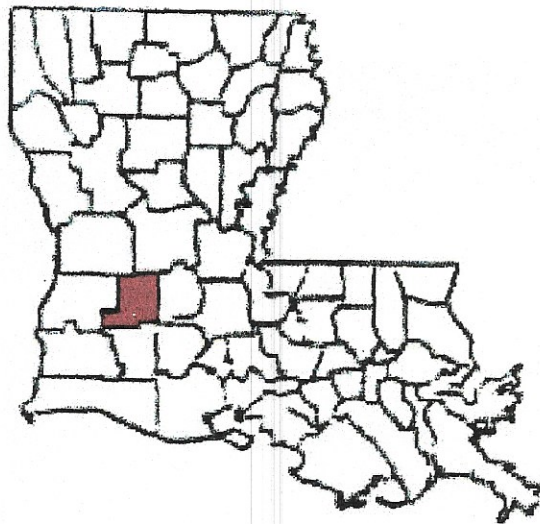


ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January, 2019

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

Issue No. 257



CROSSROADS

COVERING

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

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2019

President --- Betty Sarver

Vice President --- Durvin LaFleur

Secretary / Treasurer / Editor --- Fran Clemmons

Reporter / Tourism Envoy --- Steve Fontenot

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 complete family histories. AGHS was incorporated in March 1990.

AGHS regular meetings are held every other month on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Library located at 833 4th St., Kinder, La. Workshop meetings are held the following month on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the genealogy room of the library. 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**. Any Correspondence and your dues should be sent to AGHS, P. O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648

CROSSROADS is published semi – annually. Please let AGHS know any 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 assure 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 genealogical and historical materials such as books, periodicals, family histories, newspaper clippings, old photos, filled out 5-generation charts are accepted by the Society and each item donated will be cataloged and placed on file in the genealogy room of the Kinder Library to be used for research. Memorials and honorariums are also welcomed by the Society.

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL

and

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter, 2019 Issue # 257

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Please mark your calendar with the following Allen Genealogical and Historical Society meetings, the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM in the genealogy room of the Kinder Library located at 833 4th Street in Kinder, La.

*Feb. 5, 2019 --March 5, 2019 --April 2, 2019 --May 7, 2019 --June 4, 2019
 July 2,2019 -Aug 6,2019 -Sept 3,2019 --Oct 1,2019 -Nov 5,2019- Dec5,2019*

THIS PUBLICATION IS DEDICATED IN MEMORIAM TO:

**LORETTA ANN (NEVILS) HEADRICK - A FRIEND, A FAMILY
MEMBER, AND A LONGSTANDING MEMBER OF THE
ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

IN MEMORY OF
LORETTA N.
HEADRICK

Loretta Ann (Nevils) Headrick, 82, passed away Friday, January 25, 2019, at the Kinder Retirement and Rehabilitation Center in Kinder, Louisiana where she lived for many years. Before going to live in the center, Loretta lived in the Indian Village community.

Loretta was born on January 28, 1936 and was the daughter of Joseph T.(Toot) Nevils, and Blanche Nevils; granddaughter of Marius Nevils and Sarah Doise; granddaughter of Theodore Nevils and Dorsaline Marcantel; great-granddaughter of Pierre Nevils Sr. and Eleonor "Ellen" Buller.

She is survived by two children, Joey Duncan and wife Kay, Rose Dandridge and husband David; two sisters, Freddie Meaux and Frankie Cansler; two grandchildren, Michelle Newman and husband Roger, and Tina Dandridge; two great-grandchildren, Amelia and Luke Newman.

Funeral services for Loretta were held in the Indian Village Pentecostal Church of Indian Village, where she was a long time member. Rev. Terry Bushnell and Rev. Carrol Bushnell officiated her services. Burial was in the Nevils Cemetery in Indian Village.

Loretta was a member of the Allen Genealogical and Historical Society and had served at one time as the assistant editor of the society publication, **CROSSROADS**. She was a valued society member and friend and will be missed greatly.

President's Greeting

Here we are in a New Year!

2018 was a very good year for our society! We made lots of progress on some projects, made new contacts to work with, and acquired new members. We have also received donations of books and other materials for which we are very grateful.

