

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2012 - 1st Quarter

P. O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648

Issue No. 241



CROSSROADS

COVERING

Oakdale, Oberlin, Kinder, Elizabeth, Reeves, LeBlanc, Mittie
and surrounding communities.

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 789, Kinder, LA 70648

2012 Officers:

President – Betty Sarver

Vice President – Durvin LaFleur

Secretary-Treasurer – Fran Clemmons

Publishing Editor – Fran Clemmons

Assistant Publishing Editor – Ethel Sacker

Reporter and Tourism Envoy – Ouida Savant

Quarterly society meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 AM in the Genealogy Room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Libraries located at 833 4th St., Kinder, LA. Members are always willing to help visitors with research and endeavor to answer their questions.

Membership fees are \$15 per calendar year per person. This also includes an annual subscription to CROSSROADS. Single copies and back issues of the publication are available for \$3 each to anyone.

CROSSROADS is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. Queries are free to members, \$3 each for non-members and will be published as space permits. When sending in a query, please include all pertinent information such as names, dates and places along with your name and address.

We encourage and welcome contributions of genealogical and historical material pertaining to Allen Parish locations or families for inclusion in CROSSROADS. The society does not assume responsibility for accuracy of information submitted and published, nor does it assume responsibility for any copyright infringement of submitted and published material. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject material we deem not suitable for publication.

The society accepts donations of books, periodicals and other material of genealogical and historical interest relating to Allen Parish. Other suggested items include 5 generation charts, family histories, newspaper clippings, old photos, etc. These will be placed on file in the Genealogy Room at the Kinder Library for research purposes. Memorials and honorariums are also welcomed by the society and marked as such.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The following books published by the AGHS are available for purchase for the prices listed plus \$2 each for shipping and handling fees.

Rev. Paul Leeds' Congregational Church records	
"Marriages and Funerals" – 1895 -1957 - Vol. 1	\$25
Rev. Paul Leeds' Kinder Congregational Church records –1893 -1974	
Volumes 1 and 2	\$25 ea.
Rev. Paul Leeds' Bethany (Green Oak) Church records.....	\$15
Congregation Church records of Indian Village, Edna and	
Emad Communities (one vol.).....	\$15
Congregation Church records of Elton and China Communities (1 vol.)..	\$15
Congregation Church records of Iowa, LA.....	\$15
St Peter's Bayou Blue Indian Congregational Church records -1901 -1957	
(Includes St Luke's early church).....	\$15
China Cemetery, Elton, LA – (by special permission).....	\$8
LeBlanc Cemetery, Allen Parish, LA.....	\$8
Indian Village Cemetery, Kinder, LA (includes family histories).....	\$15
Sonnier Cemetery, Allen Parish, LA.....	\$8
Resthaven Cemetery, Oakdale, LA.....	\$8
Green Oak Cemetery, Kinder, LA (updated version).....	\$15
Lyles Cemetery, Oberlin, LA.....	\$6
Lyles Cemetery - Barnes Creek, Reeves, LA (with family histories).....	\$15
Liberty Cemetery, Elton, LA (close ties to Allen Parish families	
and includes family information).....	\$15
Index of Surnames in all recorded Allen Parish Cemeteries.....	\$10
St Augustine Cemetery, Basile, LA with short history	
(close ties to Allen Parish).....	\$15
Ancestor Charts – 5 generation charts – Allen Parish Ties.....	\$25
1941 Kinder High School Year Book Copy (by special order only).....	\$30
Jessie Johnson Cemetery, Kingsfarm, Kinder, LA	
(Includes photos and family history).....	\$15
Nevils Cemetery (with photos and headstone inscriptions).....	\$12
Kingrey Cemetery, Barnes Creek, Allen Parish, LA with recent	
photos and history (Old abandoned cemetery).	\$12

**THESE BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS FOR FAMILY AND
FRIENDS!**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society general Policies & Officers	1
Society Publications for Sale	2
Table of Contents/ Origination of sayings and customs	3
Presidents Comments	4
Letter from Editor/ Welcome New Members	5
Article---Proving (or Disproving) Family Tales	6, 7
Article---The Lanier Family	8-12
Article---Black Families of Hickory Flat—A Short Story by Harold Winfrey	13, 14
Application for Membership	15
Blank 5-generation Ancestor chart	16
Query Form	17
Index	18

Life in the 1500's

Discover how some of today's sayings and customs originated.

