
IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ionia County Genealogical Society is a non-profit volunteer group whose mission is to create awareness and preserve family histories within the Ionia County area. The focus of this group will be to develop genealogical resources and to assist all those seeking local history.

VOLUME 10 – NUMBER 4

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2005

From the President....

July 30, 2005 was the dedication of the new Freight Station building. I thank those of you who were able to be there for this mile marker. We have all worked hard to help make this dream a reality. Thank you for helping us achieve our dream. Thank you to the Lake Odessa Area Historical Society for allowing us to have such a wonderful facility!

With our new library, we are considering being open more often than just once a month. I would like to take a poll of our members to see if there are any of you who are willing to dedicate one day a month – say four hours – to being a host at our library for people who want to do research. Contact me if you can commit to one day a month, (any day, but it would have to be the same every month) and are willing to help visitors with whatever their needs are. It is a shame to have a building such as this that is only open one day a month. Let's work on getting volunteers to staff it and make that at least once a week, instead of once a month – wouldn't it be great to be open every day????

Election of officers is just around the corner – please consider one of these positions: Vice-President, Correspondence Secretary, and one trustee. We need someone to act as the nominating committee to develop a slate of officers. This is not a difficult job, but it is a very important one. Please consider not only being on the nominating committee, but being on the board of directors.

Another project I have thought of is an updated version of our surname index for the society. In 2001 Lois Curtiss was kind enough to put one together for us. Since that time, not only have we grown in numbers, but our surname lists have grown too. I would like to have some volunteers work with our membership chairperson, Sandy Heintzelman, and bring our listing up to date. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please contact me!

October is Family History Month across the nation. Please spend time sharing your family history with the next generation. Make a special point to share the stories and mysteries that make each of our families unique.

Happy Hunting!
Pam Swiler, President

**DEADLINE EXTENDED!
PRE-PUBLICATION SALES EXTENDED
UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 2005**

THE IONIA COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PROUDLY
ANNOUNCES THE REPRINT OF

**PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM
OF IONIA AND MONTCALM COUNTIES,
MICH.**

(1891)

By Chapman Brothers

Hardbound with over 800 pages, this publication is a must for libraries, historians, or any person who has an interest in the history of Ionia & Montcalm counties in Michigan. This is a reprint of the historic 1891 "Portrait and Biographical Album of Ionia and Montcalm Counties, Mich." originally published by Chapman Brothers. This now rare publication can be yours by reserving your copy today. This will be a one time printing. Orders will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

Order Early And Save \$10 per book!

By reserving your copy by October 31, 2005 you will receive the book at a special prepaid price of \$45.00 plus \$2.75 tax and \$7.00 shipping. Orders must be postmarked no later than October 31, 2005 to receive this reduced rate. Orders received after October 31, 2005 will be at the full rate.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone number _____

Number of Books _____

Please make checks payable to Ionia County Genealogical Society.

Mail payment to: I.C.G.S., P.O. Box 516 Lake Odessa, MI 48849-0516

For further information contact Pam Swiler at (616) 374-3141 or by e-mail at pkswiler@voyager.net

SORRY - NO CREDIT CARD ORDERS ACCEPTED.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Barbara A. Jones
910 S. Brackney St., Apt A.
Brookston, IN 47923
(765) 563-3023
Names researching: ROWLEY,
BRADFORD

Patricia Blood
1661 Haynor Road
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-3953
E-mail: patman@iserv.net
Researching: BLOOD, CARIGON,
WEEKS, BROCK, GOODMOOT,
PEACOCK, DOWNING

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Reed
1722 Waukazoo Dr.
Holland, MI 49424
(616) 399-4016
E-mail: WA8IWLRR@yahoo.com
Surnames: REED, GORSHUCH, DYKE

Judy Lange
1876 Kelsey Hwy.
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527 3295

Our Condolences

To Mildred (Sindlinger) Rice and family who lost her husband, Blanchard Allen Rice on August 3, 2005 in Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mildred and her family.

GLEANINGS FROM THE BELDING BANNER

Thank you to Rosemary Roundtree for these transcriptions:

July 25, 1895

E.T. Bolster is suffering greatly with stomach trouble.

August 29, 1895 Orleans-Otisco

E.T. Bolster, of Chadwick, spent Saturday in town.

February 20, 1896-Chadwick

E.T. Bolster and E.D. Hammond were in Greenville, Friday.

May 7, 1896-Chadwick

Mrs. Harris Bolster of Easton is spending the week with her parents, Mrs. And Mrs. Leander Berry.

July 17, 1902 – Orleans

Al Bolster is nicely settled in his new meat shop

July 24, 1901 – Orleans

Mrs. E.T. Bolster, of Orleans, struck and thrown – 40 or 50 feet. A most shocking accident occurred at Orleans station a few miles southeast of this city last Thursday evening by which Mrs. E.T. Bolster lost her life. Her home is near the railroad track and is supposed she was looking for her grandson, and for some reason did not hear the approaching eastbound Pere Marquette passenger train. She was struck and thrown a distance of 40 or 50 feet, a leg and arm being broken and internal injuries sustained.

