

BESANCON, INDIANA CHRONICLES

GENEALOGY DEPT.

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Allen County Public Library

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This is a publication of the Besancon Historical Society, 15533 Lincoln Highway East, New Haven IN 46774

Mark S. Robbins, President; Jim Lomont, Treasurer; Al Bowser, Secretary

On February 11 of this year the Besancon Historical Society, along with members and friends of the parish at St. Louis, celebrated the completion of the renovation of the stained glass windows in St. Louis Catholic Church. The ceremony proved more than just a marking of the completion of the restoration; it was a Besancon family reunion, a fitting culmination to the many months of work which saw current residents, past residents and descendants of past residents of Besancon pull together to save the beauty of the windows.

At the same time the Society released "Windows of the Past." This booklet, a compilation of the extensive research done by Dianna Voors on the original donors of the windows, provides important information regarding some of the early settlers of Besancon as well as insight into life in the middle of the 19th century.

Fr. Thom Lombardi, pastor at St. Louis, chose the day of the celebration to announce that the St. Louis District had been added to the National Register of Historic Places as of September 22, 1995. This, too, was a long journey which required much effort and patience. Many thanks to Phyllis Brockmyer, whose effort and advice proved invaluable in gaining this recognition for St. Louis.

Such was the significance of February 11--the conclusion of three substantial projects which brought the Besancon family together to celebrate its history. But there is much work yet to be done. "Album in the Attic," a project to collect, identify and catalogue photographs, begins in June of this year. Almost all of us have a place

where we keep old photographs--whether treasured memories, reminders of people and events in the past or heirlooms whose content has been forgotten. The society seeks to turn these photos, or their reproductions, into documents which will further the understanding of our collective history. Please read the article on page 8 to find out how you can help.

The society has also acquired a computer to assist in the cataloging of the documents, photographs and other items in our archives. This computer provides the society with a tool to make information much more accessible and useful to researchers interested in Besancon history or genealogy.

We also sponsor educational meetings for our members. Late last year Bill Platter spoke of the life of Civil War soldiers and civilians from the area. In March of this year, Marsh Lomont displayed and explained Native American artifacts collected in and around Besancon. The rest of the year promises more excellent presentations. See page 5 for more details.

We all enjoyed the celebration of February 11. But for the Besancon Historical Society, that event does not mark the end of a journey, but a milestone along the way. We offer these "Chronicles" as an invitation for you to join us on this pilgrimage of learning, exploring the same lands and people our ancestors did and understanding ourselves in the process, in the hope of reuniting again in celebration of our work as a family.

Mark S. Robbins, President

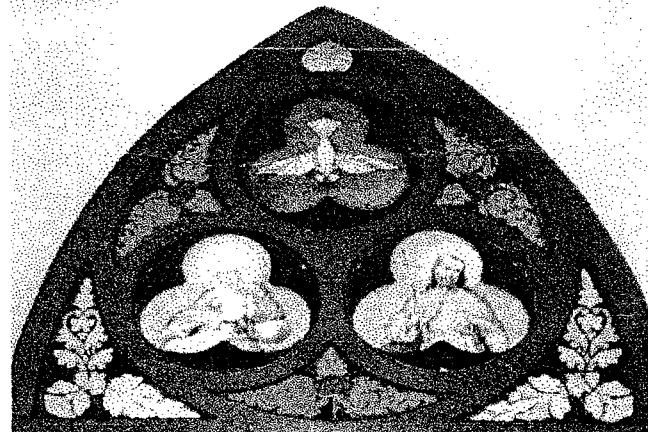
Historical Society Issues Booklet

To commemorate the rededication of the windows of St. Louis Church, the Besancon Historical Society issued a beautifully illustrated booklet "Windows of the Past." Researched and written by Dianna Voors, the booklet contains the genealogies of the original donors of the windows. A sample entry is provided on page 3 of this newsletter. The booklet was distributed to all who contributed to the restoration project. Copies are still available from the society for \$7.50. (Order Form on Page 15)

