



Jessee Family Newsletter

Number 17

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Dear Cousin,

I believe we have another interesting newsletter thanks to so many of you who sustain this effort through generous contributions of information, photographs, documentation, and money. My spirits are lifted by your letters, email, and phone calls.

I am getting this edition of the Newsletter out early so that you will have an opportunity to attend **The National Jessee Family Reunion**. Nelda and I are planning to be there and may bring more of our Butte County, California branch of the family. I am looking forward to meeting many of you with whom I have corresponded all these years.

The power of the Internet is very much evident in this newsletter. By placing the Jesse(e) family database out on the RootsWeb WorldConnect Project, I have greatly increased my volume of correspondence, requests for and provision of new information. The inclusion of the John and Clia Smith Jesse database, developed by Harry and Beverly Jesse Shuptrine, has stimulated dozens of inquiries for that family alone. Still, I am only hearing from a few dozen of the hundreds of inquiries made to our database and Web site.

I am accumulating more information than I can key in to the database on my own. After 25 years of working intensively at a keyboard, I have developed a permanent disability which makes any prolonged time typing very painful. My computer time has been significantly limited and, in particular, my regular data entry routine has all but stopped. While I continue to plink at it, I am not denting the perhaps 3000-4000 records piled high and waiting to be keyed in. I will need help with the database in the future if it is to grow.

I intend to continue the newsletter, although I would welcome help. I am finding new ways to capture text and avoid typing. I am steadily reducing my mailing to include those who have expressed interest, have helped in some way, or are a family treasure. If you are getting this newsletter, you are at least a family treasure.

Jim Jessee

Featured This Edition

The National Jessee Family Reunion is our first story with a special invitation to join us **August 5, 2000** at Sugar Hollow Campground in Bristol, VA. **Rev. Vernon Cecil Jessee and Joy Malone** extend an invitation to one and all.

Jesse(e) Family Origins has several new contributions, including an important new clue as to who may be the first **John Jesse** to land on this shore in 1706. Several other Jesse(e) families are heard from.

Because the Jessee family of SW VA is so intermarried with other founding SW VA families, I have chosen to include more information on other related families, this time featuring articles about **Samuel Porter** and **William Smith**.

Several contributors have sent **photographs** which I am happy to feature, although the quality of printing is somewhat uneven, depending on how these were transmitted. These photos speak a thousand words and are most welcome additions to the newsletter. Bear with me while I figure out the technicalities or printing JPG files.

Many contributors have provided new information and updates regarding the ancestors and descendants of Philip and Rachel Jessee and each of John and Frankey Lea Jessee's fifteen children. There are too many to name all here, but you will find many new stories and extensions of our family knowledge.

Correspondence is rich with news, inquiries, and new information, as well as some genealogy humor we hope you will enjoy.

Jessee Resources on the World Wide Web has a few more clues for us computer geeks.

I have reprinted **Tom Rudder's** very fine map of the **original John Jessee land** which helps us locate the cemetery and original home in relation to **Jessee's Mill**.

The Jesse(e) Family Database

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

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

This World Connect Web site provides an index to multiple genealogy databases, provides excellent display and print options for pedigree and descendants charts, and allows people to download GEDCOM files. It is public and easy to use. Do a search for one of your favorite ancestors. Look for data records submitted by "jimjessee," and if you select one it will take you to our database. You can also navigate there from our Jessee Genealogy Service home page. Go to:

<http://www.jessee.org>

Our database is now over 33,000 records. I do mean "our" database, as it is made up of the tens of thousands of hours of your research, the results of which you have generously and kindly shared with me over the years. I still have concerns about the downside of this computer revolution, the Internet, and the ethics of genealogy research, but still conclude that greater good is done by making our work public.

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

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

Nevertheless, I have had so much expressed gratitude from dozens, if not hundreds, of people who have been helped in their research by our database, that I persevere. I certainly do welcome corrections, updates, additions, and documentation of information, and you who are receiving this newsletter have been very generous in that regard. You might be surprised how many take and give back nothing.

Some feel the need to wag their finger at me, too, just to make sure I know how important it is to get this right. I do get down when I have been given a good scold, but perk up when the next inquiry is made. I think there is no greater gift than to help people learn where they come from. I cannot "not help" someone on this quest. Please forgive me for the rest.

National Jessee Family Reunion

August 5th, 2000--10AM to 4PM
Sugar Hollow Campground, off Rt 11
(Lee Highway), Bristol, VA.

REV. VERNON CECIL JESSEE (vernon@cros.net) and **JOY MALONE** (joym@gateway.net/DrJoy@boone.net) write to encourage us to attend the National Jessee Family Reunion and other festivities.

Anyone who would like to attend the next Jessee Reunion, and would need directions, or information about it can call **Frank Jessee**, Bristol, Va. Phone# **(540) 466-5272** or **Norma S. McHone**, Hollins, Va. phone # **(540) 362-9385**, or me **Vernon C. Jessee**, Port Clinton, Ohio phone # **(419) 734-2021**. I wish we could get all Jessee's involved, and have this next reunion to be a National one. Rev. V. Cecil Jessee.

I have reserved the Lebanon Public Library Meeting Room, Lebanon, VA., for Friday, August 4th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The room will hold about 100 people. My husband and I would hope to see many of my cousins, etc., and plan to be there on a Family History Workday. The Library will make available to us the Xerox Machine, computers, scanners, TV/VCRs (for family videos, etc.), bring your own disks, pictures, or anything else those attending would like to share. Mike and I will be providing all the coffee/tea/donuts for this workday. Hope to see you there! If the group decides, we can have pizza, etc., delivered for lunch. If there is enough interest - it would be nice to meet after the library on Friday - somewhere close for dinner - and possibly Sunday - tour sites such as the Jessee Mill, cemeteries, etc. in groups.

Points of Interests and Places to See: Info. for those planning a reunion vacation while attending the AUGUST 5th JESSEE REUNION in BRISTOL, VA.:

(1) Abingdon, VA. (the County Seat of Washington County - about 30 minutes from Bristol, VA., A VA Historic Landmark, chartered in 1778) will be holding their VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL during the first two weeks in August. This family festival has been named one of the top 100 tourist events in North America. Browse tents with antiques, open-air markets, arts/crafts, concerts, Barter Theater, etc., geared to all ages and interests, is offered daily. One can see 200 yr. old landmarks, antique stores, etc. Abingdon Visitors Bureau - 1-800-435-3440; e-mail: acvb@abingdon.com; web/Internet: www.abingdon.com/tourism.
(2) Grandfather Mountain (NC High Country, 1800-468-7325 or 828-733-4337; web: www.grandfather.com) - the highest - mile high - swinging bridge in America surrounded by the great peaks of the southern Appalachians. (Hiking trails are beautiful, picnicking, Linville Falls, camping, etc.).

(3) Historic Jonesborough of Tennessee is 1 hr. from Bristol, VA. - 200 yr. legacy, antique stores, etc. Visitor's Center, (423) 753-1010 or 1-800-400-4221).

(4) SO MANY PLACES OF HISTORIC INTEREST TO VISIT (and as usual so little time)!!!

P.S. If you happen to get to Caswell County the old Courthouse was being restored last year while we were there and should be finished this year. Also be sure to look in the old wooden card files in the Courthouse, there are some interesting facts about our Lea family. Talk to you soon! Your cousin, Joy

Nelda and I will attend the Jessee Family Reunion. I will confess we are looking for a place to stay while in Russell Co. We will fly into Raleigh/Durham, NC, on August 1, 2000 and fly out from there August 8, 2000. Hope to see you--Jim J.

Jesse(e) Family Origins

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

Please see Newsletter #10 for an extensive discussion and summary of what we know so far about the origins of the Jesse(e) families in America. The many clues there lead us to several new avenues of research on the origins of the Jesse(e) families in, at least, Amelia Co., Cumberland Co., Essex Co., Isle of Wight Co., King and Queen Co., King William Co., Lancaster Co., Middlesex Co., and Spotsylvania Co., VA, just to start. Here are more clues.

VIRGINIA BENNETT (Asheville, NC) sent copies of selected pages from The *Complete Book of Emigrants, 1700-1750* highlighting possible ancestral candidates for several Russell Co. Families. This well illustrates the value at looking for our ancestors' origins from the emigration side of the Atlantic. The key tidbit below is evidence that a **John Jesse sailed 31 January-13 March, 1706 Shippers by the Ann, Mr. John Jones, bound from Bristol for Virginia.**

Complete Book of Emigrants 1700-1750

- Horsington, Thomas Sawyer, Henry Dickinson, Samuel Hunt, Abraham Sawyer, Isaac Martindale, Joseph Smith, Joshua Whiring, Peter Hiley, Sir John Duclestone, Benjamin Cole, Abraham Hook, John Batchelor & Co., Thomas Hungerford. (PRO: E190/1160/5).
- 29 January-16 March. Shippers by the *Salisbury*, Mr. William Adams, bound from Bristol for Virginia: Warren Cary, Richard Franklin, William Pecks, Edward Foye, John Packer, Edward Hackett, Isaac Elton, William Dutton, Joseph Lemmon, George Braine, Samuel Blake, Henry Comb. (PRO: E190/1160/5).
- 31 January-7 February. Shippers by the *Barbados Merchant*, bound from Liverpool for Virginia: Thomas Johnson, Squire & Hall, Thomas Williamson, William Oliver. (PRO: E190/1369/5).
- 31 January-13 March. Shippers by the *Ann*, Mr. John Jones, bound from Bristol for Virginia: William Perks, William Blunden, John Horsington, Henry Parker, Jeremiah Pearce, William Clarke, James Loyde, John Jesse, John Webby, Laurence Hollister, Joseph Golley, Richard Bond, George Mason, John Batchelor, William Batchelor & Co., Thomas Gibbs, Bridget Hort, Samuel Hartnell, Joshua Franklin, Andrew Pope, Samuel Hunt, Robert Smith, Joseph Horker, Austin Goodwin, William Morrison, Nathaniel Day, John Gilbert, Nathaniel Butler, James Milard, John Beacher, George Mason, David Vaughan, Thomas Dover, Humphrey Wattmore, Abraham Elton. (PRO: E190/1160/5).

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS

1700 - 1750

A Comprehensive Listing Compiled from English Public Records of Those Who Took Ship to the Americas for Political, Religious, and Economic Reasons; of Those Who Were Deported for Vagrancy, Roguery, or Non-Conformity; and of Those Who Were Sold to Labour in the New Colonies



Peter Wilson Coldham

GENEALOGICAL PUBLISHING CO., INC.

1700

- 28 March. Shipper by the *Defiance* of Guernsey, Mr. Peter Bonamy, bound from Dartmouth for New England: Thomas Plumleigh. (PRO: E190/974/11).
- March. Grants made in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, London: Administration of Henry Henly of Virginia, who died at sea; Administration of Edward Lodge of Stepney, Middlesex, who died in Maryland; Administration of John Browne of Whitechapel, Middlesex, master of the ship *Happy Union*, who died in Maryland; Probate of will of William Nicholls of Kent County, Pennsylvania. (AW).
- 4 April-14 August. Shippers by the *Europe*, Mr. William Stretton, bound from Bristol for New England: John Blanch, John Bennet, Samuel Shawc, Mathew Worgan, Edward Lloyd, Charles Jones Jr., John Mayes, Henry Parsons, Benjamin Turner, Samuel Greenaway, George Attwood, Robert Gregory, John Batchelor Esq. & Co., Richard Payne, George Tyte, Joseph Smith, John Hicks, John Stileby, Thomas Redwood, William Rogers, Robert Bodenham, John Dole, Nicholas Hickes, Robert Wilcocks, Philip Freeke, Richard Browning, James Freeman, Robert Green, James Haynes, Richard Steere, James Osborne, Samuel Boussac, John Pyott, Robert Lawes, Richard Aldworth, John Donning. (PRO: E190/1158/1).
- 6-16 April. Shippers by the *Olive Tree*, Mr. Robert Shuttleworth, bound from Bristol for Pennsylvania: William Beakes, Edward Lloyd & Co., Stephen Beakes, John Phillips, Brice Nickolls, Benjamin Turner. (PRO: E190/1158/1).

CHRISTINE SULLIVAN METZNER

(irishrose@home.com) provided, 1/8/2000, descendants information for **Thomas Jefferson Jesse** and indicates she has more descendants and pedigree information to share. She cites as her source a family history written up by her grandmother, Mary Bridgett Lynch. Thomas Jefferson Jesse was the son of **Woodford Fox Jesse, son of Richard Jesse and Frances Chowning, of Middlesex Co., VA.**

Thomas Jefferson Jesse was my G.G. Grandfather. On my mother's side of the family this is from my family history written up by my Grandmother Mary Bridgett Lynch .

Thomas Jefferson Jesse married Margaret Frances HARDWICK (not Sarah) on April 18 1869 She was born Sept 11, 1848 died May 30 1883 children:

Ella Frances Jesse b. Jan. 17, 1869 d. July 1941,

Arthur Jesse b.? d?,

Earnest Jesse b? d?

Annie Maud Jesse (my G. Grandmother B. March 8, 1874 Barry, MO d. Nov. 1, 1954,

Thomas Jesse b? d.?

Georgie(died as infant)

The above Annie Maud Lynch m. Bartholomew Lynch b. Aug 21 1870 North

Adams, Mass. m. March 23 1895 at Glenwood Springs CO. Children:

1.Jessie Catherine Lynch b. Jan 10, 1896 Leadville, CO married Don Weimer April 23, 1921 (have children)

2.Ella Frances Lynch b. Sept.18,1898 d. 1900

3.Mary Bridgett Lynch (my Grandmother) b. June 3, 1900 Sunlight, Garfield County, CO d. 1995 Port Angeles, WA (have children)

4.Alta Maud Lynch b. Oct. 20 1903 Garfield Co., CO d. July 29 1964

m. Oertel F. Van Horn (have Children)

5.Margaret Fern Lynch b. Jan. 10 1907 Grand Junction, CO m. Fred W. Dwire (have children)

6.Bart Allen Lynch b. Oct 21, 1908 Grand Junction, CO m.1st Ida May

Brown Divorced m.2nd Mary ? (have children)

the Above Mary Bridgett Lynch m. Robert Andrew Downing b. July 17 1900 Leadville, CO D. circa 1970's Port Angeles, WA(have whole family line) If you need it I have All the information on the Hardwicks going way back including inter-marriages with other families and a fifteen generation pedigree Chart, and family stories, etc.

The attached photo is Standing back: Jessie Catherine Lynch seated left to right Father Bartholomew Lynch b. Aug 21 1870 d. July 14, 1938 Mother Annie Maud Lynch, standing by mother Mary Bridgett Lynch front left: Alta Maud Lynch, middle front Margaret Fern Lynch , baby front Bart Allen Lynch. You can post any of this information you want.



CHERYL JESSE-KING (cheryl@bright.net) provided, 2/21/2000, information regarding **John and Matilda (Baker) Jesse** and their family.

I thought perhaps you could point me in the right direction as to information on

Otto Jesse - born 1863 died 1911

John Jesse - born 1865 died 1943

Emma Jesse - born ? Died ?

Adolf Jesse - born ?

Rose Jesse - born 1859 - died 1941

These are children of John Jesse and Matilda (nee Baker) Jesse. It is my understanding that their father John died in Germany so Matilda came over with several of the children. Adolf may have been in the Spanish Amer. War or W.W.I . Otto , was my Great grandfather , he and his wife settled in N.W. Ohio.

LEANNA EVERSMEYER (leversmeyer@yahoo.com) sent, 3/29/2000, and inquiry about **John H. Bower**, a descendant of **John Jesse, b. 1766** in Cumberland Co., VA who ma. **Clia Smith**.

Hi Jim, I see that you have a HUGE GEDCOM, but hoping you might be able to help with the above family. I uploaded my Strow GEDCOM, and discovered that we have the same John H. Bower. I did not have their children. Do you possibly know someone to contact regarding this family? My database at RootsWeb Worldconnect is: leannaevrs [or you can type in Bower, John, Missouri and my info appears] I believe I got the dates from Cemetery Records for the Zion Cemetery in Truxton, Missouri. That's why I thought they lived in Lincoln County.

I referred her to **Harry and Beverly Jesse Shuptrine** (4851 Royce Road, Irvine, CA 92612-2233) and their book *William Morgan Jesse and His Descendants* (July, 1995. Revised August, 1996), Gateway Press, Inc., of Baltimore, Maryland, August 1995, which details over 6200 descendants of John and his son William Morgan Jesse. This book is a major revision to and update of "The Jesses, 1601-1928" by J. S. Jesse.

PAULINE PHELPS (hummingbird@freewwwweb.com) sent, 3/29/2000, information about the **Dalbey, Carter, and Beatty** families, also somewhat related to **John Jesse, b. 1766** in Cumberland Co., VA who ma. **Clia Smith**

Hi James, Thanks for the reply, I also have Harry Shuptrine's book on the Jesse family, it seems when I first sent him my info on my family and he sent me back a copy of what he had entered into his database. I had to send him some corrections, but he didn't make the changes.

My great-grandmother **Effie [Carter] Dalbey's** sister was the one that is connected to the Jesse family by marrying a Beatty. You will find the info. you need on my websites, I have included some Jesse info, as it pertains to the Carter/Beatty marriage:

[Http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~lpproots/Beatty-Carter/index.html](http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~lpproots/Beatty-Carter/index.html)

Dalbey/Dalby website:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~lpproots/Dalbays/index.html>

The Dalbey's family you have on RootsWeb World Connect project really doesn't connect to the Jesse family at all. If you are interested in the Beatty info, I can send you the GEDCOM file if you wish. Keep in touch, Pauline.

SEBASTIAN WEITKEMPER

[sebastian.weitkemper@vobis.net] sent, 4/26/200, information that may be of interest to **Weitkemper descendants of John and Clia Smith Jesse**.

I am Sebastian Weitkemper and I live in Lippstadt it's a city in Germany near Dortmund. Lippstadt is the home city of the family Weitkemper and my father has got a lot's of Documents about my relatives . If you are interest in this contact me.

RUTH ANNE (GOOS) HALLIGAN (ranneh@napanet.net) sent, 4/22/2000, the following information regarding the Goos family.

My GOOS family starts in Westerkappeln, a small village not far from the larger city of Osnabruck in Westphalia, Germany. This is the north west corner of Germany.

Johann Herman GOOS and Catherine Charlotte TUEPKER or TUPST are the parents of Bernhard Heinrich GOOS, born 4 Jan 1820 in Westerkappeln. Died 16 Nov. 1888 in Old Monroe, Lincoln County, Missouri. Came to USA in 1857. First wife was Sophie DICKBERND, second wife Katherina Elizabeth DICKBERND (sister of Sophie). Their children were:

Heinrich Wilhelm GOOS (son of Sophie) born in Germany 1 Feb 1851, daughter Sophie K GOOS ma. **Edward MEADOWS**. [Their son Edward Meadows, Jr. married **Ethel Lena "Esta" Beal**, a descendant of **John Jesse, b. 1766** in Cumberland Co., VA who ma. **Clia Smith**]

JACK MARTIN (OldTios@aol.com) posted, 3/1/2000, on **JESSEE-L@rootsweb.com** his inquiry regarding **Lazarus and Jane JESSE** of Adair Co KY

Hi Jim, Thanks for all you do. I'll post my JESSE line again -- maybe someone new can help me.

