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SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. organized in 1973 to gather, process and preserve genealogical material, is a non-profit, educational organization. Its objectives are to promote interest in genealogy, to encourage and assist its members in genealogical research, and to conduct such subsidiary projects as shall contribute to that end. SWLGS was incorporated in 1991. The Society does not maintain an office. Telephone numbers listed in *Kinfolks* are private numbers. All work is done by volunteers.

**MEMBERSHIP** per calendar year is: \$12 – individuals, \$17 – families (husband and wife) and \$22 – patrons (individuals or husband and wife, provides additional financial support). Membership begins in January each year and includes an annual subscription to *Kinfolks*. Members joining after January will receive quarterlies for the current year. Correspondence and dues should be sent to SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652.

**SWLGS** holds its regular meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of January, March, May, September and November at 10:00 A.M. in the Carnegie Meeting Room of the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles, LA. Programs include a variety of topics to instruct and interest genealogists.

KINFOLKS is published quarterly. Issues should be received by the end of March, May, September and December. Notify the SWLGS of a change of address as soon as possible to assure delivery. Queries are free to members, \$2 for non-members. Single issues are \$4.00. Back issues are available from 1977. Kinfolks is indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), Fort Wayne, IN.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** – We encourage and welcome contributions for inclusion in *Kinfolks*, especially unpublished material pertaining to Southwest Louisiana. However, we will accept genealogical material referring to other areas. We strive to publish only reliable genealogical information, but neither the SWLGS nor the editors assume responsibility for accuracy of fact or opinion expressed by contributors. Articles are written by the editor unless otherwise specified. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject material not suitable for publication. Articles and queries will be included as space permits. Please send contributions to SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652. Permission is granted to republish information from *Kinfolks*, provided the SWLGS and the author or compiler (if identified) is given due credit.

**SOCIETY LIBRARY** is in the home of SWLGS Librarian, DOT AKINS, 2601 Elms St., Lake Charles, LA, phone 433-4215, dotakins1@suddenlink.net. Please call for an appointment and to assure selection is available after you consult the Society book list. <u>DO NOT DROP IN!</u> Our collection is in a private home and we request your consideration and cooperation. Please be prompt in returning books. Fines on overdue books are 10 cents per day. Books cannot be mailed.

**SOCIETY ITEMS FOR SALE** – Ancestor Charts, Vol. I (1985) \$21.95 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. II (1988) \$21.95 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. III (1991) \$25.00 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. IV (1994) \$25.00 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. V (1997) \$25.00 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. VI (2000) \$22.00 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. VII (2003) \$20.00 ppd, Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. VIII (2009) \$20.00 ppd. Subject Index I- Vol. 1 (1977) through Vol. 18 (1994) \$5.00 ppd; Subject Index II – Vol. 19 (1995) through Vol. 22 (1998) \$5.00 ppd; Subject Index III – Vol. 23 (1999) through Vol. 26 (2002) \$5.00 ppd; Subject Index IV – Vol. 27 (2003) through Vol. 31 (2007) \$5.00 ppd. Order from SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652.

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#### **SOCIETY NEWS**

SWLGS Web Site - http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laslgs/swlgs.htm

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING SOCIETY MEETING Saturday, 10 A.M. – March 20<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, September 18<sup>th</sup> and November 20th

#### **ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 2010**

President – PAT HUFFAKER
Recording Secretary – LANE OLIVER
Treasurer – BILLIE CORMIER

Vice-President – THELMA LaBOVE Corresponding Secretary – DOT AKINS

#### **MARCH MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society, Inc. will be held on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 10:00 A.M. in the Carnegie Meeting Room of Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles. Coffee and fellowship begin at 9:30 A.M. Guests are always welcome.

The program will be "The Many Cultures of 'French' Louisiana." presented by Mr. JIM BRADSHAW of Washington, La.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

1533/34. GERALD/MYRA MILLER, 7219 Burgundy, Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70605-0254

1535. LIZ HOFFPAUIR, 709 W. School St., Lake Charles, LA 70605-2760

1536. Dr. DON E. BLANTON, 3229 Merrell Circle, Dallas, TX 75229-5032

1537. JULIA HOLLIDAY SANDERS, 290 North St., Singer, LA 70660

1538. YVONNE ARABIE, 4804 E. Quail Hollow Rd., Lake Charles, LA 70605

1539. ELLYN CLAIRE BAKER, 419 Tecos Rd., Sulphur, LA 70665

1540. KAREN KELTON TABOR, 21148 Hedgerow Terrace, Ashburn, VA 20147-5436

1541. BARBARA JO BROTHERS, 3215 Albin Dr., San Antonio, TX 78209

Membership To Date: 200

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#### KINFOLKS EDITOR PASSES AWAY

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society, Inc. lost a good friend and dedicated member when BETTY TYLER ROSTEET passed away on December 5, 2009. Although she had not been well for about five months, her dedication to us and *Kinfolks* gave her the strength to put out the September and November issues.

Our Society was organized in 1973. BETTY ROSTEET was a charter member.

Kinfolks began as a 4 page newsletter in 1977 with GWEN BARRAS as editor. In the summer of 1980, BETTY joined GWEN as co-editor. Kinfolks was now 24 pages. GWEN passed away in 1992 and BETTY became sole editor of Kinfolks, which had grown to 36 pages.

Under BETTY's leadership, *Kinfolks* grew to its current 56 pages. She felt that history had to be explored along with genealogy, so she always included historical articles that she researched herself.

We were so lucky to have had her as our editor. We will go on and continue the quality of *Kinfolks* as she would want us to.

We extend our deepest sympathy to her husband, EDGAR ROSTEET; daughter, SHARON CONSTANCE and granddaughter, ELYSSA CONSTANCE, of Sulphur. She is also survived by three other grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sister, ANN TYLER of Lake Charles and brother, JOE TYLER Jr. of Baton Rouge.

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#### IN MEMORIAM

BETTY TYLER ROSTEET 1932 – 2009

MARY ANN LIPRIE RIVIERE 1939 - 2010

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#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

PLEASE mark your calendar to show the upcoming SWLGS meetings and events of other societies.

#### 2010

MARCH 20 – SATURDAY – SWLGS REGULAR MEETING – 10:00 A.M. CARNEGIE MEETING ROOM, 411 PUJO ST., LAKE CHARLES, LA SPEAKER – JIM BRADSHAW of Washington, La. PROGRAM – "The Many Cultures of 'French' Louisiana"

APRIL 24 - Saturday - LA Genealogical & Historical Society Seminar, 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. Where: Embassy Suites, 4914 Constitution Ave., Baton Rouge, La. (College St. Exit) Speakers: GARY D. JOINER - "Finding The Past: Reconstructing the Red River Campaign," SUSAN TUCKER - "The Women during the Civil War," and JOHANNA PATE - "The Path to Finding Your Civil War Ancestor."

Registration: Non-members and those registering after March 31<sup>st</sup> - \$35.00 The meeting and seminar include coffee breaks and free parking. A lunch buffet will not be provided; however, a lengthy lunch break has been scheduled and there are numerous restaurants near by. Book vendors will be present during the day. Block of rooms reserved until March 23<sup>rd</sup>, call Embassy Suites at 1-800-362-2779.

Send registration to: LGHS, PO Box 82060, Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2060

MAY 15 - SATURDAY - SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 A.M. CARNEGIE MEETING ROOM, 411 PUJO ST., LAKE CHARLES, LA SPEAKER: ROLAND R. STANSBURY of Franklin, La. PROGRAM: "The YOUNG-SANDERS Center - A CIVIL WAR MUSEUM"

#### SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL LIBRARY NEWS

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library is continuing its series – "Tidbits of History" with the following scheduled programs. These programs are held in the Carnegie Memorial Meeting Room of the library from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. No reservation necessary.

Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – "The 1910 Fire" presented by LINDA GILL.

Tuesday, May 4th – "Eyewitness History of Calcasieu Parish Public Library" presented by REVA CHESSON.

Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> - "Ship Building in SW Louisiana" presented by JEANNE FARQUE.

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# Microfilm Resources in the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library By LINDA K. GILL, Genealogy Librarian and SWLGS Member #729

Since the development of Internet websites containing census information, microfilm readers are not generally used to research the census. However, there are times when a transcriber has so misspelled a name that it will be easier to use the Soundex and microfilm. Microfilm readers are also still well used to research microfilmed newspapers and other records. Newspapers are utilized for obituaries, marriage notices, school activities of one's youth, and the history of past events.

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Library obituary index contains citations for every newspaper in our collection. There are also indexes for pre-1910 marriages mentioned in the newspaper, early Calcasieu Parish successions, Spanish American and Civil War veterans, general topics, Southwest Louisiana "firsts," some 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries, cemeteries and places, and some American Press monthly births.

Microfilm copies of the Lake Charles American Press are available for all years. The Early Newspaper Collection includes the Lake Charles Echo, Gazette, Commercial, Daily and Weekly American as well as a few newspapers from Jennings, Welsh, Lake Arthur, DeRidder, Kinder and Vinton. The Baton Rouge Daily Advocate (1854-1882), Beaumont Enterprise (1966-1976), Westlaker (1962-1978) and Cameron Pilot (1956-1971) are also available. Microfilms of other historic Louisiana newspapers include Opelousas, Colfax, Abbeville, Oakdale and Jennings. Microfilmed copies of the Fayetteville (NC) Weekly (1826-1830) and the North Carolina Argus (1848-1876) were recently donated.

Microfilmed resources are available on a wide range of subjects. Marriage indexes and some records and licenses are available for Calcasieu, Allen, Jefferson Davis and Evangeline parishes. Also available are the Louisiana Statewide Death Index, Orleans Parish Death and Marriage Indexes, indexes or records for a few various Indian nations, Confederate land grant applications, Louisiana Confederate pension applications, and case files of applications from former Confederates for presidential pardons. Some of the other microfilm resources available are:

Passenger and immigration records: Index to passengers arriving in Gulfport/Pascagoula, MS (1904/1954), 1903/1935); LA Index to Naturalization, and New Orleans Passenger List (1900-1957), inbound prior to 1900.

Scrapbooks or Collections: MAUDE REID Scrapbooks (8 reels), JACOBS Collection (mostly from before 1880 Beauregard Parish) – 20 reels, Hurricane Audrey Scrapbook, UDC ROBERT E. LEE - Daughters of Confederacy, and SAR.

Index and Calcasieu Parish successions (surviving successions only)

Calcasieu Parish Marriage Index to 1963, records to 1927 and licenses to 1924

Jeff Parish marriage index (1913-1970) and records (1913-1929)

Allen Parish marriage index (1913-1983) and 1913 - volume 10

Evangeline marriage index (1919-1927) and marriage record books 1-8, donations book index (1915-1945)

Calcasieu Parish Assessment Rolls (1865-1920)

Louisiana Voter Registration, 1898 (7 reels)

WW I Draft Cards (7 reels) for Calcasieu, part of Acadia, Allen, part of Ascension, Beauregard, Bienville, Calcasieu, Jackson, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis and Lafayette (A-Cyprien)

Tract books of Opelousas District

Coushatta Indian Records of Polk County, TX

Creek Census 1890, 1895-96

1832 Census of Creek Indians

Choctaw Nation, I. T.

Henderson Roll (1835 census of Cherokee east of Mississippi River)

#### LA Confederate Pension Applications

Confederate Land Grant Applications

LA Special Schedule 1890 Union veterans and widows Civil War

Register of Confederate Soldiers, Sailors and Citizens who died in federal prisons and military hospitals in north, 1861-1865

Compiled service records of Confederate soldiers who served in organizations from state of LA War of 1812 Index to Compiled Service Records

LA War of 1837-1838 Index to Compiled Service Records

1930 Census of Merchant Seamen

#### U. S. Territorial Papers of Orleans, 1803-1812

Marriage Records of Office Commissioner – Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Land – Marriages (5 reels)

Texas Death Index, 1903-1955 (microform)

MS Territorial and State Census, 1792-1866

**MS County Tax** 

Three automatic reader/printers and two manual printers are available for viewing and printing the microfilm. Our staff is available for assistance, when necessary.

#### NOVEMBER PROGRAM

The November Program, "Louisiana Maneuvers – 1940s" was presented by RICKEY D. ROBERTSON of Peason Ridge (southeast Sabine Parish, La.). As a child RICKEY listened to the stories told by the old timers of his community concerning the Civil War, World War I and World War II, and one of the biggest events in many of these people lives, the great Louisiana Maneuvers of 1941. When over 470,000 troops of both the Red and Blue Armies spread out for these maneuvers, their little community lay in the middle of the maneuver battlefields. After high school RICKEY decided to check with the local libraries to read up on these maneuvers and found very little information. He then decided to gather and preserve information, photographs, memorabilia, equipment and uniforms of this era. These items are displayed in the Peason Ridge Military Museum. The following information was taken from his presentation.

#### **LOUISIANA MANEUVERS—1940s**

After World War I, the U. S. Government reviewed the need for a large field army, since the war to end all wars was over. Because the United States and her allies were victorious, and the German war machine had been dismantled, Congress began drastic cuts in both funds and personnel for the Regular Army. Until September 1, 1939, the date that a new German Reich and her armies attacked Poland, the United States ranked 17th in her effectiveness and manpower on a world-wide scale. The combined total personnel in the Regular Army was less than 190,000. Of this total over 45,000 were stationed overseas. Congress was totally shocked by the ruthless German attack on hapless Poland and started to look to the future. The future they saw was leading straight toward another global conflict, with the United States greatly lacking in personnel, tactics, and most important of all—modern military equipment.

Since Congress was finally coming to its senses, the first thing to do was to come up with a Protective Mobilization Plan (PMP) so that the United States would not be caught completely lacking in military strength. With this plan came the objective of raising a small, well trained, combat-effective army as quickly as possible in this time of growing emergency. On September 8, 1839, President FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT set a starting date for the PMP by proclaiming that there was a "limited national emergency and that this mobilization had the purpose of strengthening our national defense within the peacetime authorization." President ROOSEVELT worded this proclamation carefully since the general public of the United States at this time was still wanting neutrality from the war. With this PMP plan was also the possibility of a peacetime draft, something unheard of to peace-loving Americans. Many draft-age Americans were about to serve their country, unexpectedly.

The new army Chief of Staff, General GEORGE C. MARSHALL, immediately started to build up the Regular Army by quickly utilizing the increases in personnel and funds voted on and passed by an increasingly more alarmed U. S. Congress. This was the first time since World War I ended that the U. S. military was being funded and expanded for the future.

General MARSHALL had a very large task ahead of him. First, the general had to completely restructure the Regular Army which was still being lead and trained according to 1917 World War I doctrine. This doctrine still believed in the frontal infantry attacks with rolling barrages of

artillery fire across open ground, and all recon, scouting, and charges to be made by mounted cavalry troopers. The need for a more modern motorized and mechanized army was being seen daily through the news releases coming from Europe, where mighty German armies were wiping out all opposition. To build this motorized and mechanized force, the army started accepting and testing all types of motorized vehicles, armored vehicles, and weapons.

To go with the vehicles and weapons, new equipment of all types would have to be accepted and tested for use in the coming war. The big problem facing General MARSHALL and Army General Headquarters in Washington was how to test and evaluate all this new equipment and vehicles. The only answer to this question according to General Headquarters was to have extremely large combat-type field maneuvers.

Throughout the history of the U. S. Army, there had never been any large-scale field maneuvers, just some small unit training that was accomplished by various units and garrisons. With the implementation of the Protective Mobilization Plan, combat-type field maneuvers were to be started, beginning in the summer of 1940. As far back in history as Frederick the Great and Napoleon, European armies had been having large-field maneuvers during each autumn season. The U. S. Army was about to prepare for their first maneuvers of this type.

General MARSHALL chose as director of these large-scale maneuvers Lt. General LESLIE McNAIR. General McNAIR was placed in command of all Regular Army and National Guard field training. General McNAIR had a hand-picked group of able advisors and adjutants, such as Lt. Colonel DWIGHT EISENHOWER, Colonel MARK CLARK, and Lt. Colonel OMAR N. BRADLEY. These able-adjutants learned many valuable lessons themselves in planning the Louisiana Maneuvers that would ultimately be of great value as they were promoted and led vast armies into battle in Europe during World War II.

Prior to the 1940 maneuvers, the War Department had directed the grouping of Corps, Divisions, and Coastal Artillery Districts that would be placed under field armies for both tactical and training purposes. The Third Army was assigned control of these various units. The 1940 maneuvers held in Louisiana were only a preliminary training for the first and only army versus army maneuvers that were scheduled for 1941. The 1940 maneuvers were designed for small-unit training that was to progress up to a command-post exercise and two corps versus corps exercises.

These small units that were to receive special training consisted of anti-tank units, engineers, cavalry, and the new mechanized units that were trading in their prized cavalry horses for tanks and armored vehicles. Many of the old Regular Army officers were against the mechanization and training of these new units and armies, but there were younger officers such as General GEORGE S. PATTON, Jr., who could see that both the training and mechanization was the only way to improve the American Army. Another fledgling branch of the American Army in the maneuvers was the Army Air Corp, a thoroughly untried and untrained unit that would learn valuable lessons in bombing and air support for group units.

The first of the 1940 maneuvers was initiated by the VIII Corps when it assembled in the vicinity of Dry Prong, La. The maneuver was to be under command of Third Army Commander General

WALTER KRUEGER. Since this was the first large-scale undertaking by the army in training, equipment shortages were great. Anti-tank and artillery units used wagon wheels and poles as cannons, mortars, and machine-gun positions were comprised of sticks and poles with signs attached stating what type of weapon was in use at that position; troops were carrying World War I Springfield rifles, with the new M-1 rifle still in short supply; and the armored forces were still not up to combat level with their mechanized equipment.

Despite these shortages, training began in earnest. Mistakes were made by both officers and men. These mistakes were understandable with the shortage of equipment and, most of all, no prior combat training on this type of scale. General MARSHALL had stated when planning the maneuvers that he wanted any mistakes made during field maneuvers not to be repeated on the battlefield. The battle ran from June 2 to June 23, 1940, in the VIII Corps area before it concluded at the request of General KRUEGER.

General KRUEGER was sharp to criticize the officers who did not perform well during this maneuver. General KRUEGER gave a solemn promise to the officers of the VIII Corps that if they did not correct the mistakes in the next field problem, they were in "for the surprise of their lives." Many was the officer who dreaded to hear that his career may be ended due to mistakes.

During this maneuver, General KREUGER noted that the major problems were traffic control and road discipline, extremely poor facilities and arrangement in feeding the troops in the field, and improper defenses. Many of these problems could be attested to poor leadership and training, but there also was another factor: the difficult terrain of Louisiana. In Louisiana where the Spanish moss hangs from giant live oaks, spongy and marshy lands lay; in the other areas, thick mud, and when dry, choking clouds of dust and sand. The 37<sup>th</sup> Division, stationed at Camp Shelby, Ms., had left enroute to Louisiana shouting "Maneuvers will be a vacation after this place." The mud was so deep in many bivouac areas that it was nicknamed "Louisiana Maple Syrup" by these soldiers.

After a short reorganization and resupply, the second portion of the 1940 maneuvers began. This field problem ran from August 11 to August 23, 1940, and was commanded by General JAY L. BENEDICT of the IV Corps. Many of the same mistakes and problems that had affected the first exercise surfaced again with many of the units: deficiencies in poor command post locations, inadequate communications, poor liaison, and wide and thinly spread troop frontages. Yet, there was also bright spots to be seen.

General GEORGE S. PATTON and the 2nd Armored Division, which he commanded, along with the 32<sup>nd</sup>, 34<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> Divisions, the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division and 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Group had attacked very aggressively and had succeeded in many of their assigned missions. These units had penetrated deeply into enemy territory. One of the first lessons that was becoming evident was that of the strength and usefulness of the new armored units, especially in clashes with enemy infantry units. The infantry units assigned with the 2nd Armored also proved able with the maneuver being completed with an infantry frontal assault backed by armor in capturing and disrupting the opposing forces.

General KRUEGER again critiqued the maneuver upon its completion. He reflected upon the proficiency of troop commanders on all levels. Shortly after the completion of the 1940 maneuvers many officers who had not shown a marked improvement were transferred or even discharged from military service. General KRUEGER was pleased with the improvement at the end of the maneuver made by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored, 32<sup>nd</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions, 1st Cavalry and the 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Group. These units had begun working as a team, with this the first time in Army history that an armored division had been on maneuvers in the field on such a large scale.

Now that the 1940 maneuvers had ended in Louisiana, many of these units would remain in the area, would gather supplies and new vehicles and equipment, and would continue to train in small unit tactics until the extremely large maneuvers planned for 1941.

With the 1940 maneuvers, the army had begun its first experiment in large-scale maneuvers of any type, however successful they may have been. One thing these maneuvers finally did was to horrify the public of our under-equipped and under-manned military. Photographs in newspapers throughout the United States showed "broomstick" machine guns and trucks with "tank" painted on their sides and outdated equipment from World War I still in use. With input from the public now coming into Congress, more funding would be forth coming. And all the while, the War Department continued to plan. 1941 was not far away. Improvements will be made from the evaluations made during these maneuvers. And guess what! Little did the public know, but the peacetime draft would soon come into being. The Army will now come up to full combat strength almost overnight!

Now that the preliminary maneuvers had been completed, many valuable lessons had been learned: of vital importance was the availability of land that could be used for the upcoming giant maneuvers planned for 1941. Colonel CLARK worked through both state and local governing bodies and was able to get over 3400 square miles of free maneuver land in Louisiana, including part of the large Kisatchie National Forest. Now that the lands for the maneuvers were available, the next giant hurdle had to be met.

This hurdle was to get enough funding to conduct a large, scale maneuver from the U. S. Congress. In 1941, Congress allowed General HARRY TWADDLE, the GHQ G-3 chief, to appear before the military committee of the House Appropriations Committee and appeal for funding for the Louisiana Maneuvers. General TWADDLE had an enormous task in convincing the House Committee for these funds, but thankfully he did convince them so well that they approved the complete maneuver budget. This bill was passed by the entire Congress on June 30, 1941. It became known as the Military Appropriations Act of 1942, since the governmental year at that time ran from July 1 until June 30 of each year. A total of over \$19 million was allocated for this army-versus-army maneuver training in Louisiana. The entire maneuver budget for the Regular Army, 1942, was to be spent entirely on the Louisiana Maneuvers.

Now that the land had been acquired and funding provided, General McNAIR and Colonel CLARK took a Louisiana road map and began laying out the maneuver and assembly areas. The armies would be comprised of a RED Army and a BLUE Army, each having different directives and missions during the maneuver. The assembly area for the RED Second Army was to be east

of Red River, and for the BLUE Third Army an area between Lake Charles and DeRidder. The heart of the battle area would be the lands lying between the Red and Sabine Rivers.

Prior to the units arriving, final preparations of the entire area had to be completed. Engineer units surveyed the lands and found many low, swampy areas, and with the exception of the main highways, rural roads were in extremely poor condition. Engineer detachments began gravelling low spots, building bridges, and providing maintenance on all the roads. To assist in logistics and supply, various army camps were built. Many of these camps became famous for their role as training bases during World War II.

Near Alexandria, Camps Beauregard, Livingston, and Claiborne were built, along with Esler Field for the Air Corp. Near Leesville, Camp Polk sprung up almost overnight. In both DeRidder and Lake Charles, Air Corps bases were established. All these preparations and planning had been made from a cheap Louisiana road map which Colonel CLARK had picked up at a filling station. Everything was nearly completed for the Louisiana Maneuvers. The soon-to-become-famous armored divisions began their long journey of over 700 miles to the assembly areas in Louisiana; infantry divisions began departing by train and truck convoy; and over 1,000 aircraft of the Army Air Corps began arriving at their bases. By September 15, 1941, over 470,000 troops were amassed for the largest maneuvers ever held by the U. S. Army.

By the evening of September 14, 1941, both armies were in place in their respective assembly areas. The RED Second Army, commanded by General BEN LEAR, was headquartered near Winnfield with two corps of 125,000 men. The Third Army, commanded by General WALTER KRUEGER, was headquartered between DeRidder and Oakdale with a full complement of three corps of 215,000 men. The RED force represented the mythical state of Kotmk, while the BLUE force represented the mythical state of Aimat.

General LEAR, an old-time infantry and cavalry officer, was to be assigned the newly organized First Armored Corps, comprised of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Divisions. General LEAR was known as a methodical soldier who didn't like the new mechanized concept of battle nor did he even want to command any of the armored units since he lacked experience in the operation and tactics of these new type units. Little did General LEAR know, but if these units were used properly in combat, they would become a force to be dealt with, just like the German Blitzkrieg that was ravaging Europe.

General WALTER KRUEGER, commander of the BLUE force, along with his chief of staff, Colonel DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, had planned every minute detail to counter this mechanized armored attack by the RED force. Even though the BLUE force was extremely outmanned, they would counter the armored units with the newly formed and equipped anti-tank units. Each army was supported by an air task force of 500 combat and observation planes each.

The Louisiana Maneuvers was, in effect, two different maneuver campaigns. The first ran from September 15 to September 20, 1941. The armies fought in the designated areas, north to Mansfield and south toward DeRidder. The second campaign ran from September 24 through September 28, 1941, and had the BLUE Army attacking northward toward the City of

Shreveport. Small, rural towns and communities throughout these areas were invaded by more "Yankee" soldiers than had been seen since the Civil War.

At 5:30 a.m. on September 15, 1941, General GEORGE PATTON led the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division across Red River and began attacking the western flank of the BLUE Army. Behind the armored division came convoys filled with infantry, artillery units, mounted cavalry troopers and reconnaissance units for the upcoming battles. Intelligence revealed that large numbers of BLUE Army troops were concentrating in the areas southwest of Alexandria. With this information, the RED Army began attacking the western flank so that it could be turned, with the attack then heading southward towards Lake Charles The RED Army proceeded the first day into Sabine Parish where it encountered at Many a detachment of mounted BLUE Army cavalry and had a sharp, swift, skirmish with the cavalry quickly retreating down the Many-Leesville highway.

This skirmish was the first in many short, quick battles that would turn the western flank on the first day of battle for the RED Army. While these troops were attacking the western flank, the BLUE Army surprise-attacked towards Alexandria. This BLUE Army attack was lead by the 106<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment and the 37<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. To prevent the BLUE Army from capturing Alexandria without a fight, General LEAR's RED Army made the largest pontoon bridge and river crossing operation in the history of the U. S. Army. Even with all the bridges blown by the RED Army, the BLUE Army continued a slow advance toward Alexandria. Since the bulk of the RED Army was on the western side of the maneuver area, General KRUEGER asked the cavalry units that had attacked the RED Army tanks at Many to slowly retreat southward and delay the RED Army while the bulk of the BLUE Army would continue its attack towards Alexandria. By nightfall, the RED Army tanks had pushed the 113<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment back south of Florien and had established advanced outposts east near the rural communities of Mount Carmel and Peason.

One of the major objectives of the RED Army was to attack southward with its cavalry and armored units toward Peason Ridge. Peason Ridge with its large cleared highlands would allow units of cavalry and tanks to fan out and attack southward toward the town of Leesville and ultimately even to attack as far south as the BLUE Army headquarters near Oakdale. General KRUEGER rushed his new anti-tank units towards Peason Ridge on the second day of exercise. Each army was attempting to gain favorable battle positions for the large attack and battle that was upcoming. By the evening of the second day, BLUE Army anti-tank units had engaged and had stopped further advance of the RED Army near Peason Ridge.

On September 17, 1941, General KRUEGER's anti-tank units near Peason were reinforced with several infantry units and approximately 60 tanks to stop the RED Army's advance through Mount Carmel and Peason. A large see-saw battle raged with the BLUE Army pushing the RED Army out of Peason and back near Mount Carmel. This battle raged all day and into early evening. All that day infantry and anti-tank units battled the tanks of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division and its supporting units. Tanks, trucks, scout cars, mounted cavalry, and medium bombers of the Air Corps had begun their bombing campaign of enemy units by dropping sacks of flour on their positions. Large white splotches of flour were reported to have been seen throughout the battle area. Units that had been flour-bombed and "hit" were knocked out of battle for the rest of the day.

While this battle raged on the western flank, the BLUE Army continued advancing toward Alexandria, where it forced the RED Army back across Red River. Throughout Louisiana, units were attacking, retreating, or holding their assigned positions. Staff officers and umpires were in and out of every skirmish, evaluating everything from tactics to equipment. It was stated that rural housewives could look across a battle site and could tell approximately how many biscuits could have been made from the sacks of flour scattered everywhere.

While the battle for Mount Carmel and Peason progressed, the BLUE Army advanced northward on the eastern flank of the RED Army from Alexandria toward Natchitoches. A new unit, the paratroopers, were used for the first time on this day. The BLUE Army, in its attack on Natchitoches dropped Company A,  $502^{nd}$  Parachute Battalion on Clarence, La., and created havoc and mayhem behind the RED Army lines before being captured. This unit was so new that soldiers of both armies, along with civilians living in the drop area, did not know what was dropping from the skies. There was even a short-lived panic from the local people who were afraid that these were the so-called "Men from Mars." This was the first test of America's new airborne units that would be used exclusively throughout World War II.

It was fast becoming evident that the BLUE Army commanded by General KREUGER was advancing steadily north and eastward against the RED Army. In a desperate attack to break through the BLUE Army, the RED Army attempted to attack on a front from Florien to Mount Carmel, to Peason. Peason, again of strategic importance, was attacked in force by the RED Army, but his attack failed. The battles around Mount Carmel and Peason were some of the most bitterly fought in the Louisiana Maneuvers. The competition was so fierce that umpires could not grade some of the units participating and were threatened by some of the troops who wanted their units to win. There were thousands of umpires, assigned from corps and division headquarters down to company level. During the battles commanders were not given a complicated scenario to be followed, usually a general objective.

These umpires decided the outcomes of hundreds of engagements throughout the maneuvers, using complicated formulas to make on-the-spot rulings as to damage and casualties both sustained and inflicted. During one engagement, a corporal led his squad across a bridge marked "destroyed." An umpire yelled "Can't you see that the bridge is theoretically destroyed?" The corporal yelled back to the umpire, "Can't you see we are theoretically swimming?"

Another story tells of a maintenance truck that slid off the roadbed blocking a section of RED Army tanks that were in retreat. Before the umpires could find the overturned truck and declare both it and the section of road destroyed, the tank crewmen dismounted and cut enough brush to hide the overturned truck. The tank column escaped capture and upon the RED Army advancing again through that area, used four tanks and uprighted the truck. With a fillup of fuel and more oil added to the engine, the truck was started and continued to be used, never being officially declared "destroyed."

With this second defeat at Mount Carmel and Peason, and with the BLUE Army units attacking relentlessly northward from Leesville through Peason, the RED Army retreated northward toward Zwolle. On the eastern flank both armored and infantry units of the BLUE Army were

attacking throughout Natchitoches Parish, from Kisatchie northward towards Provencal and Hagewood, with other units surrounding the City of Natchitoches.

Still in use was the mounted horse cavalry. Thousands of cavalry troopers were scattered throughout the maneuver area. At Zwolle, the only cavalry-versus-cavalry battle erupted. The BLUE 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division attacked from Texas across the Sabine River, which they forded, toward the RED 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Division. During the battle for Zwolle, the BLUE 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry captured some RED Army tanks and a convoy of supplies and the railhead at that town. The battle raged throughout the streets of the town northward with the RED 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry in full retreat. North of Zwolle, General GEORGE PATTON led the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division in a counter-attack and stopped the advance of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry. By the 19th of Sept. the RED Army withdrew and abandoned its field headquarters near Natchitoches and retreated as stated "hell for leather" towards Mansfield.

At nearby Camp Polk, the Staff Officers from GHQ were closely monitoring the advances and retreats of both armies. With the RED Army in complete disorganized retreat from the BLUE Army, General McNAIR, commander, halted the Red River campaign on Sept. 20, 1941. He decided that it would serve no further advantage to continue since the RED Army was so disorganized that it could not launch any offensive attacks against the BLUE Army. General LEAR, commander of the RED 2<sup>nd</sup> Army, had failed miserably to use properly the over 600 tanks and armored vehicles at his disposal and, as a result, had lost the battle. In this short five-day-battle, the GHQ staff and visitors from Washington, DC, quickly realized that the proper use of these armored unit could be the actual spearhead needed for any advance against the enemy.

Commanders such as General LEAR, who did not like the modernization of the new armored units were greatly becoming outnumbered in their views. Many officers were unable to meet the new responsibilities forced upon them and were rated as unsatisfactory in their tasks. The important point that had occurred was that these efforts had taken place in maneuvers and not in actual warfare when errors and failures could prove both costly and fatal.

