

# Jessee Family Newsletter

Issue #39

Summer 2011

Vol. XX No.2

## Dear Cousin,

This has been a most unusual and intense spring and summer of our lives. California weather has been different, breaking a drought with a with a very cold and wet winter and spring, and a very slow start to summer. All of which helped us with the major lawn renovation, new gardens, and flowerbeds we planted to “ready” our homes and yards for “the wedding,” but much delaying the garden. We have not worked this physically hard in a long time. It hurt, but it was very good for body and soul.

Our lives are full. We helped our daughter Emma and her then fiance, Michael Hering, buy a house and move in last December. Having spent their wedding money, they informed us they wished to marry on June 25th in our back yards. I say yards because my son Earl and his wife Meegan own the house next door. The yards open to each other. Both yards were transformed into a most beautiful wedding venue, including a new deck for Earl and Meegan.

I have chronicled this transformation of our homes and yards for the wedding, and the wedding itself in photo albums on Facebook. Please befriend me on Facebook to get access to my albums, or send me an email, and I will send you the links. [Jim@Jessee.org](mailto:Jim@Jessee.org)

I continue to get little bits and pieces of new information weekly, and I do these small data entry chores into the Jessee Family Database as they come. But I have literally stacks of papers and GEDCOM files to inspect for what I know contains more new information, and important corrections of errors. I am sorry that I am so behind, and do not see much catch-up in the future. Too busy with retirement.

If you have not recently checked the Jessee Database at Rootsweb, go to [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org), look up your kin and see possible new contributions to your line. Often missing from the data are specific locations, and complete dates for births, marriages, and deaths. Please provide me corrections, additions, comments and documentation where needed.

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, e-mails, donations and renewals. Thank you.

**Jim Jessee**

## Featured This Edition

**ROBBIN ANDREWS**, provided us a set of photos of the family of Dovie Lee (Jessee) Henslee and her parents Beverly Floyd and Martha Moore Jessee, and more information under John Jessee, Jr.

**JIM FLORENCE** provides terrific new information and insight into the Herndon, Lea, Waller, and Jessee family roots in Caswell Co., NC, and our possible relationship to Alex Haley and his *Roots* family.

**LARRY BAILEY** is again a major contributor with two seminal items for the Jessee family, the testimony of Joseph C. Ashby about the 29th VA Infantry surrender at Appomattox with several Jessee boys, and the Deeds transferring the estate of John Jessee, listing all his 15 children and their spouses.

**SW VIRGINIA FAMILIES** and **OTHER JESSE(E) FAMILIES** include information and news from descendants of other Jesse(e) families, and other prominent SW VA families with whom we share roots and history.

**JESSEE FAMILY ORIGINS** and **JOHN AND FRANKEY LEA JESSEE** and their fifteen children always have contributions of interest. See new information and photos, read heartwarming stories, letters, and meet new cousins inside. We offer a bit more to the discussion on **John Jessee's Revolutionary War service**, with new research information from **Tom Rudder**.

We have news for the **John Jr., Archer**, and **David Jessee, Frances Stone** and **Boedicia Gose** descendants. **Archer Jessee** features correspondence with **Richard Detweiler**, the son of **Zella Jessee Detweiler**, my first genealogy benefactor at age 15.

**MICHAEL ROBINSON** and **DEBORAH HUGHES** provided major materials for the **William Jessee** family with a different Jessee view of the **Civil War**.

I am pleased to feature a heartwarming article on a **James Jessee** descendant, **Kerry Galcik**. There is scant new material on other branches, so your contributions are more than welcome.

**THE JESSEE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION** has no news to share and **JESSEE'S MILL** has little good news to report, but Jack Hockett wrote an excellent description for us.

**MISSING LINKS** and **CORRESPONDENCE** has items of interest and requests for help, and **JESSEE RESOURCES** has a few more Web sites for us geeks, and always the immeasurable contributions of **Jack Hockett** and **Michael Dye** to SW VA genealogists, too.

# The 2012 National Jessee Family Reunion

**Saturday, August 4, 2012 (tentative)  
10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Lebanon, VA  
at the Russell County Conference Center**

**The 2012 Jessee Family Research Day  
Friday, August 3, 2012  
at the Russell County Library  
203 NW Main Street, Lebanon, VA**

The Jessee Historical Foundation (JHF) will hold the National Jessee Family Reunion every two even numbered years. Families are encouraged to have local and regional family reunions in odd-numbered years. The Jessee Family Research Day is held on the Friday preceding the reunion, at the Russell County Public Library in Lebanon, VA.

Per JHF, the Jessee Family Reunion and Picnic is to be held the first Saturday in August every two years, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The JHF also holds its membership meeting during the reunion.

**The Jessee Reunion will be held in the new Russell County Conference Center, an air-conditioned facility, at 139 Highland Drive in the Russell County Government Center.** Highland Drive is off of E. Main Street (Bus. Rt. 19) east of downtown Lebanon, the Library and Courthouse.

Please remember to bring a covered dish, enough to feed your family and additional "hungry cousins." You may also bring your musical instruments, family photos and memorabilia to share.

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](mailto:acvb@abingdon.com) or  
Internet: [www.abingdon.com/tourism](http://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.

## 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 August, 2010:

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

Members of the Board  
James Bray, Beverly Elswick, Nancy Elswick  
Diane Fuller, Sandra J. Hood, Carl Jessee  
Robert Trigg Jessee, Joy A. Malone  
Irene J. Perry, Pauline Salyers, Vernon Salyers  
Janice J. Tiller, Helen Reedy

## JHF Membership Information

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

Membership will run from reunion to reunion every two years. Dues will be collected by mail and at the biennial reunion in August for the following two years. JHF membership dues may be mailed to the Membership Secretary below at any time. The membership dues are \$10 per person.

There are three categories of membership. Anyone age 81 or older may request free lifetime membership.

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: Non-voting spouses, related family, or friends of a regular member.

3. Junior Member: Non-voting family members under age 18.

**Become a Member:** Simply provide the following information: name, street or PO Box address, city, state, ZIP, phone, e-mail address, and how you are related to the Jessee family or a copy of 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**

# Dovie Lee (Jessee) Henslee

ROBBIN ANDREWS [vball\_4\_97@yahoo.com] sent these wonderful photos of the Dovie Lee Jessee family, Dovie married Jasper Lee Henslee.

I'm sending you some pictures of Dovie's family including a picture of Floyd Jesse and Martha. Thought you might like to see them.

Pic 1. Martha Moore Jessee

Pic 2. Grandpa Jasper, Grandma Dovie, Grandma Martha Jessee, and Inez

Pic 3. Martha & Floyd Jessee with grandson Don

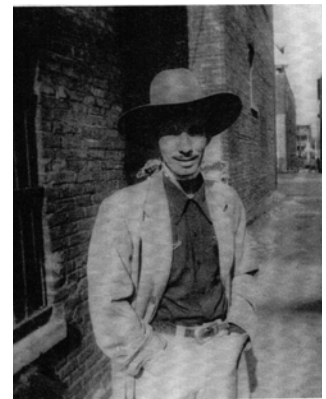
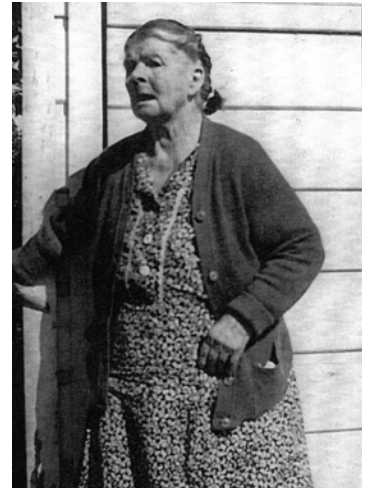
Pic 4. Grandma Dovie, Grandpa Jasper & Uncle Johnnie

Pic 5. Bessie & Hubert Flatt (aka Ken Carson)

Pic 6. Effie Scott, Effie's daughter Lois, Lois' daughter and granddaughter (Names are unknown of the ending two)

Pic 7. Hubert Flatt (aka Ken Carson)

Dovie Lee Jessee is the daughter of Beverly Floyd and Martha Moore Jessee. Beverly Floyd is the son of James Mathias Jessee. See more stories under John Jessee Jr. inside.



# HERNDON, LEA, AND WALLER FAMILIES OF CASWELL CO., NC AND ALEX HALEY'S ROOTS

**JIM FLORENCE** [kathy27243@peoplepc.com] wrote 3/9/2011 with information about the relationships of the **Herndon, Waller and Lea families of Caswell County, NC and Russell County, VA** and relationship to **Alex Haley** and other descendants of **Kizzie and Chicken George**. This Herndon Line may or may not be related to our Frankey Lea who married John Jessee, and moved from Caswell County, NC to Russell County, VA in 1790.

I am descended from David Herndon of Caswell and Orange Co. NC. I am from his son Edmond Herndon. It looks like we could be related through Larkin Herndon. I have some pictures and some old letters if you would be interested.

I looked at a site where you said David's parents were Richard and Lucy Poe Herndon. I wondered if Lucy was kin to Jonathan Poe who came to Caswell as well? I look forward to hearing from you.

I responded:

Thank you for writing. I checked out all these names and relations below, and do not have anything to connect Lucy to Jonathan Poe. After much research as to this connection with the Lea family of Caswell County, and most specifically, my gggg-grandmother, Frances Lea of Hico Creek who married John Jessee, but have since concluded she is not directly related to this Herndon family, but we are not conclusive as to which Lea family she belongs, either. Through intermarriage, the Herndons are of course related to everyone in NC and SW VA, included other members of my Jessee family.

Jim Florence responded further:

For many years I have known my connection to Edmond Herndon who married Elizabeth Graham. Their home was in Caswell not far from Bush Arbor Church. It fell from lack of care to rubble. I asked for anything left that could be salvaged, and was granted that wish by the owners. All I could get out was the front door. It was still in tact with the hand made hinges still in place. I restored the door and used it on another house I was restoring here on my farm. The old house was built by Edmond when he and Elizabeth married ca. 1810. It was built from white oak logs with the dovetail notch. It had a very large chimney on one end of the 1 1/2 story house. There was a cellar under the house too. The house was 20ft. X 20ft. square.

I would be happy to share information that I have about the Herndon Family. **Here is an old photo of Edmond Herndon Jr. front left to right is Lizzie Herndon, Edmond Herndon, and his wife Mary Boswell Herndon--back row is Emma Herndon, William T. Herndon, and Pierce Herndon.**

I added to the discussion:

I believe that our gggg-grandmother, Frankey Lea who lived 1752-1836 and was born in Caswell Co. and married John Jessee in 1775 there, was very closely related, a sister is possible, a cousin at least, to Thomas Lea the master of Kizzie and father of Chicken George one of Alex Haley's ancestors. When I was in Caswell Co. and looking for this Lea family records, I was told the last person to look for them was Alex Haley when he was doing his Roots Research. In Chico, CA where we live, there are descendants of Chicken George and they have a Website. They had a national reunion of his descendants in 2008 and over 2000 were here in Chico. I worked with one of them, and know his brother, too, and we call each other cousin when we see each other.

Jim Florence added more on this discussion:

One thing to bring to your attention too that I want all our Family to know about. Since we all descend from the Waller Family I want you all to think about this one---- Last night I had a meeting with William Haley. He is the son of the late Alex Haley. Did you know that Alex Haley traced his roots back to the Waller Family? Not many

people actually knew about this since the names were changed in the book and the movie. There is a big controversy about this subject. Well there is even disagreement about our connection to the Wallers by some critics. Anyhow those slaves could have belonged to some of our relatives.

As you know we are related to the Leas as well. They came to Caswell Co. James Lea married a Herndon, and his son Major Lea married my David Herndon's sister Elizabeth. They were actually first cousins. The Waller slaves were sold to the Leas after they moved to Caswell. All these Families lived together on the Mattapony River.

Jim Florence added more exciting information:

Today I went over to Leahurst the home of Tom Lea. As you know this land was a part of the original James Lea land on Country Line Creek. I have been there before, but never able to find anyone there. Today I found a group of people there. They were down in the field below the house cleaning off the Lea Family cemetery. They showed me where the Leas were buried, and then where their slaves were buried. I couldn't believe my eyes!

The lady of the house told me that back in the 40's before they bought the place that one of the old ladies of the Lea Family had most of the stones moved up to her home near Blanche NC. This is about 3 miles away. There was only one marker there with an inscription. It said Nannie Lea, and on the other side I could make out Thomas. I didn't get to see inside the house, but they did tell me that there was one room in the house that had George Lea carved into the molding.

I now know where John Lea's home is. After you pass Tom Lea's home about 1/4 mile is John's home. It is not as grand as Tom's, but it is nice. It is 1 1/2 story with a small porch. Double doors on front with dormers on top. I will get pictures later.

I was reading on George Waller's site last night that they now believe that Major Lea was father of Tom Lea. Have you seen that site? Another person has taken over that site called Ali. His email is alleylaw@alleylaw.net If this is correct Major Lea was married to Elizabeth Herndon sister to my David Herndon.

**LARRY BAILEY** [landsbailey@verizon.net] wrote, 1/18, 2011 to share this interview with **Joseph C. Ashby**. It is a testimony to those from Russell Co. who served in the **29th VA Infantry** and surrendered with General Lee at Appomattox. It names many Jessee ancestors and very many SW VA families.

The attached is an interview with Joseph C Ashby conducted by Judge Elihu J Sutherland. Judge Sutherland was a noted historian of Dickenson County Virginia, authored the book "Meet Virginias Baby"

If you feel you will be offended by the use of the "N" word, don't read the attachment. Just keep in mind Great Grandpa was not politically correct. This is very interesting, revealing very historical information.

Hetty Sutherland was the wife of Judge Sutherland.



JOSEPH C ASHBY

made the following statement to E J Sutherland at Trammel, Va., on Feb 24, 1926

I was born at Cleveland, Va., \_\_\_\_\_, 1840- I don't know the month or day because the record of my birth was burnt during the Civil War. My parents were John and Vada (Hackney) Ashby.

I joined Co A, 29th Va Inf (Volunteers), Sept 15, 1861. Our captains were Bill Jessee and H H Dickenson. I joined at Tazewell, Va., and we went to Mt Sterling, Lexington and other places in Kentucky. We did no camping for any long period of time, and then we came back to Virginia and went right on through to Richmond. I was wounded through the thigh at Drewry Bluff. I was in the fights at Kinston and New Bern, NC; Suffolk, Petersburg, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville and others. I surrendered at Appomattox Court House and was discharged by Gen Lee on April 11, 1865 with the rank of private. Our colonels of the 29th Inf were Giles, Hubbard and Coarse, and our Regiment was in General Pickett's Div. I was in Pickett's charge at Gettysburg. After the surrender, I walked to Christiansburg and took the train from there to Abingdon, then walked home. I was awarded a Cross of Honor on March 25, 1915. (Exhibits it)

Brother Logan Ashby was in part of the war. He was in the same company with me. Our company officers were: 1st Lt - Tivis Jessee; 2nd Lt - Jessee Fuller; Orderly Sgt - George Wyatt; Corporal Sgt - Daniel Holbrooks. Capt Dickenson was a good man and brave. He treated his men right and was never behind. Others in my company were John Jessee (of G L), Will Jessee (of G L), Jim Holbrooks, Bob Repass, Frank Branson (wounded), George Kiser (of Elihu), Bevan Meade, Cal Jones, C C Powers, Bill Branson, Harrison Breeding (deserted), Calvin Powers, Bill Powers, Marion Powers, Henderson Breeding, Bill Carroll, John Chandler and Joe Jessee (of Jeff).

