

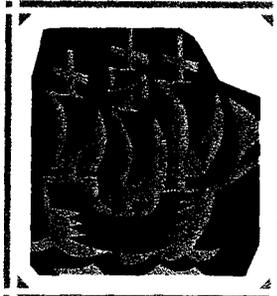
THE CHRONICLES

BESANÇON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 34, ISSUE 1 WINTER, 2007

FATHER CHARLES BANET'S RECORDS

*Father Banet researched a number of French families in Allen County. The Besançon Historical Society is fortunate to have a number of his books, letters and notes in the archive's library. This letter dated October 9, 1974 was written to **Brother Edward Habrowski**, of Precious Blood Church in Ft. Wayne.*



Dear Brother,

Congratulations on the projects you are undertaking with the Education Committee of the Bicentennial Commission. I am on the local program committee, Fr. Gerlach is on the research committee and Charley Schuttrow is on the publicity committee. I am also an Honorary Commissioner in the State. So I am indeed interested both at the local and state level. You already know that I was interested in the French settlers in Ft. Wayne. What I don't know is what French families are you talking about.

The earliest pioneers in the Fort Wayne were the French but very few of them were settlers in the way we think of pioneer settlers who stayed to develop the area. The French men who lived there married with the Indians and their off-spring were half-breeds. The first white man know to have born in FW was Hyacinth LaSalle. Chief Little Turtle and Chief Jean Baptiste Richardville had French ancestors. There just a few French families who are still around from those early times around and following the Revolution. Let me tell you what I know, and you can let me know what you have in mind I'll do this by dates. French in Ft. Wayne (Allen county area):

Robert Chevalier de LaSalle 1679-1680

Francois Marie Bissot, Comte de Vincennes 1702-1733

French traders and garrison personnel till 1759 when British raised their flag over the Fort in 1774 about ten Frenchmen in FW

Pierre LaFountaine, Jean Beaubien, Capuchin, Campau, Perot, Barthelemy, Dorien, Maisonville, Laurain.

Continued on page 4.

French in Ft. Wayne

1831—1840

Etienne Banet

Francois and Pierre Bar-
rand

Claude and Francois Ber-
cot

Germain and Jean B.
Bobay

Xavier Carillon

Joseph Dodane

Jean Pierre and Laurence
DuPont

Joseph and Nicholas
Eloph

Joseph Dugley

Joseph Grivet

Jacques and Jean Pierre
Geant (Giant = today).

Francois Joly

Jean Mangeat

Nicolas Martin

Georges Metrot

Georges Mattie

Pierre Parrot

Bernard, Etienne and
Jean Baptiste Poirson

Francois Saracem

Francois Sousotte

Joseph and Casimir Ur-
bine

Joseph Votrie

The President's Message ...

The Allen County Public Library has moved back to the remodeled and enlarged library as of January 27th. The address is 900 Library Plaza. The plaza is actually where Webster Street used to be. There are more parking spaces and they are free to patrons! Walk across the plaza from a parking lot and cross Washington Street at Webster for another lot. Especially check out the underground parking that is off of Wayne Street. This has 125 parking places. The other entrance is on Ewing Street where there are several parking places. When parking in the underground lot, you will be at the Ewing Street entrance when you reach the first floor. The opening of the library completes a 4 year expansion from 240,000 to 347,000 sq feet.

At the plaza entrance there is a café and the used book store. The great hall runs the length of the building. Beside books, there are computer labs, meeting rooms, children's services, a theater with 250 seats on the lower level, and on the second floor business and technology, young adult's services, art and music media, and art gallery and never forget the absolutely HUGH genealogy department! There are 37 computers for research. The library covers an entire block, so plan on walking to reach your destination.

There will be two genealogical conferences held in Fort Wayne this coming year. This will be in connection with the Allen County Public Library. Saturday, April 28th, the Indiana Genealogical Society will feature Amy Crow as guest speaker. The cost is \$30.

Information can be found at www.ingensoc.org.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies will be August 15 to August 18 at the Grand Wayne Center. It is titled the "Meeting at the Crossroads of America". Name speakers are on the agenda: Coletta, Humphrey, Morse, Schweitzer, Smolnyak, Witcher to name a few. Please check out the web site: www.fgs.org.

The Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) will have their meeting April 12 through April 14 at the convention center next to the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus, Ohio. The title is "Along the National Road: Your Avenue to the Past". You may access this at www.ogs.org.

... *Barbara*

The archives are now closed on

Wednesday mornings

Please call Barb Gorney

(260) 490-6725

OR

Gene Yoquelet

(260) 622-4067

To make an appointment.

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 ...



