

# ◆ The Summitt Family Quarterly ◆

Volume 4, Issue 4

January, 1999

## From The Editor

This is the last issue of our fourth year of publication. That's right, in April we start our fifth year of publishing this little newsletter. During that time we have gone from just over ten subscribers to just under ninety. We've also come in contact with people that have enriched our lives by knowing them. Currently there is one subscriber in Arizona, seven in Arkansas, two in California, one in Delaware, five in Florida, one in Georgia, one in Idaho, one in Illinois, one in Indiana, one in Kansas, one in Kentucky, one in Maryland, three in Massachusetts, two in Michigan, seven in Missouri, one in New Mexico, eight in North Carolina, two in Ohio, one in Oklahoma, twelve in Tennessee, four in Texas, one in Utah, two in Virginia, one in Washington, and one in Wisconsin.

During this time we've also added the online version of the newsletter which is located at <http://www.summittnewmedia.com/Summitt.htm>. The site includes a brief synopsis of our past issues, research resources and links, and a discussion area.

In an effort to provide more services to our subscribers and keep the rising costs of production and postage from elevating the cost of the newsletter subscriptions again, we have recently affiliated the website with three groups that we think will be of value to our readers.

We affiliated with Earthlink about two years ago. Earthlink provides Internet access and virtual web hosting. Depending on where you are in the country, Earthlink can

(Continued on page 2)

## John and Rosanna Summit Swank Kentucky Pioneers

*By Paul C. Summitt*

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance of **Bill** and **Vanessa Adams** of Owensboro, Kentucky, in researching the Hardin County, Kentucky area for information on John and Rosanna Summit Swank. Frankly, without their assistance, this article could not have been done. Others have contributed, including **Elma Rust** of Blachly, Oregon, and e-mail Swank searchers **Karalee Goranflo** of Louisville, Kentucky and **Steve Swank**. Most of the information reflected herein has not been verified with original sources and has involved transposition of a large amount of data. In addition, the author acknowledges obvious gaps that could be filled with added delay and research. However, such potential for error and expectation of new information does not detract significantly from the value of circulating the information to interested family researchers now. Indeed, the dilemma always exist in genealogy as to when to share a partial painting of a complex picture. Comments, additional information, and corrections would be appreciated. Please send to The Summitt Family Quarterly or Paul C. Summitt, P. O. Box 99, Freeport, FL 32439, E-mail address "Psumm@aol.com".

### INTRODUCTION

An article entitled "Early Kentucky Summitt Families" was published in the **April 1998 Summitt Family Quarterly**. That article noted that there were five **Summitt(t)s** identified as early settlers of Kentucky. Three were men, **Christian (or Christopher) Summitt**, **George Summitt**, and **John Summit**, and two were women, **Susanna Summit**, wife of **John Wyatt**, and **Rosanna Summit**, wife of **John Swank**. With respect to **John** and **Rosanna Summit Swank**, early settlers in the area of current Hardin County, the article simply noted that "**John Swank** came to Kentucky in 1780 with **Jacob Van Meter** and other families. He and his wife, **Rosanna Summit Swank**, lived in a fort 2 miles northeast of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Indians killed **John Swank** and his wife administered his estate in 1794 (no source indicated)." This article expands on our knowledge of this fascinating pioneer couple and their descendants.

(Continued on page 4)

### In This Issue

John and Rosannah Summit Swank: Early Kentucky Pioneers — Paul C. Summitt	Page 1
Summitt(t) Genealogy Online — Paul M. Summitt	Page 2
William Clay Clark II Obituary	Page 4
Dr. Robert Layman Summitt Obituary	Page 6

## Summit(t) Genealogy Online

If you're online as much as I am, there are several sites you should probably start checking on a regular basis for leads in the everlasting quest to find more about our ancestors. I'm not just talking about the Summitt Family Quarterly website and discussion area or Bill Adams Summitt Discussion area. I'm talking about places where you can search for information. As in with the land patent article last issue (for more on that topic see page 3 of this issue), this article is going to point you toward a variety of locations where you can search for information. That doesn't necessarily mean you'll find anything.

For instance, Ancestry.Com makes databases available free of charge for a total of ten days. Only certain databases are available at any one time. While I was writing this article I was able to search the New Orleans Deaths (1940-1970) database, The Wilmington, North Carolina *Star-News* Obituaries (1998), New York City Wills (1744-1758), Columbus (Ohio) *Dispatch* Obituaries (1998), the Leavenworth, Kansas *Western Life* (1900-1902), Obituaries from the Brevard County *Florida Today* (1998), the Massachusetts Town Vital Records database, the Durham County, Ontario 1861 Census, the New York City Police Census (1890), the Salt Lake *Tribune* Obituaries (1998), the Tucson *Citizen* Obituaries (1998), the Steinfeld, Germany Baptismal Records (1788-1840), the Virginia City, Nevada *Territorial Enterprise* (1866-1867), the Rock Hill, South Carolina *Herald* Obituaries (1998), and Charles Parish, York County, Virginia (1648-1789).

I performed searches for Summit, Summitt, and Sammet. I had hits on the following: the Wilmington, North Carolina *Star-News* Obituaries (1998) where someone had lived on Summitt Avenue; the Columbus (Ohio) *Dispatch* Obituaries (1998) where services were being held at the Summit United Methodist Church, where one man had been a member of the Summit Hose Fire Company, and two instances where services were going to take place in the community of Summit; ), the Salt Lake *Tribune* Obituaries (1998) where a woman had worked in the Summit County Hospital in Utah and had been a clerk at the Summit Mercantile, where a young man had graduated from North Summit High School, where a man had lived in Summit Park, Utah and had served as an elder in the Summit Park Ward of the LDS church, where a man had been born in Summit, Mississippi, where a woman had graduated from North Summit High School and had served as the Summit County ASC Office Manager, where a girl had been a student at South Summit High School, where a woman had lived in Summit County and had been a member of the North Summit Cow Bells and the North Summit Senior Citizens, where a man had gotten married in Summit Park, Utah, where a woman had lived in Soldier

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 1)

provide unlimited access to the Internet for \$19.95/month. They also have a special deal going on right now for those AOL subscribers who are dissatisfied with the service they're receiving. You can check out the deals they have to offer by clicking on the Earthlink banner you see at the top of several of our pages on our site. If you're interested in setting up your own website for either yourself or your business contact us and we'll help you get set.

We've been affiliated with Amazon .com for several months now. Originally, we affiliated with them to provide readers of our computer book reviews the opportunity to purchase those books. We've now added the capability to purchase any book on any subject including Genealogy. You can also search for your favorite movie or music CD also. You'll find search engines located on several of our web pages that will allow you to search through the books, movies, and music CD's available at Amazon.com. There are also links to specific works we think are beneficial as far as genealogy or computers.

Another group we've affiliated (Continued on page 5)

## Subscription Form

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## Jeffrey R. Summitt

Jeffery R. Summitt, son of Clarence Summitt and descendent of Marques E. Summitt and Mary Catherine Stine, died suddenly in his home Tuesday night, December 15th, 1998 of a heart attack. He was 64.

We first met Jeff, his son Chris, and Chris' wife Margaret, online after the publication of the article about Marques Summitt in the April 1998 issue (Vol 1 Is. 1) of *The Summitt Family Quarterly*. Margaret found the picture we had in the newsletter on the website and Jeff emailed us with a correction. They soon became subscribers to the newsletter and we are sincerely going to miss the emails we received from him.

We will have more information next issue.

## Corrections:

In the October issue I wrote a short article intended to introduce readers to an extremely interesting website where land patents could be researched. As illustration, we included four patents but then, as I've been informed, (oops!) forgot to identify who the people were. I'll print identifying information in the January issue but for those who check in here on a regular basis, all four of the land patents shown are located in Montgomery County, AR.

Henry J. Summit was Henry James Summit (B. Dec. 17, 1874. Some of Daniel Schaffer and Martha Pendergrass Summit. Daniel Schaffer was the oldest son of Francis (1826-1892) and Emaline Schaffer Summit. This Francis was a son of Daniel and Sarah Moser Summit. Emaline died in Texas and Francis married Mary Lackey. Francis and Family then moved to Sims Arkansas in Montgomery County after the War Between the States.

Jacob E. Summit was Jacob Eusebius Summit (b Jan 6, 1861) son of Francis and Emaline Summit in Fannin County, Texas.

Joseph H. was Joseph Harrison Summit (b July 21, 1853) to Francis and Emaline Shaffer Summit probably in Monroe County, TN.

John B. Summit was John Ballard Summit (b. Dec 9, 1858) to Francis and Emaline Shaffer Summit in Fannin County, Texas.

Thanks to Paul C. for pointing out my oversight. Sorry for the inconvenience.

later

paul

## Descendants of Daniel Summitt

### Generation No. 1

**1. DANIEL<sup>3</sup> SUMMIT** (*FRANCIS<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born April 05, 1795 in Lincoln County, North Carolina, and died September 30, 1838 in Monroe County, Tennessee. He married SARAH MOSER December 03, 1818 in Conover, Lincoln County, North Carolina, daughter of FRANCIS MOSER and ELIZABETH MILLER.