CHURCH WINDOWS REDEDICATED

On 11 February 1996 members of the St. Louis congregation and invited guests gathered in the church to mark the completion of the windows restoration project undertaken by the Besancon Historical Society. The windows were installed at the time of the construction of the church in 1870-1871 and since then had only undergone minor repairs. Restoration was badly needed. Some glass had already fallen out, and all the

windows were unstable. The Society undertook the windows restoration as its first major project. Under the chairmanship of Carlton Giant and Mick Lomont, a fund drive was organized. The descendants of the original donors and others interested in the project were contacted, and the necessary funds were raised. Craftsmen from William L. Lupkin Designs, a Fort Wayne company specializing in glass restoration, were entrusted with the restoration work (cleaning, repair, releading) which was completed by December, 1995.



As part of the windows restoration project the "missing" Holy Spirit panel over the main entrance to the church was replaced.

St. Louis to Celebrate Anniversaries

Between 30 May 1996 and 30 May 1997, St. Louis will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of the church and the 150th anniversary of the parish. Many special events have been planned.

30 May 1996

Opening Ceremonies, Mass and Potluck Supper - 6 p.m.

4 August

Parish Picnic

25 August

Solemnity of St. Louis the King, Patron of the Parish, Ice Cream Social

6 October

Homecoming & Reunion

7 November

Mass for Faithfully Departed Members of the Parish

19 January 1997

Ecumenical Vesper Service

23 March (Palm Sunday)

Concert by St. Louis Choir

27-30 May

Closing Events: Parish Mission, Closing Ceremony & Burial of Time Capsule

DOCUMENTS FROM THE PAST

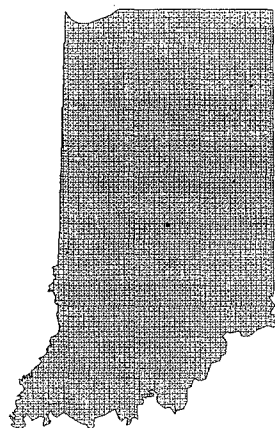
In 1946 St. Louis Parish celebrated its centennial. The following article from the 29 August issue of the Allen County Times announced the festivities.

St. Louis Parish Centennial To Be Celebrated

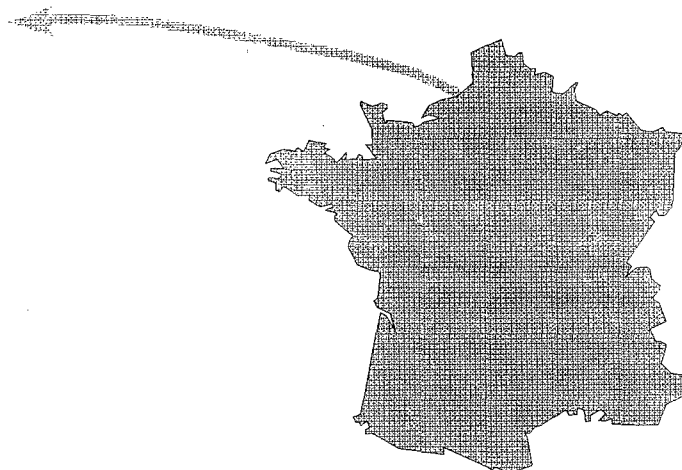
Bishop Noll, Other Notables
To Assist In Celebration
Sunday

A solemn pontifical Mass, with the Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne, as celebrant, will be held at 10:30 o'clock Sunday at St. Louis Catholic Church at Besancon to mark the 100th anniversary of the parish, and the 75th anniversary of the present church. Three special services will be held during the day-long celebration. (*Continued on page 10*)

**“From France to Indiana”
A Presentation by Ralph Violette**



**May Meeting of the Besancon
Historical Society, St. Louis School
9:30AM, 25 May 1996**



Indiana Catholic Sites on the National Register of Historic Places

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (1980)

Jefferson and Calhoun Streets
Fort Wayne, Indiana

St. Peter's Square (1991)

Area bounded by St. Martin, Hanna, East
Dewald and Warsaw Streets
Fort Wayne, Indiana

St. Louis Besancon Historic District (1995)

