



Jessee Family Newsletter

Issue #20

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Dear Cousin,

I had another happy and energizing experience at the **2001 Jessee Family Reunion** in August. I traveled alone this time, as Nelda had to work. The hospitality of **Mike and Joy Malone** and **Doodle and Ernestine Jessee** enabled me to attend and I truly enjoyed my time with them. Many thanks to **Rev. Vernon Cecil Jessee, Mike and Joy Malone, Joe and Toby Jessee, and Norma McHone** for putting the reunion together.

The **Jessee Historical Foundation** is now a reality thanks to the efforts of the founding board and charter members. The first annual meeting was held during the 2001 Reunion. The auction of **Irene Jessee Perry's** oil painting of Jessee's Mill along with charter year memberships, and other donations have provided a well funded beginning.

September 11 had an everlasting impact on us. I am only now getting out of the dumps. The impact in the genealogy email community was significant. At first, there was stunned silence and a huge drop off of email traffic. Then came a flood of outpourings of outrage, grief, patriotism, and suggestions on how to help for weeks. Only recently has the email traffic returned to normalcy. Still I fear we are not yet out of these woods.

I am always a bit daunted by this chore. There is so much to do, just the daily requests for help can fill an evening. There is much data entry that needs to be done. While I peck away at it almost every day, I will need help with the big projects. Still, I am excited and gratified every time I extend the descendants for the Jesse(e) Family and meet a new cousin. I am astounded as I see increasing evidence of the interrelatedness of all these SW Virginia families. We are indeed all cousins.

We have another interesting newsletter thanks to so many of you who help support the effort through generous contributions of information, photographs, documentation, and money. My spirits are uplifted by your letters, email, and calls.

Jim Jessee

Featured This Edition

The 2nd National Jessee Family Reunion is reviewed and you are invited to join us on **August 3, 2002**, at the **Russell Co. Fairgrounds**, Castlewood, VA.

The Jessee Historical Foundation is well underway with 215 charter members. Read all about it and see a photo of the board's first annual meeting. Learn more about the proposed **Jessee Historical Marker Project** and more inside.

Jesse(e) Family Origins has several new contributions, this time about possible Jesse(e) family **French Origins**.

Southwest Virginia Families which have intermarried with the Jesse(e) family are featured. This time we are featuring articles about the **Fuller, Powers, and Litton** families. In other articles there is important information for the **McKinney, Bickley, Porter, Counts, Helton, Hanson, Dickenson, Gilmer, Wright, and Smith** families.

Many contributors have provided new information regarding the history and genealogy of **Philip and Rachel Jessee**, their son **Gabriel**, and each of **John and Frankey Lea Jessee's** fifteen children. You will find news, stories and extensions of our family genealogy inside.

Several contributors have sent photographs which I am happy to feature, although the quality of printing is somewhat uneven. Unfortunately the resolution was so poor on some I could not include them. My apologies to those left out. Historical family photos are most welcome additions to the newsletter, but please try to provide them to me no less than in 600 dpi resolution.

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

Jessee Resources on the World Wide Web has a few more clues for us computer geeks and the latest information regarding the development of the **Jessee Family Database**.

You Are Invited To The 2002 National Jessee Family Reunion

**Saturday, August 3, 2002--10AM to 4PM
at the Russell County Fairgrounds
Highway Alt. 58 near Castlewood, VA.**

**Family Research Day
Friday, August 2, 2002--9AM to 4PM
at the Russell County Library
203 NW Main St., Lebanon, VA**

**Russell County Genealogy Society
Meets Thursday, August 1, 2002 at 5:30PM
at the Russell County Library, Lebanon, VA**

2001 National Reunion A Huge Success

The 2001 and second National Jessee Family Reunion was held at the Russell Co. Fairgrounds, St. Paul, VA, on Saturday, August 4, 2001. The Fair Grounds was a change from the Sugar Hollow Picnic Ground in Bristol, where the first Jessee reunions were held. The first 1993 annual reunion was a George Lea Jessee family reunion, which went so well over the years its organizers decided to go annual and national and invite all Jessees from the entire country for the First "National" Reunion in August 2000. The response was so great, that we got too big for Sugar Hollow, and

the Russell Co. Fairgrounds was secured for the 2001 reunion.

The Jessee Historical Foundation with its President, Joe Jessee, as well as the significant contributions of Toby Jessee, Mike and Joy Malone, Mary Akers, Norma McHone, and Rev. Cecil Jessee, to name a few, were the sponsors, chief organizers, financiers, and labor for the 2nd National Jessee Family Reunion, held August 4, 2001. They have much to be proud of and we owe them our thanks. By any measure, both the Jessee Research Day and Reunion/Picnic were a huge success. About 100 attended the Research Day on Friday, and over 400 attended the Jessee Reunion and Picnic on Saturday. Former town manager and citizen extra ordinaire, Harold Joseph "Doodle" Jessee, gave his official count of 408 attendees. A great time was reported by all. Even the teens and children had fun with the planned activities, entertainment, and incredible desserts, as the adults talked their heads off.

The fairgrounds accommodated us well. That fact was achieved only by the heroic efforts by Joe and Toby Jessee to get a broken water main fixed, the lawns mowed, the facilities substantially cleaned, and to get the tables, chairs, and picnic benches put into place. Many family members pitched in Saturday morning to setup and staff the registration, auction, genealogy, and of course food tables, as well as the entertainment and other activities for the children and adults. Doodle's wife, Ernestine Honaker Jessee, organized the food tables and service, with help from many excellent family cooks. But Toby Jessee had done much of the work in preparation the week before, and he deserves the meritorious service award. He led the charge on Saturday morning, too, bringing it all together. Thanks go to him and the many others for

giving a helping hand and making this venue so nice for the occasion.

We believe that descendants from 8-10 of the 15 children of John Jessee were represented at the research day, picnic, and reunion, including descendants of John Jessee, Jr., Archer Jessee, David Jessee, Frances Jessee Stone, George Lea Jessee, Mary "Polly" Jessee Kiser, Martin Jessee, and James Jessee. Reunion participants came from many states that included CA, FL, GA, LA, TX, WI, MD., NC, SC, KY, OH, TN, IA, IL, IN, and, of course, VA. We were glad to see such a large gathering of Jessees and friends from the St. Paul/Castlewood area that attended the picnic.

A very large group of descendants from the Phillip and Gabriel Jessee's family of Russell



Co., VA attended and have been instrumental in establishing the Jessee Historical Foundation, handling important roles on the board, fund raising, and the planning and staffing of events and activities. Irene Jessee Perry's daughter, Brenda Robinson, and her children virtually took charge of all the children's activities. Children of all ages participated in the drawing and coloring, ring toss and hula hoop contests, and much more. Each child went home with many prizes. The auction of Irene's painting of Jessee's Mill was a highlight of the day.

The facilities at the Russell Co. Fairgrounds were more than adequate, the parking good, and the weather reasonably cooperative (at least it could have been much worse). Many new activities were offered, including a silent auction, a genealogy research table, children's games and activities, and on-going musical entertainment in the adjacent pavilion. Franklin W. Horton, the Chair of the Russell Co. Board of Supervisors, welcomed us with opening remarks. Russell Co. Sheriff Trigg Fields and his blue grass band, "The Russell Co. Boys," entertained us wonderfully throughout the day, and were joined by some Jessee family members at times.

After lunch an auction was held for the Irene Jessee Perry painting of Jessee's Mill. The bidding was competitive, and the painting sold for \$2,950 to Norma McHone. All proceeds go to the History Foundation.

A silent auction was held throughout the day and the highest bidders announced in the afternoon (learn more details and how you can help under next year's silent auction on the 2002 Reunion information page at www.jessee.org). Many homemade jams, jellies, and honey, arts and crafts, including a commemorative quilt, Afghans, pillows, wood carvings, prints, and much more were donated for the silent auction. These were on display for bidding all day with a bid list for each item. You could see who had the highest bid. After the not-so-silent auction of the Jessee's Mill painting, the results of the silent auction were announced and this too raised several hundred dollars. With new memberships to the foundation, it is believed we may have raised over \$4000 that day. A complete treasurer's report will be provided to the Foundation Board later and included in future Foundation news.

In the afternoon, group photos were taken of the various branches of the family (See photos at www.jessee.org). Family photo albums, pedigree and descendants charts, and lots of family lore were shared throughout the day. Everyone attending said they had a great time. We thank all those who came and participated, and especially those who made this a special occasion through their donations of time, talent, arts and crafts, money, and labor.



Irene Jessee Perry donated the above oil painting of Jessee's Mill. Left to Right in the photo above are: Toby Jessee, auctioneer, Norma McHone, Irene Jessee Perry, and Joe Jessee.

The 2nd ANNUAL JESSEE FAMILY RESEARCH DAY

Mike and Joy Malone organized the 2nd Annual Research Day at the Russell County Public Library on Friday, August 3, 2001. Our research goal: "Connecting the Future by Remembering the Past." There were about 100 participants, and all reported a very educational and enjoyable time. We doubled the 2000 1st Annual Research Day attendance. The Russell Co. Genealogy Group sent volunteers to assist family members use the library's research facilities. We send thanks to the group for their support and special thanks to **Barry Hess, Vernon and Pauline Salyers, Jane Oakes, Sunset Salyers, and Janice Busic** for their help.

The tables were abuzz with information exchange and conversation all day. Mike and Joy Malone, along with Jim Jessee, provided considerable genealogy assistance and information for those present. Vernon and Pauline Salyers simply astounded many with their extensive photograph collection of thousands of family tombstones, all well indexed and annotated. The high quality of Vernon's research and work was well noted by many. Many participants brought their own genealogy information, photograph albums, and other documents and displays. Items shared included a tombstone marker and a beautiful wooden horse carving which was later donated for the reunion silent auction. **Mary Akers** staffed the Jessee Historical Foundation Membership table and was busy getting Jessee family signatures on the signature quilt she made and donated as part of the reunion fund raising activities. We thank **J. C. Jessee** for taking several interested participants to see the North Hill Cemetery that is known as the "Lost Cemetery of Lebanon." J. C. Jessee also documented this cemetery and provided a copy of the information to the library history room. Research Day activities also included drawings for a copy of the *Temple Hill Cemetery Book* and several 2001 Jessee Reunion teeshirts. Congratulations to the winners!

We would like to thank the **Russell County Public Library** for a wonderful facility and all the help they provided in making this research day a success. Special thanks to Mike and Joy Malone for organizing the entire day, providing the food and refreshments,



Your editor, Jim Jessee, far right, is seen here helping family members discover their roots at the Research Day. Standing behind are (left to right) are Jim and Bill Jessee, descendants of John Jessee, Jr. via his son Jefferson Jessee.

organizing the excellent exhibits which ringed the large conference room, and simply making this event possible.

Please visit www.jessee.org for more details and more photos of the research day, reunion, and Jessee Foundation board meeting, all courtesy of Mike Malone.

MIKE AND JOY MALONE [drjoym@bellsouth.net], sent, 10/28/2001, this news about how the **Jessee Family Reunion helped unite a brother and sister.**

Good News!! At last year's reunion - a **Judy Jessee** - from Maryland attended the reunion. Mike and I "watched her bicycle" for three hours - at the picnic site - while Rev. Cecil Jessee - took her on the Jessee Mill, etc., tour. She was searching for her Jessee family link. Well, this year, a **Robert Ensley Jessee Tucker** attended the reunion and was searching for his Jessee link. All he knew was that - he was adopted - and had come to a dead end when trying to get information from the state of Va. and other agencies. From the 2000 reunion, Cecil remembered that Judy said her grandmother told her she had a brother named Robert and that he was adopted. Cecil contacted Robert who lives in Kennesaw, Ga. and told him about Judy - who was trying to find information about her father and a brother named Robert. Her grandmother is still living and provided information. Cecil e-mailed us in September to let us know that Judy received information from the DSS in Virginia and that she and Robert were bother and sister. Robert and his wife Carolyn flew to Maryland Sept. 27th - for a reunion with his sister Judy, her two daughters and his grandmother. So, if nothing more comes of this year's reunion - this reunion was worth it all!! The Jessee reunion - has some great success stories and hopefully these will continue to be.

Jessee Historical Foundation

On March 8, 2001, the Jessee Historical Foundation was formally incorporated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The following family members accepted founding board membership and the offices or supportive roles indicated. We thank them.

Joseph H. "Joe" Jessee, Jr.	President
Laura Jessee Thomas	Vice-President
Mary Akers	Membership Secretary
Carolyn Sue Jessee	Assistant Membership Secretary
J. D. Jessee	Recording Secretary & Publicist
Henry "Hank" Davis	Legal Advisor
Norma McHone	Treasurer
Taulbee "Toby" Jessee	Assistant Treasurer
James W. "Jim" Jessee	Newsletter/Web Page Editor
Members At Large:	

Peggy Jessee Adams, John F. Bolling, Susan P. Bonham, James B. Hughes, Carl Jessee, James C. "J.C." Jessee, J. D. Jessee, John Daniel Jessee, Joseph Harold "Doodle" Jessee, Sr., Joy Ann (Jessee) Malone, Robert Trigg Jessee, Rev. Vernon Cecil Jessee, W.D. "Tip" Jessee, Irene Jessee Perry, Helen R. Reedy, Janice Sue Jessee Tiller

Special thanks go to those who devoted effort and time over this past year to establish this Foundation. The first formal board meeting was held May 5, 2001. There is still a lot of work to be done to increase the visibility and membership of the Foundation, to begin projects imagined, and to ensure future success.



The Jessee Historical Foundation, Inc. first annual meeting of the membership was held on Saturday August 4, 2001, in conjunction with the annual Jessee Reunion. At 10:30 am in the Pavilion at the Russell Co. Fairgrounds all Jessees who had joined the Foundation or were simply present for the reunion were invited to meet. The first Foundation board was in full attendance at this historic meeting. At the meeting a formal adoption of the by-laws, and the election of Board Members and Officers was held.

Go to www.jessee.org for more information, photos of Foundation activities, and Foundation news and events. In building this family history foundation we learn by heart, and we are at heart, all cousins. We extend a welcome to all Jessee descendants, related family, friends, and neighbors. *Please Join Us .*

Membership Information

The Jessee Historical Foundation extends an invitation and warm welcome to new members. We appreciate your support and hope you will be involved with the many projects and activities planned. We welcome and need your ideas and input.

There are three categories of membership and the annual fee is \$10 per person for all categories:

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

Send an application (available on the Web at www.jessee.org) or provide the following information for each member to be enrolled:
Name, Street or PO box address, City, State, ZIP, phone, and email address. Please send your application and check, payable to Jessee Historical Foundation,

Inc., for \$10 per person to Mary H. Akers, the membership secretary, at the following address. You may call or email Mary Akers if you have questions.

**Jessee Historical Foundation Inc.
C/O Mary H. Akers, Membership Chair
19643 Oakwood Dr.
Abingdon VA 24211
540-628-9239
phoenix@naxs.com**

JOY MALONE sends, 1/7/2001, this report on the results of our **Charter Year Membership Drive.**

Just a note to let you know that we have finished with the Charter Certificates. We had 216 members join this year. (We didn't use number 13 just in case someone was superstitious). Eleven people signed up on the 31st of December, that is cutting it close. We printed the last of them and mailed them to Mary H. Akers this afternoon. The membership alone should pay for one Historical Marker. Now it will just take a committee to get the application together and submit it to the highway department.

Projects and Activities

The following projects, activities, and undertakings have been discussed, and will be on the agenda of future Foundation meetings. Whether you are a board member or not, these projects and activities will need volunteers and other help. Please consider what you can do to help.

- 1. Public access to, fenced protection and restoration of the John and Frankey Lea Jessee Cemetery,** as well as other Jessee family cemeteries. This will also involve land owner cooperation. This land is owned by Jimmy Herndon, currently of Texas, but it is leased and farmed by Sherman Wallace, Jr., who indicates Mr. Herndon is willing to cooperate.
- 2. Preservation of Jessee's Mill, Russell Co., VA.** This will need historical study and documentation, requests for appropriate historical designation, and fund-raising/grant development.
- 3. The establishment of Virginia State Highway Historical Markers for Jessee's Mill and other appropriate Jessee Family sites.** [See the following.]
- 4. Creating a Jessee Family History Book.**
- 5. Planning for the next and future National Jessee Family Reunions, Research Days, and Annual Meetings.**
- 6. Clean-up and preservation of other Jessee cemeteries and historical sites.**

Historical Marker Projects

Mike and Joy Malone (drjoym@bellsouth.net) sent, 6/3/2000, this information regarding historical markers for **Jessee's Mill** and other Jessee historic sites, and J.C. Jessee has done considerable follow-up for the Foundation. This is one of the first projects that the Foundation wishes to accomplish.

