

Keeney Update

VOLUME XX, Number 4

SEPTEMBER 2003

IN MEMORIAM ---

BLANCHE KEENEY STEPHENS

"proud to be a Keeney"

"These tears I shed are not in vain, He soon eased the pain
And every day I listen to be sure He calls my name;
Then silently I bow my head, and praise our Lord above
For allowing ME immersion in His Eternal Love."

From KEENEY UPDATE Sept 2002, written by

Blanche Keeney Stephens 31 January 1974

E-Mail 25 June 2003 from skipparoo314@aol.com:

BLANCHE PASSED AWAY TODAY AFTER A LONG BATTLE WITH LUKEMIA. FUNERAL AND BURIAL WILL BE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 28, IN TOLLAND CT. IMMEDIATE SURVIVORS: Julie (Mrs Bill) McNabb and granddaughters Jennifer and Ashley McNabb.

A dedicated family genealogist and descendant of Peter Keeney, whose family lineage was a lifetime passion. In 1968 she wrote "I always had thought that one's own surname would be the easiest to run down. Not so. Still, if I can spark enough enthusiasm in some of the existing Pulaski (KY) Keeneys, I'd like to put it all together in book form, a nice sequel or companion to yours."

By December 1986 Blanche's vision had grown. During the summer of 1982 she had traveled and visited Keeney kin in Pulaski KY, central Indiana, all over Missouri and broadened her vision and her files. In November 1986 she asked that KEENEY UPDATE carry an ad, The Search For Peter Keeney. Her goal now was to publish a series of eight books, covering each of his eight identifiable children (we already had enough information for books on Michael (MO and TX) and Moses, her immediate line, in Kentucky and Missouri). She promised printing on 8 1/2" x 11" acid free 24 pound stock, approximately 500-800 pages. Research continued with quarterly ads in the GENEALOGICAL DIGEST.

Meanwhile Blanche left her addresses in Orroville and Fresno, California, to join her daughter in Connecticut and to be a special nanny for her new grandchildren. But this came to an abrupt hal in November 1998 when Blanche's car was totaled (as was his) by a collision with a drunken driver. The result was fractured ribs, whiplash, shoulder and back injuries, and months of being unable to follow her accumulation of material for her "book".

Not long after a slow recovery, Blanche learned that she was a cancer victim with a diagnosis of leukemia. Prayers were solicited far and wide and news of recovery never came to her beloved family and genealogical friends.

After faithfully mailing KEENEY UPDATE quarter after quarter with frequent personal inquiries, I received this note in Blanche's handwriting on April 26, 2003: "I AM TRYING TO HOLD MY OWN. THANKS FOR ASKING." Blanche

GENEALOGY OF BLANCHE KEENEY

(from her self-printed PEDIGREE chart)

born 14 Nov 1878 in Pulaski Co KY, daughter of EDWARD HILTON KEENEY (14 Nov 1878, 11 Jan 1954) and Esther M Stroud b.3 Dec 1891 Yuba Co CA, d.12 Mar 1976 Fresno CA

1968 note: My father was quite a hero in the Spanish

(continued on next page)



Roger W. Keeney mans the helm of his namesake vessel on its maiden voyage.



ROGER KEENEY FAMILY LINE:

Father: Charles Frederick (Fred) Keeney
b.1-17-1901 at Marmet WV; d.10-10-1980
at Summerville SC; riverman

Mother: Lucy Leone Bonham 1907-1972;
gifted church pianist and homemaker

Brother: Donald Frederick b.1960

Sisters: Nancy Chloe Keeney 1931-1940

Kay Virginia Keeney King b.1934

Biddie Ann Keeney Whitlock b.1938

Grandparents: Traber Gatewood Keeney 1874-

1946 & Chloe Ann Young Keeney 1875-1961

Great-Grandparents: Rev Thomas Y Keeney

1848-1922 & Eliza Ann White 1852-1934

Great Great Grandparents: Michael R Keeney

1804-1875 & Elizabeth Ann Gatewood 1811-1882

continued

BLANCHE KEENEY STEPHENS

American War, serving in Cuba at the onset. He was discharged but reenlisted. He then went to the Philippines and was discharged in 1901. He was 4 when I was born. I found him in the 1880 census.

grandparents: William Perry Keeney b.1 Nov 1847 in Pulaski, 126 Jun 1912 Casey Co KY & Josephine Bonaparte Crutchfield b.27 Mar 1859, d. 1887 in Casey Co; married 29 Jul 1875

MOSES KEENEY b.23 Jul 1821 Pulaski Co, d.9 Apr 1891 in Pulaski; m. Mary Ann Sharpe b.1821 Whitley Co KY, d.23 May 1908 Pulaski Co

HENRY KEENEY b.1798 KY, d. after 1870 in Pulaski; m.

Elizabeth Waddle c.1801, d. after 1870

PETER KEENEY b. c1740 - migrated from Roanoke Co.

VA with Matthias Yocum and party in 1780/1 to Lincoln Co KY

From HARTFORD COURANT 26 June 2003:

Blanche Keeney Stephens, 77, of Vernon, was granted peace after a long fight with leukemia June 24, 2003 at Hartford Hospital. She grew up in Fresno CA, graduating from Roosevelt High in 1943. In recent years she moved to Vernon CT to be near her granddaughters. She was a published poet, recognized in WHO'S WHO IN POETRY 1978. She was a family historian whose research has been published, and has served as consultant to genealogists all over the country. Other interests were bird watching, needlework, a love for the outdoors and her favorite four-footed Arthur.

Blanche was predeceased by her former husband, Ernest C. Stephens of Victorville CA. She is survived by her daughter and favorite son-in-law JULIA STEPHENS McNABB and WILLIAM ROBERT McNABB of Tolland, granddaughters Jennifer Julia Guerard and Ashley Linnea Mour, and sisters Helen Noyes of Fresno CA and Doris Vance of Bishop CA and step-sister Velma Funk of Downey CA.

