

Besançon Historical Society *the Chronicles* ...



Allen County and Migrants from Europe in the 1800s
Windows of the Past ... Joly, Havert and Schmucker
 Contributed by Pat Comiskey

GENEALOGY DEPT.

OCT 31 2005

ALLEN CO. PUBLIC LIB.

All four of my mother's grandparents moved independently into Allen County, were married and raised their families there, and then moved on to Ennis, Texas. All of the families came from a very small area in central Europe more than 150 years ago and one wonders what prompted them to leave their ancestral homes, and what determined where they would go and when. Mortality rates were high there for centuries from frequent epidemics including the black plague, and from armies from all over Europe fighting through the area. After Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo in 1815, a period of peace and better sanitation prevailed. A population boom occurred.

It appears to me that a common theme in our family moves was that they had many children and not enough land available for all. Agriculture was the predominant sector of the economy in those years, although the farmers did need clothing which was provided by tailors and shoe makers. While my family may not have been very affluent, they were not destitute. It seems that they followed new developments in canals and railroads where they could obtain plentiful farm land for reasonable prices.

The major event in the northern states was the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, which opened up low-cost water transportation from New York City out as far west as Duluth. Several canals were open in Ohio, and construction of the Wabash and Erie Canal was started in both directions from Fort Wayne, and a link was completed to Lake Erie in 1844.



The first of our family to settle in Allen County were the Jolys who arrived in New York on the ship *Adhaman* in June, 1847 and settled on a farm in Jefferson township. **Louis Joly**, tailor, age 60, was born in a village, Montdider, close to the German border in Moselle, Lorraine, in 1787. His grandfather, **Christophe**, was one of the early settlers in that village which was restricted to French-speaking people. Louis married **Marguerite Schenher** and they raised their children in a nearby village, Vahl-les-Benestroff.

Josephine Joly and Christina Coonrod
 Abt 1910 Ennis, Texas

Continued on page six ...

President's Message...

FALL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2005

In June four members worked in the old cemetery at Besançon. The goal was to dig up the grids that mark the rows. We had discovered that the grids had sunk into the ground. So Judy, Arlene, Bob and I took our trusty shovels, spades and metal detector to the cemetery. Many markers had sunk at least 2 inches and without the metal detector we would still be roaming the grounds looking for them. Thanks to all and to Bob for the metal detector.

The archives has added some family histories. Eileen Arend sent her Martin-Monnot histories. Father Jim Lothamer has a 3 volume set of the Lothamer family which was donated by Monica Lomont Knecht and Carolyn Lomont Hill. John Palmer has added to the Beugnot's with Civil War pension papers for John B. who is the son of Peter.

Also in the archives is the interview conducted by Jeff Hoffman with Clara and Bernice May. The questions Jeff asked helped them remember their childhood living on the farm, going to school and the fun times they had. Ralph Violette transcribed the interview. Ralph incorporated facts into the Jackson and Jefferson Twp. history that will be in the Allen County History Book which will be published about August of 2006.

The ACPL genealogy department puts out a news bulletin on the internet. If anyone is interested, go to www.ACPL.lib.in.us.org, then genealogy. Under Search go to Allen Co. databases. Then scroll down to place your e-mail address in the box. The newsletter is called "Genealogy Gems" and Ryan Taylor manages the newsletter with the other librarians adding interesting things that can be found in the genealogy area of the library. The newsletter also contains directions to the library, parking areas, restaurants and motels.

The September 28th issue of the Monroeville News featured a front page article by Deb Eidson about the Jefferson No 5 open house that was held on October 9 of this year. In conjunction with the popular "Zoom Thur Zulu" 10K this gave many people the opportunity to experience the history of the area and to help preserve this school house for future generations. Currently under restoration the old school house was purchased by the children of Allen and Gladys Nail Lomont in honor of their parents in 2002. The school house was then given to St. Louis Catholic Church. At this point, a \$10,000 grant was given by the Spencer Foundation and the class of Tracey Lomont Jacquay of Monroeville Elementary School has raised \$225.17 to donate. When John Weddell, director of the Minihaha Foundation found about the children's gift, he not only matched the donation but challenged others to give. "It will make a lasting impression on them for doing something important for their community" he said.

