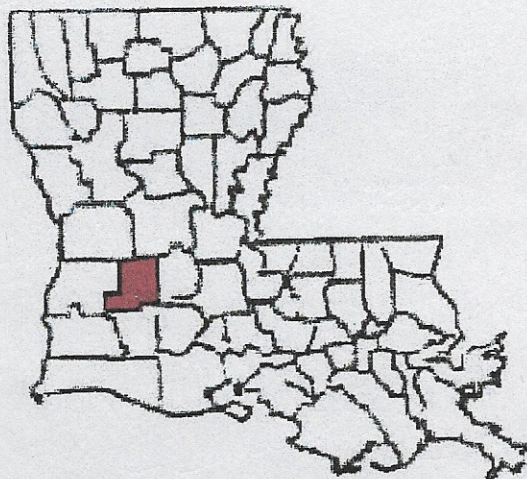


ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 2014

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

Issue No. 247



CROSSROADS

COVERING

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

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2014 OFFICERS:

President—Betty Sarver Vice President—Durvin LaFleur

Secretary/Treasurer/Publishing Editor—Fran Clemmons

Consulting Editor—Ethel Sacker Reporter/Tourism Envoy—Ouida Savant

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY was organized May, 1985 to collect, organize, process, and preserve genealogical material. The purpose of the Society are to promote interest in genealogy, to assist and encourage genealogical researchers in gathering material on historical events and people of Allen Parish, and to help compile family histories. **AGHS** was incorporated in March 1990.

AGHS meetings are held every other month rotating the meetings on the first Tuesdays and Saturdays of the month at 10:00 am in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Library located at 833 4th Street, Kinder, La. Members are willing to help visitors with research and to answer questions they may have.

MEMBERSHIP fees are \$15 per calendar year per person and includes an annual subscription to **CROSSROADS**. Correspondence and dues should be sent to **AGHS**, P. O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648.

CROSSROADS is published semi-annually. Issues will be sent out in January, and July. Please let **AGHS** know of change of address to assure delivery. 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.

EDITORIAL POLICY – 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.

DONATIONS of books, periodicals and other material of genealogical and historical interest relating to Allen Parish are accepted by the Society. We accept family histories, newspaper clippings, old photos, filled out 5-generation charts. The society will catalog these items donated and place them on file in the genealogy room at the Kinder library to be used for research purposes. Memorials and honorariums are also welcomed by the society.

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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PLEASE mark your calendar with the following Allen Genealogical and Historical Society meetings at 10:00 A. M. in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch Library, 833 4th Street, Kinder, La.

Saturday March 1, 2014 Tuesday May 6, 2014 Saturday July 5, 2014

Tuesday September 2, 2014 Saturday November 1, 2014

Welcome to our new member, Kay Hebert , P. O. Box 446, Elton, La 70532

President's Greetings

The AGHS staff has been conducting an inventory of all our material. We are working closely with the new Library Directory on a project that will make copies of information available to the Kinder Library genealogy room. Some items were previously locked away and only used with a member of our society present. The originals will be preserved by the society to make sure the data is preserved.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Durvyn LaFleur, Fran Clemmons and my husband, Charles Sarver, for all their assistance in inventorying our files and preparing them for copying. It is a time consuming task. However, it is proving to be very interesting. We have discovered things we didn't know had been placed in our files by generous people wanting to preserve Allen Parish history. We have also found items that are important to other groups and have donated them to those who will treasure and preserve them.

We are always looking for ways to improve the society and our projects. One change we will be making is our quarterly publication. Beginning in 2014, we will publish every 6 months. This will give us the opportunity to publish a bigger and better periodical. We encourage everyone to send in stories, photos, family group sheets, etc. to be included in the issues. We will be able to print color photos much clearer with the new system so feel free to send them.

With good wishes to you and your family,

Betty Sarver

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President

The Allen Genealogy and Historical Society members have been busy getting all the genealogy materials that have been stored in the genealogy room of the Kinder Library ready to be scanned and indexed for the Library use. Lots of files and materials that the society have had stored in the genealogy room have been under lock and key as the material are the originals of records donated to the society for safe keeping. In the past anyone wishing to get information from these originals would get help from a society member or by attending a genealogy meeting. Last year about this time, the society was told that keeping anything under lock and key is a NO-NO.....So, the society members have been going through and making copies of the materials, and finding places to store the originals. Please be assured that the originals will be in safe keeping. As soon as all the data that the society has is indexed and scanned, and the originals have been placed safely away, I, the editor of **CROSSROADS**, will let everyone know where the originals will be kept, and also will list telephone numbers of the persons to talk about any of the information stored.

CROSSROADS has a new look and a new publishing schedule that the Society is proud of. The publication will be semi-annually, with the first issue in January, and the second issue in July. The Society hope that the publication will be more informative and larger and of course, even better than before. **CROSSROADS** needs your help!!! We need people to contribute something to **CROSSROADS**. Some suggestions for contributions are old Bible records, letters, old school records, land abstracts, pension records, military records, and old newspaper articles. Please help us make **CROSSROADS** more interesting!

The next meeting of the Allen Genealogical and Historical Society will be held at **10:00 am on Saturday March 1st, 2014** 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!!!

IT IS NOW TIME TO PAY YOUR 2014 DUES !!!!

EXCERPTS FROM

ALLEN PARISH

by

John Berton Gremillion

(transcribed by Leora White, 2008)

Allen Parish as an entity dates back only to 1912. Before that time, however, its identity merges retrogressively into that of "Imperial Calcasieu", still farther back into that of St. Landry; and finally becomes absorbed in the vast region of southwest Louisiana known under French and Spanish dominion as the "Opelousas District". This was the hunting grounds of the Opelousas Indians, a branch of the savage Attakapas, known and feared as "man-eaters".

The parish of Allen was named by Governor Jared Y. Sanders in honor of Henry Watkins Allen, Confederate governor of three-fourths of Louisiana from 1864 to 1865. During that one year, by using Confederate money for trade with Mexico, he did such significant work for the restoration of industry in the state that he has been called the single great administrator produced by the Confederacy.

Little is known of the very early settlers of this region, and no definite effort at colonization was made until the latter half of the 18th century. This section was off the regular trade routes, which converged at Natchitoches; it lay also in that "no man's land" between the French Louisiana and the Spanish Mexico. The limits of this disputed territory were never definitely defined, except that it lay between the Rio Hondo and the Sabine River in the Natchitoches district, and extended into lower Louisiana east of the Sabine and west of the Calcasieu River. However, owing to the distance from Spanish posts and to the scarcity of permanent settlers, the boundary question here never assumed the importance it reached in Natchitoches, except in so far as it affected land titles.

The earliest efforts at colonization followed the cession to Spain in 1763. In 1769, Alexander O'Reilly, having found the total population of the Opelousas district to be only 409 persons, encouraged settlers by large grants for land, including cattle, provisions, and farming implements. It is possible that many of the Acadians who arrived in Louisiana between 1765 and 1790 found their way into this prairie country. Under O'Reilly's proclamation all grants of land in the Opelousas district were limited to one square league. Records show many tracts given to Spanish, French, and English grantees between the Calcasieu and the Sabine River. The impetus thus given colonization had by 1788 brought the population to 1985. These grants, though often unrecorded, caused no contention so long as Spain owned Louisiana. After the United States acquired the territory, the Spanish claims, particularly in this neutral strip, became the subject of extensive litigation in Washington. By the terms of the Treaty of 1819, which gave the entire area to the United States, this country agreed to recognize the Spanish grants wherever proof of such ownership could be established.

In 1823 Congress passed an act providing for the execution of the titles to the land in the neutral strip, and agreed to take, in default of any authentic data, the testimony of reliable witnesses. Prominent among these were Jose Mora, Samuel Davenport, and Jose Flores, each of whom established rights to vast areas in what is now Allen Parish.

Allen Parish lies in the prairie section of Louisiana, and is bisected by the Calcasieu River. The soil is classified as prairie, Pine Hills, and wooded lowlands. Formerly this region was considered very low grade land, suitable only for grazing and timber. Stock raising became the chief industry of the early settlers, who furnished New Orleans with many thousands of cattle annually. On the rich lands bordering the rivers and bayous, cotton, corn, and rice were produced. About 1885 a revolution in industry took place here. Previously the culture of rice had been confined to the lowlands along the streams. The discovery that the prairie is under laid by a substratum of hard-pan which retains irrigation water changed the whole process of rice culture in southwest Louisiana. A group of farmers from the Midwest came into the district, bringing northern methods of cultivation. Within the past fifty years, modern machinery, more productive varieties of seed, and improved milling processes have transformed this region into the greatest rice producing area of the nation.