Most of the houses had a thatch roof. Thatch meant thick straw, piled high with no wood underneath. Little animals,(cats, dogs, mice, rats, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained, the thatch would become wet and slippery so at times the animals would slip and slid off the roof....thus the saying; "It's raining cats and dogs." Most houses had dirt floors. Only the wealthy had flooring other than dirt.....thus the saying; "dirt poor".

President's Comments

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the AGHS staff for their good work in the past year.

VP Durvin LaFleur did a great job leading the presentation at the Kinder Garden Club meeting. He, Fran Clemmons and Quida Savant represented our society very well.

With the generous aid of the Allen Parish Assessor's office, Durvin has also handled the copy work of some old plats of Allen Parish that would have been lost forever. We really appreciate the assistance of the Assessor's office.

Despite two hip surgeries, Fran has stayed on top of her work as AGHS secretary and treasure. She is a dedicated officer and member.

Quida Savant, our reporter, not only tends to the reporting, she is always ready and willing to do whatever she can to help in any way. She too is dedicated to the society

Ethel Sacker, assistant editor, is no longer able to attend the meetings but is always ready and willing to do what she can from home.

We have a great team and look forward to adding new members this year.

Wishing everyone a great New Year,

Betty Sarver

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President



A POINT TO PONDER

Kind hearts are the gardens,
Kind thoughts are the roots,
Kind words are the flowers,
Kind deeds are the fruits.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

from the editor.....*Fran Clemmons*

I ask everyone to please except my apologies for this first 2012 issue of **CROSSROADS** being so late. I had my left hip surgery in December and was doing very well doing my therapy, and recovering great, until I was hit full force with attacks on my body from that old man misery—Rheumatoid Arthritis, so I put everything on hold until now. I am doing a lot better and I pray I will continue to feel well. Thank you all for your patience.

February 7, 2012 was the first meeting of **THE ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY**. Guest speaker for the meeting was Adagria Haddock, director of the Allen Parish Tourist Commission. Miss Haddock has asked the AGHS to help in gathering word of mouth stories of family histories from our area. Hopefully with the stories we provide to her, she will be able to submit everything to the highway department to establish the title of the highway from DeRidder, La., throu Oberlin, La., then on into Kinder, La., as the "Myths & Legends Byway". If you have any story you would care to relate, please call the library, and give your name and telephone number, so they in turn may get in touch with a member of the AGHS to call you back.

The next meeting of **THE ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY** will be on **APRIL 3RD, 2012**. Everyone will meet at the Kinder, La., library at **10:00 A.M.**, then will leave for the **ALLEN PARISH LEATHERWOOD MUSEUM** in Oakdale, La.. Please invite family members and friends to come with you.

NOTICE!!!

NOTICE!!!

NOTICE!!!

DUES FOR 2012 ARE DUE AT THIS TIME. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AGHS and mail to P.O.Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648 The membership dues are \$15.00 for the year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Florida Savant Arabie P. O. Box 1888 Iowa, La.70648

Steven and Carolyn Fontenot 9638 Hwy 165 Oberlin, La. 70655

Proving (Or Disproving) Family Tales

By Juliana Smith 13 November 2011

Although my front lawn is still sporting a fake cemetery (which my daughter promises she'll pack up this weekend), we've officially moved on to Thanksgiving planning. Emails are circulating with menu items and I'm looking forward to relaxing with family, and of course talking a little family history. It seems like the stories really seem to flow during the holiday season—some true, some perhaps with a trace of truth.

Stories that stray from the truth may be due to “embellishments” that have been added over the years for entertainment, to prop up the family status, or perhaps to gloss over an indiscretion. And sometimes, they're just due to fading memories. Whatever the reason, it falls on us to use our skills as family historians to uncover the real story behind the family tales.

Details, Details...

