch; 1905-1906, E. J. W. Mack; 1906-1911, J. E. Harmon; 1911-1918, F. G. Leitz; 1918-1933, J. C. Einfalt; 1933-1959, F. T. Florstedt; 1960-1965, Don R. Bachman; 1965-1969, Benon Bartell· 1970-1975, Jay D. Stratton; 1976-, Eugene N. Langholz.

Associate pastors have been Frank Dell (1965-1969) who then served as Pastor Emeritus 1969-1976, Wayne Zavotka (1974-1977) and Robert Linsz (1978-). Interns who have served the church are Ken Nosworthy (1967-1968), Douglas Meyer (1968-1969) and Frank Reisinger III (1969-1970), Jack Williams (1970-71), Eric Kampfe (1971-72); Don Pletcher (1972-73). In addition the church contributes to the support of a pastor in Brazil, Reverend Paul Hauenstein.

Currently the congregation numbers well over 1000 baptized members. In addition to the Sunday School, the following organizations are active: Luther League, American Lutheran Church Women, Junior High Fellowship, St. John Campers, Friendly Class and Scout Troop #108. Youth participate in church volleyball and basketball leagues. The church loans its facilities to various community projects such as the Bloodmobile and is ready to open its facilities to the community in case of emergency.

Three sons of the congregation are currently serving in the ministry of the American Lutheran Church. They are Luther Florstedt of Zanesville, Ohio, Donald Hare of Georgetown, Ohio, and Kirk Havel of Holland, Ohio.

1978-1979 officers include Robert Hawk, president; Richard Frahm, vice-president; Lois Snavely, secretary; and Edward Starr, business administrator. In addition, there are ten boards which govern congregational activities. Services are currently broadcast over radio station WCSM (96.7fm and 1350am) at 10:30 AM every Sunday.

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ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

East Fulton and North Main Streets

The first Methodist services in Celina were conducted by a missionary preacher, Reverend George Armstrong, under the Eldership of Reverend Elmer Yocum, in 1838 in a log meeting house shared with Baptists and Presbyterians. The second church was erected in 1856 during the pastorate of Reverend G.V. McPherson, and burned down in 1861. The third church was built in 1862 during the pastorate of Reverend P. A. Browne, on a lot facing Fulton Street one-half block off Main Street, and was replaced by a fourth church built in 1892 during the pastorate of Reverend A. E. Smith, who later became president of Ohio Northern University.

The present church building, which is the fifth, faces Main Street on an enlarged corner lot bought for this purpose. It was well planned, built wisely and well, with large sanctuary and outstandingly beautiful stained glass window above the choir loft. It was built during the pastorate of Reverend C. Harold Clerke. The pipe organ was a gift from Edgar Jacob Brookhart, honoring his wife who served as choir director for many years. Mrs. C. D. Rice was organist for more than fifty years. How the congregation worked to make money for this building! Mrs. Elizabeth Vordemfelde, president of the Ladies Aid, pledged $10,000, and the ladies raised it by paying $1,000 a year, giving dinners, quilting ... anything to earn money.

During the early 1960's, the new educational building was added during the pastorate of Reverend Stanley T. Benton. It includes three floors of Church school rooms, a small chapel, and spacious lounge.

In 1966, during the pastorate of Reverend Robert E. Miller, a program of remodeling was initiated and accomplished which provides for a center aisle in the sanctuary, the pastors' studies, the office area, the library, fellowship hall, narthex and kitchen area.

In a memorials program in 1976, an elevator and new and enlarged lounge were added, financed entirely by special gifts.

The church is a worshipping, working and serving Christian Community of 675 families and 1,250 members. Its rooms are open to the community when there is a need and space is available. Its missions budget reaches into Wesley Hall in Cincinnati, Friendly Center in Toledo, deprived families in Appalachia, a children's hospital in Haiti, a teacher in Ghana, and a rural development mission in India.

Dr. James E. Flinchbaugh is the 44th senior minister of St. Paul's. Those who have served in the present building are: The Reverends C. Harold Clerke, John S. Altman, Robert Kennedy, B. L. George, L. D. Vesey, Edwin Swinburne, G. Glen Hughes, Donald P. Mueller, Stanley T. Benton, Robert E. Miller, Glen I. Myers (Associate), Joseph A. Brannon (Associate), Donald E. Mumma, Harold W. Mowery (Associate), Jeannine S. Mowery (Education) R. Robert Metheny (Associate), Robert K. Chiles, John M. Stover (Associate), James E. Flinchbaugh.

Among a number of Sunday Church school classes for children, youth and adults, is the Wesleyan Class which has had a useful life for mo than sixty years. This class of little girls attende Sunday school and church and, as they grew t young womanhood, Mr. Otto Huffman became th teacher and was responsible for organizing an naming the group, "The Wesleyan Girls". Late teachers were: Mr. William Carolus, Mr. E. J. Brook hart, Mrs. Carl Andrews, Mrs. W. C. Stubbs, Mr Oran Monroe, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Murlin, Mis Helen Fetter, and Mrs. B. L. George. The preser teacher is Mrs. Wanda Carpenter, a devout Chris tian, Bible student and dedicated teacher. Membe ship and attendance total 30 to 40. Meetings are hel once a month for a business program, lunch and so cial hour. Contributions are made regularly to: Hen derson Settlement in Kentucky, Girls Home i Worthington, South Side Settlement in Columbu Navaho Indian Mission in New Mexico, America Legion Auxiliary for Christmas baskets, our sick an shut-ins, and other worthy causes. Miss Maym Griffith has been a member of the Class for sixty three years, longer than any other living membe Present officers are: Florence Smith, president Helen Malick, vice-president; Mabel A. Beachle secretary; and Marie Lime, treasurer.

This page of sacred memories was sponsored by the Wesleyan Class of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, and prepared by Mabel A. Beachler.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church Educational Building

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EAST OLD TOWN CHURCH
United Brethren In Christ

In the eighteenth century, the first new denomi-tion in the New World came into being, formed imarily by Germans in America. Many were Men-nites and German Reformed groups in Pennsylva-a and Maryland. In one meeting of this group Wil-m Otterbein and Martin Boehm made the atement, "We are brethren," and with this the new oup was formed. The United Brethren in Christ read rapidly through the eastern states and con-nued westward with the settlement of the Country. ney took a strong stand against slavery during the vil War. A "born again" experience was stressed, id is still a part of its tenets today.

In 1889 the denomination divided, and the group ho retained the Old Constitution of 1841, with shop Milton Wright (father of Orville and Wilbur) its leader, became known as the "radicals". A oup of these persons in eastern Mercer County egan plans for a new church. They first held their eetings under a beech tree in the woods of Henry pringer. As winter approached, the worship ser-ces were moved into his barn. In October of 1891, nd for a church was donated by Edson B. and Su-e Miller. Edson, along with Henry Stansbury, enry Springer, Joseph Wolf and Absolam Ash-augh, were the trustees of the new church. With ev. Thomas Weyer of Van Wert as their pastor, the eople built what has been known as the East Old own Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Iuch of the labor was donated by men of the com-unity. The women also gave much assistance as ey prepared the meals and lodging for the work-s.

The first seats in the new building were planks. lo pulpit desk was available for the first service, so stand was improvised with broomsticks placed in a oss position as legs. This provided a place for the inister to lay his Bible. When the people came to-ether for that first service in their new sanctuary it was a great day for them as they worshipped and thanked God for His kindness to them.

Charter members were: Henry, Edward, Amanda, Lucinda, Charles, Harvey, and Alzada Springer; David, Ellen, Eliza, Maggie, and William Ashbaugh; Albert and Harriet Hile; Mary, Anna and Ida Dibble; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stansbury; Orena, Minnie, Emma and Walter Stansbury; Francis and Sarah Copeland; Mary and Aletha Reel; Leah, Josephine and Theresa Jacobs; Edson, Susie, Fannie and Rutherford Miller; Joseph, Isaac, David, Fred and Mary Wolf; Barbara, Mary and Ben Fast; Matilda Bricker; Cassie Hammond; Charles and Melissa Osborn; Mary Fisher; Susan Pierce; Anda Linden; and Henry Snider.

More than thirty ministers served the church over the period of its existence. Flossie (Duncan) Fast was the first convert. She later became a Quarterly Conference minister. Several other ministers, missionaries, teachers, and nurses have answered the call to full time service in the extension of God's kingdom. This was the result of a people who "kept the faith".

A little more than seventy years had passed since the thrill of building the House of God came to that congregation. In 1960, with a different congregation, but one with the onward Christian vision, a new decision was to be faced. The community had changed and people were moving toward the city. The decision was on the question, "Shall we relocate our church?" Many began to feel that if the most were to be accomplished for the Lord, the church must be relocated. After consultation and much prayer, it was decided to relocate in a new housing development in St. Marys. Mr. Paul Kessler, who was developing the Hillsdale addition, was contacted. He was interested in the project, and donated two acres of ground for a new church. On that site a new church was built — The Hillsdale United Brethren in Christ.

Land had been obtained for the East Old Town Church on Oct. 28, 1891. The last services were held Oct. 29, 1961. Seventy years had passed. The congregation looked forward to new horizons, for they felt that God had great things in store for them. East Old Town Church had served well its place in the history of the community.

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BEAVER CHAPEL CONGREGATIONAL-CHRISTIAN CHURCH

In the year 1880 the people who were living in and around Swamp School in Jefferson Township, Mercer County, Ohio, were hungering for religious worship and some members of their community went on a Sunday morning to a small Methodist Church located west of Coldwater where a young minister, Rev. Daniel Carter, was holding services, being on the M. E. circuit from Ft. Recovery, and asked him if he would come to their school house and hold services for them. This he consented to do if Saturday evening or some week day evening service would do, as his Sundays were all taken up.

They gladly said any time, so he made several trips to the school house conducting services for them and always found the building crowded with people. Owing to the roads at that time, his only way of going from one appointment to another was walking and his greatest concern was to get there in time for service.

Due to circumstances in his home he gave up his pastoral charge in the fall of 1880 and entered Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. But the seed had fallen on fertile fields and the religious worship was continued in the school house until the year 1887 when a building was erected for church services, paid for by funds solicited from the community adjoining.

At the request of the interested worshippers, the late Rev. O. S. Greene of Ft. Recovery came over to Swamp in the fall of 1887 — when the new church had been built — but the seats had not arrived yet, and organized a Christian Church (called the Beaver Creek Sabbath School) with fifteen charter members, at SW corner of Karch and Swamp Rd. The family charter members names are McCoy, Meyer Brandon, Gallihugh, Platt, and Garrison. The olde being fifty-one years of age and the younge twenty-four years old. He became their regular pa tor and that winter there were fifty-four more adde to the church.

The church met January, 1903 for the purpose restoring the church records as much as possibl The original records were destroyed by fire in th home of Frank Beyer.

The church grew in interest and attendance an the room was found too small to take care of th people who attended so it was remodeled and mad larger in 1908.

Again in the year 1924 a basement was placed be neath the church and later a furnace was installe which adequately heated the building. Also the ol seats were replaced with chairs.

The religious vine planted here in 1887 by th good people of God and watered by the dews fro heaven still grows and in 1931 a Sunday Scho room, seating nearly a hundred people was added t the building.

Another important event happened in 1931. Th Christian Churches and the Congregationa Churches merged into one Conference.

In 1951 a special meeting was held in regards t

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curing land from John Sink for a parsonage. Mr. nk agreed to donate a lot 100 x 125 feet, but a parnage had to be started before the elapse of 2 years the land was to be returned to him. A milestone the church's history was reached. In 1952 the parnage was built and dedicated debt free.

In 1957 our Conference made plans to merge with e Evangelical and Reformed Churches. The Layen and some of the pastors did not wish to go with is merger. After much work and prayer 30 urches in our area withdrew from the merger and ganized the Midwest Congregational Christian nference.

As the church continued to grow, a new educaonal wing was built and dedicated in May 1963. his included Sunday School rooms, a nursery, restoms, and a basement with a kitchen and fellowip hall.

In 1972, the sanctuary was redecorated and refurshed with new pews and carpet. Storm windows, sulation and electric heat were also installed.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe that the Bible is inspired by God, inllible, and that it is the authority for the church. 'e believe that the Bible is profitable for doctrine, r reproof, for correction, and for instruction in ghteousness.

2. We believe that there is one God, forever existg in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

3. We believe in the deity, virgin birth, sinless life, id miracles of Jesus Christ. We believe that Christ sted death for every man and that His death made e atonement to God for our sins. We believe that e arose on the third day to live forever and to asnd to the right hand of the Father, and that He is oming again in power and glory to this earth to dge the living and the dead.

4. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Spirit absolutely essential for the salvation of lost and nful men.

5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy pirit by Whose indwelling power and fullness the hristian is enabled to live a godly, holy life in this esent evil world.

6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved id the lost; those who are saved unto the resurrecon of life and those who are lost unto the resurrecon of damnation.

7. We believe in the spiritual oneness of all who elieve in Jesus Christ.

A LISTING OF THE FAMILIES ATTENDING SUNDAY SCHOOL IN 1978

Clyde Wurster family, Elmer and Dale Brandon milies, Harold Lyons family, Harold Peters family, erneice Sibert, Francis Burch family, Clarence Yaey family, Bessie, Jerry, Galeon, and Wilma Jean eiby families, Leota Baucher, Bessie Sheets, Paul rouch family, Nathan Blake family, Wayne aucher family, John Hamsher family, Robert Thees mily, Floyd Yaney family, Robert White family, rthena Pearson, Nelson Vance family, Mary aucher Ellis, Joyce Wilson and Children, Larry Vurster and family. Other young people: Becky uck, Marsha, Sondra, and Julie Shadrach, Lisa and llen Lykins, Susan Smith, Kim, Rebecca, Ronnie exton, and Rosalind Miller, Connie and Brenda lack.

THE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

THE CHURCH'S BEGINNING

After a revival in June, 1928 with Rev. Maffit and Rev. Cook in a tent at the corner of Warren and Walnut Streets, the following became charter members of the Celina Church of the Nazarene: Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Ayers, Miss Esther Harris, Mrs. Josephine Redmond, Miss Gladys Redmond, Kenneth Redmond, Mrs. Nettie Jackson, Miss Ruth Jackson, Carl Jackson, Robert Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Nolan, Margaret Crouch, Rev. and Mrs. Robert Goodwin, Paul Goodwin, Robert Goodwin, Jr. and Owen Goodwin.

On the Fourth of July, 1928, Rev. C. A. Gibson, Superintendent of the Ohio District, Church of the Nazarene, met with the group to organize the church. Mrs. Bertha Green opened her home as a temporary place of worship. Later, a house was rented on Summit Street for parsonage and place of worship.

Pastors who have served are Robert Goodwin 1928-30, Rueben Oren 1930-32, Minnie Moorehead 1932-40, Wilson Lanpher 1940-43, J. I. Moore 1943-47, H. J. Maish 1947-49, M. S. Johnson 1949-53, J. B. Budd 1953-56, Wayne Sharp 1956-61, Max Karns 1961-65, John Bruce 1965-69, Robert Bradley 1969-71, Chester Henneman 1971-77, M. Ray Snow 1977 — presently serving the church at the corner of Blake and Walnut.

The Church of the Nazarene is evangelical in doctrine and evangelistic in practice. We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, the Foundation of Christian faith, and the Guide to devout, God-fearing living. We believe in revivals, in preaching repentance and urging men and women to forsake sin and seek God for forgiveness and cleansing.

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THE RICHARDSON & BRETZ MEMORIAL BUILDING

The Richardson & Bretz Memorial Endowment is a charitable foundation created under the will of Dr. David H. Richardson, dedicated to art, science, literature and moral uplift. The authority for this endowment was authorized in Dr. Richardson's will of which Harold Bowman was to be the executor.

The original trustees named were Dr. Frank E. Ayers, John Spriggs and Charles A. McKim. After their decease Carroll A. Stubbs, Savella Johnson and Dr. Walter Scheidt acted. The present trustees are Russell Hattery, D. B. Spangler and Bill C. Toms.

Dr. David H. Richardson, born in 1848 was reared in Ft. Recovery, Ohio, where he attended school and where at the age of eighteen he began reading medicine under the instruction of his father Dr. John C. Richardson one of the pioneer Physicians of Mercer County. About a year later he started studies at Starling Medical College at Columbus, Ohio and graduated in the spring of 1869. He then located at Celina.

In January 1869 he was married to Mary Lehmkuhl. To them were born two children, a son who died in infancy and a daughter Minnie who became the wife of John M. Bretz of Celina. Dr. Richardson passed on March 20, 1936.

A bronze plaque on the wall in the lobby of the building states the donor of the building and its proposed uses. One room is used as a museum for the display of oil paintings and china by his wife and daughter. On display also is the doctor's gold headed cane. One meeting room is reserved for use of the Mercer County Medical Society and houses his medical library.

A larger meeting room with a possible seating capacity of around 150 is made available to local organizations for meeting purposes. Some fifteen organizations are now holding meetings there. There is also a kitchen and utility room.

The architects for the building are Fanning & Howey, Celina, Ohio.

Open House was held Sunday, September 7, 1975.

UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB

University Women's Club of Mercer County open to any woman with a four-year degree fro any college. It was started in the 1930's to bring t gether women college graduates who were inte ested in encouraging and assisting young Merc County women to further their education. Thr charter members are still members of the club 1978: Bernice (Smith) Bryan, LaVaun (Sprigg Nickel, and Lucille (Netts) Younger.

The first minutes on record are for October 1 1936, when the club was a branch of the Americ Association of University Women. One of their fir projects was starting a scholarship loan fund. In N vember that year they sponsored an exhibition paintings by Ohio artist Joseph Pfister for the ben fit of the loan fund. It drew guests from throughou the area and Indiana.

Other early fund-raising efforts were bake sale white elephant and rummage sales, benefit brid parties, collecting sales stamps, and occasional mo ies at the Celina theater (on a percentage basis).

Evelyn Meyer was the first scholarship recipie and was awarded $100 a year in 1937 through 194 According to early members, keeping money in th scholarship account for even one student was a cha lenge, and in 1938 the club voted to drop its affili tion with AAUW and use all their funds within th local community. University Club of Celina later b came country-wide.

The interest-free loans are now $500 per year an area awarded on the basis of scholarship and othe criteria. Any high school woman graduate in th county is eligible to apply and the loans are usuall renewable until undergraduate work is complete The loans are repayable in the same number years as used. In the fall of 1978, $8,400 was grante to 17 students, including four new recipients.

The primary source now of income is dues an the sale every fall of shelled pecans. This proje started in 1952 with an order of perhaps 200 pound In 1978 club members sold two and one-half tons.

UWC has also taken an active role in support the local college and the Mercer County Program fo the Mentally Retarded. Two successful efforts wer the 1965 Spring House Tour for the benefit of th (then WOEF) college library, and a 1973 Fall Fashio Show for the Cheryl Ann School Building Fund.

The gavel in use by the club was made by Shirle (Knight) Gunyou's father when Shirley was presi dent in 1961-62. *By M. Fuhrwerk*

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AYERS ASPHALT PAVING, INC.

Ayers Asphalt Paving, Inc. was started in the ring of 1953 as a blacktop paving contractor, ilding and resurfacing driveways with asphalt oducts. The Company began operations with two ıployees, one used dump truck and one small ed roller. The equipment was purchased with oney borrowed from a local bank because the vners, Charles H. Ayers and Pauline A. Ayers, had en married only one and one half years and they d no opportunity to accumulate any money. The yments on the equipment and the payroll were ade from the small earnings of the Company. The st year in business the Company had total sales of 8,000.00 and Charlie earned $15.00 per week in ages.

The second year the sales were up to $45,000.00 d the Company was now starting to pave parking eas and other larger jobs together with the smaller iveway jobs. By 1956 the Company had grown to a oint where it was able to finance the purchase of irteen new dump trucks which was the largest ırchase of automotive equipment ever recorded in ercer County.

In 1960 Ayers Asphalt Paving became Ayers Asalt Paving, Incorporated with Charles H. Ayers as esident and Treasurer and Pauline A. Ayers as ice-President and Secretary. The Company contined to expand and was now doing work in six earby Ohio counties plus some work in Indiana. In ldition to the driveway and parking area jobs, the ompany was now engaged in the complete conruction of streets and roads for political subdivions such as The State of Ohio, Counties, Townıips, Cities and Villages.

By 1969 Ayers Asphalt Paving, Inc. was doing ,500,000.00 in annual sales and regularly emoyed between 40 and 45 people. Charles H. Ayers ırchased the land east of Celina at the northeast rner of Steager Road and State Route #703. A mbination office and shop building 120 feet long d 60 feet wide was constructed near the north end the area. All of the equipment plus the hot mix ant and the storage tanks were moved to this locaon.

Charles Douglas Ayers who had worked for the ompany for a number of years each summer ined his father, Charles H. Ayers, in 1977 as superıtendent and manager of operations. Craig Michael yers worked at various jobs during his summer vaıtions and is now studying business administration The Ohio State University. Daughters Elise Marie yers and Mary Ellen Ayers each worked in the ofce during their summer vacations from school.

The motto of the Company has always been "No b too large or too small".

BELL & HORN

On October 16, 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Floyd of Greenville, Ohio sold the Celina Firestone Store to James R. Bell and Noel R. Horn. The business was renamed Bell & Horn. Both new owners were formerly Goodyear store managers so they changed to Goodyear with tires and batteries as the major items. One of the side lines was appliances and television. The store was located at 112 N. Main St. in Celina across from the court house near the Celina Theater.

Over the years appliances became a larger part of the sales and eventually the tire department was eliminated.

In April 1963 Noel Horn sold his interest in the business to Mr. Bell. Mr. Horn then moved to Greenville and opened an appliance and television store there. The store in Celina retained the name Bell & Horn and has since continued as an individual ownership.

By 1973 Bell & Horn had outgrown their Main Street location. After extensive remodeling they moved to 204 W. Market St. The new location more than doubled the display area. They eliminated television from the products handled and expanded the appliance department to display the largest General Electric appliance selection in the area. The new location also includes a paint and wallpaper department.

In the spring of 1977 another remodeling moved the appliance parts room and put in a new clock, lighting fixture and plaque display.

Over the years appliance service has been a large part of Bell & Horn's continuing effort to back up the appliances they sell. They now have three (3) factory trained service technicians, a service shop and a large parts department.

Over the years, Bell & Horn has won several awards for excellence in Appliance Retailing and most recently were recognized for twenty-five (25) years as a General Electric dealer.

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BAIR PHARMACY

Bair Pharmacy, 101 S. Main St., Celina is the oldest drug store in the County. Founded in 1866 by George Zay and listed in the 1888 *Mercer County Atlas* under "Books, Drugs, and Jewelry," the store has continuously been located at the corner of Main and Market streets.

In 1893, Charles and Rochester "Roy" Wyckoff purchased the business from Mr. Zay, their brother-in-law, and changed the name to Wyckoff Brothers. One year later the "Great Fire" of 1894 leveled the entire block. The building was rebuilt to the present stairway on Market Street with the drugstore being the sole occupant.

After several years Charles Wyckoff developed tuberculosis and moved to the West for his health. Henry Puthoff purchased part of the business and the name became Wyckoff & Puthoff. This partnership continued until 1907 when Roy Wyckoff purchased a dredge on the Mississippi River. The business was sold entirely to Puthoff with the stipulation Wyckoff could buy it back if he ever wished. After a few years the dredge sand and Roy Wyckoff r turned to Celina.

In 1922 a partnership was formed between R Wyckoff and Robert Ross and the business was pu chased from Puthoff. The name was changed Wyckoff & Ross. Roy Wyckoff died in November 1941 and Ross continued the business under tl same name. A partnership again was formed in 19 when Willis W. Bair purchased half-interest in tl business. Mr. Bair had worked in the drugstore sin high school days. He attended Ohio Northern Ur versity and served as a pharmacist in the U.S. Na during World War II.

Robert Ross sold the remaining interest to M Bair in 1948 and became Mercer County Probatic Officer until his health forced him to retire in 196 The name was changed to Bair Drug Store with Ba and Gene Arnold as registered pharmacists un 1959 when Paul Arnold graduated from Oh Northern University and joined the staff at Bair's a registered pharmacist.

October, 1963, Gene Arnold purchased Van Fle Drug Store in Rockford, Ohio. Paul Arnold r mained as manager until August 24, 1973, when I purchased the business from Bair. The name of Ba Pharmacy has been retained at present along wi the constant aim to provide the customer with th latest items in the health and beauty field in a ful service store.

The soda fountain for which Wyckoff's was a ways noted was removed in 1951 to make room fc more shelf space as the number of items more tha doubled. The constant striving for improvement ha brought recognition from the college level. Ohi Northern University College of Pharmacy has cor tracted with Bair Pharmacy to provide pharmaci instructors for the extern program. The senior pha macy student trains in the pharmacy as a part c their college experience with the registered pharma cist in the store becoming the instructor. The pr gram is being studied by other colleges entering th extern program.

L. to R.: John Good, Henry Puthoff, Ed Gerlach; 1907 - 1922

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BROWN DRUGS

Paul and Betty (Fetters) Brown, both natives of elina, founded Brown Drugs in January, 1955, hen they purchased the Kindell Drug Store on outh Main Street. Prior to this, Paul graduated in harmacy at Ohio State University in 1950 and was e store manager for the Gallaher Drug Co. in Day-n, Ohio.

It was in July, 1961, that Brown Drugs moved to a ew location in the Plaza Shopping Center on North ain Street, in a room adjacent to Marsh Supermar-et. The drug store was incorporated in March, 967, as Paul Brown became President and David uilling, Vice President. Mr. Quilling had been a erk at the drug store during his high school years Celina. He attended and graduated in 1962 from e College of Pharmacy at Ohio Northern Univer-ty.

The store was expanded to its present location in pril, 1970, and is now the Walgreen Agency Drug ore of Mercer County.

Brown Drugs

Bryan's Bridals

225 E. Market
East of Main on SR 29
Celina, Ohio 45822

Phone: 419-586-3336
Home Phone: 942-1263

In January, 1972, with permission from the Zon-g Committee of the city of Celina, Bryan's Bridals pened in the front portion of the residence at 122 ast Wayne Street. Bernice Bryan had been inter-ted in garment construction for years for her fam-y and as a 4-H advisor. She became aware of the eed for a complete wedding attire shop in the elina area, as she, being a business teacher, heard lans for weddings being discussed by students dur-ng school breaks. When she opened her shop on Wayne Street, she and a home economics teacher nd a seamstress worked part time during evenings nd Saturdays. Ten feet of racks held the sample ridals, bridesmaids and mothers' dresses from hich wedding apparel was ordered. Within a few onths, tuxedo rental was added in order to coordi-ate whole weddings.

By the spring of 1973, larger quarters were eeded. Mr. and Mrs. D. K. Bryan purchased the x-room house (pictured here), located at 225 East Market Street on SR 29 one and one half blocks east f Main Street (SR 127) zoned business, from Doris arber. The front was enclosed to make a showcase nd vestibule.

Now there was room to increase the number of amples as well as handle formal lingerie, shoe sam-les, invitations and other formal and wedding ac-essories.

Mrs. Bryan's dream of a complete wedding attire hop is fulfilled as she has increased her stock many many fold and employs six employees besides her-elf. Bryan's Bridals are open stated times, about 50 ours per week, plus extra appointment times help-ng brides and grooms over much of Ohio and Indi-na by outfitting complete weddings as a specialty.

Mrs. Bryan, with bride

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BRUCE GREEN FORD, INCORPORATED

Bruce Green Ford is located east of Celina on State Route 703. Bruce Green is president of the corporation; B. Mark Green is vice president in charge of sales operation; Robert F. Green is vice president in charge of parts and service; and Dorothy B. Green is secretary.

Bruce Green purchased the agency from Otis Johnson, who had operated it for 38 years on August 1, 1960. At that time it was located at 220 West Fayette Street in Celina. On February 22, 1963, the dealership burned down when a furnace blew up and completely destroyed the building. Luckily, prior to the fire, the body shop had been moved to the corner of Brandon and Touvelle so service was not interrupted. At 1027 North Main Street a gas statio was leased from the Mobil Oil Company to set u temporary headquarters. On October 1, 1963, th operation was moved to the present location.

The dealership grew rapidly and on April 1, 196 incorporated. What had started out as a $500,000 year business has grown into over a $3,000,000 busi ness. Besides selling Ford cars and trucks, the busi ness handles a leasing operation to provide the spe cialized demands of all its customers.

Two long time employees are Donald C. Poor i sales since October, 1960, to the present and Jerom Osterholt, mechanic, since October, 1960, to th present.

Bruce Green Ford, Incorporated has been awarde the Distinguished Achievement Award and the Dis tinguished Service Citation which explains thei ability to sell in excess of 600 units per year.

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CELINA COFFEE SHOP

'here has been a restaurant at 211 South Main eet throughout the history of Celina. The Celina fee Shop has been owned by Pat McKirnan since 1, when he and his father Dan McKirnan bought business.

'he first known name of the business was the midt Restaurant, which was bought by Fred lenker around 1900. About 1908, because of a iness of about 200 to 300 customers nightly, lenker built a new building and named his restrant the "Manhattan." John McKirnan, who marl Irma Schlenker, Fred's daughter, eventually ıed the business.

'he new building had a ladies entrance and hall ding to the dining room. This arrangement was ch like the old building. The outlines of the hall y still be seen in the pattern of ceramic tile in the fee Shop's floor. The knotty pine booths were talled in the 30's.

:ventually wanting to be on his own, John McKir- opened a restaurant in the building which now ıses the City Loan. This was the original Coffee)p. In 1939, John died and his widow operated the ffee Shop until 1941, when it was bought by Dan Kirnan and his son, Pat.

'or the past 34 years the restaurant has been)wn as the Celina Coffee Shop. Owner Pat Kirnan still runs the business with the kind of de which nowadays seems old-fashioned, but ich sets the Coffee Shop aside from many other taurants. McKirnan cuts the meat for the restau- t.

Coffee shop employees make their own jelly, ich is served with little loaves of homemade ad.

'or 28 years, pies were baked by "Mother" Lulu hlar. She would often bake as many as 22 kinds one day. "We'd see her when she came in in the rning," said McKirnan. "She'd go down to the cing room in the basement and then we wouldn't her again until she went home in the afternoon."

Early in the morning of September 22, 1974, a fire)ke out in the Coffee Shop. The cause of the fire s a faulty electric appliance cord. Although the was confined to the kitchen, there was considere smoke damage to the other parts of the build-. When asked whether he planned to remodel as ult of the fire, Pat McKirnan replied, "Why)uld I remodel? I like the place just the way it is."

CELINA GLASS

In late January of 1958, Celina Glass was becoming a reality. We were then building the necessary bins for storage, as well as a workable cutting table. A showroom was also becoming real, along with a waiting room with a TV which was rarely seen. This was a family affair, for my wife was playing a very big part on every level. Our family, of which there were six, was still quite young. Our work, which we had talked about before and accepted, was cut out for us. The days were long but enjoyable, because we were starting a brand new business (the glass business) which Celina had never seen before. After proving that we were honest and sincere about what we were doing and planning, people accepted our service.

I was eager to learn all the things that made the business better, but I found that it was a never-ending process, from getting credit to making decisions on the best investments, time, and money. For example, I always believed that hanging a sign out would automatically create all the business I would need to provide for my family. This wasn't true, but I knew that if I did a good job, people would give me a chance, and they did. I made mistakes, but could see a new day, which would be more challenging, but better.

After six years, we found we were running out of floor space, but noticed the room next to Celina Glass was twice as large as the current operation. After talking to Mersmans, the board which occupied this space, it was agreed that moving would be a benefit, and so it was. We took on new products, and our work was spreading into a three county area. Products changed, but I always found that after awhile I became familiar with new products. In the long run, it was for the better. We finally acquired the real estate to build a new building, which meant another move, this time to the other side of town. By this time, my son Barry was helping part-time. We did move, and now Celina Glass sports their sign in a location where we have made many new friends.

The construction part of our business gives us a chance to work in schools, hospitals, bank offices, and showrooms for many different retail and factory businesses. Barry and Terry are now part of Celina Glass, both being married with fine families. Two sons, Gary and Randy, have fine jobs doing what they like best.

Now twenty years have passed, which I say with great pride. Kim, one of my daughters, is helping with front-end sales and bookkeeping. Tammi is now in high school.

I am Gene Rolfes, and am now learning to make drawings, etc. and estimate work. Celina Glass is now known in a five county area and we hope to expand our existing building to 8400 square feet. Thanks to Celina and surrounding area for the chance to prove that we were serious about making it better.

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1914's "Hare-brained Idea" Became 1978's Celina Group of 14 Companies

In 1914, rural and small town Americans were putt-putting happily into the automobile age. Farm families and residents of isolated communities discovered that Henry Ford's Model T opened new horizons, provided economic opportunities and gave them a mobility unknown in the entire previous history of the human race.

Before the acceptance of the motor car, farm people's travels were limited to a dozen miles from their land, the distance that could be traveled by horse and buggy in daylight hours. Here was new freedom, and rural America rushed to buy automobiles.

In Celina, Ohio, Edgar J. Brookhart watched the motorization of his neighbors with intense interest. Brookhart was born in Hopewell Township, Ohio, and raised on a farm near Celina. An attorney trained at Ohio Northern University, he practiced law in Celina, with real estate and insurance as sidelines.

Each week, he watched more and more Model T's crowd Celina's streets on Saturdays. They came piled high with farm products and packed with family members. They left with newly purchased feed, supplies and clothes. He knew he was watching a revolution.

Brookhart also knew insurance. The big eastern insurance companies had started to write fire insurance on autos. E. J. Brookhart thought the rates charged were too high and nursed the idea that a small town insurance company especially organized to serve rural areas could provide insurance more efficiently.

He interested four acquaintances in his idea for an insurance company in Celina. Under Brookhart's leadership with $10,000 in borrowed capital, The National Mutual Automobile Insurance Association was incorporated in September, 1914 as an assessment association writing fire and windstorm insurance on automobiles. J. D. Johnson was named pr ident; O. F. Rentzsch, vice president; W. T. Palm treasurer, and Brookhart was secretary and gene manager. These four men, along with T. A. W made up the board of directors.

E. J. Brookhart's fellow townspeople thought was foolish. Comments of "hare-brained ide "wild-eyed dreamer" and "going to be a disast were a few of the things he heard.

The company started business in Brookhart's tv room law office in Celina's Richardson Building. spite of local skepticism, the National Mutual survive. By the end of 1915, it had about 8,000 p cies in force. Brookhart was the company. He the underwriting, appointed agents, handled coll tions and settled claims, all with the help of just c clerk.

Quickly, it became obvious that fire insurance autos alone was not enough for the company prosper. As more people bought cars, some peo started stealing them. E. J. Brookhart determined convert his fledgling company from an assessm mutual writing fire and wind insurance on cars t pre-payment mutual writing fire, windstorm a theft insurance on all types of property. There w one problem. Ohio's insurance laws required $10 000 in surplus for such a company, and the Natio Mutual had only $65,000. Brookhart found needed money, and in March, 1916 The Natio Mutual Automobile Insurance Association beca The National Mutual Insurance Company.

With the structural change in the compa growth came easier. Brookhart was able to add p ple to handle the increased work load. The compa outgrew his law offices, so later in 1916 the Natio Mutual moved to the second floor of the Natio Bank Building.

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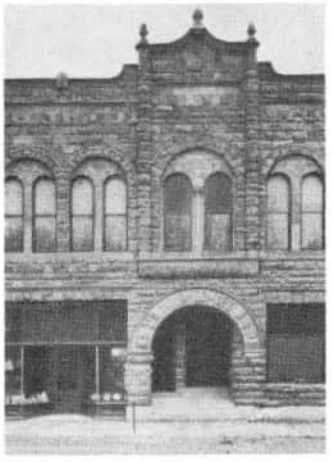

: insurance companies
ıpied the second floor
he First National Bank
lding from 1916 until
5.

Under the insurance laws then in force, fire insurce companies couldn't write liability insurance for dily injury or property damage. Brookhart knew al expansion would come only when he was able write liability as well as property insurance. So in 19, he and his associates incorporated The Celina utual Casualty Company to operate as a compann to the National Mutual. Brookhart also became cretary and general manager of the Celina Mutual. With the deaths of W. T. Palmer and T. A. Weis, W. Parsons joined the companies as treasurer and ɔra M. Brookhart (E. J. Brookhart's wife) as a direcr. O. F. Rentzsch was elected president when J. D. hnson resigned.

In April, 1923, a man who was to be a major influıce for more than 40 years joined the two compaes. He was C. M. Montgomery. Born in Ada, Ohio, ontgomery attended Ohio Northern University ıd worked as an accountant for Firestone Steel and ie Concrete Steel before coming to Celina as a ıtistician for the insurance companies. By 1925 he as assistant secretary.

Edgar J. Brookhart in his office about 1933.

The bank building offices were overflowing by the mid-twenties. A new building, designed for the companies, was built on South Main Street and occupied in July, 1925. The two-story structure, to which a third floor was added in 1940, housed the companies for 37 years.

Deep antagonism divided the insurance business into two camps. Agents representing mutual companies had nothing to do with insurance companies owned by stockholders. Agents representing stock companies had the same attitude toward mutual companies. To tap both sides of the business street, Brookhart experimented with a stock company, Mercer Casualty Company, organized in 1926. Mercer Casualty was managed by the same executives who ran the National and Celina Mutuals.

In 1929, the Great Depression struck. Business activities everywhere wound down. Millions were out of work. Insurance companies felt the crunch during the four worst years of the economic collapse.

C. M. Montgomery is at the right rear and A. W. Parsons is sitting at right front in this photograph made about 1926. The other two men are Ohio insurance examiners.

The National and Celina Mutuals found growth difficult, but they stayed alive. A retired executive of the companies, who went to work in Celina in July, 1931, recalled the depression days this way: "We managed, one way or another. Mercer Casualty got the worst of it, because it was a new company. In December, 1931, all wages were cut 10%. We wouldn't hire a married woman if her husband was lucky enough to still have a job. Mr. Brookhart said one job per family was enough for anyone. But amazingly, we never laid off a single person. Our people were lucky, compared to what was happening everywhere else."

By the late 1930's, the United States was climbing out of the business doldrums. Once again, insurance expanded, boosting the two Celina mutual companies. With things looking brighter, World War II exploded. For two years, the U.S. watched the conflict. Then on December 7, 1941, the Japanese spilled the first blood of the Pacific war.

Again, the companies in Celina felt a pinch. This time it was people, as every healthy man under 35 disappeared into the armed forces. War plants with their high wages siphoned off many other men and

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women. Office equipment had to last, because there wasn't any new. Executives helped with the mail. Agents' meetings vanished. But wartime driving restrictions slashed auto accident rates, so that claim payments were low. In spite of difficulties the financial strength of the National and Celina Mutuals grew.

Mercer Casualty never recovered from the blow dealt by the depression in its early years. Growth was minimal, and it never achieved a profit. As a result, Mercer Casualty merged with Celina Mutual in 1942 and vanished.

With the end of the war in 1945, the companies' skilled people returned. Travel restrictions faded away. The United States set off on a remarkable economic growth which was to last nearly 30 years. Business expansion, a home-building boom and increasing numbers of cars opened the market for insurance. The National and Celina Mutuals grew with the economy.

For 36 years, E. J. Brookhart guided the two insurance companies he had founded, bringing them through two world wars and a major depression. On August 6, 1950, he died after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage.

C. M. Montgomery was elected secretary-treasurer and general manager to succeed Brookhart. Under his leadership, The National Mutual and The Celina Mutual Insurance Companies entered a period of change, expansion and restructuring.

Historically, insurance companies wrote property insurance or they wrote liability insurance. In 1953, Ohio along with other states changed the laws so that one company could write both kinds of coverage. The name of The Celina Mutual Casualty Company was changed to The Celina Mutual Insurance Company, and it entered the property insurance business. The National Mutual started writing liability coverages. Both companies developed package policies which combined property and liability coverages.

This building on S. Main St. housed the companies from 1925 until 1962.

C. M. Montgomery

The third major management figure in the co panies' history joined the staff in 1953, when D W. Montgomery became general counsel. The s of C. M. Montgomery, he had a law degree from C lumbia University and had been an Assistant Att ney General of Ohio. He was appointed a director the companies in 1954.

With the advent of the multiple line insuran concept, National and Celina grew with new ener The corporate structure was reorganized in 19 with C. M. Montgomery named president. O. Rentzsch, who had been a board member since 19 and president since 1924, became chairman of t board of directors. Don Montgomery was elected e ecutive vice president and secretary. An annex w added to the office building in Celina. Still mc space was rented in other Celina buildings.

A different approach to growth occurred in 19 The American Mutual Fire Insurance Company Milwaukee was a property company headquarter in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1960 it merged wi National Mutual to become the basis for Celi Group's growth in that state.

The headquarters building in Celina was ove flowing. The other quarters scattered about tov hurt efficiency. In 1961, construction started on tl present Insurance Square building. Moving da came a year later in August.

The Main Street building did not go empty. Wi the Celina Group providing much of the leadershi the Western Ohio Educational Foundation was o ganized to establish a college level institution in tl Grand Lake area. A successful campaign provide the necessary start-up funds. Celina Group leased i vacated building to the Foundation for a nomin fee. Ohio Northern University provided the facult and in the fall of 1962, a two-year college opene with an initial enrollment of 260 students.

Later Wright State University took over the pr gram from Ohio Northern. Wright State occupie the former insurance building until its new campu was built on the lake shore. Mercer County no uses the building on Main Street for office space.

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ed for space led to this add-on building on Main St. Additional ce was rented in other buildings.

When the Republic Mutual Insurance Company, Kansas-based firm, faced financial problems in 62, the Celina management took over. After a ansition period, Republic was transformed into a n-standard auto insurer and specialty lines writer d has prospered since.

In 1963, ill health forced Rentzsch to resign as airman of the board, ending a business association nich lasted nearly 50 years from the day he helped ganize The National Mutual Insurance Company. e died a year later. C. M. Montgomery was named airman to succeed Rentzsch, with Don Montgom- y stepping up to president and general manager.

The National and Celina Mutuals supplied the pital to organize Celina National Life Insurance ompany, a stock company, in 1964. The following ring, Celina Financial Corporation was incorpo- ted with a public stock offering for capitalization. elina National Life then became an operating sub- diary of Celina Financial.

1961 and construction was begun on the new building.

An extensive data processing department had developed to serve the four insurance companies that were the Celina Group. It was split off in late 1966 and incorporated as Midwest Service Center, Inc., another subsidiary of Celina Financial. The name was changed to Midwest Data Systems, Inc., in 1969. Midwest solicited business from non-related insurance companies, in addition to work it did for the Celina Group companies.

Don W. Montgomery

The first generation of management came to an end November 1, 1968, when C. M. Montgomery died. Don Montgomery assumed the post of chairman of the board while continuing as president.

Pennsylvania's Washington County Insurance Company, which dated back to 1837, had come upon hard days. As a result, it became the fourth mutual insurance company in the Celina Group in 1969. The name was later changed to Washington and Jefferson Mutual, and the company specialized in surplus lines insurance.

The growth pace speeded as the Celina Group entered the 1970's. Frank T. Slater, Inc., Philadelphia, a pioneer in the field of data processing service bureaus, became a subsidiary of Celina Financial in 1970. It was merged into Midwest Data Systems in early 1975.

Celina Financial's second stock issue took place in 1972 to capitalize another subsidiary company, Ohio Reinsurance Corporation, Ohio's first domestic reinsurer. A reinsurance company assumes insurance from other insurance companies so the potential risk on any policy doesn't exceed a predetermined amount. Ohio Reinsurance's business activities are now worldwide.

In late 1974, a major building expansion got underway. Twenty-five percent more work space was added to the Group's headquarters, with the additional quarters occupied in October, 1975.

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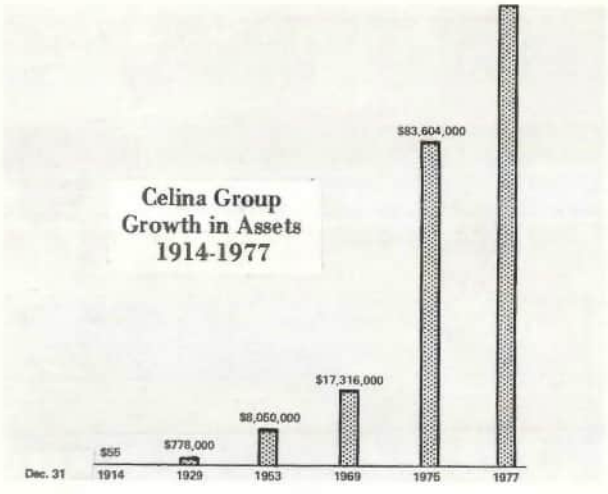


A fifth mutual insurance company joined the Celina Group in 1976. It was Black Hawk Mutual Insurance Company, a residential and property insurer in Illinois with headquarters in Peoria.

Another long-time associate of the Celina Group retired in October, 1976. H. C. Bowman's association with the companies dated back to 1919, when he was one of the original incorporators of Celina Mutual. He also was one of the original incorporators of Mercer Casualty and was elected to the boards of both National and Celina in 1929. He continued to serve as a director of both companies until his retirement.

Two companies providing specialized services to the insurance industry became subsidiaries of Celina Financial in 1977. National Elevator Services is the nation's largest elevator inspection service. Acme Audit and Inspection Services does premium audits and property inspections for insurance companies throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Michigan and Kentucky.

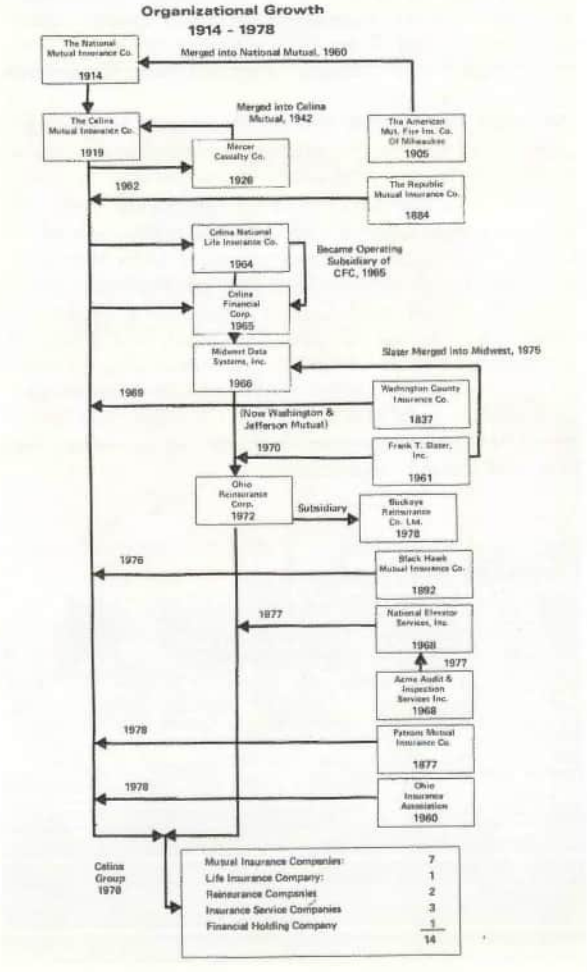
In the spring of 1978, two additional companies became part of the Celina Group. Patrons Mutual Insurance Company insures property in Ohio, with special attention to farm properties. It is located in Bellville. Another company, associated with Patro Ohio Insurance Association, became the seve mutual insurance company in the Group. OIA i post-assessment mutual, which means that poli holders do not pay premiums in advance. They assessed after the company's experience is kno So after 64 years, Celina Group has in one small v returned to its origins, because the National Mut started out in 1914 under the same type of ope tion.

Another 1978 development was the establishm of Buckeye Reinsurance Company, Ltd. as a subsi ary of Ohio Reinsurance. Located in Hamilton, B muda, Buckeye Reinsurance was set up to expe Ohio Reinsurance's overseas activities.

1978's complex of 14 companies, whose busin covers the globe, with assets of more than $103,00 000, bears little similarity to the infant automob fire insurance company which finished 1914 w $55 in assets. Yet there is continuity of direction a management that traces back to those first da There also is a spirit of growth, planning and adv ture which promises more changes in the next f years than the National and Celina Mutuals exp enced in their first 50 years.

After this history was completed, an eighth m tual insurance company became part of the Celi Group. Mutual Fire Insurance of West Virginia organized its board on July 27, 1978 and affilia with Celina.

Started in 1974 and completed in 1975, a 20,200 square feet addition to the Insurance Square building increased usable space by 25%.



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CELINA LUMBER AND SUPPLY COMPANY

The P. Kuntz & Herr Lumber Company was incorrated in year 1894. The original members of the poration were: Peter Kuntz, President; Charles rr, Vice President, from Greenville; Bernard mer, Secretary, from Saint Henry; J. H. Winkelın, Treasurer and General Manager.

Ferd Winkeljohn joined the firm in 1919 as Astant Manager. The name of the company was anged in 1929 to Celina Lumber & Supply Comny, with Ferd Winkeljohn becoming a Vice Presint and General Manager. The major stockholders ing The Peter Kuntz Company, Dayton, Ohio and rd Winkeljohn, Celina.

A major remodeling and improvement program ıs completed in 1942. The Yard was named the st looking (remodeled) in a National Contest that ar, and it remains architecturally unique in build-ş material outlets.

Besides its Retail Lumber, Building Materials and ardware Supplies, it operates a Wood Manufactur-ş Division; supplying Industries in a more than ıe hundred mile radius with all types of specialized ood packaging, boxes, pallets, etc.

Lumber is supplied by West Coast Manufacturers, well as Southern Yellow Pine. Native hardwood mber is used in manufacturing, as well as lumber om Southeastern Ohio and Northern Michigan. It erates its own fleet of trucks and the employees ımber approximately 32.

Robert Wolters became General Manager in 1972. ıles have quadrupled in recent years, both in reiling and manufacturing. A Kitchen and Bath Cenr has been added, as well as a House and Remoding Planning Center.

CELINA MUSIC COMPANY

The CELINA MUSIC COMPANY was formed by Paul S. Recker in 1949. In September 1956 a partnership between Paul S. Recker and Clarence B. Neargarder was negotiated. This partnership remained in effect until the death of Paul S. Recker in August 1965. Clarence B. Neargarder purchased the remaining half of the business and an individual proprietorship was formed and remains at the present time. The Celina Music Company is located midway between Celina and St. Marys on State Route 703. The company installs all major brands of coin operated phonographs (Seeburg-Rowe AMI-Rockola-Wurlitizer-Prestige), Pool Tables, Bowling Machines, Foosballs, Electro Machanical Pin Games and the latest Electronic Pin Games. These machines are installed in taverns, restaurants, cocktail lounges, bowling alleys, and etc. on a commission basis. The Equipment is owned and serviced by the Celina Music Company.

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FRIENDSHIP IS A SPREADING TREE

Our "Roots" are not here in Ohio but rather in faraway Kansas and Michigan. However, we appreciate the loveliness of Ohio and its unique history. We salute the fine people who subdued this wild, swampy, quaking land with several "sink holes" or quicksand. They would be amazed to know how this area was eventually used. An early French family in Celina contributed their name to the street known as TouVelle. Countless Indian moccasins whispered paths over it, their wearers pulling travois that made the indelible pattern of later Frahm Pike. The land bears scars of busy people dreaming dreams. Down through the years it sustained life for those who lived upon it.

First use of course was for farmland. Some buildings have vanished. A buggy factory was short lived. Celina built a water tower and a rambling brick machinery storage shop. A church, a beauty shop and a grocery store served citizens. Some land for a railroad was bought for $250 and the rails ran parallel to Mill Street. Mill Street was the City/County limit line and was reputed to be the road with the deepest mud in NW Ohio. The business that flourished best was the huge greenhouse that used an entire city block. For this enterprise a 60-foot double, brick chimney was erected and later crashed down in the name of progress. Perimeter cement walls enclosed the area but they fell giving way to beautiful trees and gardens. Yes, Celina is a city of many, many beautiful trees and we are grateful.

The soil and climatic conditions now give nourishment to a great variety of trees that include: Pin Oak; Golden, ruby lace and Sunburst Locust; Fern leaf and copper Beech; Tulip trees; Chinese Chestnut; Golden Rain tree; Crimson King Maple; Pagoda; and Shagbark Hickory. A special favorite is the interesting-gorgeous Ginkgo. This tree at one time covered the entire world and is one of the oldest known fossils. It is self fertilizing — much in the manner of a human being. Loveliest of all is The Tree of Life *whose name comes from Revelation 2:7. "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life which is in the midst of the paradise of God."*

"Undaunted by Decembers
The sap is faithful yet
The giving earth remembers
And only men forget" . . . . . Burris Jenkins

In the years that follow this publication Mercer County history will continue to roll out a carpet of memories for Celina folk to walk upon. Look back! Look back! and remember . . .

Celina Mobile Home Park & Sales and its owners Ruth Landrith Odebrecht and Lloyd Roger Odebrecht (Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd R. Odebrecht)

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CITIZENS COMMERCIAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

This brief history was taken from old records of e bank. According to the best information availa-, the original meeting of people interested in hav- a bank in Celina was held January 29, 1870. At it meeting, the "Celina Building and Loan Associ- on" was actually founded by G.W. Raudabaugh, . Godfrey, E.M. Piper, R.G. Blake, A.P.J. Snyder, ristopher Schunck, and Abner Davis.

The original location was the Richardson Build-, the area now occupied by Grapners Shoe Store.

After a period of growth and favorable acceptance the public, the Celina Building and Loan Associa- n was sold to Millegan Godfrey and Company in bruary 1872. In 1874, ground was purchased to ct a new building on the same site the bank now cupies.

In June 1888, C.E. Riley and John B. Pulskamp ned the Godfrey and Millegan Company as part- rs and the name was changed to the Commercial nk.

On July 27, 1894, the bank building and the entire ck of Main Street from Market to Fayette Streets s destroyed by fire. It is interesting that the nk's vault proved its strength and none of the ntents were effected in any way. After the fire, the nk occupied temporary quarters on the corner of ain and Fayette Streets. In May 1895, it moved o its new building erected on the present site.

In 1914, the bank again outgrew its quarters and mpletely remodeled and enlarged its work area. ese new quarters were occupied in September 14.

During the depression, in March 1933, the Presi- nt of the United States declared a bank holiday. banks closed for nine days and on March 15, 33, all banks which proved solvent, were permit- l to reopen for business. The Commercial Bank ssed the test and immediately reopened.

The Bank continued to grow during and after orld War II and in 1952, entered the field of in- llment lending. This has proved to be a needed vice to the public and over the years a separate an Department was established.

With continued growth in business and employ-, in 1955, the bank expanded to the rear of the ilding to provide a new bookkeeping department, ard of Directors Room and Executive Offices.

The Commercial Bank led other financial institu- ns in the area by offering the first drive-in bank- facility in 1956.

In 1957, the stockholders of The Commercial nk and The Citizens Bank unanimously approved esolution to consolidate thus forming the Citizens mmercial Bank.

Before consolidation, the two banks were sepa- ed by the Celina Fruit Market. After the formal erger, September 3, 1957, extensive remodeling s undertaken and the three buildings were con- cted to form one business establishment.

After the merger, the combined assets were $10,- 0,000 and at the end of 1977, combined assets re $71,619,988.

The Citizens Commercial Bank after the merger in 1957 and remodeling in 1958.

As the years went by, the bank continued to expand and grow by serving the agricultural needs of Mercer County, adding new services and providing additional offices for customer convenience. In 1969-70, main office facilities were again expanded to the second floor where a new bookkeeping department, executive offices, and Board of Directors room were provided. On the 100th anniversary, an Open House was held in the newly remodeled bank.

In 1972, the Summit Street Branch in the northern part of Celina was opened. In October 1972, the Citizens Commercial Bank merged with the Peoples Bank of Ft. Recovery to establish an office in the southern part of Mercer County. And in 1974, a branch office was opened in Chickasaw to serve residents of Marion Township.

The Bank was an innovator in the area by offering two new services in 1977. A Trust Department was added in June 1977, which enables the Bank to assist in estate planning and administration. With the addition of the Trust Department, the Bank name was changed to The Citizens Commercial Bank and Trust Company. The second new service was Tabby Timeless Teller — an automatic teller machine that allows customers to do most banking transactions 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Citizens Commercial Bank was the first financial institution in Mercer County to offer these services.

The Citizens Commercial Bank and Trust Company looks forward to the future dedicated to the continuance of sound banking practices, sincere in its desire to provide the best in financial service to all residents of this great community.

Citizens Commercial Bank and Trust locations:

Main Office 115-119 S. Main Street Celina, Ohio 45822	Summit Street Branch 115 W. Summit Street Celina, Ohio 45822
Marion Township Branch State Route 274 Chickasaw, Ohio 45826	Peoples Branch 131 N. Wayne Street Ft. Recovery, Oh. 45846

The Commercial Bank after remodeling in 1914.

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THE CELINA MUSIC STORE

The Celina Music Store first opened for business in April 1949. The business was the result of a partnership formed by Norbert Bany, operator of the Bany Music Store at 130 West Fayette Street, and Paul Miller. The Bany Music Store was established in 1947.

The first store room at 130 West Fayette Street was a 25 x 40 area. In July 1950 Paul Miller bought out his partner and moved the business to a 18 x 100 foot room at 128 West Fayette Street.

Elmer Schweizer, who had formerly been Band Director at Arcanum High School for two years, and Celina Senior High School for five years was employed at the store in June 1953. In January 1954, Mr. Schweizer bought the store from Mr. Miller and continued the business as the Celina Music Store.

In September 1960 the sales area of the store was expanded to 40 x 100 feet when the entire Kinnison Building at 126-128 West Fayette Street was remodeled into a single store room.

The second generation entered the firm in June 1977 when Dean Schweizer, a music education graduate of Miami University, became store manager.

The Celina Music Store offers a complete selection of band and orchestra instruments, pianos, organs, sheet music, and stereophonic equipment. A staff of six teachers are available for instruction on all musical instruments.

Celina Music Store
PHONE (419) 586-2296
126 - 128 WEST FAYETTE ST.
CELINA, OHIO 45822

W. H. DICK & SONS FUNERAL HOME

The Celina operation of W. H. Dick & Sons Funeral Home was established on Market Street in Celina, Ohio in 1937, while also maintaining the original location in Mendon, Ohio. In the mid forties, the trend of viewing in the family home shifted to viewing in the funeral home, with the services also usually there or in the church. By now, Mr. Dick's two sons were associated with him in business; Charles and Hubert, both graduates of the Cleveland College of Mortuary Science. Ambulance service, in conjunction with funeral directing was always maintained as a full time, twenty-four hour service for the community.

In 1968, a spacious, all new, modern facility, encompassing nearly eleven-thousand square feet, was built on the Market Street property in Celina. The buildings which had housed the original operation are now being utilized as private residences in Harbor Point and on Main Street in Celina, Ohio.

Thus a business which had been established sixty-five years earlier in a small rural community was now serving a larger area in the tradition of solemn ritual and dedication to service that has always been its goal.

The Celina building also serves as the residence of the Charles Dick family.

Charles A. and W. Hubert Dick are co-owners of the establishment.

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Celina Empire Family Restaurant, present

EMPIRE

In, 1966, John Irmscher and Ed McGillvary, both ith previous food service experience, decided to art their own restaurant. The operation was started ith the following motto and it will always be their esire: "Quality, Service, and Cleanliness all rank umber One with Us." To continually remind them this desire and to let the public know, the name as chosen because the name conveys a feeling of a above average restaurant.

The Corporation Office, located originally with e commissary, moved to larger facilities in a trailer the Hoover Mobile Home Court, then to a house a East Market Street, finally to a new building in ly, 1973 in Celina at 136 N. Enterprise Street. A oard of Directors consist of three officers and two utside directors: John Irmscher, President; Edward cGillvary, Executive Vice President; Larry Howe, istrict Manager of Store Operations; Ed Noble, Attrney at Law with Noble, Montague & Moul; and illiam Dull, C.P.A. with Dull & Ault Co. Field Operations are supported by a District Manager, and aitress and Kitchen Supervisors. A construction d maintenance Department was started in late 76 to service all locations. The office is comprised six people to support the officers.

There are approximately 500 employees at our owing chain of eight restaurants located in Celina, rbana, Troy, Greenville, Piqua, Van Wert, Englewood, and Sidney. Plus plans include a desire for accelerated expansion.

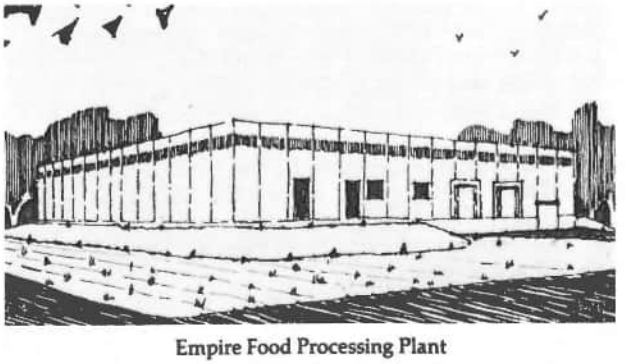
The first restaurant was opened in Celina in May 1966, with 78 seats and originally designed as a drive-in business. It was one of the early curb services in the area.

In each restaurant we have a manager, two assistants plus relief assistants. In order to delegate more responsibility we have developed a system for team leaders. The concept is that everyone works more closely with management to maintain quality, service and cost controls. There is an extensive training program for hourly personnel and management and also a program to draft outside personnel.

As the industry was changing our image moved to a coffee shop facility in 1969 and then in a few years it became a true family restaurant. Keeping with the family restaurant concept, in 1973 the Celina Restaurant was remodeled to increase the seating capacity to 140; but the only restaurant to have curb service. Keeping with this concept, each location was changed to a family restaurant concept serving complete dinners.

Empire owns a commissary presently located at 534 Touvelle Street that was opened in August of 1967, to serve its restaurants. This plant is operated to simplify the restaurant involvement in food preparation, which also provides better control of product portions and enables everyone to serve the desired quality on a consistent basis. We are in the construction process of a new facility ten times larger than our present building and can serve thirty to forty restaurants. This new "Empire Food Processing Plant" will be federally inspected and it will enable us to cross the state line. It is located on a five acre plot at the Industrial Park in Celina, Ohio.

Celina Empire Family Restaurant, 1966



Empire Food Processing Plant

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SAM DIXON MOTOR SALES, INC.

1926 After graduating from Celina High School, formed partnership with father Virge Dixon, who had $2600.00 (with a mortgage of $2500.00 on his home). We went by the name of Virge Dixon & Son to operate a Used Car business in a Livery Barn at 206 W. Fayette St. My father had considerable experience in the Used car business, having left the farm in 1911 to take a 90 day course at the YMCA automobile school in Cincinnati to be an automobile mechanic. He had Garages: first in Willshire, Ohio, Bryant, Indiana and then built a garage north of Wabash, before moving to Celina in 1916. Dad made several trips with me to buy cars in Detroit and in its vicinity, then turned me loose with the check-book and I did most of the buying and he the selling. Cars were very cheap in Detroit (repossessions) during the winter months, but people around Celina would not buy many cars in the winter months unless they were at bargain prices. My father conceived the idea of the Auction Sale, so starting in Nov. through March (from the fall of 1927 to 1931) we would hold one sale a month on a Saturday and sell from 35 to 65 cars on each sale to both retail and wholesale buyers. The Auctioneers were: Floyd Purdy, Irwin Dowty and a Mr. Hirschfeld, with Herbert Schindler as clerk, we would also sell around 50 cars at wholesale and retail per month.

1927 Signed contract for Auburn Automobiles, bought and sold one Auburn. Opened a Used Car store in Piqua, a 50-50 partnership with an Uncle and went under the name of Snyder, Dixon & Co., (I did the buying and delivering (Detroit cars) and my uncle did the selling. (Dissolved in 1931)

1928 We were a charter signer of the DeSoto franchise in 1928, and in 1928 and 1929 we sold more DeSotos in Celina than either Ford or Chevrolet.

1929 Late in 1929 sold our DeSoto Parts and sign to Wm. (Bill) Brown, (Celina Auto Co.) In the fall of 29 opened a used car lot in Sidney and closed it after four months. 1929 to 1934 were the depression years, and we lost 75% of the money we had made up until the depression.

1933 Roosevelt, the New Deal and NRA (under the National Recovery Act an automobile dealer had to sell his new cars at full price, not a penny discount and would have to take in the trade-in at guide book figure which was very low, this law was later declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court) this ruined our used car business in Celina. In January sold 15 cars to a dealer in New Orleans which we had to deliver. Banks and Finance compa nies had tightened up and the dealer could not pa for them. So we had to retail them from a lot at 131 Canal street, by the time we sold half of them an placed the money in the Canal Bank & Trust Co., closed its doors and never did reopen.

In October we dissolved our partnership and m father went to Dallas, Texas and opened a Used Ca Lot at 2222 Main street on automobile row.

My father suggested to bring the family and dozen cars to Dallas for Xmas which he would bu from me. West Texas dealers would come to Dalla and pay what had formally been retail prices befo NRA. In those days Texas was like another worl they were Texans and did not go or believe in NRA Roosevelt, etc.

Anyway my Dad suggested we resume our par nership. I would buy the cars in Ohio and ship the to Dallas, he would do the selling on that end. Th worked fine, I would send two or three convoys o each week from Celina. No trouble finding drive as going to Texas or Calif. would be like going China today.

We did very well until July, when business suc denly stopped. The Drought of 34 had set in, an there would be no Cotton or Corn crops that year.

So we took our better cars to California, an found the market good. There were no assemb plants on the west coast and new cars sold for thre to five hundred more due to freight costs. We ha taken the wrong cars, the demand was good f Convertibles, 2 Doors and large cars. (It was to rough a go for my father so he came back to Celina but I made 18 trips (one a month) with an average 25 cars a trip from Celina to LA.

As there were so many cars coming into Cali from the east the railroads were losing so muc freight revenue, they got the Legislatures in th western states to pass laws to tax cars going throug their states for resale purposes. Cheyenne, Wyo ming alone charged $3.00 a car just to go throug their small city. Nevada $55.00 a hook-up. So I mad my last trip in Dec. 1935.

1936 On Jan. 2nd Virge & Sam Dixon were bac together in the Used Car business, wholesale and re tail. This month we took on the Packard Franchis and sold about 35 New Packards that year. (mo than Buick & Cadillac combined.)

In August we signed the Pontiac Franchise an opened an associate Pontiac Dealership in St. Mary which my father operated.

That was a bad winter for me, loaded up wit New & Used Cars, Parts, receivables equipment an low on cash.

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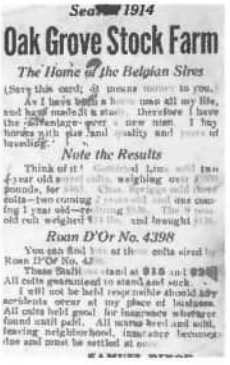
1928-1929

On Xmas eve, 1936 my Landlord called me and in rough voice told me he wanted his building va-ıted by January 2nd (where was I to go). I went to ıy Landlord on the 26th and asked him what I had one for him to treat me like this. He said nothing as wrong, that he liked me, but that he wanted ıore rent. I asked him the amount and he said the ıme rent for the six winter months but he wanted 20.00 more per month for the six summer months. suggested that I just pay $10.00 a month more per ıonth but that he give me a 5 year contract, with an ption to re-new for another 5 years. We agreed. — ut he sure ruined my Xmas.

937 Signed Willys Franchise
941 Sold over 400 New Pontiacs
942 R. H. Turner is employed
942-3-4 Bought cars in New York City and con-oyed them to Celina
945 Company became a corporation
946 My son Sam H. Dixon joined the company
948 Signed our Cadillac Franchise
949 Moved into our present building in April
950 Started holding our own installment con-ıcts
960 Signed our Buick Franchise
978 My Grandson Sam K. Dixon joined the com-ny

Our Corporation employs 25 people and covers ,855 square feet of building and lots.

We are still selling Pontiacs, Buicks, Cadillacs and oodwill Used Cars and having fun. *By Sam D. Dixon*


Sea 1914
Oak Grove Stock Farm
The Home of the Belgian Sires
Note the Results
Roan D'Or No. 4398

Sam Dixon (1859 - 1936)

Virge Dixon (1886 - 1943)

Sam D. Dixon (1907)

Sam H. Dixon (1928)

Sam K. Dixon (1956)

Randolph G. Dixon (1958)

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F & W SALES AND SERVICE

Ferd Wannemacher and Brothers started in 1922. They sold Nash, Hudson, Packard Studebakers until 1959. In 1959 Gene Ford bought out Wannemachers Garage and changed the name to F & W Sales and Service Inc. At that time, he sold Studebakers and Ramblers. In 1969 Rambler changed its name to American Motors. At present, F & W handles American Motors cars and jeeps.

Wannemacher's Garage

Federal Land Bank Association of Celina

123 WEST SUMMIT • CELINA, OHIO 45822 • TELEPHONE 586-4229

In 1916 the Federal Farm Loan Act under the supervision of President Woodrow Wilson was passed to establish 12 Federal Land Banks. The Banks were to fill a need for a long term agricultural credit throughout the nation. In 1917 the Federal Land Banks branched out into Associations, each association covering one or more counties throughout the states.

It was found that the Federal Land Bank Associations had a marked influence on the economic influence of agriculture. It provided the farmer with a dependable loan in good times or bad times and operated on a cooperative basis. The interest rates were to be kept as low as economic conditions would permit. The goal was to carefully plan a good loan to meet the individual needs of the farmer.

In Mercer County, Ohio the first Board of Directors consisted of W.E. Hendley, D.W. Hawkins, J.A. Yaney, Bernard Desch and C.G. Snyder. The first manager was W.W. Snyder. D.K. Bryan was the next manager to serve Mercer County. In 1945 A.W. Koenig of New Bremen became manager and durir his term of office, Mercer County Associatic merged with Auglaize County Association. They b came known as Mercer Wapak National Farm Loa Association.

At the present time 1978, Bernard L. Thrush, O ville Dues, R. Richard Stephenson, Kenneth Anke man and Max McMichael are serving on the Boa of Directors. R.L. Baker is the Manager and has bee with the Association for 20 years. Assisting M Baker are Mr. Joe Mack, Assistant Mgr. and M Tom Schlenker, Field Asst. The Association is no known as The Federal Land Bank Association Celina, serving Auglaize, Allen and Mercer Cou ties.

It is interesting to watch an Association grow. 1928 the Board of Directors held their Annual Mee ing with 33 people present. In 1978 just fifty yea later the Annual Meeting was held with 785 mer bers and guests present.

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1ST NATIONAL BANK

A tradition of sound, secure and progressive banking gan when The First National Bank of Celina officially ened on July 31, 1900 as the result of the foresight of e founding directors; the Honorable Judge James H. ıy, Dr. John E. Hattery, Charles Howick, William Toulle, Frank Benke (all of Celina), Michael Mooney (St. arys), and Frank Bimel (Sidney).

First National began business under the presidency of dge Day with original capital of $25,000 and one office W. Market Street in Celina. Judge Day served until his ath in 1917.

Dr. John E. Hattery succeeded Day and served until his ath in 1928. Known for his integrity, Dr. Hattery's 21 ar presidency ranks as one of the longest of any of the First National presidents.

According to local lore, First National's third president, illiam Touvelle, had intended to defy U.S. President ınklin D. Roosevelt's famous bank holiday of 1933. uvelle felt that the Bank was sufficiently solvent and ong enough to stay open while all other financial instiions in the country closed in accord with FDR's midght proclamation which forbade the issuance of gold, ver or any currency. However, the Bank did close, but er observing only three days of the moratorium, reened. The popular Touvelle, who served from 1928-51, relished sitting on the sidewalk in front of the Bank ily conversing with customers and passers-by.

During the presidency of Walter Mersman (1951-1957), first full service branch office in Mercer County was ened in Mendon on July 16, 1956. Two years later it fered its first robbery, by a gun wielding Lima man. e chewing gum salesman, who said bills and debts re his motive, was apprehended a mere three hours af- he locked the branch manager, an employee and a stomer in the vault and escaped. Fifteen years passed fore the Mendon office was victimized by a second ıman. The Van Wert man was eventually apprehended Florida enjoying his take. After nearly twenty years of vice to the community a spacious new office was built 1975, with private offices, a drive up window and a nmunity room.

During the next 22 years, three new offices were conucted, the Rockford Office was acquired merger, the Main Office was extensively remodd and First National became the county's first),000,000 commercial bank.

The Plaza Office was opened in 1960 on N. Main eet, Celina. The Plaza offered a drive up window, full vice and great convenience to the growth area of Cel-. Customer acceptance of the new facility proved so at that four additional drive through lanes were added 1971.

n 1972, First National received permission to build a ility in Coldwater and in the same year, merged with Rockford National Bank under the name of First Naıal Bank of Mercer County which clearly indicated the ıks intention of providing countywide service.

The birth of the Rockford National Bank had come as result of a group of disgruntled Farmers Bank of kford depositors filing for a bank charter in 1920. The gruntlement arose over an unsolved $100,000 theft at Farmers Bank. The depositors apparently felt that y could manage a safer, more efficient bank.

The Rockford National Bank did fare better than its decessor, as they were only robbed twice. Only a small ount of cash was taken during the first robbery, and the $1600 taken during the second was recovered hidden in the hollowed-out wooden leg of one of the thieves. For the rest of the 42 years under that name, it prospered and had deposits of $9.3 million when it merged with First National.

The Coldwater facility opened in December of 1972 in a temporary mobile office. Two years later the permanent office was completed.

As First National grew within the county, it became evident that more room was needed at the Main Office. The adjacent buildings to the East and West were purchased and incorporated into one efficient, spacious banking facility. The expansion, finished in 1972, proved to be of significant benefit both to customers and personnel as it provided a locale for quiet, confidential banking and loan service.

The history of the First National Bank of Mercer County would not be complete without mention of Russell R. Hattery and Henry A. Herman, who together represent over 90 years of service to the Bank.

Mr. Hattery, the son of founding director, Dr. John E. Hattery, joined the Bank in 1916 as a teller. After a leave of absence in the U.S. Army, Mr. Hattery was elected to the Board of Directors in 1928. In 1957 he was elected President and Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Hattery still serves in the latter capacity and celebrates his 50th year in banking in 1978.

Mr. Herman was appointed Assistant Cashier in 1935. His prior employment was that of an educator in the county schools and County Auditor. Mr. Herman accepted the bank's appointment on the condition that the County Commissioners could call for his help as a special Auditor's assistant while working at First National. He continued his public service life, being elected Mayor of Celina in 1943. He also served in many civic and service organizations. Mr. Herman is still an active Senior-Vice President and will complete his 43rd year in 1978.

First National's most recent office, Westway, on W. Logan Street, Celina, was completed in August of 1977, under current President Jack B. Jackson who assumed that position in 1970. Westway was built primarily as a drive-in facility, featuring the most sophisticated equipment available. The new office alleviated the congestion at the Downtown and Plaza locations and provided greater convenience to the southern and western areas of Celina.

Authorization has been received for the seventh office in Montezuma. However, restrictions on building by environmental authorities continue to delay the project.

In October 1977, after great deliberation, the Board of Directors presented an affiliation proposal with the Central Bancorporation, Inc., of Cincinnati, to the First National Stockholders. It was believed that affiliation with a strong, profitable bank holding company was the proper course of action for facing the future. The affiliation was consummated on December 2, 1977. The affiliation broadened and expanded First National's ability to serve its market area, and consequently, to be of greater service to the community.

In July of 1978 plans were announced to consolidate the Home Banking Company in St. Marys with First National. The resultant regional Bank will have deposits of $120,000,000.00.

After 78 years of banking service, the First National Bank of Mercer County has grown to six offices, $75,000,000 in deposits, employs nearly 100 Mercer Countians and remains dedicated to the philosophy of "helping people is our business."

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Paul Kessler, developer of the Plaza, and Mrs. Grapner observe Mr. Grapner signing lease for the Plaza Store in February, 1961.

GRAPNER SHOES, INC.

It is strange how different factors in our youth change the course of our lives! While attending Celina High School, Eldon Grapner worked after school in a local shoe store called Coombs Shoe Company. After graduation he worked full time in the shoe business in the other Coombs locations in Van Wert and Greenville, Ohio.

For twenty years, Mr. Grapner followed other pursuits; however, when the Plaza Shopping Center was being planned, he and Mrs. Grapner arranged to open a family shoe store on August 1, 1961, carrying men's, women's, and children's shoes.

In the summer of 1964 Grapners added a second unit by buying the Bornhorst Shoe Store in Minster, Ohio, which they sold in 1968.

In April of 1966 Mr. and Mrs. Grapner moved to a downtown Celina location which had housed Kaye's Shoe Store for many years, and at this time closed their Plaza Store.

Grapner Shoes has always had a special fitting stage for children. From time to time the theme of their children's area changes: originally the theme in both stores was the "Gingerbread House."

The present theme the Celina Store is "The Jungle," com with live parrot. treehouse and slid

The decor in their store is more of colonial loo rather than strictly commercial, with many antiqu being used in the interior and window displays.

Grapners also have a sizeable collection of antiq shoes and antique artifacts which add interest to t store, and Mrs. Grapner uses these items to gi talks to organizations about the origin of sho which dates back to Bible times.

Grapners have always felt that service is th most important product and have operated th store with this thought in mind in order to ma people as comfortable as possible in their footwe needs.

The Grapner store is now incorporated, and t Grapner son, Randall, who has had vast shoe expe ence at wholesale and retail levels, as well as havi owned his own shoe store, has just joined the orga ization.

On November 3, 1978 Grapners moved their bu ness to their newly remodeled store on the corner South Main and Market Streets. This building w bought by the late Dr. R.E. Riley in 1902. Dr. Ril was the father of the present owner, Joel K. Riley, Royal Oak, Michigan.

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HUFFY CORPORATION

)HIO BICYCLE DIVISION

The Ohio Bicycle Division of the Huffy Corpora-)n in Celina opened its doors in 1955 with 100,000)uare feet in the new plant, built to the specifica-)ns as planned by the Corporation. Bicycles and)wer mowers were made alternately, depending on e season and the demand. Huffy's used the most odern equipment they could find and began using e latest techniques. For example, the electrostatic)ray and finishing system made it possible to paint ns of thousands of parts a day with flamboyant nishes that are so popular with the kids.

In just four years, the manufacturing area over-)wed into warehouse space. An additional 48,000)uare feet of space was added. Another addition of ',000 square feet was made in 1964; the 1959 annex as converted to manufacturing.

The demands for Huffy's products grew. In order) meet the needs of its customers, another plant as purchased in Richmond, Indiana. The mower)eration was moved there in the mid-sixties.

In 1967 the Celina facility produced approxi-ately 4000 bicycles each day. About 600 persons ere employed at the local Huffy complex. The ant's annual payroll was in excess of $3.5 million. bout seventy percent of the work force consisted women. These women participated in every phase the manufacturing process. The women did well ith their dexterity in working with small and often tricate parts.

Within a few years, the Celina plant needed an-:her addition. The 1968 expansion gave them more arehouse space, a new and larger electrostatic fin-hing system and space for more new equipment. here was a new railroad siding under roof for effi-ent all-weather loading. The Huffy plant had own to 610,000 square feet. Some readers may ave difficulty in picturing the size of 610,000)uare feet — the plant would cover 12 football elds and still have room for the hotdog stands. This (pansion was under the direction of John Porch, ice President/Operations.

Construction of a new $1,500,000 210,000 square foot warehouse facility to service the Huffy Corporation's Ohio Bicycle Division moved into its second and final phase in June 1974. The site preparation and ground improvement were completed earlier on the southeast corner of the firm's existing 610,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Celina, Ohio. The new structure serves as a warehouse and staging area for shipment of both Huffy and private brand bicycles. The new on-site expansion provided the Division with more economical distribution of bicycles.

In December 1974, the Huffy Corporation celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the company. The theme for the anniversary was, "Teamwork makes progress happen at Huffy".

At this same time, the Company had grown to a $100 million corporation with Corporate headquarters in Dayton, Ohio, four Divisions, and a team of more than 2500 employees across the country. The Huffy Corporation maintained manufacturing operations in Delphos, Ohio, Richmond, Indiana and Azusa, California.

In 1977, Huffman Manufacturing Company changed to a new corporate name "Huffy Corporation". Along with the name change, the corporate identity symbol was also changed. Both of these changes have allowed the Company to be better identified with the "Huffy' trademark that is generally known to the public.

The Company considers itself to be the largest manufacturer of bicycles in the United States with a market share of over 33% of domestic manufacturer's shipments. There is a total of six manufacturers of bicycles in the United States.

In fiscal 1978 over 60% of the Company's bicycles were produced under the Huffy bicycle trademark and sold to over 300 national and regional chain and department stores as well as to bicycle, hardware and specialty wholesalers. The Company believes the Huffy brand of bicycles to be the largest selling brand sold in the United States. The balance of the Company's bicycle sales were to private label customers.

The entire history of Huffy Corporation has been based on growth and a spirited employee team. The Celina plant is located on Grand Lake Road, north of Livingston Street.

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JONES JEWELER

In November, 1967 Mr. Harley Jones and Mr. H. M. Harris of Sidney, Ohio, purchased Voegele's Jewelry Store from Mrs. Herbert (Josephine) Voegele.

In 1976 Mr. Jones purchased all of the stock owned by Mr. Harris. In January, 1977 the name of the store was changed to Jones Jeweler.

In March of 1978 Jones Jeweler moved to its present location. There was extensive remodeling done of the former Central Savings location on Market Street (four doors east of the former location). A new front and new fixtures enhanced the looks of the store as well as the space being doubled to enable us to have adequate sales area, along with more area being available for office and repair work.

BUY YOURS HERE.

Chevrolet

(HOMETOWN CHEVROLET)

"Where Customers Send Their Friends"

JACK KERNS CHEVROLE CO.

The Jack Kerns Chevrolet Company was esta lished in the then Village of Celina, Ohio on Mar of 1947. Premises at 1114 W. Logan was leased fro Wilfred Bricker for sales and display offices. O Service and Repair Departments were leased acro the street at 1620 W. Logan from Albert Wagne Consequently the Wagner building was destroy by fire on February 22, 1965 and Bricker buildin destroyed by fire in 1977.

During the latter part of 1947 our present locatic at 1000-10 West Logan was purchased from R. Bu chor. Over a period of 10 years three building adc tions were made of approximating 20,000 sq. building space, enticing a complete Body Shop O eration, frame and alignment and 12 stalls for e gine, transmission and new car and used car conc tioning.

Also during this expansion period, properties the East on Logan Street were purchased, houses r moved, and now consume 30,000 sq. ft. for used c and storage operations.

Our organization comprises of 22 persons; serving Mechanical and Parts operations, 6 Boc Shop and Reconditioning and 6 Office and Sal Personnel. Our monitary expenditures involve tot sales of approximately three to four million dolla per year on which tens of thousands taxation dolla to our City, County, State and Federal governments

Mr. John J. Kerns has been associated with Ge eral Motors Corporation since 1934. His emplo ment began with Chevrolet Central Offices Sal and Budget Department in Detroit, Michigan ar advanced into Dealer-Field Operations, coveri Ohio, Indiana and Michigan and resigned as Assis ant Zone Manager in February of 1947 to establi Chevrolet franchise operations for the Celina, Col water area in March of 1947.

Mr. Kerns and his wife Mary Ellen have a fami of 5 boys and 3 girls. He is a past president of Celi Chamber of Commerce, Sertoma Club and Civ Service Club. He is also associated with vario Lodges and Church activities in the area.

The Jack Kerns Chevrolet Company is dedicat to promoting top quality sales, repair and maint nance services for all makes of cars and trucks ar to keep America's transportation system moving the most dependable and economical manner poss ble.

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Kawasaki

OF CELINA

KAWASAKI

Kawasaki of Celina was first opened on June 1, 973. Since that opening, it has been located at 124 . Fayette Street, in the building originally built to nanufacture buggies.

The business started with just three employees, ut now employs six people full-time and three art-time. There is a complete service department ncluding three full-time mechanics.

The store sells Kawasaki Motorcycles, Snowmo-iles, and Jet -Ski, Garelli and Vespa Mopeds, Ski Doo Snowmobiles and a complete line of motorcy-le, moped, and snowmobile parts and accessories.

The business is owned and operated by Chet and Eileen Rhodes. They employ a full-time sales man-ger, Allen Fourman, and mechanics Scott Strete, Terry Beckstedt, Ken Zook, and Ed Krogman. The arts department is headed by Dee Rhodes and the ervice department head is Tom Beckstedt.

MOTEL CELINA

In 1917 William J. Brown purchased the Celina Auto Company, located at 225 South Main Street, Celina, Ohio. The original CELINA AUTO COMPANY was formed by 12 or 13 men that were auto owners. They hired, probably, the first, factory, trained mechanic in Celina to take care of their cars. This was William J. Brown, born in Hancock, Michigan.

William J. Brown was so fascinated by the new automobiles that he left the copper mines for a job in Lansing, Michigan and New Castle, Indiana working in early auto factories.

Bill married Bess Jenkins, granddaughter of Dr. Wilson, one of Mercer Counties early M.D.'s. They had two children, Eileen and William W. Jr. Brown operated the Celina Auto Company until his death in 1946. During this time he had the Buick Dealership until 1928 when he changed to DeSoto-Plymouth. At the time of his death he was one of the oldest DeSoto dealers in the United States.

After Brown's death, the Celina Auto Company was operated by his widow and son, William, Jr. In 1950, it was sold to Jared Halderman. In 1952 the entire 1/2 block burned. In 1953 Bess Brown built the Sunoco Station on the corner. William, Jr. and his wife, Jean Baumgardner Brown purchased the property around the station and built the MOTEL CELINA in 1958 where they made their home. They have two daughters, Sandy and Pat. They started with 13 units and eventually went to 17 units, 21 units and 28 units. In 1972 they purchased the Sunoco Station, tore it down and completed the Motel to its present 35 units. They average renting 9500 rooms a year which is more than the population of Celina.

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THE JOHN W. KARCH STONE CO.

The roots of The John W. Karch Stone Company go back to 1880 when the Karch family began farming in southern Mercer County. In 1903, Mr. Karch began in the quarry business at the present location. Continued progress has brought the quarry to a prominent place in the Mercer County Industrial Community.

Recent expansion plans included a fluidizing dryer for the processing of agricultural limestone. After drying, the material is stored in a building constructed for that purpose.

An impact type crusher for secondary crushin along with the accompanying conveyors, screen, an bins was recently added to assist in increasing th quantity and the quality of the finished product. A new 2½ cubic yard shovel was added to assist i maintaining an adequate volume of material to th expanded crushing and processing operation.

In 1922 a quarry 15 miles west, in Indiana, wa purchased and has operated as a complimentar business to the Ohio plant.

We take great pride in the growth of Merce County and the small part we have had in this con stant move forward.

THE JOHN W. KARCH
STONE COMPANY
George E. Karch

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BASIC HISTORY OF THE JOHN W. KARCH STONE CO.
KARCH ROAD, CELINA, OHIO

880 The quarry was started for the purpose of burning lime.

903 John W. Karch, a resident of Mercer County, bought the quarry. Shortly thereafter he installed new crushing equipment. Steam furnished the power for operating a small jaw crusher and for drilling the blast holes. Blasted rock was hand loaded into mule team drawn rear dump wagons. The rear of the wagons were most heavily loaded to assist in dumping.

908 A Marion model 20 steam shovel was purchased for loading newly purchased railroad cars. A mule pulled the cars to the processing plant. Changes in the plant equipment included replacing the jaw crusher with a No. 6 McCully gyratory crusher for primary crushing and adding a No. 3 McCully gyratory crusher for secondary crushing. The No. 3 McCully was placed in a circular flow pattern with a new Allis Chalmers rotary screen.

911 A Lima steam locomotive replaced the mules to pull the quarry cars.

923 The steam power used in the mill operation was replaced with a Buckeye oil engine.

925 A 20 HP Goulds pump was installed to keep the quarry dry.

929 A symons cone crusher replaced the McCully for secondary crushing.

932 A new product, stone sand, was added to the list of specification materials produced by the plant.

933 A Lima 403 gasoline powered shovel replaced the Marion steam shovel.

941 The first use of electricity in the processing plant was accomplished by installing a larger Buckeye oil engine and a generator. Since electrical energy could not be widely distributed, belt power was also used from the same engine.

946 The company converted completely to commercially produced electrical energy (440 volt, 3 phase, 60 cycle).

946-47 A major modernization of the operation was initiated. A Lima 604, 1½ cubic yard shovel, diesel powered was placed in the quarry. Two Easton 10 cubic yard side dump quarry trailers powered by White tractors were to do the hauling from shovel to crusher. A 36 inch by 48 inch Lippman jaw crusher was installed for primary crushing. From the jaw crusher to the surge pile a 30 inch wide belt conveyor was added. Two Jeffrey vibrating pan feeders, fed surge pile material onto a second 30 inch wide belt conveyor that carried the stone to the processing plant.

948 A Lima 1002, 2½ cubic yard diesel driven shovel replaced the smaller unit.

1952 A lima 803, 2½ cubic yard diesel driven shovel was placed in the quarry for primary loading. The Lima 1002 was shifted to other loading work around the quarry.

Originally the quarry was opened with one level but this had long since been lowered to include a second level. The working face height was now 46-47 feet.

1964 Equipment was installed to reprocess material into agricultural lime. A building 60x180 feet was built to store the finished product under roof. A third level was opened in the quarry bottom. The working face was established at 30 feet. In addition the pump hole was excavated to a depth of approximately 22 feet below the third floor level.

1965 A Jeffrey fluidizing dryer was added to the agricultural lime processing plant.

1966 For increased capacity and flexibility a secondary crushing and screening plant was added. This included a 404 Jeffrey impact crusher for secondary crushing plus two 30 inch wide belt conveyors for in and out of the screen and storage silo section. The larger sizes are produced at the secondary plant and the smaller sizes are produced through the older plant. Either plant can be operated individually or the two can work together, each producing its particular sizes.

1967 An additional shovel was added, a Northwest, Model 80D, 2½ cubic yard diesel driven, to increase efficiency and production.

1970 An Eagle cage mill ag lime crusher with the necessary conveyors and screen were added to compliment the present ag lime processing operation.

Water must be pumped from the quarry constantly. Two pumps, a Frederick 8" diameter discharge 1600 gallons per minute at 120 feet head and a Weinman 8" diameter discharge 15000 gallons per minute at 120 feet head, carry out the pumping requirements. Normally one pump will adequately handle the task, but in wet weather it is occasionally necessary to run both.

Western Asphalt has a Barber Green asphalt plant on the premises. It serves the area for road, street, and highway building and repair. Geologically, the stone quarried is a Niagara Dolomite. It runs 12% pure magnesium and 20% pure calcium.

The John W. Karch Stone Company has a policy of constant attention toward improvements of the materials produced. Through the years many changes have been made to not only raise production but also to improve quality. We strive to make the very highest quality crushed stone that modern technology and equipment can produce. We feel we are justified in the pride we take in our products.

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Front Row: Barb Fisher, Mary Allen (Manager), Joan Pond. **Back Row:** Betty Ranly, Janet Rindler, Doris Goettemoeller, Vicky Thobe.

LOMBARDS BEAUTY SALON

For the past ten years, Lombards Beauty Salon, has been located on the first floor of Mrs. Allen's handsome home at 315 East Market Street, Celina. In 1924, Mary Allen (Lombard) opened her beauty salon above the present Treasure House Furniture Store, but most of her clients came to know her during her 40 years above the present Bair's Drug Store.

Mrs. Allen said these last years have been the busiest of her entire life and that she has never had a better crew than now: Janet Rindler, Barb Fisher, Doris Goettemoeller, Joan Pond, Vicky Thobe and Betty Ranly.

Respectable matrons along with the wilder flappers were showing their emancipation by daring to have their waist-length hair bobbed when Mary Lombard started her shop in 1924. Marcelling with a curling iron and finger waving (dried by a special lamp) were the fashion. That all-time breakthrough in hair dressing, the permanent wave, was yet unknown. Now in 1978 the permanent is definitely the fashion trend.

Through the years Mrs. Allen has continued to attend schools and shows in order to keep up with the latest in hairdressing.

At least 27 beauticians have been employed at Lombards Beauty Salon over the years. In addition to the present staff, they have included: Nadine Bruns, Esther Snyder, Rita Suhr, Marge Baer, Barb Vehorn, Gloria Jutte, Sue Mallory, Judy Bowers, Ruth Heitkamp, Janet Gehle, Deanna Dammeyer, Joan Bergman, Betty Rinderle, Roselyn Everman, Linda King, Margaret Powell, Corinne Schuyler, Betty Deitrick, Betty Zahn, Linda Droesch, Dottie Bricker, Avis Tingley, Ms. Hines, and Virginia Zumberge.

MALE FASHIONS

The history of Male Fashions dates back to January 1, 1972, when present owner Dan Schreibman purchased what was then the Student Shop on Fayette Street.

Dan Schreibman came to Celina from Dayton in 1957 after he married Roberta Sue Goldstein daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goldstein, owners of Goldstein's Department Store. Mr. Schreibman was employed at Goldstein's and remained there for ten years. For the next five years he operated the Student Shop for Goldstein's. This was at the Fayette Street location.

It was on January 1, 1972, that Mr. Schreibman bought the Student Shop and operated it as Male Fashions until August of 1973. At this time, he purchased the present location at 126 South Main, the former site of the Mercer County Historical Museum.

Since opening, Male Fashions has carried a complete line of men's wear and a separate "Jean Shack," along with an additional Jr. Misses Department.

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THE MARTZ CABINET COMPANY

The Martz Cabinet Company came into being as ıe Martz Cabinet Works in 1947. Its existence :arted in a garage, an idea formed in the mind of ay O. Martz from his many years of association ıith wood and wood products as an employee of ıersman Brothers' Company; as superintendent of ıe Kron-Kill Furniture Company; as superintendnt of The Coleman Case Company; and as an engieer in business for The George S. May Company.

With limited facilities and equipment, and a rowing demand for his product, the proprietorship ıoved to the Mercer County fairground where a ɔom was used below the grandstand to construct he cabinetry.

With the knowledge that the business was going ɔ grow, employees were hired and construction was tarted on a building at 1000 E. Market Street, Celna, Ohio. In 1947, late in the year, the new facility vas ready to open. The evening before the opening truck delivering papers to Celina, lost control and aused extensive damage to the rear of the new ɔuilding. With determination and hard work, reɔairs were made, and soon cabinets were being ɔroduced.

Under Ray's management, the business increased apidly, a finishing room was added along with nore employees. Seeing the tremendous demand or plywood used for construction, an additional ɔuilding, the same size as the original structure, was :onstructed for the purpose of warehousing to meet he wholesale and retail needs of builders and indiviiduals. This extra space also served as the machining room for the cabinet factory.

Mr. Martz

In 1950, Richard Mosier of Van Wert, Ohio, was hired to assist Ray in the operation of the business, and with this extra help, the area of coverage was increased to extend some 100 miles from Celina. This, plus commercial contracts with The Reynolds & Reynolds Company of Dayton, and government work from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, meant a continual growth in business.

The smooth operation on the growing cabinet business came to a tragic but temporary halt in November of 1952, with the death of Ray Martz in a traffic accident. With a committment from the employees and under the leadership of Pauline (Martz) Mosier (Ray's daughter) and Richard Mosier, the company gradually recovered, and in 1953 was incorporated as The Martz Cabinet Company.

With a reputation of manufacturing the finest in custom cabinetry, The Martz Cabinet Company is continuing to grow at its location at 1000 E. Market Street, Celina, Ohio.

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Landmark

Burned in the fire of November 11, 1977

MERCER LANDMARK, INC.

Mercer Landmark Inc., started business on January 14, 1934, after purchasing the Staeger Feed Mill located on the corner of East Logan and Ash Streets. Later on this plant was sold to Henry Amstutz, and the Palmer and Miller Elevator on West Logan Street was purchased. During the following years a new branch office and store building, fertilizer warehouse and many improvements were made. On November 11, 1977, a misfortune occurred, fire razed the elevator and office building.

A Merger with the Celina Equity Exchange had been discussed with the Directors of both Associations for approximately two years. This became a reality on January 1, 1978 by approval of shareholders of both associations. The Celina Equity Exchange Company began operations in 1920 on West Market Street after purchasing The Buckland Milling Company. They also had a misfortune of a fire on June 28, 1975, destroying their Elevator. They rebuilt the elevator with a modern feed mill at that time. Since January 1, 1978, the date of the Merger, there has been added a new 1500 BPH grain dryer with a wet grain holding bin, two elevator legs and other equipment to modernize the grain operation.

This up to date, modern plant offers a complete feed, grain, fertilizer and general farm supplies and custom application of chemicals and fertilizer to the patrons in the surrounding area.

Mercer Landmark, Inc. Landmark Town and Country Store, 71 W. Logan

The Celina Equity Exchange Co.

LANDMARK TOWN & COUNTRY STORE AND GENERAL OFFICES

The former Dry Cleaner building on 715 West Logan Street was leased on July 1, 1975 from George Weidman. After being completely remodeled the "Town & Country Store" opened for business in November, 1975. This retail store carries a complete line of appliances, paint, lawn supplies and equipment, power and hand tools, clothing, footwear, pet and horse supplies and general hardware. The general administrative and accounting offices are also located at the 715 West Logan Street Address in the rear section of the building.

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MERCER COUNTY SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

The Mercer County Building & Loan Association ıs founded March 26, 1888 and chartered March , 1888. Those foresighted gentlemen responsible r founding the Association were J. W. McKee, 'm. Stelzer, C. C. Gable, W. J. Maehlman, Wm. ·on, D. H. Richardson, Val Fortman, V. Estry, A. ırtcher, B. M. Clendening, and J. B. Hoing. These en all served on the original board of directors. ıe first meetings were held in the mayor's office ıd at the court house.

The original concept of a savings and loan associaon was a pooling of money into a savings associaon. Each depositor would buy a "share" of the ock of the association. The price per share of the lercer County Building & Loan Assn. stock was 200.00, payable in minimum amounts of 25¢ per eek. At that time, the maximum number of shares lowed any one person was four, or a maximum deosit of $800.

As is still the case today, most people then were ot able to pay cash for the purchase of a home. his pooling of money into a savings association enoled its members to buy a home. As more money as deposited into savings accounts (shares), more eople were then able to own their own homes.

Today borrowers pay a certain rate of interest to orrow money over a fixed period of time. During ıe first few years of Mercer County Building & oan's operation, "money sales" were held. Prospecve borrowers would bid on the money available. or example, the first "money sale" for this associaon was held April 23, 1888. The first loan made as given to a man who bid on two shares of stock 200 per share) with a premium bid of $25.50 per hare. In other words, he had to repay $225.50 for ach $200.00 share borrowed. The average loan ıade during this time was $300 to $400.

After just over a year in operation, the Mercer ounty Building & Loan Assn. showed total assets of 11,546. Total assets at year end 1977 for the Assocition were in excess of $24,889,000.

Originally the Association was open only one day er week, usually Monday, from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. hese office hours remained this way until April 18, 940. On that date all depositors accounts were inured by the Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Cororation and also beginning then Mercer County uilding & Loan Assn. offered daily office hours.

Mercer County Building & Loan Assn. survived he Great Depression without a great deal of diffiulty. There certainly were fewer loans made during hat time and the dividend paid on savings (shares) lropped to a low of 1% per year, compared to the riginal dividends paid of 4-6% per year. Also, durng the Depression there was a greater frequency of oreclosure, but this was not uncommon during this eriod.

The first office of the Mercer County Building & Loan Assn. was located on South Main St. in Celina where the city parking lot is now located. In 1914, space was rented from the Celina Gas Company for a new office location. (It rented for $8.00 per month with heat and light included.) Then again in 1934 the office was moved to Room 20 in the Union Block, the building currently occupied by Male Fashions at the corner of Main and Fayette Streets. In December of 1938 Mercer County Building & Loan Assn. purchased its first permanent office at 130 W. Market St. for $5,200 from Fred & Margaret Fortman. Extensive remodeling was done at that time to suit the needs of the Association. Mercer County Building & Loan Assn. enjoyed the use of this location for many years until 1972 when the new office was constructed at 217 W. Market St., the present location.

In July, 1971, the Mercer County Building & Loan Assn. and the Ft. Recovery Building & Loan Assn. (founded in 1889) merged to form the new Mercer County Savings & Loan Association.

Through its 90 years of business, Mercer County Savings & Loan has had many people serve on its Board of Directors. They are: Joseph Hinders, Lee Cassel, Ed Snyder, Ford Lewis, J. M. Winter, John Schlosser, C. P. Wenslan, Joseph Sager, Newton Taylor, Charles Hess, Jacob Gerlach, Henry Tomlinson, Richard Chapman, Fred Laudahn, James Riley, J. C. Kistler, A. L. Zender, J. F. Meyer, John W. Desch, and Peter Stachler. Also, F. L. Touvelle, Frank Wolf, W. E. Reynolds, Wm. Dick, Albert Mersman, J. H. Pulskamp, Charles Gray, Henry Adams, George A. Booz, Elmer Bryson, Frank Fischer, A. D. Gemmill, R. W. Schlenker, Wm. Spieler, George F. Weber, A. W. Nickel, O. J. Maehlman, George Lutz, Zender Laudahn, Paul Remaklus, and B. A. Rodgers.

Those currently serving as directors for the Mercer County Savings & Loan Assn. are Roger L. Wilson, Charles L. Spriggs, Wm. J. Maehlman, (grandson of W. J. Maehlman, one of the original founders), Edward A. Kaiser, H. J. Franke, and Tony Link. The remainder of the staff includes Leroy Pohl, Dale B. Steinlage, Bert Slusser, Carol Mustard, Kenneth Barger, and Laura Roessner. Also, Jack Detrick recently retired from Mercer County Savings & Loan Association.

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MERSMAN TABLES

Mersman Tables, one of the country's oldest furniture manufacturers, was founded by Mr. J. B. Mersman around 1876, in Ottoville, Ohio, when J. B. produced his first piece of furniture — a table. Prior to that time J. B. was a sawmill operator. He operated sawmills in Kendalville and Angola, Indiana, and later moved to Ottoville.

When lumber began to get scarce, Mr. Mersman decided rather than sell rough lumber, it would be better to switch to a finished product, and he started producing the headboards, footboards and slats for beds. He had an ideal location midway between Toledo and Cincinnati on the Miami-Erie Canal. J. B. was doing well in his new venture, selling his beds for a $1.50, until other profit minded manufacturers came up with a wrought iron bed for a $1.00.

At the turn of the century the city of Celina asked Mr. Mersman to set up a furniture factory there. He would receive $7,500.00 with the understanding he must employ 25 people six months of the year for two years. This he did, and in 1900 the business was established. He began manufacturing beds, library tables, and dining room tables, of which the latter became the specialty.

Shortly after establishing the company, J. B. Mersman found there was considerably more detail and exactness involved in the manufacturing of tables than he liked, so he borrowed what he could on the business, handed the notes and the factory over to his two eldest sons, Edward H. and Walter J. Mersman, along with Henry Lennartz, a local banker, for the price of $500.00.

The deal was completed with the understanding that Albert Mersman, the youngest son, would be taken into the firm when he became of age. J. B. Mersman then left for Arkansas where he reentered his first love, the sawmill business. Shortly thereafter he contracted malaria and returned to Celina where he passed away in 1904 or 1905.

The company was then known as "Lennartz and Mersman Brothers", and they continued the manufacturing of dining room and library tables.

On May 18, 1906, the Mersman brothers along with Edmund Brandts, a Prussian-German immigrant who came to America in 1904, bought Henry Lennartz's interest in the firm, and the business became known as "Mersman Brothers and Brandts Company".

On August 29, 1906 the business was incorporated under Ohio law. Mersman Brothers Brandts Company employed 125 men in the factory year round, along with ten traveling salesman. Shipments of medium and high grade dining tables were made to nearly every state and Canada.

On October 24, 1927, Walter J. Mersman, the president of the company, requested an amendment to the company charter, and the company became known as "Mersman Brothers Corporation".

During the depression of the early 1930's, Mersman Brothers became involved in the manufacture of case goods, which consisted of bedroom suites and dining room tables and later went on to Radio Cabinets.

When WWII came along, the company went into war work as far as possible. They were limited because the number of wood items used were quite

Mersman Tables, No. 136 Headliner

No. 6651 DUNCAN PHYFE LYRE LAMP TABLE

Size 18 x 24½ in. Height 26 i
Shipped K. D. Weight 33 lbs.

limited. Mersman Brothers manufactured desks fc the Treasury Department, mess tables and benchc for the Navy, mobile repair units for the Air Forc and plywood for the Lend Lease program. Shortl before the end of the war, Mersmans got into i present line, living room tables.

In 1963, Mersman was acquired by Congoleu Industries, and was a member of the corporation home furnishings group until October of 1977. A that time it was purchased by the Somers Corpora tion, a group of private investors, headed by M Will Somers and headquartered in Highlands, Ne Jersey. Mr. Somers is currently the president of wha is now known as Mersman Tables. The company Vice President and General Manager is Don Vande Horst, who has been with Mersman since his firs days as a sales trainee in 1950.

Mersman Tables is currently manufacturing Oc casional Tables along with correlated wall units an curios, in three separate facilities. The main plant i Celina houses the main offices and factory in a area of nearly 500,000 square feet where it employ over 570 people. A smaller facility, also in Celina handles specialty items and employs about 20 peo ple. The company also operates a southern plant i Eupora, Mississippi, which allows Mersman to bet ter serve customers in that region. The plant cover 200,000 square feet and employs 180 workers.

To date, Mersman has manufactured close to 3 million tables for the world's homes and has alway enjoyed a fine reputation of quality. Reasons for thi are that each individual part of a table is inspecte before it leaves its department, and is inspecte again upon completion.

The factory's ideal midwest location allows goo shipping service to all of the Continental Unite States. To further insure good service, Mersma started a fleet of Company trucks in 1965. This aid the retail dealers with moderate freight rates an fewer damage and claim problems. A sizeable per centage of Mersman's shipments are also made b rail and Public Truck carriers from each shippin point.

Mersman Tables overall plan for the upcomin years is to reaffirm its position as the leading manu facturer of Occasional Tables in the country. Th Somers Corporation has vowed to once again mak Mersman a household word. The company's experi enced manufacturing and sales people are dedicate to continuing the high standard of quality and serv ice it has given throughout the years.

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Olding-Gebele-George Insurance Agencies, Inc., Celina

OLDING-GEBELE-GEORGE INSURANCE AGENCIES INC

The Olding-Gebele-George Agencies Inc. has its ots in early 1915 when E. J. (Edgar) Brookhart and M. (Mac) Murlin formed an insurance agency. ıe first office was located in the Richardson Build- g at the corner of Fayette and Main Streets in Cel- a. In 1916 the Agency was sold to H. M. (Hal) Hare ho operated it until 1918 when he went into the ilitary. At that time William O. Borman purchased e Agency and operated it for a short time before lling it to Burl Myers in 1918 who moved the of- :e to the second floor of the building at 108 S. ain Street.

In August of 1919 C. A. Stubbs and Frank Cloeb ırchased the Agency from Mr. Myers and the of- :e was again moved, this time to the second floor the Commercial Bank Building in downtown Ce- ıa. The Agency operated from that location until 925 when Mr. Stubbs purchased total control of the ısiness and moved it to 108 W. Market Street here the insurance agency operated for 29 years in ınjunction with Mr. Stubbs' real estate, law prac- :e and savings and loan business. During this pe- ɔd of time in addition to servicing the insurance :eds of the local public the Agency operated as a :neral agency for the Celina and National Mutual surance Companies.

In 1947 G. A. (Jerry) Havel joined Mr. Stubbs and orked as a special agent servicing the sub-agents rough the general agency. In November, 1954 Mr. avel purchased control of the Agency from Mr. ubbs and at that time the general agency with the elina and National Mutual Insurance Companies as dissolved and the office was moved to its esent location of 215 W. Market Street. The busi- ess was incorporated in July of 1956 under the cor- ɔrate name of Stubbs-Havel, Inc. In October, 1964 G. (Lee) Olding and D. P. (Dennis) Gebele pur- ıased the Agency and upon the death of Mr. Havel September of 1966 took over management of the m.

The Corporation purchased the Max Ellis Agency in March of 1967 to expand its personal insurance writings.

In February of 1969 an office was established in Coldwater with the purchase of the General Insurance Agency from the Estate of A. J. Gebele. This agency had been founded in 1914 and was owned by Mr. Gebele from 1946 until his death in November, 1968. The Coldwater office is managed by David George who joined the Corporation in February, 1969 and in September of 1974 Mr. George became a principal in the Agency and at that time the corporation name was changed to Olding-Gebele-George Agencies, Inc.

The Corporation purchased the Oberholzer Insurance Agency in April, 1974 and merged it with their Coldwater office. William Oberholzer founded this agency in May 1949 and operated it until the merger in 1974. At that time the Coldwater office which is located at 217 W. Main Street in the building built by Mr. Gebele in 1947 was extensively remodeled to accommodate the current needs of its Coldwater clients.

In the fall of 1973 the Celina office was temporarily moved to Fayette Street to allow for the demolition of its previous office and the building at 213 W. Market St. In the fall of 1974 the Agency moved into its new building specifically constructed to serve the needs of its Celina clients.

The Agency currently operates with a staff of eight. Six of which are licensed insurance agents and handle a wide range of casualty and life insurance, bonds and investments.

Olding-Gebele-George Insurance Agencies, Inc., Coldwater, Ohio

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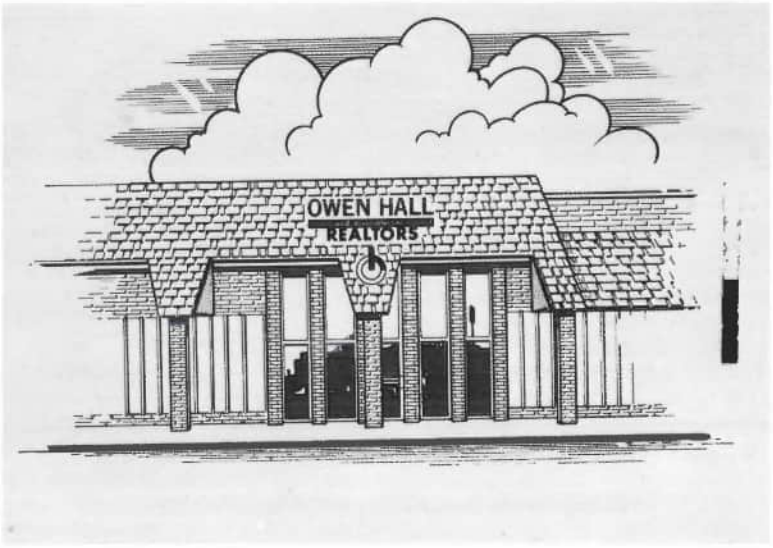

OWEN HALL AND ASSOCIATES, INC. 1947-1978

Hundreds of Mercer, Auglaize, Darke, Van Wert and Allen countians know Owen V. Hall and his associates as the Realtors who got them started on the road to business, farm or home ownership. Thousands of sales goers see him and his associates as lightening-paced and compelling auctioneers. Others know Owen V. Hall as a man interested in community affairs and community growth and who gives generously of his time helping his professions on the local, state, national and international levels.

Owen V. Hall became an auctioneer at 18, a real estate salesman at 19 and established Owen Hall and Associates, Inc., a real estate brokerage company, in 1947. In 1953, Hall and his father, along with Don Montgomery, founded the Western Ohio Livestock Exchange. The same year Hall, and then county extension agent Al Baxter, established the Mercer County Junior Fair ... one of the highlights of the annual county fair. In 1954, in conjunction with his real estate company, he became sales manager for Kessler Builders and maintains that position. At the same time, he served as president of the Ohio Auctioneer's Association of which he remains a board member and as a director and life member of the National Association of Auctioneers. He was appointed by two Ohio Governors as one of the three man Ohio Auctioneers Commission of the Department of Commerce. Hall was selected as Ohio Realtor of the Year in 1971.

In 1975, as president of the Farm and Land Institute of the National Association of Realtors, Hall attended the International Real Estate Federation convention in Europe which is made up of representatives from all free countries. During 1976 Hall served on the executive boards of four real estate organizations: The Auglaize-Mercer County Board of Realtors, The Ohio Association of Realtors, The Farm and Land Institute of the National Association of Realtors (all of which he had served as president) and the National Association of Realtors, of which he is currently regional vice-president f Ohio and Michigan.

During Hall's service to his professions he h managed to be active in the Neptune, Ohio Chur of God, be a long time member and past preside of the Celina Lions Club and serve as a director c the Citizens Commercial Bank and Trust Compar board.

Over the years, Hall has acquired a number pronounced ideas about the real estate brokera business which are put into effect at the well d signed offices at 109 East Forest Street in Celina, t Marchal-Hall, Inc. offices at 219 Sycamore Street Greenville and the Stinebaugh Real Estate, Inc. o fices at 129 East Spring Street in St. Marys and 2(West Auglaize Street in Wapakoneta. Hall mai tains an interest in each of these affiliated offic and works with the sales counselors and staffs of people. For the most part all of his associates a full-time sales counselors. 12 are brokers and Ha insists that each be a well trained and fully qualifie sales person. 9 have Graduate Realtors Institu (GRI) accreditation after completion of 180 clas room hours. The real estate brokerage business changing so rapidly that each sales person is r quired to spend a minimum of one month's tin each year in meetings, seminars or classes to u grade their abilities.

The entire Hall family is real estate oriented. Mr Madonna Hall and sons, Jon and Jerold are brokers with GRI designations and all work with the corporate structure. Daughter Janette is consi ering the real estate field as a career after her grad ation from college.

Reflecting on the developments in real estate the past 30 years, Hall termed the appreciation "unbelievable." "It's wonderful that so many you Americans have been able to enjoy home owne ship. Although some buyers have objected to i creased interest rates, actually interest rates have n increased as rapidly as most other commodities ov the years, loans are available. Throughout the enti 30 year period, home ownership has been a ver very good buy," Hall commented.

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FIFTY YEARS AT THE PENNEY STORE

ifty years ago times were slower, prices were lower, l men's chambray workshirts cost 49¢ at the new JC ney store at the corner of South Main and Fayette eets.

March 21, 1929, JC Penney came to Celina with a big nd opening. A large ad in the Celina Daily Standard day before headlined Penney's commitment "To Pack ery Customer's Dollar Full of Value and Satisfaction".

Special day-in-day-out values included men's broadth shirts, $1.98; Boys Spring suits (with 2 pair of knicker longies), $9.90; men's ties at 98¢; all silk natural ngee at 39¢ a yard and ginghams for 10¢ a yard. The hion conscious woman could purchase a new Spring at for $14.75.

In March 1979 the Penney Company will celebrate fifty ars of service to Celina. Times have changed and the ce is much faster, but the standards of quality, value, vice and friendliness established back in 1929 conue.

In 1929 the new store was the 1,030th to become a part the national department store firm and its establishent was part of a period of rapid expansion for the late mes Cash Penney's 27-year-old company. Beginning in mmerer, Wyoming in 1902, the company first estabhed itself in the West, then began moving eastward, ith a boom of hundreds of new stores opening in the 20's.

As Celina and the surrounding area grew, so did the olume of business in the JC Penney store. In 1939 the ore was relocated to 106 North Main Street. In October 70 the business expanded again, moving to its existing cation at North Main and Summit Streets. The store ow contains 92,358 square feet of space.

As the local store flourished, JC Penney did as well. oday the Company is the world's largest retailer of othing with more than 2,000 retail operations at the end f February in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Eupe, reporting $9.3 billion in sales last year.

"Despite this tremendous growth, we have kept our mphasis on high quality, dependable merchandise that eople can afford to buy. That's been one of the key inredients in our success," comments store manager, D. B. ahle. "We plan to keep it that way for the next 50 years, o."

Merchandise lines have expanded from clothing and ome fabrics to include everything from tires to diamonds in the larger stores. The JC Penney Catalog, established in 1963, now shows more than 100,000 items on ver 1,300 pages. Subsidiaries of the company include hrift Drug stores and the JC Penney Insurance Companies.

The Celina store has had twelve managers in its 50 year istory, beginning with F. F. Zimmerman, who opened he store in 1929. He was followed by E. Day, Frank Longellow and James Burchfield. In 1935 F. C. Massareck took ver and managed the store for the next 19 years until replaced by G. R. Castetter in 1954 who ran the unit until 1958. A. M. Bills then managed the downtown store until 1970 when the store was moved to its present location. The new unit has had five managers in the past eight years, William Pfeiffer, Joseph Stattler, James Rush, Robert Steinmetz, and Daniel Kahle, the present manager.

In hundreds of cities and towns throughout the United States, JC Penney stores serve the needs of the consumer with a variety of merchandise and services tailored to the lifestyle of modern America. In 1977, the Penney Company did more than $9.3 billion worth of business.

Founded as a small dry goods store in a Western frontier town, the Company has grown into one of the retailing giants of the 20th Century.

In 1902 James Cash Penney opened a cash-and-carry store in a little frame building in the frontier coal mining town of Kemmerer, Wyo. He invested his entire savings of $500 plus $1,500 he borrowed to buy one-third interest in the 25 by 40-foot store.

Mr. Penney called his store the "Golden Rule". His idea was to apply the Golden Rule philosophy to business. Mr. Penney died February 12, 1971, after witnessing his idea evolve into the unique business that J. C. Penney Company is today.

Although the Company serves the consumer principally through its nationwide chain of more than 1,700 JC Penney department stores and its rapidly expanding catalog service, it is also the trusted druggist of millions of Americans through its Thrift Drug subsidiary; insuror of hundreds of thousands of others through its JC Penney life, health and casualty insurance companies; and operators of 37 The Treasury discount stores.

In addition, Penney has extensive retail operations in Belgium under the name of "Sarma".

Mr. Penney called his store the "Golden Rule". His idea was to apply the Golden Rule philosophy to business. He knew it meant pioneering a new merchandising idea, radical in the cut-throat competition of the early 1900s.

He determined to sell merchandise at prices as low as possible and introduced the then novel idea of one price to all. Many sales at small profits, he reasoned, were better than a few sales at large profits. Quick turnover of merchandise gave him a continuous flow of working capital to buy merchandise.

Mr. Penney's first customers soon learned they benefited from his idea — values at the "Golden Rule" were better, prices lower. In the first year in that little store, homemakers bought $28,898.11 worth of merchandise, a remarkable amount for a store of that size at the time.

From the first, Mr. Penney hoped to spread his unique ideas of storekeeping to other small communities. He wanted to build a small group of Penney stores operating under Partner-ownership. He hoped eventually to build "not a chain of stores, but a chain of men held together by an idea".

Key to the Company's phenomenal growth has been its basic policies and operating methods. The Penney Company uses all its know-how to pack the customer's dollar full of value, quality and satisfaction; ask a fair profit and not all the traffic will bear. The Company continues to reward its men and women — who are called "associates" rather than employees — through participation in the profits of the business.

While each store adapts itself to the needs of the community it serves, the Central Office in the JC Penney Building on New York's Avenue of the Americas is geared to provide whatever a Penney store needs.

Both the JC Penney buying offices and the Company's Merchandise Testing Center keep close tabs on new developments. As fast as desirable new products are developed, they are tested and checked — and offered to Penney stores. In this way, individual store management is relieved of the searching and researching required in the operation of a modern department store.

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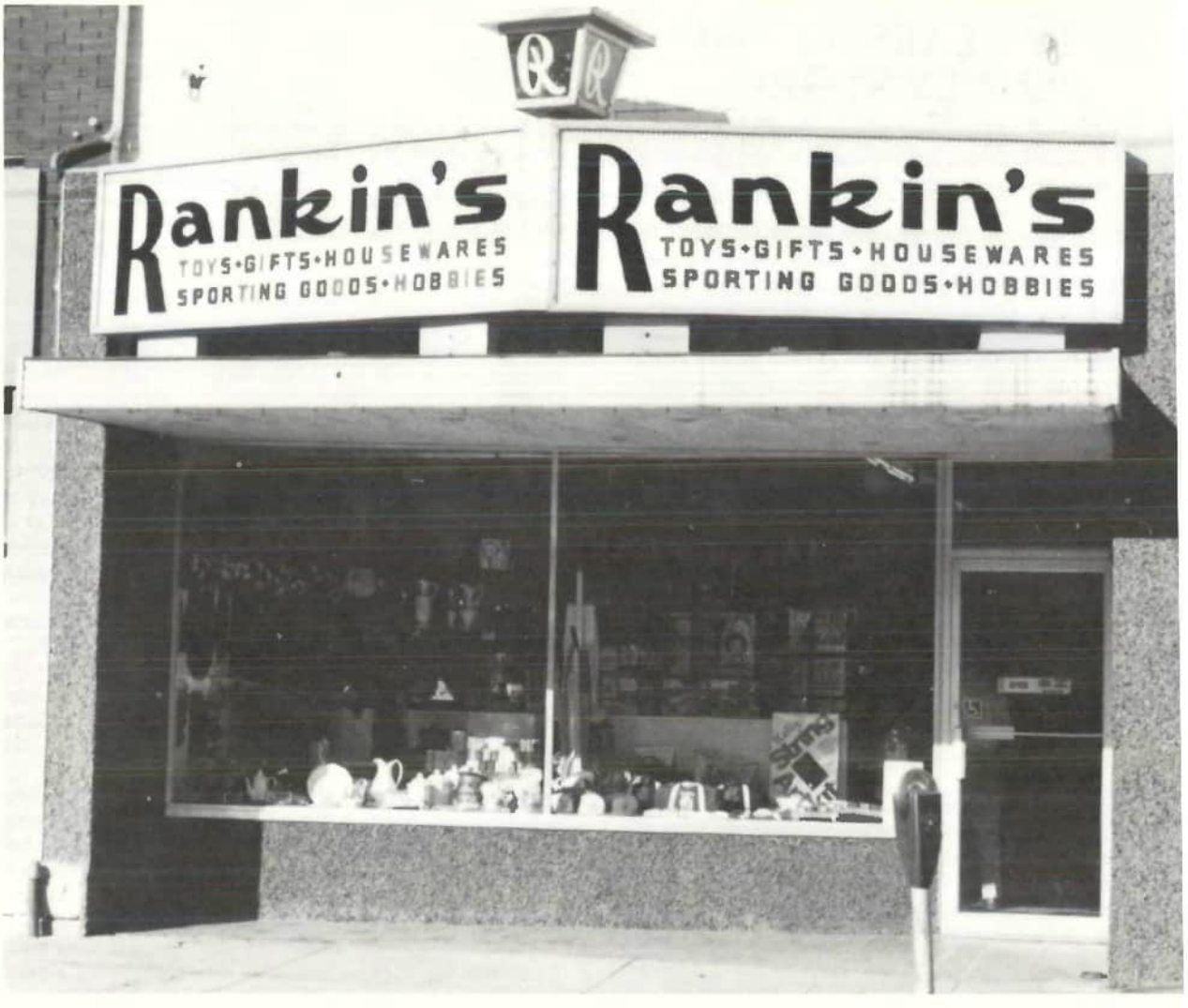

RANKIN'S

On May 10, 1955, Bill and Anna May Rankin moved to Celina and purchased Bair's Appliance, which formerly housed the Lake Theater. Since their 1955 opening, Rankin's has undergone a slow transition from the appliance store to the present store, with a wide selection of gifts, sporting goods, housewares, toys, and hobby and craft items, which makes for easy shopping for the entire family.

No major remodeling had been done to the storefront since 1955, when the store was opened, until one interesting incident did provide the need for a facelift. On May 10, 1974, early in the morning, motorist made a miscalculation and car and drive entered the store through the front window instea of the door. Since this was the Friday before Moth er's Day, it made for a hectic clean-up operatio which saw the store open late that day.

When the Lake Festival Parade was revived o July 28, 1961, it marked the first time the parade ha been held since World War II. It was also on th date that a son, Jack, was born to the Rankins. Jac has recently joined the business and plans to mak Rankin's a second generation business in Celina.

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N C S

N C S was incorporated on April 9, 1974, and the ant was then built in 1975. It was built for Marcus eicher and is in use as a machine shop where so- isticated equipment turns out precision parts for a mber of local and not-so-local companies. The eel building houses a 60′ x 100′ shop and a 25′ x 50′ ng for offices and storage. It is located at the inter- ction of West Market Street and Meyer Road in elina, Ohio. Paul Weaver is the general manager d it employs approximately six people.

N C S is a retirement project for Marcus Speicher. cept for remaining on as board member and con- ltant, he actively retired in 1974 from Speicher others, Inc. in Celina, a company founded in 1959 / Mark Speicher and his brother, the late Carl eicher.

The machine shop also serves as a garage and orkshop for a "trademark" by which most Celini- ns know Speicher best — his "far out" cars. Here e can take his time and work at his hobby when e mood strikes.

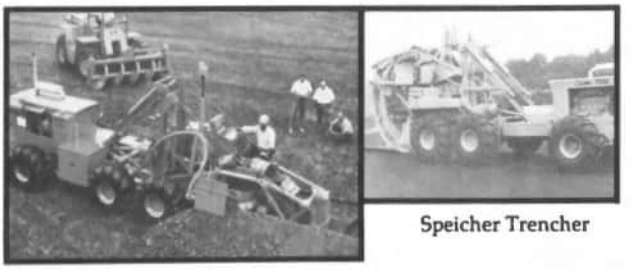
SPEICHER CORPORATION

Speicher Corporation began in 1935 as a small elding shop which was operated by Marcus eicher at his home in Geneva, Indiana. In 1936, arcus rented a space in the Stauffer-Lehman Ga- ge in New Corydon, Indiana and continued opera- on of the welding shop there until 1937.

On April 1, 1937, he moved his shop to the Hin- n & Smalley Maintenance Building in Celina, hio and again continued to repair and fabricate etalwork for the area farmers. At this time, Mar- s established himself in the Celina area as *The elina Welding Shop.*

In 1939, with the cooperation of his father and his other, Carl Speicher, a new facility was con- ructed at 308 Portland Street in Celina. It was at is time that Carl Speicher entered the business as equal partner.

During the years of 1942-1946, the company lay ormant while both Marcus and Carl served in the ilitary service. In 1946, upon their return from the war, the company was re-established as Speicher Brothers. From 1946-1954, the partnership was engaged in general welding and repair work. It was during this period that the company also manufactured grain elevators and loaders. In 1952, they constructed the proto-type trencher which was later to become its main line of production. This machine was the "brainchild" of Mr. Nathan B. Shimp, who had tested the idea of rubber tires on his own trenching equipment. In 1953, the first Tandem Traction Trencher went into service. Other contractors saw the machine perform and wanted one and the trencher production soon became a full-time operation.



Speicher Trencher

Man on Backfiller: Jack Johnson. **Man at Ditcher:** Mike Hoelscher. **Three Men in Field, L. to R.:** Carl Marsee, Carl Speicher, Marcus Speicher.

For five years the two Speicher brothers and Nathan Shimp produced and sold trenchers in and around Ohio. The Tandem Traction Trencher had become big business, so by 1959, a more formal arrangement was sought between the two brothers and Nathan Shimp. The result was that Speicher Brothers, Inc. was to build the machine and Anchor Sales Corporation was to sell them. This remained the same until November of 1963, when Carl and Mark assumed full control of the company and the partnership with Nathan Shimp was dissolved the following year. At this time, Carl W. Marsee joined the company as Sales Manager. More and more machines were built each year and the company received numerous requests for auger backfillers, which the company began to manufacture in 1961. Carl Marsee became Vice- President of Anchor Sales Corp. in 1968 and was named President four years later. Marcus retired from the company in 1974 and established a new company, N.C.S., Inc., which supplies short run machined parts to many industries. While he is no longer involved in the day-to-day operation, Marcus still sits on the Board of Directors and acts as a consultant. In 1975, Carl Marsee took on the role of President of Speicher Corporation. Mr. Terry A. Marsee joined the office staff as Vice-President of Speicher Corporation in 1976. Carl Speicher retired from the company in August of 1976.

Demand for Speicher products forced the capacity of the original 1939 plant from a mere 3,024 square feet to 24,000 square feet including offices in 1972. This still, however, was not enough and space to expand was gone. In 1976, Speicher bought another factory, the former *Celina Manufacturing Company* facility. The thirteen acres of land ensured room for efficient production and space to expand. The factory space plus the office now totals 70,000 square feet. The company also has Parts and Service Depots in Illinois and Iowa and distributors in Canada, Michigan and North Carolina.

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The Standard Printing Co., Inc. Parker R. Snyder at entrance

THE STANDARD PRINTING CO., INC.

Publishers of the Daily Standard

Some confusion exists as to the early ownership of the Western Standard — the predecessor of the present Daily Standard. According to the S.S. Scranton Mercer County history of 1907, the paper was established August 4, 1848 by J. S. Miller, printer, and L. C. Smith, Publisher. In 1850, however, the paper was sold by Hunter, publisher, and Barrington, printer, when Barrington went on the California gold rush via a walk across the Panama Isthmus to W. L. Blocker and S. S. Snyder, both of Bellefontaine. No account is available to the 1848-1850 ownership, other than that two sets of partners are mentioned, in different old histories.

Snyder's younger brother, A.P.J. Snyder, came to Celina March 17, 1851 on a horse and worked as a compositor until 1854 when he bought out Blocher's interest — since Blocher then was a judge. Snyder was the first initiate into the Masonic Lodge in Celina, in 1853.

During the Civil War, the Standard was the only Ohio paper to face Union muskets (manned by soldiers on furlough in St. Marys) for its opposition to the war. When the soldiers saw the hoard of Democrat farmers and townsmen with deer rifles pointed at them, they returned to St. Marys.

In 1865, after bitter Civil War experiences, the Snyder brothers sold the paper to D. J. Callen. A year later, A.P.J. Snyder, (crying daily because of a life without type to set) bought back the paper from Callen. His brother Seth began a long political career.

In 1870, the building currently housing the Style Shop was constructed, the second floor having been built to hold the printing plant which received water born freight via a creek at the rear of the building, from canal boats. While in this location, A.P.J. Snyder's only living son, Frank A., was apprenticed there in 1883, on a Washington hand press. Eventually the paper moved across the street, and was above the Commercial Bank, when the fire of 1894 destroyed the west half of the business section. The elder Snyder was never able to speak after the fire — and he died in 1901.

The Standard built its own building at its present location following the fire — and a few years late went through a sheriff's sale in bankruptcy — du ing which the sheriff fired a revolver at Frank A Snyder, when Snyder intentionally insulted him, t gain time for his oldest sister to see John DeFord a the Citizens Bank, for a loan. (See four paragraph below). The loan was made at the last minute, an the paper continued.

F. A. Snyder took over management of the pape and in 1904 heard in a barber shop that the Demo crat — a paper largely controlled by the Democrati party organization, was opening a daily paper — bu had lost its shipment of paper in a rail car.

On two days notice, Frank A. Snyder began th Daily Standard — as an intown experiment, an with no typesetting facilities, other than handse type. To Snyder's surprise, some farmers bought th daily newspaper — and in 1909, he bought the firs Linotype for the paper — which will eventually b displayed in a show window at the East Marke Street plant. The weekly paper was discontinued i the mid-1930's.

Throughout its 130 years of life, the Standard (a it is more affectionately called) has achieved a we balanced measure of notoriety and acclamation.

A.P.J. Snyder's eldest daughter, Lizzie (McKim) was born in 1860, and was the first person to gradu ate from Celina high school — when John DeFor was superintendent. As early as grade school, sh

Top Row: Lillian Schoch, Jacob Snyder, Parker Snyder, Margare Snyder, Frank Snyder, Adele Smelser, Larry Smelser. **Front Row** Sam Schoch, Karen Schoch, Scott Smelser, Kit Smelser. July 1(1979.

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rted writing for the paper, and did much of its edrial management until her death in the mid 20's. Her two younger sisters — Cora and Carrie, ıo were twins, set type, and helped with business ınagement, as young girls. All three of the women voted their entire lives to the paper, and none had ildren that lived.

Despite his hatred of wars, A.P.J. Snyder allowed ; son Frank to accept a commission as a first lieuıant, during the Spanish-American war in 1898. hen the then young Snyder found out that a Reblican youth had been commissioned a captain, tore up his commission, reportedly on the Court ıuse lawn, and never reported for military service.

During the 1920 period of Ku Klux Klan activity, ? Standard publisher and his family were threated with death because they opposed the Klan.

The 1936 Democratic primary race between ıarles Sawyer and Martin L. Davey brought praise ım Davey, when he spoke at the Court House ainst Judge Henry Miller, and the Standard. He ɔclaimed the Standard the best paper in Ohio th which to wrap garbage — and the worst to ıd. When he was defeated, the Cincinnati Enirer account said that Davey had lost only two ru- counties in Ohio — and that the Standard was ;ponsible for his collapse in Mercer County. This ?ased the Standard almost as much as the garge-wrapping award.

Eventually, the Standard re-acquired the half ɔck on Market, from Ash Street west to the alley, ıich A.P.J. Snyder had bought in 1855. Some day, ? old Snyder homestead, to the east, will be re-ıred, and a press room addition is planned for the st behind the home.

In its 130 years, the paper acquired some nostalgic .es, other than Governor Davey's praise. In the 90's, when A.P.J. Snyder and his four children opıted the plant, it was called "The Family Organ" its many detractors. This followed through — wever, and about a decade ago, it was listed as the :ond oldest family owned paper in the United ıtes.

Statistically, the Standard allegedly has the largest culation, for a town the size of Celina, or a county ? size of Mercer County, in the state of Ohio.

And a year ago, International Paper Co., the ırld's largest maker of newsprint, said that the ındard's paper consumption was the largest, for circulation of any paper it had identified in the dwest United States. The paper follows a policy of uble the column inches of news, to the inches of vertising.

Following the death of F. A. Snyder in 1944, man-ement of the paper was taken over by his two ildren, Joy A. and Parker R. Snyder. Miss Snyder, ıo handled most of the personal news for many ars, died in 1970. Parker Snyder currently man-es the paper. Three of his children, Frank, Adele ıelser and Lillian Schoch work at the plant. The ındard's current press was started, on its first run, Adele when she was less than a year old. The ess is now over 75 years old.

The Standard is the oldest business in Mercer unty.

The Daily Standard Received two United Press International Ohio Newspaper Awards for Journalistic cellence; one to Joe Lersky for First Place, Best Edrial, 10,000 to 20,000 circulation in 1978; the other Steve Fought for second place, best sports story or lumn, 10,000 to 20,000 ciculation, in 1978.

STATE FARM INSURANCE

State Farm Mutual Insurance Company was founded in 1922, by a retired Illinois farmer. Originally farmer's autos were insured through a mutual organization by the policyholders. By 1942, the Company was the nation's largest auto insurer; State Farm has been number one since then and today insures approximately nineteen million vehicles.

State Farm Life Insurance Company, founded in 1929, today ranks as the eighth largest life insurer. It had approximately thirty-one billion total life insurance in force at the end of 1977. This growth is tremendous considering that State Farm Life has passed many life insurance companies that have been in business for a hundred years.

The expansion did not stop there; in 1935, State Farm Fire and Casualty Insurance Company was started. Today State Farm insures more families' homes than other insurer, and more pleasure boats than anyone else.

The Company added health insurance in 1965, and today more than four hundred forty-two thousand health insurance policies are in force.

State Farm did not enter the Ohio market until the early 1950's, and did not enter Mercer County and Celina until 1973. So, although many people in this area have heard of the State Farm name, only recently has State Farm been locally available and locally promoted and serviced. The current State Farm office has been at 114 N. Main St., Celina, since November of 1974. Since July of 1975, Bob Nuding, a Celina native, has been the local agent. During this time, the local agency has expanded much like the State Farm Company has elsewhere, by telling the State Farm success story about all kinds of family protection. The Celina agency has gone from one employee to three, due to the successful growth of the quality products State Farm offers.

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Office. Vic Steinke Builders, Celina

Weber Home

VIC STEINKE BUILDERS

The origin of Steinke Builders actually started back in 1949 while I was working as an apprentice cabinet builder for Martz Cabinet Shop. After three years of cabinet building, my experience was broadened by building houses for eight years for Lawrence Fifer, a local contractor. During these eight years of house construction, the evenings were spent building cabinets and doing small remodeling jobs for friends and relatives. After Mr. Fifer retired in 1960, I decided to go into business for myself.

We maintain a work force of twelve men the year around and specialize in cabinets, custom building and everything connected to the building trade; such as: plumbing, heating, electrical, painting, etc. At the present our regular customers number nearly five hundred.

Some of the homes we have built are: Lowell Gagle home — Meadow View Dr., Olen Amstutz home — Magnolia St., Dr. LeRoy Weber home — 117 Brandon Ave., Dick & Son Funeral Home — 218 West Market St., Ron Liette home — Menchoffer Woods, Billy Harvey home — Mooring Line Dr., and the Jerry Smith home — Melody Drive.

Weber Home

Weber Home

Dick & Sons Funeral Home

Weber Home

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Total Electric

THE STYLE SHOP

The Style Shop, (picture reference) 123 S. Main eet, was purchased by Don Coate and Dorsey mm from D. K. Mendenhall on April 10, 1936. n and Garnet Coate then purchased the Grimm erest in 1957 and sold men's wear exclusively un- 1964.

On July 6, 1965, the Style Shop (picture reference) ved across main street into what was at that time Rentzsch Department Store.

Don and Garnet Coate added women's ready to ar in the expanded store location and continued offer men's and women's apparel until January 1, '5, when they sold The Style Shop to Philip and ndace (Coate) Cozadd.

The 110 S. Main location at one time included cture reference) Rentzsch's on the north side and ıdahn and Mesarvey grocery on the south side. e Daily Standard was published on the second or of this location until 19__.

The Style Shop continues to offer better quality parel to the men and women of west central Ohio.

TOTAL ELECTRIC

Total Electric had its beginning on December 20, 1972, when John Brown and Roger Spohn opened the shop to provide the area with residential wiring, electric heating, and insulation service. At that time seven people plus a bookkeeper were employed.

In 1975 Roger Spohn sold his interest to Tom Robbins and Tom and John remain as the present owners. The business has been expanded to include all types of residential and commercial electrical work. With the increased demand for heat pumps and the concern with home insulation, Total Electric is meeting the needs of the energy conserving customers. The business is operated out of its own building and serves its customers with five vehicles.

The current employees of the business besides John and Tom are: Marce Nietfeld, Stan Brown, George Tester, Kent Hinton, Tom Cole, Dave Russell, and Marjorie Bruggeman.

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TRACTORS, INC.

TRACTORS, INC. opened for business May 1, 1959 in a leased building at 230 E. Market Street, Celina, Ohio with eight employees. The primary business was and still is repairing and rebuilding the undercarriage of crawler type tractors and cranes. The rollers, idlers and tracks are rebuilt by submerged arc welding process. Hand welding is used for sprocket rims and other parts. A track press is used for turning or replacing pins and bushings. We also stock a complete line of new undercarriage parts for these tractors including hardened bolts and nuts.

In 1971 the company purchased and renovated the building currently used at 215 W. Fayette Street, Celina, Ohio. Also, at this time we added a new completely automatic welding machine for rollers, the only such operation in this immediate area. In 1972 we purchased the house and lot to the west of our building, razing the house to use the lot for storage and parking area.

We service customers from the state of Ohio, Indiana and lower Michigan. We now have fifteen employees.

As of October 1978 Stockholders and Directors are: Kennith C. Andrew, Elmer Nofzinger, Paul D. Linton from Celina, Ohio; Joseph R. Smith, West Alexandria, Ohio; George H. Laws, Fort Wayne, Indiana; James M. McClure, Punta Gorda, Florida and Joseph T. Suhr, Bryant, Indiana.

RADIO STATIONS WCSM AM/FM

Radio Station WCSM marks its 15 Anniversary 1978 having served the Mercer/Auglaize Coun market since 1963. WCSM-AM, a 500 watt day-tin station, assigned to 1350 kHz, was signed on the a in September of 1963. Mr. Oscar Baker, President WPTW Radio, Inc., was the original owner of tl station with Mr. Norbert Poeppelman also handl the actual construction of the station in an enginee ing capacity and still remains in Celina today opera ing a private business firm.

In 1966 WCSM-FM signed on the air on the a signed frequency of 96.7 mhz and at 3,000 watts power. During 1966, both AM and FM frequenci were sold to Central Broadcasting Corporation wi Mr. Les Spencer as major stockholder. The two fr quencies began simulcasting programming at th time and have continued to do so ever since.

Johnston Broadcasting, Inc. came into the histo of the station in 1971 when it purchased the pro erty with Mr. Hugh Johnston taking over ownershi About this time a St. Marys Studio was establishe to augment the overall operation of the station Auglaize County.

In 1977 Hayco Broadcasting, Inc. purchased tl station and continues to operate the business toda Mr. John H. Coe heads the ownership as Preside and General Manager of the Corporation.

WCSM-AM/FM is an ABC News affiliate ar uses the services of the Associated Press wire ser ice. The station is a member of the Agri Broadcas ing Network, SportsOhio Network, the Ohio Assoc ation of Broadcasters and the National Associatic of Broadcasters.

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WILLIAMS JEWELERS

Williams Jewelers is one of the oldest jewelry res in the Northwest section of Ohio.

Williams Jewelers has its origin back to the year 94. At that time it was built and owned by Mr. & s. Henry Schunk and referred to as Schunck Jewrs and Opticians. When Mr. Schunck died, the re continued to be operated by his wife, Henetta, and her sisters, Lou Fanger, Effie Fanger and n Armer. They ran the store until 1946 when ed Halderman bought the store. In 1950 John lliams, who had worked at the store since 1947, ught the store. The store continued under the me of Schunck Jewelers for approx. 10 years then Williams changed the name to its present name Williams Jewelers. The Williams moved the store m its location on Fayette St. to its present location the Plaza Shopping Center, 932 N. Main in 1968.

The Williams retired from the store and it was d to Dr. and Mrs. Charles Bensman on Jan. 1, 77. After a year and a half the Bensmans moved to va and the store was purchased by Mr. & Mrs. vid Quilling, who are the present owners. Emoyees of the store at this present time are Miss ggy Bomholt, Mr. Robert Schulte, repairman, rs. Sharon Quilling, owner.

Picture enclosed shows: Peggy Bomholt, Robert Schulte, Sharon Quilling — new owner, Virginia Bensman — former owner.

WILSON'S SHOE STORE

This store was purchased from Leo Gast's widow July 1952. This store was started by Leo Gast in 41 after the close of Roemers Dept. Store. It was erated in the south half of the second building uth of Fayette Street on Main Street until 1952 hen it was moved to the present location, 106 S. ain St. Mr. Gast's volume was $41,000 annually d it has now passed the $350,000 annual volume. his store is the headquarters for Wilson Shoe ores which operates in two other cities: Bowling reen, Ohio and Marion, Ohio.

Roger L. Wilson's Shoe History:

He started selling shoes for Coombs Shoes at Cena Flower Shop Building in 1938 as a Saturday les Clerk. After serving three years in the U.S. Air rce, he held several positions, such as selling shoes the Priess Shoe Store at Saint Marys for three ears; selling farm machinery in Nebraska; carpenry for Kessler Builders and working for Goodyear ire and Rubber Company, St. Marys, and Muncie, d., before buying this store in 1952.

Wilsons Shoe Store

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WINKELJOHN PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPLIES

In 1935, Fred and Ida Gilberg received information concerning a small lithographing machine and decided to investigate. Fred had been a printer for a number of years, having been associated with his Father, A.C.F. Gilberg in the publication of the former Mercer County Observer. This was a weekly Republican newspaper issued here for many years, but ceased publication in 1925. Fred had also worked with printing companies in Cleveland and had also edited the Coldwater Chronicle for some time.

Lithographing was a rather new process in 1935, but Fred Gilberg decided to purchase the small machine and start a new business venture, known as Gilberg Printing.

After a few years and much endeavor and promotion work, the business became moderately successful, and several letter press machines were installed together with a linotype, also hand set type. The two methods of printing worked well together and permitted the plant to take on a more variety of orders.

During most of these years Herb Winkeljohn, starting as a high school student in the shop and became knowledgeable in the production work.

In 1946 Fred and Ida Gilberg purchased the present building at 212 N. Main St., occupied by Winkeljohn Printing & Office Supplies and moved all equipment to that location.

The retail office supply business was incorporated into the venture in 1948.

In 1961, the business was sold to Herb Winkeljohn who together with his wife Esther operates it today. Herb had been reemployed by Gilbergs after his discharge from the service in 1945. During his 4 years with the Army Engineers, his duties were setting up and operating similar lithographing equipment from island to island in the Pacific, where he became a Master Sergeant. New equipment has been added and the office supply division expanded into its present successful business. Harold Heitbrink and Randy Winkeljohn are associated with Herb and Esther in conducting the production and sales.

WOLFF TIRE SERVICE, INC.

Wolff Tire Service was started in 1939 by J Wolff as a gasoline station. The business and r estate was purchased in May of 1953 by Carl a Leo Schockman, who ran it in the beginning a four man operation.

During the years, the people from a wide a have come to depend on Wolff Tire Service to ha the tires and service they need. Whether it be golf carts or huge farm tractors, or something in l tween, they know they can count on Wolff T Service.

In May 1978, Wolff Tire Service celebrated 25th anniversary. At that time, the company se iced a wide area of retail customers, and its' who sale trucks covered a wide radius of up to 100 mil Their main line of tires and tubes was Firestone, b they also stocked and sold Michelin, Astrostar a Triumph tire lines. Their service includes "in t shop and on the farm" service, highway tire servi front end alignment, wheel balancing, battery se ice, brake work, and exhaust system work. Th now have 18 employees.

Early in the life of the business, Wolff Tire Se ice started installing seat covers. This has develop into a full line Trim Shop for repairing and restori the interiors of most all types of automobiles a trucks.

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THE ALTRURIAN CLUB

Origins of the Altrurian Club date back to 1899 en ten friends met at the home of Judge S. S. anton to organize a women's club. Those women Martha Scranton, Alice Brownless, Jessie Raudaugh, Laura Dysert, Ida Stubbs, Anna Howick, zabeth Feldheiser, Addie Vinning, Sue Raudaugh, and Alverda Shipp — became charter members of the Altrurian Club of Celina.

The name of the club was derived from the Latin rd "altar" which means regardful or devoted to ers. This seemed appropriate, as the prime purse of the club was to be the study of literature and fine arts, and devotion to community betterent. The club's first president, Ida Stubbs, wrote fe gives back to us in kind what we put into it."

Minutes from as early as 1904 document the time d effort devoted to Altrurian Club activities oughout the years. Weekly meetings typically ntained presentations of papers prepared by embers. Often an entire club year was devoted to study of a particular country, such as Germany Japan. In each case, reports were prepared by embers on the history, culture, art, music, famous nilies, and other interesting features of the coun- under study. In addition, many programs fosed on authors, poets, and musicians. Discussion current events have also been a regular feature of ograms since early in the century. In 1915 a spird report on the topic "Should Women vote as eir husbands do?" was typical of the interests of club members.

In 1908 Margaret Rice began what would become ty-seven years of contributing her musical abilities the club. Music was an important part of the club d amateur theatricals and musicals were presented ch year. These were first presented on an informal sis in the members' homes, and later at ST Paul's ethodist Church to accommodate the large audice. Especially active in preparing the early enternments were Mary Bess Kreimendahl and Eva ish.

Since 1954, Dorothy Brookhart and Quinn Schiner have entertained the members and guests with eir "Afternoon at the Theater".

The Altrurian Club boasts a long history of community service. One of the first efforts was when ndrew Carnegie gave ten thousand dollars to the ty of Celina for the establishment of a public rary. It was necessary for the people of Celina to ovide a site for this library. (The town was being rved at the time by a small library in a room of the y building. This was maintained by the Shakeere Club.) The project was promoted by Grace yder and funds were solicited by women of the akespere, History and Altrurian Clubs. Subseent gifts to the library followed through the years, d today the club places books in the library as emorials to deceased members.

Golden Anniversary of Altrurian Club; fall of 1949
Seated, L. to R.: Dora Brookhart, Lola Sharp, Evelyn Bowman (Raudabaugh), Margaret Rice, Ida Fesker, Naomi Collins McClellan, Bess Clerke, Savella Johnson, Elva Rush. **Standing, First Row:** Belva Stubbs, Barbara Otis, Catherine Sharp, Helen Bowman, Clista Fahncke, Nellie Dick, Edith Eichenauer, Anna Lee Brandts, Hannah Hattery, L. Nickel, Martha Karch, Edith Hattery, Nancy Gilberg, Ruth Spaugler, Ruth Hughes, Katherine Jenks, Dorothy Brookhart, Mary Kindell. **Standing, Back Row:** Marjorie Rentzsch, Mary Rodgers, Dorothy Halderman.

In its early years the Altrurian Club raised monies for buying milk for school children, donating baskets of food to the needy, and the improvement of North Shore Park. They sponsored the "I'll Try" club for school girls and organized and sponsored the Girl Scouts of Celina. Club meetings were suspended during World War I as members gave their time to the Red Cross.

The Ohioanna Library, which recognized the works of Ohio writers, was sponsored by the club.

Since 1928 club members have purchased articles made by blind persons upon request of the Ohio State Commission of the Blind.

In 1914 the Altrurian Club joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and has contributed to such worthy projects as the Pan American Scholarship Fund, The Penny Arts Fund and the Memorial Forest. On a local level, the club annually presents the National School Choral Award and the Chopin Piano Award to superior music students at Celina Senior High School.

Altrurian Club activities were generated from meeting in the homes of members until 1946, when the meetings were moved to the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building.

Currently there are thirty-five active members, twenty-four associate members and two life members (fifty years active membership) in the club. The life members are Hannah Hattery and Belva Stubbs. Deceased members who achieved a fifty year membership are: Ida Stubbs, Barbara Otis, Dora Brookhart, Helen Bowman, Savella Johnson, Eva Rush, Margaret Rice, Lola Sharp, Bess Clark and Naomi McClellan.

Officers of the club for the year 1978-1979 are:
President — Marjorie Finkelmeier
Vice Pres. — Anna Lee Amstutz
Secretary — Betty McKirnan
Treas. — Iris Sell
Program Chairman — Barbara Wagner

Altrurian Club meetings are held the first Thursday of each month from October through May. *Janet Warrick*

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 210

In 1919 Veterans decided to apply for a charter for an American Legion Post in Celina, Ohio and use the name Celina Post 210. A list of charter members was started.

In September 1919 a charter was granted to ninety-four (94) charter members, all veterans of World War One.

After four years of trying to carry out the programs of the American Legion, the programs being: Child Welfare, Rehabilitation, Community Service and Americanism, they decided they needed the help of an Auxiliary. They invited the Wives, Mothers, Sisters and Daughters to form a unit to their post using the name Celina Unit 210. In 1973 Granddaughters was added to the eligibility list.

In February 1923 a charter was issued to Celina Unit 210 by the Department of Ohio Auxiliary. One hundred and one (101) women became charter members. All dedicated themselves to assist in carrying out the programs of American Legion in carrying for children of Veterans and Veterans themselves. The care of the Veteran and his family was the first obligation of Legion and its Auxiliary.

Community Service and Americanism were the second obligation of the group. As the years passed, other programs were added, such as Legislation, Buckey Boys State and Girls State, where High School Juniors are taught about Government.

First President — Mrs. Etta Vale 1927-1928
1978 membership 212
First Commander — Dr. John Gibbons 1919-1920
1978 membership 367
Legion building completed in 1941

THE CELINA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB

Celina Club, sponsored by the Dayton Club, and with a membership of 25, received its charter on March 15, 1938. It is a member of the State, National and International Federation and now has a membership of 65.

The particular Objectives for which this Clu formed are:

To elevate the standards for women in busir and in the professions;

To promote the interests of business and pro sional women;

To bring about a spirit of cooperation among t iness and professional women in the Un States; and

To extend opportunities to business and pro sional women through education along line industrial, scientific and vocational activities.

The following are some of the accomplishme of the Club:

Sponsored (with the Phi Beta Psi Sorority) kindergarten which opened on October 2, 1944, w an enrollment of 35, and assumed all financial o gations and records until the kindergarten becam part of the State School System;

During World War II, canvassed the entire for U.S.O. donations, and also held a used toy s donating the money to the State Federation to ap on the purchase of a Bookmobile (traveling libra for the use of armed forces personnel at vari camps;

For several years gave a monthly Safe Dri Award to a High School Junior selected by the lina Police Department;

Made donations to many charities, including co munity Christmas Basket Fund, Red Cross Bloodn bile Program, Xenia Disaster Fund, and assistance needy families at Christmas time;

Donation to Cheryl Ann School Building Fu also to the Dwyer-Mercer County Library to p chase chairs for the meeting room;

For many years has sent a girl to Buckeye G State at Columbus and given money to the Schol ship Fund at W.O.B.C. of Wright State University

Encourages a local young woman to compete the District, State and National Young Careerist P gram, paying her expenses to a District meeting a if a winner, to the State Convention.

The Club has held card parties, dances and ba sales, sold items at the Lake Festival, served lunch at the College-Community Arts Festival and s many miscellaneous items to make money for projects.

An annual Guest Night, held in October, is tended by District Clubs, State Federation Offic and local friends.

The group has been very active in the Federatic supporting State projects and attending State, N tional and International meetings. The membe have participated in District meetings and Sta Conventions and held offices in the District a chairmanships at the State level.

Celina Club sponsored the Wapakoneta Cl which received its charter on July 14, 1966.

Special observances have been made at the tir of the 25th, 35th, and 40th anniversaries; State a District officers, members of other clubs and ma local friends attended these dinner meetings.

The Club sends out a monthly newsletter, pr pares a very informative yearbook for its membe and holds monthly dinner meetings except in A gust.

There are approximately 8,000 members in t State Federation.

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GIBBONS HOSPITAL

In 1935 Gibbons Hospital was chartered by state d federal statutes as a non-profit institution with e original board consisting of Dr. and Mrs. John T. bbons, Raymond Younger, and Harry Winkel-ın.

John T. Gibbons, M.D., a graduate of the 1915 ss of the Starling Ohio Medical College which ortly afterward became the Ohio State University edical College, moved to Celina July 26, 1916. One ar later he was called to serve in the army. Upon s return he entered into a partnership with Dr. J. E. ıttery but in 1921 he purchased the lots of 117 and 9 East Fayette St. and had an architect draw plans r a thirteen room office building. He moved into is new office in 1922. The new offices consisted of waiting room, x-ray room, treatment room, con-ltation room, business office and two rooms were ased to Dr. Guy Bryson, Dentist.

Dr. Gibbons married Ruth Catherine Crampton d their home was built on the lot just east of his fice.

In 1925 another room was added to the main uilding which would accommodate two beds for patients and in 1931 a second floor was added nich provided nine additional rooms plus a surgi-l suite. At this point it is interesting to note that e first babies born (a total of four) in 1933 were all Caesarean Section. To date (8-1-78) there have en a total of 13,422 liveborn babies with only one aternal death (that being in 1939 before the dis-very of antibiotics).

The rear half (two stories and basement) were ded in 1938 and in 1946 the home structure was nverted into a maternity unit giving the commu-ty a total of 35 beds of which 10 were restricted to e maternity department. In the years 1947-51 the spital averaged 809 births per year. In 1957 a com-etely segregated maternity unit was added which as also built to include both a doctor's and dental fice. The hospital capacity had now reached 44 eds and served the area as short term general hos-tal including surgical, medical, and obstetrical, and boratory, emergency, and x-ray services.

Dr. Gibbons served also in the 2nd world war un-he suffered a heart attack in France. His son John C. assumed the position of hospital administrator in 1947.

The hospital has had an all time high of 115 em-ployees and had on its active staff long time area doctors: Benning, Helfich, Barton, Chrispin, Adkins, Slusser, Schmidt, Willke, McIlroy, Fox, and Gib-bons.

The present active medical staff are doctors: P. Beare, R. Dobbins, L. Finkelmeier, D. Fox, G. McIl-roy, and J. Otis.

Gibbons Hospital is unique in being one of the few completely self-supporting hospitals with but one major donation (by the Ford Foundation in 1956). It has been a member of both the American Hospital Association and the Ohio Hospital Associa-tion. The present hospital board is as follows: Jared Halderman, Pres., Bill Toms, V. Pres., Harry J. Winkeljohn, Secy. Treas., Tom Green, Ferd Winkel-john, Donald Fox, M.D., and Atty. John Hinders.

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CELINA HISTORY CLUB

The Celina History Club had its beginning in the fall of 1892, when Mrs. Charles (Lizzie) McKim called together eight ladies for the purpose of studying and becoming more familiar with our country's first 400 years. This study was inspired by plans for a World's Fair to be held that year in Chicago (and actually opened in 1893).

The eight members of this first study club were Lizzie (Snyder) McKim, Adarene (Blake) Landfair, Lura (Freeman) Mitchell, Anna (Blosser) Struckman (later Murlin), Belle (Smith) Doron, Harriet Smith, Agnes Snyder and Flora Harter. They met regularly and lessons were assigned each week for the following week's study.

The membership increased to twenty, but we have no written records until 1897 when they organized formally with the following officers: Lizzie McKim, president; Lura Mitchell and Grace (Harring) Deatrick, vice-presidents; and Bertha (Strickler) Wyckoff, secretary and treasurer. The Club still carries the introduction to that first constitution, "For the purpose of mutual improvement, believing that close and careful study and interchange of ideas will prove a great benefit, we organize under the name of History Club of Celina." Their motto: "They build too low who build beneath the stars."

From the bi-weekly Mercer County Standard, October 16, 1897: "... the club decided to adopt a course of study which will include the historical dramas of Shakespeare, with a review of English history and outline questions on English dramatists and authors, for the first half of the year, the concluding months to be devoted to general literary work."

Mrs. McKim was a devout student of Shakespeare and memorized a number of his plays, often taking all the parts and presenting entire acts before the Club. She served as president until 1906 and it is said that she ruled with an iron hand. For years there were only active members and there is note in an early secretary's report of two members who asked to resign and their resignations refused!

For a number of years and within the memory of some present members of History Club, members were assigned for each program to give a critical review of the program, in the use of words, delivery, enunciation and pronunciation.

However, not all was study. During the early years members held three or four "social sessions." Once a year they had an elaborate banquet or party, sometimes held at the Mercelina Park Hotel, and to which their husbands were invited. Apparently, they felt the husbands should return this favor, for in the minutes of April 7, 1904, there was a motion made and carried that the Club husbands take their wives by trolley to St. Marys or Lima and treat them to supper!

Later, the serving of refreshments was discon ued and during the 1940's the number of meeti was changed to twice a month.

In time also, the membership increased to 30 a an associate membership list was formed for in tive members. About 1950 an honorary members designation was created for those members who l been active for 30 years or more. At the time of t writing, two members are eligible for this honor, cille (Netts) Younger and Myra Jane (Whitlo Wallace, although Mrs. Wallace prefers to rem an active member.

Celina History Club became a Federated Wo en's Club in 1900. While it is interested in and c cerned with the betterment of the community, i primarily a study group and holds few mon making activities. From its membership dues it p Federation dues, contributes yearly to the O Memorial Forest and donates an American Herit subscription and other books to the library.

Without doubt, its outstanding contribution to t community is the part it played in the establishme of the Celina Public Library. A library was fi opened in 1899 in the City Building by the Shak spere Club. History Club donated books a attended fund-raising events the Shakespere me bers sponsored to support their project.

History Club then assumed responsibility raising the money ($2200) for the present site of t Mercer County Library, formerly the Botkins l They held bake sales, shows, lectures and rece tions, and in 1902-03 they published a cookbook "Choice Receipts" which sold for 35 cents. Throu these efforts they raised $1100 and then solicit merchants and individuals for the remaining $110

They also appealed to Andrew Carnegie for h which amounted to $12,000 for a building fund. T Celina Public Library was dedicated and forma opened with a paid librarian in 1907. Actual cost w $18,219.73 for the building and $2200 for the lot.

For years History Club meetings were held members' homes, but since 1945 many have be held in the Richardson-Bretz Memorial Building. is traditional, however, that the last meeting of t year be held in the home of the outgoing preside Since 1972 meetings have been held once a mont usually starting the club year in September with luncheon meeting. The Christmas Tea on a Saturd in December is also traditional.

Lizzie (Snyder) McKim, founder and first pre dent of History Club, was also the first graduate Celina High School in 1878. She worked for years the Daily Standard and was always interested ar energetic in the betterment of her community. S died in 1928. The gavel still in use today was ma and presented to the Club on October 17, 1912, b Mr. McKim.

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CELINA LODGE #241 FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

No one knows just when Masonry began. It has en written that Masonic emblems were found in e tomb of King Tut of Egypt. Masonry is not a re-ion, but it is religious in nature. It is monotheistic, belief in one Supreme Being, which explains why asonic Lodges exist in every country in the world th the exception of two — Russia and Spain. It atters not if the one Supreme Being is called God, nfuscius or Allah.

Free Masonry — conceived as "A system of Mo-ls" — came to Celina on May 28, 1853. The first eeting place was on the southeast corner of Main d Livingston Streets in the third floor of the old lis Hotel. A mammoth stone, dredged out of the iglaize River, properly engraved, still marks the ot.

Throughout the years the location of the Masonic mple has changed several times. They now own e Riley Building, deeded to them by Zura and na Riley, with Nickel Hardware occupying the ound floor and the Masons using the second and ird floors.

A number of signal honors have been conferred on members of Celina Lodge #241, Free and Ac-pted Masons. The most distinguished Mason was dge Raymond A. Younger who served as Grand aster of Masons in Ohio in 1948. The thirty-third gree which is an honorary degree conferred by the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Dayton, has been conferred on Raymond A. Younger, J. Ralph Murlin and Hugo D. Smelser. Six District Deputy Grand Masters who are charged with inspecting and providing leadership to the fifteen Lodges in four counties have been appointed from among our members: W. T. Palmer, E. J. Brookhart, Raymond A. Younger, J. Ralph Murlin, Hugo D. Smelser and Harold W. Kinnison. These honors speak well for the quality of the citizens of Celina.

The first Master of Celina Lodge #241, F. & A. M., was Smith H. Clark. The present Master — 125 years later — is Dean H. Morr. The first Master Mason raised by Celina Lodge was A. P. J. Snyder, grandfather of Bro. Parker Snyder, owner and publisher of the Daily Standard. Between the first and last Master are many names, too numerous to mention, who have served the Lodge as Master. These are names which are familiar to citizens of Celina — names like Snyder, LeBlond, Godfrey, Wyckoff, Loree, Chapman, Brookhart, Palmer, Sharp, Bryson, Riley and Younger.

Affiliated organizations meeting in the Masonic Temple are:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS — The charter for this organization was granted on September 14, 1870.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR — The charter for this organization was granted on October 14, 1898. Membership includes Masons and the wives, sisters, Mothers, or daughters of Master Masons.

ORDER OF DEMOLAY — The charter was granted March 29, 1961.

ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS — The charter was granted April 24, 1968.

Ralph Murlin, f., P.H.P., .D.G.M., 33rd gree

Smith H. Clark, 1st Master of Celina Lodge #241

Raymond A. Younger, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, 1948

Hugo D. Smelser, P.M., P.H.P., P.D.D.G.M., 33rd Degree

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THE CELINA LIONS CLUB

In Chicago, Illinois, a small group of businessmen were meeting each day for luncheon when Melvin Jones conceived the idea of organizing the group and extending their interests to the needs of the community and their fellow men. Little did Melvin Jones realize that his vision would develop and reach world wide dimensions.

In 1917 under the leadership of Mr. Jones, The International Association of Lions Clubs was formally organized with a creed of "Loyalty, Intelligence, our Nation's Safety". The primary interest was conservation of Sight and Hearing, along with the betterment of our communities and fellow men with no restrictions as to creed, color or race.

The acceptance of these principles has been phenomenal for as of May 31, 1978, Lions Clubs International had 1,250,180 members in 32,184 clubs and in 149 countries and geographic areas.

Sensing the need and benefits of a service club for the community, a group of Celina men organized and received a charter from the Association of Lions Clubs. The twenty-one charter members were:

CHARTER MEMBERS

Charles Ayers
Paul Christy
Herman Dues
R. E. Dixon
Sam Dixon
Walter M. Deardoff
Ed Gerlach
Henry Forsthoeffel
Thomas J. Mersman
John Pierce
Owen Pogue
J. Paul Remaklus
P. L. Rihm
Robert M. Ross
Vilas L. Riesen
Albert C. Stein
Herbert W. Schindler
Joe Shambaugh
Ed Turicchi
Richard C. Sharp
Roman Vonderhaar

During the early years to survive, many struggles and trials arose, but thanks to the perseverance and determination of a few leaders the club emerged from the depression of the 1930's and World War II into the strongest service club in Celina.

Our present membership is 65 and consists of professional men, businessmen, farmers, and laborers as well as several retirees. Several of our members have over thirty years of service. The active member with the longest service is Walter Bernard, who joined our club in 1934 and held various offices including the presidency of 1938-1939.

The vitality and strength of the Celina Lions Club has been maintained through the 50 years by the interest and devotion of many members, some with over 30 years of service. The records indicate the following served as President and Secretary.

PAST OFFICERS

CHARTER

President — Herman J. Dues
Secretary — Robert M. Ross

1929-1930
President — Herman J. Dues
Secretary — Robert M. Ross

1930-1931
President — Ralph Wright
Secretary — O. H. Pogue

1931-1932
President — Thomas Mersman
Secretary — J. H. Hale

1932-1933
President — William A. Kopp
Secretary — Albert C. Stein

1933-1934
President — Albert C. Stein
Secretary — T. L. Hoeffell

1934-1935
President — Francis Kuckuck
Secretary — Walter Bernard

1935-1936
President — Ernest Bailey
Secretary — Robert Greek

1936-1937
President — Clyde Spriggs
Secretary — C. B. Waugh

1937-1938
President — S. E. Tyner
Secretary — Kenneth Andrews

1938-1939
President — Walter Bernard
Secretary — B. A. Rodgers

1939-1940
President — William Meikle
Secretary — Dale M. Jameson

1940-1941
President — B. A. Rodgers
Secretary — Clyde Spriggs

1941-1942
President — Kenneth Andrews
Secretary — Paul Remaklus

1942-1943
President — Clyde Spriggs
Secretary — Robert Henne

1943-1944
President — Frank Ashton
Secretary — Vernon Anselman

1944-1945
President — Owen Pogue
Secretary — Vernon Anselman

1945-1946
President — Ernest Shively
Secretary — Herbert L. Voegele

1946-1947
President — Dr. R. G. Schmidt
Secretary — Dewey Dawson

1947-1948
President — Herbert L. Voegele
Secretary — Roland E. Moore

1948-1949
President — D. B. Spangler
Secretary — Justus Gilberg

1949-1950
President — Dwight Raudenbush
Secretary — Rev. Glenn Hughes

1950-1951
President — R. E. Moore
Secretary — Ray Kendall

1951-1952
President — Claire W. Vale
Secretary — Robert Eichar

1952-1953
President — Raymond Kendall
Secretary — A. J. Spieler, Jr.

1953-1954
President — Richard Grunden
Secretary — Don Purdy

1954-1955
President — A. J. Spieler, Jr.
Secretary — Roland Hinton

1955-1956
President — Don Purdy
Secretary — Don Stroefer

1956-1957
President — George Hill
Secretary — Ted Stott

1957-1958
President — Don Stroefer
Secretary — H. F. Curry

1958-1959
President — Owen Hall
Secretary — Ralph Huddlestu

1959-1960
President — Ted Stott
Secretary — Bronsart Gilberg

1960-1961
President — H. F. Curry
Secretary — George Kreachbaum

1961-1962
President — Robert L. Hecht
Secretary — Thomas Green

1962-1963
President — Thomas Green
Secretary — Floyd E. Houts

1963-1964
President — John Bowman
Secretary — Dave Quilling

1964-1965
President — Robert Barger
Secretary — Dave Quilling

1965-1966
President — Clair L. Errett
Secretary — Dewey Dawson

1966-1967
President — Stanley Humbert
Secretary — Allan M. Smith

1967-1968
President — Herbert Fahncke
Secretary — Carmin Worthington

1968-1969
President — Eugene Spicer
Secretary — Wilmer Knapp

1969-1970
President — Robert Hawk
Secretary — Harold Van Tilburg

1970-1971
President — Robert Cole
Secretary — Leroy Olding

1971-1972
President — Charles Dick
Secretary — Harley Jones

1972-1973
President — Vernon Enyart
Secretary — Dewey Dawson

1973-1974
President — William J. Maehlman
Secretary — Dewey Dawson

1974-1975
President — Michael D. Lehman
Secretary — Dewey Dawson

1975-1976
President — William H. Hennessey
Secretary — Dewey Dawson

1976-1977
President — James W. Myers
Secretary — Michael J. Sovins

1977-1978
President — Harold Van Tilburg
Secretary — Michael J. Sovins

1978-1979
President — Ed McGillvary
Secretary — Michael J. Sovins

The Celina Club has always supported and co tributed to the programs pertaining to sight a hearing of both the Lions International on a wor wide basis and the State of Ohio programs includir the very popular Pilot Dog program.

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Lions Club 4-30-36 — **Bottom Row L-R:** Dr. Lester Eichenauer, Glen Frank, Bill Kopp, Ralph Wright, Dale Jameson, Don Coate, Dick Smalley. **2nd Row L-R:** F. D. Rayle, Ernest Bailey, Clyde Spriggs, Homer Hale, C. W. Waugh, Bill Brown, Al Hearn?. **3rd Row L-R:** D. B. Cole, Walter Forester, Joe Chodash, Frank Ashton, Bert Bruns, Ralph Schindler. **Top Row 4 L-R:** Zoyd Flaler, F. D. Kuckuck, Ernest Shivley, Walter Bernard, Howard Leffler, Russ Harruff, Frank Barker, ?, Bob Greek.

It is not possible to relate all of our activities rough the years in this short review, but we will ›int out just a few. The purchase of eye glasses for :edy children in our own local schools. Several ousand dollars contributed to the public library ıd our club has been honored with a bronze plaque ı the library wall. We have assisted Cheryl Ann :hool, furnished playground equipment, sponsored little league ball team annually. Each year we ›nor the outstanding graduates of our local school ith a dinner and special program. We sponsor the ınual Halloween parade with prizes. A major activ- y each year is the lake festival with a candidate for .e Queen contest and a float in the parade, boat ces and assistance with the Lake Booklet.

We organized a Boy Scout troop and during /orld War II contributed to U.S.O. and maintained service center for the soldiers. Our club sponsored ew clubs in Mendon, Coldwater, and Ft. Recovery.

Our club ranks high in our District consisting of 2 clubs earning the third place Governor's trophy under the leadership of Robert Barger as President 1964-65, first place under Vernon Enyart 1972-73 and second place under William Maehlman 1973-74.

In support of these many activities our club has conducted white elephant sales, chicken barbecues, sold bathroom tissues, citrus fruit, brooms, put on minstrel shows and had concession stands at the boat races. In the entire history of the club there has never been a raffle or any game of chance. Full value has always been given; a record of which we can be proud.

The achievement of our club would not be possible without the full support and desire of our members to serve and the full cooperation of the public which is truly appreciated.

Mercer County may well be proud of its Lions Clubs, but we cannot rest on our past accomplishments and experiences; they should serve only as bench marks and guides for greater things in the future.

Bottom Row, L to R: Clair Errett, John Essex, Herb Fahncke, Carmen Worthington, Roy Geren, Ed McGillvary — President, Roland Moore, John Wiley, Ralph Huddlestun, B. A. Rodgers, Robert Olwine, Justus Gilberg, Walter Bernard, James Myers, Reinhart Hugelen. **2nd Row, L to R:** Tom Cole, Tom Grimm, Jeff Ingraham, Paul Badger, Curt Martin, Wm. Maehlman, Owen Hall, Robert Hawk, Robert Brandon, Mike Lehman, Art Bollenbacher, John Bowman, Scott Urquhart, Fred Langdon, Dewey Dawson, Frank Tangeman. **Top Row, L to R:** Jon Hall, Jim Scheer, Mike Sovinski, Wm. Arnett, Wm. Marbaugh, Charles Havener, Wm. Hennessey, Charles Dick, John Woodruff, Robert Cole, Ken Arps, Harold Van Tilburg, Mark Fleck, Tim Foltz, Harley Jones, John Coe, Marvin Watercutter.

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HOPEWELL GRANGE NO. 2688

On February 27, 1874, a dispensation was granted to these people to organize and hold a subordinate grange "in the town of Hopewell, county of Mercer, State of Ohio, to be known as Hopewell Grange No. 623". The names of the applicants were: John Snavely, Margaret Snavely, O. Now, Margaret Now, Joseph Miller, Emily Miller, George Snavely, John Hellworth, M. A. Hellworth, Stephen Zimmerman, H. W. Crouch, Christina Now, M. A. Crouch, A. C. Crouch, A. P. Garman, John Fetters, Charles Stephenson, John Tilton, Sidney Tilton, Benjamin Stephenson, John Miller, Mary Miller, M. A. Hair, Margaret Hair, Pheba Sexton, and William Hair.

The Grange was organized and approved by I. B. Robbins, Mendon, Ohio. The Master of the new Grange was John Snavely and the Secretary was Joseph Miller. It is not known how long this Grange was active.

In 1941, during a conversation between Brother John Now and Brother Albert Harrison, the Grange was mentioned. Brother Now expressed a desire that a Grange be organized in Hopewell Township.

Brother Harrison, being the Deputy Master of the state of Ohio for Mercer County, asked Joseph W. Fichter, Master of the Ohio State Grange for assistance. He delegated Special Deputy Frank Coppas, Ansonia, Ohio, to help. Brother Harrison a Brother Now organized a grange. They soon r ceived 33 applicants for membership. They enter into an agreement with the township trustees to u the Hopewell Township House as a home for t Grange, Hopewell Grange No. 2688. The chart members were: John Now, Nettie Now, James No Naomi Now, Charles Nuding, Carson Fast, Loret Fast, Ivan Miller, Vera Dull, Russell Fetters, Oc Fetters, Orville Now, Mrs. Orville Now, John Sm ser, Ina Smelser, LeRoy Wilson, Pauline Wilso Beulah Miller, John Hellworth, Lela Pierstorff, C ville Weir, Clarence Weitz, Margaret Weitz, Ral Zimmerman, Elsie Zimmerman, Fuhrman Miller, J Now, Mrs. Joe Now, Josephine Nuding, Edson Pi storff, Mary Ellen Pierstorff, George Hellworth, a L. D. Hellworth.

In August 1942, a Juvenile Grange, No. 704, w organized by Sister Ethel Harrison, Juvenile Depu It is now known as a Junior Grange.

The grange is interested and active in communi betterment. Feeling the need for a home of th own, where they could be of more service to t community, a committee was appointed in Decer ber 1953 to investigate the possibility of relocatin In 1955, the committee secured permission to loca on the Mercer County Fairgrounds. The Grange e tered into an agreement with the Mercer Coun Commissioners for a 99 year lease on a plot ground to build a new grange hall. This Committ consisted of Lawrence Koontz, William Hoenie, ar Walter Pierstorff. The building committee consist of the above committee along with Arlie Baucher, M. Davis, and John Now. The first meeting was he in the new building on August 8, 1955. On April 1 1965, it was dedicated, with Worthy State Mast Byron Fredrick, as dedicating officer.

The Hopewell Grange Hall is in great demand b the public. The Grange has supported many worth while projects: contributed to Cheryl Ann Schoc Junior Fair Building, and various other drives.

In 1969, by vote of the members, a nurses Scho arship of $600 was established. Three local girls ha received the scholarship: Pam Piper, Sheryl Crab tree, and Janet Siegrist. The scholarship has bee changed, to be used by any grange member regarc less of field of education.

Past Masters of the Grange are: John Smelser, Fos ter Archer, Lawrence Koontz, Clarence Weitz, Law rence Petrie, William Hoenie, James Vining, an Larry Fennig.

The Grange at present time has a membership c 123 — 79 of these members being also Pomona State, and National Grange Members.

The present officers are: Master — William Hoe nie, Roland Zimmerman, Alice Preston, Homer Pre ston, Edward Klenz, Doris Grunden, Goldie Bal linger, Clarence Weitz, Marjorie Canary, Do Springer, Betty Zimmerman, Sally Vining, Doroth Springer, Eleanor Hoenie, and Larry Fennig. *Alice Pre ston*

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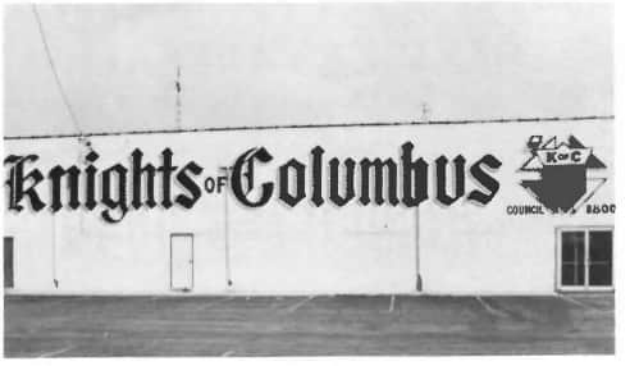
HISTORY OF CELINA COUNCIL 1800, NIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



n 1915, the Supreme Council of the Knights of lumbus awarded a charter to the Celina Knights Columbus, Council 1800. This act set up the first ıncil of the K of C in Mercer County. The first ular meeting of Council 1800 was held on June 8 the same year and John Wenning was elected ınd Knight. Fifty-four members' names were ıtten on the charter that still hangs in the present ıncil home.

Council 1800 was made up of men from Catholic ishes in Mercer County and the first few years re a time of rapid growth. Within a short time, K of C was recognized as an influential body of n in the community. The fledgling group was ed with two major problems very soon after it s organized. The first was the construction of a w parochial elementary school. All Catholic reli- us groups have the major purpose of supporting d contributing to the extension of the Catholic th. The Knights of Columbus lent widespread pport to the parish and took an active part in the ınning, building, and furnishing of the school ilding, completed in 1918.

The second and more severe problem facing uncil 1800 was the first World War. K of C mem- rs across the nation took up arms in support of eir country. Those not able to bear arms played ually important roles. K of C headquarters were up in military camps and they provided whole- me recreation, reading and entertainment to orld War I troops.

After the war, membership increased dramati- lly. Realizing the importance of Catholic life in a mmunity, members of Council 1800 from Cold- ıter organized their own council in Coldwater in 19. A few years later, in 1927, the St. Henry coun- was formed, and still later, in 1950, the council in Recovery. There are now four councils in Mercer unty and over the years all have grown in mem- rship, have worked together, and have enjoyed a ost cordial relationship.

Just as it affected the nation, the Depression of e '30's crippled Council 1800. In 1933, the mem- rship had dropped to 142 men. In 1934, the initia- n fee was reduced but still by 1937 there were ıly 97 members. However, the spirit of brother- od that exemplifies the Knights of Columbus urished. Once a month area councils met and ch month a different council provided entertain- ent for the guest councils.

Soon after the Depression was over, conditions ıproved. But history struck another blow on Dec. 7, 41. Again, men were called to take up arms, this ne not only in defense of their country, but more ıportantly in defense of morality. Again the war cord of the Knights of Columbus is a distinguished ıe. From lending support at home to giving their es in battle, the Knights service was impressive.

When the war ended, the young men returned home and Council 1800 again started to grow. Uninterrupted membership grew to the present 400 members, a long way from the 54 names on the charter written in 1918.

The home of Council 1800 has changed many times. On June 11, 1915 a lease was signed between Council 1800 and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. This lease allowed the K of C the use of an assembly hall and two rooms, now the eastern part of the First National Bank Building.

In the early '20's, the Ku Klux Klan was strong in this area. They needed a meeting hall and the place they wanted was the one occupied by Council 1800. Since the KKK could afford to pay more money, they got the hall and the K of C moved to the auditorium of the Catholic elementary school in 1923.

In 1926, Council 1800 rented the third floor of the Riley building on Main Street. The quarters were fine and the rent reasonable and membership grew until the depression. With the post-war rise in membership, it became necessary again to obtain a new assembly place. Since the parish owned the Lennartz home just north of the high school, the Knights were permitted to use it as their hall starting in 1954. This house, however, was soon to come down and in 1958, the council purchased a building on the corner of Sugar and Oak Streets. Again increasing membership presented growing pains. Under the guidance of Raymond Grothause, the president of the Home Committee and an active member of Council 1800, the K of C purchased the old P & B supermarket building on north Vine St. After extensive remodeling, the store was converted to house Council 1800. It consists of a large hall, a smaller meeting room, a comfortable lounge area, roomy kitchen, and small office areas.

Services provided by the Celina council are many and varied. However, as varied as they are, they all follow the major purposes of Knights of Columbus the world over; the defense of morality and propagation of the Catholic faith. Council 1800 has come a long way from the handful of men who got together on June 8, 1915. But the drive is still as strong as it was then. To be sure, there have been trials and tribulations, but all have been weathered by faith in God and faith in the universal fraternity of man.

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CELINA'S COMBINED SERVICES APPEAL

Many years ago (prior to the memory of any past presidents), the Celina Chamber of Commerce organized an annual fund drive on behalf of local charitable organizations. It was the intention of the Chamber to provide a vehicle by which worthy local charities could combine their efforts and talents in a joint effort of one annual fund-raising drive.

Over the years, this combined charity drive was not given too much consideration by the Chamber and, unfortunately, often times lacked proper organization to complete its goals. The various organizations would provide volunteers for the solicitation, however, ongoing effort never seemed to materialize.

In 1972, the officers of the Chamber of Commerce felt the combined charities should be an organization of its own and not affiliated with the Chamber, as it had been in the past. At this time, efforts were made to organize existing combined charities and a steering committee was appointed for this purpose. Since then, the combined charities has been a self-sustaining organization, whose sole purpose is to collect funds for worthy charities in the area. Needless to say, one of the major reasons for the joint effort was to cut down on expenses of raising funds locally, and anyone close to this organization has to be impressed with the minimal amount of dollars spent to generate the large volume of contributions.

The changeover effort continued through the 1976 drive. Although the campaigns up to this point were relatively successful, no one drive ever went over the goal. In 1977, Bob Engle, John Porch & Jared Halderman spearheaded a reorganization of the yearly drive under a new name and structure, the Celina Combined Services Appeal. With a goal of $60,000, John Porch chaired a campaign which realized $81,848 for 13 service organizations.

In 1978, the Celina Combined Services Appeal was incorporated, and this campaign was even more successful. With a goal of $75,000, over $104,000 was pledged to 11 organizations:

Boy Scouts	Mental Health
Cancer Society	Multiple Sclerosis
Crippled Children	Red Cross
Girl Scouts	Salvation Army
Heart Association	Senior Citizens
Historical Society	

Of this $104,000, less than 1% was paid out for campaign expenses. During the 1977 drive, 1.8% was paid out for expenses. In other words, about $22,000 more was raised in 1978 and expenses were cut by a little more than half! At the time this history of the Celina Combined Services Appeal was written, Steering Committee members included:

John Porch	Chairman of the Board
Dick Oman	Drive Chairman
Jim Hogan & Ed Kuenning	Retail & Wholesale Chairmen
B. J. Swonger	Services Chairman
Don VanderHorst	Industrial Chairman
Lucille Pulskamp	Residential Chairman
Dee Michaels	Publicity Chairman
Tom Saddler	Finance Chairman

Other key volunteers included:

Jared Halderman	Drive Administrator
Marjorie Heckman	Penny-An-Hour Chairman
Bob Engle	Advisors
John Fawcett	
Mike Hull	
Bob Gibson	
Ron Davis	
Bob Carr	

In the year 1979, the history of the Celina Combir Services appeal still lends itself to a perfect humanistic slogan ... ... People Helping People!

CELINA FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB

On March 12, 1936 Mrs. Ray T. Gregg, vice pre dent of the State Flower and Garden Club met at t Celina Public Library with a small group of citize to discuss the possibility of organizing a gard club. Plans were made to meet again on March 1936 to organize a club. On March 16, 1936, the f lowing people became charter members Mrs. P. Dugan, Miss Jennie Hassan, Mrs. L. M. Otis, M Harold Bowman, Mrs. Felix Havemann, Mrs. C. Ellis, and Mr. F. W. Barker.

Mrs. Otis presided as chairman and Mrs. El acted as secretary. Mr. Barker was elected as pre dent, Mrs. Havemann as vice president, and M Bowman, secretary-treasurer. Membership fe were placed at 50¢ a year and the group decided meet every other Monday at 4:00 P.M. at the Celi Public Library. The Celina Flower and Garden Cl was the name chosen by the group.

The club belongs to Region 2 of the Ohio Associ tion of Garden Clubs. Region 2 is composed of A glaize, Putnam, Van Wert, Mercer, Hancock, Hard and Allen Counties.

A Regional meeting is held in the Spring and Fa A State convention is held each year and all regio are included. The Theme of the O.A.G.C. clubs Growing, Showing, And Sharing.

Each Region has a Director appointed and ea county has a County Contact Chairperson appointe to serve as a contact between the individual clubs her county and the Regional Director. Mrs. Richa King is now serving as County Contact Chairperso Officers for this year October 1, 1978-September 3 1979 are Mrs. Gerold Fogt, president, Miss Hele Fetter, vice president, Mrs. Les Altman, secretar Assistant Secretary Mrs. Dennis Hinkle, Mrs. Ricl ard King, Treasurer.

The object of the club is to develop a broader i terest in gardening, to stimulate the art of flower a ranging and to bring together the growers of th community.

Past accomplishments of the club are raising vi lets for cancer patients, planting and taking care school flower beds and the Park Shore Dr. flow bed. For two years the club sponsored a Jr. flow club for young children. The club sponsors flow shows and workshops in arranging and makin flowers from dried material, such as corn husks. Th club arranged before the Senior Citizens Group an

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articipated in the Salute to Celina, broadcasting on ıe radio the workings of the club. The club esents a book to the library in memory of deased members. The club has planted Canna bulbs side the racetrack at the fairgrounds. The club nducts Therapy projects at the County Home and heryl Ann Retarded School. The club purchased ırubs and a spruce tree for the Historical Museum. or the opening in 1975 of the newly built Richardon Bretz Memorial building the club purchased a rge potted plant. Planting and taking care of the ountain Flower beds is another project of the club. he club also purchased flowering trees, two Reduds, two Magnolias, and one Purple Leaf Plum for ıe county court house lawn. For the Bicentennial elebration in 1976, the club with the help of chilren from 4H clubs and Scout Troops planted red, hite and blue petunias at all schools, at the court ouse, and the Park Shore Dr. park. The Club has lant sales each Spring to make money for projects.

For their programs the club has speakers, such as, xtension agents, horticulturists, professional flower rrangers, world travelers, and professional landscaers. Book reviews and magazine articles on gardenıg are given. Slides pertaining to gardening and onservation are educational for the club.

A future accomplishment of the club is to secure est rooms at the Park Shore Dr. Park and to accomlish more landscaping in Celina.

GIRL SCOUTS

Celina, Ohio Girl Scouts are part of the Appleseed idge Scout Council and are known as Neighborood 30. Appleseed Ridge Girl Scout Council covers ten county area and is currently serving more than 1,000 members.

Girl Scouting has been an active community reource in Celina for many years. Countless girls ave taken advantage of the opportunities Girl couting offers to girls in the 1st through 12th rades. Many girls after completing the Girl Scout rogram wish to continue as adult Girl Scout members and go on to become dedicated volunteers.

Literally thousands of volunteers have been active ı the Girl Scout movement in Celina over the years. hese volunteers are the life blood of our organizaon and because of their selfless dedication and ervice, Girl Scouting has continued to be a vital ource of girl development in the Celina area.

The Girl Scout program has four major emphases hich are: deepening self-awareness, relating to othrs, contributing to society and developing values.

These emphases are found throughout the proram which is divided into five worlds. The concept f the five worlds insure that a well-rounded proram is available to every Girl Scout. These worlds re:

The world of out-of-doors which expands on the raditional Girl Scouting involvement with camping, ature and conservation.

The world of today and tomorrow in which the irls are introduced to the metric system, and carentry in addition to basic scientific experiments nd insights into what the future can hold for them s working women.

The world of well-being highlights physical and emotional health, nutrition, the home, safety and consumer awareness among other topics.

The world of arts includes activities in the entire range of visual, performing and literary arts.

The world of people focuses on groups and individuals with citizenship projects geared to developing appreciation of differing cultures and developing pride in one's own heritage.

Incorporated throughout the worlds are certain basics that have made Girl Scouting unique and have withstood the test of time, such as the principles embodied in the promise and the law, the concept of service and international friendship.

Girl Scout troops meet in many places with facilities provided by many community, religious and educational groups including St. Paul's United Methodist Church, East Elementary School, Immaculate Conception, Bethany Methodist Church, VFW Hall, St. John's Lutheran, 1st Church of God, West School and the Presbyterian Church.

Two Celina women, Margaret Riley and Mary Morgan, currently serve on the Appleseed Ridge Board of Trustees and have been strong and supportive members of the Girl Scout movement for many years.

Leaders during the 1977-78 scouting year were:

June Thurston	JoAnn Newbauer
Sandra Schlough	Sandy DeVinney
Karrie Bollenbacher	Paula Byers
Sheri Mosier	Gail Ball
Sylvia Bricker	Carolyn Fischer
Rosalie Hoover	Sharon Quilling
Charlene Guingrich	Diana Hawk
Margaret Siegfried	Jackie Ritchie
Mary Bruce	Norma Gehle
Jacqueline Paguirigan	Beverly Korte
Nancy Laffin	Lynn Eischen
Mary Hoelscher	

These women have experience in Girl Scouting ranging from a few months to more than 20 years. Regardless of their background, these women have a sincere belief and dedication to the Girl Scout movement and a real concern for the development of todays' girl and tomorrows' woman.

These are the women who keep Girl Scouting alive in Celina — who are the loving friends of all Girl Scouts and who help to instill in girls the value, understanding and belief in the Girl Scout promise and law.

The Promise:

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God,
My country and mankind,
And to live by the Girl Scout law.

The law:

I will do my best:
To be honest
To be fair
To help where I am needed
To be cheerful
To be friendly and considerate
To be a sister to every Girl Scout
To respect authority
To use resources wisely
To protect and improve the world around me
To show respect for myself and others through my words and actions.

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SHAKESPERE CLUB

The Shakespere Club was founded in 1894 for the purpose of studying Shakespeare. In the beginning it was not a woman's club at all, but had members of both sexes. The following were the Charter Members: Elizabeth Crockett, Ella Raudabaugh, Kate Crockett, Grace Riley, David Crockett, Samuel Raudabaugh, Hibbard Jewett and Ashley Riley.

In 1897 membership was increased to twenty; a constitution was adopted; and programs of the year's work were printed. In 1900 the club became federated.

The highlight of the club history is the founding of the Celina Public Library. It had its beginning in 1899 when forty volumes of Bancroft History of the United States, donated by E. M. Ashley of Denver, Colorado, became the nucleus of the Shakespere Public Library. During the next eight years the club's main project was the maintenance and management of the library until it was incorporated in December 1906 and became the Celina Public Library.

The success of the project was due to the cooperation of the members of the History Club, Altrurian Club, Shakespere Club, professional people of the community and the community at large. The Shakespere Club's chief source of revenue for the library project was the management of the annual lecture course. These courses were initiated in 1900 and terminated in 1932. It was considered a courageous undertaking for a woman's group at that time.

The club has supported various civic and charitable organizations, and has contributed to various causes such as Girl Scouts, "I'll Try" Girls, Books for Women's Reformatory at Marysville, Girls' Industrial School, Blankets and Layettes for French children, Belgian Relief, Loan Scholarship Fund, Ohioana Library, Child Feeding Fund, Christmas donations, Red Cross Flood Relief, National War Fund; in recent years Heart Fund, Cancer Fund, and Christmas baskets for the American Legion Auxiliary. Through the years the club has sold articles made by the Ohio blind.

The study programs have covered a wide field. The intellectual fare provided through the years has been varied and profitable. Programs consisted of music, travelogues, American poetry, English literature, Consumer's education, book reviews, a study of our American Heritage, miscellaneous programs planned around a central theme, and occasionally a bit of Shakespeare.

Club life was not all work and no play; quite the contrary. Even during the strenuous years of managing the library the members had their good times — their frivolous moments. Now the club has several dinner parties during the year and guest night when friends and members of other clubs are invited.

During the eighty-four years of its existence the club has had a membership roll of one hundred forty members which has included nurses, librarians, business women, teachers and musicians.

The present officers are: Nell Wiley, president, Rema Barber, vice-president, Melissa Kable, secretary, Doris Barber, treasurer. At the presenttime there are twenty-four active members, seven associate members and one honorary member.

SIGMA CHAPTER OF ALPHA DELTA OMEGA SORORITY

Sigma Chapter of Alpha Delta Omega Sororit was organized in May of 1954 under the guidance c Alice Grothouse, a former member of Lambd Chapter. Sixteen girls were initiated and became ac tive members when the chapter was installed in Jun of the same year. Members of the chapter wer Mrs. George (Ruth) Weidman, Mrs. Wilbur (Alic Stein, Mrs. George Kalal, Mrs. Richard Mosier, Mr Charles Blain, Mrs. Charles (Betty) Dick, Mrs. Keit Dull, Mrs. Lyle Krogman, Mrs. Robert Nimmon Miss Carolyn Baucher, Miss Oressa Bailey, Mr Sam (Janet) Dixon, Mrs. Don Peters, Mrs. Eugen Firestone, Miss Betty Hay, and Mrs. Raymond (A ice) Grothouse.

The purpose of this sorority is to promote learr ing and engage in the cultural education of its mem bers, to foster friendship, loyalty and goo fellowship and to aid and assist those who are i need.

In the beginning members of Sigma held rum mage sales, bake sales, parlor auctions, sold variou items and held a Halloween Masquerade Ball to se up a charity fund for the retarded children (one c their main projects.) Thru the combined efforts c Sigma Chapter and other organizations in the com munity the class for the retarded children was fi nally in operation.

The sorority has had as projects sponsoring a wor thy girl scout at summer camp. It has contributec generously to the Combined Drive, had projects fo the elderly at the County Home and at nursin homes, adopted needy families especially at Christ mas with food baskets and gifts and it has helpec each year with Daffodil Days (a project of the cance society.)

To raise even more money for its charity fund th group has sponsored annual card parties, made u and sold cookbooks and were responsible for "Holiday Tour of Homes." With the renewal of th Grand Lake Festival, they sponsored a street dance a rock dance for the young people and for severa years the Grand Lake Festival Ball. It entered float annually in the festival parade and sponsored queer contestants.

A scholarship fund for prospective teachers to at tend our local college, Western Ohio Educationa Foundation, is one of the sorority's newest endeav ors. It was begun in 1964. An emergency loan func has since then been started.

Of the original sixteen charter members, six o them are still active in the sorority. They are: Bett Lou Dick, Jan Olding, Oressa York, Ruth Weidman Alice Grothouse, and Alice Stein. Other member are: Carol Amato, Jackie Badger, Jo Ann Baker, Jear Cron, Barb Dabbelt, Becky Davis, Jeanne Gebele Madonna Hall, Martha Hecht, Donna Hilbert, Bar bara Hill, Charlotte Hennessey, Rita Maehlman Esther McCoy, Mary Lou Menchhofer, Joan Noren Phyllis O'Brien, Nancy Richards, Bobby Sue Schreibman, Bea Stauffer, Pat Stoel, Jan Temple Gary Wilson, and Betty Young.

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Dr. L.M. Otis

OTIS HOSPITAL, INC.

Dr. Lloyd M. Otis came to Celina in August of 914. He was a graduate of the U. of Michigan, an structor in anatomy, and assistant to the chief of ırgery at the U. of Michigan Hospital. He came to ıend the summer, loved the village, the people and ecided to make Celina his home. He purchased the hn P. Schuyler home on 115 N. Walnut St., used s dining room as a surgery and immediately built ı office connected to his home. His rock porch and ock garden behind his home were collected in elds, along side roads and all over the county when e made house calls in the country.

Dr. L. M. Otis conceived the idea of building a ospital, and being a man of action he purchased ıe Carlin Property at 441 E. Market St. in the early pring of 1915, immediately remodeled it and was ady to receive his first patient in Sept. 1915. The ospital boasted two private rooms and one double oom. Four patients and of course his surgery. The rst hospital in this area and the next year it was enrged to accommodate twelve patients. The first aff taught by Dr. L. M. was Clay Shaner, an orerly, Miss Mary Wooten, Miss Slusser, Maude rawford and Ida Moore. These dedicated people ong with Angeline Heyne were the nucleus of the ospital. These people worked twenty-four hours a ay, six days a week. They stretched out on a cot beide the patient to get a little rest at night. During World War I Dr. L. M. was in the U. S. Cavalry. At ıis time he studied Roentenology (radiology) beıme a member of the board of Roentenologists and hen he returned to Celina he installed the first xıy in this area in Otis Hospital. In 1921 he enlargd ıe hospital making it a 25 bed hospital with six bassinets. At this time Celina had the most modern ospital in this area and this helped Celina to beome one of the most progressive communities in ıe state. The architect who drew the plans for the 921 renovation was Lyman Strong of Lima, Ohio. ll the obstacles and prejudice that beset any progessive idea or change were overcome and Otis Hosital was here to stay.

Dr. James Otis joined his father in practice in their ome office in the early 1940's. Finding their office oo small they built a new office just south of their home office on 115 N. Walnut Street. Dr. James Otis continues to practice in this office building today.

Open house was held in January 1956 for the public to see the improvements at the Hospital including extensive interior remodeling and a new addition. A new emergency room used primarily for emergency and accident cases but was equipped to handle major surgery if the main surgery was occupied. The front porch was enclosed to handle more office space and a more comfortable waiting room. The new east wing contained two three bed wards and two new baths for the patients. The original floor which was marble was covered with asphalt tile. The patients' rooms were all equipped with wider doors.

In the enusing years a new sprinkling system was installed throughout the hospital. A new general electric x-ray was installed in the seventies, a new laboratory and a new kitchen were installed.

Within the last 15 years the state of Ohio and the federal government went from a lack of interest in its hospitals to an overinvolvement in every facet of hospital procedure. With these over-zealous demands the cost of hospital care rose to ridiculous proportions but Otis Hospital never received any tax dollars from the day it opened till the day it closed its doors. Dr. L. M. Otis cared about his fellow man and because of this he opened a hospital. He worked and he studied, listened and was interested in each of his patients. He dedicated his life in the service of others. His son Dr. Jim, followed his course of direction. Dr. Jim Otis has continued his office practice in the office they built together. Dr. Otis continued on with Otis Hospital as a non-profit hospital until he closed its doors in the winter of 1978. Three score and three years the Otis Hospital has served Celina and Mercer County, it will be sorely missed and it will be hard to match the quality of care given the patients who entered the doors of Otis Hospital over the years.

Dr. Lloyd M. Otis, a descendant of James Otis (Legislator during the Revolutionary War and one of the authors of The Declaration of Independence), was born Nov. 28, 1888, in Hicksville, Ohio, son of George Knox Otis and Minnie (Cutie) Cowick Otis. After graduating from Hicksville High School, he went to the University of Michigan, where as an undergraduate, he was the only cheerleader (yell-

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Otis Hospital, before remodeling the porch on the east

master) at the football games during the era of Fielding Yost. While he was in Medical School, he met Barbara Audritsh, a student in the School of Music and they were married in Green Springs, Ohio, following his graduation from the University of Mich. School of Medicine in 1912.

Their son James was born in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Dr. L. M. taught Anatomy and was assistant to the Chief of Surgery at the Univ. of Mich. Hospital. They moved to Celina in 1914, where there were 11 physicians. He loved the village, the people and decided to make it their home and started Otis Hospital in the spring of 1915. Their second child, Betty Ellen, was born in Otis Hospital Sept. 18, 1915.

Dr. Otis was a member of the Celina Board of Public Affairs in the early twenties. He was instrumental in the hiring of Roy Cook, a talented engineer, to refurbish the broken down powerplant and to revitalize electric service to the village. Celina's credit was so poor that no supplier would furnish the materials and the Celina Banks refused to advance money that they felt would only add to the communities bad debts. Despite general opinion that the plant was a dead horse, Cook realized its potential and asked Dr. L. M. to join him in loaning personal money to the town to buy wire and Dr. L. M. agreed. The service to the community improved so a cordless engine was purchased and within a few years the plant went into the black and the men were reimbursed for their loans.

Dr. Otis was a member and officer of the Mercer County Medical Society, Ohio State Medical Assoc., American Medical Assoc. and the American College of Surgeons. He was a Mason, York Rite, Shriner of Antioch Temple and a member of The First Presbyterian Church. In 1938, he became a member of the American College of Surgeons, an honor bestowed on few men of family practice. He received Honors from Great Britain conferred upon him for research and success in the treatment of lobar pneumonia with the use of long wave diathermy, before the days of sulfa or antibiotics.

In 1938, Dr. L. M. married Elizabeth Dabbelt of Coldwater, Ohio. She received her degree in Nursing from St. Rita's Hospital, Lima, Ohio, and was employed at Otis Hospital from 1933 to 1938. Dr. L. M. and Eliazbeth had two daughters, Gwendolyn and Nancy, both born at Otis Hospital.

To commemorate the GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY of the CLASS 1912, the Univ. of Michigan Medical School conducted a reunion and sent the eight surviving members old photographs and addresse This inspired another graduate of 1912, Dr. H. Wi gins of Omaha, Neb., to write a letter to Dr. Ot The letter was opened by his son, Dr. James Ot since Dr. L. M. had been inactive after suffering stroke in 1953. This was the contents of the letter:

Dear Dr. Otis:

Because of illness, I was unable to attend o Golden Anniversary of the Class of 1912. A pi ture of our class was sent to me and when I sa your picture, an incident came to mind whic know you have long since forgotten. We h assembled at the Medical Building on camp prior to our march to the auditorium where were to receive our degrees. As the processic began to form, some of my classmates were little squemish about walking with a Negr You were behind me and you sensed the aw wardness of the situation and left your partn to step forward and walk with me. True, it w a small act, a friendly gesture, but the motiv tion bespoke a spirit that is so lacking in o world today. So when I saw your picture, I fel should write and tell you I have still not forgo ten. I sincerely hope that time has dealt kind with you these last 50 years ... Dr. Wiggi was one of two black Doctors in the Class 1912.

During the years of his practice, Dr. L. M. deli ered 3000 babies. He and his son Dr. Jim entere into a father-son practice and continued togeth until Dr. L. M. retired due to ill health. He was tru a pioneer in surgery and was all ready to help, a ways cheerful, gracious and competent. Dr. L. M enjoyed bowling and golf and won numerous go tournaments. He loved the practice of medicine, h loved people and he loved life. He revealed his lo when he had the medical cadeusus put on his cry with these words "HE SERVES GOD WELL WH SERVES HIS FELLOW MAN".

Otis Hospital, 1915 — **First Staff:** Mary Wooten, Miss Slusse (Mrs. Carl Gladfelter), Clay Shaner, Dr. L. M. Otis, Maude Craw ford, Ida Moore.

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ıree Generations — Dr. L. . Otis (1888 - 1964); Dr. mes J. Otis, 1913; James oyd Otis, 1948.

3ETTY ELLEN OTIS CODE

Betty Ellen Otis Code was born in 1915 in Otis ospital. She was the daughter of Dr. Lloyd M. and arbara Otis and was the sister of Dr. James J. Otis. he graduated from Celina High School in 1933, and as valedictorian of her class. She attended Ward elmont School for Girls in Nashville, Tenn., and ıe University of Michigan, majoring in the Lanuages. She was married to Harry Code and resided ı Pittsburgh, Pa. They had no children. Betty was mployed as executive secretary to the Vice Presient of the Paint Division of Pittsburgh Plate Glass o. and held the position until she retired. After reirement, she moved to Tampa, Fla., where she died uddenly of a cerebral hemmorhage in Dec. of 1968 t the age of 53. She is buried in Northgrove Cemeery in Celina, O.

Dr. James J. Otis

JAMES JOHN OTIS, M.D.

James J. Otis was born in 1913 in Ann Arbor, Mich., to Dr. L. M. and Barbara Otis. In 1914, his family moved to Celina, Ohio, where he received his elementary and high school education. He graduated from Denison University and entered the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, where he received his medical degree in 1940. After serving his internship at Crist Hospital in Cincinnati, he returned home and began a partnership with his father in the general practice of medicine. Their practice flourished and this father-son partnership continued until 1953, when ill health forced Dr. L. M. to retire. In 1955, Dr. Jim invited his friend and fellow classmate, Dr. Louis Finkelmeier of Cincinnati, to share the responsibilities of his extensive practice. Their partnership continues today.

Dr. Otis is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, a member of the American Medical Association, a Third District Delegate of the Ohio State Medical Association and past president of the Mercer County Medical Association. He is past Vice President of the Mercer County Heart Association and is Regional Director of the Red Cross Blood Program. He is also a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, Nu Sigma Nu Medical Fraternity, Masonic Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, Antioch Shrine and the Jesters. Dr. Otis is a member of the St. Paul's Methodist Church, Celina.

In 1944 Dr. Jim met and married Betty Hammel, a native of Fargo, North Dakota and a graduate of St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing in Toledo, Ohio. They have four children.

SHARON OTIS GRAY

The oldest daughter, Sharon Otis Gray, was born at Otis Hospital, graduated from Celina High School and attended Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. She married Robert Gray from Richmond, Va., and is the mother of five children; Debra, Danny, Diane, Adam and Janie. They reside in Hazelton, Missouri.

VICKI LYNN OTIS

Vicki Lynn Otis was born in Otis Hospital, graduated from Celina High School and was Grand Lake Festival Queen in 1964. She attended Loretto Heights College in Denver, Colorado, and Ohio State University. She is administrator of the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics at the University of Kansas Medical Center and lives in Merriam, Kansas.

JEANIE ELLEN OTIS HAMM

The youngest daughter, Jeanie Ellen Otis Hamm, was born at Otis Hospital and graduated from Celina Senior High School. She attended Ohio State University where she graduated from the School of Journalism in 1974. She was employed as "Action Line" Editor on the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, Fort Wayne, Indiana, until 1976, when she moved to Kansas City, Kansas. She is presently employed by the University of Kansas Medical Center in the Department of Oncology. In 1978, she married Phillip E. Hamm of Kansas City and they presently reside in Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

Jim Otis, St. Louis Cardinals, Football

JAMES LLOYD OTIS

James Lloyd Otis, only son of Dr. James and Betty Otis, was born at Otis Hospital in 1948. While at-

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tending Celina Senior High School, he became proficient on the football field as a fullback. He broke all existing rushing records of the school and was named to the Ohio All State Team in 1966. He continued his football career at Ohio State University and was a member of its National Championship Team in 1968. In 1969, Ohio State was invited to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. Jim distinguished himself by being the leading rusher of that game. The same year, he was selected as an All American and starred in the Coaches All American Game when he established a rushing record which still stands today. He also played in the Shrine East-West Game, the Lion's All American Game and the Hula Bowl. After his graduation from the School of Business at Ohio State University, Jim began his professional football career with New Orleans Saints. He later joined the Kansas City Chiefs and is now playing with the St. Louis Cardinals.

In 1975, as a Cardinal Back, he led the National Football Conference with 1,076 yards gained by rushing. This record qualified him for induction into the Thousand Yard Club. He was the 31st football player ever to earn this honor. In 1978, Jim became the All Time Leading Rusher for the St. Louis Cardinals, breaking this record with a Cardinal career total of 3750 yards rushing.

Jim married Janet Dwyer of Kansas City in 1973 and they now have two daughters; Jodi Ellen and Christine Rene. In the "off season", Jim is employed by the Edward K. Love Company, a mortgage and banking firm in St. Louis. The family's home is in Chesterfield, Missouri.

Jim's name is listed in the 1972 book of Outstanding Young Men in America and in the 1978 book of Who's Who in America.

Jim is a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

WILFRED AND WILMA ALBERS FAMILY

Wilfred Albers was born in St. Joseph's Parish Egypt, Minster, Ohio on December 3, 1932. He is the son of Henry (Berning) Albers and Marcella (Smithmeyer) Pohlman. On April __, 1959, he married Wilma Holdheide. She was born in St. Rosa Parish, Maria Stein, Ohio on July 25, 1935. Her parents are Raymond (Goettemoeller) Holdheide and Josephine (Evers) Holdheide.

Wilfred and Wilma Albers are the parents of six children. They are: Janet (May 11, 1960), Jerold (May 29, 1961), Rosann (January 11, 1964), Elaine (November 18, 1965), Mark (April 8, 1967-June 18, 1967), and Dale (February 14, 1970).

Wilfred was drafted into the Military Service for two years on September 7, 1955. He served 13 months in Baumholder, Germany.

A 120 acre farm in Jefferson Township, Mercer County, was purchased on August 14, 1958, from Richard and Ireta Metzger. In 1971 the Ohio Dept. of Highways built a four lane highway through the farm, taking 8 acres of land. In 1977 we purchased additional 72 acres from David Riley.

Wilfred started serving as a Jefferson Twp. Trustee in 1975. *Wilfred Albers*

KARL E. ALLMANDINGEI

Karl Emmanuel Allmandinger, a resident of Je ferson Twp. was born February 9, 1933, son of Ka M. and Chloa Smith Allmandinger, Hopewell Twp Mercer County.

Karl's background is purely German. His grandfa ther, Frederick Allmandinger, was born shortly aft his parents, J. L. and Rosina Allmandinger arrived i America from Germany in 1856. They first settled i Butler County, Ohio but came to Mercer County i 1877. They cleared land in Black Creek Twp. an were farmers and carpenters. Frederick marrie Anna Katherina Kallenberger in 1895. They wer the parents of six children, George, Pauline, Ru dolph, Karl (father of our subject), Elizabeth an Matilda.

Karl E.'s maternal side of the family was also fror Germany. Lewis Smith was brought to this countr in 1848 by his parents. In 1866 he purchased 80 acre in Hopewell Twp. (section 17) and 40 acres of thi land was passed down to one of his sons, Fran Smith. In 1896 Frank Smith was married to Rosin Wasbro. They were the parents of four children Walter, Esther, Cora and Chloa. Chloa Smith mar ried Karl M. Allmandinger on September 19, 192 and they were the parents of three living children Marcella (Buel), Norma (Shaffer) and Karl Emman uel.

Karl E. Allmandinger married Helen M. Howell daughter of Russel F. and Doris Hines Howell, or June 1, 1952. They are the parents of five living chil dren, Deborah, Keith, Lorna, Karla and Kevin. Tw children are married, Keith marrying Lisa Grey ir 1975 and Deborah marrying Michael Ehler in 1977 There is one grandchild, Amy Lynn Allmandinger.

Currently Karl is employed by Celina Financia Corp. as internal auditor. He has been an employee for that Corp. for 27 years.

Karl served the city of Celina as City Treasurer from 1968 to 1971. At present he is vice president of the Mercer County Heart Council and a member of the Celina City School Board.

Karl and his wife Helen reside on 30 acres, section 32, on State Route 197 northeast of Celina. The Allmandingers are members of St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Twp. *Mrs. Karl E. Allmandinger*

Pat Amato, 1975

PAT AMATO

Patrika (Pat) Amato, women's editor at the Daily Standard, Celina, was born Oct. 16, 1926 in Bedford, Ohio, the daughter of Bloom Henry and Lois Helser Focht, who were born and grew up near Waynesfield and Ada respectively. The couple had met in 1918 while both were attending Ohio Northern Uni-

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rsity, Ada. Their first daughter, Bettie, now endy King of Pittsburgh, Pa., had been born Aug. , 1923.

The family lived in Bedford and Chicago until oom (Ben) lost his job when the company for hich he worked failed during the Great Depression id he was unable to find work. At this time, his ife and two daughters returned to the Helser fam- farm where they remained until 1935, when the mily moved into a rented home in Ada. Ben made quid soap on the back porch and sold it to schools, ventually getting a job through the National Re- overy Act as a salesman who called on grain eleva- rs. Later he worked for Wayne Feeds, Allied Mills, rt Wayne, Ind., in time moving up to the job of di- ctor of sales training, a position he held in the late 940's when he purchased the Spencerville Journal- ews weekly newspaper. He continued to publish e Journal-News, also serving briefly as manager of e Wapakoneta Daily News, until his death in Jan- ary, 1955. Mrs. Focht managed a coal office in Ada, here the family maintained its home, through the rly '40's, and served as business manager of the urnal News until 1957 when she sold the newspa- r. Mrs. Focht then moved to Celina, where she ought a home at 625 Willow St., in which she lived ntil the time of her death in October, 1975.

Pat Focht was salutatorian of the Class of 1944 of elina High School, and after working as a secretary uring the following summer in Fort Wayne, Ind., tended Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. January 1945, she was married to Charles Y. Am- o, a grade and high school classmate. The couple sided in Davenport, Ia., and St. Louis, Mo. while harles studied chiropractic. Their first son, Victor, as born Oct. 20, 1945.

The family moved to Celina early in 1948 after Dr. mato had joined Dr. Orlan W. Geroux in practice. round 1953, the family moved to 301 East Market, elina, where the downstairs was converted to chi- practic offices. A second son, Christopher Paul, as born March 2, 1955. The couple was divorced in 965.

Pat Amato, who had completed several courses in riting from the University of Chicago, and who as enrolled in an advertising production course ith the National Correspondence School, joined ie Daily Standard staff in 1953 in the advertising epartment. Over the years she completed courses t the Celina branches of Ohio Northern and Wright State Universities. In 1965, she moved to a kefront home in Highland Park, later moving to er present home at 322 Leisure Lane, Celina.

In August 1971, she was enrolled in the Journal- m School at the University of Missouri in Colum- ia, Mo. While at the University, she was elected ne of the 50 most outstanding women on the cam- us for her work as vice president of Women in ommunications, and as cooking editor and later ome furnishings editor of the Columbia Missou- an, the daily paper published by the University. he was dually enrolled in undergraduate work and raduate work her last semester and received a achelor of Arts degree in journalism in 1973. She as continued to work toward a Master's degree at all State University, Muncie, Ind.

In addition to her work as women's editor, Ms. mato has written many feature stories and taken and processed the pictures, written and laid out more than 125 picture pages for the Standard. She has been active in a number of community projects, notably the Celina Combined Drive, off and on since its inception in the '50's, the Mercer County branch of the Heart Association, and presently serves in many capacities as a trustee of the Celina Area Chamber of Commerce.

Victor Amato, a graduate of Celina High School and Bowling Green State University, is employed by St. Clair County, Port Huron, Mich., where he lives with his wife, the former Susan Vedders and their son Nicholas. Christopher Amato, also a Celina High graduate, is working toward becoming a medical technologist at Bowling Green. *Pat Amato*

CARL H. ANDREWS FAMILY

Franklin Pierce Andrews, the son of Charles W. and Christiana Hinderer Andrews, was born April 11, 1859 and died on October 31, 1941.

On March 19, 1891 he married Ellen May McGee, the daughter of John and Mary Buxton McGee. She died on March 14, 1958.

Mr. Andrews made and burned the brick for a seven-room house which he built for his bride. It had a double wall and a single wall with a four-inch air space between, and required 48,000 bricks in its construction.

Three children grew to adulthood, Carl Homer, Carrie Ellen, wife of Whitridge Adams, and Pearl, wife of Willard R. Stoner.

Carl Andrews was born in West Jefferson Township, Mercer County, June 8, 1892. He attended Elm Grove, a one-room school, Celina High School and Celina Business College.

On October 9, 1918, he married Elsie Leah Barker, daughter of Orlington and Laverngie Walmire Barker. She was born on April 16, 1898 and died on April 27, 1930. To this union were born three children: Pauline, who was born on December 26, 1922, and died at the age of six days; Donald Wilson, who was born on May 24, 1925, and Miriam Jean, who was born on February 29, 1928.

On March 25, 1932, Carl married Hope Scarborough, who was born in Champaign County, near West Liberty, Ohio. She graduated from West Liberty High School and Wittenberg University. She attended Miami University for one year and attended summer school at Ohio State and Columbia University. She taught school for twenty-two years, two of which she was principal of the high school at Castalia, Ohio. After her marriage she was a proof-reader at the Daily Standard for sixteen years.

Carl with his father and later with his son, owned and farmed 200 acres, three miles southwest of Celina. They did general farming and raised Registered Shorthorn cattle. They had a blacksmith shop and did their own repair work. Mr. Andrews installed a hot water heating system and a Delco lighting system, doing his own electric wiring in the brick house with nothing but books of instruction as a guide. For more than twenty years he kept accurate farm records which were summarized annually by Ohio State Agriculture Department. For fifty years he was an active member of the Mercer County Farm Bu-

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reau, and worked with the Agriculture Soil Conservation Program for several years.

In 1948, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews moved to Celina and Don took over the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are members of the St. Paul's United Methodist Church; the Senior Citizens of Mercer County and the Mercer County Historical Society. Mrs. Andrews is also a member of the Mercer County Retired Teachers Association and of the Shakespeare Club.

Mr. Andrews donated more than one hundred articles to the Mercer County Historical Museum, the most notable donation is several mastodon teeth which were found on a farm south of Celina by a relative of his first wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews enjoy their retirement years with their six grandchildren and their six great-grandchildren. *Carl H. Andrews*

A WAY OF LIFE

From the beginning — talks with my grandmother — who was part Miami — through history classes in school these forty some years have been very rewarding! Among the first were my trips to the Western states where in Kansas it really all started. From there on these names and places stand out — the Ogg's and Lanes from Kansas — the Everett's from Arizona — the Taylor's from Texas — the Rowland's from Colorado — all descendants of the early pioneers. There were the Indians too — the Sioux — the Shoshone — the Crow — the Kiowa — with personal friends such as Shasta-Bear-Step — Red Cloud — Lame Deer — and above all Yazzie! Sgt. Yazzie and I served together as paratrooper scouts during W.W. 2, and from that friendship I have been fortunate to go out and visit with these people. Go to places where I doubt not too many pale-faces have been! Having just recently returned home after another rewarding visit, my wife and I find ourselves looking foward to another visit. We sum all of this in these words and thoughts — You don't have to be rich to do it. All you need is an inborn love of history, and mother nature! We are proud of what we are and not pretending to be anything we are not. We are living the kind of life we love — today! It is more than a hobby — it is a way of life. *Anonymous*

William Anthony Home, 616 N. Main, Celina, Ohio

THE ORIGINAL WILLIAM ANTHONY HOME

During the late 1880's, William Anthony of Fort Recovery married a Miss Meinerding, also of Fort Recovery and moved to Celina into a large two-story brick home at 409 East Livingston St. There apparently was a little money in the family, but they added to it by opening a dry goods store located at 104 N. Main St.

To the couple were born five children. Wencel. (Wesley) was the oldest, followed by William J: who became a priest and was temporarily with th Pope in Italy. Third was Mary, who after 2 years the Immaculate Conception High School, went on the Clifton Sacred Heart Academy in Cincinnat which was operated by French Nuns. The fourt child, Bernadette, who is still living, is in Cincinnat She attended I.C. Schools and furthered her educa tion at the Cleveland Academy for girls. The la child Edwin became ill at an early age with sleepin sickness. He laid in somewhat of a coma for fort years before his death.

In 1897, they built the magnificent home at 61 North Main St. At that time, there were only a fe homes in the area; so there was plenty of room fc the livestock, barns, and carriage house. The famil had toured Europe and other countries almost con stantly. As a result, all the finer things in the hom were imported from abroad. The onyx fireplace i the living room was hand carved in Germany. Th backwall of the mantle is one solid piece of oak which must have taken years to carve. The origins o the entrance fireplace and the master bedroom fire place are unknown. The fireplace in the dining roon was imported from Scotland. The buffet in the din ing room was made in Italy to match the fireplace The Anthony's spent so much money on travelin and imported labor and material to make thei home into a palace that they went financially broke They were forced to sell their home, which was pur chased by Theodore Brandts of Heidelburg, Ger many. He still has ancestors in the area.

Mr. and Mrs. Brandts lived in the home until 192 when they sold it to Carrol and Belva Stubbs, whc had lived there for the next nineteen years durin which time there were many changes made, such as new bathrooms, kitchen and attached garage.

In 1947, the Stubbs sold the house to George Smalley and family who lived in the house for approximately 20 years.

The house was then sold to Klayton Kuck, whc lived in it for a few years and then moved to Arizona. At this time, the Kucks were unable to sell the home for a while, so they ended up renting it to a number of various tenants. During this period, the house took much abuse and began to deteriorate. One of the tenants had stolen some of the furniture when he left. There was a large dining room table which would seat eighteen people and fourteen chairs and a china cabinet all carved to match the dining room buffet and fireplace. There was also a large wardrobe in the master bedroom which disappeared.

On December 27, 1973, the house was sold to Vic Steinke, a local contractor, who began to restore the house to its original beauty with the help of its tenants, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Clark. Before the restoration was complete, the house was again sold to the present owners — Denny and Karen Franks, a local car dealer — on Nov. 1, 1976. The house is now completed and is a real showplace.

ARNOLD FAMILY

Henry Arnold, Sr. was born in Pennsylvania to Pennsylvania Dutch parents. He moved to a farm near Burkettsville in Darke County, married a Shaffer, and they had eight children: Joseph Arnold,

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arried Betsy Ann Rose and had eight children; muel Arnold, wife's name Elizabeth, had no chil- en; Isaac Arnold, married and moved to Indiana; phia Arnold Sayring, married Jacob Sayring, had children; Lydia Arnold Harsbarger, married Jo- h Harsbarger, had one daughter; Sarah (Sally) nold Locke, married David Locke, had two chil- en; Mary Arnold Davenport, married Joe Daven- rt, had no children; Susanne Arnold Long, mar- d Mike Long, had no children.

Henry's first wife died and he remarried. He and s second wife, Sophia Ullrich, had six children: za Arnold Landis, married Dave Landis and had elve children; Anna Arnold Anthony, married n Anthony and had six children; Emma Arnold es, married Aaron Jones and had five children; hn Arnold, married Margaret Livingston and had ur daughters; William Arnold, married Eliza Gar- on and had four daughters.

Henry Arnold, Jr. was born April 2, 1865 near rkettsville where he farmed 40 acres of his own d and some of Cranberry Prairie. His wife, Victo- Ross Arnold, gave birth to one daughter, Lida, d died fifteen months later. After the death of his st wife, Henry married Mary McDowell Shook, a dow with one son, Frank Shook. Henry and Mary d two children, Minnie Arnold (born 2/16/98) d Hosea Arnold (born 3/4/01).

Lida Arnold married Ward Shaw, and they had o daughters: Pauline Shaw Gray and Crolla Shaw mpson. They lived in Montezuma and operated aw's Inn, where Arnie's Corner is now located. ter they moved to Uniopolis and operated a res- urant. Ward Shaw died, and Lida married Ed Jones d lived in Greenville until her death.

Minnie Arnold married Boyd Kettring, a World ar I veteran, and they lived in Montezuma. Boyd as a painter, paper-hanger, carpenter and taxider- ist. He planned the remodeling of the Montezuma urch of Christ, and built what is now the parso- ge of the Bethany United Methodist Church at 6 E. Wayne St., Celina. They had one daughter, azel. Boyd died on October 5, 1960.

Hazel Kettring graduated from Celina High hool and was photographed on the first "Fish oat" with other Celina young ladies. The picture is ed in each Lake Festival brochure. Hazel married bert E. Cole of Celina, and both of them worked Lima during World War II. They returned to Ce- a to take over the Cole Market on East Livingston . Later, Bob built the first drive-in restaurant in elina on Market St. He then built a new market djacent to the drive-in, a motel to the rear of the ive-in, and also a mobile home court. Bob and Ha- l had four children: Robert K. Cole, Thomas E. ole, Susan Diane Cole, and Stacey Ann Cole.

Hosea Arnold attended Burkettsville, Roebuck, d Mercer Schools, and the old Center School at Montezuma. His father, Henry Jr., was killed when a am of horses ran away with him when Hosea was the 8th grade. Hosea left school to farm for his other. In March of 1918 they moved to Summit St. Celina, and later moved to 219 E. Wayne St. In ct. of 1921 he and his mother moved to 514 W. oyng St., where he still lives. He married Alvera I. Hoel on Christmas Day in 1921. He has worked a hearse driver for McDaniel and Meister Funeral ome during WWI. Later he worked for Mersman Bros. and also for the Celina Maid until fire destroyed the latter.

He returned to Mersman's in June of 1940 where he worked until retirement as a supervisor in the cabinet room Aug. 1, 1967. He later worked a short time as security watch at the new Mersman Plant #2 and will be remembered by many students as the security officer at W.O.B.C. Wright State. Hosea and Alvera had six sons, two dying at birth. The other four sons are:

Gene E. Arnold, born June 20, 1923. He attended Celina schools and served in the U.S. Navy during WWII seeing action with amphibious forces in Africa, Europe, and the South Pacific. After the war he married Myrna Nell Moon of Celina. He received his BS in Pharmacy from Ohio Northern University College of Pharmacy and was employed as pharmacist and manager of Bair Pharmacy until Oct. 1963. At that time he purchased Van Fleet Drugs in Rockford, Ohio which he operated until Jan. 1978. He has served as trustee of the Celina Chamber of Commerce, Sunday School Treasurer of Bethany U. M. Church in Celina and was elected to the Parkway Local School Board. He served as President of the Board before retiring.

Gene and Myrna had four children:

Lois Jean Arnold Widell, born 12-21-46. She attended Celina and Parkway schools and graduated from Middletown School of Nursing. She married Dr. Eric Widell and they live in Long Beach, Calif.

Kathy Marie Arnold, born 12-25-48. She attended Celina and Parkway Schools and Ohio University. She married John Gunyou, a graduate of the Air Force Academy and presently doing feasability studies and presentations. They live in Denver, Colo.

Ann Elizabeth Arnold, born 11-10-50. She attended Celina and Parkway schools and Ball State University. She married Ron Gibson who presently is employed by the Indiana National Guard. They have two children, Eliabeth Ann (Aug. 8, 1970) and Heidi Marie (July 7, 1971). They live in Brazil, Ind.

Mitchell Lee Arnold, born Oct. 12, 1959. He attended Parkway Local Schools and is presently attending Ohio State University Lima Branch.

Alvin W. Arnold, born Mar. 25, 1925. He attended Celina Schools and served with the U.S. Navy during WWII in the Pacific. He married Jeannette Mertz of St. Marys, Ohio. He graduated from Tri-State University College of Engineering. After graduation he took a position with the Ex-Cell-O Corp. in Lima, Ohio. He later was employed by the Buckeye Pipeline Co. of Lima. He was transferred to Allentown, Pa. where he laid out pipeline routes and right-of-ways. He later became a project engineer designing and overseeing the construction of pumping stations for the Buckeye Co. He was active in scouting in the Allentown area and a Deacon in the Baptist Church. He died Dec. 13, 1977. Alvin and Jeannette had three children: Joyce Jodette Arnold Ockenhause (2-27-55), married Brian Ockenhouse; Kevin Michael Arnold (9-13-62); Ryan Scott Arnold (3-3-65).

Boyd E. Arnold, born April 17, 1927. He attended Celina Schools and served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was later employed by the Mersman Bros. Corp. until he entered the Marsh Schools electrical training at Van Wert. He has worked for various electrical contractors in the Celina and Lima

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area and is presently employed by Reynolds Electric in Lima. He has worked on many schools and buildings in the area including Huffy's, Shawnee Schools, Lima Memorial and St. Ritas Hospitals and the Lazarus Store in Lima. Boyd married Betty Jean Rhyne of Celina and they have two children: Cheryl Lynne Arnold (11-14-57) attended Celina and Lima Shawnee Schools and is presently a Junior at Bowling Green State University; Scott Alan Arnold (4-7-64) a student in Shawnee Schools, Lima.

Paul F. Arnold, born 12-10-31. He attended Celina Schools and served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. While stationed at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla. he married Edith Odell Beasley of Atmore, Ala. After discharge he received his B.S. in Pharmacy from Ohio Northern University College of Pharmacy. He then accepted a position at Bair Pharmacy in Celina with his brother Gene. He worked for Willis Bair until Aug. 24, 1973 when he purchased the business. He was president of the first Board of Zoning Appeals, served as Treasurer of the Bethany U.M. Church, President of the Celina Band Boosters for 4 years and treasurer for two and is currently a member of the Celina City Board of Education. Paul and Odell have three sons: Timothy Paul Arnold (7-18-54) attended Miami University and a graduate of Ohio Institute of Photography, Dayton, Ohio. He married Kay Irene Gillespie and they have one child: Gina Marie Arnold (10-13-78); Daniel Louis Arnold (8-30-56) attended W.O.B.C., Wright State University and is presently employed at Bair Pharmacy, Celina; Gregory Keith Arnold (7-6-59) graduate of Celina Sr. High School and presently a second year student at Bowling Green State University.

L. to R.: Scott, Carlos, Ronnie, Mary Ella, Donna

CARLOS E. AYERS FAMILY

Carlos E. Ayers, son of Carlos D. and Hazel Ayers was born in Mercer County on January 10, 1926. Carlos joined the Navy in 1943 at the age of 17. He served in the South Pacific and the Atlantic for 34 months.

On June 5, 1948 Carlos was married to Mary Ella Hirschfeld, daughter of Leroy and Goldie Hirschfed, in New Bremen, Ohio. They became the parents of three children, Ronnie Lee Ayers, born on November 15, 1951, Donna Jane Ayers, born on May 28, 1955 and Scott Alan, born on October 10, 1962.

At the present time Ronnie is a Lieutenant in the Navy, Donna is married to Gary Harner and residing in Celina. Scott is a Sophomore in the Celina Senior High School.

Carlos has worked in the Celina area during his married life, doing carpenter and plumbing work. He worked for the city in the water department for 17 years. After suffering a heart attack and havi heart surgery, he retired at the age of 51. *Mary Ella A ers*

Charles Ayers family

THE CHARLES H. AYERS FAMILY

Charles Homer Ayers was born November 1 1926 in Celina, Ohio. His parents were Charles H bert Ayers and Hazel (Hoel) Ayers. The matern grandparents were Remington David Hoel and Flo Belle (Andrews) Hoel. The paternal grandparen were Doctor Frank Edwin Ayers, M.D. and An Mariah (Carter) Ayers. Dr. Ayers graduated at t age of twenty from The Starling Medical Scho (which was merged with The Ohio State Universit and is the youngest person ever to graduate in Me icine from The Ohio State University. He was prominent family physician and Mercer Coun Health Commissioner, an active politician, a veter of World War I and an organizer and commandi officer of the local Ohio National Guard, and a r spected community leader. Anna Ayers was acti in numerous civic clubs, philanthropic organiz tions, musical groups, and a devoted church men ber.

Pauline Ann Ayers was born August 23, 1931 Coldwater, Ohio. Her parents were Charles Pa Ballinger and Freda Catherine (Reusch) Ballinge The paternal grandparents were Van Guy Ballinge and Martha Hannah (Smith) Ballinger. The matern grandparents were Michael J. Reusch and Paulir Sophia (Dorsten) Reusch.

Charles and Pauline Ayers have four childre Charles Douglas Ayers born September 27, 19 who is married to Rosamond La Vaun (Jackson) A ers and are the parents of two children, Kara Deni Ayers born September 12, 1974 and Bret Andre Ayers born July 25, 1977; Elise Marie Ayers bo July 18, 1955; Craig Michael Ayers born June 2 1960; and Mary Ellen Ayers born September 1 1961.

Charles and Pauline Ayers live at 421 Magnol Street in Celina, Ohio and are the proprietors of A ers Asphalt Paving, Inc. located east of Celina at th corner of Steager Road and State Route #703.

In the photograph, which was taken in the home, are pictured sitting Pauline and Charles A ers and standing from left to right daughter Elis daughter Mary, grandson Bret, son Charles, granc daughter, Kara, daughter-in-law Rosamond and so Craig. *Charles Ayers*

HAROLD L. BAKER FAMILY

Harold, son of Amanda Brandon Baker and Wil

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m Baker, was born April 24, 1885 at 309 West Livgston Street, Celina, in a new large wooden frame use. His father, a plasterer by trade had hurriedly ıstered and finished five rooms downstairs for the ent. His grandparents had been among the early :tlers in Celina, having lived here before the birth his mother in 1856. His father died in 1893 and ; funeral was the first public service held in the w St. Pauls M.E. Church, which was completed at year. Harold received all his education in the lina public schools and graduated in 1903. After aduation he worked as a postal employee until his tirement. He delighted his children and grandchilen with stories of his experiences with the mail ıgon and horses on the muddy roads and those of e 1918 blizzard. Harold married Esta E. Fisher, ughter of Ethan D. and Pearl Bricker Fisher in 09. They lived in Celina and near by area for over ty years, celebrating their fiftieth wedding annirsary two years before his death in 1961. Esta died 1977, a few weeks before her ninetieth birthday. ta was born in Center Township August 4, 1887, a log house. Her education began in Center coun- school where she received many honors for her hievements. She completed her schooling in Cenr Township High School. Harold and Esta had en active members of St. Pauls United Methodist ıurch for over half a century serving in many caıcities. They were the parents of three daughters.

Pauline graduated from Celina High School, atnded Bowling Green State University, and taught hool in Mercer County. She married Cecil Shank, ın of Isaac & Pearl Irelan Shank, and moved to his ɔme farm where they lived many years before oving to Mendon. They were active in church, rm, and community groups and fraternal organiıtions.

Roberta graduated from Celina High School and tended Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Illiɔis. She married Virgil N. Tolbert, son of Eugene ıd Sadie Wilkinson Tolbert, of Belmont County, hio. They resided in the Chicago, Illinois area. Afr the death of her husband and her retirement om the Illinois Department of Public Aid, she ıoved back to Celina to be active in her church and be close to her family.

Ruth, after graduation from Center Township igh School, chose to work at the Celina Insurance roup. She married Lyndel Piper, son of Oreal and dna Drury Piper and they resided in Neptune in enter township. They had two children, Lynda and homas.

Lynda graduated from Celina High School, at:nded Wright State University while working at the elina Insurance Group as an underwriter for the ife Insurance department. She married Forest Yoım, a principal in the St. Henry School system. hey are active in church in the music and youth roups.

Thomas graduated from Celina High School, untington College and attended Ball State Univerty for additional studies. He is active in church and ɔorts.

For five generations most of the family has reded in Mercer County. *Pauline Shank*

THE DESCENDANTS OF PHILLIP BAKER

Phillip Baker died before April 4, 1796, the date the marriage bond was signed, uniting his daughter Elizabeth and Mr. George Ransbarger. We do not know what became of Elizabeth, but Phillip Baker also left several other children:

1. Samuel, who moved to the Indiana Territory about 1805; married Barbara Shirley, daughter of Valentine and Catherine (Baer/Bear/Bier) Shirley; many of their descendants live today in Washington County, Indiana.

2. John, who spelled his name on older documents "Jhonas Becker"; born 1754 and died 1833; married Anna Whitmer and bought a farm in 1787, near Mt. Crawford, Rockingham County, Virginia; some of their descendants still live on that farm.

3. Phillip, about whom nothing is known.

4. Jacob, and 5. Henry, who were early pioneers (arriving around 1814) in German Township, Clark County, Ohio. Jacob died in 1821, and is buried in the Lawrenceville, Ohio, Cemetery.

6. Conrad, about whom nothing is known.

7. Martin, who was confirmed April 24, 1791, at the age of 21, in Freidens Reform Church in Rockingham County, Virginia; the Rockingham County Court session of May, 1857, recorded the partition of his land according to his will and it is thought that the following heirs named in the will are also his children (his wife's name was Mary): William Baker; Catharine Carrier; Martin Baker, Junior; Ann Smith; Sally Baker; Mary Lee; Helena Ransbottom (also called Magdalene); and James Bolton (probably not one of Martin Sr.'s children).

Of these children, two are known: a. Martin Baker, Junior, married Elizabeth King Sailor (or Saylor), the widow of Christian Sailor; they emigrated to Clark County, Ohio, no later than July 27, 1830; they lived out their lives in Clark County and left many descendants there. b. Helena (or Magdalene) Ransbottom was the wife of Thomas Ransbottom; their marriage bond was signed February 11, 1812, in Rockingham County, Virginia. For a list of their heirs, consult the Thomas Ransbottom family history in this volume. *Betty Anderson*

Robert Bruce Barber

ROBERT BRUCE BARBER

Robert Bruce Barber, the youngest of six children of Walter and Celia Brewer Barber, spent most of his life in his native county. He was born in Union Township on March 24, 1909, grew up in that area and completed high school in Mendon.

In January 1935 he was appointed deputy sheriff by Sheriff L. M. (Mac) Davis. On December 21st of that year he married Rema Purdy, daughter of Iva

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and Lessie Lee Purdy. She was born December 23, 1910 in Dublin Township and graduated from Rockford High School. With a two year degree from Bowling Green and a B.S. and M.S. in Education from Miami University, she became a teacher in the county and Celina schools. She retired in 1974 after teaching 38 years.

In 1940 Bruce was elected sheriff for a four year term. However, in March 1943 he volunteered for military service in WW II and served two years and six months in the Military Police of the United States Air Force with the rank of Sergeant. He was a part of D-Day and helped hold the Normandy Beachhead that summer, and continued as far as Anaheim, Germany before the surrender. He was discharged October 31, 1945. During that time his wife served as acting sheriff. They then had one daughter, Barbara Lee, born March 10, 1939 in Celina.

After three and a half years in the Phoenix, Arizona area, due to the health of their daughter, the family returned to Celina, Ohio. Two more daughters were born during their sojourn in Arizona — Karen Sue, May 27, 1946 and Cynthia Ann, September 12, 1948, both in Phoenix. While there Bruce took training and apprenticeship at the Phoenix Technical School and became a journeyman plumber. He continued this work in Ohio.

In 1952 he was re-elected sheriff and again in 1956. In 1958 he was named "Sheriff of the Year" in Ohio by the Fraternal Order of Eagles as a result of a very speedy solving of a bank robbery and the apprehension of the subjects involved. He was dubbed "The Matt Dillon of Mercer County."

After leaving the sheriff's office in January 1961, he completed eight years as investigator for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in the trucking division.

Barbara Lee Barber married John Purdy in 1958 and they have two children, Jon, born June 2, 1959 and Jan, born February 28, 1963. Karen married Don Fredenburg in 1966 and they have Jennifer, born 21 November 1973, Jeffrey, born 1 January 1975 and Amey, born 6 September 1977. Cynthia Ann married Walter D. Harris in 1975 and they have Frances Elizabeth Harris, born March 6, 1977.

The Barbers were, and some are, members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Celina. Bruce was active in Republican organizations and was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Mendon.

Bruce retired in June 1971 due to ill health and died February 11, 1975. His wife survives and resides in Celina, Ohio.

During his terms in office, Bruce strove constantly to expand and improve the services rendered to his county. *Janice B. Reddin, Findlay, Oh. 45840*

E. B. BARKER

Everett Burdell Barker and Mary Ellen Brookhart were married on June 8, 1921, and lived mainly in the Rockford and Celina areas. He died in August of 1978, while Mary continued to live in their home at 509 E. Fulton St., Celina, Ohio, which they purchased in 1945.

Everett Barker was born August 18, 1898, the fifth of seven children of Elmer G. and Effie (Kindell) Barker. His father was a farmer who lived on Coldwater Creek Road, north of Coldwater. Everett attended Burntwood, a one-room school, which was quarter of a mile north of the house. Upon gradu tion from the eighth grade, he took the Boxwell e amination, and was certified to teach, but instead l went to Celina High School and graduated. He ar his brothers walked, drove a horse, or skated acro the lake to get to school. After graduation, he e rolled in the Ohio State University, studying to l an agriculture teacher. He was a contemporary ar friend of Chick Harley and Pete Stinchcomb, Oh State football greats. Everett saw the development Ohio State football and was an original contribut to the fund for the building of the Ohio State st dium. He attended the games in Columbus as lor as his health permitted, and always followed tl team.

He began his teaching career in 1921 in Medir County, but soon moved to Rockford where h taught agriculture in the school. After receiving h Masters Degree in Administration from Ohio Sta University, he served as superintendent in schools Gomer and Wren. In 1940 he bought a farm Blackcreek Twp. and lived there for five years. A that time he became involved in helping people pr pare their federal income tax returns, since befor that time, the income tax was only for the wealth It was then that he had the opportunity to return t the teaching of agriculture, this time for the feder government. He was instrumental in organizing ag riculture classes for the veterans of World War II i Ohio, under the G.I. Bill. He organized and taugh the first class in Ohio, and also the last class, after a veterans were finished. He retired from teaching i 1962, but continued with his income tax service unt 1970.

Mary Barker was born December 3, 1902, the sev enth of eight children born to Daniel and Ett (Young) Brookhart. They farmed on Karch Roac Mary attended Swamp College one-room schoo walking the two miles each day. She graduated fror the eighth grade, as was usual for girls. When sh was fourteen, her father bought an Overland autc mobile with side-curtains. Her brothers drove it, bu refused to teach her, so she read the manual, figure out how to do it, and was one of the first women i this area to drive a car. She worked as an inspecto at Goodyear until she retired in 1965.

Everett and Mary Barker have one child, Wilm Barker Ralston; one grandchild, Mary Ralsto Schumm; and one great-grandchild, Jeremiah Alle Schumm. *Wilma Ralston*, Rockford, Oh. 45882

R.W. Barkley

RUDOLPH W. BARKLEY

(born July 22, 1898 — died August 2, 1977)

Rudolph William Barkley, better known as "Rudy", will be remembered as being Safety-Service Director for the City of Celina, having served in that position from March, 1954 to August, 1964. He was a registered professional electrical engineer and

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acticed his profession throughout his adult life.

Rudy was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, the son of illiam T. and Margaret Rudolph Barkley, and had ıe brother, Thomas. The Barkley family came to nerica through New York and settled in Kencky. His grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Barkley, ıs the youngest of 13 sons. Rudy graduated in the ass of 1917 from Woodward High School, Cincinti, Ohio. He then entered the School of Engineerg at the University of Cinciniati, and graduated ith a degree in Electrical Engineering. He worked r Willey Wray Electric Company, and Sullivan ectric Company before starting his own business, ırkley Electric Company, in 1932. After selling his ısiness in 1943, he became superintendent of the ectric plant in Frankfort, Indiana. In 1950 he went Galion, Ohio, where he was in charge of the utili-es. Accepting the position of Safety-Service Direcr in Celina, Ohio, in March, 1954, he and Mrs. ırkley built their home at 622 North Cherry Street. fter retiring in August, 1964, he worked as a conıltant for Fanning and Howey Associates, Inc. and ·rved as secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Municipal ectric Association.

Rudy was an active member of St. John Lutheran hurch, Ohio Society of Professional Engineers, Ser-ma Club, a charter member of the Mercer County len's Garden Club, Rotary International, and was a ›uncilman on the Celina City Council. He served in ıe Army in World War I, and was a member of the merican Legion.

Family was an important part of his life. He mared Minnie H. Grover (who was born March 29, 903, in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania) September 4, 1924. To this union was born two sons: R. Wilam and Thomas Grover. R. William (Bill) married umiko Kobayahi and they have a daughter, Kiıako. Thomas Grover (Tom) married Velma Pritz nd they have a son, Thomas William, and a daugh-·r, Susan D. *Mrs. Minnie Barkley*

BAUCHER FAMILY

Arlie Baucher, son of Luther and Emma Wendel aucher, was born on a farm three miles west of elina, Mercer County, August 26, 1903. He married aveda Now November 7, 1929. She was the daugh-·r of John H. and Nettie Smith Now and was born ınuary 13, 1908, on a farm in Hopewell Township, Mercer County.

Arlie attended the Infirmary one room school, loıted on the corner of Mud Pike and Fleetfoot Road, ·here the Cheryl Ann School now stands. After the ·eventh grade he stayed home to help on the farm. aveda attended the Miller School in Hopewell ownship, then two years at Celina High School.

They have four daughters, all born at home, Mar›rie Lou born November 2, 1930; Doris Jean born ıne 17, 1932; Beatrice Eileen born May 22, 1934; nd Lois Marie born September 30, 1939. Marjorie ıarried Darlene Canary. Doris married Gail Grunen, Beatrice married Robert Linn and they are still Mercer County residents and their histories appear lsewhere in this book.

Lois Marie, who lost her hearing at age three hrough sickness, attended the Ohio School for the Deaf at Columbus, then attended Bliss Business Col-·ge at Columbus one year. She worked as an I.B.M. operator at Motorist Mutual Insurance Office, Columbus, Ohio till her marriage May 4, 1963, to Howard Snyder of Bowling Green, Ohio, who is also a graduate of Columbus School for the Deaf. They built a new home in Perrysburg, Ohio in 1970. Howard works for the Toledo Blade on composing. They have three daughters, Cheryl Lynn born September 12, 1964, Cathy Ann born October 8, 1965; Carol Kay born July 19, 1967, and a son Terry Lee born July 29, 1969. All children have normal hearing and attend the Perrysburg school.

Front Row, L. to R.: Randy Canary, Matthew Grunden, Melissa Grunden, Laveda Baucher, Baby Carol Snyder, Arlie holding Karla Linn, Cathy Snyder, Cheryl Snyder and Susan Canary. **Back Row:** Gail Grunden, Doris Grunden, Howard Snyder, Lois Snyder, Darlene Canary, Marjorie Canary, Eddie Linn, Beatrice Linn, Robert Linn, and Barbara Canary.

Arlie was a farmer, also operated a threshing machine in the early thirties, for several threshing rings, which was a group of farmers who went from farm to farm helping one another, while the neighbor women helped each other cook meals. When combines came out he did custom combining. In the forties he bought a truck and started trucking, hauling grain, fertilizer, etc. for farmers, then later for Landmark.

In 1943, we bought the eighty acres where we moved when married, from his father, who moved there in 1903 from a farm in Liberty Township and had moved to his other farm near Celina on Mud Pike where he died in 1948 and his mother died in 1969.

Arlie was born and lived his entire life on that eighty acre farm and died there August 23, 1968, of a heart attack. It was the same place but a new house. The original one, a big red brick house, burned January 18, 1948. In four months, we were in the new house, built on the old foundation, with the help of good neighbors, family, friends and a hired carpenter.

The family attended Pleasant View (Miller) Church of God their entire lives. Since marriage three daughters attend elsewhere. Also are members of Hopewell Grange.

In 1977, nine years after Arlie's death, I Laveda sold the house and half the farm to daughter Marjorie and husband and I moved to Celina where I now reside.

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MABEL ANDREWS BEACHLER

I, Mabel Andrews Beachler, am copying this article written by my Aunts Flora Andrews Hoel and Emma Andrews Younger.

Their father was Charles W. Andrews, who was born on Dec. 17, 1822, at Mt. Air in a white frame house overlooking the Olentangy River. The interior was very nice with a walnut ornament in the center ceiling of the living room and a walnut mantle. It had two stairways, an open one from the living room and a back stairway. His father and mother, Timothy and Ruth, were from Connecticut — Yankees. They had five children: Cyrus, Charles, Wells, Edith and Flora. Flora graduated from the Girls School at Worthington and taught school for a number of years. While visiting her brother Cyrus and wife in Omaha, Nebraska, she met Johnathan Quarton (Cyrus's wife's brother) whom she married. They lived in Alton, Illinois. Timothy Andrews and family attended the Liberty Church and are buried in the cemetery there.

Charles W. Andrews and wife Christianna were married and lived with his father and mother until Frank, the third son, was six months old. They moved to the Andrews farm about three miles south of Celina near Coldwater Creek in a two horse wagon with all their belongings and three boys. They moved into a log cabin on an 80 acre farm with only 20 acres cleared. They had an orchard which Charles planted while clearing the 20 acres before they moved.

Gottlieb Hinderer was a bachelor in Germany. He married a widow with four children by the name of Wheeler. Her maiden name was Henrietta Genuine. They were natives of Amherst, Wertenberg, Germany. They came to America with her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Garver, and lived in Columbus, Ohio. Coming over, the baby boy died and was buried at sea. They were on the water six weeks. Three daughters were born to them in Columbus: Christianna, Barbara (who married John Maher), and Louise (who married Abner Knight).

Gottlieb Hinderer was a turner by trade. The family lived on East Broad Street where the old Governor's Mansion was located. They owned 13 acres there. Then they moved into the large two story frame house opposite the old mill that Gottlieb had bought on the Olentangy River.

This frame house is where Christianna lived until she married. She was married in the house, and when it burned, a stone house was built up the river. Christianna and Barbara were confirmed and were members of the Lutheran Church, where they sang in the choir. Their mother passed away at the home of her son Fred Wheeler on East Broad Street where she was making her home. She is buried in Green Lawn Cemetery. Gottlieb Hinderer passed away at the home of his daughter Barbara Mayer and is buried near the Lutheran Church where Barbara and family belonged, near Hume and Cridersville. *Mabel Beachler*

Andrews family

CHARLES AND CHRISTIANNA ANDREWS

Memories of Grandfather and Grandmoth (Chas. and Christianna Andrews). They were th parents of eight children; two deceased and six wh grew to maturity and died of old age. They lived in frame and brick house on a farm along Coldwat Creek. A gas well was on the farm near the hou and a perpetual gas light was burning by the driv way. The house was heated and lighted by gas. A one entered the dining-living room, grandfather rocking chair was in the corner and back of it stoo a shot gun which grandfather would go outside an shoot in the air if the dog barked as a prowler migh be about.

We always celebrated grandfather's birthday o Dec. 17 by having a carry-in family dinner. The ta ble was lengthened and food put on centere around a bowl of oranges. Grandmother and Granc father, six adult sons and daughters and wives an husbands all enjoyed the meal; while boys playe outside and girls loafed in the kitchen. One time remember seeing a crock full of something white. stuck in my finger and put it in my mouth — only t discover it was lard. I rushed outdoors to spit it ou much to the hilarity of my cousins. About time to g home, grandfather would go into his little privat pantry and bring out a canister of mixed hard cand (peppermint and hoarhound drops). The childre would reach in and get candy. Sometimes grandfa ther would say, "Not so many!" Then he woul bring out a bag of money — give the children sma coins and gold pieces of $2½ or $5 to the adults. M father turned his into the government at their re quest in 1918. My brother Jim, who has a coin col lection, says if he only had them now. They'd b priceless.

