

Besançon Historical Society the Chronicles ...

"Walking in the footsteps of our ancestors"

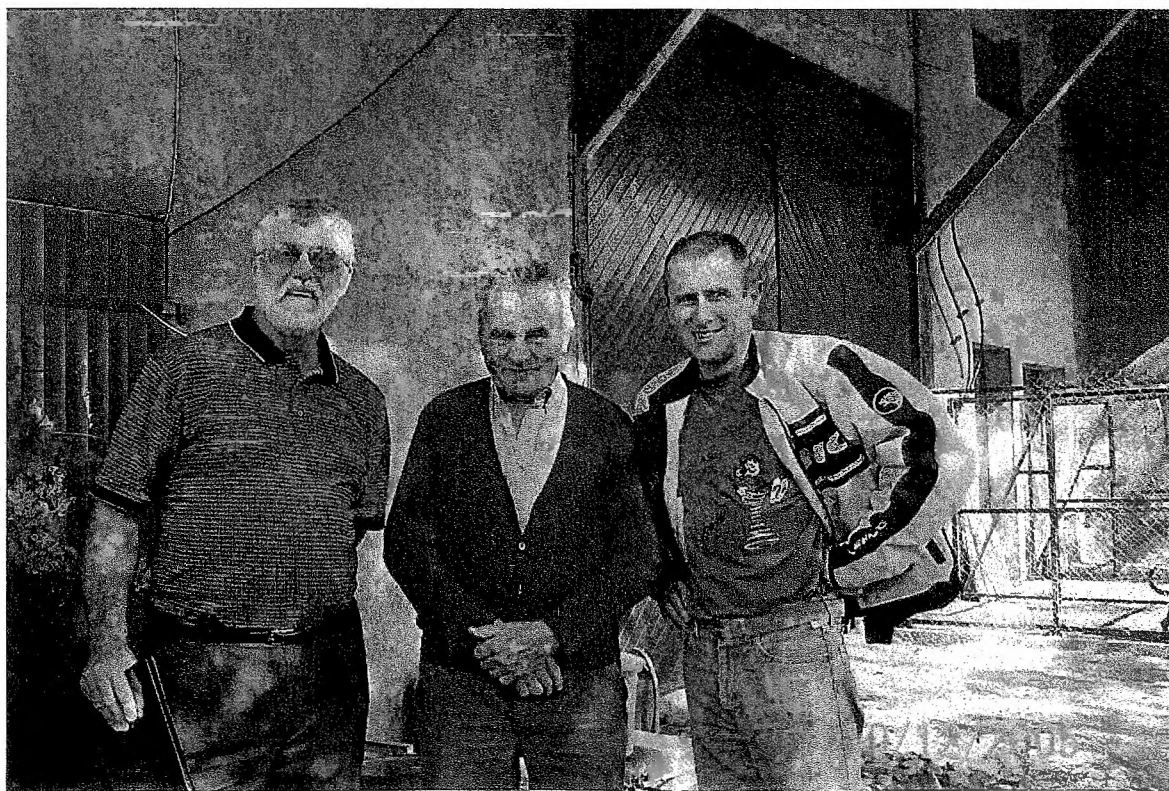
By Jerry Begue

We planned a trip that would interest everyone with site seeing attractions as well as visiting the hometowns of our ancestors. On Sunday, October 9, 2005 we flew to Frankfurt, Germany on a non-stop flight from Ft. Myers, FL. My wife, Pam and I were traveling with my cousin, William "Tony" Reffelt and his wife, Sandra.

Our destination was Foug, France, just West of Nancy. Foug was the birthplace of our GGGrandfather **Hippolite Manier**. So Tony and I got our first opportunity to walk in his footsteps. Foug is a small village and Joyce had just printed photos of the Church in the BHS newsletter so I knew what it was going to look like but didn't realize that's about the only view that a picture taker was going to get as the city was built around the church after its construction in 1703. We took all the photos that we could and it was time drive south and find a place to stay. You can stay almost anywhere in Europe in October without a reservation as tourism is winding down for the year.

By 7:30 am we were off to Etueffont. As soon as we started to cross the Ballon d'Alsace mountain I could tell by all the names painted on the road that this was one of the roads used in "le Tour de France" in 2005. I took some pictures and would have loved to have a picture of the "Go Lance Armstrong" that was there but it was steep and no place to park.

Continued on page three ...



Jerry Begue, Jean Marie Begue and Dennis Schandeler ...

Jean Marie was Mayor of Etueffont in the 1980's

President's Message...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, SUMMER, 2006

Bonjour mes amis. We had an exciting week in May. **Georges Jeanney** and his new bride **Marysa** journeyed to Besancon, Indiana from Besancon, France. (Georges first learned there was a Besancon, Indiana when his friend found it on the internet. This started Georges' quest to learn more about us.) The Jeanneys flew to New York where they stayed three days before continuing to Fort Wayne. Mary Jane and I greeted Georges and Marysa at the airport with a bottle of wine from the society. They rented a car and followed me to the downtown Hilton. The Hilton had them registered under Georges so it created some problems during their stay.