Jane JESSE married Rane C. MCKINNEY 21 March 1816 Adair Co KY listed as attending the wedding were her mother, Polly JESSE, and a Lazarus JESSE who was not identified.

Some have theorized that Lazarus was Jane's father but just not identified as such in the record. There are 3 marriage records for Lazarus in Adair Co but Jane was too old to be the daughter of any of these so Lazarus must have been married before - in Virginia?

If anyone has information on Lazarus JESSE of Adair Co KY I would like to hear from them.

JULIA ANN HORTON (509 N. Barneberg Rd., Medford, OR 97504) compiled the following biographical sketch of Samuel Porter. He is the editor's gggg-grandfather, and an ancestor to many a family with origins in SW Virginia. This article is posted on the Web site of **James L. Porter** (jlporte110@worldnet.att.net)

SAMUEL PORTER - OUR ANCESTOR

Compiled by Julia Ann Horton 1992

Our Porter line began in America about 1760 when the seven Porter brothers emigrated from Ireland. Samuel Porter, our ancestor, was born in Ireland about the year 1735. (This information was given to an Indiana Genealogy Society in the year 1964 by a Mrs. Myrtle Porter Nicely.) According to Mrs. Nicely, the seven brothers landed in New York city and then went their separate ways.

(I have yet to find any record of their landing, but am still looking.) In Cecil County, Maryland, I found a will of a Robert Porter dated 17 Dec. 1770 in which he lists the following heirs - brothers Stephen, Andrew, Samuel, William, George and James: sisters Elizabeth and Eleanor: and a nephew Robert Ewing and the executor was his brother Stephen Porter. This seems likely to be the same 7 Porter brothers.

Our Samuel married Elizabeth Dunkin (daughter of Thomas Dunkin and sister of John Dunkin - (we'll hear of them later) near Holstein, Washington Co., Va. and they emigrated to Castlewoods, Va.. They were one of the first settlers of this area. However, they were friends of Daniel Boone and he convinced them to emigrate even further west to Ky - to a place called Ruddles Station. There

they began to build a home. (Ca. 1778) and began farming. This was during the Revolutionary War, but apparently they preferred the wild and savageness of the western frontier to the fortunes and hardships of war. Ruddles station (or fort), formerly Hinkson's Fort, that had been built on the Licking river. He added to and strengthened the fort for the safety of his wife, Elizabeth and his family as well as the local settlers and it was one of the largest and strongest in the Ky wilderness. It could hold two to three hundred people. It was a refuge for the settlers when the Indians were on the warpath.

In the spring of 1780, British General Bird, stationed in Detroit, led an expedition against the Americans in Ky - bringing some cannons and many Indians to aid in his attack on the American forts - Ruddles and Martins Stations. Hoping to save the women and children, the people decided to surrender almost at once. But the minute the gates were opened, the Indians swarmed in and seized many people, taking them as their own prisoners and plundering all the settlers possessions. General Bird managed to reclaim many of the settlers and after another brief excursion against Martin's Station, they began the long march back to Fort Detroit.

John Dunkin (Elizabeth Porter's brother) gave this description of the journey:

June 26, 1780 I was taken from Licking creek in Kentucky county by Captain Henry Bird of the 8th Regiment of His Majesty's forces in conjunction with about eight hundred Indians of different nations - viz. Mingos, Delawares, Shawnees, Hurons, Ottaways, Taways and Chippeways. We marched from our village the 27th being in number 129 men, women, and children. We marched down Licking about 50 miles to the Ohio and from thence up the Big Miami river about 170 miles to the Standing Stone, and from thence up said river to Larramie's (Lorimer's) store 11 miles on the head of the Miami: and from thence across by land 18 miles to the landing on the river Glaise - and from thence down said river passing a Taway village and to the mouth of said river about 80 miles at a small village of Miami Indians on the river Miami: from thence down said river about 40 miles to an Indian village called Rose De Boo - and from thence down said river about 18 miles to Lake Erie. Where we went on board the Hope. Mounted six pounders. Captain Graves commander: and so across the said lake to the mouth of Detroit river, and 18 miles up to the same to the fort and town of Detroit, which place we arrived at the 4th of August, 1780 - where we were kept until the 24th when 33 of us were put on board the Gage. Captain Burnit commander. Mounted 8 guns and from thence to Fort Erie - and thence in battoes 18 miles the river Niagara to Fort Slusher, at the head of the Great Fall - and from thence in wagons, 9 miles, where we again went in battoes down said river to Fort Niagara at the mouth of said river on the 29th: and on the 5th of September we were again put on board the Ontario, Captain Cowan commander, and sent off down the Long Sac and into Sandijest lake, and so down rapids into Grand river and through a small lake and so the Qlasheen. From thence by land 9 miles to Montreal on the 14th of September, 1780. And on the 17th we were sent into Grant's Island and remained there until the 25th of October, when we were again taken back unto Montreal and billeted in St. Lawrence suburbs. I was put in confinement in the long gaol September 1st, and remained in close confinement until the 17th day of October. When I was permitted to go and live with my family with privilege of walking the town and suburbs.

Mrs. Nicely gave following account of the same incident:

Their beginning in this new settlement was made with a success, having in addition to their real estate about 20 head of horses and other valuable stock. When in the 1778 or 1779 (it was really 1780) the English and Indians made a raid on the defenseless settlement, laid waste to it all, capturing Mr. Porter, wife and two children, stole all the stock and march them through the wilderness to what is now Detroit Michigan. A part of the journey was made on rafts and canoes, that is, Mrs. Porter was permitted to ride and

care for the smaller child. But Mr. Porter was compelled to walk and carry the older child. Often Mrs. Porter had to sit for hours with her feet in water, all the time fearful that her child suffering from the tortures and the hardships would cry and this would case the savages to dash it brains out before her very eyes.

After weeks of untold hardships, they reached the British post where they were imprisoned like beasts in stockades and log pens and almost starved to death. Mrs. Porter was compelled to cook for the British officers and by putting the extra bits of bread and meat in the dish water would set it near the prison where her husband could reach through the cracks in the logs and get enough in addition to scanty prison fare to keep alive.

A few months after arriving at the British prison the third child was born. When the babe was about two years old, Mrs. Porter and the three children were taken within the patriot lines and after suffering from exposure to the bitter cold weather, she reached her people at Holstein, Virginia. She made the journey on foot carry the babe and leading the two older children.

Mr. Porter was kept a prisoner until after the final surrender of all the British troops when after a long separation from his family, none of the time knowing what had been their fate, he was finally reunited at the old homestead in Virginia.

Another account of this same incident was told by Mr, Samuel Hervey Laughlin a grandson of John Dunkin:

The prisoners taken at Martins were united to the prisoners from Ruddle's. There was understood to be an agreement between the British and Indians that the prisoners taken at Ruddle's should belong to the Indians, and those at Martins to the British. Let this be as it may, according to Marshall, Butler, Withers, and the other histories of these times, the whole of the property of all the Americans, including the Negroes, was given up to the Indians, according to a letter of Maj. Benjamin Sharp of Warren Co. , Mo. to myself , dated Aug. 11th, 1845. My Grandfather John Dunkin, had ten or twelve likely Negroes, and a fine personal property in stock and furniture etc. of which he was altogether plundered, after the Treaty of Greenville. I think he got back an old African woman named Dinnah (Mother of Easter, a Negro woman now the property of my uncle Joseph Dunkin) and a boy. I remember Dinnah on Holston, but am not sure as to the boy.

This robbery and captivity reduced my grandfather to poverty. As I have heretofore stated, nothing but a few rags of clothes (for all their best garments were taken) was left to him or his family

They remained prisoners for 3 years - finally being repatriated through Pennsylvania and into Virginia. Where the Porters again settled in Castlewoods. A neighbor, Colonel Arthur Campbell, Militia Commandant for Washington Co., brought court martial charges against Samuel Porter, accusing him of adhering to the enemy cause while a prisoner in Canada. His cause was championed by a staunch patriot, Capt. (Later general) Russell who wrote the following letter to the governor of Va. (Benjamin Harrison - later President of the U.S.) :

Please your excellency- The bearer Samuel Porter, is one of the unhappy prisoners who returned from Detroit last winter, in a state of distress, he having lost all his property by the enemy, just before and at the time he was taken. This attachment to his country and particular attention and care and welfare of his family, led him to embrace the earliest opportunity to return to this country, where he had lived ever since the year sixty nine (1769), in credit and esteem among his neighbors, and all who knew him considered an honest and industrious man, and was a near neighbor of mine till I engaged in the Continental service and repaired to the Northward to prosecute my duty in (sic) the enemy: which was in the beginning of Seventy-seven and when I left him, considered him a firm friend to the American cause and was respected as such by all his neighbors and acquaintances.

Since his return Colonel Arthur Campbell, I have reason to think through malice, exhibited information against him, to your excellency of malconduct, in adhering to the enemy while in

captivity at Detroyet (sic). Your excellency, I have understood upon the information, was pleased to direct Colonel Campbell to an enquiry thereto, perhaps by the covenancy of Mr. John Read, sometime in April last: and was immediately ordered by Colonel Campbell to the confinement of the Plantation he then lived on. His helpless family without any support of bread but what the generosity of the neighborhood furnished..

Thus circumstanced, sir, the pore (sic) man has continued attending two courts for trial by Colonel Campbell's direction: yet wood (sic) not suffer the injury to take place, and did last court pass over it without fixing on a time for that purpose or assigning his reasons for so doing. Having always been led to think, with the rest of Porter's acquaintances in this country that he is unjustly charged and being his security for appearance, I have advised him to wait upon your excellency to pray your further attention to his case: to direct his trial in a reasonable time, to grant him any other indulgence which from the nature of the times, your excellency may in wisdom judge right. Pardon me sir, to say, I fear Colonel Campbells present close attention to affect a new state in the country will engage his time to the neglect of any individual among us. I am, with due respect, your excellencies most obedient and very humble servant.

W. R. Russell

Samuel Porter's house in Castlewoods was described as a two story house about forty feet square, made of hewed square poplar logs. A winding, enclosed stairway is in the kitchen. The floors are hand sawn poplar lumber. The house had two large chimneys, one in the kitchen, one in the "front" room. There are two small windows in each room. The overhead ceiling is beamed. A large lower porch runs along the north side of the house, which faces a level lawn dotted with old fashioned flowers. It was still standing in the 1930's. When the house was under construction, Indians appeared suddenly and made a dash for two of Porter's young sons. The boys ran and climbed up the rafter of the unfinished cabin. Their baer dogs rushed in and attacked the savages. The boys slipped away and got safely to their friends. (History of Southwest VA by Jilson)

Another story tells of the time the Porter family was taking refuge in the Castlewoods fort (from the Indians-Benge the treacherous, ruthless, Indian chief and his marauders were abroad)when "Margaret Porter and her sister (who had red hair) went to the spring one night for a bucket of water, and passed by a hemp shock close to the path. Benge himself spying to the fort was hiding behind the shock of hemp and could have touched them as they passed, but he allowed them to go on and come unmolested not caring to make an alarm"

Samuel Porter's will in Russell county (1815) lists his beneficiaries: wife, Elizabeth: children: James, Thomas D., Hugh, Samuel, John (our ancestor), Peggy Dickenson, Tabetha Smith,: Grandchildren: Nathaniel Dickenson, Betsy Dickenson, Tabitha Dickenson, Dunkin G. Dickenson: Executors: none named (his son James Porter appointed): witnesses: Beny Robinson, Charles Bickley: probated March 8, 1820, Russell county, Virginia: (page 320 - abstracts of wills of Russell county, Va.

Bibliography:

1. History of southwest Virginia by Jilson, Jr.
2. Mrs. Myrtle Porter Nicely of Boone Co, IN. "History of the Porter Family." 1964
3. The Draper papers and the Campbell papers
4. Diary of Samuel Hervey Laughlin by the Tennessee Genealogical Society, printed in the Southwest Virginia Magazine.
5. Virginia Magazine, Mar. 1967, P. 423.
6. Russell and Augusta County, VA. Courthouses
7. Henry G. Martin, "Porters", Richmond KY

8. "Castle's Woods and Early Russell Co. 1769-1799" by James M. Hagy, 1979

9. Research at Paris, KY. Historical Library and visit to Ruddles Station in Northern Bourbon county KY`

10. "Illustrated Historical Atlas Map, Marion and Linn Counties Oregon" by Edgar Williams & Co.. 1878 p58 1/4, Biographical Sketch of James A. Porter.

Julia Ann Horton is the dau. of Arnel Porter Butler and Elsie Lawrence: Arnel, the son of John Butler and Florence Busey: Florence, the dau. of David Busey and Elizabeth (Nancy) Porter: Nancy the dau. of Wm. D. Porter and Elizabeth Knott: Wm. D.. The son of John Porter and Elizabeth Gose (Ghost): John, the youngest son of Samuel Porter and Elizabeth Dunkin. Mrs. Horton resides at 509 N. Barneberg Rd. . Medford, OR 97504.

PAM SEZOV (Pammy1215@aol.com) provided the following photos and materials regarding the Smith, Kiser, and Combs families, all of which are intermarried with various branches of the Jessee family. My gg-grandmother was **Cynthia Smyth** who married **Joseph Jessee**, son of **John Jessee Jr.** Cynthia was the daughter of **John Smyth, Jr.** and **Tabitha Porter.**

Hello Jim!

I'm so sorry I'm just now getting around to sending you these photos. On the back of the photos was written:

"Old Home Place" of **William and Matilda (Kiser) Smith** near Carbo, Russell, Co., VA This picture was made December 26, 1952. Home was unoccupied.

Home of **Simeon Floyd & Elizabeth (Smith) Combs** located on Weaver's Creek, Crackersneck, Russell, Co. VA Build about 1888 or 1889. Virginia Ann was the first child born there.

Attached is a copy of William Patton Smith's obituary

IN MEMORIAM OF WILLIAM SMITH

It is with sadness we chronicle the death of William Smith, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of our county, which sad event occurred on the 17th day of April, 1910, at the home of his son, Tivis J. Smith, in Russell county, Virginia.

The subject of this brief notice was born on the 4th of February, 1817, and lived to the advanced age of 93 years, 2 months and 23 days. He was the son of James Smith and was the last of quite a number of boys and girls all of whom preceded him to the great beyond. This family was widely known and highly esteemed by





many who knew them best. About the year 1837 he was married to Matilda Kiser, who preceded him to the better land in August 1892 at the age of 71 years, hence they were permitted to live together about 55 years in which they toiled together for the good of their family, a blessing to the community in which they lived. To their union were born 13 children who grew up to call them blessed, seven of whom preceded their father to the spirit world, six remain to mourn their loss, namely Abel Smith, Tivis J. Smith, Elizabeth Combs, Mollie Jessee, Andrew Smith and P. Smith all of whom now live near the place of their nativity as honored and respected citizens of the county. I am informed brother Smith professed faith in Christ early in life and united with Reed's Valley (Ant. Mission or Old) Baptist church in which he lived a devoted member until about the year 1864 when he changed his church relations and united with the Sulphur Springs Missionary Baptist Church in which relation he remained until the day of his death. It can truly be said of Brother Smith that in all the relations of life he was a model man, one worthy of love and respect of all who knew him. As a citizen he had a warm place in the hearts of all who knew him on account of his honesty and integrity; as a husband he was ever kind and forbearing, ever laboring for the comfort and happiness of his companion, as a father he was faithful in all his domestic and religious duties, ruling his own household well, as a result and proof of which we find, most all of this children following in the path which their father trod. In his home the wayfaring man always found a welcome for he was famed for his kindness and hospitality. But it was as a Christian that he was seen at his best. I speak from experience for in a long acquaintance of near forty-five years, I do not remember of ever having a conversation with him but what he had something to say about his hopes and fears and prospects for a better home where he would be united with his long gone friends. He was ever found in the house of God when circumstances would permit, an inspiration to his pastor and a blessing to his people, ever ready to speak a good word and work, hence his Christian influence was vividly felt. But uncle Billy, as he was familiarly called is gone, we shall see his face no more in this world. While the world is poorer, heaven is richer by his going, and we hope some sweet day we will meet him again in the world where sickness, pain and sorrow will never come and where sad partings are not known. What shall I say to his children, grandchildren and his many relations and friends — only "Sorrow not as those who have no hope for Faith looks beyond." When what we now deplore, shall rise in full immortal prime, and bloom to fade no more; trust his Savior, imitate his virtue, walk in his footsteps, and meet him in heaven is the prayer of one who loves you all. J. B. KENDRICK

Old Phillip and Rachel Jessee

Phillip Jessee (1742-1858) and his son **Gabriel Jessee (1804-1886)**, of still unknown relationship to John Jessee (1750-1816), are among the early Russell County, VA families.

PAT PEGRAM (Timothyat@aol.com) sent, 2/7/2000, the following picture of **Tazewell Cowan Smith** son of **Gillispie J. Smith** and **Lethea Jessee**, daughter of Gabriel Jessee.



Tazewell Cowan Smith.
The boy is Sampson, his son by his second wife.
The girl is Bessie, his daughter by his second wife.

FRAN HUNT (miltonfzg@lisco.com) inquired, 3/12/2000, regarding the family of **James R. Wallis**, father of **Nancy Lee Wallis** who married **Gabriel Jessee**.

I am trying to find a photo of Logan L. Wallis, the son of James R. Wallis. Your line I believe is through Nancy Lee a sister of Logan. Logan L. Wallis married Anna Childs 2-8-1825. They lived in Russell County Virginia until 1837 when they moved to Hancock County Indiana. In 1847 they moved to Van Buren County Iowa and in 1851 he laid out the town of Milton. I and another person are planning to publish a book on the history of Milton and we are looking for a photo. I have been emailing to a lady in Washington who is a descendant of Logan's son James Mitchell Wallis. She has many old photos but is unable to identify any of them!! Any help would be greatly appreciated.

CARL CASON (ccason@woldnet.att.net), although descended from another Shadrack Williams, provided, 2/17/2000, pedigree and descendants information for **Shadrack Williams** and his father **Samuel Williams**.

This is probably the same Samuel Williams shown in the 1810-1830 Russell Co. censuses (unknown where he was in 1840) and Personal Property Tax list 1789-1819. Wife Elizabeth named in Russell Co. deeds page 480.

Our Shadrack Williams (1762-1839) was also born in Maryland, so he and Samuel could have been brothers. Our Shadrack named his first known son Samuel. The children shown here for Samuel and Elizabeth is based on the book "Heritage of Russell Co., Virginia Vol 2", page 513-514--this portion submitted by Frances Banner, Rte 3, Castlewoods, Va 24224.

This is the family of **Sarah Frances Williams**, da. of this Shadrack Williams who married **John Deward Jessee**, son of Gabriel Jessee.

