Jessamine Historical Quarterly



Volume 1 Number 1 2002

October

INAUGURAL EDITION

Welcome to the first edition of the Jessamine County Quarterly!

Fran Clark, Editor

As we are interested in the preservation of the history of Jessamine County, Kentucky and its families, this newsletter is being written to support the search for Jessamine County ancestors and document the history of the county.

We are working with Jessamine County Historical & Genealogical Society to highlight their activities, such as the cemetery clean up (see Ernestine Hamm's article page 7) and Revolutionary War Patriots project (see Alice Hill's article on page 3). Two exciting new developments in the last year are the JCHGS website (Jo Arnspriger, page 4) and the JessList (Bryce Stevens, page 5). Jessamine County has several historians of real stature who have agreed to share their research. In this issue Clyde Bunch provides background on Samuel Duncan (page 2), while the Shane interview (page 5) is available because of the work of Shelia Ramos and Bryce Stevens. JCHGS has extensive research material available to assist anyone who comes to the county. Some of their holdings are listed here (page 4). In addition, JCHGS members eagerly provide tours to landmarks and lesser known spots of the county. These Jessamine County residents are an enthusiastic group, so be sure to tell them in advance of your visit for the personalized treatment.

As this is your newsletter, we want to hear from you. Tell us what you like or want to see. We also would welcome any and all contributions of stories, and pictures. Our email addresses are on the last page as well as the JCHGS address. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Hope you enjoy this first edition!!!

In This Edition...

Page Content

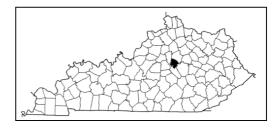
- 1 Editorial
- 1 President's Corner
- 2 Samuel M. Duncan Clyde Bunch
- 3 The Revolutionary War Soldiers Project
- 4 Draper/Shane Papers: Mrs. Samuel Scott
- 5 On the Horizon student projects
- 6 Cemetery Project Ernestine Hamm
- 6 Genealogy Queries
- 7 About the JessList Bryce Stevens
- 7 JCHGS Activity and Holdings
- 8 JCHGS Website Jo Arnspiger

The President's Corner

Howard Teater

The Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society are so thankful to the Farmers Bank and Leroy (Landy) Dale, for the use of our present meeting place at the Farmers Square, Main Street, Nicholasville, KY. We have met over the years at the Library and at the Old Jail. We now have a wonderful meeting room with plenty of parking, which allows us to come and go as needed.

We meet the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM (EXCEPT Nov and Dec), and every Thursday at 1:00 PM with people coming often to do research with the new material that has been donated on their families.



Jessamine County Location in Kentucky

A Testimonial to Samuel Duncan

Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society 216 North Main Street, Farmers Square, Nicholasville, KY 40356 Page 1

Introduced by Clyde Bunch

What follows is a testimonial to a man often described as Jessamine County's first historian, Samuel McAfee Duncan. Born in 1828 in Pulaski Co., KY, he was a son of Alexander Crockett Duncan and Hannah N. Williams. He was a grandson of James Duncan, who was killed by the Indians in 1791, while making salt near the mouth of Paint Lick Creek.

Samuel Duncan loved history and Jessamine County. He spent a large part of his life collecting old letters and other materials, and talking to the early settlers to this area. Much of this information was given to Bennett Young to write his History of Jessamine County.

The testimonial below was written by Col. Bennett H. Young following Samuel Duncan's death in 1901. Our thanks to Clyde Bunch for his assistance and the photograph, and especially to Ernestine Hamm, who provided the text as it originally appeared, and the photograph of the memorial stone. What Col. Young wrote is provided below.

Samuel M. Duncan was a very unique character. I knew him during my earliest boyhood; the friendship that existed between him and my father brought me in contact with him. In later years, I was impressed withhis wide and accurate knowledge of Jessamine county. He knew the families who settled the county and he knew the history of their descendants and he has done more than all the other people who ever lived in Jesamine county to preserve its pioneer history.