Joy and I were in Virginia the other day and went by the Dept. of Transportation to check on putting up a historical marker. In a nutshell the person or group requesting the marker must submit a 100-word (more or less) documentation that will support the request. Second, the group or person must verify that they have the funds to purchase the marker (\$1,300.00) no charge for tax or shipping. The marker must be placed on public land or a highway right-of-way. The group can suggest a location and the DOT will work with the group to approve a safe location. The group can suggest the location and write the inscription on the marker; however, the DOT has the right to edit. They will work with the group to have the proper text on the marker.

My opinion is that we need to consider two separate state highway markers, one best placed to point to Jessee's Mill and the original John and Frankey Lea Jessee land and cemetery, and a second marker pointing to the original Phillip and Gabriel Jessee land and cemetery.--Editor

MIKE AND JOY MALONE [drjoym@bellsouth.net] sent, 2/18/01, important information and an opportunity to properly recognize and record **the grave site of our John Jessee Revolutionary War Soldier**. Mike and Joy may need help from the Foundation in providing the evidence and making a proper filing.

Below is a copy of an e-mail I sent to the Russell County e-mail site. The way I read this report is you must have some type of proof of the Veteran's grave site, statements, tombstone, story etc. You also must have proof of his service (we have that). You must also have the location of the site and the global positioning location of the site. I think if you do have any of the required proof we will at least have him listed in the report. There may not be any money for maintenance or restoration, but possibly the county could apply for a funds for a monument for all the veterans in Russell County.

The State of Virginia has published a Interim Special Report: Revolutionary War Veteran Grave sites in Virginia. (House Document NO. 91) The State of Virginia is trying to locate all Grave sites of Revolutionary War Veterans in the state. The purpose is to provide maintenance and restoration of the Grave sites. As I read the report it seems they will provide grants to organizations i.e.. DAR, SAR, or other organizations to maintain and restore the Grave sites. This report only listed 10 Veterans in Russell County. They are; Charles Bickley, John Coolbaugh, Henry Dickenson, William Dorton, Jr., Burton Caleb Litton Sr, John Richard Litton Sr, Solomon Caleb Litton Sr, Thomas Litton, Benjamin Ray, and Bernard Reynolds. I am sure there many more names that need to be added to this list.

Jesse(e) Family Origins

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

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

DAVE AND TAMARA JESSEE [djessee@ejourney.com] sent, 7/18/2001, this note regarding their family lore that the Jessees are of **French origin**.

Jim while going through some old files I found we had not responded to your question regarding the French ancestry. We have no real proof as of yet, only word of mouth. Dave has always been raised with the knowledge that his father was French, it would be interesting to find out if this is true or not. Please let us know if you find any proof one way or another & we will do the same.

JANA FERN JESSEE BECKER [JFJBecker@aol.com] sent this request for help on 7/13/2001. While it should appear in **Missing Links**, I have included it here because of the reference again to **French origin** for the Jessee family.

I was very excited to recently discover Jessee.org. I have reviewed the list of Jessees in the database, but can find no connection to my family. I thought, however, you might be interested in knowing about us, and perhaps maybe someone knows of a "link".

My name is Jana Fern Jessee Becker. I was born in Kansas City, Missouri (Jackson County), on 9/10/50. I have two brothers: Randall Boone Jessee (b. 1/1/42) and Lance Hart Jessee (b. 5/29/43), both also born in Kansas City, Missouri.

Our father's name was Randall Smith Jessee (b. 7/10/14, Prathersville, Missouri, Clay County; d. 10/5/76, Liberty, Missouri, Clay County). His father's name was Daniel Boone Jessee (b. 9/24/1873, near Sullivan, Missouri, Franklin County; d. 2/22/46, Excelsior Springs, Missouri, Clay County). Our great grandfather's name was Jasper Jessee (b. 12/12/1833, near Nashville, Tennessee; d. 12/5/1879, Prathersville, Missouri).

We have no record of the Jessee family before Jasper Jessee. Jasper's mother was Martha (Marthey A. Craige Jessee) who died 12/11/1879, in Prathersville, Missouri. On 3/12/1857, Jasper married Mary Ann Hayes Jessee, (b. 6/12/1836; died 1922). Jasper had one brother and many sisters. His brother, Newt, reportedly moved to Colorado, married, and had children. It is believed that Jasper's family came from Virginia. It was told to us by our father that the first Jessee ancestors in America were brothers, both muleskinners or wagoners, who came to the Colonies from France as soldiers with Lafayette to fight for American independence, and stayed in Virginia. We have nothing in writing to substantiate this.

After the Civil War, Jasper and Mary Ann moved from near Nashville, Tennessee, to near Paducah, Kentucky, to Illinois, and then to Missouri, first to near Sullivan in Franklin County and finally to Prathersville in Clay County, in 1874.

This is a very brief synopsis of the family. There are many others in each generation whom I have not mentioned. If you would like a more complete listing, please let me know. I have information I could mail you. I find this very interesting, and would love to know more about the Jessees.

Other Jesse(e) Families

RON JONES [gronj@home.com] wrote, 10/5/2001, with information regarding the **John and Clia Smith Jesse** family, and the **Jones family** descendants of their son **William Morgan Jesse**.

[Regarding **Arnold James Jones**, son of **William Yancy Jones**, who married **Mary Virginia Beasley**, a descendant of **William Morgan Jesse**] I attended a JONES reunion in Centralia, MO back in 1980 and met many of the relations there including Arnold & Virginia. There were originally 3 brothers and 2 sisters that left VA/NC and settled there. I descend from another brother who remained in NC and the two factions of the family had lost track of each other. I live in the Dallas area and met Bess Jones Craghead who lived close to Ft. Worth. She was the youngest sister of William Yancy Jones and lived to be 1 month shy of 104. A wonderful lady!

Wm Yancy JONES was the son of **James Henry JONES & Mary Ann WISLER** and I have 4 additional generations. The earliest JONES I have identified settled in Mecklenburg Co., VA ca 1760. Wm Yancy JONES' ancestors made stops in Caswell Co., NC, Rockingham Co., NC, Surry Co., NC, Carroll Co., VA, and Audrain Co., MO.

Anyone interested can visit my website for more info and lots of photos. My father and I published a book on this JONES family in 1981 and many excerpts can be found there. I would love to hear from them!

Website URL - <http://members.home.net/gronj/welcome.htm>
My home e-mail address - gronj@home.com

Southwest Virginia Families

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

MARTHA PIOR [Rmpior@cs.com] sent, 6/13, 14 & 17/2001, the following information of vital interest to the **Fuller family** with a caution that the pedigree for **John Fuller, b. Abt 1700 in Dorchester Co., MD.**, as I have recorded it, may be in error.

I saw your site on World Connect on Ezekiel Fuller with his father being listed as Samuel Fuller. Ezekiel is my 5th great grandfather. I do not believe that his father is Samuel Fuller. His father is possibly William Fuller but that has not been proved. If you have further proof that Samuel Fuller is his father, I would like to hear from you.

I have Ezekiel Fuller, born abt. 1650 in Newport Parish, Isle of Wight, Va. Died June 24, 1723, in Isle of Wight. Married Deborah Spivey(?) about 1693. She was born about 1680 and died April 23, 1744, in the Isle of Wight.--(I have no record whatsoever of them living in Md.) Their children were:

Ezekiel Fuller, II, b. abt. 1694 in Isle of Wight, Va., died abt. 1763 in Granville, N.C. Married Sarah Vinson.

Honour Allen Fuller, abt. 1696., Martha Whitley Fuller, abt. 1698, Henry Fuller, abt. 1700,

Solomon Fuller, abt. 1704, married Mary, Ann Fuller, abt. 1706,

Mary Fuller abt. 1708,

Benjamin Fuller, abt. 1710, died after 1761 in Granville Co., NC, married Elizabeth Duke,

John Fuller abt. 1712 and died about 1810, Joseph Fuller abt. 1716, and my 4th great grandfather, Arthur Fuller, born abt 1718 in

the Isle of Wight, Va., died Oct. 4, 1797 in Pittsylvania Co., Va., married Sarah Fuller(?) about 1741 and the last child

Timothy Fuller born 1722 in Isle of Wight and died before 1767 in Butte Co., N.C., married Elizabeth.

I have no knowledge of the other 3 children. Have been doing a lot of research on Arthur and Zachariah as I am about to submit my paperwork to DAR on Arthur Fuller. There is a lot of information out there on this Fuller Family. There is a zekielFuller-L@rootsweb.com. There has been a lot of information previously on this site. Kay Fuller Mitchell is rewriting her father's book, and has documented sources of Ezekiel and his family. She is hoping to publish her book soon. Her email is: timesaverdial@aol.com.

Regarding your John Fuller, I can only say that his birth date is different, and the line that follows him, I have never heard of any of them. The Fullers were very busy producing kids back then as so many of the people were. I just don't believe he is the John of Ezekiel as I have never seen Maryland as a home of them. They lived in Isle of Wight, Va., Pittsylvania Co., Va., (Turkey Cock Creek), and then some of them moved to Georgia. My great grandfather was born in Virginia and then went to Georgia and died there. His grandfather ran a wagon train hauling tobacco from Virginia to the tobacco "factories" and then would haul back supplies to the families.

CRYSTAL BURNHAM [KITCHY22@aol.com] sent, 4/1/2001, this inquiry about the **Powers family**.

James Harvey Powers is my second cousin, 3x removed. John Michael Powers is my third great granduncle. John Michael's father, George Powers is my 4th great grandfather. Please help if you can with info on this family. Will share what I have. Thanks, Crystal Burnham

JANET POWERS MAUNE[BudMaune@aol.com] sent, 6/20/2001, the following additional information regarding **George Powers, b. 1762**.

Crystal Burhman and Ronnie Bodine have tracked George Powers Sr, sons George Powers, Jr and John of Tn's family from TN back to his death in Russell County in 1819.

Working with Mary Kegley and her publications I have found:

The Zion Lutheran/German Reformed Church Records indicate the Church on Cripple Creek was donated in 1792 by George Powers, SR and Ernestina. His property was obtained as assignee of Peter Powers (brother b 1765 to Russell to Washington Va by 1827) 67 acres obtained with the help of Rev George Keith, and purchase of 100 acres from others. Wythe County land records 1782 to 1809. He obtained his land patent in 1806 (VA Land Records) George Powers sold his property to Rev Stanger in 1809 who finally turned over the property to the church in late 1830's. George Powers then moved to Glade Hollow Russell VA 1810 and died in 1819. The Estate was settled in 1826. Property Records of Russell County listed his wife's name as Elizabeth.

The Powers family popped up in Montgomery VA in 1780, 1782 as they came of age with the only older generation in the vicinity David and Mary Powers. Military Records of David indicate b 174? VA. Before David disappeared from the tax rolls, he assigned his property to Rev George Keith (KEETH) who obtained a patent in 1796. Mary then assumed the 41 acres of Joseph Glover (militia mate of David father ?) and filed for her patent also in 1796. Peter Powers left Cripple Creek (assigning his acres to George) and purchased on Turkey Fork Creek of Elk Creek in Grayson County, VA. He sold his property in 1803 and purchased a small plot from Harmon in Russell and then on to the Clinch River by 1810 where he remained until 1827.

In 1809, after the last recorded marriage of Powers in Wythe/Grayson Mary sold her property to George Keith Jr and appeared in the household of Peter Powers in Russell County as a female 1

generation older than Peter. She remained through the 1830 Census and disappeared before 1840. Peter disappeared between 1840 and 1850 in Washington County. Peter's son Henry Powers b 1808 and family remained in Little Moccasin Gap through the 1800's with some of his children migrating to Johnson KY 1860 to 1850.

The baptismal records of Zion begin in 1792 and this is the basis of building this Powers family. Using land records and census records we can track them very clearly through Russell County. (When property sold, they bought next county disappeared from the previous rolls and appeared on the next rolls with no duplications of Peters, Georges, etc.)

John Michael born 1782 was probably the son of George Powers Sr and Ernestina/Elizabeth because he is mentioned as an Uncle to the family of George Powers Jr in TN and he appeared in Glade Hollow with George Powers SR while John Powers and Elizabeth of Zion was on the Clinch River with Peter and remained in Russell County after George's family moved on. Peter Powers and John (Clinch) Powers exchanged property before 1827 in Russell county so we can assume this John Powers was Peters Son. When George Powers Sr's family moved to Lee and then Claiborne, TN John Powers who married Sally Leece would have been in his twenties.

The widow of John Michael Powers can be identified as the Elizabeth Powers on the 1830 Russell County Census.

John Michael Powers also baptized Catherina Powers 11/5/1807 in the Zion Lutheran Church and she appears to be present on the 1830 census of Elizabeth. He was listed as Michael Power with Valentine Power (To Montgomery TN) in 1810 Wythe Cty Census and died in Glade Hollow Russell in 1818.

I am still searching for unknown Powers on the early Russell County Census and have developed an early family "working file" which is not yet completed because of the unknown children in Russell and waiting for requested documents.

The TN Powers have been described an of "Dutch Descent", The children of John Michael Powers recall their family being form "Holland".

Christina Powers m Reuben R. Hicks and is daughter of Peter Powers. She has been know to have fussed at "Reuben" in Dutch.

I would be willing to share this file on the early Powers and all land records and baptismal records because these files are coming back on websites garbled. Someone else is needed to keep the record straight but this information should be available freely and not held for ransom or sale. If you are interested in these working files, I will be glad to share.

David and Mary 1740 Montgomery/Wythe/Grayson VA
Peter Powers and Elizabeth 1765 Wythe, Grayson, Russell,
Washington, VA

Henry Powers and Sarah/Sallie Gobble 1808 Washington Cty, Va
David Powers and Elizabeth Fortune 1827 Johnson Cty, KY
William Powers and Cynthia Angeline Collins, Johnson Cty, KY
Albert Lee Powers and Etta Lou Cantrell OK
Otha Neal Powers and Esther Berniece Janzen OK

CANIE BURNS LITTON [CANIEB@aol.com]
posted, 4/20/2001, the following biography for
Captain Soloman Caleb Litton, Sr. and information
regarding the surnames **Litton, Wilcoxon, Duncan,**
Porter, Berry, and Laughlin. Canie also provided the
following URL for a Website of interest to the Litton
and Dunkin families, with the stories of their capture
by Indians and march to Fort Detroit.
www.shawhan.com/Litton.html

The life and Times of Captain Soloman Litton Sr.

by Canie Burns Litton Jr.

20 April 2001

Soloman Caleb Litton Sr. [Captain] born 22 December 1751, Botetourt County Virginia, Died 24 February 1843, Corner Section, Russell Co, Va. S/O John Richard Litton Sr. and Sarah Ann Wilcoxon of Rockville, of Prince George County, Maryland. Soloman was a grandson of Caleb Polleckfield Litton, born in Autre-St Mary's, Devon, England who came to the Maryland Colony as a soldier in the Royal Dragoons in 1700. His grandfather purchased a 405 acre Land grant in Prince George County [Rockville] in 1720. John and Sarah migrated to Augusta Co., Va [where he practiced British Common law, during his useful years] then retired to Washington Co. Va. [Elk Garden] [now Russell County] with his son Soloman Caleb Litton Sr. on his plantation [Litton Hill]. Soloman was tutored by his mother, who was a teacher, but later became interested in the Trapping-trade, and migrated to the Clinch River frontier [Washington Co] to become a "Long Hunter" and original settler. He married on 24 May 1774 to Martha Alexis Duncan , a sister of Captain John Duncan, commander of the Elk Garden Fort, where Solomon served as a militiaman the rest of his life. Beginning in the French-Indian War [Governor, With Gov. Dunsmores] in 1774 , [rank of Ensign] then many skirmishes in and around the Clinch River frontier, being promoted to 2nd Lt. at Fort Glade Hollow, Washington Co Va. In 1779, enchanted by the lures of the Kentucky free land by preemption and improvement acts and with other family members, i.e., Brothers-in-laws, Captain John Duncan-Samuel Porter-Francis Berry-James Laughlin, traveled to the forts, Ruddles and Martins on the Licking River and marked out and improved 400 acres and recorded a preemption grant for that land for 405 acres, in 1778. Before he could have it properly surveyed and a grant issued, he and family were captured by the British [Col Bird] and Shawnees Indians and deprived of such, and marched away [by foot] [entire family] to Fort Detroit, the British NW headquarters, where he was held prisoner for three years, [entire family] before being released in 1783. He returned when released to the Licking River and his improvement, finding it occupied by actual survey by others, filing a law suit and losing, he returned to Elk Garden, VA there remained the rest of his life. He established a two story, double square log, house, with out buildings, i.e., barns, corn cribs, meat smoke houses, plus chapel [Episcopal].

