

May the hard work, the foresight, the determination, the inventiveness, and the ingenuity of our pioneer ancestors serve as an inspiration to us in preserving what we can of their rich heritage. We dedicate our work to their memory.

Join Our Membership Now!

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- Family \$15
- Individual Life \$100
- Family Life \$150

Family History Division
Must be a general member.

- Individual \$5
- Family \$7
- Individual Life \$50
- Family Life \$100

Dues are valid January 1- December 31 of current year. Membership includes free copies of *The Newcomer*.

The Newcomer

A publication of the NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. BOX 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Newcomer

The Newcomer is a publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. A 501(3)c approved organization.

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What's On Our Agenda . . .

The Newton County Historical Society meets every fourth Monday of each month, on the same day, the Family History Division meets at 1:00 at the Resource Center in Kentland and the Society general meetings are held in different locations in the County at 7:00 p.m. Local members are notified of the place and time each month. Don't Forget - Memberships Make Great Gifts!!

New Resource Center Hours - all CST - Monday 11:00-3:00; Thursday, 1:00-5:00; Friday 11:00-3:00.

We'd Like Your Input!! We are looking for suggestions for stories, articles and pictures for our next edition of *The Newcomer*. We know that there are many stories of our past ancestors and their way of life that are just waiting to be told! This newsletter is designed to do just that!! If you would like to write an article, submit a photo, contact the editor or a member of our society.

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

The Newcomer

A publication of the NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
Indiana's YOUNGEST County

Volume 14, Issue Two
Spring 2009 - \$2.25

In this issue . . .
 "Hoosier Hunting Ground"
Reveals Historic Facts

On Line With Our Officers
Spring Brings Plenty of Activity

Herbs, Plants and Trees of the
Beaver Lake and Black Marsh Area

Society Members Visit
Turkey Foot and Bull Foot Groves

Lake Village Gas Station, 1944

Focus On Newton County Families
The Steinbachs of Kentland

Quill and Ink
Vic Carlson's Memories
and Poetry from Nancy Lopp

Historical Facts Abound in Bill Bat's "Hoosier Hunting Ground or The Beaver Lake Trail"

Submitted by Beth Bassett

When Bill Bat penned "Hoosier Hunting Grounds or The Beaver Lake Country," he combined the knowledge he obtained while growing up hunting, trapping and scouting the area, with the known facts regarding the plant and animal life that flourished within the 36,000 acres. Bill Bat, aka John Alter, was born on February 14, 1853 in Union Township, Jasper County, Indiana. At the time of the writing of this book in 1904, he was but 49 years old. The Alter Riverside Farm was within a few hours walk of the Beaver Lake Country, but the youthful John Alter spent his days, after the chores were finished I believe, seeking out adventure in this territory that bordered his home.

Quoting his grandson, Cecil E. Alter, "More than an author, John Alter was a naturalist. He probably knew every bird, fish and animal by its first name. He was a farmer, a surveyor (the present Jasper

County Courthouse was erected while he was the county surveyor), and probably above all he was an entertainer and noted lecturer."

Having said that, I bring you excerpts from Mr. Alter's book that give an accurate depiction of trappers/hunters of the day, as well as the flora, fowl and fauna that could be found in the Newton/Jasper county area in 1840, specifically in the Beaver Lake Country.

Life as a Trapper/Hunter in the Beaver Lake Country, 1840

Trapping mink and muskrats in spring and autumn; spearing the rats in the winter months in their houses was an interesting sport, as well as a paying business.

Deer were plentiful and many were killed for food.

Hogs also ran wild in the woods that became fat on acorns, hazelnuts and the marsh dogfish. In late autumn, each man went to the woods and with well trained dogs and/or a good rifle, got his number and sometimes more of these tasty hogs.

The dogfish was not considered a very good eating fish, as the meat was soft, more so in hot weather, but the addition of salt made it palatable.

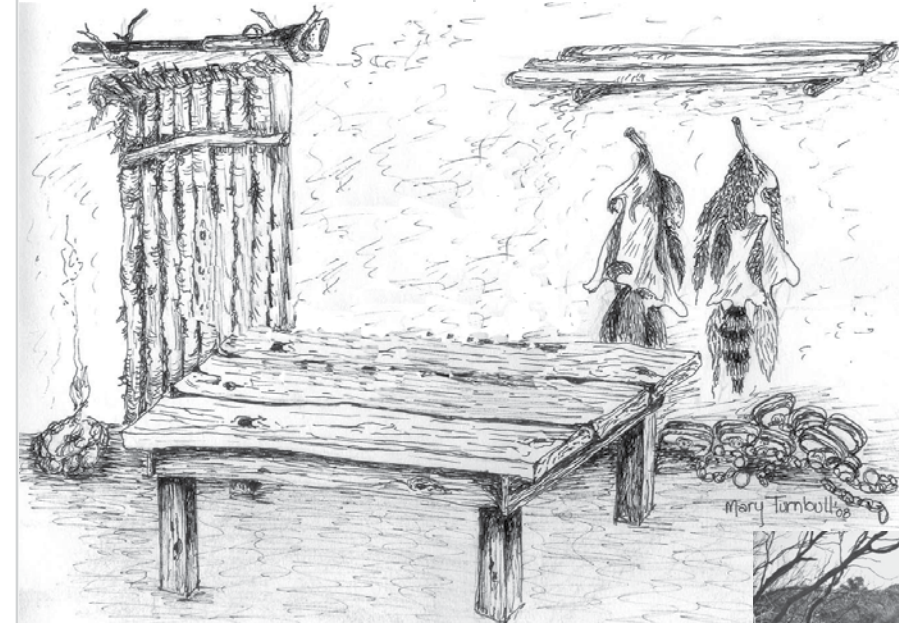
The garb of the trapper/hunter varied with the temperatures as it does with today's hunter. The wardrobe usually consisted of buckskin breeches and shirt or denim trousers with a hickory blouse. The best footwear for the Beaver Lake Country would have been a pair of cowhide boots, and for his head, a coonskin cap.

His gear would consist of his rifle or shotgun, a large knife held by a scabbard attached to his belt; a powder horn and bullet pouch that would hang under the arm.

He would also carry a tinderbox and flint; a smoking pipe and tobacco.

His encampment, called "dugout" or camp, would have been built in the side of a hill. An open water well or spring would be dug at the foot of the hill, providing water for cooking and cleaning. These open wells did not have covers, and

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The hunter/trapper's dugout may have appeared as shown here. The interior picture was drawn by Mary Turnbull, and appeared in Mr. Bat's book. The picture of a dugout, right, may be a bit more elaborate than what is described in the book, but this gives you an idea as to its possible appearance.





Simply titled "a trapper" in the 1985 History of Jasper County, this man appears to have come from a hunting expedition with his bounty.

most generally a dozen or more frogs could be seen swimming to the bottom or hopping out when water was retrieved. No-one had a second thought about the impurity of the water during those days because these wells were dug from natural springs.

The entrance of the "dugout" would have a crude door of split saplings, with the cracks filled, caulked or stuffed with marsh grass. An ax was used to cut the saplings, most preferred oak, with the cracks filled with marsh grass together with oak withes. The withes were made by twisting small bushes or limbs to make them pliable – in this form they can be wrapped around pieces or even tied in a knot to fasten them together. While away from the "dugout," the door was usually barred with a short pole.

Opening the door that was held by oak hinges and walking into the dark abode, the trapper would pull out his tinderbox, knife and flint. Striking the flint against the knife, the sparks would flash on a piece of leather punk and ignite. This he would place against a few dry splinters from the tinderbox and a blaze would be produced.

Lighting a rustic lamp, made by placing a twisted rag for a wick in a cup made of an oak knot which was hollowed

out and filled with coon oil, would result in a light that would be like that of a flickering candle.

The "dugout" contained many articles of use in a camp. In one corner, there might be a pile of steel traps, in another a crude bed made of gunny cloth filled with leaves, and a bolster or pillow, made of the same material. The bed covers consisted of wolf skins.

There might be sort of a shelf attached to the side of the room by means of stakes driven into the soft sand walls. The protruding ends were covered with small sticks or poles, shaped smooth on the upper side, to serve as a table, shelf and general "catch all."

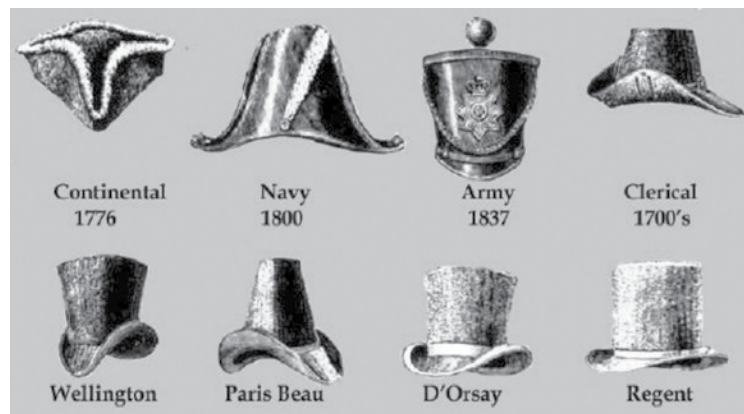
The soft sand of the ceiling was prevented from falling in by means of split puncheons, which were held in place by brace poles, which stood on the ground throughout the abode approximately 5' to 6' apart.

Suspended from the ceiling puncheons would be two to three bunches of dressed skins of mink, muskrat or coon.

Two wood hooks made from the forks of small limbs and fastened just above the door is where the trapper would place his gun.

Meals would consist of the day's catch. Whether bird, fish or beast, an iron pot hanging on a pole supported by two forks driven into the ground over a fire would be the common method for cooking their meal.

However, roasting of a pheasant was a wonderful alternative to pheasant soup. After picking the feathers and cleaning the bird, salt would be rubbed into the skin; a layer of green leaves wrapped around it and then covered with a thick envelope of mud taken from the sides of the well. The bird would then be placed under the hot ashes



One of the reasons why the beaver was trapped to extinction in the Beaver Lake Country was the demand for hats made of Beaver skins as shown here.

and coals of the fire until well done.

When done, it was served in wooden cups, probably whittled from an aspen that grew abundantly on the flats of the Beaver Lake Country.

Broken pieces of corn-cake and some parched acorns were also eaten. This frugal meal was oft times complimented with tea that was made from red-root leaves gathered on the hillside, where it would grow in profusion. Dried in the sun, it was a good substitute for the Chinese article.

At night the sounds of the hoot of an owl, answered by another a half mile away; myriads of frogs in the marshes keeping up a continual din; add in the brazen thwarted bull frogs in a deep pond nearby adding the "bass" for the other warblers of the night and you have quite a symphony. A couple of wolves across the marsh send up a babble of barks and howls that would sound like a pack of fifty furs!

But the trappers were used to these things, and would fall into a well earned sleep to these lullabies.

Chapter VII: Beaver Lake

"... at the time of which we write the wily beaver laved his furry breast in the limpid wave, and myriads of muskrats built their rush domiciles on its reedy border and paid occasional visits to their aquatic cousins eastward in the Black Marsh and Mud Lake, or made annual migrations to Little Lake on the south.

"The Indian canoe shot through the curling waves and his unerring arrow pierced the fish or mallard that replenished his wigwam. Wild hogs were abundant in the Beaver timber to the east and hundreds of deer ambled down to the brink from every side to quench their thirst.

"We wish to call particular attention to a partially wooded island of about half a mile in length and lying about that distance from the north shore of Beaver Lake.

