

They

Came

Here...

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They came here---built their homes, found jobs and raised their families. They attended the churches and schools. Many are laid to rest near their homes. Others came, worked at a job, visited with family or friends and moved on.

Their name and presence were not forgotten.

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Old Friends

New friends, I cherish, and treasure their worth,
But old friends to me are the salt of the earth.
Friends are like garments, that everyone wears--
New ones are needed for dress-up affairs.

But when we're at leisure, we're more apt to choose
The clothes that we purchased with last season's shoes.
Things we grow used to, are things we love best--
The ones we are certain have weathered the test.

And isn't it true (since we're talking of friends)
That new ones bring pleasure when everything blends,
But when we want someone who thinks as we do,
And who fits, as I mentioned, like last summer's shoe--

We turn to the friends who have stuck thru' the years
Who echo our laughter and try all our tears;
They know every weakness and fault we possess,
But somehow forget them, in friendship's caress.

When I made the decision to compile this book of information about people, places and happenings in our community, I thought perhaps I would have 25 or 30 pages. I am not going to name any particular person but just say everyone--and I repeat, everyone--whom I asked for information came forth a hundred-fold.

My only regret is that someone did not do this sooner, before so much good information went to the grave with many of our loved ones. Some families have been gone from the area so long, I was unable to find any member for any information and used only what someone remembered and told me.

I chose the communities I did, as they formed a circle, and the folks who lived here met at the stores, schools and churches as one large family.

Like all writings, I am sure there are errors and maybe all too many, but our memory does play tricks on us, and, using information from word of mouth, I am sure there were times that I misunderstood or wrote information down in error. I have tried to eliminate any information that would hurt or embarrass anyone.

My hope is that you will enjoy reading this book as much as I have enjoyed getting it all together.

I want to say thanks from the bottom of my heart to each of you who worked so hard to get information to me and gathered up things that were in addition to your own family.

I am sure each of you realizes this book could not have been gotten together if each of you had not contributed what you did.

Again, thank you--
L.C.M.T.

This book was compiled and is being distributed on a non-profit basis.
November 1984.

Communities

Petroleum Post Office

A large number of the families who are mentioned in this writing had a mail address of Petroleum. Only fitting we should know a little about it.

This community had a post office established in June 1857. The name was changed to Roger's January 1866 but changed back to Petroleum on October 10, 1879. The office was in different houses in the community but established in its present location June 15, 1917 at the time Charles W. Thrash was postmaster. The first postmaster was James Kelly who was appointed in 1857. The town was laid out about the time the B & O Railroad came through. Other people who served as postmaster are as follows:

Jerome A Vandiver	Nov. 1859
George Rutherford	June 1861
Philip Reitz	Oct. 1866
Frederick Reitz	June 1867
Daniel M. Sharpnack	June 1871
William Thrash	Aug. 1885
Daniel M. Sharpnack	Apr. 1889
Jackson R. Mounts	Apr. 1893
Daniel M. Sharpnack	Dec. 1896
George B. Douglass	Sept. 1901
Charles W. Thrash	June 1915
William A. Thrash	Feb. 1944
Marguerite Thrash	Aug. 1972*

*had been appointed officer-in-charge, July 1969

At one time, two rural routes went out of the post office. Some of the carriers were:

Amos Bell	John S. Coss	Russell B. Cox
C. W. Davis	James E. Dean	Ralph B. Dinnin
George B. Douglass	Andrew D. Foutty	Clarence F. Geer
Elias Hickman	Charles L. Jonas	Glenn G. Kerns
William J. Koehnlein	John D. Lanham	Ralph McCollum
Chester A. McFarland	Lewis W. McFarland	Raymar McFarland
Wilford A. Mason	Harvey C. Metz	Herbert C. Netser
Hobert Pepper Jr.	Nancy L. Putnam	Mary E. Rinehart
Daniel A. Sharpnack	Preston Simmons	Raymond A. Simmons
John V. Sims	Frank L. Spiker	Charles L. Tennant
William A. Thrash	Ralph C. Valentine	Garred P. Vinson
Denver Webb		

And there may have been others.

--From account in Ritchie County History by Marguerite Thrash

Dutch Fred Place

This spot is located on Dry Ridge between the two schools. A fellow by the name of Frederick had a log house here. He and his family lived here for several years, and he was what was called in his day a medicine man. He brewed blood medicine--herbs boiled in an iron kettle with horseshoes. This iron content was good for the blood. He sold this mixture. Memories of some residents was that he lived around the turn of the century. The census gives a man by the name of Nicholas Frederick, age 27, living in the area, and his occupation was listed as a peddler. It is believed this might be the same person.

In later years the Astron Oil Company drilled a well that made 150 barrels of oil a day. This opened up the field in the mid-1920s.

--related by Lathrop Foutty

Remember the Ritchie County Fair? Who doesn't? This fair ran from 1887 to 1962. In those 75 years a lot of cotton candy and hot dogs were sold and many, many miles covered in the harness races. This was a time of year each of us looked forward to and did our best to attend at least one day.

Petroleum

Dad, who was F. M. Netser, bought the store from a man by the name of Shafer. He had it only thirty days when he sold it to Dad in June 1912. The building was built in 1886. The first store building in the community was across the road in what is now the post office. This was a partnership by the families of Douglass and Rutherford. A Mr. Reitz had a store across the railroad facing my dad's store--a general merchandise type store. His wife had a millinery shop in the same building. It was a sight in the spring to see the ladies coming out of the shop with their new spring hats. Henry Perrine bought the store from Mr. Reitz.

The blacksmith shop was run by Ed Wyatt and William Cross. Mr. Reitz also had an icehouse here. Ralph Jackson had the livery barn. Dr. E. H. Douglass had his office in the house I now own. The Eureka Pipe Line Co. had a pump station here with two 500-barrel tanks for storage. The oil was pumped to Elm Run from them. Dr. Shirkey practiced here for a while. G. B. Douglass was the postmaster. Charles Thrash took the test and became postmaster.

Jim Beckner bought a large tract of timber in Ellis Run. He built a house and barn for Jim Mahaney. Jim lived here and took care of the horses for Jim.

The B & O had a block station, a passing siding, an agents siding and a section gang of 8 or 10 men, a water pump station and pumper. Earlier, there were two mail routes. Daniel Sharpnack was the B & O agent at this time. There was a cooper shop here--made barrels to ship the oil in. This was before iron pipe was made.

A lady by the name of Jennie Gordon with her two daughters, Elizabeth and Bertie, ran what was called the Gordon Hotel. The hotel was also run by Roy Pepper and Will Hickman. The building is still standing today.

The Presbyterians were active until about 1915. A Rev. Cleveland was pastor. About this time the Methodists bought the church.

My dad ran the store until 1945, then I took over and ran it until 1972. The building stood until November 1981, when a train hit it and did so much damage it was beyond repair.

--by Herbert Netser

Petroleum was laid out for a town as early as 1854 in view of having it made a railroad station, and it took its name from the petroleum spring nearby. The land where the settlement is today was owned and settled by Richard Parker, who transferred it to Richard Rutherford Sr. and went West. The B & O erected its first building here in 1856, and this was the year the first train ran through the village.

Several names are prominent, but dates are lacking. James Kelly was an early merchant, Andrew Shaw was a blacksmith, Dr. Van Slyck of New York, the first hosteler; Dr. Humphrey, an early physician; Rev. D. M. Sleeth, an early minister; Philip Reitz, an early merchant; Dan and Jo Sharpnack, and many more.

Who among us remembers buying automobile licenses for only six months out of the year? This was a common practice for some of the people of the area who lived on the dirt roads. The winter found the roads so soft and rutted that our cars could not get over them and our automobiles (if we were lucky enough to have one) were parked for these winter months.

Cisco - Sulphur Springs

In 1845--or maybe before--sulphur springs were found on the James Deem land on the opposite side of Hughes River from Staunton Pike, above Freeport. These springs were soon found to contain curative properties. Col. Turner Boulware was postmaster at this time, then known as Blue Sulphur Springs. The post office was located on the right bank of the Hughes River and known as Cisco.

The sick and afflicted came from near and far. By 1847 this was a noted place. The springs were especially believed to have a curative effect for ones who were suffering from asthma. Whether real or imaginary, these springs were believed to have effects for dropsy and other ailments. One man was said to have come and drunk this water for a while and lost twelve inches in his waistline.

A hotel was built near the springs and coaches came bringing the sick with their servants, which was the custom during those days. Hughes River had to be crossed from the North or the South regardless of the way they came. The Deems Ford was the only crossing close by. A Mr. Dulin operated the hotel and post office for a time under the name of Vernon post office. Staunton Pike came through here in the year of 1850 or 1860. In the early 1930s, prisoners from the State Penitentiary camped a short distance west of Cisco and worked on the road, making it into a hard-surfaced road. These men played good ball, making it a great past-time on Sunday to go and watch them play. A man by the name of John Rexroad was the superintendent at the camp.

The ford was hard to cross when it rained enough to swell the river. A hotel was built to take care of those who came when the river was out of its banks and could not be crossed; often times parties camped out all night waiting for the river to go down so they could get across. In the early 1840s, Bushrod Creel was in the area and laid claim to the land. It was about this time the California House was built and stood until it burned to the ground. It has been called the "Father of Freeport." Bushrod Creel built the house.

Around the early 1900s, a store, church and blacksmith shop were in the area of the present site of Cisco we know today. There was a resident in the area by the name of Cisco Jackson. It is believed the little settlement was named for him. There was an oil seepage close to the Jackson farm that was developed and commercialized. It was sent all the way to Parkersburg and Marietta.

The church was across the road from the store and blacksmith shop. Some of the early merchants were Cisco Jackson, Frank Cain, Clarence and Pearly Geer, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Stoke Enoch, Leaman Gill and Charles Marshall. Mr. Marshall owned the store

when it burned to the ground in March 1938. At the time the store burned, Granville Nutt operated the blacksmith shop, and there were living quarters in back of the store. A man by the name of France Blair lived there, but no one was lost in the fire. Later, Mr. Marshall built a store across from his home on the Cisco-Cairo Road and operated it for many years.

There were tragedies as well as pleasant times in our little community. Water was always a problem; Buffalo Run would flood and the backwaters cover the road and bridge, shutting off all travel except by boat. The largest flood in Buffalo Run was June 21, 1939. The flood that hit the area on June 1938 washed away the Petroleum bridge. Many of us today remember the flood of June 1950 that washed away bridges and houses for several miles upstream from Cisco.

A little boy by the name of George Steven Fordam drowned in Buffalo Run, March 7, 1959.

Four children of the Dexter Mason family drowned in a boat accident on Hughes River near Gillespie bridge in December 1934.

Floyd Nelson and his four children were drowned in a flash flood near his home on Island Run in August 1943.

The lowest point in the county is near Cisco--elevation 630 feet.

--some information taken from Ritchie County History

Freeport

This place was settled at a very early date. It was located at the mouth of Goose Creek on Hughes River in Wirt County. Freeport, in early days, was called Goose Creek. Very old records show it being called Crow Creek. A large foreign element came to the area in the oil boom of the 1850s and 1860s. To hold the local laborers, these people gave many free supplies to the people in the area. The place was called "free port" as a community joke. About this time many large houses were built here. The people were very strong unionists. When the Lincoln-Douglas debate was held in Freeport, Illinois in 1858, the people fell for this name, and the community has been called Freeport ever since.

The Freeport post office was operated from March 1859 until 1906. For two years, 1866 to 1868, there was a post office at Freeport and the California House both. The oil that was found here added much to the fast development of the community. Located on the Staunton Pike, stagecoaches stopped here. A toll house was located in the community for a while. The California House, built by Bushrod Creel, served as a friendly stopping place for travelers. George Creel, son of Bushrod, first managed it.

T. J. Steers & J. W. Wandling owned a large timber tract on Goose Creek. There was a man by the name of J. B. Neely involved at the same time along with H. B. Pribble and O. S. Fought.

The California House was sometimes referred to as the Creel House. At the time of the Gold Rush in California, men would meet here and plan a trip to California--so it goes that this is how it got its name. A description of the house was found. It was a 10-room house built in 1860. People came to drink sulphur water, and some businessmen came from Philadelphia to the oil find here like the gold rush in California. Marcellus Clark, son-in-law of Mr. Creel, managed the hotel for a while, then Col. Turner Boulware in 1862. He was here for eleven years.

Many readers remember the bridge that crossed the stream at Freeport as the covered bridge at Goose Creek. J. F. Darnell had a mill and store here in the early 1900s. This was previously run by the Dulin and the Pribble families, being started around the time of the oil find here. The community had a school and church with a fairly large attendance. The school has been closed for about twenty years. The old covered bridge was replaced with a modern cement bridge in the early 1930s when the road was being rebuilt. At one end of the bridge stood the blacksmith shop run by Jack Smith who lived on the old Foutty farm. At the other end of the bridge stood the Morgan Hotel, a stagecoach stop, owned and operated by Levi M. Morgan. Mr. Morgan and several people of his day are buried at the Freeport Cemetery.

Another store was operated by Rolandus Marshall. The building that housed his store burned, and he moved to Cairo and operated a hardware store there for many years.

The town had a doctor; a Dr. Shirkey practiced here for several years. His son, Earl Jennings, who died in December, 1951, at the age of 51 years, is remembered for some quaint poems, and he also wrote songs.

Some of the family names of the community are Vernons, Collums, Morgans, Andersons, Lockharts, Wares, Twymans, Hawkins, Fouttys, Demons, Hulls, Jefferys Cains, Friedleins, Ballangees, Trouts, Darnells, Fultzes, Sharpnacks, Bumgarner, DeGoines, Marshalls, and many more.

The first bridge at Freeport was erected about 1842; the covered bridge was erected in 1879. Builders and helpers were: Ransom Foutty, John Huffman, Thomas Gilmer, Commodore and Cortez Foutty. The iron bridge was built in 1904. Those helping were Bill Emerick, J. F. Darnell, and John Jones Sr.

John Fleming, a German chemist, owned land at Freeport around 1861; he had around 2000 acres. He made and sold McLains Liver Pills, made of herbs. He cleared land for a "vineyard" to grow these herbs. The vineyard was managed by Mr. Eschbacher and Sons. They rest in the Freeport Cemetery. Ben Arnold was at the vineyard, later, Mr. Lextor, who died and left the estate to his son, Ford. In 1934 the property was inherited by a Mrs.

Jessie Toma, who lived on the property for a number of years. Bernard Lockhart later lived on the property.

Rusk

The settlement of Rusk was named for Anna Sophia Rust Lewis. Anna was born in Fairfax County and married Charles T. Lewis May 5, 1847. Somewhere along the transition the Rust was recorded as Rusk.

At one time this was a promising community. There were three stores, one with the post office, which was established in 1880. Another store was with the grist mill and another one in the Lodge Hall. Early merchants in the area were J. W. Heck, William Moats, James Kelly, Ben Twyman and Lee Dulaney. The grist mill was operated by William Moats and in later years by his son Elza. Isaac Nutter was the first settler; his cabin stood on the W. J. Moats property. Dan Pribble had a mill here as early as 1839. The mill was run at one time by William Meredith. Frank Davis, who was a son-in-law of Meredith, was a merchant and postmaster at one time.

Mr. Moats built a large home near the mill; the house still stands today and is occupied by Belle Wyer. The church property was purchased from Mr. Moats in 1895, and people in the community built the church. The building that stands today is in need of repairs. Part of the roof is blown off and the rain pours in. Like so many of our churches--a tragic ending to one of God's houses.

At one time Martha Lewis operated the switchboard located in what was known as the Heck residence. The store was purchased by John Heck and his wife Dora. They operated it for many years. After the death of Mr. Heck, Ben Twyman bought the store, married Mrs. Heck, and moved to Ohio. They were living there at the time of their death. The last family to operate the store was the Lee Dulaney family. The store building is still owned by his two children: A. D. and his sister, Elizabeth. This is truly a landmark.

The grist mill at the little hamlet was typical of the time. People brought corn and wheat to be ground, and a share of it was taken to pay for the grinding. Mr. Moats had a nice store along with the mill. One thing that is remembered is the big basket of chocolate-covered vanilla candy that he always had setting there. Billy lost one arm at the mill, but he learned to work with the other arm and operated the store and mill for many years after this loss. The house was sold in 1950, but the mill was closed many years before this.

--by Marjorie Lewis Romine

Some family names in the Rusk community were W. B. Kenny, Ralph DeVaughan, Roger Martin, Homes McClead, Dudley family, Ivan Banks, Richard Case, Bradley family, Fred Bush, Blankenship family, Mason family, and there are many more.

There is a record of a baptizing at Rusk, May 2, 1915. The ones who were baptized were: Noel Higgins, Frank Reese, Glen and Bessie Kerns, Charlie Waller, Grant Beckner, Lew Beckner, Jessie Dulaney, Ocie Cain, Mary Valentine, and Nellie Cain.

--(taken from the diary of Inez Tennant)

Churches

Freeport Baptist Church

Prior to 1868, little is known about the church in the little German settlement of Freeport. The log church was either Baptists or U. B. and was located in the middle of the Freeport Cemetery.

On September 1, 1868, a deed was made to David Deem, John W. Collums, and Jessie Lee for an acre of ground from the estate of John V. Rathbone for church property. Later, a "house pattern" of lumber was donated by Elam and Denise Collums Vernon for the construction of a church.

In 1893, the building was completed; Josiah and Virginia Collums deeded the church to the trustees (Jim Whitman, C. R. Nelson, J. W. Nelson, G. B. Cain and J. W. Cain). It is supposed at their death the deed went to the trustees of the Walker U. B. Church in Christ (Lonzo Hewitt, Marvin Stephens and Henry Ware). It was these trustees who deeded the church to the Beulah Presbyterian Church trustees on October 9, 1929.

It was at this time that Rev. Ed Black and his brother Lou, Presbyterian ministers, became actively involved with the church. With the help of the Darnell sisters, Agnes and Noma, Sunday School, Bible School, singing schools and programs for almost every occasion were successful. A church choir consisting of the Darnell sisters, Ruth Lockhart, Floyd Ware, Russ Mahaney, Smith Daubenspeck and Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Eddy, was formed and kept busy singing for other churches and funerals. Another popular group from the church was the Fultz family. At one time, Rev. Black brought water from the River Jordan and baptized several of his members by sprinkling them with it. I've heard my grandparents, Carl and Kate Lockhart, talk many times of being baptized with water from the River Jordan.

By 1941 the population of the community had decreased, and very few were left to attend the church. By this time, Rev. J. C. Wolfe was pastor and stayed until 1950. At this time the church was closed and remained so until 1962. On April 16, 1962, a deed was made to Rev. Orval Cunningham, who purchased the church from the Beulah Hill trustees (E. W. Allman, Barcelena Mace Townsend, Louis Reed and E. Black). Services began as soon as the brush and trees were cut from in front of the doors. This came about by the urging of the Darnell sisters and Rev. Cunningham, feeling led by the Lord. One of the first members of the newly reopened church was Joseph Collums, son of Josiah Collums mentioned earlier as one who was involved in the original establishment of the church. The church was named the Freeport Baptist Church. It prospered and grew until another

room was added on the west side of the church. Rev. Cunningham remained pastor until 1975, when Rev. Dale Johnson was elected pastor and remained with them for a year. In January 1976, Rev. Charlene Spaur, daughter of Rev. Cunningham and Ruth Lockhart Cunningham, was elected pastor and remained there until January 1980. Much growth was experienced in church attendance from area youth at this time. Two new rooms were built on the north end of the church as well as the enlargement of the pulpit area. In 1980, Rev. Cunningham returned to pastor the church.

After all these years and being under three denominational names, the Freeport Church is still conducting regular services.

--by Rev. Charlene Spaur

The Christmas programs given by the schools and churches were real nice. The children and teachers would spend hours practicing these programs. There were recitations, plays, songs, etc. The big event was when Santa Claus came. For the children in the country, this was about the only time they saw the jolly old man. They didn't get to town, and, too, there wasn't a Santa on every corner then.

Buffalo Methodist Church

The Buffalo Methodist Protestant Church was organized in 1897. It was a one-room building facing the Staunton Pike at Cisco. The actual organizing of the group took place in the house next to the church. It is still standing today. The one-room building had two doors on the front of the building and the congregation entered at the front of the church. No way you could be late and sneak in the back. This building burned to the ground on March 2, 1953. The present building was started immediately and the church rebuilt in a short time. Each year in September, the church has a homecoming and many who have gone to church there in years past return for this occasion.

Fairview Methodist Church

The records for this church were scarce. Services were usually held in the afternoon, and the same minister preached here that was on the Rusk and Buffalo charge. There were a few kids in the community who felt they were "churched a bit much"--Buffalo or Rusk in the morning and then to the Fairview church that afternoon. A record was found in some papers of one who was school teacher there at that time--Bernice Tennant Cox. She has the minutes recorded that Sunday School was organized Sunday, March 13, 1921: Superintendent, L. V. Boston; Assistant Superintendent, M. L. Schoolcraft; Secretary, Dora Tennat; Treasurer, Lew Tennant; and Librarian, Edna Boston.

Services were held here for a number of years--perhaps until around the 1940s or thereabouts. Some who are rememberd as being teachers are: Belle Boston, Mae Schoolcraft, Edna Boston, and there were others.

The Sharpnack Church

This church stood a short distance off the Dry Ridge road on ground given for a church by William Sharpnack. The church was built around the mid-1800s. Mr. Sharpnack built a dam in the creek nearby--mill seat-sawed lumber with water power and built the church. John Bell, who lived in the community until around 1940, remembered the saw mill and the work going on.

There was a celebration at the church when the debt was paid off. The incident was told to Lathrop Foutty by his father, Bert, who was in attendance at the celebration. There was ice cream and lemonade and a big affair. A group of people who called themselves Atheists moved in close to the church and set up shop with their platform dancing, their fortune tellers and all kind of amusement. This only helped the church; people came to both affairs, ate what the church put out and the old devil was defeated--when the church debt was paid off.

Very early in the building of the church, when the walls were up but the roof wasn't on, a preacher came on the site. He was flipping a silver dollar up in the air, and the coin went down between the walls. He wanted the wall torn out to get his dollar, but the carpenters told him no; he should not have been flipping it around. The coin remained between the walls.

Mr. Daubenspeck bought the church in 1942 and tore it down. He felt the original roof was on it then and best poplar lumber he ever saw. When the church was torn down, a man by the name of Mun Deems found the dollar between the walls. Since he found it, Mr. Daubenspeck told him to keep it. The church served the community well; it was a Methodist, probably an M. P. Some of the people who were active in the church were: B. W. Foutty, David Whiteman and Jim Whiteman. The father of William is believed to have built the log house that served both as school and church near the spot where the Dry Ridge School stood in later years. It is thought the work on the buildings was done by both William and Hiram Sharpnack.

Ann Daubenspeck remembers one time that she, along with her mother, had attended something going on at the church; they did not have any light to get home by, and Mrs. Daubenspeck lighted matches all the way home so they could find their way.

Wake

This was an occasion that no one wanted to happen. It was the old custom in our community that when someone died, to keep their body at the home. After embalming, the body was brought back to the family home in the casket to await burial. (It was not always embalmed). Neighbors and friends would come and visit in the family home. Someone would "set-up" all night. The lights were never put out at night until the body was buried. This practice was also referred to as "attending the wake." Some person in the area was always dependable to offer assistance in any way at these times.

The grave was dug by neighbors and friends, food brought in and errands run for the

bereaved family. Many times the funeral took place at the home of the deceased. Many of us today can remember the undertaker who was always on the job: Ralph West. If the funeral was at the home, the house and yard were usually filled with ones who came to show their respect.

There were several cemeteries in the area--naming a few: Freeport, Dry Ridge, Beckner, Pribble, Marshall, Lewis, Heck, Fought, Petroleum, George, Short Run, Nutter, Deems, Kanawha Baptist and there were many others.

Almost everyone in the community used the funeral home at Cairo that was operated by Ralph West, Holly Martin and, in later years it was known as Raiguel Funeral Home. There was also a funeral home in Elizabeth known as the Pomeroy Funeral Home.

Early Schools

Several log school houses were in the area around the mid-1800s. They were typical of the time, being called "Old Field Schools." When several families located in one spot, the need was soon realized for a school and a church. The log building would usually serve for both.

A typical term of school would begin with a stranger appearing on the scene and report going from cabin to cabin that the schoolmaster was in the neighborhood. From where he came, no one knew; no credentials or diplomas were needed. It was necessary that he teach the three R's. He would bind himself to this with his "article" that he carried from house to house. He would solicit subscriptions to the school which he is to "keep" for so much a "quarter" and "board 'round"--that is, with the pupils.

Then he goes to the school commissioner of the district and enters into a contract to pay for his quota of the literary fund, the tuition for the indigent children of the neighborhood.

The morning that school begins, the boys and girls for several miles around begin to appear. Attendance isn't compulsory. Bill Jones can't come this morning, his father did not get his shoes made; the leather was too green. Betty Davis is not there as her mother did not get her dress done in time. Another girl stays home to help with the work; her mother just had another baby. A boy stays to help his father with the work. It has rained and the harvest is too far behind to lose him to school. The two Adams girls across the creek are not there; the rains have raised the creek and they can't get across. The master has his bundle of sticks or switches already cut from the woods nearby. The quarter closes in due time and the master collects his tuition from the ones who are able to pay; then, with sworn statements of amount due for teaching the indigent children, he goes to the treasurer of the county commission and collects his money. He goes--perhaps none know where.

Schools of higher learning appeared at an early date. Any one of these may have been attended by students from our area. Four of these schools were in Parkersburg. The Parkersburg Association, Inc. in April 1838; The Asbury Academy, Inc. in 1841; The Meade Collegiate Institute, Inc., 1851; and the Parkersburg Classical and Scientific Institute, Inc., 1861.

A record tells us that the 1907 school term in Grant District was six months and the salary of a number one teacher was from \$40 to \$45 per month.

The high school at Cairo was started in 1905; the building that housed the school for eight years was small and very inadequate. The one that stands today was erected in 1913 and closed as a high school in 1971. That year 17 students graduated.

Many students in our area were not able to go to high school until sometime around 1934, when the bus started running from Cisco to Cairo. The road was made into a year-round road which allowed many of us to go to high school. Previous to this time, students either rode the train or lived with someone in Cairo. Since many pupils were from homes of farmers, we did well to make it through grade school. High school was out of the question.

For someone who never attended a one-room school with all eight grades, the following will not mean too much. For we who attended the one-room school, it will bring back memories. The opening exercise it mentions could be a salute to the flag, a poem, a song, or maybe the teacher would read a chapter in a book each morning until the book was completed. If the weather was bad and we were late getting to school, this was one thing that was deleted.

Recitation program for a one-room school

Grade	Subject	Recitation Begin	Time
All	Opening Exercise	9:00	10 min.
7-8	History and Civics	9:10	20 min.
1	Reading	9:30	10 min.
2	Reading	9:40	8 min.
3	Reading	9:48	10 min
4	Reading	9:56	10 min
5	Reading	10:06	10 min.
6-7	Literature	10:16	19 min
	Recess	10:35	10 min.
3-5	Primary Arithmetic	10:45	20 min.
1-2	Story and Literature	10:55	10 min.

6-8	Grammar School Arithmetic	11:05	25 min.
3-4	Spelling	11:30	5 min.
5-6	Spelling	11:35	5 min.
7-8	Agriculture	11:40	20 min.
	Lunch	12:00	60 min.
1	Reading	1:00	10 min.
2	Reading	1:10	10 min.
4-5	History - Geography	1:20	15 min.
6-8	Language	1:35	25 min.
4-5	Language	2:00	10 min.
	Recess	2:10	10 min.
1-8	Writing and Spelling	2:20	15 min.
8	Physiology	2:35	15 min.
4-7	Hygiene-Sanitation	2:50	20 min.
8	Literature	3:10	15 min.
1-3	Geography - Agriculture and Nature Study	3:25	10 min.
6-7	Geography	3:35	15 min.
6	History	3:50	10 min
	Dismissal		

Some subjects were not taught every day. Little time was wasted. Noon and recess was a time for ball games, ante over and many other games we played. Remember the counting out games we did to choose up sides for teams, etc.? In the winter, much time was spent indoors, but if the snow was right, a snowman would appear in almost every schoolyard in the neighborhood.

Many students spent their recess period studying or reading. One of the ways the teacher had of punishing a student was to keep them in for so many recesses or the noon hour. This was a terrible punishment in our opinion--worse than the whipping or standing in the corner.

Dry Ridge School

In 1910, Miss Merle Royce with a lady friend drove a horse and buggy from Petroleum (5 miles) and applied for the Dry Ridge School from the three trustees (A. F. Daubenspeck, Jim Harbert and Bill Foutty). She was hired and boarded with the Fouttys, who lived near the school. Many of the teachers boarded with this family. Her students that year were: Clara, Charlie, Edna, Walker and Okey Harbert; Cora and Mary

Sharpnack; Tom and Annie Daubenspeck; Walter, Herbert and Gladys Huffman. Miss Merle went to Washington, D.C. during the war and worked there until she retired.

The next year, 1911-1912, Miss Prudence Shingleton came from Petroleum and taught probably the same students. She married Stoke Enoch the next year. At Christmas-time, Stoke--who kept a store at Cisco--brought the treat. He brought a box of Christmas candy, an orange and a beautiful card, embossed and signed by Miss Prudence. When it snowed, Stoke came for her in a real fairy tale sleigh with a beautiful horse and sleigh bells.

The next year, 1912-13, Miss Mae Tennant from Buffalo Run taught. Not sure if she stayed at home and if Bernice and Inez came with her. Her students were: Sherman, Rose and Ted Kerns; Tom, Annie and Margaret Daubenspeck; Charlie, Okey, Lucy and Walker Harbert; perhaps Virginia, Evelyn Nellie Hartleben and Walter, Gladys and Jessie Huffman as they were our ages.

In year 1913-14, Harley Malson from Walker taught and boarded at the Foutty home. Besides the students of the year before, Myrtle and Annie Hull came and Clinton Todd enrolled. Clinton was living with his aunt and uncle, the Fulls, who lived near Huffmans.

In 1914-15, Miss Fannie Simmons from Harrisville taught and stayed at our house. She taught Charlie, Walker, Lucy and Okey Harbert; Walter, Herbert, Gladys and Jessie Huffman; Sherman, Rose and Ted Kerns; Tom, Annie and Margaret Daubenspeck; Virginia, Nellie and Evelyn Hartleben; Richard Haymond and his sister, Susie. Miss Fannie played the violin. She went to Pennsylvania to teach and retired from there.

In 1915-16, William Hill from Gillespie taught. In addition to the students above, Dotsie Huffman came.

In 1916-18, Miss Mae, who lived near, taught the next two terms. Students in addition to the above were Finley Daubenspeck the first year and Smith Daubenspeck went her second year.

In the next two years, 1918-21, Miss Myrtle Hull taught. The students were Margaret, Finley and Smith Daubenspeck, Evelyn, Nellie and Alice Hartleben; Jessie and Jotsie Huffman; Emma and Tots Wagner. Not sure if Lewis or Dinnin children came this year.

In 1921-22, Joe Cullum from Freeport taught. Students were Emma and Tots Wagner; Thelma, Woodrow and Delmar Lewis, Robert, Kathleen, Dorothy and Rosalie Dinnin; Pearl Nelson; Finley and Smith Daubenspeck.

Ann Daubenspeck taught the next two years and the students were the same, except Pearl Nelson transferred.

In 1924, Margaret Daubenspeck started teaching and taught the next two years. Students were Thelma, Woodrow and Delmar Lewis; Kathleen, Dorothy, Rosalie and James Dinnin; Smith Daubenspeck; Emma and Tots Wagner; and Andrew Foutty.

Miss Mary Greer from Cairo taught in 1928-29. The students were the same as the year before, except I think Edith Foutty started.

I'm letting you take over from here: Lura Kellar taught, Goldie Goodnight and Oma Cunningham

We had a pot-bellied stove, a wooden blackboard painted black, and a huge map of the United States that covered the wall on the left of the door, showing the states and the territories not taken into the union yet. Was Kansas still a territory or was it Arizona in 1910? Wraps hung on nails in the back, a long bench on each side of the door was for lunches and the water bucket. The water was carried from Foutty's for all the years the school operated. The teacher's desk was on a raised platform. Recitation benches were along the front next to the teacher's desk.

Margaret's daughter, Cindy, still has my beautiful card Miss Prudence gave me. It is in the post card album that Miss Mae gave Margaret for a consolation prize. She was five years old and wasn't allowed the honor roll certificate that older students got for perfect attendance. She missed one day that year. I didn't miss a day in eight years. I know when the ones on my side of the room moved there and moved away. Maud Full lived in a house above Huffmans when Clinton Todd went to school in 1913. I think they called that the Old Dutch Fred.

I can live with my arthritis and my partial fits me fine
I can see thru my bifocals, but, oh, how I do miss my mind.

by Zula Ann Daubenspeck

(Ann supplied us with the school information from 1910-1929. Why, oh, why is she worried about her mind?)

In 1929 Lura Kellar from Cairo taught and she taught the following year. Students were about the same as the previous year, except Loraine and Maxine Cox and Ruby Foutty started.

In 1931, Goldie Goodnight came to teach and taught here for six years. Her students were Delmar Lewis; Andrew, Edith and Ruby Foutty; Chester, Carl, Mildred and Mable Foutty; Loraine, Maxine, Opal and Betty Cox; James, Carrol, Ralph and Elizabeth Dinnin; Elsie and Opal Waggoner; Glen Modesitt; Ray, Hilda, Junior and Emza Kerns; Johnnie, Paul and Loretta Jenkins; Diora, Nanny and Woodrow Davis; Betty and Bob Lamm; Isabelle Ballangee; Harold, Calvin and Alma Nelson.

