



## Besançon Historical Society The Chronicles ...

### THE BACON FAMILY OF JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP, ALLEN COUNTY, INDIANA

This issue concludes the history of Bacon Family, thanks to long standing member , **MICHAEL T. BIESIADA**. Thank you again, Michael for sharing this with all of us. "Socrates is his great-great-great grandfather. His grandmother was a Bacon: **Ella Bacon**".

*The year is 1865, and Sam, Socrates' son, has mustered out of his unit and returned to Allen county.*

Sam settled back down to the business of farming. It was unforeseen, but in 1867, his father Socrates died in New Haven. He was buried in the family plot on the Armitage farm. Socrates died intestate and the land in Jefferson Township was divided amongst his heirs: Ann Adams, Charles Bacon, Samuel Bacon, Amanda Earp, John Bacon, Adeline Bacon and Lucy Thompson. Samuel continued to farm the acreage and by 1874 bought back all of the land from his siblings.

Socrates' wife, Ann Earp Bacon, died in 1873 and was buried with him in the family plot. The young girl who left the forests of her native Nottingham and explored the opening frontier of the United States with her husband, had settled in the flat expanses of eastern Allen County and was now laid to rest in its soil.

Jane would bear Sam two more daughters: Annie Cendarilla on July 6, 1869 and Lucy on September 12, 1871. Unexpectedly, on August 16, 1872, Jane died. She was only 40 years old and was buried at Besancon.

Sam's second wife was Josephine Didier. She was the daughter of Victor and Lucienne (Barbarett) Didier. They were also born in France: Victor on August 3, 1818 and Lucienne on October 31, 1824. Josephine was born in Ohio in 1855. The Rev. A. Adams married Sam and Josephine on July 14, 1873 at St. Louis Church in Besancon. Their first son, Albert, was born October 30, 1873. Ephraim, who was probably named for Socrates' father, came into this world on June 25, 1875.

Sam's oldest son Charles had married Elizabeth Meunier on August 17, 1874. Also that year the Bacon school was rebuilt on the southeast corner of Fackler and Tillman roads and became District School #8. Charles and Elizabeth settled on 40 acres of the Bacon land north of the homestead on Fackler Road.

*Continued on page 8*

**CORRECTION:** In the last issue Mike **Biesiada** was spelled with out the "a" It is not "Biesiad." Biesiada is a Polish name. The word in English means revelry or boisterous merry-making.

# President's Message ... Barbara Gorney

## February

Not much news is going on at Besancon Historical. The society seems to be in hibernation just waiting for spring. Therefore, I put together a short history in this message. Winters can be long. In France our ancestors in Franch-Comte spent winter evenings with neighbors. From November 1<sup>st</sup> (All Saint's Day) until Mardi Gras, the time was called Veillee (Vay-yeah) meaning vigil, wake, or eve. The adults brought handwork as sewing, spinning, knitting, woodcarving, leatherwork and such to work on. The children played with toys or made up games. The veillee was the time of telling stories and singing folk songs. Thus the local lore was passed through the generations. The custom dates from the middle ages and survived until late 1800's and maybe longer in some places.

About 9 pm, a small snack was set out. This could be walnuts or dried fruit, beer or wine. If there was a butchering, guests could be served some perishable pork parts that were not destined for salting or smoking.

During the winters, manure was stored by the side of the barn. And the barn was attached to the house. (aah, what an aroma) The higher the pile of manure, the more cattle owned by the farmer. Thus the young men could appraise the wealth of the girl's father!

Wealthier families had many linens. In storage chests and cabinets would be sheets, pillow cases, tablecloths, towels, shirts, lots of homespun cloth and fabrics from merchants. Inventories of possessions were made by the notary upon a death.. This would reveal the wealth of a person. The poor owned only the clothing they wore with possibly a shirt for Sundays. The only sheets were on the bed.

The apron was a standard element of feminine attire at all times. Styles might vary from region to region but the women always wore an apron. It had to be durable for field work or household chores. A fancier apron was used to protect the Sunday dress. Women made their aprons as they made most of their clothes. For everyday, the material would be heavy linen, tough hemp or muslin. The apron would be long and wide to cover most of the dress. When one side was dirty, the apron was turned and now the clean side was seen. This also saved on laundry which was hard work in those days. The Sunday apron was smaller, shorter and the fabric could be silk, taffeta, or brocaded cotton. It could be embroidered and trimmed with lace.

If anyone has a story to tell, we would love to publish it. Family histories are enjoyed by all genealogists.