She only lived about an hour and remained in a semi-conscious state, inquiring if the boy was hurt and if the train struck her, not seeming to fully understand what the trouble was. Further particulars are given by our Orleans correspondent on another page.

We are called to note the sad accident that befell our much respected friend and neighbor, Mrs. E.T. Bolster, while crossing the Pere Marquette railroad in search of her grandson, on Thursday evening about six o'clock, when she was almost instantly killed by the coming engines. The funeral services were conducted by Rec. Dr. Ogden, of Lyons, Saturday at 2 o'clock at M.E.

church; burial at Green's cemetery. The comforting words to the bereaved husband, son and family, were taken from St. John, six chapter, 27 verse. The many beautiful floral tributes and other acts of kindness were appreciated very much by the family. Miss Addie Lucinda Yates was born in Wheatfield, Calhoun County, October 27, 1849, and was married to E.T. Bolster, March 6, 1869, and died July 17, 1902.

January 8, 1903 - Orleans

In despondent mood... Orleans farmer made attempt on his life. Martin Bement tried it in Bolster's market with a meat knife - while there for lunch. Orleans village was thrown into a flurry of excitement Saturday forenoon by the report that Martin Bement a farmer living a mile east of the place had cut his throat in Mr. Bolster's market.

The circumstances as we have been able to gather them are as follows: Mr. Bement, wife and little son had come into town to take the train for Detroit. They rode in with one of their neighbors, Mr. Ferguson. Mrs. Bement suggested that they had better get a lunch to eat on the train while on their way and said she would step into Mr. Bolster's place to get it. But her husband told her he would do so. After entering the building he called for some fried cakes and other lunch. While Mr. Bolsters back was turned Mr. Bement took up a large butcher knife from the meat block and quickly drew it across his throat, before he could make another attempt Mr. Bolster grappled with the desperate man and with the assistance of Mr. Ferguson he was taken outside bleeding profusely from the terrible he made. Dr. Wilkinson was called and found a deep cut in the throat but the jugular vein was not severed. He was promptly cared for and it is though he will recover.

The unfortunate man was undoubtedly in a

despondent mood brought on by unfavorable financial conditions in his business affairs. His wife said he acted strangely for some time and only a night or two before he had sharpened his razor, knife and a corn cutter and she had been obliged to watch him - fearing he might do himself harm. He was able to be taken to a hospital in Detroit the following day and [end of article].

October 11, 1906 - Orleans

Mrs. Harris Bolster and children of Cadillac are with her people Mr. and Mrs. Leander Berry. Mr. Bolster will arrive this week with their household goods as they are planning to reside in Belding.

ERROR CORRECTION

In the April-May 2005 edition of the ICGS newsletter, there was an error on page 9. The article "From the Lake Odessa Wave 1956" had the wrong date. Since my mother-in-law, Marjorie (Aves) Swiler was listed in this article and she graduated with the class of 1940, it was impossible that she would have been in the 8th grade in 1956. Our apologies for this error, I believe the correct date should have been 1936. Thank you to Bernadine Carr for pointing this out.-Pam Swiler

Query

Can anyone tell me anything about the German Evangelical Church? Where is it? When was it formed? Is it still in operation?

I have the following article gleaned from the Ionia Daily Standard, dated Thursday, December 31, 1891.

"The following have been elected trustees of this church for the term of three years: Fred Schaffer, Gottlieb Lauster. The following were chosen on Sunday as officers of the Sunday school for 1892:

Superintendent - Chas. Gruff

Vice-President – Fred Schaffer
Schreiber – Chas. L. Kling
Schaiz-meister – Geo. Lauster
Librarian – Geo. Merner
Assistant Librarian – Freddie Lauster.”

-end

German Lesson

Question: What is “Schaiz-meister?” and what is “Schreiber?”

Answer:

“Scheizmeister = I assume it means Schats Meister which would be a Treasure Master
Schreiber = Writer”

Thank you to Maria Nagler for that translation!

IONIA STANDARD.

March 24, 1898.

PALO.

PALO, March 28. – A sugar social will be held at **RORK**'s hall, next Wednesday evening, for the benefit of the G. A. R. post. As this is the first of the season it will undoubtedly be well attended.

The entertainment given by the Palo band, last Friday evening, was a grand success, both in execution and finance. The program was not so long as to be tedious and yet of sufficient length to be enjoyable. We hope the boys will favor us with another soon. By the way, Palo has one of the best bands in this part of the state, which is always ready to respond when called upon, at extremely reasonable rates.

We, with a few others, enjoyed a pleasant afternoon at **W. P. SMITH**'s visiting with that noble, self-sacrificing woman, Mrs. **Laura S. HAVILAND**. She has written a book containing her life work, which is as interesting as any novel we ever read. It gives a vivid account of her work in behalf of the homes. It hardly seems possible one

frail woman could do so much. She is now upwards of eighty, and is remarkably well preserved. She has not drank a cup of tea or coffee in 55 years. How much the world owes to such noble men and women will never be known to man.