Upon completion of this campaign, the troops were allowed to rest, relax and to resupply. Troops were also moved to new assembly areas and given new orders and designations for the upcoming campaign. Rural stores were overwhelmed by soldiers purchasing anything they could eat or drink. Royal Crown Colas and Coca Cola were quick sellers to the thirsty troops. General PATTON set up a credit program for his troops at TARVER's Store near Many when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division first came through that area. The soldiers could purchase items on credit of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division. One day near the end of maneuvers, General PATTON arrived at the store to find two dusty privates cussing both him and the infernal maneuvers to the store owner. Both privates were unaware of PATTON's presence, and it was obvious he had heard the whole thing. With a loud bellow, he walked up, slapped the two privates on the back, told them to keep up the good work and to continue attacking the enemy on all fronts. They hurriedly left the store. PATTON told Mr. TARVER, the storekeeper, that he wanted such fighting spirit in his men and that as long as they were cussing him he knew he was training them properly for the upcoming war. Of great surprise to Mr. TARVER, was PATTON promptly paying the \$500+ credit account.

Of some interest were the many dialects and culture in the Deep South. Soldiers from northern states would ask storekeepers for "soda," meaning a Coca Cola or other cold drink in their language, and would be surprised when they were handed a box of "baking soda." Then they had to explain to bewildered storekeepers what a "soda" was! Yes, there was even the language barrier to be conquered during the maneuvers!

Due to the maneuvers being of national interest, newsmen from over the United States accompanied the units into battle. During the lull between campaigns, these newsmen were able to file their stories with the wire services. One newsman was JOHN FIELD of Life Magazine, who had accompanied units of the RED Army through Many towards the battles at Mount Carmel and Peason in a new army vehicle called a "peep." FIELD wrote in his dispatch that he had ridden many miles in the army's new "three-seat buggy" that was fast becoming the pride and joy of its units. He had traveled with two privates and a lieutenant with a complete armament of three .45 caliber pistols in which to do battle with. Accordingly tooled, the "peep" had advanced along with other military vehicles without any problem, no matter how rough the terrain and bad roads. At a damaged bridge, FIELD and his companions saw a large, dust cloud approaching from Leesville. It was an advancing BLUE Army force attacking northward through Peason. FIELD stated that he and his companions had retreated like mad, back towards Many. He had taken the ride of his life while racing down bumpy rural roads and forest tracks in the little vehicle while evading the BLUE Army. Does this story sound kind of familiar? This vehicle that FIELD was talking about is universally known as the "Jeep." The legend of the mighty army jeep had its humble beginnings also in the Louisiana Maneuvers.

During the second campaign to begin on Sept. 24, 1941, General McNAIR made some changes in the units assigned to both the RED and BLUE Armies. The BLUE Army commanded by General WALTER KRUEGER was assigned the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Divisions, while General LEAR, who had misused the armored units in the first campaign, received the new anti-tank units. General KRUEGER, an advocate of the new armored forces, was excited in getting the units. General KRUEGER was determined to show GHQ staff officers the full potential of these units.

At noon, Sept. 24, 1941, the second battle campaign began with the BLUE Army attacking northward with large numbers of infantry and cavalry units through Leesville towards Peason Ridge. In an attempt to cover his western flank, General KRUEGER sent the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division across the Sabine River at Burr Ferry and told them to advance northward toward Shreveport, the objective of this battle. During the first night of the operation, a 50-mile wide battle front was built up, extending from the Sabine River north of Burr Ferry to Boyce and across the Red River near Alexandria. The RED Army began a defensive mission immediately of keeping its units intact as it fell back from one position to another before the superior forces of the BLUE Army.

On the second day of battle the BLUE infantry units were attacking northward along the Mansfield-Many-Leesville Highway with little resistance from the RED Army until it got to a defensive line running from Hornbeck towards Peason. In this attack the RED Army used a tank attack coordinated with bombing, artillery and anti-tank fire to halt the BLUE Army advance. During this delaying action, General KRUEGER decided to send an armored sweep through east

Texas northward to Shreveport led by General GEORGE PATTON and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division. This unit was to attack Shreveport after circling behind the RED Army defenses. To create a diversion, large columns of motorized and mechanized BLUE Army units advanced towards Leesville, leaving great clouds of dust that the RED Army defenders could see, then suddenly they turned westward.

General PATTON led his armored units through Orange, Texas, and at Beaumont turned northward. The RED Army defenders began a delaying retreat northward towards Mansfield, blowing and demolishing all the bridges in the path of the advancing BLUE Army. This demolition work of the engineers and other special units attached to the RED Army was the complete basis of their defensive plan. While these RED Army units were withdrawing northward, what had happened to PATTON and his armored thrust?

Little did the RED Army know but General PATTON was advancing quickly through east Texas. This end run through western Louisiana and east Texas was the longest and most completely self-sufficient maneuver ever made by such a large force in such a short time. General PATTON's tanks advanced so fast that supply units could not catch up with them, and gasoline had to be purchased from civilian gas stations along the way. This same attack plan was used by General PATTON in December 1944, when the 3<sup>rd</sup> U. S. Army he commanded in Europe was called upon to relieve the surrounded 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. Don't you think General PATTON remembered this attack from his experiences in the Louisiana Maneuvers?

The entire 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division moved 186 miles in one day and night. This advance was a tactical move with reconnaissance units in the advance and flank protection all the way northward. These flanking units had to travel through all types of terrain and had to drive extremely fast to keep up. It was stated that in the event of engine failure on a tank, repair crews could have the broken engine removed in 35 minutes and another engine back in with the tank operational in 90 minutes. General PATTON had emphasized teamwork between the tankers and maintenance crews, as apparent in these field-expedient repair. General PATTON's tanks knocked down trees and fences, destroyed crops, and created new roads in their rapid advance.

General LEAR, commander of the RED Army, had fallen back to prepared positions near Shreveport, where the large scale battle would be. The BLUE Army continued its advance towards Logansport, Mansfield, and Keithville. At Logansport, the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry, which had been covering the western flank of the BLUE Army, suddenly turned and attacked the RED Army. This battle raged toward Mansfield, where RED Army forces managed to stall the advance for a short time. General PATTON's 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division had completed its end run and now attacked Shreveport from the north while General KRUEGER pushed his other BLUE Army units in an assault from the south.

PATTON's forces even captured part of Barksdale Field, the RED Air Force Base, but were pushed back by the defenders. The climatic battle of the second maneuver campaign was about to unfold when General McNAIR and the GHQ staff quickly decided to move in and stop the battle. The BLUE Army was poised to launch a coordinated attack in which the RED Army

would have no way to defend itself. At 4:45 p.m., Sept. 18, 1941, guns fell silent throughout Louisiana as the largest peacetime maneuvers in Army history ended.

In this relatively short maneuver period, units from platoon to division level had learned the art of battle. In the coming months and years, this battle experience would become invaluable to our troops, not only in Europe but also on the islands of the South Pacific. The proper use of armored units, anti-tank weapons, terrain, and demolitions were learned; perhaps the most important lesson was the operation of a properly functioning chain of command.

Thus ended the greatest and largest army maneuvers held by the U. S. Army. Soldiers of both the RED and BLUE Armies were finally able to stop and bivouac without having to move out as fast as possible due to attacks and retreats. The soldiers were tired, dusty, lacked sleep, and hungry. They were in great spirits though. They were enthusiastic about what they had just accomplished. Now it was time to mend ripped clothing, shave, clean up, wash and take care of uniforms and other equipment. The troops were given passes to visit local attractions such as stores and bars. Civilians were friendly. Boys and girls were always waving and shouting to the soldiers when a convoy passed. Soldiers saw pretty southern belles as they traveled and threw slips of paper to the girls asking them to write to them at the address on the paper.

Residents were thrilled when a massive column of armored vehicles, cavalry troops, or infantry came thundering through rushing to another engagement. They were often awakened in the middle of the night by the roaring of the armored vehicles and shaking of the ground. The tank columns tore down fences, tore up the roads, broke down the bridges and culverts, and left great ripples and corduroy spots in blacktop surfaces, yet the residents enjoyed the fighting spirit of the tank crews and their commanders. General PATTON was seen throughout the maneuver area, urging on his troops and talking with local residents.

As the BLUE Army was staging its final attack on Shreveport in support of General PATTON's 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division, newspaper men and local residents could not believe the massive columns and convoys advancing through Louisiana. The convoy that advanced toward Shreveport was over 35 miles long, comprised of tanks, trucks, cavalry, and infantry as well as covering BLUE aircraft continuously. World War I veterans were amazed at the new weapons, vehicles, and tactics. The tank had been greatly improved, and other deadly weapons were the new Garand semi-automatic M-1 rifle and Thompson submachine gun infantrymen were being issued.

Convoys were everywhere and were extremely long. One convoy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division moved 3,000 vehicles and 11,000 men in just over 15 hours without leaving a single brokendown vehicle behind as General PATTON raced through Texas towards Shreveport. When the units started back to their home base and training point in Mississippi in 1941, the convoy was 110 miles long; it took seven hours to reach their destination. In the actual maneuver, with this number of vehicles moving from one battle to another it was impossible to maintain the road network.

Of all the things that local residents remember is the long columns of mounted cavalry troops. Rural inhabitants lived by farming, and a horse or mule was more valuable than any other piece of farm equipment. They were in awe of the magnificent mounts and the big Missouri pack

mules used by the artillery units. HENRY PROCELL, native of the Zwolle area, remembers hearing the clip-clip of the cavalry horses as they passed over several bridges near his home, and of the cavalry men washing and cleaning the horses at Loring Pond. He states that after cleaning their mounts, which was a priority, the cavalrymen would wash their uniforms and polish their spurs and mend any broken equipment.

The long columns of mounted cavalry traveled day and night, often stopping only to water their mounts. Residents remember seeing the cavalry horses in columns with feed bags on their muzzles, eating oats and corn as they traveled. Many rural people tell of catching soldiers in their corn cribs trying to get additional corn for their mounts.

At this time the beloved cavalry mounts were being traded for mechanized vehicles. To the cavalryman, his mount was more dependable than a motor vehicle. A veteran cavalryman could saddle and place his equipment on his mount and be in formation in less than 3-1/2 minutes. The mounted units of the U. S. Army had performed magnificently during the maneuvers but were being displaced by the fat mechanized units. The field artillery had big, strong Missouri mules used as pack transport; after being unloaded, the artillerymen then used the mules as mounts until they were needed again to transport cargo. There is still a large, wild horse herd on Peason Ridge Military Reservation. As you view these wild horses, you can see the blood lines of the cavalry horses of World War II in them. Many of the cavalry mounts, sick or lame, along with some who escaped, mixed with the wild horses roaming the Peason area and their descendants still roam freely.

The maneuvers held during 1942, 1943 and 1944 were anticlimactic compared to the action of the 1941 war games. The 1941 tactics matched army vs. army size units, whereas later actions were mostly division vs. division size. As new divisions were formed and received basic training, they were shipped to Louisiana for intensive field-combat. That was followed by shipping orders to various overseas theaters. The combat training in Louisiana prepared for the different terrains where allied forces were fighting: wooded highlands of Europe; sandy, hill lands of North Africa and parts of Sicily and Italy; and dense thickets and marshy swamps of the Pacific. Every unit from infantry to armored experienced realistic training.

At the conclusion of the maneuvers, Secretary of War HENRY STIMSON and the Army Headquarters Staff met in December 1941 to evaluate it. General McNAIR presented both pros and cons of the exercise with the result acclaimed successful. It had demonstrated that large, field armies could be transported, equipped, supplied and made ready for any emergency. One negative concerned the armored divisions. General LEAR used the units sparingly with little success, but General KRUEGER, when he allowed General PATTON to make his end run with his division, proved to the Army brass that this was the way to use the units in battle.

The air corps, infantry, and anti-tank units performed well. The only units that GHQ spoke unfavorably of were the horse cavalry. GHQ concluded that the mounted units performed physical feats, such as fording the Sabine River to attack Zwolle, but had failed to demonstrate any advantage over the mechanized and motorized cavalry units. Soon the horse cavalry would be converted to vehicles. The last use of the mounted cavalry in combat would be in the Philippines by the 26<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. The disastrous Japanese attack ended with the fall of Bataan.

The December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor was the beginning of World War II for the U. S., and the real war now overshadowed the mock battles of the Louisiana Maneuvers. But the lessons learned in them would be put to immediate use. The huge troop movement were no longer paper exercises—they were logistical feats that had already been practiced and accomplished. Troops were properly equipped and had learned current combat tactics. For the first time in U. S. history, we were entering a war with a relatively large, well trained army. The men who came to Louisiana and fought the mock battles never forgot their experiences. During the 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's bloody, heroic invasion of the Japanese held Saipan in 1944, a battle-hardened division veteran was overheard making the remark: "Except for the bullets, it was no worse than the Louisiana Maneuvers."

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### WORLD WAR II – TRIVIA Strange Stories of World War II By RICKEY ROBERTSON

I have come up with facts and trivia about World War II that has recently been declassified.

During the attack on Pearl Harbor, a Hawaiian DC3 airliner coming in to land was hit by a Japanese tracer bullet and was set on fire. A minute later, the plane was hit by another bullet which hit the valve of a fire extinguisher, thus putting out the fire!

The first U.S. troops arrived in Australia at Brisbane, Queensland, on Christmas Eve, 1941. Almost one million American servicemen passed through Australia during the war. About 7,000 Australian women married their American boyfriends and traveled to the U.S.A. as war brides.

The first American Naval casualty of the war was when the U. S. Destroyer *Kearney* was damaged while on convoy duty off Iceland. Eleven men were killed.

During the war, Americans in Washington, D.C. donated thirteen and a half million pints of blood. Marine Private HARRY STARNER, wounded in the assault of Tarawa, was surprised to find beside his hospital bed, a plasma bottle with his own name on it as donor!

Around midnight on June 5, 1944, Private C. HILLMAN of Manchester, Ct., serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, was winging his way to Normandy in a C-47 transport. Just before the jump he carried out his final check of his parachute. He was surprised to see on the inspection tag that it had been packed by the Pioneer Parachute Co. and had been inspected by his mother.

By June 12, 1944, 326,000 troops had landed on the beaches of France, along with over 54,000 combat vehicles. The ship armada at Normandy totaled 6,939 vessels of all kinds.

## A PACK RAT IS HARD TO LIVE WITH, BUT MAKES A FINE ANCESTOR.

#### JANUARY PROGRAM

The January program of the SWLGS is traditionally a "Show and Tell." Our members, SHERMAN YOUNG, VERLIN SONNIER and MICHAEL SAWYER presented information about searching for their ancestors.

SHERMAN YOUNG. A PLEASANT GENEALOGY SURPRISE. My paternal grandfather, EDWARD SHIPMAN YOUNG, died when his son, my father, NEALY SHORTER YOUNG, was a young boy. My grandmother, EVA MAY RAGLAND YOUNG KELLEM, remarried and NEAL's step-father was abusive, so he ran away from home at the age of 12 years. Most of the YOUNG family history was lost and I knew very little about my grandfather.

I began my search for my grandfather, EDWARD SHIPMAN YOUNG. (I was given his name EDWARD, which is my first name.) I found EDWARD in the 1900 Census for Arkansas, Drew County, Bearhouse Township, District 47. His occupation was listed as a farmer. Listed next to my grandfather was Dr. WILLIAM P. CHAMBERS. Who was this man? My great grandfather, JESSE THOMAS YOUNG, was a medical doctor. A family heirloom was a nineteenth century medical text book that was given to my grandfather and on the last page was written "Given to Dr. Young by W. P. Chambers 1859." Mystery solved.

I then searched the 1910 census. The first thing I had noticed about this particular census was that the entries were done with precise, beautiful handwriting in contrast to the "hen-scratched" entries made in many census records. There was a section titled "Enumerator" and to the left was my grandfather's signature – ED. S. YOUNG. He was the census taker who filled out the form with such beautiful handwriting. At the end of the census list, EDWARD SHIPMAN YOUNG and the rest of the family were listed there.

Ironically, genealogy search for a different family resulted in another surprise. My wife, LAUREN, did some research for a friend and surprisingly found out that our friend's father was also a census enumerator for a small Louisiana town and even more surprising he was the enumerator for three censuses – three decades as a census taker.

I am proud to have my grandfather's writing recorded on the Thirteenth Census of the United States: 1910 for Arkansas, Drew County, Bearhouse Township, District 47 – his handwriting preserved for all time or at least as long as records are preserved for the 1910 census.

**VERLIN SONNIER.** Mr. SONNIER presented a power point presentation on the FONTENOT family.

The FONTENEAU's were the largest extended family residing at Fort Toulouse during the early to mid-eighteenth century. Being the largest family and longest residents of the outpost the Alabama wilderness, their farmstead/plantation was the largest and most elaborate of all farmsteads in proximity to the garrison.

Contrary to what many people think, the FONTENOT family are not descendents of Acadia. The FONTENOT progenitors were French; the immigrant ancestor, JEAN LOUIS (COLIN)

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FONTENOT, came directly from France to Louisiana. In the old records the name was spelled variously as FRONTENEAU, FONTENEAU and FONTENOT.

The most distant known ancestors of this family are NICOLAS FONTENOT and his wife JACQUETTE DEVILLIER(S), who lived in France in the mid 1600s. When and where they were born has not been established. Their names were found on the marriage record of their son, JOACHIM FONTENEAU dit COLIN. By October 1681, NICHOLAS FONTENOT had already died, but JACQUETTE DEVILLIER(S) was still living.

Research in France shows that JOACHIM FONTENEAU, a master cobbler, and his family lived in the parish of Montierneuf, in the city of Poitiers, Dep't of Vienne, France. He was born probably about 1655-1660. On 13 October 1681 in the parish of St. Porchaire, Montierneuf, France, JOACHIM FONTENEAU married MARIE JEANNE PROUSADEAU, the daughter of LOUIS PROUSDEAU/PRIDO and CATHERINE BILLOUIN/BELLOUIN. Little else is known about these early FONTENOT ancestors.

The ancestor of the Louisiana FONTENOT's was JEAN LOUIS FONTENOT dit COLIN, who was born 18 December 1687 in the parish of St. Germain, Poitiers, France. On 8 February 1726 at Fort Conde (Mobile, Alabama) JEAN LOUIS (Colin) FONTENOT married LOUISE ANGELIQUE HENRY, the daughter of MATHURIN HENRY (a seaman) and LOUISE de PERIGO.

JEAN LOUIS FONTENOT was a sergeant in de la TOUR's Company of French colonial soldiers and was posted at Fort Conde at the time of his marriage. He apparently continued serving in the same company until at least September 1727, as seen in the baptismal record for his son, PHILLIPE. About 1730 FONTENOT was still a sergeant, but was serving under MARVILLEUX. According to the Mississippi Archives from 1729-1740, MARVILLEUX "went to the Tunicas with his detachment" in order to prevent surprise attacks on Fort Conde and the outlying settlements. FONTENOT may have gone with him to the settlement of the Tunica Indians, which was near Pointe Coupee, Louisiana.

In 1747 JEAN LOUIS FONTENOT was assigned to Fort Toulouse, the French outpost on the Coosa near the present day site of Montgomery, Alabama. Fort Toulouse at the Poste des Alibamons was part of the buffer zone used to protect the French settlements from English and Spanish expansion and to insure the Indians stayed friendly. Between 1740 and 1748 there was fighting between the British colonists and those in Spanish Florida. These actions placed Fort Toulouse in a precarious position. However, no shots were fired on the military post, and it remained in French possession.

In 1755 the population of Fort Toulouse was numbered at 42 white people. Monthly pay for JEAN LOUIS FONTENOT was 19 francs, 10 sol, about \$4.50. Soldiers were required to furnish their own shot for hunting as well as for shooting the enemy.

Records state that a soldier named FONTENOT died at Alibamons 29 October 1755. That soldier was thought to be JEAN LOUIS FONTENOT, who was serving at Fort Toulouse under GRANDCHAMP.

#### SPELLED AS IT SOUNDED

MICHAEL SAWYER, Director, Calcasieu Parish Public Library.

First of all, I am honored to be in Louisiana. When I was a child, my father told me many stories about his family from Russia. Based on one of the stories told to me, I was destined to be in Louisiana. When I was around 11 or 12, my father told me an interesting family story, the one my mother hated. Both of my grandparents came from Russia. My father's paternal family originally was from Odessa, located in southwest Russia. My father stated that my grandfather's grandfather had a connection with the Emperor Napoleon. When Napoleon invaded Russia in 1812, people in Russia were celebrating with the hope for a better life. Life was extremely harsh under the Tsar regime and any change would be welcome. My grandfather's grandfather decided to move the family to Moscow to see Napoleon free the Russians from the horrible conditions. When he got there, the war was raging and he and his family were caught in the midst of the battle. Because he was a blacksmith, the French "requested" his services. As the story goes, he is the one who fixed the horseshoes for Napoleon's horse. The horseshoes for Napoleon's horse, Napoleon rode the horse, Napoleon was the one who sold the Louisiana Territory to the U. S., Louisiana is now a state and I am here!

Recently I located the missing birth certificates of my aunts and the stillborn child which had different spellings of the last name. When my research ended, it turned out that my father's family had nine different spellings for their last name in 21 years. I was able to locate them with the clues that my father told me when I was a child. He would tell us a bedtime story that was really oral history of my grandparents (his parents).

The heart of the stories told was based on my father's mother, EVA WHITE, who was born in 1879 in Mogilev. The biggest known city is Minsk, located west of Mogilev. When she was growing up, her dream was to come to America as a free and unmarried woman. In her days, girls did not get an education but she managed by listening to the scholar hired by her father to tutor her brother. She mastered seven languages: Russian, German, Yiddish, Hebrew, Polish, French and English. She was known for her ability to cook delicious meals, being a leader among young girls, a great dancer and most importantly, a reputation of a good dressmaker who supervised a group of professional dressmaking girls. Her half-brother, already in St. Louis, owned a factory that made women's clothes and offered her a chance to come to work but she had to decline because her mother had become ill. She gave up her spot many times to other members of the family, as she had to care for her mother. A matchmaker found her a husband, my grandfather, HERSH who was a good find on paper. The marriage was not what she was looking for and she had to settle for the life that was ahead. Her first offspring, HYMAN, did not survive the first year and suddenly, her husband was drafted by the Russian army to fight in the Russo-Japanese War in which he was taken prisoner by the Japanese and was a POW until the end of the war.

When she heard that the United States was going to implement tougher immigration laws, she thought the time had come to go to America. In the process of coming to the United States, the person writing the manifest asked my grandfather his name. When he pronounced it, the person asked him to spell it. My grandfather replied, "Spell it the way you want to." The person wrote down COIER. It is believed that the name was something like SARYOV. When I was

researching my family history the first time in 1982, I was fortunate to talk to someone at the American Library Association conference who worked at the Archives. I provided her with information and received a copy of the manifest. I knew my grandfather obtained his U. S. citizenship so I tracked down his naturalization papers. It showed that he was also known as HARRY SHOER which showed another last name variation.

My father, WILLIAM, applied for his passport in 1975 and he could not locate his birth certificate. He had two clues, he was born on January 1, 1913 and his mother's maiden name was EVA WHITE. Using these factors, the Missouri Vital Statistics was able to locate his birth certificate as WILLIE SORE born on January 2, 1913. The midwife had spelled it as she heard it. Needless to say, my father tried to have them change it to SAWYER but they refused because the name did not sound the same. He had to go to court in California where he had lived since 1939 to get a court order to fix his last name. I had to think outside the box and try to figure how they would have spelled it using the pronunciation.

My grandparents arrived on the Lusitania to New York on March 27, 1909, and headed to St. Louis. My grandmother was six months pregnant and had to endure a long and tiring trip along with two girls, ages 4 and 2. My grandfather had to work for one year at his brother-in-law's factory to pay for the passage and he went on his own afterward. He was a cobbler and worked until the day he died in 1958 at the age of 82. The name of his shoe shop was New York Shoe Repair Shop. When I asked my father why that name in St. Louis, he responded by saying that the people recognized the name New York and it would entice them to use his service! Why did they settle in St. Louis? At the turn of the 1900, St. Louis was the popular destination place to migrate. Since EVA's brothers had settled there, that was where they migrated.

The child was born in June 1909, and I requested the microfilm that contained the St. Louis birth records for that year. Prior to January 1, 1910, vital statistics were not required in the state of Missouri. Therefore I had to review the registry of reported births for that year. I was able to locate my Aunt MOLLY and the entry read: MOLY SEOER. The clues were the name of the mother and where she was from (Russia). Since there was no birth certificate, the city issued a certified copy of proof of birth. Her birthday was the only one that did not correspond to the naturalization papers which indicated her birthday was June 15, when the record shows June 5.

The fourth child was MARY. I had asked her daughter, my cousin ELAINE, if she had ever seen her mother's birth certificate. ELAINE told me that her mother claimed that she did not have one when she was born and proceeded to tell her that their parents (our grandparents) knew what season their children were born in but not really the month or day. MARY and MOLLY thought it would be fun to be born on a holiday and they convinced my dad to pick a holiday also in the season that the parents said they were born. My dad took January 1, MOLLIE took June 14 (Flag Day) and MARY took March 17. MARY would also tell the kids that her birth year was 1913 (which was my father's) and that was not true. The clue was the year and month (March, 1911), so I looked at the microfilm looking for any unusual names similar to our last name. I saw a listing of MASHIE SOIRE and thought this might be the one. While I was requesting the birth certificate, I contacted ELAINE and mentioned this may possibly be the one. When she heard the name MASHIE (MASHA is Russian for MARY), she remembered her father calling her "MASHA" and her mother said it was a Yiddish nickname for MARY. My

cousin noticed the midwife's address on the birth certificate which stated she lived on Biddle Street. Biddle Street was the area that the poor Russian immigrants lived in St. Louis when they were growing up.

After my father came a stillborn, a boy born in 1915. Using the microfilm to look at the birth records for 1915, I found an unusual last name with a note saying it was a stillborn. The last name was spelled SAIOYER. However, when I received the birth certificate, which was the right one, it was spelled SAWYER. If one looks at the handwriting of the entry long enough, it does look like SAWYER and it is believed that this was transposed. The fetus was buried in the same cemetery as my grandparents but no one ever knew this. The headstones for my grandparents and the stillborn read SAWYER!!

My grandfather was required to sign up for the draft in September, 1918. He used COIER as his legal name and listed his birth year as 1875, same as his nationalization papers except for the day he was born. He indicated his birth date was December 20 on his draft card and December 25 on his nationalization papers. Ironically, every time the census was taken he got younger!

The 1920 census showed that the family last name was SHOERR and my grandfather's name was not HARRY but HENRY. When my grandmother died in 1927 from breast cancer, her death certificate listed it as EVA SHOERR. However, her tombstone reads SAWYER as does my grandfather's. When my father went to work for the Bureau of Standards in San Francisco, he received a letter in 1939 asking him why his name changed. Specifically, the letter stated: "Referring to Census data which you furnished this office a few weeks ago in connection with proof of your date of birth, your name appears on the census-record as "SHOERR." The Division of Personnel of the Department of Commerce has requested that you submit a statement explaining this discrepancy. Please send the statement to this office promptly. Respectfully, National Bureau of Standards," I am currently trying to locate this letter as it would be fascinating to learn how he explained the discrepancy as the 1930 Census shows the name we bore today: SAWYER.

One last thing, my father told stories of his parents, specifically his mother. When he was seven or eight, he and his sisters noticed a dog following them home. They wanted to keep it, but EVA said absolutely not. The children begged her to at least keep it overnight and she relented. Next day, she said they would keep the dog until the owner claims it. The owner never did and it became part of the family. With the children at school and the husband at work, she was lonely at times. My father came home one day and found his mother telling the dog stories from the old country. Hence, he learned about his family from the dog.

The spelling of our last name was spelled the way it was pronounced and that is why we have nine different spellings in 21 years: COIER, SEOER, SAYLER, SOIRE, SORE, SAIOYER, SHOER, SHOER, SAWYER.

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When researching on the Internet, remember that spaces are as important as letters. Don't overlook local histories in your research. Even if your ancestor is not listed, the history of the area can give you an understanding of the time and place in which he lived.

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# **2010 CENSUS**Contributed by ROSIE NEWHOUSE (Member #71)

During March 2010, the United States Census Bureau will begin the process of taking the 23<sup>rd</sup> United States Census, appropriately called 'Census 2010', by mailing out, or hand delivering, census forms to over 130 million US households. In comparison, the first US Census in 1790 recorded a population count of only 3,929,000.

The US Constitution orders the census and it is mandatory that every home fills out the form. It is NOT an option. The Census Bureau encourages people to comply and return the form to the Census Bureau by April 1<sup>st</sup>, eliminating the need for Census Workers to visit homes whose form was not returned.

There are only ten questions on the one page form, making it one of the shortest forms in census history. The simple, easy to answer questions cover information about the people living in the home: names, sex, age, birth date, relationship, nationality and race. Also, if the dwelling is a house, mobile home or apartment, and the resident phone number. There are NO questions pertaining to salaries, checking account, savings accounts, social security card or credit card numbers. And this information SHOULD NOT be given to any Census Worker.

Should someone present himself, or herself, to you as a Census Worker, make sure he or she has a proper ID badge and work bag with the census Bureau logo on it. They should also provide you with the regional office phone number and a letter from the Census Bureau if you request them. Census Workers are to help you fill out the questions on the form only and should not request any additional information.

Probably the people most likely to be accosted by false Census Workers are the elderly or people who do not have good reading skills or understand the necessity of filling out the form. We should try to be aware of these people and make ourselves available to help them be counted.

There have been times when census forms included national interest questions. The 1930 census form listed such a question. There were the usual request for names, ages and family relation of each person living in the home; if the children were in school; birthplace and native language of each person; year of immigration and naturalization status, if applicable; and could each member read and write. Also, did the family have a radio set in the home, as this was the newest invention for this time period and of great national interest.

The importance of census records should not be dismissed lightly. This is the means by which an accurate count of the United States population is determined. Census figures also form the basis for many important political, economic and social decisions that affect our daily lives. They provide states with district population that determines the number of seats the state will occupy in the House of Representatives. Consequently, this affects the number of votes the state receives in presidential elections. Other services that census count affects include: Federal Grant Funding; Labor Department, Justice Department, Health and Human Services, Education Department, and stimulus dollars that may be awarded to a state. It is very important that senior citizens are accurately counted, as these records will provide data on decisions regarding health

care and other services earmarked for them.

This is the first census since Hurricane Katrina devastated southeast Louisiana, causing a large migration of residents from that area to other districts of Louisiana and other states. This migration will definitely have an impact on the state's 2010 census figures causing a ripple effect on district representation and services for the next ten years.

As genealogists, we see census records as providing us with information on our ancestors. In some cases we have been able to follow their migration pattern from state to state or county to county. Other times, census records have helped us establish a birth or death date. Some records have given us a glimpse into their livelihood, whether they were farmers, storekeepers, sharecroppers, bookkeepers, etc. Probably most genealogists today, feel that present census records leave a lot to be desired. But as record keepers ourselves, we should remember the importance of these records and comply with the Census Bureau and be counted.

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Facts about the 1950 Census: U. S. Population -150,967,361; Life Expectancy - Women (71.1), Men (65.6); Average Salary - \$2,992; Labor Force Male vs Female -5/2, and average cost of a new car - \$1,510.

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**SWLGS** needs your help. As you read on p. 3, our *Kinfolks* editor, BETTY ROSTEET, passed away in December 2009. We need someone to step up and be editor of *Kinfolks*. If you are interested, please contact Pat Huffaker at patswlgs@bellsouth.net or 477-3087.

Kinfolks needs YOUR help too. There are many things you can do to help the SWLGS maintain the high standard of genealogical information in Kinfolks. We need people to abstract information at the library and courthouse; to contribute copies of old letters that relate to the people or the development of the area; to abstract genealogical information from their deeds or abstracts; to contribute old Bible records; telephone pole obituary notices; to contribute articles on interesting ancestors; military pension records, enlistment and discharge papers; old newspaper articles; histories of area towns and landmarks; excerpts from passenger lists, naturalization records; oral interviews, family stories, and obituaries before 1925.

You can also do research in the Maude Reid Scrapbooks, which can be found at the SW LA Genealogical & Historical Library. McNeese Archives also has other volumes. Any subject that includes names of residents can be researched. Subjects suggested are: early education in Calcasieu Parish, teachers, schools, pupils in classes, unusual court cases, social news before 1950, club and church membership lists, marriage licenses, wedding celebrations, party attendance, war bond drive, and memories of residents.