John and Frankey Lea Jessee

Many Jessees in America are descended from **John (1750-1815)**, and **Frankey Lea Jessee (1752/61-1836)** of Cobb's Creek, Caswell County, North Carolina and Carr's Creek (today Mill Creek) in Reed's Valley, Russell County, Virginia. They had fifteen children. There are many "Jessee," "Jesse," even "Jessie" families in the United States and Canada who are known descendants of those fifteen children. All of us living descendants are about fifth or sixth cousins, or even closer kin.

I will report here new information with respect to John and Frankey and each of the fifteen (I-XV) children in the newsletter, and rely upon special requests and the new Jessee Family Web site to provide the detailed genealogy information to those specifically interested in any particular branch.

REV. VERNON CECIL JESSEE (vernon@cros.net) sent photos of the **John and Frankey Lea Jessee Cemetery**, or as he says "what's left of it." This cemetery is also known as the Bransen Cemetery and Vernon included a photo of the Rebecca Bransen grave.

I am sending the pictures, as promised. Included is a picture of the cemetery (what's left of it!) where John and Frankey Lea Jessee, George Lea & "Betsy Counts Jessee, Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" and Sarah Browning, and 2nd wife Nannie Candler Jessee, are buried. Possibly a lot more Jessees are buried there. I hope you will include the picture in your newsletter so possibly it will motivate the descendants to get together, and see if all of us can pool the resources together with enough to buy some property there, including the cemetery, put up a memorial there.



To refresh our readership, and to provide a useful reference for those attending the Jessee Family Reunion, I have reprinted on the inside of the back cover the map of the original John Jessee land, as prepared by **Tom Rudder**. This map shows the location of this cemetery and the site of their original home, all in relationship to Jessee's Mill, to assist navigation.

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.

REV. VERNON CECIL JESSEE (vernon@cros.net) sent, March 21, 2000, photos of the cemetery with the gravestones of **John Jessee, Jr.**, his son **Joseph Jessee** and wife **Cynthia Smyth**, and their son **Ephraim Jessee**. Cecil was taken to the cemetery by **Harold Dickinson**.

I have pictures of Ephraim, and Joseph Jessee (that married Cynthia Smith) grave markers. Also I have a picture of a large tombstone that is turned face down off of it's foundation, it read JESSEE on the foundation. I believe it is John Jessee, Jr's marker. They are in the same cemetery. Harold Dickinson showed us the cemetery and he said that John, Jr. was buried there. ... The cemetery is on Reeds Valley, Russell Co., VA. Also I know where Jefferson Jesse is buried, in an unmarked grave, Reeds Valley. Pretty close to where he lived. I don't think I know the exact spot, but I know where the cemetery is.

I hope that Vernon or Harold will show me both of these locations next I visit Russell Co.

ARTHUR L. LUTES (lutesa@treco.net) provided, 5/15/1999, a GEDCOM file with over 150 descendants of **Daughtry Gilmer** and **Mary Elizabeth Jessee**, da. of **Joseph Jessee** and **Cynthia Smyth** (Smith. Joseph is the son of John Jr. The editor is descended from Mary Elizabeth's brother, **John Tivis Jessee**, who married **America Bickley**, all of Russell Co.

JIM DUNN (DUNNLAND@aol.com) provided, 3/3/2000, a correction to the database regarding **David George Dunn** who ma. **Malissa Jessee**, da. of James Mathias, son of Jefferson, son of John Jessee, Jr.

At one time Peggy Mills had Jasper Dunn as father of David George Dunn. Jasper is brother to David. Greenberry Dunn is father to both of them.

SHANDRA JEANNINE KISER (sjkiser@uswest.net) sent, 4/13/2000, information regarding the family and descendants of **Beverly Floyd Kiser** and **Christina Smith**. Beverly was the son of **Abednego Abner Kiser** and **Margaret L. Jessee**. Margaret is the daughter of **Jefferson Jessee**, son of John Jessee, Jr. Abednego Abner Kiser was the son of **Elder Elihu Kiser**, son of **Abednego Kiser** and **Mary Polly Jessee**.

Here is some of what I have:

Beverly Floyd Kiser..25 Oct 1854 Russell VA USA .Married abt 1874. Death 1915 Pike KY USA...Married to Christina "Tiny" Smith b. 15 Apr 1854 Russell VA..Death 1920 Pike KY USA.(her Father James W Smith ..mother Virginia Mullins) children:

Viola Kiser..abt 1875 Pike KY USA

Arceno James Kiser 29 Jan 1876 .Pike KY USA married abt 1896 Pike KY..Death 11 May 1941 Caney KY USA..married to Martha Newsome Hamilton

Offa V Kiser abt 1877 Pike KY USA ..married to Elizabeth Hamilton

Iona Margaret Kiser..b 1882 Pike KY

Jennie Iduma Kiser abt 1882 Pike KY

Auley Kiser b 1885 Pike KY

Jefferson Andrew Kiser abt 1888 Pike KY..married abt 1913 Pike Ky..died Rockhouse KY..married to Virgie Leah Stanley
Rudolph Kiser b abt 1890 Pike KY..married to Martha Branham

Hattie Kiser b abt 1892 Pike KY married to Mr Branham died abt 1900

Blucher Rupert Kiser b 1895 Feb Pike KY

Owen Ode Hall Kiser 12 Apr 1895 Pike KY died 1 Oct 1959..Married 1915 Millbranch KY..Died in Floyd KY...married to Ava Bartley b 21 June 1898 Pike KY..died 26 Dec 1986 Ogden UT..(her father John Henry Bartley..mother Sophia Bolling) his second wife was Lillie Mae Jacobs..

Holly C Kiser b Feb 1892 Pike KY...

*****Arceno was always mispronounced...even my grandma said orcno..with her southern accent..but my Uncle Hassan and Aunt Juanita spelled it out for me... I don't know why my grandfathers name was not on the list...but this is his family...aunts and uncles.. Beverly Floyd was called the professor...he was 6 ft 2..and Christina was under 5 ft and never weight even 100 lbs..in her life..and she was really feisty...he was soft spoken and she was pretty vocal... they live with my grandfather and grandmother about the last 20 years..and at the end went to live with the other brother ...and died in Rockhouse... I think they are buried out back of the house .. I think Jefferson..I will check in my stuff..to see..

*****The children of Ode Owen Hall Kiser..he went by OH or Ode all his life. I remember everyone calling him OH...
Swanee Kiser b 15 Jan 1916 Millbranch KY..d 15 Jan 1916...baby..and My grandmother was really broken up over it...the next year she had

Monnie Gee Kiser..b 4 Feb. 1917 Lookout KY Pike cnty..married 1937 to Clarence Knops in Cullman Alabama...died 27 May 1978 Salt Lake City Ut

Blucher Rupert Kiser (named after his uncle of the same name) 27 may 1918 Lookout KY...married 1937..to Ainer Hudson..died Jan 1938 Licking Newark OH

Albert Luther Kiser(my father) 3 Mar 1921 Lookout Pike KY..married 21 Jan 1946 ..died 4 dec 1984..married my mother Margaret Jeannine Campbell..div..1955 Salt Lake City UT

Juanita Kiser 12 Feb. 1923 Lookout Pike KY married to Eldridge Campbell Hall she lives in Arlington VA ..not deceased..her husband is dead

Chester Paul Kiser b 12 Dec 1924 Weeksbury Pike KY married to Virginia Holder ..they live in Blountsville Alabama now...not deceased

Hassan Kiser b 1 Mar 1927 Hite Pike KY..married to Patricia Allison Hilldrup..living in Murtle Beach SC

Blane Kiser b 7 Oct 1930 Hite Pike KY..died 21 Nov. 1995

Blanch Kiser(twin) b 7 Oct 1930 Hite Pike KY..died 21 Nov. 1930 as a baby

OH "Chubby" Kiser b 13 Jun 1932 Edgewater Pike KY married to Sakaiko..from Japan he is living in Florida

Sophia Tina(they called her Sofa Teen) Kiser 31 Oct 1934 Edgewater Pike KY died 1 Oct 1998 Spokane WA..married to Melvin Hodges Idaho

My father Albert Luther Kiser died in Little Rock Arkansas, his children:

Shandra Jeannine Kiser (me), Bowlinggreen, KY

Sheila Diane Kiser, Owensboro, KY

Aleta Kim Kiser, b. 1954

SHERRIE ANN FINCO (Heaven99gr@aol.com) sent this correction and update of information regarding the descendants of **Tabitha Jessee** and **James Simerley**. Tabitha is the daughter of Joseph Jessee, son of John Jessee, Jr., a comparatively close cousin of this editor.

I am a descendant by John Jessee & Frances Lea to John Jessee Jr. & Mary Armstrong to Joseph Jessee & Cynthia Smyth to Tabitha Jessee & James Simerley to Timothy Simerley & Margaret Hammons to Margaret Simerley & Robert Kiser To Nannie Ruth Kiser (She is listed as Nancy Ruth Kiser in your file & her date of birth is incorrect) & Elsworth Anderson Toney to Anthia Gay Toney & Richard Finco My name is Sherrie Ann Finco & would be interested in any other leads you may have along my lines. Thanks.

BARBARA ROUSE COGBURN provided, 4/15/2000, this wonderfully written obituary of her remarkable mother-in-law, **Georgia Lee (Louise) Cogburn**. Georgia is the daughter of **Beverly Floyd Jessee**, son of **James Mathias Jessee**, son of **Jefferson Jessee**, son of John Jessee, Jr. Barbara previously provided a GEDCOM file of all the descendants of Beverly Floyd Jessee, significantly increasing our database.

Georgia Lee (Louise) COGBURN died in Whittier, CA January 25, 2000 at age 93 following a stroke. She was born Sep 1, 1906 in Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory (now Coal County, OK) and grew up on the family farm. She married her childhood sweetheart, John James (Johnny) Cogburn Sept 20, 1922, and they came to Los Angeles in 1925 along with Johnny's sister and husband. Driving a Ford Model A, they camped in a tent beside the road at night and cooked over an open fire as there were few places to find accommodations. The men kept their guns handy in case they were approached by bandits which wasn't uncommon at the time. When they crossed the Imperial Valley desert, they traveled on a one way railroad tie road often covered by drifting sand, and if they met another car the one closest to the last turnout backed up to allow the other to pass.

They settled in the East L.A. area and had 2 children born in 1927 and 1932. Tragically, Johnny died in 1934, at the depth of the Depression leaving her a widow with an 8th grade education, no work experience, and 2 small children to raise alone. She joined the Four Square Gospel Church and her faith became a great comfort to her. She remained involved and an active supporter in her church until her health began to fail in 1997.

If anyone doubts that the pioneer spirit still existed in the 1930's, they should have known Georgia. She refused to seek any public assistance (not that there was much available); instead she found housecleaning jobs, here she could take her children with her. Later, she stood outside various plants hoping to be chosen for a few hours work no matter what the job. That's how she got her start at the Swift & Co Refinery, working in the cold room packaging bacon. In 1938 she finally got a steady job there and over the years worked her way into the Quality Assurance Division where she was responsible for the Laboratory kitchen testing of shortening. She retired in 1971 after 33 years with the company.

The challenge of supporting her family had been met, but in 1943, her courage, determination, and faith were tested again when her son fell victim to a widespread polio epidemic. She never gave up and saw him through years of hospitalizations, treatment, and surgery. When he was able to return to school, she refused to accept the public school discriminatory policy of the times, which only allowed for limited home tutoring or segregated classes for children with disabilities. She sent him to a private school where he excelled in a normal environment, ultimately attending college and pursuing a successful career.

Georgia was an exceedingly strong and loving person who set a wonderful example for everyone who knew her. She set herself the goal of getting a high school diploma and began attending adult school at night when she was in her 50's; she was so proud when she received her diploma from Montebello High School in 1965. She was always eager to broaden her horizons, and after retirement she became proficient at sewing/tailoring as well as catering. Her energy was boundless and she enjoyed traveling and seeing new places. On a month long bus tour across the country with a senior citizen group, she was the only one who climbed all the way to the top of the Statue of Liberty. She was a volunteer for many years at Beverly Hospital.

Georgia was an inspiration to all of her family and friends who will miss her terribly. There is comfort in knowing that she is now reunited with her beloved Johnny and other family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Floyd and Martha Moore Jesse, six brothers and sisters, and by her son, Donald Cogburn in 1997. She is survived by her daughter, Doris Edgemon of Pico Rivera and daughter-in-law, Barbara Rouse Cogburn of San Diego; grandchildren Michael Edgemon and wife Cindy of Pomona, Mark Edgemon and wife Nancy of Upland, Carol and husband Ray Vasquez of San Diego, Caryn and husband Bill Dixon of Tennessee, Stephen Cogburn and wife Sherry of San Diego, Laura Cogburn of Los Angeles, and 8 great grandchildren.

Funeral services and burial: January 29 at 3:00 p.m. at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, Ca. Pall bearers: Michael Edgemon, Mark Edgemon, Stephen Cogburn, Raymond Vasquez, James Edgemon, and Ryan Vasquez.

DEE ANN BURRIS (dab@brightok.net) provided the following information, 4/16/2000, about the descendants of **Malissa Jessee**, daughter of **James Mathias Jessee**, son of **Jefferson Jessee**, son of John Jessee, Jr. Malissa married **David George Dunn**.

My grandfather was David L. Dunn, Malissa Jessee was his mom. I also have where my granddad had some half bros and sis. Do you know about that? And did Malissa remarry after David G. Dunn died? My Dad doesn't know any of the history as his Dad passed away when he was about 7. I will send you what I have.

My grandfather David L Dunn married Leona Perry on Jan 5 1907 in Montague Co TX. David was born Oct 7 1886 in Nacona TX? died Jun 12 1932 in Ardmore Ok. Leona was born Nov. 27 1888 in Montague Co TX and died Sep 3 1960 in Ardmore Ok. Their Children were:

Walter Jessee Dunn, b. Dec 9 1907 in Henrietta TX, d Nov. 13 1959 in Ardmore Ok.,

Ora b Sep 15 1909 in Henrietta TX d Feb. 28 1984 Ok City, Ok,

Lewis Bert b Mar 1 1911 at Petrolia TX d Mar 4 1976 at Wilson Ok,

Ruby Leona b Feb. 22 1913 at Burkburnett TX d Dec 22 1988 at Ardmore,

Gordon Lee b Burkburnett TX died in Ardmore Ok Aug 8 1969.

Quinton P. Dunn, my Dad, born Dec 12 1922 at Pernell Ok and he is still living.

My grandfather started as a sharecropper in Nacona then he started hauling for Mobile Oil Co. When he died he was superintendent of Mobile in the Clemscott area of Ok. I don't know for sure if Malissa remarried or not and I don't know where the half bros and sis came from, I assumed Malissa had maybe remarried. I found this info in a Bible. On a Nacona census 1900 it showed Malissa as head of household so I assumed she was a widow, and Walter, David and Myrtle were still home.

BARBARA J. HALL (ztbjhall@email.kcc.edu) provided, 1/25/2000, descendants information for **Mary Jessee**, daughter of **Andrew Jackson**, son of **Archer**, son of **John Jessee, Jr.**

Hello I am the great granddaughter of Mary Jessee, whose father is Andrew Jackson Jessee and mother Rachel McKinney. ... I have been told my family that Andrew Jackson and George Washington Jessee were twins.

Carter Co., KY marriage records reads: Mary Jessee born 5-8/-1868, Carter Co Ky DOD: 12-6-1958 Carter Co KY , DOM: 4-16-1885 to John M. Counts born 10-6-1850, DOD: 2-3-1913, this is his second marriage married in Carter Co Ky They had 2 children, Atha Counts Levisay and Leonard Counts. Marriage record reads John born in Carter Co., KY and his father born in Scott Co., VA and mother born in Russell Co., VA but no names listed.

RICHARD DALE JESSEE, JR. (rfjessee@erols.com) corresponded during the month of January 2000, sharing the following information about his branch of the family. Richard descends from **William Dorsie Jessee**, son of **Jefferson**, son of **Joseph**, son of **Jefferson**, son of **John Jessee, Jr.**

Gosh, where do I start. I first want to say what a great job you have done. The more I read in the news letters the more I want to call and chat. A little bit about myself and family. I have learned most of this from the web site, my Great Grandfather was Jefferson Jessee, grandfather William Dorsie Jessee and Father Richard Dale Jessee, Sr. all born in Russell County Va. I am Richard Dale Jessee, Jr. born 1963 in Bluefield WV.

The only info you have on William Dorsie is the 2 children that died and were buried in the Joseph Jessee cemetery. He and his wife had 8 more children and they all had children. I am proud to say we have about 4 more generations of Jessees after William Dorsie. I have 4 brothers still carrying on the name. I am so excited to find this and was wondering if I can send you some family history for the web site. I would also like to receive copies of all the news letters.

My father and I are planing a trip to Russell County in the spring and would love to have the news letters before we go. I would love to call and chat sometime if possible. I look forward to hearing back from you. Oh yea, I just found the web page last week and found my grandfather rather quickly. Take care and once again great work, I sure do appreciate it and I am sure there are a lot of us who do.

Glad to here back from you and a Very Happy New Year to you and your family. I wanted to first tell you a little bit more about what I know of my Jessee family. My father Richard Dale, Sr. was born in Russell County Sept. 22 1932. He is the youngest of 8 children born alive. His brother Clarence and sister Bessie are the only ones still living. None of them being in great heath. I will put together a list of all of them as soon as I can.

My father doesn't know a lot about his father's (William Dorsie Jessee) family except he is sure there are none of them still alive. He knows where Carlos and Walker lived and we are going to visit their family in the spring. I have my fingers crossed that maybe we can find some valuable information. My father and his family spent most of his childhood in Dry Fork, Va. (Tazwell County) His father William Dorsie spent time in the coal mines and working in a saw mill. They grew up with very little. You know the story, walked to school up hill both ways with no shoes, story. Haha, although I do believe his story.

My Father was drafted into the Army during the Korean War in 1950. After he returned from the Army he moved to Matoaka WVA.(Mercer County) and went to work in the coal mines. He married my mother Meda Irene Hardy in 1954. They had 5 boys Lawrence Edward, William Keith, Richard Dale, Jr., Thomas Carter and Robert Wade. My mother passed away in 1996 of cancer and Dad still lives near Matoaka.

Dad had a stroke in 1994 but is doing real well. His memory is very sharp and he seems to be excited about the Jessee Genealogy that you have worked so hard on. If I am reading things correctly, my g-grandfather Jefferson and your g-grandfather were brothers. I am hoping you have some information about him.

Enough for now as I am not a very good typer. By the way I am 36,work for Virginia Power as an Engineer and live in Northern Virginia, near D.C. I am married to Felicia and have 2 kids Wesley Dale (12) and Lyndsie Gail (11).

I would love a copy of the map with all the cemeteries on it. We are planning a trip to Russell county and I think it would come in pretty handy.

Gosh this stuff is fascinating. I just finished the news letter you sent and I am sorry to here about your problems. I hope everything goes O.K. They have come along way with that stuff.

I wanted to tell you that my father recalls a family dispute over land in Russell County that his father Dorsie had told him about. He feels that this dispute was the reason his family was never too close. After he told me about it, I read about the article Jack Hockett provided in the news letter. I think this might be the feud.

