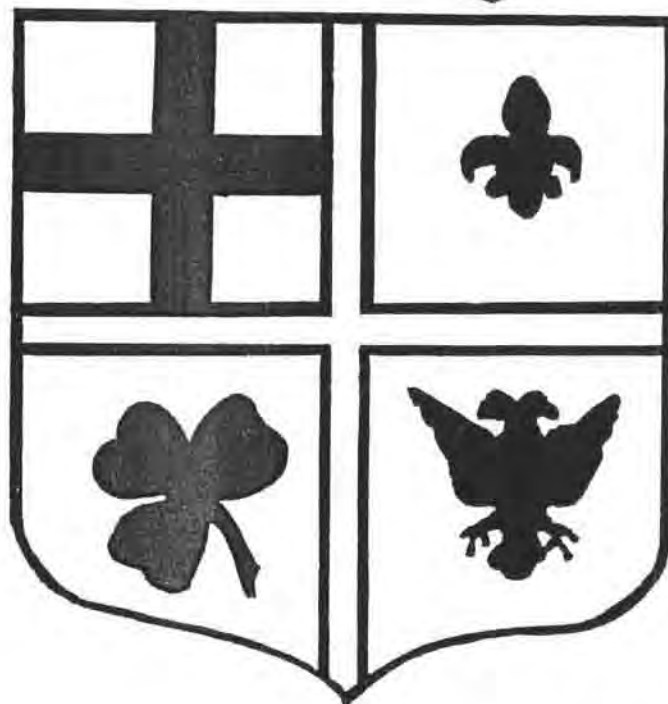


# Theakiki



A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION  
OF KANKAKEE VALLEY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 27, No. 1

February, 1997

## OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

through December 31, 1997

President ..... Marcia Stang  
Vice-President ..... Karen Burden  
Secretary ..... Nelda Ravens/Mary Falter  
Treasurer ..... Sharla Grosso  
Editor ..... Marcia Stang  
Historian ..... Pauline Murphy & KVGS Members  
Directors ..... Toni Betourne, Thelma Lunsford & Nelda Ravens

### Standing Committees & Chairpersons:

Publications ..... Marcia Stang  
Program ..... Karen Burden  
Library/Book..... Karen Burden & Nelda Ravens  
Education ..... Karen Burden  
Research ..... Marcia Stang

Cemetery Chairpersons ..... Marcia Stang, Leona Shreffler, Toni Betourne  
1870 Census Chairperson ..... Karen Burden  
Ancestor Book Chairpersons ..... Sharla Grosso & Thelma Lunsford

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### Meetings:

First Saturday of each month at Bourbonnais Public Library at 1 p.m. except for February which will be at the Kankakee Public Library, 2nd Floor, at 1 p.m. When the first Saturday is a holiday weekend, the meeting will be on the second Saturday of the month.

### Memberships:

\$12.00 per calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Membership includes quarterly Thea-ki-ki, free queries in the quarterly, single ancestor search of society publications and surname charts published in quarterly.

### Correspondence:

Kankakee Valley Genealogical Society P.O.  
Box 442  
Bourbonnais, Illinois 60914

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**THEA-KI-KI "BEAUTIFUL LAND"**

**QUARTERLY PUBLICATION**

**Kankakee Valley Genealogical Society  
P . O . B o x 4 4 2  
Bourbonnais, Illinois 60914**

February, 1997

Vol. 27, No. 1

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<u>Page</u>
President's Message .....	2
1996 Treasurer's Report .....	3
1996 Book Committee Report .....	4-5
Quarterly/Newsletter Extractions .....	5
New Publications .....	6
Genealogy Seminars/Conferences .....	6-7
1996 Research .....	7-8
Great & Great, Greats .....	8-9
1880 Kankakee County Marriages .....	10
1880 Kankakee County Births .....	10-11
1880 Kankakee County Deaths .....	11
County Court - 1880 .....	12-13
East Otto - 1880 .....	13-14
Local Potpourri .....	14
Kankakee State Hospital Cemetery .....	14
Rockville - 1880 .....	15
Essex - 1880 .....	15-16
Pilot - 1880 .....	16
1996 New Member Surnames .....	17
Momence - 1880 .....	18
Kankakee County School Records .....	18-20
History of Kankakee County .....	21-23
Ancestor Charts .....	24-27
Member Inquiries .....	28
Surname Index .....	29-30

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

Despite the fact that we didn't complete any new publications in 1996, we still had a very good year for book sales. We have several new publications planned for this year. All the necessary field work as well as maps have been completed for both the Limestone and Pilot Township Cemetery Books and they will finally be available this year. Also, we have nearly completed the 1870 Census and hope to have that available as well.

We've had our copier five years now and were correct in estimating copier use at approximately 50,000/year since our meter is just over 248,700. The drum and three rollers were replaced this fall so there should be no maintenance expense on the copier for 1997. The copier should last at least two more years and we'll eventually need to decide when the appropriate time will be to trade this machine in towards a new one. We put \$3,000 into a CD in November in order to earn more interest on the money we'll eventually use for equipment purchases.

We still have a large number of 1883 Atlases available and will try to sell more of our inventory in order to make funds available for other uses. Our collection continues to grow and is housed at the Bourbonnais Public Library. One of our goals is to someday have a place of our own to both house the collection as well as use for programs, research and publications.

In November it was time to elect officers for 1997, and the entire slate of officers were re-elected for another year. Attendance at the monthly research meetings has been great both for research and the running of publications. We couldn't keep up with the demand for publications and research without the dedicated volunteers who regularly attend these meetings.

For all new members, be sure to send in your ancestor charts to be run in the quarterly. This also applies to older members who have updated charts that were submitted in the past.

I must apologize to the members who were left off the membership list run in the last quarterly. Despite the consolidation of both the Treasurer's and Editor's lists, we regrettably left some names off. We are happy to say that our membership is the highest ever and we'll be increasing the number of quarterlies we run to 200.

Due to the volume of duties I perform for the society, I hope all the members realize there often isn't enough time to respond to all the questions directed my way. For that reason, I'll be starting a new column in the quarterly to answer various questions asked of the society. Also, in lieu of the grave marker photographs which we've run for the past seven years, we'll be starting to run a few pages each quarterly on the school records we obtained from the Kankakee County Superintendent of School a few years back. These records will not include salary and grade information, however.

As usual, we appreciate each member's input as to what they'd like to see in the quarterly. Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and ready to start a new year of searching for your ancestors.

Marcia Stang, President

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Income:**

	ACTUAL FY 1995	ACTUAL FY 1996	BUDGET FY 1996
Memberships	\$1,179.00	\$1,414.00	
Book Sales	4,244.95	2,010.50	
Research/Copies	248.65	180.00	
Donations	20.50	31.00	
Postage & Handling	255.70	108.50	
Credit	0.00	27.00	
Interest	112.98	110.25	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$6,061.78</b>	<b>\$3,881.25</b>	

	ACTUAL FY 1995	ACTUAL FY 1996	BUDGET FY 1996
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Equipment	0.00	234.94	300.00
Collection Acquisitions	254.53	200.02	300.00
Postage & Shipping	807.41	773.99	750.00
Copier Supplies (paper & toner)	611.34	495.45	600.00
Copier Maintenance/Repair	301.74	435.78	300.00
Spiral Binders & Covers	67.84	89.90	100.00
Misc. Supplies/Food	356.30	133.72	200.00
Advertising	44.62	30.00	50.00
Bindery Expense	142.90	0.00	150.00
P. O. Box Rent	58.00	58.00	58.00
Printing	5,865.50	0.00	0.00
Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00
Research Expense	0.00	15.20	0.00
Cancelled Check	0.00	5.57	0.00
Subscriptions/Memberships Program	25.00	60.00*	25.00
	87.32	285.75	300.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,622.50</b>	<b>\$2,818.32</b>	<b>\$3,133.00</b>

\*Paid renewal of national dues twice so good for two years.

As of January 1, 1996:	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,711.10</b>
As of January 1, 1997	Kankakee Federal Savings	\$1,612.02
	First of America	118.93
	CD at Municipal Bank	3,000.00
	Petty Cash	<u>15.41</u>
		<b>\$4,746.36</b>

## BOOK COMMITTEE REPORT

The following books were purchased for the collection:

*Genesis of Your Genealogy* by Elizabeth Nichols  
*The People of the Red Barns* by Elsa Lagevik (Swedish Emigrants 1851-1863)  
Index to the Genealogy Collection of the Kankakee Public Library  
History of Trinity Lutheran Church, Herscher, Illinois  
Dennison Diary of a Civil War Soldier  
*Legends & Tales of the Kankakee* by Burt Burroughs  
*Kankakee's Earliest Settlers* by Burt Burroughs  
Genealogist Address Book, 3rd Edition  
Unpuzzling Your Past  
Lagesse Family History Book

The following books were donated to the collection:

Connecticut Nutmegger	1968	1988
Kankakee City Directory		1986
Sesquicentennial of Newton, Indiana	1776-1976	
The Pioneer - 1895 History & Genealogies of Madison & Hancock Counties, Indiana		
Warrants & Surveys of the Province of Pennsylvania, 1759		
Milford & Vicinity - Sesquicentennial Souvenir Book, 1830-1980		
1850 Kane County, Illinois, Census		

**(Donated by Norma Meier)**

*Our French-Canadian Ancestors* by Thomas J. Laforest (19 volumes)

**(Donated by Cecile Enright)**

The Genealogical Helper (6 volumes for 1995) **(Donated by Marcia Stang)**

D.A.R. Magazine - Aug. 1976 thru July 1993  
Swiss American Historical Society Newsletter - Feb., 1973, thru June, 1993  
Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly - 1980 thru 1985  
The Genealogical Helper - 1975 thru 1992  
*Where the Trails Cross* (South Suburban Quarterly) 1985 thru 1992

**(Donated by Mark Stadler in Memory of Millie)**

Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of PA & Adjacent Territory by  
Edward W. Hocker **(Donated by Nelda Ravens)**

The following books are on loan from Ruth Maple:

A Calendar of Delaware Wills, New Castle Co., 1682-1800 (Colonial Dames of DE)  
Early PA Births 1675-1875, Compiled by Charles A. Fisher  
Central PA Marriages 1700-1896, Compiled by Charles A. Fisher  
Wills & Administrations of Northumberland Co., PA, including Union, Mifflin &  
Indiana Counties, Compiled by Charles A. Fisher  
Loudon Co., VA, Marriage Bonds 1762-1850  
Mayflower Descendants & Their Marriages for 2 Generations after the Landing, by  
John T. Landis  
Stewart Family Records by J. Montgomery Seaver

## **Book Committee Report (contd.)**

Necrology of Peotone, Will Co., Illinois Residents, Relatives & Friends

by William R. Conrad (This book was donated by **Robert Degenkolb** who transcribed it from the original handwritten copy at the Peotone Public Library. Information on Peotone & Sumner Twp. families.)