#### Notes for DANIEL SUMMIT:

1830 Census - Danl. Sumsjutt J-331 201101-221101 Jefferson County, Tennessee (Sistler)

1840 Census - Sarah Summit Monr 193 No TWP L

FTM Marriage CD - spelled Sommit

Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-OP

#### Notes for SARAH MOSER:

Listed as Sally Moser in FRM Marriage CD for NC

Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-IV

#### Marriage Notes for DANIEL SUMMIT and SARAH MOSER:

H. Brakebill suggests they were married at the St. John Lutheran Church

Mormon Records suggest marriage date of Dec 13, 1813

#### Children of DANIEL SUMMIT and SARAH MOSER are:

- 2. i. JACOB EUSABIAS<sup>4</sup> SUMMIT**, b. February 10, 1815, North Carolina; d. March 25, 1893.
- ii. ELIZABETH SUMMIT**, b. 1829; d. WFT Est. 1859-1924; m. PETER MOSERII, January 11, 1848, Monroe County, Tennessee.  
Notes for ELIZABETH SUMMIT:  
Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-CL
- iii. SARA JANE SUMMIT**, b. January 27, 1816; d. WFT Est. 1817-1910.  
Notes for SARA JANE SUMMIT:  
Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-OP  
record has name spelled Sarah Summit
- 3. iv. JONATHAN SUMMIT**, b. January 26, 1817, Greene County, Tennessee; d. June 17, 1896, Loudon County, Tennessee.
- v. LYDIA SUMMIT**, b. February 18, 1818; d. WFT Est. 1847-1912; m. PARMENIUS T. BUTLER, July 28, 1840, Monroe County, Tennessee.  
Notes for LYDIA SUMMIT:  
Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-5K
- vi. LUCINDA SUMMIT**, b. December 14, 1819; d. WFT Est. 1820-1913; m. ABRAHAM SIPES, June 29, 1839, Monroe County, Tennessee.  
Notes for LUCINDA SUMMIT:  
Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-6Q
- vii. MARGARET SUMMIT**, b. September 17, 1821; d. WFT Est. 1844-1915; m. DANIEL MOSER, April 12, 1838, Monroe County, Tennessee.  
Notes for MARGARET SUMMIT:  
Mormon Record AFN:FNK1-7W
- 4. viii. JOSEPH EWING SUMMIT**, b. May 19, 1824, Tennessee; d. June 06, 1899.
- 5. ix. JOHN FRANCES SUMMIT**, b. February 16, 1826, Monroe County, Tennessee; d. November 1892, Sims, Montgomery County, Arkansas.
- x. SUSANNA SUMMIT**, b. November 10, 1827; d. WFT Est. 1828-1921; m. MARTIN WOLFE, November 29, 1847, Monroe County, Tennessee.

(Continued on page 8)

## WILLIAM CLAY CLARK II

(From the *Daily Democrat*,  
Kennett, MO, December 2,  
1998.)

Funeral services for William Clay Clark II, 56, Monette, Ark., were held today, Dec. 2, 1998 at the McDaniel Funeral Home in Senath. Dwight Harrison officiated the services. Burial was in the Cardwell Cemetery. Mr. Clark died November 30 at the Methodist Hospital in Jonesboro, Ark.

Mr. Clark, the son of W. C. "Bill" and Letta Joe Clark, was born on Dec. 17, 1941 in Leachville, Ark. He married Anna Marie Harrison on Dec. 7, 1963 in Monette, Ark. He started working at the First National Bank in Paragould, Ark. On Dec. 31, 1963 and continued until 1969. He then worked at the Monette State Bank, which is now the Mid-South Bank, from 1969 until the present time. Mr. Clark was also the president of the Ducks Unlimited, Manilla Chapter.

He is survived by: his wife, Anna Marie Clark of Monette, Ark.; one son and daughter-in-law, David and Missy Clark of Monette, Ark.; his mother and father, W.C. "Bill" and Letta Joe Clark, Sr. of Cardwell, Mo.; two brothers, Mike Clark of Toledo, Ohio and John Paul Clark of Cardwell, Mo.; two sisters, Suzanne Bushong or Paragould, Ark. And Martha Blankenship of Searcy, Ark.; one grandson, Ross Clark; and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Bobby Clark.

Pallbearers were Butch Hendrix, Jimmy Adams, Jack Gathright, Tommy Carter, Roy Green, Dick Pace, and Henry Foster.

*(Editor's Note: Bill's wife, the former Anna Marie Harrison, is the daughter of Glendola Summitt and the late Armon Harrison. Glendola is the daughter of the late Chester Alba Summitt and the late Katie Okalona Darden..)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

### PRE-KENTUCKY LOCATION OF JOHN AND ROSANNA SUMMIT SWANK

A logical question is: Where did **John** and **Rosannah Summit Swank** live before they left for Kentucky about 1780?

The short answer is that no one knows.

Still, it is tempting to speculate. This author has tentatively concluded that **John** and **Rosanna Summit Swank** with a number of children left for Kentucky after a sojourn in the frontier area of southwest Pennsylvania on the waters of the Monongahela and Youghiogheny Rivers located in current Washington, Greene, Fayette, and Westmoreland Counties. In the 1760s and 1770s, this whole area was the subject of an ongoing border dispute between the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. The border dispute between Pennsylvania and Maryland was essentially settled with the 1763-1767 surveys of Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon establishing the "Mason-Dixon Line" along the northern border of Maryland.

The State of Virginia asserted jurisdiction in the area as the West Augusta District which included all of current West Virginia and part of western Pennsylvania consisting, in relevant part, of Ohio, Yohogania, and Monongalia counties. This same extremely large area was claimed by Pennsylvania as Bedford county, that was progressively carved by Pennsylvania into Fayette, Westmoreland, Washington, Greene and Allegheny counties. According to Everton's *The Handybook for Genealogists*, the border dispute was settled in the mid-1780, but by then the Swanks, Wyatts and Summit(t)s had migrated to their new homes in Kentucky.

Some of the facts that lead this author toward this location include:

- Many, if not most, of the first settlers in now Hardin County, Kentucky came from this area of Pennsylvania. It was at the point of Redstone Old Fort on the Monongahela River that large numbers of settlers bound for Kentucky set out in boats for the long trip down river, including the **Van Meters, Hardins, Ashcrafts, Edlins**, and many others--and probably the Swanks.
- **Jacob Van Meter** who went to Kentucky around 1779 served in the Revolutionary War in Washington County, Pennsylvania.
- A **Christian Sammet (Summit)** married **Marie Stahlern** in a German Reformed Church in Philadelphia in 1755. A **John Swank** and **Christian Summitt** were both recorded in Virginia records of the area in the late 1770s. **Christian Summitt** (with varying spellings) was noted in the minutes of the Court of Yohogania County, Virginia during the period from August 1777 to August 1778. These were part of records collected by the clerk of Washington county, Pennsylvania who was authorized to collect the probate registers, records of deeds, and records of court administration from the clerks of the counties of Yohogania, Monongalia, and Ohio counties, Virginia insofar as they related to the Pennsylvania territory then embraced by Westmoreland and Washington counties, Pennsylvania.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## *The Summitt Family Quarterly*

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(Continued from page 2)

the site with is Beyond.com. Again, we've placed search engines on many of our pages that allow you to quickly search their databases for computer software. The types of software range from word processing to genealogical to programming. They've even got games for those of you with the time to play them. And the prices are right!

In fact, through our site you're going to get some excellent discounts on books, movies, CD's, and software.

Probably the best thing we've got going genealogically speaking right now via the website is the ability to search a variety of databases for ancestor information.

We recently affiliated the website with Ancestry.com. Go to the *Summitt Family Quarterly* web page and enter the family name you want to look for into the Ancestry.com search engine. You'll be amazed at the amount of data that is available. (Of course, tying it all together is sometimes the problem but that's what the newsletter is for.) You'll find that several of the databases are free but many cost extra. "How much?" you ask.

Well, normally a quarterly subscription is \$19.95 and a yearly subscription is \$59.95. Right now, though, just click on our site and go to their search engine and you can get a free month's membership to search the databases to your heart's content.

So let's review . . . You can get a significant discount on Internet access, a website either for yourself or your business, books of all kinds, movies and CD's, software, and membership in an online genealogical society all by going through the *Summitt Family Quarterly* web site.

The catch . . . The web site gets a commission. Yes, I said it. The web site gets a commission. We've sunk to the depths of capitalism to help make sure that we can keep publishing this newsletter without raising the cost of the subscription again.

