

Keep The Fire...

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Christine Hilgefurd Connor*

Revisions completed in 2017

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Foreword

In compiling all the information in this book I have tried to be as accurate as possible. Many times during this research there have been discrepancies in spellings and dates. Sometimes records of name spelling varied due to pronunciation or handwriting errors. For the spellings in this book I tried to use signatures, as they were available. When there were not signatures spelling was taken first from recorded documents and then from bibles, newspapers and family genealogies. The same is true for dates. Parents or children may have given more recent dates.

I am very grateful to all who have helped me in this research. I have made some special friends. It was a great experience! I would also like to thank Larry, my husband for making it possible for my creativity to flourish , to my brother Michael for his computer support and to my Dad for all his help.

THE JOURNEY

As long as I could remember my grandfather, Lee Hilgefurd had repeatedly told his children and grandchildren the names of their forefathers. Clearly we can remember him saying, “My father’s name was Fritz and he married Katherine Drees. Fritz’s father’s name was Clemens who married a Poeppleman. And Clemens father’s name was Dietrich and was married to a Barhorst.”

Everyone would always listen but nobody wrote the information down. As Lee was aging, I realized how important his memories were to him and how easily they could be lost. I also knew my children would probably never know him. Consequently, I felt an urgent need to record everything I could find or observe about our family and it’s history.

This research involved many states, foreign countries, and years. The correspondence, interviews, court houses, churches, cemeteries visited and miles traveled are immeasurable. This was at a time before computers and cellphones. Photos had to be borrowed and taken to photographers to be

copied and then returned. People were all fascinating and willing to help. My gracious thanks to everyone. I have tried to acknowledge them all in some way throughout the book.

I think it is important to note an interesting anecdote concerning my grandfather.

His memory was unbelievable. He had always been known for the computations he could make in his head and was able to give me more information than anyone. I had doubts about some things he told but time and again facts would prove him correct. Why was I surprised? In his own hometown of Ft. Loramie or anywhere he was the only one who knew of Dietrich Hilgefert. I even started to doubt there was a Dietrich until one evening while searching microfilm at The Jesus Christ Church of the Latter Day Saints in Dayton, Ohio. There I had a conversation with David Hoying he mentioned that Dietrich was another name for Theodore in Germany. And Yes! There he was in Sankt Catherina's Vital records!

Family, this book is yours. The information is for you to pass on.

Keep the fire burning...

Christine Hilgefert Connor

*Ancestors of
Lee Hilgefors*



Johann Michael
DREES



Johann Gerhard Berning
+
Bernadina Christina Gerkins
parents of Mary



Johan Clemens Hilgefort
+
Maria Poeppelman



Johann Michael DREES
wife:
Mary Berning (not pictured)



Katheline Bernadine
DREES



LEE
Hilgefort



Jacob Frederick
Hilgefort

Family Tree for Lee John Hilgeförd

Gerhard Heinrich Hilgeförd b.1751 Germany			
Anna Gertrud Staggenborg b.1755	Johan Theodore(Dietrich) Hilgeförd d.Feb28,1850		
Tobias Barhorst	Margaretha Elisabeth	Johan Clemens Hilgeförd Nov23,1835Germany- Dec18,1893	
Maria Elisabeth Wehebrink	Hilgeförd d. Feb 10,1864		Jacous Triverious (Fred) Hilgeförd
Johan Henry Poeppelman	Johan Henry Poeppelman		Jan24,1873-June5,1943
Maria Adelheid Arkenberg	Jun25,1806-1889	Maria Poeppelman July 24,1844-May23,1910	
	Christine Marie Baumer 1814-1884		
Maria Catherina Hogemann	Johan Michael Drees June19,1812Germany- Feb18,1878		Lee John Hilgeförd Sept1,1898-Aug2,1985 father of Dwight Hilgeförd
Ferdinand Wellerding	Maria Catherine Wellerding	Johan Michael Drees Sept29,1851-Mar26,1941	
Maria A. Stuntebeck	Oct28,1830-May26,1914		
Johan Henrich Berning	Johan Gerhard Berning		Catherine Bernadine Drees
Maria Elisabeth Sandmann	Feb18,1826-May14,1907	Mary Gertrude Berning May 6,1856-Feb2,1880	
	Bernadina Christina Gerkin1830-May31,1876		

REFERENCES:

Ohio Obituary Index. Ohio Death Cert.
Tombstone Images.Ohio Marr.Cert.
St. Augustine Cemetery Rec.Minister, Ohio

St Michael Cemetery Rec. Ft. Loramie, Ohio
Deutschland Gerburten und taufen1558-1898
1910 Ohio Census.Sankt Catharina Vital Records, Dinklage,
Oldenburg, Germany.

*Individual Biographies,
Historical Essays,
Documents,
&
Maps*



Dwight Lee Hilgeford was born in Dayton, Ohio on April 20, 1929. His early memories include many on the farms of his grandfathers in Shelby and Darke Counties. Dwight remembered riding Belgian horses and watching straw being threshed from the large rock he sat on in the field.

At Grandpa Bill Leeper's farm, Dwight was just a toddler when he fell in the rain barrel. Grandma Becky just happened to look outside and see his ball hat floating on the water. "Oh, my God, Dwight!", she shouted as she raced to the rescue!

Dwight was often attacked by a large rooster on these visits. One day after an attack, Grandpa Bill lost his patience and threw the rooster



in the furnace. He then walked outside to see the rooster staring at him. Bill had killed the wrong one!

Around the age of twelve, Dwight's family built a house on Neff Road in Dayton, this was convenient to his father's car business on the corner. The basement was dug with a team of horses and a scoop. Their home was the center of much fun. Dwight could easily climb out his bedroom window to find adventure. He played in the Stillwater River that ran along a cliff in the backyard. He also kept many types of chickens in the chicken coop with White Rocks being his favorite. A daily challenge was a family pony named Buster. This



The Hilgefond home on Neff Road

pony was so mean that he would bite or lay down and roll with the rider and saddle on! It always took two people to hold him but one day there was nobody around so Dwight started to lead him on his own. When he grabbed Buster's halter, the pony swung his head back and forth. Poor Dwight, who was holding on tight, was swinging all around in the air!



Neff Road was still in the country when the Hilgefond's lived in their home. Many farms were close by. In those days a farmer would first cut down his wheat and then feed it into a thresher machine. This shook the seeds off and shot the straw out into a pile. For Dwight and his friends there was nothing more fun than sliding down a slick straw stack. But after a couple of weeks they had to beware because snakes would move in!

Dwight went to grade school at Our Lady of Mercy which at that time was a wood school house heated by large wood burning stoves. He couldn't remember why... But once Sister William Marie was angry with he and a friend. They were ordered into the coal bin. It was cold and dirty climbing up all that coal but both boys finally made it up to the small window and jumped to their freedom. They ran all the way to the Stillwater

River which Dwight considered his own territory. His mother, Alma always remembered receiving the phone calls from school, "Mrs. Hilgeford, we think Dwight's playing hooky under the Sibenthaler Bridge."



Dwight always thought his horse was from the circus because he would sometimes do dance steps.

On weekends and summers Dwight, brother, Tom and friend, Donald Meyers used to walk to the Hilgeford farm in West Milton on Iddings Road. They were always accompanied by Barney, their beloved mutt who usually had to be carried at least two-thirds of the way. Fending for themselves they would keep bottles of pop cold in the creek and play cowboys and indians. The only way to catch the horses was to grab their manes and hold on. Dwight's father, Lee didn't believe in severe bridle bits so the boys really

had to jerk to get a horse to stop. Dwight's horse was a big, white, workhorse named Pat. Once while chasing the others Dwight pulled and of course, Pat didn't stop and the horse ran right into a fence! When Dwight hit the ground he remembered seeing his fallen horse's big hooves. Trapped, he was kicked many times before Pat was finally on his feet. Dwight was bleeding and hurt really bad as he waited for his parents to pick him up. But a cowboy's life was not easy as he would be reminded again in his life on a mountain in Colorado.

It was always fun going to a good horror movie at the RKO or State Theaters. Afterwards 'the thing to do', was to walk home in the dark along the Stillwater near the Sibenthaler Bridge. Actually it seemed the shortest way home, for after much discussion and enactment of the Mummy's Hand; Dwight, Tom, and sister, Jerry usually ran all the way home!

Dwight once had a goose that was just about as mean as Buster. Everyday when it was time to take care of the chickens that goose would chase, bite, and beat Dwight with it's wings. Once having finally decided he had enough, Dwight stuck a burlap bag in his back pocket and started over the fence. The unfearful goose came at Dwight before he was even over. Determined, Dwight jumped and grabbed that goose by the neck. As both wrestled , Dwight finally got the sack over his head and body. After tieing him in he dragged the sack to the poultry shop. There the man asked how much he wanted for the goose. He asked for two dollars but got one and his problem solved.

A creative boy, Dwight once noticed the resemblance of Tom's favorite cereal, Riffles, to rubber bands. He decided to cut a golf ball open and mix the rubber with the cereal while Tom was listening to the radio. When Dwight gave Tom a bowl in the kitchen, Tom remarked that they didn't taste good that evening, sort of like rubber bands... When he realized what happened he was really mad! Later Dwight's mother saw the uneaten bowl and decided to finish the cereal herself. Poor mother turned out to be an innocent victim of her two giggling sons!



Dwight went to high school at Chaminade where if he wasn't seriously trying to be recruited into the priesthood, he might be responsible for the wooden swing hanging from the top of the flag pole! He maintained a relationship of respect with the priests and brothers of the school although they understood he did not agree with all their teachings. At the end of the school year Dwight would ask his friends and brothers to the West Milton farm. There they could fish, boat, cookout, and just have fun. For Dwight and his friend, Jim, it was too much to resist when the meanest brother from Chaminade boarded their boat. The brother was sitting on the front of the boat when the boys started rocking it. Over he went clothes and all in the Stillwater! He was quite a sight wrapped in an old indian blanket, carrying his wet clothes into Chaminade.

INSTRUCTIONS		UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION		55256 AT		Fold if altered	
<p>1 This book is valuable. Do not lose it.</p> <p>2 Each stamp authorizes you to purchase rationed goods in the quantities and at the times designated by the Office of Price Administration. Without the stamps you will be unable to purchase those goods.</p> <p>3 Detailed instructions concerning the use of the book and the stamps will be issued. Watch for those instructions so that you will know how to use your book and stamps. Your Local War Price and Rationing Board can give you full information.</p> <p>4 Do not throw this book away when all of the stamps have been used, or when the time for their use has expired. You may be required to present this book when you apply for subsequent books.</p>		<p>WAR RATION BOOK No. 3</p> <p>Identification of person to whom issued: PRINT IN FULL</p> <p><i>Dwight Helgeson</i> (First name) (Middle name) (Last name)</p> <p>Street number or rural route <i>4106 N. Polaris</i></p> <p>City or post office <i>Butte</i> State <i>Mont.</i></p>		<p>AGE <i>14</i> SEX <i>M.</i> WEIGHT <i>128 lbs.</i> HEIGHT <i>5' 4 1/2"</i> OCCUPATION <i>school</i></p>		<p>NOT RECALLED</p> <p>STAMPS</p>	
<p>Rationing is a vital part of your country's war effort. Any attempt to violate the rules is an effort to deny someone his share and will create hardship and help the enemy.</p> <p>This book is your Government's assurance of your right to buy your fair share of certain goods made scarce by war. Price ceilings have also been established for your protection. Dealers must post these prices conspicuously. Don't pay more.</p> <p>Give your whole support to rationing and thereby conserve our vital goods. Be guided by the rule!</p> <p>"If you don't need it, DON'T BUY IT."</p>		<p>SIGNATURE <i>Dwight Helgeson</i></p> <p>(Person to whom book is issued. If such person is unable to sign because of age or incapacity, another may sign in his behalf.)</p>		<p>WARNING</p> <p>This book is the property of the United States Government. It is unlawful to sell it to any other person, or to use it or permit anyone else to use it, except to obtain rationed goods in accordance with regulations of the Office of Price Administration. Any person who lends a lost War Ration Book must return it to the War Price and Rationing Board which issued it. Persons who violate rationing regulations are subject to \$10,000 fine or imprisonment, or both.</p>		<p>LOCAL BOARD ACTION</p> <p>Issued by _____ (Local board number) (Date)</p> <p>Street address _____</p> <p>City _____ State <i>Mont.</i></p> <p>(Signature of issuing officer)</p>	
<p>16-42200-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1942</p>		<p>OPA Form No. R-180</p>					

Dwight's war ration book from WW II.

During Dwight's sophomore year of high school, he worked as an usher at the RKO Keith Theater downtown. There he was only permitted to seat Negroes on the right side of the theater and if their section was filled they had to wait outside. He always felt this was wrong.

Dear Daddy,
 I hope I have enough ink to write this. I wrote one before and forgot to put any address on it when I mailed it. This is to wish you best wishes on Father's Day. and to thank you for this trip and everything else you have done for me. I know I haven't been the best son, but as a father you're the best. In maybe some day I can make up a little bit for some of the things you have done for me.
 So far I am having a tiresome but nice trip. we are in the mts now. It is all very beautiful. with some nice looking trout streams. I probably won't mail this until morning in Everett. Signing off for now but remember your my Dad, I know it and I love you
 your son
 Dwight

When Dwight was seventeen, he took his savings and rode a train to Evert, Washington. From there he took a ship called The Princess Louise to Alaska. On the ship he bunked with a real old man with one leg and was befriended by the Captain who let him sit at his table and also drive the boat through the Narrows. Dwight marveled at the high mountains, beautiful trees, blue-white ice bergs and whales! The ship landed in Skagway, a town with mud streets, boardwalks, and few rooms to sleep. Consequently Dwight spent his first night in a jail and the next at a mission where he visited with a priest.



Outside of Skagway, Dwight saw Chilkoot Pass which was called the "Golden Stairs" during the Klondike Gold Rush. After taking a train to White Horse, Dwight boarded a rickety, old bus and began the long ride to Fairbanks. There were no towns enroute so tents were set up for the riders along the road. Dinners such as fried chicken or pig pie were cooked by a lady from the bus. The next car along the road always helped another which might be broken down. Dwight remembered a group



of indians waiting with an old man whose hand was hurt and wrapped. He boarded the bus after a long goodbye, they had been waiting for two days. Dwight thought they all looked like they'd never see the man again.

At Kluane Lake the riders slept in a cabin with no windows, a safeguard against bears. Dwight wore a leather shirt which at times could be hot on the dusty bus so he was happy to finally reach Fairbanks. Once there he met a big, husky marine. The man needed money and suggested Dwight help him unload frozen beef from a boxcar. Because it was summer it was daylight all the time, drapes had to be pulled to sleep and stores were open at all times. Dwight saw moose and totem poles and kept a record of it all in a diary. It was in this book that he found a note from his mother... She told him she loved him, hoped he would return, that the family was about to go on a vacation to Michigan and she would miss him terribly. It was too much for a young man to handle, Dwight was on the next plane home.



Dec., 20, 46
Home.

Dear Dwight:

On this snowy night while you were dancing away the evening at Cuyoda Club, Daddy and I spent the time playing with your typewriter.

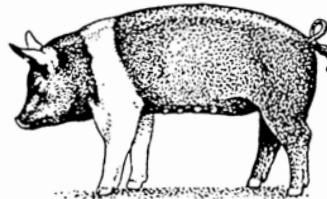
We hope you have many pleasant hours with this typewriter ~~where~~ you may record some of your precious thoughts you wish to hold for future reference.

May this be of some help in aiding you in grasping the essence of a fuller and more enjoyable understanding of life, and when an unquincable spirit for understanding possesses you, and as you unfold new ideas and thoughts, may this little machine help to imprint them in your mind.

And Now,
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR
MOTHER & DADDY.

One day a troubled Dwight walked out his driveway to get in the car. His mother's voice came from the kitchen window, "Dwight, you've got broad shoulders. You can handle it." She did not know but sensed her sons worry. And those words were never to be forgotten as they made Dwight always feel strong.

Adele McGilvery first saw Dwight on a hayride. Knowing she had to meet him, she arranged to have him come to Cuyoda Club the following weekend. They were married on June 12, 1948. For a time they lived at the West Milton farm on Iddings Road. Their first home lacked water and a furnace but did have an outhouse! Dwight had wanted to buy and sell cattle and so on their first anniversary his parents gave them a Holstein calf. They had to feed it from a bucket with a special nipple. Once about twenty Hampshire pigs got loose and it took the young couple all day to catch them. Dwight chased one pig a mile before it ran over a cliff.



Unafraid, Dwight jumped down the cliff and grabbed the pig so forcefully he thought it bit his hand off! Actually Dwight grabbed so hard he had broken the pigs teeth! Adele then drove by and he threw it in the truck.

After several years Dwight and Adele moved to North Dayton on Brandt Pike, an area which is now called Huber Heights. There they raised Leghorn chickens and sold eggs. After the birth of a daughter, Christine, they decided to build a house in their back field facing Bellefontaine Road. While living there two sons were born, Bill and later, Eric. Dwight was then working for his father at Lee Hilgefurd Auto Sales selling used cars but he also bought and sold older houses on the side.

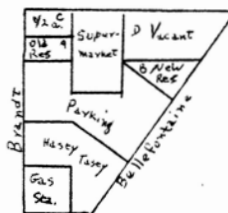
When a large development of homes were constructed across from Dwight's land he realized there would be a need for shopping. He had a shopping center and restaurant built right behind his house. A corner was sold for a Sinclair gas station and an interested grocer was found for a supermarket. The restaurant was called the Hasty Tasty.

RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

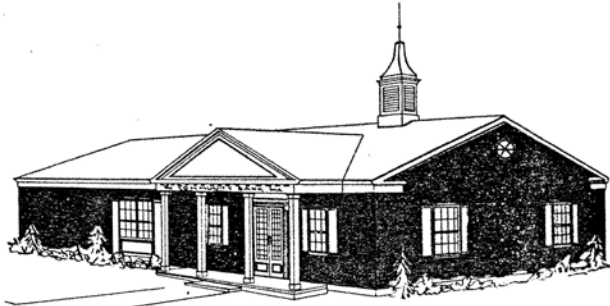
DATE: December 14, 1960
 CLIENT: Dwight Hilgefurd
 SUBJECT: Real Estate Transactions

FACTS:

1. In May, 1950 Dwight Hilgefurd bought a house and ten acres of land on Brandt Pike for \$11,500.
2. About three years later, because of the increase in value of the land due to development of Huber Heights across the road, he sold the house and one-half acre for \$13,000. (A)
3. He then built a new house facing Bellefontaine Road for \$16,000 (B) and later sold another half acre for \$1,500. (C)
4. Dwight reported no gain on the sales because he was advised at the time he was merely recovering his cost.
5. He has since developed most of the remaining land and now has two more deals in process.
6. He has been offered \$19,000 for the northern part of the land (D) and the supermarket owner, Lofino, has offered to lease his residence. The rent will be approximately \$200 per month in that Lofino will take over insurance, maintenance and taxes on the supermarket property. The house will probably be torn down by Lofino.
- 7.



When Dwight saw the need for a bank, he approached many banks about coming to the area. None expressed interest so he then talked with his father about starting one. After proving to the Banking Department that there was a need they started forming the first



COMMUNITY BANK PLANNED ON BRANDT PK.

bank in Huber Heights. It was named The Community Bank and shares of stock were offered to all those in the community. A share was sold for \$25 and 10,000 shares were sold to 255 shareholders. The bank later merged with First National Bank.

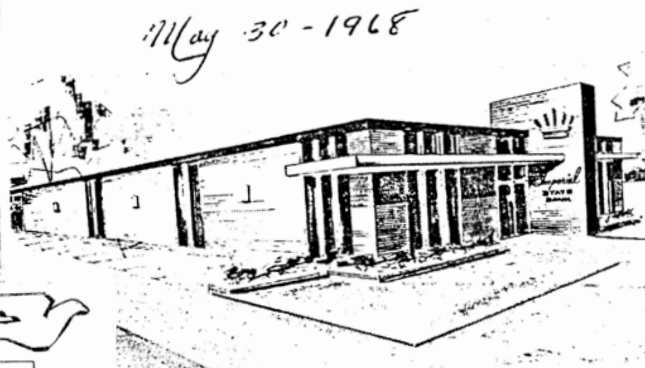
With a shopping center and bank in their back yard Dwight and Adele decided it was time to move. Their next home was on Taylorsville Road. Two more sons, Patrick and Michael were born there. All their children flourished in the country surrounded by ponies, treehouses and an array of farm animals much like Dwight's childhood. Dwight enjoyed spending time with his children, tying ropes to trees for them to swing on or other projects like building dams in the creek.

In past years Dwight's father Lee had drilled for oil in the northern counties of Ohio. This excited Dwight so he decided they should get back in the business. They drilled several wells in Shelby County. He always remembered how nervous he felt as he dropped a two foot stick of dynamite down a drilled hole. After the explosion water would gush high in the air giving way to black oil that went everywhere. A natural gas smell would linger and there was plenty of excitement as Dwight's children and family would celebrate.

Dwight finally sold the automobile business which he had purchased from his father to enable Lee to retire. Before it sold Dwight had made it the largest Chrysler Dealership in a three state area. By this time Dwight and several partners had formed Imperial Development. They built shopping centers and apartments in the Dayton area and started many nightclubs. The most notable would be the Pookie Pookie which had a polynesian theme and a small swimming pool inside! This inclination for owning taverns must have been inherited from Dwight's father and grandfather, Fred, both owned several for a time.

A new bank, Imperial State Bank was formed and located in Vandalia and later a branch in Huber Heights was opened. Dwight's marine business was sold to the corporation and was sixth largest in the u.S. at the time of sale. He also owned a teen dance club called Hullabaloo.

AN INVITATION
 In Appreciation of your Patronage
 IMPERIAL MARINE
 is extending this invitation
 to a
 Private Showing of our 1970 Line
 of Boats and Motors
 in celebration of our
 New Showroom at 7525 Brandt Pike
 Bring a Friend
 November 15, 1969
 Cocktails at 8:00PM R.S.V.P. 233-8703
 Dress - "Nauti"



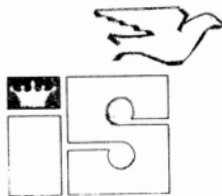
Sketch Of Bank For Huber Heights Area



TIGER LOUNGE



NOW OPEN!
The Tiger Lounge
 located at
 1505 North Main Street
 near Forest
 Cocktails from 2:00 p.m.



imperial state bank
 706 west national road,
 vandalia, ohio 45377



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The death of his son, Bill was devastating for Dwight. Feeling a need to escape, he traveled out west where he could think and wander. At the Papago Indian Nation he talked with a priest who encouraged Dwight to do what he felt had to be done but to do it himself. Dwight was 40 miles away before he realized he could not seek his revenge; something the priest knew all along...

More than ever Dwight realized the importance of his remaining family. He concentrated on giving them new directions often taking them with him as he bought and sold ranches in New Mexico and Colorado. Many happy memories were made on these trips. They would sleep in the mountains and listen to coyotes at night. They felt the influences of the Native Americans, Spanish, and cowboy cultures. Traveling to many reservations they bought pottery, blankets, and jewelry. At Canyon de Chelly they watched as a Navaho woman weaved a beautiful blanket. Whether skiing down a mountain, rafting a river, exploring a ghost town, or sliding down Slippery Creek, life was very exciting. All would laugh as they remembered brushing their teeth



and bathing in a mountain stream. Several vehicles may have been driven, so communication was by CB radio. One notable quotation: "Silverado, watch out for that cow on the road."

On one of the last trips to the west, Dwight was injured in a horse accident on Devil Mountain at the Keyah Grande Ranch. A ranch he owned near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. While riding with Patrick on a steep cliff, his horse reared and fell backwards on top of him. Patrick rode hard and finally found help from a cowboy. It took hours to get Dwight off the mountain. He was brought down on an old bobsled in the back of a truck. They took a closed logging road down. At the hospital in Durango, Colorado, he was told he had a broken hip socket. After a long hospital stay and convalescent, Dwight started to function again but pain would always be there.

Just as Dwight and his family enjoyed the west, they also liked Florida. Here as in Ohio, Dwight loved caring for his parents. For fun he would take Daddy Lee for a beer at a local tavern or Mammy dancing. Whether fishing, skiing, boating, walking, or hunting for sea shells he kept his entire family active.

Dwight's personality could be described as optimistic, he always saw the positive in situations and people. Never one to fight, Dwight would always try to talk problems out. He was strongly influenced by a Dale Carnegie Course, taken during the early years of his marriage. This course was designed to teach the participants to Win Friends And Influence People and also also enhance their public speaking abilities. During one session Dwight was asked to make an impromptu speech

about the word, applesauce. Thinking fast he told a story from his boyhood. Dwight's sister, Betty had decided it would be a smart idea for them to clean the pony stall every morning before school. They usually staked Buster, the pony out and took turns with the cleaning. One morning Dwight's mother had him wear his good shirt and tie for school pictures that day. She then sent him out to get Betty who was in the stall and getting ready to pitch a basket of manure. When Dwight came to the barn he was suddenly splattered with manure! His clothes were ruined and it was a surprise he'd never forget. How did that relate to applesauce? Well the manure usually landed under the appletree and it's big apples were used to make applesauce. Dwight won an award for that speech.



Dwight's daughter, Christine concerns over world problems were always eased by his hopeful responses. So it came as no surprise to her when he used his creativity in finance to devise a plan that could help solve the Federal Deficit. Working on the assumption that the deficit would have to be paid through taxes; this plan would give people two options. The first would be by paying taxes and the second would be by lending money to the government at a low interest rate. These funds would be deposited into a savings or banking institute thus strengthening the lending institutions. The head of the economic department of Wright State University, Professor Robert Premus felt the plan was worthy of serious consideration. Copies of the plan were sent to various political figures and agencies. It is difficult navigating through the political maze but Dwight persisted, always optimistic he would achieve his goal.

One summer Dwight and Christine were involved in the rescue of an indian burial ground in southern Ohio. With reverence they, grandchildren, Lauren and Shane, and Adele dug pottery, bones, and other artifacts from trash pits close to a thousand years old. After presenting these items to archeologists it was learned that their finds were from early Ft. Ancient Indians. On one trip to the site, they surprised grave robbers who had dug up bodies for arrowheads and beads. Because of their immediate efforts with the Archaeological Conservancy illegal digging stopped and now the burial grounds are in the conservancy.



Emergency Acquisition of Rare Fort Ancient Site Successful



Triangular points, drills and perforators recovered from the newly acquired Chris Connor Site in Ohio.

The Conservancy has completed an emergency acquisition of an unusual early Fort Ancient site in Adams County, Ohio. The site probably dates to A.D. 1100 to 1250. It was to be sold off as small cabin lots and there was some looting of the parcels. Christine Connor of Bellbrook, Ohio, upon learning of the looting, contacted Jay M. Heilman of the Dayton Museum of Natural History. After visiting the site, Heilman called the Conservancy. The acquisition will be named the Chris Connor Site in acknowledgement of her instrumental role in the preservation of this unique site.