The Rev Steven L Thayer officiated at the funeral service at the Tolland Memorial Funeral Home at 10 A. M. Saturday, June 28. A private interment followed. (Written for KEENEY UPDATE 9-2003)

FAMILY MEMBER ASSIGNED EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY IN ST. THOMAS, VIRGIN ISLANDS

Phyllis Sue Walker, born 7-7-1948 to Marvin Richard Walker and ADA LENORA KEENEY, daughter of John S Jr & Rosa Cline Keeney of WV, married Nicholas Joe Risk on 7-15-1968 in Florida, where she went with her mother after a car accident took the life of her father soon after her birth.

Lenora and her husband had been married by the Rev C B Jackson, favorite family pastor, in 1946.

All that is old news. But the latest news is this; Reverend Sue Risk, of 123 McMullen Booth Rd., S #112, Clearwater FL 33759, has responded to a call from her church, New Beginnings Fellowship, to minister in preaching, teaching and praying for people, going wherever God directs, in the Virgin Islands, beginning August 11, 2003. She will be completely dependent on God and her supporters to fund the ministry. She will be ministering in St. Thomas in a new church, the House of Refuge Deliverance Center. Checks for her support can be made out to NEW BEGINNINGS FELLOWSHIP; receipts for tax deductible donations will follow.

CAPT. ROGER WYATT KEENEY

(continued)

It could be said that Roger Wyatt Keeney was born to be a boat man. As a young man, growing up in his home town of Witcher, WV the family home was situated on a lovely knoll overlooking the Kanawha River. As a young man, Roger worked for his father, Fred Keeney, who operated a river transportation and construction company, T. G. Keeney Sons, a business originally founded by Roger's grandfather, Trabor G. Keeney.

It was during this time that Roger probably began thinking that life on the river, hopefully as a boat captain, might be in his future. After a hitch in The US Coast Guard, serving on PT Boats patrolling the Caribbean Sea, Roger returned to civilian life and resumed working for his Dad, until the business was sold in 1962. He then went to work for the O. F. Shearer Company as a pilot. He was promoted to boat captain two years later. O. F. Shearer was sold to Indiana Power Co. in 1973, and later became American Electric Power Systems (AEP), with all employees being transferred with the changes.

AEP's River Division is currently located on the Ohio River at Lakin, WV. It owns and operates 15 towboats, 2 harbor boats, and over 600 barges. In 2000, AEP delivered over 28,000,000 tons of coal and aggregate products. It also maintains two maintenance docks where it performs repair work for AEP barges and towboats as well as other customers marine equipment.

Until his retirement from AEP in 1965, Roger worked as Captain, with a license calling for no limited HP or tonnage on the Mississippi River and all its tributaries. At intervals he relieved the Port Captain and on occasion, also relieved the Dock Superintendent. During his last few years with AEP, his duties included training new pilots while doing his regular job as Captain.

While he was working, Roger's family had located to the Charleston, SC area and after retiring, Roger and his wife Eta also settled in that lovely historic city on the Atlantic coast. "Home is the sailor; home from the sea." - but not too far from the sea!

It was shortly after Roger's retirement that AEP announced that they were building four new 2800-hp towboats and that one of the boats would bear his name. This was a nice tribute because AEP boats are normally not named for former captains who are still living. In its company newsletter, "The Helm" AEP stated: "Captain Roger Keeney recently retired from River Division with 32 years of service. His distinguished career is marked by outstanding leadership abilities, while maintaining a balance between management and crew members. He trained many of our present employees and remains an excellent role model for them."

To further honour him, AEP brought Roger and Eta to their Charleston home for the launching of the *Roger W. Keeney* at the Jeffboat Shipyards in Jeffersonville, IN. To his great delight, Roger was asked to skipper his new... namesake on her maiden voyage back to the company's docks at Lakin. It must have been a great feeling, tooling along the Ohio with a brand-new boat under you - and bearing your name along its side!

In a letter to *Keeney Update*, Roger sums up his feelings: "I have 35 years of life on the river, of which I wouldn't trade a minute of it because of the experiences I've had. I loved every minute of it, and never wanted anything else. I'm proud and thankful that I was able to accomplish my hopes and dreams."

"For the company to build a boat and name it after you - that's tops. They did and that's the M/V Roger W. Keeney."

TIOGA CO PA 1860: (all Keeneys) Adelia 13, Alvira 5, America 24, Celesta 10, Clarinda 10, Clarinda 52, Henrietta 15, Henry S 36, Irene 39, Israel p 56 b.NY, Jane 19, Lenilda 32 b.NY, Ruth 4, Thomas 43, VanBuren 8, Victor 24

Janette Alyce Hodges, born 7 Mar 1923, married CLARENCE CALVIN KEENEY On 11 Mar 1944. Her husband was born in 1921 to William Summers and Bertha bias Keeney in Boone Co WV. He died on 28 Oct 1997. He had been a prisoner of war during World War II in Luxembourg.

Woman donates to Putnam seniors

By Chandra Broadwater
cbroadwater@winjazzette.com

WINFIELD — Since she's not going to live forever, Jeanette Kenney thought it would be a good idea to give away some money. As a result, the Winfield Senior Citizens group will have \$10,000 more to help build a center.

Kenney met Thursday with the group's board members and presented them with a \$50,000 check, the first installment of three she plans to give them. They're going to use the money to begin construction on a new building sometime at the end of the summer.

"I read about the group needing money in the paper," said Kenney, a resident of Racine, Home County. "I thought, I'm not going to live forever. Why not help them?"

Kenney said she wanted to do something in honor of her late husband, Clarence C. Kenney,

who died several years ago of brain cancer. Donating to the Winfield Seniors would do that and help others at the same time, she said.