Special Thanks to Carolyn Hill, ... for her donation and her comment on reading the Chronicles. She also mentioned there is a new tombstone for Rev. Jesse Lothamer, that was her Mother's twin brother. ... Judy Schroff and Jan Shupert-Arick, ... Thank You for your donations, and Jan mentioned of the Lincoln Hwy. Yard Sale set for August 9—11, 2007 across Indiana and Ohio. The Indiana Lincoln Highway chapter website is one of the largest, and has links to all the other LHA sites. ... Georges Jeanney, ... Emailed us that his book is finished and the title is: "NOS COUSINS FRANC COMTOIS D'AMERIQUE". He is using for the cover picture the family of Converset in front of their house with **Joseph Converset** holding **Julian**. Georges chose this picture from the archives of Besançon.

Bits 'n Pieces ...

Editor's note: The wait for the "History of Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana, 1700– 2005" book was well worth it! I don't believe I have ever seen anything like it. *The incredible wealth of information*, not only of the history of the county, but the profiles of so many people is outstanding. The research, the work, the dedication that went into this book is something that everyone who worked on must be very proud. A great many of our Besançon members contributed, and there are many, many familiar names in the books. I am not sure if it is possible for you to order one, if you miss it the first time around, but the toll free number is: 1-866-394-4407 or www.mtpublishing.com. The publishing company is M. T. Publishing Co., Inc. The company itself was so impressed with the works, they mentioned to Curt Witcher that they had never seen anything like it in their entire history. Congratulations to the entire staff of the Allen County Genealogical Society. Don't miss this chance, you will not be sorry. ... January 27th was the scheduled grand opening for the Allen County Genealogical NEW Library. An extraordinary day for an extraordinary library!

The Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette featured an article in the December 14, 2006 issue about the Jefferson Township School on Old Lincoln Trail, just West of St. Louis, Besançon. East Allen County Schools are trying one more time to find an owner for the old school. It opened in 1938 and closed in 1954. It will be demolished next year unless a buyer is found. **Angie Quinn**, executive director of ARCH, Inc., said she has toured the building and feels it is salvageable. The structure is historically significant because it was designed by Indiana architect **A. M. Strauss**, who designed the Embassy Theatre and Lincoln Tower in Ft. Wayne. It is also significant because it was built during the Great Depression. Quinn said: "It was one of the New Deal projects to put workers in Allen County back to work during the Great Depression, that was one of the big projects in the county".

Continued from page one ...

In 1780 occurred the LeBalme massacre. LeBalme was a French officer with Gen. Lafayette. After the massacre I believe the few French traders (about 8) fled including Beaubien and LaFountain. Even though LaBalme was French he pillaged the homes of these men. They were so angered at this pillage that they invited the Miami's to avenge them at their Aboite encampment. By the way, this occasion is the first mention of Little Turtle in history.

French in the area according to date:

Jacques LaSalle 1776 +
 Hyacinthe LaSalle, born 1797
 Louis Peltier 1790+(funeral home and descendants still in FT)
 Louis Bourie 1800+ (family still in FT)
 Baptiste Maloch 1800+
 Louisaneau — Blacksmith at Fort in 1814
 1820 to 1830
 Francois Aveline (Hotel)
 Jacques Belot
 Joseph Barron
 Jean Baptist Bequette (I have his Naturalization papers)
 Jean Baptist Bourie
 Jean Baptist Bruno
 Richard Chobert
 Francis Comparet (Family still around)
 Alexis Coquillard (moved to South Bend, gave land ND)
 Jean Baptist Druet
 Antoine Gamblin
 Francois and Charles Minnie
 Jean Baptist Reiniche
 Francois Valicat Felix Valicat

Far and away most of the French families came after 1840.

1840 to 1845: 67; 1846 to 1850: 120; 1851 to 1855: 200; 1856 to 1860: 25; 1861 to 1870: 34; 1871 to 1880: 53; 1881 to 1909: 13.

Father C. Banet

The following poem was taken from District #5, Jackson township, 1898-1899 school souvenir bulletin that **Emma Peckham**, the teacher, presented to her students. **Deb Edison** gave this bulletin to BHS and it will be added to our archives.

A PIONEER SCHOOL HOUSE
 Yonder it stands, as it did of yore
 Its work is done, its mission o'er
 The blocks alone mark the chimney place,
 For the mortar no longer fills it space.
 The wooden hinges on the big huge door
 Creak as they did ere we buttered them o'er.
 Our writing—desk's there.
 Hewn from the side wall.
 Where at flourishing the quill,
 We could beat them all (?)
 The clapboard roof,
 (if you'll pardon the name.)
 No longer shuts out
 The wind and the rain.
 The benches of slab
 Are gone,
 Never to return again!

Names of pupils from this 1898-1899 bulletin can be found on page 12.