Mr. And Mrs. **WOODARD** expect to spend their vacation at Ovid.

The spring term of our school will commence April 3rd. **DAN DE LION**.

WEST SEBEWA.

A lad who was helping **Riley SANDBORN** draw a load of hay on Monday, came very near losing his life, by the load being turned over and completely burying the boy.

Josiah WILLIAMS and daughter, Eva, who have been spending the winter in Indiana and Ohio, returned to their Michigan home on Thursday.

Rollie PEACOCK's winter term of school will close here on Friday.

James CREIGHTON's folks are entertaining a nephew from South Bend, Ind.

Miss Eva ANDERS, of Charlotte, is visiting her cousin, **Miss Ida SEXTON**.

James BARRY has returned from Charlotte, to his farm here.

Lorin CROSS sold his farm to a **Mr. YAGER**, and bought the **SACKETT** farm.

Elvatus LA LONGE, of Orange, spent Sunday with his parents here.

E. J. DOWNING and wife spent Sunday at **Wm. ESTEP**'s, near Sebewa corners.

THE DAILY STANDARD.

IONIA, THURSDAY, DEC. 31, 1891.

BRIEF MENTION.

Engine No. 29 came out of the shops to-day.

The KUNEY gambling room case is adjourned to Jan. 4.

La grippe is said to be increasing in severity and extent in this vicinity.

The usual Friday evening service in St. John's church will be omitted this week.

The minstrel performance at S. H. of C., last evening, drew a good house, and gave good satisfaction.

Chester ADGATE leaves for Buffalo to-night with three car loads of stock; one of sheep, one of swine, and one of cattle.

Gen. Supt. AGNEW and Supts. DOYLE and MORRIS, and Gen'l. Freight Agent DAVIS, of the D., L., & N. and C., & W. M. were through the shops here to-day on a tour of inspection.

What the buyer terms the best pair of steers marketed in Ionia for years, were yesterday sold by Colonel THOMAS, of Odessa to Chester ADGATE. They were Durham grade, four years old, and weigh 3,800 pounds.

The Ionia Furniture company, the Michigan Clothing company, and the HAMMELL'S Cigar Company, will shut down to-night until Monday. The Ionia Pant and Overall company will run with part of force on Saturday. The car shops shut down only one day.

IONIA DAILY SENTINEL.
MONDAY, JAN 4, 1892.

IONIA DISTRICT FAIR.

The Annual Meeting – W. H. MATTISON
Elected President – Treasurer's Report.

The annual meeting of the members of the Ionia District Fair association was held at the Opera house this afternoon. Owing to the very bad condition of the roads, the attendance was not large.

In the absence of the president, John A. SESSIONS was called on to preside, and Arthur P. LOOMIS was chosen as secretary.

The following were elected officers for 1892:

- President – W. H. MATTISON.
- Vice President – Henry J. HALL.
- Secretary – A. P. LOOMIS.
- Treasurer – M. M. CURRIER.
- Directors – J. A. SESSIONS, J. F. ENGLISH, and H. H. HINDS.

P. LOOMIS, treasurer for last years, presented the following financial report for 1891:

RECEIPTS

To balance on hand	\$	72.67
Sept. 23 – To gate receipts.		109.50
Sept. 23 – To receipts, grand stand . .		21.30
Sept. 24 – To gate receipts		2221.75
Sept. 24 – To receipts, grand stand . .		102.50
Sept. 25 – To gate receipts		628.29
Sept. 25 – To receipts, grand stand . .		93.83
To received from booths.		474.00
To rec'd rent from circus.		90.00
To rec'd from Sec'y,		
entries.		163.00
To rec'd from Sec'y, specials.		13.00
To rec'd from Sec'y, stalls.		39.00
To rec'd from Sec'y, speed		512.50
To rec'd, life membership.		20.00
Total	\$	4,561.34

DISBURSEMENTS.

By paid for speed \$ 1,147.50
By paid K. R. SMITH, expenses,
Owosso 4.00
By paid K. R. SMITH, expenses,
Grand Rapids. 5.00
By paid premiums 1,269.86
By paid advertising 72.47
By paid hay and straw. 276.59
By paid salaries. 150.00
By paid balloon ascension. . . . 150.00
By paid band 60.00
By paid expenses and labor 616.21
By paid S. A. YEOMANS,
interest 175.00

IONIA DAILY SENTINEL.

JAN 4, 1907.

Roscoe F. WATERBURY, S. P. C., eldest son of E. S. WATERBURY, former overseer of the Ionia county poor farm, who recently served a ten day assignment on the Detroit and Chicago mail car has been sent as transfer clerk, for thirty days, to the mail station, Jackson, Mich., being on duty from 6:30 p.m. until 5:30 a.m.

The joint installation services of the G. A. R. and W. R. C., on Wednesday evening, were largely attended by the comrades and families. The ritualistic services were very impressively conducted by the regularly appointed installing officer, Past Commander D. A. JEWELL for the post, assisted by Jno. J. HAGERMAN, as officer of the day, and Mrs. Susan HARRIGAN installing officer for the corps, assisted by Mrs. Nellie KIRSEMAN as conductress. After the ceremonies a jolly good time was enjoyed by everybody. Old army songs were announced as part of the program, and the "boys and girls" did justice to them, as they also did to the refreshments served by the ladies.