Georges is writing a book on the four waves of French immigration. Georges is interested in comparing farming today to the way it was done 50 and 100 years ago. **Norb Sarrazine and Mick Lomont** from Jefferson Twp. were able to help him with the farming methods, acreage, yield and other details. Mick and **Jack Yearling** from Paulding County, Ohio also spoke of their farm acreage. Their dad, Carl, was always interested in history and Carl's niece wrote his recollections down. Paulding County was covered completely by the "black swamp" and Carl's grandfather Reinhold was ready to return to France when he saw the land he bought sight unseen. Reinhold came to Paulding in the 1850's and paid \$1.06 per acre. One story that Mick heard was that the trees were so large it took six men with their arms outstretched to surround them.

The Saturday meeting of the Besancon Historical Society featured Georges as the guest speaker. (Who else?) Georges spoke about his book which will be published in March of 2007 in France. He also gained information from those present. Those in attendance were **Mary Jane Novosel, Gene Yoquelet, Norb and Clara Sarrazine, Ron Venderly, Judy Schroff and her mother Rosie Pio, Joan Johnson, Ralph Violette, DeVeta Neadstine, Mike and Martha Gladieux, Diana Gallagher, Julie Nolan and Barb Gorney**

Luncheon was held in the Besancon Hall. The tables had white tablecloths, green and gold table decorations, and candy favors in green netting and gold ribbon. The lunch consisted of a delicious dish of sausage, green beans and potatoes. Compliments to the chef Julie Nolan. Several small dishes of diced cheese were scattered over the table. Joan brought fresh fruit and the society bought the wine in honor of our French guests. Bottles of water were also available. The dessert was rhubarb crunch.

Continued on page 12 ...

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**

Friends of Besançon ...



Welcome: **Karen Fuhey**, 6952 Ramsey Road, Hebron, IN. 46341 ... her family line: *Pio, DuPont, Roussey, Isaby, Bertenard, Sordelet.*

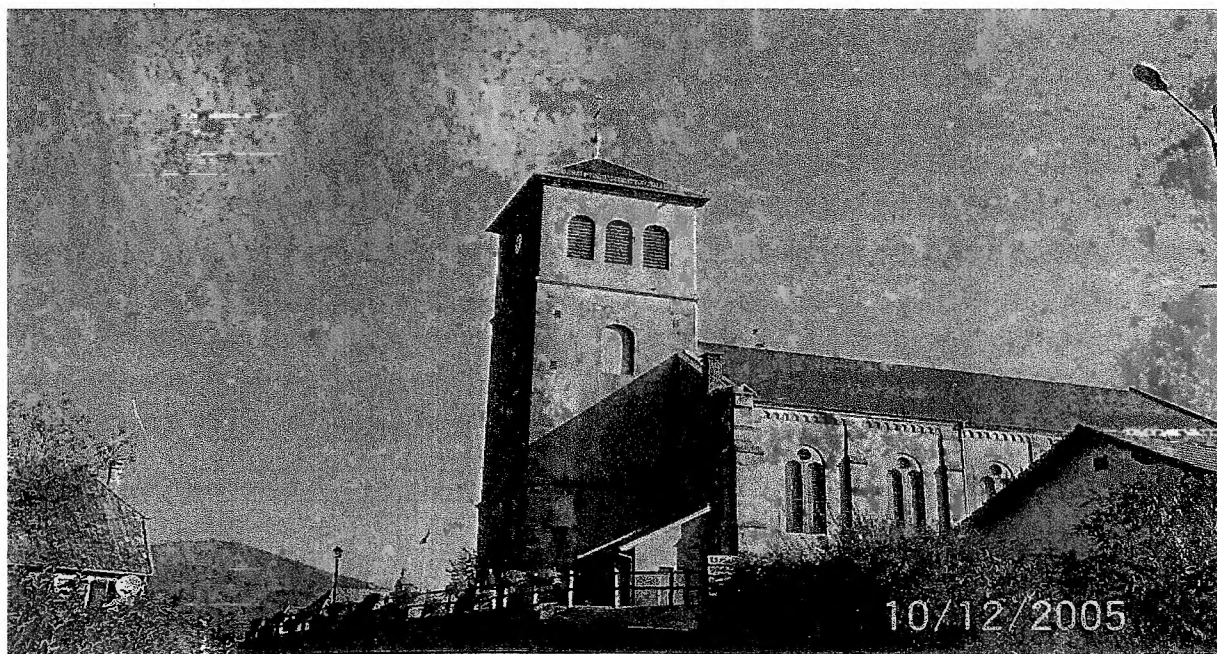
Change of Email address: **Connie Cadwell**, cmcadwell@earthlink.net.

Dedicated Life to God, Catholic faith and parishioners: **Father William Martin**, see page 9.

Continued from page 3 ...