Dr. C. Wesley Cowan and Robert A. Genheimer of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History were requested by the Conservancy to conduct shovel tests and contour mapping of the site to assess its limits and appropriateness as a preservation project. Indications from that preliminary work are that it was a colony of a larger Fort Ancient village

along the Ohio River and was probably only occupied for a generation or less before abandonment. Dr. Cowan hypothesizes that it may have been an experimental agricultural outpost that failed. These initial indications make the Chris Connor Site an unusually interesting acquisition because it can provide insight about the dynamics of community growth and fragmentation in early agricultural societies of the central Ohio Valley.

The Fort Ancient culture spanned from about A.D. 1000 to 1670 and was most likely a descendant of previous cultures that had occupied the Ohio Valley since the end of the Ice Age more than 10,000 years ago. The Fort Ancient people were a sedentary society who lived in small, often stockaded villages and farmed a wide variety of crops indigenous to the eastern woodlands setting, as well as corn.

The Chris Connor Site was occupied during the Turpin Phase (A.D. 1000 - 1250), the earliest phase of the Fort Ancient culture. The pottery of this phase is almost exclusively shell-tempered and often unadorned, except for the presence of handles, marking the first appearance of that feature in the middle Ohio Valley and indicating some influence on these early Fort Ancient people from outside cultures. Contact with Mississippian cultures *(Continued on page 4)*

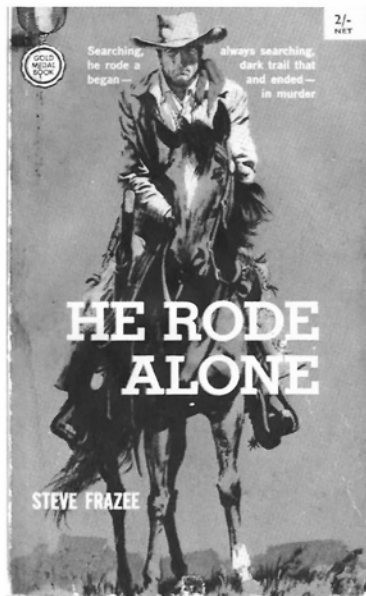
Boy Scout Troop No. 342 of Fredericktown, Ohio lends a helping hand at the Stackhouse Mound Conservancy preserve. See page 4 for story. Also inside, sneak preview of 1992 tours (page 2) and significant Hohokam Village donated (page 3).



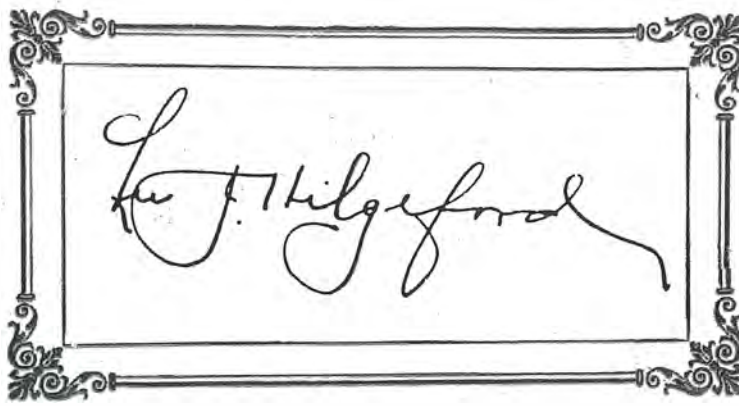
Dwight and Adele moved to a house on daughter Christine's farm after Adele's stroke in 2003. In Bellbrook they were near all of their family who help with her care. Her recovery was excellent and they had many fun years there. Christine would come riding a horse from the woods to their back door. Their grandson, Colin could easily hike down to visit. All the family gravitated from their house. Dwight was always available for his family, driving kids to school and assisting his sons at the drop of a hat.

At the age of eighty, Popso, as he was named by his grandchildren, decided to drive across the country to Durango, Colorado by himself! Christine, Adele and Colin flew out and met him there. He had arrived early and naturally went to local taverns to find ranchers and cowboys to talk to. He expressed his disappointment to Christine that he could not find anyone to talk to and that everyone wanted to hear his stories instead... Thoughtfully, she told him that there were no old timers and that he was the only one left.

After he was back in Ohio for a few months Popso developed a dry cough which lasted for months. At Easter he promised to have it checked. His diagnosis was not good. Having never smoked a day in his life he had lung cancer. Driving to many doctor appointments and during hospital stays, Christine would always hear her father say, "Chris don't cry". Never was she allowed to cry in his presence. Dwight passed away on September 22, 2010 at the age of 81.

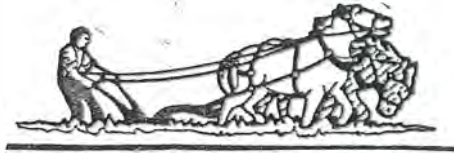


"Happy Trails"



For seven-year-old Leo Hilgeford the ringing of the bells at St. Michaels Church were a harsh reality and a caution for he and his brothers to stay in the house. Many homes were quarantined because of the deadly disease, diphtheria. Each time the bells rang Lee would count the number of his friends that died.

It was the early 1900's and for a red haired, freckled Leo life was an adventure. He spent most of his childhood tagging along with his father whom he idolized. His family spoke Low German, a dialect of the German language that could not be written, and Leo did not learn to speak English until he started St. Michael's school.



At 14, Leo's responsibilities included helping his father on the newly acquired old Hilgeford farm. Every morning at 5:30 he would give the horses 3-8 ears of corn and some hay. After eating his own breakfast Leo would go back out to the barn and harness up. Spring days were long; a spring tooth harrow was used to jerk the ground in the fields loose and a disc to refine the soil. Leo was careful to guide the horses away from the hornet's nest located in one corner of the farm. When it was finally time to plant, a corn planter was used for the corn and a drill for the oats. With this completed and summer arriving Leo had more time to relax and spend his idle time painting his name on a beam of the barn. Fall was another busy time, Leo, his father, and his brother, Jule would use a binder to cut down the crops, which were then stacked in shocks and allowed to dry 3-12 days. Thrashing day was a big event and all the neighbors would come to help. The women would cook large meals while the men loaded the crops on a flat bottom wagon. The crops were then fed into the thrashing machine which would sort the grain and blow straw into the loft of the barn. On this day, Leo was water boy and Leo would have to climb the ladder to the loft where some of the men were working and then give them a drink of whiskey.

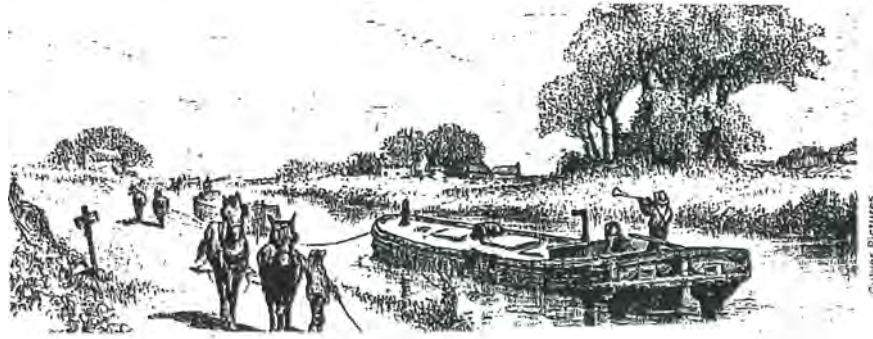


KENWOOD TWO-HORSE CORN PLANTER.

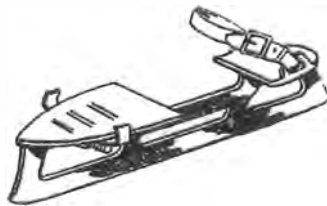
\$22.25
and up

PRICES
Greatly
Reduced.

Our two-horse corn planter is recognized everywhere as being one of the very best corn planters made in this country. Its special features have been copied by many different makes. Buy this machine ahead of all others by making decided inquiry.



The winters in Ft. Loramie were bitter cold but Leo and his friends looked forward to skating on the canal down to the basinburg, which was a place for the canal boats to turn around. They would skate after dark and quietly stay in a straight line so that all that could be heard was the “swoosh-swoosh” of their skates.



At 17, Leo was considered very enterprising. A born salesman he sold everything from folding bathtubs to pills for chickens. The pills made chickens lay more eggs and sold for a penny. The secret was the salt content which made the chickens drink more water and consequently lay more eggs.

One day while working in the fields, Lee suddenly stopped and told his father he didn't want to farm anymore. He explained he wanted to go to school and so ended his farming days. Lee went to Dayton and lived at the YMCA while he studied at Miami Jacobs Business School from where he graduated.

In 1919, Lee became associated with the George Hartsel Propeller Company in Piqua. There he sold wooden propellers for airplanes. He bought the Ft. Loramie Hotel in 1920, which he then sold when he moved to Osgood. There he operated a grocery store for two years. It was during this time that Lee bought a Model T and started going to barn dances. Admission was only 25 cents and then the beer was free. There was always a band and couples danced the Two Step and the Waltz. Sadly farmers later stopped having barn dances as cigarettes gained in popularity and a few barns burned down.

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST



Lee's Osgood grocery was located across the street from Alma Leeper's home. It wasn't long before he asked her for a date which they spent driving to Cincinnati with his sister, Cincy and her date. There they picked up watermelons for his grocery. The relationship grew in secrecy for her parents did not approve of Lee. He said it was because he was a Catholic, a democrat, and drank beer. They had no idea he would soon be their son-in law for on June 21, 1923 they eloped!

Lee's Model T could hold 10,000 American Beauty Cigars and after he sold the grocery he drove all over Ohio and Indiana selling them. At the same time he put slot machines and punch boards in saloons, dividing all the proceeds between the merchants, himself and the supplier.

After moving to Dayton in 1923, Lee heard of an opportunity to sell cars at Dayton Overland Sales. He took a course in sales and was one of ninety-nine who applied for 11 positions. When he was not chosen a disappointed Lee inquired; impressed with his aggressiveness Lee was then hired!

Lee then became sales manager at the L. Boyd Huffman Motor Co. There he sold Willys-Knights to people such as Governor Cox and Wilbur Wright. Lee would always remember a friendly argument he had with Mr. Wright. After driving up the steep hill to Wilbur's home in Dayton, his visit became mildly heated over an issue concerning a new bank policy. Wilbur thought the idea of a bank paying interest on a savings account was ridiculous. Lee defended the idea seeing interest as being beneficial to the banks as well as the people. Luckily this didn't affect their car sales!

The car business was something Lee understood and after leaving Huffman he and Alma (Mac) started their own used car lot under the name of Lee Hilgefurd Auto Sales. It was located on Van Lear Street in Dayton. But the economy soon crumbled as the Depression hit forcing Lee and Mac to bring all the cars home to their own backyard and repossess others. Here they fought to keep their business alive and small family together. Lee suffered through pneumonia as Mac worked. Lee was also a distributor of War Ration stamps.

Dayton News
Mar. 10th 1929.

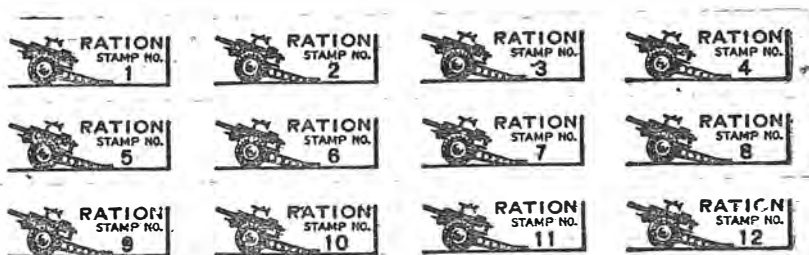
**SALESMANAGER of the
 I. Boyd Huffman Company
 Is Experienced**



LEE HILGEFORD

Mr. Hilgefurd has been associated in the automobile business and with the Willys-Overland line in this city for seven years and is now salesmanager with the L. Boyd Huffman Motor Co., which anticipates the greatest year in Willys-Overland history, they having recently introduced their 1929 Willys-Knight and Whippet models.

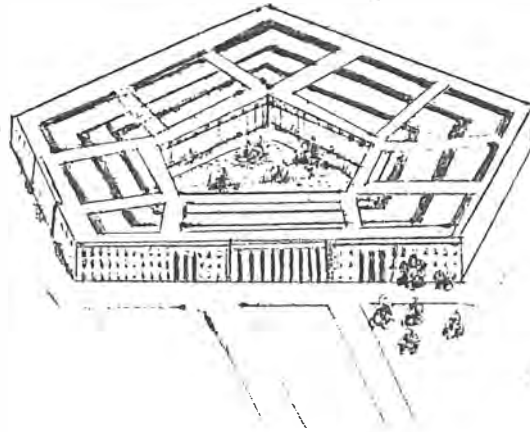
Mr. Hilgefurd invites his many friends to visit him at the I. Boyd Huffman Motor Co., Sixth and Main sts.



All their efforts proved beneficial and Lee was soon looking for another place to do business. He found an old school house with no windows on the corner of Neff Rd. and North Dixie Avenue. (New Troy Pike). Jule told him it looked like a “pile of bricks” but after remodeling the business flourished. Lee and Alma built a Tudor style home on Neff Rd. so their family could be close. At the time this area was still very much in the country.



He next moved the auto sales to a lot on the corner of Keowee and Webster Streets here business was good until World War II started. Nash wanted Lee to build a bigger building but because of the war it was hard to buy steel. The Nash zone manager from Cincinnati was very hard to deal with, as far as he was concerned it there was not a building there was no contract. Disheartened and out of business Lee and Mac drove home from Cincinnati. They stopped in Sharonville and sat on a park bench. After crying and talking for hours Lee decided to go straight to the top and so they were off to the Pentagon the next day.




In Washington D.C., Lee and Mac wandered around the Pentagon until they finally met Mr. Small who was the head of steel. Mr. Small was very sympathetic and understood their situation. According to Lee Mr. Small told him, “You and your wife go home and wait. As of Monday morning Nash will not get anymore steel to build another car.” It was Thursday and they drove home in disbelief. Early Monday morning the zone manager came to Dayton and informed Lee and Mac their contract had been renewed but not because Nash liked them...

Hilgefurd Named

Lee J. Hilgefurd, owner of the new car agency bearing his name, has been named by Chrysler dealers in this district to represent them on their regional council. The council will meet next month to discuss dealer programs and problems.

**NOW '59 PLYMOUTHS
AT HILGEFORD'S**



See All Models of the Brilliant
New 1959 Plymouth

LEE HILGEFORD
Dayton's Station Wagon Headquarters
KEOWEE & WEBSTER STS. BA-2-7443

In 1949, Lee gave a roadman from Nash \$500 for getting him a franchise for Chrysler and the auto sales continued to grow. Lee was an exceptionally good businessman and fortunate to have teamed up with Ollie Heidenreich who had married his sister Cresenthia (Cincy). Ollie complimented what Lee was trying to achieve. The business continually was in the top 5 on the list of used cars sold in Montgomery, Co. Lee's son, Dwight had said they were the best car men in the State of Ohio.

Finding used cars to supply the auto sales required extensive travel. Lee knew all the dealerships and car lots in the northern counties and felt the used cars he could buy there would be in good condition. He reasoned that the northern land was flat and in southern Ohio and Kentucky the hilly terrain stressed the cars. Family members and employees were used to driving the cars back down to Dayton.

Mac continued to work with Lee at first running the parts department and then handling the bookkeeping. Elaborate Christmas parties were given each year for employees where Santa would arrive with toys for the children and hams for the adults. Picnics at their West Milton farm were held throughout the summers and Mac would usually fry chicken. Dwight remembered both his parents stepping up to bat in the baseball games. Employees and friends would also fish in the Stillwater River. Lee's sons and son-in-laws would all receive a start at Lee Hilgefurd Auto Sales. Dwight later bought the business from his father allowing Lee to retire.

Always the salesman Lee also helped his friend Pat Hammond start The Slot Wing Kite Co. This was before there were a wide variety of kites and this triangular shaped kite's design allowed for air to pass through it. They were sold in local groceries. Dwight would always say Lee could always read people well. A good trait to have for a salesman.

OPEN
9¹⁰ 9

Chrysler—Plymouth

Daily
Special
'51 Ford
V-8 Convertible

\$595

'55 CHRYSLER V-8 4-dr.	\$2695
'55 PONTIAC Cot.	2595
'55 DODGE V-8 4-dr.	2295
'54 CHRYSLER V-8 convt.	1995
'54 BUICK Century 4-dr.	1895
'53 CHRYSLER V-8 H.T.	1695
'55 PLYMOUTH V-8 4-dr.	1695
'53 CHRYSLER Imp. V-8.	1595
'53 CHRYSLER V-8 C. C.	1595
'55 FORD V-8 2-dr.	1495
'53 BUICK 4-dr. dyno.	1395
'53 DE SOTO V-8 4-dr.	1395
'54 PLYMOUTH C. C.	1295
'53 FORD Fordomatic	1195
'53 PONTIAC 2-dr.	1095
'53 CHRYSLER 4-dr. DX.	1095
'52 CHRYSLER V-8 Convt.	1095
'52 CHRYSLER 4-dr.	995
'53 PLYM. 4-dr. Hi-dr.	995
'53 DE SOTO C. C.	995
'53 PLYMOUTH 4-dr.	895
'51 CHRYSLER V-8 Imp.	795
'51 CHRYSLER V-8 H.T.	795
'51 BUICK 4-dr. dyno.	795
'51 CHRYSLER V-8	695
'52 PACKARD 4-dr.	695
'51 FORD Victoria	695
'51 PLYMOUTH H.T.	595
'51 PLYMOUTH 4-dr.	495
'51 FORD V-8 4-dr.	495
'49 CHRYSLER convt.	495
'51 PACKARD 2-dr. DX.	495
'51 PONTIAC 4-dr.	495
'50 PLYMOUTH Suburban	445
'51 DODGE 4-dr.	425
'50 PLYMOUTH 4-dr.	395
'50 PLYMOUTH C. C.	395
'49 CHRYSLER 4-dr.	395
'51 DE SOTO C. C.	345
'50 MERCURY 4-dr.	345
'51 STUDEBAKER 4-dr.	325
'49 CHEVROLET 4-dr.	325
'51 PLYMOUTH 4-dr.	295
'50 CHEVROLET 2-dr.	275
'49 FORD convt.	265
'51 KAISER 4-dr.	265
'49 CHEVROLET 2-dr.	245
'46 CHEVROLET C. C.	125
'49 MERCURY 4-dr.	125
'47 CHEVROLET 2-dr.	75
'46 CHRYSLER 4-dr.	65

OUR WORD

IS

OUR BOND

SEE Ollie AT

LEE

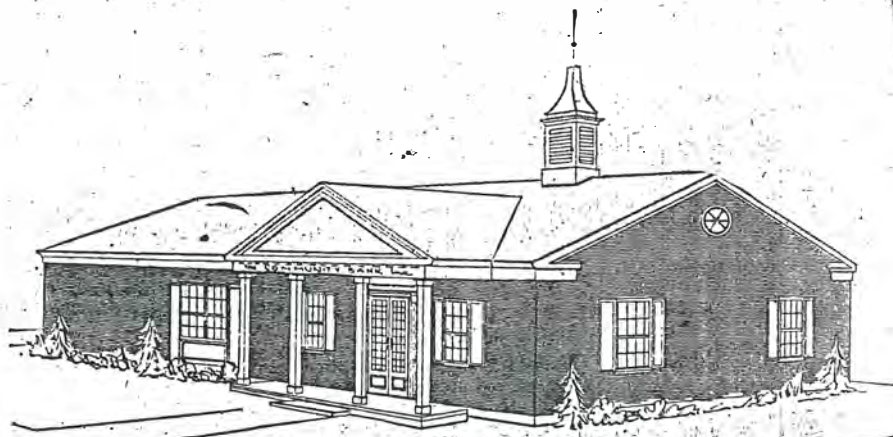
Hilgefurd

Keowee and Webster
33 Years Fair Dealing

HE-5527

Lee may have sold the auto agency to Dwight but together they went on to develop the first commercial property in Huber Heights, Ohio. In their daily meetings they decided to build a new road through a ditch on Lee's Belfontaine Rd. farm. This new road was an extension of Nebraska Avenue. And allowed them to lease the land for a small market, service station, Howard's Pharmacy, a car wash, bowling alley and skating rink. Creativity was a key as they pursued the businesses that would best serve the new community of Huber Heights. Dwight was developing his adjacent acreage at the same time. It was not easy as they faced major zoning battles in Wayne Township. New zoning laws were being introduced into the agricultural township. Farmers would not be permitted to use their land as they wanted. Lee and Dwight decided that Dwight should go ahead with his plans to build a small strip center. A foundation was poured and it secured the development of their farms before the zoning laws were passed.

A bank was next on Lee and Dwight's agenda and they were off to Columbus to apply for a bank charter. Many steps were involved in this process and the selling of stock was a major task because one person was not allowed to own more than 10% of the stock in the bank. Board members were selected from local businessmen and Community State bank was finally established and was located right behind Dwight's house on Brandt Pike. It was the first bank in Huber Heights and was eventually sold to National Bank of Dayton at a considerable profit.



COMMUNITY BANK PLANNED ON BRANDT PK.

Construction on this one-story brick colonial structure that will house the Community bank at 5117 Brandt Pk., is expected to be complete in early February, according to William Kadel, bank executive officer. He said the

building and ground will cost an estimated \$42,000. The building will have a basement, which will be available for community activities. It will house complete commercial bank facilities, including a drive-in window.

Family could be considered Lee's hobby as much of his free time was spent with them. Daughter Jerry remembered the wonderful trips she took with her parents. They went on a cruise to Bermuda and visited close friends Frank and Eddie Myers in Canada. There they fished for walleye and stayed in a very primitive cabin. On a trip to Sanibel Island in Florida the ferry broke down so the three of them waited in a tavern where they talked with some old ladies. The uninhibited women who did not wear clothes on their top of their bodies and lived on the island were descendants of the pirate Gasparilla and his captive girls.

When Jerry and Wilbur with their family moved to Legend Hall Farm in New Carlisle Mammy and Daddy Lee, as the grandchildren called them, would often come up and play Euchre. Lee once had to rescue Jerry from snakes in her basement. And as Jerry and Wilbur would work on their farm she would often hear Will say, "You know where I learned that? From your dad." Lee's old farming skills were used again.

I will always remember hearing of the time when Daddy Lee and Mammy were going to a dinner at the Miami Valley Country Club. Mammy was not happy with how Daddy Lee had fixed his tie. She knew Carl Oberer would be there and told him he wouldn't look good. To which Daddy Lee replied, "Good that will make him feel better." Daddy Lee didn't really care about impressing anyone. When he was asked by the township to name a new school after him he declined. It is now Weisenborn School.

May - 8 - 1964

Dear Dwight: I know that you know my strength & my weakness, I hope I did not disappoint you too often and that I was a stepping stone to a broader & fuller life for all our family, and that from this you can find a little easier on account of some of my efforts - life is complicated and sometimes confusing. Was I think you know better than I.

Daddy Lee and Mammy always wanted their family to be happy and one year surprised them with a cottage on Clear Lake in Three Rivers, Michigan. Now many vacations were taken there, time was shared between the four children's families and friends. Fishing was the big entertainment and you could count hundred's of rowboats finding their fishing holes every evening. Daddy Lee was not a big fisherman but always ready when the boat came home to clean the fish. Mosquitoes never bothered him! Several years after the cottage was purchased the lake rose. During this flood, which lasted a couple of years a boat, had to be used to get to the door! Daddy Lee and his neighbor Eric decided something had to be done. After a meeting with all of the neighbors around the lake it was decided a tile would be put in the northeast side of the lake to allow for drainage. However, nobody wanted to pay for it and Daddy Lee ended up paying \$600 for the tile and installation. Children would always remember Daddy lee and Mammy visiting on their vacations. Daddy Lee used to baby-sit the Rowe girls while Mammy went fishing with Wilbur and Jerry. They enjoyed this and thought he was funny. Dwight's family played nightly games of gin with Mammy. Maybe everyone was closer because there was no television.



After Christmas Daddy Lee and Mammy would spend the next three months in Florida. I always remember Christmas eves as being bittersweet as I didn't want them to leave. At first they would often stay in St. Petersburg but eventually purchased a home and motel, The Riptide on Ft. Myers Beach. Again the families would come to vacation and loved the beach. Grandchildren rising at dawn to comb the beach for seashells. Mammy would then help them make animals, dolls or jewelry from their shells. It also gave them time to be near their son, Tom who captained a shrimp boat there. Daddy Lee liked to take daily walks up the beach to get a beer. And many times were spent at a

local tavern, The Pit dancing with Jerry, Dwight's wife, Adele and granddaughters. How Daddy Lee like to dance and reminisce about the barn dances of years ago. Once when Mammy and Dwight thought Daddy Lee had a "spell" they took him to the hospital over much protesting. He knew his potassium levels were off and he needed a banana. After checking him in and driving home they were shocked to see that he had beat them home! He had left the hospital and taken a cab! Another Florida incident occurred when Dwight went to the Ft. Myers courthouse. Daddy Lee and Mammy rode along while she waited in the backseat of the car he stood outside and was accosted by a teenage boy who held a knife to Daddy Lee's stomach. Mammy was terrified as she heard the boy demand a wallet but Daddy Lee was outraged and started shouting "Why aren't you in school?" repeatedly. An amazed Mammy watched as the boy ran away!




In this sketch you can see Lee as he sat in front of his home at the Rip Tide.

Daddy Lee and Mammy's last home was in Tipp City, Ohio. It had a large enclosed back sunroom where Daddy Lee could visit daily with his large family. It was also a good place to dance with them! Sometimes Daddy Lee could be found walking to town to get a beer. I remember him explaining once how your body gets old but your brain still thinks young. He continued to have his spells and died after a fall at his home on August 2, 1985. He was born on September 1, 1898 and would have been 87 on his birthday.

Resources:

- Lee Hilgeford*
- Alma Hilgeford*
- Dwight Hilgeford*
- Jerry Rowe*
- Journal Herald*
- Dayton Daily News*

*when I go ^{ma} tell Dwight
& adell I will put my arms
around Bill & wife in his
ear that his family loves him.*



*and Bill & I will
of peace, watching & wait
for all of you and be in
your midst.*

Lee was very close to his grandchildren, he wrote this to Alma after Dwight's son, Bill had died at the age of 17 years.

Fred Hilgefords

It was not unusual to see Fritz Hilgefords rushing down the street in his auto, he was always in a hurry. It had been told by his son, Lee, that he moved twenty-seven times in the first twenty-six years of his marriage! At least that's what everyone teased about. Originally living on the Old Hilgefords farm, he was forced to find a different life after a serious case of pneumonia. Fritz thought it all looked good and tried it all. He bought and ran saloons in McCartyville, Dayton, and Ft. Loramie. He owned a hotel on Poplar St. in Sidney and also groceries in Sidney, Osgood, and Ft. Loramie. During one move Fritz was in such a hurry he pulled the carpeting up with a jerk and tacks flew everywhere!



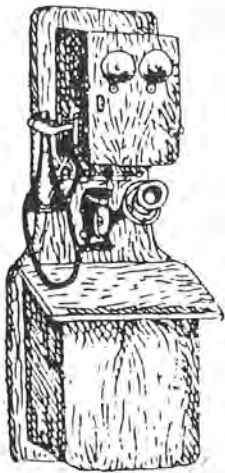
Generous with his customers, saloon owner, Fritz, would pour a shot of whiskey to the brim. Many of his grocery customers worked at a pole and shaft factory. Fritz was not afraid to extend credit to his friends but was financially hurt when the factory collapsed on a cold winter day. He was \$1800 in debt and refused to collect from the debtors after learning the factory

would not be rebuilt. Instead he sold the grocery and moved on.