I had the honor and privilege of preparing the first history ever written of Jessamine county, on the occasion of the Centennial in 1898. In this book has been gathered much material to enable those who come after to write more fully an account of the men and women who lived in Jessamine county. Wtihout Mr. Duncan's assistance it would have been impossible to have done this work even as imperfectly as it has been done. A warm friendship spang up betweeen Mr. Duncan and myself, which continued until his death. He was able to do a great deal of work for me in the way of historical research; and on the other hand, I was enabled to do something for him in the way of providing for his wants.



Samuel McAfee Duncan

Among his papers was found one containing this clause: "It is my request that my remains be buried beside my mother in the cemetery at Nicholasville, Ky. I request Col. Bennett H. Young to see that my burial expenses are paid, etc." Under the circumstances, I consider it a privilege to pay Mr. Duncan's burial expenses; it has all been done.

There ought to be a tablet to mark Mr. Duncan's resting place, because he was one of the historical characters of Jessamine county. I therefore take the liberty of suggesting to the people of Jessamine that, by small contributions among a large number of people, sufficient money may be raised to erect in the Nicholasville cemetery a modest monument to his memory. If the people of Jessamine are not willing to do this, I shall pay the expenses myself; but it has occurred to me that probably the people of the county would prefer to unite in doing this. He was in large measure a public servant and deserves a public remembrance.

Anyone who desires, between this and the 15th of February, to contribute toward securing a granite stone to mark Mr. Duncan's resting place, wil please hand to Letcher Saunders such amount as they may be willing to pay for this privilege. Whatever is lacking I will make good.

BENNETT H. YOUNG.

The gravestone was, of course, provided. Mr. Duncan's resting place and gravestone (next page) are in Maple Grove Cemetery.



Maple Grove Cemetery

Revolutionary War Soldier's Project

Alice Hills

Jessamine county celebrates its 200th year in 1998 and what better way to enjoy it than to explore its Revolutionary War past! Driving Tour! Soldiers' Living History Encampment! Soldiers' Drills & Musket Firings!

This announcement, plus a two-column photo in the Lexington paper of John Wooten in Revolutionary War uniform, invited a cousin and me to drive south to Nicholasville and partake of this adventure on April 18, 1998--also the anniversary of Paul Revere's ride! We were both DAR members and volunteers in the DAR library in Bourbon County and knew we would enjoy and appreciate the driving tour of twelve Revolutionary soldiers' gravesites. We found that at each site there were costumed enactors, some representing the Continental Line, some taking the part of scouts and Militia, all prepared with a personal history of the veteran buried there. We learned that these twelve veterans were but a small part of the number of remarkable men who had moved to the area that became Jessamine county, had cleared the land, built homes and farms, started schools and churches, raised families, built communities, and had died and were buried there.

In addition, we visited the Revolutionary War Soldiers' Living History Encampment on the historic Ebenezer Church grounds. The Craig's Creek Muzzle Loaders and their families made us welcome. (John Wooten is also a member of the Second North Carolina Continental Line reenactors, and he helped in the training of actors in "The Patriot", which starred Mel Gibson.) The groups that had united in the first-ever event of its kind to honor the memories of all of Jessamine county's brave Revolutionary War soldiers were the Jessamine Historical Society, Craig's Creek Muzzle Loaders, The Ebenezer Cemetery Association, and Trabue Chapter DAR.

Three years later when I visited a regular meeting of the JCHS, I learned for the first time of the continuing work being done to locate, restore, and mark the final resting places of other Revolutionary War veterans. I was happy to be invited to help Ernestine Hamm document the service records which she sends to Washington when a grave marker is ordered.

When the plans for a re-creation of Col. William Price's Fourth of July 1794 Picnic were being made, Kathy Hall and I were "volunteered" to research and write brief sketches of the 46 veterans who attended. Over the years Clyde Bunch had learned a great deal about some of them; others needed work. Many of you on the Jess List also contributed, as did Jackie West with her DAR knowledge.