His "Litton Hill" became a trading post and a post office for that community. The name came from a high hill easily seen on toadies topographical maps, which depicts a house on a hill [elevation] with a lane that comes up the hill [from main road] to house and circles around then returns to main road. [Litton Hill Road] Also shown is a road from house to Cemetery [Litton Hill Cemetery] refer to map coordinates in footnotes. His son John, an artist, composed a painting of the house in pastel or oil [1818], when Soloman Deeded the property to Son, John, Soloman, then retired to a country home in the Corner Section, Russell Co. Va, [150 acres] which he had purchased in 1789. [after release] He would will this property to Son Soloman Jr. at his death on 24 February 1843. He progressed in Rank from Private in Gov. Dunesmores War to Captain of Russell Co Militia in 1791, [Brownings Company] he served as a policing agent until his death. He and Martha are buried in a private family cemetery [part of his retirement property in Corner Section] as are many of his offspring and spouses. [known as Soloman Litton Hollow Cemetery] Soloman was age 92 at death. Martha had passed in 1821. The family at capture on 20th June 1780, composed of Wife Martha, Son John [1775] Son Thomas Duncan Litton born 1777, Son Burton Caleb Litton born April 1780 in cabin near fort Martins [on Licking River]. A son Soloman Caleb Litton Jr was born [1782] while family was in captivity by Shawnee Indians. According to paintings of Captain Soloman and other sketches, he was over six feet in height, weights approx. 250 pounds, red hair [with beard]

blue eyes and ruddy complexion. To see the location of his original land, one can go to the web site <http://www.topozone.com> and enter the following coordinates

Elk Garden, VA Quadrangle:
N: 36deg. 55min. 00sec. 4087734 meters N
W: 81deg. 57min. 30sec. 414873 meters E
For Soloman Litton Hollow Cemetery:
Lebanon VA. Quadrangle:
N: 36deg 56min. 41sec. 40891 meters N
W: 82deg 02min. 48sec. 40750 meters E
Coordinates are plus or minus.

When asked about the spelling of Soloman/Solomon, Canie Burns Litton replied.

"All of the bible [birth-marriages-death] records show "SOLOMAN" He was named after an uncle, by his father, "Soloman Richards" in Maryland. His fathers bible [on file Va. Library] shows "Soloman Caleb Litton." A bible that belonged to his brother's wife, who remarried a Smith, shows his name as Soloman Saul Litton" the Saul is believed to be a derivative of Soloman [nick name] [Sol] At any rate we all spell it Soloman. He was named after the biblical character" King Solomon" please use (SOLOMAN)"

GRAVE MARKER DEDICATION

The Lt. David Cox Chapter of the VSSAR of the NSSAR conducted a grave side ceremony for Captain, Solomon Caleb Litton Sr. for services in the Russell County Militia 1770-1843 during the Revolutionary War, at the Soloman Litton Hollow Cemetery located in the Corner Section of Russell County Virginia, northeast of Lebanon, on Saturday 4th August 2001.

Phillip and Rachel Jessee

Phillip Jessee (1742-1858), wife **Rachel**, and his son **Gabriel Jessee (1804-1886)**, of still unknown relationship to John Jessee (1750-1816), are among the early Russell County, VA families. Phillip, who is reported to have lived to be 116, is sometimes referred to reverently as "Old Phillip" by researchers.

MARVIN MCKINNEY [jessamy8@yahoo.com] sent, 8/31/ and 9/12001, the following information regarding **Mary Sue Jessee McKinney**, daughter of **Phillip and Rachel Jessee**. He has recorded 100s of descendants of Phillip and Gabriel Jessee.

There's nothing more frustrating and maddening than doing family research and reaching a dead end. That is exactly what happened to me. I have languished at this dead end for the past 10 years or so..

I once had the complete Jessee genealogy file that someone sent me. After studying it I decided it was not the trail of my family. There was one lady, however, that I pondered on - Mary McKinney. Deciding there was no connection I threw the Jessee genealogy file away. What a mistake. I wish I had it back. I have had a copy of the 1850 Russell County Census for several years but completely overlooked the Mary McKinney on page 337. Ignored would be a better word. One day recently I figured out the year of birth of Mary and her family using their ages and the year of the census. It dawned on me that the William McKinney son of Mary, COULD be my great grandfather. Here is what I have determined and I feel absolutely sure it's a fact.

William McKinney (son of Mary) b. 2 Mar 1838 d. 1909 in Logan Co. W. Va.: m. Cynthia Sanders b. Jul 1838 had the following children:

Araminda McKinney .m. 1 French Butcher 2. Allen Jeffery
Clarinda McKinney m. John Duty
Causby McKinney - single - died in a fire at her home.
Mary E. McKinney - records indicate single
may have married a John Ray
Beverly McKinney (My Grandfather) m. Arona Bell
Lilburn McKinney m. (M)Alvina Walls
Julia McKinney m. Kelly McNeeley
Nettie McKinney m. Charles E. Spencer

Causby and Mary McKinney listed here are not to be confused with daughters of Mary. Their dates of birth are completely different..

I have over 3500 names in my computer which has taken the better part of 25 years to amass. Broderbund has been asking for this information. They take the information, put it on CD's and sell them for \$39.00 a piece. I feel this is unfair. If they make millions off someone else labor then I think the person who does the leg work is entitled to some remuneration Then too, many of the people in my files are still alive and may not appreciate being published without their approval.

If anyone wishes the information I have - and wants it for what it is and without money making intentions I will be most happy to share. I have no objections other than I would ask the information I supply not be put on the net and any one you share the information with likewise do not put it on the net. If a missing link can be found among my collection of data - great! that's what it's about.

Here is the introduction to William McKinney Family Genealogy. It has valuable insight into the origins of many if not most of our colonial ancestors.

WILLIAM MCKINNEY FAMILY GENEALOGY

In the beginning everything was Virginia
INTRODUCTION

In November 1972 I undertook an attempt to put together a sort of genealogical history of the William McKinney Family. Realizing the many pitfalls I would encounter I continued to drive over these speed bumps. The undertaking seemed to be an exercise in futility. But once opened, it's difficult to put the Genie back into the bottle. I realized back then my efforts would be destined to fail

The fascination and challenge of genealogy has always been the difficulty of confidently identifying an ancestor and the sense of accomplishment when this proves possible. The process of untangling hereditary roots cannot be truly divorced from its historical environment without becoming poor genealogy and very dull reading. For this reason it seemed right to sketch in some of the political, economic, social and religious background in order to give an accurate context in which our early migrations took place. Some fact uncovered may be disturbing.

Harking back to 19 December 1606 when John Smith set out from Blackwell on the Thames with 140 Colonists to found Virginia and bringing he genealogical history forward to the present day, would speak many volumes. In Ecclesiasties 12:12 we read: "and further by these, my son, be admonished of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of he flesh". How very true.

However, when that Flotilla of John Smith consisting of three ships: The Susan Constant under Christopher Newport, the Godspeed under Bartholomew Goswold and the Discovery under John Ratcliffe arrived at

Chesapeake Bay on 26 April 1607, for all practical purposes the genealogical History of America can be accurately dated from 19 December 1606. As if it wasn't enough that the Atlantic crossing took 4 months and 8 days, one month and 27 days after the colonists arrived 35 of them had died. Worse yet, by January 1608 another 67 colonists had died from the onset of disease and the harsh winter.

Unbelievably between 1614 and 1775, 50,000 Englishmen were 'sentenced' by Legal Process to be transported to the American Colonies. This fact tends to corrupt the histories being taught in schools today - if any of the schools are still teaching history. It can only be speculation as to the state of mind of the original 140 colonists that drove them to making such a perilous journey in the first place.

In crude terms, allowing for the considerable ravages of disease and the poor life expectancy of the time, known statistics suggest that between 50 and 100 passenger ships from England had discharged passengers in Virginia over a period of ten years.

One of the more troubling aspect of understanding early census reports were the many family households with both adults and children with different names. There appeared to be no connection to the family and no explanation as to why they were there. In order to obtain an understanding of the problem we need look to England for the answer. The contributions of London Prisons and Penal institutions to the early growth of Virginia should not be underestimated. It is quite possible that many of these people from the prisons and penal institutions of England simply assumed the surnames of their master thereby losing their true identity forever.

Under Queen Elizabeth a program for the education of destitute children, the care of paupers and the occupation of vagrants developed rapidly to become a correctional institution. 200 vagrants or children were rounded up and sent over from "the place of ill repute" to Virginia in 1619 and 1620 and many more in later years. The ultimate fate of the children has gone unrecorded.

What we can establish by these facts is that those who were compelled to it by economic necessity or legal process founded Virginia. Emigrants to Virginia were mustered together in groups in England by Virginia Landlords or Proprietors and indentured to servitude. Indentured servants became the property of his master for a term of years, after which he might expect to be given his freedom and some land. The indentured servant was little different than a transported felon. Both were slaves in every sense and ranked as a part of his master's estate to be bought and sold at will. The Headright system used in Virginia meant planters could claim 50 acres of land for each indentured servant they brought over.

The importance of census reports cannot be overstated. If it were not for the census reports of 1624 and 1625 there would be no record of early settlers to Virginia, except for the unfortunate children rounded up in the City of London and forcibly deported. It is to the credit of the many researchers and genealogists who untiringly struggle in their attempts to unravel the many mysteries of our past that have uncovered these tragedies.

The Colonies had been literally cut off from the Mother Country by a debilitating war, which caused a severe labor shortage. Private enterprise took advantage of the situation by resorting to kidnaping, bribing and otherwise 'spiriting away' children and young workers to the Americas. The practice was serious and widespread enough for the Parliament in 1645 to enact a law requiring the diligent searching of ships in order to apprehend and to condign punishment all such persons as shall steal, sell, buy, inveigle, purloin, convey or receive any little children.

I believe it is clearly evident from these facts I have shown on the preceding pages why Census reports include adults and children in households with no name connection to the head of the household. They were simply indentured servants.

Forcible immigration emptied the jails (gaols) of London and other cities in England. It was the outbreak of the Revolutionary War in 1775 that brought an end to the profitable trade in human cargoes, which had been plied successfully for 150 years.

As an afterthought along the lines, my Mother once told me that Sarah Whitt, my Maternal Grandmother, was an indentured servant in the house of McKinney. In later years I was able to check this out and found there was indeed a Sarah Whitt in the house of McKinney but was not my Maternal Grandmother. I

believe the particular Whitt my Mother told about could not have been my GM having been an indentured servant before my grandmother was born. Information such as this passed from person to person loses its validity as people 'think' they know or get their facts wrong. Such was the case of a murder in Russell County Virginia in the mid 1800's. Two of my Grandfather William McKinney's brothers were thought to be the murderers but it was another family who had sons bearing the same given names as the McKinney boys. And so it is that all information from hearsay must be looked at very carefully.

I think now would be the right time to conclude this introduction by dedicating it to the memory of my Dad and Mom - Hubert and Arda (Jeffrey) McKinney.

Many thanks are due as always to Janet Hager of Hewitt, W. Va., whose patience and helpful information have provided a lot of information I use in my Genealogy report. Likewise special thanks to go the late Juanita (Spencer) Gaylock of Mt Gay, W. Va., the late Don Elwood Jeffrey of Crooked Creek, W. Va., Erma (McKinney) (Sizemore) Johnson of Garrets Fork W. Va, Eunice (Peyton) Ferrell of Leets, WVA. and Grace Dotson of Harlem Georgia.

I would be intellectually remiss if I did not include the help from my immediate family. My Mother, Arda Fay (Jeffrey) McKinney from Pulaski, Virginia whose genealogy work for the Mormon Church was invaluable, my late wife Marianne (Heidi) McKinney from Okenau, Czechoslovakia, Kyle McKinney for Richmond, Va., the late Moric C. McKinney of Nashville, Tn. and Don E. McKinney of Pasadena California. Also thanks to all those who provided 'dubious' information. Thanks Folks.

Marvin E. McKinney
14323 Briarbend Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78247-2702

SUE LESTER PATTERSON [omega84@iwl.net] sent 12/22/2000 the following information regarding her grandmother, **Martha Smith**.

Martha SMITH, Birth: 1868 in Buchanan Co.,VA
Father: Gillespie J. "Uncle Glass" SMITH b: 1831 in Russell Co., VA
Mother: Lethea "Lethie" Ann JESSEE b: 10 AUG 1832 in Russell Co., VA

I have information about Martha Smith. She was my dad's mother. Lethea Jessee was his grandmother, and so on back to Phillip Jessee, who was his gr gr grandfather. I would like to take it even farther than that with help. I am anxious to know all I can about the JESSEE family, and how they married into the LESTERS. I have just begun to search for my dad's people, most of whom are from around Tazewell Co. He was born in Swords Creek, Va. in the Lester's Cove area. I hope we can help each other. My dad died in 1968, and my mom is now 74 years old. I desperately want to put the puzzle together for her, and for me. Thank you so much for your service. Sue Lester Patterson d/o Hallie Clarence Lester (a.k.a. Hal C. Lester) b 1895-d 1968

John and Frankey Lea Jessee

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

I will report new information for John and Frankey and each of their fifteen (I-XV) children in the newsletter, and rely upon special requests and the Jessee Family Database at www.jessee.org to provide the detailed genealogy information to those specifically interested in any particular branch.

J.C. and NELLIE JESSEE of Lebanon, VA , a descendant of **Phillip and Gabriel Jessee**, have been very busy helping with both Russell County and Jessee Family heritage. See Archer Jessee below and the article on the **Historical Society of Russell County Newsletter**, May 19, 2001, which included an item on the **North Hill Cemetery (The Lost Cemetery of Lebanon)** and all the work done by **Nellie and J. C. Jessee** to record all information they could discern from all of the stones found in that extensive cemetery.

J.C. and Nellie have also been extracting names and recording the records of the *Minutes of The Lebanon Baptist Church from 1842 to 1895*. Here are the names of all the Jessees recorded in those minutes. Most are from the John and Frankey Lea Jessee family.

A.R. Jessee	Archer S. Jessee	Amy Jessee
Alace Jessee	Alice Jessee	A. B. Jessee
Albert Jessee	B. J. Jessee	Beverly Jessee
Charles L. Jessee	Crisey Jessee	Cynthia Jessee
Carey Jessee	Charles C. Jessee	Chase Jessee
D. H. Jessee	David S. Jessee	Eliza Jessee
Ellen Jessee	Elizabeth Jessee	E. J. Jessee
Fleming Jessee	George F. Jessee	Haburn Jessee
Houston Jessee	John T. Jessee	James Jessee
Jefferson Jessee	Lula Jessee	Laura Jessee
Lizabeth Jessee	Lec Jessee	Matthew J. Jessee
Matta Jessee	Martha J. Jessee	Mary Ann Jessee
Mary Jessee	Mary J. Jessee	Marsh Jessee
Marshall Jessee	Nancy Jessee	Polly Jessee
Rebecca Jessee	Sallie J. Jessee	Samual P. Jessee
Sam V. Jessee	Scott Jessee	Sara J. Jessee
Thomas I. Jessee	Vincent Jessee	Vinson
William Jessee	William V. Jessee	Wilson

IRIS LAMBERT HALL [Pueblo, CO], a descendant of James Jessee, wrote 8/28/2001 to comment on Jessee Newsletter 19, and provides a potpourri of responses and information of value to all the descendants of John and Frankey Lea Jessee. I believe that the events of 9/11/2001 and subsequently make her sentiments all the more meaningful.

Received your July 2001 issue of the newsletter .. enjoyable as always. It arrived on one of the first days of that month and I looked thru it while waiting for the several firework displays around the city that we can see from our back patio. As I sat there, watching the "rockets red glare" (as well as the blue, green, gold, pink, and every other color) in the deep lavender and dark blue Colorado sky .. smelling the smells, and listening to the sounds of the 4th, it came to me how very fortunate I was that all the generations and generations of genes and cells and DNA that finally gathered together and made up me, ended up in America .. and the fact that I was born in Colorado is just frosting on the cake!

With all the faults we find with it from time to time, we should all be very thankful that our ancestors came here from all the places they immigrated from so that we are citizens of our great country.

I have a few things to send along for your consideration and will put them down in my usual fashion for better or worse .. as I find them in your newsletter.

Page 9: In the Russell County, Va. marriage records, I found Nancy E. Jessee 27, dau. of Archer and Christina (Jessee, dau of Martin & Jane) Jessee who married Oct. 24, 1883 to A. W. Campbell, 25, son of James Campbell. He was also born in Russell Co., Va., but at that time a resident of Pike Co., Ky.

