

Jessee Family Newsletter

Issue #33

Summer 2008

Vol. XVII No.2

Dear Cousin,

Our cousin, **Charlie Thompson of ND**, sent me a note of concern regarding the fires here and floods elsewhere. If you will indulge the small print, I have decided to share my response, written 6/14/2008.

Charlie, we, too, have been thinking of our family across America with all the tornadoes and floods going on, not to mention the earthquakes and fires. We are very concerned and praying for all of us.

It is ironic that you should inquire first, from North Dakota, about the Humboldt Fire in Butte County, California, now threatening the town of Paradise. The fire began Wednesday at about 12:15 pm, on Humboldt Road, an old pioneer wagon road, that runs parallel to Hwy 32 out of Chico, on a ridge headed into the mountains toward Chester, and Butte Meadows, where we have a summer cabin. My wife's family has a cattle ranch up in Little Chico Creek Canyon, which is called Stilson Canyon, the first canyon just south and east of Humboldt Road.

Nelda's Aunt Lillian and Cousin Ron Hove from Adams, North Dakota, had driven out here and they were having a family reunion on the Meline Ranch, with Nelda's sister and brother-in-law from Oregon, her two brothers, who live on the Home Ranch and take care of it (and their Mother before she passed on last year). They were sitting down to lunch, when my brother-in-law, from Oregon, said, "If I were at home, I would say I smell a grass fire." They went out and spotted the fire up on top of the north canyon rim, just off Humboldt road, minutes after it started. We were having wild winds, 35-40 miles per hour, and the smoke was blowing directly at the Ranch House, and the humidity was down to 9-10%. Within 15 minutes the fire was down the canyon wall to the floor and coming directly at their home, horses, barns, corrals, vehicles, etc. In 30 minutes it was behind them, across to the south side of Stilson Canyon, and had burned across their only road out of the canyon, closing in on them from all directions.

The good news is that the first Fire Engine was there in the first 10 minutes, and 12 more engines joined them to save the ranch and their lives. Three borate bombers, including a DC10, the largest in the West, which flew down from Klamath Falls, Oregon, bombed the ranch along the trees that adjoined the barn and corrals, and over their home, too. Nelda and her brothers, who along with all able bodies were putting out spot fires in the yard and corral areas, were directly under one of the Borate runs, and were "slimed" with pink goopy stuff from head to toe, and nearly knocked down by the force of it. The fire fighters from just about every agency possible in the area saved the ranch buildings and an island of trees around part of them, but the fire burned down to their yard on two sides. Nelda and the brothers describe it as being in the middle of a fire storm, two of them are volunteer firemen, too. The winds and heat were so intense. The ranch continues to smolder, and their place has been the staging area for dozens of engines, bull dozers, prison busses bringing fire fighters, etc.

Thus the family and the North Dakota relatives lived through the first 3 hours of that fire and were in the middle of the first couple of thousand acres burned. The Meline Ranch Home was the first firemen's stand and buildings and lives saved. Most of their ranch burned, including a 100-year-old Olive orchard. No animals were lost nor anyone hurt or any building lost, but all the ranch fences and many of the trees are gone. They have quite a story to tell, as we have now sent them off toward Oregon and home. I will bet it gets into the Walsh Co. News!

I was working that day, and when I learned about the fire, they were already evacuating everyone else out of Stilson Canyon and would not let anyone go in. Their ranch was still cut off by the fire itself, and downed trees on the gravel road they have to get out. My wife and some of her family got home that night once they cleared the road, but her brothers are staying on the homestead through thick and thin.

Since those first hours, the fire then raged south and east, jumping three more canyons, and getting into really major housing areas, like Paradise, Butte Creek Canyon, Honey Run Road, Humbug and Humboldt Roads, and the Butte College campus. It has now burned over 25,000 acres and is about 35% contained today. This nightmare is not over. Stilson Canyon still has several fire crews fighting hot spots and flare ups, and they have kept a fire engine at the ranch. There are more than 70 homes lost, but no lives. We are just so grateful for what we have and for the terrific Fire Fighters who saved my family.

Sure puts home and family and loved ones into perspective.

I am pleased that we have several new contributions in this newsletter. Your research results, questions and conundrums are always welcome. I am excited and gratified every time I extend the descendants for the Jessee family and am always astounded as I see increasing evidence that we are all cousins. My spirits are always uplifted by your letters, emails, donations and renewals. Thank you.

Jim Jessee

Featured This Edition

The passing of JAMES CHARLIE "JC: JESSEE, one of the founders of the JHF is sadly featured, along with the passing of several other family members we are sad to lose.

TERRY BICKLEY of Eugene, Oregon shared a wonderful photo of the **James Monroe and Evaline Barte Bickley family of Bickley's Mill** near Castlewood, which I shared in the last edition, but the adventure continues, with the discovery of their Family Bible in Chico, CA.

SW Virginia Families and Other Jesse/ee/ie/ey Families include several tidbits of information and news from descendants of **other Jesse, Jessee, and several prominent SW VA families**

Find news on Jessee Family Origins and John and Frankey Lea Jessee and their fifteen children. See new information and photos, read heart-warming stories, letters, and meet new cousins inside. Several have sent articles and photographs which I am happy to feature.

JHF News & Views and the John Jessee Cemetery and Mill Projects have a summary of information and commentary, but no progress to report.

Missing Links and Correspondence has items of interest and requests for help, and **Jessee Resources on the Web** has a few more Web sites for us computer geeks.

The 2008 National Jessee Family Reunion

Saturday, August 9, 2008
at the Harry L. Coomes Recreation Center,
300 Stanley Street, Abingdon, VA

The 2008 Jessee Family Research Day
Friday, August 8, 2008
at the Russell County Library
203 NW Main Street, Lebanon, VA

The Jessee Family Research Day is held on Friday, preceding the reunion, at the Russell County Public Library in Lebanon, VA. The activities begin after 10 a.m. and end about 4 p.m.

The Jessee Family Reunion and Picnic is held the second Saturday in August each year, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Harry L. Coomes Recreation Center & Park, Abingdon, Virginia. The Jessee Historical Foundation holds its annual membership meeting during the reunion.

To get there: Take exit 19 from Interstate 81, go north on Route 11-Main Street toward Abingdon, approximately 0.7 mile. Bear right (north) at the second light onto Thompson Street, beside the shopping center. Go about 100 yards, then go right on Stanley Street. Coomes Recreation Center will be around the big curve, over the hill on the right.

Remember to bring a covered dish, enough to feed your family and at least four additional "cousins." You may bring a folding chair. Bring your musical instruments.

For information about this historic area, lodging, golf courses, etc., please call the Abingdon Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-435-3440.

Phone: 276-676-2282 or Fax: 276-676-3076,
E-mail: acvb@abingdon.com or
Internet: www.abingdon.com/tourism.

The Silent Auction Needs You

Plan to participate in the annual silent auction, held during the family reunion on Saturday, to help raise funds for the Jessee Historical Foundation. To make the auction a success, your contributions are needed. Use your imagination to think of items to be contributed. The items for the auctions can be brought to the reunion picnic to be held at the Harry L. Coomes Recreation Center & Park Grounds, Abingdon, VA.

For picnic and silent auction information contact

Mary H. Akers
19246 Oakwood Drive
Abingdon, VA 24221
276-628-9239

Jessee Historical Foundation

Founded March 8, 2001

The JHF Board of Directors & Officers
as of 20 October 2007:

Henry A. Davis, Jr., President
Mary H. Akers, Vice-president
Norma J. McHone, Treasurer
Patricia S. Jessee, Membership Secretary
Pauline Salyers, (acting) Recording Secretary

Members of the Board

James Bray, Beverly Elswick, Nancy Elswick
Diane Fuller, Sandra Hood, Carl Jessee
J. C. Jessee, Robert Trigg Jessee, Joy A. Malone
Irene J. Perry, Pauline Salyers, Vernon Salyers
Janice J. Tiller, Randy Williams

Go to www.jessee.org for more information on JHF activities, news, and events. Please join.

Membership Information

The Jessee Historical Foundation extends an invitation and warm welcome to new members and welcomes your annual membership renewal.

Annual membership will run from reunion to reunion each year. Dues will be collected at the annual reunion in June for the following year. JHF membership dues for 2007/2008 are due at the Family Reunion or mailed in after June 16, 2007.

There are three categories of membership. Anyone age 81 or older may request free lifetime membership. The annual fee is \$10 per person. Ask about lifetime membership, too.

1. Regular Member: If you have a Jessee, Jesse, Jessey or Jessie surname, or are an adult Jessee descendant you are eligible to be a regular member with full voting privileges. Please provide information to verify your Jesse(e) lineage.
2. Associate Member: Spouses, related family, or friends of a regular member, who are non-voting.
3. Junior Member: Family members under age 18, who are non-voting.

Send an application. Get one at www.jessee.org or provide the following information: name, street or PO box address, city, state, ZIP, phone, email address, and your Jessee pedigree. Please send your application and check, payable to Jessee Historical Foundation, Inc., for \$10 per person, to the membership secretary, at the following address.

Jessee Historical Foundation Inc.
C/O Patricia Stone Jessee
Membership Secretary
PO Box 1617
Lebanon, VA 24266-1617

James Charlie “JC” Jessee Passes Away

LEBANON, VA. – JAMES CHARLIE “J.C.” JESSEE died Sunday, April 27, 2008. [From Bristol Herald Courier obituary]

He was born Oct. 12, 1930, on the Gabriel Jessee farm in the New Garden community, the first of five children born to the late Flora Dye Jessee and Henry Ed Jessee. He and his loving wife, Nellie Rasnake Jessee, were married for 56 years and have one daughter, Sandra Ruth Jessee Hood and husband Tom Hood of Abingdon, VA.

In addition to his wife, daughter and son-in-law, survivors include two brothers, Clifford Jessee and wife Ann of Crozet, Va., and Jack Jessee and wife Jean of Narrows, Va.; two sisters, Henrietta Bratanov and husband Steve of Honaker, VA., and Carolyn Armstrong of Kingsport, TN.; sister-in-law, Patsy O’Quinn and husband Wayne of Birchleaf, VA.; and stepgrandson, Dan Hood of Franklin, TN.

J.C. retired from the Virginia Department of Transportation after 36 years. He also owned the J&H Tack Shop and was a judge and steward with the American Horse Show Association. An active member of the Lebanon Masonic Lodge No. 251 for 44 years, he and his two brothers served as master of their respective lodges in 1968. J.C. was a member of the Russell County Genealogy Society and a board member of the Jessee Historical Foundation. He spent thousands of hours on woodworking projects. He was a member of the New Garden Baptist Church. J.C. was active in local politics and community activities.

Pallbearers will be nephews and special friends.

Funeral services will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, at Lebanon Baptist Church, with Masonic rites followed by Pastor Tom Edwards officiating. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. before the funeral service.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday at Russell Memorial Cemetery in Lebanon. Those wishing to attend are requested to meet at the cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Lebanon Baptist Church, P.O. Box 488, Lebanon, VA 24266; or the charity of your choice.

Owens Funeral Service, Lebanon, is in charge of arrangements.

JC Jessee was one of the founders of the Jessee Historical Foundation, on the board throughout its existense, and a tireless volunteer always. JC Jessee’s passing is a great loss to his family and very many friends. His contributions to the Jessee Historical Foundation, Russell County Historical



Photos: JC Jessee with Hank Davis, top, with Mary Hanson Helton, center, and Nellie Jessee with JC in back, bottom; all at Jessee Family Reunions..

and Genealogy Societies, his community and church were significant. JC was a gentle man, faithful and stalwart worker, and a wonderful person. It was my honor to know him. He will be sorely missed at this year’s family reunion. I extend my condolences to Nellie and family. --Jim

A Personal Genealogy Story

TERRY G. BICKLEY [tg**bickley**@msn.com] began a dialogue, 10/24/2007, and shared information and a photo (that was not reproducible for printing) regarding the family of **James Monroe Bickley** who married **Evaline Bartee**, whom we share as great-great-grandparents. James was the son of **John Bickley**, son of **Charles William Bickley**, founder of **Bickley Mills**. We also discovered that we live comparatively near each other, only seven hours away, and hoped to meet someday. I shared much of this correspondence in the last Newsletter.

Later, Terry sent, 1/2/2007, the photo of the **James Monroe & Evaline (Bartee) Bickley Family**, that he had acquired and had restored. Terry asked for our help to identify all the Bickley children in this photo.

I just received the photo back from the photographer. They did a fabulous job restoring it. The big challenge for us now is to identify the individuals in the photo. Here's what I think:

James Monroe Bickley (9/14/1830 - 10/5/1896)

Eveline (Bartee) Bickley (2/12/1832 - 1/11/1896)

1. James Monroe and Eveline are obviously the older couple in the 2nd row.
2. Columbus U. died the same year as his birth so he's not in there.
3. George Cowden died in 1886. He could be in there but I'm ruling him out.
4. In the back row, 2nd from left is a photo that was super imposed into the photo. Which ever one he is he was not there for the photo.
5. Just by looking at their ages and faces I believe the girls to be: back row 3rd from left Mary Alice, back row 2nd from right America Elizabeth, on knees front row left Nora Belle, on knees right Eliza Ellen Bickley.
6. Middle row on Evelines left, Marcus L. Bickley.

I have no clue as to the others. Of course I could be wrong on the ones I'm guessing at but at least it's a start.

Feel free to use this photo as needed. We need to identify these people. Please keep me posted (daily if necessary) with any suggestions that might come in. Hopefully we will be able to come to a consensus as to who's who. Also feel free to give my e-mail address to anyone that's interested.

James Monroe Bickley and Evaline Bartee are the Newsletter author's (Jim Jessee's) great-great grandparents, and this is the first time I have seen a photo of them and their family. Needless to say, I was thrilled and thank Terry very much for this kindness.

James Monroe Bickley and his wife Evaline Bartee, lived at and operated Bickley's Mill, and raised their 13 children in the now-restored Bickley Gibson Home near Castlewood. My great-grandmother is one of the 13 children, America Elizabeth Jessee, who married John Tivis Jessee, after his return from the Civil War where he had surrendered with Gen. Lee at Appomattox.

The daughter, as identified by Terry in the back row, 2nd from the right, is my great-grandmother, America Elizabeth Bickley.

About 1870, along with some of her Bickley brothers and other Jessee cousins, they moved to the Philo

area in Champaign County, Illinois. Later, widow America Jessee, along with other Bickley siblings, moved to Chico, California, where her son Norval Clarence Jessee would raise eight Jessee boys, including my father, Earl Wilson Jessee, and where we live today. America Bickley Jessee's tombstone is prominent in the Chico Cemetery.

I took this photo to my cousin Harold Bickley, who lives in Chico, and here is my follow-up with Terry.

Terry, I have just returned from a visit to our cousin, Harold Bickley, who lives in Chico. He is descended from another of the 13 children of James Monroe Bickley (1830-1896) and Evaline Bartee Bickley (1832-1896), John Bickley. To my great surprise, they brought out the James Monroe and Evaline Bickley family Bible, which they had received from another distant cousin, a descendant of Nora Delle Bickley Fletcher, the youngest child who had the Family Bible. Nora Fletcher had a daughter, who had no children, and she wanted the Bible to go to someone with the Bickley family name. She tracked down Harold Bickley, through yet another cousin, and sent him the Bible, in 2002. It has the births, deaths, and marriage information for all the children in it. It is in very poor condition and literally falling into pieces. So it is an unbelievably small world. Harold Bickley is a very interesting person, too, and if you ever visit here, we can go see him and the Bible.

Terry and Glenda Bickley came to Chico within a few weeks, and together we had a wonderful visit with Harold Bickley and his wife Gloria, sharing photos and information and getting to know each other. Harold discovered that his father and grandfather had been close to Terry's father and grandfather who had moved to Washington State, and each had photos of the other brother's families, in wheat fields in Washington, without knowing who the "visiting" or visited "brother" was.