I moved to Dickenson County in the spring of 1900, first to Wampler Ridge, just across Frying Pan Creek from your dad's. It was called the Isaac McReynolds Farm. Later I sold that farm and moved to Cleveland where I lived two years, and I now live here in Trammel.

George L Jessee lived in Reeds Valley. He had plenty of everything. I was acquainted with his wife Betsy. She was a mighty fine woman - never heard anything to the contrary.

Jeff Jessee lived on Carterton Creek. His place is now called the John Chandler place. He had a big lot of land and other property. He had four grown niggers - Harve, Pete, Del and \_\_\_\_\_?, and some little niggers. Pat was a little nigger I remember. Jeff's son, Mack Jessee, signed Jeff's name to a big note or bond for cattle and principally broke him up. A man by the name of Dean (I believe) was in with Mack in this business. I worked for Jeff a great lot.

Joe Counts lived at Carterton. I worked for him some. He went south. His dog went with him but it came back - so lame it never got over it. He owned a lot of property.

Jack Counts lived below Cleveland. I knew him very well.

Daniel Sutherland lived at the mouth of Mill Creek. He kept a still and sold corn whiskey at ten cents a pint. It was always fit to drink. He was a medium sized man and wore no beard. He was not in sympathy with the South.

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Notes by Hetty S Sutherland:

1. See C-16, pp 190-4 "Some Descendants of JOHN COUNTS" for Geo L Jessee and his descendants
2. See C-18, pp 261-269 of same for Jefferson Jessee and his descendants
3. See C-11, pp 101-114 of same for Joseph (Joe) Counts and descendants
4. See C-12, pp 114-144 of same for John "Jackie" Counts and descendants

I responded: This is wonderful. The 1st Lt. Tivis Jessee, noted in this, is my great-grandfather, John Tivis Jessee, who married America Elizabeth Bickley after his return from the war, and they moved to Champaign Co., IL in 1870, along with many others from Russell Co. Thanks for sharing this.

LARRY BAILEY [landsbailey@verizon.net] provided, 1/3/2011, on the following pages, these extractions of these very important documents, the **Deeds from the Heirs of John Jessee, Sr. to Archer Jessee** which are the main proof of the marriage of **John and Frankey (Lea) Jessee**, their estate, and the existence and names of their fifteen children and their spouses.

### Deed from the Heirs of John Jessee, Sr. to Archer Jessee

Russell County, Virginia  
Deed Book 6, Pages 409-411  
Executed 28 Oct 1820

This Indenture made the twenty eighth day of October in the year of Christ, One thousand eight hundred and twenty. Between John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Polly Kizar, George Gose and Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Dicy his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife, James Jessee, Wm. Burk and Rebeccah his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George Jessee and Martin Jessee, all of the County of Russell and State of Virginia of the one part, and Archer Jessee of the said County and State. Witnesseth, that whereas John Jessee Sen'r deceased, late of the said County of Russell, departed this life intestate, having a right to certain lands a part of which he had sold to the above named William Jessee and deceased before he made the right to s'd William Jessee who has sold the same parcel of land to Archibald Jessee for and in consideration of the sum of five hundred dollars in hand paid by the s'd Archibald Jessee, the right of which yet remains in us, John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Polly Kizer, George Gose and Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Dicy his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebekah his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George Jessee and Martin Jessee, the co-heirs of the said John Jessee Sen'r deceased, to whom the title of the said land descended, and whereas we the aforesaid co-heirs and copartners John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Polly Kizer wife of Abednigo Kizer dec'd., George Gose and Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Dicy his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebeckah his wife, Henry Fuller and Martin Jessee for and in consideration of the money which which was paid to the said John Jessee sent in his life-time by the said William Jessee and the title not being yet made and that circumstance being well known and acknowledged by us the said John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Polly Kizar, George Gose and Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Dicy his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebekah his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George Jessee and Martin Jessee, each of us do convey to the said Archibald Jessee his heirs and assigns our parts or portions of the land by the said John Jessee sold to William Jessee, and from him to said A. Jessee containing fifty acres lying in the said County of Russell on both sides of Carrs Creek and bounded as follows to wit: Beginning at a black walnut and dogwood on a hill side, South 37 W. 88 poles to a Spanish oak and two small sugartrees on a hill side S. 15 E. 76 poles crossing said Creek to a walnut and hornbeam N. 89 E. 66 poles crossing said Creek to a white oak and sugartree on the top of a ridge N. 8 W. 156 poles to a rock between a chestnut oak and red bud S. 51 W. 16 poles to the beginning.

Together with all appurtenances privileges and advantages to the same belonging, To have and to hold the said tract of land and appurtenances unto the said Archibald Jessee his heirs and assigns forever, and we the said John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Polly Kizar, George Gose and Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Dicy his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebekah his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George Jessee and Martin Jessee doth for ourselves our heirs hereby covenant and grant to and with the said Archibald Jessee his heirs and assigns their respective parts or portions of the aforesaid tract of land as coheirs of the said John Jessee, ded'd free from the claim or claims of them the said John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Polly Kizar, George Gose and Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Dicy his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebekah his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George Jessee and Martin Jessee or either of us our heirs and either of them or every person or persons whomsoever shall and will warrant and forever defend by those presents. In Witness thereof we the said co heirs and co partners have hereunto set our hand and Seals, the day and year first herein written.

/s/ John Jessee {Seal} /s/ Stephen Gose, Jr {Seal}  
/s/ William Jessee {Seal} /s/ Dicy (her X mark) Gose {Seal}  
/s/ Lea Jessee {Seal} /s/ Wilson Vermillion {Seal}  
/s/ Polly (her X mark) Kizar /s/ Sary (her X mark) Vermillion {Seal}  
/s/ David Jessee {Seal} /s/ James Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ George Gose {Seal} /s/ William Burk {Seal}  
/s/ Elizabeth (her X mark) Gose {Seal}/s/ Rebecca Burk {Seal}  
/s/ William Stone {Seal} /s/ Henry Fuller {Seal}  
/s/ Frances (her X mark) Stone {Seal} /s/ Jane (her X mark) Fuller {Seal}  
  
/s/ George L. Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ Martin Jessee {Seal}

Russell County to wit:

We James Browning and John Colley justices of the peace in the County aforesaid in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that John Jessee, William Jessee, Lea Jessee, Polly Kizer, David Jessee, George Gose, William Stone, Stephen Gose, Wilson Vermillion, James Jessee, William Burk, Henry Fuller, George L. Jessee & Martin Jessee, parties to the within deed bareing date the twenty eighth day of October One thousand eight hundred and twenty and hereunto annexed, personally appeared before us in our County aforesaid, and acknowledged the same to be there act and deed and desired us to certify the said acknowledgement to the Clerk of the County Court of Russell in order that the said deed may be recorded. Given under our hands and seals this 28 th day of October 1820.

/s/ James Browning {Seal}  
/s/ John Colley {Seal}

Russell County to wit:

We James Browning and John Colley, Justices of the peace in the County aforesaid in the State of Virginia do hereby certify that Elizabeth Gose the wife of George Gose, Frances Stone the wife of William Stone, Dicy Gose the wife of Stephen Gose, Sary Vermillion the wife of Wilson Vermillion, Rebecah Burk the wife of William Burk, and Jane Fuller the wife of Henry Fuller parties to the within deed bareing date on the twenty eighth day of October One thousand eight hundred and twenty and hereunto annexed, personally appeared before us in our County aforesaid and being examined by us privately and apart from their husbands and having the deed aforesaid fully explained to them the said Elizabeth Gose, Frances Stone, Dicy Gose, Sary Vermillion, Rebekah Burk and Jane Fuller acknowledged the same to be their acts and deed, and declared that they had willingly signed sealed and delivered the same and that they wished not to retract it. Given under our hands and seals, the 28th day of October 1820.

/s/ James Browning {Seal}  
/s/ John Colley {Seal}

This Indenture of bargain and sale from John Jessee & others to Archer Jessee certified to have been duly acknowledged before James Browning and John Colley two justices of the peace for Russell County was produced in the Clerks office of said County on the 1st day of May 1821 and admitted to record.

Teste /s/James P. Carrell D. O.

## Deed from the Heirs of John Jessee, Sr. to Archer Jessee

Russell County, Virginia  
Deed Book 8, Pages 87-90  
Executed 07 Aug 1827

This Indenture made this seventh day of August in the year of Christ, One thousand eight hundred and twenty seven, between John Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Mary Kizer widow of Abednego Kizer dec'd, George Gose for himself and the heirs of his wife Elizabeth dec'd, William Jessee, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Boadicea his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sally his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebecca his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George L. Jessee and Martin Jessee now or late of the County of Russell and State of Virginia of the one part, and Archer Jessee of said County and State of the other part. Witnesseth, that whereas John Jessee Sen'r dec'd of the said County of Russell departed this life intestate leaving certain lands the title to which has descended to the said Archer Jessee, John Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jesse, Mary Kizer the wife of Abednego Kizer dec'd, William Jessee, Elizabeth Gose wife of George Gose, Frances Stone wife of William Stone, Boadicea Gose wife of Stephen Gose, Sally Vermillion wife of Wilson Vermillion, James Jessee, Rebecca Burk wife of William Burk, Jane Fuller wife of Henry Fuller, George L. Jessee and Martin Jessee his co heirs in parcenary and whereas the aforesaid co heirs and co parceners Archer Jessee, John Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jesse, Mary Kizer, William Jessee, George Gose for himself and Elizabeth his wife dec'd, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Boadicea his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sally his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebecca his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife and George L. Jessee for and in consideration of what they have received of their fathers estate by way of advancement and they refusing to bring it into hotchpot and the further sum of twenty five dollars paid Mary Kizer and twenty five dollars paid George Gose and Elizabeth his wife and and forty dollars paid William Stone and Frances his wife and twenty five dollars paid Stephen Gose and Boadicea his wife and twenty five dollars paid Wilson Vermillion and Sally his wife and twenty five dollars paid William Burk and Rebecca his wife and twenty five dollars paid Henry Fuller and Jane his wife by the said Martin Jessee and a deed made for his part of eighty five acres of his fathers land to the said George L. Jessee and he having sold the land which he was to receive in full of his legacy of his father's estate and the sums paid by him to Archer Jessee, for the sum of nine hundred dollars and this being known to the aforesaid co heirs and co parceners and the special request of the said Martin Jessee and Archer Jessee all of which is hereby acknowledged they the said co heirs have bargained and sold and by these presents do and each of them doth bargain and sell unto the said Archer Jessee his heirs and assigns their parts or portion of a certain tract or parcel of land containing one hundred and eighteen acres lying in the said County of Russell on both sides of Carr's Creek in Rieds Valley and bounded as follows Beginning at a sugar tree on the east side of a Ridge at and below a bunch of rocks corner to Goerge L. Jessees' land and with his line N. 25 W. 192 poles to a poplar corner to said George L. Jessee then leaving his land S. 57 W. 72 poles to a rock between a chesnut oak and a red bud corner of said Archer Jessee's land and with his line S. 8 E. 156 [poles] to a white oak and sugar tree on the top of a ridge S. 89 W. 66 poles crossing said Creek to a walnut and horn beam corner to said Jessee's then leaving his line S. 15 E. 20 poles to a large white oak by a mill N. 72 W. 17 poles to a small sugar tree at the foot of a high hill S. 36 E. 74 [poles] to a large buck eye and sugar tree by a drain N. 40 E. 73 poles crossing the creek to two dogwood saplings N. 67 E. 105 poles to the beginning. Together with all appurtenances privileges and advantages to the same belonging. To have and to hold the said tract of land and appurtenances unto the said Archer Jessee his heirs and assigns forever. And the said John Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Mary Kizer, William Jessee, George Gose for himself and the heirs of Elizabeth his wife, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Boadicea his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sally his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebecca his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George L. Jessee and Martin Jessee for themselves and their heirs do hereby covenant and grant to the said Archer Jessee his heirs and assigns the tract of land aforesaid free from the claim or claims of them the said John Jessee, Lea Jessee, David Jessee, Mary Kizer, William Jessee, George Gose and the heirs of his wife Elizabeth, William Stone and Frances his wife, Stephen Gose and Boadicea his wife, Wilson Vermillion and Sally his wife, James Jessee, William Burk and Rebecca his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, George L.

Jessee and Martin Jessee or either of them their or either of their heirs and of all and every person or persons whatsoever shall will and do warrant and forever defend by these presents. In Witness whereof they the said co-heirs and co parceners have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first herein written.

/s/ John Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ Lea Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ George Gose {Seal}  
/s/ David Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ James Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ Wm. Stone {Seal}  
/s/ Franky Stone {Seal}  
/s/ Henry Fuller {Seal}  
/s/ Jane Fuller {Seal}  
/s/ Mary Kizer {Seal}  
/s/ William Burk {Seal}  
/s/ Rebecca Burk {Seal}  
/s/ George L. Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ Martin Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ William Jessee {Seal}  
/s/ Wilson Vermillion {Seal}  
/s/ Sarah (her X mark) Vermillion {Seal}  
/s/ Boadicea (her X mark) Gose {Seal}  
/s/ Stephen Gose {Seal}

Russell County to wit:

We Henry Dickenson and James Dickenson Jr. justices of the peace for the county aforesaid in the State of Virginia do hereby certify that Stephen Gose party to a certain deed bearing date the 7th day of August 1827 and hereunto annexed personally appeared before us in our county aforesaid and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed and desired us to certify the said acknowledgement to the Clerk of the County Court of Russell in order that the said deed may be recorded. Given under our hands and seals this 28th day of March 1827.

/s/ Henry Dickenson {Seal}  
/s/ James Dickenson, Jr. {Seal}

Russell County to wit:

We Henry Dickenson and James Dickenson Jr. justices of the peace for the county aforesaid in the State of Virginia do hereby certify that Boadicea Gose the wife of Stephen Gose parties to a certain deed bearing date the 7th day of August 1827 and hereunto annexed personally appeared before us in our [county] aforesaid and being examined privately and apart from her husband and having the deed aforesaid fully explained to her she the said Boadicea Gose acknowledged the same to be her act and deed and declared that she had willingly signed sealed and delivered the same and that she wished not to retract it. Given under our hands and seals this 28th day of March 1828.

/s/ Henry Dickenson {Seal}  
/s/ James Dickenson, Jr. {Seal}

At a court held for Russell County the 7th day of August 1827

This Indenture of bargain and sale was acknowledged in court by John Jessee, Lea Jessee, George Gose, David Jessee, James Jessee, William Stone and Frances his wife, Henry Fuller and Jane his wife, Mary Kizer, Wm. Burk and Rebecca his wife, George L. Jessee and Martin Jessee parties thereto to be their act and deed the said Frances Stone, Jane Fuller and Rebecca Burk having been first privately examined as the law directs.