When a family story surfaces, gather all the details you can. The more details you have, the better chance you have of proving or disproving a story. Ask questions and if possible, try to get information from several independent sources. Aunt Lilly and Aunt Mae may remember different aspects of the event and the details they recall can provide clues as to what parts of the story may be true and inconsistencies can be more closely examined.

Does It Make Sense?

Ask yourself if the story makes sense in the context of time. There was a legend in our family that the father of one of our ancestors came over with Lafayette. Since that particular ancestor was born in 1837, if his father had come over at the time of the American Revolution, he would have been a bit old to have fathered my ancestor. So it's highly unlikely that that is the case.

When you're weighing whether a story is true, creating a chronology of events that includes historical events and everything you know about your ancestor can help you gain a little perspective.

What's Provable?

Look for details that can be proven through records. With our Lafayette story, there was one other possibility. The Marquis de Lafayette returned to the United States in 1824. If our ancestor was with him on that trip, the story is a little more plausible, but we can see from his passenger arrival record that he wasn't among those in the General's party.

Was he on the crew? It's likely that we'll never know, and since that story is one that is common among family myths, I'm not going to spend time chasing that particular tale. Instead I'll conduct research on that ancestor just as I would anyone else and see where the trail leads without any pre-conceived notions.

Most stories aren't as grandiose, but still may have resulted in records being created. Was the story newsworthy? Say Uncle Jerome was hit by an ice truck. That could well have been in the local newspaper. How old was he when it happened? Estimating the date will make a newspaper search easier.

With accidents there is also the possibility of a lawsuit, which would have created court records, and possibly other newspaper pieces. Did he die of his injury? In addition to the cause of death listed on his death certificate, there may have been a coroner's inquest.

Good Story, Wrong Guy

When dates are inconsistent, perhaps your family story is also referring to the wrong generation, or even the wrong line of the family. Another of our family stories was that one of my ancestors, Thomas Tobin, who was a hatter, made a hat for Abraham Lincoln. I later learned that Thomas' brothers were also hatters and one of them was enumerated in the 1870 census living in Washington, D.C. Was he there during the Civil War and did Aunt Olive confuse the two brothers in her story? I'll probably never know for sure, but I can do some research in city directories and see whether George was in D.C. during the time Abraham Lincoln was alive.

Honing Your Investigative Skills

Family stories are a great way to sharpen your investigative skills. Not only will the real family stories add depth and interest to your family history, but you'll also be able to use those skills when records don't agree or when you're trying to sort your ancestors from others. And of course, who doesn't love a good story?



With the assistance of our VP Durvin LaFleur, I have been helping a gentleman in North Carolina research some of his family that lived in the Kinder area in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Durvin was able to locate photos of one member and I found a homestead document and a property purchase document from the U. S. General Land office for their home. We have found other pertinent information for which he asked. It has been nice to make his acquaintance and he looks forward to coming here to visit some day.

It all started with a phone call from this gentleman to the library where he was referred to us. We have kept in touch with Email which makes it possible for us to send him copies of the photos and documents we find.

This is part of our society's work; helping people find their roots, connect with their family's past and learn about our area of Louisiana.

There were families that moved to Imperial Calcasieu in that time period that no longer have relatives living here. It is nice to be able to bring them to the forefront, so to speak, and make their memories come to life again.

We are certainly glad to have Durvin as our VP. He loves this area and the history that goes with it. Plus, he has a keen memory of things he has heard and read which makes him a wealth of information.

Betty Sarver

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President

The Lanier Family

The majority of the following history is taken from the book "Lanier" by Louise Ingersoll. This book can be found in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, numbered 929.273 L272i. The microfilm of this book can also be found in the Family History Library, film #0982362.



This Coat of Arms is of the Crusading origin. The cross of squares is called an "honorable ordinary" and is one of the symbols of nobility. The cross is also a Crusading emblem, each square denoting a year spent upon the Crusades by the ancestor. The bordure is another honorable ordinary and an additional mark of nobility. The falcon is a heraldic pun, called a "cantling" and is a play upon the name. The lion, the symbol of bravery, is taken from the family residence. It is the Lion of Gascony. In the arms, blue is the color of truth, silver of loyalty, and gold of strength and purity.

