

# MONTGOMERY MEMORIES

## Early Settlers - (who they were; where from; why came ...)

Brown –  
Washington  
Rice

Clark –  
William  
Hodges

Coal Creek –  
Isaac H.  
Montgomery

Franklin –  
Uriel Burroughs

Madison –  
William H.  
Nicholson

Ripley – Wilson  
Claypool, Mr.  
Shrewd

Sugar Creek –  
McStrain = Strain

Scott –  
Presley Day  
Johnson

Union –  
William Bromley –  
Meharry family

Walnut –  
William  
Coddington

Wayne –  
Andrew  
Crouch

April 2024

Photo courtesy of CDPL Image Database collection

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The Paper of Montgomery County

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## Contributing Writers



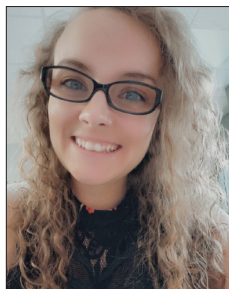
**KAREN BAZZANI ZACH** has been a contributor of local historical articles for almost 50 years. A native Montgomery Countian, she grew up in Waveland, married Jim Zach, and received her grad degree from IU while working at CDPL as Children’s Librarian. Karen authored one of the newer county histories, *Crawfordsville: Athens of Indiana*. After teaching English at Turkey Run HS for 21 years, she retired and is now enjoying visiting with her two children (Jay and Suzie), writing, reading, doing genealogy, and grandkidding!



**CHUCK CLORE** After a lifelong career in visual communications, Eureka! Chuck discovered that noodling the nuances of the written word can be just as much fun as tweaking a font into an iconic logo. *Montgomery Memories* is the perfect venue to explore his treasured C-ville’s east-end recollections. An Athenian boomer from the class of 65, he delights in graphic design, cartooning, and story telling. Chuck’s articles reveal how a CHS senior corduroy artist eventually evolved into an award winning designer and aspiring writer.



**JOY WILLETT** was born in Crawfordsville and spent most of her childhood in southern Montgomery County. She graduated from South Montgomery High School. Her undergrad was from Indiana State University and she earned her MBA at the University of Phoenix. Joy and her husband David have lived in Indiana, Arizona, California, and Illinois. As an amateur genealogist, she enjoys research and has written three family history books. She also writes poetry and fiction.



**KELSEY CURRAN** is one of the paginators for the Paper of Montgomery County. She edits and helps complete the daily news as well as the *Montgomery Memories* and Sports Report every month for viewers to enjoy. She was born in a small town in Illinois and moved to Crawfordsville in 2016. She has three children. She enjoys spending time with her husband and kids, reading and baking.

# April Feature: Who, What, Why, When, Where

*Karen Bazzani Zach*



**WHO, WHAT, WHY, WHEN, WHERE** are questions any good historian just has to find answers to in order to create a whole look at any person, place, thing or event. So, just who were the early settlers of our county – where were they from – when did they come and certainly why did they come here? Read on, and hopefully this local historian will answer at least most of these so that you might understand our wonderful county, who, why and how it was developed!

Land was likely the number one reason our settlers came here. Many soldiers could get land grants so easily and cheaply. Often they would bring their sons with them to actually work the land. Of course, there were doctors, lawyers, businessmen of all kinds who came as well especially to Crawfordsville in order to create the larger “city” of the county to serve as the center of the community. The Land Grant Office (3rd in the state) was busy constantly as it wasn’t just Montgomery County that people purchased property for from here but several counties in the area. This of course boosted the importance of our little county seat. Also, folks often came because their friends, relatives or church fellows headed our way!

The county opened up the land for purchase on Christmas Eve in 1824, although there were several squatters on lands in the area, including William Offield just south of town living in a round log home he had built at the mouth of the creek that would adopt his name. He was born in NC and lived for a time in Tennessee, going to Morgan County, Indiana then here. Certainly, he was a man of some education as he served as one of the first four County Commissioners. Oddly, this War of 1812 soldier who could have made an even bigger mark on our county left just a few years later, going out to the Ozark Mountains in Missouri where his wife Jane and one of their children died of cholera.

Another of the early settlers and my favorite was Ambrose Whitlock, who set out the town of Crawfordsville and was appointed receiver of public moneys by John Quincy Adams. He was an extremely active and very efficient man in making Crawfordsville what it became.

John Beard was also from NC (Guilford County) and he became known as the “Father of Indiana Education,” pushing for so many wonderful things in the Legislature, and mainly emphasizing free education!

Several immigrants, such as the large influx of Irish, as well as other states (Massachusetts, Maryland) were

represented in the early C’ville settlers, but overall many came from Ohio (particularly Butler and Ross County), KY (Clark; Shelby especially), and a few from PA.

Brown township was also blessed with many from Kentucky (Shelby, Boone, Clark particularly); Ohio (Butler County); a few from the Pittsburg PA area. Canine; Clore; Durham; Gale; McCormick; Milligan; Reynolds; Rice; Vancleave plus several others were instrumental in making Brown an exceptional part of the county.

Clark township had many from Botetourt County, Virginia including the Becks, Berrys, Baldwins, Harshbargers, Hodges, McIvers, McMurrays, Millers, Ottermans, Ragsdales, Rouths, Powell, Peffley, Staton, Swank, Winters and Ashbys. Some of these families had 300, 400 and even up to 1,000 acres and by the Spring of 1837 there was no land left in Clark.

Coal Creek – the SW part of the township was many years known as Kentuck, indicating everyone was from there. Names in the township include Biddle, Beaver, Culver, Clements, Marlow, Mann, Park, Tracy, Royalty and many great stories can be read about them.

Franklin – Virginia born and raised was the background of many of the Franklinites. Ohio folks filtered in here, as well, several from Ross County and Preble. Kentucky too. A few were from the heart of America, living in the Philadelphia and DC area. Early names here are: Cox, Elmore; Flaningam; Kenworthy; Larrick, Lewis; McCaferty; McClaskey; Mikels; Nicholson; Tribbett; Scott.

Madison brings Ohioans; Virginians and several from other countries (Scotland; England; Canada). Names probably familiar yet to you that were early settlers were: Boyd; Campbell; Conrad; Davenport; Drake; Fraley; Galbreath; Halstead; Horner; Irons; Kenyon; Michaels; Montgomery; Paddock; Shotts; Stout; Washburn; White; Wrightsman.