Now, keep in mind that we don't want you to just run out (well, actually, sit down in front of your computer) and start buying things that you don't really

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(Continued from page 4)

- A **Jacob Summet** received a land grant in 1778 from Lord Fairfax in the Northern Neck of Virginia in Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia), that at the time extended over a vast area south of the Cumberland Gap in Maryland.
- There is evidence that the Kentucky Summitts were connected. A **Christo Summit** is listed as a surety on the marriage bond of **John Wiatt (Wyatt)** and **Susanna Summit** in 1784 in Lincoln County, Kentucky. **George** and **Christian (Christopher) Summitt** settled in the same location in current Nicholas county about 1783 and are noted in various records over the next 30 years in Nicholas County. A **John Summit** married **Margaret Snap** in Lincoln County, Kentucky in 1785--and the **Snaps** lived adjacent to **George** and **Christian Summitt** in Nicholas County.
- A family history file on the **Edlin** family that migrated to Hardin County notes children of **Richard Edlin** as born in Monongalia County (now Pennsylvania) Virginia, in the 1760s, including sons **William** and **James**. This same file lists **Elizabeth Swank**, daughter of **John** and **Rosanna Summit Swank**, who married **William Edlin** in Hardin County in 1793, as being born in the same locale.
- A **John, Jacob, and David Swank** were recorded as taking a loyalty oath in 1778 in Washington County, Maryland (Hagertown) that at the time extended to the extreme western border of Maryland. **John** and **Rosanna Summit Swank** named three of their sons **John, Jacob, and David**.
- The Family Tree Maker's Family Archives International Marriage Records CD notes information taken from various sources that **John** and **Rosanna(h) Swank** were married in 1770 and that he was born in 1750 and she was born in 1754.

While this information is fragmentary and perhaps inaccurate, this author believes it is sufficient to point an educated finger at the general area of Washington/Fayette County, Pennsylvania as the home base for all of the early Kentucky Summitt(s) prior to their migration westward into Kentucky, including **John** and **Rosannah Summit Swank**.

### THE SWANKS GO TO KENTUCKY

**John** and **Rosannah Summit Swank** went to western Kentucky at least by 1780, and perhaps as early as 1779. The Revolutionary War was settling into static garrison action in the northeast while the British expanded activity in North and South Carolina. The 1781 battle of Yorktown on the James River in Virginia was still in the future.

The settlers who braved the western Kentucky frontier in 1780 were at the extreme isolated edge of the migration west on the Ohio River below current Louisville, Kentucky. According to Everton's "The Handybook for Genealogists", before any white man had explored Kentucky, the entire area was claimed by Virginia as part of Augusta County and then Fincastle County. **Daniel Boone** explored the area in 1767 and the first permanent settlement was established at Harrodsburg in 1774. **Daniel Boone** settled Boonesboro in 1775. In 1776, Fincastle County was discontinued and Kentucky County formed. In 1780, Kentucky County was divided into three counties: Fayette, Jefferson, and Lincoln. The area we are concerned about was located in the new Jefferson County. Nelson County was formed from Jefferson County in 1785. Nelson County bordered on the Ohio River between the mouth of the Salt River below Louisville and the mouth of the Green River south of current Owensboro and included the modern counties of Meade, Hardin, Hancock,

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Brechinridge, Daviess, and part of Henderson counties. Kentucky became a state on June 1, 1792. Hardin County was formed in 1793.

It is not clear that **John** and **Susanna Swank** came to Kentucky with the **Jacob Van Meter Sr.** family in the fall of 1779. One source indicates that the **Van Meter** party was made up of sons, son-in-laws and daughters of **Jacob Vanmeter Sr.** who came down the Ohio River to the area now known as Hardin County. They settled on the Severn Valley Creek about two miles above the later site of Elizabethtown and erected a fort or station known as Van Meter's Fort. [Daniel E. McClure, Jr. "Two Centuries in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Kentucky" The Hardin County Historical Society (1979)] Another sources states that **Jacob Van Meter Sr.** "shepherded" a flotilla of 27 houseboats down the Ohio River from Pennsylvania in the Fall of 1779 consisting of members of his family, some in-laws and their families, slaves, and others. [Karalee Goranflo]

If the **Swanks** were not in the **Van Meter** party, they were not far behind. **John** and **Susanna** settled on a 400 acres tract of land a few miles northeast of the Severns Valley settlement acquired by land entry made on August 21, 1780 and built a fort for protection. The land entry was for 400 acres but 200 acres were subsequently withdrawn. **John** may have, in fact, kept the full 400 acres since he is listed in the 1792-1794 tax lists for Nelson County, Kentucky as a white males over age 21 with 5 horses, 16 cattle, 400 acres of land, and no blacks. The land was located on the North Fork of Buffalo Creek. [Daniel McClure, above] The forts, or stations as they were sometimes called, erected by the first settlers consisted of logs implanted on end with blockhouses at the corners or intervals. The settlers lived in cabins inside the walls and at night brought in the horses, cows and other livestock for protection. Some of the early settlers besides the **Van Meter** party were the families of **Harris, Stove, Gray, Edlin, Funk, Spriggs, Brown, Shaw, Miller Vertrees, Hart** and others.

**John Swank Sr.** was listed in the Tithable and Tax Lists for Nelson County in 1785, 1787, 1789, 1790, 1791, and 1792-1794. **John Swank Jr.** was listed in a number of these lists, indicating that he was an adult by the late 1780s.

In a history of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, it was noted that **Rosannah Swank** administered the estate of her deceased husband, **John Swank**, in the July Term of County Court, 1794. The appraisal of the goods and chattels of John Swank was noted in court records August 12, 1794 as worth 142 pounds and 12 shillings. These records reflect advancements to **Hanah Gray** of

(Continued on page 7)

In the July 1998 issue (Volume 4, Issue 2) of this newsletter we published an article concerning the accomplishments of Dr. Robert L. Summitt. While preparing the current issue of the newsletter we were informed of Dr. Summitt's passing. Below is a copy of the article that appeared in the December 7, 1998 *Memphis Commercial Appeal*.

MEMPHIS, MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1998

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

## Dr. Summitt, former UT dean, dies

By Kevin Robbins  
The Commercial Appeal

Dr. Robert Layman Summitt, under whose 17-year deanship the University of Tennessee, Memphis College of Medicine enjoyed increases in research funding and national recognition in primary-care training programs, died Saturday of cancer at his home. He was 65.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Evergreen Presbyterian Church, where he had been a member since he and his wife came to Memphis 40 years ago.

Burial will be in Memorial Park. Memorial Park Funeral Home has charge.

A model-airplane enthusiast, frequent visitor to Hawaii and lover of opera and classical music, Dr. Summitt was born

on Dec. 23, 1932, in Knoxville.

He attended Davidson College before transferring to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He graduated from UT-Memphis with honors in 1955.

He married his wife, Joyce Sharp Summitt, on his birthday in 1955 in La Follette, Tenn., where he and his wife dated in high school.

He was an active-duty Navy flight surgeon in Pensacola, Fla., until his return to Memphis. He joined the naval reserves and retired as a two-star admiral in 1992.

Except for a 1963 postdoctoral medical genetics fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Summitt remained at UT-Memphis. His titles included provost and executive vice chancellor.

Dr. Summitt announced in July 1997 that he would step

down as dean the following June. Three months before his announcement, he had been diagnosed with a rare form of bladder cancer, but he said at the time his decision had to do with his age.

"I will have been dean for 17 years," he told The Commercial Appeal. "I've been planning to give it up at age 65."

Dr. Summitt had planned to serve UT-Memphis in a different capacity, perhaps as in teaching.

"He just never was able to go back and do that," Mrs. Summitt said.

In June, UT-Memphis honored him with a dinner at The Peabody. But he was undergoing cancer treatment in Houston and could not attend.

A videotape of the event was sent to the family.

"Everyone came as if he were

there," Mrs. Summitt said. "That really meant a lot to him."

In addition to his wife, survivors include a daughter, Kelly Summitt Pridgen of Jackson, Tenn.; two sons, Dr. Robert L. Summitt Jr. of Memphis and Dr. John Blair Summitt of Chattanooga; and a brother, Dr. James B. Summitt of San Antonio, Texas.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, any memorials be sent to the Robert L. Summitt Memorial Fund at UT-Memphis or Evergreen Presbyterian Church, where he had served as deacon and elder.



Robert Summitt

## DEATHS



(Continued from page 2)

Summit, Utah, and where a woman had lived in Summit County; and the Tucson *Citizen* Obituaries (1998) where a man was the CEO of InTech Summit Group.

As you can see, there weren't that many profitable hits. In fact, the best results I had were the few hits in the databases on Frie (my mother's maiden name) and Spotswood (Mary's maiden name) but I won't go into those here.

There's a free Social Security Death Index Search available as well as the databases I've already discussed.

As I talked about in the Editor's Notes, we've become an Affiliate of Ancestry.Com and you can access the free databases through our website at <http://www.summittnewmedia.com>. You can also register to use all the databases for the low price of \$59.95 a year or \$19.95 for three months.

There's a daily email update list available that will tell you what databases are available.

Another source of information can be the RootsWeb websites. The self-proclaimed largest genealogy site on the web, the system is operated mainly by volunteers which results in sometimes haphazard maintenance of the system. In example, I believe currently there is no one maintaining the Dunklin County, Missouri website. The operators of the system is constantly seeking volunteers. There is quite a bit of excellent information available via their sites, though. They're also always looking for support in the form of financial aid.

There are also some interesting lists that you can join. I'm subscribed to the Missouri List, the Tennessee List, and the Professional Research List. You'd be surprised at the types of information that your peers can provide.

