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

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Visitors of the Newton County Historical Society meet 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!!

Volunteer to open US 41 South bound to travel during the winter storm of 1967. - *The Villager photo.*

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

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Send membership dues to:
PO Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
219-474-6944
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**Nostalgic Moments: Pets**

Residents of Jackson Township

Township: Lawler and Hillis

Early Land Holders of Colfax

**The Brook Picture Shows**

**The Snowstorm of 1967**

By Beth Bassett

The Lake Village *Villager* stated, “Without a doubt, the top news story in the Midwest this week, and possibly the top story of the year, is the snow storm which hit Northern Indiana and Northern Illinois last Thursday and Friday.”

On Thursday, January 26, 1967, Newton County residents would wake up, look out their windows and witness the beginnings of the worst storm to hit the county in 35 years. It began at 5:00 a.m. that morning, heavy snow accompanied by stiff winds. By noon, automobile travel on all area roads had become quite difficult, and by sundown Thursday, travel had come to a halt. A good estimate could not be made as to how many cars and trucks were stranded along the stretch of US 41 in Newton County, but it had to be in the hundreds. By nightfall, most of the occupants of these vehicles had made their way into the towns, businesses, homes, churches, schools and community centers for shelter from the storm.

Friday morning came an additional shock, for contrary to weather forecasts, it was still snowing. At about 4:00 p.m. that day, the storm finally let up, leaving behind 16 and 20 inches of snow. With the help of the winds and the warm temperature of 30 degrees, the snow that had fallen first was compacted down into ice by the last travelers on the roads, and with the continuing falling snow throughout the night, the wind piled it up behind every obstruction, reaching heights of five to eight feet on the sheltered side of some buildings.

The rate of the fall, the warmth, and the wind made it impossible for the highway departments to keep up with the snow – so traffic came to a stop. In addition, snows of this magnitude were so rare in our area that the State Highway Department did not have the equipment suited to clearing it up after it had stopped falling.

The governor called out units of the National Guard to aid in opening up US 41 and other major highways.

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**Pfanner’s The Lost Child**

**Meals to the Fields**

**Pages of The Past, Winter, 1959**

**Winter 2009 - $2.25**

**Volume 14, Issue One**

**Winter 2009** - $2.25

**In this issue . . .**

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The first of these men, about 300 guardsmen and 100 military vehicles arrived in Lake Village via 41 on Saturday morning. They brought with them heavy trucks, bulldozers, loaders and other equipment, but the only news that did more than anything else to get US 41 open was the 65-ton tank retriever that arrived here Sunday after being driven all the way from Camp Atterbury south of Indianapolis. Its power, traction and weight enabled it to cut right through the packed ice in one pass.

By 4:00 on Sunday afternoon, traffic started on its way again after being held by police for snow clearance in front of Pronger’s Restaurant in Kentland to State Road 10 in Lake Village.

On the county roads, things were a little slower. Opening up the roads in the northern part of the county was delayed by several factors. As in the case with the State Highway Department, the County Highway Department did not have enough equipment to tackle snow in such quantity.

So, where were you and what were you doing January 26th through February 1st, 1967? I was 10 years old – out of school during the winter!

3. The automobile dealerships listed in Morocco in the 1916 Morocco Courier were:

Padgett & Martin, Fred Jesse & Sons, and James Johnson, Agent. Padgett & Martin were the following: Studebaker 6 to Joseph Kennedy; Saxon 6’s to James Holley, S. R. Stizolve, Lee Ross, Martin Jackson, Fred Camblin, Ray Russell, Elmer Padgett, Bert Spitzer, Ed Kellenberger, Henry Wolf, Emma Ketcham, Herman C. Rogers and O. J. Shaw. Fred Jesse & Sons sold: Fords to Dr. Ledden, Lee Parkey, Elomer Tobert, C. A. Brewer, Mrs. Mollie Johnson, Mrs. Denny Hays and Bruce Hanger. James Johnson, Agent, sold an Oakland 6 to himself. Mitchell 6’s were purchased by Frank Johnson, Eugene Pettigoe, and Delmar Law. Alex Cassell bought a Buick 6. The Mitchell and Buick did not list a dealership.