## **QUARTERLY/NEWSLETTER EXTRACTIONS**

### **When Surnames Disappear**

Only 20% of the surnames used still exist after 13 generations. Ninety percent of all families from the 1700's are now extinguished. In 1974, the Social Security Administration had 1,285,556 different surnames on file, of which 448,663 had only one occurrence. Over 5,000 surnames of the knighthood in the Domesday Book of 1086 have died out. *Treasure Chest News, Central FL Gen. Society*

### **Did You Know?**

When George Washington became president in 1789, the life expectancy of Americans was 34.5 years for males and 36.5 years for females. *Kinfolk, Vol. 20, No. 1*

### **Dating Tombstones**

**1796-1830:** Slate or common fieldstone oldest except for wooden, used by pioneers.

**1830-1849:** Flat-topped hard marble, round or pointed soft marble with cursive inscriptions.

**1850-present:** Masonic 4-side stones

1860-1900: Pylons, column and all exotic-type monuments.

1870-1900: Zinc monuments.

1900: Granite, now common, came into use ca 1900.

*Ancestors Unlimited Fall 1993 via DePage County Gen. Society newsletter Summer 1995.*

### **Swedish Help**

The Swedish postal authorities have a program to help Americans of Swedish background find their relatives in Sweden. Information packets are available for distribution at a number of Swedish-American organizations. A short form on an ancestor should be filled out and for \$20 the sender will receive confirmation of information on the immigrant parents, siblings, and children. The sender will not be charged if the information is not sufficient.

To receive a packet, write Swedish Council of America, 2600 Park Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55407. *Anoka Co. Gen. Soc. Newsletter, May/June 1955.*

### **Railroaders**

If you have a relative with a Social Security number starting with "7", that relative probably worked for a railroad between 1937-1943. The Railroad Retirement Pension was set up at the same time as Social Security and railroaders received their own Social Security numerical prefix. For further information, you might try contacting the United Association of Railroad Veterans, 187 Illinois St., Patterson, NJ 07503 or the Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush St., Chicago, IL 60611. *Jersey Co., IL Gen. Society, Sept./Oct. 1996.*

### **Website for Books**

A very interesting website is <http://www.amazon.com>. This is an online bookstore with over 1,000,000 books available. To buy, you must use a credit card or other means. You can, however, use this as a search tool for books. *Provided by Pauline Murphy.*

## **NEW PUBLICATIONS**

### **Pioneers of Old Frederick County, Virginia**

This hardcover publication has 623 pages, 20 maps and 460 hrs. by professional genealogists. This book is a comprehensive study of the settlers, who they were, where they came from, where they lived and where they went. Cost is \$49.50 + \$4.50 shipping and handling. Missouri residents add 6.5% sales tax.

## **GENEALOGY SEMINARS / CONFERENCES**

### **Fourth New England Regional Genealogical Conference**

This conference is a consortium of 30 genealogical organizations to sponsor *Tracking the Past into the Future: A Turning Point in Genealogy*. The conference is held at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 100 Berlin Rd., Cromwell, CT, from April 24-27, 1997. Day-long trips to area repositories and attractions have also been arranged at a cost of \$26/tour. Full conference admission is \$120 but registration for individual days and sessions is available. Contact NERGC c/o of Rosalie Godfrey, 56 High St., Ipswich, MA 01938 for further information.

### **National Genealogical Society Conference in the States**

This conference is sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania from May 7-10, 1997. in Valley Forge, PA. If you'd like to receive the NGS '97 Conference Registration Brochure, write to: NGS '97 Conference Registration Brochure, 4527 17th St. North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

### **Federation of Genealogical Societies**

The Federation offers a full day of lecture sessions devoted to society management issues at each of its national conferences. The 1997 FGS Conference will take place September 3-6 at the Hyatt Regency in Dallas, Texas. For a free 16-page FGS/DGS Conference Program Brochure, contact FGS Business Office, P.O. Box 830220, Richardson, TX 5083-0220.

### **National Conference of the Palatines to America**

Workshops and seminars on tracing, documenting and recording your ancestors in the U.S. and Germany. Information included on tracing ancestors in Schleswig-Holstein, Ostfriesland, Pomerania, German religious activity in Illinois and evaluating your materials. Registrations are due by May 15, 1996. Registration information and program detail can be obtained from Marjorie Kroehler, 6910 N. Rockvale, Peoria, IL 61614 or Marie Beernink, 5753 Washington St., Downers Grove. IL 60516

### **New England Historic Genealogical Society-Newberry Library Joint Conference**

Over 16 lectures on a variety of genealogical topics will be given by NEHGS and Newberry Library staff. Location: Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois. For more information, call Christina Wellington, 617/536-5740, ext. 202.



## Genealogical Institute of Mid America

Four intensive courses sponsored by the Illinois State Genealogical Society & the University of Illinois from July 7-10, 1997, in Springfield, Illinois. Courses include: Genealogical Family History Research Methods, Part I & II, Military Record Research Sources and British Isles Research Sources. Registration is \$310 (includes three dinners and one banquet). For further information, contact: Julie Slack, Registration, Office of Continuing Education, University of Illinois at Springfield, IL 62794-9243, telephone 217/786-7464, fax 217/786-7279.

## 28th Annual ISGS Fall Conference

This conference will be held at the Best Western Springfield East, 3090 Stevenson Dr., Springfield, IL 62706 from October 25-26, 1996. Further information will be provided in the next quarterly.

## 1996 RESEARCH

The following is a list of people who wrote to the society last year in search of their ancestors:

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Researcher</u>
Mabon	Norwin Large, 7526 Via de la Campana, Scottsdale, AZ 885258
Force	Al Force, 2400 More St. Bellingham, WA 98226
Beebe	James Parker, 6225 Webster Church Rd., Dexter, MI 48130
Litherland	Roy Litherland, 160 W. Santa Clara St., Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95113
Mulso	Becky Mulso, Box 356, Sherburn, MN 56171
Holmes	Fern McNaught, 10495 Ski Hill Dr., Leavenworth, WA 98826
Vanderkarr	Carl Vanderkarr, P.O. Box 151, Midpines, CA 95345
Ducharme	Vivian Matthews, 10345 Indian Lake Blvd. N. Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46236
Bray	Paul Bray, 12414 48th St. E., Sumner, WA 98390
Cooke	Marjorie Norman, 486 S. Vista Rd., Freeland, WA 98249
Rooney/Force	Kirk Jones. Rocky "J" Ranch, Route 3, Box 51, Gatesville, TX 76528
Walker	George Moser, 40 Steiner Ct., Saline, MI 48176
Mathy	Alice Sommers, 1229 So. 7, Lincoln, NE 68502
Wilcox/Madison	Beverly Allen, R.D. #2, Box 44E, Lowville, NY 13367
Sievers/Engelland	Patricia Slaney, 1104 Riverview Rd., Sterling, IL 61081
Burke	Mary Loudermilk, 10 Bivens Rd., Greenbrier, AR 72058
Ford	Linda Owens, 467 Jackson Ave., Livermore, CA 94550
Otis	Leroy Kestner, 1540 Burr Oak Rd., Homewood, IL 60430
Letourneau	Dr. Stephen A. Letourneau, P.O. Box 1208, Alpine, CA 91903
Richards	Julie Weimer, 34 Windward Dr., Asheville, NC 28803
Cooper	Patricia Stevens, 841 Canterbury Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60014
Hawley	Albert Muth, 35183 Parkdale Ave., Livonia, MI 48150
Pratt	Jean Rowcliffe, 1641 S. Idalia Cir. C., Aurora, CO 80017
Murphy	Carol Parman, Route 4. Box 43, Grant City, MO 64456
Cote	Jack Cote. Box 11, Site 12, RR 1, Priddis. Ab. Canada TOL -IWO
Reno/Mailloux	Cynthia Lo Stanford, 4 Catalina Ave., Salinas CA 93901
Clark	Janice Thesenvitz, 101 W. 4th St.. Alda, NE 68810
Madden	Lowell Beachler, 2343 Dakota Ave., Modesto, CA 95358
Geddes	Scott Geddes, 7090 135th St. W., Apple Valley, MN 55124
Cole/Charbonneau	Joyce Turner, 411 W.K. Place #204, Jenks, OK 74037
Cutler	Nedra Fortune, 2618 S. Flower Ct., Lakewood, CO 80227
Loiselle	Patricia Glau, 1439 Sixth St., Los Osos, CA 93402

Surname

Researcher

Smith/Helms	Joan Handtke, 1316 Inverness Lane, Schererville, IN 46375
Ewing	Gerry Wieland, 818 Maplewood, Idaho Falls, D 83401
Peltier	Patsy Giffin, 13128 Alice Ave., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112
Breault	Alice Benjamin, 3101 Pembina Highway Box 102, Winnipeg MB R3T 4R6 Canada

**GREAT & GREAT, GREAT**

When **Joseph Joubert** died in Kankakee January 13, 1939, his obituary named Mrs. Harry Wright of Cincinnati as a surviving daughter. What was her given name? Would appreciate any information on her. Whatever happened to the children of **Joseph Friot/Fiotte/Huot**? They were Marie Emelie b. 1860, Harry Wilford b. 1867, and Freddie b. ca 1866. (Freddie was adopted by Antoine Lagesse and Christine Mailloux per Kankakee 1870 census.) **Philomine Demarse** married **David Lacombe** March 3, 1862, in Kankakee. Who were her parents? Were there any children? Did they remain in Kankakee. Any information on this family would be appreciated. Contact **Dorothy L. DeMers**, 1508 Crestview Dr., Modesto, CA 95355

\*\*\*\*\*

Searching for information regarding Napoleon Marcotte's (b. 1842) two brothers, Jean Baptist and George. The photo at right (taken about 1880-85) may be of the three brothers, Napoleon is the one on the left with (X) over head. Would appreciate any information.



Contact **Eleanor Marcotte**, 16042 St. Timothy Rd., Apple Valley, CA 92307.

\*\*\*\*\*

In the late 1800's and early 1900's there was an International Order of Odd Fellows in Kankakee. Some of the **Erzinger**'s were members. Would anyone have knowledge of them and access to membership lists? The organization no longer exists in Kankakee. Contact Evalena **Erzinger**, 2660 Oakhaven St., N.E., Palm Bay, FL 32905.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on any **Horan** and **Franklin** families who resided in the Will/Kankakee area during the 1840's through 1880's. Will share all genealogical information accumulated on these families. Contact: Patrick J. **Horan**, 1421 Park St., White Bear Lake, MN 55110-3713.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Great & Great Greats (contd.)**

Mary Elizabeth **Bradley was** born in Ohio - where? Seeking the birthplace/date, parents and what happened to her after she left Martin VanBuren Kibby. Seeking birthplace/date and parents of Mary J. Tim, born somewhere in Canada. Contact Betty **Fortier**, 100 Asphodel St., Thibodaux, LA 70301.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seek information about parents/siblings of Hector Joseph **LeBeau**, b. 14 Dec 1874 in Manteno, IL. Father was Napolian **LeBeau**, mother was Elvina **Desnoyer LeBeau**, grandfather was Narcisse **LeBeau** and grandmother was Catherine **Charlebois LeBeau**. Contact Dorothy Hansen, 4N650 Country Club Dr., West Chicago, IL 60185-4604.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seeking information about Daniel **Froehlich** who married Mary **Bunte** 28 Dec 1871 in Kankakee Co. Daniel drowned in the Kankakee River in Jan. 1874. They also had a small child. Contact Dorothy **Riegel**, 9823 W. 1000 N. Rd., Bonfield, IL 60913.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seeking information on John Mitchell **Marcotte** b. 19 May 1847 IL (possibly Bourbonnais), parents Jean & Julie **Belanger Marcotte**. John and Celina **Mercier** ca. 1870; migrated to Kankakee 1877. Also seeking information on Pierre & Louise **Audette Gervais** listed on 1860 Kankakee Co. Census. Their dau. Rose, b. 07 Jul 1861 in Bourbonnais md. John **Marcotte** 17 Feb 1881 in Cloud Co., KS. Will gladly exchange what I have. Contact Angela **Chancellor**, 31 Imperial Lane, Conway, AR 72032.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seeking information on Frank **Mailloux** who died New Year's Eve 1945-6 (wife Lillie **LaPlante Mailloux**). There were at least two daughters, Bernadette & Juliette and several sons. Believe Juliette **Mailloux** married a man named **Udell**? They lived in Bourbonnais and would like any information about them. Contact June **Easley**, 1601 Franklin Ave., Mountain Home, AR 72653.