Elihu Kiser Jessee and his wife, Margaret (Meade) Jessee had a daughter, Nancy E., who was born in 1860 .. a subsequent death record indicates that she died Dec. 23, 1860 at the age of 1 m. 19 d. of bold hives. Another "unnamed daughter" was born to them Nov. 1, 1861 according to the records and died Dec. 23, 1861 at the age of 1 m. 23 d. of bold hives. Along one margin of this sheet I have written the name "Mary E." .. don't know why. These records all seem to have so much in common that I have wondered about them .. both died Dec. 23 at age of 1 month plus.. Both born in November, but different years and individual record pages and item numbers.

Page 12: I had a nice letter from Gail Gilbert. As wrote her, I feel certain that the abstract of Wm. Jessee/Vermillion Bible was from one of the collections of old Bible records, etc. sent to the LDS by E. J. Sutherland or his family after he passed away. He collected old records, voter registrations, news articles, obituaries, interviews etc .. many were filmed and available at the LDS Libraries. Recently I corresponded with a son of E. J. and Hetty Sutherland. She is still getting around, but not too strong and doesn't do any research to speak of anymore. I met her just by chance one day at the courthouse in Clintwood, Va. (Dickenson Co.) while we were both researching there .. she is a lovely lady.

Page 16: ARCHER JESSEE John T. (I have never been sure whether it was John Taz or John Trigg or if there was one of each!), son of Vincent, son of Archer.

Among my Burke Family research papers, I have the following information from Claiborne County, Tenn.

Early Settlers Of Claiborne County, By P. G. Fulkerson. John T. Jessie, son of Vincent, came from Russell County, Virginia to Straight Creek in 1853. Children by his first marriage were:

Isaac, who married Martha Overbay, removed to Union Co.;
Rebecca, married David Butcher;
Ballard, married 1st Orlena Mountain and 2nd Harriet Hill;
Louisa, married William Loop;
Wilburn, married 1st Martha Walker, second Sarah Lynch;
Sarah, married John Bullard;
Lee, married first Sarah Grubb and second Ollie Grubb;
Susan, married John Carter, removed to Union Co.;
C. T., removed to Texas;
Mary, married D.M. Skaggs, removed to Campbell company

John T. Jessie's second wife was Louisa Kelly, Their children were:

John, who married Jennie Snodgrass,
Alice;
Charles, married Lula Kelley, removed to Arizona;
Vesta, married James Davis;
Lafayette;
James A." Later I found that John A. had married Myrtle Loop Greenlee.

Page 17: The Bible of Robert and Amy ' Stinson indicates that their daughter, Sarah (Stinson-Lockhart) was born June 30, 1812 .. tombstone says June 12 .. so no telling which is right.

Page 18: DAVID JESSEE. Years ago I found a George L. Jessee and wife, Elizabeth, in Carter Co., Ky. I was not able to determine who his father was. According to the census, this George was born in 1829 and his first child was born in 1849.

At that time I also had a sheet for a George L. Jessee who was the son of David and Catherine (Banner) Jessee in Russell Co., Va. This George was 15 at the time of the 1850 census so born ca. 1835. I wanted so very much to have him be the George L. Jessee in

Carter Co., Ky., but the "arithmetic" just didn't work out. He would only have been 14 years old when the first child of the Carter County George Jessee was born .. not likely. If someone can help me with these two George L. Jessee's I would appreciate it. [Me too, this has been a mystery for many]

Page 19: Anne Moore.. I found the following regarding the marriage of James J. Candler and Nancy Kiser in the Russell Co., Va. records .. James J. Candler was a 27 year old widower, the son of Singleton and Adaline (Boswell) Candler when he married Nancy Kiser, 23 y old daughter of Elihu and Jane (Skeen) Kiser on Sept. 12, 1872. Nancy's older sister, Martha Kiser, married John J. Candler, brother of James.

Page 21: BOEDICIA JESSEE GOSE .. According to the 1870 Marion Co., Iowa census, the children of Stephen Yancy and Martha (Miller) Gose were Sarah E., 14; Thomas J. 12; "J" (Female) 8; and twins, Edmond and Edwin 3. Maybe "J" is Joanna? I did not find 8 years between the 2nd and 3rd child. A Minnie Mae came 7 years later and then somewhere along the way a son, John S., was born and died young, and a son, William B.

According to a History of Marion Co., Iowa, p. 722, Martha, Stephen's first wife died in 1874 and he married second Margaret A. Cart in 1875. The family consists of six children: Thomas J., Joanna, Edwin S., Edmund B., William B. and Minnie May. Of children dead, there are two: John S. and Sarah E."

Margaret A. (Cart) Gose was the mother of William B. Gose and possibly others. Stephen Y. Gose was very involved in Republican politics in Marion County and was Justice of the Peace when the biography was written .. it is quite likely that he submitted the information for the article.

Page 22-23: JAMES JESSEE. I didn't find Vincent and Elizabeth (Candler) Jessee with a daughter, Mary or Polly. George L. Jessee did not have a daughter, Mary, either that I could find. Fleming B. Jessee (S/James) had a daughter named Lucinda, born in 1854, who was married to a Shoup.

Thanks for keeping the newsletter interesting for those of us who do not use a computer in our research. My good wishes to you.

MARY EVELYN HANSON HELTON [Kingston, TN], wrote the following letter, August 17, 2000, shortly after the first National Jessee Reunion. Evelyn is a descendant of **John Jessee, Jr.**, as well as the **HANSON, MAJOR, DICKENSON, GILMER, WRIGHT**, and **SMITH** families of SW VA. Evelyn has done considerable genealogy research and is a significant contributor to our shared interests. We talked at length again this year at the 2nd National Reunion. I have chosen to include her letter here as she touches several branches of the John and Frankey Lea Jessee family, and speaks kindly of common friends and benefactors, some now passed away.

Dear Jim,

It was nice to meet you and all the other Jessee cousins at the reunion. Hope you had a productive trip and a safe one. I received the back newsletters and have read through them. There are some interesting things that I just couldn't help taking note of and thought I would mention some of these to you.

First off so many of the people that have helped you with the Russell County research are also people I know well.

Dr. Leland Tate was a cousin of mine through the Jessee's and the Dickensons. He grew up in Lebanon next door to my mother and lived in Blacksburg, VA and taught at the VA Tech. I lived there in the 1960s. He helped me with my beginning work on the family history.

Then there was **Howard Jessee**. He grew up in Hansonville as I did. I was related to him through the Jessees and Gilmers. His sister, Carolyn Cooper worked with my husband at First America Bank in Kingsport, TN.

Also **Clyde and Betty Yates** went to school with me and I visited Betty's home on Mill Creek. I knew lots of the Mill Creek Jessees and went swimming at the old Jessee Mill. That was in the 1950s.

I have corresponded with **Jack Hockett** for several years. His great grandmother and my husband, James C. Helton's great grandfather were brother and sister. He has done lots of research on the **Heltons**.

I find it extremely interesting how our ancestors migrated to Illinois and then California. My great grandfather, **James Madison Hanson**, had three brothers, **Tristram Hanson, David Hanson, Jr.**, and **George Major Hanson**, and a sister Sidney (his twin), who married **Dr. John Apperson** of Culpepper Co., VA (first medical doctor in Coles Co., IL). All of them were among the first settlers in Coles Co., IL. Then he, James Madison Hanson, rode horseback to Illinois in the 1870s and bought farm land. He sent three sons and two daughters out there namely, **Thomas, Patrick Walter, Mattie and Mary Margaret Hanson**. They all settled in Villa Grove, IL. **Mary Margaret "Molly" Hanson** married **Rev. George Frazier**, a Methodist minister. Their daughter Mamie married a Richman. I still correspond with a granddaughter.

[My **Jessee and Bickley** great-grandparents migrated with other brothers and sisters to Philo, IL near Villa Grove at the same time. My grandfather, **Norval Clarence Jessee** married **Blanche Hester Richman**, a cousin of Mamie's husband.--Ed.]

As I mentioned to you, my great-grandfather James Madison Hanson also had a sister who married **John Jessee** [son of **Archer Jessee**]. Her name was **Mary Jane Hanson**. Their son **David Hanson Jessee** is buried out a farm lane in Villa Grove, IL. I would like to have any information you have on them. Mary Jane is buried in our Hanson Cemetery at Hansonville. There are many cousins living in Villa Grove now. Philo, IL is just a few miles north of Villa Grove. The Keith family I'm related to live there along with many Russell Co., 3rd and 4th generations.

Then George Major Hanson went to California in 1849 taking his large family. They settled in Yuba City-Marysville, CA then on to Clear Lake. He edited or wrote for newspapers of that area. His son David, the youngest, wrote a booklet about their trip west. There are Hanson cousins all over California. [Evelyn provided me a copy of that booklet, which is a significant historical document for Yuba Co., CA history. My wife, Nelda's Reed/Camper/Kemper/Kuntz/Counts family also migrated to Yuba Co. at the same time.--Ed.]

Then there is the **HEARST** connection. Sidney Hanson and Dr. John Apperson's son, **Randolph Apperson**, had a daughter, **Phoebe Apperson** who married **George Hearst** in Missouri. Their son was **William Randolph Hearst** and you know the rest of the story.

When George Major wrote to James Madison Hanson he spoke of all their Russell Co. friends who had come to California, some via Illinois. So interesting how they moved about.

Also **Pat Nicholson** in San Luis Obispo, CA is a cousin.

This is one of those exchanges that makes this work such a fascination and a joy.--Editor

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.

VERNON & PAULINE SALYERS [vpsaly@naxs.net] provided to me, 8/9/2001, a GEDCOM file with 223 descendants of **Cynthia Beatrice Jessee** and **Martin Luther Skeen**. Vernon identified Cynthia Beatrice as a previously unrecorded daughter of **Jefferson Jessee** and **Mattie A. Johnson**. Jefferson is the son of **Joseph Bishop Jessee**, son of **Jefferson Jessee**, son of John Jr. Vernon Salyer is a descendant of David Jessee, and Pauline is a descendant of John Jessee, Jr. In addition, Vernon and Pauline have a well organized and indexed photograph collection of thousands of SW VA family gravestones, many of our Jessee families. See also David Jessee below for more of their considerable contribution to the Jessee Family Database.

JESSICA FORD [DFord10176@aol.com] sent, 9/9/2001, the following note regarding the descendants of **John Tivis Jessee**, son of **Ephraim Kiser Jessee**, son of **Joseph Jessee**, son of **John Jessee, Jr.**

Hello there! I have recently started my journey in charting my family tree. I think that I am part of a small branch that you may not know about. My name is Jessica, any guess on where that came from (LOL), my mother is Betty Kaye Jessee (even though it's Kay on her birth certificate), her father was John Dickenson Jessee son of John Tivis Jessee who in turn is the son of Ephraim Kiser Jessee. I am writing to add to the collection of Jessee's you currently know about.

The story goes that John Tivis, named after his Uncle (Ephraim's brother [and my great-grandfather-ED]) wanted to marry a girl by the name of Kate Dickenson, her Father was much obliged to allow this marriage given that John Tivis could provide for her. Most of the family had stayed in Russell County Virginia and John Tivis wanted to make a way on his own. It appears that John Tivis was somewhat of a hot head. It is speculated that is another reason for moving away.

The stories that my Grand Father told we not then nicest to hear, it has been said that he was very abusive to his two sons John Dickenson and Cowan Tivis, (he was also called Cecil) and at time to his wife Kate. It seems that Kate took several a beating in her children's stead and she never once backed down to him.

Anyway, he traveled to Boyle County Kentucky and purchased a parcel of farm land. After allowing for the land, a modest home, necessary farm equipment, animals, he was almost totally broke. He traveled to his parents home and before leaving told his Mother that everything was in place in Kentucky. The only problem was he had just enough money for the train tickets for he and Kate's journey to Kentucky but not a cent to buy her a ring. John Tivis's Mother responded by taking the ring off her hand and giving it to her son with many wishes of a happy life. My Mother gave me this ring on the announcement of my wedding with the same wishes that had been handed down ever since.

At this point I am so excited that I found you guys that I don't know what to do with myself. I am able to provide copies of the information that I have and am in the process of having family photos duplicated. My Mother and I are forwarding, by snail mail of course, the proper requirements to join your organization. We also look forward to attending the next family reunion. Thank you

for being a proud member of the Jessee heritage I know we have always been.

DEE HARDING [deeharding@earthlink.net] transcribed and provided, 10/10/2001, the following letter from **Dr. Leland Burdine Tate** originally sent to her family in 1966. Leland is descended from **Ephraim Kiser Jessee**, son of **Joseph Jessee**, son of **John Jessee, Jr.** Ephraim was a brother of the editor's g-grandfather, **John Tivis Jessee**.

Dr. Tate, whose wife Mildred was also a professor, was a wonderful and gracious man, a professor of history and sociology at the University of Virginia, Blacksburg. He is largely responsible for my first genealogy interests and information, providing me my first pedigree and putting me in contact with the Jessees of Russell Co., VA when I was just a teenager. He and his sisters in Lebanon always welcomed me and my friends and family whenever we came through Virginia over the course of 30 years. His sisters, Mildred and Margaret, first showed me Jessee's Mill, and the John Jessee and John Jessee, Jr. homes, cemeteries, and farms when I first visited Russell County in the early 1970s. Their Tate family home is on Banner Street in Lebanon, VA. I am forever indebted to him and it is wonderful to have his touch come to me from the past.

Leland Burdine Tate
111 Cohee Road
Blacksburg, Virginia 24060

Sept 20, 1966

Dear Hardings,

Here are some items from Civil War records about Ephraim K., John T., and Timothy S. Jessee, found in the U.S. Archives Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Ephraim K. Jessee of Co. G. 29 Va. Inf. was a private, then a sergeant. He enlisted March 27, 1862 at Lebanon for 3 years or the war. There was one reference to being sick and one concerning a payment Oct. 30, 1862. Evidently there are more records somewhere.*

John T. Jessee of Co. G. 29 Va. Inf. rose to 1st Lt. He enlisted July 10, 1861 at Dumps Creek for one year, and again in 1862. As a Lt. He enlisted others. In Nov. & Dec. 1862 he was helping gather up absentees. In April 1865 he was wounded in the right foot and sent to a hospital in Farmville. In June 1865 he was sent to a hospital in Lynchburg. In June 1865 he was sent to a hospital in Lynchburg.

Timothy S. Jessee of Co. G 29th Va. Inf. was enlisted Aug 5, 1862 at Lebanon by Lt. John T. Jessee. In April 1863 he was sick with bronchitis. He was wounded in the eye and shoulder in the battle of Cole Harbor June 1864, sent to a Richmond hospital and transferred to a Lynchburg hospital where he died Nov. 21, 1864.

Perhaps, there is more information about these in Richmond or elsewhere.

Sincerely, Leland

*Re: Ephraim K. Jessee - In his military records it states that on March 27 to April 30, 1862, he was sick. On April 26, 1862 he received \$50 for re-enlisting.

DONITA SCOTT [shandi@volfirst.net] sent, 11/15/2001, the following information and very interesting story regarding her husband **Bryan Lee Scott, born Timothy Lee Wood.**

This is my husband's tree. He is descended from John Jessee in the following way...

John Jessee's son, John Jessee Jr:

John Jessee Jr.'s son, Jefferson Jessee:

Jefferson Jessee's son, Stanford Jessee:

Stanford's son, John Henry Jessee:

John Henry's daughter, Captola Virlie Jessee:

Virlie's daughter Gracie:

Gracie's son, {my husband} Bryan Lee Scott. He was born Timothy "Timmie" Lee Wood. When he was 18 months old, his mother died, and he was adopted by the Scott family.

Only, as of last Friday, he has learned all about his birth family. Growing up he knew very little, and no names at all. He finally decided to ask his adoptive mother questions that were on his adoption records. She gave him his birth mother's name, and who his guardian was at the time of the adoption. It happened to be his mother's brother, so he had a name to go on. The area where his family lives in is pretty small (Maynardville, Union County, Tennessee) and his uncle had a very unusual name. So, we looked on the net, found his phone number and called. Unfortunately, his uncle had passed away, but he spoke to his daughter, and explained who he was. As it had turned out, his birth family had not seen him for 35 years, and were all thrilled! He then met some family on Sunday, and then more tonight. One of his cousins gave us a family tree she had worked on a few years ago, and I added it to my family tree program. Not only have we found more info in the past few days, but it also turns out that my husband and I are 5th cousins! I am also descended from John Counts Jr and Margaret Kelly (parents of Nancy Counts, Wife of Jefferson Jessee). Talk about a small world!