**ATTENTION!!! RENEWAL INFORMATION** - If there is an X next to your membership number on the last line of your address label, we have not received your 2010 dues. Please take care of this right away. Mail to: SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 DUES? They are due by April 1, 2010. YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF KINFOLKS.

#### BELLE BOYD: SOUTHERN SPY By RONDA ADDY

The Cameron Parish Pilot, Cameron, La., November 20, 2003

In the film industry today, the picture painted of spying is using a satellite to eaves-drop on a person's telephone conversation, zoom in on the license plate of a car or look through solid walls. Before all this technology, spying was done the old-fashioned way – by using people. During the Civil War, both sides used spies to gather information and there was no hard and fast rule that said a woman couldn't be a spy. One such woman was confederacy spy BELLE BOYD.

MARIA ISABELLA BOYD was born on May 9, 1844, in Martinsburg, Va. Her father, BEN, was a store merchant and grocer. BELLE attended Mount Washington Female College in Baltimore, MD, from 1856 to 1860. At the out-break of the Civil War, she joined fund-raising activities for the confederacy. During that time, BELLE's potential as a spy began to develop. In July 1861 when the Union troops occupied Martinsburg, she associated with the officers in order to get information that she passed onto the Confederate authorities. When Union soldiers tried to enter the BOYD family home to raise a Union flag, BELLE and her mother denied them entry. One of the soldiers, however, tried to force his way in, and BELLE shot and killed him. She was tried for murder but acquitted on the grounds of justifiable homicide.

After her acquittal, BELLE went to live with her aunt in Fort Royale, VA. There, she began her spy career. After overhearing the plan of General JAMES SHIELD to destroy the bridges around Fort Royale, BELLE made her way through the lines to inform General STONEWALL JACKSON of SHIELD's plan.

After being betrayed by a lover, BELLE was arrested in 1862 on a warrant signed by U. S. Secretary of War EDWIN STANTON. She was held in old Carroll Prison in Washington, D.C., for a month and was then released as part of a prisoner exchange. BELLE was arrested again when she returned to Union-held Martinsburg, but after a bout of typhoid fever, she was released in 1863 and exiled to the South.

In 1864, BELLE was assigned to travel to England as a courier, carrying letters from JEFFERSON DAVIS. The ship was captured by a Union warship. A Union sailor, SAMUEL HARDINGE, was so taken with BELLE, however, that he allowed the Confederate captain of the ship to escape. HARDINGE was court-martialed for his actions and discharged from the Navy, while BELLE was taken to Boston and banished to Canada. From Quebec, she sailed to England. HARDINGE followed her, they got married and later had a daughter.

After HARDINGE died in 1865, BELLE published her memoirs, *Belle Boyd in Camp and Prison*. Encouraged by English journalist GEORGE SALA to take up acting, she made her stage debut in 1866 in "The Lady of Lyons" in Manchester. BELLE returned to the United States to go on tour, appearing in "The Honeymoon" in New York City in 1886 and working with several

repertory companies. After marrying wealthy businessman JOHN SWAINSTON HAMMOND, she retired from the stage in 1869.

HAMMOND and BELLE had four children, but the marriage did not last. In 1884, the couple divorced. A year later, BELLE married actor NATHANIEL RUE HIGH, Jr. In order to support herself and overcome the financial difficulties of her third marriage, BELLE began a career as a public speaker in 1886, reciting her wartime experiences. A play by Irish playwright DION BOUCICAULT, "Belle Lamar," is believed to be based on her life.

While on a speaking tour in Kilbourn (now Wisconsin Dells) Wi., BELLE died on June 11, 1900. She was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery.

BELLE was just one of many Confederacy spies; the North also had their share of brave women. Although their contributions may not have changed the outcome of the war, they were willing to put their safety on the line for something in which they believed.

### **EXCERPTS FROM POLICE JURY MINUTES, 1866**

#### **1866 COMMISIONERS OF ELECTIONS:**

1<sup>ST</sup> Ward: JAMES COLE, DAVID HARMON, JOHN BAKER.

 $2^{ND}$  Ward: DESIRE HEBERT, DAVID D. ANDRUS, DELANE DEROUEN.

3<sup>RD</sup> Ward:

Court House Precinct: CHARLES GLASSPOOL, JOHN A. SPENCE, MIGUEL J. ROSTEET.

Lacassine Precinct: AURELIEN DEROUEN, LEO DEROUEN.

Joseph Hebert Precinct: JOHN LANGLEY, DESIRE MARCANTEL, DAVID MILLER.

Grand Lake Precinct: JEAN BAPTISTE HEBERT, JOSEPH FARQUE.

Vincent Settlement Precinct: ISAAC VINCENT, NATHAN CLIFTON, NATHANIEL CLIFTON.

Hickory Branch Precinct: EVAN PERKINS, ALLEN PERKINS, ELI BERRY.

Barnes Creek Precinct: A. J. McCLELLAN, JOHN REEVES, G. B. BRASHEAR.

**Big Woods, "Oscar Lyons Precinct":** WASHINGTON LYONS, OSCAR EVANS, DAVID A. LYONS.

"John B. Granger Precinct": ISRAEL GACHIE, Mr. DUNN, S. J. BICKERSTAFF.
Sugar Town Precinct: SAMUEL GARLINGTON, GREEN AIKEN, HENRY COOLEY

Dry Creek Precinct: BURKETT LINDSAY, JAMES MILLER, JAMES PERKINS Jr.

"Hickman Ferry Precinct": JAMES SPYKES, WILLIAM SLAYTOR, SULLIVAN PIERCE.

7<sup>TH</sup> Ward: GEORGE WAKEFIELD, GEORGE JONES, GEORGE GUSTELL.

8<sup>TH</sup> Ward: J. B. PEVETO, JOHN HAMILTON, ISAAC SIMMONS.

DAVID J. REID was Sheriff and THAD MAYO was deputy. DAVID A. LYONS was appointed "seller of unbranded cattle in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward south of the West Fork for the year 1867."

SOURCE: Maude Reid Scrapbook #1, p. 146

#### HAITI

#### Contributed by ROSIE NEWHOUSE (Member #71)

On January 12, 2010, the world awoke to the horrible news of the devastating earthquake that struck the country of Haiti, officially known as the Republic of Haiti. The country's capitol, Port-au-Prince, was destroyed and for days afterwards we heard and read about the horrors of that day and the miracles of survivors. For the most part, Haiti is pretty much a forgotten country except during its political conflicts or the Atlantic hurricane season and we tend to forget what trivial bit of its history we have read. Haiti occupies an area of 27,750 square miles on the western side of the Island of Hispaniola, and the Dominican Republic occupies the eastern side. Hispaniola is one of four islands that make up the Greater Antilles, sharing the title with Cuba, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. The area of Haiti was first known as Saint-Domingue, a very profitable French colony of the 1700s. The Republic of Haiti is bordered on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, the east by the Dominican Republic, the south by the Caribbean Sea and the west by the Windward Passage.

The Italian-Spanish explorer, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, discovered the island of Hispaniola in December 1492. At that time Taino Indians, possibly relatives of the seafaring Arawak Indians of South America, inhabited the island. Thinking the explorers had supernatural powers, the natives welcomed the explorers and a peaceful co-existence between the two cultures existed. The natives called their island 'Ayiti' or 'Kiskeya.' COLUMBUS, claiming the island for Spain, renamed it 'La Isla Espanola' or Hispaniola. Within a couple of years Spain had established itself in a large gold mining industry on the island and it is estimated that 400,000 Taino native had been enslaved by the Spanish to work the mines. In the early 1500s Spain began importing African slaves to replace the depleting Taino population due to forced labor, hunger, mass killings and the introduction of smallpox and other eastern diseases. By the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century the island's native Taino Indian society had been completely depleted.

The Spanish development of the island was devoted mostly to the eastern side, neglecting the western part and by the early 1600s French buccaneers began establishing bases of operations on the western portion of the island giving them easy access to the ships plying the windward Passage. The area became a haven for French buccaneers and in 1625 the first official French settlement was established on the Island of Tortuga. Conflicts erupted between the Spanish and French over the invasion of the French buccaneers and the settlement on Tortuga was destroyed several times, only to have the French rebuild it. After a period of time the Spaniards more or less began ignoring the French's establishment, thus paving the way for the colonization of the western section of Hispaniola by the French.

One of the buccaneers to establish in the area, BERTRAND d'OGERON, played a major role in the development of Saint-Domingue. He planted a small tobacco farm that proved successful and encouraged other buccaneers to do the same and before long the population of buccaneers had become tobacco farmers. This attracted French colonists from the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. Among them, JEAN ROY and the families of JEAN HEBERT and GUILLAUME BARRE. Their success enticed other colonists and the French population began to steadily increase on the western side of Hispaniola.

In the mid 1600s, the newly established French West India Company took control of the French section of Hispaniola and named the area Saint-Domingue. In 1670, the first permanent French settlement on the mainland of Saint-Domingue, Cap Francois (now Cap-Haitien) was established.

By the late 1600s, Spain's interest in the eastern section of the island began to fade and the Spanish population began to decline as new gold and silver deposits were found in South America and Mexico. The French colonists had adopted a plantation lifestyle and had added sugarcane, indigo, cotton and cocoa trees to their crops. Saint-Domingue's economy and population steadily grew and before long had surpassed Spain's progression and in 1697 Spain formally ceded the western third of the island to France.

Between 1713 and 1787, an estimated 30,000 French colonists from the Bordeaux, France area migrated to Saint-Domingue, and by the late 1700s, due to the profitable export industry, Saint-Domingue had become one of richest French colonies in the French empire and was given the nickname "Pearl of the Antilles." By the late 1700s, it is estimated that 40% of all the sugar and 60% of all the coffee consumed in Europe was being grown in Saint-Domingue. Like Spain, Saint-Domingue was importing African slaves to work the plantations. And, like any other country of mixed races, the population of Saint-Domingue consisted of Frenchmen, free people of color, mulattos and slaves.

Eventually political unrest began to surface and in 1791 slaves in the northern region of Saint-Domingue staged a small uprising that began a widespread slave rebellion against the French colonists and other landowners of Saint-Domingue that eventually ended the French control of Saint-Domingue. By January 1804, their revolution had destroyed the dominant white population and the plantation farming system, and the Republic of Haiti, the world's first independent black republic, was officially in control of the western section of Hispaniola.

Most of the French colonists able to escape the onslaught of the revolution migrated to Louisiana and Cuba. Among those who escaped to Louisiana was ROSIE NEWHOUSE's g-g-g-g-grandfather, GREGOIRE MICHEL VILLEJOIN de ROUSSEAU, born June 2, 1777 at Cayes de Fond, Saint-Domingue. GREGOIRE's father, MICHEL (1734-1780) born in Louisburg, Ile Royal, Acadia, was sent to Saint-Domingue as a Lieutenant of the King's Army and was stationed at Cayes de Fond where he was buried. He married ANNE-FELICITE REYNAUD (1754-1789) at Cayes de Fond. She was the daughter of CYPRIEN REYNAUD and MARTHE NICOLAS of Cayes de Fond.

No man is himself...he is the sum of his past. There is no such thing as "was" because the past "is." It is a part of every man and every moment. All of his ancestry is a part of him at any moment.

William Faulkner, 1957

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#### THE DOMESDAY BOOK

Contributed by MYRA F. WHITLOW (Member #852)

In 1086, *The Domesday Book* was ordered by WILLIAM I of England (WILLIAM, The Conqueror). In December 1085, in a discussion with the court counselors in Glouchester, they determined that men would be sent all over England to determine "WHAT OR HOW MUCH EACH LANDHOLDER HAD IN LAND AND LIVESTOCK, AND WHAT IT WAS WORTH." The judgment of the assessors was to be final, and there was to be no appeal. The documents were written in Latin, and very abbreviated.

The name, "Domesday" is from an Old English word, "dom" (modern English "doom"), meaning "accounting or reckoning," or a "time that a lord takes account what is owed by his subjects." The "Book of Judgment" was unalterable. It consisted of two independent works, k/a The Little Domesday, covering Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex, and The Great Domesday, which covers the remainder of England, except lands in the north (later to become Cumberland, county Durham, Northumberland and Westmoreland.) Most of Cumberland and Westmoreland are not included since they were not conquered until some time after the survey. Durham had exclusive right to taxation, under the Prince Bishop. Some northern parts of England were covered by the Bolden Book (Buk), an accounting conducted in 1883 under the Bishop of Durham. There was no survey of London, Winchester, and a few other towns, probably due to size, as well as some counties, which have not been explained.

The Little Domesday was actually the smaller book and was far more detailed, i.e. including the number of livestock owned. It was possibly their first survey attempt which was later determined to be impossible to complete due to the magnitude of the project. The values and measurements were very crude and roughly estimated.

The Domesday Book names a total of 13,418 places, containing entries of interest of most towns and rural areas, and includes customary agreements (custumals), records of military service due, markets, mints, as well as accounting of what the crown was entitled, such as honey, or crops. It is generally recognized that the 'inquest' recorded the fiscal rights of the king, mainly: the national land tax paid on a fixed assessment; certain miscellaneous dues; and proceeds of the crown lands.

Each county was visited by a group of royal officers who held a public inquiry, in some setting such as a county court, and was attended by representatives of every township, a well as of the local lords. The unit of inquiry was a subdivision of the county, which was then an administrative entity (k/a Hundred). Each Hundred was sworn to be twelve local jurors, half of them being English and half Normans. The six circuits determined through research are:

- 1. Berkshire, Hampshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex
- 2. Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire
- 3. Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex
- 4. Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire
- 5. Cheshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire (Marches)
- 6. Derbyshire, Huntingdonshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire

Information of general interest found in these records is that of a political, personal, ecclesiastical and social history. The survey was completed in 1086, and it is not known when *The Domesday Book* was compiled. It was later copied by one person on "parchment." It appears that the work was compiled, after the death of WILLIAM the Conqueror, by WILLIAM II following his ascension to the English throne. The document was originally preserved in Westminster until the time of Queen VICTORIA, then moved to the Chapter House from 1696, and removed only under special circumstances. The book was eventually placed in the Public Record Office in London. It can be viewed in a glass case in the museum at The National Archives, Kew, located in the London Borough of Richmond, upon the Thames, in Southwest London.

Printing of the volumes in "record type" began in 1773 was published in 1783, and a volume of indexing was added in 1811. Finally, in 1816, a supplementary volume was added containing "The Exon Domesday, The Inquisitio Eliensis, The Liber Winton, and The Bolden Buke," which were surveys conducted many years later in England.

In 1869 the books received a modern binding, and *The Great Domesday* was recently divided into two volumes, and *The Little Domesday* divided into three volumes. In August 2006, the contents of *Domesday* was included 'on line,' and visitors to the website are now able to search a place name (see index for the manor, town, city, village, and for a fee, download the appropriate page).

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domesday\_Book

\*

AN OLD SPOON - While walking near the Mermentau River, Mr. and Mrs. MILTON COLLINS, Jr. found a spoon which had been dredged out of the river recently. The spoon had a picture of Capt. SIGSBEE. It also had an emblem of thirteen stars.

It was found that Capt. SIGSBEE was the captain of the U. S. Battleship *Maine* which was sunk Feb. 4, 1898 in Havana, Cuba, harbor and which started the Spanish-American War. Capt. SIGSBEE was from Albany, N. Y. and died about 1923.

Source: Cameron Pilot

#### **DID YOUR RELATIVE DISAPPEAR?** Look for them in this list of epidemics...

If your ancestor just disappears, you might want to consult this list of known epidemics that is a helpful reference when folks suddenly are not there anymore! During major epidemics, people were often buried hurriedly and sometimes in mass graves.

Go to www.genealogy-quest.com for information that might help you.

Source: The Family Tree, October/November 2003

#### Genealogists are time unravelers.

### NEWS ITEMS FROM THE LAKE CHARLES WEEKLY ECHO (Saturday, 1 May 1868)

Information from newspapers gathered by MICK HENDRIX (Member #1296)

Several editorials attested to the fact that feelings still ran high between the southerners and the Radical Reconstructionist Carpetbaggers who were attempting to take over the South by force and fraudulent methods. The New Orleans Crescent reported that there was "not a fraudulent expedient or device" that was not used in order to turn the election to favor the radical Republicans. The Carpetbaggers used fraud to double, triple, or even quadruple the number of freedmen-voters. Some were taken from contiguous parishes to vote and gave several conflicting addresses; others could not even write their names; false and fraudulent papers were used to increase the black vote. Yet, in New Orleans, "in spite of the infamous, unblushing, and unparalleled frauds committed by the vagrant and mendicant Carpetbaggers, the Democrats have carried their whole city ticket." The proposed Constitution of the State of Louisiana was still continuing to be published. Act 135, dealing with Public Education, stated that children between the ages of six and twenty-one should be admitted to public schools and institutions of learning sustained or established by the state "without distinction of race, color, or previous servitude," that there should be no separate school "established exclusively for any race by the state of Louisiana."

The New Orleans Times stated, "The recent constitutional elections in Arkansas is only remarkable for its infamous frauds. Every conceivable device was resorted to in order to secure a radical success. Negroes were openly marched by the brigades from county to county, voting in each. Wenches were dressed up in men's clothes, and provided with certificates of dead freedmen, were also permitted to vote; while instances of double voting were as plentiful as blackberries in June," Sheriff D. J. READ continued to warn that all persons owing the convention tax should settle the debt or they would "incur the penalty prescribed by law."

Several prominent French and German journalists were expected to be present for the closing portion of President ANDREW JOHNSON's impeachment trial. The paper also told about the new French comedy, "Miss Suzanne" and wrote against the "Abominable custom of exposing so much of the female person, now so prevalent in fashionable society."

The Opelousas Journal reported a suicide and murder that took place on 21 April 1868 near Opelousas. PAUL CHENIER, a f.m.c. [free man of color], "shot with a double barrel rifle, MARY SMALLEY, a widow whose maiden name was JOHNSON; she died a few hours afterwards. He immediately shot himself with the other barrel of the gun and died instantly. This woman, who appeared to be white, though it was generally believed that she inherited from her father negro blood, had been living sometime in Opelousas with CHENIER and his wife." The story turns into a tragic tale when the woman decided to leave with her brother or the brother of CHENIER's wife, and CHENIER opposed it.

The paper related that the "election in this parish was quiet and orderly" and that the "freedmen in this parish deserve special credit for their good behavior, especially in view of the outrages reported to have been committed by them in other parishes." It reiterated that that our parish is one of the few parishes voting a majority against the new proposed State Constitution. JAMES M. PORTETER was elected Judge and G. W. HUDSPETH was elected District Attorney.

"Nine beef drovers from Texas were recently examined by J. V. MOSS, Justice of the Peace "under the charge of larceny of a beef." After an examination of three days, all but two were discharged; those two were held to answer for possessing and altering counterfeit money."

The new Masonic Lodge Hall of Lake Charles will be dedicated on 16 May 1868. A Masonic Oration will be delivered by GEORGE WELLS, by order of A. B. WILLIAMS, Worthy Master. M. J. ROSTEET, Secretary.

JUDGMENT: AMELIA LYONS, wife vs WILLIAM McCLELAND, husband; JOSEPH SALLIER, intervenor. LOUIS LEVEQUE represented the Plaintiff; GEORGE WELLS represented the Defendant. Judgment went to the Plaintiff, who "after proving her husband's affair were in an embarrassed state." The Plaintiff was to recover \$8,419.80 and was to remove her separate property from that of her husband. WILLIAM H. HASKELL, Recorder and Notary. M. J. ROSTEET, Deputy Clerk, District Court.

ESTATE of ELOISE RION: MOISE LEBLEU, administrator of the estate, filed a Tableau of the final settlement and distribution of the estate. Thirty days' notice was given to those who "intended to make opposition." J. V. MOSS, Clerk.

PROBATE SALE: Succession of JOHN R. COLE. At the home of the deceased at Hickory Flat, Sheriff DAVID J. READ will offer at public sale to the highest bidder four pieces of land. The names of WILLIAM FOREMAN, ABSALOM COLE, and WILLIAM WOODS are mentioned.

SUCCESSION of LEON VERDUN, Sr.: ALEXANDER, THEODORE and LEON VERDUN, Jr., having applied by petition to have DAVID J. READ, appointed Administrator of the succession of LEON VERDUN, Sr., deceased.

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EARLIEST FEDERAL TAX LIST. In order for the U. S. to become financially stable, in 1798, Congress imposed a direct tax on residences, land and slaves. Therefore, it was necessary to have all these items listed, along with the name of their owners. Each piece of real estate was described and assessed, with a complete inventory of all dwellings and outbuildings. Buildings were described as to dimension, construction, number of windows and window panes, location and value. The size of the dwelling and the value of the property gave a direct clue to the socioeconomic status of the family. Outbuildings, such as a grist-mill or smithy provide clues to an ancestor's occupation. Ownership of slaves may also provide a clue to a family's wealth. Like a census, names of neighbors on this list might be clues to family connections. These old federal tax lists may be found in the archives of the first states. Some of these lists have been published.

THE WIDOW OF THE CONFEDERACY was MARY ANN JACKSON, the widow of General THOMAS 'STONEWALL' JACKSON, who lost his left arm as the result of friendly fire. He died of complications from the wound in May 1863, and on his death ROBERT E. LEE remarked, "He lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm."

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#### RICHARD MARTIN ARCENEAUX CLERK OF COURT – JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH A NEW GENERATION OF PUBLIC SERVANT 2009

Contributed by JAMES P. MARTIN (Member #1234)

When RICHARD MARTIN ARCENEAUX was recently sworn in as Clerk of Court of Jefferson Davis Parish, another generation of one of the oldest Jefferson Davis Acadian families became another of the long list of public servants to offer his services to the public.

His father, MARTIN "TEENY" ARCENEAUX, a World War II veteran, served as President of the American Legion Hospital of Jennings for over twenty-five years. His grandfather on his father's side was FELIX F. ARCENEAUX, Sr. who served as assessor in Jefferson Davis Parish. His uncle, JOHN HORACE ARCENEAUX served as a city commissioner for the City of Jennings, La. AMIE MARTIN ARCENEAUX, RICHARD's grandmother, whose mother was CHARLOTTE MOUTON, a daughter of General MOUTON, a West Point graduate, who was killed during the Civil War at the battle of Mansfield in which the Confederate forces defeated General BANKS and his Union force. It is noteworthy that RICHARD's aunt, CHARLOTTE ARCENEAUX DUPONT had two grandsons to graduate from the West Point Military Academy.

Governor ALEXANDER MOUTON, the first Acadian to serve as Governor of Louisiana was RICHARD ARCENEAUX's great, great grandfather.

His great, great grandfather was FRANCOIS A. ARCENEAUX, who was a member of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury and when Jefferson Davis Parish was created he was appointed to the Police Jury by then Governor HALL and was later elected as a police juror.

Other relatives that served the public was a great uncle, Dr. R. R. ARCENEAUX, who served for many years on the Town of Welsh Council and as Mayor. Dr. ARCENEAUX had a son, ALFRED ARCENEAUX who served on the Jefferson Davis Police Jury for many years. Another great uncle, A. E. FONTENOT, who married one of the ARCENEAUX daughters was the first sheriff of Jefferson Davis Parish. Sheriff IKE FONTENOT had a daughter who married EDWARD T. CASSIDY and they had a son who also served on the Police Jury, EDWARD T. CASSIDY, Jr.

RICHARD M. ARCENEAUX has a cousin, MICHAEL CASSIDY, who was recently elected to another term as District Attorney, without opposition.

Another of FRANCOIS ARCENEAUX's daughters married JOHN R. ROMERO and one of their sons, CLARENCE E. ROMERO, an attorney, served for twelve years as Mayor of the Town of Welsh. Additionally he served as a parish school board member and on the LSU Board of Supervisors. Two of his brothers were at one time physicians that practiced medicine in the Town of Welsh.

On his grandmother's side her first cousin was Dr. CLAUDE A. MARTIN, of Welsh, who was a distinguished hero of World War I and recognized as Louisiana's most decorated hero of that war. He also served on the Welsh City Council and as health officer for the Town. ESTEVE MARTIN, another first cousin of RICHARD's grandmother, served as a state senator from Lafayette Parish and their father, PAUL MARTIN, her uncle, served as Chief Deputy in the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's office. Dr. MARTIN had two sons, ABBOT MATTHEW MARTIN, O.S.B., a Benedictine monk and the first priest to be ordained from Welsh, established the first Benedictine Abbey in Central America and became the first Abbot of Jesus Christ Crucified Abbey in Esquipulas, Guatemala.

Dr. MARTIN's other son, JAMES P. MARTIN served as Mayor of Welsh and was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives for five terms, the longest time a person to ever represent Jefferson Davis Parish as a member of the Louisiana House of Representative.

As RICHARD ARCENEAUX begins his first term as Clerk of Court with a new generation he follows his many relatives that have served as public servants in the State of Louisiana for many years. In the 1750s after being exiled from Nova Scotia by the British and migrating to Louisiana, RICHARD's ancestors have qualified to be members of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. With his ancestors a long and proud chain of continuous service to their state, their community and their nation, the proud tradition moves along to a new generation.

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#### FORT JESSUP, LOUISIANA: AN HISTORIC SITE

Fort Jessup, named for PHILIP SYDNEY JESSUP, is one of the state's oldest historical sites and is located on the Old San Antonio Road near the town of Many in Sabine Parish. The fort was in No Man's Land, the lawless Neutral Strip that separated Texas and Louisiana. Criminals, deserters from the American and Mexican armies, escaped slaves, Indians and adventurers ruled the region, and law and order were non-existent. In 1819, the territorial boundary was established at the Sabine River, and in 1822, Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR built Fort Jessup. Four companies of the 7<sup>th</sup> U. S. Infantry commanded by TAYLOR made up the first garrison of the fort. Some "lancers," armed with lances instead of guns, were stationed there. "Lancers" were highly romantic figures, but were not effective in fighting the Plains Indians. The soldiers stationed at the fort built roads, surveyed frontier land, cleared the Red River, negotiated with Indians, protected the frontier, and helped open the land to American settlers. They put down slave insurrections in Alexandria and attempted to catch criminals trying to cross the border. For these services, the soldier was paid five dollars a month...and fifty cents of that was paid to the laundress. Enlistments were for five years.

During the War with Mexico, Fort Jessup was an important place. The fort was the destination of many Texas families who were fleeing from the war and wanted to cross into American territory, and in 1845, half the American Army went through Fort Jessup on its way to Texas. The fort was an important military post for 25 years, during which there were about 140 deaths among the soldiers and women who lived and worked there. In recent years, the remains of about 25 soldiers were exhumed and reburied in a military cemetery. Fort Jessup was abandoned in 1846, when it was no longer needed as a border outpost. Its military objects were auctioned off, and items that were not sold were taken by the settlers, even down to the doors and windows. The Fort Jessup Museum houses replicas and artifacts from the old fort. Markers along brick paths show where the 82 buildings once stood. Source: *American Press* (12/24/2005)

#### SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE IS ONE WAY TO ACHIEVE IMMORTALITY.

#### THE DAILY AMERICAN (22 JUNE 1897)

Information gathered by MICK HENDRIX (Member #1296)

**PERSONAL.** The Comings and Goings of People You Know.

Mrs. F. BOUDREAUX is quite sick at her home near the depot. Mr. JOE HANSEN went to Franklin this morning, where he will visit with his uncle for some time. Mr. J. R. LYLES is a pleasant caller from Oberlin today. Mrs. MARY OTTO, who has been very sick for several days, was much better this morning. Mr. C. B. LOYD spent the day in Alexandria on business. Doctor WATKINS made a professional trip to Westlake yesterday afternoon. Mr. J. H. TUTTLE went over to Lockport yesterday to do some repairing at the mill. WM. BRIGGS transacted business across the lake yesterday afternoon. Mr. F. F. ROGERS, manager of the Forest Hill Lumber Company, who was in the city yesterday, returned to Forest Hill this morning. Mr. STEPHEN DELMOULEY's condition is reported to be no better. Mr. SIMON ROSENTHAL is on the sick list today.

Mr. HENRY EAUSSE came over from Lake Arthur yesterday evening to spend awhile in the city. Mrs. BENNET MINDES left for Welsh this morning to visit friends for a few days. Misses MYRTLE and MAXIE McCLELLAN, who have been teaching school in North Louisiana, returned yesterday. ALFRED HAWKINS from Sabine, spent Sunday in town. Mr. JOSEPH SCHENIER, of Oberlin, is a guest in the city today. Mr. EUGENE HEWITT came in from Oberlin last night and is shaking hands with friends in the parish seat today. Mr. MARION WILCOX, a prominent citizen of Oberlin, is transacting business in our city today. N. GABORENIO, of Lacasine, is in our city today. Mr. LAURENCE HANSEN is very sick today. He was affected by the heat yesterday while working at the Mt. Hope mill.

Messrs. SCARBROUGH and WHITE, formerly of Crowley, have opened a dye shop on Division Street. The storm of yesterday evening did not extend very far east. We are informed by Conductor NORRIS of the Southern Pacific that the wind did not blow much east of Jennings. A rumor was afloat on the streets this morning that a cyclone had struck Crowley, but according to Mr. NORRIS' report this is not true. Last evening, during the heavy wind, the front doors of the WATKINS Bank were blown open and the lock was smashed. The gale yesterday evening blew down the judge's stand and the back stop at Pleasure Park.

LOCAL MATTERS. RYAN-RICHARD mill is this morning only a mass of smoldering ruins. The lumber, however, was nearly all saved, by the hard work of the volunteer fireman. During the fire yesterday, Mr. DAN RYAN got his hand badly harmed. As soon as the insurance matters are adjusted the RYAN-RICHARD mill will be re-built. Mr. H. C. DREW, President Calcasieu Bank, was overcome by heat yesterday while working energetically to save the lumber piles at RYAN-RICHARD mill. The negro, WRIGHT, who was overcome by heat yesterday at the RYAN-RICHARD fire, and reported dead by another paper is very much alive this morning and has almost entirely recovered from his prostration, which was not very serious. The difficulty in getting water at yesterday's fire will probably cause mill men to again consider Capt. WEHRT's proposition to put a pump on the back of the steamer *Hazel*, and to attend all fire. Such a pump would have come in handy yesterday.

Institute Conductor J. G. LEE, Profs. D. N. BARROW, F. H. BURNETTE and CHAS. SCHULER, who have been attending the Farmer's Institute, left this morning.

The new house being erected by Mr. LECHLEITER in the southeastern part of town was blown down by the storm yesterday afternoon. Reports are coming in from south of town that the pear crop, has been somewhat damaged by the wind. Some of the trees were half stripped of their fruit. Rev. W. H. CLINE states that he lost about fifty bushels. JOHN ROLLA, the milk man, had his wagon blown over just after reaching home from his evening rounds, and then had a tree blown on top of wagon, doing considerable damage. Mr. ROLLA today delivers in an open buggy.

The Lake Charles Juniors leave tomorrow to tackle Iowa's strong team. The Junior team, in batting order will be: GORHAM, c.; FORMAN, 3<sup>rd</sup> b; COLE, s.s.; McNEESE, 1<sup>st</sup> b.; WILLIAMS, p.; TAYLOR, l. f.; GALLAGHER, r. f.; WASEY, 2<sup>nd</sup> b.; KAUFMAN, c. f.

There was some tall contradiction by witnesses in the mayor's court this morning and evidently someone handled the truth recklessly. HORACE ANTLE, charged with disorderly conduct by ROSENTHAL, through his attorney, Mr. GORHAM, asked to be dismissed. He was dismissed without fee. NORA McPHERSON and ADDIE HENDERSON were charged with fighting. NORA was dismissed and ADDIE fined five dollars.

Mrs. FRANK M. BUHLER. Word was received yesterday, announcing the death from heart failure of Mrs. BUHLER, of Oberlin, La., the funeral being held today. Mrs. BUHLER was born in Aurora, Ill., in 1876, and moved to Lake Charles in 1894. After a residence of one year in this city (her husband being engaged in the boot and shoe business) they moved to Oberlin, where they have since resided. Mrs. BUHLER has made hosts of friends since coming to the south and her death causes much sorrow in both this city and Oberlin.

SOME FRIGHTENED HORSES MADE THINGS INTERESTING ON RYAN STREET. A pair of horses hitched to a wagon in front of the Crescent Barber Shop this morning became unmanageable and started out on a smash-up expedition. They ran into CHITWOOD's cart, capsized it, and the horses and two vehicles were soon so mixed up one couldn't tell which was which. Mr. BOYD came running out with a razor in his hand and cut the rope which held CHITWOOD's horse; the driver of the run-away tried to cut the traces to his wagon and fell over and tore a square inch or so off of his nose, and a few policemen came up. Everyone was excited. The frightened horses were finally quieted down, however, and little damage was done.