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*Barbara*  
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<p>MISSION OF          THE BESANCON HISTORICAL          SOCIETY</p> <p>ARTICLE 11 - SECTION 2</p> <p>The mission of the Besancon Historical Society of East Allen county, Indiana is to preserve, interpret and foster a deeper understanding of the history, heritage, and other culture of the rural community known as Besancon,</p> <p>Indiana, generally located in Jefferson township, Allen county, Indiana, and which has as its central focus Saint Louis Catholic Church.</p> <p>Established 1994</p>
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## Friends of Besançon ...



*Special Thanks* to Phyllis Love, Mary Till, Ron, Tom, and Don Lomont for the donation in memory of James Reuille. ... To Joan Gladieux Johnson, to Judith Schroff for donations to the Society and To Charles Keys, To Mary Jane Novosel for donations to the library fund and to Gene and Shirley Yoquelet a Christmas gift to Father Steve! ... A new book has been added to the Archive library entitled "*Within This Sacred Place*", a directory and genealogical history of The St. Rose Catholic Church Cemetery, Monroeville, Indiana, 2009, compiled and written by Edna Castleman and presented to the society by Diana Galligher. This is the most current book researched and written on the St. Rose cemetery. It will be a very useful tool when doing research. A great book! Thank you, Edna Castleman. *Via Gene Yoquelet*

### From the Financial Report of the Trustee of Jefferson Township for 1912

Mar 8	A. E. Gerardot, shoveling,	5.00
8	Casimere Gerardot, shoveling,	5.00
8	Jules Chevillot, shoveling,	5.00
8	R. H. Bieber, cleaning school,	3.50
9	Creighton Wolf, shoveling,	1.00
10	Arthur Lomont, hauling,	1.50
11	E. S. Sweeney, teaching,	50.00
11	Edna Gorrell, teaching,	50.00
15	Edward Gerardot, shoveling,	6.00
16	C. L. Miller, teaching,	50.00
18	Elastic Plaster & Coal Co, coal,	5.00
19	Clem Gremaux, shoveling,	2.00
19	Celestin Venderly, shoveling,	2.00
19	Frank Voirol, shoveling,	2.00
19	E. Oberly, shoveling,	4.00
19	A. Oberly, shoveling,	4.00
19	Joseph Urbine, shoveling,	2.00
19	Joseph Kenille, shoveling,	2.00
19	Julian Gremaux, shoveling,	2.00
20	T. Wellman, shoveling,	2.00
20	Carl Wellman, shoveling,	2.00
21	Carrie Pratt, teaching,	50.00
22	C. M. Dawkins, shoveling,	4.00
23	H. J. Gerardot, shoveling,	4.25
23	W. I. Work, supplies,	10.05
23	Clausmeier & Archer, stove,	27.80
23	Frank Pranger, shoveling,	6.00
26	E. C. Thomas, teaching,	50.00
27	James Linden, shoveling,	1.20
28	Home Ins Co, ins on schools,	53.35
29	H. D. Bearman, shoveling,	3.00
29	L. C. Bearman, shoveling,	3.00
29	Carl Ehlinger, shoveling,	3.60
30	Olive Lenhart, teaching,	50.00

### From Ft. Wayne Weekly Sentinel, June 24, 1915 ...

#### Appointment asked in Court Case

Edward L. Girardot, a partner in the saloon of Girardot & Johns, at New Haven, has asked the superior court to appoint a receiver for his business associate, Joseph J. Johns, with directions to come into the place and help run it. The suit is for the appointment of a receiver and dissolution of partnership and makes Joseph J. Johns, William L. Meyer and Amiel C. Gladieux, sheriff of Allen county, defendants. Meyer sued Johns and got a judgment against Johns' interest in the business, which he will sell to satisfy the judgment if not interfered with. Girardot says the business is suffering from the litigation and wants to unload Johns as a partner and have his share in the business sold and his interest in the license transferred.

### From the Sentinel, October 04, 1899 ....



Frank Sordlet has been making cider and apple butter all week. He said he was going to live fat this winter.

Misses Clara Bobay and Clara Pepe have been guests of Frank Soas in South Africa. They will return home Saturday.