The name of Lanier is derived from the ancient French tongue and means a "Falcon". So far as written records show, the family is of French descent, and is from the province of Gascony in southern France; however, older records show a Tuscany family in northern Italy of the same name, and several genealogists claim that the family moved from Tuscany to Gascony after the Crusades.

The records of the Huguenot Society of London show a John Lanye living in County Surry in 1547; a record of 1 July 1544 gives a John Lanye, laborer, born Normandy, age 50 years, in England 30 years, married an English woman, six children; and a Nicholas Laneares in London in 1550, a denizen.

John Lanyer, a musician, arrived in London in 1561 with his wife Joan, and two children; and Nicholas Lanier arrived from Paris in 1561. Both were musicians to the Queen.

The Laniers were Protestants who left France to escape the early persecutions. Protestantism began in 1555, and the height of the persecutions was reached in the massacre of St. Bartholomew on the eve of August 24, 1572. It was in 1560 that the conspiracy began. One party hoped to enrich themselves by the estates of the heretics who were executed, or banished. The other party hoped to gain the favor of the masses by punishing the Protestants.

The estates of those who fled were sold, their children who remained behind were exposed to the greatest sufferings. France lost thousands of useful and rich inhabitants whose industry, wealth, and skills found a welcome reception in foreign countries. To prevent the emigration of the Protestants, the frontiers were guarded with the utmost vigilance; yet more than 500,000 fled to England, Holland, Switzerland, and Germany.

There were two Laniers who fled France at the same time, in 1561, both settling in the Parish of St. Olave in London. They are John and Nicholas. It is possible they were brothers or cousins. The Laniers were Huguenots to London, and are well recorded in the books of the Huguenot Society of London, but could not be called Huguenots to America, having been naturalized Englishmen for three generations. However, their descendants are eligible to join the Huguenot Society.

JOHN LANYER, who died November 29, 1577, was referred to in 1577 as a Frenchman, and a musician, a native of Rouen, France, and an owner of property in Crutched Friars in the Parish of St. Olave, Hart Street, London.

On the 18th day of January 1576/77, administration of the goods of John Lanier, late of the Parish of St. Olave, Hart Street, city of London, deceased, was granted to Barbara Lanier, alias Nivelet, wife of Cardinus Nyvelet, his natural and lawful daughter, in person of her said husband. A marginal note said that "John Lanier had not any goods belonging to him in the hands of the Administratrix." The following item will explain the above: "This house, 1575, Sept. 4 burst out in a terrible fire and was consumed to the stone walls."

His widow, **Jane Lanier**, married (2) James Marcadye. There was an Inquisition dated April 18, 1577, concerning his property, in which she was named with two Lanier daughters, Mary, and Celia Brun. Two other Lanier daughters and a son were born after their arrival in London, and all died as infants; their burials are recorded in St. Olaves Parish Register.



Nicholas Lanier, who was in the Court of King Henry II of France, and also the Court of Queen Elizabeth, and King James

of England, was the founder of the Lanier family of musicians, and the ancestor of the American Laniers including those in Allen Parish, Louisiana.

Nicholas Lanier was born 1544 in Rouen, France, and died January 31, 1610/11 in County Kent, England. He married (1) Unknown. He married (2) Lucrece Bassano February 13, 1570/71 in All Hallows Barking, daughter of Anthony Bassano and Elena De Nazzi. She was born September 24, 1556, and died Abt. January 4, 1633/34. He was said to be sober and honest. He served in the court of the late French king, Henry II, having been engaged to serve as messenger, and as a replacement for one Peter Guillaume, one of the Queen of France's flute players, lately dead. Confirmation of his services under King Henry II is to be found in the lists of "Chantres et autres Jouers d'instruments" of the French King's Chambers, which include Nicholas Lanier for the years of 1559 and 1560.

During the Protestant persecutions, he was a Huguenot to England with safe passage arranged for him by his patroness, the widowed Queen Catherine de Medici.