4. The three newspapers printed in Mt. Ayr prior to 1941 were: Mount Ayr Bumblebee, Mount Ayr Pilot, and Mount Ayr Tribune. Does anyone have a copy of any of these newspapers that could be copied for the NFA?

5. The building in Kentland that houses the Newton County Historical Society Resource Center was built for the Grab It Here Grocery. Prior to that Mr. Cooper and wife, Mattie, published the following newspapers: The Morocco Lions, The Morocco Courant, Mount Ayr Pilot, and Mount Ayr Tribune. Does anyone have a copy of any of these newspapers that could be copied for the NFA?

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like me – just a few lines in an email

Visit our website www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton
On Line With Our Officers
Submitted by President Janet Miller

One of my fondest memories of growing up on a farm was the preparation for the summer garden. This began in the cold winter months of January and February with the arrival of the various seed catalogs. If you remember, these publications were printed in very dark blue ink on thin paper with illustrations of the most common, as well as some very unusual fruits and vegetables, and always received a very welcome arrival during the dreary days of winter. I was curious as to the beginnings of the seed catalog business, so I began researching the internet for histories of famous catalog companies, as well as the Mail Order Gardening history with mom as to her recollections of seed buying. I started with catalogs from Henry Fields, Gurney and the Burpee Seed companies. She also said that in 1927-28 her brother Leonard ordered seeds from a catalog door to door to the family or the neighborhood. I found that in 1927-28 her brother Leonard ordered seeds from a catalog door to door to the family or the neighborhood. I found that Henry Fields, based in Shenandoah, Iowa, published his first seed catalog in 1899. It was four pages and was distributed to the Shenandoah area. In 1907 he expanded to mail orders. In 1924, he became a pioneer in the broadcast radio by building a station on top of his seed house. He was one of 300 radio stations operating in the country, and his venue was country entertainment and advertising. I had heard stories of his broadcast and admired his courage and his venue was country entertainment and advertising. I had heard stories of his broadcast and admired his courage and his courage.

Burpee personally wrote most of the copy in the mail order catalog. The quality and detail of his writing, and how he described products in his catalogs, made the mail order business a success. Burpee knew that his mail order business was successful because of the catalog. Burpee knew that in 1927-28 his company had 150,000 mail order customers and that he would do all the writing himself. Burpee personally wrote most of the copy in the mail order catalog. He was a pioneer in the broadcast radio by building a station on top of his seed house. He was one of 300 radio stations operating in the country, and his venue was country entertainment and advertising.

Burpee dropped his partner and founded his own company. He soon opened a store in Philadelphia, selling seeds and plants in Pennsylvania in 1876. With a partner, in 1876 the 18 year old Arlie started a mail order business in the country. He called his company the Henry Fields and his partner assumed the business and flourished. By 1924, they were sending 80 to 100 catalogs to the 48 states. Knowing the success that Fields had with his radio station, the long time customers were very familiar with it in the same fashion. The catalogs were written in a way to make them appealing to the customer. The catalogs were written in a way to make them appealing to the customer. The catalogs were written in a way to make them appealing to the customer.

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The Brook Picture Shows
By Beth Bassett

Books, magazines, recitations of poetry and prose, productions of operas by traveling theater groups, vaudeville acts passing through town, puppet shows, local drama clubs, performing popular dramas, romances and comedies on the local stage, silent movies, talking motion pictures, VCR and DVD viewing, are types of entertainment that has proven to be a common thread in the lives of our ancestors, and our lives today. Evidence of each of these activities can be found in the newspapers and history books of every community in the area. It is interesting to point out, that from the beginning, about all of the types of entertainment still prevail today. Technology may have improved the delivery, but the core of it all, to entertain, and to be entertained, has driven this industry throughout history.