Her only requirements were that the group keep her informed of the construction process and that the building be named after her husband.

Kenney said friend and financial adviser Jim Skornis initially brought the Putnam group's plight to her attention. He's a resident of the Putnam County side of town.

"We both thought that it would be a good thing to do," Kenney said. "I believe in doing good and helping people. I hope that by doing this, it will bring in more money for them."

Before her donation, the seniors had about \$12,000 of \$850,000 needed for the center. They've been busy for the past five years with bake sales, yard sales and soliciting donations to raise money.

In the meantime, they've also been holding meetings and activities at the county Board of Education building. Volunteers set up and tear down after each gathering, piling the group's belongings into cars and storing them at someone's house for the next time.

In February, the Winfield organization's efforts began to pay off. Putnam County commissioners gave the group a 1.6-acre plot of land located behind the Board of Education building. Seniors signed a renewable 20-year lease with the commissioners for the land.

The organization also got a \$20,000 grant from the state to operational costs over the course of half a year, as well as \$75,000 from the state Lottery Commission that they hope will be on the way, said Leonard Cornell, a seniors board member.

"I'm very excited and grateful," Cornell said. "It's very encouraging. But we still have a

long way to go."

Kenney said she's just glad to

help. "She said her husband worked hard for their money, operating a hardware store in Charleston while she worked at the Chesapeake and Putnam Telephone Co.

Since they don't have children, she said she wants to make sure it goes to good use.

"I could search the world over and not find a nicer and better man," she said. "That's why I did this."



BOB OSGOOD is pictured here in the doorway of Rebecca Nurse House in Salem

GAYLE KEENEY RAGER, FAMILY NOVELIST, VISITS SALEM, MA



June 1, 2003

Part One of Book One ("Crossing Jordan") has gone to my proofreader, Ruby Doherty (my pastor's wife), who recently accompanied me on a research trip to Salem Massachusetts. I am now working on the sea voyage.

My research trip to Salem is a rousing success. I accomplished many great things, one of which was the location of the Keeney graveyard. Since most of the early markers were made of wood, none of them were left, however, I did find a couple of graves from the Dale family (into which the Keeneys married).

Bob Osgood, the curator of the Rebecca Nurse house, who graciously gave Ruby and I a private viewing of the property, told me of the graveyard's existence. He said that Henry and his family and descendants were buried there. He also told me where to find the old Putnam Family graveyard and the location of the grave of little Ann Putnam, who began the hysteria of 1692. Her grave, which also contains the remains of her parents, is only a large mound, completely and understandably unmarked.

Ruby and I also located Henry Keeney's land, which runs between the ends of Nichols and Preston Streets in Danvers. I was able to gather some dirt and a small stone from the land, as well as a large rock from the Keeney graveyard.

Mr. Osgood also told me that when the Keeneys originally came to Salem, they lived on Liberty Street. The house, of course, is long gone, but I did manage to get my picture taken under the street sign. Mr. Osgood, who is of indeterminate age, suffering from a recent stroke, which left him partially paralyzed, was a wealth of information on the Keeney family's early beginnings. Never did I imagine when I first contacted him regarding a private viewing of the Nurse property, that he would spend so much time gathering information about our family in preparation for my arrival. He also allowed me to take a photograph of an old picture of the house of George Jacobs. The Nurse estate has the only copy in existence of that photo.

Ruby and I also toured a replica of the original meetinghouse, which was built for the filming of the movie, *Three Sovereigns for Sarah*. The inside is original and Mr. Osgood allowed us to listen to a presentation that is being prepared for tourists. He also permitted us to take many pictures of the meetinghouse and allowed us to view the upstairs of the Rebecca Nurse house (which is usually off-limits to tourists). I have an entire CD filled with pictures and a storehouse of wonderful memories.

On our last day in Massachusetts, Ruby and I drove to New Hampshire. I had found a tourist brochure in the hotel lobby and learned that there were four towns in the state that were the first settled. Knowing that Sir Thomas immigrated to New

(continued on next page)

From KEENEY UPDATE, Vol 1, No.3
JUNE 1984

NOVEL FEATURING KEENEY KIN. PLANNED

Gayle Keeney-Rager, daughter of U. W. and Ruby Batley Keeney, is making plans to write a book - a novel, based on historical events of early Keeney generations, with emphasis on the godly heritage of early relatives.

Early stories, information and suggestions should be mailed to

Gayle R. Rager

110 West Road

Martinsville, OH 45646 USA



PATRONS

Donations for printing and mailing of this issue include: Barbara R. Jacobs of Salem MO; Carl R Keeney of Rainelle WV; Frederick Keeney of Hixson TN; C Robert Saunders of Memphis TN; Robert E Douglass of Liburn GA; Ray W Keeney of S. San Francisco CA; Rosemary Keeney Worhel of Buffalo WY; Andrew R Quenon of Danville KY and Marion Moeller of Maquoketa IA.

Obituaries

Alma Hackney

Alma Hackney, 94, of Campbells Creek died July 6, 2003, at home after a short illness.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elvin Maywood Hackney.

Mrs. Hackney was a Christian and a lifelong resident of Campbells Creek.

Surviving are a son, William Alan Hackney of Charleston; daughters, Naomi Krieg and Jacqueline Whitlock, both of Charleston; sister, Mabel Burgess of Charleston; seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Service will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Perryville Baptist Church, Campbells Creek, with the Rev. Curtis Mack officiating. Burial will follow in Belcher Cemetery, Cinco.

Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Fidler & Frame Funeral Home, Belle.

Fred Brown

Fred Brown, 84, of Diamond died June 18, 2003, at CAMC Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Brown was a retired millwright from E. I. Dupont with over 25 years of service. He was a lifelong resident of Diamond and a member of the Diamond Methodist Church.