James Monroe and Evaline (Bartee) Bickley and their family.

Terry wrote: I promised to send you a copy of the photo of Marcus L. Bickley with who I thought was one of his brothers. After meeting with you and Harold we all determined that the brother was John Floyd Bickley, Harold's grandfather. So copy attached. John on left and Marcus L. on right.

Terry and Glenda wrote a summary of their trip to share with the Jesse and Bickley family below. The photo right is, left to right, Terry Bickley, Harold Bickley, and Jim Jesse.

On Saturday March 1st, 2008 my wife, Glenda and I drove to California in my genealogy quest. We had been communicating with Jim Jesse by email, in our research of my Bickley family. We had the opportunity to travel to Chico, California to meet with Jim and Nelda Jesse and while there we also met a 2nd cousin, Harold Bickley and his wife Gloria. What an exciting time we had. We talked, exchanged information and photos. Harold had the family bible of James Monroe and Eveline (Bartee) Bickley, our common Great Grandparents. We were able to scan the marriage, births, deaths and family history pages from the well-worn, but well-preserved bible. We looked through boxes of photos and shared stories. We were excited to be able to come to a consensus on the identity of several members of the James and Eveline Bickley family portrait that Jim posted in the last news letter.

Jim and Nelda also drove us around the area and took us to a cemetery and mausoleum that held some of our family members. We were able to take photos

of their headstones and plaques. Jim and Nelda's families have both been in the Chico area for several generations and they have lots of memories they shared with us along with the rich history of the area. We want to thank them for the wonderful, warm reception they gave us and time they spent with us. We also want to thank Jim for introducing



SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA FAMILIES

Here I will feature articles, documents, and other information about Southwest Virginia families who have intermarried with the Jesse(e) Family over many generations. Your contributions are welcome.

TOM RUDDER, painstakingly extracted the following article from a Web source to share with the **Fuller** family regarding **R.R. and H. H. Fuller**.

R. R. FULLER: Among the descendants of the early pioneers of Coles County (TN), the name of R.R. Fuller is worthy of an honorable place. He is one of the partners in the firm of Fuller Bros., dealers in lumber and manufacturers of wire and slat fencing in Charleston Township. He was born Feb. 6, 1861, in this county, and is the son of William N. and Phyneta M. (Ellis) Fuller. The former is a native of Russell County, Va. They were the descendants of Scotch and German ancestry, both of which nationalities are noted for thrift and enterprise. Hawkins Fuller was a farmer in Virginia and left his Eastern home in 1834 to encounter the trials and privations of pioneer life on the Western frontier. A tide of emigration was then beginning to sweep in from the East, and the vast lonely stretches of prairie were more frequently broken by human habitations than hitherto. The very early settlers had usually located in or near the timber, hardly expecting that the broad, wild prairies, covered with tall, rank grass, over which the deer and wolves roamed undisturbed, would ever wave with rich harvests of golden grain or become the safe pasture land of vast herds of cattle and flocks of sheep. The first necessity was to provide shelter for himself and family, which was soon secured by erecting one of the primitive houses of the early pioneer days, which, though rude in construction, were yet made very comfortable. He first settled in North Okaw Township, of this county. Settlers began rapidly to come in from the Eastern States, and the prosperity of the county was greatly increased. He was the first Justice of the Peace elected in the county.

William N. Fuller, who was only three months old when his father settled in North Okaw Township, was brought up on the farm, assisting his father in subduing the wilderness and attending the primitive school which the neighborhood afforded. He acquired much practical knowledge of the details of farming, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his life. Besides carrying on an extensive farming business, he was actively interested in public affairs. He was County Commissioner, Assessor, and at the time of his death was a candidate for Sheriff. In politics he was a Democrat. His death occurred June 9, 1880. His widow still survives, and is a resident of Charleston. They had a family of five children, three of whom are now living – H.H. and R.R., of the firm of Fuller Bros., and Phoebe.

R.R. Fuller was brought up on his father's farm, receiving a good common-school education in the township. After his father's death he assumed the management of the farm. In 1882 his brother, H.H., was elected County Treasurer, and served in that office for four years, and R.R. was Deputy County Treasurer. In 1886 the brothers purchased the lumber business of W.S. Coon, now deceased, in which they are carrying on a large and extensive business. In 1880 H.H. Fuller married Miss Belle Hitch, a native of Coles County, and the daughter of Alexander and Permelia Hitch. They have a family of three children – Winnie W., Claude C. and Pearl. The brothers belong to the Democratic Party. R.R. is a member of the Odd Fellows' Society, and also of the K. of P.

TOM RUDDER is a regular contributor to the **Russel Co. List** [varussel@rootsweb.com]. He wrote, 5/17/2008 in response to another correspondent with information about **Benge and the Dorton family**

Hi Carol: I have tons of information on the Dorton family. My grandmother was a Dorton. I guess I should tell you right off that by no stretch of the imagination are we in any way connected to the Robert Benge family. That story originated from an item published in the Lebanon News around 1920. A Jonas Rasnick told the News that "the old folks used to tell about a white man named Dorton, who was wild and reckless and lived in the Indian Country. He was said to be the father of Benge the chief of the Cherokees. Colonel Henson Hobbs, of Maryland, one of my uncles, told about these incidents and I wrote

it up for the Lebanon News. It was said that Arthur Hobbs, an uncle of Col. Henson Hobbs, killed Benje in Lee Co., near Cumberland Gap." As you probably know the incident did not take place near Cumberland Gap and Arthur Hobbs did not kill Benge, Vincent Hobbs did. Lawrence J. Fleenor Jr. wrote a book called "BENGE" which turned out to be an absolute joke. You may have seen or heard about it. It tells about the Dorton family and Benge living at the Dorton Fort near Nicklesville. The Dorton Fort was on the William Dorton Sr. land near Dickensonville which now has the new historical marker on it as a result of documentation I provided. And as I said I have a lot of data on the Dorton family and can provide any details you might be interested in. For example the first two Dorton children, William Jr. born 1750 and Edward in 1751 were born near Richmond, VA and Robert Benge was born ca 1760 in southeast TN to John Benge and Wurteh. There was no Wurteh Watts Benge. Let me know what data you might want.

Tom in Sacramento

VERNA M. McDOWELL [vernamac@smnet.net] wrote 11/30/2008 with information for **Browning** family descendants.

My children are descended from John Browning who married Elizabeth Demorest. Some of the info you have I agree with you, others I do not. Issue:

1. James	b. 1745	RW	md. Susannah Hickman (my connection)
2. Joshua	b. 1747	RW	Ann Scott
3. Enos	b. 1751	RW	Jenny Trim
4. Francis	b. 1753	RW	Miss Vermillian
5. John Radford	b. 1757	RW	Miss Peebles
6. William	b. 1759		
7. George	b. 1761		
8. Eunice	b. 1762		
9. Daniel	b. 1764		

My records indicate John Browning (md. to Eliz. Demorest) was the son of Francis Browning and Eliz. Lloyd. Elizabeth Demorest was the dtr. of Jan De Marest and Alice Earle. I have complete records from James on down to my children's father and grandparents who stayed and lived in Kentucky through most of their lives.

I wasn't that interested in the Browning's as much as your chart indicates a John Perrott - son of Henry VIII and Mary Berkely. And from other charts I see they go beyond. I was wondering if you had anything showing the ancestors of John Perrott's ancestry. Can you give me any help in this dept.?

Tom Rudder [ruddert@sbcglobal.net] responded, 11/30/2007 with this link to answer her question.

Jim, Doesn't this answer all her questions about John Perrot?

<http://wbo.llgc.org.uk/en/s-PERR-HAR-1530.html>

BONNIE TREON [bonnietreon@hotmail.com] wrote, 3/3/2008, regarding the **Banner Family** who have also intermarried with the **Jessee** and many other **SW VA families**.

Hi. I saw your website on rootsweb. There actually was another Banner in the area not related (that I can tell) to the ones you have cited.

His name was Peter Banner (or possibly John Peter) Banner as he is listed in the 1790 Orangeburgh SC census as John Banner, yet in all other records that I have found, he is listed as "Peter." He died in 1799 (will date) in Barnwell SC, but was in Craven Co NC before that, VA before that and witnessed a will in Calvert Co MD in the 1760's.

He got land grants in SC starting about 1784. He had a son, Benjamin who lived in St. Mary's Co MD until after 1800, and 3 known daughters and his son, Benjamin named his son, John.

If your John died in 1798 then that could explain why he was not in Peter's 1799 will. Just a thought. Apparently, if this Peter Banner is the same one in the French and Indian War records, he was a British Schoolmaster.

I believe he married Elizabeth or Mary Elizabeth Wood from ST.

Mary's MD bef 1758. She may have 1st married a Garner as she is listed as Garner in her grandmother's 1739 will.

Carol Mitchell, who I have been told passed away in the past few years, had posted dates on rootsweb.com (but I don't know her source and am still digging)--that he married Elizabeth Wood on 12-8-1754. There is much circumstantial evidence to back this up.

Just wanted to let you know, that yes--there was another probably unrelated Banner in the area who could be related to your John--especially since Peter is listed as "John" in the 1790 census. Perhaps he was John Peter or Johan Peter?? He was supposedly British though. Weren't the others German from PA?

Please note that I have (unfortunately) not yet found Carol Mitchell's source for the marriage of Peter Banner and Elizabeth or Mary Elizabeth Wood.

There is much circumstantial evidence to support this (Peter Banner's will, William B. Suite's will, and Samuel Wood's will) land records of grants Peter obtained in SC. Census records proving Benjamin Banner lived in St. Mary's MD next door to Benjamin Suite/Suit until 1800, and the fact that both Hanson Bennett and Benjamin Banner married DAVIS women in St. Mary's Co., MD and both were in Barnwell Co SC by 1810 next to each other.

Also, apparently Winchester, VA was founded by a James Wood who was said to be from England. I have no clue if he connects to Elizabeth Wood or not.

She was the daughter of Samuel Wood and Anne or Ann Briscoe (Ann Briscoe was the widow of John Davis of St. Mary's Co MD and Elizabeth had several siblings who were "Davis" and some who were "Wood" including Susannah Wood who married William Suite. I believe Susannah's son was James Suite who married Elizabeth's daughter Anna. James Suite lived in St. Mary's Co MD also next door to George Davis. (Again there is much interconnecting evidence.)

I just haven't found the Wood/Banner marriage record yet. I have been told that Elizabeth was also apparently married first to a Garner.

Sadly, their assumed marriage is not listed in the Frederick Co MD marriage record book that someone wrote (on rootsweb's books we own list). But Carol Mitchell was an excellent genealogist and she found their marriage record in Winchester, VA -- Dec. 8 1754 somewhere. I found it posted on a website on rootsweb.com (I think it was a freepages) called John Brown's Genealogy.

Unfortunately, I've been told that Ms. Mitchell passed away since she had posted that information. She did much research on the Briscoe family and Elizabeth's mom was Anne Briscoe.

A man named Peter Banner was listed as going into the French and Indian War in Norfolk Co VA.

Carol Mitchell apparently had said that Peter Banner and Elizabeth Wood were married in Winchester that is in Frederick Co in Western Va.

A man named Peter Banner also witnessed a will in (I think) 1768 in Calvert Co MD which was probated in St. Mary's Co.

It seems Peter Banner moved around a bit. He was supposedly a schoolmaster according to the French and Indian War records and was b. ca. 1731 and was supposedly English.

I also found a land record (you can go to the SC Archives online and click onto "Beta Test" and you can see the will records and some land rec's)--it mentioned Peter Banner and someone named Banner V. Woolmour (in the 1780s) For the life of me, I cannot find Woolmour anywhere in searches. I have tried Wilmer, Woolmour, Woolmore, Wollmer and all kinds of variations. I did find some listings for a man named Johan Vitus Behner which is close to Banner and has a V. It would help a bunch to find out who this was.

I saw a BANNER Bible at the University of Virginia Archives online. There is also a WOOD Family Bible there, but I find it impossible to read, even after downloading the reader they suggest. Do you have a transcript of the Wood family Bible? It supposedly mentions BANNER, but I couldn't see it or read much of it as it is a poor copy online. I appreciate any help. The Banner Bible is very readable and had 9 pages. Bonnie Treon (It is at the University of Virginia Archives online.)

Thanks for responding. Henry Hopkins was born before the time of Henry H. I had looked at him as a possibility when I was doing research, but I do appreciate it. One of the Jessee girls that lived on Birchfield Rd. gave me a discount at the hotel when I came up for my grandpa's funeral because she knew the family. That connection to the mountains seems to keep us all bound together. It always feels like I never left there when I'm in Wise or one of the surrounding areas. I live in Taylorsville, NC now. It's only 3 hrs. from Wise. I'll take your advice on the Russell County researcher. Thanks again, Roy Dickenson

ROY DICKENSON [royncris@bellsouth.net] wrote 3/22/2008 in regard to his **Dickenson Family**.

Hi, My name is Roy Dickenson. My father is William Howard Dickenson. His father was Billy Dickenson, son of Worley Dickenson, son of Henry H. Dickenson. I am stuck there. My family used to live on Indian Creek. We still have property on Birchfield. We lived next door to a Jessee family there. I don't remember their names as I was a little boy. My Aunt Bea Perry lived next door. She was married to Charlie Perry. I hope you can help. Thanks, Roy.

I responded: I am not a Dickenson family researcher, but do have lots of intermarriage between our families. Go to www.jessee.org, to search for Dickenson, Henry Hopkins, RIN 6489, and see if this one fits in time and who he married. I do not have any of your names below, but this one that may be Henry H. Dickenson. A wild guess at this point. I suggest you contact the Russell Co. List on RootsWeb.

Roy Replied: Henry Hopkins was born before the time of Henry H. I had looked at him as a possibility when I was doing research, but I do appreciate it. One of the Jessee girls that lived on Birchfield Rd. gave me a discount at the hotel when I came up for my grandpa's funeral because she knew the family. That connection to the mountains seems to keep us all bound together. It always feels like I never left there when I'm in Wise or one of the surrounding areas. I live in Taylorsville, NC now. It's only 3 hrs. from Wise. I'll take your advice on the Russell County researcher. Thanks again, Roy Dickenson

Jesse(e) Family Origins

There are many "Jessee," "Jesse," and "Jessie" families in the United States and Canada that we know are descended from families whose American origins are in Virginia. There are many Jesse, Jessee, Jessie, Jessey and, perhaps, Gesse, Gessey, Jeshy, Jaci, Jacy, and Jacie families in the world whose kinship is unknown. I believe we are all cousins. As "Jesse" and "Jessee" are the two most frequent spellings of this family name, I shall adopt the convention of using "Jesse(e)" in reference to the larger family.

Please see Newsletter #10 available online at www.jessee.org for an extensive discussion and summary of what we know so far about the origins of the Jesse(e) families in America. The many clues there lead us to several new avenues of research on the origins of the Jesse(e) families in, at least, Amelia Co., Cumberland Co., Essex Co., Isle of Wight Co., King and Queen Co., King William Co., Lancaster Co., Nansemond Co., Middlesex Co., and Spotsylvania Co., VA, not to mention the Isle of Wight and Devonshire, England.

MARY IN ALABAMA [mydesire.gulftel.com] wrote, 8/2/2007 with these observations and tidbits.

John Jesse appears in the Parish Register of Christ Church of Middlesex Co., VA's book as marrying Catharine Beamon, 4 Aug 1782. King and Queen Co and Gloucester Co people have been noted in Middlesex Co., over the time. But according to the index this is the only Jesse in this book.