Probably between 1945 and 1946, the Brook Business Men recognized the popularity of motion pictures, and began pooling together their monies and abilities to bring a modern, state of the art movie theater to the Town of Brook. Records indicate that the Brook Business Men purchased the property, Lot 12, Warr’s Edition, from the Henry Howell Estate, where he had a gas station, and Lot 11, from Frank Corbin, who ran a harness shop. These two properties would eventually be cleared and the new theater built.

However, the motion picture business was not new to the town of Brook. In the December 5, 1930, edition of the Brook Reporter, an article states that the Sunderland Brothers had completely remodeled the old theater. A new front had been installed, new screen, machinery, light fixtures and talking equipment put in, and a new ceiling put on and the entire interior redecorated.

Today, there is only a vacant lot at the corner of Main and Railroad Street, but at one time, the first floor of this building was the Brook Theatre. In 1932, there is an ad for the Majestic Theater opened with “All Quiet On The Western Front,” Promising to show only the latest and best pictures. However, in an August edition of the Brook Reporter, 1932, there is an ad for the Majestic Theater. It may have operated under this name for several years.

In the January 22, 1948, edition of the Brook Reporter, an article indicates that the plans were progressing for the new theater. At their meeting held at the library, they officially elected a board of directors for the newly formed Brook Theater Corporation. At that time, they reported that over $38,000 worth of stock had been subscribed and paid in. The board consisted of Dr. Wayne Pippenger, President, Harry Lawrence Sec.-Treas., Raymond Barton, Buford Lyon, and Tyrus Conn, Directors.

Pets We Will Never Forget
I asked several of our members to submit a few lines about their favorite pets when they were growing up. We always had a dog on the farm. They were an important part of the security system out there in the country – as they are today. Our dogs usually followed the farm implements up and down the fields during planting and harvesting season, and was always around when I went into the barnyard to gather eggs or generally mess around in the barns.

Lorene Bassett told me years ago about her dog when she was a little girl that she harnessed to a plow and it pulled her around the yard. She is pictured here with “Sport” and “curt.” She also shared a story about a sheep-herd dog named “Shep” that could usually be found at her father’s side. Each morning the cows had to be milked, and invariably the cows were at the far side of the pasture. My Grandpa Lewis trained the dog to herd the cattle up to the barn. Mom says that just one word and the dog would be off, bringing the cows up for milking.

Childhood Pets
Submitted by Robert Bridgeman and Norma Jean (Bridgeman) Lawatt

Having attained the age of 80 years plus, many, many memories have faded into the sunset.

My first recollection of a family pet was a large black Labrador. I don’t recall his name. My brother and I would play in the yard and he would playfully jump and tumble with us. He also served as our bodyguard. I don’t recall of the circumstances for his demise.

At about the age of ten, I recall of a family dog named “Fouzer” who at command, would run to the pasture and single home with us to the farm in our 1941 Ford car.

In cold weather she was allowed to stay in the screened-in porch, otherwise, she was always outside and ate mostly table scraps. She’d get a rabbit cornered in the standing corn stalks and bring it to my dad and me as we worked the fields. We ate rabbit all fall. When she got older, she was a great watchdog because she only barked when a strange person or car pulled in the lane. She did not chase cars.

Shep was a family favorite who we enjoyed about ten years until she died of old age. She liked to be with the tractor in the field until she grew tired of running and she liked to ride in the car. We had barn cats but Shep never really bothered them. Shep will always be my favorite pet.

Shep Comes Home In the 1941 Ford
Submitted by Beth Prue

The puppy I remember from 1948 when I was age 7 was an English Shephard, a spayed female, named Shep. My father, Clarence Prue, had her shipped by train from Iowa, in a crate, to the New York Central depot in Kentland. She was hungry when we got her off the train. She rode...
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Meals to the Fields: continued from page 15 instead of taking fried chicken or baked steak, the men got sand-\washed “pimentoed” food.