Due to the progress in two of our projects I appointed two more members to our staff; Caroline Fontenot, archivist for obituaries, and Stephanie Bankster, archivist for our photo collections. They are both doing excellent work collecting, organizing and cataloging their respective projects. We truly appreciate they diligence in these projects.

These cold winter days are a good time to spend some hours researching those long lost relatives. Double check some of your former sources; they may have new information since you last checked on them.

I want to wish everyone a Very Happy New Year!

Betty Sarver

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.....fran clemmons

I start this letter to you today with a thanks very much to the **AGHS** members, Colonel Don Ladner(US Army Retired) , Dr. Mike Karam, and Leavon Rostom Ladner for their contributions for this issue of **CROSSROADS**.

The Society welcomes new members, **Laura Hanchey Hall** , **846 Andrew Mouhot Road, Ragley, La. 70657** and **Deborah L. Bryner**, **11810 Ellen Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99515**, to our group. I thank Deborah also for the article she wrote for this issue of **CROSSROADS**.

The **AGHS** received an updated query request from Kathleen Plake from Park Hills, Kentucky. She enclosed photos and asked that they be published in **CROSSROADS**, hoping that our members and readers might recognize the persons in the pictures, and if so, please let the Society know so we might pass the information on to Kathleen.

I need your attention and **HELP** in getting material to publish in **CROSSROADS**. Any advice, or comments, and even criticism you may have to offer, I would appreciate very much.

AGHS regular meetings are held every other month on the first Tuesday of the month and workshop meetings are to be held the following month on the first Tuesday of the month. The meetings are held in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Libraries located at 833 4th Street, Kinder, Louisiana at 10:00 A.M. The Society extends an invitation to you to come join us on February 5th, 2019 and bring someone with you. Coffee and fellowship begin when you arrive.

*The nice thing about memories is that they don't spoil no
matter how long you keep them!!!*

*....if it wasn't for **PROCRASTINATION**.....i'd never get
around to not getting around to anything.....*

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!!!

Syrian Contribution to Allen Parish

Submitted by Colonel Don Ladner and Michael Karam, DDS

According to Phili Hitti, who wrote an authoritative early history titled *The Syrians in America*, almost 90,000 people from Greater Syria arrived in the United States between 1899-1919. He further noted that at the time of his writing, in 1924, "it is safe to assume that there are at present about 200,000 Syrians, foreign-born and born of Syrian parents, in the United States." It is estimated that between 1900 and 1916, about 1,000 official entries a year came from the districts of Damascus and Aleppo, parts of modern-day Syria, or the Republic of Syria. Most of these early immigrants settled in urban centers of the East, including New York, Boston, and Detroit. Although Islam is the predominant religion of Syria, most of the early emigrants from Greater Syria were Christian.

Immigration to the United States occurred for several reasons. New arrivals in America from Greater Syria ranged from seekers of religious freedom to those who wished to avoid Turkish conscription. But by far the largest motivator was the American dream of personal success. Economic improvement was the primary incentive for these early immigrants.

The majority of the early Syrian immigrants arrived in the United States seeking better jobs; they usually engaged in basic commerce, especially peddling. Syrian American peddlers found their jobs comfortable since peddling required little training and mediocre vocabulary. Syrian American peddlers served as the distribution medium for the products of small manufacturers. Syrian peddlers traded mostly in dry goods, primarily clothing. Networks of Syrian traders and peddlers across the United States aided the distribution of Syrian settlements; by 1902, Syrians could be found working in Seattle, Washington. Most of these peddlers were successful, and, with time, and after raising enough capital, some became importers and wholesalers, recruiting newcomers and supplying them with merchandise. By 1908, there were 3,000 Syrian-owned businesses in the United States. By 1910, the first Syrian millionaires had emerged.

Several factors combined to promote the rapid assimilation of early Syrian immigrants. Primary among these was that instead of congregating in urban ethnic enclaves, many of the first immigrants from Greater Syria took to the road as peddlers. Dealing daily with rural Americans and absorbing the language, customs, and mannerism of their new homeland, these peddlers,

intent on making business, tended to blend in rapidly with the American way of life. Service in the military during both World War I and World War II also hastened assimilation.

