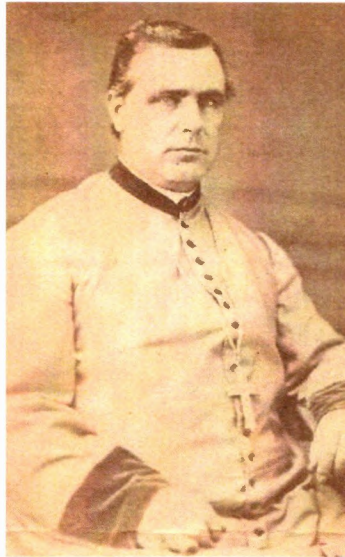




BISHOP JOSEPH DWENGER
SECOND BISHOP OF FORT WAYNE

Written by Mary Jane Novosel



The parents of Bishop Dwenger, Johann Gerhard Heinrich “Henry” Dwenger and Catherine Wirdt “Maria”, immigrated from Aukum, Hanover Germany to the United States along with 2 sons in the early-mid 1830’s. In 1837 they purchased 40 acres of land in Mercer County, Ohio, near the present town of St. John. Having built a log cabin out of huge oak trees as their home, in years to come, Bishop Dwenger would say “I was born between four big oak stumps, in a dense forest of Mercer county, Ohio¹.” He was born April 7, 1837. The morning after his birth, his father said to a passing neighbor: “Last night God sent us a little bishop! ¹” What a prophecy!?

When Joseph was about 3 yrs. old, his father died (1840). Then his mother moved to Cincinnati with the three sons in hope of support from becoming a member of Holy Trinity parish. The boys attended the parochial school of Holy Trinity. In the summer of 1849 for an unknown reason, the mother left Cincinnati alone with Joseph and returned to the log home in Mercer County, Ohio. But in October of that year, both mother and Joseph fell very ill. The pastor of St. John’s was called to attend to them and found the mother dying. Rev. Kinkler promised the mother he would take in and care for the orphan, Joseph, which he did. In the formative years to come, Joseph was educated by the Fathers of the Precious Blood, which Father Kinkler was a member. Joseph became a member of the Congregation of the Most Precious Blood in 1854 and was sent to Mount St. Mary’s Seminary at Cincinnati for philosophy and theology. He was ordained a priest by Archbishop Purcell on September 4, 1859. **Continued on pages 2 and 3.**

Father Dwenger was appointed to be rector and professor of the Seminary of the Congregation of the Most Precious Blood of Mercer County, Ohio for the years 1859-1872. During that time, a new building for the seminary was purchased and remodeled. After 1872 he was assigned to parochial work. He served as pastor at Wapakoneta and of St. Mary's in Auglaize County, Ohio, also at the same time of a parish at Glynwood. He aided in the establishment of Immaculate Conception parish in Celina in Mercer County.

After success in his roles as rector, professor, pastor and financier of poor parishes and church builder, Father Dwenger was assigned to preaching missions from 1867 to 1872. This work took him throughout Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and other states. During these years, he was befriended by Archbishop Purcell, who had ordained him in 1859, frequently accompanying him on confirmation trips through Mercer and Auglaize counties. Archbishop Purcell chose him as his theologian and secretary at the Council of Baltimore in 1866. Also attending the Second Council of Baltimore representing Very Rev. Andrew Kunkler, Provincial of C. P. S., who had utmost confidence of Father Dwenger's prudence and business tact, had him preside over nearly all the meetings.

With the death of Bishop Luers, Pope Pius IX appointed Father Dwenger Bishop of Fort Wayne. Archbishop Purcell consecrated him in the Cathedral of Cincinnati on April 14, 1872. As a new Bishop, he began his new labors by investigating the condition of his diocese. Not surprisingly, found it in need of finances. Given his past experiences with poor parishes and starting churches, he managed to wipe out the existing indebtedness in the course of time.