In the Winter issue, No. 33, we presented the first of Thomas Hooker's research of the SAVIO/DERROW families. We continue now.

Joseph Savioz and Jeanne Marie Frasserand Family. A **Joseph Savioz** was born at Chamonix about 1774, and married **Jeanne Marie Frasserand** about 1799. She too, was a native of Chamonix, having been born there about 1779. The parents of this couple are not known. Nothing is known about the deaths of Joseph and Jeanne, the only facts known about this family relate to their children, all born at Chamonix

Mathieu—Born about 1797, married **Rosanna Charlet** in Chamonix on June 1, 1824. Mathieu later spelled his surname **SAVIO**. **Frederick**, born 1803, married **Julienne Carrier** on May 18, 1823. **Rose**, born about 1804, married **Francois Tounrie** on January 13, 1824. **Henriette**, born about 1806, and died 1816. **Michelle**, born about 1808 and died 1827 and **Julie**, born about 1810.

Mathieu Savioz and Rosanna Charlet Family. **Emaline**, born Nov. 5, 1825, died in Ohio before 1850. **Frank**, born Dec. 04, 1826, **Ferdinand Alexander**, born about 1828, and died in France in 1829. **Marie Hypolate**, born March 16, 1830, died in the US. **Mary Pauline**, born Jan 20, 1832, married **Peter Frank Coutta**. **Marie Ambroisine**, born 1835, and died in US. **Marie Delphine**, born 1842.

In the Spring of 1826, five French families arrived in Stark county from Alsace, the first of several hundred families from France who came during the next 50 years, the Savio family included. Mathieu left the Alps for American in the early 1840s, bring his wife and surviving children to the United States. They first came to Louisville, Nimishillen township, Stark county, Ohio where Mathieu purchased land on July 18, 1844 and August 28, 1845. He apparently died there in 1847. *Louisville is a few miles northeast of Canton, Ohio.*

The widow Rosanna Savio was 48 years old in 1850 and was censured in Nimishillen township, living with her were Frank (age 20), Mary (18), Nancy (16) and Adaline (10). Sardinia was recorded as the place of birth for the entire family. Their real estate was valued at \$500, and Fran was farming the land. Rosanna is shown at age 57, living next to her son, Frank, in the 1860 census. It is thought Rosanna died in the mid-1860s.

Frank married **Mary Rosaine Coutta** (or Couttet) in Stark county on September 20, 1853. Her parents were **Peter Frank Coutta** and **Alexandria Balmat**. The 1860 census shows his land in Marlboro township, Stark county is valued at \$1,400 and the family consisted of Frank (33), Rosanna (24), Selestian (6), Frances (4) and Lousia (1). Frank and Rosine probably moved from Ohio to Indiana shortly after 1860.

Francis Saviot purchased land in Allen county from **F. A. Roy** on November 22, 1865. Frank also bought land from **Alex Williamson** on November 4, 1868. *It is noted a much earlier land deal in Allen county by **Francois (Frank) Auguste Saviot**, son of **Frederick Savioz and Julienne Carrier**. There are several additional land sales recorded in Allen county, all most likely involving the senior Frederick Savioz, husband of Julienne Carrier. The dates range from 1859 to 1868 and involve sales by the senior Frederick to some of his children.*

Frank and Rosine Savio in 1870 were in Monroe township in the southeast part of Allen county, where the family was censured under the Saviot surname. Their farm was valued at \$400, and living with Frank and Rosine were Justine (16), Frank, Louisa (11), Fred, (8), and James (2). The first three children were born in Ohio, and the last two in Indiana.

Also living in nearby Jefferson township, Allen county in 1870 were several related families: **Julienne Saviot** (69), **Fred Saviot**, (43), **Frank Saviot** (30), **Michael Saviot** (24), and **Caroline Saviot** (29). Juliene, living with her son, Michael, was an aunt of Frank, husband of Rosine. Julienne had married Frederick, brother to Frank's father, Mathieu.

In 1880 Frank and Rosine were farming in Monroeville; with Frank and Rosine were Frederick (16, and working in a tile factory), James (12) and Michael (8). Frank reportedly died in 1894 and is buried at St. Rose cemetery, Monroeville, Indiana.

Rosina at age 65 is shown living by her self in Monroe township in 1900, and in 1910 she is living with her son when she reported that only one of her six children was alive. She died in Ft Wayne at age 82, on April 15, 1917 of cerebral apoplexy. She had been living at the home of **James Lawyer**, a grandson. Her obituary mentions that earlier in the day of her death she had attended vesper services at St. Mary's Catholic Church. She is buried with her husband at St. Rose Cemetery.