TENDERED HIS RESIGNATION. Considerable of a surprise was created last Sunday when Rev. C. L. JONES, the pastor in charge of the Christian church, tendered his resignation. It was wholly unexpected, and the congregation was dumbfounded when he made the announcement. However, there seems to be a strong feeling against accepting it and the probabilities are that he will not be allowed to go. The causes are numerous, the main one being the financial condition of the church at present. Elder JONES has been in charge of the Christian church here for a year and a half, and during that time he has done much for it. He is not only an eloquent and brainy preacher, but a man who endears himself strongly to those who have the pleasure of knowing

him, and if the congregation allows him to leave they will lose a very original thinker, an earnest worker and a man of much force and magnetism, whose place it will be hard indeed to fill.

HEAVY SHIPMENTS OF WOOL. Mr. Wm. CARY, the able editor of the *Oberlin News*, spent last night in the city. He says that the crops in that section are looking finely. Rice is not suffering for rain as yet, and if a few more good rains are gotten there will be a big rice crop this year. He also informs us that the sheep industry is increasing in that locality and that the farmers are realizing a good percent from their flocks this year. Oberlin is going to be quite a wool market, as more wool has been shipped from there this year than all other points on the K. C. W. & G. Road. Altogether there has been shipped over 70,000 pounds this year. This is a pretty good shipment for such a small place as Oberlin.

DRY CREEK ITEMS. Miss HULDAH MILLER, who has been on an extended visit in Arkansas, is home once more. W. W. MILLER is home from Big Marsh. Miss SUSIE BRADLEY and her brother, of Lake Charles, are visiting in our neighborhood. Mrs. MON ROBINSON, of Clear Creek, killed a large chicken snake in her house that had swallowed several eggs and a pistol. Married: Mr. D. I HAVENS, of Dry Creek and Miss IRENE MAHAFFEY of Flat Creek.

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#### GRANDMA'S APRON SERVED IN MANY, MANY WAYS

Submitted by GRACE WELCH

The Cameron Parish Pilot, Cameron, La., December 30, 2004

The principle use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken-coop the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and some times half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled it carried out the hulls. In the fall the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the tree.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out on to the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

Remember this! "Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw."

### CITY DIRECTORIES

These surveys give a record of every business place and house in a town. They give the name of the owners of the business and the street address for the business. For residences, names of the inhabitants and the address for the house are given, along with the occupation of the male head-of-household, and sometimes for all the working people in the household. You can see how long a family lived in a particular house and how long they stayed in the town. If you do not find the male in the city directory for the next period of time, but find his family there, you may assume that he died. This gives you a time period to check for obituaries, cemetery records, etc. If you do not find the family listed in the next city directory, you may assume they moved on. By checking these city directories and finding the part of town in which a family lived, you will find clues to their economic lifestyle.

## CITY DIRECTORY LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA 1911-1912

Continued from Vol. 33 No. 4

#### LAKE CHARLES CITY DIRECTORY

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BAZINE, LOUIS (Mrs.), cond, r 2313 Ryan
BAZINE, LOUIS, Jr., stud, r 2313 Ryan
BANE, W. H. (DEBORAH), (c), carp, r 512 Franklin
BEARDSLEY, BEN C. (Mrs. TINA), rice grader,
r 1028 Kirkman, tel 231

BEARDSLEY, F. H. (Mrs.), restr, r 530 Mill, tel 44
BEATTY, GUY (Mrs. FLORENCE), Beatty
Brokerage Co, r 824 Division, tel 268
BEATTY, Miss FLORENCE, stud., r. 703 Hodges
BEAUGH, RACIRL, messenger Wells Fargo,
r 402 Hodges
BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE, Eddy bldg, tel 169

Advertisements: Muller's Varsity, A. W. Mayer Fire Insurance, Lake Side Steam Laundry Co., Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailor

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BEDFORD GEO, stnog Bel Lbr Co, r 617 Moss
BEL, ERNEST (Mrs. FLOY), Bel Lbr Co, r 504 Moss
BEL, J. A., (Mrs.), pres Bel Lbr Co, r 527 Mill, tel 19
BEL LUMBER CO, (J. A. BEL, pres; W. S. GOOS,
v-pres; W. G. MOELING, sec-treas) office
and yards K C S tracks and Lake Front, tel 444
BELDEN, R. L., lawyer, of Kaufman bldg, r 2444 Ryan
BEL, Miss K., r 527 Mill
BEL, Miss MYRA, r 527 Mill
BELL, BERTRAM (c), carp, r 311 Kirkman
BELL, HENRY (Mrs. KATIE), lab, r Lyons
BELL, JAMES (c), lab, r 130 Louisiana

BELL, JOHN (c), carp, r 311 Kirkman
BELL, LOUIS (Mrs.), mgr Hodge F & L Co,
r 510 Nichols, tel 230
BELL, MARGUERITE (c), laund, r 503 Boulevard
BELL, OSCAR (ROSA), (c), carp, r 1124 Church
BELL, OVA (c), r 503 Boulevard
BELL, STELLA (c), laund, r 122 Louisiana
BELL, U. A. (Mrs.), lawyer (Cline, Bell & Cline),
r 1635 Hodges, tel 493
BELTON, ROSE, r 1120 Church, tel 751
BELVIN, ALICE (c), r 124 Louisiana

Advertisements: Sam'l Kaufman, Meyer's, The Life Insurance Company of Virginia, F. A. Toce

BELVIN, ARTHUR (c), lab, r 124 Louisiana
BELVIN, ELZENA (c), r 257 Shattuck
BENDEL, SAM (Mrs.), wks La Mattress Co, 527 Hodges
BENDIXEN, V. H. (Mrs.), millwright, r 304 Hodges
BENNETT, Dr. T. S. (Mrs.), dentist, Bloch bldg,
r. 512 Pujo, tel 567
BENOIT, CLAIRSAIN (Mrs. MARY), sawyer, r 201 Nix
BENSON, H. B. (Mrs.), with L C Rice mill, r 314 Eleventh
BERDON, C. E. (Mrs.), bkpr Hemmenway Fur Co,
r 224 Ryan

BELVIN, ANDREW (c), lab, r 1254 Louisiana
BERG, SIMON (Mrs. ALINA), carp, r 315 Gray
BERLIN, FRANK, reporter Am-Press, r 801 Hodges
BERLIN, ALBERT, reporter Am-Press,r 801 Hodges
BERNARD, C. (c), lab, r 218 Franklin
BERNARD, MARGARET (c), r 1223 Mill
BERNARD, RUDOLPH (CELESTE), lab, r Gray
BERRIEN, G. W. (Mrs.), engr, r 1201 Kirkman
BERRIEN, Miss DEVOINA, r 1201 Kirkman
BERRY, JOE (JENNIE), (c), cabman,
r 620 Boulevard
BERRY MUSIC (c), r 620 Boulevard

Advertisements: Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co. Ltd., Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailor, A. W. Mayer Fire Insurance, Lake Side Steam Laundry Co.

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BERTRAND, AUGUST (Mrs. JOSEPHINE), engr,
Hodge F & L Co, r 517 Lyons, tel 816
BERTRAND, LEON (Mrs. MABEL), teamster,
r 313 Kirkman
BEVERLY. B. (NANCY), (c), lab, r 105 Franklin
BEYER, FRED (Mrs. CATHERINE), carp, r 1016 Kirkman
BEYER, Miss ANNIE, r 1016 Kirkman
BEYER, WM, trav salesman Krielow-Dudley Co,
r 1016 Kirkman
BISHM, JOHN (ELIZA), (c), lab, r 610 Franklin
BIHM, JOHN, Jr., (c), lab, r 610 Franklin
BIHM, LOUISA (c), laund, r 606 Franklin
BEYER, F. J., r 1016 Kirkman

BILLINGS, MARSHALL, wks Houston Pkg Co, r 1745 Madison
BILLINGS, Miss EULA, r 1745 Madison
BINKIE, CHAS, launchman, r 208 Ann
BIOSSAT, J. D. (Mrs.), r 620 Pujo, tel 783
BISSONMETT, OTHILE Miss, r 1903 South
BIVENS, Miss LILLIE MAE,r Shattuck and Moeling
BIRD, JNO., stewart Majestic Hotel, r same
BIRD, F. J. (Mrs.), pres Str Ry Co, r 111 Ryan
BISHOP, E. A., printer, r 801 Hodges
BLACKBURN, Mrs. F. M. (wid), r 606 Kirby
BLACKWELL, H. L. (Mrs. ANNIE), foreman
Bel Lbr Co., r 816 Lyons

Advertisements: F. A. Toce, Meyer's. Sam'l Kaufman, The Life Insurance Company of Virginia

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BLAISDELL, B. F. (Mrs.), r 319 East
BLAKE, BEN (c), lab, r 1622 St John
BLAKE, CAP (c), lab, r 1622 St. John
BLAKE, HANNAH (c), r 1124 Jackson
BLAKE, JOHN (c), lab, r 513 Nix
BLAKE, NATHAN (IRENE), (c), lab,
r 1622 St. John
BLAKE, ROBT (BEULAH), (c), logman, r 501 Nix
BLAKE, SAM (MILLIE), (c), lab, r 1601 Commercial
BLAKE, WYLIE (FLORENCE), (c), shinglemaker,
r 513 Nix
BLALOCK, T. F. (Mrs.), r 1122 Ryan
BLAKE, V. L. (Mrs.), clk Gulf Gro Co, r 1730 Elm

BLANCAR, J. (Mrs. ELIZA), ship car, r 507 Kirkman BLANCHARD, A. F. (Mrs.), car, r 302 Ann BLANCO, JOHN (MARY), (c), lab, r 221 Franklin BLANKENSHIP, GEO (VILPHA), (c), engr r 618 Boulevard, tel 982 BLANKENSHIP, NOVELLA, r 618 Boulevard BLEDSOE, C. E., upholsterer, r 421 Peake BLOCH, D. (Mrs.), insurance, r 230 Broad BLOCH, Miss ROSA, r 230 Broad BLOCH, Miss RUBY, r 230 Broad BLOCH, Miss BABETTE, r 206 Division BLOCH, HENRY, with L C Rice Co, r 206 Division BLOCH, HENRY, insurance, r 230 Broad

Advertisements: Smith's Music Store, Assunto's Cleaning and Dyeing, Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co., Ltd., Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailor

BLOCH, Miss RAY, r 206 Division
BLOCH, SOL (Mrs.), commission merch.,
r 206 Division, tel 288
BLOOD, Mrs. F. D., r 2364 Front
BLUE, LIDDY (c), laund, r 505 Nix
BLUESTEIN, ALEX, merchant,
cor. Ryan and Broad, tel 115
BLUESTEIN, ALEX (Mrs.), merchant,
r. 502 Hodges, tel 460
BOBBETIN, A. F. (Mrs.), boatman, r 1609 South
BODIN, C. L. (Mrs.), clk Martin D. G. Co.,
r 1140 Hodges, tel 520
BOLTON, G. F. (Mrs.), pres Bolton Co., Ltd,

Store, 420 Kirby

BONNETT, J. F. (Mrs.), trav salesman,
r 1227 Boulevard, tel 76
BONNET, J. W. (Mrs. CORINNE), photographer,
r 402 Belden, tel 20
BONNET, ROY, clk Harrop's Book store,
r 402 Belden
BORDEAUX, J. C. (Mrs.), r 227 Ann
BORDELON, ANTONIO (Mrs.), wks Hodge F & L
Co, r 227 Blake
BORDELON, M. M. (Mrs.), farmer, r 807 Seventh
BORDELON, WM., stud, r 807 Seventh
BORRIS, E. N. (Mrs.), engr, r 432 Helen

Advertisements: The Life Insurance Company of Virginia, F. A. Toce, Richard, Wasey & Company, Kirby Street Grocery

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BOSTON, W. O. (c), lab, r E. Broad
BOTT, L. T., Clk K C S Ry, r 823 Bilbo
BOUCHARD, Miss AGNES, r 1719 South
BOUCHARD, CAREY, stud, r 1719 South
BOUCHARD, Miss GLADYS, r 1719 South
BOUCHARD, LOUIS, clk S P Ry, r 1719 South
BOUDREAUX, Mrs. A. (wid), r 1212 Ryan
BOUDREAUX, GEO (Mrs.), cashier K C S Ry,
r 134 East, tel 847
BOUDREAUX, H. J. (Mrs.), meatmarket 835 Ryan,
r 723 Railroad Ave
BOUCHARD, S. J. (Mrs.), agt S P Ry, r 1719 South

BOUQUET, ELIAS (Mrs.), restaurant, 316 Ann, r same

BOUTTE, JAMES (C), lab, r 1013 Railroad Ave

BOZEMAN, C (Mrs.), r Railroad Ave and Shattuck

BOUTTE, JOSEPH (EDNA), (c), lab, r 201 Rock

BOUTTE, M. (c), lab, r 910 Mill

BOWERS, JOE (CORNELIA), (c), butcher, r 529 Franklin

BOWIE, E. W. (Mrs.), agt Texas Oil Co., r 512 Ann

BOWMAN, Mrs. E. G., hairdressing parlor, VonPhul & Gordon bldg

BOWMAN, E. L., taylor, 806 Ryan, r 1135 Cole

BOWMAN, J. L. (Mrs.), undertakers, Ryan C

Bowman, r 1503 Kirkman

Advertisements: Smith's Store, Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailor, Muller's, Assunto's

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BOWMAN, W. C. (Mrs.), carp, r 614 Seventh, tel 666
BOYER, Miss MARIE, clk Grand Leader, r 517 Lyons
BOZEMAN, C. (Mrs.), r Railroad Ave and Shattuck
BRADEN, C. M. (Mrs.), plumber, 810 Ryan, r 1151 Cole
BRADEN, W. C., lawyer with McCoy, Moss & Knox,
r. 1151 Cole
BRADLEY, Mrs. ANNIE (wid), r 531 Kirby
BRADLEY, Miss ANNA, r 408 Lawrence
BRADLEY, Miss INA, r 408 Lawrence, tel 220
BRADLEY, JOE (Mrs.), lab, r 1032 Iris
BRADLEY, R. A. (Mrs.), woodworker, r 607 Elizabeth

BRADLEY, H., woodworker, r 607 Elizabeth

BRAMMER, A. (Mrs.), gunsmith, store 624 Ryan r 510 Ann
BRAMMER, A, Jr., baggagemaster S P Ry, r 510 Ann
BRAMMER, Miss GERTRUDE, r 510 Ann
BRAMMER, Miss GERTRUDE, r 510 Ann
BRAMMER, J. C. (Mrs.), r 927 S. Division
BRANDT, W. C. (Mrs.), lumber inspector, r 403 Peake, tel 658
BRANDT, Miss BEULAH, r 403 Peake
BRANDT, W. C., Jr., r 403 Peake
BREASHEAR, ALFRED (Mrs. MOMAN),
Fireman city, r 917 Railroad Ave

Advertisements: Richard, Wasey & Company, F. A. Toce, The Life Insurance Company of Virginia, Kirby Street Grocery

BREAUX, Mrs. E. (wid), r 252 Shattuck
BREAUX, THEO J. (Miss ALIDA), contr, r 1632 Hodges
BREWSTER, L. H. (Mrs. JANE), shipping clk Hatkins &
Gulf Ry, r 1804 Hodges
BRIDGES, MACK (Mrs. EMMA), mech, r 304 Gray
BRIGGS, Mrs. CHAS E. (Wid), r 704 Pujo
BRIGGS, C. LOREE, prop Sanitary Gro Co, r 704 Pujo
BRIGGS, CURLEY (MARIA), (c), lab, r 632 Franklin
BRIGHT, L., EDGERMAN, Bel Lbr Co, r 904 Lyons
BRISCOE, CHARITY (c), laund, r 307 Louisiana
BROCATO, FRANK, merchant, r 937 Railroad Ave.

BROCATO, V (Mrs. PASSARELLO), merchant, 937 Railroad
BROGAN, W. H., engr, r 721 Pine, tel 373
BROMMER, A., electrician, r 615 Ryan
BROOKS, HILARY (MARY), (c), millman, r 1330 Opelousas
BROOKS, JAMES (c), cleaner and presser, 309 Franklin
BROOKS, FANNIE (c), laund, r 221 Blake Alley
BROOMFIELD, FRANK (Mrs.), carp, r Eighth and Bank, tel 495
BROOMFIELD, FRED, brakeman W & G Ry, r Eighth and Bank
BROOMFIELD, HUGH, r Eighth and Bank

Advertisements: Leon & E. A. Chavanne, Muller's, Hemenway Furniture Company, Ltd., Calcasieu Building and Loan Association

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BROOMFIELD, Miss JENNIE, sten, r Eighth and Bank
BROOMFIELD, Miss RUTH, stud, r Eighth and Bank
BROOMFIELD, Miss VICTORIA, sten, r Eighth and Bank
BROUSSARD, Miss EUGENIE, r 615 Clarence
BROUSSARD, GEORGE, clk, r 113 Ryan
BROUSSARD, M. (Mrs.), cond Str Car Co, r 113 Ryan
BROUSSARD, Mrs. JESSIE (wid), r 521 Ann, tel 921
BROUSSARD, J., clk Hemenway Fur Co, r 722 Clarence
BROUSSARD, W. A. (Mrs. MARIE), lineman S Y Ry,
r 429 Ford, tel 42
BROWN, Miss BERNICE, r 633 Cleveland
BROWN, Miss EVA, r 633 Cleveland
BROWN, CHAS (Mrs. WILLIE), lumber checker,
r 108 Bonaparte

BROWN, CHAS. (HANNAH), (c), millman, r 1605 Gallagher
BROWN, CHESTER (c), lab, r 1605 Gallagher
BROWN, FRANK (PEARL), (c), millman, r 410 Hutchinson
BROWN, FRANK E. (Mrs.), cond L & P Ry, r 502 Kirkman
BROWN, GEO (PEARL), lab, r 929 Lyons
BROWN, GEO (PERLE), (c), lab, r 1624 Commercial
BROWN, JAS (c), lab, R 218 Franklin
BROWN, LODGER (LOUISE), (c), millman, r 1628 Cessford

Advertisements: Calcasieu Building and Loan Association, C. F. Daigle & Co., the Hi-Mount Land Company, Ltd., A. Brammer General Repair Shop

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BROWN, L. (Mrs.), foreman Ryan's livery,
r 740 Cleveland
BROWN, LUBERTA (c), cook, r 1605 Gallagher
BROWN, MANUEL (C), porter Loree Gro Co,
r 502 Franklin
BROWN, R. A. (Mrs. LYDIA), machinist,
r 633 Cleveland
BROWN, Miss PEARL, r 633 Cleveland
BROWN, Miss HAZEL, r 633 Cleveland
BROWN, Miss HAZEL, r 633 Cleveland
BROWN, SARAH (c), r 424 Boulevard
BROWN, R. L. (Mrs. EFFIE), restr, 136 Foster
BROWN, W. E. (Mrs.), carp, r 1814 Lawrence
BROWN, WM., wks Ryan's stable, r 740 Cleveland

BROWN, W. L., wks S P Ry, r 732 Cleveland
BROWN, WM. (Mrs.), r 814 Bilbo
BROWN, WM. (c), millman, r 1521 Gallagher
BROWNING, D. W. (Mrs.), trav salesman,
r Majestic Hotel
BRUCE, LOUISA (c), r 120 Franklin
BRYANT, DAVE (SUSIE), (c), lab,
r. Lyons Alley
BRYANT, F. M. (Mrs.), wrks Beaumont Enterprise,
r 321 Peake
BRYANT, JOSEPHINE, land, r 1531 Fournet
BRYANT, MARY, land, r 1531 Fournet

Advertisements: Leon & E. A. Chavanne, Hemenway Furniture Company, Ltd., Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co, Ltd., Calcasieu Building and Loan Association

(To Be Continued)

# CAMERON FIRST BAPTIST CEMETERY Cameron, Louisiana

These cemetery records were submitted by LEE GRANGER and BEVERLY DELANEY. Compiled - December 1998

Continued from Vol. 33 No. 4

VENABLE, ALZINA MARIE, b. 18 Sep. 1905, d. 19 Oct. 1990 VENABLE, DUDLEY S., Sr., b. 23 May 1929, d. 19 Dec. 1981 VENABLE, WILLIS, Sr., b. 18 Apr. 1904, d. 25 July 1954 WOLFE, BESSIE G., b. 12 Apr. 1906, d. 31 Sep. 1945 WOLFE, EVA MAE, b. 6 Aug. 1915, d. 29 July 1978 WOLFE, JOSEPH ALTON, b. 9 June 1911, d. 12 Feb. 1983 WOOLDRIDGE, JACK, b. 21 Mar. 1923, d. 25 Jan. 1988 YOCKEY, HARRELL A., b. 3 Sep. 1926, d. 20 Mar. 1995 YOUNG, JOHN HENRY, b. 20 Dec. 1921, d. 19 Aug. 1985 ZALL, FRANCIS M., b. 9 Oct. 1924, d. 31 Oct. 1984

#### THIS CONCLUDES CAMERON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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# FIRST CEMETERY OF CAMERON Cameron, Louisiana

These cemetery records were submitted by BEVERLY DELANEY. Compiled: January 2000

The First Cemetery in Cameron was located behind the HEBERT THERIOT home on the Henry property. It was started in the early 1800s when very few lived in Leesburg as it was called then. The area is just a few yards west of the parish courthouse under oak trees which are probably more than a hundred years old. Hurricane Audrey did extensive damage to the cemetery leaving only 2 markers and graves. The oldest graves are all in one place.

GONZALES, GENORA GRIFFITH, b. 1859, d. 30 Sept. 1879; m/o EMANUEL GONZALES and FRANCISCO GONZALES, who died of yellow fever in 1879.

HARPER, JEFFERSON DAVIS, b. 1846, d. 1916

ZERO, Miss EZOLA, no dates

BONSALL, SYLVESTER, b. 31 Dec. 1886, no death date

BONSALL, Dr. ISAAC, b. 11 Jan. 1852, d. 11 Oct. 1922

BONSALL, Mrs. ISAAC, nee: AMANDA HOLMES KELLY, b. 5 Mar. 1857, d. 2 Jan. 1933

MARSHALL, TOM, no dates

MARSHALL, MOLLY, no dates

WOLFE, Mr. & Mrs. FREDDIE, no dates

CHADWELL, BENJAMINE, b. Jan. 1861, d. 10 Oct. 1913

CHADWELL, GUY LLANO, b. 30 Sept. 1899, no death date

In 1946, the skeleton of an airplane pilot still fastened in his seat was found on Broussard Beach. His unidentified remains were buried here. The last person to be buried here was an accountant who lived in Cameron and did tax service for the public. He died in 1950.

#### THIS CONCLUDES THE FIRST CEMETERY OF CAMERON

\*

# CIRCLE CEMETERY Grand Chenier, La.

This is one of the oldest cemeteries in Grand Chenier, La. There are many graves that are not marked in this cemetery.

These cemetery records were submitted by BEVERLY DELANEY and LEE GRANGER. Compiled – October 1997

BEAUTIN, MARIE MAGDELEINE, b. 1799, d. 9 Oct. 1874

BERTRAND, LUCIEN, b. 12 June 1810, d. 30 Dec. 1880

MILLER, ADAM, no dates

MILLER, ADRIEN, no dates

MILLER, DELMA, no dates

MILLER, EMELIA BROUSSARD, b. 1840, d. 1876

MILLER, EVA, no dates

MILLER, MARY VIRGINIE, b. 13 Dec. 1845, d. 5 May 1899

MILLER, MELAINE, b. 22 June 1861, d. 12 June 1875

MILLER, MICHEL, b. 1807, d. 21 Nov. 1875

MILLER, PROISIN (FROISIN), B. 18 Apr. 1839, d. 2 Jan. 1876

MILLER, VALSANT, b. 28 Jan. 1852, d. 30 July 1889

NUNEZ, CLEMENTINE, b. 13 Sep. 1882, d. 13 Apr. 1883

NUNEZ, ESSE, b. 17 Sep. 1882, d. 13 Apr. 1883

NUNEZ, SEVRIN, b. 25 May 1883, d. 20 Aug. 1883

PORTIE, PIERRE RENNIE, b. 12 Nov. 1863, d. 17 Aug. 1886

THERIOT, DOMITILLE, b. 14 June 1883, d. 11 Aug. 1883

## THIS CONCLUDES CIRCLE CEMETERY

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# DOXEY CEMETERY Grand Chenier, La.

This cemetery was read by LEE GRANGER, PETIE LaBOVE and BEVERLY DELANEY. Compiled: April 1998

DOXEY, ELIZABETH JOSEPHINE, b. 14 Sep. 1884, d. 26 June 1905

DOXEY, IDA C., b. 28 Feb. 1862, d. 6 Feb. 1943

DOXEY, J. A., b. 1 Dec. 1852, d. 11 Apr. 1911

DOXEY, JAMES A., b. 7 July 1923, d. 16 July 1944

DOXEY, JESSIE MAY, b. 23 May 1868, d. 9 Feb. 1946

DOXEY, WILLIAM M., b. 13 Oct. 1816, d. 11 Mar. 1912

DURR, EMANUEL A., Jr., b. 11 June 1849, d. 10 Dec. 1924

FOLSE, VERDA MAE DOXEY, b. 19 May 1928, d. 28 Nov. 1978

HACKET, KATE, b. 26 Oct. 1852, d. 6 Oct. 1918

McCALL, ROBERT W., b. 21 Feb. 1876, d. 5 July 1909

STURLESE, MATILDA, b. 13 May 1902, d. 3 June 1979

#### THIS CONCLUDES DOXEY CEMETERY

# CLEMENT CEMETERY Little Chenier, La.

At the end of Little Chenier, La., there is an old cemetery with a few graves marked and unmarked. The information here was given by Ms. LOREN GASPARD, whose relatives are buried here.

Submitted by BEVERLY DELANEY on January 2000

1 unmarked grave

CLEMENT, ALCIDE, b. 19 June 1859, d. 1936; h/o #1 EMELIE BENOIT, #2 MARY ANN SUIRE

CLEMENT, CHARLES, b. 5 Sep. 1905, d. Apr. 1916; s/o ALCIDE CLEMENT and MARY ANN SUIRE

CHILD of LUMA SUIRE and MARIE PELAGIE CLEMENT, b. 1924, d. unknown

CLEMENT, EMILIE BENOIT, b. 1860, d. 1891; w/o ALCIDE CLEMENT; d/o JOSEPH DURELLE BENOIT and MARY BABINEAUX (Succ. #111 states that she died 14 Mar. 1893.)

- CLEMENT, EURASIE, b. 1882, d. 1887 (age 5); d/o ALCIDE CLEMENT and EMELIE BENOIT. Next to her is an unmarked grave. EURASIE CLEMENT was accidently shot by BABE CLEMENT.
- CLEMENT, MARISIELLE, b. 1924, d. 1931 at age 7; d/o PIERRE CLEMENT and MARCELITE TOUCHET
- CLEMENT, MARY ANN SUIRE, b. Feb. 1871, d. Feb. 1940; w/o ALCIDE CLEMENT; d/o ANDRE SUIRE and MARGUERITE TOUCHET. There is an unmarked grave next to her. No dates. A young boy from Grand Chenier who drowned during Hurricane Audrey, 27 June 1957. One unmarked grave next to him.
- SUIRE, PIERRE, b. 6 Feb. 1918, d. Oct. 1918; s/o LUMA SUIRE and MARIE PELAGIE CLEMENT

(To Be Continued)

#### **OUERIES**

Queries are free to our members and will be printed as space permits. Write or print each query clearly so that all names, dates, and pertinent information can be easily understood by the transcriber. Queries should be brief, clear, concise and easily understood; do not ramble with unnecessary details. Give full names of the person; the exact date, if known, or an approximate time period (ca); and a location. State exactly what information you are seeking...a birth, parents, marriage, or death date. Remember the four "W's"—who, what, when, and where; a query that is too general and has no approximate time period or place will not be answered. Be specific. Never ask for genealogical information on a whole family. Place only one query at a time. Always enclose an S.A.S.E. (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with each query and offer to reimburse for the cost of copies and postage. Thank the respondent, even though you did not profit by his answer. Writing a better query may produce an answer to your problem!

#### SANDERS, CAGLE, COWARD

Searching for documentation for the parents of CARROLL MURDOCK SANDERS, born 1861, Calcasieu Parish; married to JUDITH ALICE CAGLE. CARROLL was also the husband of a Miss SHIRLEY LULA COWARD. He died in 1934 and is buried at the Sugartown Baptist Cemetery in Sugartown, La.

JUNE RAIMER POOLE, 6495 Wilder Dr., Beaumont, TX 77706-4205; <a href="mailto:clydeandjune@att.net">clydeandjune@att.net</a>

#### **HARRINGTON**

Need information on AUGUSTUS HARRINGTON, b. 24 March 1854; d. 3 Dec. 1892, Abbeville, La.

MAXINE HICKENBOTTOM/HIGGINBOTHAM SCHEXNAYDER, 108 N. Kinney Ave., Iowa, LA 70647; <u>T108shake@centurytel.net</u>

# MERRIMAN, SENTEE, PERRODEN, SIMMONS, HAYES, CATER

Looking for parents of MARY MERRIMAN, b. 1779, maybe in Pa.; m. GEORGE SENTEE, b. 1788. Daughter was MARIE LOUISE SENTEE, who married HUMBERT PERRODEN, who lived in La. Also need parents of JOHN JAMES SIMMONS and SARAH CATER, his wife. Their daughter was MARY ELIZABETH SIMMONS, b. 1806, who married BOSMAN HAYES, Jr. and lived in La.

DOROTHY L. AKINS, 2601 Elms St., Lake Charles, LA 70601; dotakins1@suddenlink.net

#### BERWICK, GOFORTH

Will welcome any information about the BERWICK or GOFORTH families. Know THOMAS BERWICK was first BERWICK to come to USA. Who was his father? His mother? MARY CECILLIA BERWICK SMITH, 4600 Mimosa, Bellaire, TX 77401-5816

#### ESCLAVON, WARTELLE

Need information on the following: VICTORINE? Full blood Choctaw, 1830-1875; JACQUES ESCLAVON, 1800-1900; and FELIX WARTELLE, 1800-1890.

MARGARET W. SCHUNIOR, 606 Wisconsin St., South Houston, TX 77587; mws927@hotmail.com

### SARVER, WINFREE

Looking for anything on SARVER or WINFREE.
JUANITA SARVER TORONJO, 2809 Gandy St., Orange, TX 77630

# ILES, HARPER, POLLARD, DAVENPORT

Researching the following surnames in south Louisiana: ILES, HARPER, POLLARD, DAVENPORT.

JUDITH HENDERSON, 915 Furman Ave., Corpus Christi, TX 78404; jwh2@swbell.net

#### LALOND, GRAY

Need information on AMOS LALOND m. MARY ELIZABETH GRAY, 27 April 1903, Polk Co., Tx. Moved to La. where they lived. Any children and death dates/places. BOBBIE GRAY, 513 John Stine Rd., Westlake, LA 70669-2819

#### BATES, DAVIS, KENNEY, OVERTON

Researching the following surnames of African American families in the SW Louisiana Area: BATES, DAVIS, KENNEY, OVERTON.

EDWIN B. WASHINGTON, Jr., 5810 Galloway Dr., Oxon Hill, MD 20745-2321; washingtoneb@verizon.net

\*

#### **BOOK REVIEW**

THE PECKHAM FAMILY by CHARLES WESLEY PECKHAM, Sr., Ed. D., 699 N. St. Rt 741, Lebanon, OH 45036. Printed by Thomas-Shore, Inc. 7300 West Joy Rd., Denton MI 48130-9701. Copyright 2009.