Patriotism was alive and well in Jessamine county long before "9/11". But as Clyde has said in messages to the List, "Every Military Stone we place in one of these abandoned cemeteries can almost guarantee its safety. The Military Stone makes these cemeteries fall under a whole different set of laws....Without records we can't order grave stones." Send information to:

Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society Farmers Bank Square 216 North Main St Nicholasville, KY 40356

The War of 1812

"Kentucky & the Second American Revolution: The War of 1812" is the title of a small book in the Kentucky Bicentennial Bookshelf Series. "As a frontier state, Kentucky feared exposure to raids by British troops and their Indian allies." Kentuckians were known for their valor and sacrifice in such battles as the defense of Fort Harrison, the River Raisin, Battle of the Thames and of course the Battle of New Orleans. We will indeed be starting folders for these brave Jessamine county men.

We'll submit a brief Project report in each Newsletter.

Draper Manuscripts,

Shane Interviews

Transcribed by Bryce Stevens

The Rev. John Shane, born in 1812 in Cincinnati, Ohio was a Presbyterian minister for several churches throughout central Kentucky. He was in Lexington preaching at the Mt. Horeb Presbyterian Church between 1854 and 1859. It is generally believed this was the time frame when he made his interviews in Jessamine County. Clyde Bunch, a Jessamine County historian, has noticed most of the interviews pertaining to Jessamine County were from members of the Clear Creek Church or the Ebenezer Church. As both of these were early Presbyterian Churches in Jessamine County, he may have met the people he interviewed while visiting these churches.

The Rev. John Shane died in 1864. Shortly after his death, the historian Lyman C. Draper acquired some of Shane's papers. These papers eventual ended up in the State Historical Society in Wisconsin, with the rest of Draper's papers.

Shelia Ramos was granted permission by the Wisconsin State Historical Society to transcribe some of John Shane's interviews. These transcriptions were prepared by Bryce Stevens and have graciously been allowed to be reprinted here.

Shane Interview: Mrs. Samuel Scott

Introductory note: What follows is an interview of Mrs. Samuel Scott, conducted by Rev. John Shane sometime between 1850 and 1854. As the interview indicates, Mrs. Scott of Jessamine County, KY (daughter of John McCorkle), spent eight years in Virginia on the Clinch River, 1772-1780, and three years in Virginia on the Holston River prior to moving to Kentucky in 1784 as part of a large immigration of people, numbering some three hundred.

Mr. CAMPBELL was the preacher in North Carolina, where I came from, after I left. I think on Haw river.

We moved to Clinch - at Moore's fort. Was wintering at one place, 8 miles off from the Fort, and about a mile from the fiver. One PHILLIP's family was killed between us and the river, near to the river. (Mamma was gone up with a neighbor, Mrs. KILGORES, to Castle's woods, near the Fort, to buy some sheep at a sale. My mother, and Mr. And Mrs. KILGORE, AT THE TIME.) He was away in Carolina at the time. One boy escaped. I think by crawling under the beds. All the rest of the family were killed.

About 2 years after this, we moved over on to Holston, to get rid of the Indians. Had lived on Clinch 8 years. Went on to Holston to spend one year, and get ready to come to Ky:.