Please contact **Barb Gorney** or **Eugene Yoquelet** for more information about this family. *Mr. Hooker has provided much more research then we can provide here.*

"Yester Year" ... copied and submitted by Jane Morow



Fort Wayne News, June 12, 1900 ... **Miss Mary Littot and Mr. Joseph Rondot** were married this morning at the Cathedral, the **Rev. Father 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 done in green and white.

Journal Gazette, December 10, 1906 ... **J. D. Allegar, William Erwin and J. J. Peters** were appointed viewers to assess the damages and benefits to property owners along Webster street, which is to be opened up from Smith's addition to Allen street. The assessments and damages allowed amount to about \$500.

Sentinel, April 24, 1895 ... **SPOILED A WEDDING.** The other evening **George Vanderly**, a farmer, who lives near Edgerton, was en route home after spending the day with his brother-in-law. He was accompanied by a **Mrs. Girardot**, a neighbor and the couple were to have been married yesterday morning. When nearing his home the team ran away, throwing the occupants out. Mr. Vanderly's leg was fractured in two places and Mrs. Girardot had two ribs broken. A child which was in the buggy was also thrown into the road and fell into a thorn bush, one of the sharp points penetrating its nose. The victims of the accident were taken care of by neighbors, and a doctor from New Haven summoned, who dressed their injuries. The wedding was necessarily postponed.

Fort Wayne News, November 15, 1919 ... Funeral services for **Mrs Mary Louise Lortie** will be held Monday morning at 8:45 o'clock, from the home, at 2302 New Haven avenue, and at 9:30 o'clock at St. Louis Catholic church at Besançon, Ind. Solemn high mass will be held by **Rev. Father George Moorman** of the St. Louis church, assisted by **Rev. Father Henry Hoerstman**, pastor of St. Andrew's Catholic church, and **Rev. Father Jesse Lothamer**, of Huntington. Burial in the cemetery near the

WEEKLY SENTINEL, October 13, 1915.

Mowry—Dodane

Miss. Eva C. Dodane and Mr. Leonard Mowry were married at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning in St. Louis church, Besançon, with **Rev. M. P. Louen** officiating at the nuptial mass. **Miss Amelia Mowry**, a sister to the groom; **Miss May Dodane**, the bride's sister, and Messrs. **Arthur Oberly and Joseph Dodane** were the bridesmaids and groomsmen. **Mrs. Henry Girardot** presided at the organ during the nuptial mass. Palms, ferns and blooming plants decorated the church prettily and after the service the bride and groom received congratulations from many of their friends at the church. The bride had been organist at this church for many years as among her numerous accomplishments she is proficient in music. The bridal costume was a white crepe de chine gown handsomely trimmed and a veil of tulle caught to the hair with a wreath of swansonia blossoms. Roses and swansonia formed the bride's bouquet. Miss Mowry wore a yellow pussy willow satin dress trimmed with handsome lace, and Miss Dodane was dressed in lemon color crepe de cine with rhinestone trimming. The bridesmaids' bouquets were yellow chrysanthemums. The wedding breakfast was served at the bride's home to eighty guests who included relatives and friends. The groom is a popular farmer and Mr. and Mrs. Mowry have gone directly to housekeeping in their farm home. The bride is the daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dodane.**

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The word 'housekeeper' once meant property-owner, and could be used for male as well as female. "Domestic" once meant the housewife, not necessarily a servant.

Source: *Wood County Genealogy Society, Sept/Oct 2002, page 69 via Teri Gorney.*

*OBITUARIES ... copied by Jane Morow**Ft. Wayne News, June 7, 1916*

Mrs. Elizabeth Roussey, aged 70 years, died yesterday afternoon at the resident, 1010 Erie street, death being due to the infirmities of old age.

Mrs. Roussey's birthplace is New York, but together with her parents she came to Ft. Wayne when she was eleven years old, making the trip via the old canal route, and had resided here continuously since that time. She was the widow of **Felix Roussey**, who preceded her in death twenty-one years ago, and was a member of the St. Mary's Catholic church.

She was united in marriage to Mr. Roussey October 12, 1865 and is survived by the following children: **Mrs. Mary Stace**, of Chicago; **Mrs. Laura Willig**, of Ft. Wayne, **Peter**, of Detroit; **Joseph** of Indianapolis; **John L. and Amos J.** of Ft. Wayne, **Edward**, in California; **William** of Chicago, and **Lee** of Boston.

The funeral services will be held Friday morning at 8:30 o'clock at the residence and at 9 o'clock at the St. Mary's Catholic church. Burial will take place at the New Haven Catholic cemetery.

Ft. Wayne Sentinel, May 5, 1890.