In 1874 Bishop Dwenger was the head of the first American pilgrimage to Rome and Lourdes. As he addressed the clergy of the diocese in a circular: "Conscious of the awful responsibilities of my Holy Office, and my own weakness and imperfections, I leave Fort Wayne the 10th of May next, to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes and to the shrines of the Apostles, hoping thereby to obtain some special graces from God for the salvation of my poor soul; to obtain for myself and my diocese the blessing of our venerable and saintly Pontiff, Pius IX, and to obtain other benefits for my diocese¹." At the Grotto of Lourdes, on entering the magnificent basilica, to the left are many votive offerings which cover the wall. To this Bishop Dwenger left an American flag.

Because Bishop Dwenger was an orphan, he had benevolence towards orphans. In 1875, the asylum near Rensselaer Indiana, for boys and girls had become inadequate, Bishop Dwenger purchased 50 acres of land near Lafayette, where he erected a four story building costing \$30,000. Known as the St. Joseph's Asylum and Manual Labor School for the care of orphan boys. In 1886, in the city of Fort Wayne on a twenty-five acre lot was built an asylum for orphan girls.

His pastoral and missionary work in years past had given rise to his belief of the importance of a parochial school system. He insisted the pastors in every parish provide these schools. In 1879, he established a Diocesan School Board, consisting of 10 priests to supervise the parochial schools of the diocese. They were obliged to visit and examine

the schools in their district at least once a year and report to the Bishop the condition of the schools. Many dioceses of the country adopted this same system.

Throughout the 1880's Bishop Dwenger was a frequent traveler. In 1883, nine years after making the first American pilgrimage to Rome, he again traveled to Rome, also visiting Lourdes on the way. Late in 1884, November and December, Bishop attended the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore amongst thirteen Archbishops and seventy Bishops. The following March of 1885, he was sent as part of a delegation with Bishops John Moore and Richard Gilmour, to Rome to present the decrees of the Third Plenary Council to Pope Leo XIII. While on this Roman trip, he was a guest of the Pontifical North American College, spending seven months. A few years later, 1888 and 1891, the Bishop visited Rome for the last times, in 1888, believing for the sake of his health, and in 1891 in the interest of the American College. Soon after returning from the 1891 trip, he suffered severe heart trouble. During the next three years of his life, until his death in January 1893, his health declined.

Circa 1888-1889, Bishop Dwenger prevailed upon the Fathers C. PP. S. to build a Catholic college. The Community of the Precious Blood purchased land in Rensselaer, Indiana and St. Joseph's College was built. It was opened in September, 1891, though Bishop Dwenger was unable to attend the dedication due to declining health.

Editor's note: Father Charles H. Banet was President of St. Joseph College for 28 years. (1970's-1990's). Translator of the foundational documents of the Saint Louis Besancon community. See Issues 47, 48, 69, and 71

Bishop Dwenger led a vigorous life of body and religious soul. His early parochial work, missionary travels throughout the Mid-west, building Churches, orphanages and was a zealous promoter of the parochial school system. He advanced in the American Hierarchy of the Catholic Church, and his many trips abroad, while still attending to his diocese.

After his death, the Pontifical Requiem Mass took place on January 26, 1893. It was celebrated by Archbishop Elder. The funeral oration was delivered by then Bishop Rademacher of Nashville who said in part: From I Macabees, Ch. V, 19-21: "How is the mighty man fallen that saved Israel."---. "was cast by nature in what we may call a grand heroic mould." . . ."In that vigorous body there dwelt a soul, equally vigorous and highly gifted;"---"His powers of endurance and his capacity for hard work were simply marvelous." . . ."His mind was clear and logical, and he was eminently practical. His memory was prodigious—both faithful and retentive." . . . "As for his love of the Church, it amounted simply to loyalty and chivalry. He was indeed in every sense a most devoted son of the Church, and he was a most true and model son of his country¹."

Bishop Dwenger is entombed in the Crypt of the Cathedral, between Bishop Luers and Bishop Rademacher.

Bishop Dwenger High School of Fort Wayne was established in 1963.

¹. Rt. Rev. H. J. Alerding., *The Diocese of Fort Wayne, A Book of Historical Reference* 1669-1907, (The Archer Printing Co. Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1907) Pages 38-45.