You can also subscribe to

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 6)

one "mair", to **Elizabeth Eglin [Edlin]** of one colt, and **John Swank** of one "mair". A balance of the appraisal of the estate is dated February 14, 1795 and signed by **Thomas Helm, Jacob Rhoads, John Vertree, and Rosannah Swank**, Administrator. The circumstances of the death of **John Swank** have been described in some detail as follows:

John Swank lived in a fort of his own two miles northeast of Elizabethtown. He and his wife on a travel to Bardstown were waylaid and attacked by Indians. Both of their horses were shot under them and Mrs. Swank was wounded in the arm. In attempting to make their escape after running a short distance her horse fell dead under her; she had a new saddle which she stripped from the dead animal and hung in a tree. Swank's horse, being yet able to go, he dismounted and put his wife on his saddle, and he fled on foot to a cave on the old Cofer farm two miles from his fort. His dog betrayed him by barking at the pursuing Indians, and he was pierced by nineteen bullets and killed instantly.

Mrs. Swank fled on her husband's wounded horse until he failed. She left the dying horse and escaped on foot, and being a fleshy woman and clad in a new heavy linsey dress, she pulled it off as she ran, and so strong was her carefulness that she saved every pin and stuck them in an even row in the bosom of her dress.

She lived many years after, a skillful and popular midwife. Swank's fort occupied the ground where her son-in-law, William Edlin, afterwards lived and died. She left considerable family of Swank's, the most of whom became rich or comfortable and subsequently removed to Missouri. The Edlin family now residing among us are the grandchildren. [Samuel Haycraft, *A History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky and Its Surroundings*, The Women's Club of Elizabethtown, KY, 1921 (written in 1869)]

We have no reliable information on the movement or death of Rosanna Summit Swank much beyond the turn of the century in 1800. Presumably, she lived her life out in Hardin County on the site of the old John Swank fort. One might wonder if she is not buried at that location. Rosanna is listed in the 1800 census for Hardin county along with sons David and Jacob. She was still alive at the time of the marriage of her daughter, Rosannah, to Samuel Walls on October 9, 1803 (she consented to the marriage). A Rosy Swank is noted in Hardin County in the 1810 census, as are sons Jacob and Joseph. It is possible that Rosanna moved to some other location as other members of her family moved further west. It is a mystery perhaps some diligent researcher will solve.

#### CHILDREN AND SOME DESCENDANTS OF JOHN AND ROSANNA SUMMIT SWANK

The marriage dates of the children of **John** and **Rosanna Summit Swank** indicated that they had a growing family when they migrated to Kentucky. They are listed as follows (common usage names are used here though records varied):

**Hannah Swank** married **Jonas Gray Sr.** October 19, 1789 in then Nelson Co.  
**Elizabeth Swank** married **William Edlin** (Eaglin, Eglin) July 18, 1793 in Hardin Co.

**Jacob Swank** married **Elizabeth Van Meter** April 20, 1797 in Hardin Co.

**John Swank Jr.** married **Nancy Harrison** in June 8, 1797 in Hardin Co.

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

Jeannette Holland Austin's *Expert Genealogy* list. She provides some interesting tidbits and plenty of links to fascinating sites. She also provides a long list of genealogy books and tools that are available from her company.

Another extremely valuable online resource that I've subscribed to since my days on CompuServe is the *Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter*. You'll find back issues of his newsletter located at the Ancestry.com web site and you can subscribe to a free email newsletter.

As you can see, it's not the lack of information, it's the lack of time in the day.



**EarthLink™**



(Continued from page 3)

Notes for  
SUSANNA  
SUMMIT:  
Mormon Record  
AFN:FNK1-BF

6. xi. **PETER SUMMIT**, b.  
February 11,  
1833, Tennessee;  
d. June 06, 1910,  
Monroe County,  
Tennessee.

7. xii. **JOHN S. SUMMIT**, b.  
August 16, 1845,  
Tennessee; d.  
April 06, 1916,  
Monroe County,  
Tennessee.

xiii. **DANIEL SUMMIT**, b. Abt.  
1826.

(Continued from page 7)

**David Swank** married **Elizabeth Westfall** October 22, 1800 in Hardin Co.

**Susanna Swank** married **John Roll** December 18, 1800 in Hardin Co.

**Rosannah Swank** married **Samuel Walls** October 8, 1803 in Hardin Co.

**Joseph Swank** married **Letitia Van Meter** February 11, 1809 in Hardin Co.

### CHILDREN OF JOHN AND ROSANNAH SUMMIT SWANK

From the discussion that follows, the reader will get some indication of the movement, if any, of these eight children of John and Rosanna Swank. It appears that two of the daughters, Hannah and Elizabeth, remained in Hardin County. Jacob and a number of his children and other kin went to southeast Missouri in the locale of Mississippi county. John, David and Joseph appear to have ultimately settled in the area of Putnam/Montgomery counties, Indiana. Susanna and her family went across the Ohio River to Harrison county, Indiana. This author has not found any information on what happened to Rosannah beyond her marriage to Samuel Walls.

1. **Hannah Swank** married **Jonas Gray, Sr.** October 19, 1789 in Nelson County (later Hardin County established in 1792) Kentucky. They were life long residents of Hardin County. She is thought to have been the first child born about 1772. One source notes that she died after 1843 in Hardin County, Kentucky. The children of **John and Hannah Swank Gray** included--

- **Hannah Gray** married **Judson Marlow** April 7, 1830 in Hardin County, KY.
- **Mary Ann "Polly" Gray** married **David Smith** November 10, 1817 in Hardin County, KY [Broderbund CD lists date as November 13, 1817].
- **Thomas Gray** married **Elizabeth Smith**.
- **Jane Gray**, born November 2, 1798; died April 7, 1851, married **William Smith** November 14, 1814 in Hardin County, KY.
- **John Gray** married **Sarah Smith** May 15, 1823 in Hardin County, KY [Broderbund CD lists date as May 13, 1823].
- **Nancy Gray** married **Peter Reed** [Broderbund CD notes December 29, 1823 in Hardin County, KY].
- **William Gray** married **Ann Marlow** July 18, 1836 in Hardin County, KY.
- **Susannah Gray**, born 1791; died August 23, 1875, married **William Lyon** December 15, 1812 in Breckinridge County, Kentucky; children were **Lucinda, Hannah, Amanda, John, Jones, Nancy, Mary (Polly), and William**.
- **Rosa Gray**, born 1800, married **John Reed** July 27, 1820, probably in Hardin County, KY; 1850 Hardin County census lists **John Reed** age 50, **Rosa** age 50, **Ann** age 18, **Martin** age 16, **Francis** (male) age 14, **Martha G.** age 11, and **Jane** age 8.
- **Jonas Gray Jr.**, born 1809, married **Sarah Edlin** December 24, 1832 in Hardin County, KY; **Sarah Edlin** was the daughter of **James Edlin**, brother of **Elizabeth Swank's** husband **William Edlin**; 1850 Hardin County census lists **Jonas Gray** age 41 carpenter and **Sarah** age 42.
- **Elizabeth "Betsy" Gray**, died July 4, 1874, married **William Morgan** December 25, 1814 in Hardin County, KY [Broderbund CD lists date as December 24, 1814].

**Karalee Goranflo** has noted that all four of the **Smiths** were the children of **James** and **Sally Gentry Smith** from Albemarle County, Virginia, who moved to the Mill Creek area of Hardin County. The two **Marlows** were the children of **Dory** and **Frances Marlow** who were born in Maryland.

[Note: Most of this information on the Children of **Jonas** and **Hannah Swank Gray** was provided by **Karalee Goranflo**, with some confirmation from Broderbund CDs. Date differences are often the difference between the date the marriage bond was issued and the

(Continued on page 9)



need. Just if you're going to be buying a book or a movie or a music CD or joining an online genealogical society . . . If you're going to be spending the money anyway, go through the web site to do so. That way the *Summitt Family Quarterly* web site will get the commission on your purchase and you'll get a discount. What a deal!

Now, Mary has told me that I'm too wordy and I need to get back to work on the newsletter (and she is the boss, you know) so guess I'd better hop to it.

By the way, Mary and I wish all of you the best of the holiday wishes for this past holiday season. We also wish you the best in this new year of 1999.

Sincerely

Paul and Mary

**William Hoke Summitt—b. Feb. 29, 1904, d. Aug. 1981**



No, it's not the Gerber baby. It's your editor at one year.



(Continued from page 8)

date of the marriage. Another important source of information on this family came from a family file on FTM WFT Vol. 8, #2578]

2. **Elizabeth Swank** married **William Edlin (Eaglin, Eglin)** July 18, 1793 in Hardin County, Kentucky. One source notes her birth as "abt. 1778" and another notes 1774. **William Edlin** has been noted to have been born the son of **Richard Edlin** in Monongalia County, Virginia (now an area in Pennsylvania) about 1767 and died in Hardin County July 28, 1852 and that he married **Elizabeth Swank** born about 1777 also in Monongalia County. **William Edlin** was the brother of **James Edlin** whose daughter, **Katherine Sarah Edlin**, married **Jonas Gray Jr.** son of **Jonas and Hannah Swank Gray** noted above. As noted above, **William and Elizabeth Swank Edlin** took up residence on the ground occupied by the **John Swank** fort and **William Edlin** is noted as having died there.