Grandmother used to tell about when she was little girl in Columbus. They would walk down t High St.; look through knot holes and cracks be tween boards and watch the prisoners (who wor striped uniforms) help build the capital building She loved music and the family was exposed to mu sic. She loved flowers and always had pots of gerani ums, begonias, fuschia and an oleander tree. Sh lived to be ninety years of age; raised her own fam ily and helped raise Joe Andrews' family of 10 chil dren.

This is written by Mabel Andrews Beachler daughter of William Timothy and Lucy Trenary An drews. There were six of us children. We attended Elm Grove one room school and passed the Boxwell exam. We went to Celina High School, graduated, and passed the teacher's examinations. We attended Ohio Northern Univ. and taught school.

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The children of Wm. T. (born Nov. 15, 1857) and cy Trenary Andrews (born Jan. 3, 1870) are the lowing: Chas. W. Andrews (b. Sept. 30, 1891) ıarried Grace Kelley, Ralph Q. Andrews (b. May , 1893) married Pearl Coate, Mabel Andrews (b. b. 5, 1895) married Arthur E. Beachler, Louise Anews (b. Oct. 5, 1898) married Henry Drake, James Andrews (b. May 2, 1902) married Florence Meis-'; she died on Jan. 11, 1972 and he married Edith arner, and Alice Andrews (b. Aug. 31, 1907) mar-'d Robert Kappel. *Mabel Beachler*

WM. TIMOTHY ANDREWS

Our father Wm. Timothy Andrews was born on ɔv. 15, 1857, the son of Charles W. Andrews and ıristiana Hinderer Andrews. Our mother was Lucy enary Andrews who was born on January 3, 1870. ıey celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary 1940. This anniversary was attended by more an 200 relatives and friends. The sit-down dinner ıs furnished by daughter Louise and husband enry Drake in Mendon.

Before his marriage, William Andrews was a acher and brick mason, later becoming a farmer. ıey raised six children; all teachers.

The children were born and grew up on a farm uth of Celina. It is now owned by daughters of ılph Andrews, Ruth Ault and Margery Andrews.

FRANCES B. TRENARY

Our grandfather, Frances Broadus Trenary was ɔrn March 4, 1836, in Miami County. He married ıtherine Kumpf, who was born Feb. 16, 1841, and ed Feb. 29, 1880. She was a pioneer schoolteacher ıd we have her certificates dated 1860-61-62. F. B. enary was the son of Hezekiah K. Trenary and izabeth Handel Trenary. The children of F. B. and ıtherine Kumpf were our mother, Lucy Margaret enary. She was born Jan. 3, 1870, and married W. Andrews; Mary Josephine (Mollie) Trenary, who as born May 20, 1871 and died Sept. 28, 1947; arren Lee Trenary, born Jan. 4, 1873, who was a ɔanish-American soldier and farmer. He married nny McGee and was the father of 3 children — oyd Trenary, Edward O. Trenary and Margarete enary Leingruber. Flora Trenary was born Dec. 4, 78 and died February 28, 1964. She married John . Fetters.

Our grandfather F. B. Trenary was a Civil War teran and a farmer who accummulated four rms, more than 500 acres. He retired from his ɔme about 3 miles west of Celina to his home at)4 N. Walnut St., where he died Dec., 1918 of the ı. He walked downtown the day before his death get the Daily Standard.

Mabel, Louise, Alice and James Andrews — harles and Ralph deceased — 1978. *Mabel Beachler*

ıe State of Ohio — Mercer County

ɔ all whom these presents shall come: Be it known at George Jacob Kumph a native of Wittenberg, ed 39 years, has passed thru the various forms reıired by the Naturalization Laws of the U.S. and has this day taken the final oath of Renunciation and allegiance and been admitted to the rights of citizenship by the Court of Common pleas of the County of Mercer. In testimony whereof I, Franklin Linzee, clerk of said county have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Celina the 6th day of June AD eighteen hundred and forty three.

Franklin Linzee, Clerk

August 4, 1847 George Jacob Kumph purchased 80 acres of land from the state of Ohio for $100.19 from Governor Robert Lucas and later 68.55 acres more or less in East Jefferson Tp. Tp #6 Sec. 3, 6, 3 recorded Aug. 4, 1868 — Auditor 40 acres J 1854
Jan. 6, 1874 to Katherine Trenary P. 370-13
Jan. 6, 1919 to Lucy Margaret Andrews
Jan. 6, 1944 to Chas W., Mabel, Louise, Alice, and Ralph and James
Jan. 6, 1969 to Wright State University
119 acres less cemetery and school yard
$50,000 gift from Andrews family — asking that land be used for educational purposes and that a building be named Andrews.

Mrs. Ardyth Shaffer, daughter to Mrs. Louise Drake, a teacher and counselor in Mercer County schools for 30 years, retained 1 acre of these Ancestral Acres on which she expects to build sometime.

The deed to 1 acre of land east of cemetery was written by Franklin Linzee and Oldtown School was here for years. The deed says "As long as waters flow and winds blow this land is to be used for school purposes." How providential that this land is continuing to be used for education.

In September, 1972, when Dwyer Hall was dedicated, this letter was handed to Mr. Stauffer — Dean of College:

Dear Mr. Stauffer,

We have a statement to make concerning the dedication of Dwyer Hall and the land on which it stands. Our greatgrandfather, George Jacob Kumph, purchased this land from the state of Ohio more than a hundred years ago. It has been in our possession for more than four generations. We consider this land our birthright and we treasure it. There were six children in our family. All were teachers. Our father was a teacher. Our grandmother was a pioneer school teacher. She was born and raised on this land, grew to young womanhood, became a teacher, met and married Francis Broadus Trenary — hence the name Broadacres. Our family believes in education, hard work and dedication. We are happy to dedicate this land on which this beautiful building stands to Education, Good Citizenship and a better America.

The Andrews Family
Charles W. Andrews
Ralph Q. Andrews
Mabel A. Beachler
Louise A. Drake
James G. Andrews
Alice A. Kappel

I Progeny of JOHN BEIERSDORFER
  1 Catherine Scheff
  2 Margaret Lear

II Progeny of WILLIAM JOHN BEIERSDORFER — Flora Hassenauer

III Progeny of LUCILLE CHRISTINE BEIERSDORFER —

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Clarence Joseph Cron
IV Grandchildren of BEIERSDORFER-CRON alliance
V Greatgrandchildren of BEIERSDORFER-CRON alliance

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

I

John Beiersdorfer (1814-1880) first married Catherine Scheff (1813-1853). The children born from this union were: Joseph Beiersdorfer (I-1848), John Beiersdorfer (I-1849), Barbara Beiersdorfer (I-1850), Philip Beiersdorfer (I-1853). After the death of his first wife John married Margaret Lear (1821-1882). The children born from this union were: Elizabeth Beiersdorfer (I-1855), George Beiersdorfer (I-1857), Mary Beiersdorfer (I-1859), Frank Beiersdorfer (I-1861), and William Beiersdorfer (I-1863).

II

William John Beiersdorfer (I-1863) married Flora Hassenauer (1870-1917). The children born from this union were: Robert John Beiersdorfer (II-1897), Lucille Christine Beiersdorfer (II-1898), Helen Margaret Beiersdorfer (II-1905), and Mary Elizabeth Beiersdorfer (II-1907). The children of the Beiersdorfer-Hassenauer union that married are: Robert John (II-1897) to Theresa Durbin (1893), Lucille Christine (II-1898) to Clarence Joseph Cron (1899), and Helen Margaret (II-1905) to Leonard W. Jacobsen (1909).

III

Lucille Christine Beiersdorfer (II-1898) married Clarence Joseph Cron (1899-1962). The children from this union were: John William Cron (III-1921), Elizabeth Lucille (Betty) Cron (III-1924), Robert Leo Cron (III-1927), Carol Ann Cron (III-1934), David Clarence Cron, (III-1937), and Judith Ann Cron (III-April 23, 1940 - November 23, 1940). (See William James Cron history). *David Cron*

THE HARVEY BEOUGHER FAMILY

Harvey Beougher was born near Logan, Hocking County, Ohio March 27, 1842, and is a son of Benjamin C., and Catherine (Cook) Beougher. After the close of the Civil War, Harvey purchased about 80 acres from the government in Mercer County near Celina. It was located in section 11, of Jefferson township. It was heavy timber land and Harvey sold enough oak timber to meet the purchase price of about seven hundred dollars. In 1863 he enlisted for service in the Civil War and was in the army for one year and seven months, a member of the 58th Regiment, Ohio Vol. Inf. He saw some pretty hard service but returned at the close of his term of enlistment without having suffered any serious injury. He resumed farming in Hocking County, where he remained until 1875, when he located in Mercer County. Here he built a log house and entered upon the clearing and ditching of his land. In 1899 Harvey built a frame residence which has made a comfortable home for his family. In 1892 he erected his barn. He was a general farmer and raised some stock.

On March 24, 1872, Harvey was married to Evangeline Lohr, a daughter of Noah Lohr, who is a minister in the United Brethren Church, located in Hocking County, Ohio. They had 13 children, namely: Cora Alma and Lela Ada, both deceased in infancy; Homer Ellis who died aged 18 months; Sa ford was a minister of the United Brethren Chur He was ordained into the Ministry by Bishop Milt Wright, father of Wilbur and Orville Wright. was married to Pearl Gerton and had two childre Dwight and Alma Beougher Scholz. Sanford a Pearl are both deceased and buried in Swamp C lege cemetery in Celina, O. Charles was a farmer Mercer County, had two boys whom are deceas and a daughter Berniece Beougher Sibert. His w was a former Brittie Gray. They are both deceas and buried in Swamp College cemetery. Elmer married Elizabeth Roush, a son is deceased and bu ied in Swamp College cemetery and two daughte Cora Gee and Evangeline Perkins. Elmer is buried Swamp College cemetery in Mercer County. Chest Orn was married to Edna Springer and had ten ch dren namely; Roy, Cecil Norris, Mayme Chilco Hubert, Carl, Opal Leloupe, Hubert, Lawren (John), Florence and Elsie. Chester is buried Swamp College cemetery. Edna is buried in Pet cemetery in Celina. Ida Florence, was married William Monroe and lived in Jefferson townshi Both are deceased and buried in Swamp Colle cemetery. Lawrence and his wife Sarah lived at Ly wood, California and both are buried out there. Zi Dee, married Nellie Freeman and had five childre namely; Herchel, Gearld, Marguerite Carr, Eth Jones and Dale. They are both buried at Swamp Cc lege cemetery in Mercer County. Maud Blanche w married to Benjamin Conner. The couple didr have any children. Maud is the only child of Ha vey's living and will be 91 years old her next birt day on January 20, 1979. Jesse married Laura Fre man and had two children Mildred Said ar Howard. Jesse is deceased and buried at Swamp Cc lege cemetery. Laura is 80 years old and is still li ing. Bessie E. married Wilbert Urva Conner and ha two daughters namely; Gertrude Smelser and Ru Howell, a son, Homer, is deceased and buried Swamp College cemetery. Both Bessie and Urva a buried at Swamp College cemetery. Harvey an Evangeline were both killed in a car accident o May 13, 1917 and are buried at Swamp College cen etery.

Harvey has given his children educational adva tages and the family belonged to the Walnut Chap United Brethren Church in Jefferson township which he was one of the trustees. *This was submitted Harvey Beougher's daughter, who is 90 years old, Maud B. Co ner.*

Four Generation picture of Be Family, taken May 3, 1941 — Jc H. Bernard, Sr.; August H. Ber Walter R. Bernard, Walter R. Ber Jr. (Terry).

BERNARD FAMILY

This is the story of one branch of the Joseph H Bernard, Sr. family. Born in Mercer County o French and Irish ancestry, he was one of the first t be baptized in St. John Catholic Church in Mari

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ein. Married to Elizabeth Wildenhaus on May 3, 81, they raised six children — Joseph H. Jr., Maria ein; August H., Coldwater; Dr. John A., Cincinti; Elizabeth Hoying and Regina Hoying, both of Patricks; and Sr. Kathryn Bernard, C.PP.S. A icklayer and plasterer by trade, his handiwork is anifested by many structures in southern Mercer unty, including buildings at Maria Stein Convent d St. Charles Seminary. Married 61 years, he died age 89, May 8, 1942, followed by his wife Elizath, age 91, October 26, 1948.

August H. Bernard, their second son, graduated om St. Joseph College, Rensselaer, Indiana, with st graduate work at Miami University, Oxford, hio. He taught at Dwenger School in Mercer unty, St. Henry and Coldwater, where in 1909, as perintendent, he raised the school from a 2 to a 4 ar accredited high school. He then joined New ea Spreader Company and worked there until reement in 1938. A skilled accountant, he assisted any people with their income tax affairs. He was tive in lodge and civic affairs, serving as clerk of e school board for many years and as Mayor for 4 ars. On July 19, 1906, August H. and Regina eber were married at St. John Catholic Church in aria Stein. Four children were born, namely, Walr R., Wilbur V., Mary Jane and James A.

Walter R. (1908) graduated from the University of otre Dame, A.B. 1930, J.D. 1932. He married Aien Courtney of Buffalo, N.Y. in 1935 and they esblished their home in Celina, where he has been gaged in the general practice of law. He served as osecuting Attorney of Mercer County from 1945 1953, and as Solicitor of the Village of Coldwater r 42 years, 1934 to 1976. They have three children.

Walter R. Jr., (Terry) (1937) graduated from the niversity of Notre Dame, 1959. In personnel work ith Ford Motor Company, Cincinnati. Married arol Sue Alasko of South Bend, Indiana, 1963. hey have three sons, Terrance Patrick, David and hristopher.

Susan Aileen (1940) graduated from Mount St. Joph College, Cincinnati. Entered the Sisters of harity in 1958 and took the name of Sr. Patrick Iarie. She is engaged in hospital work in Albuquerue, New Mexico.

Another daughter, Nancy Lee (1944) also gradued from Mount St. Joseph College in Cincinnati 966). She married Joseph S. Hebner in 1966 and ey now reside in Richmond, Virginia, with their ree children, Joseph S. Jr., Philip and Erin Courtey.

Wilbur V., (1912) graduated from the University f Notre Dame in 1935. He was affiliated with the altimore and Ohio Railroad. He married Lotta loyer, now deceased, in 1936. Their children are osemary, married to Andrew Wendel of Ft. Reovery, Ricky and Donald. Wilbur and his present ife, Irene, live in Chicago.

Mary Jane (1917) married Paul Weekley, formerly f Coldwater. They now live in Kent, Ohio, and ave three daughters, Connie, Judy and Faye. Paul is e owner and operator of a plastics factory.

James A. (1923), the youngest son, graduated from urdue University and is an engineer for General lotors Corporation. He married Patricia Zugger of uffalo, New York, and they have ten children, laudia, Karen, Daniel, Regina, Michael, Mary Rose, Thomas, James, Betsy and Paul. They make their home in Dayton. James A. served in the South Pacific Area in World War II. *Walter R. Bernard*

RALPH BIHN

Ralph Anthony Bihn, adopted son of Albert and Rosa Haury Bihn was born in Cleveland March 7, 1911 — years later the family moved to Sharpsburg, Ohio where they owned and operated a chicken hatchery.

Ralph was married to Lucille M. Potterf, daughter of George H. and Irene (Sutton) Potterf. George Potterf born in 1868 came from Preble Co. to Mercer, O., working on the old C.H.D. railroad which ran through Mercer. Here is where he met Irene born 1872 who was post mistress of Mercer. They were married in 1898, after a few years they purchased the home farm on Stringtown Rd. one mile from Mercer. I can recall my mother telling how, when she was a little girl, the Indians would water their horses at a Spring on the edge of Grandmother's farm, close to the house and as she was a widow at the time, how frightened she would be, even though they never caused any trouble.

To this union four daughters were born, Julia; Agnes; Lucille and Mary Evelyn who died at the age of four. The girls all walked the mile to school in Mercer.

In 1916 the family moved to a smaller farm in Blackcreek Township because of poor health, here less than a year later George Potterf died at the age of 49. (The year of the record snow, and Flu epidemic) After the sale of the farm and machinery Irene moved to Celina to be near two of her sisters. Julia married to Vern DeWeese, of Dayton died December 1975; Agnes, married Carl M. Weist of Mendon, who is deceased. Lucille to Ralph A. Bihn. Ralph came to Celina in 1929 where he found employment with the Mersman Bros. Corp. This is where he met Lucille who was also working there as Secretary to Walter J. Mersman. Ralph continued to work for Mersman's, advancing to a salesman position, until the time of his death in 1966.

Born to Ralph and Lucille were twin daughters Mary Ann and Margaret Ann and Jane Millicent.

Mary Ann is married to Lawrence Duane Miller of Celina who owns the Miller Sporting Goods Co., Celina. To this union was born Kimberlee Jane Miller, now married to Keith Laux who have a son Joshua Duane; Kevin Scott and twin sons Keith Edward and Kraig Steven still at home.

Margaret Ann married Theodore Norbut of Chicago, now of Dayton employed by Wright Patterson as a civilian. They, too, have four children: Timothy, Cynthia, Mark and James all of school age.

Jane Millicent married to Wm. B. Bentley also of Dayton and employed at Wright Patterson as a civilian; to whom were born four girls Lisa Marie; Lara; Diane and Elizabeth Allyson; all at home. *Mrs. Ralph Bihn*

BIRT FAMILY
REBECCA DIANE HART

Rebecca Diane Hart, the wife of James Robert Hart, resides at 231 N. LeBlond St., Celina, and is a

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housewife presently, being formerly an employee of Huffman Manufacturing. Her husband is employed at Goodyear, St. Marys. They have one daughter, Dominica Jozelle.

Mrs. Hart is currently interested in genealogy and is researching her family tree. Her maiden name was Birt.

The Birt family came to Darke County from Greene County shortly after 1838 and settled in Wabash Township, near North Star. Her ancestor, Thomas Birt, was born August 24, 1825 and died March 2, 1897. He married Lydia Skinner on August 14, 1845. She was the daughter of Justin Skinner, who was originally from Connecticut.

Their son, Chester was born in 1858 and died in 1912. He married Caroline Stoker, of Auglaize County. They resided on a farm located where the Methodist church camp on the East Bank Road in Auglaize County is located now.

Their son, Andrew Gilbert, was born September 21, 1885. He moved to Darke County and married Margaret Hester Patton, the daughter of George Patton and Ellen M. (Cordier) Patton.

Margaret's father, George, was born in Decatur County, Indiana, August 6, 1843. He served in the Civil War in the 118th Ohio Voluntary Infantry, Company C. He married Ellen Cordier December 21, 1871 in Mercer County. She was the daughter of John Adam and Hannah (Golder) Cordier. Her father was born in Bavaria and was German Baptist by faith. Margaret was born January 11, 1880 and died May 28, 1964, following her husband's death on March 6, 1964.

Their son, Ernest Gilbert Birt, was the father of the subject of this article. He was born in Darke County on the old home place one mile east of North Star, on May 18, 1920. He married Neppisee Lena Rhoads October 28, 1949 in Wabash, Indiana. He lived in Auglaize County shortly, then moved to Mercer County. He was killed in a car accident on April 5, 1964 at Bluffton, Indiana, leaving his wife and four children.

His daughter, Rebecca, was born May 8, 1953 in Auglaize County, as were her brothers, Daniel Ernest (July 18, 1954), Mark Allen (July 4, 1957), and Timothy Gordon (June 24, 1958). She attended school and graduated in Celina in 1971. She married on June 19, 1971. Her daughter was born on December 30, 1977. *Rebecca Diane Hart*

Sophia Bock, (Jan. 4, 1872 - Feb. 21, 1977). She was thought to be Mercer County's oldest citizen; picture taken in 1976. (Chances of getting to be 105 years is 1 in 1,000,000.)

MERCER COUNTY'S OLDEST CITIZEN

Sophia Bock who was born Jan. 4, 1872 who is thought to be Mercer County's oldest citizen. Picture taken Father's Day 1976 at age 105 years and 47 days. Chances of getting to 105 years is 1 in 1,000,000. Mrs. Bock died Feb. 21, 1977. Sophia Bock was Clarence Bock's mother.

Standing: Brent. **Sitting:** Ma Ann, Brian, and Dean Bolle bacher.

DEAN AND MARY ANN BOLLENBACHER

Dean and Mary Ann Bollenbacher were born an raised in the Chattanooga area. They live in Celin and are the parents of two children, Brent Dee, 1 and Brian Lee, 9. The family are members of S Paul's United Church of Christ, Rockford. Dean is supervisor at Somer's Corporation in Celina an Mary Ann is employed as a secretary. Dean also ha trained and raced harness horses for the past 2 years. They are members of the Mercer Co. Harnes Horsemen Association.

Mary Ann Krall is the youngest of eight childre born to Guy H. and Lavina Grauberger Krall. Lavin is the daughter of Henry and Emma Baker Grauber ger. Emma Baker's parents were William and Philip pina (Phoebe) Gehm Baker and Henry Grauberger' parents were George and Anna Grauberger. Gu Krall was the son of Oscar and Clara Tumbleso Krall. Oscar was born to Aaron and Ida Presho Kral and Clara Tumbleson was the daughter of G. W Tumbleson.

Dean is the younger of two children born to Al bert F. and Lillian Deitsch Bollenbacher. Lillia Deitsch is the daughter of Valentine and Caroli Alt Deitsch. Caroline Alt was the daughter of Pete and Hermina Garman Alt, and Valentine Deitsc the son of John and Caroline Brehm Deitsch. Alber F. Bollenbacher was born to Fred and Anna Huff man Bollenbacher. Anna's parents were Ferdinan and Barbara Schott Huffman, and Fred's parent were Jacob and Margaret Bollenbacher. *Mary Ann Bol lenbacher*

JOEL KELL BRANDON 1820-1871

Joel Kell Brandon, a pioneer merchant and hotel owner, was born in Darke County in 1820, the son of John and Susannah Kell Brandon.

On April 24, 1844 he married Ann Goodall of Versailles, Ohio and together they operated a general store in Fort Recovery.

In 1849 they moved to Celina where, for several years, they owned and operated the Brandon House on South Main St. Later they opened a general store which Ann continued to run alone after her husband's death.

The Celina Cemetery Association was formed in 1871 with Joel Brandon as its first president and, when he died later that same year, was the first person to be buried in the then new North Grove Cemetery.

Ann Brandon survived her husband, Joel, by thirty eight years. In 1881 she married Thomas Snider who also preceded her in death. Ann always had

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pecial interest in and sympathy for the freed ne-
es living near Carthagena and was always on call
any emergency in their community. At the time,
was the only person in Celina to have negro
pers in her home. During the last years of her life
lived with her daughter, Addie, and Addie's
sband, Dr. Robert Riley, in the family home on
st Market St.

The children of Joel Kell and Ann Goodall Bran-
n are: Amanda, married to William Baker of Ce-
a, Dr. John R., married to Hannah Dickman,
rry B., Gertrude, married to Mack Bailey, Thorn-
, died at age 16 in Celina, Estelle, married to Wil-
n Stofer, Addie Ann, married to Dr. Robert Riley,
llie, married to Rev. Fred Cadwell of Adrian,
chigan. *Joel K. Riley*

an Brandon & Mollie
k Brandon. 1953.

BRANDON
JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

J. VAN BRANDON	MARY SARAH (MOLLIE) COOK
1889-1955	1896-1975
Jefferson Twp.	Hopewell Twp.

They were the parents of three sons: Elmer who
rried Esther Eichenauer, Olen who married Helen
k and Dale who married Carolyn Roll.

Elmer and Esther are the parents of Linda Lou
arlin) Miller and Rita Kay (David) Suhr. Grand-
ldren are Tamera and Timothy Miller and Brad-
and Michelle Suhr. Elmer has been employed for
years at New Idea, and Esther 24 years at General
ephone.

Olen and Helen are the parents of James (1945-
68) who served in Vietnam, and shortly after re-
ning home was killed in a car accident, Mary
e, and Helen Jean (James) Hileman. Grandchil-
n are Lisa and Scott Hileman. Olen was em-
yed at Celina Manufacturing and has farmed for
eral years.

Dale and Carolyn are the parents of Michael Dale,
et Elaine Adams, Kenneth William, Mary Evelyn,
even Herbert, and Ellen Kay. And they have one
ndchild, Ann Reneé Adams.

. Van was the youngest son of James C. (1849-
(1) and Caroline Byers Brandon (1853-1914). The
ier children being Mary (Lewis) Gaus, Charles,
lliam, and Elsie (Earl) Hole, who is the only one
l living. She resides in Versailles.

ames C. (father of J. Van) bought 80 acres in Jef-
son Twp. in 1876. He cleared the land and built
home and the other buildings. Later the original
s replaced, building a barn in 1893 and the house
1903. These buildings are still standing and in a
od state of repair. The original house was a
nd-log house. J. Van was born and lived all his
on this farm. After the death of his mother, he
ught the farm and married Mollie Cook in 1914.

James C. and Caroline Brandon were charter members of Beaver Chapel Church.

J. Van's grandparents John (1819-1890) and Mary Byers (1821-1884) were born and married in Germany and came to America when Caroline was about 6 years old (1859). They attended Burntwood Church and are buried in the church cemetery.

Mollie Cook — wife of Van Brandon was the daughter of Elmer (1861-1949) and Martha Hoenie Cook (1867-1915). Mollie's grandparents' Nathan (1827-1896) and Mary Snyder Cook (1831-1912) came to Mercer County in about 1864 from Hocking County and settled on what is now the Orville Crouch farm across from Eden Haven Park. This farm is in the process of becoming a park also. Mollie was born and reared on this farm.

Martha Hoenie (Mollie's) was the daughter of Henry (1838-1914) and Sarah Good Hoenie (1842-1905). Henry Hoenie was the son of John (1808-1888) and Margaret White Hoenie (1808-1888) both born in Hanover, Germany.

Mollie Cook Brandon had two sisters, Pearl (Sim) Highley and Flossie (Walter) Vireck.

Van and Mollie spent most of their lives tilling the soil. Farming was more diversified then; having about four horses, five milk cows, three brood sows and a few chickens. They raised wheat, oats, corn, hay and an acre or two of tomatoes, just what the family could harvest.

Other than general farming Van often drove a team and wagon helping in area construction: he hauled brick from Celina to Coldwater that was used in building New Idea. Often he hauled four foot wood (from a neighbor's) to a tile mill that was located across from the Catholic Cemetery. Most of his hauling however was crushed stone from Karch Stone Quarry used in building area roads.

Many family gatherings and reunions were held at the Brandon farm and a lot of homemade ice cream was enjoyed by relatives and friends.

After Van passed away Mollie moved to Celina and was employed at Gibbons Hospital. She was active in the W.C.T.U., T.B. Board, Beaver Chapel Church organizations and a charter member of Celina Senior Citizens.

J. Van and Mollie lived a quiet but good life. They were both members of Beaver Chapel Church. *Mrs. Dale Brandon, Celina, Oh. 45822*

JOHN BRANDON FAMILY

The Brandon family were of Scotch-Irish origin from Ulster, Northern Ireland, emigrated to the United States about 1730 and settled in Pennsylvania.

John Brandon and wife Mary had the following children: Thomas, John, Jane, William, Alexander, James, Walter, Richard, who married Mary Gribble, Jonathan, Mary and Joseph.

Four of the sons of John owned land in Monongalia and Preston Counties, West Virginia, these were Alexander, Richard, Jonathan and Joseph.

The Brandons migrated from Pennsylvania, into Virginia, Kentucky and then into Ohio. Some descendents migrated from Ohio into Indiana, early to Wisconsin, later west farther to Kansas and Nebraska.

In Ohio they started at Hamilton County, then to Butler County, to Warren County, to Darke County

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and later to Mercer County.

Richard Brandon (1751-1835) married Mary Gribble (1753-1821). Their children were: Walter, Jonathan, John, who married Suzanne Kell; David, Richard, Joseph, Vincent Gribble, and Mary, who married James Hole.

John Brandon (1782-1842) married Suzanne Kell (1789-1862). Their children were: Joel K., Lewis, Mary Ann, Lucinda, who married John Hole; Marinda, John, Louisa J., Lot A., and Harrison.

Lucinda Brandon born in 1823, married John Hole. Upon moving to Celina established a home at 311 South Main Street. Their children were: Sue, Sarah Elizabeth, William Granville, who married Elizabeth Trenary, and Effie. John Hole died in 1882 and Lucinda in 1884.

William Hole joined in his father's milling business. He married Elizabeth Trenary, they had nine children: Sarah, John Trenary, Harriet Lucinda, married Marion Heindel; Jesse William, married Daisy Brookhart; William Carl, married Bertha Deiner; Raymond Granville, married Golda Piehl (parents of the author); Oriel Beatrice, married Ted Hoyt; Floyd, and Mary Onilee, married Chauncey Miller.

After the death of his father, William Hole continued in the grist mill until severely burned when a boiler blew up. Their home was near the corner of Walnut and Warren Streets, facing Walnut, where they lived until August 1906 when they moved to a farm one mile west of Celina on the Mud Pike in Jefferson Twp. Death came three months later but his wife Elizabeth continued to live on the farm and rear their six living children and four grandsons, Victor Theodore, Robert Lowell, Charles Lester, and Harold Eugene, after the death of their mother Harriet Heindel.

Raymond Granville the youngest living son stayed on the farm and helped his mother. In 1912 Raymond married Golda Piehl and they had one daughter, Alberta June, born in 1925. A few years before his mother's death Raymond bought the farm and continued farming until his death in 1953.

In 1946, Alberta June married Fay Delbert Stiverson, born in 1922. They lived with her parents and two years later Edson Ray was born. Fay and Alberta built a home in the woods on Fairground Road, living there until the time of Raymond's death. Then the Stiversons bought the farm and moved back into the house where Alberta was born, and her grandfather had built before moving to the farm from town. Here the Stiversons cared for Alberta's mother and raised their children: Edson Ray, who married Sandra Sue Evans; John Floyd, who married Gail Parry; Cecil Fay, who married Marianne Kistler; and Dawn LuRae, who married Wayne Feece.

In 1974 Natasha Kolleen was born to Edson and Sue.

The farm has been in the family for four generations to the date of this writing. There has been three generations of children raised in this same house.

Mrs. Stiverson's great-great-great grandfather, Richard Brandon, fought in the Revolutionary War, making her eligible for D.A.R. *Mrs. Fay D. Stiverson*

Zerilda (Hopkins) and Rev. Wesley Brock

THE BROCKS OF BEAVEI CREEK

WESLEY BROCK, born 7 August 1809, Mon gomery County, was the youngest son of twel children of Francis Brock (born c. 1760), who h migrated from Stokes County, North Carolina. Sin a grandson of Francis wrote, "Although my ance tors had lived in America for generations, I alwa understood they were of English, Welsh, Scotch ar Irish descent", it would appear this Brock fami may have come to America before 1700. Francis die in 1820, soon after moving to Fayette County, Ind ana, and was the first person buried in the Mt. Zic Methodist Church cemetery.

Wesley Brock returned to his native Ohio aft his first wife died, being admitted to the Ohio Met odist Conference in Hardin County, Novemb 1834, and during his ministry endowed a scholarsh at Ohio Wesleyan University to assist its fund rai ing activities. Reverend Brock and his second wif Zerilda, daughter of Hazzard and Betsy (Malcon Hopkins, of Logan County, were the parents seven sons born in seven counties. One daught died in infancy. By 1849, Brock had begun buyir land in Mercer County, and when he died in 185 owned 480 acres in Section 9, West Jefferson tow ship. Several members of this family taught at t old Brock School across the road from their hom including Wesley, who found it necessary to suppl ment his salary from the church by teaching ar farming.

Only two of Brock's sons settled permanently Ohio, Leonard Gurley (biography in the 1907 *Hi tory of Mercer County*) and Orlando.

ORLANDO HOPKINS BROCK, born Lora County, 8 February 1847, became the father of eig sons, several of whom drove the old Durbin Sto huckster wagon, selling to farmers in nearby tow ships. Ira and George L. ("Lem") later owned groce and meat businesses in Dayton. George Lemu married Della, daughter of John Fetters. John Ora (married first, Lenora White; second, Rosa Koc Smith) worked at the Celina Furniture Factory, lat following the same trade in Michigan. Two gran children, Edwin Hoenie and Lela McMillan, still li in Mercer County. William Walter married Gra Cromer and died the day before their only child w born. Grace and her daughter also moved to Mich gan. Lloyd Clement was the father of Paul and Ker neth Brock of Celina. Virgil Prentiss, evangelist an gospel song writer, married Blanche Kerr of Indian Clarence Asa married Althea McCoy and was farmer and member of the Celina Fire Departmer before moving to Dayton. However, he frequentl visited friends and relatives here and died as the r sult of an unfortunate automobile accident near C lina in 1964. Charles Glenn, youngest of Orlando sons, enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a young man an

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rried in California where he settled.
The remaining sons of Wesley Brock followed erse paths. Sylvester (1839-1910) married Catha- e E. Shaffner, homesteaded in Oklahoma, oper- d a general store, and was Postmaster of Lawson. n Wesley (1842-1907) married Phebe Daniels, s teacher-missionary to the Indians near Yakima, ashington, and was one of the early presidents of w) Whitman College, Walla Walla. Francis 44-1914) married Barbara Robb of Illinois, be- ne an itinerant Methodist minister and died in nsylvania. Leonidas Gardner, M.D. (1850-1930) rried Hila Belle Casto and practiced medicine in liana. Wilbur Hazzard (1857-1935) married Flor- ce Blish and operated a dry goods store in Jack- nville, Florida, as he had done in Celina.
From letters and diaries, however, it is evident at Wesley Brock's sons never forgot their home d relatives on Big Beaver; and all of the Brocks entioned in this brief history would be proud to ve their names recorded in the annals of Mercer unty. *Elmira Brock Hurd, Charlottesville, Va. 22901*

BROCK

Rose Ann (Brock) Kinnison (May 17, 1928, Hope- ll Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) married Harold Wil- m Kinnison on Feb. 22, 1948. Their children are: bert Lee (July 13, 1953, Celina, Ohio) and Fonda line (Sept. 19, 1957, Celina, Ohio).
Rose Ann Brock's parents were Elmer Elsworth ock and Nellie (Stetler) Brock, married Feb. 28, 12. Elmer Elsworth Brock (Jan. 16, 1887, Gibson wp., Mercer Co., Ohio - June 16, 1970, Van Wert, hio) parents were Harvey Marion and Emma So- ia (Heis) Brock, married Nov. 11, 1886. Harvey arion Brock (March 10, 1863, Darke Co., Ohio - ly 31, 1943 Gibson Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) par- ts were Daniel and Anne (Weaver) Brock. Emma phia (Heis) Brock (Oct. 22, 1867 - Sept. 24, 1943, ashington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) parents were ed Heis (Germany) and Mary (Kring) Heise, (Indi- a). Nellie (Stetler) Brock (Nov. 19, 1893, Jefferson wp., Mercer Co., Ohio) parents were Joel and Ka- ryn (Burris) Stetler, married Oct. 18, 1883. Joel etler (May 7, 1858 - March 22, 1933, Washington wp., Mercer Co., Ohio) parents were Jacob Stetler id Rose Ann. Kathryn (Burris) Stetler (Nov. 22, 62 - Dec. 19, 1935, Center Twp., Mercer Co., hio) parents were Joseph Burris (Ireland) and noda (Christian) Burris (Ireland). *Rose Ann (Brock) nnison, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Lloyd Brock and Florence (Gales) Brock

KENNETH BROCK

S. KENNETH BROCK was born in Celina, Ohio, 5 April 1916, to Lloyd Clement and Florence Irene Gales) Brock. In addition to farming and apple pro- uction, Lloyd Brock taught at the Bunker Hill chool adjacent to his farm in West Jefferson Town- ship and at the Scudder School at Mount Carmel and also worked as a rural postal carrier.

Kenneth Brock attended Celina High School and has made education a life-long experience, continuously taking part in industrial and governmental training programs and seminars, both as a journeyman mechanic-machinist and as a supervisor. During World War II, Mr. Brock served in the 1452nd U.S. Army Air Force Base Unit, Alaskan Wing, Air Transport Command.

On 29 June 1949, he married Lavene Sanders, daughter of Will Franklin and Vida Leota (Teeters) Sanders. Although Mrs. Brock was born in Jay County, Indiana, her mother was a native of Mercer County and returned here when Mrs. Brock was five years old. In 1953, the Brocks built their home at 437 Johnson Avenue where they live with their two children, Rebecca ("Becky") and Kent. Rebecca graduated from Celina High School in 1978 after carrying a heavy schedule in order to accomplish this part of her education in three years. Kent takes a great interest in sports and plays the trumpet in the Celina School band. The family are members of St. Paul's Methodist Church, where Rebecca and Kent sing in the choir and are members of MYF and Mr. Brock is currently chairman of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Brock is a 30-year member of the Moose Lodge and takes part in community affairs, serving at times on the mayor's Citizens' Committee for both sewage disposal expansion and city income tax. For the last 31 years he has been employed by New Idea in Coldwater, where he has held a supervisory position in the Plant Engineering Department since 1957 and is active in the Foremen's Club.

Lloyd Clement Brock was the fourth of eight sons born to Orlando H. and Elmira M. Brock. Lloyd's brother, Dr. Virgil P. Brock, will be remembered by oldtime Mercer County residents as a Christian Church evangelist and the composer of more than 500 gospel songs, including the popular "Beyond the Sunset." Dr. Brock had been reared in the Quaker faith, for although his family had a Methodist heritage for at least three generations, his parents united with the Friends Home Church about 1889 when they moved from Washington township to West Jefferson township near Durbin. Dr. Brock's mother was a zealous religious activist, and the family moved again about 1896 to Section 35 in Liberty township to be within walking distance of the church.

Although Dr. Brock worked out of Winona Lake, Indiana, he returned to Mercer County from time to time to speak at the annual Durbin Bean Bake. He also was the author of a book of memoirs, *You Asked For It*, published in September 1976. A copy is available in the Mercer County Historical Museum library, and the first two chapters contain interesting descriptions of the Orlando Brock home and family life at Durbin around the turn of the century. Dr. Brock died at age 91, on 12 March 1978, in Rives, Michigan, where he had been devoting his final years to assist with the work of a mission for disadvantaged children. *Kenneth Brock*

PAUL BROCK

PAUL DALTON BROCK, 802 Holly Street, Celina, was born 5 September 1912, on a 50-acre farm

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Elmira (Harris) and Orlando H. Brock

in Section 31, West Jefferson township, which had once belonged to his grandparents, Orlando H. and Elmira M. Brock.

ORLANDO HOPKINS BROCK was in the lumber business with two of his brothers from 1866 to 1875. At that time, he turned to farming and married Elmira Malisia Harris, daughter of Jonathan P. and Susanna (Kennard) Harris. Mrs. Brock had been reared by her maternal grandparents, Reverend George and Malinda (Routson) Kennard, as her own mother had died when Elmira was but three years of age. Reverend Kennard was a farmer who became a Methodist minister late in life. He was born in 1815 in Perry County, Ohio, the son of William Kennard, whose father John Kennard, a shoemaker by trade, served in the New Jersey line for five years during the Revolutionary War and received a medical discharge in Pennsylvania.

LLOYD CLEMENT BROCK, father of our subject, was born in 1884 and died after moving his family to Section 2, West Jefferson township, leaving his widow with a 23-acre farm to maintain and four young sons to rear, Paul Brock being the eldest at age 13. Paul's brothers are Robert, of Anderson, Indiana; Kenneth, of Celina; and John, of St. Marys.

PAUL D. BROCK worked as a farm hand, in a grain elevator, in a feed mill, and in the construction business before joining New Idea in 1949. At the same time, he maintained the home farm, raising feeder pigs, chickens, cattle, and quarter horses. He was converted in the Friends Church at age 27 and has been active in the Sunday School ever since, having served as Superintendent and still teaching part-time.

A Republican, Mr. Brock served on the election board from West Jefferson township from 1940 through 1958. He helped organize the Northwest Ohio Feeder Pig Association in 1964 and was its first chairman. He retired from New Idea in 1977 and is now working as a licensed real estate salesman, continuing his education in this and related fields.

Mr. Brock married 25th October 1941, Della Mae, daughter of Howard and Stella (Webb) Long, and they have reared three children: Donald Lee, Betty Jane, and Nancy Kay. A daughter, Ruth Ann, died in infancy. After graduating from high school, Donald served two years in the Armed Forces, was a member of the St. Marys Police Dept. for a year and has since been employed at New Idea. He married Patty Sue Wicker in 1970 and lives on Woodward Avenue in Highland Park, Celina, with his wife and their three children, Jennifer Ellen, Robert Nathan, and Ryan William.

Betty Jane graduated from Elkhart Technical School in Indiana and is a technician at Gibbons Hospital. She married Joseph R. Crimble in 1966 and is the mother of three daughters, Teresa Lynn, Margaret Ann, Kathryn Marie. A son, Charles Richard, died in infancy.

Nancy graduated from Bluffton College with a B.A. in social work and directed the Hot Line in C lina until that office closed. At present, she is oc pied as housewife and mother. She married Steph B. Wallace in 1975 and has two daughers, Nicole F and Angela Marie. *Paul D. Brock*

E. J. BROOKHART

In 1830 Sarah and Thomas Upton, the grandp ents of E. J. Brookhart, settled in Mercer Coun Their daughter, Hattie, born in October, 1851, m ried J. C. Brookhart, a native of Fairfield County t a Mercer County resident for many years. Hat and J. C. had two children, Edward (E. J.), and Flo Floyd lived in Dayton most of his life.

E. J. was born August 8, 1881 in Hopewell Tow ship on his father's farm, some five miles north Celina. He was reared on the farm which he la purchased and renamed "Ancestral Acres."

The majority of his education came in Mendc and after graduation from Mendon High School, J. entered Ohio Northern University in Ada to stu law. He graduated with his law degree from Oh Northern in 1903, but before entering into his la profession, E. J. taught school in a nearby rural cor munity.

In March, 1904 E. J. began his law practice in C lina. In conjunction with his law office, Mr. Broo hart and a friend, Mr. Murlin, ran a real estate bus ness. Their first office was on the corner of Ma and Fayette Streets in Celina.

E. J. was appointed United States referee in banl ruptcy for Mercer County in February 1906.

On Christmas Day, 1902 E. J. Brookhart marrie Dora Montgomery of Ada. Her father, Dr. We Montgomery, had previously practiced medicine i Wabash.

Mr. and Mrs. Brookhart were both very active i church circles. Mrs. Brookhart was a talented mus cian and leader of the choir at St. Paul's Methodi Church. She also belonged to various organizatior connected with philanthropic activities. E. J. wa chairman of the Board of Trustees at St. Paul's and member of the board of trustees of the Methodi Children's Home.

The Brookharts were instrumental in the buildin of the new St. Paul's Methodist Church on Mai Street, financing much of its construction. They dc nated the pipe organ to the church and a trust fun for its upkeep. Mrs. Brookhart also provided a tru fund for church music.

In 1914 E. J. founded The National Mutual Insu ance Company and in 1919, The Celina Mutual Cas ualty Company. Celina Insurance Group, as it i now known, remains Celina's sole locally-owned in dustry.

Mr. Brookhart served as president for many addi tional insurance associations. He was also one of th original incorporators of the Mercer County Auto mobile Club, founded in 1921, and he served as it president from 1930 until his death.

In 1925 the Brookharts built their house on Nortl Main Street in Celina which now serves as the Na zarene parsonage. The same builder constructed hi new home, his office and the Methodist Church.

E. J. received an honorary degree of doctor of law from Ohio Northern University, of which he was a trustee for 27 years. Upon their deaths, he and hi

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fe donated Brookhart Hall to Ohio Northern and ɔvided a Brookhart Scholarship, a tuition grant for ıeedy student.
Mr. Brookhart had an active interest in the Mercer ıunty Fair and served on the Fair Board for 9 years. ıring the majority of his term, he was vice presint and was later made an honorary member.
A practicing farmer, E. J. owned a large purebred iry herd on the farm where he was raised.
Mr. Brookhart died in August, 1950 and Mrs. ookhart passed away in 1966. *Don W. Montgomery*

. Lewis Daniel ımm home (1978 me of James and ren Scheer)

DR. LEWIS DANIEL BRUMM

Dr. Lewis Daniel Brumm, who after two years of edical study, started his medical practice in Coldıter, Ohio. He was born in Fort Recovery, Ohio, d married to Hannah Drake from Portland, Indi-a. He practiced but a brief interval in Coldwater, ıio, and then moved to Celina, Ohio, where he acticed medicine for many years. Dr. Lewis Daniel umm's grandfather, Peter Brumm came to Amer-ı in 1847 with his wife and eleven of their thirteen ildren.
Dr. Lewis Daniel Brumm's great-grandparents ere Peter and Christina (Parsch) Brumm who lived Dourstol, France. Their son, Peter Brumm (born 95 in Dourstol, France and died in 1860 in Lyons, ew York) married Salome Scherer (born Novemr 1800 and died July 19, 1870; buried in Hosmer emetery, Castleton Township, Barry County, near ıshville, Michigan, with a G.A.R. Flag by her avestone). Salome (Scherer) Brumm was the ughter of Frederick Scherer (born 1779 and died ptember 29, 1857 at Patersbach, France) and ıristine (Young) Scherer (born 1770, Patersbach, ance and died after 1850 at Galen Township, ons, Wayne County, New York.)
Peter and Salome (Scherer) Brumm and eleven of eir thirteen children migrated from either Patersch, France or Littlestein, Alsace, France about 47. The thirteen children were: Peter Brumm III, ederick Brumm, William Brumm, Louise Brumm, ıarles Brumm, Salome Brumm Lentz, Charlotte umm Tindal, George Brumm, Philip Brumm, Rev. wis Brumm, Caroline Brumm, who died in incy, Caroline Brumm Young, and Harry Brumm. ıe sixth child, Salome Brumm (who married Jacob ntz in France in 1844) was sitting on the top deck a canal boat when it had an accident while passg under a low bridge; her back was broken in the cident. This incident caused the family to stop at ons, New York, instead of coming on to Ohio, as ey had planned. The eighth child, George Brumm ttled near Nashville, Michigan; his descendant is uce Brumm, 1640 S. Price Road, Nashville, Michigan 49073. (There is a Christian Brumm in Eaton County, Benton, in the 1850 Federal Population Census of Michigan and a James Brumm in Ulster County, Wawarsing Township, 1850 New York Census.) The fifth child, Charles Brumm, settled in Wayne County, near Newark and Allaway and Lyons, New York. He was a wagonmaker and farmer. His descendants are Gordon Brumm, Brumm Road, RD 3, Newark, New York 14513 and Harold Brumm, Vienna St. Road, Newark, New York 14513; Helen Fuller, Brumm Rd., Newark, N.Y.
The second child of Peter and Salome (Scherer) Brumm was Frederick Brumm (April 20, 1819 - January 30, 1887) who married Elizabeth Minung, Germany, who died December 30, 1888 and is buried in Mount Zion Cemetery, Jay County, Indiana. Frederick and Elizabeth (Minung) Brumm had seven children: Louisa Brumm Slamb; William Brumm (See Brumm history in Gibson Township); Charles Brumm; Dr. Lewis Daniel Brumm; George Brumm; Salome Brumm Hearn Barnett, and Elizabeth Brumm Grile.
Dr. Lewis Daniel Brumm and his wife, Hannah had three children: Jerry, Frederick Herbert Brumm, M.D., and Nellie (Brumm) Kopp. (See Frederick Herbert Brumm History in Butler Township.) *Lewis P. Brumm, M.D., Cincinnati, Oh. 45219*

THE BERT BRUNS FAMILY

W. R. (Bert) Bruns was born in Jan. 1901 to Joseph and Kathryn (Hemmelgarn) Bruns in St. Wendaline, O. Joe later moved his family to Philothea, where he worked as a carpenter and Kate ran the general store. In 1914 they moved to Celina. Bert's entrepreneurial flair cropped up early, and as a boy he sold popcorn and newspapers to passengers on the Nickle Plate trains which stopped in Celina, seined minnows from Grand Lake and sold them to fishermen. Later he worked at the Lake theatre as a projectionist, sold refrigerators and radios for Bud Hayes, clerked at the Wyckoff Drug Store and worked a short time in Toledo. During the Depression Bert employed a crew of men and conducted cosmetics sales in drug stores in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, and sold Fuller Brushes on the side.
On July 27, 1930 Bert and Nadine Smith (Carl and Bessie Schultz Smith) of Rockford were married, establishing residence in Celina. Nadine, having studied cosmetology worked as a beautician at the Mary Lombard Shop. She later opened her own shop on North Main Street, Celina. Nadine had a fine soprano voice and sang for many weddings during the 1930's.
In 1932 Bert joined his brother Al H. Bruns in the general insurance business, and they named the agency Bruns Brothers. The firm remained under that name until 1957 when Bert sold his equity to Chas. Gant. The agency is now Bruns, Gant, Toms.
In 1949 Bert and Nadine, with Bill and Bertha Guyer built the Northmoor Motel between Celina and St. Marys. The Guyers sold their equity to Bert in 1954 and Bert continued to run the motel until 1963. In 1958, Bert, Nadine and son Dick founded the Northmoor Marina. Nadine passed away in March, 1965. Bert remained active in the Marina until just prior to his death in Jan. 1975.

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Bert and Nadine Bruns had four children. Donald (1932) died an infant. Dick Bruns (1934) married Patricia Feltz. Children are Mike, Leslie & Tracy Nadine. (See Hugo J. Feltz) Dick manages Northmoor Marina. Denny Bruns (1936) married Deniese Arditi in New York. They now live in Paris, France with sons Eben and Danny. Denny works for American Express Company in Paris. Linda Bruns (1938) married Dick Whyte. Children are Julie and Liana. From 1959 to 1975 Linda and Dick lived in Iceland, Newfoundland, Key West & Boston where Dick was a Naval Air Traffic Controller. Linda now lives in Celina and is a claims adjustor with Celina Group. *Dick Bruns*

THE BRYSON ESTATE

The story began in January 1950, when the will of the late Ed L. Bryson, a prominent Celina Attorney, was filed in the Probate Court of Mercer County, Ohio, in Case No. 12419, and admitted to probate on January 17, 1950. The will allocated funds for the establishment of an estate to benefit the youth of Celina, the fund particularly was designated "for use and benefit of public playgrounds in Mercelina Park or to assist in the construction of a public swimming pool."

Roscoe D. Riley of The Citizens Commercial Bank, Celina, and Gertrude Einfalt, Bryson's Secretary, were named to administer the estate and then to act as trustees for the benefit of the immediate heirs, before it passed to the City of Celina, Carroll A. Stubbs was chosen legal advisor.

The inventory and appraisement filed in said Case on February 16, 1950, shows the entire estate valued at $307,002.00.

The said bequest was subject to a provision for the care of testator's relatives, Elmer Bryson, a brother, who predeceased testator, dying in 1949, Mrs. Lela Thompson a sister, who died on March 6, 1954, and Guy Bryson, brother, who died August 17, 1959, freeing the estate for recreational purposes and to become a charitable trust for Celina on June 30, 1960.

According to the terms of the bequest, the recreation money was to be administered by The Commercial Bank Company, Celina, Ohio, now The Citizens Commercial Bank, but since the Bank did not have trust powers, the bank directors requested and the Court agreed that Riley and Einfalt should continue as Trustees.

Since the will mentioned Mercelina Park as the site for recreation, the trustees immediately sought to purchase recreation area from the Brandts Family (owners of the Park). After several meetings of the interested parties and it was seen that a price agreement could not be reached, the matter was dropped.

The Trustees along with City Administrators felt the "Mercelina Park" clause in the Bryson Will was subject to closer scrutiny. They took the will to the Probate Court, Case #14621 in search of clarification, and in July 1960, received a verdict from Judge Homer Hinders that declared "the general intent of Ed. L. Bryson was to provide wholesome recreation for residents of Celina." Judge Hinders in effect ruled that the "Mercelina Park" clause was not meant to rule out the spending of the Bryson Estate Money for recreational purposes at other Celina sites. He pointed out that conditions had chang since testator's death in 1950, far more than testat could have anticipated. He noted the population i crease, the vast numbers of children, the add schools and declared: "all these things and con tions, the testator, although possessing a broad sion, could not, nor could any of the citizens of C lina in 1950 have anticipated the population of t late forties and past fifties."

Judge Hinders in his decision also mention "while this is a large sum of money, but not an ine haustible amount and should supplement the pr grams of the service clubs and the city rather than replace them."

The Bryson estate has contributed hundreds thousands of dollars toward financing the city's re reation programs since 1960.

The estate's largest contribution, however, h been its large-scale improvement and renovati work at Eastview Park. Some thirteen acres of Eas view, approximately one-third of its area was pu chased by the estate and donated to the city. Th tract together with a 17½ acre piece adjoining d nated to the city by Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stubbs, giv Celina a recreational area of approximately thir acres and the improvement and renovation of th 30 acre tract is the responsibility of the Bryson E tate.

The original trustees have administered the esta since testator's death, except because of the illne of both trustees in April 1972, the court appoint David K. Riley and B. L. Wurster, additional tru tees. The said B. L. Wurster resigned as trustee August 1976, because he had removed from th state. The said Roscoe D. Riley died on August 1973. The remaining trustees, Gertrude Einfalt ar David K. Riley filed their application to resign trustees in September 1978, and said resignatio were accepted by the Court and at the same tin The Citizens Commercial Bank and Trust Compar of Celina, Ohio, now having been granted tru powers and to comply with testator's will, filed a plication for appointment as trustees, and the cou issued letters of trusteeship to said bank.

Carroll A. Stubbs was attorney for said estate u til his death on December 5, 1965, and since th time William Meikle has been the attorney.

EDWARD LAMAR BRYSON

Edward Lamar Bryson, better known as Ed. Bryson, a prominent Celina Attorney, was born i 1871, the son of the late Eli and Sarah Shields Br son.

Eli Bryson was a native of Butler County, Pennsy vania, who at the age of eleven, with his parents, re moved to Wells County, Indiana near the town c Montpelier; he was a Civil War Veteran and at th close of the war returned to the Indiana Farm, whe he stayed until the spring of 1867, when he with h bride removed to Falls City, Richardson County, Ne braska, to engage in farming and where the subje of this sketch was born; in 1872 he returned to Ind ana to engage in the lumber business at Keyston and in 1884 with his family removed to Celina, Me cer County, Ohio continuing in the lumber busine

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ıd operating a saw mill. His wife, Sarah Shields 'yson was a native of Wells County, Indiana. Ed. 'yson was a lad of thirteen when the family came Celina and was educated in the public schools of elina and then received his degree in law from the niversity of Cincinnati.

He began practicing law in Toledo, Ohio, where remained for three years, and then returned to elina and formed a partnership with Richard S. ıudabaugh which continued until Mr. Raudaıugh took up residence in Lansing, Michigan. Mr. 'yson continued practicing alone until his death, ıd his place of business was in the Wyckoff Buildg, southwest corner of Main and Market Streets.

Ed. Bryson had a successful career at the Bar for ore than fifty years, more or less specializing in al estate law, title and abstract work in connection ith the farm loan business; he was respected as an ıthority in this field; he loved justice, law and eace; he detested unnecessary litigation and deghted in averting danger and restoring peace by ise counsel and skillful plans. The good works of ıe counsel room were sweeter to him than the gloes of the forum. Whenever necessary however he as a worthy advocate in the Courtroom, and in any gal contest he gave his client the benefit of the best resentation of whatever points of fact or law in his ower.

For many years he represented this district for the an division of The Connecticut Mutual Life Insurıce Company of Hartford, Connecticut. He was a ıember of the Board of Directors of The Commeral Bank Company, Celina, Ohio, now The Citizens ommercial Bank and Trust Company of Celina, hio, and was the Bank's legal advisor for over forty ears; for many years he and the late Ashley M. Riy, conducted a chattel loan business known as The elina Mortgage Loan Company, which was termiated just prior to Mr. Riley's death in 1940. He was member of The Mercer County Bar Association; ast Master Celina Lodge No. 241 F.&A.M., a Memer of the Scottish Rite, Toledo, and of the Shrine emple, Cincinnati, Ohio.

His wife, Mrs. Stella Harms Bryson, a native of ıe Toledo area, died in 1940; a brother Elmer died ı 1949, the brother, Dr. Guy Bryson and sister, Mrs. ela Thompson survived him, both are now deeased, all are buried on the Bryson Family Plot in lorth Grove Cemetery, Celina, Ohio.

Ed. Bryson died at Gibbons Hospital, Celina, on ınuary 11, 1950 following a lengthy illness, and was uried on January 14, in the North Grove Cemetery.

On January 17, 1950, his last will and testament vas admitted to probate in the Mercer County, hio, Probate Court, and revealed that the Commuity of Celina would be the ultimate beneficiary of ıe estate, subject to a life estate left to his brothers nd sister. The bequest specified that the money be sed either for a public play grounds at Mercelina ark or to construct a swimming pool; (for details ee article entitled "The Bryson Estate.")

HENRY BUELTEL FAMILY

Henry Bueltel, who resided in Celina, Ohio, virtully all of his adult life, was born in Seneca, Kansas, n February 14, 1907. His parents, Herman and Mary Winkeljohn Bueltel were born near Emsburen Pro Hanover, Germany and came to America while still in their teens — about the year 1874.

Henry's parents were married in Cincinnati, Ohio, and shortly after moved to a farm five and one half (5½) miles from Seneca, Kansas, where they lived until their demise, both attaining eighty some years of age. The children of this union were Joseph, Leo, Cecelia, Frank, Ann, Vincent and two Henry's. One named Henry passed on at the age of two years. All the children attended the Seneca parochial schools via horse and buggy except in the bitter winter months when they walked approximately two miles to the one room country schoolhouse.

Henry completed his schooling at St. Benedicts College, located on the Missouri River in Atchison, Kansas, and shortly thereafter became associated with the Mersman Bros. Corporation of Celina, Ohio, manufacturers of tables for the home — claiming to be the largest tables maker in the world. He continued an uninterrupted service with Mersman and after forty four years, retired in 1971. At the time of his retirement, he held the office of company comptroller.

Henry Bueltel married Madonna Pulskamp on October 8, 1938. Born March 25, 1911, she was an only child of Fred H. and Mollie Beachner Pulskamp. Fred was a life long resident of Celina and was engaged in the retail furniture business and also operated a funeral home. Mollie was originally from Tiffin, Ohio. Madonna, a registered nurse, graduated from Saint Rita's School of Nursing, Lima, Ohio. She pursued her nursing career until raising a family became important.

From this union, six children were born — James, Gary, Tom, Mary Ann, Rita and Karen. The children all attended Immaculate Conception School in Celina and all attended colleges. All six children are married and as of April 1, 1978, proudly present ten vigorous grandchildren, which makes for an exciting annual family picnic.

In addition to his association with the Mersman firm, Henry served the city of Celina as an elected city councilman and is presently on the Celina Zoning Board of Appeals. He is a Past Exalted Ruler of the Mercer County Elks, past district deputy of the Knights of Columbus and treasurer of the Celina Senior Citizens. Some years back he was active in promoting scouting. *Henry Bueltel*

Gregory, Paula, Tamara and Teresa Byers

GREGORY BROOKS BYERS

Gregory Brooks Byers along with his father and mother came to Mercer County in 1959 from Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Knox County. Gregory was born at Zanesville, Ohio, Muskingum County on October 6, 1947. His father is Harry Edward Byers of Columbi-

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ana County and June Mildred (Tumblin) Byers of Dresden, Ohio, Muskingum County. They came to Mercer County from Mt. Vernon when his father accepted a position as West Elementary Principal in Celina, Ohio.

Presently Gregory is terminal manager for Interstate System, a trucking company, at Lima, Ohio. Gregory graduated from Wright State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a major in marketing. Gregory graduated from High School in Celina, Ohio.

In 1963 Gregory, an Eagle Scout, had the opportunity to go with the Boy Scouts of America to the World Jamboree which was held on the plains of Marathon in Greece. While in Europe, he also toured England, Switzerland and Italy. Gregory's hobbies are tennis and golfing and music. Along with his family they attend Bethany United Methodist Church.

Gregory was united in marriage at the First Church of God in Celina, Ohio to Paula Ruth Howell. To this union were born two children, Tamara Denise Byers born May 11, 1966 and Teresa Inez Byers born January 15, 1971. Paula is the daughter of Denzel Paul and Ruth Ellen (Conner) Howell. Paula was born July 14, 1949 in Mercer County. Paula has a sister Pamela deceased and a brother Denny. She graduated from Celina Senior High School. Paula is presently attending Wright State University and pursuing a degree in special and elementary education. Paula has been active in WESCO at the West Elementary school, Cheryl Ann program and girl scout program.

Tamara will enter Junior High this fall, 1978. She has been active in student council, girl scouts, 4-H, band, dancing and played softball during the summer. She sang in the talent show at the Mercer County Fair in 1978 and won a prize.

Teresa is enrolled in Cheryl Ann School in the primary department. Her hobbies are swimming and skating.

Harry Edward Byers, Jr., father of Gregory, was born in East Liverpool, Ohio, Columbiana County on December 27, 1924 and is the son of Harry Edward Byers, Sr. Born June 19, 1906 in Columbiana County and Ellen (Perrine) Byers born in Columbiana County January 17, 1908. Harry Edward Byers, Sr. is the son of Lawrence Norman Byers and Sarah Elizabeth (Anthony) Byers. Ellen Perrine, wife of Harry Byers Sr.'s parents were (Walter) Dewey Perrine and Bessie Elizabeth (Skeens) Perrine. Harry Byers, Jr., is presently living in New Concord, Ohio and is an elementary principal for the East Muskingum County Schools.

June Mildred (Tumblin) Byers, mother of Gregory was born in Muskingum County March 4, 1927 and the daughter of Albert Russell Tumblin of Muskingum County born October 4, 1895. Albert's wife Lettie Inez (Moran) Tumblin of Licking County was born October 27, 1895. Albert Tumblin is the son of Estelle Elizabeth (Terry) Tumblin of Muskingum County and Howard Russell Tumblin of Coshocton County. Lettie Inez (Moran) Tumblin's parents are Ulyses Alva Moran of Licking County who was born August 26, 1870 and died September 29, 1954. Lettie's mother was Cora Alice (Baughman) Moran and she was born November 21, 1870 and died October 12, 1955.

While living in Celina, Gregory's mother worke in the office for Mercer County Landmark. At Ne Concord, she is receptionist for a dentist. *Grego Brooks Byers*

Mr. and Mrs. Ashley M. Dumbauld

ASHLEY DUMBAULD FAMILY

Ashley Milo Dumbauld, the son of William Ea (Dec. 5, 1881 - Feb. 5, 1961) and Daisy Dean (Bryar Dumbauld (July 24, 1884 - Aug. 5, 1955) was bor January 15, 1908, in a log cabin in Jefferson Town ship, Celina, Ohio. He attended Prospect Grad school and Washington Township High School. H was an employee of Mersman Brothers Furnitur factory for 39 years, retiring from there on Jan. 1 1973. He enjoys working in his yard, gardening traveling and reading. He has a sister Mrs. Beula Berniece Humbert (Aug. 9, 1909 -), Mrs. Henr (Marie Leah) Brown (Oct. 29, 1903 - Oct. 18, 1966 two brothers; Guy (1905-1905) and Stanley Everet (March 7, 1916 - March 23, 1975).

He married Inez Lucille Kincaid, daughter of Le Clyde, Sr. (Oct. 20, 1887 - Aug. 15, 1949) and Caro line Belle (Smith) Kincaid (Nov. 15, 1886 - Aug. 1(1970) and have lived in the Celina area all their lives She was born near Wabash, Ohio, in Washingto Township on Feb. 25, 1911. She graduated from Mt Carmel Grade School, Liberty Township, in May 1925 and graduated from Celina High School i May, 1929. The class will celebrate their Golden An niversary in June, 1979. She was an employee of Bel Telephone Co. in Dayton, Ohio. Her hobbies ar traveling, reading, sports and crafts. She has a siste Mrs. Otto (Melva Mae) Grimm (b. Apr. 3, 1907) an Mrs. Andrew (Lela) Black (Aug. 5, 1916 - May 1961), one brother, Lee Clyde Kincaid, Jr. (b Feb. 8 1922).

Their home was blessed with four children an nine grandchildren. *Billy Lee* was born March 2(1931 in Durbin, Ohio in Liberty Township near Ce lina, Ohio. He graduated from Celina High Schoo with honors in 1949, entered Toledo University later transferring to Ohio Northern Univ., Ada Ohio. He graduated with a B.A. degree in Pharmacy 1954. He spent two years in the military service an 18 months were in Hiedleberg Hospital in Germany as a pharmacist. He married Betty Aretta Freeman (b Mar. 27, 1934), daughter of Gerald and Leona Bois Freeman and after returning from the service worked for Shaw and Ott Drugs in Mansfield, Ohi and Bucks Drugs in Xenia, Ohio, where they hav lived for 20 years. He and Betty became interested i photography as a hobby which blossomed into a ful time profession. Their studio is in Xenia, Ohio. The have two sons, Ian Milo (b Apr. 6, 1961) will gradu ate from Xenia High School in June, 1979. His hob bies are building craft models, carpentry, helping i

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studio and gardening. Jason Lee was born June 6, 3. He is a busy and active little boy. The Dumılds' most unforgettable moments came during "Xenia Tornado of 1973". The building housing studio was damaged beyond repair.

anet Eileen, born Oct. 19, 1934, in Celina, Ohio, duated with honors from Celina High School in y, 1952. Immediately after graduation, she went work in the office at Mersman Bros. Corp. and sently is employed in the office of Sohio in veland, Ohio. She enjoys bowling, decoupage, dle work, sewing and traveling. She married orge Lewis Cron (b Feb. 23, 1931), son of Anthony l Kathryn Cron and he is a Customer Engineer Mohawk Machines in Cleveland, Ohio. He en- s sports and traveling. They live in Parma, Ohio, l have four children. Melinda Sue (b Nov. 7, 7) is an R.N. in Cleveland Metropolitan General spital. She likes sports, sewing, reading and trav- ıg. Sally Cron (b. Nov. 13, 1959) is in the United tes Navy in San Antonio, Texas. She has a degree ı Laboratory Technician and likes sports, reading l traveling. Amy Leigh (b Jan. 14, 1963) is a sophore in Normandy High School in Cleveland, io. She likes music, sports and reading. Jeffrey vis (b Feb. 21, 1966) is in the seventh grade and a rts fan. He builds soap box derby cars and partictes in races. He likes Scouting and Indian Guides. *Tommy Dumbauld* died in infancy on April 28, 2.

udy Ann born December 15, 1940, in Otis Hospi- Celina, Ohio, graduated as Class Valedictorian m Celina High School in 1958. She graduated m Ohio Univ., Athens, Ohio, with a B.S. Degree Journalism. She enjoyed 4-H projects, reading, ing, cooking and many other hobbies. She mar- l Larry Wayne Waterman (b Nov. 20, 1938) who he son of Philip and Virginia (Snavely) Waterı. He is a graduate of Celina High School, June, 6, and a graduate of the Anapolis Naval Acady in June, 1960. He is a Commander in the United tes Navy and after an 18 months tour of duty in ıran, Iran, he and his family returned to Washton, D.C., on March 3, 1979. They have three s. David Hugh (b Sept. 28, 1966) is in the sixth de and likes traveling, art, music, Boy Scouts and rts. Timothy Laurence (b June 10, 1969) in Balboa val Hospital, San Diego, Calif., is in fifth grade l likes traveling, sports, crafts, Cub Scouts, music l gardening. Alexander Owen was born Aug. 31, 5, in Portsmouth, Virginia Naval Hospital. His ne was in Norfolk, Va. He is a very active little p and liked nursery school this year.

he Ashley Dumbaulds now reside in their home 49 West Fulton Street, Celina, Ohio.

ee also the Kincaid Family History. *Mrs. Ashley nbauld, Celina, Oh. 45822*

DARLENE CANARY

)arlene Dwight Canary son of Lloyd and Zedna ise) Canary was born January 4, 1928 on a farm Hopewell Township, Mercer County. Marjorie Baucher daughter of Arlie and Laveda (Now) ıcher was born November 2, 1930 on a farm west Celina. They were married by Rev. Harry Cole at parsonage March 17, 1951.

)arlene attended Joint and Stedke schools till y closed and then went in to Rockford. He quit school at age 16 and started working. He is now maintenance supervisor at Somers Corporation (formerly Mersman Bros.) He has worked there 31 years.

Marjorie attended Lincoln school, a one room country school, 8 years, then went to Celina High School and graduated in 1948. She worked for Celina Mutual Insurance Company for two years and then for Celina Municipal Utilities office about two years.

They have three children, Barbara born April 3, 1952. Barbara graduated from Coldwater High School in 1970 and from Findlay College in 1974. She is an elementary school teacher. She is married to David Delzeith from Celina and they have a son Jason born August 12, 1976. Her husband works at Somers Corporation and she is a substitute teacher and they live in Coldwater, Ohio.

Susan graduated from Coldwater High School in 1972 and Findlay College in 1975. She is married to Rolland Russell from Findlay Rural Route and he is an employee of Cooper Tire in Findlay. She is an elementary teacher in the McComb school system. They have two children Trisha born August 17, 1975 and Keith born April 26, 1978.

Randall graduated from Coldwater High School in 1974 and he now drives truck for Homan Trucking, Chickasaw, Ohio. He married Sue Schulte and she attends Wright State University and works at Huffy Corp. and they live in Celina, Ohio.

They bought their first home with four acres on St. Anthony Rd. in Butler Township and lived there until August 1977. They then bought the wife's parents' home and half the farm.

Darlene attended Hopewell Lutheran Church and Marjorie Pleasant View Church of God of which they are both members now. They are also members of Hopewell Grange. *Darlene Canary, Celina, Oh. 45822*

THE CELINA STEARIC ACID CO.

The Celina Stearic Acid Co. became a new employer in the community in 1907 when August J. Spieler, formerly of Cincinnati, came to Celina and decided to locate at the 5 acre site of the liquidated Haneke Iron Works, 410 S. Ash St. The corporation was composed of August J. Spieler, President, and Henry Pulskamp, Secretary & Treasurer, and John Pulskamp, Director. Later William H. Spieler (younger brother of August) joined the firm and became Technical Director & Secretary. Ed Pulskamp joined as Equipment Maintenance Specialist. The stock was closely held among the Spieler and Pulskamp relationship and friends.

August Spieler brought all the technical knowledge he had gained thru employment at Emery Industries of Cincinnati where he worked under Dr. Twitchell who pioneered in the fat splitting industry. Here the Dr. introduced the "Twitchell Process" with his patented "Saporiefier". Emery Industry sold the product to the industry.

From Emery, August went to Joshlin & Schmidt of Cincinnati, where as a chemical engineer he set up plants to process chemicals and fats.

Bascially, the Celina Stearic Acid Co. purchased tallow and grease, packing house by-products, and

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with heat/cold, pressure/vacuum, and catalysts split these fats into their component parts — namely: Oleic Acid, Stearic Acid and Glycerine. The Oleic Acid, as made in Celina, was an unrefined combination of fatty acids that was called "Saporiefied Red Oil" and was sold to the woolen mills in New England. Its purpose was to lubricate the wool in the carding process and to become the base of a soap used to scour the wool. Approximately 90% of the product shipped was "Red Oil" and the remaining 10% was composed of about 8% Stearic Acid and 2% Glycerine. The Stearic Acid was a refined product and was sold to the Drug Compounders, Cosmetic Makers, Paint Manufacturers and Candle Makers. Glycerine was also refined and was used in drugs, cosmetics, paint and explosive manufacturing.

There were technical changes in the industry between 1907 and 1962 when Celina Stearic Acid Co. ceased operation. At the beginning processing tanks were actually vats constructed of all "heart" Cypress and Sulphuric Acid. Washing was done in lead lined tanks. As alloys and welding developed, heat and pressure of processing was increased and steel pressure vessels were replaced with Inconel Clad Steel. Cypress was replaced with aluminum or inconel or Stainless Steel depending upon the processing done in the vessel. Shipments were all received and made in barrels at the start with the exception of a few tank wagons or tank cars. Later steel drums took over and finally everything came in and went out in tank cars except the stearic acid (a solid) in cartons or bags and Glycerine in drums.

Celina Stearic Acid Co. ceased operation in 1962 because it lost its 90% customer, American Woolen Co. American was merged into Textron who decided to close the mills in New England and move the equipment to the South where one employee could tend four looms compared to one on one in New England. Textron also switched from wool to synthetic fibre which did not require our major product Red Oil. We sold our glycerine refinery to a firm in the Philippines and the bulk of the balance of the processing equipment to Hunt Foods, Oil Division, Memphis, Tenn.

Hawk Construction Co. purchased the plant site and removed the older buildings and converted the newer buildings to rental storage space. The office continued to be used as rental office space partly used by Hawk Construction and later all by National Farm Organization.

ERVIN CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Ervin Christian, as a young man, came from the Cleveland, Ohio area, to settle in East Jefferson Twp. of Mercer County. He lived here the remainder of his life time.

As a young man, Ervin met and married Zilphra Sarah Copeland, daughter of Francis A. and Elizabeth Copeland. To this union were born six (6) children.

Oldest child, a daughter, Ruth Christian, married Myron Thees. They are the parents of six (6) children. They are as follows: *Mildred* Thees, who married Paul M. Crouch of Wabash, Ohio. They have four children: Dan Crouch, David Crouch, at home, Larry Crouch who married Becky Jo Buck, and daughter Linda who married Robert White. Th have one child Jodi Lynn White.

Donald Thees married Charlene Clouse. They a the parents of four children (one died in infanc Their children are: Steve, Cathy, Mike and Ri Thees. They have one grandchild, Michele.

Robert Thees married Barbara Hone. They hav daughter Christina Thees and a son Tony The both at home.

Ronald Thees married Darlene Bruns. They ha a son Scott Thees and a daughter Stacey Thees, bc at home.

John Thees married Carolann Kincaid. They ha three children: Timothy Thees, Matthew Thees, a Rebecca Thees, all at home.

Margery Thees married Ed Miller. They have o daughter, Lori Ann Miller, at home.

Second child of Ervin Christian was a son Pa Christian. Paul never married. He passed away the age of 51 in December of 1961.

Third child of Ervin and Zilphra Christian was s Floyd Christian, who married Elsie Thees. Th have three children. They are as follows: *Rob* Christian who married Jean Harner. They have thr children. The oldest is Beverly Christian, who ma ried Delbert Piper. They have a son Travis Shav Piper at home. Next was a daughter Barbara Chr tian, married to William (Bill) Hamilton. They ha two daughters — Anessa Dawn Hamilton and T fany Ann Hamilton at home. The third child w son Randy Christian, still at home.

Juanita Christian married Ronald VanTilbu They have two sons — Mark Van Tilburg, at hon and Gary VanTilburg who married Greta Thobaug They have a daughter, Christy.

William Christian married Dorothy Shaffer. Th have a son Michael Christian still at home.

The fourth child of Ervin and Zilphra was a s Roy Christian, who married Ruth Gehm. They ha a daughter, Carol Christian who married Dan Freeman. They have five children: Laura Sue, Ma Daniel, Jennifer Lynn, Jonathan Lee and Melin Ann Freeman — all at home.

The fifth child of Ervin Christian was a son Fra cis Christian, who married Pauline Poppe. Th have two daughters. Debra Christian is at hon Judy Christian married Phil Barnes. They have t daughters Lora Barnes and Amy Barnes both home. (Judy Christian later became Mrs. Tony W ters.)

The sixth child of Mr. & Mrs. Ervin Christian w a son Leon Christian. Leon did not marry as of t time.

Zilphra Sarah (Copeland) Christian departed t life on February 8th, 1926, at the age of 41 years. vin Christian departed this life on May 31st, 1966, the age of 83 years. *Ruth Christian, Celina, Oh. 45822*

DAVID S. COLE FAMILY

David S. Cole was born March 4, 1815. He car to Mercer County from Coletown in Darke Coun Ohio, and homesteaded on a tract of land just sou of what is now Erastus. David married Mary Ke nard and to this union were born nine children: Is belle; Willima D.; Julie Ann; Twins, Newton a

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n D.; George; twins, David and Moses; and An-
w.
ion William D., a farmer in the Erastus commu-
y, married Elmira Brookins. In 1891 William gave
d for the first Methodist Church in Erastus. This
ce of property was located south of St. Anthony
ad and east of the Erastus-Durbin Road. William
l Elmira were the parents of three children: Lean-
, Estella and Doshia Cole.
eander (L.H.) Cole was married to Mae Magda-
e Stein on December 24, 1905. Mae was the oldest
ten children of George V. Stein and Magdalina
mann Stein. The Stein family came to Mercer
unty from Hamilton County, Ohio, in the 1860's.
ey cleared land in Liberty Township and used
s to build their first home. This home was located
ween Skeels and Scudder. L.H. and Mae Cole
re the parents of five children: Burdette, Alberta,
ldred, Dorothy, and Robert E.
Burdette married Ralph Huddlestun and they had
e daughter, Helen. Helen is the wife of Junior
bbins, former Fire Chief of Celina. The Robbins
ve three children: Kathleen, Michael and Peggy.
Alberta married Robert Anderson in Hartford
y, Indiana, and they had two daughters, Gwendo-
and Kaysa.
Mildred married Kline William Hamlett from
ntington, Indiana, and they spent most of their
rried life in Dayton, Ohio.
Dorothy married C. L. Coats of Huntington, Indi-
a, and to this union were born four children: Wil-
m, Jean Ann, James and Jerry.
Robert married Hazel Kettering of Montezuma in
41 and they began their married life in Lima,
io. In 1946 they purchased the Pete Fischer Gro-
y on E. Livingston Street in Celina and in 1958
ey moved into the newly built market on East
arket Street, where they are still located.
Robert and Hazel are the parents of four children:
Robert Kettering Cole, a teacher, is married to
zabeth Earmon of Eaton, Ohio, and they have a
n Brent and a daughter Tami.
Thomas Earl, an electrician, is the father of two
ildren — a son Thomas Lloyd and a daughter,
ie Elizabeth.
Susan Diane Cole married Donald Heyne of Cold-
ter, Ohio, and they live in Dayton, where Donald
associated with Reynolds and Reynolds.
Stacy Ann Cole was married in early 1979 to Joe
nders; she is employed at Reynolds and Reynolds
Celina.

CORDIER FAMILY

The John Cordiers have lived on the same farm in
ferson Township since their marriage in 1939. In
t, John has lived on the same farm since his birth
1915.
On these same acres have lived John's parents,
r. & Mrs. Joseph Cordier; his grandparents, Rever-
d and Mrs. Franklin Cordier; his great-
andparents, Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Coate.
John's son, William Joseph, is at this writing
ilding a house in the woods of the "West Forty",
aking five generations of the family to have lived
this farm. December, 1978 this land will have
en in the family for 100 years.
John Franklin Cordier was born December 19, 1915 to Joseph Benjamin and Frances (Sibert) Cordier. He married Virginia Lee Granger on May 28, 1939. Virginia was born March 17, 1917 to William Claude and Orel Lurillda (Burch) Granger of Butler Township.

Three children were born to this family: Julie Ann, March 7, 1942; William Joseph, May 29, 1945; and Jennifer Jane, November 13, 1953.

Julie and William both graduated from Manchester College of North Manchester, Indiana and are working in the public schools of Ohio — William as a Guidance Counselor at Celina Senior High and Julie as a third grade taacher in Middletown, Ohio. Both obtained their Master's Degrees several years ago.

Jennifer Jane graduated from Taylor University of Upland, Indiana in 1976 and is a Systems Analyst at Mutual Security Life Insurance Company in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Julie is married to Norm Ross of Fairfield, Ohio. Jennifer Jane is married to Brian Reifsnider of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. William J. is married to Marty Jo (Martha Joanne) Snyder of Celina.

John has been engaged in farming all of his life. In former years he kept livestock but today is kept busy grain farming. Virginia, besides being a homemaker, taught school for twenty-two years in Celina and Coldwater Elementary Schools. Both have been active in their church throughout their adult lives. At present John is a trustee and chorister of the Grace Missionary Church in Celina, while Virginia teaches an adult class in the Sunday School.

John's great-grandfather, John Adam Cordier, although of French descent, was born in Bavaria, July 23, 1824. When he came to America, he married Hannah Golder who was born September 17, 1829 in Columbia County, Pennsylvania; and they lived in Granville township, where John's grandfather, Franklin Pierce Cordier, was born July 16, 1855.

Franklin later moved to Jefferson Township and became the Pastor of the German Baptist Church, known as Ash Grove in northern Butler Township. The name of the church denomination was later changed to the Church of the Brethren, but the church members were known throughout the community as "Dunkards". He married Mary Elizabeth Coate, daughter of the Benjamin Coate named above; and they became the parents of ten children, one of whom was Joseph Benjamin Cordier (March 9, 1887) who was John's father.

Joseph married Frances Sibert (December 18, 1887) of Washington Township on January 1, 1911; and they became the parents of Mildred and John Cordier. Mildred married Kenneth L. Granger and they reside in Celina. *Virginia Cordier, Celina, Oh. 45822*

ANTHONY CRON FAMILY

Anthony John Cron was born May 31, 1885, the son of John and Elizabeth Boeckman Cron in Cassella, Ohio. He was a blacksmith by trade. He practiced his trade while serving in the Army during WWI. He was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone during most of his tour of duty. He was also involved with farming which he continued after his marriage to Catherine Quinter Boeckman, the

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widow of Joseph Boeckman.

Catherine, or Katie as many called her, was born July 6, 1892, the daughter of Benedict and Caroline Kunkel Quinter in Cranberry Prairie, Ohio. She had four children from her marriage to Joseph Boeckman, who died in 1920. These children are: Wilbert Boeckman, 4/13/16, who married Lorena Weitzel; Richard Boeckman, 5/24/17, who married Alvira Moeller; Marcella, 11/18/18, who married Aloys Weitzel; and Joseph, 11/2/20, who married Rita Schmitz. These children were all born in Cassella, Ohio.

Anthony, or Tony Cron as he was known, accepted these children as his own and raised them along with the children he and Katie had. Their daughter Rita, 6/16/23, was born in Cassella and she married Wilbur (Pete) Moeller. A son John was also born in Cassella on 5/21/25 and he married Marjorie Hines.

The family then moved to a farm near New Bremen, Ohio, where Rosemary (Rosie) was born 8/30/26. She married Gerald Fleck. Another daughter, Erma, 3/23/28, and a son, Raphael (Ray), 8/19/29, were also born there. Erma married Harold Klosterman and Ray married Gwen Otis.

After the family moved near North Star, Ohio, three more sons were born: George, 2/23/31, who married Janet Dumbauld; Cletus, 5/11/32, who married Pauline Linn; and Anthony, Jr., 10/4/33.

The family moved to Montezuma, Ohio, and later to the Celina, Ohio, area. It was while living on the Celina farm that Tony, Jr., died after a farm accident on May 13, 1944. Their final move was made a few years later when they moved to North Sugar Street in Celina. It was at this time that Tony Cron began working for the County Highway Department. He had been retired from there a few years before he died March 23, 1954. Katie Cron died September 12, 1972.

The following is a list of the grandchildren of this family. *Wilbert Boeckman:* Marjorie, 10/29/41; Diane, 6/11/43; Robert, 4/13/45; Janice, 2/22/47; Marvin, 3/8/49; Donald, 11/7/50; John, 12/14/53; Karen, 3/13/55; Susan, 10/24/56. *Richard Boeckman:* James, 4/15/41; Barbara, 3/8/42; Paul, 3/22/44; Irene, 12/17/46, who died January, 1948; Mark, 7/16/48; Ann, 11/17/52; Catherina, 12/24/54; Joseph, 11/26/59. *Marcella Weitzel:* Joan, 9/9/43; Mary Jane, 7/18/45; Roseann, 12/24/46; David, 9/11/49; Ralph, 6/30/52; Judy, 9/15/54. *Joseph Boeckman:* Thomas, 11/11/47; Jerome, 8/1/54; and Ronald 1/27/57.

Rita Moeller: Eileen, 11/30/42; John, 1/7/43; Virginia, 4/25/45; Elizabeth, 6/2/46; Daniel, 8/2/47; Charles, 7/1/49; Patrick, 7/16/50; Carolyn, 7/23/51; Mary, 10/6/52; Lavern, 4/16/54; Jane, 7/4/55; Christine, 8/17/56; Theresea, 10/15/58; Madonna, 1/27/60; Melvin, 11/25/61. *John Cron:* Steven, 10/27/49; Michael, 10/31/50; Gerald, 6/13/52; William, 2/23/56; Mary Kay, 1/29/59; Thomas, 6/1/60; and Julianna, 1/11/62.

Erma Klosterman: Jean Ann, 10/23/51; Roger 1/26/54; Nancy, 7/24/56; Mark, 8/8/59; Carol, 11/26/63. *Ray Cron:* Brian, 4/22/65; Christopher, 10/6/67; and Gregory, 6/7/71. *George Cron:* Melinda, 11/7/57; Sally, 11/13/59; Amy, 1/14/63; and Jeffrey, 2/21/66. *Clete Cron:* Timothy, 3/12/64; Anthony, 3/16/66; and Pamela, 4/18/67. *Gwen Cron, Celina, Oh.*

DAVID CLARENCE CRO

Born January 5, 1937 in Mercer County, Celi Ohio. Son of Clarence J. Cron and Lucille Beiersd fer Cron. Attended 12 years of school at Immacul Conception Grade and High School and graduat from there in 1955. Member of United States M rine Corps. from 1956-58. Married in August 1958 Mary Jane Beams. Worked for Standard Printing (from 1951-1969 as a compositor. Huffman Mfg. (from 1969-1971 as a supervisor. Now works at Re nolds & Reynolds Co. as rotary pressman.

MARY JANE (BEAMS) CRON

Born August 11, 1938 in Mercer County, Celi Ohio. Daughter of Bernard K. Beams and Jennie F ters Beams. Attended Celina City and Center Tw Grade Schools and 4 years of high school at Celi High School graduating from there in 1956. Work from 1956 to 1960 at Celina Mutual Insurance (Married David C. Cron in August of 1958. Now homemaker and part-time teller at First Natior Bank of Mercer County.

Children of David C. and Mary Jane Cron: Chri topher A. Cron, born in Celina, Ohio Merc County on April 16, 1960. Attended grade school Immaculate Conception School in Celina and juni and senior high school at Celina City Schools grad ating from Celina Senior High School in 1978. now a freshman at Anderson College in Anderso Indiana. Joseph B. Cron, born in Celina, Ohio Me cer County on February 5, 1963. Attended gra school at Immaculate Conception School in Celi and junior high school at Celina City School. Is no a sophomore at Celina Senior High School. D. A drew Cron, born in Celina, Ohio Mercer County December 8, 1966. Attends Immaculate Conceptic School in Celina where he is a 6th grader. Dionne Cron, born in Salem, Ohio Columbiana County April 6, 1970. Attends Immaculate Conceptic School in Celina where she is a 3rd grader. Adopte September 28, 1973. *David Clarence Cron*

RAPHAEL AND GWENDOLYN OTIS CRON

Raphael Francis Cron was born August 19, 192 on a farm in Auglaize County near New Bremer Ohio. His parents were Anthony (1884-1954) an Catherine Quinter Boeckman Cron (1892-1972). H attended Brunnerdale High School in Canton, Ohi After graduation, he returned to Celina for a bri time before being drafted into the Army. He sper most of his tour of duty in Ft. Lewis, Washington.

After his discharge, Ray entered the Novitiate the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Belleville, Ill nois. From there, he went to the Oblates' Majc Seminary in Pass Christian, Mississippi. He returne to Celina in 1959 and taught at Immaculate Concep tion Schools from 1960-64. During this time, he a tended the University of Dayton Graduate Scho from which he received his Master's Degree.

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On June 13, 1964, he married Gwendolyn Otis. hey lived in Cincinnati until 1966 while he taught : Mt. Healthy Junior High School. They returned to elina when he became principal of Marion Local igh School. In 1968, he took over as Mercer ounty Elementary Supervisor and in 1974, he be- ıme principal of Immaculate Conception Elemen- ıry School.

Gwendolyn Elizabeth Otis was born April 20, 941, in Celina, the daughter of Dr. L. M. (1888- 964) and Elizabeth Dabbelt Otis (1908-1969). After raduating from Celina's Immaculate Conception ligh School in 1959, she attended St. Mary's Col- ge, Notre Dame, Indiana. While a student at St. lary's, she also attended the Sorbonne University ı Paris, France, for a semester. She received her achelor's Degree in French from St. Mary's in 1963 nd taught French at Finneytown High School in incinnati, Ohio, for two years. She is presently aching French and English at Ohio City-Liberty ligh School.

Ray and Gwen Cron have three sons: Brian An- ıony who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 2, 1965, Christopher Francis who was born in Ce- na, Ohio on Oct. 6, 1967, and Gregory Otis who as born in Columbus, Ohio on June 7, 1971. *Ray and wen Cron*

CRON

I Progeny of WILLIAM JAMES CRON — Elizabeth Hierholzer

II Progeny of JOHN ALBERT CRON — Catherine Mary Beechner

III Progeny of CLARENCE JOSEPH CRON — Lucille Christine Beiresdorfer

IV Grandchildren of CRON -BEIERSDORFER alliance

V Greatgrandchildren of CRON -BEIERSDORFER alliance

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

William James Cron (1848-1910) married Eliza- eth Hierholzer (1851-1916). The children born from his union were: John Albert Cron, (I-1872-1930), lora Elizabeth Cron (I-1874), Fredinand Cron (I- 876), Edward Cron (I-1879-1885), Ado William Cron (I-1882), Frank Harman Cron (I-1884), Carl Clemans Cron (I-1886-1970), Hubert Godfrey (I- 889-1890), and Hildagarda Cron (I-1893-1912).

I

John Albert Cron (I-1872-1930) married Catherine Mary Beechner (1867-1945). The children born from his union were: Miriam Margaret Elizabeth Cron II-1895), Clarence Joseph Cron (II-1899-1962) and Charles William Cron (II-1901-1959).

III

Clarence Joseph Cron (II-1899-1962) married Lu- ille Christine Beiersdorfer (1898). The children born rom this union were: John William Cron (III-1921), Elizabeth Lucille (Betty) Cron (III-1924), Robert Leo Cron (III-1927), Carol Ann Cron (III-1934), David Clarence Cron, (III-1937) and Judith Ann Cron (III- April 23, 1940 - November 23, 1940).

V

John William Cron (III-1921) married Rose Cath- rine Wimmers (1923). The children born from this union were: Nicholas John Cron (IV-1948), William Leo Cron (IV-1949), Rebecca Ann Cron (IV-1952), Kathryn Sue Cron (IV-1954), and Virginia Leigh Cron (IV-1956). As of this writing the children of the Cron-Wimmers union that have married are: Nicholas John (IV-1948) to Mary Ellen Heben (1951), William Leo (IV-1949) to Mary Jo Fross (1950) with a daughter Jennifer Patricia Cron (V-1975), and Kathryn Sue (IV-1954) to Steven Frederick Grimes (1954).

Elizabeth Lucille (Betty) Cron (III-1924) married Lawrence Joseph Shearer (1920). The children born from this union were: Linda Ann (IV-1950), Diane Elaine (IV-1953), and Mark Lawrence (IV-1955). As of this writing the children of the Cron-Shearer union that have married are: Linda Ann (IV-1950) to John James Leugers (1947) with daughters Michelle Leigh (V-1973), Stephanie Marie (V-1975), and Jennifer Erin (V-1978), and Diane Elaine (IV-1953) to Ronald Tatman (1952).

Robert Leo Cron (III-1927) married Norma Jean Eichenauer (1926). The children born from this union were: Gary Leo (IV-1949), Daniel Robert (IV-1951), and Richard Gregg (IV-1957). As of this writing the children of the Cron-Eichenauer union that have married are: Gary Leo (IV-1949) to Bonita Gae Lehman (1949) with sons Chad Eric (V-1975) and Benjamin Adam (V-1978).

Carol Ann Cron (III-1934) married Robert Dale Lewis (1931). The children born from this union were: Terry Allen (IV-1952), Sondra Lee (IV-1953), and Jeffery Robert (IV-1957). As of this writing the children of the Cron-Lewis union that have married are: Terry Allen (IV-1952) to Carol Kay Miller (1954) with daughters Amy Marie (V-1972) and Terri Katherine (V-1976).

David Clarence Cron (III-1937) married Mary Jane Maria Beams (1938). The children born from this union were: Christopher Allen (IV-1960), Joseph Bernard (IV-1963), David Andrew (IV-1966), and Dionne Susan (1970) adopted. As of this writing none of the children of the Cron-Beams union are married. *David Cron, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Back Row: Greg Kroft, Patrick, Bud, Jinny, Rick Curry. **Middle Row:** Beth Ann Curry Kroft, Debra Brown Curry, Margory Schoenlein Curry. **First Row:** Brad Kroft, Erin Curry, Benji Kroft.

CURRY

Wilbur (Bud) W. Curry, son of William and Emma (Paulin) Curry. "Bill" Curry was a furniture designer who came to Celina from Findlay, Ohio at the request of Walter Mersman. He was with the Mersman Brothers for over fifty years. His father, John Curry of Springfield, Ohio was a carpenter, his mother's name was Emma Fenstemaker. Emma Paulin Curry was the daughter of Joseph Paulin, a casket maker, and her mother's maiden name was Staum. They were residents of Findlay. Bill and Emma Curry were parents to Florence (Secrest), Ma-

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bel (Elder), Catharine (Ballinger), Richard, Thelma, (Colby), Wilbur, and Dora (Carter).

Bud Curry and Virginia (Jinny) Peak were married on May 22, 1947. Both are life long residents of Celina and graduates of Celina High School. Bud worked as an auto mechanic for many years and is presently shop man at C.B.S. Auto Supply. He spends as much time fishing as possible and enjoys hunting. He is a charter member and past commander of V.F.W. Post 5713. He served with the 8th Air Force in WWII, and spent two and a half years in England.

Jinny Peak Curry is the daughter of Russell Peak and Etta Smith (Later married to John F. Yahn). Her great grandparents, Isaac Peak and Sarah Wycuff Peak came to Celina from New Jersey in the 1800's, Ike to work on the Grand Reservoir. They had one son, Edward, who married Rose Muether. Their children were Carl, Louetta, Edward, Wilhelmina, and Russell. Isaac and Sarah, at one time operated a hotel at the reservoir edge, for canal boatmen. They served food and boatmen could find overnight accommodations. Edward, Sr. operated one of Celina's early saloons. He was well known as a baseball player and sportsman. He, as well as his sons, fished the Grand and took many ducks and geese as well. Sarah had many stories she told her great grandchildren and often repeated that a "lady" didn't walk on the side of Main Street where the saloons were located. She never went outside without a sunbonnet (even at age 90) because the sun would freckle her skin.

Etta's grandfather was Lewis Smith. Lewis Smith was born in Germany and when six years old was sent by his parents across the ocean to the United States with a chest of drawers that held all his belongings. He served in the 71st Regiment of the Ohio Volunteers Infantry from 1861 to 1865. He married Wilhelmenia Frahm who was also born in Germany. They had five children, William, Charlie, Frank, Albert, and Ferdinand.

Ferdinand married Anna Lucinda Heckey (mother's maiden name Duncan). They were owners and operators of the Tama Store for several years. Ferd drove a huckster wagon around that area. Later he was a fireman for the Celina Fire Department. They were parents to Alvena (King), Mabel (Shinn), Verna (Dibble), Etta, and Russell.

Etta and Russell Peak were parents to Virginia (Curry), Marilyn (Niemeyer), Patty, and Ferd.

Jinny Peak Curry was employed as a bookkeeper at the old Heckler Hardware Store prior to her marriage. She began college at Ohio Northern University in 1959, and graduated with a B.S. in elementary education. She has taught at East Elementary School for 17 years. She is a sometimes fisherman and enjoys the Grand. Photography, gardening and travel are favorite pastimes. The Currys have traveled in 49 states, all except Alaska.

The Currys are parents of Wilbur R. (Rick) Curry, married to Margory Schoenlein of Coldwater. Rick and Marge are both graduates of Miami University of Oxford, Ohio. They reside in Cincinnati. Beth Ann Curry married Greg Kroft and they are parents to Benjamin E. Curry Kroft and Bradley A. Curry Kroft. Beth Ann is a graduate of Nationwide Beauty Academy. The Krofts reside in Celina. Patrick L. Curry married Debra Brown of Willshire, Ohio, they are parents to Erin Michelle and reside in Willshire.

Both Bud and Jinny are members of the St. Paul' United Methodist Church where Jinny taught Sun day School for twenty-three years. *Virginia Curry, Ce ina, Oh. 45822*

CHARLES A. (CY) DICK

Charles A. (Cy) Dick, the son of Walter H. an Nellie (Lutz) Dick was born in Mendon, Ohio. Th third child in a family of four, he has two siste Helen, deceased; Dorothy, wife of Marvin Cowan c Ohio City, Ohio; and a brother, Hubert of Mendo Ohio.

He attended Mendon Union Grade School an graduated from Mendon Union High School. Dur ing his school years he served as an apprentice typ esetter and "printer's devil" for Frank A. Geige owner of the MENDON HERALD. He graduate from the Cleveland College of Embalming and be came a licensed funeral director and embalmer fo W. H. Dick and Sons Funeral Home of Mendon an Celina.

He served as a medic in the South Pacific with th 37th Division (an all Ohio unit) during World Wa II. After five years of service he returned to Celin and resumed his career with the family firm.

He served as a member of Celina City Council fo eighteen years and has been quite active with man civic and fraternal organizations.

He is married to the former Betty Lou Sullivan and they are the parents of two daughters, Mary J and Carol Ann Dick. They reside in Celina, Ohio. *Charles Dick*

Walter H. Dick

WALTER H. DICK

Walter H. Dick, a prominent Mercer County fu neral director for many years, was born in Clark County, Ohio, March 12, 1885, the son of Arthu and Philena (Ayers) Dick. He died in Celina, Ohio May 2, 1974 at the age of 89 years.

The Dick family came to Mercer County, Cente Township, in 1893. Mr. Dick married Nellie Lutz on December 25, 1911 and she died in 1955. Her father, Charles F. Lutz, whose wife was Elizabeth Beery, came to the United States from Germany in 185 and settled in Center Township in 1854.

Walter and Nellie Dick had four children: Helen, who died in 1967, Dorothy of Ohio City, Ohio, Charles of Celina and Hubert of Mendon. Mr. Dick founded the funeral firm that is now known as W. H. Dick & Sons of Celina and Mendon, in Mendon, Ohio in 1913, with his brother-in-law Fred Lutz as his partner. Fred G. Fisher was also associated for a time in the Mendon operation, as was his son-in-law Carl Stallter, who was associated in both Celina and Mendon for many years.

The firms are now managed by his two sons Charles and Hubert Dick; the business having been in the Dick family for over 65 years. *Charles Dick*

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DIXON FAMILY

Henry (1) and Rose (1a) Dixon had a son William) Dixon born in Ireland in 1662, who married Isa- el (2a) Rea of Segr Parish 5-4-1683. She died prior immigration in 1688.

Widow Rose (1a) (mother of William) and sons ent to Delaware in 1688. Rose Dixon purchased rge tracts of land from the Indians.

About 1690 William (2) Dixon married Ann (2a) regg of County Armagh, Ireland, daughter of Wil- am Gregg. Wm. Dixon (2) and Ann Gregg (2a) had even children — Henry (3) Dixon born 1695 in New astle County, Delaware, and lived there prior to 740, Henry married Ruth (3a) Jones 4-4-1715, in lewwark Mt. Delaware.

Henry (3) and Ruth (3a) Dixon had eight children - Ruth, John Joseph (4), Henry, Samuel, Mary, Martha, and Soloman.

This Joseph (4) Dixon is the father of Samuel and oseph Dixon. Joseph Dixon was born 10-2-1719. He ent to North Carolina in 1764, he married Mary a) Pusey at New Garden Mt. Pa., before 1764.

Joseph (4) Dixon and Mary (4a) Pusey Dixon had oseph, Samuel (5), Jesse, John, etc.

Samuel (5) Dixon was born in Pa. about 1760, was arried in 1795 in Chatham County, North Caro- na, to Anne Dixon (5a), daughter of Caleb Dixon, a Quaker.

Samuel (5) Dixon was a soldier in the American evolution.

Around 1803, Samuel (5) and brothers Joseph, esse and John (6) went to Ohio (from N. Carolina) here they "entered land" in Ross and Jackson ounties. Samuel (5), Jesse and John (6) farmed, Jo- eph had a saw mill and grist mill.

amuel (5) Dixon and Anne (5a) Dixon had a son amuel (6).

Samuel (6) Dixon married Rebecca (6a) Babbitt. le left his family in 1838 and went west, never to be eard from again (possibly killed by Indians).

John Dixon (7) and wife Rhoda (7a) and children: mos, Samuel, Henry (8), John, Peter, Neal, etc., tc., etc., came to Mercer County in the early 1830's nd purchased land south-east of Wabash.

Henry Dixon (8) married Amroy Price (8a) for- nerly of New Jersey and daughter of Issiac Price re- uted to be the J.P. in Mercer County. Henry Dixon as a farmer and auctioneer, and a soldier in the ivil War, taken prisoner and placed in Anderson- ille Prison. He was later exchanged.

Henry Dixon (8) and Amroy Price Dixon (8a) had ne following children: Issiac, Samuel (9), Minnie, eorge and Neal.

Samuel (9) Dixon (b 1859 - d 1936) married hristena (9a) Harmon (1865-1942). They had two hildren; Mary M. (Della) 1884-1972, and Virge (10) 886-1943. Della had two children — Opal Laffin nd Carol Knox.

Virge (10) Dixon married Pearl (10a) Swarts 1-6- 906 and they had three children. They are: Samuel). (11) Dixon, Audra Dixon Plummer and Margaret Dixon Lewis.

Samuel D. (11) Dixon (1907) married Lillian (11a) Heil, daughter of Carl and Emilie Heil of New Bre- nen. They were married on July 17, 1926. They have ne son, Samuel (12) Heil Dixon (1928) who married ita (12a) Herberg Kobel (1936) in Mainz, Germany. They were married on May 15, 1955.

They have three children: Samuel Kobel Dixon (13) (1956), Teresa Ann Dixon (1957), and Randolph G. Dixon (1958). *Sam D. Dixon, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Dull Family

EDGAR MARTIN (DOC) DULL

Edgar Martin (Doc) Dull was born in 1874 in Van Wert County on a farm comprising a section of land west of Ohio City, the son of James Monroe and Martha Lintemoot Dull. He was one of twelve children, having eight brothers and three sisters. After attending a rural school, he became a partner with several of his brothers in a mill in Rockford, Ohio. He came to Celina in 1898 and established his own retail business dealing in coal, hay, feed, seed and the shipping of livestock under the name of Model Milling Company, located on North Main Street across from the old courthouse. In 1928 he moved to a location on West Logan Street where he continued his business until his death in 1956. In 1905 he married Ida May Phellis, the only child of John Lowery and Anna Wynn Phellis. Her father came to Mercer County in the latter part of the nineteenth century from Champaign County, Ohio. Mr. Phellis operated a general store in Macedon, Coldwater and lastly in Celina, Ohio, on Main Street at the site of the present Barr Company until he retired at the age of fifty-five years. Afterwards he built and sold a limited number of residences in Celina having an addition named after him in the fourth ward of the city. The parents of Ida May Phellis died in the early nineteen thirties. Three sons were born to Edgar Martin and Ida May Phellis Dull, all three being valedictorians of their respective graduating classes from Celina High School of 1925, 1927 and 1929. The youngest, Dale Monroe Dull died from a tonsillectomy soon after graduating. Earl Lowery Dull, a graduate of Ohio State University, after working in one of the local banks practiced law with Don Short under the intriguing name of Short and Dull until his death in 1959. He married Mary Romer, a Celina girl, and they had two children. The older, Jonathan Romer Dull, a graduate of Notre Dame and the University of California is the editor of the Benjamin Franklin papers at Yale University. Caroline May Dull, a graduate of St. Marys of Notre Dame, married Robert Lee Hamburger, a graduate of Notre Dame. He is an international banker, now located in London. They have no children. Paul Phellis Dull, the oldest, a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan, Columbia, and Ohio State Universities, practiced law in Celina until his service in the United States Army Air Forces in World War II. Afterwards he was appointed Common Pleas Judge of Mercer County in 1947, a position he held continuously until his retirement in 1974. He is the author of five books of

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verse in addition to published legal opinions and articles. He married Dorothy Anderson of Salina, Kansas. After her death in 1965 he married Alberta Bangham Buerkle, a classmate from Ohio Wesleyan. Judge Dull and Dorothy Anderson had two children. Peter Phellis Dull, a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan and Ohio State Universities, is an aeronautical engineer at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He married Patricia Fleckenstein of Youngstown. They have one child, Curtis Anderson Dull. Jill Dull, a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan, after study at the Sorbonne in Paris, is a social service worker in Chicago. *Paul P. Dull, Celina, Oh. 45822*

VERNON C. EICHLER

Vernon Clarence (Shorty) Eichler was born January 18, 1921 on Drury Road, Center Twp. Mercer County, Ohio. He attended Five Point School, Maple Center Twp. and Celina Public School, graduating from Celina High in 1939.

He lived most of his life in Mercer County worked as a gas station attendant, Mercer County Engineers Office, Hinton-Smalley Construction Co., Alt Landscaping, U.S. Dept. Agriculture, City of Celina engineers office. He spent 38 months in the U.S. Army. At one time he owned Westside Mobile Home Court. Is presently employed as a lab technician at the John W. Karch Stone Co. Vernon was a surveyor-draftsman for the city of Celina and also started the operation of Celina's first water treatment plant. He operated it for a number of years.

While in the army in England he married Doris Alma Lyons who was born in Rugeley, Staffordshire, the daughter of Harry & Ethel May Victoria Lyons. She has two half-sisters and one half-brother living in England, also her father and step-mother.

Mrs. Eichler's father was a coal miner and her grandfather was a stone mason until an accident forced him to retire. For a number of years he operated a country pub.

Vernon and Doris had three children, Patricia Ann was born in England and coming to the U.S. in 1946 with her mother when she was four months old, Vernon, Jr. was born in 1947 and David A. in 1964. All children attended Celina Public Schools.

Patricia Ann married Wilfred Pease and they have four children Jeffery Scott, Julie Ann, Lisa Marie, and Traci Lynn. Vernon, Jr. married Marie Kessler and they have one son Christopher Ryan. Vernon, Jr. served in Vietnam where he was wounded, after eleven months in various hospitals he was discharged from the Army. Vernon has one sister, Dortha Mae (Eichler) Ellis. His parents were engaged in farming for several years and also were caretakers of the Mercer County Fairgrounds, for two years under the old agriculture society and five years for the American Legion, his father also worked at Mersman Brothers for a number of years and his mother worked in the laundry at the Otis Hospital and the Celina Coffee Shop for twenty-eight years where she was well known for her cream pies.

Vernon Eichler's grandparents Lawrence & Magdelena Almandinger Eichler also lived in Mercer County. His great-grandparents Andrew & Barbara Eichler came to the U.S. from Germany in 1897. They first settled in Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio. They later bought a farm and moved to Blackcreek Twp. To them were born eleven sons and on daughter.

The Eichlers are members of the St. Johns Lutheran Church in Celina, as were his parents an grandparents. *Vernon C. Eichler, Celina, Oh. 45822*

MARTIN & HELEN FAHNCKE FAMILY

Martin John Fahncke was born in Liberty Twp. November 6, 1918, the son of Otto M. Fahncke (se history of John Fahncke) and Eda C. (Kable Fahncke (see history of Friedrich Weitz). He marrie Helen Lucille Sielschott the daughter of Walter A and Sadie (Meyers) Sielschott (see history of Walte and Sadie Sielschott Family). She was born Decem ber 24, 1918 in Hopewell Twp. Martin and Hele have lived their entire lives in Mercer County — i Celina since their marriage — with the exception o the four years Martin served in the U.S. Arme Forces during World War II. Martin is an electricia being a part owner of Heckler Electric Corporation Helen was employed for a number of years as secre tary and bookkeeper in general insurance office and a real estate office. They are active members o St. John Lutheran Church in Celina. They have tw daughters — Sharon Mae and Barbara Ann.

Sharon Mae married Ralph Harold Stonerock so of Mr. and Mrs. Linden Stonerock of Bradford Ohio. They have a son named Aaron Martin. Bar bara Ann married Duane Allen Baker son of Lloy and Margaret Baker of Celina. *Mrs. Martin Fahncke*

Ralph and Leone Fanning and Family, 50th Wedding Anniversary 8-16-74 — **First Row:** Granddaughter Traycee Fanning; Leone an Ralph Fanning (seated). **Second Row:** Grandsons Tony Fanning Steven and David Hileman. **Third Row:** Granddaughter Jo-Mari Ellis; daughter Elaine Ellis; Daughter-in-law Jenine (Mrs. Ronald Fanning; Daughter Patty Hileman; Daughter-in-law Ruth (Mrs Richard) Fanning; Granddaughter Gay Fanning; Granddaughters in-law, Debbie (Mrs. Craig) Fanning, holding Great-Grandso Scott Richard; and Linda (Mrs. Scott) Fanning. **Fourth Row** Grandson Matt Ellis; Son-in-law Charles D. Ellis; Son Ronald Son-in-law Dr. O.E. Hileman, Jr.; Son Richard; Grandsons Crai and Scott Fanning.

RALPH R. FANNING FAMILY

Ralph R. and Leone A. Fanning moved to Celina from the Chicago suburb of Niles, Illinois, in September, 1946, with their four children, Richard,

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aine, Ronald and Leone Patricia (Patty).

Ralph was born in Sullivan, Illinois on June 1, 05. Leone was born in Salem, Wisconsin on April , 1903.

He came to Celina at the request of the Winner ompany of Berne, Indiana, to manage their Gar- ent Factory in Celina, which he did until 1950, nen he founded the firm of Ralph Fanning & Asso- ates (now Fanning/Howey Associates). Leone orked with him in the business until some time af- r his retirement in 1968.

The firm was carried on by his son, Ronald H. nning (the present President of the firm) and his sociates. Some of the more recent local projects signed by the firm are The Mercer County Li- ary, Richardson Bretz Memorial Building, Cheryl an School (Mercer County School for the Re- rded), Citizens Commercial Branch Bank, Mercer ounty Savings & Loan Association, New Celina nior High School, and the Western Ohio Branch ampus of Wright State University.

Ralph was a Registered Professional Engineer in hio and Indiana. Ronald is a Registered Profes- onal Engineer in Ohio and Indiana, and a Regis- red Architect in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Ken- cky, Missouri, New York and Florida.

The residence at 1005 N. Sugar Street, Celina, has en the Fanning home since their arrival in Sep- mber, 1946. As the children married they, of urse, established homes of their own in various rts of the United States and Canada.

Richard entered Illinois Institute of Technology in icago in the Fall of 1946, after returning from ree years service in the Army.

Elaine had attended the Vogue School of Design Chicago before moving to Celina, and has since quired a bachelor of Arts Degree from Indiana niversity.

Ronald and Patty both attended the Old East Ele- entary School, the Celina High School, and Miami niversity, at Oxford, Ohio. Since moving to Can- la Patty has also attended the Toronto Institute of igher Learning.

The family attended and became members of St. ul's United Methodist Church in Celina. Elaine ter became a member of Immaculate Conception hurch, when she married Charles D. Ellis in 1947.

Ralph's mother, Carolyn Caldwell Fanning, re- ded with the family from 1947 until her death in 64. During this time her poetry was frequently inted in the Daily Standard and her book "Acel- ama" was written and published, copies of which e in the Mercer County Library.

Ralph was active in local Civic affairs as long as is health permitted, serving for many years as a ember of the Mercer County Regional Planning ommission.

He was a Member of the Ohio and National Soci- ies of Professional Engineers, and the Loyal Order Moose.

He passed away on December 10, 1977 after being failing health for several years.

He was survived by his wife Leone, and four chil- ren and their families, as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Fanning, Cleveland, hio, and their three married children, Craig and cott Fanning, Gay Fanning Knapp, and one great- randson Scott Richard Fanning.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. (Elaine) Ellis, Jackson, Michigan, and their two children Josephine Marie and Matthew.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald H. Fanning, Celina, Ohio, and their two children Tony and Traycee.

Dr. and Mrs. O. E. (Patty) Hileman, Jr., Waterdown, Ontario, Canada, and their two sons David and Steven. *Mrs. Ralph Fanning*

HUGO J. FELTZ

Hugo Feltz, the eldest son of Philomena (Cron) and Frank Feltz, married Hilma Joly on Aug. 22, 1933. Hilma's parents were Clara (Beachner) and Joseph Joly. The first five of the couple's seven children were born while they lived on a farm in Cassella. After the family moved to 309 N. Mill Street, Celina, Michael and Mary were born in 1944 and 1948 respectively.

Joseph, the oldest, married Arlene Enos while he was attending Boston College. They also have seven children: Joseph, Kathleen, Kevin, Deborah, Christine, Patricia, and Brian. Joseph, Sr. was named "Father of the Year" in 1977 in Medford, Mass. Both Joe and Arlene participate in church activities in St. Raphael's Parish. Joe has been employed by M. W. Carr Co. for over 20 years and now serves as Company Vice-President and Treasurer. Joe raises and breeds tropical fish as a hobby.

After college the other three boys settled in the western states. Louis lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His wife, Arlene (Bard), formerly of Regina, Saskatchewan is an R.N. the couple has three children, Gregory, Martin, and Trina. Lou, an engineer for Sandia Corp., designs hardware for aerospace, oceanographic, and energy related projects. In 1975, he was issued a patent for his design concept for the vertical axis windmill. As a hobby, Lou designs and makes silver jewelry, selecting, cutting, and polishing the semi-precious stones he incorporates.

Thomas, an alumnus of Notre Dame, is an aerospace engineer for North American Rockwell, Los Angeles, California. He has worked on such projects as the XB 70 and the B1. In 1968 he began a three year teaching stint in Malawi, Central Africa. Tom has served as president of St. Joseph's CCD Executive Board (religious education). Additionally he is a Mass lector and Extraordinary Minister.

Michael lives in Corpus Christi, Texas. He is employed as an actuary for the Sidmurray Insurance Co. and is completing work on his master's degree. While in the U.S. Air Force, he was a Russian translator. Spelunking and photography are two of his many interests. He has invented the Tolal Photo Computer which is patented.

After becoming an R.N., Patricia returned to Celina where she was an office nurse for Doctors Joseph Skaggs and Richard Dobbins. In 1960 she married Richard Bruns, who is president of Northmoor Marina, Inc., and the owner of Northmoor Sports Pro Shop. They have three children: Michael, who plans to join his father in the business; Leslie, who is studying cosmetology; and Tracy, who is 8 years old.

Judith, also an R.N., is married and lives in Seattle, Washington, with her two sons, Jason and Jesse. Her husband Gary DuVall, is a chemist. Judy and Gary share a special interest in photography and classical music. Judy's 18 years in nursing include

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the following specialty areas: Surgery, intensive care, orthopedics, neurology, radiation therapy, research, coronary care, general medicine and oncology.

Both Mary and her husband, Ed Davis, were teachers in Wapakoneta, Ohio, before they moved to Arkansas. After several years, they relocated in Milan, Tenn., where they now live with their children, Jenny and Sara. Ed is manager of a 550 acre fish farm and is owner of Davis Equipment Co. Mary manages Milan Bait and Supply Co. She plays guitar and is vocalist for a local group of musicians. Mary also teaches religious education.

After her children were raised, Hilma worked at the House of Fashion and is currently a sales person at Goldsteins Children's Shop. Her family treasures the many hand made items she has completed. These include embroidered quilts, crewel pictures and wall hangings, crocheted afghans, and especially the "one of a kind" items she has designed for her grandchildren.

Hugo was a self-taught stationary engineer, having operated power plants at the Mersman and New Idea factories. He assisted in the construction of the early Mersman Brothers assembly and transfer conveyor lines. Hugo filled many of his retirement hours with fishing and organic gardening. He died on July 11, 1977. *Hilma Feltz, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Milton Jasper Freeman

MILTON JASPER FREEMAN

Milton was the son of Granville Freeman whose history appears in the "Record of Mercer and Van Wert Counties, Ohio", by A. W. Bowen and Co. of Chicago — 1896.

This history reports Milton was born on a farm in Washington Twp., Mercer County. Relatives remember he was born on leap year, Feb. 29, and his gravestone places the year as 1852. His early years involved several moves: to Highland Co. for two years, near the home of his mother's relatives, then to Fayette County during which time his father, Granville, enlisted into the Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 168th Regiment. In 1865 his father was honorably discharged and the family moved back to Mercer Co.

Milton married Mary Anne Fetters, daughter of Chris Fetters, March 25, 1876. Mary Ann was born April 18, 1858 in Liberty Twp.

Milton and Mary Anne acquired a farm on Carmel Church Rd. in Jefferson Twp., where in addition to farming Milton was a self-taught veterinarian and was highly regarded in the community for his success in curing animals. For a hobby he liked guns and was reported to be quite proficient in their repair.

While living at this farm their 8 children wer born as follows: Anna Mary Lizzie Belle (Nov. 2 1876), William Henry (July 21, 1878), Charles Leva (Nov. 18, 1881), Arthur Dallas (Oct. 5, 1884), Lau Ida Torresia (Oct. 21, 1886), Walter Edward (April 1893), Maud Leona (Aug. 17, 1895), and Milton (July, 1897). The first five children grew to adul hood, married and had children and will be liste later. Walter Edward lived 7 months to Jan. 21, 189 Maud Leona lived 1 year to Sept. 6, 1896. The birt of Milton J. is not recorded in Mercer Count records; however surviving relatives tell of his birt shortly after which his mother, Mary Ann, died o Sept. 13, 1897. Relatives and neighbors cared for th child until a business man, Schneider, from Colun bus, Ohio, asked to adopt him. Although adoptio papers were never completed, Milton J. went to liv with the Schneiders and they renamed him Willia Peter. Several years later, they reported Wm. Pete died during his school years.

The marriages, spouses and offspring of the fir five children are as follows: Anna Mary Lizzie Bell married William Now Oct. 29, 1896, and they had children: Emma wed Ed Strable, Fay wed Alonz Bollenbacher, Dee wed Marie Felver, Jay we Thelma Siler, Thelma wed Homer Arters, Glen wed Marie Burke.

William Henry married Gertrude Meyer on Jar 21, 1900 and they had 5 children: Esther wed Denve Winans, Mae wed Ray Wilson, Russel died at years, Earl wed Esther Linn, Eugene wed Doroth Bergemyer.

Charles Levan married Myrtle Elizabeth Now o Mar. 31, 1903, and they had 7 children. They are a follows: Claudia Layfette died as an infant, Arrett Margaret wed William H. Nash, Clifford Dallas we Patricia Ann Hugelen, Gerald Levan wed Leon Boise, Harold Leon wed Helen Hight, Lola Ruth we Harold Ruell, and an infant died unnamed.

Arthur Dallas married Nellie Smith on Feb. 2 1913, and they had 6 children. They are as follow Glenn (single), Chester wed Bernice Gordon, Mar wed Leonard Rain, Gladys wed Robert Boise, Leste (died single), Alvin wed Doris Dyer.

Laura Ida Torresia married George Gordon o Dec. 20, 1905, and they had one child, Boyd, wh wed Charlotte Fordon.

Four years after Mary Anne died, Milton marrie Emma U. Spahr on April 1, 1902, daughter of San ford Spahr and Eliza Blakely Spahr of Redkey, Ind The wedding was performed by Rev. J. A. Withan of the Pleasantview Church of God.

Sometime later Milton enlarged his farm, buyin the Shaw farm, 40 acres behind and south of hi farm with the house on Mud Pike. After living o Mud Pike for a number of years they sold the farm and bought a home in Celina at 412 W. Fayette St Milton continued his hobby during retirement of re pairing guns, clocks and small electrical equipment They spent their remaining years here, Milton dyin June 14, 1932, and Emma dying June 20, 1939. *Harol Freeman, Celina, Oh. 45822*

FUHRWERK

Victor C. and Margaret Fuhrwerk (pronounced t rhyme with "sure work"), 1018 Willow Street, Ce lina. Moved from Hinsdale, Illinois, to Celina i

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eptember 1955. Victor, graduate of Iowa State University, engineer at AVCO New Idea in Coldwater, escendant of German and Pennsylvania Dutch anstry, born in Dawson, Illinois, Feb. 7, 1919. Margat, graduate of Oregon State University, descendant English, Irish and Scotch ancestry, born in Portnd, Oregon, March 2, 1924. Great-grandparents yrus and Emeline (Holcomb) Himes migrated from roy, Pa., in 1847 to Illinois, and from Stark County, inois, in 1853, by wagon train to Olympia, Washgton.

Victor C. and Margaret (Buswell) Fuhrwerk were arried Dec. 21, 1947, in Portland Oregon. Four ildren:

Carl, born July 4, 1949, Ames, Iowa; graduated elina High School, 1967, now living in Seattle, Vashington, works for Boeing. Married August 12, 978, to DiAnne (Karavias) Allison, has two stepildren, Robert Jerry and Rosanna Allison.

Linda, born April 11, 1951, Ames, Iowa, graduated elina 1969, married Dennis W. Beckstedt, Rockrd (Sept. 3, 1948), June 6, 1970, in Celina, now livg in Lima, Ohio, two children, Jennifer and Carrie.

Karen Fuhrwerk, born Dec. 28, 1954, Berwyn, Illiois, graduated Celina 1973, now in Seattle area, orks for Honeywell.

David Himes Fuhrwerk, born Sept. 9, 1959, Celna, graduated Celina 1977, college student at Wright State Branch. *Margaret Fuhrwerk, Celina, Oh.*

s. Hilda and Orlan . Geroux in 1973

DR. ORLAN W. GEROUX AND THE LATE DR. HILDA G. GEROUX

Dr. Orlan W. Geroux, 3405 Shore St., Highland ark, is one of the few Mercer Countians who remembers the Depression of 1893. He also remembers the Panic of 1907 and the Recession of 1914 hich was stopped by the first World War, not to ention the Great Depression after the financial ash in 1929.

A chiropractor who has practiced in Celina since 924, Dr. Geroux, the son of a Civil War veteran, as born July 24, 1886 in Berrian County, Mich. He as reared on a combined stock and fruit farm and tended the district and Galien High schools. He orked at farming, but because of ill health made orse by overwork, he went to Oklahoma in Februry, 1904, and worked as a surveyor in the klahoma and Texas Panhandles. He assisted in rveying most of Hooker, Okla., and several other owns in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, as well as rospective rail lines.

Back in Michigan in 1905, he worked as an engineer for the Michigan Central and Pierre Marquette Railroads, later taking over the farm and training horses until his father's death in 1910.

He then worked as an auctioneer, continuing to train horses, and remembers well the winter of 1911-12 when the temperature dropped to 40 degress below zero in Michigan. In the summer of 1912, he moved to Nappanee, Ind., where he engaged in the livery business. While in this business, he met Hilda G. Miller, a widow with two sons, whom he married in November of 1915 in South Bend, Ind.

During 1917, he assisted in the installation of the early Westinghouse back-geared turbo generators, and then served until early 1918 as engineer at the Nappanee Municipal Power Plant. He then moved with his family to a farm between Bremen and Bourbon, Ind. He was a charter member of the American Farm Bureau in Marshall Co., Ind.

Through the ill health of both Orlan and Hilda Geroux, they became acquainted with chiropractic, and having benefited greatly from this relatively new science, they decided to become chiropractors themselves. They were graduated from the Bremer Chiropractic College in 1923.

After seeing Grand Lake-St. Marys on the map, the Drs. Geroux visited Celina, and finding the lake beautiful and noting the productive farmland, set up practice in a house at 403 North Main. Later they moved their offices to the building now owned by the First National Bank, and for 18 years, 1927-1945, practiced in the Wyckoff Building. In 1945, they purchased the home at 213 East Market St., remodeled it, and used it both as living quarters and office until 1967 when they retired to the lakefront home they had purchased in 1929.

Upon setting up practice in Celina, the Drs. Geroux found that hundreds of Mercer Countians were eager to avail themselves of chiropractic care and almost all remained loyal over the years.

The Drs. Geroux maintained that chiropractic should be recognized as a separate and distinct science. Because Ohio law defined chiropractic as a limited branch of medicine and surgery, and chiropractors were controlled by the Ohio State Medical Board, neither ever attempted to get what was known as a limited chiropractic certificate. During the 1975 session of the Ohio legislature, the old law was repealed and a new law passed which created a State Board of Chiropractic Examiners in Ohio.

In 1925, the Drs. Geroux, along with three other Mercer County chiropractors, were arrested and confined to the old Mercer County jail for 42 days, charged with practicing medicine without a license. Over 1,200 Mercer Countians came to the jail to protest. A number of other actions and arrests followed, but due to the concerted action of Drs. Geroux and the work of attorneys Judge Frank V. Short and Burl Myers, the law was nullified and the chiropractors were acquitted in most of the following cases.

Again in 1959, Mercer County chiropractors were arrested for practicing medicine without a license, but the cases were all eventually dismissed.

Dr. Orlan Geroux has been active in community affairs through his life in Celina. He served as chairman of the utilities committee for the Celina Chamber of Commerce for several years and has always taken an active interest in the power plant. He advo-

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cated improving the old plant, rather than building the present inoperable plant. He served as Sunday School teacher and instructor of the adult forum at St. Paul's United Methodist Church for many years, and as a Celina City Councilman during 1962 and 1963.

An active foe of fluoridation of water, Dr. Geroux has written an extensive study of fluoridation. His writings also include a comprehensive history of chiropractic and a number of essays and poems.

For 22 years, Dr. Orlan Geroux served on the board of directors of the Ohio State Chiropractic Society, including terms as president and vice president. In 1956 he was named Ohio Chiropractor of the Year. For a number of years he was representative assemblyman from Ohio for the International Chiropractic Association and also served as a board member and president of the National Committee for Chiropractic Education. Dr. Geroux also has been the recipient of a number of awards from state and national associations.

Dr. Charles Y. Amato, Celina, the late Dr. Herald L. Miller, and Dr. Noel T. Miller, Van Wert, were associated with the Drs. Geroux in the Geroux Chiropractic Clinic for several years.

The greatest achievement of the two Drs. Geroux, however, lies in the regained health of literally thousands of area persons through their administering chiropractic care.

The Drs. Geroux enjoyed a tranquil retirement after an earlier life with perhaps more sadness than most: their sons Floyd and Dr. Herald L. Miller had died in 1930 and 1962 respectively. Due to an injury, an 11-year-old grandson died in 1941. However, Dr. Orlan Geroux' life is enriched by his daughter-in-law, Ronda G. Miller, three grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

Dr. Hilda passed away on Oct. 13, 1976. Dr. Orlan Geroux remembers her with these lines:

She walks down the valley of silence;
Down the dim voiceless valley alone,
And she hears not the fall of a footstep,
Around her, save God's and her own,
And the hush of her heart is as holy,
As hovers where angels have flown.

In the hush of the valley of silence,
She dreams all the songs that she sings,
And the music floats down the dim valley,
Till each finds a word for a wing,
That to us, like the dove of the deluge,
The message of peace she may bring.

These words are written in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through whom shone the Shekinah Glory. Amen. *Dr. Orlan Geroux, Celina, Oh. 45822*

DR. JOHN T. GIBBONS

John T. Gibbons was born in Vinton County, Ohio in 1888. He was the son of George Washington Gibbons and Roseann Collins. In 1915 he graduated from the Starling, Ohio Medical College which later became the Ohio State University Medical School. He began practicing medicine in Celina in 1916 and in 1917 entered the United States Army. During his term of service he served overseas in France and Germany and at the end of the war he returned to Celina to re-establish his medical practice. He married Ruth Catherine Crampton, daughter of I Crampton and Lacy Bowie and they had two ch dren, Roseann C. Gibbons and John Crampton Gi bons. Dr. Gibbons had many civic accomplishmer as well as considerable medical service to his cor munity. He was vice president of the Citizens Ban served on the city council for several years, served a Mercer County Coronor for many years. In adc tion he was a 32nd Degree Mason along with being member of many of the local civic and charitable c ganizations of the community, including being tl first commander of the American Legion Post 21 Perhaps his greatest contribution to this area w the establishment of the Gibbons Hospital which h served in the capacity of administrator and chief staff until he was called back into military service WWII. Once again he served overseas in France ar Germany before suffering a heart attack and upc his return home went into voluntary retireme from the practice of medicine. His son John C. Gil bons upon completion of his college education ar service also in WWII assumed the responsibility administrator of Gibbons Hospital, Inc.

John Crampton Gibbons was married to Rita l Mersman, daughter of Albert Mersman and Noi Fortman and they have five children from their ma riage. The oldest Susan R. Buschur of Ft. Wayn John Mersman Gibbons of Santa Barbara, Califo nia, Kim A. Gibbons and his twin sister Beverly A Gibbons and Mary Kathleen Gibbons. John C. Gib bons likewise performed many civic duties servin as president of the Celina Chamber of Commerc along with service in the Celina Sertoma Club fc many years and County chairman of the Nation and Local Polio Foundation. During John C. Gibbor term as administrator of Gibbons Hospital, three ex pansions plus the construction of a modern docto office were completed. Roseann Gibbons throug her marriage had two children, Karen living in Ar zona, and Diane living in Florida.

Guibert Marchael de camp, Gener Jacques Antoine Hippolyte, comte c Guibert, 1743 - 1790, born at the fan ily seat, Fontneuve chateaux, nea Montauban, France. This portra from the well known painting by La con.

THE GUIBERT-GILBERGH-GILBERG FAMILY

General Chas. Benoit, Comte de Guibert (1715 1786), born France, was chief of staff under Marcha de Broglie. Family long established in Southern France at Montauban the home site of Comte d Guibert. His son, General Jaques Antoine Hippolyte Comte de Guibert, born in France 1743, died 179C His estate at this time comprised five chateaus and large vineyards.

His only son, Jaques comte de Guibert, 1759-1836 born in France.

His only son, Jaques, comte de Guibert, 1795

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845, great grandfather of compiler of this family istory.

The Grandfather, Hendrick Joachim Gilbergh, orn in Warren, Germany 1825, later called Henry, ame to New Bremen with my father, Adolph harles Frederick Gilberg who was born in Warren, ermany, and 14 years of age when coming to New remen, Ohio.

Henry's wife was Fredericka S. VonMilbergh.

Adolph's grandfather, Jaques, comte de Guibert aught in the National Academy in Germany and tu-ored Adolph and when he arrived in New Bremen he school authorities found he had received the quivalent of a high school and complete classical ollege course. The name was changed to Gilberg at lew Bremen, Ohio.

During Adolph's life time an attempt to regain the onfiscated estates in France was made by two attor-neys. The French Government became aware of this nd the building housing the records was burned nd evidence was lost.

The Milbergs on the maternal side of the family ad a goodly number of artists and musicians. This amily was originally Swedish.

Adolph Charles Frederic Gilberg born in 1855 in Varen, Germany, died in Celina in 1926. He was wner and publisher of the Mercer County Ob-erver, the only Republican newspaper ever in Mer-er County. It was discontinued in 1926.

He was married to Harriett Hamilton of Union Township. The four children, Bertha Gilberg Sche-ich, deceased; Justus A. Gilberg, Celina, Ohio; Bron-art H. Gilberg, Canton, Ohio; and Frederic E. Gil-berg, Celina, Ohio.

General Chas. Benoit, Comte de Guibert 1715-1786, Born France

General Jaques Antoine Hippolyte, comte de Gui-bert 1743-1790, Born France

aques, Comte de Guibert, 1769-1836, Born France

aques, Comte de Guibert 1796-1845, Born France

Henry Joachim Gilbergh 1825-1911, Born Warren, Germany

Wife Fredericka Milbergh 1825-1900

A.C.F. Gilberg 1855-1926, Born Warren, Germany

Wife Harriett Hamilton 1855-1928

Bertha Gilberg Schelich (Deceased)

ustus A. Gilberg, Celina, Ohio

Bronsart H. Gilberg, Canton, Ohio

Fred E. Gilberg, Celina, Ohio *Fred Gilberg*

.og house at Ed Glass home

GEORGE EDWARD GLASS

G. Edward Glass was born in Mercer County in East Jefferson Township Section 36, on April 16, 1910. This farm was formerly a part of the sizeable John Morgan estate.

Edward's grandparents, August and Elizabeth (Weber) Glass, were married in 1849 in Rotenbach, Germany. They migrated to the United States in 1852, by way of sailing vessel, which spent many months enroute.

They settled first in Cincinnati, later moving to Richmond, IN, and then to Auglaize County. They were the parents of ten children. The youngest son, born in 1869, was George Frederick Glass, father of Edward Glass. The family was Protestant, and attended the German Reform Church. August fought in the Civil War, having been hired to serve in place of someone else.

George Frederick married Mary Fast in 1892, and they, along with an infant daughter, moved to Mercer County in the early nineteen hundreds. George's occupation was farming, and he purchased land in East Jefferson Township. In 1906, his wife passed away, leaving him with two children, Florence and Floyd.

In 1909, Mr. Glass married Demie Gates Stewart, of Darke County, daughter of Harvey B. and Alice (Bertsch) Gates. To this union were born four children: George Edward, Ivan, and twins Elizabeth (stillborn), and Alice. Shortly after the birth of the twins, he was again bereft, when his second wife died, leaving him with these three children and two step-daughters, Imo and Ethel Stewart.

The log house in which Edward was born was replaced in a few years. The house and barn which were erected at this time are still standing.

Edward received his education in the Four Turkey School, located on Four Turkey Road, near what is now State Rte. 703. He walked 1¾ mile to school each day. All of this was mud road except for ½ mile. He attended high school in St. Marys.

From early childhood Edward attended the East Old Town Church of the United Brethren in Christ. He began teaching Sunday School in his teenage years, and has continued teaching for about fifty years to the present time. He was also church song leader for many years, as well as being Sunday School Superintendent for a number of years. The East Old Town Church relocated in St. Marys in 1962, and is known as the Hillsdale Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Edward is now lay leader of this church.

In 1934, Edward married Anna Lucille Rider, daughter of Thomas and Noretta (Sweigart) Rider. Following his father's retirement, they moved onto the farm where he was born, which he purchased in 1938. He later purchased the B. F. Sweigart and the D. D. Wolf farms.

Edward and Anna took an eleven year old boy, Thomas Edward, into their home in August of 1956, with plans to adopt him. However, tragedy soon struck, when Anna died as the result of a fall.

In June, 1958, Edward was married to Myrna Shively Emans, daughter of Lee and Effie (Smith) Shively. They adopted Tom in July 1959. In addition to Myrna's daughter, Nancy Emans, they took a foster daughter, Gerry Kellermeyer, into their home in 1966.

Edward retired from farming in 1968, and moved his family into a new home on Oldtown Road, built on the former B. F. Sweigart farm. He took employment at the Carter Lumber Company, where he is still employed.

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In 1969, Edward acquired a log house, which he dismantled and moved into the woods near his home. This cabin is of unusual construction, and is believed to have been built by Indians about 1840.

Mr. and Mrs. Glass have procured a number of antiques, including many antique farm implements and hand tools. They have enjoyed showing this museum to several thousand people in recent years.

Mr. Glass has a hobby of woodworking. He makes many beautiful and useful items for family and friends in his workshop. *Edward Glass*

Stillberger homestead

GRANDLIENARD

Kenneth Grandlienard, born in 1925 in Wells County, Indiana, married Mary Jean Stillberger of Jefferson Township in 1948 and began residence on St. Rt. 118, south of St. Rt. 29, near Beaver Creek, on the John Stillberger homestead.

Kenneth and Mary Jean moved into the 3rd house on the farm, address 6498 St. Rt. 118, Celina, Ohio. The first house was built 60 rods east from the road. A second house, situated just north of the present home was destroyed by fire in 1934. The present home was built by Lawrence Maury, a Celina contractor and was remodeled twice in the next 25 years. Three large barns have been erected; the first burned by supposedly convicted chicken thieves and the second burned after being struck by lightning.

Kenneth and Mary Jean had five children. Lorraine, born Jan. 8, 1951, a graduate of Asbury College, Wilmore, Ky., is marred to Max Amstutz of Berne, Indiana, the pastor of Faith Missionary Church in Peoria, Illinois. They have two daughters, Sheri and Amy. Diann, born March 1, 1952, a graduate of Ft. Wayne Bible College, is a secretary in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Dan, born March 17, 1953, a graduate of Purdue University, is married to Jody Harrison of Chicago, Illinois, a piano instructor in colleges in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and in their home. Dan, after college graduation, entered into a partnership with his father in the dairy farm operation. Paul, born February 29, 1960, will enter Purdue University to study agriculture. Carol, born Jan. 4, 1966, will be a Jr. High student at Celina, Ohio.

The farm operation has included chickens, cows, and hogs plus field crops. In 1970 the poultry operation was disbanded to allow for expansion in the dairy operation. The Jersey herd was designated registered in 1978 and consists of 72 milk cows, 45 heifers and calves. Also raised is 25 beef cattle and 110 hogs. For variety and enjoyment, peacocks have been raised on the farm. *Mary Jean Grandlienard*

THE GRANGER FAMILY

William Granger was born in England, Februar 12, 1809, where he married Ann Hardcastle (May 4 1803) in 1831. Shortly after a son, Thomas, was bor on October 25, 1832, they came to America.

They settled in Coshocton County, Ohio wher James, John and Rachel Jane were born. Then the moved to Mercer County where George Washingto and Mary Ann were added to the family.

The branch of the family with which this sum mary is concerned is descended from this Georg Washington Granger, born March 16, 1844 in Mer cer County. He married Jane Clester (January 1 1852) on February 5, 1874 at Macedon, Ohio. T them were born Maud, April 30, 1883, and Willia Claude, November 20, 1889.

Maud married Arthur McAfee November 28 1903. No children were born to them.

William Claude married Orel Lurillda Burch (Jul 26, 1891) on December 1, 1909. To them were born Kenneth Leroy, December 4, 1910; Charmie Maud October 8, 1912; Virginia Lee, March 17, 1917.

Kenneth Leroy married Mildred Cordier June 23 1934. They have three children: Linda Lee, born September 25, 1939; John Kenneth, born August 9 1948; Gail Lynn, born December 20, 1951.

Linda married Ronald Smith June 12, 1965. They live at South Bend, Indiana.

John married Beverly Gilleff on August 22, 1970. They have one son, Jason, born January 8, 1977.

Gail married Trevor Wilson December 18, 1971. They have two children: Elizabeth, born February 8, 1976; Matthew, born August 30, 1978. They live at Streetsboro, Ohio.

Charmie Maud married Templyn Maffett August 28, 1934. They live in Middletown, Ohio but own 60 acres in Jefferson Township of Mercer County. They have two children: Mack David, born July 20, 1936 and Rosalie Ruth, born October 12, 1940.

Mack married Sue Rusk August 8, 1959. They have two children: Scott, born August 21, 1960; Kristi, born December 8, 1964. They live in Ames, Iowa.

Rosalie married Carl Bogue August 12, 1962. They have four children: Katherine, born October 11, 1967; Andrew, born August 14, 1969; Elizabeth, born June 14, 1976; Sarah, born July 21, 1978. They reside at Akron, Ohio.

Virginia Lee married John Cordier May 28, 1939. They have three children: Julie Ann, born, March 7, 1942; William Joseph, born May 29, 1945; Jennifer Jane, born November 13, 1953.

Julie married Norm Ross April 9, 1971. They live in Fairfield, Ohio.

William married Marty Jo Snyder (Martha Joanne) August 17, 1968.

Jennifer Jane married Brian Reifsnider June 3, 1978. They reside in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

In this year of 1978 the following direct descendents of the George Washington Granger family are still living in Mercer County: Kenneth Granger of 531 East Anthony Street, Celina; Virginia Granger Cordier at 6058 State Route 118 in Jefferson Township; William Cordier of 722 Holly Street, Celina; John Granger of 1139 Princeton Avenue, Celina; and Jason Granger of 1139 Princeton Avenue, Celina.
Mrs. John Cordier, Celina, Oh. 45822

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GRUEBMEYER

Larry and Janice A. (Knapke) Gruebmeyer of 213 Wayne, became Celina residents in 1975 — both e descendants of the German forefathers that es-olished western Ohio's farming heritage. We both ere born at Gibbons Hospital in 1940's.

Jan's great great grandfather (Bernard Henry napke) arrived in Baltimore on October 10, 1842 th St. John, Ohio as final destination (where three napke cousins had already settled in 1830's). The mily name has been further traced back another 5 nerations to Herman Knapke, 1647-1709 — who sided Neuenkirchen, Germany (near the south-stern boundary of the Grand Duchy of Olden-rg). Bernard Henry Knapke acquired 40 acres in ction 23 Marion Township in 1844 and acquired a d 40 acres in 1849, he married Catherine Kramer nuary 18, 1849 at St. John, Ohio and they became e parents of two sons and a daughter. On Novem-r 22, 1877 the oldest son (Henry) married Theresia itz. They had 8 children and the second oldest rank Joseph) married Philomena Pohlman — they itially were farmers near St. Henry and then pur-ased a farm on Wabash Rd. near Ft. Recovery. n's father (Adolph) is a forty year employee at vco New Idea and is the third oldest of six sons id one daughter raised by Joseph and Philomena. ne 15, 1938 — Adolph married Francis Jutte (the tte's being land neighbors on corner of Wabash d. and Rte. 219). They now reside at 809 Parkview rive South in Coldwater. Jan has 5 brothers and 3 sters. Jan and her first husband (Gerald Gobrecht) oth worked for TWA and L-K Restaurants in Day-n and Hebron, Ohio prior to his death in 1974. In ne 1978, Jan resigned from office manager for Drs. nuer, Webb, Fowler, McFarland to become the Res-urant Manager at Lake Front Raquet Club — Ce-na, Ohio.

Larry is the oldest of three sons and one daughter - the children of Wilbert and Gladys (Brockman) ruebmeyer — raised on general livestock farm on ock Two Road, German Township (Auglaize ounty), northwest of New Bremen. This 80 acre rm was acquired in 1890's by Conrad Gruebmeyer great grandfather) who accomplished the purchase om secondary income they were receiving from 3 il wells on his original farm (that farm passed to ne youngest son — Henry; and it sold from Henry's state on 9-16-78 for $2640. per acre to Way Interna-onal — the land being on Botkins Road, southeast f New Knoxville). Conrad left Bremen, Germany n April 27, 1867 for New York. He was born in Bruchhagen in 1843 and had a younger brother, Carl, who also came to New Knoxville, Ohio but never married. Their German father was William Gruebmeyer (spelled Grthupmeyer) and he married — ?— Koeper (descendants of her Koeper family are now neighboring farmers in German Township plus Koeper in-laws are also found in the Brockman family — this being Larry's maternal grandparents (Benjamin and Evelyn Rump Brockman) who owned and farmed 240 acres in Marion Township (Mercer County).

Initially Conrad worked as general laborer in Miami County for 7-10 years and recorded his citizenship in Troy, Ohio on October 4, 1872. In 1880 he married Anna Catherine Sunderman and they became the parents of 12 children. Fred Gruebmeyer (grandfather) was the oldest son and married Flora Wehrman, they then acquired Conrad's New Bremen farm and made it their only home — reaching 50th wedding anniversary together on the farm in 1958. (After Conrad's death in 1916 — Anna first lived in New Bremen and then returned to the farm until her death in 1951 at age 91.) Thus the farm became a family gathering place for their respective brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, and grandchildren. Wilbert (father) had purchased a neighboring farm and merged it with the home farm following Fred's death. The large barn, numerous farm buildings, the brick/stucco house, and productive fields form a picturesque view and appropriately depict the family heritage.

Larry was active in 4-H and F.F.A. programs including 1964 Ohio FFA State Farmer Degree and was then President of Auglaize County Junior Fair Board — (the County fair participation included one showmanship award and one Grand Champion). A graduate of New Bremen High School and then graduated from Miami University in 1968 with B.S. Degree in Accounting. Purchased first home in Troy, Ohio while working for Hobart Corp. and then employed three years as financial accounting and internal audit for Danis Industries in Dayton, Ohio. Since April 1974 has been employed as Manager of Finance and Accounting for Empire Family Restaurants — responsibilities include organizing the financial and administrative aspects of Empire's restaurant expansion. Became a licensed Realtor in 1970 and joined Paul Clark Realty — Better Homes and Gardens when their Celina office opened in 1976.

We have three daughters: Robin M. Gruebmeyer born in St. Marys on January 4, 1967, Geri Ann Gobrecht born in Dayton on July 2, 1967, and Ronda L. Gruebmeyer born in Troy on July 8, 1969. *Larry Gruebmeyer, Celina, Oh. 45822*

GRUNDEN

Gail J. Grunden, the son of Roy and Stella Monroe Grunden, was born March 30, 1938, in a farm house on It's It's Road west of Montezuma, Ohio. The family lived there until Gail was 15 years old then they moved to Montezuma, Ohio where his mother still lives. His father died October 9, 1970. Gail attended Franklin school in Montezuma for 8 years then went to Celina High School where he graduated in 1956.

Doris Jean Grunden, the daughter of Arlie and

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Laveda Now Baucher was born June 17, 1932, at their home 3 miles west of Celina on Mud Pike. She attended Lincoln School at the corner of Mud Pike and State Route 118 for 6 years then the school was closed. She finished her schooling at Celina Junior High and Celina High School where she graduated in 1950.

Gail and Doris were married November 19, 1960. After their marriage they lived at Park Grand, East of Montezuma for 5 years, then they bought a 30 acre farm on St. Henry-Burkettsville Road and lived there for 5 years. In 1970 they bought the house in Celina at 813 Elm Street, where they now reside.

Gail was a plasterer for a number of years, a volunteer fireman at Montezuma and Celina and is now employed as a firefighter for the City of Celina. After Doris' graduation in 1950 she worked three months for the A.S.C. Office in Celina then started working for Celina Municipal Utilities where she is still employed.

They have two children, Matthew Jay and Melissa Kay, both students in Celina High School. Matthew plays football and has a part-time job at Poppa Arties. Melissa is in the band and a majorette. Matthew was born September 16, 1961 and Melissa was born December 31, 1962. The family attends Montezuma United Methodist Church and is active in Grange. *Gail Grunden*

Mike, Karen and Amanda Hall reside on farm built by Karen's Great-Grandfather, Charles Beougher

MICHAEL DAVID HALL AND FAMILY

Michael David and Karen Kay (Anderson) Hall moved from Lima to make their home in Mercer County in January of 1973. They reside at 3057 Kuhn Road, Jefferson Township, Section 7.

Karen's maternal great-grandparents, Charles and Brittie (Gray) Beougher, purchased and built the existing house and outbuildings in approximately 1914. The accompanying photograph shows the barn and granary in the background. The interior hand-hewn timbers remain in excellent condition. Older neighbors have mentioned the property as being one of the more attractive homes in the area at that time. The house was among the first to have indoor bathroom facilities.

Charles' father, Harvey, was the first in the family to make his home in Mercer Co. He purchased 80 acres of uncleared land in Jefferson Twp., Section 11, and moved his family here from Hocking County. Further information on Harvey Beougher is contained in the 1907 Mercer County History and Biography book. After Harvey's death, the farm was sold to Joseph McGee for $150 an acre. The proceeds from the sale were split among Harvey's children. With his share, Charles then purchased 40 acres in Jefferson Twp. Sect. 7. Adding further purchases, it now makes up the farm that Michael and Karen live on. The land is presently owned by Charles' daughter, L. Berneice Sibert.

Michael was born in Lima, November 23, 19[illegible] the son of David and Betty Jeane (Elston) Hall. Th[illegible] still reside in Lima in Bath Twp. Michael has two si[illegible] ters. Lynda D. married Richard Hensley and lives Lima. Susan J. married Dane Bowers and they live Wauseon with their daughter Courtney.

Michael's maternal great-grandmother, Ida Bel[illegible] is believed to be among the first in his family to li[illegible] in Mercer Co. She was born in Mendon Twp., Ja[illegible] 11, 1878, to Christopher and Jemima (Sutto[illegible] Emans. Her parents' birthplaces are not known. I[illegible] Belle married John Gregg Taylor and they later liv[illegible] in Lima until their deaths.

Michael attended schools in Lima and graduat[illegible] from Bath High School. He also attended Pen[illegible] Technical College.

Karen was born in Mercer Co. in Washingt[illegible] Twp. on July 8, 1952. Her parents, Richard Lee ar[illegible] Evelyn Ann (Sibert) Anderson, were both born[illegible] Mercer Co. Her father died August 14, 1977, in Po[illegible] Richey, Florida. Evelyn, an accomplished artist, h[illegible] won several awards in area art shows. Her secor[illegible] husband, H. Eldon Akerman, is the pastor of Fir[illegible] English Lutheran Church in Wapakoneta, Ohi[illegible] Karen's brother, Robert M. McShane, is currently[illegible] student at Ohio State University in Columbu[illegible] Ohio. He legally changed his name from Robert[illegible] Anderson in 1975.

Karen attended schools in Fremont, Maumee, an[illegible] graduated from Shawnee High School in Lima. Sh[illegible] also attended Bowling Green State University. M[illegible] chael and Karen were married September 2, 1972, i[illegible] Lima at Shawnee United Methodist Church.

Attracted to a life on the farm, they made the[illegible] move to Mercer Co. shortly afterward. Michael ha[illegible] previously farmed part-time in Lima with his mate[illegible] nal grandfather, Fay P. Elston.

Beginning the slow process of building a line [illegible] farm equipment of their own, Michael and Kare[illegible] rented increased acres of land each year from Ka[illegible] en's grandparents, Clarence A. and L. Berneice S[illegible] bert. Clarence died March 28, 1975.

In addition to farming, Michael spent four yea[illegible] selling and erecting grain bins. In 1974, his sales fo[illegible] Superior Equipment Mfg. placed fourth in the stat[illegible] of Ohio.

In the spring of 1977, Michael began farming full[illegible] time and took on a dealership in Super Crost see[illegible] corn. He will farm 240 acres of rented ground fro[illegible] Berneice.

Michael enjoys playing lead guitar and singin[illegible] with a local country band, "The Originals." The[illegible] are a popular choice for wedding receptions an[illegible] club dances. He has been playing guitar seriousl[illegible] since 1963.

On December 13, 1977, Michael and Karen be[illegible] came the proud parents of a daughter, Amand[illegible] Karen. She becomes the sixth generation on he[illegible] mother's side to live in Mercer Co. An interestin[illegible] fact is that Amanda, her mother Karen, and grand[illegible] mother Evelyn, were all born on adjoining farms.

Karen worked four years as a senior draftsman fo[illegible] Avco New Idea in Coldwater until Amanda wa[illegible] born.

In June 1978, Michael and Karen purchased [illegible] 33.56 acre farm on Swamp Road, Jefferson Twp. Section 6. Their future goals include additional lan[illegible] purchases, and a livestock set-up. *Michael Hall*

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CELINA RURAL CARRIER RETIRED

On Sat., March 30th, 1935 I was retired as rural tter carrier on Route No. 2, after serving thirty-one ears and seven months. Many changes have taken ace during those years.

I wonder if the patrons on rural routes know who eserves the credit for the establishment of the first ur routes out of Celina. The late Marion Dick, a rmer living nine miles northeast of Celina, read a ewspaper clipping stating a rural route had been tablished from their town. This was in the fall of 902. Mr. Dick came to Celina and showed the clip- ing to Chas. A. McKim, postmaster at that time. Ir. McKim wrote to the postoffice department ask- ig how to secure rural routes. Soon instructions ere received, stating a route should be laid out, 25 iles long and with at least 100 families living on it. hey were to also circulate a petition and have the rmers sign it, asking for a rural route.

The local newspapers were told how the farmers ould get their mail and soon four routes were laid ut.

Mr. Dick came to our home and said he wanted ie for their mail carrier, and suggested I see Mr. IcKim. I did and he said as soon as he learned how carrier was secured he would notify me. In Jan. of 903, I received a notice that a civil service examina- on would be held in Celina on February 15th. Vhen I got to the postoffice that A.M. it was 11 de- rees below zero.

In July, same year, Arch Wagner, Wesley Steele, Lobert Bowland and myself were notified we had een appointed carriers on routes No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, nd were to report for duty Sept. 1st. Mr. Bowland vas 55 years old at that time. We all ordered mail vagons from Butler, Ind.

I was the first to report that September morning. The postoffice was in the Lininger building at that ime. Those red, white and blue mail wagons caused nore excitement than a fleet of airplances would ow. The sidewalks were crowded with people look- ng them over. Among the crowd was a Mr. Gordon, hen manager of the gas office, who said "Whoever uilt these wagons must have taken a pattern from 'ete Heyne's milk wagon."

We reported at the office at 7:30 A.M. and left at 8 A.M. Mr. McKim had gotten four wooden boxes bout four feet square and with a lead pencil narked the No's 1, 2, 3, and 4. This served as our ases until our desks came later. The mail for each oute was thrown into those boxes. At 8 o'clock we tarted on ouv routes. I had 12 letters, 3 cards, 2 omfort magazines and 1 Cincinnati Post for the late oe Nuding. I reported at the office at 2:30 P.M. I had ollected 4 letters, 1 post card and sold 14 cents vorth of stamps.

My largest delivery of mail was in 1929, when I lelivered on one trip, 1468 pieces of mail.

I still have two straps from my first set of harness hat was used all of the time I drove horses. I served during Route three for seventeen years. I owned 16 different horses during this time and I drove them 140,000 miles. In June 1920, I was transferred from Rt. 3 to Rt. 2 with a longer route. Seven years later he route was extended to 33 miles and in November 1928 the route was again extended, making 46 miles.

In 1930 I started using a car, driving a Chevrolet. I had four different ones, two worn out when I got them. These cars have traveled a distance of 216,936 miles. With horses and cars I have traveled a distance of 356,936 miles. The Chevrolet coach that retired with me had been driven a distance of 126,924 miles, the only car leaving the Celina postoffice with such a record and is still going strong. A Pontiac has the next best record, it was laid to rest at 113,000 miles.

The most discouraging trip I ever made was in March, 1904. I drove two horses, one gave out on the mud road east of the Mt. Tabor Church. I unhitched the horse and tied her to the back of the mail wagon and came in with one horse hitched to the tongue. When I got in town the postoffice was closed. Those were the good old days when the farmers had the money and the mail carrier had a job.

There was something funny always happening. One thing I remember especially well. Mr. McKim called Mr. Bowland and told him a letter had been mailed at the office for a lady on his route and hadn't been received for three days, he asked why the delay. Mr. Bowland picked up the letter and pointing to it said: "Now see here McKim, see what it says?" After ten days return to the sender. I have ten days to deliver that letter.

There are only eight couples living on Rt. 3 who were living there when the route was established. They are Mr. and Mrs. Sam Younger, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wurster Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bogart, Mr. and Mrs. Issac Snavely, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Meiers and Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Willcutt.

There were 16 Civil War veterans. They have all passed on. In all there were 87 deaths during the 17 years I traveled the rt. In this time nine houses burned, five were moved away, 11 razed by fire and two deserted.

As times have changed so have the lengths of routes and the salaries have changed. When first we started carrying our salary was $600 each per year, regardless of length of route. Now the salary is paid according to the lengh of the routes with an additional equipment allowance.

The carriers earn every cent they get. If you doubt this just try making the trip, stop at every farm house, shift gears three times at each stop and then you will realize what the job is.

The patrons on Rt. 3 always treated me fine and I will never forget the many good things to eat they gave me, especially at Christmas time. I also want to thank my friends on Rt. 2 who have remembered me often.

The carriers who were lucky in getting my route in this consolidation, will find the people to be the finest in northwestern Ohio. I shall miss them and their friendly greetings. I wish them all good health, happiness and prosperity. *Lee Ivan Hamilton Mrs. Joseph C. Fischer, Celina, Oh. 45822*

THE HAMILTON FAMILY

Among the first pioneer families of Union Township, Mercer County, were Justin Hamilton, 1796-1863, and his wife, Eliza Jane Rhodes Hamilton, 1798-1887, who was originally from Conn. Justin Hamilton, originally from Mass., was the State engi-

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neer who made the original survey of Lake St. Marys before its construction began. He was four times a State Representative, and also served as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

The Hamiltons' frame house was on a hillock on the former Hamilton Road, and drew pioneers' attention to its New England type construction done in black walnut. Justin Hamilton had over 300 fine books that he loaned to pioneers. His law office was virtually the first free lending library in Mercer County.

Eliza Jane Rhodes Hamilton was a woman of culture who delighted in serving refreshments on Limoges china to travellers and guests. A gracious helper, nurse, and friend to all, including many Indians, she was also an expert rifle shot who landed squirrels and turkeys with one shot each.

Justus Hamilton, 1823-1901, was one of the eight children of the Justin Hamiltons, and married Mary Jane Panabaker, daughter of the Mercer County minister, Adam Panabaker and Margaret Severns Panabaker, both from Virginia. Mary Jane Panabaker Hamilton was truly a great beauty whose extraordinary culture was beyond the expectation of many who received her benefactions.

In Virginia, Adam Panabaker secretly educated his slaves to manage a farm alone; then further broke man-made law by freeing them about 1840. He gave each man 40 acres of land in New York State. Rev. Panabaker's father was a descendent of James du Verdier, a Huguenot who had been a Court Page at Versailles during the reign of Louis XV, and who later lived in South Carolina and Virginia.

The eight children of the Justus Hamiltons included Harriet Hamilton Gilberg, of Celina, and Moses Silas Hamilton, a Mercer County farmer, whose son Lee Ivan Hamilton married Ada Hall, of Mercer County, whose father's lineage was in the same New York Hall family as that of the mother of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Justin Hamilton's lineage began in America with Hugh Hamilton, 1673-1763, who came from Ulster, Ireland to Massachusetts. His family had gone from the lowlands of Scotland to Ulster. His children included John Hamilton, 1716-1779, who was a Captain during the American Revolution. John Hamilton married Sarah Blair, 1722-1779, and among their children was David Hamilton, 1742-1817, who married Mary Knox, 1752-1778. Lieut. David Hamilton was one of the famed American Revolution Minute Men at Lexington, Massachusetts. Mary Knox was the daughter of John Knox, 1720-1800, who was also a Minute Man at Lexington.

The thirteen children of the David Hamiltons included Hugh Hamilton, 1770-1851, of Blanford, Massachusetts, who married Isabella Knox, 1772-1856. The seven children of these Hugh Hamiltons included Justin Hamilton, 1796-1863, who married Eliza Jane Rhodes Hamilton.

The descendents of the foregoing Hamiltons are very numerous, and many of them have contributed to the public welfare of their country. *Justus A. Gilberg*

JAMES K. HART

James K. Hart lives in Celina, Ohio. In 1946 James K. married Mary B. Kohnen, the daughter of Hen H. and Rosemary (Pulskamp) Kohnen. Mr. Ko nen's parents were Herman Kohnen and Catheri (Weber) Kohnen. Mrs. Kohnen's parents were Henry and Magdalena (Schunck) Pulskamp. Jam K. Hart has been an employee of Goodyear Tire ar Rubber Co. for 35 years. Mary B. Hart is a boo keeper at Goldstein's Dept. Store in Celina. Th family has six children; James R. who is married Rebecca Birt. They have one daughter, Dominica J zelle. James R. is a ten year employee of Goodye Tire and Rubber Co. Mary Catherine Huber (Har is married to LeRoy Huber, they have one so LeRoy Gregor Huber Jr., they live in Celina and bo work at Mersman's. Daniel Hart married to Diar Winner who is assistant manager at TSC store an lives near North Star in Darke County. Nancy (Har Van Dine who is married to Larry Van Dine. The live in Celina and Larry works at Mersman's. Rich ard Hart who is in the Air Force, soon to be st tioned near Brussels, Belgium. He is married t Jitske Eizema, a native of Holland. Kevin Hart wh lives at home and is a student at West Ohio Branc Campus and works at Goldstein's. *Henry Clay Hart Blackcreek Twp. James K. Hart*

WILFRED HARTINGS FAMILY

Wilfred Hartings and Idaleen Sutter were marrie on Sept. 11, 1948 in Holy Trinity Catholic Church i Coldwater, Ohio by Father Louis Yauss. Wilfred wa born on March 9, 1926, the sixth child of John Hart ings (Apr. 1, 1888-July 26, 1961) and Bernadine Leu gers (May 7, 1895-Nov. 24, 1967). He had 11 broth ers and sisters. Alfred (Aug. 9, 1915-Feb. 16, 1974) Eleanora (Aug. 23, 1917), Luella (May 13, 1919) Richard (May 31, 1921-Aug. 13, 1923), Alfried (Sept. 16, 1923), Norma (May 7, 1928), Ivo (Nov. 13 1930-Mar. 19, 1931), Vernon (Feb. 28, 1932), Le (Mar. 9, 1934), Alice (Dec. 2, 1935), and Doris (Oct 1, 1938). Wilfred was born and reared in St. Rose Ohio and lived with his parents until his marriage After the death of his mother in 1967, his brothe Vernon purchased the family property that had been in his grandparents possession since the 1840's Vernon's daughter, Deborah, is living in the home a this time, (1978). Deborah is married to Robert Brown and they have two daughters, Kimberly and Kelly.

Idaleen Sutter was born on Feb. 28, 1924, the fifth child of Joseph Sutter (Feb. 24, 1881-Mar. 28, 1968) and Elenora Schoch (Apr. 26, 1891-Jan. 18, 1959). She had six brothers and sisters. Mildred (May 1, 1914-Apr. 9, 1969), Ralph (Nov. 11, 1917), Clara (Mar. 21, 1920), Zeno (May 29, 1922), Mary Etta (Sept. 12, 1925) and Joseph Jr. (Sept. 8, 1927-July 29, 1977). She resided with her parents at 601 West Main St., Coldwater, Ohio, until her marriage. After the death of her father in 1968, the daughter Mildred, who had never married and was librarian at the Coldwater Public Library for many years, moved into a mobile home. The family home was sold to Marvin Moeller, who remodeled it and sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cosgrove. Mrs. Cosgrove is the former Dolores Sutter, daughter of Albert Sutter who was a nephew of Joseph Sutter.

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Wilfred and Idaleen were the proud parents of ır children. All of their children were born in ercer County. James Wilfred (Aug. 14, 1949), Rob- : Lee (Nov. 5, 1951), Joseph John (Aug. 25, 1955) med for both his grandfathers, and Carolyn Ann n. 1, 1961). Carolyn Ann was the first baby of the ew Year born in Mercer County in 1961. James arried Sherry Sourbeer of Eaton, Ohio on June 23, 73 and they have a son Nicholas James (Aug. 15, 78). They reside in Vandalia, Ohio. Robert mar- d Lois Hoying of Carthagena, Ohio on Aug. 20, 76, and they have a son Matthew Robert (June 1, 78). They reside in Tipp City, Ohio. *Wilfred Hartings*

HELLWARTH

On August 23, 1876, Hettie Elizabeth Clay was rn to Kathryn Krugh Clay at the home of a rela- e. Hettie's father, William Clay, had died a few onths earlier, so Kathryn with baby Hettie lived ith Kathryn Clay's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. rugh, in Celina for three years. Then Kathryn Clay arried Christopher Now, a farmer in Mercer ounty, and took over the care of the children of lr. Now. The family of Christopher Now and Ka- ryn Now included Hettie, Martha, Alice, William, seph, John, and Mary De Hays. Mary, Joseph, and hn had their own homes, but John's wife died aving him with little Bessie who was taken into hristian and Kathryn's home. Then in a few years, athryn had a baby daughter, Emma.

Hettie Clay was so happy to have a sister. The mily attended the Pleasant View Church of God. hat is where Hettie and others of the family ac- pted Christ as their Savior as young people.

Hettie's mother, Mrs. Now, had a sister and hus- and, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Duff, who took interest in ettie and invited her to visit them; and one year ettie lived with the Duff family and attended hool. Mrs. Kathryn Now was a seamstress and ade the clothes for the children and herself. She as also a good nurse and helped care for sick peo- le in the neighborhood.

As a teenager, Hettie accepted employment at omes where the wife was engaged in other work. he had to do laundry without a washing machine, eep the house clean without an electric sweeper. ometimes she had an infant in the home to care for esides all the cooking.

When Hettie was seventeen, her mother took ick. For a time, Hettie gave up her work and went ome to help care for her mother. Then when she as eighteen, her mother passed away. Hettie had ork in a good home in Celina. It was some time af- er her mother's death that she began keeping com- any with Edward Hellwarth who lived on a farm in Hopewell Township with his parents, Joseph and liza Hellwarth. In a few years, when they were wenty-two years old, Hettie Clay married Edward Hellwarth. They visited friends of the Hellwarth amily in Columbus, Ohio, for their wedding trip, hen made their home with Edward's parents on the arm in Hopewell Township.

Edward and his father, Joseph, were active in the Hope Evangelical Church, so Hettie attended church egularly with them. As the years came, the Hell- arth family entertained the minister's family often, as well as many other friends.

After several years, Edward and Hettie Hellwarth became the parents of baby Edith Opel. The grandparents were especially glad to have a grandchild. As soon as little Edith could talk, Hettie taught her to pray at the table and soon she learned the Lord's Prayer.

Mother Hettie would teach little Edith poetry and also songs; then when Daddy Edward, Grandpa Joseph, and the hired man came in for dinner, she would stand up and recite the poetry or sing the song for them.

Grandpa Joseph took little Edith with him outdoors to see how the crops were growing. He had a special little cart for little Edith to ride in over the farm. At an early age Grandpa Joe began teaching little Edith arithmetic. He was such a good teacher that after he passed away and the family moved to a new house they had built at 815 North Main Street in Celina, Ohio, and Edith started to school, she was ahead of the third graders in arithmetic so she was put in the third grade at Celina Schools. Edith had to go back to second grade each day to read Hiawatha.

After living in Celina a few years, Edward Hellwarth went into the shoe store business on Fayette Street. In a few years we enjoyed National Prohibition so all the saloons in Celina had to go out of business. At that time the Hellwarth family bought a building on the corner of Main and Fayette Street which had been known as the Corner Saloon. Edward with assistance cleaned, painted the walls, and put in a new floor; then moved his shoe store to the Main Street building. There Edward enjoyed a good business. Mrs. Rose Taylor was his clerk. His wife Hettie assisted waiting on customers on Saturdays.

Being very much interested in Sunday School, Edward Hellwarth was the S.S. Superintendent of the Bethany Evangelical Church and held that office for a number of years. During that time, a County Sunday School organization was active in the county and Edward was the president of that organization for a while. Many of the county ministers would stop in the store when they came to Celina to talk about County Sunday School promotion. One summer Edward promoted a Mercer County Sunday School picnic in Celina at the Fair Grounds which was well attended.

As a grade school child, Edith studied piano with a Catholic sister in Celina. Then in high school Edith studied piano with Miss May Helmstetter who came from St. Marys once a week to teach piano. Edith's parents both kept her at piano practice and also solo singing. She took music in high school. Edith sang a solo at her high school graduation exercise in 1921. Then in the fall Edith went to Defiance College to study public school music, voice, and piano. During that year the Music Department presented an operetta in which Edith had a solo part.

Upon the advice of Edith's private piano teacher, the next year Edith took the Public School Music Teachers' course at Cincinnati College of Music. It was most difficult for the family to leave Edith at a large city to attend college. She was greatly encouraged by Daddy Edward. He wrote a note on a card and sent it to Edith daily. It was Edith's first experience in a large city. She found a good church a few blocks from the College of Music dorm. She was soon a member of a large Sunday School class of

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young women with a good teacher. The minister brought good messages in the evening as well as Sunday a.m. Edith was very lucky to be placed in a room in the college dorm with a very nice girl of the same church denomination, Mabel Wagner of Bucyrus, Ohio.

Edith's public school music teacher was so exacting that Edith did not particularly enjoy her practice teaching, especially if the teacher was listening in; but with hard work and great determination Edith received her credentials to teach music in a public school.

Since the position of Public School Music was filled in Celina, Edith accepted a job of third grade elementary school teacher and taught music to two other classes besides her own at Lima, Ohio.

In 1925 Edith took the position as public school music teacher for the grades and high school in Celina, Ohio. Her family was delighted to have her at home and participating in the music at the Bethany Evangelical Church located on North Walnut Street at that time.

On August 27, 1931, Edward Hellwarth took a high fever which his already weak heart could not take, and because of the lack of present day medication passed away. In the funeral procession from home on North Main Street to Bethany Church on Walnut Street, Edward's Sunday School class marched back of the funeral hearse. He had been their teacher.

To encourage Mrs. Hettie Hellwarth and Mrs. Eliza Hellwarth, Miss Dorothy Smith came to live with them. She was a big help when Edith was absent part time leading the music for special revival services when she was called.

Before going out in revival meetings Edith had much business to care for. The contents of the shoe store were sold and the business taken over by a shoe salesman who already had his store in Celina. Then in time a grocery store had a business there, and finally Goldsteins opened the Kiddy Shop in the building, which is still in operation. *Edith Eichenauer, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Dr. Lester and Edith Eichenauer. Dr. Eichenauer passed away November 1975, just before Thanksgiving

EICHENAUER

Dr. Lester Eichenauer was the son of Justus and Lily Bell Eichenauer. In 1933 Dr. Lester Eichenauer graduated from Ohio State Dental School, Columbus, Ohio, then opened his own dental office in the second floor rooms of the Hellwarth building on the corner of Main and Fayette Streets. He enjoyed his work and relieved many people from painful teeth.

After Dr. Lester Eichenauer practiced for a year, he married Edith Hellwarth at Bethany Church in Celina, Ohio. They went to housekeeping at 815 North Main Street, Celina, where the Hellwarth home was remodeled and an addition built to the north making a double house. By this plan Edith could take some responsibility with the care and encouragement of her Grandmother Hellwarth.

In three years Dr. Lester and Edith Eichenau were greatly blessed by the birth of Joy Jewel. Mi Bernice Monroe was Edith's first helper when J come into the family. She had had experience taking care of little children. When Joy was abo nine weeks old, Grandmother Eliza Hellwar passed away. Then Mother Hettie Hallwarth had a other adjustment to make — that of living alone her side of the house. She did keep busy entertai ing friends and sewing for her granddaughter, Joy.

Dr. Lester hired Miss Esther Gardner to assist the dental office in the morning, and helping h wife Edith in the afternoons and evenings. This ga Edith a chance to attend evening church meetin and choir rehearsals as well as going with him whe he attended the National Dental Meetings.

Kenneth Lehman worked in the office after scho and on Saturdays. Then after Kenneth's graduatio from high school, he was kept busy all day at the o fice. Esther Gardner was still working mornings i the office but had Sundays off. Their concern f each other grew into a courtship and in time the were married. In time Esther could not continue h office work or to work for Edith. She was too occu pied at home for she and Kenney were blessed wit a son, and in a few years a second son.

Mother Edith sang to little Joy and after she coul talk well, she began to sing. Then by the time sh could get up on the piano bench, Mother Edith be gan teaching her to play piano. She was to practic fifteen minutes at a time. Her practice time wa kept.and she practiced three to four times a day s soon she could play some easy music for pupils. Jo could also sing. Before Joy began grade school, sh played a piano duet with Mother Edith at the Be thany Evangelical Missionary meeting. In a fe years Joy began taking piano with local music teach ers. When she was in high school in Celina, sh learned to play violin also, and was in the hig school orchestra.

Joy attended Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky for her freshman year, then attended Wheaton, Illinois College in the first summer and continue there until her graduation in Music after three years Having prepared to teach music in the public schools, she began teaching in a Cincinnati, Ohio public grade school. The next year, having given up her first position, she taught in downtown Cincinnati where the ruffians go who have poor home conditions. That was a most trying experience.

While in Cincinnati, Joy married Carl Stahlman who took a job in Evansville, Indiana. There Joy took the job of teaching music to the nurses of a hospital. While in Evansville, Rachel was born. She brought much joy into the home. In two years Rachel had a brother Hugh. By this time the family had moved to Glenview, Illinois, north of Chicago near where Carl's work was. Carl had a sister and family in this area. When Joy could leave Rachel and Hugh with Carl's sister, she acquired a position to teach music in the public schools and picked up the children after school. In a few years the children attended a neighborhood school in Glenview, then went on to higher grade school, and Rachel entered a large high school. At this time Joy had a position of selling pianos and organs for a music company and gave music lessons to those to whom she sold instruments.

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Dr. Lester Eichenauer spent happy years in his of-
e. He made many successful dentures for his
ntele, and relieved many painful jaws. Then one
ly morning a fast driver knocked him to the
eet in front of his office. The Celina emergency
o hurried him to the Lima St. Rita's Hospital
ere he was under medical care — first in inten-
e care and later in regular care for five weeks.
en he spent another week in Otis Hospital, Ce-
a, Ohio, learning to walk again. A brain specialist
d charge of his case at Lima. Then he rested at
me the remainder of the year before he could be-
his practice in his dental office, under the guid-
ce of Dr. Paul Beare. He never regained his nor-
l strength but had other minor afflictions. After a
ar or two a severe pain attacked his left hip. The
ecialist at St. Rita's Hospital, Lima, Ohio, gave him
pecial treatment with high powered heat on his
and after several of these treatments, the pain
t and we were delighted. In a few weeks the pain
acked his knee and he had the same treatment for
knee which proved successful.

During the summer Dr. Lester didn't try to do
rk at the office regularly but he did take care of
lawn and had a garden, but he could take time
rest during the day. The weakness increased in
te of the strong shots Dr. Paul Beare had his
rse give him. He also went to Otis Hospital for a
v days to get more blood which gave him strength
a short time, but in November, 1975, the week
fore Thanksgiving, he quietly breathed his last.
v. Head preached the funeral message at Dick's
neral Home.

Edith's mother, Hettie Hellwarth, moved from the
me on North Main Street to the Shane Hill Nurs-
g Home when she was ninety-six years old. Her
e roommate was Mrs. Edith Fast, a cousin of Het-
's husband, Edward Hellwarth. They enjoyed four
ppy years together. Then Hettie celebrated her
e hundredth birthday at Shane Hill in August,
d gradually grew weaker until in January her
ong heart stopped beating. Rev. Head had her fu-
ral at Dick's during such cold weather that the
nily could not go to the cemetery.

Since that time Edith Eichenauer's daughter Joy
s resumed the responsibility of all the business for
r mother Edith. In this way Joy comes home to
ep check on things and to bring cheer to Mother
lith. *Edith Eichenauer (Hellwarth)*

ALBIN LEO (MIKE) HEMMERT

Albin Leo (Mike) Hemmert was born September
, 1897. He was the son of Mike and Emma
chmidt) Hemmert. As a boy he attended Immacu-
e Conception Grade School, where he completed
ght grades. He helped his father in his business
d raised chickens, ducks and rabbits, he also kept
arge garden. His hobby was electricity.

In 1912 he went to Saint Joseph's College in Rens-
laer, Indiana. Here he majored in business. He is
ll an active member of the Alumni Association.

From 1913 to 1918 Albin served as an apprentice
Dr. George Weber, where he received instruction
the Watchmakers trade. His interest in electricity
d music helped him in his work.

In 1918 he went to Muncie, Indiana to visit his friend Yale Meyers and stayed twelve years. During these years he was employed as a Watchmaker and Pawnbroker.

On April 20, 1921 he married Margaret Snyder, of this union were born three children; John E. born July 9, 1924, Patricia E. born March 29, 1927 and Michael, who died at birth August, 1933.

Upon the death of his father, Albin moved his family back to Celina in 1931, where he assumed the responsibility of the family ice business, known as the Hemmert Ice Company. In the spring of 1932 there was a very sudden drop in temperature, making the lake freeze deep and fast. All able bodied men who had cut ice with his dad came to work for Albin and they helped fill the big ice barn located on the Westbank Road. The ice was good and every man worked hard. After the big barn was filled, they kept cutting and filled the new ice house on the corner of Buckeye and Fulton St. No one knew that day that it would be the last big ice cut made on Grand Lake, the big Ice Barn burnt to the ground and lives only in the memories of those who were there to see a big job well done. After this ice was brought in from an artificial ice plant in Lima, Ohio.

A. L. Hemmert Distributor Company came into existance in 1933 and from 1933 to 1944, he was in business in Celina.

In 1944 he moved back to Muncie and once again became engaged in his trade of watchmaker. In order to go back to work in Indiana he had to take the Indiana State Watchmakers exam in 1944. He served as president of the Watchmakers Association for several years. He also had his own watch and clock repair shop until 1976.

In 1971 Albin and Margaret celebrated their Golden Anniversary, they live at 304 Alameda Avenue, Muncie, Indiana and enjoy their retirement there together.

John married Jean Kleinfelder in 1951. They have two daughters, Mary Margaret born in 1957 and June Elizabeth born in 1958. They reside in Muncie.

Patricia married Raymond McGee in 1948. They have three daughters, Bridget born in 1955, Margaret born in 1958 and Kathleen born in 1959. Bridget married Charles Heckler and they have one son Matthew. They reside on Fleetfoot Road, Celina, Ohio. *Bridget Heckler*

Louis J. Hierholzer home, 680 N. Main, Celina, Ohio

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C. D. Hierholzer

HIERHOLZER

In 1786 in Germany, Baldaser Hierholzer's son Conrad was born. Conrad married Catherine Kriser (1787 born) children: John, Julian, Joseph, Martin, Maria, Anton, and Julia.

Joseph H. (1814) married Theresa Sachar (daughter of Joseph S. and Agatha Friermouth who came from Switzerland to America in 1832) lived near New Riegal, Ohio about 28 years — moved to Casella in Mercer County about 1860. Children—Conrad D., Elizabeth (Cron) Anthony J., and Mary Victoria (Kreusch).

Conrad D. (1850-1920) married Mary Anne Buescher (1849-1942) daughter of John Henry Buescher (son of Anna Mary and Bernard Buescher (Buschur) and Christina Steinke (born 1833—came to America from Germany 1939 to Cincinnati with parents Angela Steinke and Gerard Egbert who was born in England but moved to Germany as a young man). Children of Conrad and Mary H. were Edward, Aloysius, Bertha, Olga, Leo, Omar—three died in infancy, Albert, Rudoph, Friederich. Conrad was president of the Commercial Bank for twenty years. The Conrad H. family lived on the southwest corner of Main and Wayne streets in Celina.

Their eldest son Edward Joseph (1874-1954) m. Mary Agnes Roemer (1879-1953) daughter of Joseph (1851) and Caroline Anthony Roemer (1851) (Joseph Roemer family lived the second house on the northeast corner of Main and Waye Sts. The Joseph Roemer—children—were Mary Eleanor, Mary Agnes, Charles, Clara, Anna, Walter, Ruth, William, Leonard). Edward H. was associated with The Commercial Bank for 64 years, 14 as President. Edward and Mary's children were Hilma Mary (1904-1906) and Louis Joseph (1920) who married Kathryn Louise Pfister (1926) (daughter of Eli and Emma (Gerber) Pfister who moved to Mercer County in 1938 Louis and Kathryn H's children are Louisa, Maryella, and Louis, Jr. Louis has been associated with The Citizens Commercial Bank since 1945.

Leo and Agnes (Winklejohn) H. children are Charles (1919) (m. Anna Turicchi (1921) children Jay, Kristina, and Lee.) John Henry (1920) (m. Catherine Staurach (1923) children Mary Kay, Larry, Jane, Becky, Nancy, Mark, Donald, Gary, Connie) Martha Lou (1923) (m. Phil Dykstra—children Joan Ellen, Robert, Mark, John, Mary, Ann, and Karen—family resides in Brigham City, Utah) Thomas Edward (1927) (m. Joan Baker (1929) children Roslyn, David, and Teresa residing in St. Marys)

Children Olga Hierholzer and Dr. Charles Daniel of Tiffin are Ruth (1911) (Joseph Cogan)—children Marie, Margaret, Janet, Daniel) Mildred (1913) Gerard (1914) (Ruth—children Mark, Jonathan, Jeanne, Kurt, Lynne, Christian, Jeffery) Walter (1916) (Dejan—children Patricia, Allen, Mary Elizabeth) Arthur (1918) (Blanche—Children Charles, S. Michael, Edward) Francis Luke (1920) (M. Frances—children Marie Frances, Joan, Annette, Margaret, Christine, Joseph, Kathy) Lillian (1922) (Joseph Savord—children Gregory, David, Timothy, Peter, Bernard, Mary Christina) Richard (1926) (Joan—children Timothy, Janet, Brian, Theresa, John, Karen, David, Michael) (Mary Ann (1928) (Joseph Oprisch—children Constance, Robert, Nancy, Mark) Charles (1932) (Sheilah—children Mary Teresa, Sharon, John Paula).

Anthony J. Hierholzer (another son of Joseph H. (1814) married Anna Scherman and children were Anthony (m. Leona Meyer—children Anthony M. and Donald (m. Faye Arnett) Flora (Wenning—lives in Dayton) Julius, Margaret, Joseph, (m. Mary F. children Nester, Marcus, Ralph) Peter, Mary Anna, and Henry who married Katheryn Lechister. (Their children were Johanna, Marie, Hilma who died in infancy and Olivia, Julian (m. Ruban Rindler—children Robert and Jean Rindle Tyre) Egbert (m. Alma Will—children Lester and David) Frank (1891) (m. Lena Moorman—children Virginia (Olding) Betty Ann (Darland) Daniel, and Walter). Walter married Rosella Kaiser—children—Joyce (Schwieterman) Joan (Kunk) Julius, Jeffrey, Jody, June.

DR. JOHN E. AND MARY A. HATTERY

Residence of Dr. John E. and Mary A. Hattery, 2 East Market Street, Celina, Ohio. Built in 1893; r modeled in 1908. Photograph taken in 1908.

JAMES HIGHLEY

Janet Louise (Marsee) Highley, wife of James J seph Highley, and daughter of Roy Lee Marsee a Dorothy Maxine Brown, was born October 1, 19 in Van Wert County, Ohio. Her parents now live St. Marys, Ohio. Janet's sister and brothers are: Ve Sue who married Terry Sauve of Detroit, Michiga They have two sons, Blade and Lance. Sue is a chi by Roy's first marriage. Robert Lee, a careerman the United States Air Force, has 3 children, Christi and Rebecca were from his first marriage, and Rya with Lee VonWinkle his present wife. De Wayn also in the United States Air Force, married Bill Kay Frysinger. Janet graduated from St. Marys Hig school and Commercial College in Ft. Wayne, Ind ana. After graduating she came home to work as keypunch operator for Reynolds and Reynolds. Sh married James Highley and lives in Mercer Count with their two sons Todd Joseph and Troy Allen.

Roy Lee Marsee came from Speedwell, Tennesse with his first child and parents McKinley and Co Ethel (Tinnell) Marsee and lived in Van We County and later Rockford, Ohio. They have 8 chi dren. Roy Lee is the oldest. Sarah called Cleo ma ried Curt Mayes. Lenis married Freda Potiete. Carl married Sarah Bankston. Tommie June marrie Buddy Southard. Freddie May married William Ca low. Emma Lou married Bill Cain. Carolyn marrie Rolland Custer.

McKinley's parents, Jacob Marsee and Lucind Hunter, lived in Claiborne County, Tennessee. The children are John, Jim, Frank, Helen, Doxie, McKin ley, and Roxie. Some of Lucinda Hunter's peopl were from Kentucky. Jacob's mother was a Freem ont.

Cora (Tinnell) Marsee's parents were Tommi Tinnell born in Roane County, Tennessee and Sadi Wilson of Claiborne County, Tennessee. Their chil dren are James, Steven, John, Cora, Fred, and Evy Both died in Claiborne County. Sadie's parents Wil liam Wilson and Emily Cawood were divorced Tommie's parents are Jackson Tinnell and Sara Jane Hurt.

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lorothy Maxine (Brown) Marsee's parents Pearl mond Brown and Laura Etta (Johnson) Brown e residents of Van Wert County all of their lives. y had 11 children. Lela married Clarence Ade-. Joe married Juanitta Roberts. Emmitt married nice Bell. Arthur married Nadine Barna. Buster old died in World War II in Italy. Marcile mar- Nelson Longwell. Dorothy married Roy Marsee. mond married Retha Hill. Leland married Janet er. Herbert Junior married twice. His present e is Ginger Blakely. Eugene married Connie Al-tor.

earl Brown was born March 18, 1894 in Liberty vnship. His parents are Lewis Brown and Cora y Taylor. Their children are Clyde, Bessie, irles, Gladys, Pearl, Benie, Joe, Cash, Don, Ken-h, Aldona, and Ioma. Lewis Brown's parents are nuel Brown 1843-1922 and Marie Kesler 1849-2. Cora May Taylor's parents are Robert Allen lor and Malenda Caplinger.

he parents of Laura (Johnson) Brown are George mitt Johnson and Charity Ann Agler. Their chil-n are Willis, Cary, Birdella, and Laura. George mitt Johnson's parents are Elias Johnson of West ginia or Pennsylvania and Jemina Dimmit of st Virginia. Jemina's father, Jacob, possibly lived Brooke County, Virginia. He settled in Willshire, io. Charity (Agler) Johnson's parents are Joseph, Stark County, Ohio, and Susan (Neiford) Agler. an's parents George Neiford and Mary Swank rried in Pennsylvania and moved to Stark unty, Ohio.

oseph Agler's parents are Conrad Agler and Mar-et Wagner from Pennsylvania who moved to Van rt County around 1841. One of Margaret's par-s is named Valintine Wagner. Conrad's father lliam Agler 1760-1846 was from France or Eng-d, and emmigrated to Stark County, Ohio. Con-'s mother Mary Fox Agler was born in Scotland l died in Stark County, Ohio. *Janet Highley, Celina, 45822*

THE HILES FAMILY

The Hiles Family first settled in Southeastern io in the late 1700's in Washington County. John es, Sr. was a farmer and a land owner in the part this county that later became Perry County. He l two sons, John Jr. and Christopher born in the e 1700's, and both sons were farmers. John Hiles l was born in 1818 in Perry County, one of 4 chil-n of John Jr. John 3rd married Margaret House-lder, 9-1-1836 in Perry County and followed his her in farming. They had 4 children: Adam born -10-1846, John, Rachael, and Ellen.

n the 1850's John Hiles 3rd and his family fol-ved other families and moved from Southeastern io to Mercer County. They settled in the eastern rt of Hopewell Township and took up farming til the civil war broke out. John 3rd enlisted in the vice 11-9-1861 for three years as a private in Cap-n Carlins Co., a 71st Regiment of the Ohio Infan-. In the summer of 1862 he became ill while on ty and died 8-16-1862 at the age of 44.

On 9-28-1864, Adam enlisted as a private in Co. F th Regiment of the Ohio Infantry at the age of 17. served with General Sherman on his march ough Georgia. It was during this time that he de-loped a disease of the lungs and throat, and he was honorably discharged 6-4-1865. Adam married Jane White 3-19-1869 in Mercer County and followed his father in farming. Jane was one of 6 children of James and Jemima White of Mercer County. They had 6 children: John Henry born 11-8-1873, William J., Edward Jacob, Archibold, Effie, and Maggie. Jane died 5-19-1884 and Adam died 12-30-1927 at the age of 81.

John Henry married Miriam Mable Custer, the daughter of Fred and Christena (Wright) Custer, 12-28-1899. Fred was one of 12 children of Joseph and Mary (McCristy) Custer. Joseph was born in Germany in 1832 and came to America prior to the civil war. Christena was one of 10 children of William and Elizabeth (Martin) Wright. John Henry had 6 children: Cordier born 9-1-1905, Thurza Flick, Fannie Rummell, Mary Fruchey, and Phyllis Williams. John Henry spent his entire life in Mercer County as a farmer.

Cordier married Edith Marie Pierstorff on 1-26-1926. She was one of 11 children of George Edward and Alvina Johanna (Dicke) Pierstorff. George was one of 9 children of William and Catherine (Sielschott) Pierstorff. William Pierstorff was born in Germany in 1847 the son of Charles Pierstorff born in 1811 in Germany. Charles and family came to America in the 1850's along with other German Lutherans to settle in Hopewell Township in Mercer County. Alvina Johanna Dicke was one of 9 children of Wilhelm Christian and Rebecca (Dorthea) Dicke.

Cordier Hiles was a welder and was the first to leave farming. Edith was a graduate of Celina Senior and spent her life as a mother and in retail. They had seven children: John Alvin born 11-12-1947, Rex, George, Lois Snavely, Marilyn Adams, Connie Stuckey, and Judy Howell.

John married Jane Darlene Inniger on 3-1-1970. She was one of 3 children of Elmer and Mary Belle (Wheat) Inniger of Berne, Indiana. Elmer was the only son of Peter and Anna (Mazelin) Inniger. Peter was born in 1876 in Adoboldin, Switzerland the son of Christian Inniger. In 1881 Christian came to America with his family to settle in Berne, Indiana. Anna (Mazelin) Inniger was the daughter of James Mazelin and granddaughter of Peter Mazelin who was born in France in 1840. Mary Belle (Wheat) Inniger was the only daughter of Charles and Clara (Plye) Wheat.

John and Jane Hiles had two children: John Robert born 5-1-1978 and Jennifer Marie born 10-2-1975. They made their home in Celina where John was an Accountant and Jane was a teacher. John was a graduate of Wright State University and Jane was a graduate of Ball State University. *John A. Hiles*

HOEL FAMILY

Jonathon Hoel was born in Norway on April 18, 1815. His wife, Rebecca Jane Harrison, was born in Norway on July 18, 1826. They came to the United States and purchased 80 acres of land near what is now Brown Road, west of the reservoir. The land was purchased at the sum of $1 an acre from the government. They cleared the land, and built a log cabin and other farm buildings.

Eleven children were born to Jonathon and Rebecca: Harriet Hoel Miller (May 29, 1853-Feb. 9,

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1934); Lewis Hoel (June 11, 1855-Nov. 15, 1934), Married Mary Cavanaugh; Elizabeth Hoel Green (Sept. 20, 1856-Dec. 2, 1934), Married Hiram Green; Irvin Hoel (Jan. 16, 1857-July 11, 1939), Married Emma Brown; Jonathon Hoel, Jr. (Mar. 27, 1860-July 21, 1860); Lydia Ellen Hoel Piper (July 3, 1861-Oct. 19, 1929), Husband's name not recorded; Wesley Hoel (Feb. 13, 1863-April 3, 1863); Jesse Hoel (Feb. 13, 1863-Nov. 13, 1863); Emma Hoel (Oct. 5, 1864-Nov. 25, 1865); Charley W. Hoel (July 23, 1871-Mar. 13, 1950), Married Anna Smith.

Jonathon Hoel died on Dec. 10, 1889, and Rebecca died on Sept. 9, 1907.

Their youngest son, Charley, was born in the log cabin and lived there until he married Anna Smith. They moved to 611 W. Wayne St., Celina, where they lived until he was appointed caretaker of the Mercer County Fairgrounds. He served well in this position for 15 years. He moved to Warren St. near what was the old Moose Lodge. Charley was also a harness race trainer and owner. He drove his own horses and others. He owned and drove the fastest three full-brother horses in Mercer County at the time: Hall Leaf, Roop Dillard, and Van Dillard. He set a new track record at Napoleon, Ohio. Charley and Anna Hoel had three children.

Alvera Hoel Arnold was born Aug. 29, 1902 at 611 W. Wayne St. She attended the Celina School grades 1-12 at the West School Building, which was at the location now occupied by the Celina Insurance Group building. After graduation, she worked at the Diesel Weimer Cigar Factory in what is now the Lininger Building at the corner of Main and Fayette Streets. She married Hosea E. Arnold on Dec. 25, 1921. She later worked at Crampton Canneries, just south of the Mersman Bros. Factory.

Hosea and Alvera Arnold had six sons, two dying at birth. They lived at 514 W. Hoyng St., Celina, from the time they married until the present. Their four sons were Gene E. Arnold (born June 20, 1923), Alvin W. Arnold (born Mar. 25, 1925), Boyd E. Arnold (born Apr. 17, 1927), and Paul F. Arnold (born Dec. 10, 1931). For further information on their children, please see "Arnold" family history.

The second of Charley and Anna Hoel's children was Oscar W. Hoel (Nov. 17, 1905-Dec. 23, 1968). He attended Celina schools and later worked for Mersman Brothers. He was then employed as a truck driver for Transamerica Van Lines of Indianapolis. He returned to Celina and owned and drove Hal B. Dillard for several years. He was married to Helen Steele and they had six children: Lilas, Charles, Sondra, David, Marilyn (Bogle), and Linda.

Orville J. Hoel, the third of Charley and Anna's children, was born Mar. 1, 1910, attended Celina schools, and played center on one of the early football teams. He was sports editor of the Daily Standard, the Tulsa (Okla.) World, and several West Coast newspapers. He returned to Celina after the death of his mother and became associated with his father in the carpentry business until Canada entered World War II. He enlisted and became a pilot in the R.C.A.F. and later transferred to the U.S. Air Force after the United States declared war. He was wounded over France and received a medical discharge from the service. He now resides in Celina.

Anna Smith Hoel died on Mar. 8, 1937. *Alvera Hoel Arnold*

DOROTHEA HOENIE

Dorothea M. Hoenie born Van Wert, Ohio M 22, 1920 to George C. and Lena K. Eckenstein. M ried Jack Burton Davis, son of Mrs. John R. (F Sealschott, Dec. 31, 1941. Resided at 111 S. Ash Two daughters — Barbara K., born May 8, 1943 a Jacquelin F., born Oct. 15, 1954. Mr. Davis died C 23, 1963. Then married Edwin H. Hoenie, Sr. A 19, 1964 — divorced Oct. 5, 1977. Now live at Harbor Point Dr., Celina, Ohio. Have worked as okkeeper, office manager at Tractors, Inc. for years.

Between 1947 and 1954 was very active in orga zation work. Past President of Mercer County Am ican Cancer Society — Established first office Stubbs Building. Past President, Treasurer and S retary of Phi Beta Psi Sorority, Iota Gamma Chap — Established a kindergarten in the public sch system in conjunction with the Business and Prof sional Women's Organization in the West Sch Building in 1948 and 1949. Leader in Girl Scou Membership Chairman of Parent Teachers Assoc tion. Democratic Committee and Treasurer of Democratic Executive Committee, and also Co bined Charities Organization. *Dorothea Hoenie*

JOHN HOLE FAMILY

Jacob Hole, born 1689, the greatson of Sir Jo Hole (1566). Born in the Manor of Cauntor in N tinghamshire, England, emigrated to America 1740 with his wife Barbara, and four sons; Pet Charles; Daniel and John.

Daniel, born 1730, died in 1814 in either Preble Darke County. He had four sons: Zachariah; Joh William and Daniel.

Three sons, Zachariah; John and Daniel came we from Virginia in 1797, locating on the east bank the Miami near the mouth of Bear Creek, building blockhouse and stockade called "Hole's Statior (Now Miamisburg, Ohio).

Zachariah Hole married Hannah DeLay in Mor gomery County. Their children were: Mary; Sara Hannah; Elizabeth; James; Charles; Anna; Lucret Effie and William, who married Elizabeth Black.

William, born 1787, died 1884, married in Preb County to Elizabeth Black, she died before 184 William fought in the War of 1812. Their childr were: Polly; Hannah; William; John, who marri Lucinda Brandon; Effie; Sarah Ann; Zachariah; N than.

John Hole, an early settler of Mercer County, bo in Preble County, in 1814, and raised in Darl County. In 1847, moved to Recovery and remaine there until 1850, settled in Celina, where he estal lished a flouring mill (the same year) on the we bank of the Reservoir on an acre and a half ground, valued at $1,000, known as the Hole-Fang Grist Mill. He married Lucinda Brandon, born 1823. Their home was 311 South Main Street whe the building that houses the Offices of Public A fairs now stands.

Their children were Sue; Sarah Elizabeth; Willia Granville, married Elizabeth Trenary; and Effi John Hole died in 1882, his wife 1884. William Gra ville Hole joined his father in the milling business.

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Children of William and Elizabeth Hole were: rah; John Trenary; Harriet Lucinda; Jesse William; illiam Carl; Raymond Granville, who married lda Piehl (parents of the author); Oriel Beatrice; yd and Mary Onilee.

After the death of his father, William Granville le continued in the grist mill until severely rned when a boiler blew up. Their home was near e corner of Walnut and Warren streets, facing alnut, where they lived until August 1906 when ey moved to a farm one mile west of Celina on the ud Pike in Jefferson Twp. After the death of her sband three months later, Elizabeth continued to e on the farm and manage it and rear their six liv- children, as well as, four grandsons, Theodore, well, Charles and H. Eugene, after the death of eir mother Harriet Heindel.

Raymond Granville, stayed on the farm and lped his mother after the brothers and sisters arried and moved away, or on to college. In 1912 ymond married Golda Piehl and continued living th his mother and farming the home place. To this ion was born one daughter, Alberta June, in 1925. few years before his mother's death, Raymond ught the farm and continued farming until his ath in 1953.

In 1946, Alberta June, married Fay Delbert Stiver- n, born in 1922. They lived with her parents and 1948 Edson Ray was born. Fay and Alberta built a me in the woods on Fairground Road, living there til the time of Raymond's death. Then the Stiver- n's bought the farm and moved back into the use where Alberta was born, and her grandfather s built before moving to the farm from town. Also rn to Fay and Alberta were three more children: hn Floyd; Cecil Fay; and Dawn LuRae. In 1974 Na- sha Kolleen was born to Edson and Sue Stiverson.

The farm has been in the family for four genera- ns and three generations of children raised in the me house. *Mrs. Fay D. Stiverson*

Denny C. Howell

DENNY CONNER HOWELL

Denny Conner Howell, a resident of Jefferson ownship, Mercer County is a descendant of early ttlers of Mercer County. Some of his grandparents me to Mercer County in the late 1800's. Denny as born October 2, 1951 the son of Denzel Paul d Ruth Ellen (Conner) Howell. Denny attended hool in Celina, Ohio and graduated from Celina enior High School. Denny participated in little ague baseball and football. He was president or ice-president of his high school classes for three ears. He belonged to the Boy Scouts and partici- ated in the Pinewood Derby of which he won sev- ral trophies. Denny had a racing pony he drove at e races at the fairs. In school activities he played asketball and football, also belonged to Demolay. Denny had the opportunity to be on the 1968 championship team at Celina Senior High with the football team. Also, he represented Celina High in the District State Scholarship team in Mathematics for three years finishing first or second. In 1969 he was chosen first team selection in the all county balloting for football. He graduated from high school with honors. In 1970 when Denny graduated, he received the alternate appointment from Congressman William McCullough of the 4th district for the Air Force Academy.

After graduation from High School, Denny went his first year to Muskingum College located at New Concord, Ohio. He played football his freshman year. Denny decided to finish his college at Wright State University. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education Denny decided to go to work into the business field. Proctor and Gamble hired him and he worked out of Dayton for two years. While there with Proctor and Gamble, he received an award in sales for creative merchandise idea he suggested and his picture along with an article appeared in the National Magazine of Proctor and Gamble. After two years he returned home and went to St. Henry High School, St. Henry, Ohio and is teaching in the business department and is assistant football coach. Denny is currently working on his master's degree in educational administration.

The hobby he likes the most is snow skiing. He also plays golf and tennis and likes to travel.

Two different years Denny had the opportunity to go big game hunting with his father in Montana and Wyoming. In 1972 he killed his first deer in Custers National Forest in Montana. Off the flats of Custer's National Forest he killed his first antelope. Then in 1975, Denny and his father hunted in Sundance, Wyoming in the Black Hills which is called Bearlodge and killed a deer. In Moorcroft, Wyoming he killed an antelope. This was quite an experience.

Denny has had alot of different experiences in working in the summer months. These included construction on the road for Hinton Construction of Celina, Mersmans Furniture Factory in Celina and working on carpentry with his father building houses. He is currently remodeling a house.

Denny is not married and lives at home and attends Bethany United Methodist Church. *Denny C. Howell*

The first deertrip to Wyoming was in 1957. The following hunters were: Joe Pumphrey, C. Bowby, R. Beckstedt, R. Snider, and D. Howell. *Denzel P. Howell*

DENZEL HOWELL

Denzel Paul Howell is a well known citizen of Jefferson township of Mercer County. Denzel is a des-

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Denzel and Ruth Howell

cendant of early settlers of Mercer County and lives in a frame house he built. Denzel was born May 24, 1916, to Walter and Mary Elizabeth (Freewalt) Howell in Jefferson township, Mercer County. Denzel is the fourth son of four boys. Denzel's father Walter was born April 2, 1876 to George Washington and Sophia (Cochlin) Howell in Liberty Township, Mercer County. Denzel's mother, Mary Elizabeth (Freewalt) Howell was born March 12, 1883 to Conrad and Dorthea (Neibert) Freewalt in Union County, Ohio. Denzel's grandfather George W. Howell was born June 21, 1845 to Simeon and Hannah (Horner) Howell. The grandmother Sophia (Cochlin) Howell was born April 9, 1849 to Thomas and Mary (Elliott) Cochlin in Auglaize County. Thomas Cochlin was son of Mary Cochlin (native of Ireland) and was born in England. Mary (Elliott) Cochlin was daughter of Richard and Rebecca (Speaker) Elliott. Conrad and Dorthea Freewalt were born in Germany and came to United States around 1870. The great grandmother Hannah (Horner) Howell was born in England and came to United States in 1821. Grandpa George W. Howell served in the Civil War with the 71st Regiment, Ohio Vol. Infantry. Denzel had the opportunity to go to Buck school, a one room schoolhouse.

Denzel was married to Ruth Ellen Conner on July 24, 1937 at Neptune, Ohio. To this union in Jefferson township, Mercer County was born three children Pamela Kay born Nov. 3, 1947 and passed away Nov. 6, 1947 and is buried at Swamp College Cemetery, Mercer County. Paula Ruth was born July 14, 1949, married to Gregory Byers and has two children, Tamara and Teresa. Denny Conner was born Oct. 2, 1951 and resides at home. Both the children graduated from Celina Senior High. The family attends Bethany United Methodist Church.

Our subject's wife Ruth was born July 17, 1916 in Jefferson township, Mercer County to Wilbert Urva and Bessie Ester (Beougher) Conner. Ruth graduated in 1934 at Celina High School. Ruth had one brother Homer who died in infancy and a sister Gertrude. Urva, Ruth's father, was a Produce buyer and lived in Celina. Urva was born in Center Township September 18, 1894 to Charles W. and Matilda (Sweigart) Conner. Charles W. grandfather of Ruth was born June 30, 1965 in Bluffton, Indiana to David (native of Penn.) and Sarah (native of Ohio) Conner. Ruth's grandmother Matilda (Sweigart) Conner was born December 11, 1868 to Benjamin (native of Shelby) and Nancy (Stout) (native of Miami County) Sweigart. Ruth's great great grandfather Henry and Mary (Lyons) Sweigart were natives of Penn. Bessie, mother of Ruth, was born January 11, 1895, daughter of Harvey and Evangeline (Lohr) Beougher. Harvey was the son of Benjamin C. and Catharine (Cook) Beougher and grandson of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Klinger) Beougher (natives of Penn.). Evangeline (Lohr) Beougher was the daughter of Noah and Lovisa (Loper) Lohr. Noah was a minister of the United Brethern Church in Hocking Count Both the grandpa Harvey and great grandpa Lo served in the Civil War. Benjamin and Elizabe (Klinger) Beougher emigrated from Penn. in Hocking County, Ohio in 1805.

Denzel worked at Goodyear Tire and Rubber C in St. Marys, Ohio after returning from WW II. H served with the Air Force as a sheet metal technici from 1943-1946. Denzel had to retire after havi open heart surgery in 1973. The Howell's have bu several homes in Celina. In the Daily Standard c Monday evening July 27, 1953 an article appear and quote, "The best family of "oldtimers" conte was won by the Denzel Howell family in Celina Also, on Thurs. evening Nov. 7, 1957 a picture ar write-up carried an article on Denzel's first deer tr to Wyoming. In his parties in the past twenty yea they have brought back 110 animals including dee moose, antelope and elk. The Howells still ow Ruth's homeplace in Celina. Denzel and Ruth ha been active in both boys and girl scouts and litt league baseball. Ruth worked at The Pogue Co. Celina for thirteen years. In the 1907 history of Me cer County Ruth's grandpa Harvey Beougher mentioned with a picture of his family and his l cabin and home they erected in 1899. The home still standing on Fleetfoot road. In the 1892 Bi graphical record of Auglaize, Logan and Shelb Counties, Ruth's great grandpa Benjamin Sweigart mentioned along with his picture and farm. *Denzel Howell*

RUSSEL F. HOWELL

Russel Floyd Howell has been a life-long resider of Mercer Co. He was born in Washington Towr ship on October 8, 1905, the son of Frank and Re becca Daniels Howell. Russel's father Frank Howe was born in Auglaize County in February of 186 the son of George W. and Sophia Cochlin Howell. I 1894 Frank Howell married Rebecca Jane Daniel who was born in Auglaize County the daughter c Frank and Minerva Daniels. The following childre were born to Frank and Rebecca — Raymond, Ear Irvin, Mabel, Russel, Lillie, Stella, George, Blanch and Beatrice. Rebecca died November 9, 1926 an Frank Howell died July 4, 1949.

On February 16, 1927, Russel Howell (our subject married Doris Mae Hines, the daughter of Grove Cleveland and Mayme Bilter Hines. Mayme was th daughter of Henry B. and Hettie Lennox Bilte prominent farmers in Liberty Township. Grover C Hines was the son of Benjamin and Martha Jane Fel ver Hines.

Russel Howell was raised on a farm in Washing ton Township but at an early age he learned to clea out drainage ditches with a team of horses whil working with his father Frank. Even though he wa raised on a farm and farmed for a short time after he was married, ditching has been the main occupatior of Russel Howell throughout his life. In 1930 he changed from ditching with horses to using a gaso line engine dragline to clean ditches. Russel spen the World War II years in defense work. In Novem ber of 1942 Mr. Howell went to Central Americ with the United States Engineering Department and spent 11 months there helping construct the Par American Highway. After returning to Ohio, Mr

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owell was in business for himself for several years ing drainage contracting work. In 1950-51, Mr. owell and Co. cleared and cleaned the Wabash ver and the Beaver Creek from the Indiana state e to Celina.

The Howells are the parents of one daughter, len M. Howell Allmandinger. They have five ndchildren and one great-grandchild.

They are people of strong moral character and gular church attenders. Russel and Doris Howell e semi-retired and live in Celina. *Mrs. Karl E. Allmanger*

rista and Mary E. Howick and chilen: Russell, Naomi and Gladys; 0

THE CHRISTA HOWICK FAMILY

Christa Howick (Sept. 9, 1879-May 2, 1949) was e son of Robert (December 27, 1850-June 19, 1889) d Mary Jane (Real) Howick (April 11, 1854-Sept. , 1910) who was the daughter of John (March 16, 32-Dec. 23, 1903) and Sarah Ann (Jones) Real born ne 16, 1835 of Richard, Virginia.

Christa's sisters were Myrtie Luetta (Howick) Dyrt born Feb. 21, 1877 and married Henry Dysert of ockford and Bessie (Howick) Ricker born August , 1885 and married John Ricker. She is now living Shane Hill Nursing Home. Christa had very poor esight when he was born and became completely ind within a few years. His father, Robert, was lled June 19, 1889 when he was struck by lightning hile standing in the doorway of a barn. A neighbor / the name of Mr. Clinger was also killed. The ont of the barn collapsed and a hired hand milking cow inside the barn was thrown from his stool. ne cow was killed and the links from the chain ound the cow's neck were fused together. A memer of the family still has this chain. Christa was ly nine at this time. Christa started to blind school Columbus Oct. 7, 1891. There he learned to be a oom maker. On May 12, Christa's mother married i Copeland, who had previously been married to lary Jane's sister Carlie, who died Sept. 30, 1889.

Christa Howick was married to Mary Elizabeth axter (April 20, 1887-March 15, 1969) who was the aughter of George and Emmy (Murr) Baxter of ennsylvania. They had three children who all live Celina.

Russell Howick, their son, was born Feb. 15, 1907 d married Leanna Mary Smith (March 20, 1913) aughter of John P. and Bessie (Eichenauer) Smith, June 17, 1933. Russell has a radio and television les and repair shop, located with his home at 719 ast Market St. Russell started wiring homes and usinesses for electricity in 1927 with Rolland Ransottom. He also learned to build battery powered dios during this time. In 1931 he started in the radio business himself and became one of the first electric radio repairmen in the area. Russell had the first black and white TV picture in Celina in 1948. People came from all around to see it. He started sales and service of black and white TV in 1949. He added color TV sales and service in 1954. Russell is now semi-retired, but still does some repair work. Russell and Leanna have one daughter, Janet (Jan. 22, 1945) who is married to Joseph G. Miller. They live at 136 Margo Lane and have three children: LeAnne, Joseph III, and Elizabeth. Russell and Leanna also raised a nephew, Fredric A. May who lives in Germany with his wife Carolyn and daughters Tina and Tammy.

2. Naomi Howick married Frank Kruzic. They resided in Middletown for many years where he worked at McGraw Corp. They have recently retired and moved to 1014 Cedar St., Celina.

3. Gladys Howick (July 15, 1918) married Joseph H. Reed, son of James and Estella (Burns) Reed of Spring City, Tennessee. Joe and Gladys live at 801 E. Market St. Gladys works at the Huffy Bicycle plant and Joe is a foreman for Mersman Brothers. Gladys and Joe have two sons: Dr. Nicholas E. Reed (August 4, 1940) who graduated from Ohio State Medical School and is a gynecologist at Newark, Ohio. He married Nancy Ritchie and they have three sons, Shawn, Todd Joseph, and Brian. Their second son, James Joseph (Jan. 10, 1942) married Patricia Houchins. They have one son, Jamie. James is a foreman at New Idea and Patty is a lab technician at St. Marys. They live on Fochs St. Joe and Gladys have one daughter Susan Elaine (Feb. 6, 1951) who graduated from Wright State University and teaches in Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

Christa Howick's father Robert was the son of Stephen (Nov. 5, 1812-1902) and Eva (Minehart) Howick, who was the daughter of Jacob Minehart, chairman of a surveying party who surveyed where Columbus is now. He was one of the first settlers in Fairfield Co. Stephen Howick was born in Surrey Co., England, south of London. In 1831, at age 19, he immigrated to the USA. He was six months on the sea and had 19¢ to his name. He landed in Quebec, then went to Buffalo, N.Y. and from there to Lancaster, Ohio. He was in the brick laying business there until 1835, when he came to St. Marys. In 1837 he purchased 80 acres in Center Twp. Section 28. Stephen and Eva were married Oct. 20, 1836. They had eight children, five of which lived to adulthood: David, Jacob, George, Robert, and Danial. Stephen added to his farm until he became one of the wealthiest men in Mercer Co. He farmed 320 acres of his own and gave each child 80 acres and two sons 160 acres. He raised 100's of head of sheep, and owned both a tile and saw mill. It was necessary to have many hired hands to keep up with the work.

Janet A. Miller, Celina, Oh. 45822

IMEL FAMILY

Nathaniel Imel was the son of John Imel 1789-1861 and Sarah Skinner 1788-1847. John's father was Henry Imel 1756-1848. Research in Maryland indicates that Henry was one of five brothers brought over to America by England in 1776 during the Revolution as Hessian Soldiers to fight the colonies. Af-

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Catherine Hazleton, wife of Nathaniel Imel. Catherine Hazelton Imel was scalped by Indians, but did not die. She always wore a white cap to cover her missing lock of hair.

ter arriving here and upon learning the true conditions they joined the Continental Army. Later he and a brother settled in Maryland, then moved close to each other in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Hinshaw's Encyclopedia of Quaker Genealogy states there is no question but what the Immels were part of the Scholarie migration from New York State to Pennsylvania. This group was brought from Germany to England, then Queen Anne put them on ships and sent them to the Governor of New York instructing the governor to give them 10 acres of land each and money to carry them over for a year — unfortunately, the New York Governor did not carry out the Queen's instructions and the immigrants endured great suffering. William Penn, through some Reformed ministers who visited the colony gave them an offer of 100 acres per family and they started on a long, dangerous trek to Pennsylvania. The Indians helped them build canoes and they went down Scholarie Creek to Susquehanna River, then down that to Tulpehocken Creek into Lancaster, Penna. Nathaniel 1819-1869 married Catherine Hazelton 1817-1892 and had the following children: Samuel Lewis 1846-1918, Nancy 1848-1897, Ezra 1851-1933, Elizabeth 1853-1922, Nathaniel, Jr. 1856-1933 and Thomas 1861-1934. (see Imel history, Gibson Twp.) Ezra Imel married Nancy Margaret Wooten 1850-1879. To this union was born: George Washington who died at age 1 mo., 20 days; Eva Catherine Imel 1872-1960 married William Birum 1868-1929. They had eight children. Nancy Ida (twin) 1874-1955 married Jacob Shaffer 1871-1951 and had seven children. Anna Jennetta (twin) 1874-1963 married Martin Peterson — no children; Amanda Elnora Imel 1878- married Charles Singer 1867-1943 they had five children. Ezra Imel married Susan Catherine Shaneyfelt 1861-1949. They had seven children: Jesse Nathaniel 1881-1961 married Allie Mae Bernarte 1885-1964, and had one son; Virginia Arabella 1884-1959 married Albert Manuel Peterson 1878-1966 and had one daughter; Joseph Charles 1886- married Lura B. Lane 1888-1953 and had fourteen children; William Vernon 1889-1954 married Gertrude May Smith 1893- they had 5 children; Russell Albert Imel 1891-1962 married Mabel L. McCoy 1893-1937. They had 2 sons; Harry Edward Imel 1894, lived 7 days; and Marion Imel 1898-1965 married Ellen Hancock 1902-1965 they had 2 sons. *Mrs. Albert Imel, Celina, Oh.*

IMEL

Albert Dale Imel was born 7-18-17 to Russel Albert 1891- and Mabel McCoy Imel 1893-1937 at Pioneer, Iowa. He married Deloris Beatrice Bauer 4-13-18 on 2-14-37. Deloris is the daughter of William

Albert Dale and Deloris Beatrice (Bau Imel

1880-1960 and Corinda Burch Bauer 1898-1962. A bert was the manager of two Dairy Farms, one i Michigan and one in Penna., before going into th Infantry. Upon his return, he worked at Celina Lum ber Company and is presently employed at Rey nolds and Reynolds for 27 years. He operates printing press. He is the grandson of Ezra 1851-193 and Susan Shaneyfelt Imel 1861-1949. Ezra worke on what is now called Grand Lake St. Marys when was under construction. He was living at Portlanc Indiana and brought a slip scoop and team of horse to Celina to help bulldoze the dirt to form the lev for the bank of the Lake. He worked for $1.00 pe day for both him and the same for the team. It co .25 per day to board the horses and .35 per day fc his board.

Albert and Deloris have 5 children: Victor Larr 11-7-37 born near Celina. He married Annamar Moore 3-8-40 on April 28, 1962. Annamary is th daughter of Oscar and Mary (Synck) Moore. Larr enlisted in the Air Force in February, 1959 and ha been stationed in the states, Okinawa, Viet Nam Korea and Alaska. He is presently stationed a Barksdale Air Force Base, Shreveport, Louisiana Ivan Albert Imel 7-13-41 born at Imperial, Pennsyl vania. Married Susan Diane Loney 9-12-46 on Sep 4, 1965 at Britt, Iowa. Susan is the daughter of Ha rold and Mildred Ethel (Foster) Loney of Britt, Iowa Ivan is a Nazarene Missionary Minister in the State and they have 3 children: Andrea Elaine born 10-10 69 at Laredo, Texas; Eric Andrew 7-23-71 at Aransa Pass, Texas and Shannon Kristi 12-20-74 born at Ot tumwa, Iowa. Ivan is presently the Pastor at a Mo jave Indian Reservation in Parker, Arizona.

Darlene Deloris Imel 7-19-43 born at Poplar Bluf Missouri, married John Joseph Black 7-10-42 son o Andy and Lela (Kincaid) Black. They have two chil dren, John Joseph, Jr. 11-14-63 and Cindy Kay bor in Celina 10-18-68. Darlene was employed at Mers man's for 17 years and is presently employed b Reynolds and Reynolds.

Harold Dwayne was born 3-12-45 at Bluffton, In diana. He married Margo Lane Maddox 12-28-46 or June 6, 1970 at Jacksonville, Florida. Margo is the daughter of Kathleen and Sam Maddox. They have one child, Teala Renee born at Jacksonville, Florida 8-1-74. Harold served 2 years in the Navy and is presently employed as a sheet metal worker for the Montgomery Industries at Jacksonville, Florida.

Dana Ro-Dell 8-27-56 born in Celina. Dana was employed by Celina Group Insurance and is presently a full time student at Ohio State Branch College in Lima. *Mrs. Albert Imel, Celina, Oh. 45822*

JACKSON

Walter Bert Jackson (Mar. 18, 1870-Nov. 20, 1953) and Mary Jane Lyons (Aug. 23, 1875-Apr. 23, 1948) were married in Celina Sept. 1, 1892. They were the

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nts of one son, William Hamilton (1899-1939) four daughters, Erma, wife of James McKirnan, en (1896-1955) who was employed at Celina First onal Bank for many years, Ruth, and Mary, a stered nurse and wife of Eugene Riley of Sturgis, h. There were five grandchildren: Robert J., cille McKirnan Suttmiller and Sue McKirnan passed away in infancy and Jean Ann and Jack y.

ert, as Mr. Jackson was called, established the steam laundry in Celina located on N. Mill St. n he and his family moved to Van Wert for four s where he was part owner of two cigar stores. he end of the four years they returned to Celina re he continued in the cigar store business on S. n St. where the Club Cafe is now located. Later owned and operated an overall factory on W. rren St. near Wolff's Tire Service.

Ir. Jackson served on the Board of Public Affairs ig with Dr. L. M. Otis and Shell Fisher at the e the street lights were installed.

Ir. Jackson was affiliated with St. Paul's Method- Church.

ert and Mary Jane Lyons Jackson celebrated their wedding anniversary.

ert Jackson was born in Van Wert to James and ille Bryant Jackson. He had a brother William E. son, a sister Cora Jackson Hire, a half-brother, ford Kohn, and a step-brother Joe Kohn.

lary Jane Lyons was born in Union City, Ind. to c and Priscilla Edwards Lyons. She had two thers, Hamilton and Abraham Lyons. Abraham l in the Spanish American War.

riscilla Edwards was a school mate and close nd of Annie Oakley.

he Jacksons spent their entire life in Celina ex- t for the four years in Van Wert. *Ruth Jackson*

OAN (MOELLER) JAMES

an (Moeller) James was born in New Bremen, o on July 6, 1933 to Willis and Irene (Neuman) eller. I am the only child of Willis and Irene uman) Moeller.

Willis is the son of Oscar and Aurelia (Roettger) eller and there were five (5) brothers and one (1) er in his family. Irene is the daughter of Levi and y (Meckstroth) Neuman and there were one (1) ther and one (1) daughter in her family who lived New Bremen, Ohio. In 1934 the Willis Moeller ily moved to Celina, Ohio where he started king at Mersman Brothers Furniture Company upon retirement he was working at Copland's rigeration, in Sidney, Ohio.

grew up most of my life in Celina and graduated n Celina High School in 1951.

When I graduated from Celina High School I ted working in August 1951 at the Celina Insur- e Group (then known as Brookharts). I worked re until August 1953 when I was married June 13, 3 to Merlin R. James and moved to Oxford, io. During my marriage I had three (3) sons, Brad en James, born August 11, 1955 in the Canal ne, Panama; Bruce Nile James, born May 6, 1957 Greenhills, Ohio and Brian Reese James, born uary 19, 1964, in Lima, Ohio.

n August of 1968 the Boys and I returned to Cel- , Ohio. Brad, Bruce and Brian started school in Celina and Brad graduated in 1973, Bruce in 1975 and Brian will be graduating in 1982.

I started working for the Board of Mercer County Commissioners as their Clerk in January 1968 and still hold the job that I enjoy very much. I am also Secretary to the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission, I am on the St. John's Lutheran Church Council and enjoy playing Bridge and watching sports as a hobby.

Brad went on to college and graduated June 1977 from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. He is now working for Craig Transportation Company, Perrysburg, Ohio and lives in Bowling Green, Ohio and enjoys sports of all kinds.

Bruce is welding and is working for Schuck's Welding, Celina, Ohio and is living at home in Celina and enjoys sports, listening to his stereo, watching television and reading.

Brian will be a Freshman and is living at home in Celina. He enjoys reading, watching television and riding his bike. *Joan James*

JOHNSON

George W. Johnson, son of Peter and Mary (Holsbury) Johnson, born April 5, 1834 in Barbour County, West Virginia; he married Nancy (Neptune) Majors on Christmas Day 1857. (She was born in Ashland County, Ohio, May 18, 1825, and died 1874; her first marriage was mother of one child, Isabella, wife of Nathan Figley.)

Four children, two sons and two daughters: James D., born Nov. 26, 1858, died Nov. 23, 1934; Colman, died in infancy; Frances, wife of Ed Swihart; Mary M., wife of Jefferson Pond; Nancy, died 1874.

George Johnson married Mary, daughter of David and Melinda Morrison, born in Woods County, Virginia, January 21, 1846.

Maud B. Johnson, Mary's granddaughter, born July 8, 1882.

James D. Johnson resident of Mercer County since seventeen months of age, reared in Blackcreek Township, resident of Mercer County, born Nov. 26, 1858, died Nov. 22, 1934. Elementary education in District School, Willshire High School. Entered Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, April, 1882, located in Celina in office of Thomas J. Godfrey; entered the Cincinnati School of Law and graduated June 1884; served as Deputy of Treasurer of Mercer County. Formed partnership with Steven A. Armstrong, the spring of 1885. He was elected Justice of the Peace, Jefferson Township 6 years. In 1893, nominated by Democratic Party, of 32 Ohio Senatorial District comprising the counties of Williams, Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert, Allen, Auglaize, Mercer; won the office by a big majority.

Married Rebecca Darrah, June 23, 1886, daughter of the late Rev. James D. Darrah, minister of the Presbyterian Church in St. Marys, Ohio. Rev. Darrah established the first Presbyterian Church west of the Mississippi River at Rock Hill, Mo.; died April 5, 1812.

The children of James and Rebecca were: Jesse D. Johnson, born Feb. 25, 1886, died Feb. 8, 1961; married Reta Knorr of Columbus, Ohio; one son, James Darrah Johnson, born Sept. 28, 1908.

Ruth, born Feb. 24, 1895; married Otis Johnson,

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Dec. 4, 1941, owner of the Ford Garage; died March 10, 1970.

Winifred, born Dec. 5, 1899; married Ed McKirnan, Celina, Ohio; died April, 1938. She married Carleton Reiser, March 28, 1941, of Napoleon, Ohio. He served in World War I and II; he was the First Municipal Judge of Mercer County; died Dec. 22, 1973. Legal advisor to State Auditor Joseph Ferguson.

J. D. Johnson married Savella Myers, Nov. 26, 1913, daughter of David Myers; he died Nov. 23, 1934. *Mrs. Carleton C. Reiser*

KARCH FAMILY

The Karch family in Mercer County had its orgins from George Karch (1827-1896) and Walburga Riedel Karch (1826-1907). George Karch was the son of Johann B. Karg (b. 1779) and Walburga Kollerin Karg (b. 1790) and the grandson of Sebastian Karg and Anna Coniger Karg. He was born in Raitenbuch (Bavaria) Germany, a small village near Beilngries and records relating to his birth remain in the parish church at Oening, nearby. His parents were farmers and tilled a small lot of land near their village. Their home is still in use as a private residence. At an early age George Karch left Germany for America with friends. He married Walburga Riedel, a seamstress, circa 1853, who had come from Bavaria with her sister Theresa Riedel Falk.

They moved to Marysville, Ohio and the following children were born: Barbara (John Helmstetter) (1854-1908), Joseph (Elizabeth Kobus) (1855-1924), Elizabeth (William Meyer) (1858-1942), Lucinda (George Heffner) (1860-1945), Mary (Julius Wilson) (1856-1948). John (Sarah Dickes) (1862-1929). In 1864, the family purchased a farm near St. Marys, Ohio where the following additional children were born: Anna (Tim Milnor) (1864-1934), Peter (Mary George) (1865-1945), Caroline (Louis Bernard) (1865-1947), and Margaretha (Edward Hartzel) (1867-1952). Again in 1868, 98 acres at $1.00 per acre were purchased near Cranberry Prairie, Ohio. Much of this land was swampy and required much tilling to make cultivation possible. Here the couple remained until George's death from typhoid fever in 1896. Walburga lived with her children John and Caroline Bernard until her death in 1907. Both are buried in St. Francis Cemetery at Cranberry Prairie, near St. Henry, Ohio.

John married Sarah Dickes on April 12, 1890. To this union was born eight children.

Mabel Edith Karch Bedinghaus was born on Sept. 15, 1891. Arthur Lisle Karch was born on Feb. 1, 1894 and died Dec. 11, 1931. Lucinda Marie Karch Sink was born Feb. 26, 1896. Esther Ruth Karch McKee was born Jan. 19, 1898 and died Sept. 27, 1959. John R. McLain Karch was born Aug. 31, 1899 and died Feb. 12, 1947. Paul Adam Karch was born July 14, 1901. Mary Margaret Karch Cartwright Hugelen was born June 10, 1904. George Earl Karch was born Nov. 1, 1910.

Mabel Edith Karch married John Bedinghaus of Cincinnati, Ohio, on September 6, 1926. She lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. Two children were born to this union. David John Bedinghaus was born May 21, 1931 and died May 23, 1931.

Arthur Lisle Karch married Margie Berkmeyer of Coldwater, Ohio, on Oct. 1, 1924. They have children — Ruth Margaret Karch Lammers Helen, Georgia, and Patricia Ann Karch Stricke Cincinnati, Ohio.

Lucinda Marie Karch married John Carl Sink June 24, 1925. They have three girls: Sara Lou S Briggs of Geneva, Ind. and Jean Ann Sink of N ford, Ohio, and Joan Ann Sink Beckham of Milf Ohio.

Esther Ruth Karch married Merrill Bruce Mc of Sidney, Ohio on Oct. 11, 1930.

Paul Adam Karch married Helen Wysong of (ina, Ohio on April 18, 1928. They live near Ce and have two girls — Miriam Eileen Karch Hon Lima, Ohio and Betty Lou Karch Stuber of Frem Ohio.

Mary Margaret Karch married Benjamin Harri Cartwright of St. Louis, Missouri on Octobe 1928. To this union was born one son John Crei ton Cartwright of Ft. Wayne, Ind.

John R. McLain Karch married Rosemary Brinl Dayton, Ohio and to this union was born two c dren: John W. Karch of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Juc Clair Karch Cleves of Cincinnati, Ohio.

George Earl Karch married Martha Friddle of N Castle, Ind. To this union was born two children James Lisle Karch of New York City and Phi Merrill Karch of Atlanta, Georgia. *Jean Ann Sink, ford, Oh.*

JOHN W. KARCH

John W. Karch, founder of The John W. Ka Stone Company, was the fifth of ten children b to George and Walburga Karch. Both of John W parents were born in Bavaria, Germany. The fam was living at Marysville, Ohio, when John W. v born, March 19, 1862. Not long thereafter th moved to St. Marys, Ohio. George bought a farm Cranberry Prairie and the family settled on this r fertile soil. The next spring the farm was practica inundated by flooding. This, it came to be fou was a rather normal occurance for the area. By sisting Jake Meyers, who was one of the larg landholders in the area at that time, and farming own land as he could, it was possible for George feed and clothe his family.

John W. grew up with the frontiersman's aggr sive desire to build and improve his surroundin He worked his way into the contracting busine building roads and performing drainage work. D ing a road building job west of Celina he board with the Dickes family. Sarah Dickes, one of t daughters of the family and John W. were marri April 12, 1890. After living at the Dickes home fo time John W. moved his wife and daughter to newly constructed home he had just built in Celi A second house was built while the family lived Celina and farmland at Cranberry Prairie was pu chased. The family moved to the farm and pr ceeded to clear the land, build buildings and p form necessary drainage work. During all of th activity John W. found time to run for and be vot into two terms as Mercer County Commission 1899-1903. While carrying the responsibility Commissioner John W. realized, even more than had known before, the need for quality aggrega for the construction and building industry.

John W. and Anthony Fishbaugh formed a pa

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:ship and purchased the quarry that now bears name. The quarry had been opened in 1880 to rn lime. Not long after their purchase, plans were ıde to modernize and increase the capacity of the arry. A rear dump wagon loaded by hand and lled by mules, and a jaw crusher powered by am were added to the quarry operation. A steam wered tripod drill did the drilling of the blast les. In 1907 John W. bought out his partner and ıns for a complete modernization were made. ıarry cars hand loaded by Hungarians and pulled mules were pulled to the base of the incline ıere a cable and winch drew the car up to the ısher. a #6 McCully gyratory crusher was inlled as a primary crusher. An 18" belt elevator ›ved the stone up to a new 6 feet in diameter by feet long revolving screen. A #3 McCully gyra-y crusher was installed to perform the secondary ıshing. This completed a recirculating system that ıde possible many more sizes of stone than had ɔn previously possible. The materials in the hold-; bins were stockpiled or loaded into customer's gons. All transportation of stone was by horse d wagon at that time.

In 1908 a Marion model 20 steam shovel was purased for loading the railroad cars. This ended the nd loading of the stone. In 1911 a Lima 14 ton ɔam locomotive was placed in the pit to pull the arry cars.

During the First World War, John received the ntract to build the first concrete road in Mercer ›unty. It was route 127 starting at Carthagena road d going south to Cranberry Prairie road. Due to ɔ extreme shortage of labor it was necessary to ing in help from a wide area of that surrounding mmunity.

In 1923 the use of steam power for plant operation ıs changed to a Buckeye oil engine. This was a mi-diesel that ran on the crude pumped from the wells on the property.

On Sept. 8, 1929 at the age of 67, John was inlved in a auto-truck accident that took his life. veral of the children were involved in the business d after John's passing, proceeded to operate the ısiness.

As time went by, a Lima 403 gas driven friction ɛrated shovel replaced the steam unit. Crushers ɛre changed, the revolving screen was replaced th vibrating screens and other changes kept pace th modern engineering and new technology. In 45 through 1948 a complete renovation was made the plant up to the processing mill; a new shovel, w trucks and trailers to move the stone to a new v primary crusher, 30 inch conveyor belts moved e crushed stone to the processing plant.

Various changes in equipment have been made to crease volume and efficiency and to keep the plant ›-to-date and working in a dependable manner.

It has been the policy of The John W. Karch Stone ›mpany to take our raw product and through the ɛst in technology and equipment, produce a finıed product of the highest possible quality to meet e increasing needs of our many customers.

PATRICK E. KENNEY

Patrick E. Kenney was born in Cincinnati, November 9, 1854, son of Michael and Bridget (McHale) Kenney, natives of County, Mayo, Ireland. When Patrick was two years old, the family moved to Adams County, Indiana. Assisting his father in farm labor until his twenty-third year, he then married Norah Laughlin. Within four years, she died. Their children, Alice and Norah died several years later.

College attendance, teaching, purchase of a home and study of law followed with admission to Ohio State Bar in 1887. Patrick was again married in 1885 at Monroeville, Ohio, to Karolena Regina Schmidt, an accomplished musician, born February 21, 1864 to Frederick W. and Margarette (Neumann) Schmidt, natives of Germany and Celina residents in clothing business in the 70's and 80's.

Conscious of obligation to aid in disseminating universal knowledge, including the truths of religion, Mr. and Mrs. Kenney entered their children Margaret Adelaide, born October 14, 1886, Grover John, March 8, 1888, and Claudia Valeria, August 17, 1890 into Immaculate Conception Parsih School where they completed the three year High School Business Course. Grove and Claudia graduated from Celina High School's Science Course, also. Adelaide became her father's secretary. After a long, honorable career in the practice of law, Mr. Kenney died November 28, 1946, his esteemed wife having died February 7, 1933.

October 27, 1914, Adelaide married Jerome William Grothjan, son of Anthony and Rosa (Leifelt) Grothjan, a graduate of Celina High School, and his father's business partner. They were socially and musically prominent. Their first child, John Jerome died January 6, 1922. Children born later were named Margaret Adelaide, James Kenney and Harry Anthony Patrick. Jerome died December 30, 1931. Adelaide died June 29, 1963.

September 6, 1947, Margaret, a St. Elizabeth Hospital registered nurse, married Marcus Dillon Smalley, son of Dillon R. and Pearl (Hinton) Smalley, Celina, Ohio, a Miami University graduate and Navy veteran. They moved to Fairborn, where six of their eight children grew up, the three elder holding degrees.

James, second son, ordained priest at St. Charles Seminary May 24, 1951, served as pastor and United States Air Force Chaplain. Retiring with rank of Colonel, he returned to pastoral duty with the Priests of the Precious Blood Society.

Harry, Navy veteran and Ada University student, married Emily Nelson, daughter of Verlin and Esther (Klosterman) Nelson, St. Marys June 9, 1951. Employed many years with the company he began with, Harry and Emily reared their six children in the home he owns in Lima, Ohio.

Grover, World War I veteran, married Florence Adelia Hattery, daughter of Dr. John E. and Mary (Nichols) Hattery, Celina, November 21, 1917, after her attendance at the College of Wooster. His work being in the West, Grover purchased their home in Los Angeles, where they lived until his death, October 12, 1955.

Their only child, Robert Hattery Kenney, married Ruth Grettie, daughter of Roy S. and Lela (Jones) Grettie, Salem, Oregon. Both United States Air Force veterans and graduates of UCLA, they acquired a home for themselves and daughter in nearby Van Nuys.

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Claudia, a Kent State and Catholic University, Washington, D.C. student, taught one year at Coldwater, Ohio thrity-five years in Celina Public School and four years in Immaculate Conception School, where she had served as volunteer substitute teacher in 1909 and 1910. She resides in the family home. *Claudia Kenney*

MEMORIAL TO PATRICK E. KENNEY

Adopted by the Mercer County Bar Association, Celina Daily Standard, December 3, 1946.

Patrick E. Kenney, Veteran Celina Attorney, departed this life Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1946, aged 92 years.

Mr. Kenney was born in Cincinnati, Ohio Nov. 9, 1854; two years later his parents removed to Adams County, Indiana, to a vast wilderness, which was later made famous by Gene Stratton Porter, in her Limberlost Stories, and it was here that he received his primary education. After the loss of his first wife, he determined to qualify himself as a teacher, and attended Valparaiso University in Indiana and Ada University, Ohio; after teaching four years, he began the study of law in the offices of LeBlond, LeBlond and Loughridge, and was admitted to the Ohio State Bar in 1887. In the late 90's he was associated with the late Robert L. Mattingly; and in the early 1900's with John G. Romer. When Mr. Romer moved to Dayton, Mr. Kenney continued alone in the practice of law until 1930, when the present firm of Kenney & Hinders, was formed with Homer J. Hinders. Early in his career Mr. Kenney served as President of the County Board of School Examiners; he served two terms as Prosecuting Attorney of Mercer County; and two terms as Mayor of Celina; he was one of the promoters of the Mercer County Chautauqua, and of the Public Library in Celina, serving on the Public Library Board of Trustees, from its inception until January of this year. He was especially active in World War I in recognition of which he received Certificates of Honor from both the President of the United States and the Governor of Ohio ... As Chairman of the Building Commission, he served in the planning and erecting of the present Courthouse.

Born during the troubled period leading up to the Civil War, Mr. Kenney's early life was spent in an environment of intense patriotism, and this spirit carried through his entire life.

Few men in Mercer County's history have left such a record of unflagging effort to improve the lot of the less fortunate among us; few indeed have left such a record of achievement in that purpose to which he was so constant.

His fairness, his integrity, and his great common sense, as well as his great human sympathy, all made for the great respect he so well earned as an attorney and counsellor at law. But many who had such intimacy with him as to lead them to feel that they knew what was uppermost in his mind and heart, believe that his highest ambition was to so live that when his race was run it could veritably be said of him that in the struggle for the preservation and extension of true democracy in which he took so great and constant a part from his early youth, he kept the Faith. He kept it well.

Therefore, be it resolved, by The Mercer County Bar Association in Special Memorial Meeting assembled this 2nd day of December, A.D., 1946, that t Association extend to the family its deepest a heartfelt sympathy in this hour of their berea ment, and that a copy of this Resolution be sent the family of our late member as evidence of our teem and deep sense of loss; that this Resolution spread upon the Journal of Our Common Pl Court, and published in the Daily Standard. Ed Bryson, Chairman, E. E. Jackson, and Homer Hinders. *Claudia Kenney*

Lee Clyde and Caroline B (Smith) Kincaid (1906)

THE KINCAID FAMILY

James Kincaid, born in Virginia and Susan Gil land Kincaid, born in Ohio, were the parents Hugh Kincaid who was born on August 7, 1839, Jackson Co., Ohio. Hugh and his first wife Mic Wilson, who was born in Scioto Co., Ohio, had ni children; six of whom survived. A son, Alexand (1863-1934), married Mahala Brandon (1867-191 Her parents were Joseph Van Buren Brandon a Temperance McDonald. Alexander worked as farmer and a thresher in Mercer County. He la worked as a boiler fireman in a creamery plant Celina and also at the Rastetter Buggy Bow, whi was located on South Sugar St. Mahala.and Al had three children: Murley Jane (wife of Clyde L fin), Lee Clyde Kincaid (married Caroline Be Smith), and Chester Arthur (married Lydia Smith)

Caroline Smith's parents were Hannah H Smith (1857-1889) and George J. Smith, who died December of 1932. Hannah's parents were Jane Va skite and David Hole. George J.'s parents, Andrew and Margaret Karch Smith, were natives of Ge many and early settlers of Liberty Township.

Lee Clyde (b 10-20-1887) married Caroline Be (b 11-15-1886) in 1906. He farmed until the start WW II. At this time, he worked at the war plants l cated in Luddington, Mich., Monaca, Penna., a Happy Valley, Tenn. In 1945, they moved the small trailer back to Mercer County and Clyde b gan working at Mersman Bros. Furniture Factor He sold the farm, located on Burrville Road, nort west of Celina, in 1947. They moved the trailer 113 Stella St., Celina. On August 15, 1949, Lee Clyc Kincaid, Sr. died. His widow, Caroline, later built small house at the Stella St. address. She lived the until her death on August 10, 1970. They are bo buried at Swamp Cemetery. They were warr friendly people who added much to the lives of t people they knew.

Clyde and Caroline's children were: Melva Mae 4-3-1907), who married Otto Grimm. They ha four children: Rosalyn (Hill), Samuel, Donald, a Fredrick. Inez Lucille (b 2-25-1911), who marrie

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shley Dumbauld. Their children are: Bill, Janet Cron), Judy (Waterman), and Tommy, who died in fancy. Lela Evelyn (8-5-1916-5-1963), who married ndrew Black. Their children are: Mary (Godwin), ılabelle (Jefferies), John, Karen (Ross), Betty (Non), and a son Andrew, who died at the age of 5. Lee lyde, Jr. (b 2-8-1922), who married Elizabeth Perini 2-7-1922). Elizabeth (Betty) is the daughter of Giɔma (1887-1954) and Josephine (Righi) Perini 889-1959) — both of Trento, Italy (formerly rento, Austria). They came to the United States in 919.

Lee met Betty in New York City while waiting to e sent overseas during WW II. He was a Staff Sgt. ı the 8th Army Air Force, working as a gunnery inructor, stationed in England. They were married n 6-28-1945 in St. Joseph's Church, New York City. ı October of 1945, they returned to Celina with ee's parents and made their home with them for vo years — on the home farm. It was quite a hange for Betty — from New York City to a farm in Mercer County! Lee built a house at 519 Lisle Street nd has worked at Mersman Bros. for the last 31 ears. Betty works at the Empire Commissary. Both e active in the Immaculate Conception Parish. Lee ıjoys wood working and has built furniture for his ımily. He built a new house at 513 W. Lisle St. in 975, where they presently reside.

Lee and Betty have four children. Carolann (b 6-7-946), who married John Thees. They have three ıildren: Timothy John, Matthew Adam, and Reecca Marie. Michael Lee (b 10-26-1950) lives in Dayton, Ohio. He graduated from Wright State Iniv. with a degree in Accounting. He works as a ertified Public Accountant with the firm of Kincaid : Forsthoefel. Thomas Lee (b 6-21-1955), married Marianne Knapschaefer on May 21, 1977. They reently purchased the DeCurtains house in Coldwaer, Oh. They are expecting their first child next pring. Tom works at Thees Mach. & Tool Co., Cena, and Marianne works in the office at Huffy orp. Judy Marie (b 3-15-1958), married Dale Hoıan from St. Anthony, Ohio. They have one daughr, Danielle Jean (b 11-12-1978), and live west of elina on Township Line Road. Dale is employed as truck driver for St. Anthony Mills.

See also the John and Carolann Kincaid Thees amily History. *Lee Kincaid, Celina, Oh. 45822*

KINNISON

Harold William Kinnison (Nov. 27, 1926, Celina, Ohio) married Rose Ann Brock on Feb. 22, 1948. Their children are: Robert Lee (July 13, 1953, Celina, Ohio) and Fonda Elaine (Sept. 19, 1957, Celina, Ohio).

Harold Kinnison's parents were William Howard nd Lula Mae (Humbert) Kinnison, married Nov. 29, 923. William Howard Kinnison (Feb. 21, 1904, Ft. ecovery, Ohio — January 24, 1960, Lima, Ohio) arents were George N. and Sylvia L. (Coats) Kinnion, married May 2, 1903. George N. Kinnison (May 3, 1879, Recovery Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio — May , 1939, Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) parnts were William Kinnison (May 11, 1849, Reovery Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio — Aug. 1930) and ollyann (Fought) Kinnison of Jackson Co., Ohio. ylvia L. (Coats) Kinnison (Dec. 28, 1880, Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio — Sept. 25, 1971, Warsaw, In.) parents were Howard Coats, (Negis Co., Ohio) and Magdaleen (Bryan) Coats, (Van Wert, Ohio). Lula Mae (Humbert) Kinnison (July 29, 1902, Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) parents were Nickles and Pearl (Painter) Humbert, married in 1901. Nickles Humbert (May 12, 1878, Frenchtown, Ohio — Feb. 27, 1967, Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio) parents were Urban Humbert (France) and Mary (Henry) Humbert (France). Pearl (Painter) Humbert (March 12, 1882, Jay Co., Indiana) parents were George Painter (Chillicothe, Ohio) and Abagail (Schroll) Painter, (Salem, Indiana). *Harold W. Kinnison, Celina, Oh.*

CRAIG AND NANCY (OTIS) KLOPFLEISCH

Craig and Nancy (Otis) Klopfleisch, Thom and Julie Cole who are currently residing in Alameda, California, still consider their residence at 100 Walnut Shore Drive in Celina as "home".

Craig's family has about a 100 year Mercer County history, starting with his great-grandfather, Casper Heinrich Klopfleisch who emigrated from Germany. Craig's grandfather was Gustov "Gus" Klopfleisch and his father is Carl Klopfleisch, who along with his wife Odessa (Duncan) Klopfleisch, reside at 230 E. Livingston Street in Celina. Craig also has one brother Kim, who currently resides with his family in Saint Marys.

Craig was born on March 24, 1949, in Celina. He graduated from Celina Senior High School in 1967. During high school Craig was active in church and school activities, holding offices in various organizations including: Master Counselor of DeMolay and President of the Luther League at St. John's Lutheran Church. Craig attended Capital University in Columbus, Ohio where he was awarded a B.A. in Speech/Communications in 1971. During College, Craig actively participated in numerous organizations including theatre, serving as President of Drama Organization; Pi Epsilon Delta, theatre fraternity, where he was also President; Men's Glee Club; Student Government; Dorm Council and Student Activities Council where he held the Chairmanship.

Upon graduation, Craig joined the staff of Capital as Director of Student Activities, a position he held for two years. In 1973, Craig returned to Celina, joining Celina Group as Personnel & Training Representative. Active in the College-Community Arts Council, Craig conceived the idea and Chaired the committee for the First College-Community Arts Festival. June 1976, saw Craig again leaving Celina, this time for the American Graduate School of International Management in Glendale, Arizona. In August of 1976, Craig returned to Celina to be married on August 14, to Nancy.

Nancy, the daughter of Dr. Lloyd M. and Elizabeth (Dabbelt) Otis, was born on October 1, 1948 in Celina's Otis Hospital. Nancy graduated from Immaculate Conception High School in 1966, having spent some time studying German at the University of Innsbruck in Austria. Nancy's son, Thomas Lloyd Cole, was born in Celina on May 4, 1967. After the birth of her son, Nancy attended Ohio State University where her major was biochemistry. After the

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birth of her daughter, Julie Elizabeth Cole on May 8, 1970, Nancy returned to Celina and went into business for herself, building and then managing Meadowview Terrace Apartments. During this time Nancy also involved herself in civic activities including the College-Community Arts Council and was Treasurer of the Mercer County Republican Executive Committee.

In August of 1976, the entire family then moved to Arizona and back to school until Craig received his Master's Degree in International Management. At the same time Nancy received her Certificate of Advanced Study and Thom and Julie finished the 4th and 1st grades respectively at Kachina School.

Craig was recruited upon graduation by Hilti Inc. to work in San Francisco, California. Craig presently holds the position of Division Sales and Planning Manager; his third position with Hilti. Nancy is presently working for Buttes Gas & Oil Co. in the position of Benefits Specialist. She is also Corporate Secretary and Officer of Vici Ltd., both firms located in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Klopfleisch's enjoy leisure activities including camping, water sports, yachting on the San Francisco Bay and both Thom and Julie are active in Scouting. *Nancy Otis Klopfleisch, Alameda, Calif.*

RALPH KLOSTERMAN

Ralph E. Klosterman, currently a member of the Board of Mercer County Commissioners and a former Celina City Councilman, was born July 17, 1911 in a farm home on Guadelupe Road east of Montezuma.

He attended the school house on Guadelupe Road from 1917 to 1923 and also attended Our Lady of Guadelupe Catholic Church in Montezuma during this period.

In 1924, Mr. Klosterman moved with his parents, brothers and sisters to a farm north of Celina. He attended Immaculate Conception Church and School in Celina and was graduated from the Immaculate Conception School in 1931.

For the next five (5) years, he worked for Crampton Canneries.

In 1940, Mr. Klosterman was married to the former Helen Sudhoff, St. Anthony, and from their union was born two daughters and a son — Jane, Joan and James.

He and his wife have resided at 255 Touvelle St., Celina, Ohio since October of 1940 except for three (3) years spent in the Armed Forces.

In 1942, he entered the U.S. Army, serving until 1945 on two fronts — both in the U.S. and a year and a half in the European theatre.

Mr. Klosterman joined the Stokely Van Camp Co. in January of 1946 as a fieldman and worked for many years with Ralph Andrews.

In 1955, he was encouraged to be a candidate for president of the Celina City Council, an office he subsequently served for two (2) terms. He then decided to campaign for mayor, but was defeated by D. B. Spangler, following which Mr. Klosterman successfully campaigned for the Office of Councilman-at-large to which he was elected for three (3) consecutive terms.

In 1968, Mr. Klosterman decided to campaign for the Office of County Commissioner. In the Democratic primary race Mr. Klosterman defeated M John Suhr for the Office of County Commissione He was re-elected in 1972 and 1976.

During his ten (10) years on City Council mar subdivisions were developed and streets improve by the addition of curbs and storm sewers.

From the beginning of his term as County Con missioner, many plans have been studied and pr posed to improve the conditions and facilities i Mercer County.

Beginning in 1969, new kitchen equipment wa installed at the County Home, windows at th County Courthouse and the County Jail repaire and painted.

A solid waste district for the County was initiate by the Board and in 1970, the courthouse audit rium was repainted and a new ceiling and ligh were installed and the first floor and basement c the courthouse were rejuvenated.

During the year 1974 the former Insurance Build ing at 311 South Main Street was purchased by th Board of Mercer County Commissioners and com pletely renovated to provide office space for th Mercer County School System; the Mercer Count Health Department and the Mercer County Welfar Department.

In addition to the physical improvements to th county, Mr. Klosterman has offered the county hi time, energy and expertise to several county an joint-county boards, agencies and organizations.

In 1975 the Cheryl Ann School was built for th Mentally Retarded of Mercer County.

Mr. Klosterman has been Chairman of the Merce County Chapter of the American Red Cross the pas seven (7) years. He is also a member of the Knight of Columbus, the American Legion Post 210 and member of other groups interested in the publi welfare. *Ralph Klosterman*

LEE ANDREW KUHN

Lee Andrew Kuhn, youngest of four children, wa born August 3, 1903 to Joseph George and Magde lina (nee Roehm) Kuhn, farmers. This was in Black creek Township, Mercer County, one mile north o Chattanooga, Ohio in the Wildcat School District Until 1918 the years were spent helping on the farm THE KUHN DEN. Having an interest in mechanica things, he taught himself the workings of the auto mobile. His father arrived home one time and found many parts of the car unassembled. All were reas sembled by Lee and the family car was usually ir good running order after that.

He attended eight grades in the Wildcat School His freshman year was at Rockford High School and he finished high school in Celina after moving there in 1918.

Desiring to become a civil engineer, he worked summers with the County engineering crew. Eye trouble was diagnosed as too serious to attend college in his high school senior year. He then enrolled in the Michigan State Auto School, Detroit, Michigan. He later operated a garage on South Main Street, Celina. This was sold and after an emergency appendectomy requiring a long recovery period a taxi was purchased and operated for 1½ years in Celina at 114 East Market St. During the late 1920's he was commissioned State Park Police and served

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Edgewater Park just east of Celina.