Send donations to Schoolhouse Restoration Fund, % Grabill Bank, PO Box 125, New Haven, IN. 46774

I wish everyone a great fall season and happy holidays! ... *Barbara*

MISSION of The Besançon Historical Society

ARTICLE II - SECTION 2:

The mission of the Besançon Historical Society of East Allen County is to preserve, interpret, and foster a deeper understanding of the history, heritage, and of the rural community know as Besançon, Indiana, generally located in Jefferson Township, Allen County, Indiana, and which has as its central focus,

Saint Louis Catholic Church

Established: 1994



Diane Galligher has a new E-mail: GD198Gail_gher@MSN.com (that is an underscore between the l and g). *Welcome ...* **Joyce Martin**, 16913 Edgerton Road, New Haven, IN 46774. *Thank You ...* **John Monnot** and **Janet Jewell** for your generous donations. Also, **John**, for your contribution of family pictures that have been added to the archives. *Added ...* The interview of **Clare and Bernice May** by Jeff Hoffman. Three family history volumes of **Lothamer Family History** have been donated by **Monica Lomont Knecht** and **Carolyn Lomont Hill**. Also, ... **Martin—Monnot** family history. Pension records for **John Beugnot**. (added to the family history). *Welcome back ...* Georges Jeanney, 13 Rve Isenbant, 25000 Besançon, France



8th grade graduation at Besançon in 1939.

Pictured left to right in back row: Dick Girardot, Dick Oberley, Bob Oberley, Joseph "Jake" Giant, Robert Hake, Harvey Bacon, Jr. Front row: Lavon Hugenard, Madonna Gerardot, Dorothy Gerardot, Monica Lomont, Ruth Ann Mourey, Marcile Girardot. Not pictured Harold Lothamer and Leonard Martin. The Pastor was Rev. Joseph Hession and Principal, Sister M. Caroline S. S. N. D. Picture courtesy of Dick Girardot via Lois Ternet.

Yester Year... copied and submitted by Jane Morow



FT WAYNE NEWS ... Nov. 26, 1914. *A COUNTRY PARTY* ... The home of **Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Vanderley**, near Zulu, Ind was the scene of a merry gathering of relatives and friends on Saturday evening. Games and the old-fashioned square dances helped to make the evening a particularly happy one, and at the late hour all enjoyed an elaborate feast prepared by the hostess. Those present were Misses Bertha and Agnes Vanderley, Miss Lester, Arthur Floyd, Ralph Venderley, Charles Gladieux, Mrs. Celestine Gladieux, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Oberley, Leopard Moudy, Glen Gemauz, of near Zulu, Mr. and Mrs. Gemauz, of near Zulu, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Havert, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Havert, Dallas Havert, John Havert, Gerald Havert, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bowser, John J Garty, of this city; Miss Grace Emrick, of Fremont, Ind; Joseph Osey, Frank Getz, Charles Miller, and Miss Catherine Mead.

FT WAYNE SENTINEL ... Aug. 7, 1900. **Miss Rubie Girard** is lying dangerously ill at Sheldon, Ind., where she went a few days ago to visit relatives. Mr. Girard, the father of the young lady, is conducting an art gallery at the corner of Columbia and Calhoun streets. ... The wedding of **Miss Emma Joly and Peter Hartnett** will take place at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning at the Cathedral. The ceremony will be performed by the **Very Rev. John Guendling**, and the attendants of the couple will be **Miss Edith Stier and Frank Manuel**. FT WAYNE NEWS ... Aug. 19, 1912 ... Word has been received here announcing the death of **Mrs. A. C. Joly** formerly a resident of Fort Wayne, which occurred a few days ago at Ennis, Tex. Death was due to fracture of the skull sustained in an automobile accident. Mr. and Mrs. Joly and their two daughters were returning from an automobile trip, when something went wrong with the machine. Mrs. Joly climbed out while the car was still in motion and fell, striking her head against a stone. She died without regaining consciousness. FT WAYNE SENTINEL ... Feb. 8, 1902 ... **Mrs. Mary Biegel, wife of Julius Biegel**, residing at the 64 Madison street, died very suddenly at 6:30 o'clock Friday evening at the resident of John W. Winters, 16 Madison street. Dr. A. E. Van Buskirk, the deputy coroner, who was called in the case, finds that the death was due to apoplexy. But a few minutes previous to her death Mrs. Biegel left her house to do some shopping down town, but when near St. Paul's Lutheran church, at the end of Madison street, she became suddenly ill. Weak and fainting, she managed to reach the door of the Winters residence, rapped and was admitted. Mrs. Biegle was unknown to the Winters family, but it was quickly seen that she was very ill and members of the household assisted her to a chair. She was barely able to response to the inquiry for her name and address, when she sank into complete unconsciousness and death ensued a moment later. Mrs. Biegle was fifty-five years of age, born and reared in Allen county and was well and favorably known. She was the daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Kline** of Jefferson township. The mother is yet living at the age of eighty-seven. Mrs. Biegel was twice married, her first husband, **Joshua Schuster**, dying of smallpox in 1882. Some time later she was untied in marriage to **Julius Biegel**, who survives her, together with six children, as follows: Mrs. Chris Gebfert, Mrs. Paul Denny of Chicago, Mrs. John Miles, Miss Edna Biegel, Frank and Charles Schuster. Brothers and sister of the deceased are Mrs. Madeline Ladig, Mrs. Josephine Castleman, and James, John, Charles and Peter Kline.