Much of the virgin forest of Allen was cut for lumber before the organization of the parish. Reforestation has been intensively practiced in the past twenty-five years, so that today lumber mills are again active. Cotton, sweet potatoes, and Satsuma oranges are good money crops for the farmers, while experiments as to the adaptability of the soil for tung oil appear promising.

The present day Allen Parish governmental system is the result of compromises between various conflicting social and political ideas. The years before the Civil War were marked by the struggle between Latin and Anglo-Saxon political ideas, with the final outcome a modification of the Latin system. The period from 1861 to 1898 was primarily one of transition, evolution and reorganization in local affairs, embittered by violent radical and political differences. Since the adoption of the Constitution of 1898 there has been comparatively little change, except that a few new offices and boards have been created.

In 1910, an act was passed by the legislature providing for the creation of Allen Parish. The effect of this act, however, was made contingent upon a majority vote for Calcasieu Parish in favor of the creation of this new parish, and upon the territory which was to be set apart showing more than 7,000 inhabitants in the United States census of that year. Because of a disagreement over the number of new parishes to be formed from "Imperial Calcasieu," as well as the division lines between them, an election was held in 1911 selecting 118 delegates to a parish wide division convention, which was held in the Arcade Theatre in Lake Charles in February of 1912. The report of this convention was the basis for the acts of 1912, which created Allen, Beauregard, and Jefferson Davis parishes.

ALLEN PARISH COMMUNITIES, VILLAGES, and TOWNS

ONCE IN OLD IMPERIAL CALCASIEU PARISH

The list below are places that were first found in Old Imperial Calcasieu Parish originally until June 12, 1912, when Allen Parish was created out of Calcasieu. Some of the places were on the border of two parishes and may be seen on different maps as located in different parishes. Over the years some of the places have been incorporated into larger towns, while others were lumber towns that went out of existence when the timber industry died. Some of the places listed below have an explanation of their origin written by Dr. Donald A. Gill, Professor of English and Linguistics, who did the study of names (called onomastics) and was actively involved in seeking origins of names in Louisiana. Some places listed were compiled by the SWLGS in *KINFOLKS* vol. 22 No.2 1998.

Allen Parish Originally created out of Calcasieu, on June 12, 1912, Allen Parish was named for Henry Watkins Allen, famous Confederate governor of Louisiana during the War between the States.

Alligator Creek This small branch was named for alligators which were once present in the waters in the area.

Bay Oakdale was first known as "Bay" and was located between the Calcasieu river and East Bay (a low area of land)

Beaver Creek

Bel This railroad switch was named for the Bel Lumber Company

Bond

Burissa

Coles

Cotton Ball

Coverdale part in Jefferson Davis/and Allen

Creek

Elizabeth Town named for the daughter of Sam Parks, first president of the Old Industrial Lumber Company which built the town Elizabeth.

Emad Two young men from Shreveport, La. came to this area located about two miles northwest of Kinder to start their Lumber company named Peavy-Byrnes, and named the settlement "Emad" which was a combination of their wives first names, Emma and Addie.

Foley

Fontenot This railroad switch was named for the Fontenot family in the area

Foreman Hall

Grant named for James A. Grant, the first postmaster

Guy This railroad switch was once the site of a sawmill town owned by a Mr. Guy.

Hampton

Hamps

Hardy

Hewitt

Hickory Flat

Hoy Station

Indian Village This hamlet was named Indian Village by the first white man in this area, James Nevils. He came upon the Koasati Indians that were settled on the banks of the Calcasieu river and were very sick, some even dying from the measles and pneumonia. Mr. Nevils was able to communicate with the Indians by using sign language how to treat the sick ones to get them better. The Indians named him "The White Medicine Man" .Mr. Nevils made his home and raised his family In the place he named "Indian Village".

Johnson

Johnsonville

Kinder The town was named for James A. Kinder, who took a soldier's homestead of 138.97 acres on the site of the town on July 9, 1889.

LeBlanc This railroad switch was established on the land of Thomas LeBlanc

Mab

Marionville

Mittie This village was named for Mittie Burnett, a resident of the community.

Moeling

Oakburn

Oakdale Originally called Bay. William Dunn was the first postmaster at Bay. He was given a patent by the U.S. Government for 160 acres of land on which he donated 80 acres for a town site which was called Dunnsville. The town later underwent a name change from Dunnsville to Oakdale because of the beautiful live oak trees that were on the town site.

Oaklin Springs

Oberlin This town is the oldest town in the Parish. It was named for Oberlin, Ohio, where the first settlers were from.

Pawnee This railroad switch is the site of an old sawmill town, named for the Pawnee Indians who lived in this vicinity long before the sawmill was built.

Phillip's Bluff

Reeves Town named for Dallas Reeves , a grist mill owner

Reids

Simmons, Mittie

Soapstone The creek was named for the soapstone geological formation along the creek

Tenmile Creek This creek named for its location, ten miles from Pitkin, La. It also served as a distance marker for travelers.

Vizard Was named for the postmaster, Anthony Vizard

Ward

HISTORY OF THE LeBLANC POST OFFICE

In the latter part of the 1800's, Mr. J. M. LeBlanc built a store near his home, about four miles north of the present post office. At the time, there were no bridges across the Calcasieu River. The mail was carried by post (horseback). At this time, Mr. Bob Wrinkle and his family lived about two miles north of the post office. His teenage son, Hardy, carried the mail to and from Kinder everyday. There were times when the river would be too high for him to cross on horseback, so he would cross over by boat. Someone would meet him at the river, then they would exchange mail. After 1908, when the Missouri Pacific Railroad was completed, the post office was moved south of the railroad in LeBlanc. The mail was then carried by train. The mail bag was hung on a rack by a metal hook, and as the train passed through, someone on the train would catch the bag off the hook and then also throw the incoming mail off the train as the train rolled on. A few years after Highway 190 was completed, the post office was moved to its present site in LeBlanc. LeBlanc has had the following postmasters and postmistresses; *J. M. LeBlanc *Jessie Richey *Mrs. Lizzie Richey * Mrs. Ada Johnson * Mrs. Frankie Savoy * Mrs. Hazel Baggett and * Mrs. Helen Gilley, the present post-mistress. (There is no recorded date as when this article was printed in the newspaper)

This brief history of the LeBlanc Post Office was written by Reverend J. E. Wrinkle, Pastor of the LeBlanc Pentecostal Church.

This article taken from an older newspaper clipping. The clipping hasn't any date or origin of newspaper. Rev. Wrinkle lived in the LeBlanc area for many years and was near 100 years old when he died.