At a court held for said County the 2nd day of October 1827.

This Indenture was acknowledged in court by William Jessee a party thereto to be his act and deed. At a court held for said County the 4th day of December 1827. This Indenture was acknowledged in court by Wilson Vermillion and Sarah his wife parties thereto to be their act and deed, she the said Srah having been first privately examined as the law directs. And on the first day of April 1828. This indenture was produced in the Clerks Office of Russell County together with the acknowledgment of Stephen Gose & Boadicea his wife certified by two Justices of the Peace for said County thereto annexed and admitted to record.

Teste /s/ James P. Carrell C.R.C.

## 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.

**MERRI VINTON** [merzi@arvig.net] wrote, 4/20/2010 with this information regarding the **Allen Family of SW VA. John M. Allen, son of Francis C. Allen and Eliza Cloud married Sarah Jane Jessee, daughter of Rev. John Jessee, son of David Jessee, son of John and Frankey (Lea) Jessee.** She later provides documentation of interest to descendants of **William Jessee, son of John and Frankey.**

Hi Jim, Several years ago we communicated about our Allen family in Lee Co Virginia. At that time I questioned that Francis C. Allen was the son of James Allen who married Hannah Hanger. I just wanted you to know my latest findings after another couple of years of research and a trip to the courthouses of Lee & surrounding counties.

I stand firm that Francis C. was the son of John Allen b. ca. 1784 Virginia & Martha Clark Allen b. ca. 1782 in Charlotte Co, VA. You may recall that a few weeks before he was married, Francis C. received a Gift of Deed from William Wilson for land in Lee Co "for the love and affection he had for his nephew". Francis C. was indeed the "nephew" of Wm. Wilson, but on his mother's side (Clark) not on his father's (Allen). Martha "Patsy" Clark was the daughter of Francis Clark and Nancy Walker. Francis Clark names both Ursley & Patsy and other siblings in his will in Lee Co. Another sister married a WEAVER, one a BISHOP. These names are mentioned in my correspondence with a g.granddaughter of Francis C.'s (Alexander P) a number of years ago as having gone to Nodaway County, Missouri with here grandfather. In my letters from her she identified others who accompanied her Allen family from Lee Co to MO as: Bishops, Sims, Duffs & Larimers. These are names that tie in directly with either Clark or Allen families.

Knowing that there are so many errors/assumptions made in the Early Settlers book by Bales I'm now taking another look at some of the "facts" about James/Hanger family. I do believe there is a very close relationship between John who married Martha/Patsy Clark & James who married Hannah Hanger, and was nearly ready to "conclude" that they were probably brothers until I revisited the records of Claiborne & Lee Counties on my trip. In Claiborne Co from 1801 to 1810 there are 3 Allens: James, John, & William. These folks buy/sell land. Witness other's transactions and appear in Minute books (John & James as co defendants in one case). I obtained land transactions with a John & Patsy's names as well as another in the name of a James & wife Hannah.

These Allens of Claiborne sell by 1810 and the same names (James, John & William) appear on the 1810 Tax Records of Lee Co. I'm looking closer at James/Hanger migration. Some writings don't place him in Lee Co until the 1830's and others place him in Claiborne Co prior to 1800. That's not to say he didn't go Claiborne/Lee, go back to Augusta Co, & return again. Could it be that there is another James/Hannah? Could it be that there is another family of Allens connected closely to Allen/Hanger, but not of the same lineage? Who is William Allen? Is the William Allen with James & John a 1/2 brother--son of Fannie Erwin (too young)? Is this William the father of this James & John? Could James/Hanger be in the wrong family group? (There is also another John Allen who married a Martha Clark....they were contemporaries of our John and Quakers, but from what I can tell, different Allen-Clark lines and their children don't match up at all with ours at all.--although our Clarks were Quakers at one point.)

I don't know if you are interested in all of this or not...or if I'm just a nuisance! Regardless, let me know if you are still interested in the ALLEN research. I just wanted to let you know that Francis C. was the nephew to Ursley WILSON on the CLARK side and not on the ALLEN.

I replied, Yes, and she provided more information.

Thanks for your reply, Jim. And yes, by all means share. There will

continue to be misconceptions about Francis C's lineage.....thanks to the Early Settlers book. I'm only sorry now that I didn't look at the papers on James/Hanger at the courthouse in Lee. I was trying to stay focused (husband & dog waiting in the car for 2 days) on John & the Clark-Wilson thing. I see that there are several Jesse connections within the Weaver-Bishop-Duff-Sims entanglement! Yes, I'm sure these families were all very closely knit. The name Larmer intrigued me because Larmers married Duffs, Larmers married Jesses & Larimers married into the James/Hanger line. Of course they all could be neighbors too, but I don't want to go there!!

Please keep me in mind when/if you discover anything further, as I will you. I really must figure out who this William is before any conclusion is to be made. I think he may be the missing link to this whole mess. The main thing that is keeping me from making the conclusion that James/Hanger and John/Clark are brothers is 1) that the name "James" rarely appears in any of the lineages of John/Martha Clark's children. Wouldn't you have thought after such a long string of Jameses the naming pattern would have continued? And 2) in Hildreth Allen Wolfe's (g.granddaughter of Francis C) correspondence with me she recalled that her father thought that our lines separated at a "William". According to the will of Clinton, brother of Francis C., there were 12 children...10 boys & 2 girls. If that's the case, I'm missing a boy. Could it be possible that the Crawford Allen who received a bounty land claim in Washington Co NE along with John, Clinton, Archilles & Robert is the missing brother? Or is there a sister who married a HENDRY whose children were reared by the brother, William, in Edgar Co? Have I discussed the Hendry connection with you? Do you track the siblings of Francis C. other than your Jessee connection? If so, let me know and if I haven't already, I'll share with you that very interesting story. Another missing link, I think?

Attached is the report of my findings in Lee/Claiborne which gives a bit of a timeline for our John/Martha Clark and a few for James/Hannah Hanger. This is by no means complete since I didn't have time to look at all the records.

I have not written up my findings on where John/Martha's land lay, but it appears that it was on "Four-Mile Creek" in the very southwestern tip of Lee Co. The creek extends into Claiborne county and there holdings lay in both Tn & Va. I'm awaiting results for Tn Archives regarding a 300 acre land grant (NC Land Grant in TN). He probably bought the grant, but I'm hoping it may have clues as to his residence at the time. I've given up hope of finding out where/when John & Martha were married....burned courthouses and such.

**MERRI VINTON** corresponded again, 1/6/2011, with more information and documentation for **William and Mary Jessee.**

I was wondering if you have seen this transcription from the Thompson Settlement Baptist Church Minutes: (A scan of the original document can be found on Artemis Oakgrove's family tree site on Ancestry.com tree named "James Riddle Watson", under John M. Allen 1784-1834 who married Martha "Patsy" Clark.) Although the initial "M" is not confirmed, he my ancestor and your may recall is the brother of Francis C. Allen father of your ancestor. I couldn't help but notice the names of William Jessee & Mary Jesse at the end of the transcription and wondered if these were your folks.

Transcription of text in document

67 Anno Domini 1820 & 1821

December 1st (Saturday) A.D. 1820

The church met and after prayer proceeded to business. First we the church appoint brother James Gilbert Moderator.

January 1st (Saturday) A.D. 1821

The church met.

1st Brother James Gilbert bring hunt with brother John Fletcher hearing that he reported publicly in the town of Jonesville in the presence of William Standifer & John Allen and others that the said Gilbert was cursing his children from morning till night and using other insulting expressions that is to say: "He asked none of the Gulnea set no favors. For which we (the church) appoint brother R. Clark, brother Elijah Bishop and brother Francis B Buster to go with brother Gilbert to inquire of brother (John) Fletcher if the report is true.

February 1st (Saturday) A.D. 1821

The church met and after prayer proceeded to business

First After examination we find brother James Gilbert not guilty of the report alleged against him



2ndly. Brother (John) Fletcher said that then was a misunderstanding in the report and he acknowledges that; & he was sorry that he ever said anything about it.

June 1st Saturday A.D. 1821

The church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

First Received William Jessee and Mary Jessee by letter

**DAVID PURSCHWITZ** [eighthva@cox.net] wrote, 5/20/2011 with this information regarding the **Whitt-Lowe Cemetery** and the burial site of **James Lowe, 8th VA Infantry**. Both Whitt and Lowe descendants are intermarried with the Jessee family.

Having watched your family website for 2-3 years and not seeing any change in the status of the Whitt-Lowe Cemetery, I ventured out there this past weekend, not knowing what I would find.

My interest was the burial site of James Lowe, 8th Virginia Infantry. I am founder/Historian of the 8th Virginia reenactor group and searching for and photographing the burial sites of men of this Regiment. I was greatly relieved to find that the cemetery had not been destroyed and is very well kept. I encountered no resistance in gaining access and, in fact, was assisted by a local in locating the site.

Your servant, Dave Purschwitz  
Founder/Historian 8th Va Vol Inf  
Newport News, VA

**KAREN JESSEE** of Wilmington, DE, wrote this year with a note about the **Dickenson family of SW VA**.

I am working for a client who is related to the John Dickenson line. As I'm helping her ... she says she thinks we're related... her grandmother was a Jessee. I mentioned Abingdon, VA, and she says her family was the next town over. Turns out 3 Dickenson boys married 3 Jessee gals. How about that?

**CAROLINE DEBIASI** [cdbrc@charter.net] posted on the Russell Co. List the following extensive history of the **Dickenson Family** that was originally done by **Mary Jane Knisely**. I provided a short excerpt here. to indicate how thorough her research has been.

#### **DICKENSONS OF SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA** By Mary Jane Knisely

There have been various errors in the "Dickenson Story" as it has come down to us. Two of the more glaring errors are (1) that Mary Powell, wife of Henry Dickenson, the Clerk, was the daughter of Ambrose Powell, and (2) that the Virginia Dickensons were descended from Henry, who came to Virginia with brothers Walter and John in 1654. The search for Mary Powell constitutes a study in itself, which is not presented in this treatise. The denouncement of Wharton Dickenson's story of the three brothers was published in the Virginia Genealogist, Volume 18, page 243, October-December 1974.

Here the subject is not so much negation of stories as developing a positive framework of the family history. We therefore begin circa 1800 with related family members in the Southwest Virginia area. These members are Archelaus, Humphrey, Henry, James, Mary, Elizabeth and Fanny.

We have no marriage date for Henry Dickenson and Agnes Jennings. The Jennings family of Hanover and Nottoway Counties, have kept records which state that Agnes was born in 1729 (19) - that she was born in 1727, (20) in Hanover County, Virginia. Her father owned large acreages of land in several Virginia counties, and descendants have traced the family back to the 1500's in England.

Of Henry's birth we have no record, but we know he was born in Caroline County, Virginia, apparently at a time when this section was still a part of King William County. He is reported to have had at least 7 siblings. (21) His father was Thomas Dickenson, who left a will in Caroline County in 1734, which has not been preserved. (22) The author made inquiry in the Caroline County Court House and the State Library at Richmond. We know that Henry was left a homestead of 466 acres in Louisa County.

According to the land patents of Louisa County, Thomas Dickenson got 1,000 acres of land on Elk Creek 17 August, 1725, on both sides of

the Overton Fork of the Elk Creek. (Although listed as Louisa County, this area was in Hanover County in 1725). Henry's legacy was part of this land patent.

Henry and Agnes sold this land, together with "the houses and appurtenances thereto belonging, the same is the land given and bequeathed by the last will and testament of Thomas Dickarson, late of the County of Caroline (dec'd) unto his son Henry, relation being had to the county court of Caroline, it will more fully appear." This land was sold to Griffith Dickarson. (23) Louisa County as formed from Hanover in 1742. It would appear then, that the Jennings family lived near the Dickenson holdings in Louisa, which would explain how Henry met Agnes Jennings. Judging from such birth dates as we have of their children, they were probably married in the 1740's, about the time the area was changed from Hanover to Louisa.

Whether this legacy to Henry was raw land or developed by Henry and Agnes, we do not know. In either event, it was definitely a homestead when Henry decided to sell it in 1765.

Why he wanted to leave and go to Prince Edward County is an unsolved puzzle. No land grant for Henry in Prince Edward County has been discovered. We do know that Henry served in what was called the "Indian Militia" in 1754 (24). On 17 September, 1758 Henry was paid 5 shillings for furnishing provisions for the militia, and was still on the military roster at that time. (25) This was the era of the French and Indian Wars, and lands were sometimes granted for military service. The government had no money to pay the militia, and in fact, many men refused to serve. The Indians were such a peril that men would not leave their families unprotected to join the militia. (26) The only recompense that could be offered militia men was land.

A record of such a grant may exist, but the author has not found it. Land patents were being given by King George II of England in Prince Edward County in 1745 and 1763. (27) But there is little reason to suppose that Dickensons would receive land from such a source. They were already an "old family in the colonies," and not likely to come under the notice of the King of England.

In searching the deeds of Prince Edward County, the first entry concerning Henry Dickenson was on 18 July, 1774, at which time he deeded 133 acres of land on the Sandy River to his son William. (Bounded on one side by land of Archelaus Dickenson). (28) On the same day, Henry sold John Maddox 150 acres on a fork of the Sandy River (on Owens and Womack's line). (29) In other words, Henry is selling land, and has seemingly already given land to Archelaus, though we have not learned how or where or when he got the land. However, some of the early records of Prince Edward County were destroyed in the War between the States. We do not know whether Henry removed his family before or after the sale of the Louisa property, which makes it problematical where James was born.

We can deduce that Henry sent some of his children to school in Louisa County. We find from the records that one Philip Cosby taught a private community school in the vicinity of Elk Creek. Philip died in 1763, and among those indebted to his estate were:

Henry Dickenson 1 pound 19s. O. D.  
Griffith Dickenson, 1 pound 19s. O. d.  
For seven months and 16 days schooling. (30)

This does not tell us which child was the pupil. But we can deduce that Henry, who later became Clerk, and who was 13 years old at the time of Philip Cosby's death, quite probably, at one time or another, was a student in this school. With the Dickenson farmstead and the school both on Elk Creek, the inference is strong.

We have no definite information on the religious affiliations of the family. For many years Dickensons were members of the Baptist Church known as Goldmine (on a Creek by that name) in Louisa County. But their surviving records begin in 1770, and the family under discussion was by then, presumably, in Prince Edward County. We do have some reason to believe they were not Presbyterians. Church records of Old Briary are available, and no Dickensons are listed. (31) The author knows of no early records in Washington County to indicate the church affiliations of the family.

We believe Agnes Jennings Dickenson died in 1785. A census was taken in that year in Prince Edward County, in which Henry Dickenson is shown with 3 whites in his family, 1 dwelling and 4 other buildings. Family legend says that after Agnes died, Henry went to live with James, his youngest son, in Russell County, and took along 20 slaves.