\* \* \* \* \*

Searching for Mary "**Durston**" **Dodge** b. Syracuse, NY. Brother James Alfred **Durston** b. 22 Mar 1893 in Syracuse. Marriage to Gladys and three daughters: Edith, Elaine & Georgeanne. Contact Bea **Christian**, Box 4511, Topeka, KS 66604.

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Would like to correspond with anyone researching the following families in Kankakee/Bourbonnais: **Thibodeau**, **Gauthier**, **Delude** and **Mercure**. Contact Elaine **Daum**, 500 Maria Dr., Petaluma, CA 94954-1566.

## 1880 KANKAKEE COUNTY MARRIAGES

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette.**

Bride	Groom	Where From	Date
Linehag, Ella	Hennessy, Frank J.	Chebance	03 May 1880
Savoie, Delia	Flemming, Edward	Kankakee	03 Jun 1880
Arnold, Delia	Palmer, Cyrus	Kankakee/Freeport	24 Jun 1880
Styles, Nettie	Paddock, H.C.	Ganeer/Chicago	30 Jun 1880
Miner, Clara J.	Adams, Henry W.	Chebance	04 Jul 1880
Hansen, Augusta	Enderson, Thor	Pilot/Mona, IL	19 Jun 1880
Willett, Ella A.	Streter, Chas. W.	Otto	06 Jul 1880
Burr, Ida	Genz, Herman	Kankakee	07 Jul 1880
Walton, Clara A.	Bronson, Marshal	Rockville/Michigan City	23 Jun 1880
Bourke, Anna	Lynch, Michael H.	Buckingham	13 Jun 1880
Robinson, Flora	Koon, Charles F.	Kankakee/Limestone	18 Jun 1880
Roeth, Josephine M.	Schosser, Lazarus	Kankakee/Essex	13 Jul 1880

## 1880 KANKAKEE COUNTY BIRTHS

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette.**

Son/Dau.	Parents	Date
Son	Edward Granger, Manteno	24 May 1880
Daughter	Alfred Bissonette, Ganeer	19 May 1880
Son	Alfred Beaupre, St. Anne	20 Jun 1880
Daughter	Reuben Rolls, St.. Anne	20 May 1880
Daughter	Joseph Monblo, St. Anne	02 Jun 1880
Son	C. Pommier, St. Anne	06 Jun 1880
Son	Joseph Pallissard, St. Anne	? May 1880
Son	Leander Benoit, Bourbonnais	15 May 1880
Son	Allen Walton, Rockville	02 Jun 1880
Son	Henry Sippel, Chebance	11 Jun 1880
Son	Ulrich Erzinger, Kankakee	08 Jun 1880
Daughter	Oliva Mellanson, Manteno	16 Jun 1880
Son	Alex Papin, Manteno	26 May 1880
Son	D. E. Barnard, Manteno	26 Jun 1880
Son	Carl Christian, Kankakee	15 Jun 1880
Son	John A. Stevens, Altorf	25 May 1880
Son	Louis Conture, Kankakee	21 Jun 1880
Daughter	Otto Schur, Kankakee	15 Jun 1880
Daughter	S. W. Piatt, Waldron	25 Jun 1880
Son	Gottleib Rapp, Kankakee	02 Jul 1880
Daughter	Chas. Widrels, Limestone	02 Nov 1879
Son	James Bradbury, Kankakee	21 May 1880
Son	William E. Denny, Aroma	25 Jun 1880
Daughter	Joseph Trombly, Limestone	02 Jul 1880
Son	Basil Laplant, Kankakee	13 Jul 1880

<u>Son/Dau.</u>	<u>Parents</u>	<u>Date</u>
Son	Earnest Normandie, Kankakee	19 Jul 1880
Son	Godfrey Letourneau, Manteno	29 Jun 1880
Daughter	Alexis Bergeron, Jr., Manteno	24 Jun 1880
Daughter	John Brown, Manteno	28 Jun 1880
Daughter	Raphael Moisant, Manteno	04 Jul 1880
Daughter	Antoine Fortin, Sumner	22 Jun 1880

### 1880 KANKAKEE COUNTY DEATHS

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette (publication date in parentheses).**

(24 Jun 1880) James Adams, a laborer in the Illinois Central railroad quarry, died last week Wednesday noon under circumstances which led to an inquest. A jury was summoned by justice Durfee, in the absence of coroner Licht, and F. S. Hatch was elect foreman. The jury met Wednesday evening, and after an hour and a half a session adjourned to Thursday morning when a verdict was returned certifying the death to have resulted from recent excessive drinking of alcoholic liquors combined with the effect of arsenic.

The evidence showed that after being paid of Monday noon, Adams went on a big spree, returning to his home during the evening. The next day he was ill, but refused to have a physician. He kept getting worse and died Wednesday noon, refusing to the last the ministrations of a doctor. Before his death a glass containing a dry white powder was found under his pillow. This was afterwards found to be arsenic. The jury were unable to determine, except circumstantially, whether poison had been taken. The circumstances indicated it, and their impression was incorporated in their verdict. Adams was almost 35 years of age, leaves a wife and five children destitute and has lived in Kankakee six or seven years.

The Gazette is requested to announce that several sympathizing friends of the family of deceased are circulating a subscription paper to buy a lot for Mrs. Adams. The dwelling now occupied and owned by them, stands upon railroad ground and is liable to be removed whenever the land is needed by the company.

(01 Jul 1880) Near Chebanse, June 23, Mrs. Catherine Rapp, aged 69, mother of John Rapp, of Kankakee.

(01 Jul 1880) In this city, June 24, of cholera infantum. Sadie, youngest child of Arthur and Georgia Holt. aged 8 months and 25 days. (The little one seemed in perfect health up to half-past five of the morning of her death, but, notwithstanding the prompt application of remedies and the attention of a physician. she passed into a chill from which it was impossible to arouse her, and at four o'clock in the afternoon the baby breathed her last. Dear little Sadie, she was a bright and beautiful child and a joy in the home. The eternal Garden will never receive a fairer plant than our brown-eyed baby. - A.B.H.)

(15 Jul 1880) In Bourbonnais, July 12, Mrs. Oliver Rivard, aged 45 years.

(15 Jul 1880) Patrick Dougherty, aged 30 and unmarried, whose home is in Chicago, was drowned in the Kankakee river Tuesday morning about half past ten.

## COUNTY COURT - 1880

### **Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, May 6, 1880.**

Final certificate of naturalization issued to Chris. Nelson.

Harriet A. Parker. Claims allowed: Wm. Frith, \$108.97; Sarah Green, \$5.88; W. E. Scobey, \$18; Diehl Bros., \$3.01; D. C. Taylor, \$30.21; J. G. Knecht, \$42.53; Gelino Bros., \$30.47

Alexis Blanchette. Claim of Cyrus Blanchette for \$104.83.

Frederik Tupper. Will Admitted.

W. F. Dennis. Claims allowed: S. W. Dennis, \$650.50; J. F. Rexford, \$3; J. K. Eagle, \$10.03.

S. Richmond. Claims allowed: W. E. Scobey, \$130; A. Ba<sup>y</sup>st. \$14; Chris Crater, \$11; Bachant & Kittell, \$4.50; Hyer & Son, \$9.03; town Limestone, \$24; C. Hawkins, \$4.32; O.B. Spencer, \$56.

John T. Richardson. Estate settled.

Peter Callahan. Claim of D. Wm. Rich disallowed. Stipulation as to widow's award approved.

Guardianship minor children Peter Callahan. Report approved.

John Rondy. Widow appointed administratrix in bond of \$9,000. E. A. Sizer, R. Hanna and J. Gelina appointed appraisers.

Adoption of Mary McDonald by Andrew Augusta Malby approved.

Andrew Stuyer. Conservator's report approved.

Lawrence Blackstone. Same.

Sarah E. Younglove. Guardian's report approved.

John N. Kelsey. Will filed.

Ann Eliza Potter. B. E. Nichols appointed sole executor.

Patrick Barnacle. Claims allowed: A. Herbert, \$67.82; Warden & Gilkerson, \$29.99; L. Blount, 3; M. O. Clark, 24.22; R. Templeton, 5; C. H. & L. J. McCormick, 174.84.

Kimball H. Howe. Claims allowed; Jas. R. Lockie, \$284.55; C. W. Knott, 48; O.B. Spencer, 27; Wm. Frith, 40.50.

### **Taken from the Kankakee Gazette 15 July 1880.**

Four civil and eight criminal cases opened up the law terms of court last Monday. The following were continued:

People vs. John Griffith; appeal.

Same vs. Ambroise Bouchard; indictment for selling liquor.

Same vs. Same.

Same vs. Leon Gousette; liquor.

Same vs. Hellaire Smith; liquor. Same

vs. Samuel Smith; liquor. Same vs.

Fred Klein; liquor.

Same vs. Walter Janery; information setting fire to prairie. Recognizance in \$100.

The following law cases were disposed of:

Abraham Richard vs. Stephen Joubarn. Judgment \$250.06.

Chas. L. Wooster vs. J. C. Perry and Hiram Gruver. Verdict for plaintiff, \$262.46.

Jane S. Jeffrey vs. Samuel Knight et al. Verdict, no cause for action.

Edward Chipman vs. Marietta Cantway and Mitchel Cantway. Verdict, damages \$20.16 for plaintiff.

#### Probate

John Casper. Appraisers appointed.

Lorenz Tschell. Will admitted.

Guardianship Soulinger heirs. Decree of sale.

C.C. Ainsworth. Leave to amend petition by adding additional defendant. Continued.

Fred Meyer, Claims allowed: Nic Smith, \$12.30; John Buche, \$2.10; claim of Edward Meyer disallowed. Continued.

### EAST OTTO - 1880

#### **Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, July 1, 1880.**

Wm. Brown has returned from Valparaiso, where he has been attending school for the last ten months. He is a graduate in penmanship and in one more term will complete the commercial course.

Sidney Mullen is on the streets again. He has been at Bloomington studying law.

Miss Huckins will close her school on Thursday of this week. Miss Nettie Wright closed her school, in district No. 3, last week.

Miss Mary Butler is now at home. She has been spending the summer at her brother's near Milford.

Joseph Vallencourt has been ailing for several weeks. On last Saturday afternoon ten teams turned out to help him plow his corn.

Frank Enos, son of Mrs. Aurora Enos, has been bed-fast for about two weeks but is now around.

#### **Taken from the Kankakee Gazette July 15, 1880.**

McCuen brothers have a new Adams & French harvester. Several of the farmers would like the same, but are unable to get them. The dealers say that they cannot obtain them for love nor money.