Richard and Frances (Chowning) Jesse

Essex County which is in that general area also has lots of Jesse, Jessee, Jessie family members listed in the Marriage book the earliest being noted in a Deed recorded in 1793 of Thomas Jessie of Middlesex Co married to Ann Cauthorn daughter of Richard Cauthorn and sister of Vincent Cauthorn. It was probably something to do with Ann's father deeding something to both Ann(wife of Thomas Jessie) and her brother Vincent. BUT that is only a guess.

Also, so have stated that the wife, Elizabeth, of William Chowning b. 3 June 1719 of Middlesex County was the daughter of William Jesse. We do not have documentation.

So the Jesse family was in the Tidewater area of Virginia too. Thanks for bring up that subject so I could help you see some other early Jesse families.

Samuel Jesse

JACKIE JESSE LUCA [jackie.luca@verizon.net] wrote with information about her **Samuel Jesse** family roots, which is yet another distinct Jesse family in America

I am the sister of Patty, Connee, and Sue Jesse. Our father, John Lloyd Jesse was the son of John Lewis Jesse, son of John T. Jesse, son of Silas O. Jesse, son of Samuel. I don't know that we have ever made a definite connection with the family of John and Frankie Lea, but I am interested in any information we can find.

John Lloyd Jesse b 11/14/1916, Woodward OK, d 7/23/1995, Los Angeles, married Beatrice Lorraine Kittel b 11/16/1923, Wausau WI, d 7/14/1992, Los Angeles

They had 4 daughters:

Suzanne Carol Jesse b 6/15/1946

Jacquelyn Ann Jesse BrantleyLuca b 11/10/1948

Married (1) Julian King Brantley, Jr. 3/23/1969 Woodland Hills, CA
2 children: Julian King Brantley, III b. 4/26/1972 Van Nuys, CA
Sara Elizabeth Brantley b. 10/19/1974 Simi Valley, CA,
d 09/23/2001 Hawthorne, CA (breast cancer)

Married (2) Anthony John Luca 8/8/1987 Hawthorne, CA
2 children: Cristina Elizabeth Luca b 01/06/1988 Redondo Beach, CA

Jessica Marie Luca b. 07/24/1990 Redondo Beach, CA

Patty Jo Jesse Knutson b 11/03/1956

Married Carl Knutson Lake Tahoe (approx. 1980)

2 children: Jesse Taylor Knutson
Chelsea Knutson

Connee Lynn Jesse Assells b 8/7/1958

Married Christopher Assells about 1984

3 children: Clark
Carlton
Connor

I don't have much on my mother's side. Her ancestors came from Germany in the 1850's.

Dad had 5 brothers and one sister and grew up in Woodward, OK. They must have been very poor. He was one of the younger brothers, and he said that when he was 16, he was accompanying one of his older brothers to Kansas, then decided to head west. He got work as an exercise boy, and later as a jockey at the California race tracks. He enlisted in the Army during WWII, and I believe he met Mom through a friend. We have some photos of them together in Wausau, WI, with him in his uniform. After the war, they got married and came back out to Los Angeles. He got his GED and was trained as an electrical estimator. Mom never worked outside the home after that, but she was a wonder seamstress, and made a lot of clothes for family and for income. We lived in east LA (Lincoln Heights) until 1960, when we moved to the San Fernando Valley. My sister Patty still lives in their old house. Connee lives in Simi Valley, just a little beyond the SF Valley, and Sue lives in the valley, also. When I started working in the late '70's, it was in the South Bay area of LA, so when my first husband and I separated, I moved to Hawthorne and have lived in the area ever since.

A few years ago I traveled to Oklahoma on business and took some extra time to go to Woodward and to Medicine Lodge, KS. I found several of the tombstones of the family - both Jesse and Hayes.

Richard Jesse was born in 1768 in Middlesex Co., VA and his descendants have been provided to the Jesse Family database at www.jessee.org by Donald R. Coleman. The following appear to be descendants of this family, based on the Middlesex Co. and Chowning associations, although the Jesse/Jessee/Jessie spelling varies again in these records.

John and Clia (Smith) Jesse

Descendants of John and Clia (Smith) Jesse, and two of their sons, especially William Morgan Jesse, are well documented in the book, "The Jesses, 1601-1928" prepared by J. S. Jessee.

HARRY AND BEVERLY JESSE SHUPTRINE in their book "William Morgan Jesse and His Descendants" (July, 1995. Revised August, 1996), Gateway Press, Inc., of Baltimore, Maryland, August 1995, detail over 6200 descendants of William Morgan Jesse. This book is a major revision to and update of "The Jesses, 1601-1928" by J. S. Jesse.

I get steady inquiries and bits of additional information and updates from descendants of this JESSE family. We owe so much to the work of Harry and Bev Jesse Shuptrine for reprinting and updating the original book, but unfortunately due to health reasons they have retired from this genealogy work. Until someone else in this family picks up the baton, I will continue to provide updates for this family in the database at www.jessee.org.

KATHY TOPPING, San Antonio, TX, sent along this obituary. **Thomas L. Corley** is the grandson of **Sarah Zanetta Jesse**, a descendant of **William Morgan Jesse**.

PERRIN, Mo. - Thomas Leroy Corley, 82, Perrin, passed away Monday, May 19, 2008.

Mr. Corley was born Sept. 20, 1925, in Sedalia, Mo., to Austin and Helen (Fletcher) Corley.

He was a member of St. Munchin Catholic Church, Cameron, Mo.

Thomas served in the Army during World War II. He was assigned to the Central Europe 14th Armed Division as a rifleman 745. He was wounded in action and received the Purple Heart, and also the Combat Infantryman Badge, M1 Rifle Badge, European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Ribbon with two Bronze Stars, WWII Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal and three Overseas Bars. He was an infantry school radio operator.

Thomas was honored at his 45th high school class reunion by his classmates and friends for serving his country during World War II.

Thomas was a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service until retiring.

He was preceded in death by grandchild, William "Billy" Cox.

Thomas married Joy L. Beeler on Feb. 14, 1960, in Kansas City, Mo. She survives of the home.

Additional survivors: two sons, Steven Moore, and wife, Marilyn, Grandview, Mo.; and Gary Corley, and wife, LouAnn, Kansas City,

Mo.; four daughters, Jeanie Cox, and husband, Dean, Grain Valley, Mo.; Marvinna Haslett, Lawson, Mo.; Connie Youngblood, and husband, Jerry, Hobe Sound, Fla.; and Renee Smith, and husband, Mike, Grandview, Mo.; grandchildren, Jerry; Steven, and wife, Jackie; Michael, and wife, Andrea; Diana, and husband, Jake; Christina; Kathleen; Rebecca Joy; Sabrina; Laura, and husband, Shawn; Lisa; Aaron; Ginger; April; Michael, and wife, Michelle; Tamara, and husband, Ron; Phillip; Brian, and wife, Krista; Deanna; Bill; Logan; Crystal, and husband, Bill; and Patrick; great-grandchildren, Mercedes, Leo, Lucas, Cody, Jordan, Karissa, Billy, Dakota, Makenna, Spencer, Peyton and Morgan.

PHILLIP AND RACHEL JESSEE

Phillip Jessee (1742-1858), wife Rachel, and his son Gabriel Jessee (1804-1886), of still unknown relationship to John Jessee (1750-1816) but assumed to be a brother or cousin, are among the historic Russell County, VA pioneering families. Phillip, who is reported to have lived to be 116, is sometimes referred to reverently as "Old Phillip." Here I will feature articles, documents, and other information about Phillip and Rachel Jessee, their son Gabriel, and their descendants. Your contributions are welcome.

Gabriel Jessee descendants Irene Jessee Perry, Janice Jessee Tiller, Carl Jessee, and J.C. and wife Nellie Jessee have been generous supporters and stalwart workers who have helped establish the Jessee Family Foundation and volunteer for many other Russell County history, cemetery restoration, and genealogy projects. For their work, we thank them. I invite family members to submit photos and other articles of interest for us all to enjoy.

MATTHEW HAIRE [MatthewHaire@aol.com] wrote, 8/3/2007 with information and a correction for the family of **Cumi Jessee who married William Henry Haire**.

Hello --I ran across an entry you apparently made regarding Taliatha Cumi Jessee on the WorldConnect Service. Your notes indicate a lack of info regarding "Janith Ann" and "Linda". Apparently Bud Williams's history (or some other source) implies they were children of Taliatha Cumi Jessee. That is incorrect and I think I can clear that up for you.

Cumi Jessee (our family knew her by her middle name) was my paternal great-grandmother, and married William Henry Haire (b. 1863). Their son, William Henry Haire, Jr., was my grandfather (who married my grandmother, Beulah Eumi Fuller); they had two other children: Gale and Reginald. My grandfather was their middle child. My grandparents (William -- who went by the name Henry in family circles -- and Beulah) had 3 surviving children: Janithe Ann (Humphrey), William Henry Haire, and Linda Kay (Helmick). One other child, a daughter (whose name escapes me right now, but I can get it), died not long after birth. William Henry Haire, their middle child, is my father. So Janithe and Linda were not children of Cumi Jessee and William Henry Haire; rather, they were their grandchildren (and my aunts). Both are now deceased. My father is the only living member of that immediate family.

I am out of time for now, but I can give you some more info regarding the dates I have for these people if you want it. I'm very interested in this line of my family; particularly my great-grandfather, about whom there appears to be very little information. I have been unable to find any source for where he was born except that he was born in the United Kingdom. Because of the prevalence of Haires in middle and southwest Scotland, I have assumed it was probably in that region. If you have any more info on him I'd appreciate love to have it. I'm also very interested in the Scottish line of the Jessee/Wallace family. Apparently my great-grandmother's paternal line had some origins there

(starting, as far as I can tell, with her great-grandmother Mary Lea Robinson, b. 1776, probably in Ayrshire, Scotland). But I have many blanks in my genealogy on her grandfather's paternal line.

Anyway, I hope we can share info with each other if you like.

John and Frankey (Lea) Jessee

Many, if not most, Jessees in America are descended from John (1750-1815) and Frankey Lea Jessee (1752-1836) of Cobb's Creek, Caswell County, North Carolina and Carr's Creek (today Mill Creek) in Reed's Valley, Russell County, Virginia. They had fifteen children. There are many "Jessee," "Jesse," even "Jessie" families in the United States and Canada who are known descendants of those fifteen children. All of us living descendants are about fifth or sixth cousins, or even closer kin. Here I will report new information for John and Frankey Jessee descendants and highlight news and significant contributions regarding each of their fifteen children.

Will the Real John Jessee Please Stand Up

I have wondered when would come the day that someone would seriously question if our John Jessee is the same John Jesse or Jessey who served as a musician in Yarborough's Regiment, NC Continental Army. I can feel the shudder across the family, as all John Jessee based DAR and SAR applications are dependent upon this fact. Our master researcher and myth debunker, **TOM RUDDER**, has dared to ask the question and has been researching it for some time. The Winter 2007 Newsletter outlined the facts as Tom presented them. Tom has girded his loins to go public with these questions to the family.

JIM: I'm not sure whether or not I've ever told you that I do not believe that our John Jessee was in the NC Continental Army. While deleting some old sent mail I ran across this Email. It covers well why I feel that way. I think the clincher is the Pierce Register which shows that a John Jessey was issued certificate # 90278 which was in the group of #s issued to Thomas Clark of the 1st. regiment while Yarborough was in the 3rd. Someone will have to show me more convincing evidence to change my mind.

Will the Real Frankey Lea Please Stand Up?

The 2006 research of the Rev. Dr. Cynthia Forde speculates that Frankey is the daughter of George Lea, son of William Lea and Lucy Tolbert, born in 1761. This is one of the possible candidates we have outlined for many years in previous Newsletters, on the Frankey Lea record in the database, and mutual research. If true, it would mean she is the granddaughter of William Lea and Mary Barnett, not their daughter, as I and others speculate. It would mean she was 14 when she married John at 25. I do not see the alignment of names and other characteristics to make this the leading candidate to be our Frankey Lea, but it must be further researched.

This research also attempts to differentiate Col.

George Lea RIN 5301, that Tom and I have speculated to be a brother of Frankey who married Jeanette Logan Douglas and has a son William Archer Lea, from the George Lea RIN 5287, who married Lucy Tolbert. The latter, Dr. Forde's researchers and some others speculate, are the real parents of our Frankey Lea. The good news is that with all these overlapping names and generations, they are all in the same William and Mary Barnett Lea family, unless of course our Frankey Lea isn't!

Tom Rudder asserts, and I concur, that our Founding Mother Frankey is the unrecorded daughter of William Lea of Cobbs Creek and wife Mary "Polly" Barnett (or possibly Archer), making her a sister of Col. George Lea and several others who are well recorded in Caswell Co., NC. Frankey's names for her children are most consistent with this assumption, because most of the names she uses are only found in this branch of the Lea family. John and Frankey name their children as follows: John Jr., then Archer (possibly her mother's maiden name), then William after her father, Lea (after her own maiden name), David (source unknown), Boedicia (after an alleged sister, see below), Mary "Polly" (after her mother), Frances (after herself), Sarah (after her sister), James (after her brother), Elizabeth (after her sister?), Rebecca (source unknown), George Lea (after her brother who was a prominent citizen and tended to many legal issues for John and Frankey in Caswell Co.), Martin and Jane (sources unknown).

John and Frankey's Children

I enjoy corresponding with many descendants of John and Frankey's fifteen children and constantly glean much new descendant and pedigree information. I cannot provide all of it in the Jessee Newsletter but do record it in the family database. Please visit the family database at www.jessee.org to see many new additions.

I. John Jessee, Jr.

John Jessee, Jr. (1775-1834) married Mary "Polly" Armstrong (1780-1840) and they had six children. This is the editor's line.

DOLORES "DEE" HARDING [hummingbird.dolores@gmail.com] wrote, 1/31/2008, with this sad news regarding her husband, **Bill Harding**.

Sadly I tell you that Bill Harding passed away Sunday, January 27, 2008. Bill was born June 18, 1921 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Bill was the son of William Aaron Harding and Ninna Belle Jessee. Ninna Belle Jessee was the daughter of Ephraim K. Jessee [son of Joseph Jessee] and Mary "Mollie" Smith.

Bill was a man of sterling character who worked diligently and loved his family and his country. Although a serious automobile accident in 1963 paralyzed his right arm, resulting in constant pain, he was never bitter or complained. He is free of all of that pain and is finally at peace.

Obituary: WILLIAM "Bill" JESSEE HARDING born June 1, 1921

in Salt Lake City, Utah, passed away Sunday, January 27, 2008. Bill had resided at the Renaissance Village nursing home since November of 2000. He and his family came to Ft. Wayne, Indiana in 1961 from Moline, Illinois. Bill spent his early school years in many states as his father was a troubleshooter for General Motors. He graduated from Rock Island High School and enrolled in Augustana College when the attack by the Japanese in 1941 called him to enlist in the Army. He served four years in the Army as a Tec 4 with the U.S. Army 340th Engineers and the 59th Engineer Separate Combat Company. He was a Heavy Equipment Operator and Sharpshooter. His service was in the Aleutians Islands, New Guinea, Alaska and Luzon. His service as patrol leader in the Philippines against the Japanese and building the Yukon Highway were memorable experiences to him. He finished his duty in the Philippines where Gen. Douglas MacArthur wanted to bestow on him a commendation, but, as he had been away from his elderly parents many years, he chose to come home in December of 1945. He met Dee Hamlin in September of 1946 and they were married in September of 1947 in Moline, Illinois. Four children followed.

Additional education: University of Illinois Extension Campus at Moline, Illinois. Previous studies were pre-engineering courses directed to an M.E. degree; College of Business Administration awarded an Associate-Business Administration degree. Correspondence Course: Alexander Hamilton Institute. Mr. Harding was a member of the Turner Glee Club, American Welding Society, and Indiana Masons.