3. **Jacob Swank** (1776-1853) married **Elizabeth Van Meter (Vanmetre)** (1780-1846) April \_\_\_\_ under a marriage bond dated April 20, 1797 in Hardin County, Kentucky. **Jacob** is sometimes listed as **Noah Swank**. **Thompson Ashby** is listed as surety on the bond. Written consent for **Elizabeth's** marriage was given by **Samuel** and **Elizabeth Goodin**, but their relationship is not stated. [Parenthetically, **Samuel Goodin Sr.** married his second wife **Elizabeth Kline Van Meter** in 1782. She was the widow of **Abraham Van Meter**. **Elizabeth**, the bride of **Jacob Swank**, was the daughter of **Abraham and Elizabeth Van Meter** and the stepdaughter of **Samuel Goodin Sr.**] One source indicates **Jacob** was born January 28, 1776. **Jacob Swank** built a large brick home noted as a landmark in Hardin County and lived there many years. [Family Tree Maker CD "Family History: Kentucky Genealogies #1"]. **Jacob Swank** and **Jacob Enlow** are listed as witnesses to an application for a Revolutionary War pension for a **James McCullum** submitted in 1833 noting that **Jacob** was a resident in his neighborhood who could certify to his reputation as a Revolutionary War soldier. **Jacob Swank** is mentioned numerous times in various Will Book entries for Hardin County over the years, with the last entry found by this author recorded on November 23, 1835. **Jacob Swank** and family went to Missouri in 1836 apparently accompanied by a number of his children and, perhaps, other relatives. **Jacob** is probably the **Jacob Swank** listed as acquiring land in Mississippi county by United States land patents in 1837 and 1841. **Jacob** died in 1853 in Mississippi County, Missouri.

Children of **Jacob and Elizabeth Van Meter Swank**:

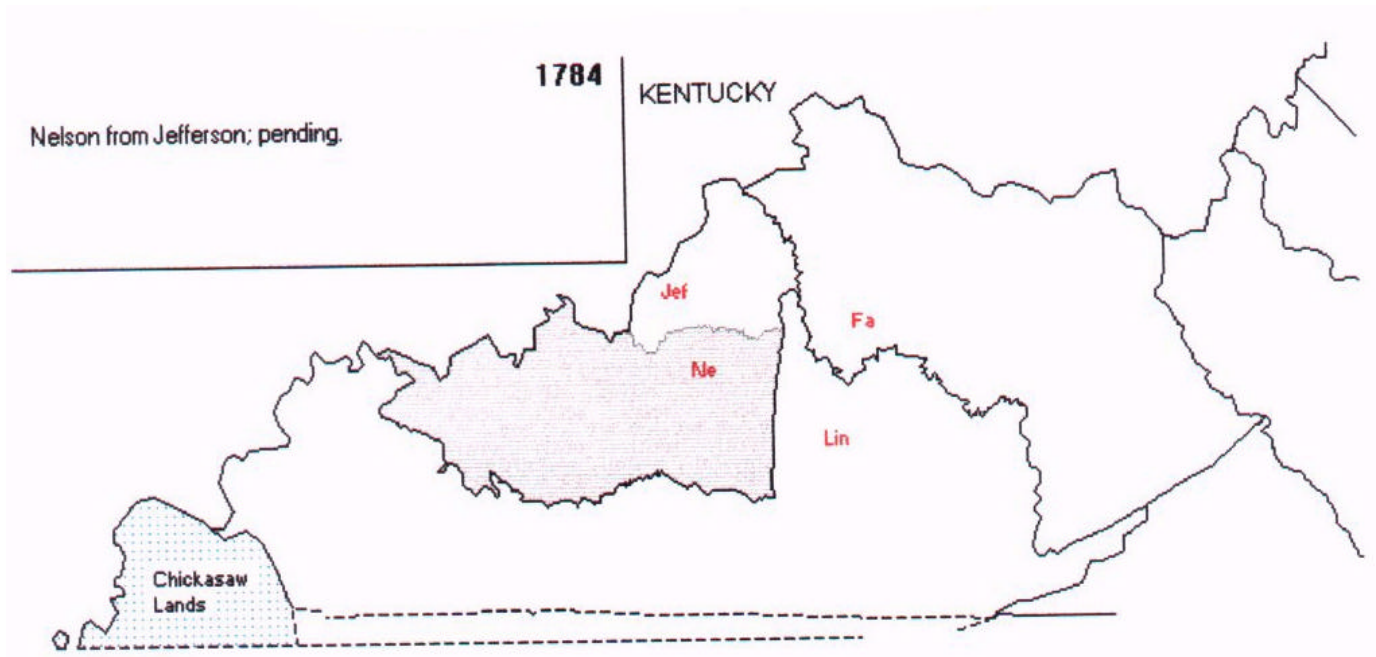
- **John Swank** (1798-1866) married **Sarah Lee** (1804- ), daughter of **Wilford and Rebecca Lee**, June 11, 1827 in Bullitt County, Kentucky. **John** is listed in the 1850 census for Hardin County as a 52 year old farmer born in Kentucky. Listed in his household are **Sarah**, age 47, **William** (one source lists this **William** as **William J.**) age 20, **Eliza E.** age 17, **Rebecca J.** age 13, **Margaret A.** age 10, **Cyrus** age 8, and **Laura S.** age 6. They moved from Hardin County to Missouri in the 1850s with their children and five members of the **John Lee** family. Daughters of the American Revolution records [DAR NO. 126752] provide the following information on a descendant from this family: Mrs. **Lila Simpson Snow**, wife of **Thad Snow**, born in Charleston, MO, descendant of **Jacob Van Meter**, as follows: **Lila Simpson Snow** was the daughter of **John Simpson** (b. 1861) and **Fannie Lawrence** (1866-1912) first marriage 1886; **John Simpson** was the son of \_\_\_\_ **Simpson** (1829-1904) and **Rebecca Swank** (b. 1838) married 1861; **Rebecca Swank** was the daughter of **John**

(Continued on page 11)

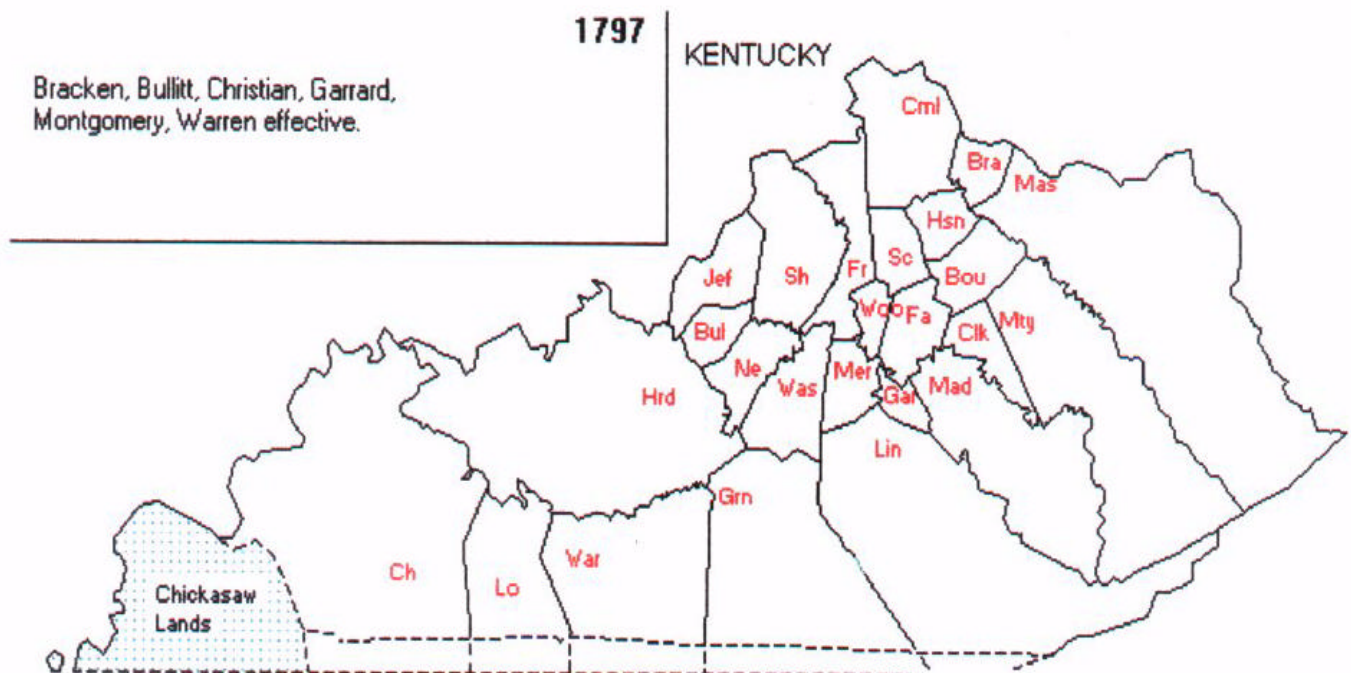
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VREvolution



**Kentucky, 1784—1797** — From east to west the counties in the above map are Fayette, Lincoln, Nelson (shaded) and Jefferson. Compare this map with the map below from Kentucky 1797 and then the Kentucky county map on page 11 of this issue. Boundaries were very much in flux during this period of American history.