According to the United States 2016 Census, there were 187,331 Americans who claimed Syrian ancestry.

Many of the early Syrian immigrants found their way to South Louisiana and to Allen Parish. The descendants of these early immigrants have made notable and lasting contributions to the area. Besides the many merchants and businessmen, there have been many who have risen to prominent positions in the local community such as doctors, lawyers, government officials and others who have become famous in even wider circles of entertainment, academia, literature, media and music.

Here is a listing of some of the aforementioned Syrian immigrants and/or descendants and their specific contribution to Allen Parish:

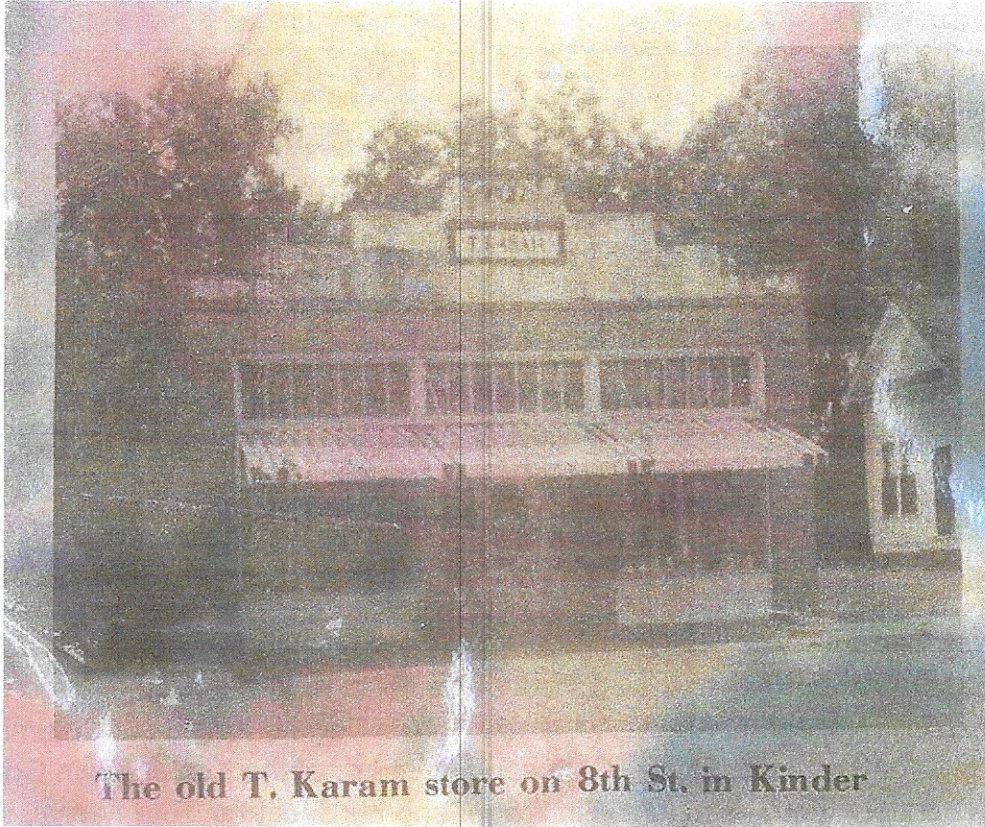
Karam Family. Widow Alouf Karam (15 Mar 1862 – 10 Jul 1935) was the first to come to America. She joined her brother, Antone, settling in Lecompte. Peddling goods from door to door, she saved enough money to finance her son, Habib's, trip to freedom. Soon he was aboard an ocean vessel, bound for the USA. His brothers were to follow his lead, even to settling in Louisiana. Habib came in 1907, Sarkis in 1910 and Tom in 1920.

Habib ended up in the town of Oberlin, while his brother, Tom, chose to live in Kinder, ten miles to the south. A third brother, Sarkis, made his home in the small town of Fenton, about ten miles south of Kinder. Since all three of them were merchants, it wouldn't have been good business to locate in the same town.

Habib Karam opened Karam's first general store in Oberlin in a spot facing Main Street, directly across from the present city hall. The family lived in the back of the store.