Just across the mountain was Etueffont. Etueffont was the birthplace of my GGGrandparents, **Jean Claude Begue and Louisa Maria Jeudy**. We found the Church, the door was locked so we took some pictures outside where we found the WW2 Memorial on the sidewalk. I had seen the pictures that Gene Yoquelet had taken several years ago, but I was still amazed by all the names that are part of my family tree. The first three names were Begue and the Juedy name was there also. So the next challenge was to see the inside of the church. Next thing you know, we saw a man watering the flowers at the Church. I approached him and let him read a note that I wrote and translated into French before I left home. It said "I am Gerald Begue from the USA. My GGGrandparents were Jean Claude Begue and Louisa Maria Jeudy and they were married in this Church in 1840". After he reads the note, he gets excited and wants me to follow him to get the key, we think? Or perhaps someone that can speak English. He insisted on riding his bicycle and I followed him in the car to the outskirts of town. No luck, no one is at home. He points to his watch 12:00 noon and then points at the church and I tell him, Oui and point to the clock and the church, merci.

So back to town, looking for a cup of coffee, not much there, but we did find a bar that made great expresso. The waitress really had trouble with my French so this 40 something gentlemen, Denis Schländler, acted as translator as he could speak English. Since my goal was to meet someone in Etueffont with my name I asked Denis if he knew anyone with the Begue name. I showed him my family tree and he said he knew one of the Begue families very well, and asked if we wanted to meet them?". SURE! He tells us he has to go somewhere but will meet us at the church at 1:00 and take us to the Begue's house. *Continued on page 6*



CHURCH OF SAINT VALBERT in ETUEFFONT

Yester Year... copied and submitted by Jane Morow



Ft. Wayne Sentinel, July 21, 1913... The degree team of Deborah Lodge No. 110, will initiate a large class of candidates at a meeting Tuesday night. **Charles Gerardot, Charles Pion, John Lanternier, and Frank Jouly** have been appointed as a committee on arrangements for the annual picnic of the French-American Society, to be held Sunday, July 27 at Centlivre's park. President **Frank Rosselot** has secured Casso's orchestra for the occasion. ... Ft. Wayne Sentinel, November, 11, 1913...

The French American Society has completed the nomination of officers for the coming year and the annual election is to be held December 14. The nominations are as follows: For President, **Frank Rosselot and Frank Jolly**; for vice-president **Theodore Gerardot and Charles Roy**; for corresponding secretary, **Joseph Gerardot, and Joseph Toussaint**; for Financial secretary, **Frank Manuel and Charles Gerardot**; for Treasurer, **Frank Bobay and Charles Pion**; for Trustee, three years, **Alphonse Gerardot and Christian Fell**.

Ft. Wayne News of June 14, 1902... Friday morning at nine o'clock at the St. Louis Catholic church New Haven, the marriage of Miss **Martha M. Delagrange** to Mr. **Bernard C. Girardot** was solemnized by Rev. Father Noll. The attendants were the Misses **Anna Girardot and Tillie Treuchet** and Mr. **Edward Delagrange** and Mr. **John Girardot**. The young couple have gone to Grand Rapids, Mich. for a visit, after which they will be at home at the old home of **Francis Baituex** in Jefferson Township.

Ft. Wayne News Nov. 3, 1905... **Miss Stella Cochoit**, who is a bride elect of November, was complimented last evening by **Miss Minette Gladioux**, who entertained with a miscellaneous shower at her home. A mock wedding was one of the features of the evening and progressive bunco and music were other amusements. Twenty young people enjoyed the affair. ... Ft. Wayne News Feb. 27, 1906... This morning at the Cathedral occurred the marriage of **Miss Clara Freiburger** and **Mr. Francis Cochoit**. The Rev. **P.F. Roche** officiated. The bride was attended by **Miss Francis Morgan**, and the groom by **Mr. Ignatius Freiburger**. The bridal party went to Sheldon immediately after the ceremony where the wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride's parents. ... Ft. Wayne News August 24, 1917...

The will of **Celina Boitet** has been filed for probate. She leaves \$50 to the pastor of St. Louis Catholic church for masses for her soul, and \$25 for masses for the soul of her deceased husband. The balance of her estate is left to her children and grandchildren. **Louis Roussel** is named executor. ... Ft. Wayne News August 24, 1917... **Mr. & Mrs. Frank Roussel**, of 1020 West Main street, announces the engagement of their daughter, **Miss Valette Roussel**, to **Mr. Elmer J. Grosh**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grosh**, of 2701 North Hanna street. As **Mr. Grosh** has recently entered the service of his country, no date has been set for the wedding. The bride is employed as stenographer at the Economy Stock company, on Holman street, and her fiancé is in the grocery business with his father. Both young people have many friends who are interested on the announcement of their coming marriage.