Area and structures in vicinity of St. Louis
Church on Lincoln Highway east of
New Haven, Indiana

St. Mary's Catholic Church (1977)

317 North New Jersey Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

Holy Rosary-Danish Church Historic District (1986)

Area bounded by Virginia Avenue, I-65/70 and S.
East Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

St. Joseph's Church (1980)

1215 North Newton Street
Jasper, Indiana

St. Boniface Church (1980)

Indiana 545
Fulda, Indiana

**Convent of the Immaculate Conception Historic
District (1983)**

Ferdinand, Indiana

Old Cathedral Complex (1976)

Vincennes, Indiana

St. Joseph Indian Normal School (1973)

Rensselaer, Indiana

**Main and South Quadrangles, University of
Notre Dame (1978)**

Notre Dame, Indiana

GENEALOGY NOTES

"From France to America: the Gladieux Family" by Joan Jacquay Monnier

Two ships brought the GLADIEUXS of Allen County, Indiana to the United States in the 1840s. According to an application for External Passports from the French department of Haut Rhin (Register 8, #1325) JEAN PIERRE GLADIEUX, age 34, born in and a resident of Vellescot, was a *cultivateur* (farmer). Jean Pierre's application for passage to New York with his wife and two children was dated 5 August 1844.

On the same date JOSEPH REISEL, age 35, who was born in Chavannes le Grand and who was a resident of Boron, also applied for a passport for himself, his wife and two children (Register 8, #1326). He was listed as a *tisserand* (weaver). He and his family later accompanied the Jean Pierre Gladieux family by ship to America.

The ship "Emerald" arrived in the Port of New York on the 17th of September 1844 from Le Havre, France. On the manifest at the top of the list of passengers was handwritten "Pierre Gladier," age "33," sex "M." In the area of the manifest indicating country of origin, there was a blank space with ditto marks for the following seven passengers. In the area indicating the country where they intended to become inhabitants, "United States" was the entry for Pierre; ditto marks were provided for the following seven passengers. They were ROSE, 29, F; FRANCOIS, 6, M; JOSEPHINE, 3, F; JOSEPH

REISSET, 35, M; ELISA, 34, F; PIERRE, 8, M ANTOINE, 6, M.

There was a total of 31 passengers on this voyage of the "Emerald." The Ship's Master George Wm. Horve gave the ship's burthen as 518 5/95 tons. Although the length of time it took the ship to cross the Atlantic was not provided, the time from the date of the passport application (5 August 1844) to the date of arrival in New York (17 September 1844) was 43 days.

PHILIPPE GLADIEUX, father of Jean Pierre Gladieux, applied for a passport the following year on 20 February 1845 (Register 8, #1754). He was 58 years old, a *propriétaire* (landowner) in Vellescot, and he indicated at the time of his application his intention to emigrate to New York. (The ship on which he came to America has not yet been determined.) He is listed in the 1860 Federal Census of Jefferson Township, Allen County, Indiana, as Phillip Gladio, age 80, M., born in France. He lived in the household of Peter Gladio, age 50, M, a farmer born in France. Also in the same household were Rosanna, age 45, F; Francis, 22, M; Josephine, 19, F; Lester, 15, M; Victoria, 12, F.

Editor's Note: The spelling of all names and the ages given are the same as in the original sources. Vellescot, Chavannes le Grande and Boron are located in the department of Territoire-de-Belfort.