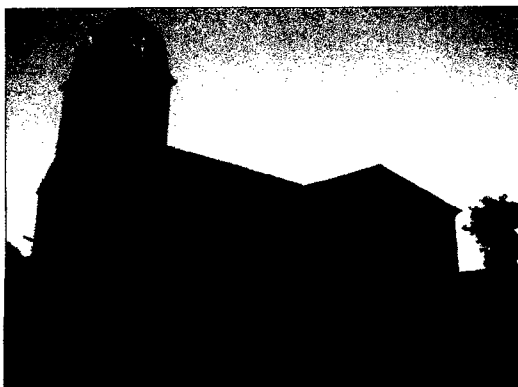
*Family research ... to us via Email .. Barb Gorney received some wonderful pictures and a 'net journal' of a trip Jan and Pat Girardot of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, took this past year. They call it their Grand Adventure, and it truly was. We all could be so lucky! I quote:*

We arrived in Besançon from Paris by TGV (Train Grand Vitesse) on 9/09. The following day, we rested up, did some laundry while our (adult) sons, Louis and Michael went out exploring the neighborhood. The next day we were invited for dinner at the apartment of Jean-Francois Girardot, one of the three who replied to my "blanket" postal mailing to the 33 Girardots in the Besançon white pages phone book. Wonderful, local food, interspersed with French and English conversation. Jean-Francois speaks passable English, his wife speaks only French, but he had invited an English-speaking colleague from the Universite de Franche-Comte where he is the Directeur of Libraries. ... On Saturday, 0/12 Pat, Jan, Louis, Mike and J-F headed to Viethorey, the small village (population 110) from whence most of our ancestors came from. After stopping and admiring the Catholic church that was locked as are many such village churches, we then were joined by Monique Sancey, a fellow genealogist of J-F's who is, in his words a "passionate researcher". Monique also "has no English", but assured us that the research done by Lynn Steele several years ago is accurate in tracing our paternal lineage back to Phillipe Girardot in the 1600's and pointed out that most of those ancestors were peasant farmers, most of whom neither read nor wrote. Thus, the paper trail ended before him.

Her good news was that she had located a distant cousin, Jean (no middle name) Girardot who owns a farm on the outskirts of Viethorey. We drove out there and were warmly welcomed by Jean (age 83) and his family. They put out a nice spread on the lawn next to their home and we were joined by more of his family, some of whom spoke English. We visited the house with attached barn and root cellar where my Viethorey Girardot ancestors had lived. Unlike Viethorey, the village of Uzelle, where Anne Françoise (Converset) Girardot was born seemed almost deserted. We had no information as to her actual home, but took pictures of the church with the ornate tile decoration of the dome, that is so unique to Frenche-Comte region.



On the following day (9/13) we drove out to a small suburb of Belfort, Hericourt to meet up with a church friend who lives in that area. He took us on a walking tour of Hericourt where a town-wide Renaissance festival was taking place. We then met up with another church friend and his wife and headed north to Le Vosges, a mountainous region of Alsace, on the northern border of France with Germany. I have since found out that Le Vosges saw considerable fighting during WWII. We got to Ballon de Alsace at sunset and had a great regional dinner at one of the auberge "farm restaurants" for which that area is well known. We enjoyed a five course dinner here.



The next day we boarded a train to Zurich where we met up with Violette Girardot, another of the 3 Girardots who responded to our letter. She works at the Le Café Café in Besançon, owned by her mother. *Please see the next page for a picture taken in front of the Girardot ancestral home in Viethorey.*



This picture is in front of the Girardot ancestral home in Viethorey : back row, left to right ,Pat Girardot, Jan Girardot, Jean's daughter (name unavailable), Jean, Michael, Louis. Front row, Jean's great granddaughters Louise and Adele. Pat, Jan, Michael and Louis are "American", all the others are French. The house is somewhat run-down, but still a residence, although not by Family Girardot.