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



Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette Nov. 24, 1901 ... Mr. and Mrs. **George Giant** entertained four generations of the family at a Thanksgiving dinner yesterday. Those present were **George Guither, Mr. George McCoy and son Angus, Mr. and Mars John Conrad, Mr. and Mrs. C. Schuekle, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Giant** and children, **Miss Cora Hagadore, the Misses Tillie and Zoa Conrad and John and Homer Conrad.**

Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette Sept. 30, 1906 ... **Eugene Monnot** and family, well known residents of Jefferson Township, who have resided here for several years, will leave Monday morning for Asher, Okla, where they will make their future home... Ft. Wayne Sentinel Feb. 18, 1890 ... A very pleasant birthday party took place at the residence of **Mr. Casamier Urbine**, on the 10th of February. The party was given in honor of the seventy-sixth birthday of **Mr. Urbine**. His sons **Peter and Louis**, and daughters, **Mrs. Mary Joly, and Mrs. Ada Gerardot**, presented him with an elegant upholstered rocking chair and many other useful presents' After enjoying a few hours of mirth and humor with **Mr. Urbine**, one of the oldest and most staunch democrats of Allen County, they partook of a sumptuous supper and returned to their homes, feeling as though such a reunion helped to lighten life's pathway ... Ft. Wayne Sentinel Oct 10, 1890 ... A full list of suits brought against **Menno S. Flowers**, the New Haven manufacturer, mentioned in The Sentinel yesterday, is as follows: **John W. Harrington, \$48.50; Asa O. Brown, \$85; August Voirol, \$100; Balzer Federspiel, \$168; Barney Tibbetts, \$1,000; H. F. Schnelker et al., \$500; Fred Rodemeier, \$5,000; Charles Ternet, \$100; Louis Roussey, #200; Amile Ternet, \$100; Louis J. Gladieux, \$100; Hypolite Coulardot, \$100; Frank A. Roussey, \$50; Charles W. Bolyard, \$97; Louis Voirol, \$100; Joseph Coulardot, \$50; Louis Reuille, \$50.**

Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette May 16, 1914 ... **Mr. James Ternet** and sister **Louise** of near Payne, O., drove to the home of their brother, **Charles**, early Sunday morning. **Mr. James** and sister **Cecelia** were sponsors for the little daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ternet** and had it christened last Sunday. giving it the name of **Cecelia Kathryn**. Little **Mary** the oldest daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Ternet** accompanied **James** and **Louis** to their home near Payne and will remain for an indefinite period. Ft Wayne Journal Gazette, March 8, 1905 ... The guests who enjoyed a pleasant gathering at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pepe** included **Mr. and Mrs. Alex Pepe, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Roy** and their families; the Misses **Agnes Oddou, Louis Roy, Isabella Roy, Amelia Grosjean, and Amiel, Joseph, and Alex Bobay, Isadora Oddou, Henry Bercot, Joseph Sordelet, George Guiff, Charles Ehrmann, John and Adolph Grosjean, Michael and William Till, Henry, Martin, and Fred Mundt, Ora Huffman, Leonard Ernst, Raymond Roy, and Clarence Bobay.** Ft Wayne Journal Gazette, May 14, 1907 ... A barn dance, which proved to be an unusually merry affair was given by **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sordelet** last Saturday night at their beautiful country home. A number of young people from the city formed a buss party and enjoyed the pleasant party. The guests were the Misses **Lottie and Angela Roy, Lucille Williams, Felicita and Agnes Pranger, Frances Layer, Carrie Druhot, May McDonald, Lillian and Emma Kintz, Flora and Rosa Delagrang, Rosa and Mary Mason, Nida Sharp, Jane Grosjean, and Messrs. Frank Lanoir, Ernest and Raymond Roy, Charley Miracle, Joe Bobay, Henry, Martin Mason Pranger, Ambrose Bobay, Clifton Strong, Edweard Parrot, Herman Tillman, Walter Smith, and Robert Flick.**

Continued from page one ...

So now we have a schedule, the Church at Noon and Denis at 1:00. We walked around town searching for postcards to send home. We went into the small grocery store near the church and who do we find there, but Denis and he introduces us to the store owner. He is very friendly and tells us that the only picture postcards are at the Forge Museum just down the street. But he also tells us if we want a picture of the church it is on bottles of wine that he sells in the store. What a salesman! We purchase a couple of bottles as souvenirs and off we go to the Museum. At the museum we find a small bus load of tourists from Germany taking the tour. We get our post cards and ask about a tour in English and they tell us to come back in the afternoon. Off to the post office for stamps and now we are already pushing the 12:00 hour, we get there just in time to buy stamps.

We are off to the church and we're right on time, we don't see anyone around but we check the front door and it's still locked, however there is a side door and now it's open! We go inside and look at the at the church and take pictures. We realize at this point that we have no time for lunch so we dine on some power bars that my wife has brought along for just this occasion. We decide that we only have around 45 minutes before we meet Denis at the church so we take a very short drive to Anjoutey. There we find another church with a WW2 Memorial that also has a Begue name on it. After looking at this church and a walk around this village we head back for Etueffont.

Denis is there when we get back. Denis says follow me to the next village. Denis is riding a motorcycle and said he would drive slow enough for me to keep up, obviously he doesn't know how I drive! We leave Etueffont and drive a very short distance to Petitmagny. We wind around this tiny village and follow him into a lane that leads to a older farm house with a new house about 100 yards further. Denis explains that his friend lives in the newer house and that the friends father lives in the older house. The friend is working so Denis knocks on the door of the father. He comes to the door and Denis explains who we are and why we are there and then introduces us to Jean-Marie Begue, who we found out later was the Mayor of Etueffont some time ago.