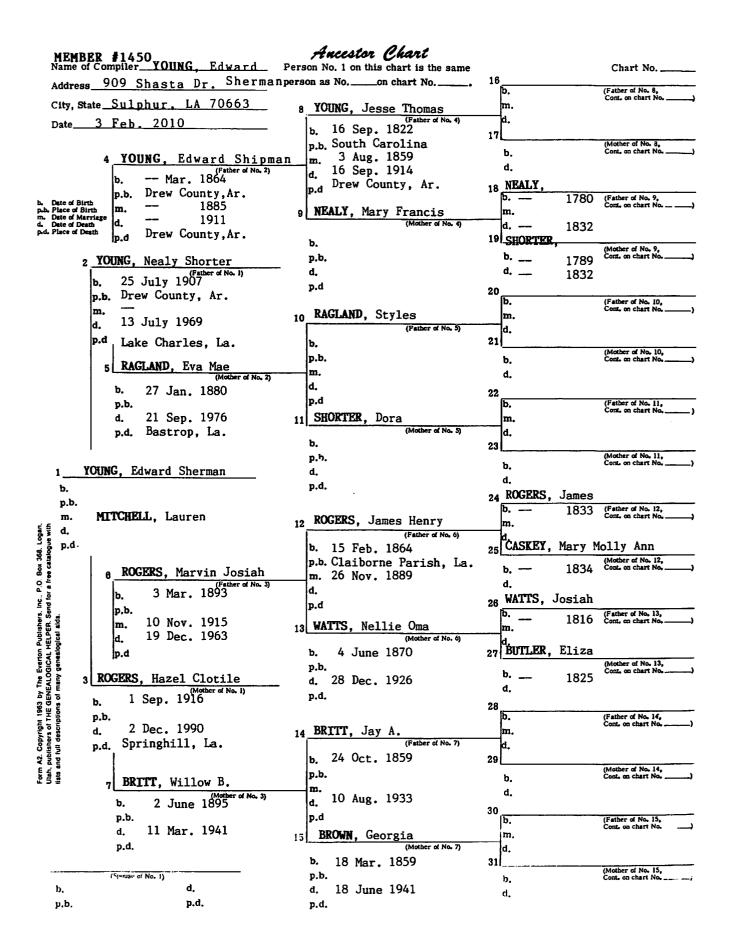
If your roots are connected to the PECKHAM family you will find over 800 pages of sourced information. There are thirteen generations which are contained in fourteen chapters and they are fully indexed.

The book begins with an explanation of the Domesday record and the Coats of Arms granted to the different branches of the family.

JOHN PECKHAM (1595-1681), the first PECKHAM to migrate to America; thus the beginning of the PECKHAM family in America. As you read each generation you can easily follow their deeds and exploits.

Many of the surnames can be traced to Mayflower, Revolutionary War and other lineage societies. All information seems to be very well sourced which provides anyone with the ability to find that particular line.

REMEMBER to research COLLATERAL LINES. The term, collateral lines, refers to relatives, people who are blood-related through a common ancestor, such as aunts, uncles and cousins. Researching collateral lines is one of the best ways of obtaining genealogical data. Begin with living relatives and work backward in time. Search family Bibles, old letters and diaries, land records, wills, inventories, census records, church records, burial records and anything else you can find. Information on relatives will provide you with dates, places, background, as well as much historic and socio-economic information. Learning about your family can be fun.



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### TOP TEN INDICATORS YOU'RE ADDICTED TO GENEALOGY

- 10. You introduce your daughter as your descendent.
- 9. You've never met any of the people you send e-mails to, even though you're related.
- 8. You can recite your lineage back 8 generations, but can't remember your nephew's name.
- 7. You have more photographs of dead people than living ones.
- 6. You've even taken a tape recorder and/or notebook to a family reunion.
- 5. You've not only read the latest GEDCOM standard, you understand it!
- 4. The local genealogy society borrows books from you!
- 3. The only film you've seen in the last year was the 1880 census index.
- 2. More than half of your CD collection is made up of marriage records or pedigrees.
- 1. Your elusive ancestor has been spotted in more different places than Elvis!

SOURCE: Mary Harris, Montgomery Genealogical Society Quarterly, Conroe, TX Winter 2005

#### TEN MAJOR DON'TS OF FAMILY TREE RESEARCH

Genealogy can be a very fascinating and addictive hobby. Each step that you take in researching your family's history can lead you to new ancestors, delightful stories and a real sense of your place in history. If you are new to genealogy research, however, there are ten key genealogy mistakes that you will want to avoid in order to make your search a successful and pleasant experience.

- 1. Don't Overlook Your Living Relatives
- 2. Don't Trust Everything You See in Print
- 3. We're Related To...Someone Famous
- 4. Genealogy is More Than Just Names & Dates
- 5. Beware Generic Family Histories
- 6. Don't Accept Family Legends As Fact
- 7. Don't Limit Yourself to Just One Spelling
- 8. Don't Neglect to Document Your Sources
- 9. Don't Jump Straight to the Country of Origin
- 10. Don't Misspell the Word Genealogy

SOURCE: Kimberly's Genealogy Blog: Your Guide to Genealogy. From Kimberly Powell (<a href="http://genealogy.about.com/b/2007/12/31/10-major-donts-of-family-tree-research.htm?nl=1">http://genealogy.about.com/b/2007/12/31/10-major-donts-of-family-tree-research.htm?nl=1</a>)

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#### SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY P. O. BOX 5652 LAKE CHARLES LA 70606-5652

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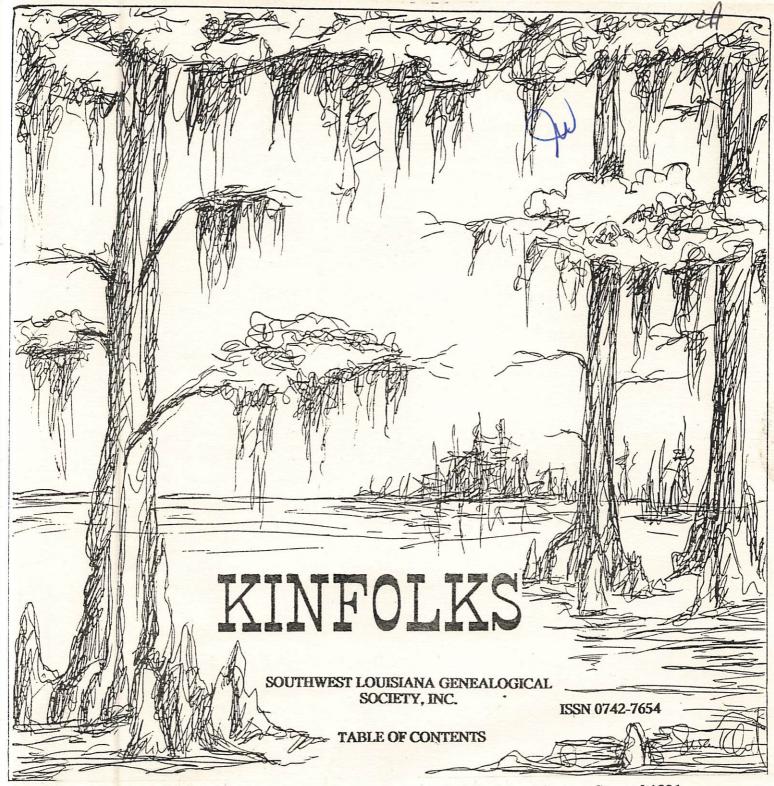
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SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. organized in 1973 to gather, process and preserve genealogical material, is a non-profit, educational organization. Its objectives are to promote interest in genealogy, to encourage and assist its members in genealogical research, and to conduct such subsidiary projects as shall contribute to that end. SWLGS was incorporated in 1991. The Society does not maintain an office. Telephone numbers listed in *Kinfolks* are private numbers. All work is done by volunteers.

MEMBERSHIP per calendar year is \$12 – individuals, \$17 – families (husband and wife) and \$22 –patrons (individuals or husband and wife, provides additional financial support). Membership begins in January each year and includes an annual subscription to *Kinfolks*. Members joining after January will receive quarterlies for the current year. Correspondence and dues should be sent to SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652.

SWLGS holds its regular meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of January, March, May, September and November at 10:00 A.M. in the Carnegie Meeting Room of the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles, LA. Programs include a variety of topics to instruct and interest genealogists.

KINFOLKS is published quarterly. Issues should be received by the end of March, May, September and December. Notify the SWLGS of a change of address as soon as possible to assure delivery. Queries are free to members, \$2 for non-members. Each issue has a surname index. Single issues are \$4.00. Back issues are available from 1977. Kinfolks is indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), Fort Wayne, IN.

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#### **SOCIETY NEWS**

SWLGS Web Site - http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laslgs/swlgs.htm

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING SOCIETY MEETINGS Saturday, 10 A.M. – May 15<sup>th</sup>, September 18<sup>th</sup> and November 20th

#### **MAY MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society, Inc. will be held on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 10:00 A.M. in the Carnegie Meeting Room of Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles. Coffee and fellowship begin at 9:30 A.M. Guests are always welcome.

The program will be "The Young-Sanders Center – A Civil War Museum" presented by Mr. ROLAND R. STANSBURY of Franklin, La.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

1542/43. TERRY/KATHLEEN DUPUY, 14308 James Core Rd., Folsom, LA 70437

1544. VIDA WHITAKER, 130 Ridge Rd., Kinder, LA 70648

1545/46. JANIS HYATT, 3306 Flamborough Dr., Pasadena, TX 77503

1547. BERNADOTTE REEDS, 236 Pecanwood Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70605

1548. SABRINA DUHON RODRIGUEZ, 1603 Cynthia St., Franklin, LA 70538

1549. PAMELA LeBLEU McKINNEY, 6630 Hwy 3256, Lake Charles, LA 70615

1550. PATSY BERRY LeBRUN, 4634 Carlyss Dr., Sulphur, LA 70665-7962

#### **HISTORY COMES HOME**

A missing piece of Lake Charles history has come home. A copy of the first Directory of the City of Lake Charles, published in 1895, has recently been added to the genealogical collection of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library.

The 1895-1896 Lake Charles City Directory is now available to the public on the website (http://www.calcasieulibrary.org) as well as a photocopy version at the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles. A microfilm copy will be available.

The first Lake Charles City Directory was published by Frank W. Smith of New Orleans and contains 113 pages and a wealth of local history. The book contains names of property owners of the time, a history of Lake Charles, and many ads for local businesses. It is interesting that no street numbers are given in the directory.

The mayor of Lake Charles in 1895 was PATRICK CROWLEY, a native of County Cork, Ireland, and the population of the city was 8,000. Mayor CROWLEY was in his third term at that time and had resided in the town since 1879.

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**PLEASE** mark your calendar to show the upcoming SWLGS meetings and events of other societies.

2010

MAY 15 - SATURDAY - SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 A.M.
CARNEGIE MEETING ROOM, 411 PUJO ST., LAKE CHARLES, LA
SPEAKER: ROLAND R. STANSBURY of Franklin, La.
PROGRAM: "The YOUNG-SANDERS Center - A CIVIL WAR MUSEUM"

SEPTEMBER 18 – SATURDAY – SWLGS REGULAR MEETING – 10:00 A.M. CARNEGIE MEETING ROOM, 411 PUJO ST., LAKE CHARLES, LA SPEAKER: LINDA GILL of Sulphur, La. PROGRAM: The 1910 Fire - Lake Charles, La.

NOVEMBER 20 – SATURDAY – SWLGS REGULAR MEETING – 10:00 A.M. CARNEGIE MEETING ROOM, 411 PUJO ST., LAKE CHARLES, LA SPEAKER: CURT ILES of Dry Creek, La. PROGRAM: The Enduring Legacy of Louisiana's No Man's Land

**FAMILY HISTORY LESSONS NEEDED.** In 2008 the Generations Network reported that few Americans knew much about their family history. The survey discovered that:

\*

Only 1/3 of Americans could name any of their great-grandparents.

Half of Americans know the name of only one or none of their great-grandparents.

Six out of ten Americans do not know their grandmother's maiden names.

22% of Americans do not know how either of their grandfathers made a living.

27% did not know where their family lived before they came to America.

However, the survey showed that 83% of the 18-to-34-year-olds were interested in learning their family history, and about 77% of the 34-to-54-year-olds are also interested. Of the people 55 years-of-age and older, 73% want to learn about their family history. This is an opportunity for you to teach your family basic facts about their ancestors---names, places, family stories, traditions, physical characteristics, medical problems, etc. Make a simple book for each branch of your family with photos, articles on ancestors and the place they lived, and other memorabilia. One member of our society is including old family recipes along with her pictures and stories. It is a unique gift---one that only you can share with your family.

LOUISIANA was not included in federal census enumerations until 1820. After the United States purchased the vast Louisiana Territory from France in 1803, Louisiana was still a territory and not a state when the census of 1810 was taken.

LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD - BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARDS

# SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL LIBRARY NEWS http://www.calcasieulibrary.org gen@calcasieu.lib.la.us

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library is continuing its series – "Tidbits of History" with the following scheduled programs. These programs are held from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. in the Carnegie Memorial Meeting Room of the library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles. No reservation necessary.

Tuesday, June 1st - "Ship Building in SW Louisiana" presented by Dr. TOM WATSON.

Tuesday, July 6th - "House Histories" presented by SHIRLEY BURWELL.

Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> - "LA Music - Fiddlers" presented by RON YULE.

Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> – "Batson Case – Guilty or Not" presented by DANIELLE MILLER.

# 2010 BEGINNING GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library will offer lectures on Beginning Genealogy in the Carnegie Memorial Meeting Room of the library from 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon. No reservation necessary.

Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – "Introduction to Genealogy and the Genealogy Library"

How to get started and how to use the Library resources/equipment, books, microfilm and computers.

Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> – "Organizing and Preserving Records" Organization and Preservation of records.

Thursday, August 19th - "Electronic Resources"

Demonstration of the electronic resources available at the Library and at home for Calcasieu Parish residents.

#### **NEW BOOKS:**

Carter, Kate B. The Story of Negro Pioneers

Chater, Kathy. Family History Made Easy (How to trace your family tree and find relatives in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales)

Cormack, Sharon DeBartolo. Guide to Finding Your Ellis Island Ancestors

Gautreau, Henry W., Jr. A History of Notre Dame de La Paix (Our Lady of Peace Church Parish)

Glenn, Thos. Allen. Welsh Founders of Pennsylvania

Huber, Leonard V. Clasped Hands (Symbolism in New Orleans Cemeteries)

Keiste, Douglas. Stories in Stone (A Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography)

McClure, Rhonda R. Digitizing Your Family History

Petruzzi, J. David. The Complete Gettysburg Guide

Pippenger, Wesley E. Index to Virginia Estates, 1800-1865

Scriber, Terry G. Twenty-seventh Louisiana Volunteer Infantry

Smith, Franklin Carter & Croom, Emily Ann. African American Ancestors

Wilbur, C. Keith, M.D. Civil War Medicine

#### MARCH PROGRAM

JIM BRADSHAW of Washington, La., was the speaker for the March meeting of the SWLGS. Mr. BRADSHAW spoke on "The Many Cultures of 'French' Louisiana." The following are notes from his presentation.

For many years we have promoted the Frenchness of south Louisiana, "heart of the Cajun country," but there are many ingredients in our cultural gumbo. Not all of them are French, and not all of the French-speaking people who have come here have been Acadians.

If we look into the Atchafalaya Basin on the eastern edge of what is now the heart of Acadiana, we will find evidence that Native Americans lived there thousands of years ago, hunting, fishing, and gathering fruits and berries, in a culture that followed the cycle of nature. Excavation of a midden near Henderson in St. Martin Parish indicates that the people could have been found in the basin as much as 20,000 years ago. They were probably nomadic and didn't live there all year round until some time later.

There are several sites considered sacred by the early Chitmacha Indians within the Basin and several of their villages were located there.

The first Europeans who came to the Basin came to establish sugar cane plantations on its ridges in the early 1800s. They built whole communities such as Bayou Chene that flourished in isolation until the Corps of Engineers forced their evacuation from a floodway in the 1950s and 1960s. Long before that, however, these people had learned that it's difficult to grow sugar cane on land that floods regularly, and had adapted the ways of the early nomadic Indians, following the cycles of nature to hunt, fish, gather moss, trap crawfish, harvest cypress, and make a living off of the natural bounty.

Much of our French heritage is rooted in St. Martin Parish, where many of the first Acadians to come to Louisiana were settled. They were joined later by aristocrats and others fleeing the French Revolution, bringing an entirely different French culture and language to the region. In St. Martinville, these aristocrats established an opulent lifestyle far different than that of the humble Acadians. It is said that the first French opera sung west of the Mississippi River was sung in "Petite Paris" as these people called the little town.

Still later, Napoleonic exiles fled to the area, bringing yet another, later version of the French language and a military-oriented outlook to St. Martin and other parts of Acadiana. The first settlers of Ville Platte, for example, were said to have been Napoleonic exiles.

Farther south, New Iberia, Nuevo Iberia, was founded by Spaniards from Malagueno during the period that Spain governed Louisiana. The Spanish government needed farmers to help feed the growing city of New Orleans and they also wanted an outpost on the Old Spanish Trail to help secure the payrolls and other valuables that were sent to New Orleans from the capital of New Spain, Mexico City, or from government posts at Vera Cruz.

Families with names such as VIATOR, ROMERO, SEGURA, and others, that many of us have come to think of as French were among those first Spanish settlers in south Louisiana.

Still farther south, St. Mary Parish has distinctly American roots. Many of its early settlers came from the Atlantic Seaboard, many of them the second sons of the rich tobacco planters in Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina and other American states. In those days, the first sons of these planters inherited everything. Second sons became clergymen or teachers or lawyers or – as did these people, went someplace else.

Just after the Louisiana Purchase in the early 1800s, two factors had combined to make Louisiana a very attractive Someplace Else. The first was the granulation of sugar. That gave Louisiana a crop worth thousands upon thousands of dollars. The other was the steamboat. That opened the Teche and other south Louisiana waterways to regular navigation, and gave planters a way to get their crops or refined sugar and molasses to market.

The only drawback here was that the planters who came to Louisiana didn't know much about growing sugar at first. Their experience had been with tobacco. Luckily for them, ten thousand people from Haiti were flowing into Louisiana at that time, fleeing the effects of a Revolution that had overturned that island's sugar economy. These people, many of them people of color, brought yet another version of French to Louisiana, but most importantly, they brought the skills needed to successfully grow and granulate sugar, as they had been doing for generations in the Caribbean.

These became the overseers of the plantations that created huge wealth in south Louisiana until the Civil War, and, in some instances, even after.

In St. Landry Parish, in the northern part of Acadiana, there was also a plantation culture, but one based on cotton. This was a crop that required hard, back-breaking work more than any technical expertise. The black people found they were most likely from Africa — or from other American states. In St. Landry Parish, for example, one of the more common surnames is SENEGAL, because that is where many of the black people came from.

The first French settlers in St. Landry were not Acadians. Their names were FONTENOT and DESHOTELS, and LaGRANGE and others that were to be found in Mobile in 1699. These were old French who had been among the first families to come from Europe to America. A treaty signed in 1763 ceded most French land east of the Mississippi River to the English, and these Frenchmen did not want to stay. They migrated first to Pointe Coupee and later to St. Landry. They brought yet another French language and culture to the area.

So now we have Acadian, aristocratic, Napoleonic, Haitian, and old French settlers in south Louisiana (not to mention some who had come from New Orleans and counted themselves among the old Creole families of that city).

The Coushatta Indians migrated west at the same time. Their ancestral lands were in the Mobile area, but they had been close allies of the French and decided their lives would be better spent on the west side of the Mississippi.

Much of what I call the "Creole" prairies in the Eunice, Ville Platte, Mamou areas, was settled by free people of color after the Louisiana Purchase. The American government offered 50 acres of free land in these areas to anyone who would develop and cultivate the land. Many free people of color from New Orleans (some of them originally from Haiti, some who had been generations in Louisiana) took up the opportunity. A number of the communities in this area were founded by people of color, most of whom spoke yet another version of French.

The prairies of Acadia and Jefferson Davis Parish have a distinctly German flavor. If you drive down the old Hwy. 90 from Lafayette to the Texas border and watch your odometer, you will notice that there is a town almost exactly every five miles – Lafayette, Scott, Duson, Rayne, Crowley, Midland, Jennings, Roanoke, Welsh, Lacassine, Iowa, Chloe, Lake Charles, Sulphur, Edgerly, Vinton, Toomey, etc.

That's because when the railroads came through in the 1880s, they were built and maintained in five-mile sections and "section houses" and other facilities were placed along the track at five-mile intervals. Pretty soon a store and a saloon popped up nearby, then a few houses, and soon after that, facilities to store and ship rice.

That was also the doin's of the railroad. As the trains crossed the prairies between Lafayette (then known as Vermillionville) and Lake Charles, there was nobody there to give them business. So the railroads decided to recruit business. They sent representatives to the American Midwest to recruit German wheat farmers who were having a difficult time in a time of drought. The recruiters such as S. I. CARY of Jennings portrayed the southwest Louisiana prairies as a "place of milk and honey" and the farmers bought into it. They loaded their implements onto flatcars and their families into sleeping cars and headed for the sunny south.

When they got here, they found a problem. The land here had too much clay in it to grow the wheat they'd been accustomed to farming. But it was perfect for rice, and their implements could be used for either. So they began to grow rice. These settlers were largely Lutherans.

At the same time, JOSEPH FABACHER, a New Orleans brewer, went to Germany, where Catholic Germans were being persecuted by Bismarck, and brought a band of them back to settle around what is now Roberts Cove in Acadia Parish. So now you have two sets of Germans to mingle with our multi-French, Catholics from Germany and Lutherans from the American Midwest.

Farther to the west, where the piney woods began, railroads began to creep down from the north and to send spurs out into the woods to bring out rich hauls of timber. American workers and foreign capital were the keys here. DeRidder and DeQuincy, for example, were named for Dutch investors who never saw Louisiana. The home of J. B. WATKINS' huge enterprises in southwest Louisiana was located at 11 Downing Street in London, across the street from the Prime Minister.

Along the coast are the cheniers. These are places with one foot on land and one foot in the Gulf of Mexico, the stepping off point to a sea that we mine for fish and shrimp and oil. But early on it was a place where people went to be left alone. LAFITTE had some sort of headquarters on

the chenieres. Acadians who didn't want to be drafted into the Civil War went there. At least one Texan fled there because it had been found out that he was married twice without benefit of divorce, and the two wives had just met.

Here also in more recent years we find Vietnamese émigrés, French-speaking, Catholic Vietnamese (remember Indochina was a French colony and the whole Vietnam war began as a liberation movement from France). Here is yet another layer of French and a far different culture.

Interspersed among all of these Acadians are the Africans and Irish and Italians, Texans who came following the oil trail, French-speaking Christians from Lebanon who fled persecution there, Jews from Paris who sought refuge from anti-Semitism, and people from practically every place in the world.

And we have melded together into a unique cultural mélange in many instances because we recognize each others' stories. There is a common theme running through much of the immigration to south Louisiana: Exile. Many of us have come here because we were forced to leave someplace else.

The Africans we know about, and the Acadian exile, Malaguenos coming to New Iberia because they were starving at home. Aristocrats fleeing the guillotine. Napoleonic soldiers forced into exile. Old French sent across the Mississippi because their ancestral homes were traded to the English, Haitians fleeing the turmoil of war, and later the Vietnamese. Germans fleeing drought or religious persecution. At least one man fleeing the wrath of two women scorned.

The common theme is one of the bonds that tie together many different cultures, all of which have become essential to the mix that makes this place so unique. Here we taste the seafood from the chenieres, the rice from the prairies, the dark gravy from St. Landry, two or three unique forms of music from the prairies, architecture adapted from the Caribbean.

All of these are part of who we are, and all of these individual segments of our culture are important to the culture as a whole.

We must guard and maintain these "mini-cultures" if we are not to become just Anyplace USA, another series of off ramps on another interstate highway.

\*

# MURPHY'S LAW OF GENEALOGY

- 1. The public ceremony in which your distinguished ancestor participated and at which the platform collapsed under him turned out to be hanging.
- 2. When at last after much hard work you have solved the mystery that you have been working on for two years, your aunt says, "I could have told you that."
- 3. You search ten years for your grandmother's maiden name to eventually find it on a letter in a box in the attic
  - 4. The 37 volume, 16,000 page history of your country of origin isn't indexed.

In 1988 (Kinfolks, Vol. 12 #2) and again in 1997 (Vol. 21 #4), we published an article about the eruption of Mt. Tambora, which was on the other side of the world, and how it affected parts of the U. S., Canada and Europe. We are hearing how the Icelandic volcano has affected air travel, but we have not heard how it is affecting residents near the volcano or what long range effects it will have. Since the article is timely, we are re-publishing it, hoping that it will be of interest to our readers.

#### THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER - 1816

Have you ever heard the old-timers say, "It was colder when I was young?" Well, it's true. Scientists have reported a warming trend in the earth's climate due to increased industrialization, the burning of hydrocarbons, and a decrease in the ozone layer of the atmosphere, all of which have lessened the severity of the winters endured by our ancestors.

Just after the American Revolutionary War ended, there was a severely cold winter in 1783-1784. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN wrote of the terrible cold and constant fog of that winter, not knowing that the cause of the weather was due to a very thick cloud of dust from the volcanic eruption of Mount Asama in Japan, which prevented radiation from the sun from reaching the earth to warm it. Although we know that in Japan the death toll from the volcano and its aftermath was immense, few records were kept at the time and we do not know the effects this severe winter had on our country or on other parts of the world. The eruption of Mount Asama and the dust cloud that caused the very cold winter issued in a series of "cold spells," which lasted for several decades.

However, the year of 1816 was a year to remember. It was called "the year without a summer" and "1800 froze to death." NAPOLEON had just been defeated and exiled to St. Helena. The United States was recovering from the War of 1812. JAMES MADISON was president and our young nation was growing.

On the other side of the world, on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, an event had occurred that would dramatically affect eastern Canada, the New England States, New York, western Pennsylvania, and parts of western Europe. In the Indian Ocean on the tiny island of Sumbawa, Mount Tambora erupted, producing the largest volcanic dust cloud in the history of the world. Of a population of 12,000 on the island, only twenty-six people survived. The heavy ashes and cinders from the eruption so darkened the sky that in Java, 300 miles away, the day-time sky was as dark as night. There was total darkness for three days within several hundred miles of Sumbawa. By the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, a mass of floating ash and cinders two feet thick and several miles in extent made it very difficult for ships to sail near the island. The volcanic eruption and the accompanying earthquake claimed 90,000 lives in the islands near Java, but also had drastic effects on the lives of thousands of other people half a world away.

In New England and Canada, a stormy June of 1816 came in with unseasonably cold weather and very strong winds, leaving three to six inches of snow on the ground. This extreme change in the spring weather killed all the newly planted crops and tender vegetation. A killing frost in July, followed by freezing weather in August, destroyed all the replanted crops. Corn, the staple crop of New England – food for man and fodder for animals - was frozen and the corn

CASSARA, GEO (ROSE), merchant, 404 Gray

Advertisements: Calcasieu Building and Loan Association; Hemenway Furniture Company, Ltd.; Watson & Company; H. M. Graham & Son

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CASSARA, JACOB, r 404 Gray CASTILE, E., lab, r 507 Bank CATHOLIC, ANNIE (c), teacher, r 210 Franklin CATHOLIC RECTORY, Father H. CRAMERS, 1126 Ryan, tel 270 CECIL, JAMES (Mrs.), r 1116 Pine CENTRAL FIRE STATION, No. 1, 914 Hodges, tel 600 CHAFIN, Mrs. M. A. (wid), r 1732 Elm, tel 583 CHAFIN, R. I. (Mrs.), carp, r 1725 Elm CHAFIN, T. H. (Mrs.), sawyer, r 1727 Elm CHALKLEY, H. G., mgr N A L & T Co, r 920 Kirby CHAMBERS, JUNIUS (CAMILIA), (c), millman, r 130 Belden

CHAMBERS, LODI (LOVINIA), lab, r 214 Blake CHAMPAGNE, J. W. (Mrs.), clk S P Ry, r 614 Mill CHANELLE, Miss CATHERINE, r 1326 St. John CHANELLE, E. W. (Mrs. FANNIE), fence maker, r 524 Nichols, tel 983 CHANELLE PICKET FENCE CO. E. W. CHANELLE, mgr, Goosport, tel 476 CHAPPELL, Miss ANNIE, r 705 Cleveland CHAPPELE, ELLA (c), laund, r 315 Boulevard CHARITY, HENRY (MARY), (c), millman, r 1612 Fournet CHARITY, LAVINIA (c), r 226 Leavitt

Advertisements: Muller's; Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailer; A. W. Mayer Fire Insurance; Lake Street Steam Laundry Co.

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CHARITY, W. M. (c), lab, r 226 Leavitt CHARLES, JOE (EMILY), (c), millman, r 315 St. Andrew CHAVANNE, Mrs. E. J. (wid), r 604 Broad, tel 758 CHAUVIN, J. (Mrs.), engineer ice plant, r 132 N. Ryan CHAUVIN, Miss SUE, r 132 N. Ryan CHAVALIER, ALBERT (Corinne), (c), lab, r 649 Franklin CHAVANNE, EDMOND A. (Mrs.), Chavanne Ins. Agency, r 736 Pujo, tel 749 CHAURIN, CHARLES, lab, r 132 N. Ryan

CHAVANNE, FRANCIS (Mrs.), Chavanne & Field ins,

r 1825 Hodges

CHAVANNE & FIELD, real estate and ins, Von Phul & Gordon bldg

CHAVANNE INSURANCE AGENCY, real estate and ins, LEON CHAVANNE, EDM. CHAVANNE, Chavanne bldg, tel 595 CHAVANNE, LEON (Mrs.), Chavanne Ins Agency, r cor South and Sallier CHAVANNE, PHILLIP E. (Mrs.), chf clk St. L I M & S Ry, r 807 S Division, tel 863 CHEATHAM, L. (Mrs. MARY), feed dealer, r 819 Bilbo, tel 649

CHRISTENSON, V. (Mrs.), r Stella St CHEMAINE, MAGILL(Mrs.), lab, r Goos Boulevard

Advertisements: Sam'l Kaufman; F. A. Toce; The Life Insurance Company of Virginia; Meyer's

CHITWOOD, H. M. (Mrs.), real estate, r 310 Eleventh CHITWOOD, H. M., real estate, 4 Eddy bldg, tel 497 CHRISTMAN, A. J. (Mrs. LAURA), retired, r 919 Pujo CHRISTMAS, I. I. (Mrs. SALLIE), wks Bel Lbr Co. r 707 Lawrence CHOUPIQUE PLANTATION CO., H. C. DREW, H. J. GRAY, Viterbo bldg, rm 7 CHRISTOPHER, Mrs. B. (wid), r 120 Pine CHRISTOPHER, F. E. (Mrs. CLARA), lab, r 831 Lyons CISCO, R. F. (Mrs.), prof High School, r 607 Hodges CLARE, Mrs. CHAS, r 508 Pujo

CLARE, Miss MIRIAM, r 508 Puio CLARK, GEORGE S., clk Calc Nat Bank, r 1026 Kirby, tel 740 CLARK, JACK, adv mgr Times, r 527 Bilbo, tel 173 CLARK, JOHN (Mrs. MABEL), watchman, r cor Opelousas and Shattuck CLARK, JOSEPH, r 937 Lyons CLARK, W. T. (Mrs. FRANCES), foreman K C S Ry, r 216 Pine CLARKE, M. E. (Mrs.), r Birch St, west end CLAY, W. C. (LUCY), (c), teamster, r 425 Belden CLAYTON, TOM (c), lab, r 730 Clarence

Advertisements: A. W. Mayer Fire Insurance; Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailor; Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co Ltd; Lake Street Steam Laundry Co.

BURNS, R. D. (Mrs.), wks L C Rice mill, r 133 Ryan BUSH, Miss SARAH, r 307 Kirkman BUTLER, CORNELIA (c), laund, r 229 Kirkman BUTLER, DONALD E., clk S P Ry, r 722 Cleveland BUTLER, JEFF (MARTH), (c), Millman, r 220 Lyons BUTLER, MORRIS J., clk S P Ry, r 722 Cleveland BUTLER, W. E.(Mrs.), wks S P frt depot, r 722 Cleveland

Advertisements: Leon & E. A. Chavanne; Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co., Ltd; G. T. Rock Hardware Co., Ltd; Mathieu's Drug Store

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CAGNEY, WM., (Mrs. MOLLIE), retired, r 527 Lawrence CAHILL, JOS., (Mrs. LAURA), millman, r 719 Nichols CAHILL, Miss LIZZIE, r 719 Nichols CAHILL, PERCY (Mrs. MABEL), weighing inspector, r 819 Lawrence
CAIN, LEVY (CATHERINE), (c), lab, r 521 Franklin CALCASIEU BUILDING & LOAN ASSN,
(W. E. PATTERSON, pres; H. B. KANE, v-pres; J. S. SMITH, v-pres; J. P. BARREMORE, sec;

Rm 12 VON PHUL & GORDON bldg.