Fritz sometimes enjoyed a drink or two and had been known to forget and lock wife, Katherine out of the house! Seldom did he lose a pool game and loved to play cards. At Christmas Fritz delighted in singing Old Tannenbaum forwards and backwards! Son, Lee, would tell that after finishing the song Fritz would laugh and ask, "Now would you like to hear me sing it backwards?" He then turned himself around and proceeded to sing Old Tannenbaum again!

FROM HILGEFORT TO HILGEFORD



According to Katie Lachey, daughter of Fritz's sister, Frances Borchers, Fritz is responsible for changing Hilgefert to Hilgefurd. One afternoon while Katie was baby-sitting some of Fritz's children she overheard a telephone conversation. Fritz had been drinking and was talking to Henry Sturwold. Henry informed Fritz that the new Ford car was coming out. Fritz then exclaimed "I've got a Ford, too!" and proceeded to spell his name H-i-l-g-e-f-o-r-d! He then went out and painted a "d" on his mailbox! There after other Hilgeferts have changed their names. Fritz also must have been responsible for the spelling on his father, Clemens, tombstone which is spelled Hilgefurd!

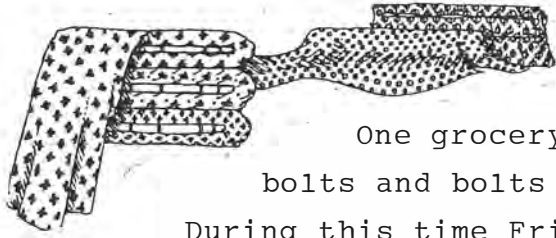
The Hilgefert family ha always been very Catholic and Fritz was no exception maintaining a special relationship with the parish priest in Ft. Loramie. Every Sunday Fritz would arrive at mass a few minutes late ,walk up ,sit with his family ,and then leave after Communion. When asked by the priest about his erratic church attendance, Lee his son said the reply was, "Why Father ,I'm doing you a favor .I close my bar for mass and then re open it for the men to recuperate after your sermon ."

One evening young Lee heard his father and the priest arguing on the front porch. He could hardly hear but knew this father was swearing. The priest finally rose his voice and said, "You can't swear at me! It's ten times worse to swear at me!" At this Fritz commented, "Good, then I don't have to do it as often."

From Jacob. F. nederick Hilgefond's prayen book.



Hochgelobt und gebenedeit sei das allerheiligste Altarsakrament!



One grocery Fritz bought contained bolts and bolts of outdated calico.

During this time Fritz had helped form the Minster and Ft. Loramie Traction Company, bringing a train line to his town. He proceeded to give the town women bolts of calico and when the first train arrived everyone celebrated wearing a calico suit!

Fritz eventually bought back the Hilgefert farm and put his sons to work. Times were hard, the first year 120 pigs were lost to cholera and chinz bugs completely destroyed the crops. Fritz also bought live-stock from local farmers to ship to New York and Chicago. Once after buying more hogs than could be shipped on the train Fritz went to the lumber yard, bought wood and made a double decker hog car. Probably the first of its kind.

As a grandfather Fritz would spend time with grandchildren on Lee's farm in West Milton. Grandson, Dwight remembers him very independent not accepting bacon Dwight had fryed for him but eating it when everyone was gone. Fritz is buried beside Katherine at St. Martin's Cemetery in Darke County, Ohio.

*Resounces: Lee Hilgefond, son.
Dwight Hilgefond, grandson.
Katherine Lachey, niece.
St. Martin's Cemetery.*

Jayne Talbot, great-granddaughter.

"We have loved him during life, let us not forget him after death." St. Ambrose.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Jacob Fred Hilgeford

Born Jan. 25, 1873

Died Saturday, June 5, 1943

Age 70 years, 4 months and 11 days

PRAYER

O gentlest Heart of Jesus! ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have mercy on the soul of Thy servant, JACOB F. bring him from the shadows of exile to the bright home in Heaven, where we trust, Thou and Thy Blessed Mother, have woven for him a crown of unfading bliss. Amen.

Jesus meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.

THRILL PRINTING CO.

Application for Letters of Administration.

Revised Statutes, Secs. 6005, 6006, 6018.

THE STATE OF OHIO,

IN PROBATE COURT.

Shelby County, ss. }
J. F. Kilgus being duly sworn says that
Mary Kilgus late a resident of the Township
of W. Leaw in said County, died on or about the 21st day of
May A. D. 1900; leaving no
widow et, whose P. O. address is _____
and the following persons her only next of kin:

	NAME	DEGREE OF KINSHIP	P. O. ADDRESS
1	J. F. Kilgus	Son	Loraine, Ohio
2	Joseph Kilgus	Son	Liduey, Ohio
3	Katherine Seiger	Daughter	Loraine, Ohio
4	Josephine Seiger	Daughter	Cuyahoga, Ohio
5	Barnard Kilgus	Son	Liduey, Ohio
6	Frank Kilgus	Son	Loraine, Ohio
7	Frances Bowers	Daughter	" " " "
8	Rosa Koelsche	"	" " " "
9	August Kilgus	Son	" " " "
	Frank Broerman	Grand-Son	Coldwater, Ohio
	Clemens Broerman	"	Loraine, Ohio
	Mary Broerman	" - daughter	" " " "
10	Charles Broerman	" - Son	" " " "
	Maria Broerman	" - daughter	" " " "
	Frances Broerman	" - daughter	Coldwater, Ohio

That Frances Broerman
Grand above named
are children of said decedent, under 15 years of age at the time of her decease.

The undersigned asks to be appointed Administrator of the estate of said decedent and on her oath aforesaid says, the amount of personal property will be about \$ none
And of real estate about \$ 1000.00
Total \$ 1000.00

He offers a bond as such Administrator in the sum of \$ 2000.00
with Megdore Seiger
and Adolph Seiger as sureties thereon.
P. O. Address J. Fred Kilgus

Sworn to before me, and signed in my presence, this 2nd day of June A. D. 1900.
A. G. Colman
Probate Judge.



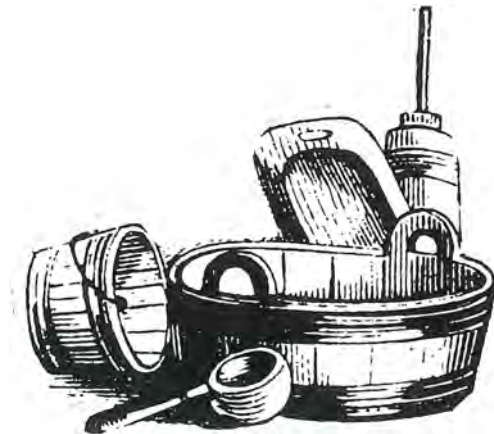
Katherine Hilgeford

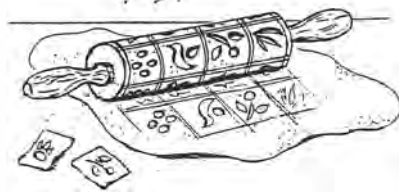
A truly beautiful woman down to her laugh and voice Katherine Hilgeford was a fun person .In talking she had a unique way of answering her own questions ,ending each with a "No, yes or not ." An example would be : "Is she there? Yes?"

Katherine 's marriage to Fred Hilgeford and family life though some time stryng were never dull .Raising sons who were like their father ,she worried about them drinking and riding horses .She helped in running the businesses and many times took in boarders and did laundry to supplement their income.



Katherine was always sewing and according to son, Lee, was an excellent cook. She could make soup from anything and made butter which had a sweet taste. Grocery butter could never be as good. Months before Christmas she would start on the Springerle cookies. She used a rolling pin with carved out designs which left imprints on the dough. After they were baked she put them in a crock and stored them in the attic. Lee said they tasted somewhat like licorice.





Katherine never remembered her mother, Mary Berning Drees, who died when she was a baby. Her father, Michael Drees later married Mary Wilkins and the family grew to include many brothers and sisters. In 1938, at the young age of 57, Katherine died of cancer. Determined until her death, she traveled from town to town looking for a cure. Lee bought her a radio to ease her discomfort during her illness. She is buried at St. Martin's Cemetery in Darke County, Ohio.

* Resources: Lee J. Hilgefond, son. St. Martin's Cemetery.



Flat Pancakes

1 cup flour

3 eggs

4 tan. of vinegar

pinch of salt

Blend until real runny. May need to add more milk.

Pour in a skillet on medium heat (300). Do not over cook pancakes. They are not to be crispy. Just until golden.

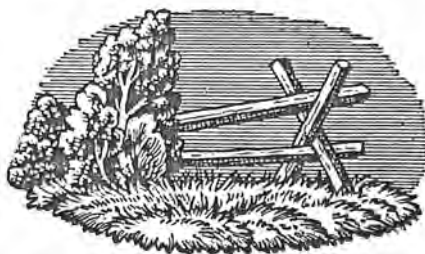
Children and grandchildren always remember Alma Hilgefond's (Mammy's) Flat Pancakes. When asked where she got the recipe she said it was Lee's mother, Katherine's recipe.

Clemens Hilgefert

Johan Clemens Hilgefert was born in Dinklage , Oldenburg ,Germany ,on November 23 ,1835 .Clemens was the son of Dietrich Hilgefert and Margaret Barhorst Hilgefert .In 1847,Clemens came with his family to the New World .Grandson, Lee J.Hilgefert was told the family came to America to avoid conscription which was a compulsory military service . Lee remembered them arriving in Ft. Loramie in 1848. After Dietrich's death in 1850 ,Clemens and his brother Henry were left with the responsibility of providing for their mother ,a younger brother ,and a sister .



On July 3, 1859, Clemens married Mary Poppelmann at St. Augustine Church in Minister, Ohio. He proved to be a model farmer on land west of Ft. Loramie. It had much virgin timber to be cleared and split rail fences and a log cabin to be constructed. Because the land had been a thick swamp the soil was very rich. The road to the farm was named Hilgefert Road.



A substantial man, Clemens helped build St. Michael's Church by serving on the building committee. Besides asking for donations, he would arrange for different farmers to haul sand and stones on their wagons. Clemens also helped donate a large and beautiful stained glass window of the Baptism of Jesus.

Clemens died on December 18, 1893 at his home of typhoid pneumonia. He was fifty-eight years old and is buried at Old St. Michael's Cemetery, Ft. Loramie, Ohio.



A fast sketch of an elaborate window...

Resources: Sankt Catharina Vital Records, Dinklage, Oldenburg, Germany. Lee J. Hilgefond, grandson. Annals of St. Michael's Parish. Shelby County History Book. Karen Anthony, Ft. Loramie, Ohio.

gestorben

Familie Ruzifm
Clemens Hilgefort

<u>Kindern</u>	<u>Namen</u>	<u>geboren</u>	<u>gestorben</u>
1 ^o	Heinrich	21 Sept. 1861.	+ 13 Oct. 1866.
2 ^o	Catharina Maria	15 Sept. 1863.	
3 ^o	Joannes Bernardus	20 April 1865	+ 3 Jan. 1868.
4 ^o	Joseph	5 Febr. 1867.	
5 ^o	Gerhard Catharina	29 Nov. 1868.	
6 ^o	Josephina	6 Dec. 1870.	
7 ^o	Jacobus Fredericus	24 Jan. 1873.	
8 ^o	Joannes Clemens	26 Oct. 1874.	+ 21 Aug. 1877.
9 ^o	Bernardus	19 März 1877.	
10	Fransiscus Heinrich	24 Aug. 1880.	
11	Francisca Bernardina	24 Aug. 1880.	
12	August Clemens	17 Jan. 1883	22 Dec. 1945

Eltern Clemens Hilgefort und
 Maria Doepfmann copulirt am
 3ten Juni 1860. Trauung
 Der. Herr. Jos. Abckerhude pastor
 am Inn St. Michaels Kirch zu
 Berlin, Shelby Co. Ills. —

Professoren Dietrich Hilgefort gnf. am 28 Febr. 1850.
 (Margaretha) Maria Hilgefort geboren Berthold
 gnf. am Inn 10 Febr. 1864. —

in Wm 8 Bld

INVENTORY AND APPRAISEMENT.

Estate of

Clemens Hilgford

Deceased.

SCHEDULE D.

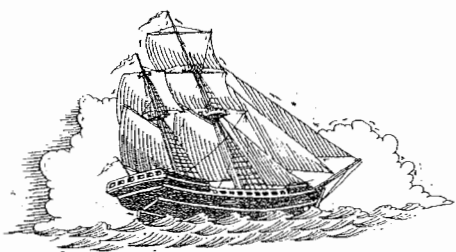
PERSONAL GOODS AND CHATTELS.

The following personal goods and chattels belonging to the estate of the said decedent which are assets in the hands of the said *Clemens Hilgford* as exhibited to us by *B. Drees* we appraise as follows:

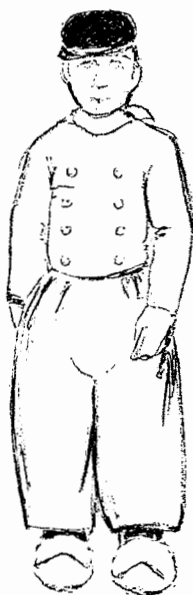
No. of Item.	Weight, Measure, or No. Articles in Item.	DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES APPRAISED.	APPRAISED VALUE.
1		Bay Horse	\$ 60 av.
1		" Mare	" 20 "
1		" Horse	" 32 av.
1		" "	" 25 av.
1		Cow	" 15 av.
1		" "	" 13 av.
1		" "	" 10 av.
1		" "	" 15 av.
1		Fresh Cow	" 15 av.
1		Cow	" 15 av.
1		" "	" 17 av.
1		" "	" 12 av.
1		" "	" 10 av.
1		" "	" 12 av.
1		" "	" 10 av.
1		Heifer	" 10 av.
1		" "	" 9 av.
1		Bull	" 11 av.
1		Calf	" 6 av.
1		" "	" 4 av.
1		" "	" 7 av.
1		Sow	" 8 av.
1		" "	" 8 av.
10		head of Shoats \$4 Each.	40. av.
1		Two Horse Wagon	" 12 av.
1		" "	" 5 av.
1		Surry	" 20 av.
			421 av.

		421	00
1	Buggy	\$ 10	00
1	Spring Wagon	" 15	00
1	Sulky	" 8	00
1	Sulky Shovel Plow	" 10	00
4	Hay Rake	" 2	00
1	Binder	" 16	00
1	Mower & Reaper combined	" 5	00
1	Harrow	" 1	00
1	Grain Drill	" 10	00
	Breaking Plows	" 7	00
1	Corn Grinder	" 25	00
	the one half of a Scrapper	" 1	00
	About 4 tons of Hay Clover & Timothy mixed	16	00
	Harnes	" 5	00
	About 275 Bushels of Wheat in Granary	101	75
	" " 50 " " " Oats	10	00
	" " 10 " " " of Barley	3	50
	Corn in the Cripps about 300 B.	75	00
1	Field Roller	5	00
1	Lot of Lumber	2	00
	Wheat and Barley in the Ground growing	75	00
		<u>\$ 824</u>	25
	Real Estate Worth of the estate	\$ 424	00

All of the above personal property taken by widow at appraised value.



Johan Clemens Hilgefert was listed on the Passenger Lists for Baltimore 1820-1852. His age was 11 and he arrived on September 24, 1847. His origin was listed as Dinklage and port of departure as Bremen. The ship he came on was Albert. His father Diedrich a farmer age 52, mother Margaretha age 47, brothers Heinrich age 13, Joseph, and sister Elisabeth age 10 were also listed on this ship.



Johan Clemens Hilgefert may have worn clothes like this picture. These were the custom at the time of his arrival for immigrants who came from the German towns near the Netherlands. It is known in Minister and Ft. Loramie, Ohio that these ancestors wore wooden shoes.

Mary Poeppleman Hilgefert was born July 24, 1843. She died May 5, 1910 and is buried at Old St. Micheal's Cemetery in Ft. Loramie, Ohio.



Mary was the daughter of Jchan Henry Poeppleman and Katherine Baumer Poeppleman from Ruschendorf, Damme, in the province of Oldenburg, Germany. They arrived in Baltimore in 1837 on the Ernst and Gustav ship which sailed from Bremen, Germany on September 25, 1837. Henry was born June 25, 1806 in Damme and died December 3, 1889. Catherine was born July 23, 1814 in Damme and died August 11, 1884. Both are buried at St. Joseph Cemetery in Egypt, Ohio.



Resources: Lee J. Hilgefond, Grandson of Mary.
St. Michael's Church Records.
St. Augustine Church Records.
Rita Hoying, Minster, Ohio
Information on Poeppleman immigration
from Tom Huelfkamp.

In the name of the Benevolent Father
of all:
I Henry Pöppelmann of M^o Doan township
Shelby County and State of Ohio, do make
and publish this my last will and testament:
Item 1st After my decease all my just debts
shall be paid out of my Estate.
Item 2^d After my decease my beloved wife Maria
Katharina shall have one equal third part from
all the moneys, rates or income due to me at the
time of my decease as her own.
Item 3^d After my decease the other two thirds of
moneys, rates or income due to me at the
time of my death, shall be equally divided
amongst the following children viz. Franz
Henry, Mary, Bernard, Fritz and
Josephine
Item 4th After the death of my beloved wife Maria
Katharina, what then may be left of the money
rates and bequeathed to her shall be equally di-
vided amongst the following children viz.
Franz Henry, Mary, Bernard, Clemens,
Fritz and Josephine
Item 5. I give and devise to my son Clemens
The farm, whereon we reside now and being
the South half of the North west quarter of
Section number five (5) township Eight (8) south
of Range four (4) East, containing eighty acres
of land in M^o Doan township, Shelby County, Ohio

But my said son Clemens has to support
my said wife Maria Katharina during her natural
life with all necessaries whatsoever, also take
care during sickness and to pay for all expenses,
but if my said wife cannot not agree or lieve
with my son Clemens, then he shall and has
to pay to my said beloved wife Maria Katharina
during her natural life for each and every year
one hundred Dollars in good and lawful money
Item 6. I give and devise to my said son Clemens
in full thereof all the personal property
whatsoever except the money and notes
already stated and divided.

I do hereby revoke all former wills by me made.
No Administrator shall be appointed and the
heirs have to settle amongst themselves.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand and seal this 22^d day of February
A. D. 1875.

Signed and acknowledged *Ernst Königsmann* Seal
by said Henry Doppelmann
as his last will and testament,
in our presence; and signed by
us in his presence.
Ernst Königsmann
Ernst Königsmann

Johann Michael Drees

Johann Michael Drees was born September 9, 1851, in Minister, Ohio, the son of Johann Michael Drees and Maria Wellerding Drees.

Mike attended school until he was fourteen and enjoyed squirrel hunting in his youth. Squirrels, rabbits, turkeys, and quail were abundant and proved to be a great Sunday sport for those around Minister. However, Mike never remembered seeing deer.



Mike married Mary Gertrude Berning in 1876 at St Augustine Church in Minister. They had a daughter, Katherine Bernadine, who was born on May 17, 1878. Mary died almost two years later on February 2, 1880. He later married Mary Wilkins and they had eight children.



A farmer until he was 21 years, Mike then decided to try the cooperage business. After two years of building wooden barrels he went back to farming. He would often take vegetables to Sidney on his wagon to sell. While farming, Mike also held many public offices; assessor, school director, and land appraiser. He recalled walking the "length and breadth of Van Buren Township four times," as he performed his public duties of census taker and land appraiser at the age of 69.

For twenty-two years Mike also enjoyed being the correspondent from McCartyville for the Minister Post. Every week he would write of the happenings of his neighbors and community. His articles were always in German until the "Post" adopted the language of the country. This transition proved very difficult for Mike but in his old age he admitted the English language flowed from his tongue in a way that could not have been believed twenty years earlier. Prior to this job, Mike wrote for the German newspaper, "Anzeiger", which was published in Sidney.



A life long Democrat, Mike voted as such as many as nineteen times. He credited President Franklin Roosevelt for better times reasoning that farmers had more money to spend for farm implements.





Grandson Lee Hilgeford remembered Mike hunting for mushrooms in the spring and selling them to an attorney in Sidney for a penny each. He also remembered Mike taking daily one mile walks with his cane and drinking his daily beer to which he credited his longevity.

Mike had his own perceptions of the changing times. He had no use for the tractor, saying it packed the soil down. He also felt it took away from the land where as a horse added to it! He remembered the good old days fondly saying they were the best for amusement. Boys could have more fun with less fuss, traveling around, and money. He did feel that people were healthier since the coming of the automobile because there wasn't as much intermarriage in a community.

Mike and Mary spent their later years living with their son Joseph. His chief occupation being watching the cows along the road. He also liked to read and used the school library at McCartyville. "Old Mike" passed away on March 26, 1941.

*Resources: Lee Hilgeford,
grandson.
The Minister Post, 7/17/1936.
Rita and David Hoying, Minister, Ohio.
Karen Anthony, Ft. Lonamie, Ohio.
Ft. Lonamie Historical Society.*

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." (St. Matt. V.5.)

My Jesus, have mercy on the soul of

J. M. DREES

Born September 29, 1851, Minster, Ohio.
Died Wednesday, March 26, 1941, McCartyville, Ohio. Age 89 years, 5 months and 27 days.

Funeral services at Sacred Heart Church, McCartyville, Ohio, Saturday, March 29, 1941. Requiem High Mass at 9:00, Rev. Edward Summe, officiating.

PRAYER

O gentlest Heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have mercy on the soul of Thy servant. Be not severe in Thy judgment, but let some drops of Thy Precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames, and do Thou O Merciful Savior, send Thy angels to conduct Thy departed servant to a place of refreshment, light and peace. Amen.

The God who gave has taken,
And heaven our Father has won;
Although our hearts are sad,
The will of God is done.

"Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine on him"
May he rest in peace. Amen.



Minster May the 7 1877

Dear Louisa

Iy kann no nicht unterlassen
dies mir genau wissen zu schreiben
wie ich schon schon lange auf
mich von dem in gedenken
und da auch die auf die
Katholiken von der seite
so sehr ist gedacht ist wohl die
mal schreiben und auf die wissen
sich das die alle nicht auf die
sind und auch die sind dasselbe
sind ist auch von der in Katholiken
Gemeinschaften und dass die
andere ist so schon die und die
Katholiken sind die die wissen
das die die die die die die die
in Katholiken die die die die
wenn die die die die die die
sind die die die die die die

weg sollte richtig sein,
wie sollen wir unsere Lieben
guten Muth mit in unserm
Gut einfließen das da ist immer
gut, und sorgt für die u. für
und alle so gut es kann, in
dafür sind wir immer durch
schuldig.

Leisendern (Ministern) weiß
ich nicht ganz persönlich davon
weil ich immer persönlich pflegen
und die einzelnen gehen,
meinen Geist von Muth, und
Liedern, meinen Geist von Wohl
von Muth G. D. und in die
die persönlich die immer liebende
Personen Mary. Persönlich
wieder

Mary Gertrude Berning Drees

Nestled away in Lee Hilgefords filing cabinet a letter was kept. He never knew the translation or names involved but felt it must be important. Years later after the translation was complete and clues answered, it became apparent this was a letter from Mary Berning Drees. It is the only information that has been found about her. Mary was born May 6, 1856 and died February 2, 1880. She left behind her husband, Johann Michael Drees and a daughter, Katherine Bernadine, who was twenty months old. The following is the translation of this letter and supporting evidence.



Minster, May the 4. 1879

Dear Brother

I can not abstain to write you a letter. We waitet a long time of a letter from you. And since we didn't get one from father either, I thought we write you and let you know, that we are still happy and healthy. I hope the same is with you and father Heinrich Drees and if it is not so, write us and let us know.

Now I like to let you know, that recently some people died in fathers neighborhood, and they were: Mrs. Lehmkuhle died last week, and Bernhard Meier and his wife died last winter. Heinrich Budde died also last fall. I like to let you know, that our father has now a new maid. Mary Fischer is gone. He has now Heinrich Wörmeiers daughter, I think he likes her just as well as the other. And Josephina had her first Holy Communion. I think longer than a year our father should not have a maid, because then Josephina is out of school, and they should help each other then. Little Frank was going this winter to school also. They have now over there a new teacher. H Vondenbusch left for

Cansas. H Wilke took his place. Caroline and John Drees went to Cincinaty. Mary Fortman got married last week. Spring is here now, and the farmers put the oats in the fields and are ready to pick the corn. The winter harvest is standing in the fields. When you need any summer close let me know and write us. Dear brother it is already three years since our mother died, that is a long time. But we still will not forget her and pray for her. We like to include in our father in our prayers. Then he is always nice and good and takes care of you and us, as good as he can. That's why we owe him our thanks.

I don't know much news. That's why I am closing this letter and give greetings to you. A greeting from father and the brothers. A greeting from Michael to father H. Drees and on you. This wrote your loving sister Mary. Write soon again.



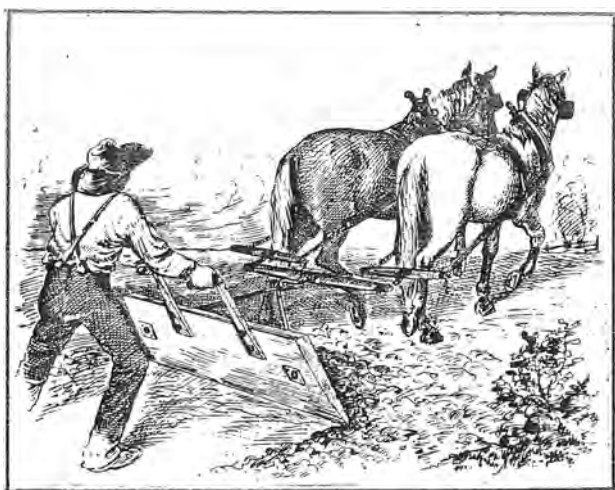
This letter is to Mary's brother, Joseph Nickolas. According to the records of St. Augustine Church, they were the children of John Gerhard Berning and Bernadina Gerken Berning. They had a sister Catherine Josephine who would have been twelve years old at the time of the letter and ready for her First Holy Communion. John Franciskus would have been six years old and ready for school. Many people at this time were called by their middle names. Mary and Joseph's mother had died exactly three years before this letter was written as stated in the letter. Mary was to die approximately three months later.

Joseph Nickolas was studying to be a priest presumably at St. Charles Seminary in Carthagena. He later dropped this pursuit according to Sister Marina Berning, his niece. Father Henry Joseph Drees was rector at St. Charles Seminary in 1879. He was Michael Drees'

uncle so this is why mention of him is made so often. Mary also mentions her husband, Michael, in the last paragraph. It should be noted that spelling and punctuation errors may have been made in the translation.



Mary's parents were Johan Gerhard Berning, born in Germany on February 13, 1826 and Bernadina Christina Gerkison, born in 1830. Mary's mother preferred to be called by her middle name, Christina, her last name was spelled several ways on different records: Gerken, Gerkin, and Gerkison. Johan Gerhard served as school director. Christina died May 31, 1876 and Johan Gerhard died on May 14, 1907. Both are buried at St. Augustine Cemetery, Minster, Ohio. Johan Gerhard's parents were Johan H. and Maria Elisabeth Berning. Johan H. was the first settler on section 30 of McLean Township, Shelby County and cut the first road through that section.