Peter Claude Huguenard, aged seventy-nine years, died this morning shortly before 6 o'clock of old age. The deceased was born in France and with his family came to Allen county in 1850 and engaged in farming. Seven years ago he moved to this city and resided with his son, **Victor**, at 61 E. Superior street.

His wife and several children survive him. The latter are as follows: **Victor, August, and Francis Huguenard, Mrs. Frank Parnin and Miss Henrietta Huguengard.**

The funeral will take place Wednesday, at 10 o'clock from Academia

Journal Gazette, July 20, 1906 ...

Apparently fast recovering from terrible injuries received in a runaway accident some weeks ago, **Warren Bowers**, of Jackson township, one of the most widely known and highly respected farmers of Allen county, died suddenly at noon today. **Dr. Kauffman**, who was called, ascribed the cause of death to neuralgia of the heart but stated that it was possible that the injuries of Mr. Bowers had nothing to do with bringing on the attack.

The accident in which Mr. Bowers was hurt was a terrible one. He was driving in a buggy with his wife and their horse became frightened and ran away, throwing both of them out of the vehicle. Mr. Bowers sustained a broken leg and other injuries and Mrs. Bowers was so terribly hurt about one of her legs that it was necessary to amputate the member.

While the life of Mrs. Bowers was despaired of for many days her husband was apparently on the road to recovery. At noon today his dinner was taken to him as usually, but after eating a few bites he complained of severe pains in his heart. Within a few minutes he fell over and it was found he was dead. Mr. Bowers was about fifty years old is survived by his wife and a large family of children. He is a member of the Catholic church at Besançon. The funeral services will be held Saturday morning at the Besançon church.

Weekly Sentinel, January 4, 1905

Ralph Cook Grosjean, the bright little son of Mr. and Mrs. **John B. Grosjean**, of 827 Columbia avenue, died at 9 o'clock this morning from diphtheria, at the age of 13 years, 6 months, and 3 days. Funeral services Tuesday morning at 9:30 from the residence, private, interment at the Parker cemetery.

Yester Year" ... continued

DOES OWN HOUSEWORK AT
AGE OF 95



Journal Gazette, March 01, 1909.

One of the oldest women in Allen county is **Mrs. Mary Jenelle Kline**, who lives on a farm one and one half miles north of Maples, where, in spite of her advanced years, she attends to the duties of her household in a surprisingly active manner. Mrs. Kline was born in France November 19, 1814, and was married to **Frederick Kline** in 1834. They came to America in 1835 and resided west of Ft. Wayne until 1857, when they located on a farm near Maples.

There are six children now living; four sons, **James, Peter, John and Charles**, and two daughters: **Mrs. Peter Ladig**, aged seventy-four years and **Mrs. Josephine Castleman**, aged seventy-two.

HOW TO DATE A TOMBSTONE

Pioneer era	Wooden markers
1796—1830	Slate or common fieldstone
1830—1849	Flat topped hard marble
1845— 1868	Round or pointed soft marble/cursive inscriptions
1850—present	Masonic 4-sided stones
1860—1900	Pylons, columns, and all Exotic-type monuments
1870-1900	Granite, now common, Came into use about 1900

Source: *Genealogical Society of Monroe County, Michigan, Vol 26, #1, page 9 February 2002*

Submitted by Teri Gorney ...

COUNTRY PARTIES

Mr. C. P. ROY built a new barn recently and it was hardly completed when a merry company of his neighbors in Perry township arrived to dedicate the building in a proper manner. Music for dancing was furnished by Messrs. **William Shuler and Charlie Mitchell**. The guests made the most of their opportunity to dance and have a jolly time. Those who participated were the Messrs and Mesdames **William Shuler, Henry Pranger, C. J. Roy, Jule Sordelet, August Mason**, the Misses **Barney, Mary, Lottie and Isabella Roy, Mary Juiff, Emma Jarard, Agnes and Felicitas Pranger, Ervy Ream, Flora Doonan, Edith and Olive Glock, Mary Ehrman, Miss Juiff and the Messrs. Schearer, Ed, Joseph, Jule and Clarence Bobay, Frank Raymond, Leonard, Ernest and Willie Roy, Joseph Brye, Alfred Kerns, Pearl Ream, Dewitt Moss, Walter Tonkel, Louis Bobay, Arthur and Harrison Bailey, August Packin, Martin Pranger, Eugene Mommer, Dick Smethers, Ed Erhman, George Pequignot, Joseph Sordelet, J. C. Delagrange, Charlie Waters, J. A. Bobay, John Grosjean, Alex and Ed Roy.**

President's Corner Monument Will Be Unveiled Saturday



Fort Wayne News, September 19, 1917 The program for the dedication of the monument at President's Corner on Saturday, Sept 22 has been announced by the committee in charge. Congressman **Fairfield, E. G. Hoffman, Harry Hilgemann and C. M. Niezer** will be the speakers. The program will be held at 2 o'clock in Giant's grove, which is located on the junction of Monroe, Madison, Jefferson and Jackson townships. The grove is near stop 54 on the Ohio Electric line. After devotional exercises and a short talk by the president of the association, **Hon. Edward G. Hoffman**

Thirteen Reasons Why Ancestors Migrated

There were many motivations for our ancestors to migrate to the New World. Once here, they learned firsthand of opportunities where they landed and beyond, and they may have moved once, twice or more times until they found what suited their needs.