FT WAYNE NEWS Feb. 1, 1899 ... The funeral of **August Rondot** will be held from his late residence at 9 o'clock Thursday morning, and at 10 o'clock from St. Vincent Catholic church at Academie. Rev. Father LaFontaine conducting the services. Interment in St. Vincent's Catholic cemetery. FT. WAYNE SENTINEL, Dec. 2, 1900 ... **Louis Joly** has gone to Ennes, TX to visit his father. FT. WAYNE SENINEL ... Aug 5, 1896 ... Last Saturday afternoon at the home of **Mrs. Conrad**, of Jefferson township the birthday of her father, **Victor Didier**, was celebrated in a most happy manner. Mr. Didier had reached the 77th milestone and as he has for nearly half a century been a resident of Allen county he is well known. He is the father of James Didier of this city. The children presented him with a large and comfortable chair in which he will undoubtedly pass many pleasant hours in his declining years. Those present from Ft Wayne were: Mr. and Mrs. James Didier and family, Mrs. Lena Havert and family, Mrs. Louisa Lentz, Miss Minnie Murphy, Miss Lillie Wirtner, Miss Celia Lentz, Messer. John Ebrmann, Frank Braden, from New Haven,

Continued on page 5.

Continued from page 4. More Yester Year... copied and submitted by Jane Morow



Charles Hood, and Charles Hood, Jr., Joseph and Frank Hood, Frank Truchet, Misses Agnes and Christina Conrod, Rose Troche, Burgie Hood, Katie Hood, Mr. Joseph Conrod. Those present from other parts of the county, were: Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Webster, Misses Julia and Mabel Webster, Masers Harman, and Howard Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Reuille, Messrs Louis and Frank Reuille, Mr. and Mrs. Jacque Sordelet, Miss Eleneue Sordelet, John Sordelet, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boitet and family, Mr. and Mrs. Elponenee Lomont and family, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bacon and family. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bacon, Messrs Monroe Miller, John Miller, Louis Jacquay, Messer and Mesdames Hiram Webster, Louis Reuille, Amiel Pape, Mrs. Frances Kruson, Miss Ida Gladeo, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Conrod, and family, Mr. Warren Webster, Mr. John Webster, Mrs. Frances Gimmel, Miss Miartha Bobeaux, Mr. Frank Maldian, Mr. Joseph Trachet, and Mr. Paul Moorey.

FT WAYNE SENTINEL ... April 2, 1901 ... Real Estate Transfers ... **Peter and Mary J. Urbine to Charles and John Kline**, east one half, west one-half, northwest one quarter, section 29 Jefferson township, for \$1, 300.

LOUIS JOLLY, OF MAPLES, ACCIDENTLY WOUNDED

**He was Loading a Revolver and the Weapon Discharged
- Brought to the City.**

FT WAYNE SENTINEL ... MAR 25, 1901

Louis Jolly is at St. Joseph hospital with a bullet which cannot be extracted at present, lodged in his right leg. The wound, while it is a most painful one, is not necessarily serious unless blood poisoning should ensue, and every precaution to prevent septic poisoning has been taken.

Early this morning, a young Jolly, who resides near the village of Maples, was loading an old revolver, and in some manner which cannot be explained, the trigger caught, and the weapon was discharged, the bullet, a 32 caliber, entering his right leg, a short distance below the knee, and lodging near the bone.

A handkerchief was knotted around the wound to stop the excessive flow of blood and the young man was conveyed to St. Joseph hospital, this city, as rapidly as possible. Dr. W. H. Meyers was summoned, and with Dr. Mercer, an effort was made to extract the bullet. Owing to the condition of young Joly who had been greatly weakened by the fatiguing ride to the city, it was decided to postpone the operation until tomorrow. Joly is about twenty years of age, a healthy, robust young fellow, and there is little danger of serious consequences.