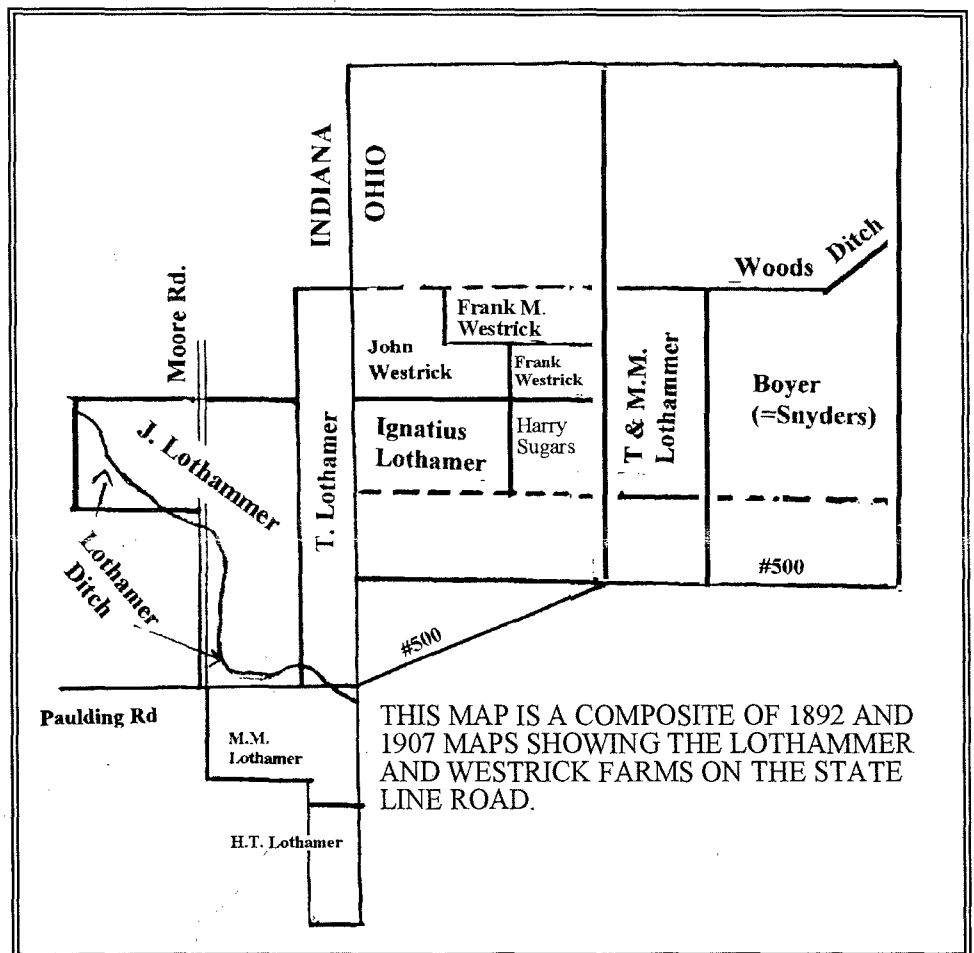
THE JOSEPH AND ELIZA LOTHAMMER FAMILY

Rev. James W. Lothamer, s.s.
Adrian, Michigan

The roots of the Joseph Lothammer Family in Jackson Township go back to the 1850's, when Joseph came with his parents and siblings to Benton Township, Paulding County, Ohio, in 1856. Shortly thereafter Joseph established himself in Jackson Township, on the Indiana side of the border.

Joseph was the son of Theobald Lothammer (1808-1891) and Maria Magdalena Gamber (1806-1887), from the village of Guewenheim in Alsace. Joseph was the second of nine children, born between 1832 and 1852. The children were Theobald (Baldy) Jr., Joseph, Anthony, M a g d a l e n a

(Stautzenberger), Theresa (Brady), Catherine (died as a child), Ignatius, Maurice (Morris), and Agatha (Quince/Perl). A son, Joseph, had been born to Maria Magdalena in 1829. Though he lived only a couple of months, the family always counted him as the first of ten children.



EMIGRATION FROM ALSACE

Circumstantial evidence indicates that Theobald Sr. wanted to avoid the draft for his three oldest sons (Baldy, Joseph and Anthony), and so decided to emigrate to the U.S. The family arrived in New York, according to an Allen County naturalization record, on June 18, 1854. They traveled to Sandusky, Ohio, most likely by way of the Erie Canal and Lake Erie. (Continued on page 12)

*Album
In The
Attic*

All of us have old photographs stored away somewhere--in the attic, in the basement, on the top shelf in the closet. We may not realize it, but these old photos are actually more than photos of great-uncle Harry. They are important historical documents--moments of history recorded on film.