- Religious or Ethnic Persecution
- Natural Disasters
- Famine
- Economic Problems
- War
- Political Strife/Turmoil/Oppression
- Following Families and Friends
- Adoption
- Slavery
- Forced Relocation of Native Americans
- Criminal Incarceration/Deportment
- Not a First Son
- Better Financial Opportunity

It is important to do more than just fill out pedigree charts. Learn all you can about your families. Research the area in which they lived. Many answers to these questions may help you understand your family. And just maybe you will learn a little more about yourself in the process. *From Heartland to Heartland, Ottawa county, Ohio, 'Odds and Ends' Vol. 17, Issue 3, 2003. Submitted by Teri Gorney.*

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“Inmate”, as used in the Pennsylvania Archives, refers to a man living in the home of another person, and not necessarily in an institution. In the same books, “freeman” means a young man, not yet married.

Source: Wood County Genealogy Society, Sept/Oct 2002, page 69 via Teri Gorney.

From “Kith 'n Kin” 10:2, April, 1992, Sandusky Co, Ohio

Submitted by Teri Gorney.

STEAM TRAVEL ON LAKE ERIE

Beginning in the 1830's, many of our ancestors migrated to the Midwest. Thousands came from Buffalo, New York to Ohio ports across Lake Erie. The following details, abstracted from an 1836 “Buffalo Spectator” (that appeared, in part, in the magazine titled “Freshwater”), relate some of the facts of Lake Erie travel.

Steamboats carried passengers from May through November making 30 to 34 trips per season. By 1836, twenty-four steamboats regularly operated on the lake between Buffalo and Detroit and Ohio ports. Depending on the boat's size, the number of berths averaged fifty to one hundred fifty. There were two kinds of passage—cabins and steerage. Cabin included meals, lodgings, and all privileges of the boat. Steerage or deck passengers found their own provisions or paid extra for meals at the second table. They slept on deck or occupied the forward cabin which contained berths but no beds or furniture. “Multitudes of highly respectable families who are emigrating to the west prefer to take a deck passage rather than pay the price of a cabin”. Cabin fares ranged from two to eight dollars while steerage was half the price.

Editors Note: From obituaries and other sources, we find that immigrants from Ireland, Germany and France are known to have come from NY and crossed Lake Erie landing in Sandusky, Ohio.

Quote from President R. B. Hayes

“I have an attack of genealogical mania. It came on about ten days ago, super induced by reading a family tree which a friend sent me. It is in a violent form but I trust it will soon abate. I have got up into the Cooke tree and am lost. Can you help me out?”

Rutherford B. Hayes to ‘Uncle Scott’, March 4, 1870

From R.B. Hayes Presidential Center...

From Heartland to Heartland, Ottawa county, Ohio, 'Odds and Ends',

Editor's note: Jane Morow sends me many, many interesting items she has found on the Internet. A great many of them are typical: weddings described, birthdays celebrated, anniversary parties, births and deaths. This column is one week devoted to Tillman Station. At first, I thought of just picking a few items to print. But I realized as I read through the article, the 'bits and pieces' that might prove a clue to you, as you looked for more own your ancestors: not only who they socialize with, but where they traveled, how they lived.