(Continued from page 9)

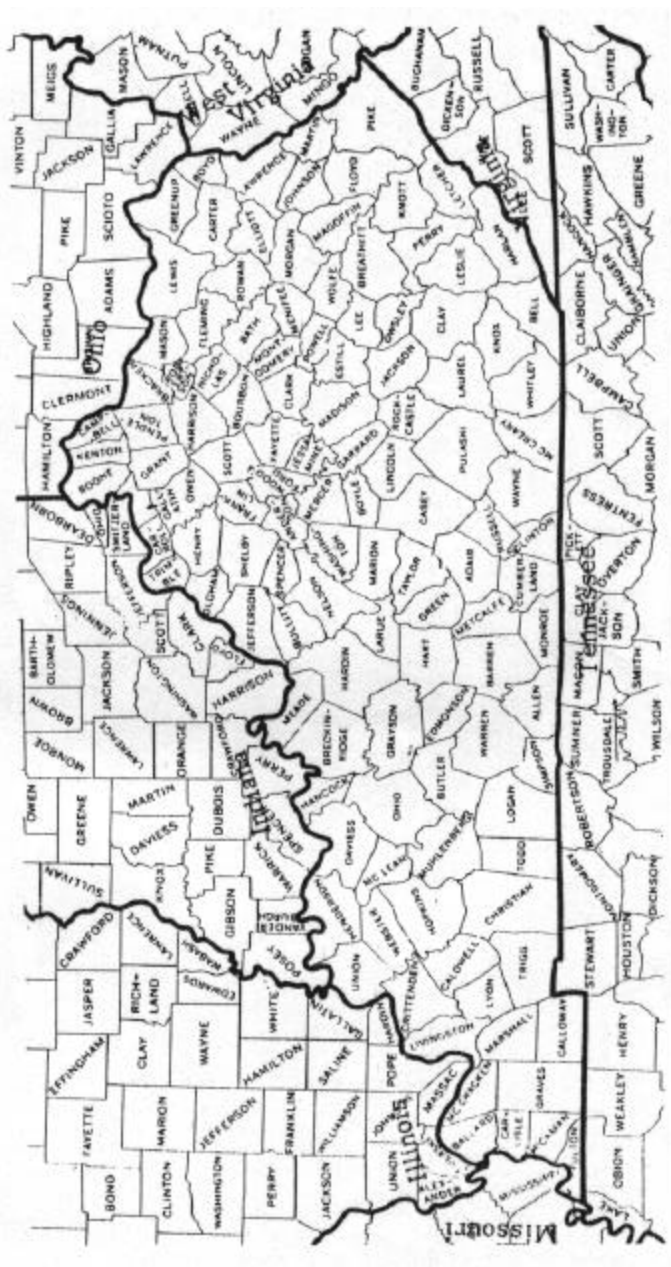
**Swank** (1798-1866) and **Sally Lee** (1803-1892) married 1827; **John Swank** was the son of **Jacob Swank** (b. 1776) and **Elizabeth Van Meter** (1780-1846) married 1797; **Elizabeth Van Meter** was the daughter of **Abraham Van Meter** and **Rebecca**

[A Hardin County history notes that **Abraham's** wife was named **Elizabeth Kline**]; **Abraham Van Meter** was the son of **Jacob Van Meter** and **Letitia Strode** (d. 1789). **Jacob Van Meter** (1723-1798) was a member of the Committee of Observation for Washington, PA. He was born in New Jersey; died in Hardin County, Kentucky.

- Lettice Swank** (1799-1851) married **Garrard Goodin** July 29, 1819 under marriage bond dated July 26, 1819 in Hardin County. **William Fairleigh** is listed as surety on the bond. **Jacob** gave his written consent for the marriage. Some interesting background on this and related families was noted in a local Hardin County history as follows: **Samuel Goodin Jr.** (1764-September 20, 1816) married **Margaret (Peggy) Garrard** on March 28, 1793. **Margaret** was the third daughter of **John Garrard** and **Susannah Van Meter Garrard** born January 27, 1774. **Susannah Van Meter** was a daughter of pioneer **Jacob Van Meter** and his wife **Letitia Stroud Van Meter**. **Samuel** and **Margaret's** first child, **Garrard Goodin**, was born May 25, 1795 and died in Missouri March 9, 1840 (a number of **Goodins** moved to Missouri before the Civil War), married **Letitia Swank** July 29, 1819 in Hardin County. This couple were said to have left Kentucky soon after their marriage and moved to Missouri. This was probably Mississippi county, Missouri. **Letitia Swank** was the daughter of **Jacob Swank** and **Elizabeth Van Meter Swank**. **Elizabeth Van Meter Swank** was a daughter of **Abraham Van Meter** and his wife, **Elizabeth Kline Van Meter**. **Garrard** and **Letitia Swank Goodin** had nine children: **William H., Ellen, John R., Jacob Swank, Nathaniel Van Meter, Albert Swank, Elizabeth Swank, Louise Miller** and **Oliver Means**. It is noted that a sister of **Margaret's**, **Letitia**, was born in what is now Greene County, Pennsylvania January 2, 1776 and died in Hardin County September 21, 1856. [Notes From Daniel E. McClure, Jr., *Two Centuries in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Kentucky* (published by the Hardin County Historical Society, 1979)]. **Letitia Swank Goodin** was the sister of **Catherine (Kitty) Swank** who married her husband's brother, **John Goodin**.

- Jacob Swank Jr.** (1804-1894) apparently lived in

(Continued on page 12)



Kentucky County Map

## World War I Civilian Draft Registrations

Elmer Calvin Summitt

Born: 8 April 1894

Vincennes, Indiana

Ethnicity: White

Location: Power County, Idaho

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(Continued from page 11)

Hardin County until the mid-1830s and then went to Missouri with his father. Both a **Jacob Swank** and a **Jacob Swank Jr.** are listed in the 1840 census for Scott county, Missouri, which in 1845 would give birth to Mississippi county. This author does not have any other information on this individual.

- **Catherine (Kitty) Ann Swank** (1812-1867) married **John Goodin** October 23, 1828 under marriage bond dated October 20, 1828 in Hardin County. **Jacob Swank** is listed as surety on the bond and noted as the father of bride who consented to the marriage in person. **John Goodin** was born March 9, 1803. She was born January 12, 1812. **John Goodin** died September 16, 1859 in Mississippi County, Missouri. **Catherine** was the sister of **Letitia Swank Goodin**, wife of her husband's brother, **Garrard Goodin**. This family was prominent in the Charleston, Missouri area. Daughters of the American Revolution records [DAR NO. 156837] provide the following information on a descendant from this family: **Alice Goodin Sterett**, wife of **Frank F. Sterett**, born in Mississippi County, MO, descendant of **Jacob Van Meter**, as follows: **Alice Goodin** was the daughter of **Frank Goodin** (1839-1892) and **Jenny Haw** (b. 1843) 2d marriage 1865; **Frank Goodin** was the son of **John Goodin** (1803-1851) and **Katherine Ann Swank** (1802-1867) married 1828; **Katherine Ann Swank** was the daughter of **Jacob Swank** (b. 1776) and **Elizabeth Van Meter** (1780-1846) \* \* \*.
- **Polly Swank** married **Robert G. LaFollett** June 1, 1826 under marriage bond dated May 30, 1826 in Hardin County. **John Swank** is listed as surety on the bond and noted as a witness. **Jacob Swank** is noted as the bride's father.
- **Sarah Swank** (1816- ) married **James Crutcher** February 6, 1832. **Jacob Swank** is noted as the bride's father.
- **Eleanor Swank** (1809-1850) married **Thomas Vernon** August 28, 1828 in Hardin County. Her name sometimes appears in records as **Ellender Swank**. Daughters of the American Revolution records [DAR NO. 127497] provide the following information on a descendant from this family: Mrs. **Annetta M. Vernon Hummel**, wife of **Paul W. Hummel**, born in Thebas, Illinois, descendant of **Jacob Van Meter**, as follows: **Annetta M. Vernon** was the daughter of **Frank Stotts Vernon** (b. 1871) and **Ella Grigsby** (b. 1875) married in 1894; **Frank Stotts Vernon** was the son of **Tinsley Vernon** (1837-1884) and **Mary Stotts** married 1870; **Tinsley Vernon** was the son of **Thomas**

**Vernon** and **Eleanor Swank** (1809-1851) married 1833 [?]; **Eleanor Swank** was the daughter of **Jacob Swank** (b. 1776) and **Elizabeth Van Meter** (1780-1846) \* \* \*.