Photos tell us a lot more than we may think at first glance. They can give real faces to vague names from the past. They can shed light on past customs and lifestyles. Sometimes they are the only record of the form and shape of structures which have long since disappeared. They help us see the landscape through the eyes

of those who have gone before us.

The Besancon Historical Society would like to establish as part of its archives a collection of old photographs. It has therefore initiated the "Album in the Attic Project." The purpose of the project is to collect photographs which document the history of eastern Allen County (especially Jefferson, Jackson, Madison and Monroe Townships) from the 1850's through the 1920's. The project will run from June 1996 through May 1997.

Through public service announcements and mass mailings, the Society will canvass the area's residents, encouraging them to dig that album of old photos out of the attic. The project will accept original photos from those who wish to donate them. For those who wish to keep the originals, the project will make reproductions. The collected photos will be identified, catalogued and stored in the Society's archives. The collection will then be open for use by the general public.

Three public exhibits will be scheduled during the project. Visitors to the first two exhibits will not only be able to view the photos collected to date but will also be encouraged to provide additional background information about them. The final exhibit will be a display at the Allen County Public Library of the most significant photos.

Ralph Violette, Associate Professor of History at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne, has been named as historical consultant to the project. Ms. Rebecca Schipper, head of the Department of Preservation at the Allen County Public Library, has been named as the consultant for preservation and conservation of the photograph collection. Mrs. Dianna Voors will assist the project as its primary researcher. The Director of the project is Rev. Thomas Lombardi who will oversee the organization and implementation of the entire program.

To help fund the "Album in the Attic Project," the Society applied for and was informed in late April that it had received an Indiana Heritage Research Grant. This grant, co-sponsored by the Indiana Humanities Council and the Indiana Historical Society, provides \$2,500 in matching funds to local historical societies for projects which document local Indiana history.

In what kind of photos is the Society interested? Here is a partial list: individual or group family portraits and photos (including baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, and reunions); photos of homes and farms (interior and exterior); photos of local towns and settlements; photos of public buildings (schools, halls, taverns, businesses and churches); photos of early modes of transportation; photos of farming techniques and equipment; photos relating to area business and commerce; photos of early funeral practices, and photos of important events in the life of the community (fairs, celebrations, commemorations, accidents, and disasters).



Gladieux-Lomont Golden Wedding
Anniversary Celebration, 1910

Donors are encouraged to submit their photos, even if they are uncertain of their importance or of the identity of the individuals in the photos. In many cases individuals can be identified through other photos in the Society's collection, and what may seem unimportant to the donor may actually be an important photographic record of some part of the history of eastern Allen County and its people. Individuals who have *(Continued on page 10)*

Documents (continued) At 1 o'clock the celebration will be staged in the school auditorium, with over 300 guests, including members and former members and friends of the parish in attendance. Following the banquet program, a benediction service at 4 o'clock in the church will close the celebration.

The Rev. Joseph Hession, pastor of St. Louis Church, will act as master of ceremonies for the banquet. Other speakers on the banquet program will be the Rev. J. Nicholas Allgeier of St. Mary's Church, Ft. Wayne, the Rev. Jesse Lothamer of St. Aloysius Church, Yoder; the Very Rev. Msgr. George Moorman of Sacred Heart Church, Hammond; the Most Rev. John Francis Noll of Fort Wayne, and Mr. Clarence Roy, a parishioner. Bishop Noll, Msgr. Moorman, and Fr. Allgeier are all former pastors of St. Louis parish.

As early as April 16, 1840, historical sketches show that some services were held at Besancon, in private homes. The Rev. A. Bessonies came regularly and said Mass in the log house of Joseph Dodane as early as 1851, but statements from members of pioneer families tell of services being held there as early as 1845 or 1846.

Records, however, show the first church was built there during the year 1851, with the first resident pastor, Father Grevin, coming to the parish in 1864. In January 1870, the Rev. A. Adam became resident pastor, and under his pastorate the present church structure was started and was in use by 1871.

The present rectory was built during the 1890s, and the present school was built in 1915 after an earlier school had been destroyed by fire.

Besides the priests, who will participate in the Mass and the program, other dignitaries will also be in attendance for the special celebration next Sunday.