*Yester -Year ... copied and submitted by Jane Morow*

*From the Journal Gazette for the Month of January, 1915*

Mr. Frank Lomont and Mr. Emiel Pepe were New Haven callers Tuesday ... Master Ralph Richard spent several days with his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Ternet. ... Mr. Edward Bobay of St. Vincent's spent several days this week with his mother, Mrs. Julian Girardot ... New Year's evening a sleighing party drove to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Maire. Games and dancing were the features of the evening. At a late hour a lunch was served to the following: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Henry, Mr. and Mrs. John Kennerk, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Maire, Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan, Mrs. Mary Maire, Bertha Kennerk, Genevieve Gladieux, Edith Ryan, Mary Ehinger, Julia Ryan, Charlotte Maire, Agnes Ryan, Gertrude Kennerk, Florence Maire, Mildred Kennerk, Virginia Henry, Frank Kennerk, Ilia Webster, Raymond Martin, Paul Kennerk, Pete Martha, Neal Kennerk, Lenard Ryan, Clarence Kennerk, and Holace Joliet. ... Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ternet had as their guests Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. I. Delbert English, and son Cletus of Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Josephine Townsend, Mrs. Louis Yoquelet, Misses Rose Lomont, Cecelia Mourey, Mr. Art Lomont. The evening was spent in card playing, music and social chat. At a late hour, Mr. I. Delbert English left for his home, while his wife and son will remain a few weeks, visiting with relatives and family. ... Miss Maude Farra and Bernadine Girardot called at the John Girardot home Friday. ... Miss Mildred Lowen and Mr. Johnie Lowen spent Friday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Malcult.



*More Yester Year ... copied and submitted by Jane Morow*

*From the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, January and February 1915*

*BESANCON NEWS ...*

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Maire and Grandmother Maire had as their guests New Year's: Mr. and Mrs. John Ternet, Mr. and Mrs. John Marie, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lomont, the Misses Charlotte Lomont, Charlotte Maire, Evelyn Lomont, and Florence Maire. The Messrs Arthur Ternet, Allen and Manford Lomont, Louis Ternet, Norbert Lomont and Herman Ternet.

Born: to Mr. and Mrs. William Girardot Wednesday, a son. ... Mr. Edward Huguenard lost a valuable horse one day last week. ... Mr. and Mrs. Nathian Rorick and family, of Hessel Cassel, returned home, after spending a few days with relatives of this place.

... Miss Mildred Louen returned to the academy Monday after spending the holidays with relatives and friends. ... Miss Florence Snyder was an overnight guest at the Louis Rousell home Friday night. ... Mr. John Boitet called on his mother at the St. Joseph Hospital Monday ... Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Martin, of Indianapolis, Ind. returned home Thursday morning.

... Mrs. Louis Jacquay who is a patient at the St. Joseph hospital is improving nicely. ... The funeral of Miss Laura Delegrange was held Wednesday morning from the Besançon Catholic church. The remains were laid to rest in the cemetery by the church. Miss Delegrange will be missed by all who knew her. She leaves seven sisters, three brothers, her aged father, besides a host of other relatives and friends to mourn her loss. The Rev. Father Mongovan, of Arcola, preached the funeral sermon. ... Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lomont and family, Mr. Henry Werling, Mr. John Sordolet, Anthony Dinklager, Eugene Boitet, Leslie Ternet, Mrs. Pauline Lomont, Mrs. Frank Boitet spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Boitet and family.

A number of men from Zulu and Besançon attended the Louis Girardot sale at New Haven, Ind. Saturday. Mr. Girardot brought twenty horses and mules from Oklahoma to New Haven several days ago and sold them at auction. ... Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kline and Mrs. James Kline were Fort Wayne shoppers Saturday... Several young folks from Besançon and Zulu attended the dance given Saturday evening at the Ochaunesse home near Monroeville. ... Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kline are now living on the Lester Gladioux farm near Maples, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Giant who lived there for several years, moved to New Haven. ... Mr. Joseph Boitet purchased a fine bay driver at the sale Saturday, ... Mr. Henry Werling was in Fort Wayne and called on his sister, Mrs. Matilda Hahnefield, who is a patient at the Lutheran hospital. ... Mr. and Mrs. Charles Westrick will soon move on his farm recently purchased from the Girardots. ... August Gerardot and his crew of men are very busy cutting ice for his summer use ... Mrs. Celina Boitet had the misfortune of injuring herself by slipping on the ice at her home. A jolly bunch of relatives and friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Boitet Monday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Ternet, The evening was spent in games and music and when the wee hours began to approach the guests departed, wishing the couple happiness in their new home in Jackson township. ... The Besançon baseball team is going to give a box social at No 5 school Thursday evening, Feb 15, everybody is invited. ... A number of young folks from Besançon attended the French-American dance in Fort Wayne, Wednesday. ... Miss Edith Ryan, who was employed at the Homer Ware home for several months, resigned her position Monday, and is staying home. ... Cletus and William Ternet were in Zulu Sunday ###

## OBITUARIES OF LONG AGO ...

*From the Sentinel, Sept. 29, 1901*

### BERCOT

Mrs. Caroline Bercot, wife of Louis Bercot, died at 1 o'clock this morning at the family home, two miles northwest of Monroeville, from typhoid fever, at the age of thirty seven years. The family is one of the best known in that portion of the county, and has been burdened under deep affliction for several weeks.