Henry Adams has taken unto himself the darling of his life, Miss Clara Miner; while Chas. W. Streeter and Miss Ella Willett gave the people a general surprise by being hitched in that double harness.

Miss Eliza Huckins intends to start next week to Missouri for a short visit.

The Rev. Mr. Walker will preach in the Streeterville school house next Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. William Sands was buried on last Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Etta Ashman, daughter of Mr. Taft, of Chebanse, died in Chicago last week. She leaves a child about five months old.

Misses Porter and Stebbings have returned from their two weeks' visit near Waldron.

Miss Fannie Huckins has just returned from Fisher, where she has been attending school all summer.

### **LOCAL POTPOURRI**

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, July 15, 1880.**

W. H. Hamilton will next week commence the improvement of the Eagle property, one block east of Emory Cobb's. Two swell fronts and a kitchen will be added, and the interior of the house will undergo some change. Jim expects to occupy it about the first of October, at which time it is said he will transfer his lumber business to this city.

### **KANKAKEE STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY**

**Taken from the Kankakee Daily Journal, August 15, 1996.**

Burials took place in the cemetery at the old Kankakee State Hospital, now Shapiro Developmental Center, from 1879 to 1974. Ira Collins, superintendent at Shapiro, discontinued the burials when he came to Kankakee. Anyone who dies there now is turned over to families for burial. He does not know how many people are buried there. Records are also incomplete on who is buried there. Collins says he occasionally runs across someone who says their relative is buried there, but there is no comprehensive list that translates numbers into names. Most tombstones are poured concrete with a number. Some have names.

Shapiro does maintain the graves by mowing them. When manpower permits, Collins has the tombstones straightened and whitewashed. That happened most frequently in past years, when Shapiro received Job Training Partnership Act funds. Those funds were cut several years ago, and it has been some time since the stones were repaired. Shapiro has also added a fence to separate the graveyard from the road, to deter acts of vandalism.

Collins doesn't know why the graves have a concave appearance. Some were buried with simple pine coffins that may have collapsed. Others, a century ago, may not have had a coffin at all.



## **ROCKVILLE - 1880**

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, July 1, 1880.**

Our good people are rigging themselves out anew with harvesters, carriages, etc. Ben. Goodwin takes to himself a new self-binder. Dan. Durham has also purchased a machine of the same kind. Ed. And Hutch. Durham have bought a new reaper.

Geo. Gordon and Will McIntosh have each invested in a new carriage.

Mrs. Hattie Shreffler has just presented her husband with a new daughter. Tom Murphy has just received a similar present, and, good gracious! I might just go right on telling about new things if -if there were any more to tell of.

Mrs. Mary A. Grimes lost her house by fire last week.

The census taker is through and his victims still survive.

Joel Harter, who went to Kansas a year or more since, has returned with him family. Geo.

Grimes thinks he will visit Dakota, after he harvests his grain, to prospect a while.

## **ESSEX - 1880**

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, July 1, 1880.**

Wm. Gronso has given his house a new coat of paint and has refitted the inside accordingly, and it makes a very cheerful appearance.

Miss Eva Richards, who has been visiting friends at Odell and Pontiac, has returned.

School in district No. 9 will close next Thursday.

Mr. Alonzo Cotton, who went to Colorado last Winter, is expected back in a few days.

Mr. Robert Nelson, formerly a resident of this town, is now living in Coal Town, Col. In a recent letter to his relations here, he stated that they were paying 37% cents per barrel for water, which is hauled from the Arkansas river.

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette July 8, 1880.**

Mr. Schrempf is again canvassing this town with a petition for a saloon. We trust that our citizens will weigh the matter well before allowing their names to appear on a paper of this kind. A Saloon in our town is an unnecessary nuisance.

Mrs. John Riegel, of Kankakee, is in this vicinity visiting her relatives.

Mrs. Maggie Denning (formerly Scroggins) and husband are in Essex visiting friends and relations.

Miss Emma Hoeking has returned from Central City, Colorado. She tells us that the truth is extremely great out there. The demand for water is so great at times that from 10 to 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents per gallon is offered and it cannot be obtained even at these figures.

### **PILOT - 1880**

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, July 15, 1880.**

John Herscher has been improving the looks of the town very much by planting a row of shade trees on each side of every street. Three car-loads of soft maples were required.

We notice some change in our business firms during our three months' absence. Chris Schelling has abandoned his harness shop and has formed a partnership with Martin Enders in the grocery trade. They are a good-looking team, and deserve patronage.

Stowitts and Erwin have recently turned out some new work - a single buggy for Robert Wadleigh and a nice top buggy for Lewis Chally, both creditable jobs.

Chas. Lockwood has recently opened a gentleman's furnishing store. He also has a line of boots and shoes.

Dr. Caldwell has formed a life partnership with a Miss Lyons. of Chicago. Although feeling the discomfiture somewhat, the minds of our "anxious" mammas are now at rest as regards a "catch" in that direction.

The place of the Janneish brothers, who removed some time since, has been taken by Simon Miller, a blacksmith, who came from the town line.

Our blacksmiths, Griffin and Leroy, have dissolved partnership, and will hereafter "play it alone". We cannot foresee the result, but the man who can always be found at his post with a willingness to serve will show the most "trumps," and of course take the most "tricks".

A barn, 26 x 40, is being erected on the old deacon Carpenter farm, now owned by a Mr. Hilton, of Big Flats, New York. John Slater and Sinclair Inkster are the builders.

Two of our townspeople were abused in Cabery on the night of the fifth by having their horses stolen. Thor Thorson lost his cream-colored saddle nag, and William Dunkelbereger a black mare. Thorson's was found near the Vermilion Swamp with one foot disabled. No trace of Dunkelberger's as yet.

A Mrs. Porter, of Chebanse, with two young daughter's is visiting at Eben Hill's.

Joe Bell, of Sheldon, talked temperance at the town house four nights of last week, with a good audience each time. He went to Buckingham on Saturday. A meeting will be held on next Saturday evening to reorganize the blue ribbon club of this place. The young Mr. McLowery addressed an appreciative audience at the town house last night on the same subject.

### **1996 NEW MEMBER SURNAMES**

The following surnames are being researched by our newest members:

Paul Bray	Bray, Van Siccle, Baltazor, Deceil
Pat Burns	Walsh, Larrigan, Ugron, Bouchard, Leitz, LeBeau, Deslauries
Pat Courtney	Courtney, Griffone, Danzer, Dashke, Dolan, Pocahi?, McClerance, Farrel
Robert Degenkolb	Schneider, Ammann, Dohle, Kurtz, Krause, Evans, Conrad, Gross
Peg Dilbone	Woodruff, Rutherford, Burkett, Karr, Grey
Evalena Erzinger	Erzinger, Foreman, Willman
Mary Goyette	Goyette
Lee Hollenbeck	Hollenbeck, Falter, Cook, Bowdle, Bratton
Deloris wan	Rosenfeld, Fillenger, Siemon, Brannock
Linda Janke	Williams, Shaw
Russell Johnson	LeBeau, Boucher, Courville, Haskell
Elvera Leslie	Bossert, Grob, Stehr, Unz, Rehm, Munstwan, Krieg, Feller, Figel, Walter, Meier, Deckmann, Leslie, Curran, French, Stewart, Purdie, Faular, McAlpine, Paris, Thomson, Nepier, Shannon, Morrison, Phillips, McGregor
Paul Marcotte	Marcotte, Coderre
Betty Portier	Kibby, Bradley, Tim
Rea Reed	Reed, Koch, Hamberger, Leitner
Darlene Rettell	LaMontagne, Rettell, Marma
Mary Rosenbrock	Rosenbrock, Zimmermann
Alex Simack	Titus
Charles Tremper	Guertin, Ramsey, Julian, Pierce
Ray Versluys	Versluys, Garrow, Dandurand

## MOMENCE - 1880

**Taken from the Kankakee Gazette, July 1, 1880.**

Mrs. John Shroyer was thrown out of her buggy last week by the sudden fright of her horse and suffered severe injuries. Her arm was broken, her jaw badly bruised, and her hips badly hurt. It is feared, also, that she has sustained internal injuries.

W. W. Parish has been buying some timber land in the Menominee region.

Hattie and Bertie Moran, children of Frank and James Moran, had a narrow escape from downing while returning from Momence after a heavy storm. The horse got into a gully washed out of the road where the water was too deep to afford him foothold. Hattie, with a heroism which would have honored an older person, sprang out into water nearly to her neck and by main strength pulled the horse's head around toward solid ground. The buggy, which was floating, obeyed the impulse, and turned without tipping. The horse then scrambled up the side of the ditch and the little ones were safe.

## KANKAKEE COUNTY SCHOOL RECORDS

**This is the first in a series of Kankakee County School records. This first section is taken from a volume entitled "Register of Orders Drawn" from Manteno 1881-1893.**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>In Whose Favor Drawn</u>	<u>For What Purpose</u>
136	21 Mar 1881	Charles P. Skinner	For school record
137	21 Mar 1881	D. W. Dole	Rubbers for blackboard
137	21 Mar 1881	D. W. Dole	Sundries for schoolhouse
138	21 Mar 1881	Lockie Euzer & Co.	Coal for schoolhouse
139	01 Apr 1881	Township Treasurer	Interest on borrowed money
140	01 Apr 1881	Constant Henricie	Delivering coal for schoolhouse
141	10 May 1881	Charles P. Skinner	School register and broom
142	17 May 1881	Ada A. Richardson	For teaching
143	16 Jun 1881	Ada A. Richardson	For teaching
144	15 Sep 1881	Ada A. Richardson	For teaching
145	27 Sep 1881	Township Treasurer	Interest on Loan
146	27 Sep 1881		
147	01 Nov 1881	Izetta Barnard	For teaching
148	05 Dec 1881	Izetta Barnard	For teaching
149	08 Dec 1881	James R. Lockie	Dictionary & clock for schoolhouse
150	11 Jan 1882	Miss Izetta Barnard	For teaching
151	31 Jan 1882	D. E. Barnard	Delivering coat at schoolhouse
152	10 Feb 1882	Miss Izetta Barnard	For teaching
153	13 Feb 1882	Nora Henrisie	Building fines & repairs on schoolhouse windows
155	21 Mar 1882	Martha J. Hamilton	For cleaning schoolhouse