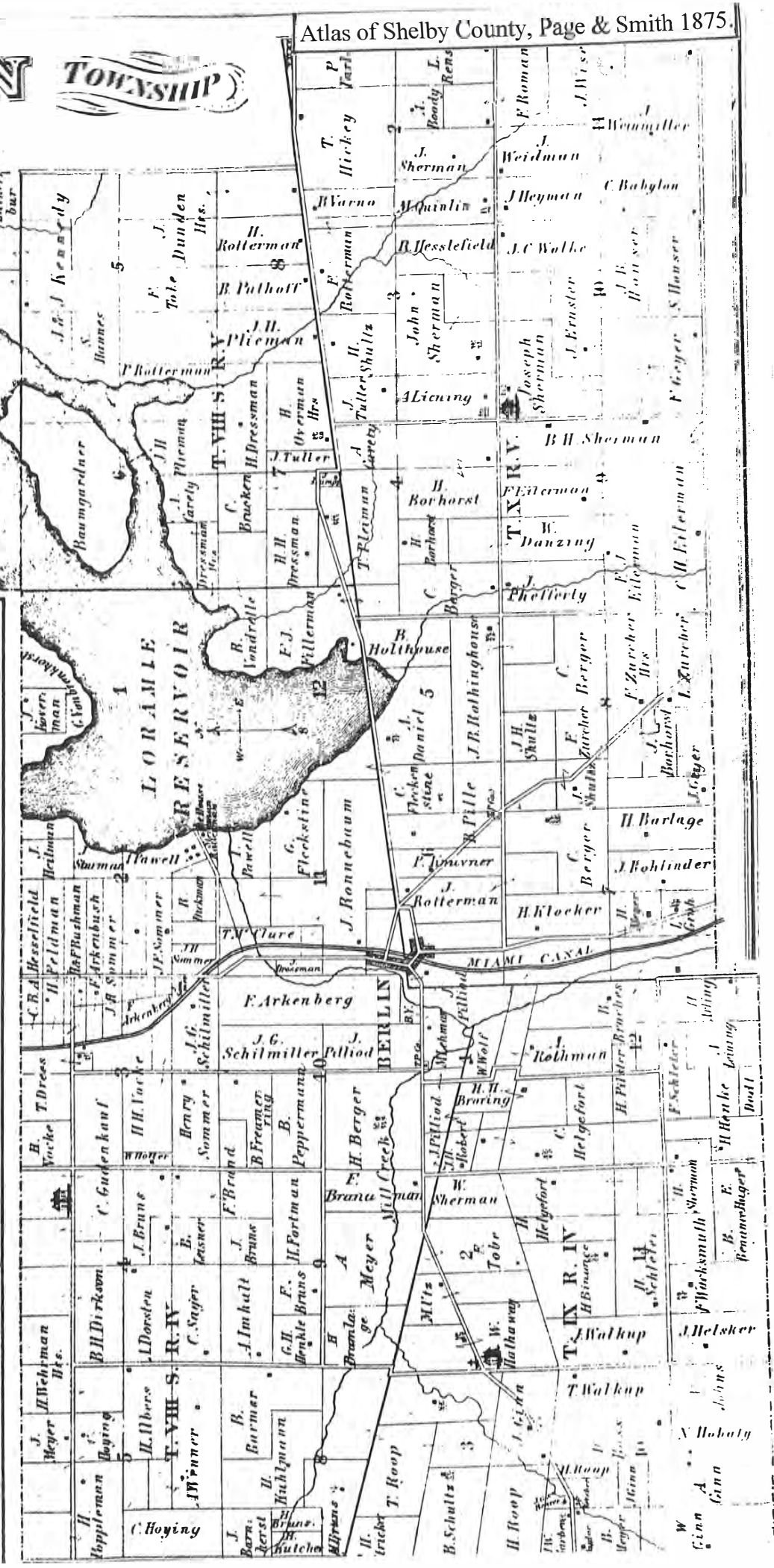
A method of early road building.
from The Growth of Industrial
Art.

Resources:

*Sister Marina Benning,
daughter of Henry Joseph
Benning and granddaughter
of Johan Gerhard Benning.
St. Augustine Church
Rita Hoying, Minster, Ohio.
Shelby County History Book
Lee J. Hilgefond, grandson
of Mary Benning Drees.
Karen Anthony, Ft. Loramie,
Ohio.*

McLEAN TOWNSHIP

This early map of McLean Township, Shelby County, shows early ownership of farms. Fort Lonamie was called Berlin at this time. The Clemens Hilgefont farm was located southwest of Berlin across from the farm of his brother, Henry. Both names have been misspelled on the map. The road between the two farms is called Hilgefont Road. The first settler of section 30 was John Gerhard Benning, his farm also overlaps section 31.



A Time In German History

During the late 1600's Germany was ruled by many princes who were more concerned with their extravagance than the general welfare of their people. The large revenues they drew from the states left the states exhausted and impoverished. There was no regard for morality or decency when it came to their lavish lifestyles.

The turn of the century brought invasions by France and a continuing rivalry between the German states of Prussia and Austria. War became a national activity and a conscript army or draft was enforced. As Napoleon claimed more of Germany, Austria seemed to carry the war with no help from Prussia. It was not until Napoleon marched through Prussian borders that war was declared on France. In October of 1806, the Prussian army perished in one blow during the Battle of Jena. Napoleon then proceeded to conquer Westphalia and issue a continental system which forbade trade with England and threatened German commerce with ruin. Austria ceased to have any control over Germany once a treaty of peace was dictated in Vienna.

In the early 1800's despite the humiliation of war many changes were taking place



Gerhard
Hilgefert

&

Anna
Staggenborg
married

Dietrich
Hilgefert
born

Johan
Henry
Poppelman
born

within Germany. Prussia had abolished serfdom and permitted the public to run for civil offices. Although Napoleon put limits on army size, the states continued to train large numbers of men by using a rapid number turnover. When Napoleon was defeated in Russia in 1812, Germany started a campaign and invaded France with a vengeance.

Johann
Michael
Drees
born

The German states now free from France voted to govern themselves separately as a Confederation of Sovereign States. The theory was good but in actuality Prussia and Austria tried to supervise universities, quiet the press, and approve Constitutions, thereby keeping control and ahead of possible revolutions in the middle states. The censorship and surveillance were a prelude to a depression in both industry and agriculture.

Johann
Michael
Drees
leaves
Germany

Johan
Henry
Poppelman
leaves
Germany

It was at this time that a number of German thinkers started studying the United States. Especially the doctrines of democracy and equality of man. 1848 brought peasant rioting and revolutions which were followed by more stringent repression as government forces remained loyal to their rulers.

Dietrich
Hilgefort
& family
leave
Germany



Resentful Germans take up arms against the French invaders

*Resources: Dinklage under the Rule of France, translation of
Als Dinklae noch bei Frankreich war, by Reinhard Arkenau.*

 **Dinklage, Oldenburg**
Germany

The city of Dinklage has approximately 10,000 inhabitants and is located in Oldenburger Muensterland near the Dammer Mountains.

Sights of interest are the oldest water-castle in the whole area of Oldenburg, the Schweger windmill from the Netherlands, dated 1840 and Dinklage castle, which is surrounded by a large park, and hiking trails.

St. Catharina Catholic Church is in the center of town. Many of our ancestors belonged to this church. At this time there were a growing number of day laborers and tenants who lived in extreme poverty. There was also a decline in secondary occupations such as knitting and itinerant work in the Netherlands. A new life only seemed possible in America. Between 1840 and 1860 about 10,000 people left Oldenburg and immigrated to the United States. This was a considerable number compared to the 65,000 inhabitants at that time.

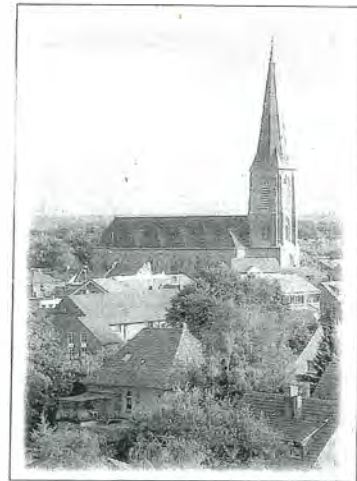
In 1781, the lieutenant Johann Hermann Anton Flensburg from Muenster mentioned the basic economical problem of the Oldenburg Muensterland: Due to the bad sandy soils there were no fruits without repeated, almost annual fertilization and the manure can not be obtained without livestock breeding, and livestock breeding is not possible without grassland and grassland is rare on the sand. This economic circulus vitiosus has been broken by drainage of bogs, the intensive livestock breeding and by industrialization.

In 1871 the number of emigrations decreased and the number of inhabitants slowly started to increase. The tenants started earning extra money by hog feeding and calf fattening. Cigar factories followed and craftsmen establishments changed into manufacturers of agricultural machines.

The mentality of the Muensterland people led to success. This has been described as "active Christianity, work, thriftiness, modesty, and a special desire for property".

Early emigrants to Ohio from this area wore the wooden shoes and had many customs from the areas near the Netherlands.

Resources:
Dinklage booklet sent by Petra von der Heide from Steinfeld, Oldenburg, Germany.
Sankt Catharina Vital Records, Dinklage.



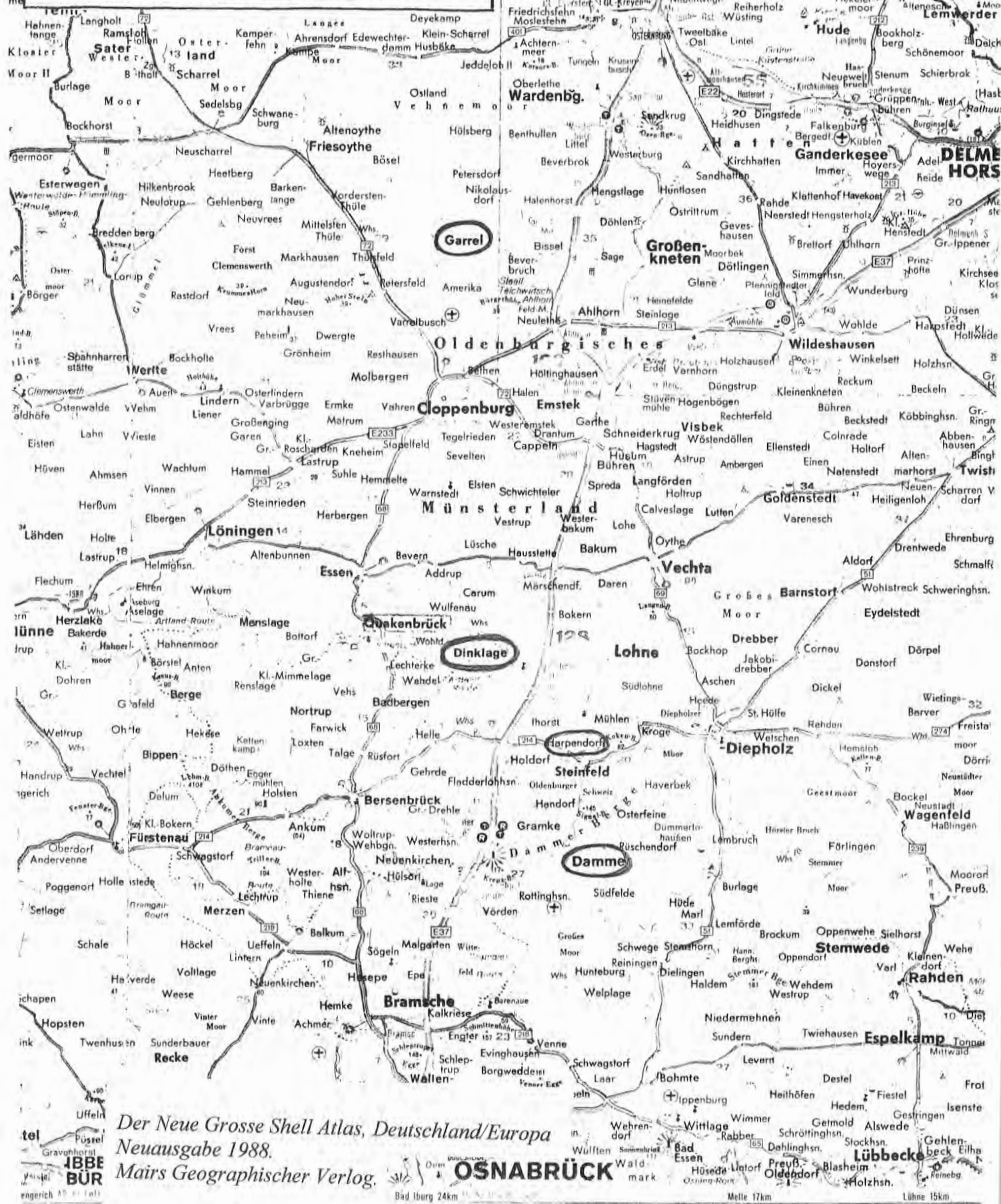
Rita Hoying, Minster, Ohio

A Partial Map of the Duchy of Oldenburg

*Garrel = Johan Michael Drees born in 1812.
 Damme = Johann Henry Poeppelman born 1806.
 Dinklage = Johan Clemens Hilgefert born 1835.
 Harpendorf = Margaretha Barhorst born 1800.*

1:400,000 · 1 cm = 4 km

19 27



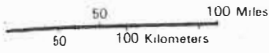
*Der Neue Grosse Shell Atlas, Deutschland/Europa
 Neuausgabe 1988.
 Mairs Geographischer Verlag.*

OSNABRÜCK

Germany

Germany
Political Map

- ★ National capital
- Other city or town
- State boundary
- Canal

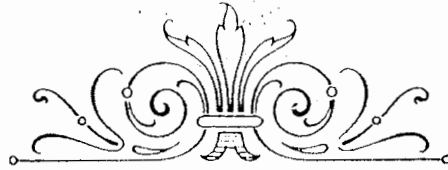


Low German

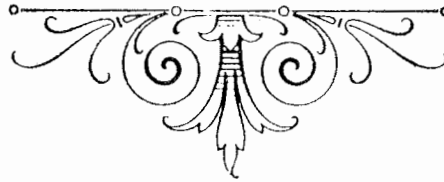


In Lee Hilgeford's biography it is mentioned that his family spoke Low German and learned English at school. Low German was more it's own language rather than a dialect. It was the Anglo-Saxon German that arrived in England in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D. * When Low German speaking immigrants came to America and heard English, they couldn't believe anyone could speak such bad Low German. To them English was very familiar and not being pronounced correctly. Speaking Low German was not the same as being low class. It was chiefly a geographical designation. Low German was the language of the northern lowlands. It is the true Anglo-Saxon German.

*Resources: * Richard Troust from the Letters of a German American Farmer:
Jurnjakob Swedn Travels to America
(University of Iowa Press, 2000.)*



PHOTOGRAPHS



Many photographs on the internet are not who they are claimed to be... The photos in this book have been verified by the said individuals. Lee Hilgford and Alma Leeper Hilgford owned and verified the photographs here of their parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters and uncles and aunts. Charmaine Hilgford Talbot also contributed and verified.

Sister Marina Berning contributed the photograph of Johann Gerhard and Bernadina Christina Berning.

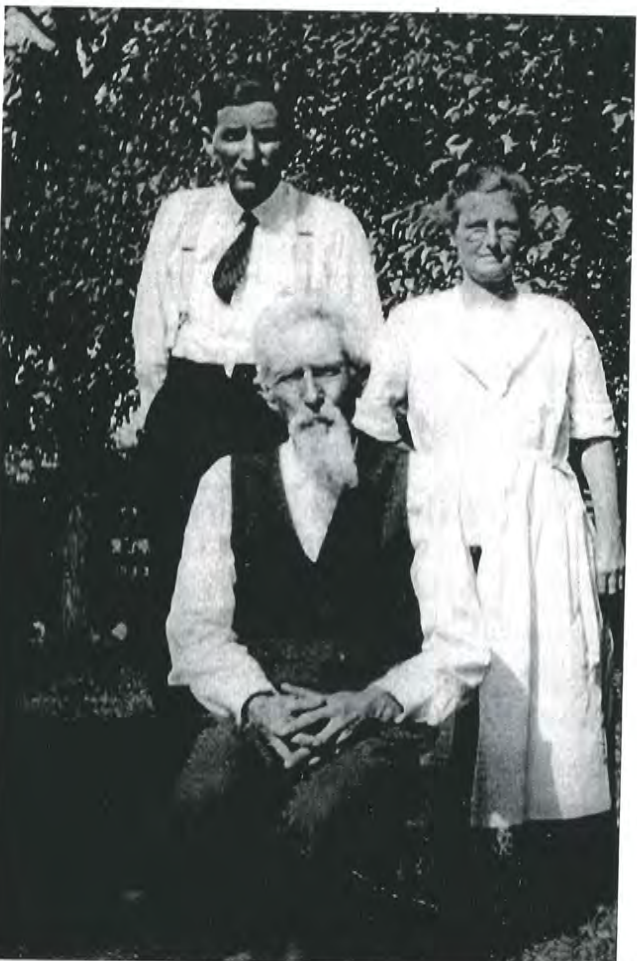


*The Wedding Picture of
Fred and Katherine Hilgefard*



*The Wedding Picture of
Lee and Alma Hilgefard.
Lee's brother Jule was his best man.*





Katherine Hilgefords standing behind her father Johann Michael (Mike) Drees and next to her husband, Fred (Fritz) Hilgefords.



Friends
Lawrence Hilgefords with duck.
Ursela Hilgefords with doll.



*Lee, Ursula, Lawrence, Jule,
Katherine **The Hilgefords** Fritz
Peter, Crescentia*

Lee, Ursula, Crescentia, and Clarence (Peter) all had red hair.



***Brothers, Sisters, and Spouses**
Charlie Pryor, Jule, Lee, Peter, Ollie Heidenreich
Ursula, Ruby, Mac, Emereda, Charlotte, Crescentia (Cincy)
(Dave Gough on balcony)*



Lee, Lawrence, Ursela, Jule



Cheers
Unknown Brugeman
Fritz Hilgeford Dennis Hannas



This picture is a copy of a postcard sent to J. Fred Hilgefert. It was postmarked Loramie, Ohio, September 16, 1910 over another postmark from Kansas. The people in the photo are Fred Hilgefert's brother, Frank and Katherine Hilgefert, Fred's wife. The original postcard was torn so the message was missing.



Fred Hilgefert (Fritz) at one of his taverns.



Lee holding Crescentia
Jule with tuba. Hilgeford Children Ursela
Lawrence

*Ancestor
Family Pages*

7 F	Spouse:		
8 M	Name: Altoney Berning Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:		in: in: in:
9 F	Name: Armia Berning Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:		in: in: in:
10 M	Name: Johann Frederich Berning Born: October 15, 1869 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:		in: in: in:
11 F	Name: Joanna Agnes Berning Born: March 22, 1865 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:		in: in: in:

*Resources: St. Augustine Catholic Church Records. Minster, Ohio.
 Sister Marina Berning, Carthagena, Ohio.
 Rita Hoying, Minister, Ohio.
 Shelby County History Book*

Husband: Johann Michael Drees

Born: September 29, 1851 in: Minister, Ohio
Married: 1876 in: St. Augustine Church, Minister, Ohio
Died: March 26, 1941 in: McCartyville, Ohio
Burial: in: Sacred Heart Cemetery, McCartyville, Ohio
Father: Johann Michael Drees
Mother: Maria Caherine Wellerding
Other Spouses:

Wife: Mary Gertrude Berning

Born: May 06, 1856 in:
Died: February 2, 1880 in: Minister, Ohio
Burial:
Father: Johann Gerhard Berning
Mother: Bernadina Christina Gerkins
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: Katherine Bernadine Drees	
	Born: May 17, 1878	in:
F	Died: October 16, 1933	in:
	Burial:	in: St. Martin Cemetery, Shelby Co. Ohio
	Married:	in:
	Spouse: Jacobus Trivericus (Fred) Hilgefard	

*Resources: Lee Hilgefard, Dayton, Ohio.
Sister Marina Berning, St. Charles Seminary,
Cathagena, Ohio.*

Husband: Johann Michael Drees

Born: September 29, 1851 in: Minister, Ohio
Died: March 26, 1941 in: McCartyville, Ohio
Burial: in: Sacred Heart Cemetery, McCartyville, Ohio
Father: Johann Michael Drees
Mother: Maria Caherine Wellerding
Other Spouses: Mary Gertrude Berning

Wife: Mary Wilkens

Born: in:
Died: in:
Burial:
Father:
Mother:
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: Joesph Drees		
	Born:	in:	
M	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse:		
2	Name: John Drees		
	Born:	in:	
M	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse:		
3	Name: Rose Drees		
	Born:	in:	
F	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse:		
4	Name: Mary Amelia Drees		
	Born:	in:	
F	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse:		
5	Name: Agnes Drees		
	Born:	in:	
F	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse:		
6	Name: Michael Drees		
	Born:	in:	
M	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse:		
7	Name: Frances Drees		
	Born:	in:	
F	Married:	in:	
	Died:	in:	
	Burial:		
	Spouse: Bernard Drees		

*Resources: Rita Hoying, Minster, Ohio.
The Minster Post*

Husband: Johann Michael Drees

Born: July 19, 1812 in: Garrel, Oldenburg, Germany
 Married: November 08, 1849 in: St., Augustine Church Minister, Ohio
 Died: February 18, 1878 in: Minister, Ohio
 Burial: in: St. Augustine Cemetery, Minister, Ohio
 Father: Johann Michael Drees
 Mother: Maria Catherina Hogemann
 Other Spouses: Mary Berning

Wife: Maria Caherine Wellerding

Born: October 28, 1829 in: Steinfeld, Oldenburg, Germany
 Died: May 26, 1914 in: Minister, Ohio
 Burial: in: St. Augustine Cemetery, Minister, Ohio
 Father: Ferdinand Wellerding
 Mother: Maria A. Stuntebeck
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 F	Name: Maria Agnes Drees Born: August 17, 1850 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
2 M	Name: Johann Michael Drees Born: September 29, 1851 Died: March 26, 1941 Burial: Married: Spouse: Mary Wilkens Married: 1876 Spouse: Mary Gertrude Berning	in: Minister, Ohio in: McCartyville, Ohio in: Sacred Heart Cemetery, McCartyville, Ohio in: in: St. Augustine Church, Minister, Ohio
3 M	Name: Franz Heinrich Drees Born: July 18, 1853 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
4 M	Name: Johann Theodor Drees Born: March 15, 1855 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Agnes Meyer	in: in: in:
5 F	Name: Agnes Drees Born: January 21, 1857 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Charles Hoying	in: in: in:
6 F	Name: Maria Catherine Drees Born: January 15, 1859 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
7 M	Name: Franz Ferdinand Drees Born: February 10, 1861 Married:	in: in:

7 M	Spouse:		
8 F	Name: Maria Caroline Drees(Sr. Mary VictoriaCPPS) Born: March 13, 1863 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:	
9 M	Name: Joseph Heinrich Drees Born: December 28, 1864 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Agnes Piening	in: in: in:	
10 F	Name: Anna Rosa Drees Born: May 29, 1867 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:	
11 M	Name: Louis Augustine Drees Born: October 11, 1869 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Mary Holliet	in: in: in:	
12 ?	Name: Anton Friedrich Drees Born: February 13, 1872 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:	

*Resources: St. Augustine Catholic Church Records. Minster, Ohio.
History of Western Ohio and Auglaize County.
David Anthony Hoying, Minster, Ohio.
Sacred Heart Cemetery, McCartyville, Ohio.*

Husband: Lee John Hilgefard

Born: September 01, 1898 in: Ft. Loramie, Ohio
Married: June 21, 1923 in:
Died: August 2, 1985 in: Tipp City, Ohio
Burial: in: Calvary Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio
Father: Jacobus Trivericus (Fred) Hilgefard
Mother: Katherine Bernadine Drees
Other Spouses:

Wife: Alma Mcfay Leeper

Born: March 08, 1904 in: Osgood, Ohio
Died: July 22, 1986 in: Dayton, Ohio
Burial: in: Calvary Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio
Father: William Leeper
Mother: Rebecca Wellbaum
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Dwight Lee Hilgefard Born: April 20, 1929 in: Dayton, Ohio Died: 9/22/2010 in: Columbus, Ohio Burial: Calvary Cemetery in: Dayton, Ohio Married: June 12, 1948 in: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Dayton, Ohio Spouse: Adele Marie McGilvery
2 F	Name: Elizabeth Jean Hilgefard Born: August 23, 1924 in: Dayton, Ohio Died: in: Burial: in: Married: November 1943 in: Jackson, Mississippi Spouse: David Madison Gough
3 M	Name: Thomas Hilgefard Born: June 10, 1932 in: Dayton, Ohio Died: 12/25/2000 in: Tampa, Florida Buried: Orange Hill Cemetery in Tampa, Florida Spouse: Elizabeth Miller
4 F	Name: Geraldine Ruth Hilgefard Born: April 23, 1936 in: Dayton, Ohio Died: in: Burial: in: Married: February 07, 1959 in: Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Dayton, Ohio Spouse: Wilbur Rowe

Resources: Lee Hilgefard, Dayton, Ohio.