Ripley – Clodfelter; Crane; Dwiggins; Elmore; Fruits, Goben; Harrison; Keys; Livengood; Monroe; Montgomery; O’Neal; Powers; Ramey; Stonebraker; Swearingen; Thomas; Truax; are some of the earliest names on the land docketts of Ripley. Miami, Highland, Preble. in Ohio; Jefferson in Kentucky brought several as well as some from the Virginias and Carolinas.

Scott – Armstrong, Ashby; Britts; Brookshire; Busenbark; Byrd; Caplinger; Dickerson; Epperson; Everson; Foster; Frame; Frantz; Gill; Goodbar;

Graybill; Hampton; Harrison; Harshbarger; Hostetter; James; Johnson; Kesler; Lidikay; Miller; Myers; O’Conner; O’Herron; Sarvies; Sidener; Smalley; Swindler; Thompson; Vancleave; Warbritton; Wasson; Watkins; White presents one of the largest selection of early settlers however it is one of the smallest of the townships. KY, OH and VA the norm.

Sugar Creek – Many of the early settlers of SC were born in Ohio, some in PA; and the many families include Boots; Bowers; Conrad; Cox; Coyner; Custer; Dunbar; Ermentrout; Hashbarger; Henderson; Hodson; Hollis; Mahoy; Musgrove; Peterson; Saidla; Smith; Wiant; Wilson.

Union (south part) – settlers here include these folks and of course many more: Armentrout; Beard; Bell; Britton; Brook; Campbell; Catterlin; Chesterson; Craig; Crawford; Davidson; Dunn; Edwards; Everson; Faust; Fender; Fisher; Foster; French; Guntle; Hamilton; Harlan; Hays; Huston; Johnston; Kelsey; Kendall; Lamson; Martin; Maxwell; McConnell; McCullough; McLaughlin; Miller; Mount; Oliver; Powers; Richardson; Riddle; Smith; Stout; Sullivan; Thompson; Warbington; Weliever; Whitlock; Wilhite; Williams; Wilson; Winton; Wray and Zerfaz (Zurface). Lots of owners with from the 80-acre norm to several hundred.

Union (north part) – Richard Breaks was one of the very first settlers in this section along with Barclays; Beeler; Binford; Clark; Conrad; Cooper; Cox; Cooper; Crouch; Croy; Dawson; Fender; Graham; Gray; Henry; Kenworthy; Layne; Lee; Lucas; Martin; Masterson; Maxwell; McCullough; Meharry; Miller; Noel; Nutt; Richardson; Riddle; Rush; Scoyoc (Van); Schaefer; Slayback; Thompson; Vancleave; Wray; Wylie.

Walnut – Brown; Clark; Corn; Crawford; Dorsey; Elmore; Goben; Hogsett; Loop; Oxley; Redenbaugh; Remley; Scott; Stewart; Walkup; Williams. Kentucky (Henry, Jefferson, Shelby ...); Ohio (Butler) with several families from Augusta County, Virginia.

Wayne - Armantrout; Ball; Bratton; Britton; Crawford; Crooks; Grenard; Hawkins; Heath; Lincoln; Mann; Merrell; Moore; Newman; Quick; Rusk; Shanklin; Snyder; Swearingen; Switzer; Thompson; Tracy; Washburn. New York (Cayuga); Ohio (Butler); Virginia (Jefferson) .

If ya’ see any of your direct families listed here, consider yourself one early settler of our county – mine goes to my grandmother born here in 1895, so not too far back for me!!

# Odds & Ends – Collected & Commented on by Karen Bazzani Zach



Wasn't exactly sure what to find for the Odds so came up with the idea to just look for the name settler in various sources – what fun. My first was an article on “Uncle Keeling Livengood” (CWJ 21 Aug 1896 p 5) who “won one of the prizes given at the Old Settlers’ meeting to the speaker who could give the most information about old timers. As an old settler Uncle Keeling is very practical and it takes something more than an old settler and a young settler to unsettle him!”

In a Weekly Review Oct 6, 1877 article, many of the old settlers gave short speeches about coming to the county. M.M. Vancleave told of being 15 when he came in 1825 where there were more Native Americans than white people and only three houses in Crawfordsville. He dug ginseng and exchanged it for

coffee and tea. There were panthers, snakes, wolves and wild animals of every description. Corn was beat into meal for bread and they ate hominy and wild game. Roads didn't exist so to get somewhere and back trees were blazed in order to find the way home. Harvey Harrison settled here in 1830 on

Cornstalk Creek. The first thing he purchased was an almanac for 6 ½ cents. At the first election when he came here there were 400 voters. Another Kentuckian, Isaac Montgomery (Jefferson County) came in 1837 which took 20 days to get here. He told that the day Gen. Jackson was elected president he carried the mail from Lafayette to Crawfordsville receiving 25 cents per day for his services. There were only four homes between the two little cities.

Jehiel Crane and family settled in Walnut Twp from Hamilton County, Ohio in 1827. Only three houses were between his home and Crawfordsville. Three log mills were in the area, one by Burrel Daniel at C'ville; William Crooks

owning one at Yountsville and Benjamin Cox having one at Darlington. His oldest sister taught the first school in the township and in 1828, Jeremiah West became the first Justice of the Peace.

Joel Thomas (Miami Ohio) with his parents, eight brothers and two sisters came to the Pleasant Hill area and another little one arrived not long after they came, making the family an even dozen. Their log house was 18 x 20 with a loft. Before he was 21, he walked to Ft. Wayne and back three times.

Thomas Elmore's family came to Ripley Township and cleared a farm. In 1822, the first school appeared in Ripley, a log structure with a board roof but no floor.

Another Kentuckian, Jesse J Goben, from Jefferson Kentucky came in 1829 (age 21) to Walnut. He purchased his property and built a cabin on it then went back to Kentucky for his wife. The Indians stole one of his horses thus she rode and he walked all the way “back home again to Indiana.” Their first winter the snow was 22” deep but he managed to get a deer at the deer licks, tied its legs together with his suspenders and carried it home. An early minister, they had little at first, but went forth and prospered. (buried Lee Cemetery, FAGrave photo by K. Huey).