Ft Wayne Sentinel ... Nov. 16, 1910

SORDELET.

Jacques Sordelet, a pioneer resident of Allen county, died Tuesday at his home in Jefferson township at the age of 80 years. He was widely and favorably known. Mr. Sordelet did not long survive his wife, whose death occurred in June last.

Mr. Sordelet was born in France May 10, 1830, came to America in 1847 and settled near Buffalo, NY. A few years later he removed to Allen county. He was united in marriage in 1849 to **Augustine Huguenard**, whose death occurred in 1855. In 1856 Mr. Sordelet was again married, his bride being Miss. **Armonce DuPont**, of Perry township, whose death occurred but a few months ago. Surviving relatives include these children: **Mrs. Mary Rorick** of Jefferson, **Frank Sordelet**, Columbus, Ohio, **Mrs. Clara Clutter**, Ft Wayne, **Mrs. Louise Haines**, Aboit township, **Charles Sordelet**, Pueblo, Col., **Mrs. Ida Pio**, of Hobart; **Edward Sordelet** of Eel River township, **John Sordelet**, of Jefferson and **Mrs. Aliene Bickel**, of Huntington.

Funeral services from St. Louis Catholic church at Besançon at 9:30 o'clock.

Continued from page one ...

On board with them were:

Marguerite b:1813 in France

Catherine b:1817 Fr-d 1849 1st wife of Theodore Havert

Michel abt 1815 FR-1849 in Paris

Marie Marguerite 1823 FR-1899 IN, 2nd wife of Theodore Havert

Jean b: 1824 France

Marguerite Elizabeth b:826 FR -1880 TX m: Sebastian Schmucker

Charles M. Joly 1829 FR-1905 TX m: Mary Josephine Gamet

Barbara Apollina b:1831 FR m: Clement Shoemaker

Daughter **Catherine** was with her husband, **Theodore Havert** from another village, Benestroff and their daughter, **Marci**. It is probable that Catherine and Marci died of a influenza epidemic before 1850 and then Theodore married Catherine's sister, **Marie Marguerite** and they raised their family on a farm also in Jefferson township.

Alphonse Havert m: Elinda Helene Didier (dght of Victor and Lucy Barbaret Didier)

Marie Virginie Havert m: Celestine Xavier Gladieux (son of Jean and Rosalie Rossat Gladieux)

Marie M. Havert m: Lawrence Haffner

Marie Adelaide Havert m: Charles Clark

Theodore Jr Havert m: Alice May Kelly

Marie Ortense Havert m: Peter Stein

Louis J. Havert

Charles M. Joly married Josephine Gamet of France, and they raised their family on a farm close by to the Haverts.

Mary E. b:1852 d:1930 in TX

Augustine M. b:1854 m: Daniel Shordan

Louis Charles b: 1857-d: in TX m: Mary F. Urbine, dght of Casimir and Josephine Janel Urbine.

Julia b:1858 IN

Charles Joseph b: 1863 IN d: 1949 TX m: Clara Coonrod (dght of Peter C and Christine Huth Coonrod).

Louise Margarita b: 1865 IN d: 1881 IN

Emma F. b: 1870 IN

Olimpia Cora b: 1872 IN d: 1870

Abel C. b: 1874 IN

Marguerite Elizabeth Joly married **Sabastian Schmucker** from Wurtenburg, and they raised their family on a farm in Milan township. Charles Joly, Theodore Havert and Sebastian Schmucker were active in building St. Louis Besançon Catholic Church and their names are on one of the stained glass windows.

Michael Strickfaden, age 59, left a village on the German side of the Rhine River. Waldprechtsweier, Baden and arrived in New York on the ship *Champion* in 1832. He had with him four sons and a daughter, **Helena**, and they settled in Richland county, Ohio, where he bought 160 acres of government land.

Caspar Conrad, age 60, and a tailor, left another village in Moselle, Lorraine, Montbronn, which is about twenty miles east of Montdidier. He arrived in Manlius, NY on the Erie Canal in early 1834, with his wife **Elisabeth Philipp Conrad**, two of his sons, and a daughter and her husband and their son. The family bought a farm, and the oldest son, **Mathias Conrad**, also a tailor, with his wife **Magdalene Conrad** and two children arrived on the ship *Pierre Corneille* in June, 1834. Mathias bought a farm nearby to his parents, also on the Erie Canal.