Husband: Jacobus Trivericus (Fred) Hilgeford

Born 1: January 25, 1873 in:
 Died: June 5, 1943 in: Ft. Loramie
 Burial: in: St. Martin Cemetery, Shelby Co. Ohio
 Father: Johann Clemens Hilgeford
 Mother: Maria Poeppleman
 Other Spouses:

Wife: Katherine Bernadine Drees

Born: May 17, 1878 in:
 Died: October 16, 1933 in:
 Burial: in: St. Martin Cemetery, Shelby Co. Ohio
 Father: Johann Michael Drees
 Mother: Mary Gertrude Berning
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Lee John Hilgeford Born: September 01, 1898 Died: August 2, 1985 Burial: Married: June 21, 1923 Spouse: Alma Mcfay Leeper	in: Ft. Loramie, Ohio in: Tipp City, Ohio in: Calvery Cemetery, Dayon, Ohio in:
2 F	Name: Ursela Hilgeford Born: May 13, 1900 Died: December 1, 1967 Burial: Married: Spouse: J. Wilbur Connaughton Married: Spouse: Charles Pryor	in: in: in: Cavary Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio in: in:
3 M	Name: Juluis John Hilgeford Born: July 16, 1903 Died: January 1974 Burial: Married: Spouse: Ruby Helen Prescott	in: in: Dayton, Ohio in: Calvary Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio in:
4 M	Name: Lawrence B. Hilgeford Born: August 09, 1904 Died: February 3, 1955 Burial: Married: Spouse: Emereda I. Alexander	in: in: in: Calvery Cemetery, Dayon, Ohio in:
5 F	Name: Crescentia Josephine Hilgeford Born: June 27, 1913 Died: April 12, 1969 Burial: Married: June 27, 1935 Spouse: Aloysius Joseph Heidenreich (Ollie)	in: in: in: Calvery Cemetery, Dayon, Ohio in:
6 M	Name: Clarence (Peter) Hilgeford Born: January 19, 1917 Died: September 1986 Burial: Married: Spouse: Charlotte Pro onche	in: in: Washington (state) in: Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D.C. in:

*Resources: St. Michaels Catholic Church Records. Ft. Loramie, Ohio.
 Dayton Daily News
 Calvary Cemetery Records. Dayton, Ohio
 The Minister Post
 Charmaine Talbot
 Dwight Hilgeford*

Husband: Johan Theodore aka.Dietrich Hilgefert

Born: August 21, 1792 in: Oldenburg,Germany
 Married: October 24, 1830 in: St. Catharina, Dinklage,Oldenburg, Germany
 Died: February 28, 1850 in: Minister,Ohio
 Burial:
 Father: Gerhard Heinrich Hilgefert
 Mother: Anna Gertrud Staggenborg
 Other Spouses:

Wife: Margaretha Elisabeth Barhorst

Born: November 03, 1800 in: Oldenburg,Germany
 Died: February 10, 1864 in: Minister, Ohio
 Burial:
 Father: Tobias Barhorst
 Mother: Maria Elisabeth Wehebrink
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Johann Clemens Hilgefert Born: November 23, 1835 in: Germany Died: December 18, 1893 in: Minister Burial: in: St. Michael Cemetery,Ft. Loramie, Ohio Married: June 03, 1859 in: Ft. Loramie, Ohio Spouse: Maria Poeppelman
2 M	Name: Johan Dink Hilgefert Born: August 06, 1832 in: Married: in: Died: August 9, 1832 in: Burial: Spouse:
3 M	Name: Johan Henrich Hilgefert Born: April 17, 1834 in: Dinklage, Germany Died: November 17, 1916 in: Ft. Loramie Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Mary Meyer
4 F	Name: Elisabeth Hilgefert Born: November 08, 1837 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: January 12, 1858 in: Spouse: John Willman
5 M	Name: Joseph Hilgefert Born: October 05, 1839 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Catherine
6 F	Name: Bernadina Hilgefert Born: May 12, 1842 in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: Spouse:
7 F	Name: Bernadina Margartha Hilgefert Born: September 18, 1844 in: Married: Died: Burial:

*Resources: St. Michaels Catholic Church Records. Ft. Loramie, Ohio.
 Sankt Catharina Vital Records. Dinklage, Germany.
 Catherine Wolken. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.*

Husband: Johann Clemens Hilgefört

Born: November 23, 1835 in: Germany
 Married: June 03, 1859 in: Ft. Loramie, Ohio
 Died: December 18, 1893 in: Minister
 Burial: in: St. Michael Cemetery, Ft. Loramie, Ohio
 Father: Johan Theodore aka. Dietrich Hilgefört
 Mother: Margaretha Elisabeth Barhorst
 Other Spouses:

Wife: Maria Poeppleman

Born: July 24, 1843 in:
 Died: May 5, 1910 in:
 Burial: in: St. Michael Cemetery, Ft. Loramie, Ohio
 Father: Johan Henry Poeppelmann
 Mother: Catherine Maria Baumer
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Heinrich Hilgefört Born: September 21, 1861 in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: Spouse:
2 F	Name: Catharina Maria Hilgefört Born: September 13, 1863 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Frank Broerman
3 M	Name: Johannes Bernardus Hilgefört Born: April 20, 1865 in: Married: in: Died: January 3, 1868 in: Burial: Spouse:
4 M	Name: Joseph Hilgefört Born: February 05, 1867 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Mary Schworer
5 F	Name: Gertrud Catharina Hilgefört Born: November 29, 1868 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: John Seger
6 F	Name: Josephina M. Hilgefört Born: December 06, 1870 in: Died: November 1, 1949 in: Burial: in: Sacred Heart Cemetery Married: in: Spouse: Theodore A. Berning
7 M	Name: Jacob Trivericus (Fred) Hilgefört Born: January 25, 1873 in: Ft. Loramie, Ohio Died: June 5, 1943 Burial: at: St Martins Cemetery, Shelby Co., Ohio Spouse: Katherine Bernadine Drees

8	Name: Johannes Clemens Hilgeförd Born: October 26, 1874	in:
M	Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
9	Name: Bernardus Hilgeförd Born: March 19, 1877	in:
M	Died: November 19, 1940 Burial: Married: Spouse: Amelia Drees	in: in: in:
10	Name: Franzisens Heinrich Hilgeförd Born: August 24, 1880	in:
M	Died: March 17, 1966 Burial: Married: Spouse: Florence Keifer	in: in: St. Michael Cemetery, Ft. Loramie, Ohio in:
11	Name: August Clemens Hilgeförd Born: January 17, 1883	in:
M	Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Rose Drees	in: in: in:
12	Name: Frances Bernadine Hilgeförd Born: August 24, 1880	in:
F	Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Henry Borchers	in: in: in:
13	Name: Rose Benadine Hilgeförd Born: January 29, 1882	in:
F	Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Henry Hoelscher	in: in: in:

*Resources: St. Michaels Catholic Church Records. Ft. Loramie, Ohio.
Sankt Catherina Vital Records. Dinklage, Germany.
Lee Hilgeförd.*

Husband: Johan Henry Poeppelmann

Born: June 25, 1806 in: Damme, Oldenburg, Germany
 Married: November 08, 1836 in: Damme, Oldenburg, Germany
 Died: December 3, 1889 in: Egypt, Ohio
 Burial: in: St. Joseph Cemetery, Egypt, Ohio
 Father: Johan Henry Poeppelmann
 Mother: Maria Adelheid Arkenberg
 Other Spouses:

Wife: Catherine Maria Baumer

Born: July 23, 1814 in: Damme, Oldenburg, Germany
 Died: August 11, 1884 in: Egypt, Ohio
 Burial: in: St. Joseph Cemetery, Egypt, Ohio
 Father: Jacob Baumer
 Mother: Margaret Angela Pohlschneider
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: Johann Heinrich Poeppleman Born: January 16, 1839 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Elizabeth Kenkel	in: Minster, Ohio (Egypt) in: in:
M		
2	Name: Franz Heinrich Poeppleman Born: November 29, 1840 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
M		
3	Name: Bernard Poeppleman Born: September 25, 1845 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Elizabeth Dressman	in: Minster, Ohio (Egypt) in: in:
M		
4	Name: Clemens Poeppleman Born: November 18, 1847 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Bernadine Berning	in: Minster, Ohio (Egypt) in: in:
M		
5	Name: Maria Poeppleman Born: July 24, 1843 Died: May 5, 1910 Burial: Married: June 03, 1859 Spouse: Johann Clemens Hilgefert	in: in: in: St. Michael Cemetery, Ft. Loramie, Ohio in: Ft. Loramie, Ohio
F		
6	Name: Jacob Friedrich Poeppleman Born: February 25, 1850 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Bernadine Spoltman	in: Minister (Egypt) in: in:
M		
7	Name: Josephine Poeppleman Born: April 07, 1852 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Bernard Drees	in: Minster, Ohio (Egypt) in: in:
F		

*Resources: St. Joseph Cemetery Records. Egypt, Ohio.
 St. Augustine Catholic Church Records. Minster, Ohio.
 David Anthony Hoying, Minster, Ohio.
 Rita Hoying, Minster, Ohio.*

Husband: Johan Henry Poeppelmann

Born: in:
Died: December 3, 1889 in: Egypt, Ohio
Burial: in: St. Joseph Cemetery, Egypt, Ohio
Father: Johann Heinrich Poeppelman
Mother: Maria Adelheid Arkenberg
Other Spouses:

Wife: Maria Adelheid Arkenberg

Born: in:
Died: in:
Burial:
Father: Bernard Arkenberg
Mother: Anan Maria Macke
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Johan Henry Poeppelmann Born: June 25, 1806 in: Damme, Oldenburg, Germany Died: December 3, 1889 in: Egypt, Ohio Burial: in: St. Joseph Cemetery, Egypt, Ohio Married: November 08, 1836 in: Damme, Oldenburg, Germany Spouse: Catherine Maria Baumer
2 F	Name: Anna Marie Poeppelmann (Maria Anna) Born: February 26, 1821 in: Damme, Germany Died: in: Burial: Married: July 29, 1844 in: St. Augustine Church, Minister, Ohio Spouse: Bernard Schmiesing
3 F	Name: Mary Elizabeth Poeppelmann Born: January 31, 1823 in: Damme, Germany Died: in: Burial: Married: May 18, 1843 in: Damme, Germany Spouse: John Bernard Baumer
4	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:
5	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:
6	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:
7	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:

Resources: Rita Hoying, Minister, Ohio

*Some
Descendants
Of
J. Fred Hilgefords*

Descendants of Jacobus Trivericus (Fred) Hilgeford

- 1 Jacobus Trivericus (Fred) Hilgeford 1873 - 1943
 .. +Katherine Bernadine Drees 1878 - 1933
 2 Lee John Hilgeford 1898 - 1985
 +Alma Mcfay Leeper 1904 - 1986
 3 Dwight Lee Hilgeford 1929 -
 +Adele Marie McGilvery 1930 -
 4 Christine Ann Hilgeford 1951 -
 +Lawrence Sam Connor 1950 -
 5 Lauren Adele Connor 1984 -
 5 Shane Patrick Connor 1986 - + Teddi Naegele
 5 Colin Michael Connor 1993 -
 4 William Michael Hilgeford 1952 - 1970
 4 Eric Dwight Hilgeford 1955 -
 4 Patrick Joesph Hilgeford 1963 -
 +Karen Ann Bell 1967 -
 5 Kora Lee Hilgeford 1992 -
 5 Josie Lynn Hilgeford 1996 -
 4 Michael Jon Hilgeford 1969 -
 3 Elizabeth Jean Hilgeford 1924 -
 +David Madison Gough
 4 Rebecca Gough 1944 -
 4 John Daniel Gough 1947 -
 4 Michael Gough 1950 -
 4 Anthony Gough 1961 -
 4 Julie Gough 1963 -
 3 Thomas Hilgeford 1932 -
 +Elizabeth Miller
 4 Thomas Hilgeford 1955 -
 4 Mathew Hilgeford 1956 -
 4 Lee Hilgeford 1957 - 1991
 4 Mark Hilgeford 1962 -
 3 Geraldine Ruth Hilgeford 1936 -
 +Wilbur Rowe 1936 - 2004
 4 Leslye Ann Rowe 1959 -
 +Guy Anthony Welbaum 1956 -
 5 Lucy LesAnn Welbaum 1990 -
 5 Travis Welbaum 1993 -
 *2nd Husband of Leslye Ann Rowe:
 +Brent Barringer 1954 -
 4 Lisa Marie Rowe 1961 -
 +Gene Chiles
 5 Jason Chiles 1978 -
 *2nd Husband of Lisa Marie Rowe:
 +Gerald Walter Brooks 1950 -
 4 Linda Lee Rowe 1961 -
 +William Benjamin Kunz 1947 -
 4 Lorrie Jean Rowe 1962 -
 +Gary Alan Parker 1953 -
 5 Cheyenne Jean Parker 1998 -
 5 Lakota Rowe Parker 2003 -
 2 Ursela Hilgeford 1900 - 1967
 +J. Wilbur Connaughton 1890 - 1943
 3 Patrick Connaughton 1924 -
 3 Richard F. Connaughton 1927 -
 *2nd Husband of Ursela Hilgeford:
 +Charles Pryor 1907 - 1991
 2 Juluis John Hilgeford 1903 - 1974
 +Ruby Helen Prescot 1904 - 1995
 3 Charmaine Hilgeford 1930 -
 +William John Talbot 1930 -
 4 Jayne Ann Talbot 1955 -
 +W. Howard Anderson
 5 Mathew David Anderson 1980 -
 5 Lindsay Ruth Anderson 1982 -
 5 Elizabeth Jo Anderson 1984 -
 4 John Joseph Talbot 1956 -
 +Gretchen Sasser
 5 Brittany Rae Talbot 1981 -
 5 Nicholas John Talbot 1984 -
 5 Benjamin Neal Talbot 1987 -
 4 James Donald Talbot 1958 -
 +Patty O'Reilly
 5 Max Talbot 1991 -
 5 Jack William Talbot 1993 -
- 5 Lauren Adele Connor
 6 Tristan Micah Connor
 6 Adele Cristiana Connor
- 5 Kora Lee Hilgeford
 6Noland Patrick Hilgeford
 6 Paxton Gerard Combs
- Michael Jon Hilgeford
 + Bridget Seall
 5 Wyatt William Hilgeford
 5 Scarlett Rose Hilgeford
 5 Dwight Michael Hilgeford

..... 5 Joseph Talbot 1994 -
..... 5 Megan Marie Talbot 1999 -
..... 4 Mary Jean Talbot 1962 -
..... +Tim Irwin
..... 5 Abigail Ai-Fen Irwin 2003 -
..... 2 Lawrence Bernard Hilgeförd 1904 - 1955
..... +Emereda Irene Alexander 1905 - 1998
..... 3 Carolyn Hilgeförd
..... 3 Paul Hilgeförd 1931 - 1993
..... +Vivian
..... *2nd Wife of Paul Hilgeförd:
..... +Barbara Jean Fulks 1929 - 1989
..... 4 John David Hilgeförd 1951 -
..... +Sandra Jo DeLong 1951 -
..... *2nd Wife of John David Hilgeförd:
..... +Cathy June Day 1955 -
..... 4 Paul Joesph Hilgeförd 1956 -
..... +Sheila Dianne Stringfield 1953 -
..... 5 Nicole Jean Hilgeförd 1980 -
..... 5 Brynn Faith Hilgeförd 2003 -
..... 4 Timothy Lawrence Hilgeförd 1958 -
..... +Terrell Martha Partridge 1958 -
..... 3 Marilyn Louise Hilgeförd 1938 -
..... +Edward Victor Fischer 1936 -
..... 4 Cynthia Louise Fischer 1960 -
..... +Steven Eugene Gibson 1959 -
..... 5 Kyle Motega Gibson 1995 -
..... 5 Kody Ryan Gibson 1997 -
..... 4 Christina Maria Fischer 1961 -
..... +Steven Jaye Harshbarger 1960 -
..... 5 Michelle Devon Harshbarger 1986 -
..... 5 Benjamin Steven Harshbarger 1988 -
..... 4 Theresa Lynn Fischer 1962 - 1993
..... 4 William Edward Fischer 1964 -
..... +Paggy Sue Weaver 1965 -
..... 5 Lauren Nicole Fischer 1987 - 1987
..... 5 Candice Marie Fischer 1988 -
..... *2nd Wife of William Edward Fischer:
..... +Shelley Mae Coots 1966 -
..... 5 Kelley Rene Coots 1986 -
..... 5 Kristen Nicole Fischer 1992 - 1992
..... 5 Karley Brianna Fischer 1993 -
..... 4 Steven Michael Fischer 1965 -
..... +Cynthia Lynn Roberts 1968 -
..... 5 Glen Steven Fischer 2002 -
..... 4 Janelle Sue Fischer 1970 -
..... +William Sean Friel
..... 5 Erin Theresa Friel 2000 -
..... 5 William Ireland Friel 2004 -
..... 4 James Victor Fischer 1975 -
..... +Pamela Marie Schneider 1974 -
..... 5 Brooke Marie Fischer 2002 -
..... 3 Donald Lawrence Hilgeförd 1934 -
..... +Madonna Mae Mader 1936 -
..... 4 Dennis Lee Hilgeförd 1958 -
..... 4 Denise Ann Hilgeförd 1959 -
..... +Mathew Michael Moran 1958 -
..... 5 Dannah Marie Moran 1977 -
..... 5 Mathew Michael Moran 1982 -
..... 5 Stefanie Lynn Moran 1983 - 1989
..... 4 Dina Sue Hilgeförd 1960 -
..... +Daniel Patrick Byrnes 1952 -
..... 5 Casey Ann Byrnes 1993 -
..... 5 Maggie Leigh Byrnes 1995 -
..... 5 Jack Daniel Byrnes 2000 -
..... 4 Darla Jean Hilgeförd 1960 -
..... +Michael Joseph Donohue 1958 -
..... 5 Michael Joseph Donohue 1985 -
..... 5 Sean Andrew Donohue 1990 -
..... 5 Molly Leigh Donohue 1999 -
..... 4 Devon Marie Hilgeförd 1962 -
..... +Clifford (Cliff) Kenneth Madsen 1961 -
..... 4 Drew Allen Hilgeförd 1971 -
..... +Mindy Elizabeth Stelzer 1975 -
..... 5 Alexander Thomas Hilgeförd 2002 -
..... 5 Eric Allen Hilgeförd 2003 -

..... 3 James Bernard Hilgefod 1937 -
 +Celia Smith 1941 -
 4 Rachael Ann Hilgefod 1962 -
 4 Lawrence Cecil Hilgefod 1966 -
 +Tammy Lee Davis 1969 -
 5 Bailey James Hilgefod 1994 -
 5 Ashley Louise Hilgefod 1991 -
 3 Carolyn Susan Hilgefod 1938 - 1938
 2 Crescentia Josephine Hilgefod 1913 - 1969
 +Aloysius Joseph Heidenreich (Ollie) 1909 - 1994
 3 Robert Heidenreich 1936 -
 +Madonna Sue Fairchild 1940 -
 4 Christopher Dillan Heidenreich 1965 -
 4 Gretchen Lee Heidenreich 1969 -
 4 Eric Joseph Heidenreich 1970 -
 4 Craig Robert Heidenreich 1972 -
 4 Gabrielle Heidenreich 1977 -
 3 William Heidenreich 1939 -
 +Mary Ann King 1939 -
 4 Greg Heidenreich 1960 -
 4 Mary Jo Heidenreich 1962 -
 4 Amy Beth Heidenreich 1966 -
 4 Mathew Doyle Heidenreich 1969 -
 3 Sharon Heidenreich
 +William Fitzpatrick
 4 William Fitzpatrick

 +Doug Few
 4 Tony Few
 4 Karen Few
 2 Clarence (Peter) Hilgefod 1917 - 1986
 +Charlotte 1918 - 1997
 3 Peter Hilgefod
 3 Anna Hilgefod

*Ancestors of
Alma Leeper Hilgefors*



Christian Wellbaum
+
Sarah Brown

Samantha Hughes
+
Cyphus Leeper



Rebecca Wellbaum
+
William Leeper

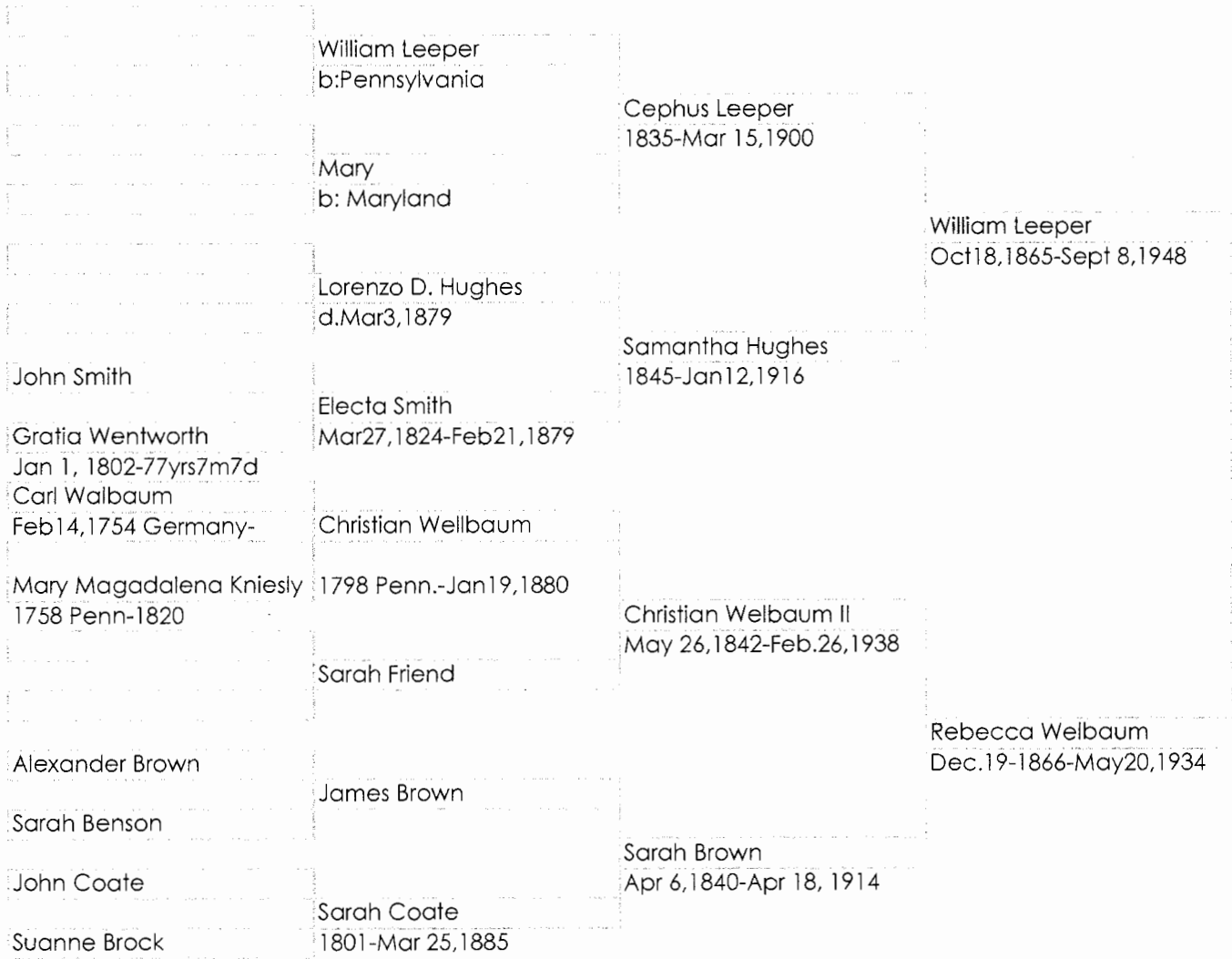


Alma McFay
Leeper Hilgeford



Family Tree for Alma Hilgeford

5 Generations



Alma MacFay Leeper
Mar 8, 1904-July 22, 1986
mother of Dwight Hilgeford

REFERENCES:
Brock(Old)Cemetery, York T Twp.
Tricker Cemetery, MonroeAdams Ind.
US Intercoastal Marr. Records
Civil War Records. Ohio Death Index
SS Death Index. Versialles Policy.
Marriage Cert. Montgomery Cty. Ohio.
Tombstone Images. Obituaries.
Segelhorst Evangelical Church,
Claramae Wellbaum. Burial Cards.

*Individual Biographies
&
Documents*

Jan-74
As If anyone Cares

I first remember rolling off a porch in a high wheel wicker baby buggy - as everyone knows I was born Mar 8 - 1904 to Wm and Rebecca Brown Welburn Leeper.

I always felt my Dad would like to have had another Boy. But with 2 brothers Sherman 15 yrs and Emery 10 at the time I guess the good Lord thought it best to upset every thing so I arrived. Dad always had me doing boy things, such as shooting a gun, hunting and doing a boys work. I remember my first day at school. Walked a $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile to get there. A little one room school with a pot belly stove and scratchy seats. Most of all an outside privy - Of course that is all we had at home, but to me it was awful. Nothing much happen in my school years. I went thru eight grade. We had no High School Close. But my Aunt Ella McFarland who was my Neki's sister, insisted that I come live in Columbus O with her and go to H.S.



I do remember my folks would not have my leaving home to go to school. All thru my grade school years my Grand mother Deeper, who lived across the street insisted I sleep there because she was lonely at nite. I did quite a lot but I will always remember the long winter evenings at home with my mother and Dad. Mother would sit by the fire and peel an apple that Dad would dig out of the hole. The Hole was a large area in the garden that Dad would cover with straw. Then we would pile bushel of apples - potatoes cabbage celery and lots of food. Dad then would cover it all with straw then dirt it would sometimes be as high as a hill. Then come cold winter evenings he would Open the Hill, get apples or whatever mother needed. Also we made Kraut in a barrel it would freeze and Mother had a new Hackes would hammer it out - and fry it, sometimes we ate

it raw.

As I remember our house was cold we had a coal stove in living room no heat in bedrooms. But plenty blankets or comforts that Mother made out of old pants and woolen pieces.

I can remember the water in bucket in kitchen would freeze at nite. Dad would build a fire in kitchen range, and thaw it so we could wash up. But we didn't mind every body else did the same thing.

My dad always took me along, to the slaughter house when he butchered and I had to learn to skin a cow same as he did, only when I could out do him I wasn't sure he liked it.

It wasn't a matter of how fast but the point was not to have any holes in the skin because the hide wouldn't be worth as much with holes for shoes. Then he would take me on the trips selling meat in country. House to house.

We was a very close family. once a year usually 4th of July

Leaps

The whole clan would go for a picnic at Laramie Lake. Uncle Mac McFarland and Aunt Ella would spend their vacation in Ogden so we would all get together. We had good times when I was out of school & worked in a restaurant for my brother Sherman who was very ill at the time I worked hard up in the morning at 4:30 had to cook for 20 men who lived at the restaurant while working building new paved roads.

Then at sixteen I started making cigars it payed good money around \$10⁰⁰ a week if you worked hard I got \$1,50 a week in the restaurant but I always helped out at the restaurant after work any way, because of Sherman Well, life wasn't all that too hard as we always had parties and dances to go to and we always had fun.

Then the Hilgefords moved to town. I dated Julie quite a bit also a lot of guys from Versailles and around the area. All the girls did it was sorta of a family affair. My dad used

(to buy up cattle and drive a herd of 30 or 40 to Cincinnati to the stock yards to market. I never made the trip to Cin., but when he had all of them bought around the country-side, Selma, Coldwater, in lower Ind. It was my job to drive the buggy at first then the old Ford and black drive ways, and roads so they wouldn't break and run. I remember one time Harry Keeper my cousin was with us as he was a good many times a small steer broke and was on the other side of a fence. Dad got one back, but he couldn't do much with the other one so, Harry climbed over, picked up the steer threw him over the fence broke his neck. Dad had to butcher it right there. (True story) I also delivered meat to the farmers - when they had a threshing all the neighbors would come over and help them, men in the fields, women would cook, we would have large orders of meat to deliver. We would also enjoy the summer evenings - everyone would sit out

in their front yards town
people walked by everyone talked
to everyone.

I remember my brother Sherman he
was quite a guy. Everyone his friend
I'll always remember he would bring
Josephine to our house. They were really
in love. - But one weekend Irish
Sommaughton's cousin Marie came to town
very good looking girl. ask Sherman
to out with her. She left and a few
weeks she called said she was
pregnant. Sherman denied it. But with
Mother Right was Right Wrong was Wrong -
so she made her marry her little
Paul was born Mother I'd sized him.
Marie didn't like the baby and didn't
want Mother to like him. He got a
cold and she deliberately sat in
front of a open window in cold
weather and he died at 9 mos.
when they buried him a New Weston.
She had her clothes all packed and
never came back from the County.
later she came back they had another
Robert shortly afterwards but he also
died a 4 mos. she did the same

trick and left, Sherman would not
take her back again - so later
he married Jo. they had a happy
life to-gether only he had a habit
which developed into I. B.
Had only a short time to-gether
as he died at the age of 31 yrs.
Emery married Ruth his childhood
sweet heart they 4 children Alice, Mary
Mary Ellen - ~~Wm~~ Don. lived to-gether
31 yrs divorced. he remarried, Elsie
who died with in a year. he married
Mona who died at 49 yrs.
After I left school I made Cigars.
I met Lee. My folks were strictly
against him. He was a Catholic also
a Democrat. and that was not allowed.
He had a grocery in Oggood also
he sold the cigars I made to
retailers through out the state. But
I was never allowed to date him.
But all our friends were very good
to us I would date one of the
guys. they would take me out of
town Lee would pick me up
and off to a dance or more
we would go.

took our honeymoon at Russell Point

After we were married at St. Mary's personage in Dayton Father Beckmeyer married us. said it would never last, I was heart broken.