William Ramey claimed to have been here the longest, totaling 55 years. He said the snakes were so thick that it was made a rule the farmers had to spend an hour each day deleting them.

Some of the more interesting relics exhibited at the Settlers Reunion included a family bible belonging to Joseph Ermantrout that was written in German and was 100 years old. The bible was published in 1803. Another 100 year old bible belonged to Mrs. O'Neal. A set of silver spoons 75 years old belonged to Mary Snyder. Many more.

The next year a total of over 400 pioneers met with William Monroe born in Ohio 1812, came here 1828 told of wrestling with the young Indians and “I might just as well have tried to hold an eel as one of them.” He was a devoted sportsman and played havoc with “abounding bear, deer, wolves and turkeys.”

Abijah O'Neal was born in South Carolina, his father a slave holder but manumitted them and moved to Ohio from where Abijah came to our county. Sammy Watson married for many years and started life as a bound boy. His master (a wheelwright) sent him as his substitute to the War of 1812 and served under Gen. Harrison at Ft. Meigs. He returned with his own money and bought out his servitude then came here.

George Fruits was of course another Ripley Township area settler. He was born in Baltimore Maryland (Jan 1763) and his father, George had been born in Germany. In Butler County, Ohio (29 Oct 1806) he married Catherine Stonebraker (born Northumberland Co PA May 1790) and they were parents of a dozen children the majority born in Butler County but the last few born here!

Shelby County and Jessamine County Kentucky were two places the Brown Township settlers arrived from being Galeys, Fullenwidiers, Canines, Deers, Durhams, McCormicks, Spencers, so many more and the Northwest portion of the county brought the Meharry's who actually had old settler get togethers on their beautiful property for many years.

My would it have been wonderful to have been there and hear the stories of the early settlers, who they were, where they were from, how many in the families, their homes (a few lived in tents or in wagons while building cabins), and the why mainly was good land, cheap; however, other reasons centered on family, friends or church members often moving together as was seen in Clark Township. So many wonderful folks settled our county! Bless 'em!



# Nifty at Ninety - And Beyond

Joy Willett, Montgomery Memories

For the April edition of Nifty, we meet one of the first white settlers in Montgomery County, Christian John Loop. We are also introduced to his extended family.

Christian was born on November 17, 1788 in Rockingham County, Virginia. He was the son of Phillip and Maria Brintzi Loop. Phillip and Maria, who married on October 14, 1782, had four children. It is assumed that Marie died in ca. 1802. Phillip married again on October 14, 1805. He and his second wife, Catharina Minga, had five children. According to the 1810 Census for Augustus County, Virginia, six children were still living at home. That is the year that Christian married. He and Eva Airhart wed on May 11. They lived in Augusta County, Virginia where they had eight children.

Christian's paternal grandparents, Ludwig Lupp and Anna Marie Spadt/Spaeth, were born in Germany. Anna, at the age of 22, came to the colonies in 1752 with her parents and eight siblings (U.S. and Canada, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s). Ludwig immigrated in 1753 (Pennsylvania German Pioneers: A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808, Vol. I List of Pennsylvania German Pioneers, 1727-1775). Ludwig and Anna married in Berks County, Pennsylvania in 1756. He served as the first pastor of the Tabor First Reformed Church in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The church's cornerstone was inscribed in German, with words provided by Rev. Lupp (A history of Tabor First Reformed Church, Lebanon, Penna). The Lupp/Loop family migrated to Virginia by the time of Christian's birth in 1788.

Christian and Eva left Virginia for Indiana in 1834 (Portrait and biographical record of Montgomery, Parke and Fountain Counties, Indiana). They settled in Boone County, where Christian farmed. Boone County was their home over the coming three decades. According to the U.S. General Land Office Records, Christian purchased land there on March 30, 1837. In November of 1837, their daughter Elizabeth passed at only 20 years old. Their other children, John, Sarah, Andrew, David, Catherine, Rebecca, and Mary, went on to marry, and most had children of their own:

- John, who married Margaret Spohr, had seven children who lived to adulthood. In ca. 1846, John migrated with his family to Texas. Two of his sons, who fought for the Confederacy, died during the Civil War. Margaret died in 1853 at the age of 46. John, aged 44, died in Henderson, Texas in 1855.
- Sarah married John Bowman, with whom she had seven children. After John's death in 1866, Sarah married Anthony Beck. Sarah and Anthony, who lived in Beckville, the town founded by Anthony's family, had no children. Anthony died in 1881. Sarah died in Page County, Iowa in 1892. She was 79 years old. Her body was returned to Montgomery County where she was interred in the Beckville Cemetery.
- Andrew married Elizabeth Airhart and they settled in Montgomery County. When Elizabeth died in 1841, Andrew married Harriet Farlow. She died in 1851. Andrew's last mar-

riage was to Lydia Wheat. In all, Andrew had six children who lived to adulthood. Five of his children made their home in Montgomery County. He lived to be 98 years old.

- David married and lived in Montgomery County. His first wife, with whom he had six children, was Margaret Airhart. His second wife, 26 years his junior, was Elizabeth Wright. They had one child. David died in 1889 at the age of 71.

- Catherine married John Airhart. They lived in Boone County and had one child, Eva. Eva, who made her home in Boone County with husband Frank Whitley, had nine children who lived to adulthood. Catherine died in 1902 at the age of 79.

- Rebecca married John Simmons. They lived in Montgomery and Boone County and had three children who lived to adulthood. Rebecca died in January 1854 from childbirth complications. She was 28 years old. Two of Rebecca's children, William and Hannah, lived to be 90 plus years old. Her youngest daughter, Rebecca, died in 1888 at age 35. Like her mother, Rebecca's death resulted from childbirth complications.

- Mary married Jacob Fall. They lived in Boone County and Walnut Township, Montgomery County. They only had one child, Emma, who died at the age of eight. Mary passed in 1896, just short of her 65th birthday.

Eva passed on September 28, 1866 and was interred in the Providence Cemetery in Beckville, Indiana. We find Christian in Montgomery County by 1870, living with his daughter Sarah and her husband Anthony Beck (Federal Census). Christian passed on September 20, 1879, two months shy of his 91st birthday. He was buried next to Eva.