². Article from Wikipedia which incorporates text from the 1909 Catholic Encyclopedia article "Fort Wayne" by Bonaventure Hammer, a publication now in the public domain.

President's Message ... Barbara Gorney

The Besancon Historical Society had their first meeting in almost two years on July 17th. It was a welcome change to talk to a person instead of by phone or computer. Financially we are doing well. We do not have any large projects at the present time. The idea to check for buried headstones in the cemetery had been considered as a project. However, on reviewing the machines that are used for underground research, the cost and man power was considered not an option to look into this further.

The pictures are now back in the archives. These were taken to the Allen County Library to be digitalized. There are slightly over 1100 photos in the archives. There are some that have no names for identifying them. The Allen County Library has digitalized all. When they will be linked onto the ACPL website has not been decided yet.

Gene and I met with Bev Williams after the meeting. She brought pictures of the Roy's and Girardots and wanted to match her unnamed pictures with any we might have in the archives. There was only one picture that we had which was an anniversary picture of Rose Mary Roy and Albert Frederick Gessler with their grown children. Bev's picture was their marriage picture which was 29 May 1883. Bev had many pictures but as usual some with no names, dates or place. Her genealogy that she has done is well documented.

The society had a pleasant surprise when a children's book was mailed to us. The author, (who is French), Bill Fumey sent a copy of *The Little Prince*. The book is in French but the library has copies in English. I am not sure why or how he heard about Besancon, IN but he was pleased with our continuing documenting its history.

During the year there were a few people who either called or e-mailed their queries to Gene or myself. Recently I researched two names **Gasso** and **Manier** which are included in this Chronicles on page 8.

Barbara
President, Besancon Historical Society

Yester year. copied and submitted by Alyce J. Morow

VOIROL

Ft. Wayne Journal-Gazette May 22, 1912

Florent Voirol, aged seventy-three years, one of the oldest residents of Jackson township, died Monday at his home after a lingering illness. Mr. Voirol was born in Cantol Borne, Switzerland, October 17, 1837. He came to Allen county in 1851 and resided on the farm on which he died, continuously.

He was a devout member of St. Louis Catholic church, Besancon, and was noted in his community for his good works and his sterling integrity.

Surviving relatives include the widow, to whom he was married in 1874. Mrs. Voirol was Miss Euphrasia Socie and was a native of Starke county, Ohio. To this union were born eleven children, three of whom are dead. The surviving children include seven sons: Emil, Justin, Jules, James, Edward, Joseph and Herman, and one daughter, Miss Anna Voirol. One sister, Mrs. Victor Groumax is living.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday morning from the Catholic church at Besancon.

EUPHRASIA VOIROL 1847-1919, (wife)



EUGENE L. VOIROL (son of above 2)

News Sentinel Paper December 18, 1950

Born: March 13, 1878 Besancon, Indiana

Died: December 17, 1950

Eugene L. Voirol, 71, died at 6:45 a.m. Sunday at his residence, 2828 New Haven Ave., after an illness of two weeks.

A lifelong resident of Allen County, Mr. Voirol was custodian of St. Andrew's Catholic Church and School and had worked for the City Utilities from 1922 to 1935. He was a member of St. Andrew's Church and its Holy Name Society.

Surviving are the widow, **Orpha**: four sons, Norbert, Fort Wayne, and Clement, Ervin, and James, all at home, six daughters, Mrs. Charles Keys, Bellevue, O., Mrs. Robert Gerard, Mrs. Laurence Leeuw, and Mrs. Fred Kramer, all of Fort Wayne, and Miss Doris Rita Voirol, and Miss Barbara Jean Voirol, at home; one sister, Mrs. Patrick Quinlan, San Francisco; five brothers, Emil, Justin, Julian, and Joseph, all of Besancon, and Edward, Avilla, and 13 grandchildren.

Services will be held Wednesday at 8:30 am at the Mungovan & Sons Mortuary and at 9 am at St. Andrew's Church, the Very Rev. Msgr. Henry Hoerstmann officiating. Burial will be in the Catholic Cemetery. Holy Name Society will meet in the Church Tuesday.