March 6, 1930, he married Gladys Anna Ellerman, . Marys, born February 13, 1906, daughter of uito and Minnie (Knost) Ellerman. They had three ıildren; Donald R., Davey L., and Shirley Ann.

He obtained the Maytag Franchise and opened a ore at 216 South Main Street, Celina and also at 5 North Main Street in Lima. These were operated r several years. Upon selling them, he purchased a reath factory in Spencerville, Ohio. Upon disposg of the wreath factory, he began selling real estate ıd doing auction work in the Celina area.

Mrs. Kuhn passed away September 3, 1961. Mr. uhn has remained in Celina and taken an active inrest in community affairs. He was a charter memr of the Mercer County Park Board and active in e upbuilding of Eden Haven Park. Much effort as put forth in reactivating the Historical Society Mercer County). During these activities, work in al estate and auctioneering has continued. *Carole ıhn, Celina, Oh. 45822*

MYRTLE MILLER LARMORE

Myrtle Miller was born Aug. 31, 1890, daughter of eorge and Philena Crouch Miller, in Jefferson wnship. George W. Miller, son of John and Emily liller, was born June 6, 1850, in Richland County,

Myrtle was one of eleven children: Shirley (Daisy ull), Van Wert county; Lloyd, Ferry, Joseph and o (all died in their youth); Blanche (James Donoın), Mercer, O.; Bess and Nell died young; Myrtle obert Larmore), Jefferson township; Philena rown), Long Beach, California; Marie (Dr. Ralph . Schlenker), Celina, O. Philena died on Novemr 24, 1907 and George died June 15, 1921.

Philena Jane Crouch was born in Mercer County, ., December 28, 1852, daughter of Francis Judkin ıd Mercy Crouch. They had eleven children: Adeıe, Hester Ann, Nancy, Nathaniel Walker, Soloon, Baby boy, David Edson, Francis Marion, Sarah, lary, Philena Jane. Philena Jane died November 24, 907, at the time of her death she had one sister, lary Goggin and one brother David Crouch.

Myrtle Miller went to Buck school. She lived on r father's farm until the time of her marriage May , 1910 to Robert Larmore.

Robert L. Larmore was born January 26, 1870 in elina, O., he was the only son of Robert and Reecca York Larmore. When very young he moved ith his parents to west Jefferson township. All of s life was spent in the community in which he was rn, married and died, all but a few years he lived ı the home place. Besides farming he bought livetock and was also a township trustee for several ars. He was one of the most widely known resints of the community where he lived in Jefferson. e lived a quiet and simple life, but was always inrested in affairs of surrounding community. He ıd Myrtle attended Beaver Chapel church.

Myrtle and Robert had one son Lewis Lee Larore, born November 7, 1929. Robert passed away ly 10, 1945. He had one sister, Mrs. Robert Spicer, eptune, O.

After her husband's death Myrtle and Lewis Lee oved to Celina, O. to 211 East Warren Street. Myrtle worked for eighteen years at Gibbons Hospital, Celina, O. Myrtle's brother Shirley Miller was born June 7, 1876. On November 29, 1916 he was married to Daisy Dull and they had two children, Martha (William B. Rogers) N.Y. and Paul Miller, Van Wert, O. Shirley died on November 23, 1953.

Lewis Larmore graduated from Celina High School, Celina, O. and attended college at Ft. Wayne, Ind. He now makes his home, with his family in Celina, O.

On November 9, 1952 he married Mary Winn, daughter of George and Loree Winn Sr. Mary was born December 21, 1934 in Oakdale, Louisiana. She has one sister and two brothers Bertie, Julius and George Winn Jr.

Lewis and Mary have three children: Steve born July 2, 1955; Jeff born August 29, 1958 and Marisa born August 12, 1961.

Lewis at the present time is part owner of Lake Contracting Co. *Lewis Lee Larmore*

CHARLES AND MILDRED LININGER

I, Mildred Jane Lininger, am proud of my heritage. Both of my parents were born in Mercer County and I was also born in Celina, Ohio.

My Mother was Viola Martha Wright Lininger the daughter of William and Susan Wright. She was a widow with two little daughters when she met my father and after four years, they were married. I became the third child born to them. A son and daughter died in infancy.

My father was the son of Dr. A. J. Lininger and Maria Jane Morrow Lininger. Doctor Lininger was born in Mansfield, Ohio, and came with his parents to Center Township at the age of ten. He served three years in the Civil War, entering in 1861 to 1864. He graduated from the Medical College of Cleveland and practiced medicine in Mendon, Oh. He was one of the first councilmen of Mendon. In 1881, the doctor purchased the "Union House" hotel on Main Street in Mendon. He also owned a family property and office located two blocks south of the hotel. He had two farms north of Mendon, Oh. He later moved to Van Wert where he had a hotel where the old depot now stands. After a short period he moved from Van Wert to Celina and purchased the Monumental Marble Works located on Main St. where Winkeljohn's Printing Shop is now located.

After the doctor's death, the three Lininger Bros. conducted this business. The stone for the Catholic Church (Immaculate Conception) steps were cut and placed by the Lininger Bros. Later this shop was sold to Henry Stelzer. At this time, Lininger Bros. bought the John and Minnie Richardson Bretz store, which was located where the Male Fashion is located — at the corner of Main and Fayette St. At that time the store building was a frame structure. Dr. Richardson built the present brick bldg. and Lininger Bros. were the first renters. Later the old Opera house became for sale — where Bi-Rite store is now located — at the corner of Main and Fayette Sts. Lininger Bros. bought this building and moved their store there. The store was called Lininger Bros. Big Bargain Store and it was soon filled on all three floors with mer-

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chancise. People would come from miles in buggies and wagons and stay all day in Celina to shop. One of the first elevators was installed in this building. Two of the Lininger Bros. died and Charles Lininger, his wife, and daughter Mildred continued in business until 1945. Mr. Lininger retired because of illness. Many people remember the Lininger Store.

I, Mildred J. Lininger, was married to Robert L. Porter for seven years. A son, Robert Charles, was born and died at 8½ months. Later I was divorced and restored to my maiden name of Lininger. I am the last member of this immediate family. My Mother's people were English and French. My Father's people were German Scotch and Irish. *Mildred J. Lininger, Celina, Oh. 45822*

LOYANICH

John and Ruth Hall did not know what they were starting in 1941 when they bought a tiny cabin on Beauty Beach on the lake, on land still owned by the state. Not only their family, but ours, have developed strong taproots in Mercer County because of that decision.

When Barbara Hall and Mary Lou Marks became friends, in a Cincinnati junior high school, it eventually came about that Mary Lou visited Celina with her friend's family, and a love affair with Mercer County began for her.

In 1967, Mary Lou, by then a practicing attorney, married Peter-Paul Loyanich; en route home from their Expo-67 homeymoon in Montreal, she pleaded with him to stop for a day to see the Halls, detouring off I-75 to do so; eager to satisfy his bride's silly whim, Pete agreed, and another love affair developed.

By the time Alexia Louise (1969) and Travis Belinda (1972) were born, the Halls had reached their planned retirement, and selling their Cincinnati home, moved to Celina. At that point Peter-Paul began talking about establishing our own base there; to Mary Lou it seemed like a distant dream.

One of the first words Travis learned to say was "Celina;" it was fated that Mercer County had become so important in our lives that something had to be done. In 1976 we succeeded in buying our second home, on Green Avenue in Beauty Beach, and after two years' of working on weekends, it is no longer a summer cottage only, but a real home, comfortable and beckoning. Although we shall continue to maintain our principal residence in Cincinnati indefinitely, we consider ourselves a part of Mercer County, having many friends there; it came as no surprise, when last Christmas at a family reunion Mary Lou learned that about 100 years ago, one of her favorite childhood memories — an elderly cousin — was born on Mud Pike, Celina.

History has a way of coming full turn. *Mary Lou Loyanich*

CHRISTOPHER KEITH LYDA

Christopher Keith Lyda was born in 1945 to Herman Keith Lyda and Iva Christine (White) Lyda. He is the eldest of two children; the younger being a sister, Mrs. Sandra May (Lyda) DiVinney. Chris graduated from Buckeye Local High School, Rushsylvania,

Chris and Oneta Lyda and Melissa

Ohio in 1963. He then entered Columbus Busines University and graduated in 1965 with a degree i Junior Accounting. He enlisted in the U.S. Army an graduated from Clerk Typist School in Ft. Kno Kentucky, and Finance School at Ft. Benjamin Har rison, Indiana.

Chris was transferred to Augsburg, Germar where he served as a Finance Specialist and Person nel Advisor to the 24th Infantry Division in Augs burg and Munich. Upon return to the U.S., he wa assigned to Regimental S-3 Staff Plans and Opera tions at Ft. Meade, Maryland. In this capacity he co ordinated operations and procedures between Th National Security Agency, The Federal Bureau of In vestigation and The Central Intelligence Agenc during the 1968 racial riots.

Chris received the Meritorious Service Award fo bravery and valor, the National Service Defens Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. He was a qual ified sharpshooter with the M14 rifle and subma chine gun, and a qualified expert with the 45 cal pistol, and was honorably discharged in 1968.

He married Oneta Cretoria (Dicke) Lyda on Ma 10, 1969; the youngest daughter of three children o Ralph and Lavon Dicke. One child was born to thi union; Melissa Laurie Lyda. Chris is employed as production control clerk at Avco New Idea and at tends college at Wright State University. He gradu ated with a degree in Humanities and Social Sci ences and plans to graduate again in 1979 fron Wright State with a BA degree in Political Science and associate degrees in Management and Market ing consecutively. He is an honor student and member of Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Fraternity.

Oneta is an honor graduate from New Bremer High School, and during high school was Merce County Junior Fair Queen and won the Outstandin 4H Girl Award during her years in 4H. She organ ized and managed two branch offices for The Celin Insurance Group; one in Cleveland and one in Nor folk, Virginia and is now secretary for Les Bran dewie, Nationwide Insurance, Celina, Ohio. Oneta i a member of various Methodist church groups anc is secretary of the newly formed Women's Demo cratic Organization and a member of the State Dem ocratic Organization.

Chris and Oneta reside in Celina at 303 North Mill St. in a century home formerly owned by Heler Mersman and previous, by her father, Albert Mersman. They are members of St. Paul's Methodis Church of Celina of which Oneta's grandparents the late Alvin and Laura (Bertke) Dicke were lifetime members.

Future plans call for deeper commitments to public office and further education in the arts and sciences. *Christopher Keith Lyda, Celina, Oh. 45822*

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ELMER J. MAFFETT

Elmer J. Maffett was born in Wyandotte County, ıio, the son of Nelson Maffett and Julia C. Lan-n. He came with his parents and three sisters (1 berta May, 2 Mary Ruth and 3 Addy Eve) to Mer-: County where his father had purchased a farm West Jefferson Township in 1883.

On February 14, 1909, Elmer married Elizabeth arson, a teacher in the Mercer County Public hools. She was the daughter of James Pearson and vina Bastian of Washington Township. The cou-e established their home on land directly west of e Maffett Homestead where their two sons Tem-yn and Everett were born. Templyn, the older son Elmer and Elizabeth Maffett, attended Mercer unty Elementary Schools. He graduated from lina High School and Miami University and mar-d Charmie Granger of Butler Township, Mercer unty. They presently reside in Middletown, Ohio. erett attended Mercer County Elementary Schools d graduated from Celina High School and Miami ıiversity. He married Mary Ellen McMillan who :ended the Mercer County Elementary Schools, aduated from Washington High School and Mi-ıi University and taught in the Mercer County hool System. Everett served as a Naval Officer in e Second World War.

Their oldest son, James, was born in Spokane, ashington. He graduated from Marion (Indiana) igh School and Miami University. He took his aster's Degree at Indiana University and his work r his Doctorate at the University of Iowa. Jim mar-d Nancy Combs of Lexington, Kentucky. They ve two children: Susan and Stephen. They live in olorado Springs, Colorado where Jim is the Chair-an of the Science Department of Pike's Peak Col-ge.

Jeffrey, the second son of Everett and Mary Ellen affett, was born in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, attended diana Public Schools and graduated from Eaton)hio) High School and Defiance College. He mar-d Linda Bollenbacker who attended Mercer unty Public Schools and graduated from Rock-rd High School and Defiance College and taught the St. Henry High School. They have two chil-en, Erica and Benjamin. They live in Eaton, Ohio, here Jeff is Executive Vice President of Eaton Na-onal Bank and Trust Co. *Mrs. Everett L. Maffett*

MAFFETT

Templyn Pearson Maffett, the elder son of Elmer and Lizzie Pearson Maffett, was born December ', 1909 on the farm in Jefferson township west of elina, Ohio. He grew up on the farm. He graduated om Miami University, Oxford, Ohio in 1931. He ught commercial subjects at Shandon, Ohio in ıtler county for the next three years.

He was married to Charmie M. Granger August), 1934. In September 1934 he started teaching in e Middletown, Ohio school system. He taught mmercial subjects at Middletown Senior High :hool until the end of the school year of 1948.

In 1948 he became the owner and president of the liddletown Business College and continued that ork until his retirement in January 1975. He also wned the Mansfield Business College in Mansfield, Ohio from 1956 to 1972.

A son Mack David Maffett was born in Mercer County July 20, 1936. A daughter, Rosalie Ruth, was born in Middletown, Butler County, Ohio October 12, 1940.

Mack is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Law, Cincinnati, Ohio in 1960 and is a counselor for Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, Ames, Iowa.

He married Janice Sue Rusk of Middletown, Ohio August 8, 1959. They have a son Michael Scott Maffett born August 21, 1960 and a daughter Kristi Lynn Maffett born December 8, 1964. They reside at 2705 Northwood Drive, Ames, Iowa.

Rosalie, the daughter, graduated from Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio in 1962. She married Carl W. Bogue, Jr. of Princeton, Indiana August 12, 1962. She taught school for three years while her husband studied at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pa. They lived in Dordrecht, the Netherlands while he earned his doctorate in Theology.

Their daughter, Katherine Anne, was born October 11, 1967 while they were living in Holland. They have a son, Andrew Jonathan, born in Middletown, Ohio August 14, 1969. Another daughter, Elizabeth Lynne, was born June 14, 1976 in Barberton, Ohio, and Sarah Suzanne was born July 21, 1978 in Barberton. Carl is a minister for the Presbyterian Church in America church in Akron, Ohio. They reside at 4105 State Road, Akron, Ohio.

Templyn and his wife have lived at 2907 Orlando Avenue, Middletown, Ohio since January 1937. They own sixty acres of the home farm in Jefferson township west of Celina, Ohio. *Templyn P. Maffett*

Martz Family

RAY ORVILLE MARTZ

Ray Orville Martz was born in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, on July 26, 1900, the son of Luther E. and Iona Belle (Spry) Martz of Blackcreek Township. He attended Rockford High School, where he was a star basketball player on the high school team. Due to his superb intellect, he was able to graduate from high school in three years, and entered the Miami Jacobs Business School in Dayton, Ohio, where he graduated with a degree in business, after which he taught school at the brick, one-room Robison Grade School where he attended in his boyhood days.

In the early 1920's, Ray and his brother Wallace, journeyed to Idaho, where they worked as farm hands for awhile, and then went on to the state of Washington, where they worked as lumberjacks.

After returning to Celina, Ray married Alma Magdalena Eichenauer, the daughter of William and

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Fannie Dell (Smith) Eichenauer of Hopewell Township, at her home on July 17, 1923, the services being performed by Reverend H. T. Berger.

Ray and Alma moved to Dayton, where he was employed with The Kroger Company for about one year. In 1924, they moved to a Mercer county farm north of Celina on Oregon Road, and farmed for a few years.

Ray and Alma had three children; a son, Robert Lowell, born April 16, 1926, (died September 21, 1926); Pauline Evelyn, born September 3, 1930; and Marlene Ruth, born September 29, 1933.

In the late 1920's, Ray accepted a position with the Mersman Brothers' Corporation of Celina, Ohio, and continued working for that company until 1940, when he and his family moved to Piqua, Ohio, to become plant superintendent of The Cron-Kill Furniture Company.

During the war years, the family moved back to Celina and purchased a home at 117 E. Anthony Street, from where Ray travelled to New Haven, Indiana, to become superintendent of The Coleman Case Company; and then to Chicago, where he accepted the position of Engineer and Business Consultant with The George S. May Company. He travelled extensively throughout the midwest, assisting many companies in methods of operation.

In 1947, Ray established his own business, The Martz Cabinet Works at 1000 E. Market Street in Celina. Under his management, the business grew and prospered, until a tragic accident on November 11, 1952, involving a truck and car, killed Ray and his grandson, Randall Lee Mosier.

Pauline E. Martz, daughter of Ray and Alma Martz, graduated from Celina High School and attended Fort Wayne Business College. On June 11, 1950, she married Richard Eugene Mosier. They had three children; Randall Lee, (killed in truck-auto accident); Richard Alan, born December 1, 1953; and Marva Rae, born October 11, 1956. Pauline and Richard worked at The Martz Cabinet Works, and upon Ray's death, managed the company which was incorporated in 1953 as The Martz Cabinet Company.

Marlene Ruth Martz, daughter of Ray and Alma, graduated from Celina High School and attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She married John Zachary on October 4, 1954. He served in the U.S. Air Force. They had two children; Debbie, born October 11, 1955, and John, born August 29, 1956.

Ray O. Martz worshipped in the faith of The Bethel United Brethren Church in his boyhood days. He transferred his church membership to the Hope Evangelical Church, where he was very active in youth activities and taught the young people's Sunday School Class for many years. Later, he and his family transferred their membership to Bethany Evangelical United Brethren Church where they still remain.

Ray was highly esteemed as a citizen, church member, and was active in Republican politics. He was an extremely successful business executive, and enjoyed the challenge of competition, whether it be in sports, which he loved, or in business. He devoted most of his life to woodworking, from the time he spent as a lumberjack in Washington, until his death when he was managing The Martz Cabinet Works. *Mrs. Richard E. Mosier, Celina, Oh. 45822*

McGee Century Home
Members of Family, **Left Right:** Ellen M., Margai Emma F., Thomas B., Jo J., William T., Mary Joseph W., Jane B. (Jenni James F., and dog Rover.

McGEE CENTURY FARM

John J. and Mary E. McGee purchased 80 acres i section 14, town 6, range 2, West Jefferson towr whip and 40 acres in section 15, town 6, range 2 i East Butler township, Mercer County, Ohio o March 4, 1875. This land was bought from Willia McCain and his wife, Rebecca.

On January 11, 1877, another 40 acres were adde to the century farm. Edward Taylor held the dee This farm composes of the 160 acres on 5800 Flee foot Road.

John, Mary and children; Ellen, James and Emm occupied the log cabin home until the new nin room home was completed in 1878. The other fiv children were born in the new home, namely; Jer nie, Joseph, Thomas, Margaret, and William.

John hewed the timber. He made many improve ments, having built a fine bank barn and othe buildings and having cleared a greater part of th farm, which was chiefly timberland when he be came the owner.

Joseph and his wife, Nell, moved on the farm i 1904 and lived there for fourteen years as the par ents retired in town. Icel (McGee) Jordan, Blanch (McGee) Weir and Ruth (McGee) Lehman wer born in the century home.

Joseph and his family moved a mile north o Fleetfoot Road. Another son, Thomas, moved hi family to the home place. Esther, Orville, (deceased) Gladys and Miriam McGee were born to Thomas' family while they resided there.

After John and Mary's death the farm remained i the estate for a number of years. Emma McGee live in the home and James and Joseph farmed the land.

In 1937, Thomas and family purchased the 8 acres that comprises the century farm. Thomas' wife, Lillie, passed away in 1948. Thomas remaine on the farm until his death in 1962.

J. Lowell, son of Thomas, and Melva K. McGe purchased the 80 acres from his family in December 1962. Their two sons, James and Darrell, aid their fa ther with the farm work and livestock operation Darrell and wife, Linda, live in the other farm home *Melva K. McGee, Celina, Oh. 45822*

JOHN J. McGEE

John J. McGee was born June 8, 1841 in Piqua. He was the son of James McGee and Jane Johnston. His father, James, was born in Ireland and his mother Jane, was born on the Atlantic Ocean on the way to America.

When John was twelve the family moved to Montezuma. In 1862, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, 118th O.V.I. He was wounded three times in 37 battles and returned home in 1865.

In August 1868, John married Mary E. Buxton

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vho was born Oct. 10, 1850. She was the daughter of Peter and Mirah Botkin. Her father, Peter, was born in Maryland and her mother, Mirah, was born n Highland Co., Ireland.

Eight children were born to this union: Ellen M. was born March 29, 1869. She was married to Frank Andrews. Ellen's death was March 14, 1958.

On September 29, 1871, James F. was born. He was married to Margaret Bennett. He managed a hardware store for twenty-five years. He sold to Fortman and Heckler. His death occurred on August 26, 1953.

Emma F. was born January 11, 1874. She never married. She passed away June 23, 1936 on the century farm.

Jane B. (Jennie) was born on the century farm July 23, 1878. She married Warren Trenary. She died August 9, 1942.

Margaret was born February 17, 1881. She died when nineteen years old.

Joseph W. was born May 5, 1883. Mary Nell Monroe was his wife. His death occurred July 4, 1963.

On January 30, 1888, Thomas B. was born. Lillie V. Coate was his wife. Thomas's death was February 3, 1962.

William T. was born April 6, 1890. He married Glenna Grace Green. He passed away December 23, 1972.

All the children were born, died and were buried in Mercer County. The entire family rest in Swamp Cemetery on Karch Road in West Jefferson township.

In 1875 John and Mary purchased 80 acres in West Jefferson and 40 acres in East Butler townships. In 1877, 40 additional acres were purchased. John cleared the wilderness, hewed the timber and in 1878 completed the century home. The big bank barn was built in 1888. After this the family operated a dairy and delivered milk to the homes in Celina.

All the children attended Elm Grove country schools on Monroe and Meyer Roads in West Jefferson township.

In 1904, the family moved to the home at the corner of Morton and West Logan Streets in Celina. The eleven acres are known as the McGee addition.

On September 25, 1905, John purchased 29 acres, section 8, town 6, range 2 in West Jefferson township. On May 18, 1907, the land was sold to A. W. Fishbaugh and John Karch.

John bought 40 acres, section 31, town 5, range 2 in Hopewell township from Milton J. Freemon on January 31, 1910.

Every day John visited his farms and another set of buildings were completed on the northwest 40. William and Grace were the only occupants of these new buildings until their death in the year 1972.

John's wife, Mary, passed away on April 9, 1911. John's death was November 25, 1920. Both died at their Celina residence. *Melva K. McGee*

JOSEPH W. McGEE

Our story begins with Joseph Wright McGee, the second son of John J. and Mary Buxton McGee. He was born May 5, 1883, on the McGee century farm. While growing up on the farm, he helped with the dairy, milking cows by hand, hauling milk to town and selling milk to individual homes. He attended Elm Grove School, which still stands on Meyers Road.

He married Mary Nell Monroe, the daughter of Frank and Rhoda Hole Monroe, on December 18, 1904. She was from Butler Township. They made the McGee century farm their home until 1918. While living there, their first three children were born, Icel, Blanche and Ruth B. Icel and Blanche began their education at Elm Grove School.

On March 3, 1918, Joe and Mary Nell purchased the Harvey Beougher farm. This eighty acre farm was located one mile south of the century farm on a mud road, now known as Fleetfoot.

After moving to their new home, the family was blessed with four more children. Harold born August 11, 1920, Clifford born March 19, 1923, Raymond E. born May 7, 1925 and Betty J. born January 9, 1928.

The land around his new home was not fenced or improved. In order to move his livestock from the century farm, Joe had to build fences at his new home. He divided the farm into several fields of approximately ten acres each. His business consisted of raising and selling work horses, registered Spotted Poland China hogs and dairy cows. Like all farm children, they all had chores which they were required to perform. Joe was proud of his children and they often accompanied him on his business trips to town. He was an original stockholder in the Celina Equity Exchange, formerly located on West Market St. The McGee children attended Brock school, on the corner of Monroe Rd. and State Route 118, until it closed in 1936. They then were bussed to Celina Public School. The family was well educated and highly qualified for the professions and positions of trust which the different members assumed.

On August 19, 1936 Ruth Bernice and Byron Russel Lehman were married. Of this union were born five children: Marilyn Ann born September 1, 1937, James Byron born November 30, 1942, Russell Keith born April 15, 1946, Bonita Gae born May 1, 1949, and Douglas Mac born December 19, 1954.

Marilyn married James H. Masonbrink, of this union was born one son, James H. Masonbrink. James married Connie Wagner. Bonita Gae married Gary Cron, they are the parents of two children, Chad and Benjamin. Douglas married Ginger Muhlenkamp, they have one child, Kirk.

On May 15, 1942, Harold married Bette Lois Dorn, to them were born two children, Jane A. born January 19, 1945 and Joseph D. born August 24, 1955. Jane married Jim Dabbelt and they have one child, Jennifer.

Raymond E. married Patricia Ellen Hemmert on October 6, 1948. Of this union were born three children; Bridget Ellen born September 29, 1955, Margaret Mary born January 15, 1958 and Kathleen Icel born May 17, 1959. Bridget married Charles P. Heckler, they have one child Matthew.

Icel married Ralph Jordan, of Celina, June 5, 1952.

Blanche married Orville Weir, of Hopewell Township on August 28, 1954.

Betty Jane married Emerson Boyer April 16, 1955. They have three children, Michael Richard born February 9, 1964, Michelle Renee born April 20, 1965 and Sheila Ann born April 9, 1974.

The three sons of Joe and Mary Nell served their country during WW II. Harold left from Sidney,

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Ohio, June 12, 1942. He served with the CIC in the United States and the European Theater. He was discharged in the fall of 1945.

Private First Class Clifford McGee was a member of Company KK 324th Infantry Division 44. He was inducted into service February 12, 1942. He received about 12 months training at Ft. Lewis, Washington, was in camp 6 months at Camp Phillips, Kansas and began his Foreign duty in September, 1944. He lost his life at Strasbourg, France, November 17, 1944. April 17, 1948 he was returned to rest in Swamp College Cemetery.

Raymond began his service June 26, 1944. He served as a Fireman 1st class with NABU #6 at Navy Supply Depot 3002 in the Asiatic Pacific and the Philippines. He returned home and was discharged June 6, 1946.

On December 18, 1954 Joe and Mary Nell celebrated their fifieth wedding anniversary. They celebrated with a dinner the entire family attended.

Mary Nell died September 21, 1958, one week after moving to town from their farm. Joseph died July 4, 1963, while visiting his son Raymond who was living on the family farm. They rest beside their son at Swamp College Cemetery. *Bridget Heckler*

THOMAS B. McGEE

Thomas B. McGee was the son of John J. and Mary E. (Buxton) McGee. He was born on January 30, 1888 on the century farm in Mercer County.

He attended the Elm Grove country school on Meyer Road. Thomas helped his brother, Joseph, when he lived on the century farm. He owned his own team of horses, wagon and gravel bed and hauled washed gravel and steel to help build the west bank wall of the reservoir.

In 1910, Thomas married Lillie Viola Coate, daughter of Noah and Catharine (Cordier) Coate. After their marriage Thomas and Lillie lived on a farm on Mt. Carmel Church Road, which his father owned. The oldest daughter, Norma Lavaun was born there.

Thomas prided in his fine work horses, which were used to build township and county roads.

Thomas and family moved to the Broad Trenary farm on Fairground Road in 1912. Mary Catharine, Edward Glen and James Lowell were all born there.

In 1918, the family moved to the century farm on Fleetfoot Road. Esther Fay, Orville Eugene (who died at the age of 2½ years), Gladys Maxine and Miriam Jeanette were all born at that residence.

In 1929, Thomas moved his family to the former Noah Coate farm on St. Anthony Road. The last child, Russell Thomas, was born while living there.

The family purchased the century farm in the year 1937. The family was kept very busy improving the neglected buildings. Thomas was a grain and livestock farmer.

On June 29, 1946, J. Lowell and Melva K. Young were united in marriage. They are the present owner-operators of the century farm. On June 13, 1950, James Neal was born and Darrell Lee's birth was June 12, 1953. James married Janet C. Mendenhall on June 22, 1974. They have a daughter, Adrienne Leigh, who was born September 24, 1975. They live on Cheshire Circle, Celina. Darrell and Linda D. Couts were married July 12, 1975. They live on their father's farm in East Butler township.

Edward G. entered the service in October, 1942 and was discharged in October, 1945. He was stationed in Texas and had overseas duty in the European theatre. He married L. Lucille Harner. They live on Willow Street, Celina. They have a son, Robert Edward, born July 22, 1947. Robert and Sharon P Richards were married March 2, 1968. They have a son, Michael Robert, who was born August 23, 1969 Marsha Ann was born November 19, 1974. They reside on W. Forest Street, Celina.

Norma L. married Clarence (Andy) Bauer. He was in the service from October, 1942 until January, 1943. They made their home on Willow Street in Celina, Clarence's death occurred on June 12, 1969.

Russell T. married Virginia H. Hanna. They live on Fairground Road. They have three children. Elaine Sue was born August 26, 1953 and she married Timothy A. Garrett on September 18, 1976. They reside in Marysville, Ohio. Larry Russell was born July 4, 1957. Gary Allan's birth was April 19, 1964.

Mary C., Esther F., Gladys M., and Miriam J. live on Shimp Dr., Celina. From 1937 until 1962 they lived on the century farm.

Thomas and Lillie spent the rest of their lives on the century farm. Lillie passed away August 3, 1948 and Thomas on February 8, 1962. *Melva K. McGee*

REV. JOHN MERCER

Rev. John Mercer was born in Scotland. Rev. and Mrs. Mercer's children were John, born 1625 in Scotland and Edward.

Rev. John Amos Mercer (Scotland 1625 — Hillsborough, County Down, Ireland —) married Grace Avon or Aaron in 1647 or 1651. They had four children: John, born 1652 Ireland; Moses, born 1654 Ireland, Edward, born 1657 Ireland; and Jane, born 1660 Ireland — died single.

Moses Mercer, b. 1654 Hillsborough, County Down, Ireland, removed to England where he married Miss Trembley or Trombly or Miss Bloomfield. They had one child: John Mercer III. (Mercer Road is one of the main thoroughfares out of London leading through England for several centuries.)

John Mercer III, born in Ireland or England in 1676. He came to America and died in New Jersey, New York or Pennsylvania, date unknown. He was alive in 1740 according to the Mercer Heirs Association Report. He first married Mary Elizabeth Bentley at Elizabeth Port, New Jersey in 1708; she died in 1711 or 1712. He then married Sarah Ann Moore in 1714 or 1715. Sarah Ann Moore was the daughter of Sir Nicholas Moore. John Mercer III and Elizabeth Bentley had a son: Gideon.

Gideon Mercer, born Elizabeth Port, N.J. 1709, died 1765 (possibly Penna.) Gideon first married Ann (Sarah Harper) 1729, she died 1738. Gideon married a second time to Mary Harper in 1740. These wives were sisters and daughters of John Harper. Gideon's son Edward, born in 1730 in Pa., and died Martinsburg, Berkeley Co., Va. His will is on file at the Martinsburg Court House. (He died Oct. 8, 1781; the will was probated May 20, 1783.)

Edward Mercer, son of Gideon, in 1747 married his third cousin, Mary Mercer. Their children were: Blanche Mercer (1748-1821) who married Thomas

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ıbb; Nicholas 1750 who never married; Mary 1752 ıo married Samuel Patten; Ruth (1754-1786) who arried Francis Jones; Jane 1757; Margaret 1759 who arried Thomas Coxe; Rebecca 1761 who married hn Randall; Nancy 1764 who married Lindsay arshall; and Edward (1766-1800.)

John Mercer III, born 1676, mentioned earlier, arried Sarah Ann Moore in 1714 or 1715, daughter Sir Nicholas Moore. John and Sarah Ann (Moore) ercer III had eleven children. Their first child and n was: Edward, born Dec. 12, 1716, Pa. Edward ed Frederick Co., Va. 1763; his will is in Frederick ɔ., Va., Book 3, page 146; the city is Winchester, a.

Edward Mercer first married Ann Croat, believed be the mother of all of his children. His second ife was Ann Gamble. Edward and Ann (Croat) lercer's children were: Aaron who married Eliza-eth Carr; and Moses, who died 1804. (There is a lercer will, in Frederick Co., Va. Sept. 28, 1796, ɔok 8, page 34); Account Book 9, page 63; Inven-ry Book 8, page 76.); the other children were: Rich-d, Elizabeth who married William Heath, Hannah ho married William Crumley, Edward who mar-ed Diana Stier, Aaron, and John (Feb. 13, 1749-ec. 10, _____, Book I, pp. 350-351).

Moses mentions wife Diannah, sons John, Wil-ım, Edward and Gideon, daughters Dinah, Mary ıd deceased daughter Ann who left three children. loses married Dianna Morrison who died in Fred-ick Co., Va. 1810. Her will is in Dinah Mercer ɔok 8, page 507; mentions sons Edward and Gid-ɔn, daughters, Dinah and Mary Dawson, grand-ıughter Miana and grandson Moses Dawson; exec-tors Aaron and John Mercer. Nancy Bradford, 5498 urford St., San Diego, Calif. 92111 descends from loses' daughter Mary, who married D. Dawson.

Irs. Betty Trout, St. Paul, Minn. 55104

SAMUEL MERCER

Rev. John Mercer, born c. 1620-1625 at Hilsbor-ıgh County Down, Ireland, married Elizabeth aron about 1650. They had six children. The sec-ıd child, Moses, was born 1654; then Edward Mer-r, born 1656; then Susannah Mercer, born 1659; en two more children.

Moses Louis Mercer, born c. 1652 or 1654 married Bloomfield (another record states his wife as Lizzie iller). Moses had one child, John.

John Mercer, born 1676 (or 1684) in Ireland, came America in 1690. He first married Elizabeth Bent-y in 1707 or 1708 in Elizabeth Port, New York. hey had one child, Gideon born 1709. After Eliza-eth's death in 1712, John married Sarah Ann loore in 1714; they had ten children: Edward 1716, Villiam, Jonathan, Robert, David, Job, Blanche, Jane ıd Diana and one other child, name unknown.

Gideon Mercer, born c. 1709 married Ann Harper 1729; they had seven children: John, Napolean, ideon, Joshua, Job, Jonathan, and Edward. (Gide-ı's second wife was Mary Harper; they had eight ıildren: Blanch, Mary Ann, Tarazen, Rebecca, Di-ıa, Richard Alex, Nancy, and Jane.) Ann and Mary arper were daughters of John Harper and nieces of ıe King of England.

(The book, History of Coshocton County, Ohio, ɔmpiled by N.N. Hill, Jr. 1740 — 1881, on page 652, tells of a Jesse Mercer, of Jackson township, Knox county, who married Elizabeth Clark. Elizabeth was the fourth child of Joshua and Mary (Given) Clark of New Castle Township, Coshocton County. The mother, Mary Given was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Barr) Given and raised on Wheeling Creek, near Wheeling, West Virginia and later moved to Morrow County, Ohio and lived in a cabin with a fireplace in one end, the backwall and chimney being but six feet high, and were therefore in danger of attacks from wolves. They moved to New Castle six months later.)

Edward Mercer, born in Schootland (Scotland?), married Anna Croat (Groat?). (One record gives his wife as Mary A. Clark Mercer, married in 1735.) Edward Mercer's will was probated Nov. 1, 1763 in Vol. 8, p. 34 in Fredrick County, Virginia. Edward's children were: Richard, Elizabeth Heath, Moses, Hannah, Edward and Aaron. (As there were two Edward Mercers, there may be an error in this paragraph.)

Moses Mercer first married Eleanor Ellis in 1792, registered in Clerk's office, Frederick County, Winchester, Va. Another record states Moses' wife was Diana Morrison, whose will was probated June 7, 1810 in Winchester, Frederick County, Va. Moses and Diana Mercer's children were: Mary, Diana, John, William, Moses, Gideon, born 1758, Edward, David and Anne. Moses died at Fredrick County, Va., in 1805; his will was probated in that court house. (Another record gives Moses Mercer's wife as Ann (Diana) Babb, born in 1739, daughter of Thomas Babb and Mary Anne (Cox) Babb. Thomas Babb's mother may have been Mary or Marytje Kierstede who was born Oct. 3, 1686, daughter of Hans or Jans and Jannette (Lookermans) Kierstede, Jr. and married Richard T. Babb.

Gideon Mercer, born 1758, married Elizabeth Smith, c. 1798-1799, in Virginia; she was the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Riddle) Smith of New Jersey. (Samuel Smith was in the Militia, took the oath for same April 30, 1778. Samuel Smith was the son of William Smith and his wife Mary (Whitten) Smith, of New Jersey. Mary Whitten was the daughter of Christopher Whitten. Mary Whitten Smith was named in John Smith's will of Salem County, New Jersey, 1688-9; John Paine's will, Salem County, Libre 2, page 469, 1726, names Mary the wife of William Smith. William Smith, born about 1678, was the son of John Smith and Susanah Mercer Smith. They were married in England in 1673, came to America in 1675 on the ship Areial, landed in Newcastle, Delaware. His will dated 1721-2, 12th mo., 14th day, Libre 2, page 259. Susanah Mercer, born 1659, was a daughter of Rev. John Mercer and a sister of Edward Mercer. According to family history, Samuel was killed in an accident, by falling off a wagon and the horses ran over him. His will, recorded in Salem Co., N.J. described he owned 1160 acres of land in Smithfield, N.J. (After her husband's death, Mary Smith came to Ohio and settled on what was called Big Tomaca and remarried a man named Blizzard.) Samuel and Mary (Riddle Smith had resided at Stony Creek. That is where Gideon Mercer went to rent a mill of Haskill's and met Elizabeth Smith and married her. Most of their children were born at Stony Creek.) Gideon and Elizabeth (Smith) Mercer's children were: Moses; William; Aaron of Mason, Indiana; Samuel; John; Gideon; Edward of Delphos, Ohio; Mary Latta of Colk City,

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Iowa; James S.; Archabold; and David. Gideon Mercer, who served in the War of 1812, died at Lexington, Nov. 14, 1814 at Rockbridge County, Virginia; he died of a Fever contracted in the army. About a year later, his wife and children migrated to Ohio; his wife Elizabeth died at Delphos, Ohio. (Elizabeth (Smith) Mercer's sibling's were Samuel Smith who married Rachel Eagle in 1797; Clara Smith who married Enoch McKay 1799; Nancy Smith who married Davis Evans; Rebecca Smith who married a man named Bailey.)

Samuel Mercer, born Nov. 3, 1803 at Rockridge County, Virginia, on Jan. 20, 1825 married Eustachie Holloway at Coshocton, Ohio; marriage record No. 520, Vol. A, page 118, Jan. 1825. (Eustachie was born Aug. 9, 1807 in North Carolina; lived at Macedon, Mercer County, Ohio; and died 1894 and buried at Johnson Cemetery, Piqua, Ohio. The 1881 History of Coshocton County, Ohio 1740-1881, by Hill, on page 615, tells of settlement on the military section, forming the southwest quarter of the township, John Holloway, from North Carolina, lot 19.) Samuel Mercer died April 27, 1885, also buried at Johnson Cemetery, Piqua. Samuel and Eustachie (Holloway) Mercer's children were: Mirah who married Pete Cross and lived at Willshire and at Washington Township, Mercer County, Ohio; Mahala Mercer who married James Adair; James of Celina; Loretta who died in infancy; Elizabeth Ellen of Piqua; Lucius Co. E, 147th NCI of Piqua; William Franklin; Milton of Lockington, Ohio; Henrietta of Piqua; Elvira Jane who died in infancy; John who died in infancy; and John C., born after the death of the first John, and lived at Piqua. Samuel and Eustachie Mercer lived at Macedon, Ohio.

Mrs. Julia Terry (Fred) Dickinson, Box 37, Glen Arbor, Michigan 49636, is the great-granddaughter of Nancy Jane Leatherman Barger who lived in Waynesville, Ohio and later in Indiana; her grandmother was Nancy Mercer, b. 1736, who married Francis Flood. Nancy was the daughter of Gideon Mercer who was born in Elizabethport, N.J. in 1709. Mrs. Marian Mercer Folds, 417 Mobile Lane #1, Clute, Texas 77531, is interested in the Mercer Estate, also. Robinson's History of Greene County, 1902, contains Mercer history; there is reference to a Mercer Cemetery, south of Xenia 4 miles on the Bullskin Trace (now 380). Dill's History of Greene County, 1881, contains Mercer History. Columbiana Co. and Stark Co. histories contain Mercer and Holloway histories.

MAHALA MERCER

Mahala Mercer was born April 18, 1824-5 at Coshocton, Ohio. She was the daughter of Samuel and Eustachie (Holloway) Mercer who were married at Coshocton, Ohio Jan. 20, 1825. The family later lived at Macedon, Ohio. Mahala Mercer married James Lee Adair on September 10, 1842 at Celina, Ohio. (Vol. A B & C, p. 105). James and Mahala (Mercer) Adair had eight children: John Adair; Mary, who at three years, 5 months and 28 days, died April 13, 1854; William Adair; Samuel Adair who married Rachael Mote; George Adair, born in Washington Twp., Mercer Co., who married Hulda Gerhart (Garhart?); Hester Adair, born Nov. 12, 1855 in Jay County, Indiana, and on March 25, 1877 married William Brumm. (The father, James Lee Ada had land in Blackford County, Indiana, Deed Recor E., page 145, in March 1854.)

Mahala Mercer's daughter and family — **Seated:** Hester and William Brumm. **Standing:** Mahala E. (Brumm) Reichard, Noah Reichard, William Allison Brumm, Harley E. Brumm and Margaret (Kimble) Brumm.

William and Hester (Adair) Brumm had four chi dren: James F. Brumm (March 20, 1878 — Jan. 2 1881 Noble Twp., Jay Co., Ind.); Harley Elm Brumm (Oct. 5, 1879, Jay Co., Ind. — Jan. 8, 195 who married Margaret Kimble (1880 — 1972); M hala Elizabeth Brumm (Jan. 22, 1882 Jay Co., Ind. - Oct. 15, 1962 Mentone, Indiana) who on Feb. 2 1906 married Noah E. Reichard and later lived Mentone, Indiana; William Allison Brumm (Aug. 1883, Jay Co., Ind. — —) who first married Ethel B len (1892 — Dec. 14, 1913, Hanna, Alta, Albert Canada, buried at Mt. Zion Cemetery in t Brumm's lots), on Sept. 16, 1913; after her death, h married Maude McCartney. Harley and Margar (Kimble) Brumm had one son Luther. Noah and M hala Elizabeth Brumm Reichard had seven childre 1. Dwight (June 17, 1907 Jay Co., Ind. — Nov. 3 1974 Mentone, Ind.) who married Fern Schooley o June 22, 1935; 2. Avis Estella Reichard, (Jan. 10, 191 Jay Co., Ind. — Nov. 23, 1968 Milford, Ind.) wh married Clarence Bowler; 3. Hugh Wilson Reichar (Feb. 30, 1914 — Dec. 27, 1977, Mentone, Ind.) u married; 4. Dale Reichard (9-3-1915 Jay Co., In born) who on Feb. 20, 1938 married Maxine Shrive they have four children: Larry, Randall, Richard, an Janice; they live at Larwill, Indiana; 5. Paul Keit Reichard, (born 2-17-1917) who on 9-3-1938 marrie Viola M. Cowen; they have two children: Sharo and Paula; they live at SouthBend, Indiana; 6. Harle A. Reichard (born Feb. 5, 1923, Jay Co., Ind.) who o Jan. 10, 1945 married Evelyn Louise Garver; the have two children: Jerry and Linda; they live Plymouth, Indiana; and 7. F. Milo Reichard (born 24-1924 Jay Co., Ind.) who on 7-17-1945 marrie Catherine Bell Warren; they have six children: Ru sell, Nora, Carol, David, Bernard and Roger; the live at Tippecanoe, Indiana.

Mahala Mercer's second marriage, after Jame death, was to Isaac Harry, on June 1, 1859 at Por land, Indiana. Their children were: Amanda Harr born April 18, 1860 and on Jan. 1, 1880 married J cob F. Meyer of Jay County, Ind.; Electa (Harry) Br megen; and Alonzo Harry.

Mahala Mercer Adair Harry died May 19, 1912 her daughter's home in Muncie, Indiana. (Her deat certificate is filed in Indiana in 1912, Vol. 18, Certif cate 271.) She is buried at Mt. Zion Cemetery, Nob Twp., Jay Co., Indiana. *M. Noel Brumm, Danville, In 46122*

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MERCER HEIRS ESTATE

The November 3 and 19, 1932 Dayton Daily ewspaper included an article about the Mercer Es- te. An attorney named Francis E. Snypp, of Os- rn, Ohio asked that he have Power of Attorney r the estate of Gideon Mercer, John Mercer, Mary izabeth Bentley and Anneke Jans Bogardus or any tate in the names of Cox, Trembly, Noe, Harper.)ne of the Mercer family married a Harper and ed at Piqua.) The corporation contended that it vned proof that the above named families were ititled to share in vast estates, mostly in New York ity, valued at billions in the 1930's, but which had ver been liquidated. It claimed that it expected to rce such present tenants as the Woolworth build- g and other properties in the heart of New York to ttle for huge sums, on the ground that the heirs vned the title to those premises. Then that settle- ent money would be divided among blood heirs of e families involved and among those who pur- ased certificates at $50 a share in order to help fi- ance the local fight to get the estates liquidated. ertificate holders were said to have been led to be- ve that their individual shares would amount to 7,000 and some of them bought several certificates order to claim several shares. McClain Catterlin, aunton, Ind., was president of the International orporation; other offices were from Indiana and Il- ois. The Corporation was charged with embezzle- ent; they were found *Not* Guilty.

Mahala Mercer's children and grandchildren orked to gather documentation of their Mercer enealogy. The Attorney named Snypp had con- nced them to join the Mercer heirs in their search gain the wealth of their estate. Was there land in ew York which belonged to the Mercer Estate? *By a reat-Great Granddaughter of Mahala Mercer, Joyce Brumm lig, St. Henry, Oh. 45883*

Concerning the Mercer Estate

When the Treaty of Peace was signed between ngland and America at the close of the Revolution- y War, England, for the protection of the Tories, ho were her loyal subjects during the Revolution- y War, forced into the Treaty of Peace, certain rovisions. It is claimed that many of the Springers nd others were Tories at that time and that their li- eal descendants could come in for these lands un- er this Treaty which among other things provided:

"It is agreed that the Congress shall earnestly re- ommend it to the Legislatures of the respective tates to provide for the restitution of all the State's ghts and properties which have been confiscated, elonging to real British subjects and others, they to efund to any person the bona fide price (where any ave been given) which such persons may have paid n purchasing any of said lands, rights or proper- es." (Article 5, Treaty of Peace, 1783, signed for the Inited States by D. Hartley, John Adams, B. Frank- n and John Jay.)

At the time when this treaty was entered into con- ress did not have —er to bind the states but only — uthority to make recommendations, and while here was a moral obligation on the part of the states o see that any lands confiscated were restored to its ightful owner, yet there was no legal obligation and in any event this did not prevent the statute of limitations from running, and if the heirs did not come back to claim their land within the time of the statute of limitations, then they would be too late.

The last claim which the lineal descendants have advanced, and this applies particularly to the Mercer and Cox descendants, is that in 1782, a ninety-nine year lease was made for certain of their lands to a land company, who in turn released the lands to certain individuals and corporations and that this lease was renewed in 1886 for fifty years and dated back to 1881, which, if true, made the lease expire in 1931 and left the land to be claimed by the heirs, because if the land had been leased, then the statute of limitations and adverse possession could and would not run against these lands.

An article purporting to have been published in the Elizabeth, New Jersey Daily Journal on May 5, 1886, sets out some of the claims of the various heirs and is as follows.

"Papers have been prepared by a well-known lawyer of New York City, for the institution of ejectment proceedings for large tracts of land in New Jersey of sufficient value to enrich an army of claim . . .

"The eldest foreign corporation known to the law connected with early American history, is the West New Jersey Land Society, a corporation formed in England in 1692, and which at this time, after a service of nearly 200 years, desires to surrender its franchise and distribute its assets among those entitled to receive them.

"Prior to the formation of this society, the Province of New Jersey had been divided into two equal societies between Sir George Carteret and Lord Berkeley, the proprietors and grantees of James, Duke of York, who had received a grant of the whole from his brother, King Charles II, of England. In 1644 Lord Berkeley took the western portion and Sir George Carteret the eastern portion.

"Berkeley soon after conveyed his interest to James Fenwick in trust for Edward Byllinge, a noted brewer of London, then insolvent. Fenwick caused the whole to be surveyed and divided into ten equal parts or tenths and in the settlement with Byllinge, reserved to himself one entire tenth as his compensation for services as trustee. He executed long lease for a large tract of land to different persons. Much of this land is situated in the vicinity of Plainfield. Elizabeth, New Brunswick, and Trenton, and parts of each city are built upon it. Subsequent partitions and allotments were made subject to the leases. After Byllinge had conveyed his entire interest to William Penn and associates, some of the leases were extinguished by one Dr. Daniel Coxe of London, who was reported to be the cousin of Queen Anne, as he was also her attendant physician.

"Dr. Coxe probably bought up at least six of the nine-tenths formerly owned by Byllinge, as well as a large part of Fenwick's tenth, two-thirds of which he divided into 1,600 shares of which he disposed of 1,-520 shares of which he disposed of 1,520 shares to the various persons who joined with him in forming the West New Jersey Land Society. These parts which were encumbered by the leases he conveyed to his son, Daniel Coxe, who sold them to divers and sundry persons from time to time and his grantees and those claiming under them renewed the leases

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from time to time until about ten years ago, when the greater part, if not all of them, expired by limitation of their terms.

"The most peculiar feature about these claims is that those concerned in them have frequently been called upon by eminent attorneys to take some action in reference to these leases, not a few of which fall upon what is now the site of a town or city. They have declined until quite recently to furnish the least family information, upon which to base a suit for the recovery of their properties.

Among the many subsequent purchases a few only of the notable cases will be mentioned and conspicuous among them stands the name of Peter Noe, who at the first allotment, became the owner of a vast amount of land, and by assignment of owners rights became entitled, as appears on record in London, to a large amount of land under the second allotment. Although he lived long and prospered, neither himself nor his heirs have ever appeared to claim his interest in the second lot right. At his death he left his estate to a son and a daughter. The daughter married John Trembly, who was a French Huguenot, and quite a noted character in the history of early New Jersey.

"This suite has created considerable stir among the families of Trembly, Sutton, Noe, Cox, Covert, Bently, Babb, Mercer, Davis, Gordon, Carteret, Delaney, and Townley, the descendants of the early proprietors, and much interest will be manifested at the coming trial.

"The records show that a large number of the rights have never been claimed and it is not known who is entitled to them. Many of the original proprietors never came into province, and none of their heirs or assigns have made claim to their rights. "The society protested against this usurpation of their rights and succeeded in obtaining a portion of their original surveys and records of leases and conveyances which they removed to London, and have kept them ever since outside the jurisdiction of Lord Cornbury.

"These apparent and romantic statements are said to be based upon the records. The Townley family mentioned above, is that of Col. Richard the 8th, son of Nicholas of Sussex, England, who came to America with Lord Effingham and who married his last wife Elizabeth, the widow of Governor Phillip Carteret, it being his third marriage; His daughters by his marriages, married and settled in New Jersey.

Written by: F.L. Johnson, The Gazette, Xenia, Ohio March 25, 1933.

To The Members of the Mercer Heirs Association

We are fully prepared, after a careful examination of documents and records delivered unto my hands, used by certain parties in establishing lines and heirs at law, to what is known as the Mercer Estate.

First: According to data, Gideon Mercer, in the year 1762, had all his lands surveyed and had it fixed so that his wife could receive rents of these lands. In 1876 the time that his mother's grandfather and grandmother's lease was to expire it should be divided into 16 equal shares; all descendants living at this time were to be called his fourth generation.

Gideon died in 1765 and in 1773 his son Jonathan Mercer had the will and leases put on file and probated. In 1776 war ensued between England and

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That I, _____

of _____

have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, con tute and appoint Francis E. Snypp, of Osborn, Ohio, my true and lawful attorney in fact for me and in my name, place and stead, my heirs, admin trators or assigns, to receive and receipt for me for any claim that I ma have in any estate, moneys, lands, stocks or bonds, left by Gideon Mercer John Mercer, Mary Elizabeth Bentley and Anneke Jans Bogardus or any esta in the names of Cox, Trembly, Noe, Harper, or any other ancient estates i which I am entitled to share whatsoever or wheresoever, after first deduc the inheritance and estate taxes, both State and Federal, from the same; p vided however, that I, the grantor under this power, hereby agree to furn my said attorneys certified copy of marriage license and those of ancest certified copies of deeds, wills, Bible records, affidavits, and such oth proofs as may be necessary to establish my identity as heir to the proper money, or other valuables hereinbefore described, at the expense of said claimant, the grantor of this power. This power to be valid and irrevocab for such length of time, as the nature of the case may require for a prope settlement thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the _____ day

_____, in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirty _____

Sealed and delivered in the presence of × _____

Maker Sign Here

× _____ Witness

× _____ Witness

County of _____ } ss.:

State of _____ }

BE IT KNOWN, That on the _____ day of

_____, one thousand nine hundred and thirty _____

before me _____

a Notary Public in and for the State of _____

duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the _____

personally came and appeared _____

_____

to me personally known, and known to me to be the same person de scribed in and who executed the within Power of Attorney, and ac

knowledged the within Power of Attorney to be h act and deed IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my nam and affixed my seal of office, the day and year last above written.

America; the Declaration of Independence was de clared, and the war lasted until 1783; peace was de clared and a treaty signed. Then all previous con tracts were put on record or leases; Gideon's ban book showed that he received money rents upo these lands up until the time of his death, then hi bank book passed to his wife and this book show that she drew money out of the bank, arising a lease rentals and collected by the bank officials fo her; also that she deposited money in this bank u until the time of her death in 1771, and after the wa ended in 1783. These matters were put on recor with the leases by a bank of Philadelphia, also th names of Gideon D. Mercer's children. The lease expired in 1886. In 1884 it seems that a committe was appointed of four persons to examine thes wills and leases in order to see who the titles wer vested in; they decided that these wills call for th heirs of John Mercer and Elizabeth Bentley. Gideo D. Mercer, at the time of his death, had in his pos session by inheritance, lands in the province of Nev York, New Jersey, Philadelphia County, Pa., 1,00 acres of land, formerly owned by John Harpe There are seven wills extending from John Lor Berkley to Mary Elizabeth Bentley the first wife o John Mercer and mother of Gideon D. Mercer Blanch Mercer and Napoleon Mercer, daughter an son of Gideon D. Mercer, had died and left every thing to their descendants. Senator William Everitts of New York, James Ursher, Congressman of Nev York asked to have the trial removed from Nev York to Pittsburg, Pa., under and English Law, and i was permitted. Banderbilt had sued the governmen for clear title and set aside for the heirs, under th English Law the trial could be removed in any lan granted by the Kings agents. Previous to the Rev

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Var, Blanch Mercer Babb, wife of Thomas Babb, nd Napoleon her brother, had died. These heirs vere the five generations in the line of descent from ohn Lord Berkley, Tingleys, the Noes, Bentleys to Gideon Mercer's children and under the English aw a will is never outlawed and wills can be pro-ated in all eastern states today.

Peter Noe had a daughter, Mary Noe. She married ohn Trembley, who had no children; her mother narried John Bentley and Mary Elizabeth Bentley vas born. She was a greatmother of John Lord Berk-ey and was mentioned as one of the heirs to his vast :state in his will and willed her a part of his prop-:rty, so did John Tingley and she was the sole heir to :even of her ancestors estates. She is the mother of Gideon D. Mercer, and the wife of John Mercer the Third.

Papers which were put on file showed that when Lord Berkley gave Mary Bentley the property in Maiden Head Township, that he also left to her a :hare stated in two wills of land which lays in New York province and in New York City, which will :ome to the Mercers. The Kirkpatrick will shows :hat Samuel Kirkpatrick willed to his grandson, also named Samuel, his father's name was William and he was the first to move to Chamberburg, about 1773, and he died 1798, and willed his property under the English laws.

Mary Trembley who was the daughter of Peter Nos or Naus, the first owning rights in the Elizabeth-town purchase and had married John Trembley and had no issue by him, and after he died, she married John Bentley and had a child Mary Elizabeth Bentley, who married John Mercer the Third.

John Mercer and John Harper came across the ocean on the same ship with her mother. Elizabeth Mercer lived with Edward Francis Flood and left a will in favor of her sister, Mary Flood nee Mercer. Other wills of record show that also John Mercer, the husband of Mary Elizabeth Bentley nee Mercer, loaned in 1740, $50,000 at 4 percent and this was to be paid every year, but after the death of John Mercer, no interest was ever paid; the lease of lands and papers showed that the interest was to be paid annually. Under a lease by Gideon Mercer, his wife, mother of Gideon, Mary Elizabeth Mercer nee Bentley, was the recipient of six wills from John Lord Bentley, two Noe wills, the Trembley, the Tingleys, Isaac Coxe and Mary Townley, to lands in New York, New Jersey, Pa., Ohio, Virginia and North Carolina.

Dr. Daniel Coxe, of London, England owned a farm in Harlem; this land was patented to Jean Baignox, and was finally leased by Dr. Daniel Coxe's attorney, Jeremiah Bass for 99 years to Thomas Codugton; this lease expired in 1798.

Mary Elizabeth Bentley, wife of John Mercer, was a lineal descendent of the Berkleys, Trembleys and Noes. Peter Noe married Elizabeth Coxe. He was tall, had brown hair and blue eyes, wore a moustache, weighed 160 pounds; his will of 54 pages, also a 99 year lease explains in full. His wife was worth $22,000,000.

Lady Gordon died at Gideon D. Mercers while on a visit. She, on this visit, gave Blanch Mercer, a locket and she also willed her her property, and I am confident we are in possession of all lines used by Ursher in establishing themselves lineal descendents of Gideon Mercer's children. I also have the Townley genealogy, Catterlins, Millers, and Job Mercers in full, also the Babb descendents, connecting the Kirkpatrick and Derrough and Copeland lines. Also data of both Edward lines via old Edward Mercer and Gideons, and Edwards. I have seen both wills and in fact there is scarcely any knowledge pertaining to the Mercer Estate, but we are in possession of.

(Signed) Very Respectfully,
P.J. Parrett, Sec'ty. McLain Catterlin
Lyndon, Ohio E.M. Field

CARL MESCHER

Bernhard Mescher (Messcher) was born in Germany in 1816. He emigrated to America in 1834 at the age of 18. An American of German descent, Gottrad Hinders, paid for Bernhard's passage to the United States and Bernhard had to work for Hinders to pay off the debt. Bernhard helped in the construction of the Miami-Erie canal for Hinders and then eventually bought some land southeast of St. Johns in Marion Township for farming. In 1857, he married Katherine Tangeman (Tangemann) who was born in Neuenkirchen, Germany on February 17, 1833. She moved to the United States in 1834 at the age of 18 months. Her family moved into southern Mercer county where Katherine eventually married Bernhard Mescher. The couple had eight children: Anton, Marie, Henry, Elizabeth, Bernhard, Fredrick, Frank, and Margarethe. Another daughter, Elizabeth, died young.

Bernhard died on Jan. 30, 1883 at the age of 67. His wife died later on April 27, 1901, also at the age of 67.

Anton was born in Marion Township on February 16, 1852. He purchased land in Butler Township, north of Coldwater in 1881. He married Mary Fischer, the daughter of Henry and Margaret Fischer, in 1882. They produced eight children, four boys and four girls: Henry, Louis, John, Elizabeth, Catherine, Margaret, Bernard, and Susan.

Louis was born June 21, 1884. He married Rose Spoltman, a neighbor he probably had known all his life. Together they farmed the Mescher homestead until 1931 when they moved to a farm on Buschor Road.

Rose and Louis had seven children, all of whom were born on the original family farm. The children are: Carl, Ralph, Lucille, Linus, Wilfred, Pauline, and Donald.

Louis died March 20, 1970 and Rose is still living. Carl was born on April 28, 1920. He worked on the farm until World War II when he served with the Army Air Corps in Africa. After the war he worked in Celina where he met Mary Fortkamp, the daughter of John and Catherine (Hartings) Fortkamp of St. Rose. Mary was born in St. Rose on March 29, 1914. Carl and Mary were married on May 12, 1948 in St. Rose church.

Carl and Mary had four children: Anthony, who married Trina Steck from Westerville, Ohio; Charles, who married Mary Jane Losche from Coldwater; and Kathryn and Susan.

Mary died on July 4, 1976 at the age of 62. Carl, Kathryn, and Susan are still living in Celina, as are Charles and his wife Mary Jane. Anthony and Trina live in Washington, D.C., where Anthony teaches at George Washington University. *Charles Mescher*

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Daniel D. Miesse Family, 1978 — **Top Row:** Malcolm, Donna, Anjel, Douglas Miesse. **Middle Row:** Pauline and Daniel D. Miesse. **Bottom Row:** Brian and Craig Miesse.

DANIEL D. AND PAULINE M. MIESSE

Daniel Dean Miesse and Pauline Marie Miller were united in marriage November 8, 1943. Dan was serving in the U.S. Army during World War II at that time. He was honorably discharged November 1, 1945.

Dan and Pauline graduated from Celina Public School in 1940. Pauline was Valedictorian of the class and appeared in "Who's Who in American High Schools". She was the daughter of Wm. Stanley Miller and Imo Stewart who were lifetime farmers in Mercer County. Pauline has one older sister Onolee who is married to Woodrow G. Piehl of New Knoxville, Ohio. Dan was the older son of Oran Newcomb Miesse and Zella May Siler, who were also lifetime farmers in Mercer County. Oran passed away at the early age of 31. Dan has a younger brother Robert, married to Marjorie Buck. Pauline, in addition to being a homemaker, became the secretary for the Celina West Elementary School when it opened in 1957 and retired from that position in 1974. After returning from the military service in 1945 Dan was employed as an Industrial Engineer at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, St. Marys, Ohio, where he is still employed. Dan served on the Celina City Council and both are active at St. Paul's United Methodist Church where Dan served for several years as Sunday School Supt., Trustee, Official Board Member, and member of Building and Remodeling Committees.

Dan and Pauline have two sons, Douglas Allen and Malcolm Lynn. After graduation from Celina High School both sons graduated from Manchester College, N. Manchester, Indiana. Douglas enlisted in the Air Force and was commissioned a 2nd Lt., September 1967. He has made a career of the U.S. Air Force and his assignments have included a tour of duty in Okinawa with flights over Vietnam, for which he received the Air Commendation Medal. He is currently a Captain and Commanding Officer of the Communications Squadron at Dobbins AFB, Marietta, Georgia. He married Anjel Jones Littlefield of Kennesaw, Georgia, July 29, 1978. Malcolm was drafted into the U.S. Army after college graduation and was stationed as a non-commissioned officer for a tour of duty in Vietnam, receiving the Bronze Star. Malcolm is employed as a supervisor for the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio. He married Donna Jean Strahm of Decatur, Indiana, December 20, 1970, and they live in Barberton, Ohio. They have two sons, Brian Anthony and Craig Matthew.

In addition to their regular occupations Dan and Pauline own and operate a 140 acre farm in Jefferso Township at the corner of Four Turkey and Ol Town Roads. Pauline is the owner of 80 acres whic was originally obtained from the government i 1837 when Martin Van Buren was President. Durin the Bicentennial Year of 1976 she was recognized b the State of Ohio by receiving a certificate and plaque as a Century Farm owner. *Daniel D. Miesse*

MILLER HOMESTEAD

On June 11, 1852, my great, great grandparent David and Frances Miller of Fairfield County Ohi purchased land that had originally been acquired b the previous owner from the government in 183 during the presidency of Martin Van Buren. On No vember 25, 1855, they sold 80 acres of this land which was mostly timber, to my great grandfathe Samuel G. Miller, the eldest of their children of 1 sons and one daughter. He and his new bride Leah the daughter of Henry Good and Rebecca Berry o Branch County Michigan, moved to this location between Celina and St. Marys. Samuel, a second cousin to Leah and ten years her senior, were both descendants of Samuel Miller, born in York County, Pa. about 1738 and his wife Magdalena Wiley, who later moved to Rockingham County, Harrisonburg, Virginia and established their home. Leah was also a descendant of Nicholas Beery of the Wenger Alps in Switzerland who emigrated to the U.S. June 20, 1727 via Rotterdam, port of Philadelphia, also settling in Pennsylvania and later in the Shenandoah Valley near Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Leah was left a widow with six children, the youngest being born after the death of her husband, but she was able to keep the farm and, with the help of relatives, rear her family. Her youngest son Edson remained on the farm. He married Susie Holdren in 1886. Edson first built a log house, then later a frame home which still stands. He also added another 80 acres to the farm. My father Wm. Stanley Miller, the eldest living son (of a family of four sons and two daughters), also remained on the farm and lived there his entire lifetime. He was married to L. Imo Stewart. I acquired ownership to the original 80 acres after my father's death December 23, 1973.

I have one older sister Mrs. Woodrow G. (Onolee B.) Piehl of Auglaize County Ohio. My husband Daniel D. Miesse and I operate this 80 acres plus an additional adjacent 60 acres. Our family consists of our two sons Douglas Allen, Captain, USAF and his wife Anjel, Marietta, Georgia; Malcolm Lynn, his wife Donna, and two sons Brian Anthony and Craig Matthew, Barberton, Ohio.

This land shall always mean a great deal to me as I was born, reared and married in the homestead. I have much respect for my ancestors who toiled so diligently to leave such a heritage. It has been an honor to be recognized by the State of Ohio as a Century Farm owner. *Mrs. Daniel D. (Pauline M (MILLER) Miesse, Owner*

MILLER

Darrell and Faye (Lacy) Miller of Jefferson Twp. are the parents of 2 daughters — Suellyn Faye and Anna Jean both born in Celina, Ohio. Darrell is the son of Leonard (1890 — 1963) and Viola Hammond

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ler (1892 — 1976) and was born in Center Twp. had a brother Doyle who was born near Moul-, Auglaize Co. who passed away in 1972. The ler family was originally from the New Bremen a although Leonard J. was born near the 40 acre ıd near St. Marys. He was one of 3 children of lliam F. (1849 — 1931) and Sophia Leitz Miller 59 — 1946). His sisters were Rosena (1878 — 0) wife of August Conradi and Augusta (1879 — 1) wife of Arthur Zwez.

Villiam F. Miller was born on the ocean as his ents William and Anna Miller were coming to new world from Germany. His father a sailor, d at sea on the voyage before the birth of his son d he was buried at sea. Although William was rn at sea his birth is recorded as New Orleans, La. the age of 17 William F. began driving mule team the Miami and Erie Canal from Cincinnati to To-o. His mother married in Cincinnati to Christian ınark a native of Hanover, Germany. They had a ı Chris. Mr. Stonark died and Anna married Fred-ck Haveland. They had 3 children: Julia, Johnny, d Henry. The children all died within a few days ıen they were young adults with typhoid fever. ıey were buried near New Bremen, Ohio. Sophia ınerietta Leitz Miller was the daughter of John and ilhelmina Drave Leitz. William F. Miller hauled lk in the New Bremen area with a horse and ıgon.

Viola, Leonard's wife was the daughter of John ırvey Hammond (1871-1964) and Clarissa Cather-e Wolfe (1873-1963). John and Clarissa were the st couple married in the Celina City Hall in 1891 Mayor Joe May. Other children were: Fleda Ethel d Earl Jay both died in infancy, Naomi Mary Jane ılled Mary) wife of Ray Menkner, Johnnie Law-nce and Richard Eugene. John Hammond was the n of Charles (Jerry) Hammond and Eliza Jane ıavely Hammond (1854-1920). Eliza J. was the ıughter of John and Margaret (Rupert) Snavely. hn Snavely was born in Wayne Co., Ohio (1826-917) son of George and Eliza (Wireman) Snavely of erman extraction from Pennsylvania. His mother's rthplace was Gettysburg. When 14, John went to ıippenberg, Cumberland, Pa., and was employed y John Gish. Later, boating on the Miami and Erie anal in Ohio and Indiana provided their livelihood. ı 1863, he entered the Union Army serving Co. K. 3th 1865, Ohio Vol. Inf. Part the 14th army. He was scharged July 3, 1865, when he came to Liberty wp. In 1873 he built a log house. April 9, 1853 he ıarried Margaret Rupert (1834-1910) in Mercer Co. he was the daughter of George and Lovina Rupert. here were 8 children; Eliza J., wife of Charles Ham-ıond, Andrew J., John L., Philip S., Lovina wife of Villiam Martz, George W. and Charles E.

In 1898 he founded the Durbin Bean Bake where t first the Civil War Vets gathered where they ooked the beans in a large kettle over an open fire long with hard tack and home made bread as Mr. navely did during the Civil War. He was known as ıck.

Eliza J. and Charles Hammond's children: John Harvey, Annie, Ollie, Wife of Daniel Rogers and Otto. After Charles' death Eliza J. married Rob Handley. They had 3 daughters: Florence, Bess, and ıg. Florence died when she was 4. John Hammond vas 14 when his father passed away. His father was buried in Buck Cemetery. John was a farmer and pumped an oil well out in Lake St. Marys. His mother married a third time, this time to George Coakley. They are buried at Swamp.

Clarissa Hammond (1873-1964) was the daughter of Rev. Joseph Wolfe and Almeda Delight Drake Wolfe. Rev. Wolfe was born April 24, 1837 near Pittsburg, Pa., Almeda was born Jan. 2, 1833 in Montgomery Co., Near Dayton, Ohio. She died Mar. 17, 1868. They had the following children: Fannie, Fred, Mary, Infant son, Isaac, David, Sarah, Clarissa, infant daughter born dead, mother died then also. His second wife was Mariah Oliver. She only lived a short time after their marriage. His third wife was Mary Ann Cox (1857-1942) born near Houston, Shelby Co., Ohio. Born to them: William Ellsworth, Joseph Edward and Joann. Rev. Joseph Wolfe's brothers and sisters were: Susanna Davis, William, Kate Lukey, Sarah Huntsinger, Lib Dunlap, Mary Sweigart, Daniel, George and Fred. His first wife's family were: Mary Altic, Almeda Wolfe, Samuel, Clarissa Goens, Sarah Hane Wolfe Cole, and Hanibal Drake. *Faye Miller, Celina, Oh. 45822*

GEORGE W. MILLER

George W. Miller, son of John and Emily Miller, was born in Richland County, O., June 6, 1850. When very young he came with his parents to Mercer County, O., where his father bought land of the government and settled in what was then practically wilderness. In those early days schools were not so plentiful as they are today, but by making use of the facilities available in those days he obtained a practical education. He helped his father clear the farm and engaged in the social life of the times.

On June 6, 1875 he was united in marriage to Philena Jane Crouch born in Mercer County, December 28, 1852 and settled on a farm four miles west of Celina, O. To this union was born eleven children: Shirley (Daisy Dull) Van Wert County; Lloyd (24 years); Ferry (5 mos.); Joseph (died in early youth); Leo (13 years); Blanche (James D. Donovan) Mercer, O.; Bess (27 years); Nell (14 years); Myrtle (Robert Larmore) Jefferson Township; Philena (Brown) Long Beach, California; Marie (Dr. Ralph W. Schlenker) Celina, O.

After the death of his wife, November 24, 1907, he kept his family together at his home in Jefferson Township until 1913, he sold his farm and purchased a home in Mercer, O., where he resided the rest of his life, with the exception of a winter which he and his only remaining brother and a daughter spent in California.

He was respected by everyone who knew him, he was a lifelong sufferer from asthma. He became very ill, all was done for him that was at all possible and after weeks of suffering, on Wednesday, June 15, 1921 the day came for him to say goodbye. At the time of his death he had a brother, F.P. Miller and a sister, Mary Ann Hellwarth, who were the last of a large family of children.

Blanche Miller was born in Jefferson Township, Mercer County, O., October 16, 1882. Blanche lived at home on her father's farm until the time of her marriage, living most of her life on the farm, until moving to Mercer, O.

July 1, 1905 she was united in marriage to James

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Delbert Donovan of Mercer, O. To this union five children were born: Mrytle Naomi was born April 6, 1906 and died April 20, 1922 at the age of 15 years; twins, Edith Mae and Edgar Ray, who died within a few weeks; Lawrence Delbert was born June 17, 1913; Robert was born 1918 and died April 11, 1922. Robert, as a very small child fell out of a window and the results of the fall eventually caused his death.

Mrs. Donovan became a member of the Pleasant View Church of God and later she joined the Mercer M.E. Church of Mercer, O. She was faithful in attendance at the church and Sunday School as long as she was able to go. Her death came as a release from suffering on Saturday evening September 12, 1925 at the age of 42 years. At the time of her death she had three sisters; Myrtle Larmore, near Celina, O; Philena Brown of California and Marie Schlenker of Celina, O. and one brother Shirley Miller of Van Wert County.

Lawrence was 12 years old when his mother died. After his mother's death, he and his father lived alone in Mercer, O., until his marriage to Hazel Margaret Copeland which took place at Rev. Sill's in Rockford, O. August 16, 1940.

Lawrence had two children: James Ray born October 28, 1941 and died February 5, 1944 and Larry Roger Donovan born January 11, 1946. *Mary Larmore*

Joseph G. and Janet A. Miller Joey, LeAnne, Elizabeth, December 1976.

THE JOSEPH G. MILLER FAMILY

The Joseph G. Miller family lives in their home at 136 Margo Lane, which they purchased in March of 1974. Joseph Grant (born May 11, 1944 in Decatur, Ind.) is married to Janet Ann (Howick) Miller (born January 22, 1945 in Celina) daughter of Russell and Leanna (Smith) Howick of Celina. Joseph was raised in Willshire, Ohio, and is the son of Leland E. (April 14, 1916) and Bernice (Berg) Miller (October 2, 1923) of Willshire, Ohio. Joseph and Janet met while attending college in Celina. They both received a B.S. in Education degree from Ohio Northern University in 1969. Joseph majored in physics and Janet in education and music. The family is active members of Bethany U.M. Church on East Wayne St.

Joseph works for the Celina Financial Corp. in the research dept. and Janet is a music teacher at West Elementary School in Celina. Joseph and Janet have three children: LeAnne Marie (April 10, 1965), Joseph III (August 13, 1971), and Elizabeth Elaine (born November 2, 1972 in Van Wert). During the summer the family enjoys camping and gardening.

Joseph's parents, Leland and Bernice Miller had three other children: Barbara N. Miller (August 5, 1941) who lives in Berne, Ind.; Judith C. (Miller) Hess (December 13, 1942) married Howard Hess. They live in Willshire where he operates a groc store. They have 4 children: Bryan (February 1963), Julia (July 25, 1964), Brenda (Jan. 21, 19 and Melissa (May 8, 1967). Leland and Bernice h another son William Lee (born November 21, 19 who was killed in Viet Nam (August 21, 1967).

Leland and Bernice met in North Dakota after parents Charles Omar Miller (September 11, 18 and Della (Ehrsam) Miller (June 21, 1891), daugh of Ernst and Elizabeth (Amstutz) Ehrsam, w killed with three of their children William 12, Do thy 10, and Elsie 2, in a terrible car-train accident Berne, Ind. on Memorial Day 1931. This tragedy l Leland and his sister Goldie and three broth Charles Omar Jr., Robert Grant, and Milford D orphans. Leland went to North Dakota to live w an uncle. There he met Bernice Berg, the daughter John Berg (Nov. 20, 1881) and Karen (Sjomling) Be (April 11, 1887). Karen Sjomling came to the U.S. age 14 from Nordmore, Romesdahl, Norway. Jo Berg came from Stavanger, Norway at age 9. Jo was the son of Bartel and Margeret (Ostrim) Berg Norway. Karen (Sjomling) Berg was the daughter Knute and Ann (Sorseth) Sjomling of Nordmo Romesdahl, Norway. Knute was a fisherman in N way. He became a shoemaker in North Dakota.

Leland and Bernice moved to Ohio and settled Willshire where they raised their family. Lelar works at International Harvestor in Ft. Wayne.

Leland's father Charles Omar was the son of J seph Grant Miller I (May 4, 1864) and Hannah Em line (Clymer) Miller, (January 30, 1870), daughter Wilbur Morehouse Clymer and Maria Elizabe (Ruble) Clymer. Ironically Joseph Grant Miller I w killed walking across the same train crossing Berne, Ind. Sept. 11, 1925.

Joseph Grant I was the son of Matthias Mill (February 18, 1833) and Aurilia Melissa (More (March 26, 1845) from New York State. Matthi had 12 children from two marriages and died at a 88. He served in the Civil War in 1864.

Matthias was the son of John (October 19, 180 Montgomery Co.) and Catherine Butt (June 2, 180 Virginia) Miller.

John Miller was the son of George (1769) an Margeret (Bretz) (December 7, 1780, Pennsylvani Miller. *Janet A. Miller, Celina, Oh. 45822*

C. M. MONTGOMERY

C. M. Montgomery (Chad) was born in Ada, Ohi in 1892. He graduated from high school there an later attended Ohio Northern University. Afte working in Akron, Ohio and Erie, Pennsylvania, C M. Montgomery moved to Celina in April, 192 when he became associated with E. J. Brookhar founder and then secretary of the Celina Insuranc Companies.

C. M. progressed in his forty-five years of associa tion with the Celina Insurance Group. His ris through the ranks took him from statistician, under writer, and chief underwriter to the executive fiel where, in 1950, he was named secretary-treasure and general manager. He was elected president o Celina Group in August, 1959. During his involve ment with the insurance companies, they grew from a modest, one-room office to one of the most re spected insurance and financial groups.

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Mr. Montgomery married Mabel Alma Baxter, so of Ada. They had two children, Ann, born in 922 and Don, born in 1925. Their residence was on orth Main Street in Celina.

The Montgomerys possessed a great love for their ommunity and church. In July, 1923 they joined St. aul's Methodist Church in Celina. C. M. served on ie church board and, also, the Celina City School oard. He was active in numerous other civic and ommunity projects. Chad Montgomery sat on the oard of The First National Bank of Celina for early ten years. Mrs. Montgomery was very active i the Altrurian Club.

C. M. held numerous offices in national insurance ssociations and served on the Membership Comittee of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

He also had a deep interest in horses and had iany of his own.

On November 1, 1963, C. M. Montgomery died. His wife, Mabel, passed away in 1972. A Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Montgomery grant was donated to the Celina Civic Center after their deaths.

Both the Montgomerys' children, Ann and Don, rew up and attended school in Celina. They graduted from Celina High School — Ann in 1940 and Don in 1943. Don played football for Celina High.

After her high school graduation, Ann attended De Pauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. Don oined her there three years later. He served in the J.S. Navy, and after graduation from De Pauw, Don eceived his law degree at Columbia University's law chool in New York City.

Ann married Charles Jones of Greencastle, Indiana, and they resided in Worthington, Ohio for nany years. Recently they moved to a farm in Greencastle, Indiana. Their three children — Steve, Margaret, and Thad — are all married.

Don married Barbara Sibbitt of Frankfort, Indiana, and they had four children — Bill, Betsy, Tom and Nancy. They resided in Columbus, Ohio while Don was assistant attorney general for the state and hen returned to Celina where their last two children were born.

Don served as prosecuting attorney for Mercer County and has been a member of the Board of Home Banking Company of St. Marys for many years. In civic affairs, he founded the Mercer County Traffic Safety Council and was one of the early organizers of the Western Ohio Education Foundation.

Don Montgomery joined his father, Chad, in the Celina Insurance Companies in 1953. He presently serves as both President and Chairman of the Board of the Insurance Group. Don plays an important role in both national and international insurance affairs.

In 1960 the Montgomerys moved from Celina's Main Street to Linden Avenue. Don, also, owned a farm east of Celina where he raised horses.

In the seventies, Don moved outside Mercer County to a farm in Lima, Ohio where he raises horses and Alaskan Husky dogs. During the winter he ventures to Northern Michigan, Minnesota, and Alaska to enter himself and his huskies in sled dog races.

Three of the Montgomery children graduated from Celina Senior High School. Bill, a 1968 graduate, attended De Pauw University, his parents' alma mater, and received his law degree at Ohio Northern University. He now lives in Frankfort, Indiana and is a candidate for state representative there.

His sister Betsy graduated a year later from Celina High and received her degree from Ashland College. She and her husband, Todd McConnell, and daughter, Julie, reside in Mansfield, Ohio.

Tom Montgomery was the last Montgomery to graduate from Celina High in 1973. He also graduated from De Pauw University and is presently attending law school at Ohio State.

The last Montgomery child, Nancy, attended Celina Schools until 1973 when she and her mother moved to Oregon. Nancy is enrolled at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. *Don W. Montgomery*

Home of the Moores' since 1931 as it appeared in the Blizzard of 1978 558 E. Wayne, Celina, Ohio

THE ROLAND MOORE FAMILY

The first Moore of this family came to America from his home in Donegal, Ireland, in the late 1700's.

Moore had been chatting with a friend who had killed a hare within the game reserve; the game keeper arrested both of the young men. It cost Moore's father his best cow to get his son free. The injustice of his arrest insensed young Moore; he declared that as soon as he could get enough money, he would leave that country.

After coming to America, he married. One of his children, Ozias, migrated to Fairfield County, Ohio. Ozias married Delilah McDonald; their three children were: Francis Marion, Oliver Jackson, and Ozias, Jr.

Francis Marion married Sarah Toner in 1859. She had been a student in Muskingum College and Northwood Seminary in Preble County and also a teacher. Francis was a carpenter and cabinet maker. They established a home on an 80-acre farm near Macedon, Ohio, for their seven children: Melville, Charles D., Luella, Helen, James, John, and William.

William and his wife Mary Estella (Mayme) Granger lived on a farm three miles west of Coldwater, Ohio. Mayme was the daughter of John Hardcastle Granger and Isabelle Cole Van Gordon. John Granger served in the Civil War for three years; his Company K, 40th Regiment of the Ohio Infantry, was engaged in the battles of Lookout Mountain, the Siege of Atlanta, Harper's Ferry, Chickamauga, and many others; he was wounded at Chickamauga. The Grangers lost three children in infancy; in their family besides Mayme were: Nora (Mrs. Ben Redmond), Mr. Granger's daughter by his first wife, and Angus Cole, a nephew. Mr. Granger was the last survivor of the Civil War from Washington Township, Mercer, County.

The William Moore family members are: Mabel (Mrs. Dale Jamieson), Nellie (Mrs. John P. Wiley),

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Roland, Walter, and John who lives on the original John Granger farm (a portion of this farm has been in the family for over 100 years).

The marriage ceremony for Roland Moore and Bernice Brandon was the first ever solemnized in the Erastus Church. They live in Celina, Ohio. Roland was a postal clerk for 16 years; then he joined the Accounting Department of the Celina Insurance Group from which he retired in 1970. He served on the Celina City Council for twelve years. Bernice taught Business Education for 29 years.

Their older daughter, Janet, has her Master's in Music Education from Indiana University; she taught music in Celina and Cincinnati public schools. Her husband, Kenneth L. Schurter, has his Master's from Chicago University; he is in petrochemical engineering. The Schurters reside in Houston, Texas, with their two children: Bradley and Valerie.

The younger daughter of Roland and Bernice Moore is Jean Moore Wiley, a graduate of O.S.U.; she has been a teacher of Home Economics at Worthington and Celina, Ohio. Her husband, William H. Wiley, D.D.S., is also a graduate of O.S.U. Their son, Jeff, is a student in the East Elementary School of Celina, Ohio. *Roland Moore*

Front Row: Gail (Morr) Byers, Vada (Reimer) Morr, Ralph V. Morr. **Back Row:** Larry J. Byers, Dean H. Morr, Judy (Braun) Morr.

MORR

The Morr name is relatively new to Mercer County having been established here only since 1950 when Ralph and Vada (Reimer) Morr moved to the Celina area. Ancestry of the Morr name has been traced back to 1749 when Andres (Andreas) Morr, Jr. arrived in Philadelphia from Wurttemburg, Germany on the ship "Dragon". Andrew settled in Snyder County, Pennsylvania with subsequent generations immigrating to Wayne County, Ohio, then to Fulton County, Ohio, and finally to Mercer County. Vada's (Reimer) ancestry has been traced to Stargard, Germany and one Carl Reimer who was her great-great grandfather. Her grandfather, Albert William August Reimer, came to America in 1891 and settled in Ottawa County, Ohio.

Vada and Ralph both graduated from Delta High School, Delta, Ohio. They were married in 1948 and moved to Celina after Ralph's graduation from The Ohio State University in December, 1950. He applied for and accepted a position in the Product Engineering Department of AVCO New Idea. He progressed thru several positions and is now manager of AVCO Ezee Flow Division at Coldwater, Ohio. Vada accepted a position with Celina City Schools and is presently librarian at the Junior High School. They live at 616 N. Cherry St., Celina, Ohio, and are the parents of two children, Dean and Gail.

Dean Herbert Morr was born July 7, 1952 at Gibbons Hospital and attended Celina City Schoo graduating in 1970. He graduated from The Ohi State University with a Bachelor of Science in Arch tecture degree in 1973, and is employed at Fannin and Howey Architects and Engineers. In Octobe 1973, he married Judy Braun, a native of Sidne Ohio and daughter of Chester and Evelyn (Wie singer) Braun. She is employed as a Computer Pr grammer Analyst at the Celina Insurance Grou Dean and Judy live at 4319 Merrill Ave., Menc hofer Woods, Celina, Ohio.

Gail Marie Morr Byers was born October 27, 195 at Gibbons Hospital and attended Celina Cit Schools, graduating in 1973. She accepted employ ment with the Celina Insurance Group and i presently a supervisor in the SMP Department. I June, 1976, she married Larry Byers, son of Jame and Ruth (Buck) Byers. Larry is assistant servic manager of Jack Kerns Chevrolet. Gail and Larry liv at 937 So. Elm St., Celina, Ohio. *Ralph V. Morr*

Burl A. Myers

THE MYERS FAMILY

In the mid 1830's John Myers settled in Ohio, having come from the Dutch country of southeastern Pennsylvania and receiving a U.S. patent title to Mercer County real estate in Gibson Township, Sections 23 and 24 in 1837.

One of his sons, Jacob, and his wife, Rachel Brown, were the progenitors of the "Myers" family herein being historically developed.

One of their sons, John W., was born in 1847 and married Christina B. Rantz in 1878, which marriage developed James Earl, Mayme Eleanor, Burl Abraham and Orel Jacob.* "O.J.", as he was known, became an attorney in 1912, practiced law in Mercer County, and after serving in WWI practiced law as prosecutor in Darke County, Florida, and Dayton. He was married to Inez Zay and died in 1967. They were the parents of one daughter, Jeanette. Mayme never married and died in 1965. *James Earl died by accident at 17.

Burl Abraham, or as he was better known, "B.A." graduated from the University of Michigan in 1909 and became an attorney the same year, setting up practice in Celina. In 1912 he was elected prosecuting attorney for Mercer County and continued through a second term. He was married to Catherine "Carrie" Dumbauld in 1912 and three sons were born. B.A. continued the practice of law until his death while on a fishing trip in 1947. Carrie died in 1971.

James Woodrow graduated from Notre Dame Law School in 1938, began the practice of law in 1939 and continued the practice until January 1, 1976, when he became Judge of the Celina Municipal Court. He

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ıd, during the interim period, been city solicitor for e City of Celina from January 1, 1962, through Dember 31, 1975. He married Charlotte Mae :hroyer in 1938 and two sons were born. James W., ., who is married to Charlotte Marie Shaffer. They ıve two children, James W., III, "Chipper" and Vicria Leigh. John is not married.

David Marion graduated from Ohio Northern niversity in March of 1948 and joined his brother, mes, in the practice of law in the firm originated y his father, B.A. and his uncle, O.J. He married uth Henderson and five children were born. Patria Ellen, who is married to Nicholas Kobe. She is a ight attendant for United Airlines and they have ne child, Nicholas. David Leo is currently warden f Texas Correctional Department in Huntsville, exas and is married to Cynthia Robbins. They have ıree children, Sean David, Adam Troy and Benjaıin Michael. Kerry Michael graduated from the Iniversity of Tennessee and is married to Marshalne Sladeski and they have two children, Kerry II, nd Jodi Elizabeth. Daniel graduated from Ohio Iorthern University College of Law and is married ɔ Terry Lee Noel. He is an attorney in Ligonier, 'ennsylvania. Catharine "Kitty" was born January 1, 1952, and died August 13, 1952.

Don Lincoln graduated from Marquette Univerity, BNS, in 1946 and from The Ohio State Univerity College of Law in 1949, and began the practice f law in 1950 in Celina, Ohio, joining his brothers n the firm of Myers & Myers. He is married to Jeantte Davis and two children were born. Douglas Linoln graduated from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, and received his CPA in 1977. He is married o Debra Vanderhorst and have two children, Toby :lizabeth and Linday Renee. Bradley Allen is ɔresently attending The Ohio State University Colege of Law, having graduated from Ohio State Uni/ersity in 1977.

THE EARLY PETERS' FAMILY

The Petters (changed spelling to Peters in the eighteenth century), were originally from Antwerp, Holland, and migrated to America because of religious persecution. Tunis Petters was born October 26, 1749, and he married Francinah Addams (changed to Adams), born August 10, 1759, who was of Scotch — Irish descent and a relative of the Adams family which produced two U.S. Presidents. They were married in 1776, and settled in Romney, Virginia, where they reared their family of thirteen children. Tunis fought for his country during the Revolutionary War, and was a first lieutenant of a company.

The family left Virginia as early as 1809, and settled in the vicinity of Westfall, Ohio, on the Sciota River. One of their sons, Mahlon, was born October 1, 1791, and married Rachel Meredith (whose grandfather emigrated from Wales in 1650). Rachel was born July 14, 1790. They were married in January, 1814, and had 14 children, including twin sons Eli and Absalom, who were born November 6, 1814 at Lancaster, Ohio.

Absalom married Catherine Williams, his second wife in 1844, and they had seven children. The second oldest, Oscar Fritz Allen, was born October 5, 1880, in Rose Hill, Darke County, Ohio.

Oscar married Lucinda Skinner on February 5, 1871. They had 11 children, the four oldest being born at Rose Hill, one of which was Wilson, born September 18, 1875. Before their last child was born in 1897, the family moved to New Weston, Ohio, where they owned and operated the Oscar Peters Hotel and Livery Barn, until Lucinda's death on June 19, 1919. Oscar and his grand-daughter continued living at the Hotel, but rented the rooms to families for living quarters. The same summer, a cyclone struck New Weston, destroying many buildings in the east end of town, but the Hotel was spared. Then in 1920, sparks from the train caught the Hotel on fire, and it burned to the ground. Oscar died July 27, 1927.

Wilson was married at the age of 21 to Maggie M. Meyers in New Weston, on March 3, 1897. Maggie was born September 6, 1879 in Sharpsburg, Ohio. Her father, George William Meyers was born July 14, 1855, and her mother Rebecca (Becca) Elizabeth Jones was born August 6, 1858. Maggie's parents were married July 13, 1878, and had 5 children. Mr. Meyers was a New Weston postmaster, and Becca Meyers was one of the Daughters of America Lodge there in 1904.

Wilson and Maggie had two sons, the youngest was Harold Ora, born May 30, 1904, in his grandparents' three room log house at the west edge of New Weston, where his parents lived at the time. When Harold was four years old, his family moved south of town, where his father, who was a well driller and farm worker, died six months later, on December 21, 1908, at the age of 33. Shortly after, the family moved back to New Weston, to the house that Wilson built before his death. His mother did sewing, worked at the glove and canning factories, and sold Larkin products to support her family.

On March 3, 1914, his mother married Clayton W. Waggoner, born in Mercer County on November 25, 1885. After their marriage, the family moved to Coldwater, where Clate went into the contracting business of ditching and building roads.

Harold saw the Reservoir for the first time on his tenth birthday, when his mother and step-father took him to Celina in their horse and buggy. Harold worked as a water boy for the men who were working on the ditches, until he was thirteen, and then he worked on the ditches as a teamster.

He finished the eighth grade at New Weston school in 1919, while staying with an aunt and uncle. That fall, his family moved south of Ft. Recovery, and in 1921, Harold became a teamster in the oil fields near there, driving his own team. He did this until 1924, when he began working with his stepfather, building roads. He was married to Mildred Pauline Gaus on November 5, 1924.

Maggie and Clate moved to an 80 acre farm west of New Weston in the late 1920's, and Clate engaged in farming. They spent many happy years on the farm, and moved to New Weston in 1958. Maggie died on September 14, 1974 and Clate died on January 19, 1977.

See the Harold O. Peters family history. *Janet Adams, Celina, Oh. 45822*

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Mildred and Harold Peters

THE HAROLD O. PETERS FAMILY

Harold Ora Peters was born May 30, 1904 and was married to Mildred Pauline Gaus on November 5, 1924 in Covington, Kentucky. Mildred Gaus was born January 6, 1906 at her parents home on Gaus Rd., west of Coldwater. She was the daughter of Henry Jacob Gaus Jr. and Nellie Maude (Smith) Gaus. She walked to the Crouch school, where she attended all eight grades. There were seventeen students in the eight grades. In 1919, after her grandfather's farm sold, and they moved to Coldwater, she went to Coldwater High School, from where she graduated in 1923. During high school, she worked at the telephone company in Coldwater, and after graduation, worked at the Buckeye until her marriage.

After their marriage, Harold worked a few months with his stepfather, building roads, and on February 3, 1925, began working at the Buckeye Overall Company in Coldwater. Their first child, a daughter, was born June 24, 1925, and named Norma Jean, and a son, Robert Fredrick was born January 19, 1927.

In 1930 he bought 2 or 3 milk cows, and in 1931, bought the old Coldwater Ball Diamond from John Albers, and let the team use it the rest of the year. This property consisted of seven acres, and in the spring of 1932, he started building a house and a barn at this location. In the summer of 1932, they went to the Chicago World's Fair for a week. Work was completed in 1933, and he moved his family there along with his 2 or 3 Jersey cows. They milked their cows by hand, bottled the milk, and sold it by the quart to Bruns Grocery in Coldwater.

On February 3, 1934, a third child, James Loree, was born, but he died of pneumonia on December 27 of the same year. Mildred then started helping with the milking, which she continued to do, until the cows were sold, many years later.

They kept increasing their herd, until they milked seventeen cows — all Jerseys — by hand, and sold 275-300 quarts of milk a day. They also sold cream and line milk.

On March 21, 1941, a son, Larry Ronald was born, and in that year they bought an 80 acre farm, south of Coldwater, from Joe Depweg. They continued their milk business until 1943, for ten years, when they moved to their farm they had bought. They continued milking and raised some hogs.

A fourth child, Margie Kay was born July 4, 1944 at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, and their last child, Janet Joanne was born October 12, 1948. The family spent many happy years here, and the children all helped with the work. They did their own butchering, and made apple butter with the neighbors 1952. In 1956, Harold and Mildred bought 140 acr from Kenney Andrews, west of Celina, and th moved there with their family in March of that ye They continued milking, until 1969, after 40 yea when they sold their cows.

Harold is still farming and gardening, and M dred sells Avon, which she's done for the past years. They are both active members of Beav Chapel Congregational Christian Church, and H rold is President of the Gideon camp in Celina. The have a camper, which they use frequently in t summer and usually take two trips a year by car.

Their five children are all married, as follow Norma Jean married to Karl F. Wellman on Septen ber 28, 1946. They have three children, Ronald De married to Linda Ann Miller on September 20, 196 who have two daughters, Angela Jean and Nico Renee. Karla Jean married to Jerry James on May 3 1975, and David Michael married to Pat Early o December 27, 1976.

Robert Fredrick married to Ardith May Fifer o September 8, 1951. They have four children, Bria Eugene, Rhonda Susan, Brenda Kay and Dean Fre drick. Bob and Ardith live in Detroit, Michigan.

Larry Ronald married Judy Carol Sanders on De cember 14, 1963. They have two children, Steve Randall and Chauntel Rae. They live in Englewoo Ohio.

Margie Kay married to James D. Fennig on Marc 14, 1964. They have three children, Gary David, Mi chael James and Todd Keith. They live west of Ce lina on St. Anthony Rd.

Janet Joanne married Allan L. Adams on June 2 1970. They have four children, Scott Lewis, Greg Allan, Jill Joanne and Diann Janet. They live west o Celina on Erastus-Durbin Rd. *Janet J. Adams*

Joseph Pfister, (March 3, 1895 - Augus 16, 1952)

JOSEPH PFISTER

Joseph Pfister, born March 3, 1895 in Newport, Ky. (died August 16, 1952 in Cincinnati, Ohio) received his early education at the Immaculate Conception School in Celina. Then he attended the Art Institute of Chicago and on June 15, 1917 received a certificate of completion of three and one-half years of drawing, antique life, painting and still life.

Pfister enlisted in the US Army September 18, 1917 at Celina. He served in Co. A 308th Engineers in the Aise-Ainse offensive Aug. 18-30, 1918; Ainse-Marne July 28-Aug. 6, 1918; Aesle sect. defensive Aug. 6-30, 1918; Meuse-Argonne offensive Oct. 9-Nov. 11; Chateau Thiery offensive July 12, 1918. Before he was sent overseas he was trained in the Military Trade School, Washington Barracks, D.C. and was awarded a certificate of achievement from the School of Photography. It was his job to sketch or to photograph bridges or other works that were blown

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oy the Germans. These sketches or photographs, n made from an airplane, were rushed to headrters where the engineers made plans for restoon so that Allied forces could move ahead. After Armistice, Pfister was assigned to the Army of cupation. He sketched German military fortificaıs along the Rhine. Honorable Discharge was re'ed July 14, 1919. Then came two year scholaro at the Beaux Arts Institute in Paris and travel in ope. At the Versailles Peace Conference he tched Clemmenceau, the Old Tiger of France, a rk that is in France today. Returning to USA, ster studied anatomy for a year at Flower Hospital New York.

His major work was portrait painting. He had his dio in Chicago, in Celina, and after 1938 in Cinnati. Pfister's favorite commissions were the two traits of Don Gentile, the flying ace of World ır II who completed three hundred missions, ich he did for the Gentile family and for a Piqua, io veterans' organization. In 1940 he painted the trait of Pope Pius XII, whom he had never seen. e war prevented his going to Rome, so he resorted other portraits, photographs, and the descriptions people who knew the pope. Most Reverend Archhop John T. McNicholas offered many helpful ticisms of the work. Another portrait which was eived with much publicity and acclaim was that President Truman done in 1946.

A collection of clippings, exhibition catalogues, otographs of his works, documents, by and about eph Pfister are in the file of the Cincinnati Art useum Library donated by Mrs. Donald M. Wood. e is Anna Lee Pfister Wood, daughter of Leo and argaret Pfister, and she has the following collecn of Joseph Pfister's works in her Cincinnati me. Franklin D. Roosevelt; Federal Judge Frank L. oeb of Toledo; President Harry Truman; Governor ın W. Bricker; John Francis Beckmeyer (?); John acGregor (?); Dulah in Red Velvet; Miss Dulah ılskamp; The Misses Alexandra and Mary; Miss ıthalie Fleisch (?); Woman Wearing Orchids; Mrs. bert Gearson (?); Orchids; Venus de Milo; Football ame; Expulsion; Broadway Chorus Girl (chalk); lawatha; Sketch for a Proposed Mural; Charcoal ıdies of: Josephine Pfister; Anna Pax Pfister; Pius ister; Three watercolors: As You Like It — Rosaıda; Falstaff; Midsummer Night's Dream; One oil rtoon: Dorothy's Little Boxer.

Other known paintings and their owners if ıown are here listed. Ruth Ann and Betty (Thomas oyng, Coldwater, Ohio); Farmer Johnny (Ball State eachers' College); Pope Pius XII (1940) (Old St. lary's Rectory, Cincinnati, Ohio); Sunset (Joe oyng, Coldwater, Ohio); Family (Chuck Pfister, olumbus, Ohio); Assumption (Fenwick Club); John arrymore, Actor (1928); Landscape (Hilda Sacher, elina, Ohio); Stadium in the Rain, Columbus; Auıst J. Spieler (August J. Spieler II, Celina, Ohio); lary Catherine Spieler (Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilon, Oxford, Ohio); Rosemary Pulskamp Kohnen Mrs. Thomas Armstrong, Celina, Ohio); Beatrice ulskamp; Erection of the Cross (St. Gregory Semiary, Mt. Washington, Ohio); Don Gentile (1944) Gentile Family, Piqua, Ohio); Don Gentile (1944) eterans' organization in Piqua); Judge Dammarel f Cincinnati; Judge Miller (Mercer Co. Courthouse); ony Elsaesser; King Lear; Four Girl in White (The Sackstetter Sisters of Cincinnati); Winifred Johnson (1946); Clemenceau, Paris (1920); Master David Krimendahl; Grandpa Snazzy; Sen. James W. Huffman of Ohio (1946); Ann McCoy Oppenheim; Dean Alice H. Byrne; Mary Catherine Roedel (a charcoal) (Mary C. Roedel, Norwood, Ohio); Justine (Boots) Stegeman of Ft. Thomas, Ky.; Robbie Robinson of Mariemont; John Sarver, Founder of Ohio State Life Insurance Co., Columbus, Ohio; Polo Game (1925) Magdalene Niemer, Cincinnati, Ohio; The Little Mischief (oil cartoon) Magdalene Niemer, Cincinnati, Ohio; Edgar J. Brookhart (Celina Group Insurance Co., Celina, Ohio). *by Hilda Sacher and Magdalene Niemer*

PIUS PFISTER

Pius Pfister was born in the Province of Hohenzolleran, Germany, July 6, 1856 and he died March 3, 1945. When he arrived in the United States he had only 25¢ in his pocket. He married Anna Mary Pax, who was born in Cleveland, Ohio, June 6, 1867 and died March 16, 1933. Pius Pfister had a sixty acre dairy farm three miles southwest of Celina. He made daily trips through Celina residential district with his horse and wagon delivering milk to individual residences dipping it from his ten gallon milkcan into the container of the housewife. Pius and Anna Mary had the following children: Joseph, born March 3, 1895 at Newport, Ky., died August 16, 1952 in Cincinnati. Joseph was a well-known artist and a sketch of his life is in this book. Josephine, born at Newport, Ky., October 28, 1896, died June 6, 1933 in Celina. She is well remembered as a nurse at the Otis Hospital. Carl and Leo, twins, were born in Celina June 22, 1898. Carl married Matilda VonderHaar and Leo married Margaret Obringer. In 1938 Leo moved with his family from Columbus, Ohio to the Pfister farm where he raised cattle. Leo died March 9, 1964 and the farm was sold in 1966 to the Laux family. Carl is deceased and Matilda lives with her son in Columbus, Ohio; Margaret lives with her daughter, Betty Hoyng in Coldwater, Ohio. *By Hilda Sacher, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Pohlman Estate, 210 S. Main, Celina, Ohio 1963 (torn down for parking lot)

JOHN M. POHLMAN

Johann Matheus Pohlman, known in Celina as John M. Pohlman, was born in Bavaria, Germany on September 3, 1828. As a young man he came to America with his father and several other members of his family. Other members had come previously. We do not know where he first settled, but was known in Celina as early as 1853.

On August 6, 1854 he married Carolina Jung of New Bremen, Ohio. The marriage took place in a frame building on East Fayette Street in Celina. This

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building served Celina as a church, a school house, a town hall and an engine room. The Lutheran minister from New Bremen officiated. The bride was dressed in black silk with shirred waist and white undersleeves.

Carolina Jung Pohlman was born in Lauterechen, Germany September 16, 1933. She went first to Cincinnati, Ohio, later to New Bremen where the couple met.

Records in Celina Court House show that Mr. Pohlman bought the south half of lots 115 and 146 of Celina's original plot, October 23, 1855. The older residents may remember the family home where the Main Street parking lot now is located on the east side of Main Street just a few doors south of Fayette Street.

By trade Mr. Pohlman was a shoemaker featuring custom-made shoes. His first known shop was in the small structure located on the alley of his newly purchased land which also provided living quarters. There in 1854 Mr. Pohlman brought his bride. She not only kept house but boarded the hands.

As his family began to grow, Mr. Pohlman built a lovely two-story home on the same grounds. The new house was built right up to the sidewalk on Main Street. Between the two buildings was a lovely flower garden. An iron fence separated the garden from the sidewalk. Brick walks connected the buildings. There was an arbor over the gate which was in the middle of the iron fence. A long grape arbor was over the walk leading to the back of the lot. On either side were garden plots.

At the rear of the lot was a large barn which housed the horse, cow and chickens. In the day-time the cow would graze on seven acres of grass land at the east end of the city which belonged to Mr. Pohlman. A Celina school is now located on this land.

After the morning milking was done the cow would be released from the barn and started to the pasture with Mr. Pohlman following in the horse-drawn buggy. The cow seemed to know where to go even turning the right corners. The same procedure was used in the evening when the cow was returned to the barn.

The new house was a colonial type structure with a center hall and a door opening to the sidewalk. On one side of this hall was the parlor, behind it a bedroom, dining room and kitchen. On the other side was a business room — the sales room for the custom made shoes. The shoes were made in a room back of the display room. Upstairs were four spacious bedrooms.

On summer evenings Mrs. Pohlman and her friends would enjoy sitting in front of the front door.

The first organ in Celina was the one in the Pohlman residence.

Around 1880 Mr. Pohlman started a newsstand for his eldest son, Frank, in the old building next to the alley. Several years later he gave up his shoe business and Kistlers' Barber Shop took its place. When Kistlers moved out the News Stand was moved from the old building to the newer house. In the early part of the twentieth century the News Stand replaced the living room and bedroom of the Pohlman home. A milliner store was in the other storeroom.

When Frank Pohlman left Celina to seek his fortune in Nebraska, Mr. Pohlman took over the r stand. At his death his daughter Mary, managed store. The grandson, John Kohn, followed I Pohlman. When it was leased to the city as a p ing lot, Russell Kohn was the proprietor. (Russell son of Hannah Pohlman Kohn).

In 1860 Mr. Pohlman was elected to Celinas city council which consisted of four members.

At this time he was also a trustee of the Evan cal Lutheran and Reformed Church. He helped r funds to build the first church. In later years congregation was disbanded.

He was a very loyal Mason, occupying the t surers chair for many years.

He was the father of eleven children, five whom died in infancy or early childhood.

Mr. Pohlman died on June 17, 1907 and M Pohlman, August 21, 1915. They had spent their tire married life on Main Street in Celina, Ohic

Kohn

The J. Henry skamp Family ture — L. to R., Row: J. Henry skamp, Henri Rosemary, Mrs. skamp. Second I Beatrice, Wiro, tha, Dulah.

THE J. HENRY PULSKAM FAMILY

212 E. Market St. is gone. The big white fra house with the red tile roof was for more than hal century the home of the J. Henry Pulskamp fam — my family. If you passed in the summer time y might have seen us children playing croquet on t west lawn in the shade of two tall elms. Or we mig have been on the east side in the lawn swing, even on a ladder picking cherries.

It was a high house with a tower. (This tower c ner of the attic, with a horsehair platform rocker buffalo robe, and other treasures made a fine pla to play). You walked up eight to ten steps to rea the front porch — everyone sat on the front porch the evening after supper and chatted with those w passed by. Every evening at the same time, we sa Mrs. Landfair, the night operator, on her way to t telephone office. That reminds me, Dad and I Crampton, who lived about a block away, bought u the small surrounding telephone companies (abo 1920, I believe) to form the Celina and Merc County Telephone Co. This lasted until the Gener Telephone Co. took over.

Some family background may be in order:

J. Henry Pulskamp was born in Cincinnati, Se tember 25, 1861, and came with his parents, Herma and Mary Schaefer Pulskamp*, to Maria Stein th following spring, traveling as far as Minister by wa of the old canal. When about fifteen years old, I moved to Celina where he spent the remainder his life. After graduating from Celina High Schoo he assisted his father in the Mercer County Tre

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er's office. At the age of twenty-one, in 1882, he nt into the Dry Goods Business with C.L. Hierhol-. The next year he married Magdalene Schunck rn May 10, 1861, in Cranberry Prairie, daughter Jacob and Catherine Meyer Schunck) and they ed above the store for a few years, then moved to E. Market St. In 1907 he was a founder of the lina Stearic Acid Company and the secretary-asurer, until his retirement.

By this time our family was complete: Bertha (b. 34, m. August Spieler 1906, d. 1972), Beatrice (b. 39, d. 1941), Wiro (b. 1891, m. Lela Orr 1918, d. 54), Dulah (b. 1898, d. 1972), Rosemary (b. 1902, Henry Kohnen 1924, widowed 1945, m. Troy mstrong 1957, widowed 1962), Henrietta (b. 1904, Homer Abegglen 1937). I am the last, and since rtha was married when I was one and a half years l, there were seven around the big kitchen table. Sundays and when we had company we ate in dining room, using the Haviland china with ne dishes, tiny butter dishes, and a mustache cup Dad.

Also on Sunday we often drove into the country. ır big barn had horses, a surrey with fringe on the p, a fancy runabout with rubber tires, and a sleigh r winter. Later these gave place to a seven passen-r Cadillac touring car and a Model T Ford road-er.

No traffic, no TV, no rock music, no x-rated mov-, but a calm, happy family life among friends — at was Celina in the early years of the twentieth ntury.

*For further details on Herman and Mary Schae-r Pulskamp, please refer to 1896 Biographical His-ry of Mercer County, Bowen. *Mrs. Homer N. Abegglen, tford, Oh. 45056*

JOHN SANDERS PUMPHREY

One of the most prominent citizens of Celina, hio was John Sanders Pumphrey, born January 7, 36 in the city of Worcester, Worcestershire Eng-nd. His parents, Mary Sanders and Samuel Pum-rey, were prominent and wealthy manufactures kid gloves and he also was a tea merchant. The ther was highly educated, a graduate from both xford and Cambridge Universities. He also learned e trade of tallowchandler.

In the fall of 1837 Samuel brought his family to e United States landing in Boston, Massachusetts. s they disembarked the ship, John Sanders fell into e water and a sailor dove into the water to save m. They continued on water to Philadelphia where ey remained 18 months. Their next home was in olumbus, Ohio until 1841 when they moved to ichmond, Ind. where Samuel engaged in the man-facturing of soap and candles. John Sanders got ost of his education in the schools in Richmond. In 352 they moved to Jay County, Indiana and settled n a farm northeast of Portland, where Samuel ught school and with his eldest son, John Sanders, ngaged in farming. There were nine children born Samuel and Mary but only John Sanders and Su-n Pedrick survived their parents. Samuel passed way September 17, 1858 and Mary Sanders Pum-hrey on August 26, 1881.

On May 11, 1861 John Sanders Pumphrey married Sarah Ann McCrosky on the banks of the Wabash. In 1865 they moved to Celina, Ohio where he spent several years in hunting, trapping and fishing. He helped to build the Reservoir in Celina by removing trees and stumps and by hauling boat loads of dirt he built an island where he raised vegetables. These he sold by horse and wagon thru the streets of Celina. After nearly loosing his life as he was caught in a storm while returning from his island he bought 41½ acres of land adjoining the northwest corporate limits of Celina. Here he continued his truck farming with the help of his children and grandchildren who remember getting one cent per quart for picking berries and shelling peas.

They lived in a log cabin on this farm until they received an inheritance from England at the death of the last of four maiden aunts in 1895. At that time they built a brick home which still stands on that property. The older grandchildren remember parties at the new home where John Sanders played the fiddel and kicked his heels higher than his head while dancing. There were eleven children born to this marriage. While John Sanders was raised a Quaker most of his children became Methodist. He was a Republican and many of his grandchildren follow his political party.

On his farm he had a nursery and greenhouse with his own water works to irrigate his crops. He built a pool where he put turtles until they were needed to make the Turtle Soup for which they were famous at the Celina fair grounds. The stand where he sold the soup was decorated with the cleaned out shells of the turtles. Recently the recipe for this came to us thru a relative of Leslie Pumphrey. It is as follows: Boil the turtle until the meat can be removed from the bones. Put this meat into the broth and add 1 cup each of carrots, cabbage and potatoes. ½ cup each of onions and celery and ½ can of peas add the juice of one lemon and some parsley cook until the vegetables are done.

John Sanders Pumphrey passed away on June 9, 1910 and Sarah Ann on August 10, 1923. All their children are dead at this writing but they are survived by many grandchildren, great and great great, etc. There is a Pumphrey Reunion held every year on the first Sunday in August in the Celina, Ohio area. Many gather to search their family tree which had the roots firmly planted in this area by John Sanders Pumphrey. *Submitted by Mary Pumphrey Malich as told to me by my elders. Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46805*

PUMPHREY

John S. Pumphrey, one of the most prominent citizens of Ohio was born Jan. 7, 1836 in the city of Worcester, Worcestershire England a city famous among many other things, for its manufacture of gloves. He was a son of Samuel & Mary (Saunders) Pumphrey, both natives of the same city.

Samuel Pumphrey was a son of John Pumphrey, who was a manufacture of kid gloves in Worchester, the Pumphrey family has for centuries been a wealthy and prominent one in Worcester, and the subject of this sketch has in his possession pieces of silver plate which have been in the family for more than one hundred and sixty years. He also has portraits of seven generations of the Pumphrey family. A first cousin of John Pumphrey, Anthony Purver, made a "new and literal translation of the new and

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old testament", which was published in 1764, a copy of which is owned by John S. Pumphrey's heirs.

Samuel Pumphrey was a highly educated man, and was graduated from both Oxford and Cambridge Universities. He learned the trade of a tallow chandler, but did not follow it to a great extent. For several years he was engaged as a tea merchant. In the fall of 1837 he brought his family to the United States. Landing in Boston, Mass. from which city he went by water to Philadelphia. There he remained about eighteen months, and then removed to Richmond, Ind. Where for eleven years he was engaged in the manufacture of soap and candles. In 1852 he moved to Jay County, Ind. and settled on a farm several miles northeast of Portland. There he followed farming and school teaching for several years. He was an unusually fine schollar. He wrote much excellent poetry some of which was published. His death occured in the fall of 1859, his wife surviving until August 26, 1881, and dying in Celina. The remains being buried in the cemetery at Celina. They were the parents of nine children.

John Sanders Pumphrey was reared in Richmond and in Jay County Ind. and received his education principally in the schools of Richmond. Until his father's death he remained on the farm in Jay County and in September, 1865 he removed to Celina, Ohio where he spent several years in hunting, trapping, and fishing. Later he became engaged in the nursery and greenhouse business. He erected two large greenhouses 20 × 75 feet in size. He put in his own water works, so that he could irrigate his premises, independently of any other person or of any corporation.

John Pumphrey was married, in 1861 to Miss Sarah McCroskey who was born in Dark Co., Ohio and to their marriage there has been eleven children. Viz. Claudia, deceased, wife of Wesley C. Roser, by whom she had five children — John Samuel, deceased, married to Josephene Wolf and had ten children — Susan Rebecca married to Wm. Bates and later to Wm. Worthington and had two daughters — Martha Ellen married to Erastus May and had sixteen children — Sarah Francis married to Wm. Miller and had six children — Amy & David dying in infancy — Leonard B. married to Rosa Fetter and had two children — Olive J. married to Chas. H. Frank, no children — Leslie J. married and had three children — Bess Elnora married John Lincoln and had four children.

Mr. Pumphrey was reared a Quaker in religion, and was a Republican in politics. He was an unusually active man, was energetic, and a worthy representative of the family from which he came. *Patrica Kuhn, Celina, Oh. 45822*

DANIEL CHARLES PUTHOFF

Daniel Charles Puthoff was born February 5, 1946, son of Russell George and Vinola (Hemmelgarn) Puthoff, he being raised in Jefferson Township, Mercer County, Ohio. Dan worked on the family farm and graduated from Immaculate Conception High School, Celina, Ohio, in 1964. And the College of Automation in Kansas City, Mo. He has served two years with the U.S. Army; being stationed in Germany for 18 months. He spent sev years employed with Reynolds and Reynolds, El tronic Accounting then joined Speicher Corporatic Celina, Ohio, in 1973 being their purchasing agent

On April 12, 1969 he married Rita Joyce Ema daughter of Alfred Vernon and Marilyn Joyce (Co man) Emans, Mendon, Ohio, the second child three; Rex Vernon, Rita Joyce, Rickie Gene. T Emans Family history is continued in another se tion of this book. Rita Puthoff was a 1966 gradua of Mendon Union High School and the Richard W ston School of Cosmetology Lima, Ohio. Dan a Rita Puthoff are the parents of three children; D anna Marilyn, 1970; Angela Michelle, 1973; Vale Renee, 1976; all were born in Gibbons Hospital, C lina, Ohio. Their first place of residence was Linco Corner Sub. on Mud Pike Road. March 1, 1976 th purchased one-half of the original 80-acres from tl Josephine Puthoff estate, the other remaining ha purchased by David Puthoff.

Daniel's grandparents Andrew and Josephir (Boskin) Puthoff purchased the 80 acre farm locate in Jefferson Township, section 32, on June 12, 19 from John W. Steele Estate, after Andrew ha rented the farm for two years previously. Andre Puthoff was the son of Frank and Catherine (Bra dewie) Puthoff, born Aug. 4, 1882, in Jefferso Township, Mercer Co. Ohio, on the farm locate just west of the Mercer County Home, southwe side, Celina, Ohio, died Feb. 14, 1932. The Frank P thoff History can be found in the History and Bio raphy of Mercer County, Ohio 1907 and also Recor of Mercer and Van Wert Counties, Ohio 1896. O October 18, 1911, Andrew Puthoff married Jose phine Boskin, born October 13, 1888, Granvil Township, Mercer Co., Oh., being the daughter Fredrick Herman Feb. 6, 1860, June 15, 1926 an Thersa (Pohl) Boskin Dec. 4, 1860-June 10, 19 from Granville Township, later moved to Celin Ohio. Being one of six children; George 1881-19 m. Anna (Barther) St. Henry, Oh., Two Children; J seph infant; Henry J. 1886-1955 m. Clara (Homa Dayton, Oh., 4 children; Josephine 1888-July 2 1975 subjects grandmother; Caroline died age 28 yr m, George Dorsten, 1 child.; Louise 1892-1973 n Herman F. Fisher, Dayton, Oh. 1 child.

Andrew and Josephine are the parents of five chil dren; being Leonard 1913 m. Elizabeth Betty (Birk 1911-1978, one son deceased, Celina, Oh.; Russe George May 12, 1914-Nov. 12, 1968 m. Vinol (Hemmelgarn) April 26, 1916, subjects parents; Wal ter 1916, Celina, Oh.; Katherine 1918, Celina, Oh Florence 1923, m. Victor Hartke, deceased, Car thagena, Ohio, 9 children; Andrew's main occupa tion was farming and raising livestock, but helped t maintain the township roads for Jefferson Town ship. He enjoyed playing the string banjo and was member of the Puthoff Orchestra, other member were Joseph and Christina Puthoff and Andy Johns man. They play throughout the area.

After the death of Andrew, his son Russell at th age of 16 yrs. dropped out of school to manage th farm for his mother, he attended Lincoln School, Jef ferson Township. He would go to school early in th winter to start the wood stove, so the school woul be warm for the day. Russell married Vinola Eliza beth Hemmelgarn on April 19, 1941 in Celina at Im maculate Conception Church, where they are alsc members. Vinola is the daughter of Charles 1886

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4 and Clara (Tobe) 1891-1942 Hemmelgarn. ırles' parents history is also mentioned in the torical Books listed above (Paul Henry and Theo- e Hemmelgarn) she being one of eleven children; rence 1908-1936 m. Helen Coughlin, Dayton, .; Alphonse 1910 m. Olive Huber, Dayton, Oh.; lfred 1912 m. Mary Sacher, Celina, Oh.; Cleopha 4 m. Walter Weber, Dayton, Ohio; Vinola sub- s mother; Oscar 1918 m. Mary Jansen, Celina, io; Alfreda 1921 m. Fred Meinhart, Celina, Ohio; nald 1923, m. Shirly Blunk, Louisville, Ky.; ma 1925 m. James Ellis, Celina, Ohio; Charles Jr. 0 m. Doris Schoff, Celina, Oh.; Mary Infant. Vi- a attended school at Gelhause School in Gran- e Township, Mercer Co., Ohio. Charles Hemmel- n was a farmer and carpenter by trade. All were n and raised in Granville Twp., before moving to lina in 1932.

Russell and Vinola Puthoff are the parents of six ldren being David Russell 1942 m. Catherine Jean vers; Daniel Charles, subject.; Jeanette Marie 1949 James Owens; John Andrew 1954-1956; Denise n and Diana Sue (Twins) 1961; Russell was a 4-H visor of the Riding and Roping Club and a very pected and active citizen of the community. Mrs. ıola Puthoff moved to Celina a few years after her sband's death, after spending their married life on family farm. She is employed at Charley Pastry op, Celina, Ohio, her brother. Mr. and Mrs. Dan thoff are also members of Immaculate Concep- n Church Celina, Ohio. *Compiled by Rita Puthoff*

DUANE LEE & CAROL ANN PUTHOFF

Duane Lee Puthoff was born July 28, 1942 in Ce- a, son of Harold Puthoff, born September 22, 13 in Celina, and Helena Leugers Puthoff Harms, rn February 10, 1915 in Osgood. Duane's parents re married November 14, 1933 in Ft. Recovery, ıio.

Maternal grandparents were Henry John Leugers, rn April 9, 1876 in St. Rose and Josephine (Zum- ink) Leugers, born October 26, 1885 in Philothea. ıey were married on February 10, 1904 in Delvin, ıio. Henry Leugers died October 5, 1966 in Vers- les and Josephine died January 27, 1973 in Van ert.

Paternal grandparents were Jacob Puthoff, born ıuary 24, 1879 in Celina and Magdaline (Buehler) ıthoff, born September 15, 1881 in Carthagena. ıey were married February 7, 1906 in Celina. Jacob ıthoff died November 8, 1954 in Coldwater and agdaline died February 27, 1937 in Celina.

Duane was one of seven children, attended and aduated from Immaculate Conception Schools in lina in 1960 and worked at the Daily Standard 60-1964. June 15, 1963 Duane Puthoff and Carol estgerdes were married at St. Henry Catholic ıurch. They lived 1963-1967 at Mercelina Trailer ırk and then moved to their present home at lenchhofer Woods, State Rte. 29 West, Celina. uane is now working at the Reynolds & Reynolds o. as a rotary pressman.

Carol Ann (Westgerdes) Puthoff was born Janu- y 9, 1943 in Celina, daughter of Edward J. West- rdes Jr., born April 17, 1918 in Dayton and Lucille uken) Westgerdes, born April 18, 1919 in Coldwa- ter, Ohio. Carol's parents were married October 21, 1939 in Coldwater.

Maternal grandparents were Harry Luken, born May 6, 1887 in Philothea and Philomena (Post) Luken born August 20, 1887 in St. Peter. They were married May 21, 1916 in Sharpsburg. Harry Luken died September 27, 1970 and Philomena died April 23, 1964 in Coldwater.

Edward Westgerdes Sr., born January 18, 1895 at St. Johns and Helen (Wenz) Westgerdes, born December 26, 1897 at Dayton are the paternal grandparents. They were married May 24, 1917 in Dayton. They lived most of their married life in St. Henry, Ohio where Edward still resides. Helen died August 20, 1974 in St. Henry.

Carol (Westgerdes) Puthoff was one of three children, attended and graduated from St. Henry Schools in 1961 and worked at Mutual Insurance Co. June-September 1961. Carol then worked at Reynolds & Reynolds Co. 1961-1966. In July 1973 she took over as Executive Director of the American Cancer Society of Mercer County.

Duane and Carol have three children — Cherie Lynn, born March 18, 1964 in Coldwater. She attended Immaculate Conception Grade School and is now a freshman at Celina Senior High School.

Shelly Renee, born July 12, 1966 in Celina, is now in 7th grade at Immaculate Conception School in Celina.

Timothy Duane was born September 22, 1969 in Coldwater and is in 3rd grade also at Immaculate Conception Grade School. *Carol Ann Puthoff*

THOMAS AND MAGDALENE BAKER RANSBOTTOM

The best estimate of Thomas Ransbottom's birth date is January 13, 1780. (The year varies according to which document is consulted.) The death certificate of his son John states that Thomas was born in England. The only clue to the exact locale in England is Thomas's last name — many families in Ramsbottom, Lancashire, England, adopted the name of the town as their own (with some slight spelling alterations).

On March 15, 1814, Thomas witnessed the signing of the marriage bond of a Polly Ransbottom to Peter Dairy (or Derry) in Rockingham County, Virginia. It is thought that Polly was Thomas' sister. A Richard and a Joseph Ransbottom were also present in the records of Rockingham County around 1820, and it seems possible that these men were brothers to Thomas.

Thomas was a veteran of the War of 1812. He entered the army on July 13, 1814, in the place of a Rarebone Mathis of Rockingham County. His service was in Capt. Henry Welch's Company of Light Infantry, 6th Reg't., Virginia Militia. While on loan to another Company, he fought the British for twelve hours at the Battle of Craney Island. During his period of service, his salary was eight dollars per month. He was honorably discharged August 22, 1814, due to ill health.

The first proof that Thomas had taken up residence in Ohio, does not come until December 10,

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1850, when Thomas was already 71 years old. Thomas seems to have lived most of his Ohio years near Lima, in Allen County. During the last few years of his life he took turns living with three of his sons in Hardin, Allen, and Mercer Counties. He died November 13, 1878, at the home of his son George near Ada in Hardin County. According to George, Thomas died of, "Old age and General Disability, Having a severe Cough." Thomas is said to have been a "Dunker", or member of the Church of the Brethren.

Thomas married Magdalene (also called Helene) Baker, the daughter of Martin Baker, Senior. (See the Phillip Baker family history in this volume.) Their marriage bond was signed February 11, 1812, in Rockingham County, Virginia. They had the following children: 1. Diana, who married Andrew Craig; 2. Wesley B., who died February 6, 1873, in Allen County; his wife's name was Caroline; 3. George W., who died February 3, 1907, in Starke County, Indiana; his first wife was Mary King, whom he married September 14, 1843 — their children were Sarah Reeder, Martha Wolfe, Abraham L., Charlie F., and Riley H. — Mary died in Hardin County on June 19, 1869; George's second wife was Loueza Jane Lester, whom he married August 18, 1870, in Wyandot County — their children were Claude E., Lee M., and Walter L; 4. Cornelius H., who married Hanna Reese; their children were Alusta A., Melissa A., Adeline E., Elyina E., Newton F., Franklin T., Mabel G., Alonzo L., and Lifus M.; Cornelius seems to have spent most of his married life in Allen County. 5. Nancy, who married James A. Hume; 6. Lucinda, who married Simon Leap; their marriage bond was signed August 20, 1844, in Rockingham County, Virginia; 7. John, hereafter referred to as John Sr.; born February 14, or 15, 1821 or 1822, in Rockingham County, Virginia; died April 14, 1914, and is buried in the cemetery at Macedon, Ohio; his first wife was Mary Swaim, whom he married in March, 1843, in Allen County — she was born March 13, 1824, the daughter of Joshua Swaim of Allen County — she died in 1875 and is buried in the Macedon Cemetery; the children of John Sr. and Mary Swaim Ransbottom are: 1. John Jr., b. March 10, 1845, in Logan County, Ohio; d. March 16, 1923, and buried in Macedon, Ohio; first married Jane McQueen or McQuin in Celina on August 29, 1865; their only child was Ivy James Ransbottom, M.D.; after Jane's death September 6, 1903, John Jr. married Mellisa A. Murray in Allen County; 2. Wesley R., b. 1848; married Minerva Vian — their children, to the best of our knowledge, were Lucretia, Rachael, Jesse J., Leona, and John. 3. Anna, b. September, 1850, in Allen County; d. 1921, and buried in Macedon Cemetery; married Nathan Grier on July 4, 1867; their children to the best of our knowledge were William L., Mary, John W., and Martha J. McAfee; 4. Alex Monroe, b. 1854; d. 1940; first wife Nancy J. Eliot (or Ellet?); their children to the best of our knowledge were Fanny B. Granger, Charles B., Lewis E., Clifford L., Edward, Myrtle, Effie, Jessie Floyd, Opal Ford, and Lila Baucher; his second wife was a Ms. Colton of Virginia.

John Sr.'s second wife was Phoebe Wishon, whom he married October 24, 1878, in Mercer County — Phoebe was born November 1, 1847, in Jackson County, Ohio, the daughter of Isaac and Anna Pile Wishon; Phoebe's siblings were Rebecca (whose f husband was Billy McCain — their children to best of our knowledge, were Frank McCain, Rach McDonald, Julia Rush, Hettie Spohn, John McCa Sara Jane Gales, and Louisa or Angeline Floren Rebecca's second husband was a Mr. McDowe Sara Jane (Mrs. Theodore Brann or Braun), Willi A. Wishon, Nancy (Mrs. Steve McPearson), Is Wishon, and Polly Wishon; Phoebe died of a pa lytic stroke at her home four miles west of Coldv ter on February 21, 1923; she is buried in Maced Cemetery; the children of John Sr. and Phoebe V shon Ransbottom are: 1. Clarence A., "Arthur", April 17, 1880; married Sarah "Sadie" Hoel, t daughter of William H. and Martha Fisher Hoel; Martha Jane "Jenny", b. January 20, 1886, at Rou #1, Coldwater; married Albert Boyd Anderson; 1967; the descendants of Albert and "Jenny" Rar bottom Anderson are as follows: a. Howard, who r sides in Van Wert County; married Idelle Rus their children are John and Susan; b. Eva, who r sides in Celina; married Conrad Hosel; one chi Frederick M.; c. Ashley, who resides in Celina; fi wife was Ruth Brandeberry; their child is Dennis (married to Linda McDonald); second wife is Lucil Crabtree; d. James Russell, who was killed in comb in France, December 3, 1944; buried beside his pa ents in Swamp College Cemetery; e. Warren, wh resides on St. Rte. 127, five miles south of Celin married Betty Lou Kallmeyer, daughter of the la Louis Kallmeyer and Bessie Deitsch Kallmeyer F of Coldwater; their children are: Pamela K., Debor J. (married to Thomas E. May), Lorraine S.; Steph nie L. (married to Alan Birt — they are the paren of Shawn A.); Monte L.; Scott A.; Joel D.; Lisa F Kevin T., Brent E., and Chris J.; f. Elsie Wright, die Dec. 13, 1975, and is buried in Swamp College Cen etery; first married Wm. Wright; their child is Je frey; later married John Smith; g. Esther Lacy, wh resides in Montezuma, Ohio; married Lysle Lac their children are Jerrill L. (married to Jackie Fer ner), and Patricia (married to James Newland). Herbert E. "Bob", who resides on Hellwarth R near Celina; married Audra Ayers; their children ar Douglas, Gary (married to Julie Evans), Kelly, Gre Mark, and Linda. *Betty Anderson*

The family c John Patterso and Edith Fish Redmon

REDMON

Myron, Mary Frances, wife of Edward Swickrath and James Burnett are the children of Forest Burnet (1907-1971) and Mary Detrick Burnett. Forest Burnett was the son of William Franklin Burnett (? 1952) and Mary Margaret Davies Burnett (1885 1965). He was the oldest of ten children namely: Albert Burnett (1909-1971), Edwin (deceased), Hazel wife of Grant Hall, Edith, wife of John Phelps, Mabel, wife of James Treece, Garold, Harold and Don-

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Burnett. A younger brother Carl was killed in an
) accident. Their Uncle Dr. Ezra Burnett was a
:ticing physician in Delphos for many years. For-
Burnett of near Mendon, Ohio, served 2 years in
Navy during WWII (1943-1945) and his son My-
served four years in the Air Force during the Vi-
ım conflict.

Mary Detrick Burnett is the daughter of James
rick (1879-1938) and Dessie Redmon Detrick
31-1973) and was born in Union Township.
ıer children of James and Dessie Detrick: Ora
sell, John Wilbur, James Lowell (1907-1959) and
ıces (1903-1962), wife of Harley Bendure (?-
9). Mrs. Bendure was a teacher in Mercer County
ools for over 30 years.

ımes W. Detrick was born in Grant Co., West
ginia (1879-1938) to John B. Detrick and Mary
:s Detrick. He was one of ten children, others
:e: William Detrick (1870-1888), George (1868-
6), Allie (1872-1899), wife of William Cooper,
na Belle (1874-1877), Clara (1876-1896), Nellie
31-1882), Charles (1883-1962), Maude (1887-
6), wife of Robert Keeling, Orville (1890-1972).

Dessie Redmon Detrick was born in Jefferson
p., Mercer Co. to John Patterson Redmon (1828-
6) and Edith Fisher Redmon (1843-1919). She was
: of ten children. Others were: James (1868-1950);
lliam (1877-); Thomas Allen (1865-); Minnie
79-1971), wife of John Miller; Zada Jane (1883-
0), single; Sarah (1874-1876); Rhoda (1872-1876);
ın (1867-1867). Sarah and Roda died in 1876 with
ıooping Cough. Besides rearing their family, the
dmon's gave a home to Ezra Lacy after the death
his Mother when he was only a few months of
: until he married and established a home of his
n.

ohn Redmon was the original owner and operator
the now known as John W. Karch Stone Com-
ıy. It opened in 1880. At that time the limestone
s extracted for burning. The burning produced
ıe. Dessie Redmon Detrick often told how her Fa-
:r and the children burned limestone. In 1890 was
: beginning of quarring stone for sale to the pub-

Soon after John Redmon sold the quarry to
vid T. Jones and eventually to John W. Karch.
so Swamp Cemetery was originally a part of the
dmon farm. John Redmon gave each of his family
rial spaces off of Swamp Cemetery. The Redmon
nily were originally from Ireland. John Redmon,
o of his sisters, Ann and Nancy married Fishers.
ith and her brothers, Ben and David.

John Redmon was the son of Thomas Allen Red-
ın (Aug. 8, 1796) and Catherine Moore (April 31,
99). Catherine was the daughter of Samuel and
tharine Moore. John was one of ten children,
mely: Jane Moore Redmon (Aug. 4, 1822) wife of
illiam Butler Enyart; Samuel Moore Redmon
ıne 14, 1824); James Moore Redmon (April 4,
26); John Patterson Redmon (April 28, 1828);
itherine Patterson Redmon (June 9, 1830) married
:nry Dickison; Ann Redmon (Mar. 31, 1832) wife
Ben Fisher; Nancy Redmon (Nov. 16, 1834) wife
David Fisher; Elizabeth (Jan. 1, 1836) wife of
anville Fifer; Mary (July 11, 1838); Margaret Red-
ın (Aug. 8, 1840) wife of David Crouch. Some-
ıere along the way the spelling was changed from
:dmon to Redmond. *Mary B. Burnett, Spencerville, Oh.*

Nath'l Riley

Origin of the RILEY name

From a letter written by Donald C. Riley on Board S.S. Voendam July 14th 1949, returning from an European trip — to his brother Roscoe.

"I am enclosing something I picked up for you at Oxford last week. (Parish Magazine June 1949, St. Michael at the North Gate, Oxford.)

You will recall that the Riley genealogy which Aunt Halie, I believe, traced back, mentioned that Robert D'Oili (or d'Oili) was given Oxfordshire by William the Conqueror in 1066. d'Oili, whose name gradually evolved in England to Doily and finally Riley, soon began repairing and enlarging an ancient Saxon church, and this one, according to the records in Oxford, was this old St. Michaels. It is very pretty inside, with some good stained glass. The style, as might be expected, is largely pre-Gothic. It stands near the center of Oxford, between Oriel College and New College which, strangely, is one of the oldest colleges in the University. Robert, you know was a Constable, and in those days that meant one of the top generals in the army and not the fellow who chases you for speeding.

If you want to run this all down in more detail, I invite you to Oxford where the records are fairly complete. And, by the way, it is a beautiful old town."

THE RILEY FAMILY

1 Nathaniel[3] Riley (Isaac[2], John[1] of Wethersfield), b. Jan. 13, 1716, Wethersfield, Conn.; m. Jan. 24, 1739, Abigail Montague, b. July 11, 1716, Wethersfield, dau. of Richard Montague and Abigail (Benton) Camp, b. Dec. 9, 1691, the widow of Joseph Camp and the dau. of Samuel Benton.

Nathaniel[3] Riley in 1741 purchased of Ebenezer[3] Sage of Middletown Upper Houses, the homestead of the latter, which had been given to him by his father, John[2] Sage. It consisted of two tracts of land. The north part was originally given to John Kirby, whose widow sold it to John Andrews and who sold it to John[2] Sage, who had previously bought the other tract of his brother Timothy[2] Sage, and which had originally been granted to David[1] Sage, who had given it to his son David[2] Sage. This David[2] had a mental infirmity and the property was sold by court procedure and bought in by Timothy[2]. The details were found on the fly-leaf of the treasurer's book of the original church in Middletown. Mr. Riley, according to John Warner's account book, was a harness maker. Here he lived till his death, June 1, 1776. His widow d. 1789.

Children:

Ann, b. Sept. 1, 1740, lived over one hundred years and died in the old homestead. Tryphena, b. Oct. 1,

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1742; m. Mar. 14, 1765, Stephen[3] Savage (William[2], John[1]), b. Oct. 26, 1737; d. Aug. 14, 1825, Littleton, N.H. Served in the Revolution. *Children:* Anna, Stephen, Sylvester, Roswell, Eleanor, Elizabeth. Abigail, b. Apr. 14, 1744; m. May 5, 1768, Timothy[3]Sage; d. 1836, Oswego, N.Y. Rosetta, b. May 12, 1746; m. Apr. 22, 1773, Capt. Zebulon Stow (see Stow Family).

2 Asher, b. Mar. 24, 1748. Julius, b. May 7, 1750; m. Mabel Atkins. Served in Rev. War, also in War of 1812. Rem. to Chester, Mass., and in 1811 to Aurora, O., where he d. Nov. 29, 1839. Eleanor, b. Apr. 12, 1752; lived unm. over one hundred years and died in the old homestead. Nathaniel, b. Sept. 22, 1754; m. Abigail Atkins. Served in the Revolution. Rem. to Hartford and Windsor; d. 1805. Joseph, b. Jan. 27, 1757; m. Dec. 29, 1793, Elizabeth (Churchill) Williams, widow of Stephen Williams. Rem. 1792 to Sharon, Conn., where he d. Apr. 13, 1801. Served in the Revolution. Mary (twin to Joseph), b. Jan. 27, 1757; d. Feb. 27, 1757. Samuel, b. Apr. 27, 1760; m. Molly Savage, dau. of Capt. Abijah Savage; rem. to Sharon, Conn., then to Great Barrington, Mass.; lived next to Episcopal rectory. Lucretia, b. Aug. 20, 1763; m. Ozias Mills.

Montague Lineage — Peter Montague, m. Eleanor Allen, dau. of William Allen, both of Boveney, Parish of Burnham, Buckinghampshire, England.

Richard[1] Montague, b. abt. 1614, Burnham, seven miles from Windsor, came to Maine between 1634 and 1646, at which last date he rem. from Wells, Me., to Boston; m. abt. 1637, Abigail Downing, dau. of Rev. Dr. Downing of Norwich, Eng. In 1651 they rem. to Wethersfield, Conn., where she was admitted to the church, May 26, 1651, with a letter from the First ch. of Boston. In 1659 fifty-nine families of Hartford and Wethersfield, including his family, signed an agreement to rem. and settle Hadley, Mass. He d. there Dec. 14, 1681; she Nov. 8, 1694. They had two sons, Peter and John, and four daughters, Mary, Sarah, Martha and Abigail.

John[2] Montague (Richard[1]), b. 1655-6, Wethersfield; m. Mar. 23, 1681, Hannah Smith, dau. of Chileab Smith and Hannah Hitchcock of Hadley. They had seven sons and three daughters. He remained on the homestead until his death, abt. 1732. His widowed mother lived with him till her death, 1694.

Richard[3] Montague, b. Mar. 16, 1684, Hadley, Mass.; m. July 28, 1715, Abigail Camp, and rem. that year to Wethersfield; he d. Dec. 24, 1751; she May 7, 1753, aged sixty-two.

Of their children:

Abigail[4], b. July 11, 1716; m. Nathaniel Riley. Martha, b. Mar. 17, 1726; m. Elisha Sage. (See the Sage Family.) Sarah, b. May 10, 1736; m. June 2, 1757, Amos Sage. (See the Sage Family.) Lucy, b. Apr. 25, 1738; m. Oct. 22, 1761, Capt. John Smith. (See the Smith Family.)

2 Asher[4] Riley (Nathaniel[3], Isaac[2], John[1]), b. Mar. 27, 1748, Upper Houses; m. Oct. 25, 1772, Rebecca[4] Sage (Amos[3], Timothy[2], David[1]), b. Feb. 22, 1754; d. July 15, 1829. He built in the Nuiks the house now known as the "Morrison" house. Served on a privateer. He had thirteen children; d. Mar. 20, 1823, Upper Houses.

Of their children:

3 James, b. Oct. 27, 1779.

4 Submit, b. Mar. 22, 1783.

3 Capt. James[5] Riley (Asher[4], Nathaniel[3], Isa
John[1]), b. Oct. 27, 1779, Upper Houses; m. Jan., 1
Phoebe Miller, b. ———, dau. of Hosea Miller, a
triot of the Revolution (Elijah) and Mary Stow
1807 he purchased the property first granted
Thomas[4] Ranney and known as Prospect Hill. He
out the forty-two poplar trees seen in the 1835 "v
of "Middletown," taken from "Barber's Col
tions." When fifteen years of age he determinec
go to sea, having a desire to visit foreign countr
As he improved his opportunities to study the ar
navigation he was at twenty master of a ship. In
capacity he made voyages to all climes visited
American ships, traveled through foreign lands
mastered other languages.

For several years he was supercargo as well as c
tain, and prospered. In Jan., 1808, while commar
ing *The Two Marys,* he took shelter in Belle Isle,
the Bay of Biscay, the ship was seized by the Frer
under the "Milan decree" of Dec. 17, 1807, and b
ship and cargo were confiscated. This loss was f
lowed in 1815 by another more severe to him, l
which proved a source of knowledge and benef
tion to the world at large. As master and supercai
of the brig *Commerce,* of Hartford, Conn., Capt.
Riley proceeded to sea, May 6, 1815, bound for N
Orleans, where he discharged his cargo, took on
other consisting of tobacco and flour, which
landed at Gibraltar, on Aug. 9. There he took o
part load of brandies and wines, intending to co
plete his cargo with salt at the Cape Verde Islands.
dense fog for some days prevailed, and on the nig
of the 28th, with a heavy sea and a high wind t
ship at 10 P.M. struck with violence the reef
Cape Bajador, Africa. The crew landed without l
of life, but the next day were taken captives by
wandering tribe of Arabs and sold by them to Mo
ish merchantmen and by these carried through t
desert of Sahara, where for more than two ye
they suffered the hardships of slaves. The story
told by Capt. Riley in "Riley's Narrative," whi
produced a great excitement on its public appe
ance with its illustrations. He and four of his cr
were redeemed by William Willshire, the Engli
consul at Mogadore for $1,200. On his return he
paid this amount and named the son born soon aft
his departure after the English consul. In 1818
was a member of the convention that framed t
Constitution of Conn. In 1821 he was located wi
his family at the rapids of St. Mary's River, Ohi
where he subsequently laid out a town which
named Willshire in honor of the stranger who h
ransomed him. In connection with his oldest so
James Watson, they surveyed for the government
the northwest part of Ohio, and laid it out in
counties and townships. In 1823-4, he represente
Drake and Shelby counties in the legislature, ar
framed and introduced the bill which gave a publ
school system to Ohio.

In 1825, broken in health and longing for the se
he moved his family to Brooklyn, N.Y., and went c
a trading vessel to the West Indies. Later he resume
his commercial relations with the African free port
France and Spain and died at sea, Mar. 13, 1840. Sh
d.———.

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Children:

ames Watson, b. Feb. 20, 1804. Amelia Ann, b. ɔt. 24, 1807; m. Dr. William Murdoch of Urbana, d. July 29, 1881. Phoebe, b. Mar. 4, 1811; m. John Beach. Horatio Sprague, b. Jan. 4, 1814.

Nilliam Willshire, b. May 3, 1815. See page 538.

Submit[5] Riley (Asher[4], Nathaniel[3], Isaac[2], John[1]), Mar. 22, 1783, Upper Houses; m. Sept. 23, 1804, ıraim[7] Johnson, b. 1782, Middletown, Conn.; d. y 8, 1846, Willshire, O. She d. Jan. 25, 1862, Lexton, O.

ames Watson[6]Riley, b. Feb. 20, 1804, Upper uses; m. Sept. 27, 1827, Mercer, O., Susan Gorn Ellis, b. Nov. 22, 1806, Fishkill, N.Y.; d. June 12,)0, Celina, O., dau. of John Ellis and Katheryne ndsheimer. Lawyer, clerk of courts of Mercer Co. twenty years, mem. Leg. 1843-4, I.O.O.F., Rep.; Jan. 1, 1870, Celina, O.

Children:

illiam Willshire, b. Dec. 28, 1818; physician; m. th Linzee. Five children. Calvin Erastus, b. Oct. 9, 30; banker; m. (1) Gabriel P. Brandon. Seven chil-en; res. Celina, O. Amelia Ann, b. Aug. 16, 1832; William McMurray; d. Feb. 4, 1880. Six children. nes Watson, b. Sept. 8, 1834; private 1st Batt. N.Y. arpshooters; miller, mayor of Celina; m. Esther aline Mowry. Three children; res. Celina, O.

Susan Ellis, b. May 1, 1840; m. Eli M. Ashley. Malie Jane, b. Dec. 15, 1843; m. Alfred J. Hodder; wyer. Two sons; res. Brookline, Mass.

Susan Ellis[7] Riley (James Watson[6]), b. May 1, 40, Celina, O.; m. Oct. 15, 1861, Eli Melville Ash-y, b. May 28, 1833, Portsmouth, O., son of Rev. hn C. Ashley and Mary Kirkpatrick, the Ashley mily being prominent in early days of Virginia.

Mr. Ashley was educated at the Western Ohio beral Institute, Portsmouth. From 1854-61, in drug ade in Toledo, O.; 1861-1874, chief clerk of the rveyor General's office of the newly made Terriry of Colorado; in 1885, organized the Western hemical Works, pres. to 1894; in 1887, Pres. of enver Chamber of Commerce; 1890, chairman of ep. State Central Com.; 1890-2, Pres. of the Mfrs. change, F. & A.M., S.A.R.

Mrs. Ashley on her marriage traveled with her usband 1,000 miles by stage to reach their new ome in Denver; a founder of Denver's Orphans' ome, Denver's W.C.T.U., Denver Women's Club; ctive in estab. "State Home for Dependent Chilren," Lady Mgr. of the World's Columbian Exposion, chief of Women's Dept. Colorado World Fair oard; 1894, delegate to the first political State conention to admit women as members; 1895, Pres. of olo. Fed. of Women's Clubs; D.A.R. through Hosea Miller of Upper Houses. Mrs. Ashley is a world travler; res. Denver, Colorado. Four children.

James[6]Riley Johnson, D.D. (Submit[5] Riley), b. Jan. 0, 1818, in the first framed house erected in Mt. 'ernon, O.; m. (1) Mar. 20, 1839, Truxville, O., Nancy Bennett Hetherington, b. Nov. 15, 1820, Lyoming Co., Pa.; d. June 13, 1853, Lawrence, Mass., au. of David Hetherington and Elizabeth Hough dau. of John and Elizabeth Hough of Pa.); m. (2) 'arasina R. Morse. His portrait of eighty-eight years f age is given herewith. He has been a Universalist lergyman for sixty-two years; was mem. Leg. of

Reference)

Middletown Upper Houses, page 614
lenton Historical Library
Detroit, Michigan

Captain James Riley

CAPTAIN JAMES RILEY

James Riley, son of Asher and Rebecca (Sage) Riley, was born October 27, 1777, at Middletown, Connecticut. He worked on a farm until he was fifteen years of age; then he made the decision to go to sea. His first trip was on board a vessel bound to the West Indies. Ambitious to gain distinction, he worked to acquire knowledge of the art of navigation; at the age of twenty he had risen from cabin boy to master of a sailing ship. As master of the sailing ship, he made many voyages to foreign countries. Captain Riley must have made quite an appearance; he stood six feet one inch tall, and built in proportion.

Between voyages, to Middletown, Conn., to visit his parents, he, in January 1802, married Phoebe Miller, daughter of Hosea Miller, a true patriot and minute man of the Revolutionary War. Of this marriage were born three sons: James Watson, Horatio Sprague, and William Willshire; and two daughters: Amelia Ann, who married Dr. William Murdock of Urbana, Ohio, and Phoebe, who married John Jay Beach, of Mansfield, Ohio.

Upon going to New York he received the appointment to a good sailing vessel, and continued in that capacity, making voyages throughout the world. The ship he prized the most highly was called the "Two Marys," but it was unfortunately seized by the French under the Milan Decree December 17, 1807; both ship and valuable cargo were confiscated. Captain Riley continued on the ocean. April 1815, he was employed as master of the brig Commerce, of Hartford, Conn. Captain Riley proceeded to sea from the mouth of the Connecticut River, May 6, 1815, bound for New Orleans, where he discharged his cargo, took on another, consisting of tobacco and flour, for Gibralter. He landed at Gibralter August 9, and took from there a partial cargo of brandies and wines, intending to complete the cargo with salt at Cape de Verde Islands. Very heavy fogs prevailed, and the strong sea and high wind increased, and August 28th, 1815, soon after 10 P.M. the ship struck with violence the reefs off Cape Bajador, Africa. The crew landed without loss of life, but were taken captives by a wandering tribe of Arabs, the next day. The Arabs sold them to Moorish merchantmen and carried through the desert of Sahara, where for more than two months they suffered the hardships of slaves under such a people and such a clime. Upon reaching Mogadore, Riley and four of his crew were redeemed by William Willshire, the American Consul there. When strong enough to travel, they re-

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turned to America and their families.

Captain Riley kept journals and log books, from which he wrote the book, *Narrative* (1816). Captain Riley described his travels and the trials of slavery which he and his crew endured. Riley was an abolitionist and wrote of his antislavery sentiment. Abraham Lincoln's Biography by John Locke Scripps lists Riley's *Narrative* as one of the books Abraham Lincoln read. Authors have written about the influence upon Lincoln by Riley's *Narrative* and the description of slavery.

After having been through such hard times, Captain Riley was urged by his family to leave the sea. Following the War of 1812, when commerce on the seas was difficult, many seamen moved from New England to the West. Captain Riley, in association with his eldest son, James Watson Riley, secured a United States Government contract to survey the Northwestern Part of Ohio. Captain Riley arrived at the Headwaters of the Wabash River, near Fort Recovery, Ohio, on November 20, 1819. He went on to arrive in Fort Wayne, Indiana November 24, 1819. Captain Riley kept journals of his travels. (See the 1882 History of Van Wert and Mercer County for a more complete transcript of his letters at this time in history.) In his letters, Captain Riley contemplated the future with the following statement: "In travelling inch by inch this interesting section of Ohio, the mind is almost bewildered by the contemplation of its importance. Its climate, soil, and local situation, and permanent advantages, here may be discovered future sites of cities, towns, and hamlets, where agriculture, arts, and sciences, and commerce will flourish in a few years; and also sites of canals, that will unite at no very remote period the waters of Ohio and Lake Erie. This section of country is so easy of access from New England by the New York Grand Canal and Lake Erie, that no doubt can be entertained of its speedy settlement, while hundreds of citizens already settled in the State are selling or have already sold off their farms with the intention of purchasing and moving into the newly-ceded territory as soon as lands there shall be offered for sale, and to increase the chances of good market."

In 1822 Captain Riley built a two-story frame grist mill on the St. Marys River. He laid out a town and called it Willshire, in honor of his friend and redeemer from slavery in Magadore. In 1823-24, he represented Darke and Shelby Counties in the General Assembly of Ohio and he introduced the bill which laid the foundation for the State's public school system.

In 1825, Captain Riley moved to New York and returned to the Sea. He continued his voyages, until March 1840, his health failed him. He died March 13, 1840 at sea and was buried in the Atlantic Ocean, north of Puerto Rico.

(Editor's note: Captain Riley's books, *Narrative* and *Sequel* and his ship log of the foreign voyages, are on display at the Archives of the Mercer County Historical Museum, The Riley Home, Celina, Ohio.)

JAMES WATSON RILEY

James Watson Riley, son of Captain James and Phoebe (Miller) Riley, was born February 20, 1804, at Middletown, Conn. At the age of nineteen years, he, with his father, surveyed Southern Michigan,

James Watson Riley

Northern Ohio and Indiana. He laid out the town Celina in 1834. He also laid out Van Wert, Pauldi and Willshire, James Watson Riley was appoin Clerk of Courts of Mercer County, and held this p sition about twenty years, resigning it in 1841 take charge of the United States Land Office Lima, being one of President William Henry Ha son's first appointees.

In September 1827, Mr. Riley married Susan El of Alexander, New York, and they had six childr namely: William Willshire, a physician and stat man at Judsonia, Arkansas; Calvin Erastus, Pre dent of the Commercial Bank Company of Celi Amelia Ann, wife of Captain William McMurray hero of the Civil War; James Watson, Jr., who dist guished himself in the Civil War; Susan, wife Hon. E.M. Ashley, of Denver, Colorado, who w one of the vice-presidents of the World's Columbi Exposition at Chicago, and the first president of t Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs; and M hala, who was the wife of Judge A.J. Hodder, prominent resident of Boston, Massachusetts. M and Mrs. James Watson Riley also reared a adopted six orphan children.

James Watson Riley died January 1, 1870, at C ina, Ohio.

(Editor's note: Correspondence of Captain Jam Riley and James Watson Riley, and other mater about the Riley family history is on display in t Archives of The Mercer County Historical Museu The Riley Home, 130 East Market Street, Celi Ohio. The Museum building is the former home Lena Riley, daughter of James Zura Riley; gran daughter of Calvin Riley; and great granddaught of James Watson Riley; great-great granddaughter Captain James Riley.)

Roscoe D. Riley

ROSCOE D. RILEY

Roscoe David Riley was born in Celina, Ohio, o

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ril 28, 1907, the second son of Ashley M. and zabeth Crockett Riley. After graduating from Cel- ı High School in 1925, where he played guard on lina High School's first football team, he attended ooster College. He graduated in 1929 with a major economics and returned to Celina to work in the mmercial Bank Co.

In 1933, he married Helen M. Kennedy, the ughter of Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Kennedy of Marion, io, also a graduate of Wooster College. They had o children: Margaret Ann who married Edwin S. ertz and resides in New Philadelphia, Ohio, with eir son William H.H. Wertz IV; and David K., who rried Barbara Davis and resides in Celina, with eir children Ashley Brian and Elizabeth Marie.

Helen Riley died on February 25, 1967, after a g illness. Roscoe married Margaret Colbert of At- ta, Ga., in June 1968, who survives and resides in lina.

Mr. Riley was a member of the First Presbyterian urch of Celina, a member of the Celina Lodge 241 nd A. M., Royal Arch Masons (R.A.M.) 120 Cel- ı; St. Marys Council 81, R and S.M. Ivanhoe Com- ndry 54, Knight Templar, Ancient and Accepted ottish Rite Valley of Dayton, Antioch Temple, AONMS, the Scottish Rite Assoc., Mercer County cs and Mercer County Sportman's Association. He is a trustee of Northgrove Cemetery Association d a trustee of the Bryson Estate. He was instru- ental in the founding of the Mercer County His- rical Society and worked closely with C. A. Stubbs the funding drive for the Celina High School foot- ll stadium.

Mr. Riley made his home at 505 E. Fulton Street, lina from shortly after his marriage in 1933 until s death in 1973. He also owned a summer cottage Harbor Point east of Celina for many years. He eatly enjoyed his summer evenings sitting on the rch watching the sun set over Grand Lake.

The real love of his life was work. He joined his her in the Commercial Bank in 1929 shortly be- re the Great Depression. He worked his way from ler to President and served on the Board of Direc- s and as Chairman of the Board. He retired from tive work in the Citizens Commercial Bank in 71 but continued on as Chairman of the Board of rectors. During his 42 years of service, he mar- led at many economic changes that affected the nking Industry.

Mr. Riley also owned several farms east of Celina. e enjoyed visiting the farms regularly to watch the ogress of the crops throughout the planting, grow- g and harvesting seasons.

Roscoe Riley died August 4, 1973, after a pro- nged illness due to a kidney disease. He is buried Northgrove Cemetery north of Celina.

ASHLEY MELVILLE RILEY

Ashley Melville Riley was born east of Celina, ptember 2, 1871, on a farm known as Reservoir ation, the son of Calvin E. and Gabrilla Brandon ley. After attending Celina High School for two ars, Mr. Riley entered Ohio Northern University, om which he received a degree in pharmacy in 90. After graduation, he worked in drugstores in qua and Scott, and later for C. A. McKim at Cel- a.

Ashley M. Riley

In 1893, Mr. Riley entered the Commercial Bank. The bank was incorporated in December, 1899 with A. M. Riley being one of the five original incorporators. He served in various capacities until 1921, when he was elected president — a position he held until his death in 1940.

A. M. Riley married Elizabeth Crocket on June 27, 1901. Two sons were born: Donald C. who lived in Washington, D.C. until his death in 1973 and Roscoe D. who lived in Celina until his death in 1973. They lived at the corner of Fulton and Ash Street and later moved to East Market Street.

Riley and Ed. L. Bryson formed the Riley and Bryson mortgage company (The Celina Mortgage Loan Co.) to finance farmers who were unable or unwilling to obtain financing from the local banks. The company was operated for a number of years and the assets divided between Bryson and Riley.

Mr. Riley retained an active interest in farming and owned several farms in Jefferson and Center Townships and Auglaize County.

For many years, Mr. Riley was treasurer of the Presbyterian Church of Celina. He was active in the Masonic Lodge No. 241; Celian Chapter No. 120 R. A. M.; St. Marys Council No. 81 R. & S. M.; Ivanhoe Commandery No. 54 K.T. at Van Wert; Ancient Accepted Scottish Rites at Cincinnati; the Shrine at Dayton; and Celina Chapter No. 91 of the O. E. S.

A. M. Riley died March 13, 1940, following a cerebral hemorrhage suffered at work on February 16. He is buried at Northgrove Cemetery.

Lena G. Riley

LENA G. RILEY

Lena Riley was born April 4, 1889, at Old Town, east of Celina on the family farm, the daughter of James Zura and Elsie Paul Riley. She graduated from Memorial High School, St. Marys, and attended Wooster College.

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From 1910 until the mid 1930's, Miss Riley served as business manager of the Riley-Nickel Hardware store before it was sold to Nickel Brothers. After her years in the hardware store she joined her father in managing the building which housed the hardware store and the family farm at Old Town.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Celina, a 50 year member of Celina Chapter 91, Order of the Eastern Star, a member of the Shakespeare Club and the Mercer County Historical Society.

Miss Riley lived with her parents at 130 East Market Street. After her father's death in 1954, she lived alone in the house until her death in 1974. She watched the houses to the west and south of her home demolished to provide parking areas to serve the downtown business. Although she realized the importance of off-street parking to the downtown area she felt very strongly that her home not be torn down for she loved it for its grace and charm as well as its historical significance.

Lena Riley died September 13, 1974, and is buried at Northgrove Cemetery north of Celina. After her death her house was sold to Mercer County for use as the Mercer County Historical Museum according to her wishes.

James Zura Riley

JAMES ZURA RILEY

James Z. Riley (Zura) was born on October 27, 1865 at Deep Cut, Ohio, the son of Calvin E. and Gabrilla Brandon Riley. As a young man he taught school briefly and then became a farmer.

He was married to Elsie Paul of Cincinnati. Her furniture and personal belongings had been transported to Celina via canal boat. Their daughter, Lena, was born on April 4, 1889 at Old Town, east of Celina on Zura's farm. A son, Clarence, died in infancy.

In 1893, Mr. Riley became interested in the oil business and drilled the first well on Grand Lake. He always claimed that four inches of ice would support a team of horses as horses and sleds were used to reach the wells across the winter ice.

When gold was discovered in Alaska in 1897 he, along with a group of friends, chartered a company to prospect there. Zura's experience in the oil fields enabled the prospectors to repair their steamship's broken drive shaft by welding it over an open fire. He stayed in Alaska two years but found little gold.

On his return from Alaska, he, in partnership with a brother-in-law, Byron Griffith, purchased the Zay Hardware. At Mr. Griffith's death, a partnership was formed with Benjamin Nickel and the busine was eventually sold to Arthur and Paul Nickel. few of the wooden silos sold by the hardware sto are still standing in Mercer County. The store al sold Hudson automobiles.

Zura was a Vice President and Director of Tl Commercial Bank of Celina and Secretary of tl Northgrove Cemetery Association. He was a loy member of the Mason Order and willed the buildir known as the Union Block on Main Street to Celir Lodge 241 F. and A.M. He was also a member of S Paul's Methodist Church, Celina. He was an av sportsman, storyteller and poet.

On October 5, 1954, he died at his home on Ea Market Street — a house that was built by his f ther, Calvin. His daughter, Lena, continued to live the home until her death in 1974 at which time tl house was sold to Mercer County for use as tl Mercer County Historical Museum.

Calvin Erastus Riley

CALVIN ERASTUS RILEY 1830-1914

Calvin Riley, son of James Watson (founder c Celina) and Susan Ellis Riley, was born in St. Mary Ohio, Oct. 9, 1830. In his youth he lived with h parents, in their various moves, not in St. Marys bu also Celina, Lima and Columbus. But in 1848 he re turned to Celina and lived in or near there for th rest of his life. His early interest was in milling an the mercantile business and, at one time, owned a interest in several boats on the Miami-Erie Cana Later he turned to farming and bought property ju east of Celina at what was then known as Reservo Post Office.

On April 11, 1854, he married Gabrilla Brandor daughter of Xury Brandon of Darke County an with her had five sons and two daughters. Mrs. R ley died in 1885.

In 1888 he moved from the farm into town an became a partner in the private banking firm c Godfrey and Milligan which, through various merg ers, has become the Citizens Commercial Bank c Celina. Mr. Riley was the president of this bank fc the rest of his life.

About 1890 Mr. Riley built the large home on Eas Market St. in Celina where he lived with his secon wife, Susan Harris. At her death in 1904 Mr. Riley' son, Zura, and his family came to live with him an care for him until his death on Nov. 13, 1914. Afte the deaths of both Zura and his daughter, Lena, th house was sold to the Mercer County Historical So ciety.

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he old Riley farm, east of Celina, subsequently ame the property of Calvin's son, Ashley, and ı his grandson, Roscoe.

'he seven children of Calvin and Gabrilla Riley Willshire, who died at age four; Calvin Will-'e, married to Fannie DeRush, a farmer in Celina, dren; James, doctor in Springfield, Robert, ner in Celina, Calvin, farmer in Celina; Fannie, rried to George Stearns; Robert E., doctor, mar-l to Addie Brandon, Celina; James Zura, married Elsie Paul, Celina; Ashley, banker, Celina, mar-l to Elizabeth Crockett; Grace L., married to By-. Griffith and, after his death, to Frank Snyder.

ROBERT ELLSWORTH RILEY, M.D. 1863-1945

Dr. Riley was a dedicated and much loved physi-ın in Celina and Mercer County for over 50 years.

He was born at Reservoir Post Office, four and a lf miles east of Celina, on March 13, 1863, the son Calvin E. and Gabrilla Brandon Riley, and the andson of James Watson Riley, the founder of :lina. In his youth he attended Ohio Northern, at la, which prepared him for a brief career in teach-g.

In 1889 he graduated from the Chicago School of ıarmacy and from there entered Rush Medical hool from which he received his degree in medi-ıe. After graduation he married Addie Ann Bran-ın, daughter of Joel Kell and Ann Goodall Bran-ın, pioneer residents of Celina.

Dr. Riley began his practice of medicine in Pana, . but in 1896 he and Addie moved back to Celina here he, and a partner, C.A. McKim, opened a ugstore. Shortly after that he bought out Mr. cKim's interest in both the building and the busi-ess and later established his own office for the actice of medicine on the second floor.

In 1885, while still teaching school, Dr. Riley had ırchased a farm one mile east of Celina. In the wenties, from a portion of this farm which bor-ered Grand Lake, he developed Harbor Point. On s death in 1945 the balance of this subdivision as ell as the farm was sold but his son, Joel, still owns ıe Riley Building at the corner of Main and East larket Streets.

Dr. Rob bought the old Brandon Homestead at ıe corner of West Market and Brandon Avenue and, after re-modeling and modernizing the old house, lived there with his family for many years. The rest of the property he subdivided, laid out streets and donated land to the Church of God for their new building.

Dr. Robert and Addie had two sons, Horatio Brandon and Joel Kell. Horatio practiced Dentistry in Chicago and, on retirement, lived in Celina and Dayton where he died in 1974.

Joel was an attorney and banker in Detroit and is now retired and living in Royal Oak, Mich. He is married to Ruth French, daughter of Floyd French of Springville, New York. They have two children; Carma Ann, married to William Philip, a banker in Mason, Mich. Their children are Susan E. and Robert W. Robert French, married to Joan Partyka, daughter of Lester Partyka of Chicago. Robert is a banker in Batavia, Ill. Their children are Joel Partyka and James Willshire. *Joel K. Riley*

ROHR (GUTENKENECDT) GOODNICK

Catherine Fredricka Rebecca Shilling was born in Germany in 1831. She emigrated to the United States of America in 1849. She taught herself to read and write the English language.

In 1850, she married John Jacob Rohr, who was born in Baden, Germany, in 1822. They became parents of the following: Maggie who married Wm. Pierce Buck, Mary, who married Frank Alexander, Rebecca Jane, who married Daniel Moore, Eliza, who died in infancy and John, who died at the age of 18.

Mr. Rohr died in 1860. In 1874, she married John (Gutekenecdt) Goodnick. They were the parents of the following: Ida, who married Andrew Palmer, Rose, who married Joseph Kuhn, Henry, who married Laura Monroe and David who died in infancy.

At the age of 14 she united with the German Lutheran Church. She died in 1904 and is buried in Swamp College Cemetery. *Arta Birley*

BUCK

William Pierce Buck was born in 1825, the son of Reuben and Jane Lincoln Buck. He was a farmer in West Jefferson Township. In 1880, he married Maggie Rohr. They were the parents of seven children. They are: Francis Orley, Carl, who married Blanche West, Maude, who married Raymond Kinninger, Flossie, who married Roy Krogman, Ethel, who married Ralph Van Sickle, Oscar, who married Opal Fleenor, and Arta, who married George Birley.

Mr. Buck was a member of the I.O.O.F. lodge and a member on the board of education for a number of years. *Arta Birley*

SACHER

Louis Henry Sacher, born in Celina, June 12, 1901, to Joseph and Catherine Worms Sacher, second youngest of 9 children.

He worked for the city of Celina in the Commissioners Office at the Court House, for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., and retired from New Idea. He

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died on Sept. 23, 1977.

He married Agnes (Toody) Cecelia Hemmert on September 4, 1929. She was born July 24, 1904 in Celina. She worked at Stokley Van Camp, Municipal offices of Celina, and First National Bank. She died Nov. 24, 1964.

To them was born, in Celina, on Sept. 15, 1931, Ann Louise and on Jan. 26, 1934 Nancy Marie. Ann graduated from ICHS in 1949 and worked for Myers and Myers, Attorneys at Law. On January 26, 1952 she married Kenneth John (Pete) Quinter of Coldwater, and they moved to Dayton, Ohio. They had 3 daughters, born in Dayton. Michelle Marie born March 26, 1953, who on July 19, 1975 married Carl Thomas Blum from Oregon. To them was born a son on April 15, 1978, Jeremy Winston. Michelle (Micki) graduated from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, with a degree in learning disabilities. Carl graduated from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio in June 1975.

Cynthia Ann born July 6, 1954, who on Dec. 14, 1974 married Randall Lee Rosengarten from Dayton. Cynthia (Cindi) graduated from University of Cincinnati with a degree in Business Psychology.

Randy graduated from University of Cincinnati with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Kristine Louise, born March 3, 1956, graduated from University of Kentucky with a degree in Nursing.

Nancy Marie, married Bartel David Desch, of Coldwater, on June 23, 1956. Divorced 1½ years later. To them was born on April 17, 1958, Michael Louis. Nancy graduated in 1955 from Good Samaritan School of Nursing in Dayton. At present Mike works for Myers Pro Hardware and is attending college in Celina at Wright State Branch, studying marketing-management.

The three Quinter girls graduated from Alter High School in Kettering, Ohio.

Ann worked for Chrysler Air-Temp in Dayton.

Kenney worked at the WPAFB. He is presently owner of TE-CO in Englewood, Ohio. Nancy worked for Gibbons Hospital for 17½ years in the maternity department.

The family traveled extensively having made many trips through the United States and Europe.

Nancy Sacher Desch, Celina, Oh. 45822

Zeno and Hilda Sacher

ZENO (PEAN) SACHER

Zeno (Pean) Sacher, son of Joseph and Catherine (Wourms) Sacher, was born in Celina, Ohio November 4, 1890. He was educated in the Immaculate Conception School. There were 11 children in the family, as follows: Frances, Rueben, Fred, Vernon (Mox), Tillie, Raymond (Tot), Helen, Frank, Louis, Owen and Zeno (Pean). Pean married Hilda Schmitt November 6, 1937, who was the daughter of Schmitt and Josephine Schwieterman. Hilda wa bookkeeper for 22 years for The J.A. Roemer Co pany. Pean was a barber associated with John W ning, a former distributor of Meadow Gold cream and an employee of the State Liquor Cont board. He was a member of I.C. Catholic Chur Celina American Legion Post 210, the Church Me Society, a 50 year member of Celina Knights of C lumbus, a 60 year charter member of Celina Ea Lodge and an Army veteran of World War I.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army on August 2, 19 He served as a PVT. First Class with the 314th Gu and Fire Company, Q.M.C. during World War I a was Honorably discharged on December 16, 1918 New Port News, Va. He died May 5, 1976. *Mrs. H Sacher*

Schlenker, December 26, 1947

MARIE MILLER SCHLENKER

Marie Miller was born January 27, 1898, in Jeffe son Township, daughter of George and Philer Crouch Miller. George was born in Richland coun and came to Mercer county with his parents, Jol and Emily Miller, when a young boy. He spent mo of his life in Jefferson county, then in 1913 he so his farm and moved to Mercer, O. Marie receive her schooling in Celina area, after which she worke in a Millinery shop for several years. On Februa 10, 1927 she married Dr. Ralph W. Schlenker. The first home was West Warren Street in Celina, C where they lived until they moved into a brick hom on East Market Street in 1938. They lived here unt Doc passed away.

Marie and Doc were members of St. John's Lu theran Church, Celina, O. On June 27, 1965, Mari donated a Tower and Carillon Bells as a Memorial t her husband, to the church.

Marie was a member of the Order of the Easter Star No. 91, Celina, O., the American Legion Auxil iary and World War I Barracks, Coldwater, O.

At the time of her death, September 6, 1976, he survivors included three nephews, Lew Lee Larmore Celina, O.; Paul Miller of Van Wert, O. and Jame Brown, Santa Cruz, California; two nieces, Marth Rogers, Blacksburg, Va. and Catherine Slusser, Ce lina, O. She was the last of eleven children. Cather ine Slusser has since passed away.

Several years after Dr. Schlenker's death Mari sold her home on East Market, and moved into a apartment on Dogwood Drive, Celina, O. Marie fel very sad about having to leave her home where sh and her husband had lived so many happy years.

Dr. Schlenker first hung out his shingle in 1910 At one time he was the only veterinarian in Celina

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area. He was born on a 160-acre farm in Liberty wnship one of thirteen children, seven boys and girls.

He was born in 1888, son of John and Magdalena ılenker. The family moved to Celina from Chattaoga when he was one year old.

At 16 years of age Mr. Schlenker decided he nted to be a veterinary and left home, going to nsas City, Missouri, where he enrolled at Veteriy School. That was in 1905. Five years later on ırch 30, he received his diploma. He hung his ngle in August in a livery barn owned by Henry lskamp, then the Sam Dixon garage on West Faye Street.

Dr. Schlenker served 25 months of U.S. Army vice in World War I, 12 months in states with ld Artillery, Fifth Division, and 13 months overıs in France, Belgium and Luxembourg. He was a terinary doctor with a rating of First Lieutenant. was discharged in August 1918 and returned to practice in Celina, O. By the year 1938 his office s in the back of his home on East Market Street.

Doc was a Mason and a charter member of Celina st 210, American Legion. Dr. Schlenker passed ay at his home on East Market Street in August 56. At the time of his death he had two sisters s. Rosa Becker of Chattanooga and Mrs. Frank riggs of Celina, O. and a brother Urban Schlenker Celina, O.

During two terms in the office of Governor Mar L. Davy, Doc was personal Military aide to the overnor. *Lucille Donovan, Fostoria, Oh. 44830*

ın B. Schmitt and Josephine ıwieterman

JOHN B. SCHMITT

John B. Schmitt was born in Marion Township, ercer County on August 14, 1861. He was the son Bernard (Barney) Schmitt, born in Maria Stein in 40 and Elizabeth Kramer of St. Peter, who died in 76. Barney and Elizabeth had the following chilen: John B., Clem, Kathryn, Joseph and Elizabeth. ter Bernard's first wife's death, he married Elizth Folbert from Germany, who returned to Gerany after her husband's death in Nov. 24, 1899.

John B. Schmitt, son of Barney Schmitt was reared a farm in Marion Township and educated in the strict's school. Remaining on the farm until he was years of age, he went to Cincinnati where he orked for 6 years in a clothing store. While there married Josephine Schwieterman, daughter of erhard Schwieterman and Josephine Manetsche on ovember 13, 1893. The following children were rn: Hilda, Leo, Mary and Blanche. Hilda is the ly surviving child. In 1895 Mr. Schmitt returned Celina, where he was engaged in the grocery busiess on the corner of Fayette and Sugar St. until 1911, when he sold it to Albert and Mike Schock. In 1920 Mr. Schmitt and his brother, Joe operated the Celina Bottling Works for a number of years at 114-116 S. Sugar. Mr. Schmitt and family were members of the Immaculate Conception Church in Celina. He was a charter member of the Eagles. He died April 29, 1941 and his wife died March 13, 1948. Mr. Schmitt's brother, Joe lived with the Schmitt family for 62 years. Joe was born March 15, 1870 and died June 25, 1955.

John B. Schmitt's grandfather was Bernard Schmitt who died April 18, 1895 at St. Sebastian, Ohio. Bernard was married twice and had children from both marriages. He married his first wife in Germany before coming to America. They had only one child, Joseph. After his mother's death and his father's remarriage Joseph left home and went to Cincinnati. To the second marriage the following children were born: Bernard, Clem, who married Mary Fullenkamp and lived in St. Peter, Ohio and Maria, who married Theo. Stammen. *Hilda Sacher*

JOHANN ADAM SCHUCK FAMILY

Johann Schuck born in Sieneshof, Prenger, Germany May 30, 1830. When a young boy came to the United States with his brother and sister and they settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. Some years later he married Margaret Heyne who was born in Shaffenburg, Bayern, Germany July 12, 1838.

They came to Celina, Ohio and for awhile lived on a farm Northwest of Celina. Later they moved to town where they had built a home on Northwest corner of Mill and Market street where they lived the rest of their life. This house still is being occupied. They also built a brick house on the next lot, and this house was destroyed by an explosion a few years later. In 1902 they built a frame house on this lot for their son Albert Schuck, this house was destroyed in 1978 replaced by a new building for the Celina Glass Co.

In early 1880 the Schuck's bought the Restaurant and rooming house located near the Old Cincinnati Northern Railroad Depot, later it was sold to Mr. Kreimendahl. They also owned and operated a coal yard on West Livingston St.

Johann and Margaret Schuck were parents of 10 children all born in Celina. Vitus single home in Celina, Mary married W. Wacker, moved to Mount Clements, Mich. Katherine married Al Tavener moved to Dayton, Ohio Margaret married George Tavener moved to Dayton, Ohio. Albert married Philomena Walter made their home in Celina. Peter married Mary Deitsch lived in Celina later moved to Dayton, Ohio. Charles married Elizabeth — moved to Hartford City, Ind. Jacob married in Garrett Ind., had 1 daughter. He died at an early age. Lena married Carl Hovey lived in Celina later moved to Lima Ohio, had a daughter & son then Dayton, Ohio. Christena married W. Bertram lived in Celina, Ohio.

Albert and Philomena were the only ones who lived their entire life in Celina. They were the parents of seven children.

Barbara died in Nov. 26, 1922, age 8½ yrs. Cletus killed in auto accident Dec. 9, 1939. age 30 yrs. Mil-

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dred married Edward Schuster of Cleveland, Ohio.

Cleopha married Edward Heeter of Dayton, Ohio. Mary single of Celina. Richard married Mary E. Anderson of Chickasaw, Ohio, Frank married Iola Ruth Buck of Celina, Ohio.

Mildred owned and operated Milbern Restaurant 10 years on 111 South Main St and 10 years on State Rt. 703 E, which is now Poppa Arties.

Richard and Mary owned and operated the Oakview Upholstering in Greenville for 22 years and sold it in 1977.

Frank and Iola own and operate 5 cottages on West Bank Road in Celina, Ohio.

One grand son Howard Lee Schuck of Celina, son of Richard and Mary is founder and owner of Schuck Industries located on U.S. 127 North, Celina, Ohio. Howard's son Dan has recently joined his Father in the business. *Mrs. Mildred Schuster, Celina, Oh.*

ANDREW SCHUNCK

Dedication to religious principle, compassion, service to society — particularly to the young and the indigent —, progressive thought with action, and humor were truly the characteristics which permeated the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Schunck who lived all of their married life in Mercer County.

Andrew Schunck was the second youngest son of Jacob and Catherine Meier Schunck who migrated from Germany and settled in Cranberry Prairie, Mercer County, where Andrew was born in 1863. His parents were married in Germany and he had a brother buried at sea on the journey to America. There were twelve children born to Jacob and Catherine.

When Andrew was quite young his father became Superintendent of the Mercer County Home, then called the "Poor House"; he remained Superintendent for twenty years and it was during his stewardship that some of the current buildings were constructed. Consequently, Andrew spent most of his youth on the present County Home farm. He and his family attended the one-room school on the land now occupied by the Cheryl Ann School.

A prize story of the school years of alert, bright, young Andrew is in order. Smallpox was rampant in Mercer County and Jacob Schunck decided to have all of his children vaccinated; he was a most progressive father as vaccination was indeed new. As a result, Andrew and his younger brother, Lawrence, were absent from school several days with sore arms. When they returned to school the other boys inspected their arms which were seeping fluid from deep scabs. One boy asked, "Do you suppose you could vaccinate us with this fluid?" They found an old rusty pin on the playground and Andrew and Lawrence scratched each arm until it bled then applied the seepage from their scabs. Every vaccination was effective and Andrew and Lawrence were the only boys in school. Not one boy contracted lockjaw, tetanus, or infection from the ordeal!

Andrew was always engaged or vitally interested in farming and was one of the first planters of soybeans in the County. He was a student of scientific feeding of animals. He often said that had he really done what he liked best he would have become a veterinarian; he had great skill with animals and he loved to hunt. He produced the finest herd of purebred Guernseys in Mercer County while he was perintendent of the Mercer County Home from 1 to 1928.

Andrew was not simply the Superintendent of County Home but truly a friend to the indigent r dents. He spent countless nights playing cards v the male inmates, attending the sick, and left compassionate imprint on their lonely lives. He highly intelligent and when Civil Service was in gurated he scored among the highest in the St He died in 1946. *Bernadine Hook, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Back Row: Helen Schunck Anderson, Frances Parker Gelhaus. **Front Row:** Magdalene Schunck, Andrew Schunck, Bernadine Schunck Hook, Margaret Parker Schunck, Mary Schunck Brady.

MARGARET PARKER SCHUNCK

Margaret Parker Schunck (affectionately kno as Maggie) was born 1868 in Fletcher, Ohio, Mia County, the daughter of Thomas Parker and Hanr rah O'Brien Parker. They were born in Irela County Cork and County Limerick. Maggie came Mercer County to accept a teaching position in t one-room Buck School. Her Teachers' Certific dated April 27, 1889, was signed by the late J. Birkmeier, S. Cotterman, and P. E. Kenney.

Margaret Parker married Andrew Schunck in Mary's Church, Piqua, Ohio, in 1893. When Mar ret was expecting her first child one year later, t School Board insisted that she return to her teachi post as they could locate no other teacher to mana the school with discipline and academic achie ment. Her graduates were most successful in passi the well-known Boxwell Examinations. After t birth of Helen, her first child, Margaret returned teach at Buck School and the School Board locate "hired girl" or governess for Helen; she was B Maffett. Margaret continued to teach until 18 when her second child, Mary, was born. Marri women with children and careers of their own c tainly were not common in the late eighteen hu dreds!

Mrs. Schunck became Matron of the Coun Home when her husband was Superintendent a continued to serve until her death in 1925. She w not just a Matron; she nursed the ill and dyir dressed their wounds (mental and physical), sat b side their beds in long and weary vigils, comforte assured, and guided her patients. She was alwa sure that each received Christmas gifts. She encou aged her children to bring happiness and cheer the old and infirm.

Andrew and Margaret Schunck with their stea fast Catholicism knew the true meaning of ecume ism. They established Christian burial at the Coun Home. Mrs. Schunck instituted interdenomination Sunday services for all of the inmates and she en ployed Reverend Reese to preside. She boug records of hymns which she played on the "Vi

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ola" for Sunday services and she was always hosts for Reverend Reese. For the spiritual gain of her ards, she knew and worked with every clergyman every Faith in Celina and its environs. Eulogizing ie many contributions of Margaret Parker Schunck education and to humanity, the most glowing ibutes imaginable were written by the late Lizzie S. IcKim for The Daily Standard May 21, 1925.

Andrew and Margaret Schunck had four daughrs: Helen Schunck Anderson, Mary Schunck rady, Magdalene Schunck, and Bernadine Schunck ook. Helen is notable for her work in law, aviation, urnalism, and government service. During World Var I she served in Washington as Secretary to Mar Savage, law partner of William Gibbs McAdoo. ne wrote for Aeronautics, Aeronautical Review, id Saturday Evening Post. She had no children. Iary taught in St. Henry one year and in the Celina chools for thirty-five years. During her teaching ie gave some of her time to work for the Probate ourt. She had one son, Robert Michael Brady. lagdalene studied nursing but health problems rced her to relinquish training. After caring for embers of her family, she joined her sister, Bernane, in New York City, where she held an executive ost in communications at St. Vincent's Hospital id Medical Center. She died in 1975. Bernadine ught Music and English in Athens County, Ohio, ien for sixteen years served as a demonstration acher and salesperson for the American Book ompany in Cincinnati. She then joined the staff of erkeley School in New York where she worked in ublic Relations, Admissions, and directed Placeient for twenty-three years. She retired in 1969. he had one son, Stephen Croft Hook.

The home of Andrew and Margaret Schunck was ways the haven of every motherless relative in the hole relationship. It was rare when there was not a ousin as part of the family.

The family picture taken in 1910 includes Frances arker Gelhaus who lived with the Andrew Schunck mily from the time her mother died when she was x until she married at age twenty-two. She was the iece of Margaret Parker Schunck. *Bernadine Hook*

SHIVERDECKER

Not much is known of the forbears of John Shivdecker except they came from Virginia. John (7/7/1820-6/8/1881) married Mary Ellen Cusick (8/1/1822-7/10/1884). They lived on a farm near reenville, later selling and buying a larger farm ear a village called Frenchtown, due to French imigrants locating on farms in this part of Darke ounty. They had in all fourteen children, several of hom died in infancy, however, since the family Bile had been destroyed, it is known only that sons lelson, James, David and Judson, and daughters lizabeth, Mary and Sarah, lived a longer life. One on, Ben, was drafted into the army during the Civil Var where he died of typhoid fever. Seventeen year id David ran off and joined the Army, was capired by the Confederates, and held in one of the bby prisons until the end of the war.

Judson Leonodas Elmore Shiverdecker (3/28/358-4/27/1910) married Nancy Aldora York (3/23/362-7/25/1940) in Darke County, Ohio on 3/12/382. She was the daughter of Joseph York and Hulda Shook York. Their children Cora (10/23/1883-9/29/1884), Bertha May (4/18/1885-11/15/1918), and Joseph Elmore (12/4/1887-9/1/1939) were born on a farm near Frenchtown. Golda Catherine (1/7/1889), Noah Albert (8/28/1891-6/15/1952), and Gertrude (3/5/1893-3/6/1893) were born in the farmhouse at Sugar Grove.

Judson moved his family to Celina from Darke County during the Grover Cleveland administration, engaging in the Teamster trade. He bought straw from some of the Randolph slaves who settled in the Carthagena area, for the Box Board factory in St. Marys. One more child was born in Celina, John Wilburn (8/18/1895-2/5/1977).

Bertha married Ora Ernest Brown (12/13/1895-2/25/1951), children Martha Aldora (m. Richard Edgar Davis, children Nancy, Susan), presently living in Georgia; and Ruth Esther (m. Carl Hamilton, child, David), presently living in Dayton.

Joseph married Ethel Zenobia (Zenna) Garman (9/23/1886-6/19/1948), children Glen York (m. Catherine Elizabeth Ingle, children Nancy Ann, and Linda Kay), presently living in Dayton; Jack Garman (m. Mary Frances Minckley, children Jerry Leroy, Darlene Jane, Amy Gail); Bettie Jane (m. Walter George Jurkowski, children, Barbara Catherine, Jacqueline Ann), presently living in Cleveland.

Noah Albert married Fairel Houts (10/3/1900-6/15/1952), children Mary Ann (m. Charles Kenneth Weir, children Lugene Ann, Mindy Sue); Albert Eugene, James Lee, Paul Richard (m. Mary Lee Elizabeth Horn, children Rick Franklin, Paula Elizabeth); presently living in Piqua.

John Wilburn married Hazel Raab (4/19/1896-8/14/1972), children Robert John (m. Reta Jean Rausch, children Cynthia Jean, Debra Ann, Pamela Lynn); Blanche Jean (m. James Hrivnak, children David James, Mark James, Steven James, Teresa Ann); (all of these presently living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.); and Dwaine Jack, (m. Suzanne Howard, children Tracey Ann, Brenda Jean, Mindy Sue, John McKee), presently living in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

See (Historical Sketches and record of the Elleman and Ward Families and their Progenitors and Descendents) July, 1907, on file at Mercer County Historical Museum. *Mrs. Jack Shiverdecker*

Jack, Mary, Jerry, Darlene and Amy Shiverdecker, September 29, 1973

JACK GARMAN SHIVERDECKER

Jack was the second of three children born in Celina (July 19, 1916-Oct. 6, 1975) to Joseph Elmore Shiverdecker (Sept. 23, 1886-Sept. 1, 1939) and Ethel

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Zenobia (Zenna) Garman Shiverdecker (Sept. 26, 1886-June 19, 1948) in Celina. Zenna's parents were George and Sarah Jane Lincoln Garman. The older brother, Glen York (July 3, 1913) m. Catherine Elizabeth Ingle and presently resides in Dayton, Ohio. The younger sister, Bettie Jane (Oct. 13, 1918) m. Walter George Jurkowski and presently resides in Garfield Heights, Ohio, near Cleveland.

Joseph, being the eldest son, quit school in his Junior year at the time of the death of his father in order to help support the rest of the family. He learned the carriage painting trade at the John Cron Carriage Works, at the corner of Fayette and Ash Sts. He later was ticket agent for the Western Ohio Traction Company until it went out of business due to the advent of trucks and automobiles. He then became custodian at the old East School Building, where he delighted and amazed the students at recess time with his ability to add columns of figures faster than thought possible.

Jack graduated from Celina High School in 1935 where he had participated in football, basketball, tennis and also played in the band. He worked for a time at Nickel Bros. Hardware and later managed a hardware store in Dayton until enlisting in the Army Air Corps in 1941, where he was a member of the 4th Repair Squadron, 4th Air Depot Group. He was stationed in Australia for three years during World War II, having been sent overseas immediately after Pearl Harbor, and worked servicing all planes on their way to Japanese bombing missions. Returning to the States in January of 1945 he married Mary Frances Minckley (born in St. Marys, Ohio on Oct. 25, 1921, daughter of Dale Henry Minckley and Mary Jane Sutton of Genesee County, Michigan) in Celina on Jan. 25, 1945. He remained in service in California and Kearns AFB, Salt Lake City, Utah, until the end of the war when he received a discharge after serving 4 years, 4 months and 4 days, and attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant.

At this time he returned to Celina and opened his own heating and plumbing business on W. Fayette St., in June of 1946. This building was later sold and he moved his shop to a location on Godfrey Avenue. His health beginning to fail in later years, he sold his shop, known as Consolidated Heating & Appliance Co., just a short time before his death, to his only son and oldest child, Jerry Leroy (Jan. 22, 1947) in September, 1975. Jerry had attended Ohio Northern University and Ohio State University, and is still owner of the business. The other children are Darlene Jane (Aug. 23, 1948), a graduate of Bowling Green State University where she obtained a B.S. degree, and Miami University where she obtained a Masters degree in Education. She is presently a Librarian in the Cincinnati School System. The third child is Amy Gail (May 14, 1963).

Jerry married Alice Mary Fullenkamp (Born in Coldwater, Ohio, Feb. 6, 1948 and presently teaching in the St. Henry School System) on Jan. 3, 1970. They have two children, Cory Jack (May 21, 1975) and Katie Jo (Sept. 14, 1978). *Mrs. Jack Shiverdecker*

A.P.J. Snyder

F.A. Snyder

SNYDER

The Snyder aspect of the Margaret M. and Parke R. Snyder family came as the descendents of Henr Snyder, who was born in 1784, near Hagerstown Maryland, and Sarah Smith, who was born at Wir chester, Virginia, in 1788. The couple were marrie in Green County, Ohio, and then came to Bellefor taine, where Snyder had served at Manara Bloc House, during the War of 1812. Members of h family said he lived there before the War, and thi his home was destroyed by Indians, but his obituar does not say this.

A large family of five boys and three girls re sulted, and one of his sons, Alexis Parker Jone came to Celina in 1851 to work at The Standard - which was owned by an older brother, Seth. A.P. was named after an English relative — in the hop that money would be sent from England, but alas, never arrived. Later he bought the Standard. Th mother, Sarah Smith, was listed as a "hand maider or "lady in waiting" to the queen of England — bu since she was an American citizen this title appa ently applied to her mother.

A.P.J. Snyder had three sons and three daughte — and the only one to have children was Frank A vord Snyder — the father of the present manager The Standard, Parker R. Snyder. A.P.J., who wa born in 1828, married Susan Slicer, also of Bellefor taine, and she was born in 1836. Her father, Walte was a friend of Salmon P. Chase — Lincoln's secre tary of the treasury — and cared after Chase's feeb minded son. Chase gave him a couch for this. Chas founded Chase-Manhattan Bank in New York.

A.P.J. Snyder's only son to mature, Frank, marrie Grace Lucinda Riley in 1910 — and had two chi dren, Joy and Parker. Joy Snyder died in 1970.

Grace Riley Snyder was the great grandchild Capt. James Watson Riley, who wrote the famou "Riley's Narrative", which Abraham Lincoln en dorsed, and she was the granddaughter of James R ley, who laid out Celina, Van Wert and Paulding. A 16, she was valedictorian of her high school clas and she attended Kenyon College at Gambier, Ohi She was the first librarian, when the Celina librar was established in the City Hall. Frank A. Snyde was born in 1871, his wife Grace in 1874.

Mrs. Snyder's father was Calvin E. Riley, and he mother's maiden name was Gabrilla Brandon. Sh was the youngest child of a family of seven, fiv boys and two girls and the oldest sister and brothe died. The four brothers all lived to good ages in Ce lina. For four generations the Snyders and Riley have been largely Celina area residents.

Parker R. Snyder and Margaret Queen Morde

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vere married January 20, 1942. After Mrs. Snyder ame here to work at Otis Hospital, where she beame supervisor of nurses. Her father was Jacob Alxander Morden, who was born near Sarnia, Onario, in 1865, and her mother, Lillian Mary Warner, vho was born in Grenwich, England, in 1883. They vere married in Hartney, Manitoba, Canada in 1903.

Mrs. Snyder's paternal grandfather and grandnother, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Morden, immirated from Holland to Pennsylvania, and then to arnia. His sons later moved to Manitoba, about 900.

Mrs. Margaret Snyder was born in Hartney, Manoba in 1910, and graduated from Brandon, Manioba General Hospital, as a registered nurse, in 1933. he came to Otis Hospital in 1939. She has a living ister and a brother was killed.

Parker Riley Snyder graduated from the Univerity of Michigan journalism department in 1934. He vas born March 29, 1913, in the Beech House on S. ish St.

The Snyder couple have four children: Grace .dele Smelser; Frank Morden Snyder, Lillian Susan nyder Schoch and Jacob Zura Snyder.

Adele and Larry Smelser have two sons, Scott Parer and Christopher Carl. Lillian and Kenneth choch have a daughter, Karen Sue and a son Samel Allen.

The A.P.J. family built the six-bedroom home at ne northwest Market — Ash St. corner for $700 in 871. *Parker R. Snyder*

SPEICHER FAMILY MARCUS E. SPEICHER

A decendent of the Christian Speicher family that ime to the United States from the canton of Berne, witzerland in 1832 and settled in Holmes County, hio near Winesburg. Christian was born October 1815. He married Anna Steiner (who was born in witzerland also) on July 11, 1840. She inherited the wiss talent of yodeling, at which she was very ood. Christian and Anna had eight children. Chrisan moved his family to Wabash County, Indiana in 865. The family, with their household goods, traved on a flat boat on the Erie and Wabash Canals as r as Lagro, Indiana. They settled northeast of agro. They farmed during the active years of their ves. The Speichers were very good carpenters. lany of the large old barns in Lagro and Chester ownships, Wabash County, were built by Speichs. Christian died December 15, 1892.

One of Christian and Anna's son's name was Wilam who married Rosetta Gerber on November 20, 873. The Gerbers were also natives of Berne, Switzland, their westward journey ending in the village Berne, Indiana, as farmers.

One of William and Rosetta's children was Edwin lbert Speicher born May 23, 1885, on a farm in Vabash Township, Adams County, Indiana, one ad a half miles east of Geneva Indiana. He married ah Olga Nyffeler on October 23, 1909. The Nyffer decendents emmigrated from Hutwyl, Switzerand to the United States in 1887 and settled in Jay ounty, Indiana, lived there one year and then oved to Adams County, Indiana, clearing an 80 re farm near Monroe, Indiana. Leah's father was locomotive fireman on the railroads in Switzerland and because of his knowledge of steam engines was often called upon to repair threshing machines in his neighborhood. Edwin and Leah had three children and one of their sons was Marcus Edwin Speicher.

Marcus Edwin Speicher was born September 20, 1914 in Wabash Township, Adams County, Geneva, Indiana, attended first six grades in Mt. Zion School, Wabash Township, junior high and high school in Geneva, Indiana and was a member of Cross Reformed Church until his move to Celina, Ohio.

On July 7, 1942, he married Vera Gerke Speicher, daughter of Otto Gerke and Emma Rodewald Gerke, and from this union was born three children: Carolyn Ann, John Mark and Ruth Margaret Speicher. He entered the services of World War II from September 1942 until December 1945 as a corporal in the CRTC at Ft. Riley, Kansas as mechanic instructor and the last fifteen months as maintainance mechanic and welder, overseas.

Prior to entering the service he did welding at Geneva, Indiana for farmers, and then starting his original business in 1935. In 1936 he rented a space in Stouffer-Lehman garage at New Corydon, Indiana as a welder and on April 1, 1937 moved to Celina, Ohio, rented a space in Hinton and Smalley Maintainance Building and opened a welding shop there. In 1938, he rented a building on the corner of Brandon and Frahm Pike and in 1939 with the cooperation of his father and brother, a new facility was built at 308 Portland Street in Celina and from this venture Speicher Brothers, Inc. was founded.

Many years later, upon retirement, he also founded N.C.S., a small machine shop located on West Market at Meyer Rd., in Celina. *Mrs. Vera Speicher, Celina, Oh. 45822*

VERA GERKE SPEICHER

Vera Speicher, wife of Marcus E. Speicher, was born September 8, 1916 in Allen County, Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Daughter of Otto and Emma Rodewald Gerke, Vera was the third child of a family of five. At the present time three are living and two are deceased.

The farm homesite, a ten-roomed frame structure, was located on South Fairfield Avenue, the first farm outside the city limits. Otto Gerke farmed during the active years of his life. In the early years of their marriage, they made and sold homemade dairy products and also sold much garden produce. This was how the children were kept busy during the summer months.

For seven years, Vera, along with her sister, Rosella, and her brother Melvin, attended Suburban Trinity Lutheran School, a three mile walk one way. School hours were from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. Along with the regular school curriculum, there was also the study of religion and the study of the German language including the writing of German script. Vera finished her eighth grade year at Hillcrest Grade School. She graduated in 1936 from Elmhurst High School in Ft. Wayne. After graduation, she worked at the Wayne Knitting Mills.

Vera married Marcus E. Speicher, of Geneva, Indiana, on July 7, 1942 and they moved to Celina, Ohio in January of 1946. At this time the homesite of

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forty acres was then sold; it has since been developed into an apartment site.

Vera's paternal grandparents were Henry Gerke, a farmer, and Lizetta Kline Gerke, born in Ft. Wayne (Allen County) and Decatur, Indiana (Adams County), respectively. The maternal grandparents were George Rodewald, dairy owner and operator, and Julia Grieser Rodewald, both born in the Ft. Wayne area.

To the marriage of Marcus and Vera Speicher have been born three children: Carolyn, born April 5, 1943; John, born May 17, 1953; and Ruth, born March 11, 1955. One granddaughter, Karen Thieman, was born November 23, 1963.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Speicher are members of St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Township. *Mrs. Vera Speicher*

August J. Spieler, 1945

AUGUST J. SPIELER

August Joseph Spieler was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on March 16, 1874 (died Dec. 5, 1959 in Celina, Ohio). He was the son of Titus Spieler and Catherine Hoelscher, both immigrants from Germany (approx. 1868), who met in Hamilton, Ohio. Titus was born in 1838 (died 1895 in Cincinnati), son of Conrad and Marianna Spieler, Heimbuchentahl bei Aschaffenburg, Bavaria, Germany. Catherine was born April 27, 1843 (died Nov. 8, 1925 in Celina). She was the daughter of Maximillian Hoelscher, Westphalen, Munster, Germany. Titus and Catherine had six children. Three died in infancy, August J., Elizabeth, and William were the others. The family lived in Cincinnati on Dunlap Street and later on Poplar. Titus was a cooper and a schnapps distiller. He died when August was twenty-one and the responsibility of the support of the family fell to the elder son.

August started working very young. He was a bright young man of inquiring mind, learning from his jobs at the Emery Candle Company, where he progressed from barrel-painting-room to chemical laboratory by the time he was twenty-four. He took night-classes at the Ohio Mechanics Institute, but otherwise was self-taught. In May 1898 August went to Syracuse, N.Y., to establish a stearic acid plant for Will & Baumer Co. He was with them until 1904. Then he designed and sold machinery for Joselyn, Schmitt & Co., a chemical engineering firm of Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1903 August met Bertha Pulskamp, daughter of J. Henry Pulskamp and Magdalene Schunck of Celina, Ohio, at the wedding of his sister, Elizabeth, to Edward Pulskamp. Edward was the son of Herman Pulskamp II. He was born Jan. 7, 1875 at St. John's, Mercer County, and died May 25, 1927 in Celina. August and Bertha were married in Celina June 7, 1906. Soon afterward August decided to start a factory of his own in Celina, Ohio, where he located a site along the north bank of the Grand Reservoir near the Lake Erie Railroad (South Ash Street) at the old site of the Hannecke Iron Works. And so the Celina Stearic Acid Company came into existence, the charter was drawn up, and the company was incorporated in September 1907.

It was a closed corporation with the majority of shares held by the Spieler and Pulskamp families. The stearic acid manufactured in Celina was important to candle-making and the cosmetic industry. The companionate products, glycerine and oleic acid (red oil) were used in nitro-glycerine, cosmetics, paint, soap, and the lubrication of woolen fabrics. The market for stearic acid in candle-making extended to Cuba, South America, and India. The Celina Stearic Acid Company was liquidated in 1967 due to a changing market. Wool cloth was rapidly being replaced by synthetics which did not need the scouring and lubrication wool required.

August's mother, Catherine, and his brother, William, moved to Celina in 1907 also. William married Hedwig Kradelt in May 1909. William was now factory manager in the new company. Catherine first lived with Hedwig and William, and then moved in with August and Bertha after they built a second story on their new home. "Mutter," as the grandchildren called her, had her own "sitting-room" and bedroom on the second floor. Here she stayed until her death in 1925. Edward and Elizabeth also moved to Celina in 1907. Edward became foreman and engineer in the new factory. J. Henry Pulskamp, Bertha's father, was part of the management during the years 1907-1922.

The family residence built at 405 East Wayne Street in 1912 was used by the family until 1972 and sold in 1974. The ten children born to this union are listed under the sketch on Bertha Pulskamp Spieler.

August J. Spieler also participated in community activities. He was president of the Board of Public Affairs Jan. 1, 1932 — Dec. 31, 1933; president of the board of the Citizens Bank 1942-55; an active member of the Republican Party; a member of the Immaculate Conception Church. *Magdalene A. Niemer*

Bertha G. Pulskamp Spieler, 1945

BERTHA (PULSKAMP) SPIELER

Bertha Pulskamp Spieler (born June 10, 1884 in Celina; died July 11, 1972 Coldwater, Ohio) was the daughter of J. Henry Pulskamp (1861-1937) and Magdalene Schunck (1861-1943). She graduated from Oldenburg Academy, Oldenburg, Indiana in 1902. Then she returned home to help her mother with the younger children. She was idealistic and "Gibson Girl" type. The young men called her "Princess." She chummed with Bertha Hierholzer

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ıtherine Lennartz, Agnes Grothjan, Clara Romer, ertha Dugan. Mark Beckman, Ralph Bearinger, ed Schmitt, Pete Oakley, Ado Cron and Herman on also belonged to the set, and there were many ırties. On Sunday afternoons after church services ey would promenade uptown and to the Lake. In e evenings the group would congregate at the me of one of the number and after games, danc- g and singing the young men would escort the rls home. Dances in Riley's Hall were events of the inter. The hall was above the Livery Barn, which ter became the Celina Auto Company. Bertha's fa- er had a horse and he bought a runabout for her hen she came home from Oldenburg. She and her ends had wonderful times driving about Celina.

August J. Spieler spent Christmas vacation at the ılskamp home in December 1903. He and Bertha ok a sleigh-ride that ended in a snowdrift. That isode became a family anecdote. In January 1906 ertha and August became engaged and the wed- ng was June 7, 1906. They lived in St. Bernard for ıe year and in 1907 moved to Celina, because the elina Stearic Acid Co. was being founded here. In ctober 1912 they moved into the home they had anned and built at 405 East Wayne Street. When rst built it was a one-story house.

The following children were born to them: Mary atherine born October 3, 1908; (married Gordon /ilson Dec. 22, 1936) Bertha Augusta (Betty) born June 1910; (died Dec. 14, 1974) Magdalene born pril 16, 1912; (married William T. Niemer Aug. 16, 941) Eva Genevieve born Dec. 24, 1913 (married ıilip Ronfor 1935) August J. (Bud) born 25 May, 915 (married Catherine Knisely Dec. 29, 1941) Ro- emary born Feb. 13, 1917; (married Albert Albietz n. 10, 1942) Anita M. born Dec. 14, 1919; (married dward Maloney Jan. 31, 1948) Luke Titus born lar. 4, 1922; (married Betty O'Leary Nov. 27, 1954) Iargaret born Feb. 27, 1924; (married Eugene IcCarthy Nov. 26, 1949) Virginia Carolyn born ug. 1, 1929; (died 1-6-1933.)

In spite of her busy life as wife and mother, Ber- ıa participated in community affairs to some ex- nt. She always was a devout Catholic and member f the Immaculate Conception Church. In 1920, the ear women got the vote, she went with a group to Iarion, Ohio to march in behalf of Harding, the residential candidate. When the Delphian Society ourished in Celina in the 1920's and '30s she was ighly interested in their study of art and history. he was a charter member of the American Legion uxiliary, Celina Unit 210 (1927) and served as sec- nd president in 1928. She joined the Daughters of abella in 1927 as a charter member and was fourth egent 1932-34.

During the last twenty years of her life, she went morning mass practically every day. After Au- ust's death in 1959 she lived alone in the home- tead until October 1971 when she fell and broke er hip. She died nine months later at Briarwood, oldwater, Ohio on July 11, 1972. *Magdalene A. Niemer*

ALBERT C. STEIN

Albert C. Stein, owner of the Albert C. Stein In- urance Office, 640 North Walnut St., Celina, was orn in Celina in 1895, the son of William and Clara he Stein. William Stein was a Celina fireman who

Albert C. Stein

raised horseradish in his backyard, which Albert and his brother Joseph delivered in jars throughout the 21 saloons in Celina around the turn of the century.

"Excursions on the lake attracted hundreds to Celina, many from as far away as Detroit, who came on the Cincinnati Northern Railway and stayed for the weekend," said Albert Stein. "The saloons charged five cents for a beer and the sandwiches on which the horseradish was served were free."

Albert was graduated from Immaculate Conception High School in 1913 with a class of three. In 1910 he had started working as a barber in the John Wenning Barber Shop above what is now the Citizens Commercial Bank. For a few months in 1916, he also barbered in St. Henry, riding the Cincinnati Northern train on Monday morning, and walking back to Celina along the railroad tracks after closing time, usually after midnight, on Saturday nights.

In 1917, he bought a confectionary where Goldstein's Department Store now stands and learned how to make candy. when he enlisted in the Army during World War I, he left his brother in charge of the store, but the work was too much for him, and Pete Rihm, now of 642 North Cherry St., Celina, bought the store.

Stein spent much of his time in the service in a makeshift hospital just behind the lines near Verdun in France. He described as "a rare privilege" seeing the Germans marching into a town in France to surrender on Nov. 11, 1918. He was the fifth American to go into Germany, and made many ambulance trips back into France with the sick and wounded after the armistice because communications were so poor that fighting did not cease even though the armistice.

Stein was discharged Aug. 25, 1919. Upon his return to Celina, he soon went to work at the Racket Store, located at the present site of Grapner Shoe Store, at that time owned by Leo Hierholzer.

In July of 1921, Stein sold his first insurance contract, and since has "matched" all kinds and types of insurance to hundred of Mercer County men and women. In 1929 he married Margaret Alma Knostman of Dayton. Mrs. Stein died in 1975. The couple had four children: Bill, who sells supplies for automobile races for Wesco Supply; Tom, an insurance salesman in Cincinnati; Jerry, a welder in Lombard, Ill., and Mary Margaret Dresher, who lives with her family in Necedah, Wisc. Since 1974, Albert's sister, Bernadine Stein, has made her home with him.

Albert has been active in many organizations. In 1916 he joined the Knights of Columbus and is an honorary life member. He has held various office in the K of C, including that of financial secretary in 1921, '22 and '23.

He served as usher at the Immaculate Conception Church longer than any other person in the history of the church. He instigated the envelope collecting system in the church.

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He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5713, Celina, and has been especially active in American Legion Post 210, which he joined as a charter member in September of 1919. He has held all the office of the unit over the years, and served as finance officer for many years, much longer than anyone else.

Because he got such an early start, Albert Stein believes he has attended more Department and National Legion conventions than anyone else in the state of Ohio. *Albert C. Stein*

THE HENRY STEIN FAMILY

Henry Stein's grandparents lived near Molton or Baden Germany. They imigrated to United States when, George Stein, (Henry's father) was a young child. George grew up around Uniopolis, O. As an adult, he owned and operated a tile and saw mill, plus a lumberyard in Unioplis. George married Wilhelmina Nagel. Seven children were born including Henry who was born in 1874 — died 1948.

Henry came to Celina in 1897 and lived in Jefferson Twp. the rest of his life, mostly in Celina. He was a carpenter and builder. Some landmarks he helped build, were, the 1st National Bank, Fortman and McKirnian buildings. He helped slate the roofs on the City Bldg. and many churches in the area. He also worked at Mersman's furniture factory for 35 years.

Henry married Nancy Elizebeth Thompson, from Celina in 1897. Elizebeth's parents were; Richard Nelson Thompson Born 1854 — Died 1906. Louise Alice (Zerkle) Thompson — Born 1852 — died 1907. Richard ran the "dray" service for Celina. As a young man, he helped build Grand Lake. He also helped to found the 1st Methodist Church and was quite active in it.

Richard and Louise had four children; Samuel — born 1876 Worked as a surveyor in Celina. Nancy Elizebeth — born 1878 — died 1959. Charles Wm. — born 1883 — died 1905 Alice — born 1887 died — ? married Charles Cheney, had four children, Charles died. She later married Thomas Ireland. (deceased)

Elizabeth and Henry Stein were active in the Odd Fellows Lodge and Rebeccas. They helped in many ways toward financing the present Methodist Church. They had five children, all born in Celina and all living.

I. Frederick — born 1898, married Francis Robbins from Celina, had five children, all born in Celina. a. Harold — Died at the age of four. b. Donald — married Wanda Brock, both graduated from Celina, lives in Lima, Ohio, had 6 children. c. Ruth — married Wilbur Slusser from Celina, had 2 boys. Ruth and Wilbur are deceased and the boys live in Michigan. d. Audrey Ellen — married Sam Ivey, one child, lives in Arizona. e. Rex — married, four children, lives in Coldwater, Mich.

Fred's wife, Francis, is deceased. Fred has remarried and lives in Coldwater, Michigan.

II. Lela — born 1900 — married Virgil Hover (deceased) had 4 children. Lela lives in Borger, Texas.

III. Mary — born 1906, married Robert Jones, had 3 children, lives in Dayton, Ohio.

IV. Joseph — born 1910 — one son Robert — (a engineer, married, 2 children, living in Cincinnat O) Both graduated from Celina schools. Joe is r married to Esther Cowick, had 3 stepdaughters. Jc lives on Rt. 703. He was also in the army 3 year (World War II).

V. Walter — born 1915 — graduate from Celir schools — married Wanda Coile 1941, had 2 chi dren, also graduates of Celina. a. Walter Jr. "Wally — born 1946 — graduate of Ohio U. an enginee married, 2 children, lives in Vermont. b. Susan - born 1948 — is an R.N., married to Thomas Reasne (son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reasner of Celina) ha 2 caughters, lives near Sidney, O.

Wanda worked as an R.N. at Otis Hospital for 1 yrs.

Walter served 4 years — in Army — World Wa II.

Joe and Walt were carpenters and builders of fin homes, apartments, business establishments, ga rages etc. from 1950 to retirement in 1977. *Mrs. Walt Stein, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Victor Steinke hom

VICTOR STEINKE

Victor Steinke, the second oldest son of Jerom and Mary Anna Steinke, was born June 18, 1928 i Montezuma, Ohio. After nine months, Jerome an Mary moved to Celina, Ohio to stay. Victor acquire twelve years of catholic education in the Immaculat Conception grade and high school. At eleven year old, he started his first paying job as a milk deliver boy. This job lasted two years, at which time h hauled ice to Celina residents in the summe months and set pins at the local bowling alley in th winter months until he graduated from school. Th next three years after graduation was spent haulin ice.

At the age of 20, he married his high schoo sweetheart Mary Ann Rolfes, the daughter of Le and Corrine Rolfes. She had two brothers and a sis ter, Lavern, Eugene, and Patricia.

Of the union of Vic and Mary Ann there were five children; Michael, Christine, Rebecca, Victoria, an Lisa.

At the age of 21 he became interested in carpentry and took a job at the Martz cabinet shop. After three years of building cabinets the business was momentarily slow. He moved on to house construction working for a local contractor for the next ten years. During these ten years, his evenings were spent building cabinets and doing small repair jobs. At the age of 32 in 1960, he went into business on his own as a cabinet maker and general contractor. He maintained a crew of usually twelve men which specialized in everything connected to the building trade plumbing, heating, electrical, etc.

In 1971, Vic and Mary Ann built their first personal new home at 635 West Livingston St. This in-

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estment lead to the purchase of a number of other roperties including a church at 404 North Main St. nd a five acre chicken farm, west of Celina.

In 1973, Vic and Mary Ann were blessed with neir first grandchild followed by four others as of eptember 1978.

At the present, Victor has kept with the building usiness, rental properties, and raising chickens. August 1978) *Vic Steinke*

r. and Mrs. Frank illberger, Wm. and velyn' House on Mon- e Road ¼ mile west of .8 on right

FRANK STILLBERGER

Frank Stillberger, St. Rt. 118, Jefferson Township, as born in 1876 to John and Hannah Woodling tillberger in Wyandot County. He moved with his ither & sisters to Mercer County in 1882 and orked with his father farming and raising purebred elgium horses.

Frank Stillberger married Mrytle (Schroyer), aughter of David and Mary (Powell) Schroyer of ural Washington Township. They first lived with rank's parents on St. Rt. 118 south of Beaver Creek nd it was there a son William was born. Later they ought land just off St. Rt. 118 on Monroe Road and ved in an old log house where a daughter, Evelyn as born. (Monroe Road home picture)

In 1910, a new barn was built on St. Rt. 118 just orth of Monroe Road (because St. Rt. 118 was a oad always in better condition than Monroe Road n those days). All the siding on the barn was hauled n one wagon from the Coldwater Lumber Co. In 912, a new house was built by Henry Pohl at a la- or cost of $325.00. A hog barn was built in 1913 nd a grainery in 1915. The rough lumber for these uildings was sawed from the woods on the farm by ill Madden, a black man who lived with the family.

Frank Stillberger passed away in 1924 leaving his ife, Myrtle, his son, William, and a daughter, Eve- yn, a school teacher. *Edith Stillberger*

lice Stillberger, hristina Still- erger, Mertie illberger, John illberger, Bes- e Stillberger mall child), ora Stillberger, nd Frank Still- erger with orse.

JOHN STILLBERGER

John Stillberger was born in Germany in 1853 and ame with his father and mother to America when e was 4 years old. The family consisting of John nd 4 sisters settled in Wyandot County, Ohio.

John Stillberger married Hannah Woodling and ney had three children, Frank, Alice (Flanders), and Myrtle (Miesse). After Hannah died, John moved his family in 1882, to Mercer County, Jefferson Township, Sec. 3, on St. Rt. 118 just south of Beaver Creek. They bought land and lived in an old house that stood 60 some rods back east of the road. Later, they built near St. Rt. 118 the house that is pictured. (see history under Grandlienard) John married Cora McNeer and they became the parents of two children, Tina (Coate) and Bessie (Tilton).

John Stillberger along with his son, Frank, raised, sold, and showed at fairs purebred Belgium horses. One stallion was sold to Ohio State University and two mares won a Gold Medal at the Chicago Livestock Show.

John lived his entire life on the same farm and died in 1927.

WILLIAM STILLBERGER

William Stillberger, 6319 St. Rt. 118, Jefferson Township, was born September 14, 1901, in the John Stillberger homestead, to Frank and Myrtle (Schroyer) Stillberger. His grandparents were John and Hannah (Woodling) Stillberger of St. Rt. 118 just south of Beaver Creek and David and Mary (Powell) Schroyer of rural Washington Township. William had one sister, Evelyn, 2 years younger, who taught school for many years in the Cleveland area and who died in 1975.

In 1927, William married Edith Simmons, born September 13, 1908, the daughter of Benjamin and Elsie (Webb) Simmons of Center Township. They had one daughter, Mary Jean, who with her husband, Kenneth Grandlienard, live on the original John Sillberger homestead. (see history under Grandlienard)

In early years, William and Edith farmed 240 acres with horses. These horses being from the line of purebred Belgiums that John and Frank Stillberger showed at fairs. Finally in 1937, the first tractor replaced the horses for the farm work. Besides farming, cows were milked, the cream separated, and either the cream sold or made into butter. Later, whole Grade A milk was sold. Also raised and sold on the farm were chickens, eggs, and Hampshire hogs.

Over the years, the family was associated with evangelical churches, being active as Sunday School teachers and church officials.

Over the last 23 years, Edith became well known in the community for the making and decorating of fine cakes for weddings and special occasions. *Edith Stillberger*

STUYVESANT - STIVERSON

John (Stuyvesant) Stiverson, Great grandfather of

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Fay D. Stiverson Celina, was born in Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania, Nov. 30, 1802. His parents, being of German and Dutch distraction and direct descendants of Peter Stuyvesant, governor of New Amsterdam (New York City) New York.

When John Stiverson was yet a young man, he came to Washington Twp., Hocking Co., Ohio, and on June 26, 1825 he married his first wife Elizabeth Hensel, (born in Pennsylvania), the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Friend) Hensel, being of German descent. Because of the Dutch spelling of his family name (Stuyvesant) he decided an English spelling would make it easier for his neighbors, and friends to pronounce it, and would also make it less difficult in having it spelled correctly on legal papers, and documents. So, in exchange for three bags of wheat he had the spelling of his family name changed from Stuyvesant to Stiverson.

Mr. Stiverson bought and cleared 280 acre of land on which he built his home. He became quite a prominent citizen of Hocking Co., and at this time Enterprise, Ohio was known as Stiversonville.

Born to John and Elizabeth were thirteen children — Joel who married first Elizabeth Giberson, then Elizabeth Roush, Lemuel married Christina Mathias, Sarah married Peter Bowers, Suzannah married Ephrium Harden, Elizabeth married Henry Martin, Josie, Samuel married Caroline Warthman, Emanuel married Kigiah Friend, Lucinda married Joseph Petty, MaryAnn married James Clark, Eliza Anna died an infant, Katie, John B. married Anna Elizabeth Klinger. After the death of Elizabeth, John E. married Sarah Proach and they had two more daughters — Delilah married George Shaw, and Lydia married his brother of Frank Shaw.

Mr. Stiverson was an active member of a United Brethern Church, serving as a trustee, Sunday School teacher and song leader. He raised his family to be God-fearing adults, using the Bible as his rule book. In politics he was a staunch Republican. Before he passed away he handmade each one of his children a Pennsylvania Dutch Dowery chest, to be passed on to the future Stiverson generations.

John's son Samuel H. was a life time resident of Hocking Co., and was a prosperous farmer and carpenter. He married Caroline Warthman, Nov. 13, 1864, the daughter of J. Adam and Christina (Britz) Warthman, also of Hocking Co. They had the following children: Francis Marion (died an infant), Edward Silas, who married Mary Estella Klinger, Christina, who married Elmer Chidister, Emma who married Benjamin Carpenter, and Porter Edson, who married Eliza Jane Lehman, daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Jane (Layland) Lehman.

Porter E. Stiverson, though born in Hocking Co., spent most of his life time in Mercer Co., as here he met and married Eliza Jane Lehman of Early (Oregon), Hopewell Twp. Mr. & Mrs. Stiverson lived most of their married life in Mercer Co., and their home was blessed with seven children, though three sons died in infancy. The other children were C. Xenia who married LeVertie McDaniel of Ind., Edna May married John Heil of Lima, Norma A. married Floyd John Tigner, Center Twp., and Fay Dilbert married Alberta J. Hoel, Jefferson Twp.

Fay and Alberta Stiverson have the following children: Edson Ray, John Floyd, Cecil Fay, and Dawn Lu Ray, and one granddaughter — Natasha Kolleen Stiverson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edson Stiverson.

Fay Stiverson is employed at the St. Marys Good year factory, and is also a farmer. During WWII, h was stationed in S. Hampton, England with the 8t Air Force. His sons Edson Ray served in the U.S Army during the Vietnam war, being a helicopte pilot. Cecil Fay having just returned home to Celin after serving 5 years in the 8th Air Force as an Elec tronic Technician in Navel Equipment, at Pease A Force Base, New Hampshire. John Floyd is a chemis at Uni-Royal Plant, Mishawaks, Ind. Dawn Lu Ray i married and lives in Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Stiverson are active members of th Celina Grace Missionary Church. As John Stiverso requested — the dowery chest is still in the Stiver son family's possession to be passed on the nex generations of Stiversons. *Mrs. Norma Tigner*

STRABEL FAMILY

The Strabel family trace their ancestral line back through the Scythians, who settled North Eastern Europe and Germany, to Magog the son of Japheth son of Noah.

Peter Strabel was born Oct. 21, 1818 in Germany and Died Sept. 12, 1889. He married Dora Heirbel heimer, who was born Aug. 25, 1826 in Germany and Died Feb. 18, 1913.

Peter and Dora came to the United States in 1849 They stayed a short time in New York and then went to Springfield Ohio, but soon thereafter to Cincinnati, Ohio where they were married, and set tled there for about Eleven years.

To this union seven children were born; John Leonard, Michael, Barbra Williams, Effie Bollenbacher Margarite Miller, Peter and George who died at age of 22 days.

John Leonard Strabel, the oldest, was born Jan. 6 1850 at Cincinnati, Ohio where the family lived until he was of the age of 10 years, at which time they moved to Liberty Twp. Mercer County Ohio and located on what is now Tama Road, about one mile East of Chattanooga, Ohio.

On March 28, 1878 John married Caroline Deitsch of Liberty Twp. and settled on what is now Strabel Road, on a farm three quarter mile East of Chattanooga, Ohio. To this Union four children were born Philip born Nov. 10, 1879 and married Mary Brehm Kathryn Dorthea, born June 13, 1883, and married Marshall Hudson; Christine Margaret born June 15 1889 and married Clarence Beitler; Edward Paul born Nov. 9, 1896. All were born at the above location. Their father died March 30, 1906. Their mother with Edward moved to Chattanooga in 1911 and then moved to Celina in 1912, where she died on April 9, 1945.

On Dec. 23, 1922 Edward married Emma Beatrice Now; the daughter of William and Anna Now. They located at Sidney, Ohio. After about a year moved to Celina. In 1926 they moved to Lima, Ohio and in 1930 moved back to Celina. To this Union two children were born. Lisle Gene and Diane Kay.

Lisle Gene was born July 5, 1929 at Lima, Ohio. He married Virginia Arlene Eichenauer, daughter of Edward and Florence Eichenauer, who was born on Nov. 30, 1932. To this Union six children were born;

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heryl Lynn, born Feb. 7, 1952 and married Irwin ailey on Oct. 1, 1972. To this union a son Clayton llen was born on Aug. 9, 1974; Kim Alan born ept. 18, 1953; and married Lucinda Barber, Aug. 10, 974; Scott Gene Born Oct. 17, 1954, and married onnie Seibert on June 7, 1975; Darl Marlin, born lov. 28, 1955 and married Lisa Harner May 7, 1977;)awn Renee, born Dec. 1, 1957 and married Daniel lellwarth May 7, 1977; Jill Arlene, born July 25, 961.

Diane Kay was born April 30, 1945 at Celina,)hio; She married Michael Wayne Booher, the son f Raymond and Margaret Booher. He was born on ept. 20, 1940 at Richmond Ind. To this Union two hildren were born. Terry Michael, born Mar. 7, 963 and Donna Lynn, born Sept. 28, 1967. *Edward aul Strable, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Carroll Stubbs

STUBBS FAMILY

William Cooper Stubbs, M.D., with his wife and wo young sons, moved to Celina on March 28, 1895, rom Lewisburg, Preble County, Ohio. Members of ne Stubbs family originally migrated from England o Philadelphia, Pa., moving on to South Carolina. as Quakers they disapproved of the institution of lavery, so the family came north to Ohio where ney were among the earliest settlers of Preble ounty.

Born in Butler County, Ohio, September 15, 1861,)r. Stubbs was the son of Joseph and Esther (Coper) Stubbs, both natives of Preble County. After a hildhood on his father's farm, William C. Stubbs vas educated at Otterbein University, graduating in 885. Subsequently he attended Pulte Homeopathic ollege in Cincinnati, graduating with honors in 888. After practicing medicine in Lewisburg for six ears, he took a post-graduate degree in the treatnent of the nose and throat at the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. Stubbs was married on April 12, 1888, to Ida 1. Zeller of Lewisburg. They had three sons, Elmer, orn February 16, 1890, and Carroll, born July 7, 891, in Lewisburg. A third son, John, was born on eptember 27, 1901, in Celina.

Until his death in 1931, Dr. Stubbs lived and had is office in his home one block east of the City Hall n Livingston Street. Ida Zeller Stubbs died in the amily home in 1952.

Elmer Stubbs, after attending Ohio Wesleyan and)hio State Universities, held various positions with ne Erie Railroad, living most of his adult life in the leveland area. John, educated at Ohio State and olumbia Universities, worked for the Mohawk Rubber Co. and Harris-Seybold-Potter Co. in Cleveland and Akron. Both are now deceased.

Carroll Andrew Stubbs was educated in the public schools of Celina and at Ohio State University where he received both undergraduate and law degrees. In 1915 after acquiring his LL.B., Mr. Stubbs returned to Celina to practice law.

In 1918 he volunteered for service in World War I serving in Company B, 152nd Depot Brigade, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry. He was honorably discharged on March 22, 1919.

On June 7, 1919, Carroll A. Stubbs married Belva L. Dine, daughter of William Smowyer Dine and Fannie (Siler) Dine, whose father, John Siler, fought in the Civil War. Originally from France, the Dine family migrated from Pennsylvania to the Tiffin area and on to Mercer County. Two children survive from this marriage, Virginia Stubbs Parker of Pleasantville, New York, and Robert C., an attorney in Tucson, Arizona.

In partnership with Frank Kloeb (a committment made when both were in service), Mr. Stubbs practiced law for a time and then bought an insurance agency from B. A. Myers. After Mr. Kloeb sold his interest in the firm and began to practice law with John Loree, Mr. Stubbs in 1925 moved his office from above the Commercial Bank to the Wyckoff building on West Market St. In that same year he founded the Mutual Savings and Loan Association with E. J. Brookhart, Walter J. Mersman, H. C. Bowman and Frank L. Kloeb as directors.

For many years he was a general agent and member of the Board of Directors of the Companies of The Celina Insurance Group, and a director of the Commercial Bank.

Among his civic activities, Carroll Stubbs was a trustee of the Richardson-Bretz Memorial, president of the Mercer County Library trustees, legal advisor to the Edward L. Bryson Foundation, and an advocate for the Mersman Swimming Pool and Lake Shore Drive.

A member of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Mr. Stubbs was on the board of trustees for many years, active in the Sunday School as superintendent and teacher, and sang in the choir for over 50 years.

When public funds were not available to build the Celina Stadium, Mr. Stubbs raised over $25,000 in pledges from local business and professional men. To insure repayment of the funds and the completion of the stadium in 1942, Mr. Stubbs personally underwrote each of the notes.

As proselitizer, organizer, researcher and fund raiser, Mr. Stubbs was instrumental in the formation of the Mercer County Historical Society. With the help of Bronsart Gilberg, C. C. Reiser and other interested citizens who made gifts or loans, the society was incorporated in 1957. He later served as president of the Society.

Shortly before his death Mr. Stubbs gave to Celina 18 acres of land which adjoined his Eastview subdivision. This land was added to a tract purchased by the Bryson Foundation trustees to form Eastview Park with picnic facilities, an equipped playground, horseshoe courts and baseball diamonds.

Carroll A. Stubbs died in Tucson, Arizona, on December 5, 1965. *Mrs. Carroll Stubbs, Celina, Oh. 45822*

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Stukenborg

FRANK STUKENBORG

Frank Stukenborg born 12-13-1883 and Clara Schockman born 6-5-1891 were married and purchased a farm in Saint Henry, Ohio, on the southeast corner of 118 and Ft. Recovery — Minster Rd. There they raised nine children; one died in childhood. Besides farming, Frank also thrashed out for others. Clara passed away 1-3-45. Frank died on 4-24-59.

Their children are as follows: Robert (5-13-11), Marcella (11-21-12), William F. (11-26-14), Margaret (5-8-19), William C. (1-27-21), Adeline (9-14-23), Leona (10-29-26), Dorothy (11-4-30), Francis 'Pat' (4-11-32), Arthur (1-30-36). William F. died on 1-24-17. Rev. Robert was ordained on May 8, 1938. Marcella married John Reilly on 3-27-10. They had two children; William (8-11-37) and Barbara (2-24-40). John Reilly died 2-16-64. Margaret married Hugo Schoenline (5-1-18) on 6-28-41. They had five children: Janice (1-7-43), Marilyn (12-12-46), Karan (6-10-48), Larry (11-4-51), Susan (10-14-55). William C. married Donna Reigelsperger (3-8-28) on 9-15-51. They had three children: Carol (3-4-52), Sharon (4-7-53), and Joseph (7-11-65). Adeline Stukenborg married Robert Reigelsperger (11-25-25) on 11-28-46. They had seven children: Gary (1-20-48), Terry (3-4-49), Thomas (6-29-50); he died 5-10-70, Deborah (2-10-52), Charles (2-6-53), Cathy (7-8-58), and Amy (6-21-60). Leona Stukenborg married Louis Knapke (2-25-19) on July 23, 1949. They had nine children: Dale (7-16-50), Micheal (7-7-51), Diane (8-7-52), David (8-29-53), Kenneth (5-28-55), Donald (3-28-58), Cindy (11-17-59), Barbara (1-27-64), Lois (4-11-65). Dorothy Stukenborg married Earnest Buening (11-4-24) on 2-15-58. They had four children: Robert (3-25-59), Elaine (7-9-60), James (12-27-62), and Nancy (3-9-65). Frances 'Pat' Stukenborg married Luke Vondrell (10-14-28) on 10 — 1954. They had five children: Jayne (11-22-55), Alan (6-9-58), Randy (9-3-59), Marty (1-20-63), and Jack (11-17-66). Arthur Stukenborg married Joyce Beemer (9-1-41). They had five children: Steven (4-4-59), Sheila (10-29-60), Frank (3-18-62), Sandra (4-25-64), and Jerry (10-5-66).

Marcella's William married Mary Heatherman (4-5-40). They had five children: Thomas (12-28-59), Timothy (3-24-61), Colleen (4-1-62), Brian (5-14-63), Patrick (2-22-65). Marcella's Barbara married Ray Fredette (7-29-30). They had five children: Raymond 2-26-61), Anthony (6-24-62), Roch (11-3-64), Monica (12-5-65), Paul (1-28-67). Margaret's Marilyn married Larry Angelo (7-21-43) on April 5, 1972. They had one son Matthew (11-19-75). Margaret's Karen married Richard Wohlebed (10-28-46) on March 27, 1971. William's Carol married Terry Moorman (8-23-52) on Sept. 15, 1973. They had four boys: Thomas (8-13-74) , Mark (10-27-75), Keith (10-27 76), and Tony (9-8-78). William's Sharon marriec Mickey Blackburn (10-9-53) on Feb. 2, 1974. The had one girl April (1-13-77). Adeline's Gary marriec Joyce Elloit (10-22-49) on Oct. 18, 1969. They hac three children: Robert (3-9-71), Jason (2-13-74), anc Kristin (4-1-77). Adeline's Terry married Kathleer Wilson (7-5-50) on Jan. 22, 1971. They had two chil dren Kelly (4-13-72) and Matthew (3-9-75). Ade line's Deborah married Aaron Stiles (3-7-50) o April 24, 1976. They had one son Jesse (9-12-78) Adeline's Charles married Patrica McGrew (2-1-54 on Nov. 27, 1976. She died on 3-20-77. Leona's Dal married Mary Schlarman (8-13-52) in July, 1973 They had two boys, Mark (6-22-75) and Philip (1-6 78). Leona's Mike married Dolores Dodd (7-7-47) They had one girl Michelle (10-8-74). Leona's Diane married Thomas Hartman (10-20-51) in Sept., 1973 They had three children: Sandra (10-30-75), William (7-21-77), Robert (7-24-78). Leona's David marriec Kathy Elking (12-8-49) on Oct. 3, 1975. Leona's Ken neth married Joan Brandon (2-7-54) on Aug. 13 1977. They had one girl Yolanda (7-28-78). Leona' Donald married Cathy Jacobs (7-2-60). They hac one son Keith (9-29-78). Pat's Jayne married Dal Weikel (9-6-54) on Aug. 20, 1977. *William Stukenborg*

Charles, Hattie Tester, Dog Queen

CHARLES TESTER

Charles David Tester and Hattie Custer were married in 1905. Charles died October 10, 1930. His wife died March 23, 1959. Their children were; 1. — Flora Mae — Born July 19, 1908 and died May 19, 1935 at the age of 26. 2. — Daisy B. Tester — Born December 30, 1910; died July 21, 1968 and buried in Swamp College Cemetery. 3. — Mable Virge — Born February 28, 1914. 4. — Clifford F. Tester — Born May 24, 1917 and died August 31, 1973. He is buried in the Fairview Cemetery on Celina-Mendon road. 5. — Lloyd M. Tester — Born October 24, 1921. 6. — Edward Eugene Tester — Born October 18, 1924.

2. — Daisy B. Tester, who married Dale HInes, had one child, Phyllis J. Hines born August 12, 1936. Phyllis first married Arthur Stelzer and they had one girl, Vicki Ann Stelzer, born October 31, 1957. Later Phyllis married Danny Phillips and they have three children. a. — Michael E. Phillips born August 21, 1960. b. — Randy L. Born August 16, 1961. and c. — Patty J. born October 25, 1962. Later Daisy married Lester Stetler, and they had no children.

3. — Mable Tester married Glen Hare and they had one daughter, Marilyn born October 22, 1936. She married Carl Harner and they have these children; a. — Gary Eugene at home. b. — Lisa Renee, who married Darl Strable May 7, 1977. c. — Karla Kay, married to Mark Quinter. d. — Timothy Allen

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ıd e. — Bruce G. both at home.
4. — Clifford F. Tester — married Dorcas Steen ıd their children are; a. — Clifford Jr. who married an Hines. b. — Virginia Lou — married Melvin J. liller. They have Julia Ann and Christopher John. — Ronnie Eugene who married Carol Brunswick ıd they have two daughters — Kimberly Kay and lichelle.
5. — Lloyd M. Tester married Louise Hiel and ey have these children; a. — Lloyd Lee who mar-ed Joyce Bernholt and they have Douglas, Daniel, avid and Darrin. b. — Anita married James Laux ıd they have two daughters; Tracy, and Jennifer. c. - George is married to Beverly Brown and they ıve no children. d. — Sue Jane — married Jerrold chenauer and they have one son, Matthew Eiche-ıuer. e. — Robin K., and f. — Charles Herbert both home.
6. — Edward E. Tester married Barbara Goins and ıey have one son, Ricky Eugene married Cynthia /ebbonhorst June 17, 1978.
Lloyd M. Tester, son of Charles and Hattie Tester as in the second World War Co. I 165th Infantry - 27th Division. He went into service November 11, 942 and was in battles on Gilbert Island, Marshall lands, Siapan, Guam, and Okinawa. He was ounded in Action on Okinawa April 24, 1945. Sent om the hospital back to the States August 13, 1945. rnie Pyle was also killed in the Battle at Okinawa. he job he was doing was with a part of this 27th ivision. A Japanese machine gun killed him in 945 on Ie Shima just off of Okinawa. (see Jacob ester) *Compiled by Daisy Tester Stetler Updated and writ-n by Helen M. Flore Parker*

George and Minnie Tester Flore
Russish Flore and Millard Spicer

MINNIE TESTER

Minnie Tester — daughter of Amos and Maggie lack Tester, was born January 31, 1881. She mar-.ed Arlie Spicer first, and they had a son. Millard ıngus Spicer, who married Helen Rier, daughter of ɔhn and Anna Losenkamp Rier.
Millard and Helen's children are; I. — Paul Ed-ard who married Edna Conrad; and their children re; 1. — Millard John who married Bernadette ickwartz, and their children are Suzanne and Ste-hanie. 2. — Paul Edward Jr. who married Rebecca enner and their daughter is Debra.
II. — Madonna Mae born June 7, 1920 and died eptember 1936 at the age of 16 years.
III. — Anna Spicer married Everett Whittacre first nd their children are; 1. — Shirley Ann who mar-ied Arden Cline. Their four children are Arthur ɔhn, Vista Ann, Samuel and Sandy Cline. 2. — helba Jean, who married Roger Miller and their hildren are Keith Allen and Janelle. 3. — Shiela Marie, married Archie Gene McGuire and their children are Berry, Timmy and Scott. 4. — Sherry Elaine married Dennis Garbig and they have Scott. 5. — Jacqueline Ray — married Rick Sackett and their children are Terry and Brett Allen Sachett. Anna later married Robert Seacat and they have no children.
IV. — Wanda Spicer — married Homer McCain and reside in Fort Recovery, Ohio. Their children are 1. — Kathy D. who married David Perry. Their children are Shannon Marie born March 18, 1972 and died June 11, 1972 at 2 months and 24 days, Christopher David born March 15, 1973 and died 3 hours after birth. Both Shannon and Christopher are buried at Chesapeake, Virginia; and Shayne Michael born December 20, 1974. 2. — David Byron who married Karen Sue Johnston Schroeder and they have Karma De Ann born September 27, 1976, also David's step-daughter Paula Denise Schroeder born May 16, 1970. 3. — Bette Jayne — single, at home and is a beautician.
V. — Dora Spicer — married William Jones and their children are; 1. — Karen who married Eddie West, and they have Dawn Renee. 2. — Douglas — married and has no children.
VI. — Addie Marie Spicer married Harold W. Miller. Their children are Cynthia Lee married Douglas Corzine — no children, and Craig Allen married twice.
VII. — Robert Eugene Spicer — married Carlene Torres and their children are Michelle, Robert E. II, and Rebecca Ann Spicer. Robert has remarried.
Millard Spicer is retired and living in Union City, Ohio. His wife Helen is deceased and she and their daughter Madonna are buried in a cemetery in Wapakoneta, Ohio.
Minnie Tester later married George Flore. (see Russish Flore, also see Jacob Tester). *compiled by Daisy Tester Stetler Updated and written by Helen M. Flore Parker*

The John Thees Family: Tim, Jack, Becky, Carol, and Matt

JOHN & CAROLANN (KINCAID) THEES FAMILY

John Ervin Thees, son of Myron and Ruth (Christian) Thees, was born on November 13, 1943, in Gibbons Hospital, Celina, Ohio. Jack attended Celina Public Schools and graduated in 1961. He began learning the tool and die trade at Pax Mach. Works

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age and landed at Baltimore on December 12, 1879.

Matt worked as a farmhand for several farmers in Granville and Washington Townships. In July, 1882 he was joined by his older brother, Henry, and about 1887 by another brother, Herman. In 1889 their parents settled in Cincinnati with the remaining eight children. In 1898 the parents, Mathias and Catherine, came to Celina where Mathias worked as a carpenter until his death in February, 1910. His wife died in 1914 and both are buried in the Celina Catholic Cemetery.

In November, 1890 Matt married Rosina Dabbelt the daughter of Gerhard and Catherine Wellman Dabbelt in St. Anthony Church (Padua), Mercer County. Matt farmed in Granville Township until he took up residence on Main Street in St. Henry, October, 1906. Between 1906 and 1927, he was involved in several business enterprises including the St. Henry Glove Company and the St. Henry Tile Company. He served several terms as trustee of Granville Township and as Township Clerk and for many years was mayor of St. Henry. In 1927 following the death of his wife, Matt moved to Celina where he was engineer at Immaculate Conception School until his retirement. He died in Celina on October 3, 1942 and was buried beside his wife in the St. Henry Cemetery.

Matt and Rosina were the parents of eleven children four of whom still reside in Mercer County. Eleanore, the wife of A. J. Feldhake resides in St. Henry. Harry married Edna Hartings of St. Henry. He was employed by Mersman Brothers for 46 years and presently lives in Celina. Kathryn served as bookkeeper for Gibbons Hospital for many years and now lives in Celina with her sister, Frances. Anna married Julius Moeder of St. Henry. She passed away in December, 1975. One son, Leo, died in March, 1925. Marie and Edward reside in Findlay; Clarence and Helen (Mrs. Alvin Everman) live in Dayton; Walter resides in Ocean Springs, Miss. *Kathryn Winkeljohn*

Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Winkeljohn. Picture taken on the occasion of their Golden Wedding, June 1, 1971

THE HARRY J. WINKELJOHN FAMILY

Harry J. Winkeljohn was born in Granville Township west of St. Henry on February 8, 1898, the son of H. Mathias and Rosina Dabbelt Winkeljohn. His father came to Mercer County from Germany in December of 1879: his mother was born in Franklin Township near St. Sebastian, the daughter of Gerhard and Catherine Wellman Dabbelt.

The Winkeljohn family moved to Main Street in St. Henry, October, 1906. Harry was educated in the St. Henry School graduating in 1915. He attended Miami University, Oxford, Ohio for one year. From September, 1916 to June, 1919 he taught at the Home School on Route 119 west of St. Henry. He enlisted in the Officers Training Corps of the U.S. Army in September, 1918 and was discharged in December, 1918 following the Armistice at which time he returned to his teaching duties at the Home School and finished the school term.

From August, 1919 to April, 1920 he was employed by the Paige Detroit Motor Car Company. In April of 1920 he began employment in the accounting department of Mersman Brothers Brandts Corp. in Celina. During his 46 years of association with the company he served in a number of positions: credit manager, auditor, assistant sales manager, advertising manager, treasurer and member of the Board of Directors. At the time of his retirement in 1966, he was Treasurer of the Mersman Brothers Division of Congoleum-Nairn.

Mr. Winkeljohn and his family are members of the Immaculate Conception parish in Celina. Over the years he has been active in many parish activities and organizations. He is a fifty-five year member of the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion Post 210. Mr. Winkeljohn has been a member of the Board of Trustees and Secretary-Treasurer of Gibbons Hospital, Inc. since its incorporation in 1935 and is a Charter member and has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Blue Cross of Lima, Ohio from its incorporation in 1940 until the present and was a member of the Executive Committee for over 30 years.

On June 1, 1921, he married Edna Hartings, the daughter of J. Henry and Elizabeth Brinkman Hartings of St. Henry. Since February of 1924 the family has resided at 416 East Anthony Street in Celina. His wife passed away February 24, 1974 and is buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Celina.

Edna and Harry Winkeljohn were the parents of eight children. M. Donald married Vera Wimmers of St. Henry and is employed by the Celina Insurance Group and resides in Celina. Mary Ellen lives with her father in Celina. Sister Rose Ann, C.PP.S., is Librarian at Moeller High School, Cincinnati. Jane is the wife of Richard C. Widmaier of Columbus and they reside in Phoenix, Arizona where they operate three Drive-in Restaurants. Mark passed away in infancy. Dorothy is Associate Professor of Education at Wright State University, Dayton, and lives in New Carlisle. Rita, the wife of James Poindexter of New Carlisle, is Director of Nurses at Payson Hospital and resides in Payson, Arizona. Martha passed away on September 1, 1972. The family includes ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. *Mary E. Winkeljohn*

MARY JANE (POWELL) WURSTER

Mary Jane (Powell) Wurster, daughter of Benjamin F. and Luetta (Curless) Powell, was born Aug. 4, 1919 in Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. She attended Center Grade School and graduated from Washington Twp. High School, Mercer Co. in 1937.

On Oct. 3, 1940 she married Era Eugene Sweigart, born Jan. 28, 1921, son of Wm. H. Sweigart and Frances (Ersham) Sweigart, of R. R. St. Marys, Ohio. Three daughters were born, Karen Eloise, March 3,

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'42; Barbara Sue, July 9, 1944; and Kathy Ann, ay 9, 1952. Era E. Sweigart was engaged in farming s entire life in Center Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio on e Ed L. Bryson Farms, located on the Mercer-uglaize Co. Line Rd. North of St. Rt. 33. He passed vay May 18, 1964.

Karen Sweigart married Francis Lee Wurster, son Frank J. and Margaret Helen (Rice) Wurster, Ce-ıa, Ohio on March 8, 1958. Their children are Ron-d Alan, born in St. Marys, Ohio Sept. 30, 1958; ɔbert Lee, born in Celina, Ohio July 3, 1960; and even Scott, born in Celina, Ohio Feb. 6, 1967. ancis is part owner and manager of Benny & Sons ıkery and Karen is employed as Welcome Wagon ostess, Celina, Ohio. They presently reside in Ce-ıa and are members of St. Pauls United Methodist hurch, Celina, Ohio.

Barbara Sweigart married Brian Spencer Gould, ɔn of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Gould on Jan. 19, 1963. A ıughter, Lori Sue was born in Celina, Ohio on July 1966. On Oct. 17, 1970 Barbara married Larry C. lcCullough, son of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. McCullough, alton, Ohio. A daughter, Beth Ann was born in an Wert, Ohio April 27, 1973. Larry is employed at ıvan Hose Co., Bucyrus, Ohio as an Electrical Engi-ɛer. Their residence is Bucyrus, Ohio.

Kathy Sweigart married Edward A. Neal, son of lr. & Mrs. Leroy Neal, Lima, Ohio on Nov. 30, 974. She graduated from Wright State University, ayton, Ohio. Their children are, Kassi Leigh, born Van Wert, Ohio Sept. 9, 1977 and Brian Edward, ɔrn in Van Wert, Ohio Aug. 18, 1978. Edward is nployed at The Huffy Corporation, Celina, Ohio. hey presently reside on the Ben Powell farm in Vashington Twp., Mercer Co.

Mary Jane (Powell) Sweigart was employed as re-ɛptionist for Donald F. Sell, D.D.S., First National ank Bldg. from 1964 to 1976.

On Jan. 20, 1968 Mary Jane (Powell) Sweigart arried Frank John Wurster, born Aug. 15, 1918, ıe son of Roy D. Wurster and Leona Jane (Didrick) Vurster. Frank was formerly married to Margaret elen (Rice) Wurster and had 2 sons, Francis Lee, ɔrn Nov. 11, 1940 and Fredrick Paul, born Oct. 16, 942. At the present time Frank, Francis, and Fred Vurster own and operate Benny & Sons Bakery lo-ıted in the Maehlman Bldg. on South Main St. in elina, Ohio. Frank purchased the Bakery in 1942 om Maehlman Bros.

Frank and Mary Jane Wurster currently reside in elina, Ohio and are members of St. Pauls United lethodist Church Celina, Ohio. *Mary Jane Wurster*

JUDGE CHARLES S. YOUNGER

Judge Charles S. Younger was the son of B. L. and ictoria Younger. He was born on the family farm ıst northeast of Celina on what is now Route 197.

After graduating from high school he taught :hool to earn his college tuition. He attended Ada ollege and later Cincinnati Law School.

He returned to Celina to practice law. In 1905 he ıas elected Judge of the Probate Court of Mercer ounty, being the second Republican to be elected ɔ the office in Mercer County. In 1916 he was lected to a second term, serving seven years.

He served as Grand Master of I.O.O.F. in Ohio in 1914-1915.

He was appointed assistant Superintendant of Insurance in 1922 and later became President of the Farm Bureau Life Insurance in Columbus, Ohio.

He married Emma A. Andrews, the youngest daughter of C. W. Andrews, a well known farmer living on the home farm on Coldwater Creek Road, just south of Celina.

They had three sons — Raymond A., C. Russell and C. Norval Younger.

The family lived on East Market in the house which was torn down to make way for Casey's Restaurant. In the prior years to their moving to Columbus, Judge Younger purchased the large brick house known as the Senator Godfrey House — now Zender Laudahun home — where the boys grew up and attended Celina schools. *Lucille N. Younger*

JUDGE RAYMOND ANDREWS YOUNGER

Judge Raymond Andrews Younger was born in Celina on December 19, 1898, the son of Judge C. S. and Emma Andrews Younger.

He received his Arts degree from Ohio State in 1920 and his J.D. degree from the College of Law in 1922.

He returned to Celina and took up practice with his father.

Like his father he became active in politics and was always a participating member of his Republican party.

He served Mercer County as Probate Judge and Common Pleas Judge and until his retirement in 1973 had sat on the Third District Court of Appeals for twenty years.

He was known by his associates to be a champion of the cause of the less fortunate and always insisted that their rights be protected.

He was a life-long member of the Methodist Church of God in Celina.

He was a member of the Moose, Elks and Masons, but was particularly active in the Masonic Lodge and was a member of the York Cross of Honors, whose members are past heads of all the York Rite bodies.

In 1946 he became a 33° Mason and in 1947-1948 served as Grand Master of Masons in Ohio.

For many years he was President of the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Masonic Home.

As a young man, Judge Younger played trumpet with the old Celina Band and after college and his return home, still did so. He joined the 40 and 8 Band in Greenville and went with their "Second Expeditionary Returns" to Paris in 1927. This band played especially for General Pershing.

