

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2013 - 2nd Quarter

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

Issue No. 246



CROSSROADS

COVERING

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

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

2013 Officers:

President—Betty Sarver

Vice President--- Durvin LaFleur

Secretary/Treasurer---Fran Clemmons

Publishing Editor--- Fran Clemmons

Assistant Publishing Editor--- Ethel Sacker

Reporter/Tourism Envoy--- Ouida Savant

The society meetings are held every other month rotating the meetings on the first Tuesdays and Saturdays of the month at 10am in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Library located at 833 4th St., Kinder, La. Members are willing to help visitors with research and to answer their questions.

Membership fees are \$15 per calendar year per person. This 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. 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 that pertain to Allen Parish locations and families for inclusion in *CROSSROADS*. The society does not assume responsibility for accuracy 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, and old photos, etc. These items 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 & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Rev. Paul Leeds' Congregational Church records("Marriages & Funerals"—1895-1957—vol.1) \$25

Rev .Paul Leeds' Kinder Congregational Church records(1893—1957—volumes 1, 2, 3, & 4) each \$25

Rev. Paul Leeds' Bethany (Green Oak) Church records \$15

Congregational Church records of the Indian Village, Edna, and Emad Communities \$15

Congregational Church records of Elton and China Communities \$15

Congregational 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. \$8

LeBlanc Cemetery, Allen Parish \$8

Indian Village Cemetery, Kinder, La. \$15

Sonnier Cemetery, Allen Parish, La. \$8

Resthaven Cemetery, Oakdale, La. \$8

Lyles Cemetery—Barnes Creek, Reeves, La. \$15

Index of Surnames in all recorded Allen Parish Cemeteries \$10

St Augustine Cemetery, Basile, La. \$15

Ancestor Charts—five generation charts—Allen Parish ties \$25

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

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING SOCIETY MEETINGS

TUESDAY, 10 A.M.---SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

SATURDAY, 10 A.M. ---November 2, 2013

**PLEASE COME AND BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU!!! MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS
INFORMAL AND WE HAVE FUN DIGGING UP "BONES".**

President's Comments

We have embarked on a new year with a new calendar to fill with appointments. I hope that you will be sure to mark the dates of the AGHS meetings on yours. We certainly would like to see you there. We always enjoy hearing what you have found since the last meeting. We also like your input on other ways to improve our society and/or new projects.

Those of us who enjoy genealogy feel family is very important, even ancestors we have never known. There is just something about family that gives us a sense of belonging, security and comfort. That is why we enjoy the research and get so excited when we are able to connect to past generations. We really get excited when we are able to find an old photo. We immediately begin to look for features in that person that are similar to ours or other current family members. It's like added proof they are part of our family.

Any photos you may find of people or buildings in early Allen Parish are needed for our records and for the museum. We can copy them and return them to you or the owner. These are part of recording and preserving the history of the parish which is one of our main goals.

With good wishes to you and your family,

Betty Sarver

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President

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

The Allen Genealogy and Historical Society members have a great BIG job to do for the next several months of getting all the genealogy materials that is now stored in the genealogy room of the genealogy room of the Kinder Library scanned and indexed. Our Society members love a challenge, and to be sure , the work we have ahead will be just that!!! There will be special called work meetings that will be scheduled later on and our hope is that as many of the members come when called to help. Thank you all in advance for your attention.

CROSSROADS NEED YOUR HELP!!! Please share any information, comments, or suggestions you may have to contribute to the publication. If you have old Bible records, letters, information from land abstracts, old school records, military records, that could be used to promote interest in our publication.

Please don't forget to supply a five-generation Ancestor Chart.

The next meeting of the Allen Genealogical and Historical Society will be held at **10:00 am on Tuesday September 3rd, 2013** in the genealogy room at the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Library, located at 833 4th Street, Kinder, La. Mark your calendar now so you will not forget to come, and bring someone with you!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Mary Ann Hardee 17737 Parish Line Road Kinder, Louisiana 70648

COULD THIS BE US?

A group of seniors were sitting around talking about all their ailments. "My arms have gotten so weak, I can hardly lift this cup of coffee," said one. "Yes, I know," said another. "My cataracts are so bad; I can't even see my coffee." "I couldn't even mark an "X" at election time, my hands are so crippled." volunteered a third. "What? Speak up! What? I can't hear you!" I can't turn my head because of the arthritis in my neck," said a fourth, to which several nodded weakly in agreement. "My blood pressure pills make me so dizzy!" explained another. "I forget where I am, and where I'm going," said another. "I guess that's the price we pay for getting old," winced an old man as he slowly shook his head. The others nodded in agreement. "Well count your Blessings," said a woman cheerfully "and thank God we can still drive."