MRS. ORPHA O. VOIROL (wife of Eugene) *Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette May 23, 1972*
Orpha Onda Murray Voirol Born: April 24, 1891 in Paulding, Ohio Died: May 22, 1972

Mrs. Orpha O. Voirol, 81 of 2828 New Haven, Ave. died Sunday at her home. A native of Paulding, Ohio, she had lived here 65 years. Her husband, Eugene, died in 1950.

Surviving are three sons, James C., Norbert N., and Ervin H., Fort Wayne; six daughters, Mrs. Robert A. Gerard, Mrs. Charles T. Keyes, Mrs. Fred Kramer, Mrs. Lawrence Leeuw and Mars. Paul Watson, Fort Wayne and Mrs. C. Victor Depew, Hoagland; a sister, Mrs. George Martin, Fort Wayne; 23 grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 1 pm Thursday in Mungovan & Sons South Chapel, the Rev. Daniel Leeuw officiating. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

ERVIN H. VOIROL, (son of Eugene & Orpha)

79 years old, died Thursday at Lutheran Hospital. Born in Fort Wayne, he was a lifelong resident and retired in 1979 after 37 years at Tokheim Corp. and was a World War II Army veteran. Surviving are his wife, **Geraldine "Jeri"**, a son, John E. Bey of Baudette, Minn., a daughter, Lenore Smith of Snow Lake; six sisters, Lucille Gerard of New Haven, Martha Keyes, Beulah Leeuw, Doris Watson and Barbara Depew all of Fort Wayne and Mary Kramer of Interlocken, Fla.,

Yester year Continued, , . .

Ervin H. Voirol, continued

brother, James C. of New Haven; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson. Services at 10 am Monday at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave. Calling from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 pm Sunday. Burial in Covington Memorial Gardens with military graveside rites by American Legion Post No. 82. Memorials to St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church for Masses

ALBERT P. VOIROL

Died May 29, 1952 Find A Grave

Albert P. Voirol, 81, of Monroeville, died at 1 am Thursday at St. Joseph's Hospital. He was a lifelong resident of the Monroeville community and a retired farmer. He was a member of St. Rose Catholic Church and its Holy Name Society.

Surviving are the wife, **Elizabeth**, one son, Lyod, Fort Wayne; one grandchild; two step-daughters, Mrs. Ross Marquardt, Fort Wayne and Mrs. Virgil Youse Indianapolis; two step-sons, Russell, Fort Wayne and John, Monroeville; 15 step-grandchildren; 12 step-great grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Frank Oberley, Monroeville; one half-sister, Mrs. Ed Voirol, Michigan; and one half-brother James Lamblin, Monroeville.

Friends may call at the Marquart Funeral Home in Monroeville. Services will be held there at 8:45 a.m. Monday and at 9 a.m. at St. Rose Church, the Rev. A.J. Kondziela officiating. Burial in the IOOF Cemetery.

MILDRED M. VOIROL

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette Oct. 6, 1957

Mildred M. Voirol, 53, R.R. 1, Monroeville, died at 2:30 p.m. yesterday in Parkview Memorial Hospital where she had been a patient since August 29. She had been ill for the past six months.

A native of Allen County, Mrs. Voirol lived all her life in Jackson Township. She was a member of St. Louis Catholic Church, Besancon.

Surviving are her husband, **John E.**; two sons, Sylvester and Thomas at home, one sister, Mrs. Dorothy Sitcler, Payne Ohio; one brother Earl J.

Gerardot, Monroeville, and the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Geradot, Monroeville.

Friends may call at the Marguart Funeral Home, Monroeville, after 7 p.m. today.

Services will be at 9 a.m. Tuesday in the funeral home and at 9:30 a.m. in St. Louis Catholic Church, the Rev. Andrew Mathieu officiating. A rosary will be recited at 8 pm Monday in the funeral home. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

LOUISE VOIROL DIES at HOSPITAL

Decatur Daily Democrat Adams County, Indiana Monday, Jan. 19, 1970

Mrs. Louise M. Voirol, 83, who resided with a daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Sheets, 1020 Master Drive, died at 9:05 p.m. Saturday at the Adams County Memorial Hospital, where she had been a patient one day.