Bill spent many years working in the welding field and had his own business when he retired. His parents, William A. Harding and Ninna J. Harding along with his brother, James V. Harding preceded him in death. Sons, Larry J. Harding and William R. Harding also preceded him in death. Surviving is his eldest son, Craig L. Harding, of Portland, Oregon; his daughter, Kathleen H. McCutcheon, of Rancho Santa Margarita, California; two grandchildren, Shannon and Jeremy McCutcheon and his former wife, Dee H. Harding of California.

There will be a service in California. His ashes will be interred with his two son's ashes at Plymouth Congregational Church in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Memorials may be sent to the above-mentioned church in Ft. Wayne. Although a serious automobile accident in 1963 paralyzed his right arm and other injuries resulting in constant pain, he was never bitter or complained. Bill was a gentleman of sterling character who worked diligently and loved his family and his country.

CLAIRE E. STEPHENS [cfunnybunny@hotmail.com] wrote 3/9/2007, with this possible connection of Jessee and Stephens genealogy, through **Beverly Floyd Jessee**.

I spoke with you on the phone today regarding the possible connection of the Stephens and the Jessee families. I have just started trying to trace back my lineage and am now stuck. I am very new to all this, so the terminology and appropriate presentation of lineage is foreign, so I will just write out what I know of the mentioned connection:

Martha Moore b Bentonville, Benton Co, Ark APR 02 or 22, 1870, daughter of male Moore and female McQuary, ?married? Smith Stephens ~1888. This union resulted in 1 known son James Orville Stephens b Bentonville, Benton Co, Ark Dec 17, 1889. Martha Moore then married Beverly Floyd (Floyd J.) Jessee in 1893, in Tx/OK/Ark. None of the Stephens' knows where James Orville was at this point or where or with whom he resided, but Martha and Beverly Floyd had ~9 children including Bessie Marie who married Herbert Flatt resulting in a son Herbert Paul. My father and aunts recall having an Aunt Bessie

Flatt and a cousin (I believe this is Bessie Marie Jessee Flatt and Herbert Paul Flatt). The 1910 US Federal Census (see attached) lists a Floyd J. Jessee (I believe this is Beverly Floyd Jessee) residing in Jackson, Coal, Oklahoma with spouse Martha Jessee. They have 7 Jessee children (eldest being Bessie) listed and 1 stepson "James Stevens" residing in their home. I believe this "James Stevens" is James Orville Stephens although I think he would have been closer to 19 years old than the 17 years stated in the census. James Orville Stephens was extremely silent on his childhood according to my great aunts and uncles (his children).

I believe this is the connection, however, as I am so new to all this I might be mistaken. I do have a copy of the census mentioned and a copy of a "Delayed birth Certificate" for James Orville Stephens. The signed affidavit portion was signed by Martha Jessee as being James Stephens mother, and certified November 27 1953 by a notary public for the state of CA. James Stephens mother is listed as Martha Moore

b Benton Co, Ark and father as Smith Stephens b Benton Co, Ark. Martha Moore was 18 at James birth and his father was 21. I will try to get a copy scanned on the computer to later email to you.

If you would like to know more about the current Stephens family, please let me know, and I can convey the information I have. I don't want to overwhelm you with the known Stephens lineage if it is not even relevant to you at all, and I may be completely off-base. If you are able to confirm the connection, that would be great.

I don't know why this has recently become such an important quest for me. I never knew my grandfather (James Orville's son Floyd A. Stephens Sr. who died when my father was a child) and I vaguely recall James O.'s other son James Francis who died a year ago. The Stephens name is disappearing as there are only 2 male Stephens' left the current generation.

Sincerely, Claire Elizabeth Stephens (possibly Great, Great Grand Daughter to Martha Moore)

I wrote that she had correctly identified the Floyd Jessee Family and his marriage to Martha Moore, and she provided the following.

1910 United States Federal Census about Floyd Jessee

Name: Floyd Jessee
Age in 1910: 51
Estimated birth year: abt 1859
Birthplace: Virginia
Relation to Head of House: Head
Father's Birth Place: Virginia
Mother's Birth Place: Virginia
Spouse's name: Martha
Home in 1910: Jackson, Coal, Oklahoma
Marital Status: Married
Race: White
Gender: Male
Neighbors: View others on page

Household Members:

Name	Age
Floyd Jessee	51
Martha Jessee	41
James Stevens	17
Bessie Jessee	12
Effie Jessee	10
Henry Jessee	9
Davell Jessee	7
Robert Jessee	5
Georgia Jessee	4
Hermon Jessee	1

Thank you for your diligence and hard work. I would never have discovered the connection if you had not posted all the Jessee family tree to the internet (I found the connection through the Stephens family memory of Bessie Flatt.)

Information for Martha Moore Jessee seems to be fairly scant and is the major connection between my great grandfather James Orville Stephens and his half brothers and sisters of the Jessee clan. I read through what I could find on Rootweb. Do you know if any Martha Jessee's children ever mentioned their half brother James Stephens to anyone or in any correspondence?

Also, do you happen to know if Martha Jessee's death certificate would be worth ordering from the State of CA (would it list her parents names maybe)?

James Orville's death certificate is on order currently from the state of New Mexico. Or if anyone has ever tried to locate Martha Moore's birth certificate from Ark or Missouri or Texas (depending on which census you are inclined to believe)? If you are interested I can tell you about the descendants of James Orville Stephens. Just let me know.

AMANDA HOWELL-HICKS [aghowell@bellsouth.net] wrote, 6/28/2007 regarding **Nancy Jessee**, daughter of **Stanford Lea Jessee**, who married **Doc Caled Davis**.

I came across your information on ancestry.com in an attempt to further investigate the genealogy in my family. My grandmother, Gwendolyn Bell Joyce is the great granddaughter of Nancy Jessee,

daughter of Stanford Lee Jessee. I was hoping to help you update some information from there down in your records and also obtain some further information. If you could contact me at your convenience, it would be appreciated. Thank you for your time!

On this end, just for your information (which you may already have) Nancy Jessee married Caleb Doc Davis. Their daughter, Sarah Ellen in turn Married John Campbell. Their daughter, Virginia Madge (incorrectly noted somewhere as Virginia Ann) married Claud Benson Bell and had Three children, Gwendolyn Vallee, Ben, and Michael. Gwendolyn Vallee married James Hubert Joyce (who died in 1980) and had four children, Diana Gwyn Joyce, Jeffrey Hubert Joyce, Andrew Kevin, and Brian Lee. Diana was my mother and passed away in 1996. My brother and I are her only two children, but each of my uncles has children, and I would be more than happy to update that branch of the family tree for you!

Joe Jessee [joejessee@yahoo.com] wrote 4/29/2008, with this sad news regarding Jane Gent, granddaughter of Taulbee Jessee.

JONESBORO, Ga. – Jane Rush Gent, 54, passed away on Sunday, April 27, 2008, at the Henry Medical Center in Stockbridge, Ga., following a lengthy illness.

A native of Russell County, she was the daughter of the late Rush F. Gent and Bobbie Jessee Gent. She resided in the Jonesborough, Tenn., area for most of her adult life.

Survivors include her husband, Jim Kellar; daughter, Bobbie Elizabeth Sterling, and grandson, Alex Parker Williams, both of Johnson City, Tenn.; one sister, Catherine Gugliuzza of Mansfield, Ohio; two brothers, Harvey D. Gent of Honaker, Va., and Frank J. Gent of Lebanon; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at 8 p.m. on Monday, April 28, at the First Baptist Church in Jonesboro, Ga., with the Rev. George Worell officiating. The family received friends from 7 to 8 p.m. before the service. A memorial service will also be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, at the First Presbyterian Church in Jonesborough, Tenn., with Pastor Beth Yarborough officiating. The family will receive friends before the service from 7 to 8 p.m. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, at Russell Memorial Cemetery in Lebanon, Va., with Pastor Jeff Williams officiating. Those wishing to attend are requested to meet at the cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 30 E. 33rd St., New York, NY 10016; or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718. Owens Funeral Service, Lebanon, is in charge of arrangements.

Robbin Andrews [vball_4_97@yahoo.com] wrote, 4/30/2008 about the **Jessee/Henslee** family

Hi, My name is Robbin. I am the great grand daughter of Jasper Lee Henslee and of Dovie Lee Jessee Henslee. My grandmother was Julia Faye Henslee Robinson. I am interested in finding out more about my family. My father was adopted and I have just recently found my biological family about 2 years ago. You are missing a few of Dovie and Jasper's children on the page. Louise, Leota, Inez, and Johnny. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. How amazing it has been to learn about my family. I too am glad to add you into my family as well. I will give you as much information as I can. If need be, you can contact one of Dovie Lee (Jessee) Henslee's daughters. Her only living daughter is located in Pahrump, NV. This one is Leota. Her first name is actually Sadi, but I am not sure how she spells it. The ones you are missing are as follows:

Helen Louise (Henslee) Chandler - Birthdate: 02/05/ 1926 or 27 Death: 2007 Burial plot unknown 2 sons

Rachel Inez (Henslee) Mowles, Davis - Birthdate 06/25/1919 Death: 2000 Buried in San Diego has 2 children 1 deceased

Sadie Leota (Henslee) Berryhill - Birthdate 09/04/1932 Still living. Located in Pahrump, NV has 1 son

Johnny Henslee - Birthdate 06/04/1928 still living. Located in Borger, TX Has 3 boys and 1 daughter 1 son deceased.

Julia Faye (Henslee) Hastings, Miller, Robinson Birthdate 06/22/1935 Death 06/23/1986. Buried in Ft. Worth TX. She had 5 sons. All survive. This is my grandmother.

CAROL LAFERTY [cjfl@roadrunner.com] kindly provided, 3/30/2008, this article for the Newsletter on her family, descendants of John Jessee, Jr.

Tracing My Jessee Family Connections

As a young girl growing up, I always thought it was an amusing coincidence that both of my grandmothers were named Margaret and both called "Maggie." One, Maggie Kiser Fraley, I knew quite well because she lived just over the hill from us on a small farm on Chestnut Ridge near Dungannon in Scott County, VA. Her house was my second home, and I spent many happy hours with her and my granddaddy Fraley.

The other Maggie, I never knew at all, although she lived to be 75 years old. Tragically, she suffered from severe depression, and spent most of her adult life in a facility in southwest Virginia. She was Margaret "Maggie" Lewis Porter (1884-1959). She and her husband had three beautiful little girls, one of whom was my mother Carrie. Their fourth child, a son, died at five months of age in 1915.

The only time I ever saw my grandmother Porter was at her funeral in 1959 in Castlewood, VA. With her pure porcelain complexion and mostly black hair, she looked young at age 75, and I could see an immediate resemblance to my mother. She was laid to rest alongside her husband, Joseph Johnson Porter, at Temple Hill Cemetery in Castlewood, VA.

My Mamaw Maggie Fraley (1893-1990) would tell me stories about growing up in Wise, VA. She'd tell me about her Poppy and Mommy Kiser. She told me about her Aunts Malissa and Savannah piercing her ears with a needle and ice. I couldn't believe teenagers in the early 1900's were that "progressive!"

With a tone of particular pride in her voice, she'd sometimes say "We're related to the Jessee's." She never went any further to explain her exact relationship, and I, being a child, didn't think to ask.

She was the daughter of Elihu Tase and Cynthia (Cindy) Short Kiser from Wise County. She married Charlie Kitchen Fraley when she was 17 (around 1910) and came to neighboring Scott County in a "horse-drawn buggy with fringe on it." She remained on that farm until her death in 1990 at age 97.

Some fifty years later I haven't forgotten my grandmother's comment and my curiosity about the Jessee relationship began to keenly interest me a few years back. Since I was already into genealogy research on a small scale, I had a few skills to help me. The Jessee family online database was my first source.

One of the biggest surprises early in my pursuit was to find both my paternal and maternal grandmothers there. This was totally unexpected. To my delight and amazement, I learned that both had a grandmother named Margaret Jessee, but not the same one. Their middle initial distinguishes them.

Maggie Kiser Fraley was the granddaughter of Margaret L. Jessee (b. 1838), daughter of Jefferson and Nancy Counts Jessee, who was the son of John, Jr. and Mary Polly Armstrong Jessee. My grandmother was a great-great-great granddaughter of John and Franky Lea Jessee.

My maternal grandmother, Maggie Lewis Porter, was the granddaughter of Margaret C. Jessee (b. 1823), daughter of George Lea and Elizabeth "Betsy" Counts Jessee. She married George Washington Puckett, and their daughter Elizabeth Puckett married Axley Lewis, my great-grandfather and great-grandmother. Maggie Lewis was their daughter.

So, "Betsy" and Nancy Counts Jessee were sisters, and Nancy's husband, Jefferson Jessee, was Betsy's husband George Lea Jessee's nephew. Maggie Lewis Porter was a great-great-granddaughter of John and Franky Lea Jessee. Getting confusing, isn't it?

So as it turns out, my grandmothers were third cousins on the Counts side; third cousins, once removed, on the Jessee side. I hope I am right on this. If not, someone please help straighten me out! Both Margaret Jessee's shared the same grandmother, Margaret "Peggy" Kelly Counts, wife of John Counts "of Cleveland," as he's sometimes called. I believe that both were named after their grandmother Counts.

I have visited the gravesite of John and Margaret Kelly Counts in the John Counts Cemetery in Cleveland, VA, and found that day to be a special moment. My mother's baby brother, Paul Stewart (Stuart)

Porter, who died in 1915 at five months of age (after his mother had to go back to the hospital), is buried in the same cemetery. I was unable to find his grave that day. Vernon Salyers was kind to send me a color photo of his tombstone, for which I am still so grateful. Without his work and that of the Russell County Historical Society, our Porter family would have never ever known where this baby boy was buried. Most of my first cousins on the Porter side wanted a copy of that photograph.

Another interesting connection to the Jessee family for me is that my paternal grandmother, Maggie Fraley, was the daughter of Elihu Tase Kiser, and his great-grandparents were Abednigo and Mary Polly Jessee Kiser. This makes my third connection to John and Franky Lea Jessee's children.

Thanks for letting me share my story. I have learned so many things about my varied Russell County ancestors through my research into the Jessee family. All of this makes me realize that we should talk to our children and grandchildren about our family roots and branches. Start when they are young—don't wait until they are grown. Some of it is bound to sink in!

My Mamaw Fraley's simple comment, "We're related to the Jessee's," to a young granddaughter has led me on an adventure that has been exciting and interesting. She would be so pleased if she could know of the special connection I have felt to her grandmother, Margaret L. Jessee, as I have searched for answers.

I believe my grandmother Maggie Porter would be, also, if she could know. My mother (Carrie Porter Fraley) would be amused, and maybe just a little "put out" with me perhaps. I still find it fascinating that I traced her roots back to her great-grandmother, Margaret C. Jessee, and found a connection between her and my father that neither ever knew about, to my knowledge. She'd probably think "There goes Carol again—always getting into things better left alone!"

I wish I could share my findings with all of these special people who have gone on; but at least I can share them with my aunts, an uncle, my brother, cousins, and my own three adult children—anyone who will listen! I can also share it with you, and I hope in doing so that all of us realize what wonderful pioneering spirits we come from.

II. Archer Jessee

Archer Jessee (1776-1862) married three times: Nancy Browning (1781-1826); Rachel Herndon (1790-1833); and Mary Jane "Polly" Owens (1803-1884) and had fifteen children.

Archer is variously referred to as Archa, Archable, Archibald in various family pedigrees and other sources. It is my opinion that his name is Archer, and I further speculate that Archer was the surname of his grandmother, or g-grandmother, perhaps in the Lea family. Furthermore, his three wives are buried with him in the Archer Jessee Cemetery, and their stones indicate each as the wife of Archer.