- **Elizabeth Swank** (1813-1845) married **James Washington Smith** (1808-1902) February 6, 1832 in Hardin County. [Relationship as daughter of **Jacob Swank** is an educated guess based on the date, place of marriage and DAR records originating from **Swanks** born in Charleston, MO, some of which track back to **Jacob Swank**. See entries for children **John, Eleanor, and William**.] This marriage is noted in several Daughters of the American Revolution records based on the Revolutionary War service of **James McWilliams** and does not track the **Swank** connection back beyond **James** and **Elizabeth Swank Smith**. [see DAR No. 102975 and No. 108555; there maybe others] The DAR line for No. 102975 was from **Mattie Bridwell Deal** born in Charleston MO, wife of **Edwin Jare Deal**, as follows: **Mattie Bridwell** was the daughter of **Isaac H. Birdwell** (1824-1901) and **Mary Ellen Smith** (1838-1870) married 1865; **Mary Ellen Smith** was the daughter of **James Washington Smith** (1808-1902) and **Elizabeth Swank** (1813-1845) married 1832. The DAR line for No. 108555 was **Mrs. Barbara Freeman Myers** born in Charleston, MO, wife of **Wendell Myers**, as follows: **Barbara Freeman** was the daughter of **George Freeman** (b. 1858) and **Mary Elizabeth Smith** (1858-1898) married 1885; **Mary Elizabeth Smith** was the daughter of **Silas Swank Smith** (b. 1833) and **Mary Columbia Clark** married 1856; and **Silas Swank Smith** was the son of **James Washington Smith** (1808-1902) and **Elizabeth Swank** (1813-1845) married 1832.
- **William Swank** (1807-1889) married **Lettie Ashby** (one source has **William Swank** married to **Lettie Van Meter**). It appears that **William Swank** went to Mississippi county, Missouri, with his father in the mid-1830s. He is recorded as obtaining land by United States patent dated November 14, 1837 in Mississippi county. Daughters of the American Revolution records [DAR NO. 127496] provide the following information on a descendant from this family: Mrs. **Susanna Pulliam Morehead**, wife of **Roy Morehead**, born in Ironton, MO, descendant of **Col. James Chambers**, **Lieut. Benjamin Chambers**, **William Moore** and **Jacob Van Meter**, as follows: **Susanna Pulliam** was the daughter of **Luther Pulliam** and **Julia Swank** (1854-1899) second wife married 1888; \* \* \* **Julia Swank** was the daughter of **Abraham Swank** (1831-1872) and **Susan Moore** (b. 1833) married 1853; **Abraham Swank** was the son of **William Swank** (b. 1807) and **Lettie Ashby**; \* \* \* **William Swank** was the son of **Jacob Swank** (b. 1776) and **Elizabeth Van Meter** (1780-1846) \* \* \* [same as No. 126752 in

(Continued on page 13)



(Continued from page 12)

relevant part, except states that **Jacob Van Meter** was born in Somerset County, NJ. See also No. 116743.]

- **Silas Swank** (1819-1885) married **Frances Thompson**. The author does not have any further information on **Silas Swank**, except to note a **Silas Swank** bought land by land patent dated March 1, 1848 in Mississippi County, Missouri and is listed in the 1850 census for Mississippi County, 57th District, Missouri. **Jacob**, his father, and **William Swank**, his brother, are also listed in the same county and district in the 1850 census and acquired patent land in 1837 in the county. It might be noted that the following Daughters of the American Revolution report [No. 108555] reflects the existence of a **Silas Swank** as follows: Mrs. **Barbara Freeman Myers**, wife of **Wendell Myers**, born in Charleston, MO, descendant of **James McWilliams**, as follows: **Barbara Freeman Myers** was the daughter of **George Freeman** (b. 1858) and **Mary Elizabeth Smith** (1858-1898) married 1885; **Mary Elizabeth Smith** was the daughter of **Silas Swank Smith** (b. 1833) and **Mary Columbia Clark** married 1856; **Silas Swank Smith** was the son of **James Washington Smith** (1808-1902) and **Elizabeth Swank** (1813-1845) married 1832 \* \* \*. This **Elizabeth Swank** was a sister to **Silas Swank**.
  - **David Swank** (1823-1906) married **Amanda Miller**.
4. **John Swank Jr.** married **Nancy Harrison** June 8, 1797 under marriage bond dated \_\_\_\_\_, 1797 in Hardin County, Kentucky. One source has **John Swank Jr.** born "abt. 1772". **Joshua Harrison** was listed as a surety on the bond. **John Swank Jr.** is noted as a witness along with **Isaac Hynes** and **Margaret Garrard** to the will of **Edward Rawlings**, deceased, proved in Hardin County court Tuesday, July 26, 1796. A **John Swank** and **Joseph Swank** are listed in the 1830 Census for Montgomery County, Indiana. Along with **Joseph Swank**, a **John Swank** "of Hardin County, Kentucky" obtained three land patents dated April 1, 1824 in Putnam county, Indiana, about the time Montgomery County was being formed from Putnam county. A **Joshua Swank** "of Putnam county, Indiana" obtained a land patent dated April 15, 1825 for Montgomery county, Indiana and was subsequently listed in the 1830 census for Montgomery county. A **Joshua Swank** married **Elizabeth Westfall** October 4, 1825 in Montgomery County. It is known that **David Swank**, the brother of **John** and **Joseph**, settled in Putnam County, Indiana. The author is guessing that **Joshua Swank** was **John Swank Jr.**'s son named after his wife's brother, **Joshua Harrison**. More research is

needed on **John, Joseph, and David Swank** in the Montgomery and Putnam counties of Indiana. [It might be noted here for lack of a better place that a **John H. Swank** married **Emily Hodges** February 21, 1833 in Montgomery county and a **John Swank** married **Fanny Frame** February 18, 1836 in Montgomery county. This **John H. Swank** might be the same **John Harrison Swank** "of Putnam county, Indiana", who purchased land in Hendricks County, Indiana, by patent dated March 18, 1837 and **John Swank Jr.** and wife **Nancy Harrison** might be his parents. How these individuals fit into the **Swank** families in the area is to this author at this point.]

5. **David Swank** (1780- ) married **Elizabeth Westfall** October 23, 1800 under a marriage bond dated October 22, 1800 in Hardin County, Kentucky. Surety for the bond was **Rueben Westfall**, with **Jacob Westfall** listed as the father of **Elizabeth**. Witnesses were listed as **Levi** and **Reuben Westfall**. **Elizabeth's** mother was **Mary King Westfall**. **Elizabeth** had eight siblings: **Joel, Cornelius, Reuben, Levi, John, Anna, Mary** and **Janet**. [Of some interest might be the notes that (1) **David Swank** was listed as surety and witness to the marriage of **John Anderson** to **Anna Westfall** on April 2, 1807 under marriage bond dated March 30, 1807. **John Anderson's** father is listed as **Josiah Anderson** and **Anna's** father as **Jacob Westfall**, so **Anna** was the sister of **David Swank's** wife, **Elizabeth Westfall**; and (2) **David Swank** was listed as surety and a witness on the marriage bond of **Reuben Westfall** to **Elizabeth Tucker** on March 2, 1805 under marriage bond dated March 2, 1805. **Margaret Tucker** is listed as the bride's mother. **Reuben Westfall** is a brother of **David Swank's** wife, **Elizabeth Westfall**.]

**David Swank** is mentioned numerous times in various Will Book entries for Hardin County over the early years, with the first noted by this author in the estate of **Abraham Goodin** January 27, 1806 and the last in the estate of **Daniel Waide** August 11, 1817. **David Swank** is noted in the 1820 census for Hardin County. One source notes that **David Swank** was born April 1, 1780 in Kentucky and died February 20, 1842 in Putnam County, Indiana. The conclusion that **David Swank** went to Putnam County is supported by the fact that a **David Swank** brought three parcels of land under the United States land patent program in April 1824—one in Putnam County and two in Montgomery county. In all of the patents, **David** is noted as "of Putnam county, Indiana". Montgomery county was formed out of Putnam and Parke counties in 1823. **David** and **Elizabeth** had the following identified children: **John** (1801), **James** (1803), **Cornelius** (1808), **Mary** (1810), **Cindicia** (1812), **David** (1814), and **Elizabeth** (1819). Not much is known by this author about the children. **Cornelius** continued to live in Putnam County. He is listed in the 1850 census there. **Cornelius** and his family are also noted in 1860 census for Putnam County, with **Cornelius** listed as a 52-year-old minister born in Kentucky, his wife **Louise** age 42 born in Ohio, and children **Fletcher** age 15, **John** age 10, **Mary** age 6 and **Louisa** age 3 (all born in Indiana).

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

6. **Susannah Swank** married **John Roll** December 25, 1800 under marriage bond dated December 18, 1800 in Hardin County, Kentucky. **Jacob Swank** is listed as surety on the bond and **Mrs. Rosannah Swank** noted as **Susannah's** mother. **John Roll** was the son of **Michael Roll** and **Christiana Vought**. This author has notes that she died 1804-1812 in Hardin County. **John Roll** and family moved to Harrison County, Indiana and he died there. The children of **Susannah** and **John Roll** include--

