

Jessee Family Newsletter

Number 14 January 1999

Dear Cousin,

My son **Earl Wilson Jessee** and I proudly announce the establishment of our own Web site: **The Jessee Family Newsletter and Genealogy Service** at www.jessee.org

We ask for your help on improving this Internet site, and will post all past and future *Jessee Family Newsletters* there. For the time being, I will continue a printed newsletter, as long as I receive enough donations to do it. I will make this Web site the public depository of the genealogy database that I have been developing all these years, although this does lead to several ethical and privacy issues which I discuss later in **About The Database** on page 23.

If you haven't already done so, the best place to begin your Internet exploration of genealogy on the Internet is **Roots-L**, the oldest and best genealogy service on the Web at www.rootsweb.com

While this service is free, it is supported entirely by donations and volunteer effort. I urge you to help Roots-L by visiting this site and becoming a member. I have joined and established a **Jessee Family List Service**. This is an e-mail service whereby you can post a message to the Jessee List and it will be sent to every subscriber. To subscribe, e-mail to JESSEE-L-request@rootsweb.com and include the word "subscribe" in the body of the message. Once you subscribe you will be provided additional information on the use of this service. To post a message to the Jessee List, which will be forwarded to all subscribers, e-mail your message to JESSEE-L@rootsweb.com

These are exciting new directions for us as we commit to the Internet for the future.

Jim Jessee

Featured This Edition

Tom Rudder, Virginia Bennett, Kris Adcock, and Patty Knutson provide more information and more clues to the Origins of the Jessee Family in America.

Pam Kipphut, James Birkholz, and John Jacoby provide evidence to the French and German origins of several Jesse and Jessie families in America.

Tom Rudder and Vivian Bales provide more specific information regarding the John and Frankey Lea Jessee family. **Rev. Vernon Cecil Jessee and Henry A. "Hank" Davis, Jr.** restimulate efforts to save the cemetery where John and Frankey Jessee are buried, and again propose we establish a memorial.

The status of research on each of John and Frankey's fifteen children is reviewed. Many have made significant contributions extending our knowledge of their descendants. In particular, **Janet Lee Lighthill Ridley** has contributed over 1000 new descendants of Archer Jessee. The research team of **Jack Hockett, Kathryn Burke Greever, and Imogene Burke Verbal** may have doubled that number with extensive new information regarding the descendants of the Burke family, who married two children and two grandchildren of John and Frankey Jessee.

Correspondence includes many letters correcting errors, providing new information and, of course, new problems and mysteries to solve. One tidbit from **Nellie Ruth Rasnake Jessee** provides information that my wife **Nelda Meline Jessee** is not only cousin to any George Lea Jessee descendants, but is a cousin to some descendants of Phillip and Gabriel Jessee, too.

The 1998 Honor Roll of Donors who sustain this effort concludes the newsletter.

Origins of The Jesse(e) Family

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

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

Tom Rudder has discovered evidence of a **Thomas Jessee** who was transported to Maryland in 1671. This is from *Early Settlers of Maryland* by Gust Skordas, which provides the file and folio numbers as Tom explains.

"The importation of Thomas Jessee is covered in the Records of Land Patents, Liber 16 (vol. 16) Folio 170. It is in the Hall of Records (Archives), Annapolis, Maryland."

Tom furthers his case that Jessee, with a double "e", was the original spelling when our family arrived in America. "It's ironic that the only two recorded arrivals in America, that I have found, were both Jessees."

In a separate note Tom responds to a conjecture about **Lazarus Jessee**, who was discussed in Newsletter 13.

It's true that the name Lazarus was not used in the John Jessee family, but I suspect that the Lazarus and Jane Jessee (in Adair Co., KY ca. 1800) mentioned by Jack Martin were somehow connected to the William [actually Thomas] Jessee who was born in Amelia Co., VA and moved to Adair Co., KY after the Revolutionary War. .

Tom adds the following with attached 1820, 1830, and 1840 Adair Co., KY Census abstracts, and a copy of a page from the Rev. War Pension Files for documentation.

I think I told you that William Jessee went to Adair Co. Ky. It was Thomas Jessee. After looking at the 1820-40 Adair Co. census data, it is my guess that Lazarus Jessee was the father of Jane, who married in 1816. In 1820 Lazarus had a daughter over age 16. He also had a son over 16. This indicates that he had children prior to his marriage to Sarah Sparks in 1806. The census reflects that he was born between 1775 and 1780 and would have been between 36 and 40 years old in 1816 when Jane married. He was not likely an older brother. No other Lazarus Jessee appears in the 1820-40 census. The other possibility would be Thomas Jessee, but then he was not at the wedding.

And now the mystery! The Rev. War Veteran Thomas Jessee (born in 1754, see attached Rev. War Pension Files) moved to Adair Co., KY in 1815 but does not appear in the 1820-30 census, even though he applied for a pension from there in 1838. In 1830 he would have been 76 years old. The Thomas Jessee listed in the 1830 census was 50 to 60 years old. Explain that!

In any event I think they were all descendants of Lazarus Jessee who came to Amelia Co. in 1730/40.

Virginia Bennett of Asheville, NC provides a wealth of references to early Jesse(e) ancestors and more avenues of research with the following materials.

From *Marriages of Middlesex County, Virginia 1740-1852*, published by Virginia Genealogical Society, Special Publication No. 3.

JESSE, John and Elizabeth Street. Bond 26 February 1787. Married 8 March 1787 by William Mullins. Sur. and Wit. Lawrence Meacham. P. 31.

JESSE, John A. and Bettie C. Hoskins. Bond 12 February 1849. Sur. and Wit. N. C. Montague. P. 136.

JESSE, Richard and Frances Chowning. Bond 12 October 1793. Married 13 October 1797 by John Mullins. Sur. and Wit. Robert Chowning. P. 41.

JESSE, Thomas, Jr. and Caty Ware. Bond 1 January 1805. Sur. and Wit. John Jesse, Jr., John Seward, and William Jesse. P. 59.

JESSE, Thomas and Elizabeth Shackelford. Bond 22 December 1828. Sur. and Wit. Richard Claybrook. P. 100.

JESSE, William T., Esq. of Lancaster County, and Miss Mary D. Claybrooke. Bond 27 December 1837. Married 28 December 1837 by George Northham. George Wright, guardian of Mary. Sur. and Wit. Augustine Owen, Edward L. Wright, and R. A. Claybrook. P. 117.

JESSEE, John, Jr. and Polly Trice. Bond 21 May 1798. John Jessee, guardian of John. James Trice, father of Polly. Sur. and Wit. John Seward and Churchhill Blackburn. P. 48.

From *Virginia County Records, Volume I, Spotsylvania County 1721-1800*, edited by William Armstrong Crozier, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1978. Being Transcriptions from Original Files at the County Court House, of Wills, Deeds, Administratorsâ and Guardiansâ Bonds, Marriage Licenses, and Lists of Revolutionary Pensioners.

Deed Book K, P. 370.

Novr. 19, 1782. Francis X Cammack and Clary, his wife.

Of Spots. Co., and Ann X Cammack [mother of sd. Francis], to Anthony Frazer of same Co., L20 10s. curr. 20 , a. in Berkeley Par., Spots. Co., etc. Benj. Holloday, Jr.; Benj. Perry, **Jno. Jesse**. Novr. 21, 1782.

Deed Book K, P. 383.

Augt. 28, 1784. Margaret X Tureman, widow and relict of Charles Tureman, deed, and Bennet Pemberton and Mary, his wife, of Berkeley Par., Spots. Co., to Edmund Foster of same par. and Co. Witnesses, Wm. Duvall, Jas. Rains, Chas. Pemberton, **Jno. Jesse**. Novr. 2, 1784.

Deed Book M, P. 428.

April 8, 1789. James Frazer of Spts. Co., Carpenter, and Sarah, his wife, to Thomas Posey of same county. L400. Lot No. 7 near town of Fredksbg., purchased of Charles Mortimer, etc. Witnesses, Jno. Chew, Jr.; Edwd. Herndon, Edwd. Herndon, Jr.; **John Jesse**. Sept 1, 1789.

Colonial Militia, P. 516.

Abraham Crittenden, **William Jesse**, Benjamin Whaley, Richard harkless, James low, Hugh Carpenter, and John Waller, came into Court and took the oath to the Government, and signed the test, etc., "soldiers," Dec. 3, 1754.

WILL BOOK E, P. 31.

MINOR, THOMAS, Spotsylvania Co., d. Apr. 9, 1776, p. Dec. 19, 1776. Wit. Ann Smith, **John Jesse**, James Redd.

Will Book E, P. 40.

McGEE, THOMAS, Spotsylvania Co., d. Feb. 1, 1782, Executors Bond dated Feb. 19, 1784. Wit. John Chew, Jr., **John Jessey**, Joseph Ormond, John Brock, Jr.

And just to tantalize us, Virginia provides a clue regarding the Lea family of America.

From *New England Chronicle, News of New England from January 1722-December 1731*, by Armand Francis Lucier, Heritage Books, in the chapter "1726" p. 83.

Boston, Jan. 8. · On Wednesday the 5th Instant, the *Swallow* Briganteen from Barbadoes, **William Lea** Master, was cast away near Deer-Island, Five of the Company were drowned, and the Master and one more savâd.

Kris Adcock (capkrew@fgi.net) posted this inquiry on JESSEE-L@ rootsweb.com.

Iâm searching for information about **Mary JESSE**, probably the daughter of **Walter Jesse**. I donât have exact dates to go on. Walter Jesse died about 1752 in Chester, PA. Mary married Edward Goff. They had a daughter Frances "Fannie" GOFF b. in Chester, PA, m. 10 APR 1769 in Lancaster Co., PA, d. in Nelson Co., KY.

I would love to hear from anyone with possible connections to this family! Thanks for your time and help.

Patty Jesse Knutson provides another important clue to the origins of the various Jesse(e) families in America in an e-mail, 11/10/1998 (Patty.Knutson@SDInc.com).

Hi Jim,

I came across your site through Ancestry.com. My maiden name is JESSE, although I have seen my line listed in the 1850 Kentucky census as JESSEE.

Iâm trying to find information on my great-great-great-grandfather, **Samuel Jesse**. He was married in Lancaster County, VA in 1793 to Catherine George and moved with an unnamed brother to Woodford County, KY in 1813. Iâm trying to find out the brotherâs name and his parentâs names. According to some information that I have, Samuel was born in the Shenandoah Valley, VA.

I have learned along the way the JESSE is possibly a French surname, coming from a town called Jessy in Normandie, France. Is this your understanding also?

I would appreciate if you could contact me if any of this ties in with your JESSEE line.

Thanks a lot,

Patty Jesse Knutson

The relationship of this Samuel Jesse to John and Frankey Jessee is unknown, but this may provide a clue to common origins for both families. I speculate that, because of the spelling and occurrence of the name Samuel, her Samuel Jesse may be related to the **John Jesse** born 1769 in Cumberland, Co., VA, who died about 1808. He was the subject of prior newsletters and the book *The Jesses-1601-1928*, prepared by J. S. Jesse, who had children: **John P. Jesse**, b. 1789, **Thomas Hall Jesse**, b 11 Dec 1791, **William Morgan Jesse**, b. 1798, and **Samuel Jesse**, b. 1800, all in Cumberland Co., VA.

That Jesse(e) is of French origin is a persistent speculation and, as we see in the following correspondence, a case can be made for the German origin of the surname, Jesse, as well.