ALLEN Parish

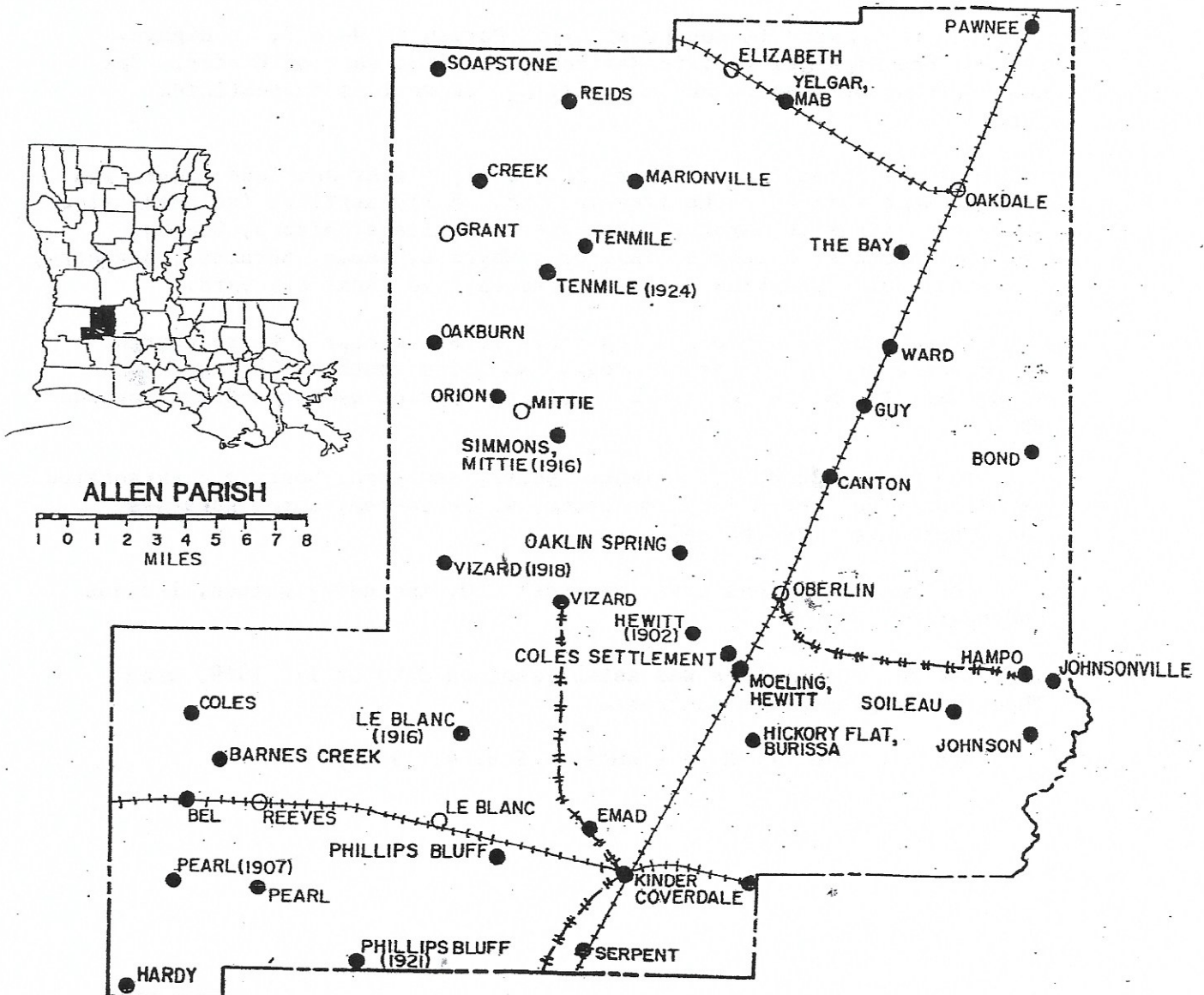
<u>POST OFFICE</u>	<u>Established</u>	<u>Discontinued</u>	<u>Mail to</u>	<u>First Postmaster</u>
Bel	17 Oct 1919	31 Aug 1960	C to RB of Reeves	Thomas J. Hightower
Named for J. Albert Bel - local lumber and land magnate.				
Bel RB	1 Sep 1960	31 May 1978	Reeves	
Bond	22 Aug 1895	27 Feb 1937	Oakdale	John Bond
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Named for the first postmaster. Pop (1895) about 200.				
Burissa	7 Jun 1887	15 Jul 1895	Oberlin	George W. Ford
	re: 7 Oct 1895	31 Jan 1914	Kinder	
Established and re-established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1887) 200-300.				
Canton	30 Sep 1886	15 Apr 1913	Oberlin	James N. Strother
Established in Calcasieu Psh				
Coles	27 Feb 1901	12 Aug 1907	C to Reeves	John A. Bush
Established and changed in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1901) about 30 families.				
Creek	14 Apr 1910	30 Apr 1913	Tenmile	George A. Perkins
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1910) about 75.				
Elizabeth	3 May 1907	OP		Robert C. Adams
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Named for the daughter of Sam Parks - sawmill owner. Pop (1907) about 1000; (1950) 1113; (1980) 454.				
Emad	28 Jun 1913	30 Apr 1927	Kinder	Maude Philyaw
Grant	3 Jul 1894	OP		James A. Grant
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Named for the first postmaster. Pop (1894) 90.				
Guy	26 Jul 1909	30 Apr 1926	Oberlin	Edward E. Richards
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1909) about 200.				
Hamps	4 Oct 1916	29 Apr 1922	Oberlin	Norman Whitaker
Kinder	12 Jul 1892	OP		Charles T. Higgins
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Named for Jim Kinder - first settler and storeowner. Pop (1892) 15-20 in village - 100-150 total; (1910) 635; (1950) 2003; (1980) 2603.				
Le Blanc	20 Dec 1899	OP		Joseph M. Le Blanc
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1899) about 125 - no village.				
Mab	25 Sep 1936	10 Mar 1942	Elizabeth	Charles V. Thompson
Marionville	6 Jul 1910	28 Feb 1913	Elizabeth	Charley R. Hudson
Pop (1910) about 500.				
Mittie	27 Nov 1916	OP		Mittie Burnitt
Moeling	24 Apr 1908	30 Nov 1917	Oberlin	James M. McCain
Established in Calcasieu Psh.				
Oakburn	3 Jul 1916	15 Jun 1918	Grant	William G. Young
Oakdale	21 Jan 1896	OP		William Perkins
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Named by surveyors impressed with the live oak trees found there. Pop (1920) 4016; (1950) 5598; (1980) 7155.				
Oberlin	16 Apr 1890	OP		Charles Powers
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Named for the Ohio hometown of many early settlers. Pop (1910) 232; (1950) 1544; (1980) 1764.				
Pawnee	26 Jul 1897	31 Jul 1922	Glenmora	Joseph H. Kurth Jr
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1897) about 150. ("saw mill")				
Phillips Bluff	16 Jul 1878	15 Apr 1924	Kinder	Henry F. Myres
Established in Calcasieu Psh, then to Jefferson Davis Psh				
Reeves	13 Aug 1907	OP		David C. Creel
was Coles. Changed in Calcasieu Psh. Named for Dallas H. Reeves - Grist Mill Owner. Pop (1920) 243; (1950) 106; (1980) 199.				

ALLEN Parish

<u>POST OFFICE</u>	<u>Established</u>	<u>Discontinued</u>	<u>Mail to</u>	<u>First Postmaster</u>
Reids	25 Apr 1911	14 Sep 1935	Pitkin	Robert A. Reid
Named for the first postmaster. Pop (1911) about 400.				
Simmons	24 Mar 1890	30 Apr 1915	Tenmile	Albert Burnett
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1890) about 100				
Soapstone	30 Jun 1916	15 Feb 1929	Pitkin	Vinie C. Hill
Tenmile	21 Sep 1886	15 Oct 1926	Mittie	Archey C. R. Turner
Established in Calcasieu Psh.				
Vizard	Oct 1911	30 Jun 1919	Emad	Anthony Vizard Jr
Named for the first postmaster. Pop (1911) about 200.				
Ward	26 Nov 1906	24 Aug 1918	Guy	Frederick A. Rice
Established in Calcasieu Psh. Pop (1906) about 500				
Yelgar	15 Jan 1910	15 Oct 1936	Mab	Martin J. Ragley
'Yelgar' is 'Ragley' in reverse. Pop (1910) about 400.				

POST OFFICES NEVER IN OPERATION

Cotton Ball	15 Mar 1918	Never in operation	John G. Hamilton
Hampton	17 Jul 1912	No further reference	Edward L. Williams



Grant

Louisiana has a small community named Grant in Allen Parish. The post office at Grant was established on July 3, 1894, with James A. Grant as the first post master. The current population of Grant is 150 (1968).

(Source: National Archives & Records Service, Washington, D. C.)
April 21, 1968.

BEL

Bel is located in southwest Allen Parish in Ward 3, on Highway 190 and the Missouri Pacific Railroad, 14 miles east of Kinder. Bel was built up by logging and saw milling, as well as turpentine interests.

Bel was named for J. Albert Bel, a big timber and land owner, who brought much work into the area in 1918. Early settlers included Lyles, Dunnehoos, Airharts, Greens, Alexanders, Williams, Nixons, Creeks, Hewitts, Nichols, Beasleys, Thigpens, Wagners, Lands, Burnetts, Baggetts, Colemans, Coles, Perkins, Parkers, Reeves, Lanfranks & Severs.

There were no schools or churches at Bel except a Negro church. There was a school on Barnes Creek, two miles south of Bel, and one at Reeves, two miles east. The children carried by horse-drawn covered wagons.

The main industry was timber, poles, saw logs, posts and turpentine. Cattle provided the main farm income, while cotton, corn, potatoes and sugar cane were the main crops.

The population has never exceeded 250, including whites, Indians and Negroes.

The Bel post office was established on October 17, 1919, with Thomes J. Hightower as postmaster.

(Source: Mrs. E. H. Alexander - Feb. 4, 1968.)