Christian and Eva continued what was started by ancestors who bravely journeyed to the new world. May they each rest in peace.



Tombstone for Christian Loop

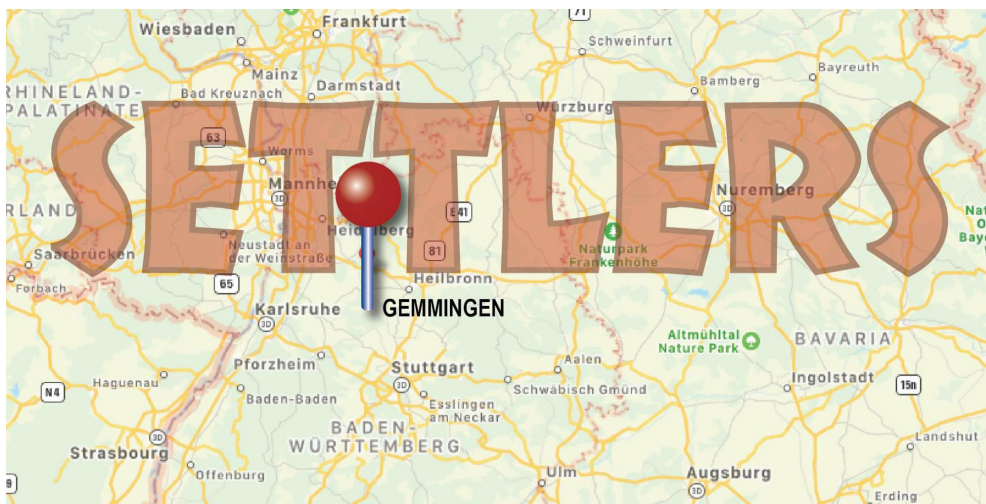
Photo courtesy of Adam Rice via findagrave.com



Four generations at Hunt & Son Funeral Home,  
the pre-arrangement specialists,  
have been making special remembrances  
for families in this area for over 100 years



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## Story & Graphics by Chuck Clore

Which workers are most likely to leave their hometowns?

What an interesting question! The LinkedIn editor asked my opinion on whether freelancers and contract workers were more apt to make bold career moves. What kind of catalyst is strong enough to vault away from all that is familiar and comfortable? Does some entrepreneurial spirit suddenly seize them and thrust them excitedly into the unpredictable territory? Not really.

It is more like a whisper of discontent that grows into the expectation of something more from myself. Call it introspection. It is where you locate your passion and your true vocation. What can I do beyond the here and now that is actually fulfilling? In my career, only a couple of paradigm shifts have jarred me enough to pick up stakes and move hundreds of miles from home.

But for Hans Michael Klaar, the first Clore to set foot in America, the motivation to leave his hometown was not that subtle. Baden-Württemberg had been ravaged by war for a century. There were poor harvests due to extreme cold weather. His beloved Gemmingen village was familiar but not that comfortable. French troops had plundered the region known today as Southern Germany. At the turn of the eighteenth century, it was part of the Holy Roman Empire. In 1709, thousands left the region and migrated across the channel to London, lured by vague promises made in Korcherthal's "Golden Book" of an easier life in the American Colonies

and, more especially, free land.

Most of the "Poor Palatines," as they were known, had spent their wealth escaping to England. This was not the case for Michael Clore and those on the same ship who had paid for passage to Pennsylvania. Michael found himself in London with his wife and three children, waiting to depart as the captain of the ship was imprisoned for debt. Eventually, the Clore family found themselves on a ship to the colonies. Far from home in 1717, the Germans were taken by the unscrupulous captain to Virginia rather than the agreed upon Pennsylvania. There, in spite of paying full passage, they were indentured to Lt. Gov. Alexander Spotswood becoming part of the Second Germanna Colony, along with the families Blankenbaker, Broyles, Cook, Fleshman, Harnsberger, Zimmerman, Weaver, Wilhoit, Barlow, Kaifer, Kerker, Moyer, Motz, Sheible, Smith, Snyder, Utz, Yager, Holt, Crigler, and Amberger.

The industrious Michael Clore served out his indenture and settled a suit brought against him by Spotswood – a mysterious suit in which Spotswood failed to provide documents and the Virginia House of Burgess provided a lawyer for the Germans. In 1725, Michael made his way to the Robison River Valley just north of the present town of Madison. There the influence of the Clore family remains strong to this day. There he was granted over 1000 acres which he divided among his children.

His son John blessed Michael with

nine grandchildren, not the least of which was his namesake known as "Big Mike." Big Mike was said to be large in stature. Plus he had a slightly younger cousin of the same name and also fathered a son named Michael. Big Mike was reported to be a cabinetmaker and a gunsmith as was my father, Austin Clore, two centuries later. I guess Dad inherited his craftsmanship honestly.

According to family lore, Big Mike Clore was cranking out weapons for the Revolutionary War when the British burned down his shop and ran him out of town. He then became a gunsmith for George Washington's troops.

Israel Clore, Big Mike's son, was one of the first Clores to move to Montgomery County, Indiana with his wife Frances Deer Clore. Do not confuse this Israel Clore with his grandson Israel Clore #2 who met an early demise at 41 years old in Wallace, (Jackville) Indiana. Israel #2 is my great, great-grandfather. He is shrouded in family mystery. Rumor has it he was a drinker, stinker, and downright cantankerous thinker. Oops, I almost left out, Urial Clore, his father and the man between two Israel Clores.

The second Israel Clore's son, Big Enoch, was my great-grandfather. Charles Enoch Clore, my namesake, was a large hard-working man. His stature towered over my grandfather, James W. Clore, who was not a short man himself.

Finally, there is Austin Clore, my father. He was a jack-of-all-trades and master of many. He did great work in metal and wood. He was a Technical Sergeant in the Armored Engineers Battalion during the Second World War. Stationed in Germany rebuilding bridges toward the end of the war, I wonder if he was even aware he was marching through the land of our ancestors.

Thank you, Hans Michael Clore (Klaar) for being brave enough to step away from the familiar into unimaginable uncertainty. Thank you for the tenacity you displayed amid unfathomable hardships. Thank you for purchasing our family's freedom. Settler is not a descriptor I would use for you and your unquenchable spirit of adventure. You have done the Clore family proud.