My grandfather Jefferson had a sister Cynthia and a brother George Lea. There is also a sister Nancy Jane that could be Jenny Jessee. I am hoping to learn some more on this from him and others when I visit Russell County. I am going down their this weekend as my grandmother (June Hardy) passed away today and will be buried in Tazwell County this Saturday. If you know of any Jessee relatives or friends in that are in that might help me learn more about my Jessees I would greatly appreciate the info. Thanks and take care.

Richard Jessee
1002 Jeff Ryan Dr.
Herndon, Va. 20170
ph# 703-437-5119

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.

IRIS LAMBERT HALL (Pueblo, CO) responded to my inquiry about unknown Jessee women I had found in the Illinois Marriage Register.

Dear Jim,

Received copy of the Jessee Newsletter a while back and sorry to be so delinquent in replying. I have been some under the weather .. but guess we can't stay "39" (or even 49-59-or 69) forever!

Thank you for the kind words .. hope something there that will be of help to other researchers. I don't have much to offer you this time .. but maybe a couple of little things. On Page 25 you ask about Dora, Emma and Mae Jessee. I can't find anything right now about Dora, but know a little about the other two.

Emily (Emma) V. Jessee was born Aug. 10, 1856 in Russell County, (Birth Book p24 #26). Virginia, the daughter of Charles B. and Elizabeth Brown Counts Jessee. Elizabeth Brown Counts was the daughter of James and Eva (Banner) Counts. Charles B. was son of John and Mary Jane (Hanson) Jessee [son of Archer]. Emily married Willis K. Folks in Crittendon, Champaign Co., Ill. on Jan. 29, 1880.

J. Mae Jessee was also a daughter of Charles B. and Elizabeth Brown (Counts) Jessee .. I do not know her date of birth, but she was married to Emil R. Grable in Champaign Co., Ill.

I received this information from one of their descendants .. John Plaat, 2226 Anza Ave., Davis, Calif. 95619 some time ago

JOHN PLAAT also responded with the same information.

BILLIE GAIL MADISON HENDERSON (whenderson1@kc.rr.com) provided, 12/5/1999, information regarding herself and her pedigree, and a GEDCOM file, 1/3/2000, with over 200 descendants of **William Thorn Madison**. She is a descendant of William Thorn Madison, and indicates she had additional ancestry information for William Thorn Madison and **Edith Mae Wilson**. Edith Mae Wilson is the daughter of **John L. Wilson and Margaret Ann Cartwright**. Margaret is the daughter of **Wesley Todd Cartwright and Nancy Browning Howard**. Nancy is the daughter of **Frances Howard and Elizabeth Jessee**, daughter of Archer Jessee.

I wanted to let you know about a book that I obtained a few years back. It is called "Johnston of Caroline County, Virginia", Some of the Descendants of William and Ann Chew Johnston (1697-1778), compiled by Elbert Felton Johnston, Ph. D., Gateway Press, Inc. Baltimore 1980. This book contains ancestors and descendants of Edith Mae Wilson.

CHERYL FOOTE (Crfoote@aol.com) provided, 1/17/2000, descendants information for **William Arthur Jessee**. William Arthur is the son of **Lilburn Monroe Jessee**, son of **William Sr.**, son of Archer Jessee.

William Arthur Jessee was the son of Lilburn Monroe Jessee and Christine Bartee. He was born on January 3, 1885, and died June 21, 1958 or 1959 (not sure) in Alamogordo, New Mexico. He is buried in Slaton, Texas. He married Mary Elizabeth Caviness on July 25, 1909. She was born January 8, 1888, and died December 7, 1945. She was the daughter of John N. Caviness and Florence Eugenia Shannon.

William Arthur Jessee and Mary Elizabeth Caviness had two children. William Arthur Jessee Jr. preferred to spell his name Jessie. He was born in 1910 but I don't have the date handy. He died in 1984 and is buried in Slaton, Texas. He married Alta Ellis who is still living but they had no children.

The daughter of William Arthur Jessee and Mary Elizabeth Caviness is Eugenia Faye Jessee (my mother-in-law). Faye was born in Soper, Oklahoma, on July 7, 1912. She now lives in Alamogordo, New Mexico. She married Leroy Ezra Foote on May 15, 1938 in Las Vegas, New Mexico, and they had two sons. David Leroy Foote was born in Slaton, Texas, on May 19, 1943. He lives in Alamogordo, and is divorced. He has two children, David Allen Foote and Lauren Leona Faye Foote.

The other son, William Eugene Foote, is my husband. He was born November 4, 1946, in Pueblo, Colorado. He married Cheryl J. Rowe in Albuquerque New Mexico on December 27, 1969. We have two children, Jeremy William Foote, born in Alamogordo, N.M. on May 23, 1972, and a daughter, Jennifer Jean Foote, born in Albuquerque, N.M. on Sept. 16, 1975. She is married to Stephen Curtice. They married in Albuquerque August 8, 1998.

I have a little bit more information on Lilburn Monroe Jessee and his wife Christine Bartee. According to family records that my mother-in-law has (no documents, unfortunately), Christine Bartee was born December 26, 1861. She was the daughter of James J. Bartee and his wife Nancy (surname unknown). On the 1860 census for Russell County, Va., I found James J. Bartee, 24, m., farm laborer, born North Carolina, illiterate. Wife Nancy 23. children George 4, born Virginia, William, 2. living near Beckley's mill. On the 1870 census for Russell County I found James Barty, farm laborer, 32, net worth \$125, Wife Nancy 31, keeping house. Both born N.C. Children:

George 13, farmhand, Virginia, Christine 9 at home Virginia, Charles 4 at home Virginia.

According to your data base Christine and Lilburne had (I think) 6 children, but my mother in law says they had 12 children in total, of whom 9 survived. She says he moved to Lamar County, Texas, and is buried in Englewood Cemetery, Slaton, Texas. She says Christine died 1933. Lilburn moved to Hugo, Oklahoma, prior to his residence in Texas, and owned a big home. He also lost much property because he drank, and eventually moved around, living with his children from time to time. He was living with William Arthur Jessee at the time of his death.

My mother in law does not know the names of all of the other children in the family, but did mention an Aunt Rose who married a man named Harris and lived in Culver City, Calif. I hope to use the 1900 and 1920 census to find out more on this line.

I hope this is of interest and help to you--the database is wonderful, and through it was able to trace William Jessee and Eunice (parents of Lilburne) and on back to John Jessee. That's pretty exciting since I have not had the opportunity to travel to Russell County, Va., and thus had been stymied when I got to the census of 1840. Thank you for all the time and effort you have put in to this project. Perhaps you have a suggestion for me--My mother in law who is quite sharp is convinced that according to family stories Lilburne's father or grandfather was a Senator from Virginia. I suspect a state senator, but do not know.

MARY KAY WARD (mksroots@juno.com), posted on GC-Slaveinfo Queries, subject: Russell Co, VA-1829; Estate of David HANSON- 12 slaves sold 27 Jan 1829 by **John JESSEE to Wm. HANSON**. Surname: HANSON, JESSEE, BURDINE, FIELDS, CARROLL.

I'm posting this in case it will help someone find their ancestors who may have been slaves in Russell County, Virginia. I came across this when I was researching my FIELDS ancestor's in Russell County, VA. I don't know if my FIELDS owned slaves.

Russell County, Virginia- Will Book 4A pg 469 "The sale of slaves authorized by order of this court amounting to the sum of \$1,906 due on the first day of next month is not taken into the above account. All which is respectfully submitted by your commissioner, this 29th day of March 1830. James P. CARROLL/

This settlement recorded at Russell Co, Court Apr 6, 1830 as ordered by James P. CARROLL (Clerk).

Russell Co, VA -Will book 4a pg 437 mentions Ezekiel BURDINE is a Justice of the Peace 30th July 1829. On that same page is the following: "12 Negro Slaves (Zachariah, Leiza, Jack, Kipsy, Phillip, Martin, Tom, Chaney, Robert, Frank, Edmund & Silva) sold by John JESSEE to Wm. HANSON for \$2552 on 27 Jan 1829 & recorded 6 Aug 1829; (Estate of David HANSON, deceased).

I am: Mary Kay Ward, 1432 Yearldy Drive, Richmond, VA 23225-2906; Ph: 804-232-9338.

I believe this John Jessee is the son of Archer who married Mary Jane Hanson, da. of the above David Hanson.

COAD MILLER (ODJennings@aol.com) of Grand Island, NB, provided, 2/22/2000, new information regarding the descendants of **Samuel Patton Jessee** and **Martha "Mattie" Fraley**. Samuel P. is the s. of Archer Samuel, s. of Vincent, s. of Archer Jessee.

Stumbled across your web site and I think I'm pretty close to something. I'm the grandson of Claude C. Jessee of Black Hollow VA, (he was the son of Samuel Jessee and Martha Fraley (sp?)) born around 1889-90. Brothers/sisters included: Elsie (White Pine TN), Charlie (Lynchburg VA), Kate (killed by lightning), and several others including a brother who got west fever and wound up killed by an axe blow to the head in Kansas."

When I responded to suggest this was Samuel Patton Jessee and "Mattie" Fraley, he responded with the following.

"Yes, that would be right. He called her Matt. I have photos of her when she visited Nebraska in the 20's(?). Unfortunately, that is about the extent of what I know. One brother was killed by an axe in Kansas, two more were killed by lightning, and his sister Kate was also killed when lightning struck her while she was peacefully sitting on the front porch smoking her pipe(!). Another also got "west fever" and went to California at some point--I think it was either Samuel or John."

Coad provided additional information regarding his grandfather **Claude Craig "Skinny" Jessee**.

My grandfather was called "Skinny" all his life (died 1971), and moved to Nebraska around 1916. Operated a restaurant, then a wholesale bakery with bakeries in Grand Island Nebraska and Sterling, Colorado ("If it's Jessee's It's Good Bread") till he retired in the 50's and the bakery became what is now Rainbo/Manor/Colonial bread. Unfortunately my Grandfather Claude Craig Jessee left home very young. Went to work in a spoke factory when he

was 12, then became a "news butcher" selling fried chicken and sandwiches on the train between either Newport News or Lynchburg and Old Point Salem, then went to the steel mills (family mystery surrounding this period), finally wound up riding the rails working as migrant farm labor during the harvests in the Midwest. Met my grandmother in a café in Nebraska, served as an army cook in WWI then started the bakery business I mentioned earlier."

G. J. PALMER (rjpalmer@i-plus.net) sent, 3/29/2000, information regarding the **Wilson Jessee** family and descendants.

My maternal grandfather was **Richmond Rimley Jessee** (b. 3/17/1889), son of Wilson Jessee. Wilson's father was Archer, Archer's father was Archable who married Nancy Browning. From the Internet I have found that Archable's father was John, Sr. and his father was Henry.

I am just beginning a search of the Jessee family. I have some notes I gathered about 35-40 years ago from my grandfather and from an old family Bible. I have some notes regarding children, marriages, etc., mostly from the mid 1800s.

SHONDA MALONE (RockyRoadLuvr@aol.com) sent, 3/29/2000, information regarding **Gerald Ernest Jessee**, son of **Edwin "Ed" Jessee**, son of **Andrew Jackson**, son of Archer and Mary Polly Owens Jessee. **Children Of Edwin Jessee & Una Maude Shobe:**

Gerald Ernest Jessee was born May 18, 1914 in Browning, Missouri and died September 30, 1986 in Baytown, Texas. Gerald E. Jessee is buried at Memory Gardens in Baytown, Texas.

He had two brothers, Richard Von Jessee and Gene Lee Jessee.

He married Jimmibel Kimball on March 24, 1934 in Houston, Texas. (Jimmibel Kimball was born on October 29, 1913 in Welsh, Louisiana and died January 25, 1989 in Baytown, Texas and is buried at Memory Gardens in Baytown, Texas next to her husband. Her parents were Charlotte Mae Doan and James Albert Kimball. Her siblings, Georgia Elizabeth Kimball, Emmitte Doan Kimball, Ora Lee Kimball and Beryl Kimball.)

Gerald E. Jessee and Jimmibel Kimball had two children:

Gerald Kimball Jessee, born October 17, 1935 and died February 23, 1993 in Channelview, Texas and is buried at New Prospect Cemetery in Timpson, Texas. Gerald K. Jessee married Sandra Tyre on January 15, 1956. Gerald K. Jessee and Sandra Tyre had three children:

Kim Carl Jessee; born September 3, 1956,

Kendra Kay Jessee, and Kellie Jessee; born August 16, 1961.

Gerald E. Jessee and Jimmibel Kimball had another child,

Sharon Elizabeth Jessee who was born on December 17, 1941 in Houston, Texas. On April 15, 1960 at her parents home at 811 Barrymore in Baytown, Texas, she married John David Jones born on January 1, 1940 in Baytown, (Pelly), Texas. (John David Jones' parents are Edwin Ollie Jones; born March 23, 1914 in Shelby County, Texas and Opal Christine Taylor; born August 5, 1920 in Haworth, Oklahoma).

Sharon E. Jessee and John David Jones had two children:

Shannon David Jones; born on February 12, 1962 in Baytown, Texas. Shannon D. Jones married Deborah Sue Meadows in 1980 and had one child, Brandon David Jones born March 27, 1981 in Baytown, Texas. In 1983 or 1984 Shannon Jones and Deborah Meadows divorced. He married again on February 21, 1987 to Tamara Sickle. Shannon and Tamara had two children, Corey Lyle Jones; born August 23, 1987 in Baytown, Texas and Hayden Ollie Jones; born April 11, 1991.

Sharon E. Jessee Jones and John David Jones had another child: Shonda Elizabeth Jones; born on January 21, 1969 in Baytown Texas. On December 21, 1996 at her parents home in

Baytown, Texas, Shonda E. Jones married Larry James Malone; born December 9, 1957 in Lucedale, (George County), Mississippi. Shonda E. Jones and Larry J. Malone had three children:

John "Christopher" Jones; born October 13, 1991 in Baytown, Texas

(twin)Amanda Elizabeth Malone; born June 10, 1997 and

(twin)Larry James Malone, Jr; born June 10, 1997 in Baytown, Texas.

Gerald E. Jessee and Jimmibel Kimball owned a florist shop called, Jessee Florist in Baytown, Texas at 813 Barrymore. The florist was beneath their home. Gerald E. Jessee and Jimmibel Kimball Jessee owned this floral business until his death in 1986.

ALLISON JESSEE (allison83@hotmail.com) in separate correspondence also provided, 1/15/2000, descendants information for **Edwin E. Jessee**.

I enjoyed visiting your website and found it to be very informative. We have a family tree in our home, and your website helped us go even further back all the way to John Jessee and Frances Lea. I have some additional information for your page that I thought you might want to add.

I am a descendent of Edwin E. Jessee (born 1890 in Virginia). Your site did not have a link to his name, but we have the name of his wife and children, etc. on our family tree. Edwin married Una Maude Shobe, born 1893 in Milan, MO died 1978 in Baytown, TX They had Richard Von Jessee, born 1918 in Browning, MO died 1962 in Irving, TX Richard Von Jessee married Bonita Lorraine Wortham, born Jan 20, 1919 in Beaumont, TX and still living.

Richard and Bonita had three children, one of whom is Stephen Anthony Jessee, born April 11, 1949 in Houston, TX Stephen married Christine Marie Braunig, born Dec 29, 1948 in Edinburg, TX They have two children; Stephen August Jessee, born Jan 21, 1980 in Houston, TX, and Allison Christine Jessee, born July 13, 1983 in Houston, TX I hope that this information has been helpful. Thanks again for the helpful information and website.

BECKY PALMER (rjpalmer@i-plus.net) provided, 4/1/2000, marriage and descendants information for **Archer L. Jessee**, son of Archer Jessee. Archer L. married **Eunice/Unice Dyer**.

Thanks for your response to my inquiry. I'm excited that I might furnish new information for the Jessee family. First of all, I will introduce myself -- I'm Becky Palmer (my husband is G.J. - or "John"). My mother was a Jessee. She was born and reared in Wise County, VA. And now I will introduce you to some more Jessee's.....

I'm new to this so forgive me for not knowing the genealogy jargon. I will give you notes as I copied from a family Bible (I'm trying to locate it) and from a conversation with my grandfather Jessee sometime in the 1960's.

Archer L. Jessee, born Sept. 27, 1813

married Jan 6, 1842 to

Unice Dyer, born Feb. 6, 1821, died Jan 29, 1888

Children of this marriage:

Eliza - b. Aug 11, 1843

married James M. Counts* on Feb. 20, 1862

had two children: Silas B.F. and Kate

Silas had twins

Andrew - b. July 4, 1846

married Katharine J. Kiser on Nov. 8, 1865

James R. - b. Mar 1, 1849

(referred to as "Uncle Rem" by my grandfather)

married Nancy E. Foster on July 17, 1880

Harvey G. - b. Nov. 26, 1852, died Aug 13, 1881

(was killed by lightning)

Wilson - b. July 5, 1855, died June 2, 1892

married Mattie Childers [Childress] - see below

Nancy (Nannie B.), b. May 29, 1858

married to Elihu Kiser

John A. - b. Oct. 3, 1862

married Frances (Carrie) Childers [Childress] -

sister to Wilson's wife Mattie

John's children : Archey E. Jessee - b. Feb. 6, 1887

Tyler R. Jessee - b. Aug 20, 1898

An additional note here provides the following info:

Katharine Jessee - b. Aug. 8, 1846

Haborn Jessee - b. Aug 4, 1866

(I don't know where these two fit into the picture -

Katharine might be Andrew's wife and Haborn their child)

*James Monroe Counts - b. Oct. 3, 1833 - one of ten children

sister surviving was Elizabeth B. Brook of Tolano, Illinois

died at Carterton, Va. Dec. 12, 1911

baptized at Sulphur Spring Baptist Church

by Elder Asa Routh - 1868

served about 2 yrs. in Confederate Army

never strong physically

Wilson Jessee

married Jan. 26, 1881 to

Mattie Virginia Childers -

(Mom says this should be "Childress")

[and I agree-Jim Jessee]

b. Aug. 14, 1862

Children of this marriage:

Nora - b. Mar 30, 1882

Hester Anne - b. Nov. 25, 1884

married Marvin Strength on April 6, 1905

children were Allenne Strength - b. July 15, 1907

Hagan McRay Strength - b. July 13, 1912

Harvey Watson - b. May 23, 1885, d. Aug 13, 1881

Lucille (Lula) - b. Dec. 25, 1888 - the name May (or Mary?)

Eunice was written with Lucille's name

Richmond Rimley - b. Mar. 17, 1889, d. Oct. 1969

Mary - b. 1891

Richmond R. married Cora Easter Blair

children: Ruth

Janette

Margaret

Margaret is my mother. She and her two sisters are still living.