She was born in Jackson township, Allen County, Oct. 28, 1888, a daughter of Jacob and Leanna Cayot-Lamblin, and was married to **Edward F. Voirol** Oct. 24, 1905. Her husband preceded her in death Dec. 12, 1961.

Mrs. Voirol was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church at Avilla, & its Rosary Society.

Surviving are six daughters, Mrs. Anthony (Albertine) Johanns of Monroeville, Mrs. Emerald (Edna) Miller of Shipshewanna, Mrs. Lloyd (Dorothy) Sheets of Decatur, Mrs. Lawrence (Esther) Call of Angola, Mrs. Cecilia Platter and Mrs. Betty Fiedler, both of Ft. Wayne; three sons, Virgil Voirol of Ashtabula, O., Ivan Voirol of Ft. Wayne, and Robert Voirol of New Haven; one brother, August Lamblin, a resident of South Unity, Parkview Memorial Hospital, Ft. Wayne, 30 grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren. Two sons are deceased.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Louis Catholic Church at Besancon, with the Rev. V.J. Rosenthal of Avilla officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Friends may call at the Zwick funeral home after 7 today until time of the services. The Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Tuesday

Yester-year Continued. . . .

KENNETH F. VOIROL

News-Sentinel, Ft. Wayne November 16, 1990.

Kenneth F. Voirol, 75, Spencerville, died yesterday at home. The Allen County native retired in 1976 from Fruehauf Sales and Service after 30 years. He was a member of Leo United Methodist Church.

Surviving are his wife, **Betty**; a daughter, Rebecca Eggeman of Fort Wayne; sons, Larry of Louisville, Ky., and Rick of Spencerville; a sister, Garnet Girardot of Fort Wayne and Eileen Lamont of Monroeville; brothers, Chester and Leonard, both of Fort Wayne, and Arthur of Auburn; and four grandchildren.

Services are 10 a.m. Monday in the church, with burial in Greenlawn Memorial Park. Calling is 7 to 9 p.m. tomorrow and 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday in Hockemeyer Funeral Home, Harlan, and 9 to 10 a.m. Monday in the church.

Preferred memorials are gifts to Allen County Society for Crippled Children and Adults Inc.

ELISABETH ROLF-VOIROL

Decatur Daily Democrat Adams County, Indiana Wed., Jan. 10, 1996

Elisabeth "Betty" Rolf-Voirol, 82, New Haven, former resident of Monroeville, died Tuesday in Harborside Healthcare. Among survivors is a daughter.

A prayer service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday in E. Haper & Son Funeral Home, New Haven, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. in St. Louis Catholic Church, near New Haven. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Visiting hours are 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beauchot honored on 50th Wedding Anniversary

November 26, 1977



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beauchot were honored Saturday afternoon at an Open House in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The event was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Harlowton and was arranged by their six children. Over a hundred friends from the area and around the state called on them during the afternoon, and enjoyed a cake baked by Frank Scally along with other refreshments. Frederick James Beauchot and Ellen Minnie Vezey were married on November 22, 1927 in Harlowton. Their attendants were James and Laura Britzius, now residents of Three Forks, Montana. The Beauchot children are: Mrs. Floyd (Louise) Bleeker of Harlowton; Wilma Beauchot of Austin, Texas; Mrs. Jerry (Audrey) Miller of Harlowton; Mrs. Dan (Darlene) Murphy of Fayetteville, No. Car.; Mrs. George (Evelyn) Decker of San Clemente, Calif.; Dale Beauchot of Harlowton. All of the children and many members of their families were home for the celebration.