Another motivation for the Germanna Colonists to leave their home Baden-Württemberg was religious freedom. Most were strong people of faith during the Reformation. The people of the Holy Roman Empire were expected to conform to the religious doctrine followed by their governing nobility. Michael Clore was Lutheran and was active in the organization of the German Lutheran Church. Now known as Hebron Lutheran Church in Madison County, Virginia, the current church was constructed in 1740 and is the oldest Lutheran Church in continuous use in the United States.

Disclaimer: Wading through genealogies is counter-instinctive to my personality especially when some of the early Clores had ten, twelve, or even 19 children. Many shared the same or similar names. For a more thorough and accurate accounting of the early Clore settlers check with the organization below.

Thank you to The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated (Historic Germanna), and thanks to Cathi Clore Frost for her work on The Germanna Record #16: The First Four Generations of the Michael Clore Family. Thank you to John Blankenbaker for his many contributions to the study of Germanna history.

<https://germanna.org/>

Back home in Indiana? Check out the Germanna in the Midwest Facebook group.

Poetry and Puzzles

Montgomery Memories

Early On

By Joy Willett

In 1813,  
after decades of hostilities,  
Tecumseh was killed.  
His dream – a native confederacy,  
not fulfilled.

That year,  
Will Dunn, Major Whitlock,  
and Henry Ristine  
visited this area dense with trees,  
blessed with a "sweet" stream.

In 1821,  
William and Jennie  
settled along a creek  
that would bear their surname.  
They never imagined  
"Offield" would have fame.

William Miller  
built a cabin  
near the county's center.  
Its round form, unusual,  
was considered efficient.

In 1822,  
John Loop,  
the first to do so,  
bought land  
in Scott Township.

1

Henry Ristine  
erected a two-story pub  
that served ale,  
held court,  
and was a meeting hub.

In 1823,  
John Beard, a Virginian  
and man of good nature,  
was elected representative  
to the state legislature.

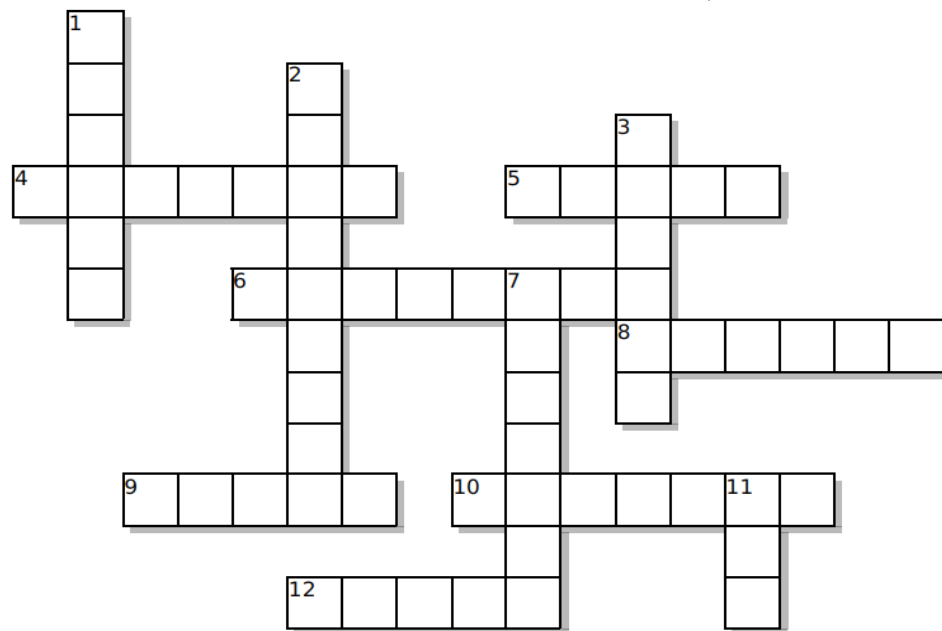
Crawfordsville,  
based on Whitlock' plat,  
was the only town  
between Fort Wayne  
and Terre Haute.

In 1824,  
Whitlock ran the land office,  
Powers had a grocery,  
and Stanford Cox  
was the school master.

Isaac Elston,  
with his talent,  
became financier, banker,  
and a merchant.

The founders of our county -  
undaunted and brave,  
our thanks to them  
for all they gave.  
Marching Along

2



ACROSS

- 4 Owned 1st MoCo pub
- 5 --- Burroughs, Franklin Twnshp
- 6 Built 1st cabin on Sugar Creek
- 8 Financier, banker, merchant
- 9 Origin country - Rice family
- 10 Early name-Coal Creek Twnshp
- 12 "Father of Indiana Education"

DOWN

- 1 Crane who came in 1827
- 2 Came to MoCo in 1825 at 15
- 3 William --- built a round cabin
- 7 Early county commissioner
- 11 Standford --- 1st School Master

Check out page 9 for the solution

Burkhart Funeral Home

Charles, Carl & Craig Burkhart

201 W. Wabash Ave., Crawfordsville

765-362-5510

www.BurkhartFH.com



## The Unsinkable Ship

By Cynthia Long

Went for a cruise on the maiden ship Titanic,  
A wonderful ship everyone said would be epic  
I was not scared because it was unsinkable  
To be in fear would for me be unthinkable  
Wanted to sail far away to another land  
Where my life, I think could be quite grand  
Unpacking my suitcase in a luxurious liner  
This is the one yacht that could not be finer.

Passengers enjoyed dinner, dancing, and other entertainments.

All the days of the trip they would enjoy the embellishments  
I heard that people like Astor, Guggenheim Straus, Thayer and Gordon  
Would be on this ship including Stead, Fulrelle, Gibson and Morgan

On April 14, 1912 I was that evening returning to my room  
Walking down the corridor I heard a deafening boom

Went to find an RMS crew member

When I was told on deck to assemble

He handed me a life jacket just in case

And to get in the lifeboat because there was space

Passengers were lowered down by the crew

The first little boat had just a few

A man started quickly paddling our tiny boat

Once far away he stopped and we would just float

Everyone watched as we heard screaming, crying and yelling

Amongst the chaos we heard music and saw the flares flying

In the early hours of April 15, the ship's lights flickered out  
and then went straight up vertical

We all heard the moans of the iron and watched it break in  
half and it sank uncontrollable

From quite a distance I saw an ocean of people

Out in the middle of the sea, no one felt hopeful

Soon there was no sound

As we all looked around

Shivering, crying and wondering

If we are going to live or die pondering

## The Smell of Rain

By Cynthia Long

The sun is surrounded by puffy clouds  
Wind is blowing leaves around  
I smell rain in the air and feel  
Tiny drops hit my skin  
The rain falls slowly  
and the wind picks up  
and the rain is now heavy  
with rumbles of thunder in the distance.