He is survived by his daughter, Joyce Lee Laing of Ravenswood; sister, Opal Sanford of Florida; and one grandson, Steven Laing of Summerfield, N.C.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at Fidler and Frame Funeral Home with the Rev. Mary Ann Holbrook officiating. Burial will follow in Kanawha Valley Memorial Gardens, Glasgow.

KEENEY NOVELIST

(continued)

Hampshire, I was interested in finding out where he might have gone. Also knowing that his daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, married into the Tibbets family and eventually moved to New Hampshire, I surmised that if I could find one of the towns with Keene's (or Keeneys) and Tibbets, that I had probably located Sir Thomas' point of destination.

Homer V. Burris

Homer V. Burris, 82, of Belle passed away May 30, 2003, at CAMC General Hospital after a short illness.



Mr. Burris was retired from the store room at E.I. DuPont Chemical Plant, Belle, after 37 years of service. He was a member of Judson Baptist Church, Belle, and was a member of West Virginia Trophy Hunters Association.

An avid outdoorsman, Homer hunted and fished on every continent of the world.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

He was preceded in death by his parents John and Elsie Burris; and a brother, Sydney Burris.

Surviving are his wife, Rosalie K. Burris; sons, Eddie Burris of Belle and Thomas Burris of Akron, Ohio; sisters, Audrey White of Belle and Eula Farren of Alderson; grandchildren, Michael Burris of Belle, Derek Burris and Eweline Burris, both of Akron, Ohio, and Bridgitte Tines of El Paso, Texas; great-grandchildren, Ashley Brist of Hurricane and Nikolas and Brandon Tines, both of El Paso.

There will be no visitation, but graveside services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Monday, June 2, at Tyler Mountain Memory Gardens, Cross Lanex. Burial will follow.

FAMILY DETAILS: Alma Hackney was born Alma Belcher d/o Lewis Edward & Belle White Belcher, granddaughter of Thomas Hix & Elizabeth KEENEY White (daughter of Robert "Bull Bob" & Mary Jane Bowles Keeney;

FRED BROWN also descends from White & Keeney ties, being the son of Conrad & Lilly White Brown and grandson of Benjamin Franklin & Lucinda Ellen (Turd) KEENEY White; Lucinda & Elizabeth White Keeney were first cousins.

HOMER V BURRIS was husband to Rosalie KEENEY, dau of JOHN S Jr & Rosa Cline Keeney

HAZEL KEENEY McCORMICK was the oldest child of William Summers & Bertha Bias Keeney and married Isaac McCormick (b.1908) on 21 Jun 1930.

KEENEY BIOS IN SWITZERLAND CO Indiana
JOHN KEENEY b in CT, came from Delaware CO NY to IN in 1835; born 1786 s/o Jonathan and Esther Beebe Keeney, both d. in Delaware Co, m. Dorothea Harris d/o Robert Harris who bought 200 acres in Switzerland Co in 1835; John accidentally drowned near Vivey, Ohio valley, bring run over by a steamboat loaded with scyth the snaths; Children: FANNIE, John L, Salinda, William J, Harris, Ira, Alfred, Escher and Hiram B.

Hazel K. McCormick

PREENTER - Hazel K. McCormick, 91, of Prenter died June 22, 2003, at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, BOB and Jackie Cowley of Prenter, after a long illness.



She was born Oct. 14, 1911, at Nelson, a daughter of the late William Summers and Bertha Ellen Bias Keeney. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Isaac P. McCormick; a son, John P. "Jake" McCormick, two sisters, Cretchel Bows and Rocco Curly; and four brothers, Billy Keeney, Clarence, James and Patrick.

She was a member of the Frowill Baptist Church at Prenter.

Other survivors include a daughter, Barbara Sue Hill of Dawson; a sister, Mary Ann Suptin of Albuquerque, N.M.; two brothers, Ronald Keeney of Prenter, Charles Keeney of Carlisburg, N.M.; seven grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Service will be 1 p.m. Thursday, June 26, at the Frowill Baptist Church, Prenter, with the Rev. Ray Thomas and the Rev. Phil Rowe officiating. Interment will follow in Hopeview Cemetery, Orgas.

Friends may call from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Armstrong Funeral Home, Whitesville.

KEENEY CENSUS

LISTINGS

BRADLEY CO TN 1860

Adeline 23

Columbus 4

Harriet 14

Jan 46

John 18

Mary E 2

Robert 16

Wiley P 5/12

CASS CO ND 1900

Ellen 1 b.ND

Gordon J 53 b.MI

John Jr 16 b.ND

Lottie E 40 b.MI

Mark D 11 b.ND

Mary E 18 b.MI

Phoe 9 b.ND

Ruth 15 b.ND

CLAY CO NE 1880

Daniel A

Addie

Nellie

Laura

Earnest

Edward

SCHUYLKILL CO PA 1860

Peter 48

Charlotte 48

Elias 24

Isabella 19

George 16

William 14

Eliza 11

Aaron 5

KANKAKEE CO IL 1900

Albert H 20 b.IL

Amelia 39 b.IL

Cornelia 58 b.NY

Elmer 19 b.IL

Francis J 32 b.IL

Herbert A 2 b.IL

lyeta M 6 b.IL

James H 48 b.IL

William F 39 b.IL

Larry 22 b.II

LANE CO OR 1860

Oliver M 7 mo b.OR

Eli 33 b.MO

Elizabeth 27 b.MD

Eliza R 2 b.OR

Jonathan 33 b.MO

Margaret 17 b. IA

Mary E 12 b.MO

Ellas N 6 b.OR

HENRY/KEENEY LINKS IN TN REVEAL DAUGHTER OF JOHN JONATHAN KEENEY

In West Virginia lore JOHN HENRY was a steel-driving man. In Tennessee lore JAMES HENRY was a son-in-law of JOHN JONATHAN KEENEY, first son of the John Keene who received land in Greenbrier Co in 1750 and leader of the Keene sons who took up land grants in the part of North Carolina that became eastern Tennessee. Blount County records are loaded with references to JAMES HENRY and his second wife, NANCY CAROLINE KEENEY, with their eight children added to an earlier family of six children mothered by Jane Garner (1783-1820): Betty Kennedy, Hugh, Rachel Hammond, James Specks (m. Katherine Keene), Nancy and Ake Henry.