LAURA STADELMAN [pricebyte@sbcglobal.net] wrote, 2/21/2007 with inquiry about Conley Trigg Jessee.

Hi Jim, I am a decendent of C. T. (Conley Trigg/Trigger) Jessee who married my great grandmother, Arrena Sultana Woolsey. Do you need any information forward from that marriage going forward? I can provide it and have quite a bit of the Jessee info going back to England.

I responded: Cousin Laura, Thank you for writing and offering to help. Please go to www.jessee.org and search for Conley Trigg Jessee, married to Arrena Woolsey. Note I have two Conley Trigg Jessees, each with different parents, but only a generation apart... wonder about that, too.

I have only one child recorded and his descendants. I am very interested in completer descendants information so your help is more than welcome. Are their other children and descendants. If so, perhaps

a GEDCOM file might do.

Please see the pedigree information for Conley too. I do not have anything proven back to England on the Jessee line, so I am very interested in what you have regarding that and all your other lines, too.

Laura responded: Hi Jim, I am still sorting through this wonderful Jessee web site! I believe you were the one, years ago, who very kindly sent me 32 pages of the Jessees, back to England. I can help, hopefully, from Arrena and C.T. to the present. Have the pages C.T. wrote his children's names and births. How can I add to this web site?

My grandmother, Laura Jessee Iezzi, was Arrena and C.T.'s daughter. Along with brothers and sisters.

ARRENA SULTANA WOOLSEY, born November 4, 1856, married CONLEY T. (TRIGG) JESSEE, B. Sept. 12, 1859. Their children were: Minnie, b. May 26, 1886, d. Feb. 14, 1921., Laura

Arena (my paternal grandmother) b. Aug. 4, 1887, d. April 28, 1984, John Wesley b. Dec. 22, 1888, d. ?

Arrena Woolsey Jessee died Jan. 13, 1892 and CONLEY T. (TRIGG) JESSEE married Luea/Lula Tims Lightfoot

May 13, 1894. Luea/Lula Tims Lightfoot was born Oct. 7, 1860. Their children were: Burke b. Aug. 21, 1896, d.

Dec. 15, 1903 (oral family history states that Burke was accidentally shot by his half brother, John Jessee),

Bowden b. Feb. 8, 1895, d. March 27, 1967, (oops, have Burke and Bowden out of birth order. Sorry), Ballard b. July 26, 1899 d. ?, Frankie (M/F?) Born May 9, 1901,

no death date known. Oral family history states Luea/Lula Tims Lightfoot took the life of Frankie, then killed herself. Do not have a death date for her. CONLEY T. (TRIGG) JESSEE married once again, date of marriage

unknown, to Mary ----- They were divorced in 1920. *LAURA RENA JESSEE married LOUIS IEZZI, b. June 15, 1868, Casoli, Abruzzo, Italy. They married in Ft. Worth, Texas. I have a copy of their civil marriage record.

Their children are: RENA MARIE IEZZI b. Feb. 19, 1908, (still living), *LEO A. IEZZI (my father) b. July 6, 1912, d. Feb. 26, 1989, LUCILLE IEZZI, b. Jan. 17, 1914 d. Nov. 23, 1999, ALLEN IEZZI (later changed his name to Allen Jessee) b. Jan. 9, 1916, d. Jan. 8, 1981, ELEANOR IEZZI, b. July 19, 1921, d. Feb. 12, 2007.

I can go into Arrena Sultana Woolsey's family tree also, if you want it. Just let me know how much you want.

Birth dates for C.T. and Arrena's children and their marriage are on C.T.'s handwritten notes which I have.

BECKY CHAFIN [bechafin@earthlink.net] sent, 6/13/2008, this photo above of **John Porter Jessee**, son of **John Allen Jessee** and **Caroline F. Childress**.

BECKY CHAFIN [bechafin@earthlink.net] sent, 6/13/2008, this photo above of **John Porter Jessee**, son of **John Allen Jessee** and **Caroline F. Childress**.

I have a picture of **John Porter Jessee** (1907-1967) as a young boy (around 3 or 4) which belonged to my grandmother. John Porter Jessee was the son of John Allen Jessee and Caroline F. Childress. If anyone would like a copy of this please let me know. **The second photo above is James Marion and Arry Cross Monk.**

Feel free to share this picture with others.



My grandmother was Winnie Kiser Sutherland and was related to the Childress and Jessee families, as well as being neighbors in Russell Co.

ARCHIE JESSEE [aejessee@att.net] wrote, 5/23/2008, regarding a family reunion and photo [below] of Archie and his sibling. Archie is a descendant of Archer Jessee. Doris and Archie attended the Jessee Family Reunion from California one year.

We had such an enjoyable time. We sang, prayed and told a bunch of old family stories together. Doris and I will reach our 57th anniversary 9/14/08. (Hope we make it.) Gertrude's husband, our brother Fred, passed away in 1990. Lester, who turned 90 2/12/08, just lost his wife about 3 weeks ago. Sister Virginia passed away 12/16/05. Irene lost her husband, Arthur Brewer, in 2007. Dorothy lost her husband in



1987. Sister Pearl, in Idaho is the only one living who was not able to be with us. Her husband, Earle Brewer, is in rehab after a recent stroke.

PHOTO: Left to right: Archie & Doris, Gertrude, Lester, Jim, Susan, Alice, Merlin. Seated, Dorothy & Irene.

BURNIE "BUD" SWALESON [steel_nerve@yahoo.com] wrote, 5/11/2007, and provided new descendants information for the descendants of **Nancy "Nannie" Jessee** who married **William D. Snapp**

Hi, Jim: I'm sure you have heard this before, but I will say it again. Great website, and thanks for being such a wonderful source for all things Jessee!! I am a Jessee that you haven't heard from before. My line comes down from John and Frankey through Archer Jessee and Nancy Browning, then through Nancy "Nannie" Jessee and her husband William D. Snapp. Your database does stop there, and I would like to help fill in that blank!

William and Nancy had a daughter named Mary Elizabeth Snapp, and she married Thomas Maxwell Gillenwaters. They had a son named Riley Wesley Gillenwater (my g-grandfather and note the dropped 's') who married Maude Mae Earle. They had a son named Wesley Maxwell Gillenwater (my grandfather) who married Roxie May Hall. They had my mother, Marylee Kay Gillenwater.

Now obviously this is the very short version. Since I am an amateur genealogist, I have a lot of this information electronic, and I am attaching a GEDCOM file with the above information along with notes and sources. Some of it isn't in the best condition, as I'm still in the process of cleaning up my database. When I started I was *very* inexperienced and imported some GEDCOM files that were of a questionable nature and were VERY messy. *grin*

My grandmother, Roxie May Hall give the Jessee clan yet another connection to the Hall family through her father Burnie Roy Hall (my namesake). In fact, he connects up with the Isham Hall (I have his dates as 1746-1856) that you have in your database as a descendant. Her mother was Mary Emaline Fleetwood, and both the Halls and Fleetwoods intermarried families a bit as well, and both were also famous for feuding too! Both of those lines have pioneer roots and civil war history as well.

You may use this data as you see fit. However, I would appreciate the "living" data kept out of the public-facing website, but you may feel free to share it with other genealogists in the Jessee family!

One day I would also enjoy getting a copy of your entire file, including the living persons. I would never make that publically available, but I really enjoy filling in all of those "living" folks in my database with REAL people as much as possible! People should always be more than mere placeholders, but I totally understand the very reasonable precaution.

I also intend to make it out to the Jessee Family reunion sometime! The research opportunity would be invaluable, but meeting everyone... priceless! By the way, we are fifth cousins twice removed. Nice to meet you, cousin!

JUDITH MENTE [mailto:mentaju@msn.com] wrote, 7/17/2007, regarding **Mary Ann Alexander**, granddaughter of **Nancy Jane Jessee** and **George Blankenbeckler**.

Hello. What a wonderful website!! I am researching for Mary Ann Alexander, granddaughter of Nancy Jane Jessee and George Blankenbeckler. I have learned so much for her because of your efforts. Is John Jessee now a recognized patriot? I want to apply for DAR membership for Mary Ann. Are there any Jessee pictures that can be shared with me?

I replied:

If you search the Jessee Newsletters you will find much discussion on John Jessee the patriot, and see his notes, as there are several DAR and SAR references. Many have joined both organizations based on his service, and their DAR and SAR reference numbers are in the Notes. Essentially all photos have been share in the Newsletter over the years, but I have nothing specific to share in this Archer Jessee line.

Could you share more regarding the pedigree of Mary Ann Alexan-

der, and other descendants which I do not have recorded? I would like to record all Jessee descendants of Nancy Jane Jessee Blankenbeckler, or as much as you can share with me as well.

Judith responded:

Mary Ann is the daughter of John Fair (6 May 1885 - 1963) and Nancy Ann Blankenbeckler (28 Feb 1886 - 9 April 1975. Both John and Nancy Ann supposedly died and are buried in Cabool, Mo. I found her death cert but not his. Mary Ann was born on 29 April 1931 in Cabool and is married to Noble Alexander. They have 3 children born since 1930. I hope this helps.

NANETTE GRAY [Gray@L-3COM.COM] sent this note, 4/29/2008 regarding **Ira Reynolds Gray** and I answered, yes.

I'm researching the Ira Reynolds Gray line. Would the Jessee database be interested in the research and photographs, which include Ira's children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren?

POSTED ON ROOTSWEB, 6/13/2008 this obituary for **Alalynn Jessee Tate**, daughter of **Winfield Scott Jessee** and **Bertha Leola Gilmer**, a descendant of Archer Jessee and Nancy Browning.

Alalynn Jessee Tate, 89, of Birmingham, Ala., died Tuesday, April 13, 1999, at Saint Vincent's Hospital, Birmingham.

Mrs. Tate was a resident of Galleria Woods Retirement Center in Birmingham and a former resident of Haleyville, Ala., and Elizabethton. She was a native of Russell County, Va., and a member of the Haleyville Methodist Church.

Mrs. Tate was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas E. Tate. Survivors include a daughter, Marilyn Tate Witte, Gulf Shores, Ala.; a brother, Marshall B. Jessee, Tampa, Fla.; and two granddaughters, Brenda Stephenson and Lori Taylor, both of Birmingham, Ala. Four great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews also survive.

III. William Jessee

William Jessee (1779-1841) married Mary "Polly" Vermillion (1785-1879), and they had fourteen children. This family moved to Lee Co., VA.

IV. Lea Jessee

Lea Jessee (1781-1852) married Barbara Gose (1796-1862), da. of Stephen Gose and Barbara Catron (Ketron) Gose, and they had ten children. This family moved to Missouri, and includes among descendants Archer Catron Jessee, the first Jessee to migrate to California before the Gold Rush.

V. David Jessee

Reverend David Jessee (1783-1856) married Catherine "Katie" Banner (1788-1860) and had thirteen children. See also the discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

MERRI VINTON [merzi@arvig.net] wrote 8/6/2007 with information to share about the **Allen and Cloud** ancestors and descendants of **Sarah Jane Jessee**, daughter of **Rev. John Jessee**, son of **Rev. David Jessee, who married John M. Allen**. She asks for help and contact with other members of this branch of the family Merri provided extensive family group sheets for the Allen and Cloud family members dis-

cussed below which she would share if you contact her by email directly.

Hi Jim: Today and probably over the next few days, I will send my notes on the Allen family as I have them compiled. (I'll cc myself so I can keep track of what I've sent and when I sent it.) I decided the best way to do that would be to send the information in the form of "person sheets" for the couples. I keep all my notes in my family tree file, which may not be the right way to do it, but it works for me. Much of the information that I'll send you is duplicated on another person if it pertains. This way, you'll have nearly all I have, or at least what I have entered. I have boxes/files of info yet to go through that I've accumulated over the past 30 years!! It's going to seem like a lot more than you want to know, but if you are interested in the pedigree of John M & Sarah Jane Jessee Allen, then there's no use in reinventing the wheel or duplicating research. Besides, the more heads the better! I apologize for all the duplicate and miscellaneous information, but thought you could pick & choose what information is relevant to your own or other Jesse research.

I appreciate your giving me credit/blame with the conclusions I have drawn. When I began genealogy in the late 1970's I wasn't very good at recording my sources. I would just record things like "The courthouse in Washington Co"!! (You'll see some of that.) If I don't have a source included it may be that I just don't have it entered. As one can imagine it's been a nightmare since I resumed this project in my retirement 4 yrs ago. I've also seen things on the internet that could only have come from me that are in error or was a family legend that suddenly became factual. I really hope you can make some sense of what I send....it's pretty overwhelming, or at least it seems so to me.

Here's what I'll attempt to organize & send:

1) Earliest proven generation according to research done by me. (John & Martha Clark Allen of Lee Co Virginia)

2) Francis C. Allen information and support data entered to date to place him in this family. (Early Settlers of Lee by Bales places him in family of James & Hannah Hanger Allen. Most other information on F.C. goes back to that source as a reference.) I believe that is an error and that suspicion has become the driving force of my research.

3) Information that I have collected so far on the children on Francis C. & Eliza Cloud Allen. It is my hope to find a living descendant of each who may have information on the pedigree of Francis C. Allen.

Name: Francis C. (PROBABLY) ALLEN I

Birth: 1809 Virginia
Occupation: Farmer, Cattle Inspector
Father: John ALLEN (ca1784-ca1836)
Mother: Martha (Patsy) CLARK (ca1782-)

Spouses

I: Eliza A CLOUD2,3
Birth: 1815 Tennessee4
Marriage: 9 Sep 1834 Lee Co, VA2,5
Children: John M. (~1835-)
Rebecca (1836-1936)
Martha (1838-)
William C (1839-)
Mary M. (1841-)
James D. (1842-)
Alexander ?P/F (1844-ca1882)
Ann Eliza (1848-)
Susan E. N. (1849-)
Benjamin F (1849-)
Arthur C. (1851-)
Margaret J. (1853-)

MITCHELL & GWENDOLYN JESSIE [mjessie@woh.rr.com] sent along, 9/27/2007, this dialogue below to share with us regarding Reece Cowan Jessee, the son of Hayden Jessee. You can find both in the Jessee database.

----- Original Message -----

Hi my name is Erica Jessee. My grandfather is Reece Cowan Jessee. I was wondering if u could help me i am 16 and i am doing a project to find my family if u could help that would be great

-----Mitch's response -----

Dear Erica, What a great family that you're a part of! One of my favorite quotes about our family is, "A common thread that seems to dominate the Jessee family lies in its talent, its gregarious nature, and its high expectations of self. It was not surprising to learn that John Jessee, Sr. was a musician, since musical ability has abounded in many descendants of that man. It was not surprising to learn that John Sr's sons and grandsons had been politicians, since so many later Jessees have held numerous political positions. Most people who are descended from the Jessee clan seem to feel a sense of pride in their ancestry".

Betty Campbell Yates.

Another great quote that helped me from the beginning of my research and you'll also find helpful, I'm sure: "Many if not most Jessees in America are descended from John (1750-1815) and Frankey Lea Jessee (1752/61-1836) of Cobb's Creek, Caswell County, North Carolina and Carr's Creek (today Mill Creek) in Reed's Valley, Russell County, Virginia. They had fifteen children. There are many "Jessee," "Jesse," even "Jessie" families in the United States and Canada who are known descendants of those fifteen children. All of us living descendants are about fifth or sixth cousins, or even closer kin".

Thanks for emailing me. It's always great to meet a cousin. I'm not sure how much you know about the Jessee family or how much research you've been able to do so far. Are you familiar with James Jessee from California who has done an excellent job of researching our family? The link to his website is <http://www.jessee.org> He's a really cool fella who has done much work for our family.