In 1561, the Earl of Hertford was visiting in Paris, and there met young Nicholas Lanier. He was recommended as a good flute, and also cornet, player. Nicholas came to England that year, settling in the Parish of St. Olave in London.

Nicholas married **Lucrece Bassano** in London on February 13, 1571. Some say the marriage was arranged by the Queen. Lucrece was christened in London on September 24, 1556, the daughter of Anthony and Elena (DeNazzi) Bassano, who were originally from Bassano del Grappa, Veneto, Italy. Perhaps Anthony Bassano was one of the Italian musicians in the Royal Orchestra. Nicholas and Lucrece had 10 children.

Nicholas Lanier moved to East Greenwich, County Kent, where he was one of the musicians to the Court until his death in 1612. He was a very wealthy man, having extensive holdings in Blackheath, and the surrounding country. This section was south of the Thames, and about five miles east of the London Bridge. One of the many palaces was here, the Royal Hospital, and many other buildings of early importance. In early 1700, an old house was taken down. It was described as being fitted up for a theater, probably by the Laniers who were musicians and dramatists.

Nicholas Lanier, who was in the Court of King Henry II of France, and also the Court of Queen Elizabeth, and King James of England, was the founder of the Lanier family of musicians, and the ancestor of the American Laniers. Their six sons all were musicians to the Queen and Kings; three of their four daughters married musicians. And of their grandchildren, at least eight of them became members of the Royal Orchestra, making three generations serving the Royal family musically. In 1604 Nicholas Lanier Sr. was named "Musician of the Flutes", and after his death about 1612, his son Andrea succeeded him "for life".

The will of Nicholas Lanier, Gent., was dated 28 January 1611/12, and was proved July 1612. It reads "To Lucrece my wife, all my lands, and goods; to sons John, Alphonse, Innocent, Jerome, Clement, 12 shillings; to Andrea 20 pounds if he does not have my place; my four daughters, three of whom are unmarried, I leave to the discretion of my wife Lucrece, my sole executrix."

Lucrece died, and was buried in East Greenwich on January 4, 1633/4.

Clement Lanier was born c1590/1592 in England, and named as a court musician in 1604. He is listed as "Gentleman of the King's Chamber" to both James I, (this is the same King James that ordered the Bible translated to King James English) and Charles I. He is known as a musician and master of the reorder (musical instrument similar to a clarinet).

Clement Lanier either died or was buried November 6, 1661 in East Greenwich, England. The will was proved December 3, 1661 and registered May 20, 1662.

After the dethroning (and decapitation) of King Charles I, many of Nicholas the Younger's paintings were dispersed. Clement and his brother Jerome were able to purchase some of these back for the family. However, the family lost most of their wealth during the civil war (1642 – 1649) while Oliver Cromwell was in power as Lord Protector. When Charles, Prince of Wales (later Charles II) came to the throne, the Lanier family regained much of their stature and fortune but many migrated to the United States and Canada.

Skipping to the Allen Parish area we have:

Benjamin Lanier b. 1817 LA, d. ca. 1870 LA, m. Frances Baham b. 1823 LA; d. 1898. Moved ca. 1860 from St. Tammany Parish to Calcasieu Parish. (THE AREA THAT IS NOW ALLEN PARISH)

children/grandchildren:

-1 James Cain Lanier b. 1843, m. 1865 Calcasieu Parish to Minnie _____, b. 1847

-2 Mary Lanier b. 1845 d. ?

-3 Andrew P. Lanier b. 1847

-4 John W. Lanier b. Jan 1850 (later called Wadkin), d.

(JOHN W. "WAD" LIVED NORTH OF KINDER, LA. ON NURSERY RD. AND IS THE FATHER OF MRS. EARLINE LEBLANC LIVING WEST OF KINDER, LA. ON HWY. 190)

-5 Seabourne Lanier b. Jan 1850 (later called Hardy Lanier), twin to John W,

-6 Thomas Martin Lanier b. 1851 d. 1922

-7 Overton Addison Lanier b. 1853 d. 1916

-8 Bernard Lanier b. 1855 d. 1905

-9 Zerrubabel Zay Lanier b. 1859 d. 1905

-10 Emily Lanier b. 1860 d. 1970

-11 Emma Aliph b 1861 d. 1929

(EMMA ALIPH MARRIED ALEXANDER "TIGE" CARPENTER WHO WAS ALSO FROM ST. TAMMANY PARISH AND HAD SETTLED IN THE HARMONY COMMUNITY NW OF KINDER, LA. THEY HAVE MANY DESCENDANTS STILL IN ALLEN PARISH)

-12 Penelope. Lanier b. 1864 d. 1870

There are others in Allen Parish that are descended from this family.