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>In Whose Favor Drawn</b>	<b>For What Purpose</b>
156	22 Mar 1882	Lockie Euzer & Co.	Furnishing coal for schoolhouse
157	22 Mar 1882	D. W. Dole	Furnishing sundries for schoolhouse
154	21 Mar 1882	Lockie Euzer & Co.	Interest on borrowed money
155	01 May 1882	M. K. Peters	For lumber & posts for school fence
156	08 Jun 1882	Amelia Washburn	For cleaning schoolhouse
157	08 Jun 1882	C. P. Skinner	For crayons & broom
158	10 Jul 1882	Amelia Washburn	For teaching
159	10 Jul 1882	Amelia Washburn	For teaching
160	01 Sep 1882	Leon Euzier	For interest on borrowed money
161	31 Nov 1882	Etta Stocksdale	Teaching
162	31 Nov 1882	Etta Stocksdale	Teaching and crayons
163	08 Jan 1883	L. Euzier	For coal
164	17 Mar 1883	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
165	17 Mar 1883	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
166	17 Mar 1883	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
167	17 Mar 1883	Treasurer of school	Interest on borrowed money
168	30 Mar 1883	Geo. B. Lauren	For making fires
169	06 Jun 1883	Mary E. Shingle	Teaching
170	07 Jul 1883	Mary E. Shingle	Teaching
171	30 Aug 1883	L. Euziere	Coal delivered.
172	30 Aug 1883	L. Euziere	Interest
173	23 Oct 1883	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
174	01 Nov 1883	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
175	15 Dec 1883	F. S. Bonsell	For stove pipe & ?
176	15 Dec 1883	V. W. Lawrence	For cleaning & repairing
177	05 Mar 1884	Edward Guimon	For making fires
178	18 Mar 1884	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
179	18 Mar 1884	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
180	18 Mar 1884	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
181	28 Mar 1884	L. A. & F. Towner	For school order book
182	28 Mar 1884	Leon Euziere	For interest
183	27 Sep 1884	Leon Euziere	For interest
184	31 Oct 1884	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
185	14 Nov 1884	C. P. Skinner	For Eracors & broom
186	14 Dec 1884	David Smith	For calcemining school house
187	14 Dec 1884	Leon Euziere	For coal delivered to school house
188	16 Jan 1885	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
189	16 Jan 1885	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
190	24 Feb 1885	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
191	06 Apr 1885	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
192	06 Apr 1885	Etta Stocksdale	For teaching
193	06 Apr 1885	Geo. R. Lawrence	For making fires 4 months
194	06 Apr 1885	H. B. Johnson	For school crayons
195	06 Apr 1885	Leon Euziere	For interest
196	26 May 1885	Flora Fassett	For teaching one month

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>In Whose Favor Drawn</u>	<u>For What Purpose</u>
197	26 Jun 1885	Flora Fassett	For teaching one month
198	06 Jul 1885	D. E. Barnard	For repair plaster
199	23 Jul 1885	D. E. Barnard	for painting
200	23 Jul 1885	M. Brosseau	For lumber
201	06 Nov 1885	D. W. Dole	For broom, pair dipper, elbow crayons
202	06 Nov 1885	Leon Euziere	For interest
203	06 Nov 1885	Leon Euziere	For coal delivered
204	06 Nov 1885	Katie Stocksdale	For teaching two months
205	21 Nov 1885	Alfred Faries	For insurance five years
	06 Jan 1886	Katie Stocksdale	For teaching
	06 Apr 1886	George Guimon	For making fires
	06 Apr 1886	Katie Stocksdale	For teaching three months
	16 Apr 1886	Leon Euziere	For interest
110	12 Jul 1886	John Mincier	For teaching two months
111	01 Oct 1886	Leon Euziere	For coal delivery
112	01 Oct 1886	Leon Euziere	For interest
113	13 Nov 1886	John Minsier	For teaching
114	13 Nov 1886	Mose Brosseau	For lumber and posts
115	13 Nov 1886	V. H. Lawrence	For making fence & furnishing nails
116	01 Jan 1887	John Minsier	For teaching
117	31 Jan 1887	John Minsier	For teaching
118	31 Jan 1887	John Minsier	For teaching & crayons
119	31 Jan 1887	L. Euziere	For interest
120	31 Jan 1887	D. W. Dole	For grate and repair
121	02 Jul 1887	L. A. Towner	For register and broom
122	02 Jul 1887	Jennie Farley	For teaching two months
123	09 Jan 1888	C. P. Skinner	For erasers and crayons
124	09 Jan 1888	Grace Avery	For teaching one month
125	24 Jan 1888	L. Euziere	For coal delivered
126	09 Feb 1888	Grace Avery	For teaching
127	02 Mar 1888	Grace Avery	For teaching
128	02 Mar 1888	Henry Guimon	For geniter service 3 months
129	21 Apr 1888	L. Euziere	For interest
130	02 May 1888	Leon Euziere	For interest
131	02 Jun 1888	Mille Brasher	For teaching 3 months, broom & crayons
132	15 Oct 1888	D. W. Dole	For coal delivery
133	15 Oct 1888	L. Euziere	For interest
134	12 Jan 1889	Wm. Townsend	For rep. windows, stove pipe
135	29 Mar 1889	Katie Moran	For teaching four months
136	29 Mar 1889	L. Euziere	For interest
137	29 Mar 1889	Joseph Guimon	For making fires four months
138	07 Sep 1889	Etta Stocksdale	Forteaching 2 months, broom, pail & crayons

..... to be continued.

the development of the country wherever these lands were situated, as purchasers instead of paying for their lands and taking deeds for them from the company kept renewing their contracts for no other reason than to evade the payment of taxes, and in 1873 the legislature passed a law requiring the trustees of the road to offer all unsold lands at public auction every six months. The enactment of this law caused many deeds to be taken soon after. The choice lands of the railroad company had all been taken prior to 1873.

Messrs. Charles H. Wood and A. S. Palmer bought large tracts of land from this company, situated in Kankakee county and successfully evaded the taxes for years. Mr. George W. Danforth subsequently purchased the remainder of the railroad lands and should be given credit for the fact that he paid taxes on all land purchased by him as soon as the title vested in him.

The incorporators of the road were Robert Schuyler; George Griswold, Joseph W. Alsop, Leroy Wiley, Henry Grinnell, William H. Aspinwall, F. A. Sanford, George W. Ludlow, Robert Rantoul, Jr., Jonathan Sturgis, Franklin Haven, Gouverneur Morris and David A. Neal. With the exception of William H. Aspinwall, each of the incorporators became a director, comprising the first board.

The selection of the lands for the road was made by David A. Neal and Roswell B. Mason and, with the exception of a small portion the work was completed and certified March 13, 1852. The lands within the railroad limits, which had been withdrawn from the market pending such selection, were soon put on the market again by executive proclamation.

In return for this enormous grant and franchise the company was required to pay into the state treasury on the first Monday of June and December of each year seven per cent of the gross proceeds of the road. This money was to be applied on the interest bearing state indebtedness until it should be extinguished. The constitution makes this a perpetual obligation and provides that after the extinction of the state debt the revenue from this source shall be used to defray the ordinary expenses of the state.

At the time of the first meeting of the company in March, 1851, there were but ninety-eight miles of railroad in the state and this was laid with strap iron. The first engineering party was organized in Chicago, May 21, 1851,

and commenced the preliminary surveys of the Chicago branch, and by the middle of summer seven other surveying parties were in the field at Freeport, LaSalle, Bloomington, Decatur, Urbana and Cairo. The survey of the whole line was completed before the end of the year. The work of construction was begun at Cairo and LaSalle about, Christmas time.. The first contract for grading was from Chicago to Calumet (Kensington), and this section was opened for travel by the middle of May, 1852.

A long contest ensued with the city of Chicago for the privilege of entering the city along the line of the shore of Lake Michigan and it was not until the 14th of June that the city council passed an ordinance granting the necessary permission.

We subjoin the following facts relating to the completion of the Chicago branch, which were first published in the Chicago Daily Press of November, 1856:

"Dates of opening of the road by sections: Chicago to Calumet, 14 miles, May 15, 1852; Calumet to Kankakee, 42 miles, July 14, 1853; Kankakee to Spring Creek, 31 miles, December 2, 1853; Spring Creek to Pera, 22 miles, May 28, 1854; Pera to Urbana (Champaign), 20 miles, July 24, 1854; Champaign to Mattoon, 44 miles, June 25, 1855; Mattoon to Centralia, 77 miles, September 27, 1856. The main line from Cairo to LaSalle, 309 miles in length, was completed January 8, 1855. The Galena branch from La Salle to Dunleith, 147 miles, was completed June 12, 1855. The cost of the entire line was \$36,500,000. The capital stock of the company was \$29,000,000.

The total length of road built was 533 miles. Estimating the grant of lands to be 3,840 acres to the mile, a total of 2,046,720 acres of land was given to aid the construction of the road. The probabilities are that the proceeds from the sale of the land netted the company double the original cost of the road. However, this grant, munificent as it was, resulted in great benefit to the state in that it caused a more rapid settlement of the country.

The first railroad bridge across the river at Kankakee was of wood and so constructed as to allow the passage of teams over the lower section and was used as a toll bridge for some time. The bridge now spanning the river at this point is a steel structure and is the second

iron bridge constructed at this point.

This road has nine passenger trains passing through the county each way daily, and has in addition recently inaugurated an inter-urban system with an addition of four trains each way daily. This service extends from Chicago as far south as Paxton, and plans are now being made to extend it to Mattoon, thus making it one of the longest inter-urban systems in the United States.

The Big Four uses the Illinois Central tracks from Kankakee to Chicago, running three passenger trains each way, daily. This makes Kankakee a passenger service of sixteen trains each way daily.

The first payment this company made to the state treasury on account of the seven per cent gross earnings of the road for the six months ending October 31, 1855, was \$29,751.59, and the payment for the six months ending June 30, 1905, was \$534,458.17. The road has paid into the State treasury from March 24, 1855, to June 30, 1905, the enormous sum of \$23,257,348.81.

The brick passenger depot erected in the winter of 1897 at East avenue and Merchant street takes the place of the old frame structure erected in 1854, which stood at Station street.

Taken from the engineering reports of the road are the following figures relative to the altitude of the different portions of the county. The measurements are made at the base of the rails of the main track: Chicago, 593 feet above sea-level; Manteno, 690; Kankakee, 624; Otto, 633; Chebanse, 671.

#### CHICAGO & EASTERN ILLINOIS.

The Chicago, Danville & Vincennes railroad was chartered by the legislature of this state February, 1865, to construct a railroad southerly through this state.

In 1868, Joseph E. Young and his associates became actively engaged in carrying out the project and built the road as far south as Danville in 1871. This road enters the county on the north line of Yellowhead township near the half section line of section five, passes southerly through the town of Yellowhead and the east corporate limits of the village of Momence and southerly through the east corporate limits of the village of St. Anne, passing through the towns of Ganeer and St. Anne, making a diversion of four and one-half miles to the west in its course through the county.

The township of St. Anne voted to aid the

construction of the Chicago, Danville & Vincennes railroad by the issue of \$30,000 of bonds of the township. These bonds were never delivered, mainly because it was an enormous indebtedness, and the township being at that time very poor; indeed the people thought they would never be able to pay the bonds at maturity. At this time almost everywhere in Illinois townships sought to escape their undertakings and took advantage of every flaw and error in the proceedings under which aid had been given to railroads to escape their liability. The litigation between the town of St. Anne and the railroad company was more extensive and severe than that of any other township in this county and some of it was extremely sensational. There was a decree of the circuit court of this county, made in a chancery suit brought by the town of St. Anne, annulling the vote of the township for the aid voted, alleging it was of no value to the town. There was a suit upon the bonds which had been taken out of the hands of the circuit clerk, where they had rested under the decree, under a writ of replevin by the town of St. Anne, and were burned by the town authorities. This suit was tried in the circuit court of the United States in Chicago, before; Judge Gresham, and was decided for the township, thus ending the litigation.

The building of this road was a great boon to the communities through which it passed, giving to these thickly settled portions of the country much needed railroad facilities. This road runs almost parallel to the Illinois Central and took from this road a vast amount of business.

To this road was given town aid as follows: Yellowhead, \$18,000; Momence, \$24,000; Ganeer, \$24,000. This amount was issued in bonds and the proceeds turned over to the railroad.