Before too many years went by, the business outgrew the first little store. With the move to a new frame building on the corner of Main and Seventh, Karam's Store became *the* general store in Oberlin. There had been many others: Funchess, Darbonne, Smith, Prudhomme, and St. Romain. Karam's eclipsed them all.

Many people told that during The Great Depression, 1929-1934, that they could not have survived without the charity, help and generosity of the three Karams brothers, Habib, Sarkis and Tom, during Those hard times.



The old T. Karam store on 8th St. in Kinder



Sarkis Karam Store in Fenton

Businessmen

1. Thomas Joseph "Tom" Karam (15 Jul 1898 – 27 Jun 1984), a native of Syria, immigrated to the US in 1920 and lived most of his life in Kinder. He ran a large store. He was a member of Msgr. Cramers Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, a charter member of the Kinder Rotary Club and a member of the Kinder Town Council. Tom's son, Michael Karam, is a dentist in Kinder and his daughter, Rita Karam, was a Catholic Sister.

2. Albert Karam (25 Jun 1925 – 4 Jul 1984) was born in Oberlin and lived in Kinder his last 12 years. He was manager and owner of Karam Ford Company. He was a charter member of Knights of Columbus Council 2893 and was active in the Rotary Club, Boy Scouts and other church, civic and school activities.

3. Paul Joseph Doumite, Sr. (25 Dec 1911 – 18 Nov 1995) was born in Syria, but lived most of his life in Kinder. He was a businessman, owning and operating a wholesale, bulk fuel distribution center. He had two sons, Paul Jr. and Jerry.

4. Syrian born, Antoine Joseph Ashy (3 May 1878 – 9 Oct 1952) and Joseph "Joe" Cook (20 Mar 1891 – 23 Oct 1955), immigrated to America and ran the Ashy & Cook dry goods store on 8th street in Kinder. Antoine was the father of Fred Ashy. Joe had three sons and two daughters. Syrian born, Katherine Booz (2 Jan 1883 – 28 Nov 1949), also, had a dry goods store on 8th street in Kinder.

Professionals



Dr. George B. Mowad

1. Dr. George B. Mowad (5 Feb 1932 – 18 Sep 2000) practiced medicine in Oakdale for 40 years. He was selected as the 1993 Louisiana Family Physician of the year by the Louisiana Academy of Physicians. Dr. Mowad was chief of medical staff of Oakdale Community Hospital and conducted over 500 free physicals each year for two high schools in Allen Parish. He, also, donated the land for his church and the Oakdale Library.

2. Dr. Michael Karam, DDS, (1936) is a practicing dentist in Kinder. Mike graduated from the Loyola School of Dentistry in New Orleans in 1960 and returned to Kinder to establish his practice. Mike, very involved in many aspects of community service, is a long-time member of the American Legion Post in Kinder.

Government Officials

1. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. George B. Mowad served as Mayor of Oakdale for 20 years from 1972-1992. Dr. Mowad organized and served as the past president of the Oakdale High School Alumni Association and was past president of the Louisiana Municipal Association, the Oakdale Lions Club, Oakdale Athletic Association, and the Knights of Columbus. He was a retired US Air Force Major.

2. Fred Antoine Ashy (4 Sep 1928 – 11 Oct 2004) was born in Kinder and lived here all his life. He retired from Tennessee Gas after 36 years. He was the mayor of Kinder for 23 years and was a U.S. Army veteran. He was past grand knight of Council No. 2893, captain of Kinder Volunteer Fire Department, board member for Head Start program and committeeman on the prison board. He was also a member of the following: Kinder City Council, Allen Parish Tourist Commission, United Way, Acadiana Trails Association, IMCAL, Allen Action Agency, Allen Parish libraries, Allen Council on Aging, Kinder Chamber of Commerce, VVA, Kinder Rotary Club and Lions Club. He was District D vice president of LAM and Boy Scouts cub master for 16 years, He was the 1995 Kinder Citizen of the year. He was a fourth-degree Knights of Columbus member of the VFW. He was a lector, usher and Eucharistic minister at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church. One of Fred's daughters, Theresa, served as a Catholic Nun in Rayne.