The last teacher at the school was Oma Cunningham from Harrisville. She was teaching when the school closed in 1942 for the lack of students. The students that year were: Harley, Flo and Carl Sinnett; Robert, Calvin, and Alma Nelson; Bob and Betty Lamm; Mary Frances and Betty Lynch; Betty and Bernadine Cox; Lathrop Foutty.

The enrollment in 1912 was 21 students. It is believed the very first teacher of the school, around 1880, was William Sharpnack. A few years' records are lacking.

Second Big Run School

This school was located on Goose Creek about two miles upstream from Freeport. Some of the kids I went to school with were: Roy and Oren Hewitt; Floyd and Perry Modesitt; Paris, Morey and Stella Vancamp; Hilton, John and Grover Twyman; Berley Johnson; Jessie Muir; Burey, Cleveland and Johnson Deems; Irene Wyatt; Bill, Fred, Gerald and Hazel Cox. Some of the teachers I had were Lydia Campbell, Daisy Wyer, Alice Perrin. Mrs. Perrin was my first grade teacher. We were playing ball, and I came around the corner of the school house and ran into Lucy Howell, knocked her down and broke her leg. I hated it, but we just ran together at this blind corner. I remember the one time that I was punished in school. Opie and me were setting behind this girl that had long hair. We set together and she set in front of us. We pulled her hair. She told the teacher and we caught it.

Some others that went to this school were: Bessie and Wilma Hewitt; Dan and Justine Farr; Charlie and Lena Heldreth; John, Earl, Ralph, Elza and Joe Trembly; Hazel Grimm and there may be others.

I remember the building well. It was a log school and sorta set on a raise in the ground. I remember the seats were double; two of us set together most of the time.

--by Russell Cox

Buffalo School

This school stood near the bridge over the Buffalo Run on the road from Cisco to Cairo. It was built on ground purchased from the Rogers family. The first school was a log structure and stood along the same road but much closer to Route 47. The building was burned to the ground in the late 1960s, along with other buildings at the time. Some of the early teachers were Zula Ann Daubenspeck (1928-29); G. G. Hoover (1929-30); Robert Armans (1930-31); Page Hickman (1931-32); C. D. Carpenter (1933-34); Virginia Donnelly (1934-35); Bess Scott (1935-37); Virginia Douglas (1937-39). Others were Atchie Smith; Thelma Hall; Beryl Templeton; Ara Carle Tennant; Molly Hornish; Mable Burge; Helen Atkinson; Mae Tennant; Prudence Shingleton; Mary Luzader (1912-13); Ross Fox (1911-12); Anna Hull (1917). The enrollment in 1912 was 23 students. Some of the families who attended this one-room school were: Marshalls, Pribbles, Geers, Gills, Rogers, Beckners, Jenkins, Higgins, Jacksons and many others.

Cox School

This school was on Goose Creek, upstream from Second Big Run School. It was built around 1925 on ground that was originally the Cox Farm. The school closed in 1946 or 47. Some of the children that attended were: Orval Modesitt; Addie, Luda and Daisy Wilson; Beulah, Ray, Floyd, Harold, Myrtle, Rosemary and Evelyn Deem; Virginia, Herbert and David Everly; Ruth and Naomi Thomas; Frank and George Nulter; Jennings and Belva Bonnell; Troxal, Dale and Ellen Trembly; Mabel, Zora and Roy Deems; Garnet, Edna and Dorothy Deems; Dorma, Don and Mary Sams; Clyde, Ruby, Howard and Mabel Trembly. There were children from a family by the name of Halfhill and also a Grimm family.

Some of the teachers were: Beulah Freed, Rose Everly, Ruth Dennis, Annie Riddle, Essie Weaver, Val Sayre Hammond, Scholly Morgan, Nancy Perrin, Emery Burd, Harold Grimm, Virginia Everly and there may be others.

Mabel, do you remember when you threw a bar of soap and cut a hole in one of the boy's head when he tried to kiss you?

Other children attending were: Stella Deems, Margaret, Mary, Jack and Ted Modesitt, Arthur, Rose and Dorothy Marlow, Chester Anthony. The families moved from the community, and the school was closed for lack of students.

--by Howard Trembly

Fairview School

This building was located at the forks of the Fairview and Buffalo Run Road. At one time it was called the Frog Pond because of the large pond close by. The school was closed around the 1940s. Records indicate one year the school term was from September 27, 1915 to March 10, 1916. This was the year Janet Powell taught. Her students that year were: Newton Cain; Ora, Inez, Bernice and Dora Tennant; Mansel and James Sims; Ralph, Lessie and Nellie Null; Samuel Harper; Marion Null; George Waller; Aubrey and Blanche Hardesty; Arthur and Edna Boston; Harley and Garnet Schoolcraft. In the year 1919, Bernice Tennant taught, and her students were (first names only are available, but here they are): Mansel, James, Arthur, Charlie, Harley, George, Ramon, Dail, Fred, Garnet, Dora, Emma, Thelma, Gladys, Ada, Edna, Violet, Nellie, Gracie, Thelma and Beatrice.

Some of the teachers were: Ara Carle Tennant, Frank Stotlar, Janet Powell, Mae Tennant, Bernice Tennant, Fannie Simmons, Clara Davis, Mae Cowell, Coral Lemon, Virginia Douglass, Eleanor Douglass, Charles Moore, Goldie Goodnight, Mary Valentine, Florence Bennett, Charles Cantwell, Anna Daubenspeck and there may be others. In the school year 1912-13, there were 33 pupils enrolled. The improvement done that year was a new roof on the coal house.

Rusk School

This school was located in the heart of the little community of Rusk. It was originally started in a log house--at that time not really a true public school. It was started by a Mrs. Ann Rust Lewis in the 1800s. The first school was across the road from the building today that is used as a community building. Irwin Dotson gave the land for the school house. Records indicate the school was closed about 1952. Some of the teachers of the school were: Mona Linger (1921); Ben Twyman (noted he was strict but a good teacher); Janet McGregor, Janet Powell, Zenith Powell, Mae Tennant, C. Wesley Moyers, Ethel Pew, Mrs. Phillips, Charles C. Moore, Glenn Fowler, Homer Elder, Walter B. Phillips, Miss Carroll, Clarence Carpenter, Anna Rust Lewis, and there may have been others.

Freeport School

This school was located in the community of Freeport in Wirt County. Several of the students of the school went to Cairo High School even if it was in Ritchie since it was closer and easier to get to and from. Some of the teachers were Joe Cullum, Mr. Jones, Myrtle Hull, Donald Frank, A. C. Farnsworth, Matilda Riggs Farnsworth, Kathryn Holbert, Rose Everly, and there are others. The other schools in Wirt County that were nearby were Flint Run, Second Big and Cox School.

Nelson Grade School

An old log house, formerly occupied by a family by the name of Nelson, was made into a schoolhouse for children in 1922. There were no schools for the children to attend. This building was located about 3/4 mile on Flint Run from Hughes River in Wirt County.

The families who attended the school were: Will Perrin, Cecil Jackson, John Moore, Dave Hess, Charley Nelson, George Cunningham and maybe others.

The teachers were Margaret Goldin, Anna Riddle, Raymond Holbert, Ruth McCauley Dennis, Beatrice White and maybe others. The children went through the eighth grade here.

A new school was built on the Cecil Jackson farm near the forks of the Hughes River and was called the Jackson School. The families who attended this school were: Jacksons, Roberts, Shucks, Cunninghams and may be others. The teachers were: Kate Samples, Ann Riddle, Mamie Cheatham, Parl Casto, Carl McCoy, Bessie Henderson McCauley, Garnet Hickman Shears, and there may be others. All of these teachers are deceased.

--by Dolores Jackson Hollandsworth

Petroleum School

This building was a two-room school located on the Petroleum Hill. A school record of 1913 lists the following students enrolled: Davey E. Cornell; Margurite O'Brien; Jessie,

Pete, George, Leo, Vera and Edith McQuaid; Mary and Archie Harris; Sarah and Wallace Rutherford; Holmes George and Mary Douglass; Goldie Raymond; Chester McFarland; Maude and Roy Cornell; Arthur and Marvel Thrash; Ruth Curry; Icie Miracle; Ernestine Tennant; John Miracle; Frank Netser; Louise, Ruth, and Ralph Roberts; Hazel Boston; and Hazel Royce. Teachers at that time were Archie Carpenter and Henry Davis.

Some of the teachers of the school were: Henry Davis, Vida Grimm, Archie Carpenter, Clarence Carpenter, Eleanor Waller, Erman Dotson, Cecil Shutts, Vesta Casto, Mary Clark, Ellen Marshall, Thelma Hall, and there may have been others. The school was opened in 1868 and made into a two-room school in 1880. This was one of the last schools in our area to close for lack of students. The enrollment in the year of 1913-14 was 41 students.

Another school in the area was the Victory School that had the students from the areas of Petroleum toward Goose Creek and Nutter Farm. Students from these schools went on to Cairo High School either by bus or by train.

The Country Doctor

The late Dr. E. H. Douglass, who died in 1943, left a heritage of country practice that extended for a period of over 45 years. For 40 years of this time, Dr. Douglass was a company physician for the B & O Railroad.

Dr. Douglass was born in the Petroleum community. His parents were stock of the early settlers of that area, having come from Scotland in the 1820s. They settled around Cairo and later bought much land in the area of Petroleum, where they conducted a mercantile business and engaged in farming.

"Ed" Douglass, for his formal education, was graduated from Muskingum College at New Concord, Ohio, and received his MD from New York University - Bellevue Hospital. After this he returned to his home community where he engaged in the practice of medicine until the time of his death in 1943.

This physician's early boyhood was spent on a farm on the waters of Goose Creek. The Douglass farm was located near the railroad, and it was here that he developed a great love for trains and men of that time who worked on the railroad. It was along the track that he watched the trains as they labored up the grade near his home. One incident that is related by members of his family proved his boyhood interest in the train crews.

On the Douglass farm there were apple trees with fine eating apples. Dr. Douglass, when a youngster, often gathered these apples and went to the track side where the engineers would reach from the cab and pick apples from a stick held by the lad. This went on for quite some time until his parents caught him in the act and then forbade him to carry on this dangerous practice. The parents feared that he might get too close to the train and suffer injuries.

It was about the turn of the century that Dr. Douglass was appointed a B & O company physician. He served the railroad in this capacity until his death. This was a good thing for both the company and for the young doctor. At that time there were many accidents on the railroad and it was necessary to have company doctors located strategically along the road. There was little real compensation for this connection, but free transportation for himself and, later, his family.

During this time and before the advent of the hard roads, the passenger trains--and sometimes the freights--were used to transport people to the hospitals. And in most of these cases the doctor would often, of necessity, travel with the patient to the hospital.

Too, this connection with the railroad served the doctor and his patients well. Many times a hurried call in the night came from the family of an ill person and the quickest way to the bedside would be a freight train, or even a fast train. It was a common thing for the engineers to be handed a message at another point to slow down and take Dr. Douglass on the engine and let him off near the home of the ill or injured person. In this manner, lives were saved through a kindly act of the engineers who learned to know this young doctor well. Night or day, they slowed their trains down to let the doctor get on so he could minister to his patients near the track. It was a generous gesture that brought comfort to many of the sick that were patients of Dr. "Ed."

During his practice, many injured persons were treated in railroad accidents. One particular case is recalled that took place in the fall of 1920 or 1921.

A heavy freight train was laboring up the stiff grade on Eaton Hill. This train entered the tunnel at Eatons, and shortly thereafter a terrific explosion took place, injuring the three men in the engine. The accident which occurred was a boiler explosion which came about as a result of the engineer's failing to keep sufficient water in the boiler. In this bad accident, the engineer, Tom Swiger, died before he could reach a hospital. The brakeman and fireman, although badly hurt, survived the blast.

Dr. Douglass was called, and he hurried to the scene of the accident some four miles from his home and remained with the men until they reached a hospital in Parkersburg. Mr. Swiger's burns from the escaping steam were too great, but through Dr. Douglass's efforts, the brakeman and fireman were saved. He was able to relieve the suffering of the engineer by the administration of drugs.

This was only one of the many cases where the doctor was able to assist in caring for the sick and injured. Many patients were brought to his office who needed immediate hospitalization. There was no way except the trains to move these people to hospitals. There were four "local" passengers a day, but it was often necessary to have the fast passengers stopped to place the ill or injured in the baggage car for transport to the hospitals. In every case the doctor went with the patient and administered care until the hospital was reached.

Not all of the good doctor's practice was carried on by train-riding. For many years, he rode horseback throughout the countryside to carry on his profession. In winter this was a cold and miserable way to reach the sick people who called for his aid. But many hours were spent in the saddle in rain, cold and sleet. Sometimes the hours would be so long and his only rest would be to "doze" in the saddle as the horse picked its way back home over the muddy and sometimes frozen road. But it was the life of a country physician, and it was few times that Doctor Douglass ever failed to respond to a call from the sick or injured, be the weather whatever it would.

Later, as automobiles came into being, he would use his family auto for his country calls. And this too had its pitfalls. Often, during a rainy season, the car would become mired in the mud, and a nearby farmer would have to be called with his team of horses to extricate the newfangled contraption from where it had become stuck.

Along with his treatment of the ill, Dr. Douglass gained a considerable following in obstetrics. It was not then possible to move an imminent mother to the hospital for the birth of her child. Most of the children in that day were born in the parental home. And through the practice of this, Douglass became a well-known obstetrician dealing capably with every kind of emergency, and there were many during that period, while bringing children into the world. It is estimated by the records still in the family possession that he brought as many as fifteen hundred children into the world in his years of practice.

This doctor and railroad physician had no thought of retirement as he reached the age when men, today, retire. Although in ill health for some time before his death, he would still see patients in his office. This was during war-time (1943), and many of the younger doctors had gone into the service. Dr. Douglass still carried on and gave of his fading energy to the people who sought his medical care, at the age of 76 years.

About the last case that is recalled by his family occurred when a young soldier became ill upon a troop train which was to pass through the village. Word was sent ahead and Dr. Douglass, although almost too weak to go, went to the train and diagnosed that the young man was suffering from acute appendicitis. The soldier was removed from the train in Clarksburg and underwent surgery.

It was a short time after that that Dr. Douglass' health failed. He was removed to the hospital in Parkersburg, where, a few days later, he died. His death brought to an end a lifetime of service to his community and to mankind. And so it ended as Doris Larsen wrote in her poem, "Our Legacy":

And so it is with words and deed...
Though the writers and doers depart,
The thoughts they pen and their acts performed
Live on in the human heart.

(This writing would not be complete without the mention of this good doctor who touched so many of our lives through the years. I am very grateful to Virginia Douglass

Pepper who shared this article with us. It is taken from the book "Ritin' and Railin'", written by her late husband, A. Brooks Pepper.)

Serenades

Many present-day young people might ask, "What is that?" When a couple in the community were married, they would usually stay in the area, maybe in a home of their own or with one of the parents for a time. A few days after their marriage, their neighbors would gather in for a serenade--with all kinds of noise makers: circle saws, whistles, cow bells, pans, guns and anything they could get that would make a noise. One serenade that I am told about was so wild, dynamite was put off, and some of the fence posts around the yard went out with the explosion. The couple was expected to treat each one that came to pay them this visit. The treat would be cigars, candy, gum or whatever was at hand. The noise stopped when the couple made their appearance after hearing the familiar words to most present: "Bride and groom come out... or we will come in." Sometimes it took several calls before the couple would appear.

There were a few times the couple would not be prepared and had to slip out the back way and get treats someway or somehow. It was not unusual for the couple to be hard to locate for a few days, as they knew what kind of a welcome was awaiting them, once they were located.

Names of the people who were in some way associated with Dry Ridge as recalled by Ralph and Carroll Dinnin. Thanks--this brings back many memories when we see these names.

Bert Foutty	Mr. Thomas	Marshall Jenkins	Claude Waggoner
Minnie Mae Jenkins	Whitemans	Dinnins	Grover Whitecotton
John Thrash	Wolfe family	Marion Coman	Rose and Art Deems
Hilton Twyman	Aubrey Hardesty	Grant Marshall	Agnes Marshall
Tennant family	Gerome Thoma	Roy Hutchinson	Jim & Mary Spears
Hugh Pribble	O. C. Beckner	Harold Mason	Lawrence Geer
Chuck Boston	Addie Boston	Fought family	Harold Nelson
Braden family	John Sims	Lawrence Huffman	Wilson family
Grace Davis	Jim Harper	Ima & Bob Poe	Charles Eugene Taylor
Ott Nelson	Granville Nutt	Lon Elliott	Frank Nelson
Norf Nelson	Bushrod Creel	The Burnhammers	Rose Everly

Carl Feick	Ordie Nutter	Rennie Cain	Joe Mackey
Willie Foutty	Frank Kerns	Emma Kerns	Mr. Gilmer
Mr. Daubenspeck	Susan Jenkins	Bill Hartleben	Johnny Black
Delbert Whitcotton	Walter Deems	Dudley Cox	Ed Jenkins
George Foutty	Eskey McCauley	Bess McCauley	Josh Greene
Bill Hull	Tom Badgett	Clell Gaines	Sid Curry
Rachel Curry	Pete Moore	Clarence Geer	Ralph Wilson
Arthur Criss	Jesse & Jim Riley	Paul Black	Charles Taylor
Lawrence Stage	Schoolcraft family	Waller family	Frank Dulaney
Ben Deems	John Jones	Don Mason	Freddy Simmons
Charley Backus	Russell Cox	Haymond family	Wagner family
Glen Modesitt	Charley Nelson	Wig Bickel	Lou Bickel
Wallace Jeffery	Joe Trembly	Edna Trembly	Carl Nutter
Criss Nutter	Guy Stutler	Jennie Ford	Charlie Foutty
Jim Harbert	Sharpnacks	Russell Pierson	Pete Jenkins
John Bell and mother	Amost George	Combs family	Aaron Twyman
Jane Howell	Johnny Fox	Joe Booth	Guy Lewis
Elton Ballangee	Bob Whiteman	Floyd Fluharty	Charlie Beckner
Bill Boston	John Higgins	Bill Wright	Charles Wilson
Gene Metz	Edgar Wilson	Pribble family	Junior Nichols
Ed & Mae Nutter	Vern Boston	Gene Peregory	Mary Peregory
Heater family	Elliott Deems	Bill Taylor	Everett Parsons
Cecil Nutt	Buster Putnam	Fred Lamm	Leo South
Earl Lynch	Jim Mahaney	John Nelson	Elza Trembly
Vint Hissem	Charlie Thrash	Ward Nutter	Charley & Dave Cain
The Morgans	Everett Holbert	Mary Jones	Starcher family
George Hall	Duane & Sharon Jenkins	George Foutty	Andrew Hill
Blaine Gill	Hershel Cain	Robert Williams	Rodney Settles
Perine family	Jim Carter	C. T. Smith	Dempsey Coss
Bill Collins	John Roberts	"Bear" Brooks	Tom Backus
Buss Cain	Ms. Frank Munday	Lloyd Taylor	Tom Headley
George Monroe	Gary Gregg	Leroy Settles	Joe Collums
Bill Collums	Pearl Burgy	Lathrop Charter	Noah Welch
Clyde Piersol	Mr. Dawson	Richard Jonas	Bill Black
Andy Smith	Denver & Ruby Beha	Freidlein family	Floyd Darnell
Jewell Headley	George Lemons	Charles White	Seymore Settles
F. M. Netser	Ralph Dunbar	Mr. Maxwell	J. Duncan Lodge

Red McKittrick

Bill Nutter

Bud Kerns

--by Ralph and Carrol Dinnin

Snipe Hunt

Who has gone on a snipe hunt? Some of the young men in the community were well-trained in this sort of recreation. A group would get together and decide on a snipe hunt. They would go of a night, and have it made up that some unsuspecting person would be elected to stay in a certain spot and hold the bag while the others went to look for snipes--this was usually a newcomer of the female sex holding a gunny sack in the woods in the dark. This person would be left there, holding the bag, waiting for the others to return. Many times, hours would go by before the unsuspecting person would get wise and realize he was left stranded and get home the best way he could. It has been known for the person to return home--after hours of waiting--to find maybe his own sisters and brothers--who were supposed to be out hunting snipes--sound asleep in their beds. This is probably how the expression "left holding the bag" came about.

Apple butter-making was always a good day of fellowship. The men built the fire; the women came and cooked and stirred the apple butter in large brass kettles over a fire built outside. Families would go from house to house to help.

Family Records

Amos family

This family began in Ritchie County through George W. Amos (1833-1913) and his wife Caroline Swisher Amos (1827-1913). In the year of 1860, he moved to the Cisco area. In later years, Richard and Lucille Amos lived in this area. A son, Clifton, was born in 1911, and there was a daughter, Susan, who died in 1942. This family visited on Buffalo Run in 1951. It was perhaps their last visit to their former home.

It is also remembered that a Mrs. Amos and her children, a son and a daughter, came to the Dry Ridge area and lived in the house that was later purchased by U. D. Cox. Her husband had been a doctor in the Pittsburgh vicinity and died. She came with her two children and they attended school at Dry Ridge for a time. She did not live here long, evidently life with the two children in such a rural area was too much stress for her.

Thomas Backus

Tom Backus married Hulda Tennant and lived at Cisco for several years. They had one daughter, Bernice, who married Willie Frazier. Tom died in 1949; Hulda, born in 1877, died in 1963; Willie died in 1968. They are buried at the Knights of Pythias Cemetery.

Thomas Badgett family

Tom married Julia Geer Badgett and lived in the Cisco and Buffalo Run area. He was a farmer. They had one son, Brady, who married Myrtle Sellers. Brady worked in the timber and mercantile business. They live in the Walker area where their son, Tom, has the store. Their other son, Larry, died in 1949, as a baby. Tom died in 1943 and Julia died in November 1950 during the big snow. Her funeral was delayed for several days because of the road conditions.

--by Myrtle Badgett

John W. Bell

Born about 1864, son of Mary Whiteman Bell, who was born in 1844. They lived in the Dry Ridge area. John's father died during the Civil War, a short time before John was born. John and his mother lived with the Whiteman family. Their house burned, and John and his mother moved to a house he had built on Fox Run. He lived here until he could no longer take care of himself in the late 1930s.

Mary was found dead from drowning in a hole of water near the house. He received money from his father and worked some in the timber business around Pickens, West Virginia. He will be remembered for his soft-spoken way and the red handkerchief he wore around his neck until the day he left to go to the nursing facility. He lies buried in the Harrisville Cemetery.

--from memories of John

Merrill Bell family

Merrill Bell and Daisy Wyers Bell McFee moved to Dry Ridge from Elizabeth. The children attended Dry Ridge School and lived in the area for a number of years. Their children were: Amos Bell (1918-1975) married Edith E. McHenry, who died in 1972 while living at Petroleum. Roger lives in Minnesota; Julia married George Varner and lives near Cairo; Lavonne Sines lives in the Parkersburg area; and Annie Amith lives near Petroleum.

B. F. Bennett

B. F. Bennett and Estella Morgan Bennett lived in the Gillespie-Racy area. There were six children, some whom married and lived on in the area:

Edward Cline (1897-1973) married Edna Darnold (1893-1954).

Ocie (1896-1983) married Creed Cain (deceased) and lived her married life near Rusk.

B. F. Jr. lives at Kingwood

Merlin died as a small child (1913-1916).

Mary married Lloyd Hill.

Loyd died in 1981.

Olis is deceased.

Ezekiel Braden family

Ezekiel and Marcella Braden lived nearby to W. D. Braden. They had a large family; their children were: Sarah E., born in 1860; George W., born in 1864; Jesse C., born in 1867; William B., born in 1869; Martha, born in 1871; Julia, born in 1873; and Cora B., born in 1878. Ezekiel was born in 1828 and his wife born in 1841. They were in the area around 1900 and the children attended school on Dry Ridge.

--from census of this period

Charles B. Burk

Charlie (1888-1978) and Gertrude Conley Burk lived in the Petroleum area for many years. Charlie was an oil field worker. He was the son of Martin Burk of the area. Gertrude died in 1957. They were parents of five children: Martin F., James Edward, Joseph, Charles and Kathleen Kazemer.

Robert M. Burk

Robert and Rebecca West Burk lived in the Petroleum area. They were parents of three daughters: Evelyn Burk (1905-1981), Helen Shohan and Elizabeth Guinn.

Floyd Ballangee family

Floyd Ballangee married Lou S. Putnam, daughter of Charles and Agnes Putnam of Buffalo Run. They lived most of their life in the Freeport area. She was born about 1870 in Virginia and died July 1968. They were parents of four children: Elton, who married Edith Farnsworth; Hubert, who married June Fultz; Lillian, who married Frank Fought; and Isabelle, who married Cecil Foutty. Elton died in 1978 and Hubert died in 1970. The two daughters live in the Newark area. This family lived for many years across the iron bridge at Freeport, coming to the area in 1913 from Ohio. Floyd died in 1951. Elton married Edith Farnsworth and lived for some time on Buffalo Run. Their son, Harold Elton, was born December 25, 1936.

--by Edith Ballangee

Wilbert Boston family

Wilbert and I lived on the George Stage farm approximately one mile from the Fairview school on Buffalo Run from 1937 to 1942. I remember how the road came down the hill on the left side of the house, along the front, then turned to the right, thus going on three sides of the house. We have fond memories of our first home. Two of our three children were born here, Evelyn and Leonard.

Our living came from Wilbert working a large span of mules in the Petroleum, Tate Hill and Dry Ridge area. This included the oil fields, logging to the sawmill and hauling pulpwood. We did some farming. We had a few chickens and pigs. Ruby wanted to have a few duck eggs hatched out since we were near the water. We had three little yellow fluffy ducklings. We do not remember what happened to two of them but we found one floating in the creek with its head cut off. We thought a turtle was responsible for that. We were sad. Mr. Stage wrote from Oklahoma and asked us to send him a ham. We shipped it to him and received five dollars, which paid a month's rent.

After midnight one night, we were awakened by a car horn blowing. They wanted a place to stay for the night. My brother-in-law changed his voice so I would not recognize him. Wilbert kept trying to send them on down the road. They had a good laugh out of that.

When we had the old wall phones, the line was fixed on the outside of the house so it could be unhooked during an electrical storm. Wilbert was awakened in the night during a really bad storm. He went out onto the porch, unhooked the line and threw it. Just as it touched the ground, a big ball of fire came from it.

We attended church services at the Fairview schoolhouse. Rev. Clifford Phillips was our pastor. He and Lucille are counted among our best friends today. We remember one night during services, he was preaching and our only light, a gasoline lantern, was getting more dim by the minute. It was like a kerosene lamp about to burn out for lack of oil. He was preaching hard and threw his arms up. He struck the lantern and all at once it came on bright and stayed that way for the rest of the service. Ruby nearly cracked up, but Clifford was so serious, she wanted to hide under the seat.

Several years after moving from there, we went back with the children. It was sad to see the roof falling in and the briars and weeds growing through the windows.

We moved to a house near Nutter Farm from Buffalo Run; our youngest son, Orville, was born here. We now live near Parkersburg. We have eight grandchildren. Evelyn married Ronald Hendricks and lives in Georgia. They have four children: Fred, Stefan, Alisa and Kristina. Leonard married Judith Taylor and lives near Parkersburg. They have two children: Eric and Brenda; Orville married Laura Floe Surface and lives near Pittsburgh. They have two children: Sherri and Amy.

--by Ruby Boston

Arthur Boston family

Arthur and Zora lived in the area for a few years, moving to Parkersburg. They are parents of three children. Arthur died in 1982 and Zora still lives near Parkersburg. Their daughter Eleanor married Partick Iannilli and lives in South Carolina; Arthur L. (Bud) married Jean Harvey; the other son, Merlin, is deceased. He was born in 1938 and was killed in 1982 while living in Texas.

--by Zora Deem Boston

Sam Booth family

Sam Booth (1834-1899) married Peridillia Haught (1838-1914) and lived in the Freeport area. He raised a large family, including Jo, who married Mable Cox; Rosa married a Mr. Nelson; and Mary Ann married Arch W. Swisher, and they settled in the Rusk area. Others of this family were: John W., Hulda J., James S., Amanda, William S., Frances A., Lilly C., Effie R., and there may be others. Several members of the family are buried at the Freeport Cemetery.

John Border family

John (1885-1983), son of John and Mary Williams Border, was married to Isabelle Jane Middleton (1899-1968). She was the daughter of William and Fannie Lewis Middleton. He was a farmer in the Cisco and Oxbow area. They were parents of two children: Willis married Helen Louise Hill and had two children: Larry, who lives in Parkersburg; and a daughter, Charlene, who died in 1965 at the age of 10 years. John and Isabelle's other son, Lloyd, lives in the Parkersburg area.

Mary is a descendant of the Williams family who were early settlers on Buffalo Run.

Bear Brooks

Lived in Cairo and was the constable for many years for Grant District. He was a frequent visitor to the area.

W. D. Braden

Mr. Braden and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, lived on Dry Ridge in the house later occupied by Edward Nutter. They had two children: Chauncy, born in 1891, married Irene Wyatt. A daughter, Elizabeth was born in 1898. Records are lacking where members of this family are living at present. Records show that Mary Elizabeth was born in 1846 and died in 1926. Bill worked in the timber business.

Charles V. Boston

Charles (Chuck) was born in 1906 and married Addie Wilson from Ellis Run. They lived in the Dry Ridge area until 1963 when they moved to Parkersburg. Chuck worked for Union Carbide Company and drove the school bus. After several years of severe illness, he died in June 1979. They were parents of three children: John, Lavonne and Donald.

John married Carolyn Layfield and lives at Petroleum. They have four children: Johnnie Lee married Elaine Harris and has two children; Jimmie Lee and Bobby Ray who live at home; and Jackie Carol, who married John Boone and lives on Mellin Ridge. The grandchildren are Amanda Lee and Christiana.

Lavonne married Robert Jenkins of Cairo and had three children: Linda Darlene, Paul David and Kitty Loraine. Linda married Dwayne Sinnett and has two children; Paul David married Norma Clark and has two children; Kitty Lorraine married Rodney Mullen and has one child. Lavonne's grandchildren are: Felicia, Joshua, Missy, Laura Beth and Joni Lorraine. Donald Woodrow married Patty Bell and they are parents of two children, Tabatha Zahn and Darchelle Lynn. They live on Stillwell Road. Addie makes her home with her daughter, Lavonne, on Kites Run, Walker. Lavonne has remarried to Raymond Pell Kendall.

--by Lavonne Boston Kendall

Having rode the school bus in the 30s when Chuck drove, I remember him as being a very safe driver. We think that teachers are the ones who have eyes in the back of their heads. I think bus drivers do too. Did you ever wonder how they stayed in the road and looked in the mirror at the same time?

--Loraine Cox Trembly

Johnny Black

Owned the peach orchard on the ridge near the Dinnin place. He told the younger ones in the neighborhood he had a shotgun that would shoot one thousand yards and then the shot would raise--not fall down. He sure had his way with kids and eliminated having to run them out of his orchard.

Paul Black

Paul was the son of Rev. Ed Black and lived at the Morgan Hotel in Freeport. Paul had a sister, Maymie. Both are deceased.

Joseph G. Booth family

Joe (1884-1967) was the son of Sam and Peridilla Booth. He married Mabel Cox who was the daughter of Ulysses and Martha Cox from Goose Creek. The Booth family lived in the Freeport and Goose Creek area until later in life; their health failed, and they moved closer to their daughters. They were the parents of three daughters: Opal married Dyke Howard (1905-1977). She lives in Vienna. Ethel (1912-1976) married Roland Leep

(1910-1978), and they had one son, Loren. Virginia, the youngest daughter, lives in Parkersburg. Joe and Mabel are buried at the Evergreen Cemetery.

--by Virginia Booth

The Boston family

The Bostons are English and Scottish descendants. Burkes General Armory describes the coat of arms. Henry arrived in Northhampton, Virginia in 1643, under the sponsorship of Mr. Obedience Robins.

John L. Boston was born in Washington County, Ohio, and Mary Ann Miracle was also born in Washington County. My grandfather served in the Civil War, 1861 to 1863, under the Ohio Voluntary Infantry. They came to West Virginia to Pleasants County near 1878. In 1898 they purchased approximately 50 acres on Dry Ridge, near Petroleum, Ritchie County. They were parents of six children: William (1872-1960) married Clara Tennant; Walter (1885-1967) married Lucy Reynolds; Vernon married Malinda Belle Carpenter; Hattie married Presley Metz and Bertie married Andrew Waller.

Leonard V. Boston family

My parents, Leonard Vernon Boston and Malinda Belle Carpenter Boston, moved to a small house on this farm. Dad was employed in the oil fields in Volcano. There were eight children in our family. On Sunday afternoons we sometimes entertained ourselves by gathering around the organ, singing with relatives and friends. Dad died in March 1954, and my mother died in 1959.

Arthur, the oldest, married Zora Deems and had three children. He lived in Parkersburg at the time of his death in 1982.

Edna married Joe Trembly; they live in the Parkersburg area and have four children: Ivan, Virginia, Wanda Lee and David.

Grace married Lawrence Geer and had six children. She lives in Parkersburg.

Wilbert married Ruby Trembly and lives in the Parkersburg area. They are parents of three children.

Raymond married Isabelle Rutherford (1920-1952). They were parents of four children: Patricia, Loretta, Robert and John. Raymond later re-married to Mildred Cunningham and lives in the Parkersburg area.

Dorse married Juanita Houchin; they live in the Walker area and are parents of one son, James.

Ruth (1922-1974) married Arnold Rutherford, who died September 1982. They had three children: Pearl, Roy and Charles.

Roy C., staff sgt. serving in World War II, was killed in Luxemburg, Germany, in February, 1945. Roy was a squad leader, holder of the Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal. He was born July 8, 1924, and is buried in a soldiers' cemetery in Luxemburg.