(One year while we lived on Clinch, we had no need to fort, and did not fort. Cowan's fort was about 2 miles from Moore's. We went to it one year, but it was too weak; but 7 or 8 families. The Indians attacked it. Miss WALKER, then the Widow Ann COWAN, was taken, going from Cowan's to Moore's. Her, and her sister's son, William WALKER, were taken. (Her sister's son: her sister married a WALKER.) As soon as the dead were buried, we all left, and went to Moore's fort. Her brother, Matthew WALKER, that went with her, was killed, and the other man that went with her was shot at, but escaped, and got into the fort. This Mrs. COWAN had just gotten back from her captivity, as I passed the Crab-Orchard coming out. (Two of old Robin MOFFET's sons got in, after we came to this country. They were taken from a sugar camp, sometime in those wars.) Captain SNODDY's and William and Joe MOORE's wives were sisters of her. They had moved there from Clinch. Were forted there. I had come 300 miles without seeing a house, after leaving Powell's mountain, not far from the river. Saw no sign of a house on Cumberland Mountain, except where some men had put up a few logs, and done some cutting, as if they were going to build. I began to be discouraged. Thought I never should see a house again. Hadn't seen one for 300 miles.

Matthew (?) COWAN brought the express from Moore's Fort, to Houston's, (where we had been the year before, on a/c of getting good range, and were again this year. Houston's was some miles from Moore's, still higher up Clinch - and Black's Station was lower down.) that 300 indians were coming to attack Houston's Station. The next morning he would start to go back - and thought that he could get away, that he knew he could get through, but was shot. His horse got in safe. His wife fainted when she saw the horse - a stud horse - all in a power of sweat. He was brought in wounded, and died. There, my father, John McCORKLE, was at the time. There were 300 to 21 families. I think the men didn't exceed 30. The Indians staid there about 8 days, killing the cattle. They were Cherokees. None of the men in the fort were killed. Relief came in from Holston, and then they left.

(continued page 5)

(continued from page 4)

A company of 60 men came in to Moore's Station from Kentucky. Had gone out another way I suppose. One Mr. BROWN, that was a

Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Societey 216 North Main St., Farmers Square, Nicholasville, KY 40356 Presbyterian, and, died over by Danville, was one. My father bought a tract of one Mr. ZEANSY [?], from Botetourt, or Augusta, (where these Moore's and Cowans and all 1st. came from. All Pennsylvania people.) of 6000 acres. Gave him a horse to ride in on &c. but never got the land.

One summer, (I don't know whether longer,) (I don't know where Daniel BOONE himself was,) Daniel BOONE's wife and 2 daughter's were at The men had gotten very Moore's Station. careless, and while the guards were out, they would all go out and play at ball, and those that were not playing, would go out and lie down, without their guns. This time, only old daddy THOMPSON was left in the Fort. And Mrs. BOONE & her 2 daughters, and Miss Hannah BARR, and 2 or 3 others, determined to load their guns light, like Indian guns, some half dozen, and go out the other side of the Fort from the men, and fire them off as rapid as they could. They then ran in and slammed the 2 gates too, so that no one could, or did get in, but one Ben: SMITH, a young man, (sent as one of the guard, to take his tour, from our Houston's), who jumped over and got his gun. Some were in so great haste, they run right through the pond. They were all exceeding mad, and wanted, some of them, to have the women whipped, and the men had like to have got to fighting among themselves. Had 2 or 3 fights. This quarrel did not grow out of whiskey, for they had none.

While BOONE was prisoner, Mrs. BOONE, and her daughter and son in law, spent a day or two there, on their way into Carolina.

BOONE was there with his family, staying, at sometimes. I don't know when.

The spring of 1780, we moved out of Tait's Fort, close on Moccasin Creek, and higher up towards Holson than these others, over to Holston to get ready to come to Kentucky. 12th July, my father died.

We lived up the rich valley. Were not forted. The Indians came through Moccasin gap, as far as Holston river, right often. But no farther. There it was, in a year or two, I think we heard Mr. CUMMINGS. He lived 8 or 10 miles from us.

We staid on Holston 4 or 5 years. Mr. CRAIGHEAD preached at one of our neighbor's. Jimmy LOGAN's. In a barn. The house was small. He was on his way out westward somewhere.

We spent one year in August, 2 years, I think, before we came to Moccasin at Tait's fort.

Old Clear Creek, a frame, about half a mile from the Stump Meeting house.

NEWLIGHTS never occupied it.