Benjamin Lanier was killed by Jayhawkers on the Calcasieu River.

Parents of Benjamin Lanier

John Hillary Lanier b. 1780 GA d. ca 1870, m Elizabeth Bankston b. 1784, d. ca. 1870

- Grandparents of Benjamin Lanier:

Benjamin Lanier bap. 31 May 1744 Albemarle Parish, Surry Co., VA., d. after 1829 in Jackson Co., MS m. 1st in Screven, GA Ealiff ? _____, who died in MS about 1802. He m. 2nd Elizabeth Wilson, a widow, in MS. Benjamin was a Revolutionary Soldier in GA and rec'd Bounty land in 1784, certificate #155.

Pike Family Tree

[Return to family tree](#) | [Tree pages](#)

Owner: jepikesparks

find a person in this tree

Alipha Emma 1 Lanier

Birth **21 Sep 1861** in [Louisiana](#)
 Death **29 Apr 1929** in [Louisiana](#)

[View her family tree](#) [View family members](#) [More options](#)

[Overview](#) [Facts and Sources](#) [Media Gallery](#) [Comments](#) [Member Connect](#)

Media Gallery

No photos, stories, audio or video have been added yet.

Timeline (View details)

- 1861
21 Sep

Birth
[Louisiana](#)

[2 source citations](#)
- 1881
Age: 20

Marriage to Alexander Theadore aka Alex T. 1 Carpenter

[1 source citation](#)
- 1900
Age: 39

Residence
[Hickory Flat, Calcasieu, Louisiana](#)

[1 source citation](#)
- 1929
29 Apr
Age: 67

Death
[Louisiana](#)

[1 source citation](#)

Family Members

PARENTS

[Benjamin William 9 Lanier 1817 – 1870](#) [Frances 1 aka Maria Francis Baham aka Bayham 1823 – 1898](#)

Show siblings

SPOUSE & CHILDREN

[Alexander Theadore aka Alex T. 1 Carpenter 1846 – 1921](#)
[McLogan 1 Carpenter 1883 – 1956](#) [McNeese 1 Carpenter 1886 – 1956](#)
[Como Cairo 1 Carpenter 1888 – 1960](#) [Edith Ophelia 1 Carpenter 1889 – 1976](#)
[Mary D Carpenter 1891 – 1954](#) [Aldy T Carpenter 1893 – 1972](#)
[Griffith Carpenter 1895 – Frances Carpenter 1898 – Clora Carpenter 1899 – \[REDACTED\]](#)

Source Information

[view details](#)

1900 United States Federal Census

1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Residence, Birth**

Ancestry Family Trees

This citation provides evidence for Alipha Emma 1 Lanier

Louisiana Statewide Death Index, 1900-1949

1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Death, Birth**

Web Links

There are no weblinks available for this person.

[Search the web for Alipha Emma 1 Lanier](#)

Comments

No comments have been added yet.

[Add a comment](#)

The following article by Harold Winfrey (*Captain Caller, July-September, 1998*) was first printed in the "Reminiscent Writing Contest" 1997 for the Calcasieu Parish Public Library. Harold won Honorable Mention for this very informative article. We, the AGHS, felt it should be published in CROSSROADS to inform Allen Parish residents of this important part of our parish history.

BLACK FAMILIES OF HICKORY FLAT--A SHORT HISTORY

By Harold Winfrey

The area of land between the towns of Oberlin and Kinder, Louisiana, because of the many hickory nut trees and its low flat topography, was known for a long time as Hickory Flat. It is still known by that name even today by some

During the 1700s and early 1800s this land was inhabited by Indians, the Coushattas. Descendants of these Indians are still in the Elton area. Elton is about ten miles east of Kinder.