ELIZABETH

In 1906, in the midst of a dense forest of pine, cypress, and hardwoods, the Industrial Lumber Company came and established a sawmill and built a town to go with it. The town was owned and operated by the mill for the workers and was named "Elizabeth" as a tribute to the daughter of Sam Parks, one of the original builders of the mill. The Elizabeth sawmill took the forest and turned it into millions of board feet of construction material, and for years while the forest remained, the company and town lived in harmony. The Industrial Lumber Company also owned two mills in Oakdale, and one in Vinton. The mills in Oakdale and the new mill site in Elizabeth were in the heart of a 70,000 acre parcel of long leaf yellow pine acquired by Industrial in 1905.

By the year 1909, the Elizabeth mill began operation and had a daily capacity of 160,000 feet of lumber when operating single shift. The two mills in Oakdale each had a daily capacity of 75,000. The three mills were linked by company built railroads, with Elizabeth serving as an Industrial headquarters.

Industrial had a motto "Builders, not spoilers", which was recorded in the company publication. The publication wrote that Industrial devoted attention to developing cut over land for agricultural use. In 1923, Elizabeth had a sweet potato curing plant, a canning plant, and experimental farms.

Elizabeth having the large mill and other operations, also had a company office, a large mercantile company, a hospital, a civic auditorium, several schools, hotels, six churches (three white and three black), and a movie theatre, not to mention housing for workers, and management. Industrial provided outdoor recreational facilities such as a golf course, two hashing clubs, and a park complete with an open air pavilion. Elizabeth's permanent residents numbered about 3,000 in 1923.

In 1926 Calcasieu Sulphate Paper Company, later renamed the Calcasieu Paper Company, Inc., built a plant at Elizabeth for the manufacture of kraft pulp and paper. The Industrial Lumber Company, founder and owner of the town, continued in business until 1942, when it disbanded its sawmill operations, leasing the industrial field to the Calcasieu Paper Company. Mr. C. G. McGehee's Jacksonville Paper Company bought the Calcasieu Paper Company in 1946 then immediately moved a paperbag plant, the Southern Industries Company from Florida into Elizabeth, which later was called the Southern Maid Paper Company.

The Industrial Lumber Company still owner of the town of Elizabeth, leased it to McGehee until 1955, when he purchased it outright. He lived in Jacksonville, Florida,

making him an absentee owner. Periodically he would fly his plane from Florida to Elizabeth.

National headlines in the early 1950's related the story of labor unrest. The workers wanted a union, but management did not. In May, 1952, the workers walked out of the plant and McGehee ordered a lockout and closed the mills for two months. He reopened but fired all the strickers and hired the strikebreakers.

When the strike ended in 1957, management was victorious in the dispute, with the company remaining non-union.

The company had won but the feelings were big and not forgotten. Heated arguments and disputes were now directed at the company's ownership of the town. The company seemed relieved to relinquish ownership of the town and to do it's best to help Elizabeth in it's efforts to be like other towns. At the end of three years, the plans of officers of the paper company and their professional consultants to make Elizabeth like other towns were finalized.

On January 23, 1964, Governor Jimmie H. Davis signed a proclamation making Elizabeth the fifth town in Allen Parish to be incorporated.

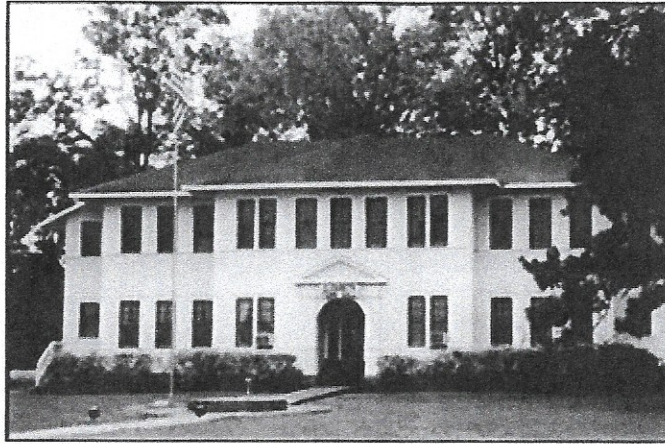
Today's Elizabeth (at least the historic portion) is a considerably reduced and depleted version of the 1923 boom town. The mill is gone, and the only non-residential buildings remaining are the hospital, the company built Methodist church, and a small Catholic church. The churches are only used by certain groups, but the hospital is used by the whole community as the Town Hall.