We attended the Fairview School. I remember a man by the name of Mr. Rose coming to our school and entertaining the children by playing three musical instruments at one time: French harp, drum and accordion. We also attended church in the same building. We children all found employment in or near Parkersburg and reared our families here. Descendants of Vern and Belle Boston present in 1984 number approximately 160

--by Edna Boston Trembly

William Boston

Married Clara Tennant on Christmas Day, 1898. She was the daughter of Adam and Harriet Tennant and lived on Buffalo Run. They attended school at Fairview. Bill and Clara shared 57 years of life together and were the parents of eight children:

Howard died as an infant in 1899.

Herbert (1903-1938) married Ruby Elliott.

Charles (1906-1979) married Addie Wilson.

Carl (1919-1979) married Martha Turner, was living in Texas when he died. Martha died in 1971.

Gladys, born in 1901, married Melvin Blackburn.

Ada, born in 1909, married Preston Sims, who died in 1945. She married Hershel Lanham, also deceased, and is now married to Frank Nagy and lives in Parkersburg.

Gertrude (1914-1961) married Glenn Sturm.

Wilma married Woodrow Davis and lives at Petroleum. The children attended school at Fairview and Petroleum.

William (1871-1960) and Clara (1880-1955) are buried at the Petroleum Cemetery.

--by Wilma Boston Davis

Charles Backus

He lived in the Daubenspeck home and worked for the family.

Beckner family

Allen Beckner (1834-1921) married Martha Jane Holmes Beckner (1842-1928). They lived at Cisco and built the old log house which many of us remember standing up from the mouth of Buffalo Run. This was their first home, and they later moved to the house at Cisco that is standing today. They were parents of four boys, James P., born in 1855; Henry M., born in 1861; David L., born in 1867; Charles A., born in 1869; and one daughter, Oceana.

Charles Andrew was born at Cisco and married Sarah Mason, born in 1871. They lived on the road from Petroleum to Cisco Road in a house that Charlie built for his family. The house still stands today, occupied by Mrs. Criss and her son. He was a farmer and worked for several years for the State Road in Ritchie County. The weather was never too cold, or the creeks too high, for this couple to go and lend assistance in sickness or death. Sarah died at the farm home in 1947. Charlie moved to Parkersburg, lived for several years and died in March 1961. To this couple two children were born:

Grace (1896-1980) married Harley Thomas (1897-1961). They were married in March 1920. They lived most of their married life in Parkersburg and had three daughters: Helen married Robert Sandy; Mable married Bernard Matheny; and Betty married Gene Lincicome who is deceased. All three girls live in Parkersburg.

George (1902-1929) married Ellen Lewis and lived most of his life in and around Parkersburg. To this union three children were born: Charles, Denver and Patricia.

Charles and Sarah are buried at the Beckner Cemetery at Cisco.

--by Helen Thomas Sandy

James P. Beckner

Jim, as he was called by everyone, lived with his wife, Janie, at Cisco. They never had children. Janie had a son by a former marriage who died young. Stoke, her son, married Iva Brown and had one daughter, Lorraine, who lived at the home of her grandparents. Mr. Beckner made a home for both his granddaughter and daughter-in-law as well as a lady by the name of Cora Weaver, and a man, Joe Landis. He owned several acres of land and was in the timber and cattle business. Mrs. Beckner was born in 1851 and died in 1926; Jim died in 1934. Both are buried in the Beckner Cemetery at Cisco. The house they lived in for so many years still stands today. A nephew, Cummins Beckner, who made his home with them, later purchased the farm and lived there with his family for several years.

Henry M. Beckner

Henry M. Beckner married Catherine Valentine (1863-1932) and had four children. Catherine died when the children were small. Their children were Carl, Effie, Vivian and Cummins, who came to live with his uncle after his mother died.

Cummins married Bess Scott, a school teacher, and lived in the Beckner homestead until moving to Parkersburg in later years. His wife, Bess, still lives in Parkersburg. They had three children: James, Carl Scott, and Jane Alice. Cummins died in April 1980; was born September 1886.

--by Bess Scott Beckner

David L. Beckner

David L. Beckner married Catherine Cain Beckner. They were known to their neighbors as D. L. and Kate. They lived on the Cairo-Cisco Road for many years. The house still stands today along the river bank. Kate was the daughter of Elias and Rachel Deem Cain of the Rusk area. To this union there were eleven children born: Ralph, born in 1890; Ray, born in 1895; Grant, born in 1898; Lou Allen, born in 1901; James, born in 1904; Thomas, born in 1906; Frank; Harry; Martha; Nellie, died in 1898; an infant; and Herman died in 1911, at the age of one year.

Ralph, the eldest son, married Della Law in 1917. They had two children, Lura Lee Moomau of Petersburg and David who died in 1979 at the age of 50 years. Ralph died in 1969 and his wife, Della, in 1954.

Ray married Lula Stanley (1889-1971) and lives in Fairmont.

Grant married Ruth Depue (1900-1965) and they had one son, Gerald, in Missouri and two daughters, Alice Renker and Beulah Casto. Grant died in 1976.

Lou Allen (John) married and lived in Ohio. He died in 1981, but his wife, Grace, still lives there. They were parents of two sons, Jack and Lee A.

James B. married Grace Swain and lived in Michigan; Grace died in 1945 and James in October 1982. Their two daughters are Mary Louise Blanco and Sheila.

Thomas married Helen Nutter and lived at the home place for many years. They now live on Route 47 near the Newark Road. They were parents of five children: Paul, Howard, Delbert, Douglass and Mary Adams.

Frank married Dollie Maze. Dollie is deceased and Frank lives in Ohio. They had two children: Katie Cloud and Jo Ann Letty.

Harry lives in Arizona. His wife Mary is deceased. They have two sons: David of Pennsylvania and Robert of Illinois.

Martha married Glenn Maze, and they live in Ohio.

David married Mary Hornish after the death of Kate, and they had one daughter, Marjorie. Marjorie married Wayne Shields and died April 1940 along with her infant son, David Lynn. Mary--or Molly, as she was often called--died in 1968. Several members of the family are buried at the Beckner Cemetery. David died in 1942, Kate in 1917.

--by Paul Beckner

Each summer a Sunday was selected for a picnic after church services. This was customary with each church in the area. Families would bring their food and an afternoon program of singing and special speakers followed the picnic dinner at noon. This was called a Sunday school picnic.

The Cain family

The Cain family can be traced to the earliest settlers of the Rusk and Freeport area. Several members of the family also lived in Wirt county. It is believed all the families by the name of Cain are related. The name has remained unchanged in spelling since the earliest immigrants came over several hundred years ago.

Creed Collins Cain

Creed was born in 1887, the son of James T. and Emma Bond Cain. He married Osie Bennett (1896-1983), the daughter of B. F. and Estella Morgan Bennett. He worked as a carpenter and in the oil fields. They lived across Hughes River near Rusk. Creed died in 1979. They were the parents of one son, Kensil, who lives in Vienna.

T. Jeff Cain

Jeff was married to Lizzie Brown, who died in 1945. They lived across the Hughes River in the Rusk area. The house is still standing and occupied by the Ivan Banks family. Ivan, his wife, and two children live here. Jeff died in 1944.

Siotha Cain family

Siotha Cain (1842-1918) was the son of Jesse (1812-1898) and Margaret Nutter Cain (1814-1900). He married Lucinda Dulaney and lived in the Rusk and Gillespie vicinity. There were four children in the family: Laura Sickles, born in 1868; Turner, born in 1879, married Lillie Cline. Clara (1873-1963) married William Cline, who died in 1936, while living in Parkersburg. Alice (1880-1954) married Fremont Jackson, who was killed in 1943. This couple were life-long residents of the Rusk area.

Elias Cain

Elias (1838-1913) was the son of Jesse and Margaret Nutter Cain. He married Rachel Deem, born in 1850. They lived in the Rusk area and had a family of eight children:

John C. (1881-1959) married Bell Smallwood and moved to Parkersburg in 1917. Bell died in 1947.

Margaret (1871-1969) married Elza Boso.

Lucy Ellen (1879-1974) married Ellsworth Douglass, who died in 1944. He was a merchant from Gillespie Run. She later married a Mr. Kelly and was living in Parkersburg when she died.

Mary Mills, born in 1883; Edward L., born in 1877.

William James (1871-1962) married Stella Law, and they were parents of one son, Paul, who died in 1978 at the age of 78 years. He later married Bertie Higgins (1870-1901).

Joseph (1877-1969) spent his life in the oil fields in Oklahoma.

Catherine (1872-1917) married David L. Beckner.

Thomas (1875-1905) married Oceana Beckner.

The house is still standing across the Hughes River on the Cairo-Cisco Road.

Wilbur Cain

"Bus" was raised in the home of Bob Cain on Cabin Run. He married Edna Deems, daughter of Ben and Ethel Joy Deems. They were parents to nine children: Glen F. (1938-1983); Donald E., David L.; Jeffery E.; Richard; Margie Codwell; Twilla Enoch; Linda Price and Jennifer Bullard. Bus and Edna moved from Parkersburg to Newark, Ohio, near some of their children. They lived in the Petroleum area for several years.

Thomas H. Cain

Thomas and Oceana Beckner were married November 3, 1897, by Rev. John Hickel, an M. P. minister. They had two daughters, Bethel Chloe, born August 14, 1900; and Frances Bertha Willard, born May 30, 1902. They lived on Buffalo Run in a house built by James P. Beckner. Tom Cain died in 1905 and Oceana married Amos Witcraft in 1913. She died while living in Parkersburg, February 23, 1959.

Bethel Cain married Dewey Moyers of Harrisville, July 12, 1919; to this union were born nine children: Winifred, Maxine, Regina, Herman, Thomas, Robert, Bernard, Carl and Richard. Thomas and Bernard died in infancy. Bethel died June 5, 1969, at her home in Warren, Ohio.

Frances Cain married Warden Ritenour of Little Hocking, Ohio, October 27, 1928. Warden died December 9, 1937, in Detroit, Michigan, in an accident at work from a fall. Frances later married Ed. F. Sells, of Athens, Ohio, on April 24, 1954. Ed died April 15, 1956. I now live in Parkersburg.

--by Frances Cain Sells

Abraham and William Cline

These brothers were two of the earliest--if not the first--settlers on what is now Dry Ridge and Buffalo Run. They came here around 1815 or even before.

Joseph N. Collums

Joe (1891-1967) married Mary Elizabeth Nutter (1892-1984). They lived in the Freeport area. Joe was a school teacher, and they were the parents of two children: Paul and Gwendolyn Salyers. This couple is buried in the Freeport Cemetery that was their home for so many years. Records show that Joe taught at Freeport and Dry Ridge.

Hershel Cain

Lived in the Freeport area. He is now deceased but was the son of Charles Cain, who died this year at the age of over 100 years. He had brothers, Virgil, Rom and Robert.

Ralph B. Cuthbert

Mr. Cuthbert was a cattle buyer in the area. He lived on Laurel Fork and is remembered as riding a horse he called Sealem that had cattle ropes tied on the saddle. Mr. Cuthbert always wore a black hat. Children in the Goose Creek area had a fear of him, being sent along with his load of cattle to Baltimore. Markers at the Petroleum Cemetery reveal that he was born in 1844 and died in 1915. His wife died at a very young age, according to the marker: Clara Gilman Cuthbert, born in 1850, died in 1878. A daughter, Jessie, died in 1900 at the age of 23 years.

Gerald Cox tells of his experience with Mr. Cuthbert when he was just a small boy. He, being one of the younger of the boys, was the target of their pranks more than once. All the Cox kids were swimming in Goose Creek in their birthday suits, which was not out of the ordinary for them. Their clothes were in a pile on the creek bank. One of the older boys yelled, "Here comes Ralph Cuthbert on Sealem." Gerald came out of the water and ran for the house leaving his clothes lay on the creek bank. They were the least of his worries at that particular time. Gerald was born in 1900, so this gives you an idea about when this incident occurred.

Joseph Green Cooper

No record is found where Joseph lived. He was born in 1875 and died in 1932. On November 12, 1908, he married Mary Ann Dean of Freeport. Mary Ann was born in 1870, died in 1949. They moved to Harrisville, West Virginia.

The Cox family

Rufus E. and Elizabeth Caldwell Cox (1828-1917) moved to the Goose Creek area sometime after the Civil War. They lived on the Hosier Foutty farm and bought property farther up Goose Creek and lived here until 1918. Rufus (1822-1905) moved to the area from Morgantown. There were several in this family: Jennie, who lived at Petroleum for several years; William U. married Martha Sharpnack, taught school in the Freeport vicinity, and later moved to Cairo, married the second time to Katie Weber; Sarah, who was born in 1861 and lived only about 4 months; Will (1855-1933); Ulysses, born in 1862, married Martha Howell and later married Mary Jane Sims. Martha died in 1890, Mary Jane in 1970, and Ulysses in 1934. Rufus and Elizabeth are buried at the Mt. Olive Cemetery along with Elizabeth's sister, Matilda Caldwell, who always made her home with the family.

Ulysses David Cox family

Liss, as he was known to his family and friends, lived in the family home on Goose Creek until 1918, when he bought 93 acres on Dry Ridge. He said he got tired of the water ruining his crops each year. Seems as if when he bought on the hill he was sure the water would not bother him any longer. This farm was part of the W. H. Bickel holdings and was purchased from Charles Haymond who moved to Florida. Liss married one of the neighbor girls, Martha Howell, born in 1866. They had three children, Nora, Mable and Dudley. Martha died the day Dudley was born, March 1890. Liss remarried, to Mary Jane Sims (born in 1874), the daughter of James Henry and Mary Cronin Sims. To this union there were six children born:

Nora (1885-1972) married Arza Stewart from Pennsboro. Arza was killed about 1919 in a tragic oil well accident. Nora spent her last years in Parkersburg.

Mabel (1887-1964) married Joseph G. Booth and lived many years in the area.

Dudley E. (1890-1960) married Anna Lemons from Freeport and lived around Walker. Their children are: Dorothy, Emma Louise, Esther Bernadine, Mary, Anna Pauline, John Calvin, Opie Lee and Dudley Evans. Ann died in 1973.

William U. (1897-1975) married Emma Spears, later married and lived in Youngstown, Ohio, at the time of his death. His wife, Mary, lives in Ohio.

Fred E. (1898-1969) married Lura Fortney from the Eatons area, and lived in Parkersburg. They had two sons, Clyde (died in 1983) and Clarence, who lives in Parkersburg.

Russell B., born in 1899, married Bernice Tennant, and lived in Buffalo and Dry Ridge area.

Gerald D. (born in 1900) married Cecelia Baily from St. Marys and lives in Pennsylvania. His wife has been in a wheelchair for about twenty years. They have three children: Lee David, Russell and Lois Brubaker.

Hazel (born in 1903) lives in Virginia.

Ernest (1905-1953) served in the Navy; he retired and was living in California at the time of his death.

When the family moved to Dry Ridge, Fred, Russell, Gerald and Hazel were at home. He farmed and is remembered as raising game chickens. When his son Russell moved to the farm in 1929, Liss built him a small house on the side of the farm toward Dry Ridge and lived there the rest of his days. He and his first wife, Martha, are buried at Dry Ridge.

Russell B. Cox family

Russell moved to the Dry Ridge area about 1918. Born in 1899, he married Bernice Tennant, also born in 1899, the daughter of Simon and Lucy Tennant from Buffalo Run. Bernice taught school in the area. They went to housekeeping on Rice Run, being married May 1921. To this union there were six daughters born. The children attended Dry Ridge School, and Cairo High School, and the family attended the Buffalo Methodist Church. The children are as follows:

Lorraine, born in 1922, married David H. Metz, born on Cabin Run. They were married in 1946, after David returned from the service. They had three children: Patricia married James Hardin; Lee married Deborah Bauerbach; and Paul Alan. Lorraine remarried after David's death in 1980, to Howard Trembly, and they live in Parkersburg.

Maxine, born in 1924, married William Law of Parkersburg. She and Bill have two sons, Craig and Alan; the family lives in Florida--one grandson, Jason.

Opal, born in 1926, married Frank L. Spiker, the son of a former minister in the Petroleum area, Rev. Frank L. Spiker. They have six children: Patsy, Russell L., Merrianna Cox, Janie Davis, Susan Sesco and Lisa Davis. They live in Williamson and have 11 grandchildren.

Betty Jean, born in 1929, married Robert Garrison and they had five children: Carol Cline, Gary, Diana Reed, Linda Braughman and Pamela Riel. Betty has remarried to Guy W. (Tom) Lowther and lives at Cairo. She has six grandchildren.

Bernadine, born in 1931, lives in Pennsylvania. She has five children: Carolyn Sue, Vickie, Jeanie, Steven and Paula--four grandchildren.

Vivian, born in 1937, lives in Pennsylvania and has one son, Brian.

The school closed in 1942 and the family moved to Parkersburg, selling the farm to Harold Nelson. He in turn sold it to Westvaco. Bernice along with her other family members is buried at the Dry Ridge Cemetery. Not having any brothers put us girls in the corn field, garden, potato patch and the hay field. It was all a part of life then, but I'm not sure that I would want to live it over again.

Russell remarried to Susie Cronin and lived at Rusk until her death in 1973. He married the third time to Pearl Harper. He made his home at the Willows Nursing Home, and passed away October 26, 1984.

We had many good times, growing up on the farm. We were poor, but did not realize it and were a happy family of kids.

--by Loraine

Arthur B. Criss family

Arthur and his wife, Henrietta Cunningham Criss, and family moved from the Big Island Run area of Wirt County to the Charlie Beckner farm on Petroleum Road in 1948. The children attended school at Rusk, Petroleum and Cairo. There were seven children:

Harold Cunningham married Laura Shelton.

George Cunningham married Lee Conly.

Sylvia Cunningham married Harold T. Nelson.

Dorothy Cunningham married Harold (Gene) Metz.

Gene Criss married June Moss.

Phyllis Criss married Mitchell Nutter.

Frank Criss never married and lives on the farm with his mother.

--by Sylvia Criss Nelson

Sidney Curry family

My grandfather, born Daniel Marion Sharpnack, July 30, 1845 in Wetzel County, Pennsylvania, died March 29, 1914. He married Ella Reitz, born January 15, 1844 in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, died September 11, 1919. They were married December 5, 1867 and had three children, one of which was my mother, Rachel Lydia Sharpnack, born

March 23, 1870 at Petroleum; died January 1, 1955. She married Sidney Riley Curry, and they had four children.

Ruth, born April 14, 1905, at Taitt Hill, married Ralph K. Sears (1905-1982). They had no children.

Daniel Sharpnack, born September 7, 1907, at Taitt Hill, married Hildren Stinespring. They had two children: Daniel Wayne, born in 1949; and Paul Robert, born in 1951. Daniel died April 21, 1958.

Paul Reitz, born September 29, 1909, at Taitt Hill, married first time Marie Stutler Turner; second marriage, to Marguerite Cale. He had no children. Paul died July 11, 1981.

Mary Louise, born August 22, 1911, at Taitt Hill, married Richard S. Skaggs. They were married May 1939. They had one daughter, born December 1947, at Marlinton. Mary died December 23, 1972. She was teaching her 37th year of school when she died.

My Dad, Sidney Riley Curry, was the son of H. B. Curry and Mary Riley. He had five sisters: Ella, Cora, Bell Addie and Elizabeth. I believe they were most all teachers, but all are deceased. He worked in the oil fields. Dad died January 20, 1956.

I have been told that my great uncle, Lew Reitz, had the first store in Petroleum. Grandad Sharpnack was a telegraph operator and so was my mother. I do not know about the name of Grandad's home, but it was a beautiful home--first bath room, running water in the house furnished by a gas engine for power. I think too, they had the first sewing machine. I left Petroleum in 1925, but hope this helps you some.

--by Ruth Curry Sears of Cairo

A season we looked forward to was Hallowe'en and the masquerade parties. We never heard of trick or treat, not many people had candy to give away anyway. One party each year was at the home of D. L. Beckner on Hughes River. People would go masked--terrible-looking outfits. They would set around not saying a word--afraid of revealing if they were man or woman. The object was to go in such a disguised look and get the prize for the person that no one could guess his identity. There was a prize for the ugliest. Chestnuts were hid in the leaves in the yard and the children would hunt the chestnuts in the leaves. Then came refreshments: donuts, cider, or whatever was at hand.

Some of the pranks that were pulled: putting a man's wagon a straddle of his barn roof, upset bus stops and outside toilets (which most everyone had), soaping windows, and just real small things of this sort. The schools were always a target of soaping and anything else we could think to do. The young people of my day never did anything to the churches; we showed our respect here.

--by Loraine T.

George Cunningham family

George and his wife, Mary Florence Kerns Cunninham, lived for many years in the Cisco area. The children went to the Nelson and Flint Run School and the Buffalo Methodist Church. He came to the area from Gilmer County where he was born. There were seven children: Fred (Buck), Carl, Orval, Bernard, Ray, Mary Elizabeth Butcher and Grace Marshall. The children are all living except Mary, who died in March 1984. Orval is a minister living in the Kanawha area; Grace lives in the Petroleum area. Both parents have been dead for a number of years.

In the spring and fall of the year, revival meetings were going on about every night somewhere. Guest speakers would be invited to the churches and many times the meetings would go on for two weeks. Ones in the community who were singers would come and help with the singing. It was a joint affair with the churches in the area. After the meetings, many in the community who were converted would be baptized. None of the churches had the proper facilities for this service, therefore it took place in the river. The Hughes River at the spot where Buffalo Run empties is a favorite spot and still is yet today. Stories were told of ice being broken and the person being baptized. These meetings were sometimes referred to as "Protracted Meeting." People walked for miles to attend these.

About once a year, a traveling show team would appear in the community, set up their tent and show moving pictures for five or six nights. These movies were in black and white, silent and with snow or western scenes. I am told a whole family could get in for a quarter. Popcorn was sold with crackerjacks with a prize inside the box. After a hard day's work, it was nice to go and sit a spell and rest your mind and body.

Alvin Finley Daubenspeck family

My father came from Butler, Pennsylvania, to work in the oil fields. His first wife died when his son, Wiley, was five years old. He had married Emza Smith of Doddridge County when he worked in the Sistersville oil field. Besides Wiley, their children were: Thomas, Annie, Margaret, Finley and Smith. In 1910, they bought the Frank Sharpnack farm and moved from the California House to the old William Sharpnack house, where they lived until 1960. This house was built about 1870. Alvin died in 1951 at the age of 91 years. Emza died in 1964 at the age of 88 years. When Frank sold to the Daubenspecks, he moved to the farm adjoining Anthony's that might have been the John Sharpnack place. Frank's wife was Laura Hewitt, who came from Ellis Run.

Annie was a school teacher and lives in Charleston.

Smith is retired and lives in Charleston; he is married and has two daughters.

Finley married Estel Hanlon from Cairo and they reside in Ohio.

Margaret married William Booher, lived in Charleston and taught school for many years. She died in 1983.

Thomas and Wiley are both deceased.

--by Annie Daubenspeck

Robert Woodrow Davis family

Woodie was born June 13, 1924, in West Union, son of Clifford and Grace Putnam Davis. He was one of 11 children. His father died when he was 13 years old. His mother and family moved to Buffalo Run in 1937. He and two of his sisters attended school at Dry Ridge. He was inducted into the Army in the second World War at the age of 18. He served 32 months, 23 of these were in the South Pacific. He was discharged January 21, 1946. He married Wilma Boston in 1946. Wilma was born at Petroleum November 20, 1927, the daughter of William and Clara Tennant Boston. She attended Petroleum school for eight years and graduated from Cairo High School on May 31, 1945. Woodie and I have three daughters:

Sharon Williams lives in Orlando, Florida, and has two sons.

Barbara Hilkey lives at Ellenboro and has one son.

Pamela Frederick lives in Belpre and has a daughter.

Our daughters attended school at Petroleum and Cairo. Woodie was employed at Union Carbide at Marietta for 30 years, retiring in December 1981. We still live at Petroleum in sight of my parents' homeplace.

--by Wilma Boston Davis

Walter I. Davis family

Walter and Attie Davis lived in the Petroleum area. They were parents of the following children: Addie E. (1909-1960) married Lester Tippins; Enid Adams; Thelma Sargent; Claude A. Dotson.

Walter remarried and had three children by this union: Vada Morehead, Hazel Smith and Floyd Dotson.

Mable A. Davis

Mable (1899-1984) was the daughter of Eliza Daily and Lukas Weekley. She lived in Volcano several years ago but more recently lived in the Marietta area.

Darnell family

This family came to the Freeport area in the early days. Floyd was the son of Hosier and Elzada Pribble Darnell. He operated the mill and was a partner of Hiram Butcher Pribble for many years. Floyd, born in 1858, married Rosa Parsons, born in 1862. They were the parents of five children: Frank Leslie (1897-1898); Bernard Parsons (1908-1915); Ethel (1895-1937); Noma (1890-1962); Agnes (1899-1964).

The family lived all their life in the Freeport community and took an active part in all events. All three girls are remembered for singing and musical ability. They played the organ and sang at many functions in the community. The family home is still standing on the river bank in the little hamlet of Freeport. Traces of the old mill are still there, fond memories of bygone days.

--Memories of Bert Foutty family

Deem family

Three counties -- Wirt, Wood and Ritchie -- corner on property located on the left hand fork of Goose Creek where Adam Deem settled on a 3000-acre tract sometime before 1800. He and his brother Jacob were sons of John Deem of Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Jacob settled on Tygart Creek, was accompanied here by James Fought, son of Phillip from Pennsylvania, after the Revolution. Adam enlisted in the Continental Army in 1777, and served under Captain Stokley.

Adam Deem

He is known as the pioneer of Freeport or Goose Creek. He came to Freeport at an early age and settled at what is known as "Deem Homestead" near the mouth of Goose Creek. He died in 1861 at the age of 104 years. He is buried on his farm along with his wife, Catherine. They were parents of twelve children: seven sons -- Adam Jr., Phillip, Jacob, John, James, David and Isaac; two of the daughters were Mary, who married William Foutty, and Catherine, who married John Foutty. Both girls married in 1816 to these two brothers, sons of George Foutty.

Adam Jr. married his cousin, Hannah Deem, and lived in the Freeport area for several years and moved to Ohio, where both are buried. The children of this couple were Abraham, John, Adam III, Isaac, Philip, Jacob, Margaret, Charlotte, Melissa and Elizabeth.

Phillip married Rachel Kidwiler, came to the county in 1810, and settled on the river not far from Rusk. They are both buried on the Dotson farm at Rusk. Their children were Perry, James, Adam, Elizabeth, Rachel, Catherine, Hannah, Roena, Mary and Cinderilla.

James lived at Freeport and is buried in the Freeport Cemetery. His wife Rachel Sargent Deems moved West after his death.

Isaac, another son, married Nancy Enoch and established a home on Goose Creek. He and Nancy had ten sons and three daughters: Abraham, Calvin, Commodore, John M., Jeremiah, Matthew, Isaac and triplets that died as infants: Margaret, Mary and Sarah.

John, another son, married early in life, lived all his life at Freeport, had three sons, David, John and Jehu, two daughters, Rachel Black and Elizabeth Braden. All their children but David remained in the Freeport area. He went West at an early age.

With this large family settling in the area, we little wonder at so many landmarks bearing the name of Deem. Deems Ford was an important factor in the development of Freeport and the successful operation of the California House.

--from Wirt County records of Deems

Benjamin Franklin Deems family

Ben, as everyone called him, was the youngest son of Isaiah and Harriett Nutter Deems. He was born in 1882 and died in 1973. Ben married Ethel Charlotte Joy on January 17, 1915. Ethel was born in 1897, the daughter of George and Ollie Shahan Joy. They lived on Goose Creek for many years and all of their children were born here. They attended the Cox School. They were parents of 15 children:

Garnet Deloris, born in 1916, married Joseph E. Wilson (1912-1973) and they had two boys, Robert F. and Larry W. Garnett is now married to George H. Wilson.

Anna Edna, born in 1917, is married to Wilbur Brown (Bus) Cain. Their children are Margie, Glenn, Twilla, Donald, Linda, David, Richard, Jeffery and Jennifer. Edna and Bus live in Newark, Ohio.

Dorothy Lanada, born in 1918, married Howard Santee (1914-1967). They have five children: Kenneth, Nancy Lee, Garry Allen, Carolyn Sue and James Edward.

Stella Virginia (1920-1980) married Ralph Deem and had twin boys, Denver and Densil.

Bessie Lenore (1922-1980) married Donald Neff and had three children: Gerald, Donald Jr., and Roger who died as an infant.

Jessie, a twin to Bessie, died as an infant.

Mary Louise, born in 1924, married Gerald Whitecotton and has two children, Sharon and Pamela.

Beulah, born in 1926, married William Richards, now deceased. They never had children.

Myrtle Gay, born in 1928, married Harry Eugene Wenmoth and has two children, Victoria and Douglass.

Evelyn, born in 1930, married Bernie Ruble (deceased) and they had one son, Randy. She is now married to Carl Stout and has one daughter, Susan.

Rosalie, born in 1932, married Robert Williams and has two daughters, Peggy and Debra. Elizabeth Nell, born in 1935, married Larry Corvin and has four children: Beck, Kathy, Hidei and Tyson.

Benjamin Franklin, Jr. (1937-1959) married Betty McAtee and had one daughter, Kimberly.

William Edward, born in 1938, married Lynda Hendershot and has one daughter, Melissa. Charlotte Jane, born in 1941, died in infancy.

Ben was a hard-working man, working on the farm to raise his family. He is buried in the family cemetery at Eatons. He and Ethel lived in Vienna for several years before his death; Ethel still lives there.

--by Garnet Deems Wilson

Elliott C. Deems family

Elliott (1890-1957) lived all his life on Goose Creek. He was the son of John (1845-1921) and Mary Deem (1851-1926). Elliott married Nora Ellen Joy, born in 1895. To this union there were eight children born; Nora still resides in Parkersburg.

Mable, born in 1914, married Charles Rollyson who died in 1983. They were parents of five children: Janet McCullough, Melvin married Donna Applegate; Bonnie married Dale Fore; Sharon married Paul Morehead and Frena married Calvin Morehead.

Zora, born in 1916 married Arthur Boston, died in 1982.

Roy Franklin, born in 1918, was killed April 1978 while working at the power plant at Willow Island. He married Sarah Vinson and they had six children: Van F., Seymore A., Larry A., Georgia Garton, Edna Copen, Nora Jean Savley. After Floyd was killed at the accident at Ravens Metal, Roy married his widow, Naomi, and they had one daughter, Tina, who is married to Roger Carr.

Ray, born in 1921, married Ruth Reese. They were parents of eight children: David, Daniel, Dale, Darrell, Darlene Willis, Marilyn Allman, Carolyn Jacobson and Debra Roush.

E. Clifford (1923-1935).

Elliott A., born in 1926, married Jan Ahart; they have one son, Charles.

Harold, born in 1929, married Ora Lee Gain, and they have three children: Michael, Bryan and Tammy Kapaldo.

Floyd, born in 1932, was killed in accident at Ravens Metal in 1958. He married Naomi Stephens. They were parents of four children: Mark, Stephen, Sharon, Catherine Hickman and Melanie Houchin.

--by Zora Deem Boston

Art Deem

She and her daughter, Rose, lived in the Fox Run area in sort of a cave made back in the rocks. They lived here summer and winter. She was a hard-working woman, worked for Hosier Foutty for some time.

Dinnin family

James H. Dinnin (1875-1959) was born at Volcano, Wood County. He was the son of John (1833-1911) and Melissa Whaley Dinnin (1841-1924). He married Alice Thrash (1883-1971). She was the daughter of John and Amelia Pew Thrash and lived on Goose Creek on the Thrash farm, about three miles from Freeport. My parents lived at Volcano until 1918 when they moved to Dry Ridge, about one mile from the Dry Ridge School. Our farm was part of the old Thrash farm. The following children were born at Volcano:

Ronald (1907-1909).

Grace (1907-1909).

Amelia Mae (Lucy) taught school and married Bill Cantwell. Lucy later married Frank Catalan. She died in 1970, living in Parkersburg.

Robert, born in 1909, was killed in North Africa in 1943.

Kathleen married John Belt and lives in Florida.

Dorothy married Mark Whiney and lives in Oklahoma.

Rosalie married Charles Lobaugh and lives in Michigan.

James W. (1918-1982) married Glenna Beha and lived near Kanawha.

The rest of us children were born on Dry Ridge:

Carrol who never married.

Ralph married Cora Belle Nelson. Cora Belle is now deceased.

Elizabeth married Paul Wright and lives in Elkins.

This made a total of eleven children. Dr. E. H. Douglass delivered all of them. My father worked in the oil fields for the Astron Oil Company from 1918 to 1942, when he retired. As the boys became old enough to work, they all had a little experience working with our father in the oil fields. During World War II, all four boys served in the Army--Robert James, and Carrol in North Africa and Europe; and Ralph in the Pacific. After the war, James worked on construction jobs, was a mechanic for Ford Motor Co., drove cement mixer trucks for Criss and was a rural mail carrier on the Davisville route.

Carroll worked on construction jobs, Normandi Bottle Gas Co., Pinkerton and cut timber. Ralph worked on construction, railway mail clerk for ten years, retiring on disability. He preached in the Methodist church for ten years, worked for Pinkerton and cut timber.

Some of the entertainment at Dry Ridge was special holiday programs presented at the school, literary at Fairview and competition between the schools in spelling and arithmetic and outdoor games, picnic and field trips. Robert and Dorothy were exceptionally good at spelling, and Robert was a talented arithmetic problem-solver. On a few occasions after he was through school, the teachers would send him problems to work for them.

James was very active in the Eastwood Fire Department and the Lions Club. Carrol and Ralph were, and still are, very eager to read and spend hours with books and papers.

My parents were of the Catholic faith but as there were no Catholic churches near Dry Ridge, and they did not have an automobile, they were not active in church work until the last few years.

My mother completed several correspondence courses and received certificates and awards. They are both interred in the Catholic Cemetery at Eatons in Wood County.