My three children were young and they enjoyed going with me since they didn’t get to see their Dad much when he was working long hours. The men were sometimes in fields some distance apart so going to 2 or 3 fields took a while. It seemed the tractors were always at the other end of the field when we arrived so we had to wait. Sometimes my hand would need a part in Morocco or Rensselaer and “I had nothing else to do” I and the kids were sent to the implement store. I always tried to take the old part with me so the repair guy could tell what I wanted.

The farming torch has passed from my husband to our daughter and her husband. She is a necessary part of this team so I am back to taking meals to the field in the busy seasons. So, it is sometimes either a hot or cold meal. My children are grown and I’m not as busy now. So, it is a pleasant time for me to visit McDonald’s or Dairy Queen if they are closer than the “home plate”. My daughters remember taking lemonade and cookies to the field with their Grandmother in the afternoons. I didn’t do that.

From the Freezer to the Field

I do take meals to the field during planting and harvest times. I use my freezer a lot.

In the early fall, I bake different desserts, warm them individually and put them in the freezer. I also prepare different casseroles and freeze them. Some are beef and/or chicken, lasagna, baked rigatoni, cabbage rolls and stuffed green peppers. One of the favorites the guys always request is the 5 hour oven stew when the weather gets colder.

The frozen casseroles I will put in the oven half thawed and on a time delayed to bake. These dishes I fix for the day some one stops in and puts it in the oven between 10:30 or 11:30 and then that person will come back, pick it up at noon along with the drinks and the box with the plates, dessert & etc. The meals are served from the baking or cooking pans except in the spring when I prepare the plates as they need to be taken to different locations.

In the spring I no longer work in the field so it is easier to fix things. I only help on fall harvest.

Jerome Voglund Threshing Crew, 1917

Thresholding Crew: This picture taken about 1917 was loaned to the Newton County Enterprise by Ed Brees, Kentland, and shows a typical “threshing crew” of that period. A regular threshing run would usually be made up to 25 men with four men for each machine. A threshing outfit consisted of the machine to furnish the power, the separator and blower and a water tank wagon. Small grain was cut, when dead ripe, by a horse drawn combine, usually requiring six or more horses; the combine tied the grain into bundles which were “shocked” in the field, usually seven to a shock heads up. Later, usually in August, the bundles were hauled on hay racks, to the machine for threshing. A threshing dinner was sometimes a very special with competition among the threshers and shows a typical “threshing crew” of that period.

Jerome Voglund of the Mt. Zion community, Washington Township, where this picture was taken. Identification of the men pictured was made by Mr. Brees and Mrs. McKinley Brees.

Note: This picture was clipped from the February 12, 1970, Newton County Enterprise, and donated to the society by Ralph Colleen.

The day the movie stars arrived in Brook created quite a stir, and they the day well! The Brook Theater has now been in operation about eight years. During this time, our community has enjoyed first class motion pictures in the most modern and the best managed Theater anywhere around. Everyone, both adults and children have

accounting this distribution – Balance in Bank before sale: $159.76. From Arve and Henry Hermansen, $10,000.00, Total $10,159.76. Twenty-six and one-half percent of $38,000 outstanding stock – $10,070.00, which should be sufficient to close the corporation, $89,576, S.W.G. Phippen, President and Harry Berndt, Secretary.

A complete list of the stockholders was also included in the letter. Indeed, Arve and Henry Hermansen continued to operate the award winning Brook Theater until 1976.

In a Theater Catalog dated 1949, the Brook Theater is featured with photos and related data. The building was designed by Architect Boyd E. Phelps, Michigan City, Indiana. Its seating capacity was 392, and the cost of the building was $61,542. Cost of equipment, including air conditioning, $16,284. Lot size, 42’x125’. The Theater closed about 1977.

The latest movies were shown week after week, but there is one event, that would match and possibly exceed the excitement that was created the day that Taft visited Brook in 1908. On Friday, October 27, 1952, the stars from Movietime Today appeared in person to a lively excited crowd. What a day!