It is likely the census was taken early in the year, because we find in Washington County, under the date of 8 December, 1785, "Henry Dickenson, late of Prince Edward County," gave his daughter Fanny one Negro slave named Benjamin "I lent to Nathaniel Scott." This places Agnes' death as some time in 1785. We have no record of Henry's death. The last court entry is that quoted above in which Henry Dickenson gave the slave to John, son of Humphrey - 21 August, 1792.



**JACK HOCKETT** shared this photo above he received of the **Francis Browning and Elizabeth Vermillion Browning Cemetery**.

**BRAD GIBSON** [brad.gfm@hotmail.com] wrote, 7/4/2011 with an offer of information sharing regarding the **Gibsons of Cumberland County, PA Indian Traders**.

Hi, I found some of your writing on the web re Gibson Family of above county. My last proven ancestor (SAR) of Gibson lineage is John Gibson b. 1756 Conococheague Settlement, PA m. Sarah McDowell and after the war removed to Montgomery County, VA. I have extensive research on this line and would like to coloborate with another of like interests. Please respond if this so interests you.

**KYLOE FISHER** [cassiespups@yahoo.com] wrote, 8/19/2010, regarding **Celia McKinney** who married **Elisha Hurst**.

Hello: I saw that you had some information on the McKinney family on rootsweb. I am searching for more information on Celia McKinney and think that she may be the daughter of James McKinney also the sister of Levicey McKinney. Any help or thoughts on the family would be greatly appreciated.

Here is what I have on Celia

Elisha HURST (Henry , John (Millcreek) , John ) was born 1790 in RUSSELL, Virginia. He died 1840/1850 in Clarke, Illinois.

Elisha married Celia MCKINNEY on 1813 in Castlewood, RUSSELL, Virginia. Celia was born 1793 in Virginia. She died 7 Feb 1862 in , , Illinois.

They had the following children:

M i John HURST was born 8 Oct 1814 and died 26 Jan 1907.

F ii Mary "Pop" HURST was born 1816 and died 1843.

M iii Nicholas HURST was born 23 Feb 1818 and died 26 Dec 1899.

F iv Elizabeth HURST was born 1820 and died 6 Sep 1855.

F v Levisa HURST was born 1822 and died 1922.

F vi Nancy HURST was born 1824.

M vii Henry Martin HURST Sr was born 10 Jan 1827 and died 8 Oct 1916.

M viii Greenville Madison HURST was born 2 Feb 1829 and died 3 Jan 1870.

M ix Samuel Elsberry HURST was born 10 Mar 1830 and died 17 Sep 1876.

F x Francis Jane Jane HURST was born 23 Feb 1833 and died 30 Dec 1906.

F xi Julia Ann HURST was born 1835.

M xii Lafayette HURST was born 2 Feb 1837 in , , Illinois. He died 6 Nov 1855 in of , , Illinois.

M xiii James HURST was born 1840 in , , Illinois. was buried in Weston, , Missouri. James married Elizabeth about 1862 in Weston, Platt, Missouri. Elizabeth was born about 1845 in Weston, Platt, Missouri.

Notes on Celia

1850 census she is living next to William McKinney

1860 Living with Nancy Mays and Cynthia

1860 > ILLINOIS > CLARK > AUBURN TWP

Series: M653 Roll: 162 Page: 228

Surname GivenName Age Sex Race Birthplace State County Location Year

HURST CELIA 66 F W VA IL CLARK AUBURN TWP 1860

Married: 1813 in Russell, Cty.,VA as marriage place

I responded:

I agree that she does fit into that family, as I have sons listed and Levicey but a note that there were four more daughters, I will add Celia as one of those with your note below, if you will so permit. I would also like to share this in the Jessee Newsletter and on the Jessee and Russell County Lists. Is that OK with you?

Kyloe cautioned:

Most of the information I have been given by others and it is not my own research. But, if you would like to share that would be fine with me. I would love to find something that would prove that she is in this family.

I keep thinking someone has something to tie them all together! I just saw a photo of Elizabeth Keyser Hurst and on her stone is husband's name, father's name, place of birth and dates - now if we could find one of those on all of these great-grandmothers without known parents life would be good.

This family history calls into question previous email on James McKinney of Russell County. Is this a different one? Jim

**KYLOE FISHER** [cassiespups@yahoo.com] posted 8/20/2010 this information on the **McKinney** family.

Here is some more to think about

**Pioneer Families of Missouri [1876] by Bryan and Rose:  
Page 354- Callaway County:**

McKinney, Major James McKinney of Virginia, removed to Kentucky and settled at Crab Orchard. In 1818 he came to Missouri and settled in St. Charles County, where he remained two years, engaged in hauling wood to town and selling it to the citizens. In 1820, he bought Amos Kibbe's place in the southern part of Grand Prairie, Callaway County and settled there.

He was married in Kentucky to Levisa Whitney and they had- Liberty, Esther L., Charles, Sally A., Samuel, William and Freeman.

Major McKinney was a member of the Ironside Baptist Church, and the second organization of that church was held at his house. He was an intelligent man and a useful citizen and served as County Jusge from 1827 to 1832. He had twelve brothrs, three of whom were killed in the

Revolutionary War. One of his brothers, Abraham, settled in Randolph County at an early date and was a great hunter. Liberty, eldest son of Major McKinney's never married and died in New Orleans. Esther L. married Nathaniel Craig, Charles married Mary L.

Craig, Sallie A. married George McCredie, Samuel married Hortense McLane.

William married and settled in Kansas. Freeman joined General Walker's expedition against Central America and was killed with his commander.

Major James MCKINNEY -Born 15 DEC 1778 in Charlotte Co, Virginia, [son of Mary Ann Chastain and Charles McKinney [died 17 MAR 1798 in Mercer County, Ky]] and died 3 JUN 1846 in Callaway Co, Missouri. He married 10 JUL 1798 in Lincoln Co, Kentucky to Miss Levisa Whitley, daughter of William Whitley and Esther \_\_\_\_\_.

James McKinney is listed on the <<http://eagle.vsla.edu/war1812/>> LVA 1812 muster rolls as James McKinny- Muster Rolls, p.705 -Part of index to: Pay Rolls of Militia Entitled to Land Bounty Under the Act of Congress of Sept. 28, 1850 (Richmond, 1851) and: Muster Rolls of the Virginia Militia in the War of 1812 (Richmond, 1852) which supplements Pay Rolls. This collection is also available on microfilm. [ Note: the link is off site, please bookmark this page to return].

- Baptism: 1818 Big Spring Church, Woodford Co, Kentucky by Elder S. M. Noel

- Residence: 1818 St. Charles, Missouri - 1819 Territorial Census of St. Charles County shows McKenney, James with 2 males ages 14-45, 4 males under 18, 1 female over age 18, 2 females under age 14- 1 slave over age 45, 6 slaves 16-45 and 2 slaves 10-16.

Callaway Co, Missouri

- Obituary: At his residence in this Co. on the 2d inst., in the sixty ninth year of his age, Maj. James McKenney one of our oldest and best citizens. He lived a long and irreproachable life -- He was proverbial in his piety, independence, hospitality and all the qualities which mark the character of his native state, as well as that of the one in which he so long resided.

He was born in Virginia, emigrated to Kentucky in the year 1778, and from thence to this state and county in 1819. He has left a most affectionate family, as well as a long list of friends and acquaintances to deplore and regret his loss.

Father: Charles MCKINNEY b: BET. 1720 - 1732 probably Essex Co, Virginia

Mother: Marianne CHASTAIN b: 17 MAY 1738 in Manakin Town, Goochland Co, Virginia

Marriage 1 Levisa WHITLEY b: 25 FEB 1777 in Harrodsburg, Kentucky Co, Virginia

- Married: 10 JUL 1798 in Lincoln Co, Kentucky

Children

1. Liberty MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1800 - died in New Orleans

2. America MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1802 -

3. Esther L. MCKINNEY b: 1806 married Nathaniel Craig - [ click on picture for larger view]

4. Lewis MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1809

5. \*Charles MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1810 in Kentucky - married Mary Ann Craig- Feb.

10 1830

6. Sally Ann MCKINNEY b: 1811 - married George McCredie- Oct 12 1830

7. \*Samuel MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1814 - married Hortense McLane

8. William Whitley MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1816 -

9. Freeman MCKINNEY b: ABT. 1818- died un-married

Note: \*- Charles and Samuel McKinney are listed in Captain Jameson's Company during the Black Hawk War of 1832

Note: \*- Charles and Samuel McKinney are listed in Captain Jameson's Company during the Black Hawk War of 1832

Refer: Pioneer Families of Missouri 1874, Callaway County History 1884, Callaway County Marriages 1821-1871, Callaway County Cemetery Records, [Richland Cem.], Bureau of Land Management, World Connect at rootsweb, Lincoln Co., Ky Marriages.

## JESSE(E) SURNAME 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, Gesse, Gessey, Jessup, 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 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](http://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.**

**FAMILY TREE DNA** includes the Jessee surname in the derivatives of the surname Jessup. A newsletter contributor sent a document from **THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER** that provides a **Family Name History for Jessee**, which also suggest this Jessup/Jessep/Jessop origin as well as others.

**JESSEE: There are a number of explanations as to the origin of the surname Jessee.** One is that it is a variant of Jessep which is patronymic. This means that it is derived from the first name of a father. In this case Jessep is a pronunciation of Joseph which itself means 'he shall add.' Jessee therefore would simply mean 'son of Joseph.'

Alternatively, Jessee may have developed independently of the surname Jessep and may mean 'son of Jesse.' Jesse comes from the Hebrew word meaning 'Jehovah is'. Finally, it is possible that Jessee is, in fact, a French surname which was brought into England in the wake of the Norman invasion of 1066. The French 'lessee' is occupational in origin and developed to describe one who worked on the land. It has its origins in the French word 'gesse' meaning 'sweet pea'.

An early record of the surname in England includes one Joan Jessop who is mentioned in the Subsidy Halls in Suffolk in the year 1524. Much earlier, in 1379, John Jesup appeared in the Poll taxes for Yorkshire.

## 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. Jesse.**

**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 from descendants of this JESSE family. We owe so much to the work of Harry and Bev Jesse Shuptrine, but due to health reasons they have retired from genealogy. I will continue to provide updates for this family in the database at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org).

**JAN SMILEY CARTER** posted a note on RootsWeb for John and William Morgan Jesse researchers.

My husband is a 3great grandson of Wm Morgan Jesse. We have been doing research and would like to know if anyone has found

evidence that John Jesse was in the Revolutionary War. In the J.S. Jesse book there is a reference showing that John was in a war and his captain was injured so he carried him on his soldiers out of harms way' so we really wonder if that was the Revolutionary War. He died in 1803 so that eliminates War of 1812. Thanks!!

### **Richard Jesse**

**Richard Jesse** was born in 1768 in Middlesex Co., VA, and married Frances (Chowning). Their descendants have been provided to the Jesse Family database at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org) by **Donald R. Coleman**.

### **Samuel Jesse**

**Samuel Jesse**, born abt 1770, who married Catherine George, is another distinct Jesse family in America that we report on from time to time. I have 11 children recorded.

### **William Jesse**

**William Jesse**, born before 1745, we speculate had at least four children that we have recorded, John, Lucy, Thomas, and Elizabeth Jesse.

### **THOMAS JESSEE**

**RICHARD A. THRIFT** [[rathrift@gmail.com](mailto:rathrift@gmail.com)] wrote, 2/23/2011 with another Jesse family which may share common origins.

I've been doing research on my family's genealogy and came across a connection on my mother's side to the Jesse family. I hope I'm correct in my research for when I went to check your database, I didn't see my research meshing up with yours.

I have been able to go back as far as Thomas JESSEE (b. before 1800) and his marriage to Amelia Sophia MONTAGUE (b. before 1800) of Essex Co. I have that they had at least one child John A. JESSEE (b. about 1817) who married an Elizabeth HOSKINS (b. 1825. Sometimes showing up in census as Betty or Bettie). They had two daughters: Lucy Reavis JESSEE (b. about 1855) and Mary E. JESSEE (DOB-UNK). It is Lucy who would be my 2nd great grandmother. She married a Morton Boyd EVANS (1856-1934) and one of their children, Callie Hundley EVANS (1884-1963), married Sadie L. HEALY of Middlesex Co. Virginia 1889-1956). One of their daughters, Lucy Jesse EVANS (1907-1987) married Thomas Wilton POWELL (1902-1984). The last two would be my grandparents on my mother's side.

BTW, John A. Jesse appears to had been a Sergeant in Captain John H. Thurston's Essex Reserves. He also appears in Confederate Citizen Records as having supplied the army with goods (eggs, chickens and the like). His name is attached to a petition sent by the citizens of Essex and Middlesex counties, requesting that General Robert E. Lee release a Dr. John M. Hundley back into civilian service in order to care for the local citizens.

As I mentioned above your data base gives no descendants for Thomas JESSEE and Amelia Sophia MONTAGUE. I hope the information I have provided might be a start for completing that section.

### **JOHN JESSEE**

**RICK AND KATHY WISEMAN** [<mailto:dixie25@hughes.net>] wrote, 10/29/2010, regarding a John Jesse(e) of Franklin Co., VA whose origins we do not know.

Sir you posted a comment on my post on Ancestry.com back on June 16 about my 5th great grandfather John Jesse. I am trying to find information on John Jesse who was born about 1821 in Franklin County Virginia. His birth and the place he was born I was able to get from the 1850 census record when he was living in Floyd Co. Va. I have that he married Elizabeth Napier on Nov. 16, 1848 in Floyd Co Virginia. Bird Jesse who is John and Elizabeth's son was born 1849 in Floyd Co. I found the 1850 census record for John Jesse and the marriage record is all I can find. I have determined that he might have died after the 1850 census record since he does not show up after that.

Elizabeth and Bird do not show up on the 1860 record from what I can find. Bird doesn't reappear until 1870 census when he is living in Franklin Co. Elizabeth reappears in 1880 in Giles County living with apparently another one of their sons Benjamin. The reason I know this is Elizabeth's mom Catherine Napier was living with her in 1850 and also shows up on the 1880 census. Hope this information gives you some background to help answer my question. I would like to find out what happened to John Jesse and also why Elizabeth doesn't appear until 1880 and why Bird doesn't appear on the 1860 census record.

**Richard A. Thrift** [[rathrift@gmail.com](mailto:rathrift@gmail.com)] wrote 2/24/2011 with more information.

John had two daughters with his second wife, Elizabeth Hoskins, but he also had a son with his first wife, Francis Catherine Montague. Thomas Philip Jesse was born about 1840 and, outside of the 1850 census, he does not appear in any subsequent family census. There is a T.P. Jesse which appears in the 1860 US census, of 20 years of age, but living in Spotsylvania Co. in the city of Fredericksburg (page 18 of that county's census). The age fits but there's nothing else to associate him as John A. Jesse's son.

Also on page 47 of the 1860 US Census for Middlesex county there is a Thomas Jesse, 73 years of age. There's a slight chance that this is John A. Jesse's father who's name was Thomas. There is a woman named Frances Jesse living with him of 39 years of age. While she could have been his wife (the census at that time did not specify relationships) she could also have been a care-giving relative. Still there is nothing to link him to John A. Jesse other than he fits the age his father might have been if still living.