A Family Reunion.

There was a pleasant family gathering at the home of Mr. And Mrs. Virgil B. CONNER, it being the sixty-ninth birthday of Mr. Conner.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Guy CONNER and children, Ethel and Lawrence, Mr. And Mrs. Dexter CONNER and son, Virgil, Mr. And Mrs. Geo. E. CONNER, Mr. and Mrs. Levi CONNER, Mrs. Douglas DYE and Charles TRUAX, of Easton; Arthur CONNER, of Belding; Mr. and Mrs. George CONNER and Mr. and Mrs. Claude CONNER, of Long Lake.

A Pleasant Surprise.

A very pleasant surprise occurred when Mr. and Mrs. Chas. BENNETT arrived home from their honeymoon.

Wm. BENNETT met them at the train at Ionia and took them to their home in Berlin, where there was waiting about fifty of their friends and relatives to receive and congratulate them. The house was very nicely decorated with carnations and Christmas holly.

A supper was served and a good many useful presents were received.

Memberships are due
January 1st.

Send checks for \$15

Payable to:

ICGS

PO Box 516, Lake Odessa, MI
48849

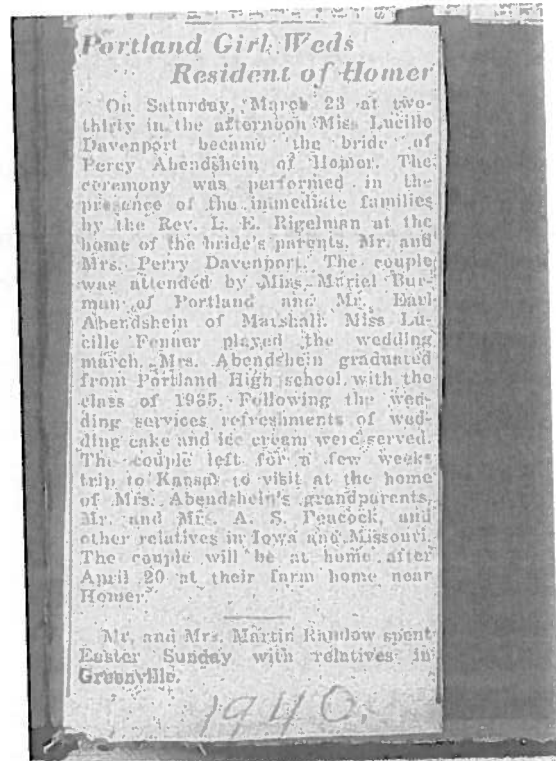
Lucille Davenport



This photo was part of a collection of photos from my in-laws home. Lucille is not related to us, as far as I know, so I surmise that she was a neighbor or school friend of Harold Swiler. Some family members believe that she was an ex-girlfriend of his. I wanted to find out more about Lucille, so I started doing some research on her.

The first thing I learned is the photo was taken in Portland, Ionia County, Michigan. The photographer was Rayona Studio. That is about it!

In searching the census records, I find Lucille living with her parents, Perry and Tacy, and her siblings, Verdan P., Sheldon, Shirley, Harold and Jean in the 1930 census in Lebanon Twp., Clinton County. Lucille is 13 years old and is Michigan born, as is her father. Her mother is born in Kansas.



Later I learned that Lucille married Percy Abendshein of Homer. I located a newspaper article that announced her wedding. This too was part of the Harold Swiler scrapbook.

In checking the death index for the Social Security Administration, I find Lucille M. Abendshein of Homer, Calhoun County, Michigan has died on November 1, 1998. Her birth is listed as January 27, 1917. This was confirmed when I located her birthday listed in a birthday book which was a gift from Harold Swiler's parents to his wife, Marjorie (Aves) Swiler date July 9, 1950. The names and dates were written by Harold's mother's hand, Ruth Swiler.

Her husband, Percy, is listed in a 2002 directory, still living in Homer, Calhoun County, Michigan. Hmm... wonder if he still lives there? I will let you know!

-Pam Swiler

Aug. 12, 2005

(To: McCord Family Association)

This is just an FYI. Since the McCord family Association is interested in anything McCord, I thought I'd send this on to you. My grandmother, Mildred Colwell Moore, told me that her grandfather's brother was John McCord and he owned a farm, along with his wife "Mima" [Jemima] in Cascade Twp, Kent, MI. At some point, the railroad was coming through and he "donated" (unwillingly) the land needed for the track and station. The track cut right through his farm. McCords, as it is called now, is a sleepy little woodsy neighborhood, in the country. There is a road called McCord that runs through it. The station no longer stands, but the house may still. I've never pursued locating it. (1916 Index to the Kent County Plat Map, M. MC CORD, JNO. H., Section 36, Township CASCADE).