The first settlers in the flats were the white Cole families. They came from South Carolina during the 1840s. They were farmer and woodcutters, and the land was available and fertile. These families settled mostly on the western edge of the flats around what are now the little communities of LeBlanc and Reeves. Along with the Coles, the Reeves came in and built many sawmills along the Calcasieu River.

Like a lot of the families of that day, the Coles and Reeves had slaves. One of the slaves that came in with the Coles was a man named Franklin. He was born in 1836 in South Carolina. His mother, Malinda (born in 1818), was also in this group. After he gained his freedom, Franklin kept the name of his former owners, and moved east into Hickory Flat along with his wife Elizabeth (Rideaux).

In 1856 Jacob Harmon was born. He was the son of a white overseer and a slave woman on the farm of Charlotte Cole, a widow. The Harmons that now live in the area between Oberlin and Kinder are his descendants.

In the late 1860s Andrew Botley came in from St. Landry Parish to find work in the lumber mills. He came with his wife Ellen and their five children. Five more children were born in Hickory Flat.

During the time after the Civil War, other black families began moving in from St. Landry Parish. Jefferson Morehead and some members of the Morrow family moved in the Elton area. Jefferson's wife, Nancy, was a Morrow. Nancy's brother,

Lawrence, came also. He married one of Andrew Botley's daughters, Carolina. They had seven children. All of the black Morrows in the area descended from this couple.

Early in 1869, a lone rider came into Hickory Flat from the little community of Grand Prairie, over in St. Landry Parish. He was sent by his older brother to map out a way to Oklahoma. He was John Captain, Jr., a single man and an adventurer. Old stories tell that he carried a long bullwhip, and was an expert with it. What caused him to stop in Hickory Flat and to decide that it would be a suitable place to settle, I can only speculate. It may have been the good available farm land, coupled with the short distance the families would have to travel.

During the 1850s Hickory Flat was a part of northern Imperial Calcasieu Parish. The parish seat was in what is now Lake Charles. When the Captain men came to acquire land and build homes, they had to go to Lake Charles to record the deed. It is possible that this was where men like George Singleton and Steve Aleck heard about Hickory Flat and decided to move there from the Lake Charles area.

The Captain family, led by Julian Captain [ca1844-1914], wanted their children to have a good basic education. This could not be had for families of freed slaves in St. Landry Parish during the early years after emancipation. Late in 1869 or early in 1870, the Captains left Grand Prairie and moved into Hickory Flat. This group consisted of Julian, his wife, Modeste Jacques [ca1844-1921], their daughter Emma [ca1867-?] (Modeste was pregnant with their second child, Mary Louise [ca1870-?], at the time), three of Julian's brothers, John [ca1849-1914], Eli [ca1851-?] and August [ca1854-?], and three of his sisters, Sarah [ca1856-?], Clarise, [ca 1863-?] and Alice [ca1857-?] (Alice was a half sister). They had the same father but a different mother. Their father, John, Sr.[1817-?] also came with them. Their mother Marie Ann Julian [1810-?], did not accompany them. In the 1870 Census, Mary Ann Captain was listed in St. Landry Parish living with her brother, Marcellius and his wife, Pauline.

Being a devout Christian and one who wanted his children to have an education, Julian wasted little time in getting a church/school house built. He set aside two acres of his own land for the building. The building was built across the road from where the St. Paul Church now stands. He sent for and got a school teacher from Oklahoma. The teacher, Lawrence Shaw, taught both school and the Bible.