Judge Younger was married to Lucille Netts of Springfield, Ohio. They had two sons whose names Raymond A. Younger, Jr. and Robert N. Younger. *Lucille N. Younger*

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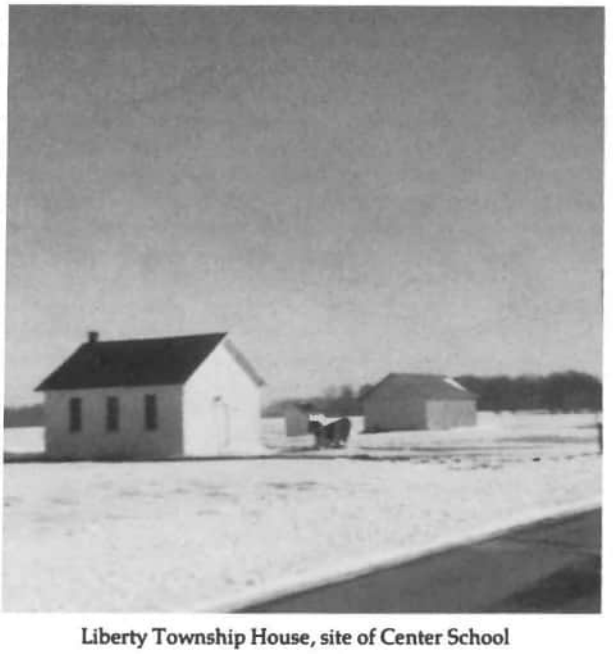
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

Liberty township hasn't changed as much as some her townships of Mercer county. It still has a lot of) to 60 acre farms, with folks raising enough live-ock to supply their own needs and enough extra to ıy taxes and grocery bills. Then there are several ecializing like Bill Long who have large chicken ying houses, also there are several feeder pig set-os. Most are still general farming with several be-g seed corn, fertilizer or spray salesmen on the de. Today there is no feed grinding facilities left nce Lugabihl's and the Chatt Elevator have quit. A w have small portable ones, otherwise they have take it to town or have the feed trucked in. There no outside place to work in the township, folks ave to drive to the New Idea factory or surrounding wns with exception of a few places yet in Chatta-ooga who hire less than a dozen persons.

Socially the township has active Farm Bureau uncils. Chattanooga Grange 2624 was organized in 933 and received their charter in 1934. They met in ıe old German Luthern congregation. They eventu-ly bought the building, remodeled it by having up and election suppers; strawberry festivals and re probably best known for their whole-hog sau-ıge and pancake suppers. Today the 4-H meetings re also held here. The grange meetings are the sec-nd and fourth Monday night of the month. The uilding is also rented out for receptions and for re-nions.

The township has about 55 mile of road sealed nd blacktopped, one and a half not yet done with ne mile still gravel. The present trustees are Presi-ent Harold Bollenbacher; Vice President Robert .able and John Linn. Their clerk is Michael aucher.



Liberty Township House, site of Center School

Chattanooga (Notice the town pump.)

CHATTANOOGA

The English and Germans settled this area well before 1840. On March 1, 1841 the first election was held for Chattanooga. There are few records of the business up until the time the oil boom hit around 1895. At that time there were around four hundred people living here. An early undertaker was John Allmandinger whose business was across the street west of the present Methodist church. Later Sim Egger had a grocery where the old fire station was and he had his funeral parlor upstairs. Other business places then was a bank where Bollenbacher grocery was located for several years, that closed in 1930. In back Hisey and Bebout had their contractors office before they moved it to Van Wert. A Livery stable; Merkel blacksmith; cream stations at various times, of Vivian Gibbons, Grace Huffman and James Duff; three grocery stores; Andrews sawmill; a Harness shop; two doctors and one veterinarian; John Andrews and later Charlie Chew had a butcher-shop; Alex (Bud) Smith had a hardware store before Fishers; Stultz and Springer had the tile mill; and a handle factory. In the early nineteen hundreds, the handle factory building was torn down, and an elevator built on the grounds by a stockholder group called "The Equity Elevator Company" of Berne, Indiana. The town also had expected to be on the railroad being built out of Bluffton, Indiana and going to Celina, Ohio (that only got as far as Geneva, Indiana). In the hotel was a postoffice corner and the telephone switchboard ran for years by Edith Leistner.

Now there's Links Grocery; still Regedantz blacksmith shop; Andrews sawmill; a combination hardware-farm center; LaBruns Produce; Bakers Roofing shop; Meyers' Plumbing; Landmark Fertilizer, and Robinson and Bollenbacher Beauty shops, with the elevator being privately owned, and with about 135 people living here. A community fire-fighting unit has recently purchased and remodeled the former Wendel garage building.

The researcher was aided by Mrs. Vivian Gibbons Becher, who was born in the hotel while her father was its owner, and by her daughter Wanda Lou Gilliland.

BURRVILLE was a cross-roads settlement located on the present Schaadt road. The last business there was the Lugabihl feed mill, who recently closed.

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Durbin house and store

DURBIN ... George Patrick Durbin was reared on a farm and educated in St. Marys township. The family moved to Center twp of Mercer county in 1867. He married Bridget McIlory on November 6, 1873 and became the parents of ten children. Mr. Durbin began manufacturing drainage tile in Franklin twp but after a few years, sold the business and bought 130 acres. In 1881 he established a general store and postoffice in Liberty township and named them after himself. Upon this farm there were two dwellings and also a blacksmith shop. It was laid out in lots along each way of the crossroad and there are still ca 17 residences. The store building is still standing on the south-west corner altho only used now for private storage.

Pierstorff store, garage

HINTON CORNERS and Pierstorff Store were the same place. Some other owners of the store were Mr. Grote; Arnold Smith; Leiningers; Ott Fahncke. Charles Pierstorff operated the grocery until 1939 when he quit and started farming. A John Laudon also ran it for several years. Now it is a private machine shop owned by William Gehm and sons. It is located on Oregon road at Erastus-Durbin road.

SCUDDER ... A Mr. Wilson (gf/o Darrell Wilson of Celina) had a store and postoffice on this corner. There was a blacksmith shop and Mr. Grant Carr sold machinery. On the cross roads of Skeels road and Wabash road, it has all been torn dow the orchard grubbed out and made into farmi ground.

SKEELS CROSSING ... On the high land t tween a curve in the Wabash river, which had to forded by travelers going in either of the four dire tions, and named for Sephas Skeels. There had be a larger building at the cross-roads used as both h tel and store, with a postal pick-up too. John Meye and wife Sophia Becker ran it too, after Mr. Skee For a long time it also had a Doctor. From 1859 1865 Methodist records of Celina Circuit, Ske Class, members of the church that sat back from t south-east corner were: Sephas Skeels and fami William, Mary, Sylvester and Emeline; A.W., S. Calista, Wealthy and Wesley Way; Gilbert, G. E.H. Basset; Rev. Amos Lee, Joshua, Samantha, We ley, Pemelia, Eliz., H.F., and Margaret Lee; Peter ar Cloah Bockover; Zenas and Emeline Nicholdso Wesley and Mahalia Long; James E. Ross; Ephrai Chapman; Mrs. Davis; Elizabeth Fale; Jol McCombs; E. Robison; Adam Dickes; Jacob Thorp Rev. F. S. Fagan; William Patton. There is a sma cemetery there yet.

LIBERTY CHAPEL CHURCH

This has always been a Friends (Quaker) congr gation. The first building was of logs with ju benches inside made of hewed slab boards. Milto Mills, who lived just west of the church was a De con for a great number of years. This church wa torn down to make room for a larger one. Then or night while Rev. Sidney Swanders was leading meeting, the building was struck by lightning. Th people all rushed out to safety, but not a thing c their records was saved. Another church was soo built, a little west of the first building. This church i temporarily closed for repairs, due to the snows c this spring.

Adjoining the church on the east is their buria grounds, which are still in use. The earliest buria was Inf. Mizner on 10 April, 1859. There were number buried in 1867 to '69. Other names there ar Baucher, Burke, Hinton, Davis, Kendell, Steen, Ma Mills, Lourentz, McCristy, Howell, Harmon, Lad Van Diver, Wright and Witter.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

#1 (Lincoln) Hinton School (34) sat one mile nortl of Hinton corners on Erastus-Durbin road a end of Schaadt road. Has long been torn down

#2 Deitsch School (23) In the 1930's had a littl teacher who had two of the big boys hold th culprit while she spanked him! It was built i the north-west corner of Schaadt road, on Wa bash. Has been torn down.

#3 Chatt School (8) built on s.e. corner of Schaad rd. at 49. During the oil boom there were s many pupils it was necessary to build anothe building. There were four grades in each north one just a little smaller, with the pump in between. Clark Sipe was the last teacher be

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Carmel School

Landfair School

fore pupils were bused to Willshire and both buildings moved away.

4 Weisenborn School (7) building gone, Cully development there.

5 Center School (21) The last school there burned and the pupils were sent to Weisenborn. The small building that is there today was built as a township-house.

6 Landfair School (33) brick building now being used as a machine-shed.

7 Carmel School (32) on Erastus-Durbin at Carmel Church road. Still used as a tool-shed. Carl Schroeder had last classes there in 1939, a year longer than rest of township, due to the large size of the district going in to Celina.

8 Scudder School (20) sat ca ½ mile south of the corner of same name, on Wabash road at end of Carmel Church road. Nothing there.

9 Skeels (6) was south of Skeels Corner, on the west side of 49, at end of Carmel Church road. Had been moved away and made into a house.

10 Joint School (42) as the name implys, it was owned by Liberty and Hopewell townships. It was closed with rest of schools, children to Celina. Now being used to store Bee equipment by Smiths.

hattanooga Lutheran School (9) was a small building that sat just off 49 on the S.E. corner of Tama road. It was used only as a summer school to teach the Bible. In ca 1945 Dick Fennig bought it, tore it down completely and moved it to Decatur where he used it in building a house.

12) — (11) a small building on west side of Wabash road in section 9, used by the members of Deitsch or St. Paul Lutheran Church for the teaching of the Bible.

Joint School and Liberty Township

FARMERS PICNIC

The first Farmers Institute was held in the upstairs of Almandinger's Funeral parlor with three sessions a day, and for two or three days. With the help of their subscriptions and donations, the public had helped in the building of the M.P. church in 1910 and so for a few years the institute was held there, until they went to the parish-hall of the old Lutheran congregation.

In 1935 the 24th institute was held Wednesday February 13 at the St. Paul's parish-hall. It was opened by singing an invocation by Rev. Yahl; Ciphering by schools conducted by Co. Supt. D. B. Spangler. The winners were: grade 5, Gordon Linn of Scudder school; grade 6, Mildred Thomas, Edna Black of Landfair; grade 7, Deloris and Luther Bollenbacher, Hinton; grade 8, Wanda Bader, Floyd Brehm, Weisenborn. A talk by Mrs. Bradford; A talk by Mr. Senour. Afternoon session at 1:30. Invocation and singing led by Rev. Yahl; Playlet "O! Teacher" given by the Grove school; talk by Mr. Senour; Talk by Mrs. Bradford "an oral trip to Jamacia"; Song by Bill Hoverman; Guitar solo, Harold Pierstorff; Landfair school play "The Hoosier School". Evening, 7:30, to a full house. Invocation, Rev. Yahl; Zion Lutheran quartet; talk, Mrs. Bradford; play "A mended Day" by Weisenborn school; Address, Mr. Senour; closed by Quartet.

Thurs. A.M., 9:30. Community singing; invocation Rev. Clark; talk "Key to profitable livestock" Mr. Senour; Old Fiddlers Contest, Adam Kuhn 1st, Williams' Bros' of Rockford 2nd; talk "Adjusting ourselves" Mrs. Bradford; Talk by our county agent Mr. Dunn, on "Production Control". Thurs. P.M. 1:30, after invocation and singing, Adam Kuhn played his fiddle; talk by Mrs. Bradford; Financial report by Fred Miller; Election of Officers resulted in Alonzo Bollenbacher, president, Henry Bollenbacher Vice President; Fred Miller Treasurer, Lillian Weinman Secretary, Marcella Maurer Hostess, Executive Committee: Theodore Weinman, Homer Carr, Carl Schroeder; Arrangement Committee: Dwight Raudenbush, Robert Stephenson, Arlie Koch; Report of resolutions committee: Mrs. Alex Smith, Henry S. Bollenbacher, Leroy Pifer.

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February 17, 1936 the 25th year of the Chattanooga institute opened. The resolutions committee was R. J. Witter, Carl Yahl, Jacob Gehm. School ciphering contest with Mr. Spangler in charge. Winning in grade 3, Deitsch school, Georgia and Virginia Alt; grade 4, Landfair, Mildred Thomas and Melvin Klopfleisch; grade 7, Deitsch, Genevieve Leininger, Vera McGough; grade 8, Landfair, Norma Gehm, Lela Bauer. Speakers were Henry Leimbach and Mrs. Mary Cartwright. A playlet by Scudder school, teacher Elmer Weitz; Harmonicia duet, Robert and Mary Lou Marbaugh; Zion Lutheran quartet; Chatt school playlet, Clark Sipe, teacher; Carmel school playlet, Hilda Koch, teacher; Poster contest winners: from 4th grade, first Dorothy Carr, second Glenna Smith; grade 5, Twila Pifer, Dorothy Jean Leininger; 6, Robert Wendel, Marcella Fahncke; 7, Genevieve Leininger, Joan Smith; 8, Maxine Pifer, Dorl Springer. In the judging part of the institute, cake winners were, first Hulda Miller, second Mrs. Henry Bollenbacher for Angel Food; Devils Food was Berneice Bollenbacher, Mrs. Jacob Gehm; and Lamb, Mrs. Theo. Leininger; Potatoes, Early, first Eugene Leininger, second Arlie Koch; Late first and second was Kenneth Fahncke; Corn, first Roy Pifer, second Theo. Leininger. Officers elected President Lester Miller, Vice, Jacob Gehm; Treas. Arlie Koch; Sec. Arline Baker; Hostess, Dot Smith. Executive Comm.: Argyle Branstetter, Fred Becher, Carl Schroeder. Arrangement Comm.: Pat Heffner, Ott Fahncke and Heber Martz.

In 1938 Oats — wheat — soybeans were added to the contest of Yellow corn, door prizes were given each session, with a play to close the last night. In 1939 there was still participation of Chattanooga, Scudder, Deitsch, Landfair and Carmel schools with Mrs. Woodrow Purdy, the county music teacher. But the next year the poster contest was dropped. The grange was to give the play on the last night. The Hay seeds were added for men and quilts and canned goods for the ladies. There was no institute held in 1943 or 44 because of the war, and in 1945 there was only a 3 session institute and instead of the usual play the last night, they had a movie "East side of Heaven" with Bing Crosby. The main speaker in 1946 was Jay Gould of WOWO.

In 1954 the name was changed from "Farmers Institute" to "Community Institute" to include all people of a community, since there were less farmers. This year also marked the 75th year of the Ohio Institutes held in connection with the director of extension service and the Ohio State University, and working through the local county agent. A. W. (Chick) Marion served several years on their list of speakers, during the time he was Mercer county agent. Also this year Neptune made the report for Mercer county as having over 3 sessions with an average attendance over 300, and the county as a whole made both the 12 highest total attendance and 12 high total adult attendance, out of the 265 held in Ohio. Mercer county was made up of Center (Neptune), Chattanooga, Mendon Union and Wabash.

In 1957 a vote was taken to drop the institute, but the motion did not pass. Then at the 49th, after the final session, and due to falling attendance, a vote taken by secret ballot did pass and they voted to disband the institute sessions, but continue with the picnic.

In Feb. 1914 officers of the institute voted to g the people of the community a picnic day of gc clean fun and entertainment and to provide the b in speaking talent and plans for the first Farm Picnic were begun with meetings held about 6 we apart until in August the picnic was held in woods of Theo. (Dee) Leininger, on Tama rc about ¾ mile east of Chattanooga, across from Larry Stephenson home. Mr. Leininger being one its organizers.

In about 1919 the picnic was moved east to Wm. Schaadt woods where it has been held e since, altho the woods now belongs to a second ge eration of the Alt family.

July 22, 1935, president Alonzo Bollenbacher h a meeting at Carl Schroeder's barber shop. They the date of picnic for Aug. 5. Dwight Roudebush ported Dusty Miller and a lawyer of Decatur w speak.

Amounts used at the 1936 picnic were 1000 bu 90 lb weiners; 50 lb peanuts; 30 melons (insuf cient); 6½ boxes candy bars; 338 boxes crackerja 96 cases pop; 61 gal. ice cream and 1400 lb ice.

August 8, 1946 was the first picnic after the w Roy Battles of W.L.W. speaker. They had pony rac instead of a colt show, a Bingo stand, pig raffle a airplane rides. In races, winners were, first Dick F ley, second Bill Rutledge for ponies under 48 inch Under 54 was Sue Cross first, Jim Pontius seco and Bill Rutledge third. In the horse pull, lt. wt. B Bader first, Morris Wright second; Henry Ge third; Heavy wt., Rufus Stover first, Bab Bader se ond and Ed Bader third. Refreshments used were cases pop, 1200 weiners, 1200 long, 144 round bur 56 gal. icecream and 65 doz. fudgecycles.

1956 the crowd was estimated at 2,000 when Pa Hinkle and Tennyson Guyer were the speake Other speakers had been Barton Rees Pogue; Josep Fichter, Ohio State Grange Master; Rev. Russ Hoy, State Grange Chaplin; Martin Feigert, Sta Representative; In 1961 former county agent Dc Zehr and WOW's Bob Seivers were main speake with Clarence Vining praised for attending 46 of th 47 picnics held and he spoke on its beginning ar early financial problems.

At the 50th picnic in 1964 the horses had left ar a tractor pull held instead. Class A, first Tom St phenson, second Larry Caffee, third Bob Humbe class B, first Larry Caffee, second Paul Hayes, thir Charles Stephenson. Pony cart races and 19 diffe ent childrens contests were held, with Magic Dave Brizius, Harold Anderson from Maumee a speaker. That year Eugene Leininger was presiden Don Baker, V.P.; Bab Bader Treas. and Bea Pife Sec., all third generation descendents of originators

Ann Cologne, Bob Seivers; Harold (Slim Acre Pickett; Gospel Crusaders of Linn Grove, Go Henry Schriver are a few more of their speakers. I 1970 the ponies were left out and a garden tracto pull added. The hardworking refreshment cre were aided by the Maria Stein retreat group an their chicken.

1978 marked the 64th picnic and they had Ja Gould of WOWO, and chicken from Pandora bac again. Officers working were Bob Linn, pres.; Vila Deitsch V.P.; Sec. Cindy Hileman and Treas. Twyl Gehm.

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CHATTANOOGA HOTEL

The three buildings that housed the hotel, etc., ere owned by a Nick Jennings of Berne, Indiana. ill Betzel had the hotel before Perry Gibbons ought it of Jennings. Mr. Gibbons had it in early inteen hundred and at time it had an iron railing round its porch roof and two outside stairways. he smallest building to the north held various ops, from Date Rinehart to Carl Schroeder's barershop, Vivian Gibbons Cream station to Hattie nd Pattie Armstrong's hat shop. The pool room in ie middle has been managed by Carl Schroeder for whole month, Dobby Gibbons, Aschelman's of reenville, Harry Cummins to Fred V. Bollenbacher. bout 1912 Albert and Hulda Baker Garman had ie restaurant. Then it went to Rude Heffner; Mr. & Irs. George Rothaar, Vi and Herb Kuhn, until Fred . combined the two and ran it for several years, elling to Hank Steele.

When Ray Hemmelgarn bought it from Steele he id a lot of remodeling. He changed the outside tairway that had been on the south side of the hoel, and moved the bar from the south side where it ad a long mirror, the present day one being very mall in comparison, to the north side of the room. ore down the north building and made the poolom into a kitchen and living quarters. When he old it to Herb and Donna Leirkamp of Berne, they id more remodeling, making some of the 16 rooms nto apartments where they lived before selling it to ene Alt. It was Mr. Alt who gave it the present ame of Chatt Bar.

In 1976 it was sold to Dennis Kuhn and Russell Barney) Lehman, with Mr. Kuhn's share being ought in late 1978 by Dean Strawn.

From the cooking of heavy meat and potato meals f former years, to the making of a deluxe pizza to o, they have always had a good cook.

CHATTANOOGA LANDMARK OFFICE

During the Depression, George Becher built a cement block filling station. Otis Becher operated it. James Duff purchased it and operated a cream station, grocery, and filling station. Later Charles Myers and his wife operated a filling station and grocery. After that free movies were shown on the lot. Mr. Clase used it for a hay hauling office.

In the 1940's St. Marys Packing Co. bought it for a tomato weighing station. The original cement building was torn down, a scale put in and an office built. In 1946 the Company took in a record number of tomatoes. At the back of the lot they built living quarters for migrant workers. In 1956 a migrant worker was shot and killed in this building. This building is now a fertilizer warehouse.

Mr. Dudgeon purchased the property, and it became the Bounty Plant Food Plant. Landmark purchased it from him, and now operate a fertilizer plant on the premises. About 1975 Landmark purchased part of the old Tile Pond lot on Strable Road. It was formerly owned by Nass Canning Company and used as a migrant worker camp. Landmark made it into a liquid fertilizer plant.

On August 15, 1978 a Semi-Truck hit the office, damaging it extensively. Four weeks later it caught fire and burned. The remainder of the building was torn down, except for a small portion to house the scale.

Landmark recently purchased the brick house, just south of the former office, from Edna Clase, and made it into an office. The bricks for this house were hand made by men in this area.

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DURBIN BEAN BAKE

To a first time visitor, the Bean Bake is a combination of an old fashioned picnic and a Fourth-of-July Celebration. And this is appropriate for a celebration that began in 1898 to honor the Civil War veterans.

The story goes that Andrew Jackson Snavely, a veteran of four years in the Civil War, decided to have a reunion of "the boys". As he was camp cook during the war, he decided the menu for the day should consist of "beans, hardtack, and sowbelly". The first meeting was held at Celina, but it was a failure. He was encouraged by his friend, George Durbin, owner of the Durbin Store, to try again. This time they had it in a grove by the store and had a "Soldier's band". And so the first Bean Bake was held in 1898 on Labor Day.

Some of the first to help with the "Bean Supper" were Jackie Snavely, George Durbin, Nick Humbert, Ves and John Rhodes, Joseph and Albert Kanoor and Mr. Davis.

According to Records, it was first called "The Durbin Soldier's Bean Supper Association" and the first Constitution was written in 1906. The Constitution called for the following officers: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and three on the executive board. Term of office to be one year and to be elected on the first Monday of August each year. The by-laws provided for the election of a chief of police. "No person shall be allowed to carry away spoons or pans for the purpose of keeping; All solicitors must report the amount of their solicitations to the Secretary who will place them in the hands of the treasurer — The by-laws may be amended at any meeting by ⅔ of the officers".

The officers elected were John Rhodes, president, A. E. Kanoor, vice president, J. F. Smith, secretary, and Executive Committee, John Willson, Roy Jenkins, and Walter Redman. H. B. Bilter, J. D. Davis and Amos Hines were appointed to fill all vacancies that might occur.

In 1913, the following appears in the minutes: "The following resolutions were adopted: Whereas, God in his Providence has spared amoung us a few of the valiant veterans of the 60's and whereas, true patriotism in part consists of honor, and recognition of the patriotism, therefore Be it Resolved that we the People of the community keep alive the interest in these public bean suppers, that we hold one annually as long as any Veterans live amoung us."

In 1907, the first year any record of expenses can be found 61 lbs. of meat @ $.15 a lb., 4 bushels of beans @ $7.33 and 5 bushel of crackers @ $15.54 were bought. In 1978, 400 lbs. of beans @ $.35 per lb., 120 lbs. of bacon and 46 lbs. of crackers were purchased.

The records for the years 1916-1948 are missing. In, approximately, 1921-1922 the American Legion Post took charge of the Bean Bake. Then, again approximately, 1923 until 1948, the Mount Carmel Church had charge. Then the Durbin Community Club was organized.

The Bean Bake was held in the John Rhodes, later Sam Rhodes, woods until 1957, when 5 acres of land was bought from Mrs. Florence Laffin. This grove is just south of Mud Pike and north of State Route 29 on the east side of Erastus-Durbin Road. Then the

Durbin Bean Bake, Ivan Davis, Ed Hone, Ed Glass, C. Buckloh

sponsors called themselves "Durbin Bean Bak Community Club". In 1970, it was estimated tha 2000 people attended the Durbin Bean Bake.

The day starts at 10:00 A.M. with 40-50 contes for children and adults. In the afternoon there horseshoe pitching. At 1:30 P.M. there is a flag rai ing ceremony followed by a program consisting c music, speakers, magicians, etc. At 4:15, a memori service is held at the monument for "Veterans of A Wars". Then at 5:15 the free beans are served, don tions are accepted.

Prior to Labor Day, the ladies of the club coc chickens, make noodles and bake pies to be serve in the lunch stand. On Friday before the event, th members gather at the grounds, with a carry-in din ner, to clean the grounds and the "Cook Shack", th beans having been cleaned previously. Then on th day after Labor Day comes clean-up day and a lunc of leftovers.

Two of the oldest members are Rueben Stoll, wh is still official "fireman", and Ray Dock, "bea stirrer". Officers for 1978 were Phil Fenning, pres dent, Don Stacher, vice president, Rita Suhr, Secr tary, Alice Preston, Treasurer, Trustees Ray Doc Mike Baucher, and Phil Fennig.

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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The early history of our St. Paul's Evangelical Lu-eran Church is unique in regard to Lutheranism d Protestantism in Mercer County. It was the first otestant congregation to be organized in this terri-ry and the first Lutheran Congregation in Mercer unty.

Our church had its earliest beginning in 1841, nen Rev. Frederick Knape, a Lutheran missionary circuit rider, came to this area. He conducted bi-onthly services to the many German families with itheran background, who had migrated to Mercer unty and settled in Liberty Township. Services ere conducted in various homes in the community.

In 1849, it was decided to erect a church building. ne church, a log structure, was built in the south rt of what is now our church cemetery. Expenses ere $30.88. Material, teams of horses and labor ere furnished by members of the church. The urch was dedicated to the service of the Triune od by Rev. Gackenheimer on November 30, 1851. his church also served as the school. Although ere were no grades, pupils attended the school, nducted by the pastor, throughout the entire year until they were of age to help their parents with e farming — and were excused for the summer onths only. The school, as was the church, was ught in the German language.

The old log church no longer being adequate for e increased membership, the second church was uilt and dedicated in 1870 during the pastorate of ev. George Heintz. This church was built on about e same site as the first church. Members of the urch furnished much of the labor and material as ey did in the first building. This church was much rger; the furnishings, as in the first church, were ll plain. The church continued to be used as the hool during the week and classes were still taught the pastor in German. There were no desks, but ort ledges which extended from the back of the ws were used by pupils for their books. During e history of this second church a parsonage was uilt just north of the present church. This was oved from church property during the pastorate of ev. Albrecht.

In 1902, the congregation decided to build the ird church in which we now worship. On June 4, 04, this building was dedicated by Rev. Althoff. his church is of a frame structure with an architec-ral design that sometimes today is referred to as e Christmas Card church of the twentieth century. e no longer have the plain furnishings, as the hite and gold furnishings in the sanctuary of our urch are most beautiful. At one time this church d a pipe organ which was operated by man power d the lights, before electrical power, were lit by rbon fuel. During the pastorate of Rev. Heuer, the autiful art glass windows were installed as memo-rials to various members. Also many other improve-ments have been made to make our church more modern in keeping with the changes of time. Since the erection of this building most of the church or-ganizations have become a part of the church. Vol-ley ball has become an active part of the social life among the young people of the church. We have at various times, as at present, shared pastors with Zion Lutheran Church of Chattanooga or St. John's of Hopewell Township.

Church records today (9-19-78) show the young-est member as Aaron Schumm, born April 25, 1978; the oldest member Mrs. Emma Fahncke Brehm at the age of 86 years; the last member married as Ellen Bader Everett, married March 26, 1977. The latest member to depart this life was Dewan Sealscott who died May 24, 1978. The last confirmation class, 1976, was Lori Bader, Charles Fahncke and Kent Klop-fleisch. Our pastor today is Rev. Gary Anderson who was installed in April, 1978.

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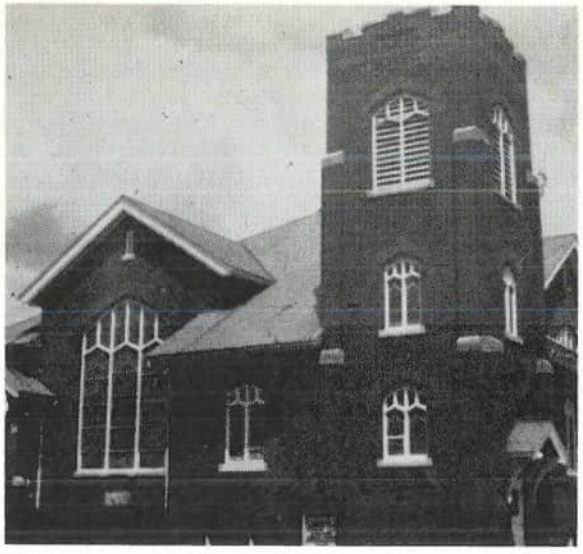


Zion Evangelical Church, built 1916

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

The history of Zion Congregation dates back to the early eighteen fifties when a Rev. J. D. Gocheneimer conducted services. We were what now would be called a mission church, since Rev. Gochenheimer was St. Paul's, of Liberty Twp., fifth minister from 1850-1861. The first minister to be installed as a pastor was Rev. George Heintz who began his work in 1860. Thirteen more pastors served our congregation, some of later pastors were Rev. J. A. Albrecht, Carl Yahl, Walter Priebe, Herbert Wolber, Waldo Byers, Arnold Green, Ralph Hershberger and the present pastor Rev. Gary Anderson.

Zion and St. Paul were served by the same pastor from 1883-1914. From 1914 to 1931 the two congregations were again one parish, and from 1931 until 1978 we were separate, then once again in 1978 the two churches have become one parish, being served by Rev. Gary Anderson.

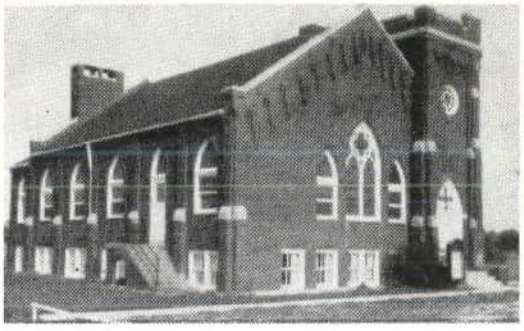
The first English services were held in 1912. At one time, on the two acre lot where the parsonage stands there also was a school house, a small lot for pasture where the milk cow was kept in the summer time and a small building which the cow shared with a few chickens in bad or cold weather. I remember a small patch of corn, for cow and chicken feed, and also a large garden.

Zion has two active A.L.C.W. circles, also a Luther League, and a Jr. Lutheran group which meet once a month with Mrs. Anderson as their leader.

The frame school that was on this lot was sold in 1948 to a member of the church, and was moved to Decatur, Indiana and was used for their home, and it still is used for a home at the corner of Studebaker and Line St.

Zion has shown her interest in the youth of the community by making a ball field for the youth to play. The church team also has a volleyball court. A few years ago the church put an outside drinking fountain in front of the church where there is a lot of action when the weather is warm and either ball practice or a ball game.

We too feel that we have been blessed.



Mt. Carmel Church of God, Erastus Durbin & Carmel Church Road

MT. CARMEL CHURCH OF GOD

Beginning on September 20, 1893, a series o meetings were held. On December 11, 1893, a clas of 15 charter members organized the Mt. Zion Clas of the Church of God. Holding their meetings in th Mt. Zion Union Church (Durbin, Ohio). In Decem ber 1894, after 6 weeks revival, with 55 new mem bers, they decided to build a new church, Decembe 26, 1894. Rev. S. Rotherock was chosen chairman o the committee, consisting of John White, Marl McDonald, Abraham Wuiger, that bought from B H. Bilter ½ acre ground for $50. It was located ½ mile north of Durbin, at the corner of Erastus Durbin Road and Carmel Church Road. Carpentry was done by D.S. and F.C. Dock for $109.00. Cost o seats and the pulpit was $202.00. Stoves and Miscel laneous were $14.80 and the bell was $43.00.

The building completed, the class of 1895 name it the Mt. Carmel Church of God. Dedication wa held on September 15, 1895 and the sermon was b Rev. William Yates, Findlay College.

The first elders of the church were G. A. Hine and Christ Burk. Deacons were L. D. Kerr and San Huffman; Trustees were J. E. Toland, John Hines, & Mrs. W. H. Roettger. W. H. Roettger was secretary W. H. Roettger was the first delegate to the Ohi Eldership at Ohio City in 1909. First Deaconesses i 1909 were Rachael McDonald and Mrs. W. H. Roett ger.

In 1919, the original church burned. Only the pul pit, piano, and a few seats were saved, these bein used in the basement of the new church at presen Rev. E. H. Chaney was pastor. At that time, a taber nacle was built with a sawdust floor. A good revival was held. It was decided to build a new church o the grounds where the old church had stood.

In 1921, the cornerstone was laid for the ne church. In March 1923, the building was complete and dedicated. The sermon was by Rev. W. H Guyer, president of Findley College. The cost wa $26,000. Money was raised by personal contrib utions and meals were served at Mercer Co. Fair an Durbin Bean Bake.

The officers of the Mt. Carmel Church of Goc 1979, are: Elders: Russell Laffin and Franklin Stoner Jr.; Deacons: Richard Highley and Barry Fennig Deaconess: Dorthey Muter and Jane Stachler; Secre tary: Ruth Feister; Treas. Eddith Laffin; Trustees Larry Fennig, Franklin Stoner Jr., and Pat Highley Pastor: Rev. Paul Tewell. *by Russell Laffin*

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ıttanooga Emanuel
thodist Church, 1910

CHATTANOOGA EMANUEL METHODIST CHURCH

n the year 1908 a few people feeling the need of Evangelical church nearer home as well as one eded in the community in and around Chattaoga, decided to start a sunday school and church re. Among the founders were the family of Bruce d Ella Hisey Bebout; James M. and Emma Houser ff, children Ross, Jacob, Ray, Finley, Ollie, Mable ndfair) and Bessie; Wm. and Jennie Vinings hn, Meda (Duff), Howard, Valda (Stephenson), a (Beerbower), Elnora, Treva, Rhea, Glendola, For-, Margaret (Grubb); Adam and Hettie Grove hn, Wilbur, Berniece (Brunner), Ralph, Herbert, wey, Roscoe; Eldridge and Stella Houser Butcher, ota (Bebout), Clell, Jessie (Wendel), Paul, Ruth ef), Walter and Gale.

The Rev. E. R. Roop was the acting pastor. He was regular pastor of the Mt. Carmel church at this ıe but consented to preach in the afternoon at attanooga for a while. A hall known as the Alndinger Funeral Home was rented for a short ıe and an organizational meeting was called for ıday afternoon at two o'clock, this was in the ing of 1908. Some of the officers that were cho- to carry on the work were Bruce Bebout, S.S. ot.; Mabel Duff Secretary and organist Ray Duff. ere were 38 people present. Father and Mother ff were very much interested and played a large t in organizing and maintaining the church.

Because of conflicting circumstances the church l to be moved, so they rented a hall farther south t was used as a dance hall on Saturday night, but s cleaned up and used for sunday school and ırch on Sunday afternoon. This building was later ıodeled and became the present Wendel Garage. revival meeting was held in this hall and many ıls were saved, among them was Meda Kuhn, w Mrs. Ross Duff of Buckley, Michigan.

The congregation gradually grew and the membership began to feel the need of more room, so y began to talk of building a new church. Donaıs were given and the present church was started l completed in 1910. Its front Doors were on the st end, and inside, the first pulpit was along the ıainder of that West wall.

Because of differences between the Evangelical church and the trustees of the church, they finally decided to leave the Evangelical organization and became the Chattanooga Methodist church.

Sam Reisen had a Barber shop about where Ivan Johnson's house is, and he directed the choir at Church. They had a nice choir of young people and they would often fill the front of the church.

The first improvement done to the building was an addition to the north side making room for a classroom, and a pulpit and choir section. This also made it necessary to change the seats from north and south, to three sections east and west. At this same time the building was shingled and more basement dug out by Hisey and Bebout, contractors, who had their first office in Chattanooga.

In 1921 a cyclone destroyed the Duckcreek Methodist church almost three mile north of Chattanooga, and several families then came into Emanuel church. A few of them being Charles and Nellie McGough Branstetter and children Argyle, Thelma (Tester), Hazel (Granger), Richard, Creva (Bollenbacher), Wilma (Caede), Irma (Miller), Freda, Deloris (Caffee), Garna (Bollenbacher), Charles, Jr., Lester and Chester, and Betty (Haviland); Charles and Norah Branstetter White, Elmer, Homer, Martha (Bollenbacher), Hershel, Harold, Floyd and James; Emanuel Stetler, wife Alta and children Harold, LaVern, Kermit, Basil, Neva (Clouse) and Floris; Paul and Hulda Andres Baumgartner; Jacob W. and Rosa Buckey Duff, Mrs. Virgil Carter, James, Robert, Gene, Paul and Howell Duff; Vivian Gibbons (Carr); Ivan and Hazel Gibbons Johnson; Robert and Alma Bollenbacher Stephenson, Richard, Charles, Marlin, Virginia (Clegg), Larry and Jerry.

As an acitvity for the M.Y.F. of the church, which is the youth of seventh grade through highschool, in about 1953 the first volley-ball court was built. It was sponsored by the W.S.C.S. the organization of the ladies combining their Laides-Aid and Missionary society that has long been the back-bone of the church.

In 1956 Rev. Clarence Wallick took out subscriptions to change and put in an oil furnace.

Up until the early 1960's the music had only been a piano, but then due to the generosity of a philanthropist, they were given a 'Thomas' organ.

In 1965 the members did a small remodeling job inside the building, when they lowered the ceiling and paneled all the sanctuary. Then in 1973 they did a major job when they put down a well, and built rest-rooms and a new stairway on the back of the building.

Second addition to
Chattanooga
Methodist Church

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More of the older members were John E. Pifer and family, Kenneth, Lloyd, Elma and Winifred; Geo. and Lydia Baker Rothaar, Ralph, Wm., Clifford, Esther; Wm. G. Bollenbacher and family, Lula (Farlow), Harold, Gladys (Stuber), Alvin; Mrs. Mildred McDougal and daughters Anna and Catharine; Vern and Anna Dull; Clarence and Effie Vining; Floyd and Hazel Vining; Abe Bebout family, Doyle Wayne, Ernest, Glen, Roger, Harold, Maude and Clarice; Wm. Detro family, Edna (Kuhn), Faye (Wick), Walter; Mrs. Mable Kaylor, Lester, Raymond; Lorena, Raymond, Walter and Florence Wick; Ella Gibbons Regedanz; Stanley Landfair; Orville and Mary Arnold, Vivian; Wm., Amber Michaels Oakley, Fern, Eileen and Dale; Raymond, Ruth Ray Brorein, Harold, Roger; Omer, Lydia Hinton, Alice; Leo, Dortha Slusser, Kaye; Stanley and Marie Kettenring Samples, Dick; Basil, Lela Snyder Felver, Allen, Laurabel, Jack; Victor and Betty Esterline Andrews, Jr. and Roger.

Later members were John and Icy Gehm; Melville and Louise Gehm, Linda, Rhonda and Carol; Bea Huston; Lucille Gause, Phyllis and Lester; Lloyd and Florence Gause, David, Vickie and Marjie.

In 1975 this group made another great change in the church interior when they laid carpet in all the sanctuary and put in all new pews, this time going back to a center aisle, and with the new pulpit furniture added in 1976, and storm windows in 1977, it is a church they can be justly proud of. The addition this past summer of a re-built, larger Volley-ball court makes it a busier place yet.

FREDERICK ANDRES

Frederick Andres came to America ca 1835 at the age of 14 years. He was born 2-28-1821 near Zweibuschen, Bavaria near the French Border, the son of Frederick and Margretha Andres. He had become an orphan so came with friends to near Louisville, Kentucky. There he was baptized into the Lutheran church and on March 16, 1850 he was married to Aberdina Wilhelmina Muth. She was born near Wittemburg, Prussia 1-19-1835 the daughter of John Christian and Fredericka Stullbaum Muth. They came to Mercer county, in Liberty twp. near Burrville where Mr. Andres died March 8, 1891 and she Dec. 11, 1906, both are buried in St. Pauls Lutheran cemetery in Liberty twp. They became the parents of twelve children: 1. Wm. Andres b. 1853, m Fredrica Herman; 2. Amelia b 1885 m Fred Lempke; 3. Albertina W. b 1857 m George Grapner; 4. Frederick b 1859 m Polly Bacher; 5. John b 1861 m Sophia Alt; 6. Henry A. 1863-1864; 7. Elizabeth M. b 1865 m Daniel Bauer; 8. Susanna b 1867 m Joseph Jackson; 9. Anna G. b 1869 m Wm Koch; 10. Paulina W. b 1871 m Anton Koch; 11. Margaretha L. b 1874 m Wm. Mauer; 12. Victoria W. b 1876 m Phillip Steen.

#5 of the above family, John Andres was born in Liberty twp Oct. 4, 1861 and died at Chattanooga Feb. 9, 1940 with burial in St. Pauls cemetery. In 1883 he was married to Sophia Louisa Alt who was born in April of 1867 in Liberty twp to Frederick and Ursula Koch Alt. She died at Chattanooga in 1952 and is buried beside her husband. Their children were eight in number: Phoebe A. b 1884 m Lewis Brough; Wm Frederick m Minna Baumgartner; Christian d inf; W. L. (Minnie) d inf; Hulda V. 1896 m Paul Baumgartner; Mary Pauline m Cha Pickering; Carl Edward 1903-1973 m Viola Hone an Victor Earl m Betty Esterline.

William F. Andres born 1-19-1889 in Liberty twp married in 1915 to Minna Alma Baumgartner. Fro the time of his marriage until 1953 Mr. Andre worked a the sawmill in Chattanooga. At this tim he sold his share and moved to Indiana where h had bought a farm in 1940. He died at Bluffton clin 11-15-1972 and is buried in M.R.E. cemetery west Berne, Indiana.

Minna Baumgartner was born June 28, 1897 i Adams county Indiana to Jacob W. and Rosa Baum gartner. Mrs. Andress has had several high points i her life, each of about equal interest and impo tance. She attended the country school near Chatt nooga at the time that school burned. She told m that during a class, plastering began to fall so th teacher went outside to check, saw nothing, so cam back in and resumed class. More plaster fell, so h went out again, checking the other side of the buil ing and found the roof afire. Sammy Baumgartn pulled the bell-rope until it burned in two. Then u til a new school house was built, the school was he in the north end of Chattanooga in the same buil ing that John Allmindinger had his Undertake business. One of the first piano teachers to hold recital in Chattanooga was Meda (Kuhn) Duff whe Minna was one of her pupils. This was held in th then new U.M. church. Another was in May of 19 when Mrs. Andress with daughters Grace and Ve and Vera's daughter Annette, flew to Paris and fro there went by car, spending 4 weeks touring th home land of their ancestors, and visiting membe of the family still yet there, staying in Moutier a taking pictures they now have made up into lovely, factual, picture story of their trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Andress became the parents of children: 1. Perle E. m1 John Young, m2 Gord McMillan; 2. Ruth O. m Frances Studebaker; Grace O. m Glen McBride; 4. Robert P. m Carol Biberstine; 5. Floyd J. b 1922, d 1944 in WWII; Vera M. m Alphonse Dusseau; 7. Donna R. m Clet Gifford. Mrs. Andress is presently kept very bu with her house and flowers and with genealogy. Sh and dau. Grace have researched and authenticat several families, mainly Baumgartner and Andre One of their remarkable facts is the way Andres w Angeliced in America and has eventually becon Andrews. *Mrs. Minna Andress, Linn Grove, Ind.*

VICTOR EARL ANDREW

Victor Earl Andrews was born September 29, 19 in Mercer county, Ohio the son of John and Soph Alt Andres. In 1928 he married Alice Beatrice Est line. She was born April 22, 1908 the daughter James and Mary Sutterby Esterline. Mr. Andre spent his entire life in Chattanooga. For a number years he worked in the saw-mill located next door his home, later he worked in the small garage-filli station that was a short distance north of his hom In ca 1951 he began working as a mechanic for h brother Carl, in a much larger garage that he h just built at the north edge of Rockford, Ohio. April of 1977 while driving his car to Berne, he su

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ed a heart attack causing his death then and that his wife July 14, 1977. They are both buried in ercer Memorial Gardens near Celina, Ohio.

Victor, Jr., born 11-3-1928, married August 8, 1950 Martha Klinger the daughter of Michael G. (1901-73) and Florence M. Osborn (1906-1974) Klinger, rn July 5, 1932 in VanWert county, Ohio. Jr. orked at the sawmill until the death of his uncle irl and is presently employed at the Sharp Canng company in Rockford. From her marriage until e closing of the Andrews Garage, Martha worked secretary there. She is presently working partne at the Canning company. They have two ughters: Carol b 1952, married Robert Berry and is two sons, Robert Dean and Bruce Michael Berry; id Alice b 1957 m Bruce Dalton and has a son Scott seph.

Roger Paul (Bud) Andrews was born June 1, 1940, arried in 1959 to Janet Zizelman who was born 12-1-1941 to Richard and Laura Gibson Zizelman. Bud so was employed at the Andrews sawmill until the eath of his uncle, and since has been with the harp Canning company. Janet too works part time ere. They are the parents of Paula Kaye b 5-29-960 and Richard Carl Andrews b 5-6-1963. Paula aduated from Parkway High school and is esently employed at Sharp Canning. *Mrs. Janet Andrews*

HENRY C. BAKER

Henry C. Baker was an industrious farmer who ved in Chattanooga and whose farm lay east of the llage.

He was born October 28, 1878 in Liberty Township, Mercer County, the son of Jacob J. and Caroine (Bollenbacher) Baker. They had been engaged farming and the sawmill business. Jacob J. met his ntimely death at the age of 49 being accidentally awed in two in his mill.

Mr. Baker's paternal grandparents, John and Barara (Whiteman) Baker, who were natives of Gerany, came to America and lived in Shelby County ntil 1850 when they moved to Black Creek Townhip, Mercer County. His maternal grandparents ere George and Henrietta (Alt) Bollenbacher who migrated from Germany to America when Mrs. aker (our subject's mother) was just 10 years old. hey were early settlers in Liberty Township.

Mr. Baker's family consisted of twelve children, even girls and five boys. Henry was seventh in line. le was just eleven years old when his father met his agic death and so at an early age helped with the rming and took on more adult responsibilities.

On Christmas Day, 1902, our subject was married Margaret (Maggie) Koch. Maggie was born January 1, 1880, the daughter of Anton and Margaret Menchhofer Koch whose parents had come to merica from Germany.

The children of Henry and Maggie are Clista who the wife of Huga Fahncke of Celina; Gertrude wife f Kenneth Hoblet (deceased) of Chattanooga and hose children are Sandra Strickler, Linda Michaud, Dana Hehmeyer, Nita Hellwarth, Myra Sustae and Carla Hoblet; and Arline who married Carl Caywood living near St. Marys and whose children are Don, Calvin, and Carlene.

Mr. Baker served on the board of directors of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Chattanooga and of the Berne Equity Exchange Co. which operated an elevator in Chattanooga.

Mrs. Baker was a flower grower and lover of flowers.

The Bakers were active members of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Liberty Township. Mr. Baker lived until July 17, 1956 and his wife died May 23, 1958. *Gertrude Hoblet*

Family Histories . . . Children of Jacob J. and Caroline Baker at Family Reunion in 1938 —

JACOB J. BAKER

Jacob J. Baker was one of the leading citizens and respected men of Liberty Township during the middle 1800's. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, April 17, 1840 and was the son of John and Barbara (Whiteman) Baker. The parents of Mr. Baker who were natives of Germany came to America and lived in Shelby County, Ohio, until 1850 when they moved to Mercer County and settled in Black Creek Township. The German surname was Becker, later changed to Baker.

On June 13, 1863 Mr. Baker was married to Caroline Bollenbacher who was born June 1, 1842, the daughter of George and Henrietta (Alt) Bollenbacher. The family had emigrated from Germany when Caroline was 10 years of age. They were early settlers in Liberty Township.

In 1865 Jacob J. and Caroline moved to Liberty Township where he engaged in farming having an estate of 153 acres. As time went on many more acres were purchased. Some Baker descendants still reside on some of these farms.

The Bakers built a large home on their land on the Tama Road east of Chattanooga. They donated the land for St. Paul's German Evangelical Church (now Chatt Grange Hall) and for the parsonage. They were prominent members of this congregation.

In addition to farming, Mr. Baker went into the saw mill business in partnership with Adam Bollenbacher and William Gehm. For many years he was interested in the lumber business and was a practical worker in his mill.

It was in 1889 while he was engaged in his duties pertaining to this work that at the early age of 49 he met his tragic death accidentally being cut in two by the circular saw. His wife lived until January 21, 1914.

The twelve children born to our subject and wife were Charles W. married to Catherine Bauer; Anna H. wife of William Rothhaar; Lewis married to Mary Koch; Caroline C. wife of Christian Stuckey; Mary wife of Fred Stuckey; Lydia wife of George Rothhaar; Jacob A. married Kathrine Linn; Henry C. married Margaret (Maggie) Koch; Theobald A. married Clara Anselman; Hulda L. wife of Albert Germann; Fredona D. wife of William Germann and Amelia

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M. wife of Michael Linn. Mrs. Linn is the only survivor. These sisters and brothers have lived a total of over 1000 years. The Jacob J. Baker descendants included 53 grandchildren of whom 30 survive and 15 of these still reside in Mercer County. *Mrs. Kenneth (Gertrude) Hoblet, Rockford, Oh. 45822*

BACHER-BAUCHER

PHILIP BACHAR was born November 30, 1817 in Ohio. He married Hattie Koontz. They attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Liberty Township on the Wabash Road. Philip and Hattie Koontz Bachar are buried in the Liberty Lutheran Church Cemetery. Philip Bachar died October 31, 1883. To this union ten children were born (all in Liberty Township) — Peter, Nathan, David, John, Margaret, Christine, Pauline, Louisa and the two oldest daughters whose names are not known today.

One son John Bachar was killed in the American Civil War. On May 3, 1883 in Mercer County, Ohio Peter married Laura Ann Shane who had been born in Liensaurs, Germany and was not yet 18 years old. Peter and Laura Ann Shane Bachar had six children and their descendants live in the Piqua, Ohio area. Nathan Bachar who was born in 1858 and died in 1939 married Hannah Elizabeth Davis who was born in 1865 and died in 1940. They are buried in the Liberty Cemetery. Of their six children only Ida Bixler who is in a Greenville, Ohio nursing home survives. Margaret (Meg) Bachar married William Deitsch and they had eight children. Christine Bachar married her cousin Ben Baucher and they had three children. **(NOTE THE DIFFERENCE IN SPELLING.)** Pauline (Polly) Bachar married Fred Andrews and they had seven children. Louisa (Lou) Bachar married Simon Howell. They had four sons and their descendants live in the St. Marys, Ohio area. The two oldest Bachar girls who were married to Joe Steen and George Heins are believed to have died in the late 1800's. Their descendants along with the mother's names are lost to the present generation.

DAVID BACHAR who was born September 22, 1853 married Mary Margarite Fender on March 2, 1882. Mary Margarite Fender was born December 25, 1863. To this union eleven children were born — Harry, Lula, Eva, Adam, John, Clara, Leona, Edward, Clarence, Ina and Myrtle.

Harry and Bertha Leota Baucher; first grandchild Rebecca Baucher

Harry Henry Bachar was born on December 11, 1882. On February 24, 1925 he married Bertha Leota Branstetter who had been born January 16, 1889. Harry Baucher died January 16, 1967 of cancer at his home in Jefferson Township and is buried at Swamp College Cemetery. (Harry's father, David Bachar changed the spelling of the last name when his children were small. His reason — David was tired of getting someone else's mail.) To this marriage two sons were born — Morris Wylie and Melville Wayne.

Morris Wylie Baucher was born July 18, 1926 and married Leora Boneta Greene on September 1948. To this union 13 children were born. The ch dren were Rebecca, Stephen, Timothy, Deborah, seph, Jonathan, Philip, Paul, Samuel and Sara w are twins, Priscilla who died January 1, 1970, Ju and Candace. In addition to their own 12 living ch dren they have a foster son — Wellington (Tor Chiu. Son Stephen is married and lives in Fairbo Ohio. Foster son Tony is also married and lives Torrance, California.

Melville Wayne Baucher was born December 1927 and married Mary Isabelle Noble at the Nol Church in Noble Township Jay County, Indiana Ja uary, 1953. They had two children. Melville Way Jr. born March 9, 1954 and Susan Marie born Ap 23, 1958. Melville Wayne Sr. was killed in a sen farm tractor accident west of Celina on State Rou 29 within sight of his home on November 14, 19(Melville Wayne Jr. married Peggy Fleck on July 1972. Their two daughters are Tina Christina w was born January 12, 1973 and Mandy Marie w was born February 23, 1977. Susan Marie Bauch married David Ellis September 18, 1976. They ha one son Jason who was born March 22, 1977.

Lula Hattie Bachar was born January 18, 1884 a died April 12, 1956. She married Joseph Humbe who was born March 25, 1878 and died October 1918. Lula Hattie had six children — Laurena, Lew Mable, Clarence and Robert who died in infancy Humbert and one son Harold Smith by her seco marriage.

The next three children — Eva L., Adam and Jol — all died in infancy. They were born and died b tween January, 1885 and February, 1889. Clara M rie Pauline was born November 22, 1889. She liv in Celina and has never married.

Leona Bachar was born August 27, 1892 and di in 1973. On May 6, 1911 she married Leo Fisch who was born in 1891 and died in 1973. They h three children — Urban J., Paul L., and Helen M.

Urban was born January 19, 1913 and married R berta Pierstoff on October 12, 1935. Roberta h been born March 7, 1914. There were no children this marriage. Urban J. Fischer died July 11, 1966 o heart attack. He is buried next to his parents in t Catholic Cemetery in Celina. Paul was born in 19 and married Rosellen M. Ott on October 5, 193 They had five children — Charleen, Robert, Nanc Richard and James Paul.

Nancy K. Fischer married Henry J. Dohs on Fe ruary 11, 1960. They have two children — Dav and Dawn Marie. Richard L. Fischer married Janet Myers on February 20, 1960. They have two childre — Melinda Ann and Brian. James Paul Fischer ma ried Carolyn Jeanne Emans on January 23, 196 They have two children — Faith Christine and Jo Paul.

Helen M. Fischer was born in 1916 and marri Harold Ruetschilling on September 28, 1940. The have three children — Phyllis, Judy and Davi Phyllis Ruetschilling married Bill Myers. They ha three children — Michael, Blaine and a new baby.

Edward Bachar was born October 20, 1896. O October 17, 1918 he married Mabel Mills who h been born August 27, 1901. They live in Celina an are the parents of four sons — Ralph, Charles, Pa and Donald.

Ralph was born December 11, 1919 and marri

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ary H. Smith on June 25, 1942. They are the parts of three children — Betty, Berry and Lynn. tty married Earl Parr and they have two sons — bert and Roger.

Charles was born December 31, 1924 and married argaret Hunter on May 29, 1945. They had three ildren — Linda, Charles and Gayle. Linda died in fancy.

Paul was born February 1, 1936 and has two chilen by his first marriage. Kimberly born in 1957 d Randy born in 1959. By his second marriage to tricia Garman he has three children — Kelly Jo, ichelle, and Scott.

Donald was born August 18, 1938 and married rginia Fox on November 28, 1959. They have two ildren — Michael and Diane. They live in Coldater.

Clarence Bachar was born June 16, 1900 and died ugust 5, 1957. On March 11, 1923 he married Lela Ransbottom who had been born February 12, 05. Lela Ransbottom Baucher Buck survives and es in Modesto, California near their son. They had o children — Robert Lee and Jo Ann.

Robert Lee Baucher was born September 25, 1926 d married Mary Bowman on August 26, 1951. lary was born March 21, 1930. They have three ns — Kent Steven, Scott Douglas and Kirk Alan. hey live in Modesto, California.

Jo Ann Baucher was born January 18, 1933 and arried Rev. Kenneth Rogers Rayner on June 7, 53. Kenneth had been born November 20, 1926. hey have four sons — Brent Curtis, Kurt Lane, Jed eighton and Reid Gordon. They live in Banebridge, lassachusetts.

Ina Viola Bachar was born October 8, 1902. On nuary 29, 1929 she married John Franklin Smelser ho had been born August 2, 1892. To this marriage vo sons were born — David and Theodore. John ed on March 16, 1962 and is buried in the Norgrove Cemetery at Celina. Ina lives in Celina.

David Smelser was born May 30, 1930 and mared Joyce Kiekel on August 28, 1955. They have two ns — Kent and Jeffery.

Theodore was born January 22, 1932 and married net Arlene Florence on November 11, 1956. They ave two children — Melinda and Brad.

Myrtle Marie Bachar was born January 16, 1908. rom her first marriage to Kenneth Dwyer she had a aughter — Doris. Her second marriage to Carl ampbell gave her two children — James and Chyel.

Doris Dwyer was born June 19, 1929. By her first arriage to Edward Davis she has three children — iwen, Terrie and Dennis. By her second marriage to ee Munroe she has one daughter, Tonia.

James Campbell was born February 9, 1936. James nd his first wife Marylin Bader had three children – Karla, Stephanie and Jimmy. James and his second wife Jean Ann Welsch have one child — Scott.

Chyrel Campbell was born July 20, 1945. On June 6, 1964 she married Arthur Grabow. They have a et of twin boys — Stephen and Thomas. *Rebecca aucher*

DAVID BAUCHER

David Baucher (January 9, 1859 - April 30, 1934) arried Ellen Martz (November 26, 1862 - November 9, 1902). They were farmers. They had eight children: William Isaac, Perry, Ernest, Joseph Henry, Lucy Mae, Mary Ellen, Calvin Russell, and Clarence. (See Baucher history in Union Township.)

Duane, Bernice, Chalmer Baker and Granddaughter Suzanne Baker

William Isaac (August 29, 1881 - February 10, 1882) died young. Perry (January 21-1883 - June 1972).

Ernest Baucher married Elmira Adams (November 10, 1887). They had three children. 1. Leoral (January 14, 1906) who married Charles Skinner; they had two children: Donald Lincoln (June 16, 1933) who married Martha Hoffman and they live in Rochester New York and is employed by Xerox; and have two children, Jon Scott (March 14, 1963) and Carrie Ann (April 28, 1968). Leoral and Charles Skinner's second child is Bernice Ann (November 28, 1935), who is a teacher in Lima Senior High School. 2. Norma (September 16, 1908 - September 28, 1952), the second child of Ernest and Elmira Baucher, married Ray Slusser in December 29, 1929; they had one child Bobby who died in infancy. 3. Bernice Beatrice (August 26, 1911) on September 23, 1933 married Chalmer Baker (February 25, 1908). They had one child, Duane C. (November 24, 1936), who married Patrice Hutchens Waters (November 23, 1937) on June 13, 1966; they have one daughter Suzanne (June 1, 1972). Duane and Patrice are both school teachers.

Joseph Henry (November 29, 1888 - June 1972) married Jennie Hone. They had three children: Donald (1915-1939), Ruth, and Wanda.

Lucy Mae (August 1, 1890) on July 21, 1915, married Ross Rutherford Bricker (March 16, 1891 - ____). They were farmers at Mendon. They had three children: Ruth Pauline (July 12, 1916) who died at birth. Russell Eugene (September 6, 1923, who married on August 8, 1947, Ruth Elizabeth Bauders (April 22, 1919); they had two children James Eugene (February 2, 1949) and Richard Allen (May 4, 1951). Marjorie Maxine (April 13, 1928).

Mary Ellen, (May 23, 1893 - June 8, 1928) married Lewis Brunk. She died leaving four small children: Dorothy, Charles, Raymond, and Mary.

Calvin Russell (April 30, 1898 - ____) married Marvella Jenkins (December 30, 1917). They had two children: Jane (January 22, 1946) who married Donald Stachler of Fort Recovery; and Mike (October 12, 1958).

Clarence (August 17, 1902 - September 22, 1902).

Mrs. Chalmer Baker

JOHANNAS BAUER

Johannas Bauer was born in Prussia, Germany on February 8, 1834. He was the son of Michael and Mary (Distler) Bauer. He came to America in 1852, taught school in Van Wert County, Ohio until 1854,

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when he came to Mercer County and bought 160 Acres of land in Liberty Township. He married Susanna Koch on January 25, 1858. Susanna was born in January 1838 in Germany to Johannas and Anna Koch. She came to America with her parents at an early age. The spelling of the name Johannas was changed to read "John." They lived on a farm in Liberty Twp. near Chattanooga, Ohio. There were eight children born to this union: Christena 1859-1901; John 1861-?; Mary 1863-1939; Catherine 1865-1909; Anton (Andy) 1867-1955; Jacob 1871-1901; Frederick 1873-1955 and William 1880-1960.

Christena married Jacob Huff, they had eleven children all born near Celina. Christena died in 1901 and Jacob moved his family to Illinois. Two of the family (Christina Lourance and George Huff) are still living in Illinois. Most of the grandchildren are living there also. Jacob operated a saloon.

John Bauer ran away from home at an early age, and his parents did not hear from him for quite a number of years. He returned in 1909, visited relatives. He was a draftsman at a Seattle Ship Building firm. His wife's name was Hattie and they supposedly adopted a son Tom.

Mary married Charles (Lewis) Bollenbacher, son of George and Anna (Albrecht) Bollenbacher. Both of whom came to America from Germany at age 6 and 3 with their parents. Mary and Charles had ten children and lived southeast of Chattanooga, O.

Catherine married Charles Baker, son of Jacob and Caroline Baker. Charles and Catherine had six children all born on their farm in Blackcreek Twp., one mile north of Chattanooga, O.

Anton, (Andy) married Mary Brehm, and they had fourteen children. Two died in infancy. They lived on a farm on the corner of Burrville Road and Frahm Pike. In 1921 they moved to South Carolina with eight of their children. Four stayed in this area. Anton farmed and was also Township Clerk in Liberty Township.

Jacob married Elizabeth Brehm. They had four children. Jacob was a farmer. He died at age 30 of Brain Fever — his last child was born shortly after his death.

Fred married Mary Gehm, daughter of William and Barbara Gehm, they had eight children and lived on Frahm Pike. He was a farmer and later did carpenter work.

William stayed on the John Bauer farm and farmed several years — in his early life he worked in the oil fields near Danville, Illinois. He was married three times. The second marriage was to Ethel Courtright who died less than a year after they were married. In 1914 he married Corinda Burch and they had 5 children. *Deloris Bauer Imel*

WILLIAM BAUER

William Bauer was the youngest of eight children born to Johannas (John) and Susanna (Koch) Bauer. Both of his parents came to America from Germany. They lived on a farm near Chattanooga on Oregon road. (See Johannas Bauer History)

William farmed his father's farm known as the John Bauer farm for several years then the Herman Dues Farm in Liberty Township. He then moved to Celina and worked at Mersman's Furniture Factory until his retirement.

The name of his first wife and 2 children are b ing omitted by request as they appear elsewhere this history book. (See Wm Brumbaugh History) H second wife was Ethel Courtright who died less tha a year after they were married. In 1914 he marrie Corinda Burch, daughter of John and Susan (Davi Burch. They had five children.

Morris William born October 16, 1915, die March 1968. He married Pauline Detro, daughter Mr. and Mrs. Walter Detro in 1938. After sever years of marriage they were divorced. He marrie Lila Tresler in 1966.

Deloris Beatrice was born 4-13-18. She marrie Albert Dale Imel in 1937. They had 5 children (S Albert Dale Imel History).

Dorothy Irene born Aug. 3, 1920. She marrie LeRoy Schroeder in 1938. They had two childre Ronald LeRoy 11-14-39 and Sandra Kay 10-29-45.

Donald Lowell born Sept. 7, 1935 married Joy Spriggs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sprigg They had five children: Cheryl, Monty, Dean, N and Marsha. They moved to California where h died April 27, 1979.

Savella Pauline born 8-21-38 married Delbert Bradford and they moved to California. They ha four children: Corinda Sue, Kathy, Jay and Tor Delbert was the son of Vi and Glenn Bradford. *D loris Imel, Celina, Oh. 45822*

CHRISTIAN BAUMGARTNER

Christian Baumgartner 3rd, born November 27 1791 in Canton Bern, Switzerland and died June 11 1849 in Bevilard Switzerland. He was the son o Christian 2nd and Christina Oppliger Baumgartne He married Maria Aker (Egger) the daughter o Hans Jean Ulrich and Anna Ziegler Aker and t them were born nine children. 1. Christian 4th b 1815 m. Maria Hofstetter; 2. Maria first wife o Christian Bixler; 3. Anna born 1820 d. 1824; 4. Eliza beth m. Christian Schnegg; 5. John m. Katherin Amstutz; 6. Jacob m. Elsie Sophia Kohler; 7. Susann d. inf.; 8. Rosina m. Oliver Girod; and 9. Daniel. O these children Rosina, John, Jacob, Daniel and th daughter of Maria Bixler came to America.

Daniel born 1835 in Moutier, married Katerin Rufenacht who was born in 1836 in Trupschacke the daughter of Ulrich and Barbara Lehman Rufe nacht, and together they came to near Bluffton i Allen county Ohio in 1857, landing there only months before the birth of their son Jacob. Danie served as a volunteer in the civil war, and in 187 when his wife became ill, she went to a Veteran hospital in Pittsburgh, but died and is buried in th churchyard of Mercy Hospital there.

In ca 1873 he came with his older children to Ad ams county, Indiana, to join his brother John wh already lived along the Wabash River in Hartfor twp. Later Daniel settled in Wabash twp of Adam county where he married Elizabeth Walchli and die there April 14, 1914 and is buried in Springhill cem etery. By his first marriage he became the father c six children: Jacob born 1857 in Allen county, Ohi m. Rose Baumgartner; Anna b. 1858 m. Lawrenc Beitler; Paul b. 1861 m. Kate Jackson; Peter b. 186 m. Wilhemina Ruegg; Daniel 1866 m. Eva Saun Samuel 1869 m. Mary Vogt; and Alexander b. in Ac

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ıs county Indiana m. Elizabeth Myers.
1. Jacob W. Baumgartner married in 1882 to Roıa Rebecca Baumgartner, born 4-21-1862 Adams . Indiana the daughter of John and Catharine Amıtz Baumgartner. In 1904 he bought the sawmill of hn Allmindinger and made it a permanent set-up Chattanooga. When he retired ca 1915, the mill ıs taken over by his son Paul and son-in-law Wm. ıdress. Later Andress sold his share to his brother ırl and moved to Indiana. Today the mill is maned by Ralph, a son of Paul Baumgartner with anher son Dale, also working there.
J.W. died Aug. 16, 1927 and his wife died May 22, '40 and are buried in M.R.E. Cemetery near Berne. ıey became the parents of 6 children: 1. Louis Hary m. Odessa Campbell; 2. Frederick b. 1885 d. 87; 3. Paul J. m. Hulda V. Andres; 4. Samuel J. m.1 y Becher; m.2 Audrey ___; 5. Effie b. 1893, d. 1902; Minna Alma m. Wm. F. Andress.
3. of above, Paul James Baumgartner was born ovember 26, 1887 near Berne, Indiana. He was arried April 8, 1913 to Hulda Victoria Andres who as born Jan. 6, 1896 in Liberty twp. a daughter of hn and Sophia Alt Andres. They are both buried the M.R.E. cemetery near Berne, he dying in Feb. 1950 and she Aug. 21, 1976. Their children were alph Wm. b. 1916 m. Helen Martin; Goldie Minva b. 1920 m. Wm. Francis; Dale Frederick b. 24 and married Alice Young. *Minna Andress, Linn rove, Ind.*

Mrs. Anna Bollenbacher

ANNA HUFFMAN BOLLENBACHER

Anna Huffman was born February 21, 1879, the ıughter of Ferdinand and Barbara Schott Huffman. ıe married Fred Bollenbacher and they were the ırents of the following six children: Albert F., Clarıce, Ernest, Luther, Mrs. Blaine (Opal) Laffin and rs. Lester (Mable) Kaylor. They have 9 grandchil'en, 29 great-grandchildren, and 19 great-great-andchildren; of these, 3 children, 3 grandchildren ıd 2 great-grandchildren are deceased.
Mrs. Bollenbacher has led a busy life. Born of erman parents and brought up by their standards, ıe has always done her own baking and canned om her own garden. She still does her own housework for herself and son Luther. She still has a small ırden patch and always has cookies baked for comıny and grandchildren.
This picture was taken on Feb. 18 at the Zion Luıeran Church in Chattanooga, Ohio, when her con'egation had a carry-in dinner in honor of her 00th birthday.

ANTON (ANDREW) BOLLENBACHER

Anton was the fifth child of Adam and Christina Koch) Bollenbacher. Born September 2, 1868, and died August 13, 1949. On April 27, 1893 he married Catherine Zeilinger the first child of Michael and Elizabeth (Kundinger) Zeilinger born November 2, 1870 in Germany and died March 14, 1960 in Mercer County.
Catherine came to America at the age of two with her parents and spent her childhood on a farm in Section 5 of Liberty Township.
Anton was a carpenter and farmer and raised his family of seven children on a farm in section 12 of Liberty Township.
The grandfather of Anton was George Sr. and was the first child of Nicholas and Margaret Bollenbacher. George was born in Bedesbach, Rheinpfalz on July 21, 1801. As a young man, George learned the weaver's trade, making bed ticking and linens. In 1828 he married Henrietta Alt. Henrietta was born July 10, 1805 in Germany.
George and Henrietta were the parents of eight children, all born in Germany. Then, after a twenty-six day voyage at sea, George and Henrietta along with six of their children arrived in Liberty Township in the late summer of 1852.
On October 9, 1852, George purchased one hundred thirty-two acres of land in Section 18 from David Smith for three hundred thirty dollars.
George and Henrietta were the parents of eight children: George Jr. born October 9, 1830, Catherine (married Fred Kable), Jacob died in Germany, Jacob born September 23, 1837. Adam born June 10, 1840, Caroline (married Jacob Baker), Charles, born October 18, 1845, and Peter who died in Germany.
George died March 21, 1889 and Henrietta passed away October 28, 1900.
Little can be learned of George's parents, except that his father was Nicholas, born in 1771 and died in 1849. The mother was named Margaret and they were the parents of six children. George Sr., Margaret (married Henry Kuhn), Adam, Jacob, Catherine (married Heintz), and Abraham.
Adam, father of Anton, was born June 10, 1840 in Germany and came to America with his father and mother in 1852. Christina Koch, wife of Adam was born in Germany November 7, 1842, married Adam April 8, 1863 and died in Liberty Township April 23, 1908.
The first two and one-half years of their marriage were spent with the bride's parents, John and Emma (Schear) Koch in Section 9 of Liberty Township. Land was purchased in Section 5 of Liberty Township and in the fall of 1865 they moved into their own home. Thirteen children were born to this couple, four died as infants but nine lived to marry and raise families of their own; John Jacob, George, Adam, Jr., Anton, Charles, Mary (married Theodore Baker), Christina (married John Deitsch), Frederick Joe, and Amos Benjamin.
As the family of Adam grew and prospered, he purchased more land, eighty acres to the south and forty acres to the north. His brother-in-law, Jacob Baker was married to his sister Caroline and they owned land on both sides of the road joining Adam on the west.
In about 1872 Adam and Jacob started a saw mill on the north side of the road. Jacob lost his life in an accident at the mill and shortly before the turn of the century the mill was sold to Allmandinger Brothers and moved to Chattanooga.

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Adam died in 1901 and Christina passed away in 1908.

Anton and Catherine were the parents of seven children: Elmer born November 29, 1893 married Mary Luth on November 29, 1922. Roma born October 14, 1895 married Clara Kable December 18, 1919, married Mary Robinson November 11, 1923, married Flora Dell Byrley Marbaugh August 16, 1939. Lola born March 25, 1897, married George Sielschott December 24, 1918. Henry born August 6, 1899, married Pearl Gehm May 24, 1923, Eda born November 3, 1902, married Rudolf Smith November 1, 1923, Victor born February 15, 1904 married Martha Fahncke on October 16, 1924. Ralph born October 7, 1906 married Mildred Agner August 20, 1931, married Bertha LeViness Rohr (October 3, 1964.
Lloyd Bollenbacher, Coldwater, Oh. 45828

FREDERICK VALENTINE BOLLENBACHER

Liberty Township, Mercer, (County) Ohio

Born December 25, 1881, the oldest child of Jacob and Louise Deiner Bollenbacher. His father, Jacob, came to America from Germany with his mother at the age of 11. Frederick's mother was born and reared in Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio.

Frederick (Fred V.) was raised on his father's farm located on Oregon Road and in 1903 he married Elizabeth Bollenbacher, whose parents were Jacob and Magdelena Distler. Jacob was an early pioneer of Liberty Township. His big, beautiful brick home is located on Oregon Road and is still being occupied — by a granddaughter.

Soon after his marriage, he and his wife purchased an 80 acre farm located on Linn Road, where they raised their five children, of whom three are still living ... Morris and Arthur of Celina, Ohio, and Viola F. Kuhn of Rockford, Ohio. Matilda died in 1948 and Homer in 1972.

As well as being a farmer, Fred V. owned and operated a restaurant and pool room for many years in Chattanooga, Ohio. He died at his farm home in October, 1946, while his wife passed away in January, 1968. They were affiliated with the Evangelical Reformed Church of Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio. *Viola Kuhn, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

Bollenbacher family

BOLLENBACHER

Harold Alfred Bollenbacher was born Oct. 2, 1909 in Jefferson Township, Adams County, Indiana. He was the son of William George and Mary Huffman Bollenbacher. He married Martha L. White on Dec. 24, 1927 in Rockford, Ohio. She was the daughter of Charles and Nora Branstetter White. We farmed until 1953 when we purchased the Heffner Grocery in Chattanooga. We operated the store until 1973, we then closed the store and sold the building to To Baker. Harold then worked for the State of Ohio f 3 years. Martha was an Avon representative for years. We are both now retired. We celebrated o 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 18, 1978. Haro is presently a trustee of Liberty Township.

We are the parents of five sons: Robert Paul Rockford married Mildred Snyder, they have fo children — Ronald of Rockford, Rebecca Si McMillan of Rockford, Donna Kay Nuttle of Me don and Jeffery of Rockford. Harold Jr. Bollenbach married Loella Friedly, they have three daughters - Debra Ann Reichard of Lisle, Illinois, Peg and To both of Rockford. James Eldon Bollenbacher lives Auburn, Indiana. Randall Lee is deceased. Tim Bollenbacher married Vickie Gause, they have tv children — Brian Lee and Monte Jay both of Chatt nooga. We have nine grandchildren and seve great-grandchildren.

Charles E. White was born Aug. 17, 1877 Wayne County, Indiana. He married Nora Estel Branstetter. She was born Dec. 8, 1877 in Blackcree Township, Mercer County. Except for five yea they always lived in Blackcreek Township. Charl was a trustee for Blackcreek Township for seve years. They were the parents of 10 children. An i fant son (dec.) Homer of Rockford, Elmer (dec Oval (dec.), Floyd of Willshire, Herschel (dec.), H rold of Willshire, Donald of Celina, James of Rom Pa. and Martha Bollenbacher of Rockford. Charl White died Nov. 23, 1944 and Nora White died Fe 26, 1953. They are buried in the Riverside Cemete at Rockford, Ohio.

Charles White was the son of William and Ma tha Davis White. William was born in Virginia Fe 28, 1848. Martha Davis White was born July 2 1855. They were the parents of 10 children. Charle Arthur, Jesse, Maude St. Meyer, Lizzie Mikese Emma Duke, Ailsie, Calvin, Glen and Martha Dott Morrison. Mrs. Morrison is the only living survivo she is 85 years old. William White died in 1923 an Martha died in 1944. They are both buried in th Fountain Cemetery, Williamsburg, Ind.

Nora Estella Branstetter White was the daught of Michael and Leahline Carmack Branstetter. M chael Branstetter was born in 1850 and died Sept. 1935. Leahline Carmack Branstetter was born i 1857 and died May 16, 1940. They were marrie Dec. 1, 1877 and were the parents of five childre Nora Estella Branstetter White, Hulda Branstett Case, Leota Branstetter Baucher and Charles Branstetter. Mary Ellen Branstetter died at the age 4 years. Mrs. Leota Baucher was the last survivor this family, she died April 26, 1979.

Andrew Branstetter was born in Bavaria, Ge many, Anna, his wife was born April 26, 1816 i Heimenstorf, Germany. They came to this countr and were made American Citizens May 23, 185 They always lived in Blackcreek Township on th northwest corner of Rockford West Road and Sta Road 49. Andrew Branstetter died Oct. 23, 188 Anna died July 15, 1867. They are both buried in th Duck Creek Cemetery on State Route 49. They wer the parents of six children: George Branstetter, Eliz beth Reichard Johnston, Micheal Branstetter, Tir Reichard, Paul Branstetter and Anna Maria Bran sterret. Michael Branstetter bought the home plac from his father. They lived there until March 2

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20 when a cyclone destroyed their home. At that ıe they retired in Rockford, Ohio where they lived Front Street.

Leahline Josephine Carmack's father was Charles rmack. He was born Dec. 31, 1819 and died Aug. 1875. Her mother was Sara Jane Robinson. She ıs born Mar. 8, 1824 and died Sept. 26, 1910. They ere the parents of six children; Sam Carmack, Ma- Carmack Sloan, Serilda Carmack Granger, Leah- ıe Carmack Branstetter, Mary Ellen Carmack right and Nellie L. Carmack Denny. The entire mily is buried in Macedon Cemetery except for rs. Branstetter (Riverside, Rockford) and Mrs. right (Swamp College). *Harold Bollenbacher*

The J. J. Bollenbacher home on Erastus-Durbin Rd. (now owned by Duane Wood). Picture was taken ca. 1900.

JOHN JACOB BOLLENBACHER

Adam Bollenbacher was born in Bavaria, Gerıany and married there to Christena Koch. They ıme to Mercer county where they raised their famy and both are buried in the St. Paul's cemetery in iberty twp. Their son John Jacob was born in 1863 nd died in 1942 after being blinded by glaucoma or ten years. In 1888 he married Eva Strable who as born in 1866 and died in 1943. J. J. was brought p where his grandson, Dick Stephenson, now lives nd Eva was raised where grandson Larry Stephenon and family lives. When a young girl attending ion Lutheran school, the teacher ask her name, hen told Eva he said a good nickname would be ffie and she was called that the remainder of her fe. Mr. Bollenbacher loved to travel and on one of is trips he bought several acres in North Carolina ıat had turpentine trees on it. At the same time everal other Liberty twp people also bought land nd moved out there.

One of the highlights of their family was when heir parents were able to attend the Panama Expoition, leaving their children at home with their Aunt Caroline. It rained hard and flooded the pasure and they have a picture taken of the boys sailng there in the metal watertank! Summer school vas four and one-half miles away, held for 8 weeks nd was done entirely in German. Each Friday night fter school, they took turns cleaning the hall for hurch on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bollenbacher raised a family of ten hildren: #1. Lawrence, a farmer who lived on the tate line, married Margaret McDonald and raised 5 hildren; Inez Mae who died young; Raymond m. Alma Lakes; Glen m. Erma Lakes; Violet m. Glen Clenz; Evelyn m. Calvin Fennig. 2. Carl who was killed by lightning while driving a team, the horses being killed also. 3. Matilda and 4. Billy died in infancy. #5. Alonzo; 6. Alma (listed in history of Rob't Stephenson); 7. Pearl 8. Cora; 9. Theodore and 10. Laura. The last ones being continued in the history of Alonzo.

ALONZO (JACK) BOLLENBACHER

Alonzo (Jack) Bollenbacher was born in 1897 in Liberty twp, married Faye Now and lives on the Blackcreek twp line. He has been active in the community all his life, being an early member of Chattanooga grange, with the Farm Bureau, a director with F.H.A. and worked with the boys 4-H Club. They have 2 children, Anna who married Merle Rabe and Robert Rex who married Mary Catharine Schaadt, and 5 grandchildren.

Pearl married Ervin Wood who formerly managed the stockyards in Chattanooga and is presently a farmer. They became the parents of 2 children, Georgia married Don Cochran and Duane and they have 5 grandchildren.

#8. Cora born 1904 in Liberty twp., married in 1926 to Raymond Fetters. In 1928 they bought the farm of his grandparents and lived there until his death. At that time Cora moved to Celina and worked as an L.P.N. at Gibbons hospital. Their daughter lives on that farm now. They were the parents of 3 children. Mary Lou m. Joseph Coons; Gretchen m. Gordon Hayes and Sharon m. Don Genereux. Mrs. Fetters has 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Ted is a Maintenance Engineer at Celina Insurance Group and is married to Esther Nutt. They have 2 children, Sarah who married John Beggs and Robert who m. Peggy Ralston.

Laura lived in Toledo, and retired to Arizona. She married Charles Deerhake and had 3 children. Effie m. a Schraff and is an Art Teacher in Calif.; Sondra, an R.N., worked in Peru with the hospital ship Good Hope and married Ernesto De Podesto; and Allen who is in Aero-dynamics in Calif. *Alma Now*

TIM FRANKLIN BOLLENBACHER

Tim Franklin Bollenbacher was born March 12, 1947, the youngest son of Harold and Martha (White) Bollenbacher. He attended Willshire grade school and graduated in 1966 from Parkway High School at Rockford. He had an early "Daily Standard" paper route in Chattanooga and assisted his father in his grocery store there. After graduation he attended Ravenscroft Beauty College in Fort Wayne, Indiana. After receiving his Cosmetologist License he worked for Mrs. LaVerda Gerber in Berne, Indiana and at W.&D. and L. S. Ayres in Fort Wayne. He presently works in a salon in his home in Chattanooga, as well as working full time at General Electric in Decatur, Indiana.

On August 3, 1969 he was united in marriage with Vickie Lynn Gause, the daughter of Lloyd and Florence Shively Gause. They have two sons; Brian Lee born September 29, 1971 and Monte Jay born June 26, 1975.

Mrs. Bollenbacher was born December 12, 1949 in Blackcreek township and attended Willshire grade school and graduated in 1967 from Parkway High

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School. She worked at General Electric in Decatur until the birth of their first son. She presently owns "The Corner House Beauty Salon" at their home in Chattanooga. She is active in Volleyball and teaches a Sunday school class in the Chattanooga United Methodist Church where they are both active members. Mr. and Mrs. Bollenbacher are also 6th degree members in the Grange and have marched in the Pomona Grange drill teams and participated in other Grange activities. *Tim F. Bollenbacher, Rockford, Oh.*

BRANSON ARGYLE BRANSTETER

Branson Argyle Bransteter, known as Argyle Bransteter, was a well known farmer in Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio. He was born August 2, 1904 in Blackcreek Township, Mercer County, Ohio to Charles Andrew and Nellie (McGough) Bransteter. Argyle was the oldest of 14 children. Others were: Thelma Bernice Tester, Hazel Lucille Granger, Richard Henry, Crevaline Florence Bollenbacher, Wilma Luella Gaede, Irma Marcile Miller, Freda Geraldine Bryie, Deloris Marie Caffee, Garni Florene Bollenbacher, Charles Junior, Betty Jane (Parr) Haviland, and twins Lester Gene and Chester Eugene. On April 17, 1927 Argyle Bransteter married Anna Lucille Bollenbacher, known as Lucille Bollenbacher. She was the daughter of Charles and Mary Elizabeth (Wendel) Bollenbacher. Argyle and Lucille lived two years in Jefferson Township, Adams County, Indiana and then moved to the Chattanooga, Ohio area where they remained. Lucille's parents, Charles and Mary Bollenbacher, owned one hundred acres of land South East of Chattanooga. This land was in two parcels, one of eighty acres and another twenty acres, both located on Schaadt Road. They resided on the eighty acres. This home is in the Northern part of Liberty Township and located three-fourths of a mile East of State Route 49 on Schaadt Road. In 1919 the Bollenbachers rented their land and moved to Chattanooga, Ohio. Argyle and Lucille established their home on this farm in 1929 and purchased it on February 13, 1941. They continued to live here until the spring of 1953 when they moved, one-fourth mile East, and on Schaadt Road, to another eighty acre farm on which they had built a new ranch style home. Mr. and Mrs. Argyle Bransteter are the parents of a son and a daughter who are also residents of Liberty Township. Their son, Kenneth Eugene, born March 10, 1928, is married to Reitta Anne Eichenauer. They live on Schaadt Road, and now own the home which was occupied by the parents from 1929 to 1953. Their daughter Betty Ruth, born September 7, 1930, is married to Carl E. "Jack" Carr. They live on State Route 49. Kenneth and Reitta Anne Bransteter have four children: James "Jim" Eugene Bransteter married to Kathleen "Kathy" Sue Beerbower, they are the parents of one child, Jason Eugene; Terry Alan Bransteter married to Vivian Louise Dudgeon. They are the parents of three children: Travis Alan and a second child Trent Adam — stillborn June 19, 1978 and buried in St. Paul's United Church of Christ Cemetery; Connie Sue Bransteter; and David Wayne Bransteter and Tara Amy. Betty and Jack Carr have two children: Debra Ann Carr and Scott Eugene Carr. The Bransteter family is identified with the St. Paul's United Church of Christ located in Liberty Township at the intersection of Wabash and Oregon Roads. Argyle Bransteter died August 6, 1962 at fifty-eight years of age. He is buried in the St. Paul United Church of Christ Cemetery. His widow Lucille continued living on their eighty acre farm, and is the owner of another twenty acres of land located west of her home. Argyle and Lucille Bransteter are respected citizens of the Chattanooga area. They were industrious and did their share in the development of the community. In addition to engaging in general farming and livestock, Argyle pursued other jobs during the winter months. He hauled stone, helped in a seed corn business, hauled logs and worked at Andrew's Saw Mill in Chattanooga. Although he did not seek public offices, he and his wife were Democrats in politics. *Mrs. Lucille Bransteter Rockford, Oh. 45882*

JAMES EUGENE BRANSTETER

James Eugene Bransteter, known as Jim, son of Kenneth Eugene and Reitta Anne (Eichenauer) Bransteter was born January 13, 1954 in Adams County Hospital, Decatur, Indiana. He graduated from Parkway High School, Rockford, Ohio in 1972. After graduation he worked for Rager's Home Improvement, Van Wert, Ohio and helped his parents in their farming operation. On July 10, 1976 he was married to Kathleen "Kathy" Sue Beerbower. They are the parents of one child, Jason Eugene, born September 19, 1978 in Van Wert County Hospital. Kathy is a daughter of Robert Eugene and Evelyn Joan (French) Beerbower of R.R. 1 Rockford, Ohio and was born in Dayton, Ohio on January 23, 1957. She is a 1975 graduate of Parkway High School. Before her marriage she was employed as a sales clerk at Van Fleet Drug Store, Rockford, Ohio. Since April, 1977 she has been employed by the First National Bank of Mercer County, Celina, Ohio, and serves as a teller at the West Way Branch. Mr. and Mrs. Bransteter purchased a farm home of 136 acres on October 2, 1976 located about four miles South East of Chattanooga, Ohio on Linn Road in Section 21 of Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio. They moved to this home on December 27, 1976. Jim is engaged in farming. They are members of the Grace United Methodist Church of Rockford, Ohio. *Jim Branstetter, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

Kenneth Branstete Family, 1972 — **Fron Row:** David Wayne Reitta Anne and Ken neth Eugene. **Secon Row:** Terry Alan, Jame Eugene and Connie Sue

BRANSTETER

Kenneth Eugene Bransteter, is the oldest child born to Branson Argyle and Anna Lucille (Bollenbacher) Bransteter, known as Argyle and Lucille Bransteter. Kenneth was born March 10, 1928 in Jefferson Township, Adams County, Indiana. In Febru-

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y 1929 he and his parents moved to Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio. They lived on a 80 acre rm located three quarter of a mile East of State oute 49 on Schaadt Road. This farm home was the arental home of Kenneth's mother. He graduated om Rockford High School, now known as Parkway igh School, Rockford, Ohio. Kenneth served two ars in the Korean War. He entered service January , 1951 as No. U.S. 52-078-126, received his basic aining at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, then Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He then spent sixteen months at the Fort onard Wood Medical Hospital working in surgery d care of patients. He received an Honorable Discharge on January 21, 1953. On March 1, 1953 Kenneth was married to Reitta Anne Eichenauer at the ope Evangelical Church, Hopewell Township, lercer County, Ohio. She was born October 17, 932 in Hopewell Township, Mercer County, Ohio, aughter of Russell Kenneth and Ruth Evangeline eeter) Eichenauer, residents of Hopewell Township. Reitta Anne is a graduate of Celina High hool. During the two years Kenneth served in the orean conflict, Reitta Anne was employed at the elina Mutual Insurance Company (Celina Group surance Company) as an IBM key punch operator. enneth and his wife Reitta Anne established their sidence on the parental home of his mother, forerly the home of his grandparents Charles and lary (Wendel) Bollenbacher. Kenneth's parents en moved into a new home on their 80 acre farm ast of her parental home on Schaadt Road. Mr. and Irs. Kenneth Bransteter are the owners of 297 acres land in Liberty Township but in separate parcels. hey also rent additional land. Their sole business as been farming and raising livestock and they rive together to make it a success. They are active embers in the St. Paul's United Church of Christ cated at the intersection of Wabash and Oregon oads, Liberty Township. Kenneth and Reitta Anne re the parents of four children: James Eugene born nuary 13, 1954; Terry Alan born July 29, 1955; onnie Sue born September 4, 1960; and David Vayne born October 16, 1961. The birthplace of the our children was Adams County Hospital, Decatur, ndiana.

James Eugene, married to Kathleen Sue Beerower, better known as "Kathy" are parents of a son ason Eugene, born September 19, 1978 in the Van Vert County Hospital. Terry Alan, married to Vian Louise Dudgeon, are parents of two sons Travis lan, born May 8, 1976 and Trent Adam, stillborn ne 19, 1978, Tara Amy born June 11, 1979 born in he Van Wert County Hospital. James Eugene and erry Alan along with their families have established their homes in Liberty Township.

Connie is a 1978 graduate of Parkway High chool, Rockford, Ohio and employed at Celina Group Insurance, Celina, Ohio. David Wayne completed his Junior year at Parkway High School in 978 and is associated with his parents in their family farming operation. He plans to study mechanical ngineering following his graduation. In politics Kenneth is a Democrat and Reitta Anne is a Republican. For several years Kenneth has served as a eader of the Chatt 49'ers 4-H Club. All four of his hildren have been members of this club. *Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bransteter, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

BRANSTETER

Terry Alan Bransteter, second child of Kenneth Eugene and Reitta Anne (Eichenauer) Bransteter of Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio, was born in Adams County Hospital, Decatur, Indiana on July 29, 1955. He is a 1973 graduate of Parkway High School, Rockford, Ohio. In 1972 he started work with a contractor, building houses. On December 10, 1973 he started construction on his own seven room, brick, colonial home on Dutton Road near Mendon, Ohio and was married June 22, 1974 to Vivian Louise Dudgeon, a 1974 graduate of Mendon-Union High School, Mendon, Ohio. Vivian is a daughter of Donald Ray and Betty Joan (Watts) Dudgeon of R.R. 1, Mendon, Ohio. She was born June 20, 1956 in Lima, Allen County, Ohio. In 1974 Terry started his own construction company as Bransteter Builders. Terry and Vivian are the parents of three children, all born in Van Wert County Hospital, Van Wert, Ohio. Travis Alan was born May 8, 1976. A second son, Trent Adam, was stillborn July 19, 1978 and buried in St. Paul's United Church of Christ Cemetery, Wabash Road, Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio and Tara Amy born June 11, 1979. In March 1978 Terry and his family moved into a two-story home which he built on Oregon Road, three-fourth mile East of State Route 49. They plan to make this their permanent residence. They attend St. Paul's United Church of Christ. In politics they are Republicans. *Terry A. Bransteter, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

Becher

HENRY CONRAD BECHER

Henry Conrad Becher, son of John Becher was born in 1866 and was raised in Liberty Township near Chattanooga. He resided on his father's farm now owned by Tom Stephenson. Henry married Rosann Schlenker also of Liberty Township and there were born three daughters Carrie, Frieda and Martha.

Henry Becher spent his whole life in Liberty Township, Mercer Co. He died at a young age of 40. He is buried in Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Liberty Township. His wife Rosann had to struggle making a living for her three daughters. She worked hard milking cows and raising chickens. She died at 92 years in 1964 in Liberty Township and is buried by her husband.

(1) Carrie (1898-) married Theodore Leininger and reside now in Celina, Ohio. They have two daughters Mrs. Glenn (Catherine) Miller and Mrs. Dillon (Dorothy Jean) Hellwarth. Four grandchildren: Mrs. Kenneth (Janet) Brodbeck, Jerry Miller, Mrs. Ned (Doris) Goins and Mrs. Thomas (Karen) Kuhn, and one great-grandchild Kris Ann Brodbeck.

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(2) Frieda (1902-1933) married William Byers and they had two children Mrs. Walter (Rosemary) Piper in Celina and Kenneth Byers in Pea Ridge, Arkansas. Their grandchildren are Frieda Ann Brehm, Mrs. Marvin (Rita) Stolz and Nancy Williamson, Margie Byers, Mary Byers, Martha Byers, David Byers and great-grandchildren are Michael, Marci and Mark Brehm, Melissa, Leah and Andrea Stolz.

(3) Martha (1906-) married Troy Woodruff and she resides on Cron Street in Celina. They had one son Larry Troy Woodruff who married Betty Jo and they live on Shrimp Drive, Celina, Ohio. There are two granddaughters Heather and Renee. *Submitted by Martha Woodruff, Celina, Oh. 45822*

THE WILLIAM BRUMBAUGH FAMILY

William was born, May 7, 1891, in Darke Co., Ohio; the son of Joseph Nathan and Minnie (Leis) Brumbaugh, whose ancestors have been traced back four generations, to Johann Jacob Brumbach. He came from a small town in S.W. Germany, near Basil, Switzerland, named Brombach.

William married Anna Christine Bauer, born Dec. 25, 1901, daughter of William and Mary E. (Trissel) Bauer. William was the son of Johann and Susanna (Koch) Bauer. Both of them came from Germany.

Mary E. Trissel was the daughter of Henry and Barbara E. (Feldham) Trissel. Henry was a Civil War veteran. The family lived near Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1870, the family moved on a farm in Blackcreek Twp. Mary was born April 23, 1882, the youngest of seven children. Mary also had a son, Vernon Victor, born in 1905. He lived four months and twenty-two days. Mary died soon after Vernon was born. William died Jan. 16, 1960.

William and Anna lived on his mother's farm for two years after their marriage. Their son, Vernon Victor, was born April 21, 1919, in the old Brumbaugh Homestead. In 1925 they moved to Mercer Co. and lived on the John Bauer farm for seventeen years. William died March 30, 1950.

Vernon went to Liberty Center School until it burned down. Vernon then finished grade school at the Deitsch School. He graduated from Rockford High School in 1936.

In 1938 Vernon married Jean Marie Hileman, born July 18, 1920. They lived on the Bauer farm for 30 years. They moved then to Marthasville, Missouri, and worked at the Emmaus Home. A few years later they moved to Williston, Ohio, and worked at the Luther Home of Mercy.

There were three children: Allan Dee, born May 21, 1940, died June 6, 1974 after a long illness.

Gary Eugene was born April 17, 1942, graduated in 1960, from Rockford High School in Rockford where he now lives. He served two years in the army, being stationed just outside Crailsheim, Germany, a small Bavarian town, for the last eighteen months of his duty. He is married to the former Linda Tippie from Celina, who is employed by Community Hospital in Coldwater, Ohio. Gary works at AVCO New Idea as a patternmaker in their experimental department's pattern shop. He has four children: Nathan Dean, born July 20, 1967, Teresah Mae, born Sept. 19, 1968, Valerie Sue, born May 28, 1970, and Amanda Ann, born April 12, 1974.

Deanna Kay was born Nov. 17, 1948. She graduated from Lima Memorial Hospital, School of Nursing. She married Rex Edward Miller, born May 1 1948. She has three children: Jodi Christine, bor Dec. 30, 1973, Robin Denise, born June 12, 1976, an Keith Allan Dee, born Aug. 15, 1977. They ar presently living near Willshire, Oh. *Anna Brumbaugh*

J. L. B. Chapman Family, 1896 — **Standing. to R.:** Arthur, Adarin Carl, Leroy, Berth **Seated:** Caroline (Koc Chapman, Vernor Lloyd, J.L. Burleig Chapman.

JOHN HALL CHAPMAN AND MARY HAWLEY CHAPMAN

A hand carved picture frame that hung on the wall of my grandparents' bedroom contained the hidden family record of the John Hall Chapmar family. The delicate, scroll decorated sheet had been covered by a scenic picture for half a century.

John Hall Chapman was born in Lysoning County, Pa. May 25, 1815 and came to Columbiana County, Ohio as a young man. At a party he met Mary Hawley, a native of that county, born December 25, 1819. They were married July 21, 1839 and lived in that area until the spring of 1848 when they decided to move westward.

By now there were four children — Elizabeth Mary, born July 10, 1840; Nancy Anne, born July 31, 1842; Adna Dallas, born May 15, 1844 and Louisa Victoria, born May 14, 1846.

After converting all their property to cash, they bought a tract of land, sight unseen, in Liberty Township, Mercer County, near the present village of Chattanooga. They packed all the family treasures into a covered wagon, tied their cow to the tailgate and began their trek westward. Spring rains caused the wagon wheels to sink to the axles in the muddy tracks and had to be pried out with fence rails. John wanted to turn around but Mary refused to give up and late one afternoon she drove into a small clearing that was to be their new farm. The only building was a tiny log cabin with the door ajar. Coming out to greet them were the neighbor's cattle that had used it as shelter from the winter storms.

As the cabin could not be used in its present state, the family spent another night in the wagon. Early the next morning two neighbors arrived to build them a chimney. Mary milked the cow, cooked a kettle of mush over the campfire and served everyone mush and milk for breakfast.

A few years later the family purchased another tract of uncleared land near Skeels Cross Roads. Here their home became a daytime stopover for Negro slaves fleeing to Canada via the Underground Railroad. At night they were hidden in a wagon and

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ken as far north up Rt. 49 as they could go under over of darkness.

Five more children had arrived, making a total of ine. They were John Lloyd Burleigh, born January), 1851; Windle Emanuel, born September 8, 1853; elen Jane Josephine, born February 29, 1856; Rich-rd Hawley born April 1, 1859 and Jessie Elnora darine, born July 25, 1862.

Just before the Civil War the family bought 160 res of uncleared land east of Skeels Cross Roads nd north of Wabash. In exchange for 60 acres of nd a neighbor built them a frame house.

Dallas had enlisted in the Union Army and was illed during the battle of Champion Hills, May 16, 363, one day after his nineteenth birthday. His fa-ier died in October of 1869 at the age of 54. He is uried near Geneva, Indiana. Elizabeth became a eacher and on March 4, 1869 she married William lammer, a grocer from Portland, Indiana. Their ildren were Ethel Maude and Howard Clark. She ied in Celina about 1920.

Nancy also taught before she married Thomas larper of Blackcreek Township. They moved to Ne-raska where she died childless November 1, 1885. ouisa married Moses Foreman in 1871 after teach-ig several years. She died April 4, 1875. No chil-ren. Jessie died April 18, 1871 at the age of eight llowing a severe case of scarlet fever.

Mary and the four younger children remained on ie farm until 1878 when she, along with Josephine nd Richard, moved to West Fayette Street in Cel-ia. Josephine never married but taught school iany years before her death in 1887. Mary died in 907 and is buried in North Grove Cemetery at Cel-ia. Her tombstone contains the family record.

Windle continued to live on the family farm. He iarried a widow, Mary Carmack in 1898 who died 1 1900. Later he married Sarah Boice who helped im raise Nellie Carmack who was only eight years ld when her mother died. Windle died on the ome farm Dec. 13, 1929.

Burl married Caroline Koch Dec. 31, 1874. Their hildren were Adarine, Leroy, Arthur, Bertha, Carl, loyd and Vernon. The four younger children lived 1 Mercer County. Bertha married William Witter, Carl married Della Witter, Lloyd married Maud Per-ins, later Nellie Duncan and Vernon married Eva louts.

Richard was a teacher for several years until he ought the Mercer County Observer in partnership vith A.C.F. Gilberg. Later he worked at the Citizens ank and the Mercer County Building and Loan. He vas married to Kate Lambkin who died in 1905. He ater married Della Roach. Richard died in 1933 or 4. There were no children. *Mrs. Kenneth Pummell*

Golda and Lawrence Davis

THE DAVIS FAMILY

There comes a time in the life of every person where he or she desires to know more about their near relatives.

I, Lawrence McKinley Davis, shall state that my father, James Daniel Davis, was raised in Highland County, Ohio. Born May 6, 1858, the son of John W. Davis and his wife, Martha Rose. He came to Mercer County at about the age of 25 years and was known as Dan or J.S. by all who knew him. He married Joanna Rhodes, whose family had come to Mercer County from Shelby County, Ohio. Joanna Rhodes was born Dec. 14, 1864. To this union was born in Mercer County, Ohio, the following children: Florance — Oscar, Ethel — Lawrence — Kenneth — Olive — Russell — Cleon "Bus". Oscar and Kenneth passed away in their first week of life. Other members grew to manhood and womanhood in Mercer County raising their families there.

I was born in Section 36 of Liberty Township. We attended country schools and churches. We, of course, had only the one room school with seats and desks of various sizes. Anyway, here is where we learned to read, write and spell. Also, had history, geography and physiology and, of course, arithmetic.

After graduation from Celina High School and passing a state teaching examination, I was assigned the Scudder School in Liberty Township.

I taught one year then started playing baseball. When I got injured I decided to go to Ohio Northern and prepare to resume teaching. I then taught at Mt. Carmel school for $60.00, since it was one of the largest.

The spring of 1916 I went back to pitching baseball and then after the season I enlisted in the Army with Russell Hattery and Jim Thomas.

After serving in the Army I started working with L&M Tobacco Co. as a Division Manager. It was while I was working this territory that I met Golda Daugherty of Onieda, whom I married. I was a Division Manager for 13 years, then we moved back to the farm in Mercer County. It was at this time I ran for Sheriff and was the first Republican elected as Sheriff of Mercer County in 109 years.

Having served two terms we moved back on the farm then to Celina later. In 1956 I was elected Commissioner and later served on the school board.

All four of our children attended Celina schools and graduated from Celina High.

Mary Jo was born in Bluefield, West Virginia on August 30, 1923. She graduated from Bowling Green State University and married Perry G. Wise. She died in 1951.

Lawrence M. Jr. was born in Roanoke, Virginia, February 17, 1925. He was in the Merchant Marines and attended Bowling Green State University. He now owns the Northway Agency in New Jersey. Larry married Janet Leindfair. They have one son, Charles William, born October 27, 1960.

Jeanette was born in Cumberland, Maryland, March 14, 1927. She graduated from Bowling Green State University and married Don L. Myers, an attorney of Celina. They have two sons, Douglas, born December 20, 1950. Doug graduated from Celina High and Capital University. He is now a C.P.A. He married Debra VanderHorst and they have two girls, Toby and Lindsay. Bradley was born October 29, 1954. He graduated from Celina High, O.S.U. and is now attending law school at O.S.U.

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Betty Lou was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia, September 27, 1932. She attended Bowling Green State University and married Niles B. Amey. They have one son, Travis, born Feb. 15, 1955, who graduated from Defiance High and Sam Houston State University.

Lawrence M. Davis, Sr. died November 17, 1973, and Golda D. Davis died March 19, 1975.

"This is an excerpt from an autobiographical sketch of the life of L. M. Davis, Sr." *Mrs. Don Myers*

DAVIS

Paul Davis, a resident of Adams Co. Ind., was born in Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Oh., in 1909. Here he was reared and attended the township schools. He married Helen Roe, daughter of Frederick and Daisy (Galloway) Roe, of Adams Co., Ind., where the Davises settled and raised five children; Dwight, Eileen Dawson, Daisy Hurst, Marcille Bohnke, and Norman. In 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Davis both retired from the Fort Wayne International Harvester plant, and now live on their 135-acre farm three miles northeast of Decatur. Paul has enjoyed the hobby of horse pulling for the past 35 years, traveling each summer to various states to attend pulls.

Mr. Davis is of New England Quaker ancestry. His fourth great-grandfather, John Davis, son of John and Mary, settled on the Island of Nantucket in the early 1700's. In 1725 he married Margaret Coffin, great-granddaughter of the noted Tristram Coffin, one of the founders of Nantucket, where most of the inhabitants were of the Quaker faith and depended on the Whaling industry for their livelihood.

Thomas, son of John and Margaret, was born in 1730, grew to manhood on the island, and married Hepsibeth Macy, descendant of Thomas Macy, from Chilmark, England, in 1635, one of the original settlers of Salisbury, Mass. In 1659, the Macys sailed a small boat across Boston Bay to Nantucket, the first white family to live on the island. Thomas and Hepsibeth settled in Guilford Co., N.C., in 1773; eventually 41 families from Nantucket joined them. Thomas purchased 293 acres of land where he lived until his death in 1788. Hepsibeth died in 1812. They were members of the New Garden Meeting, Friends Church, as were their seven children; Deborah, Lydia, John, Tristram, Elizabeth, Peter and Thomas.

Peter, born 1771, moved after his mother's death to Clinton, the Quaker County of Ohio. Ten children were born to him and his second wife, Mary, in the Buckeye State; Thomas, John, Anna, Jacob, Elizabeth, Joseph, Hannah, Peter, Jr., Elihu, and William. Peter Davis Sr., an early settler on Lee's Creek, Wayne twp., died in 1855, on his pioneer homestead, 40 years after his settlement there.

Peter, Jr., great-grandfather of Paul, in 1855 married Julie Ann Allen, daughter of John and Deborah Allen of Fayette Co., Oh. His home, near the Highland Co. line was a hew log house, 22 ft. by 16 wide, story and half high, with two doors and three windows. In 1865, Peter, Jr., moved with his wife, mother and brothers, Elihu and Jacob to Mercer Co., Oh. Peter and Julie Ann settled in Hopewell Twp., Julie Ann dying in Feb., 1875, and Peter, Jr., seven months later. They were the parents of eight children; from 1 to 18 years of age; Hiram m. Lydia Harmon; William m. Amanda Stevenson; Mary m. William Newcomb; Alice m. William Hines; Hannah m. Nathan Baucher; Anna m. John Burch; Joseph m. Sarah Sawmiller; Flora m. Alfred Dawson and Samuel Harness.

Hiram Davis was born in 1857, and three years after the death of his parents married Lydia Harmon daughter of Jacob and Abigail (Koontz) Harmon. He raised his youngest brother Joseph with his own children in Sect. 1, Liberty Township, where he farmed and operated a tile mill, which had belonged to his father-in-law, Jacob Harmon. Six children were born to them; William, Mary Adams, Alonzo Frank, Bert, and Clyde.

Paul's father, William was born in 1880, and lived in Liberty Twp. In 1904 he married Mary Elizabeth Hinton, daughter of Franklin Pierce Hinton; after 10 years of marriage, Lizzie died, leaving a young son Paul. In 1930 William, a farmer, moved across the state line, into the southern part of Adams Co. where he was living when he died in 1970, at the age of 90. *Submitted by Paul D. Davis*

Children of Bill and Ethel Deitsch — **Back Row:** Lloyd Carl, Forrest, John Ralph, and Gerald **Front Row:** Ruth Young, Iva Mong Dorothea Larie Mary Colson, Mabe Denney, Velva Gou beau, and Mildred Goodwin Mentzer.

JOHN JACOB DEITSCH (DEUTSCH)

Many of the Deitsch or Deutsch descendants in the Mercer County area can trace their roots back to one common ancestor, John Jacob Deutsch. John was born March 29, 1814, in Germany. Some think he came from Bavaria. (Erst Weiler or Siegen Essen)

We think John's family brought him to America when he was about twelve years old. The family may have made their first home in Pennsylvania. Earlier histories indicate that John came to Mercer County and settled in Liberty Township around 1840.

John married a woman named Katharina. She was born in Germany June 16, 1820. We do not know when she arrived or what area of Germany she came from.

John and Katharina had ten children. They were Mrs. Adam (Susanna) Schultz, Mrs. John (Margaret) Kable, Philip, Mrs. Catherine Dock, William Henry, John J., Christian, Mrs. Sophia Betzel, and Maria Louise. Christian and Maria died when they were very young children.

John, Katharina, and the family attended church at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Wabash Road in Liberty Township. John died on March 2, 1859. We believe he rests beside Katharina who died October 28, 1900. Katharina is buried in Deitsch Cemetery across the road from the small white frame church.

John's son William married Margaret Bacher (Baugher) on October 27, 1875. William and Margaret were the parents of eleven children.

They were David, Jacob, Mrs. John (Pauline) Trip-

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ie, Mrs. William (Mary) Woodward, Henry William, Mrs. Charles (Annie) Rhyne, Edward, Mrs. esse (Emma) Rhyne, Mrs. Earl (Edith) Vantilburg, Mrs. Charles (Freda) Smelser, and Charles who died when he was one year old. Their family had two sets f twins.

William was a carpenter by trade. He and Margaet lived in Wabash, Ohio, before moving to Celina n their older years. At the time of William's death e resided with his bachelor son, Ed, on Sycamore treet in Celina. William died February 1, 1922, and Margaret died six years later on February 14, 1928. oth of them are buried in North Grove Cemetery at he edge of Celina.

William's son, Henry William or Bill, was born in iberty Township January 17, 1885. At the time of is marriage to Rachel Ethel Runkel, August 23, 906, he was living with his parents in Wabash.

Ethel and Bill had fourteen children. They are Mrs. James (Mabel) Denney, Dale, Mrs. John (Iva) Mong, Lloyd, Mrs. Calvin (Velva) Goubeau, Gerald, Mrs. Harry (Ruth) Young, Ralph, Mrs. Donald (Dothea) Larie, Forrest, Mrs. Donald (Mary) Colson, Mrs. Galen (Mildred) Mentzer, Carl, and John. The ldest son, Dale, died when he was six weeks old.

For a short time Bill and Ethel lived with her parnts on a farm north of Macedon. During their years ogether they lived in Indiana, Auglaize County and everal places in Mercer County.

Bill was a carpenter and during his working years ie built several homes throughout the Mercer County area. Many of them were in Montezuma nd the surrounding area.

At the time of his death he lived on a farm near Montezuma. Bill died September 16, 1963 and Ethel lied seven years later on November 30, 1970. Both re buried in Burdge Cemetery near Montezuma.

Mary E. Colson, Celina, Oh. 45822

LAWRENCE V. DEITSCH

Lawrence Deitsch was born in Mercer County, Celina, Ohio on November 26, 1900. He was the son of Valentine Deitsch, born September 11, 1879 in Mercer County. His mother, Caroline Alt Deitsch was born September 13, 1882 in Mercer County. Lawrence attended church with his parents at the St. Paul's Evangelical Church in Liberty Township. His education was gained in the one room schools in Liberty Township. He was employed at Mersman Brothers at Celina, Ohio for 25 years. Lawrence married Emma C. Willrath, born December 8, 1903. She was the daughter of John and Marie Pierstorff Willrath. Lawrence and Emma were married December 18, 1924. They chose as their church home, the St. Johns Lutheran in Hopewell Township. One daughter, Patricia Sue was born October 1, 1933. Emma Willrath Deitsch died October 2, 1935. She was buried in Buck Cemetery, Hopewell Township. Lawrence married Wilma G. Weitz, born November 25, 1913. She is the daughter of William C. and Emma Fisher Weitz. Lawrence and Wilma were married November 25, 1936. Leaving Celina they moved to a farm in Jefferson Township and later moved to a farm in Liberty Township and did farming as their occupation. The Deitsch family adopted Edward William, born July 30, 1944. He came to live with the Deitschs on January 29, 1946. Lawrence was a loyal son, husband and father to all his family. He died June 7, 1958. He is buried in Buck Cemetery, Hopewell Township.

Patricia Sue, daughter of Lawrence and Emma Deitsch and stepdaughter of Wilma Deitsch, attended school in Celina, Ohio and graduated as a registered nurse from Lima Memorial School of Nursing. She married Eugene Hirschfeld and they are the parents of 5 children, Mary Jo, born February 24, 1957, Rodney, born November 25, 1958, Alice Sue, born July 7, 1960, Pamela, born March 20, 1965 and Timothy, born January 14, 1968.

Edward William, adopted son of Lawrence and Wilma Deitsch attended school in Celina, Ohio and served four years in the United States Marines. He is living in Louisville, Kentucky. *Wilma Deitsch, Celina, Oh.*

John Fahncke Family — **Standing:** Otto Fahncke, Hugo Fahncke, Henry Fahncke, Paul Fahncke, Carl Fahncke, Emma Fahncke Brehm. **Seated:** Martha Fahncke Bollenbacher, John Fahncke (our subject), Louisa Gertz Fahncke, Anna Fahncke Bollenbacher.

JOHN FAHNCKE

John Fahncke, at the age of fourteen, emigrated to America with his parents John H. Sr., and Maria (Lemke) Fahncke, along with two sisters and one brother. They came from the province of Mecklenburg, the town of Schwerin, in northern Germany. They sailed from the port of Hamburg, in March, 1872, on a side paddlewheel steamboat. The voyage to New York took eighteen days. They traveled by train to Cincinnati, then to Mercer County where they settled on a farm in Section three in Hopewell Township, near Tama among friends and relatives. The mother Maria died in 1873. The father later married Sophia Schmidt. The daughter Henrika married Joseph Pierstorff. The daughter Dorthea married Charles Pierstorff, and the son William married Sophia Brasch. They all lived nearby and were members of St. John Lutheran Church of Hopewell Township.

John Fahncke, our subject, married Louisa Gertz on March 24, 1887, who also had emigrated from Hanover, Germany at the age of six years, in April, 1874, with her parents Henry and Elizabeth Gertz, a brother Henry and sister Anna. The Gertz family settled on a farm two miles west of Celina on Mud Pike which was then owned by Broad Trenary. Later, they purchased a forty acre farm in Section two, Liberty Township.

After John and Louisa were married, they settled on a forty acre farm in Section twenty-one, Liberty Township, purchased from John Alt in 1885. Four acres of the tract was cleared land, the balance, standing timber. The buildings were a log house and a log stable where a team of horses and the cow were kept. The best white oak trees were cut, sawed into lumber, and shipped by canal to Cincinnati (later by C&N Railroad). This lumber was used by

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the shipbuilding industry. The land was cleared by hand labor and required a lot of cooperation between neighbors to get the huge job done.

When a new barn was built in 1888, the framing timbers were hewn by hand. A room was attached to the log house. In 1899, a new house was built and additional buildings were built as they were needed. The farm acreage was increased to 200 and is still owned by sons Carl and Paul. Through the years, this farm has been and still is, a successful grain and livestock operation.

There were five sons and three daughters in the family. Henry (deceased) married Rosa Bender, had two sons Herbert and Norman. Anna (deceased) married Tona Bollenbacher (deceased), had one son Lester and one daughter Ruth. Emma married Philip Brehm (deceased) had two daughters Maria and Bessie. Otto (deceased) married Eda Kable (deceased) had five daughters and four sons Lauretta, Martin, Luther (deceased), Kenneth, Anna, Marcella, Celesta, Richard and Wanda. Hugo married Clista Baker. Carl married Goldie Linn. Martha married Victor Bollenbacher, had four sons and one daughter Jerome, Lloyd, Donald, Clifford and Martha Jane. Paul married Ruth Rutledge (deceased), married Margaret Smith, had three sons and one daughter John, Joseph, Charles and Sara. *Hugo Fahncke*

PAUL FAHNCKE FAMILY

Paul Fahncke, youngest child of John and Louisa (Gertz) Fahncke, was born on August 7, 1909, in Liberty Township. Since his parents came from Germany in their early youth and they enjoyed using their native tongue, Paul spoke German with them in their home as long as they lived.

Paul was married to Ruth Rutledge, daughter of Joseph and Emma (Smitley) Rutledge, on October 12, 1940. They lived at the Fahncke homestead in Liberty Township until Ruth's death in January, 1957.

On April 12, 1958, Paul was married to Margaret Smith, daughter of George and Freda (Regedanz) Smith, Hopewell Township. At the time of their marriage, Margaret was employed in the Mercer County Common Pleas Court office.

Paul and Margaret have four children: John was born in 1959, one hundred years after grandfather John Fahncke's birth, so it seemed appropriate to name him John. Joseph was born in 1960; Charles made his entrance into the world in 1963, and daughter Sara arrived in 1966.

While John was a student in the Parkway Schools, he enjoyed participating in concert band, varsity football, track, and was a member of National Honor Society. He was graduated in 1977, and since that time has been employed at General Electric Company in Decatur, Indiana, and has been attending WOBC in Celina, working toward an associate degree in drafting.

Joe is a high school senior, past president and current vice-president of the Parkway FFA Chapter. He is a third year member of the varsity football team, playing defensive tackle.

Chuck (Charles) is a sophomore, member of concert band, pep band, football team, and secretary of Parkway FFA. He also enjoys playing piano and organ.

Sara is a 6th grade student at Rockford, an el mentary band student learning to play trombon reads, is learning to play piano, and loves animals.

John, Joe, Chuck and Sara are all members Chatt 49ers 4-H Club where they have held variou offices. The family are active members of St. Paul Lutheran Church on Wabash Road. Paul and Ma garet are members of the Board of Directors of Th Mercer County Society for Crippled Children an Adults. Paul is a past supervisor of Mercer Count Soil and Water Conservation Board, a Farm Burea member and participates in various community a fairs.

The whole family enjoys taking part in their ger eral farming operation, consisting of 200 acre owned and 125 acres rented, with a beef herd, pig and chickens. *Paul Fahncke, Celina, Oh. 45822*

FLOYD FELVER

Floyd Felver, the 3rd son of George and Carolin Bauk Felver, was born March 21, 1895. Born an raised on the farm in Liberty Township, he too be came a farmer, answering the call of the land.

He remained on the farm until being drafted int the service during WW 1. As a private in Compan B, 32nd Divison, 126th Infantry, he was involved i several severe battles in France. During one of thes battles he was either struck on the head or passe out from exhaustion; he never knew which for cer tain, and awoke on an empty battlefield surrounde by the casualties. He had apparently been left fo dead. He made his way to a small French village an from there was re-united with his company. He wa discharged May 14, 1919.

On Floyd's return to Ohio, he again took up farm ing, marrying Nora Hone on July 9, 1919. On daughter, Marcella Dorothy, was born to the coupl September 16, 1920.

By 1934 Floyd had saved enough money to bu the farm from George Felver, completing the pay ments in 1936. During his lifetime, Floyd was progressive farmer, one of the first to raise soy beans; now a valuable cash crop.

At the age of 65, he retired with a heart condition but kept interested in the life he had built up. He died of a heart attack while squirrel hunting in his east woods, September 7, 1968. He died doing wha he liked best.

Marcella, Floyd and Nora's only child, decided upon nursing as her profession and entered nurses training at St. Joseph's Hospital, Ft. Wayne. During her training years she met Frank Smerik, then serving in the Air Force during WWII and stationed a that time in Ft. Wayne. They were married January 8, 1944, and bought the Fred Becker farm, remodeling the house and buildings to what they are now. To the Smeriks were born five daughters — Karen April 11, 1945; Sandy, August 11, 1946; Miriam, July 2, 1953; Becky, May 28, 1959; Jan, October 30, 1961

George Felver continued to live on the 100 acre farm in liberty Township until 1916, when he made the decision to move to 415 West Fayette Street; Celina, Ohio. The 58-year-old George was getting too far up in years to manage a farm, hard work at the best of times, and certainly back-breaking labor in those days when most jobs were done by hand.

Floyd, feeling the urge none of his brothers expe-

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ienced, chose to stick close to the land. His opportunity came when his father moved to Celina, leaving him to take over the management of the farm.

On October 2, 1917, Floyd Felver received a draft notice in the mail, a call to serve his country in World War I. During Floyd's period in the service, George moved his family back to the farm to carry on until his return.

On November 29, 1936, George and Caroline Felver celebrated 50 years of marriage, back at their home in Celina. All the children were still living, having survived a time in our nation's history that claimed many lives. George passed away at the age of 81, and was buried at Swamp College Cemetery.

At the time of George's purchase of the farm on Grahm Pike, the land must have been very nearly ¾ woods. He cleared most of the 100 acres himself, shaping it into a productive farm; his gift to be handed down to his children, and their children. The farm is now being occupied by the fourth and fifth generations of direct decendants of George Felver. *Sally Smerik, Celina, Oh. 45822*

RUSSELL FERGUSON FAMILY

Russell Ferguson, whose fine farm of 140 acres situated in sections 2 and 12, Liberty Township at 9442 Erastus-Durbin Rd. attracts attention on account of its excellent improvements and good cultivation. He has been a resident of Mercer County all his life. Russell was born in Washington Township, July 21, 1917 and was the son of Henry Walter and Sarah Lena (Cordier) Ferguson. Russell was four years old when his father died of pneumonia and his mother later married Frank Stoner.

Russell has a brother, Lester Ferguson, Hone-Weir Rd., Celina, Ohio. Two half-brothers, Franklin Jr. and Edwin Stoner, Celina, Ohio. Two half sisters, Mrs. Ray (Mary Lou) Riley, Convoy, Ohio and Mrs. Keith (Carolyn Sue) VanTilburg, Richmond, Indiana. Also a step-sister, Lenore Hawkins, Rockford, Ohio.

During boyhood, Russell lived most of the time with relatives and as a young man was hired as a laborer by the day. For several years, he owned and drove a milk truck which picked up the cans of milk at farms and delivered it at the Pet Milk Co., Coldwater, Ohio and later to the Equity Dairies at Fort Recovery, Ohio.

On December 1, 1940, Russell was united in marriage with Ruth Margaret Bollenbacher, a hair stylist, and the daughter of Tona Benjamin and Anna Sophia (Fahncke) Bollenbacher of Liberty Township. She has a brother, Lester H. Bollenbacher, 417 S. Elm St., Celina, Ohio. Her grandfather was John Fahncke (his biography is given in this book.)

The farm on which they live was first owned by Ruth's grandfather, George Bollenbacher, (mentioned in the 1907 Mercer Co. History Book) and then by her father, Tona. The other farm is the place where Ruth was born and raised.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson have three children: Judy Elaine, Jeanne Beth, and Anna Louise.

The oldest daughter, Judy, is presently employed as an elementary librarian at Parkway High School, Rockford, Ohio.. She is married to Rolland Nick Priddy, son of Nick and Ruby Priddy, Glenmore, Ohio, who works as a job setter at the Chrysler Amplex Corp., Van Vert, Ohio. They live at 12793 Frysinger Rd., Rockford, Ohio and are the parents of two children, Amy Jo and Shawn Nick. Judy is the 1978 Vice President of the Twentieth Century Club, Rockford, Ohio.

The second daughter, Jeanne, also a hairstylist, worked for her mother (at Ruth's Beauty Shop) for three years then met and married Paul Allen Turner, son of Rev. O. B. and Martha Turner, Wren, Ohio. They presently live at 2117 Cimarron Pass, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Jeanne works at the Jade Room Salon and Paul is assistant controller of the accounting department of the Lincoln National Bank, Fort Wayne. Both are talented in music and both can play the organ and piano. They are active members of the Blackhawk Baptist Church, State St. Fort Wayne. Paul serves as pianist and Jeanne sings in the choir and the "Blackhawk Singers" group. They can be seen participating in the Sunday services on T.V. Channel 21.

The third daughter, Anna, is married to William Earl Roberts, son of Wesley and Myrtle Roberts, Celina, Ohio. They live at 905 Lilac St., Celina, Ohio and have a daughter, Heather Maria. Anna is employed in the shipping department of Reynolds and Reynolds Co., Celina, Ohio. William is custodian at the Junior High department of the Celina Public Schools.

For the past 13 years, Ruth has owned and operated Ruth's Beauty Shop at her home. Both have been quite active in community projects and are active members of the St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Rockford, Ohio. Russell has served as deacon several times and Ruth has held offices and taught several Sunday School classes. In politics, they are identified with the Democratic Party. Mrs. Ferguson was the 1977 President of the Twentieth Century Club, Rockford, Ohio. *Russell Ferguson, Rockford, Oh.*

J. C. FISHER

J. C. Fisher died at his late home two miles south of town, Friday evening from apoplexy. The obituary follows:

John Christian Fisher was born in Bavaria, Germany, August 29, 1839, where he was also baptized. On the 21st of March, 1849 he came to America with his parents, John Andrew and Gertrude Fisher, and ever since lived in Liberty township, Mercer County, Ohio. He was confirmed in the German Evangelical church by the Rev. Gackenheimer.

He was married to Mary Bollenbacher December 10, 1867. This union was blessed with nine children, three of whom preceded the father to the better land; the remaining six live in our midst and all have families. Living children are, Mrs. Magdalena Fritzsinger, Mrs. Louisa Straeble, Mrs. Emma Weitz, Mrs. Eliza Koch, William and Adam Fisher. Besides the six children he leaves to mourn their loss his widow, sixteen grandchildren, one sister-in-law and family, and a host of friends.

He was a true member of his church, and a faithful friend of the different pastors on account of the gospel preached. Mr. Fisher passed to his reward March 26, 1909, aged 69 years, 6 months and 27 days.

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Heaven is not reached by a single bound,
But we build a ladder by which we rise,
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And mount to its summit round by round.

I count this thing to be grandly true,
That a noble deed is a step toward God,
Lifting the soul from the common clod,
To a purer air and a clearer view.

GEHM

William Gehm: Philip Gehm was born in 1819 in Kreimbach in the Rheimpfalz near the French border in southwest Germany. He raised a family of at least 5 children. After the death of his wife, he came to America and lived with his son William and family near Chattanooga. At that time, more of the families around had a Grandparent living with them, than did not. He died in 1898 and is buried in the cemetery of St. Paul's U.C.C. in Liberty twp.

William Gehm, born in 1847, lived in section 5, was a farmer and also was part owner in a sawmill with Jacob Baker and Adam Bollenbacher. After Mr. Baker was killed in the saw, the others sold out to John Allmindinger and the shed was moved in to Chattanooga. They also had a cider mill beside the sawmill and sometimes there would be upwards of 40 waiting to press. There would be a pile of pummish built up to size of a small barn. After Baumgartners bought it, you were required to take your pulp along home with you. William married Barbara Breckhizer who was born in 1851. They became the parents of 10 children: #1. Jacob m. Mary Alt. 2. Henry m. Katharine Alt. 3. Anna m. Christ Linn. 4. Mary m. Fred Bauer. 5. Corline m. Lewis Kugel. 6. Catherine m. Fred Wick. 7. Laura m. Fred Deiner. 8. John m. Icy Canary. 9. Andrew m. Lillian Beitler. and 10. Edward m. Hulda Wolf. Mr. Gehm died in November of 1893 and his wife in September of 1914. Both are also buried in St. Paul's cemetery.

#9 of the above, Andrew William was born December 1, 1890 and attended the Deitsch school, married Lilliam Beitler a daughter of Lawrence Beitler, in 1915 on a warm beautiful Thanksgiving day. Since Lilly came from Monroe, Indiana, they had to get their license from Decatur, and that made a pretty long buggy ride for one day. They were among the first members of Chatt Grange, transfering to Unity Grange near Wabash, after they moved to a farm south of Scudder. Mrs. Gehm died in 1973 after a long bout with cancer and he still maintains his home. When ask how he passed this past winter's blizzard, he answered that he had read the New Testament through twice and had never put through such a hard one. He did remember in his youth his Father bringing the soup crackers home in a barrel, and that they only cost ca three dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Gehm raised a family of 5; Elmer m. Alta Walston; Robert 1917-1953; RuthEllen m. Roy Christian; Lester Wm. m. Blanche Cencebaugh; and Rev. Noel m. Leora Abbotmeier. *Andy Gehm, Celina, Oh.*

HEINRICH J. GROTH

Heinrich J. Groth Sr. (b) 1832 (d) 1905 came to America, through Canada, from Mechlenburg, Germany in 1851 at the age of 19. He left Germany to escape being drafted into a Civil War. His uncle paid his passage and he was to live with an uncle and aunt in Albany, N.Y., but found when he arrived that they had died. He then worked his way to Ohio by doing odd jobs. He lived for a while in New Bremen, Ohio, later coming to Liberty Twp. in Mercer Co. He worked for a while as a wagon maker and later became a farmer where they owned 120A in Section 3, 5-1.

Mr. and Mrs. Heinrich Groth Sr. and Dorothe Lempke Groth

He married Dorothea Lempke (b) 1841 (d) 1898 who had come with her parents from Germany and lived in Hopewell Twp. They had 3 sons — Albert Otto, and Henry, also 1 daughter, Catherine Groth Sealscott (Mrs. Charles). Albert and Otto had no children. Henry's children are Thelma Hawk (Mrs Bill) and Glendola Jewell (Mrs. Forrest). Catherine had 3 sons — Forest, Dewan (married Evelyn Rhodes) and Doyle (married Eileen Weinman). She also had 5 daughters — Vera, Elberta, Ruth (Mrs Tom Beers), Ethel (Mrs. Paul Kirby) and Irene. Forest died in 1938 and Doyle in 1950.

Thelma Hawk's children are Miriam Fetters Roger and Charlene. Roger's children are Vicki and Mike. Glendola's children are Luanne Vollmer, Susane Schatt and Linda. Luanne's children are Briar and Erick Vollmer. Susane's children are Bob and Steve Schatt.

Dewan Sealscott's children are Marlene, Dennis Brent and Lisa. Dennis has 2 children — Chris and Heather Sealscott. Ruth Beers has 1 son — Tom Beers Jr. Ethel has 2 children — Diane and Donald Diane has 1 daughter — Kristen Anderson.

Heinrich Groth Sr. was very good at making things of wood. A small wooden box, with lock, he made of cherry wood from trees on their farm. It has small cherry wood veneer pieces covering the outer surface of box. Heinrich would, as told by his son Otto Groth, take only small pieces of wood from a cherry tree at a time in order to not damage the trees. This little box is still in the family and is a prized possession of a granddaughter, given to her by Uncle Otto.

Later, John Groth, Heinrich's father and his third wife, Catherine, came to U.S. (all 3 were sisters). They lived with Dorthea and Heinrich. Their maiden name was Foskuhl. Heinrich also had a brother Fred who came to U.S. and a brother and sister who stayed in Germany. Fred Groth's family lived in Toledo, Ohio. Fred left home and was later heard from when he wrote home for his accordion. He was then in Michigan. He had married, while still in Toledo, Sophia Schultz — their children were Lewis, John, Caroline Groth Roof (Mrs. Charles), Anne Groth Albersmeir (Mrs. Christ) and Minnie Eisenagel. Lewis was adopted by a family named Sailoff. John, age 2, and his mother died and were buried on the same day. Caroline was raised as a young girl by her uncle and aunt Heinrich and Dor-

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ea. Charles Roof, who later married Caroline, was
1 orphan boy from an orphanage in Cleveland,
hio. He also was raised by the Groths.

Dorthea's (Mrs. Heinrich Groth Sr.) sister was
laria Lempke Fahncke (John). Her children were
hn, Bill, Dora Pierstorff and Ricka Pierstorff. Her
:others were Lewis and Fred Lempke. Lewis' chil-
:en were Henry and Bill. Fred's children were Al-
:rt and Bill.

The Groth families were Lutherans for many gen-
:ations. In U.S. they belonged to St. Paul's
utheran Church in Liberty Twp., Mercer Co. One
eautiful stain glass window still shows this was do-
ated by Heinrich Groth Sr. family. *Charles Sealscott*

THE HARMON FAMILY

Lydia wife of Hiram Davis and daughter of Jacob
nd Abby Harmon (Herman), was born September
3, 1857, in Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Oh. She was
ducated in the one room schools nearby and later
ttending Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware,
)h., where her grandmother, Sophronia Nuss lived.
he taught several terms of school in Mercer Co.,
uring her younger years. After her marriage her
fe was devoted to her husband and six children,
lary Adams, William, Frank, Alonzo, Bert, and
:lyde. She was confirmed a Lutheran at St. Pauls
ut in later years, became a member of the Liberty
:hapel Friends Church, where she is buried, dying
uring 1935 and Hiram in 1940.

Lydia's father, Jacob Harmon was born during
824, in Germany, came to America during the
830's with his mother and grandparents, who set-
ed in Fairfield County, Ohio then relocated in
helby Co. about 1840. Mr. Harmon in 1849, mar-
ied Abigail Koontz, daughter of Christian and
:hristina, early settlers of Franklin Co., Oh., and na-
ves of Pa. Harmon purchased 120 acres of land in
ec. 1 of Liberty Twp., during 1857, which he
leared and built into a prosperous homestead. He
uilt a tile mill, engaging in making tile along with
arming. At the age of 40 and the father of six chil-
ren, Jacob was drafted into the Civil War, during
ept. of 1864. Serving 9 months in Company B, 78th
eg., O.V.I. He died in 1887, when a young colt
itched to a buggy, bucked, and Jacob was thrown
rom the buggy. He is buried at St. Pauls Cemetery,
/here he was a member of that Church. Abby lived
ntil 1920, and buried at Liberty Chapel Friends
:emetery, which was originally part of their farm.
acob and Abby were the parents of twelve children;
Aichael; Sophronia (1852-1896) married William
Andrews; Lewis (1853-1899) married Susan Della
lane; Lydia (1857-1935) married Hiram Davis; Wil-
iam (1858-1897) married Rebecca Jane Howell;
Aonroe (1859-1901); John (1864-1897); Christina
1866-1942) married Samuel Dixon, and lived in Cel-
na; Lena (1867-1898) married Frank Robinson; Lucy
1869-1891); Jacob (1871-1893); Mary (1874-1951)
narried Perry Beckdolt and lived in Celina.

Jacob's natural mother was Sophoronia, and she
vas born during 1804. Shortly after coming to
America, she married Albert Nuss. She lived in the
ity of Delaware, Delaware Co., Oh., till after the
eath of her husband. Forty acres were purchased
y her, in Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., from her son Ja-
cob, in 1874. On Nov. 19, 1878, Sophronia deeded one acre of land to Jacob and Thomas Wright and Jacob Hinton, Trustees of United Brethren Church in Christ for the purpose of a cemetery in Liberty Twp. During May 1889, Lewis Harmon and wife Della, (Sophronia Nusses grandson, and brother to Lydia), deeded ¼ acre to the Trustees of The Friends Chapel Meeting, the same church, but it having changed denominations.

Jacob's grandparents were Johannes and Salome (Sally) Harmon. Salome died in Franklin Twp., of Shelby Co., Sept., 17, 1852, at the age of 70 years. She was buried at St. Jacobs Lutheran Cemetery, one mile south of Anna, where the Harmon Family were members of that Church. *Submitted by Mrs. Darla Beer*

THE HINTON FAMILY

The Hintons arrived in colonial times in Virginia from England. In 1666 they moved to Maryland. Thomas, son of Thomas and Rachel (Howard) Hinton was born in 1737 in Montgomery County, Md. Sometime in the 1790's he settled in Bourbon Co., Ky., where his youngest son Elias was born. By 1800 Thomas and Family of eleven children had settled in the Scioto Valley of Ross Co., Oh. In 1801 he received a patent from the government for 109 acres in Colerain Twp., where he cleared the land and built a cabin and lived until his death in 1821; Deborah, his wife died in 1835 in Delaware Co., Oh., where several of her children were living. Three daughters and eight sons made up this family. Rebecca married Daniel Roberts; Martha married William Reed; Sally married William Duvall; Seburn; Thomas; Ezekiel; Levi; James; William; Phillip; and Elias.

Elias married Susannah Cox, daughter of Moses and Lydia Cox. He purchased the home place, 109 acres, from his father's estate in 1821. Here he raised a family of eight children, John Cox, Thomas E., Henry, Perry, Andrew, Francis, and Mary married Jacob May. He served as Justice of Peace for 21 years, holding other township offices as well. He died in 1877, Susannah in 1865.

Thomas E. Hinton, son of Elias, was born in May 1818, grew up in the hilly area near the Village of Adelphi. Elizabeth Delong, daughter of Henry and Mary (Mowery) Delong married Mr. Hinton in 1839 and bore him seven children in Ross Co. In March, 1860, the family moved to Mercer Co., Oh., where they lived with his brother, Francis, for 9 months, in a log home in Sec. 11, of Liberty twp., until they could erect their own, then cleared the land, with the neighbor men all helping with rolling logs and raisings. Thomas E. served in the Civil war in 1863 and died three years later from diseases then contracted. Elizabeth lived on the farm until her death in 1902; both are buried in the Liberty Chapel Cemetery. Their children were: Henry V.; Elias, who died in the Civil War; Jacob who moved West; Lee Ann married John Listner; Franklin P.; Wilson; and Mary married John Koch and George Phillips.

Franklin P. Hinton was 13 when his father died. In 1874 he married Barbara Isabelle Howell, daughter of Simeon and Hannah (Horner) Howell, of Auglaize Co., Oh. They lived in Sec. 11, Liberty Twp., across the road from the old Hinton school and a mile from the Hinton post office. After his marriage, he took care of his aged mother until her death. Six

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of Frank and Isabell's children grew to adulthood; Ora, a former Sheriff in Auglaize Co., Thomas, a farmer; Mary Elizabeth (Lizzie), married William Davis; Ollie, married Lawrence Siler; Pearl, married Dillon Smalley; Bessie married William Miller and 2nd Daniel Whitehead.

Lizzie Hinton, born 1884 married in 1904 a neighbor boy, William Davis, son of Hiram Davis. In 1907 a son Alva was born but died in infancy; in 1909, another son Paul was born, but was only five when Mrs. Davis died in 1914. Paul was reared in Liberty Twp., by his father and paternal grandparents. He married Helen Roe and five children were born to them, being reared at their home near Decatur, Ind., where they still live.

The second child and eldest daughter, Eileen, was born in Mercer Co., Oh., in 1932; during 1952 she married Earl Dawson of Monroeville, Allen Co., Ind. They are the parents of two children; Edward married Debra Schenk and Darla married Timothy Beer; and have a dau., Rebecca Ann. Mrs. Dawson, a member of First Families of Ohio, Charter member of Antoine Rivarre Chapter of Daughters of American Revolution, and Adams County Historical Society, which she has held offices in the latter two, has many other hobbies but is enthusiastically involved in genealogical research about her ancestors. *Mrs. Eileen Dawson, Decatur, Indiana*

GEORGE WASHINGTON HONE

(June 2, 1874-July 4, 1946)

George, along with eight brothers and one sister was raised in Liberty Township. His father Henry and mother Katherine Meyer Hone homesteaded on the northwest corner of Hone-Weir and Erastus Durbin roads.

Before settling in Mercer County, Henry went to California in 1855 and mined gold. It was a seemingly prosperous trip and he returned to New Bremen, Ohio and invested in a copper shop. Two years later he sold his shop and moved to his father's farm. He and Katherine were members of the Reformed Lutheran Church. Henry was an active democrat, having served as Liberty Township trustee for thirteen years in succession.

The brothers and sister are Andrew, William, Chris, John, Henry, Edward, David, Frank and sister Katherine. Andrew never married and Edward lived only three months while David passed away at eighteen years of age.

George Washington Hone married Fannie Belle Hines and to their union was born fifteen children; Florence, Jenny, Leona, Viola, Flossie, Lulu, Gladys, Jake, Ed W. and Elza (twins) Ivan, Lawrence, Thornton, Paul and Arnold.

Many of these children travelled and settled in other locations. Lulu and Arnold settled in California and Jake in nearby Oregon.

Ed travelled to Texas and worked in the oil fields in the 1920's. While he was on the way to Texas his brother Ivan contacted pneumonia and passed away at the age of 21.

Nearly all the other members of the Hone family remained in and around Mercer County. Their ancestors came from Germany in the early 1800's. Th trip took about six weeks. They settled in Marylar for awhile. For reasons unknown they came to A glaize County in 1832 and settled in New Bremen.

Eventually families moved to Mercer County ar changed the spelling of the name. The Germ spelling is Hoehne. There are still Hoehnes, Hone Hohnes, and Hohns, all of which came from tl same family many generations ago. *Barb Thees, Celi Oh.*

William, Andy, Chris, George, Katie, Catherine and Henry Hone

HENRY HONE

Richard and Marie Hone had three sons that live to have families of their own.

John Fred, the oldest son, died comparativel young but he did marry Marie Elizabeth Barth i 1852 (4) and had one son Fred Jr. Fred Jr. moved t Williams Station, Indiana and lived there until h took his family (two sons) to Seattle, Washingto around 1912 (2). One son was a college professo and the other son was in business. (2)

Henry William also died young (1862 at age 22 He married Anna Marie Elise Hoolmann in 1860 an they had two daughters: Elise Mathilida, 1861, an Catherine Elise, 1863. (4) Elise Mathilida (Mr Tangeman) moved to Michigan and Catherine Elis (Mrs. Scheer) settled in New Bremen.

Bernard Henry was reared on his father's farn with his two brothers and was educated in the Ger man language in a little school built on the corner o this farm. Later by his own efforts, acquired knowledge of the English language. At the early ag of sixteen he learned the cooper's trade at which h worked two years. In March, 1855, he went to Cali fornia to seek his fortune in the gold mines. He re mained in Eldorado county until 1859 when he re turned to New Bremen. In 1860 he invested hi savings in a cooper shop and carried on the busines for two years. He married his school sweetheart Ma rie Catherine Otte in 1861. To this marriage ther was born one child, Mary, whom died within days The mother also soon died. Then selling his coope shop he moved back to his father's farm. His secon wife was Catherine Georganna Meier and to this un ion ten children were born. Three sons were born i Auglaize County (New Bremen): John Henry (Mar 6, 1862-1928), Franklin Fred (Jan. 23, 1864-1921) William Henry (Mar. 26, 1865-1951).

In 1866 he moved his family to Mercer County Liberty township. Here he rented 40 acres of lan and bought 40 acres to be cleared. In all settling 24 acres; 120 cleared, 45 pastured, the rest left in tim ber. In 1886 engaged in manufacturing of drainag

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e. In 1900 erected the first modern residence mov- g from the log cabin. The last seven children born Mercer County. David (1867-1885), Christian hn (1869-1941), Bernard Henry, Jr. (1870-1908), eorge Washington (1874-1946), Edward (died as a aby), Catherine (the only girl) (1877-1921) and An- ew Jackson (1882-1949).

Henry (as he was known) loved his wife, family nd farm but most of all was proud of his large (54 x) barn that was erected in 1881. He was engaged in neral farming and in raising various kinds of cattle nd swine. He held the office of township trustee for irteen years. He and his wife were among the embers of the Reformed Lutheran Church. He ed in 1909 at the age of 72. Catherine lived until 914 to the age of 77. They were buried at Swamp ollege cemetery. *Carol Hone, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Portrait & Biographical Records of Mercer, Van Wert 1896, ercer County Library; (2) Hone Reunion History Book 1926 by atie Landecker; (3) Auglaize County Recorders Office; (4) St ul Lutheran Church "The Practical Church Records", New emen; (5) Finding Your Ancestors — Columbus Dispatch pril 2, 1978 (6) New Bremen Centennial History, New Bremen brary.

RICHARD HONE

Like many immigrants coming from Germany this ame was changed to make it more American (2). he name Richard Hone was passed down by word f mouth but the church records show where the anges came about. John Dietrich (Richard) Von oehne dropped the "Von" right away (2). His sons pon marrying dropped the middle "h" (Hoene), nd the next generation dropped the middle "e" aving Hone (4). The Germans' custom of naming ildren for relatives was a common practice and of ien and women being known by their middle ame. The first born male and female usually re- eived the full given names of paternal grandparent hile the next born was named after the maternal randparents. (5)

In Europe in the early 19th century America eemed to be the place everyone was talking about nd leaving for. Germany was little more than a ose federation of states at the start of the nin- enth century, under the constitution given it by ie congress of Vienna (1814-1815). There was no erman emperor, king, or powerful leader, not even German flag to follow. Metternich's machinations ad seen to that — he willed that Germany should e a disorganized nation. But he reckoned without he liberals who were quick to enlist in the bitter attle for German unity, a battle many years in the winning. During the reconstruction period many ame to look with longing eyes at the new world. (6) he visions of only opportunity from a freedom of ld world hates and fears. These hard conditions un- er which they lived were unbelievable. Practically o chance to ever get more than the barest living nd scant clothing. This in a measure explains the eadiness of our ancestors, with many others, to rave the dangers of a long sea voyage to a country nknown to them except in a vague way. A country where they might have a home of their own and ave white bread and meat to eat. They practically ad nothing to lose and everything to gain by this hange.

Of Richard's life in Germany we know very little except he was born in Hanover Sept. 18, 1801 and lived on a farm. He had at least one sister, Catherine Adelheid. They lived and worked on their father's farm, and were of the poorer class of people. (2)

After Richard served his allotted time in the German army he was married to Marie Elizabeth Cook (1828). Marie was three years younger (born Oct. 24, 1804), taller than Richard, with bright red hair. They lived in Oldenberg where their first son, John Fred was born May 28, 1830. (4) Richard's sister Catherine was married to Bernard Bruny and the two men worked together as farmers. (2)

Along about 1830 there were eight ships sailing regularly between Berman and Hanover to America. Baltimore, Md. was a favorite point of disembarkation. These trips took from four to six weeks or sometimes as long as three months. These two young families decided to leave for America and their new dreams. They sailed from Hanover in 1832 and six weeks later settled in Baltimore, Md. for their first year. (2) Try to picture these two young couples, no one able to speak a word of English except perhaps a few names of cities. What suspense and anxiety must have been part of the trip. By now both wives were "in the family way." Marie Elizabeth Hoehne gave life to Benjamin, but he soon died. Catherine Bruny had a healthy Mary Elizabeth on August 16, 1833. (4) These two families lived for 2 years in Maryland where the first winter they made their living by cutting sassafras for cord wood. (2)

Maryland — so many people but so few jobs. The men soon heard of the canal that was being constructed from Cincinnati to Toledo and decided to try that work. They moved their families first to Miami County (Troy) (2). Then in 1834 they reached a little German settlement of New Bremen, where they decided to stay — it looked so much like home. Here they each bought a 40 acre farm to be cleared and moved their families. (3)

The Bruny family began to grow after the move to New Breman. Three daughters and five sons: John Henry, John Fredrick, Herman Henry, William Henry, Catherine Wilk, Sophie Louise and Henry August (with first daughter Mary Elizabeth) (4).

The Hoehne family was also growing. Their only daughter was born in New Bremen Nov. 19, 1835 and baptized Catherine Marie but she was small and frail dying one month later Dec. 26, 1835. A healthy boy, Bernard Henry, was born Aug. 14, 1836. The 5th child was born Jan. 20, 1839 and baptized Henry William. The last child, a son, John Herman born Sept. 6, 1841 lived for only a little over a year. (4)

The mother, Marie Elizabeth Cook Hoehne died 1842 and was buried on the church ground. (4) This leaving Richard with three sons to raise: John Fred, age 12, Bernard Henry, age 6 and Henry William, age 3. In 1846 Richard married Catherine Elizabeth Brockman and she proceeded to raise his sons (4). Richard and Elizabeth spent the remainder of their lives on their farm. Their remains were interred in the old burial grounds near their home. (2)

So while Johnny Appleseed (1775-1845) was scattering his seeds, Davy Crockett was fighting the Alamo in Texas (1836), and Andrew Jackson (1767-1845) was serving as our seventh President. Morris was inventing the telegraph, and Edgar Allan Poe

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was writing his stories, Richard Hone was doing his part by helping build the Erie Canal, clearing some land and raising a fine family. *Carol Hone*

GEORGE WASHINGTON HOWELL FAMILY

George W. Howell was born June 21, 1845 in Washington Township, Auglaize County. George was the son of Simeon and Hannah (Horner) Howell. After serving in the Civil War with Co. G. 71; Reg OVI he married Sophia Cochlin. Sophia was the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Elliott) Cochlin. They were married September 2, 1866. They came to Liberty township in Mercer County and bought 80 acres of land in section 1, and started farming. Sophia was born May 9, 1847 in Auglaize County. To this union were born eleven children. William Cornelius was born August 17, 1847, Richard Franklin was born February 11, 1869, Mary Qucinda was born February 1, 1871, a son and daughter was born in 1874 but died in infancy, Walter was born April 2, 1875, Thomas C. and Ida D., twins were born July 23, 1880, Charles M. was born June 23, 1883, Jemima (Mima) was born March 8, 1887 and George Washington was born June 18, 1890. After the death of Sophia, George married Susan (Slade) Harmon and four children were born Dewey and Dorothy (twins) were born June 13, 1901, Susan Ardella was born April 12, 1903 and Gladys was born May 23, 1905. William Cornelius was married to Christina Steen and had nine children namely; William C., and Minnie V., died in infancy. Joseph, Pearl Pierstoff, Ollie Lockhart, Phillip, Alonzo, and the twins Roy and Vernon. Richard Franklin married Catherine Baucher and had three children Mary who died in infancy, Grace Steiner and Thomas Jefferson. After Catherine's death he married Rebecca Daniels and to this union were born 14 children namely; an infant girl, Warren, Raymond, another infant girl, Earl, Twins Irvin and a baby stillborn boy, Mabel Bollenbaucher, Russell, Lillie, Stella Yaney, George, Blanche Fetters, and Beatrice Nolan. Mary Q., married Peter Monroe Baucher and had two children Mae and James. Walter married Mary E. Freewalt and had four sons, George William, Fred, Tom and Denzel Paul. Thomas C. married Elizabeth Hinkle and had five children Harold, Eileen, Lavoun Donavan, Dale and Madonna Ice. Ida D. first married John Lawrence and had Orpha and she married John Hammerick. Then Ida married Elzwerth Squires and to this union was born seven children Wilbur E., Herbert R., Dove Boze, Myrtle Clover, Opal Bischoff, Mary Latto, second marriage was Howard Page, and Alma Davis. Charles M. married Mary Hinkle and had a boy deceased and Cora Chilcoat. After Mary's death he married Elsie Buse. Mima was married to Wesley Gallimore and had two daughters Stella Knous and Pearl Roby. George Washington was married to Cleta Fetters and had three sons, namely; Clarence, Norval L. and James Paul.

After Sophia's death George remarried and had four children, Dewey and Dorothy which were twins. Dorothy was first married to Clinton Birt, then she married Lewis Hindenlang. Susan A. was married to Lawrence Seewer and Gladys was married to Henry Drexler.

George and his family attended church at Libe Chapel which is located by the Liberty cemete George died June 21, 1923 and his wife Sophia di Nov. 4, 1899. They are both buried in the Libe Cemetery in Mercer County. His second wife Sus is also buried at Liberty. George Howell's sons we well known in the community as "Howell Ditcher This has been carried down in the generations.

The family is all deceased William Cornelius buried at Liberty, Ida is buried at Rockford cem tery, Mary is buried at Crystal, Michigan, Richa Franklin, Charles M., and George W. are buried Swamp College cemetery and Thomas, Mima, a Walter are buried at Elmgove cemetery in St. Mary O. *Ruth E. Howell, Celina, Oh. 45822*

ANTON KOCH

Anton Koch, a leading citizen of Chattanooga w a successful farmer in Liberty Township. He w born October 28, 1847, the son of John and Ann Koch who emigrated from Germany a short time b fore Anton's birth. They settled in Butler Count Ohio and remained there until 1852 when the came to Mercer County and settled on a farm in Lil erty Township. They lived there the rest of the lives, John dying February 3, 1892 and his wife Octo ber 19, 1898.

They were industrious home-building peopl They had one son, Anton, and six daughters as fo lows: Susan, wife of John Bauer; Lena, wife of Josep Harb; Christina, wife of Adam Bollenbacher; Mar wife of Adam Schaadt; Catherine, wife of Fre Schaadt (all of whom lived in Liberty Township) an Phebe, wife of Phillip Schaadt of Van Wert County

Anton Koch was about 5 years old when his pa ents settled in Liberty Township where he was edu cated in the public schools.

On February 9, 1871 Mr. Koch married Margare Menchhofer who was the daughter of John an Catherine (Pflughaupt) Menchhofer who had com to America in 1850 from the Schwindratsheim Estat near Strassburg, Alsace, France. This territory was a times ruled by Germany. The Menchhofers immi grated to America when Mrs. Koch was just 4 year old and came directly to Mercer County settling i Washington Township. Her father John Menchhofe died February 14, 1875.

In 1903 Anton and Margaret retired from farmin in Liberty Township and moved to Chattanooga Mr. Koch had also acquired an 80 acre farm in Blac Creek Township just north of Chattanooga. Thi farm had several good producing oil wells on it.

Mr. and Mrs. Koch had nine children born t them but only four grew to adulthood, all of whom cultivated farms of their own.

Descendants of the Kochs were Mary, wife o Lewis G. Baker whose children are Dula, Esther, An thony (deceased), Leo, and Anna. John married Eliz abeth Fisher whose children are Arlie, (Rayo, Glenn Hilda, deceased), Morris, Marea, and Margaret George married Hulda Bollenbacher whose daughte is Goldie and Margaret (Maggie) married to Henry C. Baker whose children are Clista, Gertrude and Arline.

Mr. Koch was a charter member of St. Paul's Evangelical Church of Liberty Township of which he and his wife remained active members.

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The Kochs lived to celebrate their 59th wedding ıniversary. Mr. Koch died May 15, 1930, and his ife on April 22, 1931. *Gertrude Hoblet*

HERBERT HENRY KUHN (HERBIE)

Born September 21, 1901, the oldest child of dam and Hettie Grove Kuhn — born and raised ıuth of Chattanooga, Ohio, on the farm his father ıd grandfather, Henry Kuhn, Jr., farmed and ared their families.

Herbert served in the U.S. Army from 1918 to 919, and after his army duty cooked on a ship for veral years. In February, 1926, he married Viola F. ollenbacher, Liberty Township, Mercer County, hio. He was a meat cutter and he and his wife vned and operated a restaurant. After the depres-on, he accepted employment as Manager of the offee Shop of Central Soya, Inc., of Decatur, Indi-ıa. This is where he retired from. They had five ns and three daughters. He died October 3rd, 1974 his home in Rockford, Ohio, where his widow esently resides.

Dorothy Louise — 1927. Married Donald Rupert Geneva, Indiana where they presently reside. hey have two daughters — Rhonda and Donna.

Orville Leland (Bud) — 1929. Married Joy An-ews of Englewood, Colorado in 1949. After serving) years with the U.S. Air Force, he and his wife ırchased a home in Tucson, Arizona, where they side. They have five children — Terry, Patricia, iane, Nancy and Susan.

Robert Eugene — 1931. Served his country during ıe Korean Conflict, U.S. Army from 1952 to 1954 ıd was stationed in Germany. He married Marie eck of Celina, Ohio, RR in 1961. They presently side in their own home in Celina, with their two ns, Ronald and Kevin. Robert (Bob) is employed y the AVCO New Idea Corp. of Coldwater, Ohio ıe past 28 years. They are affiliated with the Imma-ılate Conception Church of Celina.

Carol Jean — 1934. Married Keith Graves of St. larys, Ohio, where they presently reside with their vo sons, Michael and Mark.

Vernon Frederick — 1936. Enlisted in the U.S. rmy and served from 1956 to 1958 and was sta-ıned in Germany. Married Vera White of Coldwa-r, Ohio in 1959. They reside in their own home ıst northeast of Rockford, Ohio, with their two ıildren, Kristina and Douglas. Vernon is a very ac-ve member of the Eagles Lodge — also an em-loyee the last 24 years with the General Electric Co. Decatur, Indiana. They are members of the First nited Methodist Church of Rockford.

Gerald Laverne — 1938. Married Susan Jane Brig-er of Berne, Indiana, RR, in 1961. They reside in ıeir own home, Graubarger Road, Rockford, Ohio, R, with their three children, Shelly, Steven, and ally. Gerald has been employed the last 22 years ith Central Soya Co., Decatur, Indiana. They are ıembers of Zion U.B. Church of Rockford, Ohio, R, where he also is trustee. His wife is head cook at arkway Jr. High School.

Chalmer Jacob (Whitey) — 1939. Was drafted and rved with the U.S. Army from 1962 to 1964. He as stationed in Hawaii. In 1965 he married Patricia White of Celina, Ohio, who is a teacher in the Celina Public School System. Chalmer has been an employee of International Harvester, of Ft. Wayne, Indiana for the last 13 years. They reside in their own home in Celina, Ohio, with their three children, Sherri, Daniel and Darren. They are affiliated with the St. Paul United Methodist Church of Celina.

Delilah Faye (Beck) — 1941. Married Paul Hays of Rockford, Ohio, RR in 1958. They reside on their 100 acre farm at the corner of State Rte. 117 and State Rte. 127, Mercer Co., Ohio. They have four children — Jeff, Brenda, Lori and Lisa. Delilah is employed as bookkeeper for Mercer Landmark, Inc. of Mercer, Ohio. Her husband and son farm quite extensively. Her husband is also a board member of the Parkway School System. They attend the Mercer United Methodist Church of Mercer, Ohio. *Robert Kuhn*

Leininger Family

JOHN JACOB LEININGER

John Jacob Leininger, the son of Jacob Leininger was born in 1873 and raised in Liberty Township near Chattanooga. He resided on his father's farm, which presently belongs to Sam Leininger. He married Wilhelmina (Minnie) Zeilinger also of Liberty Township and there were born ten children, Stella, Theodore, Lazetta, Hulda, Leah, Carl, Lorena, Inez, Mildred and Irma. John J. Leininger spent his whole life in Liberty Township, Mercer Co. He died at the young age of 38. He is buried in United Church of Christ Cemetery of Liberty Township. His wife had a struggle in making a living for the many children. She died in 1951 in Indianapolis, Indiana and is buried beside her husband.

The oldest son, Theodore Michael helped make some of the living for the family and as a teenager he was a farm hand for Henry Baker and received $12.00 a month. In 1916-1917 he ran the huckster wagon for the grocery store in Chattanooga. Around 1918 the Leininger family moved to Muncie, Indiana where Theodore worked in a bolt factory and some of the girls did housework for some of the more prosperous people of Muncie. This all helped in making the living.

In November 1919, Theodore came back to Mercer Co. and married Carrie Louise Becher of Liberty Township and they lived and farmed west of Chattanooga, Ohio until 1976 when they moved to Celina. They had two daughters.

(1) Catherine Mildred (1922-) married Glenn Miller on Dec. 29, 1945 and they reside in Chattanooga. Their children are Mrs. Kenneth (Janet) Brodbeck and Jerry Miller and grandchild Kris Ann Brodbeck. (2) Dorothy Jean (1924-) married Dillon Hellwarth on April 2, 1949 and they reside on Frahm Pike, Hopewell Township. Their children are Mrs. Ned (Doris) Goins and Mrs. Thomas (Karen) Kuhn.

Submitted by, Theodore Leininger, Celina, Oh. 45822

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Herman and Iva Lyda with Grandchildren, Max, Melissa, Anne, Tony

HERMAN KEITH LYDA

The history of the Lyda family extends back into the European history of both England and France. Family members served under Napoleon of France and many are recorded that gave their life in defense of the British Crown. The earliest Lyda recorded in American history was Jacob Lyda; an English soldier that served under Lord Cornwallis at the battle of Kings Mountain in October of 1780 in the North Carolina mountains. After the war, he stayed and purchased Chickasaw Knobs, which was comprised of two twin mountains and one thousand acres of land. He found and developed apple trees that were named "The Lyda Apples". His death wish was that he be buried in his British uniform. The Lyda's were basically Episcopalian or Methodist and they built St. Paul Episcopal Church near Edneyville, North Carolina.

Lyda's were farmers, weavers, millers, blacksmiths, plantation owners, lumber jacks, and storekeepers.

Great grandfather, Waits Lyda and his wife Katie had at least one daughter and two sons; their names being Lona Lyda, Buford Lyda and Dixon Avery Lyda. Dixon Lyda was a storekeeper. Lona Lyda Wheelan was a school teacher. They were the two people in Henderson County that were called upon to solve the problems that defied solution. Irregardless of the subject, they could find a workable solution.

Dixon and Lona (Reid) Lyda had seven children. The third child was Herman Keith Lyda. Dixon Lyda died early in life and Herman and several brothers were sent to Ohio to St. Edmund's Episcopal Home. Herman became a foster child to Bruce and Carrie Harding of Harrison, Ohio. Herman worked through high school as a milk hauler for United Dairy Farmers and won athletic letters in football, baseball and track. He graduated from Goshen High School in 1942 and enlisted in the United States Marines, winning 21 battle stars in hand to hand combat against Imperial Japanese Marines. Herman married Iva Christine (White) Lyda and they had two children: Christopher Keith Lyda and Sandra May (Lyda) DeVinney. Herman was employed by the Board of Health of Cincinnati in Meat and Dairy Inspection, a position he held until his retirement in 1977. Herman is a graduate of University of Cincinnati Thermo-Nuclear College of Operations and completed equivalency exams for a Master of Science Degree in Microbiology and Environmental Health.

Iva Christine (White) Lyda is the youngest and only daughter of a family of 9 children of the late Jesse Frank and Arla Mae (Davis) White. Iva was born in Williamsburg, Ky., where her father owned a lumber mill. Iva attended school until she went to work for Dolly Madison and later Proctor and Gamble in Cincinnati. After moving to Celina she wa employed for several years at Huffy's.

Herman and Christine live in the old small com munity of Durbin about 10 miles West of Celin They enjoy such hobbies as camping, fishing an travel.

The Lyda's have four grandchildren; Melissa Lyd and Christina Maxine, Glenda Ann, and Glenn An thony DeVinney.

Note: The history of the Lyda family is docu mented with the Library of Congress in Washing ton, D.C. in two books written by Frank I Fitzsimons, "From the Banks of the Oklawaha Vol. and 2." Volume 3 will be published in the fall c 1979.

MAURER-MAURY

John M. Maurer was born in Gunderspung, Ger many. In 1826 John and his wife and at least seve of their children came to the United States of Amer ica. The children were John Nicholous, Jacob, Lou sia, Carolyn, William, Mary and Margaret.

Jacob married Pauline (last name unknown) an they had no children. Nothing else is known abou Carolyn except that she came to this country wit her parents. Margaret married a Fisher and thei descendants run the Fisher Cheese Factory in Wapa koneta. Mary who was born in Soarbrueken, Ger many married William Laudahn who had been bor November 21, 1832 in Ludwigslust, Mecklenburg Germany. Mary died July 13, 1843 and along wit husband William was buried in the Wapakonet Cemetery. They never had any children. John Nich olous was born March 23, 1807 in Prussia. He mar ried Elizabeth (last name unknown). John Nicholou died December 15, 1875.

William married and had three sons — Willian H., John P. and Andrew. William H. married Mar guerite and they had one son — Urban Paul wh lived 18 days. John P. married Fredericka J. and the had three children — Carl William, Edward Charle and Marcella. Carl married Ola. Edward marrie Marie. Marcella never married. The parents, Car Edward and the dead grandchildren are all buried a the Liberty Lutheran Cemetery.

Louisia was born in 1817 in Germany. On Febru ary 22, 1857 she married Adam Fender and they set tled in Mercer County, Ohio in 1858. Adam Fende had been born January 25, 1826 in Germany an died in Mercer County, Ohio on November 24, 1901 Louisia died in 1912. Seven children are known fron this marriage.

The seven children were William, Karl, Adam Mary Margarite, George, Charlie and John. Karl die as an infant of 25 days. Charlie died as a child pri to 1880. George died without marrying. John als never married; he died of tuberculosis at the age o 19. William married Anna. They had five childre — Freida, Karl, Paul, Bertha and Minia. Adam mar ried Eva. They are buried at Liberty Chapel Ceme tery. Adam and Eva Fender had six children — Daphne, Julius, Ina, George, Andrew and Jeneva Their children live in the Covington area.

The only daughter, Mary Margarite who was bor on Dec. 25, 1863 married David Bachar. David Bac har was born September 22, 1853. Mary Margarit Fender Bachar died of cancer on November 22, 1948 David Bachar died of asthma and pneumonia o

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lay 23, 1923. It is through their descendants that ıe Maurer-Fender (Maury-Fender) families survive.

SEE BACHAR

Maurer and Maury are the same family. One of ıe sons changed the spelling to the second way. *Re-ecca Baucher*

Rock home

E. HOPE (POWELL) ROCK FAMILY

E. Hope (Powell) Rock, the daughter of Benjamin and Luetta Curless Powell was born Aug. 10, 1917, Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. She at-nded Center grade school and graduated from 'ashington Twp. High School.

On Feb. 14, 1942 she married Glen Eugene Gil-ore, b. Jan. 15, 1920, the son of Elmer and Cora weigart) Gilmore, of Celina, Ohio. A daughter, arol Jean, was born Nov. 5, 1944. Gene Gilmore ught in World War II, serving with the 278th Engi-ers Combat Battalion. He was killed in action on e Rhine River in Germany on March 27, 1945. arol Gilmore graduated from Celina Senior High hool and attended International Business College, . Wayne, Ind. She married Tom Gibbons, son of ıther and Clara Gibbons, Chattanooga, Ohio, on ay 23, 1964. Their children are Brett Allen, b. Jan. , 1968, and Stacey Renee, b. Jan. 14, 1969. The ibbons family presently reside in Celina. Tom is nployed by Avco-New Idea, Coldwater, and Carol employed by Sears-Roebuck, of Celina. They at-nd the United Church of Christ, Rockford, Ohio.

Hope Rock was employed as the assistant secre-ry-treasurer of the Mercer County National Farm an Association of the Federal Land Bank of Louis-lle from 1945 to 1951. On June 9, 1951 she married lbert C. Rock, b. March 28, 1916, the son of Freder-k and Anna (Emme) Rock of Kingsley, Iowa. Al-ert Rock was a World War II veteran, having rved with the 278th Engineers Combat Battalion in urope and North Africa. After their marriage, Hope nd Albert spent 1½ years farming near Correction-lle, Iowa. In Dec. of 1952, they moved back to hio and bought a farm of 150 acres in section 28 of berty Twp., Mercer Co. One daughter, Lois Jane, as born on Oct. 22, 1954, in Celina, Ohio. She raduated from Celina High School and from Miami niversity, Oxford, Ohio. She is currently living in owling Green, Ohio, and is employed by the Ohio istorical Society.

Albert Rock continued to farm, and also was em-oyed by General Electric Co. of Decatur, Ind., until is death on Oct. 28, 1974. Hope Rock is currently siding in Celina, and is a member of St. Paul's Lu-ıeran Church, Liberty Twp. *Hope Rock*

SCHAADT

Paul Lawrence Schaadt and Martha Lee (Wollet) Schaadt live on Oregon Road five miles south of Rockford, Ohio.

Paul Lawrence Schaadt, youngest child of Lawrence William Schaadt and Esther Marie (Viereck) Schaadt was born on May 1, 1930, in Hopewell Township. He attended school at Stedcke for three years and Rockford for the rest of his elementary grades. Graduating from Rockford High School in 1948. He was married to Martha Lee Wollet on April 23, 1950 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell.

Martha Lee Wollet, eldest daughter of Kenneth Allison Wollet and Inez Marie (Hole) Wollet was born on November 9, 1931, in Dublin Township. She attended school for two years at Barks and finished the rest of her elementary education at Rockford. She graduated from Rockford High School, Rockford, Ohio in 1949.

After their marriage Paul and Marty lived on Township Line Road in Liberty Township. Soon after setting up housekeeping, Paul served in the United States Army, getting his training at Camp Picket, Virginia. He was then assigned to the 502nd Armored Medical Company in Regensburg, Germany. While stationed in Germany he was joined by his wife and they resided there for one year. Upon their return to the states Paul joined his father in their farming operation at the family homestead where Paul continues grain farming today.

On December 14, 1954 their first child, Rebecca Lee, was born. Their second child, Paula Kay was born on March 29, 1957. Rebecca was married to Michael Leon Stephenson.

Paula was born at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio. She attended elementary and high school at Parkway Local Schools, Rockford, Ohio. Upon graduation in 1975, she worked for C&R Grain as bookkeeper and secretary, and is now employed at the Chattanooga Farm Center.

Paul and Martha are members of St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell. In their spare time Paul likes sports and going hunting. Marty likes to refinish antique furniture and she enjoys reading. They both enjoy golfing. *Mrs. Michael Stephenson, Rockford, Oh.*

CHARLES C. SEALSCOTT

Charles C. Sealscott (b) 1878 (d) 1943 and his wife Catherine Groth Sealscott (b) 1881 (d) 1974 were married in Liberty Twp. Charles was the son of Reuben and Minnie Sealscott of Hopewell Twp. Catherine was the daughter of Heinrich J. and Dorothea Lempke Groth of Liberty Twp.

Their children are Vera, Elberta, Forest, Ruth, Ethel, Irene, Dewan and Doyle. Ruth married Tom Beers and they have 1 son, Tom Jr. They live in Hemet, California. Ethel married B. Paul Kirby and their children are Diane and Donald — Diane married Ed Anderson and their daughter is Kristen Kay Anderson. Ethel's family all live in Spokane, Washington. Dewan married Evelyn Rhodes and their children are Marlene, Dennis, Brent and Lisa — Dennis married Karen Dustman of Berne, Indiana and their children are Chris and Heather Sealscott. Dennis and family live in Geneva, Indiana. All the

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others live in Ohio.

Charles Sealscott first worked for a grocer in Celina, Ohio — not only working in the grocery store, he also drove the huckster wagon, pulled by a team of horses, going to the surrounding farms where the farmers could buy the groceries they needed. Underneath the wagons there were crates for chickens. The farmers could trade a chicken for their groceries. Later he and Albert Groth (Catherine's brother) owned the grocery store in Hinton, Ohio — Liberty Township. In 1912 Charles and Catherine bought a farm in Section 2, 5-1 in Liberty Twp. They lived and raised their family on this farm; farming most of their life with horses. They raised the usual farm animals — horses, cattle, hogs and chickens. Their children always had a dog — either a rat terrier or a collie.

Groceries they needed to buy were few. They bought flour from an elevator in Coldwater, Ohio. Flour and sugar were bought once a year in 100 lb. bags. Vegetables and fruit were grown and canned on the farm. Bread was baked twice each week. Eggs, meat, butter and milk all came from the farm. Potatoes, apples and the canned fruit and vegetables were stored in the outside underground cellar.

Their children were all born on the farm except Elvera and Elberta. They were baptized and confirmed into membership at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Liberty Township located on Wabash Road. *Henrick Groth and Gehrnard Frederick Sielschott*

George and Lutitia (Tish) Stephenson, Bob's parents

STEPHENSON

Samuel Stephenson, born March 7, 1770; died June 23, 1843. On December 24, 1793 he was married to Catharine Aller who was born April 22, 1771 and died August 10, 1847. They raised a family of eight children: 1. John Stephenson; 2. Elizabeth who married a Herscher; 3. Ann; 4. Philip m. Sarah Milligan; 5. Silas; 6. Hiram m. Elizabeth Rockwood; 7. Catharine m. a Tilton; 8. Charlotte m. a Johnson. The family moved from Muskingum county, Ohio, to Mercer county where they received a patent dated April 1840 to section 27 in Hopewell twp.

#6 of above, Hiram Stephenson, was born in Muskingum county November 13, 1805, married Elizabeth Grant (Landon) (Rockwood), and came with his folks to Mercer county, also living in Hopewell twp. They were parents of two sons, George S. and Auswell. Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson are buried in Buck cemetery.

George Sherman Stephenson was born in May of 1865 and he died on June 3, 1933. He was born and raised in Mercer county. He married Margaret Lututia Byrley who was born on September 20, 1872 and died on February 2, 1965. Both are buried in Buc cemetery near Celina. They had fourteen children follows: Auswell Eureka m. Bessie Chedister; Stel Belle died in infancy; Pearlie Marie m. Albert Behr Nettie Kathryn m. Edward J. Weir; Robert Hu Theodore m. Valda Kuhn; Orla Dell m. Robert Su ton; Donald Dee m. Bertha Becher; Calvin Leon r Cecil Dudgeon; Dora Elizabeth m. Orvill Crouc Edith Carolina m. Hubert Hines; Mary Agnes ar John Franklin died in infancy; Harold Edmund r Dessie Anderson. *Jane Suzuki*

ROBERT H. STEPHENSON

Robert Hurl Stephenson was born February 2 1899, the fifth child of Mr. and Mrs. George St phenson, spent his childhood in Hopewell twp, i the area of "Five Points", attending a one roo school at Five Point and finished the eighth grad He married Alma Elizabeth Bollenbacher on June 1 1923. She was the daughter of John Jacob and Effi Strable Bollenbacher. Their other children bein Lawrance; Alonzo; Theodore; Carl; Billy; Pearl; Car Laura and Mathilda Bollenbacher. For entertainmer the above sisters and cousins who lived on our roa and the Hinton girls would walk to the Libert Friends Church about a mile and a half, on earl Sunday evenings, to the services and there were a ways boys there with their horse and buggies wh ask to take us home. I guess that was the biggest a traction. I don't remember that we ever walke home. We girls did housework for families whe there was a new baby or someone was sick. On or occasion Earnest Kirkpatrick came to ask for one us and I was chosen to go. At the time there was revival meeting going on at Stringtown (now Otte bein) and I was ask to go along. I was going stead with Bob and I had a very dear friend Electa Eicher aur who dated Ben Deitsch and we would go t gether. One night the girls were together and we converted and my life has never been the sam since. In 1923 Bob and I were married and moved t Detroit, Michigan where he had a job at Ford Mot Company.

In 1927 they bought forty acres of Alma's father and they moved back to Mercer county, to the far where their son Larry now lives. Then the depre sion hit. They paid $100. an acre for the land and took twenty years to pay it off. They remodeled th house — then two years later it burned down, fau of bad wiring. Three of the children had the measle on that Thanksgiving Day. By the time they got th children out, all they could save was two coats an two pictures of the twins. Robert and Alma wer among the early members of the Chattanooga Meth odist Church, and Alma is still a member there. H farmed 320 acres for the rest of his life, being kille in an automobile accident on January 24, 1958.

They had become the parents of six children a follows: Robert Richard m. Gene Harrison; Charle Leon m. AnnaLee Hoenie; Marlin Lee m. Laura Free land; Virginia Kathleen m. Maurice Clegg; Larr Gene m. Joella Lerhman; Jerry Dean m. Sandra I Sherman. They presently have 25 grandchildren an 5 great grandchildren. Alma is presently married t Orris Now and they are retired, living near Chatta nooga. *Mrs. Alma (Stephenson) Now, Rockford, Oh.*

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DICK STEPHENSON

Robert Richard Stephenson born 1924 in Detroit, chigan, was raised on a farm in Liberty twp., ved two years in the Navy in W.W. II and re- ned home to become a farmer like his father. For eral years he planted a large acreage in tomatoes d employed several crews of Migrant workers in ir care and picking, housing and working along th them. As the times changed, he has also anged, following strict conservation practices. At present time he is grain-farming with his sons. d he relaxes by taking his sons and grandsons d neighbors) fishing and sometimes goes farther ay hunting. Mr. Stephenson is a prominent citi- n of the Chatt community, and because he always ides by the Golden Rule, has held many public sitions. He has been on the County School Board; ld twp. offices; assisted with the Farmers Picnic; esently is with the county Farm Bureau; belongs Shanes Lodge F&AM; both are active 6th degree angers, and belong to the Chatt, U.M. Church ere both hold offices. They have three sons, omas R.; David A. and Mark E.

Mrs. Stephenson was born in 1924 in Franklin p. of Mercer county, the daughter of Albert and hel Monroe Harrison. Wm. Albert Harrison was so born near Montezuma, the son of John Wm. d Dora Temple Harrison and spent his entire life and around Celina, in working with the public. e was for several years a teller with a bank and was ounty Deputy and Subordinate Master of the range.

Mrs. Harrison was also born in Mercer county, e daughter of James F. and Sarah Elizabeth Cain lonroe. James Francis was the son of James Henry d Elizabeth Duffy Monroe, and Sarah was the aughter of Rev. David B. and Narcissus Manning ain. They became the parents of Donald LeRoy arrison who married Maureen Cook; Lillian Olive . Paul Shively; and Sarah Gene named above. *Mrs. ene Stephenson, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

CHARLES STEPHENSON FAMILY

Charles Stephenson, lifetime area farmer, lives ne mile south of Chattanooga on Koch Road. The ame is of Scotch Irish origin. As far as is known oth families have been primarily employed in agri- ulture, though for a time the Stephenson family ved in Detroit, Michigan, where Charles was born, nd in line of 6 children.

Soon after Charles' birth, the family moved to Mercer county where they became farmers. Charles nd his son Michael continuing the tradition.

Charles began his education at Deitsch school — a ne room school house in Liberty township. He graduated from Rockford High School. After gradu- tion, Charles served in the U.S. Merchant Marines t the end of WW II. In the service he traveled to arious parts around the world for two years.

On February 19, 1949 Charles married Anna Lee Hoenie of Celina Ohio. Anna Lee is of German her- tage, being the 2nd daughter of Elmer Lorenzo Heo- ie and Mildred Monroe Hoenie. Her brothers and sister are as follows. Helen Marie Klenz, Anna Lee Stephenson, Richard Henry Hoenie, Charles Elmer Hoenie.

Anna Lee attended Hare School, also a one room school house and graduated from Celina High School. Shortly after graduation she was employed at the Celina Group Insurance Agency until she married.

Charles and Anna Lee are active members of the Chattanooga United Methodist Church, a congregation of about 80 members, who meet in a small white frame church building in Chattanooga, Ohio.

They have three children, Jane Ann Stephenson Suzuki, born on December 13, 1949 — Local beauty salon owner, married to Philip Suzuki. Judy Helen Stephenson Stetler, born on September 23, 1951, social worker, married Kirby Stetler. Michael Leon Stephenson, born November 15, 1955, farmer, married Rebecca Schaadt.

Charles and Anna Lee currently have two grandchildren, Philip Tyler Suzuki, and Sarah Marie Stephenson. *Jane Suzuki, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

LARRY GENE STEPHENSON FAMILY

Larry Gene Stephenson was born on July 22, 1938, a twin to Jerry Dean Stephenson. He was the son of Robert Hurl Stephenson and Alma Bollenbacher Stephenson, one of six children.

He was born and raised on the same farm where he now lives on Tama Road. He went to school at Rockford and graduated in 1956. While in school, he joined the National Guard and was a member for ten years. He spent his active duty in Ft. Benning, Georgia.

After finishing school, he worked at International Harvester for three years, while farming the home place and other acreage.

In 1960, he married Joella Faye Lerhman, Daughter of Paul and Mabel Lehrman of Monroeville, Indiana. Joella is also a twin to Noella, and her father is a twin.

Larry and Joella have five living children, as follows: Paula Dawn born November 1, 1961; Beth Ann born January 12, 1965; Scott Larry born May 7, 1966; Lisa Sue born October 1, 1967; Luke Andrew born October 26, 1978.

In 1964, he went to work for Ralph Rager Home Improvement, and is still in the siding and carpentry business. He also farms 80 acres with the help of his family.

He enjoys hunting and fishing when there's time and goes to Wyoming to hunt deer sometimes. The whole family enjoys traveling and have been to most of the states, Mexico, Canada, Italy and Paula was in France for a week in the summer of 1978.

The whole family goes to the Chattanooga United Methodist Church. All are active members*. Joella and Paula play the piano and organ. *Each taking the task given to them.

The children all go to the Parkway School in Rockford. *Larry Stephenson, Rockford, Oh.*

THOMAS RICHARD STEPHENSON FAMILY

I was born on February 1, 1948, in Celina, Ohio.

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My parents names are Robert Richard Stephenson and Sarah Gene Harrison. I am their oldest child. I have two brothers, as follows: David Alan; Mark Eugene.

I attended Willshire elementary school and graduated from Parkway High School in 1966. I attended Ohio State University for a short time.

On July 29, 1967 I married Judy Secaur. In January of 1968 I was inducted into the United States Army for two years, one of which was spent in Viet Nam.

We have two sons, Thomas Kirk, born on December 7, 1968 and Eric Ryan, born on July 15, 1974.

We own and live on a hundred acre farm in north Liberty township. I farm full time with my father and my youngest brother.

We are active members of the Chattanooga United Methodist Church as Sunday school teachers, past youth advisors and church board.

My wife, Judy, is the only child of Gerald Ayers Secaur and Berdine Lee Pierstorff Secaur. She was born on October 8, 1949 in Celina, Ohio. She attended Rockford Elementary School and graduated from Parkway High School in 1967. She is also a graduate of the Ohio State School of Cosmetology.
Thomas Stephenson, Rockford, Oh.

MICHAEL LEON STEPHENSON

Michael Leon Stephenson and Rebecca Lee (Schaadt) Stephenson live in Chattanooga, Ohio.

Michael Leon Stephenson, youngest child of Charles and Anna Lee Stephenson, was born November 14, 1955 at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio. He attended elementary and high school at Parkway Local Schools in Rockford, Ohio.

After graduation in 1974, he attended Ohio Northern University, in Ada, Ohio. The following year he attended Bowling Green (Ohio) State University. He studied Organizational Development in the College of Business Administration.

In 1976 Michael returned to Mercer County to join his father in his grain farm operation.

On March 5, 1977 Michael was married to Rebecca Lee Schaadt, eldest daughter of Paul Lawrence and Martha Lee Schaadt of Rockford, Ohio. They were united at St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell Twp. Their daughter Sarah Marie was born Dec. 30, 1978.

Rebecca Lee Schaadt was born December 14, 1954 at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio. She attended elementary and high school at Parkway Local Schools in Rockford, Ohio.

After Graduation in 1973, she was employed as a secretary before accepting a position as a key punch operator at Celina Financial Corporation. Since her marriage she is a homemaker and a part time bank teller for First National Bank of Mercer County, Rockford Branch.

Michael and Rebecca are currently farming near Chattanooga, Ohio. In his spare time Michael enjoys participant sports and quality music reproduction. Rebecca enjoys literature and ceramic crafts. She is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Hopewell. Rebecca and Michael attend Chattanooga United Methodist Church where Micheal is a member. *Mrs. Michael Stephenson, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

PHILIP CARL SUZUKI FAMILY

Philip Carl Suzuki was born on October 7, 1947 Covington, Indiana. His parents are Tsutor Thomas Suzuki and Magaret Gilbert Suzuki. He one of seven brothers and sisters as follows. Thon John Suzuki; David Gilbert Suzuki; Philip Carl S zuki; Margaret Lynne Suzuki Inmann; Cintl Elaine Suzuki; Richard Alan Suzuki; Colette Je Suzuki Woodrow.

His grandfather, was a Presbyterian minister, ed cated at Princeton University. He was born a raised in Japan.

His father Tsutomu Thomas Suzuki, is a medi doctor and surgeon, educated at University Southern California. He still practices his medi profession at Covington and Danville, Illinois. H father was born in Japan and came to the Unit States when he was twelve years old. He was rais in California.

During World War Two, Philip's grandparen aunt and uncle were all incarcerated in Manzanar a camp for Japanese people. This prison camp was Arizona. His father did not have to go because was doing his internship in Joliet, Illinois. The people of Japanese descent were put in these cam all over the U.S. because the people of the U.S. pa icked when we went to war with Japan. These pe ple were and are some of the best American citize we have today. It was just another terrible form discrimination that was born out of fear. Most these people were U.S. citizens.

Philip's father had one brother and one sister, follows. Hiro Suzuki; Kazuko Suzuki Shimooka.

Philip went to Onarga Military School for his hig school years. After that, he went to Danville Jr. Co lege, in Illinois. After that he served in the Unite States Army from July 1968 to 1971. One year which was spent in Viet Nam. After his discharg from the service, he went back to college — first t drafting school then to tool and die school at IV Technical School in Richmond, Indiana. He now presently working as a tool and die maker at Aer Quip at Van Wert, Ohio. He is a journeyman too and die maker.

Philip married Jane Ann Stephenson on Septem ber 2, 1973 at the Chattanooga United Methodis Church, which they still attend. They live in Libert township just south of Chattanooga, Ohio. Jane's fa ther is Charles Stephenson and her mother's name i Anna Lee Hoenie Stephenson. She was born on De cember 13, 1949 at Celina, Ohio.

Jane graduated from Parkway High School i 1968, then she went on to Ravenscroft Beaut School in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She now owns an manages the Bell Tree Beauty Salon in her home She also went to Wright State University for a time.

Philip and Jane have one son, Philip Tyler Suzuki born on September 1, 1974.

JACOB AND ELIZABETH ULRICH WEISZMANN — WEISMAN

JACOB WEISZMANN (WEISMAN)

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rn — Dec. 16, 1840, GERMANY
(U.S. spelling)
IZABETH ULRICH WEISZMANN
rn — July 28, 1844, GERMANY
They emigrated to U.S. from a village near Kaiser-utern, Germany. Arrived May 31, 1883 in New ›rk City with four children, two daughters and two ns: Anna 12 years, Caroline 10 years, Charles 3 ars, and Edward 1 year.

They lived with relatives in Jersey City, N.J. for six ›eks. They did not like this area and no desirable ›rk was available.

In July 1883, they moved to Mercer County, Ohio, ›ere they had friends. Later purchased an area of acres in Liberty Township, (Sec. 12) approxi-ately three miles west of Tama, and east of Hora-› road, and developed it into farm land, which they rmed. Their first home was a log cabin. Later they ›ilt a six room dwelling, their home in which they ›ed the remainder of their life.

The Jacob Weiszmann (Weisman) family was ad-itted to Citizenship in Mercer County, Ohio, Pro-›te Court, November 3, 1889.

The family emigrated to U.S. for a more promis-g way of life and to provide for a better living for .e children. There were many restrictions in Ger-any, less land per family to farm and less inde-›ndence.

The children attended rural Hinton School. The ›tire family became members of St. Paul's Evangel-al Church in Liberty Township.

The family always remained on the farm. One son dward continued to live there until 1960 when the .nd was sold to another farmer.

Son Charles lived most of his life time in Mercer ounty on a farm.

Daughter Caroline married and lived on a farm in an Wert County, Ohio.

Anna moved to Dayton, Ohio and lived until Jan. 914.

The elder Weismans lived a long and happy life ›gether on their one and only farm in Liberty Twp. 'heir final resting place in the nearby Church Cem-tery, which took place in 1926 and 1927.

'eitz Crest, sent to us by our Weitz latives in Germany

·RIEDRICH (FRED) WEITZ

Fred Weitz came to America as a young man. He ›as born in Reichelsheim, Germany, on September 5, 1846. His father, Johann Christoph Weitz was orn in Reichelsheim, Germany on December 25, 796. His mother, Anna Margarete Uhl Weitz was orn in Leidhecken, Germany on November 2, 1813. oming to Ohio, he first settled at Hilliards. There e was married to Christianna Neibert, born Febru-ry 23, 1850, in Weissenstadt in Bavaria, Germany. he came to the United States as a young girl. Fred and Christianna were married on July 19, 1870. They later moved to Wapakoneta, Ohio. The children born to this union were Charles, born December 17, 1871 in Hilliards, Ohio, William born October 31, 1873 in Hilliards, Ohio, Anna, born November 30, 1876 in Hilliards, Ohio and Fred C., born August 14, 1884 in Wapakoneta, Ohio. In the year 1886, Mr. and Mrs. Weitz moved to Mercer County with their family. They established their home on a farm in Liberty Township. They cleared the land for farming and built a prosperous homestead. The children were educated in a one-room school nearby. Mr. and Mrs. Weitz were loyal members of the St. Paul's Evangelical Church in Liberty Township, where they attended services regularly with their family. They lived the rest of their life on this farm. Christianna Neibert Weitz died February 1, 1926. Fred Weitz died August 8, 1937. They are buried in St. Paul's cemetery. Charles, oldest son of Fred and Christianna Weitz, married Katie Hone. They were the parents of ten children: Lauretta, August, David, Chris, Andrew, Clarence, Clara, Lavina, Anna, and Charles. William, son of Fred and Christianna Weitz, married Emma Fisher. They were the parents of five children: Paul, Elmer, Wilma, Christianna and Magdalena. Anna, daughter of Fred and Christianna Weitz, married John P. Kable. They were the parents of three children: Eda, Hulda, and Rudolph. Fred C., son of Fred and Christianna Weitz, first married Maude Snavely. No children were born to this union. Later he married Ina Woodruff, with whom he had one son, Lowell. *Wilma G. Deitsch*

CHARLES WEITZ

Charles Weitz a prominent farmer of Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio, was born on Dec. 17, 1871 in Hilliard, Ohio to Frederich and Christianna Neubert Weitz. He married Katie Hone on Dec. 18, 1898. She was the daughter of Henry and Catherine Meyers Hone, born in Liberty Township on May 31, 1877. She passed away on March 26, 1921 of appendicitis.

They were the parents of 10 children, namely; Lauretta, born Oct. 26, 1899, deceased May 27, 1976, never married; August, Liberty Township, born Oct. 30, 1900, married Mabel Brehm; David, born Sept. 24, 1902, deceased Sept. 27, 1942, married to Lenore Stoner; Chris W., Liberty Township, born Sept. 29, 1904, married Della Davis, who is deceased; Andy, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, born Nov. 1, 1906, married to Vera Bollenbaugh, they divorced, then married Dora Redinger, they divorced; Clara and Clarence, twins, born Jan. 30, 1909. Clara married Cecil Van Kirk and she passed away Aug. 29, 1951. Cecil is also deceased; Clarence, Celina, Ohio, married Margaret Now; Lavina, Bowling Green, Ohio, born Mar. 12, 1911, married Hilas Custer; Anna, Hopewell Township, born Nov. 1, 1913, married Edward Schleucher; and Charles, Liberty Township, born May 20, 1917, married Alice Weisman.

Mr. Weitz purchased an 80 acre farm in Liberty Township, Mercer County, Ohio before his marriage, where he lived the rest of his life. Later, after his marriage he purchased a 40 acre farm across the road. He was a highly respected thresher in the community, along with the help of his sons. He also owned a sawmill which he operated until he frac-

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tured his arm, which left him a cripple.

He was raised in the German Reform church, but later transferred to the Landfair Methodist Protestant Church near his home, where he remained a faithful worker in the church until his death on March 29, 1954. *Charles Weitz, Celina, Oh. 45822*

WILLIAM C. WEITZ

William C. Weitz was born in Hilliards, Ohio on October 31, 1873. His father, Fred Weitz was born in Reichelsheim, Germany on September 16, 1846. His mother, Christianna Neibert Weitz was born in Weissenstadt in Bavaria, Germany on February 23, 1850. The Weitz family moved to Wapakoneta, Ohio for several years. In the year 1886, William, with his parents, two brothers and one sister came to Mercer County to establish a home on a farm in Liberty Township. He attended school in a one room school nearby. He helped his parents on their farm and as a young man he purchased his own farm in Liberty Township, Mercer County. He married Emma Margaret Fisher, born June 1, 1876. Her parents were Christian and Mary Bollenbacher Fisher. William and Emma were married March 12, 1905. The children born to this union were Paul, born October 27, 1908, Elmer, born October 30, 1911, Wilma, born November 25, 1913, Christianna, born January 10, 1916 and Magdalena, born February 17, 1920. Mr. and Mrs. Weitz were life time members of the St. Paul's Evangelical Church in Liberty Township where they attended services regularly with their family. The children attended the one room school known as Landfair which was very close to the Weitz home. Being a farmer his entire lifetime, Mr. Weitz purchased another farm near Celina, Ohio. With the help of his family, it made a very successful lifetime occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Weitz moved to Celina, Ohio in 1946 for their retirement years. William Weitz died January 6, 1957. Emma Fisher Weitz died October 24, 1959. They are buried in St. Paul's United Church of Christ cemetery.

Paul, son of William and Emma Weitz married Velma Beldon. They were the parents of 5 children, Donald, born July 31, 1934, Jane, born January 11, 1937, Mary Lee, born May 25, 1941, Judy, born April 23, 1950 and Susan, born December 30, 1954. He was a farmer for many years and later owned and operated a restaurant in Celina until his retirement. Paul died March 17, 1977. He was buried at the St. Paul's United Church of Christ cemetery.

Elmer, son of William and Emma Weitz, spent his entire life in the field of education. He first taught in the one room schools of Liberty Township, then high school at Bareberton, Ohio. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he went to Germany to establish the school for dependents of the American Service Men at Bremen, Germany. There he remained for two years. He then joined the Language Department at Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania, where he taught German for 28 years, until his retirment.

Wilma, daughter of William and Emma Weitz, married Lawrence V. Deitsch. Into this family Lawrence brought his daughter Patricia, born October 1, 1933 as Wilma's stepdaughter. Edward William, born July 30, 1944 was adopted January 29, 1946, into the Deitsch family. After the death of her husband, Wilma moved to Celina, Ohio. She is er ployed at the Dwyer-Mercer County Library sin 1959.

Christianna, daughter of William and Emn Weitz, married Earl Deitsch. They were the paren of 4 children, Glenna, born July 30, 1935, Jerry, bo March 16, 1939, Karen, born July 30, 1943 and Kat leen, born July 31, 1949. After the children we grown she became an employee of Huffman Man facturing Company of Celina, Ohio.

Magdalena, daughter of William and Emn Weitz, was an employee of the Winner Company Berne, Indiana for many years. After the compar ceased operation she became an employee of Re nolds and Reynolds Company of Celina, Ohio. *Ma dalene Weitz*

SHEILA MAUREEN (WOOD) BALTZELL

I am Sheila Maureen (Wood) Baltzell. I was bo February 20, 1954 in Otis Hospital, Celina, Ohio. married Larry Alten Baltzell in 1970. He was bo October 23, 1950 to Frederick Alten and Mart Jane (Robbins) Baltzell. At the present time we r side at 211 N. Oak St. in Rockford, Ohio, Dubl Township. We are the parents of three sons: Chri topher Alten, born December 2, 1970 in Gibbo Hospital, Celina, Ohio. Scott Richard, born Mar 30, 1976 and Thomas Lee, born March 20, 1978, bo in St. Rita's Medical Center in Lima, Ohio. Larry an I are partners with Gary and Jean (Burden) Baltze (Larry's Uncle and Aunt) owning and operatin "The Rockford Press" a printing and publishin business in Rockford, Ohio. I am also employed 1st National Bank of Mercer Co. in Rockford, Ohio.

I have two sisters both born in Celina, Ohio. Holl Patrice was born May 8, 1955. She is a graduate Bowling Green State University and is presently th hostess of "Toledo A.M." a Toledo, Ohio T.V. sho on Channel 24 each weekday.

Colleen Diane, my youngest sister, was born No vember 5, 1959. She will begin her first year at Bow ing Green State University this fall (1978).

Our parents are Duane Richard Wood and Vi ginia Lee (Meyer) Wood Sutton. They were marrie February 14, 1953 and resided in St. Marys, Ohi until 1955.

My father, Duane Richard Wood, was born Sep tember 15, 1926, the son of John Ervin and Pea Catherine (Bollenbacher) Wood. He was born on th (John) Jacob Bollenbacher Homeplace on Erastus Durbin Road in Liberty Township. (John) Jacob an Effie (Strable) Bollenbacher were the parents of m grandmother, Pearl Wood. She was also born on th Jacob Bollenbacher homeplace on January 22, 190 Her parents were born in this area also as her ances tors settled in this area in 1852, having come fron Germany. Pearl married John Ervin Wood in 192 and they lived in Lima, Ohio where Grandfathe worked for Lima Locomotive. They moved back an lived on the (John) Jacob Bollenbacher Homepla until my father and mother bought it in 1955 whe we moved there. My father Duane, served 1 year i the United States Air Force and was dismissed whe peace was declared. Dad ran Kleinhenz Stockyard in Willshire, Ohio for 20 years and farmed.

John Ervin Wood, is the son of Charles Milto

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)od and Maggie (Snyder) Wood. He was born gust 20, 1901 in Adams County Indiana. He rked for Kleinhenz Stockyards and the State of io until he retired in 1971. He is also a farmer. ey reside in Chattanooga Rt. 1, Rockford, Ohio. andfather Wood's ancestors came to this country m England and Scotland.

My father has one sister, Georgia Jean (WOOD) chren born April 7, 1924. She is married to Don- Cochren and they live in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. n works for Transport Motors and Georgia works an executive secretary for Cross Roads, a United urch of Christ Home for mentally disturbed chil- en. They are the parents of two children: Linda arlene (Cochren) Richardson who was born Janu- 5, 1955. She married Hugh Richardson in 1973. ey are the parents of one son, Adam Michael rn January 28, 1977. Presently they live in Tulsa, klahoma where Hugh attends Oral Roberts Uni- rsity. Daniel Ervin Cochren was born September 1957. He married Kerry Korsgaard in 1978. Dan is student at Ball State University in Muncie, Indi- a.

Virginia Lee (Meyer) Wood Sutton, my mother, is e daughter of Joseph James Meyer and Virginia aig (Blasing) Meyer. She was born July 24, 1929 in ncinnati, Ohio.

My grandfather, Joseph was born in London Eng- nd January 7, 1904. His father, Henry Hugo Meyer d wife Edith raised him. Henry Hugo was a detec- e at Scotland Yards in London for 21 years. My andfather graduated from military school and de- ded to come to the United States when he was 19 ars old. He came by ship and landed in New York ty at Ellis Island. From there he went to Cincin- ti, Ohio to live with relatives of his mother. It was ere that he met Virginia Craig Blasing. They were arried and lived at Pleasant Ridge in Hamilton ounty, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Virginia Craig (Blasing) Meyer, born January 7, 06, was the third daughter of John August and orah Ella (Craig) Blasing. Norah's father, (my eat-great-grandfather) was Isaac Wilhelm Craig, ho was a Civil War soldier. His gun ramrod and n powder pouch are on display in the museum at rant's Home in Paint Pleasant, Ohio. Isaac W. raig's ancestors came down the Ohio River by flat- oat and settled in Hamilton County, Cincinnati, hio. The Blasing family changed the spelling of eir name from the old way "Blessing" in the 00's. They came to this country from Germany.

My mother also has one brother, Joseph James leyer, Jr. born in 1927. He served in the U.S. Ma- nes for three years and then married Marcia Jean icker in 1947, the daughter of Charles and Francis ribler) Bricker. They have five children: Deborah ay (Meyer) Lunz born in 1948. She married Byron nz in 1970 and they have one son, Jeffrey David, rn in 1974. Deborah is a graduate of Valparaiso ollege in Indiana. They now reside in Carrollton, hio. Charles Joseph Meyer was born in 1954. He arried Patricia Bunse in 1978 and he is studying to e an accountant at Wright State University. Laura ne Meyer was born in 1956 and she is a student at incinnati Bible College. James Craig Meyer was rn in 1957 and he is studying to be an accountant Wright State University. Steven Andrew Meyer as born in 1962 and he is still at home with his parents in New Bremen, Ohio. My Uncle Jim is a Public Accountant in that city.

During the Depression, my grandfather, Joseph Meyer, moved his family to Grand Lake St. Marys (1930). In 1958 Joseph and Virginia Meyer started their own business "Service Beauty Supply" in Greenville, Ohio. They moved to that city in 1950. They retired from active participation in 1966 and now reside in Pompano Beach, Florida. Grandfather is still Chairman of the Board of Service Beauty Supply and Service Warehouse Supply, Inc.

In 1971 my parents, Duane and Virginia divorced. My father still lives on the Bollenbacher Farm. He owns and farms 300 acres in Mercer County. My mother remarried in 1976 to Ray Sutton, son of Gerald and Edith Sutton of Mendon, Ohio. They live at 507 W. Market St. in Rockford, Ohio. My mother is a writer-reporter for the St. Marys Evening Leader Newspaper in St. Marys, Ohio.

Since I lived for many years in Liberty Township and my Mercer County heritage comes from Liberty Township, I feel this history should be entered in that section of the book. *Sheila Maureen (WOOD) Baltzell*

Place your Family History in this Space.

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Siegrist, John .....
Severt, Herman .....
Stammen, Aloys and Elizabeth (Hartke) .....
Stammen, Alfred and Viola (Zahn) .....
Dorsten, Patricia (Stammen) .....
Stelzer .....
Vondrell, August .....
Wendeln, Henry .....
Westgerdes .....
Westgerdes, Gerhard .....
Willke, Edgar J. and Alfrida E. .....
Zahn, Hugo .....
Zumwald, Bernard .....
Zumwald, Louis .....

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MARION TOWNSHIP

In 1824 Mercer County was detached from Darke unty and was composed of four townships; Mar- ı Township being one. Included with Marion wnship was Franklin Township as well as por- ns of German and Jackson Townships. Later they re ceded to Auglaize County and Franklin Town- p was detached in 1841. In 1849 a small strip of ıd south of the Greenville Treaty line was added. is comprises the county to this day and includes out forty square miles. It is six miles wide from st to west and 6½ miles long from north to south.

The earliest settlers in Marion Township settled the Chickasaw creek and shared ground with the lians who were still living along the creek in their ıts. Some of the earliest settlers came from other ler counties of Ohio; like the Bodkins and Balling- came from Clarke County. The Burdges came m Hamilton county. The William Long and Peter cle families came from Virginia; and the William inter family came from Kentucky.

The first election was held on June 25, 1833, at ıich the following officers were elected: Trustees Samuel Gray, Charles Botkin and John Miller; rk, John L. Simes; treasurer; John Sprague; over- ers of the poor — Matthew Kerns and Alexander llaspie; fence viewers — William Botkin, John Da- and Hugh Miller. At the present time in 1978, the icers of the township are the trustees: Albert ıoenlein, Ralph Reichert and Ray Bruggeman th Kenneth Wuebker being clerk.

In the early days of the township, hunting and pping was a very important source of income. By ılone they were able to pay their taxes. In 1838-39 coon skins were legal tender for one dollar and er skins for about two dollars and a half. Venison d at about twenty cents a pound. As yet the land s a wilderness. Production beyond the needs of rsonal consumption promised no return owing to distance of the market and the lack of roads for nsportation. Hence but little clearing was at- npted. A change came with the opening of the ca- l in 1845. This now gave impetus to clearing. Tim- r itself became valuable and paid for the clearing. nceforth development was rapid.

Many of the first pioneers were wiped out with disastrous Asiatic Cholera in 1832 which almost populated the entire area as well as parts of Darke l Auglaize county. The second influx of pioneers Marion Township were predominantly German holic, with such names as Reicherts, Kramers, ellers, Goeckes, Elking, Hinders and Gasts.

The first of the six churches in Marion Township s St. Aloys in Carthagena which was started in 6 followed by St. Johns in 1837, followed by St. se, St. Marys in Cassella, St. Sebastian and Pre- us Blood in Chickasaw. Marion Township also s St. Charles Seminary, the Maria Stein Retreat use and Relic Chapel. In 1850 Fr. Brunner built Greenwood Convent, ½ mile south of Cassella, the Sisters of the Precious Blood. In 1880 "Grue- wald" became a normal school for nuns but by 10 the sisters started to be withdrawn and in 1923 y were all gone.

Many of the early settlers in Marion Township ne over from Germany landing on the east coast and coming up the Ohio River to Cincinnati. There they were transported by Canal boat up to Minster and into Marion Township.

In 1830 the Census or population was 1,100; by 1870 it was up to 1,876; and by 1900 the population stood at 2,678. From that point on, the population decreased but by 1970 the population was at 2,699 almost the same as 1900.

Much of Marion Township is rolling land which goes hand in hand with large families in a farming community to make for good animal production such as hogs, and milk operation. Level ground and fertile soil make for more grain production and less livestock. At the present time, the township is first in milk production in the county while Mercer County is 2nd in the State. Marion Township is second in number of hogs in Mercer County while the County is 16th in the U.S. The average milking operation currently has about 45 cows and the hog producers have about 30 sows. At the present time, the average farm in Marion Township is 161 acres.

Around the turn of the century and several years later, Marion Township had over nine schools, however, they were consolidated in 1955 under the name of Marion Local School District with the high school being called Marion Local. This school has always been strong on scholastics and especially noted for the excellence of their bands. The sports activity was highlighted when they became the State of Ohio Class A Basketball Champs in 1975.

People with a German Catholic Heritage have made for strong organizations. The Cassella Branch 943 of The Catholic Knights of America was organized in 1906. They are the biggest Branch of the CK of A in Ohio. Likewise, the Knights of St. John Commandery 313 was formulated in 1898 in Maria Stein and is the biggest Commandery in the world. The Maria Stein American Legion Post was organized in 1946 and is one of the most active Posts in the State. In 1971, the VFW Post 9019 was formed in Chickasaw and they are a strong going organization.

John Kramer from Maria Stein started the Marion Telephone Company in 1898 which stayed active continuously and at the present time is part of General Telephone Co. The calling radius is 10 to 15 miles. The Marion Mutual Insurance Association was formed in 1881, and again John Kramer was one of the organizers.

Also the New Idea manure spreader had its beginnings in Marion Township. Joseph Oppenheim, a school master at Maria Stein, had the idea of a manure spreader and started a factory in 1899 with help from his neighbors, such as Henry Synck, Fred Heckman and John Kramer. It prospered and in 1910 moved to Coldwater. Also the C.H. & D. Railroad running from North to South abandoned the train in 1923. Also around the turn of the century a Charles Eifert who was running a successful creamery in Maria Stein sold out to a small competitor in New Bremen which grew into the present Beatrice Foods. It was probably because of the loss of Industry and the Railroad that the Census dropped considerably in the early days of 1900.

Marion Township was the first Township to start graveling its roads and by 1900 had 17.8 miles of

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gravelled road, more than any other townships in the county. At the present time in 1978, all the township roads are paved and includes 37 miles. Marion Township had one of the first cement roads in the county. In 1923, a one-mile stretch of cement road was built from St. Rose to Maria Stein Station. Barney Evers from Marion Township was a commissioner at that time.

Marion Township has had its share of epidemics and set-backs. In addition to the Asiatic Cholera in 1832, another Cholera outbreak in 1848 and 1849 killed many people. There have been tornados cut across Marion Township; one of the worst being March 28, 1920 when it cut a swath of destruction from Cranberry through St. Rose and Chickasaw in a northeasterly direction. The depression years in 1929 through 1935 cost many lost farms by the residents. The various wars brought our share of death to the area.

Most of the land was originally bought by the settlers from the United States Government at a cost of $1.25 an acre. At the present time, there have been farms selling from $3,000 to $4,000 an acre.

Marion Township has a German Catholic Heritage. Over the years, many things have been done by groups of neighbors. For instance, harvesting and threshing was done by the neighbors. Butchering in the winter time was an active and enjoyable neighborhood event. The weddings have been big and originally were barn weddings with the neighbors and friends invited. This has been changed to hiring halls for such parties. In Marion Township, there are two halls: the Legion Hall and Knights of St. John Hall which are widely used and busy all the time with weddings. Sundays were reserved for church and visiting.

The township is back on an up-swing. We have a good school system, we have many active businesses going and just recently the Marion Township Development Corp. was formed with its first project being Chapel Hill addition. It is directly north of Maria Stein and east of the Maria Stein Convent. This 40 acres of land has been developed with ninety-seven lots being available for building homes. Many homes dot the countryside and the population is on the rise. *by Henry Leugers*

MARIA STEIN

In October of 1833, three families met in Baltimore, Md. and journeyed together to Ohio, settling down in Marion Township, Mercer Co., Ohio. The respective names of these early pioneer settlers were: John Leistenschneider, John Stelzer and John Thomas, (the last named being a Protestant).

At about the same time, His Lordship, Rt. Rev. Baptist Purcell was consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of Cincinnati. The fact, that the name of each of these three first settlers was "John" and the newly consecrated Bishop bearing the name of John Baptist, induced the first pioneer settlers to call the Settlement St. John and select St. John the Baptist the Patron Saint of the future Catholic Parish.

Up until the small log cabin church in St. John was erected, the early settlers walked the six mile distance to the town of Stallotown, now Minster, to attend Mass and to receive the Sacraments. Newborn infants were at this time carried by their happy

St. John Church, Ma Stein, Priest's hou and the house wh the teacher, Fra Moorman and his fa ily lived (this house torn down).

fathers to Stallotown to receive Baptism, since at th remote period there were no wagons or stately ca riages to convey their new-born in style. The fi born child in St. John was called "John" son of Jol Stelzer and Frances Siegrist and baptised, July 1834. Before returning home to St. John the settle would procure axes, hatchets, saws, etc. from t Central Store in Stallotown for their baby sons, one day they too could assist their fathers in felli trees, cleaning the wood-covered acres, thus chan ing the dense, virgin forest into fertile fields.

During the period of October, 1833 to Mar 1836, several facts and events draw special attentic as bearing directly upon the development a growth of St. John's, later called Maria Stein. At t period German and French immigrants, havi crossed the ocean on sail-ships, landed for the m part at Baltimore, Md., their final destiny being Ci cinnati. On heavy mountain wagons, drawn by fo or six horses, the conductors of these wagon-trai would pile the large heavy family-trunks and coff one upon another. The men walked the tedious t of a couple of hundred miles. The women and ch dren had, for the most part, to ride on top of t trunks and chests, secured by ropes to prevent th falling down. Since hotels were few along the rou farms and farm houses along the route, served immigrant restaurants. From Cincinnati, they th journeyed on to Mercer County.

Many early settlers of St. John had to borro money to buy land when they first arrived. As ear as 1835, some 25 Catholic families had bought acres of land for church and school purposes, payi $120.00 for them. On this church land and on th very site on which the present beautiful chur stands, it was unanimously resolved to build th new log cabin church. The first St. John the Bapti church was constructed of towering oak trees, su rounded by the score, on the site chosen in 183 The dimensions were approximately 30 by 45 feet.

On April the 9th, 1837, for then the first time, th good people witnessed the celebration of a solem High Mass chanted by the new appointed Past Rev. Francis Bartels. Not only had the people of S John now witnessed the dedication of the ne church and the blessing of the graveyard, on th 21st of May, in 1837, seven children of the little c ony received their first holy Communion. Th names of these favored few were: Theodore Hu skamp, Friederich Schroeder, Theodore Schm Heinrich Thaman, Anna Leistenschneider, Cath ine Herzog and Catherine Hagedorn (Gast).

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Among the pioneering settlers who were present the March date when in 1835 the 40 acres of urch land was bought, were Mr. Leonard Lining, ın Leistenschneider, John Stelzer, John Stelzer, ın Thomas, Christian Stelzer, Anton Moeller, Pe- J. Meier, J. Dietrich Hinders, John Reichert, John ıcke, Joseph Stucke, J. H. Kramer, Joseph Bernard, :rhard Knoebber, Dietrick Kemper, John Rhein, rnard Schmit, Gerhard Westgerdes and J. H. Tanmann. During the erection of the log church, the llowing settlers arrived: John Woblers, Fred Elkg, Henry Goecke, Joseph Siefke, J. H. Pohlmann, enceslaus Meinerding, Anton Schweinefuss, John uns, Clemens Vehorn, Nicholas Fullenkamp, H. wenger, J. Gaman, Bernard Goecke, J. D. Heckan, Fred Heckman, Henry Woerman, J. Hoeffen, J. une and John Desch.

In 1840 on July 19th, a Church bell was finally ırchased by the parishioners of St. John's, for the ice of $75.00. This humble messenger tolled three nes a day the Angelus Domini, inviting the people kneel in prayer. The belfry was built in front of e church. Four beams were sunk in the ground ıd well secured and braced; a neat little roof was nstructed to protect the bell from rain and snow.

Land Offices, erected by Congress and authorized sell government lands were at this period located Wapakoneta, Lima and Sandusky. In order to obin land, the new-comer had to go to one of the of:es and sometimes with the kind assistance of a lend, buy the land posted on County and Townıip maps, for the price of $1.25 per acre. The land :ing bought, the owner returned to his family with large document of parchment, with a big red seal, gned by General Jackson, or some other American 'esident. What exact condition the purchaser ould find his land was never known until he actuly saw it. Many expecting to buy land he had seen, und it was already purchased when he arrived at .e office.

Around the year 1834 and shortly following, sev:al businesses were started in the area. Mr. Fred :hroeder started the first wooden-shoe factory. Mr. . Tangemann opened the first black-smith shop in 336. Mr. Matthias Gast started the first general ore in 1847. Mr. John Goecke became the village ırpenter in 1849.

Born on the 7th of April, 1837, on a farm about a ılf mile East of St. Johns, Joseph Dwenger was desned to become the first Priest to be ordained. On ept. 4, 1859, the Most Rev. John Baptist Purcell ordıined Joseph, thus known as Rt. Rev. Joseph wenger. Father Joseph worked with great energy ıd marked success and in 1872 on April 14th, he as consecrated a Bishop by His Grace Archbishop urcell.

On August 14, 1845, the Very Rev. M. Sales Bruner visited St. John with the intention of selecting ome suitable piece of land, near the Parish of St. ohn for the purpose of locating on it a Missionouse and convent for the Precious Blood religious rder. The present owner was a Mr. George Hirschld. As soon as Fr. Brunner possessed the deed of ıe above mentioned land, he sent Rev. John Van en Brock, with three Lay-brothers to St. John, with ıstructions to erect temporary buildings for the Sis:rhood of the Precious Blood. Here Fr. John as he as called, with the help of the people in solemn rocession from the parish church to the proposed new convent, laid a corner stone on Nov. 16, 1845. By autumn of 1846, a humble dwelling and chapel were now completed for the eight Nuns to occupy. On November 21, 1846, the newly erected Convent chapel was dedicated in honor of Mary, Help of the Christians, and given the name of "Maria Stein". Father J. M. Gartner for the most part was responsible for the beautiful relic chapel at Maria Stein. The holy relics were given to Father Gartner in Rome on condition that they remain as a single collection, that they be placed in safe custody, and that the aim of their general veneration be realized. In 1875, Father Gartner arrived at Maria Stein with his precious collection of relics. After consulting church authorities and carefully weighing all circumstances, he decided the convent chapel of the Sisters at Maria Stein. This was a place that would meet all requirements for a pilgrimage church. An agreement was reached that the Sisters were to provide a suitable place for the relics and be charged with their safekeeping. The parishioners would defray the expenses of furnishing the chapel on condition that none of the relics be given away or taken to any other place. St. John's parishioners in a few days collected almost $1,300 for the beginning of construction on the Relic Chapel. Father Gartner himself contributed $1,100 of his own inheritance to it. While construction was not yet completed, Father Gartner was instructed to return to LaCross, Wisconsin, by Archbishop Purcell. As Archbishop Purcell, had desired Father Gartner to leave his treasury of relics in Cincinnati, misunderstandings had arisen and Father Gartner never was to return to Maria Stein to again see the relics. He died in March of 1877. In January of 1877, he wrote his last letter to Maria Stein, revealing his calm resignation in the face of death saying, "My heart, my love, remains with the work at Maria Stein."

In January of 1847, a meeting was held in St. John's Parish for the erection of a new brick church. Thirteen resolutions were written out designating the amount of money each person was to contribute toward the erection of the new church. Each Father of family was to contribute $2.00 annually, each widow to pay $1.00, each single person owning real estate $1.00 annually etc. Mainly in 1848, by taking up subscriptions, furnishing bricks and other materials, the actual work on the building was begun in the Spring of 1849. The size of this church was approx. 35 x 60' long; the steeple on the roof, built of wood, some 55 ft. above the dirt road. The plans for the new church were as far as it is known, made by the architect and church-builder, Anthony Geehr of Minster, Ohio. The bricks were made on the church ground by Mr. Raymond Buehler, a member of the parish. From the subscription list, the actual cost of the new church was $2465.00. As mentioned earlier, the 40 acres of land purchased by some 25 families were now not needed. Several parcels of land were sold by permission of the Bishop of Cincinnati to parties, who erected thereon dwellings. The money obtained from the sale of lots was applied for the benefit of the parish. Now a new bell was needed for the church, and was purchased and located in the belfry on Nov. 11, 1850 at a cost of $260.00 and weighing 935 pounds.

Taking leave of the new church and bell, one might ask what became of the first, humble log-

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Westgerdes Brothers Hardware Store, burned down about 1916 was located where Knights of St. John Hall is now located (1978).

Railroad left Maria Stein in 1922. The Station Master was Luc Hausfeld

church, built in 1837. It is no more, the material having been scattered to the winds, while even the very sight of the log cabin church cannot be recognized anymore. A neat dwelling house was built from the logs of the church but to date that no longer exists. A Mr. & Mrs. Topp lived in the old log house for many years.

A pioneer school house existed as far back as 1837. It too was made of logs. Mr. John Reichert taught his pupils, both boys and girls, and it stood near the old log church. In later years a brick school was built, located East of the present Parish rectory. It was used as a school for the boys. Another building erected on the corner of Rt. 119 and St. Johns Rd. was the girls school. They both no longer exist.

In 1848 Cholera found its way into the parish of St. John's knocking at the home of many families. The first time Cholera made its appearance in Mercer Co., was 1832 at Stallotown, New Minster. At that time Mercer Co. comprised all the territory of the two Counties, Mercer and Auglaize. Cholera hit St. John's in 1848 and 1849. Cholera is more or less familiar to all, but to many the symptoms of this sickness, which could cause death in a matter of hours was dreadful. The men who survived dug the long trenches in the cemetery, in which the box coffins would be placed. There were no tolling of bells or sacred rites in the church. Carpenters worked day and night nailing together rough box coffins for the dead. There were no communications between towns. Old people years ago would tell of seeing four persons of one and the same family buried in one week.

Still another larger church was to be built by the people of Maria Stein. Starting in 1888 and finishing 1894, the parishioners erected the Catholic church that still stands today. The total cost for this church came to $37,628.06.

With the coming of the railroad and the Miami-Erie canal system, business began to flourish and farmers prospered. Another generation had grown and the town's population began to multiply. Large families, some as many as fifteen children, seemed the mode of the time. There was plenty of land still to be cleared and much work still to be done. The town now had a post office and postmaster. Frank Westgerdes built a hardware store, the building also including the post office. John Goecke ran a shoe store and Matthias Gast, Jr. was now engaged in his Father's business running the local dry goods store. Henry Goecke was conducting an undertaking bu ness, manufacturing bricks and also dealt in fur ture. Mr. Alois J. Willke was the town's physician.

In the year 1900, the town of Maria Stein hac population of 250. This figure did not include t farming population. The town of Maria Stein w originally divided into two settlements, the East p tion known as Maria Stein (St. John) and the W portion, approx. one mile away, known as Static To date the two portions are known and mapped the town of Maria Stein, still unincorporated to tl day.

In the early 90's the most important manufactu ing concern in the town of Station was the N Spreader Company, started in 1899, manufacturi manure spreaders, of which Henry Synck was ma ager and Benjamin Oppenheim, Secretary. With tl new company came the arrival of the Cincinna Hamilton & Dayton Railway located less than o mile from St. John. The railway ceased operati around the year 1923. The New Spreader Compa is now known as New Idea and located in Coldw ter, Ohio. Other early businesses in Station were t Maria Stein Machine Shop, conducted by John Lin the Davidson butter tub factory, the grain elevat of Henry Kramer and the Moeller Lumber Co.

The countryside and town was growing rapidl The need for more schooling for children was a n cessity. Country schools sparsely dotted the are The Heitkamp, Dwenger and Puthoff one roo schools taught up to eight grades. The town's bo and girls schools served the town children only. Tl need for high school education became more de perate to the area people. In 1930, federal fun were provided for a three story school, which st stands to this day. The school included both gra and high school education. The country school st taught the first eight grades but now all children h the opportunity to finish high school at St. John's they wanted. In 1955, St. Johns ceased to fill tl need for the now larger population. The elect board of education decided to build the Marion L cal High School due to serious lack of space. Co struction began and was completed with enou room now to provide high school education f many of the small surrounding towns such as O good, Chickasaw, St. Sebastian, St. Rose and Ca sella. In 1977 the board now elected to constru new buildings to also house kindergarten throug eight grades. As of 1978, the three story St. John

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chool and the small country schools still stand but nly memories fill the rooms.

In the early 1900's, the town possessed a Town lall in the Station part of Maria Stein. This served s a meeting place, which included entertainment uch as Minstrel Shows, Medicine Shows and probbly the most important, a place for the new bride nd groom to hold a reception for their wedding. ventually the Town Hall was moved to where the merican Legion now stands. With the coming of rganizations in the 1900's, the American Legion nd the Knights of St. John erected buildings to now ccompany the needed places for receptions, weddings, etc.

With the coming of World War I, the third and ourth generation was now being asked to join the orld outside. Mainly up until that time, most were oncerned with clearing the land, feeding their famies and church activities seemed to predominately ll their needs for socializing. Neighbors got toether for harvesting, butchering and general visitg, but still the church services every Sunday, cred the need for the weeks duties getting done and ie Saturday night bath. Up until the War, no one eemed to dream they might someday be going back their ancestral homelands. Few remain who ought that war including those that returned home afely.

World War II and the Korean War now left a igma of less Patriotism than the first war. They ere definitely wars of greater fear and although the lothers gave up their Sons proudly, luckily it aforded one Son to stay home to farm the land.

The 20's and 30's brought about the depression. It as no different in Maria Stein as anywhere else. here was now little money to be had and existing ow grew more important than growing. Many arms were lost as well as businesses. The church ow had an important roll to play and that began ith helping to feed many of her parishioners. Jobs ere few and crops did not sell for lack of money om the buyer. It was a time that brought people gether but also a time that left scars for those not s fortunate to have kept their homes and farms.

To date many businesses flourish in the Maria tein area. Those involved in local trades are Jerry verman Milk Delivery and Chicken Farming, Gagel lardware, Leugers Insurance, B&S Trucking, owned y Paul Budde and just recently sold; Herbert Bergan, owner of Wayne Tool & Supply, Pohlmann & hobe Construction, D&I Carryout, owned by David choenlein; The Maria Stein Animal Clinic, Heinl rocery, Cyril Bernard in the Masonry Business, laria Stein Grain Company, Kerner Kafe, owned y Roger Schwieterman family; Harold Thobe, Moile Oil Delivery, M. S. Printing owned by Norman ohman. Drs. Edgar Willke and Donald Schwieterman are the town physicians.

A new post office was built in 1962 and is resently run by Urban Berning, serving as Postmaster, since 1961. The original post office was in the Vestgerdes Hardware Store, with Frank Westgerdes erving as Postmaster from 1896 to 1906. Years folowing, subsequent Postmasters were Charles Leisng until 1914. Fred Mescher until 1920, Joseph acks until 1932, Urban Menker until 1958 and Ruct lenker until 1961. Rural carriers were Henry ramer, beginning in 1881, Matthias Gast beginning 903, Aloys H. Bruggeman, beginning in 1924, Paul Moeller beginning in 1958. The present carrier is Stanley Bertke assuming the position in 1977.

The St. Henry Bank approved plans in 1974 to open a new Branch in Maria Stein. Frank Woeste is Manager of the bank.

Many of the old log cabin homes and hand-made brick houses still exist today in the area of Maria Stein. They may be covered with new siding and coats of paint, but the architectural structures still provide memories and glimpses into the past of how the town of Maria Stein began. *by Martha Rindler*

ST. ROSA

The origin of St. Rosa, dates back to June 12, 1854, when the small town was surveyed by A. Jack Linzee. St. Rosa was laid out by Archbishop John B. Purcell in June 1854. The plat was recorded June 29. It was laid out as Rose Garden. It was known by that name, and by St. Rosa, which was the post office name. The St. Rosa Catholic Church is located there. It was established in 1837. A log church was built in 1838. Regular church services were first held in 1845, when several priests of the Precious Blood, and Rev. L. Navarron and Rev. John Wittmer, visited the church alternately and performed services. Thus, this was the beginning of St. Rosa parish and its church.

Early recorded history of St. Rosa is very sketchy. Extensive research did turn up the names of several early residents and the approximate dates they resided in St. Rosa.

Joseph Hagedorn was born in St. Rosa on August 2, 1846. He was the son of John and Gertrude (Mescher) Hagedorn. Joseph Hagedorn married Catherine Hemmelgarn on May 27, 1879. The 1900 edition of the Mercer County Atlas, listed him as current (1900) president of Marion Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was engaged in farming at the same time.

Henry Rose, the son of Bernard and Mary Rose was born in Germany June 19, 1829 and he came to this country in August of 1860. In 1882 Henry Rose was engaged in farming near Chickasaw. In 1860, he married Dena, the daughter of Garrat and Elizabeth Knoba. Dena had been born in this country in 1843. Henry and Dena Rosa's children were Bernard, Mary, Herman, Henry, Anna, John and Elizabeth. In 1900 he was in the mercantile business in St. Rosa, carrying a full stock of dry goods, hats, caps, boots, and shoes.

Henry Kevelder was born in St. Rosa on July 4, 1865, the son of Anton and Katherine Kevelder. Henry married Mary Hartings on January 19, 1887. They had four children, whose names were Tonie, Millie, Edward and Alvera. In 1900' Henry Kevelder owned a general store and ran a saloon.

Other very early St. Rosa residents included Bernhard Goettemoeller who in 1888 was known to be a proprietor of a stock farm, as a dealer in imported stock. Others known to be living in St. Rosa in 1888 included Henry Schlarman, Joseph Homan, E. Hartings, Fred Woeste, A. Moeller, A. Kleinhenz, J. Meiring, Frank Woeste, F. Hartings.

From its very humble beginnings in 1854, the town of St. Rosa grew in population and the number of businesses, until finally, as more modern transportation became available to more and more peo-

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ple, the residents of St. Rosa and the other very small towns began more and more to shop the bigger towns for goods and necessities.

Finally, today, St. Rosa consists of a grocery (Bruns'), a Television Dealer (Thobe's), an International Harvester Dealer (Bomholt and Sons). The Marion Mutual Fire Insurance expanded and moved from St. Rosa to Cassella in 1972. *by David Muhlenkamp*

ST. SEBASTIAN

In the 1800's this thriving little village had a blacksmith shop, saloon, implement dealer, cane mill, general store and post office. In 1882 Henry Beckman had the general store and post office, Matthias Klinke was the shoe cobbler and Anton Weber a carpenter. Later Ben and Henry Borgert were the carpenters. Some of the later proprietors of the general store were John Rose, Andrew Niekamp, and Albin Kramer. Isadore and Margaret Schurman were the last owners before it was closed in 1954.

A few years after the first church, built in 1853, a one room school building was built a short distance east of the church. This served the community until 1874 when the parishners bought a plot of ground from Ben Froning in the northwest corner of Sec. 9 in Marion Twp. 3/4 mile west of the church.

A one room brick building with one teacher for eight grades and as many as 80 pupils attending classes, was built in 1875. In 1941 the building was changed into a two room school with two teachers for the eight grades and served the community until 1958 when the Sebastian Local School was consolidated with the Marion Local School District at Maria Stein.

On Feb. 28, 1959 this building and lot sold at public auction and was bought by Jerome & Doris Ann Will who lived within the St. Sebastian Parish. They remodeled it into a modern home for their family.

At the present time the village contains St. Sebastian Church and cemetery, General Telephone Building. E. J. Wynk Construction Company, Tuente Stocks Yards of which Norb Kramer is buyer, and is home for 20 families. *by Alfred Will*

Carthagena — Saint Aloysius Church and cemetery in bacl ground. Old Negro Cemetery in Foreground. Center Tombstor reads: Cathrine Harper, died July 4, 1875 aged 73 years, 3 month 10 days. (Shannon McFarlin photograph)

CARTHAGENA

Of all the historically important sites in Merce County, one of the most rich in history is the sma community of Carthagena, the only community i the county to have seen two sets of inhabitants – black and white.

Carthagena, named for the village in Carthag Africa, was platted in 1840 by Charles Moore, black man whose family hailed from Harriso County, Ky., but the growth of the village had i beginnings at least a decade earlier.

According to the Personal Property Record in th Mercer County Courthouse, Moore bought 64 lo in Carthagena (listed in the record book as Ca thagena viz. Negroburg) in 1830.

After months of searching throughout Ohio for proper spot in which to settle the recently-free black families he had waiting for him in Cincinnat Augustus Wattles, a learned white man of Quake background from the East Coast, finally in 183. bought 160 acres around Carthagena on which h and his followers established what was to becom the "most successful negro settlement in the state

St. Aloysius Church and Cemetery — (Cemetery at the corner St. Rt. 127 and Carthagena Road is the old Negro cemetery.)

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d Negro Cemetery at rthagena, on State ute 127, south of Cel-, Ohio. The tomb-ne in the foreground ads: N. T. Gannon, ivate of Co. K, 42 g., U.S. G. I. Died ct. 23, 1882, aged 42 ars, 4 month and 23 ys. The stone to the ht reads: Levi, son of .L. Hurd, died Mar. , 1884. (Shannon :Farlin photograph)

cording to Lillian M. Carroll, Ohio Cues, February '65.

Wattles probably was attracted to the area not ily because of the terrain, but also because of its olation from whites and the already-existing com-unity of the Moores and perhaps others.

Wattles established not only a Manual Labor :hool for Colored Youth, but a thriving, self-fficient and self-governed community of black-niths, tinsmiths, shop keepers, school teachers, urch leaders, grist and sawmill operators and rmers. In time, three black schools and three black urches were established in and around the area rrounding Carthagena to facilitate the growing mbers of black settlers.

Wattles himself sustained the school until 1841, hen it was bought by the trustees of the Samuel nlen Jr. estate, who operated the school under the me Emlen Institute until 1857.

At least 400 persons eventually were involved in e Carthagena community, according to the book Red, Black and White" by Rev. Ilrich Mueller, in 35. The community's land holdings increased to tween 10,000 and 30,000 acres. Exactly how many res still is disputed by historians.

Black settlers also began spreading out to two her Mercer County townships: Butler and Gran-lle.

It is difficult to trace just what year whites also gan residing in Carthagena and its vicinity, but acks and whites apparently did reside in the town gether for quite some time. Through research it as been determined that the black and white citi-ns of Carthagena resided in a peaceful manner d that those hostilities which led to the eventual parture of the black community were sparked in rrounding areas, such as Celina.

At least thirty years saw the existence of the Car-agena community and evidence shows that blacks ere a part of Mercer County citizenry for some ndred years. A grave in the black cemetery at arthagena of Albert Bowles, born in 1906 and who ed in 1957, indicates that at least one black man ayed even longer.

The black community also had its well-known cit-ens, including the Robinson and Hurd families, unders of the Baptist Church in Carthagena, and /illiam H. Jones, who served as supervisor, school rector and clerk for the community. The most suc-ssful, however, was Thomas Dillon, a graduate of e Emlen Institute, who sailed with a delegation of her blacks in July of 1866, to Liberia, South Africa. metime later he was elected president of that untry, a post he served for a number of years.

Upon the attempted landing in New Bremen of John Randolph's freed slaves from Virginia in 1846, hostility, for racial, religious and other reasons began growing against the black settlers, eventually leading to the departure of Wattles and of increasing numbers of black families.

The Emlen Institute was sold in 1857 to John C. Schmidt of Greenville for $4,000 who in turn sold the land to the Society of the Precious Blood for $4,-500 in 1861. A structure, St. Charles Seminary, was erected on the site of the former school.

The purchase of the land by the Catholic order also led to the establishment of the St. Aloysius Church in Carthagena. Upon the founding of the seminary, Catholic families of the area began attending services in the chapel. In 1865, the seminary chapel was enlarged to accomodate the ever-increasing crowds and at the same time, Rev. Aloys Schelbert began organizing the people into a parish which became known as St. Aloysius.

By 1875, the number of families listed as members of the St. Aloysius parish was 35. In the early 1870s the parishoners began to voice their wishes for their own parish church, and following heavy donations by members and much discussion concerning its location, the church was dedicated June 30, 1878. The church, which still stands, was designed and built by Anton DeCurtins and his sons, of Carthagena. The Rev. Henry Drees was pastor at that time.

A census of church members between 1897 and 1899, revealed 70 families and 388 souls belonged to the parish.

At the same time, the community surrounding the church also was growing. A description of Carthagena in the "History of Van Wert and Mercer Counties" written in 1882, related that eight streets graced the village: Burney, Elm, Harris, Jackson and Clay, running east to west and Pearl, Main and Broad, running north to south.

"Present businesses" in 1882 included Anton Link's dry goods store, Barney Wehrkamp's hotel and grocery, John Bostwick's post office, John Schlosser's boot and shoe store and the DeCurtins' shop for organ and furniture manufacture.

Carthagena's growth through the 1880s and early 1900s was linked to the growth of the church, which in 1904 required the enlargement of the church with the addition of two sacristies, a new sanctuary and a basement and heating plant.

At present, none of the former business establishments remain and Carthagena has become a residential community: "sleepy" but picturesque. *by Shannon McFarlin*

CASSELLA

Cassella got its name from the German Name "Kappella" from the Convent of the Precious Blood which was begun in 1952 about one half mile south of the present town of Cassella. Due to the beginning of the church of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin the town of Marysville was laid out in the year 1860.

Before the beginning of Marysville (according to several elderly citizens of our town), there were two closely knit towns within a distance of a half mile. The one village was called Frogtown and the other village Dog Town. Frogtown was the village one-half mile west of Dogtown.

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Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church. Cassella, 1923.

Frogtown consisted of a brick store, a saloon, a post office, a general merchandise store, a saw mill, a large pond inhabited by many frogs, hence no doubt it received its name, an ice house nearby and several homes surrounding the small village. A Cane mill also stood north east on one side of the road.

Prominent citizens of Frogtown were Henry Cron, John Link, Louis Grieshop, Joe Hierholzer, John Vondrell, The brick store just west of the Stelzer Road was torn down after the beginning of Marysville. The saloon was run by Henry Cron and other proprietors were John Link and Louis Grieshop. On the east side of the Stelzer Road was located a large ice house near the pond. In the winter when the pond froze over to several inches, you would see the citizens cutting the ice into blocks about four to six feet in length and about two to three feet wide and several inches thick. It was quite a job to get the ice out of the pond and store it between straw in the ice house.

When ice was needed in the summer they would uncover the straw and get another block of ice out of the ice house. One of the homes built nearby on the east side of the present Stelzer Road was moved to the Walter Schmiesing farm and has been remodeled into a modern home.

Directly across the road from the store and saloon was a sawmill owned by John Link. It was a busy place since virgin forests were found surrounding the town. Many large trees were cut down and brought by large wagons or bob-sleds to the thriving saw-mill where John and his helpers made them into lumber for barns and homes in the wilderness.

The saloon across the street was a busy place, with many fights between the Collins Boys from Carthagena and those living nearby Frogtown.

It was reported that many times Henry Cron found many of his customers owing huge amounts of charge accounts of whiskey. When he asked them to pay up, they would fell several trees nearby, bring them to the saw mill across the road from the saloon, and then John Link would pay Henry Cron for the whiskey, having been well repaid by the lumber made from the trees.

Also for many miles people brought in their sugarcane to the sugar cane mill across the road. There John Grevenkamp who operated the mill for more than ten years, placed the sugar cane in piles, for each customer. Then it was shredded and the juice pressed out of it, cooked and made into sorghum molasses.

But in the middle of the nineteenth century, Dogtown, one half mile east began to grow and in the year 1860 became the town of Marysville. Dogtov also had a saloon, a blacksmith shop run by Jol Cron, a wagon repair shop, a basket maker Herm Harter, a little log school house, a wooden missic church, a teachers house, a shoe-repair shop, and barbershop operated by Joe Woods. Joe charged 1(for haircuts and 5¢ for shaves. Prominent citizens this town were such names as Louis Kothman, Be Boeke, Fred Boeke, J. Kleinhenz, Charles Har burger, Michael Lechleiter, Joe Heirholzer, Be Greiwe and other pioneers of that time.

Dogtown now was laid out into a town and name Marysville. According to the surveyor's record Marysville (now called Cassella) was laid out in tl northeast corner of section seven, range 3 east co taining fifteen lots, each being four poles wide b sixteen poles deep, except lots eight and nine, whic are only thirteen poles deep. There was a school l fifteen which was only three poles wide by eigl poles deep all of which they contain clear of stree and alleys. Marion Street (now Route 119) ran ea and west and Convent Road (now Cassell. Montezuma Road) ran through the town north ar south. School Street was twenty five wide ran as f as the northwest corner of Lot number seven. Toda this is the cemetery road to Nativity of the Blesse Virgin Cemetery. North of lots one to seven was L 8 (now having the Cassella Tavern, Pat Moell Home and Frank Feltz Home on it and Lot 8 (no the Cassella Ball Field).

Marysville then was laid out in lots by 1860 an the post office was moved to Marysville and calle Cassella. Records show that the mission church wa replaced by a larger church across the road, th present site of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgi Church. The Cane mill was moved from Frogtown t Dogtown as Marysville grew and there it was owne and run by Frank Feltz with John Dippold th cooker of the molasses. The mill still stands on th Martin Feltz Property along the Cassella Montezuma Road, but is no longer in operation.

Today the town of Cassella has a tavern run b Mr. and Mrs. Lari Robinson, a Fix-It-Shop owne and operated by Martin Feltz, The Cassella Garag operated by Clarence Fletz, The Marion Mutual In surance Building, The Nativity of the Blessed Virgi Church, the C.K. of A. Hall, the Parish Hall an many old and new homes spread out along Stat Route 119 and the Cassella Montezuma Road. *by O car Eifert*

Cassella, 1918 — **L. to R.:** A. Boehmer, John Greivenkamp, Franl Feltz Sr., Joe Tangeman, Henry Hierholzer, Leo Greivenkamp an Albert Feltz.

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THE CASSELLA CHURCH

In the year 1847 the Cassella parish was formed. me of the earliest German immigrants were the elzers, the Crons, and the Hierholzer families. The rly immigrants were all loyal earnest hard-orking Catholics. A small frame church was lo-ted directly west of the present site across the ad. There the frame church stood for many years. was dedicated under the title of the Nativity of the essed Virgin Mary.

Since there was no parsonage, the priest resided at e Maria Stein Convent or after 1849 at the Gruen-wald Convent.

The mission church was soon too small to take re of the increasing population, so a new church d to be built. So in the year 1858 a new larger urch was built across the road a few rods right of e old mission church, with Father Habertheur as e first pastor of the newly built brick church.

About this time the town of Cassella was laid out, cluding many mercantile buildings and a post of-:e.

In the year 1874 Father Englebert Ruff purchased $100 organ. Then following the pastor Father Se-stina Ganther who made many improvements in e church with beautiful paintings and woodwork.

During Father Shock's last few days of his pastor-e the "demon fire" visited the little church and de-royed the woodwork, pictures and altars. Only the ur brick walls remained — a ghastly ruin.

Now Father August Seifert began the work of res-ration and by 1888 the little edifice was nearing mpletion. Through the efforts of Father Martin entinger, the interior of the church was frescoed id new altars and windows were installed. A new wer was erected and this is the same tower we see day. The tower or steeple is over one hundred feet gh. On top of the steeple a gold cross and a ball ere placed.

It was during Father Henry Drees pastorate that any improvements were made in the church, in-uding the beautiful art windows you see today hich portray the mysteries of the rosary. Also a ew organ was installed, pumped by hand, until it as later electrified.

To Father Charles Romer in 1902 goes the credit erecting the beautiful, spacious parsonage which ill stands today. It was during Father Heffner's istorate a fierce storm wrecked the roof, ceiling, id windows. These had to be repaired. Father Heff-r realized that the stoves in the church needed to replaced with an efficient heating system, so a isement was dug near the southern end of the undation. But too much ground was dug out near e foundation and the entire back part of the urch caved in.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Cassella, Ohio, photograph by Tim Forsthoefel

It did not take very long however to build a larger basement and enlarge the church. Then on its safer foundation was placed a sacristy, and a new heating system was installed and this vapor system is still used today. However the furnace now is run by oil.

In 1915 the church was stucco-coated over the scarred brick church enhancing its beauty considerably and in 1928 Fr. Vincent Muinch obtained a beautiful life like set of "Stations of the Cross" which were imported from Italy. He also beautified the surroundings by shrubbery and trees around the church and parsonage.

In 1939 Father Ivo Weis became pastor of our church and he had the church cleaned and redecorated. It was during his pastorate that we had several first masses.

Our centennial was celebrated on August 3, 1947 with a pontifical high mass and a church picnic. In 1950 Father Edward Vonderhaar became our pastor. It was during his pastorate we had our twelfth and thirteenth son of our parish to be ordained from our parish. Also during his pastorate a new roof was placed on our church, a $3600 Kimball Organ was purchased and the parish hall was obtained from the C.K. of A. for our C.C.D. classes and parish events.

Father Edward Vonderhaar was our pastor for twenty years and when he retired he was followed by Father Francis Uecker. He repainted the inside of the church and the steeple.

On June 12, 1972 Father Vincent Parr became our pastor. He was confronted with many needed improvements and the planning of our 125th anniversary. This was celebrated in a most fitting manner. Other improvements he has made as of this date are the building of the garage, improvements in the parsonage, new improved storm windows on the church and the carpeting of the church. Another improvement being anticipated is the resurfacing of our parking lot.

Finally it may be said that God has blessed and rewarded this parish with thirteen priests, and seven sisters. *by Oscar Eifert*

photograph by Tim Forsthoefel

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The Home of C.K. of A. Branch No. 943 of Cassella. The interior of the building is modern, and also has a stage for plays, etc. It is located only about 25 feet from the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, between the Church and the Church's CCD Building.

CASSELLA C.K. OF A. BRANCH

The Catholic Knights of America, (C.K. of A.), the second oldest Catholic Fraternal organization in the United States, was chartered as a National organization in April 1877 at Nashville, Tenn. Its headquarters were later moved to St. Louis, Mo. The Home office is now at 3525 Hampton Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63139.

St. Mary's Branch (Cassella No. 943) was chartered on April 6, 1906, with ten names on the charter. They were Fred Bertke, Sebastian Delzeit, Jacob Cron, Ben Schmit, Joseph Schwieterman, Henry Vondrell, Frank Feltz, Joe Hierholzer, August Koesters and Anton Koesters. Frank Feltz was the charter president.

The membership in the Cassella Branch has grown and as of August 1978 numbered 461.

The first meetings of the Branch were held in an old school building which they purchased from the Board of Education a few years later. Many improvements have been made to the building including an addition of a stage, rest rooms, oil fired furnace, lowering of the ceiling and paneling the interior. The Branch uses the same building today.

When school was discontinued in the other school building, the Branch purchased the Building, water well and the school grounds from the Marion Local Board of Education. It was purchased in April of 1959. The land was needed for the Branch's many activities, including shooting matches, picnics etc.

The Branch sold the Building to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church in July of 1964, for $1.00, and it is now being used for CCD classes.

Past president's of C.K. of A. Branch No. 943, Cassella, Ohio.

Charter president — Frank Feltz 1906-15 and 1922-23; August Koesters 1916-20, 1924-27, 1931-32, 1944-45; Leo Bertke 1921; Peter Ranly 1928-30 and 1936-37; Leo Hemmelgarn 1933; Edward Reichert 1934-35 and 1938-39; Arnold Cron 1940-41; Oscar Eifert 1942-43 and 1948-49; Edmund Fiely 1946-47; Egbert Hierholzer 1950-51; Clarence Koesters 1952-53; Leander Bertke 1954-55; Raymond Koesters 1956-57; Albert Koesters 1958-59; Maurice Cron 1960-61; Arthur E. Ranly 1962-63; Alfred Boeckman 1964-65; Raymond Flaute 1966-67; Louie Bertke 1968-69; Robert Heitkamp 1970-71; Stanley Fiely 1972-73; Harold Broering 1974-75; Gregor Grevenkamp 1976-77; Clarence Feltz 1978 and current president.

Branch No. 943 Officers for 1978-79 are — **Front Row:** Vice President Bob Dippold, President Clarence (Mickey) Feltz, and Recording Secretary Pauline Schemmel. **Back Row:** Fraternal Affairs Raymond Flaute, and Escort Wilbur Bertke. **Absent were:** Trustees Les Homan, Bill Nagel, and Stanley Goettemoeller, Sentinel Robert Huelsman, and Spiritual Director Father Vincent Parr C.PP.S. Dippold is also Chairman of the Social Committee and Treasurer.

Meetings of the Branch are held the third Monday of each month in their hall, and is preceded by a Mass celebrated by their spiritual Director Father Parr in the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church.

The National C.K. of A. celebrated their 100th anniversary in St. Louis in April of 1977. The Cassella Branch also held a 100th anniversary celebration preceded by a Mass celebrated by Bishop Elko of Cincinnati, which was held in July of 1977.

Being a family fraternal Society, the C.K. of A. encourages 100% family membership. The Society has no auxiliary members and accepts members at age zero to 70. Juveniles become adult members at age 18, and then have voting power and are eligible to hold office. The Society is an insurance benevolent organization. Its theme is "Fraternalism is a Family Affair".

Art Ranly has been the organizer (Agent) since 1954, and has written up over 300 members. Social members are also accepted into the organization.

The activity that leaves the most memories is the plays that have been presented by its members. These plays were good fund raising projects and made possible the remodeling of the hall, and purchasing new chairs etc. Another fund raising activity held each year is the annual shooting match which features trap and stationary shooting.

Other activities over the years were: basketball teams, softball teams, annual hamburger fries, picnics, annual communion breakfast, annual children's Christmas party and family picnic day.

The Branch makes donations to the Cassella church, CCD funds, the right-to-life organization the parish church, to various school functions, and etc.

The Hall is used for parish activities for both adults and children. It is rented to groups for reunions, family picnics, parties, weddings, showers, etc.

The Cassella Branch is proud of its past and is looking forward to the future with much enthusiasm.

Branch No. 943 has had several members who have served in the State and National organization. L. to R. State President Harold Broering; Past National Representative and now National Trustee Arthur E. Ranly; National Representative and Past State President Raymond Koesters and Past State President Stanley Fiely. Egbert Hierholzer (deceased) was also a Past State President.

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CHICKASAW

The village of Chickasaw, Ohio, located in the orthern part of Marion Township, was laid out and rveyed July 27, 1838, by James Hanks, Deputy irveyor, acknowledged by John Nutter and James ooks before H. H. Frazier, Justice of the Peace.

At that time the United States was at war with the minole Indians in the southeastern states, making mericans highly conscious of the tribes in that part the country, among which was the Chickasaw na-on.

After the Treaty of Greenville in 1795, war be-veen west central Ohio Indians and the white set-ers ended. Missionaries of the Roman Catholic hurch ministered to red and white men of the ter-tory.

Father Navarron, an early French missionary ad-inistered rites of the church to early settlers of the hickasaw settlement in Mercer County. The settle-ent and two neighboring streams derived their ames from the two (Big and Little) Chickasaw In-ian tribes which originally occupied the northern art of Marion Township.

The settlement which became Chickasaw Village, as the only incorporated village in Marion Town-ip in 1890. The following were the village officials f that period: Mayor, H. S. Schaffer; clerk, Joseph Dorsten; treasurer, Joseph Hanfelder; marshal, Wil-am Cron.

The early German Catholic settlers of Chickasaw ere Arnold Clune, Mathias Gast, D. Hinders and e Grieshops, Kremers, Rentzes, Niekamps, Hul-camp, Fleck, Hierhilzers, Stelzers, and Crons. mong the early Chickasaw residents were Joseph Miller, Joseph Wahler, Henry Kaiser, Garrett Stam-ener, Henry Rose, Fedena Cook, Mathias Stelzer, nd John Listenschneider. Most of the early settlers ere either born in Germany and came here at an arly age or were of German descent.

John Henry Grieshop and his wife, Helena, came o the township in 1846. Their sons, Barney and Henry, operated a brickyard and their grandson, August, in partnership with Mr. Meinerding, oper-ted a hardware store.

Chickasaw showed little growth until 1880, when he Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton Railroad was uilt through the town. It was then that the village tarted to progress.

In 1880 Chickasaw had two hotels, one operated by John Link and the other by Charles Stelzer. With he completion of the railroad a third hotel, a two-tory brick structure, was erected in 1881 by Henry Gast.

With the completion of the C.H.&D. railroad ena-bled local businessmen to ship their grain, flour, umber, and timber to Cincinnati and Dayton.

The C.H.&D. Railroad ran from Dayton, Ohio to the north, mostly along State Route 48 to West Mil-ton on to Covington then on to Yorkshire, Osgood, Maria Stein, Chickasaw, to Montezuma toward Delphos, Ohio.

There were depots at each town. The depot agent at Chickasaw was Beda Kramer. He lived in Chicka-saw. It brought into Chickasaw coal, sand, gravel, and other freight. It took out "Blue Ribbon Flour", wheat and other grains, livestock, and lumber. The Union Handle Factory shipped its products of butter churns, wheelbarrows, and ironing boards, broom handles, rake handles, axe handles and hammer handles and boat oars.

The C.H.&D. also had a daily passenger train and baggage car which carried mail and express. The passenger train during the summer time would run a passenger train with as many as 6 to 8 passenger cars known as "excursions" for people that would come home to visit their families on Sunday. The train arrived at 9:00 or 10:00 a.m. and returned to Dayton at about 5:00 or 6:00 p.m.. People would go to the depot on Sunday morning in great crowds to see who came home on weekends and also in the evening to see them off on their journey back to Dayton or Cincinnati.

In addition to three hotels, Henry Gast, Jacob Link, and Rawers and Tekamp have general stores in Chickasaw. Frederick Gast dealt in groceries and notions. H. S. Shaffer sold building supplies. Joseph Dorsten was the town blacksmith and B. A. Spoltman sold harnesses. Gerhard Schroder sold monuments. William Cron operated a wagon factory and Frederick Max ran a sawmill. Another manufacturing concern is the Union Handle Company. Frank Grieshop and Al Schwieterman owned the company.

In addition, the village had a druggist, George Ferner. Dr. H. G. Rawers was the town's only physician.

Shortly before the turn of the century, Chickasaw found itself in the center of an oil and gas boom. The gas was piped to the south as far as Urbana, but the supply did not last long and most of the wells were abandoned.

The Chickasaw flour mill burned down in 1909, but it was quickly rebuilt and continued making "Blue Ribbon Flour."

The "Portrait and Biographical Record of Mercer and VanWert Counties, Ohio" (1896) documents the story of early families in and around Chickasaw.

It speaks of a flourishing Chickasaw in the 1880's. Mathias Gast, descendant of a founding family, started a mercantile business that prospered through three generations. Peter Gast helped build the Grand Reservoir Dam.