CALCASIEU LUMBER COMPANY
CALCASIEU MARBLE WORKS, bet. Pujo
and Broad on Bilbo
CALCASIEU NATIONAL BANK, Ryan and
Pujo, H. C. DREW, pres.
CALCASIEU TRUST & SAVINGS BANK,
Ryan and Pujo, FRANK ROBERTS, pres.
CALCASIEU PARISH FRUIT and TRUCK
GROWERS ASSN., A. L. RIBBECK,
mgr, 316 Pujo, tel 810

Advertisements: Calcasieu Building and Loan Association; C. Loree Grocery Company; Hemenway Furniture Company, Ltd.; Watson & Company; H. M. Graham & Son

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CALDARERA, FRANK (Mrs. ROSA), merchant, r 202 Gallagher
CALDWELL, ANDREW, r 314 Ford
CALHOUN, W. R. (Mrs.), stationery, r 518 Bilbo
CALLERY, WILL (DAISY), (c), lab, r 528 Boulevard
CALLORO, SALVATOR (Mrs. ANDONA), fruits, r 710 Lyons
CAMERON, CATHERON (c), cook, r 104 Blake alley
CAMPBELL, C. J. (Mrs.), furniture dealer, r 610 Bilbo
CAMPBELL, Mrs. CLAUDE, r 614 Bilbo
CAMPBELL, Miss KATE, r 290 Belden
CAMPBELL, Miss ETTA, r 724 Reiley, tel 113

CANDELIER, Mrs. M. E. (wid), r 1532 Commercial CANTON, Miss BERTHA, bkpr, r 714 Hodges CANTON, Miss WILLA, milliner, r 714 Hodges CANTON, WM. (Mrs.), retired, r 714 Hodges CAPELLA, A. (Mrs.), merchant, r 1324 Gallagher CAPO, Miss KATIE, r 1611 Fournet CARLIN, BERNARD, r 114 Bilbo CARLIN, LOUIS, r 114 Bilbo CARLIN, Miss RUTH, r 114 Bilbo CARLIN, WILLIE, r 114 Bilbo CARLIN, WILLIE, r 114 Bilbo CARLSON, A. W. (Mrs.), jeweler, Rigmaiden bldg., r 2107 Ryan, tel 397 CARLYLE, MORTON (LOUISE), (c), carp, r Martin

Advertisements: Muller's; Mathieu's Drug Store; Leon & E. A. Chavanne; G. T. Rock Hardware Co., Ltd.

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CARNAHAN, T. N. (Mrs.), cableman, Cumb Tel & Tel Co, r 501 Helen, tel 67

CARNALO, SAM, BARBER SHOP, 1034 Railroad ave CARNEY, M. R. (Mrs.), repairer, r 503 Belden

CARON, ARTHUR, sawyer, r 1021 Kirkman

CARON, HENRY, sawyer, r 1021 Kirkman

CARON, Miss MARY, r 1021 Kirkman

CARPENTER, HENRY (c), r 1016 Belden

CARR, HENRY (ADDIE), (c), grader, r 1526 Gallagher

CARRIER, A. F. (Mrs.), contr, r 519 Clarence, tel 122

CARRIER, Miss VERNA, r 519 Clarence

CARROLL, Mrs. MOLLIE (wid), r 1116 Bank

CARROLL, S. A. (Mrs.), saleswoman, Kelly-Weber
Co, r 1416 Hodges, tel 651

CARTER, EDWARD (BESSIE), (c), Pullman porter,
r 229 Nichols

CARTER, I. C. (Mrs.), architect, Rigmaiden bldg,
r 1103 Broad, tel 184

CARTER, J. D. (Mrs.), dentist, Von Phul & Gordon
bldg, r 804 B road, tel 184

CARTER, Miss LUCY, nurse, r 801 Hodges, tel 836

CARTER, Miss NELLIE, r 1933 Ryan

CARVER, J. W. (Mrs. ROSE), hackman,
r 512 Clarence

# **CITY DIRECTORIES**

These surveys give a record of every business place and house in a town. They give the name of the owners of the business and the street address for the business. For residences, names of the inhabitants and the address for the house are given, along with the occupation of the male head-of-household, and sometimes for all the working people in the household. You can see how long a family lived in a particular house and how long they stayed in the town. If you do not find the male in the city directory for the next period of time, but find his family there, you may assume that he died. This gives you a time period to check for obituaries, cemetery records, etc. If you do not find the family listed in the next city directory, you may assume they moved on. By checking these city directories and finding the part of town in which a family lived, you will find clues to their economic lifestyle.

## CITY DIRECTORY LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA 1911-1912

Continued from Vol. 34 No. 1

#### LAKE CHARLES CITY DIRECTORY

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BUCE, W. M., clk Bolton Co.,
BUCK BRICK CO., Hodges and East, tel 149-2r
BUCK, Miss BERNICE, r 1902 Hodges
BUCK, H. E. (Mrs.), pres Buck Brick Co,
r 1902 Hodges, tel 149-3r
BUELL & BURK, groceries, 832 Nichols, tel 446
BUELL, C. H. (Mrs.), grocer, r 832 Nichols
BUFORD, SIDNEY (Mrs.), plumber, r 321 Pruitt
BUQUET, LAWRENCE (Mrs.), foreman, S P Ry,
r 723 Railroad Ave
BUHLER, Miss EDITH, stud, r 1337 Louisiana
BUHLER, M., retired, r 1337 Louisiana, tel 986

BULLOCH, N. D. (Mrs.), newsstand, 829 Ryan, r 406 Pruitt BULLOCK, A. E., mach, Reiser Mach shop, r 324 Peake, tel 753 BULLOCK, CHAS., asst cashier L C Nat Bank, r 324 Peake BULLOCK, EDWIN (Mrs. ELLA), r 324 Peake BULLOCK, Miss ELLEN, r 324 Peake BULLOCK, FRANK, collector Beaumont Enterprise, r 324 Peake BULLOCK, J. J. (Mrs.), Capt mail boat, r 321 Peake BUCHAVANNY, FRANK (Mrs.), merch, r 1132 Boulevard BURDON, JAMES (c), porter Calc Nat Bank, r 724 Clarence

Advertisements: Calcasieu Building and Loan Association; C. F. Daigle & Co.; The Hi-Mount Land Company Ltd.; A. Brammer General Repair Shop

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BURGESS, W. G. (Mrs.), BURGESS & GRAHAM Barber shop, 833 Ryan BURK, ANDREW (Phyllis), (c), millman, r 505 Nix BURKE, Miss MINNIE, r 219 Hodges BURKE, TOM (Mrs.), barber, r 219 Hodges BURKE, T. F. (Mrs.), merchant, 832 Nichols, r same BURLESON, G. L. (Mrs.), fireman city, r 120 East BURNETT, Mrs. JOHN (wid), r 314 Peake
BURNETT, Miss KATHERINE, r 314 Peake
BURNEY, R. E. (Mrs.), clothier, C F DAIGLE & Co
r 1307 Ryan
BURNS, C. B. (DENISE), (c), brickmason,
r 126 St. Joseph
BURNS, HENRY (Mrs.), retired, r 223 Ann

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- examination, physical, etc. and will return next Friday.
- Mrs. JAMES A. GRAYE, nee CELESTIA D. WENTZ, died last night at 8 o'clock. She was born in the state of Michigan, January 1, 1863. She married Mr. JAMES A. GRAYE at Oscoda, Michigan, August 14, 1881. She has lived in Lake Charles about 13 years, and in that time she has become well acquainted with the people of the town she has numerous friends and was liked by all who knew her. Her sorrowing husband has the deepest sympathy of the whole community.
- The *Daily American* takes pleasure in announcing that it has secured the services of Mr. W. N. NAPP, of Houston, Texas, who will hereafter be connected with the paper in the capacity of circulator. Mr. NAPP is a clever gentleman, a good business man and understands his business thoroughly. The general public is requested to give him a courteous hearing, and any favors shown him will be duly appreciated by the management of the paper.
- Messrs. B. A. BARNETT and FRED WEBER spent yesterday fishing about ten miles north of town. They returned late last night and say the best haul made was the red bugs they hauled home.

#### REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Following are the real estate transfers for June 21 and 22:

ARTHUR S. RICHARD to G. and JOSEPH PIRALLO. Sale of land. Consideration \$525.00. JNO. G. BERRY to JAS. O. ODOM. Sale of land. Consideration \$400.00.

Patents granted D. J. SMITH and HENRY LAMPORT.

HENRY LAMPORT to JNO. R. LYLES. Sale of land. Consideration \$1,704.30.

HARDIE L. CRISSEY to HAWCOTT LAND COMPANY. Sale of land. Consideration \$51.00.

### LITTLE LOCALS

Mr. BERT FRAZIER is visiting his uncle, Mr. J. E. FRAZIER.

The Gypsy Queen left today with a cargo of swine.

The house formerly occupied by the W. C. T. U. is being repapered.

Mr. BOB SMITH, an employee of the Daily American, has been on the sick list for several days.

The building formerly occupied by C. SANTO is being repapered and will be occupied by Dr. FRITH.

- One of the freight cars belonging to the Watkins railway was destroyed in the fire at the Ryan-Richard mill.
- A bicycle party is being given this afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. BUNKER, on Kirby Street.
- Mrs. P. F. GOUDEAU gave an ice cream party last evening in honor of her father, M. LEON GAUTHIER, who is visiting her.
- J. S. THOMSON and wife have returned home. Mrs. THOMSON has been visiting friends and relatives in Baton Rouge and Plaquemine.
- Doc. GILL made the following couples happy the 23 by issuing them licenses to marry: CHARLES LEE HANNAH and HELEN JONES; NATHANIEL CLIFTON and ELLA FITZGERALD.
- Mr. GEO. GARVIN and family, who have been residing near the Perkins ferry, are moving into town today, and will occupy one of H. C. GILL's houses on the lake front.
- Mr. J. H. FRANKLIN is in town today adjusting the insurance of the Ryan-Richards mill, which was consumed by fire Monday afternoon.

#### THE DAILY AMERICAN (23 JUNE 1897)

Information gathered by MICK HENDRIX (Member #1296)

**PERSONAL.** The Comings and Goings of People You Know.

Mr. J. A. HARVEY slept last night in the city. Mr. A. WEST is a caller from Vincent today. Mr. JOHN ROUNDTREE is visiting in the city today. J. SMITH came over from Lake Arthur last evening. Mr. C. G. C. PAGEOT went to Westlake this morning. Capt. W. B. NORRIS, of Westlake is in the city today. Capt. GEO LOCK, of Lockport, was in town yesterday. Mr. JOHNSON, of Sugartown, is spending the day in the city. Mr. A. WILSON was transacting business with our merchants today. Messrs. J. R. and A. T. JONES, of Iowa, were in town yesterday. Mr. G. W. POPE, of Beaumont, is transacting business in the city today. Mr. F. A. ARCENEAUX, of Welsh, is transacting business in the parish seat today. Mr. J. C. WARD, a fireman on the P. G. road is visiting with Mr. G. W. OTTO today. R. H. ODOM, of Ford's mill, came down to the city last night over the Watkins route. CHAS. S. FENTON went to Glenmora yesterday on business for that standard firm, the Lake Charles Carriage and Implement Company. JNO. LYLES, a large log dealer, after having spent several days in Lake Charles, returned to his home today. One of Lake Charles' charming daughters, Miss BERTHA CANTON, returned home yesterday, after two weeks visit with Miss LILLIAN ARCHER and other friends at Welsh, La.

FOR THE SOLDIERS. Great Benefit Concert at the Opera House To-morrow Night.

- The members of Company G have secured permission from the city council and all others concerned, and will have their grand concert at the opera house tomorrow night at 9 o'clock.
- Those who are fond of good music should by all means attend. The programme prepared is an exceedingly attractive one, and the band will render several selections.
- Mr. CYRIL DADSWELL and Mrs. DADSWELL, until recently members of the Bohemian Opera Company, of New Orleans, will participate. Mr. and Mrs. DADSWELL are splendid musicians, and a treat is assured to all who are present.

#### LOCAL MATTERS.

- Tug *Ramos* and barge will take another party of excursionists to the gulf Saturday Night. Sloop *Bernette*, of Galveston, is up today from the Pass with a load of watermelons and is unloading at the ferry boat wharf.
- Mr. D. CAMERON, who lives with Mr. W. H. BEARDSLEY, and is Mrs. BEARDSLEY's father is not expected to live. He has been sick for sometime.
- Rev. H. W. VIRGIN, of Nicklesville, Kentucky, will preach at the First Baptist church tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock. He will also fill the pulpit of that church next Sunday.
- E. H. ALSOP, disturbing the peace by fighting, was fined \$1.00.
- JAMES PERRY, using bad language, was fined \$1.50, or three days work on the street.
- The work on the switch which will connect the S. P. and the K. C. P. & G. roads is being pushed as rapidly as possible and by Saturday night it is expected to have the gap closed.
- Rev. C. L. JONES will deliver the third of his course on "The Young Man" tonight at the Christian church. His subject will be "The Young Man and the Professions."
- Mr. FRANCIS J. HORTIG, who was appointed to the United States Military Academy, at West Point, from this district, by Congressman BROUSSARD, was unable to pass the

By mid 1907, the city system was fairly well established as a separate institution, with all city school property in the possession of the local board.

At a City School Board meeting in May, 1906, the applications of B. F. DUDLEY, JAMES A. WILLIAMS and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN were considered for the position of city superintendent with a yearly salary of \$1,500. Mr. DUDLEY was unanimously elected as the first city school superintendent for a term of one year.

During DUDLEY's term, the City School System was organized. This conveyed all the city school property to the City School Board.

In May, 1907, E. S. JENKINS was unanimously elected City Superintendent of Lake Charles City Schools. He was elected for one year beginning August 14 at a salary of \$2,000 for 12 months. JENKINS was a native of Tennessee.

The first city school board members were LEON LOCKE, a lawyer; State Senator FRANK HASKELL; Judge J. A. WILLIAMS; H. W. ROCK, a merchant and JESSE J. NELSON, a lumberman. LOCKE was chosen president and A. A. WENTZ, a realtor, was the first secretary but not a board member.

At a board meeting in that same month, JENKINS ordered that all meetings of the board be held in the council chambers and open to all citizens. Also at the request of JENKINS, the first teachers' contracts made their appearance in August of that year.

In December, 1908, LOCKE resigned from the board. His vacancy was filled by R. L. COLEMAN, a realtor. Two more vacancies in 1911 were filled by KYLE RAMSEY, chief deputy sheriff, and THOMAS F. PORTER Jr., attorney.

In 1913 three new board members took office. They were J. B. KENT, attorney; J. H. COLLETTE, a merchant; and J. W. ORY, a contractor. They served with the two former board members, WILLIAMS and COLEMAN. In August that year, COLLETTE died and the next July COLEMAN resigned.

The two vacancies were filled by appointment of the governor of LEON SUGAR, attorney, and H. L. BLACKWELL, a lumberman, to the school post.

\*

CENSUS TAKERS SALARY IN 1870. The census takers get two cents for every name taken, ten cents for every farm, fifteen cents for every productive establishment of industry, two cents for every deceased person, two cents on the whole amount for names enumerated for social statistics, and ten cents per mile traveled.

Source: Genealogical Tips, Harlingen, TX, Vol. XXXXVII No. 3, taken from Kansas Kin, Riley Co. Genealogical Society, Manhattan, KS, November 1994

#### FLOOR: THE PLACE FOR STORING PRICELESS GENEALOGY RECORDS.

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In 1896, membership on the school board was made more attractive, when for the first time, members were paid for attending the meetings.

In 1893, the Parish school board had adopted a resolution providing that local Lake Charles school board directors be elected by the patrons of schools in the city limits. The parish board was to grant a commission to any person duly elected.

The city directors were required to meet the last day of the scholastic months to examine the teachers' reports before they were sent to the parish superintendent. Soon, the duties of the local board of directors and of the local trustees merged.

Gradually, the local board of directors originally created by the parish board, assumed more than its share of board duties, but as long as no important issues were involved, the parish board made no objections. By 1902, the local board had received the privilege of making contracts for supplies for which the parish board paid without questions with the local board's recommendation.

In 1905 the local board demanded official power to control the finances of the city schools and to hire the teachers.

To settle the issue, a joint meeting of the two boards was held, in which the parish board passed a resolution granting full powers to the local city board to control the Lake Charles schools as far as possible under the existing state laws.

The new board was to have five members and be empowered to elect its own chairman and secretary, the latter to serve as city superintendent also. The members were still appointed by the parish board.

Evidently the local board was not satisfied, for in 1906, its protest to the parish board was against the limitation of its powers. This protest led to the final step in the separation of the two boards. An article in the *Lake Charles American*, April 14, 1906 gave details of separation terms:

"A bill providing for complete separate control of the school affairs of the city to be vested in the City Board was drafted by City Attorney OVERTON at the request of the City Board of School Directors. The bill, in substance, provided for a board of five members to be elected at large from the city. All members are required to read and write the English language and to be qualified voters of the city.

"They are to be elected under the general election laws of the State. The Board is to have the same general qualifications as the Parish Superintendent. His is to be the Secretary of the City Board and the Treasurer of the City School finances. The City Board can create no debt and no city official can be a member of the Board."

This Act was passed almost exactly as drafted and still exists today. Separation took place officially on April 10, 1907 although it had been in effect actually since December, 1906.

The college opened in October, 1890, with HENRY L. HUBBELL, a graduate of Yale, as president with an enrollment of 60 students which never increased until the school closed. The college was always troubled with financial difficulties and many times was not able to complete a year's work.

In 1903, Lake Charles College closed. This marked the end of the private school era, aside from the parochial schools. The building and property was acquired by the Calcasieu Parish School Board.

Under a legislative act of 1888, the authority of the school boards in the state was greatly expanded and strengthened. At this time, JOHN McNEESE was elected superintendent and secretary of the School Board of Calcasieu Parish. McNEESE undoubtedly played the greatest role in the educational development of Southwest Louisiana up to 1914.

# LAKE CHARLES CITY SCHOOL HISTORY HAD BEGINNING IN 1907

The Lake Charles City School system evolved from schools that were under the Calcasieu Parish system.

The present city school system had its beginning in 1907. The separation of the city, and parish systems was due greatly to influences of political events of those times.

The history of Lake Charles schools to 1907 seem to fall into three development periods: 1841 to 1860, the administration of public schools of Lake Charles to the Civil War period; 1861 to 1887, the period following reconstruction; and 1888 to 1907, JOHN McNEESE's superintendence terminated by the establishment of the separate city system.

Development of the separate systems evolved from several social factors. These grass root factors, according to a research thesis by LEILA ALINE SCARLETT in 1938, were essentially the school board, the superintendent, school support, certification and training of teachers, housing of schools, schools for Negroes, and other general school statistics such as enrollment numbers, salaries, etc.

Historical events leading to the dual school system locally might well be traced and understood by marking the school board development from the year 1888. In that year, a legislative act greatly expanded the authority of the state school boards.

Board members were to hold office for a period of four years. They had the powers to sue and be sued, to hold property, to elect the president and parish superintendent, to apportion funds among the parish schools, and to visit schools or to appoint a visiting board for this purpose.

It was the Calcasieu Parish School Board created under the act of 1888 which elected the influential JOHN McNEESE parish superintendent. The board was also responsible for the idea of enumerating the educables of the parish so that the full quota of parish education funds might be obtained from the state government.

The private schools in Southwest Louisiana provided fine school work, working with meager equipment at a very reasonable cost to the people. Tuition costs in the elementary grades ran from two to three dollars a month and five dollars a month in the advanced grades.

Some schools operated at night offering courses in commercial subjects to students who were unable to attend the day classes. Tuition costs were as low as \$1.50 a month for the night school.

Some parents were too poor to pay tuition so the state and parish, when public money was available, paid the costs of private tuition for the needy children. Because of this practice, the early public schools were sometimes called Pauper Schools.

Soon after the Civil War the demand for schools beyond the elementary grades grew due to increased enrollment numbers. In response, for more advanced schooling, the academy was brought to the parish.

The academies were excellent schools and were probably the most valuable schools developed by educators during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. They served as the preparatory schools for the university.

The St. Charles Academy School of Lake Charles opened for girls on Sept. 11, 1882, and admitted boys the next year. The school was under the supervision of the Sisters Marianites of the Holy Cross.

Another parish academy operating in 1881 was one located in Sugartown. The school was known as Professor BALDWIN's Male and Female School. An ad in the Oct. 22, 1881 edition of the newspaper, *Echo*, gave a brief description of the school as thus:

"The school stands about a half mile from Sugartown on commodious grounds, surrounded by a good plank fence. It has a convenient water supply, and the schoolroom is large and comfortable with a washroom at each end for the young men and the young ladies.

Mr. BALDWIN has had 15 years experience in teaching, so the discipline is excellent.

"The second term will begin October 31 and will continue six months. Tuition runs from \$2 to \$4 a month with \$1 for incidental fee. Miss MOLLIE RICHARDSON is assistant principal. Board may be had by the pupils in the best families. There are 45 pupils who have applied for enrollment and as many as 75 expected."

The Lake Charles College was the crowning and the culminating achievement of the private school movement in Southwest Louisiana. It was located on the spur of the Watkins Railroad that ran from the main line to a little depot on Broad Street near Enterprise Boulevard.

The school's location was rather remote from Lake Charles proper in the early days, but the dummy line which was operated by the railroad accommodated the student and faculty of the college. The 16-acre school site was donated by J. B. WATKINS and is the present location of Lake Charles High School.

#### **PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM STARTED IN 1821**

Lake Charles American Press – 15 August 1965

Little information is available today on education in the Calcasieu territory settlements before Louisiana was admitted to the Union in 1812, according to WARD ANDERSON, Lake Charles City School superintendent from 1920-1948.

The Louisiana state public school system had its first beginnings with the Act of 1821. This Act empowered the police juries of the state to select five administrators of public schools for their respective parishes.

It was the duty of the parish school administrators to visit all the schools in his district and report their condition to the policy jury.

The five appointees of Old Imperial Calcasieu Parish had to cover the area which is today the parishes of Cameron, Calcasieu, Allen, Beauregard, Jeff Davis and St. Landry. That was a big job in those days, since in the period from 1821 to 1840 traveling was slow and difficult.

Partly because of slow travel and communications, the people of Old Calcasieu placed little confidence in state or parish aid and slowly by their own efforts organized and financed private schools to educate their children.

The private school movement began about 1820 when the first school of that type in the parish was opened near Lake Charles. The movement continued to expand until about 1880 and then declined and finally ended in the early 1890s when the public school system became able to assume the full responsibility of parish education.

During the 70 years of their operation, private schools gave the parish community excellent service and the schoolmasters in those schools played an important role in the life of the communities.

In the earliest days of school operations and even some time later, a teacher's ability was measured by his power to maintain discipline mostly by a good stout hickory rod. Discipline was a thing that all parents demanded and their children usually received it.

Schoolmasters were influential and important people in the small community and their knowledge and education were greatly respected.

It is true that some of the early itinerant masters had barely enough education to teach the rudiments of the 3r's. However, the majority of the teachers were capable and conscientious instructors, with college training that enabled them to maintain high standards in their classes.

In those early days, the private school was the finishing school for most of the young people in Calcasieu Parish. To a great degree, therefore, the future destiny of the youth of each generation depended upon the qualifications of their schoolmasters.

#### NEWS ITEMS FROM THE LAKE CHARLES WEEKLY ECHO (Saturday, 9 May 1868)

Information from newspapers gathered by MICK HENDRIX (Member #1296)

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA. Adopted in Convention at New Orleans, Saturday, March 7, 1868. Title VII – Education; VIII – Militia; IX – Mode of Revising the Constitution. Articles under each Title were described.

#### PROBATE SALE: Estate of MARGUERITE TRAHAN.

By virtue of an order of the Hon. The Eighth Judicial District Court of Louisiana, in and for the Parish of Calcasieu, there will be offered at public auction, to the last and highest bidder by the undersigned Administrator or duly qualified Auctioneer, at the last residence of the deceased, in this Parish, on Saturday, May 23, 1868, all the property situated in this Parish, belonging to the Estate of MARGUERITE TRAHAN, deceased, and now held in community between the surviving husband, MICHEL ELENDER, and the heirs of said deceased to wit: Improvements on Public Land, last residence of deceased; 36 head gentle cattle; 39 head wild cattle; stock horses and mares; 3 yoke oxen; hogs; poultry; household and kitchen furniture, &c., &c.

Terms and Conditions: - On a credit of one, two and three years from date of sale; purchasers furnishing their notes with approved personal security in solido, payable to said MICHEL ELENDER, Adm'r, or order, bearing 8 per cent interest per annum from maturity until paid.

Lake Charles, May 9, 1868

MICHEL ELENDER, Administrator

#### NOTICE: Convention Tax.

All persons owning property in this Parish, are hereby notified to come forward and settle their "Convention Tax" immediately, or they will incur the penalty prescribed by law. Office open every day. D. K. READ. Sheriff and Collector Feb. 15, 1868 Sheriff's office, Lake Charles, La.

#### LAKE CHARLES MALE AND FEMALE ACADEMY

The present session began, Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep. 1867, and will close about the last of July 1868.

Charges in specie or its equivalent in currency, payable monthly.

Board, lodging and washing, per month for children \$8.00 For young men and young ladies \$9.00 Tuition in English department \$2.00

Students furnish their own bedding, lights, toilet soap, table and toilet napkins.

Strict attention paid to the moral instruction of students.

Feb. 15, 1868 J. W. BRYAN, Principal

MASONIC. The new Lodge Hall of Lake Charles Lodge, No. 165, F. and A. M., will be dedicated at Lake Charles, La., on Saturday, May 16, 1868. A Masonic Oration will be delivered publicly in the new Lodge room by R. W. BRO, GEO H. WELLS, D. D. G. M. at 2 o'clock P. M. Visiting Brethren in good standing are cordially invited to attend. The public generally are respectfully requested to assemble at the new Lodge Room at 1-1/2 P. M.

> By order of A. B. WILLIAMS, W. M. Attest, M. J. ROSTEET, Secretary. Lake Charles, May 2, 1868

- STODDARD, BENNETT ROBERT Death: buried Bilbo Cemetery, according to obituary (not Graceland/Orange Grove Cemetery), marker lost. Children: JOSEPH ROBERT STODDARD's wife is EMILY HAINES. Comment re "a marker was found at Graceland/Orange Grove Cemetery" is not correct. The marker is his son's, J. R. BENNETT.
- VINCENT, NATHANIEL Children (not mentioned): HARDY (b. 26 Sept. 1883, d. 14 June 1922) m. CLELIE ETIE (b. 12 Mar. 1885, d. 13 June 1973)
- VINCENT, THOMAS Death: (from homemade marker in Farquhar Cemetery)
  Died January 5, 1878
- VINCENT, URSIN marker in Farquhar Cemetery spells name "URSAN," gives a birth date of Sept. 20, 1845 and death date of Nov. 27, 1914) 1<sup>st</sup> Wife's name is spelled LEATHAN on her marker and her death date is listed as Oct. 10, 1880.
- WEBRE, EUGENE Birth: A modern replacement tombstone gives the date as April 15, 1821. Children: ROBERT's wife is MAYME JOHNSON (not MAYNE). MARGARET (b. 1873) m. FRED JOHNSON (not \_\_\_\_\_WEBRE). All these are buried in Big Woods Cemetery.
- WEST, MARION L. Death: buried Farquhar Cemetery (marker lost)

in the Civil War.

#### **CORRECTIONS submitted by FRANN S. CLARK**

- CLARK, JOHN H., Jr. b. 1847 (not 1844), died Jan. 16, 1894, buried in unknown location, Doyle Cemetery, Starks, LA.; m. Oct. 14, 1869, ADELINE DOYLE PERKINS (1<sup>st</sup> spouse). The book has RACHAL, who is his mother.

  The family has no record of JOHN H. CLARK, Jr. serving in the Civil War. He was 14 at the time the war started and would have been old enough to serve at the end but family records indicate that he remained at home with his mother during the war years.
- CLARK, JOHN H., Sr. b. about 1825 (not 1811). Headstone has 1897 as date of death but some records indicate it as February 12, 1907. Married November 1846 to RACHAL DRAKE and both are buried in Archie Clark Cemetery in Beauregard Parish.
- SHIRLEY, DANIEL W. This DANIEL W. SHIRLEY is buried in Nelson Cemetery, Winnfield, LA.

  There are two people with the name "DANIEL SHIRLEY" buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Beauregard Parish, LA. One is DANIEL RICHARD SHIRLEY, b. 1879 the other DANIEL THORNTON SHIRLEY, b. 1916. Neither of these could have served

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CONFEDERATE VETERAN DIES. ALVIN CORBELLO, 94 year-old farmer of Chloe who has lived in this parish since he was born in Old Imperial Calcasieu on May 6, 1839, died in his home north of Chloe at 6:30 p.m. Friday after an illness of about three months. Arrangements for the funeral have not been completed. Mr. CORBELLO was a Confederate veteran. Surviving are three sons, JOSEPH, MARTIN and AMBROSE CORBELLO of Chloe; two daughters, Mrs. CLAUDE FOSTER and Mrs. F. I. FOSTER, both of Lake Charles; two brothers, ALFRED and JOSEPH L. CORBELLO, also of Lake Charles; and one sister, Mrs. MARY TERRISE BURGESS of Orange, Texas.

Jones. "75 Years Ago," Lake Charles American Press (1/7/1933)

KINFOLKS 79 Vol. 34 No. 2

## THE CIVIL WAR VETERANS OF OLD IMPERIAL CALCASIEU PARISH, LA Compiled by BETTY TYLER ROSTEET and SANDRA FISHER MIGUEZ

#### **CORRECTIONS submitted by CAROL McCLURE**

- CORBELLO (CURBELLO), ALVIN Name is spelled "ALVINE" on tombstone.
- DEIMER (DELMER), LEVI His last name is wrong. It should be "DIEMER." It is spelled thus on both his and his wife's graves.
- ELENDER, JACOB A. Under children: 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of his son, ROBERT, is EMERITE BONIN, not EMESITE, according to her marker.
- ELENDER, MICHEL buried in Farquhar Cemetery, not in Elender Cemetery.
- GRIFFITH, JOHN Birth: 16 Nov. 1826 (age 93, 1919); Death: 15 Sept. 1919, Port Arthur, TX; buried Dutch Cove Cemetery
- HEWITT, J. C. Should be J. T. HEWITT according to marker.
- KENNEDY, LUCIEN W. Residence: Lake Charles, 1845-1892 (not 1942);
  Death: 25 July 1892 (not 1942), buried Graceland/Orange Grove Cemetery (not Sallier).
- LACEY, JAMES M. (JAMES MONROE LACY on tombstone) buried Farquhar Cemetery.

  His wife is not "TORLITHI," but TALITHA SEYMOUR. Children: W. C. "WILLIAM CLARENCE" (1869-1954); Mrs. W. A. VINCENT Mrs. WILLIAM ANDERSON VINCENT (1858-1931) (SARAHAN LACY)
- LeBLANC, EMILE M. His wife is listed as "ALZENA MOSS" on her marker.
- LeBLEU, JOSEPH CAMARSAC child listed as "FARREL" is written "FERIOLE" on marker with Major J. C. LeBLEU in Catholic Cemetery. (The dates for FERIOLE are 5 Mar. 1886 9 Mar. 1907.)
- LYONS, BENJAMIN H. In Big Woods/Antioch Cemetery, found a BENJAMIN LYONS (s/o MICHAEL LYONS & MARY HAYES). He was born June 10, 1826 and died March 1918. His wife was AMANDA LYONS, d/o JOHN LYONS & AMANDA STANTON (not MANDONA). She was born Aug. 24, 1831. Her marker was missing the last time the cemetery was read. Their children are listed as: WALTER ROBERT (1846-1924) m. ELLEN JANE GILL in 1871; ELEANOR (b. 1848); MANCEL (not MANSIL) (1850-1933) m. CORDELIA "Pet" LYONS (1862-1918); CASSIEDANIA (not CASSANDRA) (1853-1945) m. MANUEL DEMMIER HEBERT (1846-1907); FRANCIS, b. 1856; TABITHA, b. 1858. Info found in *Big Woods Cemetery* Book.
- OLIVER, DOMINIQUE Name on tombstone reads "DOMINGO OLIVIA." He is the husband of JOSEPH CHARLES SALLIER's daughter. His grave is with theirs.
- MULLETT, THOMAS Death date is correct. He is buried in Sec. H, Graceland/Orange Grove Cemetery.
- RYAN, ISAAC The name ISAAC is misspelled as "ISSAC" in the title. He is the son of ASA RYAN, not JACOB RYAN.
- RYAN, JOSEPH LAWRENCE, s/o JACOB RYAN, Jr. and REBECCA GAINES BILBO (not JACOB RYAN, Sr. and MARY A. HARTGROVE)
- SALLIER, JOSEPH CHARLES Children: "MARIE IRMA" is not buried in Farquhar Cemetery. She is buried in Sallier Cemetery near her husband and father. The name on her grave is "MARY ELMA OLIVIA."