Pam Kipphut (kipcrew@frontiernet.net) provided via e-mail, 11/3/1998, the following:

"My **JESSEs** (and yes, that IS the spelling) are directly from Germany to the Rochester, NY and Gibson, PA areas.

My g-grandfather was **Heinrich Carl Friedrich Wilhelm JESSE** (went by Henry Carl Jesse here in the States). He was born 30 Nov 1864 to **Johann Christian Martin JESSE** (a brick mason) and **Frederika Louise Maria Wilhelmina MILDAHN** in Sulz, Mecklenberg, Germany. Johann was born in Sulz, Mecklenberg, Germany· the illegitimate son of **Anna Sophie Katharina JESSE** who later married and became GRIMM/GRAHM. Frederika was born 3 Jan 1835 in Marlow, Mecklenberg, Germany· the daughter of John MILDAHN. They were married 1 Sep 1856 in Marlow. They both died and are buried in Gibson, PA. We have no information as to when they immigrated to the USA and cannot figure out yet whether they went to PA from Rochester area or if their son Henry just immigrated later and chose to go to Rochester, NY, rather than to PA.

We do know that **Henry Carl JESSE** emigrated to NY 20 Nov 1885. He married **Caroline Luise Joachime HAENSEL** on 25 Aug 1886. Caroline was born 15 JUL 1865 in Altenwillershagen, Pommern, Germany. Henry was naturalized 2 Mar 1903 in Monroe Co., NY. Their family home(s) are still in the town of Fairport, just outside Rochester, NY though they also lived in neighboring Manchester, Macedon, and Mendon, NY. Henry died 24 Feb 1950 in Fairport, and Caroline died 12 Apr 1945.

I know the spelling of JESSE to be correct as I have the original document in German giving Henry permission to emigrate to "Amerika" at 20 years of age from Sulz dated 14 Sep 1885 in Schwerin with the seal and all. The name is spelled "Jes°e" with the "°" being the German symbol for the double "s"..or so I have been told.

We would love to have additional information of any connection made to this line so I have elaborated with the hope that · this may ring a bell with someone. Thank you,

Pam Kipphut

James Birkholz (birchwd@connect.net) wrote, October 8, 1998, "Iâm assuming that most Jesse surnames are Anglo, but I have a German Jesse ancestor. It is possible that it is a variant of **Güse/Güsse/Guse**. **Martin Birkholz** married **Anna Elisabeth Jesse**, 17 Jan 1837." James provides their six children, all of whom are born in Sypniewo, "a hamlet in Kreis Kolmar in the Prussian Province of Posen, later germanized to Seeort."

And if that is not enough, here is another possible **Jessie** family of German origin.

John C. Jacoby e-mailed [callie@anet.com] me with the following information and inquiry.

November 26 and 30, 1998

Good Morning,

Iâm tracing the Jessie line in and around Jackson and Monroe Counties in Wisconsin. Have you encountered any of these Jessies? They seem to have no connection any other group. They were all farmers and reluctant to discuss family history. My mother is the last of the line. She is 94 and in failing health. She thinks the family emigrated from Germany about

1880-1890, and changed their name to Jessie from some other soundex equivalent, related surnames are Schmidt and Albrecht. ·

These people comprise 50% of my heritage, and I have less than 5% of my GEDCOM [genealogy data] devoted to their line. They were devout Lutherans, hard working farmers, and patriarchal. Brandenburg, Prussia is rumored to be the origin of some. Here is the best information I have. Some of it may be erroneous.

The Family of Martin Jessie

Martin Jessie 1829-1900

+ Wilhelmina Minnie Albrecht 1837-1921

Ernestina Jessie 1858-1955

Gustav Adolph Jessie 1869-1955

Julius Ferdinand Jessie 1870-1954

Emma Jessie 1873-1929

Avold Jessie 1887-1960

The above is an abbreviated version of the information John shared. If you can be of any help to John, or are interested in the complete descendants chart, please contact him directly at the e-mail address above.

John and Frankey Lea Jessee

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

From time to time, it was my intention to provide a new listing of the first three or four generations of their descendants. However, I find that, with my extensive notations and source references included, it has grown too large for mass printing in the Newsletter. Therefore and instead, I will continue to report new research with respect to each of their fifteen (I-XV) children in the Newsletter, and rely upon special requests and the new Jessee Family Website to provide the detailed genealogy information to those specifically interested in any particular branch. For those who provide me a donation in 1999 and request a new listing, I will reward you with one by return mail. Contributors may also request descendants or pedigree charts of anyone mentioned in this newsletter.

Tom and Shirley Rudder steadily add to our knowledge and understanding of John and Frankey's family, helping to trace their descendants through Census and other records. Tom has been studying the 1830 Russell Co., VA Census, trying to identify heads of households and their children, who are only indicated by age category in that Census. He is trying to help us figure out who is Joseph Jessee who appears in the 1850 Floyd Co., KY Census, but would have been "under 5" in the 1830 Census. He specifically examined and attempts to identify the Jessee heads of household and their male children under 5, and offers the following analysis and questions. Corrections welcome.

1830 Russell Co. Census

Head of House Under 5 Who is this?

John Jessee, Jr. 1 Not identified.

John Jessee Jr. and Mary Armstrong Jessee are too old for this to be their child. So who is this?

Archer Jessee 1 Larkin

Vincent Jessee

(of Archer) 2 George W. & William

Jefferson

(of John Jr.) 1 Noah (b. date question)

David 1 Stephen

George L. 2 Martin & Samuel

John (of Archer) 1 David H.

Martin 2 Daniel & David

Lea 1 David

Archer (of John Jr.) 2 Andrew J. & George W.

David (of Archer) 1 Archer D.

Tom offers advice on the sometimes wide differences in ages, not to mention spelling of names, found in the various census records for the same person. "You look in a lot of censuses, you notice a lot of difference in ages."

Vivian Bales provided the following transcription of the settlement of the John Jessee estate as recorded in Russell County Will Book 3, page 249, that gives us insight into his life.

Settlement of the Estate of John Jessee

Pursuant to an order of the worshipful court of Russell Co., Nov term 1817 to us directed we have met with Archibald Jessee and Lee Jessee Admrs. of John Jessee deceased and brought them together to a settlement according to the following bill:

The following vouchers.

To receipt from Andrew Cowan \$ 2.50

To proved account by Mary Kiser 11.00

To receipt from Byers and Hendricks 2.95

To balance of note due Andrew Cowan 37.00

To a note due Abednego Kiser's estate 3.28

To a receipt from Henry Dickenson, Clerk 17.00

\$153.74

Archer Jessee, Admr. charges
for money paid by him in
consequences of 2/3 of a
crosscut saw his father held in part \$ 4.66

To one Oaks uchele 5.07

To his service as administrator 5.00

Paid to Andrew Cowan for crying the sale 2.00

\$16.73

Lee Jessee, Admr.
charges for furnishing the sale
with 17 gallons of whisky \$ 1.50

For services as administrator 5.00

\$6.50

Franky Jessee (widow) charges for store debts paid to Samuel M. Dowell, since the decease of her husband which he contracted before his death

To 1 receipt produced by said widow \$ 9.00

To 1 receipt produced by said widow 18.00

\$27.00

Which was mislaid or lost but being known
by one of us was admitted.

Whole amount of charges \$203.97

Whole amount of sale \$1106.84

Charges against the estate 203.97

Balance \$ 902.77

The widow's remaining third part \$300.92

Interest of the sale money 10.17

Interest of the sale money 2.50

The balance remaining in the hands of
the administrators due the legatees \$614.51

Witness: Thomas Reynolds and David Munsey

Nov. 18, 1817 In court held for Russell Co., 2nd Day of Dec. 1817. This settlement with the administrators of the estate of John Jessee dec'd was returned unto court, and to be recorded. Teste James P. Carrell, D.C.

Rev. Vernon Cecil Jessee writes to correct some information in the last newsletter and to restimulate efforts to **rescue the cemetery where John and Frankey are buried and to establish a memorial park.**

June 23, 1998

Dear Jim,

I was thinking of the property in Reeds Valley, Russell Co., VA where John and Frankey Lea Jessee are buried, and where T. J. Jessee, wife Sarah Browning, possibly George Lea, and wife "Betsy" Counts, my great grandparents are buried. If I am not mistaken that cemetery is called the George Lea Jessee Cemetery. I know that Sarah Browning, and T. J. Jessee's 2nd wife, Nannie B. Candler, are buried there because my daughter and I were there in March, and found their markers. We had to clean them off enough to take pictures, the markers were lying on the ground. No fence around the gravesites and cattle had been tromping across it. It's a terrible feeling when you see the disrespect for a burial ground like that. We found no other markers of the Jessees, nor did we find a marker for the Bransons.

Now for my idea. I thought that if enough of the Jessees across the country could come together and contribute two or three hundred dollars each and accumulate enough money to offer a price (that the person who owns that land couldn't afford to turn down), then we could purchase about three acres, including the cemetery. We could put up a building, with restrooms, parking lot, and space for people to park RVs. Put up a memorial like was planned before, and have a Jessee reunion for one week each year. During the rest of the time we could rent out to others that would be interested having a reunion. We could get someone to watch after the place, etc. I have a lot more thoughts concerning this, but I thought that I would drop this your way to see what you would think, along that line. .

Rev. Cecil Jessee

PS: My daughter and I visited several Jessee cemeteries in Reeds Valley. **Harold Dickenson** showed us where they were. We saw Archer Jessee's marker, Joseph and Cynthia Smith Jessee's markers, also Ephraim Jessee's. I think maybe

if we could have turned a big Jessee tombstone over, it could have been John Jessee, Jr. It was in the same cemetery with Joseph, Cynthia, and Ephraim. [John Jessee, Jr., Joseph, and Ephraim's brother, John Tivis Jessee is the editor's direct line, and I was unable to find this cemetery in my three visits there-I should have found Harold Dickenson!] . I held a revival meeting nightly from the 7th of June thru the 13th at Coeburn, VA (Wise Co.). Met some folks that were descendants of the Jesses -one was **Beulah Bradly**, from Castlewood, and **Bernice Hurd** from Nicklesville.

Tom Rudder and I promoted, solicited donations, and established a memorial fund, and more in earlier newsletters. We did get a few contributions and offers to help with the physical work, but failed to get sufficient interest in Russell Co. and absolutely no response from the current owner of this land, Mr. Jimmy Herndon. We closed the fund and returned the money. Many across this country are still willing to make contributions, but we need a really big donor, and, more importantly, leadership in Russell County to make this happen. I believe this should be a Russell County Chamber of Commerce economic development project, which could include purchasing the Jessee Mill, the Thomas Jefferson Jessee Home, and this cemetery. All are adjacent to each other, and would make a wonderful County Park and Picnic Grounds, and site to host family reunions from all over the country, including that RV parking.

Henry A. Davis, Jr. writes the following most encouraging letter offering his legal assistance to whomever would wish to join Cecil and Henry to make this effort. Thank you.

I. John Jessee, Jr.

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

Dennie Hall of Douglasville, GA (hallr@avana.net) is a descendant of John Jr. via his son **Archer** and **Eleanor Smith Jessee**, and their son **Andrew Jackson** and **Rachel McKinney Jessee**, who moved to Carter Co., KY. He provides the following.

Monday, April 13, 1998

Hey Cousin Jim,

How are you doing, found something interesting. Take a look at the 2 attachments to this e-mail. I think the obit is for Jack Jessee of Mill Creek, son of Arch Jessee and Mary Owens. The other is a bitmap of the Death Certificate of Andrew Jackson Jessee, B. 2-24-1830, Woodford, KY, d. 1914, Confederate Home Infirmary, Oldham Co., KY. The copy shows his father was Wash Jessee, b. VA and mother, Anna Jessee, B. VA Who is he/they? He has the approx. birthdate of my A. J. Jessee, but I don't think they are the same people.