The Elizabeth Hospital Building is a two story frame Colonial Revival style structure located in a semi-rural setting in the community of Elizabeth. Since the construction of the hospital in 1924, it has received only minor alterations, keeping its historical associations. The Hospital building is locally significant in the area of industry because it best represents the community's origins and early history as a lumber company town. On January 18, 1985, The Elizabeth Hospital Building was recorded in The Louisiana National Register of Historic Places.

The old hospital is now " The Elizabeth Town Hall". There have been reports over the years of strange occurrences taking place in the building. Most of the reports are of hearing the sounds of people walking the halls on the second floor when there isn't anyone there, seeing the actual shadow of an old lady on the wall, the movement of the curtains, and hearing whispering voices of little girls, women, and boys. An investigation was done by "Louisiana Spirits-paranormal investigations." The team reported that after getting set up for the night and lights out, they began to hear the sound of footsteps coming up the stairs. The investigators then felt what they could

only explain as an extreme emotional change take over them in the form of intense sadness. When they went to see who had come up the stairs, they were surprised to see no one was there. Throughout the night they heard several strange and unexplainable sounds, but there were no recorded evidence of any form. The investigators said it is always good to have a strange experience for one's own gratification but in their business, unfortunately personal experiences alone are not good enough.

Elizabeth Town Hall Elizabeth, LA



Sources

(Correspondence with Eva Bourg: Bernice Lawson Webb's "Company Town—Louisiana Style," *Louisiana History*, vol.IX, No.4)
Waymarking.com and *Louisiana Spirits paranormal* www.laspirit.com

IN THE OLD TIMES!!!

By Fran Clemmons

Helping my grandson get started on his school home work is a real challenge as he forgot to bring his sharpened pencil from school, so we looked here at home for one and we finally found one in a kitchen drawer. Of course the point is broken and he didn't bring his sharpener home either. I got a small paring knife from the kitchen drawer and begin to whittle the end of the pencil into a fine point. My grandson asked me what I was doing so I told him and showed him how I had sharpened the pencil. He was so impressed with the way I got the pencil point so fine, he asked me if that was the way to sharpened pencils in the "old days", when I went to school. Oh my goodness!!! I am getting so ancient. I will be 65 in December and eligible for Medi-Care. Sixty-five is not that old, but my grandchildren see me as old I guess. Time has really made a change in things. There is so much technology today that just a few short years ago was like science fiction to me. My grandson was so fascinated with this "old time" thing of sharpening a pencil with a knife, that it made me think that maybe I should take time to write down things I did and what it was like "way back then."

Looking back through some back issues of KINFOLKS, I found an article in the 1999 vol.23 No. 2 issue titled, "Writing Your Personal History: Themes and Subjects to Guide You" presented by Jan Freeland. In this article, Jan list topics to provide themes and subjects to help guide in recording your life history. A method mentioned is to divide your life history into categories and label them as Childhood, Adolescence, and Adulthood, then as you write a topic, place it in the **section it fits best.**

I have enclosed with this article the list that Jan Freeland presented in the March 1999 KINFOLKS. The list is as follows:

1. What is your earliest recollection of life? Who do you recall being a part of your life at this time? What part did these people have in your life?
2. Who were your earliest friends? What activities did you do with your friends? Any favorite hideouts and hangouts?
3. Describe your favorite toy(s) as a child. When did you get it? For what reason? What happened to it?
4. What family activities do you recall? Special vacations?
5. Who had the most impact on your life? Why?
6. Describe yourself as a child, an adolescent, an adult. How have you changed? What are/were your personality traits? Describe your physical traits
7. Write about any spiritual and religious activities, conversions, etc. When did these occur? How was your life changed?
8. What were/are your fears, fantasies, and aspirations?
9. Write about our education. Describe your elementary, high school, college, etc. experiences.
10. Describe your most embarrassing moment(s).
11. Did you have any pets? Which ones stand out the most in your memory? What did you name your pets and why?