Lee sold cars at Dayton Overland Sales. later he was a salesman for Boyd Huffman. Mother and Dad loved Lee after we was married and he was really good to them. took them a battery radio with earphones only one person could listen at a time. Mother & Dad loved the Grand Old Opry.

Later Lee went into the used car business almost went broke at 5th and Van then we lived on Highland in their time he started a used car lot in our back yard. I had to do the books. So - we spent the next few years buying - washing and polishing cars and trying to sell them at 1.00 down \$2.00 a week. But Lee sold them and we came thru. OK. Our family was born and we had the usual trying times. I had asthma very bad later Lee had Pneumonia very bad. took us both a year to

to get over them. We had a lots
of hardships but we had a lot
of fun!

She returned to thoughts of her youth.....

I cut tobacco in the field
loaded it on wagon help hang it
in barn had to take worms off of it.
My Dad, like to say we had the
best built house around. But I
often wondered why ~~we~~ I had to shake
snow off the blankets before I
got up on cold mornings.

My Mothers sisters were Bell Mendenhall
Verwiler - Ester Mullen Sidney, Vera, Sister
South Bend - Laura Fony Grogou Mont
They are all gone now so are her
brothers John Wellbaum - Alvin Wellbaum.

My Dad had sisters Olive Fidler - May Wagner
Ell M^{rs} Farland, and one brother Frank
they are all gone too. I had 2 brothers
Sherman died at age 31. Emery is still
living. Mather died at age 67 yrs Dad died
at 84 yrs. My dad had a cousin
Edgar Deper - we called him uncle Eg. he

Comforters by her mother, were made from old pants.

Would help dad drive cattle and he
~~had~~ had a wooden leg. I used to love
to hear mother & Dad tell about one night
they bedded down with cattle in
Cranberry Prairie up by Ft Recovery
and built a fire to keep warm and
cook coffee - Uncle Eg went to sleep next
morning his leg was burnt off, also
about shooting wild turkey when they
would fly off ground Dad said the
whole sky would be black with
turkey. (No Lie) I check it. The
Leeper woman had to do all kinds of
work - My Grandmother Samantha had
a disabled horse built in Cogood I
remember they didn't build an out house
prow. So Grandma decided to build it
herself. and she did it was lovely
only it had square seats she didn't
know how to, my them round.
My Grandma Leeper was a very large built
woman and carried a lot of power

As a child Alma took baths once a week as was the custom. Other mornings she remembered her father cracking ice from the basin so the family could wash.

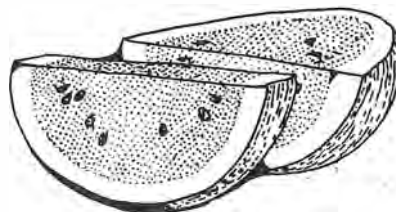
Alma's family never had a Christmas tree because of religious beliefs. Her first Easter basket was given to her by a neighbor over the fence.

Epilogue

During the years Alma dated, transportation was usually by wagon or sleigh. She often told of the night when she, her date, and another couple were rushing home. The horse was pulling the sleigh very fast through the snow and an accident occurred. Alma's lip bled but there were no major injuries, although they were frightened. All decided never to tell their parents.



Alma's first date with the red haired Lee Hilgefjord was a double date with his sister, Cincy and a friend. They drove to Cincinnati to pick up a load of watermelons for Lee's grocery in Osgood. Their love grew and soon they eloped which was against her parents wishes. It was on the way home from their honeymoon that they passed her parents on the road. A scared Alma and Lee stopped their car and were surprised when Bill Leeper asked them to visit. This visit turned out to be a warm welcome for Lee into the family.



The Depression years were very hard. Lee came down with pneumonia and was gravely ill. Nurses were hired so that Alma could run their used car business. People could not keep up with payments and brought cars back. Alma remembered borrowing \$250, with just her signature, from a bank to keep the business going. Her parents gave them lard, bacon, and soap when they could. During this time Alma would make Depression plants from coal to sit on her table. When she and her friends would play cards, old cards were cut up and used as chips.

DEPRESSION PLANT

Piece of coal
6 tab. of salt
6 tab. of warm water
1 tab. of ammonia
6 tab. of bluing
drops of Mercurochrome

Place coal in a fish bowl. Mix salt, warm water, ammonia, and bluing. Pour over coal. Add a few drops of Mercurochrome or colored ink after the plant begins growing. Can last four weeks.

Arrived here all safe. I dont have
any good black stockings
to wear wish you would
send me a pair will
be home Sat afternoon
meet me at Minister

Alma

Made in Germany

The back of an Easter card from Alma. Recipient unknown.

Mac, as Alma was called as an adult, enjoyed her place in the business world and worked long hours beside Lee. At Lee Hilgefurd Auto Sales, she ran the parts department and did title work. During regional meetings for Chrysler the opening address was always started, "Gentlemen and Mrs. Hilgefurd."

Company picnics were held at Mac and Lee's West Milton farm. There friends and employees played baseball and horseshoes. They also enjoyed Mac's home cooking, as she returned to the kitchen to bake hams, make stew, or fry at least eighteen chickens!

After her retirement, Mac opened a gift shop in an extra room of the grand old barn at the Hilgefurd home on Belfontaine Road. Christmas wreaths and arrangements of wood, figurines, and greenery which she made were sold. Through her shop she supplied Hummel figures to such stores as Rikes, a Dayton department store.



The Hilgefurd home at their farm on Belfontaine Road.

Grandchildren affectionately called Mac, Mammy; and they and other family members were the greatest beneficiaries of her talent. Mammy croceted blankets and hats for the babies and comforters for the adults. Granddaughters received patchwork pillows and potholders. Dresses were made for the younger girls. At Christmas her tree was full of homemade ornaments. Mammy had a special way of making babies from socks. And the greatest effort of all were her china dolls. Much like the doll she played with as a child, Mammy sent for the china heads, arms, and feet. She sewed up the bodies and daughters, daughters-in-law, and granddaughters all chose a fabric for their doll's dress. In all Mammy finished fifteen babies and all were cherished.



During Christmas Mammy decorated the stairway of her home with choir boy dolls. She had sewed each outfit and positioned their hands to hold small books she had made. They led up each stair to the large manger scene at the top. Certainly breathtaking for all who entered the front door.



Mammy was a member of the Dayton Business Women's Noon Time Club for years. They met at the Van Cleve Hotel for lunch and were involved in special projects. Gifts may have been sent to the Dayton Poor House or Correctional Facility or beauty operators sent to style the poor women's hair. A Christmas party was held every year and Mammy always made the table decorations.

Children and grandchildren were a source of pride for Mammy. She tried to help whenever possible. On one occasion Mammy was helping daughter, Jerry, take her twins, Lisa and Linda to the doctor. She was holding Lisa when she missed a step and fell. Mammy protected the baby from harm but her knee was broken and would be a problem for the rest of her life.

No matter where Mammy and Daddy Lee lived there was a swimming pool for their family to use. It was a fun gathering place and sometimes Mammy would make ice creme. One time the ice creme tasted different, but Mammy said it was a new flavor called "Burnt Almond".



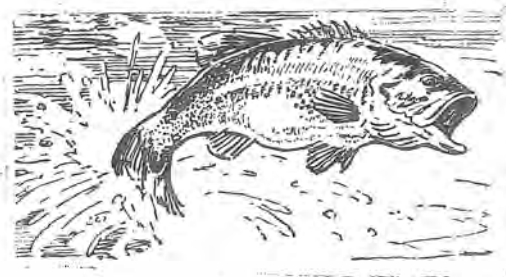
The grandchildren did not understand but immediately the adults started teasing Mammy. Her children remembered the winter she had made and stored ice creme in the freezer. All winter they ate the ice creme but made it clear Burnt Almond was not their favorite flavor. It was finally learned that Burnt Almond ice creme was actually ice creme that had been burned during its making! Here Mammy had tried to cover her mistake and was trying it again with all her grandchildren!

Even before the cottage on Clear Lake in Three Rivers, Michigan had been purchased, Mammy enjoyed fishing. It was probably an interest she picked up from her father. At Clear Lake the fish were abundant and fish fries so good! There wasn't a telephone in the cottage so time spent there was very relaxing. Mammy would cast off the end of the pier and on one evening she hooked what she had been waiting for, at least an eight pound bass! She had it stuffed and hung it above the mantle at home. Mammy



Mammy made this lure from a clothespin and gold, red, and black paint.

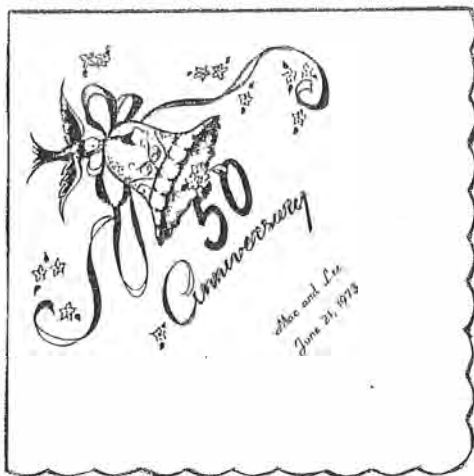
did catch a bigger fish though, on a trip to Florida with son, Dwight, and grandson, Patrick. While deep sea fishing off the coast of Ft. Myers Beach, she brought in a grouper which was close to 300 pounds!



Mammy and Daddy Lee vacationed in Florida every winter. They eventually bought a home and motel on Ft. Myers Beach. Their children and families visited every year. More excitement was to come to Mammy's life during her vacations there. At seventy-seven years of age she took her first motorcycle ride with son Tom. Many Sunday evenings were spent dancing at a local restaurant where a bluegrass band played. Mammy always fixed her hair and put on lip stick. Family members kept her dancing and all their antics kept them all laughing. Her sore leg would take days to recuperate.

Another adventure brought Mammy to the shores of the deserted Black Island where Dwight had decided to take the family shelling. The tide was low and everyone had to wade or swim to get there. Mammy wasn't a swimmer and didn't like the idea but there was no choice when Dwight started tying a rope around her. He pulled her through the deep parts and she laughed and hollered the entire way! Another time Dwight and Mammy waded out in the gulf to see Pat and his friends who were in a speed boat called the Black Jack. Suddenly Dwight lifted her up to Pat and off they sped with Mammy yelling in the back seat!

Mammy accompanied Dwight on a business trip to Colorado while he was on crutches after breaking his hip. She helped travel to his different ranches and they stayed in a log cabin on the Keyah Grande. When a torrential rain started they knew a flash flood was possible so Mammy drove the Jeep through the darkness out of the mountains over rough, steep terrain and slippery roads to safety. She was seventy-two years old.



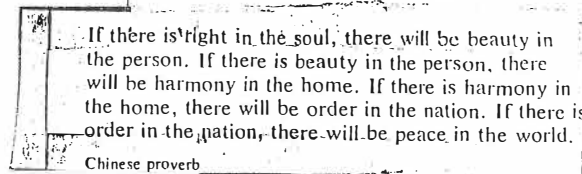
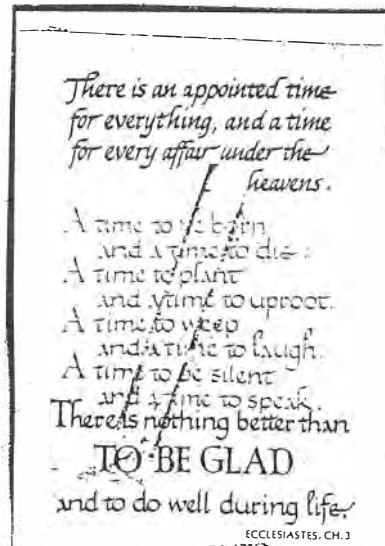
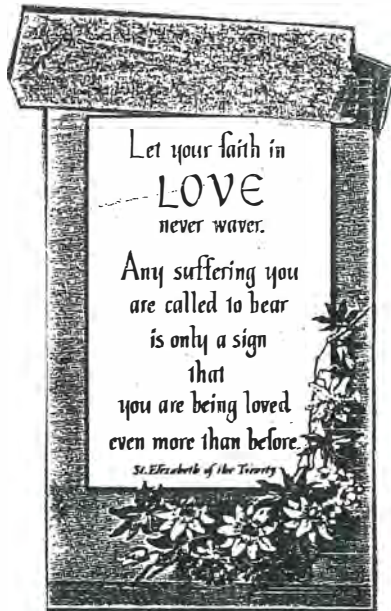
*A copy of a napkin
from the celebration.*

Mac and Lee's children held a special reception in honor of their parents 50th Anniversary. Family and friends gathered to celebrate. They dined, danced and reminisced. The hall was decorated with large gold number fifties and poster size pictures of Mac and Lee's wedding, romance, and life together. Mac wore a full length light blue gown and was radiant.

Lavender was Mammy's favorite color and she filled her homes and life with it. She had a beautiful laugh and always, a twinkle in her eye. Prayers, proverbs, and magazine clippings were taped everywhere but usually on mirrors and the refrigerator. The messages were always clear, love and friendship.

Always loving and sympathetic, Mammy had been mother to four children, eighteen grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren. In July of 1982, at the age of seventy-eight, Mammy suffered a major stroke which left her partially paralyzed. She was brought home to Lee and cared for by many. During her last years she enjoyed watching the Grand Ol' Opry on television and being taken out for visits in her wheelchair.

Alma McFay Hilgefond was born March 8, 1904 and passed away on July 19, 1986. Her parents were William and Rebecca Leeper. She is buried beside Lee at Calvery Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio.



Resources: Alma Hilgefond. Dwight Hilgefond, son.
 Geraldine Rowe, daughter.
 Christine Hilgefond Connors, granddaughter.

for

Mammy's Cry Babies Cookies

serves

Oven

RECIPE

- 1 Cup shorting (Lard or butter)
- 1 " Sugar
- 2 well Beaten Eggs
- 1 Cup New Orleans Molasses
- 4 " Flour
- 1 teas Salt. (read easy to do)
- 1 " Soda (good Luck)
- 2 " Cinnamon
- 1 scant teas ginger

3/4 Cup cold strong coffee.
Cream shorting and sugar
add Eggs Molasses. Beat well
Sift Dry ingredients add to
creamed mixture alternately
with Coffee. Drop from teaspoon
onto greased cookie sheet.
Bake 350° 12 to 15 minutes
Makes 7 Doz. - note I use 4 3/4
Flour

We all loved Mammy's Cry Baby Cookies, which she made with coffee!



A short, heavy man with white hair, Bill Leeper always had a cigar in his mouth. He and his wife, Rebecca, spent the early years of their marriage farming and raising a family of three: Sherman, Emery, and Alma.



WM. LEEPER

FRESH and SMOKED MEATS
BOLOGNA A SPECIALTY

PHONE No. 3 ON 42

OSGOOD, OHIO.

191

Letterhead from the butcher shop stationery.

When they later moved to Osgood, Ohio, Bill ran a butcher shop. There he slaughtered and smoked all of his own meats, offering a slice of his fine bologna to anyone who came into his store. It was customary for Bill and Alma to make deliveries on Saturday mornings. After throwing an oil cloth on the bottom of the huckster wagon he would spread out all of his meats. Alma would ring the bell at each farm house and the women would come out and make their choices. The meat was then weighed on a scale hanging from a hook on the wagon. During the long rides Bill and Alma would snack on finely chopped raw steak and onions spread over crackers. They both enjoyed singing, Bill's favorite went something like this: "I'm as happy as the flowers in May. And I'll love you in the same old way."

Considered a good cook, one morning after frying pork chops Bill decided to make gravy. Spying the flour sack on the porch he added flour and milk to the skillet. It started foaming instantly, Bill was in shock. Becky's one comment when she returned home was, "My lord, that was the lye I got to put around the flowers!"

If Bill had someplace important to go, the preceding night he would bathe, shave, and put on a shirt and celluliod collar. After a good nights sleep he could be ready to leave in record time, only having to wash his face and comb his hair! Leaving was another production. After loading the family in the Ford Touring Car he would inevitably check all the spark plugs. This often irritated Becky...



Bill always claimed he was part Indian either because of the shape of his nose or because he believed his rib cage to be different. Pool and fishing were two great pastimes. He also enjoyed hunting mushrooms in the spring. Bill went to grade school with Annie Oakly and said he knew her and Frank Butler, her husband and fellow sharpshooter, very well. He always remembered walking with her to school.



Annie

Continued...

Resounces: Alma Hilgefond, daughter. Ruth Leeper, daughter-in-law. Many Ellen Kannehm, granddaughter. Leeper Family Bible.

After Becky passed away, Bill quickly gave away all their possessions and moved to Piqua, Ohio, to live with Emery and his wife Ruth. He had always been proud of Emery's baseball playing. Emery had played on an Osgood team and also for a time at the Cincinnati Reds training camp. Bill spent his later years playing pool and listening to baseball games on the radio. He was also known to have a couple of girlfriends... He died in 1948 and is buried at Yorkshire Cemetery in Darke County, Ohio.



WILLIAM LEEPER, 82 DIES HERE TODAY

Funeral arrangements are being completed for William Leeper, 82, who died at 5:35 a.m. today at his home 600 College street after an illness of several weeks.

He came here to live with his son and his family 14 years ago from Osgood, Darke county, where for 14 years he owned and operated a meat market.

A son of Cephus and Samantha Leeper, he was married to Rebecca Wellbaum, February 7, 1889. She preceded him in death in May, 1934.

He is survived by a son Emery, Piqua; a daughter, Mrs. Lee Hilgendorf (Alma) of Dayton; seven grandchildren, William Jr., Donald, Mary Ellen, all of Piqua; Betty, Dwight, Geraldine and Tommy of Dayton; five great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Ella McFarland of Covington.

A son, Sherman preceded him in death in 1921.

Bill was born on
October 18, 1865.

It seemed the Leeper family was always in the newspaper Bill made it in the Versailles Policy again on May 22, 1902. The article appeared as below:

William Leeper, of this place, has on exhibition quite a freak in nature in the form of a chick; it has four wings and four legs; two wings are in the right place while the other two are a little lower down and farther back. Two of the legs are also at the proper place while the other two are a little farther back on the body. All four legs and wings are fully developed and the chick in other ways is of ordinary size and shape and is doing well.

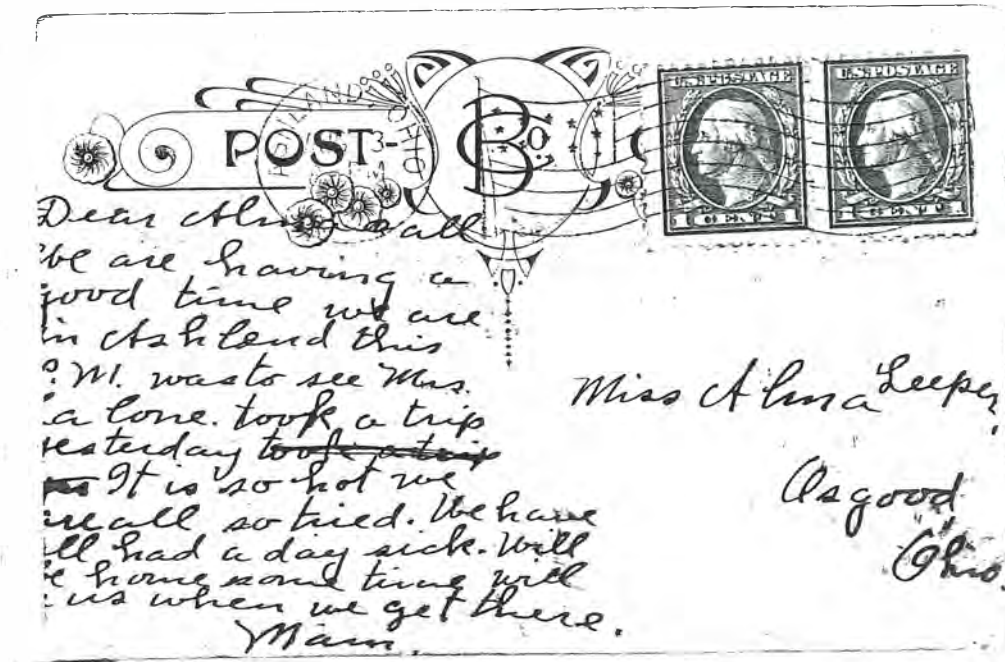
It should be noted that Emery was a very creative entrepreneur. Once selling apples with his initials on them. (He put tape on them before they were ripe!) And famous for his mouse circus which he built and trained himself. Appearing in many department stores.



For a tiny woman, Becky was hard working, had a great deal of willpower, and was quite resourceful. She made comforters from old pants and for mattresses would sew fabric together and stuff the finished product with straw or feathers.

Becky belonged to the Osgood Christian Church and was baptized in Mill Creek Stream just north of Osgood. Her black hair and eyes showed her gentleness, she was always taking people who needed help into her home. Oddly, a tramp she had once took in sent her leather gloves and a woven gold belt with rubies! She also raised Baby Gladys, her unwed sister Ester's child until the baby died...

Selling eggs for extra money Becky would often save quarters in a metal pipe which was hidden in a closet under the stairs. Once when husband, Bill, decided to clean the closet; he hauled everything away on a spring wagon. Becky realizing what had happened made Bill take her to the junk immediately. She finally found the quarters which she used to pay the taxes for the year.



Dear Mrs. [unclear]
 We are having a
 good time we are
 in Ashland this
 M. wants to see Mrs.
 a lone. took a trip
 yesterday took a trip
 It is so hot we
 recall so tired. We have
 all had a day sick. Will
 be home some time will
 see us when we get there.
 Mam.

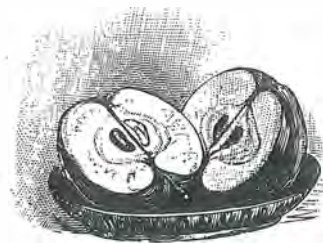
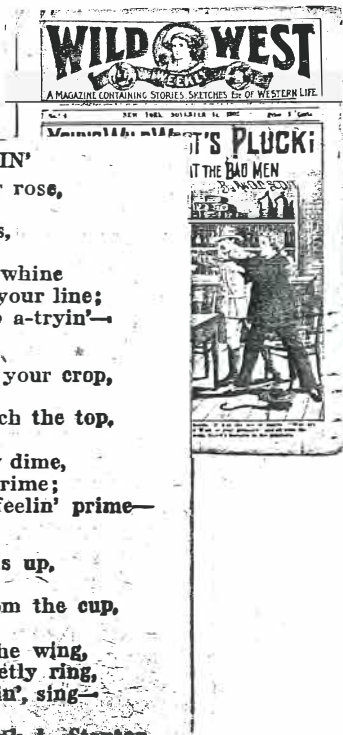
Miss Anna Leeper
 Osgood
 Ohio

In early spring Becky would take daughter, Alma, to find dandelions near the railroad. When she had enough, she would then cook them in a large iron pot with bacon. On one occasion she left the pot cooking on the old wood stove. Bill came in briefly to use the telephone and set his cigar above the stove on the warming closet. When Becky came back she was aghast at seeing a big brown form floating in her dandelions! It's obvious what she thought she had also picked up in the fields!

In the evenings, Becky would read Wild West, a popular magazine about a cowboy, and eat a peeled apple while sitting next to the fire.

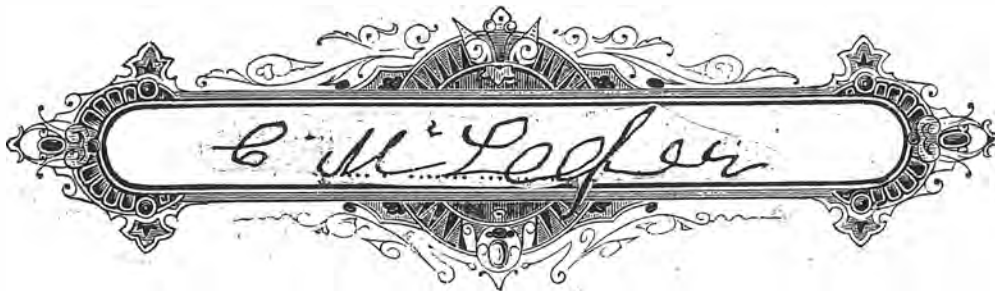
Becky died of a ruptured appendix in 1934. She is buried at Yorkshire Cemetery, Patterson Township, Darke County, Ohio.

KEEP A-GOIN'
If you strike a thorn or rose,
Keep a-goin'!
If it hails or if it snows,
Keep a-goin'!
'Tain't no use to sit an' whine
When the fish ain't on your line;
Bait your hook an' keep a-tryin'—
Keep a-goin'!
When the weather kills your crop,
Keep a-goin'!
Though 'tis work to reach the top,
Keep a-goin'!
S'pose you're out o' ev'ry dime,
Gittin' broke ain't any crime;
Tell the world you're feelin' prime—
Keep a-goin'!
When it looks like all is up,
Keep a-goin'!
Drain the sweetness from the cup,
Keep a-goin'!
See the wild birds on the wing,
Hear the bells that sweetly ring,
When you feel like singin', sing—
Keep a-goin'!



Alma kept Becky's favorite poem.

Resources: Alma Hilgefond, daughter. Darke County Cemetery Records.



Cephus Leeper was born in 1835, the son of William Leeper of Pennsylvania and Mary C. Skinner of Maryland. Mention is made of their family in Ohio in the 1850 Wabash Township, Darke County Census and also in the Probate Records, #2104, located at the Greenville City Poorfarm.

Cephus married childhood friend, Samantha Hughes on November 9, 1863 in Greenville, Ohio. He enlisted to fight in the Civil War on May 2, 1864. While serving as a private in F company, the 152nd regiment of the Ohio Infantry, Cephus sustained an injury that would bother him for the rest of his life. The regiment being very tired from heavy marching and fighting, was ordered to set up camp. During the night a calvary horse ran over Cephus while he was asleep. This accident partially paralyzed Cephus' shoulders and completely paralyzed his right arm. As a farmer, he was unable to work effectively again. His disability, nowever, did allow hin to receive a pension.



Granddaughter Alma Hilgefjord recalled a story of "Ceph" receiving farmland in southern Michigan from his brother *Sam Leeper who lived in South Bend. After an inspection of the soil Ceph decided it was poor and sandy. He then rode out on his horse and never saw Sam again. An arguement must have ensued...

In the early months of 1900, Cephus desperately fought the paralysis that had burdened him. On March 15, 1900 he passed away, his funeral attended by a majority of the residents of Brock, Ohio. Cephus is buried at Brock Cemetery.

...cent. more money than any
...competition at Greenville, Toledo, Hamil-
...Indianapolis. All Breeding stock recorded,
...and a reliable pedigree with every animal sold.
...s. F. MUSS, Clerk of Twin Township.

Brock.


IRVING YORK, Prop. of "Pleasant View" Stock Farm.
Breeder of the celebrated stock of full blooded Devon-
shire Cattle. Pedigree given in full at farm half a
mile west of Brock.