Assisting Bishop Noll for the Mass will be the Rev. J. Nicholas Allgeier, arch priest; the Rev. Jesse Lothamer; and the Rev. Lawrence Gollner, assistant at St. John the Baptist Church, deacons of honor to the Bishop. The Rev. Edward Hession, assistant at St. Patrick's Church and a brother of the Besancon pastor, and the Rev. Edward Litot, of Fort Wayne, a seminarian will serve respectively as deacon and sub-deacon and the V. Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Feltes, chancellor, and the Rev. Robert J. Hoevel, assistant chancellor, masters of ceremonies. The V. Rev. Msgr. Geo. Moorman will deliver the sermon.

ALBUM (Continued) photographs may contact the Project Director, Rev. Thomas Lombardi, at 15533 Lincoln Highway East, New Haven, Indiana 46774; telephone (219) 749-4525. They may also contact Mrs. Dianna Voors at (219) 632-5706.

The Besancon Historical Society has recently acquired a computer and a microfiche viewer. A microfilm reader and a quality printer for the pc are still needed. Can you help?

WE'RE A "STOP" ON THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY!

The Besancon Historical Society has established its own "page" on the World-Wide Web. Its URL is

<http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/www/depts/history/ftwayne/besanco.html>

Online versions of the Besancon Indiana Chronicles are also available.

Issue # 1 (Nov 94):

<http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/www/depts/history/ftwayne/chronic1.html>

Issue # 2 (May 96):

<http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/www/depts/history/ftwayne/chronic2.html>

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Other Web Sites

Indiana History:

<http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/www/depts/history/indihist.html>

Indiana Genealogy:

<http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/www/depts/history/indiana/genealog.html>

Indiana Catholic Page:

<http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/www/depts/history/indicath.html>



LOTHAMMER (Continued)

For two years the Lothammer family lived in either Crawford or Richland Counties in Ohio. Family oral tradition says that Theobald borrowed an ox and set off for the Illinois prairies but that the ox died in the area of Benton Township, Paulding County, Ohio. Ending up in the most dense part of the Black Swamp, the couple with their children, ranging in ages from 24 to 4 years, came to be one of the earliest German immigrants to Benton Township.

It is difficult to imagine what life was like, living in the very heart of the Black Swamp. It would be some 50 years before the swamp was fully drained. The map on page 7 indicates the location of the Theobald Lothammer farm in Benton Township, along with neighboring farms.

Benton Township is the same distance from both Payne and Besancon. Hence, it appears that Theobald's family participated in both Catholic parishes. An early history of St. John Church in Payne notes that the Theobald Lothammer family was the first German (Catholic) family in the area. Yet, it was in Besancon that both Theobald and Maria Magdalena were buried. Their grave marker, noting their Alsatian origins, along with the names and dates of their children and their spouses, stands in the Besancon cemetery.

SETTLEMENT IN JACKSON TOWNSHIP ALLEN COUNTY

According to Joseph's naturalization papers, Joseph had established himself in the neighboring county of Allen, in Indiana, by 1858. Shortly thereafter he purchased the family farm, which lay on the north side of Paulding road, right next to Baldy's farm on the

State Line Road. Today the Paulding Road side of the property is owned by a gas company and the family home has been torn down.

To the south of Joseph, bordered by Paulding and State Line Roads, was another portion of brother Baldy's farm. This portion continues to be in the Lothamer family. Just north and kitty-cornered to the Indiana farms, on the Ohio side, was the farm of another brother, Ignatius Lothammer. Immediately next to his, to the east, lay Theobald and Maria Magdalena's farm. In addition to these Lothammer farms, his sister, Theresa, had married Peter Brady and their farm was also in Benton Township, along with brother Morris Lothammer's farm.

From the 1850's to around 1905, the Lothammer family was one of the largest and most intact among the families of the Benton-Jackson Township area. The children of Joseph and Eliza literally grew up in a world of cousins.