"The greatest portion of this island consisted of sand dunes, which were continually changing form by the action of the wind rolling wave after wave over the fine dry sand. Since the prevailing winds were from the northwest, the western slope of these dunes were gradual, while the southeastern extremity was steep, almost perpendicular, the sand blowing over the crest line and falling down the abrupt slope leeward.

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RECIPES OF THE PAST

Recipes submitted by "Uncle" Dave Truby - Enjoy!

Uncle Dave's Cajun Meatloaf . . . Lots of pepper that can be adjusted to suit your heat tolerance level.

SEASONING MIX		VEGETABLE MIXTURE		1 tbs	Worcestershire sauce
2	Bay leaves	2 tbs	Butter	1/2 c	Powdered Milk
1 tsp	Salt	3/4 c	Finely chopped onions	1/2 c	Catsup
1/2 tsp	Cayenne pepper	1/2 c	Finely chopped celery	MEAT MIX	
1 tsp	Black pepper	1/2 c	Finely chopped bell pepper	1 1/2 lb	Ground beef
1/2 tsp	White pepper	1/4 c	Finely chopped green onions	1/2 lb	Ground pork
1/2 tsp	Ground cumin	2 tsp	Minced garlic	2	Eggs, lightly beaten
1/2 tsp	Ground nutmeg	1/2 tsp	Tabasco sauce	1 Cup	Very fine dry bread crumbs

Combine the seasoning mix ingredients in a small bowl and set aside.

Melt the butter in a 1 quart saucepan over medium heat. Add the onions, celery, bell peppers, green onions, garlic, Tabasco, Worcestershire and seasoning mix. Saute until mixture starts sticking excessively, about 6 minutes, stirring occasionally and scraping the pan bottom well. Stir in the milk and catsup. Continue cooking for about 2 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and allow mixture to cool to room temperature.

Place the ground beef and pork in an ungreased 13 by 9 baking pan. Add the eggs, the cooked vegetable mixture (removing the bay leaves) and the bread crumbs. Mix by hand until thoroughly combined. In the center of the pan, shape the mixture into a loaf that is about 1 1/2 inches high, 6 inches wide and 12 inches long. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 25 minutes, then raise heat to 400 degrees and continue cooking until done, about 35 minutes longer. Serve immediately.

NOW YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON

by Janet Miller, questions on page 9

- The Indian name of Newton County's Beaver Lake was "Sag-a-yi-gan-uh-nick-yug." According to the book "Twelfth Annual Report to the Governor of the Indiana Department of Geology and Natural History" (1882) by State Geologist John Collett, the lake was called the above name meaning "the lake of the beavers."
- The five elevators advertising in the 1967 Official Rural Farm Directory, Newton County, Indiana were: Kentland Grain and Feed, Inc.; Barnett Grain Company, Inc., Morocco, Indiana; The Lochiel Elevator Co., Goodland, Indiana; Enos Grain Company, Inc., Morocco, Indiana; and Newton County Farm Bureau Co-op, Brook and Ade, Indiana.
- The school colors of the previous five Newton County High Schools are as follows: Brook – Purple & Gold; Goodland – Blue & Gold; Kentland – Blue & White; Morocco – Gold & Black; Mt. Ayr – Black & Gold. The current high schools school colors are:

- North Newton – Blue & Orange; South Newton – Red & Gray.
- The mascots of the above seven schools are: Brook – Aces; Goodland – Trojans; Kentland – Blue Devils; Morocco – Beavers; Mt. Ayr – Ayrdales; North Newton – Spartans; and South Newton – Rebels.
- According to John J. Yost's book "Second Helping" there were 13 fires in Kentland between 1870 and 1910. Buildings of the time were mostly frame, and roofs were largely wood-shingled. Because the buildings were close together, most of these fires were in the downtown business district. The first of these fires was also the most damaging. On the night of December 13, 1870, fire broke out in the Kent Building at the corner of Third and what is now Seymour or U. S. 24 at the present site of the NAPA store. The main business district was along U. S. 24 at that time, and by the time the blaze was extinguished, 15 buildings had burned.

By Beth Bassett

NOSTALGIC MEMORIES

Summertime Fun

The summer months as a child hold many fond memories for me. Living in the country provided my imagination with a variety of avenues to follow. In remembering the hot summer days, I recall filling the wash tubs in the yard and soaking in them just to cool down . . . how on earth I fit them is beyond me, but at the time, it was great fun.

During one summer, both mom and dad worked, so I stayed with my Grandmother Zoborosky who lived in Morocco. These months were great times, as I was

able to visit my friends who lived in town, as well as spend the afternoons cooling off in the Beaver Township swimming pool, which was only a couple of blocks away from her home on Beaver Street.

The pool had a great radio system set up that blasted WLS throughout the afternoon to the swimmers as well as the neighborhood, I'm sure. But what fun times! Shared memories with my friends as we would gather together on the cement stretched out on our bathing towels and discussing life at the time.

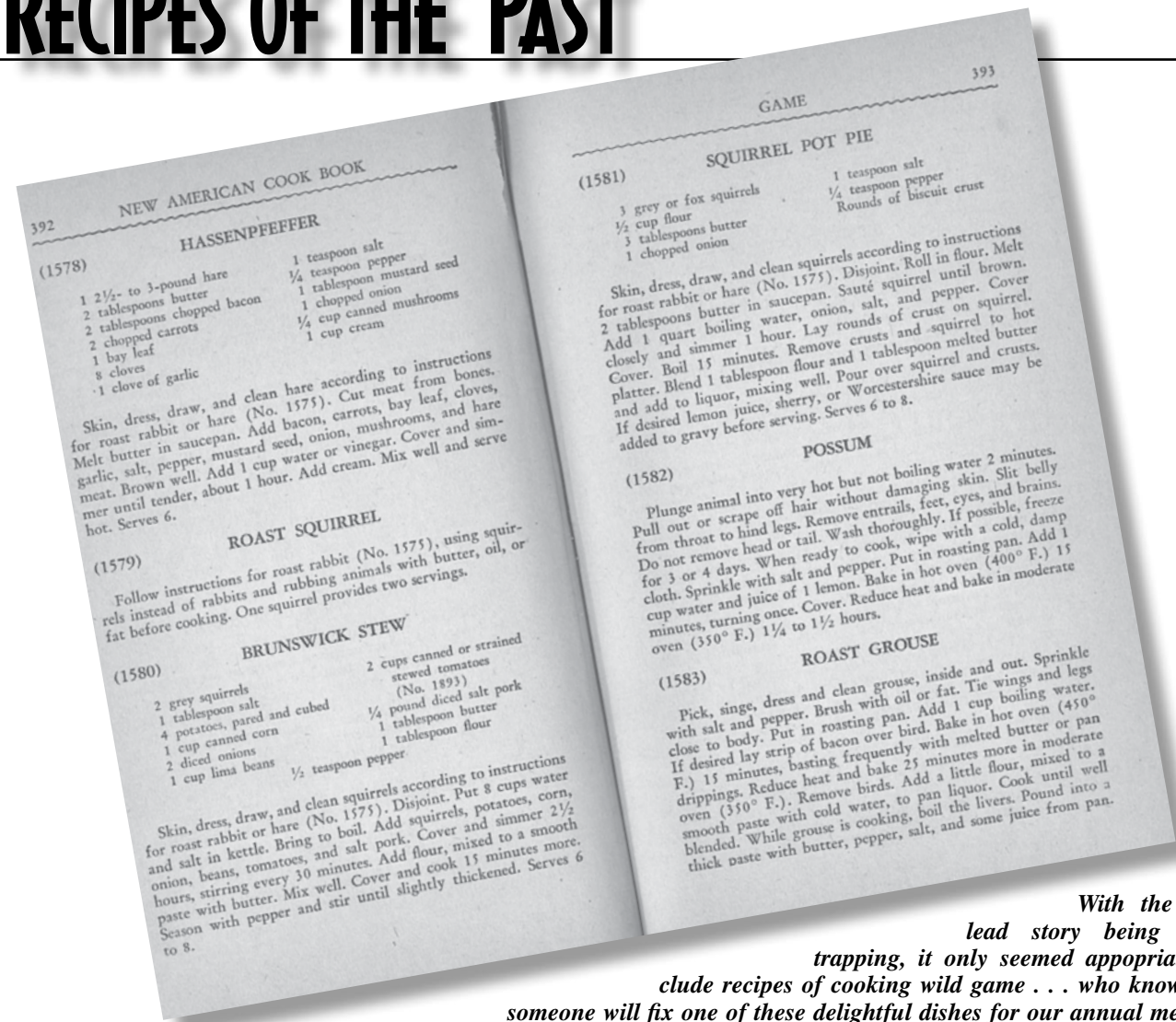
How many of you had a favorite swim-

ming hole, tub or pool? I've heard many comments on the popular Brook swimming pool. Share your memories with our members by sending them to me at newtonhs@ffni.com. Sometimes pictures are worth a thousand words . . . how many of you went to the Brook swimming pool?

Perhaps you have family photos of a summer picnic . . . please send them along!

Newton County Historical Society
P.O. Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951.
They will be returned quickly!

RECIPES OF THE PAST



With the topic of our lead story being hunting and trapping, it only seemed appropriate that we include recipes of cooking wild game . . . who knows . . . perhaps someone will fix one of these delightful dishes for our annual meeting in June!

Uncle Dave's Apple Cake

A rich and moist dessert that will make you famous in your circle of friends. Yield: 10 servings

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 c Flour, unbleached | 1 ts Cinnamon |
| 2 c Sugar | 3 ea Eggs, beaten |
| 1 ts Soda | 4 c Apples, chopped small |
| 1 c Salad oil, (canola) | 1 c Nuts, chopped pecan or walnut |
| 1 ts Salt | |
| 1/2 c Confectioners' sugar as icing | |

Mix dry ingredients- then mix in eggs and oil. Don't beat - then add apples and nuts. Adjust moisture by adding water to make a spoonable batter (depends on juice in apples). Bake in ungreased tube pan or sheet cake pan. Bake 350 degrees for 1 - 1 1/4 hours. Cool then sprinkle with confectioners' sugar.

Uncle Dave's Cabbage and Beet Soup

A hearty and easy soup that balances the sweetness of the vegetables with a bit of lemon. Makes a meal.

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Med Cabbage -- sliced or wedge |
| 3 Garlic -- cloves minced |
| 1 Qt Beets -- shredded |
| 3 Carrots |
| 1 Large Onion |
| 2 Celery -- stalks cut in 3rds |
| 3 lb Bone - Boiling Beef/Marrow bones |
| 2 Tbs Lemon Juice |
| 1 Qt Tomatoes |

This is a hearty sweet and sour meat soup that can be used as a main dish. Measurements are never exact. You need to taste. Put meat and bones in a 8 or 12 qt stock pot. Put in cans of tomato, cover with water and bring to a boil. In the meantime, get your veggies ready. Slice beets and carrots, others go in whole. When stock boils, skim off top. Put in beets, carrots, garlic, and other veggies. Turn heat down to a simmer and keep lid on askew. After about an hour, put in garlic.

I break up the meat and stir it back into the soup before serving.

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ON LINE WITH OUR OFFICERS

Submitted by President Janet Miller

Spring has come! And with it, we have had many visitors to the Resource Center. A group of Girl Scouts were there in hopes of earning a merit badge, an Extension Homemakers Club held their meeting there and last week three classes of 4th graders from South Newton Elementary School toured the building and watched a power point presentation of Beaver Lake with narration by Beth Bassett. We welcome all groups, so if you or your organization would like to visit us, please let us know.

Our February monthly meeting began with dinner at Monical's - our group was small, so we visited, discussed where everyone had attended school and had dessert. Never fear, the "fun and games" that the program committee had planned for us will be used at a later date!