The Brook, Indiana, Iroquois and Washington Townships Sesquicentennial Collection, 2006.
The Newcomer

By County Historian, Donna Lacosse

Historically Yours

Golly gee, this has been a long cold winter! As I write this, it is the first day of February and the temperature was 41 degrees at noon!

This has been an interesting winter. Even with the ice, all the kids, and all but three grandchildren were here, so we had quite a full house on Christmas afternoon and early evening.

On Saturday after Christmas, Harold decided he needed attention; ended up in the hospital and had to be “fitted” with a pacemaker on the following Monday. He was the first Newton County person to be transported to the new Chirian Hospital in Lafayette!! He will go to any lengths to be first!! He is fine now, and almost back to being normal. God is good!

In this issue of the Newcomer, Beth has written an article about the big storm in 1967. I can remember what we did during the time when we had no power, no heat and no way to cook. Our oldest son was a senior at Monroe High School and they were playing basketball at South Newton when the storm hit in full force with winds, blowing and drifting snow and bitter cold.

We managed to follow a snowplow all the way across the county in order to get back home, and the next day shipped our children to my parents three blocks away because they had a fireplace, plus a gas range which threw out a lot of heat when the oven was going.

Harold and I slept with gallons of hot water at our feet in bed and during the day, we huddled under layers of blankets to keep warm. I can’t remember how long it was before the power came back on but I do remember it took weeks and weeks for my husband to put up antennas that had gone down in the storm.

When the power went off this winter, Harold got the generator started and it sat up at least we had heat. This time we were ready!! Glad this happened before and not after his vacation in the West edge of town, he yells “Stop” and Paul vomits in their evergreens. I called the hospital to tell them of our “success”.

The mysterious mushroom — terminated; ended up in the hospital and had to be “fitted” with a pacemaker. My husband would ask me to go to the hospital. It was around noon when I returned home. Upon looking in the refrigerator to prepare lunch, I noticed a slice had been taken from the amaryllis bulb. After more looking, I realized my husband, Paul, had fixed a hamburger for an early lunch and was back out of the field. Knowing how much he liked onion on his hamburger, I knew we were in trouble.

I called the ER and they said to bring him to the hospital right away. So, to the field I go. To save time, I just told him he had been poisoned. Paul was furious. As instructed, we go to the new Chirian Hospital in Lafayette, which he quickly drank. We proceeded toward Brook stopping once for nausea—no results. As we neared my parent’s house on the West edge of town, he yells “Stop!” and Paul vomits in their evergreens. I called the hospital to tell them of our “success”.

They were satisfied, so we headed back to the farm.

Over the years I have carried a few meals to the field, but more often it has been snacks. I remember it as a good time to visit and for Dad and Grandpa to take a break. When I was first married, we harvested only ear corn. This method of harvesting required a shelling crew at sale time. I helped prep for those meals and it was like feeding an army. Times do change and I returned to nursing at the hospital. My husband would take the shelling crew to the restaurant in town. Whew!! What a relief that was.

Pork Steak Skillet

Brown pork steak in skillet with lid, which will prevent juices from evaporating. Sprinkle with basil, salt and pepper. Drain peaches, reserving syrup. Add water to syrup to measure 1 1/2 cups. Add syrup mixture, vinegar, and boulion cube to skillet. Cover and simmer 30 minutes. Dice peach slices and add to skillet, cover, and simmer 5 minutes. If serving as pork steaks, arrange pork steaks and peach sauce on top of rice. If serving as a casserole, stir rice into pork steak pieces and peaches.

The original recipe called for whole pork steaks, but since eating them from evaporating, sprinkle with basil, salt and pepper. Drain peaches, reserving syrup. Add water to syrup to measure 1 1/2 cups. Add syrup mixture, vinegar, and boulion cube to skillet. Cover and simmer 30 minutes. Dice peach slices and add to skillet, cover, and simmer 5 minutes. If serving as pork steaks, arrange pork steaks and peach sauce on top of rice. If serving as a casserole, stir rice into pork steak pieces and peaches.