I still have oodles of family in SW Virginia, and try to go over there at least a couple time a year. I've always wanted to go to the Counts Reunion, also.

JACK MOCCABEE [jackmocc@houston.rr.com] sent, 12/15/2001, the following correspondence regarding **John Jessee** and **Eliza Jane Williams**. John Jessee is the son of **Archer Jessee**, son of **John Jessee, Jr.** [Archer Jessee married **Eleanor Smith**, and his brother **Joseph Jessee** married her sister **Cynthia Smith**, who are my gg-grandparents. Somehow that makes Jack and me double cousins!--Ed.]

Here is what I have on John Jessee and Eliza Jane Williams, starting with her parents [**Lamech William and Martha Fultz**], which is where I dead end on that branch. But it takes the tree on down to my grandson, that latest generation. [Jack provided extensive descendants information for Eliza Jane Williams and John Jessee, much of which I recorded. Jack also cites another researcher, **Ed Morton**, who appears to be a main contributor of information and family researcher. Edward A. Morton; 317-839-2171; mortone@att.net; <http://mortone.home.att.net>].

I'm here for any questions you might have, however I can't take credit for the detail, Ed Morton is the one that has done the traveling and read the gravestones, also **Iva Jessee** is another one that has done so very much in this line. She has been a wealth of information to us all.

As far as My surname, well we are working hard on that end of the family as well so far we can only get the Moccabee name back as far as 1810, I am going to get involved with the McCabe genealogy forum, to see what I can do there, but I haven't done that as yet. We were always told that two brothers migrated from Wales and that all the Moccabees in north America were descended from

these two. Nice story, how much truth there is to it, we don't know, however we do have a suspect or two, as to who the brothers were.

There is a theory that the lost tribes of Israel are that they migrated north to the Caucasus Mountains in Russia and then about 100 years later there was a migration west to the British Isles, including Wales. From what I have been told of the Welsh language the double c would carry a phonetic sound very similar to the Hebrew ch as in Chaim. So who knows, maybe someday we can trace back to Judas Maccabees himself. Probably not in my lifetime, though.

While not being Jewish we do always acknowledge the holiday around here. As a matter of fact for many many years we have made sure we always include a dradel in the kids stockings at Christmas, they look forward to finding out what unusual ones we found each year. I have made sure that they all know the story, of the Holiday, and the possible connection.

I have also noted that there are some of the Jessee family that used to live around **Moccabee Creek** just south of Olive Hill, Ky how strange since my grandmother was born and raised in Olive Hill, and yet I didn't know of this Creek until reading on some of the message boards, yesterday. You'd think she might have mentioned it, or some of the other's in the family that still live around there.

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.

WILLIAM G. PATE [WGPate@aol.com], sent, 9/4/2001, the following note for **Archer Jessee Gray**, son of **Nelson and Nancy Jessee Gray**. Nancy was a daughter of Archer Jessee and Nancy Browning.

A. J. was in Company C, 37th Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Corps, Virginia Infantry, in Stonewall Jackson's division. He served in the Shenandoah Valley campaigns of March 23 to June 10, 1862. The Seven Days campaign around Richmond June 25 to July 1, 1862. Chancellorsville May 2-4, 1863.

He indeed did survive the war and lived to the ripe age of almost 82. He died May 20, 1919 and is buried next to his wife Mary Elizabeth in Asbury cemetery in Sullivan Co., MO. His wife died Nov. 13, 1902. My mother used to put a Confederate flag on his grave every Memorial Day. I have a sister living in Williamsburg, Va. and she has his old Kentucky rifle he carried during the war. Also, I have pictures of him with his grown children and grandchildren taken in the early 1900's.

WILLIAM G. PATE sent, 9/17/2001, this follow-up.

I am descended from John and Frankey Jessee through Archer and Nancy Browning Jessee to Nelson and Nancy Jessee Gray to Archibald Jessee and Mary Elizabeth Seacatt Gray to Nelson Devane and Charity Isabel Lane Gray to George and Alice Gray Pate. So you can see my Russell Co. connections are many.

A. J. and Mary E. Gray migrated to Linn Co., Mo. about 1871. After about ten years they moved to Sullivan Co., Mo. My mother Alice Gray Pate had been into family research for about fifty years before she passed away in 1993. I inherited her info. and after retiring four years ago began sorting it out and building a database in my computer. I discovered I was missing some birth and death dates on some Gray and Lane aunts, uncles and cousins. So my older sister and I went to visit cemeteries in Sullivan Co. where we knew most were buried. Well, in looking through the cemeteries we noticed many of these names buried there: Jessee, Browning,

Snapp, Gose and probably others. All Russell Co. names. Even other Gray's and Lane's we had never heard of or known before.

Now I am interested in finding these connections. I have so far only uncovered the Vincent-John Browning-Jerial Dodge Jessee connection. Now I am working on the Browning connection and who the other Gray's are. I know part of the Grays connect through James M. Gray Jr. who migrated from Russell Co. to Jackson Co., Mo. in 1828. Two of his daughters married, moved there and are buried there.

I am enclosing my lineage which may help your database.

ARCHIE EARL AND DORIS JEAN (MAHL) JESSEE celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a family gathering held on October 6th, 2001 in Fair Oaks, CA, near Sacramento. Many may remember that Archie (an Archer Jessee descendant) and Doris traveled from Nevada City, California to the first National Jessee Reunion. Some 10 or more years ago, Archie and Doris came to a Butte County, CA Jessee family reunion, my branch, where we had over 100 people at our cabin in Butte Meadows, CA. Nelda and I were privileged to receive an invitation to their celebration. We drove 100 miles to be there and are glad we did.

This was one of the nicest celebrations we have ever seen. Archie and his eight brothers and sisters are the children of **Archie Elcanah Jessee**, son of **Archiebald Columbus, Jr.**, son of **Archiebald Columbus, Sr.**, son of **Elder David Jessee "Little Dave,"** son of **Archer Jessee**. Archie and Doris were joined by all of their five children, several grandchildren, six of his eight brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, and many friends and neighbors from over 50 years. It was my favorite thing, a Jessee Family potluck dinner and I got to meet a whole new clan of cousins! Their children and grandchildren presented a program of songs, prayers, testimonials, and celebratory offerings. There were laughter, tears, love, and joy. It was clear that Archie and Doris are beloved by their family and friends. Their Christian family values, traditions, faith and spirit was palpable in that room. Nelda and I were moved.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF RUSSELL COUNTY Newsletter, May 19, 2001, included an article "Warren Jessee Tells About Going to Jessee School 1928-1933" by **Jean Jessee Gilmer** about the reminiscences of her brother **Warren Boyd Jessee**. Jean and Warren, along with siblings **Billy Lee**, **Beecher Burke**, and **Peggy Ann**, are the children of **Beecher Burke Sr.**, son of **Vincent Jr.**, son of **Vincent Sr.**, son of **Archer Jessee**.

This is a very interesting publication. There was also an article on the **North Hill Cemetery (The Lost Cemetery of Lebanon)** and all the work done by **Nellie and J. C. Jessee** to record all information they could discern from the stones found in that extensive cemetery. J. C. Jessee is a descendant of the **Phillip and Gabriel Jessee** family. Cemetery residents include Henry Dickenson, first clerk of Russell Co.,



Archie and Doris Jessee on their 50th Anniversary

and Rev. James P. Carrell, the second clerk, and of course many Jessees and related families.

For those who would like to join the Historical Society of Russell Co., please send \$10 to Jean Gilmer, 690 Thompson Dr., Abingdon, VA 24210

NANCY DISHMAN [NLDISHMAN@aol.com] sent, 11/10/2001, information on **Hiram H. Kilgore** and **Elizabeth Jessee** and their son **Morgan T.W. Kilgore**. Elizabeth Jessee is the daughter of **Rev. David "Little Dave" Jessee**, son of **Archer Jessee**.

Hiram H. Kilgore was born May 23, 1823 in Nichelsville, Scott, VA, and died December 20, 1905. He is buried in the Kilgore Cemetery outside Coeburn, VA. He married (1) Anna Elizabeth Bond on August 23, 1843, daughter of Charles Bond and Rebecca Bevins. She was born February 4, 1820 in Scott Co., VA., and died June 20, 1864. He married (2) Elizabeth Jessee in 1865, daughter of David Jessee and Martha Stinson. She was born April 5, 1839, and died July 22, 1916.

Children of Hiram Kilgore and Anna Bond are:

1. G.W. Kilgore, b. June 24, 1844; d. May 9, 1924
2. Rebecca Kilgore, b. Abt. 1846
3. Sarah J. Kilgore, b. 1847 ; d. 1886; m. Wilson Holbrooks, 1865
4. William Jefferson Kilgore. B/ 1849; d. 1932; m. Nancy E. Wells, October 1, 1874
5. Mary Minerva Kilgore, b. May 20, 1851; m. Robert W. Addington, February 23, 1871
6. Phebe Helen Kilgore, b. April 1853; m. Samuel Counts, May 17, 1876
7. Charles F. Kilgore, b. May 1855; d. March 24, 1922; m. Eva Caroline Counts, May 18, 1876
8. Hiram E. Kilgore, b. March 5, 1859; m. (1) Ella D. Branham, February 17, 1882; m. (2) Hanna D. Thompson, October 10, 1903
9. Anna E. E. Kilgore, b. 1861; d. 1932; m. Milbourn Gilliam, February 6, 1876

Children of Hiram Kilgore and Elizabeth Jessee are:

1. Morgan T.W. Kilgore, b. March 1, 1866, Coeburn, VA; d. January 29, 1950, Coeburn, VA.
2. John W. Kilgore, b. December 14, 1867
3. Eliza Rebecca Kilgore, b. March 15, 1870
4. Tealy Virginia A. Kilgore, b. March 4, 1871; d. October 20, 1876, Buried in the Kilgore cemetery, Coeburn, VA.
5. Ama Lona (Amy) Kilgore, b. October 3, 1875; d. Tazewell, VA., m. William M. Cecil in 1893; d. 1941
6. Louetta S. Kilgore, b. April 15, 1879

JIM PARKS [jcparks2@attbi.com] sent, 12/10/2001, this tidbit of information regarding **Martin Jesse Knifong**. His granddaughter **Susan Eva Knifong** married **Jerial Dodge Jessee**, son of **Francis Browning Jessee**, son of **Vincent Jessee**, son of **Archer Jessee**.

I found your posting in RootsWeb about Martin Knifong. His daughter, **Malinda Jane Knifong**, is a great grandmother. She was born on June 13, 1813 in Russell County, Virginia and died in Tennessee in 1895. I'm only assuming that Martin must have been Malinda's father. This is because I know that she was born in Russell County in 1813. The 1820 Russell County census lists 2 females under the age of 12 living with Martin Knifong. She married James Redwine in 1836 in Virginia and had their first 5 children in Lee County. In 1850 they were in Harlan County, Kentucky and then in 1852 settled in Sevier and Cocke counties, Tennessee. Given the unusual last name, I'm sure that Malinda was one of the two females under 12 in Martin's household in 1820. I would be interested if you had records on other Knifong females that could be one of the two under 12 in the 1820 census?

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.

No new contributions to report.

IV. Lea Jessee

Lea Jessee (1781-1852) married Barbara Gose (1788-1862), da. of Stephen Gose and Barbara Catron (Ketron) Gose, and they had ten children. This family moved to Missouri, and includes among descendants, Archer Catron Jessee, the first Jessee to migrate to California before the gold rush.

KEN GIBSON [Kngibber@cs.com] provided, 10/1/2001, a copy of an article by **Shirley Contreras**, a writer for the Santa Maria Valley Historical Society, from the local Santa Maria newspaper, 9/12/1999, titled *The Jessee family played a big role in Santa Maria's history*.

Archer Canton [SIC, actual name **Catron**] Jessee and his wife, **Mary (Harbin)** who came across the plains in 1846 from Tennessee driving oxen, mules, and horses, first settled in Sacramento in the fall of the same year. Shortly after his arrival he enlisted in Fremont's battalion and was appointed first lieutenant of a company under the leadership of John Grigby. The following year he became the first sheriff of Napa Valley where he had moved with his family in 1847 and remained there for 14 years. It was there that most of the couple's children were born.

In 1869 the family moved to Lake City in Lake County before moving down to San Luis Obispo. In 1873 the family picked up and moved to Arizona where the elder Mr. Jessee passed away in 1878. That same year the family moved to Central City [now Santa Maria]. Not yet incorporated, the new village hired young Madison "Matt" Jessee its first night watchman, the first man to serve in a peace officer's capacity here. In 1885 he became a constable for the new city, a position which was later filled by Alex Samson. Joyn Waugh and I. W. "Doc" Southard, in succession.

Matt served in a police capacity for about 25 years. When he wasn't policing he was a local farmer and teamster. He worked a

ranch in the Suey area with M. O. Wilson for a few years. Matt also played the outfield on the old Star Nine baseball team which was made up of the "young bloods" of its time. San Luis Obispo was the team's biggest rival. When Matt passed away in 1937 his brother John Victor lay dying in a Santa Maria hospital. John Victor passed away on April 26, 1937.

Francis Marion Jessee who was born in Lake City in September of 1866 was a veteran member of the Santa Maria Lodge #90 of the Knights of Pythius of which he was past chancellor commander. He was a volunteer on Santa Maria's first fire department which was started in 1904; with Arthur MacLaughlin serving as fire chief Francis Jessee, a single man passed away in June of 1928.

The Jessees, all of whom played a significant part in the growth of Santa Maria, are names that are no longer familiar in the Santa Maria area, with some of them moving from the area. However, there are still people living in the valley whose ancestry goes back to the Jessee family. Aurelia Jessee, a daughter of John Victor Jessee married Eugene Dutcher of the Sisquoc area, when the 20th century was still in its infancy. Members of the original Jessee family who came to the area in 1878 are all buried in the Santa Maria Cemetery.

V. David Jessee

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

VERNON & PAULINE SALYERS [vpsaly@naxs.net] provided to me, 8/9/2001, a GEDCOM file with 494 descendants of **Stephen E. Burk** and his two wives, **Martha A. Skaggs** and **Sarah Sulser Dean**. Stephen E. Burk is the son of **Samuel Burk**, son of **Fleming Burk, Jr.** and **Nancy Ann Jessee**, daughter of David Jessee. Vernon Salyer is a descendant of David Jessee, and Pauline is a descendant of John Jessee, Jr. In addition, Vernon and Pauline have a well organized and indexed photograph collection of thousands of SW VA family gravestones, many of our Jessee families. See also John Jessee, Jr. above for more of Vernon and Paulines considerable contribution to the database.

LINDON H. BRAMWELL [415 Trail Ridge Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95409] wrote two letters, 9/30/2001 and 10/5/2001, regarding **Samuel Jessee**, son of David Jessee, and his wife **Margaret Porter's family**. This Porter family also intermarried with the editor's **John Jessee, Jr.** and **Bickley** families.

A few days ago I received a letter from James Porter who gave me your address and told me that you were interested in corresponding with me. Apparently you have a Porter connection through Margaret Porter (b. ca. 1807), a daughter of John Porter and Katharine Gose, Margaret was a sister of my g-grandfather, Samuel Porter, and she married Samuel Jessee (b. 1802). No doubt James gave you this and other information I had given him about Margaret and Samuel's family. I have never attempted to seriously research this family in detail, and what I have is merely bits and pieces I found and saved while checking out my direct Porter line.

James also may have told you that my g-grandfather, Samuel Porter, and three of his brothers left Indiana and pioneered to the Oregon Territory in 1853 where they obtained land grants in the

Willamette Valley. My grandfather, John Porter, was born three months after their arrival; he always bragged about the fact that he had crossed The Plains!! My mother, Veda Porter, was born in 1889 and married Karl Bramwell in 1910, and I am the second of their three children born in 1918. So you can readily see that I am an old codger but still very active physically and mentally.

I will be interested in hearing from you and learning what information you have to see if I may be of help in your Jessee research. I imagine that James gave you the data I sent to him, but I may have some additional material. I will be happy to share any information I have. James mentioned in his letter that several Jessees married into the Gose and Dickenson families. In reviewing some of the material James sent several weeks ago I note that Tabitha Porter (b ca 1785) m. John Smyth Jr. (b. ca. 1785) and their daughter Eleanor married Archer Jessee, and they had six children. Perhaps this is where you fit into the picture. But, rather than my assuming and guessing, I will wait until I hear from you to get details. I am sure you have a lot of information that will fill in some blank spots in my records.