I was back home in Carter Co. during spring break. Visited some old cemeteries, one of which was the old Dan Jessee Cem. where Eleanor, Dan and Dan's 2nd wife, Nancy Counts, are buried. Among the 2 dozen or so graves there, these 3 and one for a Lark Ray, d. 1933 are the only ones with markers that are inscribed. There is another cemetery across Tygart's Creek (Jessee's Ford) that I will investigate this summer. I'm trying to find the grave of Andrew Jackson Jessee, son of Arch and Eleanor Smith Jessee. Jack, as he was called, was living with his son, Robert at Counts Crossroads, Carter Co., in 1900. .

Dennie Hall

Obituary of Andrew Jackson Jessee

May 26, 1922

A. J. Jessee, farmer and successful businessman, died Sunday afternoon at his home at Jessee's Mill, Russell County, following an illness of several weeks. Mr. Jessee, 83 years, 8 months and 7 days of age, was a remarkable man in many respects—his memory being perfect and he was all business until the day before his death. If anyone wanted to know what the cattle market was on any day a year back, Mr. Jessee could give it to them in a flash from memory. He had been so wise in the management of his affairs that he had accumulated a big estate which will be shared by his three children, Mrs. T. L. Bundy, Mr. Wiley Jessee, of Russell and Mr. Ed Jessee of Missouri and the widow who survived him. The deceased fought on the Confederate side during the Civil War and was a fine soldier, participating in many battles.

II. Archer Jessee

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

Janet Lee Lighthill Ridley, a newcomer to our newsletter, has provided over 1000 descendants of Archer Jessee and Nancy Browning, via their daughter, **Elizabeth Jessee** (1806-1848) who married **Francis Howard** (1805-1848). A snippet of her narrative, data, and sources is included on the following pages. I am grateful Janet provided this substantial contribution of new descendants of John and Frankey Lea Jessee, and that she has allowed me to share her data with other researchers. Perhaps readers can help us determine the pedigree of **Larkin Howard** and **Rachel Herndon** as small thanks to Janet.

Helen Runyan Perkins, in continuing correspondence over some years, and, more recently, **Paul Escarraz** (escarraz@fgi.net), have both greatly extended information regarding the descendants of their ancestor **Laura Jane Jessee** who married **Jehu Runyan**. Laura Jane Jessee is a daughter of **David Hanson Jessee**, son of **John Jessee**, son of **Archer Jessee**.

Helen Runyan Perkins is perplexed by a research problem and asks for help. Her mother's family spell their name Barracks. She believes this was a deliberate variation made by either her grandfather or g-grandfather on its original spelling of Barrick. Helen's grandfather, **William B. Barracks**, and her g-grandfather **Jacob Barracks** lived in Tuscola, Douglas Co., IL. My paternal grandmother is a descendant of **Peter Phillip Barrick** (which is a derivative of the German Berg who arrived in Maryland about 1710). The family settled in Crawford Co., IL early in the 1800s. Helen and I believe we must be related through this Barrick line, as well as through the Jessees, but we cannot connect her grandfather to the Douglas Co, IL Barrick family.

I have discovered a problem in the data base that needs a solution. First the facts.

Dave Gilliam posted this information that agrees with my recorded data on this family.

I show **Kemper Gilmer Jessee** (3/23/1903-11/1987) married to **Laura Belle Buckles** (1906-?) in 1925, Russell County, VA. I show their children as:

Fred W. 1925
Clarence G. 1928
Walter K. 1931
Virginia Jane 1936
Hula 1936
John H. 1938
Kemper Edward 1949

I have two Kemper Gilmer Jessees, both born in 1903/04, with different pedigrees. Each are descendants of Archer Jessee via different sons. Kemper Gilmer #1 is the son of **Edward Thomas Jessee**, son of **William Jr.**, son of **William Sr.**, son of Archer. Kemper Gilmer #2 is the son of **Winfield Scott Jessee** (who married **Bertha L. Gilmore**) son of **Vincent Jr.**, son of **Vincent Sr.**, son of Archer Jessee. This Kemper Gilmer #2 is also a descendant of **John Jessee Jr.** via a daughter of **Joseph Jessee**, **Mary Elizabeth Jessee** who married **Daugherty Gilmer**. Can anyone straighten me out?

III. William Jessee

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

Sharlene Boyer and cousin, **Dan H. LeVan, Jr.**, have provided photos, marvelous stories, maps, and other materials regarding **Elisha Bishop Jessee**, which I will feature in a future newsletter. Elisha Bishop Jessee was the son of Oliver Jessee, a son of William and Mary Vermillion Jessee.

IV. Lea Jessee

Lea Jessee (1781-1852) married **Barbara Gose** (1788-1862), da. of **Stephen Gose** and **Barbara Catron Gose**, and they had ten children. This family moved to Missouri.

V. David Jessee

Reverend David Jessee (1783-1856) married **Catherine "Katie" Banner** (1788-1860) and had thirteen children.

Kathryn Greever, with a little assist from **Michael Dye**, has provided the definitive evidence that David's son, **Stephen G. Jessee** married **Rebecca Jessee**, not **Rebecca Lee** with the following material taken from her manuscript on the Vermillion family genealogy. Please see the discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

"On Jan. 30, 1851, Rebecca Vermillion married Stephen G. Jessee, born ca. 1824, Copper Creek."

Taken from *Lost Marriage Records of Russell Co., VA 1848-1853*, by Michael Dye.

Some researchers have reported that Stephen G. Jessee married a Rebecca Lee; however, Rebecca Vermillion Jessee is referred to as Rebecca Jessee in her father's will--substantiating that she did indeed marry a Jessee. The 1860 Russell Co. Census, household 1229, contained Jessee (age 72) and Nancy (age 69) Vermillion. Next door, in household 1230 is Stephen G. Jesse (sic) and Rebecca. . Stephen G. Jessee was a soldier in the 22nd VA Cavalry, CSA, Summer 1863 (Southwest Virginia Ancestors, Vol. 6, No. 2, Summer 1992 and Vol. 8, No. 2, Summer 1994). From 1860 Census, she is 34 and Stephen is 36. On the 1870 Russell Co., Census their ages are both listed at 44. On the 1880 Bedford Co., TN Census (Dist. 6, HH 192) Stephen Jessee (sic) is 53, born VA, parents born VA; Rebecca 52. (Note: This family does not show up on the 1900 TN SDX) Stephen does not show up on tax lists, since men over age 50 did not have to pay poll taxes in TN based on an 1873 law providing exemption and Stephen would have been 50 in ca. 1874. Also , Stephen did not apply for a CSA pension in TN, and he did not own property in Bedford Co., TN. I suspect he died before 1900.

Robin Dea Clay Oliver, ggggg-grandaughter of David Jessee, via his daughter **Nancy Ann Jessee** who married **Fleming Burk, Jr.**, has provided us information for well over 100 descendants of Nancy Ann Jessee. I still need to key in this information, and I will be sharing it with Kathryn Greever, too, as it extends both the Jessee and Burk family data.

Descendants of Elizabeth JESSEE and Francis HOWARD

First Generation

1. Elizabeth JESSEE-442 was born 6 Apr 1806 in Russell Co., VA. She died 1848 in Boone Co., IN.

Elizabeth married (1-MRIN:4144) Francis HOWARD-12310, son of Larkin HOWARD-17362 and Rachel HERNDON-17363 (MRIN:6020), on 1826. Francis was born about 1805. He died 28 May 1848 in Boone Co., IN.

Source: Material provided by Janet Lee Lighthill (ib3657j@juno.com) via e-mail, 9/23/1998 details over 1000 descendants of Elizabeth Jessee and Francis Howard through two lines, that of Nancy Browning Howard, who married Wesley Cartwright, and Rachel Howard, who married James Brown Kelley. Her data and notes follow.

The source of most of my information on the Francis Howard family is a book, "Johnston of Caroline County, Virginia--Some of the Descendants of William and Ann Chew Johnston (1647-1778)" compiled by Elbert Felton Johnston, Ph.D., Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, 1980. There is a Howard Family Graveyard four miles north of Jamestown, in Boone County, IN. Francis Howard, Elizabeth Jessee Howard, and three of their daughters, Margaret Nash Howard, Mary Jane Howard, and Dicey Howard are all five buried there, and the markers say (d.) 1848. In the Indiana Census for 1850, Elizabeth Jessee Howard does not appear. Two of her children, Rachel Howard (my g-g-grandmother) who is 15 years old, and her brother Henry, who is 10, are both on the census. They are both living in the household of William W. Brown, age 26, in Montgomery County. Two weeks later, Rachel turns up alone in the household of William H. Williamson and family back in Boone County. I think that if there was a Will Ferguson married to an Elizabeth Jessee, it must have been another Elizabeth. I'm told Elizabeth Howard left a will in Boone Co., IN in 1848. I have Rachel Howard and James Brown Kelley's marriage license and a copy of their obituaries which appeared in the Van Wert, IA newspaper.

Francis and Elizabeth had the following children:

+ 2 F i. Nancy Browning HOWARD-17359 was born 18 Apr 1829/1830 and died 9 Mar 1922.

3 F ii. Sarah Jane HOWARD-20150 was born 1830. She died 1830.

4 F iii. Mary Jane HOWARD-20164 was born 1831. She died 1848 in Boone Co., IN.

5 F iv. Phoebe Caroline HOWARD-20161 was born 1833. She died 1848 in Boone Co., IN.

+ 6 F v. Rachel HOWARD-20151 was born 21 Jul 1834 and died 12 Aug 1910.

7 F vi. Lucinda Frances HOWARD-20165 was born 1836.

8 F vii. Elizabeth Vermillion HOWARD-20166 was born 1837. She died 1910 in Van Wert, IA.

Elizabeth married (MRIN:7077) James KILPATRICK-20167 on 1884.

9 M viii. Henry C. HOWARD-20168 was born about 1840. He died 1863 in Andersonville Prison.

Henry never married. He was a Captain with the Indiana Volunteers during the Civil War.

10 F ix. Martha Ellen HOWARD-20169 was born about 1840. She died 1870.

Martha married (MRIN:7078) Sylvester HART (Hurt)-20170.

11 F x. Malissa HOWARD-20171 was born about 1840. She died after 1900 in Paola, KS.

Malissa married (MRIN:7079) W. G. BONHAM-20172 in Winterset, IA.

12 F xi. Margaret Nash HOWARD-20162 was born 1843. She died 1848 in Boone Co., IN.

13 M xii. Larkin HOWARD-20173 was born 1844. He died 1844.

14 F xiii. Dicey HOWARD-20163 was born 1848 in Boone Co., IN. She died 1848 in Boone Co., IN.

Second Generation

2. Nancy Browning HOWARD-17359 (Elizabeth) was born 18 Apr 1829/1830 in Randolph Co., WV. She died 9 Mar 1922 in Blue Mound, Macon Co., IL.

Source: Grace Vivian Haas, Chillicothe, MO, 10/1996, provided pedigree charts that detail her pedigree through Nancy Browning Howard.

Nancy married (MRIN:6019) Wesley Todd CARTWRIGHT-17360 on 11 Apr 1849 in , Boone Co., IN. Wesley was born 17 Jul 1827 in Henry, IN. He died 27 Sep 1905 in Blue Mound, Macon Co., IL.