The two daughters, Lucy and Mary, married bothers by the way. Lucy married Morton Evans and Mary married William T. Evans. Nothing like keeping that genetic pool clean!!

## **PHILLIP AND RACHEL JESSEE**

Phillip Jesse (1742-1858), wife Rachel, and his son Gabriel Jesse (1804-1886), of still unknown relationship to John Jesse (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 Jesse, their son Gabriel, and their descendants. Your contributions are welcome.

Gabriel Jesse descendants--the late Irene Jesse Perry, Janice Jesse Tiller, Carl Jesse, and the late J.C. and wife Nellie Jesse--have been generous supporters and stalwart workers who have helped establish the Jesse Family Foundation and volunteer for many other Russell County art, history, cemetery restoration, and genealogy projects. For their work, we thank them.

**KATE JESSEE BOCKELMAN** [[Lighthouse83061@aol.com](mailto:Lighthouse83061@aol.com)] wrote 11/16/2010, and asked a question that I could not answer.

HELLO FROM KATE JESSEE BOCKELMAN, WAS WONDERING IF YOU KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT PHILLIP'S WIFE RACHEL? HER MAIDEN NAME OR WHAT SHE WAS LIKE? DOES ANYONE HAVE A PHOTO OF HIM OR HER? HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON THANKS.

MY GREAT GRANDPA WAS HENRY DOBBINS JESSEE, JOHN DEWARD JESSEE WAS MY GREAT GREAT GRANDPA, GABRIEL WAS MY GREAT, GREAT, GREAT GRANDPA AND PHILLIP WAS MY GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT GRANDPA.

## 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.

### Frankey Lea Research

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 on the Frankey Lea record in the database, that we have found through much 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.

This research also attempts to differentiate Col. George Lea RIN 5301, that Tom Rudder 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).

**NEW:** In my exploration at the Family History Center in Salt Lake City this spring, I found that another Jessee researcher had identified Frankey Lea's mother as Mary Archer. While I have always believed this to be the case, and the origin of Archer Jessee's name, I did not see any evidence or proof.

All of the above needs continued research and proof. We ask for research help and contributions.

### John Jessee Research

**JESSICA FINE** [jessicarae.fine@gmail.com] wrote, 4/16/2011 regarding possible new information regarding the **parents of John Jessee, whom she identifies as Henry Jessee of Wales.**

Hello! I am a descendant of Sarah Sallie Jessee trying to find more info on the family. I am wondering if you have any knowledge of John's father being Henry Jessee b. 1710 in Wales. His wife's name was Elizabeth (possibly Browning). I know that John and Frankey witnessed Henry's will in 1781 but the will does not say how they are related. Any information you can give me would be very appreciated. Thank you.

I responded: This relationship is what we show in our database at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org), for the same reason, that will they signed. But it does not prove Henry is his father, and we do not know more. Please see John Jessee (Founding Father) in the database and see the notes there. May I please add your note below to these notes?

You have added two more new bits of information, that Henry may have been born in Wales in 1710, and that his wife Elizabeth may be a Browning. This is keenly of interest to our family researchers, so I am sharing this with the Jessee List. Please share your source for this new information. We are excited to learn this.

Jessica responded on 5/23/2011.

Jim, I'm sorry it has taken me so long to get back to you. Unfortunately, that Henry was born in Wales was just something another researcher had on their family tree on [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com), yet they had no sources cited. It may be a good place to start looking for more information, though. As far as his wife, there is an electronic database of marriage records that includes record of a marriage between a Henry Jessee and an Elizabeth Browning. Unfortunately, being an incomplete record, it does not give the date or any other information. I will include the citation from [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com). Thank you and I will keep in touch!

Source Citation: Source number: 15330.000; Source type: Electronic Database; Number of Pages: 1; Submitter Code: JJ2.

Source Information: Yates Publishing. U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) Operations Inc, 2004.

Original data: This unique collection of records was extracted from a variety of sources including family group sheets and electronic databases. Originally, the information was derived from an array of materials including pedigree charts, family history articles, queries.

**TOM RUDDER** continues to dog the John Jessee research to prove or not that he was a Revolutionary War soldier. Here is what he has learned about the NC Shepard 10th Regiment, the regiment to which our John allegedly belonged.

**MARILYN JESSEE LEBEAU** called me, 2/13/2011, to provide a reference used by the DAR to authenticate John Jesse, Musician in Yarboroughs Regiment. I informed Tom. The source she listed is:

Clark, Thomas, State Records of North Carolina, Vol. XVI, Page 1093: Lists John Jesse, Musician in Yarbrough's Regiment under Abraham Shepherd, 10th regiment.

Tom Responded:

Jim. Here is information on Shepherd's 10th Regiment. I guess you noticed that the Shepard 10th organized in Kinston with men from the northeastern part of the state which would not have included Caswell Co.

The Sheppard's Additional Continental Regiment in the Revolutionary War (aka 10th North Carolina Regiment)

#### UNIT LINEAGE

\* Authorized on April 17, 1777 in the North Carolina State Troops as Sheppard's Regiment.

\* Organized on April 19- July 1, 1777 at Kinston to consist of eight companies from Northeastern part of the state.

\* Adopted on June 17, 1777 into the Continental Army as Sheppard's Additional Continental Regiment and assigned to the Main Army.

\* Disbanded on June 1, 1778 at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania  
Lineage taken from "The Continental Army" by Robert K Wright  
FURTHER READING

\* The North Carolina Continentals by Hugh F. Rankin

\* A Time of Terror: The Story of Colonel Jacob Klock's Regiment And The People They Protected, 1774-1783 (Paperback) by AJ Berry

### John Jessee Male DNA Line

I submitted my DNA to FamilyTreeDNA.Com, under the Jessup surname project, which includes our Jesse, Jessie, and Jessee surnames as variants. If indeed my Jessee male line is unbroken, then all John Jessee male descendants should have the same. The Jessee Y DNA Haplogroup is R1b1b2.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia and FamilyTreeDNA resources. In human genetics, Haplogroup R is a Y-chromosome DNA haplogroup, a subgroup of haplogroup P, associated with the M207 mutation.

Origins: It is believed to have occurred somewhere in Central Asia between 30,000 and 35,000 years ago.

Distribution: The majority of members of haplogroup R belong to the Haplogroup R1, defined by marker M173. R1 is very common throughout Europe and western Eurasia. Its distribution is believed to be associated with the re-settlement of Eurasia following the last glacial maximum. Its main subgroups are R1a (SRY1532) and R1b (M343). One subclade of haplogroup R1b, R1b1b2-M269, is the most common haplogroup in Western Europe. [We, in fact, descend from Cro-Magnon man-Jim].

The above assures us that our Jessee male ancestors were of recent European origin, with high probability that our Jessee male ancestors came from the British Isles. England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are all in the hunt.

### Frankey Lea Jessee Female MtdNA Line

If we can find a daughter of a daughter of a daughter only descendant of one of the seven daughters of John and Frankey Lea Jessee, we can discover Frankey's Mitochondrial DNA heritage, and determine if Frankey has European, Indian or Melungeon origins.

## JOHN AND FRANKEY'S CHILDREN

I correspond 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 Newsletter but do record it in the family database. Please visit the family database at [www.jessee.org](http://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.

Lois [Grumpy28@netzero.com] wrote, 6/11/2011 with this information regarding James MC Jessie who married C Jessie. He is known to us as **James Mathias C. or "Mack" Jessee**, son of **Jefferson Jessee and Nancy Counts**, who married **Catherine Fuller**, daughter of **Jessee Fuller, Jr, and Mary Polly Banner**.

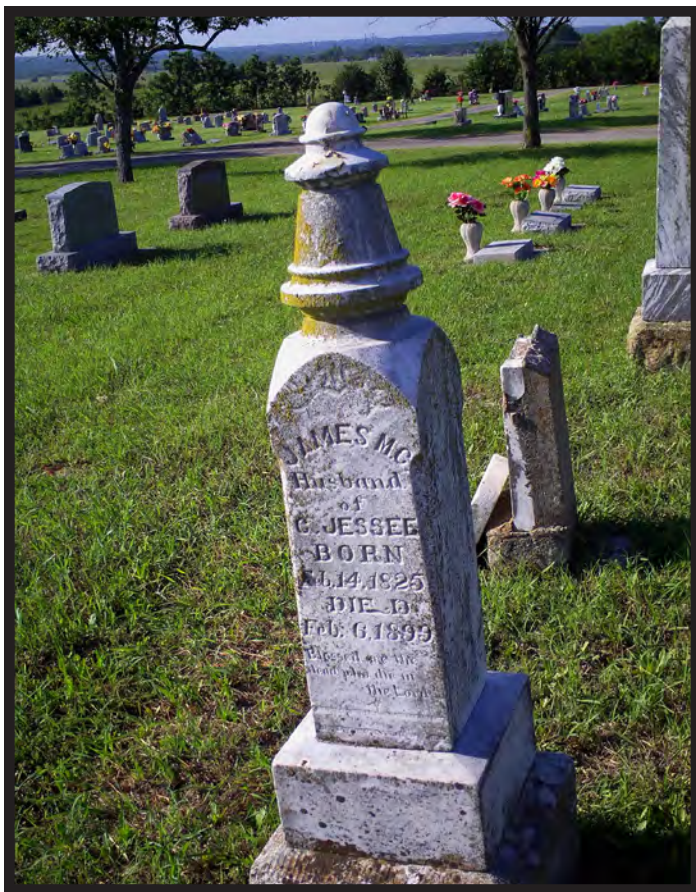
Hi. My name is Lois. I have been working on entering FindA-Grave Memorials. I came across a stone from 1899 that was VERY legible and so it made me want to see if I could directly find someone who might be interested in it. However, when I found all of you, you have the same EXACT death date and the same similar year of birth as what's on the stone. Most of you have 24/25. The stone is Feb 14, 1825. However, you all have him dieing in Sulphur Springs, Texas. However, this burial is in Sulphur, Oklahoma. However, I'm not sure it would have been called Sulphur back then as Oklahoma was all Indian territory then. The stone does say Husband of C Jessee, which again matches what you all have as his wife. Buried next to him appears to be his daughter possibly, from your information on Roots Web. It's N.B. Jessee, born in 1852 who also died in 1899. One of you that I glanced at had her born approx 1851. Her stone is not near as legible. Luckily, I can make out the name and birth and death year and can find it on the list that the Historical Society did in 1983.

I am NOT related, but this all seemed so similar that I thought I might let you all try and sort it out. Please let me know if you all are interested in the headstone or if you can definitely say it's not your James MC Jessee.

I responded: I do believe this is our James Mathias C. or "Mack" Jessee, son of Jefferson Jessee and Nancy Counts, who married Catherine Fuller, daughter of Jessee Fuller, Jr, and Mary Polly Banner. I will share this information with the Jessee and Russell County Lists. This is a very famous, if not infamous, Jessee from Russell County. His story has been in the Jessee Newsletters, something about selling his Daddy's cattle to the CSA, twice!. He has descendants who are major supporters of my Jessee Newsletter, too. One of his descendants came to the Jessee Reunion this last summer, and got an ear full, I hear. Things are long remembered in Russell County.

Lois provided photos of the stones and responded:

LOL on your infamous relative. I have one of those named "my father". Luckily my mom left him when I was 11 and none of this had transpired yet. From stories of booby trapped house...., to getting shot because he got "loaded" and forgot about his booby trap... to I think he was making home-made whiskey in his later years.... to..... oh wait, I'll stop there. :-)



**JOE JESSEE** wrote, 3/14/2011, about the passing of his uncle and Doodle Jessee's brother, **Lawrence Carroll (Larry) Jessee**.

Lawrence Carroll (Larry) Jessee, 85, of Roanoke, passed away at home on Saturday, March 12, 2011. Larry was born on November 2, 1925 in Russell County, Va., son of the late Conley Trigg Jessee and the late Margaret Augusta Jessee. He was a graduate of Lebanon High School and Milligan College. Larry, one of five his brothers who served during World War II, was a veteran of the United States Navy, serving in the Pacific. Larry retired from Commercial Credit in 1989 with 40 years service and began his second career in the home restoration business, which he enjoyed until the time of his death. During his life, Larry was an active member of First Baptist Church of Roanoke and served in many capacities, including teaching youth Sunday School for over 30 years. He was also active in the Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization for many years. In addition to his parents, Larry was preceded in death by five brothers, Robert T. Jessee, Ralph S. Jessee, J. Harold Jessee, James P. Jessee and Lowell L. Jessee and two sisters, Ruth Parks and Anna McIntyre. Survivors include Evelyn V. Jessee, his wife of 55 years; one daughter, Elizabeth J. Atkinson and husband, Dock, of Roanoke; one son, Lawrence C. Jessee Jr. and wife, Teresa H. Jessee, of North Augusta, S.C.; and seven grandchildren, Robert, Amy, Sarah, Megan, Joseph, Benjamin and Abigail Jessee; two sisters, Dorothy Jones, of Kingsport, Tenn. and Louise Morris and husband, William, of Orlando, Fla.; two sisters-in-law, Earnestine Jessee, of Lebanon and Peggy Jessee, of Roanoke; and many nephews and nieces. The family will receive friends from 5 to 8 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011 at Oakey's South Chapel, 540-989-3131. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at the old sanctuary of First Baptist Church in Roanoke, with Dr. Bryan Smith officiating. Entombment to follow at Evergreen Burial Park. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society, <https://www.cancer.org/involved/donate/> or the Future Generations Bldg Fund, First Baptist Church, 515 Third Street, Roanoke, VA 24016.

**ROBBIN ANDREWS** [vball\_4\_97@yahoo.com] wrote 3/1/2011 regarding the family of **Dovie Lee Jessee Henslee** providing corrections and new information. She provided the photos featured up front.

Dovie Lee Jessee married Jasper L. Henslee  
They had the following children:  
Rachel Inez Henslee b. 25 June 1919, Coalgate Ok, d. 19 Dec 2000, CA  
Edith W. Henslee b. 14 June 1920, Coalgate OK, d. 15 Oct. 1845, El Paso, TX  
JR Henslee B. 05 Jan 1924, Henrietta OK, d. Feb. 1924, Henrietta, OK  
Floyd Willis Henslee b. 05 Dec 1924, Coalgate, OK, d. 01 Aug 1984 Abilene, TX  
Helen Louise Henslee b. 05 Feb 1926, Henrietta, OK. d. 2007? in AZ.  
John D. Henslee b. 04 Jun 1928, Wetumpqua, Ok  
Ernest M. Henslee b. 27 Jul 1930, Watumpqua, Ok, d. 04 Jan 1978, San Diego, CA  
Sadie Leota Henslee b. 04 Sep 1932, Shawnee OK, d. Nov 2009 Pah-rump, NV buried in Santa Maria, CA  
Julia Faye Henslee b. 22 Jun 1935, Coalgate, OK, d. 23 Jun 1986 Ft. Worth, TX  
Rachel Inez Henslee married (1) Ernest Fred Mowles

**I responded:** Cousin Robbin, We are fourth cousins, twice removed, in a very complicated way.... And you descend from a rather infamous family member, James Mathias Jessee.