JOURNAL GAZETTE, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906

TILLMAN STATION. **Ishae Lesh** and wife were guests of Mr. and Mrs. **George Souset**, of Payne, O, one day last week. ... **Lucille Howard**, of Ft. Wayne, spent the latter part of last week with her cousin, **Ella Martin** of Besançon. ... **Frank Oberley** and **H. P. Coulardot**, of Jackson township, have returned to their homes after spending a few days with relatives at Laporte, Ind. ... **Mrs. William Kellar**, who has been confined to her home by illness, is slowly improving at this writing. ... **Lida Rose**, of Townly, spent the latter part of last week with **Nellie and Rosa Girardot**. ... **Emmanuel Lesh** and wife had the following people as their guests on Sunday: **Eli Cramer** and wife, of Smiley, Ind., **Peter Dager** and wife of Townly; **Mrs. Sphia Webster** and son **Warren** of Besançon. ... **Eddie and Edward Girardot**, with their families, vistied with Mr. and Mrs. **Frank Girardot** of Zulu, Sunday. ... **Chester Girardot** spent Sunday evening with Mr. and Mrs. **James Rose** of Townly. ... **Mary J. Girardot** and daughter, **Rosa**, **Eli Miller**, and **Albert Cramer** were vistors at the **August Jacquay** home Sunday. **Mrs. Cowan**, of Decatur, (?) Ind and **Mrs. Calab Townsend** of Zulu were invited guests at the **W. S. Townsend** home last Thursday. **George Souset** of Payne, O., was here a portion of last week calling on his many friends and old acquaintances. ... **Josephine Linden**, of New Haven, was here the latter part of last week visiting with Mr. and Mrs. **Louis Urbine**. ... The funeral of **Frank Reuille**, who died Sunday morning, was held Tuesday at the St. Louis church at Besançon, of which he had been a devoted member for a number of years. ... **The Rev. Dhe**, of Besançon, entertained his sister from Hartford City a portion of this week. When she arrives home she will leave at once for a four months' visit to Europe. ... **John Lothamer**, wife and children and **Jesse Lothamer** were vistors at Robison park Sunday. **Mrs. Justin Lomont**, of Besançon, spent Sunday with her parents at Baldwin. ... **Oliver Marquart** spent Sunday evening with his brother, **David Marquart** and wife of Monroeville. **Mr. August Roussey** and **Amos Cour** and children, of New Haven, will spend a few days with Jefferson friends before they leave for a visit with Michigan relatives. ... **Lela Gregg** entertained at her home in honor of Miss. **Ransburg**, of Indianapolis, the following invited guests: **Julia Webster**, **Militine Pio**, **Minnie Yoquelet**, **Bessie Bauserman**.

The members of the St. Louis church at Besançon are planning to give a grand picnic September 4, at the grove near the church. A good time is promised to the people. Low rates on the Lima line have already been secured. ... While out driving, one night last week, a spirited horse driven by **Thomas Miller** became frightened and ran away. Two young ladies who were with him escaped without getting hurt. ... **Henry Giant** and **John Funk** with their families, of Ft. Wayne, **Eli Miller** and **Haden Hullinger** were pleasantly entertained by **Frank Giant Sr.** last Sunday. ... **Laura Roy** has returned to her work at Ft. Wayne after spending one month at home with her brother and mother, who have been ill with smallpox. ... **Caleb Townsend** spent Sunday with relatives at Ft. Wayne. ... **Louisa Martin**, of Townly, was at Maples Thursday, visiting with her aunt, **Mrs. Edward Monot**. ... **Clarence and Ernest Lomont**, **Jesse Lothamer**, and **Harmon Voirol** were at Hartford City one week ago Sunday the guests of the **Rev. John Noll**. ... **John Miller** left here Saturday and went to Ft. Wayne where he is to meet his brothers, **Charles and Jacob Miller**. The boys left Monday for North Dakota where they all expect a good position. ... **Stephen Batt**, for the last ten years janitor at the St. Louis church at Besançon has tendered his resignation to accept a position at Tipton, Ind. ... **Mrs. Louis Bonjour**, of Jackson township, has as her guests last Thursday the following people: **Mrs. Frank Oberley**, **Mrs. William Townsend**, and **Mrs. August Chevillot**. ... **Henry Moldeney**, of Jackson township, visited with his sister, **Mrs. Clara Gerardot**, of this place, Sunday. ... **E. J. Bacon** spent a portion of last week on a business trip to Marion and Fairmount, Ind. ... The wind and rain storm of Sunday afternoon did considerable damage in this section. The corn crop was knocked to the ground and acres of oats still standing in the fields will also be damaged. ... **Miss. Lela Gregg** and **Lela Ransburg** were guest of **Minnie Yoquelet** last Wednesday. ... **Rosa and Clement Rorick**, of Gar Creek were guests at the **Louis Yoquelet** home. ... **Samauel Bacon, Sr.** left here last week to visit with **John Bacon**, of Oregon, and also a sister in Iowa, whom he has not seen for a number of years. Mr. Bacon will be gone two months and expects to see all the noted places in the western states. ... **John Fry** and wife, of Madison township, have returned home after a few days visit with relatives in Fuidington and Fountain, Mich. ... **Edith and Marie Loude**, **Rosa Lomont**, **Lillie Ternet** and **John Lomont** left here Monday to spend one week's vacation at Niagara Falls. ... **Alfred Yoquelet** and **A. W. Gregg** left here last week to spend a few weeks in North Dakora, where they expect to purchaase a tract of land. ... A large frame barn owned by **Honora Martin**, a prominent farmer of Jackson township, was struck by lightening Sunday afternoon during the storm which visited this section. Nothing caught fire, but the barn was badly wrecked by having the roof and siding torn off. ... **John Comment** and wife have moved to Ft. Wayne, where he has accepted a good position as a building contractor.