They had the following children:

15 F i. Margaret Ann CARTWRIGHT-17361 was born 19 Sep 1850 in Boone Co., IN. She died 26 Jan 1930 in Creston, Union Co., IA.

Margaret married (MRIN:6021) John Lawrence WILSON-17364 on 18 Jul 1869 in Mt. Auburn, Christian Co., IL. John was born 12 Sep 1841 in Cambridge, Guernsey Co., OH. He died 16 Jul 1892 in Creston, Union Co., IA.

16 M ii. James Franklin CARTWRIGHT-20766 died 1880.

James married (MRIN:7260) Delilah Josephine CROSS-20772. Delilah was born 1856. She died 1934.

17 F iii. Martha Frances CARTWRIGHT-20768 was born 1854. She died 1888.

Martha married (MRIN:7375) Samuel Henry REAZIN-21185. Samuel was born 1848. He died 1898.

18 M iv. William Henry CARTWRIGHT-20769 was born 1856 in Mt. Auburn, Illinois. He died 1943.

William married (MRIN:7393) Olivia Katherine SHOOP-21231 in 1886. Olivia was born 1868 in Hagerstown, Maryland. She died 1949.

19 M v. John Milton CARTWRIGHT-20770.

20 M vi. Charles Tremmer CARTWRIGHT-20771 was born 1867. He died 1940.

Charles married (MRIN:7405) Ora A STALEY-21268. Ora was born 1873. She died 1951.

6. Rachel HOWARD-20151 (Elizabeth) was born 21 Jul 1834 in Montgomery, Indiana. She died 12 Aug 1910 in Van Wert, IA.

She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church after they moved to Iowa about 1855. They assisted in the organization of the Methodist Church at Green Bay Iowa in Clark county and were active there until about 1895 when they moved to Van Wert, IA to be near many of their children. She was 76y, 22da when she died.

Rachel married (MRIN:7072) James Brown KELLEY-20152 on 29 Jan 1851 in Montgomery Co., IN. James was born 21 Oct 1819 in Perry, Kentucky. He died 4 Oct 1909 in Van Wert, Iowa.

He lived in Perry County KY until about 1830, then moved with his parents to Montgomery Co, IN with his parents. He moved to Boone County, IN about 1851 where he stayed until he migrated to Marion County, IA about 1855 where he was "engaged in mercantile pursuits" until 1859 when he moved to Clarke County, IA where he had a 264-acre farm west and 1/2 mi south of Green Bay, IA.

He was a JP for 6 years, a township assessor for 2 terms, and a member of the school board. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and especially active in the Methodist Church in Green Bay.

I have a copy of a hymn he wrote entitled "The Great God of Love."

James and Rachel had the following children:

21 M i. LORENZO DOW KELLEY-20278 was born 10 Oct 1852 in Montgomery, Indiana. He died 2 Jan 1934 in Clarinda, Iowa.

LORENZO married (MRIN:7124) Sarah Elizabeth JEWETT-20360 on 25 Sep 1873 in Jewett Home, Lacelle, Iowa. Sarah was born 14 Sep 1846 in Burlington, , Iowa. She died 5 Nov 1930 in Van Wert, Clarke, Iowa.

22 M ii. John F KELLEY-20279 was born about 1854 in Indiana. He died 1857 in Iowa.

23 M iii. William Henry KELLEY-20316 was born 1856 in Marion, Iowa. He died 1864 in Clarke, Iowa.

24 F iv. Edna Anolia KELLEY-20317 was born 6 Jul 1858 in Clarke, Iowa. She died 12 Dec 1946 in Monterey Park, California.

Edna married (MRIN:7125) Alkanah WILSON-20367 on 5 Apr 1876.

25 F v. Laura Belle KELLEY-20318 was born 1 Jan 1861 in Clarke, Iowa. She died 17 Apr 1946 in Leon,, Iowa.

Laura married (MRIN:7126) Fletcher KELLER-20372 on 1884. Fletcher was born 1856. He died 1910.

26 M vi. Larkin KELLEY-20319 was born 1862 in Clarke, Iowa. He died 1862 in Clarke, Iowa.

27 F vii. Franz(s) Jeanette KELLEY-20320 was born 3 Nov 1863 in Clarke, Iowa. She died 23 Mar 1947 in Colorado.

Franz(s) married (MRIN:7127) Allen WILSON-20376 on 31 Dec 1881. Allen died 30 Oct 1945.

28 M viii. James Wesley KELLEY-20153 was born 23 Dec 1866 in Clarke, Iowa. He died 15 Mar 1948 in Colorado Springs, El Paso, Colorado.

James married (MRIN:7073) Mary Josephine COFFMAN-20154 on 11 Aug 1893 in Mason City, Custer Co., Nebraska. Mary was born 20 Apr 1872 in Knoxville, Marion Co., Iowa. She died 5 Oct 1955 in Redondo Beach, , California.

29 M ix. Thomas Jefferson KELLEY-20321 was born 6 Jun 1868 in Clarke, Iowa. He died 7 Jun 1943 in Marathon, Iowa.

He was a doctor.

Thomas married (MRIN:7128) Cora L RUSSELL-20382 on 30 Aug 1899 in Ogden, Iowa.

30 M x. Charles Sherman KELLEY Doctor-20281 was born about 1871. He died 1918 in Wyoming.

Charles married (MRIN:7107) Harrietta A. COFFMAN-20322 on 1892 in Algernon, Custer Co., Nebraska. Harrietta was born 1874. She died 1905 in Wyoming.

VI. Elizabeth Jessee Gose

Elizabeth Jessee Gose (1785-1827) married **George Gose** (1786-1861), son of **Stephen Gose** and **Barbara Catron Gose**, and they had 12 children. Please see the discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

VII. Mary "Polly" Jessee Kiser

Mary "Polly" Jessee (1787-1836) married **Abednego Kiser** (1784-1814), who died in the War of 1812, and later married **James Chafin**. They had four children and are the ancestors of many a Kiser from Russell Co.

Vivian Bales, gggg-granddaughter of Polly Jessee Kiser, is a faithful contributor to this newsletter. She constantly works at ferreting out little bits and pieces of information she gathered over a lifetime, and sends them my way. I attempt to keep up with her by keying her information into the database. Here she provides some good advice, with more memories, stories, and insights into her colorful life.

November 3, 1998

Dear Jim Jessee,

See the enclosed pages [412 thru 425] from Harman's book the *Annals of Tazewell County, Virginia*. The original was copyrighted 1923 by John Newton Harman. It was recopyrighted by Netti Schreiner Yantis in 1975. [An excellent resource for the **GOSE** family]

My Grandma Dickison was Melvina Kiser, dau. of Hugh and his wife Levicey McKinney. She said that when people came over from VA, they came in groups, sometimes several families. She said when they got to the area where their old friends and relatives had settled in the country, others took them in, until they could settle or find a place of their own. She said it was like old hometown jubilee, welcoming and accepting their old neighbors and friends and relatives.

Far fetched from today. We are a fragmented society. No real true friends. The word friend does not mean what it did 150 years ago. In Aug. this year, my daughter went down to Ashland, KY and took me along of course, to a Dickison reunion. Then we went over into Carter Co. The old landmarks have mostly been destroyed. And they have roads now where as a child was a foot of a huge hill or mountain, and small winding roads. Now they have bulldozed the mountains and built big paved roads. If they want a road to where ever, they bulldoze and level and build a road.

We went to a cemetery that was known as the McKinney Cemetery for a century and more, now called Mountain View. I thought we would never get there. The road was like a spiral. This way, that way, up and down and sharp curves and dips. Finally made it right to the top. And the cemetery, what is left of it, is a little clearing right at the edge of the road. My Grandma Dickison and her daughter Mary are buried there as well as some of the McKinneys.

· Below the cemetery was [a place] called Corea Switch. The railroad went up that mountain. Even with just a little load, one engine would not pull the load to the top of the mountain, so they used two engines to the top, and unhooked one, and the train went on to its destination, and the extra went back down the hill to wait for the next train. This was near

Grahn. Was a mountain either way, but going from Olive Hill to the mountain cemetery, we sure traveled a lot of mile, spiraling around that mountain to the top.

99% of all burial grounds there were on high hills or the top of the mountains. Well, they are not safe now. The bulldozer is the culprit. If they want to build a road, whatever is in the way-too bad.

In the in-between hills, where branches or creeks ran, houses were built along them. Now all the creeks and branches are dry. Shocking. They cut away more of the hill/mountain side, made the area larger for building. Saw some up Henderson Branch, built in the old [stream], where the branch once flowed full of water. I bet there are no dug wells anymore, all drilled and deep too. .

Havenât done too bad this week, raked a billion leaves off the lawn, tidied my daughterâs apartment. She works long hours, and I often go over, clean her apartment, wash a gob lob of dirty dishes [at 85 , years old]. Our Indian summer came to a halt, heavy frost last night. Froze some ice. This climate is humid. Summer the sweat saturates, and winter is a damp cold, penetrates the bone marrow. The old saying, "not fit for man nor beast," is my opinion of this section of Indiana.

When our daughter was small, we took my parents down to Carter Co., KY. My husband had never been there. We drove around looking and enjoying the landscape. Dad knew every inch of the country. One day Marjorie said to my Dad, "Grandpa, did Daniel Boone run the Indians out of this place?" He said, "Yes, I guess he did Sister (we called Marj Sister). She was so fed up with nothing but the country and mountains, she told her Dad to "give the place back to the Indians, and letâs go back home."

Now since she is older and goes and sees the country, she loves it down there. Time changes all things, including people.

Bless you now,

Vivian

November 16, 1998

Dear Jim,

Why donât you ask everyone who is a Jessee descendant to do research where ever they might be, and going. Send in the names and telephone numbers from the directories, newspaper items, any obituary, where ever found. Wherever and whenever they see the name Jessee, stop, look, listen. If traveling, keep on the look out. And if a few spare hours, and a library is near, see what they have to offer. The Tackett Organization is past 30 years plus old, and all their members are on the look out, where ever they are, for Tackett. Send it in.

The President, now a retired high school teacher, has a will that says all the collection will be shipped to the college in Pikeville, KY. That is the area where they began to settle, and many still live in the area. They [the Tackett family organization] have a national reunion in Pike Co., KY, every July.

It takes more than one person to do it all. One has to have helpers in the area where the Reunion is held. Those attending can expect to give in to the offering box, free will offering for the coming year. Got to pay the piper you know. That is a good place to pay the dues to the organization, too. It canât run on air. .

This morning, a little ditty that my grandpa made up and sang to us grand kids. We always had music and singing, which

I look back on with love and fond memories.

*Come all you Kentucky girls,
and listen to my noise,
donât you marry those West Virginia boys,
for if you do, all your potion, it will be,
corn bread and butter milk, all you will see.*

*I had a little cow, and I milked her in a gourd,
set it in the corner, covered it with a board,
some got a little, some got none, and
thatâs the way the West Virginia folks all run, thatâs the way the West Virginia all run.*

We loved to sing about ole Dan Tucker. We were a bunch of happy grand children, when we were with our grandparents. Kids now days are missing so much. There was never dissension, or any jealousy among the grand children. We grew up happy and loving everyone. The good old days were hard, but everyone was so busy, and always loving and kind.

PS: Going "west" back in the 17 and 1800s didnât mean west as we mean it today. Just another county over in the rugged country was a long way west. My gr. Grandparents Moses and Rhodisa Osborn Tackett, left Pike Co., KY, saying they were going west. Her kinfolks never heard from her again. Evidently some of the Tacketts knew [where they were] for they stopped and spent some time with them in another county. Eventually Moses and Dicy arrived up in Carter Co., where his older brother had "migrated" to, along with his in-laws. Rhodisaâs people never hearing thought surely something terrible happened to them. Maybe Indians did away with them. 100 years later, one of the Tacket Osborn kin, went up the border of KY and VA and looking for info in the counties, and to his amazement found in land and court records Moses and his family.