12. What is the meaning of your family name? Write about your name-how do you feel about it, what it conveys to others, what family history it might contain, and any other thoughts it brings to mind.
13. Who were your heroes? What characteristics and traits did your heroes possess?
14. What was the world like when you were a child? How has it changed over your lifetime?
15. Write about some of your personal problems. How did you overcome them?
16. Who was your first love? Describe that person.
17. Write about any dangerous experiences you may have encountered.
18. Have you ever been in the armed forces? If so, write about your experience. If not, write about someone in the family who may have gone to war and how that affected you.
19. Describe the houses you have lived in over your life. (If there are numerous ones, you may want to select those that stand out most in your memory or those which were your favorite. You may also divide them into categories: childhood, adolescent years, adulthood.)
20. Describe the personalities of your parents, grandparents, and other family members you choose.
21. Write about some of your family traditions. (Childhood and adulthood)
22. Which holiday is your favorite? Why?
23. Write about your most memorable holiday. What made it so special?
24. Describe your first job. Where was it? How long did it last? What were you paid? Why did you take that job?
25. Write about your talents.
26. Who is/was your favorite entertainer? Write about past and present ones.
27. What was a typical day like for you as a child? What is a typical day like for you now?
28. Write about sibling rivalries, if any. If none, write about your brothers and sisters. If you are an only child, write about whether you wanted a brother or sister and why? If you were glad to be an only child, explain why.
29. What were your favorite hobbies as a child and teenager? What are your hobbies now?
30. Describe a family heirloom. What makes it so special? How did it originate in your family?
31. Write about your memories of visiting your grandparents.
32. Write about memorable purchases made by your family: cars, TV, radio, homes, other vehicles, etc.
33. Write about affiliations with service clubs, political parties, and other organizations and activities.
34. Write about family rules and expectations?
35. What were your chores as a child? Did you find them to be a drudgery? What happened if you didn't complete your chores? What positive rewards were given when you did them?
36. Describe your spouse. How did this person come into your life? What attracted you to him/her? Write about your engagement. How long have you been together?
37. Describe your wedding day. Where did you go on your honeymoon?
38. Write about the birth of your children. (Each child can be a separate entry.)
39. Write about your vocational choice(s).
40. Describe the fashions during your childhood, teen years, and adulthood. How have they changed? What were some of the fashion fads you have seen?
41. What major world events have occurred during your lifetime?
42. Becoming an adult brings about many responsibilities, privileges, freedoms and adjustments. Write about some of these that occurred in your life.
43. What was your health like as a child?
44. Write about your eating habits as a child, teenager, and adult.
45. Describe your first date. What made it memorable?
46. Describe any accidents or injuries you have experienced during your life? Were any life threatening? How did they occur? How did you overcome them?
47. Write about any epidemics that may have occurred in your community during your lifetime.
48. Describe your attitude toward growing older.
49. Did you have any nicknames as a child? As an adult? How did they come about and who gave them to you?
50. Who were your closest friends during your childhood? Who are they at this time? Where do they live? What makes them special to you? How did you meet?
51. Write about any special characteristics of your community as a child, a teen, and an adult.
52. What awards have you received during your lifetime?
53. With what church are you affiliated? Do you hold any church callings or positions? If so, write about.

54. Describe your favorite teacher. What set that teacher apart from others?
55. Write about any heartbreaks you may have encountered during your lifetime.
56. Write about your in-laws. What is your relationship like with them?
57. Write about your favorite and least favorite subjects in school.
58. Were you involved in extracurricular activities? Write about them.
59. How have you handled living with a person who may be hard to get along with or difficult? This can be from childhood, teen years, and on into present time.
60. Write about any co-workers you have known during your career.
61. If you have retired, write about it. If you haven't retired as yet, write about your plans for your retirement and how you think it will affect your life.
62. Write about any future travel plans you may have.
63. Write about your favorite season of the year. What memories do you recall from that season.
64. If you could be someone else, who would you have wanted to be? Why?
65. Describe the happiest day of your life.
66. Write a thank you note to someone you never had a chance to thank.
67. Relate the events of the saddest day of your life. Share why these events affected you so much.
68. Relate an incident for which you were punished.
69. Name the period, place, and circumstance you would choose to be in if you had an opportunity to change places.
70. Write about other close relatives (not parents, grandparents, or siblings) who may have had an impact on your life.
71. Write about your first trip to the doctor, dentist, to get immunizations, etc.
72. What song transports you/ renews you/ moves you deeply? Why?
73. Describe a time in your life which was very stressful.
74. Describe an activity that gave you a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.
75. If you could speak with the President and members of Congress, what would you like to tell them.
76. What person (living or deceased) would you like to meet? What would you like that person to share with you? What would you share with that person?
77. Describe your favorite book as a child. What did you like best about it?
78. What error did your parents make in rearing you? What suggestions would you have given them in regards to rearing you differently?
79. What were your parents' philosophies and practices of discipline? Did you practice some of these yourself as a parent?
80. What advice would you give to teenagers today about their problems in coping with drugs, premarital sex, alcohol, and lawlessness?
81. Describe a special occasion in your life - prom, cotillions, wedding anniversaries, birthdays, etc.
82. How has mass communications changed during your lifetime?
83. Write about a special vacation you have taken.
84. How has the attitude toward America changed during your life? What does it mean to you to be an American?
85. What are your favorite foods? Why? Share the recipe for your favorite dish.
86. What is the bravest thing you have ever done? Write freely about it.
87. Carl Sandburg once said: "Nearly all the best things that came to me in life have been unexpected, unplanned by me." If this statement is true in your life, write about how it is true. If you disagree with Sandburg, write why.
88. What birthday present throughout your life have you enjoyed or appreciated the most? Explain your answer.
89. What did you do during the summers as a child? During the winters?
90. Mark Twain wrote: "Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great." Explain about a time when someone made you feel you could be great or when you made someone else feel that way.
91. Write about any phobias you may have. How have you overcome them?
92. Write about a time when you took a stand on an issue. What was the issue? How did you speak out? What were the effects of your stand?
93. Write a list of at least fifty things that make you feel good.
94. Finish the thought, "If I could change one thing about myself, I would..."
95. Tell about what triggers anger in you. If you have a bad temper, how have you learned to control it?