The Conrads spoke a Germanic dialect, Platt, even though that area had been a part of France for almost two hundred years when they left. They pronounced their name so that it sounded like **Coonrod**, so some of the children started spelling it that way. **John Conrad**, brother of Mathias, married in Manlius, and the two brothers raised large families there. Between 1857 and 1861, the family sold out in New York and relocated to Allen county and most of them settled in New Haven and Adams township.

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From Fort Wayne News, August 25, 1896 ...

Last evening, a young son of **Alphonso Havert**, of Holman street, struck a match in the parlor and set fire to a curtain. The department was called, but the fire was quickly extinguished.

The children of Mathias and Magdalene Gottfried Conrad were:

Casper Coonrod b: 1831 FR

Catherine Coonrod b: 1833 FR m: Henry Castleman Bowers, son of John and Margaret Castleman Bowers.

Mary Coonrod b: 1835, NY

Peter C. Coonrod b: 1836, NY d: 1915, TX m: Christina Huth, 1861. Their daughter, Theresa, b: 1864 m: Charles Samuel Bacon, son of Samuel and Virginia Gerardot Bacon. Their daughter, Clara, b: 1868 m: Charles Joseph Joly, 1887. Their daughter, RosaEllen, b: 1879 m: John William Pranger.

Mathias J. b: 1842, NY

Elizabeth Marie Conrad, b: 1846, d: 1916, IN m: Felix Roussey, son of Pierre and Marie Narbet Roussey.

John Coonrod, b: 1850, NY.

Johann Adam Huth, age 46 arrived in New York on the ship *Preciosa* in August, 1836 from a village Bernbach, near Frankfurt am Main, Hesse. With him was his wife **Christian Huttel Huth** and nine of their children. They bought a farm along the Ohio and Erie Canal in Tuscarawas county, north of New Philadelphia. Shortly after they arrived, the oldest son, **Erwein**, left the family and moved to Richland county, Ohio, where he became an apprentice shoe maker. He met **Helena Strickfaden** there and they were married in 1839. In 1850, while they lived on a farm they owned in Crawford county, Ohio with six of their children he was listed as a shoe maker. In 1857, Erwein and Helena sold their farm and settled in New Haven and Adams township, Allen county, Indiana.

After all arrived in Allen county, **Peter Coonrod**, son of Mathias and Magdalena Conrad, in November, 1861, married **Christina Huth**, the oldest daughter of Erwein and Helena Huth. They bought a farm in Jefferson township, nearby the farms of Charles Joly and Theodore Havert where they raised a large family. Peter's sister, **Catherine** married **Henry Castleman Bowers** in 1858, they had four children before she died in childbirth in 1873. Henry married a second wife, **Mary Converset**, and they raised the families on a farm in Jefferson township. His sister, Elizabeth, married **Felix Roussey**, they raised nine children. His brother, **John**, married **Catherine Stoneman** and they lived in Milan township.

Charles Huth, son of Erwein and Helena, married **Mary Josephine Gronauer** in 1870. Charles sister, **Mary Magdalena** married **Theobald Lothamer**, son of **Johann and Catherine Mosser Lothamer** in 1866. They had nine children. Another sister, **Crescentia**, married **Jean Baptiste Becker** in 1869 and another, **Helena Huth** married **Joseph Federspiel**.

After 1875, the Huston and Texas Central Railroad was completed from the Port of Galveston north to the border of the Oklahoma Indian Territory. Ennis, Ellis county, Texas was a division point on the railroad and was in the center of farmland with black soil good for raising cotton. Before 1880, Sebastian Schmucker, and his wife, Marguerite Joly, sold out in Milan township, Indiana and moved with all of their children to a farm south of Ennis. Sebastian died in 1880, but his widow and children remained on their farm. In 1883, Charles and Josephine Joly sold their farm in Jefferson township, and bought a farm near Ennis close to that of Charles' sister, Elisabeth Schmucker. Some of their children moved to Texas, but others were married in Indiana, and remained there. **Augustine Joly** married **Daniel Shordan**, **Louis Joly** married **Mary Urbine**, daughter of Casimir and Josephine Janel Urbine, in 1879. **Emma Joly** married **Peter Hartnett**, and **Olimpia Cora Joly** married a **Mr. Stover**.

In 1885, Peter and Christina Coonrod sold their farm in Jefferson township and bought a farm near those of the Schmuckers and Jolys in Texas. Some of their children settled in Texas, but the oldest son, **Henry**, married **Anastasia Didier** in Besançon in 1886 and Theresa (Tracy) Coonrod married **Charles Bacon** in 1883. They remained in Allen county as did **John and Rosa Ellen Coonrod Pranger**.