Vivian Bales

VIII. Frances Jessee Stone

Frances Jessee (1789-1860) married **William Stone** (1789-1860), son of **Jeremiah Stone**. They had ten children and moved to Missouri.

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

IX. Sarah Jessee Vermillion

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

Jack Hockett, of St. Davidâs Place, PA is a descendant and the main contributor to research on this branch of the family. His work has appeared in previous issues of this newsletter, and in several significant genealogy publications. He has been collaborating for a number of years with **Kathyrn Burke Greever** and **Imogene Burke Verbal** on genealogy

research, which has greatly benefited the Jessee family. Please see the discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below.

Kathryn Greever, recently provided me descendants' information for **Elihu Vermillion** who married **Eliza Browning**, the Brownings being the main subject of their research. Elihu Vermillion is the son of Sarah "Sallie" Jessee and Wilson Vermillion. Heretofore I had no descendants information for Elihu and Eliza.

X. Boedicia "Dicey" Jessee Gose

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

Margaret Ann "Mickey" Burnett Kearbey is the first descendant of Dicey Jessee Gose to correspond with me, and she provided information regarding her Gose and Jessee Family roots. She shared a manuscript named *A Gaggle of Gose* which reflects years of research and details the descendants of Stephen Gose I, who was born in Germany in 1719, and founded the GOSE family of Russell Co., Virginia.

She provided details on her pedigree. She is the daughter of **Charles Norman Burnett** and **Margaret Elizabeth Gose**, the d. of **Charles Stephen Gose**, s. of **Thomas Jefferson Gose**, s. of **Stephen Yancey Gose**, s. of Stephen Gose III and Dicey Jessee.

Mickey writes, "I read where the Jessee family is quite musical. It must have been passed on as my Grandfather, Charles Stephen Gose, was very musical, as was my Mom, me, and my four children. I recorded two albums with my youngest daughter Casey."

Mickey and her family lived in Nashville for several years, where she got to sing and work with Merle Haggard, Grandpa Jones, Kitty Wells, Ferlin Husky, and record demos for Cliffie Stone and his son Steve. They now live in Idaho. She was kind enough to share with me their CD, *You Better Call Home*, from Broadland International Records, a collection of country music, including original songs. Mickey said, "Hope you like this, as I said before, Iâm an olâ country girl. Casey is my baby daughter." I did and recommend it.

XI. James Jessee

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

Please see the discussion under Rebecca Jessee Burk below. Kathryn Greever promises to share the fruits of their research regarding the descendants of James and Jane Burk Jessee soon. They believe they have identified one of the missing daughters of James and Jane Jessee, too.

Teresa A. Schwager recently provided (11/23/1998, pndragon@netnitco.net) several more generations of descendants of **Fleming Burke Jessee**, son of James Jessee, through his daughter, her gg-grandmother, Margaret F. Jessee who married John S. Stanley. I immediately shared this information with Kathryn Greever and Co., who got some new information.

XII. Rebecca Jessee Burk

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

Kathryn Burke Greever, Jack Hockett, and Imogene Burke Verbal have made a major contribution to our efforts with years of collaborative research and imminent publication of an exhaustive genealogy work, *Some Descendants of John Burk, 1656-1699, Middlesex Co., Virginia*. It details, among many others, the descendants of Fleming Burk, Sr. Four of his children married Jessees, two children and two grandchildren of John and Frankey Lea Jessee. Jane Burk married James Jessee, William Burk married Rebecca Jessee, Fleming Burk, Jr. married Nancy Ann Jessee, daughter of David Jessee, and Robert Burk married Anna Gose, daughter of Elizabeth Jessee and George Gose. They have added important information for each of these Jessee lines. Their notations and documentation of sources is tremendous. A simply great effort.

This typed manuscript, a copy of which Kathryn kindly shared with me, includes well over 1000 descendants of Rebecca Jessee and William Burk. None of this material has been keyed into a genealogy database program of any kind. It is a daunting chore, and more than this editor can do between now and next Christmas. We need help! Following their publication, which they hope will be this year, I would like to work with any volunteers who would be willing to help key this information into an appropriate genealogy database.

Kathryn's letter follows. She also asks for some help with the remaining research problems.

November 5, 1998

Dear Jim,

Here is what Jack Hockett, Imogene Burke Verbal, and I have on William Burk and Rebecca Jessee. We still have a few holes, few, if any, of which we will be able to fill. Think we will be able to do more on the McCracken part, so it's not listed in our research gaps. Maybe you'll take a look at them and see if any fit some of our "floating" Jessees whose ancestors have not been identified. [I have attached their "research gaps" and ask that we help Kathryn, Jack and Imogene with them--Ed.]

Since we are planning to publish, please do not share this material; particularly, we wouldn't want this to hit the Internet any time soon. I know eventually it will be subject to the Internet; however, request that information on living persons be left out. We expect that you will put it in your database for reference for individual descendant searches. [I will wait until they have published before even keying in this data, and will take care to follow their restrictions. However, Kathryn made it clear she wants to help descendants who are seeking information.]

Jack found and together we decided that his find related to one of the missing daughters of James Jessee and Jane Burk. We're confident, but need a little more proof. The masterful Iris Hall is working on it since it seems that the daughter of this previously unknown daughter married into Iris's Stinson line. Have finished Fleming Burk Jessee; a little more to do on the Stinsons. Will probably not do much on the 3rd "found" child. .

Cordially, Kathryn B. Greever

Pre-1900 Research Gaps

1. Jennie (Burke) and Edward Stinson's 4th daughter. Mary J. Stinson, married Archer F. Jessee in Jan. 1880. They are on the 1880 Russel Co., VA census, but not otherwise traced.
2. William and Rebecca (Jessee) Burke's 3rd child, Mary M., married John T. Jessee. Their son, Isaac, who married Martha Ousely, died in 1887. Their three oldest children are not seen after the 1880 Claiborne Co., TN census: Samuel T. Jessee, born c 1869; William G. Jessee, born c 1872; and Charles H. Jessee, born c 1875.
3. Mary M. Burke and John T. Jessee's 5th child, Wilburn G. Jessee, died Oct. 1, 1895. We have not been able to determine the names of his children by Sarah Lynch.
4. Mary M. Burke and John T. Jessee's 9th child, Susan E., married in 1880, John T. Carter. We have not found them after the 1880 Claiborne Co., TN census.
5. Jennie Burk and Edward Stinson's grandson, Thomas Remley Stinson, had a son, Henry Stinson, born c 1885, who is not seen on the 1900 census. Have been unable to trace this Henry.
6. Frances Burk who married Wm. Patton Necessary: Their son Wm. H. married Martha Moore and their first child was Mary J., 11/12 on the 1880 Washington Co., VA census. She has not been traced and may have died early.
7. William and Rebecca (Jessee) Burke's 8th child, Isaiah Jessee Burke. There are gaps with three of his children: 1st, Susan who married James Meek has not been traced to the 1880 census or beyond. 2nd, Margaret Burk who married John Wm. Tilley, has not been traced to the 1880 census and beyond. 3rd, Florence M. married John D. Mallen, not traced on the census although she is reported to have died in 1886, probably of childbirth, probably in UT.

XIII. Jane Jessee Fuller

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

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

XIV. George Lea Jessee

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

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

XV. Martin Jessee

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

Kathryn Greever, always mindful of the cause, provided me materials with information regarding Martin Van Buren Jessee and his descendants. These will be incorporated into the database and made available to those requesting more information.

I received this from a descendant. Since it's not a line I'm working on, I thought you might like to have it. These were Scott Co. Jessees with some being in Wise Co., VA in 1900.

Kathryn Greever

Who is Daniel E. Jessee?

In the last newsletter we asked: Who Is Daniel E. Jessee, Famous Sportman and Author, who was born in Carter Co., KY, son of James and Virginia Meade Jessee?

Tom Rudder may have solved the mystery with the following data and speculation. He provided 1850-1900 Census data for Floyd and Carter Co., KY, which support the following pedigree for Daniel E. Jessee. It also illustrates how tentative and contradictory our data is regarding alleged descendants of John Jessee III, the son of John Jessee Jr., first son of John and Frankey Lea Jessee, and a comparatively close kin to this editor. Your help with this knotty problem is welcome.

Descendants of John JESSEE III

First Generation

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

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

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

Problem: material provided by Kimberly Cook, based on 1850 KY Census indicates that a John Jessee, her ancestor, moved with wife Mary from VA to KY with his family about 1842. That this John Jessee III, is the same John Jessee of Floyd Co. KY, ancestor of Kim Cook, is a speculation of Jim Jessee, based on the coincidence of birth dates (1805) and the occurrence of the name William in the John Jessee family. This may be an error. Another option to pursue for Kim is John Trigg Jessee, RIN 8639, who also had a wife Mary Burk, and some of their children's names are the same.

They had the following children:

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

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

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

+ 4 M iii. David "Davy" JESSEE-14852 was born about 1836.

+ 5 M iv. Isaac JESSEE-15228 was born about 1840.

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

+ 7 F vi. Mary A. JESSEE-15230 was born about 1844.

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

Second Generation

4. David "Davy" JESSEE-14852 (John) was born about 1836 in VA.

David lived, age 13, b. VA in Floyd Co., KY with parents John and Mary Jessee in 1850 Floyd Co., KY Census, #54. He is listed in the 1860 Floyd Co., KY Census, #198, as age 24, b. VA in the household of Christiana Hatcher, 45 female, b. VA. along with her family of children, Elizabeth Stone, age 20, b. VA, and 10 slaves, named. His family is reconstructed from 1870 Floyd Co., Census, # 20, and 1880 Floyd Co., KY Census information.

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

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

They had the following children:

9 M i. John JESSEE-19447 was born 1864 in KY.

10 F ii. Mary JESSEE-15226 was born about 1867 in KY.

+ 11 M iii. William JESSEE-14850 was born 8 Jul 1867/1869 and died 17 Mar 1947.

12 M iv. Reuben JESSEE-15222 was born about 1871 in Floyd Co., KY.

13 M v. Tracy JESSEE-15223 was born about 1874 in Floyd Co., KY.

+ 14 M vi. James JESSEE-15224 was born Jul 1877.

15 M vii. Henry Lee JESSEE-15225 was born Oct 1879 in Floyd Co., KY.

16 F viii. Elizabeth "Lizzie" JESSEE-20230 was born May 1883 in KY.

5. Isaac JESSEE-15228 (John) was born about 1840 in VA.

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

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

Isaac married (MRIN:5894) Deborah Jane POPE-17008 on 13 Sep 1864 in Carter Co., KY. Deborah was born about 1842/1844.

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

Isaac and Deborah had the following children:

17 M i. John JESSEE-20192 was born about 1866 in KY.

18 M ii. Daniel JESSEE-20193 was born about 1868 in KY.

19 F iii. Mary Ann JESSEE-20194 was born about 1870 in KY.

20 F iv. Sarah JESSEE-20195 was born about 1872 in KY.

21 M v. William JESSEE-20196 was born about 1874 in KY.

22 F vi. Lovisa JESSEE-20197 was born about 1876 in KY.

23 M vii. Alfred JESSEE-20198 was born about 1878 in KY.

24 F viii. Margaret JESSEE-20199 was born about 1879 in KY.

7. Mary A. JESSEE-15230 (John) was born about 1844 in KY.

Mary married (MRIN:6797) FREEMAN-19448.