James Mathias "Mac" Jessee lived in Russell County during the Civil War, just up the road from my g-grandfather's place, and both farms still stand today, not too far from Jessee's Mill. He is known in the County for having sold his father's cattle to the CSA (Confederate States of America), twice... that is the same cattle, and he bankrupt his Daddy when they came for the cattle again. Ostensibly Mac fled VA with the money and settled in Texas, and was not heard of since in Russell Co. He founded the Texas branch of the Jessee Family just after the Civil War. One of your near cousins of that line went to the reunion this year, and introduced herself as the first of that family to return to Russell County, and hoped the "rustling" had been forgiven. Not sure, some are still fighting that War back there.

**ROBBIN ANDREWS** [vball\_4\_97@yahoo.com] wrote again, 11/18/2011, with additional information and updates.

Hi Jim, Hope you and your family are doing well. It's been quite a while since we have been in contact and I do apologize. It seems that our family just keeps growing and growing. First, I would like to wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Secondly, we have experienced a loss in the family last November. Dovie's daughter Leota passed away. She is buried out in Santa Maria along with her first husband Don Berryhill. She and I became close, and I miss her terribly. I wanted so badly to meet her in person before she passed but it was just not meant to be. She was ill a lot. Pneumonia, she had fallen, and she had other ailments. Aunt Leota is and will always be special to me since I considered her to be my grandmother since Grandma Julie had passed on years ago.

However, on a better note...we have had some new babies added to the family. I have had a little girl back in April of this year. We named her Julianna. Grandma's youngest son Donnie also has some new grandbabies. We have also found Dovie and Jasper's son Ernest's family down in Louisiana. His widow Margot (pronounced Margaret) and their children are doing well.

**THOMAS RAY** [southernproud82@yahoo.com], wrote 7/14/2010, regarding his research on the Jessee side of my family history, descendants of **Thomas Jefferson Jessee**.

I am reserching the Jessee side of my family. My great grandmother was Ellen Jessee, Her parents were Thomas Jefferson Jessee and Dona Carrol. I would greatly appreciate any information you could provide. Thank you, Thomas Brady Ray

I responded:

Thank you for writing. Please go to [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org), then go to the family database and enter the name JESSEE, Sallie Ellen and look for record ID# 12378 who married B. H. "Howard" Ray and then see her extensive pedigree information there. As you descend from Jefferson Jessee who married Nancy Counts, you are about a 4th cousin to me, as we both descend from son #1, John Jessee, Jr. of 15 children of John Jessee and Frankey Lea. The Counts connection makes you an even more distant cousin of my wife.

Thomas Responded:

Thank you so much cousin, you were a big help. I can't believe how much history the Jessee name has. I was telling my wife the other day how I wish I would have asked mamaw Ray questions about her side of the family when she was still with us, but I guess kids don't really think of things like

## 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.

**RICHARD DETWEILER** [rdetweiler@att.net] wrote 4/18/2011, with this happy connection for me with his mother, **Zella (Jessee) Detweiler** literally my first genealogy correspondent when I was 15 years old.

HI COUSIN!

GOOD DAY, JAMES WILSON JESSEE. IF I'M ADDRESSING THE INCORRECT PERSON, I APOLOGIZE.

THIS PAST FEBRUARY, MY SPOUSE AND I TRAVELED TO LEBANON, VA., TO SEE THE JESSEE MILL, WHICH I HAD HEARD OF ALL MY LIFE, BUT NEVER SEEN. IN THE PROCESS I CAME UPON ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT YOU HAVE PROVIDED THE 'SCATTERED TRIBES' OF THE JESSEE CLAN THAT HAD IT'S ORGINS IN RUSSELL COUNTY, VA.

MY NAME IS RICHARD JESSEE DETWEILER; MY MOTHER, WHO TOOK A GREAT INTEREST IN FAMILY HISTORY, WAS ZELLA JEAN JESSEE (AND HER SISTER, HELEN FAYE JESSEE, FROM CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, IL. I VISITED MY GRANDPARENTS, JOHN JOSEPH JESSEE AND GOLDIE JESSEE, EACH SUMMER, AT 202 E. SPRINGFIELD, CHAMPAIGN, IL. THEY OFTEN TOOK ME FISHING NEAR HIS FATHER'S FARM....THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE 1880'S....AND I HAVE A WONDERFUL PIC OF THE HOME AND FAMILY MEMBERS, A FEW ON HORSEBACK, SOME SITTING OR STANDING ON THE WRAP-AROUND PORCH, VERY POPULAR IN THAT DAY.

ACCORDING TO MY MOTHER, JOHN JESSEE, OF THE JESSEE MILL STORY, WAS HER GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER. OTHER NOTES RELATED: MY AUNT HELEN FAYE JESSEE... MARRIED A DUNCAN, RUSSELL H. DUNCAN, AND LIVED OUT THEIR YEARS IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL.

YOU HAVE INDEED, ACCOMPLISHED A MONUMENTAL CHORE, AND WE THANK YOU. DICK DETWEILER

I eagerly responded: I am very pleased that you have written to me. Your Grandmother, Zella Detweiler was my first genealogy contact when I was a

teenager, some 45 years ago. She provided me most of my earliest materials and information, and put me in contact with our cousin, a history professor at U of VA, Blacksburg, who grew up in Lebanon, and on the family farm that my branch descends from, John Jessee, Jr. He filled in much more for me, and I have been on this ride ever since. His name was Dr. Leland Tate, and his mother was a Jessee.

I corresponded for very many years with Zella, she did get the Jessee Newsletter, and then it stopped, and I had to assume your mother passed away. When did she pass away?

Richard responded:

HI COUSIN JIM, NO TELLIN' HOW MANY TIMES REMOVED!

YOU CANNOT IMAGINE MY ASTONISHMENT WHEN YOU NOTE MY MOTHER, ZELLA J. DETWEILER, CORRESPONDED WITH YOU ON OUR COMMON HERITAGE IN THE JESSEE FAMILY!

FOR US, THIS ALL BEGAN WHEN IN MY SENIOR COLLEGE YEAR, THE HISTORY PROFESSOR REQUIRED EACH STUDENT TO PREPARE A HISTORY OF HIS OR HER FAMILY. AFTER CLASS I WENT TO HIS DESK TO PLEAD MY CASE, 'THAT WE KNEW LITTLE OR NOTHING ABOUT OUR FAMILIES....IN THE DETWEILER SIDE, I HAD A GREAT GRAND FATHER WHO WAS A DRUMMER BOY IN THE CIVIL WAR.' VERY THOUGHTFULLY HE SAID, "YOU NEED TO TRY."

I WENT HOME TO TALK TO "MOM," (ZELLA) AND DISCOVERED SHE KNEW A FEW THINGS ABOUT BOTH SIDES OF THE FAMILY, AND VOLUNTEERED TO HELP ME OUT. IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR WE (MORE SHE THAN MYSELF) PULLED TOGETHER A REMARKABLE BIT OF INFORMATION.

I WAS IMPRESSED. THE INSTRUCTOR WAS MORE IMPRESSED... "I'VE NEVER HAD A FAMILY HISTORY LIKE THIS IN MY LIFE." THAT DIDN'T HURT MY FEELINGS! I CONTINUED SCHOOL, AND MOM CONTINUED WRITING LETTERS AND COLLECTIONING INFORMATION. THAT'S HOW IT ALL BEGAN FOR US.

SO I THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPT AND INFORMATIVE RESPONSE. HAVE A GOOD DAY....WE WILL 'TALK' AGAIN, AND SOON. JESS DETWEILER

I responded:

We are fifth cousins, once removed. Your gggg-grandfather, Archer Jessee, is buried across the road from my ggg-grandfather's home, in Reeds Valley, about a mile from Jessee's Mill. I would love to see that paper.

The following obituary came my way and is surprisingly directly related to all this discussion. **Joseph A. Jessee is the father of Zella Detweiler**, and descendant of Archer Jessee. Article from Monday, April 19, 1937. He died April 18, 1937.

**J.S. JESSEE, 64, LIFELONG COUNTY RESIDENT, DIES**

Crittenden Twp. Native Dies After Four Weeks' Illness;  
Resided Here for Many Years

Joseph A. Jessee, 64, lifelong resident of Champaign County died at 5:30 p.m. Sunday at Carle Memorial Hospital, following a four weeks' illness. Mr. Jessee had been confined at the hospital eight days, and death was due to heart trouble and complications.

Mr. Jessee was born Aug. 27, 1872, on the Jessee homestead in Crittenden Township, near Camargo. He was the youngest son of David H. and Eliza Munsey Jessee, early settlers in Crittenden Township. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm. On Dec. 30, 1902, Mr. Jessee was married to Golda Barnes, of Fairland. To this union two



daughters were born.

The family resided in Urbana until 1915, when they moved to Chandler, Okla. Three years later, they returned to Champaign, and have since made their home here. They resided at 202 East Springfield Avenue. Mr. Jessee was a telegraph operator in his younger days, and later entered the business field. For several years he operated a grocery store on Coler Avenue, Urbana.

He leaves, in addition to his wife, his daughters, Mrs. R.S. Deitweiler, St. Louis, and Mrs. Russell H. Duncan, Champaign; one sister, Mrs. Ida B. Hopkins, Urbana; and one brother, John W. Jessee, Arlington, Kan., and two grandsons.

**JANET ALVIS** [janet.alvis@gmail.com] wrote, 9/6/2010, regarding **Emanuel Hilliard Hilton** who married **Nancy Jessee**, daughter of **Elder David "Little Dave" Jessee**, son of Archer.

Hi! I am related to Enos Bird Hilton. We have been told that Enos Bird Hilton and Anna Belle Bailie (or Bailey) (oh and a million different spellings for Hilton too ;) ...I see a Jessee married a Hilton, correct? If you have any further info any of them, would be most grateful. We have alot, but I cannot seem to find actual documentation showing Enos and Anna as Newton's parents.... I went to your rootsweb and gathered info on Emanuel Hilton and their children... if you have any pics of anyone or any further docs, would be great!! :D

Also, I noted you have (or had) family Champaign, IL. I am from CU, and my immediate family and I are from Sidney, Urbana, Champaign in Champaign County and after that, Piatt County, IL. Before that my Hilton married an Alvis in Jefferson County, IL. Then the Hiltons.... ahhhh, or Hyltons or Heltons and all those in between! ;P .... they are making me crazy :9

Thank you for your wonderful rootsweb and your blog - they are fantastic!!

I replied:

Here is what I have for Emanuel Hilliard Hilton, who married Nancy Jessee, and one of their children is Enos Byrd Hilton, who I show married to Helen Salyer. I do have some Salyer and Hilton experts in the family, perhaps we can post this to the Jessee List and Newsletter, with your permission. My great-grandparents John Tivis Jessee and America Bickley Jessee moved to Philo, from Russell Co., VA, and Villa Grove, IL, respectively. Several Bickley and Jessee family moved into Champaign Co. after the Civil War. Their son Norval Clarence Jessee moved from Philo, IL to Chico, CA about 1908. My grandmother, Blanche Richman, came from Villa Grove, south of Champaign. Her family were the first white settlers of Douglas Co., IL. All these people can be found in my database at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org).

### 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.

See **MERRI VINTON** contributions under Other SouthWest Virginia Families for possible documentation for William and Mary.

**MICHAEL W. ROBINSON AND DEBORAH L. HUGHES** [mwrobinson@sunflower.com] wrote, 6/18/2011 regarding the home and lives of **William and Nancy Jessee, Lawrence, KS** and in subsequent correspondence provided a biography of William Jessee and much more information about their son, **James Wilson Jessee**, my names exactly, and their passionate efforts and adventures as **abolitionists in Bloody Kansas**, including spying for **John Brown**.



Mr. Jessee: My wife and I purchased our home [above] in the old west historical district at Lawrence, KS in July 1993. The original title was provided by the previous owners who had held the property for 50 years (as rental income). The title listed all property transactions going back to the founding of Lawrence and the purchase of the town site within Robataille's Float.

From my initial research, it appears the house, a simple two story brick rectangular style, was built in late 1869 by William and Nancy Jessee. This is evident from the Douglas County, Kansas tax rolls which show the property (Block 8lot 20, Lane's First Addition, Lawrence, KS) valuation increasing about twentyfold from 1869 to 1870. The 1871 Lawrence City directory also lists "N. Jessee (widow) on Mississippi Street, between Henry and Warren". Henry and Warren were renamed at the turn of the century to Eighth and Ninth Streets.

I spent a good deal of time from 1993 to 1994 researching the names of all persons that were listed on the title just to get a feel for the previous occupants of the house so I am familiar with William Jessee's contributions to the development of the State and his son James involvement before and during the Civil War. I have only recently started going back to expand on my former research since the Internet opens up a lot more available sources. That is how I came across the Jessee genealogy website.

As my wife and I go over the information I've found on the former Owners of our house, we realize we will not be the last to live here. Sixty or seventy years from now, hopefully, the future Owners will get a sense of the importance of the home and love it as much as we do. From looking at the title, it appears my wife and I have actually lived in the structure longer than any of the other previous occupants (going on 18 years). The house was completely renovated prior to our purchase in 1993, but still retains most of the original structure and features, including a lot of original "float" glass in the window panes, original front door with brass twister bell, hand water pump (not working) in the back yard, and exposed walnut framing and sub-floor in the stone basement with square cut nails.

The current address of the house is 816 Mississippi, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044.

I responded to this wonderful letter:

Thank you very much for sharing this note, information and the photo of the home with us. I would like to post it on the Jessee List and include in the next Jessee Newsletter, if OK with you?

I believe this is William John Jessee who married Nancy Weaver. He is the son of William Jessee and Mary Polly Vermillion, son of John and Frankey Lea Jessee, our founding grandparents for most Jessees in America.

William and Nancy had a son James Wilson Jessee, same as my name, who kept a Civil War Diary. He fought for the Union-which is most unusual in the Jessee family, and this was published by the University of Kansas at Lawrence where they have the original. You can look up his pedigree and descendants at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org).

## Michael responded:

Thank you for the prompt reply. Your observation regarding the reference to William J. Jessee and Nancy Weaver matches my own research. I've attached a bio made by Martha Parker who takes care of the Bloomington Museum at Clinton State Lake where the former townsite of Bloomington, KS was established.

I puzzle over the account of Jim Lane's rescue by Nancy Jessee during Quantrell's raid on Lawrence. The other eye-witness accounts at the time indicate Lane hid in a cornfield behind his house (which would have been about 2 blocks northwest the site our house now occupies). Lane was certainly one of the sought after persons in town that was targeted for capture or execution and the location of his farm was certainly known by the raiders. However, it may be that no one wanted to paint Lane in the light of "skipping town" and not coming to its defense, hence the story of his being in Lawrence during the entire incident. It is entirely possible for Lane to have lit out as soon as the raid started at daybreak and made the 2 hour ride out to the Jessee farm at Bloomington, and then gathered people on the way back to Lawrence to give chase to Quantrell's force when they were leaving town about 6 hours later.