JAMES HENRY was born 30 Nov 1782 and died 5 September 1847. NANCY CAROLINE, sister of Jonathan Keene and daughter of John & Annie Poets Keene, was born in 1776 in WV or TN. Her sister, Nancy Anna Keene, who married John William Oldham, who accompanied the Keene parents to Indiana, raised a large family in Fayette Co IN and Cedar Cr MO. It is assumed that Caroline and Anna were twins, born 1776.

James Specks Henry, son from the first marriage, was wed to KATHERINE KEENEY d/o Jackson H & Polly Mabry Keene of Anderson Co TN.

JAMES HENRY/NANCY CAROLINE FAMILY married 7 Jan 1827 in Blount Co TN

- MARY KATHERINE HENRY b.c1826 m. John Dunn Headrick 1823-1898, lived at Gambles Store, Blount Co WILLIAM WRIGHT HEADRICK b.1845
- JAMES HENRY HEADRICK b.1847 m.Elizabeth Clark NANCY HEADRICK b.1848 m. Robert Houston Cowan JOHN (Bud) HEADRICK b.1852
- ANNA HEADRICK b.1854 m. Jom Harman CAROLINE HEADRICK DEAN b.1856
- RACHEL HEADRICK b.1860 m. Will McTeer MARY (Molly) HEADRICK b.1863 m. John Davis
- WILLIAM KEENEY HENRY m. Amanda Kert
- ARTHUR HENRY - age 5 in 1860 Blount Co census
- COMMODORE PERRY HENRY - age 26 in Benton Co AR census; wife:Nancy b.1838, dau. Amanda
- DOROTHULA HENRY
- BRYANT W HENRY - age 20 in 1850 Blount Co TN
- SAMUEL HENRY b. 1822 TN ; in Sevier Co AR 1860 w-Martha b.1833, Mary C 1846, Nancy C 1847, Hester M 1850, Elizabeth C 1852, Henry Joseph 1853, John 1854 (all born in Tennessee)
- JAMES H HENRY b. 12-1839; wife: Rachel 5-1861, Julia E 9-1882, Rachel E 8-1886, James M 12-1896, Samuel 1-13-1896; lived at Cades Cove AR
(James Henry, father, was a Revolutionary War veteran, who is shown with land in Washington Co NC/later TN in 1778 and 1779 (probably traveled with the Keene brothers who had left Greenbrier Co WV; in 1783 he laid claim to 1,000 acres in Green Co, along Clinch R.

With this issue KEENEY UPDATE celebrates 20 years of publishing.

CLEAR BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH OF COAL CREEK TN
Instituted on 1834 (Anderson County)

WILLIAM KEENEY JR rec April 1833

JOSEPH KEENEY JR rec June 1833

NANCY KEENEY rec October 1832

SALLY KEENEY rec October 1833

NELLY KEENEY rec December 1832 h/o Lutilda Keene
rec July 1833

MICHAEL KEENEY - commissioner of the church 1834

WILLIAM LEACH (bro in law) - commissioner 1834

(CHURCH INSTITUED 1832 by Chesley H Boatright, also known as Longfield Baptist, a missionary arm of Zion Baptist Church, Anderson County; met in school-house located near the home of Michawli Keene near Coal Creek and home of Rev Boatright; church accepted by Powell Valley Baptist Association in June 1835

DISMISSAL: Deacon Michael Spessard and Brother John White excluded, being opposed to missionary outreach DELEGATES TO POWELL VALLEY ASSOCIATION: 1837 - William Wilson, 1838-Joseph Keene, 1839-Joseph Keene

RECORDED DEATHS: Sally Keene 17 February 1839

1840 - Fanny Keene and Mary Boatright rec by experience AUGUST 1836: Calvin Keene and wife dismissed by letter; became active in another church in Arkansas

FEBRUARY 1842: Protracted (revival) meeting held on homes of Michael Keene; Joseph Keene, Samuel Williams, Jacob Miller and Thomas Queener and local schoolhouses; meetings continued into winter and a Sunday School was formed, under leadership of Elders Chesley Boatright and Jonathan Lindsay (both married brides named Keene).

1848 - Boatrights moved to Madison Co AR; Michael Keene died

McHargue Cemetery

Linn county, Oregon

Historical & Biographical Notes:

Sarah M., Daughter of Jonathan and Mary Keene, 1850-1855

George W., Son of Jonathan and Mary Keene, 1841-1862

Infant Son of Jonathan and Mary Keene. Died July 18th, 1859

The above children of the Jonathan Keene family are members of a rather notable local pioneer family. Jonathan and Mary Keene were pioneers to Oregon in the year 184(5)? The Keene Donation Land Claim was directly south of this cemetery but on the Courtney Creek side of the divide. Jonathan Keene was well known throughout the region for his many kind deeds to needy emigrants, among others the Templeton and McHargue families. He brought Wm. T. Templeton into this valley after he had become stranded in the lower valley—took two strong yoke of oxen and hauled their goods when their own oxen were too weak and exhausted to travel further. He gave flour to the McHargue family on their arrival (Se. Mrs. Jos. Hume Interview.) Jonathan Keene is believed to have died near Boise Idaho. He went to that place after settling in Linn County and is reputed to have been running a ferry there when he was drowned.