Meals to the Field

For many years it was the custom for the “hired man” to be furnished their noon meal. It was always called dinner. Lunch was the meal at noon when the kids ate at school. It was the custom for the hired man to carry a “dinner pail”. As they got older, it was carried in a paper bag.

For the farmers’ wives’ dinner was not away from the home in earlier years and she expected to cook the dinner meal. During the busy seasons of planting and “corn shocking”, the men were sometimes too busy or too far away from the house to come “in” to eat their dinner. The housewife would take the dinner meal to the field. In the “slack” months on the farm, the men would come “in” for dinner. This would give the horses and men time to rest.

I was married in 1956 at the end of this earlier era. It was still the custom to have a big meal at noon, but sometimes...
Meals to the Fields
My thanks to Becky Lyons for the gathering of the memories of area women who have carried and or still prepare meals for their hard working farm families to the fields. This tradition is carried over from the threshing run dinners that so many of our members recall.

Threshing Run Meals
Threshing was a difficult and tiring work, yet threshing time is remembered as an enjoyable event—a time of gathering together, of talking, laughing and helping one another. The women of the neighborhood gathered to cook the table-bending meals. The cooperation of the men and women made their work easier and as in all the community work situations, the prevalent feeling was of gaiety and fun, not of self pity because of hard work involved.

In 2006, Roy Cooper wrote a series of articles, that included the threshing runs for the book, Brook, Indiana, Iroquois and Washington Townships, A Sesquicentennial Collection. Here is an excerpt that pertains to the threshing meals.

My Brother and I Couldn’t Wait
To Sit At The Big Table, First Shift
by Roy Cooper

“Often two or three neighborhood ladies and their daughters would work together, helping to host the big dinners.

“The menu generally included fried chicken, roast beef or meat loaf. Lots of potatoes, gravy, biscuits and dessert. Iced tea and lemonade were refreshing drinks. If you didn’t get enough to eat, it was your own fault. You’d have to produce an over-abundance of meat, potatoes, and fruit pies for your husbands, various male relatives, and hired men. The men would be called in from the field by either a bell or a triangle hanging in the yard. Then they would wash up, out of door, and come into dinner.

“Many times the crew was fed in two shifts with the main men eating in the first shift and the water boy and young boys had to wait for the second shift. You could really start to feel grownup by the time the second meal came around.

“Much to our disappointment, the War brought on ‘food stamps’ and ‘food rationing’ to help with the war effort. For this reason it was decided that each member of the threshing crew would go home for dinner. What a ‘revolving development’ that was! Needless to say we went on to go on the “threshing runs” a few more years, but without the big dinners.”

Carrying Meals To The Field
by Carol Light

Remember all those stories about how, back in the good days, women fed an army of hungry men during threshing runs? Several neighborhood women, along with all wearing aprons, would join forces to produce an over-abundance of meat, potatoes, and fruit pies for their husbands, various male relatives, and hired men. The men would be called in from the field by either a bell or a triangle hanging in the yard. Then they would wash up, out of door, and come into dinner.

“Many times the crew was fed in two shifts with the main men eating in the first shift and the water boy and young boys had to wait for the second shift. You could really start to feel grownup and important when you made it to the first shift.

“As a small boy I really enjoyed the threshing crew at our farm and got to go over to Grandma Cooper’s house where the “threshing dinner” was prepared and served. My mother and my aunts helped to prepare the meal.

“What a treat it was to sit down at the big “threshing dinner” table, and eat my fill of “goodies” even though I had to wait for the second shift.

“My younger brother and I really looked forward to the day when we would join the “threshing crew” and be able to eat with the first shift. Finally at about the time we graduated to the working crew, along came the threshing run dinners.

“My three older brothers and several other young men from the neighborhood went into the Armed Services to help the U.S. fight the Germans and the Japanese.