Re-Haul Skidder

Pictured above is a re-haul skidder, also known as a steam skidder. With the use of cables, you could pull logs in from a quarter of a mile away. Logs were pulled back to the railroad and loaded onto the cars. You didn't have to have a horse to pull out the logs. (Photo submitted)

My next stop led me right around the corner from my home to Mr. Elmer Alexander's. Mr. Alexander used to work as a Reforester for J.A. Bel. According to Mr. Elmer, "Logging came about in this area after the big storm of 1918. The first logs were cut from what was called storm timber. The J.A. Bel, Ltd. would go all over the woods at Bel on different switches picking up logs and then returning them to Big Marsh Bayou and the Calcasieu River. A re-haul (steam) skidder was used to pull in logs from a quarter of a mile or so. The logs would then be pulled back to the railroad and loaded on railroad cars. They would then dump the logs so they could be floated downstream to the Lumber Mill in Lake Charles." (The site of the Lumber Mill in Lake Charles was located where the Hilton Hotel

now stands.) According to Mr. Elmer, "Ed Creel was the brakeman on the J.A. Bel, Ltd. and Ab Hewitt was the train operator. Jarvey Hebert was what we called a car knocker. That is, he would oil and grease the cars. He was also the night watchman. Severs was the head bookkeeper for the mill. Then there was George Baggett who was the woods foreman and his brother Leff Baggett who owned teams of oxen. When the train couldn't get far out into the countryside, Leff Baggett's teams of oxen would bring in the logs to the railroad. My uncle, George Alexander, also had teams of oxen."

With a faraway look in his eye, Mr. Elmer went on with his reminiscences. "Why, there were a few accidents during this time. Logging days were hard. Ed Creel was returning on an empty train when he fell off and was killed. And on this side of Barnes Creek, Bud Cole was hauling logs when one fell on him."

Mr. Elmer recalled that logging closed down in Bel around 1925. For a couple of years the sawmill was still in existence under the management of the Mosers. Most of the buildings and other dwellings were still there.

A trip to the J.A. Bel Building

located in downtown Lake Charles, brought forth pictures and a brief

history on the founder of Bel, La. This small community was named after Mr. John Albert Bel. Mr. Bel was considered to be the best all-around mill man in the Southern Pacific Territory. The J.A. Bel Lumber Company of Lake Charles has been noted as being one of the pioneer mills. John Albert Bel was born on December 1, 1857 and

passed away at his home in Lake Charles on December 30, 1918. On December 17, 1879, he was married to Miss Della Moeing Goos. They had three children, Ernest Francisco, Marie Dorothy (Dotcher), and Katherine Moeing.

Reading of this material to be found on J.A. Bel, as in this reporter's report, must have truly been a remarkable man.

No longer are there any standing reminders to show one what a thriving little community there was at the intersection of Hwy. 190 and Topxy-Bel Road. A passing motorist would only think how peaceful and beautiful this part of the country was. How could they know that years ago this was the site of a "Sawmill Town."



PIERRE SAVANT, Civil War Infantryman, walked home to Kinderhook from Virginia with Dupre Marcantel, another Civil War Infantryman, from an area near Woodlawn on Bayou Arsene. Great-grandfather and grandfather of Lee Marcantel of Lacassine. [Source: ~~Source~~]. This print looks like it may have been made from an old tin type but is in remarkably good condition, showing clearly how handsome Savant was.

SAVANT FAMILY REUNION 2014

Greetings to all cousins and friends who receive this happy announcement!

All the Savants of Louisiana origin descend from one of the four sons of Jean Pierre Savant & Marie Louise Guillory: 1) Jean Pierre Savant (the son, born 1806); 2) Ortere Savant (born 1815); 3) Homer Savant (born 1823); or 4) Robert Savant (born 1830). Recently, descendants of all four of these Savant men have joined together to plan and bring about a gathering of descendants from the four branches, and you are invited!

The first annual reunion of the extended Savant family will be held, as follows:

Event: Savant Family Reunion

Date: Saturday, February 22, 2014

Place: Community Center at Washington, Louisiana

Address: 536 St. Landry Veterans Memorial Hwy., Washington, LA, 70589

Time: 10 AM – 5 PM

Purpose: To reconnect with / meet and fellowship with relatives and friends who are part of or associated with the Savant family of Louisiana origin, including those born Savant, and including cousins with other surnames, such as Stagg, Buller, Bushnell, Magee, Cowart, Fuselier, Lovelace, Redding, Fontenot, Shipp, Sittig, Malone, Leggett, Briggs, Marcantel, Anderson, Delafosse, LaFleur, Omlor, Bell, Mouton, etc.

Our Facebook Group: “Savant Family of Louisiana Origin”

The easiest way to access information on the Savant family of Louisiana, including history and photos, to connect with over 350 descendants of Mathieu Savant, and to see updates concerning the 2014 reunion, is through the Facebook group “Savant Family of Louisiana Origin.”

If you use Facebook, and you are a Savant, are descended from the Savants, or you are simply interested in the Savant family, please join our group. If you do not use Facebook, but would like to read about our family’s history and view the photos, perhaps a member of your family, such as a spouse, child, or grandchild, does use Facebook, and could join and show you the contents of our group.

How to join our Facebook group:

1. Go into Facebook.
2. In the search bar at the top, type in the following: Savant Family of Louisiana Origin.
3. Select the group.
4. Request to join.

Savant Ancestry

The first Savant in Louisiana, according to all available evidence, was Mathieu Savant (the son), a French soldier, born 1722 in Thénisy, France, a small village near Provins, approximately 60 miles southeast of Paris. His parents, who apparently lived and died in France, were Mathieu Savant (father) & Francoise Bardeau. His grandparents were Jean Savant & Marguerite Monatte. Mathieu Savant (the son) was in Louisiana at least by 1752. In Louisiana, he only had one son who survived to father Savant children, Pierre Mathieu Savant, born in 1754 in or near Destrehan, Louisiana. Similarly, Pierre Mathieu Savant had only one son who survived to father Savant children, Jean Pierre Savant (the father), born in 1784 in the New Orleans area. Around 1805, this Jean Pierre Savant (the father) moved from the Destrehan/New Orleans area, to the Grand Prairie of Opelousas. There he married Marie Louise Guillory, with whom he had the four sons mentioned at the beginning of this letter, who became the progenitors of all the Savants of Louisiana.

To potentially help find your branch, the following is a listing of the four sons, and some of the grandsons, great-grandsons, and great-great-grandchildren of Jean Pierre Savant (the father) and Marie Louise Guillory. Grandsons & great-grandsons who, according to all available evidence, did not produce Savant sons, or within whose lines it is known to the author of this list (Charles Anderson) that the Savant surname has since died out, were omitted (except for IA1, IC2, IIC1, & IIIB). Please try to find your grandparent, great-grandparent, great-great-grandparent, etc., in the following list. [Please be aware that not all descendants, of whom we DO have knowledge, are listed here.]

I. Jean Pierre Savant (the son), who m. Lucille Fontenot:

A. Adolph, who m. Mary Anne McDaniel

1. John Peter, who m. Catherine Myrthe Milburn (Savant surname has died out in this line)
Children: Mabel Catherine, Thelma L., Odessa, Cora, Beatrice, Lena, John Peter
2. Joseph Matthew "Mack", who m. Lilly Childs (or Charles?)
Children: Adolph, Ruby, Daniel Webster ("Webb"), John/James ("Coolie"), Clifton ("Jack"), Harold ("Chuhkuh") (some nicknames may be misplaced)
3. Nathaniel Isaiah "Buck", who m. Olla Lucie Savant
Children: Drew Adolph, Doris, Nathaniel Isaiah Jr., Frances, Allen Joseph

B. Onezime, who m. Elmina LaFleur

1. Charles Wilford, who m. Lillie Ferguson
Children: Vivian, Vera Althea ("Tessie"), Charles Wilford Jr., Lawrence E. ("Fuzzy"), Eveline (Evelyn) Christina, Viola Melissa, Constance, Mildred Hope
2. Henry Lloyd, who m. Gertrude Laurena Campbell
Children: Marie Lucille, Wilda E., Lloyd E. ("Bush"), Eloise C. ("Lou"), Gladys Emily, Anita ("Nita"), Ruby, Germaine, Stillborn Baby, Frank Burton ("Joe")
3. Onezime Lawrence, who m. Ida Creath
Children: Merick, Hilda, Lionel, Charles

C. Edmond, who m. Mary Lee

1. William Adolph, who m. Marie Virginia Hazelton
Children: Joseph Adrian, Marie Josephine, Alice, Edmond, Lena, Marguerite, John
2. Jean (John) Pierre, who m. Lucretia Foret (Savant surname has died out in this line)
Children: Edmond Ludovic, Mary, Joseph Lee, Hosea, & possibly Wilson
3. Philippe Willis, who m. Alice Deshotels
Children: Loula Gertrude, Rosa Birdie, Sidonie, Jane Elee (or Jimmie Lee?), Philinne Willis Jr