James Keene, 1836-1911. Reputed to have been a son of Jonathan Keene. He was a pioneer of 1845.

Keene, George W., son of Jonathan and Mary Keene, d. Oct. 23, 1862, age 21y 2m 14d

Keene, Brick M., son of James B. and S. D. Keene, Feb. 25, 1876 - July 27, 1891

Keene, James B., 1836 - 1911

Keene, Susan Swank, 1845 - 1933, Pioneers of 1845

ARE YOU RELATED TO MOSES KEENEY?

Early American Keeneey families were very Bible centered, if we can take a clue from their names. Every family seemed to have a JOHN, but there were lots of Thomases, Joshuas, Daniels, James and Jeremiahs. There was even a Uriah and one or more Abners.

But MOSES was a name carried from generation to generation and many genealogical queries want to know his family members. Son of John Keeneey, pioneer settler in the Greenbrier Valley of VA/WV, was MOSES KEENEY 1766-1840, one of those for whom Keeneey Rapids in the New River was named. Moses married in 1789 to Frances Harris.

This MOSES #1 had a son named MOSES WALLS KEENEY, b. 1797 in Greenbrier, d. at age 93 on Cabin Creek. He was married in Greenbrier to Mary D Hill 1803-1880.

Early Settler John Keeneey's sons PETER, JOHN C and DAVID also named their sons MOSES. Peter's Moses fathered many of the Pulaski KY area Keeneeys, riverman John C Keeneey's son Moses whose offspring lived largely in Ohio. David's MOSES ASBURY KEENEY lived in VA, WV and states of the south.

MOSES KEENEY McDOWELL, b. 1841 in Indiana, was a son of Thomas and ELIZABETH KEENEY McDowell (daughter of Moses I. He was married in Ford Co IL.

Keeneey historian GEORGIA KEENEY listed her MOSES ASBURY as son of Moses I, but he was a generation later in the family of David. He was born in 1-1804, dying in 1840 at age 36. His mother was Peninah Bailes Keeneey and he married Phoebe Ann Skeene b.7 Dec 1825, d. 13 Jul 1856.

Pulaski's MOSES KEENEY 1770-1847 was married to Catherine Pence 1770-1835 and Elizabeth Stoddall 1810-1902 and fathered several children in both marriages. Most from the second marriage grew up in Missouri.

JOHN C & ELIZABETH FARNEY KEENEY's MOSES was born in Kanawha Co WV in 1828, served in Co F, 91st Regt, Ohio Infantry during the Civil War, and was married to Rebecca Donahoe in 1866. MOSES KEENEY, son of John C Keeneey Jr 1830-1909 & Frances Hammond 1868-1939, was married to Mary Ann Arthur.

MOSES WALLS KEENEY JR b.1832, was a miner in Wellston OH where he died unmarried on 7 Feb 1902.

Moses I's son David A & Catherine Jarrett Keeneey had a son MOSES MOSES M KEENEY b.1836 who married Mary Jane Prather.

Sister Keeneey, another son of Moses I, had a son MOSES W (Tope) KEENEY 1843-1901 who married Lucy J Kelley. They emigrated briefly to Kansas, returned to Belle WV and are buried at Witcher WV.

MOSES KEENEY, son of Pulaski's Moses b.23 Jul 1821, d. 9 Sept 1891 was married to Mary Ann Sharp in Whitley Co KY.

Other MOSES KEENEY's in this family line included MOSES KEENEY of KY/TN was born 5 Jul 1843 and married Ann J Irvin; MOSES KEENEY 79th Regt, Virginia Military 1815; MOSES KEENEY b. 11 Dec 1847 in Hendricks Co IN, was a son of GEORGE KEENEY 1800-1851 and Susannah Hughes.

MOSES was also a name used by earlier New England families before they adopted the KEENEY spelling. Deacon MOSES KENNEY s/o John & Esther Crain Keeneey was b 8 Sept 1847 in Canton MA, baptised 11 Sept 1747 on Northboro MA, lived at Sudbury, built the first grist mill at Kenney Pond, owned 1,000 acres and was a Selectman in the MA General Assembly. He married Azubah Parmeter 1751-1837.

MOSES KEENEY (CANNEY), descendant of the third son of Sir Thomas Kinne (Keeneey), son of Richard Canney married Susanna Jenkins 2 Apr 1726. Others named MOSES in this family included a son of Isaac who m. Susanna Perkins, a son of Moses who married Abigail Tebbets, a son of John b.1778 whose wife was Sally, and MOSES KINNE 1668-1694, son of John, who married Margaret Leatherhead. The Canneys were residents of New Hampshire.

DESCENDENTS OF MICHAEL & CATHERINE LEWIS
KEENEY FOUND IN KENTUCKY & KANSAS RECORDS

Michael Keeneey died in Greenbrier WV at age 29 of pneumonia, the father of four: William, John, Mary McRoberts and Nancy Montgomery. Catherine married William Hilliard two years later and tok the boys to live in Fleming County KY. Later both were located with their families in Lawrence Co OH.

Son John married Margaret (Margery) Crawford and died or abandoned his family prior to 1820, when wife Margaret is listed as head of family. His brother William married Margaret's sister, Mary Crawford.

Family genealogists have located daughter Sarah Keeneey Newman (1811-1904) and son Michael C Keeneey (1819-908), who settled in Warrick Co IN. News on other children has been elusive.

NANCY L KEENEY CHRISTY

Linn Co MO records list NANCY L KEENEY, born 25 August 1814 in Fleming Co KY, died 24 Mar 1908 in MO. She became the second wife of Philip Weaver Christy in Fleming County April 1841. Christy had previously married Frances Sanders. He died 23 Mar 1891 and was buried with Nancy in Jenkins Cemetery, Linn Co MO.