### WILLIAM JESSEE by Martha Parker

In Martha Parker's introduction to *Angels of Freedom*, she promised to endeavor to clarify which free-soilers were directly involved in the Underground Railroad and which ones revealed anti-slavery sentiments but may not have actually been involved in the transportation of slaves. One of these latter was William Jessee.

When a leader of the Ohio Emigrant Aid Society, Samuel Walker, staked his claim in what became known as Kanwaka on April 12, 1855, there were already two cabins to the south near the Wakarusa River. One, owned by Harrison Burson, was at the future site of Clinton (one-half mile west); the other, belonging to William Jessee, was on the future site of Bloomington. Both men were from Illinois, representing town companies from towns of the same name in that state.

After the Territorial Election held on March 30, 1855, Mr. William Jessee gave the following report to the protest committee:

To Mr. Reeder: I came to the Territory for the first time about the middle of December 1854. I came to St. Joseph about the middle of November 1854 and left my family there and came over to look at the Territory. I came from McLean county, Illinois, and settled on the Wakarusa, in the second district, a mile and a half from Bloomington (where Clinton was located) on the last day of January . . . came there with a part of my plunder and my oldest son. In about two weeks I went after my family. I moved them there on the 28th day of February, 1855. I was at the election of the 30th of March, 1855. A day or two before the election one of the judges chose me for one of the clerks. On the morning of the election I started very early to go to the polls, and, after I had started a few minutes, I saw a wagon coming with a flag on the hind end of it. It passed me before I got to the polls. I was not out of the house much before the polls were opened, but went in to help them to prepare the poll books for the election. I saw a great many persons going backwards and forwards before the door and windows. The polls were opened and the commenced voting. Some persons came forward and voted. Others came, and the votes were objected to until they were proved to be actual settlers of the Territory. . .

William's testimony corroborates that of Dr. Eliab Macy and ends with the following description:

The man who was holding the watch in the election house I recognized afterwards as the one who gave me his name as Jones, the present sheriff, in Mr. Ramsey's house. What I saw of those persons, went off east by my house. I was home part of the time, and saw a number of horses and wagons pass. The man who was holding the watch in the election house I recognized afterwards as the one who I supposed there were near 400 strangers in the district then, so far as I know. I have not seen them in the district since. As far as I saw, they were pretty well armed with revolvers and bowie knives. Some of them had two pistols in a belt around them, and a bowie knife or two. I do not know whether any settlers of the district voted after this difficulty about the judges took place.

## WILLIAM and JAMES WILSON JESSEE

William and his wife Nancy settled on their claim in the southwest quarter of Section 13 (Clinton Township) just north of the town of Bloomington (established February 10, 1857). As a farmer turned politician, William was elected to the Territorial House on May 22, 1855, but as happened to Dr. Macy, his political life did not last long. He was ousted at Pawnee on July 2, 1855.

William found other ways to be active. Earlier in the summer he had been a delegate to two meetings of the free-state movement, one on June 8 and the other on July 11, in Lawrence. These two meetings were held to set up the first Free-State Convention held in Lawrence on August 14, 1855, to which he was a delegate.

His son, James, born May 8, 1838, likewise was active in the free-state cause, but in a different manner. Instead of following the governmental process, he chose to express his opinions in a more radical way by serving under the leadership of Col. Sam Walker and John Brown. These two men sent him out on errands of exploration, and although he was only sixteen, his youthful appearance proved to be an asset: he made an excellent spy. He helped storm Fort Titus, one-half mile south of Lecompton on August 16, 1856.

He also helped drive out the notorious McGee's. In addition, he went with Walker to Brown County to meet Jim Lane on his way to Kansas with a large body of men, and later he accompanied Walker to Lecompton, to free (with the aid of the U. S. troops) free-state men held prisoner there. James continued to participate in the conflicts between the free-staters and border ruffians until the summer of 1857, when they succeeded in chasing him out of Kansas.

James returned to McLean County, Illinois. There he found a new cause to which he could dedicate his life; the work of God. He became a Presbyterian minister and continued to preach until the Civil War interrupted his work. He enlisted on July 28, 1861, in Co. K, 8th Regiment Illinois Infantry and within a year was promoted to Sergeant. His engagements included Fort Donelson, Fort Henry, Pittsburg Landing, Champion Hills, Raymond, Jackson, and Vicksburg. During his service, James kept a diary in which he often reflected on the war, his thoughts and what he saw. He describes Mississippi during November 1862:

... for the whole county seemed to be a livid sheet of fire, mauls and fields were on fire, the fences all burned, the inhabitants had fled, the county was deserted and looked as though through some might revolution she had been converted into one vast desert.

James continued his narrative on December 31, 1863, by expressing his views on how the war should end:

Bring peace upon a sure basis, that of universal liberty, not till the last slave is freed need we expect peace, nor need we desire [it], at least we ought not to. I believe the war is a means inaugurated and being carried out by a wise and inscrutable providence for the liberation of this oppressed and downtrodden race. . . Also, a curse sent upon the country for the toleration of that inhuman practice human slavery.

Again, James Jessee ponders the end of the war:

I would be glad, would it end tomorrow and end right, but I would prefer ten years of war, and no more slavery, than peace tomorrow with slavery. Such is my abhorrence of that Barbarous Institution and such is my desire to see it abolished, and that entirely and forever more. Then let us hope and trust in Him that ruleth all things, assured that in due time all will be right, never ceasing to use the means he has placed in our hands.

While James was serving, his father William was busy at home in Bloomington. He was elected president of the Bloomington Town Company and proceeded to take the necessary steps to secure a clear title for the town site.

It was William's wife Nancy who played a major part in saving the life of Jim Lane of August 21, 1863, when William Quantrell and his guerilla army decimated Lawrence. In a taped interview at the home of Nancy's great-granddaughter, Carrie Jessee Shirley, on September 12, 1979, the following family lore was related:

Nancy Jessee, my great-grandmother, was living on the Wakarusa River. The men were all gone one day when Jim Lane, a patriot who came to make Kansas a free state, came riding up – his horse all

lathered up - and said Quantrill's men were after him. So she began to clean house, rolling him up in a rug and setting furniture out in the yard; she hid his horse in the cornfield. The riders came in but didn't find him - that she saved Jim Lane's life.

As a token of gratitude, Jim Lane gave Nancy Jessee his photo, which she highly prized.

James Jessee did not re-enlist after serving his three-years and was discharged on August 2, 1864. He attended church on Sunday and prayer meetings during the week, and at one such meeting James met his wife-to-be, Maria Standiferd. After nearly a year of courtship they were married on July 13, 1865. The couple continued to live in McLean County, Ill. Until spring or summer of 1866, when they decided it was time to come back to Kansas, where they settled in Lawrence. There Maria gave birth to twin sons, Lincoln S. and Logan S. on March 21, 1867. Sometime later, James and Maria with their family moved to the community of Arvonias in Osage County.

Whether for economic or for health reasons, William and Nancy Jessee sold their land in Bloomington and moved to Lawrence. William may have been suffering ill health since the lot they bought in Lawrence was in Nancy's name and went directly to her in February 1869. Ironically, this lot (No. 20 of block No. 8) was located in "Lane's 1st Addition," part of land owned and developed by Jim Lane. Their house at 816 Mississippi is still standing.

## 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.

**MICHAEL DAVID JESSIE II** [dj85chevy4x4@aol.com] wrote, 1/24/2011 regarding **June Mabel (Jessee) Merritt**.

My name is Michael David Jessie II, I saw while searching my family history you had requested info on her in a newsletter. June was my great-aunt. Her fathers name was Otis Jessee. Her brother my grandfather was Estel Lee Jessie, when he was born they misspelled Jessee and it was never corrected. So started our line of Jessie. There is a website called [www.smokykin.com](http://www.smokykin.com) that has a little bit of information for my father as far as brothers and sisters. In our family I am the last one to be able to carry on the name and over the last few years have become interested in finding my roots. I haven't had much luck in getting past Otis Jessee in my research. I wish I could have given you more information.

### I responded:

Thank you for writing. I did check out your website below, and thank you for this reference. Boy did your father die young. He was six years younger than I. I am sorry to say that I have not been able to push this back beyond Otis, either, but I do have another Otis in my database, born after 1928 in Scott Co. VA, so I don't think it fits. With your permission I would like to post this on the Jessee List, and share it in the next Jessee Newsletter.

### Later I changed my mind and added more:

I have changed my thoughts based on the use of Lee as a name in your family and suggest you check out the other Otis Jessee in my database at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org) he is the son of Lee Jessee. What do you think?

Your family appears to have died very young. Is there an explanation? My father died at 40, and my mother at 53, and I have concerns about Jessees dying so young in many cases. My father was one of 8 brothers, and all died in their 40s, 50s, and 60s. I am 62...

## V. David Jessee

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

See Merri Vinton contributions under Other SouthWest Virginia Families for information for Rev. David and his son Rev. John Jessee descendants

**LOUISE JESSEE BAKER** c/o Norman Stout [norman.stout@att.net] wrote, 2/10/2011 regarding the **Puckett's and David Jessee** family intermarriages.

Hi Jim, After reading the new newsletter, I have information for you about the Pucketts & the Jessees marrying. The Pucketts lived on one side of Copper Creek Rd and the Jessee lived on the other side. My mother, Mabel, was a Puckett, daughter of Samuel & Minnie Puckett, she married Wayne Jessee, son of Ebb Jessee. Her sister, Nina Puckett married Oscar Jessee, Wayne Jessee's uncle.

My grandfather Samuel Jessee Puckett was the son of Harry Puckett and Frances Jessee.

[NOTE: Does anyone know who this Frances Jessee is?]

My father Wayne was killed in the coal mines near Bluefield VA at the age of 22. My sister, Marie was born the day of Dad's funeral, she died 12/06/2010.

My Aunt Nina & Uncle Oscar lived on a farm on Copper Creek Rd. their entire lives. My Grandfather Ebb Jessee lived down the road on the left his entire life.

Grandfather Samuel Puckett also lived on Copper Creek Rd on the opposite side of the road from Grandpa Jessee.

Most of the road was inhabited by Jessee farms.

My mother was one of 14 children. All but one aunt has passed away. Don't know if she would have anymore information than this since she was not married to a Jessee.

**JACK HOCKETT** [Tlas101@aol.com] sent along this obituary, published in Bristol Herald Courier on March 27, 201, for Harry Lee Samuel Jessee, who I believe may be the descendant of Oscar and Nina (Puckett) Jessee, discussed above. Please confirm or correct me if this is in error.

Harry Lee Samuel Jessee CASTLEWOOD, Va. Harry Lee Samuel Jessee, 59, died Thursday, March 24, 2011, in Lee Regional Medical Center, Pennington Gap, Va., from injuries received in a car accident. He was born in Lebanon, Va., son of the late, Wiley Lee Jessee. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Oscar and Nina Lee Jessee and Harry and Erma Farris; one grandson, Logan Bradley Hurley. He was a member of the Sulpher Springs Methodist Church, Castlewood, and was employed as a Supervisor with Mountain Materials Inc. He was a former employee of White Stone Company. He is survived by his mother, Lois Farris Jessee of Castlewood; one son, Daniel Lee Jessee and wife, Kimberly, of Piney Flats, Tenn.; one daughter, Greta Lynn Hurley and husband, Brad, of Bristol Tennessee; one sister, Sonnie Tomlinson, and husband, Joe, of Castlewood; he was a loving grandfather of one granddaughter, Lorán Mary-Kate Hurley and one grandson, Ian Blake Jessee; former wife and mother of his children, Katie Jessee of Abingdon, Va.; a special friend, Nan Belcher of Big Stone Gap, Va.; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services for Harry Lee Samuel Jessee will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, March 28, 2011, in Castlewood Funeral Home Chapel, Castlewood, with the Rev. Jim Stanley and the Rev. Allen Porter officiating. Giving special memories will be Carl Castle. Entombment will follow in Temple Hill Memorial Park, Chapel of Love Mausoleum, Castlewood. Masonic Rites will be conducted by the Coeburn Masonic Lodge No. 97, A.F. & A.M. Pallbearers will be John Michael Byerley, Jim Ball, Carl Castle, Tom Dickenson, Joe Jordan, and Jonathan Finch. Honorary pallbearers will be Uncle Frank Tompa, Larry Gibson, Bobby Hill, James White, Scotty White, and the Staff and Employees of Mountain Materials Inc.

## 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.

## 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. We know so little about these descendants that any tidbit of information is big news, even an error correction to what I have recorded.

**STEVEN HAYWOOD** [steventhaywood@gmail.com] wrote, 6/29/2011 with this information about **Samuel Stephen Stone**. His father is Martin G. Stone, then John Jessee Stone, then William Stone, who married Frances Jessee

My brother and I recently discovered a Stone family cemetery on the property of a Bible Camp in Scott county Virginia. The camp was built by the First Assembly of God but has since been bought by the Church of Christ. The largest and only readable tombstone in the cemetery belongs to S.S. Stone born 1861 died 1901. From what I have read online this headstone belongs to Samuel Stephen Stone. There are several other small markers but they are not readable although we have not tried to clean them off. If you have any information on S.S. Stone please let me know as I have taken quite an interest in this cemetery and it's inhabitants. Also if you have interest in visiting the cemetery or know of anyone who would let me know and I can make arrangements. The camp is now named High Rock Bible Camp and the cemetery is in the woods behind the camp.

I posted this on the Jessee and Russell County Lists and received this response.

**CONNIE HOSKINS** posted to the Jessee List, 6/29/2011 regarding the Samuel Stephen Stone Cemetery Found in Scott Co. VA

Samuel Stephen Stone and his father, Martin Stone are my direct ancestors. Martin Stone left his property to the Bible Camp, and the church continues to use it today. Samuel S Stone is a son of Martin Stone. I descend from Sam Stone's son, William James Stone. I have the original paperwork regarding the transfer of the property to the church. Several of these Stone brothers served in the Civil War. I'm away from my FTM at the moment, but have this information traced back. I would be glad to share information w/ interested relatives.

**KENT PUSSEY** [anexwrench2@msn.com] copied me, 11/16/2010, with this information regarding the genealogy of the Jessee and Stone families.

Dear Patricia, I see that you are, as I am a descendant of William Stone and Frances Jessee. If I may, I would like your opinion on the following: My maternal grandfather is Ira Lee Stone, son of Harvey George Stone and Caroline Dyer. On H. G.'s gravestone in Fairhaven Memorial Cemetery in Santa Ana, California, his birth year is given as 1844. H. G. is named as Executer of William Stone's will, as well as one of the sons listed in the will. I believe that my great-grandfather,

Harvey George Stone, is NOT the son of William Stone and Frances Jessee, but rather their grandson, a possible son of the Harvey George mentioned in the will. My grandfather, Ira Lee Stone, was born in Milan, Sullivan County, MO in 1878, and is listed in the 1880 census in the HH of Harvey and Martha as 2 years of age. All my other Revolutionary War ancestors are my GGGG-grandparents, so I think I am missing a generation on my Jessee ancestry. By the way, there is a descendant of Lea Jessee living in my town, I have contacted her, and she has quite an interesting genealogy, besides being married to the brother of one of our ex-neighbors.