Additional notes:

Martha Childers Kiser - b. Feb. 23, 1828, d. May 31, 1906

was daughter of Abram and Franky Childers

baptized by Elihue Kiser at Baptist Church-Sulphur Springs

at age 17 married Nimrod Kiser

10 children born - 2 died in infancy

8 remaining were 5 boys and 3 girls

her husband was gone during War of '62

Hope all this is of interest to you. I will be Wise County soon to visit my aunts. Perhaps I can gather some more information then.

JIM NASH (Jnash46@aol.com) sent, 5/4/2000, information regarding **William Nash, Jr**, his pedigree and descendants. **The Nash family** intermarried with the **Beecher Burke Jessee** family, descendants of Archer Jessee, and many other SW VA families. See Correspondence for his information.

FREDERICK ALEN JESSEE (mag300@inetone.net) sent, 3/22/00, a photograph of his great-grandparents.

This my Great Grand Father, William Vincent Jessee and his 2nd wife Margie Mullins Jessee. He was born in 1844 and died in 1930. Margie was born in 1856 and died in 1933. The photo was taken in 1920. His first wife was Rebecca Stenson Jessee Born in 1846 and died 1888. He married Margie in 1889. My Grand Father was their 4th child, his name was Kemper John Jessee. He was born in 1901. My father is Frederick William Jessee, born in 1925 and still going strong. I'm Frederick Alen Jessee born in 1964.

NOTE: Birth and death dates for William Vincent differ from what I have previously recorded. This needs to be resolved.



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.

TOM RUDDER (srudder@lanset.com), sent, 2/18/2000, a little gem about the burial place of **William Jessee**.

Jim: I accidently came across the location of the Mt. Moriah Church and remembered that is where William is buried. I thought maybe his descendants, mostly on the west coast I think, would be interested just in case they ever go back to southwest Virginia. It's in the southern part of Lee County, about five road miles from the Tenn. line. It's on road 665 about 1.5 miles west of it's juncture with road 758. You can to 758 by going either way on 58 then south.

[See **GAIL GARTIN GILBERT** in Correspondence for more William Jessee Family information.]

THERESA FLINN (misty44uu@aol.com) provided, 1/5/1999, an inquiry on Rootsweb.com with marriage and descendants information for **Frances Lea Jessee** who married **Isham Brewer**, her ancestors. Frances Lea Jessee is the daughter of William Jessee

I am looking for any information for Isham Brewer (no dates). He married Frances Lea Jessee b. 17 Nov. 1821 in Virginia; d. 8 Feb. 1895 in Hancock Co., TN. Both are buried in Wallen Bend Cemetery in Hancock Co., TN. I know of one daughter, Detsy Brewer b. 21 Jan. 1860 near Sneedville, Hancock Co., TN. d. Feb. 1943 Nottinghill, Ozark Co., MO. who married Shelvy C. Kyle and had six children, one Alpha Kyle Married L. Burt Robinson of Hammond, MO. They had 3 children Fern Robinson King, Freda Lea Robinson Pearce (my grandmother) And Ronald Buell Robinson, all of MO. Frances L. Jessee m. Robert Kyle Jr. in 1895, Hancock CO., after Isham Brewer died. (no dates). If anyone has any information on any of these surnames, please write me. Thank you

DEBORAH SUE (SCHRADER) HOLLOWBUSH (DLHGLH@aol.com) provided, 4/16/2000, her pedigree and photos of members of her **Ida May Jessee** family that she asks help with identifying. Ida May is the daughter of **James Wilson Jessee**, son of **William John Jessee**, son of William Jessee. These photos will follow at the top of the next page.

Yes you may include the photo's that I sent you in your newsletter. The only thing that I can tell you about the photo's is that they belonged to Ida Mae (Jessee) Schrader so I am assuming they were of the Jessee's, since some of them moved to California. I also have a lot of other unidentified photo's that are mostly likely related to the Jessee's, would you be interested in them also? This is my relation to the Jessee's.

John Jessee and Frances Lea
William Jessee and Mary "Polly" Vermillion
William John Jessee and Nancy Weaver
James Wilson Jessee and Maria Carolina Standiferd
Ida May Jessee and John Russell Schrader
Claude William Schrader and Halcie Mae Small
Delbert Louis Schrader and Betty Lue Tate
Deborah Lue Schrader and Gordon Laverne Hollowbush

I hope this clarifies who I am. Thanks again for such a wonderful website!

IV. Lea Jessee

Lea Jessee (1781-1852) married **Barbara Gose** (1788-1862), 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.

MARILYN PITTMAN (mjchoplin@prodigy.net) provided, 4/10/2000, descendants information for **Martha Jessee** daughter of Lea Jessee and Barbara Gose, who married **Willis Edgar Luttrell**. She ask for help with the Luttrell line.

My name is Marilyn Pittman. I would like for you to update your records on the RootsWeb's WorldConnect Project with the following information and ask for some help. I am stuck on **Willis Luttrell**, born April 27th 1783. Married **Sarah Via** (Born Nov. 7



1788) in Rocky Mount, Virginia Aug 20 1810. They traveled to Missouri in the 1830's.

Their Son Willis Edgar Luttrell Born Feb. 14, 1822 Married your Martha Jessee (Born Oct 22, 1827) Jan 8 1850 in Jackson County Missouri. Their Children

1. Sarah E. Born Oct 28, 1850, M. Collens L Dillingham Nov. 19, 1868.
2. Samuel L, B. July 23 1853 D. Dec 13 1915. He was a Judge.
3. John Greenville, B. May 12, 1856 D. 1901.
4. James V, B. June 8 1858 D. Aug 1860.
5. Charles W, B. June 15 1866, D. Mar 10 1885
6. Annie B, B. July 24 1868, D. July 25 1947.
7. Willis Edgar, B. Jan 22, 1870 D. April 17, 1951. Married Nannie E. Jennings Nov. 30 1899 in Jackson. County , Missouri. Willis and Nannie are my grandparents.

I have pages from the family Bible and pictures of tombstones to prove all this. If this should get posted maybe, just maybe someone might come up with the first Willis Luttrell's Parents and help me go back farther. Thanks in advance. I am still learning the computer and not to brave yet to post anything myself. And also hope this helps the Jessee line. Marilyn

V. David Jessee

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



DAN PERRY provided the following photos. **Huston Jasper Burke** is the son of **Isaac Fuller Burk(e)**, son of **Fleming Burk, Jr.** and **Nancy Ann Jessee**, daughter of David Jessee.

The picture on [top right next page] is my grandfather and grandmother: John Charles Burke and Amy Alice Smith. The picture was taken on July 4th 1917, just before he entered the Army in WWI. The photo [this page bottom right] is of my grandfather in the Army before he went overseas to France. The photo [top left next page] is of Huston Jasper Burke and Letitia F. Jenkins. These are my great grandparents. This photo had to have been taken before June 1938 when she died.

I hope this will be of some use to you. Again I thank you. I have been in touch with Virginia Burke Rhodes, she has been most helpful and is providing me with the photos I was seeking.





MARVIN JESSEE (jjessee8@freeweb.com) provided, 1/2/1999, marriage and descendants for **William Henry Jessee**, son of **John Skaggs Jessee**, son of **David Wilson Jessee**, son of David Jessee.

William Henry Jessee DOB 11/07/1876 DOD 06/24/1966 Married Eva Johnson DOB 02/11/1879 DOD 12/01/40.

First Child Myrtle Who Married Arnold Salyers Their Children Were; Dallas, Harold, Ruth, Marie And Annalee. They Lived In Kingsport, Tn.

Second Child Was Carles Who Married Luella Sproles They Had One Child Who Was Called Billy But I Assume It Was William After His Grandfather..

Pearl Was The Third Child DOB 12/29/1907 Married To John Byington (They Had No Children).

Fourth Child Was Grover Cleveland Jessee DOB 08/18/1910 DOD 10/18/1976 Married To Lorena Meade, They Had Three Children

James Cleveland DOB 06/14/1932 Married Eulene Peggy Walder DOB 09/223/1934 DOD 12/08/1988 (No Children)

Next Child For Grover Was Wayne Garland DOB 03/03/1935 Married Phyllis Jean Stoots. They Had One Child Peggy Jean DOB 02/07/1959 Married David Lee Reed-One Child Nathan DOB 08/13/1981. Second Marriage To Wayne Bruce Henke DOB 01/11/1953.

Third Child For Grover Is Myself Marvin Leo Jessee DOB 09/16/1937 Married Carolyn Warren DOB 10/17/1943. We Have Three Children;

Lora Denise DOB 11/15/1962 Married Thomas Ferguson. Children Cara Lynn Jessee DOB 12/05/1985 Thomas Jessee Ferguson DOB 09/26/99.

My Second Child James Wayne DOB 10/01/1964 Married Christina Difranco. One Child Dylan DOB 11/05/99.

My Third Timothy Warren DOB 12/15/68.

Mattie Lou Is Williams Next Child DOB 07/18/1914 Married Venice Spring Meade DOB 07/08/1910 . They Had One Child Agnes Berniece DOB 06/03/1934 Married Clarence Everett Byrd DOB 12/14/1927 DOD 07/14/1975. They Had Four Children Johnny Ray, Zachery Everett, Alisa Cheryl And Vicky Darlene.

Williams Next Child Was Blanche Who Married Robert Jessee [**Who Is This Robert Jessee? Ed.**]. Their Children Were ; Shirley, Glenn, Kenneth And Randy.

Williams Next Was Henry Stuart (Bud) .

His Next Was Grace Who Married Homer Osborne-They Had One Child Garland.

Williams Last Was Roy. B. DOB 12/30/1922 DOD 02/16/1942. I Have Names Of Williams Brothers And Sisters But Little Else On Them Except Who They Were Married To. I Will Check Further And Let You Know.

VI. Elizabeth Jessee Gose

Elizabeth Jessee Gose (1785-1827) married **George Gose** (1786-1861), son of **Stephen Gose** and **Barbara Catron 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.

TED GOSE (tedg@rapac.com) sent, 4/27/2000, this invitation to visit the **New GOSE Family Website**

Dear James Jessee,

By now, you should have received a notice to let you know that the new, open GOSE Website located on the RootsWeb server is now operational. This new website is open to all Internet "surfers" and is free of commercial advertisements or solicitations. Please make note of the URL for the new website:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~gose/index.htm>

There is a GOSE genealogy Query Board and a GOSE Genealogy Mailing List associated with the new website. These may be accessed openly through web searches or directly from the new GOSE Website.

There is also a section on the new website where we will list those who are researching the various different branches of the GOSE family lines so that you may easily connect with others in your family line and pool your data.

Your name and approved contact information will only appear on this list, however, if you take a few moments to complete a short Survey Form in the "Contribute Your Information" section of the website.

If you wish to receive regular updates on new data postings to the website or other pertinent GOSE genealogy information, you may do so by subscribing to the GOSE Mailing List. You will not receive any more E-mail notices associated with the GOSE Website unless you subscribe to the GOSE Mailing List.

To subscribe to the mailing list send an e-mail message to: GOSE-L-request@RootsWeb.com to receive individual messages as they are generated or to: GOSE-D-request@RootsWeb.com for a digest of multiple messages sent about once a week. In the body include only one word: subscribe. Please use the following E-mail address to contact us: gosegen@earthlink.net

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.

VIVIAN BALES (Marion, IN), Polly Jessee Kiser's gggg-granddaughter, is a faithful contributor to this newsletter. She constantly works at ferreting out little bits and pieces of information she gathered over a lifetime, and sends them my way. I attempt to keep up with her by keying her information into the database. Here she often provides some good advice, memories, stories, and insight into her colorful life. I was relieved to hear from her after a long hiatus.

She has some pithy comments on whether Mary Polly Jessee was of Cherokee or Melungeon descent, as well.

1/4/00

Dear Jim Jessee:

The enclosed, which may not be of any value to you, someone mailed to me years ago. Ran onto it recently. Just part of a book [Vivian provided some copies of pages from *John Counts of Glade Hollow*]. I assume that Salt Lake has a copy.

Today, I remembered a map of Carter Co., long ago. There is a place or was then, called Counts Crossing. And near it was also a Jesse Cemetery.

I hope all your illnesses and what all else that befalls a feller, right when we don't need another drop of water even, if it hurts, to go away and let us be normal and healed again.

I lost my oldest brother Dec. 21. Buried the day before Christmas. It was a cold snowy day. Roads were icy and slick. He was William Farrell Dickison, 84y b. 25 April 1915. We came to Alvin, Illinois summer of 1925. There he lived the rest of his life. Born in Olive Hill, Ky. He is buried in the same Cemetery that our parents are buried, Bismarck, Ill. My heart is grieved with the loss of my brother. Altho' I know he is in a far better place now, to live forever and ever.

He had lost his limbs when he was only 27, under a train. He was so mangled, could never be fitted with artificial limbs. He had four children, lost the youngest one Aug. 1998, from cancer. Loss comes to all of us, and it hurts.

I hope your Christmas was all good.

A few years ago, I used to copy and send reams and reams of my gathering and research. Much I hired others to try dig up out of records, etc.

This one person kept a steady mail route to me, and never ceasing. So, I took a pile of work to the print shop. Cost me \$3.00, and the postage to send it was \$3.00. I sent the receipt from the printer, and they could see the postage on the packet. So I wrote that I would like to be reimbursed for the \$6.00. I had spent more

than that over a period of time, for them. But I just said I would like the \$6.00 for the last package.

Well I never heard another word from the person... And as I looked back, I had never even got one thank you. Wasn't too long, I saw their ad in a genealogy magazine, they were selling all that I had been sending them. A feller just can't win with that kind of dead beats. I was just sharing, I come from families who shared, whatever.

I recall hearing my mother tell my father one day this: You give away anything and everything, any day I expect you to come home without a shirt at least, if not your pants too, to some bum.

Better to give than receive. The Bible says so.

But then I also remember in the deep depression times, when so many with no jobs, trying to find work and help. The many Railroad "Bums," who would come to our house and ask for food. Usually mornings. If Dad was home they were invited in and ate with us... If Dad wasn't home, Mom fixed the food and gave it to them. We never turned away anyone.

Being people born and raised in the foot hills of the Appalachian Mountain we always had Good Biscuits for breakfast, gravy and always home-made syrup from Brown sugar, jelly or jam. Some times oatmeal or rice. A few chickens, for the eggs.

If we had a cow we had fresh butter. If we didn't, we ate what we had anyway. We always had a big garden with all kinds of garden produce. And canned and preserved enough to hold us over. Wherever we lived we always had a good garden. A life line...

The hills were always good wild berry and other wild fruits, and we all helped. Little kids did their share too. Kids now days should have some of the chores we had growing up... Kids have energy to spare.

It really wasn't bad, like people think now days. Didn't see too much fat people. They kept busy and worked, kept their "blubber" worked off.

God Bless America.

Vivian Dickison Bales.

January 26, 2000

Dear Jim Jessee:

Maybe by the time the end of the year gets here and I am still around, I just might learn to start off 2000 instead of 19??? I never ever thought I would live so long, especially to 2,000. Still 4 digits, but seems like a mouth full to say it. You know... I live in Marion, Indiana and not Marion Ohio.

These people who keep trying to give our Mary (Polly) Jessee Kiser as a Cherokee or Melungeon... I have a question. Just who was her parents,? Was her Parents also Cherokee and a mixed ancestry? You know people jumps at conclusions. And they read things in the context that isn't there.

Once upon a time people who had Indian ancestry, tried to hide it, for it wasn't popular for a long time. Bonnie Ball, now deceased, Big Stone Gap, Va. She did research for me for years, And I have visited her in her home too. She wrote a book about the Melungeons. They were race of people that came from No. Car. They settled in an area there in SW Va. Bonnie researched them for many years.

She wrote and said too, it was thought by many, these people were from slaves who were either set free or escaped who were early slaves. And that they intermarried with the Cherokee Indians They were a group that stayed in the one place in No. Car. longer than other people and kept intermarrying. Many or several generations of them. They had a very distinct color of their skin. Not Indian or black. But dark gray like feature. They all looked the same and build too.

Now was John Jessee or Frankey Lee, Melungeons Believe me, had they been, I would have heard the whole nine yards, from my Grandmother Melvina Kiser Dickison. How could Mary (Polly) be anything but Jessee and Lee [or Lea] bloodline. I think you have heard the saying: I was born, not hatched, from stump...

Yes, Noah Kiser seemed to have high cheek bones, but that is not exactly an Indian inheritance. I know about Indians for some of their blood has trickled down to today's children on my Dad's side. Once in awhile it shows up strong.

My grandfather's, Waugh Grandfather was an Indian He md. into French blood. Grandpa's grandma Waugh was Augustine Dudit, whose parents came from France with the French 500 who came in 1790. Augustine md. John Waugh against her father's wishes. Their first child Lucinda (that was no Indian given name) md. Levi Dickenson in Greenup Co., Ky. My grandfather Griffith Archibald, Dickinson their 12th child. My grandfather.

Some of the children of grandpa's siblings, were a "dukes" mixture. Some was dark, and light other features. While some were fair and a genuine Indian look. And my grandpa said many of the people around, some times shunned them, and behind their back called them "those Indians"

My Dad had a beautiful complexion, the Indian bronze color in the summer sun. But he had black curly hair. Indians don't have curly hair. The Kisers did. Dark Auburn curly hair. Dad's was black. Me and my youngest brother have dark auburn curly hair. Not all gray yet either.

Remember the old comic POP EYE ' He always flexed his muscles and said: I YAm what I YAm and that is all I Yam Thru my father is the Jessee, Kisers, Lee [Lea], And of course the Dickenson, but we use Dickison now. Was changed back in my grandpa's, young years. My great Grandpa Hugh Tiffany Kiser, m. Levisey McKinney in Russell CO., Va. Came to "Carter Co., Ky. after 1850. My grandma was their 3rd child. The Kisers were a very proud people. They were honest and wanted their offspring to be the same. But, a few didn't follow them. They could forget who you were real fast and disclaim you too.

Hope you find someone close enough, to help with the News Letter, plus more interested ones to dig deeper in the area we first came to, this wonderful beautiful land, America, The United States. God Bless America.

SHANDRA JEANNINE KISER

(sjkisero@uswest.net) sent, 4/13/2000, information regarding the family and descendants of **Beverly Floyd Kiser and Christina Smith**. Beverly was the son of **Abednego Abner Kiser and Margaret L. Jessee**. Margaret is the daughter of **Jefferson Jessee** son of John Jessee, Jr. **Abednego Abner Kiser** was the son of **Elder Elihu Kiser**, son of **Abednego Kiser and Mary Polly Jessee**.

Jim, Hi I am Shandra Kiser Oliver...in the last news letter that I received, you were talking about a Lady named **Morningstar**, who was Cherokee and doing some research on the Cherokee side of the Kiser's. My grandmother Ava Bartley and My Dad Albert Luther Kiser, who's Grandfather was Beverly Floyd Kiser son of Abednego and Margeret Skeen (Elihu Kiser, Abednego and Mary Polly Jessee Kiser).

Well, I have always been told that on that side of the family is the Cherokee, but they are passed on now and the only one I have left is my Aunt Juanita and Uncle Hassan, my dad's brother and sister and they can't remember who it was. I just love the work you have done... it has helped me verify some thing on my family history. Thank you.