The newly constructed City Hall building in Kinder was named in honor of this larger than life mayor— the Fred A. Ashy Municipal Building. Fred loved Kinder and, in return, its residents loved their mayor.



Mayor Fred A. Ashy



3. Norman Deumite, Sr. (1 Jan 892 – 25 Dec 1965), a merchant by trade, served as Mayor of Oberlin for many years in the nineteen forties-fifties. Norman was a Corporal in the 156th Infantry during World War I. He was a Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

SYRIAN LORE

The following article was taken from a publication, (Collection of Folklore from the Parish of Acadia—MAIS, JAMIS DE LA VIE!) written and compiled by the English students of Crowley High School in 1976. Mr. Stanley Leger was the Principle then and his wife, Kathryn Leger was the class sponsor. The following is an interview with Georgia and Albert Karam:

The primary reasons for Syrian immigration to the United States was the desire for religious freedom. The Syrians were primarily of Greek Orthodox or Roman Catholic faiths and were persecuted for their Christian beliefs in the old country. Non-Christian groups often kidnapped them for military services and even murdered them as they worshipped in church.

In the United States they have clung to their religion, keeping palm leaves from year to year, burning vigil candles, and praying both the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night. Baptisms and weddings are very special occasions and are celebrated with food and music following the religious ceremonies.

Easter is perhaps the holiest day of the year for Syrians as it represents resurrection and rebirth. Many abstain from eating meat and all animal products during Advent as well as Lent. On Easter Day, leban, a home made yogurt, is eaten because its whiteness represents the purity of Christ. Eggs are boiled in yellow onion skins to give them a dark red color, symbolic of the blood of Christ. The egg itself represents new life.

The feast days of St. Barbara and St. George, the Syrians patron saints are also special times. Many of the children are given these holy names and their homes contain pictures of St. George slaying the dragon.

Coming to the new world with very little, many of the people began as peddlers and gradually worked their way up to become prosperous merchants. Today many are civic leaders and well to do businessmen.

Religion was only one important element of Syrian life. Other very important things in their lives are their family, music, and food. Family unity is one of the factors that helped them overcome the difficulties of building a new life in a new land and is still prized today.

Spicy, exotic Syrian foods are still laboriously prepared and enthusiastically eaten today. People of many different nationalities enjoy the "natural" foods eaten by Syrians.

Even though many Syrians cling to their old traditions and customs, most of them feel a strong sense of loyalty and love for the United States. Upon hearing complaints about paying taxes, an older Syrian man responded by saying, "Taxes are a small price to pay for all the freedoms we enjoy."

RECIPE

Kibbie:

*2 lbs trimmed beef
2 cups cracked wheat
2 large onions, quartered*

First soak the wheat for thirty minutes in water. Then drain it with a colander and grind it up with the meat and onions. Knead thoroughly, adding cinnamon. Level off with salt and pepper to taste.

Syrian Dressing:

*3 large onions finely chopped
2 lbs hamburger meat
¼ cup chopped pecans*

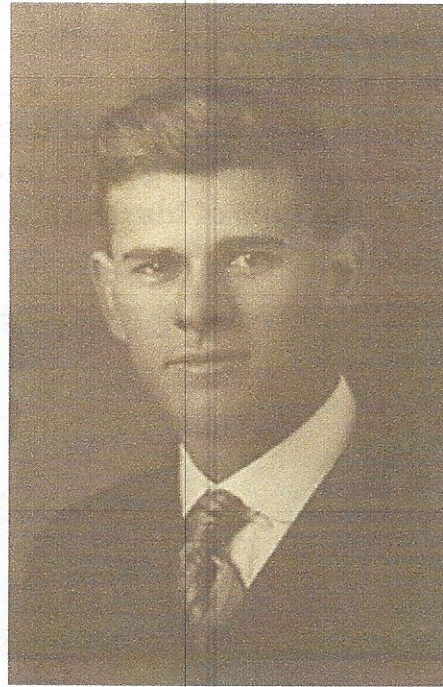
First fry hamburger separately; do not make into patties, then add onions and pecans and continue to cook. Add salt and pepper to taste. After it is cooked, add a tablespoon of cinnamon and cook for five minutes. Continue to stir.