HUDSON came down, from Nicholasville, preached at Mrs. JANUARY's, Ebenezer, and then at Mr. LAMPKIN's: Held a sacrament at Mr.

LAMPKIN's. REED preached some before Mr. HUDSON did.

((married)) William SCOTT. Grizella CAROTHERS. Was an Elder until Mr. RANKIN. Exhorted. It occasioned som fuss. Some thought it ought not to be. Mr. RANKIN wanted him to be turned out for letting Isaac MUNDEY, a baptist preacher preach in his house, and hold meetings We had no meeting nigh, and the there. neighborhood was getting thick, and he thought it no harm. They wanted to censure him for it. RICE said, would to God we had more such men as Isaac MUNDEY, would feel to do God's work. William SCOTT was a member under old Mr. CAMPBELL, in North Caroline, and afterwards under Mr. CUMMINGS.

Old John SCOTT, the father, was a member in Par. Had the Eldership in Mr. CAMPBELL's church, North Carolina.

Thomas SCOTT, Nancy CROTHERS; - (Married sisters in North Carolina.) Joined the NEWLIGHTS.

James CROTHERS. Died at the time of Cholera.

Old Elizabeth JOHNSTON. Old Thos. J. - an Elder of a church in Bairdstown. Died here. The one that was in Mr. CRAWFORD's church.

Simson FROST. Martha FROST. Simson F. was in the battle of King's Mountain.

Martha FROST was a member at Mr. CAMPBELL's in N. C.

Mrs. Martha KENNEDY. Her husband killed at the Blue Licks, from Harrodsburgh.

On the Horizon

The East Jessamine High School 10th grade class is preparing to research people who have lived in Jessamine County. In September the class will learn how to research a person in history and how to interview a living person. In October they will chose 1 or 2 people from a list prepared by JCHGS to practice their research skills. Their teacher Steve Williams intends for their research to become a book called "Jessamine Connections" with publication expected in January 2003.

More to follow in the next newsletter.

Jessamine County Cemetery Project

Ernestine Hamm

I am writing this article for our newsletter in hopes of letting you know a little more about myself and

Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Societey 216 North Main St., Farmers Square, Nicholasville, KY 40356 the cemetery project that we are so proud of here in Jessamine County.

Several years ago I read an article in the Jessamine Journal about the history of some of the older families from the Sulfur Well/Elm Fork area. They spoke of Dr. Thomas Peel and his contribution to that community. Dr. Tom and some of his family members are buried in the front yard of an old fallen down house in the middle of what we call the horse shoe curve, on Elm Fork Road. This old house is the first of my memory, as I lived there between the ages of one and about five. The house where we lived when I was born is the Old Curt East place on Logana, and it also has a small cemetery in the front yard.

I have many good memories of Elm Fork and some of the older residents of that area as I am related to most of them. So when I read the article in the Journal, I knew what Dr. Peel's cemetery looked like and wondered if the Historical Society could help in getting it restored. I went to their Thursday meeting asking them to help, and found they could use my help! There is an old saying "if you want something done, do it yourself!" So that is how my husband and I became involved with the cemetery project. Since we made that first step, we have not been alone in any effort that we have made. Local and out of state JCHGS members as well as citizens of Jessamine County have contributed time and money to help accomplish all that we have achieved in the last 3 years. City and county governments have helped with passing ordinances and providing financial support to protect these old cemeteries. Kentucky Governor Paul Patten, even signed a bill to give us more support on a state level. We have restored approximately 19 cemeteries to date, including 9 being worked on this year.

We also have a Revolutionary Soldier graves program where new military head stones are placed for those which are unmarked or unreadable. To date we have ordered 5 with our last one for this year in the mail. We have set stones for Frederick Zimmerman, Capt. William Anderson, and James Irvin. We will be setting stones for Benjamin Robinson and John "2/9" Scott this month. Our last stone for the year will be, if approved, James Martin.