Ambrose Scott Christy had become head of this family when it moved to Scott County, Kansas. From Linn County he had entered the Civil War as a Union soldier, although the Christy family was split in its allegiance to the Union. He spent the last years of his life in the Old Soldiers Sanitarium in Hot Springs AR.

With the assistance of his son, Robert Binford Christy, Ambrose developed his Scott county ranch and in 1899 bought a 6,000 acre ranch on Beaver Creek, known as "Battle Canyon Ranch", a site that covered the site of the last Indian battle in Kansas. In 1902 Ambrose turned his interests to banking.

CHILDREN OF NANCY & AMBROSE CHRISTY: JOSEPH W CHRISTY b.1843 in Fleming Co KY; will was recorded in Coffey County KS

TAYLOR PHILIP CHRISTY b. 4 May 1845 in Fleming KY m. Lucilda Elliott on 8-26-1866 in Missouri

AMBROSE SCOTT CHRISTY b.8 Jan 1848 in Fleming KY m. Mary Elizabeth Lambert

NANCY CHRISTY b.1855 in Linn Co MO

ISAAC BINFORD CHRISTY b.15 Dec 1856 art Browning, Linn Co MO; m. Nelly Toney Bradstreet

HENRY DAVID CHRISTY b.1859 in Linn Co MO; m. (1) Irene (divorced); (2) Sarah Jane Shepperson, hired girl in Christy home and mother of last six children

Children of Henry & Irena: Ambrose, Lemuel, Ira, Thurman, & Maude; Children of Henry & Sarah Jane: Henry m.

Lula Northrup, Van Ambrose (d.1990) m. Hope Mansfield, Joseph Henry (music teacher in Keokuk IA), Ira Lemuel,

Charles, Victor N and Ferris H Christy

FRANCES A CHRISTY b.1864

MARY C CHRISTY b.1866

ARKANSAS 1870

John 25 b.tn (Independence)

J R 25 b.KY (Randolph)

Nicholas 58 b.KY (Madison)

Zachary 45 b.GA (Bradley)

MONTANA 1880

Anna (Gallatin)

Catharine (Missoula)

Champion (Missoula)

Clara (Missoula)

Joseph (Missoula)

W D (Missoula)

William (Missoula)

CONTINENTAL LINES

A Tribute to Norwood Keeney

By: Mark B. Richardson

Norwood Henry Keeney 1894-1981/ Henry (1852-1887) & Laura Quick/
 Ralph (1834-1908) & Laura J Bramble/ Shubael (1794-1882) & Ruth
 Keeney/ Ashbell 1763-1823) & Sarah Hills/ Thomas 1730-1804 & Sarah
 Gerald Keeney/ Thomas Keeney (1704-1761) & Eunice House

As the hobby continues on, it is always important to pay attention to the new and younger participants, because they will be the ones to carry the traditions and stories of the hobby on to the next generation of Revolutionary War reenactors. Less experienced reenactors come into the hobby and are naturally expected to learn from the older more seasoned reenactors. These two groups work side by side and together take the hobby to the next level of historical value. Here, however, I want to pay tribute to someone who has been a devoted reenactor since the days of our national Bicentennial.

One of those "seasoned" reenactors, Norwood Keeney, is going to retire from the hobby this year, or at least he thinks so. Norwood is a veteran of the Bicentennial campaigns, and the First New Hampshire Regiment has been his home throughout his reenacting career. I first met Norwood in 1976 when I was a member of the Bolton, Massachusetts Militia. Norwood commanded the First New Hampshire at a Bicentennial reenactment celebration sponsored by the Bolton Militia. While I spent the next several years with the Seventh Massachusetts Regiment and Captain Nathaniel Donnell's Company of the Third Continental Artillery, it was primarily because of my relationship with Norwood that I eventually gravitated to the First New Hampshire, which he still commanded. Sometimes over the years, Norwood and I would talk about politics. Being a Connecticut transplant to New Hampshire, it was only natural for Norwood to be a good Republican by political persuasion. Having been raised in Massachusetts, it was only natural that I was a good Democrat by political persuasion. Needless to say, we had some interesting discussions. However, I think that because of the hobby, and our collective American spirit, we found more things to agree on than we could ever disagree with. I actually came to respect and vote for a Republican or two over the years.

Several years ago, Norwood passed on his command of the First New Hampshire, and as his age has progressed, we have understandably seen less and less of him at events. When Norwood gave up his command as "Colonel" of the First New Hampshire, the Regiment presented him with the Regiment's sword of command and "retired" him with the rank of Brigadier General. Norwood promptly turned around and rejoined the ranks as a Private. He still marched and kept pace with the best of us as long as he could. To this day, among all members of the First New Hampshire Regiment family, Norwood is affectionately spoken of as "the Colonel."

Now Norwood has retired from reenacting altogether. Well, guess what? Norwood will never be retired from this hobby. I can't begin to tell the stories of what he has contributed to this hobby over the years. From Canada to Georgia and across the Atlantic Ocean to England, stories about Norwood Keeney will live on through the years and be retold around many more campfires. Because of Norwood Keeney, the reenactment family of the First New Hampshire Regiment will be rejuvenated and sustained, the history of the First New Hampshire Regiment will continue to be told and the hobby will live on. For all his years of faithful service, we will always thank Norwood for what he has given to the hobby, and best of all, whenever we relivide the campfires, Norwood will make us laugh.

1. Henry Keeney was born 1839. Henry died 1927 at 88 years of age.

He married Elizabeth Jane Ragan 22 Mar 1863. Elizabeth was born 15 Apr 1839 in Macoupin Co., IL. Elizabeth was the daughter of Joshua Ragan and Jane Huskey. Elizabeth died 20 Aug 1909 in Texas Co., MO., at 70 years of age.