--by Ralph and Carrol Dinnin

Lemon Dotson family

Lemon Dotson (1872-1964) was the son of Ellis and Sarah Doll Dotson of around Pennsboro. He married Minnie Jane (1884-1929) in December 1912. They lived in the Rusk community and he was a Church of Christ preacher. The family included the following children: Nellie Williamson, Doris Evelyn Smith, Sarah Miller, Dallas Morris, Clarence and Carl Irvin. Dallas was killed in World War II. Clarence Floyd (1913-1982) married Dorothy Wodard and was living in Norfolk, Virginia when he died. He was retired from the Navy after 21 years' service.

Carl Irvin married Vivian McClead and lives on the Dotson homeplace at Rusk. He and Vivian have three daughters, Charletta Jean, Roselee Isabelle and Beverly Jean.

The Dotsons first came to the area in the early 1720s. The original spelling of the Old World was Dodson, but for some unknown reason it became changed to its present form. Two brothers, James and William, came from England and settled near Richmond, Virginia, and from James--or some say his name was Richard--the families in this part of the country trace their lineage.

Irvin Dotson family

Irvin (1836-1917) and Sarah Cain Dotson (1833-1915) lived at Rusk. They had two children: Floyd, and a daughter, Minnie Jane, who married Lemon Dotson.

Nay W. Dotson family

Nay Dotson (1869-1959) was the son of Hiram (1825-1901) and Lucinda Dotson (born in 1842). He married Roberta McClead and lived in the Petroleum community or nearby. They had one daughter, Winnie Newman, who is now deceased. They are buried at the Hopewell Cemetery.

Erman R. Dotson family

Erman Dotson (1890-1967) was the son of Charles W. and Sarah Elder Dotson. He married Susie Arman (1892-1967). Both were school teachers and lived in the Petroleum community. Susie quit teaching and raised her family but Erman taught for 44 years. They were in the hospital at the same time and died within a few days of each other. They were parents of five children: Wilma Bowersock in Indiana, Mildred in Michigan, James R. in New York, Erman R. and Harold in Georgia.

Erman is remembered as a teacher who was strict but fair and very dedicated.

Grandma Dotson

Lucinda Leap Dotson and Hiram Dotson were my grandparents. They lived on Goose Creek in a two-story farm house on a hill below the Elfritz Cemetery. My mother, Grace Dotson, was the youngest of five children. As I was only two years old when Grandpa died, I don't remember him at all. I do, however, have many happy memories of Grandma Dotson and the many visits to her home. Grandma lived alone after Grandpa died. Her children were all married and were settled nearby. I really don't know how she made a living as there was no Social Security at that time. I know she had chickens, cows and had a big garden, so she must have sold eggs, milk and cream.

She was very independent and wasn't afraid of anything. She did all the work herself and never asked her children for anything. She not only had a big garden but dug the ground herself.

Grandma had a wood stove in the living room for heat and one in the kitchen for cooking. I remember the "wood choppings." One day each fall people would gather at her house

for the event. Women cooked all day and men chopped wood, sawed and stacked and by evening her winter's supply of wood was in place. I later married one of the boys who always came for the chopping, Ensel Metz.

I remember the times we went to her house from Short Run School for lunch. She would have a big pot of homemade tomato soup with drop dumplings. I have never been able to make it.

Grandma had a room built over her rock cellar which she called her loom room. I remember seeing her sit there, hour after hour, weaving. She made her own carpet and beautiful quilts.

Grandma made weekly visits to the Shriver farm. She walked over, and I can remember how we would watch for her to appear at the top of the hill. She would have dinner with us, and spend the afternoon arguing politics with my father. She almost always wore a long black dress. She run out of wood and had put one end of a fence rail into the stove and the other end on a chair. She went to the garden for a few minutes. When she thought about the fire and started toward the house, it was too late. The blaze was so high she couldn't get into the house. She lost everything.

With her home gone, she spent her last few years living with her children. She and Grandpa and most of the children are buried at the Elfritz Cemetery.

--by Olive Shriver Metz

Thomas A. Douglass family

Thomas A. and Sarah Cain Douglass lived in the Rusk area. They had several children, three of the children being: Roy (1898-1981), who married Mildred Cline; Sarah Douglass; and Martha Deel. There were other children, but records are missing, presently.

Dr. E. H. Douglass family

Dr. Douglass was born March 4, 1867, of Scottish parents, George B. and Isabelle Rutherford Douglass of Petroleum. He died December 28, 1943. He married Rozetta L. Fought (1876-1938) and from this union there were six children born:

George R., born March 20, 1899, was a mail carrier and lived in Petroleum. He married Edith Eddy. George died November 8, 1973.

Mary I., born July 19, 1903. Mary was a teacher, married Frank Knox, Jr. of Claysville, Pennsylvania.

E. Holmes, Jr., born May 19, 1905. He is a doctor in Newburgh, New York. His first wife was Alice Holmes, now deceased. He is now married to Beatrice Ross Douglass and lives in New York.

Virginia M., born April 2, 1908. She was a teacher, married A. B. Pepper, Sr. who died in 1981. She now resides in Parkersburg.

Paul C., born March 25, 1910. He owned and operated a service station and is married to Mary Skidmore. He resides in Parkersburg.

R. Eleanor, born January 6, 1913, was a teacher, married John B. Hicks who died in 1981. She resides in North Carolina.

--by Virginia Douglass Pepper

Alexander Dulaney

He and his wife, Elizabeth Lemon Dulaney, lived in the Rusk area. They were parents of several children.

Cecil (1902-1974) was first married to Ruth Higgins and had one son, Paul. Ruth died young; Cecil remarried to Lucy Rogers and lived in Vienna for many years. Others were Ralph, James L. (1882-1961); Maude Shahan, Jessie Refan, Janie Beals and Minnie Null (1898-1963). Several members of the family are buried in the Lewis Cemetery. The home is still standing and owned by Ralph and Regina Maze.

O. C. Dulaney family

Connie (1937-1979) was the son of Frank and Bessie Furr Dulaney. He married Opal Geer. Both of them lived all their lives in the Dry Ridge area. Connie worked in the timber and was killed when overcome by carbon monoxide fumes near his home. They were parents of seven children: Paul, Larry, Robert, Connard, Tony, Rose Lott and Peggy.

Dulin family

The Dulins came from Ireland in the latter part of the 16th century. John, the great-grandfather of Albert Dulin, served in the Revolutionary War in 1775 from the state of Virginia. John Dulin's son John came to Wirt County; his son, John, who was born in 1824, married Nancy Rusk. Their children: Albert, Brainard, George, Charley, Elizabeth. John and Nancy are buried in Elizabeth Cemetery.

In 1905, this family moved to Ritchie County, first settled near Macfarlan, later moving to Cisco, spending the remainder of their lives in the vicinity of Petroleum. Grandfather was a prosperous farmer. They are buried in the Pribble Cemetery. The children were Charles Walker, Albert Franklin, Clarissa (Calla) Myrtle, Anna Maude and Florence.

Albert had married Elizabeth Redding--who was a native of Pennsylvania--in 1871. The two sons and one daughter, Myrtle, remained in Wirt County.

Clarissa married Ernest Frederick of Hazelgreen.

Anna Maude married Shirley Pribble, carpenter and farmer of Cisco. To this union was born one son, Wayne, who married Marjorie Pribble.

Florence married Forest Pribble, brother of Shirley. (The two brothers owned a large farm in partnership near Petroleum). To this union were born two daughters. Marjorie Kuhn who still lives near Rusk and Mary Virginia, who married French Smith and lives in the home located at the forks of the Cisco-Cairo and Petroleum roads.

--from article by Marjorie Kuhn

Grace Davis

Grace was the daughter of Charles F. and Agnes Putnam. She and her husband, Clifford Davis, lived in Doddridge County. After the death of her husband, Grace and several of her children moved to Buffalo Run in 1937. She moved into the home of her parents. Her mother was up in years and she came to help care for her. Some of the children were settled before she moved to Buffalo, those being Alfred, Oscar, Bernard and James. The other children moved with her:

Blonde (1914-1984) married Frank Heldreth, also deceased. She had two children, Pauline and Franklin.

Alice married Kermit Farr and lives in the Walker area.

H. T. married Opal Waggoner from Dry Ridge and lives in the Vienna area.

Howard served several years in the military, married Faye Kirk and lives at Washington.

Diora married Harvey Metz and lives at Petroleum.

Woodrow married Wilma Boston and lives at Petroleum.

Nannie Lou Tenny lives in Ohio.

Diora, Woodrow and Nannie Lou went to school at Dry Ridge; the family attended the Buffalo Methodist Church.

--by Howard Davis

Frank Dulaney family

Frank, born in 1889, was the son of John and Mary Cain Dulaney. He married Bessie Furr in 1915. She was the daughter of John W. and Emma Deem Furr. Frank, along with his son, Haley, was drowned in Hughes River, October 1968. Bessie continued to live on Dry Ridge until her death in 1980 at the age of 82 years. They were the parents of nine children: Haley was born in 1919; Russell, born in 1917, married Edith Foutty and lived in Akron. Russell died in 1976. He and Edith had a son, Steven, and a daughter, Suellen, who married John Palumbo. Their daughter, Jo Ann attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and spent eight weeks recently in Russia. She is majoring in languages. Frank's son, Charles Donald, married Molly Rothwell and lives in Akron; they have one daughter, Mary Neha; Edward Marvin (Bob) born in 1934, died in 1982 in a timber accident. He married Nancy Robinson and had two children:

Mike, who owns the homeplace, and Lisa. Another son, Ernest, died as an infant in 1924; Merlyn, born in 1932; Oral Conrad (Connie) born in 1936, died in 1979; Evagene, born in 1929, married Charles Sellers; Genevieve, born in 1927, married David Darber. Evagene has one daughter, Pam.

Frank was a farmer and lived all his life in the Dry Ridge and Rusk area. He raised his family in the home where he was born.

--by Edith Foutty Dulaney

Who has attended a "box social?" After school started in the fall, these socials were common. The money was used for various things for the school. There were fish ponds, cake walks, guessing games (how many beans or buttons in a jar). The guess cake was always a big attraction. Someone in the area would bake a cake and put something under the cake. A clue would be given as to what it was. A person would pay a nickel or dime to guess on the cake. In one social I remember very well, the guess cake had a hair carefully wrapped and put on the plate under the cake. The clue: "something found on every person." Can you imagine paying to get a cake with a hair in it?

Another attraction was the boxes. The ladies would decorate a box and pack enough food in it for two people. Crape paper was used in most of the boxes. It was kept a secret to whom the box belonged. Lots of times the fellow who bought the box opened it to see with whom he would eat. Of course, all tried to get the box fixed by his favorite lady of the evening. Like most secrets, word would leak out, and the owner of the box was known, and sometimes a young man paid several of his hard-earned dollars to get the box he wanted. There were cake walks and many other ways to make a few dollars for the school. Parents came and helped, and the mothers baked cakes, pies and other goodies in order to help out with the project of the hour. People would go for several miles to attend one of these functions.

Raymond E. Dulaney family

Raymond was the son of James C. and Ella Hartleben Dulaney. He was born in 1898, and died in 1980. He married Evelyn Weaver, born at Petroleum, but left the area when

young and worked for the B & O and later moved to Florida. There were several children: Raymond, Roger, Robert, Leora Weinrich, all in Florida. Richard, David, Rosalyn Kerns, Betty Jean Donahue and James and Donna both deceased.

James Lee Dulaney family

Lee was the son of Alexander and Matilda Lemon Dulaney. Born in 1882, he married Bina Harold, died in 1972. Bina was the daughter of Ulysses Grant and Kathryn Swadley Harold. They lived at Rusk; he was a blacksmith, rig builder and operated the store for several years, living in part of the building. Lee died in 1961. He and Bina were parents of three children:

Howard was killed in an automobile accident near Canton in 1976 at the age of 62 years. He was coming home to enjoy his retirement.

Alexander Dexter--"A. D.," as we called him--is married and lives in Baltimore.

Elizabeth West lives in Ohio. She and A. D. still visit at Rusk at the old homeplace. The parents are buried at the Lewis Cemetery.

Jack Evans family

Jack was a sawmill man--a good one. Some of the people who were cutting timber in the area of Ellis Run got him to come and work on the saw mill. He lived on Ellis Run with his family. The family moved to the area sometime after 1900. One son, Fred, went to Akron to work around the late teens. Grace married Lee Sprout; Jackie was the youngest, and there was a daughter, Emma. Jack is remember as one of the best in his field of operating a sawmill.

Daniel Eddy family

Daniel was born in 1828 and died in 1918. He was the son of David and Sarah Ellen Eddy. This family settled in Virginia. Daniel had two brothers, Nimrod and William, and two sisters, Sarah Ellen and Alberta.

Daniel married Mary Ann Buchannon in 1848. Mary Ann was born in 1830. After the Union Army burned their home, she contracted pneumonia and died in 1870. The children of Daniel and Mary Ann were: Sarah Ellen, born in 1849, married Dixie John Cain; Martha Jane, born in 1852; William Thomas, born in 1853, married Mary Frances Braden; Elvia Ann, born in 1856, married John James; David Leroy, born March 1857, married Ellen Mae Lemon; James Noah, born in 1860, married Jemima Bell Linch; Rebecca, born in 1862, married Marcellas Valentine; Daniel, born in 1866, married Emma Alice Heaton. Mary Ann, born in 1868, married Benjamin Franklin Null; Daniel's second wife was Rose Ann Jenkins (1838-1936). Their children were: Lucy Ellen, born in 1870, married John Deem; Nimrod (Bud), born in 1874, married Blenda Valentine; Robert Lee (Growl), born in 1875, married Mary Augusta Welch; Richard Enoch (Dick),

born in 1877, married first wife Nile Moore, second wife was Katie Welch; Andrew Jackson (Jack), born in 1878, married first wife, Viola Trader, second wife Charlotte Cline; Akna Akmurta, born in 1881, married Walter Tiffiner; Alice Evelyn, born in 1883, married Charles Ambrose Welch. There were 17 children in both families.

Daniel Eddy was a Confederate in the Civil War. He was called Red Horse because of his red beard. He lived nine days on three ears of corn that he took from a mule. He was with General Lee at Appomattox on April 9, 1865.

Daniel and Mary lived on Dry Ridge where their house burned. She is buried in the Dry Ridge Cemetery. One of their children is buried here, the marker reads Sarah Eddy, daughter of D. & M. Eddy, died 11-4-55, age 6 years, 3 months and 8 days.

--dates, etc., from Ritchie History

Herbert Everly family

Herbert (1878-1928) was the son of Lewis B. and Martha Everly. He married Rosa Swearingon. Rose, born in 1891, was a teacher in the Eatons and Freeport communities for many years. She died in 1979; altogether she taught school for 35 years. She was the daughter of Frank and Bertha Sprout Swearingon. They had three children: Virginia McCutcheon who taught school for several years; Herbert, who resides in Cincinnati; and David who lives in Baltimore.

Odie Full

Odie was a well-known saw mill operator in the Dry Ridge and Goose Creek area. He worked on a number of the mills at the time that the timber business was flourishing in the vicinity.

John Fox

Fox Run off Dry Ridge is named for this man. He lived here for several years. It was said he had Indian blood in his veins. He and Jake Pickenpaugh lived in the area about the same time. One of these men fell over a cliff on Fox Run and was killed. Records are not available as to which one had this mishap.

--related by Bert L. Foutty

Fultz family

Alston Fultz was born in Burning Springs in 1884. He died in Akron in 1964. His parents were Samuel Sailor Fultz and Laura Bell Gross Fultz. Alston grew up in Wirt County and attended school at Freeport, which included classes first through the sixth grades.

During his young adult life, the oil field was in production, and he became proficient in many craft trades, such serving him well later in life. He worked as a rig builder, carpenter, blacksmith, oil well driller, machinist and a farmer.

Arlie Viola Cain was born in Petroleum in 1888, the daughter of David Vanduer Cain and Clarinda Evelyn Roberts Cain. She died in Akron in 1962. Arlie's family moved to Freeport while she was still a small girl. She attended school at Freeport and Flatwoods. Arlie did not start to school until she was nine years old, because of frail health as a young girl. She started to school with a brother, Isaac, and they had a long distance to walk.

Alston and Arlie told of their courting days, which had all the excitement of romance and drama.

The proposal of marriage and engagement was the most memorable. As the two walked home late one evening from a school social with a group of young people, Alston dropped an engagement ring in Arlie's apron pocket. The ring was not found until much later, after all the young people had gone home.

Alston and Arlie were married in Elizabeth in the Old Kanawha Hotel July 2, 1906 by Rev. H. M. Law, minister of the M. E. Church. The witnesses were: Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Fultz, Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Cain and an aunt, Mrs. Mary C. (Mollie) Roberts Adamson.

During their early married life, Alston worked in the oil fields, logging in the river and building bridges. One bridge that is still in use today, and was a great source of pride to him, is located across the Hughes River at Freeport on Route 47.

Alston and Arlie's first home was near the California House on Route 47, two miles below Cisco. They moved a little later to Flatwoods where they purchased a small farm overlooking the Gooseneck on Hughes River. Four children were born here: Harold Selwin, Gerald Keith, Laura Evelyn and William Herman.

In 1914, the family moved to Smithville where four children were born: Elizabeth June, Alston Gayle, Beulah Bernadine and Dorr Carrol.

Alston worked for the Hope Gas Company as a machinist in the maintenance shop for ten years.

It was during this time the family lived in Smithville, that a great transformation came into the lives of Alston and Arlie and all the children. The Baptist Church in the community became the focal point. The family became Christians and involved themselves in many aspects of church life. Gospel music was to play an important part and influence their lives. Alston was a bass singer in the church quartet that was in demand at all the community gatherings.

The family moved to Akron in 1920 where Alston was employed by the Goodyear Rubber Company. Nina Madolen was born here. In 1925, the family returned to Flatwoods where Naoma Ruth and Lois Emogene were born.

The journey from Akron was made in a 1923 Ford flatbed truck. The roof and sides were of canvas with benches for seating. The trip began at 9:00 a.m. and arrived at Walker station at 2:00 the next morning. A campfire was built and the family prepared to camp for the night. Shortly thereafter, the B & O train came through with a very loud whistle, and the small children became frightened. The truck was repacked and the journey continued to Flatwoods.

--from Wirt County account submitted by Selwin, Evelyn, Gayle, Beulah, Nina, Naoma
and Lois

George W. Foutty

George (born in 1877), the son of Hosier D. and Elizabeth Foutty, lived in the Freeport area all his life. He married Violet Cowan, born in 1877. George was a bridge contractor, working on the covered bridge at Cisco and also on the McKinney bridge near Cairo. He farmed in later life. A niece of Violet's, Jessie Muir, was raised in their home. George died in 1956; she in 1945, and both are buried at the IOOF Cemetery in Cairo.

Foutty family

The Foutty's came to the Freeport area early in the 1800s. They were of Spanish descent. They married into the Darnell, Jackson and Deems family. William Foutty, born in 1789, married Mary Deem in 1816; they were the parents of George W. Foutty, who married a German girl named Wilhelmina Darnell. The family had a large tract of land consisting of several hundred acres. One of the family members was Tucker Bill Foutty, a large red-headed man who lived near Elizabeth but was a frequent visitor to the area. George W. and Wilhelmina had a son named William O., who married Josephine Lemon; to this union four children were born: Charles, William, Bert W. and Mabel. William purchased land on Dry Ridge from the Sharpnack family and gave much of this land to his sons, who built houses and raised families. William O. was a farmer, clearing the ground and raising crops. He was a sickly sort of a man and died in his early 70s. The census of 1880 shows W. O. and Josephine Foutty living in the area with two children: CGM, age 5, and Alburtus, age 3; these are the two children many of us remember today, Bert and Charlie.

Hosier Foutty and his wife, Elizabeth, had two children: George W. and Mary Ivy Ratcliff. George married Violet Cowan. Robert, another son of George W. and Wilhelmina, married Fannie Marshall and lived in the area. Robert (1858-1948) and Fannie (1865-1950).

Bert remembered watching the school house being built. Material was hauled in with mules. A man by the name of Mullinex cut chimney liner stones for this log schoolhouse. In later years, William and Josephine moved into the California House and ran it for a

few years--there were stories about the ghosts and goblins that inhabited the house but in general the boys did not remember seeing any.

--by Bert L. Foutty

Charlie Foutty family

Charlie married Addie Fluharty and lived almost all of his married life on Dry Ridge. Addie's father was Lewis Fluharty, who was in the Civil War--Co. A, 15 Regt., West Virginia Infantry. They had one son, Merritt, who attended the Dry Ridge School. He went to Ohio, married, and he and his wife, Violet, had two children: one son, Fred, and one daughter, Diana Rice. Charlie (1875-1949), Addie (1877-1952). Merritt died in 1983 and his wife one year earlier in 1982. There are few survivors from this family. Charlie worked in the oil fields and farmed.

William B. Foutty family

Willie (1881-1933), as he was known, lived all his life in the area. He married Lessie Null, daughter of Emery and Nancy Phelps Null. He was an oil field worker and lived on Dry Ridge in the Harbert property. They were the parents of four children, who attended the Dry Ridge School:

Chester, born in 1919, married Ocie Mullens (1920-1983). They had one daughter, Donna Johnson Connolly. Chester lives in Coolville.

Carl, born in 1921, married Virginia Keefer and lives in Ohio. They are the parents of six children: Raymond C., born in 1948; Roy D., born in 1950; Judy Steiner, born in 1952; Danny L., born in 1954; Susan Taylor, born in 1956; and Rick A., born in 1956. Carl and Virginia have nine grandchildren.

Mildred Smith, the oldest daughter, lives in the Coolville area.

Mable B. Sanderson (1927-1980) had two children: Carol Barr and Dianne Talbott.

After the death of Willie, Lessie married Cecil Waggoner. They now live in Tacoma, Wash. They were parents of two children, Delorse West and Lloyd Waggoner.

The Bert W. Foutty family

Bert, born in 1877, married Sophia Headley, born in 1897, and they lived all their married life on Dry Ridge near the school house. Bert worked in the oil fields, did farming and had a mill near his home. Sophia was a niece to Addie who was married to Bert's brother, Charlie. Bert and Sophia were the parents of four children: Andrew, Edith, Ruby and Bert Lathrop.

Andrew D. married Madeline Beha and lived in the area, also operated a grocery store near Walter. Andrew owns the Goff farm near Petroleum but lives in Vienna. He and Madeline have eight children: Roger, Shirley, Karen, Debbie, Leslie, Randy, Angie and Dwaine who was killed in 1976 at the age of 24 years.

Edith married Russell Dulaney. They lived in the area but moved to Ohio and lived there. Edith has recently moved to Belpre. They were parents of two children, Steven and Suellen. Russell died in 1976, born in 1917.

Ruby married Denver Beha and lives at Kanawha. They are parents of 3 children: Larry, Mark and Sherrie. Larry has two boys: Justin and Nathan, and Sherrie has two: Jeremy and Jason.

Bert L. married Janice Martin and lives at Washington; they are parents of three children, Gregg, Carolyn and Douglas. Gregg and his wife, Kelly, have three children: Jamie, Jessica and Bert Andrew. Carolyn married Fred Fenton and has one daughter, Amy.

Doug is not married and lives at home.

Bert and Sophia are buried at Dry Ridge Cemetery, near where they lived all their life and raised their family.

--by Bert L. Foutty

The Dry Ridge School stood nearby to the Bert Foutty residence. All the water was carried from here that was used at the school house. It always seemed like on the hottest days was when we ran out of drinking water.

Geer family

Mr. Geer moved with his wife, Julia Francis Williams Geer, from Mayberry in Wirt County. They lived on Buffalo Run for several years. Sometime in the 1930s, the family moved to the Rogers farm near where the Buffalo School stood. Mr. Geer worked in the coal mines, was killed at this work and is buried at Camden-on-Gauley.

Five children of this union lived to adults:

Nina Francis (1885-1980) married Joseph Bumgarner and lived for several years at Palestine. She had nine children: Mildred Sellers, Ann Thorne, Hazel Casto, Marie Posey, Beulah Cook (deceased), Hoyt, Basil, Roma, Ted and Carroll D., who died in 1984 at the age of 47 years. Nina and Joe are buried at Elizabeth.

James Lawrence married Grace Boston.

Pearly H. (1900-1962) married Ernestine Tennant and lived in Parkersburg. They have four children: Kenneth, Nina Collett, Isabelle Beagle and Thelma Keller. Ernestine is deceased.

Clara married Delson Thorne and is deceased.

Clarence married Mable Pribble and lives in Parkersburg.

--by Clarence F. Geer

James Lawrence Geer family

Lawrence (1909-1979) married Grace Boston, the daughter of L. V. and Belle Boston. They lived and raised their family on Buffalo Run and Dry Ridge. Lawrence was a retired minister at the time of his death. Grace resides in Parkersburg. They were parents of six children:

Dorse Franklin died in 1981; he lived in Ohio. Olin Martin lives in Ohio; Anna Marie Wilson; Sylvia Zinn; Ruth VanFossen; Opal Belle married Connie Dulaney and lives at Petroleum.

Clell Gaines

Lived in the Freeport area. At one time he lived on the Cain farm at Deems Ford.

Clarence F. Geer family

Clarence moved with his family to the Cisco area when he was very young. His first school was Flint Run. The family moved to the Buffalo Run area and Clarence attended the Buffalo School with his future wife. Clarence was married to Mable Pribble Leep (1893-1984) in August 1930. They lived for many years on the Pribble farm, moving to Parkersburg in the 1930s. He and Mable operated the Division Street Grocery for over twenty years. He is now active with his garden, living in the North End section of Parkersburg.

Mable had two children by her former marriage to Everett Leep (deceased).

Oral, her son, married Dolores Jackson and now lives in Illinois. Rosalie, her daughter, was first married to Bill Cunningham, second marriage to Bob Johnson (both deceased). She is now married to Adrean Chamness and lives at Hammett, California.

Clarence and Mable had one son, Rodney, who married Dorothy Mullins. He and Dorothy have two children, Mark and Traci, and live in Parkersburg.

Two fellows from Buffalo Run by the name of Orb and Russell nearly froze to death one night waiting for a chance to turn a horse loose that Clarence was riding. He had a date

with Mable, crossed the river and was putting the horse in the barn for a while. He heard some voices and recognized them, knowing someone was up to no good. With the use of his spotlight, he kept the light on them hiding in the bushes along the river bank. They admitted later what they intended to do.

Clarence carried mail for a while on the Petroleum route and farmed when he lived at Cisco. He and Mable attended the Buffalo Church.

--by Clarence F. Geer

Josh Greene

Josh lives in the Dry Ridge area on the Sharpnack place near Freeport.

L. L. Gill family

The Leaman Gill family moved to Cisco about 1920 from Harrisville. Leaman Lionel Gill and Jessie Ellen Nutter Gill bought 250 acres on the corner of the Petroleum and Cairo-Cisco road. He was a very good farmer and raised 12 children:

Pearl married Fleet Cox, and they too had twelve children. She lives at West Union, Doddridge County.

Deloris Fay married Hugh Mathers and had five children. She later married a Mr. Corbitt. Deloris died very suddenly in October 1984.

Blair W. married Othello Bryant of Rusk. He was living in Florida when he died very suddenly.

Phyllis E. married Hobert Sharpe, died in 1981, while living in Florida. Helen Ada married Roscoe Hardman and had five children. Helen has been dead for several years.

Jennings W. married Wilma Ditto and lived near Berkeley Springs; both are deceased. They had one son, Bill.

Blaine married Betty Dillman and lived in Kingfisher, Oklahoma. They were parents of two children. Blaine and Betty are both deceased.

Evelyn married Paul Gary and lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They are parents of three girls.

Mary Wilson lives in Akron and has two sons.

Paul married Mary Depolla and has two sons. They live in Ohio.

Carl and Sophia have two girls and live in Leesburg, Florida.

Elodene married Ed Lyons, has five children and lives in Chandler, Arizona.

Mr. Gill was a hard worker. All the children went to the Buffalo School and to the Buffalo Methodist Church. Everyone walked in those days, about 1 1/2 miles to school and the store. The grocery store was owned by the Gills until about 1925. It was sold to Charlie Marshall. The depression came and Dad went to work for the WPA and later worked for the State Road Commission. He helped the neighbors and friends. That large farm gave out a lot of fruit and vegetables. A maple tree grove made lots of syrup every year. We had horses, cattle, hogs and sheep. Those were the good old days. Everyone was happy and nice and friendly. Later came the war; all five sons, five nephews and five cousins were in the service. They were all in the Navy but came home safe and sound. After coming home, they spread out all over the United States, East and West.

The Gills moved to Cantwell Ridge. Mother had a stroke and died in 1942 at the age of 58 years. My dad lived to be 90 years old, died at Berkeley Springs, near his son, Jennings, in 1969.

I remember a spot on the hill above our house that I would like to know a lot more about. The ground was full of flint arrow heads. I remember going there as a kid and we children had a jar full of these arrowheads we had found at this spot. I am sure before the Gill children arrived there were Indian children living on this spot.

--Mary Gill Wilson

J. Warren Goff family

Mr. Goff lived on the Petroleum hill on what was then known as the McGinnis farm. He moved there from Hazelgreen. He was the son of Joseph H. and Virginia Buzzard Goff. His father was a M. E. minister and had another son, Floyd, and daughter, Alice Summers.

Mr. Goff married Ann Jackson and raised an adopted daughter, Emogene Lawson. Their farm was part of a large tract of land first owned by the Rutherford family. Mr. Goff married the second time to Dora Kirkpatrick who was the mother of four children. She and the children moved to the farm and the children attended the Petroleum school as well as Cairo High School. The children were Susan Vincent, Donald, Homer and John. The farm is now owned by Andrew Foutty.

Thomas J. Griffith family

Thomas (Jack) married Phoebe Jane Adams (1872-1963). The children went to both the Nelson and Jackson schools. After the death of his father, Cecil moved his mother to Parkersburg in 1941. She was living here when she died. They were parents of several children: Raymond G., Clinton G., Rose Bennett, Bertha, Eda Price, Elva Martin and Cecil (1910-1963), who died three months before his mother's death.

Link Gilmer

Link lived in the Dry Ridge area. His home was adjoining the property of the Sharpnack Church.

Amos George family

Records were lacking on this family. The 1880 census shows the family living on Dry Ridge. Some idea of the ages of this family: the census lists Amos as 50 years old, Lydia, his wife, as 40 years; four children: Silas B., 18 years; Harriett A., 15 years; Martin V. B., 14 years; and Olive, 12 years. The farm where they lived is referred to at the present time as the Amos George Place.

David H. Gordon family

Dave Gordon (1847-1895) lived at Petroleum. The family operated what was known as the Gordon Hotel in later years. He married Jennie E. Cox, a daughter of Rufus and Elizabeth Cox of Goose Creek. They were married in December 1869. They had five daughters, Anna Grace, born in 1870, married Valentine Hill; Ella Pearl married a Becker (believed to be some relative of Anna's husband); Mattie Cox (1883-1890) is buried beside her dad at the Freeport Cemetery; Elizabeth never married; and Berta Jane (1877-1932) married Ralph C. Jackson and lived at Petroleum. Ella was born in 1872. Elizabeth lived all her life (1880-1938) in Petroleum. Jennie was born in 1851, and lived at the Masonic Home in Parkersburg for several years before her death in February 1948.

Jim Harbert family

In the early 1890s, Jim came from Harrison County. His father bought the Anthony Sharpnack property--52 acres--for him. He married Grace from Standing Stone in Wirt County. Her father bought the Hiram Sharpnack farm--62 acres--for her. Their children were Nathan, Howard, Clara, Edna, Charlie, Walker, Lucy, Okey, Tom and Little Joe who died at two years of age. The family lived in Hiram's house until 1917, when they built a large house along the mail route. Clara married Joyce Hiram Tennant and moved to the Clarksburg vicinity where he worked for the coal mines. Edna married Dan Tennant and they moved to Wheeling where he worked in the steel mills. Jim and Grace separated in 1919, and the other children moved away with their mother before they married. Charlie was wounded in World War II. Bill Foutty and his wife, Lessie, later lived in the house.

--by Ann Daubenspeck

Robert Hartleben family

Robert and his wife, Elizabeth, lived on Dry Ridge. He was born about 1834, and she in 1833. They were of German descent. At that time, there were high and low German lineages. Bob was supposedly of the high descent and his wife of the low descent,

depending on where they lived. In the 1880 census there were 6 children, these being the ones living in the family home: Walter, age 21; Henry, age 16; Ella, age 14; Willie, age 11; Melvina, age 8; and Isabelle, age 6.

--by Bert L. Foutty, from what his father related to him

Walter Hartleben family

Bill (1859-1949) married Lilly Belle Williams (1862-1943) and lived at Petroleum most of his life. One of their sons, Harry, born at Petroleum in 1890, married Arena Maude Riddle. He lived in Parkersburg and worked for the B & O. Harry died in 1983; Arena in 1972.

Aubrey Hardesty family

Aubrey (Orb) married Hazel Cox, and they moved into a house built on two acres of Hazel's homeplace, the ground given to her by her father. Hazel and Aubrey lived on Buffalo Run for several years, and three children were born to them: Marjorie married Clay Hall and lives in Virginia; Mary married Robert McMillian and lives in Baltimore; Thomas and his wife, Dorothy, live in the Baltimore area.

Orb was born in 1905 and died very suddenly with a heart attack in 1979. Hazel lived in West Union for several years and after coming to Parkersburg she married Robert Brown (1890-1979). Hazel, born in 1903, is in good health at this time and lives in Virginia Beach to be near her daughter.

Marshall Hardesty family

The Hardesty family moved to Rice Run around 1907 from Gypsy Grove in Marion County. Marshall married Estella Tucker and worked in the coal mines before coming to Ritchie County. Charles, Elizabeth, Blanche and Aubrey were born in Marion County. Beatrice, Beulah and Leslie were born after the family moved to Rice Run on Buffalo Run Road. Leslie remembers his father working for Mr. Wanger, whom he thought lived at the Cox place.

Charles (1895-1982) lived at West Union, first marriage to Orpha Shinn, second marriage to Jessie Smith, who died about a month before Charlie.

