



Besançon Historical Society
The Chronicles

ISSUE 67
Volume 2
Winter 2018- 2019

Some Important Dates/Events in Our Parish History
From a Parish Bulletin 1946

- 1846 Area Catholic families gathering in homes to celebrate Mass.
Frederic Kline family joined area Catholics at Besancon
Joseph M. Dodane family came to Besancon area
Henry C. Bowers family joined the French immigrants at Besancon since it was the closest Catholic community to their home where they had settled in 1838.
- 1847 Havert and Joly families came to Jefferson Twp.
Constant Pernot married Julie Meunier
- 1849 Francois Dodane married Justine Monnot
- 1850 U. S. Census shows 18 French families in Jefferson & Jackson Townships
Felicia Dodane Bardey born
- 1851 Gideon Dickerson donated 4 acres of land for church
Joseph Reuille's son Henry was born in Besancon area
- 1852 John Baptiste Roy applied for U.S. citizenship in Allen Co. court
Francois Frene family arrived in Jefferson Twp.
- 1853 Gladieux family came to Besancon area
Joseph Girardot family came to Jefferson Twp. Directly from France
Alexis Gerardot family came to area from Stark Co. Ohio where they had settled in early 1800's from France.
- 1854 Marie Josephine Chevillot Kline born
- 1855 Adele Urbine Gerardot born
Marie Rose Dodane Delagrange born
- 1856 Philomene Dodane Reuille born
- 1857 Diocese of Fort Wayne founded
Rev. Bessonies left area
Dupeyron family came to Besancon
- 1858 Joseph Cochoit married Hortense Rondot
Edward Dodane born
Francois Frene married Marie Odile Gremaux
- 1859 Rev. Julian Benoit arrives to attend St. Louis Parish as a part of his travels throughout the diocese
Constant Pernot family moved to Jackson Twp.
Warren N. Bowers born

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President's Message ... Barbara Gorney

Many newspapers are being digitalized and they are easy to access. I have been able to make use of them with surprising results.

I started searching for reunion articles on the Pio family and was amazed that the Paulding County Ohio newspapers are on line. In the 1917 Payne reflector, the article was about the Barbier and Pio families as pioneers of Payne. A history of the family was given with names of many family members. Frank Alexander (Alec) was my gg grandfather. He was questioned why the family came to the United States. The only statement he made was "it was the hard times."

The Pio reunion in July 1941 was held at Riverside Park in Antwerp, Ohio with an attendance of 77. The president was Carlyle W. Pio (my father). Of all the people named in the article, Mom and I were not listed. Did my mom not want to go? Did the reporter forget to list us? I will never know since these were found recently and there is no one to ask.

In September 1954 was the second Pio-Johnston reunion. It was held in Sherwood, Michigan at the home of Joseph and Cordelia Pio (my g-grandparents). Yes, many names were mentioned and this time they mentioned Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Pio and children Barbara and Carolyn. Surprise! I did attend and also remembered this reunion.

The reunion articles were obtained through the Paulding County web site. Other research can be obtained from Newspapers.com and Fold 3 that are paid subscriptions.

The last reunion I attended was the Pio-Johnston in Michigan. It was 1962 and a five Generation picture was taken of gg grandmother Cordelia Johnston Pio, g grandfather William J. Pio, father Carlyle W. Pio, myself and daughter Terri. I did not realize at the time how thankful I would be to have this picture.

In 2006 another 5 generation picture was taken of my father Carlyle Pio (gg grandfather,) myself (g grandmother,) grandfather Mark Gorney and daughter Heather Gorney and her son Carson.

Barbara Pio Gorney
President Besancon Historical Society

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- 1860 U.S. Census shows 64 French families in area
 Charles Girardot married Anne Francoise Converset
 George Townsend married Josephine Gladieux
 Francois Gladieux married Marie Francoise Lomont
 Peter Dodane born, Joseph Charles Dodane born
 Huguenard family came to Jefferson Twp.
- 1861 Alexis Gerardot (Jr.) married Anna Josephine Urbine
- 1862 Eugenia Martin Dodane born
- 1863 Auguste Charles Girardot born Melissa Bowers Pepe born
- 1864 Rev. Louis Grevin first resident pastor
 Francois and Justine Monnot Dodane came to Jefferson Twp.
- 1865 Louis Gerardot married Mary Jane Taylor
 Pierre and Elisabeth Greth Monnot moved to Jefferson Twp. Area
- 1866 Rev. J.C. Carrier served St. Louis Parish Rev. F.M. Ruiz attended parish
 Seraphin Lomont married Pauline Lamboley
 Joseph Gerardot married Marie Louise Rausis
 Marie Elisabeth Gerardot Giant born
- 1867 Rev. A. Demontaubrioq served parish Rev. A.J.M. Vandevennet attended parish
- 1868 Rev. A. Mignault assigned to parish
 August Girard married Marie Louise Monnot
 Joseph Cochoit and family came to Besancon area
 Jules Girardot married Marie Boissenet
- 1869 Joseph Giant married Josephine Kline
 Celestine Gladioux married Marie Virginie Havert
 Felix Huguenard married Marie Sallot (married by a J.P. several years before)
 H.C. Bowers sold lumber to parish for new church
- 1870 Rev. August Adam became pastor of St. Louis
 Auguste Huguenard married Melanie Martin
 Claude Francis Barley married Felicia Dodane
- 1871 New church at St. Louis built
 Edward Gerardot married Marie Cesarine Rausis
 Louis Girard married Eugenia Pettijean
 Emma Dodane Bercot born
 Henry Edward Gerardot born
 Lucie Gerardot Bolyard born
- 1872 Arsene Gremaux married Melanie Reuille
 August Voirol married Melanie Soucie
- 1873 Henry C. Bowers married Mary Converset
 Eugene Delagrangé married Marie Rose Dodane
 Florent Voirol married Euphrasie Soucie
 Jules Girard married Felicia Courdevey