The Government Center in Morocco was the site of our March meeting. We were happy to have as our guest speaker, Bob Dewing of Kentland, who presented us with a program on "Newton County Implement Dealers." This program was well received by the group with lots of questions and response by those present. At this time, Bob has collected information about 44 county dealerships. If anyone has other information he would welcome hearing from you. We thank Bob for this interesting and informative presentation.

The Family History Division is busy working with all Newton County 4th grade students for our annual "Coloring Book Contest." The students throughout the county are given one of our historical coloring books to use in their local history studies and then asked to color one of the pictures for the contest. Awards are given to all school winners at the end-of-school award day at their respective schools. The pictures are then displayed at the society's fair booth at the Newton County Fair. This is a great project for both students and the society. Encouraging youth to enjoy Newton County history is an important part of the society's goals.

The NCHS historical sign/marker committee met recently to discuss their plans for placing markers throughout the county. When the project is complete, they plan to develop a map and brochure that may be used for a historical drive through Newton County. We will hear more about this as we prepare for Newton County's

Sesquicentennial in 2010.

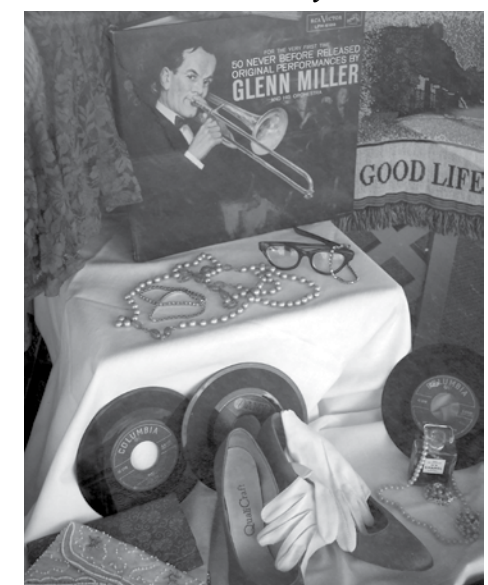
Drive by or stop at the Resource Center to view the new window display featuring high school memorabilia from the five former county high schools, Brook, Goodland, Kentland, Morocco and Mt. Ayr. This is an appropriate time to exhibit these articles as all of these schools will soon be having their alumni banquets. A sincere thanks to all that helped showcase our former high schools.

Stop by our Resource Center and get a hands-on close-up look at Newton County history.

Janet, Mike, Becky and Darlene



Resource Center Window Display: A Salute to the Newton County Alumni!



Members brought their old prom dresses for display during our salute to the alumni of Newton County.



Kentland's Girl Scout Troop 2097 toured the Resource Center. Pictured above left to right, back, Breanna Jones, Leader Patricia Hudak, Candice Hudak, center, Chrystal Richardson, the hand on the leader's shoulder belongs to scout Patricia Lade.



All the fourth grade classes at South Newton Elementary toured our center in April.

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of this island was covered with a luxuriant growth of vegetation, consisting of several large black oak and white oak trees that had held out their leafless branches to embrace the boreal blizzards of winter for more than a hundred years. And full as often had they put on a new coat of emerald when spring came to drive the snows away and cover the earth with a carpet of verdure and undergrowth of black-haw, crabapple, nine-bark, red willow, hazel, blackberry bushes and black gum. These were in many places interlaced by bind-weeds and covered by wild grape vines.

"On the northern and western slopes grew patches of May apple, Seneca Snake-root, sarsaparilla, wild onions, sweet anise, spikenard, and many other wild plants and flowers.

"To a casual observer nothing would be noticed upon the island but the wildness of nature, teeming with her own animal and vegetable productions; but had one been standing on the northern shore of the island on a certain bright, cloudless morning, near the close of October, in the year 1840, and casting his gaze to the northeastward, he might have beheld a solitary white man putting in an Indian canoe with a pole and making way for the island. He had pushed but a few rods from the shore when six Indians dashed out of the woods, yelling and gesticulating furiously. He cast one glance backward and then redoubled his efforts."

You'll have to pick up a copy of the book at our Resource Center to find out just what happens to this solitary white man and the six Indians . . . Remember this story is about the flora of the Beaver Lake country.

Chapter VI: The Black Marsh

" . . . in less than an hour they again struck the trail to the northwest of the Goose Pond, and followed it as rapidly as was practical to walk through the long tangled marsh grass, willow clumps, over tussocks, ant hills; through brush and bramble, and many other sources of hindrance to be encountered in this marsh-bound wilderness.

" . . . by noon they struck the southern shore of the East Black Marsh. This is a level tract of muck land, three or four miles long and half as wide, covered with water to the average depth of about two feet, which in most places was hidden by a rank growth of coarse water grasses, bull rushes, scouring rush, blue flag, pickerel weed, wild rice and cattails.

" . . . the trail struck directly into the marsh, in a course that would indicated a

wooded island, which lay to the northward, as the objective landing of the horseman.

"He evidently made for the island," said Ben.

"It would seem so," said Charley, "and yet it looks to be miry over in those bull rushes."

"Yes, bull rushes usually indicate soft, spongy ground; but he may have sheered to the left and passed through the flags and calamus." – continued within the pages of Mr. Alter's book.

Herbs/Plants/Trees/Shrubs Used for Eating and Healing

(Editor's note: these are but a few that were abundant during the period of Mr. Alter's book, and it is highly recommend to research and discover techniques used to process the herbs listed here for your own digestion, as I do not profess to be an authority on this interesting subject matter.)

Black Haw. The bark and roots were used for medicinal purpose by the Indians. The stems were used for basket weaving; the berries are mostly seeds surrounded by a pulp that was used in jams. It was believed to boost fertility when consumed.

Seneca Snake Root. A low growing perennial, used for treatment of respiratory problems and rattlesnake bites, where you would chew the root and then apply that to the bitten area as a paste. Boiled and drank as tea, it was used for treatment of a cough, sore throat, colds and heart trouble.

Spikenard. Also known as Muskroot due to the earthy, musky odor, it was a natural sedative. The roots were cooked as a vegetable, or distilled for the oil. It was said that Mary Magdalene used Spikenard on the feet of Jesus six days prior to the crucifixion, much to the objection of Herod due to its high price. It was found in the woodlands.

Wild Onions. Easily located due to the "onion" scent of the plant. Used for seasoning food, it has one to three inch leaves, sprouted from a bulb below the ground. Both the leaves and the bulb may be consumed.

Wild Sarsaparilla. When the roots of this plant are boiled with other herbs and berries, a sweet concoction is created. Used as a key ingredient in root beer, which was created by Charles Hire on his honeymoon as a tea; later publically sold for the first time at the Philadelphia Centennial Celebration of 1876.

Anise. The seeds produce a licorice-like flavor used in tea, soup and added to greens. It was used to treat asthma and bronchitis.

May Apple. Referred to as the "witch's umbrella," the seeds and rind are poisonous. A flower appears in May, followed by a 2" seeded, egg shaped fruit that ripens in full by September. It should be picked only when the fruit is soft and yellow, and will drop into your hand when picked. The jelly-like pulp inside the thick skin can be eaten raw or cooked. It was also used to cure warts.

The Black Marsh Flora

Cattails, sedges, rushes and bullrushes are ranked among the most common plants of marshy, mineral-rich wetlands.

Cattails. Roots of the young plants (less than 18" tall), can be used cooked or raw by themselves or with other vegetables. The cooked green flower spikes taste like corn on

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Black Haw



Seneca Snake Root



Wild Onions



Anise



May Apple

mand. "Believe and be baptized."

The post office at Goodland was burglarized last Friday night, safe blown open and about \$615 realized by the thieves.

Micawberville

Ed. Enterprise: Sir: You seemed to overlook our pleasant little village in your first issue, either from carelessness or ignorance of the geography of our country or otherwise, and we think it was the latter. Micawberville is situated four miles north of your city, on the banks of the Iroquois river. It is a quiet little place, but of no small importance I will give you to understand sir: -- No corner lots to be had at any price. -- Our principle products are stumps and sore toes. -- We have the lumber on the ground for a new blacksmith shop. -- Esq. D. Littlejohn was the first to plant corn in these "woods." -- We have had the "grip" in our midst, and the measles rioting around in our suburbs. -- We have more coon dogs and poor cusses according to population than any other town in the county. -- Uncle Geo. Herriman has started his tile mill. He has a 140 feet new shed. It's a double decker and a daisy. -- Jimmy Roberts says that tile is the stuff for whiskers; where he had to stop last year to dig the mud out of his planter, he stops this year to blow the dust out of his whiskers. -- From a rough estimate made by Prof. A. W. Kenoyer, we believe there are ten cords of fish poles within a mile of Micawberville up and down the river, cut by the sportive and hungry citizens of Kent.

Foresman

We have a good Sabbath School this spring, but there are quite a number of children that do not attend. Parents should see that their children attend S.S.

Our new merchant, Mr. M. Foresman says he is having a good trade. Another dry goods store was welcomed by our citizens.

Clarence and Al Sunderland are east of town building a large barn for William

Washburn.

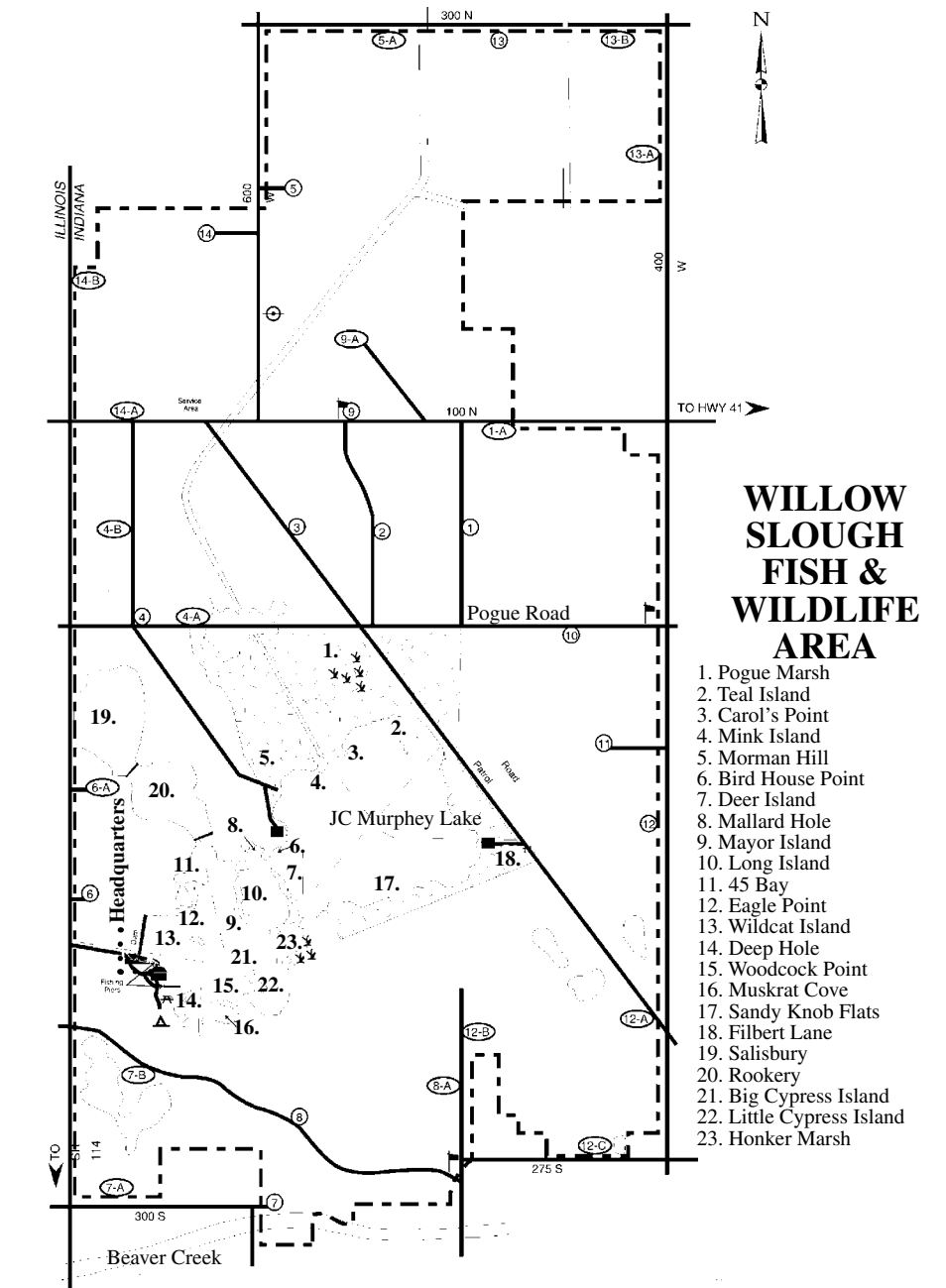
Thayer

Andrew DeFries who went to Utah about a year ago has returned, he says Thayer beats Utah.