People ask me how I got involved in this project. The last house I lived in before I married is on Richmond Ave. just across from Maple Grove Cemetery - so I guess I've been preparing for it all my life and I certainly enjoy it!.

Last Sunday I attended the last service of the Elm Ford Christian Church. It is believed Dr. Tom Peel gave the land and the timber to help build this church. We can't stop time and change, we can't keep churches open without people, but we can preserve the remaining record of the lives of those that helped build and establish Jessamine County. That includes the old cemeteries where they rest, under a stone that so often says "gone but not forgotten". Lets keep their memory alive!

Queries

Do you have a "stone wall", or a genealogical or historical question relating to Jessamine County, or families who ultimately lived in the county? Let us know! One of the purposes of this Newsletter is to open such areas to people who are not presently "on line", using the Jessamine County Historical website and subscribing to <u>JessList@topica.com</u>. Just send your questions to:

Jessamine County Historical & Genealogical Society

- 216 North Main St., Farmers Square,
- Nicholasville, KY 40356

If our volunteer research staff can answer your question, we'll do so, directly to you (be sure to include your address). If we can't, we'll put your query on JessList@topica.com on the Internet and in the Newsletter. This will bring to bear a battery of researchers, genealogists, family trees, home libraries, and long memories which stretch across the United States. So let us hear from you!

Responses will be provided by e-mail, if you provide an e-mail address. They may also be placed on JessList@Topica.com, if the information is of general interest. If you do not have e-mail, be sure to provide your mailing address, so that responses may reach you.

JessList Created for Descendants of Jessamine County Residents

Bryce Henderson Stevens

JessList is the short name for the Jessamine County, KY, Research Support list, which was created June 12, 2002. This e-mail and webaccessible list states its mission in these words: "Family research in Jessamine County, KY, county history in general, and community projects are our main topics. Our goal is to build a community among descendants of Jessamine County ancestors, and to work with the County Historical Society (Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society; JCHGS), in promoting community projects honoring our ancestors."

Discussion is unmoderated, meaning that topics may range from strict genealogy to discussions of early recipes, memories of soap-making, recounts of historical sites and settlers, and even the occasional banter among subscribers who come to know one another as individual people whether or not they have ever met. We also feel free to suggest projects the JCHGS may be able to coordinate, and which we can either support or assist with. Many of the JessList subscribers volunteer to transcribe records, while many more are eager to support projects such as printing accounts of early residents, committing to the printing and purchase costs of such transcriptions, and even the simplest but most important of tasks, expressing appreciation to those who find time to volunteer.

JessList can be explored further by logging onto http://www.topica.com/lists/JessList . Letters and archived letters are open to anyone. To address a letter to the list, you must be a member. Membership is open to anyone, and instructions for joining will be found at the web-site. JessList works in close association with the JCHGS website, maintained by Jo Arnspiger, at http://www.jesshistorical.org/ . Either site is accessible from any web-connected site, private or public.

In the next newsletter, I will try to give some tricks and tips for exploring the archives at JessList., and managing how you receive mail if you have become a member.

undertakings. One of the more significant areas in which we support county history and genealogy is through our research library. We're proud of our large and growing library of historical and genealogical research material - far too large to list in a single edition of the Newsletter. Here is a "starter set" - a partial list of the historical books, genealogical material, and art material available to support research at the JCHGS. For this first edition, we have attempted to concentrate on material specific to Jessamine County.