In Ennis, Charles J. Joly married Clara Coonrod in November, 1887 and they raised a family of seven on their farm south of Ennis.

One hundred years ago, cotton was king in Ellis county. There were five cotton gins in Ennis that separated fiber from the seeds. An industrial plant separated the cotton from the hulls, and extracted the oil. A large storage and loading building was located adjacent to the railroad tracks. 500 hundred pound bales were placed in a large steam-operated press and compressed to less than one half the volume, and the bales were shipped by rail through Galveston to mills on the E. coast and Europe.

FRENCH TRADITIONS AT CHRISTMAS *By Mary Jane Novosel*



Christmas in France is a family holiday, a religious celebration and an occasion for merrymaking. In cathedral squares, the story of Christ's birth is re-enacted by both players and puppets. Puppet shows are popular in France, especially in Paris and Lyon for the coming of Christmas.

The fir tree was first presented as the holy tree of Christmas in the French city of Strasbourg in 1605. It was decorated with artificial colored roses, apples, sugar and painted hosts. Though the X-mas tree has never been particularly popular in France, nearly every French home displays a Nativity scene or "creche" which originated in the 12th century. These displays have little clay figures "santons" or little saints, which represent the usual Holy Family, shepherds, and Magi, also included are characters of the village: the mayor, priest, policeman, baker, farmer. Throughout December these figures are sold at annual Christmas fairs, "marches de Noel". Alsace holds much of this tradition, with the true capital of the world of santons is the town of Aubagne.

Another popular tradition is the making of the "buche de Noel", Christmas Log. This cake, among other foods in great abundance is served at the grand feast of the season, which is the "le reveillon". This is a late supper held after midnight mass on X-mas Eve. The menu for the meal varies according to regional culinary tradition. In Alsace, goose is the main course, in Burgundy, it's turkey with chestnuts, and the Parisians feast upon oysters and pate de foie gras. And of course, a wine is served with each course.

On Christmas Eve, children leave their shoes by the fireplace to be filled with sweets, nuts, fruit and little gifts from "le Pere Noel", father Christmas, or "le petit Jesus". In northern France, children are given gifts on Dec. 6, St Nicholas' Day, instead of X-mas Day. The adults give each other presents on New Year's Day.



Editor's Note: this is the note I received from Pat Comiskey after the terrible destruction in the South from the hurricanes.

Hello Joyce: Covington is in St. Tammany Parish, which covers most of the north shore of Lake Ponchartrain. The eastern end of the parish took a real beating, including flooding from the tidal surge. We live in the western part where little damage occurred from flooding, but where massive damage was done to our tall pine and oak trees. In my development of 380 houses, about three-fourths suffered roof damage from falling trees, along with other houses in an area of very many miles. More than a dozen here were totaled, but we were among the fortunate ones who only have to worry about a cutting up and disposal of more trees and limbs than we can believe. We were without power for ten days, telephone for twenty-three days, and cable TV and internet for 33 days. Before the storm, all mail going in and out of the parish was hauled to New Orleans for sorting and then some returned here. We are missing two-three weeks of mail which rumors have it that it may be stored in Houston, Jackson, MS, or maybe Atlanta for sorting sometime in the future. Thank you very much for giving my mother's family a prominent place in your history of St. Louis Besancon. I will be very happy to hear from any descendants of any of the branches of her family. Thanks again, and best regards, Pat Patrick T. Comiskey, 22 Oaklawn Drive, Covington, LA 70433

GOLD STAR HONOR ROLL 1914—1918 Indiana
From the Indiana Historical Commission Published in 1921

GIRARD, JOSEPH, A.

PRIVATE

Son of **Louis and Theresa Girard**; born August 30, 1891, Jefferson township, Allen county, Ind. Farmer. Enlisted in U. S. Regular Army May 26, 1917, Ft Wayne, Ind. Sent to Ft Thomas, Ky; assigned to Company B, 35th Infantry; transferred to Nogales, on Mexican Border. Died of disease June 30, 1917. Buried in cemetery near his home, Besancon, Allen county, with military honors.

HUGUENARD, CHARLES, F.