JACKIE THOMAS (tubby49@erols.com) provided, 3/8/2000, more information on her branch of the family. She is a descendent of **James Harvey Rasnick/Rasnake and Margaret Counts**. Margaret Counts is the da. of **Joshua Counts** (son of **John Counts of Glade Hollow**) and **Martha Kiser**, (da. of **Abednego Kiser and Mary "Polly" Jessee**). She asks if

any others can provide information on a genetic disorder that runs in her branch of the family.

My name is Jackie. My Great-grandmother was named **CHLOIE RASNICK**. She lived in Dickenson Co Va and was married there. She also live in a place in Va called Nora and Needly Ridge Va. Her father was Noah Webster Rasnick. He married Virginia Maryland Counts. He died in or about 1941 in Oct 5. He was my g-grandfather. I have a few pics of Tildan and Lula. I believe they were Noah Webster's children when they were really little, they look well. ... There is a disease in the family; my cousin has it, my uncle and my nephew.

I have a lot of information on my grandmother her name was Chloie Rasnick she married a man when she was really young his name was **CHARLES HOUSTON SMITH**, he is related to the Nashes, so called Black Nashes, in Va. Well anyway she had my grandmother Virginia and about 4 or 5 other children my uncle Sid and my uncle Woodrow and so on, Chloie Rasnick my great-grandmother's father was named Noah Webster Rasnick he married Virginia Maryland Counts and had Chloie Rasnick and Tilman and Lula. I have pics of them when they were small and so on.

The disease is a lung condition named Pulmonary Sarcoidosis and Familial Mediterranean Fever, and Thalassemia, Behcets Disease, and Machado/Joseph Disease that runs in the family. ... I hope that this information may be useful for you, but this runs in the family, and I think it is good to know. I was shocked to find out some of the things when I started to research my family because of my nephew being so sick. He was only 10 at the time and he almost died because of it, so I decided to find out some things and the Dr. there at the hosp ask questions about family that I could not answer, so I began to dig and dig and then I found family that had a lot to add and then others that were related that had the same thing and I put 2 and 2 together and found out some things I did not know or did my mother or grandmother every tell me. Do you have any information to help me?

You can put anything you like in your newsletter, it does not bother me at all, in fact I would love it. Here is something else for you to think of. Okay now get ready for this, my grandmother Virginia Falin, this is the daughter to Chloie Rasnick remember her father was Noah Webster Rasnick, well when my grandfather died in the early 60s, I was just about 3 or 4 yrs old at the time, well anyway some time later my grandmother had a man move in with her in the state of West Va., now get ready, his name was Denver Kiser ... this was her cousin and they lived together till my grandmother died about 5 or 6 yrs ago...

Umhhh to tell you the truth I am a cousin to everyone they all came from Dickenson Co Va and Russell Co Va and they all most of them intermarried. When I began to look at the charts I was related to everyone on both sides all the way down the charts, my mom never told me about this at all, she said that no one ever talk about family, in fact she never ever met her grandmothers Chloie Rasnick's father at all. She is 75 yrs old and he died in 1941. My mother was in high school in West Va at the time so I cannot even believe that ...

I know in the census reports around 1860 through 1865 and 67 and 68 in Va there is listed John Counts and he had 28 slaves and in the 1860s around that time there was a man named Andrew Kiser and he had slaves too. I hope this is not to much for you but this is what I have found out so far. Would love to no all.

There is also a lump in the back of the head that some family members carry, no kidding, my brother has this lump. There is a name for it. Well anyway you take your hand at the base of your neck and run your flat of your hand up your head and you will come to a ridge in the back of the head, like a lump but it is a ridge. Let me know if you have that. That runs in the family and then I will tell you why after you check okay? ... let me know if you find this on you, or anyone in the family, okay? [I don't, Ed.--Whew!]

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.

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.

JACK HOCKETT, of St. David's Place, PA is a descendant and the main contributor to research on this branch of the family. His work has appeared in previous issues of this newsletter, and in several significant genealogy publications. He has been collaborating for a number of years with **Kathryn Burke Greever** and **Imogene Burke Verbal** on genealogy research, which has greatly benefitted the Jessee family. Please see the discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

For this issue of the Newsletter, Jack provided some of the fruits of his basic research, extractions of Jessees as they appeared in the Sullivan Co., TN Marriage Register (1899-1915), LDS Film #927286.

Sullivan Co., TN Marriage Register (1899-1915)

Nora Jessee & Thos Reed, 01 Apr 1902
W. E. Jessee & Mattie Richards, 01 Mar 1903
Lillie E. Jessie & J. R. Price, 18 Apr 1904
S. J. Jessie & Lizzie Davis, 12 Sep 1905, by A.H. Burroughs (AHB)
Mary E. Jessee & H. H. Johnson, 05 Feb. 1906 by AHB
W. H. Jessee & Lillie M. Dickenson, 10, Aug 1907 by AHB
B. L. Jessie & Bessie L. Brenner (?), 23 Oct 1907 by AHB
Henry Jessee & Scottie Davis, 02 Feb. 1908, by AHB,
Sur. O. L. Jessee
A. H. Jessee & Fannie Sells, 14 Aug 1908
W. G. Jessee & Gertrude Baker, 28 Oct 1908
Marie Jessee & E. P. Willis, 06 Nov. 1910
Jennie M. Jessie & Ross Sykes, 15 Nov. 1909
Robt. Jessie & Lena V. Porter, 22 Dec 1909
Mamie E. Jessie & C. C. Clay, 07 Jan 1914
C. G. Jessee & Katie Virginia Mays, 29 J1 1913
Joseph P. Jessee & Willie V. Baker, 19 Oct 1913
C. J. Jessee & Margaret A. Pipe, 30 June 1914
J. H. Jessee & Mary K. Willoughby, 21 Aug 1915
Mollie Jessee & R. C. Litton, 11 May 1911
Barbara G. Jessie & Eugene V. Steele, 14 Aug 1915

X. Boedicia Jessee Gose

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

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

XI. James Jessee

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

IRIS LAMBERT HALL, a descendant of James Jessee, is a regular contributor. See her contribution this month under the Archer Jessee family, where she has answered a question from the last Newsletter, and added to the Archer Jessee family recorded descendants.

LIZ STRICKLAND (LizStrickland@aol.com) provided information, 12/26/1999, regarding her grandfather, **Mellie Jessee** of Lee Co. His father was **Christopher**, and his father was **Fleming**. Mellie is not listed above in the 1880 Census.

Hi Jim, My name is Liz Strickland. My grandfather was Mellie Jessee of Lee Co. his father was Christopher and his father was Fleming. There are so many Jessee's around! I have traced ours back to Russell Co. and some say that Henry and Elizabeth came over from England but that is still to be shown to me. I found your name on a message board and it led me to your page. I started looking for my grandmother, **Cora Johnson Jessee** a year or so ago and I still can't find out much about her. Records were burned. I have countless census records before and after but she is still a mystery. I remember her well and I know her history would be a rich one, Mama says her roots were the Hoovers and the Cherokee Indians. Anyway, I have enjoyed finding so many Jessee's out there. Have a great day!

DOUG JESSEE (djessee@pinnaclesys.com) sent, 3/30/2000, information regarding his pedigree back to **Creed Pete "CP" Jessee**, son of Christopher, son of Johnson, son of Christopher A., son of Fleming Burk son of James and Jane Burk Jessee.

I did not find anything about my little branch, so I thought I would offer information.

Me:

Lloyd Douglas Jessee born 08/24/70

Father: Lloyd Christopher Jessee

Mother: Kaye Denise Jessee

Son:

Lloyd Matthew Nicholas Jessee born 01/15/94

Father: Lloyd Douglas Jessee

Mother: Sandra L. Jessee

Daughter:

Kaylynn Michelle Jessee born 03/17/91

Father: Lloyd Douglas Jessee

Mother: Gale L. Jessee

I was born in Noblesville, Hamilton County, Indiana. My father (who died just last year) I believe was born in Virginia. As a child, we lived there for a short time (in Virginia) and a lot of my father's brothers and sisters lived there. That was Pennington Gap, Virginia. I also have a report card for me when we lived in Wise County, Virginia.

My father's mother was Nevada 'Veda' Jessee (do not now her maiden name). My father's father was 'CP' Jessee (I have no

information about him). My father was the oldest of 18 children, (including Gerald, Flossy, and Bud).

Both my children were born in Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana. I married Gale on December 24th, 1989 in Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana. Her maiden name was Lewis and born in Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana. I married Sandra on June 16th, 1993 in Fishers, Hamilton County, Indiana. Her maiden name was Mitchell and born in Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana.

DAVID MICHAEL JESSEE (dmjessee@mounet.com), sent, 1/22/2000, descendants information for his great-grandfather, **James Abel Jessee**, son of **Fleming Burk**, son of James Jessee, and noted the following.

My name is David Michael Jessee and I am also descended from the Southwest Virginia Jessee "Clans". My immediate family lived on the Stock Creek area near Natural Tunnel and Clinchport, Va. I own the family farm that belonged to my great-grandparents in the 1800's. My great-grandparents were **Lettie Margaret (Bailey) Jessee** and James A. Jessee, My grandparents were **Amanda Louise (Hill) Jessee** and **Patrick Bruce Jessee**, My parents were **Emmett C. Jessee** and **Eunice (Lewis) Jessee**.

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 have published their book, *Some Descendants of John Burk, 1656-1699, Middlesex Co., Virginia*. It is available from the Iberian Publishing Co., 548 Cedar Creek Drive, Athens, GA 30605-3408, for a price of \$34.95 softback, \$44.95 hardback, plus \$4.00 shipping and handling. It can be ordered on-line at www.iberian.com. All royalties go to the Russell Co. Historical Society and Russell Co. Library Family History Room for preservation of archival family history materials.

This book is 502 pages and details, among many others, 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.** They have added much important information for each of these Jessee lines. Their notations and documentation of sources are tremendous. A simply great effort.

This book alone includes well over 1000 descendants of Rebecca Jessee and William Burk. None of this material has been keyed into a genealogy database program of any kind. It is a daunting chore and we need help! I would like to work with any volunteers who would be willing to help key in this information into an appropriate genealogy database.

XIII. Jane Jessee Fuller

Jane Jessee (1797-1869) married **Henry Fuller** (1792-1872), son of **Abraham Fuller** and **Mary Sargent**. They had ten children. This family moved to Illinois.

While I have a scant amount of descendants information, I do not correspond with any descendant of Jane Jessee Fuller. This is a family that needs much research.

VIRGINIA STRANG (VASGator@aol.com) has made our first inquiry, 3/30/2000, regarding Fuller family genealogy.

Hi cuz, My great-great grandparents were **Henry C. Fuller** b. 1 Oct. 1805 and **Elizabeth Williams** b. abt. 1806. I am descended from their daughter **Jennette Elizabeth** who married **James Brown Dye Jr.** They were married in Rockingham cty. N. C. Which of their children is in your line? I would love to exchange info with you. I can also put you in touch with a few other cousins I have recently located. Virginia Strang, Boca Raton, FL.

I responded to say that I did not know how Henry C. Fuller may be related to the Jessees, although I have collected quite a bit of Fuller genealogy and asked if I could print her inquiry and referred her to our website. To which she responded, 3/31/2000 as follows.

Thank you for responding so promptly. I checked the Fullers listed on your website, but was unable to find a connection. My Fullers came from Isle of Wight Cty. Va. (Virginia Beach area) to Caswell cty. NC. A few of them went to Granville cty. NC. Caswell Cty. is the only thing I found in common. You have my permission to print my query. The big piece I am missing is the wife of Samuel Fuller who I show was born in Caswell Cty. abt. 1766.

I was disappointed not to have found another cousin :(I have located five cousins over the past year who are researching the Fullers and we have been piecing the info and documents among us. I do want to tell you that your info was a big help to us all. It matched exactly to what I had concluded was the most probable family line. We were having a tough time tying Henry C. Fuller b. 1805 to Henry Fuller b. 1725. I was pretty sure Henry C.'s father was Samuel b. 1766, but was not able to confirm it. Samuel is the only Fuller on whom we have no spouse info.

We were all hoping to link our Fuller line to the two Fuller brothers who came over on the Mayflower. Our William Fuller b. 1625 was not the son of either of them. Perhaps when we start our England research we will find a link. Are you positive you are not related to this Fuller line? Perhaps it is you who are related to the Mayflower Fullers. I would be interested in knowing which Fullers intermarried with your Jessees. I have lots of Fuller data. Again, thanks for gathering the Fuller data over the years. It was a big help to me.

I noted the similarity in migration patterns for our families to which Virginia added the following.

I have read about migration patterns and learned that quite a number of families came from Isle of Wight to Caswell & Granville cty. I have yet to find out why. Some Fuller families went to Md. for a while in the mid 1600s. They were Puritans who were granted land there by the Calverts. This was a result of the Puritans in Va. being told that they must convert or leave the colony. Also, the Calverts were trying to increase the population of Md. which was growing at a very slow rate. This eventually led to the Battle of the Severn in 1655 which the Puritans won. One of my ancestors, Captain William Fuller, fought in that battle. He had previously served under Oliver Cromwell during the Battle of Dunbar when

the English slaughtered the Scots in great numbers. He used the same tactics to win the Battle of the Severn. The Puritans were religiously intolerant. Upon their victory, William was appointed Puritan governor of Md., the Catholics were stripped of all rights under law and freedom of worship was abolished. Needless to say, this is not an ancestor of whom I am proud.

I enjoy studying history as I do my genealogy research. It gives me a lot of insight into how my ancestors lived.

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. They 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.

JANICE BUCKLES CORNETT (jcornett@naxs.net), sent, 5/2/2000, information regarding the family of **George Washington Buckles and Margaret "Maggie" Stinson**, daughter of **George Lea Stinson**, whose mother is **Nancy B. Jessee**, daughter of George Lea.

I believe this to be my ancestors. I am including some information on my family."

George Washington Buckles b. Mar.23, 1873 d. March 5, 1923 (age-49 yrs., 11 mo., 15 days)

Maggie Stinson Buckles b. Apr.10, 1887 (Listed in your work as Margaret Stinson daughter of George Lea Stinson and Nancy J. Counts) d. May 13, 1957 (Beckley, West Virginia)

George Buckles & Maggie Stinson married May 6, 1907.
Children:

Ada Pauline Buckles b. Jan 25, 1909 d. Dec 19, 1912 (age 3yrs, 10mo, 24days)

Curtis Campbell Buckles b. Aug. 29, 1910 d. Dec. 30, 1992 /married March 13, 1942 Ruth Thompson b. Dec. 28, 1922 d. Apr. 26, 1983 (My parents). Children:

Fred Allen Buckles b. Feb.1, 1943

Janice Ruth Buckles b. Jan 19, 1945

Mary Margaret Buckles b. Mar. 11, 1958 d. Mar. 11, 1958

Claude Leeman Buckles b. Aug. 17, 1913 d. Nov. 23,

1983/married March 29, 1942 Nancy Wohlford d. Jul. 17, 1967.
Children:

Doris Ann Buckles

Donna Jean Buckles

Claude "Bucky" Buckles

Howard Stinson Buckles b. Aug. 11, 1916 married Cleo Casey

Bill Russell Buckles b. Nov. 29, 1918 d. Feb. 1, 1989 married

Virginia Moore March 25, 1938. Children:

Billy Buckles d. Sep. 28, 1984

Barbara Buckles

Betty Lou Buckles

Guy Finney Buckles b. Apr. 8, 1920 d. Dec. 30, 1992 married

Pearl

George Washington Buckles b. Jul. 30, 1923 d. Dec. 28, 1980 married Eloise Riddle December 25, 1944. Children:

George Dennis Buckles

Linda Buckles

Betty Jo Buckles d. March 12, 1946 (age-4 days old)

XV. Martin Jessee

Martin Jessee (1801-1879) married first **Virginia Jane Price** (1801-1853), da. of David and June Price and they had eleven children. He married second **Mary Jane Darnold** (1834-1907), and they had seven children.

PEGGY LEE AKERS SIMMERS (99 Simmers Rd., Rising Sun, MD 21911) asks for help with a poignant story of her mother's family.

March 1, 2000

Hi there. I am still searching for a relative, brother, sister, neighbor, grandchildren or anyone who might have heard a story of **Wilson O. Jessee**, died 1918. He was my mothers guardian for several years. I believe he was married to Liza. My mother was Eula M. Monk, placed out when mother Cora A. Gose Monk was in State Hospital in Marion, VA. Cora Monk died 1929 and I am unable to trace anything about John E. Monk (Cora's husband and Eula's father). I do not even have a death certificate for him. My mother Eula M. Monk was raised on Jessee farm and I have a bed made from the trees on the farm, walnut and maghoney

Who was Mr. and Mrs Wilson Jessee? Where was their home place? Why didn't John E. Monk claim his children back? I know it was Russell Co., VA and Jessees where cousins of my mother, Eula Monk. Are there any Jessee's left in Russell Co. to remember this story?

Eula Monk is the da. of John E. Monk (origins unknown) and Cora A. Gose. Cora is the da. of Henry Gose and Mary "Polly" Meade, da. of Nathan Thacker Meade and Mary Elizabeth Jessee, da. of Martin Jessee. Thus Wilson O. Jessee may be a descendant of Martin Jessee, but it may be that he is from another branch of the family entirely.

SANDY COOPER (HALGCOOP@aol.com) provided, 4/13/2000, descendants information for **William Powell Cooper and Nancy Carnelia Meade**. Nancy Carnelia Meade is the da. of **Henry Powell Meade and Delilah Keith**. Henry was the son of **Nathan Thacker Meade and Mary Elizabeth Jessee**, daughter of Martin Jessee.

I am researching the Coopers of Russell Co, VA. As you know, the Coopers are tied into the Jessee and Meade families. 'Just wanted to share the info I have about the children of William Powell Cooper and Nancy Carnelia Meade Cooper:

1. Infant Cooper, b.1895, d.1895

2. Jennings Bryan Cooper, b. 04/05/1897, d. _____?, spouse: Mollie Keith

3. George Hobson Cooper, b. 1898, d. 12/1918 of influenza

4. Mary Blaine Cooper, b. 04/03/1906, d.09/18/1993, spouse: James Clark

5. Emmett Wilson Cooper, b. 01/08/1909, d. _____?, spouse: Alice O'Brien

6. Charlie Gibson Cooper, b. 01/04/1912, d. _____?, spouse: Dorothy Koenig

7. Thomas Grant Cooper, b. 04/30/1914, d. 02/16/1991, spouse: Helen

Elizabeth Parsons

8. Virginia Cooper, b. 06/02/1916, living, spouse: Robert Ellyson

9. Willie Dove Cooper, b. 07/26/1918, living, spouses: Leo Jarvis, Cecil Lindamood

Thomas Grant Cooper was my father-in-law. His children are Harold Grant Cooper, b. 07/29/1942, Betty Lee, and Peggy. William Powell Cooper was the son of Thomas C. Cooper and Mary Fields; He was the grandson of Jacob Cooper and Martha Meade.