Recent research by Pres. Barb Gorney

GASSO Information from newspapers & Ancestry, Fort Wayne Sentinel July 28, 1923
FRANK ANGELO GASSO age 81, 446 LaSalle St. was a retired commission merchant died at 7 a.m. in Methodist Hospital due to injuries in an automobile accident March 4th. He had kidney, bladder and back injuries. He was struck by a car while crossing the street. He was born in Naples, Italy in 1842 and was a resident in Fort Wayne 69 years. He was a musician and had become an accomplished harpist during his boyhood in Italy. He was a member of St. Peters church and charter member of the Lafayette Legion. His wife Eugenia died four years ago. His children: Mrs. Rose Cochoit, Mrs. Almeda Johnson, Francis H. , Leo V., Emmett R. Fort Wayne, and Angelo F. of Loudenville, Ohio. Six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren.

Frank's Wife **Eugenia (Jennie)** 1852-1919.

1880 Census: 248 S. Calhoun, Fort Wayne, IN: Frank 36, Saloon Keeper, Jennie 27, Rosa 8, Joseph 7, Angele 2, Margaret Manier (mother-in-law).

1900 Census: Frank 58, Jennie 47, Angele 21, Frank H. 19, Almeda 11, Leo 7, Emmett 5.

MANIER Information obtained from Alfred Rondot's book on the Maniers. 929.2M3134r. His info also consisted of articles written in the Fort Wayne newspapers. Also from Ancestry. com
JOSEPH MANIER Born Sept. 3, 1799 in Foug, Meurthe-et-Moselle, Lorraine, France. Died April 3, 1886 in Arcola, Lake Twp., Allen County, Indiana. Buried at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Arcola. His father was Jean Francois Manier 1770-1860. Mother was Anne Bainville 1769-1860 Joseph was married to **Elizabeth Genevieve Laurent** 1803-1874. Children born in France:

1. Joseph (Frank) II born 3-19-1833, died 3-24-1916. Married Bridget Smith born 1837. They had 8 children. The eighth child of Joseph and Bridget was August F. Manier. The Fort Wayne Sentinel p9aper said he died 1922 in Dawson City, Alaska following a 4 month illness of pneumonia. He was 60 years old. He left Fort Wayne 21 years before for the gold fields.
2. Melanie Born 1838, Married John Schele
3. Marie Born 6-12-1841, Died 8-11-1923, age 82, was living on E. Louis St., Fort Wayne. She married Victor Cavalier.

Alfred Rondot believed **Hypolite Manier**, born 7-4-1809 in France could be a brother. He died January 1870. Married to **Margaret Poirson** (also known Grandma Polette), born in France came to Buffalo, New York with her parents in 1833. Married Hypolite in 1833. Hypolite entered the service of Chief Richardville on canal and other public improvements. Then he took up framing in Lake Twp. Allen County. In 1856, they moved to Fort Wayne and established a boarding house on E. Columbia St.

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

All Officers are on the Internet

Barb Pio Gorney..President

BandTGorney@aol.com

**Mary Jane Novosel Vice Pres., &
Editor of Chronicles**

jmj.novosel@frontier.com

Julie Nolan Secretary

juliepequignot@aol.com

Gene Yoquelet Treasurer

Besancon622@gmail.com

LOOK FOR BHS ON INTERNET

www.Besanconhistory.org

<p><i>Friends of Besancon.....</i></p>
--

Welcome New Members:

Cindy Girard Martin : 1721 California St. Jefferson City, MO 65101 #513-508-4788

Patrick Gerardot: 6707 Mandarin Cove, Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Joan Mannino (Reuille), **LIFETIME** Member 505 North Brandt Rd., Ortonville, MI 48462 #248-941-2984

THANK YOU TO FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR DONATIONS:

**Michael Biesiada, Darrel Dodane, Joan Johnson, Richard Rosswurm,
John & Roseann Schreiber**

Attention to All Members: Zoom Presentation November 10TH 2021

From John Schreiber:

The Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana (ACGSI) monthly educational program on **November 10** will feature **Martine Copeland** presenting, "**French Migration to Allen County with emphasis on Alsace**". These programs are presented on Zoom and you **do not** need to be a member of ACGSI to watch the presentation.

To get additional information, go to the ACGSI website, www.acgsi.org. On the website home page, click on the "Programs" tab at the top.