Do you happen to be from Virginia or Kentucky? When looking up your Grandfather's name, I didn't get any hits on Reece Cowan Jessee, but there are several Cowans. Sometimes the names are different than you think. Example: I always knew my Grandfather as Hayden Jessee, but he was listed as Charles Hayden Jessee and it had me confused for a long time. Also, look at how my last name is spelled "ie" in lieu of "ee". That was a serious kink in my research. Come to find out, my father's social security card got "goobered" up when he got out of the service in the 1940's and after that, he just kept the "ie" spelling. It seems he thought that was easier than cutting through all the red tape to get the spelling corrected. At any rate, once you get by all that stuff and find your place in the genealogy tree, it's pretty rewarding. Although this can be conceived as something a little strange, studying your family history can kinda make you feel immortal because you're such an important part of something much bigger... I'll do anything I can for a fellow Jessee whose interested in researching our great family. Holler back anytime.

VI. Elizabeth Jessee Gose

Elizabeth Jessee Gose (1785-1827) married George Gose (1786-1861), son of Stephen Gose and Barbara Catron (Ketron) Gose, and they had twelve children. See the Gose Family discussion under Lea Jessee above, as well as additional information under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

DAVID K. TUCKER [tucker4742@att.net] wrote, 3/17/2008, with this resource for the **George and Anna Spangler Gose Family Bible Images**.

Mr. Jessee; You may already have this information but thought I would send it just in case. The Library of Virginia has posted the images of the Bible record of George Gose and Anna Spangler. It might be something you can use.

VII. Mary “Polly” Jessee Kiser

Mary “Polly” Jessee (1787-1836) married Abednego Kiser (1784-1814), who died in the War of 1812. They had four children and are the ancestors of many a Kiser from Russell Co. She later married James Chafin, whose abuse may have caused her death.

VIII. Frances Jessee Stone

Frances Jessee (1789-1860) married William Stone (1789-1860), son of Jeremiah Stone. They had ten children. This family is believed to have moved to Missouri, and we know so little about these descendants that any tidbit of information is big news, even an error correction to what I have recorded.

JESSIE HAGAN [jhagan@sar.org] sent, 2/26/2008, this vital piece of family documentation.

The Will of William Stone 1850-Sullivan Co., MO

My last will and testament in manner and form following that is say First I have give out of my estate unto my son John Stone one sorrel horse worth seventy dollars one bay mare worth forty five dollars Notes of hand for cash fifty dollars one saddle one cow and calf a bed and other furniture to tedious to mention which is his proportionable part of my estate and all I intend him to have 2dly I have also give out of my estate to my daughter Elizabeth Hamilton the wife of R.P. Hamilton one sorrel mare and saddle and bridle and cow and bed and other furniture to tedious to mention all amounting to an hundred and fifty dollars which is her proportionable part of my estate and all I intend her to have 3dly, I have give out of my estate of my Daughter Dicy I McCamey the wife of William McCamey a cow and calf a bed and other furniture to tedious to mention all amounting to seventy five dollars which is her proportionable part and all I intend her to have 4thly I have out of my estate to my daughter Mary C Reynolds the wife of Noah Reynolds one saddle a cow and calf a bed and other furniture to tedious to mention all amounting to sixty dollars which is the total amount of my estate and all I intend her to have 5thly, I have give out of my estate unto my son Stephen S Stone one sorrel horse worth sixty dollars one grey mare worth seventy dollars one eighteen dollar saddle accompanys with a good bridle a cow and calf a bed and other furniture to tedious to mention which is his proportionable part of estate and all I intend him to have 6thly I have out of my estate unto my son Martin G Stone one bay Geldon worth fifty dollars one yoke of oxens worth twenty five dollars a cow and calf worth ten dollars a saddle bridle and bed and other furniture to tedious to mention all amounting to two hundred dollars which is his proportionable part of my estate and all I intend him to have 7thly I also give unto my son W G Stone the certain tract of land to wit the southwest quarter of Section No 14 of Range No D1 in Township No 63 containing one hundred acres and sixty acres lying in the County of Sullivan and State of Missouri and all my tools both farming and all other tools that I hold possession of and all the household and culinary furniture I give the same to my son Martin G Stone above written Frances Stone the wife of William Stone holds her life estate of the land and tenements goods and chattels for and during the term of her natural life And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my son _____ G Stone Executor of this my last will and testament Given under my hand and seal this the 3rd day of May 1850 Assigned sealed delivered in presents of us

Attest John Dennis
David ____ [his mark] Boyd

NB And out of the properties above named all of my just debts and funeral expences be paid given under my hand and seal this May 3, 1850

William Stone
State of Missouri
County of Sullivan

Probate Court of Sullivan County this thirteenth day of March ____

1853 Be it remembered that Allen Gillespie and Eson Hammon witnesses to the within and foregoing will personally appeared before me Stephen G Watkins Judge of Probate of said County and being by me duly sworn Allen Gillespie deposed and says he was present and heard the same William Stone acknowledge and declare then he signed the foregoing instrument of writing as his last will and testament and that by one of the subscribing witnesses John Dennis subscribes his name X David Boyd makes his mark to said instrument and heard the same William Stone acknowledge in the presence of said witnesses that he published the same as his last will and testament And the said Eson Hammon deposed and said that he was ____ well acquainted with the hand writing of the said John Dennis in his life time and that he believed that the names of said witnesses subscribed to said instrument of writing by the said John Dennis and that said testator was at the time over the age of twenty one years and of sound mind which same proof is by me deemed sufficient to establish said will

Allen Gillespie
Eson Hammon
Sworn and subscribed to before me this day and year above written
S G Watkins
Probate Judge
State of Missouri
County of Sullivan

Be it remembered that as this 30th day of March ____ 1853 before the undersigned Judge of Probate in and for the County aforesaid upon the affidavit of Allen Gillespie and Eson Hammon who are personally known to me A Gillespie being examined in regard to the signature of William Stone and the attesting witness is as also Eson Hammon was by me examined in regard to the hand writing of John Dennis one of the witnesses to the within and foregoing will of William Stone and that the said will aforesaid is hereby considered the last will and testament of William Stone legally executed attested declared and published by him as such that said William Stone is dead whereby Probate share is granted and said will filed for Record

IX. Sarah Jessee Vermillion

Sarah “Sallie” Jessee (1790-1851) married Wilson Vermillion, son of Jessee Vermillion, Sr. and Mary “Polly” Scott. They had three children.

X. Boedicia Jessee Gose

Boedicia “Dicey/Dicy” Jessee married Stephen Gose Jr. (1792-bef. 1842), son of Stephen Gose and Barbara Catron (Ketron) Gose. They had eight children. This family moved to Iowa.

See the Gose Family discussion under Lea Jessee, who married Barbara Gose, and Rebecca Jessee Gose above, as well as additional information under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

XI. James Jessee

James Jessee (1794-aft 1846) married Jane Burk (1795-aft.1846), d. of Fleming Burk, Sr. and Rebecca Miller. They had four children. See also discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

LESTER SHADRICK [lshad@mounet.com] wrote, 2/15/2008 with information for the descendants of Fleming Burk Jessee Family

This is Lester Shadrick of Scott County, Virginia. I’m checking in again after a few years of silence. I hope all is well with you and your family. I decided to write with some more information concerning Fleming Burk Jessee and wife, Mary (Polly) Browning Jessee and their children. Also, to try and correct some erroneous information in the family database concerning their daughters Rebecca B. Jessee and Elender M. Jessee.

Rebecca's birth date of April 5, 1848, and death date of November 6, 1895, as posted by Norma Surette, are correct. I visited this cemetery myself and recorded the same information. And she was married to Absalom B. Gilly, as written by Iris Lambert Hall. Elender's birth date is correct, but she was born in Russell County, not Scott County... from 1856 Russell County Birth Records...Jessee, Ellen M., 23 Jan, parents -Fleming B. & Mary Jessee.

From the 1860 Federal Census of Russell County, Virginia, dwelling #1085

Jessee, Flemminng (sic) B. - 45
Jessee, Polly - 42
Jessee, Nancy C. - 16
Jessee, Christopher - 14
Jessee, James - 13
Jessee, Rebecca - 11 (born c1849)
Jessee, Martha - 9
Jessee, Margaret - 7
Jessee, Lucinda - 6
Jessee, Ellan (sic) M. - 4 (born c1856)
Jessee, John - 2

Jessee, an infant not named - 1 month (this is Nicy, born in April)
Further proof for the ages of Rebecca and Elender, are as follows... from the 1870 Federal Census, Scott County, Virginia, Duncan's Mill, Enumerated Sept. 7, 1870 by Chas. D. Vermillion, page 27, dwelling #187 -

Jessee, Flemming (sic) - 55
Jessee, Mary - 53
Jessee, Rebecca - 21 (born c1849)
Jessee, Martha A. - 19
Jessee, Margaret - 18
Jessee, Lucinda - 16
Jessee, Elender - 14 (born c1856)
Jessee, John R. - 12
Jessee, Nicy - 10

Jessee, Flemming (sic) - 8
Same Census, dwelling #186 is -
Jessee, James A. - 23 (another child of Fleming and Mary, and my gg grandfather)
Jessee, Letty M. - 21 (daughter of Robert Bailie, Jr. and Margaret Lane)
Jessee, Robert F. - 3 months (Robert (Bob) Fleming Jessee is my g grandfather)
Same Census, dwelling #188 is -
Jessee, Christopher A. - 24 (another child of Fleming and Mary)
Jessee, Mary E. - 25
Jessee, Mary G. - 3

The following is a Title Bond from Scott County Courthouse, Gate City, Virginia. It proves Fleming and Mary were still living in July, 1883, and that Rebecca was married to a Gilly, and Elender to a Bailie. I'll have to write this out, because my scanner is junk. My copy is a little blurry, but very good handwriting, so I'll do the best I can. I'm writing it, as it is, misspellings and all. I'm going to try to get another scanner soon, so I'll try to send a copy later.

Know all men by these presents that we, the heirs of Flemmen B. Jessee Sr. have this day bargained and sold all our interest or title that we have or may have in said Flemman B. Jessee land or claims of land and personal property he has and also his wife Mary Jessee has or may have unto James A. Jessee For an in consideration that James A. Jessee binds himself to take proper care, or that he sees that Flemman B. Jessee and Mary Jessee his wife and our mother is cared for during their natural lives, and for this consideration we bind ourselves separately (?) in the sum of Two hundred dollars to relinquish all our claims and interest to said James A. Jessee. Given under our hands and seal this 9th July, 1883.

Dates of assignments:

July the 9th - Martha A. (mark) Stewart - seal, Margaret F. (T.?) Stanley - seal
July the 12th - Rebecca B. Gilly - seal
July the 13th - Elender M. (mark) Bailie - seal, J.R. Jessee - seal, Nancy C. Monk - seal
July the 20th - Christopher A. Jessee - seal, F.B. Jessee Jr. - seal, Lucinda B. Shupe (mark) - seal

Virginia Scott County Court Clerk's Office:

This Title Bond from Martha A. Stewart & others to James A. Jessee bearing date on the 9th day of July, 1883, was admitted to record at the instance of James A. Jessee. Given under my hand this 14th day of August, 1883. - J.M. Johnson, Clk

LESTER SHADRICK [lshad@mounet.com] wrote, 4/10/2008 regarding **Rebecca B. Jessee**, daughter of Fleming Burk Jessee

I'm writing again concerning Rebecca Jessee (RIN 1535), daughter of Fleming Burk and Mary (Browning) Jessee. You received information from Venus Bee in May, 2000, stating that Rebecca married James Adkins, and that her sister, Ellen, married Sol Colley. According to the following information, it appears her ancestors probably married Andersons not Jessees.

From the Russell County, VA GenWeb...

James Adkins, 21, born Pike County, KY (son of Squire and Mary Adkins) married November 29, 1860 to Rebecca Anderson, 17, born Russell County, VA (daughter of John and Milley Anderson) and...

S. (Solomon) Colley, 22, born Russell County, VA (son of Joshua and Didema Colley) married April 7, 1868 to E.M. Anderson, 21, born Russell County, VA (daughter of Milley Anderson)

I hope this clears up the confusion about Rebecca and her sister, Elender. Rebecca B. Jessee was married to Absalom Gilly, and Ellender M. Jessee was married to Samuel F. Bailie.

I also have a question. Does anyone in the family know where James (son of John and Frances) and Jane (Burk) Jessee are buried? Any help is much appreciated. Thank you,

THELMA JONES [thelma0502@yahoo.com] wrote, 12/2/2007, with information regarding the family of **Lonnie Palmer Monk**, son of **James Monk** and **Nancy Jessee**. Nancy is the daughter of **Fleming Burk Jessee**.

Lonnie Palmer Monk was b.26 July 1889 in London, Laurel County, Kentucky, died unknwn. He married Mandy Elizabeth Whited in 1903 in Fannin County, Texas. Daughter of James Whited and Mary Watson. She was born June 3, 1888 in Tenn. and died 1952 in Grayson County, Texas and is buried in Pilot Grove Cemetery. **[See Photo of Lonnie and Mandy Monk below]** He married [2] Lottie Whitmore before 1915. She was born abt. 1891 in Nebraska. He married [3] Bessie Jones

The children of Lonnie Monk and Mandy:

- i. Buelah Rachel, b. April, 4, 1904, Fannin County, Texas. d. Jan. 1994, Yakima County, Washigton. married Reed Westley Pruett; b. Nov. 14, 1899; d. Jan. 16, 1974, Yakima County, Washington.
- ii. James Marion Monk, b. Apr. 5, 1955. married Arry Cross, d/o A.B. Cross and Lillie Mrytle Carter, Apr. 18, 1927 She was born Nov. 23, 1907 in Hood County, Texas and died July, 17, 2003 in Pomona, Los Angelos County, Ca. Buried in Pilot Grove cemetery Grayson County, Texas.
- iii. Richard Lee Monk, b. 04 April 1907 d. 08 Feb. 1984 Gunter, Grayson County, Texas. m. Blanche Ballard, d/o Bob Ballard



iv. Loyd Monk, b. 06 October 1908 Okla. d. 07 November 1974, Bells, Grayson County, Texas. Married Urgie Hardin
The children of Lonnie and Lottie are:

v. Meryman Palmer Monk b. abt. 1915, Kansas m. Thelma Dyche. He died July 15, 2007 at Cunningham, Ks.

vi. Woodrow James Monk, b. Apr. 15, 1917

vii. Lonnie Monk, died in infancy

The Child of Lonnie and Bessie:

viii. Ruby May Monk,

Jim Monk [monkbegats@aol.com.] furnished me with a lot of information, but I have not copied all of his as there was some mistakes. For example my grandmother's name is Mandy, not Amanda, she told me so many times, especially emphasizing the "E" in Elizabeth.

The children of James Marion and Arry are:

i. James Arthur Monk, b. July 3, 1928, Childress County, Texas. d. June 29, 1997, buried Amarillo, Texas. m. Patsy Odem

ii. Thelma Jo Monk, b. Apr. 22, 1930 Snyder, Okla. Married Robert Louis Jones m. Apr. 18, 1947 he died May 28, 1965 b. West Oak Hill Cemetery, Whitewright, Texas

iii. Tommy Elvis Monk, b. Sept. 28, 1936, Van Alstyne, Grayson County Texas

iv. Billy Eugene Monk, b. May 28, 1943 died in infancy b. Pilot Grove Cemetery, Grayson County Texas

v. Robert Kenneth Monk b. Childress, Texas Aug. 26, 1945 m. Barbara Lee Nelson

vi. Troy Wayne Monk b. Jan. 13, 1948, Van Alstyne, Texas. m. Rebecca Lift

I better not try to list the next two generations from memory. I'm sending pictures of my grandparents and parents. Until we got in touch with Jim, we never knew Lonnie had another family, and the most exciting thing is finding Uncle Woody. He is 90 years old and never knew about us either. And he is just as thrilled to find he has living relatives. I find the name of Michael Dye in both Monk and Jessee websites.