He invites us into his house and we sat around one of the largest kitchen tables that I have ever seen in a house in my life. Denis tells Jean-Marie that we are trying to make a connection between our family and the family's in the area and shows Jean-Marie my family tree. He looks at the tree for quite some time and then looks at me and says, "your Begue?" Then he starts telling Denis that he really doesn't know his family history but he's giving Dennis names and numbers of Begue's in the area that have worked on their tree. Denis is writing everything down and then after a while I look and he's speaking French and writing English and he writes English so well that I never have had to ask him to clarify any thing he has written. After an hour or so of showing Jean-Marie some of the pictures of my family that I had taken along and the grandchildren Jean-Marie said we should come back sometime when the whole family could be there. I answered that we would sometime but not this trip. Jean Marie and I exchanged information on address, phone number and my email address and we took a few pictures and said our good byes. We thanked Denis and told him how much we appreciated his efforts.

Now we're off for the tour of the Forge Museum. From 1843 to 1977 this was the home and blacksmith shop of the **Petitjean** family. As I toured the facility I could not help but think that this may be another place that the ancestors may have been as farming was and still is the life blood in and around Etueffont. The town has no garages or gasoline stations but the Forge had a lift for animals as shoeing oxen and horses and repairing farm machinery was the purpose of the shop in the later years. Well, it is nearing the end of the day and we're leaving Etueffont and as we approach the city limits a young lady on a horse rides up and we take a photo to make our day complete, "Good bye Etueffont, hope to visit again someday".

NOTE: Since we returned home, Regis Hillenweck a nephew of Jean-Marie Begue had contacted us both by e-mail and by telephone to ask for more information. He is going to Belfort in search of more information on the family at the request of his Uncle Jean-Marie. He has e-mailed me several times with information on my family that I did not have that he has found in the records. *Editor's Note: Jerry also included a fascinating account of their visit to Northern Germany,*



"Under the Flag"

Ft. Wayne News & Sentinel, January 10, 1918

Special to the News:

MONROEVILLE, Jan 9. **John Russell Savio**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. James Savio**, of this place, a member of the Battery B, of the Rainbow division, which is now in France, writes that he is enjoying France, although he fails to see why it is called "Sunny France." He writes that he is glad he is of French descent, as it brings him nearer to the people there, although they are very hospitable to all the American Boys.

ANXIETY IS RELIEVED

Ft. Wayne News & Sentinel, February 11, 1919.

After many months of anxiety occasioned by the inability of his letters to reach her, **Mrs. H. Jacquay**, 2215 Lafayette street, has at last received word of her son, **Frank Jacquay**, a member of Battery B, 150th United States Field Artillery. Although the soldier is confined in a hospital suffering from sore hands, he says he went through the war practically without a scratch. He tells interestingly of his experiences in Germany with the occupational forces.

The letter is in part as follows:

"Prum, Germany. Dear Mother and the Rest:

Just a few lines to let you know that I am still among the living, have gone through the war safely without a scratch, you might say, and expect to leave for home soon. At present I am laid up in a corps hospital with a pair of sore hands. They are swollen and hurt quite a bit when they get cold, but they will soon be all right.

I expect that by this time you have read all the dope about the end of the war. The armistice was signed on Nov 11 and, believe me, if the Dutch hadn't come across with all that we asked there would have been no more Germany. At the time the armistice was signed we were in full pursuit of the Germans, our infantry driving them so fast at times that the artillery could not keep up. I suppose there was a lot of celebration, etc., going on in the States on account of the war. There have also been great celebrations going on throughout France and England, but we have not been in it.

We were at the front when the armistice was signed, and about forty miles from civilization, and from there we started on our march into Germany as troops of occupation.

We started our march into Germany about three weeks ago, crossing from France into Belgium, from there into Luxemburg, and from there to Germany. Our trip surely has been a fine one so far. The part of Belgium we crossed had not been destroyed by the Germans although they occupied most of it. Their country seemed much pettier than France.

Luxemburg is also a very fine country, noted for its beautiful scenery. Our march through Germany so far has been uneventful. The people all seem to regard us with wonder and awe, and are even friendly. They all seem to be tired of the war and glad that the Americans came over and ended it for them. As we passed along through the German towns it was uncommon to see the Germans people waving at us from their homes. They surely are glad it is over.

How is Dad and everybody at home? It seems as age since I have heard from anyone at home. I cannot understand why you have not heard from me, as I have written repeatedly.

As I have more letters to write, will close for this time with love to all. FRANK"



Nurse Praises Heroism.

Ft. Wayne News & Sentinel, August 19, 1918 ... **Mrs. Mary Savio**, of Monroeville, has received a letter from the nurse who is attending her son, **John R. Savio**, severely wounded in action and now in a field hospital far back of the front line. Lauding the bravery of the Allen county boy and assuring the mother that his discharge from the hospital will come shortly, the nurse told of the excellent treatment being accorded the wounded and of the cheerful disposition of the men in her ward. Savio received wounds which necessitated the amputation of his left leg close to the knee.