Fried Kibbie:

Make small kibbie balls by hand; Press a hole in the center with forefingers. Fill the hole with dressing, close the hole, then fry in deep fat.

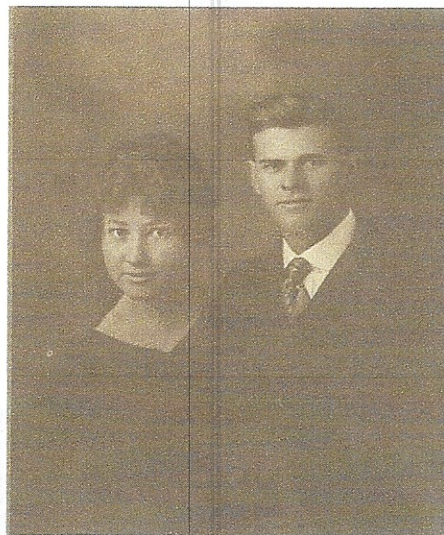
24 Year-old Kinder Resident Killed by Lightning

Submitted by Niece Leavon Rostrom Ladner



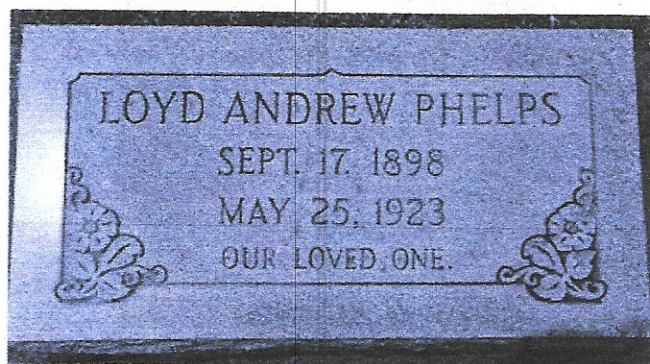
Loyd Andrew Phelps was born in Kinder, Louisiana on September 17, 1898, the only son of Charles Julius Phelps and Alma Eugenia Johnson Phelps. Loyd had one sister, Hazel Amanda Phelps Rostrom.

Loyd Andrew Phelps married Winnifred Hill on December 7, 1920. She was the daughter of Thomas Jay and Lovina Hill.

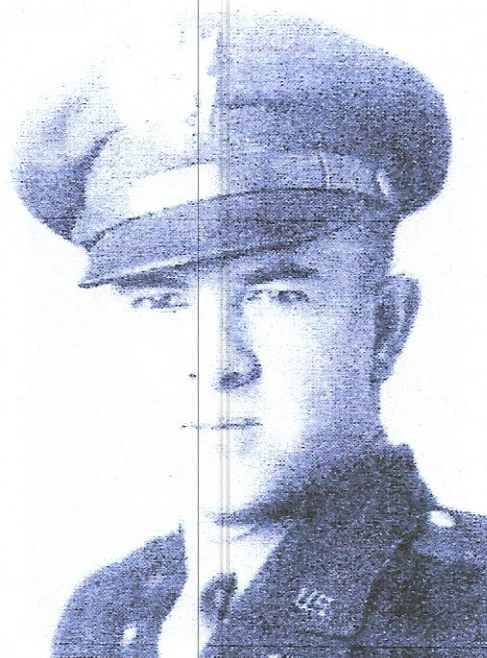


Loyd Andrew Phelps and Winnifred Hill had two children: 1. Victor Lloyd Phelps b. July 30, 1921 and 2. Myrtle Winnifred Phelps b. March 6, 1923.

Loyd was killed along with his horse and one of his two dogs when struck by lightning on the evening of May 25, 1923 just northeast of Kinder. Loyd on a mission to round up his cows, sought refuge under a tree during a heavy thunderstorm when the lightning struck. A second dog returned home alone which caught the attention of family and neighbors and sent them looking for Loyd. Loyd was 24 years old at the time of his death. He is buried in the Kinder McRill Cemetery in Kinder, LA.



His son, First Lieutenant Victor Loyd "Vic" Phelps, was a decorated US Army Air Corps pilot during World War II who was shot down over Italy and spent several years in three different German prison camps.