They had the following children:

25 M i. William FREEMAN-19449 was born about 1858 in KY.

26 M ii. John H. FREEMAN-19450 was born about 1862 in KY.

27 M iii. Caleb FREEMAN-19451 was born about 1868.

Third Generation

11. William JESSEE-14850 (David "Davy", John) was born 8 Jul 1867/1869 in Floyd Co., KY. He died 17 Mar 1947 in Carter Co., KY.

Source: 1900 Carter Co., KY Census and materials provided by Kimberly Cook.

William married (1-MRIN:5080) Mollie Elizabeth WATSON-14851 on 24 Dec 1885. Mollie was born 10 Apr 1874 in Floyd Co., KY. She died 24 Aug 1940 in Carter Co., KY.

They had the following children:

28 F i. Pearl Lee (Parlee) JESSEE-14848 was born 2 Oct 1886 in Banner, Carter Co., KY. She died Mar 1947 in Olive Hill, Carter Co., KY.

Pearl married (MRIN:5079) William A. SWIMM-14849. William was born 27 Feb 1877 in Rowan Co., KY. He died 3 Jan 1946 in Olive Hill, Carter Co., KY.

William also married (2-MRIN:5082) Margaret TIPTON-14857. Margaret was born Apr 1875 in KY.

They had the following children:

29 M ii. Lonnie (Loney) JESSEE-14858 was born after 1886 in Banner, KY.

30 F iii. Blanche JESSEE-15219 was born after 1886. She died in died as infant.

31 F iv. Naomi (Naoma) JESSEE-14860 was born about 1891 in Banner, KY.

Naomi married (MRIN:5209) COLLINS-15217. COLLINS died in North Vernon, IN.

32 M v. Ruben (Reubin) JESSEE-14859 was born about 1893 in Banner, KY. He died in Stolling, WV.

33 F vi. Nettie JESSEE-14861 was born about 1897 in Banner, KY.

Nettie married (MRIN:5210) STEPHENS-15218. STEPHENS died in Lawton, KY.

34 F vii. Anna Belle JESSEE-14862 was born about 1899 in Banner, KY. She died in Globe, KY.

14. James JESSEE-15224 (David "Davy", John) was born Jul 1877 in Floyd Co., KY.

James married (MRIN:7085) Virginia MEADE-20231. Virginia was born about 1877.

They had the following children:

35 M i. **Daniel E. JESSEE-20232** was born 1903 in Counts Cross Rd., Carter Co., KY. He died 30 Apr 1970 in FL.

Source: Jessee Family Newsletter 13, Fall 1998 and subsequent correspondence with Tom Rudder (Oct 1998) who speculates that Daniel E. Jessee has the pedigree provided here.

Correspondence

The following is a portion of the many letters and e-mails I am fortunate to receive. These give color to our work, answer questions, provide new information, problems, corrections, or updates, and ask new questions.

Iris Lambert Hall has been among my most faithful helpers, always providing new bits of information, answers to inquiries, and corrections where needed. I am very grateful for the many hours she devotes to this work. Here is her response to the last newsletter.

August 6, 1998

Dear Jim

I have been checking over Number 13 of the newsletter from time to time and decided while I had a few minutes tonight, would write you with a few thoughts. Our son is here from California and what with my 73rd birthday coming up in a few days and Marion's and my 50th wedding anniversary coming up tomorrow, he has been busy with Linda planning "stuff". I would just as soon have some cake and ice cream out back on the patio but don't think I am going to get by with that. [And congratulations on both fine achievements÷Ed.]

In my usual "style" (if you could call it even that), I will start off with my notes as I read the newsletter and hopefully you will be able to find something useful.

Page 7: my reference to page 168 of Pioneer Recollections the newsletter states, "Priscilla Harding, dau. of Aaron Gose, son of Elizabeth Jessee and John Jessee." It should have read "son of Elizabeth Jessee and George Gose" or "Elizabeth, daughter of John Jessee."

A George L. Jessee, born 1827, Russell Co. Va., was married to an Elizabeth (Eliza)-they were in Russell Co. in 1850 census and in Carter Co. Kentucky in 1860 census. I have never really found proof just which George Lee he was, who his parents were. One of their children was James R. Jessee, born 1848/49 who, on Feb. 9, 1868 in Carter Co., Ky. married Sarah Elizabeth Erwin, dau of Thomas Jefferson and Martha (Stamper) Erwin. (See page 6, this is only one of those listed I have any information on.)

In regards to the pedigree Chart of Howard G. Jessee line, No. 4, George Lee Jessee: I found him born Sept. 16, 1853 in Washington Co., Va. Bk. 1, p. 7 No. 10. He married Dorthula Mandora Dickenson.

In regard to the Cuntze charts, P. 4, 37M: Margaret (Peggy) Kelly, ma. John Counts, Jr. Margaret dau. of John (?). She was a sister of my Rev. Edward Kelly. I (just personally, no real proof) have always thought they were children of an

Amey Kelly who appeared near Edward and some of his older brothers on Shenandoah Co. tax lists. Edward had only one daughter, and he named her Amy. However, I have no confirmation of this possibility at all, and have never been able to find even a hint of who Edward and Margaret's father was. He named his first son Michael and then John, William and Peter, plus Amy.

Page 19, Pedigree Chart of Dewey Alderson Jessee: I see at No. 32/33 our John Jessee's parents are shown as Henry and Elizabeth, and Frankie Lea Jessee's parents are shown as William and Mary (Archer?) Lea. Is this just speculation or is there something definite on that now? [IMPORTANT: Iris is correct to point out that this is speculation, not proven, as discussed in the source notes for John and Frankey. All readers beware÷Ed.]

Page 22, aren't the names of the parents of Frederick Winfred Jessee and Nancy Jessee reversed in first paragraph? I have Nancy Jessee's parents as John Counts and Margaret Cross Jessee and Thomas J. Jessee and Sarah Browning Jessee as parents of Frederick W. [Iris is correct÷Ed.]

· Always glad to get newsletter. My good wishes.

Iris Lambert Hall

Pat Pegram (Timothypat@aol.com) writes with the following information.

June 18, 1998

Dear Mr. Jessee

I have just a little information to go along with what Tom Rudder had in the newsletter for **Phillip and Gabriel Jessee**.

Tom had that Phillip's daughter Mary was born 1802 in Botetourt Co., (1850 RC Census). I have a photocopy of the original Bureau of Vital Statistics death record, located in Richmond, VA, of Mary's death. Her name is listed as SmcKinney, Mary (Atkins's Book of RC Deaths page 68 lists her as Mary Sue Kinney--I disagree, looking at the photocopy), white, female, death date of Oct 20, 1887, at New Garden, of old age, at the age of 94 (which would place her born abt 1793). Name of Parents as Phil and Rachel Jessee, she was born in Russell Co. (by ditto marks down a whole page, but according to the 1850 Census, this should be Botetourt Co.). Her occupation was housekeeper, and the consort of S mcKinney.

This is my interpretation of this record. I think she is **Mary S. McKinney** and has been married to a S. McKinney. I think it is Phillip's daughter. Probably the age is off and the 1850 census is more correct for age and place of birth. The whole page has ditto marks for place of birth being Russell Co. I will try to do some more looking in the 1860, 70, and 80 census to see what age it gives for her. ·

Pat Pegram

William H. Jessee of Louisville, KY has communicated with me and received the Jessee Newsletter since 1994, and I have not been able to help him. He remains unconnected to the rest of the Jessee Family. He provided the following information via e-mail, and welcomes your help in establishing the pedigree for this branch of the Jessee Family.

From: WHJessee [WHJessee@prodigy.net]

Sent: November 11, 1998 3:05 PM

To: jjessee@csuchico.edu

Subject: William H. Jessee Family

Dear Jim,

I receive your Jessee Newsletter and enjoy your letter very much. I have wanted to contact you for some time but I was not sure where to begin. I am forwarding to you a copy of a letter I sent to my cousin who wanted information about our great grandmother **Laura Fields**. This also deals with the Jessee Family of which we both belong.

My grandfather David A. Jessee died when my father **William P. Jessee** was sixteen. No one in our family had or has any information about David A. Jessee's parents except what I have been able to obtain. We were born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. The letter I am forwarding to you is all the information I have. I wonder if there might be some connection to **Samuel Jesse** who I think might be the father of David A. Jessee to the Jessee's you study? Do you know of a possible connection through any of the Jessees you are in contact with? Please advise. Thanks,

William H. Jessee

From: WHJessee <WHJessee@prodigy.net>

To: Nancy Easton <nachin@mindspring.com>

Date: November 11, 1998 3:22 PM

Subject: Family Information

Nancy,

As you can see, I have not corrected your name but will later. I have some items to share with you and hopefully Marguerite can verify. In the 1860 Census, it shows the following:

James Fields of Elizabethtown, Ky. (Hardin County) was 43 years, married to Mary Fields, occupation-Farmer, property value 300, Children-Elizabeth 14, William 12, John 10, Laura 8, and Infant 2 months.

Laura Fields married **Harry D. Williams**. I do not know when. She lived in Edinburg, Ind., Logansport, Ind. and moved to Indianapolis, Ind. She owned a house on Day Street in Broad Ripple which was about a half block from where David and I were raised. Harry and Laura had two children, **Ivy and William U. Williams**. William moved to Jackson, Michigan and also became a Printer. Harry introduced Ivy to **David Augustus Jessee** who was a printer and worked with Harry. They both worked for the Indianapolis News. Note, this was not all in the 1860 Census.

To my knowledge, David had two sisters named Mary and Nillie. In the 1890 Census, I find **Mary Jessee 13, Nillie**

Jessee 26, David Jessee 17, located at 725 North Illinois Street Indianapolis, Indiana. I also find **Nannie Jessee** enumerated with Margaret Simpson (roomer) at this address, age 25. In fact, they were all shown as being enumerated with Margaret Simpson. At 701 North Illinois Street was **Ella Jessee**, age 31. I have no idea who this is.

In the 1920 Census, you find David A. Jessee married to Iva (y) at 1328 North Illinois Street with their children Velma 16, Harry 13, William 9, Margaret 8, Marella 3yrs. 9mos. Also shown is Nellie Loyd (Colored), and Roomers Harrison Barton 29, Marion Barton 19 and Alfred Barton 3yrs.2mos.

At some point, David Jessee and his sisters lived in Terre Haute, Indiana. I think with an Aunt. I have a record of David in the First grade. I also have a record of **Samuel H. Jessee** married to **Julia O'Herron** that shows **Nane Bell Jessee** and Mary Jessee born or baptised at St. Joseph's Church in Terre Haute, Indiana in 1873 and 1885. A **Julia Jessey(e)** died 3/19/1890 and was buried at St. Joseph's at age 36.

Margaret Simpson, who was at 725 North Illinois Street, died 3/9/1908. I think she was possibly the sister of Julia O'Herron or Samuel Jessee and was taking care of David A. Jessee and his sisters.

This is a few items to think about with your Mother. We are all connected to this in some matter.

Bill [William H. Jessee]

Based on the above information, and additional information provided by Bill, I have constructed the following descendants chart. We ask your help in connecting Samuel and David A. Jessee to the greater Jesse(e) family, and in documenting, enlarging, and correcting the data as I have recorded it.