Some years later this road built a branch southeasterly from Momence to Brazil, Ind., known as the "Coal Branch," and passing through the townships of Momence and Pembroke.

The total length of main track in this county is thirty-two miles, there being a double track on the main line. There are twenty-two miles of side track. The total assessed valuation for 1904 was \$296,290 and the tax was \$12,873.57.

The elevation of the rail base above the sea level is as follows: Chicago, 592 feet; Sollitt,



711 feet; Grant Park, 697 feet; Momence, 632 feet; St. Anne, 658 feet.

#### CINCINNATI, LAFAYETTE & CHICAGO.

This road, commonly known as the "Big Four," was chartered April 19, 1871, to run from Kankakee southeasterly, via Waldron and St. Anne in this county, to the state line in Iroquois county, connecting with other roads, thus making a through line to Cincinnati from Kankakee. Of this road Mr. Thomas P. Bonfield says: In February, 1865, the Chicago, Danville & Vincennes, now known as the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad was chartered by the legislature of this state to construct a railroad from Chicago south through this state.

In 1868, Joseph E. Young and his associates were actively engaged in measures to carry out this project as far south as Danville, passing through the east side of the county, through the towns of Yellowhead, Ganeer, Momence and St. Anne. This section of the county was then of the utmost importance to the city of Kankakee on account of the trade derived there from and the prospective loss of business stirred the business men of Kankakee to activity. A consultation of the business men in regard to the matter resulted in an understanding that an attempt be made to make an arrangement with Mr. Young and his associates, if possible, to drop their plan to enter Chicago by the way of Dalton and to start their line from Kankakee and go southeasterly, meeting their survey at or near St. Anne. It was the sense of the meeting that the citizens of Kankakee could afford to vote a large issue of bonds if necessary to aid it. It was considered important to secure the co-operation of the Illinois Central railroad in this undertaking that it might offer important concessions for the entrance of the proposed line into Chicago over their road.

Isaac N. Dickson, then a part owner of the grist-mill and water power at Kankakee, was sent to Chicago to consult with the officials of the Illinois Central. He conferred with Marvin Hughitt, now president of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, at that time general manager of the Illinois Central. Mr. Hughitt entered cordially into the scheme with the Kankakeeans and to put the matter in practical shape directed Mr. Dickson to return to Kankakee and have Mr. Thos. P. Bonfield draft a charter for the construction of a railroad from Kankakee to the Indiana state line in the general

direction of Cincinnati. This draft *was* to be sent to Mr. E. S. Taylor, a member of the legislature from Cook county, who was to see to its passage by the legislature. It was also agreed that Mr. Hughitt was to negotiate with Mr. Young and his associates for this change in the route of the C. D. & V. R. R.

The plan was to have the road run southeasterly from Kankakee to strike the survey of the proposed C. D. & V. R. R. at a point near St. Anne and to consolidate the two roads at that point, abandoning the entrance into Chicago along the survey of the C. D. & V. R. R.

Mr. Bonfield drafted the bill and the Illinois Central took charge of its passage and the act became a law, April 19, 1869, chartering the company under the name of the Kankakee & Indiana railroad. However, Mr. Young and his associates could not be induced to abandon their plan for an independent Chicago entrance. The road nevertheless proceeded to organize with C. W. Knott as president and C. W. Knott, T. P. Bonfield, H. Loring, W. G. Swannell, James Byrns and Frank Donovan as directors.

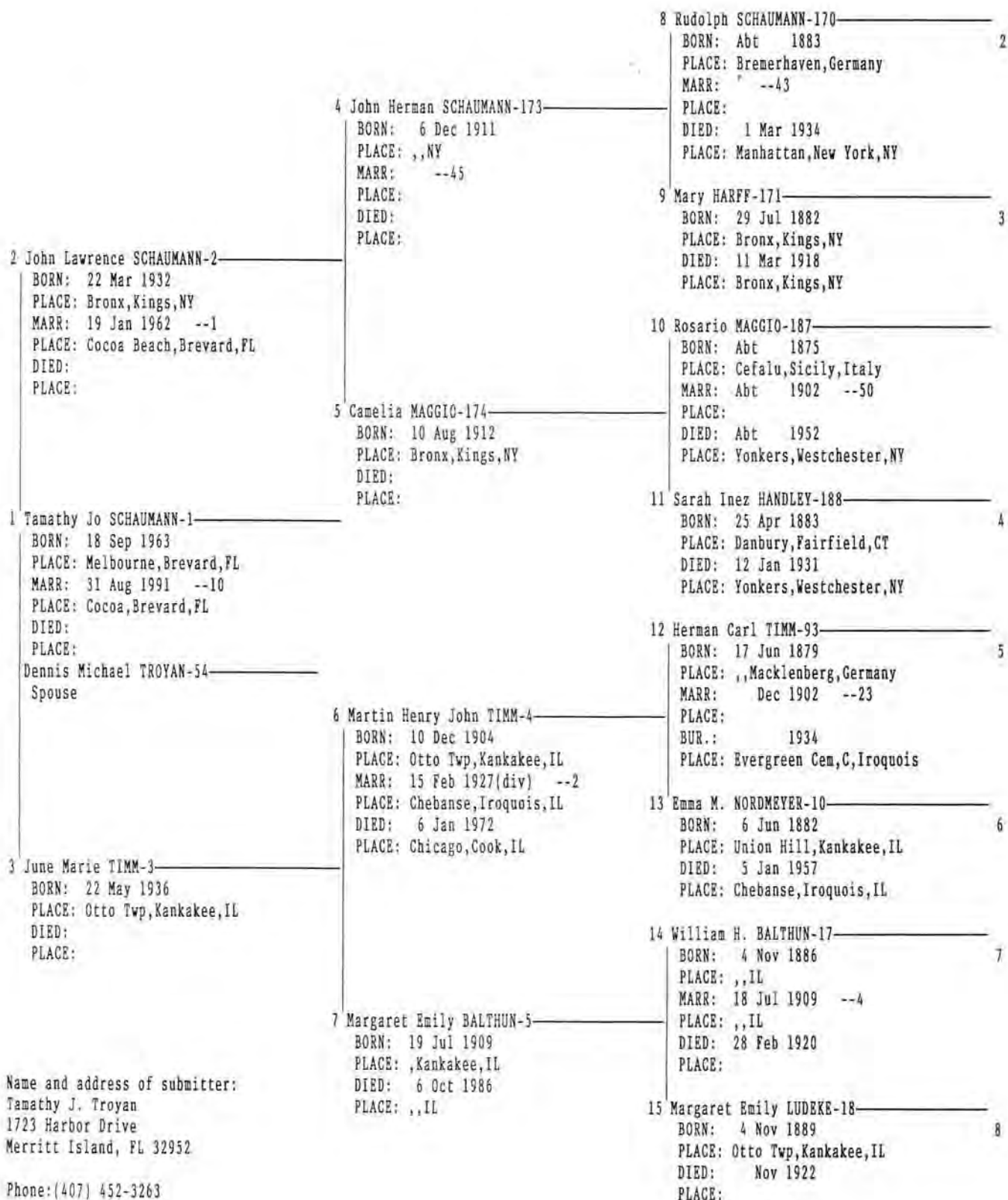
The directors of the road having faith that they could build their railway and make a valuable connection with some railway entering Chicago, obtained a vote of the township of Kankakee to aid the project with bonds to the amount of \$30,000. Aroma township voted \$35,000 in bonds for the same purpose. With these bonds the directors hoped to be able to make some arrangements to give Kankakee a southeasterly line somewhere.

Adam Earl and Moses Fowler of Lafayette, bankers and large landowners, were anxious to construct a railway northwesterly from Lafayette to connect with some railroad leading into Chicago. They organized a railroad company in Indiana to construct a railroad from Templeton on the Lake Erie & Western railroad to the Illinois state line at Sheldon, and also a railroad from Sheldon to St. Anne. They consolidated these two lines and then entered into a contract with the directors of the Kankakee & Indiana railroad to construct and bridge the road bed to St. Anne which they (the Earl and Fowler people) would tie and iron, securing the money by means of a mortgage loan. The amount voted as a bond issue, \$65,000.00, was almost sufficient to accomplish the construction of the roadbed to St. Anne. This arrangement

PEDIGREE CHART

19 Nov 1993

Chart no. 1



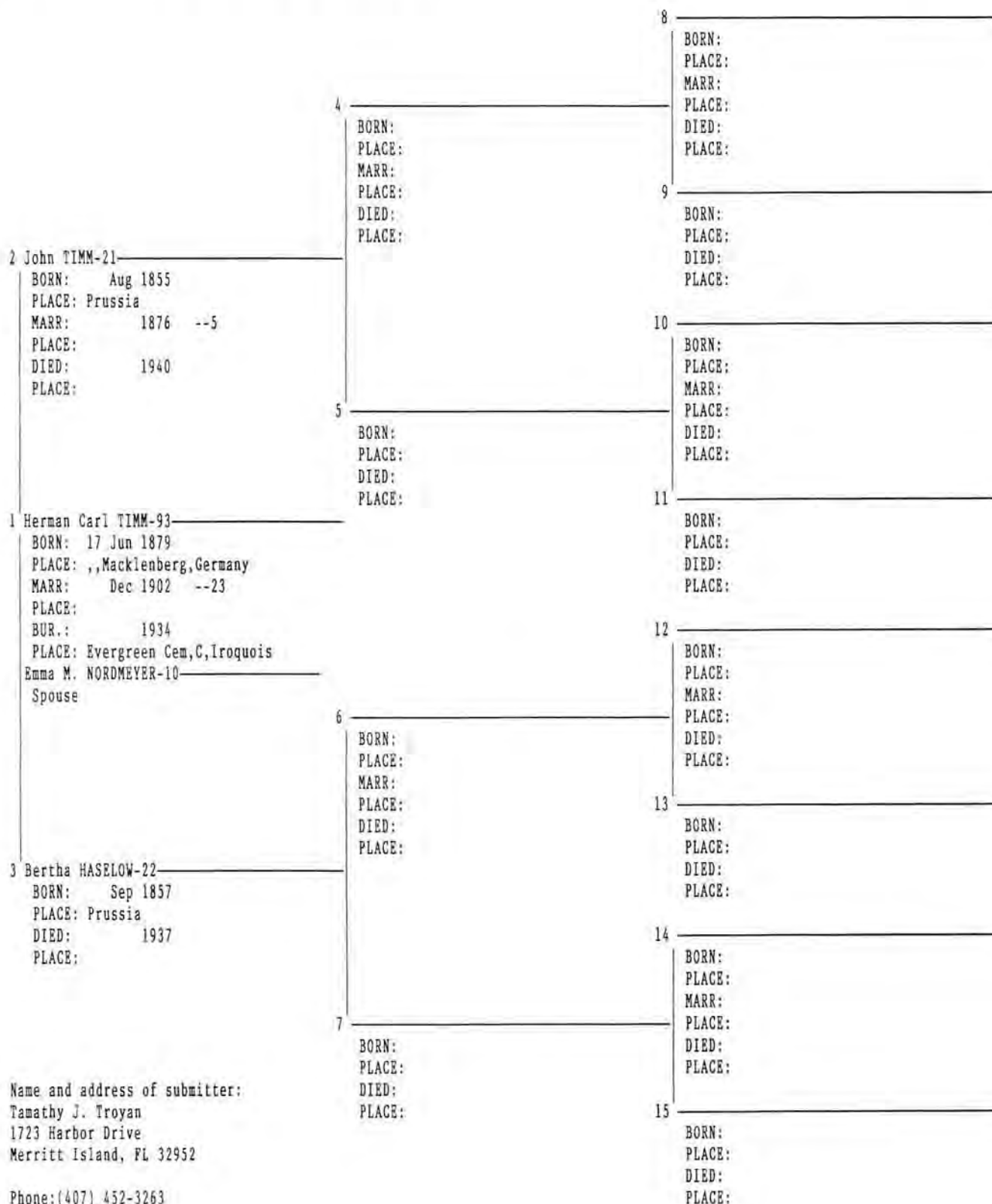
Name and address of submitter:  
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Chart no. 5