## 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, and Rebecca Jessee Gose above, as well as additional information under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

**MICHAEL JONES** posted on RootsWeb documentation for **Charles Orson Gose and John Earl Gose**, sons of John Jessee Gose, and grandsons of Stephen Gose and Boedicia Jessee.

1880 US Census, Pleasant Grove, Marion County, Iowa, p. 562C. Age 12. Listed as Charles O. Gose.

1900 US Census, Hennessey City, Hennessey Township, Kingfisher County, Oklahoma, ED 111, sheet 16B, 3 July 1900. Birth: Dec 1867. Born in Iowa. Both parents born in Indiana. Married 6 years. Occupation: Physician. Listed as Dr. Charley Gose.

1910 US Census, Cheyenne Avenue, Hennessey City, Kingfisher County, Oklahoma, ED 83, sheet 2B, 16 & 18 April 1910. Age 42. Born in Iowa. Father born in Indiana. Mother born in Virginia. Married 15 years. His first marriage. Occupation: General Practice Physician. Listed as Charles O. Gose.

1920 US Census, Hennessey City, Kingfisher County, Oklahoma, ED 231, sheet 3B, 14 January 1920. Age 52. Born in Iowa. Father born in Virginia. Mother born in Indiana. Widower. Occupation: Physician. Listed as Charley Gose.

1930 US Census, Hennessey City, Kingfisher County, Oklahoma, ED 13, sheet 5B, 14 April 1930. Age 62. Born in Iowa. Father born in Virginia. Mother born in Indiana. Owns a house worth \$4,000. Owns a radio set. Married. Age at first marriage 28. Occupation: Medical Dr. Listed as Charley O. Gose.

Charles Orson Gose, Hennessey, Okla. ; Keokuk (Iowa) Medical College, 1894; served as director of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank ; died in the Oklahoma City General Hospital, Oklahoma City, March 8, aged 79, of cancer. (source: JAMA, volume 134, number 9, page 822)

1880 US Census Pleasant Grove, Marion County, Iowa, p. 562C. Age 7. Listed as John E. Gose.

1900 US Census, Pleasant Grove Township, Marion County, Iowa, ED 52, sheet 11, 21 June 1900. Birth: Oct 1873. Married 5 years. Occupation: Piano salesman.

1910 US Census, 1509 Pierce Street, Amarillo City, Potter County, Texas, ED 197, sheet 3B, 18 April 1910. Age 37. Married 15 years. Occupation: Sewing Machine Agent. Listed as John E. Gose.

John Earl Gose: b. 23 Oct 1872; white; registration place: Denver, Denver County, Colorado. (source: United States World War I Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918)

1920 US Census, 1376 Pearl, Denver City, Denver County, Colorado, ED 253, sheet 2A, p. 188A, 2 January 1920. Age 47. Born in Iowa. Father born in Virginia. Mother born in Indiana. Married. Occupation: Sewing Machine Traveling Salesman. Listed as John E. Gose.

1930 US Census, 163 South Loggers (?), Denver, Denver County, Colorado, ED 93, sheet 8A, 5 April 1930. Age 57. Born in Iowa. Father born in Virginia. Mother born in Indiana. Married. Age at first marriage 22. Occupation: Salesman. Listed as John E. Gose.

## 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.

**KERRY GALCIK** provided this article and photo, 3/24/2011, about being a Dream recipient, and gave permission to share it with the family. Kerry is a descendant of James Jessee, via Fleming Burk Jessee.

### Our First Dream

It is our pleasure to announce our first dream recipient, Kerry Galcik, from Gilbert, Arizona! Below are the details of Kerry's dream request that she submitted, as well as her symptoms and a short story about her life and interests:

### Kerry's Dream

**Submission:** My dream is to have my freedom back. I dream of having hand controls in my car and a lift for my scooter so that I can take my 11 year old daughter out and about. My husband and mother are wonderful about driving me around but I miss the freedom of driving. Can you help?

**Kerry's Symptoms:** When I was diagnosed in 2004, it was after a major collapse that left me not able to walk well. My lesions were found on my spinal cord. I started rehab and Avonex and very slowly built up the ability to walk with a cane at home and a wheelchair when out. My progression continued and I was put on Rebif and then they added chemo for over a year. The MRI now shows that I have lesions on my brain, too. I am still unable to walk distance, so I use a scooter (which I need to have fixed) and a cane at other times. We tried Tysabri for over a year and it worked, but I had to go off it due to getting valley fever. I am now on Copaxone and just finished Solu-Medrol for a flare-up. I am dependent on others to drive me places and it bothers me a great deal to have to ask for the help. I am permanently disabled and yet even though my body says no...I say yes and want to do it all.

**About Kerry:** My name is Kerry Galcik and I live in Gilbert, Arizona. I have been married to my wonderful husband, Anthony, for over 14 years. We have a beautiful 12-year-old daughter named Rebecca. Our home also has two great dogs, Rosie and Buddy, and about 30 tropical fish.

I was born and raised in the Pacific Northwest and relocated to Arizona in 2001 to live closer to family. We are a very active family who enjoy hiking (accessible of course), gardening, travel, swimming, reading and just being with family and friends. My days consist of homeschooling our daughter, being a wife and mother and trying to keep up with our daughter's busy dance and music schedule. I also enjoy many arts and crafts.

Faith is one of the most important things in our lives.

In February of 2004, I noticed a strange sensation that was progressing from my feet up my legs and eventually leading to my chest. Everything was going numb! By the time it progressed to my chest, I felt like there was a rubber band wrapped around my diaphragm and it was getting tighter with every breath. I was immediately hospitalized and went through an MRI, spinal tap, blood work, breathing test, a VEG and others that I can no longer remember. They started me on high dose IV steroids. As I lay in the hospital bed that first night, I was terrified. They were considering putting me on a ventilator if things

kept progressing. As I lay there struggling with each breath, I began to pray...God, please help me breath, please keep me off a ventilator and let the doctors figure out what is wrong with me. By morning, I was able to keep from having a ventilator and I went home after 7 days in the hospital with no answer. After months of rehab, I went from a wheelchair and walker to a cane. I still use the wheelchair or electric scooter in order to get out for any distance.

In August of 2004, after seeing two doctors and having more tests, it was determined that I have Multiple Sclerosis. I started with Relapsing/Remitting and quickly progressed. The doctors tried two of the interferon drugs and chemo to try to slow things down. I then went on Tysabri. This was a great option for me until about a year ago when I developed a secondary infection that I could not take with the Tysabri. I am now on Copaxone and so far I have been able to keep any relapses to a minimum.

Due to the constant numbness and weakness of my legs and feet, I have been unable to drive more than a few blocks for over 7 years now. When I was asked what my dream would be, I knew right away. I wanted my freedom back. Although I have had a wonderful husband, mother and father whom have been there over these last few years to take me places, I have always felt terrible having to ask. Knowing that I will now have the freedom to take my daughter to a movie or share the driving with my husband on a family road trip means more to me than you can know. I have been blessed.

## 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](http://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, except Vins Holbrook, previously featured in this newsletter, who is a Fuller descendant. 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.

**THOMAS RUDDER** [ruddert@sbcglobal.net] shared, 6/19/2010, **this photo of the John Counts of Glade Hollow memorial stone.** John Counts is Betsy’s father.

**HOWARD PRICE** [hp403a@embarqmail.com] sent, 3/31/2011 this photo of **David & Tennessee Self Counts.** David is the gg-grandson of John Counts of Glade Hollow.

**HERSHEL JESSEE** [Hershel.Jessee@wellmont.org] wrote, 5/6/2011, regarding his research for ancestors.

Hi, My name is Hershel Jessee I live in Coeburn Va. I am researching the ancestry on my Fathers side of the family. He passed away in 1974 and I did not know much about my relatives any information would be very helpful. My fathers name was Charles Burnice Jessee born in 1900 died 1974 His Fathers name was Jeeter Jessee and his mothers name was Ida (Ashby) Jessee they were from Russell County he was borned and raised there. He had a brother named Jonas and Jimmy Jessee that was killed in a mining accident when he was young. Every piece of information I find takes me back to Russell County I really would love to find my Jessee relatives that I never known. Any help would be most appreciative. Thank You Hershel Jessee

I wrote back: You can find your father and grandfather in my database at [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org). Go to search for ancestors, and when you get to the index, search for Jessee, Asa Jeeter or search for Ashby, Ida and you will find extensive pedigree information. You are a George Lea Jessee descendant, one of the 15 children of John and Frankey Lea Jessee who came to Russell Co. in 1790. You also descend from John Counts of Glade Hollow, and are therefore one of my wife’s cousins, too. You have deep Russell Co. roots on all branches. I have no information for the children and grandchildren of Charles Burnice, nor any of his siblings. Can you help provide me any of that?

With his permission I posted his inquiry on the Jessee list with this appeal. Hershel Jessee lives in Coeburn, VA so he is near many of you, and shares many common roots with all of us. I hope some of you might be interested in showing Hershel the Original John and George Lea Jessee Farm someday.

Hershel responded. I appreciate the help on this matter I am happy to know I have family there and I am anxious to meet them.



## 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 e-mail 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 other conundrums.

**SAM CAMPBELL** [samuelhcampbell@hotmail.com] wrote, 1/20/2011, asking, “What would it cost me To have your Genealogy Service **find the father of Fountain Campbell**, Living In Russell County, VA. In 1850 Census?”

I responded:

Thank you for your interest in my service, but you need a “real” Russell County genealogist to help you, I am bogus. I have copied two of the very best, who may be able to help, or refer you to someone who can offer real service for your money. They are Jack Hockett and Michael Dye, both SW VA Genealogists and Historians. I am not in a position, nor do I have the time, to do this research for you, and I am so far away, it hurts, sometimes. I live in Chico, CA and while I know internet is the answer, there is nothing like hands-on research and meeting the people there who have real connections.

At the very least, please join the Russell County List and post your inquiry there. I will be glad to forward all this to both the Russell County and Jessee Family Lists, but you should join them to see the responses directly.

Here is what I know about Fountain Campbell, father and son, and I show a father, James Jay Campbell. Here is my source note:

Source: Carol Mitchell [mailto:carolmit@usaor.net]

Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2002 11:57 AM

There are probably errors in this but wanted to get it off so you can send back corrections, etc. Did this because I am working on the Children of Patrick Campbell and am trying to prove or disprove the James Campbell theory as son of Patrick.

Carol Mitchell provided extensive information regarding the descendants of Fountain Franklin CAMPBELL, as well as her sources.

First Generation

1. Fountain Franklin CAMPBELL (1), son of James Jay CAMPBELL and Unknown, was born in 1803 in Amherst Co., Virginia, USA.

Fountain married Clarinda COLLINS, daughter of Luke COLLINS and Sarah

MILLER, on 26 Oct 1826 in Augusta Co., Virginia, USA.

Sam replied:

I Really Appreciate Your Getting Back With Me & Giving Me Another Way To Find My Ancestor. The James Jay Campbell { Father Of Fountain Campbell }, Is Incorrect, As I Had Accepted It As Fact For Years & Tried To Expand On That Lineage. I Asked The Lady Who Gave It To Me For Proof Of The Fountain & James Jay Campbell Connection. She Became Angry With Me & Told Me To Just Accept It. She Had Used It To Get Into The Daughters of the American Revolution { D.A.R. } The Lady Was In Her Late 80's In 1977 ( So I Didn't Push the Point ) & Died a Few Years Later .

## Correspondence

**GIGI ROBINSON** [gigirobinson@hotmail.com] wrote 2/10/2011 and again 6/13/2011 with this news about her son **David Benjamin** and his recordings.

My son, David, has released his first album. The music is appropriate for all ages, very upbeat, and available for download to an Mp3 device. David, put several songs (live) from his C.D. release concert on line. The link is <http://soundcloud.com/david-benjamin/sets/david-benjamin-cd-release-show#> It's a rare opportunity to enjoy his music for free, so be sure to take advantage of this R&B and blues concert.

David Wrote: Finally, my EP Songs for a Sunday is done! I'm very proud of these recordings and I can't wait for you to hear them. There's literally something for everyone on this CD.

This obituary was sent to me and I am happy to honor one of most senior Jessees. Iva Elizabeth Jessee is a descendant of John Jessee, Jr, via his son Archer Jessee.

### Iva Elizabeth Jessee 1907-2011

Globe Funeral Chapel The Independent

CARTER — Ms. Iva Elizabeth Jessee, age 103, of Olive Hill, went home to be with the Lord Thursday afternoon, Feb. 17, 2011, in St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Morehead.

She was born Oct. 5, 1907, in Carter County, a daughter of the late James William and Jeanette Danner Jessee.

Iva was a member of Garvin Ridge Wesleyan Church for 48 years. She was retired from Carter County Schools after teaching for 43 years. Iva loved sewing, gardening, reading and playing the piano before going blind.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Raleigh Jessee, Edward Jessee and James William Jessee; and two sisters, Karen Hillman and Myrtie Parker.

Iva is survived by six nieces, Wilma Walker of Midland, Texas, Kathryn McGlone and Leona Kaye Parker, both of Olive Hill, and Nettie Bond, Shirley Bond, and Rita Hill, all of Mansfield, Ohio. She also leaves several great-nieces and nephews, extended family members, church family and friends who will truly miss her.

## Resources

Attendance at the National Genealogical Society Conference and our experience at the LDS Family History Center has convinced me that genealogical computer research databases and search software are bounding into an exciting future. I recommend use of both Ancestry.Com, a fee-for-service organization, and/or FamilySearch.Org and RootsWeb.Com, both still free services, as starting places for your research. All have added huge amounts of data and improved their services, most especially Family Search. Their new search tools and database will knock your socks off. Go to [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org).

**JACK HOCKETT** [mailto:Tlas101@aol.com] is a very regular helper, who sends on nearly a weekly basis, basic research items and documentation for our Jessee database. Several appear in the Newsletters, and all are incorporated into the database. I thank Jack for his indefatigable work, his help, and friendship.

**MICHAEL A. DYE** created **The Russell County Page** of the VAGenWeb division/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** provides the most excellent genealogy resources for SW VA genealogists. I recommend you explore his work now available on DVD and CD including complete publications of the following: *The Southwest Virginian* magazine; a *Southwest Virginia Historical Book Collection*; the *Southeast Virginia Ancestors* publication, and collections of SW Virginia Family Genealogies.

## JHF News

**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 [www.jessee.org](http://www.jessee.org) Website, the Jessee List on RootsWeb, and this Jessee Family Newsletter to share JHF news and events. I invite all JHF members to join the Jessee List and subscribe to this Jessee Family Newsletter, as well.

**In October 2007, the JHF Board voted to pay (not exceeding \$500) for the purchase or repair of headstones for any of all of the 15 children born to John and Frankey Jessee, and those born to Old Phillip Jessee.** If interested, please contact any of the committee members below for information and assistance.

Carl Jessee: 276-669-6352; Norma McHone: 540-362-9385; Jim Bray: 423-246-7157; Sandra Hood: 276-676-2348.