A short time ago a son, seventeen years of age, died from typhoid fever, and the mother is the second victim, while the remaining members of the family are critically ill from the same disease, but with little chance of recovery. The most unbounded sympathy goes out to the afflicted household.

Surviving Mrs. Bercot are the husband and seven children. Other relatives include three sisters and three brothers; Mrs. John DeLagrange of this city, Mrs. Joseph DeLagrange, of Academie; Mrs. Henry Roy, Joseph Dodane, Edward Dodane, and Frank Dodane. The funeral services will probably be held from St. Rose's Catholic church at Monroeville on Monday.

*From the Ft Wayne New, Feb 18, 1903*

### BRAHIER

Yesterday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rosa Roussey, in Jefferson township, near Besançon, occurred the death of Mrs. Jean Francois Brahier, aged 89 years, one of the pioneer residents of the county. She was the widow of Theodore Brahier, who died forty years ago, and since then she made her home with her children. Mrs. Brahier was born in France, her maiden name was Grosjean. She came to America with her parents when she was a young girl, and in 1834 they arrived in Fort Wayne from Toledo, having made the journey in a flatboat on the Maumee river. Upon their arrival here the family settled in St. Joseph township, near the present site of Academie.

Surviving Mrs. Brahier are five children: Frank, who lives in Noble county, Theodore and Felix, of St. Joseph township, this county; Mrs. Adeline Veier, of Kansas City, and Mrs. Rosa Roussey, of Jefferson township, with whom the venerable woman lived during her declining years. She was a devout member of the Catholic church. The funeral will be held from the Besançon Catholic church.



*From the Journal Gazette, March 20, 1905*

### GLADIEUX

The venerable Mrs. Rose Gladieux, one of the earliest of the Allen county pioneers, died Sunday at the old Gladieux homestead in Jefferson township, of senile debility. Had she lived until June 14 she would have been 91 years old, but her once rugged constitution became broken within the past few years and she was unable to bear the burdens of increasing age. Her husband, who was widely known throughout the county, died fifteen years ago.

Mrs. Gladieux was a native of France. She was married there when but little more than a girl, and with her husband she came in 1844 to America to seek fortune on the western border. The couple settled for a short time in Ohio and then moved to the farm in Jefferson township, where each lived until summoned by death. The descendants of Mrs. Gladieux number three children, thirty grandchildren, and fifty two great grandchildren. One daughter, Mrs. A. Lomont, died several years ago, and the living children are Frank Gladieux, former county commissioner; Celestine Gladieux, with whom his mother resided on the farm, and Mrs. George Townsend. Former Deputy Sheriff Francis C. Gladieux is a grandson. In religion Mrs. Gladieux was a devout Catholic and she was a member of the Besançon church. She was a woman of all the sturdy and noble characteristics which enable the pioneers to transform the wilds about them into fertile farms, to plant the seeds of religion and education and produce out of the wilderness a race of men and woman worthy of their self-sacrificing parents. The funeral services will be held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock at the home and later at Besançon church.

### SAVIO

*From the Ft. Wayne News, October 10, 1913*

Frank A. Savio, eighty years of age, a veteran of the civil war, died Thursday at the Lutheran hospital. Death followed a three day's illness and was due to apoplexy. Mr. Savio was born in Paris, France, but came to this country many years ago, coming directly to Ft Wayne. He served through out the civil war in Company H, Ninety-first Indiana regiment. Surviving are three sons: Joseph, of Tacoma, Wash, Louis of this city, and William of Philadelphia and a daughter, Mrs. Bert H. Brown of this city. Funeral services will be held at the residence, 1410 East Lewis street.



**The Homestead of William and Cendrilla Bacon Armitage off Tillman Road**

Socrates' sister, Cendarilla Bacon Armitage, died on September 2, 1877 leaving William alone on his farm. Since William lived so close to the Bacons, Sam's wife Josephine started to care for William who was 80 years old and in ill health.

Sam still held the original 80 acres in section 28 but must have gotten himself into some financial difficulties in 1877. This was evidently due to overdue back taxes. In November of 1877, Sam and Josephine sold the west 20 acres of the original 80 on Fackler Road to Bartholomew and Mary Dowling. By 1879, the Dowlings owned most of the acreage.