Number 1 on this chart is the same as no. 12 on chart no. 1



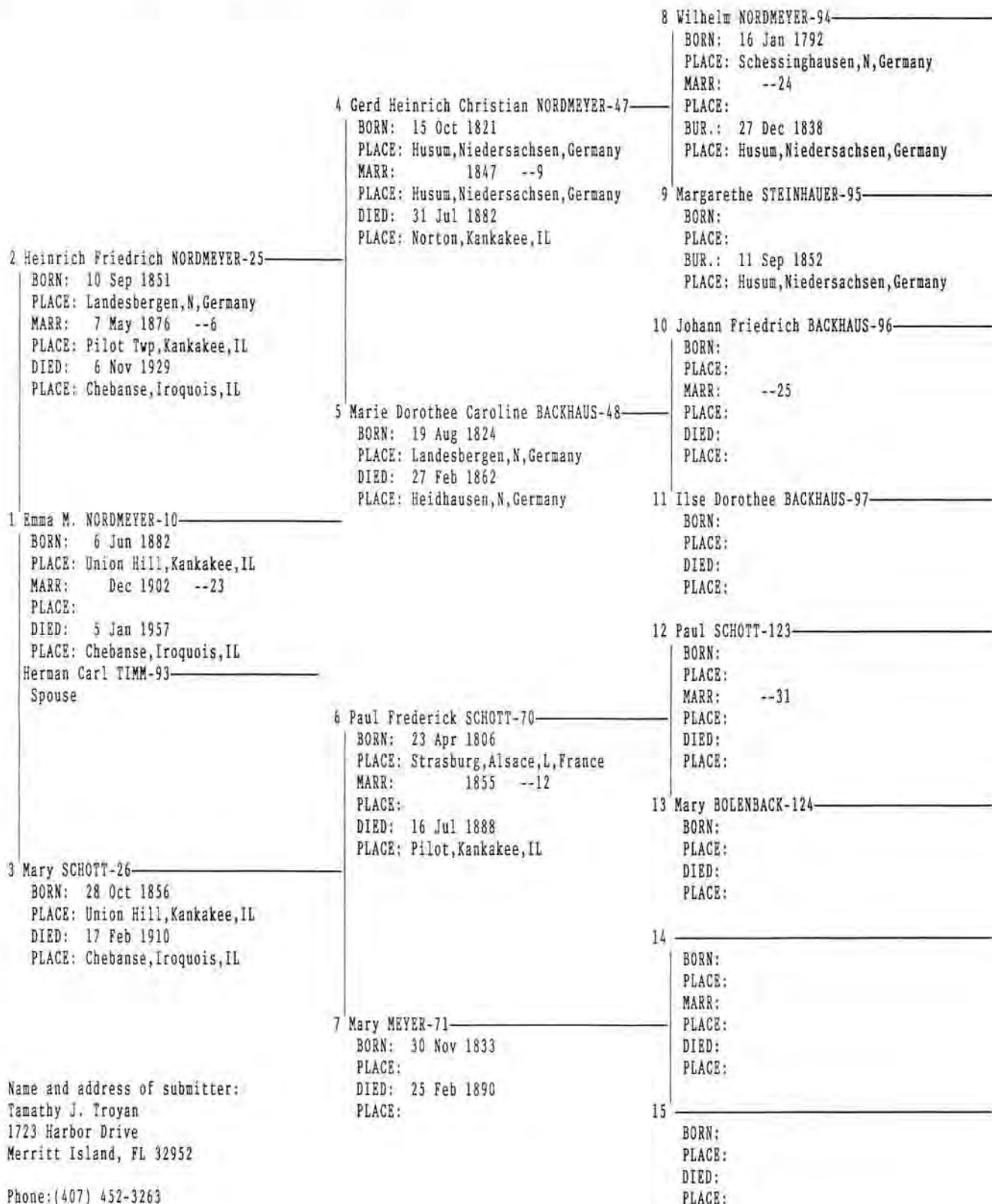
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Chart no. 6

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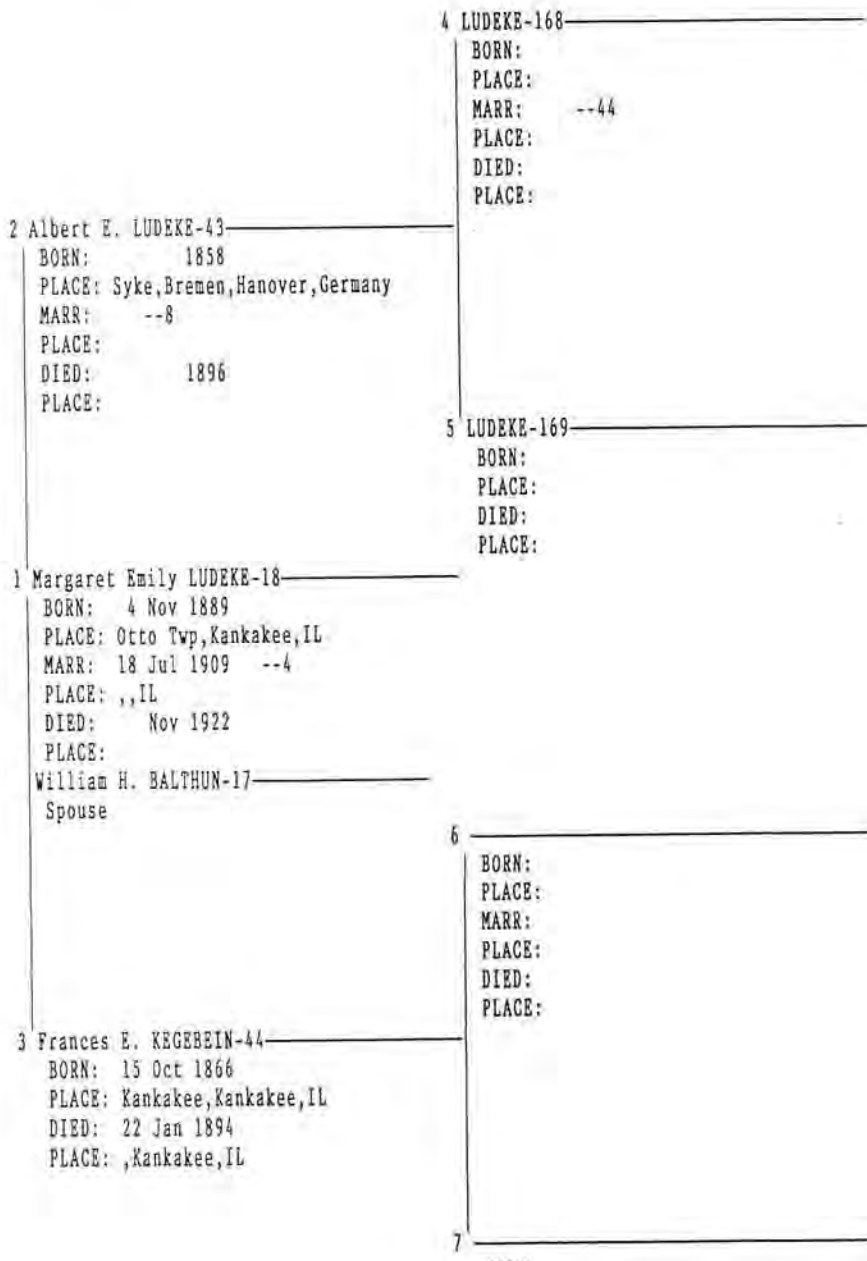
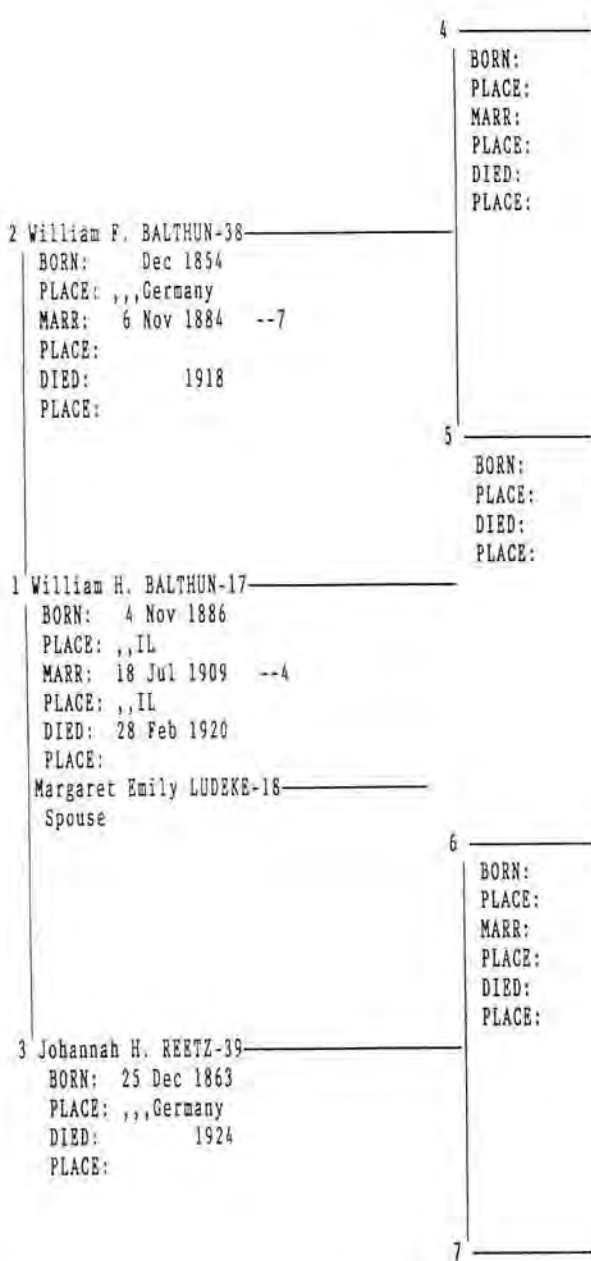
19 Nov 1993

Number 1 on this chart is the same as no. 14 on chart no. 1

Number 1 on this chart is the same as no. 15 on chart no. 1

Chart no. 7

Chart no. 8



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## MEMBER INQUIRIES

Listed below are various questions directed to the society by out-of-town members. I'll also include with this column basic information that might be helpful to all new members.

Regarding where to write for various records, the following list should be helpful. The County Courthouse isn't the only location for records you may be searching for.