John McDowell, Sr. will bet a 10 lb. pickerel that he can catch more fish in one day with the hook and line than any man in Newton County. Come forth ye anglers and try your hand in the famous waters of

the Kankakee river.

Quite a number of Lake county sports celebrated the birthday of one of their number at Thayer's Landing last Sunday; they had plenty of eatables and stimulents, besides 16 gallons of beer, after lunch they participated in numerous games, such as wrestling, running, jumping, etc. Lake Village carried off the honors in the wrestling match.



WILLOW SLOUGH FISH & WILDLIFE AREA

1. Pogue Marsh
2. Teal Island
3. Carol's Point
4. Mink Island
5. Morman Hill
6. Bird House Point
7. Deer Island
8. Mallard Hole
9. Mayor Island
10. Long Island
11. 45 Bay
12. Eagle Point
13. Wildcat Island
14. Deep Hole
15. Woodcock Point
16. Muskrat Cove
17. Sandy Knob Flats
18. Filbert Lane
19. Salisbury
20. Rookery
21. Big Cypress Island
22. Little Cypress Island
23. Honker Marsh

The opportunity to take a walk through the woods and look for some of the trees and plants mentioned in other articles in this edition is right in our own backyard! Stop by the Resource Center at Kentland and pick up a Newton County map, then find your way to Willow Slough; The Nature Conservancy's trails through the heart of the old Beaver Lake Country; follow a path through Conrad Station; visit the Holley Savannah located next to Northstar Cemetery in Jackson Township. - Don't forget your camera!

Coming in the next Newcomer . . .
 Carol Light writes about how George Ade supplemented his social security . . .
 Kyle Conrad begins a series of Civil War articles . . .
 Newton County Historical Society Essay winning entries. . .
 Gerrick family history . . .
 Why not order a gift membership today for a friend or neighbor who might enjoy receiving the Newcomer - it's free with a paid membership.

PAGES OF THE PAST

Submitted by Janet Miller

Excerpts were taken from *The Newton County Enterprise, Spring, 1891*

Kentland

Explanatory. Some time since we decided to embark in the field of journalism in this county. Before making final arrangements, a proposition from the proprietors of the Gazette was accepted and the plant purchased. Prior to the purchase, a title for the new publication had been decided upon, and hence with last week's issue, the Gazette was discontinued and the Newton County Enterprise is issued instead. The Newton County Enterprise will be published every Thursday at Kentland, Ind., by John G. Davis and John W. Randall, its present owners.

George Pierce, living northeast of town, has been sick all spring and unable to put in his crops. His neighbors "turned out" Monday and sowed his oats for him.

Traveling men assert that nowhere in their travels, do they find a country town kept more decently and in order than Kentland. Our streets well drained and graded, sidewalks in order, a grade established and enforced so that there are no abrupt steps, the crossings kept clear of mud and snow in season, and in fact, a general neatness that bespeaks well for those in charge. Kentland excels in many of the admirable traits that become a good business place and delightful home.

A weight social will be held at the residence of Judge Peter H. Ward on Thursday evening, May 21st. The couple weighing the most and the least will each be awarded prizes. 15 cent supper at six. Strawberries and cake 10 cents extra. Music and a good time all evening. All are invited.

Uncle Ad. Williams don't permit any of the "kids" to outdo him in anything he undertakes, so last Monday just to show the boys how it is done, he hauled at one load sixty-two bushels of ear corn to town and up into McCray & Risser's elevator with two horses. That's the kind of grit, taken in connection with his habits of industry and economy, that has placed him in the comfortable circumstances that he is. There are few more accommodating or clever men than he is.

Reception. One of the most pleasant social events that has ever occurred in Kentland was the reception given by Mr. and Mrs. John Ade, at their pleasant home on Carrol street last evening. It was the celebration of the 40th anniversary of their

marriage and the Elite of the city was present. The house was brilliantly illuminated throughout, and the floral decorations, while not profuse, were elegant. Covers were laid for near an hundred and the delicacies of the season served.

Lake Village

Mrs. Jennie M. Conrad (Daughter of Lemuel Milk) has on her farm in Lake Township this county, about 400 acres of Rye, that surpasses in growth and general favorable appearance, anything we ever saw of the kind at this season of the year. Mrs. C. knows just how to successfully superintend a large farm.

Grandpa Florer intends to have watermelons and has planted about two acres.

Roselawn

Samuel McCorkle, one of the prominent citizens of Lincoln Township, this county, has recently returned from an extended visit to California where he went on a prospecting tour. Sam, with an eye to business, says that Newton county is good enough for anybody except angels, and a scattering few of them might thrive in the vicinity of his 1200-acre farm near Rose Lawn. He has a fine farm, well improved, and appreciates it the more after his trip west.

Our large pastures are well filled with cattle this year. F. R. Otis has about a 1,000, Dick Hudson 800, Geo. Watts 1,100, M. W. Gould 400, and a number of others ranging from three down to one hundred head, the feed is excellent and cattle are fattening very fast.

Mt. Ayr

Mr. Ben. B. Miller of Jackson Tp. Passed through Kentland this morning with two very fine Norman Stallions, enroute to Mt. Ayr.

Our boys have advanced so far in shooting the marble, that they have concluded to use croquet balls in their place.

The new church was dedicated last Sabbath, and \$300 raised to pay the debt off the church. Rev. Wm. Marsh, of Logansport, preached the dedication sermon. This leaves the Mt. Ayr church free of debt.

Our business men got a "spell on them," they tore all the side walks up, overhauled them and made quite a good many new ones. We can walk now without being afraid of breaking our neck.

Morocco

Those who have not visited Morocco for several years, would scarcely know the place at present. From the little village of a few years ago, containing a few residences, John Ade's blacksmith shop and "Red Dog Bank", it has grown to be an incorporated town of several hundred inhabitants, with some of the finest store buildings in the county, and the substantial bank of Kennedy & Murphy with its fire proof vault, burglar proof safe and timeclock takes the place of Mr. Ade's Potato barrel.

Brook

The question of incorporation is agitating the citizens of our neighboring town Brook and the merits and demerits of the proposition are being discussed with a vigor that portends a thorough knowledge of the subject in hand by every one interest, prior to the time when they will be called upon to cast their suffrages either for or against the measure. A petition will probably be filed with the Board of Commissioners at their June session and a vote ordered soon thereafter. There are many advantages in being incorporated, and it is highly probable that the citizens with their usual enterprise will sustain the petition at the polls and Brook take front rank with other towns of the county.

Mr. Haynes the overseer of the new tile works, is now a resident of our village.

The trustees of M. E. Church and B. F. Warr are putting down a partnership well on the line between the new parsonage and the Cunningham residence.

Goodland

The Trade Carnival will take place at McCurry's Hall, Friday evening, May 15th. This entertainment will be given by the ladies of Relief Corpse, and promises to be one of the "hits" of the season. If you are desirous of seeing nice dresses and know where to obtain the same you ought to attend.

About one thousand people assembled on the banks of the creek east of Goodland, Sunday, to witness the rite of baptism administered by Rev. Jenkins of the M. E. Church. There were about 40 in number who selected immersion as their form of baptism. And despite a cold north wind and drizzling rain they did not falter but clung to their faith, and fulfilled the de-

< from previous page

Blackberry/Raspberry Bushes. These wild bushes also provided for all species of the area. It was said the "Hoosiers believed the time to catch catfish is when these bushes are ripe." They can be dried and stored for winter consumption.

Staghorn Sumac. A shrub or small tree, a member of the Cashew family; grows rapidly, but short lived. The flowers mature to a compact fruit cluster called stags; composed of hard red berries, which ripen in the late summer. These are used to make a bright red, lemonade-like drink, or Sumac-ade. The Indians used the stems for flutes. Sumac is rich in Tannic acid and is used in tanning leathers; sumac tanned leather is less likely to decay, so it was used in book binding.

Basswood or American Linden Tree. Bees were attracted to their flowers, and in turn the honey the bees produced from these trees was used to create a high quality honey. The wood is relatively soft, and used for carving. The dried flower clusters can be used in tea, which aids in digestion, coughs, hoarseness and lowering blood pressure.



The White Oak, and it's fruit, acorns.

Basswood

Aspen

The White Oak. Same family as the Burr Oak and Chestnut Oak; supposed best all-purpose wood. The acorns are a food source for more than 180 birds and mammals, as well humans. These trees are long lived, and several in the eastern U.S. today are 500+ years.

Aspen, or "Quaking Asp." A pioneer tree and member of the birch family. Giving the name "Quaking Asp," as any wisp of the wind will shake the leaves creating a noise similar to shaking paper.

Sources for the pictures and information: *Wild Food Plants of Indiana and Adjacent States*, McPhearson and Clark, 2007; *The Natural Heritage of Indiana*, Marian T. Jackson; *The Hoosier Hunting Ground or The Beaver Lake Country*, Bill Bat, 1904; the world wide web. Thanks to the Brook Library for their collection on this subject.

the cob. The pollen can also be collected and added to biscuit, pancake and cookie recipes.

Wild Rice. Grows 4-10' tall, and is found in shallow waters. It was a favorite of the Potawatomi, and was usually kept for winter when the food sources were low. It is harvested in late summer/fall. The Indians' method of gathering would be to hold the grain heads over the canoe and beat them with a stick to release the black grain. A cloth was placed on the bottom of the canoe to catch the black heads, which made for easier transfer. They then spread the rice out in a warm place to dry, later to parch them and cool, removing the husks by rubbing them between their hands, or pounding them with a stone. They were then stored in a tight container and later cooked as we cook brown rice today. It can also be ground into flour.

Bullrush. Tall, light green stems are naked and soft and form long tape-like leaves. The flower begins to appear in June on the short branching stems in spiky clusters near the top of the stem. Seeds are contained inside these bristles. The young shoots and sprouts were a delicacy to the Indians who ate them raw or cooked.

Wildflowers

Many pioneer wildflowers, such as Dutchman's Breeches shown here, can still be found today in the woods of Newton County.