“Our threshing crew dwindled, but we younger ones, along with the “old timers” carried on the “threshing run” tradition for a few more years. Now we had graduated to the first and main shift and we were really looking forward to the first table, at the big “threshing dinners.”

“While I’m remembering the threshing dinners and the food, I want to remember seeing my dad, Roy Cooper, Sr., my great grandfather, Dr. C. G. Harrod lived in Columbus, IN. He had a farm outside town that we visited frequently when I was a child.

“My father recently passed, and among his things I found the poem “The Lost Child.” Can you give me any further information regarding the Kankakee Poet? My reply to Cathy attached a copy of the Quill & Ink that had an article about W.W. Pfrimmer, and explained to her the area’s environs at the time. It is quite possible that this story did really happen, as the description of the “moors” could very well have been the marshes of the Beaver Lake country. Anyone heard of this tale? Let us know!”

From the tree-tops on the hill-tops, show the last rays of the sun, Twilight deep in the valley, warning all the day was done; Storm clouds gathered in the Southwest, gleaming cliffs of marble white Slowly changed to leaden color, with the coming of the night.

As, along the dusky highway, came a horseman, riding fast, Passed each moment at each farmhouse, told the primary contrast between men today is that the men don’t come to the house. At least, mine don’t.

“A Threshing Meal? I had this photo stored on my computer, and I believe I had it to use in the Brook Sesquicentennial Collection, however, the individuals were not identified, which might explain why it was not used in the book. All of the indicators are there that this is a meal for a group of farmers, whether they were gathered to thresh, or to help out a neighbor harvest or plant his crop, a very common event in our county. The image reflects the camaraderie amongst the workers of that day. Submitted by Beth Bassett
Early Land Holder of Newton County - Colfax Township

1900 Jackson Township Occupations

Agate, Amos
Agate, George
Adams, Albert
Adams, John
Adams, Joseph
Adams, Samuel
Adams, W.
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The Newcomer
1900 Federal Census - Residents of Jackson Township

By Beth Bassett

I recently transcribed the 1900 Federal Census for Jackson Township for our website, and thought I would share some of the information held within those records. Many of the descendants of those enumerated have remained in Newton County. By the time he was finished he had listed 900 individuals living in the township. Many of the names were unreadable, or the microfilm that was created from the original records was underexposed. But for the most part, I was able to decipher Mr. Miller’s writings. The records included names of all in the household; birth date; current age; marital status; number of years married; mother of number of children; children living; person born; father born; mother born; year of immigration; how many years in the US; number of months unemployed; number of months in school; can read; can write; English; own/rent; free of mortgage; house or farm; farm schedule number.

We find that there are 138 farms in the township, with 47 of these rented; 58 houses, with 12 of those rented, so the majority of residents owned their homes or farms. We are unable to tell if they were all free of mortgage, as this space was frequently blank.

The oldest person living in the township was William Covertt, aged 86 years, born in 1841; there were several new-born babies, a few yet to be named. There was a tie for the longest married couple. Beth Thomas and Hannah Rice and Alfred and Jane Crisler had been married 55 years. There was also a tie for the family with the most children. Thirteen babies were born to George and Josephine Deadriff, all living at the time; Simon and Catherine Hostetter had ten of 13 still living.

Several nationalities were represented, with the majority of those represented by the birthplace of the father and mother. They included Scotland, England, Ireland, Germany, Sweden, Canada, Alsace Germain, Denmark, France, Holland and Benin.

The United States was also represented in the same way, those being Indiana, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Illinois, Virginia, Vermont, Massachusetts, Ohio, Tennessee, New York, Delaware, West Virginia, Michigan, Oregon, North Carolina, Kentucky, York State, New Hampshire, Arkansas, Missouri, South Carolina, Kansas, California and Iowa.

The occupations were typical of a 1900 settlement, with many of the sons and daughters listed as Farm Laborers and Housekeepers.

Visit our web site to see the entire enumeration, as well as Beaver and Washington Townships for 1900. We are working together to post the remainder of the townships – if you would like to volunteer, please give me a call.