Elizabeth, born in 1898, married S. W. (Dell) Kerns and lived in Cairo. Dell died in 1981 and she in 1967.

Blanche, born in 1899, married Guy Thomas. They lived in the Goose Creek area for a time. She died in 1984.

Aubrey, born in 1905, married Hazel Cox, first marriage; second to Georgia Sharp, who died in 1977, two years before Orb's sudden death.

Beatrice, born in 1910, was first married to Elza Moats and lived at Rusk. Her second marriage was to James Calihan, who is a Baptist minister.

Beulah, born in 1913, married Edgar Wilson and later married Benjamin Reed.

Leslie, born in 1915, married Alice Lamm, died in 1982. He lives in Parkersburg and is enjoying retirement.

The Hardesty family left Buffalo Run about 1929 or in the early 1930s.

--by Leslie (Jr.) Hardesty

Charles F. Heater family

Charles (1876-1960) and his wife, Ida Myrtle Fultz Heater, three children (Thelma, Clyde and Ralph), and Charles' mother, Mary M. Heater, came by boat from Burnsville in Braxton County to Elizabeth near Cisco in 1911. They bought and moved onto what was the Dulin farm. While living there at Cisco, they had four more children: Charles, Fred, Mary and Gay. They bought a farm at Petroleum from Rutherfords and built a house on Ellis Run. They moved to this farm in March 1921. In March 1922, Roy was born. All the children went to the Fairview School. Mary, Gay and Roy graduated from Cairo High School.

Altogether there were eight of us children:

Thelma, born in 1907, married Ewing Minear in 1924. They had one son, William Alvin Minear. Ewing died in 1940 and Thelma married Leslie Tatterson in 1947. Thelma died in 1978.

Clyde, born in 1908, married Esta Burdette in 1929 and had three sons: Basil, Delmer and Beryl. Clyde died in 1982.

Ralph, born in 1909, married Addie Spears, and they had three children: John Ralph, Ada and Mary Lou. Ralph was killed in 1946 by a streetcar. Addie, born in 1917, died at the age of 49 years in 1969.

Charles, born in 1911, married Irene Buchanan in 1935. They had two children, Charles Ewing and Anita Kay. Charles died in 1970.

Fred, born in 1913, married Kathryn Sellers in 1949. They have two children, Ruth Virginia and Frederick Paul, Jr.

Mary, born in 1915, married Franklin Dale (Jim) Spears in 1939. They have three children: Nancy Louis Putnam, Myrtle Thelma Metz, and Franklin Dale, Jr. Jim died in 1984.

Gay married Leo Epler in 1938. They live in Parkersburg and have three children: Dorothy, Robert and Eleanor.

Roy, born in 1922, married Margaret Casto and lives in Michigan.

--by Mary Heater Spears

The Hess family

The Hess family lived near Cisco and the children all attended the Nelson and Jackson schools. Many of us will remember French for his pranks he liked to play. For several months the young men in the community took on great courage to go and visit their girlfriends on Saturday nights. There was a wolverine in the woods. French had heard it many times, and several of the young men had made good time getting home some nights, the sound of the howl was so close to them. This went on for several weeks, until someone, somehow, got suspicious of the big yarn and began to investigate. The wolverine was a tin coffee can, with some hairs from the tail of French's horse resined well. If you don't think this will raise the hair on your own head, try this sometime. There were two other children in the family, David and Hazel.

Tom Headley family

Tom and his wife, Nora, spent several months with the Bert Foutty family. Mrs. Foutty was their niece. He helped cut pulp wood in the 1930s.

Jewell Headley

Jewell visited in the Dry Ridge area often. He was a brother to Sophia Foutty. His home was near Creston, but he spent a lot of time around the Foutty home and attended many functions in the community.

George Hall

George lived in the Dry Ridge area and was a driller at the time the wells were being drilled on the Daubenspeck place.

Hewitt family

The Hewitts lived in the Freeport and Eatons area, and all were descendants of Edgar Hewitt who came from England in 1630. John Hewitt (1752-1850) had a son, Joseph, born in the late 1700s. Joseph had a son, Carey Breckenridge (born in 1841), who married Mary Elizabeth Briggs. They were parents of ten children, several of whom lived in the vicinity.

Laura married Frank Sharpnack and moved to Delaware. She was born in 1871.

Alonza, born in 1873, married Lovie Howell from Goose Creek. Lovie died young in 1910 and is buried at the Dry Ridge Cemetery. He married the second time to Hannah Moran and moved to Moundsville.

John Edgar, born in 1874, left home when he was eighteen and was never heard from after that.

Marion, born in 1876, married and moved to Ohio.

Icey Elma, born in 1878, married Calvin Trembly and lived many years in the area.

Ira, born in 1880, married Minnie Howell and lived in Wood County.

Katherine, born in 1881, married William Harper and moved to Ohio.

Calvin, born in 1882, married Fannie Harper and lived at Walker.

Frank, born in 1884, married Ida Howell and lived at Eatons. Their children were Woodrow, Mildred, Wilma, Bessie, Minnie, Mary, Belva, Helen, Betty, Tom and Harold.

Mabel, born in 1885, married Olandis Craven and lived at Walker.

Andrew Hill family

Andrew L. Hill, born in 1891, was the son of George W. and Emma Dulin Hill. He married Mabel Foutty in October 1914. They lived on Dry Ridge for many years, living at the California House. In the late 1920s the family moved to Cairo to be closer to Andrew's work. He worked for the Nollen Oil Company for 53 years. He and Mabel had three children:

Leona lives in Pennsylvania.

Marie married Warren McCormick and lives in Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Preston died in 1974 at the age of 48 years. He married Dorothy D'Zamba and they were parents of three children: Preston Randall, Rebecca and Emma. Mabel died in 1955 in Pennsylvania and Andrew in 1978.

--by Bert L. Foutty

Jacob and Violet Hill family

Jake, as he was known, lived in the Racy-Gillespie area. The family attended the Buffalo Methodist Church. There were several children: William L. died in 1975; Aaron lived near Clarksburg; Austin; Lloyd was married to Mary Bennett and lived in the area most of his life. Ernest is still living in the area, married to Florence Cain.

William P. Hickman

Bill (1875-1955) and Hattie lived all their life in the Petroleum community. They did not have children. Hattie, born in 1874, came to the Masonic Home in Parkersburg after Bill's death where she lived until 1961. They are buried at the Petroleum Cemetery.

Jacob Hornish family

Jacob and Harriett Moyer Hornish lived in the Petroleum area. They had four children who were teachers:

Kate married Edward Samples and taught school all her life.

Minnie married H. I. Shears.

Mary (Molly) married David L. Beckner and lived in the Rusk area.

Chris (1877-1961) married Olive Sees.

The teachers in this family taught both in Ritchie and Wirt County.

Vint Hissem

Vint was originally from the Cairo area. He lived in the house formerly occupied by Charles and Jane Nelson near the Dry Ridge Road on Route 47. He was an oil field worker.

Everett Holbert

Everett lived in the Freeport area, married to Cora Jane Whiteman at one time, and they had a son, Clellie, who is living in Texas.

Walter E. Huffman family

Walter (1900-1974) was born in Pennsylvania. He married Grace Alice Carpenter (1892-1970). She was born at Petroleum, the daughter of Sylvester and Sarah Jane Lowther Carpenter. They spent most of their life in Parkersburg and Walter worked at the FMC Plant.

Lawrence Huffman

Lawrence and his wife, Rena, lived in the Dry Ridge vicinity and had one son, Herbert.

<p>Hugill falls</p>

As you travel on Route 47 east of Cisco a short distance, you can see a huge flag rock chimney with a wooden mantle on the right of the road on the river bank, well over a hundred years old. A man of Spanish descent by the name of John Hugill built a large two-story house here; he was a blacksmith and built a mill here on the river where there was a natural waterfall. After his death, his son-in-law, Ransom Foutty, lived here until about 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Hugill were victims of the cholera, both dying the same day, May 25, 1855. They are buried in the Freeport Cemetery.

Roy Hutchinson family

Roy and his wife, Margaret, came to Buffalo Run in May 1935. They lived here for nine years in the house built on Rice Run by James Beckner. They moved from Akron to get away from the big city. One of the sons still owns the farm on Rice Run. They were parents of ten children:

Clyde, born in 1925, was the eldest. He is in the honey bee business in the area of Parkersburg. He is active in the Honey Festival and is the man that gets the "bee beard" every year at the festival.

Marie was born in 1927; Judy is deceased; she was always a sickly child and died after they moved to Parkersburg in 1951. Other children were: Naomi, Nora, Bill, John, Nina, Lina and Dave.

Roy and Margaret live on Gihon Road. All the children live in the area near Parkersburg, except Marie and Naomi who live in Ohio; and Nora, who lives in Norfolk, Virginia.

--by Mrs. Roy Hutchinson

Juliette Hughes

Juliette was born at Petroleum, the daughter of Laura Foster and Frances J. Reilly. She lived much of her life in Parkersburg. She married John J. Hughes who died in 1939. She is remembered as working in the assessor's office in Wood County. Juliette died in 1982 and is buried at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Harry Higgins family

This was a large family who lived near Rusk, a family of nine children. Harry was born in 1864, as Henry Marcellus Higgins. She was Alice Tennant, the daughter of Adam Tennant and Harriett Littleton Tennant. Alice was born in 1876 and died in 1953. Harry died in 1947. Their children all attended school at Rusk.

Charles Noel, born in 1896, married Garnet Schoolcraft and they were parents of three children: James Edwin, Charles Lloyd and Edith. Noel died in 1946; Garnet died in 1969.

William Aubrey, born in 1898, never married and died at the family home in 1961. Ruth Edna, born in 1900, married Cecil Dulaney. They had one son, Paul. Ruth died in 1922.

Bruce Edwin, born in 1902, married Orpha Cox; they had two children, Bruce Edward and Carl Melvin. Bruce died in 1972, lived here at his homeplace all his life.

John Alfred, born in 1904, married Victor Bryant. They were parents of five children: Virginia Tanner, Ralph Edwin, Francis Smith, Laura Belle Clark and Alice Sargent.

Floyd Thomas, born in 1906, married Eloise Cantwell. They had six children: Donald Lee, Jerold, Ruth Ann, Betty Jean, Robert and Floyd Thomas.

Laura, born in 1909, married Glen Fulmer and lived most of her life in Parkersburg.

Ralph Orem, born in 1911, lived at the home place and died in 1931.

Cora Virginia, born in 1914, married Howard Weekley from Petroleum and lived several years in the Rusk community, later moving to Parkersburg.

The big two-story house that was home to the Higgins family for many years burned December 1974. In later years, Bruce built a smaller house, later a trailer on the site of the home.

--by Nancy Weekly Gates

Pascal Monroe Howell family

Monroe Howell, born in 1842, married Mary Jane Tennant from Buffalo Run in 1861. Mary Jane and Monroe were to have fifteen children. They lived on Goose Creek a short distance upstream from Freeport. Monroe's family was originally from Jackson County. They had seven daughters who grew to adulthood and raised families. One daughter, Virginia, died as a small child. A son, Adam, died when he was maybe around two years old from eating glass. Six sons died as infants. The children were as follows:

Martha, born in 1866, married Ulysses D. Cox and died in 1890 at the time her son was born.

Mary, born in 1868, married James Birch and lived at home with her mother most of her lifetime. She had two children: Opie (1900-1961) and Olive Modesitt, who died in 1984 while living in Parkersburg.

Ara Jane, born in 1870, married William Valentine and lived in the Petroleum area. Ara died in 1961 and Bill, born in 1870, died in 1937, while living at Petroleum.

Lovie, born in 1875, married Alonza Hewitt. She died in 1910 and is buried at the Dry Ridge Cemetery. Their children were Alma, Howard, Roy and Oren.

Frances, born in 1887, married Homer Modesitt in 1906. Their children were Orville, who died in 1978; James; Ethel Bradley; and Essie Adams. Homer died in 1958.

Ida (1885-1957) married Frank Hewitt. They had several children. Frank died in 1959.

Minnie, born in 1883, married Ira Hewitt, born in 1880. Their children were Elizabeth Dye, died in 1983; Janie Francis; Wana Martin; Stella Wherry; Ira D.; Burl; Harold; Robert and Clifton. (Stella, Ira and Clifton are deceased.)

Monroe, Jane and Lovie are buried at the Dry Ridge Cemetery. After the death of Frances, Homer Modesitt married Winnie Craven. Monroe was the son of Pascal W. Howell and Eliza Marple, married in 1831 in Lewis County. After the death of her husband, Eliza married William Thrash of Petroleum and is buried there (1814-1893). Monroe had several brothers and sisters: Markim, William, Jacob and Moses. The family was in Lewis County for many years.

William married Elzena Tennant from Buffalo Run, a sister of Mary Jane.

Lloyd Hill family

Lloyd, born July 1891, was the son of Jacob and Violet Hill. He married Mary Bennett, daughter of B. F. and Estella Bennett. They lived in the Racy area. The family attended the Buffalo Methodist Church and children both went to Cairo School. They had two daughters: Helen Louis married Willis Border, and Wanda Lee married E. B. Watkins.

Hawkins family

I was not able to learn much about this family, names or dates. A large family lived on the ground that is now known as Hawkins Knob; this lays between Dry Ridge and Buffalo Run. The Sulphur Springs that are mentioned elsewhere come out of the ground at the foot of this hill, coming down into Buffalo Run near where Rice Run empties into Buffalo.

William Hull family

William A. Hull (1867-1943) married Clara T. Cain (1873-1953). He was the son of Smith and Phoebe Garrison Hull, and she was the daughter of Calvin H. and Alice Hare Cain. They were married May 23, 1895, in Wirt County. This couple started housekeeping in Pittsburgh where Bill was a street car motorman. Due to his wife's health, they came back to West Virginia and moved into what was known as the California House on Route 47. In 1900 the house burned; they then moved to the Hiram Sharpnack farm and then later to the Calvin Cain farm at Flatwoods.

Around 1905, they purchased the Thorton farm on Route 47, on what was to be known in later years as Hull's Hill above Freeport. There were around one hundred acres. The house burned in May 1916. The family lived in their barn until October while a new

house was being built. They were the parents of five children: Myrtle Fern, who was a schoolteacher in the area; Anna Henrietta, who married Leslie Jackson and died at a young age, leaving two small daughters who were raised in the Hull home, Elsie and Annalee Jackson. Carl Alton and Elmer Alvon were their two sons. Agnes Josephine married Grant Marshall and lives near Cisco. They operated a store on the hill for several years.

William and Clara are both laid to rest in the Freeport Cemetery.

--by Annalee Jackson Stull

Charles Haymond family

This family lived on Buffalo Run prior to 1918 on the property which was to become known as the Cox farm; U. D. Cox purchased this in 1918. The Haymonds left the area and moved to Florida. Charles had a brother, Bill, and they were brothers to Mrs. Lenora Rogers who lived nearby. It is not known if any of the family lives in Florida at this time.

The Jackson family

This family is of Scotch-Irish origin. John Jackson, the progenitor of the family, was born near Londonderry in the North of Ireland, near the beginning of the second quarter of the 18th century and moved to London, England, when a small boy. Here he grew to manhood and in 1748, he emigrated to America and settled in Calvert County, Maryland. Here he married Elizabeth Cummins of London who crossed the water on the same ship as he came on. From Maryland they came to Upshur County where their children were born--five sons and three daughters.

One of these children was Henry Jackson, whose son, Henry Jr., came from Upshur County in 1830 and bought land from a Belt family at the North and South forks of the Hughes River. Henry Jackson (1813-1865) married Lydia Reger (1816-1877), and they are buried in the Pribble Cemetery near Cisco.

Ulysses was a son who lived in the homeplace until his death in 1912. He was born in 1850. His wife Caroline (1845-1876) and he were to have three children: Bruce of California, Floyd of Arizona and Clara Cain of Ellenboro. All three children are deceased.

Ulysses married the second time to Mary Catherine Foutty (1852-1909). She was born in the home where the chimney still stands east of Cisco on Route 47 close to the forks of the Hughes River. There were four sons and one daughter born to this union: Fremont, Ralph, Cecil, Morella and Lilly.

Cecil Jackson family

Cecil Carl was born in 1885 and died in 1948 while living at his farm near Cisco. He married Mary Louverna Lowther of Macfarlan, July 1910. There were three daughters and one son born to this union: Dolores, Dorothy, Ruth and Cecil Carl Jr.

Dorothy married Wallace Pratt and later divorced. Their children were Wallace Jr., Patricia Louis McMillian of Ohio; and Gerald Rex, who died in infancy. Dorothy has six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She lives in Parkersburg.

Mary Dolores married Oral Leep and they had three children: Oral Franklin of Vienna; John Hugh of Vienna; and Louverna Kuhn of Torch, Ohio. Dolores has eight grandchildren living, one deceased and one great-grandchild deceased. She married Raymond Hickenboatom in February, 1947; Ray died October 1971. She is now married to E. J. Hollandsworth, whom she married July 1980.

Ruth Elizabeth married Woodrow Davis and they have three children: Elizabeth Ann Darnold of North Carolina; Kathryn Sue of California; and Karen Ruth of Sandyville. Ruth and Woodie have one grandson.

Cecil Carl Jr. married Kathleen Kester and lived at the homeplace at Cisco for several years. They have one son and one daughter: Glenna Carol Williams lives at Lubeck and Cecil Charles lives at Ellenboro. They have two granddaughters.

--by Dolores Hollandsworth

Fremont Jackson family

Mont, as most everyone called him, was born in 1878 and was killed while at work on the toll bridge in Parkersburg, February 2, 1943. He married Alice Cain (1880-1954) daughter of Siotha and Lucinda Cain. They were married at her home March 29, 1899, by Rev. Henry Higgins. The Jacksons began housekeeping in 1899 near Cisco. They moved to the Garrison property on the South Fork of the Hughes River in 1901. Their house burned in April 1902 and was rebuilt in October 1902. The family moved to the Barker property at the forks of the Petroleum and Cairo-Cisco roads in 1908. He built their new home here which is still standing today. They sold this home and moved into Parkersburg in April 1924. During the time the family lived in the Cisco area, five children were born (one daughter, Mae, died as an infant):

Leslie (1902-1981) married Anna Hull (1902-1926) and had two daughters: Elsie McClung and Anna Lee Stull. These girls were raised by Anna's parents after her death. Leslie moved to Arizona and lived there the rest of his life.

Hazel B., born in 1903, married Frank Clark, died in 1971. They have one son, Ray.

Glenna M. (1912-1979) lived most of her life in Ohio.

Garnet M. (1913-1983) married Mansel (Dick) Sims. They are both deceased and were living in California for many years.

Alice is buried at the Evergreen Cemetery.

--by Hazel Jackson Clark

Morella Jackson family

Morella, born at Cisco, son of Ulysses and Mary Foutty Jackson, married Nellie Leep. They lived at the Jackson homeplace and raised their family. They attended the Buffalo Methodist Church and were active in the community.

They were parents of five children:

Genevieve married John Mackey and lived in Parkersburg. John died in 1974.

Donald married Bonnie Peters and lived in Parkersburg. They were parents of two children, Helen Carr and Donald Eugene. Don died in 1974, age 62.

Ronald, born in 1916, married Tony Little and lives at Kanawha. They are parents of five children, Steve, Michael, Sandy, Tina and Lois.

Mary Kathleen married William Gorrell and lived in Parkersburg. Bill died in 1980. Mary still lives in Parkersburg.

Bernard, born in 1922, married Evelyn Kester, and they live on part of the old Jackson homeplace. They have two children: Mark, living at the homeplace; and Kay. Morella died in December 1980 and Nellie in February 1980.

Ira Jackson family

Ira married Lelia Pribble (1884-1960). She was the daughter of Hugh and Mary Dulin Pribble of Cisco. She lived all her life in the Petroleum area. Ira died in 1949. Lelia was a charter member of the Buffalo church. Their children were: Gould, Neva, and Olin.

Gould married Edna Cain and had six children: Warren, Oren, Blaine, Jerry, Corrine Beckner, and Lilly Richards.

Olin D. Jackson married Lulu Jackson. They had four children: Lawrence, Ralph, Sue and David.

Neva married Dewey Gibson and had a son, George, and a daughter, Earless. Neva later married Charles Maze (1889-1962).

Ralph C. Jackson family

Ralph (1879-1970) married Berta Gordon (1877-1932) and lived at Petroleum. He worked in the oil fields, and, in the early days of Petroleum, he operated the livery stable. He and Berta had two children. Clyde, who was born December 5, 1915, died the same day. Mary Elizabeth, born in 1914, married Vincent Kibbee and they had one son, Gordon. Mary Elizabeth now lives in Texas and Gordon lives in Pennsylvania. Berta was burned to death at the family home in a tragic accident. Ralph later married Cora Kiger (1893-1979) in 1938, and they lived at the home in Petroleum.

Blondie W. Jackson family

Blondie (1897-1980) was the son of Irvin J. and Elizabeth Smith Jackson. He worked as a timberman, coming to the Petroleum area from Braxton County. His first marriage was to Oma Prunty (deceased); his second marriage was to Jessie McIntyre. His children included: Charles, James, Gary, Howard, Betty Dawson, Katherine Skinner, Barbara Black, Judy Lester, Elizabeth Pepper, and Mary Broce. He is buried at the McPeck Cemetery.

Wallace Jeffery

Wallace lived in the Freeport area.

Mary Edna Jenkins

Miss Edna (1881-1973), as she was known, was the daughter of Peter Jenkins (1844-1931) and Mary Jane Hall Jenkins (1848-1917). She lived all her life in the Petroleum area. She is remembered as a person with musical talent and always willing to help any young person she could to go to college and get an education. She donated a large sum of money to the Methodist College at Buckhannon, where a woman's dorm is named in her honor, known as Jenkins Hall. There were two boys in the family; her brother, Willie E., was born in 1890 and lived only one month. The other brother was James H. (1882-1938), who lived at times with Miss Edna. The family are buried in their plot in the IOOF Cemetery at Cairo.

W. R. Jenkins family

Bill, as he was known, and Susan Stanley Jenkins lived on Buffalo Run below Hawkins Knob. There were five children; two of the children lived with the family on Buffalo Run.

Arthur B. (Pete), born in 1896, went to Parkersburg and worked at the U. S. Quarry Tile and served in World War I. He died in 1960.

William (Bill), born in 1893, married Ruby Turner and lived in the area for a few years, moving to Parkersburg. He too was a World War I veteran. He and Ruby were parents of seven children. Staff Sergeant Harvey Jenkins died in the service in 1959; Kathryn Rose

married James Canfield. She died in 1984 at the age of 42. Other children are: Harlley, John, William R., David and Mary Crouser. Bill is buried at Rockland Cemetery.

William H. Jonas family

William married Ola Bunting Jonas (1872-1960), and they lived most of their lives in the Petroleum area. William died in 1942. There were four children: Cheslyn, William Jr., Mary Jonas, and Thomas who died in 1957.

James P. Jonas family

Jim was born in 1881 and died in 1970. He married Ada Hendrickson (1890-1979) and lived in the Petroleum area. There were four sons: Francis, Charles, Richard and Clarence. This couple is buried in the Petroleum Cemetery.

Marshall Jenkins family

Marshall Jenkins moved to the Cisco area around 1925 from Harrison County. He was first married to Berta Webb, and they had two children, Russell and Blanche. He later married Annie Powell, and they had six children. Marshall was the son of Alex and Ella Stanley Jenkins. The children attended both the Buffalo and Dry Ridge schools.

Russell (deceased) married Ruth Mahaney, and they operated a florist shop in Point Pleasant for a number of years.

Blanche Wright is a widow and has moved back to Parkersburg from Ohio.

Arlis (Johnnie), died in 1969, at the age of 49. Other children: Paul, Loretta, Blair, Tressie Dille, Dorothy Michaels and Ethel Holland. Marshall and Annie are buried in Ohio near where they lived.

--by Blanche Wright

Edward Jenkins family

Ed, as he was known to his friends and neighbors, lived for several years on Dry Ridge at the Cowan Place. There were several children in the family: Marion, Floyd, Harry, Ronnie and Rosalie. There may be others. The family moved to Rosemont from Dry Ridge, and Ed was killed by a car on Christmas Eve. The children were musicians.

Charles Kerns family

Charlie married Tobe Filora Wells. Tobe was the switchboard operator at Rusk for a number of years. He died in 1941, and she in 1945. They were parents of four children: Harley, Dale, Grace and Glen. Glen and his wife reside at the old homeplace on the Cairo-Cisco Road.

Flavius Bruce Kerns family

Bruce married Emma Celesta Nutter (deceased), and they lived in the Rusk area most of their lives. Emma was the daughter of George and Clara Blair Nutter. Their children were: Mildred, married to Everett Layfield; Geraldine, married to Orval Haynes; Arlean Barrett; Delbert (1908-1977); Col. Merlin, married to Loraine Enoch and lives in Virginia; Oval; and Hobart (1910-1964). Hobart was killed in a tractor-trailer accident.

Frank Kerns family

Frank moved to the Dry Ridge area with his wife, Anarha Powell Kerns from Harrison County in 1913. They purchased the Frank Sharpnack farm. Their older children--Blaine, Ellen, Bill, Harvey, Alice and Joe--were already settled and did not move with the family. They brought with them Jesse, Sherman, Rosa and Ted. The children went to the Dry Ridge School, and the family lived on here until the death of Mr. and Mrs. Kerns. This occurred within one week in July 1938--he died on the 17th, and she on the 23rd. They rest at the Pribble Cemetery. Jess, Sherman and Rosa are buried in Parkersburg at the Mt. Olivet Cemetery within sight of the graves of Alvin and Emza Daubenspeck. The Kerns heirs still own the homeplace on Dry Ridge.

--by Ursula Ann Nelson Oliver

Ernest Kerns family

Ernest (deceased) and Mae Lamm Kerns lived in the area for several years. There were several children: Donald (1925-1981) was killed in an automobile accident in Ohio. Other children were: Orville, Kenneth, Lawrence, Ernest, William, Dale, Maxine Yost, Velma Hickel and Martha Perdue.

Benjamin F. Koehnlein family

Ben married Mary Elizabeth Pratt and lived in the Petroleum area. B. F. Koehnlein (1868-1955); Mary (1880-1950) had four children: Woodrow living in Ohio; Ernest (1918-1977); Edna Brown; and Frank (1912-1974).

Andrew S. Kirkpatrick family

Andrew (1879-1962), son of Ephraim and Susanna Fridley, married Dora Goff. He was a farmer in the area. He and Dora were the parents of four children: Homer, who lives in Florida; John, born in 1920, married Lucille Koon. John died in 1979, and Lucille is also deceased. Donald married Ermalee Fisher of Cairo and lives in New Mexico; and a daughter, Susanna Vincent. Dora married the second time to J. W. Goff of Petroleum.

William J. Koenlein family

William (1916-1961) was the son of George Julius and Mary Jane Carpenter. He married Loretta Snyder and was a rural mail carrier and veteran of World War II. Bill is buried in the Elifritz Cemetery.

O. A. (Bob) Kerns family

Bob (1878-1965) was son of Thomas and Mary Maze Kerns and lived in the Rusk area. He married Nora Heck (deceased) They were parents of the following children: Arthur, Cora Grandstaff, Mabel Hickman, Lillie Haynes, and Mary Layfield.

Lemon family of the Cisco area

The Lemon clan originated in England--professors in education. They were named after the Lemon River in Devonshire, England. They came to the U. S. around the 1700s and settled in the Shenandoah Valley. The family had its beginnings in Ritchie and Wirt County when George S. Lemon hewed a canoe from a poplar log and pushed from the Shenandoah Valley up the Kanawha and Hughes River to Cisco on the North and South Fork of the Hughes River about 1790. He dug salt pits near where the California House stood and boiled the water down to make salt. Oil came up in the salt pits. At the time it was a nuisance--they would put wool blankets in the pit and wring them out to get the oil. They put the oil in jars and took it to Cincinnati where they sold it for \$5.00 a pint, calling it rock oil. George drilled the first oil well in Ritchie County about 1920. Goerge also drilled the first oil well with a spudder. He used a 1916 Model T motor for his power and drilled several wells around the Deem Ford. Some were 600 feet deep. George was married to Nancy Tilden of Virginia. He died in December 1865, and she in 1871. Both are laid to rest at the cemetery at Cisco.

There are several branches of the Lemon family; some settled near the Cisco-Freeport area, some at Macfarlan. It was in the 1930s that some of the same family started a quarry on the Buffalo Run road and quarried out limestone, and it was sold and distributed as a very good grade of agriculture lime.

Joseph Landis

Joe (1873-1946) made his home at the James P. Beckner home. He started working for Mr. Beckner as a cook for a sawmill gang. After the sawmill work was finished, he stayed on with the family. He was born at Murphytown, son of Jacob and Nancy Kirk Landis. He died of pneumonia. Many who read this will remember Joe and his black-and-white bulldog that he was so fond of and called Lottie.

George S. Lemon

George married Laura Roberts and lived all his life in the Freeport area. They had several children, some who married and remained in the area and raised their families. They were Edwin, Esther, Howard, John, Ralph, Grace, Anna and Hazen.

Edwin (1907-1964) married Anna and lived in the Freeport area, later moving to Parkersburg. Their children were: Major Robert E. Lemon (1929-1979). Robert spent his life in the military and is the author of a very interesting book, *My West Virginia Diary*, telling about his childhood in and around Freeport. He was living in Colorado at the time of his death, leaving five children: Robert, Michael, Carolyn Sue, Marcha, Mark and Pamela Jean. Merle (1940-1979) lived in Florida. He had one son, Trevor. There were three other sons: Clifford, Thomas and Francis. Ed is buried at Freeport. Esther (1913-1962) married Vance Jeffery (1906-1972) and lived around Freeport.

Ralph married Leona Deems; both are deceased, died October 1941.

John married Jessie Enoch; John is deceased.

Grace (1892-1984) married James Deem who died in 1971.

Anna, born in 1893, married Dudley E. Cox, and they lived in the Walker and Eatons area about all their married life. Anna died in 1973 and Dudley, who was born in 1890, died in 1960.

Hazen (Tom) lived in California--he is now deceased.

Flora Lanning

Flora, born in 1869, was the daughter of Granville and Fanny Helms Stutler. She lived in the Petroleum area. She was a mid-wife, and members of her family reported she helped the last baby at the age of 91 years; in all, she helped to bring 97 babies into the world. There were three children: W. E. Dennis, H. L. Morrison and Alice Marie Denny. Flora is buried in the Petroleum Cemetery.

Lewis family

The Lewis family of Rusk can be traced to Charles T. Lewis, born in Fairfax, Virginia, in 1816 to Colman and Mary Lewis. He died at Rusk, 1888. He married Anna Sophia Rust in 1847. She too was born in Virginia, in 1824, and died at Rusk in 1898. Both are laid to rest at the Lewis Cemetery. When Charles came to the area, he bought land from Hugh Pribble in 1854. This was on the North Fork of Hughes River across from the Pribble Dam. The 255 acres were to be the home to the Lewis family for many years. The first house was built--a two story with fireplace in every room. It burned to the ground when coals from an upstairs fireplace caught the carpet on fire. Another house was built and square nails were used. Part of the house is still standing. Altogether this couple were the parents of seven children: Mary Frances died as a child in Tennessee; Ann Grisby (1859-1939) married K. Percy; Henry Rust Lewis married Rilla Twyman and moved to Texas; James McDonald Lewis (1865-1950) married Elizabeth Deem; Benjamin Franklin, born in 1851, lived near Rusk for many years; Paul (1867-1895) never married; Charles S., born in 1853.

Charles S. Lewis family

Charles (1853-1926) married Martha Cindrella Cain in 1861. Martha died in 1943. She was the daughter of David and Martha Cain. Shortly after they were married, they moved to Texas. A daughter and a son were born there. Both children died with the fever in 1881. Charles and Martha became ill and moved back to Rusk. They made their home at Rusk in the old Heck residence, where Martha attended switchboard. Their third child, Jennie Dell, was born in 1883. She was a nurse, married Roy Ferguson, died in 1910.

Dallas Texas, born in 1885, married Maude Ramsey in December 1910, and moved to Akron.

Indiana Lewis, born in 1887, married Russell Fankhouse, lived at Pine Grove and had one son, Russell Lewis Fankhouser. He is now a surgeon in Tennessee; Indiana died in 1976, at the age of 89.

Guy Lawson, born in 1889, married Ada Cokeley. He lived in Ohio and was the father of three children: Arlene, Osa Lee and Charles William. Guy died in 1958. Charles Russell (1892-1921) married Pearl Null in 1915. They made their home on the Lewis homestead where two daughters, Rhoda Martha and Moynell Roxie, were born.

Frances Ray (1894-1966) married Ella Elizabeth Null in 1915, and lived in Akron, where three children were born: Ronald (1916-1967); Marjorie Texas, born in 1918; and Frances Elizabeth, born in 1920.

Isabelle Agnes, born in 1897, married Harry Null, son of Alvin and Eva Null. A son, Robert Harold, died in Putnam County in 1982 at the age of 66 years.

Senetta, born in 1900, married Bernard Eddy. They had three children, Alvin Bernard, Mary Martha and Jennie Rose Eddy.

Lillian Ellen, born in 1904, married George Beckner. They had three children: Charles Edward, Denver and Patty Jo.

Charles was a cattle buyer and traveled near and far to buy cattle. He had teams of work horses as well as riding horses. Gas wells were put down on the farm, and we had gas lights and stoves. It was a real pleasure to have them.

--by Marjorie Lewis Romine

Francis R. Lewis family

Frances (1894-1966) married Ella Elizabeth Null who died in 1924, leaving him with three small children. He moved back to Rusk in 1928 and lived at his family home. There were three children; they attended Rusk school and Cairo High School.

Ronald Ray (1916-1967) married Enid Putnam in 1942, and served in World War II. They had three children: David, Luralee and Ivan P.