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- 1874 Charles S. Bacon married Elizabeth Monnier
 Eugene Kline married Marie Josephine Chevillot
 August Beauchot married Eugenie Louise Reuille
 Edward Gerardot married Adele Urbine
 Victor Martin married Mary Frances Venderley
 Charles Frene born
 Francis Ditzell married Claudine Voirol
- 1875 Rev. Demers comes to St. Louis
 Celestin Monnot married Otille Maire
 Peter Urbine married Marie Sordelet
 Henry Reuille married Philomene Dodane
 Francis Dodane married Marie Artemis Monnot
 Anthony Edward Gerardot born, Edward Louis Girardot born
- 1876 Rev. Constant Maujay came to St. Louis
 Joseph Cayot married Marie Louise Perriguet
 Celestin Gerardot born
- 1877 Josephine Gerardot Gladieux born
 Charles Martin married Mary Didier
- 1878 Justin Comment married Hortense Ternet
 Auguste Gerardot born
- 1879 Celestin Frene born, Charles Bernard Girardot born
- 1880 Rev. Felix Veniard came to Besancon
- 1881 Alfred Etienne Gerardot born
 Louis Jacquay married Ellen Monnier
 John Baptiste Ternet married Mary Claire Maire
- 1882 Edward Dodane married Julie Malcuit
 Francis Ternet married Marie Soucie
- 1883 Warren N. Bowers married Martha Federspiel Lothamer
 Louis Gladieux married Amelia Coulardot
 Honora Martin married Eugenia Dodane
- 1884 Julian Roy married Melanie Huguenard
 Louis Roy married Amelia Sordelet
- 1885 Henry Eli Gerardot born
 Francis Pauilloz married Adele Sordelet
 Louis Reuille married Elisabeth Pettijean
- 1886 Peter Dodane married Maria Gerardot
 Philip Ehinger married Maria Huguenard
- 1887 Louis Beauchot married Caroline Dodane
 Francis Gladieux married Louise Ternet
 Joseph Lothamer married Elisabeth Auer
- 1888 Emil Ternet married Amelia Gladieux
 Stephen Augustine Bowers born
 Francis Didier married Marie Roussey
 Francis Oberley married Jane Voirol

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- 1889 Francis Ehinger married Cecelia Huguenard
 Dominic Lourie married Louise Pailloz
- 1890 Alexis Gerardot (Jr.) married Marie Louise Perriguet
 Louis Voirol married Mary Bardey
 Charles Frane married Alma Gladieux
 Anthony Gerardot married Marie Monnier
 Balser Ort married Mary Ryan
 Louis Gerardot married Julia Martin
 John O'Shaughnessey married Jennie Giant
- 1891 Francis Boitet married Eugenia Lomont
 Julian Pepe married Melissa Bowers
 Charles Ternet married Louise Townsend
- 1892 Joseph Boitet married Alice Lomont
 Emil Gladieux married Ida Urbine
 Raymond Mourey married Ellen Lomont
 Edward Huguenard married Henrietta Pepe
 Francis Lomont married Frances Otille Maire
- 1893 Frs. Charles Gruendling & Wm. Quinlan attended St. Louis. New Rectory built
 Andrew Bolyard married Lucy Gerardot
 Francis Maire married Ida Lomont
- 1894 Rev. F.X. Labonte appointed pastor
 Nicholas Giant married Emma Marquart
- 1895 Christian Spieth married Louise Stalder
 Francis Girardot married Sarah Gerardot
- 1897 Rev. Labonte purchased 6 acres of land from Francis Boitet (location of school)
- 1900 St. Joseph's School at Besancon opened
- 1906 Rev. John F. Noll began improvements to church
 New altars dedicated May 30th.
- 1910 Golden Wedding Anniversaries celebrated by:
 Charles and Frances Girardot
 George and Josphine Townsend
 Francis and Mary Gladieux

1946 One hundredth Anniversary of founding of the parish and Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the church building celebrated.