Several men accused as perpetrators of the dam destruction were drained; their health damaged by tensions.

According to the late ATHOL GLASSEN, even after his return to Lake Arthur from service in World War I, the court battle was still going on. GLASSEN, having had some experience in maritime engineering during the war, was summoned to court to give his opinion on certain involved technicalities.

Finally the accused were acquitted, and the bitterness and frustrations of nearly two decades became past history.

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#### SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA, CENSUS 2000 Lake Charles American Press (4/20/2001)

According to the federal census for the year 2000 the population of southwest Louisiana recorded steady growth and now tops 300,000. The population of the entire state was 4,468,976, a 6% increase over 1990. The largest racial groups in the state were whites, blacks and Hispanics. Whites comprised 64% of the state's population, while blacks made up 32% and Hispanics accounted for 2%. The following information gives population statistics for the year 2000 for the five parish area which made up Old Imperial Calcasieu Parish.

ALLEN PARISH had 25,440 people in 2000, gaining about 20% in population from 1990. Its racial makeup was 72% white; 25% black; 4.5% Hispanic; 2% American Indian, Aleut or Eskimo; .57% Asian; .01% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders; .024% other white non-Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders.

**BEAUREGARD PARISH** had a total population of 32,986 in 2000, a gain of 10% from 1990. Of these, 84% were white; 13% black; 1% Hispanic; .66% American Indian, Aleut or Eskimo; .06% Asian; .05% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders; .03% other white non-Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders.

CALCASIEU PARISH had a population of 182,577, an increase of 9% over that of 1990. It was 74% white; 24% black; 1% Hispanic; .64% Asian; .31% American Indian, Aleut or Eskimo; .03% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders; .41% other white non-Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders.

CAMERON PARISH had a total population of 9,981 in 2000, an increase of 8% since 1990. They included 94% white; 4% black; .44% Asian; .37% American Indian, Aleut or Eskimo; .44% Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders; .94% other white non-Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders. The total Hispanic population for the parish was less than 2%.

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH's population was 31,435, up 2% from 1990. Of these, 81% were white; 18% black, 1% Hispanic; .38% American Indian, Aleut or Eskimo; .19% Asian; .01% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders; .2% other white non-Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders.

their hands and feet were tied and they were faced with three threatening Winchester barrels. More masked men were surrounding them from every direction, each of the attackers seemingly enacting a role in a well rehearsed drama.

Electric wires were quickly stretched out the length of the dam; charges were placed at frequent points; and all wires were connected to a portable electric battery. Within two hours the work was completed.

Their leader checked the connections. Then the participants disappeared into the darkness as swiftly and silently as they had come; only the leader remained. He released the guards, who fled. The dam was blown to pieces. It was discovered later that 16 of its 40 sections were completely destroyed.

Who were the masked men? From where did they come? How did they manage to surprise and capture the guards?

Officially, these questions remained unanswered. Unofficially, it was rumored that the men who had taken the law into their own hands, be it right or wrong, had approached the dam in a gasoline boat and had cut off the motor before its sound had become audible to the guards. They had landed about ten that evening; then under the cover of darkness had surprised the guards.

The next morning Captain HENRY SWEET, owner and operator of *The Olive*, turned his steamer and headed it up the river to the town of Mermentau. At 3:30 he dropped anchor and related to the outside world the news of the night before.

Accusations against several men who were supposed to have had a part in the conspiracy were made.

In late Sept. 1908, *The Lake Charles American Press* stated: "Congressman A. PUJO and his private secretary, T. J. EDWARDS, left this morning for Mermentau, where they will be joined by Col. BEACH of Jackson Barracks, The United States Army engineer in charge of rivers and harbors work in this department, and will go down the Mermentau River to Grand Chenier to make an inspection of the dam at that place. The inspection was ordered by the War Department at the request of Mr. PUJO for the purpose of determining whether the dam can be rebuilt or whether it should be removed entirely.

"It is understood an agreement has been reached by the promoters of the dam and the people of Cameron Parish, that both parties will abide by the decision of the Rivers and Harbors Road, based on the report of Col. BEACH, and if he decides the structure is not a menace to the people of the neighborhood, it will be rebuilt. If, on the other hand, Col. BEACH pronounces it a menace to those people, it will be removed."

#### FINAL OUTCOME

Mr. BEACH's decision was long delayed. Sentiment regarding the dam changed to favor the Grand Chenier people. The dam was never reconstructed.

#### THE GREAT MERMENTAU DAM WAR IS RECALLED

#### By BERNICE STEWART

Cameron Pilot – Oct. 1, 1976
Re-printed The Cameron Parish Pilot, Cameron, La. – Oct. 22, 2009

(Mrs. STEWART says to the following story: "For ten years I have been searching for information relating to the Grand Chenier Dam. It ranks in Chenier history with the hardships of

the Civil War, shadowed only by the destruction of Hurricane "Audrey.")

One of the most controversial issues that history records in Cameron Parish was the construction of a dam at Grand Chenier. Called the Mermentau Dam, it was built in 1902 and 1903 through private subscription by the rice farmers in the Mermentau Basin.

It was intended to keep salt water out of the upper Mermentau and its tributaries so that the waters of these streams might be used for irrigation purposes.

Beneficial it was to the rice plants in West Vermilion and the southeastern part of Old Imperial Calcasieu, even to those in the northeastern section of Cameron Parish. However, for farmers and stock raisers in the lower part of Cameron, it proved disastrous as their land was flooded, their crops and pastures ruined.

In 1905, the dam was blown up, secretly, of course, allegedly by citizens of Cameron Parish who felt the injustice that had been dealt them by others who were profiting at their expense.

Legal action was taken by both sides, but the people in and around Grand Chenier lost. The dam was rebuilt. Guards were placed at the site of the dam to prevent another calamity.

Captain RITSCHER, who had been in charge of the dam since its original construction and who headed the repair work, had it again functioning by March, 1907.

At that time the water in the Mermentau River was exceptionally low, 33 inches lower than the previous year according to measurements taken by Captain RITSCHER.

Then came the rains and floods of July, 1907. Tides ran strongly as far as Mud Lake. The rice farmers along the upper river became apprehensive. To insure protection of the dam the government employed a special crew of guards to watch it day and night. Positively there would be no recurrence of the dynamiting of 1905.

Some of the victims of the flooded lands were also eyeing the infamous and concrete example of injustice and were surely and secretly planning retaliation. As their whispered consultations took shape, their public remonstrances diminished.

The men guarding the dam relaxed, believing that the worst of the agitation was over.

Then came Friday, July 20,1907. Five minutes before midnight a small, masked, orderly group of men crept upon the guards and over-powered them before they realized what was happening,

FRANCIS WOOLFLEY made his career in the service. He married ROSALIE DUFOUR, a teacher that taught him to speak French for military purposes. They had three children, FRANCIS A. WOOLFEY Jr. (1921), ROSALIE ELIZABETH WOOLFLEY (1926), and H. L. DUFOUR WOOLFLEY (1932). The family made their home in New Orleans.

My childhood memories of Uncle FRANCIS is when he visited the WOOLFLEY home at 1006 7<sup>th</sup> Street. I can still vision him as this short, firmly built man who had on a dark suit, white long-sleeved shirt with cuff links and tie. When he stood up he was very straight as if his shoulders were cemented back and never appeared to look at ease. The one thing that caught my eye was the "Hitler" shaped mustache that he wore about his lip. It was about a half inch in width. With WOOLFLEY (German name), I often thought whose side was he fighting on? Later on in life I realized that he was a true American patriot. He was a giving person always bringing back foreign coins and foreign dolls for my mother and sisters. FRANCIS also paid off the home on 7<sup>th</sup> Street for his parents to live out their lives without any worries. He helped in his two sisters and young brother CLEM's college education. My great uncle lived to one-hundred years old, and here is a list of some of his accomplishments:

Commandant of Cadets and Professor of Military Science and Tactics at LSU from 1921-25 Received Brigadier General Star in 1943 and Commander of the "76<sup>th</sup>" Infantry Division, serving in United States, England, France, Belgium, Luxemburg and Germany

Awarded the Legion of Merit

Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster

Oak Leaf Cluster for the Silver Star and Air Medal

Also decorated by the French, Belgium, Luxemburg, and Russian Governments.

FRANCIS WOOLFLEY retired from active duty on April 30, 1953 at the age of sixty years. In 1953 Governor ROBERT KENNER appointed FRANCIS WOOLFLEY Director of Civil Defense for Louisiana. He also served as Assistant State Adjutant General.

FRANCIS WOOLFLEY also belonged to many organizations such as: 76<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association
American Legion
Military Order of World War
Civil War Round Table of New Orleans
New Orleans Opera Club
The General Society of the War of 1812
Sons of the American Revolution

All of his official correspondence, military orders, personal letters, autobiography, etc. were donated to the LSU Library Special Collections Department, 13 linear feet. www.lib.lsu.edu/special/findaid/3487.pdf

Information was taken from FRANCIS A. WOOLFLEY personal Autobiography that was given to my mother ANNIE JEAN WOOLFLEY years ago before her death in 1986.

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#### A PEOPLE WITHOUT A PAST ARE A PEOPLE WITHOUT A FUTURE.

often returned home at 7 PM as long as the *Press* was up and running. FRANCIS stated that he later bought two acres with an old home next door to his father's at Fisherville. All of this property was given to his younger brother CLEM, who in 1957 sold the property to the Calcasieu Parish School Board. The house was torn down and an elementary school was built.

In 1910 he said he gave up working for the Press and devoted time to school athletics, principally baseball and track. During the time of the April 23, 1910, fire of Lake Charles, he stated he was catching baseballs for the Westlake team on that Saturday. He said they completed the game to find out the ferry boat Hazel was not operating because the fire had blocked the exit from the Lake Charles wharf. FRANCIS said they ran across the Southern Pacific trestle and railway tracks to return home. He said over one hundred businesses and homes had burnt that day. In the Spring of 1911 he said they had won first place in the Lake Charles High School Track Meet at Southwestern Louisiana Institute in Lafayette. FRANCIS said he won first in the 100-yard Dash, 220-yard Dash and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 440-yard Dash. Lake Charles High awarded ALFRED REID a gold medal, WOOLFLEY a silver medal and CLEGY REID a bronze medal for their Interscholastic Athletic and Oratorical Association of Southwest Louisiana at an assembly. FRANCIS also stated his class was the first to graduate at mid-term on January 28, 1911. However, they had to wait and walk with the June graduating class. For the joint exercise he said the two graduating classes were given a debate. He stated that ORVILLE L. MILLS and he were on the January Class and LEO DASPIT and LEO KAOUGH were on the June class. The subject debate was titled "Resolved that the United States Navy should be increased to the equal in size of that of any world power." ORVILLE and FRANCIS were assigned the negative side, won the debate and received the senior debating medal. Scholastically FRANCIS finished second in his graduating class; first place went to LILLIAN FLANDERS. He was offered a full scholarship to Tulane but had to decline to help with the support of the family. FRANCIS worked at construction jobs hiring and supervising a group of men. Later he acquired a job at the Lake Charles Post Office receiving ninety dollars a month. However, he stated turmoil of war was often talked about with Mexico at our border.

On November 27, 1913, FRANCIS enlisted into "Company K", First Louisiana Infantry. He stated that he told his father that he better learn about "soldiering." He looked into the National Guard Company and was invited to the rifle range. FRANCIS was permitted to fire the Springfield rifle and fell in love with the rifle and the marksmanship. He stated that a letter to him written by Captain FRANK S. BERLIN, Command Officer of Company K on October 31, 1913 which read: "I am receipt of your card of eve. date expressing interest in this command and requesting information about the service. Matter of this kind will be sent you without delay."

Upon his enlistment FRANCIS said he received a single cotton uniform, a rifle, a bayonet and a bayonet belt. He said he received no pay for armory drills and was paid a small monthly fee to belong. Shortly after FRANCIS enlisted, he was appointed to Corporal. FRANCIS stated that this promotion meant more to him than any promotion throughout his forty years in the military.

In Company K, applicants for membership were voted by the unit prior to enlistment; three "blackballs" were cause for rejection. Officers were elected by vote, subject to exam for professional suitability and fitness by a state exam board.

#### FRANCIS A. WOOLFLEY'S LIFE IN LAKE CHARLES

Contributed by KATHERINE LaFLEUR (Member #1081)

FRANCIS AUGUSTUS WOOLFLEY, son of FRANKLIN FLANDERS WOOLFLEY (born 1865) and MARY FRANCIS KESSLER (born Aug. 1868) was born on April 30, 1893, in New Orleans at 926 Pauline St., a home his paternal grandfather had built. In 1901 his mother, his older brother HARRY (my grandfather) and sister, MARGARET (then two years old) made the trip by train to Lake Charles where his father had already secured work and a home for the family. FRANCIS stated in his autobiography that it was an all day trip on the ole "Iron Horse." This was a coal burning train, the Morgan, Louisiana and Texas, (now the Southern Pacific), which had to be ferried across the Mississippi River since there were no bridges then on the lower Mississippi. He said, the train had no screens on the windows, so you would get a mixture of heat, dust and smudge which was accepted as part of the train ride.

Once arriving in Lake Charles, he noted that it was a rough and ready lumber town. Sawmills circled the lake North and South and operated twelve-hours a day. During this time, he said Lake Charles had a population of less than five-thousand. However, the town had thirty saloons along the railroad tracks often called "Battle Row" that quenched the lumbermen's thirst. FRANCIS said his father worked for the J. A. Bell Lumber Co. which then was co-owned by Uncle WILLIE FLANDERS and FRANKLIN's brother-in-law ALBERT BELL. FRANKLIN had secured a home for the family by working for the lumber company. FRANCIS stated that his younger brother, CLEMENT CARROLL WOOLFLEY was born July 20, 1902, and his sister, ANNIE URSULA WOOLFLEY, was born October 29, 1906 in Lake Charles on Lawrence Street. According to FRANCIS, FRANKLIN made wooden furniture and added two rooms onto the home with the long-leaf yellow pine from the lumber mill.

FRANCIS and his brother HARRY were enrolled into the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at the second Ward School located on Ford St. at the corner of Pine St. He said there wasn't transportation to school like there is today. Automobiles were in the experimental stage. The only public transportation was the mule cars running along Goosport down Lawrence to Ryan and then to the lower business area. He said sometimes when the driver wasn't looking they would "hop a ride," but usually walked on the planking that ran along to pull the cars. He said these planks were better to walk on than most of the sidewalks. FRANCIS advanced to Central School for the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. He spent a half year in the seventh grade advancing to Lake Charles High School for the 1906-07 year. He said it was a long walk from the home on Lawrence St. to Lake Charles High. On some occasions he would bargain a nickel to ride the "steam dummy" that ran from Broad and Ryan down Broad to Boulevard and down Boulevard past Lake Charles High School. FRANCIS decided to take a part-time job at the *Lake Charles Daily Press* to help pay for clothing and books for school. He earned two dollars and twenty-five cents a week.

In 1908 FRANKLIN WOOLFLEY inherited an estate from his mother's death (RELIEF BROWN FLANDERS). FRANKLIN used the money to purchase a five-room frame home on three acres with a barn and out buildings located off East Broad which was known then as Fisherville. FRANCIS said the family moved in the summer of 1909 into this home (later this home became the family dairy). This began a long three mile walk to school, a mile or more to the *Daily Press*, and then home again. He stated he left home for school around 7:30 AM and

Ear Lake due to the way it looked from the air, had floating targets on it. And at night Puff the Magic Dragon would appear, drop flares, and would begin laying out its strafing pattern. Yes, the first of the now famous aerial gunships trained extensively on Peason Ridge. The old C-47 aircraft were loaded with mini-guns and cannons and would strafe targets all night long. The gunships could place a bullet in every inch of a football field as stated in their technical orders. I have seen places where "Puff" and "Spooky" gunships have fired thousands of rounds of machine gun ammunition and it looks like you cut all the grass off and a large yard rake went through an area. There were other places on Peason Ridge where other aerial tactics were practiced. At "the bunker" a heavy built underground bunker, the planes would drop 500 pound bombs in an attempt to destroy it. And on "Sam Site Hill" the planes would attack fake surface to air missile sites. This training helped these pilots as they fought in the air over Vietnam against the aerial defenses set by the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese. And now there are simulated Iraqi towns and villages scattered throughout Peason Ridge where all branches of the U. S. military train before being sent into battle in Iraq.

These settlers and homesteaders moved to various locations after their lands had been secured by the government. Many moved to Peason, some to Kisatchie and Kurthwood, Anacoco, and a large group moved just off Peason Ridge to the little Oak Grove Church Community near Hornbeck. Today there are members of these original families scattered throughout the parishes of Sabine, Natchitoches, and Vernon and many even in other states. One thing they all remember is their ancestors and the old home places. And today, after over 67 years from the original 1940 Maneuvers, there is a very great renewed interest by the U. S. Army in these, our ancestors and the lands they owned on Peason Ridge. Today, the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk want to honor our ancestors who gave up so much. General BOLGER, commander of Fort Polk, and Colonel DAVID SAGE, Garrison Commander, are preparing a "Heritage Festival" on November 3, 2007 at Fort Polk for any and all of the family members of the original settlers on both Peason Ridge and Fort Polk. On Peason Ridge 29 families were displaced, and on present day Fort Polk over 200 families were moved out. At this Heritage Festival there will be displays showing photos and items from these homesites and from the families. General BOLGER and Colonel SAGE want all the troops on Fort Polk to attend and to interact with us, the family members whose ancestors lived on the lands these soldiers train on. In April 2007, my wife and I were invited to attend a "Heritage Workshop" at Fort Polk. There were several historians, archaeologists, military personnel, and members of Heritage Families in attendance. We were able to assist in setting up this festival to honor our ancestors and I was able to brief the command staff at Fort Polk of the history of Peason and Peason Ridge. My wife and I were placed on the "Memorialization Committee" at this event and we came up with several items that the Army was responsive to. First, allow the families to return to the old homeplaces and erect a sign or monument to their ancestors at that location, to name the main military roads on Peason Ridge after the families who lived there, and last, to place a historical marker on Peason Ridge listing the names of the families who owned land on Peason Ridge who were moved off the lands, and on the back of the marker, list the names of the many people who were sharecroppers on these lands. These items would always show our remembrance towards our ancestors who lived on Peason Ridge.

So now, you have been told some of the history of the lands known as Peason Ridge. Remember our ancestors who settled this land, and gave up their ancestral lands to their nation.

and all these attachments within 8 days!!! Thus began the purchase of all the homesteads. Mr. FOSTER DOWDEN had an extremely large farm, plus he had a large herd of cattle, horses, sheep, goats, and hogs that grazed on Peason Ridge. When Mr. DOWDEN began his movement from the old homestead on Peason to Anacoco, he had to hire men and cowboys to move his livestock. Mr. DOWDEN had so much livestock that it took 3 days to drive them from his homestead to nearby Anacoco, about 7 miles, to his new farm. These settlers had lived most of their lives on these homesteads and were now moving. These were sad times for these families as they left the old "home places" and had to go and start completely over again. As a part of these Heritage families I can attest that there were many, many broken hearts as these settlers moved from the only homes many had ever known. But, one thing all of these folks could say was that they were patriotic enough to sell these lands to their nation for use in training the military forces that would uphold our freedom. Not one family refused to help the United States by having to be forcibly moved.

After the families had moved out to new homes off of the new "Peason Ridge Artillery Range" they found out that their lives had changed. There were no such programs as "welfare" and assistance programs for these families. They had been self sufficient on their homesteads, yet now there was no money and most of all, no food supplies. The people had to move and leave their crops in the field in this movement. These crops were used to provide food for both the settlers and their livestock for the upcoming winter. The women folk would can and preserve beans, peas, vegetables of all types, and even various types of meat. The men would gather the corn crops and put them in the crib for the livestock and chickens during the winter, would gather the cotton, and would harvest and thatch the hay. Now, all of a sudden, there was none of Two of the families, Mr. WILLIAM "BILL" HAYNES and HOUSTON DOWDEN, decided to try and go back and harvest the crops so their families would have provisions to live off of. As Mr. HAYNES and his family gathered the crops in the field, the military officers in charge of the purchase of the lands heard of this and returned in force with troops. Mr. HAYNES and Mr. DOWDEN and their families had been staying in their old homes and were told to get out and load up any possessions they had. What few possessions were loaded onto their wagons, the only mode of transportation they had. As they watched helplessly, the army officers had tanks run into the houses that they had lived in all their lives and completely destroyed these houses. And after destroying the houses, the offices had the tanks enter the field where the crops were located and turned and twisted and ground under the tank tracks these crops into the dust.

Throughout the years the Peason Ridge Artillery Range has trained thousands of troops, from infantry, armored, and even air force units. During the Vietnam War era there were several large "Vietnam Villages" located on Peason Ridge where soldiers from Fort Polk trained in preparation to being sent to Vietnam. During the Vietnam War training, the headquarters for this training was at Kurthwood and was known as "Tiger Ridge". While the infantry units trained on the ground, Air Force units from England Air Force Base in Alexandria bombed and strafed targets all over Peason Ridge. Fighter pilots were trained in close air support and gunnery. And at one time, a large contingent of Vietnamese (ARVN) pilots was trained in air force tactics over Peason Ridge. And at night, a different type of aircraft came to Peason. In the center of Peason Ridge, near the old remains of the DOWDEN, OWERS, and SANDERS dipping vat a large "lake" was built by the Air Force by damming up one of the creeks. The lake, known as Rabbit

McNAIR to be in charge of all maneuver training. General McNAIR and General MARSHALL agreed that any mistakes should be made during maneuvers, not while in battle. This training would correct these mistakes and would help to strengthen the units that would train there. General McNAIR had an able aide in Lt. Colonel MARK CLARK. Lt. Colonel CLARK laid out the new Louisiana Maneuver area using a regular Louisiana Highway map. Lt. Colonel CLARK laid out an area of over 3,400 square miles in Louisiana and a small portion of East Texas where the army would conduct these vast maneuvers. The area that was laid out was known as the "Sabine Area" and would be used from 1940 until the present. The lands were from the Red River at Natchitoches west to the Sabine River, north to Shreveport, and south to Lake Charles. And guess what was to be right in the middle of this vast maneuver area and would be of vital importance due to its location during the maneuvers? Yes, Peason Ridge. Peason Ridge with its vast cleared highlands, rolling hills, and sparse population would be of strategic value to both the Red and Blue Armies as they attacked in any direction. With this maneuver area being decided on, now came the problem of actually obtaining use of these lands by leasing them from the land owners. Government agents scattered throughout Louisiana and began to lease and obtain land use agreements with the landowners. And due to the importance of Peason Ridge, the land agents began making contact with the 29 original homesteaders and settlers who resided in the Peason Ridge area. Agreements were reached and when the 1940 maneuvers began, these lands were used as part of the main battle area. Soldiers were everywhere through the area, and were able to train in the 7 different types of terrain located on Peason Ridge, such as the steppes of Russia, the rolling hills of Germany, the densely vegetated area like the Pacific Islands, and in both the sand and the Louisiana "gumbo" mud. Many things were learned from the first maneuvers, such as shortages of all equipment, improper leadership, and battle tactics that were outdated. But one thing did come out that was favorable. The United States Army had found the perfect maneuver area and now wanted to purchase some of these lands for continued use. In some of the original documents I have received from Heritage Family members, Lt. Colonel R. B. COLE, wrote on behalf of the 4th Corps Area Rents and Claims Board, that "the May1940 maneuvers in the Sabine Area proved so valuable that the Commanding General Third Army has decided to recommend to the War Department that advantage be taken of the splendid climate and training area providing that the area is made available under these same conditions as now being tendered." The lands of the original settlers were about to be purchased due to the strategic location of Peason Ridge.

The Great Louisiana Maneuvers of 1941 came and went with over 470,000 troops converging on the maneuver area. Many pitched maneuver battles were fought on the lands of Peason Ridge. While these maneuvers raged throughout the area, army purchasing agents had begun the process of purchasing the lands owned by the 29 homesteaders on Peason Ridge. By July 1942 all the paperwork had been completed, and the settlers were notified that the lands would be purchased by the United States Government. Each settler would be paid in accordance to how much property they owned, yet due to the "national emergency" caused by World War II, the owners would not be paid for 1 year for their lands. Documents that I have concerning the lands of COLEMAN "COLE" OWERS show that the government signed the purchase agreement on July 23, 1942 and would pay him the sum of \$795.00 for his homestead of 40 acres, but that if Mr. OWERS harvested his crops, he would have to return \$115.00 back to the government for the value of his crop. He also was allowed until July 31, 1942 to remove, if possible, 1 tenant house and 1 mile of rail and 3 barbwire fencing. In our current day, there is no way to move a house

wonder how many unmarked graves may be on Peason Ridge where these robbers, jayhawkers, carpetbaggers and renegade Yankees were laid to rest.

Also located on Peason Ridge were 2 community dipping vats, where the cattle had to be dipped and surveyed by a "Government Man" to prevent the spread of tick fever. One of these old vats, known as the Dowden/Owers/Sanders dipping vat is still visible. There are 2 cemeteries on Peason with a total of 6 graves. Near Hornbeck is the Merritt and Conner Cemetery containing 4 graves. Buried there are EDMON MERRITT born 3/31/1818 and died 8/3/1897, ELIZA MERRITT born 8/31/1827 and died 8/5/1902, R. T. CONNER born 9/7/1841 and died 4/15/1925 and ELIZABETH REBECKER CONNER born 5/1/1859 and died 8/4/1928. In the BILLY DOWDEN Cemetery there are 2 graves, one of ALFRED MICHAEL DOWDEN and one of his sons. "Uncle MIKE" DOWDEN was quite a character. At his gravesite is a Confederate Memorial Marker that tells he was born 10/22/1824 and died 3/11/1911. Of interest is that "Uncle MIKE" was a private in the U. S. Army in the Mexican War of 1846 and that years later he was a sergeant in Company K 19<sup>th</sup> Louisiana Infantry, CSA. He was a member of the famed "Louisiana Tigers" who held the line for STONEWALL JACKSON during the Civil War. Uncle MIKE returned from the war and raised a very large family, with his ancestors living throughout the area today.

In 1917 A. J. PEAVY and his partner, R. J. WILSON, both lumbermen, came into this area and began building a town and very large sawmill. The surnames of each man were used and the sawmill town of Peason, Louisiana was born. The Peavy-Wilson Lumber Company owned over 7,000 acres of the lands that are now Peason Ridge. The mill at Peason ran from 1917 until all the timber throughout the area was harvested in 1935. The town of Peason had a population of over 2,000 in its heyday, and had a commissary, drug store, doctor's office, theater, skating rink, garage, ice house, church, high school, and hotel. The settlers of Peason Ridge came and worked at the giant pine sawmill, worked in the woods cutting and harvesting the large virgin timber, traded at the commissary, attended school and church in the town, and interacted in many other ways with the town and it's citizens. Many of the farmers at Peason also made agreements and ran cattle and other livestock with these homesteaders. As the timber was harvested and nothing but miles and miles of pine tree stumps was left, the mill closed down and was shipped by rail to Holopaw, Florida, where it operated until 1947. Peavy-Wilson Company still owns the mineral rights to this day of its original lands on Peason Ridge. On June 23, 2007 the Peason Historical Foundation Inc. dedicated a historical marker and photo kiosk at the site of the old mill town and now additions have been made at the location and a memorial park is located there on La. Hwy. 118 in the Peason Community.

Beginning in 1940, the United States Army began looking for a large maneuver area to train all types of military units. The American Army could see a great war looming in the distance as Adolph Hitler's blitzkrieg had conquered nearly all of Europe in 1939 and early1940. His armies had rolled through Poland, France, Belgium, and Luxemburg almost unimpeded by the small armies of these countries, and the British Army that had come to help. With all National Guard units being federalized and in active service for 1 year, it was decided to conduct maneuvers with these and regular army units to see what shortfalls in men, equipment, vehicles, and most of all training and leadership would be found and corrected before America entered into the war. General GEORGE C. MARSHALL, Army Chief of Staff, assigned Lt. General LESLIE

there is evidence that groups of Comanche, Kiowa, and other Plains Indians came into our area. An old legend in our area is that in the mid 1800s a man named L. C. CURBY killed the last buffalo in our area as it crossed at the intersections of Simmons and Middle Creeks. Mr. CURBY's last wish was to be buried where he killed the buffalo, and on present day Kisatchie National Forest land, there is a single lonesome grave on a small knoll where Mr. CURBY was buried.

While the Indians lived throughout the area, as early as 1541 the Spanish Explorer HERNANDO DeSOTO came through our area and went almost to the present day Trinity River in Texas. This was the first of the white explorers and settlers to come into the area. In coming years, the French Explorer St. DENIS came and established Natchitoches. The Spanish came and settled and made a fort and capital for their holdings at La Presidio Nuestra DeSenora Del Pilar E Los Adais near present day Robeline. Land grants were given by both the French and Spanish governments to various people. Spanish Governor ZAVALLEZ, the governor located at Los Adais, granted land to JUAN DeMORA and MIGUEL VICIENTE that may have included the eastern portion of Peason Ridge in Sabine Parish, and the French granted land to PIERRE SANSCALIER near present day Kisatchie that encompassed lands in the eastern part of Peason Ridge in Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes.

The first people who came and settled on Peason Ridge found large virgin forests, cleared highlands where crops could be planted, deer, bear, turkey, and other animals for food, and Indians. As the Indians dwindled and the forests were harvested, more settlers moved onto Peason Ridge. By 1941 there were a total of 29 homesteads on Peason Ridge. No, not a large number, but there were these 29 large families, plus sharecroppers who lived, worked, farmed, and raised livestock in the area. On present day Peason Ridge there are these 29 old homesites scattered mostly in the Sabine Parish and western Vernon Parish sections. Some homesteads were larger than others, some just small farms. This area was completely self sufficient, as these families grew their own crops, raised many types of livestock, and most of all, worked together as neighbors. On Peason Ridge, there are 3 watersheds that include the Red River, Calcasieu, and Sabine Rivers. Water was plentiful for the livestock and creeks were full of fish with overflows from the creeks going into the 3 watersheds fed by Peason Ridge.

The settlers had a special area for all the livestock to graze. There were a total of 16 sections of land that no one settled. If anyone came and started to camp or build in the grazing area, the men would mount their horses, ride over for a visit, and give the intruder the information to pack up and be gone in a few days. Looking at the barrel of a Winchester would definitely make up a person's mind!!! Several stories I have been told by heritage family members is that during the times of the Sabine Neutral Strip and even after the Civil War, that settlers had to fight for their land, crops, and animals. WAYNE DUKE, whose grandfather J. A. GRANT, lived near Kurtwood was an original settler and he fought off "jayhawkers" and "outlaws" at his farm.

After the Civil War the settlers fought off more robbers made up of carpetbaggers, jayhawkers, and Yankee soldiers who would attempt to forage from the farms. But the stories I have heard also tell of how these settlers fought back, kept their farms, and buried their dead after these fights. And yes, they killed off these intruders who invaded their homesteads. Makes you

## THE SETTLERS AND HOMESTEADERS OF PEASON RIDGE, LA. Contributed by RICKEY ROBERTSON

(NOTE: In the last issue of *Kinfolks*, Mr. ROBERTSON told how the 1940s Louisiana Maneuvers affected the Peason Ridge area. In the following article he tells about the settlement of Peason Ridge.)

In Sabine, Natchitoches, and Vernon parishes there is an area that holds great historical value and has many untold stories of the people who settled and homesteaded lands in that part of Louisiana. The history of this area dates back to the days of the many Native American Indian tribes that lived and hunted in the area, and the history progresses to the days of the Spanish and French land grants, the days of Los Adais, the founding of Natchitoches, the Neutral Strip, the Civil War, the days of the stagecoach, the Great Louisiana Maneuvers, the bombing and gunnery days of the Flying Tigers from England AFB, and the on going military training that has taken place since 1941 as part of the Joint Readiness Training Center. This area is known to us as Peason Ridge. Peason Ridge is located in Southeast Sabine, Southwest Natchitoches, and Northeast Vernon Parishes if you look at it on a map of the state of Louisiana. As we look over the history of this area, we will discuss this area that was settled and homesteaded until 1941 by a hearty group of farmers and cattlemen.