Frances, born in 1920, graduated from Cairo High School in 1939.

Marjorie married Mayford Romine and lives in Akron. They are parents of three children: Mayford, Lola Maris and Lola. Her husband is retired from Goodyear.

--by Marjorie Lewis Romine

George Lexlor

George Lexlor purchased "The Schleichler Place" at Freeport. This was known as the vineyard place and was occupied by the Ben Arnold family for several years. Mr. Lexlor was from Pennsylvania and purchased this land in 1893, who had married Mary McGuin. When the wine industry came to Freeport, it brought with it several families, namely, Cochraine Fleming, Zeeglers, Kultakes, Coons, Beckners, Wallaces and Fords.

Cochraine Fleming, the one-time owner of the vineyard, was living at Sewickly, Pennsylvania, when the first world war broke out. He was 92 years old in 1915. He and Tom Foster, who was living in Elizabeth at the time, were great friends. In a letter he wrote, "Tom, pray that I might live to see Germany ask pardon of the nations on whom she is trespassing," but he died in May before the Armistice. Though German-born, he died not approve of the German way.

The flint ledge near Freeport contains some of the best flint rock known. A specimen of it was sent to West Virginia University and it was determined it was too hard for road purposes. Ransom Foutty was an early settler here, and this rock was always of great concern to him. He was the son of John and Catherine Deems Foutty; born in 1824, he married Mary Hugall. He was a carpenter by trade and lived at Hugall Falls until 1859 and lived for years above Freeport on the Meinhiemer farm. Their children were: Commodore, who married Martha Lott; Mary Catherine who wed Ulysses Jackson; Isabel, who wed John Creel; Cortez wed Annie Logan; Lucy wed Theodore Mounts; Agnes died unmarried; Victoria married William Lottridge; Susan died unmarried; Fannie, died at the age of seven; Ransom Jr., died in infancy.

John Foutty and James Fought were employed by Harman Blennerhassett to survey and beautify his island home in 1788 to 1790. While working here, John accidentally fell into the Ohio River and would have drowned, but was rescued by one of the colored servants of Blennerhassett, named Ransom. In later years, 1824, when one of John Foutty's sons was born, he named him Ransom in remembrance of the man who had saved his life.

When Blennerhassett was on one of his trips to New York, he purchased this slave before he came to the island. He was the one who met Aaron Burr at the river bank and asked

permission to bring this man into the house.

When Burr and his daughter, Theodosia, went on a trip to the South, his master gave Ransom permission to go along. While on this trip, he met his aged mother, whom he had not seen since leaving New York. Ransom was later sold for \$250.00 to pay for his master's passage on a ship back to his native Ireland.

Mack Donald Lewis family

Mack, born in 1910, married Dorothy Marshall, born in 1915. They lived on the Lewis homeplace near Rusk. They were parents of three children: Larry A., Janet Norris, and Judith Border. After their home burned, Mack and Dorothy moved to Ohio, where he died in 1981.

James M. Lewis family

Mack Lewis, as he was called, married Elizabeth Deem. They lived all their life near Rusk on the farm that was to be their home as well as home to their youngest son. They had four children: Robert; John (1902-1964), who married Ruth Andrews and had four children: Joe, Fred, Dan and David.

Cooper L. (1895-1976) was first married to Evelyn who died in 1953. He then married Goldie Wood and worked for Reps Furniture for many years. He had four children: Robert, John, Betty Hall and Olive Robinson.

Sylvester Guy Lewis family

Guy married Sadie Thrasher, daughter of William and Eliza Thrasher, on July 8, 1906. Guy was born at Elizabeth, the son of Sylvester and Maggie Lewis. They established their home at Cisco at the time they were married. Guy worked in the timber business for James P. Beckner. They moved to Buffalo Run on April 22, 1918, where they lived until December 1936, when they moved to Macksburg, Ohio. The children attended Fairview School for three years and then transferred to the Dry Ridge School, as it was closer to their home. They also attended the Buffalo Methodist Church. Guy (1883-1971) and Sadie (1890-1983) had four children born to them:

Charles Raymond was killed in a tragic automobile accident on October 14, 1928.

Thelma married Cecil Nutt and lived in the area for several years.

Woodrow moved with his parents to Macksburg. He served in World War II for three and-a-half years in England. After he came home, he was employed by Wagner-Smith Electric Company for a number of years and later as a service station attendant. He retired in August of 1981.

Delmer Guy married Betty Stack, January 1947. He too served in World War II for three and-a-half years in Italy. He retired from the State Department of Highways in 1981. He and Betty live in Macksburg, Ohio, and have one daughter, Jennifer Page Procter.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis both lived a long life and are buried in the Schaffer's Cemetery near Macksburg.

--by Thelma Lewis Nutt

John D. Lanham family

John (1903-1978) married Sylva Ayers (1908-1983). They lived in the Rusk-Racy area. John worked for Eureka Pipe Line Company. They were parents of three children: John Jr.; Catherine Mason; and Denzil, who married Sylvia Stull and lives near Rusk.

Bernard Lockhart family

Bernard, born in 1909, was the son of Garland and Kate Cain Lockhart. He married Dorothy Bradley, born in 1912. Dorothy was the daughter of Calvin and Phoebe Pyles Bradley, who made her home with her uncle, Charlie Bradley, on the Cairo-Cisco road. Bernard was raised in Freeport. He and Dorothy are parents of several children: Edna, Joe, Dorr, Wayman, Natalie, Cheryl, Veryl, and Linda. Dorothy lives on part of the Bradley farm near where she grew up at the mouth of Cabin Run. Bernard died in 1944, and is buried at Freeport Cemetery.

Garland Lockhart family

Garland (1887-1962) married Kate Cain (1890-1970). They had four children: Ruth, Edith, Bernard (1909-1944), and Eva Lee (1925-1937). Ruth was married to Orval Cunningham. Ruth (1912-1978); Edith married Alva Galloway; both are deceased. All family members lived at Freeport most of their life.
(sorry this family is not in alphabetical order)

Fred Lamm family

Fred, the son of William and Elizabeth Lamm, was born in 1899. He married Mary Nutt, daughter of Granville and Sylvia Nutt, born in 1909. She lived most of her early life at Cisco, where her father owned and operated a blacksmith shop. Their house and shop was located across the road from the Methodist Church. Fred was one of ten children and lived at Beeson in Ritchie County. His father died in 1933 and his mother in 1911; both are buried at Gillespie in the Heck/Kerns Cemetery.

When Fred and Mary were married, they lived at Cisco. In the early 1940s, they moved to Buffalo Run. Fred worked for Cummins Beckner and later got a job at the Parkersburg Rig and Well Company. In 1948, they moved to Parkersburg. They were parents of the following children:

Betty is married to Richard Poling and lives in Grafton, West Virginia. Her children are Lynn, Steve, Mark, Phillip, Kevin and Teresa.

Bob was married to Jean Cooper, and they celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in December 1983. Jean passed away on June 26, 1984. Their children are: Bobby Gene, Douglas, Anthony, Angela, Michael (deceased) and Jeffery. Bob and his family live in Dart, Ohio.

Shelva Jean is married to Denver Lockhart and lives in Parkersburg.

Alice Ann lives in Parkersburg and has one son, Kenny.

Larry married Gayla Cunningham and has two sons, Larry Brice and Bryan. They live in Washington, West Virginia.

Jeanie is married to Harold Goff and lives in Parkersburg.

Betty and Bob attended the Dry Ridge School, Rusk and Cairo High School. Shelva Jean and Alice Ann attended Rusk until moving to Parkersburg. Larry and Jeanie were both born in Parkersburg.

Mary died August 12, 1977; Fred died March 20, 1983, and both are buried at the Sunset Memory Gardens.

--by Shelva Jean Lamm Lockhart

Earl Lynch family

The Lynch family lived on the old Kerns property and the children went to the Dry Ridge School. They were students here when the school closed. Others may have gone, but Mary and Betty were students at this time.

Marshall family

Benjamin Marshall (1841-1900) and Virginia Jackson (1846-1938) moved to the Cisco area in their early life. Virginia was the daughter of Henry Jackson and Lydia Reger. To this union there were seven children born: Charles A.; Rolandus, who married the first time to Minnie Sharpnack and had three children: Clyde, Stella and Lucille. Minnie died at a very young age. He married the second time to Willa Ripley who died in 1968. Rolandus died in 1950.

Viola married Charles Cline and has one son, Hal, who lives in Florida.

Alice married Abraham Enoch; Fannie L. married Robert Foutty; Virginia married Matthew Douglass. Alice had several children: Lillian, Vivian, Doris, Charles, James and

Clyde. Virginia had four children: Edwin, Ernest, Effie and Andrew--all deceased. Fannie had two children: Claude and Ruby; both are deceased.

Henry Britton was cashier at the Burnsville Bank and lived there most of his life. He was married to Matilda Gilbertson from Nebraska; they had two daughters, Helen Berry and Mae Queen. Rolandus operated a hardware store at Cairo for several years after losing his store to a fire at Freeport. Viola died at Cairo in 1962.

--by Janie Marshall Evans

Charles Augustus Marshall family

Charlie, as he was known, operated a store at Cisco for several years, was active in the Methodist Church there and lived all his life in the area. Born in 1880, he married Daisy Blanche Pribble, who was born in 1882. She was the daughter of Hugh Pribble. They were parents of nine children:

Ellen married Luther Ramsey (deceased), later married Pearl Burgy, who also is deceased. She is now married to Herbert Netser and lives in Cairo.

Janie married George Evans and lived in Parkersburg.

Augustine, born in 1904, married William Middleton (1891-1975).

Tille Belle married Gay Moore, and they had three daughters: Loreda, Norma and Sondalee.

Grant married Agnes Hull of Freeport and they had one son, Charles Grant, who lives at Cisco. Grant and Agnes live at the homeplace.

James (1912-1976) married Edith Michael. They had two sons, Clell and Cleon. Edith resides in Parkersburg.

Ethel (1899-1924) never married.

Ople was born in 1908 and died in 1909.

The Marshall family first built the house later owned by the Ben Rogers family along the Hughes River. They later moved to the one on the Cairo-Cisco road built by Charles Cline; he and Viola lived there for a few years.

--by Janie Marshall Evans

Clyde Metz family

Clyde, born in 1897, was the son of Presley and Hattie Boston Metz and lived most of his married life at Petroleum. Clyde walked two miles to the Cabin Run School. In his teens he met a tiny girl by the name of Grace Davis at the Metz Chapel church, which is the site of their resting place. Grace was born in May 1900, the daughter of Daniel and Bertha Davis, of Doddridge County. She lived with her grandparents on Silver Run. She tells of standing on a stool at the age of eight years to make biscuits.

On March 18, 1918, Clyde and Grace went by horse and buggy to Rusk, accompanied by her grandfather, to the home of Lemon Dotson to be married. That evening, after returning to the home of the parents, the couple walked several miles to the home of Mabel Jenkins, a cousin of Clyde's, and spent the night.

Soon after their marriage, Clyde was drafted into the army. He served in France during the close of World War I to his discharge in July 1919. The Metzses set up housekeeping in the Cabin Run area. Clyde worked in timber and on the county roads. They started their family of twelve children, eleven of whom were born at home. Clyde became an employee of the B & O in 1924. In 1925, the Metzses and four young children moved to Petroleum to be closer to his work. They purchased 27 acres of land that became their permanent residence. The family still owns the home to these twelve children. Clyde retired from the B & O after 38 years. The Metzses celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary in 1978 with a shower of cards. All the children were home to celebrate. Clyde died in July 1978; Grace in January 1981. The following children were born to this union:

Harvey, born in 1920, married Dora Davis of Buffalo Run.

Cora, born in 1921, married Edwin Davis.

Jesse (Glen), born in 1923, married Cora Lou Spears, who died in 1984.

Anna Geraldine, born in 1925, married Bernard Hoover.

Raymond, born in 1927, married Margaret Henderson.

Loraine, born in 1929, married George Farr.

Paul, born in 1931, married Betty Williams.

Ottie, born in 1935, married Lorraine Cullen.

Harold (Gene), born in 1937, married Dorothy Cunningham.

Donald, born in 1939, married Myrtle Spears.

Peggy, born in 1941, married Charles Carney. Charles died in February 1983, and Peggy is now married to Eugene Phillips.

Wanda, born in 1946, married Francis Shields.

--by Peggy Metz Phillips

Glenn Modesitt

Glenn lived with his grandparents, Frank and Sarah Nelson, near Freeport. While living with them, he attended the Dry Ridge School

George McGilkin family

George lived in the Dry Ridge area around 1900. He left and went to live with some of his family in Tennessee. He returned several years later and lived on the Ed Nutter property.

James Mahaney family

Jim moved from Volcano to the Adam Tennant property on Buffalo Run about 1920. He later moved to the Daubenspeck property near the old California House and lived there 35 years. He worked for the Roberts Oil Company for 40 years. James was born in 1884 and was married to Gertrude Baxter, born in 1889. James died in 1948 and she in 1981; both are buried at the Freeport Cemetery. They were the parents of twelve children:

Gladys Buck, the oldest, lives in Parkersburg.

Violet Sommerville lives at Mineral Wells.

Russell married Myrtle Hull; he is now deceased.

James was born in 1913 and died in 1939.

William (Bill) was born in 1916 and killed by a bulldozer in 1951.

Ruth married Russell Jenkins, lived at Point Pleasant; Russell is now deceased.

Mary Alice Postlewaite lives in Ohio; Joseph died in infancy.

Gertrude Wolfe is now deceased. Betty Shoemaker lives in Ohio.

Eugene died in February 1984 at the age of 57 and is buried in Ohio.

Charles Raymond lives in Ohio.

A terrible tragedy happened to our family when Charles was a small boy. He went into his older brother's bedroom and got too close to an open fire and caught his clothes on fire, burning about ninety-five percent of his body. I remember Bill Collum coming to

our house and helping to get the fire out of the burns on his body. The family attended school at Freeport and Dry Ridge. Jim is remembered as one who enjoyed music and having a good time.

--by Gladys Buck

Harvey Marshall family

Harvey and his wife, Delphia Powell Marshall, lived all their life in the Petroleum area. Their children were: Kendall, who married Myrtle Pierson; Ernest; Alice Zupp; Sadie Nash; Fannie Young; Walter (1896-1962) was married to Grace Cunningham and lived all his life at Petroleum. Walter and Grace have two sons, Harold and Albert.

Frank Maze family

Frank was born at Rusk in 1893, the son of Flavius (1863-1956) and Matilda Yoho Maze. He was reared by Mr. and Mrs. John Reese. Frank married Mabel Dulaney, who died in 1953. They were parents of four children: Marilee Rienhardt, Eugenia and Ralph and Grady Maze.

James W. Mason family

James (1888-1969) was the son of Nathan R. and Margaret Douglass Mason. He was first married to Juanita Rollins. Juanita, born in 1887, was killed in 1916 in a tragic horse and buggy accident on Gillespie Run. He had two children by his first marriage: Troxal, born in 1910 and Iwana, born in 1912. Iwana died in 1980. James and his two children lived with his mother for a few years. He was married for the second time to Mimosa Hardman, who was a school teacher. They lived all their life on the farm located on Cisco-Cairo road at the mouth of Cabin Run. Two more children were born: James W. Jr., born in 1926 and Nadine McFarland, born in 1933.

Jimmie, as he was known to his neighbors, was a farmer, and a good one, and he worked in the oil fields. Earl Hall has made his home with the family and worked on the farm for a number of years. Osa still lives on the farm.

Joe Mackey

Joe was the son of Alec and Maude Mackey; he married Mary Nelson, the daughter of Norf and Alma Nelson. The family lives near Freeport at present time.

Dexter R. Mason family

Dexter (1900-1979) was the son of James S. and Ingaby Pribble Mason. He married Hilda M. Mason and in later years moved to Ohio. They lived in the Rusk and Buffalo Run area. While living at Rusk, a terrible tragedy was to happen to the family. While crossing the Hughes River when it was flooded, the boat they were in overturned, and

four of the children were drowned. The ones who drowned were Laverne, age 7; Betty Jane, age 6; Ellen Marie, age 4; and Maggie Jeanette, age 2. This happened December 27, 1934. There are two other children: Frank R. lives in Texas and Anna Mae White lives in Akron.

James S. Mason family

James married Ingaby Pribble (1879-1966). She was the daughter of Roland and Mary Ann Stanley Pribble. They lived in the area and raised their children, which included: Andrew J. (1901-1967), who married Margaret Null (1899-1980); Dexter, who died July 1979 at the age of 70 years; John, who is deceased; Zada Simmons, deceased; John Henry (1912-1982); Harold Alfred; Ofa Dale (1926-1983), who married Kathleen Lanham and lived in the Parkersburg area; Ruby Cumberledge; and Ethel Simmons.

Lewis Marlow family

Lou (1863-1953), as he was called, married Mary Lemasters (1876-1950), and they lived on Goose Creek all their married life. They were parents of eleven children:

Lucy married Clarence Sprouse and both are deceased.

Maggie married Arthur Neighbors; Maggie died in 1983, and Arthur also deceased.

Daisy, born in 1903, married James Sams (1906-1930); Daisy died in 1971.

Edith (1905-1953) married Jesse Riley who died in 1946, age 79 years.

Laura married Henry C. Boyte. Henry died in 1984; Laura lives in Georgia.

Earl (1909-1963) married Blanch Greenburg.

Ruth Marlow; Hazel, never married; Arthur, lives at Walker.

Roy married Wilma Greenburg, who died in 1982. He is now married to Eleanor Tenny.

Rose Drotos lives at Lubeck.

Several members of the family are buried at Mt. Olive Cemetery.

William H. Maze family

William married Lydia Reeves and lived in the Rusk area. They raised a family here; four of the children are: Glen, who married Martha Beckner and lives in Ohio; Snow Stanley (1895-1982); Ruth Monroe; and Dollie, who married Frank Beckner. Dollie is deceased.

Harold E. Mackey

Harold lived in the area for many years. He is remembered as a deaf mute, always with a smile. He was the son of Alexander and Mollie Nutter Mackey (1889-1978). Harold had several brothers and sisters, including Pearl (Joe), John, Argil (Lee), Hattie Cameron and Mable Waggoner.

William W. McFarland family

William and his wife, Bertie Powell McFarland, lived in the Petroleum area. There were four children, Wilbur R., Albert, Stella McFarland, and Joseph L. (1902-1984). Joe married Irene McGinnis and lived in Virginia.

Lewis W. McFarland family

Lew, born in 1873, married Emma Webb (1881-1968). She was the daughter of Ross and Maetha Terrell Webb. They lived all their life in the Petroleum area. Their children included: Chester, of Ohio; Virginia Cain; Lewis (Bus), who died in 1982 at his home at Mahone; Goldie Bruffy of Parkersburg; Beulah Riddle; Mary Thrash; and Ramer Theodore.

Homer McFarland family

Homer married Ethel Taitt, born in 1902. They lived in the Petroleum area for many years, moved to Parkersburg and operated a store. They were parents of three daughters: Margaret Worstell, Lois Ellen Mollendick and Mary Francis Munchmeyer. Homer is deceased; Ethel died in 1982.

Phillip McCauley

Phillip married Alice Whiteman (1887-1969). She was the daughter of Robert A. and Hannah Hoover Whiteman. They lived for several years in the Freeport area. Their children are: Paul McCauley; Eskey, who married Bessie Heck and operated at store at Cisco. Ruth married Jim Dennis and lives in the Island Run area. Ruth taught school for several years.

Bernard L. McClaskey

Bernard, born in 1928, was the son of Leonard and Mabel Groah McClaskey. He worked for the B & O for 33 years. He and his wife, Sylvia, lived in the Petroleum area. Bernard died in 1984, their children were: Patricia Locke, Sharon Hall, Nancy Perkins, Sandra Reed and Lori McClaskey.

Eskey McCauley

Eskey McCauley and Bessie Heck McCauley live and operate a store in the Cisco area. It is known as McCauley's Store, a good place to stop and see old friends and former neighbors. They also have cold pop and ice cream, something not too plentiful at Cisco

nowadays. Their store is about in sight of the old covered bridge and near the old chimney.

William W. McQuaid family

William and Margaret Reynolds McQuaid lived in the Petroleum area. They had two children: Leo and Frances E. (Pete).

Pete married Pauline Curran and was living in Parkersburg at the time of his death in 1981. He was born in 1908, and worked for Eureka Pipe Line Company. He and his wife were parents of two children: William Frances and Joseph.

Leo Imlay lived at Petroleum for several years, teaching school in the area.

William L. Middleton family

Born in 1891, he married Augustine Marshall, born in 1904. Bill, as he was known, was the son of William P. and Fannie Lewis Middleton, and Augustine was the daughter of Charles and Daisy Pribble Marshall, of Cisco. She and Bill lived in the Racy area and attended the Buffalo Methodist Church and Cairo High School.

They were the parents of five children: Charles; Waveline Czarnecki of Texas; Virginia, who married Ernest Echard; Helen, who married Russell Henderson and lives in Virginia; and Ruth, who married Edwin McCauley and lives in Ohio. Bill died in 1975.

James Clark Middleton family

Clark was the son of William P. and Fannie Lewis Middleton. He married Nellie Putnam (1906-1971). She was the daughter of Winfield and Agnes Conoway Putnam of Buffalo Run. They were parents of two children: Grover of Mentor, Ohio; and Betty, who married Russell Hill and resides in Fairmont.

Frances Marion Michael family

Frances and Isophene lived in the Petroleum area. They were parents of three children: Lelia, who married Harley Haught and died in 1983; Zelma, who married Arthur Kerns; and Edith, who married James Marshall. James was born in 1912 and died in 1976. Edith lives in Parkersburg.

W. F. Moyers

Most of the readers of this article will remember Mr. Moyers as the principal of Cairo High School, following Goff Ramsey who was the principal at the time the bus started running from the Cisco area. He was born in 1895 and died in 1979. His wife was Estella Mitchell, born in 1892 and died in 1980. Mr. Moyers' parents were F. S. and Lillie Hardman Moyers. He was principal of the high school at Cairo for eight years and taught

in Ritchie County schools for over 40 years. He had one son, Edwin, who lives in Kansas. He will be remembered as a strict teacher but a very fair one. He and Mrs. Moyers are now laid to rest at the Cairo Masonic Cemetery.

Dr. Emmett D. Moyers

Dr. Moyers (1886-1975) probably took care of several of our aches and pains over the years. He was a physician in Cairo and Harrisville for several years. His wife preceded him in death by several years.

Bennie B. Moss

Bennie (1905-1967) was the son of Robert J. and Mary Elizabeth Rader. They lived in the Petroleum area. His wife was the former Geraldine Nutter and they were parents of several children: Rex B., Darrell Gene, Bennie Burl, Robert H., Anna Faye, June Criss, Nettie Tennant and Doris Tennant.

Pearl Nelson Modesitt

Pearl moved to Arizona in 1958 from the Freeport area. She died there in 1982, leaving a son and two daughters, Verlin J. Modesitt, Louise Ogden and Hazel Hamrick. She was born and raised in the Freeport area, daughter of Frank and Sarah Nelson.

Mrs. Frank Munday

Mrs. Munday owns a camp on Dry Ridge known as "Camp Babe." It is located on the Harbert home site.

John Monroe

John purchased the Cain place at Deems Ford. George Monroe lived nearby and was married to Beulah Miller. They had three children: Loretta, Ronald and Donald. He cut pulp wood and hauled it to Petroleum for shipment. He later worked as a security guard for Pinkerton. Mrs. Monroe lives on the property at the present time.

John W. Moore family

John, born in 1880, married Lula Cox, daughter of Leander and Marie Young Cox. Lula was born at Rockport August 6, 1880, and died in 1964. This family lived on the Blennerhassett Island, moving from there after their children can remember. They moved to the Charles Heater farm near Cisco in 1922. They were parents of three children who attended the Flint Run School and Buffalo Methodist Church.

Edna married James A. Nelson (Ott) and lived for many years on Buffalo Run. She now lives in the Parkersburg area.

Gay, born January 1911, married Tillie Marshall and was killed in an automobile accident in 1965, on his way to work at Union Carbide. Tillie has since married Orval Cunningham.

Eva, born in 1907, married J. E. (Jum) Davis and lived in Ohio. Jum was born in 1909 and died in 1966.

--by Sylvia Nelson

C. T. Moore family

Pete, as everyone knew him, and his wife, Winnifrede Frazier Moore, lived for several years on the property purchased from the L. L. Gill family. The children attended the Buffalo School and Cairo High School. The family was active in the Buffalo Church. Winnie was a very talented person, working with children in the programs of the church. She died on Mother's Day, 1981, after a long illness. They were parents of six children: Harold, the oldest son, born in 1924, died while living in New Mexico in 1963. The other three boys are Robert, John and James F. Their two daughters were Patricia Thrash and Darlene Mullens. Pete lives in Harrisville, where he and Winnie moved when they left the Cisco area. He attends the Baptist Church in Harrisville.

William Moats family

Billie and his wife, Elizabeth Putnam Moats, lived at Rusk and operated the mill and store. Billy was a one-armed man, having lost his arm at the mill he ran. He would grind corn and wheat for a share of the grain--not much money exchanged hands in this type of business in those days.

One son, Elza Albert (1874-1945) helped operate the mill; later he took over completely from his dad and ran the mill for several years. Elza married Beatrice Hardesty, and they had one daughter, Marvel Star.

Edward Morrison family

Edward (deceased) married Stella Stutler (1878-1974) and lived in the Petroleum area. Their children were: Elizabeth Jenkins, Rowana Rutherford, Clifford, William, Isabelle Morrison (1918-1974), Chester Morrison (1905-1980) and Clarence (1913-1980). Clarence was married to Edna Todd. The family is buried at the Petroleum Cemetery.

Jessie Muir

Jessie was raised in the home of George and Violet Foutty. She was a niece to Violet. Jessie married a man by the name of Wilson and moved to the New York area. Mr. Wilson was an artist and a picture that he painted hung in the home of the Darnell girls. It was of the house on the river bank and the old stones from the mill, very natural. As far

as is known, Jessie and her husband are deceased, having died while living in New York State.

--by Bert L. Foutty

Clyde Nelson family

Clyde was born December 25, 1903, at Petroleum, the son of Charles and Ursula Ford Nelson. He was the youngest of four children: Sadie, Dick and Lydia. Clyde had only two years of schooling, and this he attended at Flint Run School.

He was a farmer and served three years in the service. While still in the army, he married Rosa B. Kerns on December 28, 1928. He was discharged that same year.

Rosa B. Kerns was born at Adamston, June 18, 1903, the daughter of B. F. and Anarha Powell Kerns. She was one of ten children. Blaine, Jesse, Sherm, Bill, Ted, Joe, Alice and Ellen. Rose attended the Dry Ridge School through the eighth grade. At this time, she was offered the opportunity to go into the field of teaching.

Clyde and Rosa had five children--four boys and one girl. Charles, the first child, died at birth; at this time they lived in South Parkersburg. Later moving to Dry Ridge, home of her parents, their second son, Clyde Wesley, was born along with two other sons, Elmer Blaine and Benny Leo. Later the family moved into a house on Route 47 across the river from the old stone quarry. It was here their fifth child, a daughter, Ursula Ann, was born. Also from here, the three boys started to school. They crossed the river in a rowboat, then walked two miles to the Freeport school. Wesley and Elmer would sometimes arrive early and would stoke up the wood stove so that the classroom would be warm when the others arrived. They went to the Freeport School until 1944 or about three years for Wesley. A short time of this was attended from the Collums house, where the family had moved from across the river. In 1944, the family moved to Parkersburg, where Clyde had found a job as a welder for the O. Ames Plant. His employment ended due to ill health.

While living with Rosa's parents, she and Clyde took in and raised Joe Kerns' two children, Joe Jr. and Emza, after the death of their mother, Beulah Bucey Kerns. Emza married and had one son. She was killed in an automobile accident. Joseph, or June, as he is known by his friends, married Cleo Richards of Rutherford, changed to Milton, and now known as Gillespie. Joe and Cleo have three children, Emmett, Wilma and Bonnie.

Rosa and Clyde then raised her brother Bill's two children, until their father took them to raise with him. Their names were Ray and Hilda Kerns. They attended the Dry Ridge School; both are now deceased.

Clyde Wesley married Anna Way; Elmer B. married Irene Powers; Benny L. married Betty Cook and Ursula Ann married James Oliver. Clyde and Rosa had 14 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Clyde died November 11, 1963; Rosa died January 7, 1983.

The children of Clyde and Rosa are keeping the Kerns farm in the family for hunting. Elmer and Irene purchased two and one-half acres from Hazel Cox Brown on Buffalo Run in 1978, and they use this for hunting and camping.

--by Ursula Ann Nelson Oliver

Charles Wesley Nelson family

Charles was the son of J. W. and Mary Nelson. He married Ursula Ford in 1898. They lived on the Staunton Pike near the junction of the Dry Ridge road. They had four children, Clyde, Dick, Sadie and Lydia. After the death of Charles' first wife, he married Cora Jane Whitman, daughter of R. H. and Hannah Hoover Whitman. Cora Jane had three children: Mary Alice Barker, Clellie Holbert and Robert, who lives in Ohio. They were to have one daughter, Cora Belle Luce. She was born in 1928, and is now deceased.

Frank Nelson family

Frank (1875-1940) married Sarah Lane (1889-1938) and lived on Route 47 near Freeport. He and Sarah raised a large family. The children were: Norf, Ida Bodie, Janie Modesitt, Sophia Modesitt, Ethel, Pearl Modesitt, Oscar Earl (1896-1938), Sophia (1901-1950). Ethel and Pearl are both deceased.

Norf Nelson family

Norf (1891-1980) married Alma Waggoner, daughter of Claude and Minnie Waggoner from Dry Ridge. Alma, born in 1903, lives in the Parkersburg area. Norf and Alma had ten children, including triplets. Their children are: Claude, who lives in Ohio; Ernest, who married Rosemond Cantwell who died in 1983; Charles; Lloyd; Norf James (1930-1931); Mary Mackey; Patricia Nelson; Rosetta Goodnight; Cecelia Bell and Alma Lemley.

--by Alma Waggoner Nelson

Harold T. Nelson family

Harold, the son of Arthur and Edna Moore Nelson, married Sylvia Cunningham. They moved from Parkersburg to the Russell Cox farm on Buffalo Run in 1956. They have two sons, Thomas and Herbert. They sold the farm to West Virginia Pulp and Paper in 1960 and moved to Kanawha, where they still reside.

--by Sylvia Nelson

Nathaniel Nelson

Nathaniel (1865-1909) was the son of Isaac and Hannah Nelson. Hannah was the daughter of Rachel Deems. Than, as he was called, married Sarah Jane Tennant, the

daughter of Alpheus and Mary Ann Enoch Tennant. There were three children born to this union: James A., born in 1894; Floyd B., born in 1893; and Laura, who was born in 1897. After the death of Nathaniel, Sarah married William R. Jenkins on May 13, 1912. James A. married Edna Moore; Floyd married Etta Valentine. He and his four children were drowned in a flash flood in the Island Run area, August 5, 1943; Laura married Socrates Stanley. William Jenkins is buried at the Pribble Cemetery.

James A. Nelson family

Ott, as he was known, was the son of Nathaniel and Sarah Jane Tennant Nelson. He married Edna Moore, daughter of John and Lula Cox Moore. The family moved from Freeport to Buffalo Run in the 1930s. They lived for a few years on the Aubrey Hardesty property, later moving into the Russell Cox home in 1945. The children attended Dry Ridge School and Buffalo Methodist Church. They were parents of five children: Harold married Sylvia Cunningham and lives at Kanawha; Alma married William Williams and lives in Wood County; Calvin married Betty Carpenter and lives near Glendale; Robert married Edith Cooper and lives near Lubeck; Richard and Sharon live in Parkersburg.

--by Sylvia Nelson

Herbert Netser family

Herbert C. Netser married Marvel Thrash (1903-1970), the daughter of Charles W. and Sallie Thrash. Herbert operated the store at Petroleum for several years and was a mail carrier. They had one daughter, Doris, who is married to Calvin Vinson. Herbert is now remarried to Ellen Marshall Burgy and lives in Cairo.

F. M. Netser family

Francis Marion Netser (1875-1968) married Emeranda Groves (1873-1959). He was the son of Jacob and Nancy Dye, married in 1896. To this union there were five children born:

Icy (1897-1969) married Archie Barnard of Harrisville.

Frank (1899-1922) never married.

Herbert, born in 1901, married Marvel Thrash and second marriage to Ellen Marshall Burgy.

Ralph, born in 1918, married Louise Affolter and lives in Parkersburg.

Ray, born in 1912, died in Florida in January 1977. He was married to Irma Cutright.

Marion operated the store at Petroleum from 1912 until 1945, when his son took over.

--by Herbert Netser

Frank Nagy

Frank and Ada live in Parkersburg. Ada is the former Ada Boston of the Dry Ridge area. She was the daughter of William and Clara Boston. She was married first to Mansel (Bunt) Sims and lived at the old Sims place in the 1930s. They had one daughter, Betty Arnett, born in 1927, and died while living in Connecticut in 1981.

Ada married the second time to Hershel Lanham and lived in the Rusk community. Hershel died in 1970, while living in Parkersburg. Denzil Lanham lives in the house at Rusk. After Hershel's death, Ada married Frank.

Elias Nutter family

Elias (1878-1959) was the son of B. B. and Blanch Hawkins Nutter. She died in 1957. Six of his children: Cline of the Petroleum area; William of New York; Howard of Vienna; Ralph of Ohio; Lucy Kimble Reamer; and Maymie McCullough. Maymie died in 1980, she lived in Vienna.

Frank Null family

Frank and Lillie Brumage Null lived near Cisco at Macfarlan. Frank worked for the oil company. They attended the Buffalo Church. Lillie was born in 1900, died in 1982; Frank is also deceased. They were parents of two children: Francis (Ben) Null of Warren and Sylvia Sarver of Belpre.