*Rev. Joseph A. Hession was pastor of St. Louis July 1935-1948
 (this list of events was done per Rev. Hession?)
 Editor Mary Jane Novosel added*

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

Pepe—Rinchart

Fort Wayne Sentinel Feb. 20, 1917

A quiet wedding that took place Tuesday morning in St. Peter's Catholic church was that of Miss Margaret Ellen Rinehart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin A. Rinehart, and Mr. William J. Pepe, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Pepe. The ceremony was performed and the nuptial mass was celebrated by Rev. Charles Thiele at 9 o'clock, many friends gathering to witness the service. The bridesmaid was Miss Veronica Pepe, a sister to the groom, and the groomsmen was Mr. Elmo Smith, of Decatur. The bride looked very attractive in a handsome costume of gold lace over white satin and a veil of tulle that fell to the hem of the gown. The bridal bouquet was made of white rosebuds tied with tulle ribbon. Miss Pepe wore a pretty costume of coral taffeta trimmed with pink tulle, while a hat of silver lace trimmed with pink rosebuds and a bouquet of pink roses completed a beautiful costume. The wedding breakfast was served at the bride's home, 117 East Woodland avenue, to members of the two families. Palms, ferns and pink roses formed the decorations. The bride and groom left in the afternoon for a week's visit in Chicago. For traveling the bride wears a brown cloth suit and a spring hat of Sulphur color ribbon. On their return Mr. and Mrs. Pepe will make their home for the present with the bride's parents. Mr. Pepe is bookkeeper in the county treasurer's office and with his bride enjoys the esteem of many friends.

Charles Girardot

Weekly Sentinel Sept. 21, 1910

Charles Girardot, who was for forty-eight years a farmer of Jefferson township, died at his home Sunday afternoon at the age of seventy-three years, following a long sickness from asthma. On the 23rd of July, the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Girardot was celebrated and gathered about him then was a big host of his family and relatives.

The birth-place of the deceased was in France, but he came to this country at the age of sixteen years and forty-eight ago settled on a farm in Jefferson township. He was a member of St. Louis Catholic church at Besancon and also was affiliated with the French-American society. Mr. Girardot's life had been a very successful one, as he was prosperous commercially and took great enjoyment in his family and surroundings. The wife and eight children survive, the children being: August, of Jackson township; Louis, of Kiowa, Kan.; Mrs. Peter Dodane, of Fort Wayne; Mrs. M.A. Coulardot, of Zulu; Miss Anna, who is at home; Charles, of Jefferson township, and John, who remained at home with the parents.

There are three brothers: Frank, of Denver, Colo.; Jule, of Jefferson township, and Jackson, of Auburn, and four sisters, Mrs. Alexander Roy of Fort Wayne; Mrs. John Zeniogt, of Monroeville, and Mrs. Justine Lantiernier, of Fort Wayne. Forty-two grandchildren, and one great grand grandchild survive. Funeral services Wednesday morning at 9:30 o'clock from the St. Louis Catholic church at Besancon

Friends of Besancon.....

Michael R. Morow age of 66 passed away last September 13, 2018 after a 2 year battle with cancer. A Lifetime Member of BHS and avid researcher, contributed much to the Chronicles and co-authored the book, *The Reuilles of Old Besancon* with his Mother, Alyce J. Morow. An accomplished attorney of almost 40 years, he practiced in Indianapolis, Illinois and New Mexico with integrity. He was a fervent and passionate Catholic, and died with all the ritual sacraments of the Catholic faith. He is survived by his wife Jewell.

From the meeting of BHS of Sept. 22, 2018: Barb Gorney, Pres. of BHS had met with **Mr. Curt Witcher of ACPL** to start indexing our photographs (has been done as of present), and will eventually photocopy all pictures/photos and put on Website of ACPL.

Mike Biesiada, member of BHS was in attendance at above meeting to announce that he has self-published a book on his family **available on Amazon:**
Escape from Prussia: One Family's Journey truly sounds like a good read!

Hopefully many members of BHS will attend the fundraiser for St. Louis Rosary Sodality

"A French Dinner and French Ancestry Lecture" Saturday Feb. 23rd at 5:30 p.m. at St. Louis Besancon Hall. The menu looks fabulous by Chef Joe Ottenweller! The Lecture should be informative, interesting!

The cost is \$25.00 per person, please call Julie Nolan to reserve 260-460-0324.

MISSION OF THE BESANCON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ARTICLE 11 - SECTION 2

The mission of the Besancon Historical Society of East Allen County, IN is to preserve, interpret and foster a deeper understanding of the history, heritage, and other culture of the rural community known as Besancon, Indiana, generally located in Jefferson Township, Allen County, Indiana, and which has as its central focus Saint Louis Catholic Church.

Established 1994

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LOOK FOR BHS ON INTERNET
www.Besanconhistory.org

**THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN.....
MEMBERSHIP DUES—PLEASE PAY BY END OF
FEBURARY**

Individual---\$15.00

Family-\$20.00 Lifetime-\$200.00

**Send a check Attn: Eugene Yoquelet
Treasurer, Besancon Historical Society**

**616 Highland
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The archives will be open by appointment only

Please Call

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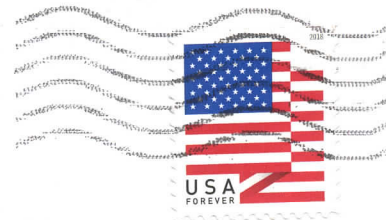
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