In 1962, our Newton County Registered Nurses toured Eli Lilly in Indianapolis, left to right are Mary Farrell, R.N., Goodland; Head Nurse at George Ade Hospital Helen Borman, R. N.; Director of Nurses, George Ade Memorial Hospital Mari Lois Anderson, R. N.; Evelyn Evers, R. N., Staff Nurse at George Ade; Edith Dexter, R. N., 11-7 Supervisor, George Ade; Carolyn Morgan, Staff Nurse, Private Duty; Patricia Barce, R. N., Private Duty; Shirley Merchant, R. N., Private Duty; Dorothy Bower, R. N. Surgery Supervisor; Dorothy White, R. N., Newton County Public Health Nurse. - Photo contributed.

RESOURCE CENTER REPORT

By Beth Bassett

Our volunteers are experiencing more traffic on their days at the center. Visitors from Newton County, as well as out of state, have stopped in to view our displays and research our family files. We receive many compliments regarding our building and our displays. Thanks to the members of our society and community, we continue to receive memorabilia from Newton County for our archives.

We have had Tiger Scouts, Kentland Girl Scouts, Lake Village Third Grade and South Newton Fourth Grade classes tour the building over the past few months. You just never know what type of questions they may have regarding our displays and county history. "Are there any famous people from Newton County; where are the guns we saw in the coloring book; what is the history of the St. Joseph Church?" Just a few of the challenges we volunteers take on!

I would like to welcome Judy Schultz to our list of "keepers of the center." You can visit with her on the third Monday of each month at the center from 11:00 – 3:00. She has visited the center over the past few years researching information for the Morocco Alumni, and continues to do so on her working day. Thanks Judy!

I'm going to take a moment to thank all our volunteers who work the Resource Center. Monday is covered by Carol Wright and Donna and Harold LaCasse; Thursday Nancy Jo Prue and Esther Barton; Friday Dave and Darlene Truby, Rich and Janet Miller, myself and Larry and Becky Lyons. If anyone out there has a spare Thursday afternoon, I'm sure that Nancy Jo and Esther would be happy to fit you into their schedule!

A special thank you to Harold Martin for donating two reading tables to the center. Harold spends many hours going through the bound newspapers, and having a table that tilts the editions makes reading and researching a bit more comfortable. Thanks for thinking of us Harold.

If you haven't stopped by lately, we have a great collection of research materials that are available to the public. This is just a brief list, please stop in and see for yourself if we can assist you in researching your next Newton County research project!

Bound Copies of Local Newspapers

The Morocco Courier – 1915-1988
Newton County Chronotype, 1861-1864
Newton County Union/Gazette, 1862-1867
Newton County Democrat 1868-1873
Kentland Gazette 1867-1892
Newton County Enterprise 1892-1990
Newspaper on Microfilm

Use our microfilm reader/printer at no charge.

The Morocco Courier, 1914-1928; 1966-2007. We are currently (2009) in the process of microfilming 1929-1965. *As current microfilms of editions become available they will be added to this collection.*

The Goodland Herald on microfilm only 1904-1954; **The Lake Village Villager** on microfilm only 1965-1975; **The Rensselaer Union** on microfilm only 1868-1877; **The Rensselaer Republican** on microfilm only 1886-1892; **The Old Gold and Black-Morocco** High School newspaper on microfilm early 1942-1956 (issues vary) few loose issues. *We discovered a few issues of the Kentland Blue and White, and the School Guides within some of these reels;* **Newton County Farm News**—Newsletter of the Newton County Farm Bureau, loose copies – 1959 to January 1965

Local History

Books in Library

1883 History of Benton, Warren, Newton and Jasper Counties, Index; **1916 Jasper and Newton County History**, also index; **1860-1911 Newton County** by John Ade; **Newton County, 1985**, general county history by township; 2006 – **Roselawn, Shelby and Thayer Resources**; 1916 Atlas of Newton County, Indiana; **And They Named Her Brook**, John Connell; **History of the Schools of Newton County; Newton County, Indiana** by Drury 1955 Aerial photos; **The Amish in America, 1840-1960** (Mt. Ayr Settlement); **Kentland Centennial, 1960**; **The Morocco Sesquicentennial Collection, 2002**; **Brook, Iroquois and Washington Townships, 1856-2006**; **The First 100 Years of Newton County**, history of Newton County, J. Fletcher; **The Kankakee, River of History**, Isaacs; **Kentland's WWII Scrapbook**, Carlson. index available; **Quasqui Collections, - An Anthology** by John Yost (articles re: Newton County); **A Second Helping – Quasqui Collection** by John Yost (articles re: Newton County); Miscellaneous County articles (copies of

newspaper articles); Kentland and Family Notes from the 1886 **Gazette**; early photos of Lake Village, Lawbaugh Family Collection; **The Settling of the Grand Marsh on the Kankakee River; Morocco Centennial**, 1851-1951; **100 Years of Good Life in Goodland**, Centennial edition.

Submitted Family Histories

Bowman; Bridgeman-Roberts; Dart; DeWees; Hiner; Hoffman; James; Kenoyer; Kessler; Kessler-Goddard; Kindig; Light; Lyons; McCormick; Montgomery-Lyons-McCabe; Padgett; Pruet; Rainford; Robbins, Ed; Smart, John; Spidler; Spidler, John; Stewart; Troup; Williamson; Wolfe-Gerrich.

Census on Microfilm

Variety of Ohio 1790-1880s; 1850 Jasper County Federal Census; 1860 Newton and Jasper County; 1870 Newton and Jasper County; 1880 Newton and Jasper County 1900 Newton and Jasper County (also on CD); 1920 Newton County; 1930 Newton County.

File Cabinet Materials

Contributed Newton County Family Histories – vertical file; General Newton County History and Individual Township Information (clippings from newspapers, covering major topics) – vertical file; Lake Village School Records, 30s to 50s; Newton County Service Discharge Records; Lake Village School Grade Cards, 1960s.

Other Materials

Index to Estates and Wills, 1860-1976, Clerk's Office; **The Newcomer**, 1984-present. NCHS Newsletter; Newton County Cemetery listings, 1997 (also available online); Index Newton County Marriage Records, Bride/Groom/Date, May 5, 1880-June 13, 1971; WPA Birth and Death Records; Family Group Sheets, Beaver Township; Newton County Plat Books, 1916; 80s-00s; 1951; 1961; 1904 Newton County Map – depicts schoolhouse, cemeteries, land owners; Kentland Residents by address, 1980s; Nicknames of the 20th Century from the Morocco Area, by Ron Carlson; 1820 Census of Indiana; 1910 Census; Census of Indiana Territory, 1807; 1984-1989 Obituaries, **Morocco Courier** (also available on line), Donna LaCasse; 1900's Obit Scapbook and Index (also available on line); History of Lake Village, March, 1949, **Brook Reporter** articles.

Plus, much, much more!

Life in a Small Town

By Nancy Lopp

What is life in a small town?

There is one gas station in town where I get my gas and when I go back a few days later to fill up again the cashier inside asks, "Do you want to use the credit card you left here the last time you got gas?"

A bank that calls when I didn't count all my money and got shortchanged so they call and tell you they just put the money in your savings account.

You can write a check without showing your driver's license because they know me.

That's life in a small town.

A place without a Starbucks, but with a restaurant with a 7:00 men's morning coffee group where everyone knows everyone else. And if one of the "regulars" doesn't show, they wonder why.

A place with a small convenience store that put in a table just for the 8:00 coffee drinkers. (non-smoking).

The only nighttime restaurant that special orders my favorite salad dressing because I asked for it. The waitress brings my drink of diet coke and a glass of wine for my husband when we sit down because she knows what we order.

That's life in a small town.

People that smile or say hi when they meet you on the street even though they don't know you.

Walking or biking around town and feeling safe.

Students know everyone in their class at school.

Letting your children play in the neighborhood because you know your neighbors.

A place that has only one main street.

That's life in a small town.

When someone asks for directions, you don't give directions by the names of streets, but the names of houses or buildings. Go to the library and turn where Mortons live and go four more houses.

Most of all a place where people care about other people.

That's life in a small town.

I lived in New York City for 5 years and then moved to a small town in Indiana. So you see I've lived in a big city, but there is nothing like life in a small town for me.



Judy Schultz donated these photographs to the Resource Center. Left is a photo taken in 1953 of Mary Jane Padgett on the Ade school steps. Above, are teachers of the Ade school, approximately 1943, left to right, Hazel Deardurff, Phyllis Merrill, Wilbur Hays and Virginia Dobson.

– each trying to "hog" a share of the tasty milk. After the separating process, each time the machine had to be disassembled and washed, along with the milk pails.

The chickens had to be fed and watered and the eggs gathered. We always had a hen house full of layers, and our Mother raised "fryers" and "broilers" in brooder houses. The chicks were purchased in later years, but earlier I remember a kerosene-heated chick incubator which required turning the eggs daily. How many modern farm wives would tolerate a chick incubator in her dining room in cold weather as my Mother did on one occasion? As a young boy gathering eggs, I remember the cantankerous "setting" hen who sat tight on her eggs and resisted your efforts to remove them. It's no fun to be pecked by an angry old biddy full of maternal instinct! I believe we boys hated chickens even more than the milk cows.

A tool which was detested by farm boys even more than the pitchfork and scoop shovel was the two-man crosscut saw. This saw was about five feet in length with an upright handle on each end. It had large teeth and, when sharp, would cut through a log rather efficiently if the operators on both ends were knowledgeable in the art of sawing heating wood with the crosscut saw. You were never supposed to push or "ride" the saw; the fellow on the other end pulled the saw his way and you pulled it back. I can still hear Dad say, "Don't ride the saw, son; just pull it your way and I'll pull it back." It took a lot of wood to heat the un-insulated farm houses of this period, and the kitchen cooking ranges had a good appetite too. Most of the wood for the kitchen stoves required splitting as well. It was usually a boy's job to carry in firewood and buckets of cobs for the stoves. Later, when times became better, we utilized coal for fuel, and this was a welcome relief from cutting and sawing wood.

Watch for more excerpts from Vic's memories in upcoming editions of the Newcomer.



Quill & Ink

Trap Lines, Chicken Thieves and Tin-Lizzie Fords; Part 2, World War Two, As It Happened to Me

By Victor E. Carlson, July 2008

During our open house for the book "Hoosier Hunting Grounds," Vic and Betty Carlson donated a copy of Vic's memories, holding the title above. They wanted me to read it, and also have it as a part of our library at the Resource Center.

I sat down with the book during the power outage and read it by candlelight, which seemed quite appropriate, as the times and events that Vic described were from an era that electricity was a bonus in many of the homes in the area.

It is my pleasure to present to you in this edition and others to follow excerpts from this collection of memories and history of growing up in Beaver Township, Newton County.

Thanks Vic for fulfilling not only your children's request for writing your memories, but sharing them with all of us!

Introduction

I am a retired farmer and have two brothers—one semi retired and one deceased. When together, we often reminisced about the days of our youth and I suppose this may be yet another sign of becoming older.

Recently, I decided to attempt to narrate in writing some of the memories we have shared. I do not pretend to be a writer and am sure the stories and experiences I relate are somewhat rambling in nature, and no doubt my writing style is lacking in expertise. However, it is my hope that this narrative may be of interest to the casual reader—especially to those who grew up in the period in which we did.

We three brothers were born on a farm owned by our paternal grandfather located near Morocco, Indiana, which is in Beaver Township, Newton County, to Robert and Dorothy (Kessler) Carlson. I was born in February, 1924, David the next year in June, 1925, and Ronald the following year in November, 1926. There is only a little over a year between each of us, and we were just one year apart in school. In 1929, a sister, Marjorie, appeared, and later, in 1940, when we brothers were in high school, our youngest sister, Marilou, was born.