- 96. Write about your favorite time of the day. What makes it your favorite?
- 97. Write about overcoming temptations that have cropped up throughout your life.
- 98. Write about coping with finances during your life.
- 99. You are to write a bit of counsel to your posterity. Include some advice on the following: rearing children, dating and courtship, marriage relationships, work, church activity, harmony in the home, getting along with others, controlling appetites and desires, money management, obeying the law, political principles, making major decisions, business dealings, loving others, education, and giving and taking advice. You can write about each of these separately.

I am glad that I found Jan Freeland's list of topics to provide themes and subjects to help guide in writing a personal history. I now need to take the time to sit down to write the things about my life and family, and precious memories of what it was like "way back then" "in the old days." One day in years to come, maybe some of my descendants will read my history and be "awed" with the "old times" in which I lived and be grateful that I took the time to share my memories. Wish me luck with getting started writing and happy writing to everyone.

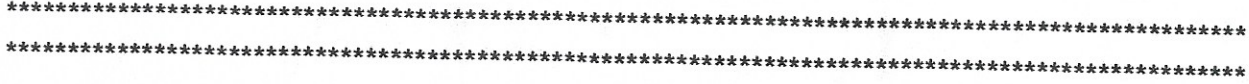


QUOTES

"It's important to honor your ancestors. Bringing in a piece of furniture or an object you've inherited from a loved one not only honors the person who has passed but also brings the warmth of happy memories into your home."

"This packrat has learned that what the next generation will value most is not what we owned, but the evidence of who we were and the tales of how we loved. In the end, it's the family stories that are worth the storage."

GENEALOGY IS A THING OF THE PAST.....



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Complete and mail this form with payment to:
ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P. O. Box 789
Kinder, LA 70648

Please make checks or money orders payable to
Allen Genealogical and Historical Society

Although not required, we ask that you please send a five generation
chart of your lineage for our records. A blank chart is attached.

>>>>>>>>>><<<<<<<<<<<<

Please enroll me as a member of the Allen Genealogical and
Historical Society for the current year, 2013

I understand that with my \$15 membership fee I will also receive 4
quarterly issues of CROSSROADS published in January, April, July
and October. I can also have my queries accepted for publication in
CROSSROADS for no cost.

Record this membership under the following name and address:

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL (optional) _____

Surnames I am researching: _____

Please attach any queries you would like published.