The little community continued growing well into the 1900s, and even today, descendants of the Captains, Botleys, Moreheads, and Coles can still be found in Hickory Flat.©

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler _____

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 1 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 1

Address _____

City, State _____

Date _____

b. Date of Birth
p.b. Place of Birth
m. Date of Marriage
d. Date of Death
p.d. Place of Death

4 (Father of No. 2)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

2 (Father of No. 1)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

5 (Mother of No. 2)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

1

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

6 (Father of No. 3)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

3 (Mother of No. 1)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

7 (Mother of No. 3)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

(Spouse of No. 1)

b. _____
p.b. _____

d. _____
p.d. _____

8 (Father of No. 4)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

9 (Mother of No. 4)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

10 (Father of No. 5)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

11 (Mother of No. 5)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

12 (Father of No. 6)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

13 (Mother of No. 6)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

14 (Father of No. 7)

b. _____
p.b. _____
m. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

15 (Mother of No. 7)

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

b. _____
p.b. _____
d. _____
p.d. _____

16 (Father of No. 8, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

17 (Mother of No. 8, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

18 (Father of No. 9, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

19 (Mother of No. 9, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

20 (Father of No. 10, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

21 (Mother of No. 10, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

22 (Father of No. 11, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

23 (Mother of No. 11, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

24 (Father of No. 12, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

25 (Mother of No. 12, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

26 (Father of No. 13, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

27 (Mother of No. 13, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

28 (Father of No. 14, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

29 (Mother of No. 14, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

30 (Father of No. 15, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
m. _____
d. _____

31 (Mother of No. 15, Cont. on chart No. _____)

b. _____
d. _____

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Index Crossroads # 241

Arabie , Florida Savant	5	Lanier, Alphonse	10
Aleck, Steve	14	Lanier, Andrea	10
Baham, Frances	11,12	Lanier, Andrew P.	11
Bankston, Elizabeth	11	Lanier, Benjamin	11
Bassano, Anthony	10	Lanier, Benjamin William	12
Bassano, Lucrece	10	Lanier, Bernard	11
Botley, Andrew	13	Lanier, Clement	10, 11
Botley, Carolina	14	Lanier, Emily	11
Botley, Ellen	13	Lanier, Emma Alipha/Alipha Emma	11, 12
Captain, Alice	14	Lanier, Innocent	10
Captain, August	14	Lanier, James Cain	11
Captain, Clarice	14	Lanier, Jerome	10, 11
Captain, Eli	14	Lanier, John	10
Captain, Emma	14	Lanier, John Hillary	11
Captain, John	14	Lanier, John Wad	11
Captain, John Jr.	14	Lanier, Mary	11
Captain, Julian	14	Lanier, Nicholas	8
Captain, Mary Louise	14	Lanier, Overton Addison	11
Captain, Sarah	14	Lanier, Penelope	11
Carpenter, Aldy	12	Lanier, Seaborne	11
Carpenter, Alexander "Tige"	11	Lanier, Thomas Martin	11
Carpenter, Clora	12	Lanier, Zerrubabel Zag	11
Carpenter, Como	12	Laniere, Barbara(Nivelet)	9
Carpenter, Edith Ophelia	12	Laniere,Celia Brun	9
Carpenter, Frances	12	Laniere, Jane	9
Carpenter, Griffith	12	Laniere, Mary	9
Carpenter, McLogan	12	Lanye, Joan	8
Carpenter, Mary D	12	Lanye, John	8
Charles I ---Prince of Wales	11	Lanyer, John	9
Charles II ---Prince of Wales	11	LeBlanc, Earlene	11
Clemmons, Fran	1, 4, 5	Marcadye, James	9
Cole, Charlotte	13	Morehead, Jefferson	13
Cole, Franklin	13	Morrow, Lawrence	14
Cole, Malinda	13	Morrow, Nancy	13
Cromwell, Oliver	11	Nyvelot, Cardinus	9
Fontenot, Carolyn	5	Rideaux, Elizabeth	12
Fontenot, Steven	5	Sacker, Ethel	1, 4
Guillaume, Peter	10	Sarver, Betty	1, 4, 7
Haddock, Adagria	5	Savant, Ouida Nevils	1, 4
Harmon, Jacob	13	Shaw, Lawrence	14
Henry II—King of France	9, 10	Singleton, George	14
Ingersoll, Louise	8	Smith, Juliana	6
Jacques, Modeste	14	Wilson, Elizabeth	11
James, King of England	9, 10	Winfrey, Harold	3, 13
Julian, Marie Ann	14		
LaFleur, Durvin	1, 4, 7		
Laneares, Nicholas	8		