Looking back, I believe we three boys gave our sister Marge somewhat of a "hard time" in growing up. Since our younger sister, Marilou, was still quite young when we left home to serve in WW II, we were not in a position to subject her to the "cruel and unusual treatment" Marge may have suffered from three older brothers.

The great depression of the 1930's was in full bloom when we were in the lower grades of elementary school. Money was scarce. We had no electricity, no running water and no central heating on the farm in those days, but we did have loving and hard-working parents and lots of love and family togetherness.

When I was in second grade of school, our parents purchased a farm consisting of 160 acres located on U.S. Highway 41 about two miles north of Morocco. Here we grew to adulthood, and the stories which follow concern those years.

Farm Chores, Chores and More Chores

The term "family farm" was much easier to define in the early 1930's than it is today. Almost all labor on the average farm of this period was furnished by the farmer, his wife and their children. Farms were diversified in this period, and livestock of all kinds were raised. Draft horses (commonly called workhorses) were the source of much of the motive power for farming at this time, although farm tractors were becoming increasingly more dependable and efficient. Besides the horses, virtually every farm had milk cows, hogs and a flock of laying hens. Add a large farm garden, consider the fact that most homes were heated with wood and lit with kerosene lamps, and you can easily come to the conclusion there were many daily "chores" to be done - many by the children. My father said, "When it comes to chores, with one boy you get one boy's work, with two boys you get one-half boy's work, and with three boys you get none at all!"

Much of the time, the work horses were stabled in the barn and were led to water and fed twice daily. Hay and straw were stored overhead in the haymow. After climbing the haymow ladder, loose hay and straw were pitched down into the feed-way, which had hay mangers on each side.

Upon descending, the hay was pitched into the mangers. Work horses were usu-

Featuring local poetry and prose Vic Carlson's Memories and Nancy Lopp's Poetry

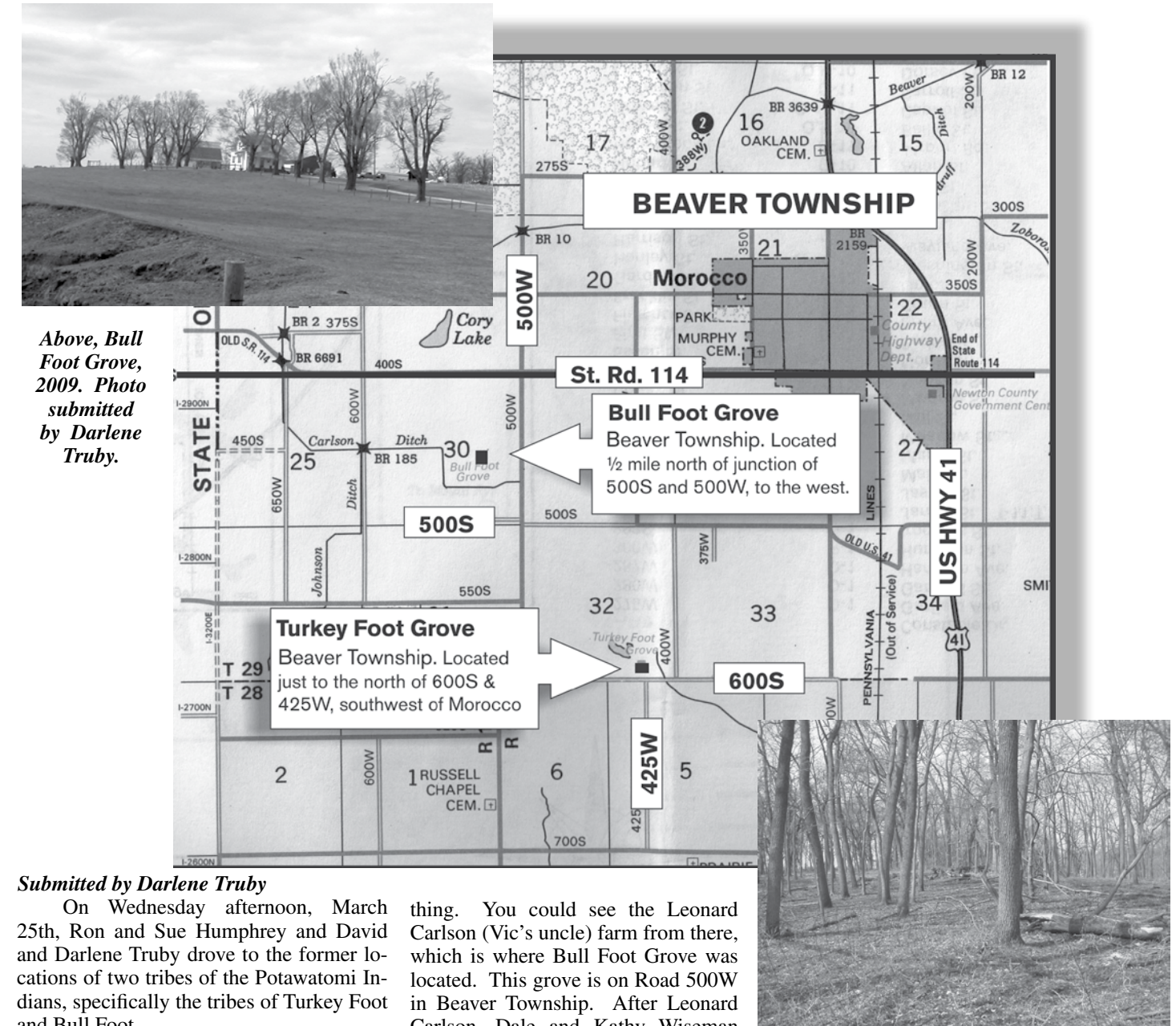
ally fed whole oats and a few ears of corn - more when they were working pulling farm implements. Accumulated manure in the stalls had be removed or, in some instances, just more straw was added for bedding. Each animal required grooming with a "curry" comb and stiff brush.

After feeding the milk cows and tidying up the stalls, it was time to milk. Usually the udders needed some cleaning to ensure clean milk. Invariably, we had a cow or two on which you clamped "kicker chains" to insure that you and the milk pail remained in a stationary position! Sometimes, especially in "fly time," it was a reasonable approach to tie or restrain her tail in an effort to prevent her from switching in a manure-laden tail across your face. Most cows were relatively easy milkers and gave their milk down promptly, but there was the "hard milker" that soon had a boy's hands and arms aching terribly. Your day was complete when the old girl either kicked over the milk bucket or put her foot in the pail and ruined the milk. The numerous farm cats were always lined up in attendance at milking time, and it was easy to train them to slurp up a stream of milk as you expressed a squirt in their direction. There weren't many thin barn cats in those days!

After the milking was completed, the milk was either put in cans for cooling or carried to the house and run through a hand-cranked cream separator. This was another "fun" chore, as the crank pulled rather hard for a boy, and it was rather boring as well. A large steel bowl which held several gallons of milk sat on top of the machine. As the crank was turned, the whole milk ran down through a series of rotating discs, and the centrifugal force separated the heavier "skim" milk from the lighter cream. The smaller cream spout discharged the cream into a cream can, and the larger skim milk spout emptied into large buckets. Most of the skim milk was carried out to the hog lot and fed to the pigs by pouring the milk into troughs. Pigs relish the milk, and the herd came on a dead run when they were called. If you couldn't pour the milk over or through a fence, you were in trouble.

I would wager that every farm boy who grew upon on a farm in this period has been knocked down, covered with milk and trampled by ravenous and squealing pigs

Visit to Turkey Foot Grove and Bull Foot Grove, Beaver Township



Above, Bull Foot Grove, 2009. Photo submitted by Darlene Truby.

Submitted by Darlene Truby

On Wednesday afternoon, March 25th, Ron and Sue Humphrey and David and Darlene Truby drove to the former locations of two tribes of the Potawatomi Indians, specifically the tribes of Turkey Foot and Bull Foot.

We met Vic and Scott Carlson at the Protsman farm located on Road 600S in Beaver Township and walked back through the grove of trees known as Turkey Foot Grove. Vic told us that the ridge of high ground that goes through the grove used to be part of the "old settlers' trail" that went from Lafayette to Morocco and on to Chicago. The Carlsons have cattle in the grove and have farmed the Protsman ground for many, many years. Vic said that you used to be able to see what he believed to be the tracks of the wagons on the trail.

We walked to the west edge of Turkey Foot Grove and the view was really some-

thing. You could see the Leonard Carlson (Vic's uncle) farm from there, which is where Bull Foot Grove was located. This grove is on Road 500W in Beaver Township. After Leonard Carlson, Dale and Kathy Wiseman lived there for many years and currently, Terry Pass and his family live there.

Turkey Foot gained some notoriety as a horse thief according to Elmore Barce, Benton County historian. John Ade in "History of Newton County" recorded the legend of Turkey Foot and Bull Foot. (However, there are other versions of this legend.) According to John Ade, it seems Turkey Foot was visiting Bull Foot and the visit resulted in a quarrel with Turkey Foot killing Bull Foot. Then, for revenge, Bull Foot's son killed Turkey Foot. In keeping with the Potawatomi burial custom the two bodies were placed upright, back to back,

Above, Turkey Foot Grove, 2009. Photo submitted by Darlene Truby.

and a pen build around them to keep away the wolves. Years later, Dr. Charles E. Triplett, Sr., came into possession of the bones. From the bones, he learned that one Indian was short and one was much taller. Sol McCulloch, who had known both Indians, identified Turkey Foot as the taller of the two.

Editor's Note: This historic place is being considered by the Landmark Committee for sign recognition in 2010.

HISTORICALLY YOURS

By County Historian, Donna LaCrosse

Yesterday we were back to having winter!! It was the day Harold needed to see the Pacemaker professionals in Lafayette so that meant an early start toward the south. The rain on the windshield was mostly ice, the wind was very strong and cold, and we would have rather remained at home. He did get a good report – we know the “object placed in his chest” last December is certainly doing the job it is supposed to do. God is good!

The display window at the Historical Society building has been done in a high school-alumni theme and that brings back fond memories of days gone by. I painted my first pair of senior cords in 1963 for my brother Larry, and then in 1966 for our oldest son Roger who was a senior at Morocco and I decided I could paint all that stuff the seniors wanted on their pants and skirts, so I gave it a try. Well, some of his football friends stopped in and saw what was happening, and I soon had a job, which increased after the football guys wore said cords to school! I can't remember how many cords I painted – not only that year but for as long as North Newton allowed the wearing of cords, but it was fun and I am so glad I was able to do this for the young people in our area. At first, I was not going to charge a fee for painting but the parents would not stand for that and I think I painted each item for five dollars and the money I collected was spent on good china, a service for twelve with serving dishes and platter!! When I look at or use this china, I think of the tubes of paint I used and the hours I spent doing the painting. Those were the good old days when my fingers were young and more nimble than they are today. Of course, Roger has been out of school for 42 years, so I guess I really was young and spry!!