D. Robert Phillip, who m. Frances Elvina Reed

1. Julius, who m. Ruth Stanley

Children: Herman, Charles, Marion Oliver, Warren

II. Ortere Savant, who m. Amedee Delafosse:

A. Pierre O., who m. Odelia Bureau

With his wife, Odelia Bureau:

1. Pierre "Vollet," who m. Sarah Marcantel

Children: Celeste, Eugenia, Evelyn Marie ("Doon"), Gilbert, Sidney Henry

2. Octave, who m. Evia Nevils

Children: Pierre Oscar Sr., Joseph Webb, Clarphy Cecil ("Smokey"), Atley, Joseph Dempsey, Octave Noah ("Bido"), Frank James Sr., Alexander ("Cash"), Nellie Mae, Lorie Mary, Odelia

3. Adam Ernest, who m1. Aurelia Hebert & m2. Aristilia Lee

Children: Morris (with Aurelia Hebert); Adam Jr. & Esther (with Aristilia Lee)

With Margaret Lafosse (Colking):

4. Mateor, who m. at least twice (Azema Fontenot & Marie Alicia Savant)

Children: Victoria, Floyd Felix, Lovania, Robert Raymond (adopted by Chandler family)

B. Onile, who m. Eliza Vidrine

1. Jean Batiste "Eucher", who m. Felicia Foret

Children: Euric, Erodia, Arease, Auklin, Onezia, Lily, Rene James, Kelly

2. Louis W. "Ezano", who m. Mary Alice Granger, & m. Nina Eula Hampton, & possibly more

Children: Mary Alice, Eliza, Mandy, Laura, Stella, Louis Jr. /

Walter Eugene, Florida Martha (with Nina Eula Hampton)

C. Olide, who m1. Arthemise Fontenot & m2. Odelia Bureau

1. Homer/Omer, who m. Adeluse Fontenot (Savant surname has died out in this line)

Children: Marie Ortere, Omer/Homer, Otare, Cammelier

D. Lucius, who m. Elotere Nevils

1. Atal, who m. Annie Soileau

Children: Aubrey, Lee Vernon ("Bubby")

2. Armand, who m. Ursula "Sule" Lormand

Children: Wasey, Lessie, Missie, Rodney, Calley, Ida

E. Hypolite, who m. Elodie/Alodie Nevils

1. John B., who m. Lovinia Lormand

Children: Duke, Mable ("Mimi"), Lucie ("Lulu"), Lovinia ("Ween"), Norris, William ("Bill"), Lenear, Vernelia, Dora Elizabeth ("Bess"), Magdalene

2. Amedee (Amada) (son), who m. Artemise Nugent

Children: Noah, Columbus, Effie, Ethel, Ellen, Clarence, Elsie, Clyde Paul, James Stewart, Jeanette

3. Disca, who m. Estelle Fontenot

Children: Allie Marie, Ellis, Elzie, James, Frank Hughing, Lud, Disca Jr., Joyce

4. Joseph, who m. Edna Ryder

Children: Beatrice, Anna Belle, Anderson. Marie

III. Homer Savant, who m1. Appoline/Pauline Fontenot & m2. Hermina Tate:

Homer's sons with his first wife, Appoline/Pauline Fontenot:

A. Homer (the son), who m. Marie Sydonia Reed

1. Frederick Hugh, who m. Alice Rougeau

Children: Louis Ben, Stanley, Homer, Hugh, Cecile, Roscoe, Gertrude

2. Louis Pasteur, who m. Hattie Montgomery

Child: Eugene

B. Ducis: possibly married an Elizabeth (???), but no apparent proof that he had children

Homer's sons with his second wife, Hermina Tate:

C. Amedee, who m. Irma Guillory

1. Homer, who m. Herodia Soileau

Children: Nicolas, Hampton, Avie (m.), Anna, Olla

2. Regile, who m. Urasie Reed

Children: Edna, Tenes, Onest, Viola, Gladys, Dealy

3. Arthur, who m1. Theresa Soileau & m2. -----? Thompson

Children: Bernice, Abbie (m.), Nathan, Gloria Ann (with Theresa Soileau) /
Linus, Ruth, Beverly (with -----? Thompson)

4. Avie, who m. Lillie Ardoin

Children: Essie ("Jo"), Lura Dee ("Lou"), Elridge

5. Avey, who m. Esther Guillory

Children: Eurven, Nayzel, Herman, Burnell Paul, Dorothy Jean

D. Joseph, who m. Ophelia Fontenot

1. Adam Joseph, who m. Coralie/Cora Lee Vidrine

Children: Lillian, Annie, Anderson, Joseph, Robert Murray, Adam Joseph Jr.

2. Claudius "Claude", who m. Lydia Angeline Johnson

Children: Marie Elta, Annabel Marie, Eddie Joseph, Marie Lou, Della Marie,
Mary Eugenia, Marie Maehaller ("Tootie")

3. Jules Orenuse, who m. Berthe (Bertha) J. Fontenot

Children: Dorothy, Geraldine, Joseph Colombe

IV. Robert Savant, who m. Anaize/Anais Nezat:

A. Robert Antealle (Bob), who m. Octavia Frilout

1. Jack Charles, who m1. Marjorie Curry, m2. Leora Irene Chesser, & poss. m3. Lola Taylor

Children: William "Billy" Ray, Robert Joseph, Richard Lee, Benny Charles

2. William Earl, who m. Lucy Johnson

Children: William Earl Jr., Thomas Erwin

Further Assistance with Savant Ancestry

Any person who would like further information on the four Savant branches of Louisiana, or who needs further help tracing his/her ancestry back to Mathieu Savant (born 1722), the forefather of all Louisiana Savants, may contact Charles Anderson at 832-858-0963; at PO Box 27013, Houston, TX, 77227; or at savantreunion@gmail.com.

Fees for the 2014 Reunion

In order to attain the funds needed to rent the Community Center in Washington, Louisiana, on Feb. 22, 2014, we are requesting \$10.00 from each adult (age 18 years or older) planning to attend. There will be no charge for children (under 18 years of age). In order to help collect the needed funds, and to make necessary payments for the reunion, an account has been opened with Whitney Bank (including Hancock Bank), account # 047131844. Being that our group has no official organization papers prepared, instead of having an account name along the lines of "Savant Family Reunion," we had to open the account under the names of two of the coordinators, Elaine Savant and Charles Anderson.

Registration & Collection of Fees

Please fill out and return only the registration form (either 2 pages, or front & back), along with your registration/building fee (\$10 per adult, aged 18 years or older; no charge for children).

You may make your contribution by one of the following methods:

- A) By check, made out to Charles Anderson, or Elaine Savant
- B) By direct deposit at a Whitney Bank location (please inform bank teller that account is in Louisiana, and PLEASE send us the deposit slip)

To help divide the workload of collecting registration forms & contributions, processing the information, and depositing the funds into the reunion account, please follow this suggestion:

- All attendees who live in Texas; Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana; Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana; or Allen Parish, Louisiana, please send your registration form AND check (or deposit slip) to Charles Anderson:

Charles Anderson
PO Box 27013
Houston, TX 77227

- All attendees who live in the remaining parishes of Louisiana (especially Evangeline Parish & St. Landry Parish), in Mississippi, Alabama, or in any other place not already listed, please send your registration form AND check (or deposit slip) to Elaine Savant:

Elaine Savant
1583 Faubourg Rd.
Ville Platte, LA 70586

For any questions concerning registration and/or fees, please feel free to contact us by one of the following means:

- calling or texting Charles Anderson at 832-858-0963
- calling or texting Elaine Vidrine Savant at 337-831-0601
- by e-mail at savantreunion@gmail.com
- through our Facebook group ("Savant Family of Louisiana Origin")

The Reunion Meal

Six Savant siblings have volunteered to make large gumbos, with assorted meats & rice, for the reunion! All other attendees are requested to bring (per household) either a covered dish (enough to serve 6-8 adults), or enough drinks (and, if possible, ice) for at least 12 adults.