The heavy rain smacks the leaves as  
it hurls to the ground.

It's falling fast and the water  
plummets into pools of muddy  
water making a splash that  
smacks the ground.

Rain on the tin roof sounds like  
pebbles hitting the metal.

The rain slows down and I  
can hear the cars passing by  
hitting the water that splashes their windshields.

## April Showers

By Cynthia Long

It's time to start planning and thinking  
About nature 'round the corner soon begin peaking  
It rains so greatly with frequency off and on  
Then spring will arrive quickly and rapidly dawn  
Bringing many beautiful vividly colored blossoms  
That at Shannon's Family farm, they will be awesome





# Karen's Kitchen

*Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories*

Well, we have an early year 1874 as the featured one this month and I thought I'd try to see if I could find something they'd have made in those times and although the title of this seems earlier they made it for years in the South. So, let me know if you try this – sounds great to me, but I'm allergic to Ginger so found two you might enjoy!

## Civil War Gingerbread

Sift together and set aside

2  $\frac{3}{4}$  C Flour

2 tsp Baking Powder

$\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cloves

$\frac{1}{2}$  tsp Soda

1 tsp ginger

2 tsp cinnamon

Cream together:

$\frac{1}{2}$  C Sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$  C. Shortening

1 tsp. Salt



Blend in 1 Cup of molasses. Add 2 eggs and beat well. Add the flour mixture alternately with 1 cup hot water till all is used. Blend well. Bake in greased, floured 13 x 9 pan at 350 for 50 minutes.

I also found a blog with this on it (but couldn't find a name to give credit to) – anyway this sounds great too –

## Pennsylvania Tea Cake 1870s +

Ingredients:

- 4 Egg Yolks

- 2 Whole Eggs

- 1 Tbs Vinegar

- 1 tsp Baking Soda

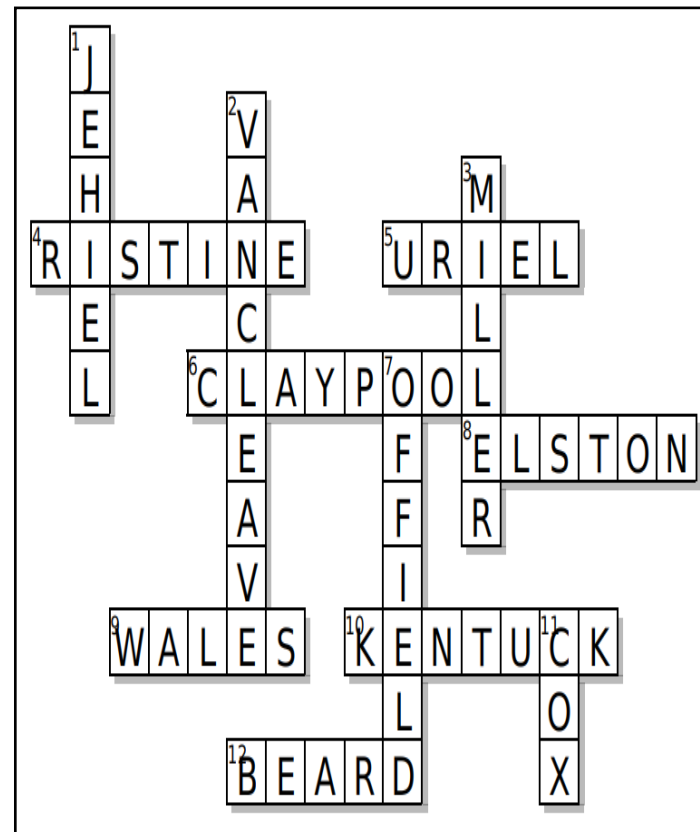
- 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups Sugar

-  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound Butter, creamed

- Sifted Flour

Modern Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Break eggs into a small bowl and beat. Dissolve Baking Powder in the vinegar; add the vinegar mixture into the beaten eggs. Put Sugar into a medium-sized bowl; make a divot in the center of the sugar. Pour the Egg mixture into the sugar and stir with a wooden spoon until well blended. Soften the butter and cream into the batter. Stir in enough Sifted Flour until it forms a thick batter. Bake in a buttered 8-inch cake pan for 35- 40 minutes. (Alternatively, you can add enough flour to make dough, roll it out on a floured surface and cut out round biscuits with a cookie cutter to stay closer to the original recipe.)



**We want to hear from YOU!**

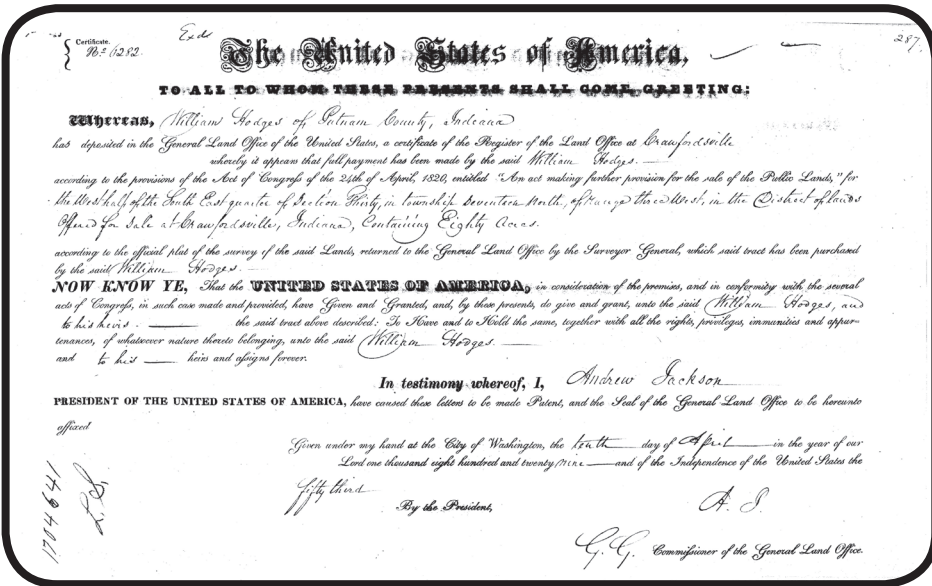
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# County Connections:

Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories



Most of ya' know I have written thousands of articles for the various papers, my fav is this one, the Montgomery Memories and I was determined for this County Connection to try something NEW with the settlers. Granted, there are few topics (people, places and things) I've not discovered and already shared, but then, as I was listing all the settlers in each township, I thought – that's it – I'll take a person (family) from each one that I have never featured. Since we have 11 townships, these will be brief bios, but perhaps it'll be someone you don't know! Article finishes in Grandcestors!

Alphabetically, let's start with Brown and the Rice family. This Rice family hailed from Wales to Fort Rice PA via Hagerstown, MD. Washington Rice born 24 Feb 1819 in Henry County, KY (d 25 June 1880 married Sept 1839 Permelia Deer) received the main land grant and fairly late, the others receiving grant lands were his sons, James, Simeon, Washington, Jonathan. Definitely, they were all tagged as early settlers. Washington was one of the sons of Jonathan B. and Rebecca (Reynolds) Rice, several from this family going to Kankakee, Illinois to the Aroma Park area. They lost three of their young children not long after arriving there so wondered if that was a healthy Aroma. Might be an interesting research project. Another Rice who came here early was Daniel, son of Jacob who established the fort in PA.

Clark – Perusing the local land grants, I found four Hodges land grants were gotten early in Clark Township, three to William and one to David. William's grant said he came from Putnam County, Indiana purchasing 80 acres on March 4, 1828. He purchased another 80 surrounding his original in December the next year and his last was October 1830. William was in the 1840 census here with three sons ranging from a toddler through age 15 and three daughters in the same range. He's likely the William who in 1824 married Sarah Powell in Putnam. Only other thing in MoCo was that he appraised (July 1835) an estrayed gray mare 15 ½ hands high about 14 years old for \$25. In Ancestry, he is followed to 1860 Daviess Co MO, wife Sarah children Lottie, Sarah, and David (born in Indiana). He then went to Green County, Wisconsin and passed there if in truth the same one. The above

David listed in the 1850 Clark Township census I can't blame for leaving as they lost so many children here (Harrison Cemetery near Ladoga). This family went to Franklin County, KS where they are almost all buried.

Coal Creek – well, I chose Isaac H. (Herrod?) Montgomery born March 24, 1814 in Jefferson County, Indiana, where he learned the shoemaker trade, following that for the first part of his life; however in 1835, he entered 40 acres of land in Sec 24, Coal Creek which was the very last one in the township for sale. Not long thereafter he married Elizabeth Park, daughter of Elijah and Eveline, early settlers in our area. IH's parents were Alexander and Anna (Herrod), Alexander having fought in the battle of Tippecanoe and did range work in the area. He fell in love with Montgomery County and moved his family here in 1824 (HW Beckwith). Isaac and his new wife built a log cabin, "tilled their farm, raised and dealt in stock, added to their farm until it comprised 2,000 acres of beautifully rolling land with a very large dwelling." Isaac followed the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a republican. They were parents of several: William; Eveline (married John Boyd); Amanda (Capt. TW Durham); Samantha (Col. R. Hallowell); Mary (Capt. TP Anderson); Wallace who graduated from Wabash in 1879 and Dora F. My favorite tidbit I learned about IH Montgomery was that each year he went to the Journal and paid yearly subscriptions for his brother and six of his children! Love it! Feel free to do the same with The Paper of Montgomery County!!

Franklin – Uriel Burroughs was born (October 1798) likely in Fauquier County, Virginia, where his parents married the year before, but spent his growing-up years in Scott County, Kentucky. When his father, William passed there unexpectedly, the family (mother and at least two sisters) decided to come to Indiana. Uriel purchased 80 acres in Franklin Township on October 19, 1827 and added another 160 within a few short years. His mother, Elizabeth (Dews) married Henry Beck and lived a long life, passing 21 June 1862 (buried Shannondale as is Uriel and his beloved wife, Leanna Bramlett). Uriel was a well-loved man and his unique name, meaning "God is my life," presented many times over in his descendants.

Madison- Wm. H. Nicholson born in Chillicothe, Ohio 1808 came here in 1822 according to the 1874 People's Guide, listed as a Republican and a Methodist. His property was three miles east of Linden, edging Tippecanoe County. His parents, (Robert and Mary Dungan, the Nicholson family not going farther on any Ancestry tree, but the Dungans went to minister, Thomas Dungan born 1635 in London immigrating to Berks County, PA. There were many Nicholsons born to William and Mercy Williams: Francis; Zebina; Benjamin; Philander; Amelia; Dorcas; Amanda; Juliette; and Sarah but I may have missed a few!

Ripley – This was a hoot! I chose Wilson Claypool, quite a shrewd one, buying up property galore, selling it and off he'd go. Wilson built the first cabin on the Sugar Creek bank in Ripley. He had purchased several land grants in Parke County, then up our way, from here to Fountain then up to Warren, purchasing land, working it, then selling and profiting from it. Fun following him along. Fairly sure he is the Wilson Claypool, son of Abraham and Elizabeth, born 24 August 1798 in Randolph Co WV and died 18 July 1876, buried Beulah Cemetery, Attica with a very nice stone! Ten children are listed with him and wife, Sarah on FindAGrave!

# In Mo Co, it was a very good year in 1874 . . .

At least 11 lawyers were available in the city of Crawfordsville as well as three dentists

Dr. William DeCaux Tilney was a specialist in Ozena, a condition where the bony ridges and mucous membranes of the nose waste away

78 teachers were in the city schools, including two females that came from Long Branch, NJ just to teach here!

At least 300 babies were born in Montgomery County that year (likely more) with 15 of those dying at birth (including two sets of twins) or quite young.