Henry Gast, at 23 in 1878 married Miss Mary Schwietermann of Sebastian, by whom he had 12 children. At an early age Henry had learned the trade of shoemaker. He also worked in a brickyard, ran a sawmill and started a livery stable. Later he managed a grain elevator. He was spoken of as a successful man of unusual sagacity and enterprise.

After the death of his first wife, Gast married Mrs. Elizabeth Steltzer (whose husband Matthew had died in October, 1884). They had one child, Leo, born May 1, 1895, who was killed in World War I in Germany.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gast lived to be 101, passing away in 1952, and was noted throughout the community for kind-hearted, friendly disposition.

J. J. Dues ran a machine shop in Chickasaw in 1890's manufacturing engines and boilers. He also sold threshing machines, clover hullers, and repaired all kinds of machinery.

John Hagedorn ran a successful hotel in the 1890's after failing in the sawmill and grain businesses.

Bernard Mestemaker, in the early 1880's engaged in work on the Canal, earning and saving money enough to purchase a tract of 80 acres of woodland

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in Marion Township. By much hard work he cleared and converted the land into a fine farm.

His son, Bernard, grew up to farm and add 80 more excellent acres to the Mestemaker farmlands.

In 1906 Peter Niekamp became a partner in the Chickasaw Grain and Milling Co..

Chickasaw streets were not lighted at night until December, 1911. The old handle factory supplied electric current for a limited number of hours each night, replacing the dimmer gas lights.

Then adversity struck the village of Chickasaw. The timber supply was exhausted during the second decade of this century and in 1923 the Cincinnati, Hamilton, & Dayton Railroad was abandoned.

These were serious blows to the community, but it was not until 1933, with the closing of the Farmers Bank that Chickasaw came face to face with the fact that its growing days were over.

Population figures for the village also tell a story. In 1890 Chickasaw's population was 499; 1900, 300; 1950, 166; 1975, it is approximately 362. Many of the residents live in Chickasaw because they choose to, and work in industries of larger nearby towns.

In 1940 the Chickasaw Milling Co. plant was destroyed by fire and while it was rebuilt, it no longer milled flour. Its owner, the late Louis A. Grieshop, devoted the entire operation of the mill to the general elevator and feed business. Todays grain elevator is operated by Mercer Landmark Inc.

Chickasaw Garage, present owner Arnold Homan

Other businesses which have been around since the departure of the train is the automotive garages. On October 19, 1927, Charles H. Huelsman purchased from Louis George Jr., the garage equipment and parts for $612.00. The equipment was housed in the west lean-to of the Joseph Dorsten Blacksmith Shop. (This building was later owned by Ed H. Zahn, local blacksmith). Charles Huelsman continued business in this building, as a General Garage at that time repairing mostly Model T Fords and Fords on tractors.

On November 1, 1933, Mr. Ed J. Rindler bought half interest in the business, and it was operated as Chickasaw Garage until May, 1934, when the business was moved to the present location of Chickasaw Garage on Franklin Street. January 1, 1947, Ed Rindler bought the half interest that Charles Huelsman owned and continued to operate as Chickasaw Garage.

January, 1947, Mr. Huelsman then bought the lot on the corner of State Route 716. He also bought a two car garage from A. J. Lechliter. This building was then moved from the present Harold Rentz property to the corner lot on State Route 716. An extra stall and office were added to the two car garage. The building was opened for business June 1, 1947 as "Huelsman's Garage."

In 1955, two extra stalls were added on the southeast corner of the building. In 1968, a 60 ft. addition

Huelsmar Automoti present owner Rol Huelsman

was added to the West of the building.

January 1, 1969, Charles Huelsman sold the bu ness to his son, Robert and he continues to oper the business as Huelsman's Automotive. In 197 50' x 80' steel building was erected south of the g rage and it houses the Wholesale and Retail Pa Business known as Huelsman's Autopro. Phot Huelsman's Automotive & Chickasaw Garage.

Chickasaw is proud of their privately own water system. In the 1940's it was believed to ha the smallest community waterworks in the count In those days just about every home in Chickas had a dug well. For one reason or another th found "dug" wells were unsatisfactory. For each drill his own well would have entailed considerat expense and besides, each home would then ha more water than was required.

The idea began to jell back in 1946. Urban Zal and his father Ed Zahn, John Wenning, Julius Brur Charles Hueslman began to bat an idea around. O night they had a meeting around the council tat and the next day things began to happen. Th talked with the state department of natural r sources and knew where they could find an amp supply of water. They decided the well should be near the center of the village as possible becau there would be less trenching and less pipe. The hired a driller, he went down 236 feet where h found a supply of 2000 gallons an hour. Out of the combined funds the men bought concrete bloc and put up a small building (Pump House). The bought a three horsepower motor and a pump, a 52 gallon storage tank and as much two and 1 half inc pipe as they could lay their hands on. Then the hired a trenching machine and laid their two and half inch main, taking the water off from there int the homes. As the project progressed others joine in the operation such as Ed Rindler and A. J. Rer gers. Two garages and eight homes had all the wate they needed. The individual assessment was $2.00 month. It cost $1.00 for the electricity to operate th pump during a month. There was a charge mad against the company of $2.00 for the rental of th ground upon which the Pump House stood and i that is included payment to Charles Huelsman t keep an eye on the pump and the three horsepowe motor. The building and laying of the pipe main and pipelines were done by the townsmen after reg ular working days.

This water system continued to serve the villag of Chickasaw until August of 1975 when the pum house exploded. The cause is unknown. The Neigh bor Water Co. went to work on other means of get ting water to the towns people. They decided on a water tower. The new tower is 110 feet high and ha a capacity of 25,000 gallon in the tank and an addi tional 9,000 in the riser pipe. Cost of the projec (tower $28,000) and the base etc. an additional ($12,- 000) for a total of $40,000.

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Bruns Building Supply of St. Henry put in the base for the tower and the Security Tank and Tower Co. of Henderson, Kentucky, supplied the tower. On the Neighbor Water Co. Board at the time of the building of the tower were Charles Huelsman, Paul Huelsman, Urban Zahn, mayor, Tony Rengers, Ralph Liette, Harold Koesters, Dick Rindler, Andrew Droesch, and Roman Steinbrunner.

In the pre-prohibition days of the 1920's eight saloons did a good business in Chickasaw. One tavern known as the Town Tavern still remains from the early 1900's. Joseph Hein owned the tavern prior to 1928 when he sold it to Fred Hilgefort. Fred owned the tavern for 2 weeks when he resold it to Anthony J. Rengers who bought the stock and fixtures. The building belonged to the Wooden Shoe Brewing Company in Minster when in 1932 the law changed and breweries were no longer permitted to run a retail part of a business. At that time A. J. Rengers bought the building. He operated the Town Tavern for 43 years until he sold the tavern to Richard Puthoff in April, 1972, who later took in Marinus Puthoff as a partner. Several years after Rich Puthoff sold his share to Marinus Puthoff. Joseph Puthoff and Mel Moeller bought the tavern in 1978 and are the present owners. The top and back bar are the original bars bought in 1913 by Charles Meinerding for $1,000.00. Also the beer can collection which is in the tavern above the back bar has approximately 400 cans dating to the early 1950's.

Another business which has survived since the early 1900's is the local grocery store. Now known as Kremer's Market owned and operated by Geral and Joyce Kremer. They purchased the store in 1973 from Al Kramer. He bought the store in the early 1960's from Anthony Heitkamp, a local school teacher in the community before running the store. After his teaching career he ran the store and the Post Office for 20 years. Tony Heitkamp bought the business from Henry Rengers in the early 1940's. Henry Rengers and his family of 11 children made his residence above the store. Henry Rengers bought the store in 1912 from Jacob Link.

The hardware store has survived the many years of change. Joseph (J.J.) Meinerding operated the hardware since the late 1800's. He sold the hardware to William Spoltman in 1945. William Spoltman operated the hardware store for 30 years until his retirement in 1975, when he sold the hardware to Arnold Homan, present owner.

One of the newer businesses of the town is the Homan Trucking Company. It was first started in 1947 by Val Homan, who owned one truck at that time. He has expanded his operation to seven trucks and he employs eight full time employees. He does most of his hauling for Hartwig Poultry in Fort Recovery.

The latest business to arrive in the Village of Chickasaw is the Zahn Machine Shop, now known as Chickasaw Machine and Tool Inc. It began as a hobby for Urban Zahn. He worked in the evenings in his small metal building located at the northeast corner of Chickasaw Road and State Route 274. He made replacement parts for various businesses. In the late 1950's when Ex-Cello left New Bremen where he worked, he decided to start his own small machine shop. His operation grew until he had several people working with him. He then had to have

Chickasaw Machine & Tool Inc.

extra space so he used Ed Zahn's Blacksmith Shop for a few machines and employees. The present building was built in 1961 when he purchased the land from Mrs. Charles (Annie) Huber in 1960. In 1972, the company added another building to its operation. Chickasaw Machine and Tool Inc. makes all kinds of replacement parts, special gears, and milling fixtures for various larger companies. Chickasaw Machine and Tool Inc. employs about 15 employees.

Recreation in the Village has been mainly baseball, when it was organized in 1950. Land was purchased from William Niekamp and everyone in town contributed time and labor to the creation of a ball diamond. In 1952, the diamond was lighted for night games. It is still in operation today by the "Little League", the Chickasaw girls team "Chicks" and the many adult mens teams.

Also in Chickasaw is a horse shoe court which attracts men from all over the county to play in their Tuesday night games.

I wish to acknowledge Mike Droesch for the photography; A. J. Rengers, Charles Huelsman, Tom Heitbrink, Henrietta Rentz, Urban Zahn, Bonnie Droesch for furnishing pictures and information; and all the others who have contributed in supplying information for the compiling the history of Chickasaw. *Compiled by Mrs. Stephen (Marie Heitkamp) McClurg*

Franklin St., c. 1950

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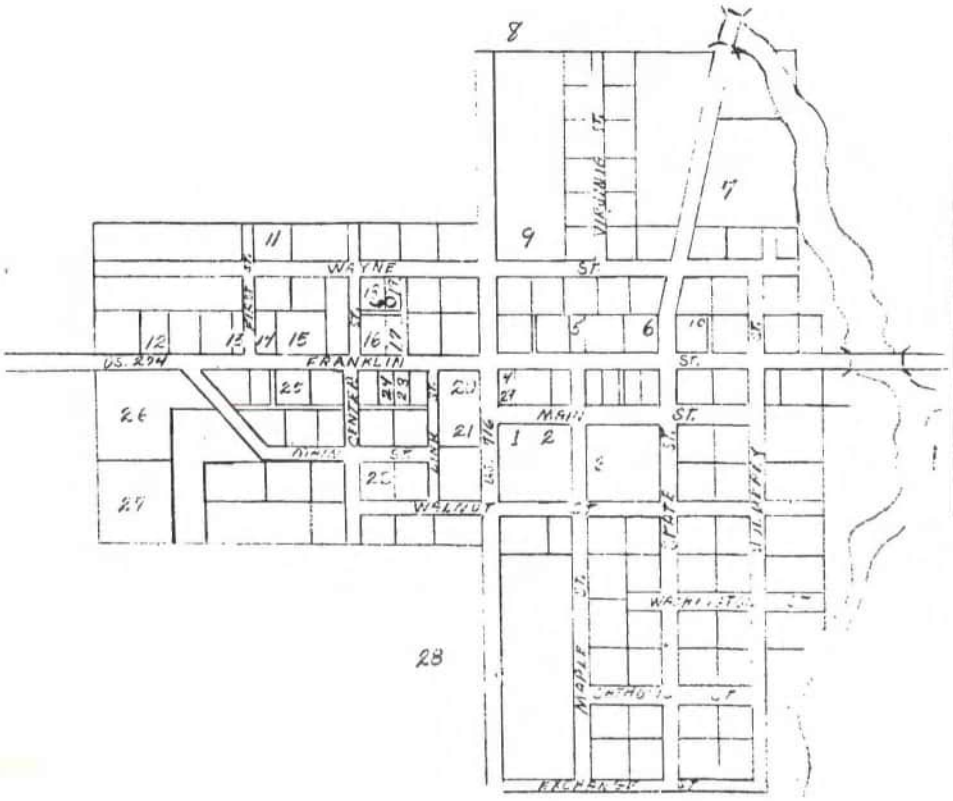

Franklin St., c. 1940

1. Precious Blood Church
2. Precious Blood Rectory
3. School being converted into Community Park
4. Chickasaw Fire Department
5. Old Pump House
6. Homan Trucking Company
7. Chickasaw Machine & Tool
8. Puthoff & Rosenbeck Construction
9. V.F.W.
10. Zahn Machine Shop, First Location
11. Myron Stachler, private contractor
12. Virgil Puthoff, private contractor
13. Town Tavern
14. Art's Barber Shop
15. Citizens Commercial Branch Bank
16. Homan Apartments
17. Chickasaw Garage
18. Water Tower
19. Chickasaw Village Hall
20. Huelsman's Automotive
21. Huelsman's Autopro
22. Chickasaw Engine Service
23. Spoltman Hardware
24. Margaret's Beauty Shop
25. Kremer's Market
26. Mercer Landmark
27. Chickasaw Community Ball Park
28. Zumberge Stockyards
29. Neighbor Water Co.'s New Well and storage tank

Franklin St., 1978

Franklin St., c. 1900

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resent Mayor,
rban Zahn
lected 1952)

Norbert
Tangeman,
Clerk

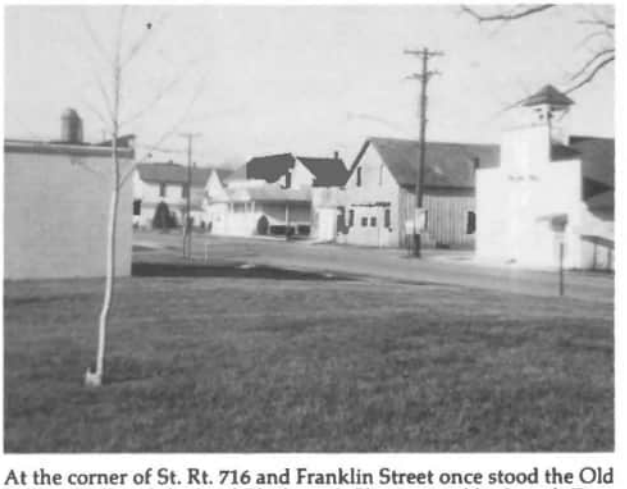
resent Village Council — **L. to R. Seated:** Harold Rentz, Andy
Droesch, Ralph Liette, Paul Huelsman. **Standing:** Don Niekamp,
nd Virgil Puthoff.

Norbert Garman, Marshal

Left Building — Spoltman's Hardware; present owner Arnold
Homan. Purchased from William Spoltman in 1975. Original
owner was Joe Meinerding.

Present Village Hall

First original Pump House built in 1946 by the local Townsmen
after their regular work days. Pictured are Charles Huelsman, who
keeps an eye on the pump, holding twin daughter Jean, and his
wife Mary (Zahn) holding Jane.



At the corner of St. Rt. 716 and Franklin Street once stood the Old
Village Hall and the local Blacksmith Shop owned by Joseph Dor-
sten and later Ed Zahn.

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Older Building once was the Village Booster Club for small parties and dances. Later became the Bavarian Distributing Co. owned by Joe Rengers and Shorty Fecher.

Town Tavern owned and operated for 43 years by A.J. Rengers Present owners are Joe Puthoff and Mel Moeller.

Mercer Landmark Inc. of Chickasaw today; formerly the location of the "Blue Ribbon Flour" Mill.

Homan Trucking Company owned and operated by Val Homan

Art's Barber Shop owned and operated by Art Prenger since Oct. 14, 1963.

Virginia St.; growing housing development by Puthoff and Rosenbeck Construction.

Wayne St., growing residential area

Franklin Street, facing West in the early 1970's

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ilding in background is Ed Zahn's Blacksmith Shop, formerly Dorsten's Blacksmith Shop. **L. to R.:** Ed Zahn and wife Helen, ers are unknown.

Part of Livery Stable on left and Millers Butcher Shop, 1910

nger's Store 1912, ned by Henry Ren- s, residents upstairs, h eleven children.

Kremer's Market, 1973. Originally Renger's Store, presently owned by Gerald and Joyce Kremer. V.F.W. located upstairs.

Late Henry and Elizabeth Gast, owner of Gast Building, Hotel and Store

Mrs. Henry Gast (Elizabeth) lived to be 101 years old.

78 Homan Apartment Building, once the Gast Hotel and Gast ore

Gast Hotel and Store in the early 1940's

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New Church, 1967 to present

PRECIOUS BLOOD CHURCH

In the early 1830's a Catholic movement began with the building of a log chapel in Minster. Soon six miles west a log church honoring St. John was erected. The March of Christ into southern Mercer County had begun in a "procession" of churches. Within a year or so church building was taken up in St. Rose. Similarly buildings of churches began in nearby Casella, St. Henry, St. Anthony, Philothea, and Egypt.

One day (1852) this "procession of churches" approached the people of the village of Chickasaw. There was stirring for a church in the surrounding area to the northwest. St. Sebastian was still woods and not suited for building. (The village came only after the church was built.) Adam Gerlach, Albert Stammen, John Will, and Herman Schwieterman were sent to confer with the people of Chickasaw. The church was to be built in the neighborhood lying northwest of the present mill some 100 feet west of the line which once was the Cincinnati Dayton Railroad tracks. Albert Stammen offered to donate five acres of land. This offer, however, was not welcomed by the Chickasaw people; according to one account they preferred having a hotel. Chickasaw was passed by. The procession of churches moved on to St. Sebastian and other churches in Mercer County came into being.

The Chickasaw folk two generations later were of another mind. They were trying to gain a place in the Catholic march. In October, 1894, the people of Chickasaw were busy hauling stones for the foundation of a building 60 x 30 x 16 feet. The building did not achieve clear identity at first. Correspondents in *Der Mercer County Bote* sometimes called it "chapel(hall)." Franz De Curtins and helpers took the job of painting it in March of 1895.

Sometime in the spring of 1895, a petition was made to the Archbishop for a chapel, giving as a reason that some old people would like to go to Mass occasionally during the week. Permission was granted, and a "Chapel of Ease" was made of the hall (which became the nave portion of the church at the addition in 1903). Mass was said in it one or two days of the week, but no services were allowed on Sundays and Holy Days. The first mass was said on Friday, October 11, at 8:00 A.M. The Catholic people attended Sunday Mass at St. Sebastian, belonged to St. John or St. Rose.

The next year, March 26, 1896, lots 19 & 20 which the building was standing were deeded Archbishop Elder by William and Josepha Miller hold in trust "for the Catholics worshipping at th Chapel at Chickasaw." In June of 1896, Charl Desch had the contract to put a tower on th Chapel. A bell arrived on May 9, 1898.

The increase of Catholics in Chickasaw strengtl ened the thinking of having their own church. seems "the having to cross the railroad track ever time they wished to attend divine service" was a fa tor. Often they walked the tracks to the Niekam farm, cut across it to Sebastian Road. The farme had their horses for transportation, but the tow people walked the ties.

The strong thoughts for their own church forme a divisive course of action. On the first Sunday January, 1903, pew renting day at St. Sebastia none of the Chickasaw people rented pews ar nearly everyone took prayer book, rosary etc. out the pew. On the following Sunday, January 11, on two families came from Chickasaw. The others gatl ered in the chapel of ease to begin the rosary whe the bells at St. Sebastian rang for High Mass. T make matters more critical, at 3:00 A.M. on the 12t of January, heartbreaking flames destroyed St. S bastian church and contents. The question of church at Chickasaw was then compounded wit the question of rebuilding the burnt out church.

The Precious Blood Parish record books begin this time. The first baptism listed is dated Januar 14, 1903, was Rose Elizabeth Falke, daughter of Joh and Bernachine Falke, just two days after the fir Other baptismal records are noted "at Chickasaw by Father Antonius Dick, C.PP.S. pastor of St. S bastian at the time, who became first pastor of Pre cious Blood Church of Chickasaw. The first ma riage was that of Matilda Dorsten to Bernar Dorsten in October, 1903. The first Holy Commur ion were received April 10, 1904.

It's not certain that all parish functions wer started immediately after the fire. On Friday afte the fire word was sent that no Mass would be hel at St. Sebastian and the people were to go to church convenient to each.

Divided opinions about the rebuilding of St. Se bastian Church enlivened desires for their own pa ish in the people of Chickasaw and in the folk around Montezuma as well. On January 21, stormy meeting of the three groups were held in th chapel at Chickasaw. This meeting achieved no con clusion. As no news was coming around, the peopl at St. Sebastian chose Ignatz Dabblet and Henr Mestemaker to see the Archbishop on February 1903. The Archbishop was under the impression a agreement had been reached at the earlier Jan. 2 meeting, that the Church would be built at Chicka saw. Learning of no such agreement, the Archbisho directed them to the dean, Father Frank Quatman o Sidney. Father Quatman studied the matter and ap proved the rebuilding of St. Sebastian Church whic was signed for final approval by the Archbishop o Feb. 14, 1903.

What went on at this point is uncertain. Howeve according to the correspondent in *Der Bote*, the de cision of Archbishop Elder that Chickasaw "is

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selbstandig" and his permission to enlarge the church were announced to the people at the first solemn High Mass in Chickasaw on Easter Sunday, April 12, 1903.

There was no dallying. From among the 58 families Father Antonius Dick, C.PP.S. named the first wardens: Joseph Seitz, Heinrich Niekamp, John Will, and Gerhard Schroder. Trees were felled and sawed and sufficient wood was on the property by the Saturday after Easter.

Father Paulinus Fross, C.PP.S. second pastor May, 1903) is said to have painted the church. The windows were in place by the beginning of July. The first funeral from the church took place July 24, 1903. "Frederich Runnebaum," who was interred at St. Sebastian Cemetery.

The third pastor, Father Anthony Tabke, diocesan priest came in early October, 1903. At the time several acres of land north of the village were bought for a cemetery. The first burial in it was the thirteen year old Elizabeth Harting on October 27, 1903.

On November 3, 1903 William and Josepha Miller deeded the rest of the present parish property to the Archbishop, "In trust, however, for the congregation of Chickasaw, Mercer County, Ohio, for a residence, a school house, church, or house of worship and religious services, or other religious education or charitable purposes under the faith, rules, usages and government of the Roman Catholic Church."

The parish grew and dwindled with the population. From around twenty baptisms at first the number fell to ten or so in the years after 1916. From 1932-1946 the baptisms were consistently below ten. The rise came and 22 were baptized in 1951. After this the number has remained in the neighborhood of twenty. In 1977, 18 baptisms were reported, this included the triplet girls, Kelly, Kendra, and Kristy Kremer daughters of Gary and Helen Post Kremer.

Some historical dates related to the Chickasaw Church are:

1894 — October, stones were hauled for foundation of hall (chapel) to be 60 x 30 x 16 feet.

1895 — March, Franz De Curtins undertook the painting of the chapel.

October 11, Friday, the first Mass was read "in our hall (chapel)".

1896 — March 26, lots 19 and 20 were deeded to the Archbishop by William and Josepha Miller.

1896 — June, Charles Desch had the contract to build a tower on the chapel.

1898 — May 9, bell arrived.

1903 — January 12, St. Sebastian Church burned.

April 12, Easter Sunday, Archbishop Elder's decision to make a parish in Chickasaw and the permission to enlarge the church was announced. Easter Sunday also was the occasion of the first Solemn High Mass, Father Antonius Dick, C.PP.S. Celebrant, Father Paulinus Fross C.PP.S. Deacon and Seminarian Vitus Schuette, Subdeacon.

April 18, by this date trees had been felled, sawed and enough lumber was at the church for the enlargement which was to be 48 feet wide and 35 feet long and have room for 300 persons and a roomy sanctuary and two sacristies.

April 26, First Communion of children was to take place.

May, Father Paulinus Trost, C.PP.S. has charge of the parish.

Interior of present church

July 24, First funeral in Precious Blood Church, Frederic Runnebaum.

October, Father Anthony Tabke comes as pastor. Priest house rented.

October 10-17, this week 3 acres of land bought for cemetery.

October 21, Wednesday, first wedding, Bernard Dorsten and Tillie Dorsten.

October 27, first burial in the new cemetery, Elizabeth Harting.

November 3, lots 17, 18, 43 to 46 and east part of lots 16 and 47 were deeded to the Archbishop by William and Josepha Miller.

November 8-10, the first Forty Hours Devotion.

1903 — December, over $2,200.00 gathered for the priest house to be built.

December 27, pews rented; 143 seats were sold for a "schoene Summe" of $1145.65. There was a shortage of benches and the wardens were to get four more.

1904 — January, bricks were being readied for the priest house which was built in this year.

1905 — New Altar was put into church.

1910 — October 26, Father Joseph Mueller begins as pastor.

1911 — May 28, ninety nine made their first communion.

1913 — September 1, Father Charles Kuenle pastor.

1916 — October 8, Father Goswin Menge becomes pastor.

1926 — August 20, the parish was cared for as a mission from St. Sebastian where Father Michael Hinssen was pastor.

1927 — September 25, Father Simon Kuhnmuench, C.PP.S. is named pastor.

1933 — January 2, Solemn Funeral for Mary Niekamp, Father Menge's housekeeper for 15 years.

1934 — September 9, Solemn Funeral for Ferdinand Gast who "was janitor of the Church for 30 years."

1938 — September 21, Father Remigius Monnin, C.PP.S. was named in charge of the parish until Father Ralph H. Moormann came as pastor October 8.

1939 — December 8, new organ installed.

1942 — September 15, Father Joseph Dick was named pastor. He was a nephew of the first pastor Father Antonius Dick C.PP.S.

1962 — August 29, Father Francis Uecker, C.PP.S became pastor as Father Dick retired due to illness.

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Father Cletus Stang, present pastor of Chickasaw Church

Father Joseph Dick, who served as pastor from 1942 to 1962. He was a nephew of the first pastor of Chickasaw Father Antonius Dick, C.PP.S.

Priest's House

The growing town population overburdened the old structure. Father Joseph Dick began to look toward the possibility of a new church and strove to set aside some reserve funds for this purpose. However, the condition of his health prevented his spearheading a full effort.

When Father Dick retired in 1962, Father Francis Uecker, C.PP.S took on this project. With the help of a Building Committee and all the parishioners the project was in full swing. The plans of the new church were developed by Robert Holtmeier, architect. In September of 1965 Archbishop Karl J. Altar gave approval to the project.

Groundbreaking was held on the First Sunday of Advent with Monsignor Henry Ausdenmore, Dean of the St. Marys Deanery officiating, assisted by Father Francis Uecker, C.PP.S and Father Anselm Boeke.

The excavating began in the middle of March, 1966. The cornerstone was laid by the Auxiliary Bishop Edward A. McCarthy on February 23, 1967.

The use of the new church began May 19, with school children and some adults in attendance. The first mass was offered on a Friday (as was the day of the very first Mass in Chickasaw).

Other Historical Dates:

1963 — Plans began to move toward a new church

1964 — Architect, Robert L. Holtmeier drew up the plans.

1965 — August 25, Father Anselm F. Boecke became pastor. November 28, ground breaking was held.

1967 — February 23, Auxiliary Bishop Edward A. McCarthy laid the cornerstone. May 19, Friday at 7:55 A.M. the first Mass was offered in the new church. May 22, Monday, the dismantling of the old Church building began. June 18, at 9:30 A.M., the altar was consecrated by Most Reverend Edward A. McCarthy, Auxiliary Bishop of Cincinnati.

1969 — Father Cletus Stang became pastor

1970 — Father Henry Naber became pastor

1977 — Father Cletus Stang returns as pastor of Chickasaw

1978 — October, Mrs. Cy (Wilma Homan) Thobe passed away. She served as organist for 35 years, beginning at the age of eleven.

Today the Chickasaw parish has approximately 165 families and the population of the town and church continues to grow.

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Interior of Precious Blood Church, before the new altar was obtained in 1905

ıwer of Old ıurch, 1903-
36

Remodeled Tower of old Church, 1936-1967

ıis Venerable House of God served as the center Catholic Life from January, 1903 to May 19, 1967. this sacred edifice the Community celebrated: 3 baptisms, 807 First Holy Communions, 699 ınfirmations, 218 Marriages, and 325 Deaths.

Interior of Old Church after new altar was put in, in 1905

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1975 Chevrolet Fire Truck with present volunteer firemen: Gerald Rentz, Arnold Homan, Phil Rengers, Harold Rentz, Maurice Homan, James Rengers, LaVern Heitkamp, Adrian Grillot Jr., Roman Steinbrunner, Diane Steinbrunner, Maurice Elking present fire chief, Minnie Stachler, Myron Stachler, Dan Bruns, and Stephen McClurg. **Absent:** Bob Heitbrink, Tom Heitbrink, Ralph Liette, Paul Huelsman, James Hoying, Larry Eyink, Joseph Schwartz, Tom Hess, Don Niekamp, Jack Heuker, Dick Thobe, Norb Kramer, Dick Rindler, Norb Tangeman, Mark Klosterman, Bill Puthoff.

THE CHICKASAW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Prior to the year 1928, the Chickasaw Village owned four pieces of fire equipment. One piece of equipment was a horse or man-powered drawn pumper which was powered with a single cylinder engine. The pumper was stuck tight after some one accidently filled the engine with varnish by mistake. In those days they bought the oil in bulk and kept it in a varnish can and the wrong can was mistakenly used. When the pumper was powered by man it took 6 or 8 men with a teeter-totter arrangement from the sides of the pump.

The second piece of equipment was a two-wheel cart with two 20 or 25 gallon tanks that were filled with water and charged with soda and acid to create a pressure to force the water into the hoses. The hoses were 3/4 inch.

The other two pieces of equipment were hose carts. One of the hose carts is on display at the Lima Museum.

The village council traded the pumper and the chemical cart for a used Reo Speed Wagon Fire Truck. This truck had solid tires and its speed was about 20-25 miles per hour. This truck was delivered to Chickasaw on Good Friday, 1928. Upon the arrival of the truck, the village council decided at once that this truck would not serve the purpose of the community. The Howe Fire Apparatus Co. agreed to give the village full refund for the truck if they would buy a new truck from them within six months. They went to work at once and sold membership subscriptions to the rural property owners

1928 GMC Charles Huelsman, fire chief with son and daughter, Jim and Helen.

1949 Dodge Truck — Roman Elking, Tom Heitbrink, Charles Huelsman, Luke Clune, Gehard Bruns, Maurice Elking, Julius Bruns, Harold Koesters, Maurice Homan, Joseph Schwartz, Gene Rosenbeck, and Gerald Huber.

and farmers. They agreed to give the rural membe protection for the lifetime of the truck at $25.00 member. This then, began the organization of th fire company known as the Chickasaw Communit Fire Company.

The active volunteer firemen at this time were: J seph Mestemaker, Joseph Hein, William Niekam Julius Niekamp, Edmund Grieshop, Alfred Win Alfred Rentz, Roman Rentz, Philip (Tulip) Frenze Linus Grieshop, A. J. Rengers, Ike Anderson, an Charles Huelsman as Chief.

In August, 1928, The Howe Fire Apparatus C delivered a GMC Truck with a 350 gal per mi pump and a 200 gallon water tank.

In April, 1949 the fire company was reorganize and named The Chickasaw Community Mutual Fi Co.

The present building was erected in 1949 with re modeling done to enlarge the rear of the fire depar ment building in 1970. Prior to 1949 the fire depar ment was located in the Village Hall directly acro the street from its present location. The Village Ha at that time had a garage on the rear west side adja cent to the building. Ed Zahn, the local blacksmit fired the potbelly stove everyday in the winter t keep the pumps from freezing.

On December 23, 1949 the company purchased 1949 Dodge which was a 3 piston triplex, 500 gal. pe minute with a 500 tank gallon capacity. Anothe truck was purchased in 1967 which arrived on Ma 5, 1967. This Dodge truck had a centrifugal pum able to pump 500 gal. per minute with a tank capac ity of 1200 gallons. On May 3, 1975 the fire depart ment purchased the latest fire truck which is use today in addition to the 1967 Dodge fire truck. Thi 1975 Chevrolet truck has dual centrifugal pump able to pump 1,000 gal. per min. with a tank capac ity of 1000 gallons.

The fire department of Chickasaw was service

1949 Dodge Truck with Jir Huelsman and younge brother Fred Huelsman.

1949 Dodge Truck on lef and 1928 GMC on right.

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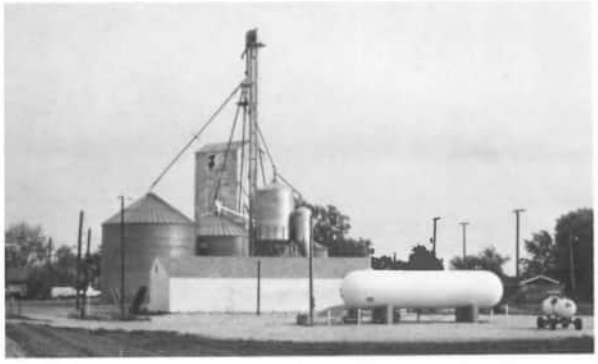
ell by the following fire chiefs: Charles Huelsman, ho served the department for 25 years until June 1, 53. Thomas Heitbrink followed Charles Huelsman rving also 25 years from June 1, 1953, to June 1, 78. The present fire chief is Maurice Elking.



MERCER LANDMARK, INC. Chickasaw Branch

In the early 1900's the Chickasaw Elevator was wned by local people, and went by the name of ickasaw Grain & Mill Company. The main operan at that time was milling flour.

In 1909 the Flour Mill burned and was rebuilt, and e name was changed to Blue Ribbon Milling Comny.

In early 1914 the mill was sold to Louis Grieshop, hn Link (local men) and Mr. Mueller from Cincinti, Ohio. At that time the mill was run much as a mily operation.

Louis Grieshop was Manager and Salesman. The cal Mill sold flour locally and had a good trade in e Dayon and Cincinnati area. All Local Flour was ipped by horse and wagon. The flour for the Dayn and Cincinnati area was shipped by C.H.D. Railad.

In the early 1918 the mill purchased a truck which as called the *Reo Speed Wagon* with speed of out 8 M.P.H. for local delivery.

Ivo Grieshop became Manager in 1936, and milling flour was the main operation.

July of 1940 the Mill burned down for the second ne and was rebuilt on the same site. The operation en was changed to more feed and grain, and no illing of flour.

The Grieshop Family the main share holders sold e Elevator to Mercer County Farm Bureau Co-op June of 1950, and today we know it as Mercer ndmark, Inc.

The business now was feed and grain and only a all amount of fertilizer which was sold in bags. In 67 the Co-op started to handle bulk fertilizer from e barn across from the Elevator. A larger building as built in 1972 just west of the elevator. By 1973 orage Tanks were set and the company got into e liquid fertilizer business.

Land was purchased in 1976 from Leo Homan, a mer west of the elevator, and at that time an androus ammonia plant was installed.

V.F.W. Drill Team

V.F.W. POST 9019 MARION MEMORIAL, Chickasaw, Ohio

Charter Members
World War I: Frank Kramer
World War II: Ben Droesch, Vic Garman, Rich Heckman, Elvie Kramer, Joe Rengers, Louis Tangeman, Louie Elking, Luke Clune, Romie Elking, Romie Hausfeld, Paul Rosenbeck, Ernie Heitkamp, Clarence Lengerich, Leo Staugler, Mark Niekamp, Val Homan, Norb Kramer, Harold Koesters
Korean War: Harold Staugler, Denney Link, Jim Muhlenkamp, Alex Burgeman, Dave Voskul, Ralph Liette, Ivo Bruns, Andy Droesch, Tom Dabbelt
Viet Nam: John Rosenbeck, Walt Bruns, Lavern Moeler, Jim Nedderman, Jim Rohr, Warner Heckman, Ralph Fortkamp, Jerry Puthoff, Tom Zumberger, Byron Bomholt, Michael Puthoff
First Officers, April 30, 1970: Commander Luke Clune, Sr. Vice Norb Kramer, Jr. Vice Richard Heckman, Quartermaster Dan Bruns, Chaplin Walter Bruns, Advocate Al Kramer, Sargeant Vic Garman, Adj. Harold Koesters, Trustees Leo Staugler, Andy Droesch, and Joe Rengers

The first building for the VFW 9019 was in the Village Hall. We moved into the present location above Kramers Store, January 6, 1971. In 1972 five and one-half acres were purchased for our own building; the Commander was Dennis Link. In 1973, hospital equipment was purchased and the first parade and picnic took place. July 22, 1974 The Ladies Auxiliary was started.

Marion Local Band marching in the First VFW Parade, July 22, 1974

Chickasaw Machine & Tool Float which won First Place Prize in Motor Vehicle Division.

July 22, 1974 — L. to R.: Lisa Rentz, Mrs. Harold (Ruth) Rentz, Mrs. Stephen (Marie) McClurg, Mark, Stan, Sheryl and Mike McClurg on Chickasaw Machine & Tool Float, representing "Chickasaw Indians"

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Marion Local High School, State Route 716, Maria Stein, 1958.

MARION TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Early schools: The first education in Marion Township took place in the homes of the early settlers. The first public schools were in log cabins heated by fireplaces and furnished by wooden benches for seats and broad boards placed around the walls for writing desks. These first schools were subscription schools. Farmers subscribed $1-$2 for each scholar.

In 1825 the Ohio General Assembly required the districting of each township for school purposes. Similar legislation in 1838 provided for the building of district schoolhouses. The financing of district schools was by taxation but the transition from subscription to disctict schools was gradual.

The earliest educators in Mercer county were not professional teachers, but were selected because of their talent and training from such professions as the ministry, law and civil engineering. Teachers were usually not married and were required to follow strict moral codes.

Schools 1870's-1920: Sutton's *History of Van Wert and Mercer County* published in 1882 lists a total of 658 white pupils in Marion Township's seven district schools in 1872. "Colored Youth" in the enumeration totaled 38. Teachers or Board of Directors members were paid to take enumerations of all children ages 6-21. The district schoolhouses were one or two room brick buildings that were in walking distance, (often as much as 2-3 miles) for neighboring children.

Schools of the period included Hartings, Dwenger, Puthoff, Cassella, St. Rose, Sebastian, Chickasaw, and St. John; the first three were named for neighboring farmers. Scranton's *Mercer County History* published in 1907 states that the township was divided into 10 subdistricts. Pictured in the 1907 volume are two brick school buildings, each one story high in Chickasaw. These schoolhouses stood east of the two story building that was erected in 1908.

In 1907 a parochial graded school in Maria Stein enrolled about 200 pupils. Boys and girls were separated in grades 4-8, the girls occupying the upstairs. The school stood east of the St. John Catholic Church.

Marion Elementary School, State Route 119, Maria Stein, 1964–

Early teachers of the period included J. M. Pitze at St. Rose who made $48 per month for 9½ month of school and Casper Franzer at Dwenger wh earned $45 per month for 40 weeks. Both teache were hired in 1897. By 1900 John Koester was earn ing $50 per month for 10 months at St. Rose.

The children of the district schools were we drilled in the basic 3 R's and were by 1903 using th famous McGuffey Readers and Spellers as well a White's *New Complete Arithmetic* and McMaste Histories. Geography, physiology and civil goverr ment were also taught in 1903.

Sister M. Rosalia, the Directrix at the St. John school recorded grades in 1904 for her 39 pupils age 8-14. Sister graded on deportment, spelling, readin writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, U.S. Hi tory, Cathechism, Bible and German. By 1915 stu dents at St. John were also given instruction in voc music and orthography.

School was almost never cancelled because snow. Students either walked through the snow were piled on horse drawn snow sleds. Schools wer however, cancelled due to epidemics such as dipth ria in 1909, and a two week quarantine in May 191 Scarlet fever and influenza also closed schools f one or two weeks.

Over the next several decades a number of ded cated teachers served the educational needs of th children of the various district schools. Of tho teachers three are mentioned here because of the many continuous years in the profession. Miss Jos phine Franzer taught at the Osgood Village scho from 1916-1962 and during her career taught eve year in the same room! Ted Hemmelgarn taught years including positions at Sebastian, St. Ros Marion high school (eighth grade), and St. John. O car Eifert retired in 1971 after forty years of faithf service without ever missing a day of school!

Marion Eleme tary Additio State Route 11 Maria Stei 1978—

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St. John School, State Route 119, South of St. John Church, Maria Stein (1930 - 1977)

HIGH SCHOOL. The first high school in the ownship was at St. John. It was a two-year course of tudy begun about 1925. Chickasaw also had during he 1930's a two-year high school that was contin-ued until 1935. If students wanted to complete four ears of high school they attended at St. Henry or Minster.

St. John high school's first class graduated in 1937. asketball was popular during the 1940's and foot-all began in 1945. The school's mascot was the Aces" and then the "Blue Jays", the school song as sung to the theme of "Anchors Away". The first earbook was published in 1947.

CONSOLIDATION. The organizational meeting or the consolidation of the district schools of Mar-on Township and the Osgood Village school of Darke County took place on September 23, 1955 in he agriculture building of Marion high school. The ew district included the districts of Cassella, St. ose, St. John, Sebastian, Chickasaw and Osgood.

The newly created Board closed the Sebastian hool and sent the first six grades to Chickasaw and osed both the Cassella and St. Rose schools and nt the first six grades to St. John. The three va-ated buildings were sold separately at public auc-on. Alfred Will purchased the Sebastian building r $1,500.00. The C.K. of A. at Cassella purchased he Cassella school building for $700.00 and the St. ose schoolhouse was bought by the St. Rose hurch for $600.00.

The electors of the new district passed a bond is-ue May 8, 1956 for $466,000.00 to construct a new gh school. In 1956 the first "Marion" senior class aduated. The students attended at the St. John uilding.

MARION LOCAL SCHOOLS 1958-1978. On Au-ust 31, 1958 an "Open House" was held at the new igh school. School opened in the new building on eptember 4, 1958 for grades 7-12. Charles M. archer was the superintendent and Ray Giesige as the principal. The "Class of 1959" was the first ass from the new building to graduate. Marion's ascot was the "Flyers", a name chosen by students oting while they were attending school at the old uilding.

An addition to the high school was constructed in 966. The addition included a music room, art room nd health clinic.

Because of over-crowding the District built an ele-entary building in 1964. Don Weber was the first

Public School Buildings, Chickasaw, Prior to 1907.

Chickasaw School, Chickasaw, Ohio, 1908 - 1977.

principal.

In 1977 Marion voters approved an addition to the elementary building. After the 1977-8 school year three smaller elementary buildings — Osgood, Chickasaw and St. John — were closed. The Osgood and Chickasaw buildings were sold to the respective villages and the St. John building was leased to the St. John Church for religion classes. The new addition opened September 5, 1978.

In 1978 Robert Huelsman was superintendent, Rex Carr and Robert Worrell were elementary and high school principals respectively. Lois Pohlmann was treasurer and Alice Hegemier was curriculum director. The Board of Education consisted of Paul Huelsman (President) Ernest Hartings (Vice President) Urban Knapke, Robert Luebke, and Shirley Schaefer.

The community has taken great pride in its schools. Marion voters had passed every operating and bond issue on the ballot. Besides the excellent course of study, the school has enjoyed superb bands and very successful athletic programs. Marion residents were extremely proud of their 1975 State Basketball Championship! *By Robert E. Worrell*

Osgood School, State Route 705, Darke County, originally two rooms, two classrooms were added. 1913 - 1977.

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St. Rose School, east of St. Rose Church, State Route 119, (1892 - 1956) 1941 One room was divided into two rooms (An earlier Schoolhouse stood near the same site.)

Cassella School, South of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church. Cassella - Montezuma Road, Building discontinued in 1956.

Heitkamp School, Auglaize County, Rt. 364

Sebastian School, N.W. Corner, Section 9, Building discontinue in 1956

Dwenger School, Clune-Stucke Road Dwenger Special School District was established in 1897

Puthoff School, SE Corner, Section 35

Puthoff School

One Room Building, 2 Year High School, 1924, St. John's High School.

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AINT ALOYSIUS PARISH
Carthagena

After the Emlen Institute at Carthagena, in 1861, s converted into St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, veral neighboring Catholic families became regu- attendants at Sunday Masses offered in the semi- ry's small chapel. Four years later, under the guid- ce of Father Aloys Schelbert, sixteen of these oneer households were organized into a parish un- r the patronage of St. Aloysius Gonzaga.

The heads of the households forming the new ngregation (the county's 13th Catholic parish) re: August Buehler, Anthony DeCurtins, Chris- n Desch, John Hellmuth, William Hess, John oeger, Blasius Kunkler, Eustace Kunkler, Henry ermann, Henry Papenbrock, August Piekenbrock, nry Thobe, Peter Van Den Bosch and George ill.

During the next decade of years the number of nilies advanced to thirty-five. The pastors suc- eding Father Schelbert through the decade were thers Bernard Dickmann, Anton Guggenberger, athias Kenk and Henry Drees.

On February 22, 1875 in the seminary's study hall, ther Drees chaired a special meeting, with its enda centering on the need for a parish church to use the growing congregation. It was decided that brick church be constructed, and a building com- ittee was chosen, namely: Philip Frey, Frederick rsthoefel and Peter Knoth. The selection of the urch site — a lot at the northwest corner of the minary farm (donated by the Society of the Pre- ous Blood) — evoked some prolonged and divisive bates, until a bit of forceful pastoral persuasion by ther Drees finally settled the issue. Anthony De- rtins of Carthagena was then engaged as architect d the final plans were set.

Construction began in the spring of 1876. Two ars later, just off the junction of State Route 274 d U.S. Route 127, a new St. Aloysius Church od ready for Dedication Day ceremonies on June , 1878. The Very Rev. Bernard Austerman, Provin- al of the Society of the Precious Blood, presided as legate of the Most Rev. John Purcell, Archbishop Cincinnati.

For some years thereafter, each Sunday the semi- ry students and brothers proceeded in prayerful ocession to the new St. Aloysius Church to partici- ate in the parish High Mass as bell-ringers, acolytes d choristers.

Two bronze plaques at the church entrance mem- rialize *The Pioneers 1865-66* of the parish and *The uilders 1876-78* of the church — and also the fif- en sister parishes and a Celina group of non- atholics who generously contributed to the project.

A quarter of a century later (1903-06) the church as enlarged by the addition of a new sanctuary ose and two sacristies.

Since its beginning the parish has been under the are of the Precious Blood Fathers. Following Father rees in the role of pastor have been Fathers God- ey Schlachter, Theopistus Wittmer, William Russ, regory Yussel, Julian Mayer, Jerome Ueber, Boni- ace Russ, Ulrich Mueller, Henry Post and James elley.

In 1928 Father Mueller compiled an interesting,

statistical history of the parish to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Dedication of St. Aloysius Church. The various parish societies and organizations are presented in group pictures.

The five-man Advisory Board consisted of Henry Franzer, Herman Hoying, Joseph Link, Peter Olding and Henry Wuebker. Officers for the men's St. Lawrence Society in the jubilee year were Bernard Koester, Anthony Kremer, and Henry Balster, while the Jr. Holy Name Society leaders were Leander Koester, Charles Huber and Leo Broeker.

The jubilee-year officers for the St. Monica Christian Mothers Sodality were Elizabeth Rosengarten, Anna Eyink, and Mary Forsthoefel, while the St. Rose Young Ladies Sodality was directed by Pauline Forsthoefel, Theresia Wuebker, Rosa Meier, Cecilia Meier and Mary Hartke.

The men's choir, under the guidance of organist Louis Huelsman, consisted of Bernard Balster, Bernard Kremer, Herman Kremer, Peter Olding, August Stelzer, and John Stelzer, Jr., in the tenor section. The bass voices were provided by William Franzer, Julius Forsthoefel, Henry Hess, Charles Huber, Joseph Huber, Edward Wuebker, and Henry Wuebker.

In its Centennial Year — 1978 — St. Aloysius Church, recently renovated, continues to serve as the center of parish life for eighty-five families, whose portraits are featured in a newly published Parish Directory.

Centennial-year officers of the St. Lawrence Society are Samuel Moorman, Carson Cheek and William Koesters. The St. Monica Sodality's varied activites are directed by Elsie Gerlach, Lillian Moorman, Vicki Siegrist and Edna Koester.

Mary Lou Muhlenkamp, Debbie Kremer, Cindy Hoying and Sharon Kunkler are the current leaders of Catholic youth action (C.Y.O.).

The present parish choir, leading the congregation's participation in the chant and psalmody of liturgical services, consists of Edward Bender, Ray Bruggeman, Richard and James Hartke, Andrew Luthman, Albert Kessen, Richard and Keith Selhorst. Diane Albers and Joyce Evers serve as organists.

The combined Parish Council and Finance Committee, headed by Herman J. Hoying, is composed by the following: John Balster, Dennis Bruggeman, Carson Cheek, Bernard Franzer, Elsie Gerlach, Adelheit Hess, Bernice Hoying, Andrew Luthman, Samuel and Lillian Moorman, Mary Lou Schulze, Mary Lou Wagner, Thomas and Carol Wehrkamp.

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ST. CHARLES SEMINARY
Carthagena, Ohio

At the request of Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati, Father Francis Brunner left Switzerland with seven Precious Blood priests and seven students in the autumn of 1843. They arrived at Cincinnati on the last day of the year. As their field of activity they were assigned northwestern Ohio. Headquarters were quickly set up at St. Alphonsus parish in Peru, Ohio, not far from Norwalk. The log cabin rectory thus became a religious house, a mission center from which many near and distant communities were served by these pioneer priests. It also served as a temporary C.PP.S. seminary. Father Brunner spent the weekends taking care of one or the other mission station, and the rest of the week in training his men and directing the infant Province. On June 10, 1846, Father Matthias Kreusch was ordained to the priesthood, the first one of the Society to be ordained in the new world.

During the winter of 1846 a new seminary and motherhouse was begun with the bishop's permission at Thompson (later called Frank and now named Marywood) in Seneca County. In the autumn of 1847 the entire group at Peru moved to the new seminary, the first one in northwestern Ohio. It was situated close to the Precious Blood Sisters' convent, which had been established there two years earlier, and to the parish church. Altogether, 22 men were ordained from this seminary before it was moved to the present archdiocese of Cincinnati.

In the meantime, between 1845 and 1856, the Society had established five houses or mission centers, in Minster, Maria Stein, Gruenenwald near Cassella, Himmelgarten, and Egypt, to take care of the Catholics in Mercer and Auglaize counties. Father Brunner wanted also to move the seminary into the diocese of Cincinnati, northern Ohio having been created the diocese of Cleveland in 1847. It seems that around the end of 1857 or the beginning of 1858 the students moved out of Thompson and stopped off for a short time at Glandorf, Ohio, where the Society had a foundation in the town itself and another establishment about three miles away. It also seems that later the seminarians were at Maria Stein convent for a short time; just how long is not certain.

It is certain, however, that the students finally settled at the Himmelgarten convent (between St. Henry and St. Joseph) in Mercer County. They arrived there most probably in the early part of 185 Two students (Joseph Dwenger and Paul Reutte who had completed their last two years in the dioc san seminary at Cincinnati, were ordained there c September 4, 1859. Immediately after his ordinatic Father Joseph Dwenger took over the direction the students and regularized the scholastic progra of the Society. However, Himmelgarten, too, w only a temporary arrangement. Providence was soo to open the way to a permanent site for the Society seminary.

By 1830 Mercer County numbered nearly 10C scattered inhabitants. The next entrants to arriv were some Negro families, who settled in Mario Granville and Franklin townships in 1835. The were led by the humanitarian August Wattles, wh wanted to free them from the ill will and violenc that was breaking out against Negro freedmen i Cincinnati. He planned to find new homes for thes families, and above all, to establish a manual trair ing school for boys. This school was first called Wa tles Manual Labor School. In December of 1840 village for the Negroes was laid out in Mario Township which was called Carthagena, after the fa mous Carthage in Africa. In 1843 the name of th school was changed to Emlen Institute to honc Samuel Emlen, a Philadelphia Quaker philanthrc pist whose bequest continued to support the schoo One of the alumni of this school, Thomas Dillor became president of the Liberian Republic.

Ugly prejudice, however, was causing the colore people to move away, and August Wattles deemed i was best to seek a new home for the Emlen Institute in the hills of Pennsylvania. In 1857 the two-stor red brick Institute was sold to John Schmidt o Greenville.

That same year Father Brunner sailed to Europ on business for the Society. He never returned t America, but died at Schellenberg in Liechtenstein on December 29, 1859, in a convent he had estab lished. Three months later, on March 14, 1860, Fa ther Andrew Kunkler was chosen to succeed him a Provincial. One of the first commissions given hin by Father Merlini, the Moderator General of the So ciety, was to establish a motherhouse which woulc be the seminary of the Province.

By this time the former Emlen Institute and it farm of about 200 acres was up for sale again. Or March 14, 1861 Father Joseph Dwenger and Christo pher Schunk, a Catholic pioneer of Celina, Ohio succeeded in purchasing the property for the Soci

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Saint Charles Seminary

'. Renovations began immediately, and the short st wing of the original structure was extended ther south. In June of that year the students oved into their new motherhouse and seminary dicated to St. Charles Borromeo. A letter of Octo- r 7 of that year informs us that school was already full swing, with Father Dwenger in charge of the seminarians. Exactly one month later, two of the ninarians, Henry Drees and Alphonse Laux, were dained in the cathedral at Cincinnati. They were e first of more than 798 priests who have been or- ined for the Society since the establishment of St. arles Seminary.

In 1863 an east wing was added, parallel to one entioned before, giving the building the appear- ce of a square U. This last addition was used as a apel until 1906. This chapel was the scene of a ry joyful event on January 17, 1873, for on that y the former director of students, the newly con- crated Bishop Joseph Dwenger of Fort Wayne, or- ined four young members of the Society to the iesthood.

This first St. Charles Seminary of Carthagena, er to be more familiarly known as the "Old Ab- y", was located just across the road directly north the present library reading room, and directly est of the present infirmary building. Until 1876, it ovided shelter for all the priests, brothers and stu- nts at the motherhouse. In 1868, for example, ere were four priests, ten brothers and 16 stu- nts. It contained a study hall, dormitory, class- oms, chapel, a kitchen and dining area. The semi- ry chapel also served the people of the village of rthagena until St. Aloysius church was completed 1878.

After construction of a new seminary building in 76, the seminary's chapel, kitchen and dining fa- ities remained in the old abbey. When the Pre- ous Blood Sisters came in 1879 to take over the cu- ary and laundry departments, a part of the abbey came a convent. The brothers who had remained the abbey, moved out into a newly constructed others' house, across the road east of the abbey, proximately where the new infirmary building w stands.

When the chapel, kitchen and dining hall, and sis- rs' convent areas were vacated in 1906, some of the ace was then turned into recreation and music oms. A few of the brothers and retired priests pre- ferred to have their rooms there. The old chapel be- came at first a trunk room, but later, in 1923, was re- christened "The Sundial Opera House". On Easter Sunday of that year the students enjoyed the first of many programs presented on the old abbey's stage. These performances became very popular for the people of the area also.

From the time of its purchase in 1861, the abbey was always undergoing repair and change. In the summer of 1925 a severe storm gave the *coup de grace* to the declining building. This time it was not repaired. The following summer it was completely razed and the site plowed over. With that disap- peared the original building of St. Charles Seminary, but not until it had seen the birth of a much more lasting successor in the form of the present main building.

By 1873 the number of C.PP.S. seminarians had doubled to 30. There were also 16 brothers stationed at the seminary, besides eight priests. More room was needed. The possibility of sending the minor seminarians to Wolfscreek (now New Riegel), Ohio was considered, for there the Society had a rather large house. However, it was decided to keep all the seminarians together and to build a new seminary at Carthagena.

Only two outsiders joined the C.PP.S. family in the work of constructing its new home. The location of the present small lake furnished the clay for the bricks, and the woods provided the oaks and hicko- ries for the timbers and rafters. Father Henry Drees (rector, professor, provincial secretary and pastor of St. Aloysius parish) was the architect and supervisor of construction, and, often enough, construction worker himself.

Finished toward the end of 1876, the second St. Charles Seminary was an imposing rectangular structure (94 x 44) three stories high with an attic. It was considered the largest seminary in Ohio, and people came from far away to see one of Mercer County's newest and proudest landmarks. It stood approximately where our present dining hall and auditorium stands, its west wall within a few yards from the east wall of the present seminary's library stack rooms. It ran from east to west, its main en- trance centered on the north side, looking toward the village of Carthagena. Just inside the main doors stood the long, steep stairways joining the three floors of the structure.

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On the first floor there were some priests' rooms, the parlor and the bishop's room. The second floor contained the rector's room, classrooms, library and the study hall which was referred to as the "aula". It was this aula that lent the St. Charles Seminary students' publication its intriguing title — the *Nuntius Aulae*. On the third floor, on the east end above the aula, was the dormitory. The rest of the area was made up into priests rooms and offices. Atop the steep roof stood a 15-foot wood tower, capped by an iron cross. The tower housed a big pendulum clock with dials to all four directions and a crisp resonant bell. A winter storm of 1918 severely damaged the peaked roof. Repairmen then substituted a lower, flattened top.

Even after 1922, when the major seminarians moved into the present main building, the old seminary housed the minor seminarians who had come that year from St. Mary's Preparatory Seminary at Burkettsville. However, after 1925 when the minor seminary department was moved to St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, the old seminary gradually took the place of the old abbey as the extra building that every institution needs. Some of the brothers took up residence in it after the brothers' building was torn down in 1929. It also became the location for various shops. For a while it housed the Father Cosmas Memorial Museum. In the summer of 1955, after almost 80 years of service, it was torn down and the area prepared for the present auditorium-dining hall building.

Up to the year 1900 members of the Society were usually buried in the cemetery attached to the house or mission center to which they were assigned. When some of these centers were closed, the bodies were transferred to the motherhouse cemetery. Today there are still seven priests, 13 brothers and nine sisters buried in the parish cemetery of St. Aloysius, Carthagena. This seems to have been considered the motherhouse cemetery until the present one at St. Charles was laid out in 1900. It is now customary in the Cincinnati Province for all its members to be buried here at the motherhouse cemetery, no matter in what part of the country they may die.

The memorial cross which was erected in the center of the cemetery, and the Way of the Cross, in the form of 14 shrines, on the periphery of it, were the result of donations of the members of the Society. At first, plain wooden grave markers were used. In 1924 these gave way to fancier iron crosses. These, in turn, were replaced in 1947 by the new simple headstones. The year 1900 also witnessed the construction of the Lourdes Grotto, still standing beside the cemetery. In 1953 new statues were provided for this picturesque shrine.

As the Society of the Precious Blood grew, so too did St. Charles Seminary. The second seminary building was erected in 1877, the community cemetery in 1900, the chapel in 1906. The barns and farm buildings were transferred in 1915 from the west side of the property to the present locations. The present main building was built in 1922; in 1924 the main entry road was changed from R.R. 274 to U.S. 127. A new dining hall-auditorium-sisters convent was built in 1958; the infirmary building was put up in 1960 and the Messenger Press building was built in 1961.

Although the school of theology was closed in 1969, St. Charles continues as the motherhouse the Society, as a home for the retired members the Society and also as a site for special programs f the Society and for the local community.

St. Charles has been an influencing factor in t history of Mercer County for many years. It h served (and has been served by) both the Society the Precious Blood and also the neighbors in t surrounding localities. The Society of the Precio Blood is grateful and thankful to God and to all wl have helped in the many years of its existence. S Charles would like to continue to serve the needs the Society as well as those of the local community

The present superior of St. Charles is Father Ro ert Gaertner, and the treasurer is Brother Ju Brown. The household also includes the followi members of the C.PP.S.:

Priests: Alvin Burns, Henry Druffel, Richard El Cletus Foltz, Marcellus Fortman, Albert Gerhar stein, Clement Goubeaux, George Grevenkam Raymond Guillozet, Charles Herber, Jerome Hoe Leo Hoying, Albert Kaiser, James Kelley, Robe Lechner, Sylvester Ley, Melchior Lochtefeld, Ser phin Oberhauser, Lionel Pire, Matthias Schmit, Vi cent Schuster, Herman Schwietzer, Roman Schwie erman, Robert Siebeneck, Anthony Traser, Edwa VonderHaar, Walter Wartinger, Leo Wiegel, Ser phin Widman and John Wilson. Also the diocesa priests: Father John Byrne, Monsignor Alex Koen and Father Richard Schalk.

Brothers: Eugene Bruggmann, John Bruney, Pa Chase, Mark Clifford, Daniel Eisenman, Walt Ernst, Donald Fisher, Gregory Frantz, Alfred Geh lich, Frederick Heiman, Isidore Hertel, George Ho bel, Sylvester Huwer, Augustine Kruck, Stephe Lauer, Conrad Lemanski, Roman Missler, Andre Mullen, Vincent Osterloh, Nicholas Renner, Den Rumschlag, Cletus Scheuer, Charles Sparks, Wern Stroetgen, Raymond Sutter, Gerard VonHagel, Ol ver Weaver, Michael Verhoff, Edward Wendel Theophane Woodall. Also Brother Albert Kasema of the Society of Mary.

Sisters: Marina Berning, M. Raymond Chappi Terentia Cordonier, M. Eustachia Kramer, Regir Maas, M. Placida Mader, Martha Schalk, M. Jam Schmit and Hedwig Mary Stamen.

The following have offices at St. Charles: Fathe Milton Ballor, Frederick Falce and Leo Gaulrapp.

Additional Note

The Society has also been in the County in ar other area, that of Burkettsville. In 1884 land wa purchased for St. Mary's Novitiate. This was for th special training of members before their acceptanc as members of the Society. It also served as a minc seminary until Brunnerdale Seminary (near Canto Ohio) was built in 1931; after this date it was use for the training of brothers for the Society. In 195 buildings were remodeled and added to take care c the new program for the students' novitiate.

In 1969 the program of the novitiate was change by the Society and since that date no member of th Society has lived at St. Mary's. In 1971 the part c the original Novitiate building (built in 1893) wa destroyed by fire. Since no occupants could b found for the remaining buildings, it was decided i March of 1978 to remove the unused buildings an return the land to tillage.

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ST. JOHN'S PARISH

St. John's has the distinction of being the mother urch of Mercer County, "the land of cross-tipped wers". On October 13, 1833, three hardy German migrants, John Leistenschneider, John Stelzer, d John Thomas arrived at the site of what is now aria Stein. On the very same day the Most Rev. an Baptist Purcell was consecrated the second shop of Cincinnati. Undoubtedly this caused them name the new settlement St. John and to dedicate e church to St. John the Baptist.

As early as 1835 the settlers in St. John numbered families. Land was a bargain at $1.25 per acre. aring the first few years they worshipped at St. agustine, Minster, under the guidance of Fr. Wilm Horstman who had founded Glandorf parish. rvices were only once a month.

The first Mass said at St. John's parish was celeated June 24, 1836, in the house of John Leistenneider by Rev. Damian Junker, who later became shop of Alton, Illinois. In December 1836, Bishop ircell appointed Fr. Francis Bartels of Minster to ke care of St. John's also. The first school at St. hn's was established in 1837 with John Reichert as first teacher.

In 1835, forty acres of land were purchased for the rish plant for $120.00. The first church was cometed in 1837 and on April 9 the first Mass was celrated by Fr. Bartels. It was a log building 30 feet de and 45 feet long. The present cemetery was essed by Fr. Bartels at the same time. Shortly afrwards seven children received their First Holy ommunion.

The first son of the parish to be ordained to the iesthood was later consecrated a bishop. Joseph wenger was born September 7, 1837, as he himself ughingly remarked: "between four big oak stumps the forest of Marion township". The cholera of 49 played such havoc in the parish that even toy the cemetery bears silent testimony of its ravges. There is a large space towards the front of the metery which has no crosses to mark the graves. nder the sod lie the forgotten dead, the victims of e cholera plague. Rev. Andrew Kunkler, C.PP.S., istor at this time, worked with heroic valor from orning till night administering to the spiritual eds of the dying. Early one morning he was called the Dwenger home about a half mile east of the urch. In one corner of the room lay the cold, dead dy of the father. Fr. Kunkler anointed the mother ho was still conscious, with little Joseph lying close her. Her dying wish was that Father should care r the small child. Joseph survived and at an early ge consecrated himself to God in the Community the Most Precious Blood. He was ordained by rchbishop Purcell, September 4, 1859, saying his rst Mass in St. John's Church. He was consecrated shop of Fort Wayne, April 14, 1872.

Saint John Baptist Church

In 1845, The Precious Blood Fathers took charge of St. John's Parish. The Very Rev. Francis de Sales Brunner, first Provincial of the American Province of the C.PP.S. accompanied by Rev. John Wittmer, C.PP.S., visited St. John with the intention of finding land to erect a mission house and convent. A farm about a mile north of the church was purchased and Fr. John Van den Broeck, C.PP.S., along with three lay brothers, erected a temporary building for the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood. On September 24, 1846, eight sisters arrived from their convent in New Riegel. Fr. Brunner named the convent "Maria Stein" in memory of the famous convent of Maria Stein, Switzerland. Maria Stein remained the Motherhouse of the Sisters until 1923 when they moved to Dayton.

The log church was replaced by a new brick one in 1850. It was 60 feet long and 40 feet wide and cost $4,000.00. Finally the present church was built by Rev. Martin Dwenger on May 8, 1889; and the church was dedicated on November 17, 1891, by Archbishop Elder. It is of Roman style architecture, built of brick and sandstone trimmings. It is 150 feet long and 64 feet across the transept. It cost about $50,000.00.

In recent years the inside of the church has been completely remodeled to present the spiritually inspiring beauty it now introduces to the people. (The remodeling began in the early 1970's.)

The Rev. Otto Missler, C.PP.S., became pastor in 1898 and built the rectory in 1906 at a cost of $8,000.00. He served for 34 years and also built the school.

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MSC
prayer
retreat
pilgrimage

maria stein center
sisters of the precious blood

MARIA STEIN CENTER

The Sisters of the Precious Blood own some 200 acres in Mercer County, Ohio. This land was settled by the Sisters when they came from Switzerland in 1846 and was the site of their Motherhouse until 1923 when they moved to Dayton, Ohio.

Adoration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, especially in the aspect of His Precious Blood, is the principal purpose of the lives of these religious women. Spread across the United States and in Chile, they now minister to people in a wide variety of needs. But Maria Stein remains a cherished place of prayer for the Sisters.

In 1875 a collection of the Relics of the Saints was left here with the Sisters. In 1890 they built a lovely chapel for these relics. You may visit and pray in this chapel and enjoy the reaching out to God which is fostered by the solitude or "apart-ness" of this rural location.

In 1953 the Sisters began to offer an opportunity for prayerful retreat to those who are interested and invited many to make pilgrimages to this Shrine. This spot proved to be so ideal for prayer that a Retreat House was built in 1962.

Sister Jeanette Buehler, Sister Barbara Ann Hoying, and Sister Judy Kroeger form an administrative team in charge of the Center at the present time. They and all the Sisters invite you to enjoy

— a place to come and meet with God;
— a place where we can look back on the history of our Church and honor the people and times that have gone before us;
— a place where we can face God and ourselves in the present;
— and a place to venture into the future to answer His call to the needs of our times.

ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

St. Sebastian's Church is located at Sebastian the northern part of Marion township. It was f merly a part of St. John's and St. Rosa's congre tions and was established by permission of Bishop in 1852. The pioneers of this congregati were Adam Gerlach, Albert Stammen, Herm Schwieterman, John Will, and B. Froning. The fi church edifice built in 1853 was a frame structure x 60 feet costing $1,000. In 1857 Rev. Peter Wilhel was appointed the first regular Pastor, of about families. He was replaced by Rev. Matthias Kreus in 1858. A brick church was built in 1878-79, bei dedicated October 10th of the latter year by Bish Purcell. It was erected under the supervision Revs. Peter Kuhnmuench, C.PP.S., and Bonif Russ, C.PP.S., and was at the time considered finest church building in all Mercer County. It v 45 by 85 feet with a spire of 152 feet and cost $4,8 excluding lumber and furnishings. The church v enlarged in 1893 at a cost of $4,400.00. This chu served the people as a place of worship until it v destroyed by fire January 12, 1903 including records and documents. Until this time the par included the present parishes of Precious Blo Chickasaw and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mont uma. Almost immediately under the supervision Fr. Serephim Kunkler C.PP.S., plans to build a n church were begun. Andrew DeCurtins, was e ployed to build a new gothic church, 113 feet lo 52 feet wide with a transept of 64 feet at a cost $26,980. This church was consecrated September 1904 by Auxiliary Bishop Henry Moeller. A bri parsonage was built in 1905 at a cost of about $ 200.00. The congregation consisted of 48 families this time.

A new pipe organ was installed in 1909, under t supervision of Rev. John Sailor. Electric lights we installed in 1917.

In 1919 beautiful new stations of the Cross we erected during Rev. Henry Cortain's Pastorate. T interior of the church was painted and decorated Decutain from Lima in 1926 under the supervisi of Rev. Michael Hinssen, and again in 1957 Schoch Bros. from Coldwater during Rev. Geor Grevenkamp's C.PP.S. Pastorate.

During 1968 new storm windows and glass doo were installed during the leadership of Rev. Albe Reed, C.PP.S. During Fr. Friedrich's Pastorate a ne kitchen was built in the basement, and in 1977 ne carpet was put in the sanctuary and the main bo of the church. At the present time, the parish co sists of 60 families.

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ST. ROSE CHURCH

The year 1839 marks the foundation of the parish St. Rose. On April 9 of that year four "trustees of e German Roman Catholic Church of Rose Gar- n", viz., Henry Lochtefeld, Henry Raudirks, enry Nichting and Herman Henry Goettemoeller, ased property (four acres) on the north side of the ad (in the east half of the southeast quarter of sec- on twenty-one) for a log church. In April of 1842 n acres of land were purchased from John Schlar- ann (in the east half of the northeast quarter of ction twenty-eight) for a church and cemetery. ne log church and the cemetery were blessed by a legate of the Bishop Purcell, the missionary Rev. uis Navarron, on November 24, 1844. In 1851 a ick church was built just north of (the present) metery and was blessed in 1853. This church rved the congregation until the present church, gun in 1911, was dedicated by Archbishop Moel- r in September of 1912.

The parish of St. Rose has been under the care of e priests of the Society of the Precious Blood since 46, with the exception of the year 1849, when a armelite missionary took care of it. The present astor of St. Rose is the Rev. Milton A. Ballor PP.S.

The Parish Council is made up of the Councilmen large and the officers of the various parish organi- tions. They are: Councilmen: Lawrence Ungruhn, roy Piekenbrock, Leander Fortkamp and Andrew hlarman; Holy Name Society: Cyril Evers, Larry leier and Don Evers; Cemetery Association: Roman haefer, Art Bruns and Richard Mueller; CCD: ichard Lochtefeld, Thomas Goettemoeller and Pa- icia Clune; Ladies Sodality: Dorothy Bomholt, Ann lueller, Armella Ungruhn and Hilda Heitkamp.

The organist is Marilyn Holdheide, assisted by larie Hemmelgarn and Eileen Ungruhn.

The original parish of St. Rose included also the area now belonging to the parishes of Cassella, St. Sebastian, Chickasaw, and parts of Carthagena and Montezuma. A list of the contributors to the construction of the church in 1851, retained in the archives of the parish, gives the following names: Gerhard Heinrich Panning, Bernard Post, Joseph Koenig, Bernard Grevenkamp, Gerhard H. Meyer, Johan Heinrich Moellers, Wilhelm Hartings, Cristian Cordier, Georg Bastian, Franz Evers, Johan Brokmann, Johan Sohn, Heinrich Martin, Philipp Weitzel, Georg Leugers, Widow and Theodor Schwegmann, Max Klune, Heinrich Lennemann, Theodor Woeste, B. Dahlinghaus, Johan Schlarmann, Herman Ungruhn, Joseph Kleinhenz, H. H. Werthmoeller, Widow Ruelmann, John Heinrich Raudirkes, Gerhard Busselmann, Joseph Ruelmann, Heinrich Hagedorn, Johan Hagedorn, Widow Tebben, Heinrich Schwallenberg, Herman Schwietermann, Clemens Froning, Adam Gerlach, Johan Wille, Franz Sorg, H. H. Hallermann, Widow Vanderle, H. Boekmann, Bernard Lindhaus, Heinrich Lochtefeld, J. H. Nichting, Bernard Holtheide, Heinrich Goettemoeller, G. H. Dwenger, H. H. Ording, Johan Schroner, Gerhard Schrage, Andreas Hermann and Heinrich Bils.

Those who paid pew rent in 1845 are: Johan Heinrich Nichting, Melchior Lochtefeld, Bernard Mesmann, Heinrich Raudirkes, Joseph Koenig, Maria Catharina Nichting, Maria Anna Reulmann, Maria Elizabeth Pieper, Catharina Hallermann, Gertrud Raudirkes, Adelheit Busselmann, Theodor Woeste, Herman Heinrich Wertmoeller, Heinrich Vanderle, Herman Schwietermann, Bernard Holdheide, Herman Ungruhn, Joseph Koenig, Johan Brackmann, Johan Schlarmann, Bernard Grevenkamp, Heinrich Boekmann, Heinrich Ashmann, Joseph Kleinhenz, Georg Leugers, Johann Will, Adam Gerlach, Heinrich Lindhaus, Heinrich Luennemann, Herman Huelsmann, Bernard Heinrich Schwegmann, Johan Bernard Post, Heinrich Tebbe, Franz Sorg, Heinrich Goettemoeller, Herman Ungruhn, Franz Evers, Gerhard Heinrich Dwenger, Johann Hagedorn, Herman Heinrich Hagedorn, Gerhard Busselmann, Heinrich Lochtefeld, Gerhard Heinrich Meyer, Joseph Meiring and Franz Ruelmann.

Note: The spelling of the family names is not consistent in the various documents in the archives of the parish, nor is it always the same as is used today.

Saint Rose Church, under construction, 1911

Old Saint Rosa Catholic Church, built 1853

Saint Rose Catholic Church, completed in 1912

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Maria Stein Post Office Postmaster Urban L. Berning and Mrs. Berning

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Maria Stein, Ohio 45860

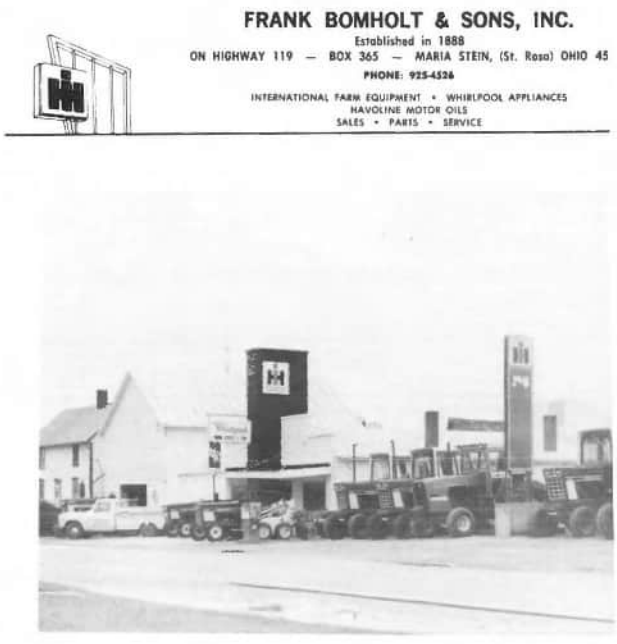
Urban L. Berning
Postmaster

The Maria Stein Post Office was established in the 1830's with receipts running only $500 per year as compared to $35,000 at the present time.

Former Postmasters and dates they held office were: Frank Westgerdes, April 1896 to January 1906; Charles Leising, January 1906 to April 1914; Fred Mescher, April 1914 to May 1920; Joseph Backs, May 1920 to August 1932; Urban Menker, August 1932 to December 1958; Ruth Menker, December 1958 to September 1961. The present Postmaster, Urban L. Berning, was appointed in September 1961.

Rural delivery was begun in 1881 with Henry Kramer as carrier. Matthias Gast became carrier in 1905 followed by Aloys H. Bruggeman in 1924, Paul J. Moeller in 1958 and Stanley H. Bertke in 1977.

Maria Stein Post Office now serves the Maria Stein, St. Rose and Cassella areas which includes 475 families plus 40 business establishments. The post office was for many years located in a corner of what is now Heinl's Grocery. In 1962 it was moved into a new 26' x 36' building on State Route 119 which was built by the present postmaster and leased to the Postal Service.



FRANK BOMHOLT & SONS, INC.

Frank Bomholt & Sons, Inc. is located at 73 State Route 119, Maria Stein in Marion Townsh They have been in business since 1888 at the sa location. The owners of the business are Ralph Bomholt, Louis L. Knapke, and Frank H. Fortkamp

The business was founded at this location Frank Bomholt in 1888 and was then known Frank Bomholt Company. Frank Bomholt was blacksmith. Later his sons, Otto M. Bomholt a Leander P. Bomholt, joined him. The name of t business was then changed to Frank Bomholt Sons. In 1960 Frank Bomholt & Sons was incorp rated. The owners were Otto M. Bomholt, Alfred Hartings, and Ralph W. Bomholt.

For ninety years they have sold and serviced Int national Harvester farm equipment. They also s and service Whirlpool appliances.

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Present Insurance Office, 1978

LEUGERS INSURANCE

In 1914, a young teacher named Herman Leugers ving in Maria Stein decided that he needed more ıoney to raise his family. With his horse and uggy, he drove to Celina and asked the late E. J. rookhard if he could sell auto insurance for The ational Mutual which had just been organized. He ıme home and for the first year and a half drove ound with his horse and buggy insuring automo- iles for fire and wind at a cost of $2.10 for one year r if it included theft it was $2.60 a year. Over the ext several years life insurance was added as well ; several other companies.

Herman Leugers continued teaching and in 1935 ent into the insurance business full-time.

After WW II, Henry Leugers joined his father in ıe insurance business. Up to this time, the insur- ıce was being sold out of the home of Herman ugers.

In 1948, the first insurance office was built next to ıe community hall and close to the Leugers resi- ence. Over the years, the community hall was oved out and converted into the American Legion all. The Harting's blacksmith shop was torn down was the George Adam's tin shop which had been e Maria Stein hotel. This is now all a part of the ugers Insurance Agency and their parking lot.

In 1959, Herman Leugers died and the business ntinued under Henry Leugers. In 1970, the agency as incorporated with Henry Leugers being the sole vner. Also, in 1970 the office was doubled in size accomodate the life insurance agency which had en formed in the Columbus Mutual Life Insur- ıce Company. In 1977, the building was enlarged r the third time — with the addition of three more ivate offices.

In 1976, Kenneth Kremer, a long-time employee, ıd Ted Bertke, a more recent employee, bought to the agency. The business is continuing as an in- rporated agency. At this time, Tammy Overman is e full-time secretary and Linda Pleiman is part- ne. Robert Leugers, son of Henry, came into the ency in October of 1978.

The Columbus Mutual Life Insurance Agency is ıused in the same building with Henry J. Leugers General Agent over a 7-8 County area. Virgil oorman works in the agency and is in charge of ıining agents and sales promotions.

Herman Leugers at his Insurance Desk in his home, about 1935.

Seated: John Stammen, Roger Puthoff, Brian Dahlinghaus, Paul Luebke. **Standing:** Tom Bernard, Don Bernard, Virgil Bertke in front and Cyril Bernard in back.

CYRIL A. BERNARD

BRICK & STONE MASONRY-PLASTERING

Joseph A. Bernard (1852-1942), and Joseph H. Bernard (1882-1976), both, were born and lived in Maria Stein. They spent their entire lives in the bricklaying and plastering trades.

Since 1946, Cyril A. Bernard has been a Masonry and Plastering Contractor in Maria Stein, Ohio, furnishing masonry and plastering services in Mercer and adjoining counties. Since 1946, the basic skills of the trades have changed little, however, power tools, improved equipment have made for more volume, better quality and more precise workmanship.

In the 1940's, all new homes required a chimney for a furnace fueled with wood or coal or possibly oil. In the late 1950's many homes were heated by electricity, thus no chimney was needed. Fireplaces were a luxury and were found only in more elaborate homes. In the mid-1970's, the awareness of a possible energy shortage existed. The costs of oil, electricity, gas, increased, and, again the homeowner erected a chimney for the wood buring stove. Fireplaces became more of a necessity than a luxury. The wood, burning in the fireplace, supplemented the other type of fuel needed to heat the house. In 1978, fans, blowers, glass doors etc., were used with the masonry fireplaces for more efficient heating.

From the forties to the seventies brick continued as an important unit in wall construction. Brick gained added importance as a decorative unit for planters, dividers, curtain walls, patios, etc. For backup walls, concrete masonry units replaced the units made of shale.

By 1978, the fourth and fifth generations of the first settlers were living in southern Mercer County. Note the names of Bernard Masonry personnel: Virgil Bertke, Paul Luebke, John Stammen, Thomas Bernard, Roger Puthoff, Brian Dahlinghaus, Donald Bernard.

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THE MARIA STEIN ANIMAL CLINIC

The Maria Stein Animal Clinic opened for business on February 1, 1969. It is a large and small animal facility located on State Rt. 119, across from the American Legion Hall in Maria Stein, Ohio.

The area now occupied by the clinic and its facilities, was previously a very big hill used as a hog lot by its previous owners, Henry and Leo Streaker, local farmers in Maria Stein, Ohio. Prior to ownership by Henry Streaker, Leo's father, this site was known as the Wildenhaus place. It was purchased by Henry Streaker on June 14, 1924, with the homestead sitting on top of the hill where the clinic is now located.

The Clinic was founded by George Wenning, a 1961 graduated of Veterinary Medicine from Ohio State University. George graduated from Coldwater High School in 1949. He was active in Agriculture and received the American Farmer Degree from the FFA in 1951. This was the first American Farmer Degree to be received by a resident of Mercer County.

George was actively engaged in farming from 1949 to 1952 when he was called from the Army Reserve and sent to Korea. Here his duty was with the KCAC and UNKRA. Upon completing his duty in Korea, he enrolled at OSU, received his BS in Agriculture in 1958 and his OVM in 1961.

He married Helen Dirksen of Cassella in June, 1960. Upon graduation from OSU he started practice in Parker, Indiana. Here he started the Parker Veterinary Clinic, a three man practice, which is primarily a swine and cattle practice. In 1969 he moved home to Ohio and started the Maria Stein Animal Clinic. Dr. Wenning, Dr. Schmiesing, Dr. Coe and Dr. Topp are on the staff.

The clinic serves the small animal clients of the area, and large animal clients primarily, dairy, beef, and swine, from Mercer, Darke, Shelby and Auglaize Counties.

GAGEL HARDWARE CO

Michael Henry Gagel, Jr., who would go on to found a s cessful business that still bears his name, came to Mer County from his native Germany in 1892. He was eighteen ye of age, and the only member of his family to immigrate. T son of Michael and Veronica Gagel of Nusloch (near Heid berg), he was born August 24, 1874. Descendants of his brotl Martin still live in Nusloch.

We don't know why Michael left his home and family fo new country. Perhaps he had a sponsor, and the promise o job. Maybe, like so many immigrants, he wanted to share in t promise and opportunity that America represented. We know that he became a citizen on July 27, 1897, and that first jobs were with a local lumber company and the Maria St Spreader Works.

Michael Gagel married Catherine Synck (1880-1937), on M 17, 1899 at Maria Stein. She was the daughter of John and Ca erine (Witte) Synck, who had come to Maria Stein from We plalen, Germany. Michael and Catherine made their home Maria Stein, near the intersection of State Route 119 and John Rd. The house still stands.

In 1917, at the age of 43, Michael Gagel founded the busin that would become a popular and respected member of t Mercer County business community. The Gagel Hardware Co pany began as a small store, selling tools, automobile tir household implements, and even those "miracle" appliances the day, motorized washing machines. An important service area farmers in the 1920's and '30's was the installation and pair of hay track and repairing windmills and pumps.

Michael lived long enough to see the business launched. died in 1923, at the age of 49. He is buried at St. John's cem tery in Maria Stein. The task of keeping the business going f to his wife and his sons. Upon Catherine's death in 1937, own ship passed to the oldest son, Ollie. Bill and Jim, the young brothers, worked for the company. Then, as now the teen-a and younger family members, spent after school and summ hours helping at the store.

After the depression of the early 1930's, some measure prosperity was returning and with the advent of the Rural El trification Act, the business expanded to include electric plumbing and heating services, floor coverings, appliances and full range of hardware and housewares. It became necessary hire additional help and through the years, notable among the are Lee Knapke, who retired in 1977 after 40 years. Richa Overman and Paul Niekamp, present employees have been wi the company since the late 1940's. Also in June 1937 Ollie ma ried Marguerite Hickey of Versailles and over the ensuei years she assisted in the business.

In 1950 the original store was torn down and replaced by larger, modern building. This building was expanded in 19 Later, the company bought the old Knights of St. John Hall Maria Stein for use as a warehouse. Gagel Hardware Compa is an independent, family-owned business. Since 1962 it h been part of the True Value Hardware organization.

In 1960 Bill Gagel left the business to start a plumbing a heating business in Minster. Ollie Gagel died in 1964 and ow ership passed to his wife. For the next seven years, Jim manag the store, assisted by Tom who had recently graduated from t University of Dayton with a Degree in Business Administratio In 1970 Paul also graduated from the University of Dayton a in 1971 he and Tom took over ownership. Jim, who was bo the year the store was founded, has been associated with t business since 1935 and is responsible for purchasing and me chandising. Thus the business founded by Michael Gagel son sixty years ago remains in the family, and enjoys a well-earn reputation for good service and quality merchandise.

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HEINL GROCERY

Heinl Grocery is located on State Route 119 in ıria Stein, Charles and Rita Heinl bought the store May 1, 1953, from Urban and Rosa Menker, Rita inl's parents.

The Grocery began as a General Store prior to 52, and has served the area since that time. Some the early owners were Papenbrock's, August tschilling, Fred Mescher, and Joseph Backs. In 32 Joseph Backs sold the store to Urban Menker. ıring this time a lot of things were sold in bulk d had to be weighed, such as crackers, spices, ur, sugar, cookies and coffee. Vinegar came in a gallon barrel and had to be pumped out into jugs. e store was also a gathering place in the evenings men to talk over the days happenings.

The Maria Stein Post Office was housed in this ilding with the store from 1912 to 1962. Rita einl's father was Postmaster from 1932 to 1958, d mail came in everyday except Sunday including olidays such as Christmas and Thanksgiving.

In 1953 when Charles and Rita Heinl purchased e store it became known as Heinl Grocery and was ade into a self-service store.

The store located across from the old St. John gh School served as a place for the students to eat nch until 1959. Through the years a lot more intory was added to the store, including frozen ods, meats, and a complete line of groceries. Film ocessing, dry cleaning services, hunting and fishg licenses, are a few of the special services that ere added over the years.

In 1972 a license was received to sell Beer and ines. On May 1, 1978, the Heinl's celebrated enty five years in business.

Heinl Grocery, 1954

Heinl Grocery, just before being remodeled in 1953. It is thought to have been built about 1867. There was a frame building here as early as 1852.

MARIA STEIN BRANCH THE ST. HENRY BANK

On November 2, 1973, the Board of Directors of he St. Henry Bank, consisting of Leo E. Romer, resident; Leo A. Huber, Vice President; John F. omer, Cashier and Secretary of the Board; Clem ills; and Donald F. Evers, Assistant Cashier; voted t their regular meeting to build a branch office in ıe Maria Stein area. After a careful study by the oard of Directors, it was decided that Leo Streakr's five acre plot would be the exact location. On ecember 6, 1973, an application to obtain approval as sent to the State Department of Banking, Coımbus, Ohio. After receiving approval, Stachler rothers Construction of Chickasaw, Ohio, was emloyed to construct the branch office. Grand Openıg was held on March 31, 1975. The first employees ere Frank Woeste, Bonnie Thobe, and Mary Gagel.

Maria Stein Branch of Saint Henry Bank

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1978-1979 — Delbert Stucke, Rich Puthoff, Greg Lochtefeld Commander, David Thobe, Jim Schwieterman, and Bob Budde. Absent: Les Homan. Present Officers.

Aloys Bruggeman, First Commander of Post 571, Maria Stein, Ohio

Art Ranly, Past Second District Commander and also elected to Second District Hall of Fame

Roman Hausfeld, Past Second Distri Commander

MARIA STEIN POST 571 AMERICAN LEGION

World War I Veterans, L. M. Hausfeld, Al Bruggeman, and Ed Hartings, after some discussion among themselves, agreed it would help the returning World War II Veterans and the Community if an American Legion Post were to be organized. After several meetings, the Post held its first official meeting on February 4, 1946. Aloys Bruggeman was installed as the First Commander and meetings were held in the old Knights' Hall. In this first year, a pattern for Memorial Day was set. The Post conducts services on a rotating basis at six churches of the Township. The Post also began its Memorial Day Banquet, which is an occasion at which the Commander reviews the Post's accomplishments for the past year. A festival or picnic was held on the school's new athletic field, using the lights for the first time.

Al Bruggeman, the first Commander, was installed Feb. 4, 1946. He began Memorial Day Services, the Banquet and Picnic.

Joseph Kleinhenz, 46-47; the Post started a blood donor services for the community, and held an essay contest.

Ed Fortkamp, 47-48; the post began giving Christmas baskets to widows of veterans and held the first picnic and appreciation party.

Paul Kleinhenz, 48-49; the Post bought land, moved the Community Hall to it, and added a wing with a basement.

Wilbert "Bill" Gagel, 49-50; Gov. Lausche dedicated the Hall. The Post got its mortgage. Legion Jr. Baseball began and money-raising campaigns started.

Henry Leugers, 50-51; the Post began clay bird shoots, and started on the bar in the basement. The auxiliary started with Luella Gagel as President.

Paul J. Moeller, 51-52; the Post held its first New Year's Eve Dance. The post obtained a beer license and opened the bar to the public.

Art Ranly, 52-52; the Post held the first Christmas and Easter Party for the kids. Korean Veterans joined the Post. The Post installed a new floor in the hall.

Cletus Heitkamp, 53-54; the Post won the first "Early Bird" Membership Trophy. The Post helped Osgood Post organize.

Virgil "Butch" Thobe, 54-55; the Post built the east wing; started Friday Fish Frys; Planted the first park trees and began pitcher dances.

Clarence "Pete" Bomholt, 55-56; the Post bought an additional three acres for a ball diamond and built a trophy case.

Victor Bergman, 56-57; the Post sponsored the first Chicken Barbecue and helped with a county disaster program.

Werner "Barney" Thobe, 57-58; the Post aided Maria Stein with its street light program, planted more trees, and painted the hall.

Arthur Bruns, 58-59; a five year lease was given to the gun club, and a five man team appointed to run the pitcher dances.

Ray Flute, 59-60; the Post assisted the "Babe Ruth" program, and installed a large drainage tile on the grounds.

Ed Unrast, 60-61; two grills were built for the park. A dan to benefit retarded children was held. The bar was reorganized

Ray Koesters, 61-62; a new ceiling installed in the hall; eve greens were planted on the south and west side of the grounds

Louis Zumwald, 62-63; new rest rooms were built in the bas ment. Histories of the past Commanders and their photograp were installed.

Roman Hausfeld, 63-64; the Post installed a new flagpole the football field. A large walk-in cooler was placed in the hall.

Wilbert Homan, 64-65; the Post donated $150.00 to the Ma ion Summer School Recreation; new bar equipment added ar the entrance was improved.

Leo Pohlmann, 65-66; the post donated half of the footb scoreboard, flagpole flags to the school and burned the mor gage.

Charles Heinl, 66-67; the post installed a pump, heating ar air conditioning equipment, and improved the basement drain.

Leonard Homan, 67-68; the Post bought new uniforms for t drill squad, put picnic tables in the park and added equipme for the bar.

Tom Mescher, 68-69; the Post installed glass entrance, insul tion, paneling, new lights, and resurfaced the parking lot.

Paul Homan, 69-70; the Post began the sponsorship of t Red Cross Blood Mobile. The Post improved various hall e trances.

Gregor Grevenkamp, 70-71; the Post established a new hig for picnic receipts at $5036. The Post added new kitchen equi ment.

Norbert Puthoff was Commander in 1971.

Norbert Kramer, 71-72; a new roof was installed on the ha The Post sponsored four Marion Band Members to Georgia.

Carl Franzer, 72-73; the Post had new record for blood mobi at 220 pints. The Post paid off the balance on roof remodelir job.

Norbert Garman, 73-74; the Post started the construction the shelter house in the Park and installed a new kitche freezer.

John Vehorn, 74-75; the landscaping in front of the hall wa completed and lights were installed in the shelterhouse.

Norman Bohman, 75-76; the Post sponsored the Maria Ste Bike-A-Thon, bought new mowers, and paved the parking lot.

Arthur Heitkamp, 76-77; the Post established a tractor pu track, conducted tractor pull and improved the hall's sanita system.

Leonard Clune, 77-78; An all time high for membership wa established for Post 225. The post installed playground equi ment for the post part.

Greg Lochtefeld, 78-79; has plans to install curb gutter th full length of the east side of the post grounds, etc. *by Wilbe "Bill" Gagel*

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ST. ROCHUS COMMANDERY KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN #313 of Maria Stein, Ohio

Our Old Home, 1941

Our New Home, 1968

The St. Rochus Commandery #313 Knights of St. ohn was organized on September 5, 1897 with Rev. rank Nigsch as first spiritual director. Math Gast as the first president. Captain of the uniform rank as Bernard Desch. These officers and a board of ustees were installed on October 10, 1897. Fifty harter members were present for the installation ith Colonel Hickey of Sidney the installing officer. he members had to pay 45¢ a year per capita tax ith yearly dues $1.00.

On December 11, 1898 Henry Goecke became the ew president. In the year 1900 the uniform rank ad grown to 44 members. They also had a Comandery Band with Henry Rutschilling as the band irector.

On December 3, 1905 Fred Heckman was elected s president and under his leadership the commandry grew rapidly, due mostly to the display of nights of St. John display at all church functions.

Due to World I War all drafted members became onorary members so that the social members ropped to 39. Evidence shows that this period was a ery trying one for the Commandery.

On January 8, 1920 Anthony Kleinhenz was lected as president. By March 13, 1921 a committee eported that they had rented the Gast Hall for 12.00 a month. These were difficult years but the ommandery survived. On January 1, 1931 the St. ohn High School auditorium became our new eeting place. This was the depression years and hen Herman Leugers became president many embers could not find enough money to pay the ues but things gradually got better.

On January 1, 1936 Oscar Eifert was installed as e new president. Highlights in his five years of ofce was the change of the bylaws to the present sta is of sick benefits. Sick benefits should be six dolrs a week for 10 weeks with a $3.00 benefit the rst week of sickness. A permanent permit was also btained from the Archbishop to have an annual ilgrimage to the Relic Chapel each year nearest to t. John's Day. 67 members were initiated in 1931.

On January 14, 1941 Bill Gagel was installed as resident. It was during his term that the Beer Stube as purchased for $2,265.00 on March 18, 1941. Also ommandery #289 of Coldwater merged with our ommandery increasing the size by 21 members.

During Fred Goecke's presidency 1943 we had 312 embers with 41 serving in World War II. During loys Bruggeman's presidency the Ladies Auxiliary as organized with 25 charter members.

In 1946 Alfred Hartings became president. (Later upreme President of all the Commanderies of U.S.) uring his term of office additional parking space as purchased just west of the building.

On January 13, 1948 Joe Buening was installed as president and on June 5 and 6 the Grand Commandery held their convention in our commandery home with a picnic, netting a profit of $1610.00. ⅔ going to the commandery and ⅓ to the ladies auxiliary.

In April 1950 with Clem Poeppelman as president we purchased a half interest in a drilled well on the Joseph Gast lot behind the Knights of St. John Home. It was during his term of office that the first bowling team was organized.

During Clem Froning's presidency the Celina Commandery disbanded and twelve members joined our commandery. During Paul Moellers presidency in 1954 we were recognized by the Supreme Commandery that we were the largest commandery in the world.

During Leo Streacker's presidency we purchased the Tangeman property (the present site of our new home) for $3900.00 and on June 11, 1957 we obtained our new charter of incorporation. The new incorporation included all the real estate, parking lots, and the premises of the recently purchased Ben. Tangeman's estate.

During Henry Leugers term of office dues were raised from $6.00 per year to $8.00 per year and we donated the furnishings in a room at the new Retreat House.

Since beginning in 1960 presidents began serving only one year. The following presidents served Andrew Albers 1960, Cyril Bernard 1961, Ken Kremer 1962. It was during his presidency that we began our monthly chicken frys which has continued as of today every fourth Saturday of the month. 1963 Dennis Bertke served as president, Art Lochtefeld 1964, Joseph Kleinhenz 1966, Robert Albers 1966. It was during his term of office the decision to build a new home 60'x130' was presented with a full basement underneath.

With Roger Schwieterman as president in 1967 the ceremony of ground breaking for our new home was held on January 29, 1967. It took only one year to complete our building since during Virgil Bertke's presidency our new home was dedicated on January 20, 1968. Also we added a parcel of land east of the home for $2000.00.

The following presidents served one year. Gerhard Bruns 1969, Jerry Will, 1970, Cletus Beyke, 1971, Roman Hausfeld 1972, Rudy Link, 1973. By their efforts and the cooperation of all workers of bingo games, chicken frys, picnics, turkey shoots, dances and other affairs the new home was free of debt and mortgage burning was held. Just recently a shelter house was built behind our home. Presidents serving terms were Stan Bertke, 1974, Norbert Kramer 1975, Frank Koening 1976, Tom Gagel 1977, and Charles Heinl is our present president. Our membership stands at 383 members. *By Oscar Eifert*

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Uniform Rank Drill Team — St. Rochus Auxiliary No. 288 Knights of St. John, Maria Stein, Ohio — **First Row Seated L. to R.:** Sharon Gagel, Sandra Bruns, Lou Ann Kremer, Anna Lee Dahlinghaus, Rita M. Bertke, June Bertke, Viola Lefeld. **Second Row L. to R.:** Josephine Dues, Agnes Bruns, Mary Ann Wenning, Phyllis Link, Armella Pohlman, Ruth Bertke, Marguerite Goecke, Eleanora Zumwald, Theresa Fiely, Martha Thieman, Esther Everman. **Third Row L. to R.:** Mary Link, Mary Alice Dahlinghaus, Wilma Beyke, Odilia Brandewie, Agnes Pohlman, Rita E. Bertke, Doris Will, Dorothy Kuess, Dorothy Koenig.

Past Presidents — St. Rochus Auxiliary No. 288 Knights of S John — **Seated L. to R.:** Mathilda Kremer (elected), Dorotl (Buening) Kuess 1945-1947, Marguerite (Gagel) Goecke 194 1951, Sophia Winner, 1957-1959, Christine Bertke 1953-195 Theresa Gagel 1959-1961. **Standing L. to R.:** Odilia Brandew 1964-1966, Mary Link 1966-1968, Mathilds Poeppelman 196 1970, Viola Lefeld 1970-1972, Josephine Dues 1972-1974, Eleano Zumwald 1974-1976, Wilma Beyke 1976-1978. **Absent Was:** Cel Albers 1961-1964. **Deceased are:** Anna Schwieterman 1947-194 Clara Homan 1951-1953, Amelia Goecke, 1955-1957.

ST. ROCHUS AUXILIARY NO. 288 KNIGHTS OF ST. JOH
Maria Stein, Ohio

St. Rochus Commandery 313 Knights of St. John had been well established in Maria Stein and by 1945 there was much interest in forming a Ladies Auxiliary. An organizational meeting was called for July 30 at which time six officers of Minster Auxiliary were present to help us, with Genevieve Dickman, their President and also District Deputy Organizer, conducting the meeting. We elected the following officers who were installed by Miss Dickman: President, Dorothy Buening; Past Pres., Mathilda Kremer; First Vice-Pres., Alfrieda Willke; Second Vice-Pres., Theresa Gagel; Recording Sec'y., Amelia Goecke; Financial Sec'y., Kathern Eifert; Treasurer, Kathryn Kleinhenz; Messenger, Agatha Schmitmeyer, Sentinel, Theresa Wint; Guard Mercedes Poeppelman; and Trustees, Mary Ann Schmiesing, Alma Bernard, and Marguerite Gagel; Pianist, Eulitta Rindler; Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Evaristus Olberding. Sixty-six ladies signed as charter members and thirty-one are still with the Auxiliary. St. Rochus Auxiliary was chosen as our official name and our first regular meeting was held on August 20, when the fourth Monday of each month was chosen as our meeting night. By the end of 1945 our membership had grown to 111 members.

Since we are a charitable organization we lost no time in raising funds for various charitable projects, the first of which was a lunch stand at a farm sale which netted $230.68. We also held auctions, card parties, dances, prepared banquets, sold magazine subscriptions and greeting cards, operate the concession stand at the Knights' weekly bingo games and the cake and fancy, and novelty stands at their annual picnic.

The Auxiliary continued to grow in 1946 during which time we added 76 new members. In April 1951 we began making cord rosaries for our boys in service and later for the Missions. To date about 35,000 have been sent to various Missions. That year we also hosted the first Field Mass at Maria Stein Convent for all seven Auxiliaries in the district and this has become an annual event.

Through the years we donated to various groups including the South American and Glenmary Missions, St. Joseph's Orphanage, Holy Redeemer Church in New Bremen, Mercy Hospital, Cheryl Ann School, Anthony Wayne School in Greenville, Auglaize County School, and the Marion Local Band. Each year at Christmas we give fruit baskets to residents of Briarwood Nursing Home and the Maria Stein Senior Citizens Club. We furnished a room for retreatants at the Maria Stein Convent and later at the Retreat House and in 1974, together with the Knights, furnished a room at Community Hospital. Since 1954 our ladies have been helping every Tuesday with sewing and mending at the hospital. We have collected cancelled stamps and religious articles for the Missions, old sheets and shirts for the Cancer Society anc have had cancer films shown at our meetings.

On May 26, 1962 the Knights began having chicke fries on the fourth Saturday of each month to rais money to build a new hall and we have helped with thi ever since. Each month saw an increase in the number o dinners served and in 1966 the Knights began buildin the new hall. Ground breaking ceremonies were held o January 29, 1967 and our first meeting in the new hal was on October 23, 1967. The ladies furnished th kitchen and did much of the interior painting of the hall We also donated money to the building fund and paic half the cost of a new piano. On August 11, 1970 we cele brated our Silver Jubilee with a solemn High Mass fol lowed by a formal banquet.

Since 1972 we have annually sponsored a child in the Holy Childhood "Help-a-Child" program and have given three scholarships to students for the priesthood at Brunnerdale Seminary. We have a Mass read the fourth Monday of each month at the Convent for the intentions o the members, and have been sponsoring the Marion Hou Sunday Rosary on WCSM at various time the past few years. Each year we have a Spring Party in April and a Christmas Party in December, beginning with pot luck suppers.

The Uniform Rank Drill Team was organized in September 1976 with 27 members. Uniforms were made and drill practice begun in January 1978 in preparation for the upcoming Supreme Convention in Baltimore where they made an excellent showing in the competitive drills. To raise money for uniforms we had a card party, rummage and greeting card sales, and compiled a cookbook of which 1300 copies have been sold.

The present officers elected in 1978 to serve until 1980 are: President, Elsie Winner; Past Pres., Wilma Beyke; First Vice-Pres., Edna Homan; Second Vice-Pres., Joan Homan; Recording Sec'y., Alice Huelsman; Financial Sec'y., Juanita Brandewie; Treasurer, Rita Heinl; Messenger, Eileen Knapke; Sentinel, Anna Lee Dahlinghaus; Guard, Theresa Fiely; Trustees Alvina Hemmelgarn, Mildred Evers, and Henrietta Heitkamp, Pianist, Ruth Brown; and Spiritual Advisor, Fr. John Bolan.

In the thirty-three years of our organization fifty members have died and our membership on September 25, 1978 is 276. New officers are elected every two years and we have two district meetings yearly and send two delegates to the Supreme Convention which is held biannually. Our membership is comprised of ladies from towns in southern Mercer County plus nearby towns in Auglaize and Darke Counties. *By Eleanora Zumwald and Theresa Gagel*

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e Ashman Family
l Home in 1904 —
me built in Cas-
a, Mercer County,
io, in 1880, by John
nry Ashman (1793-
31) who made and
l the bricks himself.
nily in Photo is
ond and third gen-
tion to live there.

THE ASHMAN FAMILY

John Henry Ashman (1793-1881) was born Joseph han Heinrich Aschmann on Christmas Day in ermany. In 1830 he married Maria Elizabetha BO-CKMANN (1804-1873) in Bersenbruck, Amt amme, Oldenburg, Germany. They came to the nited States in 1836 and traveled by river and canal nd horseback to the then heavily wooded area that ould become Marysville and then Cassella, Marion ownship, Mercer County, Ohio.

They were the second family to arrive in that sec-on and they spent their first winter sharing a log abin with six other families. In 1837, they bought nd and erected their first home of logs. They armed and raised six children. They attended the t. Mary's Catholic Church in Cassella and their raves are in the cemetery there.

The little information we have about the six chil-ren is as follows:

The first daughter Maria Anna (1831-1926) mar-ed John GOEKE.

Agnes (?-?) married Henry MANNING or MANR-NG, and moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The third daughter, Elizabeth (1840-?) married rederick SCHAEPER or SCHEPER. Four of their ildren are named in John Henry's will; Henry, Jo-eph, Frederick, and Anna.

Henry, a twin (1843-1916) married Agnes Maria EITKAMP (1850-1925) on 22 October 1867. The hotograph taken in the yard of the brick house is is couple and their nine children in 1904.

Katherine "Katie", a twin (1843-1876) married Jo-eph BRINKMAN (1850-1925) in 1866.

The sixth child, Bernadina Agnes "Bernie" or Dina" (1845-1925) was married on June 5, 1866 to lenry Herman FORSTHOFF (1825-1925). Their welve children included three sets of twins.

The second home built in 1880 by the Ashmans as of brick, made and laid by John Henry with the elp of his family. The property was inherited by lenry (fourth child listed above [1843-1916]), and e and his wife Agnes raised nine of the ten children orn to them, as follows:

John Heinrich "John" (10 May 1869-) married lizabeth Steinke and moved to Canada.

Maria Elizabeth "Lizzie", the second child (21 Oc-ober 1871-) married Anthony VOSKUHL. They ved in Maria Stein, Ohio.

The third child, Maria Margaret "Mary" (9 Febru-ry 1874-1948) married Deitrich BUEHLER and re-ided in Chickasaw, Ohio.

Joseph Henry "Joseph" (20 September 1876-eptember 1947) was never married. He resided in assella, Ohio.

Maria Agnes "Agnes" (10 July 1883-1974), the eventh child, married Frank MEYER. They lived in ort Loramie, Ohio. Their son Hugo Meyer of Fort Loramie, Ohio, now owns the Ashman home in Cassella. This is the fourth generation of ownership. The Ashman farm has been registered as a Century Farm of the United States.

Maria Catherine "Katie" (6 March 1886-1965) married Mathias SCHOENHEIR. She was the eighth child.

Ninth born Anthony Henry "Henry" (16 March 1889-1973) married Henrietta KRAMER in 1922. They were the third and fourth generation to live on the homestead.

Maria Philomena "Minnie" (born 14 December 1892) is the tenth child and only one living at this writing in 1978. She lives in St. Henry, Ohio. *Lyle Brooks Watson*

Bernard J. and Anna Bergman and Family

BERNARD J. AND ANNA BERGMAN

Mr. Bergman spent his life as a farmer near Egypt, Ohio. He was the son of John and Elisabeth (Plasphol) Bergman. Bernard J. Bergman born July 20, 1882, died April 13, 1954 at Egypt, Ohio. He attended Luebke School during his first school years and completed his education at Patterson township number Two school. In his early life after school, Bernard was employed out as a hired hand by his uncle Bernard Bergman of Maria Stein, Ohio.

At the time of Bernard's marriage to Anna Prenger of Egypt, Ohio, September 30, 1908, he moved to his homestead. This was a piece of property acquired earlier by his father. At this place he went into full time farming. The farm consisted of 107 acres of which 40 acres were tillable. The other 67 acres were woodland. This farm was located in the farthest southeastern area of Mercer county, located on the north side of Darke-Mercer county line road, 1 mile west of State Route 364. Bernard's son Herman Bergman is now living on the farm.

Through Bernard's marriage to Anna Prenger, there were one son and three daughters. Herman Bergman born October 6, 1909 and is still living. He married Lauretta Putoff of Maria Stein, Ohio. Veronica Bergman born July 26, 1913 and is still living. She married Bernard Kuether of Egypt, Ohio. Helen Bergman born May 30, 1917 and is still living. She married Herbert Brandewie of Ft. Loramie, Ohio. Pauline Bergman born December 2, 1919 and is still living. She married Norbert Poeppelman of Ft. Loramie, Ohio.

The Bernard J. Bergman family were members of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Egypt, Ohio. The children attended school in Darke county. This was a one room brick school house and was known as Patterson Township Number Two school.

One of the more unforgettable experiences Bernard encountered was the time he had to look into

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the muzzle end of a handgun that was being held by a woman. This occurred in the Osgood State Bank while it was being robbed by some of the John Dillinger gang members. In the course of the robbery, Bernard was held at bay against the wall of the bank. He was not harmed or injured. *Ben Kuether*

Stephen Henry Bergman (1852 - 1932) and his wife Anna Mary Evers (1856 - 1922).

HENRICH ARNOLD BERGMANN AND STEPHEN HENRICH BERGMANN

Henrich Arnold and Stephen Henrich were the sons of Henrich Arned Bergmann of Steinfeld and Elisabeth Deters of Damme, Germany near Oldenburg. Their parents Henrich Arned and Elisabeth Deters were married April 26, 1803 in St. Victor Catholic Church in Damme and lived in or near Damme. There were six other children namely; Marie Elisabeth born March 7, 1805 and married Johann Henrich Beckstedde at Damme, HENRY ARNOLD born October 22, 1807, Joannes born January 11, 1810, then STEPHEN HENRICH born February 17, 1812, Maria Agnes born August 19, 1814, Maria Catharina born March 22, 1817 and then twins Johannes Henricus and Maria Catharina born February 17, 1820 and both twins died five days later.

HENRICH ARNOLD and STEPHEN HENRICH were sailors on the sea and also the Mississippi and the Ohio River. After sailing for a time they finally sold their boat at Cincinnati and came north in the 1830's. It is said they helped dig the Miami Erie Canal from Cincinnati to Toledo, Ohio. Nothing more is known of the two brothers until they started farming in the 1840's. It is believed their father "Henrich Arned" came along to Maria Stein, Ohio but I am not sure now.

Both brothers died and are buried at Maria Stein, Ohio. Henrich Arnold at age 79 died May 1, 1887 and Stephen Henrich age 88 died May 26, 1900.

I will only write of HENRY ARNOLD BERGMANN as he is my Great Grandfather.

Henrich Arnold bought his first farm of 40 acres from the U.S. Government under President Tyler on August 5, 1844 which is located 1½ miles directly south of Maria Stein on the St. John Road where Joseph Kemper lives now. HENRY A. married Anna Margret Höen or Hoehne and she was also born at Oldenburg, Germany on July 22, 1811. Date and place of marriage is unknown as of now. They had several children and a few died of Chlorea in 1849 with only two children living.

The oldest child was Mary Caroline, known most of the time as Caroline, she was born on November 1, 1848 and Stephen Henrich, my grandfather, was born April 30, 1852. Both born on farm south of Ma ria Stein, O. Caroline married Charles Bruns April 1867 at Maria Stein, O. They lived in with her pa ents and she inherited 115 acres from her fath which had a log house on it which stood about 5 feet east of the present home. This consisted of th 40 acres and the rest was across the road just nort of the Puthoff School. Caroline and her husban were not satisfied with the Log House, so they bui a ten room frame house which cost the price of a 80 acre farm. It was one of the prettiest rural home in southern Mercer County. They had one son Henry Bruns who married Elizebeth Brockman.

Stephen Henry Bergman son of Henrich Arnol married Anna Mary Evers in St. Rosa Catholi Church on January 27, 1874. Anna Mary was th daughter of Frank and Anna Maria (Frilling) Ever who was born March 28, 1856 at St. Rosa, Ohio. Ste phen H. and Anna Mary lived on a farm they owne across the road from sister Caroline consisting of 7 acres now owned by Othmar Bergman.

Stephen H. and Anna Mary were the parents o nine children; Henry A. 1875-1962; Frank H. 1876 1965; Mary Anna 1878-1946; John Theodore (my fa ther) 1881-1961; George C. 1883-?; Joseph C. 1886 1969; Mrs. William (Rosa P.) Meiering 1889-1971 Lawrence 1892-1970; August H. 1896-?. Two are stil living, George C. age 95 and August H. age 82 Henry A. and Mary Anna never married. All children of Stephen H. and Anna Mary lived on thei own farms after they married and most lived soutl of Maria Stein, except Frank H. and John T. lived a St. Rosa, Ohio and August H. lived north of Osgood Ohio and Rosa P. lived first near Egypt, Ohio and then moved to city of St. Marys, Ohio. The picture of this writing is of Stephen H. and Anna Maria (Evers) Bergmann. A few words on Stephen Henrich Bergmann, the brother of Henry Arnold Bergmar who married Catherina Flagert on May 15, 1850 and they lived and owned a 120 acre farm just east o Henry Arnold Bergman. *Victor G. Bergman*

John Bergman Family 1936 — **Seated:** Aloys Mrs. Benedict (Elizebeth) Keller, Bernadina Mrs. Norbert (Rosalinda) Siefring and Norbert. **Back Row:** Clarence, John, Mrs. Norbert (Rosemary) Brunswick, and Victor.

JOHN THEODORE BERGMAN

John T. Bergman was the son of Stephen Henrich and Anna Mary (Evers) Bergman born May 28, 1881 south of Maria Stein, Ohio, in Marion Township and was the Grandson of Henry Arnold and Anna Margret (Höen) Bergman. John married Bernadina Knuefner the daughter of Herman and Maria Anna (Knapke) Knuefner born November 3, 1881 northeast of St. Patrick, Ohio and she was the Granddaughter of Phillip and Anna Marie (Meyer) Knuefner of Ft. Loramie, Ohio.

John T. and Bernadina were married in St. John Catholic Church at Maria Stein, Ohio on February

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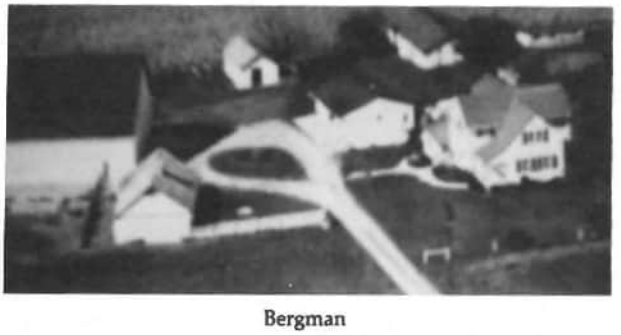
, 1908 and were the parents of seven children and neteen grandchildren. Their children were Mrs. :nedict (Elizebeth) Keller of Carthagena, Ohio, ırn 1909, died 1974; Aloys B. 1910 of Burkettsville, hio; Clarence H. 1912 of St. Rosa, Ohio; Mrs. Nor-:rt (Rosemary) Brunswick 1914 of St. Henry, Ohio; orbert F. 1917 Mercer-Auglaize County Line ›rthwest of St. Marys, Ohio; Victor G. 1919 city of elina, Ohio and Mrs. Norbert (Rosalinda) Siefring '22 west of Rossburg, O. Norbert married Viola illing of McCartyville, Ohio and Victor married elen D. Borger of Celina, Ohio. Aloys and Clar-ıce never married.

When John and Bernadine were married they im-ediately moved onto the 100 acre farm they pur-ıased two miles south of St. Rosa, Ohio now vned by their son Victor on the Clune-Stucke oad. Five of the seven children were born there. he farm consisted of a large log house which in 968 was donated to Lawrence Deitz the owner of ıe Historical Museum which is located on County oad 33 between St. Marys and Wapakoneta, Ohio. ı 1919 John sold 20 of his 100 acres and purchased) acres from his brother George which is one mile ırther south on the same road. They moved there ı the spring of 1919 and there Victor and Rosalinda ere born. The farm is now owned by their son larence. All seven children are still farming their wn farms.

John T. was well known in southern Mercer ounty and enjoyed talking and getting acquainted ith people. He had a good memory of family his-›ry. His ambition as a young man was to become a ailroad engineer, but his father wanted him to ırm. When he would be in town and if you could ot find him, all you would have to do is find the ain depot and that is where he would be. He was ery interested in school activities and was President f the Dwenger School Board for many years. All of ıis children attended school there. The school was ›cated on the Clune-Stucke Rd. about three miles outh of St. Rosa, Ohio. The little red brick school ıouse is still standing which is occuppied by farm nachinery today and owned by Mr. and Mrs. Leo Kunk. John's grandfather Henry Arnold Bergmann mmigrated from Oldenburg, Germany with his ›rother Stephen Henry in the 1830's, they were sail-›rs who sold their boat at Cincinnati and came north ınd helped build the Miami-Erie Canal. His Grand-ather Henry Arnold bought 40 acres from the Jnited States Government August 5, 1844 about 1½ niles south of Maria Stein, Ohio on the St. John Road. John Theodore was baptized Stephen Theo-lore. *John Norbert Bergman, Celina, Oh. 45822*



Bergman

LAWRENCE B. BERGMAN

Lawrence Bernard Bergman was the eighth child of Stephen Henrich and Anna Mary (Evers) Bergman. He was born August 9, 1892 and reared on the farm south of Maria Stein on St. Johns Road still owned by his son, Otmar. Most of the farm has been in the Bergman family for over a century, having been purchased by Henry Arnold (Lawrence's grandfather) from Joseph Hageman in 1869 and given by Henry Arnold to Lawrence's father, Stephen Henry, at the time of his marriage in 1874. In 1887 Caroline (Bergman) Bruns, Stephen's sister, deeded twenty acres to Stephen and in 1905 Stephen purchased forty acres from Bernard Kalkhoff.

June 16, 1920 Lawrence married Frances Bruns, daughter of John and Mary (Clune) Bruns of now Route 716 near Osgood. Stephen and Anna deeded eighty-five acres of the farm over to Lawrence and moved to a house in Maria Stein. Lawrence later purchased the balance of the farm, thirty-two acres, from his unmarried sister, Maria Anna in 1937. In 1920 the farmhouse consisted of an old brick structure to which Stephen had added a frame portion sometime before Lawrence's birth (perhaps in the 1880's). The old brick part was torn down in 1938, but the frame portion was changed in position and incorporated into the present home. The barn was built in 1894.

Known for his keen wit and lively stories, Lawrence earned his living as a farmer. He was a veteran of World War I, having spent eighteen months in Europe.

Lawrence and Frances had nine children. They are as follows: Richard (1921) married Iva Lou Greve in 1953; they live in New Bremen and are the parents of Diane, Becky, Lisa, Daniel, and Gregory. Marinus (1923) married Margaret Schmitmeyer in 1950 and lives near Tipp City. Anna Marie (1923) and Ralph Osterloh, married 1946, living in Egypt are the parents of Kenneth and Doris Ann (Niekamp). Raymond or Jim (1924) married Millie Shere in 1965 and lives in Dayton. Irene (1927) and Tom Minch, married 1951, now of Xenia have James, Mark, William, Carol, Joseph, Jane, Rose, and Renee. Otmar or Curly (1928) married Margaret Kaiser in 1970; they and their children, David, Larry E., and Rick live on the homeplace. Eugene (1930) and Kathleen Schulze married in 1956; living in Maria Stein, they are the parents of Linda, Randall, Jay, and Jodie. Teresa (1932) and Bob Willhoff, married 1963, live near Brandt with children, Elaine, Frank, Clifford, and Tony. Larry J. (1944) married Jeannie Gottes in 1944; they and their children, Teresa, Craig, Scott, Sheri, and Amy, reside in Egypt. Another member of the family is Alfred Farno whose father, Julius, is first cousin to Frances Bergman. After his mother's death Alfred came to live with Lawrence and Frances in 1922 and helped with the farming till he was sixteen.

All the children except Larry attended Puthoff Grade School on the corner of St. Johns Road and Huwer Road and most attended high school at St. Johns Building. Larry went to St. Johns Grade School and Marion High.

Lawrence was a life-long member of St. Johns Parish, Maria Stein. He died Sept. 7, 1970 and was buried in St. Johns Cemetery. *Mrs. Otmar Bergman*

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John and Elizabeth Bergman

STEPHEN HENRY BERGMAN

Stephen Henry Bergman spent most of his years as a farmer near Maria Stein, Ohio. He was born in Oldenburg, Germany in February 17, 1812, son of Henry Arnold Bergman, (HEINRICK BERGMAN), from Steimield Germany and Elisabeth Deters of Germany. Stephen's parents, Henry (Heinrick) and Elisabeth were married on April 26, 1803 at St. Vikter Church at Damme, Germany. In the early years, Stephen Henry and his brother Henry Arnold Bergman were sailors of the high seas in the shipping business owning their own Merchant Ship. The two brothers arrived into this country in 1830's by coming up the Mississippi River, then the Ohio River, finally docking at a port in Cincinnati, Ohio. The ship was sold. At this time the two brothers found employment on the Miami-Erie Canal construction. When through working on the canal construction, Stephen Henry Bergman purchased three adjoining forty acre parcels for his homestead at a Sheriff's sale on December 2, 1851.

Stephen Henry Bergman homestead was located on west side of road, now known as Kramer Road, approximately ½ mile south of Minster-Fort Recovery Road. The property is now resided on by Bud Mescher.

Stephen Henry Bergman married Catherine Adeladie Hagert May 16, 1850. Catherines's birth's place was in Prussia. Through this marriage there were two sons and three daughters. Mary Bergman born July 9, 1853, died February 10, 1922 at Muenster, Texas. She married Bernard Luttmer. John Bergman born April 24, 1855, died September 29, 1927 at Egypt, Ohio. He married Elisabeth Plaspohl. Bernard Bergman born January 2, 1860, died May 13, 1924 at Maria Stein, Ohio. He married Katherine Luttmer. Philomena Bergman born August 10, 1862, died April 27, 1906. She married Herman Schwegemann. Anna Bergman born September 23, 1866, died January 6, 1937 at St. Rose, Ohio. She married a Luttmer then Joe Beckmann. The Bergman family were members of St. John's Catholic Church in Maria Stein, Ohio.

Stephen's son, John Bergman, moved to one of his father's acquired properties for his home site. This 110 acre homestead is located on north side of Darke-Mercer county line road, one mile west of State Route 364. This property is now being resided on by Joseph Bergman.

John Bergman married Elisabeth Plasphol in November 1877. Elisabeth born February 8, 1858 at Minster, Ohio and died May 28, 1940 at Egypt, Ohio. Through this marriage there were three sons and three daughters. Stephen Bergman born March 15, 1880, died October 18, 1934 at Osgood, Ohio. He married Mary Winner. Bernard Bergman born July 20, 1882, died April 13, 1954 at Egypt, Ohio. He m ried Anna Prenger. Anna Bergman born January 1888, died March 1, 1957 at Ft. Loramie, Ohio. married Frank Broering. Fred Bergman born S tember 13, 1892, died April 9, 1950 at Egypt, Oh He married Katherine Dirksen. Bernardine Bergm born August 18, 1896, died July 1, 1921 at Egy Ohio. She married Henry Prenger. Rosalina Be man born March 9, 1902, and is still living. She m ried Frank Kramer.

The John Bergman's family were members of John's Catholic Church in Maria Stein, Ohio and the later years transferred their membership to Joseph's Church at Egypt, Ohio. John was a w known farmer all his life. His name was well kno for his abilities in the grafting of fruit trees. started many new orchards in the area. His hob was the caring and raising honey bees. *Ben Kuether*

Bergman farm

CENTENNIAL FARM

A prominent dairy farmer of Mercer County, a owner of a 120 acre farm on 8680 Huwer Road Marion Township, Section 1, was born on t present farm, and lived his lifetime here in Ma Stein, Ohio. The present operator of the farm is h son, Wilfred Bergman, Jr. — the fifth generation operate the farm. Part of the land was first owned H. Arnold Bergman after 1871. He owned it arou 10 years. Then Stephen Bergman received it from Arnold Bergman. Later in years the land was tran ferred to Joseph C. Bergman, and then on to Wilfr B. Bergman.

Wilfred B. Bergman is the son of Joseph C. Ber man and Catherine Schmitt Bergman. The gran parents were Stephen Bergman Sr. and Anna Eve Bergman, and Bernard Schmitt and Anna Schoe lein Schmitt. The great grandparents were H. Arno Bergman and Anna Honn Bergman, and Frantz E ers and Mary Anna Frilling Evers, and Clemen Schmitt and Catherine Fullenkamp Schmitt.

Our family farm on which we live was establishe from 1871 through 1879. Our forefathers came Marion Township around 1836, settled as pioneer in a wilderness a mile and a half south of Mari Stein on the St. John's Road. They had to cut tree and clear the land of brush to start crop farming an build log barns and houses. Our great grand-parent H. Arnold Bergman and Anna Honn of German or gin, emigrated from Oldenburg, Germany. H. Ar nold Bergman and his brother, Stephen, were sailor on the Atlantic Ocean. They sold their ocean sailin vessel at Cincinnati in 1836 or there-about, an came up the way to Minster to south of Maria Steir They bought around 240 acres of land from U.S Government.

H. Arnold Bergman and Anna Honn Bergman ha two living children named Carolina Bergman, wh married Charles Bruns, and Stephen Bergman. Som

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f the children died of the cholera epidemic at the nd of the Civil War between the States.

Stephen Bergman and Anna Evers Bergman were arried in 1874, and were the parents of nine children, all of whom lived on farms in the Maria Stein rea. They were Henry, Frank, John, George, Joseph, awrence, and August, and Mary and Rosa. Stephen ergman acquired a farm for all his children.

Joseph C. Bergman and Catherine Schmitt Bergman were married in 1915, and were the parents of ive children: Wilfred married Juliana Bensman of t. Patrick; Ann Rita married Joseph Sanders, Ft. oramie; Linus married Rita Selhorst of St. Rose; Merilda married Herman H. Hoying, St. Henry; and alome married Arthur Pleiman, Coldwater, Ohio.

On September 1, 1943, Wilfred B. Bergman and uliana Bensman, daughter of Joseph Bensman, Sr. nd Emma Hoying Bensman, were married in St. Patrick Church, Shelby County, Ohio. They are the arents of six children: Madonna married Robert H. Prenger from Coldwater. They reside on North Hanover Street, Minster. Pearl married Donald M. Sell rom Celina, and they live in Los Angeles, California. Ann married Randy J. Garman from Chickasaw. They are living on East Parkview Drive, St. Henry. Wilfred, Jr. and Geralyn and Betty M. Bergman are iving at home.

The children attended school at the Marion Local, Marion Township.

The families belong to the Catholic Church.

Wilfred B. Bergman and Juliana Bensman Bergman have three grandchildren: Brian Prenger, and wins are Todd R. and Trina J. Prenger. They are the children of Robert H. Prenger and Madonna Bergman Prenger. *Wilfred B. Bergman*

CYRIL A. BERNARD FAMILY

Cyril A. Bernard, son of Joseph H. Bernard and Agatha (Heckman) Bernard and Alvina T. Leugers, daughter of Herman H. Leugers and Leona (Huber) Leugers were married July 6, 1946. They have four children. Richard, after graduating from the University of Dayton, became a resident of New York City. Ann, a graduate of Bowling Green State University, s a teacher in the Celina School system. She married Ronald Puthoff. They have a daughter, Sara Jane. Tom Bernard, a graduate of Ohio State University in Industrial Arts, is with Bernard Masonry. Donald Bernard is a student in Bowling Green State University.

URBAN L. BERNING

Urban "Uppie" Louis Berning was born on September 25, 1927 and was married to Lucille Mary Borger on June 21, 1952. They are the parents of four children.

Lori, age 17; David, age 15; Chris, age 12 are adopted. John is 11 years of age and Urban and Lucille are the natural parents. Lori will enter nurses training at Rice State University. Urban was appointed Postmaster in Maria Stein in 1961 and continues in that office.

Urban is the third eldest son of Joseph A. Berning, Sr. and Rosa (Knob) Berning who were married on June 1, 1921. Members of their immediate family are: Cletus of Troy, Ohio — 2 children; Robert of Winter Garden, Florida — 6 children; Urban of Maria Stein, Ohio — 4 children; Joseph, Jr. of Minster, Ohio — 4 children; Velma (Berning) Hemmelgarn, St. Henry, Ohio 9 children; Theresa (Berning) Baltes, deceased at age 37 in April, 1975 — 3 children; Joan (Berning) Werling, Houston, Ohio — 3 children; Irene (Berning) Gardner, Dayton, Ohio — 1 child.

Joseph Berning, Sr. was the third eldest son of Henry J. and Mary (Koch) Berning, who were the parents of eleven children all born in St. Patricks, Shelby County, Ohio. Henry Berning was the father of John G. Berning who died at age 81 on May 14, 1904. They had six children.

Henry J. Berning, who died at age 60 on August 6, 1918 and his wife, Mary (Koch) Berning, who died at age 79 on January 13, 1949 were the parents of eleven children as follows:

Mary (Berning) Prenger died at age 74 on Sept. 11, 1962 — 3 children; Bernadine (Berning) Prenger died at age 74 on April 24, 1964 — 2 children; Joseph Berning, Sr. died at age 69 on May 25, 1962 — 8 children; Frank Berning, died at age 44, on August 22, 1938 — 8 children; Louis Berning, born on May 6, 1896 is still living and has one child; Michael Berning, died at age 45 on May 31, 1944 — never married; Aloys Berning, died at age 68 on September 23, 1968 — 7 children; Philomine, died in 1902, lived one day; Catherine (Berning) Kelch, died at age 39 on January 29, 1943 — 5 children; Phillip, died at age 35 on November 24, 1945 — 6 children.

Sister Mary Marina (Elizabeth) joined the Sisters of the Precious Blood at Maria Stein, Ohio in 1922. After forty-three years of teaching in various parochial and public schools of Ohio, Indiana and Missouri, which were intercepted by ten years of domestic work in an orphanage and seminary, she retired at the close of the 1977 school year to St. Charles Seminary in Carthagena, Ohio as seamstress. She was born 4-29-07.

Henry J. Berning was the son of John Gerhard Berning who was born in Minster, Ohio. He was one of six children, having two brothers and three sisters.

John Gerhard Berning and his brother, Bernard Berning, came by ship from Hamburg, Germany. Each brother earned a tract of land east of Minster by helping to dig the canal. Their parents were John H. and Mary E. Berning, who remained in Germany. John G. became a Supervisor and Director of Schools in Minster, Oh. He married Benedicia, daughter of Henry Gerkison.

Urban Berning's mother was Rosa (Knob) Berning (1898-1964). She had five brothers and sisters. They are Lietta Rolfes of Dayton; Leona Schroder of Sidney; Matilda, deceased; Herbert of Ft. Loramie; and Linus of Ft. Loramie. Rose (Knob) Berning was paralyzed at 14 months having contracted polio. She spent her life walking with crutches. Rosa was the daughter of William Knob and Mary (Watercutter) Knob. Mary was the daughter of Henry Watercutter and Carlion Loman of McCartyville, Ohio.

William Knob was the son of Henry Knob and Anna (Pancier) Knob. Henry Knob originally had the last name of Knopp and is buried in McCartyville cemetery in Shelby County, Ohio. He died at

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age 94 in 1914. His wife, Anna, died at age 70 and is buried next to him. Henry came to this country at age 16. He was a stowaway on a ship and left Germany to escape the Kaiser. He landed in New York Harbor and migrated up the Ohio River thru Cincinnati, before coming to McCartyville. *Urban L. Berning*

BERNING FAMILY

John G. Berning, son of John H. and Mary E. Berning was born in Germany February 13, 1826 and raised a farmer. On April 18, 1850 he married Benedicia, daughter of Henry Gerkison, and she was born in 1830. Their children are Elizabeth, Mary, John, Henry, Anthony Herman, Josephine, Altoney, Armia, Frederick and Agnes. He has filled the offices of supervisor and school director. His father was the first settler on Section 30, and cut the first road through the section.

Henry John Berning (1858-1918) married Mary K. Koch, daughter of Nicholas Koch (1838-1911) who was a postmaster and was married to Marie K. Sommers. Both of her families came over to America from Holland and settled in St. Patrick. They were the parents of ten children. Mary, who married a Prenger, Bernadina, also married a Prenger, Joseph, Frank, Louis, Michael, Aloysious, Catherine, Elizabeth (Sister Marina), Philip.

Mary Berning (1888-1962) married Bernard Prenger on October 15, 1913 in St. Patrick Church. They lived on a farm in Shelby County and belonged to St. Augustine Church in Minster, Ohio. They had three children. Herman (November 22, 1914-1966), Agnes Sept. 11, 1916, who married Alphonse Clune, and Rose (May 30, 1925) who married Ernest Heitkamp. *Alphonse Clune, Chickasaw, Oh.*

FREDERICK BERTKE AND HIS FATHER HERMAN HENRY BERTKE

Fred Anthony Bertke and Elizabeth Everman were married November 22, 1881. He was born January 17, 1857 at St. John, Ohio the son of Herman Henry and Elizabeth (Fullenkamp) Bertke. She was born January 16, 1863 at St. Rose, Ohio the daughter of Bernard and Mary E. (Linnaman) Everman. She died January 7, 1892.

They had four children; Mary Bernard (Frank), Cecelia Bernard (Jake), Leo and Anna Harting (William). The children were born at Cassella, Ohio.

Fred Bertke bought the farm in Marion Township, Section 31, consisting of 127.60 acres more or less from his parents in 1886 and had a new brick home built around 1892. He married a second time on January 23, 1893 to Philomena Fiely. She was born October 12, 1866 at Cranberry Prairie, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Holthouse) Fiely. They had two children, William and Alma Broerman (Raymond). In 1914 they sold the farm to his son Leo and moved to Cassella where he operated a grocery store. He died February 19, 1936 and she died December 27, 1951. They were members of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church and are buried in the Church Cemetery.

Fred's father Herman Henry Bertke was born i Ankum, Hanover, Germany in 1821. He and h brother Herman Bernard were some of the earlie settlers of Marion Township. They came in 1843 an Henry bought some land in section twenty-fou near St. John. He married Elizabeth Fullenkamp c Jackson Township, Auglaize County on April 1 1847. She was born in Germany in 1826. They ha five children; Bernard, Catherine Knapke (Ben Frederick; Henry and Mary Knapke (John). His wif died January 10, 1861 at Maria Stein, Ohio.

He married a second time to Katherine Kreiger o August 12, 1862. She was born May 4, 1822. The had two children, Joseph and Philomena Fiel (John).

Herman Henry Bertke owned approximately 14 acres of land in Section 24 of Marion Townshi which he later sold to his son Henry. He also bough land in Section 31, Marion Township on July 3(1878. This was approximately 127.60 acres which h later sold to his son Fred.

Herman Henry Bertke died May 18, 1895 at Mari Stein and his wife Katherine died June 19, 1894 a Maria Stein, Ohio.

Herman Bernard Bertke was born November 17 1817 at Ankum, Hanover, Germany and he died No vember 18, 1905 at Maria Stein, Ohio. *Mrs. Louis (Eve lyn) Bertke*

Leo Bertke Family – **First Row Seated** Euleta, Anna, Le and Norma. **Stand ing:** Ernest, Cyril Leander, Louis an Wilbur.

THE LEO BERTKE FAMILY

Leo Bernard and Anna Josephine (Lindhaus Bertke lived on a farm in Marion Township Sectio thirty-one consisting of 127.60 acres more or less. H bought this farm from his parents in 1915.

Leo was born July 16, 1889, the son of Frederic and Elizabeth (Everman) Bertke and died July 3(1973. Anna was born October 7, 1892, the daughte of Bernard and Mary (Homan) Lindhaus and die October 27, 1960. She had one sister, Ida Cron. Le and Anna were born at Cassella, Ohio which wa then known as Marysville, went to the Cassell School and were members of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church. They are buried in the Church Cemetery.

They were married on June 10, 1914 and had ter children:

Leander who was born May 20, 1915 married Alvira Liening on November 29, 1945 and have four children; William married Mary Ann Faller and have two children, Matthew and Deanna; Robert married Mary Ellan Buckner; Linda married John Hoelscher (deceased) and James. They live in Celina, Ohio and he is employed at Mersman Bros.

Cyril who was born June 16, 1917 married Dorothy Dahlinghaus on October 4, 1949 and have three children; Sharon married to Michael Lhamon and have one child Andrew; Donald and Denise. They live in Celina, Ohio and he is employed at Mersman

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ros.

Wilbur who was born January 5, 1920 married nna Marie Borger on June 28, 1952 and have four ıildren; Virginia married to Donald Kremer and ave two children Angela and Scott; Helen married) Robert Stover; Walter and Alfred. They live in St. lenry, Ohio and he is employed at Mersman Bros.

Euleta who was born May 29, 1922 married Wer- er Bensman on April 15, 1944 and have eight chil- ren; Gerald married Emily Kunk and have two chil- ren, Pamela and Frank; Dennis married Jane Vehrman and have two children, Jeffrey and Brian; athleen; Gregory married Susan Glaser; Susan ıarried to Stanley Berning; twins Daniel and Debo- ıh and Brenda. They live on a farm at St. Patricks,)hio.

Marinus and Mary Ann were born December 8, 924 and she died February 24, 1925 and he died Aarch 1, 1925.

Louis who was born January 14, 1926 married velyn Hartings on June 20, 1953 and they had eight hildren, Daniel (deceased); Kenneth married ıngela Richard; Barbara; David; Roger; Mary; Timo- hy and Michael. They live on the home farm at Cassella, Ohio which they bought from his father in 961.

Ernest who was born September 17, 1928 married ita Guggenbiller on November 10, 1954 and have even children, Delbert; Ronald; Thomas; Lisa; Brad- ey; Diane and Kevin. They live in Centerville, Ohio where he is a barber and manages an Ice Cream tore.

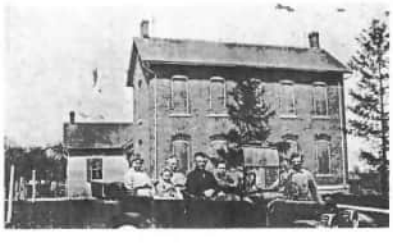
Norma who was born June 17, 1933 married Nor- ert Otting on October 23, 1954 and have four chil- ren, Steven; Randall; Robert and Jill. They live in Minster, Ohio and operate a Service Station.

The farm on which the children were born and aised has been in the family one hundred years. They all went to grade School at Cassella, Ohio and ome went to high school at either St. Henry or St. ohn. Louis Bertke's children now go to the Marion ocal Schools and go to the same church his parents vent to. *Mrs. Louis (Evelyn) Bertke*

nal Certificate of Citizenship, enry Bills

HENRY BILLS CITIZENSHIP

In Prussia, Germany, Henry and Gertrude (Wel- er) Bills had a son named Henry, in the year 1817. n 1847, Henry came to America. On February 22, 848, Henry Bills married Anna Koenig, daughter of Joseph and Adeline (Grieshop) Koenig. They were married in St. Rose. Anna was born in 1826 and died April 2, 1890. Henry died July 29, 1872. Henry and Anna Bills had six children: Anna Mary Rose Bills, born August 25, 1851, married Henry Althoff; Joseph Bills, born August 12, 1853; Mary Catherine Bills, born October 3, 1855; Anna Mary Bills born February 7, 1857, married Charles Eyink; John Henry Bills, born August 23, 1863, died at the age 30; Bernard Henry Bills, born August 4, 1860, died August 8, 1935. Bernard married Anna Homan (born December 25, 1873 and died July 21, 1957) on January 16, 1893 at St. Rose, Ohio. Bernard and Anna had eight children: Anthony Bills, born February 19, 1896. Anthony married Leona Boeke, daughter of Henry Boeke. They had five children: Verena, Armella, Joan, Lester and Cyril. Clara Bills, born December 22, 1897 and married Leo Heitkamp, son of Henry Heitkamp. They had nine children: Anna Marie, Jerome, Edna, Dorina, Evelyn, Luella, Marietta, Othmar, Edgar. Henry Bills, born October 5, 1899 and married Loretta Winner, daughter of Clem Winner. They had five children: Norma, Walter, Esther, Paul and Barbara. Clem Bills, born March 4, 1902 and married Marie Mueller. They had seven children: Dennis, Edgar, Alvin, Rose Ann, Marilyn, Thomas, and Daniel. Regina Bills, born March 14, 1904 and married Edward Albers, son of Henry Albers. They had ten children: Ralph, Rita, Doris, Mary, Paul, Cyril, Donald, Agnes, Barbara, Roger. Maria Bills, born April 9, 1906, died July 26, 1907. Catherine Mary Bills, born March 27, 1908 and married Alfred Bohman, son of Fred Bohman. They had six children: Alma, Alfreda, Mary Ann, Louis, Harold and Jean. Rose Bills, born February 5, 1911, married Clarence Bruns, son of John Bruns. They had one child, a son, Kenneth. *Mrs. Alvin Bills*



BILLS CENTURY OLD HOME

Henry and Anna Bills settled on land in Marion Township. It is located on Goettemoeller Road in St. Sebastian. They had 120 acres of land that they cleared and farmed. They went to St. Rose Church. They were laid to rest in St. Rose Cemetery. The farm was taken over by their son, Bernard Bills. Bernard and his wife Anna tore down the log house and built a brick home. Sand was taken out of their ditch to mix with the cement. Neighbors and family helped build the home. In later years, the parishes in the community were divided by a certain line. The Bills' farm was transferred to St. Sebastian Church. Bernard farmed the land until his son, Clem Bills, took over the farming. Bernard and Anna Bills were laid to rest in St. Sebastian Cemetery. Clem and Marie Bills farmed the 120 acres until his retirement.

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Their son, Alvin took over the land and still is farming it today.

Clem Bills married Marie Mueller, daughter of Anton and Elizabeth (Meyer) Mueller. Clem and Marie were married June 10, 1936 at St. Sebastian. They were the parents of seven children: (1) Dennis Bills, born February 26, 1937 and married Dorothy Bruns, daughter of George Bruns. They had three children. Randall, born January 13, 1960, Terry, born June 4, 1962, and Kathy born April 26, 1967. (2) Edgar Bills, born September 14, 1938 and married Judith Bruns, daughter of Ernest Bruns. They had four children: Gregg, born January 20, 1963, Lynne, born February 23, 1964, Todd, born June 23, 1965, Scott, born July 19, 1967. (3) Alvin Bills, born January 26, 1940 and married Madonna Brunswick, daughter of Norbert Brunswick. They had three children, Sandra, born July 4, 1964, Karen, born June 10, 1966 and Pamela, born June 27, 1968. (4) Rose Ann Bills, born October 11, 1941, married James Keller, son of Aloys Keller. They had four children. Brenda, born November 28, 1964, Christopher, born April 27, 1966, Brian, born June 23, 1968, Erin, born January 8, 1976. (5) Marilyn Bills, born March 21, 1944, married Richard Osterholt, son of Carl Osterholt. They had four children. Alan, born August 2, 1967, Jay, born November 9, 1969, Amy, born May 26, 1974 and Ryan, born November 15, 1978. (6) Thomas Bills, born December 20, 1946, married Diane Prenger, daughter of Leo Prenger. They had three children. Mitchell, born July 8, 1973, Theodore, born April 3, 1975, Carmen, born January 17, 1978. (7) Daniel Bills, born June 25, 1949, married Elizabeth Stelzer, daughter of Norbert Stelzer. They had two children. Jodi, born April 13, 1975, Mark, born September 14, 1977. *Mrs. Alvin Bills*

BOEKE FAMILIES

Working the farms was a way of life around Neuenkirchen in Hanover, Germany. And in Mercer County the earliest mark of Boeke ancestors is in the book of original entries for land from the U.S.A. by Bernard Boeke August 19, 1835. Title for eighty acres (north side of Rolfes Road) in section 23 of Marion Township was recorded March 15, 1837. Soon he was addressing some neighbors as "Sister" when the Maria Stein Convent was founded. An 1882 history names him among early pioneers in the beginnings of St. John Church.

Bernard's marriage to Elisabeth Knapke produced three sons who bore children. Bernard (II) who married Elisabeth Hagedorn had five children: Elisabeth — Mrs. Bernard Brunswick, Mary — Mrs. Clement Hausfeld, Catherine — Mrs. Henry Kuess, Frances — Mrs. John Schulte, and Henry (II), married to Rosa Hasselman. Daughters of Henry (I) who married Mary Kleinhenz were: Katherine — Mrs. Ben T. Post, and Mary — Mrs. Henry Brunswick. To Herman who married Catherine Elking were born nine: a third Bernard, who married Philomena Stein and Anna (Bruggeman) Severt, Elisabeth — Mrs. August Stelzer, a third Henry, married to Anna Hartings, Joseph, to Mary Dahlinghaus, John, to Amelia Dabbelt, Margaret — Mrs. Jacob Link, Fred, did not marry, Clement, became a priest and was named a Monsignor in the Cleveland Diocese, and one died in infancy.

Other families as well hand on Bernard's nam and his blood. His descendants from the female offspring to the fourth generation include the name Brunswick, Hausfeld, Kuess, Schulte, Post, Stelzer Link, Hoyng, Bills, Schmidt, Quinter, Platfoot, Bernard, Schoenherr, Warren, Kuhn, Thieman Wuebker, Hoying, Bornhorst, McDonald, Pennc Schwieterman, Kahlig, Tobe, Bergman, Franks, Graham, Wenning, Gottschall, David, Lochtefeld, Seger Hess. Meanwhile the fifth generation in giving birtl to the sixth, enriches baby by baby the variety o persons and names inheriting a share of the legac bestowed through the blood of this one immigran in the forest of Mercer County. To each one there i a lengthy inheritance before him to be remembered and there is also the heritage each leaves behind t linger after him. *Fr. Anselm Boeke, Coldwater, Oh.*

Bernard Hen. Böke and Elisabeth Hagedorn

BOKE

Laudatio. — This is dedicated to the Böke beginnings (1837) and especially to Joann Bernard and Maria Elisabeth Böke (Knapke) who had the good fortune to know the land first. They knew Saan Jaan (Saint John)-(1832) — Marion Township — Mercer County when the county was very young.

They came originally from Bohemia to the flat low lands and moors of Oldenburgisches Münsterland. They stayed for a millennium. Simple people, whose days were spent as farm serfs, then as landless peasants (Huermann) and in America as farmers. Though doing farm work, yet each, at times was teacher, woodman, carpenter, midwife, weaver, furrier, shoemaker, doctor, artist, writer, wheelright and sometimes a soldier. They had a respect for person, neighbor and marriage. A reverence for God, for excellence so profound that their survival indicates they did most things well. Their guide, as taken from the Low German Halberstaadt Bibel-1520.

De teen Geboode fon Gout.- Ik bin de Hiär, den Gout. Du schöäst keen froamde Goutte gägen mi hä abben. Du schöäst Gout sin Noam nich feruneeren. To anndeeran, dat du den Sabbat hilligest. Du schöä st Paate un Määme heeren, sodat et di goud gungt un du liäverst lange up de Aërde. Du schöäst nich dooden. Du schöäst nich utsittliek weesen. Du schöä st nich steelen. Du schöäst keen falsken Tunge recken jun den naober. Du schöäst nich ferloangen "tter'n froamd Wiif. Du schöäst nich ferloagen ätter froamd Hääbun Gout.

A closeness to nature and soil is inherent in our family's history: in my father's time, i.e. (1880-1921) Henry Fabian Boeke (Rosa Hasselman) and his father (1840-1913) Bernard Henry Böke (Elisabeth Hagedorn) and his father (1800-1857) Joaann Ben. Böke (Elisabeth Knapke) and again his father (1760-1803) John Hen. Böke (Anna Wiethe) and his father (1722-1789) John Henry wife Cath. Elis. Thaman and his father Jost (1686-17—) wife Aleth Wintzenberg

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ıd his father Cordt Böcke (1649-1706) wife Maria ·ünes and Engelbert Bäke (1615-1672) Anna Molkıstrodt from Records St. Bonafatius Church — euenkirchen Oldg.

As they left Europe, conditions were still largely fluenced by the survival of feudalism. Every detail fecting relationship of lord and tenant, i.e. location field etc. were affected by tradition in each vilge.

"Farmer", his image had come to mean a heredi·y peasant, ignorant, reactionary and ruled for all eas by the clergy and prince.

Upon entrance to Mercer County immigrants und freedom from political and social forms. Set·ers formed a society as they built their log cabins. ›ciety, was determined by the stage of industrial ·velopment attained and physical surroundings nid which they worked. In three centuries Mercer·untians came from different nations. Each coun·y, was in a different stage of social development, each immigrant brought the customs of the stage evailing at the time of his departure. We were sed by these varied traditions and customs into an nalgam differing from any or all of them, and then st this product into a mold of such an intricate and ıique pattern that no one is yet able to grasp or mprehend all the details.

Mercer County people will continue to "become".

ncent H. Boeke

·ph and ·abeth Kuess ıggeman nily (see also, ·e 831).

THE JOSEPH BRUGGEMAN FAMILY

Joseph Bruggeman and Elizabeth Kuess were mar·d in the 1800's. The Bruggeman family was from ›und the Cincinnati area and the Kuess family ıs from the Maria Stein area.

They lived on a farm south of Maria Stein for a ıile then moved into the town of Maria Stein.

Joseph worked as a caretaker of St. John's church d cemetery until his retirement.

They were the parents of fourteen children, of ıich nine lived. They were Anna (Langenkamp), ·rman, Catherine (Gerlach), Josephine (Dorsten), ·stina (Langenkamp), Leo, Henrietta (Selhorst), Edırd, and Odellia (Nieberding).

Frank and Anna Langenkamp lived in St. Henry, ıio. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Bruggeman and family ed on a farm at Cranberry Prairie, Ohio. Mr. and rs. Ben Gerlach and family lived on a farm at rkettsville, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Dorsten d family lived on a farm near Montezuma, Ohio. r. and Mrs. Leo Langenkamp and family lived on a ·m near North Star, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Leo uggeman and family lived in Coldwater, Ohio and ›rked at the New Idea. Nr. and Mrs. Charles Selhorst and family lived on a farm near Coldwater and later moved into the town of Coldwater. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bruggeman first lived in Coldwater then later moved to Maria Stein. He worked at Minster. Mrs. Odellia Nieberding was first married to Aloys Niekamp till he passed away. She later married Bill Nieberding and they lived in North Star where he was a barber.

Joseph Bruggeman had two brothers: John and Herman and one sister Kate (m. Imwalle). Elizabeth Kuess had two brothers: Henry and Karl. *Alfriedce or Betty Sanning*

ALPHONSE CLUNE CENTURY FARM

Alphonse Clune (June 28, 1910-Nov. 22, 1978) who was raised on his father's farm, left the farm for about six years when he married Agnes Prenger, who was born Sept. 11, 1916. He moved to a farm located in Shelby County, Section 19, which was owned by her father Bernard Prenger who was unable to farm because of ill health. When Casper's wife Anna decided to sell the Clune farm, Alphonse moved back to Chickasaw and purchased the farm from her in 1942. The farm where Alphonse now lives has been in the Clune Family name for 119 years. He was active in the community by serving on the school board for nine years. In 1955, he also purchased 132 acres in Shelby County in Section 19 which was previously owned by Bernard Prenger. This farm was turned over to his son Arnold Clune in 1963. More land was purchased by Alphonse Clune in 1957 which is located in Section 10 of Marion Township in the amount of 60 acres. This farm was turned over to John Clune, till he bought his present farm in Shelby County, he then turned this farm over to Ed Clune. He was also the father of eleven children.

Mary Ann, who died as an infant, Julianna, who is presently teaching in Gaithersburg, Maryland, where she lives with her husband, Charles Pax, and their family Christina, Nancy, and Joe. Janice, a former teacher, who married LeRoy Piekenbrock and they reside on a farm in St. Rose, Ohio with their four children — Karen, Mark, Dennis, and Brenda.

Lavern, who spent a good many years attending schools, until he obtained his Doctor's Degree in Physics. He is presently employed with a Company in Huntsville, Alabama as a Research Physicist. He, along with his wife Jane (Rinderle) and their four children Susan, Tom, Linda, and Andrew, live in Huntsville. Arnold moved to the Prenger farm, where his mother was born, when he married Patricia (Bergman) and he and his family Ronald, Alan, Angela, Jeremy, and Beverly still live in Minster, Ohio. He works as a carpenter for Braumer Construction and is also a part-time farmer. John, who is presently the owner of 2 farms in Shelby County, where he lives with his wife Marilyn (Ontrop) and their four children Annette, Michele, Terence, and Cynthia. One child, Denise, died at age 3 months. Richard presently is living in St. Henry with his wife Kathy (Laux) and their five children Pam, Jill, Jeff, Diane, and Kevin. He is employed as a machinist. Mary Kay was employed at Reynolds until she married Roger Hoying, a farmer. They live in Egypt on

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the Hoying Farm with their five children Rhonda, Eric, Ryan, Renee, and Scott. Ed, who is also a farmer, has taken over the milking and feeding chores on the home place, along with his younger brother, Randy. Ed lives on his own farm with his wife Patricia (Kahlig) and their two children Vikki and James. He and Randy also own another farm in Shelby County in partnership. Randy is employed at Zahn's Tool Co. as a machinist in addition to his farming chores. Deborah is presently employed at the Osgood State Bank as a teller and bookkeeper. She is married to Charles Riethman, a teacher, and they reside in a new home on a farm owned by his father, with their son, Keith. *Alphonse Clune*

CLUNE FAMILY

Arnold Clune came from Hanover, Germany to this country and settled in Mercer County, where he bought land from the government. He was one of the first settlers of Mercer County, when his family settled in Section 13 of Marion Township in 1828. Years later his three children followed him to America, their mother having died some years previously. The children were: Gerhard, Maximilian, and Bernadina.

Bernadina Clune married William Roeckner, who bought the farm from Arnold Clune.

Gerhard Clune (1827-1875) and his wife Bernadina Wabler (1838-1904) were both natives of Germany. He came to America when a young man and settled in Mercer County, purchasing a small farm of 40 acres in Marion Township, Section 10, in 1859. He was engaged in working on the canal in Auglaize County for a time, as well as managing the farm, to which he kept adding until at the time of his death at the age of 48 years, he owned 200 acres. They had 11 children: Frank, Mary, Barney, Bernadina, Joseph, Josephine, Casper, Henry, Elizabeth, Catherine, and Gerhard.

Casper Clune was born on this farm January 28, 1867. He was raised on his father's farm and assisted with the work until the time of his marriage at the age of 26 years. He bought the farm from his mother in 1893. The first house built on the Clune Farm was a log cabin in which Casper was born, and the six room house which they occupied was built by his father in 1871, who made his own brick and hewed his own timber. Mr. Clune remembered the time when the turnpike on which he lived was a plank road, and also when his father was obliged to carry his grain on his back through the woods and brush, to the mill at Piqua, Ohio. In the spring of 1906, Mr. Clune bought a partnership in the Chickasaw Grain & Milling Company.

Mr. Clune was married three times — first to Catherine Dabbelt (who had four children) Nora, Rose, Minnie, and John. He was married (second) to Josephine Schroeder, who died April 24, 1906. One child was born to this union, Joseph (died one year old). Mr. Clune was married (third) to Anna Ashman (1879-1953) a daughter of Henry Ashman, who resided at Cassella, Mercer County. They had ten children: Loretta (1907) who lived about 8 months, Herbert (1908-1967) married Martha Broerman, Alphonse (1910) married Agnes Prenger, Louis (Oct. 1912-Jan. 1913), Carl (1914-1971) married Bernadine Segar, Matilda (1916-1920) died in a barn fire, Lucille (1918) married Urban Dwenger, Mary Agn (1920) married Albert Puthoff, who died in 1959, r married to Urban Nerderman, Esther (1923) marri Henry Dietz, Luke (1926) married Irene Stammer *Alphonse Clune*

Aloys Strukamp, Theresa (Cron) Kir Jacob Cron, Groom; Ida (Lindhaus) Cr Bride

JACOB CRON

Ida Lindhaus daughter of Bernard and Mary (H man) Lindhaus. Jacob Cron son of John and Eliz beth (Boeckman) Cron.

Ida (born 9-12-1884 — died 1-3-1970) married J cob Cron (born 12-8-1878 — died 1-8-1917) August 30, 1904. They had five children. Jacob was blacksmith and they lived in Cassella for a fe years. They then moved to the farm that Ida's pa ents owned. Jacob was injured while helping build country road near their property. This left him wi a permanent injury to his hip and he died sudden on January 8, 1917 which was believed due to heart attack. Ida remained on the farm with her pa ents to raise her five young children.

Arnold (born 11-24-1905 — died 10-27-1965) ma ried Celia Buening on June 20, 1934. They mac their home with his Mother — Ida. Arnold was a insurance agent for 31 years. They had five childre Maurice — 5-29-1936, Carl — 1-1-1941, Janet 6-2 1942 — died 8-8-1942, Mary — 4-23-1944, and Le ter — 5-2-1947.

Odellia (born 12-4-1907) married Carl Brandew on June 15, 1932. They owned and farmed lan which had been in the Brandewie family since it w homesteaded. It was located in Auglaize Count near Egypt, Ohio. They had five children: Eugene - 4-21-1933, Jerrold — 6-21-1935, Mark — 12-17-193 Kenneth — 5-10-1941, and Timothy — 10-23-1945.

Alfred (born 5-24-1910 died 5-6-1966) marrie Caroline Poeppelman on May 30, 1942. Alfre served in the Air Force during World War II. Whe the war ended they settled in Boise, Idaho. H worked for the Idaho State Insurance Inspection Bu reau. They had five children: Alfred, Jr. — 3-2 1944, James — 9-24-1945, John — 2-17-1947, Car line — 3-4-1950 and Richard — 1955.

Florenz (born 5-18-1913) married Lucille Buehl on June 21, 1941. Florenz worked at Mersmans as skilled craftsman building cabinets. He later becam the Production Manager for the plant. They live i St. Henry, Ohio and had three children: Barbara - 1-22-1943, Robert — 12-22-1946, and Charles — 10-1952.

Hilda (born 2-2-1916) married Clarence Dues o June 18, 1938. They farmed and then went in par nership as owners of the Fox & Hess Feed Mill tha was located in Coldwater, Ohio. They then started new place of business and were co-owners of th

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Coldwater Meat Market. Their property is located a few miles East of Coldwater, Ohio. They had six children: Alvin — 4-5-1939, Charles — 7-28-1940, Margie — 3-22-1942, Patricia — 3-19-1945, Betty — -19-1945, and Mary — 6-18-1948. *Submitted by Dores Cron*

Front Row: Celia Cron, Mary Eyink, Arnold Cron. **Standing:** Carl Cron, Maurice Cron, Lester Cron.

CRON FAMILY

Arnold Cron son of Ida (Lindhaus) and Jacob Cron. Celia Buening daughter of Gerhard and Agnes (Overman) Buening.

Arnold (born 11-24-1905) — (died 10-27-1965) married Celia Buening (born 6-11-1912), on June 20, 1934. They had five children. Arnold and Celia made their home with his Mother, Ida Cron, which her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lindhaus, had settled and farmed. Arnold was an insurance agent for 31 years serving the Farm Bureau and Nationwide Insurance Companies. Arnold also served on the Mercer County School Board, and was the clerk for the Cassella Grade School. He was an active member of the St. Marys Nativity Catholic Church and a member of the choir for 40 years. He served on the Democratic Executive Committee and also a member of the Mercer County Fair Board. Arnold enjoyed sports very much and played with the Cassella Owls baseball team. He was always active in community, school, and church affaris as was his wife Celia. She was a 4-H leader for 15 years and as her hobby and part-time work, she bakes wedding cakes and paints trays.

Maurice, (born May 29, 1936) married Dolores Homan on September 28, 1957. They have five children: Joyce — 9-11-1958, Keith — 7-31-1959, Laura — 12-31-1960, Joseph — 10-27-1962 and Russell — 3-3-1965. Maurice graduated from St. John's high school in 1954. He served two years in the army. In 1957-1958 he played on the Cincinnati Reds farm team in Graceville, Florida. He received his insurance license in 1958 and serves the Nationwide Insurance Companies. He successfully completed and graduated the LUTC and CLU courses. He served on the council for the Village of Coldwater for two years and elected Mayor in 1972 and currently is serving his second term. He is also an active member of the Mercer County Democratic Party. Dolores is a CCD teacher and does secretarial work in the insurance office.

Carl (born 1-1-41 — first baby born in Mercer County in 1941) married Connie Winner on December 30, 1961. They have two children: Carla — 11-12-1962 and Chris — 3-31-1964. Carl graduated from Marion Local high school in 1958. Attended University of Dayton — September 1958-January 1961 and received an associate degree in Chemical Technology. Attended Ohio State University September 1966-June 1972 and received Bachelor of Metallurgical Engineering and Master of Science in Metallurgical Engineering. He is employed by Union Oil Company of California, Research Department, Brea, California. Connie is employed at Green Valley Preschool and they reside in Placentia, Cal.

Janet (born 6-28-42 — died 8-8-42)

Mary (born — 4-23-44) married Ernest Eyink on May 14, 1966. They have five children: Ronald (5-14-67), Janet (5-24-69), Karen (3-4-72), Tony (3-11-74), and Julie (10-27-76). Mary graduated from Marion Local High school in 1962 and from the University of Dayton in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science degree in education. She taught in the Coldwater Exempted Village School district and in the Marion Local School district. She is now the CCD principal of Holy Redeemer parish in New Bremen, Ohio, where they now reside. Ernest is employed at Minster Machine as a computer graphics engineer.

Lester (born 5-2-1947) married Judy Marchal on July 30, 1971. They have one child. Holly Lee born 10-9-1976. Lester graduated from Marion Local high school in 1965. He attended DeVry Institute of Technology and received an Associate Degree in electrical engineering in 1967. Attended Ohio State University from 1972-1976, graduating with a civil engineering degree. He is presently employed at Ranco Controls in Columbus, Ohio as a project engineer, automotive division. Judy is employed as a para-legal with the U.S. Attorney's office. They reside in Columbus, Ohio. *Maurice Cron*

DABBELT FAMILY

The Dabbelt family in Mercer County all descend from twin brothers Johann Bernard and Johann Heinrich Dabbelt, who were born on August 20, 1812 in Ascheberg, Westfalen, Germany of Jean Gerhard and Maria Elizabeth Schulze-Heiling. The Dabbelt family dates back to 1280 when Heinrich von Dachbolding found himself no longer a knight in service at Westerwinkel because of the sale of the estate. Through the years property is bought and brought by marriage until in 1660 Christof Stoffer Dabbelt and his wife are given clear title to the land that is now the Dabbelt farm at Ascheberg. Due to the German custom of the husband assuming the surname of the wealthier wife, the name Dabbelt was assumed three times from 1659-1767.

As Bernard and Heinrich were not the oldest sons, they would not inherit any land in Germany and America looked like the Land of Promise to them.

In 1851 Heinrich came to this country and in 1853 married Bernadina Kneilman, settling at St. Rose in Marion Township. They had six children: Anna (married John Sickman), Bernadina (married John Graeff), Frank (married Frances Huelskamp and left the only male descendants of this line with the Dabbelt name at Dayton, Ohio), Hubert (married Elizabeth Dwenger), Mary (married Joseph Brockman), and Rosina (married Lawrence Wint).

Johann Bernard waited until 1857 to come to America and Mercer County. With him came his children of his first wife, Maria Sybilla Pötter, who were Gerhard, Hubert, Anna, and Elizabeth and, his second wife Gertrude Schulze Cappelle and children Ignatz and Amalia. Two sons were born at St. Sebastian, Henry and August.

Land was purchased east of St. Sebastian in Franklin Twp. in 1859 and added to in 1865.

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The children of Johann Bernard married in time and as was common, were very prolific. In fact, much more so than the family left in Germany.

Gerhard (1841-1872) married Catherine Wellman. Children were Anna (married Gerhard Muhlenkamp), Catherine (married Bernard Schencking), Rosena (married Henry Mathias Winkeljohn), and Gerhard (married Mary Nieport).

Due to Gerhard's early death, Hubert (1843-1906) inherited the family farm upon Bernard's death in 1874. He married Rosina Lindhaus and their children were: Bernard (married Mary Hanfelder), Henry (married Christina Heyne), Catherine (married Casper Clune), Frank (married Mary Schwieterman), John, Aloys (married Agnes Schwieterman), and Caroline.

Anna (1845-1881) married John Niekamp. Children were Catherine (married 1. Henry Severt, 2. Peter Weber, 3. Joseph Piekenbrock), Gerhard (married Philomena Broeker) and Frances (married Gerhard Wolters).

Elizabeth and Henry died in childhood and are buried at St. Sebastian.

Ignatz (1855-1937) married 1. Caroline Koch and 2. Catherine Roster. Children of his first marriage were: Amelia (married John Boeke), Louis (married Margaret B. Schneider), Joseph, Rose (married Elmer Clark), Elizabeth (married 1. Charles Heck 2. Theodore Zerhe), Philomena, Ida (married Richard Pflaum). Children of his second marriage were Catherine, Margaret and Leander (married Margaret Mersman).

Amalia (1857-1937) married Henry Dorsten. Their children were Edward (married Josephine Hein), Charles (married Emma Klosterman), Matilda (married Bernard Borgert), George (married 1. Miss Boskin 2. Helen Link), Elizabeth, Ida (married August Klosterman), and Theodore (married Loretta Kohnen).

August (1862-1945) married Caroline Eyink and their two children were Anthony (married Clara Payne) and Mary (married Henry Froning.

The descendants of the above Dabbelts now are in the fourth generation. A good many have lived and died in Mercer County but many have left here and spread out over Ohio and the country. They have been farmers, lawyers, teachers, nurses, and many other professions but most of all they have fulfilled the dreams of their progenitors who came to this country to have a chance at the Land of Promise. *Lee Dabbelt*

ANTON DeCURTINS

Anton DeCurtins came from Canton Graubunden, Switzerland, about 1849 to Cincinnati where he was engaged as an architect and organ builder. His wife, Mary Kemper, and three children, Henry, John and Clara arrived with him in this country. He lived in Wapakoneta and Chickasaw but settled at Carthagena. Five more children, Agnes, Frank, Bernard, Andrew, Reinhard Anton and Mary Bernadine were born and baptized as members of the St. Aloysius parish which Anton and Mary helped found in 1865. The DeCurtins are a significant family because their architectural and decorating talents are still displayed in numerous Catholic churches and ecclesiastical structures all over Ohio but particularly i Mercer County. They often built two churches year apart for a community as increased membershi created a need for a larger building. For over 9 years they built and decorated Catholic churches Anton, the father; John Rudolph and Andrew, th sons; and Fred, the grandson, were architects Agnes, Tony and Frank were church painters an interior woodworkers. The family also built pew and organs.

John, born at Wapak, moved to Carthagena an married Elizabeth Mestemaker in 1887. Their so Frederick was born in 1888 and Elizabeth died on week after her son's baptism. John died in 1898 afte suffering a railway accident in Coldwater durin plans for that church construction. Agnes studie music at the Conservatory in Cincinnati. Frank studied architecture in Munich, Germany; while Andrew studied architecture in Milwaukee.

Some of the church parishes where the DeCurtins family built two structures include St. Joseph at Wapakoneta, St. Henry, Coldwater, Sebastian, Celina and Sharpsburg. The present edifices at St. Rose, Cranberry Prairie, Carthagena, St. Anthony, St. John Maria Stein, St. Joe, St. Aloysius, Trinity, Indiana, are also DeCurtins masterpieces. The 1892 convent and chapel at Maria Stein, the seminary chapel at Carthagena, many of the rectories, Celina I.C. schools, St. Henry, Chickasaw and Trinity schools and the destroyed novitiate chapel and demolished Ft. Recovery church all were built by the DeCurtins.

Later Andrew and Fred worked on other buildings than churches. Andrew built the Argonne Hotel in Lima and the now razed Winkeljohn house in Celina. Fred constructed the Mercer county jail, Gibbons Hospital, and several residences in Auglaize and Mercer county.

FRANK DIRKSEN

Frank Dirksen (1874-1957) was born and raised in Minster, Ohio. He taught school for many years in Mercer and surrounding counties. His last teaching assignment was in Philothea, Ohio after which he purchased a farm on Mercer-Darke county line near Osgood where he remained until his death. The farm is still being operated by his grandson, Paul Dirksen.

Frank married Wilhelmina Otte (1873-1948) also from Minster, Ohio. She was born in Neumkerchin, Germany having arrived in the United States at the age of seven. They had seven sons: Clarence, Aloys, Linus, Cletus, August and Richard. Two sons died in infancy, Cletus, buried in Egypt, Ohio and Virgil, buried in Osgood, Ohio.

The original farm buildings were nearly totally destroyed by fire in October, 1932. The only buildings saved were a chicken house and part of the house which was then called the summer kitchen. The fire was believed to have started from sparks of a tractor they were using to grind feed in the barn. Sparks ignited a straw pile near the barn and all attempts to save the farmstead proved futile. Frank and his wife and their son August, were then the only ones living at home and were housed at relatives until construction was completed within the following year. A few dairy animals were saved and

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ese were brought to the neighboring farm of their ın, Linus.

Clarence Dirksen (1900-) the first born son, was ɔrn in Egypt, Ohio and married Philomenia Hoan in 1923. They reside on a farm on the Casella-lontezuma Road and have operated this farm since eir marriage. They are the parents of nine chil-en: Herbert, Rita, Alma, Helen, Esther, Joan, ɔuis, Dennis, and Ruth.

Herbert is married to the former Mary Fisher and ey have nine children: Irene, Kathy, Ann, Jane, largie, Joan, Beth, Linda, Kenny, and one son is de-ased. They reside in Uvalde, Texas where they rm.

Rita is married to Ed Evers and they have six chil-en: Jerry, Carolyn, Dale, David, Danny and ancy. They reside on a farm near Burkettsville, hio.

Alma is married to Ernest Schmitmeyer and they ıve ten children: John, Patrick, Joseph, Robert, arilyn, Ann, Lois, Jean, Linda and Steve. They re-de on a farm near Cranberry, Ohio.

Helen is married to George Wenning and they ıve three children: Tom, Carol and Robbie. They side in Maria Stein, where George is a veternarian.

Esther is married to Orville Winner and they have ‹ children: Mary Kay, Alan, Jane, Ted, Kate, and y. They reside on a farm near McCartyville, Ohio.

Joan is married to John Poeppelman and they ıve four sons: Steve, Nick, Joe and John. One ıughter is deceased.

Louis is married to the former Marcella Brandewie ıd they have six children: Diane, Bob, Matt, Dan, in and Alan. One son is deceased. They reside on farm near Yancy, Texas.

Dennis is married to the former Judy Sanders and ey have four children: Tony, Kay, Kelly and aren. They reside on a farm near Casella, where larence began farming.

Ruth married Marvin Evers and they have six ıildren: Carol, Mary, Connie, Kevin, Susan and uane. They reside on a farm near Carthagena.

Aloys Dirksen (1901-1967) the second son of ank, was born in Egypt, Ohio. He was ordained in e priesthood in 1926 in the Society of the Precious ood. He did some pastoral work and was pastor of Rose church in Mercer County for several years. is priesthood was almost entirely devoted to teach-g. He taught at Notre Dame, St. Gregory's Semi-ary, St. Charles Seminary and St. Joseph College here he was president for several years.

Linus Dirksen (1903-) was born in Egypt, Ohio. In ɔ30 he married Amelia Ahrens and settled on a rm on Mercer-Darke county line near Osgood, hio. They have five children: Mary, Bertha, Dick, rry and Martha.

Mary is married to Roman Peterman and they ıve five children: Mike, Robert, Jim, Carolyn, and ı. They reside in Dayton, Ohio.

The second daughter Bertha also lives in Dayton, hio.

Dick is married to the former Margie Post and ey have five daughters: Sue, Carla, Paula, Angela, ıd Carol. They reside on a farm near Osgood.

Jerry is married to Becky Heitman and they have ree daughters; Michelle, Stacy and Amy. They vn and operate Cottonwood Lake near Yorkshire, hio.

Martha is married to Charles Niccum and they have four children: Cheryl, John, Tom and Andy. They reside near Muncie, Indiana.

Cletus Dirksen (1907-1972) born in Montezuma, Ohio and was ordained in the priesthood in 1932 in the Society of the Precious Blood. He served in pastoral work but spent most of his priesthood as teacher, most recently at St. Joseph College, Rennsalaer, Indiana.

August Dirksen (1900-1972) was born in Philothea, Ohio. He married Henrietta Stucke in 1934 and they had four children: Don, Paul, Carl and Barbara. They resided on the farm that Frank originally settled.

Don married Geraldine Blum and they have two daughters: Cindy and Maribeth. He died on Thanksgiving Day, 1975 in Wilmette, Illinois where his family still reside.

Paul married Margie Pleiman and they have five children: Teresa, Tom, Julie, Janice and Jim. They reside on a farm on Mercer-Darke county line near Osgood.

Carl is married to the former Mary Stelzer and they have two sons: David and Dan. They reside in Celina, Ohio.

Barbara is married to Jack Gels and they have three daughters: Lisa, Jennifer and Angela. They reside in Englewood, Ohio.

Richard Dirksen (1912-1972) born in Philothea, Ohio and was ordained in the priesthood in 1940 in the Society of the Precious Blood. During his priesthood he served almost entirely as chaplain of various hospitals. At the time of his death he was serving as chaplain at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. *Mrs. Paul Dirksen*

Front Row: Kimberly Theresa, Patricia Ann, Roger Leo Dorsten. **Middle Row:** Kelley Jo, Peggy Ann, Jane Lynn. **Back Row:** Ronald Edward, Jeffrey Roger.

ROGER AND PATRICIA (STAMMEN) DORSTEN

Roger is the son of Margaret and George Dorsten. Roger was born at North Star, Ohio, in Darke County. He has two sisters and one brother. He married Patricia Stammen on October 1, 1955. Roger is a skilled carpenter and employed at Schnippel Construction at Botkins.

7-26-56

They have six children. Jeffrey is a student at Bowling Green State University. He is majoring in Music Education. The fall of 1978, he participated in the B.G.S.U. Marching Band. He is also a member of the Symphonic Band and belongs to the KKY Fraternity. Jeff has gotten many awards in music, one of which is the John Philip Sousa Award.

9-7-57

Jane is employed at Celina Group Insurance as a secretary. She has also attended W.O.B.C. She was

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secretary for Joyce Muhlenkamp, instructor of office administration at W.O.B.C.

3-11-59

Ronald is attending W.O.B.C. and is majoring in business. He also works in the W.O.B.C. library and also is working at Penny's Department Store in Celina. This past year he was King and his girlfriend Queen of the Valentine Sweetheart Dance. He is active in basketball at W.O.B.C. and is in the Student Senate.

9-2-60

Peggy will graduate this year from St. Henry High School. She is active in Intensive Office Education. During her Freshman and Sophomore years, she was majorette and head majorette consecutively. She is also working part time for William and Cheryl Mustard, owners of Kremer's Restaurant in Coldwater, Ohio.

10-17-63

Kelly is a Freshman at St. Henry High School. She is a member of the high school band. She also works at the Carousel Ballroom.

12-23-67

Kimberly is attending St. Henry Grade School.

Mrs. Pat Dorsten, Carthagena, Oh.

THE ANDREW A. DROESCH FAMILY

Andrew Aloys Droesch married Rosemary Alice (Limbert) Droesch, May 5, 1956. They live in Chickasaw, are members of Precious Blood Catholic Church and have two sons, Michael Lynn and Timothy Lee. Andrew works at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., St. Marys, Ohio and is a member of the village council of Chickasaw. Andrew served in the army during the Korean War from Nov. 9, 1950 to Aug. 7, 1952. He was a corporal in the 765th Transportation Railway Shop Battalion.

Michael is a graduate of Marion Local High School and has an associate degree from ITT Technical School, Dayton, Ohio in Architecture. He works in Dayton for a construction company. Timothy is a Senior in Marion Local High School.

Andrew is the youngest son of Lorenz Droesch (born 8/28/1874, died 8/10/1958) and Elizabeth (Bruggeman) Droesch (born 11/26/1894, died 10/13/1952). His paternal grandparents were August Droesch (born 8/26/1840, died 11/26/1892) and Elizabeth (Lochtefeld) Droesch (born 8/4/1844, died 12/10/1916) and great grandparents Xavier Droesch, (born in Fischbach, Germany, in 1807, died 2/27/1867), whose passport was issued from Freiburg Land Office, Germany on May 27, 1846 along with six children, his wife Judith (Haas) Droesch (born 1809, died Good Friday 4/13/1884). They went to Wolfscreek and later on Feb. 8, 1847 bought land in Marion Township 1 mi. south of Chickasaw. Also great grandparents Henry M. Lochtefeld came to U.S. at age 18 with his parents; (died 4/11/1882) and his wife Bernadine (Greshoff) Lochtefeld and great, great grandparents Melchior Lochtefeld (died 11/5/1855) and Elizabeth Lochtefeld (died 9/30/1855). Melchior, Elizabeth, and Henry came to U.S. in 1833.

Andrew's maternal grandparents Henry Bruggeman (born 9/28/1846, died 11/24/1924) came from Anhouser, Germany at age 18 to avoid being draft in Kaisers' Army. He married at age 46 and had children. He had a small farm, worked at the t yard in Maria Stein and delivered mail with a buc board. He married Bernadine (Broerman) Brugg man (born 9/15/1863, died 12/5/1932) she can from Hamburg, Germany.

Rosemary graduated from St. Joseph High Schoc Wapakoneta, Ohio; took nurses training in Lima ar is an L.P.N. She is the daughter of Alvin M. Limbe (born 12/31/1902) and Mary M. (Brown) Limbe (born 9/16/1904). They live in Botkins, Ohio. Alvi was a B. & O. Railroad man for thirty-seven year Her paternal grandparents were John A. Limbe (born 1/14/1875, died 7/8/1955) and Margare (Schnieder) Limbert (born 5/31/1880, died 11/1 1962). They were farmers who lived in Fryburg Ohio. Her great grandparents were George T. Lim bert (born 5/10/1840, died 11/25/1912) and Cathe ine (Ruppert) Limbert (born 9/19/1839, died 11/1 1912). George was in the army in 1861 and late served the township as Justice of the Peace and Trea surer. Great, great grandparents John Limbert (bor 1795) came from Bavaria, Germany in 1833 (die 1/26/1886) and his wife (died 2/26/1870). Grea grandparents Mathias Schnieder (born 1847, die 1906) and Mary (Schnippel) Schnieder (born 185 died 1930). Great, great grandparents Gedogiu Schnieder (born 5/10/1808, died 8/17/1888) an Helena (Caslden) Schnieder (died 2/24/1902) an Henry Schnippel and Florantinna (Reinke) Schnip pel (born 11/12/1831, died 5/26/1910) who cam from Germany.

Rosemary's maternal grandparents were Ferdi nand O. Brown Sr. (born 10/8/1877, died 7/27 1957) and Philomenia (Metzger) Brown (born 5/30 1877, died 12/27/1945). They lived three miles eas of Wapakoneta, Ohio. Ferd was a potato and Polan China hog farmer. Great grandparents were Joh Brown (born 11/21/1843, died 6/8/1908) and Otild (Meier) Brown (born 5/25/1844, died 5/9/1910) an Charles Metzger (born 1848, died 1914) and Barbar (Kirstein) Metzger (born 1851, died 1911) who cam from Germany. Great, great grandparents wer George Brown Sr. (born 3/13/1806) came from Se ebagh, Germany, (died 10/31/1880), and his wif Maria Barbara (Hinskey) Brown (born 6/11/1814) who came from Isungheim, Grohsherzogthum, Ba den, Germany; (died 9/25/1884). Anton Meier (bor 11/3/1828, died 8/28/1890) and his wife Barbar (Roth) Meier (born 2/6/1811, died 7/10/1889). Jacob Fredrick Metzger (born 9/18/1807, died 6/22/1888 and his wife Susan (Bobb) Metzger (died 4/8/1902).

Andrew and Rosemary Droesch

ANTHONY JOHN DROESCH

Anthony J. Droesch was a prominent businessman in the village of Chickasaw, Ohio and the last postmaster of the village. He was a life long member of Precious Blood Parish and the first custodian of the newly erected church in 1967.

Born October 30, 1925, to Lorenz and Elizebeth Bruggeman Droesch, he was raised on the Droesch homestead, 1 mile south of Chickasaw on Droesch Road just off of St. Rt. 716. This homestead was pur-

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ased from a 2000 acre plot of land, by his great-andfather, Xavior Droesch. Anthony was one of n children born to Lorenz and Elizebeth Brugge-an Droesch and the third of six children by his cond wife.

At age 25, Anthony and his two brothers, Andrew id Bernard worked the land. During that time, An-ony also worked at Goodyear Tire and Rubber ., over a period of fifteen years. Following this, he aintained a position as postmaster of the village of ickasaw; however, this lasted only one year and nthony was Chickasaw's last postmaster. The Pos-ffice was located in the back corner of a grocery ore, later moved to the rear of the Hardware Store. e was employed for three years in Celina as a stal clerk and mail carrier. In January of 1967, ny became the proprietor of a small engine sales id service business; complete with a sharpening rvice. It served patrons in three surrounding coun-es. In 1971, Tony and his wife, Mary, were em-oyed at Crown Control, Corp. in New Bremen for number of years, and continued to maintain their pair business on a part-time basis.

On August 25, 1956, Anthony and Mary B. Behr ere married at Holy Angels Church, Sidney helby Co.) Ohio. Mary was the only daughter of lathias G. and Emma B. Schwartz Behr of Franklin wp. Shelby Co. Mary's six brothers were; Marcel, 926; Jerome, 1929; Cyril, 1931; David, 1936; Vilfred, 1940; and Joseph, 1942. Mary was born in 934.

Mathias earned his living as a farmer and reared is family on the former Baker farm, on Sidney-ryburg road, for more than 30 years, passing away the age of 78. He was the fifth of nine children of lbert and Christine Cariety Behr from McClain wp. Shelby Co.

Emma Schwartz Behr was the daughter of Henry nd Cecelia Leisner Schwartz. She was born in 1900 ie eldest of six children; three daughters and three ons. She was reared in Franklin Twp., Shelby Co. nd a grand-daughter to Herman and Bernadine Da-ials Leisner, Minster Ohio. Two years after their arriage Anthony and Mary purchased Lots 29 and 0 of the Seitz Addition, Chickasaw. In 1900-1922 eir home was occupied by Bada Kramer, station laster of the C.H.&D. Railroad.

Here they established their home and nine years ter their Business in their 20' x 30' garage. In 1973 ony built a 16x30 addition to the garage to accom-odate the business that now found him repairing nd sharpening 12-27 hrs. a week the year around.

Their marriage was blessed with four daughters nd two sons. Dona Marie 1957; Cinda 1958; Bonnie 961; Larry John 1964; Zita Kay 1967; and Kevin Jo-eph 1975.

Dona has since ventured to the city from this nall village to pursue a career as a commercial Art-t. Many copies and original drawings, oil and water olor paintings adorn the walls in the home of her arents. Cinda, a graduate of Marion local High chool, as is Dona, has a career of Secretary, Book-eeper and future Homemaker. While Bonnie, Larry nd Zita strive to complete their education at Mar-on Local High and Elementary School. *Anthony John roesch*

BERNARD & LUCILLE DROESCH

Bernard Droesch, his wife, Lucille (Ranly) and family live at 7931 Droesch Rd. on a farm one mile south of Chickasaw, Ohio in Marion Township that was homesteaded by his great-grandfather in the year 1846.

At the age of 39, Xavier Droesch, born in Fischbach, Germany in 1807, his wife Judith (Haas), (b. 1809-d. Apr. 13, 1884), their six children, Carolina (b. Feb. 7, 1832), Peter (b. June 17, 1833), Kunigunda (b. Mar. 2, 1835-d. July 21, 1918), George (b. Apr. 15, 1839), Augustinus (b. Aug. 26, 1840-d. Nov. 26, 1892), Pius (b. May 6, 1845-d. at sea in 1846), (another son Englebert was born after they arrived in Ohio), and Xavier's mother left Germany May 27, 1846 to travel to the North American state of Ohio to settle with his family (as quoted from the copy of the passport in the possession of the family). The passport was granted at Frieburg in the grand Duchy of Baden.

They first stopped at Wolfcreek, Ohio then later moved to this farm containing 40 acres that was transferred to Xavier on Feb. 8, 1847. An additional 40 acres were transferred Mar. 10, 1852. This was some of the 2000 acres belonging to the heirs of John Randolph of Virginia who had bought this land in 1846 for his 318 freed slaves. These slaves never reached their destination so in time this land was sold to these mostly German immigrants arriving in this area.

The raging cholera epidemic of 1849 took the lives of Xavier's mother, Carolina, George, and Peter. Pius had been buried at sea.

Kunigunda never married so lived on the home place until she died in 1918. Some of the older relatives remember many of the stories she told of her family's life. She told about the time the family was waiting out the quarantine in New York. They were living under a bridge and someone stole all of the belongings they were able to bring with them. Xavier was a wood worker as well a farmer and she told how very busy he was making coffins to bury the cholera victims including the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Maria Stein.

Only August and Englebert remained to marry and carry on the Droesch name. August married Elizabeth Lochtefeld in 1864. Englebert married Philomena Elking June 2, 1870 and she died Aug. 25, 1877. He then married Frances Rose Stein May 14, 1878. He was the father of 11 children. His son Caspar married Lola Hill in Merced, California. Englebert went there for an extended visit and died there July 15, 1912.

August's wife Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry and Bernadine (Greshoff) Lochtefeld. Henry came from Germany in about the year 1833 with his parents Melchior (b. 1790-d. Nov. 5, 1855) and Elizabeth (b. 1785-d. Sept. 30, 1855). August and his wife were next to run the farm. They were the parents of 11 children. Elizabeth (b. June 30, 1865) married Peter Weber in 1890 and died 2 years later Nov. 26, 1892. Carolina (b. Mar. 1867) married John Kramer June 21, 1898 and died Aug. 28, 1966. Twins, Mary and Catherine (died at birth Feb. 2, 1869). Henry (b. Dec. 2, 1870) married Elizabeth Hausfeld in 1895,

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and died May 6, 1916. Englebert (b. Feb. 4, 1872) married Elizabeth Barnhart June 25, 1900 and died Jan. 1946. Lorenz (b. Aug. 28, 1874-d. Aug. 10, 1958). August (b. Aug. 6, 1876) married Catherine Vondrell Oct. 29, 1907 and died Oct. 6, 1973. Philomena (b. Jan. 16, 1879) married Bernard Froning Aug. 7, 1901 and died Aug. 1931. Frances (b. Jan. 5, 1881-d. Aug. 1, 1967), and John (b. July 25, 1883-d. Mar. 21, 1945). Frances and John never married.

LORENZ DROESCH

Lorenz took possession of the farm after August. He married Agnes Reichert Nov. 8, 1905. Mary, the first of their 5 children died at birth. Camillus (b. July 15, 1907) married Dorothy Rosenbeck May 2, 1933 and she died July 3, 1974. Mathilda (b. Feb. 7, 1909) married Raymond Rutchilling May 6, 1940. Joseph (b. Aug. 25, 1910) married Leona Rosenbeck Oct. 22, 1935. Monica (b. Jan. 3, 1912) married Andrew Schoen Oct. 22, 1935. Agnes died Sept. 20, 1914.

Lorenz remarried on Feb. 12, 1919 to Elizabeth Bruggeman (b. Nov. 26, 1894-d. Oct. 13, 1952). She was the daughter of Henry (b. Sept. 28, 1846-d. Nov. 24, 1924) and Bernadine Broerman (b. Sept. 15, 1853-d. Dec. 5, 1932). Both were born in Germany. Henry came to USA at the age of 18 to avoid getting drafted into the Kaiser's Army.

Lorenz and Elizabeth's children were Mary (b. and d. June 18, 1920). Bernard (b. July 3, 1922) married Lucille Ranly Oct. 9, 1946. Cecelia (b. May 21, 1924) married Donald Gerdeman April 15, 1961. Anthony (b. Oct. 30, 1925) married Mary Behr Aug. 25, 1956. Andrew (b. Nov. 29, 1927) married Rose Mary Limbert May 5, 1956. Rosa Anna (b. Dec. 13, 1931) married Robert Mox Oct. 1, 1960 and Barbara (b. Sept. 18, 1933) married Leon DeBrosse June 1, 1957. He died Sept. 26, 1963, then she married Donald Heitz July 24, 1965.

When Lorenz was unable to farm any longer his three sons, Bernard, Anthony and Andrew took over from 1950 to 1958.

In Dec. 1958 Bernard and Lucille (Ranly) assumed ownership. Lucille was born to Peter and Sophia (Speck) Ranly in Cassella, Ohio on Aug. 6, 1923. They were married in nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church there, then came to Chickasaw and have spent their entire married lives here being members of Precious Blood parish, Chickasaw. Their children are Helen Ann (b. July 27, 1947), Mary Ellen (b. July 19, 1948), Bernice (b. July 25, 1954-d. July 27, 1954), Thelma (b. Feb. 23, 1957), Jane (b. Dec. 21, 1958), and Donald (b. June 13, 1961).

Helen Ann married Robert E. Uhlenhake of St. Henry on May 11, 1968 and they reside with their three children Diane (b. Nov. 14, 1970), Beverly (b. July 14, 1972), and Greg (b. Feb. 14, 1974) near St. Henry.

Mary Ellen married Michael Osterholt of Philothea Apr. 12, 1969. They and their three children, Joseph (b. June 13, 1970), Thomas (b. Oct. 16, 1971), and Ronald (b. Aug. 31, 1974) live on Droesch Rd., Maria Stein.

Thelma married Martin Topp of Chickasaw Oct. 22, 1977 and they reside there with one son, Adam (b. Apr. 20, 1978).

Bernard still farms the now 100 acre farm anc also an employee of Marion Local School where has driven a school bus for 15 years and is sch bus maintenance supervisor. He served in the L Army Signal Corps during W.W. II spending months in India in the 3105th Signal Service Batt ion.

Charles Eifert Family — **Top Row:** Harry McClintock, Mrs. (Irr McClintock, Lee Eifert, Mrs. Lee Eifert. **Second Row:** Mrs. Alf Eifert, Mrs. Georgiana Wint, Ferd Wint, Mrs. Amanda Bonr John Bonner, Mrs. Oscar Eifert. **Lower Row:** Alfred Eifert, Chai Eifert, Mrs. Charles Eifert, Oscar Eifert.

THE EIFERT FAMILY

Michael Eifert sailed with his family via sailbo from his home in (Baden) Bavaria, Germany, to th country in the year of 1835. At this time there we two sons, Victor and Ferdiand, and one daught Martha, besides his wife, Elizabeth (Nau).

The voyage over to this country was quite a ve ture, in that it consumed 82 days. They were bes by many days of complete calm weather, and mai days of extreme adverse winds. When they arrive somewhere along the Eastern coast of America, the supplies completely exhausted.

After many hardships, they finally settled in Knc county, county seat of Danville, Ohio, there, a so Joseph was born, also two daughters Mary (Klei henz) and Catherine (Harlett). This particular loc tion of settlement was probably chosen throug means of a land grant from Federal government.

Seemingly, the ground and land at this locatic was not very productive, and two sons of Micha Eifert, (Victor and Joseph) later moved to Merc County, near St. Joe, Ohio.

Joseph (my grandfather) purchased 40 acres land, completely covered with timber, east of St. Jc Community. After clearing a small area, he built two room cabin, which is the location of the preser homestead. Since the area was not tillable and crop could not be grown until the land was cleared, Jc seph Eifert worked either as a carpenter or mason t earn his living. He worked in Minster, Ohio, cor structing St. Augustine Church, (the first church i Mercer County) (now Auglaize County). He walke from St. Joe to Minster each Monday morning, an returned each Saturday noon to his home in St. Jo a distance of 20 miles.

During the Civil War (1860-1865) Joseph Eifer was asked to report for induction into military serv ice, in Lima, Ohio. He walked from his home, an when he arrived, he suffered what was considered heart attack. He was not accepted into the servic and returned home. *(He walked)*

Joseph Eifert married Sophia (Weiss) Septembe 27, 1864 and they had nine children, six boys an three girls. The oldest son was Charles Eifert (my fa

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her). He helped his father Joseph clear the fields of imber and stumps, and at the age of 22 left the farm o go to Maria Stein to help John Fleck (a veterna- ian) in breeding horses. There he met Katherine leck, whom he married on February 1, 1893 and hey had six children Amanda (Bonner), Gerogiana Wint), Irma (McClintock), Alfred, Lee, and me (Os- ar).

When John Fleck died my father started a cream- ry in Maria Stein Station and also owned a hoop actory. The site of the latter was purchased by the lew Idea Spreader Works and the creamery was old to the White Mountain Creamery (Beatrice ow) and he then was a cream driver until he died. My mother also ran a hotel while the St. John Church was built and boarded the many workers of his project.

I (myself) grew up in Maria Stein, after high chool graduation studied music at St. Francis Col- ege, Wisconsin and College of Music Chicago and lecided to become a teacher, studied at Bowling Green State University. I taught the first two years n Dahlinghaus School and then came to Cassella, where I married Adella Bruns June 5, 1934 and three hildren were born to our family. Don, who lives in Dayton, Pat (Mastrangelo) Tuscon, Arizona, and Mary Jane (Brinck) in Centerville, Ohio. We now ave thirteen grandchildren.

After having taught forty years in Mercer County nd having been organist for forty five years I re- ired from teaching in 1971. *Oscar Eifert*

ay Feltz Family — **Standing:** John; Paul; Jerome; Ray, Jr.; Ron; nd Ray, Sr. **Seated:** Mary Ann, Eileen, Pauline, Kathy and Olive.

RAYMOND J. FELTZ FAMILY

Raymond, born August 27, 1906, son of Frank eltz, attended the Cassella Grade School. He vorked in the family blacksmith shop and among he area farmers until 1923 when he started to work t Mersmans in Celina. In 1925 he worked on the ite. Rte. 119 highway construction west of St. Henry. He married Olive Bensman on November 12, 929, and they lived in Celina until 1935 when they noved to Cassella. He was employed at New Idea, Coldwater from 1937 to 1947, and then due to labor rouble he went to Pax Steel and Beauty shades until 961. From 1961 until his retirement in 1971 he was mployed by S. & K. Metal Products, Coldwater. Ol- ve died on January 14, 1976. Their nine children all graduated from St. John or Marion Local High chool:

John — born February 11, 1931, served four years n the Air Force, and then graduated from Ohio State with a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and is the Director of Electronic Warfare Center of Systems Research Laboratories, Dayton, Ohio. He and his wife, Cynthia (Hyre) and their sons John and Andrew live in Fairborn, Ohio.

Mary Ann — born September 29, 1932, married Richard Gray, foreman in the finishing room at Mersmans, Celina. Mary Ann is employed at Reynolds and Reynolds, Celina. They live in Celina with their children Richard, Kevin, Kyle, and Renee.

Eileen — born June 27, 1934, married Peter Slivinski who served with the Marines during the Korean Conflict and is now employed at Dayton Fabricated Steel. Eileen is supervisor of nurses at Grandview Hospital, Dayton. They live in Dayton with their children Valoris, Helen, Peter, and Verona.

Paul — born July 25, 1936, took an Electronics course at Kansas City and is employed at Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center, Newark, Ohio, where he checks installations and instructs personnel .for the operating of Portable Automatic Test Equipment Calibratior. This sytem, which he helped to develop, is used for on-site checking and testing equipment on our defense bases. He lives in Pataskala, Ohio.

Pauline — born July 25, 1936, married Louis Schemmel, who served in the Army in Germany, and is now engaged in farming. Pauline works part—time at Marion Local School and is active in Religious Education. They live in Osgood with their children Jeffrey, Janice and John.

Jerome — born April 14, 1938, graduated from Gannon College, Erie, Pa., with a degree in Business Administration and is now employed as Material Controller at Bucyrus-Erie Co. He and his wife Patty Jo (Zeno) live in Erie, Pa. with their children Lorianne and Mark.

Kathleen — born February 6, 1943, married Jerome Schmitmeyer who is engaged in farming. Kathleen is active in Religious Education. They live in Minster with their children Jarett and Jeanne.

Ray Jr. — born August 28, 1946, served with the Air Force in Texas, Turkey and Alaska. He and his wife Rita (Murphy) are both employed at Reynolds and Reynolds, Celina. They live in Celina with their children Rajean and Darby.

Ronald — born May 18, 1948, attended Kent State and is now employed in the service department at Consolidated Freight Trucking Co. He and his wife Mary (Volas) live in North Canton, Ohio, with their children James and Paul. *Raymond J. Feltz*

Feltz Family

THE FELTZ FAMILY

The earliest dates and ancestors of the Feltz Family goes back to the late years of 1770 or early 1780,

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when Count John Fels d Olerstahl was born in Saverne, France. Later ruled a part of Alsatia. He was an officer in the Imperial Guard of Napoleon Bonapart. This was after the breakup of Empire Karl des Grose. He had a son Florenz, born in 1804, in Saverne, France. Florenz married a woman (name unknown). They had two sons, Florenz Jr., and Joe. His first wife died, and he married Margaretha Loffler. She was a Catholic and there being a lot of religious friction, changed his name to Florenz Feltz, dropped the d Olerstahl entirely, and came to America. (We have the passport dated March 7, 1840, in Strasbourg, also some army books and the sword that Count John carried.) They came to Thomson, Ohio, and they had two sons Louis and George, and a daughter Margaret who died in infancy.

Louis born Aug. 24, 1841 married Rosalia Schuyler, born Sept. 10, 1841, and moved to Cassella, Ohio. They had the following children, Rosa (born 1866), Adolph (born 1868), Frank (born 1870), Mary (born 1872), William (born 1874), Elizabeth (born 1876), Emil (born 1878), Rosalia died Aug. 21, 1879. Louis then married Josephine Sonderman (born Dec. 10, 1857). They had the following children, Nora (born 1882), Henry (born 1884), Florentine (born 1886), Albert (born 1889), Charles (born 1892), Frances (born 1894), Otto (born 1894), and Leona (born 1900).

Louis was engaged in farming, and was interested in bees and botany, grafting a variety of fruits on one tree. He died on Oct. 23, 1930. Josephine died April 2, 1933.

Albert Feltz who is the only Feltz son left of that generation, who is living in Mercer County, at Cassella, Ohio. He married Catherine Froning (born Oct. 13, 1896, died Jan. 14, 1974). He was engaged in farming until 1935, then moved to the town of Cassella, worked at Mersman Tables and other carpenter work. He still lives in Cassella. They had the following children: Clarence (Mickey) married Julia Albers, June 26, 1948. Their children, Thomas, living in St. Henry, and working in Celina and St. Henry. Phyllis, R.N. in Columbus, Larry N.B.C. Tech in Lima, Allen working for Mike's Sanitation.

Lillian married Henry Leugers, of Leugers Ins. Agency, Maria Stein, Ohio. Their children: Kathleen: married to Ed. Hoehne in Houston, Ohio. David, living in New Mexico, Judith living in Minnesota, married to Marvin Wilson, and Robert living in Bowling Green.

Maurice married Alice Quinter, and their children: Mike, married and living in Columbus, Ohio; Paula married and living in Dayton, Ohio and Nick living in Celina, Ohio.

Dorothy, Sister Dorothy Feltz, Sisters of St. Joseph, and living in Buffalo, New York.

One son, Othmar, died in infancy. *Mrs. C. A. Feltz*

FRANK FELTZ FAMILY

Frank Feltz, son of Louis and Rosalia (Schuyler) Feltz, was born at Cassella, Ohio, on Oct. 31, 1870, and married Philomena Cron, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Boeckman) Cron. He first was a blacksmith in Philothea, Ohio and then later in Cassella where he also operated a cane-mill for cooking molasses from 1918 until his death May 6, 1933. He also

Feltz Family

served as Marion Township Clerk. Frank and Philomena had 15 children: Hugo, Esther, Ruth, Walter, Oscar, Richard, Edna, Raymond, Laura, Cyril, Martin, Mary, Adelaide, Frank, and Robert. (See photo) Philomena died September 29, 1951.

MARTIN AND RICHARD FELTZ

Martin Feltz, born September 15, 1911, and Richard Feltz, born December 27, 1902, along with their mother took over the Blacksmith and Repair Shop and the cane mill in Cassella after the death of their father, Frank Feltz, in 1933. They discontinued the cane-mill operation in 1947 when their brother Frank (Pat) Feltz built the Starlight Drive-In Theater where Martin acted as the Security Guard and Richard served as ticket taker. Richard walked on crutches as a result of having Infantile Paralysis at the age of two. Along with his other activities, he was also a shoe repairman, served as Marion Township Clerk and then was Mercer County Treasurer until his death in July, 1956. Martin still operates a welding and general repair shop in Cassella. *Martin Feltz*

RAYMOND FLAUTE FAMILY

This is the story of the Raymond Flaute Family of Cassella, Ohio. Raymond born Jan. 18, 1920, in McCartysville, Ohio, he was the son of John Flaute and Lorretta Koverman. Married Rita Ranly, daughter of Peter Ranly and Sophia Speck. They were married July 2, 1949, they lived the first nine months in McCartysville, Ohio, five years on the Conver farm south of Cassella, Ohio, and then settled on the Ranly Homestead. They were blessed with ten children. A stillborn son born April 18, 1950. Ruth born March 7, 1951, she graduated from St. Joseph's College, and on June 23, 1973, married William Kuhlman, Bill and Ruth both teach in Wapakoneta Ohio where they live with their two daughters Lisa and Lori Ann. Their first son Joseph died in July 1974 and is buried on the cemetery in Cassella Ohio. Marjory, born May 12, 1952. She married William Mike Millennor on Oct. 12, 1974. Margi went to Business College in Cincinnati, Ohio and that is where she found a job, met Mike and when writing this they have one daughter Melissa. William, born April 7, 1954. After school he found his job in Dayton, Ohio. Here he met Jane Wyrick and they were married March 31, 1978. He loves his la work. Teresa, born Dec. 17, 1956. She went from school to Jamesway, a Department store in Celina Ohio. On Nov. 5, 1977 she married Kenneth Ger

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ı, and they live in Cassella, Ohio. Joan was born . 15, 1958. She too found a job out of High school l is employed by the Buckeye Co., in Coldwater. ɔmas was born March 31, 1960. He is a senior at rion Local School. He has a part time job at Brod-ks Super Market, and will continue his schooling he fall. Steven, born April 24, 1961. He is a senior he fall. Steven is involved in football and hopes ıave a successful year. He is the big helper on the n with his Father. Ann born Jan. 4, 1963. She is a homore at Marion Local School. She is a member he high School Band and enjoys it very much. March 24, 1966 they had another son Gabriel, ɔ died right after birth.

he Flautes's have a very active life trying to help enever possible in the community. Ray and Rita involved in the Legion, C.K.A., and the church alities. Rita enjoys her job at school as a teacher's e. We farm 185 acres, and Ray sells seed corn and er seeds in the winter. *Mr. & Mrs. Ray Flaute*

FORTKAMP

)n September 9, 1967, Thelma J. Wimmers and lter R. Fortkamp were united in marriage. There ots of southern Mercer County history in this rriage. This is the Fortkamp family from St. Rose, rion Township.

he parents of Walter "Doc" Fortkamp are Lean- Fortkamp and Rita Bernard. They were married October 5, 1941 and have eight children. The first n was Josephine born 9-25-42 and married on 10-7 to Ed Grieshop. Leander is next, born 9-19-43, rried to Marilyn Sommer on 5-4-68, and three ldren, Christina, b. 4-10-69, Tricia, b. 2-21-71, l Douglas, b. 12-30-72. Walt or "Doc" is third, n 7-27-45, married to Thelma Wimmers on 9-9- and three children, William, b. 8-30-68, Lynn, b. 9-69, and Julie, b. 2-3-71. Fourth is Barbara, born -47, married to Larry Poppe on 5-10-69, and two ldren, Cheryl, 5-26-70, and Jerry, 8-30-72. Ralph s born on 9-7-48, married to Linda Boerger on 2-73, and two sons, Scott, b. 7-15-73, and Robbie, 11-27-75. Mary died at birth, 5-21-50. Marcia was enth, born on 9-13-52, married to Ben Tebbe, on 8-73, and two children, Matt, b. 2-25-75, and Ca-le, b. 9-18-76. Ronald was born on 8-25-58.

.ee and Rita have lived at St. Rose for most of the rriage. Besides having a small farm, Lee was a ıned milk hauler for almost 25 years. For the past ven years, he has been a tractor mechanic at eackers in Minster.

.ee is the son of Frank Fortkamp and Josephine rting. Frank had three brothers, a sister, a step-ɔther and sister. His parents were Herman Fort-ıp and Theresia Post. Herman had a farm south St. Rose, he came from Germany. Frank had a all farm and was a cream hauler. He delivered am to St. Henry, and stopped at the Wimmers .cksmith shop. Josephine had two sisters and five ɔthers. Two brothers died at an early age. The ents of Josephine were Frank Harting and Berna-ıe Albers. Frank and Josephine had ten children. st was Bernadine, b. 3-14-06, d. 3-4-76, married to bert Mueller (d) on 4-27-38, and five children. ıne died at age two. Third was Herman, b. 12-11- d. 5-2-75, married to Frieda Kloth (d) on 7-21-36, married to Elizabeth (Beth) Spatt on 8-18-60, and five children from his first marriage. Then came Norbert, b. 3-26-11, d. 2-14-73, and married to Doris Tomlinson on 6-7-38, and one son. Fifth is Regina born on 2-13-13. Edward was born 11-12-15, married to Marian Dibble on 6-8-48, and six children. Leander was born 8-25-17, married to Rita Bernard on 10-5-41, and eight children. Eighth is Raymond born on 8-1-19, Erma was born on 8-16-21, married to Sylvestor Bruggeman on 7-19-47, and eight children. Frank was born 4-26-23, married to Lorena Frenzer on 7-14-48, and four children.

Rita Catherine Bernard is from a "yours, mine and ours" family. Her father is Jacob (Jake) Bernard (b. 4-26-1880, de. 12-13-1959). Jake's first wife was Cecelia Bertke (b. 5-8-1885, d. 10-18-1918, m. 8-10-1904). Jake had five children from this marriage. His second wife was Josephine Steggemann (b. 12-7-1886, d. 11-10-1934, m. 8-16-1922). Josephine had five children from her marriage to George Stegeman. Jake and Josephine had three children. As a child, Rita lived in Coldwater. The family is as follows. Alfred Bernard born 7-8-05, married to Edna Grothaus (d) on 8-6-29, and three children. Frederick (Fred) born 1-4-07, married to Jean Maskel on 8-19-33, and two children. Fredinand (Ferd) born 1-4-07, d. 6-2-78, married to Minnie Pantano on 6-5-37. Cecelia was born on 12-17-08, she died as a child. John also died as a child in November, 1912. Carl Stegeman born 5-23-13, died in March on '67, married to Katherine (Kay) ?, and four children. Edna was born 8-6-14, married to Alfred Hartings (d) on 4-4-39, and three daughters. Ruth was next, born on 6-24-16, married to Wilmer Rohler, 8-30-?, and three daughters. Rose Ann was born on 2-18-18, married to Vincent Braun, and six children. The last Stegeman was Bernard, born 9-30-19, married to Helen ?, and four children. Now for the "ours". James was born 7-3-23 and died at birth. Rita is a twin, born 7-3-23, married on 10-5-41 to Lee Fortkamp, and eight children. Alma is last and was born on 1-29-25, married on 5-29-48 to Richard Overman, and one son.

Jake's father was Frank Bernard (b. 4-4-1846, d. 7-9-1915). Frank's first wife was Agnes Tepe, born 5-11-1858 at Oldenburg Damma, Germany. Jake was the third of three. Frank's second wife was Elizabeth Thobe (b. 8-18-1861, d. 8-6-1938). They had nine children. Frank was the oldest of seven children born to Joseph Bernard (b. 1815, d. 4-16-1886) and Mary Kemper (b. in Ireland, d. 9-8-1894).

Since Walt is now living at St Henry, refer to the Wimmers biography in Granville Township. *This has been submitted by Thelma J. Fortkamp.*

Seated: Vincent and Theresa Gagel. **Standing:** Fred M. Gagel, Joseph V. Gagel, Helen C. Squires, Sarah R. Budde, Barbara J. Gagel, Mary Susan Salm.

VINCENT J. GAGEL

Vincent J. Gagel, son of Michael and Catherine (Synck) Gagel was born November 30, 1917 at Maria

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Stein. He was the second youngest of eight children; four boys and four girls. He attended grade school and three years of high school at Maria Stein. He graduated from Minster High School in 1935 because "St. Johns" was not yet a four year high school.

Immediately after graduation, he became a full time employee of Gagel Hardware Co. owned by his mother. Although ownership has since passed to the third generation, he is still employed there and is the oldest employee in age and years of service. Always an avid sports fan and concerned about providing sports facilities in the community, he helped with the installation of the first lighted football field at the high school. He was manager of the first Little League team in Maria Stein and continued in that endeavor for a number of years.

On October 4, 1941, at St. Rose, Ohio, he married Theresa Gottemoeller. She is the daughter of Fred J. and Catherine (Hemmelgarn) Gottemoeller. Theresa was third youngest of nine children; six boys and three girls. She attended grade school in St. Rose and Holy Angels High School in Sidney, Ohio, graduating in 1932. She lived with distant cousins there and assisted with the care of their invalid mother in exchange for room and board.

Jim (Vincent) and Theresa started housekeeping in Maria Stein in the house built by his grandfather around 1900. They still live there and over the years have modernized the house to suit their tastes and the needs of their family. They had six children. All attended Maria Stein and later Marion Local High School and graduated from there.

Mary Susan, born August 26, 1942, attended Miami Univ. at Oxford, Ohio, and graduated in Aug., 1964 with a B.S. in Education. She married James L. Salm on December 26, 1964, and they lived in Sidney where James was employed and Susan was teaching. They later moved to Michigan and now live at Coldwater, Mich. Susan is a para-professional assistant in the schools. They have three children: Robert, Angela and Douglas.

Barbara Jean also attended Miami Univ. and graduated in January, 1965, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She continued there as a graduate assistant until September, 1966, when she accepted a position with the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity in Chicago, Ill. Later, she was assistant director for International trade for the State of Illinois for two years. In 1977 she became employed by the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare and is director of the Office of Management and Planning. After attending the Univ. of Chicago, she received a degree of Master in Business in June, 1977.

Sarah Rose attended St. Elizabeth School of Nursing and graduated in August, 1965. She spent a year on the staff at St. Elizabeth before returning to Maria Stein and obtaining a position in Industrial Nursing at Avco New Idea. She married Paul Budde on February 4, 1967, and lives at Maria Stein. They have four children: Ann, Jean, Frank and Krista. Sarah is active in community affairs and sings in the church choir. She also assists with the parish C.C.D. program.

Helen Catherine was the recipient of a General Motors Scholarship and attended Northwestern University Medill School of journalism at Evanston, Ill. She graduated in June, 1968, and spent the next year with "Vista". After a training period Oklahoma State Univ., she was stationed at Reser La. She returned to Chicago and married Rob Squires on November 29, 1969. They live in Evar ton, Ill. and have three daughters: Theresa, Ka and Leah. Helen is active in the Evanston League Women Voters and is serving as Vice President the present time.

Joseph Vincent attended Miami Univ. and grad ated in June, 1970, with a B.S. in Education. H taught at Parkway High School for two years. July, 1972, he moved to Swanton, Ohio, to accept position at the High School. He teaches social stu ies and is assistant football and track coach. He lat attended Bowling Green State Univ. and in Augu 1976, received a Master's Degree in Education. C July 31, 1971, he married Diane Van Skiver and th have a daughter Rachel.

Frederick Micheal graduated from Marion Hig School in 1972. He decided to go west and in Augu he enrolled at Arizona State Univ. at Tempe, Ar zona. After his second year there, he found emplo ment and attended the university on a part time b sis. He expects to graduate in May, 1979. *Vincent Gagel*

Bridal Couples — **First Row:** Alois Garman and Bride Otilla Gc tas, Bernadine Schroeder and husband Ed Garman **(Standin** August Garman and Bride Frances Voskuhl, Theodore Lochtefe **(Standing)** and Bride Mary Garman. Attendants — **(Standi Behind):** Monica Kothman, Roman Heitkamp, Josephine Garma Henry Huber, Emma Voskuhl, Leo Heitkamp, Bertha Garman a Herman Lochtefeld.

GARMAN QUADRUPLE WEDDING

Three sons (August, Alois and Ed) and one daugl ter (Mary) of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Garman were ma ried at St. John's Church, Maria Stein, April 2 1920. The wedding mass was performed by two u cles Father Ben and Frank Garman *Submitted by: El Lochtefeld, Dayton, Oh. 45420*

The Gast House

THE GAST HOUSE

Andreas Gast, born in 1788 in France, emigrate

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:his Country in March of 1828, bringing his two s, Matthias and Peter and two daughters. They :led in Baltimore, Md., living there five years. tthias and Peter then journeyed on to Minster, io. Matthias remained in Minster for two years l then settled in the town of St. Johns, in 1838 ere he engaged in the mercantile business and re-ined in business until 1879, at which time his son, tthias, Jr. then took over. Matthias Sr. served as unty Commissioner for seven years and also as unty auctioneer. Matthias Sr. married Maria :herine Hagedorn of St. Rosa, Ohio in 1839. They l eight children. Matthias Jr. married Elizabeth kes of Munich, Germany in 1885 and they had teen children. Matthias Jr. along with the help of children carried on the family General Store. He o served as rural mail carrier for many years for Maria Stein area. His seventh child Joseph even-lly took over the business in 1933. Joseph sold General Store building in 1941 to the Knights of John and built a smaller store just East of it, call-it Gast's Beer Stube. Joseph remained in busi-s until 1952 with his wife, Katherine Hasebrook Ft. Loramie, Ohio and his three children Joan, n and Martha. Joan, (married to Louis Overman) l resides in Maria Stein and has three children, ristina, Amy and Jennifer. Tom (married to Jean wer) lives in Mishawaka, Indiana with four chil-n, Joseph, Jeffrey, Kim and James. Martha (mar-d to Donald Rindler) still resides in Maria Stein in home known as The Gast House, built originally 1852 by Matthias Gast Sr. The home is in the cess of being applied for as a National Historical e. *Martha Rindler*

5 John Goecke,
cke Shoe Repair

JOHN B. GOECKE

Early in 1887, John B. Goecke, brother to Joseph, rted the Goecke Shoe Sales and Harness Repair op. He also raised bees in the back.

John B. Goecke was born June 6, 1857, at Maria ein. He married Anna Vehorn. John died April 10, 30.

They had six children: Fred, Julian, Vincent, Vic-ia, Loretta, Johanna. Fred Goecke was born June 1885. He married Frances Albers. They were mar-d by Rev. Missler at St. John Church on April 17, 07. Fred took over the Goecke Shoe Repair Shop 1931; at that time selling Wear-U-Wells shoes on ommission basis. Fred had eight children. He died uary 10, 1954.

His children are as follows: Vic, who was born on ril 9, 1908. He is now retired and resides in De-it. He married Cecelia Vida. They have three chil-en. Alvina was born October 12, 1909 and lives in troit. She married Robert Drexler. Cornelius was rn February 1, 1911 and resides in Maria Stein. He rried Amelia Heitkamp. They have four children. nold was born June 26, 1912. He married Marcella Vida and they have one daughter. Leona was born March 23, 1914. She married Leonard Lee and they live in Greenville. Andrew was born June 29, 1918. He married Marie Vida. They have two children and reside in Florida. Dorothy was born August 17, 1920 and resides in North Star. She married Robert Gavet. They have seven children. Louis was born June 25, 1926 and resides in Maria Stein. He married Madonna Hausfeld. They have 14 children.

Arnold took over the Shoe repair business in 1954 and is presently owner and operator. Arnold has one daughter, Barb, who was born September 28, 1939. She married Gerald Mangen on November 28, 1959. They have two children: Dale, who was born February 17, 1963, and Michelle, who was born November 15, 1966. *Barb Mangen*

Bernard Backs and Johanna Goecke, 1913

JOHN B. GOECKE

John B. Goecke born June 12, 1857 and Anna Vehorn born Feb. 7, 1864 were my grandparents who raised me. My mother, Johanna Goecke married Bernard Backs and she died three days after my birthdate December 14, 1916. She had chosen the name "Florene" but I was baptized Florentine.

John B. Goecke had a Harness Shop and repaired harness and shoes. As a hobby he raised bees. Some honey was extracted and used by the Sisters to make altar candles for church. Honey was served on the table the year around.

They had thirteen children. Fred, Julian, Eleanor, Johanna, Vincent, Victoria and Loretta, six died in infancy, Leona, Verona, Lawrence, Leo, Rosena and Edna.

Another granddaughter, Alvera Schwieterman, lived with them four years after her mother (Eleanor) died.

We were raised in an atmosphere of love and hard work, being a good Catholic was important.

Grandpa died in 1930, grandma in 1933. I attended St. John School eleven years and one year at Immaculate Conception in Celina while staying with Joe and Frances Huelsman. In 1935 I graduated from International Business College in Fort Wayne. Obtained a job in Dayton, was married at Holy Family Church in 1937 to Russell Thomas from Neptune, Ohio. Lived in West Carrollton, Ohio, for thirteen years. My Aunt Victoria made her home with us for 8 years — from 1945 to 1953. I came to Celina with our three children in 1955. They graduated from Immaculate Conception High School, are now married and there are thirteen grandchildren.

After 1917 my father lived with his dad, Herman Backs, in Burkettsville. Grandpa came from Hanover, Germany, about 1870 at age sixteen. First settled in Cincinnati through some Catholic agency, but was homesick and it was suggested he take a job near Minster or Maria Stein where people spoke "low German" his native tongue and worked as a

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farm hand for Bernard Knapke who gave him a team of horses when he married Catherine Buehler.

About 1920, Ben Backs took a job as Maintenance man for the Mercer County Home, making his home there until 1944 when he married Catherine Siegrist of Casella. In Dayton, he worked as a Dairyman for the Sisters and in 1950 returned to Mercer County. Catherine passed away in 1954, Ben Backs in 1959.

Our children: In 1957 Norma Jean married Eugene Homan, they live in Coldwater, belong to Holy Trinity Church — five daughters: Deborah, Diane, Jeannine, Laura, Karen. On May 29, 1978, Deborah married Don Glaser from St. Marys.

In 1961 Carol Ann married Ralph James. They live in New Haven, Indiana and attend St. John the Baptist Church and school — four children: Mark, Nicholas, Phillip and Candice.

In 1959 Kenneth Thomas enlisted in the Army for three years. He married Martha Ann Hirschfeld in 1964. They belong to Holy Trinity Church and he has a Shoe store in Bucyrus, Ohio. They have four children: Bruce, Michelle, Keith and Renee.

George and Blanche (Nichols) Thomas were my in-laws. George taught school in Neptune and after retiring sold insurance in Celina.

I have been working as a secretary for Mersman Brothers since 1955. *Florentine Thomas*

JOSEPH HERMAN GOECKE

Joseph Herman Goecke was born on Jan. 8, 1873 at Maria Stein, Ohio. He was the son of John Goecke and Mary Anna Ashman Goecke. He married Carolina Katherina Ranly, who was born on July 12, 1874. Her parents were Jacob Ranly and Mary Grunkmier Ranly.

Joseph Goecke owned and operated a tile and drainage plant in Maria Stein and also farmed. In about 1923 or 1924 the tile plant burned. After this, he built and operated a gas station in Maria Stein.

Joseph died on May 24, 1947 at Maria Stein. Carolina died Feb. 24, 1919 at Maria Stein. Following is a list of their children: Aloys Joseph (11-5-1897 - 12-3-1972), who married Marie B. Willke, Theresia Mary (9-1-1899-), who married Alphons Wendel, Regina Mary (12-17-1901 - 2-18-1923), who married Anthony Wendel, Leonard Joseph (11-13-1903-), who married Elenor Wendel, Agnes Mary (12-14-1905 - 3-14-1928), Rose Mary (12-13-1907 - 2-22-1958), who married Charles Gampfer, Ida Mary (7-20-1910 - 6-26-1922), Norbert Joseph (1-30-1913 - 6-15-1973), Rita Mary (8-12-1917 - 9-15-1920).

The children of Leonard Goecke are Doris Mae (8-15-1933 - 1934) and Ruth Ann (1-11-1936 -), who married Melvin Lennartz on June 9, 1956. Their children are Jeffrey (4-28-1958), Mark (9-19-1959), Patricia (12-14-1960), Carol (2-13-1963), Kevin (11-12-1965), Anne (6-28-1968). Their daughter Margaret Clare was born on 9-10-1938. She married Jerome Homan on Aug. 9, 1958. Their children are: Marilyn (6-10-1959), Daniel (12-31-1961), Anita (3-6-1964), Lorraine (1-21-1966), Joyce (12-31-1967), Jeanne (4-13-1970), Marie (8-17-1972), Gregory (10-1-1974), and Anthony (2-5-1977). *Melvin Lennartz, Coldwater, Oh. 45828*

The large brick house was built in 1872 by Bernard Goettemoel The new house on the left was built 100 years later, 1972 by l Goettemoeller, at 2285 Goettemoeller Road.

THE LAWRENCE (LOU) GOETTEMOELLER FAMILY

The first ancestor of the Goettemoeller family record is Heinrich Goettemoeller born May 10, 18 in Vorden Oldenburg, Germany. He was married Elisabeth Tangeman September 25, 1828 at Han over. She was also born at Vorden. They were t parents of six children. The first three were born Germany before migrating to this country in 183 They settled in Section 20 Marion Township in t St. Rose area on the farm still owned by Lou Goe temoeller and his sons. The original deed from t government signed by President Martin Van Bur is on file at the farm. Heinrich died August 10, 18 and Elisabeth died April 10, 1897. Both are buri on St. Rosa Cemetery.

The next descendants of the family was Berna born November 16, 1835 in Germany. He marri Bernadine Kemper of Cincinnati and they were t parents of seven children. Bernard built the lar brick house in 1872 that is still occupied by Da Goettemoeller and family. Bernard died Decemb 1, 1904 and Bernadine died August 17, 1915. Bo are buried on the St. Rosa Cemetery.

The next descendant is Fred born February 1 1877. He married Catherine Hemmelgarn bo March 24, 1877. They were married at Wendel Mercer County on May 2, 1900. They were paren of nine children all born on the home farm. Fre was serving as County Commissioner at the time the completion and dedication of the present Cou House.

While serving as County Commissioner, Fred w involved in a shooting aff. . by Bert Morrison a di gruntled politician, crazed by repeated defeat seek ing the County Surveyors Office. He was dete mined to kill all three commissioners and the count surveyor in revenge.

It was on February 24, 1933 when the commi sioners and surveyors were leaving the Court Hous to go to lunch, when Morrison stepped out of his c with a shotgun and started shooting hitting Charle Frysinger first in the forehead. Frysinger died th next day. He aimed at Goettemoeller next and h aim was bad. The shot entered his neck below th right ear and came out in back. Fred was treated b Dr. John Gibbons and released. Morrison lost h nerve after two shots so he drove home and shot an killed himself. He used deer slug shells that had jus one big pellet in them.

Fred died May 12, 1936 and Catherine died Marc 30, 1950. Both are buried on the St. Rosa Cemetery.

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The next descendant is Lawrence, also known as ı. He was born December 21, 1910. He married :etta Wolf of Minster. She was born August 29, 10. They were married May 6, 1936 at Minster d are the parents of six sons.

William married Doris Kramer and have six chil-:n and are farming in Darke County, Ohio. He o operates a trucking business. Thomas married ne Mueller and have three children. Tom is a car-nter by trade. They live in the St. Rose area.

Robert married Bernice Kremer and have two ldren. They live in Columbus and Bob works for : Ohio Department of Natural Resources in the nservation Division. James married Carole Otte d have four children. They moved to Montana in 76 and are operating a ranch at Denton, Montana. ın married Elizabeth (Betty) Dues and have three ildren. They moved to Colorado in 1976. They 'n and operate a shoe store in Salida, Colorado. ıle married Agnes Albers and have three children. ıey are farming on the home place and operate a ıe hauling and spreading business.

The Goettemoeller name is known all over the untry as well as a lot of foreign countries in their tivity in plowing competition. Lou started this ac-ity in 1928 when he plowed in the first contest ld in Ohio as the youngest competitor. He won is Northwest Ohio contest in 1935 using a three ırse team.

Plowing contests really got going after World War

After numerous tries Lou won the National atch in 1956 and 1957. He plowed in World Com-tition at Peebles, Ohio and at Stuttgart, Germany. William won the National match in 1966 and 1971 d plowed in World contests in South Rhodesia, rica as well as in Minnesota.

Jim won the National match in 1972 and plowed Ireland in world competition.

Tom and Dale also plowed in local competition ıd Dale won State contest twice.

Lou was secretary of both the State and U.S.A. owing Organization for 10 years. The Goettemoel-r family has had more National Champions than ıy other family in the United States.

The Goettemoeller homestead has been in the mily since 1837 and the Dale Goettemoeller chil-'en are the sixth generation on this farm. *Lawrence oettemoeller*

THE HARTINGS - GAST FAMILIES

On April 16, 1847 William Hartings and his wife hanna Mathilda (Kronenbruck) Hartings arrived America with their eight children. Their port of ıtry being either Ellis Island, New York or Balti-ore, Maryland. They had some trouble at the port entry; the reason being: one child was sick and ad to be hospitalized and secondly, one child had ed just prior to their departure from Germany. Be-g in a strange land and different customs and hav-g language difficulties they felt very uncomforta-le. Since their friends and other passengers had ready left for their destinations, they were all one. They received permission to leave the child nd moved on, their destination being Iowa. They opped in Cincinnati to visit with friends and were advised to go by canal boat to Minster, Ohio; which they did. They settled on a farm in the parish of St. Rosa, Mercer Co., Ohio. In the 1850 Census it listed William's occupation as a farmer and his land valued at $1200.00.

William and Mathilda were married in 1828 in Germany. Their children, excluding the one that died before their departure and the one left at the port of entry, were as follows in order of birth: Mathais, Elizabeth, Margaret, John, Peter Jacob, Rinehart, and Peter. All lived to marry and raise families except Peter Jacob who died at age 18. The eldest, Mathais, is my Great, Great Grandfather. He was a successful farmer, owning a total of 270 acres of good farm land which he cleared himself. He took Carolina Ruelman as his wife on January 24, 1854. She was born in St. Rose and a member of the Saint Rosa Catholic Church. They had twenty children. I have the names of sixteen, the others must have died at birth and were not named. The children were all born in Mercer county and their names and birth dates, death dates, and husbands and wives names are as follows:

NAME	BIRTH DATE	DEATH DATE	MARRIED
(1) Frank	23 Sept 1856	29 Sept 1920	Bernadine Albers
(2) William	30 Oct 1857	5 Apr 1927	single
(3) Peter	12 Nov 1859	1 Aug 1870	single
(4) John S.	11 Aug 1861	2 Sept 1862	single
(5) Barney	26 Dec 1862	1863	single
(6) Mary A.	25 Mar 1864	18 Nov 1929	Henry Kevelder
(7) John P.	25 Jan 1866	3 Mar 1932	Katherine Pieckenbrock
(8) Anthony H.	27 Sept 1867	20 Oct 1956	Katherine Otte
(9) Mary	3 Aug 1869	died in infancy	single
(10) Mathais	26 July 1870	13 Jan 1933	Mary Otte
(11) Caroline	16 Aug 1871	3 Oct 1877	single
(12) Anna M.	11 Mar 1873	14 Aug 1891	single
(13) John Henry	30 Jan 1875	29 Dec 1927	Rosa A. Bruening
(14) H. Joseph	16 Mar 1877	6 July 1950	Christina Rose
(15) Catharine	22 Dec 1879	17 Mar 1953	John Fortkamp
(16) Sophia	11 Dec 1881	24 July 1942	Bernard Knapke

My Great Grandfather, Frank, the eldest of these children, was a carpenter and married Bernadine Albers on January 23, 1883. Ten children were born to them, all in Mercer County, as follows:

(1) Josephine	23 Mar 1884	22 Sept 1942	Frank Fortkamp
(2) Carolina P.	1 Jan 1886	19 July 1975	Henry Herman Bomholt
(3) John H.	1 Apr 1888	26 July 1961	Bernadine Leugers
(4) Anton Frank	12 Nov 1889	13 May 1950	Margaret Rosella Gast
(5) Aloyuis Mathais	5 Nov 1891	4 Aug 1968	Rose Puthoff
(6) Edward J.	13 Aug 1893	5 June 1952	Coletta Mary Muhlenkamp
(7) Fransiska	2 Oct 1896	8 Nov 1960	Julius John Borgert
(8) Bernard	22 Apr 1899	13 Apr 1904	single
(9) Joseph Herbert	4 July 1901	16 Oct 1970	Mary Forstoff
(10) Ferdinand	31 Dec 1903	8 Apr 1904	single

My Grandfather, Anton, better known as Anthony, was an electrician and lived in Mercer County, first in St. Rose then in Chickasaw, Maria Stein, back to Chickasaw, Coldwater, and then to Philothea where he died. He and Margaret had seven children as follows:

(1) Rosalia Mary	7 May 1916	Fonn Wayne Decker

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(2) Viola Caroline	10 Aug 1918		Walter Edward Davis
(3) Julia Mae	4 Nov 1920		1st Richard Ellsworth Beck 2nd Robert Byron Maxwell
(4) Jerome John	27 Sept 1923	6 Mar 1944	killed in W.W. II
(5) Andrew Frederick	6 Apr 1928		Catharine Caroline Brosmer
(6) Martha Agnes	18 Nov 1930		Richard Leo Sherman
(7) Donald Eugene	4 Jan 1934		Ila Pearl Moore

Of these children, Viola is the only one who resides in Mercer County presently; Rosalia and Martha in Auglaize Co., Julia (my mother) in Montgomery Co., Andrew in Indiana and Donald in Texas.

I, Pat Beck Caron, am the next to the youngest of five children and have been working on my family history nearly five years. When the Hartings came to America 131 years ago there were only William and Mathilda and their eight children, now there is probably in the neighborhood of 1000 descendants of those 6 children that lived and raised families.

I have had the experience of living overseas, being where I didn't speak the same language or know their customs and I must say I admire my forefathers for their strength and courage to come to a new land and start their lives anew. My husband, Jim Caron, and our two sons, Matthew and Jeramy and I are going to move to Arizona soon — somewhat like our forefathers, we will be leaving our families to start our lives anew — but we'll always remember our roots started here in Mercer Co. way over a century ago!

The other side of my mother's family also lived in Mercer County in the 1800's. In the 1820's my Great, Great, Great Grandfather, Andrew Gast and his wife Theresa came from France with their two sons and two daughters and settled in Minster, Auglaize Co., Ohio. The eldest son, Matthais moved to St. Johns, Mercer Co., Ohio in 1838 where he engaged in the mercantile business. He served six years as county commissioner, three years as notary public and county auctioneer. While Peter, my Great, Great Grandfather followed in the footsteps of his father as a farmer. He married Theressa Gertrude Ellermen and they had six children as follows:

(1) Joseph Minrod	1842	1930	Mary Margaret Desch
(2) John Henry	1844	1922	Mary Catharine Schwietermann
(3) Bernadine	1845		? Wieman
(4) Clara	1847		? Moorman
(5) Mary Cathrine	1849	1888	Henry Lange
(6) Anna	1850	Died in infancy	

Gertrude died when her sixth child, Anna was born. Later Peter remarried. He married Mary Fortman Inecanke, the widow of Joseph Inecanke. She had two children, Joseph and Elizabeth, by her first husband. She and Peter had the following:

(1) Barney	1854		Mary Desch
(2) August	1856	1928	Philomina K. Schroeder
(3) Catharine	1857	1931	Clay Holtman
(4) Ferdinand			Mary Elizabeth
Peter	1859	1934	Schroeder
(5) Clement John	1860		?
(6) Susanna	died in infancy		

Ferdinand, my Great Grandfather was the chu custodian in Chickasaw for thirty years. He lived Chickasaw and he and his wife Mary had the lowing children:

(1) Clement Peter	12 May 1882	30 Oct 1937	Pauline Sau
(2) Joseph	died at age five of diphtheria		
(3) August	22 July 1886	23 July 1888	
(4) Andrew F.	21 Sept 1889	10 Apr 1952	Iva Margare Gear
(5) Margaret R.	17 Aug 1892	20 Jan 1954	Anton Frank Hartings
(6) Loretta M.	18 Aug 1899	17 Jan 1948	Leonard Tre

Margaret Rosella being my grandmother. *Pat Ca*

ANTON HAUSFELD FAMILY

Anton Hausfeld was born May 7, 1857 in Ma Stein. He was the eldest child and only son of B nard and Elizabeth Hausfeld. He was a Catholic German decent, and farmed all his life.

Anton married Mary Kramer, whose mother v a Reichert. She was born November 29, 1860 a had two brothers; John (Feb. 2, 1859-Jan. 23, 19 and Henry (Jan. 16, 1863-April 24, 1925). Her married Senora Walch and they had two children their own and two adopted children. John marri Catherine Hausfeld, sister of Anton.

Anton and Mary (kramer) Hausfeld and John a Catherine (Hausfeld) Kramer were united in a dc ble wedding ceremony since brother and sister m ried brother and sister.

Anton and Mary had six children:

Ed (Oct. 1, 1886-Dec. 26, 1965) married Ma Neumeier. They had seven children. They lived Coldwater, where Ed worked at New Idea as a s tionary engineer.

Ludwig(Louie) Jan. 22, 1889-Nov. 12, 1974) marri Hildagard Goeck. They had two children; Marcell (married Mildred Rosenbeck) and Dorothy (marri Vitus Siegrist). As a young man, Louis was Stati Master at the C.H. and D Railroad depot (arou 1910-1920). After the railway discontinued he b came manager of the Maria Stein Grain Co. elevat Louie's wife died when his children were still your and his mother (Mary) moved in to help him rai them.

Cecelia (Sept. 15, 1891-Sept. 14, 1975) married J Severt. They had no children of their own b reared a niece, Evelyn (married Walter Braun) and nephew, Norman (married Mary Ann Kramer).

Leo (Oct. 28, 1894-Dec. 29, 1975) married Armel Eifort, (SEE LEO HAUSFELD FAMILY)

Albert (Sept. 8, 1896-Aug. 29- 1971) who marri Bernadine Wendeln. They had six children and liv next door to the home farm. Albert farmed t home farm in partnership with Leo until arou 1938 when the farm could no longer support tw families. He then began working at New Idea.

Eleanora (Oct. 13, 1898-Dec. 13, 1969) married L Bruggeman. (See LEO BRUGGEMAN FAMILY)

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Cecelia once wrote of her parents Anton and Elizeth:

"Dad had walking typhoid. He was never real well. He spent much of his time in the house smoking a pipe. When Dad went to Minster to get wheat made into flour, he always came back with a terrible headache. He took wheat in special grain sacks and drove a spring wagon to the mill . . . when he got home the wheat was put into a special flour barrel.

We never know of a quarrel between our Mom and Dad. Dad had so much faith in what Mom said and did that what she managed was always okay with him. We had lots of good times.

Mom was taking care of Ed Hausfeld's baby when Dad got real sick. He was kicked in the stomach by a horse before he died of peritonitis. He died on Leo's 21st birthday (On Oct. 28, 1915).

Mom was a very precise person who made decisions and stuck to them. Everything had a place and everything was always in its place. Whether it was a Monday or a Sunday she always got up at 5 o'clock to start the stove and take charge of the milking. We always had a big garden and we had to help hoe and pull weeds. She did a lot of canning. She made bread in the big wood-burning oven. During the typhoid epidemic she would stay all night with our neighbors, the Oppenheims'. Before coming in the house she would remove her apron and keep it outside and wash up real good so as not to give the typhoid to us.

She was a very religious person (Catholic). Many a time she knelt in prayer for hours at night and when we would notice her, she was asleep on her knees."

lary died at age 87 on Feb. 8, 1948.

'ary Jo Bruggeman, Coldwater, Oh. 45828

izabeth (Schweinefurz) Hausfeld, id Bernard Hausfeld, 1861

BERNARD HAUSFELD FAMILY

Bernard Hausfeld was born in Minster, Ohio in 830. There is no record of his birth but his father vas Arnold Hausfeld who came from Germany.

He married Elizabeth Schweinefurz who was born nd lived her whole life in Maria Stein. Elizabeth vas the daughter of Anton and Agnes Schweinefurz. he had two sisters; Mary (married Arnold Hausfeld) and Catherine (married Joseph Wobler and noved to Payne, Paulding County).

On November 7, 1861 after Elizabeth married Bernard Hausfeld, they purchased from her parents (Anton and Agnes Schweinefurz) the Schweinefurz farm. (Note: According to the U.S. General Land Office in Wapakoneta this 240 acres of land on which the Schweinefurz farm was built was first purchased in 1835 by Henry Raudierk who sold the 240 acres to Anton Schweinefurz in May 1854).

Bernard and Elizabeth purchased the farm for $1000 to be paid over 10 years with the stipulation that they provide a room in the home for Elizabeth's parents for as long as they lived. When Schweinefurz sold the farm he also stipulated that his daughter Mary was to receive $800 and Catherine to receive $400.

Bernard and Elizabeth had five children: 1. Anton (May 7, 1857-Oct. 24, 1915) married Mary Kramer. (See Anton Hausfeld Family.) 2. Agnes (May 4, 1859-May 20, 1907) married Bernard Knapke. They had no children, but reared Zenna and Marcella Hunter of Ft. Recovery. Marcella died at age 14 of T.B. 3. Catherine (July 2, 1864-Sept. 19, 1895) married John M. Kramer. (See John Kramer Family.) 4. Mary (May 10, 1861-Oct. 16, 1930) married Nick Fullenkamp. They had two daughters; Agnes (married Henry Streaker) and Rosie. 5. Elizabeth (Aug. 18, 1867-Aug. 25, 1946) married Henry F. Droesch. They had six children: Victoria (married Anthony Streaker) Aloys, Leander, Tharsilla (married Adolph Hoyng) Norbert, Marie

Bernard died at age 63 on November 18, 1893. Elizabeth stayed on the farm, and passed the farm on to her son Anton. Anton's daughter Cecelia once wrote:

"Grandma (Elizabeth) lived with our family all her life. We remember Grandma as saying "HELLO — now get your clothes off and get to work' when we came home from school . . . I can remember one time when we were trimming and hoeing sugar cane. Grandma said 'Isn't it funny that everything that is sweet has to get sour first', meaning the hard work comes before the molasses.".

Elizabeth died at age 77 on March 31, 1914. *Marilyn Hausfeld Ferguson, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Anton and Mary Kramer Hausfeld Family

ANTON AND MARY KRAMER HAUSFELD

Clockwise: Albert, Ludwig, Edward, Cecelia, Eleanora (on lap), Mary and Anton. ALBERT (m. Berdina Wendlen) Children: Walter, Cyril (m. Fiely), Mary Ann (m. Depweg), Alfrieda (m. Albers), Tony (m. Altieri), Jerry (m. Bohman). LEO (m. Armella Eifert) Children: Roman (m. Davis), Rosanna (m. Klienhenz), Madonna (m. Goecke), Ivo (m. Wuebker),

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Agnes (m. Schulze), Greg (m. Bernard), Esther (m. Willke), Urban, Jeanette (m. Bruns). LUDWIG (m. Hildegarde Goecke) Children: Marcellus (m. Rosenbeck), Dorothy (m. Siegrist).
EDWARD (m. May Neumeir) Children: Bernard (m. Rinehardt), Louis (m. Kohl), Paul (m. Gillum), Linus (m. Gottemoeller), Rita (m. Bonifas), Ruth (m. McDonald), Jim (m. McGrath). CELIA (m. Joseph Severt) Raised children of Henry Severt: Norman (m. Kramer), Evelyn (m. Braun). ELEANORA (m. Leo Bruggeman) Children: Margaret (m. Woofter), Eugene (m. Sliz), Edna (m. Schramm, Powers), Carl (m. Story), Lester (m. Cox), Robert (m. Geise), Thomas.

Anton Hausfeld had four sisters: Mary (m. Fullenkamp), Agnes (m. Knapke), Kate (m. Kramer), Elizabeth (m. Drosch). Mary Kramer had two brothers: Henry and John. *Marilyn Ferguson*

Leo Hausfeld Family — **Standing:** Urban, Esther (Willke), Roman, Jeanette (Bruns), Gregor, Madonna (Goecke), Ivo. **Bottom:** Agnes (Schulze), Armella, Leo, Roseanne (Kleinhenz).

LEO HAUSFELD FAMILY

Leo Hausfeld was born October 28, 1894, son of Anton and Mary Hausfeld. He lived on the family farm in Maria Stein all his life. Leo was a member of St. John's Catholic Church and attended school at St. John. During grade school, his teacher was Aloys Eifert who later became his father-in-law. (Mr. Eifert was a very strict school master, as it has been told. He taught in a one-room school house in Maria Stein in the 1900 era. Later he taught in St. Joe, and was church organist, until he and his family moved to Dayton.)

Leo married Armella Eifert (Jan. 1, 1899-Oct. 28, 1968) on October 15, 1919. Together they raised nine children: *Roman* (Oct. 12, 1920) married Mildred Davis (Feb. 27, 1923) *Rosanna*(Aug. 9, 1923) married Robert Kleinhenz (May 16, 1923) *Madonna*(Oct. 24, 1925) married Louis Goecke (June 25, 1926) *Ivo*(May 20, 1927) married Margie Wuebker (Sept. 19, 1926) *Agnes*(Feb. 1, 1929) married Richard Schulze(Dec. 9, 1927) *Gregor*(Sept. 12, 1930)married Joan Bernard(Aug. 17, 1932) *Urban* (July 14, 1932) *Esther*(Dec. 26, 1933)married William Willke(Feb. 18, 1934 *Jeanette*(Sept. 12, 1939) married Omer Bruns(Jan. 19, 1939)

The crops grown on the farm were: corn, wheat, oats, hay and tomatoes. The livestock were hogs, chickens, geese, and dairy cattle. The Hausfelds bottled and furnished milk for Maria Stein community and sold milk to the local store for many years. Between 1936-1944 tomatoes were grown for the cannery. Eight or ten acres of tomatoes were grown annually. The family picked all the tomatoes by hand. (No migrant workers!)

Since the family was large there was a lot of work to be done by each member. Neighbors helped each other too. Leo belonged to a "threshing ring" called the "7-Up Gang". This was a group of seven ne bors who worked together each threshing sea until all of their fields were finished. They joi owned a threshing machine and a clover hauler.

Butchering day in the winter was also a time w neighbors worked together.

The Hausfeld family had many good times gether. The children remember playing football v the neighbors on State Rt. 119 (now a busy hi way). The doors were always open at home, friends and relatives frequently visited.

On the 4th of July the whole Hausfeld family on the farm for a family reunion with fireworks homemade ice cream (usually 15 gal. of ice cre was eaten every 4th of July). This tradition was ried on until the 1960's.

The older children had their wedding recepti in the top of the hog house, which was cleaned and made fit for a barn dance with square danci beer drinking, and a lot of fun.

Leo was a lively person. He loved candy; chocol covered peanuts were his favorite. His children member after church on Sundays he would buy worth. When they got home, he would run wit into the house with the family after him, and da a jig on the dining room floor holding the candy.

Leo was a member of the uniform rank of Knights of St. John for many years. He was the cl of the St. John's rural school and an active meml of the school board during the era when St. Jo was in the process of consolidating Chickasaw, Rosa, Osgood and Maria Stein schools into the M ion Local Schools.

Armella was a gentle and patient mother. S laughed easily and had an easy-going manner. S loved flowers and spent a lot of time in her garde In her later years, she and Leo belonged to the Fa Bureau and participated in Council meetings. (The meetings were short, and were followed by a gar of cards.)

Armella died of cancer at age 69. Leo stayed the farm with his youngest son Urban until death at age 81 in 1975.

After Leo's death, because of high land prices a estate taxes, the children sold the farm at a lar public auction in March of 1976. The farm was pu chased by Dennis Rethman and Urban Knapk whose son Kenneth moved onto the homestead wi his new bride Marilyn Muhlenkamp. The old farm stead has since been remodeled.*Marilyn (Hausfeld) F guson*

Roman Hausfeld Fami 1973 — **Clockwise, Fr Left Bottom:** Ann, Patri Marilyn, Bob, There Joan, Martha, Joe, Rom and Mildred Hausfeld.

ROMAN HAUSFELD FAMILY

Roman (Romie) Hausfeld was born Oct. 12, 192 on the Hausfeld family farm in Maria Stein. Whe

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began first grade at St. John he spoke only Ger-
ın and had to learn English at school. He and his
›thers and sisters walked one mile to school every
y, and during the summer they went to church
. John's Catholic) on roller skates.

He worked on the farm until after high school
ıen he left for the navy. In the navy, he was a radi-
ıan on the U.S.S. Walker, a destroyer ship in the
cific during WWII. He loved sports, and played
the U.S.S. Walker basketball team.

In March of 1946 he was discharged from the
vy, after which he returned home and began
›rking at Goodyear Tire and Rubber in St. Marys.
Throughout his early adulthood Romie belonged
eight different basketball and baseball teams.

In February of 1947 Romie was driving down the
'eet in St. Henry with Barney Thobe when they
ssed two beautiful young girls; Mildred Davis and
ıte Weitzel, who were walking into the St. Henry
te Club on their way to a dance. The guys fol-
wed them in, and Romie asked Mildred to dance,
›k her home, and on July 24, 1948, he married her.

Mildred Alma Davis (has always been called
Aude"[1]) was born on Feb. 27, 1923 in St. Henry. At
e 13 she had a severe case of typhoid fever — con-
ıcted at the Mercer County Fair. For seven months
e was very ill, with fevers so high that they caused
:r to lose all of her hair. (Mude remembers wear-
g a sippo-cap until her hair grew back.)

Her father (Alfred Davis) died when she was 21,
ıd her mother (Bernadine Romer Davis) remained
ı the home place almost up until the time of her
:ath.

Mude recalls that during her childhood she loved
play outdoors. Her mother baked fresh bread and
lls every Saturday while the girls cleaned the
›use. When the work was done, everyone went out
ı the back steps to eat fresh bread with butter and
'own sugar.

After their marriage, Romie and Mude lived for 3
ıonths with Mude's mother, then they moved to St.
Iarys. In 1957 they bought 1¼ acres of land from
:o Hausfeld on Rt. 716 in Maria Stein and built a
›me there.

Romie and Mude always had a vegetable garden,
ven when they lived in town in St. Marys. Romie
'as never interested in flower gardening, and al-
'ays said "You can't eat flowers". Mude loved to
lant flowers, though.

[1]Mude" rhymes with "good".

Romie and Mude had eight children: *Marilyn*
une 8, 1949) married Max Ferguson. They live on a
ırm west of Celina. *Patricia* (Oct. 7, 1950) married
:ff Clough. They live in Pingree, Idaho, and have a
›n Bradley Joseph. *Martha (Dec. 27, 1951) married*
)avid Hissong. They live in Memphis, Tennessee.
'heresa (Feb. 26, 1954). Lives in Portland, Oregon.
:obert (March 14, 1955). *Joan* (Sept. 29, 1957 *Joseph*
'an. 10, 1961) *Ann* (Jan. 17, 1964)

Both Romie and Mude love music and sang on the
hurch choirs. All of their children took piano les-
ons. Romie was an active member of the commu-
ity involved in the American Legion, Knights of St.
›hn, and sold insurance. In 1970 they began man-
ging the bookings, records, and building and
round care for the Knight's Hall in Maria Stein.

Marilyn (Hausfeld) Ferguson, Celina, Oh. 45822

The Photograph of the Leo Hemmelgarn family was taken in 1945 — Left to Right, Front Row, Seated: Mr. Hemmelgarn, Esther, Ruth, Mrs. Hemmelgarn. **Left to Right, Back Row, Standing:** Sr. Laurena, Louis, Cyril, Arnold, Fr. Werner, Robert, Ralph, and Mary Kaye.

THE LEO J. HEMMELGARN FAMILY

Leo Joseph Hemmelgarn, farmer, teacher, organist, banker, is a fourth generation member of early 1800 German immigrants who were orginally attracted to the flat, fertile lands of the Mercer, Auglaize, and Darke County area.

Leo's grandfather Henry came to the United States from Germany with his parents at 2½ years of age, who settled first at Springfield, Ohio, then at Minster and Cranberry Prairie. He married Catherine Smith, who came from Germany at six years of age. They had six children, of whom Henry was the youngest.

Henry and Catherine cleared the land near Cassella, erected a round log cabin, and were the parents of eight children: Paul Henry, father of Leo, Theodore, Catherine, Bernard, John, Charles, William, and Elizabeth.

Paul Henry always lived in Mercer County and was a farmer all his life. He served several terms on the school board. He purchased a farm near Wendelin in 1877 from Mr. Fraser. This farm was the old Landon Bennett place which was entered in 1835, in the U.S. Land Office at Lima, the deed to which is signed by President Van Buren. Two of the farm's highlights were the German-type, brick, out-door baking ovens and a well kept vineyard.

Paul Henry married Elizabeth Lemm at Cranberry Prairie in 1875. They became the parents of 10 children: Catherine, Cecelia, Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, Charles, Henry, Leo, Theresa, and Maggie.

Leo Joseph, third youngest was born June 15, 1891 on the farm near Wendelin. He attended Wendelin grade school, St. Henry High School, and was a graduate of St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana. His first teaching assignment was at Fink School in Darke County, 1911-1912.