Here is a list of suggested food and drink items (by categories and/or specific examples), from which attendees may choose an item to bring to the reunion:

1. Meat items / main dish items (such as buckets of chicken, hams, prepared sandwiches, etc.)
2. Side items (vegetables, casseroles, potato salads, pea salads, garden salads, fruits, etc.)
3. Children's favorites (pizza, mac-n-cheese, French fries, nuggets, etc.)
4. Desserts (cakes, pies, brownies, cookies, etc.)
5. Breads (already prepared rolls, garlic bread, cornbread, etc.)
6. Appetizers / finger foods (boudin, chips, dips, salsas, etc.)
7. Drinks (sodas, tea, lemonade, etc.) & ice (if possible) •

Other options, including food/drink items and certain non-food items, for which attendees may volunteer to bring to the reunion, will be listed in the Facebook group.

Also, several family members have suggested that attendees taking “famous” or favorite dishes should consider having recipe cards ready, to share with others at the reunion.

What Else to Bring to the Reunion

- Family photos, especially OLD ONES (laptops and scanners will be set up, to scan photos)
- Old family Bibles, documents, etc.
- Other heirlooms (for “heirloom,” Merriam – Webster says: “a valuable object that is owned by a family for many years and passed from one generation to another”)

Please Help Us Get the Word Out

We would love to have as many relatives and friends, as possible, attend the reunion, so please make copies of this invitation letter (including the registration form), and share it with others. If you need the file, in order to make copies, please download it from the Facebook group, or send an e-mail to savantreunion@gmail.com, requesting that the file be sent to you.

Directions to the Washington Community Center

The community center is at 536 St. Landry Veterans Memorial Hwy., Washington, LA, 70589. From I-10 (at Lafayette), or from US-190 (at Opelousas), take I-49 North toward Washington / Alexandria. Take exit 25 for LA-103, toward Washington. Turn left onto LA-103 West. Go ½ mile. The community center will be on the right, just before Family Dollar (on the left). // If traveling from a city north of Washington, via a route passing through Alexandria, Louisiana, from Alexandria, take I-49 South, toward Washington / Opelousas. Take exit 25 for LA-103, toward Washington. Follow the curve to LA-103, and turn left onto LA-103 West. Go ½ mile. The community center will be on the right, just before Family Dollar (on the left).

Savant Family Reunion 2014

Feb. 22, 2014 / Washington, La.

Registration Form

- Please list only the people who will be attending the family reunion.
- If applicable, please list the head of household first.
- Adult: 18 years of age or older / Child: under 18 years of age

Adults:	First Name:	Last Name:	Maiden Name:	Relationship to #1:
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Children:	First Name:	Last Name:	Relationship to Adult #1:
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Mailing Address

Street Address / PO Box:	
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City:	State:	Zip Code:	
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Primary E-mail Address:	
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Phone #: (with area code)		Alt. Phone #: (with area code)	
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Registration/Building Fee [please include \$10.00 per adult, aged 18 years or older]

Check which one applies and fill in all requested information:

A) I am enclosing a check for \$ _____ (payable to Charles Anderson or Elaine Savant)

B) I made a direct deposit of \$ _____ into Whitney Bank (or Hancock Bank),
Account # 047131844, and I am **enclosing my deposit slip.**

Date Deposited: _____ Branch Location: _____

(Please continue to the next page.)

Food / drink item(s) attendee(s) will bring to the reunion*:	
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(*Facebook group members: please see posting, in group, containing non-food items needed for the reunion, for which attendees may volunteer to bring, in lieu of food or drink items.)

Please share with us how you are (or how any member of your household is) related to, or associated with, the Savant family of Louisiana origin. If applicable & possible, please list Savant grandparents, great-grandparents, great-great-grandparents, etc.

For any questions concerning the reunion, please contact us by one of the following means:

- calling or texting Charles Anderson at 832-858-0963
- calling or texting Elaine Vidrine Savant at 337-831-0601
- calling Steven Savant at 337-989-0085
- by e-mail at savantreunion@gmail.com
- through our Facebook group (“Savant Family of Louisiana Origin”)

Special Note: _____

Fontenot Family Cemetery

Friday February 15, 2002

Interview with Dennis Fontenot, son of Earl Fontenot and Laura Belle Lafleur.

Subject: Fontenot Family Cemetery; south of Kinder, LA on Hwy. 165

Written by: Ethel F. Sacker

Bill Fawcett and I had made an appointment to see Dennis at his home. He and his wife, Dee, had just moved into his father's home on East Parish Line Road. Earl Fontenot, the son of Armand "Gisson" Fontenot, died on Oct. 28, 2001, and Laura Belle, daughter of Leon LaFleur and Ozite Ortego LaFleur, is in the Care Center at this writing. Dennis and his wife were most gracious and very willing to share their memories and history. Bill and I were especially interested in the history of the Old Fontenot Cemetery located on Fontenot Property on Highway 165, about 3 miles south of Kinder. The State of Louisiana began buying up property along Hwy. 165 in 1993, in order to widen the highway from I-10 to and through Kinder, so the Cemetery had to be moved.

Arrangements began with the Fontenot family in March 1993 to re-locate the graves to Carter Cemetery. Permits and signatures had to be obtained from all family members concerned. By March of 1994, all was in order, so the graves were moved to a special section of Carter Cemetery on Park Road in Kinder. It poured down raining on that first day, so it took a day or two, to complete the move. Dennis Fontenot said he was one of the family witnesses to the actual moving of the graves. The whole cemetery was placed in Carter in the exact same order as the graves were in the Fontenot Cemetery. A special place was designated in the East section of Carter so that all the Fontenot graves could be placed in one area.

The Fontenot Cemetery was started when Joseph Fontenot's wife, Mary Daleda "Daledé" Langley, died in 1928. She was first buried behind the house. Dennis said she was buried in a pine box for her coffin. That was pretty much the custom at that time. Later, when Emma, a daughter, died, it was decided to designate a section on the South side of the home for a grave-yard for other family members. So Daleda's grave was moved to this site. That was in 1931.

A son, Severin Fontenot, died in the war in 1914, but his body wasn't brought home until later; he was then buried in The Fontenot Cemetery. Through the years, as other family members died, they were buried in this Fontenot family Cemetery, ending up with 17 graves all together.

Dennis related the story of a man called "Nonc" Adam Langley, who came to live in the home of Joseph Fontenot after his wife Daledé died. It seems Nonc Adam was a distant relative, who helped by seeing about Joseph's needs and helping out around the grounds. He lived there until he died. He had no family with him, and he enjoyed going to Chatagnier to visit some friends. After having dinner in Chatagnier one night, he sat on the front porch in a rocking chair, and died. He was brought back to Gisson's house sitting up in the back seat of the car with his hat on his head. Of course this created much

excitement around the neighborhood. This story has been told and retold in the family many times with much French humor. Adam was first buried in the Fontenot Cemetery.

Dennis told about the large dipping vat that was located on the north side of Joseph Fontenot's property. It was used for cattle dipping for that entire area. The cattle would be rounded up by horsemen and herded to the dipping vat on that big day, and Telisma Fontenot, son of Joseph and Daleda Langley Fontenot, was the chief range rider for the event, along with other riders.

Dennis related that after the vat was abandoned and destroyed, nothing green would grow in that section of ground. He figured it might be because the solution used as dip was so strong!

Those buried in the Fontenot Cemetery were:

1. Daleda Langley Fontenot (wife of Joseph Fontenot)
b. 08 November 1874 d. 31 January 1928 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
She was the daughter of Leon Langley and Sidalise Manuel Langley.
2. Emma Fontenot (unmarried daughter of Joseph and Daleda Langley Fontenot)
b. 01 January 1889 d. 26 July 1931 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
3. Severin Fontenot (son of Joseph and Marie Daleda Langley Fontenot)
b. 23 April 1892 d. 06 February 1914. Killed in World War I. His body was brought back to the States later, and he was buried in the Fontenot Family Cemetery. Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
4. Cora Mae Doise (5 year old daughter of Angeles and Alidia Bushnell Doise)
b. 1913 d. 1918 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
5. Lena Saucier McCauley Fontenot (wife of Joseph Telisma Fontenot)
b. 15 February 1904 d. 26 May 1936 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
She was the daughter of Joe Saucier, Jr. and Marie Vize Manuel Saucier.
6. Adam Langley (husband of Ophelia Doise)
b. 17 November 1863 d. 24 December 1939 Reburied in LeBleu Cemetery, in Fenton, LA. Adam was the son of Eli (Hilaire) Langley and Malina LeBlanc.
Ophelia was the daughter of Augustin Doise and Pauline Lafargue.
7. Walter Duplechain (known as "Tse Nome"; husband of Edith Lafleur)
b. 29 August 1905 d. 30 September 1940 Reburied in Green Oak Cemetery
He was the son of Polan Duplechain, Sr. and Julieen Marceneau Duplechain.
8. Joseph Fontenot (husband of Marie Daleda Langley Fontenot)
b. 18 October 1863 d. 27 November 1947 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
He was the son of: Alexandre and Marguerite Doise Fontenot.
9. Ward Paul Fontenot, Sr. (husband of Jeanette Darbonne)
b. 26 May 1926 d. 04 December 1947 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
He was the son of Armand and Lydia Sonnier Fontenot.
10. Angeles Doise (husband of Alidia Bushnell Doise)
b. 01 July 1873 d. 28 May 1952 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
He was the son of : Christoval and Hermina Fontenot Doise.
Alidia Bushnell was daughter of: Pierre Hardy and Alidia Veillon Bushnell.