A. D. HOLLAWAY, Justice of the Peace.
D. H. MARTIN, Manufacturer of all kinds of Drain Tile.
Keeps on hand at all times the best kinds and sizes of
Tile. Factory, two miles north of Brock.

B. F. ORICK, Blacksmith. All kinds of Blacksmith,
Wagon and Cerrriage Repairs done. Horseshoeing a
specialty. All work promptly done. Also Postmaster
at Brock.

J. S. YORK,
WM. RUE,
JOB ARMSTRONG, } York Twp. Trustees.
ALVIN FIDLER, Township Clerk.
C. M. LEEPER & SON, Manufacturers and Dealers in
the famous I. X. L. Pumps. All sizes. Copper lined
and mounted. Also Breeder of Cotswold Sheep. P. O.,
Brock.

...at Ward.
...2d Ward.
...3d Ward.
...4th Ward.
...Law.
...Law.
...Law.
...at-Law
...Attorney-at-Law
...Attorney at
...Attorney
...AD
...Law.
...Law.
...at-Law
...at-Law



...kettsville.

Taken from the Atlas of Danke Co., Ohio 1875-1888.

Resources: Alma Hilgefjord, granddaughter. Civil War
Records. Danke County Cemetery Records.

*Samuel Leeper married to Elizabeth Roher.



Samantha Hughes Leeper was born January 4, 1845 near Brock, Ohio, the daughter of Lorenza D. Hughes and Electa Wentworth Hughes.

After living on a farm for many years she and husband, Cephus moved to Osgood, Ohio, shortly before his death. Around this time she owned a farm of eighty-seven acres in York Township, Darke County. The land was described as very poor quality and was rented for one half the crops, this came to \$100 in 1901. Samanta had a very hard time collecting her widows pension from the government and finally had to employ an attorney who did help her attain the pension.

A large built woman, Samantha usually wore straight dark calico dresses with long white aprons. She was not concerned with housekeeping and cooked only to survive. Samantha had the first "double" house constructed in Osgood. This she later remodeled so her son, William, could open a butcher shop. Not afraid of manuel labor, Samantha once built her own chicken house and privey (outhouse) behind her home. She was often teased because her privey had a square seat!



Grandmother Leeper was loved by everyone; her front porch surrounded by many beautiful flowers, was a local gathering spot even when she was not at home. For a number of years Samantha suffered from "shortness of breath" as she termed it, but the last six weeks of her life she felt other complications. From the start of her illness Samantha repeatedly stated she would not recover but said she was ready to go. She had been a member of the Osgood Christian Church and *her daily life proved her to be a true Christian spirit. She died one day after her birthday on January 5, 1916 and is buried at Brock Cemetery in Darke County.

*The Versailles Policy



Resources: Alma Hilgefond, granddaughter. Memorial Card. Versailles Policy. Civil War Records of Cephus Leeper.

ACT JUNE 27, '90.

3-402.

137

Certificate No. 597788

Name, Cephas A. Leiper

Department of the Interior,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Washington, D. C., January 15, 1898.

SIR:

In forwarding to the pension agent the executed voucher for your next quarterly payment please favor me by returning this circular to him with replies to the questions enumerated below.

Very respectfully,

A. C. Rice

U. S. Pension Agent,
Columbus, Ohio

W. H. Brand

Commissioner.

First. Are you married? If so, please state your wife's full name and her maiden name.

Answer. Samantha Leiper, maiden name Hughes

Second. When, where, and by whom were you married?

Answer. Greenville Ohio by Edg. Pate on Nov 9th 1863

Third. What record of marriage exists?

Answer. Probate Court records in Greenville Ohio

Fourth. Were you previously married? If so, please state the name of your former wife and the date and place of her death or divorce.

Answer. No

Fifth. Have you any children living? If so, please state their names and the dates of their birth.

Answer. W. A. Born Oct 15th 1865 - died Feb 3^d 1867
Mary A July 25th 1869 - Frank W. May 19 1871
Sarah B March 29 1875

Date of reply, June 4, 1898

Cephas A. Leiper

(Signature.)



Christian Wellbaum was a man with great willpower who could also be fiery and stubborn. Born May 26, 1842 in Montgomery County, Ohio, he died in Piqua, Ohio on February 26, 1938.

A sad story was told by his granddaughter, Alma, regarding his stubbornness. While staying with his daughter, Rebecca, he built a picket fence in her yard. When she told him the fence was built with the inside facing out he became so angry he went to live with another daughter, Nora Baxter, at Magician Lake, Michigan. There he refused any correspondence with Rebecca. Years later she lay dying and Christian realized his mistake. He rushed to Osgood, Ohio to make amends arriving too late, for she had already died. Alma always remembered him rushing through the fence...

An excellent wood craftsman, Christian spent several years making wagons as a trade. He built his own home in Yorkshire, Ohio, and its ornate trim was further evidence of his talent.



A Valentine sent to Christian by grandson, Dwight Hilgford.

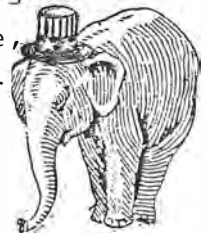
Christian Wellbaum's proudest accomplishment was his service in the Civil War. He served from August 2, 1862 thru February 6, 1863 with the Ohio Volunteers in Company I. of the 93rd Regiment. While a private he served his duty at Crab Orchard, Kentucky. He was mustered out early because of a variety of illnesses. These could have been caused by the bad living conditions and the unwholesome food. He often recalled how badly frozen his feet once were, his boots had fallen apart from the extended marching in the snow. He had tried to tie them together with rags but to no avail. An officer who was riding by saw Christian's predicament and gave gave him his own boots.



Shoes made especially for one foot or the other did not become popular in the United States until after the civil war. --Dayton Daily News

It seems Christian was always fighting an ailment and he usually came up with his own remedies. He once suffered a stroke which left him with a stiff neck. So many days he would go fishing and let the sun bake his neck while he sat in a rowboat. He claimed it cured the stiffness and also swore he caught the biggest Pickerel in Magician Lake! Christian once ordered a cure for his hearing problem by mail. He received two rubber pieces which resembled thimbles to put in his ears... To cure his arthritis, Christian would tie his fingers and toes tight while he slept. He thought this would straighten them out.

Christian must have been quite a ladies man. Shortly after the death of his beloved Sarah, in 1914, Christian began corresponding with a girl from Dayton. When it was time to meet Christian rode the train to Dayton. He wore a flower in his lapel so she would recognize him. It was love at first sight and they were married immediately. The reception back in Osgood was very cool. Rebecca threw them out of the house, leaving the newlyweds with nowhere to stay on their first night. Sadly, the marriage was short for Elizabeth died in May of 1919.



A staunch Republican, Christian hated "Rue-sevelt". He loved to pitch horseshoes but was a sore loser. On weekends he loved to dress in his finest and in his later years could be remembered riding in the Memorial Day Parade, the last Civil War Veteran living in the Piqua, Ohio area. He is buried at Green Lawn Cemetery in Versailles, Ohio.

Resources: Alma Hilgefond, granddaughter. Civil War Records. Darke County Cemetery Inscriptions, Volume II.

READ CAREFULLY THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE HEREOF

State of Ohio, County of Darke, ss:

On this 13th day of October, 1924 before me, the undersigned, personally appeared

Christian Wellbaum

who makes the following declaration as an application

for pension under the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 1, 1920:

That he is 82 years of age; that he was born May 26th, 1842,

at Montgomery County, Ohio.

That he is the identical Christian Wellbaum who

ENLISTED August 2, 1862, at Dayton, Ohio, under the name of

Christian Wellbaum in Co I 93rd Reg't Ohio Inf

(Here state company and regiment, if in the Army; or vessel, if in the Navy.)

and was honorably

DISCHARGED February 6th, 1863 at Louisville, Kentucky having served

the United States in the Civil War War.

(State name of war, Civil or Mexican.)

That he also served _____

(Here give a complete statement of all other military or naval service, if any, at whatever time rendered.)

That otherwise than herein stated he was not employed in the United States military or naval service.

That his personal description at time of first enlistment was as follows: Height 5 feet 10 inches; complexion Dark

color of eyes Hazel; color of hair Dark; that his occupation was Farmer

That since leaving the service he has resided at _____

Darke County, Ohio

and his occupation has been Wagon Maker and Farmer

That he requires the regular personal aid and attendance of another person and has required such aid and attendance since _____

October 1 1924 on account of the following disabilities: _____

(State in this space the nature of any and all disabilities.)

Injured left side, lameness of right leg, urinary trouble.

That he did not serve in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States between April 6, 1917, and February 9, 1922, or at any time during said period.

That no member of his family served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States between April 6, 1917, and February 9, 1922, or at any time during said period.

(If any members of claimant's family were in the military or naval service during the period

mentioned, state the full name under which each such member served, with the designation of the organization in (or vessel on) which such service was rendered, together with the dates of enlistment and discharge. State also whether any such members are dead and, if so, give the names.)

That he has _____ applied for pension under Original No. 638,207; that he is _____ a pensioner under Certificate No. 638,207

(1) Alpha M. Alexander
(Signature of first witness.)

Versailles, Ohio
(Address of first witness.)

(2) Omey Decker
(Signature of second witness.)

Versailles, Ohio
(Address of second witness.)

Christian Wellbaum
(Claimant's signature in full.)

Versailles, Ohio.
(Claimant's address in full.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of October, 1924, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration were fully made known and explained to the applicant before swearing, including the words _____

erased, and the words _____ added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

A. Calderwood
(Signature.)

Notary Public
(Official character.)

(Post office address of officer.)

6-6172

BE SURE TO STATE THE DATE FROM WHICH REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN REQUIRED.

CLAIMANT SHOULD ANSWER FULLY THE QUESTIONS ON THE BACK OF THIS DECLARATION.

[L. S.]



Pension Certificate of Christian Wellbaum II.

Sarah Wellbaum

Sarah Brown Wellbaum was born April 6, 1840, the daughter of James Brown of South Carolina and Sarah Coate Brown. She married Christian Wellbaum II in 1863 at Paintercreek, Darke County, Ohio. Sarah was a very quiet person with a dark complexion, dark eyes and black hair. She kept a beautiful home and was dedicated to her family of seven children. She wore dark colors and used the word "thou" in talking.



Grandchildren remembered the fun taffy pulls at her house. Sarah had a spinning wheel in her home and disliked the PEAR SOAP advertisements which she believed offensive. Sarah died on April 18, 1914 and is buried at Greenlawn Cemetery, Versailles, Ohio.

Resources: Alma Hilgefond, granddaughter. Memorial Card. Darke County Cemetery Records, Volume II. Leeper Family Bible.





Wellbaum Obituary.

Sarah Ann Wellbaum, wife of Christian Wellbaum, and daughter of Jas. and Sarah Brown, was born April 6, 1840, and departed this life April 18, 1914, at the age of 74 years and 12 days. She is survived by her husband, three brothers and two sisters, seven children, 17 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

On November 13, 1863, she was united in marriage to Christian Wellbaum, to which union there were born 8 children, one of whom died in infancy.

She united with the Christian church at Osgood, Ohio, in the year of our lord 1891, and lived a devoted christian life until death.

Her surviving children are Mrs. Belle Mendenhall, widow of David Mendenhall, residing in Versailles; "Becky", wife of Wm. Leeper; residing at Osgood, Ohio; Alvin, residing near Troy, Miami county, Ohio; Norah, wife of Clarence Baxter, of South Bend, Ind.; John, residing in the vicinity of Versailles; Esther, wife of Frank Mullen, residing in Sidney; Laura, wife of Oliver Foust of Glasgow, Montana. All of these were present at the obsequies except the youngest, Mrs. Laura Foust.

Funeral services were held from her late home in North Versailles, Tuesday morning, Rev. Moffitt, pastor of the M. E. church, officiating. Interment in Green Lawn cemetery by Leonard Marker.

CARD OF THANKS.

We hereby tender our heartfelt thanks to our neighbors and friends for their kind words and sympathy during the illness of our loved one and for the sympathy expressed in our bereavement.

Husband and Children.



Christian Welbaum & Sarah Friend

The parents of Christian Welbaum II were Christian Welbaum Sr. of Pennsylvania and Sarah Friend of Jefferson County, Kentucky. They married in 1818. Her parents were Jacob Friend born approximately 1773 and Susan Smith.

In 1818, Christian bought a farm from his father. It was located in Perry Township, Montgomery County, Ohio.

Christian Welbaum Sr. was born in Pennsylvania in 1798 and died January 19, 1880. He is buried beside Sarah at a roadside cemetery in Brookville, Ohio. She was born in July 1800 and died December 11, 1851.

*The name of Wellbaum was spelled many ways on different records and by various family members. I have used the spelling from signatures or acknowledgements by said persons. (Charles Wellbaum's X.)

Resources:

Alma Hilgeford, great-granddaughter.

Gale Honeymon, Laura, Ohio.

U.S. International marriage records 1340-1980.

Land Deeds of Montgomery Co., Ohio.

Brookville Ohio Historical Society / Samuel Spitler Community Museum.

Page No. 356
 SCHEDULE 1 - Free Inhabitants in Perry Township in the County of Montgomery
 of Ohio enumerated by me, on the 20 day of June 1860. J. J. Hays
 Post Office Barksville 356

No.	Name	Sex	Age	Color	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, under 16 years of age	Value of Real Estate		Value of Personal Estate	Place of Birth, showing the State, Territory, or Country	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, idiotic, pauper, or convict
						Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate			
352	Christian Welbaum	M	65	W	Retired farmer	6000	2000		Pennsylvania	
353	Elizabeth	F	47	W	Wife		500	700	Ohio	
354	Joseph	M	30	W	House work			400	do	
355	Elizabeth	F	18	W					do	1
356	Mary M. Hays	F	14	W	do				do	1
357	Elizabeth Thomson	F	41	W					do	
358	John Welbaum	M	23	W	Farmer	500	300		do	
359	Lydia	F	13	W					do	
360	Joseph	M	10	W					do	
361	David Stout	M	68	W	Wagon Maker		100		Pennsylvania	
362	Catharine	F	53	W					do	
363	Joseph	M	19	W	farm hand				Ohio	
364	Elizabeth	F	17	W					do	
365	Catharine	F	14	W					do	
366	Mary	F	12	W					do	1
367	David Stout	M	39	W	Days work				Pennsylvania	
368	Harriet	F	26	W					do	
369	Joseph H.	M	3	W					Ohio	
370	Mary	F	1	W					do	
371	Joseph Hancock	M	46	W	Farmer	4000	4000		do	
372	Elizabeth	F	28	W					do	
373	Elizabeth	F	18	W	Wagon Maker				do	
374	Maria	F	17	W	do				do	
375	Elizabeth	F	15	W					do	1
376	Lydia	F	14	W					do	1
377	Thomas	M	10	W					do	1
378	James	M	8	W					do	1
379	Benjamin	M	6	W					do	1
380	David Thomson	M	17	W	farm hand				do	
381	Henry Hays	M	55	W	Days work		40		Pennsylvania	
382	Catharine	F	50	W					do	1
383	James	M	23	W	Days work				Ohio	
384	Joseph	M	21	W	Wagon Maker				do	
385	Joseph Becker	M	57	W		10000	300		Pennsylvania	
386	Catharine	F	30	W	House work		700		Ohio	
387	Joseph	M	21	W	Farmer		600		do	
388	David Thomson	M	34	W	Farmer	16000	1000		do	
389	Joseph	M	32	W					Pennsylvania	
390	James	M	11	W					Ohio	
391	Joseph	M	10	W					do	

Census from 1860 Montgomery, Ohio, Roll 1014 Book 1, page 356. Christian Welbaum Sr.'s family at that time on lines 1-6.



Charles Wellbaum (Karl) was born approximately 1753-1754 in Rohden, Germany. He and his brother came to America as British soldiers to fight in the Revolutionary War. During one battle his brother fell wounded and cried out in German, * “ mein Gott, Karl Ich bin geschossen.” Translated in English, “ my God, Charley, I am shot. With ill feelings Charles escaped from the British to join the American army.

Charles’ name is next found on tax lists in 1789 at Frankstown township* in Huntington County, Pennsylvania. (Now part of Blair Co.) On these lists his name was spelled Weelboon. (Spelling errors were quite common.) He married Mary Magdalene Kniesly and raised a family of eight children around the area of Frankstown, which in the 1780’s was a Brethren settlement. The Brethren and other sects would later comprise the Pennsylvania Dutch.

His name continues on the tax lists through 1813 and is next found in Montgomery County, Ohio in 1815. Charles must have acquired money in America possibly from his wife’s family to fund all of the land he bought in Ohio. He deeded four farms to three Wellbaums and one Kniesly in 1818. His son Christian Wellbaum I bought 160 acres for \$1.00. At the time one acre of land sold for \$1.25.

After a visit to the cemetery where Charles and Magdalena are buried I was happy to find both of their tombstones. However, I am now sad to report that Charles tombstone was missing at a second visit. This prompted me to do a tombstone pencil rubbing of Magdalena’s stone. A copy is in this book. A copy of a will of Charles Wellbaum also follows.

Resources:

**Hesfiche Truppen Im Amerikanischen Vol.II, Also in the Autobiography of Samuel Murray (1891).*

Brookville Historical Museum. Gale Honeyman.

In the Name of God Amen

I Charles Wellbourn of Madison Township
in the County of Montgomery and State of Ohio
Now in full Memory and understanding have
considered the uncertainty of this life Do
Make this my last will and Testament
in which I first Command my Soul unto
the hand of God and My Body to the Earth
to be Buried in a Christian Manner and that
My Earthly Estate Belongs I Do first Command
that my son David Wellbourn is to get two
Hundred and Sixty Dollars of the first Money
that will be Raiset out of my Estate and also
the Said my son David Wellbourn is to have
the Rent of my Plantation three years from the
first Day of April 1821 out of which he shall give
the third Shear of what ever Raisis and then the
Plantation to fall to my son Abraham Wellbourn
to hold the same his heirs Executors and Administrators
for ever out of which the said my son Abraham
Wellbourn is to pay two Hundred Dollars first one
Hundred Dollars to be paid to my Daughter Magdelina
Wellbourn Now Magdelina Ely to be paid out of
the first Money that the said my son Abraham
Wellbourn can Rais and also one Hundred
Dollars to be paid my Daughter Lety Wellbourn
Now Lety Smith to be paid after the first
Hundred Dollars as soon as the said my son
Abraham Wellbourn can Rais it by not Ingering
Himself with it and what my Sons Estate
Belongs to it shall be Divided amongst
all my Children in Equal Shares

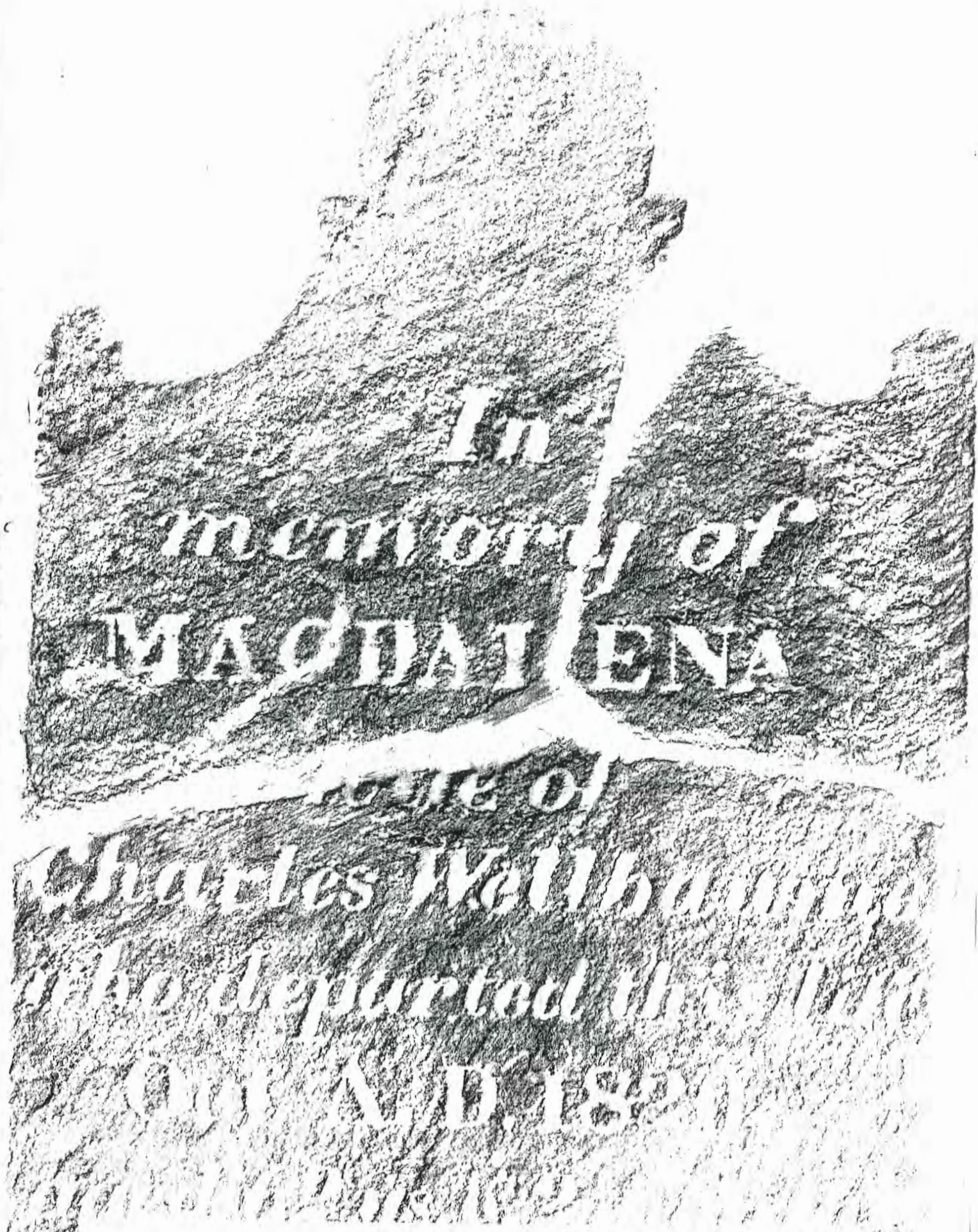
from the oldest to the youngest — 23 May 1821

I Testimony, where I have hereunto set my hand
and seal this twenty third Day of May in the
year of our Lord one thousand Eight Hundred
and twenty one —

Charles Wellbaum
monk

Sealed and Delivered
in the presence of
his
Henry X Roope
monk

Last Will and Testament of Charles Wellbaum
Dated May 23, 1821.



This is a tombstone pencil rubbing of Mary Magdalena Wellbaum's stone. Her burial site is on a farm near a railroad track near Shiloh Springs Rd. near Brookville, Ohio. Christine Hilgefurd Connor did the rubbing.

DNA Discussion

Sometimes genealogy research is subject to just plain luck. We were lucky to have found Byron Brown, my father, Dwight Hilgefords distant cousin and Brown family historian. What made him so unique was his extensive research. He could document family lines to their arrival in America. However, the Brown line stopped cold with Alexander Brown. Alexander was also a great grandfather in Dwight's line. Byron's research combined with ours showed that Native American DNA could have come from the Brown family. A DNA test on Bryon showed that he was 6% Native American.

We were able to locate Alexander Brown in South Carolina at a time when King George II was making free land grants to white settlers of Cherokee land. James Benson, an immigrant did receive land from the Cherokee lands and willed his daughter Sarah a farm. She married Alexander Brown and lived on this farm along the Tyger River. This farm's location had been in original Cherokee lands. From this circumstantial evidence it could be reasoned that Alexander was Native American of Cherokee descent.

Dwight's family lines on the Leeper side also come to a halt with Cephus Leeper. The Leeper name is a very old pioneer name but in our case untraceable. There is also a vague story about Samantha Hughes Leeper's grandfather on her father's side of the family. Native American DNA could have accumulated here. Also it should be noted that being "Indian" in those days was a hardship and Indians were discriminated against. So secrets may have been kept ...



ANCESTRY BY DNA™

CERTIFICATE OF ANCESTRY

This certifies that:

Dwight Hilgeford

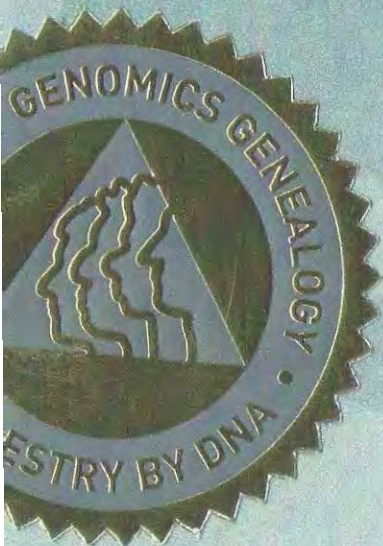
has been tested by DNAPrint Genomics for the genetic ancestry
of the individual on this date:

September 06, 2005

ESTIMATE	ANCESTRY
88%	<i>European</i>
12%	<i>Native American</i>
0%	<i>Sub-Saharan African</i>
0%	<i>East Asian</i>

Issued by: DNAPrint Genomics Genealogy, 900 Coconut Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 34236

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ANCESTRY BY DNA™

CERTIFICATE OF ANCESTRY

This certifies that:

Byron Brown

has been tested by DNAPrint Genomics for the genetic ancestry of the individual on this date:

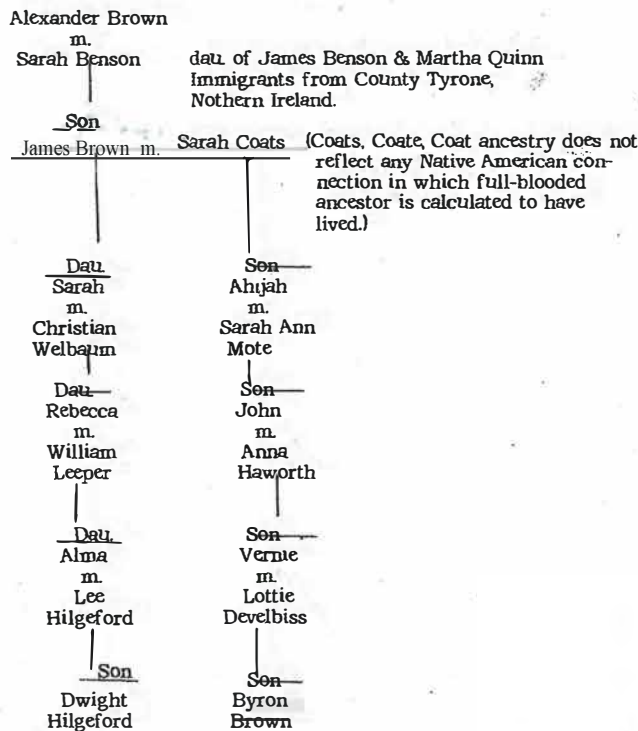
December 07, 2005

ESTIMATE	ANCESTRY
94%	European
6%	Native American
0%	Sub-Saharan African
0%	East Asian

Issued by: DNAPrint Genomics Genealogy, 900 Coconut Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 34236

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1st Common Ancestor



BYRON W. BROWN, FAMILY HISTORIAN

804 Chestnut Circle, Greenville, Ohio
45331-1000, (937) 547-8537

Incl: Aker, Alexander, Apple, Appiani,
Arioli, Caro, Comolli, Death, Dorsey,
Franzosi, Offenbacher, Piccolini,
Prestini, Rinaldi, Runkle, Smart



Alexander Brown

b-

m-

Sarah Benson (d/o Martha Quinn & James Benson, b-County Tyrone, Ireland; d-Union Co SC

d-

i-

Son of

Dau-Martha (b-c1787, Union Co SC

Dau-Elizabeth (b-c1789, Union Co SC

Son-James - see his separate sheet

Dau-Polly (b-c1793

Son-William - see App 12-206

Dau-Anna (b-c1797, Union Co SC; m-David Goings [b-1790, SC]; 6 ch, all b-OH: William [1813], John [1818, m-Rachel Ann], Elijah [1829], Ann [1832], David [1834]

Dau-Sarah (b-c1799

Son-Robert - see App 12-258

Land records of Union Co SC: Book Q, pg 398, 19 Oct 1821 "Sarah Brown, legatee of James Benson, dec'd, James Brown, Robt Brown, Elizabeth Brown, Polly Brown of Darke Co, Ohio & Anna Goings of Warren Co, Ohio, heirs of Sarah Brown give to Wm Brown of Darke Co Ohio for \$100 the tract of land lying in Union Co S.C. bounded on E. by Tyger River & on N. by heirs of d'cd John Hall W. by James Dugan's land & on S. by Stacy Cooper - consisting of 100 A. given to Sarah Brown will of her father, James Benson. Sarah Brown, wife of James Brown; Hannah wife of Robert relinquish dower rights. Wit: Jonah & Richard Thompson." Book Q, pg 401, 30 Oct 1821 "Will Brown & wife Polly sell this above plat of land to Theophilus Penny for \$100." Book H, pg 433, 18 Sep 1805 "James Benson & wife Elizabeth sell to John Hughey 300 A on S. side of Tyger - land left to him by James Benson Sr." Book M, pg 86, 12 Aug 1811 "Alexander Brown sells to Josiah Shelton 100 A. on S. side Tyger, being tract of land James Benson willed to dau, Sarah Brown, signed by Anney & David Goings, Elizabeth & James Brown."