<u>History of Jessamine County, Kentucky</u>, by Bennett H. Young

Jessamine County Census, 1850 & 1860

Jessamine County Cemetery Records of Maple Grove, Wilmore, Locust Grove, Macedonia Church, Ebenezer Church, Keene and Family Cemeteries of Jessamine County, by Howard Curry Teater

Revolutionary War Soldiers of Jessamine County

The Sulfur Well Correspondent by Ray Miller Ware

<u>Oral History of Jessamine County, KY</u>, by Jenny Wilder, transcribed by Mildred Alcorn Bunch, 2000

<u>Vital Statistics of Jessamine County Biorths,</u> <u>Marriages & Deaths</u>, 1852-1859 & 1874-1879

<u>Jessamine County Obituaries Index</u> from Jessamine Journal, 1887-ongoing, by Shirley Mulcahy

Jessamine County Marriages, 1799-1850

Jessamine County Kentucky, 1798-1993

Jessamine County Deaths 1852-1904

Jessamine County Court Order 1A, 1799-1800

Jessamine County Historical & Genealogical Society, 1969-1997

Jessamine County Abstracts of Pension Papers, Revolutionary War, War of 1812

In the next edition, we will provide additional holdings available at the JCHGS, including a collection of family histories which have been donated.

JCHGS Website

Jo Arnspiger

The Jessamine County HIstorical and Genealogical Society webpage can be found on the Internet at http://www.jesshistorical.org/. The website includes the following:

- Extracts of Draper Papers
- Link to census records for Jessamine Co., KY
- Land Records Book A-B
- Court Records Book A 1800

Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Societey 216 North Main St., Farmers Square, Nicholasville, KY 40356

JCHGS Activity and Holdings

The Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society (JCHGS) is increasingly active transcribing the Draper Papers, establishing and enlarging the Historical Society Website, restoring and cleaning the county's old cemeteries, establishing a Newsletter, and other similar

- · Marriage Index- coming soon
- Revolutionary War Pensioners with some bios
- Pictorial tour of historic sites
- Topographical maps with historical sites marked
- Pictorial and narrative of JCHGS events (4th of July celebration, 1st Annual History Fest and 2nd Annual History Fest).
- Surname index of researchers in Jessamine Co.
- JCHGS Membership form and informationResources for sale from JCHGS coming
- soonClyde Bunch stories coming soon
- Jo Arnspiger, the webmaster, is responsible for all of the above, for which we thank her, and has

provided the following: I started my genealogy search 27 years ago, as a young wife and mother. At that time, my only resources for finding information were the Family History Library in my town and writing letters to county clerks and historical societies, if I could find an address. The only contacts with other researchers was if I was lucky enough for someone to have left their name and surnames with a historical/ genealogical society. I must say, I did find a few and they were most helpful, however, I ...Continued on following page...

really felt I was alone searching for my surnames. With the advent of the Internet, a whole new world of friends and family opened to me.

During my search of family sites, county pages and historical society pages, I found many new contacts but I usually didn't find a lot of actual records. My goal in designing and developing the Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society webpage was to put actual records out there that would be of use to those coming to the site. I think we have made huge progress in that direction and I plan on continuing to add more and more records. I also wanted to develop my web page design skill.

I hope those who visit the site come away with some new bit of information and enjoy the tour.

I am always open to ideas so if there is something you would like to see on the site, let me know. If you have records you would like to contribute please do so. You can contact me at arnspiger@aol.com.

Happy browsing,

Jo Arnspiger webmaster for the Jessamine County Historical and Genealogical Society web page.

Jessamine County's Name

Our fair county is named, it is said, for the daughter of James Douglass, one of the early (July 1774) surveyors (with the Sodowski party) of this area. The daughter was in turn named (or given a pet name) for the Jessamine, defined by the New International Encyclopedia as "A climbing plant which grows upon trees and fences and bears a profusion of yellow, funnel-shaped flowers an inch in diameter, with a fragrance similar to that of the true Jasmine."



Yellow Jessamine

Its fragrance on a damp evening fills the atmosphere with a rare and delicate sweetness. In some parts, they say the Jessamine is

"As fair as Southern Chivalry As pure as truth, and shaped like stars."

Editorial Staff

Editor: Fran Clark Layout: Mac McCutchan JCHGS Liaison: Kathy Hall

For questions, comments or recommendations, email Fran at jmclark@cameron.net or Mac at mac.mcc2@verizon.net.