This story is well known in the McCord family, in Ionia County, MI. I ran across the writings of the late *Irene "Renie" (Speckin) Taylor*, descended from Gilbert McCord and his second wife, Jane or Betsey Jane Munger, through their daughter, Clara & husband, George Montgomery. She did a lot of research on our McCords. Here is what she wrote: Pg. 4, (titled) 1981 update:

"I have mentioned before about a small town named McCords, in Kent Co. In the Michigan Place names there is a short story about this town, but nothing as to how it got the name. It is in Cascade Twp. and was once on an old stage line, between Ada and Hastings. In 1888, the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad came through. It was given a Post Office in October 1888 until October 1947. In April of this year we drove to Kent Co. and found a township map and located the town of

McCords. There are a few houses and an old mill, the depot and post office are gone. According to my old plat map, John McCords farm was in this section. We found an old cemetery in Whitneyville and looked around, to my surprise I found the graves of Roy Munger and his wife Cornelia, he was Merritt's son, Martha Rowley's brother. Right across the road was a Methodist church, I went to the minister's house and a woman there told me her father-in-law was 87 years old and he might know something about the family, she gave me his address and went to see him.

He was very nice and said he had heard of John McCord over the years. John McCord had donated land from his farm to the R.R. for the train station and John's home used to sit where the depot used to be. John McCord then bought another farm and from his direction, we found the house. He said when the Post Office was established, this is how the town got it's name. Later John McCord sold his farm and moved to Ionia. According to Martha, Nellie McCord was later made his guardian, John died at the County Farm in 1929, he is buried in Easton. The man I talked to was James Bailard. I wrote to the Post Office Archives in Washington for more information about McCords and I received several papers. Two are site maps, showing the exact location, one is a description of the site signed by the first postmaster, Charles Freyermuth, 1888 and one signed by the postmaster, Rolland Colby. A nice peice of family history and I'm glad I pursued it. There is also a McCords Highway and a McCords Creek. In reading over the Civil War record for David McCord [John's brother] I came across an affadavit signed by John McCord, to my surprise the Notary was a William Lind, this is one of the men my

mother has mentioned to many times, she always wondered who he was. In checking the Cascade Twp. map, I found him living right across the road from John McCord."

According to my grandmother, John and Jemima (Kline) McCord had no children. He took in one of his brother's motherless daughters, Nettie McCord, for a number of years, "because she looked so much like her Uncle John" (according to Mildred). Nettie was the daughter of Joseph & Mary (Norris) McCord. Nettie McCord eventually married Clarence Renwick, raised a family in Saranac, Ionia, MI.

John (and Joseph) was the son of Gilbert McCord and Emeline Bridges. He has been the most difficult to research of the brothers, because so many records give conflicting ages, and places of birth.

His 1st marriage lists his age as 23 in 1869, born in Ohio [approx. birth year 1846]. His 2nd marriage, at McCords, MI, lists his age as 52 in 1902, born in W. Virginia [approx birthyear 1850] (wife Fannie Duffey, no children). 1850 census lists him age 5, b. Ohio. The 1860 census lists his age as 17, born in Ohio [approx birthyear 1843] His obituary in 1929, lists his age as 88, a native of Virginia.

Death record lists his age as 88 yrs, 2 mo, 10 days, in 1929, born in N.Y. on Nov 16 1840. Informant's name appears to be Chas. Gates on Ionia. (not a relative to my knowledge, possibly works at the Home) wife: Jeramima McCord. He died of "L-H _____ Cerebral Hemorage." Buried at Easton Cemetery, undertaker: Allen E. Stett _____ [Stethens/ Stether?]. He died at the Ionia County Home (for poor & elderly). I use the date 16 Nov 1846 as his most likely birthdate.

1870 Burr Oak, St. Joseph, MI, lists John McCord, age 25 b. Ireland, wife Jemima. (1870 in Easton, Ionia, MI, where his father and siblings are, he is listed as 19, b. PA, living with the Jospheh Norris family. I believe that this was actually his brother Joseph McCord, who would have been about that age and who two years later, marries Joseph Norris daughter, Mary.) 1880 shows John McCord age 34, b. Virginia, with his wife Jemima, in Pennfield, Calhoun, Michigan. 1900 Cascade, Kent, MI, John McCord b. Nov 1850, age 49, b. OH, parents b. NY, married 20 yrs. (but no wife living with him.)

Sincerely,

Cynthia Stanley

MARION BIDWELL UPDATE

By Pam Swiler

Back in 2004 I wrote an article about a photo I had of Marion Bidwell. It is in Volume 4, if you would like to refresh your memory.

I recently received an obituary, which adds more information to the mystery of Marion Bidwell. Part of the obit is cut off, as it came out of an old scrapbook.

"PENSIONER 1812 WAR

Mrs. Louisa Warner died in Danby Sunday. Her Husband, Nathaniel Warner, Fought in War of 1812.

Mrs. Louisa Warner, who drew from the government a pension as a widow of a soldier of the war of 1812, died at her home in South Danby, Sunday, aged ?2 years. Funeral services will be held at the house Wednesday. She was the widow of Nathaniel Warner and the two were early settlers in Danby.