Soon, Sam and Josephine moved to the Armitage farm to help tend to William's needs. There on September 16, 1879, their son Edward was born. Arthur arrived on July 22, 1882. Sam and Josephine's only daughter, Ida May, entered this world on June 16, 1884. Two months later, Edward died short of his fifth birthday and was buried at Besancon. On February 15, 1890, Sam and Josephine's youngest, Samuel J. Bacon was born.

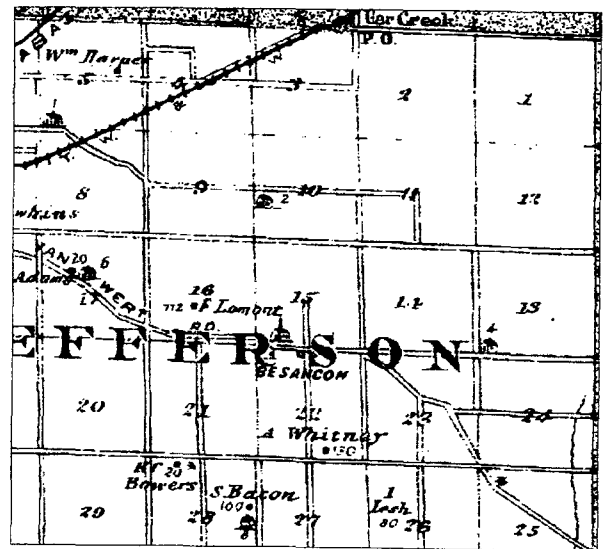
*Continued on page 9*



On July 21, 1895, William Armitage departed this life. The hardy old Englishman died just shy of his 98<sup>th</sup> birthday. William was buried in the family plot. Sam's wife Josephine died in May 1907. Sam lived to be 78 years old and died on May 5, 1917. They were both buried in the family plot.

Sam's son Charles continued to farm his acreage to the north. In 1880, his wife Elizabeth died in childbirth. Charles was alone and by then had four children. On April 10, 1883 he remarried. His new wife was Theresa Coonrod. By 1887, they added two more children to their household but made a decision to follow Theresa's parents, Peter and Christina Coonrod, to Ennis County Texas. Their daughter Ella was born while they were in the Lone star State. After a stay of about two years, they returned to Allen County and bought a farm in neighboring Jackson Township.

Sam's son Albert Socrates hoped to reestablish the ancestral homestead. In April of 1897, Albert, who was 23, and his wife Lucy (Trautman) purchased the original 80 acres from Sam and Josephine and from the Dowling family for the total sum of \$3,000. Albert and Lucy Bacon were married on July 15, 1896 and would have three children: Harvey, Irwin and Elsie. Albert cleared more land and tilled the same soil purchased by his grandfather Socrates in 1838. They stayed on the farm until 1920 when their son Harvey took over the farming operations. Albert and Lucy built a new house on the Lincoln Highway in New Haven and took up residence there