Ft. Wayne News & Sentinel, November 27, 1918 ... **Mrs. James Savio** and daughter, **Cara**, left Tuesday at noon in response to a telegram stating that **John Savio** was in an New York hospital about to be operated upon and they were advised to come as the outcome of the operation was somewhat doubtful. He was very severely wounded in the summer and upon his arrival in the states it was found that the wound on his leg was not healing satisfactorily and an operation immediately was necessary. A brother, "**Bowser**" **Savio**, who is in the navy, will meet his mother and sister in New York.

Ft. Wayne News & Sentinel, September 27, 1918

Clotaire Desch Had Many Friends and Relatives in Allen County.

Seaman Clotaire S. Desch, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Desch, who died in the nation's service at the Great Lakes naval training station Tuesday of this week, visited in Fort Wayne on many occasions and had many relatives and friends in Allen county.

The decedent was twenty-one years old and had been stationed at the Great Lakes naval training station for the past several months. His mother, who preceded him in death twelve years go, will be remembered as being before her marriage, Miss **Stella Girardot** of Besançon, this county.

The father, stepmother, two sisters and three brothers survive. Mrs. E. A. Oddou, Mrs. M. J. Burns, and Mrs. Albert J. Smith of this city are cousins of the dead bluejacket. Local relatives will attend the funeral services which will be held Monday morning at Coldwater.



Ft. Wayne News, March 10, 1897... **Harriet**, 25 year old daughter of **Louis Pepe**, of Washington township, died this morning of consumption.

Ft Wayne Sentinel, April, 16, 1917... **August Pepe**, age 78 years, road superintendent and supervisor for over thirty years, died Saturday at his home, one-half mile east of the St. Louis church, on the Lincoln highway. The decedent was born in France, April 21, 1830, and came to America and directly to Ft Wayne, at the age of 13 years. The family settled near Robison park, where he resided until 1860, when he married Miss **Celena Grosjean**.

This union was blessed with ten children, five of whom, together with the mother, having preceded him in death. He was married to Mrs. **Mary Jennie**, in 1911. Mr. Pepe, assisted in directing the construction of the Lincoln highway through Jefferson township. Surviving besides the widow are the following five children: **Amiel Pepe**, Jefferson twp, **Julian Pepe**, of Jackson twp, **Mrs. Hattie Huguenard**, of Jefferson twp, **Mrs. Lizzie Pranger** of Rome City; and **Mrs. Clara Mason**, of Ft Wayne. The funeral services will be

conducted at Wednesday morning, at 9 o'clock from the residence, and at 9:30 o'clock from the St. Louis church, Besançon. This will be an auto funeral.

Ft. Wayne News, July 07, 1913... **Frank Dodane**, a native of Jefferson township, Allen county, and a lifelong resident, died Saturday afternoon at his home at the age of sixty years. Death followed a illness covering about two years and resulted form paralysis. The widow and seven children survive, the children being: **Frank Dodan** and **Mrs. Frank Brown**, of this city; **Louis, Charles, and August Dodane**, **Mrs. John Ryan**, and **Mrs. Henry Girardot**, of Jefferson twp; also the following brothers and sisters: **Edward and Joseph Dodane**, of Jefferson twp; **Mrs. Henry Roy**, of Jackson twp, and **Mrs. John Langard**, of Ft Wayne.

Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette, Janurary 19, 1907...

Word was received Friday, by F. C. Gladieux, of this city, announcing the death of **Mrs. Frank Ternet** at the home at McGill, O., about four miles from Payne. Death occurred early Friday morning and resulted from a ruptured artery. Mrs. Ternet was about forty-eight years old.

The husband is a former resident of Jefferson twp, in this county, where he passed the early years of his life. He left this vicinity about twenty years ago. Mrs. Ternet was formerly from Payne, O. Her maiden name was **Mary Saussee** and her parents were well known pioneer residents of Allen county.

Besides the husband Mrs. Ternet is survived by nine children—five sons and four daughters and by three sisters. Miss **Jennie Saussee**, of Payne, **Mrs. August Voirol** and **Mrs. Flora Voirol** of Jefferson twp.

The funeral services will be held from the Catholic church at Payne, at the time to be announced later. The internment will be at Payne.

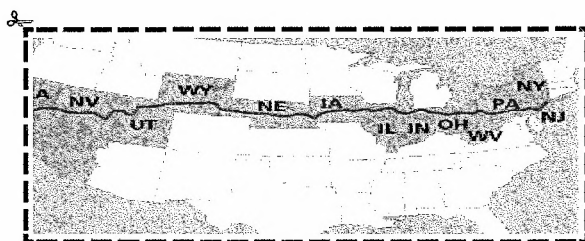


Editor's Note: The above obituary of Mrs. Mary Ternet is unusual in that day and age that her maiden name is noted.

Monsignor William Martin, 76, of Fort Wayne, died June 5, 2006, served for over 50 years, a loving dedicated man.