Deceased leaves the following children by a former husband, Washington Bidwell:

Adelia Richey, Hannah Tubbs, Jasper Bidwell, Alpheus Bidwell, Danby; Sarah Ingall, Ludington; Marion Bidwell, Greenville. Mrs. ?illie Towner, of Danby, and James Warner of Eagle, are children by the second husband."-end

Mortuary Report

The following are the interments made in the Portland cemetery in the year 1883:

[Format is as follows: Date of burial, name, age: year, month and day]

PORTLAND

Jan. 26 Christina Van Horn 63,9,8
 Feb. 22 Harvey Bartow 69,1,23
 Feb 4 Emily Pilkinton 33,4,24
 March 10 Annie Mulford 56, 0, 0
 March 30 Mabel Clemens 1,2,16
 April 10 Caroline B. Stimpson 44,8,6
 April 14 Elizabeth B. Goss 42,8,6
 April 16 James Bailey 77,6,15
 April 16 John A. Bice 16,10,0
 May 1 Milton B. Webber 1,0,15
 May 3 Flora Boughner 51,6,26
 May 8 Bertha McClelland 2,7,4
 May 9 Danna Webster ,30,0,
 May 27 Mrs. M. Chapin of Ionia 86,0,0
 May 28 Jennie Maddison 11,1,22
 May 28 Infant child of Mortemus Collins
 May 24 Samuel Green 73,10,3
 May 28 Jennie Robinson 9,5,22
 June 3 William Dinsmore 54, 1, 0
 June 4 Edna Smith 1,9,0
 June 10 Allie Reed 0,9,5
 June 11 Flora Tirril 18,3,9
 June 22 May M. Moore 3,9,22
 July 21 Grontus Thompson 38,7,11
 July 28 Mirnivia Safford 68,6,0
 Aug 15 Blanche Parker 14,1,13
 Aug 19 John G. Dixson 0,1,19
 Sept 2 C.H. Gillett 85,0,28
 Sept 4 Albert Hitchcock 11,0,2
 Sept 7 James Sayers 42,7,18
 Sept 8 Carolina Clark 55,0,0
 Sept 14 Infant child of Knowles 1,6,17
 Sept 16 Julia B. Hitchcock 17,7,20

Oct 6 D.A. Simmons 79,0,19
 Oct 20 Sylvester Jenkins 56,0,10
 Nov 21 Robert M. Williard 77,0,0
 Nov 21 Polly Tirrill 88,1,15
 Nov 29 William Baldwin 71,4,15
 Dec 10 Wm. J. Moore 21,8,10
 Dec 23 Geo. Sherwood 0,11,24

ORANGE

Apr 27 Euphemia E. Richardson 2,2,2
 July 4 Mary Gibbs 51,11,26
 Nov 17 Amelia Benedict 50,8,15

DANBY

Mar 9 I.G. Frost 77,4,4
 April Hester Snow 15,10,4
 May 9 Frank Snow 6,8,9
 May 9 David Snow 11,9,?
 Dec 5 Williard L. Brooks 75,4,15

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR IONIA COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

- **October 4, 2005** – First Families of Ionia County Society committee meeting at the Lake Odessa Freight Station, 7:00 p.m.
- **October 5, 2005** – Annual meeting of the Ionia County Historical Society, 251 E. Main St., Ionia 7:00 p.m.
- **October 8, 2005** – ICGS General Board Meeting - Guest speaker, Shirley DeBoer "Citations May Be Easier Than You Think!" 1:00 p.m. Lake Odessa Freight Station, Emerson Street, behind the Depot Museum.
- **October 10, 2005** – Lyons-Muir Historical Society meeting 7:30 p.m.
- **October 20, 2005** - Clarksville-Campbell Historical Society, meeting at the Clarksville Village Hall, 7:00 p.m.
- **October 29, 2005** – **NOTE CHANGE IN DATE!** First Families Banquet – Contact Jim Moses for more information.
- **October 25, 2005** - Portland Historical Society Meeting 7:00 p.m. Senior Center in Portland.
- **October 27, 2005** - ICGS Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Freight Station Museum
- **October 27, 2005** - Hubbardston Historical Society general membership meeting at St. John the Baptist Catholic School in Hubbardston 7:00 pm

- **November 2, 2005** – Ionia County Historical Society general membership meeting 7:00 p.m. Blanchard House, 251 East Main Street, Ionia
- **November 12, 2005**- Carol Reiser – *Reiser Family History* - 1:00 p.m. Lake Odessa Freight Station, Emerson Street, behind the Depot Museum.
- **November 17, 2005** - ICGS Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Freight Station Museum
- **December 8, 2005** – ICGS Board of Directors BUDGET MEETING & SALAD LUNCHEON – 12:00 Noon at the Freight Station Museum.
- **January 1, 2006** – ICGS membership dues are due for 2006.

From Our Mailbag...