On June 16, 1914 Leo married Catherine Backs, daughter of German immigrants Herman Backs and Catherine Buehler. Catherine was born on the farm near New Weston on October 16, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Backs were the parents of 10 children: Rose, Ben, Mary, Joe, Catherine, Frances, Aloys, Andrew, Leo, and Raymond. Catherine attended Burkettsville school, Fink school, and a boarding school in Minster, Ohio.

Leo and Catherine became the parents of 10 children, all born in Mercer County: Fr. Werner C.PP.S. March 28, 1915; Ralph January 19, 1917; Sister Laurena C.PP.S. May 17, 1918; Arnold August 18,

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1919; Mary Catherine December 1, 1921; Cyril August 1, 1923; Louis March 11, 1925; Esther February 18, 1927; Robert November 18, 1929; and Ruth August 8, 1933.

Leo's next teaching, sexton, and church organist assignment was at Carthagena from 1912 to 1919. Werner, Ralph and Laurena were born here. Then the family moved to Cassella from 1919 to 1933, where Arnold, Mary Kaye, Cyril, Louis, Esther and Robert were born. He then taught at St. Joe, where Ruth was born, until 1943, then at Cranberry Prairie until his teaching retirement in 1950.

They then moved to Ottoville, Ohio where Leo worked in the Ottoville Bank until retirement in 1960, and remained as secretary of the Ottoville Telephone Co. until a few years before his death at the age of 83 in 1974. Mrs. Hemmelgarn died in 1978 and both are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Ottoville.

At this time Fr. Werner C.PP.S. is pastor of St. Edwards Catholic Church, Henning, Minnesota; Ralph married Elsie Braun in 1939, now living in Kettering, Ohio; Sister Laurena C.PP.S. Dayton, Ohio; Arnold married Ruth Lause in 1941 and Irmgard Gressman in 1971, Louisville, Ky; Mary Kaye R.N. married Edw. Dondero in 1950, Long Beach, California; Cyril married Romana Alexander in 1946, Worthington, Ohio; Louis married Gertrude Horwarth in 1947 and Marie Nunn Edstrom in 1960, South Bend, Indiana; Esther R.N. married Ralph Link in 1949, Kettering, Ohio; Robert married Elinor Jane Presar in 1954, Dayton; Ruth married Raymond Miller in 1954, Ottoville, Ohio.

All six sons served in various branches of U.S. Armed Forces during the World War II Conflict.

Currently, there are 28 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. *Ralph C. Hemmelgarn*

CHARLES G. HEINL

Charles G. Heinl is the Great-Grandson of Anthony and Caroline (Daubner) Heinl, both of whom were European birth, Bavarians, the former born at Neubau, in the kingdom of Bavaria, April 29, 1818, and the latter at Huettstadl, August 25, 1821. After their marriage they came to America and became residents of Wapakoneta.

Charles is the Grandson of Casper J. and Catherine (Brown) Heinl, both of whom also were born in Wapakoneta.

He is the Son of Anthony L. and Cora (Fisher) Heinl. His father was from the days of his boyhood interested in his fathers furniture and undertaking establishment and upon completing his schooling in local schools decided to take up the undertaking line as a profession, with this end in view he took a course in the embalming schools at Columbus and at Cincinnati and then entered his fathers establishment.

Charles was born January 8, 1926, in Wapakoneta. Cora (Fisher) Heinl, Charles mother, died on June 29, 1926. On April 9, 1929, Anthony L. Heinl married Edith M. Wehrle. In 1931 the Anthony Heinl family moved to Minster, Ohio, to establish the Heinl Funeral Home and the Heinl Electric. It was here that he grew up and attended the Minster Schools.

He entered the Navy at the age of 17, on January 4, 1944, and was assigned to the U.S.S. Gambier I CVE 73, an Escort Carrier. This ship served in act in the Marianas and Palau and was involved in Second battle of the Phillipine Sea. On October 1944 the Gambier Bay was sunk and Charles adrift at sea for some two days and two nights. was discharged from the Navy on May 16, 1946, then assisted his father in his business until 1953.

On July 15, 1950, Charles married Rita A. Menk daughter of Urban and Rosa (Wendeln) Menker St. John Catholic Church in Maria Stein.

On May 1, 1953, he left his fathers business Minster, and purchased the General Store in Ma Stein from his wifes parents, Urban and R Menker. Charles and Rita have operated the He Grocery since 1953 and celebrated the twenty-fi Anniversary of this store in 1978.

In 1968, Charles together with Anthony Potocl iak of Endicott, New York, and Marty Showers Akron, Ohio, founded the U.S.S. Gambier Bay a VC 10 Association, Incorporated. Since the found of this Association, reunions have been held in ferent cities in the United States every two years. is also a founder of the Heritage Foundation of U.S.S. Gambier Bay and VC 10, Incorporated.

He has been active in civic affairs of the comn nity and belongs to the Knights of St. John 313, which he is now President, Past Commander of American Legion Post 571, Mercer County E 2170, V F.W. Post 9019, Marion Local Athle Boosters, and a Director of the Mercer County A Club.

Charles and Rita Heinl are the parents of two cl dren, John, born February 10, 1952, and Mark, b May 26, 1960. John is a graduate of Bowling Gre State University, and is married to Peg Henders lives in Dayton and is a teacher in the New Carli — Bethel School System. Mary is a Senior at Mari Local High School in Maria Stein.

Charles and Rita are members of St. John Cathc Church. *Mr. & Mrs. Charles G. Heinl*

Paul and Rosalee Holdheide, Robert, L and Bradley

PAUL JOHN HOLDHEID

Paul and Rosalee Holdheide reside at 2056 Rolf Road, Maria Stein, Ohio Marion Township, Merc County.

Paul Holdheide was born in Marion Township St. Rose to Raymond and Josephine (Evers) H dheide on October 3, 1940. Paul attended scho eight years at St. Rose and his four years of hig school at Marion Local in Maria Stein, Ohio. H graduated in 1958 and then helped his father on h farm for one year before his entry into the Army 1959. He served for six months in active duty ar then finished training in the Army Reserve in 1965.

On September 12, 1960 he sought employment

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uffy Corporation in Celina, Ohio. He has been th the company since as a supervisor.

On September 18, 1965 he married Rosalee oelscher. She is the daughter of Clem and Mary rieshop) Hoelscher. Rosalee was born on April 4, 44 at Yorkshire, Ohio in Darke County. She was ucated in the Versailles School system and upon aduation worked for the Copeland Corporation in dney, Ohio. After her marriage she became a omemaker and a mother.

Paul and Rosalee are the parents of three children, obert, born September 23, 1966, Lora, born April 3, 68, and Bradley, born February 2, 1973. They are active members of the St. John Church in Maria ein and attend Marion Local School. *Mrs. Paul Holeide*

ymond Holeide, His Parents d Brothers and ters — **First Row:** izabeth (Rayond's mother), ymond, and nton (Raymond's ther). **Second w:** Stella Clune, cilie Broering, ara Luttmer, ank Holdheide, nna Evers, Rose amer, and Joseine Broering.

RAYMOND HOLDHEIDE

Raymond and Josephine (Evers) Holdheide reside t 1974 Hartings Road, Maria Stein, Ohio, Marion ownship, Mercer County with their son Alvin.

Raymond Holdheide was born October 10, 1903 n Marion Township, Mercer County on the original omeplace to Anton and Elizabeth (Goettemoeller) loldheide. He married Josephine Evers on October 9, 1930. Josephine was born on July 12, 1902. They were both educated at that time in the St. Rose chool.

Raymond's father Anton was born September 20, 855. He died July 31, 1931. He married Elizabeth Goettmoeller on October 19, 1880. Elizabeth was orn on April 23, 1961. She died on May 15, 1928.

Raymond and Josephine resided on a farm in Mercer County which is the ancestral farm of Raymond's grandfather, Bernard Holdheide.

Raymond's grandfather, Bernard born December 8, 1815, died May 31, 1903, came from Oldenburg, Germany and entered this country by ship to Cinnati in 1836. Bernard worked his way up the Miami Erie Canal and settled and bought his farm at t. Rose March 16, 1837. The farm has been in the Holdheide family for four generations and over 140 ears. The original deed was signed by President Van Buren and still remains in the Holdheide possession in excellent condition. Bernard worked on he Miami Erie Canal until it was completed. He also ontributed in 1851 to the construction of the St. Lose Church. He married Anna Mary Hagedorn who also came from Germany. She was born on January 27, 1821 and died on June 6, 1904.

Raymond and Josephine are the parents of seven hildren. Ralph — born November 17, 1931 married oann Winner October 9, 1954. They live in Ft. Loraie, Ohio and Ralph is self-employed. Alvin — born July 17, 1933 lives at St. Rose, Ohio and is employed at Pax steel in Coldwater, Ohio. Wilma — born July 25, 1935 married Wilfred Albers April 11, 1959. They own their own farm at Celina, Ohio. Wilma is a homemaker and mother. Jerry — born February 7, 1937 married Velma Unrast November 11, 1961. They own their own farm at Newport, Ohio. Jerry is also employed at the Stolle Corporation in Sidney, Ohio. Werner — born February 10, 1939 married Joann Unrast October 10, 1964. They own their own farm at St. Henry, Ohio. Werner is also employed at Pax Steel in Coldwater, Ohio. Paul — born October 3, 1940 married Rosalee Hoelscher September 18, 1965. They live in Maria Stein, Ohio. Paul is employed at Huffy Corporation in Celina, Ohio. Leonard — born May 6, 1945 Married Marilyn Schmiesing August 10, 1968. They farm and live on the original Holdheide farm at St Rose, Ohio.

Raymond and Josephine are both active members of the St. Rose Catholic Church where Raymond at one time was in the church chorus. Raymond also was a schoolboard member for the St. Rose school. *Mrs. Paul Holdheide*

John & Bernadine Homan

HOMAN FAMILY

John Homan, son of Joseph and Mary Wertmoeller Homann Bernadine Pohlman, daughter of Herman and Catherine Schrage Pohlmann

John Homan (born February 21, 1868 — died June 4, 1953) and Bernadine Pohlman (born June 1, 1875 — died October 2, 1963) were married November 7, 1894. John had purchased a tract of land (120 acres) from John M. & H. Kramer on August 21, 1890. This land was situated one mile from Church, School, Market and Maria Stein railroad station, one half mile from pike, in Section 26, Marion Township, Mercer County, Ohio. It was bought on public sale and the buildings included a one two-story brick dwelling, one frame and log barn, one large frame hog stable, one frame granary, one frame smokehouse and woodshed. He purchased another 20 acres on June 26, 1897. John and Bernadine owned and farmed the same farm all their wedded life. They had six children. John was active in community and church affairs. They are both buried on the St. Johns Cemetery, Maria Stein, Ohio. The children are: Anna (born February 17, 1896 — died January 7, 1968) married Albert Hartings on April 21, 1920. They had five children: Louis — March 4, 1921, Gregory — January 7, 1925, Esther — September 14, 1926, Bernard — February 2, 1931 and Hilda — June 2, 1938. They owned and operated a farm near Chickasaw, Ohio. Rose (born February 23, 1900) married Alfred Albers on June 1, 1927. They had five children: Eugene — May 21, 1930, Lucille — July 19, 1931, Ivo — March 26, 1934, Alvina — November 6, 1935, and Luke — May 27, 1938. They owned and operated a farm near Montezuma, Ohio. Lawrence (born January 19, 1904) married Mary Schulte on June 6, 1928. Lawrence took over the

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farm that his father John had bought and worked. They have seven children: Othmar — February 24, 1929, Leonard — March 30, 1930, Mary Ann — February 7, 1933, Dolores — July 27, 1936, Irene — March 6, 1938, Viola — December 30, 1939 and Dorothy — May 18, 1945. Pauline (born October 3, 1908) married Joseph Rethman on May 6, 1931. They have five children: Walter — April 13, 1933, Elmer — February 18, 1935, Ralph — September 23, 1937 and twins — Mark, March 26, 1941 and Mary, March 26, 1941. They own and operate a farm in Darke County near Versailles, Ohio. Matilda (born March 6, 1914) married Albert Wynk on May 5, 1936. They have five children: Eileen — March 23, 1937, Paul — April 9, 1940, Vernon — December 5, 1942, Donald — September 18, 1948 and Alice — January 25, 1952. They own and operate a farm near Montezuma, Ohio. Catherine — died shortly after birth on September 11, 1915. *submitted by Dolores Cron,*

Front Row, Seated: Elizabeth (Homan) Evers, Joseph Homan I from Herbern Germany (father), Philomena (Homan) Pohlman. **Back Row, Standing:** Catherine (Homan) Moeller, John, Joseph Homan II, Theodore Homan, Mary (Homan) Li haus.

HOMAN FAMILY

Many years ago in approximately 1850, at the age of 21, Joseph Homan emigrated to this country to begin a new life in America. Not much is known about his journey. He was born in Herbern at Munster, Westphalen Germany. It has been said he worked as a farm laborer before he married Mary Wertmuller (Wertmoeller), an only child. They made their residence with her parents, which is the first farm east of St. Rose Church on the north side of State Route 119.

To this union ten children were born, although only seven lived to a moderate old age. His wife, Mary Wertmuller, died when her youngest child was born, which was on December 9, 1876 at the age of 36. He later remarried and his second wife died six months later of pneumonia. He again married for a third time. He lived nine more years after the death of his third wife.

Joseph Homan died at St. Rose on January 25, 1907 at the age of 77. He is buried in the St. Rose cemetery.

His children were: Mary Homan married Bernard Lindhaus, she died at the age of 80. Catherine and Elizabeth both died while quite young. Heinreich died while single at the age of 21. Theodore Homan married Mary Evers and he died at the age of 56. John Homan married Bernadine Pohlman and he passed away at 85. Joseph Homan married Mary Neimeyer and he lived to be 84. They again named two younger daughters Catherine and Elizabeth. Catherine Homan married Henry Moeller, she died at 69. Elizabeth Homan married Henry Evers and she died at 79. Philomena Homan married John Pohlman and she died at 71.

We, the younger generation, feel they all lived a good, religious, energetic life and set a good exam for everybody who followed in their footsteps. seph Homan helped build the present St. R Church in Mercer County, Ohio. He never returr to Germany for a visit.

Lawrence and Mary Homan

LAWRENCE HOMAN FAMILY

Lawrence, son of John and Bernadine Pohlma Homan. Mary Schulte, daughter of Charles a Agnes Meier Schulte

Lawrence (born January 19, 1904) and Ma Schulte (born September 12, 1907) were married the Precious Blood Catholic Church in Chickasa Ohio on June 6, 1928. They are the parents of sev children. Lawrence and Mary purchased the far that his parents settled on and lived their enti wedded life. It is located on Rolfes Road, Mari Township, Maria Stein, Ohio. In January 1947, a t nado touched down and destroyed the entire ro and upper level of the two and a half story bri home and completely up-rooted the large ced trees in the front yard. Many neighbors, friends a relatives volunteered assistance and a new roof w put on in a very short time. Due to the age and co dition of the brick house, it was replaced with a ne frame home a few years later.

Lawrence was also a member and owner of thrashing rig that was purchased by a number neighbors. Each summer all the grain was harvest by the use of this thrashing rig along with the m of each family and sons old enough to help. The l dies would provide large meals for all the hel Many times at the end of the summer, a large neig bor-hood family picnic would be enjoyed by all. A other custom of exchange labor that was typical f them in the 1930's and 1940's was butchering a curing enough meat to last the summer months.

They are active members of the St. John's Catho Church. Othmar (born February 24, 1929) marri Rita Tumbusch on May 16, 1953. They have fo children: Michael — March 27, 1955, William - October 6, 1956, Cynthia — October 25, 1960, a Patricia — December 12, 1967. They purchased t family farm that his father and grandfather befo him owned and farmed. Othmar also works Avco-New Idea in Coldwater, Ohio. Leonard (bo March 30, 1930) married Alice Pleiman on Octob 4, 1952, and have five sons: Ronald — November 1 1958, Richard — August 28, 1961, Roger — April 2 1964, Roy — December 8, 1967, and Robert - March 2, 1971. Leonard works at Matt Schwiete man, Inc., at Coldwater, Ohio. They reside at Mar Stein, O. Mary Ann (born February 7, 1933) marri Maurice Harting on July 3, 1954 and have one so

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nes was born January 31, 1958. They own and operate a farm south of Cassella, Ohio. Dolores (born ly 27, 1936) married Maurice Cron on September , 1957 and they have five children: Joyce — September 11, 1958, Keith — July 31, 1959, Laura — December 31, 1960, Joseph — October 27, 1962, and ıssell — March 3, 1965. They have an insurance ency in Coldwater, Ohio. Irene (born March 6, 38) married Roger Will on November 14, 1959 and ve six children: Nancy — August 26, 1960, David August 5, 1961, Linda — September 19, 1963, ne — February 19, 1965, Carmen — June 2, 1969, d Lisa — January 12, 1972. They own and operate arm near St. Sebastian, Ohio. Viola (born Decem- r 30, 1939) married Lester Stammen June 24, 1962 d they have three children: Alan — May 13, 1963, nn — January 6, 1965, and Teresa — March 9, 69. They own and operate a farm near Lightsville, hio. Dorothy (born May 18, 1945) married Daniel fert on April 20, 1968. Their children are: Thomas June 17, 1969, Nicholas — June 12, 1971, John expired shortly after birth — September 19, 1974, and atthew — April 28, 1976. Daniel works at St. Clair ill in Ft. Recovery, Ohio. They reside at Cassella, hio. *Submitted by: Dolores Cron*

THE CHARLES H. HUELSMAN FAMILY

Charles H. Huelsman born March 23 1904 at ranberry-Prairie Ohio., The son of John and Mary . (Meiering) Huelsman

Mary C. Zahn born June 20 1911 at North Star, hio; The Daughter of Edward and Helen (Schoen) ahn; Charles Huelsman Married Mary C Zahn July) — 1929 At Chickasaw, O and were the Parents of harles E born 1930, Married Helen Jean Vogel harles E. Died 1974) Robert V. born 1932, Married larlene Vondrell Paul W. born 1933, Married Alice rillot Mary Helen born 1935, Married Edgar chwieterman Delores born 1937, Married Lowell ohman Alfredia born 1945, Married Walter chwieterman Fred Born 1945, (Died 1970) Jean orn 1951, Married Ralph Stachler Jane born 1951, larried Adrian Grillot Jr. *Charles H. Huelsman*

IMWALLE FAMILY

Herman Imwalle was born in Germany. Upon eaching manhood, he came to America and settled ı Marion Township, Mercer County.

He married Elizabeth Heckman, a daughter of lenry Deitrich Heckman. They lived on a farm of 40 acres situated in section 25, Marion Township. le later purchased the Heckman farm. Herman and lizabeth had two children. Frederick who died at ge five and John.

John was born on Aug. 7, 1860. He was raised on is father's farm. After the death of his father in 873, John continued the farming and lived the rest f his life on that farm.

John Inwalle married Catherine Bruggeman on pril 10, 1882. She was the daughter of Bernard and lizabeth (Weldenhaus) Bruggeman. John and Catherine Imwalle were the parents of eleven children: rederick J. (May 25, 1884 — May 7, 1907); Joseph B. (March 9, 1886 —); John G. (Jan. 10, 1888 — Feb. 18, 1899); Herman H. (Dec. 18, 1889 — Nov. 10, 1965); William H. (Oct. 10, 1892 — June 22, 1949); Sophia L. (June 29, 1896 — Jan. 18, 1971); Rosalia M. (Feb. 3, 1899 —); Mathilda L. (Dec. 7, 1901 — Jan. 27, 1975); Vincent F. (Sept. 29, 1903 — April 8, 1968); George B. (July 15, 1905 — March 27, 1908); Julia C. (April 20, 1907 —).

Joseph, who never married, is still living on the family farm with his sister Rosalia.

Herman, Vincent, and Julia lived and worked in Dayton.

Mathilda became a nun. She was known as Sister Domonic in the Precious Blood order.

Sophia married Julius Lechleiter.

Rosalia married Frank Thobe. She still lives on the family farm. Rosalia's son and grandson, Wilbert and Kenneth Thobe, own and still operate the family farm.

William and Herman were both in the service during WWI.

William Imwalle married Elizabeth Huelskamp on Nov. 19, 1919. Her parents were Bernard and Rosa (Thobe) Huelskamp.

William and Elizabeth had 10 children: Armella (Dec. 4, 1920 —) Louis (June 23, 1922 — Jan. 19, 1945); Walter (Dec. 26, 1923 —); Herbert (July 20, 1925 — July 3, 1974); Richard (March 29, 1927 — March 13, 1976); Matilda (May 3, 1929 —); Alfred (April 28, 1931 — Aug. 20, 1955); Eugene (May 11, 1933 —); Frederick (April 17, 1935 —); Edward (April 26, 1937).

Armella married Joseph Baumer. They live on a farm near Bryant, Ind. They are the parents of: Larry, Jim, Jean, and Bill. Louis married Evelyn Rosengarten. They had one daughter, Diana. Louis died during WWII. His widow later married Paul Parrinello. Walter married Dorothy Mescher. They live in Maria Stein. They are the parents of: Jack, Beck, Lynn, and Jay. Herbert married Irene Gaier. They lived in Newport, Ohio. They were the parents of: Linda, Connie, Mike, Steve, Debbie, Kathy, Dave and Dan. Irene died in 1964 as the result of an automobile accident. Herbert later married Jean (Raterman) Brandewie. She was a widow with these children: Steve, Bill, Dan, Shirley, Mark, and Eric. Herb and Jean had two children Shelly and Joe. Richard married Martha Toben. They lived near St. Marys. They were the parents of: Eric, Sonnie, Allen, Cindy, Rick, Kim, Holly, Tammy and Scott. Matilda married Cyril Stammen. They live in St. Henry. They are the parents of: Marlene, Brenda, Fred, and Ted. Alfred died at the age of 24 of Hodgkins disease. Eugene married Doris Hartings. They live in Maria Stein. They are the parents of: Gary, Angie, and Lisa. Fred married Phyllis Simons. They live in Dayton. They are the parents of Randy, Rusty, Mindy and Jackie. Ed married Janet Niekamp. They live in Vandalia. They are the parents of: Todd, Beth, Shane, and Hondo. Six of the eight sons were in the service, either during WWI or the Korean War. Louis the oldest son was killed in Burma on Jan. 19, 1945.

My children are the fifth generation of Imwalle's to attend St. John's Catholic Church and schools in Maria Stein. They no longer have to walk the two miles to school and church as the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and some of the 4th generations did. *Doris Imwalle*

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BERNARD HENRY KNAPKE

On Oct. 10, 1842, Bernard Henry Knapke (1817-1884) arrived in Baltimore aboard the Elise accompanied by his sister Catherine, age 33, and his mother Gertrude, age 66. His occupation was farming and he came from Bilse, about ¼ mile from Neuenkirchen. Bernard Henry acquired 80 acres west of St. John (Section 23, Marion Township) which is still owned by Knapkes. In 1848, he married Catharine Kramer (1829-1886) and had three children; J.F. Henry (1850-1931); J. Bernard (1852-1907); and M. Elisabeth born in 1855.

J.F. Henry was married to Theresia Seitz (1860-1945) in 1877, and had 8 children; Bernard Henry (1879-1953) who married Sophia Hartings (1881-1942); Frank Joseph (1881-1965) who married Philomenia Pohlkamp (1885-1964); John Bernard (1883-1949) who married Anna Bruns (1889-1968); John August (1885-1965) who married Leona B. Roeckner (1890-1971); M. Catharine (1886-1974) who married Anthony Eyink (1885-1967); M. Elizabeth (1889-1970) who married Ben Bruns and later married Henry Braun (1888-1971); M. Agatha (1891-1935) who became Sr. Delphina; and M. Rosa (1893-1972) who became St. Eugenia.

J.F. Henry was willed 160 acres including the original land by his father Bernard Henry in Marion Township. *Mrs. Thomas Knapke*

Knapke Family — **Back Row:** Ann, Tom, Leander, Gerald, Louis. **Front Row:** Rosemary, Elenora, Pam, Ivo, Emily, Rita.

LEE KNAPKE FAMILY

Leander Knapke son of Joseph and Catherine Knapke was married to Elenora Hartings daughter of John and Bernadine Leugers Hartings on August 21, 1943.

We moved in with his parents on St. Johns Road.

When his mother died he took over the Farm and has lived there 35 years. We have 8 children, Louis, Rosemary, Rita, Thomas, Gerald, Ivo, Ann, and Emily.

Louis married to Mary Fleckenstein from Fort Loramie on June 7, 1969 and they have 4 children Leah 7, Steven 5, Jeffrey 2 and Laura 6 months. They live in Maria Stein.

Rosemary married Anthony Fullenkamp from St. Henry on February 2, 1974. They have 2 girls Lisa 2, and Karen 1. They live on the farm at Fort Loramie.

Rita married Robert Neikamp from New Bremen on August 21, 1971. They have 3 children Scott 5, Amy 4 and Julie 2. They live in New Bremen.

Thomas and Gerald the twins are single and live at home. Thomas works at Crown in New Bremen. Gerald works at I.E.Machine in Minster.

Ivo married Pam Schweiterman from St. Sabastian on June 18, 1977. They have one son Kurt month old. They live in Maria Stein.

Ann married Dave Long from Hoytville, Ohio March 6, 1976. They have one son Chris 1 year ol They live in Findlay, Ohio.

Emily lives at home and works at Hobarts in Tro

Lee Knapke

Koester Farm

KOESTERS' FARM

It was during the presidential era of Abraham Li coln that Henry Koesters of Minster, Ohio in A glaize County bought an 80 acre farm one mi south of Cassella, Ohio in Mercer County. Transf date being September 30, 1864.

He married Marie Hoelscher. Their first hom stead was located on the northwest corner of t farm. After the birth of their first child (Catherine Marie died. A few months later Henry married M ria Dahlinghaus. Nine children resulted from th union — Elizabeth, Bernard, John, Henry, Augus Lawrence, Joseph, Anthony and Pauline.

In 1880 a barn was erected in the center of th farm and two years later the present 8-room fram house was built north of the barn.

This family attended Nativity of the Blessed Vi gin Mary Church in Cassella and the children r ceived their education at the one-room school i Cassella.

In 1898 Henry Koesters bought an additional 3 acres of land a half mile west of the present farm.

Of the nine children only August remained on th farm. He took possession in 1906. His marriage t Clara Schroeder in 1905 resulted in eight children – Clarence, Julian, Josephine, Helena, Herbert, Regin Albert and Raymond. This family also attended t same church and school in Cassella.

August was a member of the School Board, t church choir and a charter member of the Cathol Knights of America in Cassella.

Disaster struck in 1920 when a tornado roare through the area destroying most of the barn an other buildings. (Picture enclosed) Fortunately n one was injured. However, it was a severe financi setback for the family.

The next fifteen years were financially hard time along with the big depression.

In 1932 Clarence Koesters rented the farm fro August Koesters for one year after marrying Octavi Meyers. During this time they had one child, Frar ces. They moved to Spring Valley, Ohio and Colc water, Ohio after that and proceeded to have seve more children.

During World War II August had to farm himse even though he was 65 years old.

In 1946, Albert rented the farm from August fc one year after serving his country in the Army. H was married to Vivian Tekamp and they had on

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ild (Jerry) during that time. After that they moved Coldwater, Ohio where they had two more children.

In 1947, Raymond, also a veteran, rented the farm om his father. He married Thelma Dahlinghaus in 49 and they had five children — Rita, Tom, June, hn and Carl.

Raymond took possession of the farm in 1964 just ıe hundred years after the first deed was issued to Koesters. He remains the present owner-operator.

The remaining children of the August Koesters mily: Julian married Frances Geier — 4 children. sephine married Arthur Schroer — 4 children. elena married John Sadlier — 3 children. Regina arried Richard Klus — 4 children.

Deaths include Herbert in 1920; August in 1963; lara in 1971; Helena in 1973 and Julian in 1976. *Raymond Koesters*

HENRY KRAMER

Parents. Henry Kramer married Elizabeth Wente leceased) Son Henry Kramer married Rosa Holdeide (both deceased), Son Frank Kramer married osina Bergman. Daughter Mary Kramer married ;regor Goettemoeller. (both deceased) Daughter .osa Kramer (living) married John Siefring (deeased.) Daughter Florantine Kramer married Lauence Klosterman. Son John Kramer married Emma indhaus. Daughter Katherine Kramer (living) marıed Edwin Dirksen (deceased). Son Lawrence .ramer married Laurena Bergman. *L. Kramer*

John M. Kramer

JOHN M. KRAMER

Heinrich Kramer I was born on June 24, 1791, in Nienkerken bei Vorden, Oldenburg, Germany. In 1820, he married Anna Maria Renneker in Vorden. They lived in Vorden near the Holland border owning a small plot of land without buildings and lived n rent. Finding it difficult to make a living, every spring and summer he would go into Holland and cut turf (processed into fuel). In 1835 Heinrich, Anna Maria and their four children left by sail boat from Bremen landing in Baltimore. This took 17 weeks. What a trip that must have been! They continued by wagon to Cincinnati where their fifth child was born. During the eight weeks there, Heinrich procured 80 acres of land for $100.00 in what is now Mercer County. They arrived in what is now Maria Stein finding several German families already settled there. They had to clear the land for a cabin so they had a place to live. Through hard work including working on the Canal being built at Stallotown (Minster) 10 hours a day for 40 cents, Heinrich acquired another 40 acres in a few years.

Their son, Heinrich II, born in 1826 in Germany married Margaretha Reichert in 1857 at the Maria Stein Catholic Church. When his father died, he inherited the home place on Rolfes Rd, now owned by Lawrence Homan. Their son, John M., was born Feb 2, 1859. He married Catherine Hausfeld on May 28, 1884. On the same day, his only sister Mary married Catherine's brother Anthony.

John and Catherine had two daughters. Henrietta married Henry Ashman and lived in Cassella. Eleonora married Edward Schwieterman, lived in Sebastian and later moved to Burkettsville.

John lived on the home place till 1890, then sold it for $6,100.00 to John Homan. They moved to the Maria Stein Railroad Station where he and his only brother Henry built a grain elevator, a machine shop and later a lumber yard. John did most of the work in the machine shop but sold it in 1899 when he with several others started the Marion Telephone Co. As manager of the Telephone Co. and also doing plumbing and heating work, he had to employ several people year around. Later, he helped start the Marion Mutual Insurance Company.

During this time, his wife Catherine died in 1895. With help from others he raised his two daughters until June 21, 1898 when he married Caroline Droesch. They had five children. Mary graduated as a registered nurse from St. Rita's Hospital and worked in Lima till her retirement. She now lives in Tampa, Florida. Regina married Gregor Esser from Minot, North Dakota. He died in 1953. She also lives in Tampa. Armella married Al Wendel, lives on a farm at Sharpsburg. Medard, their only son, married Betty Hohman. Following in his father's footsteps, he worked for 35 years at United Telephone Company in Portland and Warsaw, Indiana. He died in Warsaw in 1975. Margaret, the youngest, after graduating from Coldwater High School, entered Precious Blood Convent in Dayton becoming a nun, taking the name Sr. M. Ida. After teaching the lower grades for nearly 50 years, she is semi-retired at Precious Blood Parish, Dayton.

John Kramer was always active in community affairs. He was secretary for the building committee for the new Catholic Church built in 1888-90. He was a charter member of the St Rochus Chapter of the Knights of St. John and belonged to their Uniform Ranks.

He died January 28, 1927 and was buried at St John's Catholic Cemetery in Maria Stein. *Mrs. Norbert Schmitz*

THE KREMER HOMESTEAD

Henry Kramer, born in Germany, came to America with his son Detrick Kremer in 1835.

Detrick, born September 4, 1807, and Elizabeth

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(Bueder) Kremer, born November 10, 1808 were natives of Ankum, Germany. Prior to coming to America, Detrick served three years in the German Army. They were very poor when they arrived in America, with only the clothes they were wearing, and one dollar, they received from a sponsor. After remaining in Cincinnati, Ohio for ½ year, they came to Minster, Ohio. They remained in Minster for six months, until Detrick selected a farm in Maria Stein, Ohio. This farm consisted of 40 acres, purchased for $75 and it was nothing but a wilderness. He first put up a log house, which was replaced with a better one, and later with a comfortable frame house. Detrick added 120 acres, so at the time of his death he left an estate of 160 acres. This land is located 1½ miles north of Maria Stein, Ohio and was purchased from the United States Government. The original deed states, "Land purchased by Henry Kramer (spelled Kramer) May 13, 1836. Transferred to Detrick Kremer January 14, 1839.

Detrick and Elizabeth became the parents of eight children — Elizabeth — Mrs. Gerhard Stammen; Mary — Mrs. Henry Vonderhaar; Caroline — Mrs. Henry Will; Anna — Mrs. John Reichert; Philomena — Mrs. Joseph Kramer; Katherine — Mrs. John Buehler; Agnes — Mrs. Joseph Roeckner; and Frank. Detrick died at the age of 78 and Elizabeth at the age of 70.

Frank, son of Detrick and Elizabeth (Bueder)Kremer, was born March 10, 1849 in Maria Stein, Ohio. In 1874, Frank added 20 acres to the farm. He was a farmer, member of the Catholic Church and as a good citizen, he was held in high esteem in his community. Frank and Mary (Seitz) Kremer, married November 26, 1872, became the parents of 11 children — John D. married Elizabeth Menker, 2nd wife Agnes Menker; Elizabeth — Mrs. John Kleinhenz; Catherine — Mrs. Frank Evers; Anton — married Mary Evers; Joseph — Rev. Sebastian; *August*; Anna — Mrs. Joseph Meiring; Frank H. — married Regina Bertke. Henry, Joseph and Mary died in infancy. Frank died at the age of 67 and Mary at the age of 34. The land was transferred to Frank Kremer February 26, 1873.

August, son of Frank and Mary (Seitz) Kremer, was born February 6, 1883 in Maria Stein, Ohio. He was a farmer on the homestead and was active in his community. August and Catherine (Bertke) Kremer married April 16, 1907 in Maria Stein, Ohio were the parents of 10 children — Alphonse — married Pauline Budde; Norma — Mrs. Ed Dahlinghaus; Ruth — Mrs. Elmer Heitkamp; Felix — married Barbara Homan; David — married Madonna Homan; Edith — Mrs. Jerome Brun; *Paul*; Rose — Mrs. Norbert Geier; Henry and Agnes died in infancy. August died at the age of 64 and Catherine at the age of 56. August and Catherine and their parents and grandparents are buried on the St. John Cemetery in Maria Stein, Ohio. This land was transferred to August Kremer January 18, 1915.

Paul Kremer is the present owner of the Kremer Homestead. Paul, son of August and Catherine (Bertke) Kremer was born April 22, 1925 in Maria Stein, Ohio. He is a farmer, the fifth generation, and takes an active part in his community. Paul and Mary Ann (Lochtefeld) Kremer, married May 24, 1950 in Chickasaw, Ohio are the parents of nine children. Nicholas — married Lois Bruns; Robert (deceased); John; Joseph; Charles; Dennis; Verno Teresa; and Michael. One hundred acres were tran ferred to Paul Kremer February 7, 1952 and 80 acr in March of 1961. This farm still consists of 1 acres. *Paul Kremer*

VERENA (BILLS) LANGENKAMP

Daughter of Anthony Bills and Leona Boek Verena married Richard Langenkamp. Their chi dren: Rita married Ronald Kremer. Their childre are Gregory, Brenda, Susan; Irene married Robe Kuenning; Agnes married Thomas Wermert; Hen and James. *Werner Boecke*

George Leugers, died 1879, age 72 Yea Was the first and original Leugers

LEUGERS FAMILY

George Leugers and Catherine (Herkenhoff) Leu gers, both about 28 years old, came over from Ger many to America in 1835, locating at Cincinna where they lived some two years. They then move to Mercer County where George bought an 80-acr farm from The United States Government, payin $1.25 per acre. This farm was located in Mario Township about two miles south of the St. Ros church. George died in 1879 at the age of 72, an Catherine died in 1881. Both are buried in St. Ros cemetery. They had five children.

The oldest was Henry Leugers born in 1838. H married Thersa Post. Henry Leugers died in 1865 a the age of 27, and is buried in the St. Rose cemetery They had two children. The oldest being Heinrich Leugers born in 1864. Heinrich married Agnes Over man, and they had five children named: Herma Leugers, Bernadine (Leugers) Hartings, Tersa (Leu gers) Liening, Francis (Leugers) Puthoff, and Anna (Leugers) Bruns. Heinrich died in 1901 at the age o 37, and is buried in St. Rose. His wife, Agnes, remarried Gerhard Buening. She died in 1940 at the age o 70, and is buried in Egypt, Ohio.

Up to this time, the original George Leugers, his son Henry Leugers, and his son Heinrich Leugers were all farmers and all lived south of St. Rose, owning different farms and acreage.

Heinrich Leugers first born was Herman Leugers who married Leona Huber, and they had five children: Henry, Joseph, Alvina (Bernard), Rosemary (Moeller), and Arthur Leugers.

Herman Leugers taught school for many years and in 1941 went into the insurance business full time. Herman Leugers died in 1959 at the age of 68. Leona Leugers died in 1978 at the age of 86. Both are buried in the St. Rose cemetery.

Henry Leugers, the oldest son of Herman Leugers, married Lillian Feltz, lives in Maria Stein and is in the insurance business. They have four children: Kathleen, who married Ed Hoene and lives in Newport, Ohio. At this time, they have three children:

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mberly, Jeff, and Rebecca. David Leugers is living ıd working in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Judith arried Marvin Wilson and they are farming in innesota; Robert, the youngest son, is living at ome and is working in the family insurance busi-ess. *Henry Leugers*

Bernard and Mary (Homan) Lindhaus

BERNARD LINDHAUS

Mary Homan daughter of Joseph & Mary (Wert-ıoeller) Homan Bernard Lindhaus son of Henry & lizabeth (Bushman) Lindhaus

Mary (born 2-2-1858 — died 5-7-1938) Married ernard (born 5-24-1849 — died 6-22-1938). They ad two children. They purchased the farm that his arents had settled on. It is believed that Bernard's arents homesteaded the property and lived in a log abin. In 1880 they built a large brick home which ıey moved into and it is still occupied today. It is ocated north of Cassella in Marion Township. On ıe farm, there was a 20-acre woodland which had a eautiful creek running through it and many people njoyed family picnics in the woods.

Ida (born 9-12-1884 — died 1-3-1970) married Ja-ob Cron (born 12-8-1878 — died 1-8-1917). They ad five children and Jacob died at age 38, leaving a ridow and five young children. Arnold — 11-24-905, Odellia — 12-4-1907, Alfred — 5-24-1910, Flo-enz — 5-18-1913, and Hilda — 2-2-1916. Ida pur-hased the farm that her parents and grandparents wned and farmed, on 1-25-1933.

Anna (born 10-7-1892 — died 10-27-1960) mar-ied Leo Bertke (born 7-16-1889 Died 7-30-1973) on ıne 10, 1914. They purchased a farm South of Cas-ella and farmed the land. They were the parents of en children: Leander — 5-20-1915, Cyril — 6-16-917, Wilbur — 1-5-1920, Euletta — 5-19-1922, wins Marinus 12-8-1924 — died 3-1-1925 and Mary ann — 12-8-1924 — died 2-24-1925, Louis 1-14-926, Ernest 9-17-1928, Dennis 4-27-1931 and died -1-1932, and Norma 6-17-1933. *Dolores Cron*

THE BERNARD MEIER FAMILY

Bernard Meier was one of nine children born to Michael and Martha (Stucke) Meier in 1866 on Mi-hael's farm located in Marion Township on Huwer oad close to St. Rt. 716 near Maria Stein, Ohio.

This farm was purchased by Michael and con-isted of 80 acres. He got a 5 room log cabin house uilt and the barn was built in 1883. Besides doing is farm work, Michael also did some tailoring at his ome.

The children born to Michael and Martha were ohn, Mary (Sister Blanche), Joe, Christina, Frank, ernard, Agnes, Fred, and Rosa.

Bernard later got the farm plus he purchased an extra 40 acres nearby, and he and his brother Frank, who lived at home with Bernard, added on two more sections to the house to make it an 8-room house. Also some other small buildings were built on the place by Frank and Bernard. Bernard's occupation was in farming.

Bernard married in 1900 to Elizabeth Heitkamp, who was born in 1879 and the daughter of Joseph and Anna (Goecke) Heitkamp. They raised five children: Blanche born 1901, Aloys 1903, Roman 1909, Luella 1914, and Verina 1918. (There were five known babies that died in infancy.)

Blanche, married Aloys Osterloh in 1925 and they made their home near Egypt, Ohio. Their children are: Alma, Rita, Othmar, Jerry, Linus, Ivo, Alberta, Irvin, Janice. (A daughter, Laura, died at an early age.)

Aloys, who died in 1974, married Rose Bruns in 1926 and they resided near St. Rose, Ohio. Their children are: Julitta, Eileen, Velma, Lillian, Marilyn, Edna, Joann, Anita, Diane, Larry, Dale, Nick, Mary Lou. (Two children, Marvin and Mary Magdalene, died in infancy.)

Roman, who later owned the 120 acre farm after his mother died, married Clara Piekenbrock in 1936. Their children are: Alice, Donald, Richard, Cyril, Charlene, Roger, Stanley, Lucille.

Luella, married Elmer Bruns in 1936 and lives near St. Sebastian, Ohio. Their children are: Willard, Omar, Eugene, Evelyn, Lavern, Dennis, Mary Ellen, John, Lois, Mark.

Verina, married Elmer Bohman in 1939 and resides close to Frenchtown, Ohio. Their children are: Orville, Angela, Karen, Jane, Tom, Dave, Linda.

Bernard died on June 25, 1944 and was buried in St. John's Cemetery in Maria Stein, Ohio. Elizabeth, his wife, died on February 10, 1961 and was buried there also.

Roman's occupation was in farming and he and his wife are still living on the farm. The house had another section built on and now is a 10 room house.

Roman and Clara's children: Alice born (1937) married Rich Keefer and have one daughter (Tammy). Donald (1939) married Linda Cook, have three children (Steven, Melissa, and Deborah). Richard (1941) married Patricia Eischen, have four children (David, Jeffrey, Kenneth, Cindy). Cyril (1943) hasn't married. Charlene (1945) married Jim Platfoot, have two sons (Jesse and Gary). Roger (1947) hasn't married. Stanley (1951) married Connie Schmitz, have two sons (Douglas and Gregory). Lucille (1953) married John Steinbrunner and also have two sons (Adam and Lance).

The farm is now rented to Roman's son, Richard, who is the 4th generation. *Lucy Steinbrunner*

JOSEPH MEIRING

Joseph Meiring (Meyering) married Anna Gertrude Wisman and from this union 7 children were born. Carl William (also called Wilhelm and Gulielmus) born 14 Jan 1846 at Maria Stein; Fredrius Augustinus born 13 Feb 1848 and died 11 Sep 1848; Mary Bernardina born 14 Jun 1850; Catharine (1852); Frank Henry born 13 Mar 1854; Anna Margaret born 14 May 1857; Anna Marie Catherine born

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18 Nov 1860.

Joseph, born 1 Jan 1823 died 11 Jun 1897 at the age of 74 years. Gertrude, born 6 Dec 1821, died 16 Aug 1905 at the age of 84 years. Both are buried in St. Joseph's Church Cemetery in Egypt, Ohio (Auglaize County).

Carl William married Katharina Meinerding, daughter of John Wenceslaus Meinerding and Elizabeth Evers on 24 Nov 1870 and lived in Gibson Township. They had the following children: Maria Elizabeth (1872-1950) married John Francis Hemmelgarn, son of Theodore Hemmelgarn and Mary Huelsman on 28 Oct 1891; Maria (1874-1940) married John Huelsman, son of John Joseph Huelsman and Josephine Knapke on 14 Nov 1900; Bernadina (1877) married Mr. Schmitt; Franz (1880-1881), Anna (1882-1963) m. Peter Klingshirn, Wilhelm B., Wenzeslaus (1887-1961), Bernard H. (1889-1944), Carl, Sarah. They were members of St. Paul's Catholic Church in Sharpsburg, Gibson Township. William died on 9 Nov 1907 at the age of 61 years. Katharina, born 7 May 1851 died 12 Oct 1933 at the age of 82 years. Both are buried in Sharpsburg Cemetery.

Bernardina married Carl Meinerding, and their descendants are listed under history of John Wenceslaus Meinerding. Frank married Louisa Westgerdes on 13 May 1880, Catharine married Henry Niemeyer on 8 May 1873, Anna Margaret, and Anna Marie Catherine married Henry Elking. *submitted by: Roxanne Framme Hemmelgarn*

JOHN WENCESLAUS MEINERDING

John Wenceslaus (also called Wessel) Meinerding, his wife Elizabeth Evers and one child Clemmons landed in Baltimore, Md. on 23 Jul 1834 on the Ship "Johannes" with Clement Vehorn and his wife Maria Anna Evers. Their ship left from Bremen, but Wes was born Sep 1803 in Westernlake, Germany and married Elizabeth in Sudholtz.

They resided in Marion Township and had 5 more children: Charles (Carl) (1836-1926) John Wessel born 4 Oct 1839 and married Agnes Romer, Maria Ann Elizabeth born 29 Jan 1843 and married Joseph Tangeman on 12 Nov 1861, Anna Maria born 26 Jun 1847 and married John H. Schwieterman; and Maria Catharine born 4 May 1851 who married William Meiring on 24 Nov 1870.

Wes died 26 Oct. 1870 at the age of 67 years, and Elizabeth, born 1 Jan 1804 died 8 May 1901 at the age of 97 years. Both are buried in Maria Stein, Ohio.

Clemmons, born 1834, and wife Agnes lived in Granville Township and had following children: Johannes G. (1861-1863), Elizabeth (1863), Anna (1866), and Henry C. (1870-1943). Clemmons died 26 Oct. 1895 and Agnes died 19 Jun 1875. Both are buried in St. Henry Cemetery.

Carl married Bernadina Meiring, daughter of Joseph Meiring and Gertrude Wisman, on 29 Apr 1869. They lived in Marion Township and their children are: Joseph John (1871) who married Rosa Grieshop; Mary Elizabeth born 19 Aug 1873), Mary Elizabeth born 12 Nov 1874 and married Bernard Grieshop; John Henry (1877-1950); Maria Catharine (1880), Franz John (1882), Peter Carl (1887), and Anna (1890-1908).

John Wessel and Agnes Romer had following ch dren: Elizabeth (1865), Anna Maria (1866), Ma Catherine (1867), William H. (1870), Agnes P. (187 Joseph A. (1875), Wessel Charles (1877).

Maria Anna Elizabeth and Joseph Tangeman liv in Maria Stein and had 6 children: Maria Elisabe (1864), John Henry (1867), Carl Henry (1870), Ma Elisabeth (1873), Maria Catherina (1875), Franz A thony (1880).

Anna Maria and John Schwieterman had 4 ch dren: John married Martha Shell, Charles marri Caroline Will, Elizabeth married Joseph Folke, a Frank.

Catharine and William Meiring were married Maria Stein on 24 Nov 1870 and their children a listed under History of Joseph Meiring, father William. *submitted by: Roxanne Framme Hemmelgarn*

URBAN MENKER

Urban Menker is the son of Henry and An (Will)-(Borgert) Menker. Henry was born Novemb 16, 1849 in Wullen, Germany, near Munster, and the age of 22 came to America to Baltimore, Mar land, then by train to Celina, then to Maria Stei Urban was born April 3, 1897, in Maria Stein a was married to Rosa Wendeln on November 1 1922.

Rosa Wendeln was the daughter of J. Henry We deln and Mary Schulte of Maria Stein. (Refer to Henry Wendeln).

After their marriage they lived in Dayton for te years. During their stay in Dayton they were men bers of St. Anthony Catholic Church. While in Da ton, Urban, a carpenter by trade, met with an acc dent and was told he would never climb a ladd again. Seeking a different type of employment H purchased the General Store in Maria Stein from J seph Backs in February, 1932. In March of the sam year they moved to Maria Stein.

He owned and operated the store from 1932 unt May 1, 1953, when he sold it to his daughter ar son-in-law, Charles and Rita Heinl. He was al Postmaster of Maria Stein from 1932 until 1958. H was very active in civic affairs of the community, b ing a member of the Knights of St. John, Knights Columbus, Director of the Mercer County Aut Club. He was very instrumental in forming the S John Tigers Basketball team and the St. John Atl letic Boosters.

During their life in Maria Stein they were men bers of St. John Catholic Church.

Urban and Rosa Menker were the parents of s children, namely; Irene, born February 6, 1924, ma ried Paul V. Kleinhenz; Mary Ann born April 2 1926, and died November 6, 1926; Lucille, born Jul 13, 1927, married Joseph Kleinhenz; Rita, born Apr 4, 1929, married Charles Heinl; Alice, born May 1 1931, and died January 24, 1939; Ruth, born Septem ber 10, 1938, married Lawrence Stammen.

Irene and Paul V. Kleinhenz reside in St. Henr Ohio and are the parents of ten children; Paul J Carolyn, Daniel, Rose, James, Michael, Linda, Te Janet and Judy. Of these children Paul J. is marrie to Jane Wuebker, and they are the parents of thre children, Heide, Monica and Heather. They reside i New Lennox, Illinois. Daniel is married to Joan Su

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er, and are the parents of one child, Gabriel, they ve in Dayton. Rose Ann is married to Henry Dues, hey are the parents of two children, David and amy, they live in Philothea. Paul V. co-owns and perates the Kleinhenz Stockyards in Celina and Ft. Recovery.

Lucille and Joseph Kleinhenz live in Maria Stein nd are the parents of eight children; Steven, Susan, David, Donald, Joan, Mary, Sara and Fred. Steven is narried to Denise Karns and lives in Dayton. Joseph s an Engineer Technician with the State Highway Department.

Charles and Rita Heinl are the parents of two children; John and Mark. They reside in Maria Stein nd own the Heinl Grocery. John is married to Peg Henderson, and resides in Dayton.

Ruth and Lawrence Stammen live in New Weston nd are the parents of five children; Chris, Jill, Robrt, Jay, and Jonathan. Lawrence owns and operates farm in that area.

Urban Menker died on October 4, 1958. He is buried in the St. John Cemetery.

Rosa Menker still resides in Maria Stein. *submitted by: Mrs. Urban Menker*

Moorman — **tanding:** Harry, ally, Greg, reda, Hugo, rances, Dick, d. **Seated:** Paul, ine, Mom, Virg; Dad, Gene, Dorthy (David was ot yet born.)

FRANK H. MOORMAN

Frank Moorman was born on a farm near Burkettsville, Ohio on August 2, 1883.

One of many children of August and Anna Kuhn and his step-mother Rosa Obringer, he was fortunate to obtain a higher education at St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, Ind. and at the University of Dayton from where he obtained his degrees in education. He began his teaching career in a one room school called the Puthoff School, situated two miles south of Maria Stein, O. Shortly thereafter he accepted a position on the staff of the Minster school system. After six years in Minster, he took his family to St. Sebastian, O. to take charge of the school as well as the position of church organist and choir director. In 1921 he was asked to serve as principal of schools in Maria Stein,O. and establish a two year high school. While at Maria Stein, where he also served as church organist and choir director, he was commissioned to consolidate the country schools of the area. This difficult task was accomplished and a new building was built to accommodate the elementary grades as well as a three year high school. He died unexpectedly in April of 1942. His wife, Johanna, died April 29, 1967.

Frank Moorman married Johanna Luebke in 1907. Fifteen children were born of this union. Frances married Daniel Boyd and lived and died in Dayton,O. Hugo and Harry married Irene and Margaret Nagle and lived and died in Tempe, Arizona.

Edward was ordained a priest in the Society of the Precious Blood. He served as a chaplain, a paratrooper, in World War II and then, while chaplain at St. Rita Hospital in Lima, O., succumbed to arterial weakness and died in 1961. Eugene married Jane List and lived and died in Howell, Mich. Richard married Sylvia Schemmel and lived and died in Minster, O. A baby girl died at birth.

The living children are Freda who married Norbert Gudorf and lives in Minster, O. Rosella married Garland Redlick and lives outside of Wapakoneta, O. Gregory was ordained a priest in the Society of the Precious Blood and is now pastor of Immaculate Conception parish in Celina, O. Paul married Donna Gudorf and lives in Minster, O. Dorothy married Alvin Niese and lives in Wapakoneta, O. Virgil married Alice Hartings and lives in Minster, O. Jane married Allen Ahlers and lives in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. David married Virginia Bagwell and lives in Minster, O.

FRANK NIEKAMP

FRANK NIEKAMP, a representative farmer of Marion township, resides on his well-improved farm of 78 acres in section 9. Mr. Niekamp was born on his father's farm in Marion township, February 28, 1864, and is a son of Frederick and Catherina (Stammen) Niekamp.

Frederick Niekamp was born in Germany in 1811, and died in Mercer County, Ohio in 1894. At the age of 22 years he came to America and worked first at Cincinnati and is said to have assisted later in hauling the logs for the first houses ever built at Tippecanoe, Ohio, where he lived for some 15 years. In 1848 he moved to Mercer County and was one of the earliest settlers in Marion township. He was twice married, first at Dayton, Ohio, to Catherine Newhouse, who at her death left four children, namely: John, Clemmens, and Joseph, all deceased; and Mary, who married Rudolf Klostermann. He married (second) Catherina Stammen, who was also born in Germany and had accompanied her parents to Ohio. Ten children were born to this second union, as follows: Henry, who married Catherine Koch; Elizabeth, deceased; Philomena, who married John Ronnebaum; Gerhard, who married Elizabeth Mestemaker; Peter, who married Frances Bertke; Catherina, who died young; Frank, the subject of this sketch; Julia and Theodore, both deceased, and a babe that died in infancy. The mother of these children died in 1894.

Frank Niekamp attended the local schools and remained at home with his father, giving the latter assistance until he was about 32 years of age, when he was married to Elizabeth Klostermann, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Mestemaker) Klostermann. Five children have been born to this union, namely: Alfred, Gregor, deceased, Charles, Josephine and Roman.

The Klostermann family, of which Mrs. Niekamp is a member, is a very prominent one of Franklin township, Mercer County. Her grandfather, Henry Klostermann, was born in Germany, emigrated to America and after establishing himself in business returned to his native land, where he married Mary Hullman, whom he brought to America. His son Henry, the father of Mrs. Niekamp, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1852. He resides on a fine farm

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of 100 acres situated in sections 28 and 33, Franklin township. He married Mary Mestemaker and their children were: Elizabeth, who became the wife of our subject; Joseph; Frances, who married Frank Watercutter, of Shelby County, Ohio; Emma, who married Charles Dorston, of Mercer County; and Rudolph, who is in the employ of the "Big Four" Railroad Company, at Dayton. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Kostermann married (second) Catherine Backs, and they have these children: Harmen, Augustus, Gregor, Rose, Richard, Albert and Alvina.

In 1896 Mr. Niekamp purchased his present farm from Bernard Froning, but the frame residence he built himself and also made other important improvements. During a period of residence in Franklin township, he served one term as road supervisor and has served in the same office in Marion township. Mr. Niekamp and family are members of St. Sebastian's Catholic Church at Sebastian.

FRANK NIEKAMP, JR.

FRANK NIEKAMP, JR., whose fine farm of 80 acres is located in section 10, Marion township, was born August 6, 1875, in Franklin township, Mercer County, Ohio, and is a son of Clemmens and Catherine (Lindhaus) Niekamp.

Frederick Niekamp and wife, the grandparents of our subject, emigrated to America from Germany and settled at Tippecanoe, Ohio, where they lived for seven years. Mr. Niekamp then removed to Mercer County, where he traded an old surrey for a tract of land in Marion township. He was a man of more than usual intelligence and at that time was about the only man in the township who could speak English. On this account he frequently represented the people in the courts of Celina. He was twice married. By his first wife, Catherine Newhouse, he had four children, namely: John, who married Anna Dabbelt for his first wife and Catherine Borget for his second — both now deceased; Clemmons, our subject's father; Joseph, who died unmarried at Cincinnati; and Mary, who married Rudolf Klostermann. By his second marriage, to Catherine Stammen, he had 10 children, viz: Henry, who married Catherine Koch; Elizabeth, deceased; Philomena, who married John Ronnebaum; Gerhard, who married Elizabeth Mestemaker; Peter, who married Frances Bertke; Catherine, who died young; Frank, who married Elizabeth Klistermann; Julia and Theodore, both deceased; and a babe that died in infancy.

Clemmens Niekamp was born at Tippecanoe, Ohio, and accompanied his parents to Mercer County. Here he married Catherine Lindhaus, who was born in Mercer County, and is a daughter of Bernard Lindhaus, a native of Germany. They had two children: Frank; and Anna, the latter of whom married George Grapperhaus, and lives in Marion township. The father of our subject bought a farm in Franklin township and on that farm both he and his wife died, within three days of each other, this double bereavement coming to their son when he was but four years old, and to his sister when still younger. Their grandfather, Frederick Niekamp, took charge of the children and they were reared on his farm in Marion township.

Frank Niekamp, Jr., was reared and educated in Marion township and has devoted his whole life to farming. In 1898 he purchased his 80-acre farm fror Anthony Weber, who was administrator for Henr Kaiser. It is a good property and is well managed b its present owner. Its improvements consist of th usual farm buildings, all of a substantial characte and a pleasant, roomy, frame residence, which i kept in fine order by Mr. Niekamp's estimable wife.

In the year he bought his farm, Mr. Niekamp wa married to Catherine Wabler, who was born on th Wabler home farm in Franklin township, Merce County, December 11, 1876. She is a daughter o Henry and Theresa (Koch) Wabler, who now live re tired at Dayton, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Wabler had 1 children, as follows: John, Catherine, Anthony Rosa, Anna, Frances, Elizabeth, Henry, Leo, de ceased at the age of three months; and Regina.

Mr. and Mrs. Niekamp have had six children namely: Leon and Hilda, both deceased; Amanda John and Mary (twins), both deceased; and Rosa The family belong to the Catholic Church. Mr Niekamp is a member of St. Joseph's Society.

FREDERICK NIEKAMP

Frederick Niekamp was born on April 9, 1811, ir Essen Oldenburg, Germany, son of Johan and Ca tharina Niekamp. In the year 1833 he came to Amer ica and located in Cincinnati. After a brief period h moved to Tippecanoe (now known as Tipp City) ir Miami County. On March 3, 1840 he was married tc Catharine Niehauss from Dayton Ohio in Emman uel Catholic Church. Three children were borr while living in Tipp City namely John, Joseph anc Clemens. As they were Catholics and as the neares Catholic Churches were at Dayton, they decided tc move North to Mercer County. Here they bought a farm in Marion Township. First 80 acres on Febru ary 19, 1848, then on May 27, 1848 another 40 acres Both of these for $900.00. In July, 1849 a daughter Mary was born. On September 26, 1852, Catharine died. The following year he remarried Anna Catha rine Stammen who had come to this Country from Holland. They had ten children but five died while small children. The living children were Henry, Phi lomena, Gerhard, Peter and Frank. Their first house was a log cabin with a loft. Then in 1872 Fred built a large brick house. For many years the log cabin was kept standing and used for a storage building Meanwhile the oldest son Clemens had married Ca tharine Lindhaus and some five years later during the month of February in 1880 Clemens and his wife Catharine died in three days time leaving two small children, Frank and Anna. Frank was four years and Anna was around two years, and the grandparents, Fred and Anna Catharine raised them as their own. Fred and Catharine's son Peter continued living at home helping his father with the farmwork. On September 25, 1887, Peter was married to Frances Bertke the daughter of Bernard Bertke and Liberata (Kunkler) Bertke. The young couple made their home with Fred and Anna. On May 6, 1887, Fred deeded the farm to his son Peter. Fred and Anna lived the remaining years of their lives on the home place being well taken care of by Peter and Frances. On May 19, 1894, Anna died and a few months later on August 18, 1894, Fred died. Peter and Frances had nine children, Clemens, Catherine, Fred, Mathilds,

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iberata, Tarsilla, Leo, Regina and Richard. In 1927 eo married Mary Huber and then Peter sold the irm to them. Peter and Frances stayed most of their emaining years with them. Peter died August the 0th 1942. Frances died March 17, 1960. When Leo etired, their son Thomas Ralph Niekamp and his ife Mary (Long) Niekamp and their three children, an, Angela and Marsha moved on the farm while eo and Mary moved to the house that belonged to om. Before they moved, they built a new modern inch house on the farm. Leo died January 24, 1974. his farm has been in the Niekamp family 130 ears. *submitted by: Mrs. Leo Niekamp, Chickasaw, Oh.*

OTHMAR OLDING

Othmar Joseph Olding was born July 8, 1908 at arthagena, Marion Township, the son of Peter and lara (Barhorst) Olding.

The Olding Farm is located on the south side of lding Road, one half mile east of U.S. 127. Being ie eldest son, Othmar helped farm the 200 acres hile attending school at Carthagena for eight years. 1 1935, he married Mildred Marie Mumaw of Versilles, Ohio. They then moved to the Olding Homeead Farm and continued general farming with his ather. In 1950, he went into business raising tureys as well as farming. After the death of Ott in 959, the homestead farm was sold and Mildred noved to St. Henry.

They were members of St. Aloysious Parish, Carnagena and the Elks. Ott was also a charter member f the Eagles at Versailles, Ohio.

Carol (Olding) Wehrkamp was born on October 4, 1940 in Mercer County. She graduated from St. Henry High School and later became an emergency nedical technologist-paramedic and member of the t. Henry Emergency Squad. She married Thomas Vehrkamp, son of Linus and Esther (Vandenbosch) Vehrkamp in 1960 at Carthagena, Ohio. Douglas ames Wehrkamp was born in July, 1961. He is a enior at St. Henry High School. Lisa Marie Wehrkmp was born in June, 1963. She is a sophomore at t. Henry High School. Tom and Carol were also the arents of three stillborn children: Peggy Lynn, 962; Carol Frances, 1964; and Thomas Joseph, 1968. The Wehrkamps have continued the turkey operaion on the Olding Farm on the south side of Olding oad, one half mile east of U.S. 127.

Linda (Olding) Eyink was born June 22, 1944 in Mercer County. She graduated from St. Henry High chool and the University of Dayton in 1965. She hen became a teacher for the St. Henry Schools rom 1965-1974. In 1975, she received a master's degree from Wright State University and became a earning disabilities teacher in the Coldwater chools.

She married Robert Eyink, son of Leander and Helen (Geier) Eyink in 1967 at St. Henry, Ohio. cott Lee Eyink was born in March, 1970 and atends Coldwater Schools. Cara Rene Eyink was born n Jan, 1976. The Eyink's reside on Gause Road, one alf mile north of State Route 219, west of Coldwaer, Ohio. Robert is employed at New Idea, Coldwaer, Ohio. *submitted by: Linda Eyink*

Peter Olding, Clara Barhorst Olding

PETER OLDING

Peter Olding was born at Carthagena, Marion Township, in 1878. His parents were Henry and Regina VanDenBosch Olding. Peter and his three brothers, Frank, Bernard and Henry, were raised by his mother until her remarriage to Peter Rosengarten after her husband died in 1882 at the age of 36. It seems that Henry caught cold as he was returning from St. Henry to Carthagena on horseback. Peter's father came to the area in 1877 when his name appeared on the list of new church members, but Henry's father, Bernard, owned land as early as 1852 in Granville Township, Section 24. Apparently John Joseph Olding, an uncle of Bernard, was in Franklinton (west part of early Columbus) in the 1850s and his name also appears in the 1810 Pennsylvania census in a location along the National Road.

John Joseph also owned land in Section 24, Granville Township, which was acquired in 1853, although he apparently never moved here. It is believed the Oldings were English. Bernard and his wife, Mary Ann, lived on the curve of Philothea Road, a short distance above the Carthagena Road, in Section 12, Granville, with their blind daughter. The mother died in 1897.

Peter married Clara Barhorst, the daughter of Joseph and Josephine Heying Barhorst, in 1904. They owned the farm in Section-19, Marion Township, on Olding Road, that Pete later acquired. Joseph Barhorst and his parents were born in Oldenburg, Germany.

Peter's mother, was Regina VanDenBosch. The VanDenBoschs came from St. Hubert, Holland, where Peter and Mary Anna VanDomelin were married in 1844. They came from Holland with five children to Carthgena about 1865. Regina was born in 1857. Her brothers and sisters were Henrica, 1845; Johanna, 1847; George, 1848; Peter, Jr., 1850; Herman, 1852; and a duaghter who is said to have died on the voyage. Another daughter was born after the arrival in America, Mary, born 1869.

Peter VanDenBosch, Sr., was awarded the contract for furnishing the bricks for the new church in 1877. He delivered some 400,000 bricks and also donated money for one large stained glass window on the west side of the sanctuary which has his name on it. He died in 1906 at the age of 85. Maria Anna died in 1908 at the age of 86.

Peter and Clara had ten children. They are Mary Rosalea, Othmar, Joseph, Eugene and Julitta, twins, Catherine Josephine, Esther, Martha, Laura, and Paul Robert. Only the last four are living now. Peter owned several farms in Marion Township, was on the board of education for Carthagena schools and sang in the church choir. Clara died in 1941 after an auto accident and Peter married Matilda Frericks of Minster. In 1955 he died at the age of 77. *Patricia Olding*

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Bernard and Elizabeth (Woeste) Piekenbrock

PIEKENBROCK FAMILY

Bernard (April 7, 1823—June 17, 1912) and August Piekenbrock were members of a moderately wealthy family in Germany. It was tradition for them that the entire estate would be inherited by the youngest brother so as to keep the entire estate and name intact for heritage. The family was used to maid service in the home. They had a stable for riding horses and hired men to care for the horses. With a good education (4 year high school — superior for people at that time) good clothes, and plenty of spending money the 2 brothers set out for U.S.A. and landed in New York. Here they worked in a men's clothing store for a while. It was customary for salesmen to wear hats while on the job. One day Bernard felt a definite, peculiar, and repeated knocking on his hat. He discussed it with his brother and they decided something must have happened at home. Weeks later a letter edged in black came and told them of their mother's death.

When Bernard was in his retiring years and Frank then owned the farm, a Mr. Depholt from Mercer County was making arrangements to go to Europe. Bernard asked him to remain anonymous and go to his home or "Gut" as he called it and find out what had happened to his family and estate. On his return the answer was: The younger brother had taken to alcohol drinking and the estate was going to ruins.

After the brothers had earned enough money to invest they sailed down the Ohio River. August as far as in Iowa where he started a shoe factory called by his name. Later it was sold out to the Red Wing Shoe Co. Bernard as far as Cincinnati and then he traveled North to Mercer County where he bought a farm with a house on it. The farm, located in Section 28 of Marion Township, contained 80 acres and was purchased from Francis Efers in 1855 for a sum of $1700. Later in 1877 he purchased twenty acres more in Section 29 of Marion Township from Frank Ungruhn for $1050 and in 1881 he purchased another 6 acres in the same section from Mr. Ungruhn for $300. His farm now totaled 106 acres and this farm is still in the Piekenbrock Family. He built the present home on this farm in 1871. He built large, big rooms, and the upstairs was never completed until the third generation or Edward's family lived in it.

Bernard married a young girl, Elizabeth Woeste (1838-1910), by negotiating the marriage with her parents. Elizabeth strongly opposed the marriage up to the Saturday before the banns were published on Sunday. In her last argument with her father she threw her engagement ring so that it bounced off one wall and rolled under the kitchen cupboard. Her father then threatened to whip her until she climbed the walls. She gave in, and with a broom handle retreaved her ring, proceeded with the marriage and lived her entire life without a thought of separatio She was a happy-go-lucky type person, a great e tertainer, loved young people, singing, and a ve poor housekeeper. Bernard was very organized, ve neat, sophisticated, talented, quiet, and of a sm stature. He helped many people with legal matters.

They were married on November 22, 1855 a were the parents of 20 children: (eight children di in infancy) Maria Elizabeth (Nov. 1856-1937) ma ried Henry Lochtefeld and had 9 children, Johan Angela (April 1858-1861), Heinrich Bernard (Fe 1860) went out West, Johan Heinrich (Nov. 186 married but had no children also moved out We Eberhard Theodore (March 1863 moved West, nev married, Anna Maria (Nov. 1864) married Hen Prieshoff and had 6 children in the western state Josephine Catherine (Feb. 1866-1926) married Joh Harting — had 7 children, Peter Johannes (No 1867) had 1 son, (Bernard) also out west, August Philomena (Jan. 1869-1960) married Casper Franz and they had 10 children (two sets of twins), Franzi kus (March 1870) died, Franz Joseph (March 1871 April 1942) married Katherine Niekamp in his late years and had no children, Anna (Aug. 1872) die Lawrentius (July 1873) married out west and had children, Augustinus (1874) died, Johan Anton an Heinrich August (July 1876) twins died, Theresi (July 1878), died, William August (Oct. 1879) die Francis Theresia (Oct. 1880-1960) married Bernar Schaefer — had 10 children, one set of twins, an Frank (Sept. 6, 1882-Feb. 25, 1953). *LeRoy Piekenbrock*

Piekenbrock

EDWARD PIEKENBROCK

Edward was also interested in getting a good education. At that time you could only receive a tenth grade level education at Maria Stein, so he rode his bike to Coldwater to get a high school diploma. Since his younger brother, Werner, went to study to become a priest, he was left to do the farm work. He often said he would have liked to have gone further in school, so that he could have become a bookkeeper. He realized some of his ambitions when he was elected as Township Clerk. He served this position for 16 years. When Coldwater Hospital was reorganizing he served on the board as treasurer for a few years and became very involved in the operation of the newly formed Community Hospital. Later he resigned as treasurer and served as a board member until the time of his death. He also built up a very successful seed business, which his son LeRoy has taken over after his death. He was always very active and energetic and loved to sing. In the fall of 1975, he became ill and found out he was suffering from Leukemia. The Doctor advised him to go to Texas for treatment. The following July, he died in Houston, Texas.

He married Stella Prenger on June 30, 1936 and they raised 9 children on this same farm. LeRoy (May 1937) the oldest and only boy, is the present

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wner of the home place, which has been in the iekenbrock Family for over 100 years. He built a econd house on the farm, where he lives with his ife, Janice (Clune) and their four children — aren, Mark, Dennis, and Brenda. Ruth (Feb. 1939) arried Kenneth Bruns and lives on a farm near St. ebastian with their 5 children — Steve, Tom, Jim, idy, and Jill. Esther (Jan.1941) lives on a farm near renchtown with her husband, Richard Heckman nd their two children Julie and Roger. Edna (April 942) moved to St. Anthony when she married Alvin ebbe, and they are the parents of 8 children — ori, Randy, Terry, Matt, Kenny, Glenn, Jennifer, nd Melinda. Eva (Nov. 1943) married Joe Gebret nd lives on a farm near Willowdell with their four ildren — Lynn, Ronnie, Connie, and Carl. Linda April 1945) married Larry Pleiman and resides on a rm near Osgood with their six children — Kim, hris, Ricky, Sean, Jeff and Jason (twins). Eileen Dec. 1950) moved to a farm near Burkettsville when e married Art Siefring and they are the parents of ur children — Brad, Kelly, Angela, and Vikki. Emy (Sept. 1953) lives on a farm near Fort Recovery ith her husband, Charles Timmerman. Erma (April 955) also lives near Fort Recovery on a farm with er husband, Paul Timmerman and their son, Brian. *roy Piekenbrock*

Piekenbrock

FRANK PIEKENBROCK

Frank Piekenbrock was born and raised on his faer's farm. He was a rather tall, broad shouldered an, built more like his mother rather than his faer. He was very active in Community affairs. The rm was transferred to Frank on June 2, 1906 for e sum of $6,000. About this same time he married atherine Luttmer. He spent about 38 years farming nd raised a family of 6 children on the farm. Born this marriage were: Josephine (March 1908) mared Ferd Landwehr, they have 1 child and live in incinnati, Dorothy (July 1909) married Urban lemmelgarn — had 4 children and presently lives New Paris, Clara (March 1914) married Roman leier and live in Maria Stein, the parents of 8 children, Ludwig (1916) died, Agnes (Feb. 1918) became ister M. Leonides, C.PP.S. when she was 21 years ld and lives at Salem Heights, Dayton, Ohio, Werer (Oct. 1920) lives in Dayton, Ohio with his wife an and their three children, Mary (died), and Edard (Oct. 7, 1911 — July 1976) who took over the rm in 1940, because his father, Frank, was in poor ealth and unable to farm. Frank moved to Coldwar with his wife and spent the remainder of his ears as a Truant Officer in the County Schools. He ied in 1953 after he was operated on for cancer in e colon.

In 1905, Frank planned a golden wedding surprise elebration for his parents. This newspaper article ves a vivid description of the event. This is the nglish translation of an article in a newspaper from hio. (Printed in German)

Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday Nov. 22, 1905.

When Bernard Piekenbrock and his future wife Elizabeth Woeste were honored by their relatives and friends by a surprise assembly of Greetings with a solumn and beautiful Golden Anniversary celebration. Early in the morning the bride and groom were at the church to be prepared for the Mass. They were surprised to see a crowd of people who had arranged to greet them, which was a secret to the bride and groom. Some of the relatives and friends had planned the surprise while most of the people were in church until the end of the Mass. It was a well planned surprise. It is easier to imagine the enthusiasm than to describe it. In a joyful and happy attitude all the well wishers went to the home of the newly weds to make the most of this special occasion. In order to remind the bride that she also was once a child, the cradle in which she herself was often rocked to sleep was displayed for all to see. All the children for whom it was possible to attend the celebration were present. Bernard and Lawrence Piekenbrock of Farnov Nebraska, Theodore of Buffalo, N.Y. Casper and Minnie Frenzer (born Piekenbrock) of Ottawa, Ohio. Mrs. Elizabeth Lochtefeld, born Piekenbrock, St. Rose, Ohio John and Katherine Harting Chickasaw, Ohio. Joseph, Frank, and Franziska are still at home with their parents. Not able to come Hienrich Piekenbrock, Montrose, Neb. Mrs. Mary Prieshoff, Crawford, Neb. John Piekenbrock Alexandria, South Dakota. Also the witnesses who were present at the original wedding were again present this time. Margaretha Bomholt, St. Rose and Mary Romer, St. Henry (Neb.) It was truly a joyful event for all present. Fifty years is a long time. Seldom does it happen that so many can take part in an event of this kind which was the case here.

(We have a xeroxed copy of the above. It also has a German Verse but it is very blurred and my father was unable to see it well enough. My father was 93 on March 3, 1978 and himself celebrated his 60th anniversary some years ago.) He has Lochtefeld from St. Rose, Neb. and I believe should be Ohio. and Mary Romer as being from St. Henry, Neb. and I thought possible should be Ohio.

The German copy was made available to us by Bernard Piekenbrock of Lakewood a suburb of Denver. He is John's Son. *LeRoy Piekenbrock*

JOHN HENRY POHLMANN

John Henry Pohlmann was born in Osnabruck, Germany in 1799. He and his wife came to America in approximately 1833. They first located in Cincinnati, Ohio. Some time later John Henry came by canal to Piqua, Ohio and then walked to Maria Stein, where he purchased 80 acres of woodsland from the U. S. Government. He and his family stayed in Cincinnati three or four years before coming to Maria Stein to clear the land. The farm is located 1/4 mile south of the high school in Maria Stein and is presently owned by his great-grandson, Albert Pohlman. The original deed dated March 15, 1837, is still in the possession of Albert Pohlman.

John Henry Pohlmann was married three times. The descendents from his three marriages were, namely: Herman, born April 17, 1839, married Ka-

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tharina Schrage, and died April 8, 1922; Bernardine, born December 2, 1846, married Arnold Kleinhenz, and died November 27, 1893; Henry, born February 2, 1850. Henry never married. He was deaf and was killed on September 2, 1900 by a train while walking to church.

Herman and Katharina (Schrage) Pohlmann spent their entire married life on the Pohlmann homestead. They were the parents of four children, namely: Mary, born July 30, 1870, who married Frank Homan; John, born August 29, 1872, who married Philomena Homan; Bernardine, born June 2, 1875, who married John Homan; and Henry, born July 10, 1877, who married Mary Schmitmeyer.

Through the years there were three houses built on the Pohlmann farm. The first was a one-room log cabin; the second was also a log cabin, and the third was the present brick home, built by Herman in 1881, which was occupied by Henry and his family, and presently by the Albert Pohlmann family.

John Pohlmann married Philomena Homan on May 25, 1898 and moved to a farm across the road from the original homestead which had been previously purchased by Herman, on which he constructed a new barn and house in 1897. These buildings still stand and are occupied by the Mrs. Otto Pohlman family.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pohlmann had six children, namely: Leo J. who was born on September 1, 1899 and died seven days later on September 8; Richard, born December 7, 1902 and who married Celie Wendeln; Raymond, born January 2, 1906, who never married and makes his home with the Otto Pohlman family; Maria and Katharina (twins), born June 4, 1909, and who died the same day; Otto, born May 18, 1914, who married Agnes Lefeld, and who died May 7, 1964.

Henry Pohlman married Mary Schmitmeyer on June 13, 1906, and they were the parents of six children, namely: Marcella, born October 2, 1907, who married Henry Albers; Pauline, born December 17, 1911, who married August Rethman; Leo J. born December 30, 1913, who married Armella Waterbusch; Marie, born December 4, 1917, who married Herbert Liening; Louis, born September 1, 1919, who married Eleanor Mueller; Albert, born September 3, 1921, who married Alice Meyer.

Most of the Pohlmann ancestors, after living most of their lives in the Maria Stein area, belonged to the St. John's Catholic Church, and are buried in the church cemetery. Presently there are six generations of Pohlmanns buried in that cemetery. The farm originally purchased by John Henry Pohlmann and now owned by Albert Pohlman has been in the family since 1837 — making it a Century Farm. *Dorothy Pohlmann*

RICHARD POHLMANN

Richard Pohlmann is the great-grandson of John Henry Pohlmann who came to America from Osnabruck, Germany in 1833. He is the grandson of Herman Pohlmann and the son of John and Philomena (Homan) Pohlmann. He was born December 7, 1902 in Maria Stein and was married to Celie Wendeln on May 2, 1928 in the St. John Catholic Church.

Celie Wendeln was the great-granddaughter of Henry Wendeln, a native of Germany who settled in Minster, and the granddaughter of Fred Wendel and the daughter of J. Henry Wendeln and Mar Schulte.

After their marriage they made their home wit Mr. and Mrs. J. Henry Wendeln on the Wendel farm in Maria Stein. The farm was originally home steaded by Henry Tangeman in September 183 Henry Tangeman purchased the farm from the U. S Government. The deed still remains in the posses sion of Richard Pohlmann.

Richard and Celie Pohlmann were the parents c four children, namely: Irene, born November 1929, who married Raymond Turckes; Leo H., bor February 18, 1931, who married Lois Jean Bruns wick; Dorothy, born October 5, 1933; and Walte born July 3, 1940, who married Constance Borger All of the children were born in Maria Stein and at tended St. John Catholic Church and the loca schools.

In 1941 Richard purchased the farm from Mr Wendeln. Mr. and Mrs. Pohlmann spent their entir married life on this farm. Richard was on the S John School Board for eight years and was active i the original Athletic Association at the St. Joh School.

Irene and Raymond Turckes reside in Daytor Ohio and are the parents of seven children, namely David, Martha, Ann, Steve, Janet, Michael, and Car olyn. Ray is employed at the Vulcan Tool and Di Co. of Dayton.

Leo H. and Lois Pohlmann are the parents of fiv children, namely: Cheryl, Christine, Mark, Mar (stillborn on March 12, 1965), and Tom. Leo is self employed in masonry construction in the Mari Stein area. Leo and his family live on a parcel of lan originally owned by his great-grandfather, Herma Pohlmann.

Dorothy Pohlmann never married and lives witl her father, and is employed at The Minster Machin Company, Minster, Ohio.

Walter and Constance Pohlmann are the parent of two children, namely: Diane and Keith. Walter i employed at The Minster Machine Company an also operates the family farm. They live in a hous constructed on the south end of the Pohlmann farm

Celie Pohlmann died on March 9, 1977 and is bur ied in the St. John Church cemetery.

Richard Pohlmann and his ancestors were alway lovers of good horses and Richard owned the las team of work horses in the Maria Stein area. *Doroth Pohlmann*

PRENGER FAMILY

John Herman Prenger obtained a travel pass i Grossherzogthum, Oldenburg to come to Americ in the year 1837 at the age of 35. He married Eliza beth Sextro. His son Werner Herman Prenger, fron Dinklage, Germany, married Katherine Mittendor (1807-1899). They had three children — Bernard Herman and Maria Katharina. After her husban died, she remarried Matthias Melcher. He also die before she did and she inherited his farm, which wa located in Section 19 of Shelby County, Ohio. He son, Bernard Prenger, (1832-1915) purchased th farm from her in 1853. He married Agnes Alber (1839-1891) and they had 10 children — John, Clem Maria, Joseph, Anna, Bernard, Anton, Elizabeth, Ka

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iarina, Agnes. His son Bernard inherited the farm om his father in 1915. He married Mary Berning 888-1962). They had three children — Herman November 22, 1914-1966), Agnes (September 11, 916) who married Alphonse Clune, and Rose (May 0, 1925) who married Ernest Heitkamp. *LeRoy Piekenrock*

EDWIN ANTHONY PUTHOFF

Edwin A. Puthoff, born on March 8, 1923, was the th child of Joseph and Regina Rolfee Puthoff. He as born and raised on the same farm where his reat grandfather, Henry Puthoff, settled in the arly 1840's. Edwin Puthoff's son, Joe, and his aughter-in-law, Jean, and granddaughter, Nicole, eside on this farm today.

In a biographical history of Mercer and Van Wert ounties, published in 1896, it states that Henry and Mary Puthoff, (Edwin's great grandparents), were oth natives of Altenburg, capital of Saxe-ltenburg, Germany. They began their married life n a farm southeast of Maria Stein. They had 5 children, Henry, Frank, George, Diedrich (Edwin's randfather), and Mary. The mother of these children died Nov. 5, 1860. On Nov. 19, 1861 Henry narried Bernadina Kalkhoff and they had 4 children, Carolina, Elizabeth, Annie, and John.

Diedrich Puthoff married Mary Mescher about 874 and were the parents of Frank, Elizabeth, Anhony, Joseph (Edwin's father), Katie, and Rosa.

Joseph Puthoff married Regina Rolfes on Nov. 21, 916 in St. John's Church, Maria Stein. They had 8 hildren, Lauretta, Lawrence, Alvin, Edwin, Marie, eander, Norma and Velma. Marie died 21 days afer birth and Velma lived 3 days.

Edwin Puthoff and his brothers and sisters reeived their education at the local red school house n the corner of Huwer and St. John's Road, then nown as the The Puthoff School.

During the 2nd World War, Edwin Puthoff was lrafted for the U.S. Army. He left for service on une 22, 1944 and was discharged with the rank of Staff Sargent on April 23, 1946. He spent 8 months of duty overseas in Italy.

On June 24, 1947, Edwin Puthoff married Alma Osterloh, from neighboring Auglaize County, in St. oseph's Church at Egypt, Ohio. She is the oldest child of Aloys and Blanche (Meier) Osterloh.

Edwin Puthoff bought the Harold Rawers resilence in Chickasaw in April of 1948 and he and his family have lived there since then. Edwin and Alma Puthoff are the parents of 7 children, Joseph, Virginia, Ronald, Mark, Laura, Teresa and Ned. These children received their elementary education at the Chickasaw School, which is just across the street rom their home. This school closed its doors in June of this year. This September all Chickasaw children will attend Marion Local Schools at Maria Stein, Ohio.

The six oldest children of Edwin and Alma Puthoff graduated from Marion Local High School and the youngest, Ned, will be a Junior there this fall.

Joseph Puthoff married Jean Knapke and have a daughter Nicole. Virginia married David Kuck and have a son, Andrew. Ronald married Ann Bernard and have a daughter, Sara. Mark married MaDonna Clifford; they have 2 children Abigail and Ted. Laura married Tom Brandewie and have a son Brian. Teresa married Terry Gerlach.

In 1946, Edwin was employed by Peter Wyen of Minster, where he did roofing, siding, installation of furnaces and various other sheet metal work. Peter Wyen's oldest son, Werner, now owns the business and Edwin Puthoff is still an employee there.

Edwin Puthoff served the village of Chickasaw for 16 years as councilman. *Edwin Puthoff*

THE ARTHUR E. RANLY FAMILY

Arthur Edmund Ranly was born on Dec. 24, 1924 to Peter and Sophia (Speck) Ranly in Cassella, Ohio.

Eileen Helen Link was born on May 8, 1931 to Urban and Augusta (Muhlenkamp) Link in Cranberry Prairie, Ohio.

Arthur and Eileen were married on April 29, 1950, in St. Francis Church, Cranberry Prairie, Ohio and they are the parents of eleven (11) children as follows:

John Arthur Ranly, born on Jan. 31, 1951. He married Janice Rosenbeck, daughter of Paul and Virginia (Boecker) Rosenbeck in Precious Blood Church, Chickasaw, Ohio, on Dec. 18, 1971. They have one son, Jared John Ranly, born on June 9, 1976.

Kristina Edna Ranly, born on May 6, 1952, died on Jan. 16, 1970 as the results of complications from lupus erythematosis. She is buried in the cemetery of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church, Cassella, Ohio.

Kathleen May Ranby was born on Dec. 22, 1953. On July 26, 1974, she married Leon Homan, son of Joseph and Vida (Kremer) Homan, of St. Sebastian, in the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church, Cassella, Ohio.

Jeffery Lee Ranly was born Sept. 21, 1955.

Peggy Ann Ranly was born March 3, 1957.

Lisa Bernice Ranly was born May 18, 1959.

Joel Peter Ranly was born on July 14, 1961.

Martin Urban Ranly was born Sept. 4, 1963.

Matthew Patrick Ranly was born on Nov. 7, 1964.

Lora Eileen Ranly was born on June 24, 1967.

Jason John Ranly was born Dec. 6, 1972. *Mrs. A. E. Ranly*

CHRISTOPH RANLY

This is the story of Christoph Ranly of Cassella, Ohio. This branch of the Ranly family comes from the German village of Weinsheim, in present day West Germany, the Pfalz District, very near the city of Bad Kreuznach. Confirmed documentation notes a Peter Ranly (d. June 7, 1784) who in his first marriage with Elisabetha Gruber (d. December 27, 1776) was father to Philip Michel Ranly. (In a second marriage to Catherine Scholl was born Nicolaus Ranly whose many descendants still live in Germany.) Philip Michel Ranly (d. February 18, 1814) married Margaretha Ranly (d. March 5, 1814) — her surname was Ranly. He had two sons, Johannes and Christian. Christian was born (1797) and died (1847) in Weinsheim; his descendants in Weinsheim, Germany, are rather close cousins to the American Ranlys who originate from Cassella. The older spelling

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of the name was *Ranly,* with the German umlaut over the *y.* Sometimes the spelling in English is *Ranley;* the more common spelling both in Germany and the United States is *Ranly.*

Johannes Ranly (b. June 20, 1796) first married Catherine Mackert (b. August 26, 1794) on May 20, 1820. Their daughter Barbara (b. June 25, 1821) died on August 31, 1828. Their son Nicolaus (b. June 21, 1826) died on December 27, 1827. Only the son Johannes II (b. November 3, 1823) grew to maturity. He was unmarried, served in the Prussian Army as bodyguard to the Kaiser (according to story) and after his death — exact date unknown — his personal belongings were shipped in a chest to his surviving half-brother (Christoph) in America. Catherine MacKert, the first wife of Johannes Ranly, died on April 26, 1827. Johannes took as second wife Elisabeth Gilsdorf (b. March 22, 1800) on February 14, 1828. Their first daughter Catharina (b. December 20, 1828) died on June 11, 1847. Their second daughter Elizabetha (b. May 5, 1830) also died in childhood. The four remaining children were: Angelica (b. October 5, 1832,) Agnese (b. October 5, 1834,) Christoph (b. January 14, 1837,) and Christian (b. February 10, 1843.) As farmers the Ranly family had only small pieces of land; it was a life of hard poverty; there were occasional famines. When the son Christoph reached his twentieth birthday he became eligible for military service in the Prussian army. He announced his intention to go to America. Since his parents could not dissuade him, they also decided to go to America with all their four children.

There is extant the Ship's Ticket of this passage and a vivid account of the trip as told by Christoph Ranly himself in *Der Mercer County Bote,* Dec. 5, 1912. Also, Mrs. Cora (Ranly) Reichert remembers well many of her Father's stories. The Ranly family left the village of Weinsheim on April 14, 1857. (The Ship's Ticket has the correct date of 1857.) They boarded a steam ship at Bingen on the Rhine River, traveled by way of Rotterdam to London where they transferred to an English vessel. The family was on the ocean 34 days. Passing through New York, they arrived at Cassella, Ohio, on June 11, 1857 where they were warmly welcomed by cousins and friends. With the help of friends, the Ranly family first lived in the Miller schoolhouse south of Cassella. Sadly, the mother died that summer (August 18, 1857) at the age of 57 and the following year Johannes Ranly died (September 14, 1858) at the age of 61. The two are buried in the Cassella cemetery. (The exact dates differ from the Church records and the tomb stones.)

The two girls and Christian went to Dayton, Ohio, looking for work. Angelica Ranly first married John Wirtz (remembered for having a wooden leg) and later August Stelzer: Angelica herself had no children from either marriage. Agnese Ranly married Sebastian Krieg and there is a large family line from this marriage. Christian Ranly pioneered in Wyoming and Oregon; his wife's name was Elizabeth. They had no children.

Christoph Ranly lived out his life in Cassella, Ohio. On October 22, 1860, he married Anna Bolley (b. April 24, 1844) and moved into the Bolley household into the very log house which still serves as the family residence for the Raymond Flaute family south of Cassella. The first surviving child of the marriage was John (b. April 12, 1875) who marrie Hannah Sheiman; John died June 9, 1932. The se ond child was Sebastian (b. November 12, 187 who married Anna Link and died May 26, 1947. Th third child was Angelica (b. July 15, 1880) who ma ried Antony Lamm and who died September 1 1965. On March 13, 1887, Anna Bolley died in th delivery of a stillborn child.

On April 13, 1888, Christoph Ranly married Ann Maria Dietrich (b. July 12, 1865.) The first child wa Peter (b. July 3, 1888) who married Sophia Speck Peter died October 14, 1960. Joseph was the secon son; born on December 10, 1891, he married Verc nica Fink and died on August 1, 1959, Henry (b. De cember 30, 1893) married Philomina Buschur an died July 20, 1960. Christian was born July 6, 189 married Pauline Fink and died April 2, 1960. Th fifth child was Cora (b. November 7, 1898) who mar ried Willibald Reichert and today lives in Coldwate Ohio. Also surviving is Lena (b. September 29, 1901 who married Henry Dillhoff and today lives in Day ton, Ohio. Edmund Ranly was born November 27 1904, married Melva Brewer and resides in El Pas Texas. The last surviving child is Marcella (a bor twin died in infancy) who was born on August 26 1907, married William Hickey and presently lives i Jacksonville, Florida.

On November 28, 1912, Christoph Ranly cele brated the Great Butchering Jubilee with his gooc friend and neighbor Louis Feltz to commemorat fifty years of family butchering together. On Janu ary 8, 1915, Anna Maria Dietrich died. Vigorous anc active until the age of 84, Christoph Ranly died or October 11, 1921, while kneeling aside his bed to re ceive the last rites. *Ernest W. Ranly*

PETER RANLY

The story of the Christoph Ranly family was written by Fr. Ernest Randy. I will follow this by the details of the Peter Ranly family. Peter Ranly is my father (Rita Flaute) who married Sophia Speck May 1, 1912 in Cassella O. Sophia Speck was the daughter of John Speck and Magdelena Lamm. After their marriage they settled on the Christoph Ranly farm nortb of Cassella, Ohio. Peter was very active not only in farming, but in many community and civic affairs. They had the following children, Mrs. Walter Klosterman, (Alvina) born Feb. 22, 1913. They had ten children and lived in Celna, Ohio. Norbert, born March 4, 1914, married Ethel Schmitz, they had two children and lived in Dayton, Ohio. Mrs. Florus Obringer, (Hilda), born June 2, 1917, died March 4, 1953, they had six children and lived in Coldwater, Ohio. Paul married Erma Obringer, he was born April 14, 1920, they had twelve children and lived in Minster, Ohio. Mrs. Bernard Droesch (Lucille), born August 6, 1923, they had six children, and lived on a farm in Chickasaw, Ohio. Arthur, married Eiline Link, born December 24, 1924. They had eleven children and lived in Cassella, Ohio. Orville, born April 2, 1926, married Alma Post, they had ten children and lived their entire married life in Philothea, Ohio. Mrs. Raymond Flaute, (Rita) born June 3, 1928, they had ten children and are living on the Ranly homestead in Cassella, Ohio. Mrs. Ralph Liette, (Ella Mae) born May 30, 1933, they had five children, live in Chickasaw, Ohio. Donald, born Nov. 4, 1935, married Joan Fruth live in Columbia,

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lissouri.

There were also three in the religious life, Rev ictor Ranly, born December 23, 1916, died Sept. 19, 973, Sister Teresa Joseph, born December 16, 1918, ves in Cincinnati, Ohio, Rev. Ernest Ranly, born eb. 19, 1930, at this writing is a missionary in Peru, outh America.

There were three that died as infants, Water, born ily 28, 1921, died April 11, 1924. Mary Ellen, born nd died 1931. Joseph born and died 1932. *Mr. & Mrs. ay Flaute*

REICHERT

The early history of Mercer County, Ohio and its ioneer citizens are closely associated with man's esire to explore the unknown in quest for opportuity for himself and his loved ones.

Due to difficult economic conditions in the Faierland, under which there was little opportunity or young people and a desire to avoid the military aining required of all young men, led many young eople in Germany to emigrate to America.

It was not until 1795 that the invading white peole, after a terrific struggle, had reached a treaty ith the Indians for a peaceful existance in the orth West Territory, which included the lands orth of the Ohio River and west of the Pennsylvaia territory.

This area, which later contained Mercer County, hio, was situated in a vast expanse of wilderness nd covered with virgin forest when white man took ver to bring it within reach of civilization.

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THE HISTORY OF THE REICHERT FAMILY

(The first generation in America)

John Joseph Reichert was born in Grussloch near leidelberg, in the Province of Baden, Germany on lov. 16, 1800. In the old country he was a shoeiaker by trade. On Nov. 16, 1825 he married Anna laria Stucke who was born on Oct. 10, 1802. Their iarriage took place in their home town in Europe.

About 8 or 9 years after their marriage they deded to emigrate to America and to a just started ny German settlement in Maria Stein, Mercer ounty, Ohio about which they had heard reports in ie old country.

They landed in New York and had to borrow ioney to get out of town. They made their way to hambersburg, Pennsylvania where they resided for most two years. They finally continued their jourey to Maria Stein and became some of the first seters there.

They acquired a tract of forested land, cleared and iltivated it. This land which they acquired is loited one fourth mile west of Maria Stein Station on tate Route 119, and has since been known as the eichert Homestead. Land at that time sold for $1.25 er acre.

Soon the tiny community realized the need for a hool and John Joseph Reichert was selected as the rst teacher and he continued in this position for me twenty years.

Communications maintained by John Joseph eichert with his relatives in Germany, after his arval in America, indicate that he had a step-brother; Frantz Reichert, in Nusloch bei Heidelberg in Grossherzogthum, Baden, Germany.

To the union of Mr. & Mrs. John Joseph Reichert were born 10 children. Five of these were born in Germany and five in Maria Stein, Ohio.

John Joseph Reichert died on Jan. 20, 1877 and his wife Anna Maria died May 29, 1871. Both are buried in St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein, Ohio in unmarked graves.

THE REICHERT FAMILY

(the second generation) in America.

CHILDREN OF JOHN JOSEPH AND ANNA MARIA STUCKE REICHERT

1. Henry John Reichert, born Oct. 2, 1826 and died at Maria Stein on March 30, 1891. He married Mary Overman on Nov. 16, 1858, who was born on May 24, 1838 and died at Maria Stein on May 22, 1910. They made their livelihood at farming and lived on the Reichert homestead throughout their married life. Both are buried on St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein. 2. Killian Reichert, born Dec. 7, 1827 and died at Maria Stein July 13, 1869. He lived with his parents his entire life.

3. Agatha Catherine Reichert, born Jan. 8, 1829, married Martin Lehman on Nov. 25, 1849. Died at Ft. Loramie on May 12, 1880. She was buried in the old cemetery behind the church in Ft. Loramie. 4. Fr. Augustine Reichert, born Feb. 20, 1831. He was ordained to the priesthood in the Society of the Precious Blood on Nov. 23, 1853. He died on Feb. 13, 1889 and was buried at Carthagena in the Parish Cemetery. 5. Sr. Eva Reichert, born Nov. 4, 1832. She entered the convent of the Precious Blood on May 1, 1848. She died May 18, 1899 and was buried on the Parish Cemetery at Egypt as Sister Mary Eva. 6. Sr. Regina Barbara Reichert, born Nov. 25, 1834. She entered the Convent of the Precious Blood on Feb. 22, 1852. She died March 11, 1924 and is buried at New Riegal, Ohio as Sister Mary Regina. 7. John Reichert, born June 30, 1836. He married Anna Kremer on Jan. 24, 1861. They lived on a farm, south of Cassella where he died on Oct. 26, 1894. He was buried at Cassella. 8. Margaretha Reichert, born June 17, 1838. She married Henry Kramer and they lived on the Kramer farm at Maria Stein. She died on July 3, 1885 and is buried on St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein. 9. Mary Reichert, born Jan. 20, 1841. She married John Rhein on April 30, 1861. They lived at Coldwater and later moved to Dayton and died there on Aug. 12, 1911. She was buried at Calvary Cemetery in Dayton. 10. Joseph Reichert, born Sept. 21, 1845. He married Philomena Hagedorn on June 7, 1870. He taught school in Kansas, St. Rosa and Osgood where he died on June 5, 1921. He is buried in the Osgood Cemetery.

The above 10 members of the Reichert family are the ancestors of all the Reicherts originating from the Maria Stein and southern Mercer County area.
George Reichert

THE REICHERT FAMILY

The Maria Stein Branch
(In the third generation)

CHILDREN OF HENRY JOHN AND MARY OVERMAN REICHERT

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1. John Reichert, born Feb. 25, 1861. He was unmarried and was physically handicapped and lived with his parents his entire life. He died on June 9, 1892 and was buried at St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein. 2. Mary Reichert, born Oct. 21, 1862. She married Andrew Hummer on Sept. 23, 1885 and died Nov. 26, 1886. 3. Henry Reichert, born Oct. 9, 1864 and died July 12, 1940. He married Mary Giere on Oct. 17, 1894 who was born on Nov. 16, 1870 and died May 10, 1951. They lived on the Reichert Homestead throughout their married life. Both are buried on St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein, Ohio. 4. Margaret Reichert. Born June 27, 1866. She married Henry Moorman on Sept. 23, 1892. They lived at Coldwater where she died on April 6, 1912. She was buried on the Coldwater Cemetery. 5. Agnes Reichert. Born March 7, 1869. She married Lorenz Droesch on Nov. 8, 1905. They lived on the Droesch farm at Chickasaw, Ohio where she died on Sept. 20, 1914. She is buried on the Chickasaw Cemetery. 6. Anna Reichert. Born March 2, 1871. She remained unmarried and spent the greater part of her adult life in Cincinnati. She died July 31, 1941 and was buried on St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein, Ohio. 7. Anthony Reichert. Born July 10, 1874. As a young man he pioneered to Cayuga, Wisconsin where took up a homestead and later moved to Milwaukee, Wis. where he married Louise Elizabeth Mueller on Nov. 21, 1914. He died on Nov. 8, 1948 and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, Milwaukee, Wis.

THE REICHERT FAMILY

The Maria Stein branch
(In the fourth generation)

CHILDREN OF HENRY AND MARY GIERE REICHERT

1. Robert Reichert, born Oct. 3, 1896. He lived with his parents throughout his boyhood life. He died July 14, 1916 and was buried in St. John's Cemetery at Maria Stein, Ohio. 2. George Reichert, born August 14, 1898. He spent a large part of his adult life as an employee of the Farm Bureau. On Nov. 28, 1934 he married Alvina Fortkamp who was born Dec. 30, 1906. They made their home in Celina, Ohio. 3. Olivia Reichert, born March 25, 1900. She was not married and lived on the Reichert Homestead at Maria Stein, Ohio. For many years she did the custodial work at St. John's church. 4. Pauline Reichert, born Sept. 29, 1901. She worked in Dayton, Ohio for a number of years. She entered the Convent of the Sisters of Notre Dame at Reading, Ohio on Feb. 2, 1956, as Sister Marie. 5. Luetta Reichert, born Oct. 1, 1905. On Oct. 17, 1928 she married Alfred Will who was born on March 6, 1900. They were farmers and lived on the Will farm at Sebastian. Alfred did considerable work for the Government Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program. 6. Cecelia Reichert, born Feb. 24, 1909. On May 4, 1938 she married Urban Rauh who was born on March 26, 1899. They were farmers and lived on the Rauh farm at St. Anthony, Ohio. Urban was a Director of the Rural Electric Cooperative for many years. 7. Alex Reichert, born March 3, 1912. He was not married and lived on the Reichert Homestead at Maria Stein, Ohio. 8. Emily Reichert, born Oct. 2, 1912. On Sept. 12, 1946 she married Aloys Fullenkamp who was born June 4, 1906 and died on June 29, 1964. He was buried in the Coldwater Cemeter Aloys was an employee of the County Highway D partment for a number of years and later an er ployee of the Avco New Idea Farm Equipment Cor pany.

HE REICHERT FAMILY

The Maria Stein branch
(In the fifth generation)

CHILDREN OF GEORGE AND ALVINA FORTKAMP REICHERT

1. Eugene John Reichert, born Sept. 6, 1935. H graduated from Celina I-C High School. After ser ing 4 years in the U.S. Air Force, he became en ployed in various positions at the Mersman Bro Corporation; as office manager and later as senic purchasing agent for the succeeding Somers Corpo ration. On Oct. 20, 1962 he married Mary An Hoyng who was born on Aug. 15, 1940 at Coldwate Ohio. They lived in Celina and had the followir children; Steven John, born May 7, 1963. He died i an auto accident May 6, 1969. Jeffrey William, bor Aug. 23, 1964. Diana Marie, born Feb. 12, 196 David Charles, born July 9, 1969. Jason Mathev born June 27, 1974. 2. Joan Reichert Mary, born Jul 8, 1940. She graduated from Celina I-C High Schoo and the University of Dayton and taught school a Celina I-C and at St. Marys Parochial in Greenvill Ohio. On Aug. 8, 1964 she married James Josep Bueltel, who was born Feb. 21, 1940. James gradu ated from Celina I-C and from Purdue University i engineering and was employed at Corning in Green ville, Ohio. and later transferred to their Detroit Mich. headquarters. They had the following chil dren; Terri Marie, born June 1, 1965. John David born July 21, 1969. 3. William Michael Reichert born Dec. 7, 1945. He graduated from Celina I-C High School and Xavier University at Cincinnati and taught school at Fenneytown. On Aug. 10, 1974 h married Sharon Ann Hasekoester, who was born May 15, 1949. Sharon also taught school at Finney town. They have one son; Michael William Reichert born July 7, 1977. *George Reichert*

RIETHMANN

Johann Casper Heinrich Riethmann entered thi world 10 August 1809 in the Bauerschaft of Gaupel Coesfeld, Westphalia. Casper was the second eldes of ten children born to the Tagelohner or day laborer Johann Heinrich Riethmann (Rietmann) and his wife Anna Margaretha Piers. Casper and his wife Anna Margaretha Alte celebrated the Sacrament o Matrimony in the Church of St. Lambertus in Coes feld on 25 April 1837. Anna Margaretha Alte was born at Gross Reken, Westphalia on 2 February 1812.

Casper, his wife, and several of their children, firs set foot on the American soil on 28 October 1867 a the port of Baltimore, Maryland. The Riethmann family ventured across the cold Atlantic on the vessel "Bark Therese" which had set forth from the port of Bremen. Several of Casper's brothers and sisters had made the precarious yet promising pilgrimage nearly a score previous to escape the economically oppressive conditions of the German peoples. Casper's brothers and sisters who had fled this mis-

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y were Anna Catherina Riethmann (b- 19 March 12) who was married to Johann Bernard Roetger- ann, Herman Riethmann (b- 14 January 1816) who as married to Elisabetha Brambering, and Johann einrich Riethmann (b - 26 April 1818) whose wife as Anna Catherina Massing. They had all settled the Minster vicinity, and perhaps this being so, asper decided to settle amongst the Plattsdeutach lonists of Western Ohio. Casper and his family es- blished their domicile in the parish community of int Sebastian, Marion Township, and devoted emselves to the cultivation of the land and the sbandry of animals.

Casper and Margaretha engendered six children ith the gift of life. All were born in the Bauerschaft Gaupel, Cosefeld, Westphalia. The eldest off- ring, Bernard Riethmann was born 3 May 1840 d was married to Anna Maria Lehmann (Leim- n). Bernard died at the young age of 36 years (26 arch 1876). Bernard was interred in the St. Sebas- n Cemetery. Casper's second son, Herman Ber- rd Casper Riethmann was born 15 November 42.

Maria Theresia Riethmann was born 2 February 45. Theresia was wedded to Franz Wilhelm Fran- r who was born 20 September 1836 at Aschenberg, estphalia. The good-sized Franzer household re- ded in the Carthagena vicinity. Theresia died 20 pril 1912, while Franz Wilhelm left this world at sgood, Ohio on 10 April 1916. Both were laid to st in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Carthagena.

Anton Riethmann's birth was on 28 November 48, and he took as his wife Maria Anna Catherine hmann of Minster. Their marriage was celebrated n 4 May 1871 at Saint Augustine's Church, Min- er. Anton, a "Holzechuhmacher" or woodenshoe aker, left the Mercer County homestead and made is residence on the Lohman farmplace. Both died at linster. One son, Herman, never reached America's nores as he was born 6 May 1851 and died 25 Sep- mber 1855. Casper's youngest was a daughter, Ma- a Anna Theresia Riethmann, born 29 April 1854.

Casper did not live long to enjoy the pleasures of ld age at his home in the Saint Sebastian parish mmunity. He departed on 6 January 1875, and his arthly body found rest in the cemetery at Saint Se- astian. Margaretha breathed her last on 15 October 898 at the home of her daughter Theresia Franzer. Margaretha found sepulcher in the Saint Aloysius emetery of Carthagena. *David A. Hoying*

ROBINSON FAMILY

Husband: Lari A. Robinson: 2-25-47; Wife: Kath- en M. Robinson: 4-29-49 (parents: Albert & Rita essen); Daughter: Angelica E. Robinson: 4-8-76

Wife's history: Both parents were of German de- cent. Grandparents lived in Ohio, too.

Husband's history: Father was mixture of differ- nt nationalities. From Boston, Mass. Mother is part Miami Indian. Her grandmother was a full-blooded Miami Indian. Direct descendant of Chief Little Tur- le who is inscribed on the tablets at Fort Recovery ort and in the Museum. He was one of the great hiefs and due to a settlement made by the Govern- nent, my husband inherited money, due to the fact e was related. It was never paid to the Indians nany years ago on a monthly basis as it was sup- posed to be so the descendants received it.

Also, we own and live at the Cassella Tavern. The place is extremely old. Records at the Courthouse don't even have a date; just say old. First recorded sale was in 1860. Building was originally (we think) used as a grocery store. Owner delivered groceries around neighborhood from his wagon. Building has very large wooden beams and thick brick walls. Back bar in tavern is very old. *Lari A. Robinson*

THE WALTER SCHMIESING FAMILY

Walter Schmiesing began a term as Mercer County commissioner in 1976. He and his wife, Mary Ann, reside at 6408 Route 119 in Cassella. Before serving as county commissioner, Walter was a milk hauler and a farmer for twenty years and then an Ohio State University dairy supervisor for thirteen years. Mary Ann is a homemaker and she also assisted in the work of dairy herd testing. Both belong to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church of Cassella, and to various religious and civic organizations.

In 1939 they lost their infant son, Robert, but the birth of their first daughter, Dianne, followed three years later. Dianne graduated from Marion Local High School. She also attended the University of Dayton and received a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Wright State University and a Master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of Dayton. She teaches in the New Bremen Elementary School. Dianne married Larry Dicke of New Bremen who is employed in the receiving department of Avco New Idea. They are the parents of two girls: Michelle and Denise, and of one son, Tim. While living at 4132 St. Johns Road near Chickasaw, they are quite active in the New Bremen School system as well as in 4-H and other social organizations.

In 1952 Walter and Mary Ann's second daughter, Elaine, was born. She also graduated from Marion Local High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Bowling Green State University. She serves as an English teacher and a school media specialist. Her husband, David W. Brunswick, formerly of Maria Stein, also attended Bowling Green State University obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Education. He received his Master's degree in Curriculum Supervision from Wright State University. David, Elaine and their daughter, Meredith Suzanne, reside at 56 E. Wayne Street in Chickasaw.

The youngest Schmiesing daughter, Peg (Margaret), was born in 1958. Following her graduation from Marion Local High School, she attended the Ohio State School of Cosmetology, and she is employed as a certified cosmetologist. Her husband, Mike Albers, formerly of New Bremen, is employed by Crown Controls. They and their daughter, Jennifer, live at 2466 Stelzer Road near Cassella.

Before moving to Cassella, Walter lived in Egypt, Ohio, where he was born the son of Anton and Clara (Bergman) Schmiesing, in 1916. The Schmiesing roots were somewhat established in Egypt as Anton's father, J.B. Schmiesing, was also born there. Anton's mother, Barbara Schwartz, was from Sharpsburg. Walter's mother, Clara Bergman, was

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from Maria Stein. Clara's father, Bernard Bergman, was also from Maria Stein, but he married Katherine Luttmer of Germany.

The German heritage of Walter and Mary Ann Schmiesing's family is two-fold. Mary Ann was born in Cassella in 1918, the daughter of John U. Greivenkamp and Katherine Kemper, also both of Cassella. John Greivenkamp's father, Henry was born in Ohio. His wife, Gertrude Boehmer, however, was born in Germany.

Katherine Kemper's father, Anton Kemper, and her mother Elizeta Holtman were also from Germany. *Walter Schmiesing*

John H. Janning and Mary Adelheid Schwieterman. This couple was married on September 19, 1787 in Hanover, Germany. Since they lived on the old Schwieterman estate, the husband, as was customary in those days, took the name of that estate, Schwieterman. There may be an error as to the identity of these people. This may be the pictures of John Herman Arnold and Mary Catherine (Buschor) Schwieterman, son and daughter-in-law of John and Mary Schwieterman.

GERHARD SCHWIETERMANN

In the days when this section of Ohio was practically a wilderness, when there were no roads but only a trail here and there through the acres and acres of forests, there might be seen at different times, sturdy men and women wending their way through the almost unlimited row upon row of trees, carrying what few possessions they had. They were on their way to what to them was to be their future home. Hardships they had — yes many of them, but that did not deter them. These hardy persons who followed some of the first settlers into the southern part of Mercer County were industrious, and set out to build their home in a new country. They worked at their daily tasks, clearing the lands and farming the little plots of ground, at peace with the world; doing their best every day, and little dreaming that they were shaping the destiny of the great county we are now living in.

Among these early pioneers was the above mentioned Gerhard Schwietermann. He was born in Ankum, Hanover, March 25, 1837, the son of Heman Arnold Schwieterman, and Mary Katherine Busher, and was their only child when they left Europe to make their future home in these United States. Gerhard was only three months old when the embarked on one of the old sail boats, which were the only means of crossing the Atlantic at that time. The speed of the boat depended upon the wind, and often, these journeys were very slow. This particular time when the elder Schwietermanns came acorss, the winds were not so strong, and it took three months to make the ocean trip. They landed in Baltimore, coming on to Cincinnati and then on down in to what was then almost a wilderness, into the southern part of Mercer County, where his father purchased a farm of eighty acres from Thomas A. Redmon on January 16, 1838 for $500.00. This eigl acres is part of what is now known as the Frank Schwietermann farm located on the old Brem road.

Growing up under conditions like those existi at that time, was a handicap to anyone who was clined to acquire an education, because there w only a few scattered schools, and just during t winter months when there was no pressing work be done, children would be sent there. The near school at that time was at St. Rose, and he was se there several years during the winter months. B our young man was not to be denied an educatic He read whatever books and papers he could g hold of, and would sit up far into the night to re and study. Such yearly almanacs as Marianklend and Der Hinkende Bote, were read from cover cover many times. From the almanacs he learn about the moon changes and the different planti signs, and he became a firm believer in effects of t moon on growing crops. His planting, his fence pc setting, his roof shingling, even killing hogs, was a ways done in the right sign of the moon, and to th day, his moon philosophy still runs through tl family. Peddlers traveling through the countr would always find shelter overnight at his place, ar he was always anxious to sit down after supp when one of these travelers was stopping at h place, and listen to the news which the visitor bad tell.

One of his old neighbors relates that at the age sixteen he hewed the logs for the first church at S Sebastian; this was a frame building it had pews, b no kneeling benches — worshipers knelt on th floor. He was a member of the first choir.

On July 3rd, 1860, at the age of twenty three h was married to Josephine Manetsch, daughter Anton and Cresancia Manetsch, by Reverend Pet Anton. Many relatives, and the entire congregatic of St. Sebastian were at the wedding, the number families being about forty. It was a delightful da and, as usual, a large wedding dinner was serve One of the guests, in relating about the weddin tells that candy was passed around to all those as sembled, which was an unusual treat — somethin they seldom had in those days. The young coupl lived in the Manetsch home after the marriage. O January 29, 1864, Mr. and Mrs Manetsch deede their land (36 acres of what is now a part of th George Schwietermann farm) to Gerhard and hi wife for the consideration of $2,000.00. A writte agreement was signed by the young couple, agreein to care for the elder couple until death.

He was a hard working man, and evidently a goo manager, for the record show that during the nex fifteen years he bought up many acres of adjoinin land, to wit: Dece,mber 19, 1868, 76 acres from R.C Blake $2000. December 21 1868, 70 acres from Joh Haslinger $2800. February 14 1876, 40 acres from Fa ther's estate $1800. April 5 1876, 20 acres from Ber nard Homan $1250. March 16 1878, 4 acres fron Archbishop Purcell $400.

He was appointed executor of the estate of hi brother John in May 1888 and of his son in law Joh Fleck's Jr estate on February 5, 1895. Eight childre were born in the old home, Henry, Mary, Anna Herman, Frank, Josephine, Elizabeth and Philomena and two children, Louis and George, were born afte

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ıe built the new brick house. He also raised and ared for two orphan grandchildren, Josephine and George Fleck. In 1879 he built the brick house, referred to above, containing thirteen rooms. The ame year he built a large bank barn 100 by 50 feet. 'o get the ground necessary to make the banked up art, he dug a pond to the east of the barn: this pond vas sixty feet square, and six feet deep. This was ısed for many years for watering the cattle. Willows rew up on the banks, and the children and grandhildren spent many pleasant house here, boating nd fishing. Some years after he built the new ouse, he confided to a neighbor that this was one f the mistakes of his life, because the house was too arge. He was considered to be a practical farmer by ll of his neighbors. He took much pride in his orhard of two acres. He owned the first reaper in this art of the country, a Dorce, made in Dayton, Ohio. ınd in 1881 he bought the first six foot twine binder. Likewise, he owned the first drag saw, operated y horse power, used for cutting logs. The first pike ı Mercer County was built alongside his place in 877 or 1878.

He was of low german descent: he worked fast, ıever worried about anything, neighbors relate that hey never heard him use profane language. He enoyed smoking. Was very strict with his family. Vhen his family grew up, he wanted to provide arms for the boys, and he first bought the farm of 20 acres where Herman now lives; then he acquired 73 acres now owned by Henry, and still later the 30 acre farm now owned by Frank.

His health failed him, about six years before he

op: Anna (married ohn Dorsten) & Joe ere twins, William nd John (twins), lary (married ast). **Bottom Row:** en, Herman, lenry, Gerhard. **ccording to Age:** erhard, Henry, lerman, Ben, Mary ast, John, William :wins), Joe, Anna)orsten (twins).

ied; first a siege of typhoid fever, and then later on ung fever, left him in a weakened condition. During ll of his life he was a very devout catholic, and vhen the end of life was near, he was resigned to he will of God. He died on June 5, 1900. *Hilda Sacher*

STORY OF GERHARD SCHWIETERMAN CLEARING THE LAND

It was in September 1892 if I remember correctly, vhen after a long dry spell, he early one morning afer carefully scanning the skies, and the weathervane, finally said that everything, including the direction of the wind, was set just right to get at that 0 acre clearing on Frank's place.

And since there was so much other work to do, he vould take just me and that faithful old blind mare ule who had presented him with a fine colt yearly or going on to 23 years, — and to see what we night be able to accomplish.

And so after breakfast we three set out, with the old spring wagon, and logging chains, crowbars, picks and shovels, and a good big box of matches, — the latter which of course looked best to me.

And I can remember quite clearly how eager he was on the way to get there.

And although I was holding the reins, he took the broken end of a whip that was left, and while still scanning the skies and trying to sense nature's plans for the drift of the breeze for that day, and the next, and mapping out his plans for action so as to have the elements with him in the big combat that he knew was to come, he would gently prod at old Jule, — and in his absent minded way keep on saying, "toh,-toh,-du oller Droehmel ass,-toh,-toh,-" in rhythmic gesture with her plodding trod, — as she felt her way along the horse rut on the pike.

And again when she would stumble as was her custom, he would in that preoccupied indulgent way say, —"is dat dan ok wat,- du oller ballersack! toh,-bestoer dic doch een bitken, — git-up, nu dan doch, -toh,-toh,-" ad infinitum, until we arrived at what was soon to be for us a great arena of battle with the elements.

And I want to tell you right now, of all the pictures I've seen of "No Man's Land" in France, none showed any more outraged nature to me than the sight right before our eyes there and then. Timber men had gotten in there some years before and as is their ruthless custom, they had thrown the trees down helter skelter in any direction, convenient for them to get out their logs. No piling up of brush or plan for clearing or thought of how that might be accomplished later on.

But this did not phase Uncle Gerard, for as I remember now he seemed to actually be elated and grateful for the opportunity the overcoming of this difficult obstacle would give him, to try again his great skill in this sort of work, and thereby even then still grow and improve therein, if that were possible. And he was going to have some real fun doing it I could see that.

This was the 20 acre tract which at that time formed the south west corner of cousin Frank's farm. It was bordered on the east, south, and west sides, by dense forests, and on the north by an open plowed field. No fence on the north side just then that I can remember.

The breeze was coming from a little west off south. That much was in his favor and something he had been looking for, for sometime past. "We will start here on the North East Corner" he said, "and now let's get busy." "Take Jule and pull the odd logs and big branches away from the fences as much as possible." And he took the shovel and began vigorously to scrape and cut a swath through the weeds, and grass, and underbrush, along the fences.

It was a hot and sultry day. At about ten o'clock he began lighting the stuff which might cause the fire to jump across this swath. And he kept on this way at a terrific pace until by mid afternoon the whole 20 acres was in a raging, roaring mass of flames, the sky overhung with black clouds of smoke, and it looked like all hell had broken loose.

Pretty soon people came from St. Rose and Casella all alarmed over what they thought must be a real forest fire running wild. But a few words from uncle and a sight at him in action was enough to satisfy them it would be safe to leave it all in his hands.

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He seemed to be all over the place at one and the same time, checking the threatening places here and starting something anew there.

I was all confused and confounded and no doubt more of a nuisance then a help. Glad though old Jule was out in the plowed field, pricking her ears, wondering and alarmed as to what it might all be about.

Night was now coming on. But still the flames roared and threatened. Uncle had done a dozen men's work this day. His eye brows and lashes and his beard all singed, his face and hands all blistered and black. Clothes and shoes burned full of holes and wringing wet with sweat. Hollow eyed and cheeked, and a gaunt and embattled looking figure was he. And no doubt the body wanted to complain of being tired and worn, but his spirit was running high. He was working with inspiration and there was no thought in his mind of slowing up or of letting down.

He was in the midst of a great combat, practically lone handed but on the winning side so far, and had lost all consciousness of self in his concentrated thinking and planning of the next steps, and the next, and the next, many steps ahead, in order to keep this roaring and crackling mass of flames in submission, and yet at the same time up to its maximum effect in the good work it was to do.

It was dark now, and about all I could think of doing while trudging after him, was to gaze in awe at the sight of the great flames whirling the white, blue and black smoke up into the skies, where it would hang, low and heavy, forming ugly faces in threatening clouds, as though it might come back down again to smother us. And to gaze and marvel in awe at the skill with which my uncle was mastering the situation.

And as I look back now and in memory live the scene over again, I can realize what a wonderful example he was setting here for us all to copy, if we want to really live a happy and most satisfactorily worth while life as did he.

And the next day he was at it just as hard again, and so on until I think it was in only about 8 days he had burned even most of the roots from in deep out of the ground. And in doing so he had set a record for time, cost, efficiency, and thoroughness, which I

Richard Schulze Family — **Standing:** Virginia, William, Michael, Nicholas, Karen. **Seated:** Agnes, Angela, Linda, Richard.

am quite sure is going to be mighty hard to equal. And I know he must have gotten a lot of satisfaction out of it, and the memory of which has been dear and a perpetual source of inspiration to me. *Hilda Sacher*

SCHULZE

Richard John Schulze (12-9-27), a carpenter of E.J. Wynk, on 8-4-51 married Agnes Mary (Hausfeld) Schulze (2-1-29), employed by Dr. E.J. Willke and Dr. Schwieterman. Richard is the son of Harvey Schulze (5-5-06) — 10-24-75) who was employed b Avco New Idea and Mary (Mangen) Schulze. Agne Schulze is the daughter of Leo B. Hausfeld (10-2 94) — 12-29-75) a farmer, and Armella (Eifert) Hau feld (1-1-99) — 11-6-68).

Richard and Agnes Mary (Haustfeld) Schul have seven children. The first child, Karen Ann (11-52), employed by Drs. Willke and Schwieterma on 11-8-75, married Elmer Klepaski (5-14-52) en ployed by Pet Milk Co.; they have one daught Janet Teresa (7-31-78). The second child Micha John (9-18-53) is employed as a draftsman at Wrigl State University, Dayton, Ohio. The third, chil William Leo (10-29-54) is employed by E.J. Wyn construction. The fourth child Nicholas Joseph (1 7-55) is a detective for the Mercer County Sheri Department. The fifth child, Virginia Marie (8-1 57) is a hair dresser at Judy's House of Hair Desig The sixth child Linda Kay (12-5-63) is a student. Th seventh child Angela Maria (9-6-71) is a student *Richard J. Schulze*

THE JOHN SIEGRIST FAMILY

John and Philomena (Braun) Siegrist were marrie at St. Peter Catholic Church on Nov. 6, 1906. The lived with John's widowed mother Mrs. Stephe (Elizabeth) Siegrist on a forty acre farm on Albi Road, northeast of Macedon, in Washington Tw Here were born Urban, Katherine and Helen.

Since they wanted a larger farm and to be amon their fellow Catholics, John bought the Heirholz farm of 120 acres, south of Cassella in Marion Tw John's family and mother moved to Cassella in 191 becoming members of Nativity Parish. Elizabet died in 1923. John also served on the Cassella scho board.

At Cassella was born Cletus, Verena, Sylvan, Rita and John Jr.. Aug. 12, 1946, John died and th following May 4, 1947, Philomena passed awa Later the same year, their son Sylvan bought th home farm. In January 1948, Sylvan married A frieda Evers and they continued a successful farmin operation in spite of a disabling farm accident, i 1951, in which he lost both hands. Following this a cident the relatives and neighbors were very helpf in keeping the family together.

The children of Sylvan are: Elaine, born in 1950, graduate of Lima School of Practical Nursing an currently employed at St. Rita Hospital, Lima. Sh married Ed. Limbert and they have a daughter Co leen and are living in Botkins, Ohio.

Janet was born in 1952. She graduated from S Elizabeth School of Nursing and is currently em ployed at St. Rita. She married Tim Beckman an lives on a dairy farm east of Wapakoneta.

Ronald was born in 1954. He is a graduate of IT in Electronics. While attending school, he helpe with farm work and bought part of the home farn in 1976. He is also employed by Cy Schwieterma Inc. and he married Diane Gariety in 1978.

Sandra and Sylvia were born on their father' birthday, Oct. 14, 1955. They have an Associate De gree in accounting from Wright State. Sylvia mar ried Larry Henry in 1978 and lives at Willowdell o a diary farm. Sandra is employed at Empire Restau rant as an accountant.

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The children of John and Philomena Seigrist are follows:
Father Urban Seigrist, C.PP.S., was born in 1908. ently retired professor of St. Joseph College, sselaer, Ind. Ordained in 1934, he was a Masters d Doctorate degree in science; also a Doctorate in eology.
Catherine was born in 1909. She attended school Cassella and the Sisters boarding school in Min-r. She married Ben Backs and resided in Dayton d later in Celina where both rest in the Catholic metery.
Sister Helen Marie was born in 1911. She has a sters in Education and taught school for 44 years d now is receptionist at the Providence Retire-nt Home, New Albany, Ind.. She is a member of Sisters of Providence, Terra Haute, Ind..
Cletus born in 1917, is married to the former Ber- Baltes and they are owners and operators of the rousel Restaurant and Ballroom. They have 4 ldren namely: John, Mrs. Sharon (Dave) Hirsch-d, David and Helen. They have three grandchil-en: Aaron and Kerry Siegrist and Alisha Hirsch-d.
Verena was born in 1918 and married Paul Mahle Dayton. He is a teacher at St. Henry. Verena is a '. Nurse and is employed at Community Hospital, ldwater. They have four children: Dennis, a grad-te of O.S.U. and doing post graduate work in uisiana; Margie, a graduate of St. Elizabeth School Nursing and working at St. E.; Thomas is an in-rance adjustor working presently in the Spring-ld — Dayton area; Kenneth is enrolled at O.S.U..
. Rita married Clarence Evers is engaged in farm-; living 705 in Darke Co.. They have Patrick living Rossburg and working at Union City. Jackie an '.N. works at St. Charles Seminary's Retirement me. Charles living at home and is a construction rker. Stephen works for a contractor. Mike and nie are attending school.
John Jr., born in 1929, is married to Marsha Lou rtke, an R.N. living in Vandalia. John works at right Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. He a contract negotiator and holds a B.S. in Business. ey have Michele, attending the Univ. of Dayton; trice, attending Miami Univ. and Jack and Donald ending school. *Alfrieda Siegrist*

HERMAN SEVERT SENIOR FAMILY

Herman Severt was born October 22, 1832 is Ger-any the son of Anthony and Elizabeth Severt. He arried Catherine Poepping and she was born Feb-ary 1830. They left Germany in 1854 and settled in ercer county the same year. When they joined the w parish St. Aloysious Catholic Church, Car-agena, Ohio in 1866 they had several children: rman, Bernard, Anna, Mary, Elizabeth was born Carthagena.
Herman Severt was a son of Herman Senior born cember 18, 1859 and Mary Ahlers Severt was rn April 30, 1859. They were married April 17, 83.
Herman died January 29, 1944 and Mary Severt d July 26, 1947. Buried Carthagena: Children An-ony, Joseph, Frances, Veronica, Henry, Adolph, illiam.

Anthony married Catherina Puthoff. Children are: Edwin, Elmer, Hilda, Alvina, Irma, Herbert, Rita. They had 24 grandchildren and several great grand-children. Anthony died May 25, 1958.
Edwin was born May 1, 1910 and takes care of his mother.
Elmer married Marie Poeppelman. Their children were: Thomas, Thelma, Anna, Mary, Gerald, Dale. Elmer died February 18, 1969.
Hilda married Paul Magato, children are: Roger, Dennis, Michael, Carl, Thomas and several grand-children.
Alvina married Walter Buehler, children are: James, Betty, Jane, Jackie, Kathy Ann, William and several grandchildren.
Irma married Alvin Rammel and had a son and daughter, Ronald Dean, Joyce Ann.
Herbert married Margaret Poeppelman, children are: Robert, Lois, Anthony, Carol, Barbara, Douglas, also several grand-children. Herbert died March 30, 1977.
Rita died infancy.
Joseph married Cecelia Hausfeld October 7, 1913. They lived all their married life in Coldwater, Ohio. They raised Evelyn & Norman Severt, when their mother died. Cecilia died September 14, 1975.
Frances married Joseph Kohnen, children are: Isable, Voleta, Florian, Joseph, Imelda. They had 11 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.
Veronica married George Homan and had two sons. Wilfred & Jeroma & 16 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.
Henry married Maria Saalman and had Evelyn & Norman. Marie died November 1931. October 1940 Henry married Frances Hemmelgarn, children are: Charles, Jane, Irene, 19 grandchildren. Henry died April 13, 1978.
William married Clista Mc Eldowney and children are: Donald, Richard, Kenneth, Mary, Robert, 14 grandchildren.
Adolph married Theresa Wuebker children are: Roman, Edna, Madella, Loretta, David, Rosemary,

Front Row: Aloys Stammen and Elizabeth (Hartke) Stammen. **Standing:** George, Elmer, Viola, Alex, Alfred, Joseph.

Sarah.. They have 44 grandchildren, 8 great grand-children. *Mrs. Henry Severt*

ALOYS AND ELIZABETH (HARTKE) STAMMEN

Aloys Stammen was one of the most prominent and substantial farmers in Marion Township; and as such, was able to donate land to St. Sebastian Church, which is now grave sites. He was born and raised in St. Sebastian. He married Elizabeth Hartke of Carthagena. Aloys and Elizabeth had seven chil-dren.
Oldest to youngest are: George, Raymond, Alfred, Joseph, Alex, Elmer and Viola. George married Mary

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Bruggeman of Maria Stein. Raymond died when he was sixteen years old. Alfred married Viola Zahn of Maria Stein. Joseph married Bernadine Berning of McCartyville. Alex, known as "Singin' Sam" or "Uncle Sam", never married. Elmer married Beatrice Reynolds. Viola, the only daughter, married Marian Goffena.

"Singin' Sam", as Uncle Alex was called, served in the Army during WWII; as did his nephews. He was at the invasion of North Africa, served under General Patton, and was one of 35,000 men who survived. Bodies were everywhere. Casualties were enormous. Alex was wounded and crawled for — he doesn't remember how many miles — to get medical help. When the war was over, he came home and was greeted very warmly by his family.

The mental strain of serving too long at the front lines took its toll on Alex. He has had to suffer the pain of being an alcoholic. He is now at the Soldiers' Home in Dayton, Ohio.

As a young child, when my "Uncles" came home from "The War", I remember tears of sadness and joy.

What a price to pay!

Pray for Peace!

The Alfred Stammen Family

ALFRED AND VIOLA (ZAHN) STAMMEN

Alfred Stammen was one of the most substantial farmers in Marion Township, Mercer County. He was born at St. Sebastian on July 30, 1900. He was one of seven children born to Aloys and Elizabeth (Hartke) Stammen. Alfred married Viola on April 17, 1928 at St. Johns parish at Maria Stein. To this union were born eleven children; six daughters and four sons. Mary was stillborn.

Della Mae married Arthur Gerlach. They have four children and they live in St. Henry. Walter married Margaret Jansen and they reside in Coldwater. Walter served the country during the Korean Conflict. They have eight children. Patricia married Roger Dorsten and they are living at Carthagena. They have six children. Barbara married Herman Sherman and they live in Lima. They have two children. Margaret married Eldon Moorman and they live in Celina. They have five children. Shirley married Paul Kelch and they live at Osgood, rural route. They have 10 children. Orville married Terri Frey and lives in Norfolk, Mass. They have four children. James married Brenda Maharg and resides in Celina. They have no children. James served the country in the Marines during the Vietnam Crisis. Judith married Craig Hayes. She resides in Coldwater. They have one child. Charles is not married.

Alfred farmed until the Depression. As what happened to very many, they lost their farm. He had to seek employment in a factory. He was employed Producers in Celina in 1941. He operated a m dryer which made powdered milk for the Army. T plant closed and he then got a job at New Id Coldwater, Ohio. He was a security guard for years. His health failed, so he quit in 1956. His w Viola (Zahn) worked also, — at the Buckeye Plant Coldwater — Fischers in Celina — and recently tired from Huffys in Celina.

Alfred and Viola were parents of three childr who had polio. See the Article on Polio followi this.

They have lived in Coldwater for 37 years and t year (1978) celebrated their Golden Wedding An versary. They are members of Holy Trinity Parish Coldwater, Ohio. *Mrs. Pat Dorsten*

Polio Patients In August Are Full Of Healthy Energy Five Months Later

Left to Right: Charl James Frederick and Orv Stammen, children of I and Mrs. Alfred Stamm These youngsters are th of the 33 victims of polic Mercer County in 1949.

STAMMEN CHILDREN; POLIO PATIENTS, 194

A housefull of healthy, lively youngsters ran the door in friendly welcome at the farm home Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Stammen, on R. R. 1, Coldw ter.

Orville, a quiet, mannerly eight-year-old, reach a protective hand towards lively, husky 13-mont old Charles, or "Butch," as he's known in the fami Jim, the five-year-old; hung back a little, a shy gr on his face.

"Oh, they're all fine now," smiled pleasant-fac Mrs. Stammen. "Except Orville, we still take him Lima once a week for treatments. But they tell he'll be all right pretty soon."

All three brothers were stricken with polio l August, within a few days time.

Jim and "Butch", who had mild cases, show signs of after-effects. Orville walks without appare lameness, but the muscles in the backs of his le are still stiff.

"He does exercises they taught him at the hosp tal, to stretch the muscles," Mrs. Stammen sai When he first came home from the hospital, she h to keep renewing hot packs constantly. "They real sent him home too soon," she added, "but the were so many polio patients there then, worse th he was, that there just wasn't room for him."

Orville, who is in the third grade in the Coldwat school, missed the first three weeks of school th fall, but has caught up with his class now. He tak pride in keeping up with his exercises, without r minders from his parents.

Three-year-old Judy, a curly blonde, looked solemnly as her brothers posed for a photograph.

"Judy was sick, too, about the same time," h mother said. "The doctor thinks she may have had very mild case of polio, too."

Two older sisters came in from school, and lent hand at coaxing Butch to smile at the camera. But was making it clear, with loud wails, that he didn like the idea.

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"Are there more?" Mrs. Stammen was asked, and e smiled, "Oh yes, we have ten."
This wasn't the Stammens' first bout with polio. atricia, that's the oldest — she's 17 now — had it ıe years ago. She walked with a brace for two ars," Mrs. Stammen recalled. "She still has a akness in her right leg and ankle."
Mrs. Stammen added that she thought present- y treatment for polio greatly improved over the ethods used when Patricia was stricken.
Mr. Stammen, a policeman at the New Idea eader plant in Coldwater, arrived. Butch stopped, lfway through an extra loud yell, to eye the bag of ıdy his father held out to him.
That was more like it, Butch decided. His mouth l of candy, he let the photographer get on with e job.

Pat Stammen Dorsten

PATRICIA STAMMEN DORSTEN

Hello! I'm Patricia — the girl that also had polio. ı married to Roger Dorsten who was from North ar, Ohio. I have six children, whom I love very ıch. We live at Carthagena.
As you read this, think how far they've come in edical History.
Orville could not walk for several months — yet th therapy, his limbs responded and was able to ıy football for Coldwater High School.
Charles or "Chuck" or "Butch" is now teaching story in the Van Wert Schools. He also coaches e Junior High football team. He lives with Mother d Dad in Coldwater.
James or "Jim" has served in the Marines and was active fighting in Vietnam. He married Brenda aharg and they live in Celina. Jim and Brenda are ıployed at Reynolds in Celina.
Orville, who could not walk for a while, got a ıolarship in football at Miami University at Ox- d, Ohio. He received his B.A. at Oxford, then nt on to Michigan and there received his Master's gree. He is a Certified Public Accountant and is ıployed as such in Boston, Mass.
He is married to Terri Frey and they have four ildren. They are presently living at Norfolk, Mass.
s. Pat Dorsten

THE STELZER FAMILY

The Stelzer family orginated from Untergrombach Baden, Germany. Untergrombach itself is today a rt of Bruchsal, a Beautiful city built up against a ountain, between Karlsruhe and Heidelberg.
Johannes Stelzer was born on Nov. 20, 1800 and agdalina Droxler Stelzer was born on May 10, 05. They had seven children Augustin, born Nov. 1830, Elizabeth born in 1831, Reinhard born pt. 20, 1832, Bertha born July 30, 1838, Karoline rn May 18, 1841, Katherina, Frances born May 18, 51.

Reinhard's oldest brother Augustin arrived in America first, coming in 1853. His sister Elizabeth was the next to come to America a little later. Then in March, 1856 Augustin sent for his mother, Magdalena, a widow and her other children. It is stated in a letter, that they arrived in Dec. 1856. They settled in Cassella, Ohio, in Mercer county.
Reinhard Stelzer married Elizabeth Boise. She was born Mar. 8, 1833. To this union were born six children; John, Mary, Augustin, Henry, Katherine, Elizabeth.
John born 1860, married Wilhelmina Neitfeld, born 1859. They moved to Carthagena, Ohio and belong to St. Aloysious Parish. Their children are John, Elizabeth (Wuebker), August, Catherine (1 Hoelseher — 2 Wenning), Annie (Winhoven).
Mary born 1862, married John Stein born 1863. They moved to Victoria, Ohio and were members of St. Joseph Parish. Their children were Philmena, Pauline (Faller), Charles and Bernard.
Augustin born 1864 married Elizabeth Boeke, born 1871. They lived in Cassella, Ohio and were members of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish. They had ten Children: Mary, died at birth, Rose (Thieman), Frances (Wuebker), August, Edwin, Cleopha (Hoyng), Margaret (Borhhorst), Olive (McDonough), Helen (Buening), Rita (Penno).
Henry, born 1866, married Mrs. Agnes Stucke, born 1868. They lived in Celina, and were members of the Immaculate Conception Parish. He was a teacher and they had one daughter, Elanore.
Katherine born 1868, married Lewis Schuh on Nov. 24, 1891. Lewis was born 1861. They were members of the St. Joseph Parish. They had ten children; Elizabeth, Mary, Margaret (Jansen), Frances (Fullenkamp), Charles, Caroline (Buemer), Rose (Grieshop), Joseph, Alma, Aloys.
Elizabeth, born 1872 and Peter Mueller, born 1864 were married on Oct. 12, 1892. They moved to Cranberry Praire, Ohio and were members of St. Francis Parish. They had thirteen children; Jerome, Al, William, Ed, Lawrence, Rudolph, Joseph, Anna, Mary, Oliva (Steinbrunner), Agnes (Stahl), Philomena (Brewer), Clara (Murlin).
Reinhard died Sept. 18, 1914, his wife Elizabeth had died March 25, 1893. They are both laid to rest in Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Cemetery in Cassella, Ohio, Mercer county. *Catherine Steinbrunner*

AUGUST VONDRELL FAMILY

On September 3, 1927, August Vondrell married Margaret Grilliot and made their home in the village of Cassella. They had four children: Sylvia, Dale, Marlene and John J.
Sylvia, who married Robert Shepherd, is a college professor in Elyria, Ohio.
Dale, married Betty Gremling; they had eight children: Steven; Dennis, who married Gina Ambrister and they have a daughter, Valerie; Debra; Lawrence; Cathleen, who married Michiel Bader; Mary; Julia; Timothy. Dale is owner of Von's Jewelry Store in Lima.
Marlene married Robert Huelsman and they have four children: Thomas; Judith; John and Teresa. Robert Huelsman is the owner of the Huelsman Au-

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tomotive in Chickasaw, Ohio.

John J. married Carol Coufalik; they have three children: Gregory, Suzanne, and Alexander. John J. Vondrell is a medical Doctor and an anesthesiologist in Wisconsin. *Mrs. Margaret Vondrell*

HENRY WENDELN

Henry Wendeln, a native of Germany, settled in Minster, Ohio, as one of the earliest pioneers. He purchased three farms of 80 acres each in Auglaize County for a total of $100. Here he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. He was the father of six children, namely: Engel, who married Christopher Greve; Mary, who married John Starkemp; Henry, Anthony, William, and Fred.

Fred Wendeln, born in Germany, came to America with his parents when he was 15 years old, and settled in Cincinnati, shortly afterward moving to Auglaize County. Mr. Wendeln worked on his father's farm and on the canal for three or four years, and then returned to Cincinnati. After residing there for some years, he returned to Minster, purchased a farm of 80 acres near Minster, and engaged in general farming. Mr. Wendeln was twice married. He was the father of two children by his first wife, namely: William, who married Mary Russ, and Louisa, who married William Hester. Mr. Wendeln's second marriage was with Mary Bryankamp, a native of Germany, and a resident of Cincinnati. Seven children were born to the second union, namely: Christopher, who married Sophia Heitmann; Anna, who married John Kurter; Mary, who married John Bohmann; John Henry, who married Mary Schulte; Elizabeth, who married George Bohmann; Dina, who married John Bruns; and Anthony, who married Mary Meyers. Mr. Wendeln died in October, 1890.

John Henry Wendeln was born January 26, 1865 in Minster, Ohio and was reared on the Wendeln farm. He married Mary Schulte on October 6, 1886 in Minster, Ohio.

Mary Schulte was born on September 8, 1864 in Minster, Ohio, the daughter of Henry Schulte and Elizabeth Wente. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schulte were both of German ancestry, both being born in Auglaize County. Mr. and Mrs. Schulte were parents of ten children, namely: Mary, Anna, Henry, Joseph and Louise (twins), Charles, Catherine, Barney, John, and Elizabeth.

After Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Wendeln's marriage they rented a farm in Auglaize County for four years, and then moved to Mercer County. He owned and operated a sawmill for some years, later selling it and moving to a farm in Maria Stein, which he had previously purchased from Anthony Tangeman, whose father had bought it from the government. This farm is presently owned by the Wendeln's son-in-law, Richard Pohlmann, who still lives on the farm. The old government deed is still in the possession of the present owner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Wendeln were the parents of six children, namely: Frederick, who married Frances Hasselman; Anna, who married Ben Zumwald; William, who died in boyhood; Rose, who married Urban Menker; Bernardine, who married Albert Hausfeld; and Celie who married Richard Pohlmann. All of their children lived in the Maria Stein area.

Mrs. Wendeln died on March 18, 1945, at Mar Stein, and Mr. Wendeln died on August 1, 194 also at Maria Stein, both being buried in the St. Jol Catholic Cemetery in Maria Stein. *Dorothy Pohlmann*

The Herman (Josep Westgerdes Family **Seated on Grou** Roman: **First Ro** Joseph, mother, An Thobe Westgerd Henry. **Second Ro** Edward, Olivia We gerdes Fullenkam Frances Westgerd Stamen, Frank. T father, Herman Josep deceased at time of t picture.

THE WESTGERDES FAMILY

On September 16, 1834 the ship Everhard arrive in Baltimore, Maryland. Among the passengers c board were Gerhard Westgardes, (1804-1874), h wife, Engel Hellman Westgerdes, and two year o son, Henry.

His occupation was listed as "peasant". He ha come from Sevelten, a small town in the province Niedersachsen in West Germany, and settled on farm east of Maria Stein, Ohio.

After their arrival in Maria Stein (St. John), Ohi Marion Twp., Mercer County, the family purchase eighty acres of land which they cleared for the farm.

Gerhard had four children by his first wi namely: (1) Henry (1832-1910), who married Mar Katherine Goeke; (2) Anna Marie (1838-1923), wh married Blasius Birkmeyer of Coldwater; (3) Jol (1842-1914), who married Catherine Schulte; (Catherine (1845-1920), who married Gaham (John) Birkmeyer of Coldwater.

Most people in Mercer County with the nam Westgerdes trace their ancestry to the first of th children listed above, namely: Henry and Mar Katherine Westgerdes. Henry had the followi children: (1) Maria Louisa (1860) who married M Meiring; (2) Herman (Joseph), (1863-1905), wh married Anna Thobe; (3) Anna Maria (1864), wh married Anthony Fullenkamp; (4) Maria Elizabe (1865), who married Herman Kunk; (5) Anna (186 (6) John Joseph (1869-1870); (7) Maria Catheri (1871-1888); (8) Caroline (1874); (9) Maria Ro (1874); (10) John B. (1875-1961), who married Jos phine Thobe (sister of Herman's wife above); (1 Bernard (1878); (10) Henry (called Ben), (1880-194 who married Bernadine Boergers; (13) Rosa Bern dine (1884), who married Ferdinand Vehorn.

On June 5, 1889, in St. John Church, Maria Stei Ohio, Herman (Joseph) and Anna Thobe were ma ried. From 1889-1897 they lived with Joseph's pa ents, where 3 of their 7 children were born. In 18 the Joseph Westgerdes family emigrated to Victori Ohio now known as St. Joe. To this marriage we born: Henry (1890-1970), who married Mary A. Fu lenkamp; Joseph (1892-1976), who married Ma Steinbrunner; Edward (1895), who married Hel Wenz; Frank (1897), who married Adelaide Ottin Olivia (1899), who married Lawrence Fullenkam Roman (1901), who married Lena Braun; Franc

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03), who married Norbert Stamen.
In 1860 Gerhard's first wife, Engel Hellman, died d in that same year he married a widow, Maria ına nee Leistenschneider Moeller. From this sec- d marriage came four more children, namely; (5) ınces Justina who married William H. Hinders of lina; (6) Elizabeth; (7) Frank, who married Mary salie Goeke in 1896 and Mary Gruss in 1909; and Gerhard (called Barney) who died in Pittsburgh, ıo married Christina Banby.
Gerhard was a Democrat and a faithful member the Catholic Church. From 1859 thru 1861 he ved as Clerk and Treasurer for Mercer County.
Two of his children Frank and Barney owned and erated the B. Westgerdes and Brothers store in aria Stein which dealt in general merchandising. the early 1900's Ben Westgerdes, son of Henry d Katherine, owned and operated a general store St. Joe which is still in the family. It is our under- ınding that Ben traded his farm for the store.
The Catholic Church has been a constant influ- ce and guide. We have been blessed with religious cations.
Over a period of 145 years the family has been ac- ely involved in community and civic affairs. All anches of the military service have been repre- nted by the Westgerdes family from World War I) to the present.
Even though many have branched off into other cupations the farm is still a major part of our an- stry. *Rita Trick or Alice Wright*

THE GERHARD WESTGERDES FAMILY

Gerhard Westgerdes was born in 1804 in Ger- any. He came to America around 1834.
Gerhard married Engel Hellman. From this mar- age, a son Henry was born on Sept. 2, 1832. Henry as born in Germany. He was only two years when erhard brought his family to this country. Three ıore children were born: John, Mary (Mrs. Blasius irkmeier), Katherine (Mrs. John Birkmeier). His ife Engel died in 1860.
Gerhard then married a widow with children of er own. Her name was Maria Anna Moeller, born ı Leistenschneider. Their children were Francisca, ısta (Mrs. Wm. H. Hinders), Frank, and Bernard. laria Anna died Nov. 27, 1896.
Frank and Bernard had a hardware business in laria Stein years ago.
Henry Westgerdes married Katherine Goecke on ın. 18, 1859. She had been born on Jan. 20, 1842.
Henry Westgerdes had a big family: Louisa, born ı 1860, married Frank Meiring; Joseph, born April , 1863, married Anna Thobe; Anna Maria, born)ct. 2, 1867, married Anthony Fullenkamp April 18, 888; Elizabeth, born in 1865, married Herman unk; Anna, born in 1867; John, born in 1869, died ne year later; Catherine, born in 1871, died (age 7); Caroline, born 1873; Maria Rosa, born in 1874 lied in infancy); John B., born Jan. 4, 1876, married osephine Thobe; Ben, born Nov. 22, 1878, married ernadine Borges; Rosa, born in 1884, married Ferdi- and Vehorn.
Henry and Katherine both died in 1910. Kathe- ine, Mar. 8 and Henry, Aug. 31. They are both bur- ed in the St. John's Cemetery, in Maria Stein, Ohio.

Ben, the son of Henry and Katherine Goecke Westgerdes, married Bernadine Borges at St. John's Catholic Church, Maria Stein, Ohio. After their marriage, they moved to a farm in St. Joe (Victoria), Ohio. This farm is now owned by Jerry Schlarman, and located on the corner of Burrville and St. Joe Road.
Ben and Bernadine had four children: Sylvester, Ivo, Armella, Alfred.
On his farm, Ben had a cider press where people came with their apples and pears which was made into gallons of cider.
Bernadine was very ill for a long time. She died on April 1, 1940, at the age of 58.
After Bernadine's death, in 1941 Ben sold his farm and bought a store in St. Joe. This store was a small grocery and stopping place for a drink or two.
Ben died Sept. 23, 1959, and is laid to rest in St. Joe's Cemetery, St. Joe, Ohio.
Sylvester remained single and lives in Coldwater, Ohio. Ivo, married Leona Homan, lives in Coldwater, Ohio. Armella, married Ed Kemper and lives in St. Joe, Ohio. Their house is where the Victoria, Ohio post office once was. The post office closed around 1931 or 1932.
Alfred 'Cappy", married Betty Lorton. They had four children: Barbara, Mary, Tom, Patty. After Ben's death, "Cappy" continued his father's business. Several years after his wife Betty died, he married Ruth Schwegman Schoen. Alfred died Jan. 20, 1978 and is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, St. Joe, Ohio. His wife, Ruth, is still carrying on the family business. *Catherine Steinbrunner*

Dr. Edgar J. and Mrs. Alfrida E. Willke, Maria Stein, Ohio

EDGAR J. AND ALFRIDA E. WILLKE

Edgar J. Willke, M.D. was born in Maria Stein, Ohio, on Nov. 6, 1905. He is a graduate of Minster High School, and from the University of Cincinnati Medical School. After his internship at Good Samaritan Hospital Cincinnati, Ohio, he returned to Maria Stein in 1931 to practice medicine.
His father, Alois J. Willke, M.D. a native of Cincinnati, Ohio came to Maria Stein in 1893 as a family physician. He practiced medicine in Maria Stein until 1922. At this time he moved his family to Cincinnati and his son, Dr. G. T. Willke, took over his practice and remained in Maria Stein for the next eight years. Alois's parents were born in Osnabruck, Germany, and they came to America in 1857.
Edgar's mother, Caroline VanderHorst, was born in Minster, Ohio. Her father came to America in 1856 from Germest, Holland, and her mother came from Duiklage, Germany in 1859.
On July 21, 1931, Edgar J. Willke married Alfrida E. Kleinhenz at St. Marys, Ohio.

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Alfrida E. Kleinhenz was born in St. Rose, Mercer County, Ohio, on Feb. 4, 1906, on the same farm that was purchased in 1837 by her great grandfather, Joseph Kleinhenz. Joseph Kleinhenz came to America from Motten; Bavaria, Germany, and he bought this land from the U.S. Government.

Alfrida E. Kleinhenz was the daughter of John W. Kleinhenz of St. Rose, Ohio, a farmer and livestock dealer. In 1927, John W. Kleinhenz moved his family to St. Marys, Ohio, where he owned and operated the Kleinhenz Union Stockyards. In 1950 the farm, which had been in the Kleinhenz family for over 113 years, was sold.

Alfrida's mother, Elizabeth Kremer, was born in Maria Stein, Ohio on the same farm that was purchased in 1835 by her grandfather, Detrick Kremer. Mr. and Mrs. Detrick Kremer came to America from Ankum; Hanover, Germany, and they bought this land from the U.S. Government. After Elizabeth's death in 1913, John W. Kleinhenz married Catherine Tuente of St. Rose, Ohio.

Edgar J. and Alfrida E. Willke are the parents of four children: Marilyn, William, Janet and Rosann.

Marilyn, born 1932, married Donald J. Schwieterman, M.D. Dr. Schwieterman and Dr. Willke have been in partnership in the practice of medicine in Maria Stein, Ohio since 1959. The Schwietermans are the parents of five boys: Bill, Joe, Jim, Bob and Tom. William, born 1934, married Esther Hausfeld and they have five children: Nancy, Mary, Joan, Edward and Carol. Janet, born 1936, married Andrew Niekamp and they are the parents of five children: Cindy, Andrew Jr., Mark, Jack and David. Rosann, born 1940, married Robert Spitzer Jr. and they have four boys: Mike, Jimmy, John and Stephen.

All four children, Marilyn, William, Janet and Rosann attended Maria Stein Schools, and are graduates of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. *Alfrida E. Willke, Maria Stein, Ohio 45860*

Front Row: Tillie Reier, Adam Zahn, Mary Zahn and Frank Zahn. **Standing:** John Zahn, Ed Zahn and Eleanor Reier.

HUGO ZAHN Century Farm

Hugo Zahn is a well-known farmer of Granville Township, a third generation farmer in the Adam Zahn family. Hugo is married to Olivia Keller and they have three children — two girls and one boy.

They are hoping that their son will continue farming and make it four generations of farmers.

Adam Zahn, grandfather of Hugo Zahn, was also a well-known farmer of Granville Township. He was born in Germany on December 13, 1846. He came to the United States as a young man of twenty-three. He arrived in Cincinnati and came to Mercer County with several imigrants that settled in Mercer County.

He married Mary Meyer in 1869 and settled this farm. This farm is in the ZAHN name for m than 100 years. They had five children: John, l ward, Frank, Nora & Tillie.

Adam Zahn died in 1926. After his death, his e est son John, took over the place in 1933.

He farmed it until 1948 when he died of cancer.

After his death, his son Hugo, took over "Home Place" and is still living there.

The farm consists of 109 acres. It is located Route 127 — 5 miles north of North Star. He l longed to the Catholic Church at Cranberry Prai Ohio. *written by: Mrs. Viola Stammen granddaughter of Ac Zahn.*

BERNARD ZUMWALD FAMILY

BERNARD ZUMWALD was the eldest of fc children of Bernard and Catherine (Knapke) Zu wald and was born on May 21, 1889 on a farm in J ferson Township. He had two brothers, Josep 1890-1938, and Louis, 1894-1912, and one sis Mary, 1899-1933, who was married to Wm. Schul Their parents died when Bernard was about 12 or years of age and John H. Puthoff was appoint guardian of the four children and their farm w sold. The boys lived with relatives and Mary w placed in an orphanage in Cincinnati for seve years. Bernard was raised by his grandmother, Eliz beth Knapke, who lived on a farm east of Ma Stein.

On October 28, 1914 he was married to An Wendeln of Maria Stein who was born on Janua 27, 1890, the eldest daughter of Henry and Ma (Schulte) Wendeln. In 1919 he purchased a farm the east edge of Maria Stein. They were the paren of four children: Louis born on December 2, 19 and married to Eleanora Hess of Cassella on June 2 1947 and they have six children: James, Mary An Patricia, Gerald, Joseph and Karen.

Alvin, born on July 18, 1918 never married and still living on the home farm; he is a grain farm and raises mink.

Margaret was born on March 25, 1923 and h been employed for 36 years with Delco Air Cond tioning in Dayton where she is now a Staff Assis ant. She was married to Elmer Speck of St. Henry c June 7, 1947 and they now reside in Trotwood. H was a branch manager of Third National Bank Dayton when he retired in 1976 after 35 years.

Marie was born on June 17, 1925 and was marrie on August 15, 1950 to Bernard Luttmer of St. Ros They reside on a farm south of St. Rose and are th parents of two children, John and Lorena.

Bernard Zumwald died on February 14, 1939 ar Anna died on July 23, 1965 and are buried on S John Cemetery in Maria Stein where the fami were members of St. John Parish.

LOUIS ZUMWALD FAMILY

LOUIS ZUMWALD was born on a farm at Mar Stein on December 2, 1916, the eldest son of Be

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rd and Anna (Wendeln) Zumwald, both of whom e now deceased, Bernard passing away in 1939 and ına in 1965. He attended the St. John Schools at aria Stein after which he worked for several years a farm hand. In March of 1937 he began working the factory at New Idea, a farm implement manu-cturer in Coldwater, Ohio as a laborer and is still ere in the capacity of job setter. During this time has seen many changes in the farm machinery in-ıstry with larger and newer types of machinery be-g introduced to the modern day farmer.

His tenure at New Idea was interrupted on Febru-y 5, 1941 when he was inducted into the U.S. my with the first group of draftees to leave Mer-r County during World War II. He was a member Co. K., 148th Infantry, 37th Division of the Ohio ational Guard which received its training at Camp ıelby, Mississippi and saw service against the Japa-se in the South Pacific on the Islands of Flji, Gua-lcanal, New Georgia, and Bougainville. He re-ived an honorable discharge on June 4, 1945 after ıving served 4-1/3 years with over three years be-g spent overseas.

On June 21, 1947 he was married to Eleanora Hess Cassella who was born on May 4, 1919, the eldest ıughter of Michael and Mary (Ronnebaum) Hess, ɔth now deceased; Michael died in 1951 and Mary 1939. Louis and Eleanora are the parents of six ıildren:

James, born April 30, 1948 who served four years ɔm January 1968 to January 1972 with 6931st Secu-y Group of the U.S. Air Force with 18 months rerseas at Iraklion on the Island of Crete and now res in Columbus. After his discharge he took a ısiness accounting course at Columbus Business niversity under the G.I. Bill and is now Assistant ice President of Underwriting of Metro Title gency of Columbus.

Mary Ann is a graduate of St. Elizabeth Hospital hool of Nursing in Dayton where she is still em-oyed as a registered nurse. She was married on lay 4, 1974 to Michael Noble of Vandalia where ey reside and have a son, Gregory, born on Febru-y 20, 1978.

Patricia, who was born on March 26, 1954 is em-oyed in the office of Avco, New Idea.

Gerald, born on January 5, 1956 took an account-g course at Miami-Jacobs Business College in ayton, and is employed as a Cost Accountant at lopay in Russia, Ohio.

Joseph was born on February 2, 1958 and is em-oyed as a molder at the foundry of Minster Ma-ıine Co.

Karen, born on May 15, 1960, is employed in the fice of Post Printing Co. in Minster.

His wife, Eleanora, attended grade school at Cas-lla, is a graduate of St. Henry High School and also ok a Secretarial course at Miami-Jacobs College ter which she worked in the offices of New Idea as secretary and payroll clerk for 8-1/2 years, and nce 1965 has been employed as a part-time clerk at ıe Maria Stein Post Office. She is a charter member both the Maria Stein American Legion Auxiliary, nit 571 and the Ladies Auxiliary #288 Knights of t. John, having served as President and Secretary of ɔth organizations.

Louis Zumwald is a Republican and has been Re-ıblican Central Committeeman for Marion East Precinct of Maria Stein since 1968. He is a member of the Knights of St. John Commandery #313 and American Legion Post 571 of Maria Stein and has held offices in both organizations including Commander of the Legion Post. He is also a member of VFW Post 9012 of Chickasaw and 37th Division Veterans Association of Ohio.

The family are members of St. John's Catholic church in Maria Stein and live on Kremer Road in a home which they built in 1951. All of the children attended St. John grade schools and are graduates of Marion Local High School. *Eleanora Zumwald*

Gerhard Schwieterman Family — **Top Row:** Elizabeth Schwieterman, Josephine (Schwieterman) Schmitt, Frank Schwieterman, Herman Schwieterman. **Bottom Row:** Mary (Schwieterman) Klosterman, George Schwieterman, Gerhard Schwieterman, Philomina (Schwieterman) Huber, Josephine Manetsche) Schwieterman, Louis Schwieterman, Henry Schwieterman, Anna (Schwieterman) Fleck.

THE JOSEPH AND ELIZABETH KUESS BRUGGEMAN FAMILY
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PICTURE
Row 1: Odelia, Elizabeth and Joseph, Herman. **Row 2:** Henrietta, Edward, Kate, Justina, Josephine, Leo, Anna, (Bernard, deceased).

Older portion of Maria Stein Convent slated for demolition. (Mike Lamm photo).

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Union Township Hall, 1903

UNION TOWNSHIP AND MENDON

The township trustees as of 1978 are Kenneth F. utton, Dale E. Krugh and Lester Miller, Mary Lou dams, Clerk.

The Treaty of Greenville was signed in 1795, in ef- ct ending the Indian wars. A quarter of a century ter, the first white settlers cut their way through ıe dense forest on the tip of the Black Swamp re- on to cast their lots in what is now Union Town- ıip.

Comprised of 36 sections of one square mile each, nion Township occupies the northeastern corner f Mercer County, and is bounded on the north by an Wert County, on the east by Auglaize County, n the south by Center Township, and on the west y Dublin Township.

In 1822, Andrew Coil came from Fayette County build a cabin on Twelve-Mile Creek in Section 22. he following year, he laid out a town, Coiltown, hich competed for the seat of justice, lost out to St. larys, and soon reverted to a cornfield.

There was but a handful of settlers in the area hen Justin Hamilton arrived with his new bride af- r an arduous trip from Kentucky by ox-drawn agon in 1823. Hamilton had been reared in New ork State, and had been schooled in both law and ngineering.

It was he who lay the foundation for the establish- ıent of Union Township and the village of Guilford s political entities. Prior to the township's birth in 828, four years after the creation of Mercer County, lamilton served as justice of the peace for Dublin ownship. The first election in Union Township was eld at his house on Twelve-Mile Creek, and he was lected justice of the peace, clerk, and fence- atcher, and also appointed school teacher.

Hamilton also served as county auditor in 1827; as ounty surveyor in 1827, 1835 and 1837; state repre- ntative in 1831-32 and 1840-41; associate judge of the Common Pleas Court in 1846-47; first president of the Mercer County Fair Board in 1851; and later as county assessor as well as a township trustee for many years.

He was head surveyor when the Grand Reservoir was dug out and during his stint in the Ohio Legisla- ture fought for compensation for farmers whose land had been expropriated for or inundated by the huge man-made lake.

In 1829, the township was divided into districts, primarily for the purpose of building roads where there were only forest trails. By 1830, settlements began to dot the township countryside. By 1834, there was call for a town to be established along the south bank of the St. Marys River, which bisects the township and which had been known to the Shaw- nees as the "Kettle River."

Thus, Guilford came into being, comprised of 43 lots, a public square, a school and a general store. Hamilton was the founder, along with Andrew Coil's son-in-law, Thomas Parrott, The same year, Centre Township — which had been attached for business purposes — was disconnected from Union Township.

Progress moved slowly. Settlers continued to ar- rive; a horse-mill was built; the first bridge over the St. Marys was constructed at Mendon in 1838, the same year in which the town's name was changed simply by choice of the founders. Still, in 1848 there were only six properties in town that had values greater than the land from which they were formed.

Union Township, where Abraham Lincoln had defeated Stephen Douglas by a wide margin, an- swered the call when war broke out with the Con- federacy. Dozens of township men joined the Union Army, and several did not come back.

But after Appomattox, economic growth was stimulated. Union Township residents, with an eye

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to the future, approved a levy for the sale of railroad bonds by a vote of 216-4.

It was thought the Iron Horse would be the township's salvation. Besides providing a transportation outlet, the railroad would "add greatly to the wealth of the township by the shipping advantages" it offered to the area farmers, according to Sutton's History of Van Wert and Mercer Counties.

In 1881, the railroad came to Mendon. The Toledo, Delphos and Burlington later was consolidated into the St. Louis Narrow-Gauge System, and then the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton (CH&D).

Almost overnight, in historical time, the township experienced the greatest economic boom in its history. Along with the discovery of oil in Union Township, the railroad's arrival coincided with a 65 percent increase in population in Mendon in the 1880s.

The village finally was incorporated in 1881, and Samuel Barber served 11 years as its first mayor. Italianate-style houses sprang up. A schoolhouse also was constructed in 1881, followed by a two-story, four-room brick building seven years later.

The oil boom hit with full force in the late 1880s, and Mendon's population grew from 400 to 600 in the decade prior to the Twentieth Century. This was indeed the Golden Age, a spinoff of the Industrial Revolution.

In 1893, Union Township became the first in the state to take advantage of new laws encouraging the organization and operation of township schools. W. E. Kershner spearheaded the effort to consolidate Union Township's various one-room country schools into a Union High School. The district schools were as follows: Hasis, Stump, Bethel, Hussey, Fryer, Protsman, Union, Red, Blue Corner, Gross, South Union and Pike. Kershner was superintendent when the first class was graduated from Union High School in 1896, and later joined the state teachers' association and founded the teachers' retirement system, serving as its secretary until his death.

Meanwhile, the oil kept flowing and the township kept growing. Many of the farmers whose land had yielded oil used their eight-percent royalty money to purchase homes in town. Queen Anne and Eastlake homes were prevalent, though not the brick found in southern Mercer County. As workers migrated from the Pennsylvania oil fields, it became so crowded in Mendon that two families often shared the same house.

Mendon United Methodist Church, 1897

In 1897, a new Methodist Church was built near the public square. Protestantism always was the rule in Union Township. The first Protestant church Mercer County was a log cabin where Bethel Chu now stands. Besides Methodism, other denomi tions represented in the township's early history cluded the Baptists and Seventh-Day Adventists.

The Mendon Baptist Church was founded in 1 and later became the Pleasant Grove Baptist Chur Ross Church of the Brethren, whose members a were known as Dunkards, was organized in 1874. members believed in plain dress, including pra veils for women and broad-brimmed hats and sp tailed coats for men.

The organization of a Church of God congregati came as early as 1877, with the original services h in the Methodist church. The first Church of G building was dedicated in 1887, with a new structu in 1911. In 1959, the church was razed by fire, bu modern new replacement was dedicated less thar year later.

At the turn of the century, Mendon's populati was 600, and the future seemed to hold only t promise of continued expansion.

In late December of 1903, construction of a tow ship meeting hall was approved. The Christian fi of Rockford submitted the low bid of $9275, whi was to be footed evenly by the township and the v lage. One year later, the two-story, Georgian R vival-style building was dedicated as the pride of t community.

The township hall became not only the admini trative headquarters, but also the center of activit Its upper floor served as the theater, where cor mencement exercises, class plays, road shows, farr ers' institutes and, of course, movies were the fa The lower floor housed a jail at one time.

But the oil boom waned, and reality set in. In 19 a major fire destroyed most of the west side of Ma Street in Mendon; less than a year later, the east si also burned.

In 1908, township residents paid homage to t Civil War veterans with construction of the soldier monument and cannon on the public square. T project honored McKendree Murlin, who had bee killed in Nashville in 1864. J. E. Heppeard was t driving force behind the effort.

In a backlash against the free-wheeling days the oil boom, when three saloons catered to the dri lers and dressers, Mendon passed blue laws by a r sounding 266-52. The saloons relocated into th countryside, but Union Township enacted Prohib ition soon afterwards. And to this day, Union Towr ship remains "dry."

A two-story, eight-room Romanesque-styl schoolhouse, complete with full basement, was bui for $5000 in 1910, and still serves as the elementar building.

The pace of progress had quickened. But one o Union Township's more-lasting contributions wer virtually unnoticed. Until this time, corn, wheat an oats were the principal crops for local farmers, a they are today. But an enterprising young farme Hugh H. Hamilton, decided to try his luck with soy beans, which had originated in the Far East.

Hamilton's stand of beans, the first in Merce County and thought to be the first in the Midwes produced an excellent yield. Farmers from severa states visited Hamilton's farm to study his method By 1920, interest in the new crop had spread hun

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eds of miles. Now, soybeans are a multi-billion ollar business around the world and perhaps the ost lucrative aspect of farming.

Most of Mendon's development came in the wake the oil boom and the arrival of the railroad. But 1920, growth had slowed to a virtual standstill.

When the railroad line was abandoned, many rmers lost their original investment and Mendon perienced slight economic growth.

It was a sad day for all concerned. The railroad ıd been the township's economic lifeblood. As a ımphlet of the time read, "Good bye, little rail-ad, we will miss thee; when thy rails no more we e." But no one knew how much the CH&D would missed.

When the railroad left, the grain-shipping trade, e budding sugar-beet market fueled by cheap ungarian-American labor, and all hope of securing dustry went along with it.

The Great Depression followed, and the popula-on of Union Township steadily decreased, unar-sted until the eve of the Second World War.

The only major construction during the pre-war ars was an annex to the schoolhouse in 1937.

Young veterans returned from the bloodletting in ırope and Asia only to find themselves with little no opportunity, a situation which helped spawn e notorious Purple Heart Gang, whose light-arted pranks earned them a reputation through-ıt Mercer County and elsewhere.

As population climbed in the early 1950s, the hool added a lighted ball diamond, a home-onomics and cafeteria addition, as well as a bus rage. In 1956, Mendon became the site of a bank r the first time in 25 years. And later that year, a w junior high and high school building was con-ıcted, giving the township a ray of hope for the ture.

There also was moderate residential development, second wave of which occurred in the early 1970s.

1976, Mendon acquired a new branch-bank ilding. Plans were made for a solar-heated library, ll unfinished. Mendon-Union remained an ac-edited high school, with greater opportunity pro-ded through an agreement with Vantage Voca-nal School in Van Wert.

But it took 50 years to regain the population level 1900. Industry remained conspicuously absent. ıd a first-time visitor would scarcely imagine that is sleepy little town once had been a bustling com-unity of great economic vigor. — *Steven D. Fought*

Lion in Winter: Sculpture ntinel at Palmer Cemetery

McKendree Murlin Civil War Memorial in Public Square

PRESIDENTIAL VOTING PATTERNS

Throughout their history, Union Township and the village of Mendon have been strongholds of the Republican Party. Since 1932, every Republican presidential candidate has emerged victorious in Union Township. In Mendon, the Republican nominee has won every time except for Barry Goldwater's victory in 1964.

Here are the voting patterns in Union Township and Mendon since 1932:

UNION TOWNSHIP VOTING PATTERNS

Year	Republican	Votes	Pct.	Democrat	Votes	Pct.
1976	Ford	220	66.7	Carter	110	33.3
1972	Nixon	246	78.8	McGovern	66	21.2
1968	Nixon	212	77.4	Humphrey	62	22.6
1964	Goldwater	188	56.0	Johnson	148	44.0
1960	Nixon	303	79.3	Kennedy	79	20.7
1956	Eisenhower	285	73.8	Stevenson	101	26.2
1952	Eisenhower	293	73.6	Stevenson	105	26.4
1948	Dewey	233	64.5	Truman	128	35.5
1944	Dewey	306	75.6	Roosevelt	99	24.4
1940	Willke	349	73.8	Roosevelt	124	26.2
1936	Landon	289	59.2	Roosevelt	199	40.8
1932	Hoover	268	61.0	Roosevelt	171	39.0

MENDON VOTING PATTERNS

Year	Republican	Votes	Pct.	Democrat	Votes	Pct.
1976	Ford	152	51.9	Carter	141	48.2
1972	Nixon	186	63.3	McGovern	108	36.7
1968	Nixon	178	63.3	Humphrey	103	36.7
1964	Goldwater	127	50.0	Johnson	127	50.0
1960	Nixon	257	76.9	Kennedy	77	23.1
1956	Eisenhower	220	69.8	Stevenson	95	30.2
1952	Eisenhower	211	65.7	Stevenson	110	34.3
1948	Dewey	172	58.7	Truman	121	41.3
1944	Dewey	212	71.9	Roosevelt	83	28.1
1940	Willke	208	67.3	Roosevelt	101	32.7
1936	Landon	164	51.1	Roosevelt	157	48.9
1932	Hoover	172	62.3	Roosevelt	104	37.7

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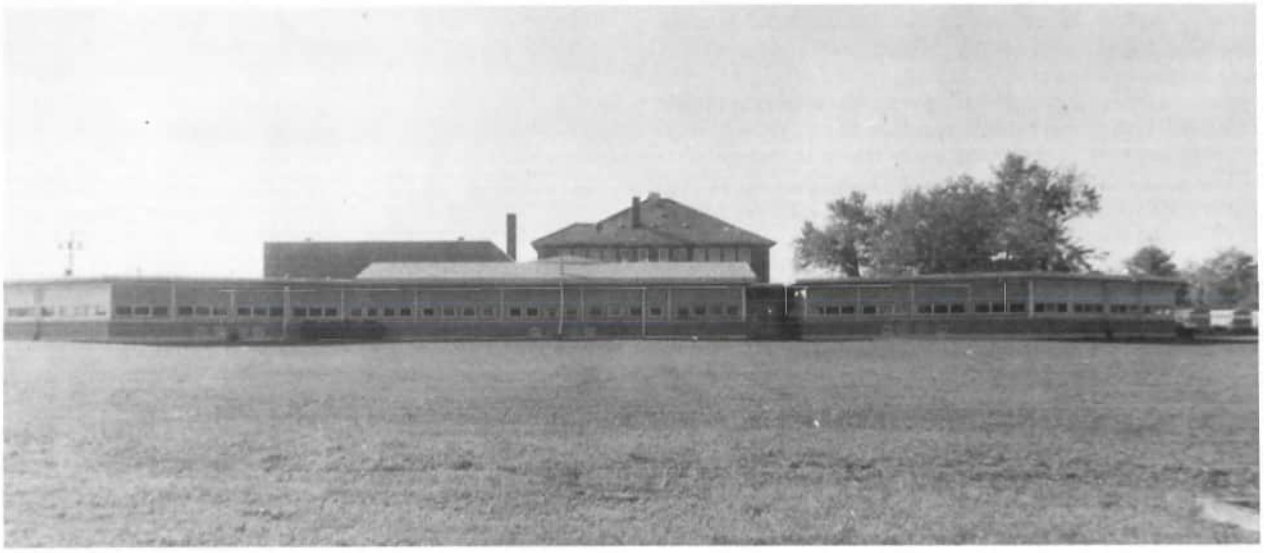

Mendon-Union High School, 1956

MENDON-UNION SCHOOL

In the year 1782, settlers began moving to what is now known as Union Township. When set apart from Dublin and Center, Union occupied the North-east corner of Mercer County, comprising 36 square miles or thirty-six sections. The first settlers were Andrew Coil and family, and Thomas Parrott, his son-in-law. They settled on Twelve-mile Creek. The following year the first crop in Union Township was harvested. Shortly after other families followed.

The journey to Mercer County was not a pleasure trip. One family arrived in a homemade wagon drawn by six yoke of oxen. Often the wagon and oxen were mired in mud and had to be pulled out by the ones on more solid footing. Others came in a one-horse wagon, filled with all their belongings, and often had a cow tagging along behind. One of these hardy and determined pioneers was Justin Hamilton, who, following settlement on a farm on the banks of Twelve-mile Creek, began preparations to build a school house.

In 1827 Justin Hamilton used volunteer labor to build the first log cabin school in Union Township. The first term, usually three months in length, was taught in 1827 and 1829 by Mr. Hamilton himself. His salary was $10.00 per month and he boarded himself. The second term in these years was taught by Henry Hoagland who received some monetary salary, but was "boarded around."

In the spring of 1831, another log cabin school was built by volunteer labor on the land of Peter Coil on the west bank of Twelve-mile Creek. A first term was taught by Matilda Freeman at the rate of $1.00 per week and free board. Another term was taught by William Hamilton at $10.00 per month. The regular attendance during this term was over 40.

During the years 1828-1837, several schools were built, but no records exist. Around this period the people of Mendon built a school house on the east side of Main Street, close to the area now used as the town park.

Between the years 1837-1880, other area scho were built. The Hasis School was a district formed 1837 from the Fred Hasis farm. This brick sch house still stands on the Robert Christian far Mercer Road.

The Red School, a district set apart in 1837, w located one and a half miles south of Mendon on t creek from the land of John Van Gundy. Today th school is the Houser home.

By 1848 land was set aside for the Bethel Scho The first school house was on the north side of t road on the farm of William Hamilton who came Union Twp. in the late 1820's. No records of the fi building exist, but in 1848, a new building w erected a short distance east of the present Beth Church. An 1835 auditor's report showed an appo tionment of school funds for six school districts Union Twp. to total $102.38. A report dated Septer ber 21, 1838, states that Joseph Santly was employ for a term of six months commencing November 1 for $100.00. Attendance the first quarter was 48 st dents — 30 males, 18 females — with an avera daily attendance of 24.5 pupils. The spring quarte totaled 44 pupils, but an average daily attendance only 14.2 students. Spring planting took its toll.

As the number of people in the township grew, did the number of schools. The Hussey School Di trict was formed in 1849 from land belonging Wm. Hussey and was located east of Mendon on t River Road. In 1851 came the Protsman School, l cated northeast of Mendon on the J. F. Zook farm.

The Union School was built in 1860 on land d nated by Claudius Griffin. This building was not t first in that community, but the first on record. 1879 this district was divided forming North Unic School in Section 1 and South Union School in Se tion 14. Griffin donated land for both schools.

The Fryer School was a district organized in 18 on the farm of Isaac Fryer. The school was built on hill east of the Mendon Cemetery on the north sic of the road. Today the building is a barn on t Ronald Hamilton farm.

The smaller division of Union School, South U

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ı, was organized in 1879. This was one of the first ıools to be closed and the pupils brought to Men-n. This school was located north of the Hussey hool District.

Gross School District, 1880, was built on the W. C. ɔrris farm located north of Mendon on the corner State Route 117 and the Mendon Road. For many ars this school's enrollment was over 40 pupils.

The Blue Corner School was located on the Jesse ebb farm in the far northwest section of Union vp., a farm now owned by James Tingley. Today is wooden building is on the Tom Dutton farm.

The last district to be formed, 1891, was the Pike hool, also known as Victor School. This school as erected on the Benjamin Rhoad's farm and was rmed from Gross, Blue Corner, and Protsman Dis-cts. However, the last district formed was the first be abandoned.

Until this time the districts worked independently each other, no uniform books or courses of study. andard subjects taught were reading, spelling, ithmetic, writing, history, and geography. Gram-ar, physiology, and orthography were added in the ırly 1880's. Some schools taught algebra, higher ath, and physical geography. Physiology was con-dered by some as an indecent subject. Reading asses up to the fifth reader recited four times daily. here was no graded school; promotion was on abil-y in any subject, mostly based on ability to read ıd spell.

These early schools had not only a crowded cur-culum, but also crowded classrooms. An enumera-ɔn of 1880 showed eleven school districts with an ırollment of 729 pupils in grades 1-11. Mendon ad 117 pupils; Bethel and Gross, 59; while Prots-an School had 80 pupils and one teacher. Ages of ıpils ranged from six to twenty-two.

Wages for winter terms in the 1890's were an av-'age of $40.00 per month. Summer term wages ere only $20.00. The ladies would walk from their ɔmes to school, often a distance of four to five ıiles. Teachers did their own janitor work or hired a ɔy for 2¢ to 5¢ per day to sweep and carry wood for ıe next day.

Until a township high school was started, each istrict had three directors; later changed to one di-ɛctor from each school. Eventually the schools lost ıeir identities and became numbers. By 1927 only ght of the twelve schools were in operation; even-ıally all Union Twp. pupils were bused into Men-ɔn.

By 1880 students in Mendon were attending a vo-story frame building located opposite the Meth-dist Church; this was recorded as the second build-ıg.

The third school, built in 1888, was a two story, ɔur room brick building built on ground currently sed by the Mendon Schools. Although originally ɔnstructed for grades 1-8, the school soon became rowded, and a small frame school was built south f this structure to accommodate the first grade.

Around 1892, the community had visions of a igh school. The state had passed the Boxwell Law iving townships the right to organize and operate igh schools. Union Township was the first in the ɛate to start such a school. In the summer of 1893 ıe work was begun by Mr. W. E. Kershner, a young ɔllege graduate and teacher from St. Marys. He vis-

Mendon-Union School, 1888 - 1909

ited each of the twelve districts and met with the directors and patrons at each school. Most districts were cooperative, but there were some strong objections: By taking out the older pupils, country schools would be ruined; older ones could not be spared from the farms for eight months; subjects taught were unnecessary. However, the final vote was in favor of a Union High School. Mr. Kershner, who was hired to teach a three-year course, taught for five years. Later he left teaching and organized the teachers' retirement system, acknowledged the best of its kind. He was secretary of the system until his death.

The Class of 1896, was the first to graduate from this new school. From the years 1896-1901, students attended three years of high school. During the 1901-02 year, Mendon became a first class, four-year high school; consequently there was no commencement in 1902; the Class of 1903 was the first four-year class.

Minutes from teachers' meetings, dated September 1906-April 1908, relate discussions and problems of the time. "Are schools doing what they should to produce moral men and women?" and "Are my pupils wasting their time?" or "How much orthography do you teach?" and the age-old question, "Why should I attend teachers' meetings?"

Also at this time teacher's salaries were $52.00 a month with $2.00 for janitors' duties.

By 1909 the directors and school board realized a need for a larger school building. On November 2, 1909, the community voted a $5,000 bond to build a new Mendon-Union high school. Members of the Board of Education were J. W. Hesse, Pres., A. W. Copeland, P. W. Fishbaugh, B. T. Price, and Clerk, J. B. Maurer. The twelve directors were school no. 1, Joe Lampy; 2, Ed Krugh; 3 J. H. Hamilton, 4. Chester Cole; 5. C. E. Rhodes; 6. George Wilson; 7. F. M. Sill; 8. T. R. Nickols; 9. Dick Thomas; 10. T. C. Ross; 11. W. W. Anderson; 12. E. H. Drake. The old school was torn down and the new building erected a few feet behind. Completed in 1910, this building was a two-story, eight classroom school, with a full basement. Today this building is the Mendon-Union Elementary School, K-6.

Since the building lacked facilities for extra-curricular activities, commencement was held and class plays were performed at the Town Hall. Stu-

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Mendon-Union School, 1910

dents enjoyed the freedom from studies and classrooms to walk the two blocks for rehearsals and practice. Basketball games were played on the second floor of a downtown building.

In 1937 an annex was added to the 1910 building. This addition included a basketball court, auditorium, stage, farm shop, and restrooms. When completed, the gym was one of the largest in the state and the Mercer County Tournament was held here. Board of Education members were O. K. Drake, Pres., Edgar Hamilton, B. R. Brown, J. W. Kennedy, and Clerk, A. B. Clover. In 1951 a home economics room and cafeteria were added to the annex.

Overcrowded conditions and a need for better facilities to meet state requirements, prompted more building. In 1956 a new high school was completed — a one-story building with nine classrooms, All-purpose room, cafeteria kitchen, office suite, two clinics, restrooms; also a library, music room, and a commercial department. Today this building is used for both junior high and senior high students. The Board of Education members: Russell Hesse, Pres., Ed Suhr, V. Pres. Merle Roller, Charles Fent, James Tingley, Dave Esmonde, Jr. and Clerk, John Maurer.

Kindergarten classes began in 1965, special education classes and neurological handicapped classes in 1969. In 1976 Mendon voted affiliation with the Joint Vocational School, Van Wert. Although one of the smallest schools in the state, Mendon-Union Schools offer 55 units and a large extra-curricular program for both boys and girls.

Superintendents of Mendon Schools from 1892 to 1978 are as follows: W. E. Kershner, C. E. Thomas, J. L. Cliffton, R. E. Offenhaur, M. O. Krugh, Fred Kownig, Carl Vesper, V. B. Young, A. W. Fishbaugh, O. W. Gratz, Arthur Elam, Philip Williams, Roy Terrell, Jay Stauffer, Gary Mills, Larry Goodes, and Tyrone Thomas.

Mendon-Union School Annex, added 1937

THE MENDON FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB

Mendon Flower and Garden Club, affiliated wit the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, was organ ized in 1941 with Ona Bowland as the first Presiden The Town and Township Hall has always been thei meeting place, the second Tuesday of the month.

In 1950 the club planted shrubs around the Tow and Township Hall. The grounds of both Mendo Churches were planted with trees and bulbs. A tre and bulbs were planted at the School and wate tower grounds. A tree was also planted at the Mer cer County Home. A series of illlustrated gardenin books were purchased and presented to the Mendo Library.

In 1976 the over-grown 1950 planting of shrub around the Town Hall were replaced with red white, and blue flowers for the Bicentennial celebra tion. A float was entered in the parade, displaying a quilt made by the club to be raffled off. They painted the banner to go up across Main street and helped with the decoration of store windows. They set up plant and craft sales tables for the event. Another money-making project were the Christmas Workshops held from 1973 to 1976.

In 1977 the club reached another goal by planting more permanent evergreens and a variety of shrubs around the Town Hall, for which they received a *first* award from the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs.

At the present time the club President is Helen Taylor and other officers as follows: Evelyn Kelner, Vice-President, Mary Crouch, Sec.-Treasurer, and Edna Hamilton, Reporter. Other members are, Hazel Fireoved, Wanda Frysinger, Vergil Griggs, Nettina Haller, Opal Lewis, Joanna Miller, Gayle Miller, Jane Shindollar, Helen Squires, Mae Thomas, and Louise Tingley.

This year the club will purchase a copy of the History Of Mercer County to be presented to the new Mendon Branch Library.

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MAURER'S HARDWARE

For ninety-three years Maurer's Hardware has ·en a family owned and operated business in Mer- r County, Mendon, Ohio. In this span of time, ree generations of Maurer's — John (J. B.), Fred '., and now John F. — have contributed success- lly to business and community.

Over one hundred years ago, 1870, John (J. B.) aurer of Tuscarawas County, near Bolivar, Ohio, urneyed by train and horse and buggy to Mendon, me 200 miles distance, to help farm for his Uncle ıristian Maurer.

In 1881 J. B. married Caroline Haglock of Bolivar, ıd brought his new wife to a rented farm just south Mendon. However, after several years of crop ilures, J. B. sought other means to provide a living r his wife and new baby. On borrowed money, he ırted a hardware business on Main Street in Men- ɔn.

The first hardware, a frame building located on e west side of Main Street, was stocked with such ·ms as farm tools, tubs, dynamite, stable blankets, ıd horse shoes. Prices, as recorded from an old dger, were: wheelbarrow, $2.75; step ladder, 65¢; llon of white paint, $1.30; and one wood stove, .6.00.

As soon as J. B.'s sons, Monroe and Fred, were old ıough to help, they were assigned jobs. Following a hool day, both boys were expected to work until ɔsing time, which was 9 o'clock p.m., six days a eek. One of Fred's earlier tasks was to blacken and ɔlish stoves to sell to customers.

In 1906 a raging, uncontrollable fire destroyed al- ost one block of businesses on the west side of lain Street; Maurer's Hardware also was destroyed. fighting the fire, the Maurer boys, along with any others, were able to save some of the more ex- ·nsive items. But as the fire continued to spread, ey were told not to go into the store again. Realiz- g the hopelessness and danger, J. B. himself locked e door. Stock was lost, but lives were saved. The ·xt day a tent was erected in a vacant lot one block ɔrth and used for selling merchandise.

Maurer's Hardware, Mendon, Ohio 1977

Plans for rebuilding were begun immediately, and in 1907 a new concrete building was erected on the same location as the old store. However, with the expense of building and stocking a new store, the family could not send son Fred to college; instead Fred became a paid clerk in his father's store. Eventually the store became a father and son partnership and supported two families. For years the business operated from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. six days a week. In addition the store was, and still is, a meeting place for farmers and town men to exchange stories.

When J.B. died in 1946 at the age of 89, he had been in the hardware business for sixty-one years. Son Fred W. then became sole owner of the store; he was often assisted by his brother Monroe. One of the slack periods of business occurred during this time; due to the war, many necessary items were impossible to buy or stock.

During his high school days, John F. Maurer, Fred's son, helped stock shelves and clerk in his father's store, just as Fred had done some years earlier. However, John F. was reluctant to become associated with the hardware business. Not until 1949, after a two-year period in the army and an A.B. degree in science from Bowling Green State University, did John join his father in business. He became the third generation in the family business. (Monroe never married). The father and son ownership continued until Fred's death in December, 1964. Fred was seventy-seven years old and had devoted fifty-eight years to the hardware business.

Today the continued precedent of great-grandfather, grandfather, and father, rests with John's son, J. Gregory Maurer, presently a teacher in the Ridgewood Schools, New Port Richey, Florida; he could be the fourth generation in the hardware business, Main Street, Mendon, Ohio.

Maurer's Hardware, circa 1912

Maurer's Hardware, Mendon. Owners J.B. Maurer and Fred W. Maurer, Circa 1920

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W.H. DICK AND SONS FUNERAL HOME

The funeral home, founded by W.H. Dick and his brother-in-law Fred Lutz was established in Mendon, Ohio in 1913. The business was purchased from William Miller in that year.

A furniture store on Main Street housed the "funeral parlor" and funeral arrangements were handled from this site for several years. At this time viewing and services were held in the family home or at church, and a team of matched horses pulled the hearse to the final resting place, the driver resplendent in dark suit and derby.

Sometime later, the family home on Market Street in Mendon became the site of the establishment and continued there for many years. Through the years, Fred G. Fisher was also associated with the firm in Mendon, as was Carl Stallter, Mr. Dick's son-in-law, who was associated both in Mendon and Celina.

The furniture store in Mendon was in operation for nearly fifty years. In 1973, a funeral home and residence on Sunset Drive in Mendon was opened. This all new facility now serves that area and is also the residence of the Hubert Dick family.

MENDON CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Mendon Chapter was instituted February 6, 190. Thirty men and women were charter members. Pa Grand Matron Gabrilla Dickman of Celina helpe with the organization. Celina Chapter exemplifie the work with Dr. J.E. Hattery as instituting office Mary E. Hobbs served as first Worthy Matron an J.B. Maurer as first Worthy Patron. In 1910 Mary Hobbs was appointed Deputy of District Nine. disastrous fire destroyed all records in the earl years. Mary I. Miller was President of the Distri Nine Association in 1942. The Chapter during th year when Lucille Snyder was Worthy Matron spor sored a Rainbow Assembly for girls. Margaret Krog man was appointed Grand Representative to Sout Carolina in 1942. Ruth Prichard served as V. Presi dent and President of District Nine in 1957 an 1958. She was also appointed Deputy Grand Matro in 1957. The golden anniversary was celebrated Sep tember, 1957. In 1962 Marguerite Jerome was ap pointed Grand Esther for the Grand Chapter. Vi ginia Zirkle, Lucille Snyder and Pauline Shank hav served as Grand Pages, Cecil and Pauline Shan served on registration for General Grand Chapter i 1978.

We have seven 50 year members, Norma Bedel Eleanor Maurer, Ada Hack, Mary I. Miller, Mauree Hilbard, Leona Wentz and Lillian White. Rut Heath has served the Chapter as organist for ove thirty years. There are 72 twenty-five year member No charter members are living.

Present officers are Worthy Matron, Gwen Upca pher; Worthy Patron, Charles Adams; Associat Matron, Judith Crider; Associate Patron, Dal Krugh; Secretary, Pauline Shank; Treasurer, Audre Baltzell; Conductress, Jill Snyder; Associate Conduc tress, Susan Ellis; Chaplain, Marcia Uncapher; Or ganist, Robin Evans; Marshal, Rosemary Fox; Ada Lois Adams; Ruth, Janet Milliser; Esther, Lucill Snyder; Martha, Betty Fox; Electa, Joan Coats Warden, Mary H. Willrath; and Sentinel, Victor Bo roff.

Mendon Chapter of Order of the Eastern Star

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Pleasant Grove Baptist Church

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, organized in 871, was originally called the Mendon Baptist hurch. Meetings began in the Gross school house. ı 1879, by the voice of the church with the consent f the Assocation, the name was changed to the resent one of Pleasant Grove.

In 1880, land on which the present church stands as donated by Mrs. Elizabeth Coil, and construc- on began. The original structure was erected at a ost of $1200.00 (much of the material and labor was onated), and was officially dedicated in 1881.

In 1922 and 1923, extensive remodeling was done, ncluding the addition of a full basement, and the uilding was rededicated May 27, 1923.

In 1978, more remodeling is being done, includ- ng: new rest rooms, the addition of a nursery, and emodeling of the kitchen. The cost will be approxi- nately $12000.

Rev. Harold B. Miller of Spencerville, Ohio is pas- or.

ROSS CHURCH

Ross Church of the Brethren is located on Deep- Cut Road, east of Mendon in Union Township and vas formerly known as Mercer Church. It was greed upon at the district meeting at Sugar Creek Church of the Brethren on May 20, 1874, to have egular meetings in Mercer County. As it was the irst Brethren Church in Mercer County, it was alled the Mercer Church. For about 10 years, this hurch was without a building, but met in various uildings, namely Hussey, Adams, and Prairie chools. It was held also in barns owned by Van weringer's near Monticello, John Shellabarger's ear Mercer and also at Shively's Corner near Tama. The records show that a greater number of members ettled around this place, arriving from Logan County, Darke County, West Virginia, Pennsylvania nd other places.

Ross Church of The Brethren

Mercer County records show that George Coffman and his wife leased the grounds to the proper officials in November 1883, to the German Baptist Church (Church of the Brethren) for as long as they used it for Church purposes. The present building was then completed August 22, 1884. All the frame timber was donated by Thomas Ross from his farm. He was a prominent member and very humble, a cripple from injuries in the Civil War. He also donated the seats that are still being used. Alfred Rish and sons were the head carpenters. Other work was donated by members John Shellabarger, John Detrick, and John Coil. John Coil was supposed to have shaved all the first shingles for the roof. Aaron Detrick and his father, John, hauled lumber from a place called Cottonwood, or what is now known as Elgin.

Some of the first ministers were John Detrick, Thomas Roedecker, John Shellabarger and Rev. Abram Detrick. It was known as the Mercer Church until in 1908, it was changed to Ross as too many people who came by train or otherwise would look for the church at Mercer, several miles away.

Other prominent names in the church at that time were Katherman, Meher, Lehman, Roedecker, Snyder, Kaffman, Wise, Goubeau, Norris, Mohler, Stauffer, Baker, several Detricks, Keelings, and others. There were Rish's, Millers, Simmons, Sherer, Cole, Thomas, Redmond and many more.

The early members believed in plain dress and the wearing of prayer veils for the women. Broad Brimmed hats and split tailed coats for men.

We helped to organize and sometimes shared our ministers with the Ash Grove Church, west of Celina, near Coldwater. Rev. Frank Cordier preached there and would sometimes come to our Church. I remember he had a long white beard. That Church is non-existing now but many of the older folks still remember it and the good fellowship that existed there.

In the last 54 years, we have had just 3 pastors. Rev. J.A. Guthrie preached for 11 years. Rev. A.L. Coil was pastor for 21 years. It was his grandfather who made the first shingles. Our pastor we have now is Rev. Walter V. Binkley. He has been with us for 22 years since last February.

We have had many ups and downs over the years, but these words keep ringing in our ears, "Occupy till I come". *Mary Crouch*

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Mendon First Church of God

THE MENDON FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

In 1877 Rev. Tobias, Koogle of the St. Mary's Circuit was invited to preach at Mendon. During this revival there were fifty some conversions and Rev. Aukerman, who was next on the circuit, began organization of a Church of God in Mendon. There were twenty-three charter members, many of whom had been attending Anderson Bethel. They were John Rehn and wife, John Coil and wife, Byran Wollam and wife, William Bahemore (?) and wife, Ira Cisco and wife, Sister Lew Rider, Andrew Barber and wife, Sister Margaret Wilson and two daughters (Mary and Etta Wilson Drake), and John Clark. The early church held their meetings in the Methodist church.

As the congregation grew, plans were made to erect a building of their own. The Building Committee consisted of John Coil, Lewis Barber, and Edward Clay. A site was purchased for $100. The church was fortunate in having in its membership, carpenters and men who owned good timber, all of which was donated to God's cause. According to a day book of John Coil the men began to get out the timber on March 14, 1887. The building was completed at an approximate cost of $1,500. The building was dedicated in 1887 by Rev. Newcomer of Iowa.

The following ministers then served the circuit: McNutt, Small, Bloyd, Burchard, Poling, Slough, Gatchell, Bartlebaugh, Yoder, Harlan, Tracy, DeHays and Raach. Many outstanding revivals were held during these years. Many new people were added to the church and the need for a larger Bethel was seen. During the ministry of Rev. Raach the plans were completed and the new building was begun. The old church was moved, a basement and Sunday School room added, the entire building was brick veneered, a slate roof added, and stain glass windows installed. The Bethel was completed just after Rev. S.F. Bauders came on the work in 1911. It was dedicated in October 1911 by the Rev. C.I. Brown, president of Findlay College.

The next pastors were Rev. Snavely and Rev. Slough, followed in 1918 by Rev. Harlan. During his ministry the church debt was cancelled, the basement repaired, and house next to the church purchased for a parsonage. The ladies Aid was organized in 1892. The Missionary Society was organized in 1919.

The following ministers then served on our circuit: Revs. Frank and Ruth Turner, Strawn, Tipple, Hudson, Rahmann, Frank and Guyer. Rev. Gaylord Wilkin was next on the work during which time a glorious revival was held with over a hundred conversions and many added to the church. At this time, the kitchen and dining room in the basemer were moved, and the original dining room was mac into a little chapel where Beulah Wilkin organize the Junior Church.

Rev. Neff was next on the work, serving faithful for seven years. Carpet for the sanctuary was pu chased during this time. Then followed Rev. Wagn for three years. The communion table, electric o gan, and new heating system were purchased. Th Turners then returned for five years. The pastor study, nursery and restrooms were added. Rev. Ha man then served the church for one year. Durin this time the church was redecorated and new ligh installed.

The Rev. A. Gail Dunn came to our work. Th new parsonage was built, the church basement an nursery was redecorated, and the Sunday Scho room floor and pews were refinished.

On February 6, 1959, the bethel was completel destroyed by fire. The same evening the Churc Council met in prayer at the parsonage. A Plannin Committee was appointed and plans made to clea away the debris. Soon an architect, Mr. P.D. Phar makidis, was employed and a plan for the ne building was selected.

On August 2, 1959, Ground Breaking Service were held. Rev. Bauders gave the Invocation. Dr Paul Tewell, Eldership president gave the address Those participating were Rev. Dunn, Elders Floy Young, Emlyn Lampy, Harold Hays, Trustees Evely Kelner and Max Shaffer and the Architect.

On October 25, 1959, Rev. Dunn conducted th services for the Cornerstone Laying, due to incle ment weather, in the Methodist Church. Scriptur and Prayer were by Rev. Clair Harman. The messag was by Dr. O.J. Wilson, President of Findlay Col lege. Invocation by Rev. Bauders. Returning to th site, the cornerstone was placed by the trustee James Dutton, Max Shaffer and Evelyn Kelner Much credit was given to the contractors: Mille Construction Company of Columbus Grove, Sidney Electric of Sidney, Hunter Brothers of St. Marys Splendor of Toledo and Garnett Seating Company of Garnett, Kansas, together with their sub-contractors and suppliers, in realizing the goal o this new bethel which was dedicated to the glory o God.

Our present pastor, Glenn E. Masser, came to us on December 8, 1967. Together with his wife, Mary his two sons, Bob and Phil, the love of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ have been manifested in the Mendon Church of God, the Mendon Community and in all the world for the glory of God and His church.

Our First Church, 1887 - 1911

Our Second Church, 1911 - 1959

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United Methodist Mendon — Bethel

Bethel Church

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MENDON BETHEL CHARGE

Mercer County was organized April 1, 1820, with ur townships of which Union was one, and with t. Marys as the County seat.

Mercer County Methodism had its beginning out the year of 1829. Robert Finley, a retired Methodist minister came to Mercer Co. and estabished a mission called St. Marys Mission. He was sisted by William Raper and James P. Wright. hese men were missionaries to the Wyandotte Inians.as purchased during this ti was extended to ie Eight and Twelve-Mile Creeks. Historians relate 1831-32 classes were held and in 1832 a class of venty-four members was formed in the Eight-Mile reek vicinity. The meetings were held in the homes r a few years with Abe Wright the first leader and mes Wright the exhorter. In the year 1839, a log urch was built where the present Bethel Church w stands, and it is recorded as being the first Protstant church in Mercer County.

In the year of 1833, there were four families in the ew settlement called Tomlinson. In the autumn of 334, Grandfather Tomlinson secured the service of missionary, who preached every four weeks. A ass of seven people was organized and services ere held in the Tomlinson cabin. Later Grandfaier Tomlinson, with the aid of his six sons cleared ie Tomlinson Cemetery of brush, logs were cut and auled and the first church in all this vast wilderness as built. It was 22 ft. square, had a large fireplace, one door and two small windows. People came as far as thirty miles to attend the First Quarterly meetings held there.

In 1836-1837 it was called the St. Marys Mission, Maumee District, Michigan Conference. It was at this time that the Mendon Society was organized. In 1838 and 1839 there were 14 Societies which were as follows: St. Marys, Mercer, Shanesville, Harpers, Willshire, Van Wert, Sugar Ridge, Tomlinson, Pring's, Grefford's, Duck Creek, Mendon, Eight-Mile (Bethel) and Roebuck's.

During 1867 to 1868 the first frame Bethel church was built and dedicated on the site of the old log church. In the year 1902 the present church was built on the site of the other two churches. It was dedicated February 4, 1903 by Rev. Charles B. Crames, pastor and J.M. Miller, presiding elder.

The Mendon Society perservered and grew, then in 1870 it was decided to purchase property and build a church. In February 25, 1870 Lot. No. 25 was purchased and a white frame building was erected on the same site as the present church. In the late 1800's a large tent meeting was held and many new members were gained. The white frame church was no longer large enough, so it was moved and a new brick church was constructed on the site. This was the year 1897, F.S. Robinson was the pastor.

Mendon and Bethel have been together for one hundred forty years. Our churches have a heritage of which we are rightfully proud, and wish to share with you.

Our pastor Robert A. Carter came on the charge June 11, 1978. Bethel trustees are Max Hesse, Glen Figley, Isalena Shimp and Russell Bricker. Mendon trustees, Jerry Rolsten, Betty Boyer, Wayne Fireoved, Warren Shindollar, John Adams and Richard Smith.

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Aufderhar-Haller Home, 1904 — **Front Row Right to Left:** Ernst Aufderhar, his wife Minnie, and Great-Grandmother Miller. **Back Row Right to Left:** George Haller, his wife Minnie with Baby Nettina. Notice Wicker baby carriage at left.

E.H. AUFDERHAR

Ernst H. (Adam) Aufderhar, wife Minnie and foster son George Haller came from Auglaize County to Mercer County in 1899. They had purchased 60 Acres of land in Union Township.

This farm is the part of a section from the original Congress Lands. It was first deeded to George Parrott in 1833. The original deed is on parchment and is signed by President Andrew Jackson. Through the years various people had owned the land. Grandfather bought it from the Upton Heirs.

We were told by Upton relatives that the present house was built by Elmer Upton's father. The lumber came from carefully chosen trees cleared from this land. Main beams under-girding the house are 10½ inches square. *Some* of the siding is walnut. All are hand-hewn. Marks from the Axe, Adz or whatever tools were used to cut them can be seen. A fireplace, partially covered and unused for many years remains as it was in those days.

Grandfather Aufderhar and George farmed the land together for some years. More about life and work in those days follows in the history of the George Haller Family.

The accompanying picture shows the farm home and family in 1904. *submitted by Nettina Haller, Mendon, Oh.*

SAMUEL C. BARBER

Research has proved that the ancestry of Samuel C. Barber, the original Barber settler in Union Township, Mercer County, Ohio, goes back to Thomas Barber, who arrived in Boston Harbor in 1635 in the ship "Christian de Lo." He was born in Dorchester, England ca 1614 and died at Windsor, Connecticut, September 11, 1662. On October 7, 1640 he married Jane (Coggins?), born 1620 and died September 10, 1662. They became the parents of four sons and three daughters, all born at Windsor. Thomas was a carpenter and farmer. He also fought as a Sergeant under Major Stoughton against the Pequot Indians.

Sons of each generation from Thomas through whom the Mercer County Barbers descend were: Lt. Thomas, 1664-1713, wife Mary Phelps; Samuel, 1673-1725, wife Sarah Holcomb; Dr. Samuel, 1714-1797, first wife, Tryphena Humphrey; Samuel, 1740-1779, wife, Eunice Cowles; Amos, 1771-1823, wife, Margaret McLalan.

Amos Barber was born April 17, 1771 at Norfolk, Connecticut and died in Hardin County, Kentucky before October 14, 1823 when his estate was appraised. He was the sixth generation from the immigrant Thomas. He broke family tradition by selling his inherited land after he became of age. When Moses Cleveland landed at Conneaut in the Wes ern Reserve on July 4, 1796, Amos was in that fir surveying party of 52 persons. When the party r turned to Canandaigua, Ontario County, New Yo to draw up further plans for the Connecticut Lan Company, Amos remained there. He married Ma garet McLalan and purchased Lot 51 in Bristol Tow where their four children were born. From ther too, Amos served in the War of 1812. In 1817 the sold their farm and went to Kentucky with a grou of people from that area — the Bigelows, Brown Drurys, Murlins, Wrights, Nichols, etc. In 181 Amos purchased 1000 acres at $2.00 per acre of Gi eon Granger. Here the family resided until h widow and children began selling the Hard County land to move to richer farm land in Merc County, Ohio along with the families mentione above. Their children were: Amos McLalan, Samu C., Alta O., wife of Eleazer S. Wright, and Eunice I wife of Aaron L. Johns. The first three were marrie in Hardin County, Eunice in Mercer County.

An account of Amos M. Barber is in Bowen "History of Mercer and Van Wert Counties" und the article about his son, L.A. Barber. Howeve there is one variance. Amos M. Barber didn't disa pear from the tax records of the county until 185 his wife surviving him. Of Lewis Amos' childre none has known descendants in the Mendon are today, but Clarence may have some at Springfiel Ohio and Ominda Sibert may have some at Clark ville, Arkansas.

Eleazer S. and Alta O. Barber Wright settled i Section 22 in Union Township and lived out the lives there. They and several of their children a buried in the Sherer Cemetery. It is not likely th there are any of their descendants in the county t day. William moved to Middlepoint, Alta O. ma ried Thomas Coil and went to Paulding County, an James H. married Martha L. Barber and went to Co orado.

Aaron L. and Eunice L. Barber Johns were in th 1840 census in the township and Margaret M. Ba ber, her mother, was living with them. There nothing about them in the township after they sol their holdings in 1849 when they evidently wer West.

A profile of Samuel C. Barber is in the history c Mercer County by S.S. Scranton. Adding to tha Samuel actually had three wives — Hannah Murli the mother of five of his children, Christean Bolto who didn't live long after their marriage, and Mar Johns, the mother of one daughter Emaline. Nothin could be found about Mary and her daughter aft Samuel's estate was settled in 1852. Besides farmin Samuel seemed to have dealt in real estate in th county for there were many transactions until 1851.

Samuel's son, Austin Barber, who married Eliz Lucinda Hamilton, is of record in the history of Au glaize County by Williamson. Of his children, tw have descendants in Mercer County today. Throug his daughter Hannah, who married Charles Shim are the families of Wanda Shimp Carpenter, wido of George, in Celina and Celia Shimp Beougher, wif of R. Ray, Mercer. Their parents were Harvey an Pearl Haney Shimp. Through Abram Harley, wh married Alice Wright, is the family of John Verno and Dorothy Mae Yewey Barber, Rice Road, Men don, his parents having been Ernest and Ann Wha ton Barber.

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In addition to Walter, all the children of Warren nd Sallie Hamilton Barber who lived to marry, ex-pt Martha Lucretia, left families in the county. Martha L. became the wife of James H. Wright and ey moved to Colorado because of her health. She ed there in 1891, leaving two daughters and a son. f the three, only Zua, who married Melvin M. lymer, left children. One of her daughters, Mel-na Clymer Kern, presently lives at Platteville, Col-rado. From Abram Harrison (Harry) and Clara lurlin Barber are Merle Hickernell, widow of Sher-an, and her daughter Claryce Ann of Mendon, obert Barber, Celina and two of his five children, oris of Celina and John Cloyce, who married Opal anTilburg, and has a family at Mendon. From Su-n Barber Murlin, wife of Giles P., are the families Dwight M. and Joanna Hays Miller, Clayton L. nd Gladys Lawrence Miller, Betty Miller Kennedy, ife of Wayne, and Rill T. and Viola Long Miller, all Mendon. The Millers' parents were Alpha T. and sephine Murlin Miller. Lulu May Barber was mar-ed to Horatio F. Hooper by whom she had two ildren. One, Ruth, married Edward W. VanTil-urg. Of their six children, three — Dale W., who arried Opal Boyce, Lois Ruth, who married Paul J. rown, and Sally Lou, who married Franklin D. Bot-n — live in or near Celina and all have families.

Since the coming of Samuel C. Barber to Union ownship, Mercer County in 1828, Barber descen-nts have enjoyed the county's bounties for 150 ears. Reaching back into their past provides a easure of assurance. It fills one with pride and ves one hope for the future. *Janice Barber Reddin*

WALTER BARBER

Walter Barber, father of Robert Bruce Barber and randson of Samuel C. and Hannah Murlin Barber, arly settlers, was born in Union Township on No-ember 26, 1871 to Warren and Sallie Hamilton Bar-er and died January 25, 1957 on the same farm here he was born. The farm, one and one-fourth iles east of Mendon on the Mendon-Neptune oad, is now owned by John and Mary Helen Will-ath who purchased it in 1974 from Lola J. Barber, idow of Kenneth W. Barber. On June 11, 1896 Valter married Celia Brewer, daughter of Alpheus nd Mary E. Davis Brewer. The couple celebrated heir golden wedding anniversary in 1946 in the ame house in which Walter's parents had in 1907. elia was born July 22, 1875 in Salem Township, uglaize County, Ohio and died August 5, 1953 in Mercer County.

Our subject secured his elementary education at he Bethel School in Union Township after which he ook the Mercer County Teachers' Examination, re-eiving a certificate to teach. He taught one term in llen County and then enrolled at Ada Normal, ow Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio and com-leted the required course in pharmacy in 1893. He orked for some time in a drugstore in Detroit, but ot being able to stand the indoor work, he returned ome to farm with his father.

Celia Brewer Barber also received her early educa-on in the local schools and then enrolled at Mid-lepoint Normal, Middlepoint, Ohio for one term efore teaching in schools in Union and Center ownships. In one of these schools she had her two younger brothers, B. Albert and Oran A. Brewer. When a high school was established in Mendon, she took the three year course and graduated in its first class in 1896, along with her brother, Oran A., who was four years her junior.

The Barber family attended Hamilton Bethel Methodist Church, and all of the children except one were Methodists in their later residences. All the children graduated from Mendon High School.

Vaughn B. Barber was born June 23, 1897 and died February 2, 1968. After graduating from high school he did odd jobs in the area and then enrolled at Ft. Wayne Business College. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in WW I and was assigned a Private with the 66th Company, 5th Regiment, 2nd Division. When the war was over, the 5th Division, having distinguished itself in combat, was selected to march in the Victory Parades in New York and Washington. Afterwards, arriving home unannounced by train — yes, there was a train through Mendon in 1919 — Vaughn was attracted by a horse and buggy coming up the street. The horse he recognized, but not the driver. The driver was his younger brother Bruce, who had grown beyond recognition in his absence. As expected, Bruce then forgot why he had been sent to Mendon and hurried home with his brother. Mr. Barber soon went to work for the Pure Oil Company in Columbus. Later he secured the position of railway mail clerk for the U.S. Postal Department from which he retired. He married Gertrude Brown of Columbus in 1928. They had one daughter, Mary Janice. She married Robert E. Hursey in 1950 and they have three children: David V., Celia Sue and Geri. All are residents of Columbus.

Kenneth W. Barber, born January 26, 1899, married Elizabeth Metz, a teacher of Latin at Mendon High School, from whom he was divorced in 1931. For several years Kenneth was employed by the British Petroleum Company in Columbia, South America. During the years of WW II he worked at the Lima Locomotive Works in the construction of tanks. In 1945 he married Lola Johnson of Van Wert County and they became residents of Dayton, Ohio. There he worked at the Frigidaire Company and then as a clerk in the post offices of Dayton and Kettering, retiring from the latter. Lola, with a M.S. degree in education from Miami University, taught in the schools of Dayton. Kenneth died June 16, 1969, leaving no children, and his wife resides in Dayton.

Sophronia Janice Barber was born March 20, 1902. She attended Miami and Ohio State Universities and taught in the schools of Union Township and Lima, Ohio. In later years she became a certified genealogist. On October 2, 1930 she was married to George B. Reddin, D.D.S., of Findlay, Ohio. They are the parents of two sons, George B. Jr., a veterinarian, and James B., a dentist, both of whom are career Army officers with the present rank of Lieutenant Colonel. George B., Jr. has an adopted daughter, Betty Jean (Mrs. C. Jeffrey) High, by his marriage to Mrs. Sarah Sherrard Rawlins and one son, George B. Reddin III, by his marriage to Carol S. Beckley. James B. Reddin married Lois Ann Sielaff of Cleveland by whom he had one daughter, Heidi Linda Reddin. His second wife is the former Gabriele Morath of Munich, Germany.

Keith H. Barber was born December 1, 1903 and now resides in Cleveland. On completing ROTC training at Ohio State University as a 2nd Lieuten-

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ant in the Army Reserve Corps, he became commander of several Civilian Conservation Corps camps in Ohio. Following those assignments, he entered WW II, going through the war in the European Theater and the occupation of Berlin. After the war, he became a Regular Army officer, retiring with the rank of Colonel in 1959. He married Marian Bluim of Cleveland in 1935. She was lost in the crash of a Pan American plane in the Pacific Ocean on November 8, 1957. She was on her way to Honolulu to be joined by Keith as he was returning from having been on a hardship tour as one of the early military advisers to Vietnam.

Mary E. Barber was born December 3, 1906. She graduated from Ohio State University's School of Nursing in 1929. After graduate work in Chicago, she worked at various hospitals in the area. She was the school nurse of Mercer County for five years and was a nurse at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, St. Marys, Ohio at the time of her death on July 12, 1961.

Robert Bruce Barber is listed elsewhere in this volume.

Of Walter Barber we can say that, though never dogmatically religious, he had spiritual learnings that were expressed in a love of nature and a stewardship for his country, family and friends. *Janice Barber Reddin (Mrs. George B. Reddin), Findlay, Oh. 45840*

David and Ellen (Martz) Baucher

DAVID BAUCHER

David Baucher, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Fenstemacher) Baucher was born in 1859 in Hancock County. David and his parents and family moved to Liberty Township in Mercer County. He married Ellen Martz, the daughter of Anthony and Christena (Koontz) Martz.

To this union was born eight children; William, Perry, Ernest, Joseph, Lucy, Mary, Russell and Clarence.

The Mother, Ellen, died at the age of 39 leaving David with six surviving children to raise; the youngest, Russell, only four years of age.

The oldest daughter, Lucy, is now the last surviving member of this family.

Lucy married Ross Bricker, the son of William and Matilda (Snider) Bricker in 1915. To this union was born three children: Pauline (who died at birth), Eugene, and Marjorie.

After living in Hancock and Shelby Counties they moved on a farm in Union Township in 1932 where Lucy still resides along with her daughter Marjorie. The children attended the Bethel school which was just east of the Hamilton Bethel United Methodist Church along which runs the eight mile creek. They also attended the church and still do yet today. This is the oldest chuurch in Mercer County.

Lucy's son, Eugene and his wife Ruth (Bauder Bricker live on a farm in Center Township. The have two sons; Jim and his wife, Connie who live i Michigan and Dick and his wife, Sylvia who live i Center Township. *Marjorie Bricker*

Mrs. Bendure, a teacher in Mercer County Schools for over 30 years

FRANCES BENDURE

Frances (Detrick) Bendure (1903-1962) was th second of five children born to James W. and Dessi (Redmon) Detrick. Her early life was spent on farm northeast of Mendon along with her brothe Ora Russell, John Wilbur and James Lowell Detric (1907-1959), and a sister Mary (Detrick) Burnett.

She attended Oak Grove County school or some times known as the Hussey School all eight grade and then went on to Mendon Union High Schoo where she graduated in the Class of 1922. Since he greatest achievement was that of becoming teacher, she entered Manchester College, Nort Manchester, Ind., in the fall of '22. After graduatio she also studied a year at Miami University. Mr Bendure taught seven years in the country school prior to coming to Mendon, where she taught th 1st grade for twenty-four years. She has taught chil dren of parents that she had also taught in grad school. Through her years of teaching, Mrs. Bendur had decided that there "aren't any bad children, child can always be reached in some way". Her firs Country School was the Red School, south of Men don. Others in which she taught were: North Union Hamilton Bethel, Crouch School (all in Merce County) and the Sherer School in Allen County. I was while she was teaching here that she met he husband Harley L. Bendure. He was a teacher in th Van Wert County system at the time. They were married eight and a half years before his death (1939).

A member of the Ross Church of The Brethrer since she was 11 years old, Mrs. Bendure had servec as a teacher and church superintendent for a num ber of years. Upon her retirement, she worked a few years with Field Enterprises, demonstrating the *World Book Encyclopedia* and *Child Craft*. She alsc was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma, Mercer County Chapter. *Mary B. Burnett*

BOROFF FAMILY

William Harrison Boroff was born December 30, 1812, and died October 16, 1896; he was married to Rebecca Ross March 4, 1838. She was born February 26, 1821, and died April 11, 1896. To this union was born 15 children, 6 girls and 9 boys: Amanda Boroff Severns, born October 24, 1838, Alfred, born August 18, 1840, Mary Mallissa Boroff, born February 23, 1842 (and died in infancy), John R. Boroff, born May 21, 1843, Nancy Ann Boroff Hardesty, born April 14,

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Boroff

The Clover Home

845, Elizabeth Boroff Haines, born August 6, 1847, Sylvia, born June 27, 1849 (died in infancy), Henry M. Boroff, born July 30, 1851, William H. Boroff, born November 19, 1853 (died in infancy), Lewis R. Boroff, born January 9, 1855 (died in infancy), Jacob Alexander Boroff, born March 17, 1857, Richard Ross Boroff and Jennie Ross Boroff Fox, twins, born on March 2, 1859, Benjamin Butler Boroff, born May 7, 1862, and Robert Lincoln Boroff, born May 9, 1865.

Jacob Alexander Boroff and Lillie May Coil were married June 11, 1887, to this union was born nine children, 5 boys and 4 girls and 1 foster daughter: Ralph, born on May 31, 1888, who married Myrtle Davies on March 13, 1909 and died September 19, 1970. To this union was born 2 girls and 3 boys, namely: Paul Ross, born on May 5, 1910, Irene Boroff Lough, born November 14, 1911, Beatrice Boroff Kaufman, born on December 24, 1913, Edgar Ralph, born September 20, 1915, William Earl, born September 8, 1918. Ray was born July 11, 1890, died Feb. 17, 1979, and married Alma Dannison on February 17, 1912. Ruth Boroff Thomas was born on July 28, 1893, and married Howard Thomas on December 2, 1911, they had 10 children: Glen, Carl, John, Ross, Dale, Doyt, Edith, Ruth May and 2 still born. Mabel Boroff Miller was born on December 7, 1897, and married Wesley Miller on February 11, 1920. They had 6 children: Evelyn, Fred and Freda, Don, Harold and Dwight. Lois Boroff, born October, , 1899, died on August 28, 1920. Pearl Ross was born on August 3, 1902, and died June 24, 1903, and infant twin boy, born August 3, 1902, and died the same day. Nancy Alice Boroff Preston was born April 28, 1907, and married Homer Harlan Preston on March 12, 1932; they have 2 sons, David Craig, born on May 15, 1939, and John Elwood, born September 15, 1941. David married Yoko Miura on September 29, 1967 in Japan and have one daughter Christina Alice who was born on April 9, 1973. John married Alexandra Learned on August 26, 1966. Roy H. Boroff was born on December 25, 1910 and died on May 30, 1975. He was married to Alma May Brown on June 1, 1937. They had one daughter, Janet Marie who was born on August 6, 1939; who has one daughter Kim Book. Doris Boroff Webb was born on November 15, 1917, and married Orville Webb on May 19, 1936. They have 6 children: James, still born daughter, Carol, Eugene, Alice Faye and Janice.

Jacob A. Boroff died on June 14, 1936 and Lillie May Coil Boroff died December, 1959. *Alice Preston*

THE CLOVER FAMILY

According to the 'Mendon Herald' Austin Birchard Clover and Georgia Fireoved drove (horse and buggy) to the home of Reverend Roebuck where they were married, August 18, 1902. They went to Oklahoma where Austin B. worked in the oil field. Later they lived in Mendon and then on the Clover farm three miles north of Mendon. They were successful farmers, working side by side.

It was their goal that their daughter Maxine should go to the University. She was graduated with Bachelor and Master degrees from Miami University, and with the Specialist degree from the University of Toledo.

Maxine married Clifford E. Garwick, the son of Earl and Naomi Garwick. They had one son, Clifford Howick Garwick who married Dorothy Bair, the daughter of Gifford and Lucille Bair of Neptune. Their two children are Scott and Sherry.

Later Maxine married Robert Putman, the son of George and Emma Putman. Maxine and Robert were both educators.

Austin traced his family back to John Peter Clover, a Prussian, married to Catherine Sharp. The law did not permit a trained forgeman to leave Prussia but he escaped early in the 18th century. He and Catherine emigrated to Clover Hill, Huntertown County in New Jersey. Indians were numerous and hostile.

Austin's father was James and his mother, Sally (Gross). Elkanah and Susan (Gardner) were the parents of James. Elkanah was buried in the Old Clover Cemetery near Alton, Ohio. James' grandparents were Peter (born in 1791) and Elizabeth (Widner) and James Gardner (born in 1775) and Mary (Cornwall).

James ran a tile mill and owned 365 acres of land. Cherries, apples plums and berries were produced. He and his wife Sally shared food with the less fortunate. The large farm home housed the family and farm hands. Sally and the hired girl cooked for them all. James had a large library.

Austin's mother was (Sarah Gross) born in Holmes County. Her parents were Peter and Mary Gross. The family moved to Mercer County in 1863, and three miles north of Mendon built a cabin, and lived the life of pioneers. Nothing but forest. James served three years in the Civil war, and in 1867 Sally and James were married. They built their home on the former Gross site. The house is occupied by Scott and Deborah (Baltes) Garwick, Clifford's son and his wife.

Georgia May Fireoved's father, Levi married Lida Palmer. His ancestry was Prussian, the son of George Fireoved born in 1811 in Pennsylvania, George married Ellen Krugh and came to Mercer County, where he worked as a distiller of whiskey. He cleared land and eventually owned 160 Acres.

The Palmers trace their lineage back to Robert Palmer who came to America with the followers of William Penn. Lida was the daughter of John (Miami Co.) and Hanna (Hitchner) of Warren Co. John's

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father was Richard, a native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Georgias' great uncle Joseph helped his father clear 920 acres of land. Richard is said to have brought the first cook stove to the county. The Palmer Cemetery (monument and stone fence) were erected in 1884 by Joseph and Thomas Palmer. It is located on Palmer Road near the Robert Kelner farm. Georgias' sister, Frankie Lee, who is 93 years old lives in Mendon, Ohio. Clifford H. Garwick, his wife Dorothy and daughter Sherry live on a 96 A. farm on state route 707, which is a part of the original Palmer Homestead. *Maxine Putman, Newark, Oh.*

Family of Benjamin H. (1830 - 1907) and Jane Partner (1834 - 1897) Coil. **Seated Front Center:** Taken about Thanksgiving or Christmas, 1892. **Back Row L. to R.:** Robert A. Coil (1867 - 1955) m. Belle Fryer #7, William H. Coil (1862 - 1927) m. Lizzie Fryer #11, Ed Coil (1860 - 1929) m. Margery Ellen Coil (1860 - 1929), Sam Fryer (1861 - 1902) Post, Mina Coil Fryer (1864 - 1921), Rena (Irene) Coil (1872 - 1896) m. Cy. S. Brown, Photographer, Belle Fryer Coil (1866 - 1915) Mrs. Robert A. Coil Post, Jennie Susan Coil (1874 - 1939), m. Charles Heath '98, Margery Ellen Coil (1860 - 1929) m. Ed Coil, b. Mendon Cemetery, Eva (Matilda Evalene) Coil (1869 - 1924) Mrs. Chas. Hays, m. 90, Lizzie Fryer Coil (Mrs. Wm.) lived and buried in Evart, Mi., Cyrus Benjamin Coil (1878 - 1951) Boy in long pants, youngest son, m. Gladdyth Poland, lived and buried in Toronto, Oh. **Seated on Porch:** Charles Hays m. Eva #10, 12-7-1890. Children — Robert's Farol and Lawrence Coil, William's Ross and Flossie Coil. House still standing in good condition in 1978, is ¾ Mile East of Mercer, on Mercer Rd. All buried in Mercer Cemetery, except youngsters and otherwise mentioned.

BENJAMIN COIL

According to Sutton's (1882) large "History of Van Wert & Mercer County," Benjamin H. Coil's (1830-1907) grandfather, Andrew Coil, Sr. with his son-in-law Thomas Parrott (Elizabeth's husband) who was the youngest of six children, came to Mercer Village area in 1819 along the St. Mary's River as one of the earliest white settlers in Mercer County area.

Andrew, Sr. soon moved up stream to Guilford, now Mendon, which he called Coiltown and laid out 56 lots, paying ¼¢ county tax on each lot for years, according to Mercer County Courthouse records of 1824.

Andrew Coil, Sr. went back to Fayette County, Ohio, and in 1822 moved his family to Union Township, Mendon area. His children were Peter, who married Hester Roebuck and settled part of Sec. 20, as did Tom Parrott. Other children were Jeremiah, Andrew, Jr., John, Amalia and Elizabeth who was married before 1819, and Isaac Coil (1798-1863) was Ben's father.

Benjamin H. Coil (1830-1907) married Jane Partner (1834-1897) on Oct. 6, 1859. They moved to their farm about three quarter mile east of Mercer. Ben and Jane lived their entire married life on their farm. Benjamin was one of the first white children born in Union Township. He saw many changes. In his youth it was a rough, untamed wilderness without roads and bridges and only log cabin houses.

Jane was a devout Presbyterian. They were mar ried in Salem Township Presbyterian Church, Au glaize County. She raised her family with daily Bibl study and prayer. Jane would not allow her eigh children to even play on Sunday. They both unite with the Mercer Methodist Church. They and th children usually walked to Sunday services, fore noon and evening. The afternoon was spent in quie rest, Bible lessons and songs, often without mucl Sunday cooking work. Usually there was a mid week service. There were not many places to go.

Usually the young folks would wait and walk witl their friends and neighbors as they came along fron farther down the road. Also imagine the mothe dressing and checking the young and walking close to their parents, who usually came along last. Anc walking with their neighbors to church, discussing the latest news, events, happenings, weather and fu ture plans.

Mercer's first Methodist Church was a log cabir from about 1833-1848. Then a much larger building about 33 feet by 60 feet, was built and used till 1900 That building was across the road from the presen structure.

Ben Coil and children donated a front leaded glass window in the present edifice dedicated ir 1900.

Their eight children were Margery Ellen Coil married to Ed Coil (1860-1929). Wm. Harrison Coi (1862-1927), married Lizzie Fryer. Elmira (1864 1921), married S.L. Fryer. Robert A. (1867-1955) married Belle Fryer. Matilda Eva (1869-1924) Mrs Charley Hayes. Irene Belle Coil "Rene" (1872-1896 was Mrs. Cyrus S. Brown. Jennie Susan Coil (1874 1938) was my mother, and married Charles Heath 1898. Cyrus Benjamin Coil (1878-1951) married Gladdyth Poland. Five of these are buried in Mercer Cemetery. Wm. and wife are buried in Avoca Mich., Cy and wife in Toronto, Ohio. Margery ir Mendon Cemetery.

Jennie Coil (1874-1938) married Charles Heath and lived most of their life in Union Township and were members of Mercer Methodist Church. Their four children were Morrison, Orpha, Martha and Charles D. "Pat." Dr. Morrison M. (1900-1977) married Eleanora Brickbauer and was a dentist in Kalamazoo. Their sons are Earl and Harold. Orpha Heath Hosack (Mrs. Paul) has two children, Robert, a dentist, and Jennie. Martha Heath Shull (Mrs. Arthur W. of Ft. Wayne have two sons Arthur, Jr., and Dick. Charles D. "Pat" Heath born 1905 married Minnie Kerns, spent about 25 yrs. in garage, auto, machine work in Mercer, Rocl ford area and also in Sunnyside Wash. They have two daughters, Mary Annis and Alice. *submitted by Orpha Hosack*

COIL FAMILY

Jacob H. Wolery was married to Nancy Alice Brown on January 19, 1862. He was born on October 31, 1831, and died on May 29, 1864. To this union was born one son, Charles A. on October 19, 1862. Charles married Irene Carroll on March 14, 1889; after her death he married Gertrude Monk. To the first marriage 3 sons were born: Oran, Harry and Lee; to the second marriage, one daughter, Patricia.

Nancy Alice Brown was born on February 19, 1841. On March 8, 1866, she married Gabriel A.

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oil. He died on March 4, 1882 and she died on arch 9, 1917. To this union were born five chil-en. Lillie May Coil was born on October 11, 1867, ho married Jacob A. Boroff on June 11, 1887; Frank . Coil was born on August 1, 1869, died on June 5, 24. He was married to Cora Shindollar on April , 1896, and later married Mrs. Agnes Houts on ebruary 8, 1906; Arthur W. Coil was born on Sep-mber 16, 1871, died in February, 1937. He married a Goodwin on March 28, 1894. Harry Edward Coil as born on November 29, 1875, and died on Octo-er 26, 1942. He married Tudie Colvin on April 28, 01 and later married May Murlin on Sept. 10, 04. Pearl Ray Coil was born on April 16, 1878, ed April, 1977, was married to Ellen Small on July , 1900. Gabriel Coil had one daughter, Mary A. oil, by his first marriage. She was born on April 21, 62, and died on November 28, 1918; she was mar-ed to Oliver Croft on April 14, 1881. *Alice Preston*

HERBERT CROUCH

Herbert Carroll Crouch was the eighth child of a amily of ten. Born on July 10, 1899 to Christian and lizabeth Pond Crouch and passed away on October , 1977. He was born on a farm that had belonged to is grandparents about one fourth mile east of hively's Corners on Frahm Pike in Hopewell Town-hip. His father was a farmer and did logging with orses. His father died of typhoid fever when Her-ert was just a small boy making it necessary for all he children to help their mother make a living.

On July 24, 1934, he was married to Mary Edith edmond. She was the youngest of four children orn to William Arthur and Daisy May Goubeau edmond. She was born on a farm owned by her randmother, who was Edith Fisher until she mar-ied John Patterson Redmond. He was the son of homas Allen Redmond that had come to this coun-ry from Ireland. Mary's mother was the daughter of alvin and Mary Shipman Goubeau. Calvin Gou-eau ran a threshing machine in the vicinity of endon. Later in life, (October 7, 1900), he became minister of the gospel and preached in and around ima.

One cousin, Calvin Goubeau, at Mendon, is the nly remaining member of that side of the family.

John Patterson Redmond donated some of his and to Swamp College Cemetery and requested that e and his family and their families be buried there.

When Mary was three years old, her mother died eaving her father with the burden of providing and aring for four small children. At this time Edith earl (Shellabarger) Detrick and Charles Franklin etrick took Mary to rear as their own. They lived n a farm east of Mendon on Deep-Cut Road. Later his farm was owned by Mary and Herbert Crouch nd they lived most of their married life there. To hem was born one son, and one daughter. The son, arroll, died as an infant. The daughter, Patricia Mae, is now married to Kenneth Lee John, a descendant of the founder of the town, Elida, Ohio and they with their three children, Kathy Ann, Keith Lee and Kevin Lyn John also live on the home place on the Deep-Cut Road. *Mary Crouch, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

HIRAM CROUCH

Hiram Crouch, son of David and Olive Crouch, who came to Mercer County in 1842, was born March 31, 1842 in New York. He was raised as a farmer and lumber dealer. In 1852, he married Anna C. Now. Their children were Mary (Mollie), Benjiman, Christian, Elizabeth, Magdeline, and Caroline. He was Constable and Supervisor and School Director for many years. His first election to office was in 1858. His grandfather, David Crouch, was in both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

The early part of his life was spent in hunting. He killed hundreds of deer and other wild game. He owned a good farm with a sawmill on it, Sec. 16 which was the proceeds of his labor in Hopewell twp.

Christian, one of the sons mentioned, was the father of my husband Herbert Crouch. Also, he was the father of Roy, Ray, Blanche, Grace, Stella, Arkana, Grace, Orville, and John who died in infancy. *Mrs. Mary Crouch*

DRAKE FAMILY

Henry Drake was born September 7, 1894 in Union Township, the son of Joseph and Etta (Wilson) Drake. He was a member of the First Church of God, Mendon, since the turn of the century. His mother, Etta Drake, was a charter member of this church. He served on its board of trustees, was parsonage trustee and was general chairman of the planning and building committee when the new church was built in 1959.

He served his country as a soldier in Europe during World War I and was a member of the American Legion Post 210. Mr. Drake was a member of the board of directors of the Mercer County Automobile Club, served on the Mercer County Jury Commission for several years and was vice-president of the Mercer County Civic Foundation. He was a patron and charter member of the Friends of the Library, Mendon, Ohio.

For many years Mr. Drake operated a grocery and meat market; dry goods store; farm implement dealership; new and used car dealership and was engaged in farming (both grain and dairy). In 1950 a partnership was initiated with his son-in-law, Max Shaffer, called Drake & Shaffer Motor Sales.

In 1922 he married Louise Andrews who was a teacher in Mercer County Schools through a span of forty years. She was associated with her husband in his many business ventures. Mrs. Drake is an active member in the Mendon Church of God where she served as a teacher for many years and was active in the Ladies Aid Society. She was also active in the Eastern Star Lodge and was Mother Adviser in the Rainbow Society.

Henry and Louise Drake are the parents of one daughter, Ardyth Drake Shaffer. Mrs. Shaffer has been Mercer County School Psychologist for many years. She also served as a teacher and guidance counselor in Van Wert and Mercer Counties. She

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has been active in organizations involving the Mendon Church of God, Mercer County Library, Mental Health, Civic Foundation and the local branch of Wright State and Ohio Northern Universities.

Max Shaffer has been a local businessman and farmer for many years in the Mendon area. He was born in the Rockford area the son of Randal and Zelah (Alspaugh) Shaffer. He served his country in the Air Force in Europe during World War II. Mr. Shaffer has been an active member of the Mendon Church of God having served as Sunday School Superintendent and teacher for many years. He has been a member of the board of trustees for many years and served on the planning and building committee for both the church parsonage and church.

Max and Ardyth Shaffer have two children, Henni LuAnn Shaffer and James Drake Shaffer. Henni Lou is presently school psychologist in the Allen County Schools serving Delphos City Schools. She has been active in the Rainbow Society for Girls at the local and state level and served on the Hotline Board of Directors for the Mercer County Health Society. She has been a youth leader in the Mendon Church of God. Jim Shaffer is a student at Wright State University. He is a member of the Mendon Church of God and has served as youth representative and deacon on the Board of Trustees of the church for many years. He is active in the Classic Chevie Automobile Club. Jim is also associated with his father in Drake and Shaffer Motor Sales and in farming. *Ardyth Shaffer*

W. HUBERT DICK

W. Hubert Dick, the son of Walter H. and Nellie (Lutz) Dick was born in Mendon, Ohio. The fourth child in a family of four, he has two sisters: Helen, deceased; Dorothy, wife of Marvin Cowan, of Ohio City, Ohio; and a brother, Charles (Cy), of Celina, Ohio.

He attended Mendon Union Grade School and graduated from Celina Senior High School. He graduated from the Cleveland College of Embalming and became a licensed funeral director and embalmer for W.H. Dick and Sons Funeral Home of Mendon and Celina.

Over the years he has been active in several fraternal and civic organizations.

He is married to the former Jane Dill and they are the parents of a son, Terry, and a daughter, Nancy. They reside in Mendon, Ohio. *W.H. Dick*

J.W. DUTTON FAMILY

J.W. Dutton was born in Stillwater, Miami County, Ohio, on November 3, 1833. He was the son of Jonathon and Elizabeth (Smith) Dutton. Jonathon and Elizabeth came from Highland County, Ohio, and Virginia. They moved in 1834 to Union Township, Mercer County, Ohio, and opened a tannery which he conducted until his death in 1857 at the age of 45 years. Elizabeth Dutton died at the age of 26 in 1848. James W. Dutton had one brother, Thomas J. Dutton. J.W. learned the business of tanner with his father. In 1857, he married Elizabeth Chivington. She lived only two years but left a child, Joseph Watson Dutton. He died in infancy in 1859 at Mendon. Mr. Dutton next married Sarah Gran who was born in 1844, the daughter of William an Elizabeth (Taylor) Grant, who were among the earl settlers of Union Township, Mercer County, Ohi They were respectively natives of Virginia and Mar yland. Mr. Grant purchased forty acres of unim proved land in Union Township. He died at the ag of 83, in 1883. His wife, Elizabeth, also died at th age of 83. They had been married 60 years.

Both families were members of the Church c God. Mrs. Sarah Dutton was one of nine childrer Mr. J.W. Dutton began farming and also was in th mercantile business and ran a hotel, the first i Mendon. This hotel was erected by his father.

Mr. Dutton kept on purchasing more land unti he owned 269 acres of land. Their children are a follow: Sophronia Bell, who married Moses Hamil ton and bore him a son, Lee Ivan; Elizabeth Luella wife of Doctor George Hagerman, who had 3 sons William Edward, father of a son and daughter George Dutton and Jocie Pierce; Thomas Wallace who married Clara Stoffer and had 2 sons, James R and Thomas H. Dutton. James R. married Myrtl Beougher and they had 2 daughters and a son, Jame Lee Dutton, and the daughters being Mary Eller Burket and Ruth Ann Evans. Thomas H. Duttor married Charlotte Teegarden and they have ar adopted son, Kenneth F. Dutton. Kenneth has daughters, Laurie and Alicia. The three James R children each have 2 children of their own. Some o the land Thomas H. now owns includes most of the land J.W. Dutton owned, so most has been in the Dutton family for over 100 years. Lee Ivan, the 3 Hagerman sons, William Edward's two children and James R. Dutton are all deceased at this writing. Pearl Leota married C.O. Rayn in 1897. He was editor of the Mendon Herald and later of the Geneva, Indiana paper. Pearl Leota was the youngest daughter of J.W. Dutton and his wife. They never had any children. Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Dutton raised their grandsons James R. and Thomas H. Dutton for their parents, who died while their children were young. *Mrs. Thomas H. Dutton, Rockford, Oh. 45882*

Top Left to Right: Rex Emans, Janet Emans, Daniel Puthoff, Rita Puthoff, Rickie Emans, Barbara Emans. **Bottom Row:** Jill Emans, Alfred Emans, Valerie Puthoff, Deanna Puthoff, Angela Puthoff, Marilyn Emans, Robbie Emans.

ALFRED VERNON & MARILYN (COFFMAN) EMANS

On October 9, 1922, Alfred Vernon Emans, the fourth child of Harry Sylvester and Luella (Selanders) Emans, was born in a log cabin on State Route 117 two miles south of the Van Wert County Line in Mercer County, Union Township. He had four sisters and two brothers: Cleo (Ves Moorman (1914-1978) Coldwater, Ohio; Helen (Anton Schlueter

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909-1969) Findlay, Ohio; Raymond (1915-1974) Marjorie (Van Tilburg 1918-1966) Rockford, Ohio; tanley (Janet Trisel) Mendon, Ohio; Rhonda (Roger itzman) Napoleon, Ohio; and Patricia (Homer Rice) t. Marys, Ohio.

On December 24, 1946, he married Marilyn Joyce offman, born April 21, 1928 to Orville W. (1886-974) and Gladys (Marbaugh) Coffman (1891-1958), ıe fifth of seven children being born in Van Wert ounty, Jennings Township one half mile east of the Mercer County line on the Monticello Rd. In her ımily were three sisters and three brothers; infant rl (1919-1919), Henry Merle (Jack) (1920-1957) Mildred Kraft) Spencerville, Ohio; Mary Jane (Carl utman) New Haven, Indiana; Harold Merlyn (Bud) Marjorie Lee) Cridersville, Ohio; Homer Murlin Eva Rider) Edgerton, Ohio; Martha Jean (Max Wood) Cridersville, Ohio; and two half brothers and ıree half sisters: Maurice Wright (Agatha Bury) enedocia, Ohio; Aileen Coffman (Sherman Riley) lemet, California; Marie Coffman (Simon Miller 906-1976) Lima, Ohio; Wilbert O. (Bus) Coffman Mildred Pollock) Spencerville, Ohio; and Lucile offman (Glenn Goodwin) Willshire, Ohio.

Alfred attended Mendon Union School, while elping his Dad mow three cemeteries with a push ıower and helping scythe five others by hand. He lso helped Harold Hays bale hay and did numerous ther odd jobs and raised some pigs to help buy his 929 Model A Ford convertible with a rumble seat. Ie joined the National Guards at Spencerville, Ohio, in WW II 1940-1945 Hg 37th Div., Hg Co. 48th Inf. 2nd Bn., being in the South Pacific four ears receiving the Purple Heart on New Georgia Is-ands, Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon W/2 Bronze tars per WD GO #33/45, American Defense Serv-e Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon W/1 Bronze Star, Good Conduct Ribbon, Combat Inf. adge and Rifle Expert. Battles — Luzon and North-rn Solomons.

Upon discharge he worked at Crampton cannery, &F Garage (Floyd Baltzell and Gene Frysinger), Mendon Service Co. (J.R. and Myrtle Dutton). He ıelped put in Mendon's water system (1947) and vorked at the Lima Ordnance Lima, Ohio, until it losed in 1958; then, he had his own construction usiness. In 1968 he first leased then bought the ure Oil station from Ray N. Miller with son Rick eing a partner (Pure changing to Union 76 stations n 1970). At present Alfred and Marilyn are still run-ıing the Emans Union 76 Station in Mendon. An ıuto accident in 1971, left Alfred a paraplegic being n a wheel chair.

In the early 1950's he had been one of Mendon's ire Chiefs and now is an Honorary member. The Centennial Year 1976 — Alfred made and sealed the oxes for the monument and time capsule to be pened in the year 2076.

Marilyn being raised on a farm, helped with farm hores, raising chickens, turkeys, mowing the lawn vith a push hand mower. She worked at the Na-ional Seal and roomed at Van Wert, Ohio. Alfred ınd Marilyn are the parents of three children: Rex Vernon, Rita Joyce, and Rickie Gene. All were mem-ers of First Church of God in Mendon.

All three children graduated from Mendon Union School Mendon, Ohio. Rex (1947) was drafted in the Army (1966-1968) trained at Ft. Benning, Ga., and Ft. McCellean, Ala., and then sent to Viet Nam. He received the Purple Heart at Can Tho, Combat Infantryman Badge, National Defense Service, Viet Nam Campaign, Viet Nam Service, Army Commendation and Good Conduct Medals and was SP4. He married Janet Roberta Fleming, daughter of Ivan Dale and Lorraine Alvina (Frahm) Fleming, Rockford, Ohio. Janet owned her own beauty shop in Rockford, Ohio. They have one daughter Jill (1971). Rex worked at Speichers Inc., Celina, Ohio and is at present at Goodyear in St. Marys, Ohio. They live in Mendon, Ohio.

Rita (1948) a beautician, married Daniel Charles Puthoff, son of Russell George (1914-1968) and Vinola (Hemmelgarn) Puthoff Celina, Ohio. Dan works at Speichers Inc., in Celina and owns their farm west of Celina. He served in the army in Germany. They have three daughters: Deanna Marilyn 1970, Angela Michelle 1973, and Valerie Renee 1976.

Rickie (1949) was drafted in the army in 1969, trained at Ft. Jackson, S.C. and Ft. Eutis, Va. and sent to Viet Nam. He was wounded in a helicopter fire. He received the National Defense Service, Viet Nam Service, Viet Nam Campaign, Army Commendation and Army Medals along with Army Commendation Badge, 1 O/S Bar, EXP-16 and was Crew Chief-SP5. He married Barbara Jean Hittle, daughter of Lewis Jr. and Betty (Elson) Hittle Ansonia, Ohio. They have one son Robbie Gene (1972). Rickie worked at Speichers Inc. in Celina, Ohio, at present at Teleflex, Van Wert, Ohio. They live in Mendon, Ohio. *Marilyn J. Emans*

THE EMANS FAMILY

On June 18, 1858, James William Emans was born in Putnam Co., Ohio, to Richard D. and Mary Ann (Pierman) Emans. Richard came, as a small boy, with his parents John A. and Leah (DeMott) Emans, Jr. to Putnam Co. from Hunterdon Co. New Jersey in 1835. James was married on March 28, 1880 in Putnam Co. to Diantha Parker, she was the daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Loper) Parker. James and Diantha became the parents of ten children; Sylvia Myrtal 1881-1895; Thomas Richard 1882-1968; William Henry 1884-1976; Harry Sylvester 1886; Effie Caroline 1889; all born in Putnam Co. In 1890 William decided to move his family to Mercer Co., on a farm located on the corner of 117 and 707, here five more children were born, Ida Belle 1891-1973; Zoa Hannah 1893-1956; Austin Oliver 1895-1976; Walter Franklin 1898, and Mary Elizabeth 1902.

The third son of James and Diantha, Harry Sylvester Emans was born March 3, 1886 and was married to Luella Selanders, born June 23, 1892, daughter of John Henry and Margaret AnnaBelle (Harris) Selanders, on April 25, 1910 in Monroe Co., Mich. They were the parents of seven children: Lillian Cleo, born July 20, 1911 in Azalia, Mich. and on Aug. 21, 1933 she married Sylvester Moorman, son of Ferdinand and Cecelia (Weyer) Moorman. Sylvester (Ves) died June 24, 1978 — Cleo lives in Coldwater, Ohio

Helen Fern was born Feb. 4, 1913 in Van Wert, she was married Feb. 25, 1939 to Anton W. Schlueter, son of August and Mary (Cordes) Schlueter. They have four sons; Jon, Dan, Phil and Kevin. Tony died Dec. 16, 1969. Helen lives in Findlay.

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Raymond Bernard was born June 16, 1916 in Rockford. On Dec. 31, 1935 he married Marjorie Vantilburg, daughter of Frederick and Sara Leota (Blossom) Vantillburg. To them were born five children; William, Luella, Sara, Tom and Larry. Marjorie died June 8, 1966 and Raymond died July 14, 1974.

Alfred Vernon was born Oct. 9, 1922 in a log cabin in Union Twp. and on Dec. 24, 1946 he was married to Marilyn Joyce Coffman, daughter of Orville and Gladys (Marbaugh) Coffman. They are the parents of three children; Rex, Rita and Rickie. They live in Mendon and operate the Union 76 gas station.

On Dec. 9, 1927 in Celina, Stanley Eugene was born, and on Jan. 27, 1951 he married Janet Lee Trisel, daughter of Herman and Mary (Bennett) Trisel. To them were born six children; Candace, Deborah, Tina, Gary, Linda and Lisa. They live in Mendon and Stanley works for Speichers in Celina.

About 1928 Harry and Luella bought and moved into the Hiram Spicer home next to the canning factory in Mendon and on June 15, 1930, Rhonda Lee was born, she was married to Roger Eugene Eitzman, son of Fred and Frieda (Tietje) Eitzman, on May 13, 1950. They are the parents of four children; Kathy, Michael, Renae and Randy. Roger is an electrician for Chrysler Corp. at Perrysburg and they live in Holgate, Ohio.

On Nov. 30, 1931, Patricia Jean was born, she was married to Homer Hamilton Rice, Jr. son of Homer H. and AnnaBelle (Stoner) Rice, Sr. on Aug. 12, 1950. They are the parents of five children; Pamela, Dennis, Kimberly, Tama Lu and Connie. They live in St. Marys and operate the P&H Ceramics, Homer also works for Goodyear.

Along with farming Harry was caretaker of three cemeteries in the Mendon area, he drove a school bus for a number of years and was town marshall. Luella died July 26, 1976. Harry at the age of ninety-two years, lives alone in Mendon. *submitted by Rhonda Eitzman, Napoleon, Oh.*

FENT

George Fent (1837-1913) came from North Carolina to Mercer County. He married Frances Protsman and together they had three children Katie, Lillie Bell (Duff) and William Henry. George was a farmer and a carpenter. A house he built still stands at 213 S. Main St. in Mendon.

Wm. H. Fent (1865-1931) married Sarah Elizabeth (Sadie) Ballinger in 1888. She attended "Normal" School in Tipton, Ind. and then taught school for several years in Union Twp. Bill and Sadie lived most of their lives on the same farm in Union Twp. The only son was Homer O. Fent.

Homer O. Fent (1889-1917) graduated from Mendon Union High School in 1908 and as an Electrical Engineer from Ohio University. After working a short while for Warner Swasey Co. in Cleveland he went to Arizona for his health. While there he married Margaret Diegel of Mendon. They had two sons. Wm. Diegel and Charles Homer.

Wm. D. Fent (1915-) graduated from Mendon Union and served five years in the Air Force during WWII, three years overseas in the CBI Theatre. He received an Associate Degree in Engineering from Purdue University. He married Evelyn Griggs an they have two daughters. Cheryl and Amy Jo.

Chas. H. Fent (1916-) graduated from Mendo Union and farmed the home place in Union Twp He has held elective offices on the School Board an as a Twp. Trustee. He married Betty Springer an their children are Linda, Bruce and Bill.

Bruce Fent (1946-) also graduated from Mendo Union High School. Bruce served in the U.S. Arm in Vietnam and later married Karla Nevergall. The have one son, Aaron, born in 1976. *William Fent*

Fireoved

THOMAS GEORGE FIREOVED

Thomas George Foreoved, only son of David and Margaret Ann Hickernell Fireoved, was born November 29, 1881, Union township Mercer county, Ohio.

David Fireoved, was born in Celina, Ohio, April 11, 1847, son of George and Ellen Krugh Fireoved. Margaret Ann Hickernell who was born in Union township, February 12, 1845, daughter of Rev. Thomas Hickernell, born January 1, 1813. He was married to Charity Deniston from York county, Pa., who was born on October 23, 1811. Thomas Hickernell died March 30, 1887 and Charity died January 11, 1894.