- **Elizabeth** married **Joseph Shaw** October 27, 1825 in Harrison County, Indiana;
- **Christiana** married **Benjamin Turley** January 7, 1828 in Harrison County, Indiana. This family ultimately moved to Washington county, Indiana, along with **Christiana's** sister **Susan** and brother **Stephen Thomas**. They are listed in the 1860 census for Washington county, Posey Township, Hardingsburg P.O. as follows: **Benjamin Turley**, a 60-year-old farmer born in Virginia, with **Christiana Turley** age 46 born in Kentucky and probably Benjamin's mother, **Mary Turley** age 87 born in Virginia, and children **Mary B.** age 27, **Miriam** age 20, **Fanny** age 16, **Nancy A.** age 11, and **Thomas** age 6.
- **Susan** married **Joseph H. Turley** February 23 (or 25), 1832 in Harrison County, Indiana. **Joseph** and **Susan Roll Turley** apparently went to Washington county, Indiana along with her brother **Thomas Roll** and sister **Christiana**. Their family is listed in the 1860 census for Washington county, Howard Township, Hardingsburg P.O. as follows: **Joseph Turley**, a 58-year-old farmer born in Virginia, with **Susan Turley** age 50 born in Kentucky, and children **Floyd** age 24, **Silas** age 20, **Mary** age 18, **Sarah A.** age 13, **Emily** age 9, and **Alfred** age 5 (all children born in Indiana).
- **William** married **Matilda Roden** August 10, 1840 in Harrison County, Indiana.
- **Stephen Thomas**, born May 8, 1808 in Kentucky, married **Frances (Fanny) Turley** July 3, 1827 in Harrison County, Indiana, and died November 12, 1877 in Washington County, Indiana. **Thomas Roll** and his family are listed in the 1860 census for Washington county, Indiana, Posey Township, Hardingsburg P.O. as follows: **Thomas Roll**, a 52-year-old farmer born in Kentucky, with **Francis Roll** age 53 born in Virginia, and children **Josephus** age 23, **Alfred** age 22, **Thomas** age 20, **Christiana** age 16, and **Matilda** age 12 (all children born in Indiana). There are a number of other members of the Roll family listed in the Posey Township as heads of household probably related to **Thomas**, including a **Nancy Roll** age 51 born in Kentucky (with three children), an **Alvin Roll** age

32 born in Indiana (with wife and four children), and a **John Roll** age 34 born in Kentucky (with wife and one child).

[The information on the children of **John** and **Susannah Roll** was taken primarily from a family file on CD FTM WFT Vol. 14, #2598 relating mostly to the family line of their son, **Stephen Thomas Roll**, and Indiana State Library Online Data for Marriages in Indiana Before 1850.]

7. **Rosannah Swank** married **Samuel Walls** October 9, 1803 under a marriage bond dated October 8, 1803 in Hardin County, Kentucky. **Samuel Duree** is listed as Surety on the bond, with **William Eaglin** and **Samuel Duree** listed as witnesses. It was noted that **Rosannah Swank** was **Rosannah's** mother and consented to the marriage.

8. **Joseph Swank** (1788-1833) married **Letitia Van Meter (Lettice Van Metre)** (1788-1857) February 12, 1809 under a marriage bond dated February 11, 1809 in Hardin County, Kentucky. **Jacob Swank** is listed as surety on the bond. One source lists **Joseph Swank** as born August 7, 1788 and died August 10, 1833 (WFT Vol. 14, #1473). Another lists him as born July 8, 1788 and died August 1, 1833 (Elma Rust Family Sheet). Letitia was born February 3, 1786 in Hardin county and died February 2, 1857 in Montgomery County, Indiana. Letitia is listed in the 1840 census for Montgomery County, Indiana, Wayne Township, as Lettice Swank. Her parents were John and Dinah Holtzclaw Van Meter. **Joseph Swank** is noted in the estate sale records of the estate of **Abraham Goodin**, deceased, January 27, 1806. **Joseph Swank** is listed in Hardin County in the 1810 census. He is noted in Harrison county, Indiana in the 1820 census. In March 1824, **Joseph** buys two parcels of land under the United States land patent program in Montgomery county, Indiana, in which he states that he is "of Harrison county, Indiana". Since a number of his children can be identified as born in Indiana in the 1816-1818 period, it appears that **Joseph** went to Harrison county, Indiana just across the Ohio River from Hardin County sometime after 1810 and went to Montgomery county, Indiana with his family around 1824. It also appears that he was joined in this westward migration to the same area by his brothers, **John Swank Jr.** and **David Swank**, and probably some or all of their children.

The children of **Joseph** and **Letitia Swank**:

- **John Swank** was born March 6, 1810 and married **Ann Freeland** April 23, 1837 in Montgomery County, Indiana. Their children included **Martha Marianne**, **Miles**, **Joseph**, **Lemuel** and **John**. This **John Swank** is probably the **John Swank** listed in the 1840 census for Montgomery county, Indiana, Wayne Township along with his mother **Letitia** and brother **Monroe**. He died October 7, 1874 in Osage Mission, Kansas.
- **Monroe Swank** was born October 17, 1812 and married

(Continued on page 15)



(Continued from page 14)

**Mary Jane Clevenger** March 12, 1839 in Montgomery county, Indiana. He is listed in the 1840 census for Montgomery county, Indiana, Wayne Township. Their children included **Sarah Letitia, Joseph, Daniel Clevenger, and John Clevenger**. He died March 12, 1900 in Rock Island County, Illinois.

- **Samuel Swank** was born about 1814 and died in 1895.
- **Susannah Swank** was born in 1816 and died in 1895. The 1860 Indiana census for Montgomery County, Union Township, Crawfordsville Post Office, lists a **Susannah Swank** as a 45-year-old head of household born in Indiana apparently living alone as a next door neighbor to **Asbury Swank**. This probably is his sister.
- **Asbury Swank** was born March 14, 1817 and married his first wife **Matilda H. Clevenger** July 27, 1840 in Montgomery County, Indiana. [Indiana State Library Database lists the marriage as August 26, 1840] One source notes that **Asbury** had a second wife named **Susannah**. This author cannot confirm the second marriage information and it appears that **Matilda** was still alive in 1860 just three years before her husband's death. The children of **Asbury and Matilda** included **Jacob, Mary Elizabeth, Sarah Letitia, John Bunyan, Susannah M., Asbury, Smith, William Gray, and David Samuel**. The 1860 Indiana census for Montgomery County, Union Township, Crawfordsville Post Office, lists **Asbury Swank** as a 43-year-old farmer born in Indiana, with **Matilda Swank** age 37 born in Ohio. There are eight children all born in Indiana listed in this census as follows: **Jacob** age 18, **Mary E.** age 14, **Sarah L.** age 12, **John B.** age 9, **Susannah** age 6, **Asbury** age 3, **Smith** age 3, and **William G.** age 6 months. This author cannot account for why the younger **Asbury** and **Smith** were listed as the same age. Perhaps they were twins or an error in transcription was made. The elder **Asbury Swank** died March 14, 1863 in Montgomery County, Indiana.
- **Jacob Swank** was born February 20, 1819 and died August 19, 1833.
- **Zillah Swank** was born April 1, 1821 and married **William Hayter** June 26, 1839. [Indiana State Library Database lists the marriage "Zilla Swank" June 20, 1839 in Montgomery County, Indiana.] Their children included **Joseph, Mary Letitia, John Van Meter, Sylvia, James Monroe, Susannah, Elizabeth, William Wallace, and Viola Luella**. She died January 3, 1903 in Bryan, Idaho.
- **Letitia Swank** was born December 28, 1822 and married **Abraham Utter** February 13, 1845. [Indiana State Library Database lists the marriage "Lettie" Swank in Montgomery County, Indiana.]

Their children included **Joseph Asbury, Marianne, Maria Elizabeth, John Fletcher, David Marsee, and Oliver Lincoln**. The 1860 census for Montgomery County, Indiana lists **Abraham Utter** age 37 born in New Jersey, with **Lettis** age 36 born in Indiana, and five children all born in Indiana: **Joseph** age 13, **Mary** age 9, **Marie E.** age 4, **John J.** [probably "F"] age 2, and **David M.** age 5 months. **Letitia** died October 12, 1866 in Montgomery County, Indiana.

- **Joseph Swank** was born November 26, 1822 [query] and died November 1, 1836.
- **Sanford Swank**.
- **David Swank** was born September 10, 1832 and married **Elizabeth Hester Clark** February 9, 1854. Their children included **John, Sarah Letitia, and Clara D.** He died September 29, 1862 in Iroquois County, Illinois.

[Most of the information on the **Joseph Swank** family was derived from **Steve Swank** and from FTM WFT CD, vol. 14, #1473, supplemented with information from the Indiana State Library Online Database on Indiana Marriages Before 1850 and other sources.]

## CONCLUSION

The **John and Rosannah Summit Swank** story illustrates in classic form the movement of early pioneers and their descendants across this broad land. They came from Pennsylvania to Kentucky in search of abundant land to make a home. As their children matured and married, they moved on to new places to build their homes and raise their families--who in turn moved on again. Even the most casual reader will note many gaps in this story. No apology is made for these gaps. They represent the challenge to descendants of **John and Rosannah Swank** to seek each other out, to share the knowledge of their family heritage, and to continue the process of completing the mosaic of their origins.

## Important Notice!

In order to get the announcements for this summer's family reunions and activities in the April issue we need you to start sending us the information about when and where now. We know there is supposed to be one here in Cardwell, Missouri, at least two in Tennessee, and two in Indiana. Let us know the particulars so that we can publish the information in the next issue. We are going to try and make at least the one here in Cardwell this year.

Send the information to:

**The Summitt Family Quarterly**  
**P.O. Box 635**  
**Cardwell, MO 63829**

The Summitt Family  
Quarterly  
P.O. Box 635  
Cardwell, MO 63829

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In This Issue...

**John and Rosanna Summitt Swank — Kentucky Pioneers**

***WILLIAM CLAY  
CLARK II***

***DR. ROBERT  
LAYMAN SUMMITT***

***JEFFERY R.  
SUMMITT***