Last week I received a phone call from a person I had never

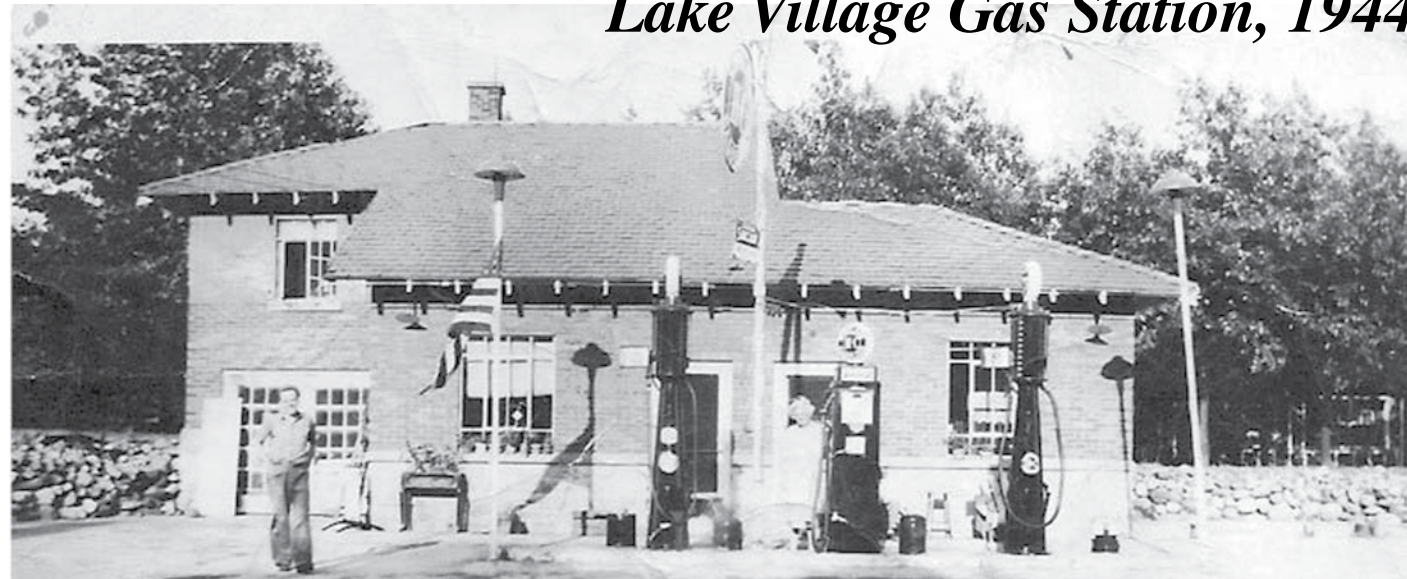
met before and found out she has an aunt Lynn on her father's side of the family and Lynn is a cousin to me because Lynn's mother was a Watkins. How weird is that? The caller, Betty, is trying to research the Watkins family history now that she has completed the other side of the family history and she did not know anyone to contact to find Watkins history. And, could I help? Well, I have pages and pages of the Edward Watkins family history and am now going to share all that with Betty. Edward Watkins married Rebecca Jane Delaney and they raised fourteen children!! Twelve of their children married and had children who had children and are still having children! One of their sons drowned when he was twenty years old and another son never did marry. Betty was delighted that I had this much of the Watkins family history and I am delighted to share the material with her.

Our family continues to make history also. We have our first great-granddaughter!! How cool is that? After having four great-grandsons, we now have Miley Marie who was born April 2 and is adorable.

A foster granddaughter will be having a daughter in July, so I can put at least two baby dolls under the Christmas tree this year. Another granddaughter is having a baby in November and our minister-grandson and his wife are going to make our baby (Gina) a grandmother in December. Our family is really growing and, history is being made.

Hope you all have a great and relaxing spring and summer – they are bound to arrive sometime – and stop by the research center for a look at the window display and a visit with those historical people inside! Visitors are always welcome.

Lake Village Gas Station, 1944



... from our web site email ...

Joanne Iwinski Miller emailed this 1933 photo and a bit of history to us of the Lake Village gas station. Emily Schmidt is standing in the photo with an unknown man. She ran the gas station and dance hall

in Conrad, Indiana. After her husband Carl Schmidt passed away on the Conrad property, she moved to Lake Village and ran this gas station with her daughter and son-in-law Alvina and Ed Iwinski. Joanne lived here as a child in 50s-60s. It still stands to-

day, and is located on old 41, on the south side of Lake Village. Next time you drive through the village, see if you can spot it today. It has a new facade, but the basic structure can be identified. Thanks Joanne for sharing with us!

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton



Edward Jr. and Agnes Steinbach, 1944.

The confusion is rooted in conflicting dates and information between census records and gravestone dates. Once my research about these two men and their lineage is more complete, I'll post an update to this story.)

Their sixth child was Mary Agnes (Maria), born in Wisconsin in 1857. She married Mr. J. B. Smith of Cooksville, IL. She died in 1937.

Their seventh child was Minnie (Anna Marie), born in WI in 1858. She married John Fisher in Newton County in 1879. (Uncertain as to year of death.)

As mentioned earlier, it is believed that as many as four children were stillborn to the family between 1858 and 1864.

Their final child, Catharine, was born in WI in 1865. It is believed that her mother (Mary) either died giving birth to Catharine or very soon after. Catharine died in 1875, short of her eleventh birthday.

Other local Newton / Benton County Indiana families intertwined in the branches of the Steinbach Family tree include the Donohue, Fisher, Grogan, Horak, Kirsch, Martin, Prue, and Schons families. David. J.Steinbach@gmail.com.

Editor's note: Many thanks to Mr. Steinbach for contributing his family history and photographs.



1936 Kentland C.Y.O. Basketball Team. Edward J. Steinbach, Jr. #10, second row; Edward Steinbach Sr., Coach, second row, right., Steinbach Collection.



1930 Kentland High School football team. - Steinbach Collection.

Speaking of Football Teams . . .

Terry Dieter dropped this postcard off at the Resource Center to add to our collection. It is the 1913 Kentland High School Football Team. Thanks Terry!



Back row, l-r, Coach, Kenny McCain, Harvey Dixon, Guy Littlejohn, Coach; Bernard Hassett, Alford Arnold, ?, Chub Ade, Ed Cassidy, John Ade?, Stanley Kemp, Paul Cunningham, Roy Dixon.

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of 18 years old, when he was sent to Chicago to cover the 1934 Century of Progress Exposition.

Like so many other young men and women from Kentland during World War Two, Edward enlisted in the military. He graduated Officers' Candidate School as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army Air Corps, and soon received a promotion to 1st Lieutenant. While stationed at Chanute Air Base in Rantoul, IL, he fell in love with Agnes J. Cejka of Chicago, IL, also a 1st Lieutenant. The two were married on January 3, 1944 at the Post Chapel.

Following his discharge for the service in 1945, Edward (Jr) returned to Kentland with his wife and infant daughter MaryLynne, and replaced his sister Marg as the editor of the newspaper until the paper was purchased by the *Morocco Courier* in 1948.

Edward (J.) moved his family to Kankakee, IL, where he worked for the *Kankakee Daily Journal* newspaper. His wife Agnes worked as an OB/Gyn nurse at St. Mary's Hospital. Together, they raised a family of seven children: MaryLynne, Michael, Beatrice Jo, Teresa Kay, David, Matthew, and Marc.

Edward (Jr.) and Agnes died in 1983 and 2007 respectively; both are buried in All Saints Cemetery in Bourbonnais, IL.

Returning to Michael and Barbara Steinbach's children, their youngest was daughter Amelia. As mentioned earlier, Amelia played an integral part in the daily operation of the *Kentland Democrat* newspaper. What was remarkable about Amelia is that she began her "career" at the paper at the age of 12 years old, and continued in it until her marriage to William Grogan in 1905. Edward (Sr) wrote of his sister "she did her work so faithfully and untiringly as to enable us to send this paper forth without



Our home, backyard view, located on Iroquois Drive, Kentland, Indiana.

the skip of a single issue."

On February 28, 1905, Amelia married William E. Grogan of Benton County, IN. Together they raised eleven children: Bertha, Charles, Raymond, George, Florence, Frances, John, Paul, Mark, Marjorie, and Alma Lee.

The publication "The History of Newton County, IN" (dated 1985) records that "they lived most of their life on a farm in Benton County, Indiana." However, William and Amelia actually moved a number of times and raised their children "out west" before returning to settle down in Benton County.

William Grogan learned well from his father John Grogan, a local farmer and successful businessman. After a couple of William's business ventures failed, he heard of an opportunity to buy inexpensive farmland where Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota meet. In December of 1907, he moved with his pregnant wife, infant daughter and widowed mother-in-law Barbara (Steinbach) to a 700 acre farm in Lyon County, Iowa. While in Iowa, two sons were added to the family. In 1912, the family purchased a 640 acre farm near Adrian, Minnesota, where the next five children were born, and where William also proved to be a successful cattleman. In 1919, the Grogans along with mother-in-law, Barbara, returned to Benton County where he and his father's business partner Tom Freeland purchased a thousand acres of the old Ditton farm. In Benton County, the last two children Grogan were born.

William and Amelia (Steinbach) Grogan died in 1953 and 1954 respectively, and are buried in St. John the Baptist cemetery just south of Earl Park, IN.

That, in a nutshell, is the history of the Steinbach family as they came to, settled in, and moved on from Kentland, IN. Concerning the remaining children of the original family heads, Johann and Maria, little is presently known by this writer concerning them other than each was raised briefly in Wisconsin and moved with their father to Kentland in 1868.

Their second child was Mat-



Edward in 1930s; Lillian in 1940s.



Steinbach children in 1919. Back, l-r, Cecilia and Marie; front, Edward Jr. and Marg.

thew (Mathias), born in 1846 in Germany. Matthew farmed along side his father. He married Mary C. Martin of Newton County on January 3, 1880. He died in 1911.

Their third child was Margaret (Margaretha), born in 1848 in WI, married Dominick Horak in Newton County on April 17, 1871. They moved to St. Libory, NE around 1890 and raised their family there. Margaret died in 1923.

(There is some confusion about the fourth and fifth children, both sons and named a form of the name Johann-one being Johann, the other being Johannson.

George Ade's Atwater Kent Radio

The advertisement below came to my possession through e-bay a couple of years ago, through a search using George Ade. How unusual that two Newton County names would appear in the ad. However, after many hours of research, I have not linked A. Atwater Kent to our Newton County Kents.

The fact that George Ade endorsed his radio, makes me wonder if he had inquired with the manufacturer as to his "roots." Could be, who would know . . . Yostie maybe . . .

A bit of background reveals that in

1896, this Mr. Kent dropped out of Worcester Polytech Institute in Massachusetts to start his own business in his father's machine shop. They manufactured and sold electrical items. He later moved his business to Philadelphia, PA, where he manufactured electric products including batteries and inter-communicating telephones. In 1906, Kent developed an ignition system for automobiles that integrated a series of weak sparks into a single hot spark. The Unisparker soon became the industry standard. During World War I, this success awarded them a government project to



A. Atwater Kent, Sr.

produce optical gun sights and fuse setters. In 1921, the company received an order for 10,000 headsets, catapulting them into the ever-popular radio business. In 1922, he produced his first radio components, and in 1923, his first complete radio.

And, that is just the beginning of the history of Mr. A. Atwater Kent. Find out more on the web.

This ad hawks his radios that were the rage in the twenties. If anyone has a clue to this man's genealogy - we'd love to hear it! Submitted by Beth Bassett

ATWATER KENT RADIO

"I never thought I would live to coax a grand organ recital out of something about twice as large as a cigar box."
... George Ade

READ that sentence again. It seems as if the whole story of radio in general and this Atwater Kent Receiving Set in particular is in that sentence.

But there is even more to be told and George Ade goes on to tell it in his own way:

"I am just as much an expert," he writes, "as the average fan who sits in front of a set and jiggles the dials and hopes for the best. I am glad to report that your new set seems to be especially made for radio addicts of my description . . ."

"The set which I now have picks up stations all over the map and they come in clear and strong. The new arrangement for toning the lights gives a control over volume and static which I have not found in other sets. The whole thing is so small and simple that it looks and acts unreasonable."