I need help in finding my allusive grandfather, TRUMAN BAKER. Born around 1831 in New York. Married Sarah Edlin in Ionia County in 1866. A daughter was born March 9, 1867, in Ionia County. By 1870, my grandmother Sarah Edlin Baker had divorced TRUMAN BAKER and remarried an Isaac Dalton from Montcalm Co. TRUMAN has managed to elude census records. I find a Truman Baker in 1870 census married to a Mary with a 7 year old daughter, Josephine Butler or Butter living in Sandlstone Twp, Jackson Co.,MI. By 1880 TRUMAN is missing again. There were several Baker families living in Ionia & Montcalm county during the mid-1860s but I haven't tied anyone to TRUMAN BAKER. Anyone having a Josephine Butler or Mary Butler, please let me know. Any help would be appreciated.

Contact: Norma Overton at Norma.Overton@dla.mil, or by mail at: Norma Overton, 132 Orleans Avenue, Battle Creek, MI 49015 269-961-5995.
Names on my mother's side are: BAKER, EDLIN, SIPLE, STREET, GUILD, DAWSON, SENSABAUGH

Thank you to Kimberly Pennock for the following....

August 31, 1905 Belding Banner

Bartonville

Mrs. Jennie Critterdon of Grand Rapids, and Mrs. Morris Hinds of Smyrna spent Sunday with their brother, Walter White and family.

Miss Lucie Richmond visited at her uncle, Geo. Fletcher's, in Lowell, last Saturday and Sunday.

Peter Kohn and family and M. J. Richmond and wife attended the Good-fellowship Club picnic at Baldwin Lake last Sunday.

Jay McNitt is very sick with appendicitis.

The Keeney family reunion was held at Earl Norton's Sat, August 26th.

F. J. Richmond and wife were Sunday guests at Frank L. Moon's.

Mark Hoppough is seen on our streets quite often, he being busy getting the roads in good condition again.

Avon - Keene

Ray Hoskins will go to Petoskey on the excursion Wednesday.

The Marble district has bought the bell and belfry of the Striped school and are having it placed on the school house.

Mrs. Allie Marks of Grand Rapids visited John Hoskins' Sunday.

Wm. Sparks and wife, Robt. Sparks and wife and Mrs. Emily Batson were invited guests at the home of Melvin Sparks to help him celebrate his birthday Sunday.

Mrs. Metkin and Mrs. Laura Ward of Grand Rapids are visiting at Wm. Higgins.

Mrs. Gould and daughter of Ionia spent a few days last week with her sister-in-law Mrs. Emily Batson.

Mrs. Cannon of Ada and three sons of Langston are on the old farm this week looking after crops.

Mrs. Geo. Hull of Grand Rapids is visiting relatives in this vicinity.

Orleans (Last Week)

Mrs. J. W. Collier was in town Thursday and Friday calling on friends and old neighbors before their return home to Alabama.

Mrs. Hiley Warner and children are spending the week with her sister and family in Grand Rapids.

Alex. Morton and wife of Ludington, who have spent the past two weeks at his sister's, Mrs. Benj. Hall's returned home Saturday.

Miss Ola Hale is on the sick list.

Mrs. D. B. Chase of Palo is a guest at her daughter, Mrs. A. W. Palmer.

A. W. Cotton returned home Monday from his visit in York state.

Bella Beach of Grand Rapids, was a caller in town Monday.

Chub and Mable Olmstead went to Grand Ledge Saturday to spend a few days with relatives.

Mable Moore of Greenville, was a guest at J. E. Baird's Monday.

Joel Palmer was a guest of friends in Lansing Monday and Tuesday.

Mrs. Lillian Cotton and Learn Leach returned home Monday from Chicago.

Additional Locals

Mrs. E. B. Hale of Caledonia is visiting her parents at Long Lake.

Rena and Ralph Van Loton, of Long Lake, went to Stanton Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Brown, of Shiloh were in Belding Tuesday on business.

Louise and Glenn Gracey of Grand Rapids are the guests of the Misses Dulcie and Genevieve Moore at the Hotel Bricker.

Thos. Bracken received the sad intelligence this morning that his brother in Chicago was dead in the Cook County Hospital, having died the 25th inst. Mr. Bracken left on the morning train in response to the message.

Mrs. Mary Rowland died at her home on Front St. Wednesday morning. She had been in poor health for some time having recently returned from Grand Rapids where she had been for treatment. The funeral was held at the Disciples church, Friday, Rev. J. W. Sheehan preaching the sermon and her remains were laid to rest in the old cemetery. She was a kind neighbor and indulgent mother. She leaves a son and three daughters to mourn her loss.

The breaking of the scaffold at the gas plant this morning was the cause of Mr. H. S. Hughes making an unannounced high dive. Mr. Hughes, who is one of the boiler makers at work on the gas retort, was up in the air

about 20 feet when a cross-grained board on which he stood gave way, letting him down on a pile of iron at the bottom of the iron tank. He managed to hit all the high places on the way down and is badly bruised up, necessitating his laying off for a few days. No bones were broken.