George Fireoved was born June 6, 1811 in Pa. Ellen was born in Pa. in 1814. George and Ellen's children were: William H.; Solomon; Samuel; Sarah A.; John; David; Levi; Abner; Mary E. and Mary H. After they were married they left Pa. and came to Ohio. Ellen died August 12, 1886 and George died January 29, 1894.

David and Margaret Ann were married August 4, 1869, and their children were: Charity Ellen, Mary Annabelle, Selah Jane, Rosa Addielee and Thomas George. David died January 5, 1931. Margaret Ann died November 12, 1934.

Thomas Fireoved was born on his father's farm, one fourth of a mile north of Mendon, Ohio. After finishing school he worked for his father on the farm.

When he was nineteen years of age, he was riding one horse and leading another, while attempting to urge the latter horse he fell off and his leg caught in the lines. The horse became frightened and ran dragging him for about 40 rods. When they turned into the barn yard his foot struck a tree. His leg and hip were injured in a way that bothered him the rest of his life.

On April 5, 1908, Thomas Fireoved and Edna Florence Thomas were married in Van Wert, Ohio. Edna was born in Van Wert county, January 23, 1888, daughter of James and Ida Resler Thomas.

James Thomas was born in 1863 and died in 1937, Ida Resler Thomas was born in 1866 and died in

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950. After James died Ida made her home with her ıildren. Their children were: Fred, Edna, Catherine, uby, Clifford, Ruth and Waldo Thomas. Waldo nd Cliff are the last of seven children.

Tom and Edna first lived in the David Fireoved ome, then in the first farm south of there, where ıeir children were born. Their children were: Dale ilenford, Ruth Lenore, Ralph Thomas and Wayne ugene Fireoved.

In 1917 Tom's parents David and Margaret moved) South Main street in Mendon, Ohio where they ɔent the rest of their lives. Tom and Edna moved ıto their home for the next four years, from there ıey moved to Mendon from 1921 to 1924. During ıis time Tom worked at Lima Locomotive Works, ɔrking there for 4 years. From Mendon, they ıoved to Alfred Roebuck farm about one mile orth of Mendon, farming there for one year. Then 'om returned with his family to first farm south of)avid Fireoved home, living there for 3 years. In 929 he moved his family back to David Fireoved ome where he stayed and spent the rest of his life, arming and helping Wayne on his ditching ma-hine. Wayne who made his home with his dad, was narried to Hazel Margaret Donovan, on May 30, 956. Their children are: James Ray Donovan, de-eased, Larry Roger Donovan, born January 11, 946; Lori Ann Fireoved, born September 10, 1957;)ennis Wayne Fireoved born March 12, 1960. Edna ireoved died June 7, 1952, Tom died November 19, 974. Wayne and family are still living in the old)avid Fireoved home, which was built in 1904.
Wayne Fireoved

EDWARD FOX

Edward Fox, a twin brother of Fannie Rhoades, is he sole survivor of the Lewis Edward Fox family. He vas born in Union Township, Mercer County, July ı, 1889, the son of Lewis Edward and Jennie R. Fox.

Edward worked with his father in the tile business n Union Twp., Mercer County. In 1911 he went to Harrisburg, Pa., and worked in the Pennsylvania ;teel mills. He returned to Mercer County in 1912 ınd on November 27, 1912, he married Hazel Frys-nger, a native of Dublin Township, Mercer County. ;he was the daughter of Mercer County Commis-;ioner, Charles W. Frysinger and Norma Hays Frys-nger. He and Hazel farmed in Union and Dublin Township from 1913 to 1930. In addition to farming ıe was field man and General Manager of the Crampton Canneries at Mendon, Ohio, for 28 years, where area farmers brought their fresh produce, to-natoes, beans, peas and pickles for processing. Mr. Fox holds Fireman's License #2 (for steam engines) n the Lima District. He continued to manage the :annery, with approximately 90 employees, until 1941. In 1942 he built and operated his own canning factory in Paulding, Ohio.

Edward and Hazel had five children, all born in Union Township, Mercer County. They are: Robert, narried to Hazel Anderson; Reed, married to Mil-dred Krugh; Phyllis married to Eugene Griggs; Mar-orie, married to Francis Smalley; and Carl, married :o Dorothy Gillen.

Edward retired in 1947 from the canning business. His wife, Hazel, died on September 15, 1947. He later moved to Van Wert and in 1950 married Helen Parker. In 1964 they moved to Leesburg, Florida, where they now reside.

His three sons, Robert, Reed, and Carl are still associated with the canning business and the building of commercial canning equipment.

At present, his only child still located in Mercer County is Phyllis Fox Griggs, a graduate of International Business College. She and her husband, Eugene Griggs, a graduate of Ohio University, are the parents of Dana Jay Griggs, born July 21, 1946, a graduate of Ohio State University, married to Diana Jane Johnson and they have one son Darrick James, born February 10, 1977. Dana is a mechanical engineer, employed by Westinghouse Electric.

Lina Kay, born January 16, 1949, married to David Wilson (both teachers and graduates of Miami University.) They have one daughter, Jacqueline Leigh born July 7, 1977. *Phyllis Griggs, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

LEWIS EDWARD FOX

Lewis Edward Fox, one of Union Township's representative businessmen, who was engaged in the manufacture of tile and operated an 80 acre farm on which he lived for 25 years, was born June 15, 1853, in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Peter and Fanny (Moyer) Fox and a grandson of Peter and Anna (Secrist) Fox.

Peter Fox, Jr., the father of our subject, was born and reared on the farm in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, where Lewis Edward was born and raised, and it was here that the paternal grandfather was also reared. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Christian Moyer, moved from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to Dauphin County, where he lived the greater part of his life. Peter Fox died in 1868 at the age of 53 years. He was the father of six sons and one daughter, as follows: Lewis Edward; Benjamin Franklin; Christian Henry; John Wesley; William L.; Peter W.; and Clara Annie, who married W.H. Wolf, of Pembroke, Pennsylvania.

Lewis Edward Fox was reared on his father's farm in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, received a common school education and then engaged in farming. In the fall of 1870 he moved to Mercer County, Ohio, and worked on a farm at Neptune for two years. He then went back to his old home in Pennsylvania, but later returned to Mercer County in 1881. Mr. Fox was subsequently located for one year at Rockford, where he helped put in a tile plant. After selling the same, he returned to his home in Union Township, where he engaged in manufacturing tile for 24 years, having established the factory in 1862. He always had a large trade and never able to manufacture enough to supply the full demand. In 1905 he established a new plant, and with new appliances and improved machinery largely increased the output.

He found a ready sale for the product, as there was a growing demand for tile and building blocks. He employed eight men to operate the plant. Mr. Fox made many great improvements on his farm, on which there was only a small log cabin when it came into his possession. Mr. Fox was an Odd Fellow of high standing, was a member of the subordinate and Rebekah lodges at Mendon and the encampment of

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Celina. He was also a charter member of Mendon Lodge No. 586, F.&A.M. He was a Democrat politically, but supported the man in preference to the party. He was always interested in things which were for the betterment and advancement of his community.

Mr. Fox was married January 5, 1876, to Jennie R. Boroff, a native of Union Township, Mercer County, and a daughter of the late Harrison and Rebecca (Ross) Boroff, who were among the early settlers of Mercer County. Children born to Mr. and Mrs. Fox as follows: William H.; Clara B., who married Milton Faurot; Harry G.; Amy, who married Perry Hays and later John Quilling; Edward and Fannie (twins) Edward married Hazel Frysinger; Fannie married Pern Rhoades; Peter married Hazel Stewart and Marlin who married Beulah Marbaugh.

Lewis Edward Fox passed away in Mendon on May 28, 1931. *Phyllis Griggs*

Gallman Family

LeROY GALLMAN

LeRoy Gallman was born August 13, 1900, Union Township, Mercer County, Ohio. He graduated from Mendon High School in 1918 and attended Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio. He was employed by banks in Mercer County from 1928 until his retirement from Citizens Commercial Bank in 1969 as Vice-President and from its Board of Directors in March, 1977. LeRoy Gallman was active in civic duties in Celina, Ohio, serving as a member of the Celina Board of Education and as President of the Celina Chamber of Commerce. He has served in many official capacities as a member of St. John Lutheran Church. He is a 50 year member of various bodies of the Masonic Lodge.

LeRoy Gallman is the son of Louis Jacob Gallman and Lillie Andrews Gallman, who were married December 22, 1891 in Mercer County. Louis came to St. Mary's, Ohio from Wellsville, New York in the late 1800's to work in the oil fields of Mercer and Auglaize counties. His parents were John Gallmann of Lumengen, Germany, and Louise Gallman of Wittenburg, Germany. They arrived in New York state in the mid-1800's, and were married August 23, 1857, in Wellsville, New York, where they spent the rest of their lives. Louis Jacob was one of 16 children from this marriage.

LeRoy Gallman was one of 5 children born to Louis and Lillie Gallman. Other children were Florence Gallman Walter, born May 21, 1893, John Wesley Gallman, May 16, 1895, and Elda Gladys Gallman Wright, January 10, 1897, the above born in St. Mary's, Ohio. The family then moved to the present family homestead in Union Township of Mercer County and engaged in farming. There, Anna Gallman Bogart was born, March 20, 1899 and LeRoy in 1900.

LeRoy Gallman married Mary Kathryn Wiley (Washington Township, Mercer County, daughter (William and Alice Adams Wiley, on December 3(1937. They resided in Celina. Mary Kathryn die July, 1957 and LeRoy then married Lucille Shultze (Wyoming, Ohio in July, 1959. Lucille Gallma taught in Celina City Schools from 1931 to 1936, an after her marriage from 1959 to 1973. They now re side at 812 N. Buckeye, Celina, Ohio.

To the union of LeRoy Gallman and Mary Ka thryn Wiley, four children were born. Louis Josep was born September 14, 1939. He graduated fror Celina High School in 1957, from the College of Se quoias, Visalia, California, in 1959. He served years in the U.S. Army, 10 years as a bank examine for the State of Ohio, and has been associated wit Citizens Commercial Bank and Trust Compan since 1972, now serving as Vice President an Branch Manager of the Fort Recovery, Ohio office He married Barbara Lodge, Bannock, Ohio on Jun 29, 1968. They are parents of Jason Todd, born Feb ruary 7, 1970, Bethanne, January 20, 1971, and An drea Lynn, June 25, 1972. Barbara Gallman resume teaching mathematics at Celina Senior High Schoc in 1976. They reside at 202 Kaymar Avenue, Celina Ohio. Margaret Ann was born May 10, 1941. Sh graduated from Celina High School in 1959, an from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, in 1963 She taught in Columbus area schools for severa years and now resides in Westerville, Ohio with he husband Larry J. Cepek, whom she married Augus 22, 1964. Larry Cepek is currently Audio-Visual Di rector of Ohio Dominican College. He received his Doctorate (PhD) from Ohio State University, Au gust, 1978. They are parents of David Joseph, borr December 2, 1970, Gregory Lee, December 7, 1972 and Susan Michele, November 2, 1975. John Wiley Gallman was born May 25, 1944. He graduated from Celina High School and served 2 years in the U.S. Army. He worked as an industrial engineer for Avco New Idea, and then Pax Steel Products in Coldwater Ohio. He is presntly operating the family farm in Union Township, Mercer County, Ohio, which includes the original Gallman Homestead. On July 1, 1967, he married Diana Crumrine, daughter of Ray B. and Helen Crumrine, Celina, Ohio. Diana is employed as a Speech and Hearing Therapist for Celina City Schools. They are parents of Kathryn Louise, born October 20, 1971, Anne Rebecca, January 2, 1974, and Lucas Ray, November 29, 1976. They reside in the original Gallman Homesite at 11020 Gallman Road, Mendon, Ohio. Charles Stephen Gallman was born October 31, 1947. He graduated from Celina Senior High School in 1966, and attended Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, and Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. He obtained experience in banking and sales in the Dayton area and is now employed as a salesman for Mersman Brothers, Celina, Ohio. He and his wife Rebecca Wyant, Wellston, Ohio, were married June 21, 1975 and reside in Dayton, Ohio. Rebecca Gallman is employed by Trotwood-Madison Schools as a home-economics teacher. They are parents of Jeffrey Wyant, born May 24, 1978.

Thus concludes the history of four generations of the LeRoy Gallman family, Mercer County, Ohio. The above picture of the family was taken at the

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iginal Homesite, the home of John Gallman, Row from left to right — Gregory Cepek, Susan Cepek, ndrea Gallman, Anne Gallman, Row 2, l. to r. — avid Cepek, Bethanne Gallman, Jason Gallman, thryn Gallman. Row 3, l. to r. — Larry Cepek, argaret Gallman Cepek, Barbara Gallman, Louis seph Gallman. Row 4, l. to r. — Charles Gallman, ebecca Gallman, Lucille Gallman, LeRoy Gallman, icas Gallman, Diana Gallman, John Gallman. Roy Gallman passed away on April 4, 1979. *Mrs. n Gallman, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

rm Picture of me of Goodwin mily — **L. to R.:** n Robert, Glenn, e holding Jennie, ances, daughter- -law, holding ilis Jr. and Wil- m Black, grand- n.

JOHN AND JANE BISEL GOODWIN

The family of Joshua Jr. Goodwin born in 1833 nd married to Mary Ann Wollery, settled in the ortheast corner of Union Township in Mercer ounty near the small town of Elgin, Ohio. To this nion was born John, Dec. 25, 1861; Marion, died at ge 13; Newton; Sarah; Ida and Lida twins; and Ben.

Joshua Jr. died Aug. 21, 1878, aged 45 years. The ldest son John was 14 years old. The land was eareed and log houses built on 160 acres for John nd Newton Goodwin. John married Jane Bisel of ear Mendon. John was born Dec. 25, 1861 and died 957. Jane was born 1867 and died 1924.

To John and Jane Goodwin were born: Willis, born 1887-died 1914); Maude Goodwin Black (1888-935); Nola (Goodwin) Goodwin (1891-1967); John . Goodwin (1893-1972); Gilford Goodwin (1896- ied in infancy); Robert B. Goodwin (1898-?); Russell Goodwin (1900-?); Carl Goodwin 1904-died in in- ancy); Mary Goodwin (1908-1909); Glenn Goodwin 1908-); Jennie Frances (1915-) married Robert ckert and then Ruel Clouser, both deceased. *Lucile Goodwin, Willshire, Oh. 45898*

GRIGGS

Rev. Elias Griggs (1825-1889) came to Mercer County before 1861. He was first pastor of the Nep- une Baptist Church, later serving the Mercer Baptist Church. Married Margaret Springer 1868, settling in a log cabin on Twelve Mile Creek, Union Township. Children, Nettie Griggs Stoner, Benjamin, Franklin, Myrtie Griggs Webb and John Griggs (1879-1970). After Rev. Griggs death, Margaret married Mr. Webb and moved to Iowa. John, in his early teens, stayed alone in the home, working for farmers, attending Red School, graduating Mendon High 1899. In 1900 John rode his bicycle to visit his Mother — leaving Monday morning, arriving Friday P.M. No paved highways, no road maps. He, his Mother and bicycle returned by train.

John attended Angola College, taught three years at Frog Pond School, Center Township. He also rode horseback thru the country, buying livestock, shipping to Cincinnati until the CH&D Railroad was abandoned in 1922. In 1916 he formed a partnership with C.H. Disher known as Union Garage, located in Mendon. Now known as Griggs Garage and operated by sons, John D. and Don. John bought out his partner, had the first Chevrolet agency in Mercer County, later Ford, Dodge and Plymouth, then used cars.

John married Theresa Pierce in 1910; three children, Pauline (deceased age four), Eugene and Evelyn. Theresa died in 1916. In 1920 he married Vergil Wilson, daughter of George and Myrta Hays Wilson. Vergil attended Anderson Bethel Church of God, transferred to Mendon Church of God 1916. She is the only living charter member of Missionary Society (organized 1919), also a member of Eastern Stars, Mendon Flower Club and W.C.T.U. — served as State Child Welfare Director for several years. Vergil graduated from Mendon High 1916, attended Bowling Green Normal College, taught in Protsman School, also worked in office of Goodrich Tire and Rubber, Akron during World War I. Children, Elaine, John D., Janell and Don.

Eugene served in Air Force, World War II — North Africa thru Western Europe to England. Married Phyllis Fox, daughter of Edward and Hazel Frysinger Fox. Two children, Dana and Lina. Dana (graduate of Ohio State, Mechanical Engineering) married Jane Johnson — one son, Darrick. Dana is employed by Westinghouse in El Paso, Texas. Lina married David Wilson — both graduates of Miami University. They live in Dublin Township — David teaches in Delphos Jefferson High and farms. One daughter, Jacqueline.

Evelyn married William Fent, proprietor of Mow-Til, Celina. He served three years in India, World War II. She attended Miami University and Warner Beauty College. Operated beauty shop until retiring. Two daughters. Cheryl married Terry Swartz (both graduates of Bowling Green), now living in Colorado. Amy Jo (graduate, Miami University), employed by May Company, Cleveland as Interior Decorator.

Elaine married Wayne Fox. She served in WACs in Cairo, Egypt and he in Western Europe, World War II. Wayne graduated Ohio State in Pharmacy. Retired and reside in Arcanum. Two sons — Jeffrey, married Catherine Adams. He graduated Ohio Northern in Pharmacy and University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Ph.D. Dental Research. One son, Aaron. Kevin — graduated Montgomery Vocational School — married, one son, Kevin, Jr.

John D. married Joanne Dilbone — R.N. of Lima Memorial. He served in Marines on Admiral Nimitz Flagstaff, Guam, World War II.

Janell married Ted Kolter, Rockford. Daughter, Sharon, married Kim Katterheinrich (both graduates

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of Miami University). Kim graduated Seminary, Minneapolis, now pastor Church of Christ, Versailles. Three children, Eric Jennie, Keith. Son, Captain Tim Kolter (Air Force), graduated Miami University, serving in Washington, D.C. Wife, Linda, employed by Social Security.

Don married Martha Dilbone, three children. Don served in Air Force in England and Offutt Air Base, Nebraska. Michael, graduate Rose Hulman Institute of Technology, married Sarah Kratz, New Castle, Indiana. Employed by Proctor and Gamble, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Scott is a Senior in Centre College, Danville, Kentucky. Stacey is in Fourth Grade, Mendon School. *compiled by Vergil Griggs, Mendon, Oh.*

Haller Family, 1939 — **Top Row Right to Left:** George Haller and Merle. **Middle Row Right to Left:** Minnie Haller, Clayton, and Grandmother Aufderhar. **Front Row Right to Left:** Nettina, Mr. and Mrs. Emaline Ray John and Baby Gary.

HALLER FAMILY

Our father George W. Haller came to Mercer county with his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Aufderhar in 1899. They came from Auglaize County. Grandfather had bought sixty acres of land from the Upton Farm in Union Township. Dad helped to pay for the farm with money earned by hauling logs.

In those days everyone worked very hard but they found various means of entertainment and recreation. A barn raising called for a Barn dance where all the folks swung their partners as one person called the square dances. Husking Bees provided another community social event. One highlight was locating red ears of corn with their special privileges. (Each red ear entitled its finder to kiss the girl of his choice.) Skating was a winter pastime with "Shinny", played with crooked sticks, a favorite game. (Possibly a form of Ice Hockey.)

In the fall of 1902 Grandmother's cousin Wilhelmina (Minnie) Huck, . from Ind. came to visit. Grandfather met the late evening train at Elgin and brought her home in the horse drawn buggy. Greeting Grandmother, Minnie said, "My you look so natural." At that moment George strolled out of an adjoining bedroom in his long underwear and said "Do I look natural too?" (And the smarty got away with it!) That was how our Dad and Mother came to meet.

Of course George and his girl friend (at the time) graciously entertained Minnie and included her in their social activities. However, when Minnie returned to Indiana she and George were engaged.

Dad and mother were married Jan. 8, 1903. They shared the farm home and helped cultivate the land. In those days plowing was done with horses and walking plows. Corn was planted with a hand planter. When ripe it was cut by hand with long corn knives. It was stacked in "shocks" to dry. Later the ears were husked out by hand. Some of the small grains were broadcast by hand when planted. Grandfather had a "cradle" which was used to c wheat by hand, but I don't know if it was ever us on this farm.

On April 1, 1904 I was born in the same house the farm, in which I now live. I had my first year school in the Hussey school down at the corn Then the family moved to Spencerville. Dad took Auctioneering which became his life-long vocatior

Through the years we children, Harold, Clayto Merle, Emaline and myself always spent summe with our Grandparents on the farm. We had mu fun sliding down the strawstack, wading the dit and playing with the neighbor children. We help hoe the garden, gather wild strawberries, and elde berries, also picked apples and cherries in seaso gathered eggs, fed chickens and learned to milk t cows. We thought it fun to learn to do what t country "kids" did.

Threshing Day was great fun. We watched t blower on the threshing machine pile up the straw tack, and the grain roll out into the wagons. C course we were in on the Big dinner which was a ways provided for the threshers. (Some days it w our job to keep flies away from the table by "swisl ing" shakers made from cut strips of paper flo sacks tacked to a stick, over it.)

Sometimes butchering day fell such that we coul be around. We watched the big black kettles boilir and lard being made. We saw the meat cut up, sa sage ground and stuffed and the meat carried dow cellar to be cured. This day was also known for th big dinner for all helpers.

Grandmother made her own bread. She churne her own butter (in early days in a barrel churn wit a long handled dasher pushed up and down b hand). She made marvelous Jelly and preserves fro fruits and berries. What a wonderful treat it was t have a thick slice of warm fresh bread with countr butter oozing over it and our favorite jam to top off, if we so desired!

Grandfather Aufderhar died in 1932. After a fe years Grandmother asked Dad to take over th farm. In the fall of 1936 we moved back — actuall Dad, mother and I moved back. Brother Clayton ha married and lived in Mansfield. Brother Merle wa working out of Columbus, married, and settle there. Sister Emaline was working in Lima, was mar ried the following year and lived near Elida. I ha been teaching for some years but had lived at home Now I came to live again in the home where I wa born.

Again, grandchildren came to visit their grandpar ents on the farm. Merle's children, Tim, Ben an Terry grew up in our home and graduated fro Mendon-Union High School.

Mother died in 1957 and Dad in 1965. It was the that I purchased the farm. It has been in the famil for 79 years. The Grandchildren still like to com "home". Great-grandchildren (who never knew their great grandparents) come too now — to see Aunt "E".

The accompanying photo shows the family in 1939.

The Haller family is of German Ancestry. Dad's father George Haller, Sr. came directly from Wurtenburg, Germany. Mother's ancestors were German also — the Grandfathers having come from the area around Bremen, Germany. They settled around Bre-

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en, Ind. Grandfather Aufderhar was also of German descent. Grandmother's ancestors were also erman. *submitted by Nettina Haller, Mendon, Oh.*

CHARLES HEATH

Charles Heath (1873-1935) was born near Avoca, ichigan, son of Daniel and Augusta Lohr Heath. is father was born and came from Vermont Eng- h stock.

As a teen he went to work in a lumber camp in orthern Michigan.

In the mid eighteen ninties he came to Mercer ounty to visit his Uncle Murney Heath who lived a farm about two miles northwest of Mendon on elly Road in Section 8. He worked on his farm un- his marriage to Jennie Susan Coil in 1898.

Jennie Coil (1874-1938) was born near Mercer, fth daughter and seventh child of Benjamin H. and ne Partner Coil.

Jennie of the age of eighteen wished to teach hool. In those days the High Schools were few and r between, so she as was the practice went to the unty seat Celina, and took a teacher's examina- on, was graduated a teachers certificate and taught vo winter and two summer terms.

One first grade youngster was Walter Dick, Sr. a ell known businessman of Mendon and Celina for ecades. He told the writer that she Jennie Coil was is teacher and "How I loved her."

She was a wonderful Bible student and also ught Sunday School Classes at Mercer Methodist hurch for decades which was ¾ mile west down ie same road. The family of ten were all members nd dedicated Christian workers of this and the for- ier Methodist Church buildings which were across ie road from each other in 1900.

Jennie played the pump organ for church.

Charles and Jennie were married in Mercer Meth- dist Church by the Rev. Morrison Muckridge Mar- with on July 31, 1898. He was also pastor when the ew and present edifice was dedicated in 1900 with reported attendance of nearly 1000 people that ay.

Charles and Jennie Heath's children were Morri- on, Orpha, Martha and Charles D. 'Pat.'

Dr. Morrison M. Heath (1900-1977) was a dentist Kalamazoo. He married Elanora Brickbauer. Two ons Earl and Harold. Earl is principal of Maplewood chool in Sylvania, whose wife Delores is a Hospital lurse instructor. Their 3 children are Paul, Mary, nd David.

Orpha was born 1900 married Paul Hosack, who as a teacher for 43 years, and Orpha taught 31 ears. Four of these years were in Mercer County. arning a degree in Home Economics from Western Michigan University of Kalamazoo 1929 she taught 7 more years. Their children are Dr. Robert Ho- ack, a dentist in Kalamazoo area, Robert taught two ears and his wife Sally (Hoagland) was a teacher lso. Their children are Pamela and Robert both of chool age. Jennie Ella Hosack Hord (Mrs. Tracy) ves in Louisville, Kentucky and has daughter Tina nd a son Chad.

Martha Heath born in 1903, married Arthur W. hull who is a retired police sergeant of Ft. Wayne, ndiana. Their two sons are Arthur W. Jr. and Dick. Arthur Junior retired recently as a Ft. Wayne Sergeant of Police in Photograph. He has a son Gary and daughter Kathy. Dick is also in Ft. Wayne Police Dept. with a son Johny and a daughter Ginny.

Charles Doyle born in 1905 and his wife Minnie Kerns spent about 50 years in Auto Machine and garage divided among Mercer, Rockford and Sunnyside. They are retired. Their daughter Mary Annis has been an accomplished Musician since her seventh grade at Rockford. She lives in Union Gap Washington near Yakima as Mrs. Tom Walters. Tom is a retired pharmacist. Their children are Christine married David Murphy who is employed at Hanaford-Batelle Laboratories of Richland. They have a daughter Holly, Mary Lee and Paul are students.

'Pat's' younger daughter Ally Jean Dyer (Mrs. Rex) live in Florida as Mobile Home Park Manager. *Orpha Hosack*

MURNEY HEATH

Murney Heath was the first of his line to come to Mercer County.

Murney (1846-1929) was born in Vermont, but lived on a farm near Avoca, Michigan until he was 15.

He ran away from home and joined the Union Army in 1861. He told them he was 18, but he was too short to carry and handle a gun, so he was added to the bugle corps. He played a fife, learning only a few tunes. He stayed with the Army till the Civil War was over.

Murney came to Union Township, Mercer County and farmed 80 acres for many years on Shelley Road about 2 miles N-W of Mendon. He married Jane Drake (1855-1913). Murney and Jane worked hard to build up their farm. Oil and gas were discovered on their farm, but only enough gas to light a torch which lasted many years.

Joseph Drake the father of Jane, lived on the next farm west of Murneys. Another Joe Drake also lived West of Mendon, one was known as Old Joe, the other as "deef Joe." They were distant cousins.

A few years after Jane's passing away, Murney married Amanda Protsman (1855-1942) who was the widow of David Protsman. (1848-1917)

Murney and Amanda retired and moved to Mendon. All are buried in Tomlinson Cemetery, Union Township near the Van Wert County Line.

Murney Heath was my father Charles Heath's Uncle.

O.F. Geiger, editor of the Mendon Herald wrote the following in 1929 about my great Uncle Murney Heath. Even the editor used the term "Uncle Murney." Quote.

The last Civil War Veteran in this community Uncle Murney Heath, departed this life, Sunday morning at 5 o'clock. He had been in his usual health till Thursday.

One feels a peculiar sadness at the departure of the last of the old defenders of the flag.

Like all true soldiers, he was modest in speaking of his record in the war, which might lead to a misconception of the service rendered.

The writer got very well acquainted with him, and often without him suspecting it, would lead him out to talk about the war. We found he had an unusual

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record (not more than a thousand of others). In the first place he went to war when he was only fifteen years of age. I will not attempt to give the number of battles in which he participated; they were many. Will just mention one kind of service he rendered, which we consider remarkable. When Sherman started to the sea, he, with others, were thrown out between the two armies to obtain food; in this dangerous position, separated from the protection of the Army, they went from day to day, and he escaped capture and wounds. Of course, he thought nothing of it, but it means a lot today to his friends.

In every relation in life, you found Uncle Murney Heath as true as steel (end of quote O.F.G.) *Orpha Heath Hosack*

ROBERT ANDREW KELNER

Robert Andrew Kelner is a descendant of Peter Frantz, who came from Versailles, France in the early 1800's with his wife Teresa Marshall. They settled in Darke County and bought land from the government for $1.25 an acre. He founded and named Versailles after his homeland, donated land for the first school and Catholic church, and built the first bank barn in this section. One of their nine children, Anna, married John Henry Kelner, Jr. John Henry Kelner, Sr. came to America from Germany under an assumed name. His real name was Mueller. Due to the reluctance of his friend, John Henry Kelner, to make the voyage to America, Mr. Mueller used Kelner's passport. After arriving in America, he continued to use the name John Henry Kelner in fear of being deported. John, Jr. and Anna had fifteen children, one of which was Nicholas. Nicholas Andrew Kelner came to Mercer County at the age of eight to work for board and room on Charlie Fox's farm. He met and married Pearl Kinkley in 1900 and lived in a log cabin on a parcel of the 960 acre Palmer homefarm. Nicholas farmed all his life and was active in community affairs. He was township trustee for many years. Pearl Kinkley's ancestor, Robert Palmer, came to America with the followers of William Penn. Robert Palmer's son, Richard, worked for the government on an Indian reservation and traveled from Pennsylvania to Miami County in 1809, where he purchased half a section of land. He married Hanna Webb. Hanna's father, John, was stolen from England to man ships to America. Later Richard and Hanna moved to Mercer County and purchased 400 acres, one parcel was where Fort Adams stood, now owned by Frankie Hays, a descendant. Their twin sons, Joseph and Thomas Palmer, later sold an eighty acre farm to finance and build the Palmer Cemetery located on the Palmer farm, west of Mendon.

Their daughter, Parmelia, met her future husband, John McKaig, as he stopped one day for water at their spring. When he saw Parmelia in the window, he instantly fell in love with her and when his journey was over he returned to marry her. John and Parmelia's daughter, Jenny, married Christopher Kinkley and had six children, one of which was Pearl. Nicholas and Pearl Kelner had two sons, John Christopher (1913-1932), accidentally killed, and Robert Andrew (1915-). Robert Kelner graduated from Mendon-Union High School. In 1934, he ma ried Evelyn Thomas and lived in Mendon for tv years. They then moved to the old Palmer hom stead where he has always farmed and continues reside. He is active at the Mendon First Church God. He was a carpenter and millwright for a nun ber of years, along with his farming. Robert ar Evelyn had two daughters Jacqueline (1935-) ar Connie (1941-). Both daughters graduated fro Mendon-Union High School and were members Mendon First Church of God. Both served as churc organists. In 1955, Jacqueline married Richa Schleucher, a farmer in Hopewell township. Jacqu line has worked for the past fifteen years at Citizen Commercial Bank in Celina. They both are very a tive church members. They have three childre Christine, Rick, and Cindy. Cindy married Jam Andrew and have one son, Jason. In 1965, Conn married Jesse Stocksdale, a grain and dairy farmer i Darke County. Connie is a teacher in Darke Count They both are very active church members. The have three daughters Anne-Marie, Julie Ann, an Jennifer. *Robert Kelner*

KELNER

Evelyn Thomas Kelner, is a great granddaughte of Carl Krueger. Krueger, a native of Baumgareter Germany, born in 1828 and married Frederick Mueller. They came to America and arrived in Cc lumbus, Ohio in 1853. Five children were born t the Kruegers, (John) Charles (1854-1906) was th only survivor. In 1868 they moved to a farm nea Neptune. In 1880 Carl died and Fredericka contin ued to live with Charles and his family on the 8 acre home place until she died in 1908. Charles mar ried Susan Custer, daughter of Jesse and Elizabet Cook Custer, relatives of General George Custe Charles and Susan, grandparents of the subject o this sketch had the following children: Minnie Edna, Frank, Harry, Lawrence, Rolland, Valentine and twins dying at birth.

George W. Thomas (1830-1905) and Elizabet Nottingham (1839-1922) had four children, Hugh Dell, Minnie and Jonas. Hugh Thomas (1860-1928 and Lilly Hussey (1860-1936), grandparents of Eve lyn, married in 1878, moved to Kansas and sufferec great hardships. They moved back and purchased 8 acres in Center Township. Hugh and Lillie had th following children: George, Maude, Frank, Harry Clyde, Carl and Paul. Paul J. Thomas (1892-1956 and Edna E. Kurger (1892-1967), parents of Evelyr were married in 1912.

Paul, father of Evelyn was a blacksmith in Celina He and Edna moved to Mendon in 1916. His firs blacksmith shop was located where Tom Clay's house stands at present. Later he moved across the street in the Town Hotel where the Sohio Station is now located. In later years he worked at the Lima Tank Depot.

Edna, mother of Evelyn was an active member of the First Church of God. She was president of the Ladies Aide and on the church council for twenty-five years. In later years they opened an antique shop in their home.

Paul and Edna had two daughters: Helen (1913) and Evelyn (1916). Helen married John Kelner in 1931. He was killed in a stone quarry accident in

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32. In 1934 Helen married Robert L. Nolan and d two children, Bette (1936) and Bobby E. (1939). tte married Carl Gibson and had two children, ul and Cliff. After Carl's death Bette married Fred eier and had one son, Curt. Bob E. Nolan married ida Carpenter and had two children, Mark and phanie. Robert L. Nolan was electrocuted during torm. Helen later married Thomas Henry Kellett. len was a Mendon graduate and telephone opera- for many years. She is a lifetime member of endon First Church of God.

Evelyn Thomas married Robert Andrew Kelner in 34. She was a Mendon graduate and a lifetime ember of the First Church of God. She served as urch primary superintendent for twenty-three ars and on the church council over thirty years. elyn helped organize the Mendon Band Boosters 1945 and served as president for seven years. For e past fifteen years and presently is serving as endon librarian. Since 1937 to the present time elyn has resided with her husband on the old lmer homestead in Union Township. Robert has en engaged in farming his entire lifetime.

Evelyn and Robert had two daughters, Jacqueline 935) and Connie Kay (1941). Jacqueline married chard Schleucher and resides on a farm in Hope- ell Township. They have three children: Christine, ck and Cindy. Cindy married James Andrew and ey have one son, Jason, a great grandson of Evelyn d Robert.

Connie married Jesse Stocksdale and resides on a rm in Darke County. They have three daughters: ne Marie, Julie Ann and Jennifer. *Robert Kelner*

KENNEDY FAMILY

The Kennedy family contributed to the settlement this area by farming between Spencerville and endon and doing carpentry work. Joseph Kennedy 306-1819) and his wife Mary J. Kennedy (1815- 86) were the first to begin the task of farming in is area. Joseph Kennedy was the father of Albert cClain Kennedy (1860-1933); Albert married Eliza- th McComb (1860-1947) on October 26, 1882. Al- rt and Elizabeth had six children: Daniel Franklin, aude Mildred, Naomi Jane, John Uhl, and Calvin rton.

John Uhl Kennedy (1888-1956) married Cora Gay- ld Murlin (1888-1964) on October 19, 1911. John d Cora had two sons, William Murlin and Joseph aire. John Uhl Kennedy served as president of the endon School Board and was a Union Township ustee.

The farm located N.E. of Mendon, section 36, has en in the Kennedy-Murlin family for six genera- ons. In March 24, 1855 Thomas Upton, Great randfather of Cora Murlin Kennedy purchased the rm. The following elaborates on the ownership of e farm: Walter and Lurinda Murlin, July 16, 1862; nomas and Elizabeth Murlin, June 16, 1913; John d Cora Kennedy, July 1923; Joseph C. and Gerald Kennedy and William Murlin and Elenore B. ennedy, 1954; Timothy Murlin Kennedy and Jo- ph C. Kennedy, 1964.

The present day Kennedys are contributing to the owth of society. Walter and Bruce Kennedy, son d grandson of Daniel Kennedy, operate a farm plement dealership which serves farmers from any counties. Wayne Kennedy, son of Joseph S. Kennedy, is continuing the tradition of farming. Joseph C. Kennedy, son of John U. Kennedy, is a retired airline pilot. Joseph C. Kennedy gave many people in Mercer County their first airplane ride. Timothy Murlin and Sandra Kennedy are teachers as well as farmers. *Tim Kennedy, Mendon, Oh. 45862*

Milton O. Krugh

KRUGH

The first member of the Krugh family to settle in Mercer County was Wm. H. Krugh, born to John and Mary (Miller) Krugh in Cumberland County Penn. on Oct. 10, 1840.

In 1861 he came to Van Wert County to help on the Wm. Heath farm, but in a year he enlisted and was assigned to Co. A., 99th Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry with whom he participated in many Civil War battles. When mustered out in 1865, he bought a farm in Van Wert County but in ten years he sold it and bought one in Mercer County, north and west of Mendon where he lived until he retired and moved into Mendon.

He had married Malissa J. Hays, daughter of Jackson and Eliza B. Hays of Van Wert. To them were born two daughters who died at ages three and five); and five sons, namely: Milton Orelzo (1868-1950); Orum H. (moved to LaGrange County in Indiana); Homer J. (1873-1960) a grocer in Mendon; Wm. E. (1877-1960) a farmer in Union Twp.; and Chancy R. (1881-1960) also a farmer in Union Twp.

Milton O. spent his adult life in the field of Education and public service. He obtained his education in the district schools and Mendon High School, the Normal School of Middlepoint, Ohio, and with study courses at home and summer courses at Oxford and Ohio Northern Colleges.

He began teaching in the District schools at age twenty-two. After five years he was asked to serve as Principal of Mendon and Union Township High School and later was retained as Superintendent. He served in this capacity until his appointment as Assistant Superintendent of Mercer County Schools. He became County Superintendent in 1923 and held this post until his retirement in 1932.

He had served as a member of the Town Council in Mendon, had served six years as Justice of the Peace of Union Township and at one time was Mayor of Mendon.

In 1893 he married Minnie Johnson, daughter of Wm. H. and Margaret (Perdy) Johnson of Van Wert. They had six daughters, and one son, namely: Mrs. Dan (Hazel) Mogg; Mrs. Fred (Lucile) Fisher; Wm. Lawrence (died in 1971); Mrs. James (Josephine) Goodwin; Rhea (who died at age 24); Mrs. Jessie Hill; and Mrs. Reed (Mildred) Fox.

Milton O. was also a skilled carpenter, and in summer months he helped to build houses in Mendon and vicinity. He built a home for his own family and when it became too small for the growing fam-

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ily he built another house nearby with more room and added to it as needed.

That house is now owned and occupied by one of his great-grandsons.

KRUGH — HAZEL

Hazel Ruth Krugh, oldest child of M. O. and Minnie Johnson Krugh was born in Mendon, Ohio, April 8, 1894. She attended Mendon school finishing the eleventh grade.

She married Harley Martin, son of L. L. and Willie Jane Perkins Martin in 1913.

In 1920 they moved to the oil fields of Oklahoma, where Harley was a driller and tool dresser, living in Signet and Yale, Oklahoma.

Eventually they returned to Ohio and resumed farming.

The family attended Neptune Baptist Church where Hazel was pianist. She played for a gospel quartette consisting of Harley Martin, Jess Piper, Roy Piper and Ivan Davis. They sang for churches, institutes, etc.

In 1933 Hazel and Harley moved to Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, where Harley worked in the oil fields.

They were divorced in 1938.

Hazel married Daniel Mogg, a farmer, Isabella County, Michigan in early 1940's, living on a farm until 1974 when they moved to Rosebush, Michigan. Mr. Mogg died in 1976. Hazel returned to Ohio. Her health continued to fail and she became a resident of Shane Hill Nursing Home, where she is well and happy today.

Hazel loved to cook and was never happier than when she was preparing a company meal. She also loved piecing quilts.

Hazel and Harley Martin had five daughters. Vera was born on the Ben Gast farm. She graduated from Neptune High School in 1932. She married Ward Piper, son of A. A. and Elma Piper and has four children, JoAnne Piper Youngblutt, Payne, Ohio; Karen Piper Guingrich, Portland, Indiana; Wilson Piper, Neptune, and Phillip Piper, Celina, Ohio. They have ten grandchildren, one great-grandchild. Vera is a retiree of Mersman Brothers, Celina, Ohio.

Ada Martin was born in the L. L. Martin home Center Township. She graduated from Neptune High School in 1933. She married Lowell (Bud) Piper. They have two sons, Delbert Piper, Mendon, Ohio, and Kurt Piper, Neptune. There are ten grandchildren. Delbert lives in the home built by M. O. Krugh. Ada is a retiree of Huffman Mfg.

Mary June Martin was born at the L. L. Martin home. She graduated from Mt. Pleasant, Michigan High School. She married Robert Krogman, son of Roy Krogman. She has six children. Tom Krogman, Leipsic, Ohio; Barbara Ernst, Bellevue, Washington; Rebecca Feldman, Leipsic; Timothy Krogman, Belmore; Tony Krogman with the Army in Germany. June is employed at Campbell Soup Co. in Napoleon, Ohio. She has six grandchildren.

Fetta Grace Martin was born in Yale, Oklahoma. She graduated from Mt. Pleasant, Michigan High School and married Joseph Voisin of Mt. Pleasant. They had five children. Joseph, New Knoxville; Bonnie Keifer, Lima; James Voisin, Celina; Cindy Miars, Celina, and Mary Helen Settlege, St. Marys. Joseph Voisin, Sr. died in 1961. Grace married David Hainline in 1965. They reside in St. Marys where Grac employed by Dr. T. Zong-Lin Huang as receptior and bookkeeper. Grace has nine grand children.

Betty Martin Fisher was born in Yale, Oklahor At a very young age she was adopted by Fred a Lucile Fisher, her aunt. Her history appears with t history of Lucile Krugh Fisher.

KRUGH — LUCILE

The second child born to Milton O. and Mini Krugh was Lucile, born November 15, 1897 in Me don, Mercer County, Ohio. She graduated fr Mendon and Union Township High School in 19 She began teaching in the Fall of 1916 after she ceived a teaching certificate by passing the Mer County Teachers' examination.

She taught at Bethel District School for two yea and then was hired as teacher of the first and seco grades in the Mendon School.

She attended summer school at Bowling Gre and at Ohio Northern Normal School and later to extension courses in Lima and Van Wert and Celin

She married Fred Guy Fisher, son of Ethan a Pearl (Bricker) Fisher on September 19, 1919 wh he returned from two years overseas with the Rai bow Division and Officers' Training School World War I. He worked as a barber and then as partner with Walter Dick in the Furniture and U dertaking business. Lucile taught until 1924. In th year they adopted a little girl, Betty Nadine Marti born to Hazel and Harley Martin in Yal Oklahoma.

On July 20, 1927 a baby girl was born to Luci and Fred and named Mary Helen.

In 1928 the family moved to Celina where Fre was working as Cashier at the Citizens Bank. The joined St. Pauls Methodist Church.

After the girls married, Lucile served six yea from 1947 to 1953, as President of United Methodi Women of Defiance District before Mercer Count Methodist Churches were assigned to Lima Distric She had served as President of Celina History Clul and was a Past Matron and 50 year member of Ce ina Chapter #91 O.E.S. She is a member of th American Legion Auxiliary and of the Retire Teachers of Mercer County.

In the Spring of 1953 she was asked to finish th school term as teacher of First Grade at Neptun School. She continued teaching there for severa years, one year at Montezuma School and severa years as First Grade teacher at Celina West Elemen tary before she retired in 1962. Fred, her husbanc died in 1964 at their home north of Mendon.

Betty Fisher graduated from Celina High Schoc in 1940 and worked at the Public Library until he marriage in 1942 to Keith Hoffman, son of Wm. an Jessie (Piper) Hoffman. They had six children namely: Mrs. Ronald (Kathleen K.) Seibel of Toledo Noel Keith of Celina; Mrs. Al (Vicki Jean) Summer of St. Henry; Wm. Frederick of Celina; Mrs. Grove (Patricia Lynn) Nuding of Celina, and Kelly Aller now living with his mother in Florida.

The father and husband, Keith, died January 3 1977. Betty recently married Al Lechifflard of Verc Beach, Florida.

Mary Helen Fisher graduated from Celina Schools and DePauw University and began teaching, later earning her Masters Degree from Ball State, Indiana.

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ıe was married to James E. Brown, son of J.F. and ara (Thorp) Brown of St. Louis in 1949.
They had three children, a son and two daughters, mely: John Michael Brown of Muncie, Indiana; rs. Jeff (Susan Carol) Turner of Auburn, Indiana; ıd Peggy Ann of Chicago.
Mary Helen and Jim are now living in Chelsea, ichigan. *Lucile K. Fisher*

KRUGH — LAWRENCE

William Lawrence Krugh, 3rd child of Milton O. ıd Minnie Krugh, was born on December 10, 1899. e attended Mendon Union High School and in '17 enlisted in the Army, took basic training in ontgomery, Alabama. He served in Belgium, ance and Germany. He was in the battle of the Ar- ınne Forest. Upon his discharge, he worked in the l fields in Ohio, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Michi- ın where he met and married Nellie Louise Merri- eld in 1933. They had 13 children: William Milton, ıyllis, Peggy Lou, Glenn Ellen, Mildred Louise, nda Sue, James Henry, and Debra Kay. Five chil- en died in infancy. Phyllis graduated from the niversity of Washington and is a grade school acher. James Henry served in the United State Ma- ne Corps in Viet Nam being wounded twice and ceiving the Purple Heart.
They have 25 grandchildren and 9 great- andchildren.
Lawrence died in 1971.

KRUGH — JOSEPHINE

Josephine, the fourth child of M. O. and Minnie ohnson Krugh was born April 11, 1901 in the first ouse M. O. built in Mendon. When she was one ear old he had built another one across the alley nd they moved there where she lived until she was ıarried.
She went thru the twelve years of school graduat- ıg in 1919. During her high school years she orked in her Uncle Homer Krugh's grocery. After igh school she worked at the telephone exchange or 10¢ an hour. She also worked at the Post Office.
She married James M. Goodwin, son of Newton nd Emma Thatcher Goodwin in 1923, and they ent to Lima to live. There she worked in Deisel's epartment Store, on the square, for six years.
They had one child, Jean, born in 1929. They lived ı Lima until 1939 when the Depression really got epressing and they moved back to Mendon where he worked in the Post Office for 18 years.
She is a member of the Eastern Stars and attends ıe Church of God. James passed away in 1966.
Jean was married in 1948 to Meredith Piper, son f Archie and Elma Piper. She works at the Citizens ommercial Bank and Trust Company in Celina. hey have raised four children: Christina, a school eacher, Pamela a Registered Nurse, married to avid Grow; Timothy, a Civil Engineer, married to orinne Peters, and Jeffrey, who at present is Bakery anager of Pantry Pride Grocery in Wapakoneta. *Jo- ephine Goodwin*

KRUGH — JESSIE

Jessie Krugh, the sixth child of M. O. Krugh and Minnie F. Johnson Krugh, was born September 17, 908 in Mendon, Mercer County, Ohio, in the house ıer father built. She attended Mendon and Celina Schools, graduating from Celina Senior High School.
During her life-time she worked for Production Credit and later for Mercer County Welfare for over twenty-five years.
She is a member of St. Pauls United Methodist Church, the American Legion Auxiliary and the Senior Citizens, Celina.
In 1927 she married Ronald G. Brewer, son of Oscar and Clara (Whitney) Brewer. They were divorced in 1939. Two children were born to them. Gloria Irene Brewer, born in 1928, in Mercer County, graduated from Celina High School. Prior to her marriage, she worked at Barr and Co. and later as dental assistant to Dr. L. A. Wiley. She married Meredith Vantilburg and went to Chicago to live. They had five children, namely: Michael, James, Thomas, John and Katherine. She also has one grand child, John Jr. II. Gloria works for the Chicago Board of Education.
Ronald G. Brewer, Jr. born in 1931 in Mercer County, graduated from Celina High and Oxford Miami University with a degree in Business Administration. During his school years he worked for Wycuff and Ross Drug Store and later enlisted in the U. S. Army. He was a commissioned officer during 1949 to 1953 and discharged as a First Lieutenant. He married Virginia Linn, Celina, and they had three children: Cyndi, Scott and Elizabeth. After college he worked for Celina Mutual Insurance Company for a short time and later moved to Lynnfield, Mass. where he became President of American Mutual Insurance located in Wakefield, Mass.
In 1942 Jessie married Harold Hill, son of Harry and Alice Hill. They divorced in 1952. They had one child, Marilyn K. Hill born in 1944 in Mercer County, Ohio.
She attended Celina Schools and later married David Shinn. They have two children: Michael David and Theresa. Marilyn works for Ohio Upholstery in Ohio City and resides in Celina.
During the flood of 1913 Jessie was sent to stay with her oldest sister, Hazel, because of the expected birth of her younger sister, Mildred. She became so homesick that even conversing with her parents on the telephone did not console her. Because of her crying, her father came for her riding horseback and going through fields and over fences because of the high waters. *Jessie (Krugh) Hill*

KRUGH — MILDRED FAY

Mildred Fay Fox, the youngest daughter of M. O. Krugh, was born in 1913 at Mendon, Ohio. She graduated from the Mendon-Union High School and clerked at the Remaklus and Beckman Department Store in Celina. After attending the St. Marys Business School she became secretary to the County Superintendent of Schools, D. B. Spangler.
In 1936 she married Reed Frysinger Fox, son of Edward and Hazel Frysinger Fox, of Mendon, Ohio. In 1944 they located in Bryan, Ohio, where Reed and his brother, Steve, established the Fox Brother Mfg. Co. Reed and Mildred had two sons, Duane Edward and Richard K. Duane was born in Hazelton, Indiana in 1937 and is now Vice President of Manufacturing for the Spangler Candy Co. in Bryan, Ohio. Richard K. was born in 1939 at Celina, Ohio, and is now Vice President of Finance and Treasurer for the Kent-Moore Corporation of Detroit, Michigan.

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THE LEASOR FAMILY

Henry Leasor, the earliest generation of that family name to come to Mercer County, was born in Scotland in 1760, the son of William Leasor, and came to America in 1774 with his parents, the family settling near Richmond, Va. Both William and Henry served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War and each received a grant of land from the Commonwealth of Virginia in recognition of their services. William died in Virginia but Henry sold his farm and moved to Kentucky, settling near Nolin, in Hardin County in the early 1800's. He had nine children, five boys and four girls.

Two of his daughters married in Kentucky and moved to Mercer County following their marriages. Mary Elizabeth, born 1807, married Abram D. Murlin, and Lydia, born 1809, married Henry J. Patterson. An early history of Mercer County lists Abram Murlin as arriving in the county in November, 1828, and settling in Union Twp. While on a visit to his daughters homes in 1832, Henry Leasor was killed by a falling tree and was buried on the Murlin farm.

Henry William Leasor, Henry's youngest son, was born in Kentucky Oct. 31, 1819, moved west when a young man, where he obtained employment as a carpenter on a Mississippi River steamboat. The principal duty of the carpenter on board ship was to keep the 'buckets', the large planks on the stern paddle wheel, in repair. These buckets were subject to damage and breakage by the paddle wheel striking debris floating in the river.

He was married to Mary Ann Stewart Jan. 21, 1845 and settled in Richland Co., Illinois, where he continued in the carpentry profession. Four children were born to this family, John Henry, May 21, 1847; James, Sept. 16, 1849; Sarah Jane, Jan. 4, 1852 and Angeline, April 13, 1854. During this period Henry enlisted in and served with the American Army under Gen. Zachary Taylor in Mexico during the Mexican War.

Mary Ann Leasor died August 26, 1854 and baby Angeline died soon afterward. Henry brought his three surviving children to Mercer County to the homes of his sisters. He then purchased a farm northeast of Mendon in Sec. 11 of Union Twp. He married Elizabeth Parrott Sept. 7, 1856 and seven children were born to this marriage. None of this second family remain in Mercer County. Elizabeth Leasor died July 1, 1891 and Henry died June 25, 1892.

John Leasor made his home with the Abram Murlin family until he began 'working out' in 1861 and related many stories of this period to his own grandson, the author of this article, including remembering the grave of his grandfather, which, he said, was marked by a board marker during the period he lived there. The grave site is unknown at this time.

Sarah Leasor married John Oliver Protsman Sept. 7, 1873. Their children were William, Alice (Mrs. Alexander Drake), Elden, Ida (Mrs. Arthur Elsea), and Charles.

John Leasor married Mary Clark, daughter of William and Mary (Wentz) Clark, Jan. 1, 1868. She was born Jan. 16, 1850. He built a home just east of Mendon on the Deep Cut Road and was employed for many years on the section crew of the C.H.&D. Railroad. To this family were born six children, Jam Agnes (Mrs. Richard Deniston), Mary (Mrs. Je Burnett), William, Celia (Mrs. Samuel Garee) a John Wilbur, who became better known by his m dle name. Wilbur was born March 1, 1882. M Mary Leasor died May 25, 1909 and John died C 23, 1936.

James was thrown from a horse and killed at t age of 19, William died at the age of two.

Wilbur married Leona Macklin June 16, 1909. S was born May 21, 1884 in Hardin County, t daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Macklin. To t family were born Vernon, May 6, 1910; Velma (M Stanley Purdy), June 22, 1912; Carl, June 18, 19 and Edna, June 3, 1916. Velma was born near Ke bridge, Lunenberg Co., Va., where the family liv for two years.

Wilbur first engaged in farming, then purchase general store in Monticello in 1919 and ran a huc ster route in connection with the store, first wagon and horses, then by truck, serving, amo other areas, much of the east half of Union Tow ship. In 1932 he became manager of the Mend Service Grain Co., a grain elevator in Mendon, a was well known throughout the area it served. W bur died June 28, 1963 and his wife, Leona, di March 15, 1965.

Vernon and Velma left the Mercer County ar upon graduation from high school but Carl, wl married Mary Bienz May 9, 1937, has been a Merc County resident most of his life, engaging in farn ing in Union, Blackcreek and Dublin Townships, present lives in Coldwater, where he is employed New Idea and Mary is a nurses aide at the Merc County Home. They have one son, Paul James, bo Oct. 23, 1943, who is a mechanical design enginee He married Lola Sheets and they reside in St. Mar with their children, John, Donald and Heather, bo July 1, 1969, Dec. 1, 1970, and Sept. 15, 1975 respe tively.

Edna married Harley Seibert June 1, 1935 an they reside in Mendon. Harley has served on th town council for eight years, also was Mayor Mendon for eight years, while Edna is tax admini trator of Celina at the present time. Their childre are Larry, born Feb. 23, 1938 and Candace (Mr Tom Krick), born July 9, 1951. Larry lives in Men don with his wife, the former Carol Maas. Thei children are: Larry Dale, Sherry, Terry, Denise an Darrel. Candace lives in Celina where she is teacher in the Celina school system. *Carl Leasor*

Family of John F. Maurer, Heidi, Elaine, John, Heather, Greg.

FRED W. MAURER

Fred W. Maurer, J.B.'s second son, was born January 15, 1887, in Mendon. He spent his childhood ir the family home on S. Main Street, attended Mendon grade school, and was graduated from Mendor

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gh School, class of 1906. Most of his spare time ıs spent working in the hardware, but he and his ːnage friends often found time for a few pranks. ortly after the commemorative Spanish-American ar cannon was placed in the town park, Fred and ; friends, using waste and gunpowder "borrowed" ɔm the hardware, filled the cannon, aimed it to-ırd an imaginary enemy quartered in the Town ıll across the street, and fired. No one was injured, ːt a few bricks from the hall were broken. The ʌn fathers had the cannon filled with cement.

On June 23, 1910, Fred married Zua Ella Murlin of endon. She had been graduated from Mendon, ass of 1907. Following the birth of Vivian Murlin aurer and Amy Jeanette Maurer, Fred and Zua ilt a two-story house on S. Wayne Street, Men-n. Later two more children were born, Betty Fran-s Maurer and John Fredrick Maurer. Today the aurer home is occupied by son John Maurer and mily.

The family followed a conventional pattern: Fa-er worked six days a week; Mother made her own d the children's clothes, canned, and baked. Sun-y mornings the family attended church; Sunday ternoons, borrowed the Grandfather's car to go for ride; and Sunday evening spent a very joyous oc-sion with the grandparents and aunts.

Fred and Zua planned for their children's future. llowing graduation from Mendon High School, vian attended Miami University, taught school, arried Dana Schnarre of St. Marys. Amy attended ma Business College and married Tom Downey, ma. Betty was graduated from Miami Jacobs Busi-ːss College and married Dean Mann, Illinois. John rved two years in the Army, graduated from Bowl-g Green State University in 1949, and married aine Pumphrey, Celina.

In addition to managing the business, Fred was tive in public offices: for 20 years he served as ɛrk for both the school board and the Union ɔwnship Trustees. He was on the Board of Public ffairs for 15 years, and served a three-year term on e Town Council. Before his death in December, 64, he was presented a 50-year pin from the Men-ɔn F & AM Lodge.

Zua was active in the Methodist Church, Order of ıstern Stars, and Daughters of the American Revo-tion. She preceded her husband in death, Decem-ɛr, 1957.

John F. Maurer and his son John Gregory Maurer ɛ the only heirs to the J. B. Maurer name. John F. ıs been either associated or owner of the family ısiness for twenty-nine years. In addition he has ɛen clerk for both the Mendon Corporation and ıe Mendon-Union School Board; other public of-ces included member of the Mendon-Union chool Board, and presently a member of the Mer-ɛr County School Board and the Vantage School oard, Van Wert, Ohio. He is an active member of lendon's F & AM Masonic Lodge, Lions Club, and lendon Improvement Association.

He and his wife, Elaine, a teacher in the Mendon chools, have continued the family's interest in edu-ation. J. Gregory Maurer, a graduate of Adrian Col-ɛge, Michigan, is a teacher and coach at New Port ichey, Florida; daughter Heather Jo Maurer Pero, a raduate of Albion College, Michigan, is a teacher in ladison Heights, Mi., and youngest daughter, Heidi Elaine Maurer, is a senior at Mendon-Union School.

Elaine Maurer

Children of John B. and Callie Maurer — Monroe Maurer, Fred W. Maurer, Anna Maurer Protsman, Margaret Maurer Pierce, Lucy Maurer Lutz, Clara Maurer Howick, Henry Maurer, Frances Maurer Tilton, Eleanor Maurer.

JOHN B. MAURER

The family tree of John B. Maurer, founder of Maurer's Hardware, Mendon, Ohio, dated to the 1600's in Grotzingen, Germany. There the occupations of Michel, Matthaeus, and Christian Maurer were listed as farmers and hospital workers. First to break tradition was Jacob Maurer, born 1789 in Grotzingen; his occupation was listed as "sailor." Jacob married Susanna Maaser of Wittenberg, Germany, and remained there until son Jacob was born in 1824. Shortly afterwards the family left Germany, arrived in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and settled in Bolivar, Ohio.

Son Jacob helped his father farm, married Margaret Baad, and through the years 1855 to 1881, saw thirteen children born. John Maurer, second son, was born December 27, 1857, in Bolivar. He received his education in the Bolivar schools and then attended a boarding school at Smithville, near Wooster, Ohio, where he earned the equivalent of a high school education.

But John Maurer did not stay in eastern Ohio. His Uncle Christian Maurer, a farmer and landowner in Mercer County, Mendon, Ohio, wrote him "glowing accounts of the good, flat farmland in western Ohio, which was very good for growing corn, raising hogs and cattle." Mendon was soon to become the permanent home for John Maurer.

In the late fall of 1881, John Maurer returned to Bolivar to marry Callie Haglock. They were married on December 27, his birthday, and would live to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1931. Following the marriage, John and Callie returned to Mendon and rented a farm on Main Street, south of Mendon. However, the continual failure of crops forced him to find another means of livelihood. Borrowing money from his father, John started a hardware business on the west side of Main Street in Mendon.

To distinguish between John and his cousin John W. Maurer, people called business man Maurer, Hardware John or Johnnie. Therefore John adopted the initial "B", his mother's maiden name was Baad, and became known ever after as J.B. Maurer. Descendants of these two men inheriting the name of "John" have likewise inherited the same identity problems.

When J.B.'s sons, Monroe and Fred, were old enough to help in the hardware business, J. B. found time to write insurance, serve as Notary Public, and make wills and deeds. Through his efforts and that of others, Mendon established a high school, first a

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three-year school and later changed to a four-year high school. Education held a high priority in J.B.'s life; five of his daughters attended college and taught school. Also J.B. served on the school board and a term as its president. He was active in forming a Lyceum Association in Mendon, an association which contracted good talent to perform at the Mendon Town Hall. Such performances included New York Opera Companies, orchestras, magicians, and lecturers. Often performers had dinner and stayed overnight at the Maurer household. The charming and suave Buffalo Bill was one visitor the Maurer children especially enjoyed and remembered.

J. B. and his wife were members of the Mendon Methodist Church; J. B. taught a men's Bible class for thirty-five years. He also served as church treasurer.

J. B. and Callie were parents of nine children: Anna Maurer Protsman, Monroe Maurer, Fred W. Maurer, Margaret Maurer Pierce, Clara Maurer Howick, Lucy Maurer Lutz, Henry Maurer, Frances Maurer Tilton, and Eleanor Maurer. *Elaine Maurer*

Miller Family — **Back Row:** Druella, Marilyn, Twila, Darrah. **Front Row:** Jack, Dorothy, Grace, Irene, Emmett.

"MOM"

Today, May 24, 1978, Grace Miller, 202 North Green St., Mendon, is 87 years old. Each year she looks forward to Memorial weekend when many relatives and friends go to her house for a basket dinner and visiting.

She was born to John and Caroline (Stallbaum) Schwarck in Butler Township. On November 1, 1911, she was united in marriage with Berlin B. Miller, Montezuma, son of John O. and Nettie (Stafford) Miller. He retired from Lima Locomotive Works in 1955 and died April 5, 1961.

Grace and Berlin had 8 children: Mrs. Vane (Irene) Mills, Ellwell, Michigan; Mrs. Joe (Dorothy) Boyer, Mendon; Twila Miller, Mendon; Berlin O. (Jack) Mendon; Mrs. Ralph (Darrah) High, Mendon; Mrs. Harold (Marilyn) Meihls, Alma, Michigan; Emmett, Seymour, Indiana; and Mrs. Norbert (Druella) Sutter, Celina. There are 23 grandchildren, 5 step grandchildren, 38 great grandchildren, 6 step great grandchildren, and 24 in-laws, a family of 104. There has been only one death — a prematurely born great grand daughter.

Many people have lived in the Miller home from time to time, including Grace's parents, and her brother-in-law, Vane Miller, who resided there for 9 years until his death January 30, 1973. Young people who needed a place to spend the night after a game or play practice were always welcome. Over the years friends and relatives have enjoyed food from her garden, and from her kitchen, especially Home Made Bread. She helped prepare food for the Mendon Band Stand at the Fair for over 30 years.

Grace is "MOM" to many. Truly, her happiness in life has been, and will forever be, doing for others. *Dorothy Boyer*

THE MURLIN FAMILY

The Murlin family has contributed to the setl ment of this area by farming, well drilling, a teaching. Grant George Murlin (Dec. 27, 1782 Dec. 18, 1864) married Sally Coburn. Walter Murlin (Jan. 30, 1820 — Sept. 18, 1893) was the s of Grant George. Walter Murlin married Laurir Upton (Dec. 25, 1819 — April 22, 1913) in Decem 29, 1842. It was through this marriage that the fa presently located N.E. of Mendon, section 36, ca to be a part of the Murlin-Kennedy ownership six generations. Thomas William Murlin (July 1860 — Feb. 20, 1927) married Elizabeth E. Kel (Aug. 15, 1861-Jan. 8, 1934). Thomas and Elizab had four children: Cora G. (Nov. 29, 1887-June 1964), Joseph R. (Nov. 5, 1896-1954), Mary M. (Ap 7, 1903-Dec. 26, 1972) and Evaline (Jan. 4, 1908).

Cora G. Murlin married John Uhl Kennedy Oc ber 19, 1911. In March 24, 1855 Thomas Upt Great Grandfather of Cora Murlin Kennedy pu chased the farm located N.E. of Mendon, section The following elaborates on the ownership of t farm: Walter and Laurinda Murlin, July 16, 18 Thomas and Elizabeth Murlin, June 16, 1913; Jo and Cora Kennedy, July, 1923; Joseph C. and Gera L. Kennedy and William Murlin and Elenore Kennedy, 1954; Timothy Murlin Kennedy and J seph C. Kennedy, 1964.

Evaline Murlin taught in the one room schc house at the Barber School and the Bethel Scho Her sister Mary also taught in a one room schc house. Evaline Murlin married Joseph Wolfe a moved to Bellefontaine, Ohio. She has just recent retired from teaching (1976) in the Bellefontai School System. Joseph R. Murlin was a well-drill in this area and then moved to Michigan to establi a peach orchard.

Most of the Murlins from this area are buried Bethel Cemetery near Mendon, Ohio. The followi are buried there: Walter W. and Laurinda Upt Murlin; Thomas W. and Elizabeth Kelley Murli Joseph R. and Leah M. Barber Murlin; Cora G. Mu lin and John Uhl Kennedy.

The Murlin family history has been researched b Charles H. Murlin. Through his research he four Rev. John Murlin born Aug. 1722 assisted John We ley to organize the Methodist Church of Englan One of the early descendants, Richard Murlin, was farmer of St. Stephens Parish, Cornwall, England; h died 1735. Joshua Murlin born in Cumberlar County, Pa. enlisted from Cumberland serving u der Captain William Swaney in 1777. William Mu lin was a Revolutionary soldier who served Oct. Dec. 5, 1778 under Capt. Thomas Gaskins, con manded by Col. John Kelley. Thomas Murlin (Fe 23, 1765-Sept. 14, 1837) was a Revolutionary soldie

Timothy Murlin Kennedy, his wife Sandra an daughter Brook Erin now live on the farm that hol many family memories. *Tim Kennedy*

PALMER CEMETERY

This is the history of the Palmer Cemetery locate on the Palmer Road, section 19, in Union Twp. Th cemetery was located on the Richard Palmer farm The earliest burial was around 1840.

In 1804 Richard Palmer, a Quaker from Baltimor Md., was sent to the Army Post Fort Wayne in Indi ana to serve as a blacksmith and teach the Indian his trade. In 1809 he settled in Miami County, wher

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married Hannah Webb and raised six children: rmelia, John, Huldah, Benjamin, Joseph, and omas. In 1832 Richard and his family moved to ercer County and settled 920 acres of land, where e cemetery is located.

In 1884 Richard's sons Joseph and Thomas en-sed the cemetery with a stone fence and erected a ge stone monument in the center of the area. At e road entrance they had erected a stone archway nked by two stone lions. Richard, his wife, and ildren are buried there along with other descen-nts. *Winifred Maurer*

PRICE

John Andrew Price became a Union Township, ercer County resident in 1958 when he moved th his wife, the former Evelyn Louise Fike, and eir son, John Stanley Price, to the farm they pur-ased in 1955 and where they now reside. Previous sidence was Elgin, Ohio.

John A. Price was born in Van Wert County on ptember 27, 1918 to Joseph Wesley and Goldie ary (Harp) Price. He graduated from Ohio City-berty High School and is a foreign war veteran of e United States Marine Corps. His period of enlist-ent was from January 1942 to Christmas Day 1945. e served with H Company, 9th Marines, 2nd Ma-ne Division. Also, he served with C Company, 1st ttalion, 22nd Marine Division, 3rd Marine Brigade the South Pacific. He is now employed by the De-rtment of Defense at an United States Army in-allation, as an armed security guard. John and Eve-n were married in 1945 in Ohio City, Ohio. John tanley was born on November 7, 1956.

Joseph Wesley Price (1884-1973) was the son of hn Washington and Catharine (Bodkin) Price. His aternal grandparents were George Washington and ydia (Ross) Price. Maternal grandparents were Ben-min and Sarah (Cochran) Bodkin. Mrs. George Vashington Price (Lydia Ross) remembered the In-ians from the Shawnee Reservation at Hog Creek, ima walking by her home (the first farm east of the omlinson Cemetary) on their way to Kansas in 848. Paternal great grandparents of John also in-lude Samuel and Anna Price, John and Mary (Tom-nson) Ross, Thomas Bodkin, and William Cochran.

Goldie Mary (Harp) Price (1887-1973) was the aughter of Andrew Jackson and Loretta (North) Harp. Her paternal grandparents were Jonas and Mary (Putman) Harp and her maternal grandparents vere Daniel Stuckey and Loretta (Meeker) North. 'aternal great grandparents were Peter Harp and Andrew Putnam. The Harp/Harb family settled on and they purchased at the Godfrey Reserve in 1831.

Evelyn Louise (Fike) Price was born in Lawrence County, Pennsylvania on March 17, 1923 to Charles nd Anna Elizabeth (Janas) Fike. Paternal grandpar-nts were Elihu and Mary Jane (Barrett) Fike. Evelyn s a graduate of Moon Township High School, Co-aopolis, Pennsylvia. She is head of Administrative ervices. Her parents are residing in Los Angeles County, California.

The Union Township farm in Sections 2 and 11 is perated by John Stanley Price who raises grain rops and livestock. The John Price's are the second wners of the farm. The first owners, The Samuel Nichols family, purchased the farm from the United States Government in the 1840's. The home which has been extensively remodeled by the Price family, was built in the 1870's. *John A. Price*

MARVIN E. RICE AND HELEN (RICE) TAYLOR

Jacob Roller, born in Wurttemburg, Germany in 1724 of Huguenot parents, not finding sufficient outlet for his adventurous spirits in his native country or not caring for the restriction of a soldier, with his young wife, Mary sailed for America, the land of adventure and freedom. They landed in Philadelphia Aug. 28, 1750. They took the usual Oath of Allegiance to the king of England. Afterwards, moving to what is now York Co, Pa. Here they raised a family of seven sons and two daughters. Evidently the hunting and fishing were being washed up in their community and as he possessed an "itching toe" and his feet were full of the "wander lust" he could no longer resist the call of adventure, beckoning from the land of the "setting sun" beyond the mountains. So, about 1775 they came to Bedford Co., and took out a patent for a tract of land. 370 acres of virgin forest where he and his sons cleared a farm and built a log cabin. Later the cabin was enlarged and surrounded with a strong stockade and known as Ft. Roller. There were many onsets of Indians and many alarms were reported, among the sixty or seventy families now living in log cabins, and neighbors gathered here for protection. In 1781 Jacobs' son, Jacob Jr. and a friend returned home from the Fort to look after their crops and were ambushed, murdered, and scalped, their bodies left laying in a cornfield.

Within the period of 1803 — 1814 five of the Roller brothers, John, Michael, Baltzer, Henry, and Caleb migrated west to Ohio, settling in the newly formed County of Columbiana near Washingtonville, Ohio. Only one other family lived in the area. John had a son, Jacob Jr. who married Michaels' daughter, Susan March 30, 1809 and their son, John R. Roller married Susanna Fox. This union are the direct ancesters of the Mercer County Rices.

John R. and Susanna lived on a farm in Goshen Twp. Mahoning Co in 1850. In 1865, with their eight children, Martha, Albert, Allen F., Urban C., Joseph Martin, Mary Jane, John M. and George Wilson, moved to Van Wert, Co, Ohio, nearly 200 miles in a covered wagon. The trip took nine days. Their ninth child was born soon after and died at the age of four. Susanna and John R. are buried in the Wright Cemetery near Elgin, Ohio. John lived only eleven months after, leaving Susanna with eight minor children. She survived her husband by 40 years and died at the age of 85. Her daughter, Martha married Silas Rice and to this union were born William H. Rice, Otley O. Rice, Hulda J. (Rice) Protsman. A son, Shirley died in infancy. Martha, died in 1877 leaving the 9 year-old son, William, 3 year old Huldah, and our father, Otley, 2. Susanna raised the grandchildren, William and Otley, Mary Jane (Roller) Wentz raised Huldah.

Otley O. Rice married Harriet R. Goodwin Dec.

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25, 1903 and became the parents of Marvin E., Martha Caroline (Rice) Harden, Helen E. (Rice) Taylor, Dolores E. (Rice) Jerome, Willis L. died in 1934 at age of 19. Marvin and Helen live on adjoining farms west of Mendon, Ohio. Marvin retired from Erie Railroad in 1970. *Helen E. Taylor*

RUSSELL W. SNIDER, JR.

Russell W. Snider, Jr., son of Russell W. and Louise Helser Snider, was born on August 11, 1922 in Perry County, Ohio. On July 4, 1943 he married Elsie Marie Young, daughter of Roy and Grace Kroft Young of Fultonham (Muskingum County), Ohio.

On November 4, 1946 Russell and Elsie moved to Mercer County from Somerset (Perry County), Ohio. They eventually built their own home in Lakewood Addition on State Route 703. In 1961 they took over ownership of the Mayfair Motel at Mercer, Ohio. In 1968 Russell started a television repair and sales business at the same address. Russell is also a 31-year employee of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, St. Marys, Ohio. During World War II he served overseas in China, Burma, and India.

Russell and Elsie have four children: Dale, Ronald, Peggy (Mrs. Joseph Severt), and Kathleen. They have one grandson, Neil Severt.

The Sniders are members of St. Johns Lutheran Church, Celina, Ohio. They now live at 10846 Celina-Mendon Road, Mendon, Ohio. *Elsie Snider*

Daughters of James and Jeanne Sprague — Nancy Kay, 7½ years; Toni Jo 5½ months.

JAMES M. SPRAGUE

I (Jeanne Ellen — Van Gundy — Sprague) have been a resident of Mercer County all my life, though I was born in the Van Wert Hospital on June 25, 1945 to Kenneth Eldred and Margaret Evelyn — Fisher — Van Gundy. I have four brothers; James William, March 13, 1937; George Earl, January 30, 1941; Ralph Edgar, June 29, 1949; and David Eugene, September 3, 1954.

I attended Rockford and Mendon schools and graduated from Mendon High School in May 1963. I worked part time as a teller in the Mendon Branch of the First National Bank of Celina and also part time as a clerk typist in the Mercer County Welfare Department at the same time. Then I went on full time at the bank until 1967.

I married James Michael Sprague (Mike) from St. Marys, Ohio on October 16, 1966. Mike was born February 16, 1941 to James Edward and Edna Marie — Hunter — Sprague. Mike has one sister; Betty Lou, June 23, 1936 and one brother; George Kenneth, February 22, 1945. Mike was born in St. Marys and lived there all of his childhood. He graduated from Memorial High School in 1960. Mike served actively in the United States Navy from July 1961 to September 1965 and then in the inactive reserve til July 1967. Mike was stationed on the USS Fi and his ship participated in the Cuban Blockade 1962.

Our first home together was on Mercer R south of Mendon, previously the home of Nichc Kelner. We rented and lived there until March 19

Right after we were married, Mike began work as a pipefitter at the Goodyear Tire and Rubl Company, St. Marys, Ohio. He had previou worked for Schultz Construction Company, Marys; Minster Machine Company, Minster; Huston's Sohio Service Station, St. Marys.

On January 28, 1971 we had our first child daughter, Nancy Kay; born in Gibbons Hospi Celina.

In February 1972 we bought 5 acres of the Oz Drake farm at the corner of Dutton and Shelly ro north of Mendon. We are slowly remodeling the homestead. In May 1975, we bought another acres of the original Drake property and Mike far that.

On October 9, 1974 we had a son, Johnny Jam born at Gibbons Hospital. He passed away Octol 10, 1974 and is buried in the Tomlinson cemetery, the corner of the Mercer-Van Wert County Line a Tomlinson Roads. The cemetery is across the ro from the Wesley Chapel Methodist Church wher attended all my life and was a member. We we also married in the church and attended there ur it closed in November 1967.

On March 6, 1978 we had our second daught Toni Jo; born at Gibbons Hospital.

Our home is in the Mendon school district a Nancy presently attends Mendon Union elementa school.

Gerald and Edith Sutton

GERALD SUTTON

History of the Gerald & Edith Sutton family farm located just south of Hamilton Road and ton Road in Union Township, Mercer County.

Gerald was born to Charles and Iva Sutton on cember 18, 1905 in Van Wert County. Edith born September 29, 1911 to Cress and Sarah Bo in Van Wert County. We were married in Ohio on June 18, 1927. To this union were born: Ne Cincinatti; Carol wife of Lem Mosier, Van W OH; Paul of Vandalia, MO; Ray of Rockford Ethel wife of Richard Fackler, Convoy OH; Jame Rome NY; Alice wife of Larry Krick, Mendon Sylvia wife of Gary Miller, Tipp City OH.

We had started farming in Van Wert County moved to this location in the spring of 1938. farm was formerly known as the "Yoemen" f and then the "Rhoades" farm. We rented at firs acres here from the Aetna Life Insurance Co.

Gertrude Einfalt bought the farm from th

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out 1940. About 1942 she bought 38 acres just to e east of the 63 acres, making a total of 101 acres. 1944, we bought the farm from Gertrude.

As soon as we arrived here the Anderson Bethel lks welcomed us into the church family where we tended for many years.

Looking back over those lean years we are grate- l for the generosity afforded us here in the com- unity. Harry Stevens, our neighbor, gave us three ads of good alfalfa hay as we helped them in hay- g time. Often the ladies of the community gave us othing for the children which Edith altered as eeded.

As our family was growing up and helping, we uilt a general grain and stock farming operation ith hogs, chickens and milk cows. The fields grad- lly improved in production with proper rotations. uildings were added and others improved as eeded.

Simon Clay and I went out on occasions and ainted and did carpenter work to supplement our come. I also sold seed corn and fertilizer for sev- al years.

We remember that our relatives and friends elped us move in here as they did in those days. his road was a mud road and muddy.

The children walked across a field to the Lampy's get on a school bus. I asked the township trustee get us a pike. He replied I should move out. How- ver in about a year we noticed surveyors measuring ie road and soon we had a pike! Now we have a ice paved road!

About 1960 we purchased 80 acres just north and est of Hamilton-Dutton Road crossing, known as ie Fidelis Small Farm. It was owned by Charles lalfhill for many years. It changed hands several mes and we bought it from John Barber. Larry and lice Krick lived in the house several years. Then iey sold it to Danny Huey and family, who reside iere now.

We are especially grateful to God for all his bless- igs thru the years we have lived here in the Men- on community. *Gerald Sutton*

HELEN E. (RICE) TAYLOR

Paternal ancestors of Otley Otis Rice, father of Helen (Rice) Taylor originally came to America on ie "Mayflower" from England. Maternal Ances- ors, Jacob Roller, and his young wife, Mary sailed or America on the good ship "Two Brothers" from Vurttemburg, Germany in 1724.

Otley Otis Rice married Harriet R. Goodwin Dec. 5, 1903 at Elgin, Ohio. They started their early mar- ied life on a farm at Pleasant Mills, Ind. and became he parents of Marvin E., Martha Caroline, Helen E., nd Willis L. In 1918 having purchased a small farm n Mercer Co. near Mercer and Mendon, Ohio they noved in much the same manner as their grandpar- nts had before them in 1865, with all their belong- igs on wagons with the cow and a young colt tied n behind. Martha, 9, Helen, 4, Willis, 2, followed vith their mother in the buggy. Dolores E. was born n 1920. The children all went to the little country chool, Stump elementary and later to Mendon High. Of course, the school and the Church of God hurch were the main centers of activity. Trips were nade to Celina to pay the taxes and extra shopping. Willis developed a crippling disease from which he died at the age of 19.

Martha married Lewis Harden in 1930. They be- came the parents of Richard E. born in 1932, Donald L. born in 1934, Robert D. born 1935, and Carol Lou born in 1939. Lewis Otley died at the age of 3. Three sons served in the US Navy, while living in Toledo, Ohio.

Carol Lou married John Wirick and became the parents of Douglas E. born in 1958 and Cheryl Lynn born in 1962. John died in 1966 and Carol married Russell L. Potter who adopted the children. They're living in Steilacoom, Washington as are Martha and Lewis.

Donald married Reiko ? and are the parents of Martin, born in 1961 and Linda Ann, born in 1964 and living in Sylvania, Ohio.

Robert married Margaret Pollick and became the parents of Robert Michael born in 1955, Gary S., born in 1957, and Kenneth D., born in 1960 in Cuba where his father was serving in the US Navy. Family now living in Mt. Dora, Fla except Robert M. who also served in the Navy and married Gayle ?. They are the parents of Jason, 4 and a daughter, 3.

Richard E. married Marsha Snay and are the par- ents of 5 children, Daniel born in 1954, Charles L. born in 1960, Mathew P. born in 1968, Rebecca Lyn- ette, born in 1970, and Vickie born in 1954 and is married to Edward Crom.

Dolores (Rice) married Max Jerome and are the parents of Jeffry Max born in 1948 and is a teacher in Mass. Joyce Kay was born in 1949 and is married to Terry Gressner. They are the parents of Keith Alan born in 1969 and Cynthia, born in 1970. Both families are living in Dayton.

Marvin E. lives on a farm he purchased in 1948, located west of Mendon, Ohio.

Helen E. married Merle A. Taylor. He is retired from service in Army and US Navy and is farming the Otley Rice farm. Helen is active in the Mendon Flower and Garden Club. The Club entered a unit in Mendons celebration of the Nations 200th year and sold a handmade, patriotic design quilt to earn money to replace the shrubs around the Town and Township Hall in Mendon. *Helen E. Taylor*

CHARLES B. THOMPSON

Charles B. Thompson and Ella Mastin Thompson came from Preble County to Mercer County in 1881, and settled in Mercer. Mr. Thompson operated the saw mill and tile mill for a short time with Mr. Gra- ham and later operated the business himself. He was also associated with J. F. Disher in the grain busi- ness.

The Thompsons had four daughters. Mabel was married to Harle L. Bolton, a resident of Mercer. They moved to the former Stump farm, west of Mendon. Ethel was married to Morris Tullis, a resi- dent of Mercer, and they moved to the present Kim- mel farm near Mercer. Ruby was married to Henry Bietry and they moved to a farm on Mercer Road, later moving to Indiana. Ruth Thompson passed away at an early age.

Harle L. and Mabel Thompson Bolton spent most of their life as farmers, west of Mendon on the Stump and Yocum farms (now owned by Robert Fetters and Lowell Walls). They were parents of two

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daughters, Dorothy who died when a baby and Miriam who married John Upton Brown.

John U. and Miriam Bolton Brown lived in Mendon where they owned and operated a laundromat for several years. Miriam was a teacher in Mercer, Auglaize and Allen Counties. They were parents of a son, Richard, who is married to the former Jennelle Van Tilburg.

Richard B. and Jennelle Van Tilburg Brown are residents of St. Marys. Richard is employed at Crown Controls, New Bremen, in the drafting department and Jennelle is a teacher in New Knoxville School. They are parents of three children, Scott, Steven and Nancy, all students in St. Marys High School.

Miriam Bolton Brown resides in Mendon. *submitted by Miriam B. Brown*

KENNETH VAN GUNDY

Kenneth E. Van Gundy, the son of John F. and Nora M. (Hoblet) Van Gundy, was born near Willshire, Ohio on their farm in Mercer County July 13, 1913. He has an older brother Charles Norman, who was a United Brethren Minister for several years, a younger brother Clarence Robert living at North Baltimore, Ohio and a sister Mary Margaret, who married Jack Ernsberger and has lived in Mesa, Arizona for nearly thirty years. They have an ambulance service there at the present time.

Kenneth attended the Plank and Willshire schools and later was engaged in farming and carpenter work. He and his brothers purchased a corn picker and did custom picking for several farmers in the community of Elgin and Venedocia.

Kenneth married Margaret Evelyn Fisher on November 6, 1935. In March they moved near Hume, Ohio (Auglaize County) residing on this farm four years. Margaret, the daughter of Ada Belle (Copeland) and Daniel Eathan Fisher, was born March 7, 1914 near Celina. She has two brothers; Dale Arthur, who is a licensed barber in Fort Wayne, Indiana and Darrell Donald, who formerly owned Fisher's Used Car and Wrecker Service near St. Marys, Ohio. Margaret lived a mile east of the Wesley Chapel Methodist Church on Mercer and Van Wert County Line Road for twelve years, where she attended faithfully. She went to Blue Corner school and graduated from Mendon High School. She worked for folks in this vicinity until she married.

In 1940 Kenneth and Margaret moved back to Mercer County and lived in the Rockford and Mendon areas. They are the parents of five children: James William born March 13, 1937 near Hume, who married Andrea Scarpelli. They have three children: Mary, Russell and Teresa, and are residing in Ohio City now. A son, James Bartley is deceased. George Earl was born January 30, 1941 and married Rosa Lee Miller and they have three children: Gregory, Diana, and Gary and live on Ross Road. Jeanne Ellen was born June 25, 1945 and married James Michael Sprague and they have two daughters: Nancy and Toni. They live on the former Osborne Drake farm on Dutton Road. A son Johnny James is deceased. Ralph Edgar was born June 29, 1949 and married Peggy Sue Derossett. Ralph was drafted into Military Service on March 6, 1969, taking his basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and later served in Korea as a Supply Sgt. of II Infanti Division until October 12, 1970. He and Peggy Su have three sons: Robert, Ronald and Joseph and r side on Mt. Carmel Church Road, Celina, Ohi David Eugene was born September 3, 1954 and ma ried Connie Sue Shope and lives on R. R. # 1, Mer don.

The entire family attended Wesley Chap Church and were members until its closing in No vember, 1967.

During the war Kenneth hired into factories fo work and later was employed by Borden Foods, Va Wert for twenty years. Having retired he presently working part time for Union Townshi Trustees and lives in a Mobile Home on Dutto Road, Rockford. *Kenneth E. Van Gundy*

Gail and Hazel Webb Harner, Ira and Maria Donovan Web Eddythe and Hazel Webb (See Russish Flore)

IRA WEBB

Ira Thomas Webb was born in Union Townshi January 21, 1871 to Rezin P. and Ann Jemima Mor row Young Webb. Rezin was born September 1811 and died March 4, 1874. Jemima was born Oc tober 29, 1831 and died April 21, 1905.

After Ira's father died his mother moved the fam ily across U. S. 33 to a new home in the corner o Sites Road and U. S. 33. There Ira became a farmer married, raised his family and died in the sam home. His granddaughter, Helen, who was born i the same home, and her husband, Dale Parker hav remodeled and is living in the home place.

Ira married Ellenor Maria Donovan, daughter o George and Barbara Elisabeth Sutton Donovan, o October 7, 1894. Both lived to celebrate their Golde Anniversary in October 1944. Maria died Decembe 28, 1944 and Ira died March 9, 1957. Both are buried in the Mercer Cemetery. They had two daughters namely: Leafie Hazel born April 23, 1895 died Jun 15, 1979; and Eddythe Idora born September 17 1905.

Hazel married Gail Harner August 15, 1914, Gai died May 26, 1950. To this union were born six chil dren. They are as follows:

1. — Ruel Harner, who married Eathyle Kuhn and they had two daughters — A. — Betty June who married Glen Florence Jr. Betty and Glen's children are Leisa Ann, Mark Alan, Douglas Glen and Lorna Kay Florence. B. — Kathleen Ann who married Lisle Laverne Wendel and their children are; Christopher Todd, Lora Marie, Gregory Scott, Angela Rae, and Derek Benjamin Wendel. Eathyle died April 20 1973 and is buried in The North Grove Cemetery Ruel later married Margaret Hutchinson Dickey.

2. — Oreal G. Harner married Edith Thomas and they have two children; A. — Ronnie Gail married to Carol Ann Krall. B. — Rhonda Edith married to Dana Robert Runnion.

3. — Glen E. Harner who married Katherine Snyder. They have three children. A. — Connie Sue

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ıarried to Max Arthur Trisel and they have James ırthur and Jay Andrew Trisel. B. — Deborah Kay ho married James Myron Sites and they have Julie lichelle and James Matthew Sites.
. — Michael Glen at home.
4. — Herbert Hoover Harner married Patricia Kit-e and they have; A. — Susan Kay married to lenny Newbawer; and B. — Steven Edward married › Cindy M. Evans. Steven and Cindy have Nicole ynn Harner.
5. — Dorothy Florence Harner married Theodore lanier. They had two sons. A. — Timothy Harner lanier born July 6, 1954 and died October 26, 1963. . — Bradley Begin Manier. Dorothy died October 1, 1962 and both Dorothy and Timmy are buried in ıe North Grove Cemetery.
6. — Hazel Deloris who married Eldon Duane uxton and they have, A. — Claudia Jeanne Buxton ıd B. — Alan Duane Buxton, both at home.
Eddythe married Russish Flore and they have four ıildren, namely; 1. — Helen Marie who married ale Parker. They have no children. 2. — Robert .ngus married Dorothy Enyart and they have De-orah Diane who married Frederick Roll, and Bar-ara Elaine Flore. 3. — Ray Junior who married Pa-icia Wallen and they have no children.
. — Lester Lee who married Sharaleen Secrest and ıey have James Lee, Jonathan Ray and Jessica Marie lore.
Ira had one sister, Ida Bell who married Joseph R. ain. They had Arnold, Raymond, Chester, Mae ıd Marie Cain. He also had one brother William lorrow Webb who married Julia Sophia Kinkley ıd they had two sons and four daughters; Lloyd lonroe, Fay Sylvia, Floe Ada, Frank Glen, Vera lerle and Velma Elnora Webb.
Ira also had six half-brothers and four-half-sisters. ee Rezin Webb) They are as follows; David, Jo-ph, Matilda Jane, Sally Ann, Polly, Lewis, Harri-n, Milford, and Margaret Webb; all children of ezin P. and Lucinda Hays Webb. Also John Robert oung, son of Robert and Ann Jemima Morrow oung. John R. Young married Almeda Catherine oor and they had Bessie B., Naaman, Vermont and ee Young. *Written by Helen M. Flore Parker — A Grand-ıughter*

Place your Family History in this Space.

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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

This township is bounded on the north by Liberty Township, on the east by Jefferson and Butler Townships, on the south by Recovery Township, and on the west by the state of Indiana. It contains 36 square miles. It is crossed from south to north by the Wabash River, while across the northeast corner flows the Beaver Creek. These form sufficient courses of natural drainage and the township is rapidly improving all of its agricultural features. The population is largely of German descent and are industrious and enterprising.

Washington Township was organized March 5, 1838, and the first election was held at the house of George Arbaugh, on April 2, 1838, when the following officers were elected: Trustees — James Schoonover, David Trexler, and James Q. Grimes; Clerk-William Nichols; constable-Peter Stevens; overseers of the poor-John Dixon and George Armstead; Fence viewers-Edward Dixon and Samuel Freeman, Jr.; Supervisor-Justin Stevens; and treasurer-George Arbaugh. The present township officers are as follows: Trustees — Ralph Heyne — chairman of the board, Jerry Laffin — vice chairman, Jerry Powell and Rose Mary Wenning, clerk.

In 1886, the township contained 8,933 acres of arable land, 2,577 acres of meadow land, and 11,347 acres of woodland — a total of 22,857 acres, valued with the buildings at $362,345. In 1906, the assessor made the following returns: acres of cultivated land, 10,364. acres of pasture land, 6,592. acres of woodland, 2,793. acres of waste land, 405. The population of the township in 1880 was 1384; in 1890, 1,617 and in 1900, 1,487. In 1970, the last census taken, the population was 1261. Total valuation of the township in 1978 was $9,836,230.

Speculator's Land

The lands in the township were nearly all entered between the years of 1836 and 1840 and the larger tracts were entered by parties who never lived in the county and they were called speculators. In section 1, David Cathcart entered 641 acres in 1839. He never lived on the land. Jefferson Walters, who lived in Dayton, Ohio, entered 320 acres in 1878. He never lived in the county.

Pioneers

Most of the early settlers entered land in 40, 80 and 160-acre tracts. Among the first settlers in the township were John Boley, John Betz, Samuel Arbaugh, David Harrod, E. A. Hillary, William Spriggs, N. Fishpaw, Peter McMillen, Joseph Loughridge, David Houston, William B. Wilson, Daniel Freeman, John Dixon, William Loughridge, Amos Dixon, H. Davidson, William Davidson, Joseph Davidson, George L. Adair, Henry Fortman, William C. Armstead, Samuel McDowell, Richard Scott, Thomas Clinton and Adam Miller.

The township contains 4 small towns, Erastus, Macedon, Wabash, and Padua (St. Anthony).

ERASTUS

At the cross roads of St. Anthony and Erastus-Durbin Roads, which is located approximately 6 miles northwest of Coldwater and in Washington Twp. stands the hamlet of Erastus which was originated a little over a hundred years ago. In 1875, James C. Snyder set up a saw mill at that location. After a brief stay he returned to his native home in Darke Co. to resume farming. A Mr. Murphy leased the mill and operated it until 1881 when Mr. Snyder returned to continue the operation of the mill. The town was almost like a lumber camp. The planed lumber was hauled by horses and wagons to Willshire each day where it was placed on a train for Cincinnati and other points.

James C. Snyder was the father of 2 daughters: Florence, wife of Orville Ashcraft, and Vern, wife of Roy Kester and one son Leroy Snyder.

During the time the mill was operated by Mr. Murphy it became known as the Burg which eventually became Murphysburg, which it is still called quite often. Besides the mill there were 2 stores, 2 tile mills, a carpenter shop, a blacksmith shop and a saloon. The saloon had a short stay. There were also a school and a Methodist Episcopal Church. The church was erected in 1879 and the first pastor was Rev. W. S. Philpot. The school still stands. After the school was closed it was purchased by the church and used for social activities. For 5 years Mr. Snyder also operated the tile mill.

One of the stores was owned by a widow, Mrs. Walker, who had 3 sons. The post office was established in their store. When the government wrote and asked the name of the town, one of the Walker boys, who's name was Erastus sent in his own name and that is how it received its name. On Aug. 21, 1880 the small town was forming in the neighborhood and Mr. Snyder sold 10 acres of his farm, on which tract the town of Erastus now stands.

In later years, Mrs. Mary Ellen (Hassan) Dixon, widow of William B. Dixon, operated the only store left which sold groceries and a variety of other things for many years. Her children were: Russell, John, William, Walter and Bessie, wife of Dr. Clarence Adams. She loved fruit trees and felt that every family should have some. She was an exceptional cook and braided rugs. She was robbed one time and the robbers took off with other things several of her braided rugs. She had the store until illness shortly before her death in the late 1930's. Following her, Oran Crouch owned the store for a short time, then Sherman Adams bought the store and later Bruce Adams continued the business until his death in 1965 when the business closed. While the Adams' owned the business there was also a stock yard. Then Mrs. Robert Imel operated a beauty shop in the former grocery for a brief time. Now it stands vacant.

The lovely brick church still holds worship services. While the businesses have ceased there are probably a dozen nice homes in the area.

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ST. ANTHONY PARISH

St. Anthony Church, of rural Ft. Recovery, was established in the summer of 1853, when a group of men, namely, John H. Wichelman, Anton Schnett, Henry Fortman and John Stelzer convinced Father Albrecht, pastor of St. Joseph Church, that they should have their own parish church. Father Albrecht then obtained permission from Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati for the parish to proceed in the building of a new church.

First of all, two acres were donated to the parish for the church by John Henry Wichelman. Immediately these two acres were deeded to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, and then a meeting was called of all the men in the parish to inform them of the good news, and to ask for four dollars a piece to help defray the cost of the building. The following were present who also paid five dollars: Henry Schroer, John H. Wichelman, John Stelzer, John Weigel, Vincent Stark, John Driller, Louis Wichelman, Anton Schnett, Ignatius Rauh and Henry Fortman. When new members came into the parish, they too were asked to give four dollars a family.

About the year 1874, it became evident to the pastor, Fr. Wilhelmi, that the log church was so deteriorated, that a new church would have to be built. The people too were aware of this and by this time had decided to change the location of this new church. In the year 1852, the new school board of the Washington district had built the first public school in the south east corner, surrounded by forest for the most part. So when the new church was to be built, the people decided to have the new church as near as possible to the school and so constructed it on the south west corner, where it is now. The parish now needed two acres which belonged to Henry Wellman but he did not consent to donate it to the parish. In order to circumvent the problem, Gerhard Homan offered to give two acres to Henry Wellman, who in turn gave the two acres to the parish.

Father Wilhelmi invited Mr. Anton De Curtins to be the architect of the new church. At this time, with little money available, the new church would be built without steeples nor with any architectura beauty. But one thing was necessary and that was stone foundation. Mr. De Curtins was well ac quainted with a stone quarry near Piqua, Ohi where the lime stone was quite hard, and wa known as "Blue Stone". After this foundation ston had been cut and prepared according to specifica tions, it was shipped via canal to St. Mary's, Ohi and by lake boats to Celina. The boats then docke on the present Main St. in Celina, and the founda tion stone for St. Anthony Church was laid on th present Logan St. This stone was very heavy an could be taken to St. Anthony only when the eart was frozen hard.

Also, at this time, many good trees were cut du ing the winter, the logs of which were taken to th building site, and destined to be used for the sca folding and for the support of the roof. It was i 1874 that the contractor and his men laid the four dation and began laying the bricks. Finally the tim came for laying of the corner stone! Father Wilheln invited the Provincial of the Society of the Preciou Blood, Father Bernard Austerman, to officiate. Th Mass servers were; Joseph Fortman, Ignatius Rau (later a C.PP.S. priest) and Ben Muhlenkamp. F Austerman began the celebration by offering a Hig Mass with the priests and people in the old lo church. After Mass, everyone formed a processio to the place of the blessing of the corner stone, pray ing aloud all the way. A tin box was placed insid the corner stone and Gibhard Fritz placed in it th following items: a penny, a two cent piece, a thre cent piece, some paper money; also a copy of th Celina Standard and one copy of a German newspa per, the "Folksfreund". The "official papers" wer also enclosed. After the services, the priests went t the home of Henry Fortman for dinner, while th visiting relatives and friends were invited to variou homes in the parish.

FINISHING OF THE CHURCH: The parish con tinued to grow and flourish, and times seemed t improve. The pastor thought he could at last finis the interior of the new church. In early summer c 1880 he hired Mr. Perry Betz to plaster the interio but first it was necessary to nail plaster lath onto th ceiling, with the help of Harm Burke, the hodcarrie After all this was completed, Mr. Betz hired Joe Fort man to mix the mortar, even though he was bu fourteen years of age. New pews were made by An ton De Curtins in Carthagena, Ohio, replacing th old pews brought from the old church. Also new al tars were purchased in 1879 from the J. Schroede Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio at a cost of six hundred dol lars. And, at this time, the system of pew rent wa initiated, but the system was more difficult to sel than the selling of the pews.

BLESSING OF THE NEW CHURCH: In 1880 Th Provincial, Father Bernard Austerman, came to bles the church in the presence of many neighborin clergy. In the afternoon, Father Austerman himsel gave the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, an upon returning to the sacristy, he broke the sa news to Father Wilhelmi that he was about to leav St. Anthony's. This came as a shock to all the peopl of the parish who respected him highly. He was lon remembered for all the fine work he did. Fathe Wilhelmi died in the year 1893 at Maria Stein Con vent.

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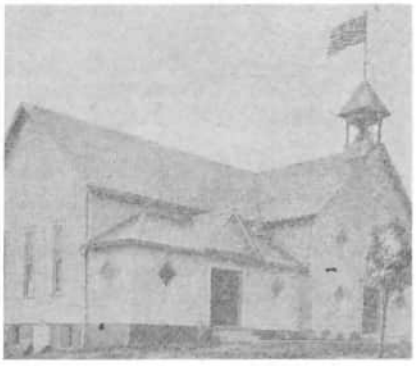


Washington Township High School, 1912

Saint Anthony School (photograph by Everett Hall)

'adua Team — **Front Row:** Henry Alig, Cyril Schroer, Ashley leams, Sebastian Alig, Arthur Schroer, Raymond Schroer and Urban Post. **Standing:** Nick Schroer, Ed May, Cornelius Vonderlaar, Fred May and Urban Schenking.

SAINT ANTHONY

Saint Anthony is located in Washington Township on State Route 49 and Saint Anthony Road, six miles north of Fort Recovery and one mile east of the Ohio-Indiana State line. The village was originally called Padua, after the Saint, Saint Anthony of Padua. The village was settled in the 1830's by German Immigrants. Lutheran neighbors helped them build the log church in 1853. A quarter mile north of the intersection of State Route 49 and Saint Anthony Road is the cemetery belonging to these early settlers.

Today, there is a grain mill, a supermarket, restaurant, and church. The school, which was built in the 1940's, was closed in the spring of 1978. Students now attend the Coldwater Schools.

Census für 1903.

Familien	79
Kommunionen ausgetheilt	3597
Kinder getauft	18
Kinder zur ersten hl. Kommunion	11
Kinder gefirmt	48
Heirathen	1
Begräbnisse	5
Kinder in dem Christlichen Unterricht	106
Kinder in der Schule	76

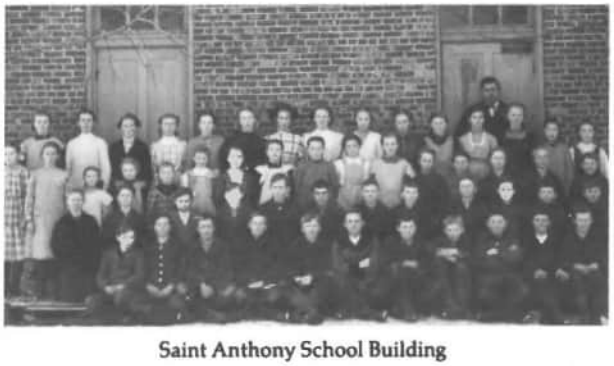
Finanzbericht

Der

St. Antonius-Gemeinde

Padua, Ohio.

Vom 1. Januar 1903 bis 1. Januar 1904.



Saint Anthony School Building

I REMEMBER WABASH

It has been 28 years since I was first introduced to Wabash. I remember moving into what I just knew was the biggest and most handsome house in town. It had an open staircase and more rooms than any house dare have. We had a buckeye tree out front and a small pasture field to the south of the house. Mom thought it would be a good idea to buy a cow so we could have fresh milk. It was fine until the cow ate something she wasn't suppose to, got so bloated, she just laid down and died. The Montague family live there now.

To the south of us lived Sylvia Kinnison, known to the neighbors as "Grandma." She was short, with white hair and I was sure that any artist who drew a picture of a grandma for story books must have used her as a model. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Jannings now own the house.

Across the street and to the south was Iva and Lionel Gibbons. She had a most precious gift, that of being a pianist. She brought much joy to many people, whether playing for church, a wedding or just for the sheer enjoyment of sitting down on a summer's afternoon with the windows open and letting the music drift through the neighborhood. Mr. Gibbons and son Miles still occupy the house.

Next to Gibbons was Willis and Miriam Shirk. As a small girl, I thought "Shirky" was the meanest man I could ever know, but as I grew older I found

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him to be a kind and gentle man. Shirky was lineman for the Wabash Mutual Telephone Company and Miriam was the telephone operator. Those were the days of the switchboard and crank telephones. They ran the company until the family of Carl and Verlie Gertz moved in with their two children, Connie and Billie.

These two became very valued and trusted friends. One of our favorite things to do on a hot summer day was to walk down to Harry Lehman's Store on the corner of Wabash Rd. and St. Rt. 29 and get a nickle popsicle. If we were lucky enough to have a dime, we would get a nickle Coke and 5¢ bag of peanuts. Harry's store had any essential you might need for existence from food to hardware. If a husband turned up missing, his wife knew she could find him at the store sitting on a wood bench, fanning himself in the summer, or cuddling up to the coal stove in the winter, shooting the breeze with the other husbands. Harry's store has long been gone, but we now have Wabash Store owned by Dale Schroyer. Although it has modern conveniences like air conditioning and forced air heaters, it still has the essentials from food to hardware to husbands sitting on the wood benches catching up on the latest gossip.

The main social event of the year was the Farmer's Institute. This was a two day affair beginning on Friday with the judging of the home baked goods by area women, speeches, singing, lunch served by the Unity Grange, spelling contests, poster contests by area school children and climaxing on Saturday evening with the traditional three act play. Almost as traditional as the play was the director, Clarence LaRue. He held that position for as far back as I can remember. My one great ambition at age 9 was to be asked to be in the play, but it was not to be fulfilled until I married the director's son. The Town Hall is still standing but its only visitors now are mice and birds.

A near tragedy occurred at the William and Susie Crouch home on the west end of Wabash. A semi tractor and trailer travelling east hit the bridge, lost control and veered into the Crouch house, destroying everything in its way. The Crouch's were in bed at the time. The truck missed the bed by two feet and the only injuries were a bruised knee and a scratch caused by a falling beam. A lifetime collection of mementoes, photos and furniture were destroyed. A new house was erected several years back from the original site and is now owned by the Carl Pond family. The Ed and Lizzie Kittle house just west of the Crouch house was also moved back and has since been torn down.

Wabash boasted two churches. The Congregational Christian Church, now known as the Wabash Church of Christ, is still in existence with the Rev. Lisle Schmidt preaching the Gospel from the pulpit every Sunday morning. The Tabernacle has long been phased out and the building is now being used for storage, by the Floyd Brehm family who live in the house once owned by the Carl Coate family.

The back part of Carl and Toni Eischen's house was once a small store owned by Louie Crouch, Jr. and Madella Teeters moved it to its present site on Wabash Road just south of Bob and Vi Shirk. Bob owns the body shop south of the telephone office and Vi and son Dane work in the telephone office. Another son, Dennis and wife Kathy and two chi dren live in the house once owned by Cora Bet Vernon and Verna Alice Schaadt live in the hous across the road from Bob Shirk. The house and th Schaadts are as young looking as I remember ther 28 years ago.

Ida Kettering, the oldest resident of Wabash, sti lives in the stately white house on the south side o 29 right next door to Louie and Margaret Crouch Louie was the jack-of-all trades. He could do any thing from fixing a bicycle tire to running a restau rant to shearing sheep.

Ruby Smith owned the building which is nov Leininger's Auction. Rudy used it as a sheep barn and it was great fun when shearing time cam around.

Some of the other residents I remember were Ot and Emma Leininger. He was a woodworker. Both are now deceased and their home was destroyed by fire a few years back. Their son, Noel, wife Cora and family live in the house north of the church. "Doc" Fishbaugh and Sophia lived just south of the church Their home has since been torn down. Next to them was their son, Stanley, wife Dorothy and Larry. Do is still living in the house. Arthena Pearson lives in a mobile home on the land where Rose Bushor's house once stood.

The newly weds of Wabash were Neal and Mary Boley. They still live in their original house with Larry and Judy. Across the street in the Schroyer house, the Monroe Carroll family lives and next to them is the Bill Reedy family.

On the southwest corner of Wabash Rd. and 29 live Marlin, Marcella and Marvin Hammitt. Their present home was once owned by Laura Enyart West of Hammitt's is the John Hamshire family. I remember the house when the Vernon Enyart family lived there. Next is the unoccupied house once owned by Rudy Smith. The Charles Ward family lives where the Arlie Crouch family lived for many years and Calvin Fennig owns the next two homes. The small house where Bill and Pearl Hull lived is now owned by Bob and Marcia Hainline. They also own and live in the next house which once belonged to Harry Lehman. Anna and Albert Schroyer own the next home. Albert is deceased but Anna still lives there with her son Dale. What was once known as the Knox home is now owned and occupied by Mrs. Elwin Duerr, Kelly and Tim.

I was once told that long ago when a small village sprang up, its growth and prosperity depended on how close a railroad came to it. Wabash started on the premise that the railroad was destined to come very close by. It had a post office, shoe shop, blacksmith, hotel and general store. But, the fickle railroad went by way of Celina, Coldwater and Fort Recovery instead, letting these towns grow more rapidly than Wabash.

But, small as it was, it did not escape from crime and gossip. In the mid 1800's, the post office and general store were robbed on the same day. In the late 1800's a wife reported her husband missing. He was later found in Muncie, Indiana with a much richer and younger woman.

Wabash is now a sleepy community where most drivers don't bother to slow down as they drive through, but the people who live here are as real as you could find living anywhere. *by Sharon LaRue*

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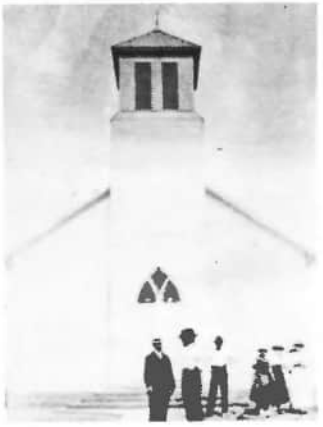
Original Church



WABASH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Wabash United Church of Christ was began s a Sunday School on July 11, 1875. The members neet in the Spriggs School House where the follow-ng officers were elected: Joe Doner, Superintendent; ?. C. McMillen, Ass't. Superintendent; John Powell, ecretary; S. E. Smith, Treasurer; and Samual Bas-ian, Librarian. On March 4, 1880 Rev. O. S. Green rganized the Church with 10 charter members amely Joseph Doner, Emily Doner, William AcCain, Rebecca McCain, Nathaniel Faught, Harriet aught, Allen Wishon, Christiana Wishon, Polly Ammon, and Mary Ammon. They began by having hurch service once each month on Saturday night, unday and Sunday night. Later on as the church rew they decided to arrange for services two Sun-lays of each month, and at present time services are onducted each Sunday morning.

In 1881 Joe Doner, William McCain and George ?. Long were appointed to a committee to locate roperty on which to construct a church. A lot was urchased from Godfrey and Milligan on July 24, 882 as a building site.

Louis Spriggs was elected in 1890 to raise money o buy a Bible for the church. In 1909 church mem-ers secured a piano for the church by selling sub-criptions to the Daily Standard.

A circuit was formed in 1913 with the Ft. Recovery Christian Church and the Wabash Christian Church dopted the by-laws of the Ft. Recovery church.

Extensive improvements were made on the hurch in 1916. The furnace room was excavated nd a furnace installed, stained glass windows were nstalled, the elevated floor was built and carpeted, nd the church was redecorated and painted. The otal cost was $2,142.44. Then in 1919 a new Delco ighting system was installed.

In 1920 the Wabash Christian Church gave $1,-270.00 to the Forward Movement of the Christian Church. This was the largest single benevolence gift n the history of the church.

The year 1925 saw the lighting system hooked to he Dayton Power and Light Co. lines.

By the year 1930 the Wabash Christian Church had served the community for 50 years. This was also the year of the Congregational and Christian merger. The Wabash Christian Church became the Wabash Congregational Christian Church.

The year 1941 saw a major remodeling of the church. The basement was completed under the entire church to serve as a fellowship hall and Junior Sunday school. A new roof was installed along with a new forced air heating system.

The church severed its relations with the Eastern Indiana Conference in 1946 and was admitted to the Southwestern Association of the Ohio Conference in 1947. A house and lot were also purchased in 1947 for the parsonage. The house was sold and removed from the lot and a new house was built on the lot in 1948.

In 1954 two rest rooms were added to the basement and a new hard wood floor was installed in the basement.

The church installed a domestic water system and water heater in the church and purchased a new combination piano-organ in 1955. This same year the church celebrated its 75th anniversary on October 30th with a carry in dinner and an afternoon program.

The union of the Congregational Christian Church and the Evangelical and Reformed Churches took place in 1957. It was not until 1961 that the constitution for the new denomination was approved and the name of the denomination would be the United Churches of Christ. The Wabash Congregational Christian Church voted on September 12, 1962 to join the merger and to change its name to the Wabash United Church of Christ.

In 1960 an arch was constructed between the chancel and the congregation, the pews were painted and the church repapered.

The combination piano-organ was traded in on a new piano and a new organ in 1962.

The church was transferred from the Southwestern Association district to the Northwestern Association district in 1963.

In 1970 the church purchased the former Dr. Byran Fishbaugh property just south of the church for a parking lot.

The church walls and attic were insulated in 1975 and in 1978 the outside walls were covered with aluminum siding and all exterior wood was repainted.

Other organizations within the church are 7 Sunday School Classes and the Womens Fellowship.

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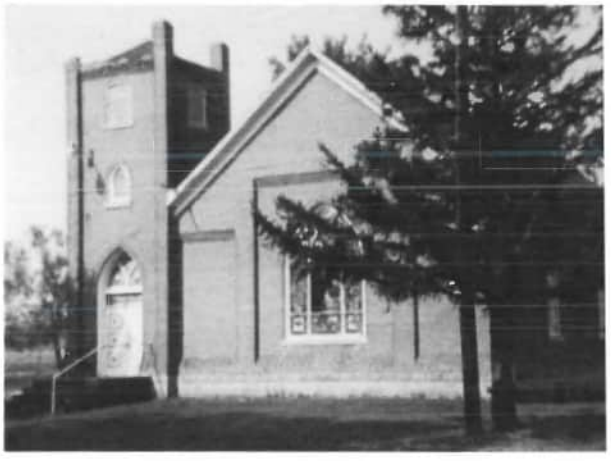
THE ERASTUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



The church bell rings every Sunday morning at the little brick church on the northwest corner of Erastus-Durbin and St. Anthony Roads in Section # 14 of Washington Township. It calls to worship members and friends of the Erastus United Methodist Church.

The early Methodist congregation first began meeting in a school building at the corner of State Route 219 and Erastus-Durbin Road known as Bethel Corners around 1851. We find there Christians, Quakers, Methodists, and Negros from Carthagena who took turns holding meetings in the Bethel School House.

Along about 1884 the Methodists of Bethel Corner erected a frame church on the southeast corner which was a portion of the Patton farm. That Methodist Church was a part of the Ft. Recovery Charge whose ministers served both the church at Ft. Recovery and at Bethel and later at Washington Chapel, located 2 miles west and ½ mile south of Wabash on the southwest corner of Schroeder Road and State Route 49. The Methodist Class at Bethel was made up of Florences, Millers, Bennets, Cormacks, Dixons, and Coles. Time passed — some members died, others moved and the church ceased to function. Some members affiliated with other churches or simply remained at home.

Meanwhile, 2 miles further north at Erastus some Methodist families, namely Evans, Cavender, Clayton, Plummer, Howell, Kelley, Rice, Kennard, Franks, together with some Christians of other denominations organized a Sunday School which was held in the schoolhouse. Methodist ministers from Ft. Recovery came out and held the Church Services. J. C. Snider, farmer and saw mill operator, donated land and money to which others contributed, and a hall was erected as a worship center and for other community meetings. Unfortunately, this did not prove to be a harmonious congregation and some withdrew from this work.

Soon those folks joined with those Methodists formerly from Bethel and it was agreed to move the old Bethel Church building to the southern edge of Erastus in 1891. The land was donated for this purpose by a "Billy" Cole. In a short time all animosities were cleared away and great crowds thronged to the church. In 1908, with a Rev. Butler in charge, a subscription list was begun and promoted largely by Mrs. Belle Howell. The necessary money was raised and in 1909 the present brick structure was erected on land given by Mrs. Catherine Scott at a cost of approximately $5000.00.

About that time the Presbyterian Church 2 miles west of Macedon was discontinued. Families who joined the Erastus group were: McMillan, Milles, Leiningers, Swarts, Moores, Grier, and Pattons.

When the one room school system was disbanded in Washington Township in 1939 the school building and grounds adjacent to the church were purchased at a cost of $163.00 to be used as a Community and Recreation Hall.

In 1949 the church interior was extensively remodeled, the Community Hall improved, and grounds landscaped at a cost of approximately $4000.00. The exterior of the building has neve been altered. Most recently storm windows hav been installed to protect the beautiful stained glas windows, new furnace and chimney and roof in stalled, and remodeling of the vestibule. A new pi ano was given in memory of a former member.

The Church is presently a two point charge witl Ft. Recovery United Methodist Church and pastore by Reverend Charles Michael Madison, a student a Dayton Theological Seminary who came to th church from Jackson, Mississippi, with his wife Margaret, and daughter, Laura. The parsonage is lo cated beside the church in Ft. Recovery.

Church officers are: Trustees; Walter Young Richard May, Glen Florence, Jr., Mrs. John McMil lan, John Moore, Miss Mary Ann Kittle, Victor Kit tle, Lyle Adams, James M. May; Organists: Mrs Paul (Lois) Brown and Mrs. John (Lela) McMillan Sunday School Superintendent; Larry Florence; Sun day School Teachers are: Richard Berkenstock Nancy Florence, Tom McMillan, and Sharor McMillan.

Some of the yearly events are: Bible School, Soup Supper and Auction, Old Fashioned Ice Cream So cial, Summer Volleyball Teams which compete with teams from other county Churches.

Families connected with the Church at this time are: Adams, Boley, Berkenstock, Brown, Buckloh Florence, Kittle, Henkle, Sloan, Gosset, Johnson Moore, McMillan, May, Toler, Young, Yaney, and Shively.

This Church biography was written and placed in the Mercer County History Book in loving memory of deceased members, Ralph and Zula McMillan. *by Sharon McMillan*

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ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church traces its beginnings back to the year 1861. Early in that year, a number of Lutheran families began to conduct services in an old log school house one half mile south of Wabash on land where the church cemetery now stands. On February 4, 1861, the people organized as a congregation and adopted a constitution, calling themselves The Evangelical St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation of Washington Township. This became the first Protestant church in Washington Township. The original constitution still serves as a basis and backbone of the present one, pointing to the great faith of people in God's Work. Family names of those who first signed it included: Leininger, Rabe, Kantzer, Menchhofer, Fennig, Konrath and Maurer. Most of these names or decendants of them are still very prominent on the church roster. Even the long absent name of Maurer once again appears with the addition of Rev. Dennis Maurer, no relation to early Maurer's, our present pastor.

In July 1873, a new frame church was dedicated and the following year the first organ was purchased. During the next eight years we were served by three different pastors, all who lived in Chattanooga, Ohio and served several parishes. Rev. W.G. Nicol became the first resident pastor in 1882.

All went well with the congregation during these early years and her growth steadily progressed. Then on May 14, 1886 a terrible tornado ripped thru Washington Township and wrecked scores of buildings, among them St. Paul's church and School. Unflaunted by the great loss the church fathers decided to rebuild, but at a new location. After some consideration it was decided to construct a new church on St. Anthony Road where the present church now stands. The second church was dedicated on December 16, 1886.

During these years worship was conducted in the German language. Consequently many of the youth attended only Sunday School. This led to discussions in 1883 and again in 1908, the year the church was incorporated, to use both English and German in the worship service. On January 1, 1915 it was decided to have two Sundays of English and one of German, and in 1919 German services were discontinued altogether.

During the Great Depression it was decided the time had come to build a new house of worship. April 5, 1931 marked the last services in the second church at its old location and it was moved west a few feet the following day, and later sold for $75.00. Digging of the basement of the present church began May 4, 1931. Thirty-five men donated labor, teams etc. for this big undertaking and the cornerstone was laid June 21, 1931. The new structure cost approximately $15,000 and all debts were cleared in 1943. Since the dedication many improvements have been made, including a complete redecorating in 1956, added parking, the building of a lovely brick ranch style parsonage and most recently new carpeting throughout the sanctuary.

We have been very fortunate over the years to have had good pastors. One of the sons of a former Pastor is Dr. Fred Meuser who is presently Vice

President of the American Lutheran Church and President of Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. We are also blessed in that one of the sons of our congregation was called into the ministry of the church. The Rev. Ivan Menchhofer, grandson of one of the signers of the first constitution, served as a pastor of the ALC for over forty years until his recent retirement. Also among our membership as an "adopted son of the congregation" is the Rev. G. F. Shoup, whose wife's grandmother was in one of the first recorded confirmation classes in 1866. Our faith in our Lord and our emphasis on the word and sacraments has contributed to the warm friendly atmosphere of this church on the banks of the Wabash River.

The congregation has organizations to serve the needs and desires of every group: Junior Lutherans, Luther League, Young Adult League, ALC Women, Junior and Senior Choirs and Sunday School classes for all ages. Throughout its history St. Paul Congregation has been blessed by the hand of the ever present Lord. Without his spiritual guidance we would not have been able to stand united as a real congregation the past 117 years.

CHRONOLOGY OF PASTORS

Rev. Seitz	
Rev. George Heintz	
Rev. Phillip Schmidt	
Rev. H. Willert	
Rev. William Schmidt	
Rev. A.F. Feeger	
Rev. W.G. Nicol	1882-1886
Rev. E.E. Herbst	1886-1888
Rev. A.F. Klopfer	1889-1904
Rev. H.N. Brobst	1904-1924
Rev. G.A. Schellhase	1925-1927
Rev. E.G. Ackerman	1928-1948
Rev. H.W. Meuser	1948-1958
Rev. G.R. Wilch	1959-1963
Rev. Ralph Huget	1964-1966
Rev. William Hutflies	1967-1971
Rev. Henry Seibert	1972-1975
Rev. Roger Lawrence	1975-1977
Rev. Dennis Maurer	1978-

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WABASH GARAGE, INC.

Not everyone is fortunate enough in a lifetime to see their dreams come true and their goals fulfilled. For Phil LaRue, however, owner of Wabash Garage. Inc., the dream has come true, and as soon as one goal is reached, another one is immediately being sought after.

The seed for the garage was planted in the early sixties while working on cars and farm machinery at night for surrounding friends and neighbors, and working for the telephone company during the day. A truck accident resulted in Mr. LaRue's being put in a body cast for several months. With this inability to climb telephone poles, he decided to strike out on his own. Thus, in the year 1968, Wabash Garage became a reality. The payroll consisted of just Phil and a very good friend who helped out at nights. The object of the garage was minor repair to cars and pickups and light duty wrecker service. The garage was housed in the front half of the existing barn on the LaRue land just west of Wabash on Ste. Rte. 29. Since the work area was small (two cars at a time) many customers had to wait. Because they did this so graciously, the garage grew rapidly. First, adding one full time employee, then two, until today, there are twenty people on the payroll. The wrecker service which had expanded to a small fleet of 4 wreckers became well known through out most states east of the Mississippi for the prompt, courteous and well trained service. The operations of the garage have grown to include a full scale body shop for all vehicles, and being a Mack Service Center and a White Service Center, the mechanical services are mostly on heavy duty tractors and trailers. The building has been expanded so it can now accommodate 15 semi tractors at one time.

So in the 10 years that Wabash Garage, Inc. has been growing, many dreams have come true and numerous goals have been reached and there are many more for the future.

ASSOCIATE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

According to an appointment of the Associate Presbytery c Miami Subordinate to the Associate Synod of North America i answer to a petition of a few of the people of and near Mace don, Washington Township, Mercer County, Ohio, on th twenty-fifth day of August A.D. 1857, Mr. John M. Snowgras: minister, organized a congregation to be called the Associat Congregation of Macedon. The congregation received the fol lowing petitioners: William Stevenson and his wife Ann by cer tificate from the Associate Congregation of North Elmira, Co lumbiana County, Ohio dated October 18, 1839;

Robert McGee and Mary Ann his wife from the Associat Reformed Congregation of Salt Creek, Muskingum County Ohio;

Samuel Wylie and Sarah his wife by Certificate from th Presbyterian Congregation of Knowlhead, Ireland dated May 2(1847;

Alexander Porter was received by examination, as was Wil liam Porter.

The church was located two and one-half miles West of Ma cedon at Woolshire Crossroads.

In the remaining three years of the decade such names ap peared on the membership list as: Mary Coffman and Johi Coffman of Washington County, Iowa; Mary J. McGee an(Mary Porter; Jacob Wylie; James McAfee and his wife Eliza Jane Henry Burke and his wife Lucinda. W. Fergusen Biggs and hi wife Catherine were received by certificate from the Unite(Presbyterian Congregation of Calcutta, Columbiana County Ohio.

On June 2, 1860 the Session received into membership Mrs Martha George from the Reformed Presbyterian Congregatior of Xenia, Ohio.

Here follows names of some of the people received int(membership between 1860 and 1870: James Neal McGee, Mar Ann Burke, Martha Burke, Isaiah Burke, W. Moses Porter James Albert McAffee and Martha McAffee were baptised or June 4, 1860; James Davison and his wife were received from the United Presbyterian Congregation of Hopewell; Miss Nancy Maddin, Abraham Wourbough and his wife Mary Jane from Sidney, Ohio, Joseph and Margaret Jane Watson, Lydia Jane Bergman from Cannonsburg, Ohio; John and Mary Jane Wiley from Ireland; John P. McAffee, Alex Curry and his wife Mary also their daughter Mary from the Covenanter Church of Utica Ohio; Joseph Wiley and his wife Margaret from the Presbyterian Congregation of Ballyarnett, Ireland; Miss Isabella Wiley Mr. Isaac Wiley, Mr. Richard Wiley

From 1870 to 1880 the following members were received into full membership at the same location of worship: Robert B. Stevenson and his wife Phebe E.; Miss Minerva Wiley, John and Sarah McAffee, George M. Davison, Hugh Jamison, James Patton, Zacharia Hastings, Wm. Curry and his wife Florinda, James Albert McAffee, Alice T. McAffee, John Wiley and his wife Reed, Mary F. Wiley, Miss C. Delro McAfee, Miss Elma E. McAfee, Esther M. Beck, Emma Bell McKinley, Oliver McAfee, John McQueen, Margaret McQueen, Robert and Ellen Mckinley, Mrs. Alice Patton, William Watson, James McIntire, Nathaniel Patton, Agnes Patton, John and Caroline Greer, Agnetta McAfee, Rachel McAfee, Mary Ellen Weshow, Preston Wiley, Minerva McAfee, Elizabeth McAfee

In the next ten years from 1880 to 1890 some members added to the list of the United Presbyterian Church located at Woolshire Crossroads were as follows: Elizabeth McKinley, Martha Wright, Margaret Jane Wiley, Ella Marquett, John Patton, William and Ellen Whittaker, Sarah Porterfield, William Wylie, Eliza Patton, Fannie Patton, James Albert McAfee, Emma Gibney, Sarah A. Jamieson, Marion McQueen, Robert and Ella Kyle, Edward and Jane Gernett, Sarah Currie.

Other members received from 1891 to 1907 when the Session voted to change the location of meeting outside Washington Twp. are as follows: Ella Hastings, Ida Hastings, Esther Whittaker, Joseph Wylie, Moses Wylie, Charls McAfee, S. J. Moore, J. T. McAfee, Ella McAfee, Elsworth McAfee, Lilly McAfee, Matie Curry, Aggie McQueen, William and Mary George were received by certificate from First United Presbyterian Church of Superior, Nebraska, John Moore, James Grier, Katie Grier, Pearl McQueen, Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, Edna George, James and Elizabeth Norris were received by certificate from the Presbyterian Church of Union City, Indiana, William and Isabelle Wiley, John Patton, Martha Adella Patton, Mable Floy Patton, John McMillan of the Covenanter Church transferred his membership to the United Presbyterian Church June 17, 1899, Isabelle

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Jamieson, Elizabeth Patton, Warren McMillan, Flossie Naomi Hastings, Ethel McMillan, Melvina Brumbaugh, Harry C. Hastings.

MACEDON

Macedon, once a bustling, teeming center of activity, with four general stores, several saloons and gambling places, two hotels, a lime kiln, wagon shop, brick yard, barber shop, and blacksmith shop, is now a quiet little hamlet on the historic Wabash River, six miles west of Coldwater, Ohio, on State Route 219.

Approximately one hundred years ago, Macedon was a typical frontier town that could boast of a population between 400 and 500 residents. Today, 56 people call Macedon home.

The town was platted on September 28, 1838 by William Nichols and George Arbaugh. The area at that time consisted of 60 lots, the size of each being 4 by 8 rods, containing thirty-two square rods each. Main Street was 66 feet wide, Centre Street 60, and all other streets were 40 feet wide.

September 17, 1880, Joseph Harper and John Huston made an addition of six lots, 66 by 132 feet each, east of Grant Street. This same year, the local businesses had dwindled to one general store, one physician, one blacksmith shop and one shoe shop. These comprised most of the businesses, and the surrounding land was rich farming country. Population in 1880 was 75. In 1907, there still remained six streets in Macedon, they were called Walnut, Center, Wabash, Mulberry, Torri, and Main Streets.

What halted the expansion of Macedon? The railroad. Residents today say that Macedon did not wish the railroad to pass through their town. At any rate, the railroad bypassed Macedon for Coldwater, and the decline began.

The eastern limits of the village extended considerably beyond its present line, and many acres now under cultivation were at one time covered with houses and cabins. The western limits did not extend much beyond the present line. Between it and the Wabash lowlands is a high knoll that is now a well-kept cemetery. 150 years or more ago, this was an Indian burial ground.

Many Indian bones have been exhumed and hundreds of trinkets and arrowheads have been found when graves were excavated. Thus, the same plot of ground was served as a resting place for red skins, as well as descendants of the whites. *by Louanna Pennington*

MACEDON MEDICAL SCHOOL

For several years, there was a medical school in Macedon, probably the first in Ohio and one of the first in the Midwest. The old log structure that rests in Mercelina Park in Celina, Ohio today, contains logs that came from the original medical school, according to residents today. The structure in Mercelina Park is known as the Mathias Smith Tavern.

Details are not complete, but one or more doctors were in charge of the medical school, under whom students studied or "Read Medicine" as it was called in those days. The late Dr. S. R. Wilson, whose last home was in Celina at the turn of the 20th century attended this school.

Sales Room of Peter Portz

Macedon Medical School

The skeleton used in this school, which was discontinued in the 1870's, was later in the office of a Washington Township physician, Dr. Denny. Descendants of Dr. Denny are living in Macedon today. After discontinuing his practice, the skeleton was thrown into Buck ditch by a tenant in the house, and flood waters washed it away. One bone remains, a femur, which has been restored and varnished and is in the possession of Chris Ranly, a Fort Recovery upholsterer.

THE GUENTHER HOUSE MYSTERY

On the west edge of the village of Macedon, on the banks of Totti Creek, is a neat, comfortably remodeled home which has no semblance of the past, but which 100 years ago was The Guenther House, or hotel, or tavern, of ill repute.

This building was the setting of a mystery shrouded murder, just prior to the Civil War. Later the place was abandoned and as is often the case, became entwined with ghostly stories. It was shunned by many people and dozens of tenants hurriedly left it. Some folks reported lights moving about upstairs, while others said they heard a thudding noise like a body falling.

The tavern was operated by John Guenther and his sons and was the scene of numerous brawls and trouble. Among those present at a New Year's Eve dance was a drover, or stock buyer, who was passing through. He drank heavily and boasted of having $500.00 from the sale of a herd of cattle. A young man whose name according to stories, was John Griffith, but may have been Young as claimed by an elderly Macedon resident, became suspicious of Guenther because of his actions and questions, while plying the drover with liquor.

After the dance broke up, Young loitered in the darkness and watched a lighted upstairs window. He heard a thud and then the light was extinguished.

Later he saw three men come from the tavern carrying a heavy object, and soon they reappeared from the darkness. The next morning it was learned that the drover had disappeared and also that the tavern well had been filled. The towns people were puzzled, but fearful to voice their opinions. Young entered the Union Army soon after this happening and when he returned, he told his story to some close friends and they started excavating the old well. It is said that after reaching a depth of 16 feet, Young suffered a heart attack. The friends became unnerved and abandoned the job. Another story is told that the friends became frightened and quit the job and Young, being unable to continue alone, was forced to give up. Whether or not the body is still at the bottom of the well is unknown.

The Guenthers becoming alarmed by talk of the

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villagers suddenly disappeared. They are supposed to have fled to Canada, as they were notorious Southern sympathizers and their tavern had been a refuge for draft dodgers, bounty hunters and other lawless elements. At one time it was raided by Union soldiers home on furlough.

MACEDON CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

On Wednesday, January 29, 1913, a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions for the first Christian Church at Macedon. This was the beginning of plans and work that resulted in the erection of the building itself. R. A. Scott was chairman of the committee, and G. R. Hassan was clerk. The building committee consisted of Ely Denney, Fred Cline, and Chas. L. Reef. The other members of that soliciting committee were Mart Granger, O. S. Green, James Burkett, John McAfee, Jr., and N. J. Boice.

The committee decided to erect a building 36 feet by 46 feet, at a meeting at Macedon on Monday, February 24, 1913. At a special church meeting held on Wednesday evening, March 12, 1913, the building committee decided to build a belfry on the church on the plan of the High School building.

The building was to be erected on ground donated by C. L. Reef, north of the road and opposite the main entrance to the Macedon Cemetery in Washington Township, Mercer County of the State of Ohio.

The ground was staked off on Monday, March 10, 1913 for the church and it was 8 rods long and 10 rods deep. At a church meeting two plan changes were approved. One plan was to change the belfry to a plan of placing the bell in top of the Church. The other plan was to change the size of building to 34 feet by 46 feet. The first gravel was hauled for the church on Wednesday, March 19, 1913, by Wiley Runkle, Bert Hassan, and Ely Denney. The first material for the new church was hauled on Saturday, May 31, 1913, by Arthur McAffee, Roy McAfee, Seth Runkles, and George Hassan.

The building committee advertised for bids for contractors to complete the church building, excepting the hardware, cement and gravel. Elwood Drumm had the low bid of $1240.00. The erection of the church began on Tuesday, June 3, 1913. The church was completed on September 5, 1913. The church was dedicated on November 22, 1913. The dedication sermon was given by Rev. G. H. Thornburg. Miss Zelma B. Johnson was the Pastor.

The present church building has been moved since the building of the church. Due to the changing of State Highway 219 in front of the church, it came closer to the front of the church. The building had to be set back farther to the north. Trustee Bill Dillworth was in charge of the negotiations between the church and the State. A rising vote of thanks was given Bill at a business meeting on August 21, 1963 for all that he had done. The work was to be completed by October 1, 1963.

Macedon Church is a member of the Midwest Congregational Christian Fellowship, having voted against the merger with the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

The people at Macedon believe in doing church business in unity and harmony. The members, over the years, have increased their mission giving, budget money, and services in the church.

The present church officers are clerk-Sarah Boggs, Treasurer-Jack and Betty Jamieson, Pianist-Betty Jamieson, Ass't Pianist-Mabel Denney, Chorister-Jack Jamieson, Ass't Chorister-Kenny Van Tilburg, Finance committee-Anna Brumbaugh, Ushers-the young people, Collection of Conference Dues-Mabel Denney, Key Man-Charlie Denney, Key Woman-Sarah Boggs, Trustees-Donald Haas, Albert Hassan, Charlie Denney, Delegates to the Conference-Albert Hassan, Goldie Hassan, Glea Ferner, Mabel Denney, Dillie McDowell, Charley Ferner, Anna Brumbaugh, and Charlie Denney, Deacons-Bert Hassan, Charlie Ferner Ordained Deacon.

The people are thankful for the help received from the Bethel Church members in the starting of the new church at Macedon. The Bethel Church had been discontinued. The present pastor at Macedon is Rev. Lincoln McEntire. The Membership is thankful for the help received from Mr. William O. Denney from Celina.

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UNITY GRANGE

The National Grange was organized in 1868 by)liver Kelly. The first Grange was organized in)hio on March 2, 1870.

The first meeting place for what is now known as nity Grange, was in a small building located west f Wabash, Ohio. It was known as Wabash Grange nd was organized in 1873. Proof of this is through ıe possession of a subordinate Grange Manual with ıe organization seal dating December of 1873. The ıanual is in possession at the present time of the :ounty Deputy Robert Doner and his wife Leola, /ho are appointed by the Ohio State Grange Mas-:r. After a number of years, the meeting place was hanged to Erastus in a building located on the east ide of Erastus-Durbin Road.

The name of the Grange was changed to Unity Grange #2116 in 1917 at a reorganization meeting. : was in that year that Albert and Golda Hassan be-ame members and were the recipients of 60 year ins at the County installation of new officers on ept. 26, 1978.

During World War I, the grange meetings were liscontinued a short time. In 1933, the Grange was gain reorganized and is still going forward.

Member's names that were instrumental in carry-ng forward this grange work and history include he following: LaRue, Grier, Hassan, Wiley, Fetter, Boley, Doner, Koester, Adams, Ransbottom, Coate, Ashcraft, Bryan, Kinnison, and numerous others.

60 Year Pins — Leola Doner, Bob Doner, Albert Hassan, Goldie Hassan, Jerry Laffin.

First Display at County Fair — Kathleen Boley, Mrs. John (Maggie) Grier, Florence Ashcraft (Keister), Tom Boley, Anthony Adams, Orville Ashcraft, John W. Grier, Golda Grier (Hassan), Wm. Wiley, Ruth Hassan, Neal Boley, Albert Hassan.

Unity Grange purchased the old center Grade School in Washington Township in 1949. This was their Grange home until 1958 when they purchased their present building known as the former Washington Township High School located on St. Anthony Road south of Wabash, Ohio.

Past Masters of this Grange were George Coate, William Wiley, John Grier, Frank Fetter, Albert Hassan, Clarence LaRue, Robert Doner, Martin Menchofer and Jerry Laffin.

The Grange presently has 85 members, who are active in many community activities. Unity Grange has had a cafeteria at the county fair for forty years. Seventeen of our present members have been associated with this grange for over 25 years.

The Grange is a family fraternal organization with a Junior Grange for children ages five thru fourteen. There are many crafts and contests to keep them interested on a local and a state level. The Subordinate Grange is for anyone over fourteen years of age. Among the many activities are sewing and baking contests on a county and state level.

Ritualistic and drill contests keep everyone interested. Talent contests are also held.

Wayne and Janet Doner were chosen young married couple of the year for the state of Ohio in 1973.

Other activities include exchange programs with other county granges. During the winter months, a countywide fun night is held at different granges, with square dancing, folk games and fellowship for members and non-members alike.

The State Grange has a campground named Friendly Hills located near Zanesville where a state horseshoe pitching contest is held.

Unity Grange plans to continue its growth and its service to the community for many years to come and invites anyone interested in agriculture to become associated with it or any other county grange.

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Front Row: John W. Adams, Salome Mechhofer Adams. **Back Row:** Edward, Bruce, Whitridge, Clarence and Dewey Adams.

JOHN W. ADAMS

John W. Adams married Salome Menchhofer June 15, 1879. They resided in Washington Township on a farm. They had the following children: Homer, born Aug. 13, 1880; Edward, born July 20, 1882; Bruce, born Dec. 26, 1887; Whitridge, born Apr. 18, 1891; Clarence, born Nov. 5, 1893; Dewey, born Sept. 11, 1898.

Mr. Adams was a farmer and breeder of Palled Shorthorn cattle. Their country home and farm were known as a showplace in that area during the early 1900's.

Whitridge Adams, Grace Adams Fair, Carrie Adams, Carl Adams, Lisle Adams.

WHITRIDGE AND CARRIE ADAMS

Whitridge Adams (son of John W. Adams and Salome Menchhofer) and Carrie Ellen Andrews, (daughter of Frank and Ellen (McGee) Andrews) were united in marriage on June 26, 1918. Whitridge was born on April 18, 1891, and died on August 17, 1973. Carrie was born on July 16, 1893, in Jefferson Twp., Ohio, and died on May 15, 1974. They made their home in Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio, on St. Anthony Road. They were both buried in Swamp College Cemetery in Jefferson Twp., Mercer Co., near Celina.

Unto this union were born three children: Carl H., born Feb. 10, 1920, Grace, born March 26, 1922, and Lisle, born Oct. 10, 1925.

Mr. Adams was a farmer and a breeder of hereford cattle. He spent several years showing them at county fairs. He also enjoyed farming with his team of mules in the 30's.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams were both members of the Erastus Methodist Church in the community in which they resided.

Carrie Adams was active in community affairs, member of the Unity Grange, sang in the Community Chorus in the early 30's and the church choir. She enjoyed playing the piano.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams lived their entire married life on the farm (section 24) in Washington Township, Mercer County, Ohio. Whit purchased the farm from his father John W. Adams. His father had purchased the farm in 1903.

Lisle Adams resides on the farm now and farms

On Sept. 23, 1950, Carl married La Verne Stum Portland, Ind. To this union was born a daught Deborah Kay on July 2, 1957. They now reside Madison Twp., Jay County, Ind.

On November 10, 1956, Grace was married Floyd Fair of Tipp City, Ohio. They now reside i Troy, Ohio. *Lisle Adams, Celina, Oh. 45822*

THE ADAMS FAMILY

The Adams family were early settlers in Merce County around the year 1860. Land was purchase in Washington Township on St. Anthony Road. A old log house stood just west of where the preser stately brick home now stands, back a lane off St Anthony Road, west of Burrville Road. The propert still remains in the Adams family with Allan Adam its present owner.

Joseph Adams was one of seven children of th union of Lesson Adams and Catherine Menchhofe Adams. He married Iva Ann Squier in 1906, and t that union two children were born, H. Bernice Ad ams and Naomi Adams.

Bernice married William H. Cashell and they were the parents of one child, Ann Lee Cashell. Ann married Roy Leon Morrison in 1952, and they are the parents of two daughters, Marsha Lynn and Linda Leigh. Marsha is married to Dennis M. Bishop.

Naomi married Chester McAfee, and they are the parents of a boy and a girl, namely Kraig and Karer McAfee. Kraig married Coralie Roesner, and t them were born three daughters and one son, Kell Jo, Kasi Lee, Kristi Kae and Kerry D. McAfee. Karen married Paul Eugene Liss and a son and a daughter were born to them, Eric Eugene and Paula Adams Liss. *Ann Morrison, Celina, Oh. 48522*

THE EARLY ADAMS' FAMILY

The Adams Family is believed to have come from England, but there are no records as to the date they arrived in America.

The earliest records are of Robert Adams, who was born February 10, 1816, in Perry County, Ohio. He was married three times and had nineteen children. His first wife was Charlotte Fisher, whom he married April 12, 1842, and together they had six children: John, Evi, Leson, Mary, and twins Henry and Helen. The family came to Mercer County in November of 1851, and settled in Washington Township, where the Wiley home place is now located, and is owned by Wayne Adams. Robert was then appointed Justice of the Peace for Macedon and the surrounding area, by the Governor of Ohio. Charlotte died on August 30, 1853.

Robert and Charlotte's son, Leson, was born February 17, 1848, in McConnelsville, Morgan County, Ohio, and came with his parents to Mercer County at the age of three. He fought in the Civil War, in the Army of the Shenandoah, when he was only sixteen years of age. He was married to Catherine Menchhofer in 1873, eight years after the Civil War. Catherine was born on April 8, 1844, the daughter of

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hn and Catharine Pflughaupt Menchhofer of the chwindratsheim Estate, near Strassburg, Alsace, ance. In May of 1850, they sailed from Havre, ance for America with their five children, includg Catherine who was six years old. They settled in Vashington Twp., Mercer County, Ohio.

Leson had performed honorable service in the ivil War, and later he taught school and engaged in rming. Leson was always interested in the educaon and development of young folks and mainined a creditable library, enjoyed particularly by imself and George Menchhofer, his wife's brother, ho spent many of his days in the Adams' home. even children were born to this union: Caroline, hn R., George, Albert, and Alice, who were twins, Villiam Anthony and Joseph.

William Anthony (Tone) Adams was born Februry 15, 1883, in a log house on a 140 acre farm where is parents had lived since their marriage in 1873. he log house was located west of the brick house at now stands on the Janet and Allan Adams farm. 1 1886, the fine two story brick home was built by eson and Catherine Adams for their large family. one Adams was married to Katherine Luella Carack in 1910, and they lived in the large brick house vith his parents, until after their first child, Robert Carmack was born on September 20, 1911. Shortly fter he was born, they moved across the road, to he house that Tone had built. Wayne Adams owns nd lives in this house now.

Tone and Katherine had five more children, Anhony Wayne, Hubert, Mary Hazel, Helen Eloise nd Doris Evelyn. Tone's wife Katherine died in April of 1926, and a daughter, Mary, was killed in an uto accident on August 1, 1937, at the age of 19.

Robert walked to grade school at the Erastus chool, and then attended Washington Township High School, from which he graduated in 1929 with 8 in his class. Upon graduation, he started farming vith his Dad, who owned 80 acres where they lived, nd had bought 40 acres from his parents' (Leson nd Catherine) farm. The depression began in the all of 1929, and hogs sold for 3¢ a pound and eggs or 5¢ a dozen. Bob remembers hitching up the team o the mud boat and taking his brothers and sisters o school, when the snow was deep.

Robert was married in 1939, and moved to a farm is father owned on Erastus-Durbin Rd. His father, Tone, lived in the house he built until the time of is death on February 27, 1954.

See the Robert Carmack Adams family history. *Janet Adams, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Allan Adams Family in front of brick house on their farm. Allan and Janet; children: Jill, Scott, Greg & Diann.

THE ALLAN ADAMS FAMILY

Allan Lewis Adams was born June 18, 1946, in Celina, Ohio, the son of Robert Carmack Adams and Florence Margaret Weisman. He attended Washington Township grade school, until it closed in 1958. He then went to Celina Junior High and High School, from which he graduated in May of 1964.

He entered the U.S. Army in December of 1965, and after basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, he went to Ft. Gordon near Augusta, Georgia for signal school training and from there was sent to Heilbronn, Germany as a radio operator. He returned home in November of 1967, and resumed farming and raising hogs with his father.

On June 20, 1970, he married the former Janet Joanne Peters at Beaver Chapel Congregational Christian Church, west of Celina. She was born October 12, 1948 at Gibbons Hospital in Celina, the daughter of Harold Ora and Mildred Pauline (Gaus) Peters. She lived on an 80 acre farm with her family, 2¼ miles south of Coldwater, until she was seven, and then they moved, to where her parents still live, 3 miles west of Celina. She attended Coldwater school through the second grade, and then attended Celina's East, West, Junior High and High School, from which she graduated in May of 1966. She enrolled at the Western Ohio Education Foundation (branch campus of Ohio Northern University), and attended classes part-time and worked at Celina Mutual Insurance Group until she was married. While still in high school, she learned from a dear friend how to decorate cakes. which she still does and enjoys.

After they were married, they rented the Joe and Iva Adams house on Erastus-Durbin Road, and lived there for three years. Their first child, Scott Lewis was born on February 7, 1971, at Gibbons Hospital in Celina. He is now in the second grade at West Elementary school. In June of 1973, they bought a 12 X 60 mobile home, which they moved just south of his parent's house. They lived there for two years, and their second son, Gregg Allan was born on November 16, 1973 at Van Wert County Hospital, and is now 4 years old.

In March of 1975, they traded in their small mobile home for a 24 x 54' double wide, which they moved to the same location. On July 12, 1975, their first daughter, Jill Joanne, was born at Van Wert County Hospital, and was just 3 years old this summer.

In September of 1975, they bought the Paul (Blue) Powell farm at public auction. The farm consists of 80 acres, a two story brick house, a bank barn, granary and machine shed. Allan's great-grandparents, Leson and Catherine Adams moved to this farm in a log house, when they were married in 1873. Allan's grandfather, William Anthony (Tone) Adams was born there in 1883. The large brick house was built about 1886 by Leson, and Allan's father, Robert was born in that house in 1911. The farm was owned by Leson's father, Robert, before Leson and Catherine moved there in 1873, so the land has been in the Adams family for over a hundred years.

Allan then began raising his own hogs on their farm, and now farrows about 40 sows a year, and feeds out the pigs. He also rents 120 acres for grain farming, and farms 300 acres with his dad.

On November 6, 1977, their second daughter, Diann Janet was born at Van Wert County Hospital, and she is now 11 months old. We are hoping to

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soon remodel and restore the brick house on our farm and move there.

We have been active in St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Washington Township, and the Mercer County Farm Bureau.

See the Robert C. Adams and Early Adams' Family Histories. *Janet Adams, Celina, Oh. 45822*

Robert and Florence Adams home on Erastus Durbin Road.

THE ROBERT C. ADAMS' FAMILY

Robert Carmack Adams was born September 20, 1911, and was married to Florence Margaret Weisman on April 9, 1939 at St. Jonh's Lutheran Church in Celina. Florence was born April 6, 1918 at her parent's farm at Five Point, north of Celina. Her father was Charlie Weisman, born October 4, 1879 in Rheinphalz, Germany, the son of Jacob and Elizabeth Ulrick Weisman. He came to America at the age of 3, with his parents and lived in Hopewell Township most of his life, until his death on December 10, 1963. Her mother, Catherine Weisman was born December 26, 1881, in Hopewell Twp., the daughter of Adam and Fredricka Feldhaus Siebert. Charles and Catherine had six children. Catherine died December 11, 1967.

Florence, as a young girl, helped her dad farm, and went to Celina to school. She drove a car for the first time when she was twelve years old. She graduated from Celina High School in 1935 and started working at the J.M. Dull Coal Co., when coal was $6.00 a ton. She worked there until she and Bob were married, and they moved to a 160 acre farm on Erastus-Durbin Road in Washington Township, which Bob's father had bought in 1936.

A log house, part of the present house, was located north of where the house now stands, and was moved to this location by Henry Swartz, when he owned the farm. He also moved a frame house, which stood in the lot south of the present house, behind the log house. Bob tore the frame house down and replaced it with a machine shed.

In 1955, Bob and Florence bought the farm, where their five children had been born. Donald Robert was born August 23, 1940, Kathryn Elaine, August 19, 1941, Linda Ruth, born September 13, 1944, Allan Lewis born June 18, 1946, and David Duane born July 2, 1954. The original log house was remodeled at different times.

In 1967, Bob and Florence bought the Wilbur Straley farm of 120 acres, which used to be the Kittle home place. In 1970, Bob built a hog building to feed hogs, on the farm where he lives.

Florence started working at the Stokely Canning Factory in 1960, and worked there for 3 years. Then she started working at Landmark Elevator in the office, and worked there until February of 1978.

She and Bob are both members of St. Paul's L theran Church in Washington Township, and Bob still farming and raising hogs, and Florence enjo her flowers and gardening. *Janet J. Adams*

Standing: Ralph, John, Dorothy, Donald, Jerome Alig. **Seated:** Richard, John Alig, Sr., baby Rose Mary, Hilda Alig and Bernice Alig.

JOHN AND HILDA ALIG

John Alig was born February 5, 1828, Konigreic Bavern, Germany and lived until April 26, 1909 i Jay County, Indiana. John had come to America i the 1830's. He had a name of a relative and an Ohi city to find; he lost the paper containing this infoı mation. He arrived in New Orleans; traveled th Mississippi River north. He worked in the whea fields of Kansas. Eventually, he arrived at Tiffir Ohio about 1857 and married Veronica Reitz i 1858. They moved to Jay County in the 1860's. Joh and Veronica (Reitz) Alig had six children: John H Lawrence; Adam Henry who married Clara Eliza beth Sudhoff; Joseph; William who married Vero nica Krieg, George who married Elizabeth Krieg.

William Alig married Veronica Krieg. They ha five children: John William, Joseph, Sebastian wh now lives in Binghamton, New York; Catherin (Alig) LaFontaine who now lives in Erie, Pennsylva nia; and Henry.

John William Alig married Hilda Philomen Droesch, the daughter of Henry and Elizabet (Boeckman) Droesch. Henry Droesch's parents wer Engelbert and Philomena (Elking) Droesch. Eliza beth Droesch's parents were Henry and Catherin (Martin) Boeckman. Her maternal grandparent were Henry and Teresa Sachs Martin from Elsasa Lothringen, Germany. Her paternal grandparent were Henry and Elizabeth Todt Boeckman, wh came over to this country from Germany.

John and Hilda (Droesch) Alig had ten children Jerome, Donald, Ralph, Dorothy, Viola, John Jr., Joseph, Richard, Berniece, and Rosemary. They were all members of the St. Anthony Catholic Church at St. Anthony, Ohio. They resided on a farm in Jay County, Indiana, 1½ miles across the state line.

Jerome married Evelyn Barga. They have four children: James, Robert, Joann, David. James married Judith Reinhard. Robert married Nancy Jutte. Joann married Mark Heitkamp. Jerome and Evelyn reside on a farm in Jay County, Indiana.

Donald married Vera Muhlenkamp. They have six children: Lorraine, Karen, Roger, Gary, Mary Ann, William. Lorraine married Dan Howey. Karen married Dale Barton. Donald and Vera Alig reside on a farm in Jay County, Indiana, a mile & ½ across the state line.

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Ralph Alig died May 31, 1948 from a drowning accident.

Dorothy married Arthur Buschur. They had nine children: Thomas, Patricia, Anthony, Eleanor, Mark, ne, Ann, Keith, and Arthur. Arthur Buschur died 1963. Dorothy married Gregor Hein. He had two aughters from a previous marriage. Mary Ann and atricia Hein. Gregor and Dorothy Hein have two aughters; Lois and Linda Hein. They reside in anklin Township, Montezuma, Ohio. Thomas arried Carol Heitkamp. Anthony married Glenda ow. Eleanor married Ronald Boeckman. Mary Ann arried David Andrews. Patricia Hein married Mihael Wappelhorst.

Viola Alig was born April 26, 1929 and died May 1929.

John Alig married Marceil Muhlenkamp. They ave six children: Rita, Eileen, Kathy, Susan, Paul, Iichael Alig. Rita married Steve Butcher. Eileen arried Jeff Bickel. John and Marceil reside on a rm in Jay County, Indiana. Joseph Edmund Alig as born December 26, 1932 and died July 2, 1934 om an automobile accident.

Richard Alig married Jeanette Wellman. They ave six children: Steve, Ralph, Barbara, Nancy, harles, Connie. They live on a farm in Butler ownship on state route 219 west of Coldwater, hio.

Berniece married Elmo Buehler. They had five ildren: Douglas, Deborah, David, Darlene, Denna uehler. Deborah married Oakland Roberts. David ied in infancy. Berniece and Elmo reside in Coldater, Ohio.

Rosemary Alig married Edgar Heitkamp. They ave four daughters: Kelley, Kimberlie, Kristen, arla. They reside in Butler Township, on state oute 219 west of Coldwater, Ohio. *Mrs. Gregor Hein*

tanding: Lucy Ann Alig Nieport, Dale, enneth, Norman and Alvin Alig. **Seated:** hilomena and Henry Alig.

HENRY AND PHILOMENA ALIG

Henry George Alig (July 1, 1907 — January 16, 972) was the grandson of John Alig, who came to merica from Konigreich Bavern, Germany, in the 830's, and Veronica (Reitz) Alig. He was the son of William (March 26, 1871 — December 29, 1960) and eronica (Kreig) Alig (August 6, 1873 — December 3, 1950) who had five children: John, who married ilda Droesch (see John Alig history); Joseph, who ied in childhood; Sebastian ("Bostie"), who married ladys Allen and lives in Binghamton, New York; atherine, who married Walter LaFontaine and lives Erie, Pennsylvania; and Henry.

Henry married Philomena Catherine Homan on ctober 15, 1935. Philomena ("Minnie") was the daughter of Gerhard and Catherine (Muhlenkamp) Homan who had six children: Dora (Schmitt), Othilia (Schenking), Alma (Post), Thresia (Heitkamp), Philomena, and Sister M. Miribilis (Bertha).

Gerhard Homan's parents were Gerhard and Maria Katherina (Rhein) Homan. Catherine (Muhlenkamp) Homan's parents were Herman and Elizabeth (Emmerich) Muhlenkamp.

Henry and Philomena had five children: Norman William (August 10, 1936), Alvin Gerhard (April 28, 1938), Kenneth John (January 24, 1941), Dale William (June 3, 1944), and Lucy Ann Thresia (February 21, 1952).

Henry attended St. Joseph College, Rensselaer, Indiana, and then returned home to take over his father's farm in Wabash Township, Jay County, Indiana. In 1942 he purchased a farm in Noble Township, Jay County, and lived there with his family until his death. In 1977 Philomena sold the home farm to her son, Alvin, and now lives in St. Anthony, Ohio.

Norman married Hilda Heuker (October 2, 1939), and has five children: Madonna Jean (August 10, 1962), Gregory Kenneth (July 25, 1963), David Dale (September 19, 1968), Kathleen Ann (December 15, 1971), and Rick Edwin (June 11, 1975). Norman's live in Washington township a mile south of St. Anthony. Norman has a pork and poultry operation and manages over 500 acres of farmland in both Mercer County and Jay County, Indiana.

Alvin lives in Granville Township; see Alvin Alig history.

Kenneth married Beatrice Garke (August 13, 1944) and has four children: Angela Marceil (January 13, 1967), Julia Ann (February 29, 1969), Lisa Marie (July 17, 1971), and Randal Henry (February 17, 1974). Kenneth works in assembly at Pax Steel Products in Coldwater. Kenneth's live near St. Peter on Siegrist-Jutte Road.

Dale married Janet Gehle (September 14, 1946) and has three sons: Brian William (September 15, 1968), Kevin John (March 16, 1971), and Jason Francis (October 3, 1973). Dale is a computer programmer for the Minister Machine Company in Minster. Dale's live in New Bremen, Ohio.

Lucy Ann married Steve Nieport (September 16, 1952). Lucy Ann is a secretary at Teledyne Portland Forge in Portland, Indiana, and Steve is a dairy accountant for the National Farmers Organization's Office in Celina. They reside in St. Henry, Ohio. Steve and Lucy Ann have one child, Kathryn Marie, born Feb. 2, 1979. *Lucy Ann Nieport, St. Henry, Oh.*

THE GEORGE BASTIAN FAMILY

George Bastian was born near Strasbourg, Germany on the 30th of June 1820. He came to America at the age of five with his parents, Jacob Bastian born 1792 and Elizabeth Goss born 1790, and brothers Jacob Jr. born 4 December 1817, Fred, Adam, and Barbary, and a sister Katie. They settled first in Stark county, Ohio, then to Mercer county in the late 1830's.

Being one of the great pioneers, George saw the woods give way to the woodman's axe and become fertile fields. During his early life in this country

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there were Indians at Fort Recovery, and an abundance of deer, bear and wolves roamed the forests. George helped dig the St. Mary's reservoir when but seventeen years of age.

On February 21, 1840 George Bastian was united in marriage to Miss Mary Pfennig, daughter of George Pfennig and Mary Menchhofer who also came from the Strasbourg Germany area. The Bastian's were blessed with eleven children: Elizabeth Stilgebouer 1844-1927, Marguerite 1845-1885, Mary Ann Clouse 1846-1919, Barbara Pearson 1848-1916, Carolina Dumbald (1850-1920, Katherine Moser 1852-1932, Hannah Storey 1853-1937, Samuel 1855-1925, Phillip 1858-1939, William 1862-1937, and Louisa 1864-1865.

George and Mary Bastian were active in community life. They were charter members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, and on March 7, 1861 deeded the land upon which their church was built in Washington township. George was a trustee of Washington township for a number of years. His principal business was that of farming and stock-raising.

George Bastian died in Wabash, Ohio on December 24, 1903, leaving three sons, six daughters, thirty grandchildren and twenty-three great-grandchildren to mourn his departure. *submitted by one of his great-great-grandchildren.*

Morris Baucher, Leora Boneta Greene

GREENE

Leora Boneta Greene married Morris Wylie Baucher on September 19, 1948. Morris was born on July 18, 1926. To this union 13 children were born. Rebecca Marie born September 6, 1950, Stephen Lynn born June 10, 1952, Timothy Nathan born December 16, 1953, Deborah Kay born July 10, 1955, Joseph Alan born April 21, 1959, Jonathan Lee born March 8, 1962, Philip Michael born October 15, 1964, Paul Matthew born January 8, 1966, twins Samuel Morris and Sara Miriam born January 8, 1969, Priscilla Ann who was born and died January 1, 1970, Julia Elizabeth born May 7, 1971 and Candace Leora born December 16, 1974. Son Timothy Nathan was named for his Grandfather Orrin Nathan Greene. All 13 children have a Biblical name and 18 of the 26 names are the names of an earlier ancestor. In addition to their own twelve children the Bauchers have a foster son — Wellington (Tony) Chiu who was born in Okinawa on July 29, 1952.

Son Stephen Lynn married Beverly Jean Moore of Celina, Ohio on July 31, 1976. They live in Fairborn, Ohio. They have no children. Foster son Tony is also married and lives in Torrance, California. His wife is Eli. The Chius have no children. *Becky Baucher*

GLENN BEAMS FAMILY

Glenn Beams was born in Mercer county, as was his father, Lawrence A. Beams. His mother, Blanche Ethel Fell was also of Mercer County.

Glenn and Delilah Vivian Powell, daughter o Benjamin F. Powell and Iva Margaret Kettering were married Nov. 12, 1924 in Mercer County. The have two children Theodore L. Beams and Mariann Beams.

Theodore married Edna Bomholt, who was bor in Mercer County. They have one child Rebecc Ann, born in Troy, Ohio. Rebecca married Stev Bech and they have one child, Angelia.

Later, Theodore married Shirley Weneseley o Sussex, England. They have four children: Gilliar Lynette, born in Omaha, Nebraska; Kim Marianne born in Sussex, England; Darin Charles, born i Bangor, Maine, and Michael Andrew, born in Abi lene, Texas.

Later Theodore married Jaqualine McChristy o Orlando, Fla. They have one adopted child, Robert and living in Maitland, Fla.

Marianne Beams married William D. DeLuca o Newburgh, New York. They are living in Walnu Creek, Calif. *Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Beams, Celina, Oh.*

RICHARD LEE BERKENSTOCK

On August 1, 1965, a new Mercer County family was established with the marriage of Richard Lee Berkenstock and Polly Ann Boley. Richard was the son of Rev. Paul F. Berkenstock and Mildred (Heide) Berkenstock of Piqua, Ohio. Polly Ann Boley was the daughter of Homer John Boley and Ruth (Grier) Boley, a long established Mercer County family.

Richard Lee Berkenstock was born July 9, 1938, in Thornville, Ohio (Perry County).

Richard and Polly Berkenstock have two children. Penny Ann Berkenstock was born on August 2, 1968, in Celina, Ohio. Timothy Lee Berkenstock was born June 10, 1970, in Celina, Ohio.

The Richard Berkenstock family reside on Township Line Road, on Polly (Boley) Berkenstock's mother's family farm. *R. Berkenstock, Coldwater, Oh.*

Sebastian and Josepha (Biggs) Diller

THE BIGGS AND DILLER HOMESTEADS

Life had been difficult in Germany. Even women herded sheep and cattle and went into the fields to work all day long; yet hardly got anything to eat. Because of hardships, the Biggs Family, one of the unfortunates, decided to go to America.

Monica Biggs (b. 1807, d. 1880) and her children, namely, Joseph, Engelbert, Josepha, Sophia and Francesco, came to America and homesteaded in Washington Twp., Mercer County, Ohio on what is now the Joe Diller farm at 6050 Rauh Road, Route 1, Coldwater, Ohio.

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Engelbert (b. 12-04-1845 at Ravensburg, Germany; 9-24-1913 at Waterloo, Kansas) was engaged in rming and stock-raising and was a road supervi-r. On 1-17-1871 he married Alaria Elizabeth Fort-an in St. Anthony, (Padua, Ohio) and she bore m five children. It is believed that, after Monica's ath, some of the Biggs Family, except Josepha, oved to the Kansas area.

Monica's daughter, Josepha (b. January 1834, d. 5-5-1897) first married Constant Weigel and they had vo sons. While the sons were small, Constant died a drowning accident, and then Josepha married ebastian Diller (b. 3-16-1827, d. 11-17-1906).

Sebastian Diller had also come to America from urope because of the American prosperity he had eard about. The government gave him the land iat is now the homeplace of Urban Diller at 5973 auh Road, Washington Twp., Mercer County, oute 1, Coldwater, Ohio. After Sebastian and Jose-ha Biggs were married they lived in a log home at 973 Rauh Road; the original cellar and four rooms the house remain as part of the Urban Diller fam-y home. Sebastian and Josepha's son Philip, lived is entire life on his father's farm and Philip's chil-ren remember the log house their Grandfather Se-astian lived in. They also remember an old spin-ing wheel setting in the house and a steam engine ieir father owned.

Sebastian and Josepha had eight children: Sophia, nna, Philip, Mary, Rosina, Tony, Frances and John. fter the Biggs family left the area Sebastian bought ie Biggs Homestead (where the Joe Diller family resently resides) and later Albert Diller bought it. ebastian's son, John, lived all his life on the Biggs omestead. When Sebastian was about 72 years old e built the barn and 3 or 4 years later the house on iis farm. He also bought what is now the Albert iller farm at 5976 Rauh Road across from the Ur-an Diller farm. Philip Diller built the house on this irm. These farms are in the fourth generation.

All of Sebastian and Josepha's children married xcept Anna who entered the Convent of the Sisters f the Precious Blood. Sister helped haul the bricks y hand for building the Maria Stein Chapel, then ecame confined with tuberculosis and never lived o see the completion of the new building.

Sophia married William Wellman and had seven iildren; Philip married Anna Gross (5 children); Iary married Bernard Homan (2 children); Rosina iarried Gerhard May (11 children); Tony married hristina Meng (10 children); . Frances married Ber-adin Doll (3 children); and John married Mary ross (8 children). *Mrs. Thelma Homan*

HOMER JOHN BOLEY

Homer John Boley, one of the prominent farmers i Washington Township, was born August 1, 1911. le was the son of William John Boley (1869-1932) nd Margaret Pearson Boley (1873-1955). Homer ad two brothers — Thomas Boley (1901-1955) and harles Boley who is still living, and one sister Mae oley (1900-1927). All three attended Center Grade chool.

Homer Boley married Ruth Helen Grier on April 2, 1939. Ruth was the daughter of Ralph and Caro-ne McDonald Grier. Homer farmed his own 40 res and various other farms. He also worked for New Idea in Coldwater, Ohio. Ruth resides on Township Line Road, Mercer County.

Ruth and Homer Boley had three children — Polly Ann born March 30, 1940, John Clark born September 7, 1941, and Connie May born January 14, 1944. All three attended Washington Township Grade School. Homer died of a heart attack while loading wheat at the Ft. Recovery Feed Mill on October 10, 1955.

Polly Boley married Richard Lee Berkenstock, son of Rev. Paul F. Berkenstock and Mildred (Heide) Berkenstock of Piqua, Ohio, August 1, 1965. They were married at the Erastus Methodist Church in which they still regularly attend. Richard works at Huffman Manufacturing in Celina, Ohio. They have two children — Penny Ann born August 2, 1968 and Timothy Lee born June 10, 1970. They reside on Township Line Road, Washington Township, Mercer County.

John Clark Boley married Valerie Norton, daughter of James and Altha Norton of St. Marys, Ohio, on November 13, 1970. They have five children — Michele born January 27, 1967, Teresa Nicole born January 30, 1971, Sarah Renee born May 8, 1976, and twin boys Homer John and Joshua John born April 18, 1978. John is a truck driver and he makes long and short hauls of various items. They reside on McMillan Road on the Boley home farm.

Connie May Boley married James Virgil Johnson, son of Floyd Virgil Johnson and Eva (Wright) Johnson of Ft. Recovery, Ohio, on April 24, 1965. They exchanged marriage vows at the Erastus Methodist Church in which they still attend. They have two children — Brett Homer born May 9, 1966 and Heather Rene born July 31, 1969. Jim works at Mersman Tables, Celina, Ohio. They reside on McMillan Road on the old William John Boley farmhouse and farm. *R. Berkenstock*

CARMACK I

Charles Carmack was born December 31, 1819. His wife Sarah Jane Robinson was born March 8, 1824. Charles died August 7, 1875 and Sarah Jane died September 26, 1910. The Carmacks lived on State Route 219 west of Coldwater in Washington Township. They had five children — J. Samuel, Maria, Leahline Josephine, Mary Ellen and Serilda A.

J. Samuel Carmack was born in 1853 and died in 1933. His wife M. Emma Fishbaugh was born in 1857 and died in 1932. They had seven children. Six of the seven children were L. Walter, L. Catherine (Katie), Hazel, Robert, Laura and Ellar. They are buried in the Macedon Cemetery.

Maria Carmack was born in 1855 and died in 1938. By her 1898 marriage to W. Edward Sloan there were no children. W. Edward and Maria Carmack Sloan are buried in the Macedon Cemetery.

Leahline Josephine Carmack was born April 29, 1857 and died May 16, 1940. She married Michael Branstetter on December 1, 1877. Michael Branstetter had been born January 21, 1850 and died September 5, 1935. They had five children — Nora, Charles, Huldah, Mary Ellen and Bertha Leota. Michael and Leahline Carmack Branstetter are buried in the Riverside Cemetery at Rockford.

See Branstetter. *Rebecca Baucher*

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CARMACK II

Mary Ellen Carmack was born in 1859 and died in 1929. Her husband John Peter Wright was born in 1860 and died in 1939. Mary Ellen and John Peter Wright are buried in Swamp College Cemetery. Their two sons — Ralph and Charles live in Florida.

Serilda A. Carmack was born in 1862 and died in 1941. Her husband William Martin Granger was born in 1862 and died in 1937. They had three children — Charles, Mary and Nellie. Serilda Carmack and William Martin Granger along with her parents are buried in the Macedon Cemetery. Nellie Granger and her husband J. Shirl Denney are also buried at Macedon. *Rebecca Baucher*

THE WILLIAM ISAAC DENNEY FAMILY

The Denney's are direct descendants of a Sir Geoffrey Denney who was born in England in 1320. As of about 1955 the old Denney homestead was still standing in Combs, England and was still in the Denney name. It was built in 1406.

Samuel Denney came to America about 1743 and settled at Amherst, Vi· He and his wife raised 9 sons and 8 daughters. So.ne time before the Revolutionary War they migrated to Surry County, North Carolina. One of his sons, John, was killed in the Revolutionary War at the battle of Kings Mountain in North Carolina. Another son James, had his feet frozen off at Valley Forge with General George Washington. Another son Azariah, married Sally Wise Felton and they settled on the Martin Flinchum farm in Surry County, North Carolina. Both he and Sally are buried on the farm with a field stone as a marker.

William Felton Denney, the son of Azariah, was born in Surry County, North Carolina in 1792, died in Jay County, Indiana in 1855.

William DeHart Denney, son of William Felton, was born in Gallia County, Ohio Nov. 9, 1819 and died at Macedon, Ohio in December 1905. He was married 3 times; first to Julia Ann Painter, second to Katie (Scott) Denney, the widow of his brother John, and third to Rhoda Atkinson, widow of Tom Atkinson who was murdered by a neighbor.

William F. Denney, the son of William DeHart and Julia Ann (Painter) Denney was born in Mercer County, Ohio in 1844 and died in Macedon, Ohio in 1918, and is buried in Macedon Cemetery. This William F. Denney served in the Civil War as a Union soldier in Co. "K" 40th Ohio Infantry.

William Isaac Denney, the son of William F. and Nancy (Eblen) Denney was born Dec. 2, 1878 in Macedon, Ohio, died May 9, 1943 and buried in Macedon cemetery. He married Pearl Amanda Teeters Jan. 23, 1901. Pearl was born Feb. 27, 1885, died 1968 and buried in Macedon cemetery. She was the daughter of David W. Teeters who was born May 30, 1839 and Sarah H. (Dixon) Teeters, born Jan. 1, 1848.

William Isaac (Bill) operated a barber shop in Macedon, Ohio his entire life time. He and Pearl had 6 boys and 3 girls, all born at Macedon, Ohio. Stella, born Jan 17, 1903, never married.

Doris, born Mar 11, 1905, married Lee Eifert, had one son Robert.

Charles, born Oct 7, 1907, married Emma Genevie Greer, had one daughter, Betty Lou. Emma Genevieve died in Feb. 1970 and buried in Macedon cemetery. Monna, born July 14, 1910, married Fe Braun, had 5 children; Dennis, (died at age months), Jackie, (died at 2½ months), Merle, Wi liam, and Charlotte.

Robert R. born June 27, 1913, married Mary R mine, had one daughter Carolyn Sue, and a s Robert Jr. born June 1943, died same day. Robert was killed on Aug. 3, 1943 in a train wreck at A bany, Ind. while working as a Brakeman on t Nickel Plate Railroad.

Nicholas Woodrow, born May 7, 1916, marrie Doris Freda Weyandt, had 2 daughters, Ani Louise, and Sharon Ann.

William Jr., born Feb 22, 1919, died same day.

Jesse Isaac, born Mar 21, 1920, married Caroly Hildbolt, had 2 daughters, Phyllis Elaine and Patric Louise. Jess served in World War II and T/Sgt Ai craft Maintenance and Inspection, and was with t Flying Tigers based in China.

Vaughn Ashley, born Apr 21, 1924, married Ma bel Siders, had one daughter Cynthia Lynn. Mab died Oct 21, 1971. Vaughn served in World War as Infantry Field Sgt. Cadre. *N. W. Denney, Celina, Ohic*

THE NICHOLAS WOODROW DENNEY FAMILY

Nicholas (Nick) Woodrow Denney was born Ma 7, 1916 at Macedon, Ohio, the son of William Isaa Denney and Pearl Amanda (Teeters) Denney. H married Doris Freda Weyandt, the daughter of Rob ert P. Weyandt and Evelyn (LaBrush) Weyand Doris was born Nov 21, 1921 in Columbus, Ohi The Weyandts are of Holland Dutch descent, thei ancestors coming to America from Holland shortl before the Revolutionary War.

Nick and Doris had 2 daughters; Anita Louis born July 31, 1941, and Sharon Ann, born June 3 1947. Anita married Walter Ray of New Castle, In and they have 2 sons and 1 daughter; Walter J (Sonny), Nicholas Woodrow, and Sandi Lee. Sharo married Donald Brackman of Mercer County, an they have 1 daughter, Martina Elizabeth, and 2 son Brett Paul, and Josh Gregor.

Nick worked at various jobs in his early life, in cluding New Idea Farm Equipment, Coldwate Ohio, and Lima Locomotive Works, Lima, Ohio. I October 1941 he went to work for the Nickel Plat Railroad (later merged with the Norfolk & Weste Railroad) first as a Brakeman, then Telegrapher, an then as Freight Agent until he retired on July 1 1976 at Celina, Ohio. He is a member of Masoni Lodge No. 585 Lima, Ohio, Moose Lodge No. 147 Celina, Ohio, Mercer County Sportsmen's Associa tion, Mercer County Historical Society, and Nationa Rifle Association (NRA). His principal hobbies ar hunting, fishing and rifle shooting. He, along wit Gerald W. Smith organized the first Junior Rifl Club in Mercer County (Mercer County Sports men's Association Junior Rifle Club). He attende Macedon School, which was located one half mil

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st of Macedon, Ohio. This was a one room school-
ıuse with one teacher for between 15 and 25 pupils
ɔm grades 1 through 8. He also attended Washing-
n Township High School. Doris and Nick's home,
ırchased in 1962, is at 5781 Monroe Road, Celina,
hio, which is approximately 1/8 mile west of State
ute 127 on Monroe Rd. North side.

Doris attended school at Celina West Elementary
ıd Celina Senior High School. She is very active in
cal civic organizations, such as Mercer County
istorical Society, College Community Arts Coun-
l, Celina Flower and Garden Club, and Ars Nova
lub of which she served as President for 3 succes-
ve terms. Her principal hobbies are painting and
ırious arts and crafts.

FREDRICK DIENER, SR.

Fredrick Diener, Sr. was born and married in Ger-
.any.

After his first wife died in 1866, he came to Amer-
a. He met Barbra Hunsinger, also emigrated here
om Germany, and they married.

A son, John P. Diener was born to this couple. He
ıarried Sophia Deitsch. They lived in Mercer
ounty. Five children were born to this union,
nna, John H., Fredrick W. Jr., Urban E. and Min-
ie, all deceased.

Anna married Henry Groth and two daughters,
helma and Glendola were born to this union.
:enry's ancestors came here from Germany and he
ved on a farm in Blackcreek Township.

Thelma married Bill (Wm.) Hawk. Thelma and
ill had three children, two daughters Miriam, and
harlene, also a son, Rodger. They live on a farm in
ıublin Township.

Rodger is married to Connie Sue Haas. They have
ıo children, a daughter, Victoria Lynn and a son,
lichael William. They also live on a farm in Hope-
ell Township.

Miriam married Bob Fetters. They have no chil-
ren and live in Union Township on a farm.

Charlene, the youngest of the three, is not mar-
ed. She teaches school in Wapak.

Glendola married Forrest Jewell and they have
ıree daughters, which include a pair of twins. They
ve in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Suzanne, twin, married Dennis Schott. They have
ıo children, Bobby (Robert) and Steven. They live
ı Green Bay, Wisconsin. Luanne, twin, married
)avid Vollmar. They have two children, Brian and
ric. She is divorced from David. She and the chil-
ren live in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Linda, the young-
st, is to be married October 14, 1978, to Max Prof-
itt. She lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

John H. married Matilda Brautigam from Wapak.
'hey never had any children. After living in Wapak
everal years, John bought a farm on N. Main Street,
:elina and moved to Celina.

Fredrick W. (Fred) married Laura Gehm and two
laughters, Lucille N. and Clela S. were born to this
ınion.

Lucille married Raymond (Ray) Kendall and they
ıad two children, Jerry and Jenny. Ray is deceased.

Jerry married a Ft. Wayne girl and they had two
hildren, Scott and Teresa. He divorced Dyana and
ater married Diane, a Ft. Wayne girl. Two sons were
ɔorn to this family, Chris and Rodney. They live in
Ft. Wayne area.

Jenny married Tom Baur. They have two children, Susann and Danny and live in the Van Wert area on a farm.

Clela married Clifford Smith. They have a son, Donald Lee. They retired from their farm in Washington Twp. and moved to Celina.

Don married Janet Wellmann. Their daughters are Linda Ann and Jill Leigh. They live on a farm in Washington Township.

Urban E. married Ethel Hoverman and three children (Helen, Urban L., and Martha) were born to this couple. Helen married Phil Secrist and lives in Pittsburgh, Penna. They have three children; David A., Martha D., and Jean C.

David married Sara Weinz and lives in Allison Park, Penn. Martha married Fredrick Bonim and lives in Gainsville, Fla. Jean married James Prezel and lives in Davosburg, Penn. Martha married Bob Hicks, they had two children, James and Betsy.

Bob Hicks died after a plane crash. Martha, later, married Ed Dingman. They continue to live in St. Petersburg, Fla. James Hicks married and has two children, Scott and Maggi. They live in Wilmington, North Carolina. Betsy married Michael Ellison and lives in Knoxville, Tenn. Urban L. married Jacquelyn Maund and lives in Auburn, Alabama. Minnie died at an early age and had never married. *Clela Smith (Mrs. Clifford)*

THE JOHN J. DILLER FAMILY

John — Son of Sebastain and Josephine Diller.

John J. Diller, Born at St. Anthony O. In Mercer Co. Feb. 22, 1879. Died Feb. 3, 1936. Lived on a farm, 1 mile east and 1 mile north of St. Anthony, O. He married Mary Eva Gross, on June 18, 1906. They lived on a farm bordering his birthplace all his life. Children of this marriage are.

Fr. Harold Vincent Diller C.PP.S. Ordained to the priesthood May 10, 1934. At present time is Chaplain at Lourdes Hospital Paducah Ky.

Zeno Sebastain Diller, born Nov. 16, 1910. Married Anna Marie Will, Aug. 26, 1939. At present time live at Sharpsburg O.

Adela Josephine Diller, born June 23, 1913. Died Aug. 29, 1936.

Fr. Otto John Diller C.PP.S. Born Nov. 15, 1915. Ordained to priesthood Dec. 5, 1943. At present time is Chaplain at Lourdes Hospital, Paducah, Ky.

Theresia Valentina Diller, born Oct. 15, 1918. Is Sister Adela Diller O.S.F.

Entered St. Francis Convent Tiffin O. Aug. 12, 1938. At present is serving on executive board for that Franciscan Order.

Etheldreda Marie Diller born July 22, 1921. Married Robert T. Boeckman May 21, 1946 Coldwater, O.

Donald Joseph Diller, born Sept. 2, 1929 Married Rita Ruther on May 29, 1954 Coldwater, O.

Walter William Diller born April 4, 1925. Killed in Italy, April 15, 1945.

My memories of our farm home and life are very pleasant, picking wild strawberries, black raspberries, having lots of maiden blush apples sweet apples, stacking wood in the summer to dry for burn-

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ing in the stoves in winter. There was a big woods and a little woods, (in our thinking) on the farm. The big woods was scary, the little woods had an old log cabin. We spent many happy hours playing in it. I still have a china sugar bowl (from a toy set of dishes no doubt) that my sister and I found in that log cabin. Adam Bastain lived in the log cabin many years before my time. *Ethel Boeckman*

Children of Zeno and Anna Marie (Will) Diller

Robert Diller married Marion Engleheart; Ruth Diller married Earl Heyne; Neil Diller married Patricia Schoen; Alan and Arthur (twins) Arthur died at birth; Alan married Rose Ann Kremer; Louis Diller married Jeanette; Alice Diller married James Remaklus; Daniel Diller

Children of Etheldreda (Diller) and Robert Boeckman: James R. Boeckman married Kathie Klosterman; Janet M. (Boeckman) married Kenneth Clark Parker; Joan Theresia Boeckman died Age 10, 1974.

Children of Donald and Rita (Ruther) Diller: Kenneth Diller; Christine Diller married James Grilloet; Cathrine Diller; Kevin Diller died age 12 1977. *Ethel Boeckman*

PHILIP DILLER FAMILY

Philip son of Sebastian and Josepha Biggs Diller, born at St. Anthony, Mercer County, Ohio, Dec. 13, 1866. He lived his entire life on the farm. His father homesteaded, one mile east and one mile north of St. Anthony. He married Anna Gross, Nov. 1897 at St. Peter. He passed away April 13, 1947. Anna (Gross) Diller passed away Sept. 17, 1952.

To this union the following children were born: Lucina born June 8, 1899, married Theodore Rauh July 9, 1939 and lived at the Rauh homestead 1 mile east of St. Anthony, on Rauh Road.

Children of Theodore and Lucina Rauh, Geneva, now Sister Melanie, a member of the Sisters of The Poor Handmaids at Donaldson, Ind. Patricia married Doctor Walter Keyes living in Dayton, Ohio. Seven children were born to this union.

Albert, born March 21, 1902, married Bernadine Homan, June 11, 1929, lived at the Diller homestead.

Dennis married Carma Kalig — six children.

Urban married Helen Keller — four children.

Madonna married Howard May. — five children.

Ralph married Margie Hemmelgarn — five children.

Mary married Mr. Westrich — five children.

Joseph married Maryann Penno — seven children.

Edna married Gary Sheppard — three children.

Carol married Richard Burkhardt — five children.

Max born April 22, 1904. Max entered the Noviciate of the Precious Blood Society to study for the priesthood 1919. Professed Dec. 3, 1924. After eight years of study became ill, passed away August 10, 1931 and buried at St. Charles Seminary, Cathagena, Ohio.

Urban entered the novitiate of the Precious Blood Society to study for the priesthood 1920. Professed 1925, became ill in Feb. 1926 with hasty consumption. Passed away May 29, 1926. Buried at St. Charles Seminary, Carthagena, Ohio.

Anna Marie born May 9, 1909.

Philip Diller owned a steam engine threshing rig in partnership. He was known around a large area as he loved this work he did for many years until combines came along. His children had many hap memories of playing in the log house of th Grandfather that stood to the far corner of the bar yard. There were so many interesting things of ye passed in the log house. There was a very large chard which produced an abundance of fruit a also a large garden from which the food was stor in the cellar for the winter. We can remember coc ing applebutter in the summer, churning butter ery Saturday and baking bread about every oth day. Our Saturday evening treat was, fresh butt bread and buttermilk. *Lucina Rauh & Anna Marie Diller*

DUMBAULD

Ernst Friderick Dumbauld came from Cantc Bern, Switzerland, Oct. 19, 1736, signed and qua fied, being able to write his name, which was u usual in these days. The name being spelled Switzerland, Duimbauld, the I being dropped in t U.S.A.

Ernst Friderick Dumbauld came over on the sh Brigantine, John Parth Amboy, Capt. George Fraz Master. Embarking from Rotterdam, Holland, Net erland with emigrants from Palatibate, Germar Then to Dover, England for more emigrants. Qua fying Oct. 19, 1736, and Subscribed Oaths to t Government. (think under Lord Baltimore)

Ernst Frederich and Abraham Dumbauld settl in Milford Twp., Bedford Co., Penna. Abraham, s of Ernst Frederick Dumbauld was the progenitor the family. Settled in Elizabethtown, Md. (now Ha erstown, Md.) where he married a Hager lady. H came to the Lignier Valley in Pennsylvania and la claim by tomahawk right to a large tract of land c Four Mile Run, west of Chestnut Ridge and Char pion and Indian Creek in Salt Lick Twp., Penn. The had to go back to Hagertown, Md., in the winter f the Indians would be too bothersome. The thin they buried were dug up when they returned in t spring. The cabin burned. Finally there were enou people to build a blockhouse and they could stay winter. There were many Commissioners helping build churches, schools and bridges; also many the Revolutionary War.

Jacob C. Dumbauld was the fourth generatic from Abraham Dumbauld (my grandfather). He w born Sept. 28, 1833, in Chestnut Ridge, Fayette C Penna. to John and Elizabeth Vought (Voght); die Nov. 12, 1934, in Masonic Home, Springfield, Ohi He came with his parents down the Ohio Riv when four years old and settled in Licking C Ohio. He married Matilda Boyer, Dec. 4, 1856. H parents gave her and her children a 180 acre farm i Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio (northeaster corner of Routes 29 and 49, near Wabash, Ohio), th deed being dated 1884, in Ohio State Archives L brary, Columbus, Ohio.

On Jacob's 100th birthday, the family, the Ft. R covery, Ohio, band and the Ft. Recovery Mason Lodge, also many friends celebrated on the ground of the Springfield, Ohio Masonic Home. The Ma sons gave him an ebony cane embossed in silve The Associated Press found that he was the olde Mason and Methodist in the U.S.A. and thought i the world at that time; he being 75 years old. An ai plane flew over the grounds and dropped a doze yellow roses in a little parachute.

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Their children were: Dilemma, Sarah Ellen, Les-
, Emmitt (Notice spelling), Michael who died
ıen six weeks old, the mother at his birth, Jennie
d Jay K.'s mother was Gallie Max (Mack?).
Emmitt (notice spelling) was fourth child of Jacob
and Matilda Boyer Dumbauld, was born Dec. 1,
63, near Wabash, Ohio, in Washington Twp.,
ercer Co., on the Dumbauld farm. He married Lit-
ı J. Runyon on Aug. 30, 1885. She was born Oct.
, 1885, in Vera, Ill, to Rec. James Burgess Runyon
d Kathryn Anderson from Metz Metes, France.
They moved from the Dumbauld farm when their
lest child was a month old, to Ft. Recovery, Ohio.
ıildren: Kathryn (Carrie), Hazle (Notice spelling),
ɔssa, Gay.
He was employed as a foreman on the R.R. for a
ne, then he had a Planing Mill on the corner, sell-
g it when the Lutherans insisted they had to have
for their church. Then he bought and sold timber.
st before he died he was paving streets. He died
ɔc. 14, 1918, and she died June 29, 1945. They are
ıried in North Grove Cemetery, Celina, Ohio.
Kathryn (Carrie) married Burl A. Myers; Hazle
arried Norval D. Hellwarth; Dessa married Joe D.
nland; W. Gay married Harry E. Hildbold. W.
ıy married Harry E. Hildbold on Oct. 28, 1914, at
r sister's, Mrs. Burl Myers home by Rev. L.L.
nce, Methodist minister. He was in WW I and was
ıployed after the war, by Erie and Lackawanna
R. for 42 years as an assistant stockkeeper at Mar-
n, Ohio. Child: Marvin Boyer Hildbold.
Marvin Boyer Hildbold was born Oct. 23, 1915, in
Recovery, Gibson-Recovery Twp., Mercer Co.,
hio, to Harry and Gay Dumbauld Hildbold. He
arried Alma Thorsen in St. Luke's Lutheran
ıurch in Chicago, Ill., on Nov. 21, 1940. Children:
ıarles, Gay Lee, Gary Wayne. He was in WWII,
ılisting in the Navy and assigned to the Cruiser
S.A. Denver, 58,6, Div., which won the name "The
ighty Denver". He received commendation and
ıs 19 bronze stars. Was congratulated by President
ɔosevelt, Admiral King, Admiral Nimutz and other
ficers. Lutherans. Children: Charles; Gay Lee mar-
ɛd James A. Tuccy, children: Gretchen Lee, Kyle
ic. Resides in Chicago, Ill.
Gary W. married Patricia Gannon. Child: Gary
'., Jr. Reside in Chicago, Ill. Gary was in Vietnam
'ar for four years. He is a Deputy Sheriff of Cook
ɔ., Ill.

ARTHUR EISCHEN FAMILY

Matthias and Margaret Kaleyn Eischen came to
merica in 1842 and made their home in Tiffin,
hio. Three children came to America with their
ırents. The rest of the children stayed in Germany.
'e have no records of these. Joseph Eischen settled
Rising Sun, Ohio, Matthias at Cygnet, Ohio and
hn at Jay County, Indiana.
John Eischen (1835-1905) married Margaret Portz
845-1925). They had three children. Peter (1865-
945) who married Veronica Klaus (1875-1926).
ıtherine Eischen (1867-1942) who married Joseph
russ (1859-1950). Sarah Eischen (1869-1933) who
arried Henry Schroer (1867-1941).
Peter Eischen and Veronica Klaus (of Lima, Ohio)
ıd twelve children. Elizabeth (1896-) married Christian Homan (1890-1961) in 1916. John (1899-1972) married Doris Locke (1902-) in 1933. Joseph (1903-) married Delores Mertz (1913-) in 1934. Mary (1904-) married Henry Koenig (1914-) in 1938. Cecelia (1906-1906). Edward (1909-). Arthur (1911-) married Erma Timmerman (1924-) in 1945. Matilda (1912-) married Albert Schwoerer (1910-) in 1936. Sylvester (1914-) married Mildred Schmit (1917-) in 1935. Beatrice (1917-) married Gilbert Schmit (1913-) in 1939. Catherine (1918-) married Ambrose Hartnagel (1909-) in 1939. Vita (1921-) married Arthur Weitzel (1914-) in 1954.

The Arthur Eischen farm has been in the Eischen family over 100 years. John Eischen, grandfather, bought 37.73 acres in 1870. He bought the other 37.73 acres in 1872. When John acquired the land he cut down the trees to build his house and barn. Peter Eischen, father, bought the farm in 1919. Arthur and Erma Eischen bought the farm in 1946.

Arthur Eischen married Erma Timmerman, daughter of Anthony and Frances (Rammel) Timmerman in 1945. They live on the Indiana-Ohio Line Road and have four children. Marilyn (1947-) married William N. Wenning (1945-) son of Raymond and Helen Wenning of Coldwater in 1967. They have four children, Paula (1968), Dawn (1971), Neal (1972) and Michelle (1977). Robert (1950) married Lynn Fisher (1953) daughter of Thomas and Hilda Fisher of Celina in 1976. They have a son Brian (1978) and live in Celina. Donald (1953) married Elizabeth Fortkamp (1954), daughter of Edward and Marian Fortkamp of St. Rose, in 1973. They have a daughter Amy (1974) and a son Cory (1977). They live on Indiana-Ohio Line Road. Carl (1956) married Toni Pearson (1958), daughter of Marvin and Peggy Pearson, R. 3 Ft. Recovery, Ohio. William Wenning lives on the Indiana-Ohio Line Road.

Grandchildren of Peter and Veronica Klaus Eischen are: Madonna, Luella, Walter, Anna Marie, and Wilfred, children of Christian and Elizabeth Homan; Diane Warrenfeltz and John Dale, children of John and Doris Eischen; Marcella, Homan, Evelyn Goubeaux, Patricia Meier, Frank, William, and Coletta, children of Joseph and Delores Eischen; Marvin son of Henry and Mary Koenig; Marilyn Wenning, Robert, Donald, and Carl, children of Arthur and Erma Eischen; Fredrick, Charles, Donald, Lu Ann Esser, Bernard, Mary Ann Evans, Cletus, children of Albert and Matilda Schwoerer; Janet May Privett, James, Orville, Susan Jones, and Phyllis Buckey Minch, children of Sylvester and Mildred Eischen; Ralph, Ruth Minnich, Alice Minch, Martha Bollenbacher, Richard, and Regina, children of Gilbert and Beatrice Schmit; Kenneth and Eugene, children of Ambrose and Catherine Hartnagel; Veronica Post, Edith, and Henry, children of Arthur and Vita Weitzel. There are 88 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. *Arthur Eischen*

THE FLOYD FENNIG FAMILY

The history of the Fennig Family dates back to 1796, when George Fennig was born in Alsace, France. He married Mary Menchofer, who was born in Alsace, France in 1797 and died 1870. He came to America with his family in 1828, hoping to have a

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40th Anniversary, Floyd and Beulah. March 12, 1978

better life in this country.

Solomon Fennig married Margaret Luttman on Sept. 10, 1885. She was born June 23, 1864. He was born in 1861 and died in 1939. To this union were born: Karl F. (June 22, 1886-July 15, 1971), Albert M. (Feb. 4, 1888-Feb. 26, 1951), Clara A. (Feb. 9, 1890-Sept. 13, 1947), Solomon W. (Dec. 19, 1894-Nov. 1, 1960).

Karl F. Fennig married Elizabeth Schroeder, February 25, 1911 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church parsonage, located east of church at the corner of St. Anthony Road and McMillan Road. Rev. H. N. Brobst performed the ceremony. She was the daughter of William Schroeder, born Oct. 2, 1852 and died July 14, 1926; and Mary Konrath, born April 18, 1858 and died Nov. 3, 1953. They lived 60 years (lacking 6 months) on the same farm on Wabash Road until his death in 1971. She has continued to live there for a total of 67 years.

To this union were born: Herman (b March 25, 1912), Floyd (b July 8, 1914), Arden (b Jan. 24, 1917), Paul Kenneth (May 19, 1920-July 7, 1920), Dale (b May 12, 1921), Donald Edwin (b Aug. 16, 1930), Ruth Evelyn (b Aug. 16, 1930).

Floyd Keith Fennig was born July 8, 1914, at the home of his parents, Karl F. Fennig and Elizabeth Schroeder Fennig. He attended Washington Township school and graduated in 1931. There were nineteen in his graduating class, that being the largest class to graduate from Washington Township school.

Dec., 1935, Floyd was hired by Henry J. Bobenmoyer, his uncle, to help with the farm work.

Dec., 1936, he started driving school bus for Washington Township School until its closing in 1958. He then started driving for Celina City schools and had a total of 27 years of school bus driving before his retirement.

March 12, 1938, he married Beulah Mae Monroe at the home of her parents, Ralph B. Monroe (April 27, 1883-Nov. 14-1960) and Martha Hannah Cordier Monroe (Dec. 4, 1881-June 8, 1964). Their home was located in Jefferson Township. Beulah was born Dec. 30, 1911, at the home of her parents. She graduated from Celina High School in 1930. After graduation she did housework for various families in the community, especially those with small children, until her marriage.

To this union were born three children: Nancy Lee (b Dec. 17, 1939), James David (b Feb. 12, 1943), and Helen Roseann (b March 21, 1945); all were born in Celina, Ohio.

Nancy married Jerry Dean Laffin on May 9, 1959 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Coldwater, Ohio. To this union were born: Kevin Dean (b Jan. 18, 1965), Julie Renee (b Nov. 23, 1969), and Linda Marie (b May 2, 1974); all were born in Celina, Ohio.

James married Margie Kay Peters on March 14, 1964, at Beaver Chapel Congregational Christi Church, Celina, Ohio. To this union were bo Gary David (b Jan. 8, 1965), Michael James (b N 15, 1966), and Todd Keith (b March 10, 1969); were born in Celina, Ohio.

Roseann married Warren Dee Menchhofer May 6, 1967, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Coldw ter, Ohio. To this union were born: Jason Dee Aug. 1, 1975) and Valerie Ann (b Sept. 22, 1978).

In 1938 he had a herd of dairy cows which he h for 25 years. He worked for Henry as a hired ha until 1955 (twenty years). He bought the machine and half-interest in the livestock in 1955.

Since the death of Henry Bobenmoyer, Dec., 19 he has continued to operate the farm which h about 210 acres. Floyd and his son, Jim farm t gether; and share most of the equipment. Floyd bu feeder pigs and feeds out about 300 head of pigs year.

They are both members of St. Paul's Luther Church, Coldwater, Ohio, of which Floyd has beer member all his life, and Beulah since her marriag They have both been quite active in the church ov the years.

Floyd remembers around 1927 plowing with walking plow, pulled by a team of horses, and hau ing stone from Karch Stone Co. with horse an wagon. Many changes have come about over the la 50 years in farming, which results in much larger i vestments to operate a farm.

Floyd has been active in the Soil and Water Co servation organization in Mercer County for the pa eight years. He also served on the Wabash Mutu Telephone Board from 1961-1975.

Both enjoy having their grandchildren living clo by, and being able to do things for them. *Mr. Flo Fennig*

The Jim Fennig Family — Ba to Front: Jim, Margie, Ga Michael and Todd, Oct. 1978

THE JAMES FENNIG FAMILY

James David Fennig, was born Feb. 12, 1943, Celina, Ohio; and is the son of Floyd Keith Fenni and Beulah Mae Monroe Fennig. He attende Washington Township School through the eight grade, and then attended Celina High School, whic he graduated from in May, 1962.

In 1963 Jim bought a 120 acre farm from Herbe and Ann Menchhofer, which had been in th Menchhofer name since 1911. In 1974 he sold acres to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, on which a ne parsonage was built.

In 1963, Jim and his father formed a partnershi in milking a herd of 20 cows, and Jim was also grain farmer.

On March 14, 1964, Jim married the former Ma

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: Kay Peters, the daughter of Harold Ora and Mil-
ed Paulene Gaus Peters, at Beaver Chapel Congre-
tional Christian Church. She was born July 4, 1944
Celina, Ohio. She lived on an 80 acre farm, 2½
les south of Coldwater on St. Rt. 118 until she was
years old. She then moved with her family to
ıere her parents still live, 3 miles west of Celina on
. Rt. 29. She attended Coldwater Schools through
e sixth (6th) grade, and then attended Celina Jun-
· High and Celina High School, from which she
aduated in May, 1962. While at home, she helped
ilk the herd of cows which her father had, and af-
r graduation from school, started working at Cel-
a Mutual Insurance Company, until her marriage.
In March, 1964, we purchased a mobile home,
ıich we moved onto the farm Jim had bought and
'ed in it for 6 years.
On January 8, 1965, a son, Gary David was born,
ıd on November 15, 1966 another son Michael
mes was born into our family. Both were born at
ibbons Hospital, Celina, Ohio.
1968, Jim tore down the Menchhofer Homestead
ıat had been there for years, built by Jacob Ketter-
ıg. We then started building a new home on the
remises.
On March 10, 1969, another son, Todd Keith, was
ɔrn at Gibbons Hospital, Celina, OH.
In April, 1970, we moved into a ranch style, brick
ɔme which we had built with the help of friends
ıd family.
In May, 1972, we purchased an 80 acre farm, lo-
ıted on McMillan Rd.; from Mary Ellen Maffett. It
as originally the farm of her father, Ralph McMil-
n.
In 1974 Jim built a hog finishing barn, in which he
eds out 1000 head of hogs a year.
In 1974 when Gary was old enough to join the
Vashington Winners 4-H Club, we began feeding
eers. We feed approximately 50 head a year.
In 1978, we then purchased the Carl Menchhofer
ırm of 170 acres, on Township Line Rd., on which
ıe Lyle Menchhofer family lived. The farm sold to
ettle the estate of Margaret Godfrey Menchhofer,
ho passed away January, 1978.
We now farm approximately 288 acres, and rent
n additional 250 acres on which we raise corn, soy-
eans, and wheat. Jim and his dad work together at
ırming and share some of their machinery. Jim has
lso erected four (4) grain bins, that are used for
oring the grain.
We are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church,
oldwater, Ohio. Michael is in the sixth grade, and
odd is in fourth grade at Celina's West Elementary
chool. Gary is a seventh grader at Celina Junior
ligh School. The three boys are in the Washington
Vinner 4-H Club and have been taking steers as a
roject.
I have been active in PTA and WESCO organiza-
ons at the elementary school for several years.
low that our children are all in school, I enjoy doing
rafts and helping Jim with work around the farm.
Ve have a camper, and enjoy camping with our
ımily several week-ends during the summer. *Mrs.*
mes Fennig

FRAZEE

Old John (born in 1802) and Mary (Dion) Frazee
ɔorn in 1803) came from Indiana, Pennsylvania in

Samuel Frazee, Rozilla (Kimble) Frazee; oldest, Laurabelle Frazee Fink; Cleo Frazee Subler; Youngest, Ruth Frazee Rabe.

1827 to Crawford County, Ohio. John and Mary (Dion) Frazee had nine children: John Frazee, Sr., of Crawford County, Ohio; Phoebe, wife of H. Barber; Delilah, wife of John Myers of Michigan; Andrew Frazee of Nevada, Ohio; Agnes, wife of Ben Easterday; Mrs. Margaret Frazee of Hamilton, Ohio; Telitha, wife of Godleb Ritenger, all of Michigan; George Frazee of Galion, Ohio; Mary Frazee, Nevada, Ohio.

John Frazee, Sr., and his wife Anna Catherine (Goodyear) Frazee moved to Jay County, Indiana in Wabash Township and cleared 80 acres and built a log house. John Sr. (1835-1915) and Anna Catherine (1840-1902) were the parents of five children: Jennie Flesher, Portland, Indiana; Samuel Frazee of Noble Township; Lizzie, wife of Clarence Myers; John Frazee Jr. of Michigan; and Etta (Frazee) Barley of Adams County, Indiana.

Samuel E. Frazee (1878-1972) was born in Seneca County, Ohio near Bucyrus, Ohio before moving to Indiana in 1880. Samuel E. Frazee married Rozilla (Kimble) Frazee in 1902 by Rev. O.S. Green at the home of Rozilla Kimble's parents, Benjamin and Laura (Shimp) Kimble, October 2, 1902. Later in the day the young couple went to the Jay County Fair.

In 1903 Samuel and Rozilla Frazee had their first child Laurabelle Frazee. In 1906 Cleo Icelene Frazee was born and in 1908, the third daughter Evalyin Ruth Marie Frazee was born. Laurabelle Frazee was married to Victor Young of near Portland, Indiana in 1922 by Rev. Fred Stovenaur and they lived together two years when Victor Young died. In later years she married John Fink of Dayton, Ohio. In 1971, John Fink passed away very suddenly with a heart attack.

Cleo Icelene Frazee married Lee Subler who operated the Noble Grocery Store, Indiana for quite some time. Later Cleo Frazee passed away at the age of 38 years old, in 1945.

Ruth Frazee and Clarence Rabe were married in 1938 on Sunday morning in Portland by Rev. Milton Wiseley and later in the day, went to Urbana, Ohio to a horse show!

Samuel E. Frazee passed away in 1972 at the age of 94 years old. His wife Rozilla died in 1941 at the age of 58 years old. Samuel Frazee's father John Frazee and Anna Catherine (Goodyear) Frazee went to Michigan to visit a daughter and on July 30, 1902 the Frazee's were having a pleasant time riding in a spring wagon and going down a hill the harness broke. The horse became scared and ran away throwing Anna Catherine Frazee from the wagon; she was killed instantly. Mr. and Mrs. John Frazee were married on Thanksgiving Day 1865. Mrs. Frazee at the time of her death was 62 years old. Mrs. Frazee's body was returned to Ample, Indiana for burial. Ample, Indiana, at one time, was the post office just north of Noble Road on old route 22, near the Adam Alig farm.

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John Frazee who was born in 1835 was in the Civil War and in 1862 was at Camp Mansfield, Ohio. Mr. Frazee received a Certificate of being a member of a company drafted in Auburn Township, Crawford County, Ohio; was honorably discharged from the service by reason of the Surgeon's Statement of disability, approved by the Captain S.W. Yvago and C.T. Shneman Col. Commanding. Mr. Frazee died at the age of 80 years old in 1915.

Before John Frazee and his brother Andrew Frazee went to War in 1861, their brother George who was younger, was to stay home and take care of their parents John and Mary (Dion) Frazee. Young George rebelled, went off to war. Eventually, he and his brother John Jr. met and somewhere in the South, Catherine and Caroline (Goodyear) (sisters) met John and George Frazee (brothers). The boys had stolen Rebel uniforms and the girls took care of them and eventually married them and came up to Ohio to live. *Mrs. Clarence Rabe*

JOHN F. GRANGER 1873-1939

John F. Granger was born and reared on the Granger Homestead northwest of Coldwater, Ohio. He was one of 13 children born to James and Mary (Snyder) Granger. His grandfather emigrated from England in the 19th century and settled in the vicinity of what is now Coshocton, Ohio.

On Feb. 3, 1895, he was united in marriage to Fanny Belle Ransbottom. To this union four children were born. Earl, Basil, Chester and Ila.

Earl married Clela L. Runyon on June 12, 1919. Four children were born to them, Harold R., Ruth Lucille, Paul Edward and David Lee. Harold, who died in 1969, had married Mary Makely, and four daughters had come to their home, Darlene Ann, Dixie Lee, Pamela K. and Nancy Jane. Darlene married Dr. Theron Nelsen. Their three children are, Stephanie, Brad and Nicole. Dixie married Jerry Cox. Their children are Jodi and Jeff. Pamela married Larry Denniston. Their three children are Todd, Lori, and Doug. Nancy married Tom Bertke. Her two children are Kevin and Leslie.

Earl's daughter Ruth married Wilbur McLaughlin. Their two sons are Mike and Timothy with a grandson Jeremy.

Paul married Joann Roberts. Their two children are Keith and Paula K. Keith has a son, Michael.

David married Dorothy Zimmerman who passed away at age 32. Their son Bruce is professor at Olivet Nazarene College. He married Roberta Diaber. David's daughter Kathy married Jerry Oliver and they have baby Jackie. Connie is a teacher and Carolyn a senior in college at this writing. In 1964 David married Esther Leonard.

Basil, second son of John F. Granger, married Jessie Merinar in 1923. Their four children are Bonnie, Boyd, Patty and Peggie. Bonnie, whose husband Bevan Monroe passed away in 1968 has three children, Michael, Mark and Malinda. Bonnie later married Richard Dreffer. Boyd and his wife Nita have Blair, Todd, John Jr., and Lori. Boyd has been County Supt. of Schools for a number of years. Patty married Art Bradford and they have Kim, Kelly and Kevin. Peggy married Jim Bonfigleo. Their family consists of Gina, Joel, Jill, Jennie and Jeremy.

Chester married Hazel Brunstetter who pass away in 1936. They had three children. Dale, a mc tician executive in Florida, also Wanda Jean ar Norma Ann. Chester later married Ethel Montag and to them were born Gary and Twilah.

Ila who resides on the home farm married Jol Burris and he passed away in September 1978. *Earl Granger, Berne, Ind. 46711*

FRIEDA HEHMEYER WILLMANN

Anna Frieda Hehmeyer was the daughter of Fe and Christina Hehmeyer. She attended Erast grade school and Washington Township School. C April 17, 1926 she was married to Henry F. Wil mann.

Continue on Henry F. Willmann in Recove Township. *Janet A. Smith, Celina, Oh. 45822*

James Highley Family

HIGHLEY

James Joseph Highley born April 21, 1944 in Me cer County, Ohio is the last child of Leona and O ville Highley. They are full time residents of Merc County, residing in Washington Township.

Jim's brother and sister, Robert and Betty, bot still reside in Mercer County and are engaged i farming. Robert first born, is the husband of P (Brown) Highley and the father of six children: Rich ard, married Kathy Braun and to date they have tw children; Rebecca married Richard Van Tilburg an they have three children; Susan attends Findlay Co lege, Ohio; Victoria, Vicky, attends Taylor Colleg in Indiana; Michael and Diane are still at home.

Betty (Highley) Powell, second child of Leona an Orville, married Jerry Powell. They have four chi dren: Linda married William Schlotterer; Tom em ployed as a meat cutter; Rhonda attends Bowlin Green University; and Doris will start attendin Ohio State University in the fall of 1978.

After graduating from Celina High School, Jim at tended International Business College in Fo Wayne, Indiana for six months. In January of 196 he joined the U.S. Army for two years. After hi honorable discharge he came back to Merce County and went to work at Reynolds and Reynold in Electronic Accounting. It was there he met hi wife, Janet Louise Marsee, a keypunch operato They were married on March 11, 1967 and have tw sons: Todd Joseph, born December 16, 1970; an Troy Allen, born March 8, 1974. In 1969 Jim becam a Deputy Sheriff, and in 1976 ran for his present po sition, Mercer County Clerk of Courts to which h was elected.

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Orville Highley born April 27, 1907, parents are mes Henry Highley and Pearl Adeline Smith. They sided in Hopewell township and had three chil-en: Ada married Thornton Spohn; Orville married ona Hatfield; and Beulah married Garrel Snider.

John Henry Highley and Adeline Beery parents of mes Henry Highley brought their family from ocking County, Ohio to live around Tama, Ohio. is children are Cyrus, Simeon, James, Aaron Roy, Bertha, and Grace.

James Henry Highley married Pearl Adeline nith. Her parents are George Smith, born Decem-r 23, 1839 in Germany and Magdalena Myers of nnsylvania. George's parents are Fredrick Smith Germany and Elizabeth Garlag.

Leona Anna (Hatfield) Highley was born March , 1909. Her parents are Joseph Jay Hatfield born ugust 4, 1878 Knoxville, Tennessee and Rosa Etta denour.

Rosa's brothers and sisters were raised on a farm ear LaFollett. They are Wylie who had a gristmill, ussie Mitchell, Fletcher, Herman who moved to In-anapolis, and Harriett Hutson. Joseph and Rosa ad 7 children. Elsie married Harold Plummer; Le-a Highley and Leon are twins, Leon married hula Beams; Ethel married Dean Brookhart; Marie arried Chester Schmidt; Ruth married Lowell Wit-r; and Helen the last child lived with an Aunt Har-et Ridenour Hutson in Tennessee.

Joseph Jay Hatfield went to college in Valparaiso, diana and became a teacher. On his way to Mon-na from Tennessee, he stopped in Celina, Ohio nd stayed. He worked for the Cincinnati and orthern Railroad. After his first wife, Rosa, died he married Anna Mary Ayres. They had no children. hen upon her death, after about 30 years of mar-age, he married Sallie Edens Brown. He died Au-ust 19, 1956.

Joseph Hatfield's father, Calvin V. Hatfield, lived Tennessee and was married twice. Children by his rst wife are John L., Joseph Jay, George who moved Montana with his wife Lavada, Milton, Carry, lable, Edith, and Etta who married George Locklon nd moved to Montana. Calvin's second wife was ucy Broyles, and they had 8 children. *Jim Highley*

n and Thelma Homan,
.60 Burrville Road

THE JAMES F. HOMAN FARM

In July of 1850 John and Catharine Pflughaupt Menchhofer and their five children, John, George, Catharine, Margaret and Mary, arrived in Buffalo, N.Y. from France. They settled in Washington Twp., Mercer County, Ohio, having traveled part of the way from New York by an oxen-drawn wagon. Immediately they purchased 160 acres in Section 23, Washington Township. This area included the 80 acres on which the old homestead was founded and on which the Martin Menchhofer family lived. (John, who came from France, is the great-grandfather of Martin Menchhofer).

John and Catharine first built a 16x20 ft. rectangular cabin with a clapboard roof and walls that were not windproof. Later they had two more children and then built a more weatherproof two-story 22x30 ft. log house consisting of four large rooms, two down and two up. Later a lean-to kitchen was built on the back side of the house which also had a porch.

When Martin and Marge Menchhofer purchased the farm they lived in an adjoining garage while building a new six-room story and a half home in 1948. In the basement of the home they included a coal bin and fruit room built from the solid walnut wood siding taken from original buildings on the farm.

In 1963 Martin and Marge sold their 80-acre farm to James F. (Jim) Homan, son of the late August and Catherine (Braun) Homan of St. Peter, Ohio, and his wife Thelma M. (Buschur) daughter of Urban and Rosena (Dippold) Buschur of Route 3, Hopewell Township, Celina, Ohio. In August Jim, Thelma and their children, Randall J., Loraine M., and twins, Patricia A. and Pamela A., moved onto their farm that is now Route 1, 5160 Burrville Road, Washington Township, Coldwater, Ohio, Mercer County. Their fifth child, a son, Brian Joseph, made his arrival on December 6, 1963 at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, Coldwater, Ohio.

Jim and Thelma have lived on the farm for fifteen years, gardening and caring for friends' livestock kept on the farm. Their neighbors, Jerry Laffin and son Kevin and Jerry's father, Russell Laffin, farm the farm.

Various changes have been made over the years to the home and barn such as converting the original coal furnace to an oil burner in 1963 and renovating the barn, including new siding and the removal of the shed at the south end in the fall of 1964. The original granary and smokehouse still remain on the farm.

Jim, an Air Force Veteran, is an Insurance Underwriter and Agent for First National Insurance Agency, Inc. at the Celina, Ohio Insurance Group. He also is the Surplus and Excess Lines Broker in this area. He was born 9-25-1931 in Jay County and Thelma was born 2-09-1934 in Celina, Ohio. She is a homemaker and part time bookkeeper and secretary for McAfee's Communications on Weitz Road, Celina, Ohio. She has been a Catechism teacher for twelve years and teaches twice weekly at St. Peter Parish. All of their children graduated from Immaculate Conception Parochial Grade School, Celina, Ohio and Celina Senior High with the exception of Brian who graduated from Immaculate Conception Grade School, attended Brunnerdale Prep Seminary, Canton, Ohio and is now attending Celina Senior High. Randall (Randy), born 8-31-57, operates a Press at the Reynolds Co. in Celina, Ohio; Loraine (Lorie), born 10-03-1958, was Co-Valedictorian of her graduating class, presently attends Wright State University and works in the Credit Department at AVCO New Idea in Coldwater, Ohio. Pamela (Pam), born 1-21-1960, is a bookkeeper at Bruce Green Ford also in Celina and Patricia (Pat), born 1-21-1960, works in the Accounting Dept. of

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Celina Financial Corp. Both Pat and Pam were members of Celina Senior High's 1977-78 Homecoming Court. Brian was Basketball Statistician for his Jr. High team for two years and raises rabbits and chickens on the family farm. The family attends St. Anthony Catholic Church, Ft. Recovery, Ohio. *Mrs. Thelma M. Homan*

Gerhard and Marie Katherina (Rhein) Homan, daughter Philomena

GERHARD AND MARIA KATHERINA (RHEIN) HOMANN

In the 1850's Gerhard Homann (born 10-24-1822 in West Minster, Europe, died 8-21-1903 in St. Anthony, Ohio) and his two brothers, Bernard and Joseph, arrived in America from Europe. Gerhard settled on a farm located at what is now 97 Elm Road, Washington Township, Mercer County, Route 1, Ft. Recovery, Ohio (St. Anthony or Padua, Ohio) and presently occupied by John Homan, his grandson.

Gerhard farmed and raised hogs which he took to the New Bremen, Ohio (Auglaize County) Canal where they were shipped and sold. He donated part of his farmland for the building of the present St. Anthony Catholic Church. He and his wife, Maria Katherina (Rhein), born 2-07-1835, died 3-02-1901, lived in a log home that was later torn down and replaced with a two-story red brick home. The original summer kitchen and smokehouse still remain next to the home.

Gerhard and Marie's children were: *Joseph* (b. 4-04-1858, d. 2-28-1936) who married Julia Krieg (b. 5-22-1862, d. 3-07-1927); *Henry* (b. 1-19-1861, d. 3-26-1943) who married Mary Krieg (b. 4-24-1864, d. 4-06-1937); *Josephine* (b. 11-24-1862, d. 9-02-1936) who married Herman Voss; *Bernard* (b. 10-24-1864 d. 4-21-1940) who married Mary Diller (b. 10-25-1868. d. 5-05-1954); *Anna* (b. 7-24-1866, d. 3-31-1951) who married Fred Ronnebaum (b. 5-20-1865, d. 7-21-1903); *Gerhard* (b. 7-09-1868, d. 2-14-1947) who married Catharine Muhlenkamp (b. 6-03-1873, d. 6-27-1944); *Catharina* (b. 2-17-1871, d. 4-19-1947) who married John Muhlenkamp (b. 12-30-1866, d. 3-09-1941); *John* (b. 8-24-1872, d. 6-02-1952) who married Elizabeth Post (b. 3-25-1881, d. 4-26-1939); *Philomena* (b. 5-02-1883, d. 3-06-1933) who never married; *Elizabeth* who became Sister Mary Bibiana in a convent in Clyde, Missouri; *Mary* who became Sister Mary Paula also in Clyde, Missouri. It is believed that one of Gerhard and Maria's children died in infancy and that another child, a daughter, was killed in an accident at a young age.

Gerhard Homan's obituary card states he was born October 24, 1822 at Herbern, near Muenster, Westphalia, Europe and died at Padua, Ohio August 21, 1903. Padua was the early name of Saint Anthony. *Mrs. Thelma M. Homan, Coldwater, Oh.*

Dora, Othilia and Alma in buggy. Catherine Homar Gerhard Homan l horses. Hired han in buggy.

GERHARD AND CATHERINE (MUHLENKAMP) HOMAI

Gerhard Homan (7-09-1868 — 2-14-1947) one the children born to Gerhard and Maria Katheri (Rhein) Homann, married Catharine Muhlenkan (6-03-1873 — 6-27-1944) on 10-15-1895. Both we from St. Anthony (Padua) Ohio, near Fort Recover Ohio, Mercer County. They made their home Road 60, Jay County, Indiana (Route 2, Ft. Recover on the 160 acre farm where their daughter Thres Heitkamp still lives in the original home built 1894. Remodeling and additions to the home we done around 1913; the barn was built in 1896.

Gerhard and Catherine Homan's children wer Dora, Othilia, Albert, Alma, Thresia, Philomena ar Bertha (born 4-06-1912) who is now Sister Mirabil Homan, S.F.P. of the Franciscan Sisters of the Poc St. Clare Convent, Hartwell, Cincinnati, Ohio. Sist Mirabilis was graduated from Nursing School 1938, received her B.S. in Nursing in 1956 and w supervisor at several hospitals and Vice President Mid Ohio District of Ohio Nurses Association f three years.

Dora Homan (4-05-1897 — 8-03-1968) marrie Edward Schmitt (10-23-1895 — 1-02-1931); they ha five children: Lucille, Norma, Wilma, Evin an Ralph. Lucille was born 12-21-1921 and died 2-0 1931. Sister Norma (11-16-1923) is a member of th Franciscan Sisters of the Poor, Cincinnati, Ohi Wilma married Harold Lefeld and had four childre Virginia, who married Dr. Bill Matre, children Eri and Andrew; Charles; James married Mary Rei and Mary Ann. Evin is a farmer near Fort Recover Ralph married Mary Ann Fisher; children Mik Mary Jo, Edward, Amy, Craig, and Larry, reside Dundee, Illinois.

Othilia Homan (9-06-1899 — 9-23-1969) marrie Joseph J. Schenking (8-14-1894 — 9-17-1969) an had six children. Donald J. Schenking married Ma tha Kahle; children: Ann, Joan and Carol. Adeline K Schenking married Richard Long; children: Susa married Dawood Farahi, Marilyn, Douglas and Ste phen. Wilberg Schenking married Elinor Loveda children: W. Joseph and Deborah who marrie Bradley J. Holmes. Gerald J. Schenking is an accour tant in Dayton, Ohio. Mariann T. Schenking ma ried Hugh Becker; children: David, Kathlee Pamela and Julie. Robert Schenking was born 8-1 1942 and died 7-30-1953.

Albert Homan was born March 1903 and died i 1905.

Alma Homan (10-26-1904) married William Post (2-26-1901 — 6-27-1969) and had ten childre Mello Francis Post married Josephine Gaglio; chi

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en: Kathleen, William, Patricia, Michael and Kris-
e at Coldwater, Michigan. Drita Post married
ederick Miller; children: Carolyn, Ann, Mary,
omas, Patricia, at Elkhart, Indiana. Lu Ann Post
arried Ivan V. Schultz; children: Susan, Nancy,
d Stephen at Dundee, Michigan. Jo Ann Post mar-
d John T. Bateson; children: Barbara Ann, Wil-
m and Joan Patricia. Lucy Post married Robert
wers; children: Robert Wayne Jr. (deceased),
eryl and Mary at Battle Creek, Michigan. Zeno
st married Patricia A. Barone; children: Julie Ann,
ary Elizabeth and Karen Patricia at Coldwater,
ichigan. James N. Post married Annette Marie Sal-
cioli; children: Michelle, James and Jerome at
arren, Michigan. Virgil Post married Judith Doe;
ildren: Kelli and Amy at Battle Creek, Michigan.
bert C. Post married Patricia R. Gaglio; children
bert and Richelle at Findlay, Ohio. Daniel Post
arried Charlene Haines; child: Stephen.

Thresia Homan (4-20-1907) married Henry Heit-
mp (5-29-1906 — 7-31-1970) and had six children.
lna was born March 28 and died April 3, 1932. La-
rn Heitkamp was born 2-22-1933 and died 3-28-
74. Florian Heitkamp married Virginia Kunkler;
ildren: Robert, Carol, Marilyn, Mark, David, Di-
e and Marie. Janet Heitkamp married Donald
thman; children: Janelda, Debbie, Todd and Jill at
inster, Ohio. Verene Heitkamp married Victor
ramer; children: Pamela, Sandra, Tony, Steve and
cky. Joan Heitkamp married Ron Buschur; chil-
en: Nicholas, Rene, Cynthia, Keith, Thresia and
had, at Celina, Ohio.

Philomena Homan (11-04-1909) married Henry
eorge Alig (7-01-1907 — 1-16-1972) and had five
ildren. (See Henry Alig history.) *Mrs. Thelma M. Ho-
an*

ED W. HONE

Ed W. Hone was born in Liberty Township on
ne 6, 1901. He is one of fifteen children of George
Vashington and Fannie Belle Hines Hone. He has a
vin brother Elza (Phil). Ed is also known as Ted.

Having lived through the stock market crash and
e depression as one of fifteen children must have
oven very demanding. Each of the children
arned to care for themselves at an early age.

Ed left Ohio in 1921 at the age of 20 to head for
exas. He worked in the oil fields there for a few
ears. On his way back to Ohio he stopped off in
awrence County, Illinois to visit with friends.
While there he married Viola Mae Lawrence on Au-
ust 15, 1926. They returned to Ohio and lived in
ast Jefferson Township. Ed worked at Mersman
able factory for a while.

The family moved to a 120 acre farm located on
rastus-Durbin road in Washington Township. This
arm is located about 2 miles south of the farm that
as homesteaded by Henry and Katherine Hone,
randparents of Ed Hone.

Ed and Viola became parents of Doris Elizabeth in
927, Inez Lavere in 1928, Ermal Pauline in 1930 and
Mary Catherine in 1931. Finally a son George Law-
ence arrived in 1933, another son Carl Donovan in
935, a daughter Phyllis Elaine in 1938, Franklin
David in 1940, Barbara Ruth in 1942 and finally John
Tipton in 1944. The children were all born at home
xcept for the last two or three. They were born at
Gibbons Hospital in Celina, Ohio.

Living on farm with 10 children proved very inter-
esting. There was no bathroom to share, just a well
worn path to the outhouse! A never ending job in
wintertime was carrying in coal and wood for the
heating stove. There was always lots of work to be
done. A large garden was planted and harvested
each year. Gathering eggs, milking cows (by hand)
and feeding the livestock were daily chores. Among
the animals were guineas, hogs, geese, pigeons, cows
and a pet crow.

Ed was always able to catch lots of fish in Beaver
Creek which ran through the farm and the kids did
lots of ice skating there.

There are 68 living descendants. Viola passed
away on May 16, 1969. The farm sold in November
of 1975 and Ed lives in Mendon, Ohio. 9/30/78

JOHN HENRY JUTTE

John Henry Jutte came from Holland in the early
1840's and settled on 80 acres in section 35, Wash-
ington Township. The land has been in the Jutte
name since that time; it is now owned by a great
great grandson Zeno I. Jutte.

John Henry Jutte died in the cholera epidemic in
Minster in 1849 where he had gone for farm sup-
plies. He is survived by one son Theodore who had
four sons, Peter, Theodore, John and Bernard and
one daughter Mary.

Peter, Theodore and Mary went west to Idaho in
the late 1870's, and settled in Genesse, Idaho. John
and Bernard remained in Washington Twp. area.
John had four sons, four daughters. Bernard had six
sons and four daughters.

John Henry Jutte closest neighbors were Perry and
Ephriam Carmack; there was an apple tree on the
Perry Carmack farm when the people settled there.
It was 3 to 4 feet in diameter when it died 30 years
ago.

This history was written by August Jutte, a grand-
son of John Henry Jutte; Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Benjamin and Laura (Shimp) Kimble; and Margaret (Kimble) Brumm, Rozilla (Kimble) Frazee, and Clara (Kimble) Barber.

KIMBLE DESCENDANTS

The United States of America to Charles McKee,
Certificate of Purchase, dated November 1, 1837. In
1845, Chas. McKee and wife Sarah, sold the land to
Caleb Kimble, of Holms County, Ohio, 160 acres. In
1875, William Davidson sold to Tom Gibson 1 acre
and 9 rods. In 1882 Tom Gibson sold to Benjamin J.
Kimble. This is the beginning of the Kimble home-
stead, which at one time belonged to United States
of America.

The forefathers were Benjamin and Vesta Kimble;
their children were: Caleb who married Margaret
(Barr) Kimble; Adam, born 1827 and wife Rachel

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Kimble, born 1829; William had two sons, Cyrus Kimble of Bryan, Ohio and Lee Kimble of French Lick, Indiana; Jake Kimble who had one daughter; a girl who married Alfred Fuller; a girl who married Steve Shelton.

Caleb and Margaret (Barr) Kimble had nine children: Lisa who married Robert Davis; Mary who married Wes Bergman; Ellen, who married Garrett Adair; Jane who married Mr. Huntwork; Vesta who married William Adney; Robert who married Jane _____ and had two children Wes and Bert; Harrison who married Nancy _____; Benjamin who married Laura Shimp; Frances, whose first wife was Ida _____, and his second wife was Emma _____, and had three daughters: Hazel who married Ezra Shauver; Marie who married Omer Timmons; and Ludy who married Ivo Fisher of Portland, Indiana.

Benjamin Kimble (Sept. 28, 1853 — Feb. 13, 1916) married Laura (Shimp) Kimble (1861-1956), daughter of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp, Jay County, Indiana. They were married in 1879 and had three daughters: Margaret (Kimble) Brumm, born in 1880; Rozilla Olive (Kimble) Frazee, born in 1882; and Clara (Kimble) Barber born in 1884. Margaret (Kimble) Brumm and husband Harley Brumm had one son Luther who was born in 1907. Rozilla (Kimble) Frazee and husband Samuel E. Frazee had three daughters: Laurabelle (Frazee) Fink, born in 1903; Cleo (Frazee) Subler and Ruth (Frazee) Rabe, who married Clarence Rabe of Fort Recovery.

Benjamin and Laura (Shimp) Kimble purchased the old Christian Church at Noble, Jay County, Indiana, which was built in 1867 by each member giving a tree, cutting it down and hauling it to the saw mill, which was across the road from the one room school house at Noble. The meetings were called to meet at "Lamp Lighting Time." This building was used until the other church was built in 1895. The old church was sold to Benjamin and Laura Kimble and moved across the road in the northwest corner of the crossroads at Noble on the farm owned by Benjamin Kimble where he used it for a slaughter house. He butchered beefs and hogs and delivered the meat to Portland to restaurants and grocery stores. He had a beef wagon drawn by two ponies hitched to a four wheel beef wagon. Mr. Kimble died in 1916, Feb. 16; so the slaughter house was sold to his brother Robert Kimble's son Wess Kimble, just west of where it stood and Wess made a tool shed of it. While Benjamin Kimble would go through the country buying beef to slaughter, his son-in-law Samuel Frazee and Fred Naher would do the butchering. (One of the old stories told about the times was: Before the old church that was built in 1867, was sold to Benjamin Kimble in 1895, many things took place in those days. One time a deacon of the church Charles Houser was deposed of his office duty after a church trial where he was found guilty of severely beating his horse.) *Ruth Frazee Rabe*

FRANK JOSEPH KNAPKE FAMILY

Frank Joseph Knapke (1881-1965), known as Joe, was the second child of J. Francis Henry Knapke (1850-1931) and Theresia Seitz (1860-1945). He was born and raised on a farm west of St. John (Section

Frank Joe and Philomena Pohlman Knapke

23, Mercer Co.). This farm is still owned by Urb Knapke.

In 1907, Joe married Philomena Pohlkamp (18 1964), known as Minnie, and settled on a farm of acres near St. Henry on Burkettsville — St. Hei Rd. (Section 17, Granville Township) This farm v previously owned by a Winkeljohn family, of wh a son, Harry, remained with Joe for a year as a hi hand. Besides farming Joe also hauled logs with team of horses for a period of years. This farm n St. Henry was sold in 1926 and they purchasec farm of 150 acres near St. Peter (Section 33, Wa ington Township).

The children of this marriage were: Albert (d mos.); Florian, born 1912, married Viola Haas fr near Chattanooga and resides on Wabash Rd.; E litta, born 1915, married Raymond Laux from Tr ity, Indiana, and resides in Dayton; Adolph, bc 1916, married Frances Jutte from St. Peter and sides in Coldwater; Linus (1919-1936) and twi Louis, born 1923, married Wilma Wendel fr Wendelin and resides on the homeplace of his ther on Wabash Rd. and Joseph who died at birth.

Jerry Laffin Farm

JERRY LAFFIN

Jerry Dean Laffin and Nancy Lee Fennig we married on May 3, 1959 at St. Paul Luther Church, Washington Township, Coldwater, Oh Rev. H.W. Meuser performed the marriage ce mony. Jerry, son of Russel and Eddith (Fast) Laff was born on October 9, 1938 in Liberty Townshi Nancy, daughter of Floyd and Beulah (Monroe) Fe nig, was born on December 17, 1939 at Gibbo Hospital, Celina, Ohio. Jerry attended Celina Ci Grade Schools and graduated from Celina Hi School in 1956. He was active in the Future Farme of America organization and was elected State F Vice President in 1956 and 1957. Nancy attend Washington Township Grade School and graduat from Celina High School in 1957.

After their marriage in 1959 Jerry and Nancy liv on the Bertha Witter farm on Mt. Carmel Chur Road in Liberty Township. In addition to farmi Jerry raised hogs and beef cattle. On November 2 1960 they moved to the Ackerman farm on St. A thony Road in Washington Township. Jerry farme the farm on a cash rent basis. In November of 19 Jerry was called to serve with the United Stat

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army. He received his basic training at Ft. Knox, Kentucky and was then transferred to Ft. Story, Virginia where he served as Company Clerk of 347 Transportation Company. During the two years with the United States Army Jerry and Nancy lived in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Nancy was employed at the branch office of the Celina Mutual Insurance Company, Norfolk, Virginia. James Fennig, brother of Nancy, farmed the farm while Jerry was in the army. On November 21, 1963 Jerry and Nancy returned to the Ackerman farm. In addition to farming in partnership with his father, Russel Laffin, Jerry was employed at J. W. Karch Stone Company from October of 1957 until April of 1967.

On January 18, 1965 a son, Kevin Dean Laffin, was born into the family.

On November 23, 1969 a daughter, Julie Renee Laffin was born.

On January 30, 1970 Jerry and Nancy purchased the Ackerman farm from the Rev. E. G. Ackerman estate. After purchasing the 105 acre farm they began making improvements on the house. In 1973 they completely remodeled the kitchen making it larger. In 1976 an all steel machine shed was built. On May 2, 1974 another daughter, Linda Marie Laffin, was born. In November of 1977 Jerry was elected to serve a four year term as Township Trustee of Washington Township.

At the present time the Laffins are building a hog finishing building in order to increase their hog operation to approximately 2400 head per year. In addition to farming the Laffin farm, Jerry and son Kevin farm for Jim and Thelma Homan and also the Wiley Farm in Butler Township.

Kevin attended Celina West Elementary School and is presently in the 8th grade at Celina Junior High. He has been active for 5 years in the Washington Winners 4-H Club with hogs as his project. Kevin played basketball on the Celina 7th grade team in 1977-78, sings in the Sr. Choir at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Coldwater and is a member of the Luther League. Julie is in the 3rd grade at Celina West Elementary School, sings in the Jr. Choir at St. Paul Lutheran Church and is a member of Jr. Lutherans. Linda will be starting kindergarten in the fall of 1979.

Over the years Jerry and Nancy have been active in church and community organizations. Some of them being Mercer County Farm Bureau; members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Washington Township: Sunday School Teacher and Choir Director. Also Unity Grange #2116, State Cooperative Extension Board as well as the Mercer County Cooperative Extension Board.

THE LaRUE FAMILY

The fourth and fifth generations of LaRue's are now living within my walls. I have seen over 100 years of joy, sorrow, laughter, tears, births and deaths. I am not the first house the early arrivals lived in. After being married in Lancaster, Pa., Uriah LaRue and Lydia (Neff) travelled to Butler County, Ohio where they spent the next 5 years. From there, their journey brought them to Mercer County where they homesteaded a 320 timber tract. Their first home, a primitive log structure was destroyed by fire after only a few weeks. They then cut a road

Res. and farm view of Uriah La Rue.

through the forest about one mile eastward and constructed another log house.

There were many happy times spent in that little log house and some sad times too. Lydia gave birth to 8 children: Abraham W. a well respected school teacher; Elizabeth E., lived to be 18; Leah Ann lived to be 19; Uriah B. died in early manhood; Isaac Martin, who is the grandfather of my present dwellers; John B., died in early manhood; David F. who took up residence half a mile south of the homestead and Lydia A. who died at age 10.

Even through the hard times and sad times, the family remained faithful to God and they prospered in many ways. In 1876, seeing the need for more living area and a more sound structure, they started work on a new home. The large stones forming my basement walls are from Sidney, Ohio, carried by barge across Grand Lake and put on horse drawn sleds to make the final leg of the journey down Mud Pike. My walls are 3 bricks thick and the bricks were formed from the clay earth on the farm. I originally had 6 large rooms with a veranda on the east side, upstairs. This was the favorite sleeping place in the summer for the many farm hands and boarders the LaRue's were known for.

Timber was sawed at the sawmill located Southeast of the house and the sawdust was utilized in many ways. One of the most popular was in the preserving of ice. During the winter, after the ice was frozen to several inches, it was cut into large blocks and carried by sled from a large pond, north of the Doner farm to the ice house located in the woods near the sawmill. By packing the ice in several layers of sawdust, it could be preserved until the middle of August. Because of the availability of the ice, several dishes of homemade ice cream were enjoyed by the LaRue family and friends during the hot summer months.

With spring came the tapping of the maple sugar trees and the making of maple syrup. Summer and fall brought the threshing machines with a separator to harvest the grain, followed by the bailers. An abundance of fall and winter apples provided all the cider and vinegar that was wanted. Horses, hogs, cows and sheep provided the many necessities that we now take for granted.

The family was also interested in many other things such as church, school, Farmers Institute, etc. They were members of the Washington Chapel Meth. Episc. Church and the children attended the Washington Twp. School Dist. 3, also known as Betz School.

Isaac Martin, known to his friends as Marty, was co-owner of the land where I now stand, located 1 mile west of Wabash on Ste. Rte. 29. In 1902 he

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married Mary Weaver from Darke County, Ohio and they had 3 children: Mildred born 1903, Kathleen born 1905 and Clarence born 1910.

Mildred graduated from Washington Twp. High School and Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing. She married Ivan Deeter and they had 2 children: Martha Jane and Keith. Ivan died in 1959. Martha Jane, also a graduate from Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing married Richard Chilcote. He enlisted in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict from 1951-1954. They are now owners of Pond-a-River Golf Course, Woodburn, Indiana. They have 2 children, John and Diane. Keith enlisted in the Marines during the Korean Conflict from 1951-1954. He married Dorothy Pope and they have 4 daughters; Debra, married with 1 child, Cheryl, died in 1969; Donna, married with 1 child and Evelyn. Keith is a floor covering installer.

Kathleen LaRue married Tom Boley and they have 3 sons: Roger, Neal and Joe. Tom and Kathleen are both deceased. Roger married Grace Shane, they have a son, divorced and Roger is remarried. Their son Michael married Cheryl Adams and they have a daughter Julie. Neal married Mary Andrews and they have 4 children; Carol, Bruce, Judy and Larry. Carol married Craig Zimmerman and has 2 daughters, Wendy and Amy. Bruce and Linda Heiby are just recently married and Judy and Larry are still at home. Joe married Shirley Kuhn and they have 2 children, Leisa and Jerry, both at home. Roger, Neal and Joe all are affiliated with the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. Joe is also engaged in farming.

Clarence LaRue married Beatrice Huffman and they have 2 sons, Phillip and Dennis. Phillip married Sharon Hines and they have 4 children: Rebecca, Randal, Jennifer and Kristal, all at home. Phillip is owner of Wabash Garage located on the home land. Dennis married Linda Gillett, have 1 child, Susan, divorced. He then married Linda Beougher and they have 1 child, Jeff. Dennis is now owner of his own business in Estes Park, Colorado.

A niece of Mary Weaver LaRue, Doris Weaver Day, was also reared in the home from age 3 to graduation from business college. She is now living in Silver Spring, Md.

The Phillip LaRue family is living in me now, but I have just about outlived my usefulness. My floors creak, my mortar is cracked, my windows are broken and my slate roof is falling off piece by piece. I will soon be torn down, but I'm not sad. I have had a very rich and rewarding life by watching all these young people, starting with Uriah and Lydia, grow and making their mark in their communities, each in his own way. *as told by the "Red Brick House"*

JOSEPH JOHN LAUX FAMILY

Though he was baptized John Joseph Laux, his friends knew him as J.J. Others knew him as Joe or simply the state line blacksmith. He made his home at what is now the corner of Pine Road and the State Line for seventy some years.

Joseph was born September 25, 1860 in Hambuch, Germany, a very small village near the Belgium border. Two days later he was baptized in St. John the Baptist Church in Hambuch.

Seated: Fer
nand, J.J., Mar
ret, Salon
Standing: Lou
Harry, Ma
Anne, Lou
Edward, Elean
Roman.

On April 23, 1866 his parents, Matthias Laux ar Anna Maria (Schumacher) Laux said good-by to tl pastor of St. John the Baptist Church. They to with them a family record which is now in the han of Mrs. Mary (Laux) Krieg. By June 19, 1866 Ma thias, his wife and six children had safely cross the ocean and made their way to Indiana. For that day Mr. Laux paid $1200 for a 40 acre plot land in Jay County Wabash Township, Indiana.

Not quite eleven years old when his mother die Joseph was only twelve and a half when his fath passed away. That first day as an orphan, he sat on rail fence wondering what he would do. His old brother, Anthony, took him and his younger siste Margaret, to live in Mercer County, Ohio. That w the beginning of his career as a blacksmith.

May 6, 1884 Joseph J. Laux married Margar Lescher in Holy Trinity Church near Bryant, Ind ana. Margaret, born in Grand Rapids, Michigan w the daughter of John Lescher and Helena Michel Margaret was residing near New Corydon, Indiar at the time of her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Laux had a family of nine chi dren, all of whom were born in St. Anthony, Ohi They are: Ferdinand John born May 29, 1866; Sa lome Margaret born April 30, 1888; Edward Micha born May 2, 1890; Louis Christian born May 2 1892; Mary Anne born June 5, 1894; Harry Franc born February 12, 1896; Roman Florian born May 1898; Louise Antoinette born June 10, 1900; Eleanc Mary born November 7, 1903.

All of their children were to marry. When th hale and hearty J.J. celebrated his eightieth birthda forty-four grandchildren and nine great grandchi dren made it a family reunion to be remembered.

Mr. and Mrs. Laux were faithful members of S Anthony Church, Padua, Ohio. Their children a tended the one-room school on the parish property Both parents worked hard and made a successfu living from the smithy and a small plot of land. Thi small plot provided their meat, eggs, milk, fruit an vegetables.

One recreation that Mr. Laux regularly permitte himself was the County Fair. Mrs. Laux found relax ation in crocheting and quilt making.

Mrs. Laux died at home January 21, 1936. He husband followed on September 6, 1942. Both ar interred in St. Anthony cemetery. *Sister Bernice Krieg*

LOSHE (ORIGINAL SPELLING "LOTHSCHUTZ")

John Loshe was born in Bavaria, Germany Januar 29, 1834 and emigrated to America in the mid-1840'

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nd settled in Pennsylvania. About the same time nother group of Lothschuts settled in Ottawa ounty, Michigan. After being in the USA for the five years plus" he applied for Citizenship on Aust 20, 1855 and became a citizen Dec. 7, 1857. assports indicate he went back to Germany and rerned to America in 1860. He married Amelia Omr in Fostoria, Ohio Nov. 7, 1864. Passport #156 inicates she was also born in Bavaria and came over America when she was two years old with her arents, John and Catherine Johns Omlor IV and eir six children on the ship "North Carolina" and nded at NYC May 7, 1845 and settled on 35 acres urchased from John Bettinger at the intersection of oudon Twp. roads 112 and 21 just South of Fostoia, Ohio. After marriage, John and Amelia settled n a farm in Washington Twp. Mercer County, resently owned by a grandson, Bernard Loshe. here in a log cabin were born to them 12 children. . John Loshe Aug. 21, 1865-April 10, 1945 Died at ecatur, Indiana. A son Leo Losche lives in Coldwaer, Ohio. 2. Jacob Loshe May 3, 1867-March 7, 1916 uried at St. Peter Mercer County. 3. Joseph Loshe ec. 26, 1868-Aug. 14, 1953 Buried at St. Anthony, hio. 4. Anna Lothschutz Feb. 17, 1870-Jan. 31, 1888 uried at St. Anthony, Ohio. 5. William Losche Aug. 2, 1872-Dec. 27, 1954 Buried at Coldwater, Ohio. ertha Losche, Helen and Agnes Hoyng, his daughers live in Coldwater. 6. Mary Loshe (Mrs. Joe Kahg) July 15, 1874-Feb. 2, 1952 Coldwater, Ohio. harles Kahlig and Rose (Mrs. Leo Wenning) reared hildren in M. County. 7. Henry Loshe Jan. 11, 1877ept. 10, 1958 Buried at St. Anthony, Ohio. Aloys, erner, Bernard & Mildred (Mrs. Aug. Dues) are in ercer County. 8. Amelia Loshe (Mrs. Aug. Saning) Nov. 26, 1878-Jan. 7, 1943 Coldwater. Her chilren Bertha, Albert, Leo, Helen Kaiser, Julius, Clarnce, Dorothy Gaerke, Alvera Wehrkamp and erbert all lived in Mercer County. Herbert was illed in Action in 1944. 9. Elizabeth Loshe (Mrs. heodore May) Oct. 9, 1880-April 4, 1957 St. Anhony. Her sons: Leo, Charles, & Edward May reared amilies in Mercer County. 10. Frank Loshe Sept. 19, 882-Oct. 2, 1937 Buried at Decatur, Indiana. 11. Peer Loshe Sept. 19, 1884-Jan. 3, 1948 Buried at Decaur, Indiana. 12. Charles Loshe Jan. 2, 1887-Oct. 23, 956 Buried at St. Anthony, Ohio. Several of Amelia os' e's sisters settled in the Coldwater, Ohio area; Mrs. Adam Bettinger and Mrs. Margaret Schindler, ater Mrs. Jacob Schoen. A brother John Omlor aught school near Coldwater. *Bernard Loshe*

Henry and Caroline (Homan) May

THE HENRY MAY FAMILY

Henry May son of Theodore May of Waldstedde, Germany had planned to come to America in the ate 1850's with his brother Theodore May. It so appened Henry was in a terrible farm accident in vhich he was given up to die, so he could not come with his brother Theodore May to America. Theodore May married Rachel Sherman. They left Germany for America and settled at St. Anthony, Ohio or then known as Padua, Ohio.

Henry May began to get better and soon was well again. He then came to America and also bought a farm at St. Anthony. After buying a farm he returned to Germany and married Caroline Homan, daughter of Bernard Henry Homan on April 9, 1861 in Herbern, Germany. They then came to America and settled on the farm at St. Anthony, Ohio which Henry bought when he came over the first time. Later Theodore and Rachel May moved to New Haven, Ind. on a farm.

Caroline (Homan) May had four brothers, John Henry Homan who stayed in Germany on the family farm, Gerhard Homan who settled at St. Anthony, Ohio, Bernard Homan who settled at St. Sebastian, Ohio and Joseph Homan, settled at St. Rose, Ohio.

Henry and Caroline (Homan) May had five children. Elizabeth May, their oldest child married Joseph Rauh and they had six children, Theodore Urban, Caroline, Amelia, Louise, and Werner Rauh. Henry and Caroline May's second child was Theodore May. He married Elizabeth Losche and stayed on the family farm in St. Anthony, Ohio. Their children were Leo, Edward, Fred, Charles, and Dorothy May. Henry and Caroline May's third child was Gerhard May who married Rosina Diller, their children being Lidwina, Caroline, John, Clem, Elizabeth, Hilda, Alfonse, Frank, Mary, Marvin, and Cletus May. Henry and Caroline May's fourth child was Anna May who married Ben Muhlenkamp. Their children were Joseph, Frances, Elanore, Josephine, Sylvester, August, Leo, Linus, Monica, Odelia and Bernadine Muhlenkamp. Caroline (Homan) May died when her fifth child, Henry was born in 1870. Henry died during his first year.

Later Henry May married Catherine Boeckman. They had two children, Catherine May and Anthony May. Catherine married Henry Rosenbeck. They had four children, Rose, Louise, Urban and Dorothy Rosenbeck. Anthony May never married and lived at Marshfield, Wisconsin. Henry May's older brother, Bernard May stayed on the family farm in Germany. The farm Henry May settled on is still in the family name "May". *Rita Timmerman*

THOMAS EUGENE MAY

Thomas Eugene May was born to Geraldine (Jerry) and Betty May on May 1, 1949. He was the oldest of three children. Tom and his two sisters, Linda Gail and Betsy Jane were raised in Erastus, Ohio (Washington Township in Mercer County).

Tom went to school his first three years in a two room school house near Erastus. There were only three other students in his grade. After these first three years, Tom was bused to Celina where he completed the next nine years of school in the Celina Public Schools.

Tom's father, Jerry May, and grandfather, Philip May, (who was married to the former Lily Monroe) were self-employed outdoor painters and auto body repairmen their entire lives. Eventually, Tom took over the third generation of the outdoor painting business.

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Tom's mother, Betty, was born to Edna (Henke) and Fred Moorman. She was the youngest of thirteen children. She grew up on a farm in Mercer County during the Great Depression. While most Americans were struggling along, Betty thought these were the happiest days of her young life. There was plenty of food on the farm and she had no worries. Many of her brothers and sisters worked in Dayton during these years and came home on weekends to shower her with much affection.

During their growing years in the 1950's and '60's, Tom and his sisters lived a happy relaxed life in rural Mercer County. The family's main love was going to car races every Sunday at Eldora Speedway in Rossburg, Ohio.

Tom's sister, Linda eventually married Mike Weiler from St. Marys and they had two children, Jessica Marie and Michael Jr. Betsy Jane May was married to Ronald Link of Celina in November of 1971. They had two daughters, Melissa Renee and Holly Kristina.

On December 8, 1976, Tom married Deborah Jane Anderson, the daughter of Warren and Betty (Kallmeyer) Anderson of rural Celina. Debbie, the second oldest of eleven children, worked in the family owned restaurant (The Willow Drive-In) during her adolescent years.

Now in 1978 Debbie is an airline stewardess with American Airlines. She and Tom live in Celina and enjoy virtually free travel all over the world. They both feel they have the best of both worlds — the travel and excitement of big city living and the peace and serenity of rural America. *Tom May*

McAFEE

Chester Arthur McAfee, son of John Francis McAfee and Martha Jane (Grier) McAfee, married Naomi Adams, daughter of Joseph Walter Adams and Iva Ann (Squier) Adams, in September 1935. One son and one daughter was born to them, namely Marvin Kraig McAfee and Karen Adams McAfee.

Kraig married Coralie Roesner daugher of Richard and Grace (Weaver) Roesner of Celina, Ohio. Born to Kraig and Coralie, three daughters and one son, namely Kelli Jo, Kasi Lee, Kristi Kae and Kerry D.

Karen married Paul Stanley Liss of Parma, Ohio. Born to Karen and Paul one son and one daughter, namely Eric Eugene Liss and Paula Adams Liss.

At this time Chester and Naomi have a farm in Washington Township and live there in the summer months and spend the winters in Florida. Kraig and Coralie have a home in Woodbridge, Va. having spent twenty-three years in the Marine Corps.

Karen and Paul have a home in Lakewood, Ohio.

McAFEE

Charles Albert McAfee, fourth son of John and Sarah (Carmack) McAfee was born December 24, 1871, in Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. His father came from Muskington Co., Ohio in 1850. Bought land in Washington Twp. Section 27, and was the first settler on this property. His mother came from Butler Co., Ohio.

He married Sarah Wiley, October 8, 1896, the daughter of John and Mary Jane Wiley, residents of Jay Co., Indiana. The Wiley family were direct em grants from Donegal, Ireland. They attended Th Presbyterian Church, west of Macedon, which was branch of the Protestant Church of England.

Charles McAfee engaged in farming in Washing ton Twp. They owned a farm in Washington Twp Section 34, bought from an uncle. They raised live stock to produce cash. They raised Belgian horse and always had a "two year old" to sell each year t a neighbor or to the horse buyer from the city to b used as a dray horse. They raised timothy hay to b baled in winter by a horse powered baler to b shipped to the city for horse feed. Some hogs wer raised and fattened on corn and butchered in th dead of winter with snow on the ground and deliv ered to butchers in larger towns on a "mud boat pulled by a team of horses. These trips took severa days, however, after the railroads came they wer shipped alive by railroad cars.