James has certainly done a remarkable job in assembling Porter data. I learned of him only a few months ago after a great niece of mine (who lives in Canada) and James got acquainted on Internet. I had almost given up getting any more detail on the Porter line, -and now you have appeared and may help me fill in a few more spaces. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

[Regarding] John Porter who married Katharine Gose. I am sending you a listing of John and Katharine's family -- probably more information than you want or need!!

You will note that John and Katharine's first child was Margaret Porter who married Samuel Jessee. Until James gave me Tabitha Porter's line I was unaware of any other Jessees in the Porter line. My first knowledge of the Jessee name came from an old 1933 news item in the Crawfordville Review (Ind.) reporting a Porter family reunion celebrating Marion Porter's 85th birthday, in that item it was mentioned that Margaret had married a Samuel Jessee and ten children were born of them, and included Rev. David Jessee, Mrs Thompson Henry, and Mrs. Mary Jett of Thornton, Ind. Perhaps you can maybe be able to determine how this Samuel Jesse fits into your line -- his parents.

VI. Elizabeth Jessee Gose

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

VII. Mary "Polly" Jessee Kiser

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

VIVIAN BALES (Marion, IN), Polly Jessee Kiser's gggg-granddaughter, is a faithful contributor to this newsletter. She constantly works at ferreting out little bits and pieces of information she gathered over a lifetime, and sends them my way. I attempt to keep up with her by keying her information into the database. Here she provides some good advice, memories, stories, and insight into Vivian's colorful life. I am happy to report that Vivian, who is now 88, has been



Vivian Bales, taken September 1994

writing regularly, and sending along the flotsam and jetsam of her genealogy research. She even sent along the photograph following, but admits it was taken a few years ago. Here are some of her pearls.

6/27/2001: Thank you for the Jessee Newsletter. I look forward to receiving them. When they arrive in my mail box, I immediately read it from cover to cover. The drawing of the old Jessee Mill is gorgeous in black and white. I hope there will be a very large Reunion and that some one with lots of love and money will bid a very good price.[They did!] ...

I am not only a descendant of the Kisers and Jessees, also the S.W. VA., Dickensons. Except now we use the spelling Dickison. You have some who are taking without thought that Charles Keyser md. some woman Miss Shelley. This is absolutely wrong.

Charles Keyser, b. Germany, was from Wertembery, near Stuttgart. He md. Elizabeth Grossgloss who was also b. in Germany. All the early Kisers knew this and has it in their families. It even appears in some very early records, that their Charles and Andrew, 1st two sons were b. in Germany.

I first picked them up in the Pa., Archives books. They moved from Lancaster Co., PA., to the Shenandoah Valley, VA. Charles Keyser died without a will. The appraisement was very large. It says he left 10 children, but did not name them. Charles, Jr., being the oldest was granted Admin. (By law it was all his but the record says there were ten children to divide among, 1778.

In his assessment he had two large Dutch Bibles with the family information in it. The two sons who went to the Ohio country and settled took the Bibles with them. [The Bibles] tells who was who. Isaac Dove, grandson of Charles Keyser, visit his relatives from Ohio to the Shenandoah. He studied the two Bibles of the Keyser information on his way to the Shenandoah. [H] heard about a reunion in Philadelphia of Keyser's. He went. Some lawyer came up with his theory. He said Johannes Keyser md. Barbara Funk, 1744, and had a son Charles who md. a Miss Shelly. Philadelphia.

The records of Andrew Keyser, son of Charles and Elizabeth Grossgloss)k. was b. Dec. 1758. Johannas son Charles b. ? since Johannas md. 1744, had a grandchild b. 1758, and so on.

All of the Kisers says our Charles md. Elizabeth Grossgloss, both b. in Germany. There is lots more info. Charles, Sr., 1st two sons was Charles, Jr and Andrew, both served in the Revolution

Our Charles Keyser was a butcher in the army of Braddock in 1755. Charles son Andrew was b. 16 Dec. 1758. Both sons Charles and Andrew are in the DAR". patriots index, and who they md.

George Bertas Kiser, called Bert, a gg-grandson of Noah and Dicie Kiser, he was a State Senator for about 3 terms, from Carter Co., Ky. He also held other office off and on. Taught school, etc.

I am not up to par recently, old age of course. Each day, is a gift from God that we live. Keep on keepin on and I trust and hope you have many of the good people to surround and help you with our wonderful and precious foreparents.

On my mother's side they have a very huge organization of the Tacketts. It is wonderful all they have on record now. And they do get help from the members. They are about 35 years old now. The Head person is Jim Wm. Tackett, and am not sure but believe he was a graduate of Chico High school. He is now a retired school Teacher, lives in Concord, Calif. He is such a nice person.

10/8/2001: Enclosed a pic of this ole gal taken 1994. She provided a list of Jessies from the Crawfordville and New Ross, IN telephone directory. There are Jessees still in Montgomery Co., IN, New Ross, IN. Their origin is from some of our early Jessees. [This Jesse family is believed to be descendants of John and Frankey Lea Jesse, irrespective of the spelling--I would appreciate having contact with this branch of the family should a volunteer care to pursue this.]

10/11/2001:

Dear Jim: I was looking over the last News Letter of July, 2001, again. (Having some eye problems. The Dr. says to go, get the other cataract removed. But who knows what tomorrow will bring. I am old.)

Jane Buyers Hill goes on to say (page 16) James J. Jesse is he son of Davy Jesse, son of John Jesse III, son of John Jesse, Jr. Virginia Meade is the daughter of William Henry Meade and Verbidia Kiser, dau. of Noah Kiser, son of Abednego Kiser and Mary (Polly) Jesse. I don't mean to be harsh, but what a big false story out of someone's imagination. [Jane, please do not take offense, just help us straighten out the facts-Ed.]

Noah and Dicie had no daughter named or called Verbidia. They had a daughter Elizabeth, who was nicknamed Biddy. She md. In Carter Co., Ky., but not Meade.

Henry Meade md. in Hanover Co., Va., to Elizabeth Dickenson. They came to Russell Co., Va., where many other Dickensons had come. Henry and Elizabeth, like all pioneers also had a family. Their daughter, Elizabeth Meade md. Marion Francis Kiser, son of Noah and Dicie.

When Noah and most of his children all decided to go to Carter Co., Ky., his son Marion Francis and his wife Elizabeth, stayed on a while. Marion F. was a school teacher in Russell Co., Va. He wanted to teach awhile longer there.

When Noah and his "crew" decided to sell out and move to Carter Co., Ky., where his oldest son had settled, they all just sold out and moved together. I have read about the day they all got there.. They bought the area where they first landed and for a long time it was called Carter City. A very large area of lands. Noah and Dicie are buried in the same area where they bought and settled. They had 17 children. (I only found 15 children, but others have told me they had 17.)

Marion Francis was named for a popular person, an officer who was well beloved and called "The Swamp Fox". One of Marion F's daughters was named Rachel. She md. Wayne Everman. They had a daughter, Mabel Her father died before she was a year old.

She and her mother Rachel lived with her parents. Marion and Elizabeth (Meade) Kiser. She was Mabel daughter of Rachel and Wayne.

Mabel lived all of her life with her grandparents until she grew up and married Stanley Byrd. I have visited with Mabel many times. She was a very sweet person. A great husband and they were very prosperous . Had a beautiful Home, very very modern furnished.

I learned much about the Kisers, they knew from whence they came. Was not any poor amongst them. In fact I, thought they were just a little too haughty at times. Very proud people. They were a close knit family. Families often got together for whole weekends together. The women cooked, the men talked, joked, and enjoyed the whole group.

10/20/2001: [Vivian provided extracts of information from the 1800 and 1810 Middlesex Co., VA Tax Roll, which has evidence of a Samuel Jesse, John Jesse, Sr., John Jesse, Jr. and a John B. Jesse, who I have featured in previous newsletters. She comments.]

Middlesex Co. was-formed 1673, but we have no record or clue when the Jessees came to Middlesex. We know one of the Johns was not our John for ours was in No, Car. He served in the Revolution which begun about 1775. Our John Jesse was in NC., but when did he arrive there? He certainly could not be in Middlesex CO., Va., and No Car., at the same time. So, those Middlesex Co., Va. Jesses must have been from another branch.

Once upon a time the given name John, seemed to be universal. Every one and their "hound Dog" named whomever John. My own Father was John Louis Dickison.

These Middlesex Co. Jesses had children. But still I have nor ran across Jesse except those from our John and his kin. I think there are other spellings of the name now, too.

Anyway or whatever, they are Jessee flesh and blood whomever.

VIII. Frances Jesse Stone

Frances Jesse (1789-1860) married **William Stone** (1789-1860), son of **Jeremiah Stone**. They had ten children. This family is believed to have moved to Missouri, and we know so little about these descendants that any tidbit is big news.

I met two new Frances Jesse Stone descendants at the Jesse family reunion, and have had several contacts with Stone descendants from Missouri. I hope we have more to report here in future newsletters

IX. Sarah Jesse Vermillion

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

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

X. Boedicia Jessee Gose

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

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

XI. James Jessee

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

IRIS LAMBERT HALL, a descendant of James Jessee, is a regular contributor. Please see her contribution to this newsletter up front and in other locations. She shares a lifetime of research, and more than a bit of wisdom.

XII. Rebecca Jessee Burk

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

KATHRYN BURKE GREEVER, JACK HOCKETT, IMOGENE BURKE VERBAL, and RUE BURKE STEVENSON have published *Some Descendants of John Burk, 1656-1699, Middlesex Co., Virginia*, available from the Iberian Publishing Co., 548 Cedar Creek Drive, Athens, GA 30605-3408, for a price of \$34.95 softback, \$44.95 hardback, plus \$4.00 shipping and handling. Order on-line at www.iberian.com. All royalties go to the Russell Co. Historical Society and Russell Co. Library Family History Room.

This 502 page book details, among many others, the descendants of **Fleming Burk, Sr.** Four of his children married Jessees, two children and two grandchildren of John and Frankey Lea Jessee. Jane Burk married James Jessee, William Burk married Rebecca Jessee, Fleming Burk, Jr. married Nancy Ann Jessee, daughter of David Jessee, and Robert Burk married Anna Gose, daughter of Elizabeth Jessee and George Gose. They have added much information for each of these lines. Their notations and documentation of sources are tremendous. A simply great effort.

This book includes over 1000 descendants of Rebecca Jessee and William Burk. None of which has been keyed into a genealogy database, other than those small portions in the Jessee Database. It is a daunting chore and we need help! I would like to work with any volunteers who would be willing to help key in this information into an appropriate genealogy database.

ANTHONY [Happydan36912@hotmail.com] sent, 9/15/2001, the following inquiry regarding his possible William and Rebecca Jessee Burk ancestry.

My name is Anthony and I am a former foster child (I was adopted) and am trying to find information about my birth family. My mother's name is **Valerie B Burke**. I have in the course of my research come across a Valerie Bonner Burke whom I believe with 95% confidence to be my birth mother. She is the youngest daughter of **Devine Thomas Burke** (b. July 8, 1911, son of **Thomas Bilton Burke**) and Jimmie B. Bonner. While trying to trace this lineage backward, I found your site which makes a connection between who would be my 3rd great-grandfather, William Burk and who would be my 3rd great-grandmother, Rebecca Jessee.

I knew about this connection before from other sites out there, but the problem I am having now, which you seem to have investigated, is the confused information of the Burke line which starts to occur around Fleming Burk Sr.. Based on the information I have seen on various sites, I have seen two other ways (other than that which I saw on your site) that the Burke line goes back. Both have the same names, but differ in their children, marriages, etc.

I know that the Burke line is not your primary interest, so if you know of any other researchers who are researching the Burke line with the same diligence with which you are studying, please introduce them to me. One last thing I would like to ask, if it is ok, is if you could share any information which you might have on Devine Burke. Any information you can help me with would be most helpful.

XIII. Jane Jessee Fuller

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

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

XIV. George Lea Jessee

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

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

See Correspondence for exciting information regarding a planned revision to the book *John Counts of Glade Hollow*.

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. Martin with a total of 18 children may have the most Jessee descendants in America

KAYE JESSEE PETERS [treehouse@sensible.net] posted, 8/14/2001, the following note regarding a previously unrecorded son of Martin Jessee and Virginia Jane Price, a **Jefferson Jessee**, b 1854. As I show Virginia died in 1853, I do not think so. I also have at least four other Jefferson Jessees born about 1855. Can anyone shed a light on this?

Note: Ancestry.com Gene Pool list a Jefferson Jessee son of Martin Jessee and Virginia Jane Price who was born March 1854 in Russell Co.

I also have this note on my database under Martin Jessee. Van Landingham's book on Lee Co. says Martin Jessee and Jane Price had a son Jefferson Jessee, who I have assumed would have been born after 1854. Tom Rudder, Carmichael, CA reports: "Martin and Jane could not have had a son Jefferson born in 1854 because Jane died in 1853. I have no record they had a son Jefferson." Furthermore, Iris Lambert Hall states, "I have never found any information on him, census, marriage, etc." I conclude that this is another error in the Lee Co. Book.

Missing Links, Problems and Other Conundrums

Please help us solve these riddles.

C W BUTLER [cwbutler@voyager.net], sent, 7/19 & 7/20/2001 the following inquiry and request for help to identify the Jessee heritage of this **Cowan Jessee/Jessie and other Jessies of Carter Co., KY.**

Watt Winfield Phillips [who is in the Jessee database] had a sister Molly who married one of the many Cowan Jessies. Watt and Molly's parents were Stanford T "Stant" Phillips and Sarah "Sally" Patton. Mollie and Cowen had seven issue.

I had initially talked with a son of Effie Jessie. He had said that Cowen MIGHT be Arthur Cowen, but he wasn't sure. No other relatives down different lineages I've talked with acknowledged that and were emphatic about "Cowen", but I've not been able to obtain any proof one way or another. It seems the surname deviation might have started with the Carter Co Jessee/ies.

Modified Register for Cowan JESSEE

First Generation

1. Cowan JESSEE .

Cowan married Molly PHILLIPS daughter of Stanford T "Stant" PHILLIPS and Sarah "Sallie" PATTON. Molly was born in 1869.

They had the following children:

2 M i. **James Walter JESSIE** was born on 29 May 1885. He died on 18 Oct 1889.

3 M ii. **Albert Lee JESSIE** was born on 1 Nov 1886. He died on 5 Sep 1923.

4 F iii. **Effie JESSIE** was born on 11 Jun 1889. She died in 1948. Effie married George Washington RAYBURN son of George Henry RAYBURN and Sylvia STAMPER about 1907. George was born on 23 Sep 1887. He died in Sep 1973.

5 M iv. **George Bernie JESSIE** was born on 18 Oct 1891. He died on 20 Jan 1935. George married Effie BUCKLER daughter of John Marshall BUCKLER and Sabina Jane JOHNSON. Effie was born on 7 Jul 1891.

6 M v. **William Riley JESSIE** was born on 24 Jan 1896. He died on 7 Jan 1969. William married Nellie "Dutch" KING daughter of George KING and Letha.

7 F vi. **Sarah Almeda JESSIE** was born on 16 Jul 1898. Sarah married DAMRON . I am particularly interested in this line as I also have Damron heritage.

8 F vii. **Daisy JESSIE** was born on 11 Aug 1905. She died on 7 Oct 1937.

C W Butler
cwbutler@voyager.net
805 ½ Randy Lane
St Johns, MI 48879
(989) 227 0066

BARBARA MOWERY [bsm1963@intelos.net] sent, 8/24/2001, this inquiry seeking a **Jim and his sister Molly Jessee/Jesse/Jessie of Carter Co., KY.**

My name is Barbara Mowery and my grandfather was from Carter County, Kentucky. I would like to find out more about his mother Molly (Jesse/Jessee/Jessie)?

From what information I have, she was born 1870? She definitely died in 1949. I know she had a brother named Jim. I have a picture of Jim Jessee, taken with my grandpa out near Olive Hill. I also have a couple of pictures of Molly. One taken in the '20's with 2 of her grandchildren, James Albert and Irene, and some that were taken, I believe in 1942.

She was married to Edmond Mowery who died at a young age in 1898, leaving her with several children. The oldest (about 9) was my grandpa, James Leslie Mowery born February 20, 1890

He had brothers, Hubert—Warren—Albert and Edgar, Sister—Lula, other? I don't know.

She is buried at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, near Olive Hill.

Is she in any of your records? Can you tell me anything about who her parents were? Thank You for any information you have to offer.

Here are three different inquiries about the same family from three individuals who, here-to-fore did not know each other. Can we help them find their Jessee pedigree via Bryon J. Jessee?