Joseph Lothammer

MARRIAGE OF JOSEPH AND ELIZA

On October 30, 1862, at the age of 30, Joseph Lothammer married Eliza Snyder in Paulding County. Eliza was only 17 years old. The marriage record notes that Eliza's father had given his permission for the wedding. Over the next 23 years, ten children were born to Joseph and Eliza, six boys and four girls.

FAMILY OF ELIZA SNYDER

In some ways, Eliza Snyder's background was quite different from Joseph's. Her Snyder family had been in the U.S. for over 100 years. They were Americans, not immigrants. Her family, on both her father's and mother's side, had moved into Ohio in the 1820's from the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia.

More significantly, the Snyders were strong Lutherans, while Joseph appears to have been a somewhat casual Catholic. Family tradition says that while the children were baptized Catholic, they were raised Lutheran by their mother. The fact is, as adults, the children eventually chose several different church affiliations.

Eliza Snyder was the daughter of Isaac Snyder (1819-1900) and Eliza Bodey (1822-1856). Isaac and Eliza had eight children: Lydia (Deal), Catherine (Merica), Rev. John, Eliza (Lothammer), Rebecca, Isaac Jr., Sarah (Boyer) and Lewis. All, except Lewis, were born in Champaign County, Ohio.

In 1854, Isaac and Eliza Snyder moved to Benton Township, Paulding County. After his wife's death in 1856, Isaac married a second time (Emily Daniels) and they were the parents of eight children: Anna (Deal), Valentine, Noah, Joseph, George, Emma (Boyer/McPherson), Elizabeth (Hamilton) and Rose (Finan).

Complicating the relationships in Eliza Snyder Lothammer's family was the fact that three Snyder brothers had married three Bodey sisters. Her parents, Isaac and Eliza, were one set of those marriages.

When one envisions the children of Joseph and Eliza Lothammer growing up in the 1860's, 70's and 80's, one must imagine the incredible number

of relatives living within a couple miles of their farm. Within walking distance, there were four Lothammer farms, plus the 15 Snyder related families, in addition to the growing family of Peter and Theresa (Lothammer) Brady. Even for the prolific 1800's, the size and inter-relatedness of the families must have been a bit unusual.

THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND ELIZA LOTHAMMER



Eliza Snyder Lothammer

Joseph and Eliza appear to have been successful as a couple. Their farm grew to some 160 acres. Joseph died in 1909 at age 75. Eliza lived another ten years, long enough to see her son Jesse ordained a Catholic priest. Eliza herself eventually became a Catholic. Both she and Joseph are buried in the St. Louis cemetery, next to Father Jesse.

Toward the end of his life, Joseph suffered from arthritis. Eliza's granddaughter, Clarice Lothamer Linder, recalls that her grandmother, like many of the other pioneer women of her day, liked to smoke her clay pipe. Clarice remembers taking "walks with Grandma, where she would smoke her pipe and make me promise not to tell anyone."

THE CHILDREN OF JOSEPH AND ELIZA

Joseph A. was born on December 4, 1863 and died 24 August 1938. He married Elisabeth Auer in 1887. The couple was divorced in 1896. In 1897, Joseph married Lillie May Miller. There were no children. He is buried at the Yoder church, returning to his Catholic faith a couple of years before his death.

Andrew Lothamer was born 22 March 1866 and died 9 April 1937. He married Laura Mae Finney in 1894. In 1898 he moved to Midland County, Michigan, where he was a lumberman and farmer. He and his wife attended the Methodist Episcopal church. He had three daughters: Lela (Hanratty), Gladys, and Jessie (Canute).

Sarah Sophia, known as Sade, was born 8 July 1869 and died 5 February 1951. She married James Lechler in 1893. The couple were very involved in and committed to the Lutheran church. They had one child: Ethel (Cary). Aunt Sade was the one sibling who could "talk turkey" to her priest-brother, Jesse. On the other hand, she kept an eye on Jesse's well-being, frequently cleaning his rectory and looking after him.

John was born 12 March 1871 and died 7 June 1944. He is buried at the Yoder church cemetery, next to his brother Joseph. Like Joseph, he appears to have renewed his ties to the Catholic church, through Father Jesse's efforts, some time shortly before his death. John married Ella Adams in 1896 and then Emma Jurline. John and Ella were the parents of Irene (Reuille), Carl, Oscar and Mildred. John, I believe, operated the mill at Tillman for many years.