Harry Null family

Harry was the son of Alvin and Eva Null. He married Isabelle Lewis, born in 1897, and lived in the Rusk area. They had one son, Robert (1915-1982). Harry died in 1932; Belle remarried and lives at Rusk.

Nothing was more important to most of the families living in the area than the church and school. Some notes taken in 1914 from a Sunday School convention seem as important today as they were then. O. C. Beckner was the representative from the church at Cisco. An offering of \$2.36 was noted. A speech was given by Will A. Strickler. Singing led by Prof. D. W. Wilcox, another speech by Prof. Arnold. It was noted that Sunday school had improved 300% since Mr. Scheffer came to work in the county.

Those in attendance from the local area: O. C. Beckner, Lucy Mae Tennat, Alice Phillips, G. C. Bailey and I. D. S. Cross.

Some notes on the Sunday school read: Class #1, 7 scholars, collection \$.35; Class #2, 11 scholars, collection 22 cents--teachers OCB and LMT; Class #3, 5 scholars; collection 15

cents--teacher Cora W. Now can you imagine getting along on collections like this?

The notes also indicate a Children's Day program:

Welcome - Thomas Daubenspeck

Crown of Praise - by 6 girls

Children's Day - by George Beckner

I Sent a Smile - by Margaret Daubenspeck

When He was Young - by Lucy Rogers

Children's Day - by 12 girls

Peace on Earth - by Ella Rogers

The Lord of Life - by Ellen Marshall

Peace Song - by 4 girls and 3 boys

Missionary Work - by Hazel Jackson

The Creed of Bells - by 10 girls

Poor Little Jesus - by Pebble Tanzy

The Dearest Way - by Josie Hinsman

God is Calling Me - by Jennie Rogers and Bernice Tennant

The Nicest Place - by Augustine Marshall

Only a Little Brooklet - by Anna Daubenspeck

Little Children - by Janie Marshall

These programs, known as Children's Day, were yearly events. From the dates and notes, it would seem this one was given sometime before the end of World War I.

Isaac Null family

Isaac and Lavina Pribble Null lived in the Cisco and Dry Ridge area all their lives. Their children, at one time, attended the Fairview School. There were five sons: Emery J. (1874-1960) married Nancy Phelps; Edward B. (1893-1963) married Grace Varner (1901-1980); Norval L. (1896-1967) married Velma Freed; Isaac Waitman (1891-1979) married Goldie Joy. There was another son, George. Emery and Nancy had the following children, Marion, Frank, Harley, Ralph, Versa Shephard, Nellie Roush, Lessie Foutty Waggoner. Edward and Grace had two children, Edward G. and Gwenvere Romine.

I. W. Null family

Wade and Goldie Joy were married November 30, 1916. They started housekeeping at Petroleum, lived on Buffalo Run and moved to Flint Run to a 70-acre farm. My dad worked for B & O, and was a farmer and saw mill operator for many years. Wade (1891-1979) and Goldie had ten children:

Orval Lee, born in 1917, married Thelma Valentine, and they have four children and five grandchildren.

Beryl (1919-1968) was married to Pauline Anderson.

Carl Lesley, born in 1921, died in 1935.

Noble Ray, born in 1923, died when less than a month old.

Russell J., born in 1924, married Doris McFadden in 1959. Russell has three children by a former marriage and three grandchildren.

Eva Mae, born in 1927, married Glen R. Patterson (deceased) and has two children and two grandchildren.

Hobert Okey, born in 1929, married Eleanor Wildman in 1952. They have six children and six grandchildren.

Bernard Perry, born in 1931, married Shirley Winter in 1954. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Hollie Denzil, born in 1933, married Virginia Ann Clegg in 1959, and they have three children and one grandchild.

All the children live in the Ohio and West Virginia area. Lee, Beryl and Russell all served in World War II. Hobe served in the Korean conflict and Hollie was in the peacetime Navy, 1955 to 1957.

We grew sugar cane, and my dad made sorghum molasses. We had a cane mill that pressed the juice from the cane. Our horse went around and around; it was fun for us kids to watch. Dad was an expert at making the molasses. My brothers and I went to a one-room schoolhouse about a mile from our house on Flint Run. We went to a Methodist church on our farm. I remember the Rev. John Nutter and the Rev. Clifford Phillips. I was 12 years old at the time they held revival meetings, and my dad was the song leader.

My younger brothers and I used to walk to the grocery store, Ray Ash's on Parish Fork or Charlie Marshall's at Cisco. It took almost all day, especially when we took the old cow pony. She would stop and wouldn't move. It was great fun when we took eggs; they were selling for 10 or 12 cents per dozen. We had horses, a beautiful yoke of oxen, goats, chickens, guineas, rabbit dogs, coon and fox hounds. When Dad harvested the crops, he buried the apples and the potatoes. He and Mom pickled corn and beans in large barrels.

My brother, Lee, named me for two of his favorite teachers, Eva Moore and Fannie Mae Weaver. Growing up on the farm and having wonderful parents was just great. We go back to Flint Run to the homeplace for our family reunions every October.

--by Eva Mae Null Patterson

Cecil Nutt family

Cecil moved with his father to the Cisco area in the spring of 1932. He had two brothers, Arden and Denver, and one sister, Murlie, who lived at the family home.

Cecil married Thelma Lewis on November 22, 1932. They lived in West Virginia, where their three children were born. They moved to Macksburg in 1938 and later to Porterfield, Ohio. Cecil was employed at the Ideal Corrugated Box Company for 31 years, retiring in 1976. He died October 15, 1982, while living in Belpre, where his widow still resides.

They had three children; all married and graduated from Belpre High School:

Ruth married Paul Nolan and lives in Vincent, Ohio.

Velma married Harold Looney and lives in Parkersburg.

Delmar is married and lives in Porterfield, Ohio.

--by Thelma Lewis Nutt

Granville Nutt family

Granville and his wife, Sylvia, lived most of the time at Cisco where he operated the blacksmith shop. The house and shop were located across the road from the Methodist Church. They had five children: Mary, who married Fred Lamm and lived in the area; Allie, who lives in Ohio; Mae, who lives in Parkersburg; Ted, who lived in Akron and passed away in April 1984; Guy died at a very early age. The mother of these five children died in 1921 when they were small. After the death of their mother, the children lived on with their father and attended school at Buffalo. Sylvia and Guy are buried at Newark in the Fought Cemetery. Granville is buried at the Beckner Cemetery. At the time of his death in 1936, the river was flooded and they could not take him to Newark.

--by Shelva Jean Lamm Lockhart

Wright Nutt family

Wright Nutt moved to the Ben Rogers farm near Cisco from Parkersburg after the death of his wife, Bertha Norris Nutt. He moved here in the spring of 1932 with his three sons, Cecil, Arden and Denver and a daughter, Murlie. They lived here only a short time when Mr. Nutt died in September 1932. Denver went to live with an older brother, Anthony, in Harrisville. Murlie and Arden went back to Parkersburg to live and were employed at the American Viscose Company. While living in Parkersburg, Murlie married, and she and her husband moved to Ravanna, Ohio, and were employed in the arsenal plant there. Arden and Denver enlisted in the service in 1940. They both served in the U. S. Army in World War II; both were wounded and awarded the Purple Heart. After returning home, they both married and lived in Ohio, West Virginia and Florida. Arden died in 1977; Denver is also deceased. Murlie Stockslager of Ravenna is the only surviving member of the family. Cecil married Thelma Lewis and lived in the area for a few years.

--by Thelma Lewis Nutt

Play Parties

These parties were well attended. Someone who had a big yard would decide to have a party--maybe for a birthday and maybe just to get a little excitement going. There were singing games such as Chase the Buffalo, Four in a Boat, Over the River to Charlie, Old Dusty Miller and many more. The things that made a good party was to have someone in the crowd that was a good singer--or wasn't afraid to sing--and a moonlight night in the fall of the year. The hosting family would serve refreshments toward the end of the party. Many in our community did not feel these parties were proper as well as the dances that were held in the homes. Young people would walk for miles to attend one of these parties.

Edward J. Nutter

Ed lived on Dry Ridge for many years. He was the son of Thomas J. and Melissa Nutter from Virginia. He died while living on Dry Ridge from pneumonia, June 12, 1934; he was born in 1871. A woman by the name of Mae Cantwell lived in the home and was the housekeeper. She later went to Ohio to live.

Ted Nutt family

Ted and his wife lived for a while at the end of the swinging bridge at Cisco. He was the son of Granville and Sylvia Nutt. Ted had two sisters, Allie and Mae.

Powell family

David Powell and Ascenith Riley Cecil came to Myers Fork, three miles from Volcano, in 1861. She died in 1900 and he in 1904. Their children were the following: James William (born in 1863), Roberta (born in 1866), Richard Granville (born in 1867).

James William and Mary Smith were married in 1887; their children were Hattie Florence Powell Ogden and Roberta Powell West, both deceased, and Frank Vinton Powell.

Roberta Powell and William W. McFarland were married and their children were: Stella McFarland, John David McFarland, Homer Martin McFarland, Joseph Luther McFarland, William Albert and Wilbur Rutherford McFarland.

Richard Granville married Jessie Cowan in 1893. Their children were: Janet Isabel Powell who taught at Fairview for some time; Asenth Mary Lemley, and Howard Leslie Powell.

J. W. Powell was 19 days older than West Virginia, and he often said he was older than the West Virginia Hills.

--by Janet Powell

Everett Parsons family

This is the only family living on Dry Ridge today. They live in the old homeplace of the Daubenspecks. There are other houses on the ridge, but they are used for summer homes or hunting cabins. After all the years and all the people living here, it is hard to imagine only one family remaining.

Taffy Pullings

This was just what the name implied. After the molasses were made in the fall, someone would invite a group in to make taffy, and it was fun to pull it. Popcorn oftentimes was popped, and popcorn balls were good to eat. Molasses when cooked for a while gets rubbery and as it cools turns light in color and gets hard and brittle when completely cold.

Fred Pribble family

Fred, born in the area, married Lilly Jackson, born in 1885. She was the daughter of Ulysses and Kathryn Foutty Jackson of Cisco. They were the parents of three children: Kathryn, who lives in Parkersburg; Virginia; and Cecil Edwin who are both deceased. Fred died in 1930 and Lilly in 1955.

--by Dolores Jackson Hollandsworth

Perrin family

In the 1840s, my great-grandparents, Robert B. Perrin and his wife, Judah Belle Schnieder Perrin, from Bedford County, Pennsylvania, came to what was then Wood County, Virginia. They lived first near the mouth of the Hughes River. In 1856, they bought 250 acres of land from the estate of Adam Deem; on this they built a double log house (two log houses with a large chimney between with a fireplace opening in each house), barn, grainery, chicken house, etc.--improvements he valued at \$4,000. Much of the land was given to their children. Their youngest son, George, married Dora Wiblin. They were my grandparents. George died in 1890, leaving his wife with four children. The oldest, Will Perrin, was my father. My grandfather was a cabinet maker and made many beautiful pieces of furniture, some of which his grandchildren have today. Dora lived on with her father-in-law and kept house for him, and he supported her and the children. Bobby (as he was known) served a term in the West Virginia legislature. Myrtle Mahaney tells me that he practically raised her father, Will Hull. Will Perrin was born in 1879 and died in 1956; Alice, born in 1884, died in 1950.

My mother was Alice Roberts Perrin from Eatons. She was a school teacher. Her parents lived in East Liverpool, Ohio, where Papa worked in a pottery when they were first married. They came back to the Perrin place on Hughes River in the spring of 1911. I was

born there that fall and my sister, Mary Alice, was born in 1913; Nelly in 1917; and Willa Lee in 1921. In 1925, we moved to Eatons, where our youngest sister, Patricia Anne, was born in 1928. I married Robert Lee; Mary Alice married Cheselyn Jonas; Nelly married Fred Anderson. Willia Lee married Wayne Jenkins and Patricia married Mike Burkey.

All this has been a long time ago, but I still dream of living in that old double log house and remember all the relatives, friends and neighbors as if it was yesterday.

The Perrin place of 80 acres still belongs to us. There have been oil wells drilled on it since Civil War days, then again in or around the 1890s, then again during the first World War, and then two years ago, another was drilled.

--by Dora Nancy Perrin Lee

Henry B. Perrine family

Henry B. Perrine (1859-1938) and Ella Headlee Perrine lived in Petroleum and operated a store. There were several children who grew up in the area. William F. (1906-1978) married Francis Booth; Cassell lives in Charleston; Henry C. is in California; Ralph C. (born in 1907) is in Ohio; and there were also Hazel, Ruth and Clay.

Willis Russell Pierson family

Rusell, born in 1899, was the son of Ulysses and Georgiana Lemon Pierson. He married Flora Edith Cooper (1906-1974) and they lived in the Freeport / Cisco area. Russell died in 1976. They were the parents of twelve children, scattered all the way to the West Coast. Warren, Everett, Jesse, Virgil, Russell, Larry, Carolyn Shafer, Hilda Dulin, Ivana Priselac, Juanita Berry, Ora Yonlly, Mary Reynolds.

Ulysses Pierson family

Liss was first married to Georgiana Lemon, who died young. He then married her sister, Mary, and lived on Dry Ridge. He was born in 1869; Mary in 1880, and she died in 1975. Russell was a son by his first wife; from the second marriage, there were Dessie, who married Virgil South; and Myrtle, who married Kendall Marshall and a son, Emory Carl (1917-1918). The family lived on Dry Ridge for several years. The children attended the Dry Ridge School. Liss's wives were the daughters of George and Mary Collum Lemon of Freeport.

The Rev. Clifford Phillips

Clifford and Lucille came to the Cisco-Rusk area in the mid 1930s. This was his first charge. They had one daughter, Dorothy, who married Charlie Brown and lives in Ohio. His brother, Rev. R. L. Phillips, frequently helped him in revival meetings. Rev. R. L. died in 1981.

The Phillips family

My grandfather was Benjamin Franklin Phillips, who was an early settler in 1830 on the North Fork of Hughes River. In 1837 he married Mary Ann Deem, a daughter of Phillip Deem, a veteran of the War of 1812. Ben Phillips claimed 500 acres of land in what was then Wood County and over 200 acres of the land is in the name of his descendants.

My father was Arthur Burl Phillips who was the son of Alvia Hamilton and Mary Emily Davis Phillips. My mother was Marian Abigail Deem, daughter of Washington Lafayette and Francis Holland Deem.

I was born at Elizabeth; my sister, Delores, was born in 1927 after we had moved to Wood County. The family then located in Ritchie County where sister Marian Pauline was born in 1930, and brother Alvia Earl in 1934. It was a lifetime dream of my father for his children to attend school and graduate from college. When we were all four away in college it was frugal times for both mother and father and miracle stories can be told how father emerged from those "Depression years." Earl is in Illinois; Delores (Mrs. Frank Buskirk) lives in Minnesota; Pauline (Mrs. Wayne Carry) lives in Ohio; and I live in Parkersburg. My wife, Mercedes, was a school teacher. Our roots are here. We enjoy the old home place on Hughes River to go for vacations and weekends.

--Wendell Phillips

Forrest Pribble family

Hugh Pribble, my grandfather, was born on his father's farm in 1851. He married Mary Ellen Dulin. To this family were born 14 children; one of his sons--Forrest--is my father. My father and his brother, Shirley, bought another farm from their father. We still own part of that farm today. I can remember as a small girl, we had to haul hay shocks. The sun was hot, but there were cattle to feed.

The Methodist parsonage was close to our house. Rev. Smith moved in to preach on the Rusk circuit in 1935. He died in 1936, leaving a wife and seven children. I married his son French in 1943. We have three children, Connie Hill Jones, Lynn Hilkey and Richard; three grandchildren, Missy and Matt Hill and Jennifer Smith.

I had one sister, Marjorie, who married Ralph Kuhn and lives near Rusk.

--by Mary Virginia Pribble Smith

Mose A. Pribble family

Mose and Lena Lockhart Pribble lived at Freeport. They had three daughters: Bernice, who lives in Parkersburg; Glenna Kinsinger; and Gladys Pribble, who died in 1978.

Andrew Jackson Pribble

Andrew Jackson Pribble and Lillie Duff (1887-1978) lived in the Petroleum area. Lilly was the daughter of Henry and Linda Jenkins Duff. They had one daughter, Elizabeth Virginia (1914-1982), who worked in Parkersburg at Broughton's Dairy for 28 years.

Shirley M. Pribble

Shirley (1887-1961), son of Hugh and Mary Dulin Pribble, married Anna Dulin and lived all his life in the Rusk area and was a farmer. They were the parents of one son, Wayne, who married Marjorie Pribble and lives in Wood County. Fred and Virginia Bush and family live in the old homeplace now.

When Great-Grandma was a Girl

Great-Grandma on a winter's day,
Milked the cows and fed them hay.
Slopped the hogs, saddled the mule;
And got the children off to school.
Did a washing, mopped the floors,
Washed the windows and did the chores.
Cooked a dish of home-dried fruit,
Pressed her husband's Sunday suit.
Swept the parlor, made the beds,
And baked a dozen loaves of bread.
Split the firewood and lugged it in,
Enough to fill the kitchen bin.
Cleaned the lamps and put in oil,
Stewed some apples she tho't would spoil.
Cooked a supper that was delicious
And afterward washed up all the dishes.
Fed the cat and sprinkled the clothes,
Mended a basketful of hose.
Then opened the organ and began to play,
"When You Come to the End of a Perfect Day."

(This poem was given to me by the late Mable Pribble Geer when I was just a young girl and stayed at her house a few weeks.--Lorraine Cox Trembly)

The subject area was at one time the home of several Shawnee Indians. The story comes down to us how they married: After the wedding, the bride went to her parents' home where she was visited by her husband until a child was born. At the time of the wedding, friends gathered at a cabin of the family and had a dance and feast. After this the couple broke a stick in small pieces and gave it to the friends as evidence of their marriage. If a child was not born in the ordinary course of time, the parents of the bride collected the bits and pieces of the stick and fitted them together; this constituted a divorce. Another method

of divorce was when either became dissatisfied, an eight-day notice was given and the pieces of the stick were collected. After this, each one was free to remarry after a reasonable time, such as three to six months. If there were children, they were divided equally between the father and mother. In case of an uneven number, the mother got the extra child.

When a woman was ready to deliver, she went to a cabin alone and delivered herself without any assistance. The child was dipped in warm water and bandaged to a plank to be carried on the mother's back or hung from a tree while she worked.

(Girls, we think we have it rough, don't we?)

Hugh Pribble family

This was one of the early pioneer families in the area. Hugh married Mary Ellen Dulin, and they were parents of several children. The only one still living is Sherman, who married Ella Rogers and lives in Pennsylvania. The other children were: Carl (1891-1973); Forest, who died in 1963; Shirley, who died in 1961 at the age of 74; John, who lived in Ohio; Mabel (1893-1984), who lived in Parkersburg and married Clarence Geer; Daisy, born in 1882, married Charles Marshall, died in 1955; Lelia, born in 1884, married Ira Jackson and died in 1960. There were other children, but records are lacking at this time.

Charles F. Putnam family

Charles, born in 1849, and Agnes Rowe Putnam, born in 1849, came to Buffalo Run from Bath County, Virginia, about 1913. They lived here the rest of their lives. Charles died in 1935 and she in 1941. There were several children: Lou S. married Floyd Ballangee and lived at Freeport; Grace married Clifford Davis and lived on Buffalo Run for several years; Alma married William Tanzey and lived on Gillespie; Orlando (Buster) never married--he lived on Buffalo Run. He was born about 1873 and died in 1960. Robert was killed on the railroad in 1943; Winfield married Agnes Conoway and was killed in the mines; Walter and brother Bernard never married and both were killed on the railroad. Stella, a sister, burned to death before the family left Virginia.

Buster will be remembered as a great horse trader. He had horse trading reunions, and men would come leading their horses to attend the day's events. I'm sure many tales were swapped during the day.

--by Howard Davis

Clyde E. Putnam family

Clyde (1880-1963) was the son of A. F. and Jemina Heck Putnam. He married Iva Stanley, who died in October 1972. Clyde was born in Doddridge County but spent most

of his life in the Rusk-Racy area and raised a large family here. They were parents of 11 children; Sylvia, who married Clyde Border; Hazel Eddy; Beatrice Null; Lillian Layfield; Opal Grimm; Enid Lewis; Bethel Border; Ernestine Summerland; Verdis Lewis; Mescal Mates. One son, Lester, born in 1908, was killed when struck by a car near his home in Ohio in 1978. They are buried at Mason Cemetery.

Molasses Making

Many farmers in the area raised cane. The stalks of this were crushed in a cane mill and the juice boiled down into molasses. This would take all day to boil down a pan of molasses. Neighbors and friends would make their appearance on the nights they knew molasses were in the making. On one night the writer well remembers, a pretty young lady in the community fell in the skimmins hole. This juice had to be skimmed while it was boiling; this green mess would be thrown over the bank and would not be a very nice place to end up unless you had on high boots. A young man in the community by the name of Cummins came with his pockets bulging with biscuits left from the evening meal. I'm sure he enjoyed licking the molasses pan to the fullest. The farmers who made molasses were usually generous with their finished product.

Children's Day

This was just what the name implied--a program put on by the children in the church. There would be recitations, dialogs, songs and plays. Special singers would sometimes come in, and there was always a big picnic at noon before the program got under way.

Last Day of School

This found all the parents that could attending. The mothers would prepare food and bring to the school for a picnic. The students would join in ball games, spelling bees, races, etc. Many times a neighboring school would be invited to come for the day. This was a time the kids looked and planned for from the time school started in the fall.

A. J. Queen

Mr. Queen was born about 1856 and his wife, Emma, was born about 1854. They lived on Buffalo Run. The 1880 census lists A. J. as an oil field worker living on Buffalo Run. Mrs. Queen was not happy living here and spent much time with her family who lived near Walker. Mr. Queen was killed in a tragic accident, when a porch roof fell on him and killed him in the mid-1920s.

John W. Quick

John Quick (1875-1939) and his wife, Persis Liddle Quick (1892-1982) lived near Rusk for many years. They had four children: Wiley and Joseph of Vienna; Arda Lewis in Florida; and Charles (1915-1975). Charles and his wife, Catherine, had one daughter, Donna Kay.

After the death of Mr. Quick, Persis married Lawrence Layfield, and they lived in Cairo until her death.

Valentine Cards

Today, we have our pretty Valentine and Christmas cards. This has changed somewhat. In the 1930s and 1940s, there were valentines the size of this sheet of paper with ugly pictures and verses--terrible-looking pictures and sometimes insulting. Come the first of February, these were purchased, put into envelopes. and, with very distorted handwriting, they were put in the mail to someone in the community or family member. The sender did not want to be known. Many times a very innocent person would be accused of sending an ugly card that he knew nothing about. The card would fit the person receiving it, and they took it as an insult rather than a joke. I have known of cards being sent to another post office and remailed from that spot to confuse the receiver even more.

Benjamin Franklin Rogers family

This family moved into the Cisco area from Copen Run, Braxton County, in 1914. They purchased the Ben Marshall property near the junction of the Buffalo Run road and the Cairo-Cisco road. The farm had well over 200 acres, and my father made a living for his family on the farm. I remember one experience in our lives that happened in 1922. We started to Florida in a Model T ton and-a-half truck. We were nine days getting there. We spent the first night in Parkersburg and the second night about twenty miles beyond Cincinnati. We had a tent and my father would get permission from the farmers along the way to stop and pitch our tent for the night. My mother would cook supper for us children and get us bedded down for the night and fix breakfast the next morning and then we would head South again. When we arrived in Plant City, Florida, the truck would not go in the sand. We had hard rubber tires and my father had to put soft-pneumatic tires on so the truck would move in the sand there. One year later, we headed North to our home at Cisco, and it took seven days to return.

My grandparents on my father's side were James Rogers and Jane Moss Rogers. My mother's parents were John Wilson Haymond and Sara Elizabeth Yancy Haymond.

My father, Ben Rogers (1872-1929), married Lenora Margaret Haymond (187_-196_) on September 16, 1891. To this union thirteen children were born:

Nellie, born in 1893, lives in Florida. She married Wilbur Bugg in 1912. Wilbur is now deceased.

Jennie (1894-1982) married Clarence Bartlett, who is also deceased.

Lee was born in 1896 and died in 1901.

Ella, born in 1898, married Sherman Pribble in 1921 and lives in Pennsylvania.

W. F. (Frankie) was born in 1900 and died in 1901.

Harry was born in 1901 and is now deceased.

Lucy, born in 1901, married Cecil Dulaney in 1924. Cecil died in 1974 and Lucy lives in Vienna.

Farrie (Fairy Gay) (1905-1981) married Cecil Tennant December 8, 1923. Cecil died in 1978. She later married George Richards and lived in Vienna.

Worthy, born in 1906, married Kathleen Pierce in May, 1925.

Charles, born in 1907, lived one week and died September 13, 1907.

Noble John, born in 1908, married Genevieve George.

Floyd, born in 1910, married June Wilcox, February 14, 1943. Floyd has the Rogers Used Cars in Parkersburg. He has been in the business 52 years.

Grace (1912-1979) married Harley Schoolcraft August 28, 1926. Harley is now deceased. At the time of Grace's death, she was married to John Walton. The Rogers homeplace was sold to Westvaco a few years ago. My parents are both buried at the Marshall Cemetery near where they lived for many years.

--by Floyd Rogers

John W. Roberts family

John (1892-1974) was the son of John William (1858-1927) and Clara Fultz (1868-1952). He married Gertrude Eddy, born in 1905, and still lives at Petroleum where they lived all their life. John worked in the oil fields and lived at the end of the bridge in Petroleum. They were parents of four children: John W., Ralph, Louise and Lucille.

John W. married Agnes Shuck of Cisco and was overcome by carbon monoxide fumes while working in the oil fields in 1970.

Ralph lives in Florida.

Lucille Sanders lives in North Carolina.

Louise married Max Flanagan and lives in the Cairo area.

John and Clara Fultz Roberts were parents to four other children in addition to John W.: Ralph (1899-1980) married Ora Mae McGinnis; Ruth (born in 1901) married Roy Pepper (1885-1968) and lived at Cairo; Louis Mahaney (1903-1978) lived in the Cairo area; Jean Saunder lives in South Carolina.

Tom Rawson

Tom, son of S. A. and Nancy Rawson, lived in the area. He loved to fox hunt and was at one time a singing teacher. He was born in 1874 and lived in Pennsboro and Bluefield before he came to Dry Ridge. He lived alone on the Fairview Hill, and lived in Parkersburg at the time of his death.

William Lester Rawson

W. L. was the son of Charles E. and Bertha Riggs Rawson. He married Adlessia Koehnlein and lived at Petroleum. He was born in 1912 and died in 1972. Adlessia was born in 1909, and they were parents of one daughter, Anita Jean Jogue. Lester was employed for many years at Union Carbide Corporation.

David M. Roberts family

David married Nancy Jane Mackey. Nancy (1889-1960) lived in the Petroleum area. They were parents of these children: James, Jennings, Jackson, Gene, John and Jessie Jenkins.

Arthur Henry Richards

Arthur married Minnie Carpenter Richards and lived in the Petroleum area. Minnie was born in 1897 and died in 1983. They had several children: Hubert, Clyde, Lesley, Louise and Dale, born in 1927 and died in 1983.

Robert H. Rutherford family

Robert was first married to Nora Lee; they had two children: William E. and Robert H. William E. (1887-1960) married Elizabeth Morrison (1895-1919). He and Elizabeth were parents to four children: Howard and Arnold, Lillian Watering and Mrs. Howard Daily. Arnold married Ruth Boston from Dry Ridge and lived in Vienna. He and Ruth are both deceased.

Robert Rutherford (1882-1966) was twice married: first to Ella Curry, and to this union there were two children born: Russell (1905-1982); and Adalaide (1906-1975), who married Wade Cross.

The second marriage was to Anna Bradford (1898-1981) and there were four children: Dorothy, who married Francis Jonas; Ronald; William (1914-1982); and Clyde.

Arthur Reynolds

Arthur operated the store on Walker Ridge. He was married to Grace Conley, daughter of Jack Conley. He was well known in the Freeport area and also the Dry Ridge area. Grace was born in 1881 and died in 1954.

Ritchie County Soldiers in the Civil War (from subject area):			
David Cain	Cornelius Cain	John Deem	Albert W. Cain
Isaiah Deem	John Farr	Sampson P. Hull	Dennis Lanham
John R. Powell	Anthony Sharpnack	Alexander Tennant	Thomas Wilson
Abel C. Whiteman	David C. Whiteman	Robert R. Whiteman	Granville B. Cain
George B. Douglas	John Layfield	George Layfield	William Black
Elias Sharpnack	Jasper N. Wilson	Timothy Tennant	James R. Douglass
Jacob W. Phillips	Charles Dotson	Daniel W. Cox	Thomas A. Douglass
Andrew J. Nutter	Elijah C. Goff	Silas Braden	Butcher Valentine
A. E. Dotson	Garrison Dotson	John Thomas	Jasper Wyatt
James P. Eddy	Martin V. Goff	Eli Mason	Andrew J. Nutter
John W. Boston	Henry T. Boston	Thomas J. Braden	Floyd S. Cline
Asa Jenkins	Sam Jenkins	A. W. Jeffery	Levi Morgan
Joseph Jenkins	John Hawkins	Robert Jenkins	Jacob M. Reitz
Lewis P. Reitz	Silas Cain	Eli B. Dotson	William A. Valentine
William W. Wilson	James Cain	Charles Mahaney	Charles Hewitt
John McGinnis	Alexander Deem	Ezekiel Braden	Andrew Evans
John Evans	William Modesitt	Grover C. Lemon	Samuel Middleton
Alfred Tennant	Jackson Pribble	Siotha Cain	J. W. (Sud) Cain
Hiram Cain	J. T. Cain	E. T. Lemon	P. J. Lemon
C. N. Lemon	F. J. Lemon	John W. Marshall	Allen Beckner
Jack Pribble	Isaac Null	Louis Logue	Daniel Eddy
John Dulaney	J. Alvin Nutter	W. L. Jackson	

(I'm sure there are others that have been missed in the listing.)

Settle family

This family moved to the area and worked as timber cutters. Mrs. Settle was Tick Hayes from Stumptown; worked and lived in the Freeport area.

Guy Stutler

Guy lived in the Freeport area. Mrs. Stutler taught school, and Guy is remembered for his singing. He and a magician by the name of Pickett had a major part in the program at the J. P. Beckner farm when the Staunton Pike was dedicated, and an all-day celebration took place.

Andy Smith

Andy visited his cousin, Mrs. Daubenspeck on Dry Ridge, often. He lived in the Walker area near the Mt. Carmel Church. Andy was noted for being extremely honest in all his dealings.

Freddy Simons

Freddy lived on the old William Sharpnack place in the Dry Ridge area.

The Sharpnack family

Sharpnack is of German origin and was originally spelled "Scharpenack." The first one of this family, Peter, set sail in 1759 but died before he reached America. His son, Henry, was born after his mother arrived in Philadelphia in 1760. Henry married Mary Rice in 1783--the beginning of this long line of descendants. William B. Jr. (1810-1890) came to the Dry Ridge area from Pennsylvania. His first marriage was to Sarah Harris. They moved to a tract of land of about 400 acres on the site of the "California House." Sarah died here, leaving three small children: Elias, Anthony and Elizabeth. Elias was born about 1838; Anthony born in 1840, was married to Elma Garrison in 1866. They had four children: Emri J., Clara E., Francis M. and David A. Elizabeth died as a young girl.

William's second marriage was to Margaret Cokeley of Harrisville, who lived only a short time. After her death, William married her sister, Mary, and they had three children: John, Frank and Martha. John I., born about 1856; Frank D., born about 1866, married Laura. Their children were Cora, Mary and William. In 1913, they sold their farm to Frank Kerns and moved to Dover, Delaware to raise strawberries. Mary and her husband were back on a visit in 1951. Martha (1863-1894) married William Cox and lived in the area until her early death.

William married again for the fourth time, Eleanor Pipes of Tyler County. Ella died in 1911. William divided his land among his children. Hiram and Anthony received land on opposite sides of the road. John received acreage near Anthony's; John and Frank received money to care for their step-mother, Ellie, as long as she lived.

William was a Methodist and captain of militia before the Civil War. He is buried at Freeport along with several of his family. Two sweet apple trees and one crab apple tree were still living in 1951 that Ella brought with her from Tyler County in her suitcase.

John Sharpnack

John was a cousin of William and Hiram. He moved to the Buffalo Run area with his wife, Hannah. He lived here during the 1840s and reared a large family. His children included: Hiram, Abraham (1832-1854); Elma (1838-1868), Lydia; Sarah; Mahala and Henry. Records are lacking on this family, but two of his children, Abraham and Elma, are buried at Freeport.

Hiram Sharpnack

Hiram came to the Dry Ridge area in 1848. He settled near his brother, William, who lived near the California House. He was skilled in wood-working and cabinet-making and was also an iron worker and became a very prosperous man. Hiram (1818-1880) married Lydia Harris who died in 1886. Lydia was a sister to Sarah Harris. This couple was to have nine children born to them:

One son, William H. (1844-1912) was a Union soldier. He married Catherine Smith (1845-1906) of Freeport. They had three children: Sinclair died as an infant in 1867; Joseph (1868-1929) lived in Cairo, was county clerk from 1915 until his death. Minnie, born in 1873, married Rolandus Marshall and lived many years in Cairo after leaving Freeport. William was a school teacher in the area; he was also a skilled carpenter, built his father's house, Uncle William's house, Sharpnack Church and Dry Ridge School in 1880.

Another son, Daniel (1845-1914) married Eleanor Reitz (1844-1919). They moved to Petroleum in 1869. Three of their children were: Alice, born about 1875; Thomas, born in 1880; and Rachel (1870-1955). Rachel married Sidney Curry and lived all her life in the Petroleum area. Dan Sharpnack's house burned in March 6, 1914, and he lived only three weeks after this tragedy.