And George Ade, like so many other celebrities, believes these things because he judges his Atwater Kent Receiving Set by just one thing: *what it does!*

Shall we send you an illustrated booklet telling the story of Atwater Kent Radio?

Hear the Atwater Kent Radio Artists every Thursday evening at 9 o'clock (eastern standard time) through stations:

WEAB - New York	WCAR - Pittsburgh
WJAR - Providence	WGR - Buffalo
WEEI - Boston	WWJ - Detroit
WFI - Philadelphia	WOC - Davenport
WCCO - Minneapolis-St. Paul	
WSAI - Cincinnati	

ATWATER KENT MFG. COMPANY
A. Atwater Kent, President
4707 WISSAHICKON AVE., PHILADELPHIA

Radio Speakers priced from \$12 to \$28
Prices slightly higher from the Rockies west, and in Canada.

MODEL 10 (without tubes), \$30 MODEL 20, \$50 The Model 20 Compact in GEORGE ADE'S Home. This set is priced at \$30.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON?

By Janet Miller, answers on page 19

1. What was the Indian name of Newton County's Beaver Lake?
2. According to the Official Rural Farm Directory, Newton County, Indiana (1967 - 42 years ago) there were five elevators in the advertisements. Can you name them?
3. Can you name the school colors of the five previous Newton County High Schools, Brook, Goodland, Kentland, Morocco and Mt. Ayr? Can you name the school colors of the current North Newton High School and South Newton High School?
4. Can you name the mascots of the above seven schools?
5. Between 1870 and 1910, Kentland was struck by how many disastrous fires?

HOME IS WHERE YOUR STORY BEGINS . . .

The History Of The Steinbach Family In Kentland/Newton County, Indiana, 1868 - 1987

The history of the Steinbach family in Kentland, Indiana began a little more than 20 years before the family actually arrived in Newton County, with the immigration of Johann (1817-1894) and Maria (1816-1865) Steinbach from Prussia to the United States in 1846. They brought with them from Germany, two sons - Michael (1844-1900) and Mathias (1846-1911) - as well as Johann's mother-in-law Anna Decker (1796-1875).

Quickly Americanized, the Steinbachs settled in Port Washington, Wisconsin, where "John" farmed and "Mary" kept house. Here were born six more children: Margaret (1848 - 1923), John (??-??), John B., (??-??), Mary Agnes (1857-1937), Anna Marie (1858-??) and Catharine (1865-1875). Between the births of Anna Marie and Catharine, it is believed that four other children were still-born.

Also in the early 1860's, Nicholas (1819-1900) and Maria (1822-1885) Kirsch arrived in America from Luxemburg and settled in Port Washington with their six children; John Nicholas (1843-1911), Peter (1848-1910), Barbara (1849-1925), John Baptiste (1854-1921), Lena (1854-1909), and Anna (1854-1917); along with Nicholas' brother Anthony (1820-1900) and his daughter Margaret (1856-??). Sharing a common background, profession, and language, the Steinbachs and the Kirschs became close neighbors and good friends.

In 1865, Mary (Decker) Steinbach died. It is believed that she died either giving birth to Catharine or very soon after.

Three years later, in 1868, John, his children, and his mother-in-law Anna Decker moved to Newton County, IN, where he purchased a farm 3.5 miles southwest of Kentland, IN (just outside of Raub, IN). There, John farmed for 18 years, with his sons taking turns at his side. Because of the deep friendship between the families, Nicholas Kirsch moved his family to Kentland at the same.

In 1875, Anna Decker died at home. Likewise, Maria Kirsch died in 1885. Both were buried in St. Joseph Cemetery, just south of Kentland.

In 1894, John Steinbach, the family

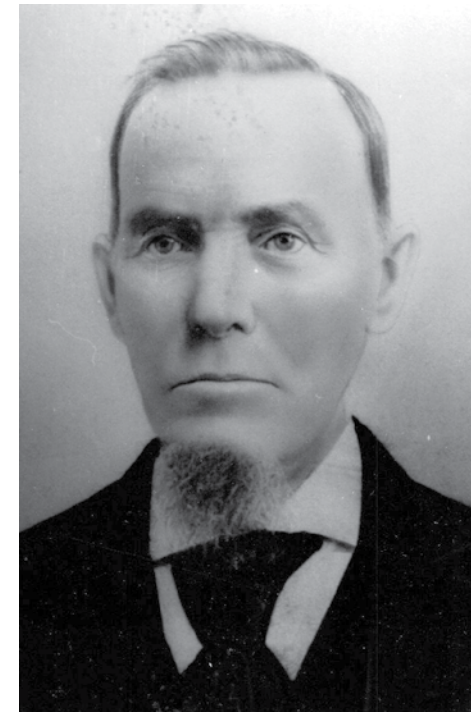
patriarch suffered a paralyzing stroke and died at home. He was buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery

Concerning John and Mary Steinbach's eldest son Michael.

Within a year of moving to Kentland, Michael Steinbach married his sweetheart Barbara Kirsch (March 19, 1869) in Newton County. For seven years, Michael farmed with his father in Raub, IN. Two children were born there to Michael and Barbara; Maria (1872-1893) and Edward (1873-1943).

In 1875, Michael moved his family to Kankakee, IL. There, three more sons were born; Peter (1875-1879), Johnnie (1876-1879), and Nicholas (1878-1879).

In 1879, Michael and Barbara moved to Chicago to live and work with Barbara's father and mother who had moved to Chicago from Newton County for work opportunities. Tragedy struck the family in the form of a diphtheria epidemic which



Michael Steinbach

claimed Peter, Johnnie, and Nicholas within a matter of weeks of each other. The epidemic nearly took young Edward as well, "however he found and drank an unknown amount of a soothing syrupy medicine which put him to sleep for 24 hours; he sur-

vived the epidemic."

1880 brought Michael and Barbara a baby daughter, Amelia (1880-1954).

In 1882, Michael had had enough of big city life and moved his family back to his father's farm near Kentland. "Back Home Again in Indiana," he worked as a carpenter and as a saloon-keeper with his father-in-law, Nicholas Kirsch who had also moved back to Indiana.

In 1900, Michael died, and was survived by his wife Barbara and two children—Edward and Amelia. Also in 1900, Barbara's father and her Uncle Anthony, who had come to live with her in their old age, also died. Both men are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

In 1907, Barbara moved with her daughter Amelia's family (brief narrative later) to Iowa then Minnesota to help raise the children. Returning to Indiana in 1919, she continued to live with the family in Benton County until her death in 1925. She is buried along side of her husband Michael in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Concerning Michael and Barbara Steinbach's Children

Little is known about their eldest daughter Maria, other than she was born in 1872, moved with her family to Kankakee IL and Chicago IL, before returning to Kentland where she lived until her death in 1893. She had not married. She was buried in St. Joseph Cemetery in Kentland.

Their son Edward, born in Kentland in 1873, also lived briefly in Kankakee and Chicago. Edward lived in Kentland from the family's return in 1882 until his death in 1943. At the age of 12, he worked as a "printer's devil" under Mr. John B. Spotswood, then editor of the *Kentland Democrat* newspaper. Mr. Spotswood was so impressed with his work ethic that he commented in the September 16, 1887 edition of the *Kentland Democrat* that

" . . . Edward Steinbach, one of the compositors in this office, is attending school. Ed is a good and reliable boy, and he will find a place in The *Democrat* office waiting for him as soon as this term of his school is out."

And indeed there was "a place" for young Edward. At the age of 18, he became the editor of the *Kentland Democrat*, and at the age of 20, he purchased the newspaper.

Submitted by David J. Steinbach

Edward viewed the newspaper as "the family printing business." His mother Barbara was his bookkeeper until 1907, and his sister Amelia worked along side of him, doing everything from typesetting to editing.

In 1906, Edward married Lillian M. Stewart (1877-1956) of Chicago, IL. They were the parents of four children: Marie (1907-1964), Cecelia (1909- 1987), Anna Margaret (1913 - living), and Edward J. Jr. (1916-1983).

Edward continued as the owner, editor and publisher of the *Kentland Democrat* for over 50 years. During that half-century, Edward was also accompanied in the business by his wife Lillian and their four children.

Active in the life of Kentland, Edward was involved in many social and civic endeavors from the Kentland Chamber of Commerce to the Newton County branch of the Red Cross, from coaching youth and high school athletics to working with the Boy Scouts (Troop 1.) He was a trustee at St. Joseph Catholic Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He was also well known for his sense of humor and his competitive spirit. Edward's practice of stretching out a hand of help and friendship knew neither political nor religious barriers. He was known for "displaying an admirable spirit of tolerance for all men."

On April 25, 1943, Edward died suddenly at home. The cause of death was heart failure. His obituary in the *Kentland Democrat* read:

"It would be impossible to evaluate or measure all the many contributions that have been made by (Edward) to the up building of this town, community and county. Suffice it to say that he has more

than compensated for his life of three score years and ten. Mr. Steinbach was a man of quiet, even-tempered, and entirely unselfish characteristics. He had faith in mankind and measured his friends through worth of character. He was a man of high religious ideals, sound morality, and of unquestioned integrity. Because of his labors here on earth, he will live in the memories of men."



Edward and Lillian Steinbach in the 1920s.

In Edward's obituary in the rival newspaper, The *Newton County Enterprise*, the editor wrote: "Although we have disagreed on many subjects, we feel that we have lost a true friend."

Edward was survived by his wife Lillian and four children. Lillian lived with her son Edward (Jr.) and his family from 1943 until her death in 1956.

Edward (Sr.) and Lillian are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Concerning Edward (Sr.) and Lillian Steinbach's Children

Their eldest daughter, Marie was

employed with Northern Indiana Public Service Company for over 35 years. Marie lived in Kentland, IN until her death in 1964. She had not married. She was buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Their second daughter, Cecelia married Carl J. Donahue of Kentland, IN on April 27, 1932, and they were the parents of four daughters: Carole Ann, Patricia, Barbara, and Sally. Carl and Cecelia lived in the family home at 4th Ave and Allen Street in Kentland, IN until their deaths in 1987. Both were buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Their third daughter, Anne Margaret (Marg) married Reuben H. (Pinkie) Carlson in Kentland, IN on November 25, 1937. The couple settled in Gibson City, IL where they raised three children: Carla, John Carlson, and Susan.

While everyone in Edward's family helped out at the *Democrat*, the part Marg played most touched the heart of the community. During World War Two, she edited a weekly column entitled "To You In Service", one of the most fondly recalled columns by those who resided in the community and their loved ones serving in the Armed Forces at the time.

Ward K. Bartlett wrote in "Through The Lens: As We See It:"

"The column was a highly valued touch of home for the G.I.s from Kentland wherever they received it. Two Kentland businessmen paid to have the paper sent to all of the men and women from Kentland who were in the service. The column also featured many letters written to Mrs. Carlson by the soldiers and sailors. At the end of the war, the *Democrat* published profiles and photos of all the servicemen and women who answered the call to arms from Kentland. These profiles were edited and designed to be collected into a permanent binder, and the end result is a remarkable compilation of one community's involvement in that historic conflict."

That compilation is entitled "Keep Smilin', Marg" by Marg Carlson.

Reuben Carlson died in 1985 and is buried in Gibson City, IL. Marg travels between Gibson City and California, according to the seasons.

Edward and Lillian's son, Edward (Jr.) followed as a newspaperman in his father's footsteps. Between school and sports, he took his place in the daily operation of the *Kentland Democrat*, running down stories, setting type, and getting the paper out to the community. Perhaps one of his favorite assignments came at the age