Our sheriff was Isaac Thomas Kelsey who had been in the Civil War, a member of Co B 10th Indiana Infantry. He also served as a Justice of the Peace for quite some time.

The most unusual name of those born in Montgomery in 1874 was Fessenden Lough born 21 May 1874 Waveland and died at Winona Lake, Indiana 6 June 1961. A member of the Friends Church, he was a lecturer for decades telling about living a clean life!

13 churches were listed in the 1874 People's Guide in Crawfordsville

Hotels were the Allen House, National House, Keller House, Leland House, Prewitt House, Richardson House, none of which were at least don't think so long-standing ones.

John Beard passed this year at age 79 and was one of our very best state Reps. He supported the bill making the surplus from the stocks of the State Bank of Indiana be appropriated for school funds. In the year it passed \$8,000,000 from it went to support public schools.

John R. Coons was Mayor of Crawfordsville.

Restaurants were owned by William L. Brown who was born in London – interesting; Mack & Johnson; and Zeller, he being born in Bavaria. Seems like there should have been more!

Divorces this year included Thomas and Lucinda Boyer; Elijah and Eliza Byers; Ezra and Mary Griffith; Taylor and Ellen Knox; Nathaniel and Christina Quick; Sanford and Elizabeth Skaggs.



# Grandcestors

*Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories*

For Scott, I found Presley Day Johnson, born in Mason County, Kentucky Feb 24, 1817 and passed April 7, 1898 at age 82. At age 14, he came with his parents, where they settled on a large farm on Indian Creek (CWJ 15 April 1898). Walking four miles to school, Presley was determined to get an education, having an exceptional memory and throughout life, subscribing to many of the best newspapers in the country. Oh, oh, and he was a history buff like me! Not only a farmer he was an expert mechanic. "He stacked more wheat than any man ever having lived in the county and had nary a stack to spoil!" Married at age 20 to Nancy Jane



Armstrong, they had two daughters and two sons as far as I found. His hand-made furniture was well purchased, matching how it was built. Always fair, kind and honorable in his dealings, his neighbors and friends loved him dearly. "At peace with God and the world, he closed his eyes on 7 April 1898, glad that his race was won!"

Sugar Creek – sadly, I didn't find a lot about this family but it was fun trying and it is a name with a twist! Thomas McStrain received three land grants in Sugar Creek, all saying he was from Montgomery County at purchase, most in Section 21 (1830-31). In January 1834, he and wife, plus James F. Boots sold property in Greene County, Ohio. In the 1830 census, he had a young son, and four more up to teenagers. He was between 40-49. One young lady 5-9 and his wife was 30-39, so he probably was about 40ish having been born sometime in the 1780s. Nothing else on him until 1860 when he left a will in Montgomery, only it was filed in Boone. In it, his wife was Phebe (gave her everything basically) and the children were: Amanda Breedlove; Margaret Simmons; Elizabeth Rogers; Phebe Conly; Martha Maddox, Rebecca Powers and sons: Andrew; Henry; James; Thomas (who married Annie Boots in Aug 1846 so check Boots connection) and William. In Nov 1846, a strange guardianship was with Thomas the guardian for Lydia, Nicholas, Elizabeth, Mary Jane, Samuel, Sarah, Jacob, Andrew Jackson, all named "Strain", having been heirs of Hugh Strain, deceased. His and these combined made one big batch of kiddos! Noticed that even when the fellows' middle names began with something else it more often had an M, thus I thought perhaps Strain vs. McStrain. YEP and his name was Thomas "Mc"Cartney Strain, born

in SC (age 65 in 1850 census Sug Cr Twp, wife Phebe 55 b KY) older children b. Ohio and rest born here. Note: he is buried (b 4 Dec 1783 died 2 Oct 1865 in the Old Thorntown Cem) – just had to share his stone via Marc Doty on FAGrave and let me tell ya' - what a relief to know I've not lost my fetchin' abilities!

Union -- Since I've written many more south articles, I chose William Bromley born 25 Oct 1818 (Brown County, Ohio) who came here to live on the farm of Hugh Meharry after his mother passed when he was three and his father when he was 12. He married Angeline Crane and they farmed for awhile in lower Tipp; the Pleasant Hill area. Nine children blessed their home with two living at his own death Mary Vansickle who passed the same year as her father and Julia Martin who took extremely good care of him in his last illness, confined to his bed for 16 months in great agony. He was much involved in the ME Church, in business, as postmaster of the city and according to his obituary, "was a favorite in every circle!"

Walnut- I've also written about several folks from Walnut, but had three ideas, yet particularly enjoyed finding info on the first, William A. Coddington who was born in Woodbridge, Middlesex Co, NJ passing here of course 19 Feb 1882. He married Sarah Chrisman in 1833 and they parented nine children, many of whom are buried right here in Walnut Township where he received a land grant. His parents were Moses, a Revolutionary soldier, and Amy (Girton). Several of William's children did not marry, two passed young but he and Sarah were blessed with at least six grands.

Happened to tell a long-time genealogy buddy about my idea to do one family I'd never researched (or very little on) for each township and write up a bleep. Well, she had a request for Coal Creek as she's always thought her parents were distant cousins through Andrew Crouch, so here we go – now, you've met our subject except he was in next door Wayne Township, actually! In fact, Andrew purchased 560 acres at 80 acres each in several sections of the township, beginning in November of 1822, one being for Andrew Crouch Jr. and Sr., which leads to believe this Andrew was the Junior as he was born 1800 in Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky; however a very detailed Brown Genealogy on Ancestry says Jonathan 1748-1830 and Hannah Cassity were his parents (it'd be tight but perhaps grands?). He married Catherine (Swisher I believe) and they had Albert; Angeline; Jonathan; James; Rebecca; Catherine and Andrew. Andrew passed 14 May 1853 and Catherine with all that land raised all these children on her own, their guardianship not wrapped up until December 1877. They all went forth, prospered, and inhabited the Wayne and Coal Creek areas. My friend's ancestor was Cynthia Crouch who married Philip Ross in Ohio but now she thinks her father is James who lived in Tippecanoe County. Cynthia did have a brother Jonathan and Andrew so perhaps back in Virginia they connected up somewhere! Definitely more research coming up!

Thus, an overview of a few early settlers!



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