ROBERT BAKER (BBUSNA53@worldnet.att.net) provided evidence that **Sally Baker, da. of James and Highly Baker**, died at 24 and was married to **Thomas J. Jessee**, as reported in 1873 Russell Co. Death Index: "Sarah, wife of Thomas J. Jessee, died age 24."

This contradicts the information I have recorded for Sally Baker, daughter of George James and Highly Baker, who I show married to Archer Lea Jessee, son of Martin Jessee. I need help to identify which Thomas J. Jessee this is, and evidence of his marriage to Sally Baker. I may simply have an error in this marriage information, there may be a different Sally Baker married to Archie Lee Jessee. Who is Sally Baker married to?

Robert also provides a reference to the **Will of George James Baker**, who names his daughter Sally Jessee and children **James M., Jinny, and Archibald Lea Jessee**. This will may be found on RootsWeb, Russell Co. VAGenWeb. WILL OF GEORGE JAMES BAKER, Russell County, Virginia Will Book 10, Pages 395 - 398 Executed 07 Apr 1885. This file contributed by: Renae Barrett Schneider.

HELP NEEDED

Please help me figure out this family relationship and information. The following is a descendants chart for John Jessee III, who is assumed to be the son of John Jessee, Jr., but may not be. Please see the notes and problems identified below. I need to confirm or correct the following information.

Modified Register for John Jessee III-199

1. John Jessee III-199 was born about 1803/1805 in Russell Co., VA. He died after 1880 in Floyd Co., KY.

Source: materials provided by Vivian Bales (Jan 1998) provides evidence of a John and Mary Jessee family in the 1850 Floyd Co., Census, #54 (by Shepherd), with the children and ages shown, and in the 1870 Floyd Co. Census, #164

Source: materials provided by Tom Rudder (Oct 23, 1998) also states that John Jessee III, son of John Jr. moved to Floyd Co., KY about 1842, and he provides Census Data (1850 Floyd Co., KY 1880 Floyd Co., KY, and 1900 Carter Co., KY) indicating a marriage to Mary, their children and grandchildren. Tom speculates that this is the pedigree for Daniel E. Jessee famous Sportsman and Author. He believes that the Joseph Jessee listed in the 1850 Floyd Co., KY Census is not their son, but a relative.

Problem: materials provided by Kimberly Cook, based on 1850 KY Census, indicates that a John Jessee, her ancestor, moved with wife Mary from VA to KY with his family about 1842. That this John Jessee III, is the same John Jessee of Floyd Co. KY, ancestor of Kim Cook, is a speculation of

Jim Jessee, based on the coincidence of birthdates (1805) and the occurrence of the name William in the John Jessee family. This may be an error. Another option to pursue is John Trigg Jessee, RIN 8639, who also had a wife Mary Burk, and some of their children's names are the same.

Previous data recorded here speculated that John Jessee III had two marriages. One in Russell Co. to an Elizabeth who died sometime after 1833, and another to Mary, with whom he moved to KY about 1842. Tom Rudder indicates that the John who married Elizabeth, is the son of Archer Jessee.

John married (MRIN:4203) Mary-12520.

Mary was born about 1815 in Russell Co., VA.

They had the following children:

2 M i. Joseph Jessee-19445 was born about 1829 in VA.

This may not be a child of John and Mary, but another member of the family.

3 M ii. William L. Jessee-15227 was born about 1833 in VA.

4 M iii. David "Davy" Jessee-14852 was born abt 1836 in VA. David lived, age 13, b. VA in Floyd Co., KY with parents John and Mary Jessee in 1850 Floyd Co., KY Census, #54. He is listed in the 1860 Floyd Co., KY Census, #198, as age 24, b. VA in the household of Chritiana Hatcher, 45 female, b. VA. along with her family of children, Elizabeth Stone, age 20, b. VA, and 10 slaves, named. His family is reconstructed from 1870 Floyd Co., Census, # 20, and 1880 Floyd Co., KY Census information.

Source: Materials provided by Kimberly Cook (1996), and Vivian Bales (Jan 1998).

David married (MRIN:5081) Mary Polly Howell-14853. Mary was born Mar 1848 in KY.

5M iv. Isaac Jessee-15228 was born about 1840 in Russell Co., VA.

Source: 1880 Carter Co., KY Census, page 504B provides names and approximate ages for this entire family.

Source: 1880 Carter Co., KY Census, pg. 504B.

Isaac married (MRIN:11296) Deborah Jane Pope-17008 on 13 Sep 1864 in Carter County, KY. Deborah was born about 1842/1844 in KY.

This is conjecture that this Isaac Jessee married Deborah Jane Pope. This may be the wrong Isaac.

6F v. Rebecca Jessee-15229 was born about 1842 in KY.

7F vi. Mary A. Jessee-15230 was born about 1844 in KY. Mary married (MRIN:6797) Freeman-19448.

8F vii. Rhoda Jessee-15231 was born about 1849 in KY.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following are only a few of the many communications 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.

VENUS BEE (VBee4u@aol.com), sent, 5/1/2000, the following inquiry regarding her ancestor, **Rebecca Jessee**. She speculates that her Rebecca Jessee is the same as Rebecca Jessee (RIN 1535), daughter of **Fleming Burk Jessee**, son of James Jessee.

Found your web site by accident while researching my family tree. It is one of the best web site I have encountered. To the point:

I think your Rebecca Jessee and my GGGrandmother may be one and the same. I base this on a letter written by my uncle many years ago. He is still living in Florida as of one year ago. I do have a different birthday based on my mothers records. Mom had her birth and death recorded as Birth Jan 13 1846 and Death May 2 1930. The records are faded so I could be wrong. The following is [my source], a note from **Arthur Hayes Looney**, May 3rd 1989

MY GRANDMOTHER REBECCA JESSEE

James Adkins from Buchanan County, Virginia and Solomon (Sol) Colley from Breaks of Mountain, near Elkhorn City Kentucky, become close friends while serving in the Civil war together near Lebanon, Russell Co. Virginia. There the two men met sisters Rebecca Jessee and Ellen Jessee. Sol Colley married Ellen Jessee and James Adkins married Rebecca Jessee, who later became Grandma and Grandpa to me.

After the war, the two couples moved to the Break of the Mountain, near Elkhorn City, Kentucky and shared the same home together for some time.

James Adkins and wife Rebecca moved from Breaks to Dry Fork of Big Prater, about 1 1/4 miles from Vansant, Virginia, a place known to us as Silk Looney's place. During the years that passed to this union was born one boy and five girls: Bence Adkins, Polly Ann, Sarah Jane, Cellia, Millie, and Emma. Sarah Jane married Joseph M Looney. They moved to Trace fork of Big Prater Creek at Lee Master Va. James Adkins lost his eyesight and was blind for several years. While blind, my father (Joseph M. Looney) built a log cabin near his home for them. They lived in this log cabin until Grandpa died. Grandma later died. James and Rebecca Adkins were buried on a mountain top near James Anderson's old home place, on right hand fork of Prater Creek.

To Joseph M. Looney and Sarah J Looney were born eight children, Joseph Henry, James Bence, Robin Muncie, Hattie, Pearl Ann, Chester, Italy Francis and myself Arthur Hayes Looney. I am the late of this generation as of this day. May 3rd 1989.

Bence Adkins was born December 29, 1862 and died in 1902. He was married to a woman by the name of Estep. They had two children, a son Rufus Adkins and a daughter Sarah Adkins. While they were small, their mother left and was never heard from again. Bence Adkins was buried on the mountain top with his father and mother.

Rufus Adkins married and had one son, Walter Adkins, Walter now lives in Haysi, Va. I am not sure, but I believe Rufus had a second child. If so his name was Sylvester.

Polly Ann married a Harrison Thomas. They had as I remember six children, two boys and four girls. The names of their children were: Will Thomas, Marty, Armelda, Mary Jane, Rose, and Phebe, I think Phebe is still living at this date.

Cellia Adkins married Jim Adkins, known as Little Jim. They had four boys: Arthur, Walter, Wilson and Dan. All are now dead.

Millie Adkins married George Looney, nephew to my father. To this union were born three children: John Looney, Jim Looney

and Rebecca Looney. John and Jim are now deceased. Rebecca Looney (Ferrell) is now a widow and lives at Stop Over, Kentucky.

As I remember, this record is very accurate. I am the last of this generation. I was born March 8, 1907. I have now been living in the state of Florida for 39 years. (Arthur Hayes Looney)

This Sarah Jane Adkins was my Grandmother, May 31, 1870, Died Sept 30, 1944. My father was her son, James Bence Looney.

Do you think my Rebecca and your Rebecca (ID# 11535) could be one and the same? They are both from Russell Co. Both have sister named Ellen, are very close to the same age. What do you think?

This is an awful good guess, but I do not think so, as the marriage of your Ellen Jessee to Solomon Colley referenced after does not match the marriage information I have for Rebecca's (RIN 1535) sister, "Elinder" Jessee who married Samuel Bailie. Furthermore, the birthdates not matching for both sisters is a further problem. However, I could be very wrong and I do believe Rebecca is in the family. I ask our family sleuths to help us figure out whose daughter is this Rebecca Jessee who married James Adkins.

GLORIA ROBBINS (1stfbc@gte.net) is still seeking **Clarence Jessee**, born around 1920s and who may or may not have been killed in WWII. He had a cousin named **Margaret Noel**. Here is her initial inquiry which has more information.

My interest in the Jessee family begins with Clarence Jessee who is my husband's biological father. My husband, John, was adopted out when his mother became pregnant by Clarence Jessee who was presumably killed overseas in WWII. We researched and found my husband's biological mother who told us about his father, Clarence Jessee. His mother was from Russell Co., VA where she met Clarence in the area of Raven, VA; presumably his Jessee family lived in Richlands, where his father may have been the town manager. Neither Clarence nor his family knew John was born, as his mother moved away and gave up the baby for adoption. My husband was born in December 1943 so it would have been that Clarence was killed during that year. If anyone knows anything about a Clarence Jessee from Richlands, VA, I'd love to know about it.

SANDY MILLER (caudell@cboss.com) posted, 3/21/2000, an inquiry regarding Carter Co., KY families: **BAKER, KAISER, JESSEE, CAUDELL**.

Searching for **Wash Baker** m. **Hannah Kaiser**. Their daughter **Melissa Baker** m. 1st **David Caudell**. David died ca. 1909 at about age 32. Melissa then married a **Dan Jessee**. According to family records, the Baker and Jessee families were wealthy plantation owners in Carter Co., KY. I know one of Melissa and David Caudell's sons, Milford, was born in 1898, 1 1/2 miles from Greenup, TN.

I am really having a time linking up this family. One other clue I have is **Amy (Jessee) Logan** who was a magistrate supposedly in Greenup during WWII. She is supposed to be the Great Aunt of **Milford Caudell**. Her maiden name was Jessee. I will have look up her parents etc. if you are interested. She married a **Marshall Logan**. I found a **Sanders Crawford** family on the Carter Co. Photo Album. It states the photo was taken behind the Baker place on Tygerts Creek. Are you familiar with the area they are referring to?

Posted to Jesse-L@RootsWeb.com was the following obituary for JESSEE, Edgar (93). Can anyone provide a pedigree for Edgar Jessee and tie him into the larger Jessee family?

Edgar Jessee, 93, died March 25, 2000, at the Holston Valley Medical Center in Kingsport, TN. Edgar was preceded in death by two daughters, Ida Mae Jessee and Violet Robinson; three sisters and three brothers.

Edgar's survived by his wife, Pearl Jessee; two daughters, Paralee Bernard, Annie Jessee; one son, Linzy Jessee; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; one sister, Gladys Allen; several nieces and nephews.

Edgar's buried in the Old Kingsport Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

SHARON DULANEY (SharonDHRD@aol.com; sdulaney@cobweb.net) posted on RootsWeb VARUSSEL-L@rootsweb.com, 3/26/2000, descendants information for John Wesley Armstrong Skeen and Jessee Skeen and asks for help identifying their relationship to each other and other Skeen and Jessee families..

This is the information I have on Armstrong Skeen who is my gggg grandfather and Jesse Skeen. I have not made a connection yet for the parents of Jesse Skeen.

FATHER: John Wesley Armstrong Skeen1

birth: 20 Jun 1827 Russell County, Virginia
mar.: 12 Dec 1850 Russell County, Virginia
death: 14 Jan 1911 Russell County, Virginia
Father: Jonathan Rees Skeen
Mother: Sarah (Sally) Monk

MOTHER: Rebecca Isaacs

birth: 30 Mar 1832 Russell County, Virginia
mar.: 12 Dec 1850 Russell County, Virginia
death: 16 May 1887 Russell County, Virginia
Father: Fielding Ashby Isaacs1
Mother: Sarah (Sallie) Harris1

CHILDREN

1 Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Skeen
birth: 14 Sep 1852 Russell County, Virginia
mar.: 25 Dec 1872 Russell County, Virginia
to: John Andrew Hall
death: 6 Feb. 1933 Russell County, Virginia
burial: Castlewoods, Russell Co, Virginia
2 Fielding Ashby Skeen22
birth: Apr 1853 Castlewood, Russell Co, Va
mar.: 7 Sep 1875 Russell County, Virginia
to: Rebecca Saberry
3 Nancy (Nannie) Skeen25
birth: May 1853 Russell County, Virginia
4 Sarah V. Skeen27
birth: 18 May 1856 Russell County, Virginia
mar.:
to: Thomas Jessee
death: 11 Jun 1890
5 Rachael E. Skeen29
birth: 1859 Russell County, Virginia
6 Caroline J. (Carrie) Skeen31
birth: Dec 1862 Russell County, Virginia
mar.: 17 May 1879 Russell County, Virginia
to: William (Bill) H. Hall

Individual biographical text for John Wesley Armstrong Skeen: According to Charleen Johnson Armstrong's full Name is John Wesley Armstrong Skeen. Did find the evidence to confirm her claim in the 1880 Russell County Census. Listed as JWA Skeen with his wife Rebecca, daughter Nancy, son Fielding, his wife Rebecca and several grandchildren. Then checked out the 1850 Russell County Census to see if he was still living with parents just prior to his marriage in 1852. He was listed as John WA with Jonathan and Sarah Skeen and his brother Nathaniel D. It does appear that he used the name Armstrong, not John Wesley.

Burial: Hall/Skeen Cemetery---Rt. 604 Castlewoods, Russell County, Va. Rebecca Skeen (Rebecca Isaacs) B: 30 March 1832 Wife of Armstrong Skeen----(broken stone-can't read death date)

Burial: Hall/Skeen Cemetery Rt. 604, Castlewoods, Russell County, Virginia Headstone- Armstrong Skeen B: 20 June 1827 D: Jan 1911

Have picture of graves, thanks to John Isaacs

Served in the 37th Virginia Infantry. No enlistment date, and is listed as Skene rather Skeen. Listed in Virginia Library roster. Source: The Virginia Regimental Histories Series. Researched by Diane Ragan, Cert. Genealogist. (www.civilwardata.com The Civil War Research and Genealogy Database)

FATHER: Jessee Skeen1

mar.: 30 Oct 1851 Russell County, Virginia

MOTHER: Elizabeth M. Isaacs

birth: 1828 Russell County, Virginia
mar.: 30 Oct 1851 Russell County, Virginia
death: ABT 1875 Carter County, Kentucky
Father: Fielding Ashby Isaacs7
Mother: Sarah (Sallie) Harris8

CHILDREN

1 Fielding A. Skeen
bir: 1853 Russell County, Virginia
2 William Skeen
bir: 11 Jan 1854 Russell County, Virginia
3 Rebecca J. Skeen
bir: 1856
4 James H. Skeen
bir: 16 Jun 1857 Russell County, Virginia

Regarding Elizabeth M. Isaacs, I have seen her referred to Mary Elizabeth. I don't think he is the s/o Jonathan Skeen and Jane Chafin because their son was born in 1846, according to the 1850 Census. I have seen references to a Jessee Skeen who was the son of Jonathan Rees Skeen and Sarah Monk, who was 21 at the time of the 1850 Census. Since the Jessee Skeen who is in the 1860 Census, married to Elizabeth, is 35, this could be the same Jessee Skeen.

PORTER HARNED (harned@corecomm.net) posted on GC-Kentucky Civil War Query Forum an inquiry seeking information on or relatives of:

James Jesse from Shelby Co.

Andrew J. Jesse from Nelson Co.

Lt. Col. George Martin Jessee from Nelson Co.

The last is the **Col. George McCroker Jessee** CSA 12th KY we have featured in the Newsletter before as a Jessee CSA officer whose pedigree and relationship to the larger family is still unknown.

STEVE LYNN (confed@usa.net) responded on the same forum with the following.

Mr. Harned, Below is information for Andrew J. Jesse and George M. Jessee as found in "Confederate Pensioners of Kentucky". I am hoping to receive the books within the next month and will send your copy ASAP:

JESSE, ANDREW J. - #343 SPENCER (1912)

Buckner Guards KY Cavy.; Born 1830 Woodford Co.

JESSEE, BETTIE PRYOR (FOUSE) - #2007 HENRY (1912)

Born 4/8/36 Henry Co.; Married 9/2/51 Aberdeen, Ohio to

GEORGE McCROCKEY JESSEE, Lt.Col., 6th Btn. Conf. Cavy.

(also Jessee's Btn. KY Mtd. Riflemen); Born 8/18/32 Shelby Co.;

Died 2/21/96 New Castle.

ROBERT GIVIDEN (Buyadozen@aol.com) sent, 7/28/1999, this regarding Col. George M. Jessee.

I hope you can help me with some information on this gentleman. He is buried in the New Castle Cem. in New Castle, KY Henry Co. I am working on getting some family information on him so I can try to get a KY history marker for him to be placed on the roadside in front of the cemetery. I am a member of the Kentucky Orphan Brigade Kinfolk and Henry and Trimble CO.'s are the two counties that I take care of. Any information would be helpful.

VICKIE MILLER (Lee7293@swbell.net) wrote, 1/20/2000, with the following important information and corrections of information regarding the **Kilgore Family**.

I found your data base on World Connect and checked out your Kilgores. I'm afraid you have a few errors in your research [corrected as of 1/21/2000]. Winnie Clayton was the wife of a man named Robert Kilgore as proven by deed in Orange Co., NC. She was believed to be the wife of Charles Kilgore by early researchers who published their material in 1930s and this misinformation has been used by many others since including those who have submitted to LDS and DAR which in VA no longer recognizes the Charles Kilgore and Winnie Clayton line. In addition, tax records from Russell Co., VA show that Winnie Kilgore was a widow in 1783 and 1784. Robert Kilgore was killed by Indians while hunting 12-31-1782. The son Robin Kilgore you have listed was in fact the son of Robert and Winnie. The children you have listed for your Charles: Johnson and Charles M:1786 Unice Lea were the children of a Thomas Kilgore. Mary Kilgore Culbertson was in fact the d/o Charles Kilgore and his wife Martha ?? as proven by his will and other records."

DONA S. BRADLEY (sbradley@tir.com) sent, 5/3/2000, the following information of interest to the **John or Leonard Counts Family**.