11. Ralph Adam Nicholas (husband of Mae Fontenot)
 b. 2 June 1882 d. 28 May 1955 Reburied in Oaklin Springs Cemetery, Oberlin, LA
 Mae Fontenot was the daughter of Calice/Calixte and Orelia (Fontenot) Fontenot.
12. Roman Hugh Fontenot (son of Joseph and Daleda Langley Fontenot; and husband of
 Mary Courville) b. 09 August 1898 d. 02 January 1956 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
13. Lydia Sonnier Fontenot (wife of Armand Fontenot)
 b. 29 August 1892 d. 26 February 1957 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
14. Joseph Telisma Fontenot (son of Joseph and Daleda Langley Fontenot; and husband
 of Lena Saucier).
 b. 06 May 1895 d. 06 June 1959. Veteran of WW1. Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
15. Armand Fontenot (son of Joseph and Daleda Langley Fontenot; and husband of
 Lydia Sonnier)
 b. 10 December 1890 d. 04 January 1964. Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
16. Mary Courville Fontenot (wife of Roman Hugh Fontenot).
 b. 11 December 1897 d. 23 December 1984 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.
 Mary was the daughter of Arsene Courville and Celestine Figeron Courville.
17. Glen C. Jones (son of James and Effie Fontenot Jones)
 b. 16 October 1955 d. 20 May 1991 Reburied in Carter Cemetery.

Acknowledgment:

Special thanks to Bill Fawcett for his untiring work; and to the following people for their help in supplying information on the Fontenot Family Cemetery:

Effie Fontenot Jones, Dennis Fontenot, Eulalee "Tiny" (Fontenot) Fontenot , Juanita Langley Spears, Myrtle Fossett Courville, Vera Fossett Marcantel, John Young, Lola Doise Fontenot, and Phillip Reed of Ardoin Funeral Home in Kinder.

The Fontenot Family Cemetery was a landmark of Kinder for over 60 years. As many others can, I remember seeing it along South Highway 165 on many trips to and from Kinder. It was a familiar sight, and in my mind it would always be there. We all miss those "disappearing" things that we have taken for granted for so many years.

The Fontenot Cemetery - submitted by Ethel F. Sacker – was taken from the second issue of CrossRoads, published in Summer of year 2002
 Research was done by Ethel Sacker and Bill Fawcett.
 It is an interesting part of the history of Kinder.

WORLD WAR II CASUALTIES FROM ALLEN PARISH

World War II began on December 7, 1941, when a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian Islands by the Japanese killed 2,400 Americans, sinking 8 American battleships, wrecking 6 air fields and destroying almost all of the airplanes in the islands.

There were men and women from southwest Louisiana who served their country in every theater of World War II. Names of places like, Bataan, Corregidor, Midway, Tulagi, Tobruk, El Alamein, Remagen Bridge, that were never heard of by Americans soon became very much heard of, and countless other places where Americans fought and gave their lives became more than just a small dot on a map. Every passing year the number of U.S. Veterans of World War II leaving this earth are getting greater. The public needs to respect, honor, and know the veterans in our community and pass on to the younger generation the lessons learned from those veterans who served, protected, and sacrificed life and limb for our Liberty.

The following list is of men from Allen Parish in southwest Louisiana who were killed in World War II while on active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces from the beginning of the war on 7 December 1941 to the end of the war on 15 August 1945, and to the cut-off date of 31 January 1946. The list does not include deaths which resulted from disease, homicide or suicide, nor does it include any civilians...Red Cross workers, Merchant Marine nor any other civilians serving in any capacity with the Armed Forces. The list may not be complete or entirely correct.

The following abbreviations have been used:

A---U. S. Army or Army Air Force

AR---Army Reserve

AF---U.S. Army Air Force (if specified)

CG---U. S. Coast Guard

CG---Coast Guard Reserve

DOW---those who were wounded and later died.

DOI---those who suffered fatal battle injuries (as opposed to wounds) and died in a line-of-duty status.

DNB---died of non-battle wounds, such as plane crashes and car wrecks. A local man picked up an enemy grenade which exploded and killed him.

Fod---finding of death under Public Law #490, which provides that either conclusive proof of death must be made or at least a year had passed from his time of disappearance and the person must be presumed dead. This status affected pay, allowance to dependents, insurance payments and probate of wills and estates. A small percentage of these cases may have been deliberate desertions.

M---Missing person

MC---U.S. Marine Corps

MCR---U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

N---U. S. Navy

NR---U. S. Naval Reserve

R---Reserve

NAME	RESIDENCE	RANK/SERVICE BRANCH	DEATH
	ALLEN PARISH		
ARDOIN, DOMINIC	Oberlin	Pvt. /A	KIA
ASHMORE, WILBURN JAMES	Elizabeth	Seaman 2c/n	
BASS, SIDNEY J.		Pvt./A	KIA
BISHOP, HENRY M.	Oakdale	2nd Lt./A	DNB
BUXTON, J. B.		Pvt./A	KIA
CANTER, COLUMBUS	Oakdale	S/Sgt./A	DNB
CARROLL, MALCOLM DILLARD		Machinist's Mate/N	
COHEN, EDWARD	Elizabeth	Seaman 2c/NR	
COKER, BRYANT	Oakdale	Pvt./A	KIA
COKER, IRA WAYNE	Oakdale	Cpl.	KIA
COLESON, WILLIAM FRANCIS	Oberlin		KIA
DOUGET, GILBERT P.	Oakdale	Pvt.	KIA
DOWIES, KIRBY		Pfc./A	KIA
DURAND, ARCHIE W.		Cpl./A	KIA
ETHERIDGE, EARL W.	Oakdale		DOW
GARCILLE, FREDDIE		Pvt./A	KIA
HARGROVE, ELVIN	Glenmora	Pvt./A	DNB
HUDSON, OTIS W., Jr.		S/Sgt./A	KIA
JOHNSON, ELWOOD E.	Oakdale	Pvt./A	DNB
JOHNSON, LEROY		Sgt./A	KIA
KARAM, WILLIAM K.	Oakdale	Sgt./MC	KIA
LANGLEY, ORA		Pfc./A	
LAWSON, JOHN P.	Oakdale	Pvt./A	KIA
LARRY, SOLOMON	Oakdale	Seaman 1c/NR	
LEJEUNE, BAUFORD J.	Oberlin	/N	KIA
MORENO, CHARLES LEO	Oakdale	Pfc.	KIA
NEVILS, ALVIN L.	Kinder	Pfc./A	KIA
ODEN, RICHARD EUGENE	Kinder	Machinist's Mate 3c/N	KIA
PERKINS, JOHN W.	Oakdale	Pfc./A	
POTTS, CHARLES E., Jr.	Oakdale	Pfc./A	DOW KIA

QUINN, DURAN F., Jr.	Elizabeth	2ndLt./A	DNB
REED, JOHN GRIFFORD	Oberlin	2nd Lt./A	FOD
REEVES, LEROY M.		Pvt./A	KIA
RILEY, LLOYD M.	Kinder	Pfc. MCR	
SANDEFER, J. Y.		Pvt./A	KIA
SINGLETON, JOSEPH O.		Pvt./A	DNB
SIMMONS, JAMES D.	Oakdale	S/Sgt.	DNB
SMITH, JOHNNIE E.		Pfc./A	FOD
SONNIER, LEONCE	Kinder	Pfc./A	KIA
STROTHER, WILLIE A.	Oberlin	2nd Lt./A	KIA
TAYLOR, JOSEPH D.		Pfc./A	KIA
TOWNLEY, M. L.	Oakdale	Pfc.	
TRAMEL, CECIL B.		Pvt./A	KIA
TUBRE, HENRY ORAN	Oakdale	Seaman 1c/N	
WEST, WILLIE	Oakdale	Pfc./A	DNB
WILLIAMS, LEONARD SHELBY	Oakdale	Sgt.	KIA
WINDHAM, WAVERLY V., Jr.		Sgt./A	KIA
WOODS, WAYMOND		Pvt./A	DNB
YOUNG, GEORGE A., Jr.	Elizabeth	Radarman 3c/NR	
YOUNG, JULIAN B.	Kinder	Pvt.	KIA

Source of this information taken from KINFOLKS, VOL.23 NO.2, 1999 ISSUE

WWII MILITARY RECORDS ON THE WEB

NARA Website <www.archives.gov>, then go to World War II.