The Newcomer
1916 Map of Jackson Township

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Do You Know
Newton County? News

Notice: We need your family history and photographs so we can continue featuring Newton County families! Please contact the editor for details for submissions. Thank you!

By Janet Miller Answers on page 19
1. In March 1916 the Morocco Courier reported people who had purchased new automobiles. There were six brands of automobiles sold. Can you name them?

2. There were at least three automobile dealerships in Morocco in 1916. Can you name them?

3. Can you name the three newspapers published in Mt. Ayr prior to 1941?

4. Do you know what type of business was operated on the corner of Seymour Street and 4th Street in Kentland? This is the current location of the Newton County Historical Society Resource Center.

5. Who platted the town of Mount Ayr? Why was it given this name?
1967 Morocco Courier: Street scene in Morocco taken early 1900's on East State Street. Submitted by Janet Miller entered in the 4-H photo contest. Their return trip. After wishing the party well on their return trip. Mr. Bedinger found their hotel room, the steps, were removed, and he, too, was traveling. To further complicate the situation, he had the car keys in the waiting car of his son-in-law. Jack Perry of Lafayette, in his pocket. Following a lengthy argument with the trainman, the unwilling passenger was dispatched via taxi from Lafayette to home.市, and Mrs. Charles Harrison was celebrated on December 20 in a temporary home. The Montgomerys whose home was burned to the ground in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Enos Bower of the area. The Montgomery boys are announcing their engagement has provided the family with a fortune in the house for them is rebuilt.

Brook

The Aces of Brook high school are holding the trophy for winning the annual holiday tourney held at the Kentland high school gym Monday and Tuesday nights of this week. They downed Goodland in their first encounter 68-49 and were too good this week. They downed Goodland in their home in Morocco Sunday, Dec. 12 in an irate New Year’s Eve after assisting his three nieces from Indianapolis with their luggage onto the train for Fowler for their annual New Year’s trip.

Kentland

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D. W. Bodinger of near Kentland, spent an entire New Year’s Eve after assisting his three nieces from Indianapolis with their luggage onto the train for Fowler for their annual New Year’s trip.

Kenton High School- 1959

Donald Robinson and John Gruman, are the new owners of the Texaco Service station on Highway 41. They will operate under the trade name of Robinson & Gruman. They will continue to give the same Texaco service as have their predecessors given over the past years. The Montgomery boys are announcing their future plans today. Norman, who was a member of the family, is residing in Kansas City, Mo., and Willard will farm with his father in the area. The Montgomery’s had operated the station for the past three years.

Chafee W. Shirk, president of the Kentland bank, announced Wednesday that the bank had purchased the Cochrane property on the southeast corner of the courthouse square. He stated that the growth of the bank will make it necessary for new

Goodland

A former World War II pilot who daily met one of the most dangerous challenges of his life, the hump in Indiana, was reported today to be one of the candidates named for the United States’ first manned space flight. Capt. Tom Hogan, 35, Goodland, now stationed at the U. S. Cold Weather Test Center on Alton Air Force Base near Fairbanks, Alaska, was reported as bewildered but excited when he learned he was one of two Air Force captains selected.

Goodland Fifth Grade Visits Enterprise

Wilbur Franklin of Kentland accompanied members of the Goodland fifth grade which he teaches and several of the student’s mothers on a visit to the Enterprise office Thursday afternoon to watch the newspaper published. Members of the Goodland class are: Mary Jane Welsh, Pauline Bowser, Marlene Neu, Janice Welsh, Violet Noble, Judy Gordon, Janet Yarborough, Mary Illingworth, Peggy Cox, Martha Days, Wenny McNeil, Pam Yochem, Cathy Denu, Candy Cochrane, James Pierson, Richard Sharp, Delores McKinley, Robert Saint, Charles Leitzow, James Franson, Bruce Hunter is employed has provided the family with a fortune in the house for them is rebuilt.

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