Msgr. William Martin was born August 10, 1929 in Ft Wayne, and was raised on the east side of town. His parents were William F. Martin and Lucille C. Kintz. He was the oldest of six children: Barbara, James, Darlene, Donna and Richard. He studied for the priesthood at Sacred Heart Seminary, Our Lady of the Lake Seminary and St. Meinrad's and was ordained in Ft Wayne at the cathedral on May 26, 1956. Fr. Bill served as associate pastor at St. Peter's in Laporte 1956-59. Early assignments as pastor took him to the inner city serving at St. Luke, St. Monica and later Sts Monica and Luke, all in Gary, Indiana for 26 years. His final pastorate was The Holy Name of Jesus Parish Community from 1985 until his retirement in 1999. Fr. Martin was very active in the youth apostolate during most of his priesthood. He was ordained shortly before the split of the diocese of Ft Wayne, South Bend and Gary, and continued his work in youth ministry during the time of transition. In 1984, Fr. Bill was named a Monsignor by Bishop Grutka in recognition of his work in the Diocese. He was the director of Catholic Youth Organization and Catholic Young Adults in St. Peter's in Laporte and Director of the Gary Diocese CYO and Camp Lawrence until 1985. Bill was the founder and director of the Permanent Diaconate Program in the Diocese as well as service on the Priests' Personal Board, and the Priests' Senate. He served on many other boards etc. Following his retirement in 1999, he continued to work in prison ministry. On May 28, 2006 he celebrated his 50th Anniversary with fellow priests and hundreds of friends. Interment was in the Catholic Cemetery on June 10th.

Editor's note: I was privileged to meet Father Bill via Email, and we corresponded for the past three years, he was an active man, interested in Besançon, and our great French heritage. He constantly reminded me the values of family and friendship. jlc



Editor's Note: Running this again, because the last line was cut off in the Winter Issue ... oops!

INDIANA JOINS THE CONTINUOUS YARD SALE IN AUGUST, 2006

A member of BHS is Jan Shupert-Arick, Director of the Indiana Chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association. Jan writes this year Indiana will be part of the BIG YARD SALE that will promote the highway and at the same time with Indiana's portion of the historic road hooking up with Ohio for a exciting three days. This will be the second year for Ohio. Many states have joined in this event, and is well publicized. The three day event will be the second weekend in August (August 10, 11 and 12, 2006). Watch for details in your local newspapers.

The Lincoln Highway followed several early trails in Allen County. From the Ohio line, it traveled the Sugar Ridge Road,, located on the southern edge of the Great Black Swamp, which was platted and improved as early as 1837. Towns and names of businesses along this route are as familiar to us, as our own. Townley, Zulu, Zulu Garage, Ed Oberly Gas Station, Townsend's Gas Station, Tenet's Tavern, **St. Louis Besançon Historical District**, and Amiel Pepe's Texaco Station are just to name a few.



Ft Wayne News, June 12, 1900 ... **Miss Mary Littot** and **Mr. Joseph Rondot** were married this morning at the Cathedral, the **Rev. Father Robert Durham** performing the ceremony. A wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride's parents at the corner of Spy Run avenue and Randolph street. The house was prettily decorated in June flowers and the bride's table was green and white.



Ft Wayne News, November 22, 1915 ... A very pretty wedding which took place in New Haven yesterday, and which is of interest to a large number of Ft. Wayne people, was that of **Miss Edna Jacquay**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jacquay**, of the former place, and **Mr. August Serva** of Chicago. The ceremony occurred in the morning at a quarter to 9 o'clock in St. John's Catholic church, **Rev. Father Wiedau** officiating. **Miss Esther Jacquay**, maid of honor, **little Miss Evelyn Jacquay** as flower girl, and **Mr. Franklin Jacquay**, best man, were the attendants. Following the impressive nuptial mass, the bridal party and intimate relatives and friends were driven to the home of the bride's parents, where a breakfast was served. Later in the day, **Mr. and Mrs. Serva** left on a three week's honeymoon trip, after which they will be at home in Chicago where the groom is engaged in business.



Ft Wayne Sentinel, May 5, 1900 ... New Haven News: "**P. X. Francis Boiteux**, one the respected pioneers and farmers of Jefferson township will take unto himself a wife. The fortunate lady is **Mrs. Frances Blanc** of Fort Wayne, and the date for this important event is May 26. They will reside on **Mr. Boiteux's** farm."



Ft Wayne Sentinel, November 23, 1900 ... The divorce case of **Boiteux vs. Boiteux** has been set for trial in the circuit court on December 5



Weekly Sentinel, August 27, 1917, ... A beautiful wedding will take place this evening at 8 o'clock at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. A. Grosjean**, when their daughter, **Amber**, is to become the bride of **Mr. Paul F. Schreeder**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Schreeder**, of East Jefferson street. **Miss Grosjean** will be one of the several "war" brides of this city, as **Lieut. Schreeder** is one of the recently commissioned men of the officers' reserve corps. **Rev. A. J. Folsom** is to officiate at the wedding, which is to be a beautiful one with relatives and friends present. **Miss Velma Grosjean**, a cousin, and **Mr. Wadge Grosjean**, a brother to the bride, will be the bridesmaid and groom's man.