Eliza Ann was born 15 August 1873 and died 10 October 1886. She is buried in the Old Lehman Cemetery near Payne, in the area of her Snyder relatives. I have the impression that Eliza may have been mentally handicapped.

Lester Lewis was born 27 November 1875 and died in a car accident at Zulu on 27 November 1909. He married Daisy Ruble in 1900 and they were the parents of Ernest, Louis, Marie, Evelyn (Koelinger) and Hazel (Lee). I am not sure of the order of these births. Descendants of both Ernest and Louis continue to live in Allen County. Lester had a farm about 1/4 mile north of Paulding Road, on Moore Rd.

Charles Oliver was born 10 May 1878 and died 24 October 1957. He married Teresa Susan Westrick in 1901. They were the parents of seven children: Clarice (Linder), Donald, Jesse, Helen (Templin), John, James, and Jean (Linehan). Oliver "re-entered" the Catholic church after his marriage. He was a farmer and moved to Coldwater, Michigan, in the early 1920's. He is my grandfather.

Albert was born 6 December 1881 and died 30 August 1953. He married Bessie Stradley Coling in 1902. She died in 1911. Around 1919 he married Adeline Sabine. Albert and Bessie were the parents of Ogden, Catherine (Poole) and Robert. Albert and Adeline were the parents of Edward, Esther (Turner) and Ted. Albert was in the insurance business and had moved to Detroit, Michigan, around the time of the First World War. In religion, Albert was a staunch 33rd Degree Mason. His Lothamer name is carried through descendants of Ted Lothamer in Colorado.

Jesse and Emma were born 8 January 1885. Emma was to be married into the Lomont family, who were very fervent Catholics. Hence, she took instructions prior to her marriage. Her twin, Jesse, accompanied her to those instructions. The result was that both Emma and Jesse made their first communions. Emma married Justin Lomont in 1904. Jesse went off to the seminary and was eventually ordained in 1917. Father Jesse died 16 June 1968, two weeks after the ordination of his great-nephew James Lothamer.

Emma and Justin Lomont were the parents of Cletus, Joseph, Esther, Ursula (Sockrider), Edna (Reuille), Catherine (Ristau), Mary (Brinker), Robert, Monica (Giant/Knecht), and Carolyn (Hill). The family lived on the old Lomont homestead, not far from St. Louis church. Emma died 19 November 1957 and is buried in the new section of the Besancon Cemetery.

BESANCON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Application for Membership/Order Form

(Please print)

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I would like to become a member of the Besancon Historical Society. Please enroll me as a

_____ member for the current year (dues \$10.00)

_____ life-time member (dues \$100.00)

I would like to order _____ copy/copies of "Windows of the Past" (\$7.50 each)

Make your check payable to the "Besancon Historical Society"

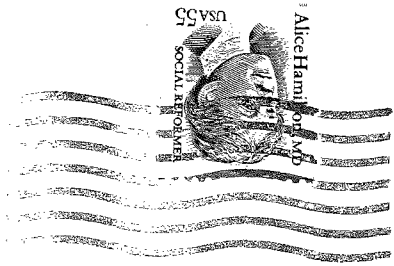
Please mail this form, along with your remittance, to:

Besancon Historical Society
15533 Lincoln Highway East
New Haven, Indiana 46774

We would appreciate your taking the time to answer the following:

1. How did you first become acquainted with the Besancon Historical Society?
2. What are the special historical/genealogical interest(s) which prompted you to join the society?
3. How do you see the Society assisting you in pursuing your interests?
4. I would be interested in participating in the following activities of the society:

Historical Genealogical Collection
Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
Fort Wayne IN 46802



Besancon Historical Society
15533 Lincoln Highway East
New Haven IN 46774



The Besancon Historical Society is a not-for-profit, tax exempt organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Indiana. Contributions to the Society or to the newsletter to defray the costs of publication are appreciated

This newsletter has been compiled by Ralph Violette