ANN HAYDEN [ahayden@ctaz.com] sent, 11/4/2000, this inquiry about her birth mother, **Anita Jessee.**

I am an adoptee with no roots except an original birth certificate that lists my mothers maiden name as Anita Jessee, born in 1923 in Cleveland, VA. Sounds like your family roots. Please put me in there somewhere in case some one might know something about me. I and a younger brother were taken as Wards of the Court in Michigan in 1945. I was told we were farmed out to family in an effort to work with the parents before we were taken permanently. I was born in Ferndale, Michigan. Anita was married to William Garrison, who was 8 yrs older than she. I was first born 12/2/1941, and Bobby was second born sometime in 1943. That is about all I know regarding the Jessee roots.

GERALD DUNN [JERBEARDUN@aol.com], sent 9/4-16/2001, the following inquiry looking for the lineage of **Byron J. Jessee.**

I am attempting to locate relatives of my mother who died in 1955 and only have a newspaper obituary to assist me with names of her brothers and father with name variances. It would be fantastic to my sister and myself if you were able to assist us. Father's name was: Byron (possibly Bryon) J. Jessee of Drayton Plains, MI. Brother's name: Kemp Jessee of Berkley MI. Brother's

name: William Jessee of Carterton VA. She was born in Cleveland, VA in December 1922 and I cannot locate any birth records for her with the information from her death certificate. I am under the assumption that her and her family originated from Virginia. She would have 2 previous children born prior to 1950 as her obituary stated that he had 4 children. I would be grateful for any and all information that you could possibly provide to assist my search for family members.

[I responded with the following.-Ed.]

I would like to help you, but I need a little more information, and I want you to do a little searching yourself. First, what is your Mother's full name, birth date and place, death date and place, and any other information you may have about her, including your father's name, birth, death, and marriage information, their children and grandchildren. Could you share the entire obituary?[he later shared the obituary as a JPG file]

Do I understand correctly that you believe your mother's father, your grandfather, was Byron or Bryan Jessee, and that your mother had at least two brothers, Kemp Jessee who lived in MI and William Jessee of Carterton, VA? That your mother was born in Cleveland, Russell Co., VA, near Carterton, is a strong clue that she is one of our Jessee family. Have you her death certificate or SSN application. They may show her parents full names. I may need to get back another generation or two to determine her place in the family. In any case, I am sure we are about 5th cousins or closer, as my Jessee family came from the Cleveland area, too.

Second, please search my Jessee Family Database for the name Kemper Jessee. You will find about four, but two born in 1904 might me of the right generation. Go to www.jessee.org then click on the Search the Database link. Then Use the search tool there to find Kemper Jessee. Click on their parents or go up line one generation to see Kemper's brothers and sisters. Is your Mother one of the sisters? You can also look up your mother's name, Byron Jessee and Bryan Jessee and see if any of these fit. William Jessee is so common a name that you will get too many hits, and it is difficult to deal with.

[Lastly, Gerald followed-up with this, along with permission to share his mystery with the family.]

Hello Jim, when I first emailed you it was the beginning of my Jessee Family search. I have since found the website Ancestry.com and searched for the name Jessee on the message boards and came across what may be a half-sister who was adopted at an early age and her birth mother was listed as Anita Jessee. I have just emailed information to her and am anxiously awaiting a response. I am attaching a copy of the obituary in .JPG format. Because of name variances, this may be a difficult search for her ancestors. But I will continue. Hopefully, this may be of some assistance to you to find out where Byron (or Bryon) J. Jessee fits in to the Jessee family tree. Please let me know if you can further assist me in my search.

GERALD DUNN [JERBEARDUN@aol.com], sent 9/27/2001, additional information.

I had written to you about a month ago in an attempt to locate some of my missing relatives on my mothers side of the family. Her father and brothers and 2 other children. With your help, I have located a half sister that I never know existed. We have been corresponding back and forth all week. It seems she knew less about her birth family than I did.

I am enclosing a copy of death certificate for Anita Jessee for your records to update your info. The entry for ID #134396 [Anita Jessee] should be:

Anita Jessee (Currently deceased - July 1 1955). Birth according to my records was December 5 1922.

Marriage 1 - Living Garrison

This is correct as far as I know (still trying to locate information)

Children

1 Living Garrison Female b. 1941 [Ann Hayden, above]

2 Living Garrison Male b. 194 [Bobby]3

Marriage 2

Francis W Dunn date of birth 2/6/20 died 8/25/79

Children

1 Living Dunn Male born 1950 (this is me) [Gerald]

2 Living Dunn Female born 1952 (this is my unmarried sister)

[Cheryl] My sister has 1 Living Aubuchon born 1972. [See the following]

Previous to Anita Jessee we have her father - Bryon J Jessee and mother Malinda White with three children

William Jessee (information unknown - Still investigating)

Kemp Jessee (information unknown - Still investigating)

Anita Jessee (information provided above)

I hope this will be of help to you and to others that may try to locate missing relatives. I want to thank you for all the help you have been in my search for missing relatives. I will keep you posted as to any further information.

CHRISTOPHER AUBUCHON [christopher@nayna.com] sent, 9/27/2001, the following information about **Anita Jessee and Francis William Dunn**.

Regarding your record #34396, this female is Anita Jessee, she married had two children. Then "common law" with my grandfather Francis William Dunn and had two more children: Gerald Dunn and Cheryl Dunn.

My great aunts told me of other names she may have gone by.

Hornita Jesse

Anita Jessee

Hornita Jesse

Hornita Dunn

Anita Dunn

ROBERT TUCKER [georjarex@mindspring.com] sent, 4/5/2001, the following adoptee inquiry regarding his Jessee roots.

I want to throw my name in the hat as a Jessee also. I was adopted in 1957 and found out in recent years that my birth name is Robert Ensley Jessee. I was born in Charlottesville, VA on 1-19-49. Because of records being sealed in Virginia, I have never been able to find out any other information except that my mother was a 16 year old unwed mother.

I am drawn to find out information about the Jessee family and feel that my mother must have been part of the Jessee family in Virginia born around 1933.

Robert Tucker

241 Suburban Drive

Kennesaw, GA 30144 (suburb of Atlanta)

770-591-3517

ROBERT TUCKER sent, 10/1/2001, the follow-up response, Subject: **Home at last**

Just a short note to let you know you are going to have to take the blame for helping me find my sister! If not for your hard work in putting the web site up I would not have found my sister that I have been looking for since 1978. I am a member of the John Jessee Jr. family and I thank you for that. I will write a short story for the news letter for you to print if you so desire. Again thanks for the guiding light for me to find my way home. Robert Tucker (Robert Ensley Jessee)

TERRENCE SZOSTEK [aawolff@mac.com] provided to me, 8/13/2001, a broadside for a Charles C. Jessee which I have included here, along with the following correspondence.

Terrence,

Thank you very much for sending me the Broadside featuring a speech to be given by Charles C. Jessee. I do appreciate this very much, and will scan it to put in the Jessee Newsletter, to share it with others this fall. For those copied, Mr. Terrence Szostek is a bookseller who came across this broadside, or hand bill, advertising a speech to be given by Charles C. Jessee with the headline "Just Enough Wit to Season an Address Crammed with Solid Facts." He sent it on to me to share with the Jessee Family.

I do not know who this Charles C. Jessee, but I will bet we will figure it out when I share it with others. Can you share more about where this took place and when? I note it says the speech, "The Fall of Booze and the Reign of Law" was to be at the Methodist Church, Junction City, Saturday, February 9, at 8 p.m. I wonder what state in what year?

Terrence responded as follows.

A quick check of the pronouncing gazetteer in my Webster's dictionary shows that there is a Junction City in Kansas. A just-as-quick look at a perpetual calendar shows Saturday, Feb. 9 occurring in 1907, 1918, and 1929. These are only leads, of course, and you will want to do more serious investigation, but at least it's a start. The leaflet was laid into a book published in 1907, but could have been placed there at any time after that date, or could itself have been printed before then. However, judging from the clothing, it would not be too far from the 1907 "base."

Am pleased you liked it.

Terrence Szostek

AARDWOLF Fine Books

Correspondence

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

LPSHORT [lpshort@netscope.net] posted, 7/8/2001, on VARUSSEL-L@rootsweb.com, the following regarding the War Memorial Wall in the Russell company Library.

The discovery of an old newspaper in the Honaker area has prompted officials to begin the process of adding more names to the War Memorial Wall in the meeting room of the Russell County Public Library. A 1919 issue of THE LEBANON NEWS listed the names of 12 additional men who lost their lives during World War I.

Currently the names on the wall include Edgar Albert, James W. Alexander, John Ball, Dennis Chafin, William Compton, Anthony Fields, Roy Hendricks, Henry W. Innes, James E. Osborne, Della J. Rasnake, James J. Rasnick, Lawrence H. Robinson, Samuel P. Salyer, Walter G. Salyer, Jadie Starnes, John W. Steffey, James A. Sword, and Willie York. The 12 names listed in the 1919 paper are: Dave Farmer, Charles Hess, Elbert Honaker, Grover Lester, S.A. McCoy, Huston Lee Meade, Thomas B. Meade, John Nipper, James M. Perkins, Fayette Sexton, Edgar Sutherland, and John Williams.

Due to this discovery, the committee is asking residents to come forward if they know of any other names that should be included. Anyone who knows of someone that should be included may call 873-5475, 873-5246, 880-9033, 889-2282, 762-7254, or 762-7516.

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METHODIST CHURCH

The World War II memorial portion also needs updated. When the World War II Tribute was done in 1999, 14 names were found to be missing from the wall and one needed to be deleted.

Names currently on the wall from World War II are: John W. Alderson, Denver T. Artrip, Earnest P. Artrip, Paul J. Artrip, William M. Bailey, Ayers F. Ball, Lewis K. Bausell, George B. Belcher, William T. Boyd, Parley O. Breedlove, Carl H. Bundy, Roger N. Butt, Clarence L. Carpenter, Bliss E. Chambers, William S. Clark, James Combs, Marion A. Compton, Wiley M. Compton, Adam P. Couch, Thomas A. Couch, Charles H. Cowan, Woodrow Crabtree, Howard B. Dye, Sidney E. Dye, James A. Fields, Charles W. Fuller, Ewal E. Garrett, Ollie Gilbert, Ollie Grizzle, Woodrow Grizzle, Carl D. Harmon, Bert T. Helton, Paul R. Helton, Robert L. Helton, Dewey R. Hillman, Marvin T. Hobbs, Efner K. Honaker, Dewain E. Hurt, Emmett J. Isaacs, Charles W. Jackson, Fred P. Jackson, Franklin P. Jessee, James P. Jessee, Clyde Kiser, Emory Kiser, Ralph Looney, Sam H. Lowe, James C. Martin, Madas S. Martin, Harry A. Miller, Malcolm L. Minton, Clyde E. Moore, John W. Mowles, Davie B. Musick, Clyde A. Mutter, Walter H. Osborne, Furman A. Penland, Aubrey P. Phillips, Edward S. Pientka, Parley C. Plaster, Charles E. Powers, Robert L. Powers, Clyde A. Puckett, John W. Rasnake, Yuland Ray, Charles D. Robinett, Perry Rose, Joe Sabo, Elbert H. Salyer, Kermit E. Sargent, Sherman J. Skeens, Ralph W. Slate, Herschel B. Smith, William B. Smith, Blythe R. Smith, George P. Spurier, Clarence E. Stinson, Walter D. Sutherland, Robert T. Taylor, Daniel T. Thomas, C. B. Thompson, Clark K. Vance, Howard D. Vance, Maynard G. Vance, Robert W. Vance, Paul R. Vencill, Charles W. Vicars, Claude Wallace, Charlie A. Wess, Cleo P. Whited, Dewey W. Willis, Richard E. Wilson, Robert G. Wolfe, Harry E. Worley, Henry A. Worsham, James R. York, and William T. York.

The tribute lists 11 names for the Korean War: George W. Barnette, William H. Byrd, Hubert A. Delph, Giles C. Dings, Robert F. Dotson, Glen T. Garrison, James C. Goodman, Arthur Harrison, Robert C. Hawkins, Jess A. Osborne, and George D. Russ.

Four names from the Vietnam War: Terry D. Alsup, Douglas E. Dishman, Robert G. Garrett, and Giles W. Gilmer.

GLENDA OSBORNE [roosborn@naxs.com] sent, 8/7/2001, ordering information regarding the *Temple Hill Memorial Park Cemetery Book, Castlewood, Virginia* that has been produced by the Russell County Genealogy Group as a fund raiser for the Russell County Library Family History Room. This is an excellent resource for Russell County researchers.

The Temple Hill Memorial Park Cemetery book has 9,659 names listed in alphabetical order. Dates on stones date back to the mid Eighteen Hundreds. Books may either be mailed or picked up at The Russell County Public Library. Send check or money order for the amount of \$26.95 (add \$5.00 for shipping and handling per book). Make Checks Payable To Russell County Genealogy Group, C/O Janice Busic, Treasurer, P.O. Box 356, Honaker, Va 24260. Include the following information. Your Name, Address, Phone No, how many books ordered and the total amount enclosed. Please provide a complete Ship To Address.

MITCHELL JESSIE [gmjessie@excelonline.com], sent, 8/14/2001, the following inquiry regarding **Jessee musicians**, with which the family abounds.

Hi, I'm looking for fellow Jessee musicians. I'm a gggg grandson of John, Sr. through the David line. I've heard it said that, "...musical ability has abounded in many descendants of that man..." ... I'd like to see if that's true... I would like to trade mp3's of original Jessee music (if it's out there). Lord knows, I've got my share of them.

Also, does anyone know if Darren Jessee of Texas, drummer of the national recording act, Ben Folds Five, descended from one of John, Sr.'s children?

I play piano, guitar, harmonica, etc... I can be seen gigging around Dayton, Ohio from time to time. Look forward to hearin'.

DANNY DIXON [danny@mounet.com] sent, 8/29/2001, the following description and invitation to buy a **historical CD 1760-1800 of SW VA**.

I have recently completed a Historical C.D. (Pathfinders, Pioneers, & Patriots) that shadows the early explorers to "the New World" then follows the progression of the frontier across Virginia to 1800. From 1760 to 1800, it focuses on the largely untold history of S.W. Virginia, E. Kentucky, and N. E. Tennessee. It was completed in a MS- Word '97 Format which allows the user to literally "point and click" their way through history. It also contains a MS-Word Viewer for those without a compatible word processor. (It will run on virtually any computer.) It contains a historical time line of over 30pages with hyper-links to over 100 pages of the stories about the people and events listed (along with many original color pictures and primary documents). Those interested in history or genealogy are responding very well to the C.D. The C.D. sells for \$28.00 (including tax and shipping) and can be obtained by contacting me at:

Danny Dixon
Echoes From the Past
Rt. 2 Box 872
Nickelsville, Va. 24271
(540)479-2325

MARK MAY [mmay@richmark.com], sent 9/13/2001, information about the **May Family DNA project**.

We are launching a project to use DNA analysis to "reconstruct" the MAY/MAYS/MAYES (and other spellings) family. Please consider if would like you to participate. If you are not a MAY family researcher but know of one, please forward this to them.

This study will help answer these questions: How are your MAY ancestors related to other families with MAY/MAYS/MAYES surname ancestors? How are the different MAY family lines related? Are all MAY from an ancestral country related, or are there many different families with the name MAY? Which MAY researchers should be collaborating because they share a common ancestor?

If your MAY research has hit a "stone wall", DNA analysis could be the break through you have been looking for, to push your MAY genealogy research back hundreds of years by finding connections to other MAY family Lines.

How it does it work? By analyzing the Y chromosome we can discover whether males with surname MAY (and their female children) have a common ancestor. The Y chromosome passes from father to son unchanged apart from random mutations, much like a surname. So with proper testing and analysis, families with surname MAY can potentially be linked by a common ancestor over time scales of hundreds of years.

It is possible that your MAY family may be linked to many other well researched MAY families and also to geographic areas where your earliest ancestors originated.

How is done? The test sample is collected easily and painlessly by rubbing a small swab on the inside of the test subject's cheek. The supplier of the testing service will mail out a test kit, and the sample collection can be done anywhere. Results take about seven weeks. This test is only for the purpose of genealogical research, and strict confidentiality is maintained.

Who needs to be tested? We need for the research at least one and preferably two or three males in your family line with surname MAY, who are thought to be the natural children of your MAY ancestors. The best test is to have two or three males who have a known common ancestor but are distant cousins or belong to different branches of your MAY family line.

Please note that this test cannot be performed on females. If you are a female MAY researcher and want to test your MAY family line, you will need to find males with surname MAY from your line willing to take the test.

Have other families done it, and has it worked? Yes, several other families/surnames are working on it, and the results are fascinating. The research supplier for our project, www.familytreedna.com has much information on this at their web site. To see a really excellent family reconstruction project now underway, look at www.gravesfa.org.