They had three children, Dorsey Porter, born Jul 1, 1900 in Washington Twp., Mercer Co. He marrie May 13, 1925, Marie Riffle Koch, daughter of Ed ward and Matilda Koch of Ft. Recovery, Ohio. The have two children Edward, Noble Twp, Jay Co., Indi ana and Mrs. Verlin (Ruth Ann) Craig, Bearcree Twp., Jay Co. Dorsey is a retired school teacher an farmer living in Noble Twp., Jay Co., Indiana.

Sarah Glea born April 25, 1902 Noble Twp., Ja Co. She married Charles Murl Ferner, June 4, 1921 He is the son of Rev. Ross and Nettie (Wortz) Ferne of Noble Twp., Jay Co. They have three children Mrs. Francis (Fay Irene) Burch, Celina, Ohio; Mrs Reno (Beverly) Seig, Spring Green, Wisc.; and Lo well Daniel of Noble Twp., Jay Co. Charles was en gaged in farming most of his life.

Hazel Edith was born January 20, 1909, in Wash ington Twp. Mercer Co. She married Charle Bennett Miller, January 23, 1932. He is the son o Charles and Grace (Bennett) Miller, a farmer of Noble Twp., Jay Co., Indiana.

They have six children, Roberta Jean, born July 8, 1932; Mrs. Richard (Marilyn Maxine) Moon, born September 26, 1939; Richard Noel born June 17, 1941, all of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Phillip Allen, January 6, 1947 to October 5, 1975; Donald Leon born October 1, 1949, Anderson, Indiana and Jon Charles born May 21, 1955, of Noble Twp., Jay Co., Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have lived at various places in Noble Twp. and have been engaged in livestock and grain farming all their lives. Mr. Miller drove a school bus for Noble Twp. School for 18 years. *Dorsey McAfee, Portland, Ind. 47371*

GLEN EDWARD McCAIN

Glen "Slim" McCain was born in Granville Twp., St. Henry, Ohio on December 14, 1907; the first of ten children of Charley and Sara Jane (Hole) McCain. Slim is retired after 27 years from the New Idea Corp. During his life time he has drilled wells, sheared sheep and enjoyed many hobbies. His dearest pasttime is harness racing. He has maintained horses at the Mercer county fairgrounds for the past twenty years. In 1948 he married the former Ruby Stover. There were no children of this union. They now reside in Celina.

Slim's great grandfather William McCain was born in Pike County, O., in 1825, the second oldest

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n of Peter and Rachel (Spriggs) McCain. In 1845 : married Rebecca Wishon, the daughter of Issac ıd Phoebe Wishon. They came to Mercer County ith her parents, from Jackson County, Ohio, in :ptember of 1851, to begin a business. They settled ı what is now known as Fleetfoot road. William's 'others and sisters were James, Peter, Anna, Benja- in, Samuel, Rachel, Susanna, Delilah, Daniel, ancy and Ivey.

In the late 1870's William and Rebecca McCain oved their family of eleven children to Wabash. hey were engaged in farming, raised sheep and ıld wool. They remained on the same farm til their :aths. The farm was then divided among the eight ırviving children and a part of that farm stayed in ıe family until 1928. William and Rebecca's chil- ren were Jonathan, Phoebe, Peter, Sara Jane, Benja- ıin Franklin (this subjects grandfather), Rachel, ılie Ann, Nancy, John, Hettie and Angeline. Jona- ıan and Nancy died in childhood. With the excep- on of two children, all are buried at Swamp College emetery. Rebecca died in 1892. William McCain 'as a Civil War Veteran having served from 1862- 365. He died in May of 1896 at the age of 71 years. lis mother lived til the winter of the same year, be- ıg 92 years old at the time of her death. His parents re buried in Jackson County, Ohio.

Slim's grandfather, Benjamin "Frank" McCain ıas born in 1855. In 1879 he married Mary Abigail Iofford, the daughter of Miles and Harriet (Sutton) Iofford. They had a son and a daughter who sur- ived; Charley, born in 1883, (Slim's father) and)olly, born in 1895. Charley McCain and Sara Jane Iole were married in 1907. Sara was the daughter of ohn Swisher Hole and Lydia Margaret Finkbone. lim's grandfather Hole was also a veteran of the ivil War, serving from 1862-1865. He was wounded ıith a bullet penetrating his windpipe and lodging ı his lung. It was never removed. It was reported ıat someone saved his life by placing a postage tamp over the wound. They are also buried at wamp College Cemetary along with Slim's father nd mother. Charley McCain died in 1964, his wife ı 1957. Slim's brothers and sisters are Lloyd, Olive, sther, Grace, Doris, Nile, Charles and Clyde. A rother died in infancy. *Researched & Prepared by Nancy Thomas*

McMILLAN FAMILY

The McMillan Farm, 4820 St. Peter Road, Section :7, was designated a "Centennial Homestead Farm" ıy the Ohio Historical Society in 1977.

The founder, Thomas McMillan, born in County Antrim, Ireland, left Pennsylvania searching for ;ood farmland and settled on the 68 acres he ac- juired on April 1, 1868. As the land was cleared, it vas planted to regular farm crops. Thomas was a de- ıout Covenanter and church worker. He and his vife, Mary (Curry) had six children, three born in Pennsylvania, and three born in Mercer County, Ohio.

The second generation owner was John McMillan, vho with his wife, Agnesbelle (Patton) operated the arm adding cows, sheep and horses. There were wo sons, James Ralph and Warren. On October 17, 1906, while in the Meinerding Hardware Store in Ft. Recovery, Ohio, a gun was accidentally discharged into a quantity of dynamite stored there. In the ensuing explosion — an event historically significant in Ft. Recovery History — John was killed and his wife was seriously injured. They were members of the United Presbyterian Church at Macedon, Ohio, where John "lined the hymns" at services.

After John's tragic death, followed by the death of his son Warren, the farm was operated by his wife and their son, J. Ralph, who married Zula Melinda Fennig, daughter of James and Margaret (Beeler) Fennig. Acres were added, but the 68 original acres remained intact, and was operated as a grain and livestock farm. Ralph held political office in Washington Township as Treasurer for many years, and served on the Board of Education. The family held membership in the Erastus Methodist Church.

There were three children: Mary Ellen, married Everett Maffett of Jefferson Township, now of Eaton, Ohio, and parents of two sons, James and Jeffrey; Donald Kermit, married Evelyn Staudt of Montezuma, Ohio, now living in Jay County, Indiana, and parents of Diane (McClung), Gary and Randy; and John Edward, married to Lela Hoenie of Celina, Ohio.

The "Century Homestead Farm" is presently owned by John Edward and his wife Lela (daughter of Ray and Retta Hoenie) having acquired it in 1947, making this the fourth generation ownership. It is mainly a grain operation, and is farmed by their older son, Tom Warren, who with his wife Sharon (Mertz) and their children, Kimberly, Melinda, Nancy and Thomas, live on a farm on Township Line Road in Washington Township. Son Larry John is married to Judith (Wagner) and parents of John, Susan and Daniel, and live in Rochester, New York. Daughter Gwenyth Anne is married to Owen Ashbaugh and lives in Celina, Ohio. Daughter Gayle Ann is married to William T. Davis, and they live in Columbus, Ohio.

The original homestead, built by Thomas for John and Agnesbelle as a wedding present, is still standing. It has been moved to another tract nearby to make room for a new home. It has been altered, but the original two-story house is still intact and occupied. The "Century Homestead Farm" overlooks the beautiful Wabash River and many interesting Indian Relics have been discovered on the land. *Mrs. John McMillan*

25th Wedding Anniversary Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Menchhofer, Jr. **Standing:** Dennis, Marilyn, Shirley, and Douglas. **Front Row:** Brenda, Imogene, Cletus Jr., and Richard.

THE CLETUS MENCHHOFER, JR. FAMILY

Cletus Menchhofer, Jr. and Imogene Lois Canary were united in marriage, May 19, 1951. Imogene is the daughter of the late Lloyd and Zedna Boice Ca-

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nary. Zedna was daughter of Andy and Sarah Meyer Boice and Lloyd was son of Alfred and Polly Mault Canary. Both families lived near Wabash. Alfred was killed when the west bank of the reservoir caved in on him while he was working.

Cletus Jr. is the son of Cletus Sr. and Lucille Becher Menchhofer. Lucille was daughter of George and Mary Schlenker Becher of Chattanooga. Cletus Sr. was son of John and Catherine Powell Menchhofer of Washington Twp. Cletus Jr.'s Great Great grandparents came to America in 1850 from Strassburg, Alsace, France, near the Rhine River.

Cletus Jr. served his country for two years in the U.S. Army from 1951-1953, most of the time being spent overseas.

Cletus Jr. and Imogene bought their farm on St. Anthony Rd. in Sec. 16, Washington Twp. twenty-five years ago, and now own 500 acres, specializing in grain and livestock farming. They are the parents of six children; Douglas, Shirley, Marilyn, Dennis (Deceased Nov. 15, 1978), Richard, and Brenda. Cletus Jr. also has been an employee of New Idea, Coldwater for past 30 years. The family are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Washington Twp.

Daniel & Alice Menchhofer

DANIEL R. AND ALICE M. MENCHHOFER

Typical of many people whose activities may not have gained headlines but who are pleased to have been rooted in Mercer County is the family of Daniel R. and Alice M. Menchhofer.

Daniel Rufus Menchhofer was born April 9, 1881, the first of seven children born to John and Henrietta (nee Bollenbacher) Menchhofer; seven other children had been born earlier of John's first wife, Barbara, (nee Wolfe) all at the farm homestead near Burrville and Menchhofer Roads, in Washington Township. As a lad of twelve years John had come to America from Strassburg, Alsace, France, with his parents, John and Catherine (nee Pflughaupt) Menchhofer in the year 1850.

Alice May Menchhofer, daughter of David and Mary (nee Powell) Schroyer, was born Feb. 16, 1888 at the Schroyer Farm home, one half mile south of Wabash. Her paternal grandparents were George and Mahala (nee Harrod) Schroyer; and her maternal grandparents were Samuel and Lucy (nee Bobenmeyer) Powell, also of Washington Township.

Daniel and Alice were married January 31, 1907. After living four years on the former Porterfield farm near Macedon, they bought the Stelzer farm two miles south of Wabash. That became their home for thirty six years. There they raised their family of two girls and three boys, and taught them to be God-fearing and God-loving children. They were devout members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, where Daniel taught Sunday School and served several terms on the church council. For years Daniel held the elected office of Township Trustee. In 19- they moved to the Schroyer home near Wabash, t- years later they celebrated their golden wedding a- niversary. Daniel died January 15, 1958. Alice su- vives. Their children marked her 90th birthday - February, 1978 with a celebration dinner for 1- friends and family. She continues to do much quil- ing as well as enjoying her children, 32 grandchi- dren, 35 great-grandchildren and one great gre- grandchild.

Irvin and Mary; W- lis and Marcell- Lowell and Alber- (Alice Menchhof- 90th Birthday); La- rence and Leel- Ivan and Bonnie.

Thumb-nail Accounts of the Five Children of Dan & Alice Menchhofer

Leila married Lawrence Maury, a building cor- tractor, known for having designed and erecte- quality homes as well as commercial and industri- installations in and near Celina. Now retired, h- pursues his hobby of wood-work and cabinet mak- ing, specializing in grandfather clocks. Both are ac- tive members of St. John Lutheran Church. Thei- children are: Mrs. W. Clark Cook (Mary), Sidney Ohio; Mrs. Conrad V. Brandts (Dorothy) Dahlgren Virginia; Mrs. Terry P. Stachler (Ellen) Celina; an- son John L. Maury, Celina. The Maurys have nin- grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Ivan married Bonnie L. Teal, Columbus, Ohio; graduate of Capital University and Evangelical Lu- theran Seminary, Columbus, he was ordained i- 1936 and served as pastor of churches at St. Paul Minnesota, and back in Ohio at New Rome, Wes- Alexandria, and Berea. Now retired, the Menchhof- ers reside in Findlay, Ohio. Their five daughters ar- Mrs. Emerson Focht (Sharon), Findlay; Mrs. Georg- Moses (Lois), Miamisburg, Ohio; Mrs. Davi- Mohrhoff (Joyce), Cleveland, Ohio; Connie, Euclid Ohio; and Lorene, Lakewood, Ohio. They have eigh- grandchildren.

Irvin married Mary Regedanz, Celina. He gradu- ated from St. Marys College of Commerce. In Worl- War II he served overseas in Field Artillery, U.S Army. He and Mary reared their family on the home farm in Washington Township. In late years they have lived in Celina where he is a driver license examiner with the State Highway Patrol, and Mary is employed at Reynolds and Reynolds. They con- tinue to be active members of St. Pauls Lutheran Church. Their children are: Warren D. married to Roseann Fennig, Celina; Mrs. Richard Long (Linda) Celina; James E. married to Cheri Stump, on the home farm; Mrs. Michael Doseck (Beth), Celina, Mrs. Steven McAfee (Dora), Celina; Timothy, married to Diane Schroyer, Celina; John (A.J.) and Michael, at home. Irvin and Mary have seven grandchildren.

Marcella married the Reverend Willis Yarian, a graduate of Capital University and Evangelical Lutheran Seminary, Columbus. He has served as pastor of churches in Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. Five of their children are or have been in military

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ervice; two more are in the AFROTC program at he University of Illinois. Their children are TSgt. Donn, in the European Communication Area; Mrs. ames Nugent (Ruth Ann), Mt. Pleasant, Michigan; Carl, married to Nazia Azizi, Falls Church, Va.; Mrs. ohn Mowen (Ester), Chambersburg, Ill.; Mark, Vanlenburg AFB, California; Daniel married to Dinah Higley, Clayton, Ill. Luther and Paul, University of llinois. The Yarians have six grandchildren.

Lowell married Alberta Sommers, Portland, Indiana. After combat duty in Europe in World War II, ie enrolled at Capital University and received a degree in 1949. They purchased a house near Portland, ndiana where they reared their family. They are active members of Zion Lutheran Church, Portland. owell is an agent of the Western Southern Life Insurance Co. and has an office in Muncie, Indiana. Their children are Mrs. Don Bradley (Brenda), Delaware, Ohio, Carol, Bloomington, Ind.; Mrs. Jack Freeman, (Marla), Bryant, Ind.; and Mrs. Don Enyart Anita) Selma, Ind. Lowell and Alberta have four grandchildren.

ımes and Cheri Stump) Menchhofer and hildren Daniel, effrey and Kelly.

MENCHHOFER

James Menchhofer, son of Albert Irvin and Mary Menchhofer, married Cheri Stump, daughter of James and Helen (House) Stump, on May 3, 1974. They live on a farm in Washington Township. James Menchhofer was born April 1, 1950. Cheri Menchhofer was born June 28, 1953.

James and Cheri (Stump) Menchhofer have three children: Kelly Jo, born Feb. 17, 1975; Daniel Edward, born Jan. 24, 1976; and Jeffrey Jay, born Nov. 8, 1978.

MOEDER-MADER

The Moeder-Mader family has been in Mercer County for many years. Rabanus (Robert) and Elizabeth Bauman Moeder came in the German Migrations of the 1840's. Tradition has it that they came by way of Cincinnati and settled at Litchfield in Medina Co. near the Lorain Co. line. Mr. Moeder was a school teacher and blacksmith. By 1857 they were living at St. Henry, Mercer Co. It is conjectured that they lived just south of the present High School building. They had a family of nine children:

1. Josephine Moeder was born in 1845. She married Casper Beckmeyer in Cincinnati. She died in 1876 leaving a son and daughter. They were reared by her brother, Joseph and his wife at St. Henry.
2. Robert Moeder was born in 1846. He married Katherine Schlosser. They had one son and an adopted daughter. He died at St. Henry in 1901.
3. Anthony Moeder was born in 1848. He married Elizabeth Brinkman. They adopted two children, who reside on the home place in St. Henry. Anthony died in St. Henry in 1933.
4. John Moeder was born in 1849. He married Rose Elizabeth Panning, who died in 1885. He then married Anna Mary Grube. He had a family of thirteen children. He died at Burkettsville in 1918.
5. Mary Moeder was born in 1851. She married David Roessner. They had two sons. She died at St. Henry in 1928.
6. Joseph Moeder was born in 1852. He married Adelheit Haubert and settled on a farm west of St. Henry. They had a family of eight children. One daughter still resides on the home place, which has been in the Joe Moeder family ever since 1874. Joseph died in 1947 at the age of 95.
7. Frank Moeder was born in 1854. He married Elizabeth Forsthoff. Six children were born to them, two of whom reside in the parental home. He died at St. Henry in 1923.
8. Catherine Moeder was born in 1856. She married Anthony Overman. They had six children. She died in 1940 and is buried at St. John (Maria Stein).
9. Xavier Moeder died in infancy, several months after his mother, who died at his birth.

Elizabeth died in 1857 and Rabanus died in 1880. They are buried in the St. Henry Cemetery. *Bernard Loshe*

John and Catherine (Knoth) Hess, c. 1860

MUHLENKAMP-HESS

Bernard Muhlenkamp was born in Billibeck, Westpholen, Germany on March 21, 1838. He married Marie Wessing born Oct. 25, 1836. In the 1860's they and Bernard's brother Herman and Herman's wife came together to America and settled in Saint Anthony. Marie was fearful of the possible dangers of the trip and prayed to God to bring them safely to their new home. She promised to keep the sanctuary lamp burning in church. For over thirty years Marie and for many years her little black dog walked every evening to St. Anthony Church and lit the sanctuary lamp.

For a while they all lived with the Muhlenkamp's sister Catherine Graving and her family who came to America earlier. In 1869 Catherine and her family went out west. Herman bought her farm and Bernard bought a farm nearby. Herman's children were Barney, Gertrude, John, Henry, Theodore, and William. Bernard's children were Anthony (Elizabeth Newport, Delia Adney), Elizabeth (John Bruns), Henry, and Mary (Mike Mertz). Marie died Feb. 2, 1901 and Bernard died March 20, 1916.

Bernard's son Henry (B. Sept. 22, 1875) married Frances Hess (B. Aug. 24, 1882). She was the daughter of Jacob Hess (B. Nov. 5, 1850) and Catherine Fortman (B. Feb. 5, 1855).

As a boy Jacob worked for the Miami-Erie Canal. He walked along the canal from Toledo to Cincinnati driving a team of horses that pulled a flatboat along the canal. Later he told his family many of his adventures. Jacob became a carpenter and a bridge builder.

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Jacob and Catherine built a home on Logan St., Celina in the 1870's. It is still standing. Most of their children were born in this home.

Their children were: Mary (B. Bremkte), Rosa, Nora (T. Rafferity), Frances (H. Muhlenkamp), Helen (died at 1 yr.), Frank (Hazel Frysinger, Cho Sheets, Marie Wallburn), Leona (H. Muhlenkamp), and Philip (Edwina Howard). Leona is the only surviving member of the family. Jacob died July 15, 1933 on his 60th Anniversary. Catherine died Feb. 6, 1940.

Catherine's parents were John Fortman and Marie Wickelman of St. Anthony.

Jacob's father John was born in Germany in 1803. He and three brothers came to America in the 1840's. John and his brother William settled in Mercer County. John and his first wife had one son John. He became a Precious Blood brother and made the outdoor wooden stations at St. Charles Seminary. After his first wife died John married Catherine Knoth who was born in 1824. They had six children: Jacob, Charles, Peter, Joseph, Mary, and Elizabeth. The family lived for a time at Sharpsburg and in 1862 moved to Celina. They were one of three Catholic families who helped establish the Immaculate Conception Parish in Celina. John died March 13, 1884 and Catherine died on Dec. 22, 1880.

Their granddaugther Frances Hess met Henry Muhlenkamp at the cornerstone celebration for the new church in Celina. They were married just two months later on July 2, 1901 and settled on a farm near Trinity, Indiana. They had twelve children: Hebert (Essella Miller), Alvera (Herman Dietering), Lenard (Eulalia Wagner), Cleo, Harold (Rita Knapke), Ralph (Juletta Wenning), Victor (Agnes Wendel), Cornelous (Rose Wenning), Paul (Dorothy Langenkamp), Urban (Irma Hess), Mary (Howard Wagner, Edward Kriegel) and Doris (Richard Moeller). Frances died March 6, 1943. Henry married her sister Leona on Jan. 29, 1944. Henry died on Oct. 19, 1962. They had 89 grandchildren; 185 great-grand.

Standing: Theodore, William, Catherine, Henry, John Muhlenkamp. **Seated:** Gerhard, Elizabeth, Herman and Bernard Muhlenkamp.

HERMAN MUHLENKAMP

Herman Muhlenkamp, born 1836 in Billerbeck, Westphalia, Germany married Elizabeth Emmerick, born 1835, Coesfeld, Westphalia, Germany; settled in Mercer County, Ohio, one-half mile west of Saint Anthony. Elizabeth died 1914; Herman in 1917.

Children born to this union were 1. Ben, 2. Gerhard, 3. John, 4. Henry, 5. Theodore, 6. Catherine, and 7. William.

1. Ben Muhlenkamp (1861-1945) married Anna May (1867-1936); their children were: Joseph, Sister Geraldine (Dee), Twins Sister Consolata and Sister Consolatrix (dec), Josephine, Sylvester, August, Leo, Linus, Monica, Sister Louanne, Bernadine.

Ioseph (1889-1958) married Cordula Middendorf, children Dennis and Verus.

Josephine (1894-1960) married Philip Wellmar (1893-1973); children: Lavern, Wilma, Doris, Jeanette.

Sylvester married Aloysia Middendorf (1903-1956); then married Victoria Steinbrunner (1890-1969); no children.

August (1898-1963) married Olivia Schroer (1904-1967); children: Edna, Marvin, Gilbert, Marceil Betty, Bob.

Leo (1900-1970) married Agnes Braun (1900-1940) children: Eileen, Lucalla, Norma, Lewis, Jim, Joan Martha, Rose Mary. His second wife is Mary Schmit.

Linus (1902-1978) married Esther Krieg; children Alvin, Louann, Irma, Ernest, Ivan, Juanita, La-Vaughn, Ben, Elaine, Kathy.

Monica married Theodore Jutte (1898-1942); children: Ruth, Evelyn and Ted.

Bernadine married Ted Braun (_____-1978); children: Rita, Doris, Eugene.

2. Gerhard (1864-1926) married Anna Dabbelt (1867-1917); children: Alice and Mary.

Alice (1896-1921) married Ben Koester (1888-1923); children: Edna and Lucille.

Mary married Ed Middendorf (dec.); children: unknown. His second wife was Clara Hart (1872-1958).

3. John (_____-1941) married Catherine Homan (1871-1947); children: Bertha, Coletta, Albert, Othilia, Augusta, Agnes, Alfreda, Ludwina, Leon.

Bertha (1891-1930) married Ben Tobe (dec.); children: Alma, Alfred, Werner, Rita, Herbert, Delores, Paul.

Coletta (1893-1927) married Ed Hardings (dec.); children: Robert and Louetta.

Albert (1895-1961) married Veronica Steinlage (1899-1959); children: Richard, Armelda, Pauline, Ruth, Joan.

Othilia (1897-1937) married John Borgert (1888-1976); no children.

Augusta (1900-1956) married Urban Link; children: Edna, Melvin, Ralph, Hulda, Viola, Bernice.

Agnes married Frank Bertke (1895-1949); children: Wilma, Mella. Then she married John Brockman (1891-1973).

Alfreda married Leo Krieg; children: Virgil, Elsie, Lucille, Marlene, Onalee, Harold, Marie, Karen.

Ludwina (1908-1971) married Ray Link; children: Marvin, Ivo, Doratta (dec.), Dennis, Wilfred.

Leon married Clotilda Goecke; children: Romona, Norma, Rebecca, Bill, Jane, Jerry, Lucy.

4. Henry (1869-1929) married Katherine Johe (1873-1960); children: Rose, Regina, Louise, Carl, Christine.

Rose 1896-1976) married Albert Bramlage (1894-1969); no children.

Regina married Aloys Post; children: John, Rose Mary.

Louise married Louis Laufersweiler; no children.

Carl married Lucille Spangler; children: Tom, Mary Lou, Rose Catherine, Joan.

Christine married John Billerman; children: Paul, Victor, Henry.

5. Theodore (1871-1955) married Frances Fortman (1875-1952); children: Aloys, Albin, Alfons, Edmund, Max, Hilbert, Herman, Vincent, Thresia, Ott, Victorie, Betty.

Aloys (dec.) married Amelia Homan (dec.); chil-

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lren: Ralph. Second wife is Elizabeth Tobe; children: Priscilla, Arthur, Eugene (dec.), Twins Isabelle and Annabell, Leroy.

Albin married Rose Turkes (1898-1970); children: Twins Harold and Howard, Esther, Elmer, Frank, Bill, Marcella, Agnes, Marvin.

Alfons married Alvina Krieg; children: Jean, Bob, Dorothy, Delores, Dick, Dale, Lucy, Ronald, Roger, Carol.

Edmund (1903-1973) married Rosella Ullman (1905-1965); children: Donald, Doris, Thelma, Vera, Kenneth, Ruth, Margie, Virginia, Mary Jane, Connie, Judy, David.

Max, (dec.), married Florence Beaty; children: Allen, Sue.

Hilbert married Freda Steinbrunner; children: Irene, Julia, Alice, Cletus, Jerry, Bernice, Duretta, Edgar.

Herman married Odelia VonderHaar; children: Charlene, Adrian, Luke (1941-1958), Janice, Mary Lee, Arlene, Jane.

Vincent married Beata Knapke; children: Ann, Nancy, Jim, Neal, Sam, Karen, Gary, June, Lynn, and Jill.

Thresia married Paul Peters; children: Margaret, Ted, Bill, Jane.

Ott married Roselyn Knapke; children: Betty, John, Diana, Sister Poor Handmaid, Ted, Luella, Nick, Mary Ann, Joseph.

Victorie married Norbert Knapke; children: Elaine, Janet, Julie.

Betty married Dan Hobbs; children: Daniel Jr., Sharon, John, Joan.

6. Catherine (1873-1944) married Gerhard Homan (1868-1947); children: Dora, Othilia, Alma, Thresia, Philomena, Bertha — now Sister Mirabilis, S.F.P. (See Gerhard Homan History).

7. William (1875-1950) married Clara Johe (1877-1963); children: Veronica, Mary, Isidor, Cecilia.

Veronica (1898-1974) married Henry Sudhoff (dec.); children: Rita, Irene, Merilda, Alfred, Herman, Paul, Alvin, Ray, Mary Agnes.

Mary married William Miller; children: Urban, Ralph, Howard, Father Mark, Ernest.

Isidor married Henrietta Drees; children: Marlene, Joyce, Ronald, Virginia, William, Marguerite, Rodney.

Cecilia married Raymond Wendel (1910-1969); children: Lou Ann, Ivo.

Loughridge School Students and Teacher (Jeffries School) — **Row One:** Leonard Sudhoff, Kathryn Huerkamp, Joseph Beumer, Bill Siegrist, Naomi Weigel, Elsie Thien, Mary Ann Schroer. **Row Two:** Norbert Post, Martha Siegrist, Hilda Weigel, Rosemary Fortman, Marcella Huerkamp, Mildred Sudhoff, Lenore Thien. **Row Three:** Paul Fortman, Henry O'Dell, Earl Thien, Richard Fortman, Martha VonderHaar, Mary Beumer, Mildred Siegrist, Art Schroer. **Row Four:** Cyrillus Weigel, Andrew Beumer, Urban Post, Edmund Schroer, Odelia VonderHaar, Carl Siegrist, Cyrillus Schroer. Teacher: John Weigel.

O'DELL

Clyde and Agnes Mannix O'Dell moved to Mercer County in 1919 from Greenville, Darke County, Ohio, where they had owned farm land. They purchased the former Dave Loughridge farm — eighty acres in Washington Township, two miles south of Saint Anthony, at the corner of State Routes 49 and 219. This land is now owned by Alvin Bruggeman. A title search indicates that this acreage was originally in two forty acre parcels in 1833 and 1834 — owned by an Abraham McDowell.

There was a sawmill at the northwest corner of the farm when the O'Dells moved there. According to Henry O'Dell, his father, Clyde, tore down the mill buildings soon after taking possession. The sawmill had been owned by Joe Kleinhenz, great grandfather of William Wangler of Fort Recovery. The one room school across the road, now owned by Schroer Brothers, was known as the Loughridge School and was in use until consolidation with the St. Anthony School.

Probably one reason for the purchase of the land named above was the fact that one hundred additional acres adjoining were available for rent. Fifty acres along Route 219 were owned by William Lowry of Fort Recovery, and fifty acres owned by Henry Mannix, the father of Agnes O'Dell. Later Clyde and Agnes acquired the Mannix tract. (Now owned by Alfred Sudhoff)

Clyde was born and reared in Savona, Darke County, Ohio and was a farmer in the Greenville area. Agnes was born and reared in Rosehill, Ohio and was a teacher in the Greenville area. They were the parents of two children — Henry O'Dell, and Mary Alice O'Dell Anthony. Henry and his wife, Ruth, now live in Laurel, Florida, south of Sarasota. Their daughter, Kathy O'Dell Coble, and her husband and daughter live in Sarasota, Florida also. Mary Alice, her husband, Luke Anthony, live in Fort Recovery, Ohio. Of their family of five, one son, George lives in Fort Recovery, and is associated with the Sohio Service Station. Susan is a student at Bowling Green State University. Margaret, Tom and Mike are married and living in other areas.

Memories of an 'ice house' out in the woods on the eighty acres described above. Each winter in the early years, at least, Clyde and neighbors would cut large blocks of ice and pack them into the 'ice house' — using saw dust and straw for insulation. The writer can recall the use of a coaster wagon and ice tongs — to get the ice in the summer in order to make homemade ice cream. As a small child, there is a remembrance of a man's coming to Clyde asking for some ice for his very ill wife, in the days before ice was readily available. Naturally, the ice didn't last until the end of the summer, especially if the summer was unusually hot.

Visiting neighbors, especially on Sunday nights, was the usual occurrence. The children played games; the grownups talked or played cards. It was extremely important to have an adequate 'lunch' in readiness. All looked forward to the visit and the lunch. Occasionally birthdays or anniversaries of neighbors were celebrated with a 'surprise' party carry-in. All in all, a very warm feeling of knowing and appreciating people.

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Benjamin F. Powell Family — **Back Row:** John Powell, Amelia Powell, Luetta Powell, unidentified, Benjamin F. Powell. **Front Row:** Unidentified, and Wright Powell.

BENJAMIN F. POWELL FAMILY

Benjamin Franklin Powell was born January 11, 1883 in Mercer Co., Ohio. His parents were John Powell and Amelia Kutsch. John Powell was born January 24, 1836 in Butler Co., Ohio, the son of John and Barbara Powell. In 1852 the Powell family moved to section 11 of Washington Twp., Mercer Co. John began farming the home place in 1867, and on August 8, 1875 married Amelia Kutsch. Amelia Kutsch was born in Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., on November 29, 1859, the daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Conrad) Kutsch. The union of John Powell and Amelia was blessed with the following children: Catherine, b. June 11, 1876; Maggie E., b. November 29, 1877, who died in infancy; Pearl M., b. June 19, 1880; Benjamin F., b. January 11, 1883; Steven Grover Cleveland, b. August 27, 1885; and Alma Leona V., b. May 27, 1889.

Benjamin F. Powell married Iva Wright, daughter of Peter and Margaret (Kettering) Wright. Their children are: Mrs. Glen (Delilah) Beams, Celina, Ohio, b. July 7, 1904; Mrs. James (Mabel Margaret) Ellis, Dearborn, Michigan, b. Feb. 27, 1906; John Wright Powell, Celina, Ohio, b. Dec. 24, 1907; and Ellen May, who died in infancy. Iva Powell died in 1909. Benjamin Powell married Luetta Curless, of Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio on January 5, 1911.

Luetta Curless was born Dec. 18, 1894, the daughter of Alva and Marietta (Bollenbacher) Curless. Alva Curless was the son of John Curless and Delilah A. (Garrison) Curless. John, a Civil War veteran, farmed and lived in Liberty Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio. However, he and his family spent several years in Nebraska and in southern Missouri. Spells of severe drought and bad luck forced the Curless family to make the trip back to Mercer Co., Ohio in a covered wagon. The children of John and Delilah Curless were: Art, Harvey, Rebecca Weisenborn, Myrtle Hipkins, Cary, who died at the age of 18; and Alva. John and Delilah Curless later settled in New Madison, Ohio, and are buried in the town cemetery.

Alva Curless married Marietta Bollenbacher on Nov. 11, 1890. At the present time the connection cannot be proven, but it is believed that Marietta was the daughter of Christian and Emily (Mosier) Bollenbacher, who were married on Sept. 20, 1860, and whose children included: "Big Charlie"; "Windy Adam"; Marietta; Christian; Caroline; Anna; Emily; Elizabeth; John; Jacob; and Catherine. There may have been other children, also. Christian Bollenbacher owned a farm of 179.5 acres in section 18 of Liberty Twp. which was deeded to him by his father Adam in 1865. Adam, one of the original settlers of Liberty Twp., obtained the patent deed for that quarter-section from the U.S. government on Oct. 10, 1840. In 1857, he deeded ½ acre to Liberty Twp., for a cemetery, which is now known as Kessle Cemetery on Oregon Rd.

The marriage of Alva and Marietta (Bollenbacher Curless was blessed with four children: Leroy, Ellie Henry, and Luetta, b. Dec. 18, 1894. Marietta died o the "ague" while the children were still small. The children were raised by relatives in Liberty Twp Alva Curless later settled in Utah.

Luetta Curless and Benjamin Powell were married in 1911, and shortly thereafter moved to Missouri There along with friends and neighbors Ida "Cook' and Adam Kettering, they worked on a dredging boat. They moved back to Mercer Co. prior to the birth of their first child, remaining there the rest of their lives. Their children are: Richard Dwight, b Nov. 15, 1914, of Celina; Echo Hope Rock, b. Aug 10, 1917, of Celina; Mary Jane Wurster, b. Aug. 4 1919, of Celina; Robert Franklin, b. Nov. 21, 1921 deceased; Violet Luetta Shirk, b. July 25, 1923, of Wabash, Ohio; Roger Lee, b. May 28, 1925, of Union City, Ohio; Joanne Iolea Hellwarth, b. April 22, 1928, of Celina; Jack Douglas, b. May 26, 1931, of Mercer, Ohio; Jerry Wayne, b. May 26, 1931, of Coldwater, and William Joseph, b. April 25, 1934, of Penville, Ind. Benjamin and Luetta Powell were members of the Wabash Congregational Christian Church. Benjamin Powell died on June 29, 1962, and Luetta's death followed on Sept. 24, 1963.

JERRY WAYNE POWELL

Jerry Wayne Powell, twin to Jack Douglas, was born at home in Section 10, Washington Township May 26, 1931. He was the fifth son and ninth child born to Benjamin Franklin Powell and Luetta Curless Powell.

He attended various country schools throughout the elementary grades and graduated from Celina High School in 1950.

On February 10, 1952 he married Betty Lou Highley, daughter of Orville and Leona (Hatfield) Highley. She was born February 18, 1931 and lived all but the first two years of her life in Washington Twp.

He was inducted into the U.S. Army February 29, 1952 and served until November 1953. His basic training took place at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. He was sent to Korea for active duty from August 1952 until May 1953. The remainder of his time was spent at Ft. Benning, Georgia, where his wife came to live with him.

To them were born the following children: Linda Sue, March 7, 1954; Thomas Lee, January 3, 1956; Rhonda Elaine, January 26, 1959; and Doris Ann, July 28, 1960.

After his discharge, he went into dairy and grain farming with his father and lived in Washington Township, renting various farms to make a living. Upon the death of his father and mother, who died in 1962 and 1963 respectively, he bought the home farm (70 acres) in Section 10, Washington Township, where he moved to in 1968. At this time he gave up his dairy farming. He continued renting other land and was usually farming well over 500 acres annually.

In March 1970 he bought the (B.E. Holdren) Ashley and Margaret Brandon farm (160 acres) across the road from his home place. Here he had a new brick house built in 1977.

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He and his family attended and were active members of the Wabash United Church of Christ in Wabash, Ohio.

The eldest daughter, Linda Sue, graduated valedictorian from Celina Senior High School in 1972 and from Kent State University with honors in 1976 in the field of Corrections. She is presently concluding her thesis for her Master's Degree. On August 28, 1976 she married William Lee Schlotterer of Celina, Ohio, who also graduated from Celina Senior and Kent State University in 1976. He then entered Medical School at Ohio University at Athens, Ohio to study Osteopathic Medicine. At present, he is getting his hospital training at Grandview Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. They will reside in New Carlisle during this time.

Thomas Lee, the only son, graduated from Celina Senior High School in 1974. Since graduation, he has worked as meat-cutter at the Coldwater Meat Service in Celina. He also helped his father with farming.

Rhonda Elaine, second daughter, graduated co-salutatorian from Celina Senior High School in 1977. She entered Bowling Green State University that fall in the field of Business Administration, with her major being accounting.

Doris Ann, third daughter, graduated co-valedictorian from Celina Senior High School in 1978. She intends to enter Ohio State University this fall, with her major being physical therapy.

RICHARD DWIGHT POWELL

Richard D. Powell, son of Benjamin F. and Luetta (Curliss) Powell, was born November 15, 1914 in Washington Township Mercer County, Ohio. He attended Center Grade School and Washington Township High School. He is presently employed at The John W. Karch Stone Co. office.

On April 2, 1938 he was married to Ruth A. Monroe, born March 9, 1916 daughter of Ralph B. and Martha (Cordier) Monroe of Celina, Ohio. A daughter Janet Elaine was born June 19, 1939 at Celina, Ohio. She graduated from Celina High School and attended Bowling Green State University. Janet is a Speech and Hearing Therapist in Centerville School Systems south of Dayton, Ohio.

A son, Richard Alan was born December 3, 1945 at Celina, Ohio. He graduated from Celina High School.

Janet Elaine is married to Dennis K. Sakada of Dayton, Ohio, son of Mrs. Kim Sakada of Dayton, Ohio. He graduated from Miami University and is presently an architect for Eugene Betz Associates of Dayton, Ohio.

Richard Alan is present owner of the Powell Trucking of Celina, Ohio on Monroe Road.

RABE

Johann Rabe (1804-1886) married Maria Rabe (1802-1886). They lived in Langen, Germany and had five sons and two daughters: Henry, August, William, Charles, and Fred; Wihelmine and Fredrica. In the year 1848 Johann and Marie brought their family to America. Their daughter Fredrica was born May 12, 1836 and she was 12 years old when they resolved to emigrate to America. They had a voyage of 3 months, when they reached New Orleans, New Years Day in the year 1849. They came by boat up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to Cincinnati, which took three weeks longer. They later came up the Miami Erie Canal to Minster, Ohio and on to Washington Township of Mercer County. The forests were standing and in this wilderness Fredrica grew up. They cleared the forests before crops could be raised. Fredrica had one son Samuel Rabe; Fredrica died at the age of 79 in 1915. Samuel Rabe married Matilda (Heiby) Rabe in 1905 and they had two children: Clarence Rabe at the home place in Washington Township; and Bertha (Rabe) Schaadt, who now lives in Celina. When Clarence and Bertha Rabe's great-grandfather Johann Rabe came to America, he was a tailor making men's suits.

Clarence and Ruth (Frazee) Rabe

Clarence Rabe married Ruth Frazee, daughter of Samuel and Rozilla (Kimble) Frazee.

FREDERICK RABE

Frederick and Wilhelmina (Wenker) Rabe had four children: William (1874-1964); Ida (Willman); Henry, who married Nettie Slemmer; and Josephine (1881-1958) who married William Moorman, (1883-1958).

William and Josephine (Rabe) Moorman had two children: Harry (1906-1924) and Elsie W., b. 1912, who married G.F. Shoup in 1937. After retiring in 1974 from the Lutheran ministry, G.F. and Elsie Shoup returned to the home place in Washington Township.

G.F. and Elsie W. (Moorman) Shoup had two children: Paul Frederick, b. 1938 and Elaine Marie, b. 1942.

Paul Frederick Shoup married DiAnne Hamilton of Toledo in 1961. They are living in Marysville, Wash. They have five children: Jennifer Elaine, b. 1963; John Hamilton, b. 1965; David James, b. 1966; Sean, b. 1968, adopted; Deborah DiAnne, 1969, adopted.

Elaine Marie Shoup married Douglas J. Moore of Oak Harbor, Ohio in 1964. They have two children: Bret Daryk, b. 1966; and Paige Coleen, b. 1969. They are living in Atlanta, Georgia.

RABE

William Rabe (Jan. 18, 1873-Jan. 1, 1964) married Fanny Snyder (Mar. 13, 1887-May 1, 1975). They had three children: Alice, Lillian and Doris.

Alice (Rabe) Terry, born June 12, 1914 married Wendell Terry, born Sept. 19, 1917?. They had two children: Dale Terry, b. Jan. 9, 1950; and Ruth Terry, b. Oct. 2, 1953.

Lillian (Rabe) Morris, b. Oct. 25, 1920 married Hu-

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bert Morris, b. Oct. 18, 1915. They had three children: 1. Nancy Jo; 2. Susan; and 3. Gale. 1. Nancy Jo (Morris) Sales married Clyde Sales; they have one child, Tracy Jo Sales, b. Oct. 14, 1970. 2. Susan (Morris) Banks, b. July 14, 1948, married Roland Reese "Mike" Banks Jr. II, b. Jan. 25, 1950; they have four children: Roland Mike Banks Jr. III, July 16, 1971; Michelle Banks, May 10, 1970; Timothy Joel Banks, Jan. 25, 1975; and Philip Steven Banks, April 25, 1978. 3. Gale (Morris) Balderson, b. Aug. 7, 1958, who married Jeff Balderson; they have one child, Heather Balderson, June 24, 1977.

Doris Elizabeth (Rabe) Huey, b. Sept. 24, 1917, married Raymond Rutah Huey, b. July 4, 1911; they have seven children: 1. Ben, 2. Wayne, and 3. Janice 4. Carol, 5. Beth, 6. David and 7. Keith. 1. Ben Milton Huey, b. Oct. 10, 1945, married Becky Peden, Sept. 12, _____; they have three children: Rodney Wayne (Tadd) Huey, b. Mar. 25, 1970; Erron Lee Huey, b. Aug. 17, 1973; and Nathan Raymond Huey, b. Apr. 27, 1976. 2. Wayne Alan Huey, b. May 7, 1947, married Marilue John, b. Feb. 13, 1950; they have one child, Ryan William Huey. 3. Janice (Huey) Wagers b. Dec. 14, 1948 married Roy Wagers, b. Mar. 14, 1949; they have a child, Jason William Wagers, b. Feb. 28, 1976. 4. Carol Marie Huey, b. June 9, 1952. 5. Beth Anne (Huey) White, b. Jan. 1, 1955, married Chesley Leon White, Jr., b. Dec. 18, 1955. 6. David Lynn Huey, b. April 17, 1956. 7. Keith Brian Huey, b. Nov. 10, 1962. *R.R. Huey*

Mrs. Mary Rauh, mother and 6 sons — Anthony, George, Joseph, Constance, Henry and Ignatous.

IGNATIUS RAUH'S FAMILY

Ignatius Rauh was born in 1815 and died in 1867. He married Mary Weigel born in 1833-died 1896. Their homestead was in Washington Township, Mercer County. They attended church at St. Anthony of Padua. They lived in a log house on the farm. The family had six sons — Anthony, George, Joseph, Constance, Henry and Ignatius. Ignatius Rauh, Sr. was one of the men who helped with the construction of Grand Reservoir. It was all constructed with man power started in 1837 and completed in 1845. Ignatius died at an early age of pneumonia, leaving the widow with six sons, the oldest 14 and the youngest 4. The mother stayed on the farm all her life and worked very hard. Three of the boys became farmers, 2 teachers and one a priest of the Precious Blood Order.

Anthony Rauh, the oldest was born in 1853 and died in 1920. He married Anna Mueller born in 1861-died in 1946. They had four children, Ignatius, Rosina, Catherine and Peter.

George Rauh was born in 1854 and died in 1927. He married Clara Hein born in 1857 and died in 1907. They had nine children, Mary and Clara Sisters of the Franciscan Order, Alma a Dominican nun, Minnie, John, Crysenthia, Francis, George an Alfrieda.

Joseph Rauh was born in 1856 and died in 192 He married Elizabeth May born in 1862 and died i 1933. They had nine children, Catherine (died at th age of 5) John and Henry died in infancy, Caroline Theodore, Amelia, Louise, Urban and Werner. Car oline married George Miltner and had two daugh ters, Mary and Agnes.

Theodore married Lucina Diller and they had tw daughters, Geneva (now Sister Melanie) of the Poo Handmaids, and Patricia now Mrs. Walter Keyes They have seven children.

Amelia and Louise Rauh both Sisters of the Poo Handmaids are deceased and buried at the Mother house in Donaldson, Ind.

Urban married Celia Reichert and they had fou children, Dolores, Carl, John and Mark. Dolore married Robert Leugers and they have eleven children. Carl died at the age of 11 years in 1953. John i not married and Mark married Deborah Eilermar and they have two daughters.

Rev. Werner Rauh was born in 1904, was ordained in 1929 and died in 1959.

Constance Rauh was born in 1858 and died i 1899. He married Catherine Birkmeyer born in 186 and died in 1952. They had three children, Roman Odelia and Cleo.

Henry Rauh was married and had five children Agnes (Sister Mirian) Mary, Esther, Walter and Tim

Rev. Ignatius Rauh was born in 1863, ordained i 1891 and died in 1930.

The Joseph Rauh family lived with the grand mother on the homestead and built a new home i 1906. Their son Theodore stayed on the home farm and his widow Lucina still resides there.

NEPPISEE LENA SHANER/ RHOADS

Neppisee Lena Shaner, the wife of Benjamin Franklin Shaner, resides at 1622 Pine Road, near Wabash. She is the mother of 4 children, Rebecca Diane (Birt) Hart, born May 8, 1953, Daniel Ernest Birt, born, July 18, 1954, Mark Allen Birt, born July 4, 1957, and Timothy Gorden Birt, born June 24, 1958. Her first husband, Ernest Gilbert Birt, was killed in an automobile accident on April 5, 1964 near Bluffton, Indiana. She remarried March 3, 1967. She is employed at Fort Recovery Industries. Her maiden name was Rhoads.

The Rhoads family were Pennsylvania Dutch, supposedly from Germantown, Pennsylvania. Their background is rather sketchy, but it is known they moved to Ohio, then to Wabash, Indiana. The subjects father, Norman Delor Rhoads was born there June 19, 1904. His father's name was Richard Irvin Rhoads (1869-1933) and his mother was Lena Helen (LaSonde) Rhoads (1885-1940). Norman Rhoads is still living and resides in Plymouth, Indiana.

Helen (LaSonde) Rhoads, mentioned above, was the daughter of Napoleon Bonaparte LaSonde and Amanda (Turner) LaSonde. He immigrated to this country from Montreal, Canada and met his wife in Toledo, Ohio, where they married. They then moved to Wabash, Indiana.

Norman Rhoads married Hazel Marie Kumley,

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born October 9, 1908, on October 31, 1921 in Bucyrus, Ohio. She is the daughter of William Tell Kumley and Clara Maude (Wintrode) Kumley. William Kumley (1890-1932) was of Swiss extraction. His father, Jacob Kumley, was a Civil War veteran.

The Wintrode family were originally from Delaware. They moved to Stark County, Ohio, near Canton, then to Huntington County in 1838. Clara Kumley's grandfather, Daniel Wintrode (1824-1901), was engaged in work with the Miami Indians. He acquired their language and served an an interpretor for traders. He had many close encounters with them. He actually lived with them in their villages and attended their war dances. Mrs. Kumley's mother, Martha Priscilla (Jones) Wintrode (1861-1936), was reportedly the daughter of a full-blooded Miami Indian woman, though this has not been proven.

Mrs. Shaner was born June 5, 1926 in Wabash County, Indiana. She married Ernest Birt on October 28, 1949.

Family of Bernard and Catherine Dabbelt Schenking

BERNARD SCHENKING FAMILY

Bernard Schenking was born in Westphalen, Germany in 1862. He came to America in April 1884 with his brother Theodore, leaving two brothers and one sister in Germany. The two brothers followed their trade as shoemakers; Theodore in St. Joe and Bernard in St. Anthony. He also served during his lifetime as postmaster of the village and clerk of the Board of Education.

Bernard married Catherine Dabbelt in November, 1885, and died in 1931 at the age of 69. His children were:

Leo (1891-1965) who married Josephine and lived in Durand, Michigan.

Clara (1892-1968) who married Walter White, had 6 children and lived in Detroit, Michigan.

Joe (1894-1959) who married Othelia Homan from St. Anthony, lived in Dayton with 6 children.

Alvina (1896-1965) who married Ed Hamberg from Coldwater and had 9 children.

Rosalia (1898-1965) who married Ben Stukenborg from Coldwater and had 1 child.

Mary (1900-1970) who married Ted Hogan from Indiana and had 4 children.

Paul (1902-1963) who married Eleanor Hemmelgarn from Burkettsville, lived in Dayton and had 6 children.

Henry (1905-1970) who married Esther Nordenbrock from Burkettsville, lived in Coldwater and had 4 children.

Edward (1907-1974) who married Marie Gagle from Maria Stein, lived in Celina and had 3 children.

Urban (1910-1962) who resided in St. Anthony.

Leona (1910-) Urban's twin, who married Bill Reiling, has 2 children and lives in St. Henry. One child died in infancy. *Mrs. Thomas Knapke*

This photo was taken in the garden at the residence of David Schroyer. Albert Schroyer, Cora Schroyer, Alice Menchhofer, Myrtle Stillabarger, Mary Schroyer, Lucy Gray and David Schroyer.

SCHROYER FAMILY

Nicholas (1801-1870) and Mahalena (1801-1850) Schroyer originally from Germany were the parents of George Schroyer (1831-1913) who married Mahala Harrod Schroyer (1835-1910). David Schroyer was born 7-26-1855 in Washington Township, Mercer County to George and Mahala Schroyer. In 1877 David Schroyer married Mary Louise Powell (8-18-1857 to 4-16-1946), a daughter of Samuel Powell and Lucy Bobenmeyer. Five children were born of this marriage: Myrtle Luella Schroyer Stillabarger (5-13-1878 to 9-5-1970), Albert Clayton Schroyer (11-28-1879 to 4-3-1975), Lucy Mahala Schroyer Gray (6-13-1881 to 9-27-1971), Alice Mae Schroyer Menchhofer (2-10-1888), Cora Dell Schroyer (12-22-1890 to 10-23-1977). David Schroyer died October 7, 1942. Alice Menchhofer resides in the house David Schroyer lived in at Wabash, Ohio.

Albert Schroyer married Miss Rhoda Halderman 11-4-1906. She died 2-19-1909. His second marriage was to Anna Belle Noble (10-13-1895) on 10-30-1913. He was a farmer in Washington Township most of his life in addition to owning a grocery store at Noble, Indiana for a few years. Four sons were born of this marriage: George David (3-25-1916), Dallas Pershing (2-27-1919), Carl Leon (9-14-1920) and Dale Lee (1-19-1927). Mrs. Anna Schroyer resides at Wabash, Ohio.

George Schroyer married Virginia Brinkman (4-6-1916) on 4-22-1934 to which two children were born: George Junior (11-26-1934) and Rosalie June (6-8-1937). George and Virginia reside at Durbin, Ohio.

Dallas Schroyer married Dorothy Dock (12-5-1918) on 6-7-1942 to which were born three children: Melba Jean (8-5-1945), Margie Ann (4-10-1948) and Richard Lee (10-29-1956). Dallas and Dorothy reside at Celina, Ohio.

Carl Schroyer married Dorothy Kathryn Rasawehr (6-27-1921) on 7-3-1943 to which two girls were born: Elaine Kay (6-17-1948) and Nancy Lee (12-14-1951). Carl and Dorothy Schroyer reside at Wabash, Ohio.

Dale Schroyer is single and lives at Wabash, Ohio.

George Junior Schroyer married Marie Mildred Homan (10-27-1936) on 5-14-1957. To this marriage were born six children: Cynthia Lou (7-29-1958), David Lee (11-17-1959), Mark Allen (10-27-1960), Craig Lynn (9-27-1961), Lisa Ann (6-10-1963) and Tonya Marie (9-21-1965). They reside at Celina, Hopewell Township, Ohio.

Rosalie June Schroyer married Paul Nininger (11-

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15-1936) on 6-2-1959 to which three children were born: Carla Sue (3-23-1960), Karen Lou (7-15-1961) and John Steven (3-12-1967). They reside at Columbus, Ohio.

Melba Jean Schroyer married John Milak (9-1-1946) on 1-20-1968. They reside at St. Louis, Missouri.

Margie Ann Schroyer married Larry John Miller (1-27-1946) on 7-2-1967 to which three sons were born: Donald Russel (2-24-1968), Scott Pershing (12-20-1970) and Bradley Ray (7-8-1977). They reside at Celina, Ohio.

Richard Lee Schroyer is single living with his parents at Celina, Ohio.

Elaine Kay Schroyer married Dennis Junior Fett (8-15-1945) on 8-27-1967 to which three children were born: Patricia Leigh (8-21-1968), Mark Alan (7-29-1970), and Gregory David (2-4-1976). They reside at Wabash, Ohio.

Nancy Lee Schroyer married Richard Lee Adams (2-12-1950) on 11-17-1972. They reside at Wabash, Ohio.

MR. & MRS. VERNON SCHAADT

Vernon Schaadt was born December 22, 1913, the youngest of six children born to William and Anna Sealschott Schaadt. William Schaadt was born July 11, 1875, in Van Wert County, and came to Liberty Township in Mercer County in 1880 with his parents, Adam and Mary Koch Schaadt. On April 13, 1899, he married Anna Martha Sealschott, who was born July 29, 1875, and they had six children. Three survived to adulthood, Adolph Schaadt, Walter Schaadt and Vernon Schaadt. Three other children, Arley C., Laura S., and Bertha L. died in infancy. William Schaadt was a farmer, and lived in Liberty Township until his death on April 28, 1945. His wife passed away October 13, 1961.

Vernon Schaadt graduated from Celina High School in 1931, and for many years, worked for the Celina Manufacturing Company. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II with the 13th Armored Division in France and Germany. Presently he is employed as office manager for Vic Steinke Construction Co. and serves as Secretary-Treasurer of the Wabash Mutual Telephone Company. On May 24, 1941, he married Verna Alice Miller of Hopewell Township. She was born September 27, 1916, the oldest child of Clarence and Beulah (Fuhrman) Miller. Clarence Miller was born September 19, 1882 and was married to Beulah Fuhrman (born Feb. 18, 1894) of Decatur, Indiana on November 25, 1915. They also had two sons — Ivan Miller, who still resides on the family farm in Hopewell Township and Rev. Fuhrman Miller who is a Methodist minister — presently in Goshen, Indiana. Clarence Miller died on January 31, 1931 of Tuberculosis. Beulah raised the three children on the family farm and moved to Celina in 1961. She died December 21, 1977.

Vernon and Verna Alice Schaadt are active members of the St. Paul United Church of Christ in Liberty Township and make their home in Wabash. Verna Alice is a long time employee of Celina Insurance Group. They are the parents of two sons — Edward Allen and Samuel Joseph. Edward was born August 13, 1942. He graduated from Celina High School in 1960 and from Miami University in 196 with a B.A. in Government and History. He taugh at Wapakoneta High School for two years. On Ma 28, 1966, he married Ronda Dock, who had jus graduated from Miami University, and they move to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Ronda worked fo the Upjohn Company. Since that time, Ed has beer employed as an 8th grade teacher for the Gull Lak Community Schools in Richland, Michigan. The have three children — Kelly, Amy, and Brian.

Samuel Joseph Schaadt was born December 9 1949. He graduated from Celina High School in 196 and from Miami University in 1972 with a B.A. ir Sociology. He worked for the Seneca County Welfare Department for two years, and in 1974 enrolled in Ohio State University and received a Masters Degree in Social Work in June, 1976. After graduation he accepted a position with the Darke County Mental Health Clinic at Greenville, Ohio — a Division of Tri-County Comprehensive Mental Health Center of Troy, Ohio. On June 21, 1975, he married the former Rita DeNune of Columbus. The couple reside in Greenville, Ohio. *V. Schaadt*

SEEGER, KRUGH, HAMILTON

Frederick Seeger (1861-1949), son of Mr. & Mrs. Gerhard Seeger, came to America as a youth with some of his sisters and a brother from Bad Essen, Germany. He settled in Dayton, Ohio, where he married Elizabeth Huge, daughter of Ernst and Charlotte Huge, a young girl who had come from Hanover, Germany. They had known each other while in Germany. After living in Dayton for a number of years they moved to a farm in Washington Twp., Mercer Co., Ohio.

They were the parents of eight children. One daughter died very young. Clara married Rev. H. A. Barth and they were parents of five children — Elizabeth, Victoria, Winnifred, Paul and John Henry. Nora married John Hellebrand and they raised a son, John Frederick. Carl married Rose Anagotti; they had no children. Henry married Edith Powell and raised a daughter, Joyce Ann. Freeda was never married. Minnie married Murrell Kugel and they were parents of three children — Fred, Michael and Diana. Herbert married Anna Krugh.

Herbert and Anna lived on the farm all of their married life. They raised a son, Robert. After Herbert's sudden death in January, 1968, Robert has been farming the home place. He now resides on the farm with his wife Kay (daughter of Leonard and Beulah Thomas Staudt) and their two daughters, Linda Jane and Jennifer Lynn. In 1977, Robert and Kay built a new brick home to replace the frame house built by his grandfather around 1900.

Mrs. Herbert Seeger (Anna) was the daughter of Olen (1878-1943) and Lucile Taylor Krugh (1889-1970). Olen was the eldest son of John M. (1849-1928) (son of John 1815- and Mary 1819- Miller Krugh) and Sally Ann Johnson Krugh. Olen had two brothers, Harry and Earl, and three sisters, Nora, Cora and one who died in infancy.

Olen (1878-1943) and Lucile (1889-1970) Taylor were married in 1908 and were the parents of John

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., Anna, Harold O., Edith and Wilbur L. Olen and ucile were farmers, first in Mercer Co., then in ork Twp., Van Wert Co., where they raised their amily.

Lucile Taylor Krugh was the daughter of Dr. ames Q. and Dora Shepherd Taylor (1861-1922) vho were married in 1887. They were also parents f Ione Taylor Murph and Lorna Taylor Thompson.

Dora Shepherd Taylor was the daughter of James 1819-1909) and Polly Ann Hamilton Shepherd 1828-1914). James Shepherd came when a youth to Ohio with his parents, George M. (English descent rom Berkley Co., Virginia — now West Virginia) nd Elizabeth Redburn (German descent from Hancock Co., Maryland).

Polly Ann Hamilton, the eldest child of William 1804) and Almira Charlotte Abbey Hamilton (1804-891), came with her parents to Ohio from Ontario o., New York, in November, 1828, when she was ight months old. They came by boat to Sandusky nd from there to Union Township, Mercer Co., by orseback. They had a featherbed on the horse's ack upon which mother and baby rode. Polly Ann aw the development of the forest covered country, he home of the redman, to a prosperous state by he time of her death in 1914.

Almira Charlotte Abbey was the daughter of Joeph (1777-1844) and Susannah Griffin Abbey 1781).

William Hamilton (1804-), son of Hugh H. and sabelle Knox Hamilton, was born in 1804 at Blandord, Connecticut (boundary lines since changed). He went to New York State as a young man where e and Charlotte were married in 1827.

Hugh H. Hamilton (1770-1857) was the son of Captain David (1742-1817) and Mary Knox Hamilon.

Captain David Hamilton was the son of John & Sarah Blair Hamilton. John (1716-1802) was the son of Hugh (1673-1763) who died in Blandford, Massachusetts.

From the book "Macaulays History of England" — The Hamiltons were given 1000 acres and founded the Earldoms of Strabane and Clanbrassil. There were several knights and the Hamiltons prospered. Following religious difference, many Ulster Scots came to America in 1718 and settled in Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The Hamiltons had a rough time during the Indian wars — 1744-45-46. Patrick and Armour Hamilton were killed by the Indians. Brothers Hugh, John and James were early settlers.

Other Hamilton and Krugh History can be found in the 1907 Mercer Co. History Book, pages 635, 647 and 480.

Emily Heistand Shimp, daughter Laura Shimp Kimble, great-grandson, Luther Brumm

SHIMP-HEISTAND

Jesse B. Shimp (1-30-1832, Liberty Twp., Fairfield County, Ohio 10-15-1918, Gravel Hill Cemetery, near Bryant, Indiana), married Emily Heistand. (Another record states Jesse was the son of John and Elizabeth Shimp.) Emily Heistand, called Kate, was the daughter of Reverend Michael and Catherine Heistand, who belonged to the Lutheran Church. Emily (Heistand) Shimp was born April 13, 1841 in Fairfield County, Ohio and died Feb. 23, 1910; she is buried in Gravel Hill Cemetery. (The other children of Rev. Michael and Catherine Heistand were: Daniel of Bryant, Indiana; Frank of Bryant, Indiana; John Heistand of Pennville, Indiana; Harley Heistand of Pennville, Indiana; and Rebecca Heistand of Lancaster, Ohio.)

The Shimp family lived in Fairfield County, Ohio before moving to Jay County, Indiana in 1861. To this union, ten children were born: Laura (Shimp) Kimble; Clara (Shimp) Flauding; Rhona Belle (Shimp) Gilpin; Grace (Shimp) McCartney; Marguerite (Shimp) Bone; George B. Shimp; Charles Shimp; Valentine Shimp; James Alonzo Shimp; and Thomas W. Shimp. Jesse B. Shimp was in the Civil War for some time and he returned home one night and he looked through the window. His wife Emily and daughter Laura (Shimp) Kimble were sitting by the fireside; they looked toward the window and saw his face and they were so happy to see him coming home from the war.

Laura (Shimp) Kimble married Benjamin Kimble in 1879 when she was 18 years old. She lived with her husband at Noble, Indiana where he operated a slaughter house until his death in 1916. Laura and Benjamin Kimble had three daughters: Margaret (Kimble) Brumm; Rozilla (Kimble) Frazee; and Clara (Kimble) Barber. Laura Kimble lived until she was 95 years old when she passed away in 1956 in Portland, Indiana. Margaret and Harley Brumm had one son, Luther. Rozilla and Samuel Frazee had three daughters: Laurabelle (Frazee) Fink; Cleo (Frazee) Subler and Ruth (Frazee) Rabe. *Ruth Rabe*

Shimp Sisters — Laura Kimble; Clara Flauding; Belle Gilpin; Grace Shimp; Maggie Bone.

SHIMP

Clara Shimp was the daughter of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. Clara Shimp married John E. Flauding, (born June 21, 1876), son of George and Rebecca (Kessler) Flauding; their son is Robert Wendell Flauding. Wendell married Sydonna Fenters and they had one child, Jeannita Flauding. Jeannita married Gene Show, and they have three boys, Greg, Todd, and Mike. They did live at 16591 Dale Vista Lane, Huntington Beach, California.

Rhona Belle Shimp was the daughter of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. Rhona Belle was born April 6, 1876 in Jay County, Indiana and died in 1972 in Hemet, Los Angeles, California. Belle married Levi L. Gilpin, born Jan. 14, 1876 in Jay County, Indiana. About 1910, they lived at Salt Lake City, Utah; she also lived at Manti, Utah. They had one child, Doro-

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thy, born Nov. 5, 1903, Pennville, Indiana, who married Karl R. Levy, born Aug. 30, 1891 at New Madrid, Missouri. Dorothy's address is: Mrs. Karl R. Levy, 1580 Sandlewood Drive, Hemet, California 92343. Karl and Dorothy Levy have two children: Kate Levy of Berkley, California and Peter Levy of Honolulu, Hawaii. Peter married Louise Palmer.

Grace Shimp was the daughter of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. Grace married T.W. McCartney.

Marguerite Shimp was the daughter of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. Marguerite Shimp married Bert Bone.

Winifred Blanch Shimp; Betty Hunter, cousin; Carl Stanley Wimberley; Opal Thelma (Shimp) Wimberley; and Mable Hunter, cousin.

CHARLES SHIMP

Charles Emerson Shimp (Jan. 29, 1865 Jay Co., Indiana-Mar. 27, 1936 Washington, Pennsylvania), on June 20, 1894 married Sarah Virginia (Jennie) Holt (Oct. 22, 1868, Jonesboro, Grant Co., Indiana — Mar. 14, 1958 Washington, Washington Co., Pa.), daughter of Benjamin John R. and Bashaba Adaline (Smith) Holt. They had four children: Byron Whitcomb Shimp; Opal Thelma Shimp; Virgil Holt Shimp and Winifred Blanch Shimp.

Byron Whitcomb Shimp (Aug. 3, 1895 Knoxville, Tennessee-April 20, 1964 Washington, Pa.) on Feb. 1, 1918 married Besse Good, of Pelham Manor, N.Y. and Kennett Sq., Pa. 19348, daughter of Robert and Hester (Kipp) Good; they had two children: Elinor Jean Shimp and Hettie Virginia Shimp. Elinor Jean Shimp, born Nov. 24, 1920, New York City, married Albert Howard Dunn III, son of Albert Howard Dunn II. Albert Howard Dunn III was born April 23, 1921 at Omaha, Nebraska. Albert and Elinor were married at Pelham Manor, New York, and had three children: Ellen Carol Dunn, June 13, 1949; Christopher William Dunn, May 7, 1951 and Nancy Gail Dunn, Apr. 30, 1954, all born at Boston, Mass. Hettie Virginia Shimp, born Aug. 3, 1925 at Mt. Vernon, N.Y., on June 26, 1954 married Walter A. Hayes and they had three children: Lindsay Carol Hayes, born Sept. 1, 1955; Douglas Whitcomb Hayes, born July 31, 1957 and Bruce Gordon Hayes, born 4, 1960; all born at Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Opal Thelma Shimp, was born Jan. 26, 1897; Aug. 19, 1920 she married Adlai Byron Wimberley (Sept. 3, 1892 Stevenson, Alabama-May 11, 1956 Washington, Pa.), son of I.W. Wimberley; they had two children: Donald Holt Wimberley (born Sept. 26, 1923 at St. Louis Missouri) and married Henrietta Jane; and Carl Stanley Wimberley born Dec. 22, 1927 at Detroit, Michigan. Donald Wimberley has retired from the armed services as a Lt. Colonel; he was educated in meteorology, communications and optometry. Stanley Wimberley is an Oceanologist and teaches at Chapman College, California; both are graduates of Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pa.

Virgil Holt Shimp, the third child of Charles and Sarah Shimp, was born September 15, 1899 at Andrews, Ind. and died March 16, 1918 and is buried a Washington, Pa.

Winifred Blanch Shimp was born May 22, 1903 a Washington, Pa.; was graduated from University o Michigan and later retired from the business offic at Sanders Candy Co., Detroit, Michigan. *Winifred Blanch Shimp*

Parents — Emily and Jesse Shimp three children in back: Alonzo Charles and George; three children in front: Laura, Valentine and Tom.

VALENTINE SHIMP

Valentine T. Shimp, son of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp was born 1-16-1869 in Jay County, Indiana and died 6-25-1944 and is buried at Woodland Cemetery, Van Wert, Ohio. Valentine (called Tine), on May 20, 1894 married Jessie May Williams; they had one child, Roland Jesse Shimp (Sept. 26, 1896 Indiana-April 4, 1978 Mattoon, Ill.)

On Jan. 25, 1920 Roland married Mary Dilbone. Roland and Mary (Dilbone) Shimp had three children: Doyle Roland, Douglas Eugene, and Gloria Jeanne. The first child, Doyle Roland (born Jan. 6, 1921 Decatur, Ind.) married Lucille Sarff (deceased). The second child, Douglas Eugene (born Mar. 13, 1934 Bloomington, Ill.) married Betsy Pritts, and has two children, Jackie Lynn (Jan. 30, 1959) and Jeannie Lynn (Nov. 19, 1965 Ill.). Douglas and his family live at 1012 Washington St., Sullivan, Illinois 61951. The third child, Gloria Jeanne Shimp (born June 27, 1937 Bethany, Ill.) married Michael Robinson and has two children: Mark Dale (Nov. 18, 1959); and Douglas Michael (July 8, 1961). They live at 4001 Plymouth St., Casper, Wyoming 82601.

After Valentine Shimp lost his first wife in death, he was married Sept. 29, 1898 to Clara Pyle; they had one child, Maria, born in 1902; she is deceased.

On July 26, 1905, Valentine Shimp married Bertha Adeline Rickard (Jan. 8, 1880-Jan. 1969 Woodland Cemetery, Van Wert, Ohio.) Valentine and Bertha (Rickard) Shimp had two children: Junior Wallace and Max Lemont.

Junior Wallace Shimp (July 25, 1909 Mercer County, Ohio) on June 17, 1939 married Anna Letha Jacks (born Oct. 20, 1911) at Van Wert, Ohio. Junior and Anna Letha (Jacks) Shimp had two children: Roger Dean Shimp and Linda Kay Shimp. The first child, Roger Dean Shimp (born Oct. 21, 1941 Van Wert, Ohio) at San Antonio, Texas, married Barbara McNamara (May 11, 1944-June 6, 1978 Vallejo, Calif.); their children are Mark Alan (Feb. 23, 1964, Burney, Calif.) and Michael Dean (Oct. 6, 1965 Reno, Nev.). Roger lives at 3164 Sandy St., Sparks, Nevada 89431. Linda Kay Shimp (Oct. 18, 1945 Van Wert, Ohio, the second child of Junior and Anna Letha Shimp), works in San Francisco and lives at 2616 Francis Drive, Pinole, California 94564.

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Max Lemont Shimp, the second child of Valentine nd Bertha Adeline (Rickard) Shimp, was born Apr. 9, 1920 in Van Wert, Ohio. Max married Betty May layman, daughter of Noah Otto Andrew and Della lay (Inman) Hayman. Betty May was born May 25, 922 in Wharton, Ohio. Dec. 26, 1941, at Fort Knox, y., Max and Betty Shimp married; they live at 4501 rimson Court, Rosemont, Orlando, Florida 32804. lax and Betty May (Hayman) Shimp have two aughters: Terry Lee and Constance May Shimp.

Terry Lee Shimp, daughter of Max and Betty Hayman) Shimp, was born July 17, 1943 at Van Vert, Ohio. On Feb. 5, 1963, she married Kenneth arl Lancaster, son of Shelby and Dorothy Lancaer. They have two children: William Lemont, born -15-1964 Naha, Okinawa; and Barbara Lynn, born 1-27-1967 at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The second husband of Terry Lee Shimp is Keith R. Dellinger; they eside at 4137 Plaza Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Constance May Shimp, daughter of Max and Betty (Hayman) Shimp, was born Feb. 25, 1947 at ima, Ohio. On May 17, 1968, at Fort Clayton, Canal one, Panama, Constance married Gerald Frank Neal, son of Gerald Leonce and Eleanor (Pasko) Neal. Gerald Frank and Constance May (Shimp) Neal have two children: Lisa Marie, born Dec. 10, 969 at Orland, Florida; and Jason Frank, born Auust 20, 1971, at Orlando, Florida. They reside at 617 Tam Drive, Orlando, Florida. *Mrs. J. W. Shimp*

SUMNER SHIMP

George B. Shimp was the oldest son of Jessie and Emily Heistand Shimp. He was born in Jay County, ndiana, on March 26th, 1863. About 1890, he married Lida Burk, who was born in Adams County, Indiana, June 18th, 1868. George was a farmer but aught school for many years. He died in 1951 and ida in 1943, having lived their lives together in Adams and Jay counties.

To this couple were born three sons, all born in Geneva, Indiana — Sumner Burke, June 3rd, 1895; Earl Hall, October 7th, 1897 and Lowell Page, November 18th, 1903. All three boys spent their childhood years on the family farm near Noble in Jay county, east of Portland, Indiana.

On May 2nd, 1920, Sumner was married, in Terre Haute, Indiana, to Irene Shirley, who had been music and art supervisor in the city schools of Portland, Indiana. The two settled in Muncie, Indiana, where Sumner was connected with the Indiana Bridge Company as draftsman, estimator and assistant chief engineer, and where, in the early 1920's, Irene was, for about three years, on the faculty of what is now Ball State University, in the music department.

A daughter, Dorothy Jane, was born to Sumner and Irene on February 5th, 1921. In 1941 Jane left Muncie to attend Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, and her parents moved to Cleveland, Ohio. In 1943, after graduation, Jane joined her parents in Cleveland and became Women's Director for radio station WJW.

In 1946, still pursuing opportunities in construction and engineering, Sumner chose to move family to South Bend, Indiana, to take over a building materials business, which has had steady growth every year since. Sumner, after thirty three years in South Bend, is semi-retired (1979). Irene passed away November 30th, 1976.

Dorothy Jane Shimp was married August 24, 1946, to Arthur W. Frisk, now a practicing attorney in South Bend. Jane is now (1979), and has been for several years, Women's Director for a local television station. They have four children: Gregory Scott born November 24th, 1947; Gary, born February 28th, 1950; Deborah born June 15th, 1953, and now married to Peter Shidler; and Robert Randall, born March 23rd, 1959.

Earl Hall Shimp, second son of George and Lida Shimp, after graduation from Purdue, went east where he was connected throughout his employed years, with Public Service Gas & Electric Company in Newark, New Jersey. He married Phoebe Hall in 1933. To this couple were born two sons — Alan who, after graduation from Purdue, married and settled in a suburb of Pittsburg, Pa. where he is presently connected with Westinghouse, and George, who lives in Carlisle, Pa. where he is connected with an electronics firm. Earl and Phoebe moved to their new home in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania (near Harrisburg and Carlisle and Gettysburg) to spend their retirement years. Phoebe died suddenly in 1970 and Earl in 1973. *Sumner Shimp*

Mrs. George B. Shimp and Sons — Sumner, Earl and Lowell (late 1930's).

GEORGE SHIMP

George B. Shimp was the son of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. George Shimp was born in Noble Twp., Indiana, on March 26, 1863; he married Lida Burk on Oct. 1, 1890; they had three children: 1. Sumner B.; 2. Earl Hall; and 3. Lowell P. 1. Sumner B. Shimp, born June 3, 1895 at Geneva, Indiana married Irene Shirley; they have a child, Dorothy Jane who married Arthur Frisk. Sumner lives at 1104 E. Eckman St., South Bend, Indiana 46614. 2. Earl Hall Shimp, born Oct. 7, 1896-7 at Geneva, Indiana, married Phoebe Hall. They have two children, Alan and George, born at West Orange, New Jersey. Alan Shimp lives at 1022 Harvard Road, Monroeville, Pa. 15146. George Shimp lives at Springville Road, R.D. #1, Boiling Springs, Pa. 17007. Earl Hall Shimp died Sept. 15, 1973. 3. Lowell P. Shimp, born Nov. 18, 1903 at Geneva, Indiana, married Eloise Alspach, born Aug. 4, 1906 at LaRue, Ohio; she is the daughter of Oscar Odell and Claudia Bell (Cook) Alspach. They have two children: Mary Jane, born Aug. 14, 1944, who married Robert G. Kipp; and David Odell Shimp, born July 13, 1947 at Bluffton, Ohio. Lowell Shimp's address is 484 No. Harbor Dr., Indian Rocks Beach, Fla. 33535. *Lowell P. Shimp*

JAMES ALONZO SHIMP

James Alonzo Shimp was the son of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. James Alonzo Shimp married Elizabeth Beagle of Bearcreek Twp. They had seven children: Edith, Thomas Jesse, Luther, Harold, Mae, Ralph, and Roy.

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Edith Shimp married John De Yong from Holland. Edith is buried at Houctown, Ohio.

Thomas Jesse Shimp, on Oct. 18, 1924, married Leona A. White. They have one daughter, Myra Ann. Myra Ann Shimp married Max S. Bristol; they have two children: John S. Bristol and Mary Ann Bristol. John S. Bristol was married to Becky Smith; they have a son Jason Michael; they live in Gray Court, S.C. Mary Ann Bristol lives with her mother (Myra) in Indianapolis, Ind. Thomas Jesse Shimp died May 10, 1967 and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Findlay, Ohio.

Luther Shimp died at the age of three in 1903. He is buried in Houctown Cemetery.

Harold Shimp married Violet Fitzpatrick in 1929. They had two daughters: Vivian Ellen and Lea Ann. Vivian married Lavone McCoy; they had two girls and a boy. Harold died in 1935 and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Findlay, Ohio.

Mae married Howard Craig; they had two sons: Paul and William. Paul was married and had four children. William was married to Marilyn Treft; they had three children; then Marilyn died. William then married Sharon Cooper. Mae and Howard Craig are buried in Maple Grove, Findlay, Ohio.

Ralph never married; he died in 1954 and is buried in Houctown, Ohio.

Roy married Violet Fry; they had one son, David Karl. David married and they have two daughters. Roy is buried on the Shimp lot in Houctown, Ohio.

Leona A. Shimp

Jesse Shimp

THOMAS WALLACE SHIMP

Thomas Wallace Shimp was the son of Jesse and Emily (Heistand) Shimp. Thomas Shimp (Jan. 12, 1867 Bearcreek Township, Jay Co., Ind.-Mar. 8, 1940 Green Park Cemetery, Portland, Ind.) on December 26, 1893 married Ella Elizabeth Sheward (Oct. 14, 1871 Wayne Twp., Jay Co., Ind.-Dec. 6, 1956 Portland, Ind.), daughter of Daniel S. and Elizabeth (Claar) Sheward. They had three children: Paul, Eva, and Helen.

Paul Brooks Shimp (Nov. 22, 1894 Fort Recovery, Ohio) who on June 21, 1922 married Ruth Schumaker (Dec. 13, 1900 Terre Haute, Ind.); daughter of Christopher Schumaker. They had a son Ronald, who died an infant in 1935. Paul and Ruth Shimp live at 1020 Illsley Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Eva Ione Shimp (Aug. 26, 1896 Fort Recovery, Ohio-Nov. 11, 1925 Green Park Cemetery, Portland, Ind.) on June 7, 1922 married Ralph Todd Swezey (who died in 1945 and is buried in Green Park Cemetery, also.); they had a son Stuart Shimp Swezey, born Nov. 11, 1925 and died an infant, and buried in Portland, Ind.

Helen Beatrice Shimp (Sept. 10, 1905 Delpho Ohio born), daughter of Thomas and Ella Shimp, o June 2, 1937 married Wilbur Allen Stevenson (Ma 17, 1909 Portland, Ind.-Nov. 18, 1974, Green Par Cemetery, Portland, Ind.) son of Thomas Arthur an Lulu (Hall) Stevenson; they had no children. *Mrs. Wi bur Stevenson*

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT SHIRK

Robert E. Shirk, the son of Willis A. and Miriar C. (Fetters) Shirk was born January 20, 1921 in Ce lina, Ohio. He attended Celina schools and gradu ated in 1939.

Robert served for his country during World Wa II having served in the 79th Airdrome Squadron 5t Air Force. He was stationed in the Southwest Pacifi from September 11, 1942 to November 15, 1945.

He married Violet Luetta Powell, September 7 1946 at the Wabash Church in Wabash, Ohio. Sh was the daughter of Benjamin F. and Luetta (Cur less) Powell born July 25, 1923 in Washingtor Township. Violet attended Center School in Wash· ington Township and graduated from Celina High School in 1941. She attended Fredericks Beauty School at Lima, Ohio and was employed at Menden· halls Beauty from 1944 to 1948.

They are the parents of two sons, Dennis Robert born September 4, 1948 in Celina and Dane Keith born January 26, 1952 in Celina. Dennis and Dane graduated from Celina Senior High School.

Dennis married Kathleen Sue Kelly, born May 5, 1952 in Celina on October 2, 1971. She was the daughter of William H. and Ruth M. (Ketrow) Kelly. Dennis and Kathleen are the parents of two children, Amanda Christina born July 31, 1976 and Willis Robert born August 23, 1977. Dennis is employed at Shirk's Body Shop and is a student at Wright State University. Kathleen is a Social Worker for the Mercer County Welfare Department. They reside in Wabash, Ohio.

Dane is employed at the Wabash Mutual Telephone Company. He is unmarried and lives at home.

Dennis and Dane are both afflicted with hemophilia.

Robert owns and operates Shirk's Body Shop. He started the business in 1959, prior to that time he worked at Celina Auto Company.

The family has lived in Wabash since 1946. They are members of the Wabash United Church of Christ at Wabash, Ohio.

DONALD L. AND JANET A. SMITH

Donald L. Smith, the son of Clifford and Clela Smith (Diener) was born in Washington Twp. and graduated from Celina High School and served in the U.S. Army. His wife Janet was the daughter of Henry and Frieda Willman (Hehmeyer), who was born in Fort Recovery Twp. She went to Fort Recovery High School and graduated from Central Tech Institute in Missouri. Janet and Donald were married in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Re-

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›very in the year of 1963. In 1975 they purchased ıe Powell farm where they make their home. Their ›eration consists of grain and livestock feeding. onald is also the president of Wabash Telephone o. and 4-H advisor. In 1969 a daughter was born nn Ann, who attends Celina Senior High School. ı 1974 another daughter Jill Leigh who attends Cel-ıa West Elementary. *Janet Smith*

r. and Mrs. Wm. ıdhoff

WILLIAM SUDHOFF

This is the story of our parents, William and Sohia Sudhoff — Lewis Sudhoff came to America in bout 1869 from Germany and settled near St. Anıony. He married Margaret Heyne of St. Sebastian. 'o this union William was born May 10, 1875.

He married Sophia Meyers, daughter of John and ophia (Biggs) Meyers of Skeels X Roads. (Our ıother told that her mother came to America on earing that ladies in America sat in rocking chairs.)

Young Sophia did housework in Dayton at the me the young farmer was courting her. He tried actory work there but could not adapt to daily su›ervision and came home to farm his father's farm. After several visits to the country, Sophia decided to tay, and the two were married in St. Anthony Church, September 29, 1903, and lived in a newly ›uilt house on the Sudhoff farm.

Their first child died in infancy. Their heartbreak vas eased with the arrival of daughters Margaret ınd Dorothy, and sons Alfons and Fred.

Farm life was hard in those eary years. Neighbors ook turns taking cream to St. Anthony where it was nade into butter. Produce was brought to the Gen›ral Store in Wabash and St. Anthony. They were ;iven staples in exchange.

In August of 1910, a steam engine exploded on a ıearby farm. Our dad was critically injured. A ıeighbor told us that Dad, on overhearing the doc›or say he did not think he could live, muttered, "Tell him I'll spit on his grave."

They eventually acquired the home place and be›ame the parents of three more children, Ralph, An›elma and Robert.

Conditions improved. They remodeled their home ›o include indoor plumbing. A gasoline engine pow›ered the pressure pump as well as the washing ma›hine. In the next few years a Delco Electric Plant re›placed kerosene lamps and lanterns and even the ;asoline engine. Family transportation was upgraded ›onsiderably with the purchase of their first car, a ›leek 1915 Buick.

Farming was progressing from the steam age to nternal combustion. Snapshots record the proud acquisition of a 1020 International Tractor in 1926 to ıse in custom threshing. This proved too small, and he next year a McCormick Deering 15-30 tractor vas purchased.

They no longer had to haul hogs and drive cattle to market but hauled them in trailers behind the Model T. Grain was hauled to market in wagons in the winter.

About this time ground grain was used for feeding. Supplement was mixed in with a shovel and later in a mixer. Still later the portable grinding mill came to the farms.

Dad served several terms as township trustee and road superintendent. It was mainly through his efforts in 1924 that the gravel road past our home became State Route 49. He was instrumental in bringing electric power to our area. He also served on various church commissions.

Each of the children married during the next several years. Margaret and her husband settled in St. Sebastian and managed a general store. Dorothy lived in Celina and helped our parents during their declining years. Anselma, who had moved to Coldwater, continued to live there after marrying. Each of the sons settled on nearby farms, with Ralph taking over the homeplace.

The elder Sudhoffs moved to St. Anthony and enjoyed their retirement. They celebrated their Golden Anniversary with witnesses Fred Meyers and Miss Minnie Sudhoff, their children and grandchildren.

Mother died in 1956 at the age of 83. Dad was 89 when he passed away in 1964. They are interred in the cemetery of the church they attended all their lives.

Standing: Leo, Joseph, Catherine, Madalena, Laura, Jacob, and August. **Seated:** Regina (Reinhart) Wagner, Linus, Henry, Rose and John Wagner.

JOHN AND REGINA (REINHART) WAGNER

Jean (John) and Catherine (Tourbang) Wagner and sons Louis and John who were born in Arlon Belgium, came to America in the late spring of 1861, bringing along a spinning wheel and other belongings. They settled at New Riegel, Ohio. Louis married Liz Sevennaller and settled at Kirby, Ohio.

John and his parents later moved to Mercer Co. and settled on a farm at the southeast corner of the state line and Ohio route 29, on the farm the State Line Tavern is now located on. John bought this farm from a Mr. Burk who homesteaded it. There were five John Wagners living in the same area and he was known as State Line John.

Jean and Catherine returned to Kirby in 1875 when John married Regina Reinhart, daughter of Peter and Magdelena (Buetle) Reinhart of Trinity, Ind. Regina's brothers and sister were Pauline who married Jacob Bonifas. August married Rose Nye and Jacob married Catherine Uleman.

In 1911, John died of a heart ailment and his son Leo died of tuberculosis. Regina stayed on the farm until the early 1920's when she moved to house on Sugar Street in Celina, Ohio. She died in 1932.

John and Regina's children are Magdalena Wagner who married Peter Minnich and lived near Trinity, Ind. Their daughter Rosella Minnich married

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Stephen Braun and lived at St. Peter, Mercer Co. on a farm. A son Fred Minnich lives in Celina, Ohio. Jacob Wagner never married and lived in Celina, Ohio. August Wagner married Minnie Minch and lived at Trinity, Ind. Joseph Wagner married Anna Goldsmith and lived in Alma, Michigan. Leo Wagner married Louise Reitz and lived at Trinity, Ind. Catherine Wagner never married and lived in Celina, Ohio. Laura Wagner married Fred Laux, who was a blacksmith and lived near St. Anthony. They had four sons, Victor lived at Hamlet Ind. Lamont lives at Rockford, Ohio. Hugo and Paul Laux lived in Celina, Ohio. Rose Wagner married Henry Hartnagle and lives at Trinity, Ind. William Wagner died at 2 years of age. Linus Wagner married Stella Remaklus and lives in Akron, Ohio. Henry Wagner married Hilda May and lived in Celina, Ohio. He worked at Mersman Bros. In 1938 he moved to Versailles, Ohio on a farm where he lived till he died in 1967. Henry Wagner's children are, Rita Wagner who married Wilfred Timmerman and lives at Fort Loramie, Ohio. Ruth Wagner married George Schieltz and lives at Versailles, Ohio. John Wagner married Patrica Phlipot and lives in Versailles, Ohio, and Werner Wagner married Mary Lou McEldowney and lives near Celina, Ohio. Werner Wagner has five children, Richard, Ronald, Theresa, Roger and Martha. *Rita Timmerman*

Urban Wendel Family

WENDEL

John and Bernadine (Post) Wendel are the parents of Urban Joseph Wendel, born August 28, 1922. He was married on June 19, 1948 to Viola Josephine Wuebker, born June 7, 1926; daughter of Bernard and Catherine Franzer Wuebker, at St. Anthony Church. They are the parents of seven children as follows:

Ralph Bernard Wendel, born June 11, 1949; Diane Catherine (Wendel) Lefeld, born January 7, 1951; Madonna Jean (Wendel) Werst, born June 12, 1953; Kenneth Joseph Wendel, born May 29, 1955; Shirley Ann (Wendel) Mathewson, born November 18, 1957; Mary Lee Wendel, born September 22, 1960; and Robert Urban Wendel, born October 25, 1962.

We reside at 5597 State Route 49, Fort Recovery, Ohio, located near the Saint Anthony Church and all our children went to Saint Anthony School and Coldwater High School. Urban Wendel is employed at Teleydine Forge Foundry, Portland, Indiana; for myself, I am a full time housewife. *Mrs. Urban Wendel*

JOE WHITACRE

The Joe Whitacre family came to Mercer County in 1974 from Portland, Ind.

The Whitacre family name has been traced back

Donna, Michael, Lisa and Joe Whitacre

to John Whitacre Sr. who arrived in Philadelphia Pa. in 1699 from Yorkshire, England. There hav been seven generations since then, including a Rev olutionary War veteran.

Joe's father, Joseph Fredrick Whitacre, the young est of three children of George and Eva (Hummer Whitacre, was born and raised on an 80 acre farm i western Jay County, Ind., where the log cabin stil stands.

Joseph Leroy was born to Joseph Fredrick an Esther (Loy) Whitacre on Nov. 26, 1944. They ha two more children, Robert Mark, born Feb. 27, 194 and Brenda Louise born April 20, 1955. Bob marrie Barbara Guggenbiller in 1968. They have three chil dren, Robert Mark Jr. — 1969, Xavier Daniel — 1972, and Heather Ann — 1977. Brenda married Re Ehrhart in 1977.

Joe attended school in Portland and graduated i 1962. He entered the Army in 1964 and served 1 months near Fulda, Germany. Upon returnin home, he married Donna Jeanne Reed on March 11 1967. They lived near Portland for seven years. On April 4, 1968, a son was born, Michael Joseph, and a daughter, Lisa Michelle, on Feb. 7, 1971, both borr in Coldwater, Ohio.

Donna's family has been traced back to 1854 when John Grier came to America from Ireland a the age of eighteen. He married Caroline Walters and they had seven children, one of whom was William Edmond born in 1875. In 1898 William married Mary Snider born in 1876. They had six children, Johnie Newton, Gerald Arthur, Nellie Irene, Emma Genevieve, Dorothy Ann and Floyd Edman Grier. William died in 1948 and Mary in 1964.

Nellie married Kenneth Laverne Reed of Spencerville, Ohio in 1935. They settled on an 80 acre farm in Washington Twp. north of Fort Recovery, where the Whitacre family now live. They had one child, Donna, born in Celina on Mar. 19, 1947. She attended school in Fort Recovery and graduated in 1965.

Kenneth died in 1972. Nellie married Kenneth P. Metzner in 1974. They live on the Metzner farm in Noble Twp. in Jay Co., Ind.

The Whitacres are active members of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Recovery and Boy Scouting. Joe is also a member of the American Legion and employed as a machinist at Portland Motor Parts in Portland, Ind.

THE WILEY FAMILY

John Wylie was born in 1833 to Joseph and Margaret Wylie in Sappah, Donegal Co., Ireland. He married Mary Jane Long in 1865.

Because of the potato famine and other problems in Ireland, the Joseph Wylies, John and his wife, sons Richard and Isaac and daughter Isabella emigrated to America in 1869. They stayed in New York

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tate for a short time before coming by train to Un-ɔn City, Ohio where they left their baggage and 'alked down the State Line to a farm where Alex orter, who had emigrated earlier, lived. Later they 'ent by wagon to Union City to get their trunks.

One wooden trunk with the name plate John Wy-e is now the property of a great grandson John W. Viley of Cleveland. The name Wylie was changed ɔ Wiley.

Isabella Wiley married Alex Porter in the Coven-nter Church east of Macedon, Ohio. Richard and ɜaac were bachelors and lived with the Porters who ad no children. The farm where the Porters lived 'as later owned by four of the second generation Vileys and was known as "The Porter Farm."

John and Mary Jane built a home just across the tate Line in Indiana. They were members of the 'resbyterian Church west of Macdeon.

They were parents of the following children:

Sara born 1870 married Charles McAfee, they had hree children.

John Wiley born 1871 married Mary Snyder, no hildren.

Margaret Wiley born 1872, married James Norris, ıo children.

Moses Wiley born 1873, married Bertha Fennig, ɔarents of seven children.

Isabella Wiley born 1876, married John May, par-:nts of one daughter, Carrie.

William Wiley born 1875, married Alice Adams in .899. They lived in the same house in Washington Twp. all of their married life and were members of ɜt. Paul Lutheran Church. William taught in one oom schools many years. He was representative of Mercer County two terms, a farmer, stock buyer, ɔunday School Teacher, member of Unity Grange, ınd Director of Coldwater Bank. They were the par-:nts of six children.

Donald married Jeanette Barney and are the par-:nts of one daughter Susan Furlow and three grand-:hildren. Donald was principal in the Columbus ɔchools. After retirement they moved to St. Peters-ɔurg where they now live.

Dr. Leson Wiley who married Virginia Honnald ıas been a dentist in Celina for many years. They ıre the parents of two sons. William who is also a dentist in Celina. He married Jean Moore and they have one son Jeff. Donald Wiley an attorney in Cincinnati married Linda Gernhardt. They have two children: Matthew and Allison.

John P. Wiley married Nellie Moore, teacher. John has been a farmer, clerk and trustee of Washington Township, a state employee, Deputy Sheriff of Mercer Co., Lions Club. He was appointed the first Chief of Police of Celina when it became a city in 1950 which position he held until he retired in 1969. They are the parents of the following children:

Mary Alice who graduated from Ohio Northern University and is married to Robert A. Lee, Westerville. They have two children; Elizabeth and Jennifer.

John W. Wiley married Carol Mescoros, nurse. He graduated from Ohio Northern University and received a Masters degree from Western Reserve. They live in Cleveland.

James M. Wiley married Dorothy Reichart, nurse. They have two children; Christine and Michael. James works at Beatrice Foods in New Bremen and they live in Celina.

Catherine Wiley married Albert Sampson, a graduate of Ohio State. They live in Lima and have three daughters; Sara, Jill and Cary. Albert is manager and a director of South Side Building and Loan. Most of the John Wiley family are Lutheran. Margaret Wiley is married to Roy Atherholt of Monroe, Mich. They are the parents of one daughter Molly Hartsell and one grandson Christian.

Kathryn Wiley, deceased, was married to Roy Gallman. They were the parents of four children:

Joe who is employed at the Citizens Commercial Bank in Fort Recovery. He married Barbara Lodge, teacher. They have three children: Jason, Bethann and Andrea.

Margaret Gallman, teacher, married Larry Cepek, teacher. They live in Westerville and have three children: David, Doug, and Susan.

John Gallman, farmer, married Diana Crumrine, teacher. They have three children: Katy Lou, Ann and Lucas.

Charles Gallman married Becky Wyant, teacher. They live near Dayton and have one son Jeffrey.

Dr. Joseph Wiley, Veterinarian, married Mary Jane Thoroman. They live in Cincinnati and have two children: Joseph T. Wiley and Bess Wiley.

All of the Wileys who emigrated here in 1869 as well as all of the second generation Wileys are buried in Fort Recovery with the exception of William Wiley.

Mary Jane Wiley died in 1917 age 80.

John Wiley died 1928, age 95.

William Wiley died Dec. 1965, age 90.

Alice Wiley died Sept. 3, 1977, age 97.

They are all buried in Wabash, Ohio.

There are over 120 descendants of John and Mary Jane Wiley.

Place your Family History in this Space.

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Florence Gause, just finishing typing Blackcreek Township History.

L. to R.: Carol Thees, indexing a family history; Joyce Alig, typin the History of Mercer County Courthouse; Helen Godfrey, inde ing a family history.

Joyce Alig, with the fourteen boxes of family histories from the fourteen townships of Mercer County.

Seated: Florence Gause, Helen Godfrey, and Carol Thees. **Standing:** George Godfrey, Joyce Alig. Working on the Mercer County History Book.

Colleen Bea Alig and Becky Thees, hold ing GiGi. The girls are upstairs at th Museum, playing together, while thei mothers are downstairs working on th Mercer County History Book.

Coldwater Elementary School Students at a guided tour of the Mercer County Historical Museum. Museum Director Joyce Alig is lecturing the students about the early history of Mercer County and their own village of Coldwater. Joyce's daughter, Colleen Alig, is sitting at her mother's right foot. Daily Standard newsperson Steve Fought is standing in the background wearing the top hat and tuxedo. (Mike Lamm photograph)

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Florence Gause, Open House, 1977

Joyce Alig, Open House, 1977

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schmieseing

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dicke and George Bihn

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hirschfeld

Standing: Donald Muhlenkamp, Paul Hosack, Orpha Hosack, Eugene Hirshfeld, Pat Hirschfeld, Treva Muhlenkamp. **Seated:** Patricia Olding; Joyce Alig, with daughter Colleen Alig at her feet; and Florence Gause.

Vera Speicher

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Schindler

Lee Kuhn and Azetta Richard

Ray Eblen, Open House 1976

Ray Feltz

Brenda Alig, Open House, 1976

Donald Muhlenkamp and his father, Ferd Muhlenkamp

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Andrews

Lorna Alig, Open House, 1976

Colleen Alig, Open House, 1976

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Mrs. Roscoe Riley

Mrs. Carleton Reiser

Mrs. Carroll Stubbs

M. Griffith and G. Shiverdecker

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Denney

Float in the Celina Lake Festival, 1978 Mercer County Historical Society — **L. to R.:** Joyce L. Alig; Patricia Olding Carl and Hope Andrews in sleigh Ann and Sue Miller, **standing;** Florence Gause, **seated;** Don Muhlenkamp and Eugene Hirschfeld.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker Snyder

Marianne Boggs, Celina, with her quilt, which belonged to President Carter's Grandmother

Marcelyn Meinerding with a quilt which belonged to her sister, Freida.

Carl Andrews, seated on the Cutting Bench with the Museum Tool Display

Bernice Baker

Deloris Imel

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hirschfeld

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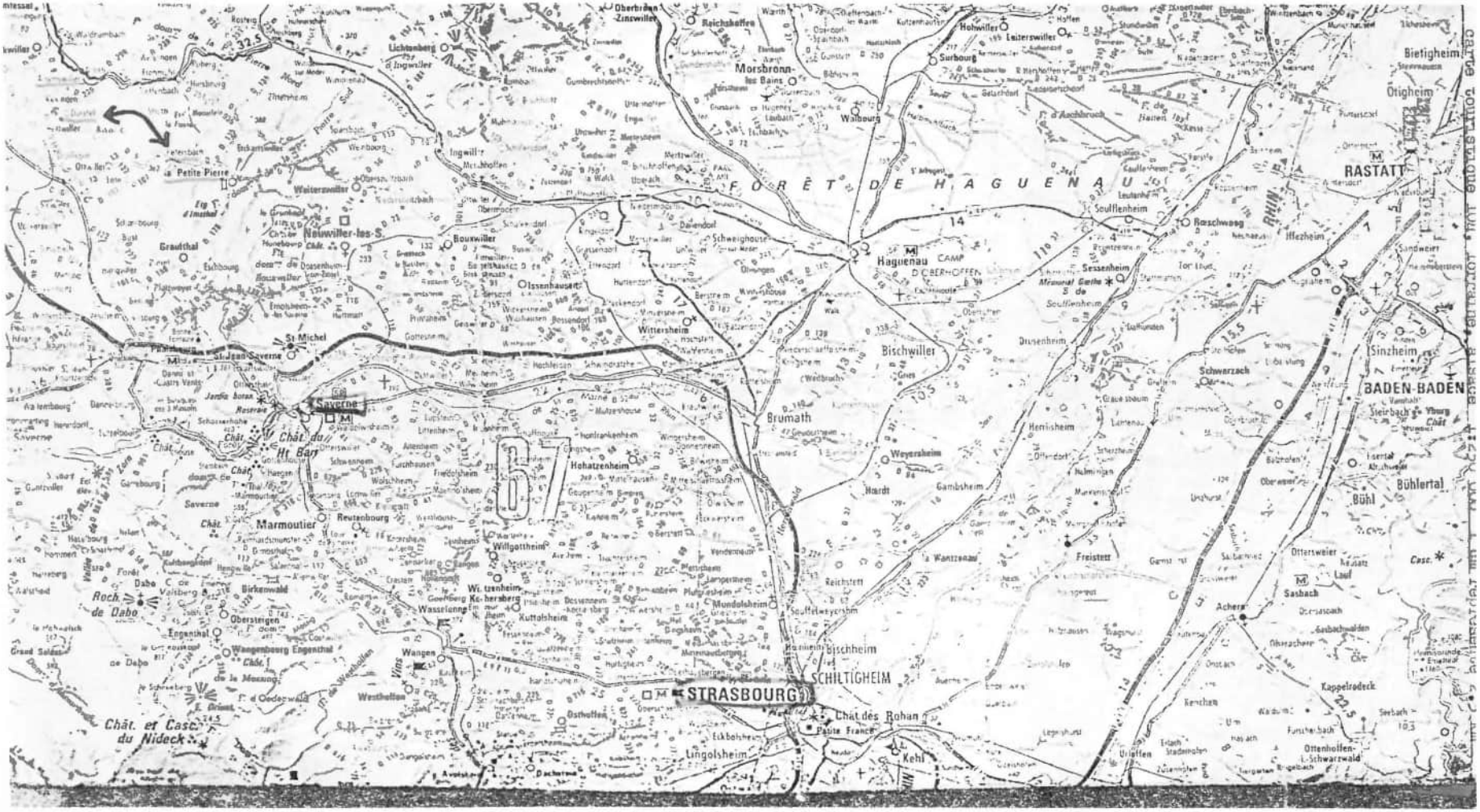
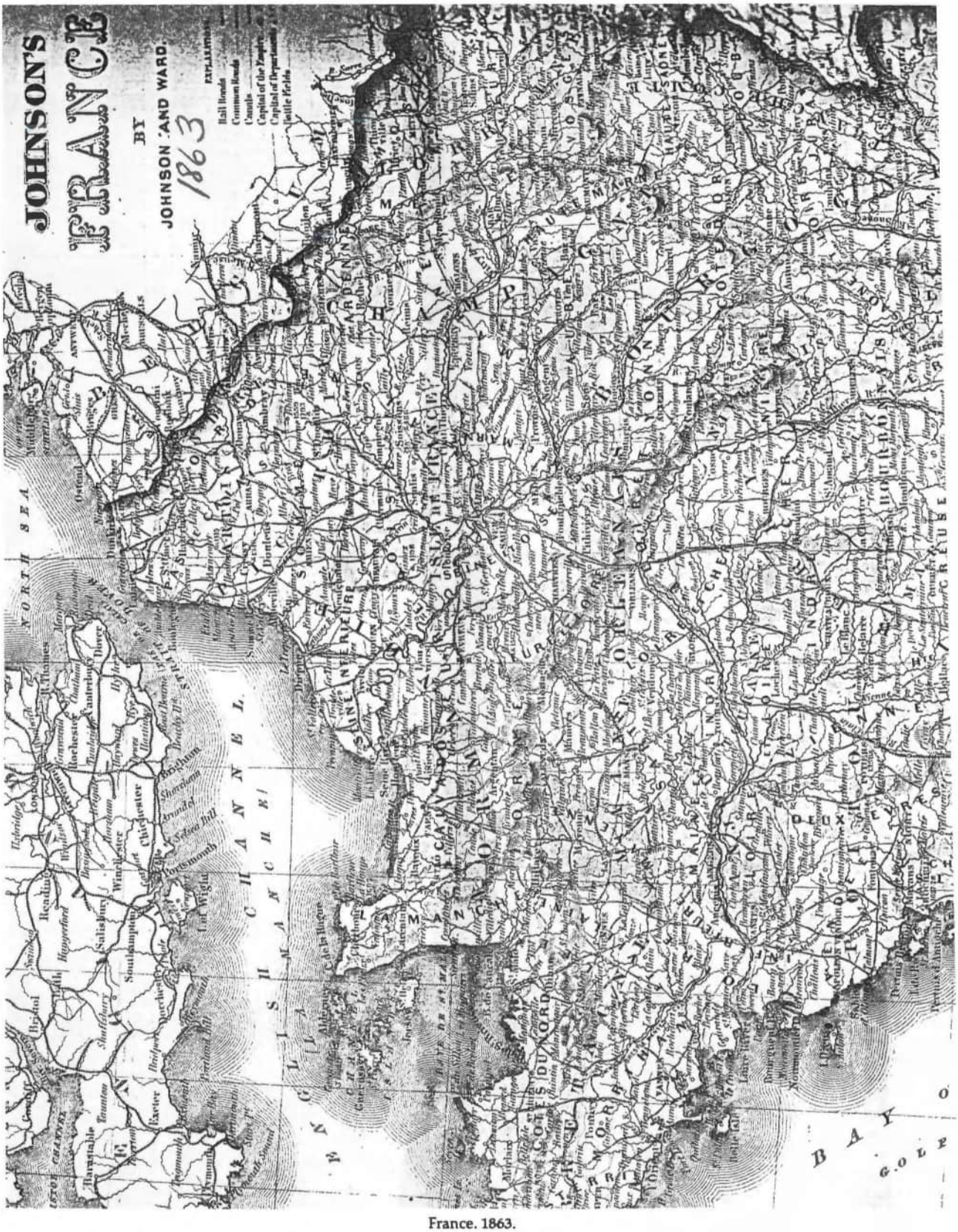
Map. carte touristique 104, Lorraine, Alsace
1:250 000 1 cm. represente 2.5 km.
Strasbourg, France
Baden-Baden, Germany


FORÊT DE HAGUENAU
STRASBOURG
SCHILTIGHEIM
Haguenau
Saverne
Brumath
Bischwiller
BADEN-BADEN
RASTATT
Bühl
Bühlertal
Sinzheim
Marmoutier
Reutenbourg
Wasselonne
Wangen
Obersteigen
Engental
Wangenbourg Engenthal
Roch. de Dabo
Chât. et Casc. du Nideck
Petite Pierre
Neuwiller-les-S.
Bouxwiller
Ingwiller
Lichtenberg
Morsbronn-les Bains
Walbourg
Surbourg
Hohwiller
Leiterswiller
Reichshoffen
Oberbronn
Zinswiller
Soufflenheim
Rœschwoog
Sessenheim
Drusenheim
Herrlisheim
Weyersheim
Hohatzenheim
Mundolsheim
Lingolsheim
Eckbolsheim
Illkirch-Graffenstaden
Illkirch
Kehl
Freistett
Ottersweier
Sasbach
Achern
Otigheim
Bietigheim
Iffezheim
Schwarzach
Steinbach
Lichtental
Kappelrodeck
Ottenhofen-i.-Schwarzwald
Lauf
Casc.
Chât. des Rohan
Petite France
Grand Salève
Grauthal
Ossenhausen
Wittersheim
Hochfelden
Hohatzenheim
Willgottheim
Wasselonne
Kuttolsheim
Wolfisheim
Westhoffen
Osthoffen
Dachstein
Gambsheim
Hoerdt
Reichstett
Vendenheim
Hangenbieten
Truchtersheim
Wintzenheim
Hurtigheim
Mittelhausbergen
Holtzheim
Lampertheim
Plobsheim
Geispolsheim
Entzheim
Oberhausbergen
Strasbourg-Neuhof
Strasbourg-Meinau
Strasbourg-Robertsau
Strasbourg-Wacken
Strasbourg-Cronenbourg
Strasbourg-Koenigshoffen
Strasbourg-Montagne-Verte
Strasbourg-Ste-Helène
Strasbourg-Orangerie
Strasbourg-Gare
Strasbourg-Neudorf
Strasbourg-Port du Rhin



France. 1863.

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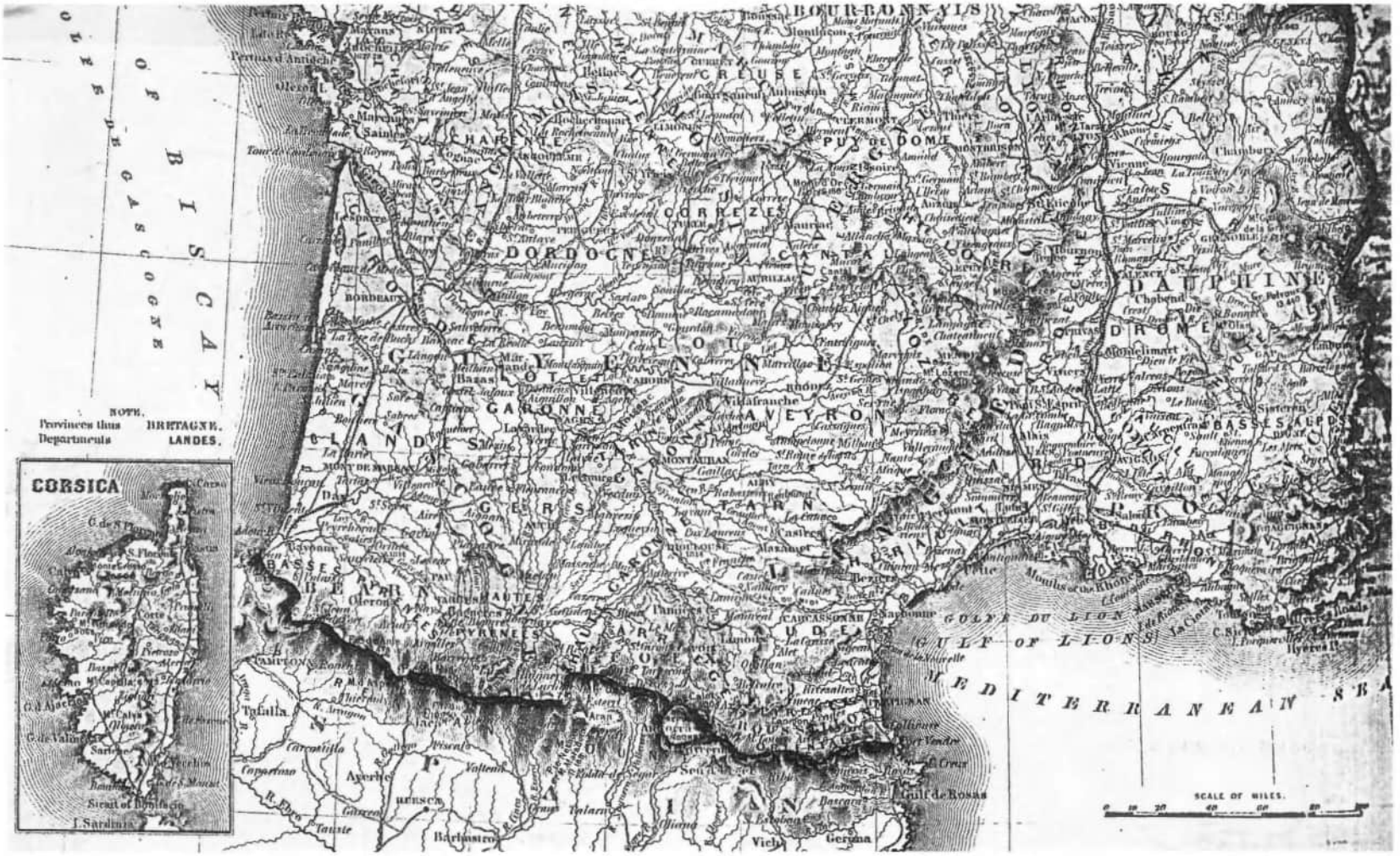

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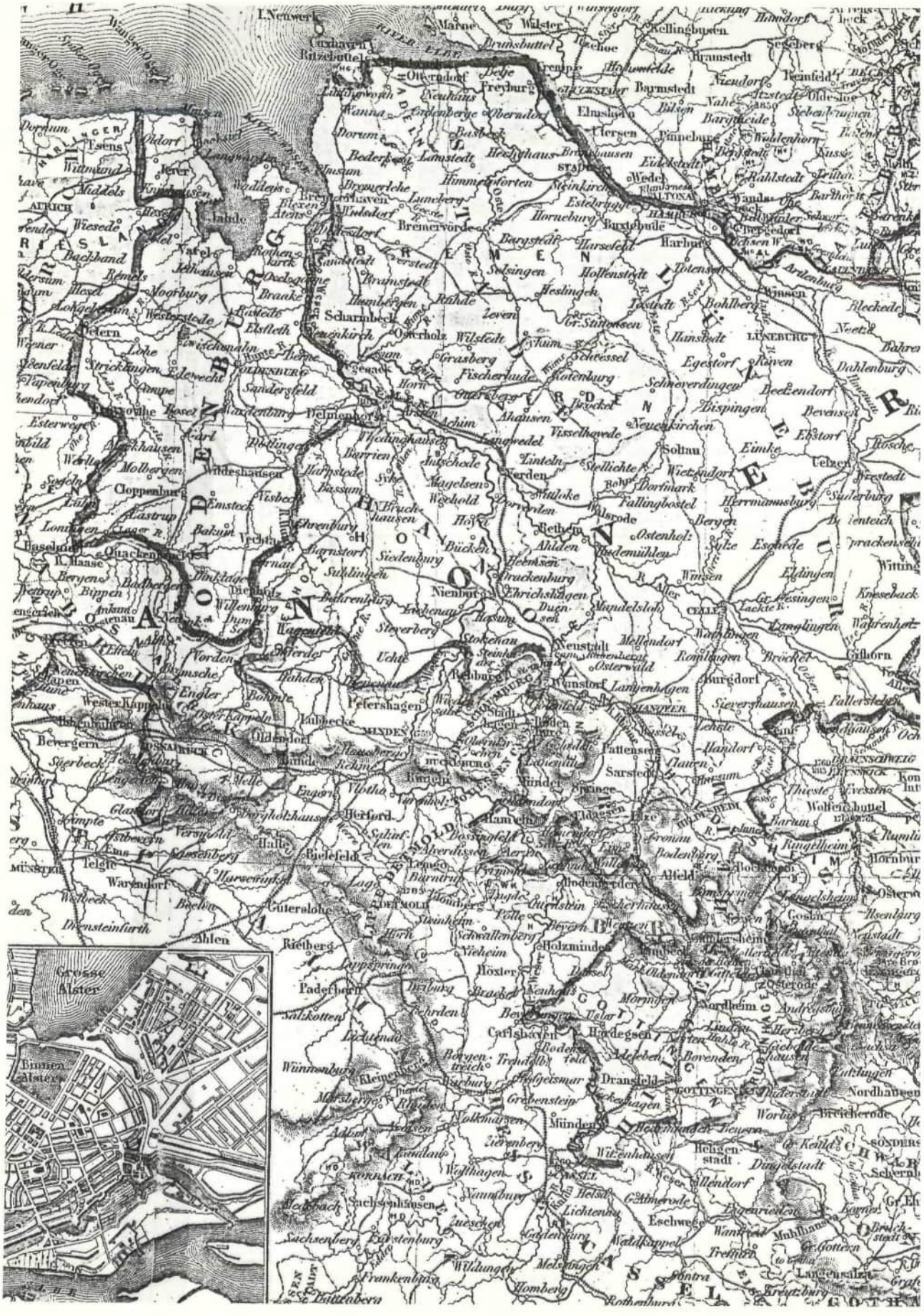

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JOHNSON'S GERMANY

No I 1863

BY

JOHNSON AND WARD.

SCALE OF MILES.

0 5 10 20 30 40

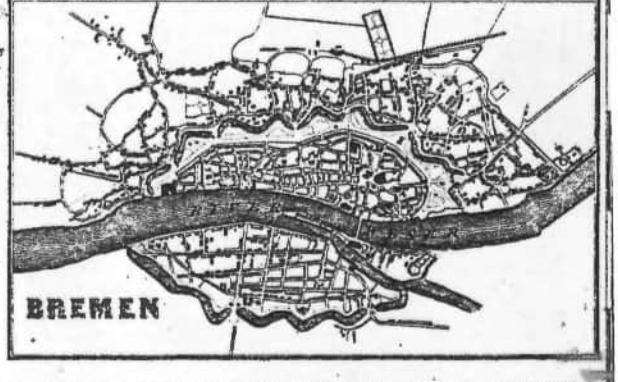
HANOVER		KINGDOM.
HAMBURG	FREE CITY	HANSE TOWN.
LUBECK		
BREMEN		
OLDENBURG		GRAND DUCHY.
HOLSTEIN		DUCHY.
LAUENBURG		
ANHALT		
DESSAU, BERNBERG & KOTHEN		DUCHIES.
MECKLENBURG		
SCHWERIN & STRELITZ		PRINCIPALITIES.
LIPPE DETMOLD		PRINCIPALITY.
SCHAUMBURG		

Anhalt, Kothen annexed to Dessau & Bernberg in 1847.

EXPLANATIONS.

The following abbreviations show the detached portions of States.

H. Hanover
H^{e} Hamburg
L. Lubeck
M^{k} Mecklenburg Sch.
M^{l} Mecklenburg Str.
B. Brunswick
W. Westphalia
W.K. Waldeck
L.D. Lippe Detmold
H.D. Hessen Darmstadt
P.S. Prussian Saxony
A.B. Anhalt Bernberg
A.K. Anhalt Kothen
A.D. Anhalt Dessau



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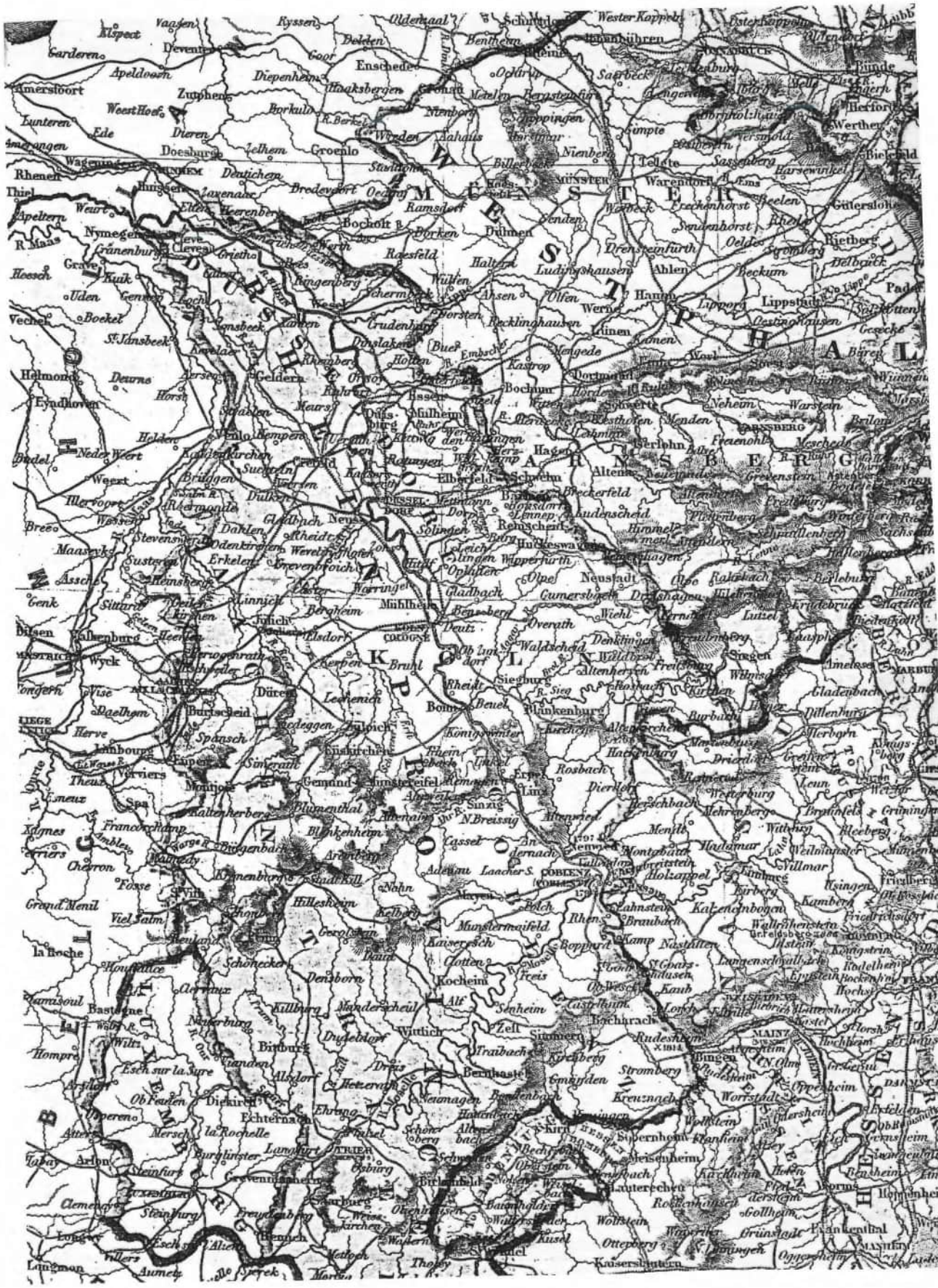

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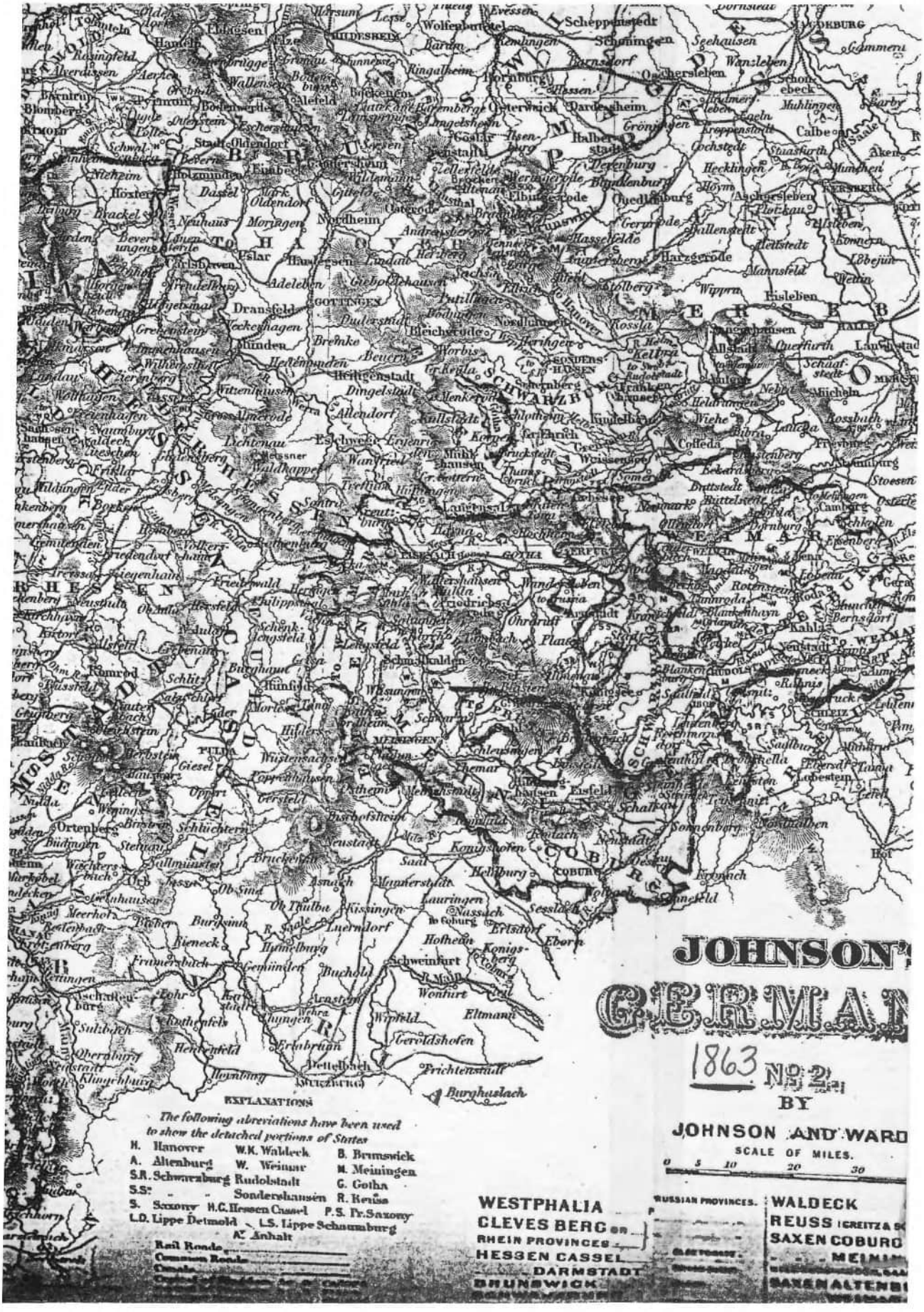

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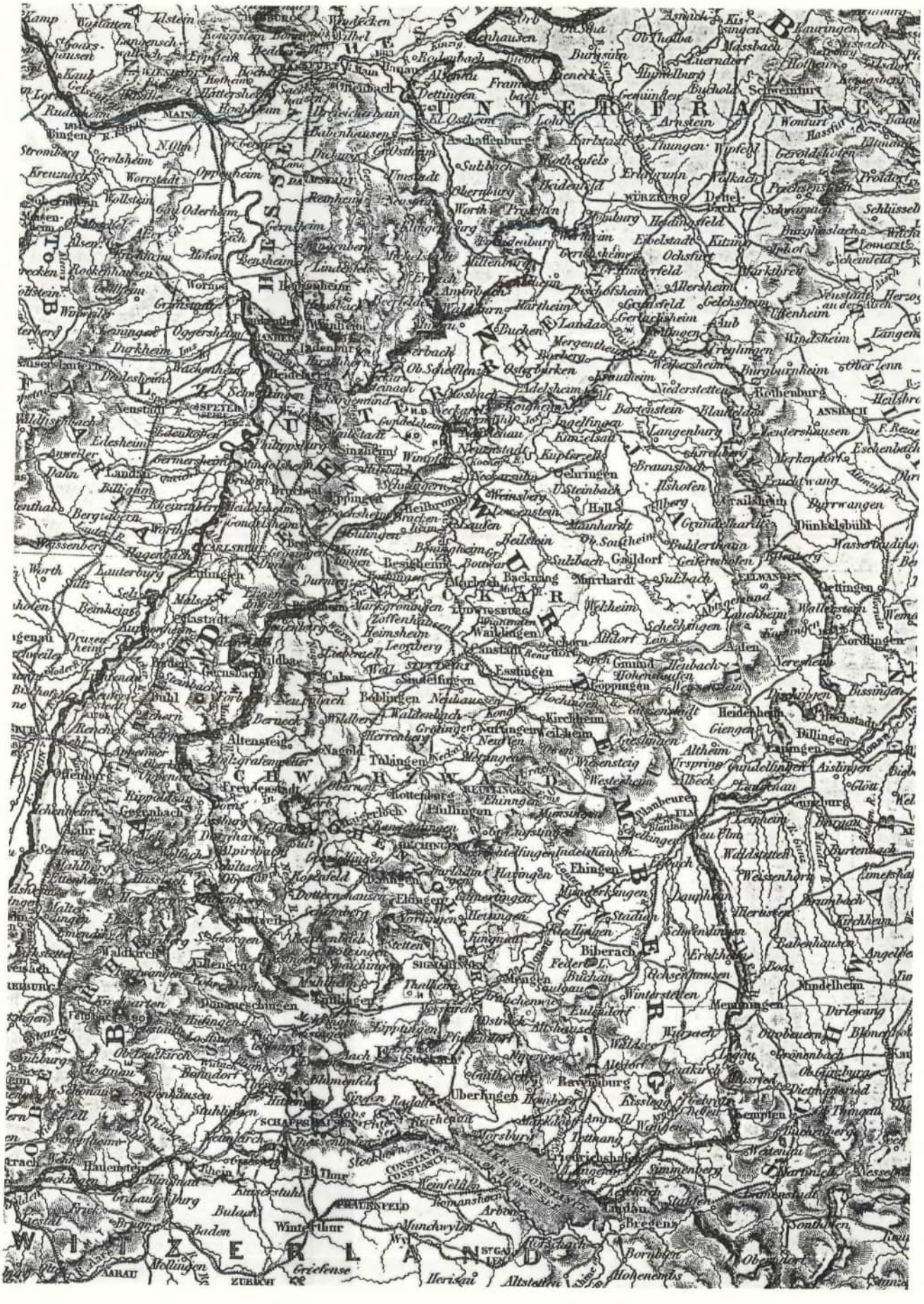

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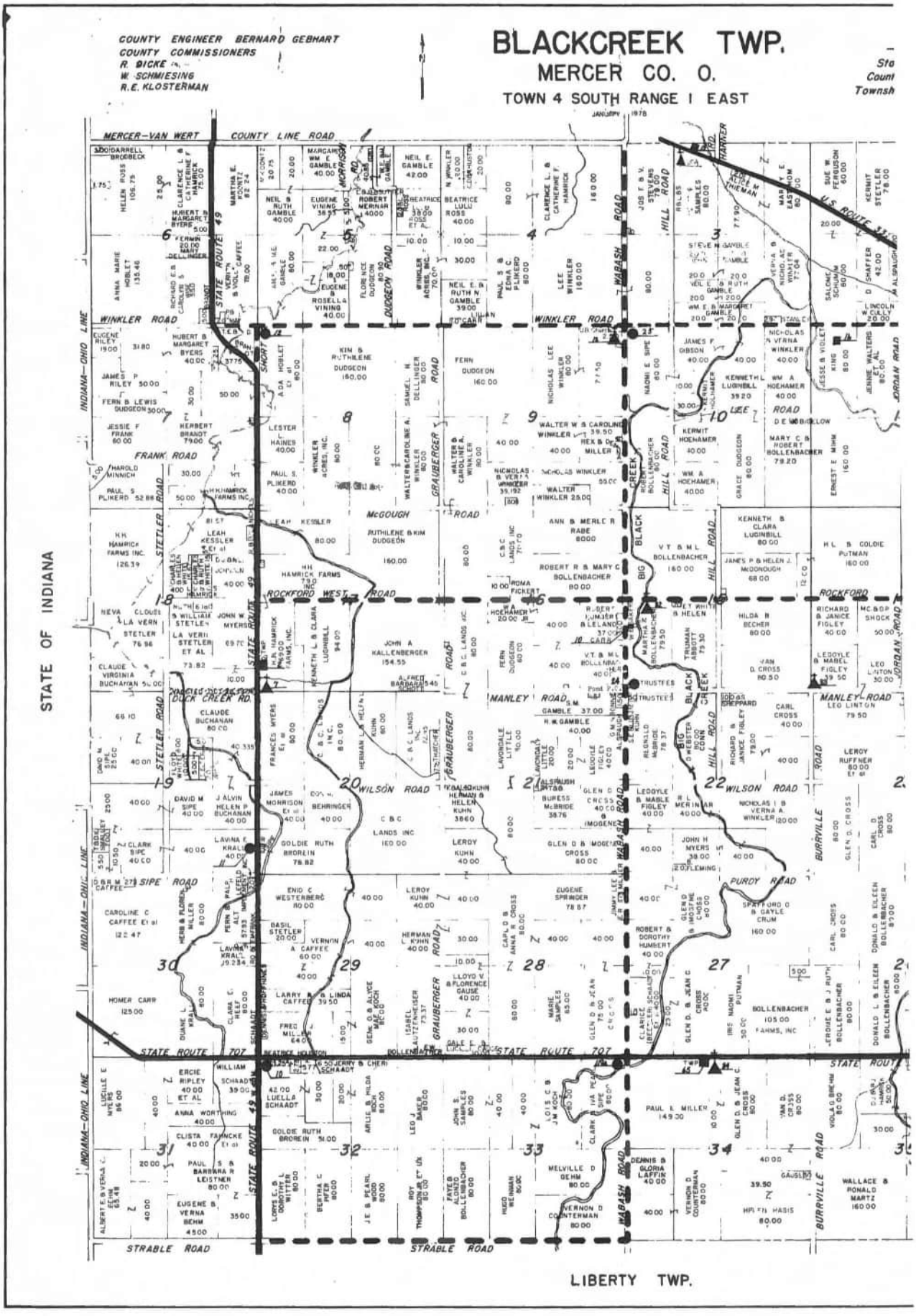

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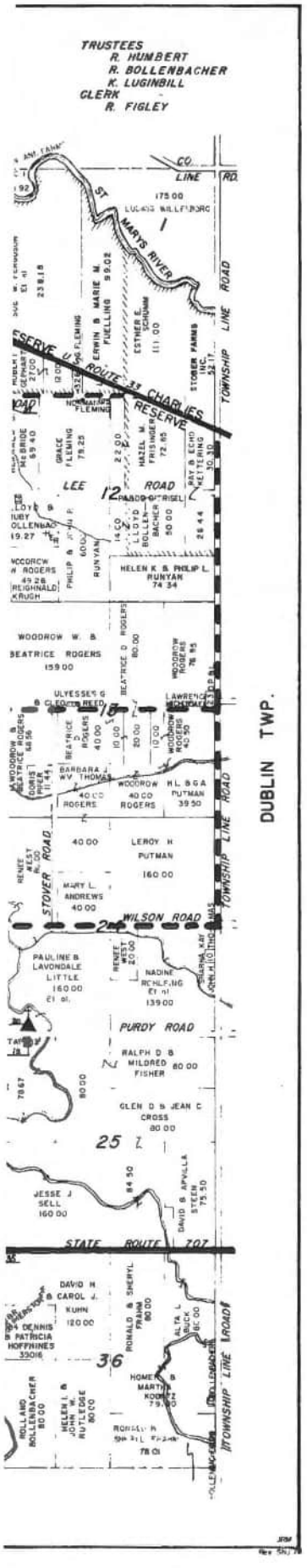

BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
7.	Duckcreek Methodist Evangelical (Closed)	17	S.R. 49
12.	Zion U.B.	9	Wabash Rd. & Winkler Rd.
20.	Fountain Chapel Methodist Evangelical (Closed)	24	Purdy Rd. & Erastus-Durbin Rd.
82.	United Brethren Fairview (Closed)	15	Rockford West Rd.
83.	United Brethren Centenary (Closed)	14	Manley Rd.
84.	East Bethel (United Brethren) (Closed)	34	S.R. 707
15 A.	Pleasant Grove U.B.	3	Hill Road at S.R. 33

BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

10.	Wildcat (School No. 9)	32	S.R. 707 and S.R. 49
11.	Duck Creek (School No. 4)	19	S.R. 49
12.	Lower Duck Creek or Dellinger (School No. 3)	7	Short and Winkler Roads
24.	Central (School No. 5)	15	Manley and Wabash Roads
25.	Winkler (School No. 2)	10	Wabash and Winkler Roads
35.	Robinson (School No. 7)	35	S.R. 707 and Erastus-Durbin Rds.
36.	Manley (School No. 6)	14	Erastus-Durbin & Manley Rds.
37.	King (School No. 1)	12	Winkler & Erastus-Durbin Rds.
119 a.	Grove (School No. 8)	33	S.R. 707 and Wabash Rds.

BLACKCREEK TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

2.	Duck Creek	17	S.R. 49 (1888 Atlas)
10.	Coats	15	Wabash (USGS)
15.	Pleasant Grove (Plank)	3	U.S. 33 (USGS)
16.	King	11	Winkler and Jordon Rds. (1888 Atlas)
17.	Zimmerman	Labadie Reserve	Erastus-Durbin R. (USGS)
65.	East Bethel	34	S.R. 707
18.	Fountain Chapel	25	Erastus Durbin and Purdy Rds.

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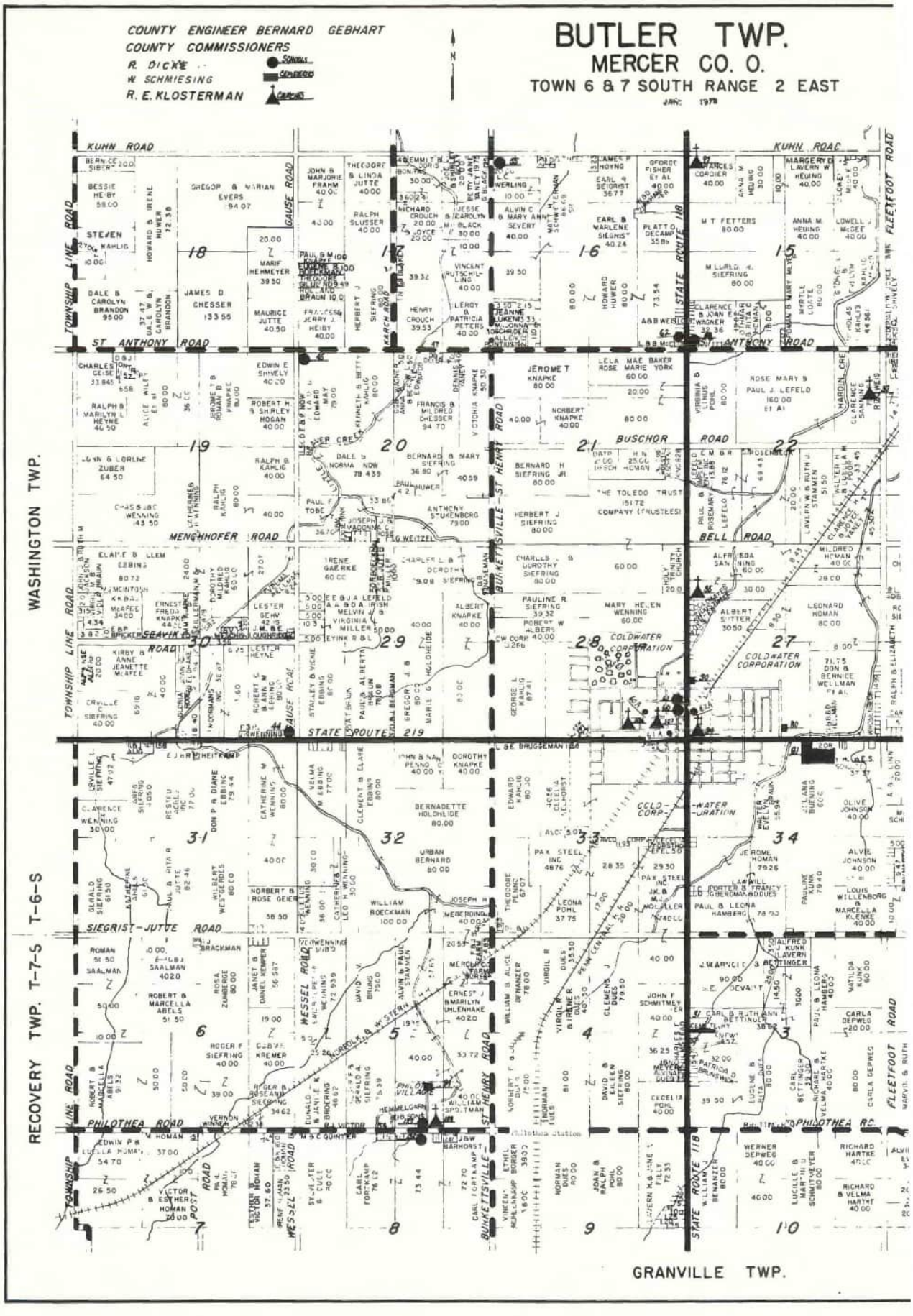

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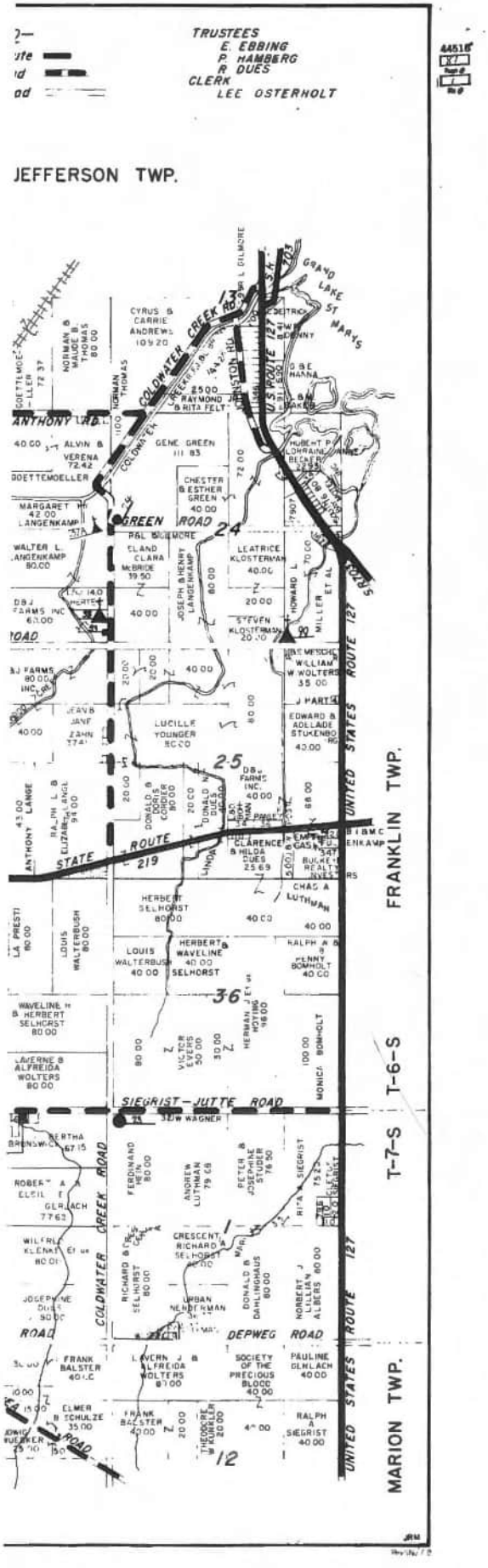

BUTLER TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

BUTLER TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
34.	Holy Trinity Catholic	27	Village of Coldwater, S.R. 118 and S.R. 219
35.	Nazarene	27	S.R. 118
37.	Spring Valley	22	Fleetfoot Rd.
37 A.	German Baptist Church	23	Coldwater Creek at Green Road
38.	United Brethren, Burnt Wood	23	Coldwater Creek and Younger Rds.
97.	German Baptist Brethren, Ash Grove	15	Kuhn Rd. and S.R. 118
99.	R.U.B. Chapel	24	Younger Rd.
106.	M.E. Church	28	Village of Coldwater, Rhein Add., Lot #4, N.E. Corner of Main and Wilson Sts.
107.	United Methodist	28	Village of Coldwater 310 W. North Street
108.	Saint Marys	5	Philothea

BUTLER TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

60 A.	Two room school (1880) and High School (1898)	28	Village of Coldwater, NW corner North and Market Sts.
61 A.	Coldwater Academy (1882 Coldwater Normal School)	28	Village of Coldwater, Corner of College & Market
44.	Wenning School (School No. 4)	30	Gause and S.R. 219
45.	Crouch (School No. 3)	20	St. Anthony and Gause Roads.
55.	Union	16	Kuhn & Burkettsville Roads
60.	Coldwater West Elementary	28	Village of Coldwater, S.R. 118
61.	Coldwater High & North Middle School	28	Village of Coldwater, S.R. 118
62 A.	Coldwater East Elementary	27	Village of Coldwater, S.R. 118
62.	Bennett (School No. 2)	16	St. Anthony Rd. and S.R. 118
73.	School No. 1, (Colored School)	1	Coldwater Creek Rd. & Siegrist-Jutte Rd.
74.	School No. 8	24	Coldwater Creek and Green Roads
133.	School No. 6	35	Siegrist-Jutte Road
136.	School No. 5	5	Philothea
137.	Philothea Special	8	Philothea

BUTLER TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

30.	(moved to Catholic Cemetery, #81 on map)	27	Village of Coldwater (1888 Atlas)
31.	Young	4	S.R. 118 (1888 Atlas)
33.	Burnt Wood	23	Younger Rd. and Coldwater Creek Rd.
80.	Rosenbeck-Haggerman	27	Village of Coldwater (1888 Atlas)
81.	St. Elizabeth	34	S.R. 219 (1888 Atlas)
82.	Frank Stroatsberry	2	Siegrist-Jutte R. (1900 Atlas)
84.	St. Marys	5	Philothea (USGS)

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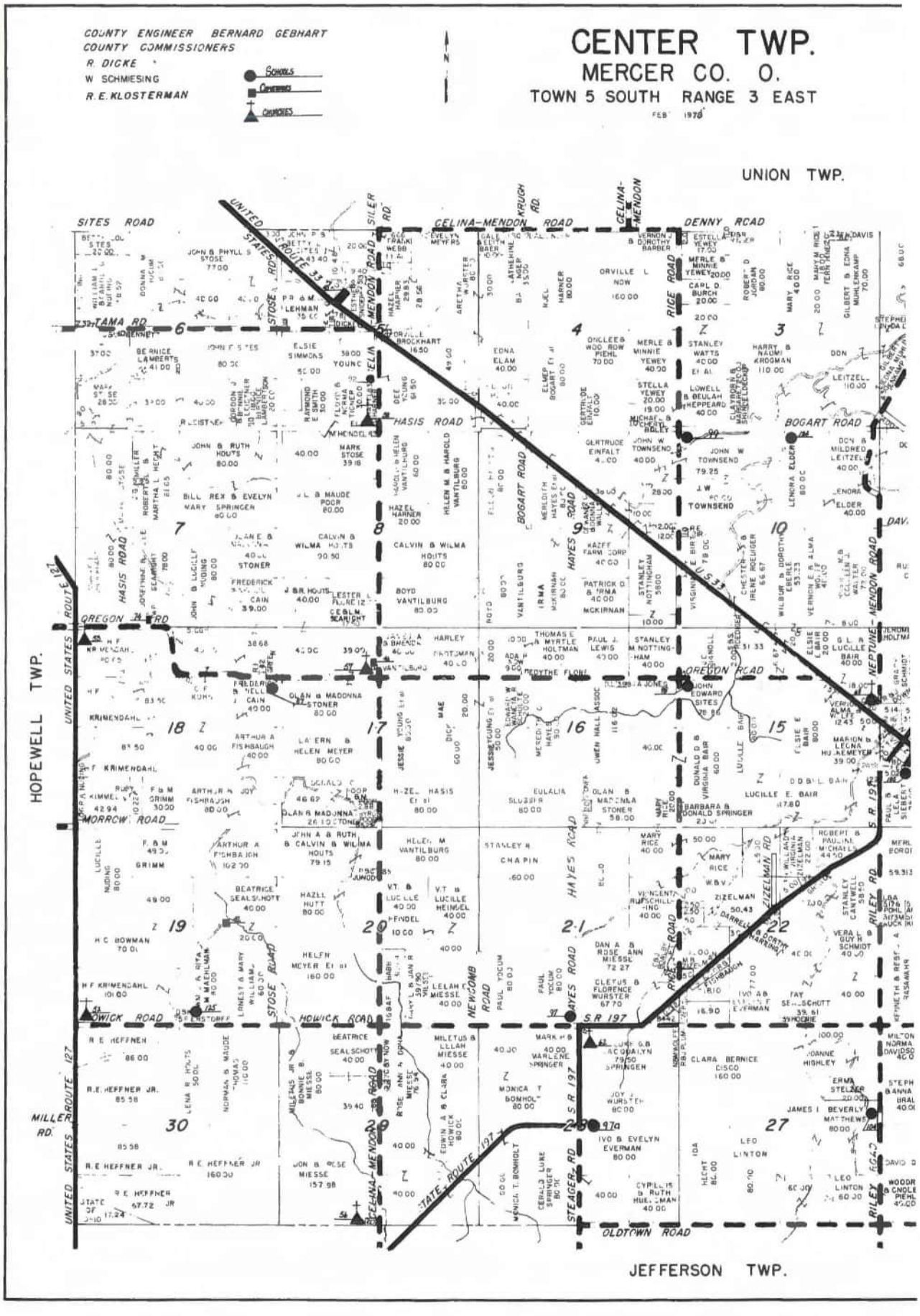

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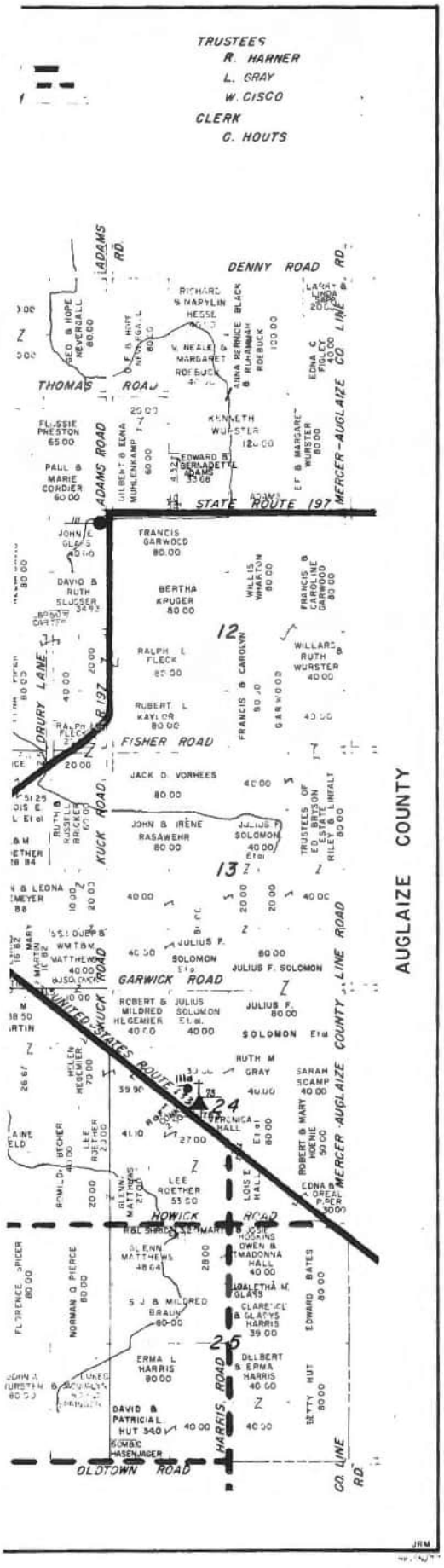

CENTER TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

CENTER TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
52.	Church of God (Beery Bethel)	19	U.S. 127 & Howick Rd.
53.	Methodist Evangelical (Copps Chapel) (Methodist Episcopal)	18	U.S. 127 & Oregonn Rd.
56.	Celina Baptist Temple	29	Celina-Mendon Rd.
57.	Fairview (Church of God)	17	Celina-Mendon Rd. & Oregon Rd.
58.	Mt. Zion (United Brethren)	5	Celina-Mendon Rd. & Hasis Rd.
62.	Centre Chapel (Maple Center) (Methodist Evangelical) (Episcopal?) (Center Church closed June 2, 1963)	28	S.R. 197
68.	Neptune Church of God (also, Neptune M.E. Church Society held meetings there)	14	S.R. 197 & U.S. 33
69.	Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, 1861	15	U.S. 33 & Neptune-Mendon Rd.
73.	—	24	U.S. 33
86a.	Mount Gilead Baptist Church, 1850's	2	Neptune-Mendon Road & Thomas Rd.

CENTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

87.	Kiser (Kaiser) (School No. 3)	18	Stose & Oregon Roads
92.	Roebuck (School No. 2) (Plank Road)	5	Tama & Celina-Mendon Roads
97.	Center (School No. 7) (Hayes) (Maple Center)	21	Howick & Hayes
97a.	log school house (Hayes)	28	Staeger Rd. and S.R. 197
98.	Piper (School No. 4)	15	Rice & Oregon Roads
99.	Mt. Hope	10	Bogart & Rice Roads
104.	Hardscrabble (School No. 9)	27	Riley Rd.
105.	Center Township	14	S.R. 197
111.	Elm Grove (School No. 10) (Frog Pond)	11	Burd & S.R. 197
111a.	School No. 6 (Adams School)	24	U.S. Rt. 33
124.	School No. 1	10	Bogart
125.	Beougher (School No. 8)	19	Howick Rd.

CENTER TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

42.	Carpenter (Beery)	19	Stose (1888 Atlas)
45.	Roebuck	5	U.S. 33 (1888 Atlas)
46.	Fairview	17	Celina-Mendon (1888 Atlas)
53a.	Hankins	2	Neptune-Mendon (1888 Atlas)
55.	Neptune	14	U.S. 33 (1888 Atlas)
74.	Oregon Roberts	7	Oregon Rd. (1888 Atlas)

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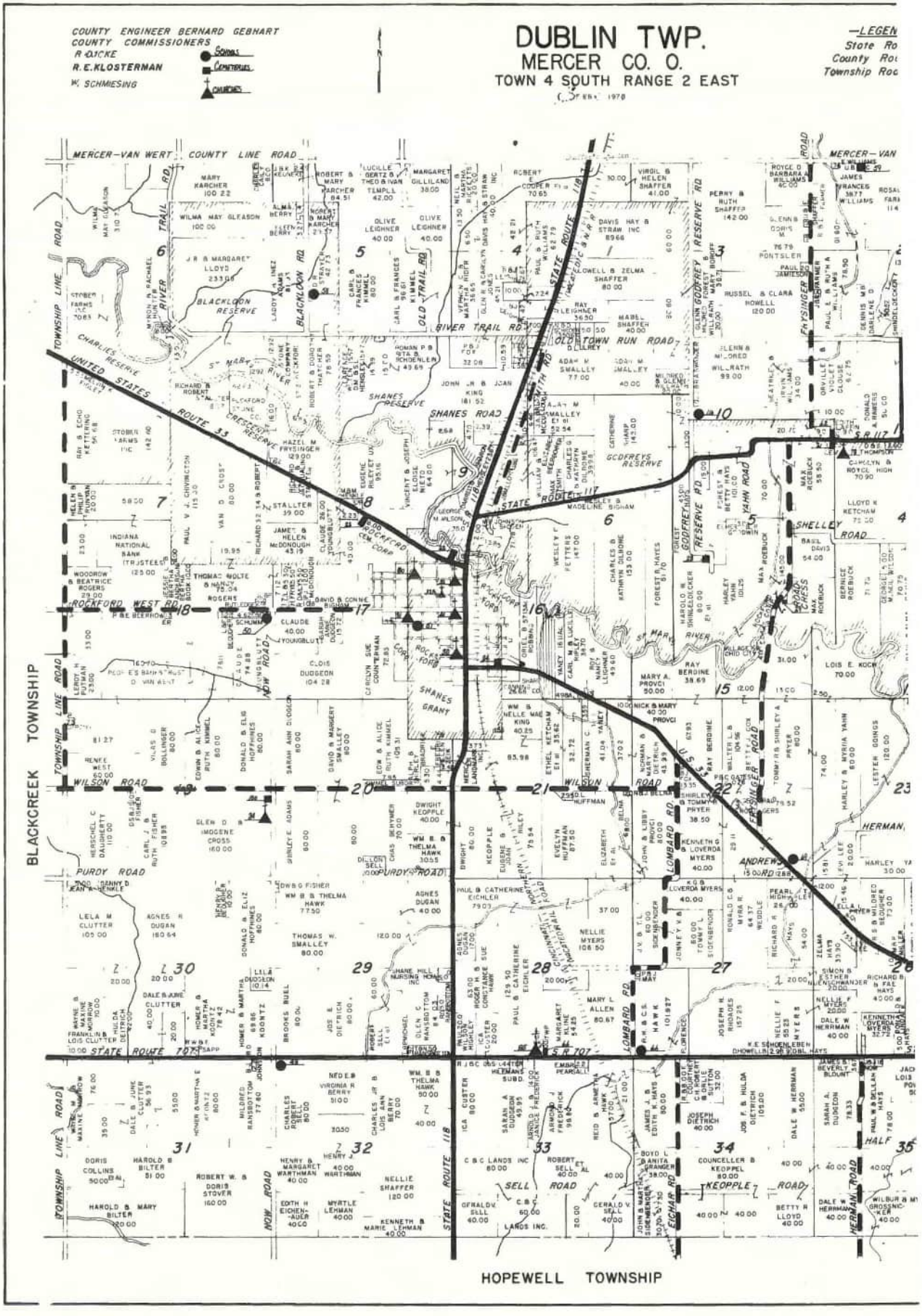

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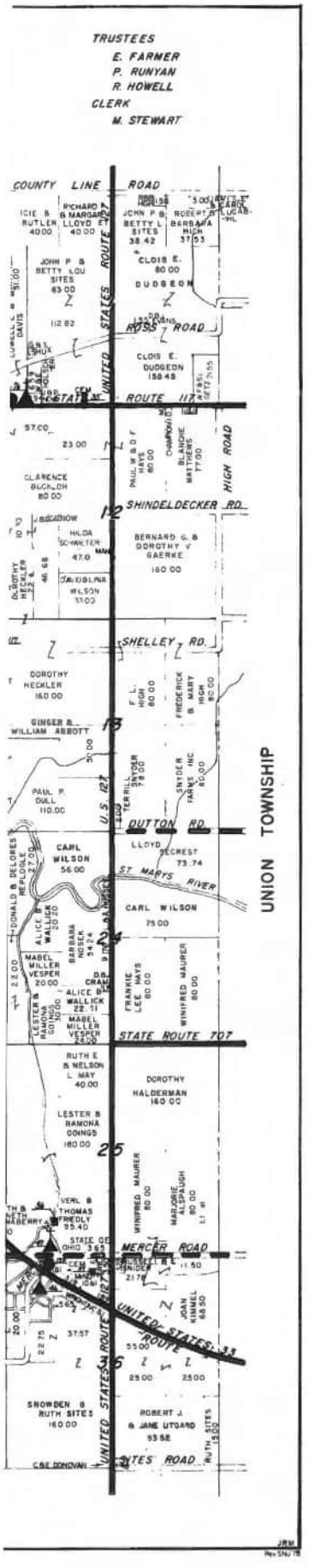

DUBLIN TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

DUBLIN TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
24.	Quaker?	19	Now Rd. and Wilson Rd.
30.	St. Teresa Catholic	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford 213 South Franklin St.
31.	Nazarene (closed)	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford Original Plat, lot #30 Franklin & Market Sts.
32.	First United Presbyterian	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford Original Plat, lot #24 Market St.
46.	Baptist Church (closed ca. 1918, 1919)	36	U.S. 33, Mercer Withnall's Add., lot #2
47.	Mercer United Methodist	25	Mercer
76.	Church of God	1	S.R. 117
78.	Union Church	Godfrey Reserve	S.R. 117
80.	1946 First E.U.B. 1967 Grace United Methodist	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford, Market St.
81.	Quaker (Friends) Church 1944 became Calvary United Brethren	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford, Davis Add. lot #318; NE corner of South and West Sts.
85.	Otterbein (United Brethren) (Stringtown)	28	S.R. 707
32A.	First United Methodist	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford, South Add. lot #45; SE corner of Pearl and Franklin Streets.

DUBLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

49.	Red (School No. 6)	32	S.R. 707 and Now Rd.
50.	Barks (School No. 10)	18	Now and Rockford West Rds.
51.	Parkway High School (District School No. 1)	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford 401 S. Franklin St.
58.	Henderson (School No. 4)	Blackloon Reserve	Blackloon Road
66.	Stringtown (School No. 8)	27	Lombard & S.R. 707
69.	Prairie (School No. 9)	22	U.S. 33
115.	Frysinger (School No. 3)	1, 2	Ross and State Route 117
116.	Baltzell (School No. 5)	10	Godfrey Reserve Rd.
117.	School No. 7	13	Shelley Rd.
120.	Mercer (School No. 2)	36	Mercer, Original Plat, lot #20, 22 and 27; S.R. 707

DUBLIN TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

22.	Riverside	17	U.S. 33
23.	Hedges Park	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford (1888 Atlas)
24.	First	Shanes Reserve	Village of Rockford (1888 Atlas)
28.	Shindeldecker Godfrey Reserve	15	Godfrey Reserve Road (USGS)
29.	Roebuck	15	Frysinger Rd., North of S.R. 33
35.	Frysinger	1	S.R. 117, West of U.S. 127 (USGS)
36.	Chivington	25	S.R. 127, (USGS)
37.	New Mercer	36	Mercer (1888 Atlas)
59.	Miller (all moved)	2	Mercer County Van Wert Co. line
6.	Mt. Olive (new, South)	Godfrey Reserve	S.R. 117
62.	Mt. Olive (old, North)	11	S.R. 117
66.	Otterbein (Stringtown)	28	S.R. 707
99.	Custer	26	U.S. 33, Herman Family Plot
100.	Quaker ?	19	Now Rd. — Wilson (Quaker? Cem. Aerial photo)

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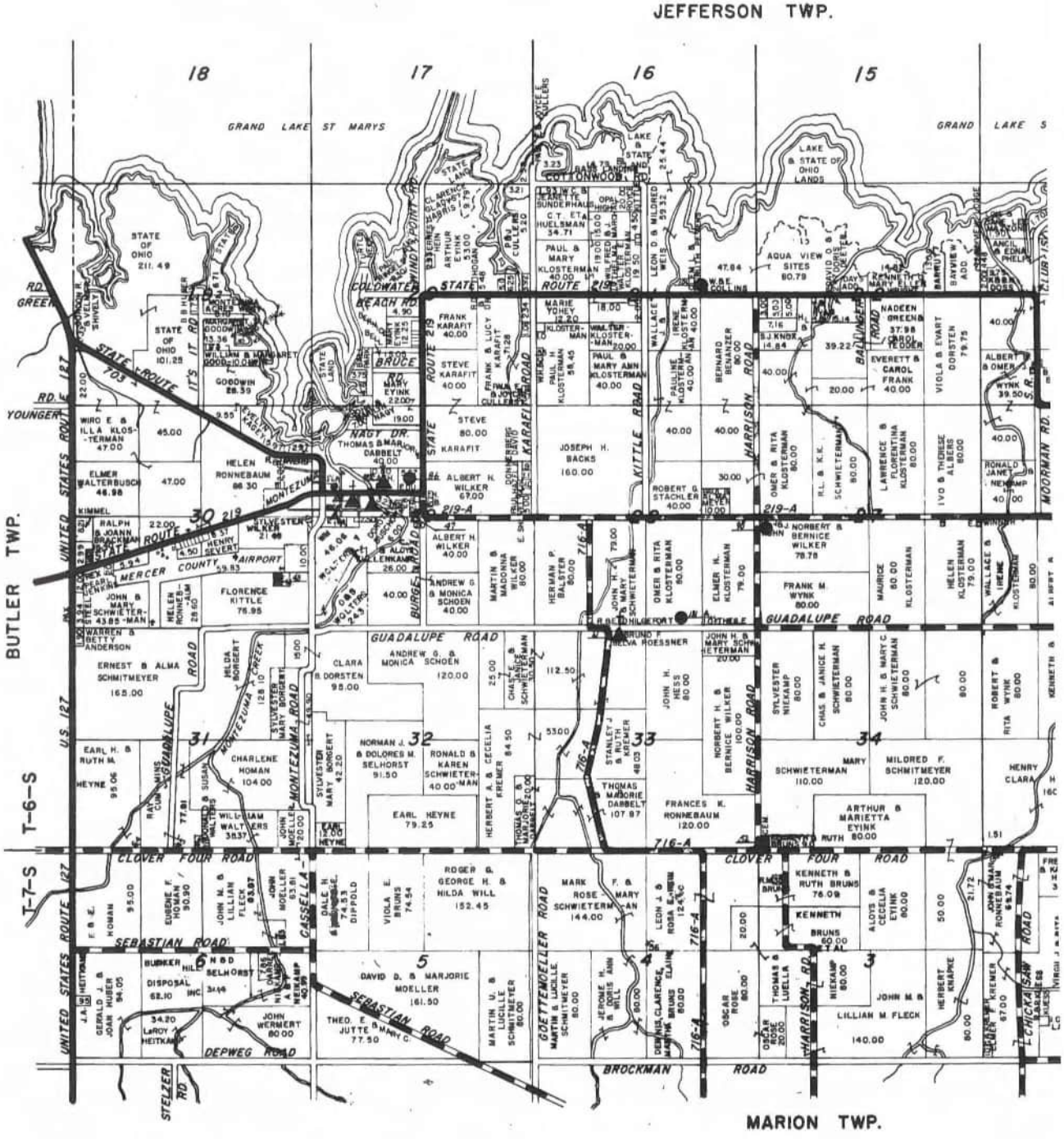
COUNTY ENGINEER BERNARD GEBHART
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
R. E. KLOSTERMAN
W. SCHMIESING
R. DICKE

FRANKLIN TWP.

MERCER CO. O.

TOWN 6 & 7 SOUTH, RANGE 3 EAST

MAR. 1976


JEFFERSON TWP.
BUTLER TWP.
MARION TWP.
GRAND LAKE ST MARYS
GRAND LAKE S
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T-6-S
T-7-S
U.S. 127
STATE ROUTE 703
STATE ROUTE 219
MERCER COUNTY AIRPORT
GUADALUPE ROAD
CLOVER FOUR ROAD
SEBASTIAN ROAD
DEPWEG ROAD
BROCKMAN ROAD
HARRISON ROAD
KITTLE ROAD
MONTEZUMA ROAD
COLDWATER REACH RD
YOUNGER RD.
MORMAN RD.
STELZER RD
CASSELLA
GOETTEMOELLER ROAD
L. CHICKALESH ROAD
BALLINGER ROAD
BURGER ROAD
KARAFIT ROAD
NAGY DR.
STATE OF OHIO
AQUA VIEW SITES
COTTONWOOD
ROGER & GEORGE H. & HILDA WILL 152.45
DAVID D. & MARJORIE MOELLER 161.50
KENNETH BRUNS 60.00 ETAL
LILLIAN M. FLECK 140.00
ARTHUR & MARIETTA EYINK 80.00
MILORED F. SCHWIETERMAN 120.00
MARY SCHWIETERMAN 110.00
FRANCES K. RONNEBAUM 120.00
EARL HEYNE 79.25
CHARLENE HOMAN 104.00
ERNEST & ALMA SCHMITMEYER 165.00
FLORENCE KITTLE 76.95
JOSEPH H. BACKS 160.00
ROGER F. & MELVA ROESSNER
FRANK M. WYNK 80.00
NORBERT & JOHN BERNICE WILKER 78.78
EVERETT & CAROL FRANK 40.00
NADEEN GREEN & CAROL TOOKER 37.98
ALBERT & OMER WYNK 39.50
RONALD JANE NEKAMP 40.00
MARK & ROSE SCHWIETERMAN 144.00
JOHN M. & LILLIAN FLECK 80.00
KENNETH & RUTH BRUNS 76.09
THEO. E. & MARY C. JUTTE 77.50
JOHN WERMERT 80.00
DISPOSAL INC.
N & D SELHORST
NORMAN J. & DOLORES M. SELHORST 91.50
RONALD & KAREN SCHWIETERMAN 40.00
CLARA B. DORSTEN 95.00
ANDREW G. & MONICA SCHOEN 120.00
ANDREW G. & MONICA SCHOEN 40.00
ALBERT H. WILKER 67.00
ALBERT H. WILKER 40.00
STEVE KARAFIT 80.00
STEVE KARAFIT 40.00
FRANK KARAFIT 40.00
FRANK & LUCY KARAFIT 7.28
MARIE YOHEY 12.20
PAUL & MARY KLOSTERMAN 40.00
PAUL & MARY ANN KLOSTERMAN 40.00
WM. TSR KLOSTERMAN 20.00
BERNARD BENANZER 80.00
OMER & RITA KLOSTERMAN 80.00
ELMER KLOSTERMAN 79.00
HERMAN P. BALSTER 80.00
MARTIN & MARCELLA KLOSTERMAN 80.00
ROBERT G. STACHLER 40.00
LAWRENCE & CLOTILDA KLOSTERMAN 80.00
IVO & THERESE ALLEN 80.00
VIOLA & EVART DONSTEIN 79.75
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OSCAR ROSE 80.00
HERBERT KRAMPE 80.00
LLOYD & CECELIA EYINK 60.00
DAVID D. & MARY ELLEN BARRETT
BANVIEW ADD.
ANCIL & EONA PHELPS
LEON D. & MILDRED WEIS 29.32
C.T. ET AL HUELSMAN 34.71
PAUL & MARY KLOSTERMAN 40.00
ARTHUR HEIN 53.00
CLARENCE GLASSBURN 9.75
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STATE OF OHIO 101.25
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GOODWIN 28.39
WIRO E. & ILLA KLOSTERMAN 47.00
ELMER WALTERBUSCH 46.98
HELEN RONNEBAUM 86.30
RALPH & JOANN BRACKMAN 22.00
JOHN & MARY SCHWIETERMAN 43.85
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EARL H. & RUTH M. HEYNE 95.06
EUGENE F. HOMAN 90.90
F.B.E. HOMAN 95.00
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JOHN MOELLER 83.81
DALE H. DIPPOLD 74.53
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WILLIAM WALTERS 38.37
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MILDA BORGERT 128.10
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RONALD & SUSAN WALTERS 77.81
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JOHN H. & MARY SCHWIETERMAN 79.00
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CHASTEEN SCHWIETERMAN 25.00
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TRUSTEES
N. WILKER
L. DOENGES
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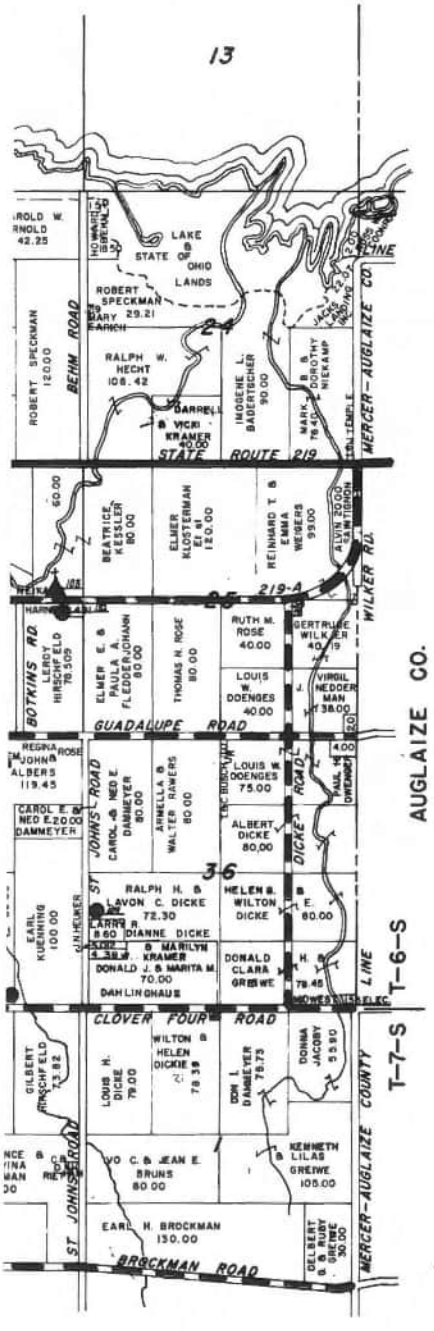

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
61.	Guadalupe Catholic (old)	33	S.R. 716 — A & Guadalupe Road
100.	Methodist Episcopal (1888 & 1900 Atlas)	29	Montezuma, Original Plat, lot #15, Riley St.
101.	United Brethren (1888 & 1900 Atlas)	29	Montezuma, Original Plat, lot #1, Riley St.
100a.	Church of Christ (1900 Atlas)	29	Montezuma, Wyatt Beauchamp's Add., lot #43, Canal St.
102.	Guadalupe Catholic	29	S.R. 219
103.	Christian Union	26	S.R. 219

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

86 A.	School (1900 Atlas)	29	Montezuma, S.R. 219
86.	Franklin Local	29	S.R. 219
95.	School No. 2 (1888 Atlas) Township House (1900 Atlas)	27	Harrison & S.R. 219 — A
109.	Liberty	36	St. John's
130.	Center	21	S.R. 219 (St. Rt. 703)
131.	Klosterman School (1900 Atlas) Township House (1888 Atlas)	28	S.R. 716
132.	Franklin (School No. 1)	26	S.R. 219
134.	School No. 4	35	Clover Four
95 A.	School (1888 Atlas)	29	Montezuma (Wyatt & Beauchamp's Add. lot #43, Canal St.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP CEMETERY

43.	Ellis	30	Cassella-Montezuma Rd. (1888 Atlas)
47.	Burdge	29	Burge Rd. (1888 Atlas)
52.	Long	34	Harrison and Clover Four Roads, (1888 Atlas)
56.	Botkins	35	Botkins Rd. (1900 Atlas)

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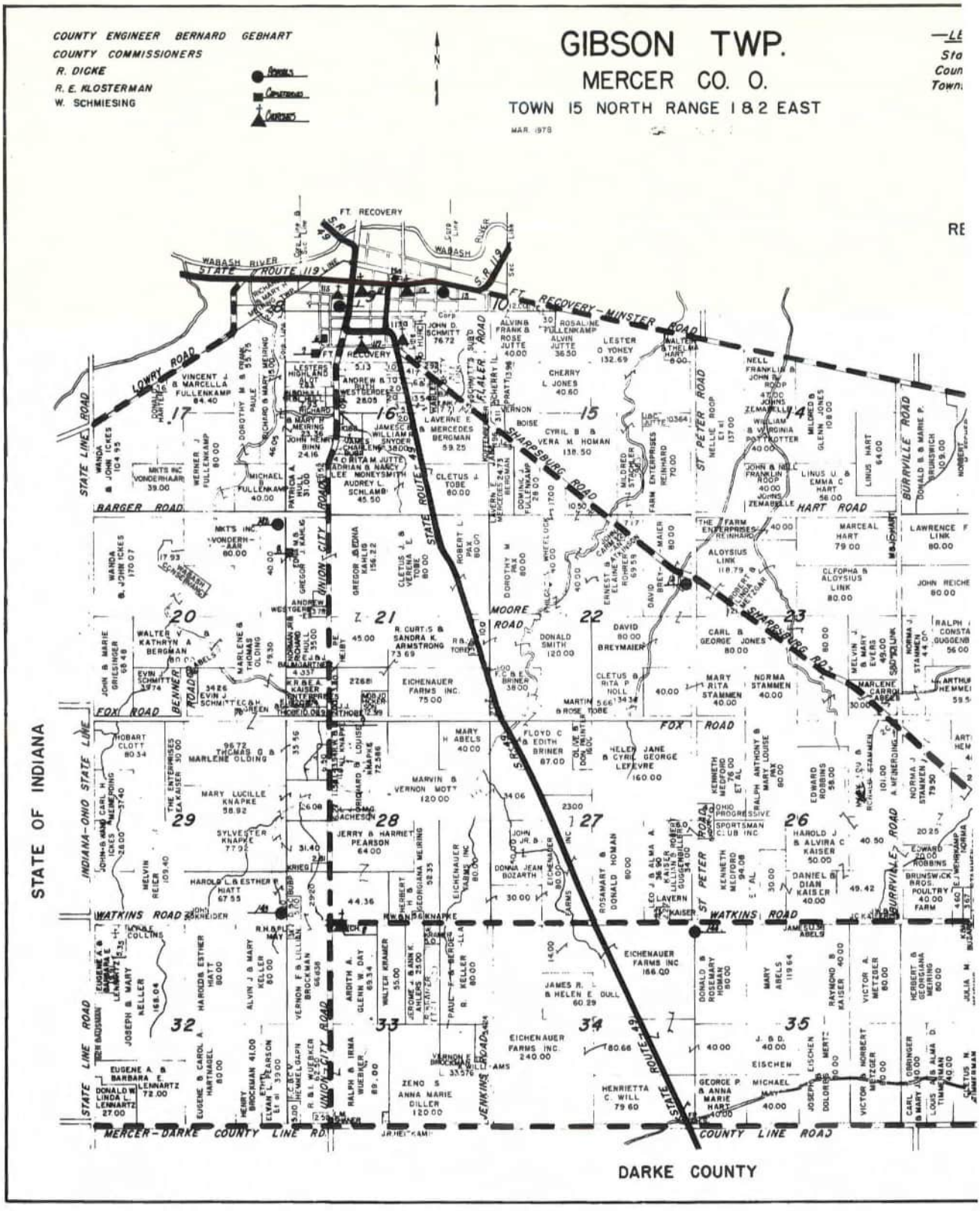

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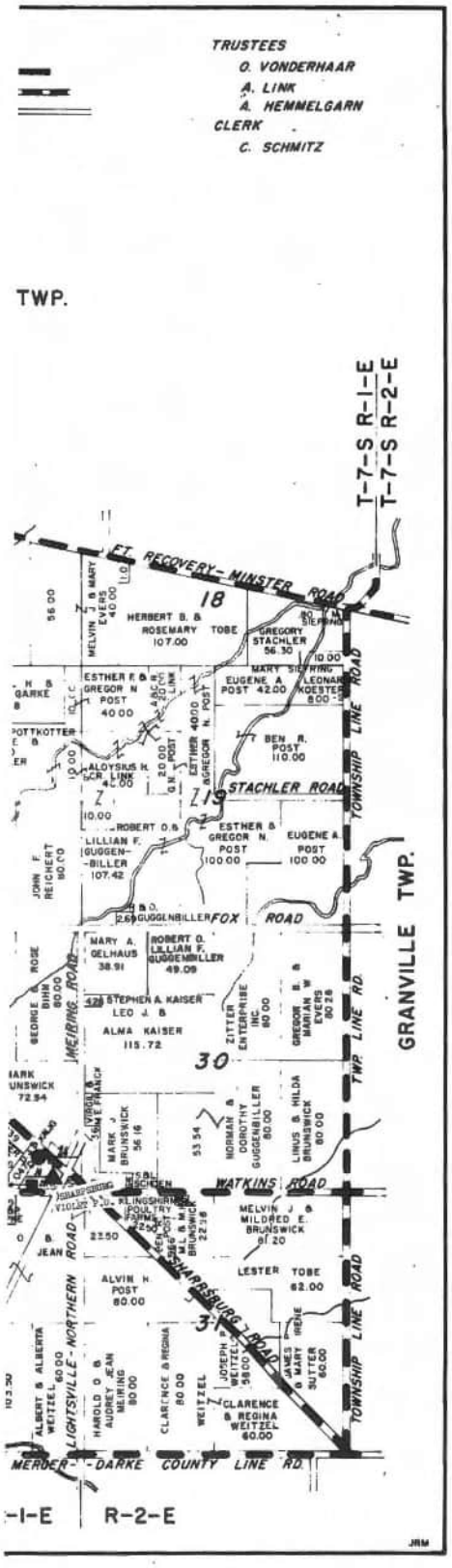

GIBSON TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

GIBSON TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
8.	Bethel (Evangelical)	33	Union City Rd. & Watkins Rd.
14.	St. Paul's Catholic	25	Sharpsburg
111.	Cong. Christian	16	Village of Fort Recovery Winters Addition, lot #4
112.	United Church of Christ (Cong. Christian)	9	Village of Fort Recovery McDaniel's Addition, lot #2
113.	Mary Help of Christians Catholic (old building)	16	Village of Fort Recovery M.P.B.S. Addition, lot #3
113a.	Mary help of Christians Catholic (1978)	16	Village of Fort Recovery Sharpsburg Road, at S.R. 49
117.	Disciple Church (1900 Atlas) First Church of Christ, 1978	16	Union City Road and Wiggs St.

GIBSON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

1.	Southwest Local	16	Village of Fort Recovery
13.	Southwest Local	9	Village of Fort Recovery
14.	School No. 4 (Fox School) (College Corner)	22	Sharpsburg & St. Peter
26.	Sharpsburg	25	Sharpsburg
27.	Koesters (School No. 6)	13	Wourms & Ft. Recovery-Minster Rds.
142.	School No. 2	20	Barger Road.
143.	College Hill (School No. 3)	29	Watkins Road
144,	Goulder (School No. 7)	34	Watkins Road
13 a.	old school (1888 Atlas)	9	Village of Fort Recovery Butler Street, Boundary Street Site of Monument Park, 1978

GIBSON TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

6.	Old Pioneer	16	Village of Fort Recovery (USGS)
7.	Mary Help of Christians Church	16	Village of Fort Recovery
8.	Clark (moved to Pisgah, 1930's)	20	Union City road, (1888 Atlas)
9.	Pisgah	28	Union City Fox Roads (1888 Atlas)
93.	St. Paul's Catholic	25	Watkins Road (1888 Atlas)

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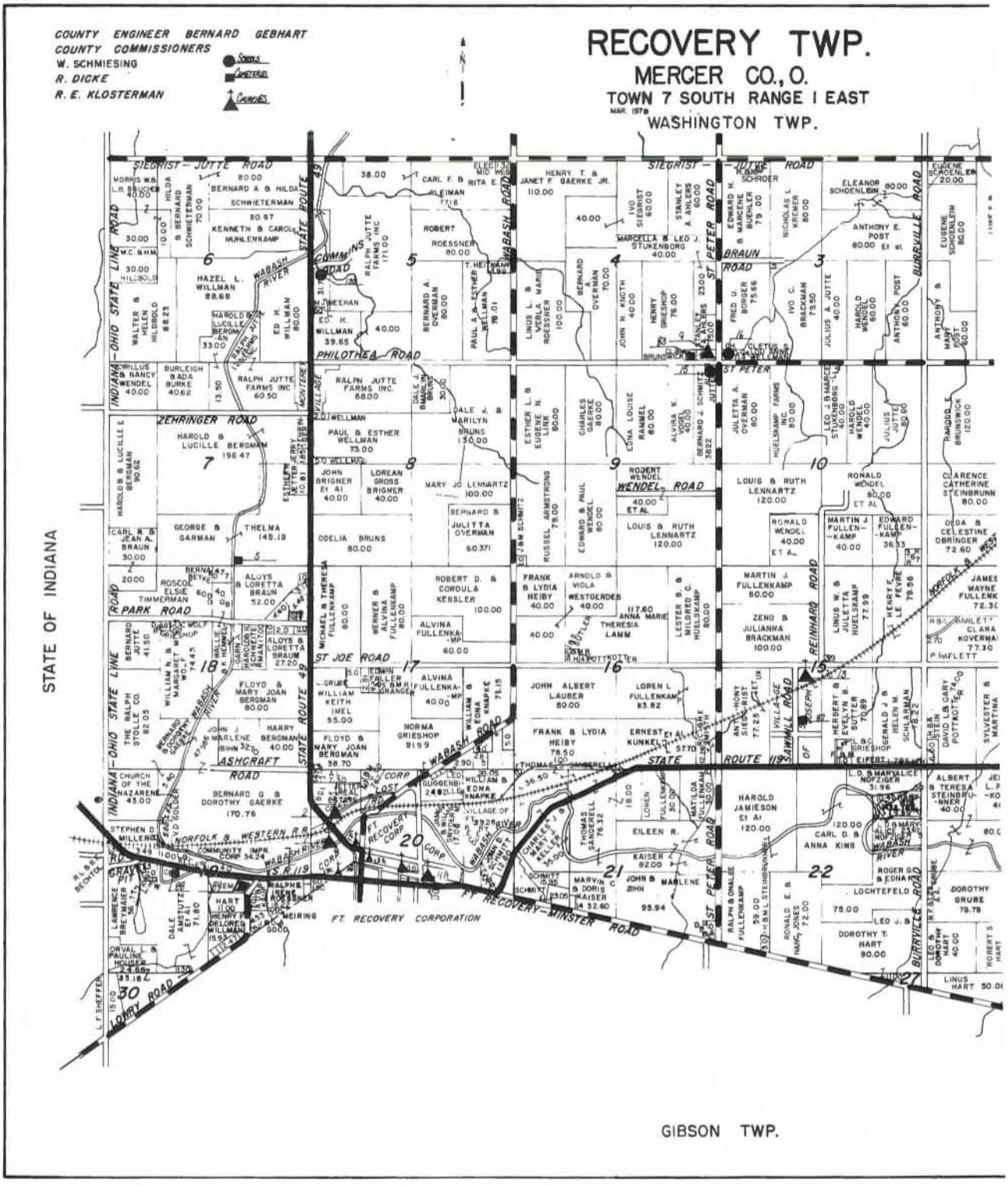

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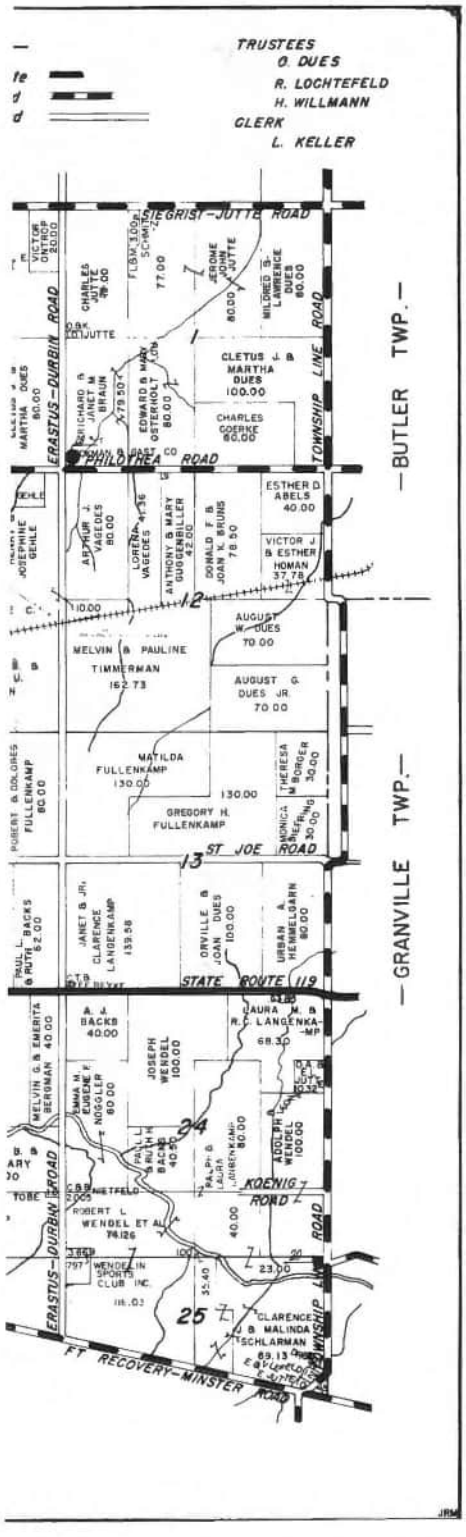

RECOVERY TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

RECOVERY TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
1.	—	20	S.R. 119
2.	—	20	Wabash Rd.
9.	St. Peter's Catholic	4	St. Peter and Philothea Roads
13.	St. Joseph Catholic	15	St. Joe Road and Sawmill Road
9 A.	Nazarene	20	Boundary and Butler Streets Village of Recovery
9. B.	Methodist	20	Boundary St., Village of Recovery
13 A.	Lutheran Church (old site, 1886 Atlas)	20	Village of Recovery Original Plat, lot # 19, Broadway St.
13 B.	Lutheran Church, 1978	20	Village of Recovery lot # 2, St. Rt. 49 & Wayne St.
13 C.	West Butler Church of Christ	20	Village of Recovery West Butler Street

RECOVERY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

1 a.	Heinz (School No. 5)	17	S.R. 49 & St. Joe Road
15.	School No. 2	9	St. Peter
16.	St. Peter	3	St. Peter and Philothea Rds.
28.	School No. 3	1	Erastus-Durbin & Philothea Rds.
135.	School No. 1	5	S.R. 49 and Cummins

RECOVERY TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

5.	Anderson (Armentrout)	7	S.R. 49 (USGS)
20.	St. Wendelin	25	Township Line Rd. (plowed under no record)
83.	St. Peter	4	Philothea Road
87.	St. Joe	15	Sawmill Road (1886 Atlas)
88.	Spring Hill	19	S.R. 119
89.	Green Mound	19	S.R. 119 (USGS)

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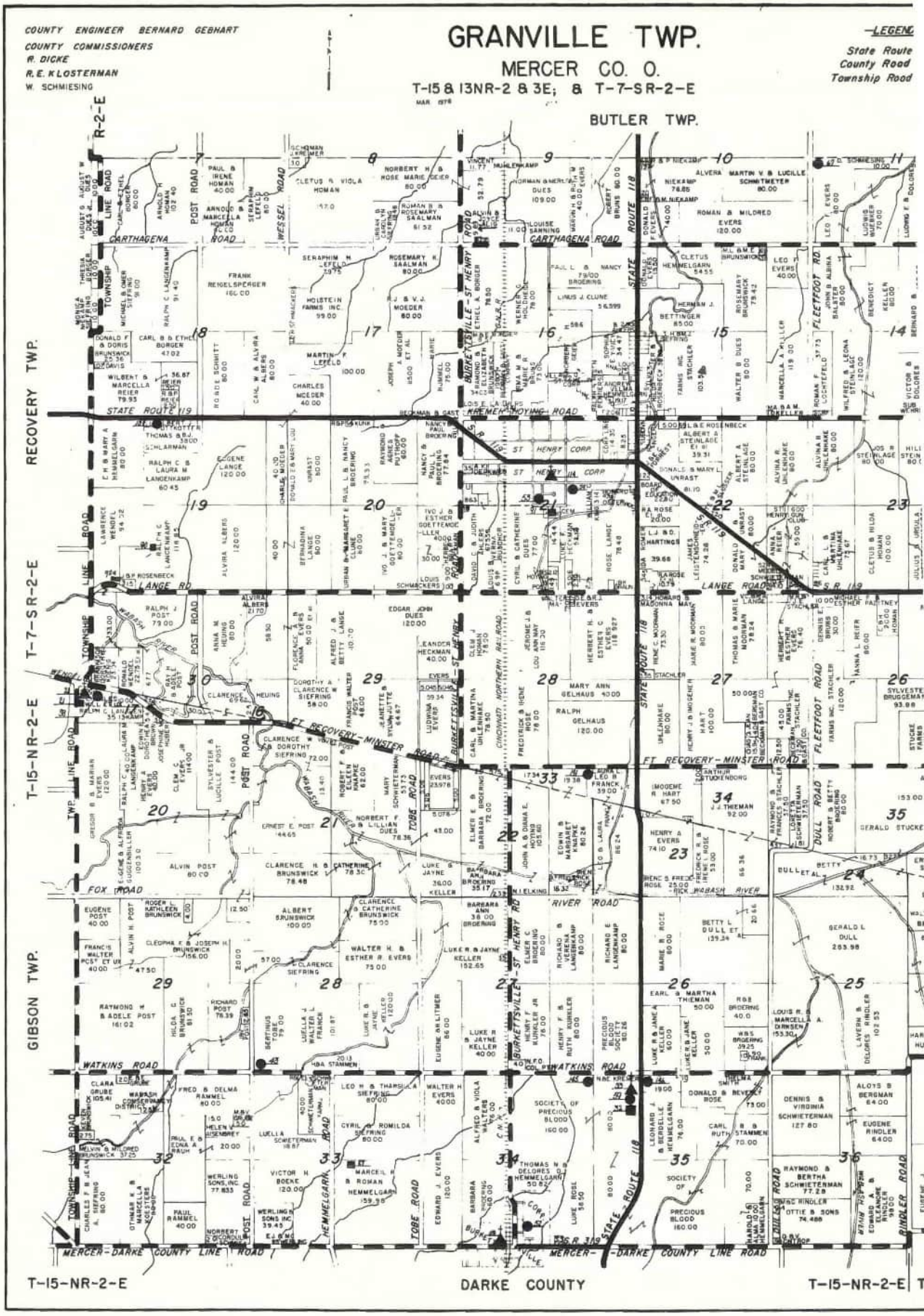

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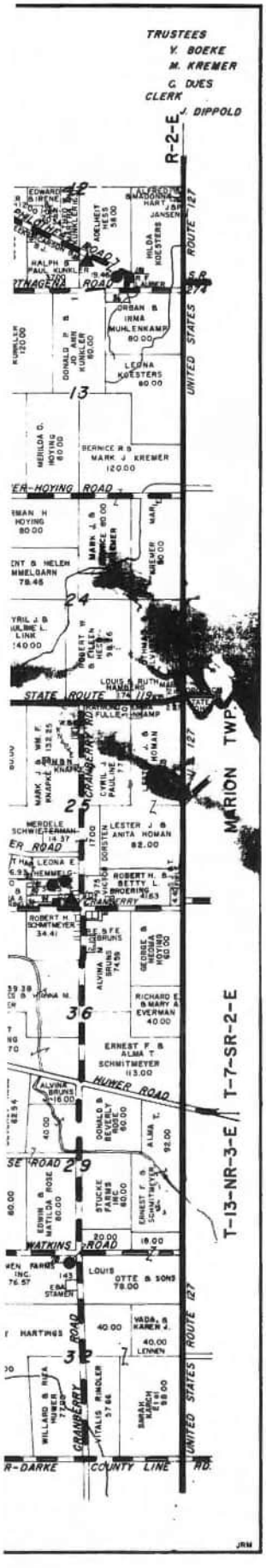

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
33.	Novitiate. Soc. of Precious Blood	35	S.R. 118
39.	St. Francis (Catholic)	25	Cranberry
40.	Baptist (Negro)	12	Philothea Road
114.	St. Henry (Catholic)	21	Village of St. Henry
118.	St. Bernard (Catholic)	34	Burkettsville, Mercer-Darke County Line Road
21.	St. Wendelin (Catholic)		Fort Recovery-Minster Road (Township Line)

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

38.	—	17	Ft. Recovery-Minster
43.	School No. 8	28	Post & Watkins Roads
52.	Burkettsville	34	Village of Burkettsville
53.	St. Henry Grade	21	Village of St. Henry
54.	St. Henry High	21	Village of St. Henry
59.	—	35	S.R. 118
67.	Franzer & Uppenkamp	11	Fleetfoot
70.	School No. 7	32	Watkins & Cranberry
71.	—	25	Cranberry
72.	Colored (School No. 1)	13	Carthagena & Coldwater Creek
138.	School No. 1	12	Carthagena
139.	School No. 3 (Home School)	19	S.R. 119
140.	School No. 6	25	Reier
141.	School No. 5	33	Ft. Recovery-Minister
145.	School No. 8	34	Watkins
146.	—	35	Watkins

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

21.	St. Wendelin	17	Township Line (1888 & 1900 Atlas)
27.	Gilbert	33	Hemmelgarn Rd. (1888 Atlas)
32.	St. Marys	34	S.R. 118
94.	Old Cemetery	25	Coldwater Creek Rd. and Fort Recovery-Minster Rd. (1888 Atlas)
8[illegible].	(Colored?) Moved.	2	Carthagena (1888 Atlas)
90.	—	19	Lange Road (1888 Atlas)
91.	St. Henry (Catholic)	21	Village of St. Henry (1888 Atlas)
34.	Bill Simison Grave (no stone)	5	Ft. Recovery-Minster Road and Reier Roads (1888 Atlas)
90 a.	—	19	Lange Road

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COUNTY ENGINEER BERNARD GEBHART

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

R. DICKE[illegible]

R. E. KLOSTERMAN

W. SCHMIESING

Schools

Cemeteries

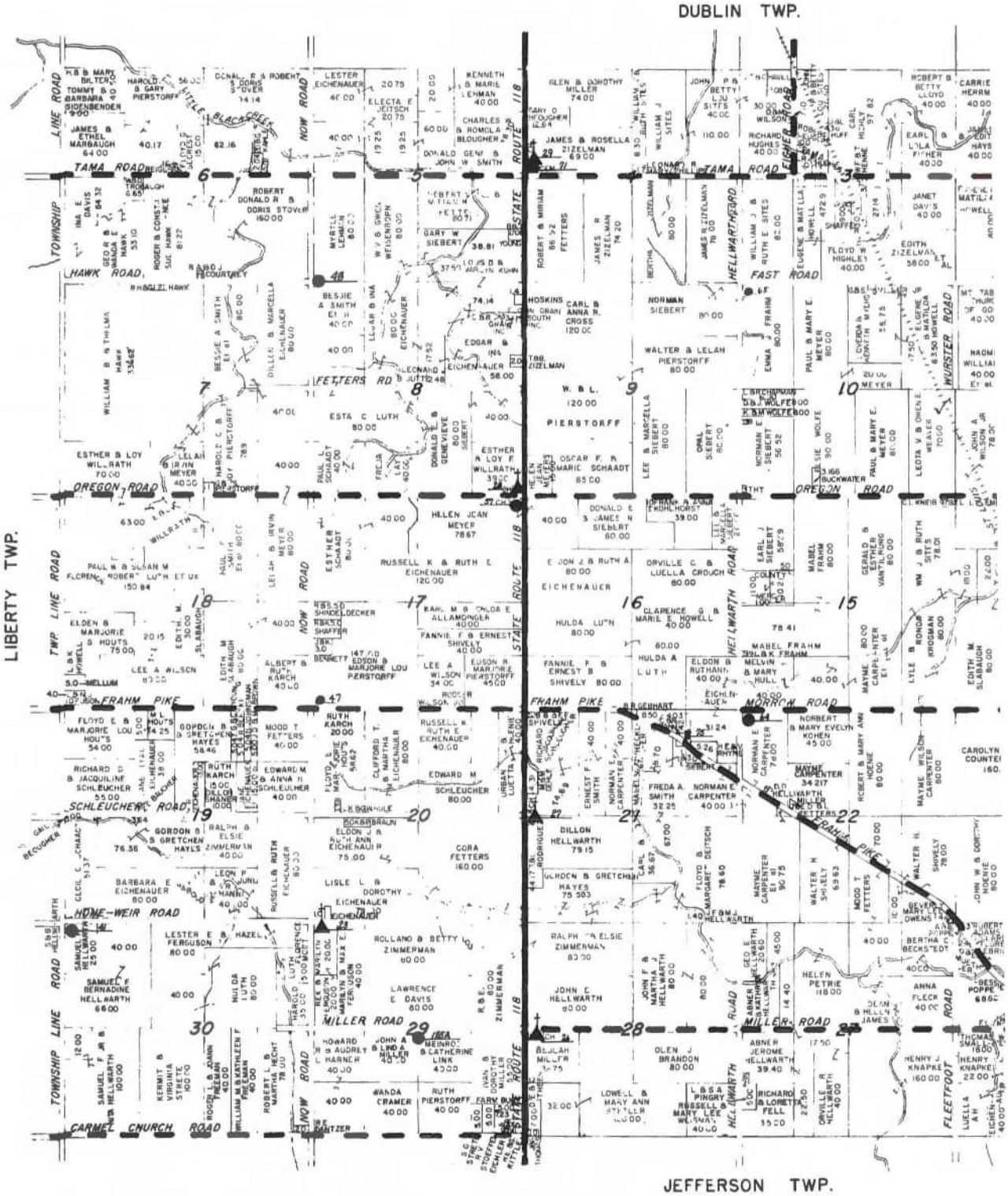
Churches

HOPEWELL TWP.

MERCER CO. O.

TOWN 5 SOUTH RANGE 2 EAST

MAR. 1978



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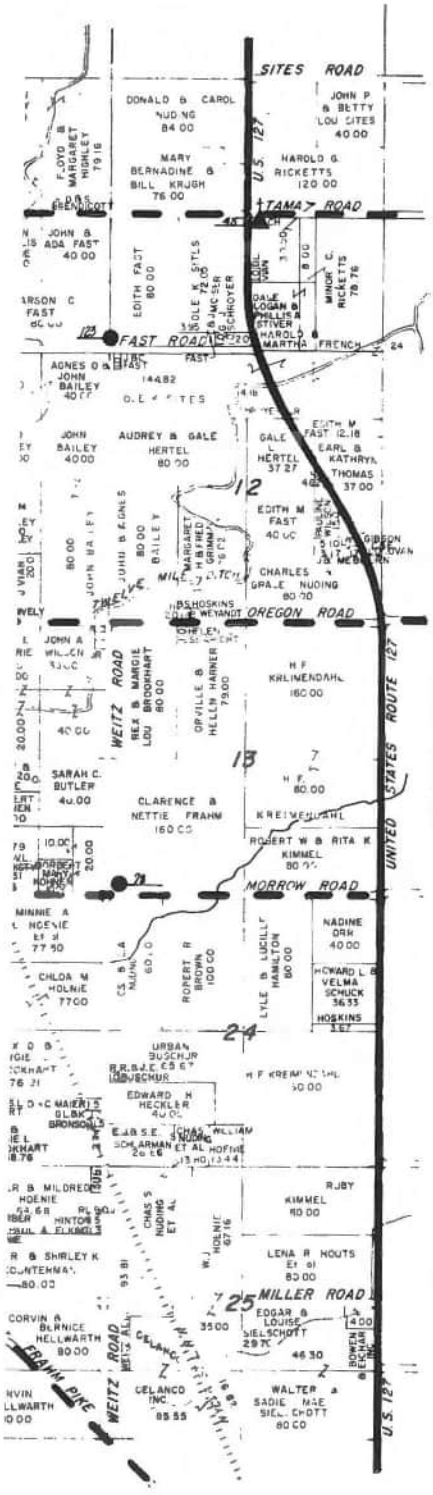

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HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
23.	Church of God	29	Now Rd. & Hone-Weir Rd.
26.	Pleasant View Church of God	28	S.R. 118 & Miller Rd.
27.	Hope E.U.B. (Evangelical) (Landfair United Methodist)	21	S.R. 118 & Schleucher
28.	St. Johns Lutheran (German Lutheran)	8	S.R. 118 & Oregon Rd.
29.	Friends Chapel	4	S.R. 118 & Tama Rd.
45.	Mt. Tabor Church of God	1	U.S. 127 & Tama Rd.
91.	(United Brethren)	11	Oregon Rd., Hoenie Rd.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

41.	Joint School No. 1	30	Hone-Weir & Township Line (1900 Atlas)
47.	Pierstorff (School No. 8)	17	Frahm Pike & Now Rd.
48.	Stedcke (School No. 4)	5	Now Rd.
57.	German Lutheran School	16	Oregon & S.R. 118
64.	Hare (School No. 3)	22	Morrow & Hellwarth Rd.
65.	Siebert (School No. 6)	10	Fast & Hellwarth Rds.
77.	Five Point (School No. 2)	26	Miller & Hoenie & Frahm
78.	Clutter (School No. 5)	13	Weitz & Morrow Rd.
123.	Copp (School No. 1) (Fast)	2	Fast Rd.
125a.	Miller (School No. 7)	29	Miller Rd. (1888 Atlas)

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

71.	Friends	4	Tama Rd. & S.R. 118
73.	Union	11	Oregon & Hoenie Rd. (1888 Atlas)
75.	Old Buck, South New Buck, North	21	Frahm Pike (1888 Athens)

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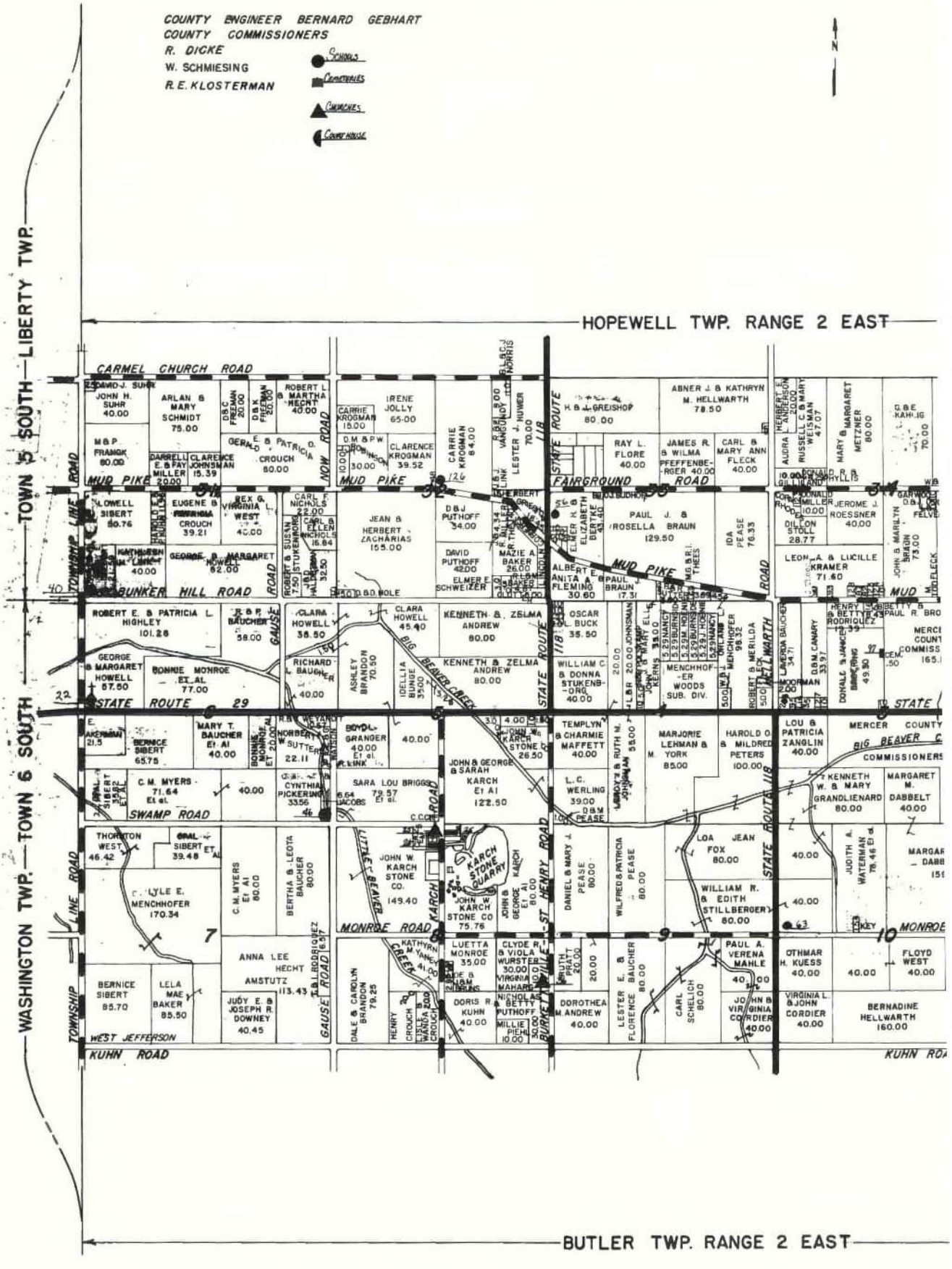

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JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
22.	Friends Home	6	Township Line Rd. & S.R. 29
25.	Beaver Chapel Swamp College (Christian)	8	Karch & Swamp Roads
36.	Walnut Chapel United Brethren in Christ	9	S.R. 118
41.	Grace Missionary	1	City of Celina, 515 S. Jay, (South of Market St.)
42a.	Friends Church	1	City of Celina
42.	First Church of God	1	City of Celina, 540 W. Livingston
43a.	Jehovah Witness	1	City of Celina
43.	Immaculate Conception Catholic	1	City of Celina, 229 West Anthony & Walnut Streets, (First Extension, Lot #319)
44.	Nazarene	36	City of Celina, 529 N. Walnut
48.	St. Paul's Methodist	6	City of Celina, 119 E. Fulton
49.	Baptist	6	City of Celina
50.	First Presbyterian	31	City of Celina, 700 N. Main
51.	St. John Lutheran	31	City of Celina, N. Main
55.	Church of Christ	5	City of Celina, 2035 Livingston
67.	West Oldtown (United Brethren)	34	Oldtown Rd. & Riley Rd.
71.	East Oldtown (United Brethren	35	Four-Turkey Rd. & Oldtown Rd. (1900 Atlas)
92.	Evangelical United Brethren	6	City of Celina
93.	Christian Science First Church of Christ Scientists	6	City of Celina, 516 E. Wayne
94.	Assembly of God	6	City of Celina, Vine St.
51a.	New School Presbyterian (Methodist) (Baptist)	6	City of Celina, Original Plat, Lot #149 (See also, lot #749, SE Corner, Fayette & Ash St.)
50a.	Lutheran	6	City of Celina, First Extension, NW corner Fayette & Cherry Sts.
44a.	First Presbyterian	36	City of Celina, lot 305, First Extension, SE corner Walnut & Fulton Sts.
41a.	Sisters of C.PP.S.	1	City of Celina, Schunck's SDV of 1 and 2, lot #76 (lot #16)
49a.	Lutheran (1888 Atlas) Christian		City of Celina, First Extension, lot #248, Anthony St., west of Ash St.
48a.	Methodist Episcopal	6	City of Celina, First Extension, lot #265, Fulton St., East of Main

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

40.	———	31	Bunker Hill & Township Line
46.	School No. 8	6	Swamp & Gause Roads
56.	Buck	33	Mud Pike & S.R. 118
63.	Brack, School No. 9	10	Monroe & S.R. 118
68.	School No. 5	3	Fleetfoot & Mud Pike
75.	School No. 7	12	Meyers
76.	McDaniels	11	Monroe & Meyers
79.	Immaculate Conception	1	City of Celina, First Extension, lot #320, 321, Walnut & Wayne Sts.
80	Celina Junior High	6	City of Celina
81.	East Elementary	31	City of Celina
82.	Celina High	31	City of Celina
83.	Mosier (School No. 3)	31	Meyers & S.R. 197
96.	School No. 2	4	Dibble & S.R. 29
110.	School No. 1	2	Four Turkey & S.R. 29 and S.R. 703
126.	School No. 6	32	Mud Pike
127.	West Elementary	1	S.R. 29
79a.	High School, West School (First Bldg. built 1859, addition 1859 and 1874; 1906 condemned. Second Bldg. 1907)	1	City of Celina, First Extension, lot 325 & 376, Fulton & Walnut Sts.
80a.	High School, East School, built 1894	4	Nungester's SDV. Wayne St., east of Buckeye St.
81a.	School, Sub-District #4, 1859, (old Presbyterian Church building)	6	City of Celina, Original Plat Lot #149, (lot #749) SE corner of Fayette & Ash Sts.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

25.	Swamp College (old)	8	Karch & Swamp Rd. (1886 Atlas)
26.	Swamp College (new)	8	Karch & Swamp Rd.
38.	North Grove	36	U.S. 127, USGS
39.	Celina, Catholic, I.C.	36	Summit St. (1888 Atlas)
49.	Oldtown	4	S.R. 703, between Staeger and Dibble Rds. (1888 Atlas and USGS)
76.	Petrie	3	Sycamore St., (1888 Atlas and USGS)
97.	Mead	3	¼ mile S.N. ¼ post
98.	Mercer Memory Gardens	2	Mud Pike (East of Flatfoot Rd.)

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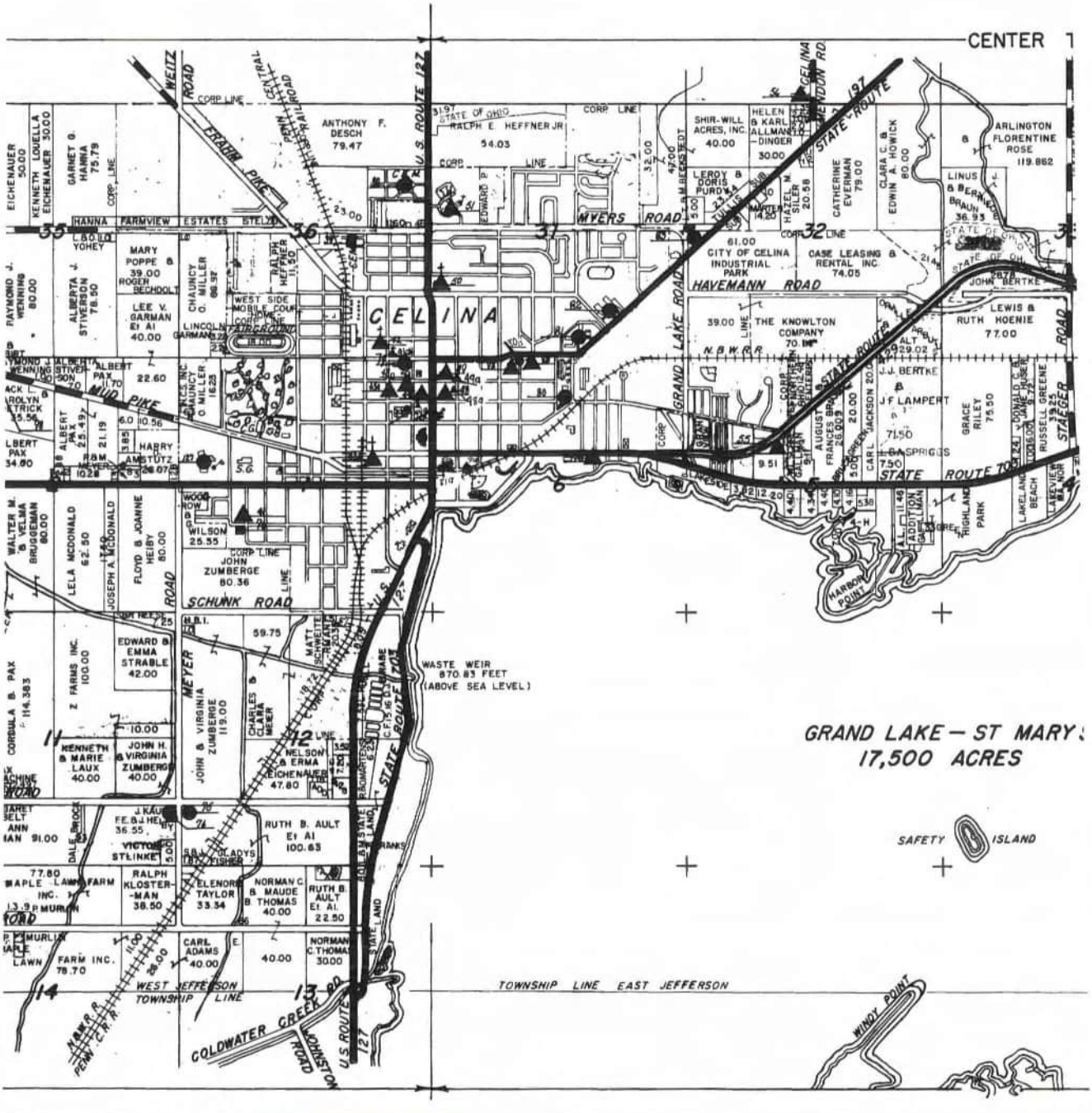
JEFFERSON TWP.

MERCER CO. O.

TOWN 5 & 6 SOUTH RANGE 2 & 3 EAST

MAR 1978



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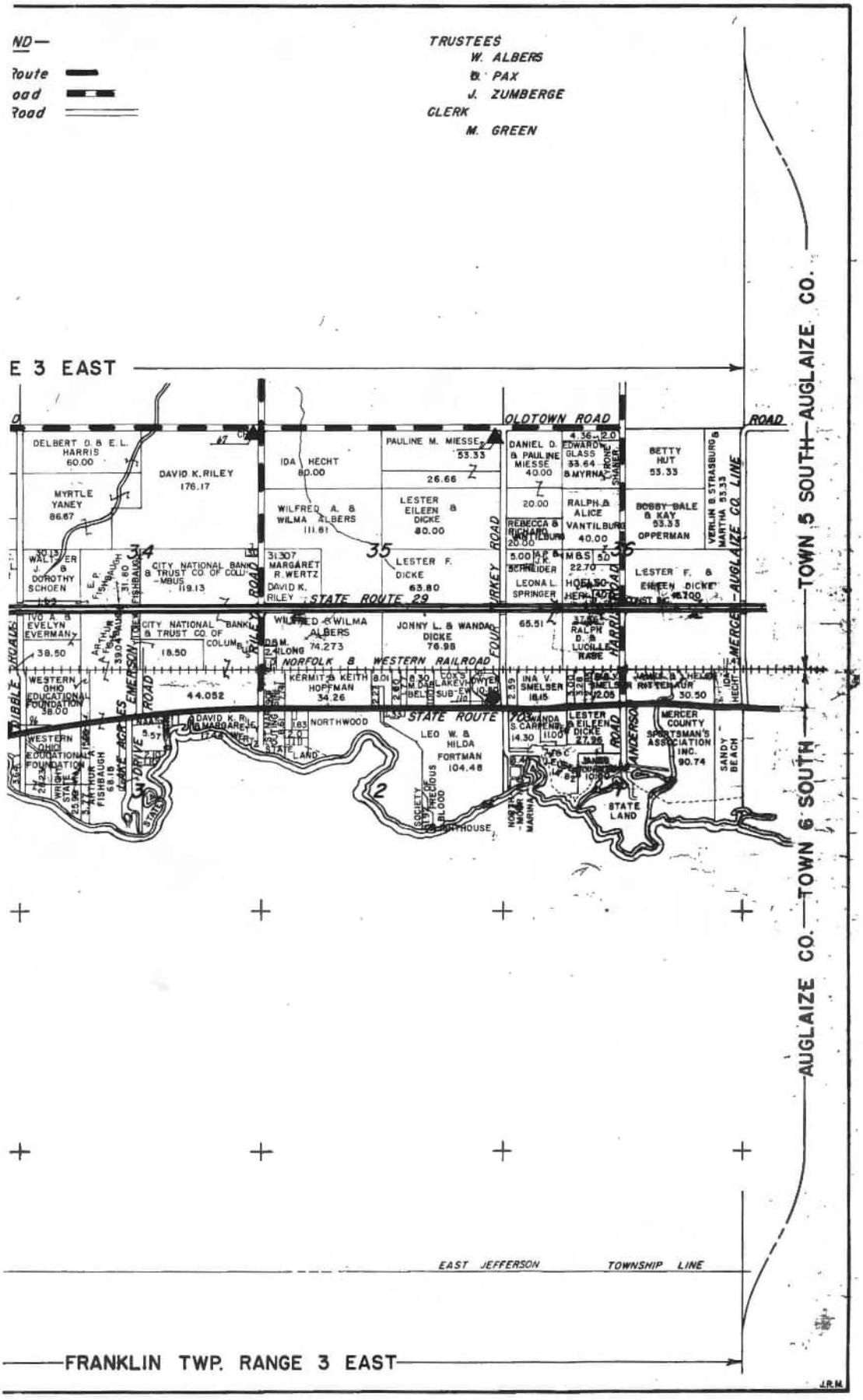

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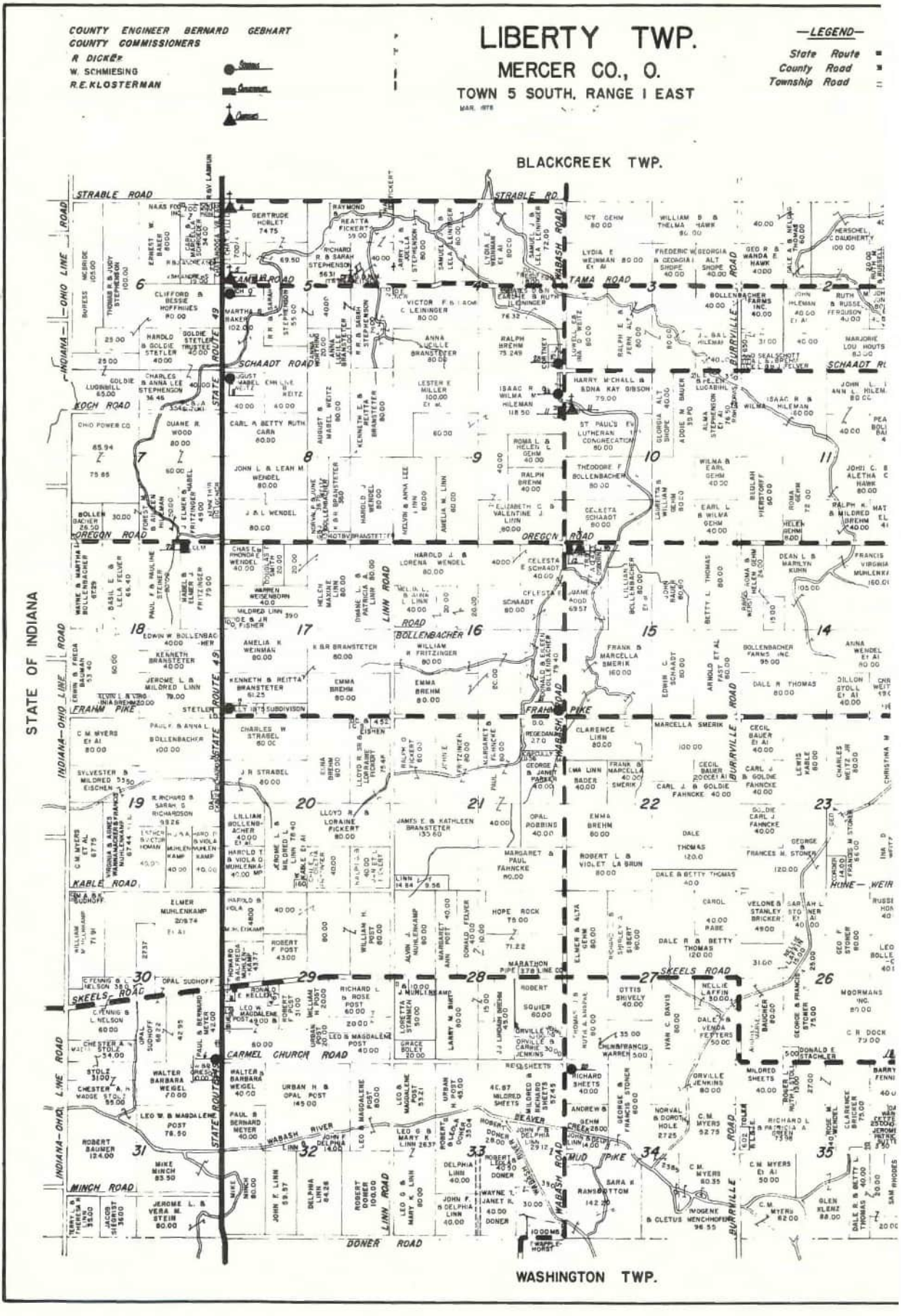

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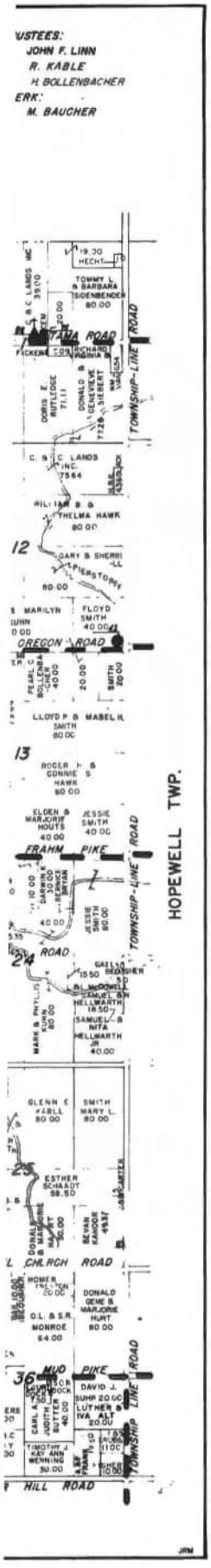

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
5.	Chattanooga Zion Lutheran	5	S.R. 49
6.	Chattanooga Emanuel Methodist	5	S.R. 49
11.	St. Paul's (Lutheran)	10	Wabash Rd.
18.	Mt. Carmel (Church of God)	26	Erastus-Durbin Rd. Carmel Church Roads
19.	First Old Landfair (Liberty Center Chapel)	14	Erastus-Durbin Rd. & Frahm Pike
87.	St. Paul (Evangelical) (closed) (now, Chatt Grange)	5	Tama Rd.
88.	Liberty (Friends) Chapel	1	Tama Rd.
90.	St. Paul's Evangelical (German?)	15	Oregon Rd. & Wabash Rds.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

6.	School No. 9 (Skeels)	30	S.R. 49 & Carmel Church Rd.
7.	Forest Hill (School No. 4) Weisenborn	17	S.R. 49 & Frahm Pike
8.	School No. 3, Chatt	8	S.R. 49 & Schaadt
9.	Chatt Lutheran (German Lutheran)	5	S.R. & Tama Rd.
20.	Scudder (School No. 8)	34	Wabash & Carmel Church Rd.
21.	Center (School No. 5)	16	Wabash & Frahm Pike
22.	Lutheran (Deitsch)	9	Wabash
23.	Deitsch (School No. 2)	4	Wabash & Schaadt
32.	School No. 7 (Carmel)	36	Carmel Church Rd & Erastus-Durbin Roads
33.	Landfair (School No. 6)	13	Frahm Pike, Erastus-Durbin Rd.
34.	School No. 1 (Lincoln) (Hinton)	1	Erastus-Durbin Rd.
42.	Joint School No. 10 (owned by Liberty and Hopewell Twps.)	12	Oregon & Township Line

#9 and #22 were not regular schools; they were just used for Bible Study.)

LIBERTY CEMETERIES

3.	Skeels	29	S.R. 49 & Skeels (1888 Atlas)
11.	St. Paul Lutheran	9	Wabash (1888 Atlas)
12.	St. Paul U.C.C.	15	Wabash & Oregon Rd. USGS
19.	Landfair	14	Erastus-Durbin Rd. & Frahm Pike (USGS)
69.	Zion Lutheran Mausoleum	5	Tama (1888 Atlas)
70.	Friends'(Liberty Chapel)	11	Tama (1888 Atlas)
72.	Kessler	18	Oregon Rd. (1888 Atlas)

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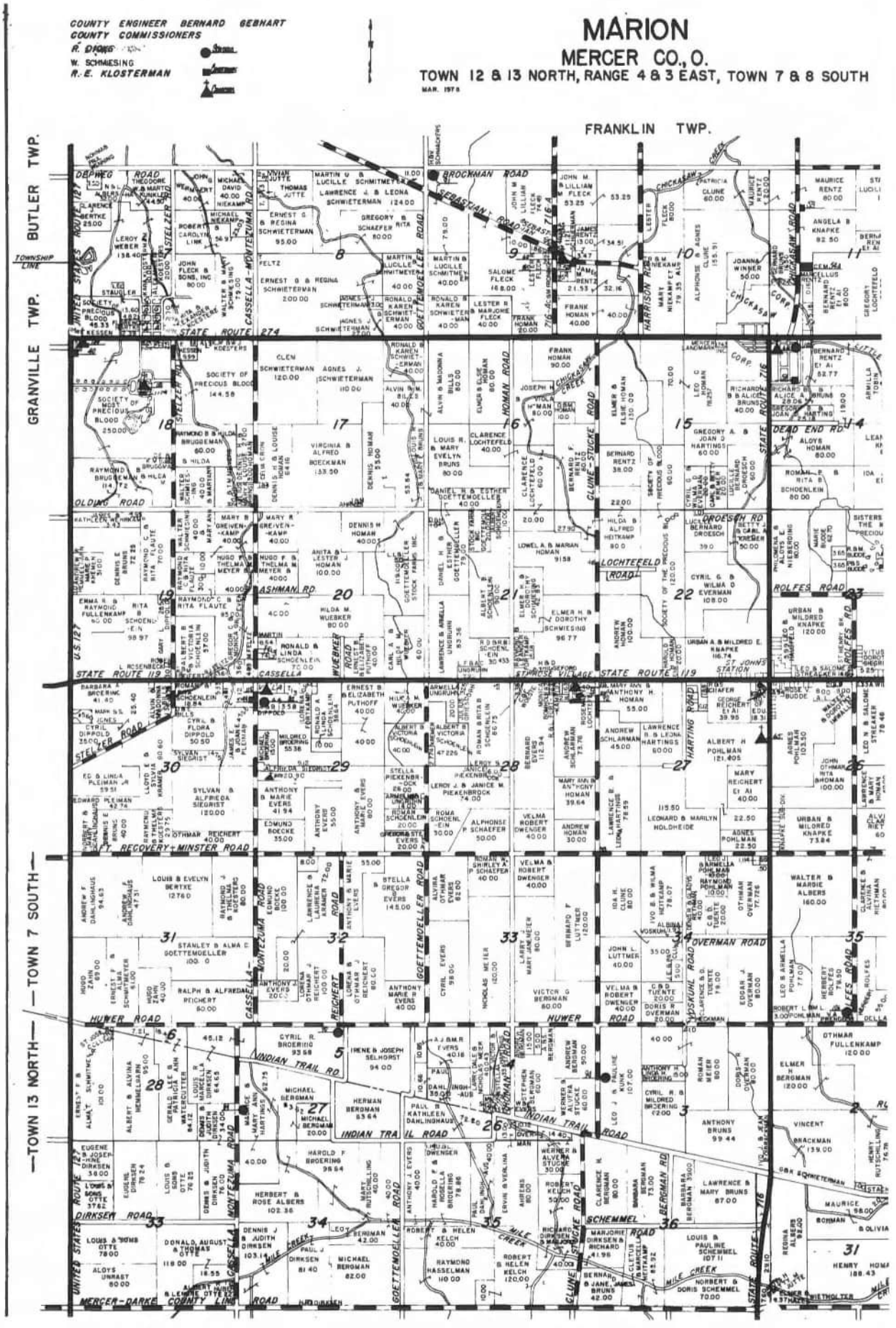

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MARION TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

MARION TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
60.	St. Sebastian	9	Sebastian
65.	—	27	S.R. 716
66.	Precious Blood	14	S.R. 716
70.	St. John Baptist	24	St. John
109.	St. Aloysius Catholic	18	S.R. 274
110.	St. Charles Seminary	18	S.R. 127
115.	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	29	S.R. 119
116.	St. Rose	28	S.R. 119
119.	Shrine of the Holy Relics	23	St. John Rd.
109b.	M.E. Church	7	Carthagena, lot #56 (1888 Atlas)
109c.	Wesleyan Church	7	Carthagena, lot #10, (1888 Atlas)
109a.	Baptist Church	7	U.S. 127 and S.R. 274, (1888 Atlas)
115a.	C.PP.S. Convent (torn down, mid 1920's)	29	Cassella-Montezuma Road (1888 Atlas)

MARION TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

84.	Hartings (School No. 6)	27	Cassella-Montezuma Rd.
85.	School No. 2, Cassella	29	Cassella-Montezuma Rd.
90.	—	5	Huwer and Reichert Rds.
91.	School No. 7 (Sebastian)	9	Goettemoeller and Brockman Rds.
94.	School No. 8 (Dwenger)	3	Clune-Stucke
102a.	Marion Local Schools	27	S.R. 716
103.	School No. 1 (two buildings)	14	Village of Chickasaw (lots #40 and 41)
106.	—	35	Huwer & Rolfes Rds.
107.	Puthoff (School No. 5)	35	Huwer & St. John's Rds.
108.	St. Johns School	25	S.R. 119
108a.	School	24	St. John's NW corner of Main and Jefferson Streets, (1888 Atlas)
108b.	school	24	St. Johns, West Addition, lots #14 & 15 (1900 Atlas)
116a.	school No. 3, St. Rose School	28	St. Rosa (1888 Atlas)

MARION TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

40.	St. Aloysius, Carthagena	18	U.S. 127 & S.R. 274
53.	Precious Blood	11	Chickasaw (USGS)
54a.	Inniard	11	(gone, no records)
54.	Chickasaw	14	Chickasaw, (1888 Atlas)
58.	St. John, Maria Stein	24	St. John Rd. (1888 Atlas)
85.	St. Sebastian	9	Sebastian, (1900 Atlas)
92.	St. Rose	28	S.R. 119, (1888 Atlas)
110a.	St. Charles Seminary	18	St. Charles Seminary, S.R. 127
40a.	Colored Cemetery	18	U.S. 127 and S.R. 274
119a.	Cemetery, Shrine of Holy Relics, at Maria Stein Center	23	St. Johns Road
44.	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Cassella)	30	Cassella-Montezuma Road

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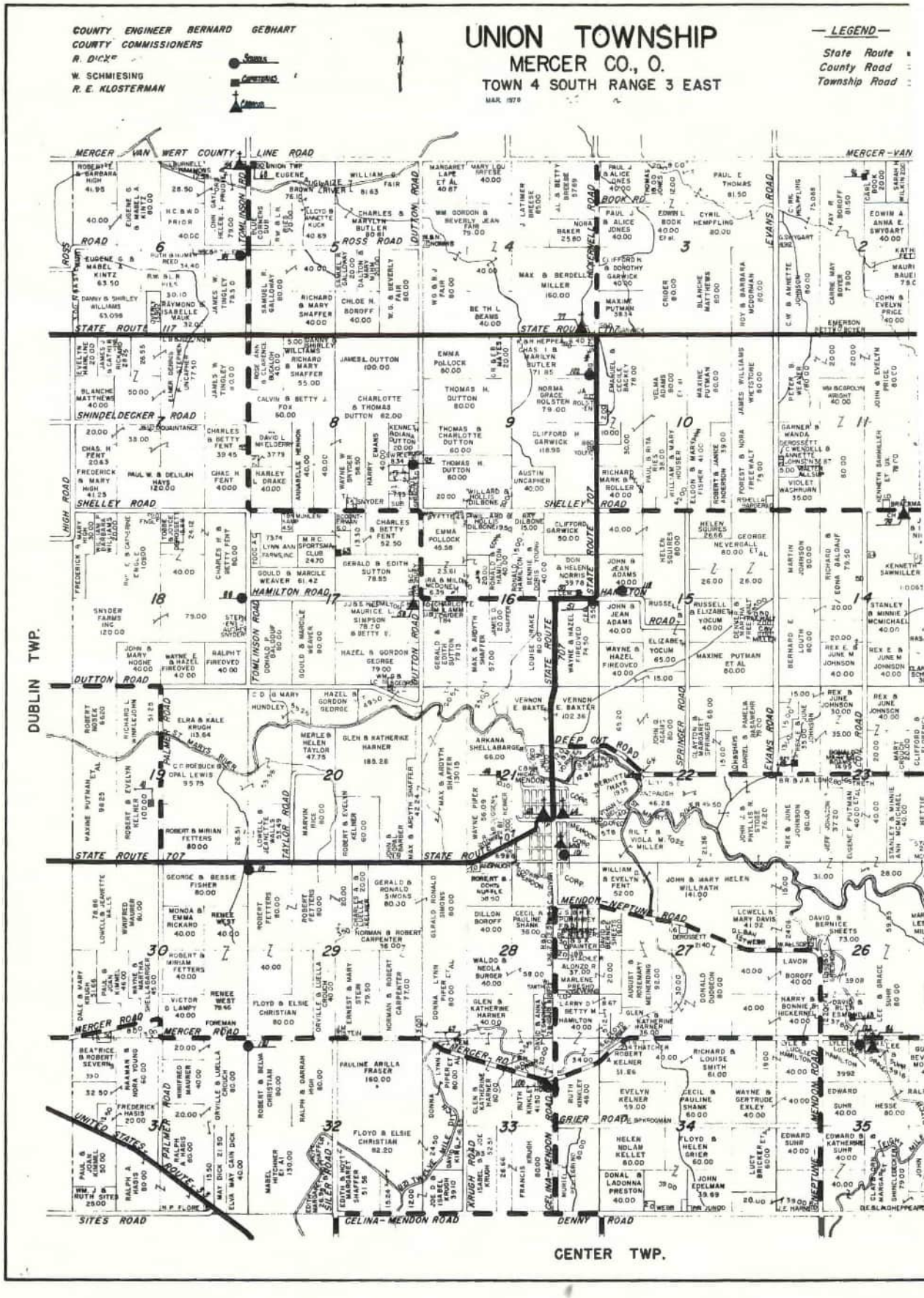

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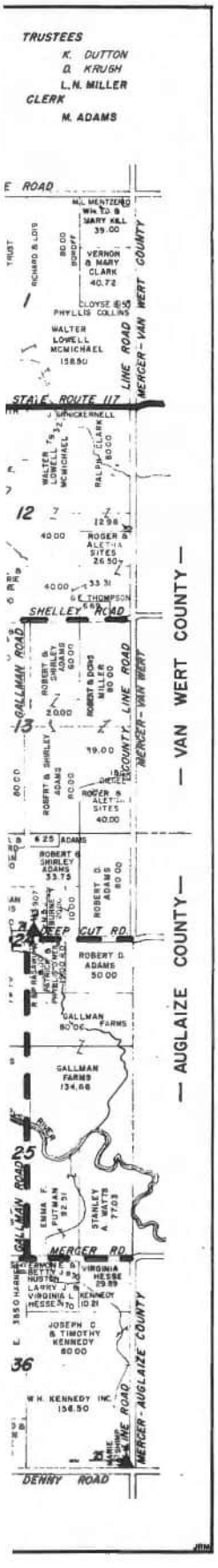
UNION TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP



UNION TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
54.	Wesley (Methodist) (M.E. Church)	6	Mercer-Van Wert Co. Line Rd. & Tomlinson Rd.
58.	Bethel (Church of God)	17	Dutton Rd. & Hamilton Rd.
63.	Church of God	21	S.R. 707, Mendon, lot #24
64.	M.E. Church	21	Village of Mendon, lot #25
72.	Church of God	12	Elgin Rd.
74.	Ross (Church of the Brethren) (old Dunkard Church)	24	Gallman Rd. & Deep Cut Rd.
75.	Charity (Friends Church)	36	Denny Rd. & Mercer-Auglaize Co. Line Rd.
77.	Union Brethren	4	S.R. 117
79.	Pleasant Grove (Baptist)	14	Shelley Rd.
86.	Bethel (M.E. Church)	35	Mercer Rd. (1888 Atlas)
64a.	Advents Church	21	Mendon, Hesser's Add. lot #5, (1888 Atlas) East end of Jefferson Street.

UNION TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

88.	Protsman (School No. 6)	18	Tomlinson Rd.
89.	Blue Corner (School No. 9)	6	Tomlinson & Ross
93.	Victor	8	Dutton
100.	Red (School No. 8)	33	Mercer & Celina-Mendon Rds.
101.	Mendon Public Schools	21	Village of Mendon
102.	Gross (School No. 10)	9	S.R. 707
112.	School No. 4	24	Elgin & Deep Cut
113.	South Union (School No. 11)	14	Elgin
114.	North Union (School No. 7)	1	Elgin
118.	Fryer (School No. 5)	15	Hamilton
119.	School No. 2	29	S.R. 707
121.	School No. 1	32	Mercer
122.	School No. 3	35	Mercer
72a.	School	12	Elgin Road (1900 Atlas)

UNION TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

41.	Palmer	19	Palmer Rd. (USGS)
48.	Coil	21	S.R. 707 (USGS)
50.	Fryer	16	S.R. 707 (USGS)
51.	Mendon	16	S.R. 707 (USGS)
57.	Hussey	24	Deepcut (USGS)
60.	Tomlinson (Wesley)	5	Mercer-Van Wert Co. Line Rd.
63.	(Krugh)	17	Hamilton
64.	Sherer	22	Deepcut Rd. (USGS)
67.	Hamilton	33	Mercer, (USGS), (1888 Atlas)
68.	Hamilton-Bethel	26	Mercer (1888 Atlas)
95.	Hayes	23	Deepcut-Elgin (moved to Mendon)
96.	Goodwin (Rhoads)	2	1500 W. of Evans-2000 So.

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COUNTY ENGINEER BERNARD GEBHART
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
R. DICKE
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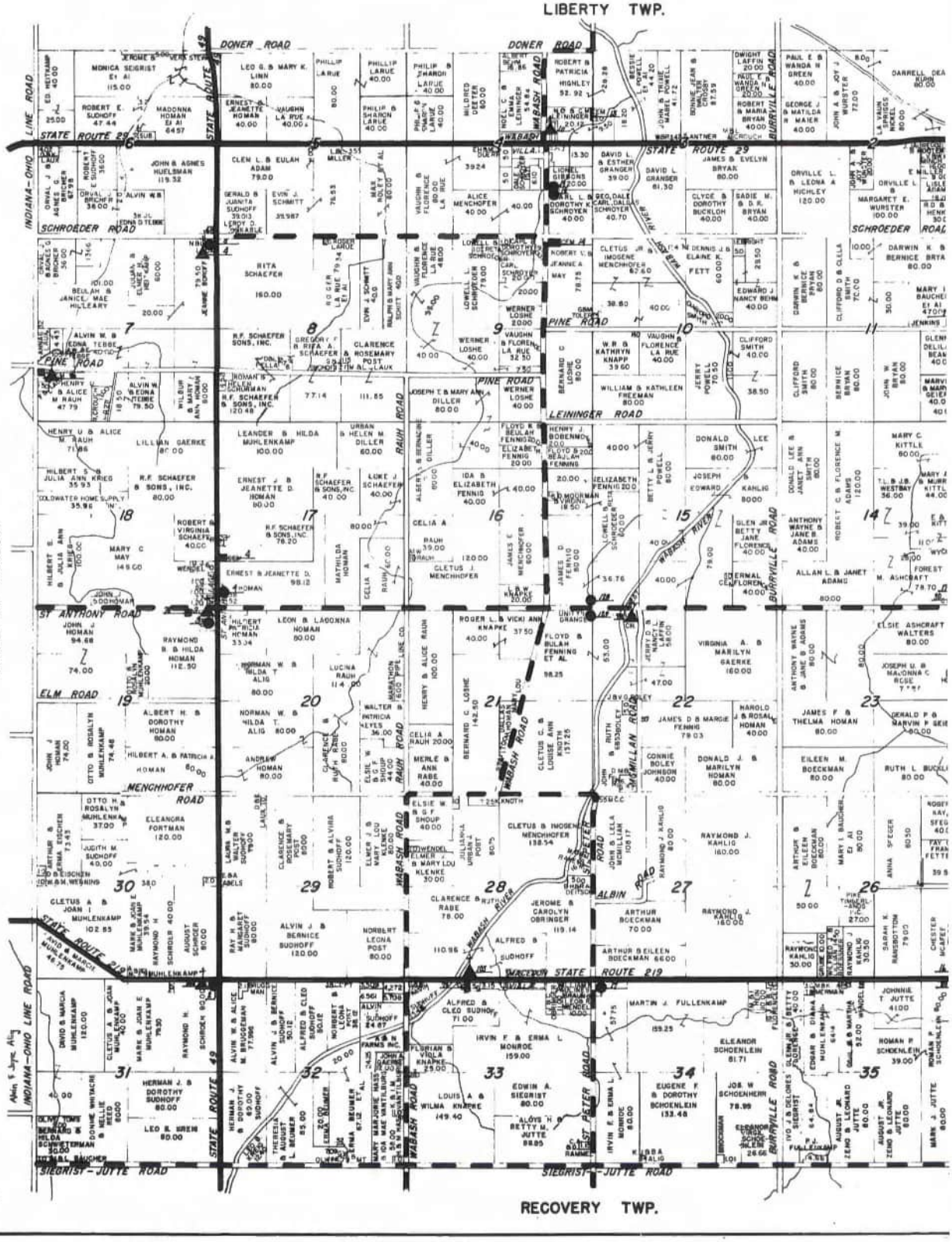
WASHINGTON TWP.

MERCER CO., O.

TOWN 6 SOUTH RANGE 1 EAST

MAR. 1978

—LEGEND—
State Route
County Road
Township Road



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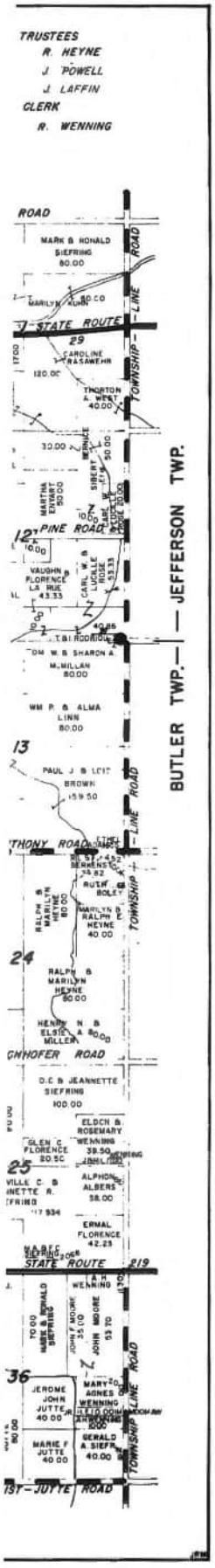

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP PLAT MAP

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CHURCHES

NO.		SECTION NO.	LOCATION
3.	St. Anthony Catholic	19	St. Anthony Rd. & S.R. 49
4.	Methodist Evangelical	7	S.R. 49
10.	—	4	Wabash
15.	Methodist Evangelical	36	Erastus-Durbin Rd. & S.R. 219
16.	—	26	Erastus-Durbin Rd. & S.R. 219
17.	—	14	Erastus-Durbin Rd. & St. Anthony Rd.
95.	—	11	Pine Rd.
96.	—	7	Pine Rd.
98.	St. Paul (Lutheran)	22	St. Anthony Rd.
104.	United Brethren (United Presbyterian ?)	31	S.R. 219
105.	—	28	S.R. 219

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

2.	Loughridge Special	31	S.R. 49 & S.R. 219
3.	St. Anthony	19	S.R. 49
4.	—	17	S.R. 49
5.	School No. 3	7	S.R. 49 & Schroeder
17.	—	34	St. Peter & S.R. 219
18.	—	4	Wabash
19.	—	4	Wabash
29.	—	35	S.R. 219 & Erastus
30.	—	14	Erastus-Durbin & St. Anthony
31.	Prospect	12	Erastus-Durbin
39.	—	12	Township Line
128.	Center	15	St. Anthony
129.	—	22	St. Anthony

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES

1.	State Line	7	Pine Rd. (1888 Atlas)
4.	(old Church, St. Anthony)	17	S.R. 49 (USGS)
13.	Live Oak	4	Wabash (1888 Atlas)
14.	Lutheran	9	Wabash & Schroeder (1888 Atlas)
77.	Pine Rd.	11	Pine Rd. (1888 Atlas) no record
78.	St. Anthony Catholic	19	St. Anthony (1888 Atlas)
79.	Macedon	33	S.R. 219 (1888 Atlas)

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NOTE: This index has been prepared by volunteer members and friends of the Mercer County Historical Society Appreciation is extended to these people. A special thank you goes to Florence Gause and Vera Speicher fo their months and months of work, helping the editor see this project through to the finish.

There may be errors of omission or commission; please make any corrections in your own copy of the book This index was a large project for volunteers; please appreciate their efforts.

Due to the tremendous volume of this index, a portion of it was omitted. A copy of this unpublished portion is available at the Mercer County Historical Museum. This unpublished index contains such subjects as: agriculture, arts, businesses, cemeteries, churches, gasoline, holidays, legal action, lights, log buildings, military history, music, oil wells, organizations, radio, schools, sewage disposal, telephone, televsion, transportation, theatre, and universities.

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Joyce L. Alig, President
Mercer County Historical Society.

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FAMILY RECORD

NAME	BIRTH		DEATH	
	Date	Place	Date	Place

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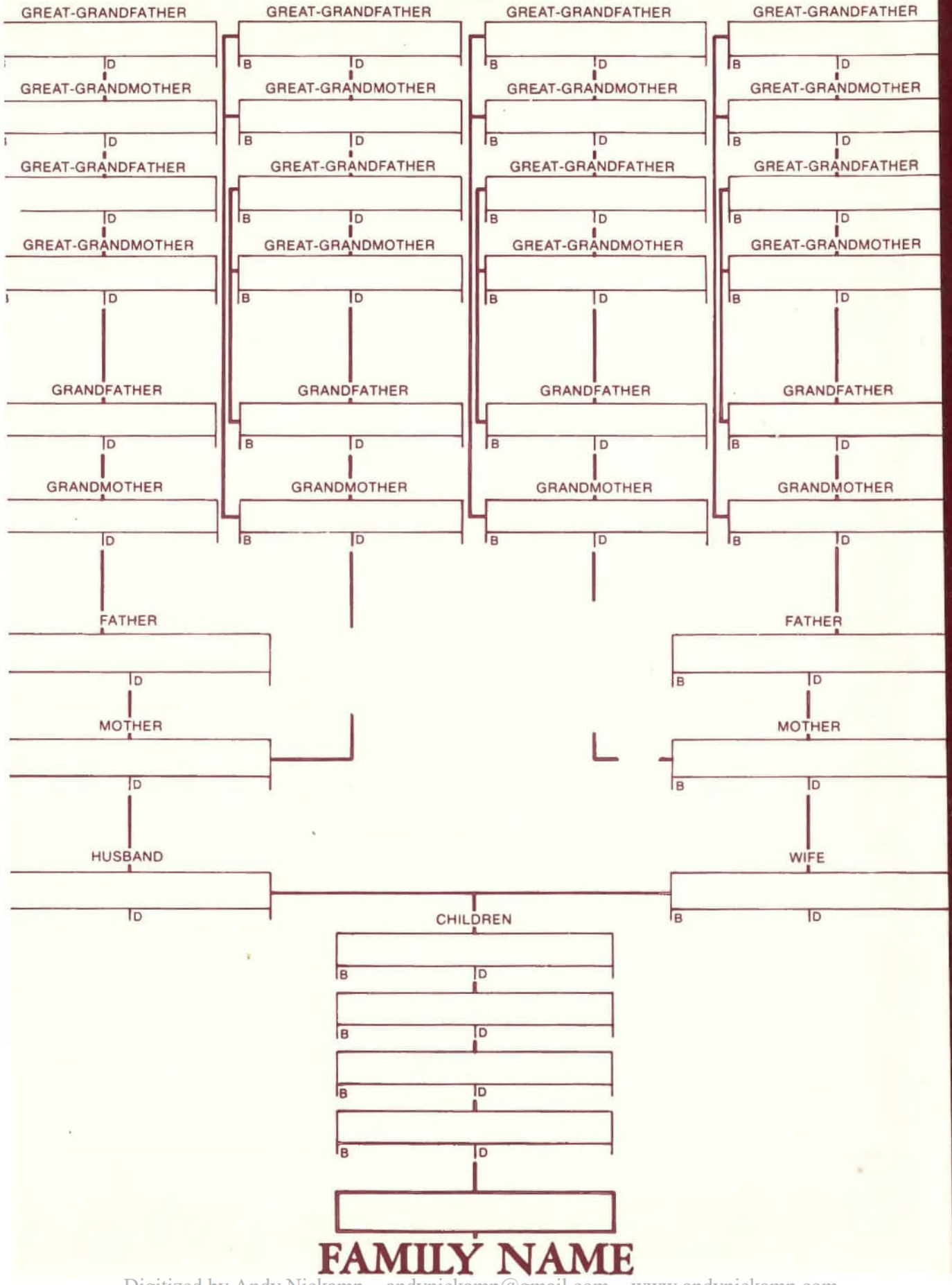
FAMILY TREE



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