BOB HUMMEL [mailto:rwhpjh@aol.com] wrote, 7/9/2007, regarding **Nicey J. Jessee**, daughter of **Fleming Burk Jessee** and made an offer I could not refuse. Bob later provided a GEDCOM file of her marriage and descendants.

My wife is a great granddaughter of Nicey J. Jessee, No. 780 on the Register in the Jessee Family Database. She is the daughter of Fleming Burke Jessee, No. 113. Would you be interested in the descendants of Nicey since none are recorded?

XII. Rebecca Jessee Burk

Rebecca Jessee (1796-1860) married William Burk (1797-1850), son of Fleming Burk, Sr. and Rebecca Miller. They had ten children.

Kathryn Burke Greever, Jack Hockett, Imogene Burke Verbal, and Rue Burke Stevenson published *Some Descendants of John Burk, 1656-1699*, Middlesex Co., Virginia, available from the Iberian Publishing Co. Order online at www.iberian.com. All royalties go to the Russell Co. Historical Society and Russell Co. Library Family History Room.

This 502-page book details the descendants of Fleming Burk, Sr. Four of his children married Jessees, two children and two grandchildren of John and Frankey Lea Jessee. Jane Burk married James Jessee; William Burk married Rebecca Jessee, Fleming Burk, Jr. married Nancy Ann Jessee, daughter of David Jessee; and Robert Burk married Anna Gose, daughter of Elizabeth Jessee and George Gose. This book includes over 1000 descendants of Rebecca Jessee and William Burk.

XIII. Jane Jessee Fuller

Jane Jessee (1797-1869) married Henry Fuller (1792-1872), son of Abraham Fuller and Mary Sargent. They had ten children. This family moved to Illinois. While I have a scant amount of descendants' information, I do not correspond with any descendant of Jane Jessee Fuller. This is a family that needs much research.

XIV. George Lea Jessee

George Lea Jessee (1798-1882) married Elizabeth "Betsy" Counts (1799-1880), da. of John Counts, Jr. of Glade Hollow and Margaret "Peggy" Kelly. George and Betsy had fourteen children.

Many George Lea Jessee descendants are subscribers and have contributed very much information to the database. It is one of our best researched and recorded branches of the family.

CAROLYN JESSEE (Rev. Cecil's daughter) [steve.doust@adelphia.net] wrote, 6/5/2008, with this sad news on the passing of her husband **Steven J. Doust**.

I just wanted to let you know that my husband passed away May 9th. My husband had cancer and he fought hard for 7 months, but lost the battle.

His obituary is at

<http://www.crosserfuneralhome.com/loc.oakharbor.php>

This is the video that my son created for the memorial service:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2TUn9JJXio>

Obituary: Steven J. Doust, 55, of Oak Harbor died Friday, May 9, 2008 at Cleveland Clinic following a brief illness. He was born June 10, 1952 in Toledo, OH to Joseph "Jim" and V. Joyce (Percy) Doust. He was a 1970 graduate of Port Clinton High School. On June 10, 1971 he married Carolyn Jessee and she survives. Steve was the former owner/operator of Oak Harbor Family Restaurant from which he retired. He was a member of the Oak Harbor Conservation Club and the Stony Point Sportsman Club in Jackson County, Ohio. Steve loved to fish, hunt, and was an avid outdoorsman.

Survivors include his wife Carolyn, son Steven J. (Sherri) Doust II of Bowling Green, OH; daughters: Jennifer Rebecca (Richard Jr.) Walleman of Findlay, OH, Chrissy (Scott) Ernsberger of Oak Harbor; mother Joyce Doust, Port Clinton; brothers: Gerald (Nancy Schnabel) Doust of Genoa, OH, Jeffrey (Shawn) Doust of Oak Harbor; grandchildren: Brendan and Lilybeth Walleman, Anzlee, Kenzley, Kerrigan, and Andan Ernsberger; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, brother David Doust, and grandchildren RJ Walleman III and Samantha Walleman.

Visitation will be Tuesday from 2-9pm with the family present 2-4 & 7-9pm at the Crosser Funeral Home, Oak Harbor. Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 A.M. Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at the funeral home. Interment will be in Union Cemetery, Oak Harbor. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Oak Harbor Conservation Club.

DENISE CUMOR [denise.cumor@hotmail.com] wrote about her research, including **Carlos Jessee** and his father **Fairbanks Jessee**, descendants of George Lea Jessee and Mary Polly Jessee Kiser.

Hello Jim, I stumbled on your website tonight and was very excited. My family name is Jessee. My fathers family comes from the south, W. VA/VA. His name is Carlos James Jessee. His fathers name was Fairbanks Jessee, he died in a fire in Baltimore (where he had moved with his children) when my father was 3 years old. My father and I both live

in MD, although he was raised in VA, and I am not sure where. I grew up visiting my grandmother in West VA. Maude Shannon (originally Jessee, she re-married). I know very little about my fathers ancestry, he does not know much himself. And would be curious to see if the name Fairbanks Jessee connects in anyway, I will try to get more details for you as well, I am very excited to pass your website on to my family.

I responded: Thank you for your note. I hope I can help you. I do have one Fairbanks Jessee, born 1906 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA, which is nearby the original Jessee Home Place, of John Jessee, Sr who married Frankey Lea, and settled at Jessee's Mill, near Castlewood, VA in 1790. I have been there many times, although I live in California, born here. My Jessee family came here in 1906 from Illinois, and had left Castewood area about 1870 for Illinois.

Please go to my database at www.jessee.org <<http://www.jessee.org/>>, and see if this Fairbanks Jessee, RIN 21382, fits the time frame. If so there is an extensive pedigree there for him. We would be about 5th cousins, as your line goes back to George Lea Jessee and Mary Polly Jessee Kiser, two of the 15 children of John and Frankey. I descend from their brother, John Jessee, Jr. I do not have any marriage or descendants information for him, so you would be my first contact for him. There are other Carlos Jessees, too, but not your father

If this is your Fairbanks, you would be a Counts descendant, too. And that makes you about a 9th cousin to my wife! Let me know if this fits.

Denise replied: I can confirm that Fairbanks Jessee is my grandfather, he actually died when my father was 5 years old in Baltimore, MD. Putting his death at 1946 or 1947. He is the child of Marshall and Sarah Jessee. I plan to visit my father soon and will get you names and dates of all of his line. My father's name is Carlos James Jessee "Jim", the first name Carlos was given to him in honour of a friend that saved Fairbank's life, but we both find it interesting that there are other Carlos Jessee's out there, my brother's name is also Carlos James Jessee Jr. "Jimmy". I am going to try and encourage my father to travel with me to the reunion this August.

I have bit more information for you, from what my mother knows. Fairbanks Jessee Married Maude Della Tipton, b.June 8th year unknown, her parents John Wes & Mary Tipton, deceased. She later re-married after his death to Charles Shannon.

Children of Fairbanks & Maude Jessee:

Roy Jessee

Jack Jessee

Georgia Gray Jessee (re-married twice, 1st to Jack Kiser, NJ, and marriage?, is now deceased)

Kenneth Brice Jessee (deceased)

Carlos James Jessee (my father)

I can certainly take the lineage to my generation and have the names of all of my cousins/siblings and there children, get birth and death dates and where evryone lives/lived. I will also be calling my father this week to get more information.

XV. Martin Jessee

Martin Jessee (1801-1879) married first Virginia Jane Price (1801-1853), da. of David and Jane Price, and they had eleven children. He married second Mary Jane Darnell (1834-1907), and they had seven children. Martin, with a total of 18 children, may have the most Jessee descendants in America.

Missing Links & Conundrums

The following are only a few of the correspondences I am fortunate to receive. These, in particular, give color to our work, address problems, provide new information, corrections, or updates, and both answer and ask new "missing links" questions or pose other conundrums.

An airline agent from Denver, Colorado International Airport, has sent to me a lost luggage item, a Bob Jessee Family Bible. This was left on an airplane, and the agent searched the Web and found www.Jessee.org and decided to mail the Bible to me. It arrived today. It is a 6x9 inch dark burgundy or brown soft leather cover with the name Bob Jessee engraved on the cover. Inside are notes from his wife, whose name is Vickie, and this note added to the page "Special Memories"---

"Spread Daddy's ashes-Psalms 8 & Thesalonians 4:13-18, Russell County, VA, July 12, 2007"

I will be happy to mail this Bible to its owner, and very much hope someone in the family or Russell County might direct me to Bob Jessee. They may also call me at 530-342-2652 or respond to me at Jim@Jessee.org.

LAURA STINSON [rhumbly2000@yahoo.com] wrote, 4/22/2008 regarding the Stinson Family.

Dear Jim: I would like to introduce myself. My name is Laura Stinson. I am originally from Calif. and I am married to William Earl Stinson from McDowell County WV. We live in Washington State.

I am trying to research my husband's family and I can't get anywhere beyond his grandfather. I am not sure but I suspect that they may be some of the Russell County Stinsons.

His grandfather was William Harvey Stinson born in Virginia around 1880-1881. He was married to a Virginia "Virgie" Wells. "Harvey" was a miner and died fairly young maybe around 1924, but not sure. My husband's father, William Earl "Earl", was born in Osaka, VA on Stonega Rd., or area? in 1918. After William Harvey died, William Earl and two other siblings went to live with relatives on a farm nearby. That makes me think that maybe there were some family roots in that area.

My husband's parents both died young and all pictures etc were lost in floods. If you have any ideas or can give me any ideas about how to proceed, I would be very appreciative. I have become totally fascinated after finding out that there is a Stinson Ridge, and cemetery etc.

I responded as follows. I appreciate your quest, and how to begin question. I do have lots of Stinson and Wells in my database from SW VA, but they go back a little further in time, so we have missing links. I do not have the exact name, but families used same or similar naming conventions. Do look at the names in the database at www.jessee.org, by searching for these surnames, lots there with deep and very old Russell Co. roots.

I am not a Stinson or Wells descendant and thus have no special help for that line of research, but they have intermarried with the Jessee family, so we share cousins on common, most likely. Iris Lambert Hall is in this Stinson and Jessee Line, and she was a renowned genealogist, but recently passed away. She would have been the help you need. If you join the Russell County List on Rootsweb, you can post questions about these family names and locations. There are good people who like to help there, too.

Laura replied: Dear Jim: Thank you very much for taking the time to reply. I discovered that we have an LDS church in town where I can look at a 1920 census. If I can figure out who William Harvey's father was I think that will help. He still has one living son that I plan on trying to contact. He died from a head injury in a quarry/mining

accident when the kids were very small, about 1920, so nobody knows much about him. There are two William H. Stinsons on the 1860 census that could be his father?? This is very fascinating. Thank you for your help and advice. We plan on taking a trip to the area to visit family in the next couple of months and it would be exciting to know some of the history.

RENE' DELANEY [abophone@knighttymes.com] wrote, 2/23/2008, regarding **Reuben and Dorcas Tipton**. Their daughter **Margaret M. Tipton**, married **William M. Jessee**, a descendant of **John Jessee, Jr.**

I found an email sent 2/7/2002 containing information of Reuben and Dorcas Hall Tipton. In the email it is stated that one of you was waiting for pictures from the family. I was wondering if you received those. I would be interested in seeing them if possible.

I am related to Dorcas Hall and to James Blevins, husband of Mary Arminda Tipton. I am traveling to Vernonia, Oregon (where Reuben, Dorcas, and Mary Arminda are buried) to see if I can find pictures of any of the family. I would love to have copies of them before I go over and possibly leave copies there if they don't have any. I plan to visit the Vernonia Pioneer Historical Museum.

Thanks for consideration of my request. If there is anything that I can look up for you in Idaho, please let me know. Visit our family site at www.renesfamily.com.

Resources On The Internet

The Internet is a remarkable resource for genealogists. I will provide here pertinent information regarding Web resources and other links of interest to the Jesse(e) family. I invite you to provide me with addresses for Web pages of interest, too.

MICHAEL A. DYE has created **The Russell County Page** of the VAGenWeb division of the USGenWeb Project.

This is an award-winning site, and a terrific resource for all families whose sojourn in America included time in Russell Co., VA. Michael has been instrumental in assembling a vital online depository of Russell Co. records, indexes and abstracts, genealogical data, historical maps, local history, and lore. You can join the Russell Co. List Server. This is a must-see site for Jessee researchers.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussel/>.

MICHAEL A. DYE sent, 3/23/2008, information regarding the **1824 Russell County Property List**.

Everyone, I've added the 1824 Russell County Personal Property Tax List to the Russell County VAGenWeb Project today. Here's the link:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~varussel/census/1824RussellPersonalPropTax.rtf>

It's a Rich Text file so everyone should be able to open it. Thanks to Marlene Dawson for submitting the file. She has also submitted several other years lists that I'll be shortly loading up.

MICHAEL A. DYE sent, 6/4/2008, information regarding **New Additions to the Russell County VAGenWeb Project**.

Everyone, For those who haven't been paying close attention, I've loaded up several new items on the Russell County VAGenWeb Project over the last week or so including the 1890 Personal Property Tax List and the latest edition of the 1850 Russell County Annotated Census. If anyone has any corrections or additions to the census, let me know. You can see the new material here:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~varussel/additions/index.html>

THOMAS RUDDER [ruddert@sbcglobal.net] sent, 5/27/2007, this Web link to explore **Will Fleenor's**: www.jesseeefamily.com.

JHF News & Views

The **Jessee Historical Foundation, JHF**, publishes its own newsletter, **JHF News & Information--The Official Voice of the Jessee Historical Foundation**. They have asked me to differentiate this newsletter from their official one for the JHF.

I am no longer a JHF Board member, but I continue to offer the services of the Jessee Genealogy Service to the JHF. The www.jessee.org website, the Jessee List on RootsWeb, and this Jessee Family Newsletter are offered as a vehicle for the JHF board to communicate to the greater Jessee family about JHF news, views, and events. I will gladly share JHF board agendas, minutes, plans, projects, and programs. I invite all to join the Jessee List and subscribe to this newsletter.

VERNON & PAULINE SALYERS [vpsaly@naxs.net] wrote, 5/7/2007 announcing the first volume of **Jessee Stories & Remembrances**, for purchase.

Greetings Jessee Cousins, the first edition of your Jessee memories is finally in print! It contains 182 pages with 72 stories and 120 black & white pictures & drawings with comb-binding. The front & back cover features original colored artwork of Carl B. Jessee (this alone makes it worth owning). Below is an excerpt from the book's introduction by Janice Jessee Tiller.

"This book has resulted from the dedication, cooperation and enthusiasm of many people. These include everyone who wrote a Jessee family story and those that ordered a book. Working on this book has brought all of us closer to our own ancestors and to early life in Southwest Virginia. In addition, it is a description of this area as it is in present time, prepared for our grandchildren. It is a tribute to our Jessee forefathers and a legacy to our descendants. Our ancestors were as tough and supple as the hickory out of which they fashioned the handles of their axes.

I think you will find that reading this book is like coming home again, to find everything just as you remembered: worn quilts on the brass bed, Grandpa dozing in the rocking chair by the fire, and Grandma's peach cobbler baking in the oven. These stories are just the sort of friend we want to find waiting for us. Woven into these stories are many of the fabled characters of Southwest Virginia, independent, hardworking people whose pride transcends poverty. Above all, it reminds us of the everlasting pull of the Virginia mountains and hollows themselves.

This is dedicated to anyone who has ever carried a coffin to a family plot high up on a ridge, because mountain folk know it is best to lie where breezes from the hills whisper, "You're home". Although scattered far and wide, Jessee families will always call these Virginia mountains home."

They are \$25 plus \$5 per book if mailed. Please make check payable to JHF & mail to: If you have any questions contact me 276-889-0055 or through e-mail or mail.