PRIVATE

Son of **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edward Huguenard**; born July 15, 1896, Jefferson township, Allen county, Ind. Farmer. Called into service July 30,, 1918, Ft Wayne, Ind. Sent to Bradley Polytechnic Institute, Peoria, Ill; assigned to Company D, Training Detachment. Transferred to Ft Wayne, Ind. where he was accidentally killed January 17, 1919. Buried with military honors in Cemetery of the St. Louis Catholic Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

RYAN, NORBERT JOSEPH

Apprentice Seaman


Son of **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ryan**; born May 27, 1900, Gar Creek, Allen county, Ind. Enlisted in U. S. Navy in spring of 1918, (exact date not known). Ft Wayne, Ind. Sent to Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Chicago, Ill; assigned to duty as 3rd class landsman. Promoted to apprentice seaman. Died of influenza Oct 14, 1918, Naval Base Hospital, North Chicago. Buried with military honors in the Catholic Cemetery, Church of St. Louis, Besançon, Allen county, Ind.

WELLING, EDWARD,

PRIVATE

Son of **Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Welling**; born May 8, 1892, New Haven, Allen county, Ind. Entered service September 19, 1917, Ft Wayne, Ind. And was sent to Camp Dodge, Iowa. Transferred to Camp Logan, Tex; assigned to Company G, 131st Infantry; thence to Remount Depot, 325th Veterinary Corps. While on drill duty he was kicked by a mule, causing his death May 17, 1918. Buried with military honors, near his home, New Haven, Ind.



 *Editor's Note: Jane Morow has copied the registration cards for Carl Edward Welling, Charles F. Huguenard, Joseph H. Reuille, John Reuille, Henry J. Reuille, Frank Reuille, Edward L. Reuille, and Leo A. Reuille, and Francis Charles Huguenard ... if anyone would like them please let me know. They are not to clear, but would be of great value to you if this is your ancestor.*

RENEW NOW FOR 2006

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
ENCLOSED



For sale

The subscribe offers for sale, situated 8 1/2 miles from Fort Wayne, on the line of the P. Ft. W. and C. Railway, 1 mile west of Maples, containing 79 acres; all under good fence; 55 acres improved and in good order of cultivation; balance in timber; 250 fruit trees in full bearing, good garden all kinds of small fruit, brick house of 8 rooms, cellar under the whole house good and dry, cistern of 65 barrels capacity, good well, (never runs dry), barn stable, shed for stock, corn crib, wagon shed etc. Will sell at reasonable price. For further information inquire on the premises,

Charles M. Joly, Prop

Ft Wayne Weekly Sentinel, Oct 8 1877



Ft Wayne Sentinel, Dec 11, 1911

JOLLY AGAIN PRESIDENT**French-American Society Holds Its Annual Election**

FRANK JOLLY was re-elected president of the French American society of Allen county at the annual meeting Sunday afternoon and other officers were chosen were: Vice president, **Frank Didier**; corresponding secretary, **Joseph Girardot**; financial secretary, **F. J. Manuel**; treasurer, **Carl Centlivre**; inner guards, **Nicholas Kline** and **Fred Brunner**; outer guard, **August Parnin**; trustees, **A. C. Gladioux**, **Constant Jolly**, **C. J. Roy**. Membership in the organization is now 450, an increase of 150 during the year.

On Thursday evening **Prof. Michland**, of Paris, will give an illustrated lecture at the court house assembly room to members and their families. His subject is "La Belle France," and the lecture will be illustrated by stereopticon views.

Ft Wayne Daily Gazette, July 20, 1882

Fort Wayners in Texas

The Waxahchie (Texas) Mirror of June 28 says of the farm owned by a former resident of Fort Wayne: "The finest prospects for fruit in Ellis country is to be found on the farm of Mrs. Schmucker, three miles south of Ennis. Mrs. Schmucker and her three energetic sons are no doubt a great advantage to our county in showing how many different kinds of fruits can be raised here. They have new strawberries, blackberries, figs, peaches, apples, pears, and all kinds of grapes. They are also experimenting in the up-land rice."

Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette ... July 11, 1916

HAVERT IS CALLED TO COLORS AGAIN

LOUIS T. HAVERT, 615 Lasselle street, who was mustered out of the regular army service in January after serving twenty-eight months in the Philippines as a wireless operator, was yesterday ordered to report to Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, where he will go on duty as a member of the army reserves. Havert is an expert wireless operator, but since his discharge as a regular he has been living with his mother, Mrs. Ellen Havert, and his sister. He has been employed with the Fort Wayne Transfer company.

Ft Wayne News ... May 26, 1896 ... **Charles Lincoln** grabbed **Alphonse Havert's** dog by the tail and threw him over a fence. The dog's leg was broken. Lincoln was fined \$5 and costs.

French Proverbs ...

"A crow is no Whiter for being Washed."

"Anger is a bad Counselor."

"Better the Foot slip than the Tongue."