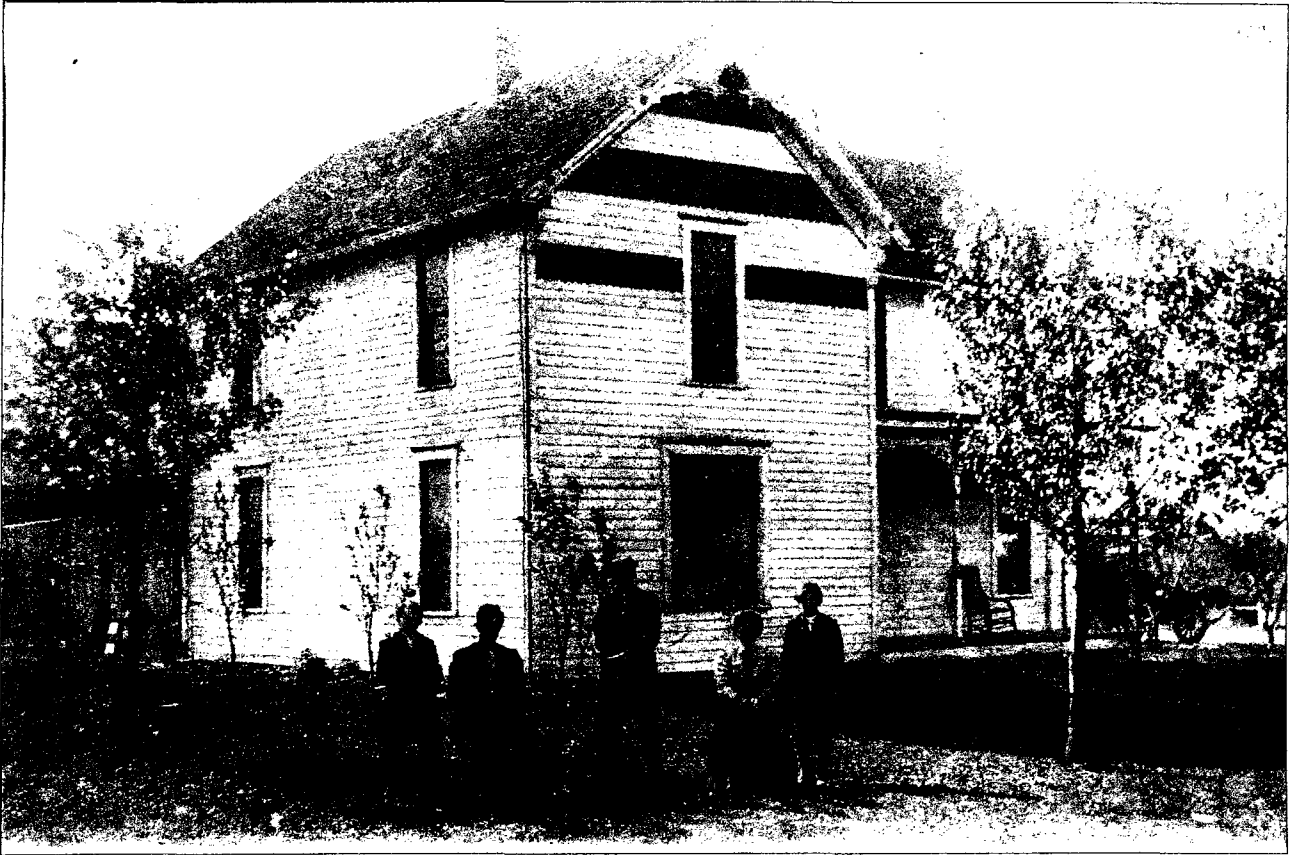


**This is from the 1876 Map of Allen County.  
Sam Bacon's farm can be seen in Section 28,  
South of Besançon.**

Albert's son Harvey married Bertha Bolyard on February 25, 1919 and they had two children: Ruthanna and Harvey Jr. On April 12, 1928, Harvey and Bertha bought the farm from his parents. They would hold ownership for 48 years until Bertha died in 1976.

The farm then would pass to Harvey Jr. and he would build a new brick home on the property. Harvey Jr. married Velma Hart in Besançon on May 23, 1945 and they had one daughter in 1951 who they named Shirley.

*Continued on page 10*



**The Bacon Homestead about 1908.**

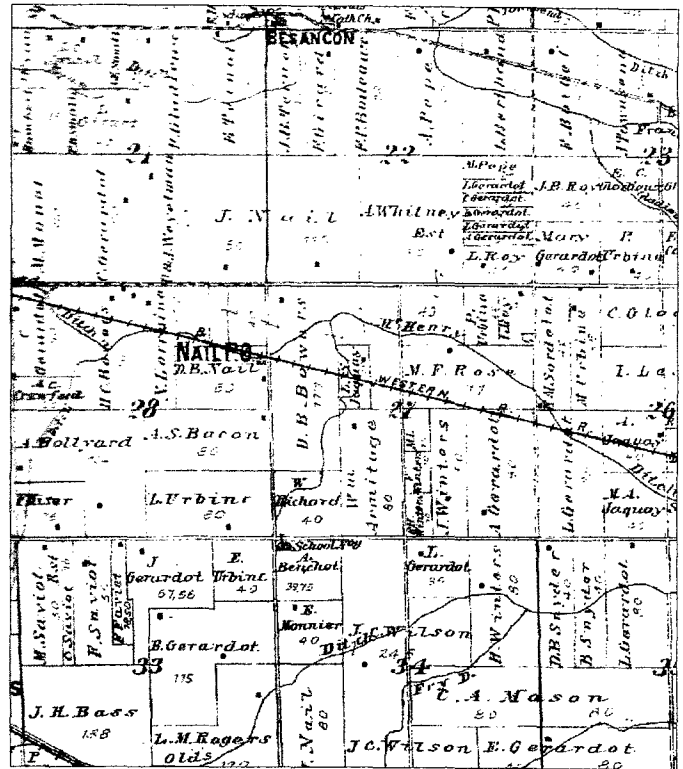
**Pictured are son Irwin, Albert, his brother Arthur, wife Lucy and son Harvey Bacon**

Shirley married Roger Fowler in 1970. They had a son named Scott Allen Fowler. For a time, Shirley lived in the original Bacon home on her parents' farm. In June of 2008 Shirley departed this life and her mother Velma passed away in December of the same year. Harvey still lives in his home on the original homestead but now rents out the old farmhouse. Velma's nephew, Bernard Hart, tends to the acreage for Harvey and Scott lives with his grandfather and watches after him.