KEENEY Family

First Generation MISSOURI

- + 2 i. Marion Blufford Keeney was born 1865.
- 3 ii. Clara E. Keeney was born 1866.
- 4 iii. Isaac M. Keeney was born 1868.
- 5 iv. Mary C. Keeney was born 1869.
- 6 v. James Keeney was born 1871.
- 7 vi. Mahala Keeney was born 1872.
- 8 vii. Henrietta Keeney was born 1874.
- 9 viii. Wilson Keeney was born 1875. Wilson died in 1934.
- 10 ix. Rhoda Keeney was born 1877.
- 11 x. Elizabeth Keeney was born 1879. Elizabeth died 1880.



BENJAMIN (Ben) STIRES KEENEY is a great great grandson of STIRES JADE KEENEY (1813-1876)

Benjamin S. Keeney, son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy D. Keeney, and grandson of Mr. & Mrs. William H. Keeney, Sr., graduated from Fairmont State College, Fairmont, WV, with a BS degree in Architecture. A member of the American Institute of Architecture Students Benjamin has studied architecture in New York City, Boston and Seattle. He has also had rewarding experiences as a Special Olympics volunteer. Ben has been accepted into the Architecture graduate school program at VA Tech in Blacksburg, VA for the Fall 2003 term to continue his studies toward a Master of Architecture degree.

MARY HEMPSTEAD KEENEY, FIRST WHITE WOMAN IN NEBRASKA

Mary Hempstead Keeney was the St Louis widow of John Keeney. She was the mother of Dr Christopher H Keeney, who died at age 22 on 7 Jul 1829 and was buried in the family plot five miles from St Louis.

This intriguing widow, daughter of Stephen Hempstead (1754-1831), Revolutionary War veteran, died on 3 Sept 1839 at age 87 at Galena IL.

Manuel Lisa was the first white farmer in Nebraska. He employed one hundred men, for whom he provided cabins, and had hundreds of horses, cattle, hogs and fowls. He brought to Nebraska the seed of the green squash, the lima bean, the potato and the turnip, introducing them to the Indian tribes.

Romance and sorrow are connected with the Lisa family. When he first came to Nebraska he left a white wife in St Louis, but after a while he married an Omaha Indian girl. She gave birth to Rosalie and Raymond. When Rosalie was two her father wanted to take her to St Louis, a move much opposed by her distraught mother.

In the summer of 1817 Lisa's St Louis wife died and on August 5, 1818 he married MARY HEMPSTEAD KEENEY. She was a charming woman, much loved by all who knew her. Knowing that steamboats were entering to Missouri River and soldiers would be spending winters in Nebraska, Lisa sent his attractive wife up the river to entertain officers and make friends to secure trade. Thus Mrs Lisa

became Nebraska's first white woman, with the possible exception of Madam Lajoie in 1770.

Lisa's Indian wife was attacked by Sioux Indians when Raymond was four. The attackers strapped him to a cradle board, but the mother grabbed him and threw him over a wall, risking his life. Told of this experience, Lisa gave presents to both Raymond and his mother and released her to go back to her people.

Lisa died 12 August 1820 and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St Louis. He left \$2,000 to each of his Indian

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Lisa died 12 August 1820 and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St-Louis. He left \$2,000 to each of his Indian children. Raymond died as a young man, but Rosalie was married to Madison Ely, a white man. She died in Trenton IL 21 Dec 1904, leaving several children.

Mary lived fifty years after her husband's death. She was a friend of the fur traders and Indians all her life and was affectionately called "Aunt Manuel". It is that name on her tombstone when she was buried by her husband.

From HISTORY OF MISSOURI, Era of Far West Exploration

MICHIGAN

A Tribute to Bill Keeney
By Rev. Charles Goe

Psalm 1:1-3: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Bill Keeney was the second son of Irving and Lola Laughlin Keeney, the fifth child of Jay Wilmer and Flora Saunders Keeney of Erie, Michigan.

Dwight S. Fitch, the second son of Cora Keeney Fitch was Killed in Action on the Island of Saipan, now a part of the USA during the action against the Empire of Japan on July 6, 1944. He was serving with the Fourth Marine Division that took the Boeing B-29 bases for our country, that included the home base of the "Enola Gay", that dropped the first Atomic Bomb from Tinian Island. Rev. Charles Goe was Chaplain of the unit during the invasion of Saipan and during the invasion of Tinian, where he was wounded. He is presently Chaplain of the Fourth Marine Division Association of W.W.II.

Bill Keeney was born in Columbus, Ohio, was reared in Michigan, and grew up with a close family relationship. One of his 1st cousins was killed on Saipan in June of 1944.

Bill graduated from college and went into the Air Force. He wanted very much to become a pilot, but it didn't work out for him. He became a flight engineer, and was training to go to the Pacific to be on B-29's that were planning to land on Japan or at least bomb Japan when the war ended.

He came back from the service and married Elinor Johnson, and his middle name was Johnson. He had several jobs in insurance and other opportunities, but his main work was in Shreveport, La. He worked with the Housing Authority and was the official there in Shreveport. Their two daughters, Georgia and Wanda, were reared there, and the family enjoyed many opportunities of service in their church and community. Elinor worked for 27 years with an insurance company.

Bill liked to fly very much, so while in Shreveport, he bought an airplane, and they often flew back to Douglas, Ga., and other places.



Wilmer (Bill) J. Keeney

Born

April 16, 1924

Went to be with the Lord

March 11, 2002

Wife

Elinor J. Keeney

Daughter

Georgia L. Keeney

Daughter and Son-in-Law

Wanda K. and Edward A. Fitch

Grandchildren

Jeremy A. Fitch

Okiana R. Keeney

Graveside Services

Eternal Hills

Snelville, Georgia

Friday 2:00 p.m.

March 15th, 2002