Man. Went To Rescue of
Child, Both Went Down.

TWO DAUGHTERS SAW
TRAGEDY FROM BANK

Bodies Were Recovered
Shortly Afterward By
Two Young Men.

Special To American-Press.

Oberlin, La., June 21.—In a double drowning in the Calcasieu river, near the Cole settlement, Allen parish, father and son lost their lives late Sunday afternoon while in swimming.

The father, A. E. W. Jaques, 45 years old, of Oberlin, had gone to the rescue of his nine-year-old son, Frank, who had gotten into a deep hole and was calling for help. The father's attempt was unsuccessful, for the boy grabbed his father around the neck and they both sank.

Two young daughters of Jaques witnessed the tragedy from the banks of the river, but they were powerless to save their father and brother. While one of the girls remained at the scene, the other ran to a nearby house and summoned Mld and Zalton Cole, youths, who dived into the river and shortly afterwards recovered the two bodies at a spot near where the drowning took place.

The tragedy occurred about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The bodies were viewed by Dr. A. J. Heflin, coronor of Allen parish, who pronounced that death was the result of accidental drowning.

Jaques was a farmer. He moved to Oberlin about six months ago and began farming a place 4 miles south of Oberlin, belonging to George M. King, Jr., of Kinder. Jaques came to Allen parish from Leesville, where he is said to have formerly been a member of the Llano colony, near there.

Jaques leaves a wife and a baby five or six days old, in addition to several other children. His mother lives in Pasadena, Calif.

Correction: Baby was 5 or 6 MONTHS old.

Father and Son Drowned in Calcasieu River

**A. E. W. JAKUES
AND BOY, OBERLIN,
WERE VICTIMS**

Jaques Family Members Drown in Calcasieu

Submitted by Great-Granddaughter Deborah Bryner

Photos submitted by Colonel Don Ladner

Family Background. In 1913, a Socialist attorney named Job Harriman purchased a parcel of desert land in the Antelope Valley, 45 miles from Los Angeles in Southern California, on which he established a Socialist colony which he called Llano del Rio. The Colony did well for a short time, but ultimately it was necessary to move from California (mainly by train) to a small town in Western Louisiana that was founded by the Gulf Lumber Company. The company had cut every board foot of lumber available by 1917 and abandoned its properties. These were purchased by the newly renamed New Llano Cooperative Colony and the move began in 1917.

On December 7, 1909, Rachel Mary Greta married Albert Edward Whyland Jaques. He was a machinist and she was a professional seamstress. I am their great-granddaughter, and I am also the family genealogist. One of the prized pieces in my collection is my great-grandmother's diploma from her dressmaking college.

In 1911, Albert and Rachel Jaques welcomed their first child, Eleanor. Her life was cut short by the 1918-1919 Spanish Influenza epidemic. Between 1912 and 1920, five more children were born to Albert and Rachel Jaques: Rachel (1912), Alice (1914), Albert (1916), Frank (1918), and Chester (1920).

It was after Eleanor died that the Jaques family made the decision to move to a former lumber town in Louisiana called Stables, which in 1917 was renamed New Llano. It is possible that the pain of losing their daughter Eleanor was the reason behind the family's move.

Another unknown in the family history is Albert E.W. Jaques' political affiliation. Our family does not yet know why Albert and Rachel Jaques joined the Colony, but it is clear that this did indeed take place. Our best guess is that the family made the move several years after the birth of their youngest son Chester in 1920. Evidence of the family's involvement in the Colony can be seen in the pages of *The Llano Colonist*, a newspaper published on-site and dated March 11, 1922. At that time, A.E.W Jaques was working in the Colony sawmill, cutting railroad ties which were to be sold to cover Colony bills.

By 1926, the Jaques family had left the Colony and were living on the Senator Odom Pecan Farm in Elton, Louisiana. This was located not far from the New

Llano Cooperative Colony site. Albert E.W. Jaques was a machinist and was employed as a pumphouse operator in the Louisiana rice fields.