This study is being coordinated by three MAY researchers, J Mark May, Enrique B. May, and Jim May. We would welcome others to help us coordinate the study. If you would like to help take part in a study using this fascinating new technology, your help would be very welcome. Any questions? You can contact us for more information.

Mark mmay@richmark.com
Enrique ebrixmay@flash.net
Jim mayja@home.com

CLAIRE GAETA [cmgaeta812@msn.com], sent, 12/14/5001, this inquiry regarding her birth father.

My name is Claire Gaeta. I was born to Virginia Adamo in Manhattan, NY, 8/12/61. I am seeking information on my birth father, **Forrest Dickenson**. He would have been in the service, the army and stationed in the NY/NJ area in 1960. I have correspondence between my birth mother and father. I am now 40 years old and have a daughter. I would like to be able to give her some family history, as well as have a medical background

FAY FURCHES [fayfurches@webtv.net] has shared this tidbit below. Perhaps we can help reunite these Jessees with their money.

I found 400 Jessee people who are due some money that their relatives had left them. **Foundmoney.com** is the e-mail address. The people that represents this has been on the Oprah Winfrey Show and the Maury Povich Show. There is a James O. Jessee is due some money. If you would like, you can check into that if you want to.

JEAN BRAND [jbrand@sierratel.com] sent this inquiry to **VARUSSEL-L@rootsweb.com**, regarding this definition of **Black Dutch** and **Melungeon**. She asks is this true

BLACK DUTCH: Melungeons are descendants of the late 16th century. They are Portugese/Turks stranded on the Caroline shores when the settlement of Santa Elena S.C. was abandoned by the Spanish. They later married with the Powhatahm, Pamunkey, Chickahominy, and Catawba Indians. After being abandoned by the out lying Spanish forts in the Appalachians, they further intermarried with the Cherokee, much later European settlers, primarily Scot-Irish, becoming the American melting pot. The word Melungeon in Portuguese means White person, in Turkinese means Cursed soul. Black Dutch are Cherokee Indian/Melungeon [which is Spanish, Portugese, Turkinese, Powhataham, Pamunkey, Chickahominy, and Catawba Indian, Spanish, Portugese, Scot-Irish, and African.

VIVIAN BALES (Marion, IN) sent along, 12/31/2001, the following letter with information and puzzling questions regarding marriages and parentage of a **John Jesse(e)** who married **Eliza Jane Williams** and a **Daniel E. Jesse(e)** who married **Martha Williams**. I believe this John is the son of Archer Jessee, son of John Jessee, Jr. And Martha and Eliza Jane Williams are sisters. However, John and Daniel are now recorded in my files, anyway, with the same birth dates and marriage dates. Are they twins who married sisters? I need help figuring this puzzle out.

Dear Jim,

I was looking at some old Tree Shakers. I reckon I have saved them to begin with for the Marriage Records of Carter Co., KY. [See records below as provided] Note both dates the same, John Jesse 17, Eliza Jane Williams 16, but no other information about them. Then same date, Daniel E. Jesse, b. 3/13/1843, gives his parents, at least his father. Both he and Martha are 17. [Note I had the same birth date previously recorded for John Jessee, separately derived from other sources] Some of the records in Carter Co., KY can be real puzzling.

In the book Carter Co. History 1838-1976, on pg. 127, is the article "Sportsman Daniel E. Jessee 1903-1970." Could this one be a grandson of the one who was married in 1860 or who?

Anyway, the above is of real interest. I would like to know more. Salt Lake has some records of Carter Co., KY that was never entered into their record books. I wish someone who had the living expense and a long vacation would go to Salt Lake and dig dig dig in their papers of Carter Co., KY. Happy New Year 2002. Bless you all.

From Carter Co., KY Marriages: 14 June 1860-Daniel E. Jesse b. 3/13/1843, Russell Co., VA s/o Archibald Jesse md. Martha Williams, b. 1843 d/o Lameck and Martha Williams.

From Carter Co. KY Marriages: 14 June 1860-John Jesse (17) b. Russell Co., VA md. Eliza Jane Williams (16).

MICHAEL VICKIO [gadget1945@msn.com], initiated, 12/27/2001, the following dialogue.

Please pardon my intrusion. I am trying to locate any family members of **Floyd Jessee** from Bristol, VA. Floyd was a Sgt. with the Manhattan Project during WWII and his wife "Billie" was an RN. They had one son, Bill.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Michael D. Vickio, Executive Director

(Manhattan Project Descendent - Born at Los Alamos 1945)

Society for the Historical Preservation of the Manhattan

Project

I responded to Michael with the following and we both received the response below.

I am going to share your request with the Jessee List and with William Floyd Jessee whose father is Floyd Harrison Jessee and mother is Willie Mae Haga Jessee, of Bristol, and who would be about the right age during WWII.

Michael,

Thanks to Jim Jessee and all the work he has done on the family tree, I am in receipt of your e-mail. My Dad and Mom both had many tales to tell of their time at Los Alamos. I was born in September 1946, shortly after the war ended and they had returned home to Virginia. If memory serves me correctly, we visited your family once or twice in the 50s. In any event, I remember my parents speaking many times of their friendship with yours.

My sister, Kathy (Jessee) Harper was born in 1952, and now lives in Northern California. My Mom is in reasonably good health for 81 years of age, and lives practically across the street from Kathy. My Dad passed away in the late 1980s.

I found your web site very interesting. I've heard many Los Alamos stories over the years (as you can imagine), including my Mom's memories of treating radiation burns, but not knowing their source, my Dad's tale of denying Oppenheimer access to the base because his credentials weren't in order, etc.

Please let me know what we can do to help you build this valuable archive. And thanks for catching up with us.

Bill Jessee

William F. Jessee, MD., CMPE, FACPM

President and CEO

Medical Group Management Association

104 Inverness Terrace East

Englewood, CO 80112

WILLIAM HUBERT "BILL" SUTHERLAND [toybill@naxs.net], son of Judge Elijah Jasper Sutherland, informs us that he is undertaking a revision of his father's book, **John Counts of Glade Hollow**. He has requested help and asks Counts descendants to provide additions and corrections to the book, citing specific reference numbers and pages in the book.

I thought I would share the following dialogue. It begins with my email to Bill regarding this project.

Hello from California and well wishes to your wife and mother and Counts family. I learned from the Russell Co. Genealogy Group of your efforts to update the book *John Counts of Glade Hollow* and certainly commend you for a daunting but most welcome undertaking. I think this book is a very important work for Russell Co. genealogy, and am glad I have a copy. I am sure many others will appreciate your efforts, as they have your father and mother's vital and extensive contributions to Russell Co. over so many years.

May I suggest that you go to www.jessee.org and search the Jessee Family Database for John Counts of Glade Hollow. Here is the direct URL for my database on RootsWeb WorldConnect: <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=jjmjessee&id=14406>.

I have lots of extensions of your Counts descendants information, thanks to so many who have helped me, but it is all over the place, and it would be next to impossible now for me to compare the book and my database to find all the extensions or other differences. The only thing I can suggest is to review the attached descendants chart and see if you can find helpful information. I would of course wish to learn of any errors or other corrections needed, and always welcome more Jessee-Counts descendants, which are in several branches of our family.

One of our Jessee-Counts kinfolk suggested that we enter your entire John Counts book into a proper genealogy database, using almost any software, as long as it can produce a GEDCOM file. That way you could print out the reports for a new book in several styles or formats, depending on the software used. I really think that needs to be done, but don't remember who suggested it and I have had no volunteers as yet. If this were to be done, and if no one has a better computer based source, I might suggest starting out with my database as a basis, we could extract just the Counts descendants and I would provide a GEDCOM to whomever would like to take on such a chore. I am copying the Jessee and Russell Co. Lists in case others have interest, have a better suggestion on how to do such a project, or can offer to help you.

Let me know if I can help, although my time is greatly spent between work (not retired yet!) and doing the Jessee Family Newsletter and Website, as well as personal genealogy research, Hah!

MICHAEL DYE [madye@fuse.net] responded to Bill and me as follows.

Hello Bill,

I received the above as part of Jim Jessee's mailing. I am Michael Dye, coordinator of the Russell County VAGenWeb Project at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussel/>

You may have been on the website. It's quite extensive in what's available on it. Jim & I have communicated many times over the last few years. I myself am a Counts descendant through Joseph & Sarah "Counts" Smith and have a copy of the second edition of the book. It's great that you are attempting to update the book.

I have a couple of corrections for you that I have come across as well as a little more info.

And in his impeccable way Michael Dye provided vital information for both of us that greatly helped me sort out some tangles in our database, and which knitted together several more families.

Resources On The Internet

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

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

Michael A. Dye [madye@fuse.net], in cooperation with many other volunteers, has posted on the Russell Co. List Server the following very important resources for Russell Co. researchers, **Russell County Law Order Books from 1786-1799**.

I've just added Russell County Law Order Books #1 (1786-1791) and #2 (1792-1799) [and subsequently Law Order books 3, 4, and well as the first County Deed Books] to the Russell County VAGenWeb Page. These are a huge addition to the website as they are filled with much interesting information as well as lots of genealogical data. Thanks to Rhonda Robertson for abstracting them & submitting them for placement on the website. These are pretty large files, especially book 2, which is 358 kb. So, if anyone has problems accessing the whole file let me know and I will break it up into smaller parts. There are no indexes to the books so it's best to use your find function of your browser. Be aware though that name spellings can vary, so you should use more than one possible spelling, or even better yet, just read through the document to see if there's anything of interest to you.

Michael A. DYE [madye@fuse.net] provides another invaluable resource for Russell Co. researchers, the complete and annotated **1850 Russell Co., VA Census**.

I've just loaded the latest edition of the annotated 1850 Russell County, VA census onto the Russell County VAGenWeb Page. There are a whole bunch of additions and several corrections since the last edition, so check it out for those missing relatives. Here's the link, enjoy:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussel/census/1850A.html>

FOR THE LATEST DOCUMENTS ON RUSSELL CO.:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~varussel/additions/index.html>

HAMRICK SOFTWARE - U.S. SURNAME DISTRIBUTION [<http://hamrick.com/names/>] is a very interesting site. Here is its introduction.

Enter a surname (last name) into the form below and you'll get a map of the United States showing the distribution of people with this surname within the 50

United States. This map is often helpful when trying to determine a starting point for genealogy projects. The source of this data is the 1850 Census, 1880 Census, 1920 Census, and 1990's phone books. Note that the Census data is a sampling of 1 in 100 names, so the 1990 data is the most accurate.

THE OBITUARY DAILY TIMES provides an interactive search for submitted obituaries. Go to: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~obituary/>

WAYNE DUNCAN [memorymaker@hillsandhollers.net], Webmaster for *Hills and Hollers, My Mountain Home*, <http://www.hillsandhollers.net>, welcomes visitors to this interesting site.

Welcome to the "Hills and Hollers" of my memories. I have many fond memories of my childhood. Even though I left the "hills and hollers" of this area many years ago, I will always call it my home.

This web site is intended to be a collection of various genealogical and historical articles, photos, and records of SWVA and the surrounding area. It is also dedicated to the hope that the information found here will help someone find their genealogical "roots" and maybe even some unknown living relatives. I am dedicated to the continual FREE access to genealogical data on the Internet. This page is updated almost daily, so check back often!

ROOTSWEB REVIEW: RootsWeb's Free Weekly E-zine [<http://www.rootsweb.com/>], Editor: Myra Vanderpool Gormley, Certified Genealogist [RWR-Editor@rootsweb.com] is a wonderful weekly electronic publication. I especially enjoy the success stories and articles on connecting through RootsWeb. Here is a sample of the weekly features.

1. News and Notes
2. New Mailing Lists
3. New Web Pages
4. Connecting through RootsWeb
5. New FreePages and HomePages (Personal Web sites)
6. RootsWeb Review's Bottomless Mailbag.
7. USGenWeb and WorldGenWeb
8. Humor: Age Is Relative

HUMOR: AGE IS RELATIVE

Thanks to: Kathleen Sewell Gillen

Years ago when my husband and I visited with his elderly Aunt Julia in New Jersey, she was giving us some insight into the neighborhood and its occupants. She was 91 at the time and had lived in the same house since a teenager in West New York, New Jersey.

Sammy—"the boy next door"—was a treasure to help her with raking, sweeping, and shoveling the snow in the winter. Sammy, it turned out was a mere 84!

TO SUBSCRIBE to ROOTSWEB REVIEW, send a plain text email with only the word **SUBSCRIBE** in the message to: rootsweb-review-subscribe@rootsweb.com.

The Jesse(e) Family Database

The Jesse Family Genealogy Database is on the Web at the RootsWeb World Connect Project. RootsWeb is the foremost volunteer-based non-profit genealogy resource on the Internet. Please go to: <http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com>

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

Please go to: www.jessee.org

Our database is now over 37,000 records. I do mean "our" database, as it is made up of the tens of thousands of hours of your research, the results of which you have generously and kindly shared with me over the years. I still have concerns about the downside of this computer revolution, the Internet, and the ethics of genealogy research, but still conclude that greater good is done by making our work public. However, I am using the filters provided by the World Connect project to delete information on living persons.

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

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

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

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

Our Purpose

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

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

I would like to discover 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 email, calls, 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 wish to enter all data provided me into the JESSEE FAMILY DATABASE discussed above. In return for information shared, I will share charts or GEDCOM data files with you on request.

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

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, preferably in the form of a GEDCOM file you will allow me to integrate into the database. I will filter out living individuals in the version of the database that is made public. Please feel free to correct any errors found. I wish to have a correct and trustworthy database as a resource for the family.

While limited in my ability to type, I will continue the newsletter, although I would welcome help. I am finding new ways to capture materials and avoid typing. I welcome the submission of pedigree and descendants charts, letters, manuscripts, electronic or scanned images of source documents and photos in JPG or TIF formats (600 dpi TIF files are best), as well as any word-processor or text files.

How To Help

I am operating on subscriptions and donations and barely break even on out of pocket costs. The labor is all volunteer. I provide this newsletter free to anyone who has asked for it, provided me information, or has expressed interest and cannot afford to subscribe. I am providing the newsletter free to several historical and genealogical organizations and libraries. You are welcome to provide addresses of others that may be interested in our effort. I am looking for those willing to exchange information or represent their branch of the family or area of the country.

I am sometimes disappointed to find that less than 25% of readers actually subscribe or donate anything. *I do need help, even if it is simply informing me to stop sending you the newsletter if it has become junk mail.* I am steadily reducing my mailing to include those who have subscribed, provided donations, helped in some other way, are sponsored by someone else, or are a family treasure. If you are getting this newsletter, you are at least a family treasure. If I drop you in error, just let me know. Please inform me of address changes as returned and re-posted mail costs me, too.

Annual Subscription

I am asking for a minimum subscription of \$10 a year for two issues of the newsletter. I need and appreciate your additional donations in defraying the considerable cost of research, printing, and postage of the newsletter and other materials I send without charge to inquirers. Additional donations also support those who can't afford to pay.

Newsletter Reprints

At the request of many, I have now collected Jessee Family Newsletters into separate sets of reprints: #1-7, #8-9, #10-11, #12-13, #14-15, #16-17, #18-19 (without some attachments that have become obsolete). You may request these for \$10 a set, or **\$60 for all back issues and a subscription to the current year.** Your additional donations to help me defray the costs of research, printing, copying, and postage are very much welcome.

The Jessee Family Newsletter

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A rendering of Jessee's Mill provided as a gift to those attending the 2000 Jessee Family Reunion by Irene Jessee Perry.

The mailing label above indicates the last issue (month and year) to be mailed to you based on your assumed interest, paid subscription, or donations received to date. I have been determining the expiration date generously, providing you the first issue of the next year free, as a hoped reminder to renew for the current year. My apologies if you have responded and this last issue date is still in error. Please inform me of any corrections needed.

Please subscribe, renew, or inform me if you wish to continue receiving the newsletter for free or stop. The generous donations of some allow me to provide free issues to history and genealogy societies, libraries, and those who cannot afford to subscribe. Thank you.

Some of you are subscribed for "Life," especially if you have been a significant contributor or are a family treasure. If you would not like this "family treasure" status to be a life sentence, let me know. I do reserve the right to end my "life sentence" as editor of this newsletter as needs be. I can always use help and hope for someone to take over one day, but not today.

I wish to thank all those who have responded to my request to help me update my mailing list by sending in your subscriptions, renewals, and requests to stop. I do not wish to be sending you junk mail. My feelings will not be hurt and you will save me money if you will simply let me know if you prefer to have it stopped.