~ LESTER JACQUAY ~

ROOTSWEB REVIEW, 03 JAN 2007, VOL 10, NO 1

Thanks to Nancy Huagh nehaugh@comcast.net

"I thought readers might enjoy this paragraph written by census enumerator **Mary Ames Atkins** at the end of the 1880 Salem, Massachusetts census, Enumeration District 240:

"A thorough, patient, faithful canvass, which I have prosecuted in spite of dogs, an ignorant post-master, pitiful penny-a-liners (livers?), "bad whiskey," a too sadly frequent assurance that my employer was 'a meddlesome fool,' and long journeys, often with no one to enumerate a great distances."

(Editor's note: I find it interesting that the enumerator at that time (1880) was a woman).

PUTMAN PASTFINDER, Oct/Nov, 2003 Vol. 19 No. 4

Contributed by Dean Black via Teri Gorney

The census taker knocked on Miss Kimball's door. She answered all his questions except one. She refused to tell him her age.

"But everyone tells their age to the census taker," he said.

"Did Daisy Hill and Loretta Hill tell you their ages?"

"Certainly."

"Well, I'm the same age as they are," she snapped.

"As old as the Hills," he wrote on his form.

The Five Stages of Genealogy

- Denial: "I'm NOT related to you."
- Anger: "I'm related to YOU?"
- Bargaining: "Okay, I'm related to you, but only by marriage"
- Depression: "You mean I am related to you?"
- Acceptance: "I guess I am related to you."

Fort Wayne Sentinel, October 20, 1909. Miss Mary C. **Voirol**, a member of an old and well known Ft. Wayne family, died at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon at St. Joseph's hospital at the age of 53 years. Miss Voirol had been a patient at the institution four weeks. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Voirol, deceased, and is survived by seven brothers and two sisters. Miss Voirol was a member of the Cathedral congregation. Funeral services Saturday morning at 9 o'clock from the Cathedral will be private.

*Mask
to
Your
Calendar*

BESANÇON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CALENDAR FOR 2007

All meetings are held in the parish office of
St. Louis Catholic Church

9:30 A. M.

February 24, 2007

April 28, 2007

July 21, 2007

October 27, 2007

MEMBERSHIP DUES

payable, first of January

Individual - \$15.00

Family - \$20.00 Lifetime - \$200.00

send a check attn.:

Treasurer, Besançon Historical Society

All officers are on the Internet:

Let us know how we are doing!

Barbara Pio Gorney ... BandTGorney@aol.com

MaryJane Morow Novosel ... novoseljoef@cs.com

Arlene Dodane Curts ... Bobka9z@aol.com

Gene Yoquelet ... besancon@onlyinternet.net

Joyce Lomont Crowl ... joycejancrowl@wowway.com

District No. 5,

Jackson township, Allen county, Indiana

1898 - 1899

Names of Pupils.

Alma Baumert	Anna Baumert
Clara Baumert	Henry Baumert
Romey Chevillot	Charlie David
Nora David	Pearl David
Floyd Eby	Ada Emenhiser
Grace Emenhiser	Azola Emerick
Martha Emerick	Charlie Flesher
Mary Gailapoo	Otto Gartner
Florence Harris	Laura Harris
Mollie Harris	Nora Harris
Otis Kline	Eddie Kushmaul
Francis Lortie	Louisa Lortie
Rosie Lortie	Orta Lenington
William Lenington	Ellen Moldena
Henry Moldena	Louisa Moldena
Sarah Jane Mooney	Goldie Mowerry
Susie Mowerry	Frank Mittenmeyer
John Mittenmeyer	Emma Odem
Harley Odem	John Odem
Louella Odem	Virda Odem
Elbirta Ritter	Bruce Ruch
Hazel Ruch	Harry Savage
James Savage	Roxella Savage
Amelia Sausote	Mary Sausote
Pearl Schearranrd	Amos Ssherrard
Blanche Spencer	Ethel Spencer
Freddie Zimmerman	Minnie Zimmerman
Willie Zimmerman	

ROLL OF HONOR

Hazel Rueh Francis Lortie Pearl David

District No. 5,

Jackson township, Allen county, Indiana

1898- 1899

The souvenir listed Emma Peckham, as teacher, with Joshus Ruch, Director, Wm. N. Keller, Trustee, H. M. Keyser, Truant Officer , and F. J. Young, Co. Supt.

RULES FOR TEACHERS

1872

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity, and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.