Louisiana Drownings. My grandmother, Rachel Mary (Jaques) Zirwes wrote an essay in 1930 which tells the story of a tragic family outing on 20 June 1926. It was a hot day; Albert's wife Rachel had a headache that day and elected to stay home with two-year-old baby Ida rather than to join Albert and the other children on their outing to a swimming hole located at Cole's Bluff on the Calcasieu River.

Rachel Jaques was just twelve years old on that June day. She describes the swimming hole at Cole's Bluff as being quite deep, with a sharp drop-off and a strong current. Frankie was not an expert swimmer; nor was his father. The boy "lost his balance and was struggling furiously to keep from being drawn beneath the water. A current carried him to the deepest part of the river," according to Rachel. Albert rushed into the water in an attempt to save Frankie, but in his panic, the boy wrapped his arms around his father's neck and pulled him under the water. They both drowned in front of the remaining four children: Rachel, Alice, Albert and Chester. Upon recovery of the bodies, father and son were buried on June 21, 1926 in the Kinder Cemetery.

Recent Happenings. Fast forward to 2011. I am a historian and family genealogist, and the story of Great-Grandfather Albert and Frankie is one that resonates in our family to this day. This was a loss of epic proportions, all the more so when one considers that a mere seven years before the drowning, my great-grandparents had suffered the loss of Eleanor, their eldest daughter. I found the graves of Albert and Frankie after a search of Find a Grave, a website which lists cemeteries and seeks to connect the genealogy community with ancestors and their places of interment.

Col. Don Ladner (Ret.) is a volunteer with Kinder McRill Cemetery (formerly Kinder Cemetery) and I contacted him to request a photo of Albert and Frankie's grave, which he very kindly provided.

Fast forward seven years to January 2018. I was able to travel to New Orleans with my husband Paul for a history conference, and we made plans to visit Kinder so that I could pay my respects to Albert and Frankie. The grave was in a terrible state, as you can see from the photos. Albert's marker was the only one that still existed, and it lay in two pieces atop the broken cement slab which covered the grave.

Seeing the photos of Albert and Frankie's grave was a shock. The marker for Albert, the dilapidated condition of the grave...I felt very strongly that I needed to do something to remedy the situation, but I did not know what I could do - I live in Anchorage, Alaska, after all, and do not know anything about cemetery markers or who makes them in the Kinder area.

It was at this point that I sought help from Don Ladner. He and Randy Jemison are the ones who came up with the solution and who were instrumental in helping me to bring some closure to the deaths of Albert and Frankie...and to pay a proper tribute to them. They negotiated with several local monument companies, got and accepted (with my approval) an excellent offer for new granite headstones for the graves of Albert and Frankie.

In the near future, it is my wish to make my way back to Kinder so that I can walk down to Cole's Bluff and the Calcasieu River and pay my respects at the place where Albert and Frankie died.



Albert Jaques Family

(Frankie second from right.)



Albert and George Jaques Original Gravesite



Deborah and Paul Bryner
Visit Jaques Gravesite After Rains



New Headstones at Jaques Gravesite

QUERY

The following query is updated from 2015 from Kathleen Plake. She is interested in the following families: LANIER, GILL, REEVES, and WATSON. Note photos below. Let the society know if you recognize the persons in these pictures. Any information on the mentioned families above very much appreciated. Kathleen Plake, 602 St Joseph Ln, Park Hills Kentucky 41011.

Names on back of photo.....

*Jessie Lee Gill
Dorothy Lanier
Mattie Lanier
& sister, Due Lanier*

*{parents of sisters Mattie &
Due were Morgan M. Lanier &
Lillian Clements}*



*Greatgrandfather Benjamin
William Lanier*

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P. O. BOX 789

KINDER, LA. 70648

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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. _____

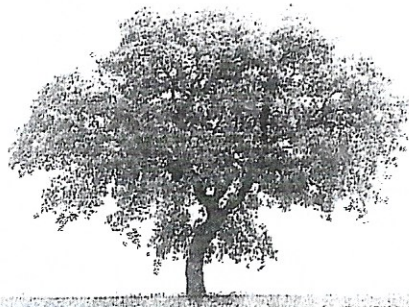
B. _____

M. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____



B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

B. _____

M. _____

D. _____

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