For 80 acre Land Paten Jul 1824 to Alexander Brown of Miami Co OH, see App 12-735.

**Land Records from Union County, South Carolina
describing Alexander Brown's farm.**

Our Wentworth History

Elder William Wentworth was born in Alford, Lincolnshire, England and was baptized on March 15, 1615-16 the son of William Wentworth and Susanna Carter Fleming Wentworth and grandson of Christopher Wentworth and Katherine Marbury Wentworth. He had two younger brothers, Edward and Christopher. Christopher was buried in the adjoining hamlet of Rigsby in 1621 and Edward's (a surgeon) lineage of male heirs did not continue.

It is thought he then followed kinsman, Rev. John Wheelwright, to New England for either religious attachments or to seek his fortune. Rev. John Wheelwright was a Puritan clergyman and as a vicar was removed from office for simony in England. William Wentworth is found in 1639 where he signed a "combination" for government at Exeter, New Hampshire on lands purchased from several Native American tribes.

It appears that William lived in Maine from 1642 to 1649 and then moved to Dover, New Hampshire. He was generally referred to as Elder William Wentworth and was Ruling Elder of his church in Dover for 40 years although he was never a member of the clergy. He lived in the central part of Dover known as Coheco and was a co-owner of a sawmill.

The Cocheco Massacre occurred late in his life. In 1676 after many years of co-existing peacefully with the local Penacook tribe other Indian tribes started to come to Cochacho settlement to avoid bloody fighting with settlers elsewhere. Tensions started to mount as more Indian land was taken. In 1684 blockhouses were built by the settlers as safehouses in case the Indians attacked. Five homes in Cocheco were garrisoned with foot-thick logs impenetrable by bullets. The garrisons were surrounded by eight foot palisades. Settlers kept their guns close in the fields.

On the evening of June 27, 1684 some Indian woman asked to sleep near the kitchen fires in several garrisons which was not uncommon. During the darkness they opened the doors for other Indians. Elder Wentworth was awoken by a barking dog and rushed to his garrison door. Then he alone at the age of 73 pushed the Indians out, shut the door and used his body to keep it closed. Two bullets passed through the door missing him. His garrison was the only one saved. Twenty three people were killed and twenty nine were captured. On the morning after the massacre the enemy vanished. It would be several years before Cocheco recovered.

A journal entry dated March 16, 1694 by a Rev. John Pike, pastor of Dover stated that, Elder Wentworth deceased after he was taken speechless with a sudden shivering.

Elder William Wentworth and his first or second wife had 11 children. One of the earliest of Elder Williams children was John Wentworth born prior to 1649 whose wife was Martha. Elder William, his father, gave him land in Dover on December 1, 1674. He bought land in York, Maine in 1675. John is last recorded in Maine as a plaintiff in The York County court versus Charles Bissom, 18 December 1685, “for damage done by a parcel of turkeys.”

Charles Wentworth was born about 1684 the son of John and Martha Wentworth. He lived in Canton, Massachusetts. He was married to Bethiah Fenno. In 1724 he received two hundred eighteen acres after a discrepancy regarding Ponkapoag lands which involved some 6000 acres. Other settlers also made purchases of these lands. Two petitions were presented to the General Court of Massachusetts after which was decided that much of the land said Indians could never improve as they were decreasing in number and increasing in laziness. It was decided the money obtained from the sale of this land were put at interest, the income could be far more advantageously used for their benefit. The opening up of this land would very much enhance the value of the precinct. Charles was also a slave holder.

Charles Wentworth at age 60 was appointed Lieutenant of the 3rd company of the 4th regiment of militia and in 1746 became Captain. Their first born son was Amariah. He died in Canton July 8, 1780 at 96.

Amariah Wentworth was born in Stoughton, Massachusetts, in 1719 and then lived in Canton, Mass. He married Rebecca Shepard on October 22, 1719.

They had a son Charles Wentworth born on November 25, 1750 in Stoughton, Mass. Charles married Mary on November 25, 1750. She was the daughter of John and Jerusha Fenno. About 1800 he and his family moved 3 miles from Adams Village, Jefferson County, New York. He died there in 1828.

They had a son Nathan Wentworth who was born July 12, 1775. He married in 1803, Desire Perry who was born February 19, 1781. He fought in the War of 1812. Nathan died in Lockport, New York, February 26, 1847. Desire died there May 24, 1853.

They had a daughter, Gratia born December 5, 1804. She married John Smith and lived in Brock, Darke County, Ohio. They had two children: Egbert N. and Electa Desire. John Smith was supposed to have been killed by Indians while in route to California. After John left Nathan adopted Egbert and gave him the Wentworth name. Electa born March 29 1824 married Lorenzo Dow Hughes on February 29, 1844. They had 10 children the first born being Samantha Hughes born January 4, 1845. Her biography is included in this book.

REFERENCES: The Wentworth Genealogy: English and American, Volumes 1&2. By John Wentworth. History of the Town of Canton(1893), Mass., Daniel T.V. Huntoon



A Friend Family History

Neels Larson Friend was born in Weymouth, England and sailed with his family to the colonies in 1687. He settled at Upland, Pennsylvania (now Chester), which was a Swedish settlement on the Delaware River. This is where Neels also called Nicholas and his wife Anna Andersotter raised their family. He was a constable for his district and held court in his home, which was also a tavern. (Record of the Courts of Chester, Penn. 1681-1697)

Neels second son, Johannes married Anna Coleman. She was the daughter of Henry Coleman. (Records of the Courts of Chester Co. penn.1697-1710 & Friend Family Vital Statistics). Henry was of Swedish descent and was said to have lived with the Delaware Indian tribe in Indiana. He hid there to escape punishment by England for participating in a revolt against Britain by his Swedish colony. The story continues that he married while with the tribe and that Anna, his daughter, was a half Delaware Indian.

Their son John Friend II and his wife Elizabeth Banner lived in Maryland and Pennsylvania. He is buried at a small family plot in Friends Cove, Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

Nicholas Friend was the son of John Friend II and was born in 1733 and died in 1821. On July 10, 1773, Nicholas and his wife Maria Elizabeth had a son Jacob. In Nicholas Friend's will Jacob is left 20 dollars. (Bedford Co., Penn., Will Book 2).

Before his father's death Jacob had moved on to Kentucky. He paid taxes on 75 acres of land in Shelby Co. Kentucky 1807-1811. (Shelby Co. Tax Lists). In 1820, Jacob who had married Susan Smith lived in Montgomery Co. Ohio. On February 5, Jacob and Susannah Friend deeded land to Christian Wellbaum who was the husband of their daughter, Sarah. (Montgomery Co. Land Records, Book A-2).

Jacob Friend was listed as a member of Barbara Arnolds household in the 1850 Montgomery Co. Census. Barbara was the twin sister of Christian Wellbaum's wife, Susan Smith. Their birth dates would be in 1799.

Because early Friend ancestors lived on Indian lands official records are often fragmented or missing.

Resources:

Friend Family Lineage Of Zola Joyce (Huff) Dobson

The Friend Family Association of America Friendsville, MD 21531

Court Records, Vital Statistics, Census, and Land Records as stated above.



The Philadelphia Controversy

The Coate, Brock, and Coppock Claim

Christian Welbaum II claimed interest in the city of Philadelphia until the day he died. Sarah Coate Brown, the mother of his wife, was the daughter of John Coate and Susan Brock. At this point there has yet to be found written documentation of John Coates parents. Direct descendants have believed his parents to be Marmaduke Coate and Mary Coppock. If this is true then it appears that Christian Welbaum II was correct in his claim.

Mary Coppock Coate was the daughter of Moses Coppock and Martha (Scarr-bourgh?) of England. As a child Mary had been captured by a Cherokee tribe that had raided and burned her home and then killed her mother. In 1764, Paleface Normance, as she was named, was finally rescued by Marmaduke Coate. He traded a horse, bridle, and saddle for Mary.

It is said that around this time Marmaduke and William Moses Coppock arranged to purchase land from the tribe. During a solemn conclave, which was also attended by Daniel Boone, the council smoked a peace pipe and concluded the purchase. Although the original intentions were to start a Quaker colony the land was supposedly leased. Nine hundred seventy-six acres being in the now present day Philadelphia. The first ninety-nine years of the lease were up July 22, 1915, however, the entirety of the lease will expire July 22, 2014. Copies circulate among descendants...

Marmaduke Coate was born in 1738 and died in Miami County, Ohio on September 25, 1822. He is buried in the old Union Graveyard at Ludlow Falls. His parents were William Coate and Rebecca Sharp who were married February 6, 1727.

William Coate's parents were Marmaduke Coate, born 1631, and Ann Pole who immigrated to America and are on the Quaker records of the Minutes of Burlington, N.J. Meeting, as arriving 1715.

Resources:

Miami Valley Genealogies 145 Family Records. Vol.1 Friends Families (Brien)

Wesley L. Gilbert, Dayton, Ohio.

Cemetery Records Old Union, Ludlow Falls.

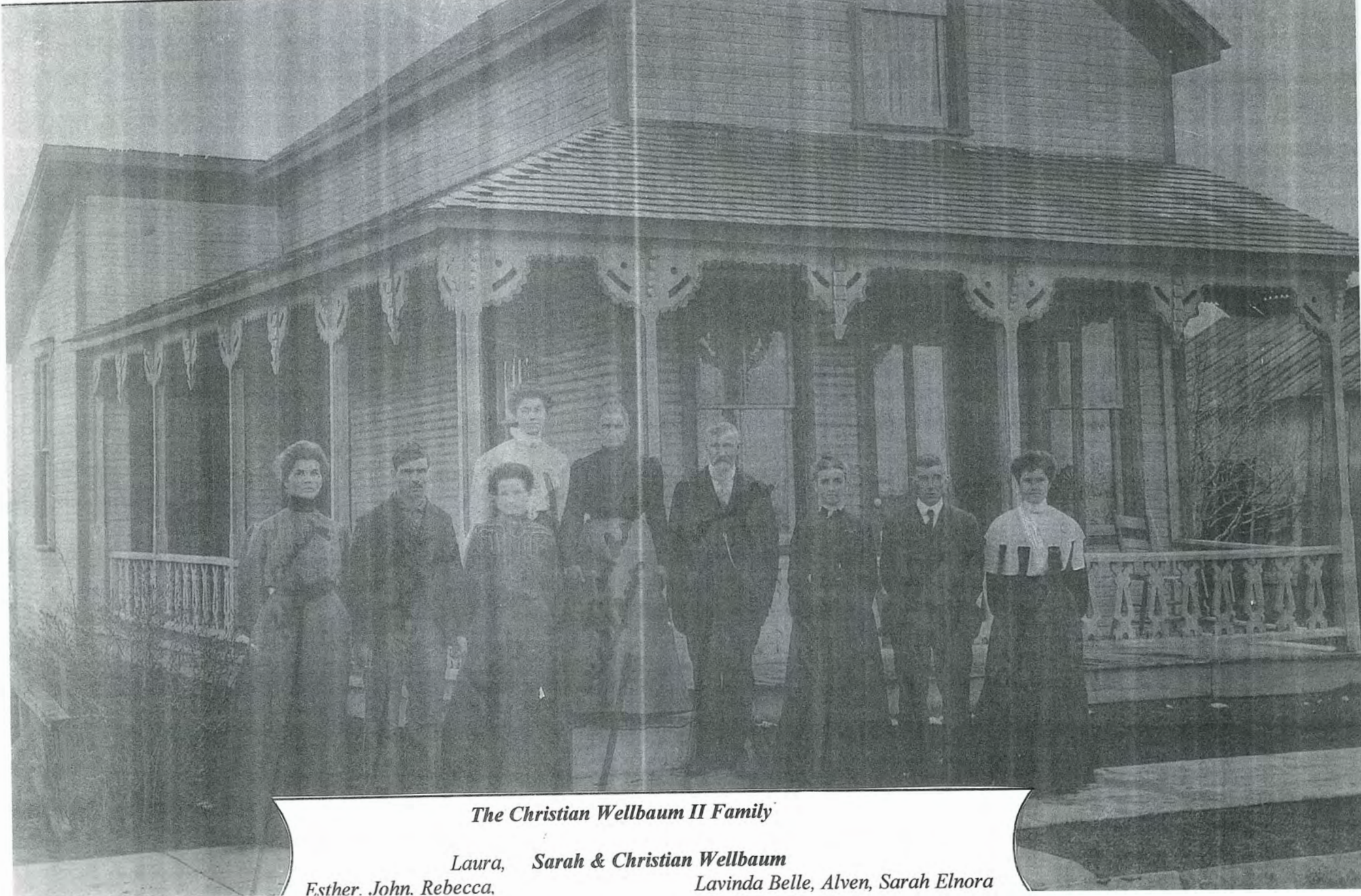
Dayton Sunday Journal, November 26,1933.



PHOTOGRAPHS



A home that Christian Wellbaum II built.



The Christian Wellbaum II Family

*Laura, Sarah & Christian Wellbaum
Esther, John, Rebecca, Lavinda Belle, Alven, Sarah Elnora*



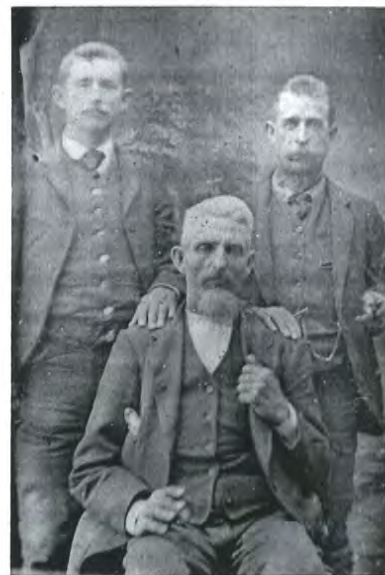
Wm Leeper



Samantha Leeper Unknown
Cyphus Leeper



William Leeper's son,
Emery Leeper



William Leeper, Unknown
Cyphus Leeper



*Christian Wellbaum
And wife, Sarah Brown*



*Alma Hilgeford with Betty
And holding Dwight*



*Childhood picture of
Alma Leeper*





*Lee holding Dwight, Alma
Betty*



*Tom, Dwight, Jerry
Hilgeford*



Lee and Alma Hilgeford with daughter Jerry



Jerry and Wilbur Rowe

*Lee and Alma Hilgefords Children
Jerry Rowe Betty Gough
Dwight Hilgefords Tom Hilgefords*



Dwight and Adele Hilgefords, Jerry and Wilbur Rowe



Dwight Hilgefurd

but boy he loved them wild goats.
you may figure this + having the deer
from Daddy Lee



Dwight and Adele Hilgefurd



*Tom Hilgefard dancing
with his mother, Alma.*



Alma McFay Hilgefard



*50th Wedding Anniversary
Lee and Alma Hilgefard*



*Betty Gough, daughter of
Lee and Alma Hilgeford.*



Alma and Lee Hilgeford



Dwight Hilgeford with sons, Eric, Pat, and Michael.

*Ancestor
Family
Pages*

Husband: Jacob Friend

Born: July 10, 1773 in: Frederick, Maryland
Died: in: Montgomery Cty. Ohio
Burial:
Father: Nicholas Friend
Mother: Mary Elizabeth
Other Spouses:

Wife: Susan Smith

Born: in:
Died: in: Montgomery Cty. Ohio
Burial:
Father:
Mother:
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 F	Name: Sarah Friend Born: 1799 in: Kentucky Died: in: Burial: Married: December 20, 1818 in: Montgomery Co. Ohio Spouse: Christian Welbaum
2 F	Name: Barbara Friend Born: 1799 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Mr. Arnold
3 F	Name: Leah Friend Born: September 17, 1829 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Mr. Arnett
4 F	Name: Mary Friend Born: in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Mr. Martin
5 F	Name: Margaret Friend Born: in: Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Mr. Holtsapple
6 M	Name: Isaac Friend Born: December 27, 1809 in: Died: in: Burial: Married: January 30, 1829 in: Spouse: Elizabeth Burket
7 M	Name: Jacob Friend Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: Spouse:

8	Name: Susan Friend	
	Born:	in:
F	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	
9	Name: Joseph Friend	
	Born:	in:
M	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	
10	Name: James Friend	
	Born:	in:
F	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	
11	Name: Hester Friend	
	Born:	in:
?	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	
12	Name: Elizabeth Friend	
	Born:	in:
F	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	
13	Name: Catherine Friend	
	Born:	in:
F	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	

*Resources: Friend Family Association of America. Friendsville, MD
Lineage of Zola Dobson. George B. Wilson*

Husband: Lorenzo D. Hughes

Born: December 16, 1823 in:
 Married: February 29, 1844 in: Darke Co., Ohio
 Died: March 3, 1879 in:
 Burial:
 Father:
 Mother:
 Other Spouses:

Wife: Electa Wentworth

Born: January 29, 1824 in:
 Died: February 24, 1889 in:
 Burial:
 Father:
 Mother:
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: Samantha Hughes Born: January 04, 1845 Died: January 5, 1916 Burial: Married: November 09, 1863 Spouse: Cyphus M. Leeper	in: near Brock, Ohio in: in: Yorkshire Cemetery, Patterson Twp. Darke Co. in: Greenville, Ohio
F		
2	Name: Sarah Jo Hughes Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
F		
3	Name: Winfield S. Hughes Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
?		
4	Name: Cynthia Hughes Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
F		
5	Name: Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in: in:
6	Name: Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in: in:

*Resources: Darke County Marriage Records
 1850 Census, darke County, Brown Twp.*

Husband: Cyphus M. Leeper

Born: 1835 in:
Married: November 09, 1863 in: Greenville, Ohio
Died: March 15, 1900 in:
Burial: in: Brock Cemetery, Patterson Twp. Darke Co.
Father: William Leeper
Mother: Mary C. Skinner or Renner as given from different sources
Other Spouses:

Wife: Samantha Hughes

Born: January 04, 1845 in: near Brock, Ohio
Died: January 5, 1916 in:
Burial: in: Brock Cemetery, Patterson Twp. Darke Co.
Father: Lorenzo D. Hughes
Mother: Electa Wentworth
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 F	Name: Margaret Leeper Born: Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
2 M	Name: William Leeper Born: October 18, 1865 Died: 1948 Burial: Married: February 07, 1886 Spouse: Rebecca Wellbaum	in: in: in: Yorkshire Cemetery, Patterson Twp. Darke Co. in:
3 F	Name: Olive Leeper Born: February 03, 1867 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Bernard? Fidler	in: in: in:
4 F	Name: Mary Leeper Born: July 25, 1867 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: ? Coate Married: Spouse: Lawrence Wagner	in: in: in: in: in:
5 M	Name: Frank Leeper Born: May 19, 1871 Died: 1932 Burial: Married: Spouse: Rosie Cassell	in: in: in:
6 F	Name: Sara Ellen Leeper Born: March 29, 1873 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Clark McFarland	in: in: in:

*Resources: Brock Cemetery
Versailles Policy
Civil War Records
Memorial Card*

Husband: William Leeper

Born: in: Pennsylvania
Died: in:
Burial:
Father:
Mother:

Other Spouses:

Wife: Mary C. Skinner or Renner as gi en from different sources

Born: in: Maryland
Died: in:
Burial:
Father:
Mother:

Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

I M	Name: Cyphus M. Leeper	
	Born: 1835	in:
	Died: March 15, 1900	in:
	Burial:	in: Yorkshire Cemetery, Patterson Twp. Darke Co.
	Married: November 09, 1863 Spouse: Samantha Hughes	in: Greenville, Ohio
2 F	Name: Harriet L. Leeper	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial: Spouse:	
3 F	Name: Samuel Leeper	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial: Spouse:	
4 F	Name: Mary A. Leeper	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial: Spouse:	

*Resources: 1850 Darke County Census
Wabash Township*

Husband: Christian Wellbaum II

Born: May 26, 1842
Married: November 13, 1863
Died: February 26, 1938
Burial:
Father: Christian Welbaum
Mother: Sarah Friend
Other Spouses:

in: Montgomery Cty. Ohio
in: Paintercreek, Darke Co., Ohio
in: Piqua, Ohio
in: Greenlawn Cemertery, Versailles, Ohio

Wife: Sarah Brown

Born: April 06, 1840
Died: April 18, 1914
Burial:
Father: James Brown
Mother: Sarah Coate
Other Spouses:

in:
in:
in: Greenlawn Cemetery, Versailles, Ohio

CHILDREN

1	Name: Lavinda Belle Wellbaum Born: December 11, 1865 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Dwight Mendenhall	in: in: in:
F		
2	Name: Rebecca Wellbaum Born: December 19, 1866 Died: May 1934 Burial: Married: February 07, 1886 Spouse: William Leeper	in: in: Yorkshire Cemetery, Patterson Twp. Darke Co. in:
F		
3	Name: Alven Wellbaum Born: December 29, 1868 Died: April 11, 1936 Burial: Married: Spouse: Minnie Tobias	in: in: in:
M		
4	Name: Sarah Elnora Wellbaum Born: February 27, 1871 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Clarence Baxter	in: in: in:
F		
5	Name: John Henry Wellbaum Born: Died: May 22, 1950 Burial: Married: Spouse: Laura Wolfe	in: in: in:
M		
6	Name: Esther Wellbaum Born: June 14, 1875 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Frank Mullen	in: in: in:
F		
7	Name: Laura Wellbaum Born: April 15, 1882 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Oliver Foust	in: in: in:
F		

*Resources: Civil War Records, Bureau of Pensions
Greenlawn Cemetery
Leeper Family Bible*

Husband: Christian Welbaum

Born: November 21, 1798 in: Pennsylvania
Married: December 20, 1818 in: Montgomery Co. Ohio
Died: January 19, 1880 in: Montgomery Co. Ohio
Burial: in: roadside cemetery in Brookville, Ohio
Father: Charles Wellbaum (Karl Walbaum)
Mother: Mary Magdalena Kniesly
Other Spouses:

Wife: Sarah Friend

Born: 1799 in: Kentucky
Died: in:
Burial:
Father: Jacob Friend
Mother: Susan Smith
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: Rachel Welbaum Born: 1820 in: Died: in: F Burial: Married: in: Spouse: David Landis
2	Name: Lucinda Welbaum Born: 1823 in: Died: in: F Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Joel Wogoman
3	Name: Rebecca Welbaum Born: 1827 in: F Married: in: Died: in: Burial: Spouse:
4	Name: Sammuel Welbaum Born: 1829 in: M Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Harriet Holtzmuller
5	Name: Aaron Welbaum Born: 1830 in: M Died: 1906 in: Burial: in: Darke Co. Ohio Married: in: Spouse: Esther Haworth
6	Name: Noah Welbaum Born: 1832 in: M Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Lydia Wepon
7	Name: Phoebe Welbaum Born: 1835 in: F Died: in: Burial: Married: in: Spouse: Webster Smith

M	Name: Solomon Welbaum Born: 1838 Died: Burial: Married: Spouse: Amanda Belle	in: in: in:
9 ?	Name: Leah Welbaum Born: 1840 Married: Died: 1840 Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
10 M	Name: Christian Wellbaum II Born: May 26, 1842 Died: February 26, 1938 Burial: Married: November 13, 1863 Spouse: Sarah Brown	in: Montgomery Cty. Ohio in: Piqua, Ohio in: Greenlawn Cemertery, Versailles, Ohio in: Paintercreek, Darke Co.,Ohio

*Resources: Probate Court Montgomery county, Ohio
 Leona Blocher Betteridge, Tacoma, Washington
 Lineage of Zola Dobson, George Wilson
 Friend Family Association of America Friendsville, Maryland*

Husband: Charles Wellbaum (Karl Walbaum)

Born: February 14, 1754 in: Rohden Niedersachsen, Germany
Married: Abt. 1783 in:
Died: September 1821 in: Madison Twp, Montgomery, Ohio
Burial: in: family plot Madison Twp, MontgomeryCo., Ohio
Father: Johann Henrich Wallbaum
Mother:
Other Spouses:

Wife: Mary Magdalena Kniesly

Born: October 18, 1760 in: York or Lancaster Co. Pa.
Died: October 1820 in:
Burial: in: family plot Madison Twp, Montgomery Co., Ohio
Father: John Kniesly
Mother: Mary Shonauer
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Christian Welbaum Born: November 21, 1798 Died: January 19, 1880 Burial: Married: December 20, 1818 Spouse: Sarah Friend	in: Pennsylvania in: Montgomery Co. Ohio in: roadside cemetery in Brookville, Ohio in: Montgomery Co. Ohio
2 F	Name: Elizabeth Welbaum Born: 1785 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
3 M	Name: Charles Welbaum Born: February 03, 1787 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
4 F	Name: Magdalena Welbaum Born: December 01, 1788 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
5 F	Name: Catherine Welbaum Born: May 05, 1793 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
6 M	Name: Henry Welbaum Born: December 09, 1796 Married: Died: Burial: Spouse:	in: in: in:
7 M	Name: David Welbaum Born: December 05, 1800 Married: Died: Burial:	in: in: in:

8 M	Name: Abraham Welbaum	
	Born: March 12, 1803	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Burial:	
	Spouse:	

*Resources: HETRINA records.
 Leona Blocher Betteridge, Tacoma, Washington
 Autobiography of Samuel Murray (1891)*