Pauline Salyers
5074 Green Valley Road
Lebanon, VA 24266-6553

VERNON & PAULINE SALYERS [vpsaly@naxs.net] wrote 10/22/2007 with this JHF update.

The JHF Board of Directors met on Saturday, October 20, 2007 and set the following dates for 2008 meetings. All Board meetings are to be held at the Quality Inn in Abingdon, 10:00 a.m. The annual Membership Meeting & Picnic has been moved to August 9th. Details of additional activities, i.e. library research day or others, will be sent as they are planned.

Board Meeting Dates

February 02, 2008; May 03, 2008; October 04, 2008

JHF and Other Projects

The current JHF Board is dedicated to managing the Annual Reunion and Research Day, and that alone is a great deal of work and deserves our thanks, support, and hands. I believe the JHF support the following worthwhile projects. Whether you are a JHF member or not, these projects need and volunteers.

1. Planning for National Jessee Family Reunions, Research Days, and Annual Meetings. This is the first and foremost goal of the JHF. A dedicated few are doing more than their fair share in organizing and managing these activities. They always need volunteers to help with the details of providing a Welcome Reception, Research Day, Annual Meeting and Reunion Picnic.

2. Creating a Jessee Family Cook Book II. By the effort of Mary Akers and several other volunteers, who have been featured in previous newsletters, the first cookbook has been published and sold out. Let Mary know if interested in another publication.

3. Creation of a Jessee Book, Remember When, with family stories, histories, and photos. This too has been accomplished, the first volume was available at the 2007 Reunion. Please contact Vernon Salyers for more information.

4. The establishment of Virginia State highway, Russell County historical, or private markers for Jessee's Mill and other appropriate family sites.

The first of these, a private highway sign for Jessee's Mill has been accomplished, and now a commemorative marker for John Jessee, Revolutionary War Soldier at the cemetery behind the Mill Creek Baptist Church (see photo). This approach may set a precedent for developing further private commemorative signs for additional family landmarks.

5. Clean-up and preservation of Jessee cemeteries and historical sites. There are so many that need our time and attention. I still hope that the JHF, working with local government, youth groups and organizations, can provide leadership for such efforts, raise and give money where and when appropriate.

Missing from this list of JHF activities is any official JHF support for efforts to restore Jessee's Mill, or to be involved with efforts to protect, preserve, and provide access to the John and Frankey Lea Jessee cemetery. Unless the JHF has a change of policy, these will need to be separate efforts.

John Jessee Cemetery

Protection and restoration of the John and Frankey Lea Jessee Cemetery with family access, is a desire of many. This cemetery is owned by Mr. Jimmy Herndon, a Phillip and Gabriel Jessee descendant. I believe we need to seek the cooperation of Mr. Herndon to provide or pay for his costs for cleaning up, mapping and fencing this cemetery.

We need to work with Mr. Herndon to find a way to hold him harmless for any liability and to protect his privacy, property and farming activities from those who may wish to visit this cemetery.

It is clear that Virginia law (see the Summer 2005 Newsletter) makes it illegal for Mr. Herndon to do harm to the cemetery and he is obligated to provide descendants access. I continue to hope that if Mr. Herndon were asked and agreed, the new JHF Board would again undertake and fund this project.

We still need to get John Jessee formally recognized as a Revolutionary War Soldier and this cemetery acknowledged as a Revolutionary War grave site. We know that it is also a Civil War soldier grave site, and may need this formal recognition too. We need the cemetery surveyed and marked, if not fenced. Volunteers are needed to pick up this baton.



Jessee's Mill Declared National Historic Landmark

JOE JESSEE (joejessee@yahoo.com), our JHF founding president (2001-2005), provided this terrific news for the Summer 2005 Annual Reunion.

The US Department of Interior Park Service, has declared Jessee's Mill in Russell County to be a National Historic Landmark.

This follows similar State of Virginia action to list Jessee's Mill on the Virginia Landmarks Register last December (see Winter 2005 Newsletter and the *Lebanon News* article, 12/15/2004). Joe sent the press release with this good news to the *Lebanon News* on 5/5/2005, and the article appeared in the *Lebanon News*, 5/11/2005.

This action opens the way for an appropriate non-profit corporation to seek grants and other funding for the acquisition and restoration of Jessee's Mill. It will open other avenues for recognition and support, too. This was the necessary first step.

Several JHF members, Russell County historians and friends, did research and gathered the critical information necessary to document the history of Jessee's Mill used in the applications. Most of this body of knowledge and credit to those who contributed to it have been published on the Jessee Website at www.jessee.org and in the Newsletters over the last decade. I thank all those who helped along the way.

Joe Jessee, with support and help from Sherman Wallace, Mill owner, spearheaded this successful effort with the formal State and Federal applications. These declarations are tremendous accomplishments to add to Joe's success at the renaming of the County Road to Jessee's Mill Road and establishment of the Jessee's Mill Historic Highway Marker. It was a very productive end to Joe's service as founding President of the JHF organization.

Mill Creek Historic Community

Many of us believe that an appropriate organization or benefactor should acquire Jessee's Mill along with the dam above it and the Jessee School for a Jessee's Mill restoration project, as the anchor for a Mill Creek Historic Community.

We have hopes to acquire enough land around the mill, dam, school, the Andrew Jackson Jessee home and the miller's home to preserve a sense of the historic Mill Creek Community. Sherman Wallace, the owner, indicates he is willing to work with a group or organization regarding these ideas. This is a wonderful opportunity to preserve these significant historical landmarks and perhaps create a small historical community around it for Russell Co. and all its sons and daughters across America.

I have asked various individuals, board members of the JHF and local history and genealogy groups in Russell County to consider how this project might happen. The response has been and continues to be nil, so I continue to offer the following plea.

The Virginia State and Federal declarations of Jessee's Mill as an historic landmark provide us the opportunity to form a separate public non-profit tax-exempt organization for the purpose of acquiring, preserving, and some day restoring Jessee's Mill, Dam, and School as the centerpiece for a Mill Creek Historic Community.

Donors have offered to cover the costs of creating such a private non-profit charitable corporation. One of our family lawyers has also volunteered to help with the legal paperwork, and others are prepared to donate more to the effort. Sherman Wallace is willing to help, and others have offered to give modest amounts of money. At this time I would like to hear from any individuals who can offer time to help organize and participate in a small working committee there in Russell Co. This first group would discuss and set the goals and objectives of forming such an organization, outline strategies and means to achieve our goals, and determine the legal procedures and costs to form a public non-profit corporation dedicated to this purpose. I would like to form a committee that could become the core of the new board of directors for such an organization. The first chore is to determine whether there are enough interest, volunteers, and potential support to proceed further.

We have many responses from others outside of Russell Co. offering modest donations and moral support but no offers of leadership from anyone or any organization nearby. We are disappointed to say the least, and may just have to shelve this dream until another time. May Jessee's Mill last so long.

Jessee's Mill Preservation

Whether a Mill Creek Historic Community ever comes to be, the "preservation" of Jessee's Mill remains a major concern. As a historic Russell County landmark, you would think someone there would also care, especially since the owner is willing to cooperate with any public or private entity to stop deterioration, preserve it, and restore it someday.

Here is a summary of what we know about the Mill from the many who have contributed.

The water-powered Jessee's Mill is located 2.5 miles north of Route 71 on Route 645, Jessee's Mill Road. It is believed the dam and first mill were built before 1791 by Aaron Van Hook on Carr's Creek, now Mill Creek. It is mentioned in a survey of this land dated, 13 June 1791. It was sold in 1792 to William Gilmore.

The mortar-free stone dam, based on a Peruzzi design (Italy), strengthens with stronger water current. Handmade wooden gears for the mill wheel, believed to be an Oliver Evans design, were installed about 1814. In 1890, the mill was enlarged to a three story building with automated roller process machinery from Salem Machine Works (Virginia). Mill operations ended in 1932.

In 1794 William Gilmore sold the land and mill to John Jessee, a Revolutionary War musician and soldier. The mill was improved by John Jessee and later owned by his son Archer Jessee. John and his wife Frankey Lea Jessee raised a family of fifteen children and are buried on this land at West longitude 82 09'23", North latitude 36 55' 04". The current mill was constructed by Andrew Jackson Jessee, John's grandson, whose 1878 brick home is located just across Mill Creek.

Mill Creek once was a thriving community with a school, church, general store, and blacksmith, centered on the Jessee mill and businesses.

During spring 2003, Joe Jessee and Sherman Wallace submitted a preliminary application to the VA Dept. of Historical Resources for State historical status (later approved). On June 16, 2003, Joe and Sherman toured the Jessee Mill with Mike Pulice, the Architectural Historian, Roanoke Regional Preservation Office, Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Mike Pulice believed the Mill to be fully eligible for both State and National Historical Register status, and commented on its remarkable integrity. He also advised Sherman Wallace on appropriate preservation measures, some of which are needed immediately.

SHERMAN WALLACE wrote, 2/19/2003, with a request for donations to help him preserve at least the status quo at Jessee's Mill until some other arrangement for its long-term restoration is made. You may find his complete letter in the Summer 2003 Newsletter and on the website. He is proceeding with evaluation and some work, but it will take a good deal of money to do what is needed, even for just preserving the status quo. I have requested that members of the family and other lovers of Mill Creek and Russell County history to communicate directly with Sherman Wallace about preservation of the Mill. Sherman owns Jessee's Mill, Dam, and land around it, and is a Jessee descendant, as well. I have toured the Mill and Jessee lands (including the cemetery when he leased it) with him, and know of his interest in preserving the Mill, Cemetery, School and lands around them. My wife and I were guests in his mother's home, and enjoyed his generosity and hospitality. I find him to be an honorable man, sincerely interested in the preservation of Jessee's Mill.



The Family Database

The Jessee Family Genealogy Database is on the Web at the RootsWeb World Connect Project. RootsWeb is the foremost volunteer-based non-profit genealogy resource on the Internet. Please go to:

<http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com>

This World Connect Website provides an index to multiple genealogy databases, provides excellent display and print options for pedigree and descendants charts. Do a search for one of your distant ancestors. Look for data records submitted by "jimjessee," and if you select one it will take you to our database. You can also navigate to the database directly from our Jessee Genealogy Service home page. Please go to:

<http://www.jessee.org>

Our database is now over 44,000 records. I do mean "our" database, as it is made up of the tens of thousands of hours of your research, the results of which you have generously and kindly shared with me. I have concerns about the downside of this computer revolution, the Internet, and the ethics of genealogy research, but still conclude that greater good is done by making our work public. However, I am using filters to delete information on living persons.

I know that by the standards of some, I have violated best if not ethical practice, by making so much unverified information public. It is already clear that errors in this database, even when later corrected, show up all over the Internet in other people's work, too often uncredited. Others, many unknown to me, have used and cited this database as an authoritative source. Beware, it is not!

I very much regret it when I see known errors, which appeared in this database in earlier years and have since been corrected, show up in others' genealogies, and quoting me as the source! I shudder at the fact that I know there are many unknown errors in the database, along with ignorant speculations, fantasy and plain lies.

Nevertheless, I have had so much expressed gratitude from dozens, if not hundreds, of people who have been helped in their research by our database, that I persevere. I certainly do welcome corrections, updates, additions, and documentation of information, and you who are receiving this newsletter have been very generous in that regard.

Our Purpose

I believe that we are, indeed, all cousins, and that we can be colleagues and friends, too. By sharing information and helping each other, we come to know what it means to be part of an extended family and to appreciate our common heritage.

I research my own JESSEE ancestors, including the ARM-STRONG, SMYTH/SMITH, PORTER, DUNCAN, BICKLEY, RICHMOND/RICHMAN, BARTEE and BARRICK families; and many other SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA FAMILIES who have intermarried with the Jessees, including the BANNER, BROWNING, BURK(E), COUNTS, FULLER, GOSE, KISER, STONE, and VERMILLION families. I have an abiding interest in family history.

I would like to discover all of the descendants of the fifteen children of JOHN AND FRANKEY LEA JESSEE, and assist other Jesse(e) family members with their research. This is admittedly a monumental chore. I am giving myself the rest of my life to accomplish it, and may he live so long! The fun is in the learning and the friendships I develop along the way. I am rewarded all the time by your e-mail, calls, visits, conversations, and correspondence.

I am asking you to respond to this newsletter with answers to questions, documentation, your own materials, and, of course, current information about your branch of the family. I will filter out living individuals in the version of the database that is made public. Please feel free to correct any errors found. I wish to have a correct and trustworthy database as a resource for the family. I welcome the submission of pedigree and descendants charts, letters, manuscripts, electronic or scanned images of source documents and photos.

How To Help

I am operating on subscriptions and donations and don't even break even on out-of-pocket costs. The labor is all volunteer.

Unfortunately after 30 years of working I have developed a permanent disability which makes any prolonged time typing very painful. My computer time has been significantly limited and my regular data entry routine has all but stopped. While I continue to plink at it, I am not denting the perhaps 3000-4000 records piled high and waiting to be keyed in. I will need help with data entry into the database in the future.

I provide the newsletter free to anyone who has asked for it, provided me information, or has expressed interest and cannot afford to subscribe. I am providing the newsletter free to several historical and genealogical organizations and libraries. You are welcome to provide addresses of others that may be interested in our effort. I am looking for those willing to exchange information or represent their branch of the family or area of the country.

I am sometimes disappointed to find that less than 50% of readers actually subscribe or donate anything. I do need help, even if it is simply informing me to stop sending you the newsletter if it has become junk mail. I am steadily reducing my mailing to include those who have subscribed, provided donations, helped in some other way, are sponsored by someone else, or are a family treasure. If you are getting this newsletter, you are at least a family treasure. If I drop you in error, just let me know. Please inform me of address changes as returned and re-posted mail costs me, too.

Annual Subscription

I am asking for a minimum subscription of \$15 a year for two issues of the newsletter. I need and appreciate your additional donations in defraying the considerable cost of research, printing, and postage of the newsletter and other materials I send without charge to inquirers. Additional donations also support those who can't afford to pay.

Newsletter Reprints

Back editions are available on the Website, and you are free to print them from there. I have some separate original sets of prints: #1-7, #8-9, #10-11, #12-13, #14-15, #16-17, #18-19, #20-27 (although I am out of certain years and without some attachments that have become obsolete). You may request these for \$90 for copies of all back issues "still in print," and a subscription to the current year.

The Jessee Family Newsletter

**Edited and Published by
James Wilson "Jim" Jessee**

**1272 Hobart Street
Chico, CA 95926-3702
Telephone: 530-342-2652
E-mail: Jim@Jessee.org**

Website: www.jessee.org

© Copyright--All Rights Reserved.

The Jessee Family Newsletter
1272 Hobart Street
Chico, CA 95926-3702

James W. "Jim" Jessee, Editor
jim@jessee.org
www.jessee.org



The mailing label above indicates the status or last issue of your subscription. If it is January 1, 2008 or earlier, your subscription has expired.

This is based on your current subscription and donations, or your expressed or assumed interest. I will provide you the first issue of the new subscription year free as a reminder to renew each year. Please renew now for the remainder of 2008 to January 2009, at the rate of \$15 per year, for two editions.

Please inform me of any corrections needed regarding your expiration date or degree of interest in receiving this newsletter. I have continued to provide a copy to some whose subscription has lapsed, because I believe you want it, wish to be informed about JHF and other family news, or have specifically asked to receive it gratis. I have indicated those as "sponsored." Please inform me if you wish to continue receiving it gratis or if you wish it to stop.

A special thank you to those who have provided those precious additional gifts and donations that keep me going. These donations allow me to provide complimentary copies to history and genealogy societies, libraries, major contributors of research materials, and to sponsor those who cannot afford to subscribe.