From the Ft Wayne Weekly Sentinel ... Zulu, Ind.
May 26, 1883. (Editor's note ... copied exactly from column)

As we like to read correspondence from other parts of the country we thought a few items from this part of God's moral heritage might be of some interest to some of you readers.

Farmers are all nearly done planting corn.

Oat and wheat are looking well considering the weather.

Our winter schools are all closed.

Peter Pernot is much talked of for our next county superintendent. We think it is high time that Hillegam would step down and let some one else succeed to that office.

A base ball club has been organized in this township called the Jefferson center club. All they want now is a challenge from some experienced club of \$.00001 a side, and they are ready to accept.

More building is being done this summer, such as barns, dwellings, houses, grainers, etc, than has been down for several years.

Nora Martin and **Miss Mary Dodane** were married at the Catholic church last Tuesday. One of our young Lacheavers says he will be married in June or burst. We think he will burst. **Miss Sarah Castleman** is eighteen years old, and thinks she ought to have a fellow. A good chance for some industrious young man who needs a helpmate.

Our trustee, **Mr. Gladio**, shipped some live stock to Illinois, last week, such as George Small and wife and child.

The Sunday school concert at Maples last Sunday night was a grand success .

Jack

French Proverbs

Everything passes, everything breaks, everything wears

*"Wait until it is night before saying
that it has been a fine day".*



Can anyone identify these two pictures? Please
contact Barb Gorney, 9024 Hickory Glen Trail
Ft Wayne, IN 46825
or BandTGorney@aol.com

BESANÇON HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR FOR 2005

Saturday, March 26th
Saturday, June 4th
Saturday, July 30th
Saturday, October 1st
Saturday, November 19th

All meetings are held in the parish office of
St. Louis Catholic Church
9:30 A. M.

RENEW NOW FOR 2006



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ENCLOSED

MEMBERSHIP DUES payable, first of January

Individual - \$12.00
Family - \$17.00 Lifetime - \$200.00
send a check attn.:

Treasurer, Besançon Historical Society
15535 Lincoln Highway East
New Haven, IN. 46774

All officers are on the Internet:
Let us know how we are doing!

Barbara Pio Gorney (BandTGorney@aol.com)
MaryJane Novosel (novoseljoef@cs.com)
Arlene Dodane Curtis (Bobka9z@aol.com)
Gene Yoquelet (besancons@hotmail.com)
Joyce Lomont Crowl (joycejeancrowl@wowway.com)

Western Art by a Swiss Girardet ... by Joyce Lomont Crowl

Besançon is never far from my mind; and that was proved this past Spring when we spent a wonderful time in Montana and Wyoming. Visiting the Buffalo Bill Historical Center one day in Cody, WY found us in the "Whitney Gallery of Western Art". Hundreds of outstanding pieces of art from all over the world depicting our Great West. A name caught my eye ... *GIRARDET* ... of course, I stop to read what I could about the artist and I later found information about **Karl Girardet**.

A painter and engraver, **Karl Girardet**, was born in Switzerland in 1813, the most distinguished of a family of artists. He arrived in Paris with his father, Charles Samuel, (1780-1863), at the age of nine. Beginning in 1936, he exhibited at the Salon. As the favorite painter of Louis-Philippe, in 1844 he and his brother Édouard were commissioned by the Musées Nationaux de Versailles to travel to Egypt to paint a historical scene from the Crusades). He made a large number of sketches of the Crusades which were later published.

In 1837, he settled in Brienz with his brother, Édouard, and Édouard's sons Leopold Henri, Robert and Max. They began inviting painter friends such as Maximilien de Meuron, Alexandre Calame and Benjamin Vautier, turning Brienz into a meeting place for artists and their admirers. He was the brother of the painters and engravers Édouard-Henri Girardet [31 Jul 1819- 05 Mar 1880] and Paul Girardet [1821-1893]. Karl Girardet died in Paris in 1871.

ROOTSWEB REVIEW ... 17 AUGUST 2005 VOL 8, #33
Humor/Humour: 'A Welcome Touch of Madness'

Thanks to: Elisabeth Burton

Transcribing an 1891 census piece for Sussex [England], I came across a family with the following children:

- Agripina Beatrice Rose
- Melanethon Malcolm Frederick
- Fenelon Theodore Longfellow,
- Selwynia Portia Cornelia.

As you can imagine the entries did not fit easily into the space provided on the form. The mother's name was Jane. Across the page someone had scrawled "This family must be mad."

I wish my ancestors were as mad -- I'm usually chasing people with names like William, John, George, or Mary.