As I gathered information on this article, I found that there were tribes of Caddo Indians scattered throughout the area. Names of some of the tribes were Ais, Aais, Caddo, Hasinai, Natchitoches, and Peticaddo. On Peason Ridge there is an area known as Eagle Hill. As a boy we would travel to Eagle Hill where we could see all our cattle that were grazing on the open rangelands. On record, it had an elevation of 300 ft. above sea level. Leading off from Eagle Hill are several long ridges and hills where many of these Indian tribes would settle on as they foraged for food. One of my questions was why there were many Indian tribes in this area. Further research found something that fascinated me and I then knew why there were Indians throughout the area. Southwest of Eagle Hill about a mile is an area that we call the "Dividing Ridge". This is a long ridgeline that separates Eagle Hill and the rest of Peason from a very large prairie like area. Known by myself and my family as the "Prairie" this is a large area that will remind you of the Great Plains, with sage grass blowing and swaying gently in the wind. My research discovered that during the 1700s and 1800s groups of the vast buffalo herds from the Great Plains would ford the Sabine River between Anacoco and Negreet and would winter in this vast prairie like area on Peason Ridge. Buffalo were one of the most staple food sources that the Indian tribes had and these tribes would settle around this large area where the buffalo herds wintered. Every part of the buffalo was used by the Indians, from the skins to the bones. Yes, you may not believe it, but we had buffalo here in Sabine Parish many years ago.

Since Peason Ridge is now owned by the United States Army, it is a protected area where only government archaeologists are allowed to hunt for artifacts. At Fort Polk in the Historical Sections artifact building, there are many Indian artifacts from Peason Ridge. And due to the buffalo herds, there are also many artifacts that were native to the Plains Indians. It can also be noted that as the buffalo herd dwindled on the Great Plains, the Plains Indians followed this food source even as far as Peason Ridge. There is some evidence of Indians trading tools, arrowheads, and other items among themselves, and this also took place in Sabine Parish. But,

1816 was a difficult year for many people. The thousands so adversely affected by "the year without a summer" would have found it difficult to believe that the source of their problems was volcanic eruption on a tiny unheard of island half a world away. Yet the resulting immigration and migration strengthened the country and pushed its frontiers further westward, changing the lives of many people, the destiny of families and the history of our country.

Where were your ancestors in "the year without a summer," in 1816?

#### SOURCES:

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#### **GENEALOGIST OR FAMILY HISTORIAN?**

There is apparently much discussion on whether those of us who pursue family research should be called genealogists or family historians. Many people think that the term "genealogist" denotes professional status, while most of us who research our family lineages are strictly amateurs. In her article "Genealogy in the Information Age" (NGS Quarterly, Dec. 2003), professional genealogist, ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS, divided genealogical researchers into three groups---Traditionalist, Genealogical Historian, and Family Tree Climber. The Traditionalist has "a sound knowledge of sources, carefully documents and analyzes evidence, but produces a genealogy that rarely reflects anything concerning the way families actually lived." The Genealogical Historian "follows similar procedures to the Traditionalists, but once having established identities and relationships, seeks out further information on the economic, religious, legal, social and cultural conditions that existed in the various localities that reveal how family members lived." The largest group is the Family Tree Climbers. "Enthusiastic, but unencumbered by any knowledge of how to do genealogical research, they accept information from any source without question." However, just because something has been published or can be found on the Internet does not mean that it is correct or true.

The word "genealogy" has its roots in antiquity and is derived from the Greek word "genea," meaning family or race. It has been a part of the English language since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, when lineage had to be proved to inherit land or a title. Why can't we strive to be both Genealogists and Family Historians, researching old documents and records carefully, then "adding meat to the bare bones" of our ancestors by learning their social history and how they lived in their time and place.

SOURCE: Eastman Online Newsletter-

http://blog.eogn.com.eastmans\_online\_genealogy/2007/07/shouldwecall-html

WHAT WILL BECOME OF MY RESEARCH? Don't just leave a collection of loose papers to a library. Organizing and indexing your research will make it easier for descendants, other genealogists and librarians to use them.

West, made available by the beginnings of the Cumberland Road, the end of the Indian menace as a result of the War of 1812, and the grants of bounty lands to veterans of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. The misery caused by the bitter cold of 1816 was the impetus needed to spur on the farmers who were adventurous or those who had existed on a bare subsistence level and needed a new start to try their luck in the virgin lands of the newly opened Northwest Territory.

The "call of the West" lured New Englanders in significant numbers. They went singly, by families, by neighborhoods, by towns or by religious sects. They went on foot, on horseback, in carriages, carts or heavy wagons. But they went—with their meager possessions—in search of a land of promise, a dream or merely adventure.

The number of immigrants to the West was unprecedented. It is estimated that 10,000 to 15,000 people migrated from Vermont to escape the affects of the cold weather of 1816. These were some of the state's best and most enterprising people, that she could ill afford to lose. Maine's loss of population through migration became so alarming that letters appeared in newspapers lauding the attributes of Maine and describing the faults and defects of the West. However, this did not stop the westward movement and 42,000 settlers made their way to Indiana in 1816. This large-scale migration resulted in an unprecedented advance of the western frontier of our country.

In our effort to explain the severely cold summer of 1816, some scientists claimed that the drastic change in the weather was associated with the occurrence of sunspots. These sunspots were visible to the naked eye at dawn and at sunset during that year, and many people feared that this meant something had gone wrong with the universe. Another explanation for the coldness in this era of intense interest in electrical phenomena was the introduction of lightning rods by BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

It has been suggested---and argued---that a delayed consequence of the Tambora volcanic eruption and its resulting famines caused the first world-widespread of Asiatic cholera. Before 1816, cholera was largely confined to India. In 1816 bad harvests and the ensuing famine in India led to a cholera epidemic which was quickly spread by British military operations to other parts of Asia and the British Empire. From there it was taken to England by the returning families and quickly spread to all parts of Europe. It took cholera several years to cross the Atlantic to the United States, but by 1832 and 1833, Asiatic cholera was rampant and deadly in our cities. Whether this volcano-famine-plague theory is indeed correct cannot be proven, but it is truly possible.

Another interesting consequence of the bitter cold of 1816 was the writing of "Frankenstein's Monster." Switzerland was one of the European countries most distressed by famine, with jobless people and street beggars menacing the streets. At this time a group of writers was visiting Switzerland, but because of the cold and the social and economic conditions, was forced to stay indoors. A proposal was made that various members of the writers' party should compose a romance or a tale of the supernatural. Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley was among those writers, and the by-product of this enforced leisure was her famous Frankenstein.

crop was virtually non-existent. Wheat and other grains in Canada, England, France and Switzerland were also destroyed. Hard times were upon the land.

In July, in New England the ice was said to have been as thick as window panes, but the cold was even more severe in Canada. The St. Lawrence River was still frozen in midsummer. Crop failure led to serious food shortages and severe hardship. At St. Johns, Newfoundland, 800 prospective immigrants were sent back to Europe because of a food shortage in that town.

The failure of the corn crop in New England and the poor grain harvests in Canada and western Europe created hunger and hardship for untold thousands. Many farmers faced not only hunger, but bankruptcy. They had replanted their crops several times with no positive results, so things looked grim for the farmers.

Lack of corn for fodder caused many animals to starve. In desperation, many farmers butchered the rest of their livestock. Beef, pork and mutton so glutted the market that prices dropped drastically, creating other financial woes for the farmers, many of whom were forced into bankruptcy. However, without refrigeration, meat could be kept only for a short period of time, and soon there was no meat at all on the market. Furthermore, there were no livestock left to replenish the depleted herds, so things looked grim for the farmers.

Although many were devastated by the hardships resulting from the bitter and unseasonable cold, there was an abundant fruit harvest and mackerel were plentiful. In fact, 1816 is also called "the mackerel year" because of the large amount of mackerel consumed by a hungry populace.

In western Europe, the failure of the grape and grain harvests led to high food prices and resulted in riots and famine. In Ireland, famine stalked the land, causing a typhus epidemic that lasted from 1817 until 1819. It afflicted 1,500,000 people and killed 65,000. From Ireland, typhus fever spread throughout Europe with disastrous results.

In France, the political situation was grave; rioting as a result of the meager harvests of 1816 and the high price of food led to many food-related offenses and crimes committed by a desperate populace. In eastern France, storms, rain and inundation from the Rhine added their share of misery to the already cold and hungry people. In the northern part of Alsace shortages of food were severe. The social disorganization at the end of the Napoleonic Wars combined with bad harvests, famine and plague caused thousands of people to immigrate to America to search for a better life.

In New England, many people migrated south or west to escape the after-effects of the cold of 1816. Some left their farms to work in factories or mills of southern New England. Others went to seacoast towns to become a part of the fishing fleets or the great New England whale fisheries in the South Seas. But most of the poor and disillusioned farmers went west.

By 1816 most of the fertile land in New England had already been settled. There was a trend toward small independent land-holdings, and, for the most part, farms were too small to be divided among all the children as heirs. There was a great abundance of cheap, fertile land to the

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CLEMENT, Dr. E. L., physician, r 401 Pine, tel 207
CLEMENT, S. H. (Mrs.), well driller, r 1015 Broad, tel 528
CLEMMONS, JOSEPH (NORMA), (c), lab, r 1225 Church
CLEVELAND, EDW. (Mrs. GRACE), timekeeper
Bel Lbr Co, r 530 Nichols
CLIFTON, A., r Chavanne
CLIFTON, DAVE (c), lab, r 127 Franklin
CLIFTON, HARDY (Mrs.), r 1720 Elm
CLIFTON, N. G. (Mrs.), driver, r 117 Ryan
CLIFTON, N, lab, r Chavanne
CLINE, BELL & CLINE, lawyers, C. R. CLINE,
U. A. BELL, J. D. CLINE, VonPhul & Gordon
Bldg, tel 4

CLINE, CARL E, stud, r 1611 Hodges
CLINE, C. R. (Mrs.), lawyer, Cline, Bell & Cline,
r 1611 Hodges, tel 784
CLINE, Miss DOLLY, r 1933 Ryan
CLINE, J. D., lawyer, Cline, Bell & Cline,
r 1933 Ryan
CLINE, W. E. (Mrs.), abstractor, Levingston & Cline
r 1611 Ryan, tel 784
CLINE, THOS. (Mrs.), dredger, r 425 Ingleside
CLOONEY, Mrs. MAGGIE (wid), r 511 Pujo,
CLOONEY, THEO. (Mrs.), ship builder,
r 1627 South, tel 321
CLOUD, B. O., clk, r 413 Mill
CLOUD, J. W., salesman, Nat Pkg Co, r 413 Mill

Advertisements: Sam'l Kaufman; F. A. Toce; The Life Insurance Company of Virginia; Meyer's

CLOUSON, Mrs. MARY, r 1514 Ryan
CLUGSTON, Mrs. S. E., (wid), r 710 Cleveland
COBB, B. L. (Mrs.), millwright, r 227 Ann
COCO-COLA BOTTLING WORKS, Front, tel 518
COGGINS, JOS. (Mrs.), motorman, r 1226 Gray
COGGLES, J. A. (Mrs.), engr, r 1031 Huchinson
COHN'S GRAND LEADER, dry goods, etc, cor Ryan
and Division
COLM, ROBT. (Mrs. AUGUSTA), prop Grand Leader,
r 618 Ford, tel 756
COLDWATER, C. H. (Mrs.), shoes, r 1411 Ryan
COLE, E. W., rooming house, 219 Lawrence

COLE, JOHN (RETHA), (c), lab, r 1304 Railroad COLE, J. T. (Mrs. CLOTHILDE), fireman, r 725 Belden
COLEMAN, Dr. L. M. (MAMIE), (c), physician, r 302 Franklin
COLEMAN, Miss LOTTIE, stenog, Dees & Foster
COLEMAN, R. L. (Mrs.), real estate, office
Frank bldg, r 801 Sixth, tel 543
COLEMAN, TOM (VICTORIA), (c), millman, r 230 Louisiana
COLEY, Mrs. M. A., r 610 Seventh
COLEY, Miss NELLIE, r 610 Seventh
COLEY, R. A., r 610 Seventh
COLETE, GERTRUDE (c), r 915 Railroad

Advertisements: Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co., Ltd; Harmon, Thee Fashionable Tailor; Smith's Music Store; Assunto's Cleaning and Dyeing

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COLLETTE, JOSEPHINE (c), r 915 Railroad
COLLETTE, J. H., grocer, 606 Division
COLLETTE, J. H. (Mrs. EMILY), grocer, r 640 Iris
COLLETTE, J. H, Jr. (Mrs.), shipping clk, r 704 Iris
COLLIER, A. (Mrs.), r 830 Hodges
COLLIER, J. D., filer, Long-Bell Lbr Co, r 904 Lyons
COLLINS, DANIEL, r 1631 Martha
COLLINS, Dr. E. N. (Mrs.), dentist, rm 5 Eddy bldg,
r 1027 Clarence
COLLINS, G. H (Mrs. ELLEN), grader Bel Lbr Co,
r 730 Shattuck
COLLINS, Dr. G. H. (Mrs.), dentist, rm 5 Eddy bldg,

r 1001 Clemmons, tel 461

COLLINS, Mrs. M. B. (wid), r 163 Martha
COLLINS, Miss VERA, r 1631 Martha
COLLINS, W. B. (Mrs.), electrician, r 1751 Madison
COLADO, JOHN (Mrs. MARY), r 1523 Cessford
COLVIN, WM. (c), lab, r 629 Franklin
COMPTON, REBECCA (c), cook, r 933 Blake
CONKLIN, J. (Mrs.), lawyer, r 1322 Hodges
CONLEY, BEN (Mrs.), (c), carp, r Lyons alley
CONLEY, GEO (ROSIE), (c), millman,
r 630 Hutchinson
CONNELLY, G. D. (Mrs.), carp, r 715 Cleveland
CONNIGAN, ANNIE (c), laund, r 640 Boulevard

Advertisements: Richard, Wasey & Company; F. A. Toce; The Life Insurance Company of Virginia; Kirby Street Grocery

(To Be Continued)

## CLEMENT CEMETERY Little Chenier, Louisiana

Continued from Vol. 34 No. 1

These cemetery records were submitted by BEVERLY DELANEY, compiled January 2000.

TOUCHET, MARCIAL, b. 1877, d. 28 Feb. 1936; h/o AZALIE HANKS, who is buried in Lake Arthur, La.

#### 

#### BOUDOIN CEMETERY Little Chenier, La.

Turn left on Little Chenier Rd., off Hwy 27 heading to Creole, La. The cemetery is 6.9 miles on the left.

Cemetery was read by BEVERLY DELANEY and LEE GRANGER in April 1998.

BOUDOIN, ADVAR, b. 5 Feb. 1897, d. 12 Aug. 1973

BOUDOIN, AMOS JOSEPH, b. 27 Jan. 1908, d. 1913

BOUDOIN, ARISE, b. 1856, d. 11 Dec. 1936

BOUDOIN, AZELLA, b. 20 June 1905, d. 20 Oct. 1920

BOUDOIN, AZEMIE M., b. 1 Feb. 1911, d. 21 Mar. 1996

BOUDOIN, BELONEY, b. Sept. 1875, d. 20 Nov. 1948

BOUDOIN, BELONIE, Jr., b. 1909, d. 1929

BOUDOIN, BETTY ANN, b. 25 Sep. 1940, d. 30 Sep. 1940

BOUDOIN, CLEONIE., b. Sept. 1846, d. 1927

BOUDOIN, CLEOTILE, no dates

BOUDOIN, DROZAN, b. 14 Aug. 1900, d. 15 Nov. 1923

BOUDOIN, DUPREA, b. 9 May 1886, d. 24 July 1979

BOUDOIN, EDA, b. 19 July 1903, d. 31 Aug. 1980

BOUDOIN, EVARISTE, b. 1867, d. 1938

BOUDOIN, LEON, b. April 1884, d. 3 Jan. 1968

BOUDOIN, EMILE, no dates

BOUDOIN, Mrs. BELONIE (AZEMA HANKS), b. 1875, d. 18 Mar. 1942

BOUDOIN, Mrs. EMILE, no dates

BOUDOIN, MURRY T., b. 27 Nov. 1924, d. 10 Sep. 1947

BOUDOIN, OPHELIA "Mother", b. 1870, d. 1964

BOUDOIN, P. G. "CHUTE", b. 27 Feb. 1903, d. 13 Apr. 1977

BOUDOIN, PIERRE BELONIE, Sr., b. May 1823, d. 19 Dec. 1909

BOUDOIN, VENIE, b. 14 Aug. 1932, d. 8 Jan. 1933

BROUSSARD, C. P. (C. PIERRE), b. 12 Apr. 1861, d. 28 Oct. 1963

BROUSSARD, DUPREA, b. 9 May 1886, d. 24 July 1979

BROUSSARD, EMILE, no dates

BROUSSARD, MARIE U., b. 3 Mar. 1874, d. 30 Nov. 1960

BROUSSARD, MARIE ZULMA, b. no date, d. 18 Mar. 1888

BROUSSARD, Mrs. EMILE, no dates

CONNER, MARIE U. (BOUDOIN), b. 1860, d. 21 Apr. 1897

DUHON, Mr. EMILE, no dates

DUHON, Mrs. EMILE, no dates

DUHON, PIERRE J., b. 12 Oct. 1904, d. 18 May 1978

DUHON, S.

DYSON, CATHERINE FRUGE, b. 27 Nov. 1804, d. 1884

LATROISE, IDA

LATROISE, PHILOGENE, b. March 1862, d. 23 Oct. 1922

NUNEZ, WILLIE JEAN, b. 26 Feb. 1911, d. 4 Mar. 1995

PRIMEAUX, DOZITE

PRIMEAUX, MARY

PRIMEAUX, MARY ZELMA, d. 18 Mar. 1881

PRIMEAUX, P.

PRIMEAUX, URSIN, d. 7 Oct. 1877

PRIMEAUX, URSIN, b. 28 July 1838, d. 6 May 1917

PRIMEAUX, WILEY

THERIOT, ELMA BOUDOIN, b. 21 Jan. 1917, d. 6 May 1986

THERIOT, ENES G., b. 18 Feb. 1914, d. 1 May 1980

#### THIS CONCLUDES BOUDOIN CEMETERY

\*

## McCALL CEMETERY Grand Chenier, La.

Read by LEE GRANGER, PETIE LaBOVE and BEVERLY DELANEY in April 1998

ARCHER, CLARISSA, b. no date, d. 2 June 1890

ARMSTRONG, MARTHA R., b. 1856, d. 4 Jan. 1885

BEASLEY, WILLIAM, b. 1852, d. no date

BONSALL, BEULAH, no dates

BONSALL, HENRY, b. 1856, d. 1932

BONSALL, ISAAC, b. 1824, d. no date

BONSALL, JAMES BELTON, b. no date, d. 27 Aug. 1999

BONSALL, JAMES HENRY, b. 17 Mar. 1885, d. 3 Aug. 1968

BONSALL, JEFF, no dates

BONSALL, REBECCA, no dates

BONSALL, SHELTON, no dates

BONSALL, ZELMA, b. 6 Mar. 1854, d. 2 Aug. 1906

CASTAIN, BEN F., b. 2 Dec. 1866, d. 26 Dec. 1926

CRAIN, ADELAIDE THERIOT, b. 25 Jan. 1874, d. 4 Mar. 1912

CRAIN, FRANCIS KILMER, b. 1919, d. 1920

CRAIN, MARTIN A., b.12 Mar. 1833, d.8 June 1902

DOLAND, ETHEL McCALL, b. 19 Aug. 1885, d. 1 Nov. 1967

DOLAND, J. W., Sgt., b. 21 Nov. 1893, d. 1 Jan. 1918

DOLAND, JOSEPH THOMAS, b. 17 Oct. 1875, d. 7 Sep. 1951

DOLAND, MARY WETHERILL, b. 19 Jan. 1842, d. 8 Jan. 1921

DOLAND, SAMUEL S., b. 8 Sep. 1877, d. 26 Feb. 1960

DOLAND, THOMAS, b. 25 Mar. 1837, d. 22 Jan. 1920

DOXEY, AGNES MAE, b. 26 May 1883, d. 14 June 1884

DOXEY, ANNIE IOLA, b. 7 May 1886, d. 11 Apr. 1887

DOXEY, FOREST JAMES, b. 1 Aug. 1866, d. 19 Aug. 1867

DOXEY, HESTER ANN, b. 26 Apr. 1861, d. 5 Jan. 1877

DOXEY, MARY BELL, b. 15 Dec. 1889, d. 21 Dec. 1889

DOXEY, MILLEDGE McCALL, b. 14 Jan. 1857, d. 9 Aug. 1861

DOXEY, ORIN GILBERT, b. 15 Mar. 1898, d. 3 July 1898

DOXEY, WILLIAM H., b. 1 Oct. 1850, d. 17 July 1871

DURR, E. A., Sr., b. 26 Nov. 1806, d. 8 Oct. 1885

DURR, LAURA CLARA, b. 21 May 1853, d. 28 Aug. 1889

EAGLESON, ADA, no dates

EAGLESON, RAY, no dates

EAGLESON, SALLIE SWEENEY, b. 23 Nov. 1894, d. 18 Feb. 1928

EAGLESON, WM. H., b. 17 Mar. 1818, d. 3 Nov. 1877

FAWVOR, NANCY ANN, b. 1829, d. no date

GILLESPIE, A. W., b. 30 Apr. 1806, d. 7 Nov. 1883

GILLESPIE, KATIE KIMBRU, b. 29 Dec. 1876, d. 30 Apr. 1878

GILLETTE, AUGUST, b. 16 Sep. 1892, d. 11 Apr. 1907

GILLETTE, CLOPHIE, b. 24 Jan. 1869, d. 27 Aug. 1906

GILLETTE, ELLEN, b. 5 Dec. 1906, d. 21 Apr. 1907

GILLETTE, FERRIS, b. 11 Nov. 1895, d. 10 Apr. 1907

GRAVES, ALLEN BENJAMIN, b. 10 Aug. 1855, d. 8 Feb. 1869

GRIFFITH, ELIZABETH H., b. 17 Jan. 1822, d. 20 May 1899

HACKETT, ALVIN L., b. 13 Jan. 1862, d. 20 Mar. 1944

HACKETT, AMANDA DOLAND, b. 10 Aug. 1869, d. 2 July 1963

HALE, ELIZABETH, b. 1805, d. no date

HALE, JAMES, b. 1811, d. 6 Feb. 1878

HARGROVE, EMELINE, b. 1818, d. 21 Jan. 1893

HARGROVE, MARY VIRGINIA, b. 1826, d. no date

HARPER, ALONZO P., b. no date, d. 14 Sep. 1998

HARPER, HESTER ANNE STAFFORD, b. 9 Oct. 1852, d. 1 Mar. 1896

HARPER, IRA GLENN, b. 13 Oct. 1879, d. 4 Oct. 1898

HARPER, R. B. G., b. 1811, d. 1878

HARPER, WILLIAM FRANKLIN, b. 27 Nov. 1874, d. 29 June 1904

HARRISON, ELIZABETH J., b. 1828, d. no date

HICKOCK, JAMES HENRY, b. 1824, d. 1860

HICKOCK, SARA JANE, b. 14 May 1814, d. 30 June 1893

HOLLISTER, MYRON REUBEN, b. no date, d. 3 Dec. 1878

JOHNSON, SOPHIE D., b. 22 May 1912, d. 27 Mar. 1971

JONES, ELIZABETH, b. 1849, d. no date

JONES, FAE McCALL, b. 14 Oct. 1922, d. 9 Mar. 1987

JONES, IOLA GILLESPIE, b. 22 Oct. 1867, d. 3 Oct. 1953

JONES, JENNINGS BRYAN, Sr., b. 23 Sep. 1897, d. 24 July 1947

JONES, JOSEPH PARSON, b. 10 Nov. 1859, d. 7 Nov. 1920

JONES, MARGARET M. STAFFORD, b. 27 Dec. 1853, d. 5 June 1900

JONES, MARY, b. 1854, d. no date

JONES, PAUL, b. 1819, d. 26 Apr. 1877

LAURENTS, ANNIE C., b. 1862, d. 1938

LAURENTS, LUCUS A., b. 22 Aug. 1890, d. 2 Apr. 1920

LAURENTS, MARY, b. no date, d. 4 Dec. 1891

LAURENTS, WILLIAM, b. 21 May 1850, d. 7 Jan. 1917

LINDSTROM, ELIAS, b. 1803, d. no date

LINDSTROM, MARGARET DOLAND, b. 1861, d. no date

LINDSTROM, SARAH, b, 1838, d. Oct. 1871

MARTIN, SARAH BRAY, b. 7 Feb. 1809, d. 2 Dec. 1902

McCALL, ALBERT HENRY, b. 25 Dec. 1844, d. 17 Mar. 1877

McCALL, BOBBIE LYNN, b. 8 Sep. 1944, d. 3 Mar. 1946

McCALL, J. T., b. 6 Oct. 1861, d. 24 Jan. 1957

McCALL, JAMES BRAY, b. 1 July 1848, d. 6 June 1879

McCALL, JEFF ROBERT, b. 9 Nov.1959, d. 11 Dec. 1984

McCALL, JOE LYNN, b. 26 Oct. 1953, d. 9 Dec. 1953

McCALL, LONA A., b.18 Feb. 1874, d. d. 30 Nov. 1874

McCALL, MARIE PORTAL, b. 5 July 1887, d. 27 Oct. 1976

McCALL, MARY ELIZABETH, b. 22 June 1827, d. 1 Aug.1893

McCALL, MILLEDGE WILLIAM, b. 24 Dec. 1803, d. 26 Aug. 1880

McCALL, MONA, b. & d. 1880

McCALL, ROBERT L, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt., b. 15 Oct. 1915, d. 9 Dec. 1952

McCALL, ROSE FERGUSON, b. 11 Dec. 1922, d. 3 Mar. 1946

McCALL, SALLIE D., b. 5 Dec. 1863, d. 1 Jan. 1940

McCALL, SARAH ALICE, b. 6 Oct. 1872, d. 7 Dec. 1872

McCALL, THOMAS, b. & d. 1849

McCALL, THOMAS WILLIAM, b. 18 Sep. 1884, d. 3 Jan. 1967

McCALL, VIRGIE B., b. 8 June 1899, d. 5 Mar. 1915

McDONALD, ALEXANDER, b. 1811, d. no date

NELSON, C. C., Capt., b. no date, d. 25 Oct. 1952

NEWMAN, JOHN, b. 1800, d. no date

NEWMAN, MARY EAST FAWVOR, b. 1810, d. no date

NUNEZ, BOB INSLEY, b. 26 Aug. 1925, d. 11 Nov. 1927

PERRY, JOHN C., b. no date, d. 13 Feb. 1877

PORTIE, MATTHEW, no dates

ROOT, BENJAMIN, b. 1781, d. no date

ROOT, GEORGE W., b. 1827, d. no date

ROY, ANDREW, b. 10 May 1836, d. 9 Feb. 1881

SANNE, GEORGE, Capt., b. 1868, d. 1932

(To Be Continued)

#### HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATE - THEOPHILE VERONIQUE

Contributed by LANE OLIVER, Member #1240

NAME: THEOPHILE VERONIQUE Canceled: No Issue Date: 14 Nov. 1890 US Reservations: No

Louisiana Acres: 168.86 Mineral Reservations: No State of Record:

Accession Number: LA0370 .271 Authority: May 20, 1862: Homestead Entry

Metes and Bounds: Original (12 Stat. 392) No **New Orleans** Document Number: Land Office: 3132

Legal Land Description:

1. Section	Twp	Range	Meridian	Counties
33	7-S	2-W	Louisiana	Acadia
34	7-S	2-W	Louisiana	Acadia

# The United States of America,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

Application 7618 Bollycoons those has been deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United Glutes a CERTIFICATE of the Regular of the Land Office at New Orleans bouisiana , whereby it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Bongress approved 20th May, 1862, "To source Armestoads to actual settlers on the public domain," and the act supplemental theuts, the daim of Okes phile Veronique established and duly consummated in conformity to low for the Cast Kalf of the South Gast quarter of Section thirty Three and the West kalf of the South West quarter of Section thirty four in Township seven South of Range low West of Boursiana Meridian in Consisiona containing one hundred and sixty eight acres and eighty six hundred this of an acre

eccording to lho Official Plat of the Europy of the said Land returned to the AEHERAL LAHD OFFICE

How know ye, That there is therefore granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said of the Peromyse the land of above described; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lead of Land, with the appartments through unto the said Cheophile. Veronigue and to his him and assigns forces.

> In letimony whom I. Benjamin Carrison Bruident of the United States of America, have caused these botters to be made Patent, and the Goal of the Ameral Land Office to be hereunts afficed.

Given under my hand, at the Bity of (Hashington, the fore lesset day of November , in the year of Our Gord one thousand eight hundred and minety , and of the L.8. Independence of the United States the one hundred and fifteesth By the Decident: Bus parrier Carrison

By Ellen Mayerland less Sing.

J.M. Townsend , Bounder of the Consent 2 and Office.

KINFOLKS

#### **QUERIES**

Queries are free to our members and will be printed as space permits. Write or print each query clearly so that all names, dates, and pertinent information can be easily understood by the transcriber. Queries should be brief, clear, concise and easily understood; do not ramble with unnecessary details. Give full names of the person; the exact date, if known, or an approximate time period (ca); and a location. State exactly what information you are seeking...a birth, parents, marriage, or death date. Remember the four "W's"—who, what, when, and where; a query that is too general and has no approximate time period or place will not be answered. Be specific. Never ask for genealogical information on a whole family. Place only one query at a time. Always enclose an S.A.S.E. (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with each query and offer to reimburse for the cost of copies and postage. Thank the respondent, even though you did not profit by his answer. Writing a better query may produce an answer to your problem!

#### **PAYNE**

I am searching for unmarked grave location of BENNIE C. PAYNE, buried in Big Woods Cemetery, Edgerly, Oct. 2, 1983. Does anyone have a copy of burial records (not headstone transcription) that existed before fire destroyed church in the cemetery. Your help would be greatly appreciated. DEBRA PAYNE, 642 Menard Rd., Sulphur, LA 70665 or roadrunners642@gmail.com

#### **CRANFORD**

Need any information on the last name of CRANFORD. PAMELA C. OLIVER, 2425 Dolphin Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70605

BULLER 25<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL to be held September 25, 2010, in Lafayette, La., at Vermillionville, a folk life park which contains the Buller House, c. 1807. Lunch and entry fee: \$20 adult, \$10 children under 10 years. Information and reservations – contact BRENDA FUSELIER, 208 Louie Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503, tel. 337-233-9908; e-mail bbf@lusfiber.net

\*

#### TOP TEN GENEALOGY MISTAKES

- 1. Don't misspell the word "genealogy."
- 2. Don't trust everything you see in print.
- 3. We're related to [...] (someone famous).
- 4. Don't be satisfied with just names and dates.
- 5. Beware of the generic family history.
- 6. Don't accept family legend without question.
- 7. Don't limit yourself to the current spelling of your surname.
- 8. Don't neglect to write down your sources.
- 9. Don't assume that everything you find on the Internet is correct.
- 10. Don't put off talking to older relatives.

Source: Connecticut Society of Genealogists Newsletter, March/April 2005 via Researchin' Ouachita-Calhoun Counties, AR, Vol. 27 #1, Spring 2007

**DO YOU REMEMBER** spending summer nights on a sleeping porch to try to catch a breath of air or spending winter nights there, burrowed down in a pile of quilts to keep warm? You could hear owls hooting, frogs croaking, the wind blowing and all sorts of night sounds we seldom hear today.

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- 1. Thou shall interview by telephone or questionnaire all known adult relatives, especially the elderly, before starting to research. If one procrastinates with this critical research step, some folks may not be living when you finally decide to attempt to contact them;
- 2. Thou shall write down every relevant fact discovered or make copies. Do not leave anything to memory, especially the name of the resource and the page where it was found;
- 3. Thou shall not believe everything you are told during genealogical interviews until you prove it with primary and secondary source evidence;
- 4. Thou shall not dismiss anything you are told until you know it to be myth by other irrefutable evidence:
- 5. Thou shall always carry a copy of your pedigree chart and county map with you whenever you research at the library;
- 6. Thou shall review your notes after each research session and make appropriate notations in the margins with suggestions of what further can be done to enlarge upon that newly discovered information;
- 7. Thou shall always make a step-by-step lesson plan of who, what, where and when to research BEFORE going to the library;
- 8. Thou shall always make a copy of all letter requests before mailing, and always include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the convenient transmittal of that requested information;
- 9. Thou shall never send cash in the mail for certified copies of vital statistics or for miscellaneous duplication it will most likely be returned to you. To avoid delays, send money orders or certified cashier's checks;
- 10. Thou shall never seek more than one research request per letter whenever writing a library, archive, or institution. Keep all requests to a one-page minimum, or it will probably meet the archivist/librarian's trash basket.

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