Virginia Bennett provided me materials that included pages from *Some Early Barbadian History÷Memoirs of the First Settlement of the Island of Barbados*, by Major John Scott, written in 1677. It includes stories and references to individuals by the names of **Philip Lea**, **Charles Leigh**, **John Leigh**, and **Sir Olaf Leigh**, all among the earliest settlers of Barbados, 1604-1620. Besides fascinating reading, perhaps there is a clue to Frankey Lea's family origins here.

She also calls attention to a publication by and available from **Michael A. Dye** (207 Deershadown Rd., Maineville, OH 45039; 513-677-8791; m.a.d.man@worldnet.att.net).

It is his extractions of the *Russell County Virginia Marriage Register #2*, Volume 2, 1871-1885 (Also including the lost marriage records, 1848-1853). Michael extended the marriage record information with additional research, providing us a valuable new resource for many families whose origins are in Russell Co., VA. We will have more on the tremendous contributions of Michael A. Dye to Russell Co. genealogy in the next newsletter.

Carlyne Ritter, provides the following materials of interest to **Browning** descendants.

November 18, 1998

Jim,

In *Heritage Books News* (1540-E Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie, Maryland 20716; 800-398-7709; www.heritagebooks.com) Issue 180, November 1998, was the following review. [This book should be of great value to **Browning** family researchers.]

Our Maryland Heritage, Book 12: Browning Families, by William N. Hurley:

"[The Browning Family]...primarily of Frederick and Montgomery counties, Maryland, and including some members of the family found in other regions, The roots of the Browning family are in Great Britain, with arms borne by Browning of Cambridge and Browning of Cowley as well as three other houses. Thomas Browning was the first of his family to travel to the colonies in the 1659, arriving first in Rappahannock County, Virginia, and returning to England for his family in 1656. The family relocated to Maryland from Rappahannock in 1665, many of the children settled in Cecil and Kent Counties. Thomas and his wife Hester returned to Bristol in 1674, both dying soon after but having established the Browning name in Maryland.

·[the book] moves into early records of the Browning family, beginning with Thomas Browning and concentrating on the descendants of his grandson Francis Browning, born c. 1672 to John and Elizabeth. Two chapters are devoted to sons of Francis, namely Edward Browning Jr., and William Browning. ·A bibliography of relevant sources is included as well as a fullname index. 1998, 571 pp. Bib., paper, \$44, #H863"

John David Jessee, of Stone Mountain, GA, writes, 6/22/98 (jjessee@concentric.net) responded to an e-mail inquiry of **Linda Kiser** (kisermus@alaska.net) and copied me.

Hi Cousins,

My name is John David Jessee, born in Russell County, VA in 1948 to **Grady Lee** and **Sally Mattie Cook Jessee**. I currently live in Stone Mountain, GA and visit my parents in Lebanon, VA about 8-10 times each year. My father was born in 1896 to **Charlie Benson** and **Jean Annie (Wallace) Jessee** near Cleveland and Nashâs Ford, VA. Grady Lee (my father) is currently 102 years of age and in good health [most probably our oldest living Jessee-Ed.]. He is a wealth of information, however, most cannot be documented.

According to my fatherâs verbal account, his grandfatherâs name is **John "Bull" Jessee** of the Cleveland, VA area. John Bull served the Confederacy during the conflict of the 1860âs and relates a story of sleeping in the open under 10 inches of snow yet still remaining warm. John Bull died of natural causes in the early 1900s. The names George Jessee and Frankie Lea have also been mentioned by my father as possible previous generations. I can only speculate about this possibility since my father seems somewhat unsure. [John "Bull" Jessee is **John Counts Jessee**, son of **George Lea Jessee**, s. of John and Frankey Lea Jessee-Ed.]

I would like to conduct a search of grave sites prior to my grandfather. The Russell County Court House burned and had some records destroyed in the early 1900s, I am told, so finding information there might be difficult but I would like to pursue that idea. Seems that family Bibles are the best source of information in the area which might lead to family cemeteries.

Please open the attachment and find a WWI picture of my father Grady Lee Jessee. [Using your browser go to <http://www.roanoke.com/roatimes/ww1/jessee.html>, to find more information on Grady Lee Jessee and both see and hear an interview with him.] He is an inspiration to everyone who knows him and has appeared on local TV because of his service in WWI and his alertness and sense of humor at age 102. We celebrated his birthday this June and will be looking forward to the 103rd birthday celebration. I would like to make next yearâs celebration a Jessee Virginia reunion and the year 2000 celebration a national Jessee reunion to be held in the mountains of Virginia in Russell County. Let me know what you think of the idea.

[I love this idea, and welcome organizers-Ed.]

I have a niece and nephew in Russell County by the name of **Billie Sue Kiser** and **Milton "Mitt" Kiser**. Could there be some relation to your family? .

John Jessee

Gloria Robbins asks for our help via e-mail, 10/26/1998 (1stfbc@gte.net), regarding her husband's Jessee roots.

"I have no idea which Jessee family my husband is descended from. The only information I have is that of **Clarence Jessee** who was killed in WW II, supposedly at Normandy Beach. Do you have any Clarence Jessee in your family that might fit this description?"

Donna Bogue inquired via e-mail, 12/9/1998 (donnabogue@earthlink.net), regarding her pedigree as follows.

Jim,

I see you have some information on the Jessee family. I am looking for my family and I have very little information. Can you take a look at what I got and let me know if any of these people fit with the information you have?

I am searching for two sisters (parents unknown, so far) believed to be from Russell Co., VA. They were **Martha Castle** [who married **Jefferson Davis Meade**] and **Sallie Castle** [who married **Greely Jessee**]. I am looking for their husband's families.

Donna provided descendants information for the sisters, down to her grandmother, **Lillian Lucille "Lucy" Meade**, who married **Henry Aldridge**, and I was quickly able to place them all within the Jessee and several other Russell County families. The result is one of the most amazing pedigrees that I have encountered so far. Donna is descended from three of John and Frankey Lea Jessee's children, **Mary "Polly" Jessee Kiser**, **George Lea Jessee**, and **Martin Jessee**, and she is also my wife's cousin via the Counts family connection I shared in prior newsletters. She is a cousin so many ways to my kids, it gets down right ridiculous! I will share Grandma Lucy's pedigree chart and family photos provided by Donna on the following pages.

As always I welcome corrections, extensions, and documentation of all information provided.

Tom Rudder followed up the inquiry of **Mary Lee Rainbolt** re. the **Banner** family.

Jim,

The Banner book by William Perry Banner of Ashville, NC, shows the following. Jacob Banner, son of John Banner Sr., and Catherine Rackenpough, married Phebe Finney. Their son John Wesley Banner (b. 6-12-1820) married Martha Broadwaters in Texas. Their children were Thomas Jefferson (b. 12-11-1844) m. Betty Berry. And a daughter Mary Jane ? (it looks like it might be a misplaced name, birth date in different era). The Charles Banner who married Margaret Ann Gose was the son of John Banner the third. Margaret was the daughter of Stephen Gose, the son of Christopher

Gose. They had two children: William Gose Banner, and John Banner the fourth.

Mary Lee seems to imply that the book by J. C. Banner has the names of the parents of John Banner Sr. and Catherine in it. Can we get that information?

Tom

I have one problem with the above. I show Margaret Ann Gose as the da. of **George Hopkins Gose**, son of Stephen Gose, son of Christopher Gose, and thus have an extra generation in there. What is right?

Tom corresponded further with Mary Lee Rainbolt regarding Banner family origins and got this helpful response. "I have found no Jacob Banner coming to America but many Jacob Benners. I think they were all Benners when they arrived here."

Mardee Still emailed me, December 14, 1998 (mstill@naxs.net), with this inquiry.

Hi,

My name is Mardee Still. My Great Grandmother was **Rebecca Jane Jesse(e)**. She married Henry Floyd Meade. They lived in Wise County, Virginia. She was buried in Norton, Virginia around 1921. I guess she was in her late twenties or early thirties, because my Granny was only seven when she died. I was told they thought it was cancer. This is all I know about her, except that she hit a soldier over the head with a bag of socks when he tried to get her to dance in the street after the war. I have no pictures and no other names to link her to. If you have any other information I would really appreciate it. I can get you names of her recent descendants if that would be of any help. Thank you,

Mardee Still

I have fourteen Rebecca Jessees and six Henry Meades in my database, but could not find either that matched her great-grandparents. Mardee and I would welcome any help to connect this family.

Patricia OâConnor (PatOConnor @aol.com) revisited our Kentucky born **Colonel George Jessee, CSA** who was a principal character in "The Great Train Robbery" we featured in Newsletter #8, with this inquiry.

September 24, 1998

Hello Jim,

I am happy to meet another Jessee. .

The oldest Jesse I have is Colonel George of the Confederacy. He was in Kentucky, but Iâve been unable to find him in Civil War records. There are census records of a couple of George Jessees, but I havenât been able to reliably identify the Colonel.

George was the father of William, Tom, and George. William was the father of Bessie Pearl, Charlie, and Forrest. Bessie

Pearl was the mother of Jesse OâConnor, my father.

I am new to this and waited until every one had died. What a pity to have lost those wonderful memories.

Patricia OâConnor
303-526-2550

Charles W. Jessee (cjessee@bellsouth.net) posted a response to an inquiry 16 Sep 1998, posted by **Sandra Farmer**, 29 Mar 1998.

I have a Great Great Grand Father named **Thomas Jessee** that moved to Metcalf Co., KY in the early 1800s from VA. I wonder if this is the same Thomas? [I do not know to whom he is referring-Ed.] My Uncle and Aunt John and Kizzie Gilpin, (in Metcalf Co.) has records to Thomas and that is where it stops. I know it ends with my son Benjamin, to me Charles, to my Dad, John B., to my Grand Father, Edward, to Great Grand Father Benjamin (in Civil War, a Yankee), and then to Thomas. I presently live in Louisville, KY.

Henry A. "Hank" Davis, whose marvelous letter and offer to help regarding the John and Frankey Lea Jessee cemetery was featured earlier in this newsletter, asks for our help with another one of his projects.

June 26, 1998

Dear Jim

· I would also like for anybody in the family who has any Civil War photos of our ancestors to make them available to the rest of us as I am very interested in the War and all the family members who participated. I have been researching the Regimental Series of books and am finding that a great many Jessee boys served the Confederacy. ·

Hank Davis

Jack and Joyce Wolford (102752.3043@compuserve.com) asks for some help. I was unable to place any of these.

August 10, 1998

Jim,

We have some Jessees, and wondered if you could provide some information on them. I will list what information we have on them, and you will see I need a lot of help.

Viola Jessee m. **Earl Sykes**. Earl b. 1903

Mildred Jessee m. **John Harold Breeding**. Ch. John, Jr.; Karen Sue

Unknown Jessee m. Peggy Sykes

John Kelly Barker asks our help in linking his ancestor, **Thomas Sherman Jessee**. He provides these clues and asks

that he be contacted directly at 10182 Palmer Drive, Olive Branch, MS 38654-3326.

Thomas Sherman JESSEE-15540 was born 27 May 1870 in Carterton, Russell Co., VA. He died 9 May 1936 in , Russell Co., VA.

Thomas married (MRIN:5326) Mary Quillen DICKENSON-15539, daughter of James DICKENSON-19648 and Martha RAMSEY-19649 (MRIN:6876), on 10 Jun 1895 in Russell Co., VA. Mary was born about 1870 in Russell Co., VA.