Several weeks prior to the presentation, a tab on the website home page titled "Next Program" will appear. Clicking on this tab will provide you with the information required to sign into the presentation.

See Issue 69, Vol. 2 Winter 2019 under "Friends of Besancon: Martine Copeland gave a presentation at the Allen Co. Public Library "French Migration to Allen County from around Besancon, France". She included French names and villages of the emigrants.

The Besancon Historical Society lost 2 members earlier this year, who were also among the old families of St. Louis parish: Virgil E. Huguenard and Jane(Pierman) Lomont.

VIRGIL E. HUGUENARD, 98, passed away on Good Friday, April 2, 2021, at Cedar Ridge Nursing Home, Fort Wayne. Born in Allen County, he was the son of the late Clarence and Bernadette (Gerardot) Huguenard. He was technician at General Electric for 42 years and retired in 1984. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. Virgil was a member of the St. Louis Besancon Catholic Church, New Haven, the Knights of Columbus, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He enjoyed gardening, camping, and traveling. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Geraldine (Gibson) Huguenard; children, Edward (Susan) Huguenard, James (Nanette) Huguenard, both of Fort Wayne, Helen Bandelier, Joseph Huguenard, Louis (Lynne) Huguenard, Joan Pranger, Delores (Jim) Bowers, Rita Fry, John Huguenard, Judy Huguenard, **Continued on page 10. . .**

And Jennie Burnelli; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Elaine Archer; and seven siblings. Funeral service is at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Louis Besancon Catholic Church, 15535 Lincoln Hwy. E, New Haven, with visitation one hour prior. Visitation also from 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Harper's Community Funeral Home, 740 St. Rd. 930 E. New Haven, with a Rosary at 7 p.m. Masks required at both events. Burial in St. Louis Besancon Catholic Cemetery, New Haven. Preferred memorials are for Masses or the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

JANE (PIERMAN) LOMONT, 76, went to be with her Lord on Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021. Raised in Ottawa Ohio, Jane moved to New Haven, Ind., when she married Michael N. Lomont in 1966. Jane graduated from Pandora Gilboa High School in 1962 and received her Bachelor's degree in Education from the College of Mount St. Joseph in 1966. She taught French and English at New Haven High School. She was co-owner of M&J Farms. Jane was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, mentor, and friend to many. She was an active member of St. Louis Besancon Church where she was a member of the choir and served as the parish organist of 52 years. She also taught CCD for 20 years and later Religious Education for the Associated Churches. Over the years, she enjoyed being a member of Country Neighbors Home Economics Club and her bridge club for many years and monthly lunch with her golf ladies. She loved hosting her children and grandchildren for every family gathering and attending her grandchildren's activities.

Surviving are her loving husband, of 54 years, Mick of New Haven, Ind.: five daughters, Michelle (Mike) Castleman, Ellen (Neil) Oberley and Tracey (Brian) Jacquay, all of New Haven, Ind., Anne Lomont of Key West, Fla., and Brigitte Sparks of Monroeville, Ind., a son, Bart (Natalie) of Dallas, Texas; siblings, Dave (Del) Pierman of Farner, Tenn., Margie (Tom) Mottinger of Elizabeth, Colo., Kathy (Don) Green of Ottawa, Ohio, Barbara (Larry) Batesville, Ind., Don (Deb Nuveman) Pierman of Ottawa, Ohio, and Sam Pierman of Lima, Ohio; and 21 grandchildren, Mitch, Zach, Jake, Lillie, Grace, and Maggie Castleman, Adam, Charlie, Emily, Libbey, and Sam Oberley, Jacque, Taylor, Beau, and Luke Jacquay, Crickette Lomont, Dakota, Lincoln, and Hudson Sparks, Mick and Noah Lomont. Jane was preceded in death by her parents, George and Rita (Kerner) Pierman; and brothers, Peter and Charles.

Mass of Christian Burial is 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021, at St. Louis Besancon Catholic Church, 15535 Lincoln Highway East, New Haven, Ind., with calling one hour prior. Celebrating the mass will be the Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, with Father Louis Fowoyo, Father Ben Muhlenkamp, and Father Stephen Colchin concelebrating. Mass will be live streamed on Facebook, visit the St. Louis Besancon Facebook Page.