National Personnel Records Center—unload Military Request Form SF180 for World War II.

<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/standard-form-180.html>

Department of Veterans Affairs <http://www.va.gov/>

U. S. Army Center of Military History <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/>

U. S. Army Military History Institute. <www.carlisle.army.mil/usamhi/photodb.html>

A million photographs, mostly personal snapshots mainly from the Civil War, WWI and WWII. To view photos, see <www.carlisle.army.mil/usamhi/HPOL.html>.

U. S. Coast Guard (part of the Homeland Security during peacetime and part of the Navy during war) <http://www.uscg.mil/default.asp>

U. S. Marine Corps Historical Center <http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/hd/>

U. S. Merchant Marine <http://www.usmm.org/>

U. S. Naval History Center <http://www.history.navy.mil/>

Source of this information taken from KINFOLKS, VOL.31 NO.4, 2007 ISSUE

LEST WE FORGET

APRIL IS CONFEDERATE HISTORY MONTH. Confederate History month is a month annually designated by six state governments in the Southern United States for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the history of the Confederate States of America. April has traditionally been chosen, as Confederate Memorial Day falls during that month in many of these states. Although Confederate Memorial Day is a holiday in most Southern States, the tradition of having a Confederate History month is not uniform. State governments or chief executives that have regularly declared Confederate History Month are as follows: * Alabama * Florida(since 2007) * Georgia (by proclamation since 1995, by legislative authority since 2009) * Louisiana * Texas (since 1999) * Virginia (1994-2002, 2010)

MEMORIAL DAY. Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday, which occurs every year on the final Monday of May. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Memorial Day was formally known as Decoration Day and originated after the American War between the states to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the civil war, by putting flowers on the graves. By the 20th century, Memorial Day has been extended to honor ALL Americans who have died while in the Military service. On the next Memorial Day Celebration, as we face the threats of terrorism and war, let us honor those fallen heroes who paid such a great price for our freedom. Memorial Day is not to be confused with **VETERANS DAY**. As already stated, Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving, while Veterans Day celebrates the service of **ALL U.S. MILITARY VETERANS**. Let us never forget our Veterans.

.....

LINCOLN—LEE CONNECTION. ABRAHAM LINCOLN and ROBERT E. LEE, leaders of opposing forces in the War between the States, were cousins. Their lineages have been traced to a common ancestor. Col. RICHARD LEE, who arrived in Virginia in 1642 and died in 1664. LINCOLN's branch of the family descended from WILLIAM LEE, while LEE's family was descended from RICHARD LEE, both of whom were sons of the Col. RICHARD LEE.

SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION FROM KINFOLKS, VOL.27 NO.2 - MAY 2003/ TAKEN FROM "THE KENTUCKY EXPLORER"via The Family Tree

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
State of Louisiana
Governor
Kathleen Babineaux Blanco

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** on January 26, 1861, the state of Louisiana declared itself to be a free and independent state and subsequently joined the Confederate States of America of which it was a member state from 1861 until 1865; and
- WHEREAS,** the state of Louisiana contributed many soldiers and sailors to the service of the Confederate States; and
- WHEREAS,** the Louisianans who served on both sides of the American Civil War are memorialized in almost every parish in the state; and
- WHEREAS,** all citizens of the state of Louisiana should study the War Between the States, as we study all wars, so that we may understand the historical events which compelled the war and, from that understanding, continue to learn to live together and seek to avoid future conflicts.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the state of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim April 2006, as

CONFEDERATE HISTORY MONTH

in the state of Louisiana.



Attest By
The Governor

A. O. A. A.
Secretary of State

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this the 27th day of March A. D., 2006

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor of Louisiana

HAS ANYBODY EVER HEARD OF THE KATZENJAMMER KIDS?

In the event that you are not familiar with *The Katzenjammer Kids*, here is a little history----*The Katzenjammer Kids* is an American comic strip created by the German immigrant *Rudolph Dirks* and drawn by *Harold H. Kerr* for 37 years (1912 to 1949). The comic strip was regarded by many as the first true color comic strip. The main characters in the comic strip were *Mama Katzenjammer*, her twin sons, *Hans* and *Fritz*, and the long suffering target of their mischief, *The Captain*, who acted as a surrogate father. Other characters in the strip included *der Inspector*, an official from the school system, *John Silver*, a pirate sea captain and his crew, and *King Bongo*, a primitive-living but sophisticated-acting black jungle monarch who ruled a tropical island. Several of the characters spoke in stereotypical German—accented English. The main plot of the strip was *Hans* and *Fritz* would pull a prank or trick on one of the adults which resulted in their being hunted down and given a spanking in the end panel. *Katzenjammer* translates literally as *the wailing of cats*.

Now for the rest of the story!!! My mother would always talk about the Katzies, but she was referring to her youngest sister, Ouida, and her baby brother, Pierre. My mother, Mary was four years older than Ouida, and six years older than Pierre. The two younger siblings were like twins and my Grandmother often dressed them alike. My mother was always quiet and never got into trouble, but the almost twins were always up to things that got them in hot water so to speak. They were labeled ***The Katzenjammer Kids*** early on because of the capers they pulled. One story that was told about the ***Kids*** was that one time Ouida and Pierre were making mud pies and decided that they needed sugar to go in their pies, so they got a cup and walked down the road to their Aunt Devenia's house and told her that their mother needed to borrow a cup of sugar. She got the sugar for them and away home they came to finish making the mud sugar pies. Later on that day, my grandmother was out and she noticed the glistening mud pies and questioned the ***Kids***, and they had to tell what they did. It was getting late in the afternoon, but my grandmother wanted them to take back a cup of sugar to replace the cup they borrowed from Aunt Devenia . The two started crying(cat

wailing) and were afraid to go, so my grandmother told my mother, Mary, to go take the sugar back. My mother was afraid and fearful of the dark and refused to go. My mother got a spanking because she was disobedient, but she has always told the story of what happened and would tell everyone, because of *The Katzenjammer Kids*, she got the first and only spanking from her Father. There are many more stories to tell about *Hans(Ouida) & Fritz(Pierre)*, so until next time, that's the story and I'm sticking to it!!!

OH MY! I NEED HELP!!!

These requests are reputed to be actual correspondence received by the Family History Department and have been found in various quarterlies and on the Internet.

Our 2nd great-grandfather was found dead crossing the plains in the library.

He and his daughter are listed as not being born.

I would like to find out if I have any living relatives or dead relatives or ancestors in my family.

The wife of #22 could not be found. Somebody suggested that she might have been stillborn---what do you think?

I am mailing you my aunt and uncle and three of their children.

Enclosed please find my Grandmother. I have worked on her for 30 years without success. Now see what you can do.

I have had a hard time finding myself in London. If I were there, I was very small and cannot be found.

This family had 7 nephews that I am unable to find. If you know who they are, please add them to the list.

We lost our Grandmother. Will you please send us a copy?

Will you please send me the name of my first wife? I have forgotten her name.

A 14-year-old boy wrote, "I do not want you to do my research for me. Will you please send me all of the material on the Welch line in the U. S., England and Scotland? I will do the research."

I read all of these requests listed in KINFOLKS, VOL.23 NO.2, 1999 ISSUE and just had a good laugh and so I wanted to share with you.

QUERY FORM

Date: _____

Name: _____

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 \$3.00 per Query.

Send Queries to: Allen Genealogical and Historical Society, P. O. Box 789, Kinder, Louisiana 70648

2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

TO: ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 789

KINDER, LA. 70648

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

\$15.00/ Individual Per year

NAME _____
First Middle/Maiden Last

MAILING ADDRESS _____
_____ City State Zip Code

PHONE NO. _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): _____

QUERY(S) You wish published in *CROSSROADS*. Please include names, dates, locations, and information desired for each query.

I am willing to contribute Articles for *CROSSROADS* _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:



My Family Lineage

B. _____
M. _____
D. _____

B. _____
M. _____
D. _____

B. _____
M. _____
D. _____

B. _____
M. _____

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M. _____
D. _____

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