<u>Type of Record</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Location</u>
Birth, Marriage & Deaths	County Clerk's Office	189 E. Court St. Kankakee, IL 60901
Probate & Naturalizations	Circuit Clerk's Office	450 E. Court St. Kankakee, IL 60901
Deeds	Recorder's Office	189 E. Court St. Kankakee, IL 60901

Cost for birth, marriage and death records is \$7.00 per record. Naturalization records cost \$1.00 for the first page and \$0.50 for each succeeding page. It is best to write to the Circuit Clerk's office and tell them exactly what you're looking for. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and they will let you know the exact cost. The first vital records kept in the county were the marriage records which start in 1853. The death records weren't kept until 1877 and the births until 1878.

The society's genealogy collection is housed at the Bourbonnais Public Library, 250 W. John Casey Dr., Bourbonnais, IL 60914. There is an even larger collection housed at the Kankakee Public Library, 2nd Floor, 304 S. Indiana Ave., Kankakee, IL 60901. The Kankakee Library has a good collection of city directories. After 1900, you can find directories for most years. Prior to the turn of the century, there were only two city directories done, in 1876 and 1896.

Whether you write a letter for genealogical assistance to the Kankakee or Bourbonnais Libraries, these letter will be directed to the society. Research meetings are held once a month where members of the society will look up information from our own publications. The society requests a donation of \$10.00 plus expenses for a trip to the libraries or vital record offices.

### **Member Inquiries:**

Linda Janke writes, "Is your cemetery records book for Limestone Township available yet?" Unfortunately it isn't ready yet but will be by this summer.

Many members have asked for our assistance in obtaining church records. Unfortunately we don't have any control as far as church records are concerned. We have approached many of the older churches in the areas and asked to copy their records. Asbury United Methodist Church and Manteno Methodist Church gave us their permission and these records have been copied and will become publications. St. James Church in Irwin would not give us permission to copy their records. Maternity BVM Church allowed us to copy death records only and that publication has been in great demand over the years. We are still optimistic we will someday be able to publish the birth and marriage records. For all members who have ancestors associated with this church, please write and request this information. The more inquiries they have, the greater the chance they may see the value in allowing us to publish these records.

.....to be continued

## THEAKIKI INDEX - VOLUME 27 #1

Adams - 10, 11, 14	Cantway - 13	Enderson - 10	Grob - 17
Ainsworth - 13	Carpenter - 16	Engelland - 7	Gronso - 15
Allen - 7	Casper - 13	Enos - 13	Gross - 17
Ammann - 17	Chancellor - 9	Enright - 4	Gruver - 13
Arnold - 10	Charbonneau - 7	Erwin - 16	Guertin - 17
Ashman - 14	Chipman - 13	Erzinger - 8, 10, 17	Guimon - 19, 20
Aspinwall - 21	Christian - 9, 10	Euzer - 18, 19	Hamberger - 17
Avery - 20	Clark - 12	Euzier - 19	Hamilton - 14, 18
Bachant - 12	Clark - 7	Euziere - 20	Handley - 24
Backhaus - 26	Cobb - 14	Evans - 17	Handtke - 8
Baltazor - 17	Coderre - 17	Ewing - 8	Hanna - 12
Balthun - 24, 27	Cole - 7	Falter - 17	Hansen - 10
Barnacle - 12	Collins - 14	Faries - 20	Harff - 24
Barnard - 10, 18, 20	Conrad - 17	Farley - 20	Harter - 15
Ba <sup>y</sup> st - 12	Conture - 10	Farrel - 17	Haselow - 25
Beachler - 7	Cook - 17	Fassett - 19, 20	Haskell - 17
Beaupre - 10	Cooke - 7	Faular - 17	Hatch - 11
Beebe - 7	Cooper - 7	Feller - 17	Haven - 21
Bell - 16	Cote - 7	Figei - 17	Hawkins - 12
Benjamin - 8	Cotton - 15	Fillenger - 17	Hawley - 7
Benoit - 10	Courtney - 17	Fisher - 4	Helms - 8
Bergeron - 11	Courville - 17	Flemming - 10	Hennessy - 10
Bissonette - 10	Crater - 12	Force - 7	Henrisie - 18
Blackstone - 12	Curran - 17	Ford - 7	Herbert - 12
Blanchette - 12	Cutler - 7	Foreman - 17	Herscher - 16
Blount - 12	Dandurand - 17	Fortin - 11	Hilton - 16
Bolenback - 26	Danforth - 21	Fortune - 7	Hoeking - 16
Bonfield - 23	Danzer - 17	Fowler - 23	Hollenbeck - 17
Bonsell - 19	Dashke - 17	Franklin - 8	Holmes - 7
Bossert - 17	Deceil - 17	French - 17	Holt - 11
Bouchard - 12, 17	Deckmann - 17	Friot - 8	Horan - 8
Boucher - 17	Degenkolb - 5, 17	Frith - 12	Howe - 12
Bourke - 10	Delude - 9	Froehlich - 9	Huckins - 13, 14
Bowdle - 17	Demarse - 8	Garrow - 17	Hughitt - 23
Bradbury - 10	DeMers - 8	Gauthier - 9	Huot - 8
Bradley - 9, 17	Denning - 15	Geddes - 7	Hyer - 12
Brannock - 17	Dennis - 12	Gelina - 12	Iwan - 17
Bratton - 17	Denny - 10	Gelino - 12	Janery - 13
Bray - 7, 17	Deslauries - 17	Gervais - 9	Janke - 17
Breault - 8	Dickson - 23	Giffin - 8	Janneish - 16
Bronson - 10	Diehl - 12	Gilkerson - 12	Jeffrey - 13
Brosseau - 20	Dilbone - 17	Glau - 7	Johnson - 17, 19
Brown - 11, 13	Dodge - 9	Godfrey - 6	Jones - 7
Buche - 13	Dohle - 17	Goodwin - 15	Joubarn - 13
Bunkelberger - 16	Dolan - 17	Gordon - 15	Joubert - 8
Bunte - 9	Dole - 18, 19, 20	Gousette - 13	Julian - 17
Burke - 7	Donovan - 23	Goyette - 17	Karr - 17
Burkett - 17	Dougherty - 11	Granger - 10	Kegebein - 27
Burns - 17	Ducharme - 7	Green - 12	Kelsey - 12
Burr - 10	Durham - 15	Grey - 17	Kestner - 7
Burroughs - 4	Durstun - 9	Griffin - 16	Kibby - 17
Butler - 13	Eagle - 12	Griffith - 12	Kittell - 12
Byrns - 23	Earl - 23	Griffone - 17	Klein - 13
Caldwell - 16	Easley - 9	Grimes - 15	Knecht - 12
Callahan - 12	Enders - 16	Griswold - 21	Knight - 13

Knott - 12, 23	Meyer - 13, 26	Robinson - 10	Swannell - 23
Koch - 17	Mincier - 20	Roeth - 10	Taft - 14
Koon - 10	Miner - 10, 14	Rolls - 10	Taylor - 12, 23
Krause - 17	Moisant - 11	Rondy - 12	Templeton - 12
Krieg - 17	Monblo - 10	Rooney - 7	Thesenvitz - 7
Kroehler - 6	Moran - 18, 20	Rosenbrock - 17	Thibodeau - 9
Kurtz - 17	Morris - 21	Rosenfeld - 17	Thomson - 17
Lacomb - 8	Morrison - 17	Rowcliffe - 7	Thorson - 16
Lagesse - 4	Moser - 7	Rutherford - 17	Tim - 17
Lagevik - 4	Mullen - 13	Sands - 14	Timm - 24, 25
LaMontagne - 17	Mulso - 7	Sanford - 21	Titus - 17
Landis - 4	Munstwan - 17	Savoie - 10	Towner - 19, 20
LaPlante - 9, 10	Murphy - 5, 7, 15	Schaumann - 24	Tremper - 17
Large - 7	Muth - 7	Schelling - 16	Trombly - 10
Larrigan - 17	Neal - 21	Schneider - 17	Troyan - 24, 25, 26
Lauren - 19	Nelson - 12, 15	Schosser - 10	Tschiell - 13
Lawrence - 19, 20	Nepier - 17	Schott - 26	Tupper - 12
LeBeau - 9, 17	Nichols - 4, 12	Schrempf - 15	Turner - 7
Leitner - 17	Nordmeyer - 24, 26	Schur - 10	Udell - 9
Leitz - 17	Norman - 7	Schuyler - 21	Ugron - 17
Leroy - 16	Normandie - 11	Scobey - 12	Unz - 17
Leslie - 17	Otis - 7	Scroggins - 15	Vallencourt - 13
Letourneau - 7, 11	Owens - 7	Seaver - 4	Van Siccle - 17
Licht - 11	Paddock - 10	Shannon - 17	Vanderkarr - 7
Linehag - 10	Pallissard - 10	Shaw - 17	Versluys - 17
Litherland - 7	Palmer - 10, 21	Shingle - 19	Walker - 14
Lockie - 12, 18	Papin - 10	Shreffler - 15	Walsh - 17
Lockwood - 16	Paris - 17	Shroyer - 18	Walter - 17
Loiselle - 7	Parish - 18	Siemon - 17	Walton - 10
Loring - 23	Parker - 7, 12	Sievers - 7	Warden - 12
Loudermilk - 7	Parman - 7	Simack - 17	Washburn - 19
Ludeke - 24, 27	Peltier - 8	Sinclair - 16	Washington - 5
Ludlow - 21	Perry - 13	Sippel - 10	Weimer - 7
Lynch - 10	Peters - 19	Sizer - 12	Wellington - 6
Lyons - 16	Phillips - 17	Skinner - 18, 19, 20	Widrels - 10
Mabon - 7	Piatt - 10	Slack - 7	Wieland - 8
Madden - 7	Pierce - 17	Slaney - 7	Wilcox - 7
Madison - 7	Pocahi? - 17	Slater - 16	Willett - 10, 14
Maggio - 24	Pommier - 10	Smith - 19	Williams - 17
Mailloux - 7, 9	Porter - 14, 16	Smith - 8, 13	Willman - 17
Mal by - 12	Porter - 9, 17	Sommers - 7	Wood - 21
Maple - 4	Potter - 12	Soulinger - 13	Woodruff - 17
Marcotte - 8, 9, 17	Pratt - 7	Spencer - 12	Wooster - 13
Marma - 17	Purdie - 17	Stadler - 4	Wright - 13
Mathy - 7	Ramsey - 17	Stanford -	Young - 22, 23
Matthews - 7	Rantous - 21	Stang - 2, 4	Younglove - 12
McAlpine - 17	Rapp - 10, 11	Stebbins - 14	Zimmermann - 17
McClerance - 17	Ravens - 4	Stehr - 17	
McCormick - 12	Reed - 17	Steinhauer - 26	
McCuen - 13	Reetz - 27	Stevens - 7, 10	
McDonald - 12	Rehm - 17	Stewart - 17	
McGregor - 17	Reno - 7	Stocksdale - 20	
McIntosh - 15	Rettell - 17	Stocksdale - 19	
McLowery - 16	Rexford - 12	Stowitts - 16	
McNaught - 7	Richard - 13	Streeter - 14	
Meier - 4, 17	Richards - 7, 15	Streter - 10	
Mellanson - 10	Richardson - 12, 18	Sturgis - 21	
Mercier - 9	Riegel - 9, 15	Stuyer - 12	
Mercure - 9	Rivard - 11	Styles - 10	