They had the following children:

i. William JESSEE-19651 was born 12 Mar 1896 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA.

ii. Liza Jane JESSEE-19650 was born 31 Aug 1897 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA.

iii. Charles James JESSEE-19652 was born 5 Apr 1899 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA. He died 19 Dec 1970 in Venice, Sarasota Co., FL.

iv. Paul JESSEE-19653 was born 2 Sep 1900 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA. He died 3 Aug 1901 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA.

v. Della Ruth JESSEE-19654 was born 31 Jan 1903 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA and was christened 2 Dec 1982 in Indianapolis, IN. This is John Kelly Barker's grandmother.

vi. Mary Myrtle JESSEE-19655 was born 30 Nov 1906 in Castlewood, Russell Co., VA. She died 17 Nov 1976 in Lebanon, Russell Co., VA.

vii. Theodore Sherman JESSEE-19656 was born 26 Dec 1908 in St. Paul, Wise Co., VA. He died 9 Jun 1951 in Hackensack, NJ. "I am told he (Theodore Sherman) and his son practiced law in California."

Nellie Ruth Rasnake Jessee, wife of **James Charlie "JC" Jessee**, a descendant of **Phillip and Gabriel Jessee**, wrote to provide some corrections and pointed out how she is a cousin to my wife **Nelda Jessee**, via that Counts connection discussed in Newsletter 13. She is the ggggg-granddaughter of **Jacob Rasnake Sr.** and **Mary "Mollie" Counts Rasnake**, a daughter of **John Counts of Glade Hollow**. She shared excerpts from **E. J. Sutherland**'s book on John Counts regarding her family line.

Michael B. Jones, of Houston, TX, provided materials about **James Browning Jessee**, son of Archer and Nancy Browning Jessee, who married **Nancy B. Candler**. They moved to **Montgomery Co, IN**. Michael provided evidence of James B. Jessee from several Montgomery County and New Ross area history sources. I will feature these in a future newsletter.

Charlotte E. Duty, director of the Russell County Public Library, and **Geneva Mullins** of the Family History Department both wrote to acknowledge the gifts in memory of **Col. Howard G. Jessee**. Charlotte indicated that

donations "would be used to purchase materials for our Local History Room."

I encourage the Jessee family to help make the Russell County Library Family History Department the depository of historical and genealogical materials relevant to Russell County, and to make appropriate donations to help them maintain and expand them.

Michael Ernest Jessee and **Virginia Karen Tauscher**, Howard's children, wrote to thank us for the memorial to Howard in the Summer 1998 issue. Karen wrote, "Thank you for remembering my Father-God Bless You!"

Carolyn Jessee Cooper, Howard's youngest sister, wrote the kindest letter. Carolyn had flown to Texas to help Howard from time to time, and is assisting their eldest sister **Thelma Jessee** who still lives in their grandfather George Lee Jessee's home on the original David Jessee land. Howard had been helping to restore the family home in hopes to move there for his last years. He didn't make it. She described Howard's struggle with his health his last months, and that his family had spent as much time with him as was possible. She assured us that all of Howard's genealogy materials were packed carefully and have been sent to Howard's son, Michael, as Howard wanted. She indicated the family very much appreciated the memorial article and the donations in Howard's name to the Russell County Library, Family History Center.

Thelma and Carolyn Jessee Cooper sent Christmas greetings and Carolyn wrote, "of course we will be missing Howard this holiday season, but at least don't have to worry about him being sick and spending Christmas alone. God knows best!"

About the Database

Putting "our" Jessee Family Database on-line is a humbling responsibility. I have received information from hundreds of people over thirty years that I carefully, and sometimes not so carefully, recorded in this database. My crediting of sources and documentation of information goes from none to professional as I learned to be a genealogist over this great length of time. Providing credits and references to sources improved over time, but it is most imperfect, and in some cases may approach a breach of intellectual integrity. I apologize.

Much of the database information comes from others without any independent validation or knowledge of their care in collecting, recording, and documenting their data. Much came to me long before there was an Internet and public access to such data. On the web site I provide a disclaimer, explaining that anyone who uses it must beware, and accept information with caution. However, I am concerned about the possible violation of trust and confidentiality. I don't want to take credit for the work of others. Please inform me of needed credits and source documentation. If you find information in the database that you want altered or removed, please inform me.

Descendants of Samuel JESSEE-17210

First Generation

1. **Samuel JESSEE**-17210 was born about 1850.

Source: William H. "Bill" Jessee via e-mail (WHJessee@prodigy.net), 11/20/1998, provided the descendants information for Samuel and David Augustus Jessee, as well as this note. "David A. Jessee was raised in the Catholic Church, alter boy, had three cousins named Frank, Hattie, and Harry. He had an aunt named Maggie (?) who owned or ran a boarding house in Terre Haute, Indiana. His sisters were Nan, Nellie, and Mary. Nellie was born in 1873, Nannie in 1874, and Mary in 1886 [1876 or did she marry at age 13?]. Birth record, file tape # 0571727 Marion County, Indianapolis, Indiana. lists birth of Jessey(e), father named Samuel, born 6/16/1882. This has to be David A. Jessee.

Marriage Records:

Samuel Jessee (W) Julia O'Herron Aug. 22, 1870 -11-155

Mary Alice Jessee (H) Johnson Czatt Mar. 15, 1899 -30-243

Nellie E. Jessee (H) Alford F. Borsheim Jan. 18, 1899 -33-581

David A. Jessee (W) Iva(y) L. Williams Feb. 26, 1902 -33-581"

Samuel married (MRIN:7084) Julia O'HERRON-21363 on 22 Aug 1870. Julia was born about 1850.

They had the following children:

2 F i. **Nellie E. JESSEE**-20223 was born 1873.

Nellie married (MRIN:7436) Alford F. BORSHEIM-21364 on 18 Jan 1899.

3 F ii. **Nannie "Nan" JESSEE**-21362 was born 1874.

4 F iii. **Mary Alice JESSEE**-20224 was born 1876/1886.

Mary married (MRIN:7437) Johnson CZATT-21365 on 15 Mar 1899.

+ 5 M iv. **David Augustus JESSEE**-17209 was born 16 Jun 1882 and died 29 Jun 1925.

Second Generation

5. David Augustus JESSEE-17209 (Samuel) was born 16 Jun 1882 in Indianapolis, IN. He died 29 Jun 1925 in Indianapolis, IN and was buried in Crown Hill Cem., Indianapolis, IN.

David married (MRIN:7087) Iva (Ivy) Lee WILLIAMS-14839, daughter of Harry D. WILLIAMS-20242 and Laura FIELDS-20243 (MRIN:7083), on 26 Feb 1902 in Indianapolis, IN. Iva (Ivy) was born 21 Jul 1885 in Edinburg, IN. She died 9 Dec 1960 in Indianapolis, IN.

They had the following children:

6 F i. **Velma JESSEE**-20248 was born about 1904 in Indianapolis, IN.

Velma married (MRIN:7431) Harry STAFFORD-21345.

+ 7 M ii. **Harry JESSEE**-20247 was born about 1907.

+ 8 M iii. **William P. JESSEE**-17208 was born 28 Feb 1910 and died 4 Feb 1968.

+ 9 F iv. **Marguerite (Margaret) JESSEE**-20246 was born about 1912.

+ 10 F v. **Marella (Laura) JESSEE**-20245 was born about 1915.

Third Generation

7. **Harry JESSEE**-20247 (David Augustus, Samuel) was born about 1907 in Indianapolis, IN.

Harry married (MRIN:7432) Bernadine MCGEE-21346.

They had the following children:

11 M i. Harry (Pete) JESSEE-21347.

8. **William P. JESSEE**-17208 (David Augustus, Samuel) was born 28 Feb 1910 in Indianapolis, , IN. He died 4 Feb 1968 in Indianapolis, , IN and was buried in Crown Hill Cem., Indianapolis, IN.

William married (MRIN:2877) Louise M. CARVIN-21350.

They had the following children:

12 M i. **William H. "Bill" JESSEE**-8439 was born 11 Dec 1931 in Indianapolis, IN.

William married (MRIN:7434) Mary L. BAUMGARTL-21351 on 15 May 1955 in Indianapolis, IN. Mary was born about 1931.

13 M ii. **David JESSEE**-20244 was born 17 Aug 1933 in Indianapolis, IN.

David married (MRIN:7435) Fae VANMETER-21358 on 11 Sep 1954.

9. **Marguerite (Margaret) JESSEE**-20246 (David Augustus, Samuel) was born about 1912 in Indianapolis, IN.

Marguerite married (MRIN:7433) Joe ROBERTS-21348.

They had the following children:

14 F i. **Nancy ROBERTS**-21349.

10. **Marella (Laura) JESSEE-20245** (David Augustus, Samuel) was born about 1915 in Indianapolis, IN.

She had the following children:

15 F i. **Ginger-21344** was born in (adopted).

Editor's note

Under shameless self-promotion, here is a photo of this newsletter editor, who was one of fifteen authors who wrote this book, *A Small Corner of the West, A History of Butte Meadows, Chico Meadows, and Jonesville*, small mountain communities about 50 miles from Chico. There several Jessee, Bickley, and related families of early Virginia origins have cabins or summer homes. Over the last century these California pioneering families used to drive cattle to summer pasture in this small corner of the West, or were involved in logging or with the Diamond Match Company lumber and milling operations in this area. Today this is a favorite hunting, fishing, summer and winter recreation spot for many a cousin. I helped an all-volunteer local history group edit and publish this book. It was well received, and its small private printing was a sell out.



James W. "Jim" Jessee (back left)

1998 Honor Roll

I want to thank those who provided donations to sustain this newsletter in 1998. Frankly, without the generosity of Col. Howard G. Jessee, whose passing we noted in Newsletter #13, I would not have come close to breaking even this year. Less than 20% of those who receive this letter provide any donation to sustain it, so the generosity of those below is particularly important and keeps my spirits up. Thank you.

Barbara Young Desai

Bethel J. Stolte

Betty Yates

Dan H. Levan, Jr.

David L. Hanna

Dean C. Jessee

Dennie H. Hall

Diana Jessee Shockley

Faynola Osborne

Gordon B. Jessee

H. Harold Dorton

Hans J. Plaat

Henry A. Davis, Jr.

Howard Gilmer Jessee

Iris Lambert Hall

Jack F. Robinson

Jack Hockett

Jack P. Martin

Jacquelyn Volkanovich

Janice Rodby

Jon L. Wolf

Julia Younce

Kathryn B. Greever

Kathy Jessee Flynn

Kaye Jessee Peters

Lawrence C. Jessee

Margaret Jessee Young

Marilyn Jessee Le Beau

Nellie R. Jessee

Pat T. Pegram

Peggy Mills

Richard L. Jessee

Ruth S. Going

Sharlene Boyer

Susan D. Lowe

Tom Rudder

Vernon Cecil Jessee

Virginia Bennett

Vivian Bales

Woodrow R. Thompson

Woodrow Trondsen

The Purpose of This Newsletter

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

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

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

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

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

I am providing this newsletter free to anyone who has asked for it, provided me information, or has expressed serious interest in this work. You are welcome to provide addresses of others that may be interested in our effort and would like to help. I am looking for those willing to provide and exchange information or represent their branch of the family or area of the country. I can provide and receive genealogy data by diskettes and via Internet by e-mail.

How To Help

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

Newsletter Reprints

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

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An unknown source has provided this genealogist's prayer,

"God grant me the serenity to accept the ancestors I cannot find,
the courage to find the ones I can, and the wisdom to document thoroughly."

ADVISORY: Because of the cost to me to print and mail this newsletter, if you have never provided a donation to sustain this newsletter, shared information, or simply indicated to me that you would like to continue to get it, even though you are unable to provide a donation, I will need to drop you from the mailing list for the future. I am sorry.