GIRARDOT GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Ft Wayne News, August 26, 1915 ... Sept. 25, 1912 **Mr. and Mrs. Louis Girardot** recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a family reunion, and dinner party at their home in Jefferson Township. Those present were their seven sons and daughters, who are **Mrs. Jacob Giant**, **Mrs. Frank Meyers**, **Mrs. Thomas Fuelling**, **Mrs. Edward Lauer**, and **Messrs. Chester, John, and Henry Girardot**, together with their twenty-five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. **Mr. and Mrs. Girardot** are prosperous and well-known farmers of this county and have resided in their present home for the past forty years.



Ft Wayne Sentinel ... Dec 3, 1890 BLISS IN OLD AGE ... A quaint old couple appeared before **County Clerk D. W. Boudier** this afternoon with the startling declaration that they had come to Ft. Wayne from Jefferson township for the purpose of procuring a marriage license. The parties were **John B. Roy**, a prominent farmer of the above mentioned township, and **Mrs. Justin Ternet**, an old resident in the same neighborhood. He was a widower and she a widow. Both of them are well known, and in good financial circumstances. They decided in a sensible way to go into a partnership and put sunshine into each others lives with their declining years. Mr. Roy is a Canadian Frenchman, while his bride to be is a French woman. He is nearly seventy, and she past sixty years old. The marriage will take place in the little Catholic church at Besançon, after which the neighborhood will celebrate



Ft Wayne News and Sentinel Aug. 28, 1918 ... **Miss Blanche Urbine**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Urbine** of New Haven and **Mr. Clement J. Gremaux** son of **Mr. and Mrs. Arsene Gremaux** of Monroeville were quietly married last Friday afternoon at four o'clock in Louisville KY. **Mr. and Mr. Samuel S. Mudd** of Springfield, Ky, attended the couple. **Mr. Gremaux** is in his country's service stationed at West Point artillery camp and expects to go overseas soon. Until his return from war **Mrs. Gremaux** will make her home with her sister **Mrs. L. F. Voirol** of 1233 East Lewis street.



Ft Wayne Journal Gazette June 26, 1919 ... **DECATUR MAYOR MARRIED AT FT. WAYNE** Decatur, Ind. June 25. The wedding of David Coffee, of this city, and Mrs. Julia Dodane, of Ft. Wayne, took place Tuesday morning at the Cathedral, the Rev. Father Quilian officiating. The couple spent the whole day in Ft. Wayne and returned to this city on the 7:30 car, going to Mr. Coffee's residence on Mercer avenue, where they will make their home, Mr. Coffee being employed at the Anker Cigar store, in this city. Both the bride and groom have been married before, their former marriage being dissolved by death.



Ft Wayne News June 11, 1902 ... **Miss Maude Merrilat** and **Mr. William Griffin** will be quietly married this evening at the home of the bride's home, the ceremony being performed at 6 o'clock in the presence of immediate relatives. The house decorations are beautifully carried out in a color scheme of green and white, the work of **Miss Lydia Adger**. The bride will wear a beautiful bridal robe of white crepe de chine over white silk. She will carry a bouquet of bride's roses. There will be no attendants. The wedding supper will be served immediately after the services. The wedding party will go to the Wayne club later where a reception will be held from 9 till 12. The club house will be in decoration of roses in different shades. An orchestra will furnish music for dancing. The bride and groom will live at the Randall hotel.



Ft Wayne News, January 22, 1910 ... A pretty wedding was the one of Tuesday morning when **Miss Agnes Roy** became the bride of **Mr. Erwin Lothammer**. Nuptial mass was read by **Rev. Father Louen** of St. Louis Church, Besancon. At the close of the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served at the bride's house for the relatives and intimate friends. The bride looked exceedingly well in a pretty gown of white messaline and she carried a white prayer book. **Miss Hattie Bower**, a niece of the groom, served as bridesmaid and wore a simple gown of white silk and carried an armful of pink and white carnations. **Mr. Herschel Jacquay**, brother of the bride, was the best man. **Mr. and Mrs. Lothammer** will be at home to their friends in Jackson Township where the groom has purchased a farm. Both of the young people have large numbers of friends who will wish them every blessing.

*Mark
in your
Calendar*

BESANÇON HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR FOR 2006

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

February 25, 2006

May 06, 2006

July 22, 2006

October 21, 2006

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 (besancon@onlyinternet.net)

Joyce Lomont Crowl (joycejeancrowl@wowway.com)

President's message ... continued from page two

Gene escorted Georges and Marysa to the Besançon school and the archives. George particularly wanted to see **Agnes Hart** again who welcomed him seven years ago. Georges and Marysa were able to chat with **Father Steve** while at the school. They also checked out the Allen County Public Library with the help of Ralph who also escorted them to Borders and Hyde Brothers. They were welcomed to Sunday mass at Besançon and dinner afterwards. They also had dinner with a variety of couples during their stay in Fort Wayne on three different evenings. Georges is a member of an international rotary club and was able to attend a luncheon on Monday with the group in Fort Wayne.

Georges and Marysa traveled to Napoleon, Ohio on Wednesday on business. Georges is president of a machine tool company in France which his daughter runs. Very early Thursday morning the Jeanneys flew out of Fort Wayne.

To Georges and Marysa: We all wish you the very best.

A bientot!

... Barbara