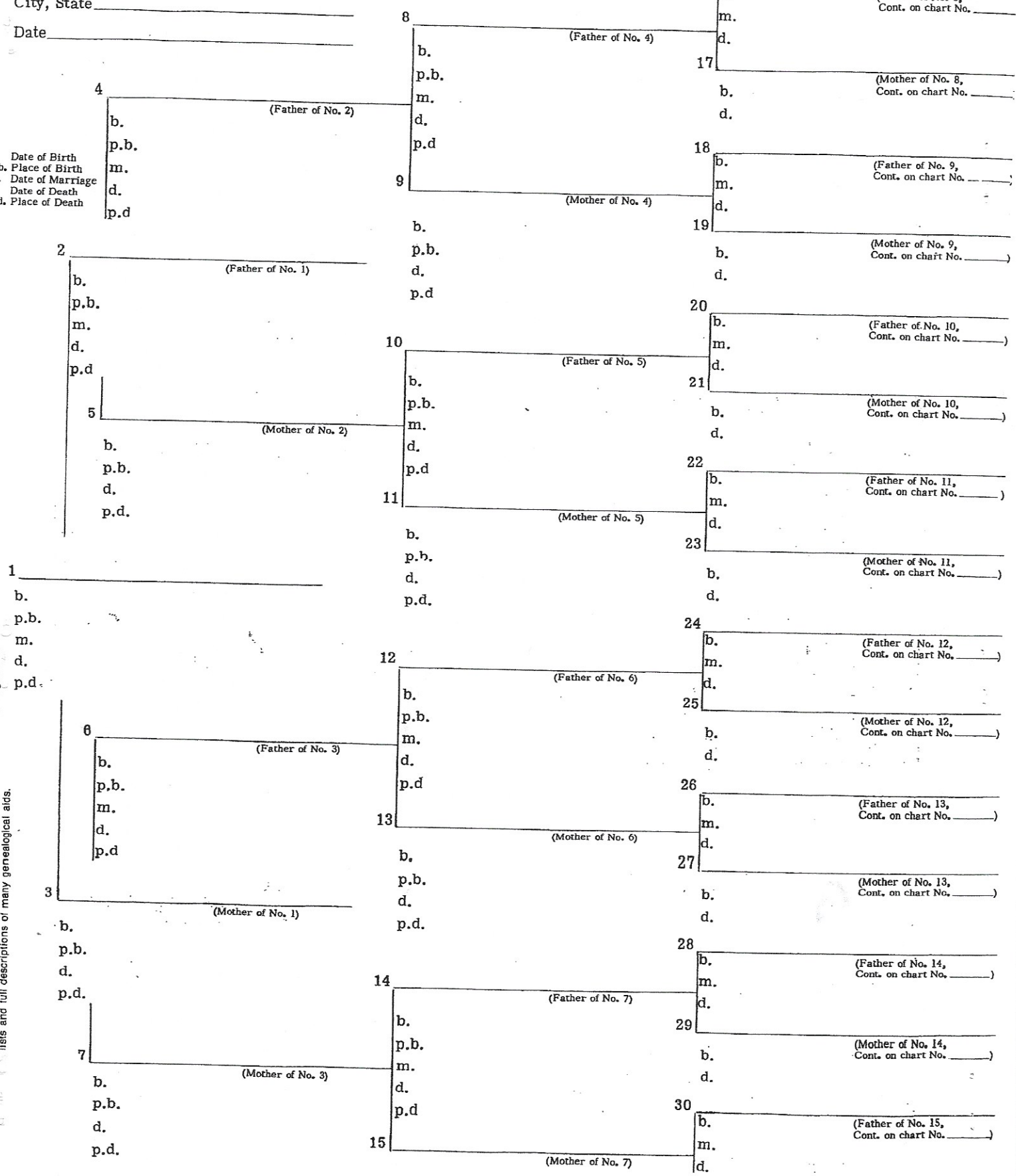
Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler _____
 Address _____
 City, State _____
 Date _____

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

Chart No. 1

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



Form A2. Copyright 1953 by The Everton Publishers, Inc., P.O. Box 368, Logan, Utah, publishers of THE GENEALOGICAL HELPER. Send for a free catalogue with lists and full descriptions of many genealogical aids.

QUERY FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please type or print clearly all information. Use a separate form for each person you are seeking information on. Please capitalize the last name of each person you are seeking information on. Fill in all the applicable blanks. If not applicable, place a dash in that space. Place a question mark where the information is speculative. Use "ca" for any date that is approximate or a good guess.

Subject's name: _____

Date and place of birth: _____

Date and place of death: _____

Father's name: _____

Father's birth year: _____ Death year: _____

Mother's maiden name: _____

Mother's birth year: _____ Death year: _____

Spouse's name: (Maiden name): _____

Spouse's date and place of birth: _____

Spouse's date and place of death: _____

Date and place of Wedding: _____

Subject's children: _____

Subject's siblings: _____

Subject's places(s) of residence: _____

Subject's military service: _____

Any additional information on subject: _____

Queries are free to all members. Non-member fee is ~~\$3~~ \$100 per Query.

Send Queries to:



**ALLEN GENEALOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P. O. BOX 789
KINDER, LA. 70648

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