E. E. Chapple gave a very interesting address in the Baptist church Sunday morning on his and Mrs. Chapple's visit in London, to the Baptists' World's Congress held in Exeter Hall. There were 4000 delegates present, every country in the world was represented by delegates except the Isle of Java and Palestine. Reports from the different countries show that the denomination is making wonderful progress throughout the world. Mr. Chapple will give another talk later on his trip and his impression of the country.

North Side Notes

Rob. McCue is painting Howard Wilcox's residence.

Lee Stall and wife were at Long Lake last Sunday.

Owen Barker and family were Ionia visitors Sunday.

Miss Vera Leonard was a Greenville caller Wednesday.

Jason Platt is doing painting and paper hanging for Lee Stall.

Ward Lake and son of Miller Station Sunday'd at Frank Totten's.

Mrs. Bert Barber and Mrs. C. E. Totten were Smyrna visitors last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Torrence are now occupying the Fred Stall house again.

The masons have the foundation nearly completed for Orla Burris' new house.

J. H. Younger is building a cement walk in front of his property here.

Misses Lucie Richmond and Florence Insley of Smyrna were in the city Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. White of Lowell visited relatives here the latter part of last week.

Mrs. J. B. Arwine and children returned last Monday from a two week's outing at Long Lake.

Thos. Griffith and wife returned Monday from a few weeks outing at Long Lake. The report a fine time.

Mrs. Henry Gilmore took advantage of the special low rates Wednesday and went to Traverse City for a few days.

Mrs. Warren Wheelock and Mrs. Henry were in attendance at the Baptist picnic at Baldwin Lake last Saturday. A good time is reported.

Wm. Coulter has completed the manufacture of over four thousand cement blocks which will be used in the construction of the new block he intends to build soon.

SNOWBIRDS!
Please help us save money!
Be sure to let us know
when you move and what
your forwarding address
will be. Be sure to let us
know when you are
returning, too!

**Highlight on
First Families of Ionia County
Society Member
No. 24**



Bert Roy Bennett

Bert Roy Bennett was born in Orleans Twp., Ionia County, the son of **Roy Bennett** and **Pearl Marie McCain**. He married Dorothy Jane Kenny who is also a First Families Society member.

Bert's father, Roy Bennett was born on January 30, 1890 in McBride, Montcalm Co., Michigan. He married Pearl Marie McCain on October 23, 1923, in Greenville, Montcalm Co., Michigan. He died on October 30, 1988 in Ionia Co., Michigan at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Eugene Courser of Clarksville following a lengthy illness. He was laid to rest in the Orleans cemetery.

Roy came to Orleans at the age of three weeks to the farm where he spent his entire life. He was a member of the Maccabee lodge and the Farmer's Grange.

Roy and Pearl had three sons, Bob, Bert and Fred, and three daughters, Clarabelle, Florence and Charlene.

Roy is the son of **Frederick Eliza Bennett** and **Clara Jane Perry**. Frederick was born July 31, 1867 in Orleans, Ionia County, Michigan and he died there on November 9, 1947. He and Clara were married on March 6, 1889 at Orangeport, New York. Both are listed on the 1870 and 1880 Federal census for Ionia County, Michigan. Clara Jane Perry was born in New York. They had two children, Roy and Hazel. Clara died in her home at 3:00 a.m. after an illness of just a few days. She was 69 years old. Burial was in the Orleans cemetery.

John Dennis Bennett is the father of Frederick and he is listed as residing in Ionia County in the 1870 and 1880 Federal Census. He was born in 1820 in Otsego Co., New York and died July 1, 1901 of heart failure in Orleans, Ionia County, Michigan. He and his wife, Caroline E. Skutt had five children: Martha M., Alonzo, Minnie, Frederick and Burt B.

Bert Roy Bennett and his wife, Dorothy "Dort" continue to live in Orleans, Ionia County, Michigan. Bert retired from co-owning a service station with Dick White on Lincoln Ave and M-66. He enjoys gardening, deer hunting, & fishing. He is said to "keep his lawn & flowers like a county park." They have a cottage at Central Lake, Antrim Co., MI.

We thank them for contributing their rich family history to our First Families of Ionia County Society.

For information on how you can become a First Families member, contact Jim Moses at (517) 647-7310 or visit our website at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/icgs/home.htm>

IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 516
LAKE ODESSA, MI 48849-0516
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First Families Banquet
October 29, 2005

- 2006 MEMBERSHIP DUES
PAID? DUE ON JAN 1ST!

TO:

Dues Paid Until: 12/31/2005
Wayne & Pamela Swiler
11750 Ainsworth Road
Lake Odessa, MI 48849-9561

Websites of Interest

Ionia County Genealogical Society website
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/icgshome.htm>

International Society of Genetic Genealogy
(ISOGG)

<http://www.isogg.org/>

Ionia-Montcalm Magazine
www.ioniamontcalm.com

The Lyons-Muir Historical Society has a new
website.

www.Lyons-Muir.org

1911 Census of Canada
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html>

Wikipedia – Free On-line Encyclopedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

Do You Know Me?
My name is Elmer Snider – Are you
related to me?