Visitation also from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at Divine Mercy Funeral Home, 3500 Lake Ave., Fort Wayne, Face coverings are required and social distancing will be followed.

Burial will be in St. Louis Besancon Cemetery, New Haven, Ind. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Louis Church Catholic Church (Music Program) or Samaritan's Purse.

Facebook of Yester Year . . . copied and submitted by Alyce J. Morow

BESANCON NEWS *Journal Gazette, Fort Wayne May 6, 1913, page 6*

BESANCON, Ind., May 5 **Jules Girardot** a retired farmer of Jefferson township and **Mrs. Adeline Bobay**, of Acedemie, Ind., were quietly married Monday morning at the St. Louis church at Besancon. Rev.M.P. Louen officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Girardot will reside at the former home of the groom in Besancon.

Mr. and Mrs. **Clem Gerber**, the Misses **Laura and Tillie Ternet** of Fort Wayne, Misses **Erma and Irene Giant** and Miss **Charlotte Lomont** were guests of **John Ternet** and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. **Joseph Ganau** of Fort Wayne, Mr. and Mrs. **John Ehinger** and son, **Bernard**, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. **Frank Voriol** Sunday.

Mrs. Joseph Boitet who has been seriously ill for some time is recovering though still under the care of a trained nurse.

Rev. P. M. Louen will spend Tuesday and Wednesday of this week in Remmington, Ind., while there he will assist at the blessing of bells.

Father Mungovan, of Arcola, Ind., was Besancon Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. **Chas. Lomont**, and Mrs. **Pauline Lomont** were callers at the **Joseph Boitet** home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. **William Roriek** spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. **Edwin Lomont** and family.

Miss **Frances Lomont** was entertained at the M. Hammond home Sunday.

Miss **Catherine Martin**, of near Monroeville, spent Sunday with Miss **Velma Ternet**.

Mr. and Mrs. **Herschel Jacquay**, of New Haven and Mr. and Mrs. **Eugene Martin** of Fort Wayne spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. **Chas. Martin**.

Mr. and Mrs. **Clem Girardot**, Mr. and Mrs. **Edwin Lomont** and children, Mr. **Clarence Reuille**, Mr. **Louis Reuille** and Miss **Mildred Holmes** spent Thursday afternoon fishing.

Miss **Lorna Duhm** and Miss **Laura Boitet** were in New Haven Sunday afternoon.

Mr. **Edward Lomont** was a New Haven caller Saturday.

ZULU NEWS *Journal Gazette, April 26, 1913 page 13*

ZULU, Ind., April 25, A great many of the children going to the Catholic school are down with the measles and many more are exposed to them. It strikes there at a very bad time as the sisters are preparing the children for their first communion on the tenth of May.

Messrs. **Chester** and **Jenning Comment** spent some time last Sunday at the home of their brother, **Emile Comment**.

Mr. and Mrs. **Louis Boley**, of Fort Wayne delivered a fine piano to the home of Mr. and Mrs. **Julian Pepe** of near Baldwin on their return trip they made a short call at **Louis Venderly** and **Edward Monnot** homes.

Mr. **Frank Lomont**, trustee of Jefferson township is busily engaged in taking the inumeration throughout the townships.

Mr. **Frank Roussey** sold a calf to the New Haven stock buyers and delivered the same Wednesday.

Editor's note: excuse any misspellings, copied straight from newspaper.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual---\$15.00
Family-\$20.00 Lifetime-\$200.00

Send a check Attn: Eugene Yoquelet
Treasurer, Besancon Historical Society
616 Highland
Ossian, IN 46777

The archives will be open by appointment only

Please Call

Barb Gorney (260)490-6725

Or

Gene Yoquelet (260)622-4067

MARY JANE NOVOSEL
11623 TILLBURY COVE
FORT WAYNE, IN 46845



Adam Barrone LFTM
212 S. Cornell Court
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