Should Scott inherit the property someday, he will be the sixth generation to have possession of the original homestead which, to date, would include 171 years of ownership and family history. Socrates would have been pleased to know that his farm remained in his family and that his descendants still reflect on his migration to Indiana after all these years.

*Continued on page 11*

The 1898 Atlas of Allen County displays the Bacon homestead with Albert's initials "A.S." for Albert Socrates. The Armitage farm is still listed to the east.



Jehudi Ashmun, *Memoir of the Life and Character of the Rev.*

*Samuel Bacon*, Washington, DC: 1822

Much of this information on Socrates, the Chamberlains and the Earps comes from:

*The Ancestors of Socrates Bacon*, Warrick, LaDonna, Fort Wayne, 1982

Ann Earp Bacon as well as her daughter, Ann Bacon Adams, later used both "Anne" and "Anna" to sign documents recorded in Allen County Indiana.

In the deed that was recorded on September 20, 1839 in the land office at Fort Wayne, the property is described as: "the West half of the South West quarter of section Twenty seven and the North half of the South East quarter of section Twenty eight in Township Thirty, North of Range Fourteen East, in the district of lands subject to sale at Fort Wayne, Indiana..."

Bert Griswold, *A Pictorial History of Fort Wayne Indiana*; Chicago: 1917, p. 340

Allen County Deed Record "U" p.177, recorded July 8, 1857. After the schoolhouse was moved, Socrates' grandson Albert bought back the property from the township in 1919 for the same sum of \$1.00.

The family plot, which became known as the Armitage-Bacon family cemetery, was located on the Armitage farm off of Tillman road. The graves were later moved to the Oddfellows Cemetery in New Haven, Indiana. Albert Bacon signed documents to move the graves in the 1930s.

Documents signed in 1872 place them in Alameda County California.

This information comes from the property abstract. Samuel Bacon was known to be a bit of rascal. Indeed, he had both of his wives quite pregnant at their nuptials. This carefree lack of responsibility might have spilled over to his financial dealings and almost cost him the farm. Much of the information on Sam Bacon and his family comes from: *The Descendants of Samuel Bacon of Allen County Indiana*, BIESIADA and Overmyer, 1984 Acknowledged before O.D. Rogers, N.P., Allen County Indiana, April 24, 1897. Recorded April 26, 1897, Deed Record 145, p.391

Look for BHS on the Internet:  
[www.Besanconhistory.org](http://www.Besanconhistory.org)

The Besançon Historical Society  
 Calendar for 2010

The archives will be open on the first, third and fourth Wednesday of each month  
 for the Summer.

*Please Call*

Barb Gorney (260) 490-6725

Or

Gene Yoquelet (260) 622-4067

To make an appointment

The hours are 9:30 A. M. to 12:00 Noon

All the officers are on "the Net"

Barb Pio Gorney ... [BandTGorney@aol.com](mailto:BandTGorney@aol.com)

Mary Jane Novosel ... [jmj.novosel@verizon.net](mailto:jmj.novosel@verizon.net)

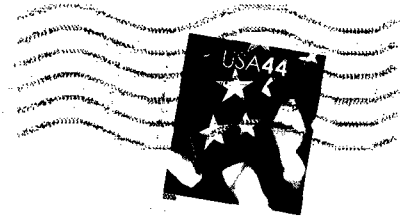
Arlene Dodane Curts ... [BobKa9z@aol.com](mailto:BobKa9z@aol.com)

Gene Yoquelet ... [besancon@onlyinternet.net](mailto:besancon@onlyinternet.net)

Joyce Lomont-Crowl ... [jjcrowl52@aol.com](mailto:jjcrowl52@aol.com)

JOYCE LOMONT-CROWL  
 21632 State Road 54  
 Lutz, FL 33549

TAMPA FL 335  
 SAINT PETERSBURG FL  
 04 FEB 2010 PM 3 L



ADAM BARRONE - LFTM  
 212 S. Cornell Court  
 Ft. Wayne, IN. 4680

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