Hello, I am seeking the family of John or Leonard Counts that originated in WV, seem to have traveled to KY and at some point were in what I believe to have been Wayne Co., MI...probably Royal Oak. I am not related to this family, but have a Bible that might have information they might like to have. I'm not seeking anything other than to get this information to some one that will cherish it. Some other names in the Bible, in case you would like to mention them, are:

Ezekiel Counts b. 1846, d. 4/1/1927

John Counts b. 9/16/1872 d. 8/23/1950 in Dunbar, WV

md Jessie __ Counts in KY. Children:

Ellis Counts b. Lesley WV 8/12/1922 d. July 15, 1944 France

Mania (or Maria) Counts

Williard Counts

Clarence Counts

I thought that, at first glance, the Bible was Leonard Counts' as there is a fairly complete record of his military service in WWII. But I could be in error. It could have been John Counts' Bible.

Dona Bradley ~ sbradley@tir.com

Clay County, AR GenWeb Coordinator

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

Dona's Genealogy Site

<http://www.tir.com/~sbradley>

Dona's World

<http://members.avci.net/~sbradley/>

GAIL GARTIN GILBERT (gailgilbert@earthlink.net) sent, 3/3/2000, this information regarding descendants of the **William Jessee Family** and asks for some help.

Hi Jim, I just reviewed your database because I found another database by Sandra Lucci which had carried over the earlier mistakes in my line: <http://www.angelfire.com/folk/treeand> branches. Glad to see you corrected those. There are a couple yet to make though. My aunt's name is Electa not Electra. Also John Cooper Woodruff wasn't born in NJ. His ancestral line is from there. There is extensive material on the Woodruffs who landed in Lynn, MA from Fordwich, England in 1639. They were among the founders of Southampton, L.I., NY in 1641 and then Elizabethtown, NJ. In the next generation. I could give you my direct line all the way back if you want it. Anyway, John Cooper Woodruff was born in Washington County, PA in 1801 and died in Centerburg, OH 6Sep1885 where is buried.

I have just heard from a woman who is doing research on Ethel Woodruff for her grandsons who are descendants. We had lost track of this family, so I am thrilled to have made this contact. What a blessing the Internet can be! I have learned that Ethel's first name was actually Mary. She was born 31Oct1888, Agency, Buchanan Co., MO and d. 26Feb1935 at St. Joseph, buried in Everett Cemetery, Buchanan Co. She married George Wyman Daniel. I only knew his last name before. I am waiting to hear more about this line, but you can indicate in your database that there are living descendants.

As you will notice, Ethel's father was my grandmother's brother William Robert Woodruff and he married Caroline Wilson. I suspect that Caroline's family probably somehow connects to your Wilsons. Do you have a Wilson database that you could check to see if she fits in there anywhere. They would have gone to the St. Joe, MO area.

I still have not located a copy of William & Mary (Vermillion) Jessee's Bible records. A friend who is a national "something" in DAR is going to check for me to see if those records could be on file with them in Washington D.C.. Once I have that proof, I can join DAR here in San Clemente.

I'm close to publishing my mother-in-law's book. Since my father-in-law died in Dec., we are planning to use some inheritance to do the book hardbound as a tribute to him. I looked into Iberian Publishing Co. and noticed that the BURK book was published by them. I never did contact the author after you gave me her address. Another researcher I know also published her Orange Co., VA ORDER BOOK ONE, 1734-1739 through them. When I looked them up on-line, I found that Gray Matter Press has become an offshoot of Iberian and specializes in genealogies. Do you know anything about them? I thought I'd look into having them do my book. I'm just not enthusiastic enough to publish it myself. I'm anxious to get into my own family research again. I still haven't contacted Robert Jessee's descendants by the second wife and must do that!

By the way, I don't think I told you before, but your info on the musical talent in the Jessee family hit a note with me. My "blind" aunt, Uldine, had a beautiful voice and got her masters in music.

She sang in churches and for weddings etc. Her sister, Beryldine, was a music major also and taught music in a Midwest girl's school before she married. I started piano at age 4 and was a pretty accomplished musician by age 10. I always thought the musical talent came from my mother's side as she was a violinist like her father, and all of her sisters and brothers played instruments. As it turns out, I guess I got a double dose of genes, ha, ha.
Let me hear from you when you find time, Gail

Gail followed up with this lament--"So much to do, so little time!"--and an invitation.

Jim, I understand completely and appreciate your phrase "so busy it hurts." I'll have to use that one, ha, ha! Feel free to use any of my correspondence in the Newsletter, from past letters too. I don't think I said anything too controversial. In fact, you might add that I would dearly love to make contact with any of Robert Jessee's descendants.

Also, please ask if anyone knows the microfilm number for the photocopied William Jessee Bible at LDS. Maybe I have been looking under the wrong names or something, but I have been unable to find them. Thanks for all your help. Gail

JIM NASH (Jnash46@aol.com) sent, 5/4/2000, information regarding **William Nash, Jr**, his pedigree and descendants. **The Nash family** intermarried with the **Beecher Burke Jessee** family, descendants of **Archer Jessee**, and many other SW VA families.

I saw on one of the genealogy pages that you had an entry for William Nash who died around 1825, mother Sarah. I'm checking the same family. My Great Grandfather, William Henry Nash was two generations subsequent to the William your entry describes. I'm just starting out, but I have info to indicate that he Sarah was from Ireland and married to a William, Sr. who "came from across the waters". Also, your William (Sarah's son, Margaret Hendricks' husband) was a surveyor, Justice of the Peace, "Overseer of the Poor in the upper district of Russell County", Virginia, and even the "High Sheriff" of Russell County in 1822-1824. According to the records I've gathered, he and Margaret had 10 children, Rebecca, Sarah, William III, Phoebe, [Aaron], Peggy (or Margaret), Rachael, Leah, Samuel, and Eleanor. Also I have the kids born on the dates you listed but the years as follows: Phoebe - 1803, Aaron - 1807, Peggy - 1809, and Rachael - 1813.

I am planning to travel to Russell and Scott Counties sometime this summer and also visit Vivian Nash, the widow of Aureleous (sp?) McGarvey Nash (Uncle Mac). Mac was my father's Uncle and one of William III's 12 grandchildren by William Henry, my Great Grandfather. I think we are on the same track.

I had William III's wife as Virginia Ramsey Stallard. The Ramsey error is easily understood from Ramey, and I can't figure out from my stuff where the Stallard comes in, not to mention the Virginia versus Margaret.

Being Creative With Troublesome Kin-- A Little "Take Off" On Political Spin!

HARVEY AND JENNY KISER (pp01177@pppkcc.edu) shared this little gem on how to handle those family skeletons in the closet and advise us--Don't believe everything you find on the net! In other words, check out things you find for yourself!

You are working on your family genealogy and for sake of example, let's say that your great-great uncle, Remus Starr, a fellow lacking in character, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889.

A cousin has supplied you with the only known photograph of Remus, showing him standing on the gallows. On the back of the picture are the words:

"Remus Starr: Horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison, 1885. Escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged, 1889."

Pretty grim situation, right? But let's revise things a bit. We simply crop the picture, scan in an enlarged image and edit it with image processing software so that all that is seen is a head shot.

Next, we rewrite the text:

"Remus Starr was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad.

"Beginning in 1885, he devoted several years of his life to service at a government facility, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad. In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honor when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed."

The Twelve Commandments For Names

- (1) Thou shalt name your male children: James, John, Joseph, Josiah, Abel, Richard, Thomas, William
- (2) Thou shalt name your female children: Elizabeth, Mary, Martha, Maria, Sarah, Ida, Virginia, May
- (3) Thou shalt leave NO trace of your female children.
- (4) Thou shalt, after naming your children from the above lists, call them by strange nicknames such as: Ike, Eli, Polly, Dolly, Sukey. ---making them difficult to trace.
- (5) Thou shalt NOT use any middle names on any legal documents or census reports, and only where necessary, you may use only initials on legal documents.
- (6) Thou shalt learn to sign all documents illegibly so that your surname can be spelled, or misspelled, in various ways: Hicks, Hix, Hixe, Hucks, Kicks
- (7) Thou shalt, after no more than 3 generations, make sure that all family records are lost, misplaced, burned in a court house fire, or buried so that NO future trace of them can be found.
- (8) Thou shalt propagate misleading legends, rumors, & vague innuendo regarding your place origination
 - (A) you may have come from : England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales.... or Iran.
 - (B) you may have American Indian ancestry of the _____ tribe
 - (C) You may have descended from one of three brothers that came over from _____

(9) Thou shalt leave NO cemetery records, or headstones with legible names.

(10) Thou shalt leave NO family Bible with records of birth, marriages, or deaths.

(11) Thou shalt ALWAYS flip thy name around. If born James Albert, thou must make all the rest of thy records in the names of Albert, AJ, JA, AL, Bert, Bart, or Alfred.

(12) Thou must also flip thy parents' names when making reference to them, although "Unknown" or a blank line is an acceptable alternative.

And my own personal addition: (Davidson domuff@webzone.net)

Thou shalt name at least 5 generations of males, and dozens of their cousins with identical names in order to totally confuse researchers.

Jessee Resources On The World Wide Web

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

ROOTSWEB (<http://www.rootsweb.com/>) is the premier non-profit volunteer-based genealogy resource on the Internet and is worthy of your support. Please visit this site. I have now placed my entire 32,000 record Jesse(e) Family database as a GEDCOM file in its WorldConnect Project <http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com>.

This is generating daily inquiries and bits of new information all the time. The surname search service and tools to display pedigrees, descendants charts, and download GEDCOM files are wonderful. In addition, the USGenWeb Projects are one of many RootsWeb genealogy endeavors and extremely worthwhile. I recently was able to find land patents and other records of sale of federal lands to several ancestors through this service. There you can also subscribe to the Jessee Family or Russell Co. VA Mailing List Services.

MICHAEL A. DYE has created The Russell County Page of the VAGenWeb division of the USGenWeb Project. This is an award winning site, and a terrific resource for all families whose sojourn in America included time in Russell Co., VA. Michael has been instrumental in assembling a vital on-line depository of Russell Co. records, indexes and abstracts, genealogical data, historical maps, local history, and lore. We thank you. You can join the Russell Co. List Server. This is a must see site for Jessee researchers at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussel/>.

JOHN KELLY BARKER (jbarker@netten.net) sent, 1/16/2000, the following of interest to Russell Co. researchers, a glimpse at Russell Co. Two hundred years ago.

<http://www.bristolnews.com/empire/empire.html>

HERE ARE OTHER SITES OF INTEREST.

History of Western North Carolina:

<http://www.ls.net/~newriver/nc/wnc.htm>

Southwest Virginia, 1773-1794:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussell/indian/>

Frontier Forts of Southwest Virginia:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussell/other/forts.html>

History of Southwest Virginia:

<http://www.mounet.com/~scottsch/history/priorito.html>

History of Southwest Virginia:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~indian/pan.htm>

JULIE VOYLES (JBoyles105@aol.com) sends this information for the **Kiser Family** cousins.

Hi, Kiser Cousins,

We are moving to a new site. In the past 18 months we've outgrown the size of 2 sites and thanks to Carlis, found a site with unlimited space. Carlis is in the midst of moving all our information to <http://members.xoom.com/kisergen>

While this site is still under construction, Carlis feels he's moved enough of the information to make this site easy to navigate. He will be spending the month of May fine tuning this new site. While he is doing this, if we as users find bad links, no links, or missing data, please send him an e-mail with the page and the problem so he can make the appropriate changes.

MELUNGEON REGISTRY: The Wise County Historical Society will list your ancestral lines in the Melungeon Registry for \$10. This will be compiled and added to our archives and will be made available to each person researching any given name. We have approximately 300 family names in the Registry at this point. With the addition of each family name comes the possibility of a link to other names in your line. Write to the Wise County Historical Society, P.O. box 368, Wise, VA 24293 or Call: 540-328-6451. Email: Rhonda Robertson rsr@mounet.com or Ganell Marshall awshucks@gnaxis.com.

Our Purpose

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

I research my own JESSEE ancestors, including the Armstrong, Smyth/Smith, Porter, Duncan, Bickley, Richmond/Richman, Bartee and Barrick families; and many other SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA FAMILIES who have intermarried with the Jessees, including: the Banner, Browning, Burk(e), Counts, Fuller, Gose, Kiser, Stone, and Vermillion families. I have an abiding interest in family history.

I would like to discover and record all of the descendants of the fifteen children of John and Frankey Lea Jessee, and assist other Jesse(e) family members with their research. This is admittedly a monumental chore. I am giving myself the rest of my life to accomplish it, and may he live so long! The fun is in the learning and the friendships I develop along the way. I am rewarded all the time by the visits, conversations, and correspondence I have with you.

The purpose of this newsletter is to facilitate the exchange of information and documents relative to the genealogy of the Jessee and related families whose roots may be found in Southwest Virginia. I will enter all genealogy information provided me into a Jessee Family database. I will share charts or data files with you on request.

I am asking you to respond to this newsletter with answers to questions, documentation, your own materials, and, of course, current information about your branch of the family. Please feel free to correct anything I may have wrong.

I am operating on subscriptions and additional donations while still providing this newsletter free to anyone who has asked for it, provided me information, or has expressed serious interest in this work and cannot afford to subscribe. Less than 25% of readers provide any kind of support. I do need help.

You are welcome to provide addresses of others that may be interested in our effort and would like to help. I am looking for those willing to provide and exchange information or represent their branch of the family or area of the country. I can provide and receive genealogy data by diskettes and via Internet by e-mail.

How To Subscribe

I need and appreciate your donations in defraying the considerable cost of research, printing, and postage of the newsletter and other materials I send to inquirers. I am asking for a minimum subscription of \$10 a year for two issues of the newsletter; but additional donations help support the effort and those who can't afford to pay.

Newsletter Reprints

At the request of many, I have now collected Jessee Family Newsletters into separate sets of reprints: #1-7, #8-9, #10-11, #12-13, #14-15, and #16-17 (without some attachments that have become obsolete). You may request these, as well as specific pedigree or descendants charts for \$10 a set, or \$40 for all back issues sets and subscription to the current year. Your additional donations to help me defray the costs of research, printing, copying, and postage are very much welcome.

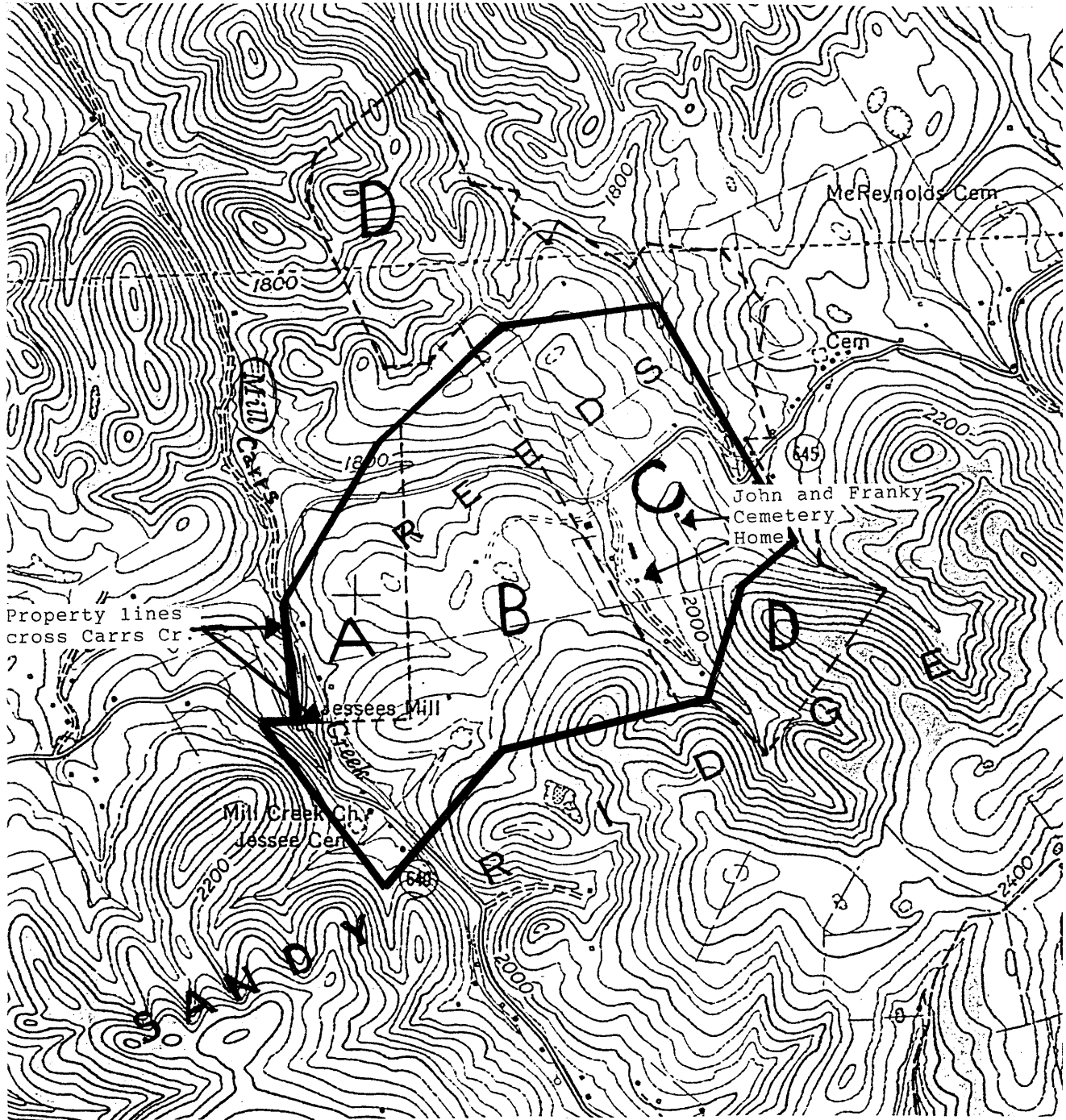
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JOHN JESSEE Sr. LAND



Solid lines mark boundary of the 250 acres John Jessee Sr. purchased from William Gilmore in 1794.

- Section "A" The 50 acres Archer Jessee purchased from heirs in 1820.
- " "B" The 118 acres Archer Jessee purchased from heirs in 1827.
- " "C" The 82 acres Geo. L. Jessee purchased from heirs in 1827.
- " "C-D" The 222½ acres comprising the Geo. L. Jessee estate in 1882.

The Jessee Family Newsletter
c/o James Wilson "Jim" Jessee
1272 Hobart Street
Chico, CA 95926-3702

All I Want For Christmas
Dear Santa:

Don't bring me new dishes,
I don't need a new kind of game.
Genealogist have particular wishes
For Christmas I just want a surname.

A new washing machine would be great,
But it's not the desire of my life.
I've just found an ancestor's birth date;
What I need now is the name of his wife.

My heart doesn't yearn for a ring
That would put a real diamond to shame.
What I want is a much cheaper thing,
Please give me Mary's last name.

To see my heart singing with joy,
Don't bring me a real leather suitcase,
Bring me a genealogist's toy;
A surname with dates and a place.

- Author Unknown -