Other children were:

Lucy, born about 1855 and never married.

Mary V. (1858-1886), married Alfred B. Enoch.

Ella P., born in 1864, married Winfield Clark.

Rachael A. married Thomas Bathgate.

Isaac N. married Ida J. Huntington.

Sarah F. married James Lillie who died in 1905.

Martha E. never married.

William, Lydia and some of their children are buried on a knoll on the farm and the beautiful grave stones are still there.

(Some of the details on this family furnished by Ann Daubenspeck.)

Spears family

Sylvester Spears married Addie Jane Sprout and lived in the Eatons area and raised his family. The children were: John, William, Fulton and Emma.

John married Ada Jenkins (both deceased) and raised five children: John Jr., William, Robert, David and Nora Jane McLaughlin.

William M. married Weltha Hawkins, lived in the Eatons area. They were the parents of ten children: Franklin Dale; Hollia A.; Gertrude Trembly; Thelma Littleton; Cora Lou Metz; Betty Ann Swearingon; Addie, who married Ralph Heater, died in 1969; William (Bud) married Doris McCrady and died in 1977; Paul, born in 1925, was killed when hit with a baseball in 1931; John D., born in 1931, died in 1934. Cora Lou and Franklin Dale (Jim) both died in 1984.

Fulton married Bernice Jenkins and lived in the Eatons area. They had five children: Fulton Dale Jr., James H., Laura June Miller, Addie Alice Miller, and one son, Paul Lee, who died at a young age.

Emma Foley lived in Oklahoma at the time of her death in 1983. She had three children: Mildred, Geraldine and Gerald Cox.

Robert Shutts

Robert is remembered in the Eatons area as going about the community and helping out in the time of death. He was willing to help "lay out" the bodies and often helped undertakers. He and his family lived on the hill above Goose Creek. I remember two children: Cecil, who was a school teacher; and his sister, Winnie. He always came to our house when some of the family died.

--by Russell Cox

George Stage

George married Lonia P. Deems, daughter of C. D. and Emma Deem Tennant. He lived on Buffalo Run and moved to Oklahoma in 1922. All of us remember the Stage place on

Buffalo Run, lived in by several families. Lonia died in 1967 at the age of 83 in Oklahoma. They had one daughter, Mrs. Ralph Hunsecker.

Preston Simmons family

Press, as he was known, was born in 1879 and died in 1961. He was the son of Alfred and Mary Sinnett Simmons. He married Winnie Kerns (1880-1967), and they were parents of nine children and lived in the Cabin Run area.

Ruby married John Turner; Florence Mollohan; Eva Conaway; Nina Whipkey; Edith Rouser; Preston Jr., living in California; Marion; and Raymond (deceased); Blanche (1903-1984) married Joe Grillon, who died in 1981. Press was a farmer and hard-working man.

Ralph Swisher family

Ralph (1891-1974) was the son of Arch and Mary Ann Booth Swisher. He married Ella Deem and lived in the Rusk community. He was an oil field worker. Ella died in 1952; they were the parents of six children: Dennis, Kenneth, Olen, Willie, Marjorie Moyers and Deloris Daugherty.

J. Frank Showalter family

Frank and his wife, Jessie, lived in the Volcano area. He was an oil field worker. There were five children: Virginia Showalter, Alice Duncan, J. Frank Jr., Harry and Francis L.

Homer Sprouse

Homer and his wife, Cornelia Mahoney Sprouse, lived in the Volcano area. They had several children: Alice married Elza Trembly; Harvey (1902-1980) married Ruth Webb and lived in the area all his life; Bill married Helen Stutler; Lattel married Russell West and second marriage to Earl Stutler.

The Shriver family

John Hagen Shriver, born in 1854, married Agnes Twyman in 1876. They moved to Ritchie County to be near her brother, Benjamin, who was already here teaching school. They were parents of six children: John H., Bertha Webb, Rebecca Cantwell, Benjamin, James Blane and Hardman H. They are all deceased. John's second wife was Grace Dotson and they were to be parents of six children:

Edna, born in 1897, died at the age of five years.

Olive G. (1899-1984) married Ensel Metz.

Myrtle, born in 1901, married Clyde Affolter.

George F. (1904-1973)

Frona Marie (1909-1977) never married.

Mark Dotson, born in 1917, still lives at the Shriver home place. The log house burned to the ground in 1911; a new house was built and stands today.

James Henry Simms family

James Henry was born about 1842 in Virginia; he married Mary Melissa Cronin, who was born in 1848. He died in 1919 and she in 1934. James Henry was the son of Robert and Margaret Holmes. Margaret later married David Hill, after her first husband's death. James and Mary were to become parents of three children:

John V. (1878-1978) married Lucy Lemon (1872-1972). Note that both of them died just before their 100th birthday. They were parents of three boys: Mansel S., born in 1901, died while living in California; Preston (Bunt) married Ada Boston. Bunt was born in 1904 and died in 1945. C. Dale, born in 1909, married Coral Lemon. Coral was killed in a tragic car accident in 1983. Dick's wife, Garnet Jackson, also died in 1983.

Margaret was first married to Thomas Lemon. They had several children: Harley, Wesley, Lee, Ica Showalter, Laura Alexander, Margie Smith, Evelyn King and children who died in infancy. Margaret died in 1971.

Mary Jane, born in 1874, was first married to Ulysses Cox. They had six children: William, Fred, Russell and Ernest--all deceased. Gerald, born in 1900, lives in Pennsylvania, and Hazel, born in 1903, lives in Virginia. In later years, Mary married Emri Sharpnack, moved to the midwest and returned to this area a few years before her death in 1970. Emri died while living in Iowa.

--by Dale Sims

Martin Luther Schoolcraft family

Lew, as he was known to his many friends and neighbors, was first married to Ella Swisher. They had two children: Garnet, who married Noel Higgins. Garnet died in 1969. She later was married to Virgil Alspach. Harley (1906-1969) was married to Grace Rogers. They had one son, Robert, who lives in Parkersburg. Ella died, leaving two small children, in 1914. Lew's mother helped take care of them. He married Lucy Mae Tennant in 1920. They were to become parents of three children. Naomi, born in 1921, was first married to Heber Deem. After Heber's death, Naomi married Bill Casto. Naomi died in September 1983. Lucille is married to Wilbert Bowman, and they have one son, Arden. Bernard married Betty Edman and has two boys, Tom and John. He lives in Parkersburg.

When Lew came to the Dry Ridge area, he came from Marion, Ohio, and bought the Sharpnack house which was a log house. He built the two-story house that was to be

home for the family all their childhood days. Lew worked in the oil fields. Mae, before she started her family, taught school for ten years in the area.

Harley Shuck family

I was born and raised in Burning Springs. I was the daughter of Ben and Ellen Reynolds. I was born September 13, 1898, on Chestnut Run in Wirt County. My father bought a farm just below Burning Springs when the big oil excitement was there. He worked in the oil fields and was a blacksmith and a farmer. He had to hire men to drive the two teams of horses to do the work in the oil field. I attended Burning Springs Independent District School. It was a five-room school, and they taught up to the twelfth grade. At that time, Burning Springs was a small town; there were over 300 scholars in school at that time. The only transportation was buggy or by gasoline or steam boats.

I married Harley Shuck in December 1919, and he went to work on the California lease on Hughes River. We moved to Fairmont, where Harley worked in the mines for two years. We moved back to Cisco and bought the farm from Jim Beckner. Here we had eight children:

Audra, born in 1920, married Richard Jonas and lives in Parkersburg.

Agnes, born in 1922, was first married to John Roberts who died in 1970. Agnes is now married to Russell Chevrent.

Harley John, born in 1924, married Jean Shue.

Sadie Pearl, born in 1927, married Paul Valentine. Sadie Pearl and her baby died May 1949.

Eva Ellen, born in 1929, married Stanley Null.

Kelsie was born in 1935 and married Mildred Baker.

Veda Jean, born in 1938, married Joseph Maynard.

Peggy Sue, born in 1942, married Charles Pickrell.

Harley was born in 1894, died in 1974. He worked for Melon Oil Company for 38 years. He served in World War I in France and Germany. Harley was injured in 1956. We sold the farm and bought a home in Elizabeth. After he passed away, I sold the home and moved to Marietta on Kelsie's place, one and one-half miles out of Marietta on Pine Hurst Road.

--by Mary Shuck

Leo South

Leo and his family lived in the Dry Ridge area. He married Dessie Pierson, daughter of Ulysses and Mary of Dry Ridge. The family moved to the Florida area, where Dessie still lives.

Rev. Robert R. Smith family

This family moved to the Rusk charge of the Methodist church in 1935. He died in 1936, leaving his wife and seven children. Mrs. Smith lived on in the area after Rev. Smith's death. Her children married and settled in the area.

French married Mary Virginia Pribble, a neighbor girl, and has lived in the house at the junction of the Petroleum and Cairo-Cisco road for several years.

Lawrence served in World War II and lived in Virginia for several years. He died in April 1980.

Raymond lives in New York.

Olive Kerns lives at Murphytown. Iris Parks lives in Florida and Edith Mason lives at Petroleum.

Mrs. Smith died in 1968.

Rev. Frank Spiker family

Rev. Spiker lived in the parsonage at Petroleum. He was married to Edna Cantwell Spiker and they had five children: four daughters and one son. The girls were: Wilma, who lives in Wheeling; Jo Ann; Linalee; and Phyllis who lives in Charleston. Frank, Jr., the son, married Opal Cox and lives at Williamson.

Rev. Spiker died in November 1980 while residing in Charleston; his widow still lives there.

Guy Sinnett family

This family lived on Dry Ridge around the 1940s. There were several children in the family. Three of the children (Harley, Flo and Carl) were students at Dry Ridge the last year the school was open.

Fred Stutler

Fred (1887-1949) and Esther G. Stutler (1890-1961) lived in the area around Petroleum. They are both buried in the Petroleum Cemetery.

Martin Tennant family

Martin (1852-1918) lived on Dry Ridge. He was the son of Daniel and Martha Tennant. He married Lovie Cain (1859-1940). He was a farmer, and he and Lovie had ten children:

Hulda (1877-1963), the only girl and the oldest child, married Thomas Backus.

Adam Martin, the oldest son, was born in 1878.

Martin Ashby (Bee, 1880-1937) lived all his life on Dry Ridge and never married.

Thomas Clinton (Tom, 1883-1946) lived at home and never married.

Roy, born in 1886, married Virginia Lemon. He died in 1971.

Elias Dan, born in 1888, married Edna Harbert and is now deceased.

Joshua Hiram, born in 1892, married Clara Harbert, and is deceased.

Charles Lewis, born in 1894, married Edna Isabelle Wilson (1907-1931). They had two sons, Charles and Martom, who grew up in the Wilson's home. Lew died in 1978.

Cecil, born in 1898, married Fairy Rogers. He and Ora lived at Petroleum for several years. He died in 1978.

Ora, the youngest, born in 1900, married Violet Cantwell. They had two children: Mary Lou and James Edward (1925-1940). Ora later married Mary Cantwell and they had one son, Robert O. Ora died in 1984, the last member of his family. Five of the boys served in World War I, and several members of the family are buried at Dry Ridge Cemetery.

Simon E. Tennant family

Sime, as he was known to his neighbors, lived all his life on Buffalo Run in sight of the site where he was born in a log house. He was the son of Daniel (1817-1861) and Martha Buchannon Tennant (1822-1914). Simon (1856-1921) married Lucy Ellen Cain (1855-1941). She was the daughter of Jesse (1812-1898) and Margaret Nutter Cain (1814-1900). With the help of C. T. H. Cain, he built the house downstream from his home. This house was to become the home for he and Lucy and their nine children:

Cora Ellen (1879-1961) married Walter Phillips (1879-1942).

John, born in 1880, lived for only a few weeks.

Zora Edna (1882-1966) lived all her life on Buffalo Run.

William Creed (1886-1972) married Maude Slack, lived in the Charleston area and had five children. Maude died in 1983.

Ralph (1888-1918) lived at the family home and never married.

Lucy Mae (1891-1971) married Luther Schoolcraft (1881-1963) and lived in the Dry Ridge area all her life.

Raymond (1893-1930) married Meda Lacy. He died at his home on Buffalo after a lengthy illness.

Inez Jane (1896-1978) lived all her life at the family home.

Bernice Mable (1899-1950) married Russell Cox and lived on Dry Ridge.

The home was sold in 1966, after Edna's health failed. After the death of her first husband, Martha married Lewis Logue in 1865 and lived in the house on Buffalo Run, until her death in 1914. Several members of the family are buried at Dry Ridge and the children attended the Fairview School.

William Calvin Trembly family

Cal, as he was known to his friends, was born in 1866, the son of Abraham and Catherine Yoho Trembly. The family moved from Woodsfield, Ohio, in 1866 to Burnt House, Ritchie Mines, and later to Dry Ridge. The family crossed the Ohio River in a covered wagon when Calvin was one year old. Two daughters--Annie and Adda--are buried at Dry Ridge. George married Zilda Foutty and lived in the area; George died in 1930. Hattie married Van Deems and moved to Maryland. Ella, born in 1874, was married twice: first to John McIntire and second to Scott Reed. She lived in Ohio. Abraham and Catherine are buried at Dry Ridge. Catherine married the second time to Isaiah Deems (Van's father) and lived with him until her death in 1911. He died in 1926. The Tremblys came from New Jersey. David, who married Emma Cline, came to the Northwest Territory, and his known sons were Nathaniel, Isaac, Abraham and Henry. Abraham was born in 1840 and died in 1882.

Calvin and Icey Hewitt Trembly were parents of eleven children. Icey was the daughter of Carey Breckrenridge and Mary Elizabeth Briggs Hewitt. She and Calvin were married in 1895. Calvin attended school at Dry Ridge; he farmed and cut timber.

John, the oldest son, born in 1896, married Elsie Lemley and lived at Petroleum and worked for the B & O for many years. They had one daughter, Marie Reynolds. John married the second time to Sally Underwood and lives at Clarksburg.

Earl, born in 1898, married Edna Morris; he farmed and cut timber. He lived in Ohio for much of his life and has three children: Russell, Glenn and Betty Henderson.

Elza, born in 1900, married Alice Sprouse and died in 1974. They had three children: Ray, Eugene and Janell Tumlin.

Ralph, born in 1903, married Eunice Lemley and operated a sawmill.

Joseph, known as Joe, born in 1905, married Edna Boston and lives near Parkersburg. They have four children: Ivan, David, Virginia and Wandalee.

Cecil, born in 1907, married Gertrude Spears and lives near Walker. They have seven children: Troxal, Dale, Dan, Frank (deceased), Roy, Ellen and Sue.

Viola, born in 1909, married Cecil Lemley and has two children: Ruth Leonard and Robert.

Clyde, born in 1912, married Helen Farnsworth and has one son, Charles. Ruby, born in 1916, married Wilbert Boston, and they have three children: Leonard, Orville and Evelyn.

Howard, born in 1918, married Eleanor Purdum who died in 1982. He married the second time to Loraine Cox Metz and lives in Parkersburg. He had five children from his first marriage: Robert, Roy, Dorotha, Emma and Iva.

Mable, born in 1920, married Robert Starn and lived in Fairmont. They had five children: Robert, Michael, Stephen, Rick, Sandra.

The family moved to Goose Creek in 1912. Their property was near where three counties--Wood, Ritchie and Wirt--join. The first school near them was started in 1924. The new school, known as Cox School, was opened three years later. Calvin, born in 1866, died in 1949; Icey, born in 1878, died in 1963.

James E. and Martha Mason Thomas

The family lived near Cisco and operated a store there in the early twenties. They lived on the farm later owned and occupied by the Harley Shuck family. There were three children: Harley, who married Grace Beckner; Cora, who married Harvey Mason; and Bertha, who married Charlie Mason.

Aaron P. Twyman

Aaron married Virginia Wilson and lived on Flint Run, Cisco, and Goose Creek. They were parents of several children: Okey, Woodrow J., Pearl Gaines, Hazel Hobbs. Names of the other children are missing now.

Hilton Twyman

Hilton (1890-1973) was the son of Ben and Nina Twyman. He lived on Goose Creek with his wife, Ivy. She was born in 1903 and died in 1937.

Grover Twyman

Grover was the son of Ben and Ann Arnold Twyman. He married Flossie Wildman, and they lived on Flint Run and Goose Creek. Grover died in 1960 while living at Mineral Wells. Their children were: Lawrence E., Denzil P., Glenn D., Lindly L., Marie Harris, Evelyn Sissen, and Grover C. (Dick).

John E. Thrash

John and his wife, Amelia Pew Thrash, lived in the Dry Ridge area and Goose Creek. They were parents of several children, including:

John (1888-1967); Frank; and Minter, born in 1885, died in 1977 while living in Arizona. Minter married Margaret Curran. Alice married James H. Dinnin and lived on Dry Ridge for many years.

William A. Thrash

Tim, as he was known, was born in 1904, the son of Charles W. and Sallie Skidmore Thrash. He lived all his life at Petroleum. He was the postmaster for several years. His wife, Margaret McFarland Thrash, took over the post office after Tim's death in 1972. They had three children: Wesley, Duane, Charles Robert and William A.

Walter C. Taitt

Walter married Francis Mahoney and lived in the Petroleum area for many years.

Ben Twyman

Ben operated a store at Rusk. He was also a school teacher and taught in the area for several years. He had a large family: John, Hilton, George, Grover, Etta and Joseph, who was killed in military service.

Gerome Thoma

This family came from Cincinnati during the Depression in the early 1930s. They lived at the vineyard farm near Freeport. Gerome was very inexperienced in farming but managed to make a living for his family. The family were well thought of and took an active part in the community affairs. They added much to the community of Freeport. It is not known where members of the family are living.

--by Bert L. Foutty

Charles Taylor

Charles was the son of Pappy Taylor, who operated a store at Freeport. Pappy died while living at Freeport. Information on other members of this family is missing.

Charles W. Thrash family

Charlie was born in 1874, and married Sallie Skidmore, born in 1878. They lived all their life at Petroleum. Charlie is remembered as missing one leg, and he loved to pitch horse shoes. He was postmaster for several years. He and Sallie were parents of two children: Tim--or William--and Marvel, who was married to Herbert Netser and lived in Petroleum. Charlie died in 1945 and Sallie in 1956.

Adam Tennant family

Adam Tennant (1847-1921) married Emma Leep Deem. He lived all his life on Buffalo Run. When Emma came to Buffalo Run, she brought with her five children from her marriage to C. D. Deem, who had died in 1884 at the age of 32 years. These children were: Maude (born in 1874), married Charles Pribble; Lizzie A., married James Lewis; Lonia P. married George Stage; Dora (born in 1879) married F. L. Liebottom; Frank married Lillian Satow. All these children are now deceased. She and Ad were to have five more children: Eva, born in 1887; Ara Carle, born in 1891; Mamie, born in 1893; Ira, born in 1890; and Samuel, born in 1896. This family are all deceased.

They lived on what was to be known as the Stage place on Buffalo Run. It was one of the last houses to remain standing, but the house is now gone, like all the others that once dotted this once prosperous community.

Ad's first wife was Harriett Littleton (1854-1882). She died, leaving five small children: Alice, who married Harry Higgins; Clara, who married William Boston; Charles T., who lived with his wife Laura in Marion, Ohio. Simon McClure, who was first married to Effie Boston and second marriage to Sallie Ree; and Harriett Loretta, who was born at the time her mother died but lived only three months. Emma must certainly have had much love for Ad to take on a job this size, raising eight children as small as these were.

Simon McClure Tennat family

Family and friends referred to him as "Little Sime." He had an uncle by the name of Simon and this was used to distinguish the two men. Sime's first wife was Effie Boston, and they were parents of three children: Ernestine (1903-1978) married Pearly Geer in 1923. They had four children: Kenneth, Nina, Thelma and Isabelle. Pearly died in 1962.

Dora, born in 1905, married Burt Stotlar and lives in Ohio.

Ruby died at the young age of twenty years in 1921. She had one son, John, who was born in 1919. Sime was born in 1873 and died in 1952.

He later married Sallie Reed. She was born in 1884 and died in 1961, while they were living in Parkersburg.

Oliver Varner family

This was a large family who lived at Petroleum, and Al--as he was known--worked for the B & O. He married Elizabeth Ellen Harris (1880-1977). Al was born in 1876 and died in 1940. There was a family of 17 children growing up:

Charles, born in 1902, married Stella Kerns. They had two children: Charles Jr. and Della. Charles died in 1959.

George married Julia Bell and lives in the Cairo area. They have four children: George Jr., Peggy, Roy and Janet.

Utah married Waneta Morton and they have five children: Rick, Boyd, Alma, Kitty and Robin.

Virgil (Jack) and Lucille had two children: Jeff and Scott.

Calvin married Leola Bunner and had four children: Michael Oliver, Pam, Lois and Calvin, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1975.

Shirley married Pauline Bunner and has two children: Jack and Dale.

Stella married Burl Dotson, and they have four children: Barbara, Clinton, Michael and Patrick.

Nellie married Charles Metz, lives in Parkersburg, and they have six children: Denton, Dennis, Kenneth, Mickey, Carol and Cheryl.

Inez was first married to Robert Ruble and had four children: Bobby Lee, Sandra, Pat and Gregg. She married the second time to Larry Smith.

Grace married Edward Null (1893-1963) and they had two children: Edward and Gwenview Romine. Grace died in 1980.

Clara married Sherman Sims and lived in Parkersburg. They had four children: Herbert Lee, Sherman Jr., Charles and Rosemary. Clara died in 1967.

Mary Jane (1898-1978) married Frank Midcap and lived in Petroleum where Frank worked for the B & O. They had six children: Bob, who lives in Ohio; Okey; Roy, living in Ohio; Edith married Howard Cronin and lives in Ohio; Betty married Willis Alkire; and Deloris married Ben Bell. In later years, Frank and Jane moved to Parkersburg.

Verna married Tom Wilson, who is deceased. They had four children: Robert, Elizabeth, Carolyn and Virgil.

Nina married Harold Miller. Harold died in 1984. They had two children: Eugene and Larry Allen.

Julia married Daniel Donnolly and lived in Akron. They had five children: Rosemary, Marlene, Phyllis, Danny and Jerry.

Ella, who died in 1958, married Fielding Metz and they had thirteen children: Frank, Gene, Roger, Mary Lou Deem, Dorothy Kirl, Judith Lowther, Sharon Williams, Shirley White, Barbara Young and Thomas Hall. Three children are deceased: Jessie Starke, Marie and Jack. Ada married Wilford Enoch and had one son, Gary.

--by Nellie Varner Metz

Alonza Valentine family

"Lawn," as he was known to his friends, lived at Petroleum all of his married life. Born in Wirt County, he married Maude Webb, daughter of Jonas and Martha Terrell Webb. They moved to Petroleum in 1910, where they bought a farm and raised their family. Lawn died in 1957, and Maude was over 100 years old when she died (born January 1879; died June 1980). There were five children: George (1908-1975) married Florence Hughes; Mary K. Sarkris (1918-1978); Miles Wayne died in 1920 at the age of five years and Byrl died in 1913, having lived only about a year. Audrey married Russell Rutherford.

--Ritchie County History Notes

William F. Valentine family

Bill, as he was known to his family, lived in Petroleum and worked for the State Road. They owned a large farm near Petroleum, and this remained in the family until recently, when Ralph sold out and moved to Parkersburg. Bill married Ara Jane Howell (1870-1961). She was the daughter of Monroe and Mary Jane Tennant Howell from Goose Creek. To this union six children were born: Bill was born in 1870 and died in 1937.

Straud (1895-1960) married Bertha Swearingon.

Joe Carl married Daysie Jones and lived at Pennsboro. They had two children: Bill and Robert. Carl died in April 1975.

Herman (Tom) lived on the farm and never married. He was born on July 4, 1899 and died in 1984.

Another son, Thomas, lived about one month, dying in January 1910.

Mary married Carl Burgy and lives in Parkersburg. She was a school teacher. Ralph married Ruth Ross. They lived at the family home for many years. They now live in Parkersburg.

Oscar Valentine

Oscar lived at Petroleum and is remembered as a fur buyer. Oscar died November 24, 1943.

William Wyatt

William and his wife, Mary, lived in the Petroleum area. They raised their family, which included Walter Aaron (1901-1980); Lucille; Myrtle; Robert and Tink.

Robert James Wyatt

Rob, as he was known, married Mary Koehnlein and lived in Petroleum, where he raised his family. He worked in the oil fields. They were parents of four children:

John, born in 1922, married Evelyn Akers and was a Church of Christ preacher. He and Evelyn had four children: Bill, Dan, Pam and Dottie. John died in 1979.

Robert lives in Glenville.

Thomas is in Illinois and Mary Alice DeVaughan lives in Parkersbug. The children attended Petroleum school and Cairo High School.

Wilson family of Ellis Run

Three Deems boys married three Leep girls and all settled in Ellis Run. One of the three couples, John M. and Molly Leep Deem, was the parents of Icey Belle Wilson. William Kyle (Bill) Wilson and Icey Bell Deem married in 1905 and moved to Ellis Run in 1920. At the time they moved, they had six children: Edna Isabelle (1907-1931); Joseph Elliott (1909-1973); Edgar Kyle (1910-1974); Addie Belle (born in 1913); Daisy Garnet (born in 1919) and Luda (born in 1916). After they moved in 1925, Charles Clarence was born.

Isabelle married Charles Tennant in 1925 and had two boys, Martin and Charles. Martin (born in 1926) married Nettie Moss and has three children: Richard, Jeffery and Mark. Charles (born in 1930) married Doris Moss and has two children, David Martin and Jim Lewis--all live in North Carolina.

Joseph Elliott Wilson married Garnet Deems. They had three boys: Robert Franklin, Larry William and Victor Eugene (deceased). Robert married Alberta White and has five children: Teresa, Gregg, Lori, Aimy and Joshua. Larry married Jean Thomas and has two children: Larry William and Tonya.

Edgar Kyle married Beulah Hardesty and had five children: Edgar Holmes married Virginia Stout; William married June Morrison; Kenneth O'Neil married Sharon Grogg; Nolan married Sharon Green and Sandra Jean Zirkle. Edgar married again to Helen Marteny.

Addie Belle married Charles Boston and had three children: John married Carolyn Layfield; Lavonne married Robert Jenkins and is now married to Haymond Kendall; Donald married Patty Bell.

Luda married Floyd Fluharty in 1936. They have five children: Icy Virginia married and has five children and lives in the Northwest; George and Connie have three children and live in Virginia. Edna Louise is married and has three children; Donna married Jay Arrington and has two children: Danny and Judy; Patricia married Jerry Waters and has two children, Mike and Tammy.

Daisy Garnet married Homer Umpleby and has five children: Isabell married Robert Paul Radzyminski and has one child, Michael D., who lives at Davisville; Beth married Kent Matlack and has three children: Aimie, Erin and Andrew. Rhonda married Kenny Hammond and has one child, Molly; Ellen Ann married Edward Carter and lives in Georgia.

Charles C. married June Howell and has five children: Patrick Charles married Vickie Pitman and has two children: Sherri and Shanell; Joseph married Terry Pitman and has one child, Julia Ann; William Howell married Linda Trippett and has two children, Anglia and Trevor; Loretta Sue married Jerry Hapney and has four children: Jennifer, Gerrald, Eric and Joshua; Randolph Shannon lives in Parkersburg.

All the Wilson children went to Fairview School. Bill worked for the B & O and farmed. He purchased two pieces of property on Ellis Run, the Kelly place and the Frank Joy place. In the early 1940s, he purchased the Charlie Thrash place in Petroleum and moved there.

--by Daisy Wilson Umpleby

Ellis Run Wild Flowers

They spread like a carpet before me
Wild flowers every spring.
Breathtaking in their brilliance;
To brighten my world once again.

--by Daisy Wilson Umpleby

Mr. Wanger

This gentleman lived on Buffalo Run. I have been unable to find anything about his family. It is believed he lived on the property later occupied by the Cox family. Leslie Hardesty remembers working for him when just a young boy.

Cora Weaver

Cora came to work for the Beckners when she was 16 years old. She made her home at the Jim Beckner home. Very few children who were in the age group to go to Buffalo Church during her life, do not remember her or had her as a teacher in the Primary Sunday School Class. Cora is buried at the Beckner Cemetery in sight of where she went to church and lived for many years. She was born in 1876 and died in 1944.

Claude Waggoner family

Claude and his wife, Minnie, lived on Dry Ridge, and some of his children attended the Dry Ridge School. There were twelve children, but they did not all move with the family. Fairley married Hazel Nutter and died in 1964; Perry married Nora Davis; Tom died in 1980; Cecil married Lessie Foutty; Harley; Harvey ("Bee") died in 1980; Sarah Frymier; Gae Elliott; Alma married Norf Nelson; Delcie Elliott; Elsie married Ralph Metz and Opal married H. T. Davis. Some of the children married and lived on in the area for several years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner are deceased; he died in 1958 and she in 1973

--by Opal Waggoner Davis

Howard Oswald Weekley

The Weekley family dates back many years in the area. Howard's father was a teamster and drove in the oil fields of Petroleum, Volcano and Standing Stone. Lucus Ashwell Weekley (1858-1935) married Roberd C. Adams and had four children. The children attended the Petroleum School.

Cameron Randolph, born November 1885.

Orpha Pearl, born January 1888.

Clarence William, born September 1890.

Lawrence Porter, born July 1894.

Lucus married the second time to Sarah Davis and had three boys.

Walter Clifton, born December 1903, married Jessie McQuaid Smith.

Howard Oswald, born July 1906, died February 1983, married Cora Higgins of Rusk.

Cecil Milton, born January 1909, married Gladys Berdette.

Howard and Cora lived several years near Rusk and moved to Parkersburg, where Cora still makes her home.

--by Cora Higgins Weekly

Edmund H. Wyatt family

Ed, born in 1915, was the son of E. H. and Ruth Koehnlein Wyatt. He was born and spent his life in the Petroleum area. He married Lucille Zicklefoose, who is now deceased. They were parents of two sons, Charles David and Daniel. Ed died in 1981.

Russell Wyer

Russell married Isabelle Null in 1934. They purchased the Elza Moats property at Rusk, and Isabelle still lives there. Russell died in 1959. They purchased this beautiful old landmark in 1950. Belle was born in 1897.

Badger Weekley

Badger and his wife, Bernice Davis Weekley, lived in the Petroleum area. Their children were: John, Harold, G. R., Alice Hanlon and Ernest, born in 1901 and died in 1962.

Jehu S. Webb

Jehu with his wife, Mary, lived in the Petroleum area. They were the parents of Ruth Sprouse, Paraby McCue, Harley, Luka Webb, Clyde E., and Naomi Ferrell.

Ferrell, Mrs. E. H. Marrs and Mrs. Pete Kelly.

George E. Waller family

George (1852-1924) was a blacksmith. He worked in the Volcano oil fields and lived in Petroleum. He married Mary E. Pew (1849-1924), and they had five children. They lived down the railroad tracks from Mary's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pew.

Their oldest son, Frank, married Docia Deem, who died in 1952. They had one daughter, Daisy, who was an English teacher at Parkersburg High School.

Homer, the second son, married Lelia Robinson. He was a rig builder and had three children. Lelia died in 1910, leaving these children: Rhule, who died at the age of fifteen in 1917; and two daughters, Mary and Eleanor. After the death of their mother, Mary and Rhule lived with their grandmother and Eleanor (Frankie) went to live with her Uncle Press. Eleanor married Meryln Dreisbach and lives in Akron. Mary married Gene Peregory and lives in Parkersburg. During the Depression, Gene and Mary lived at Uncle Press's farm on Dry Ridge. Their son, Kenneth, was born here.

Samuel Preston (1877-1959), the third son, married Alice Reese (1878-1958), and they had two sons. Both are deceased. One son was Charles and their son, Joe, born in 1902, was killed in a plane crash in Parkersburg on July 2, 1938. Press was road supervisor for 28 years. Politics changed and he didn't have a job. He later worked as janitor at Cairo High School.

G. William (1880-1971) married Kate Devaughan (1888-1970). He was a farmer. They had a daughter, Ruby, who died at the age of 17 years, and four sons: Shirley lives in Ohio; Chester lives in Florida; Willard (deceased); and Holly lives in Ohio.

Andrew (Dugan) (1882-1970) married Bertie Boston (1882-1934) and lived on Dry Ridge. They had two children, George and Nellie, both deceased. George, born in 1906, was first married to Sarah Gatrell (deceased). They had two children, Paul and Ramona. George then married Opal Ellis (1910-1983). George died in 1983. Nellie Waller Cunningham died in 1949. Andy was a farmer and worked on the roads some. When George and Mary built their house and moved to the Petroleum-Cisco road there were only about three houses. Later Press and Andy built homes not far from their dad. Bill Boston and James Simms built homes nearby. George and Mary are buried at the Petroleum Cemetery.

--by Mary Waller Peregory

C. Dale Welch

Dale married Louise Cunningham. She was the daughter of Isaac and Isabelle Cunningham of the Petroleum area. Louise lived most of her life in Belpre, born in 1900 and died in 1984. Dale died in 1977; they had one son, Dr. Gene A. Welch.

Wagner family

In 1916, a Wagner family moved from Kentucky into the Hiram Sharpnack farm and lived there a few years. Their children attended the Dry Ridge School. They were Harlan, Luther, Emma, Tots and Annie Margaret. Later, the Marshall Jenkins family lived here.

William Williams

William was born in 1822 and married Leah Higgins, born in 1827. They lived on Buffalo Run and moved to the Oxbow area about 1850. Their daughter, Mary, born in 1850, married John Border in the year 1868. John was born in 1836. These were the early ancestors of the Border family who live around the area at this time.

Grover Whitecotton

Grover, born in 1888, was related in some way to the George family. He had a brother, Delbert. The father of these boys, James, was killed with an elevator rod while at work on an oil well on the George farm located on Dry Ridge. Accidents were common in the oil fields in this era.