

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Around Town



Larry “Doc” Schanlaub throws the first ball down the new lanes at Legion Lanes Bowling Alley.

The American Legion Post 146 celebrated the Grand Re-Opening of “Legion Lanes” bowling alley on Saturday August 1st.

After speeches by Legion Commander Scott Adams and Town Board President Bob Gonczyk and a ribbon cutting ceremony, the “new” bowling alley was revealed. After a quick demonstration of the black lights and other features, the honorary first balls were thrown

down the new lanes.

“Doc” Schanlaub, who was recently inducted into the Bowling Hall of Fame, threw the first ball. Dale Best, who was the first person to bowl a perfect game, threw the second ball and got the first strike on the new lanes. He bowled with the same ball and in the same lane (2) as he did when he bowled his perfect game. Warren “Bud” Johnson, who has been a league bowler every year since the leagues began in 1951, threw the third ball. And “Speed” Harrison, the oldest member of the Morocco American Legion Post 146 threw the fourth ball.

The winners of the raffle were:

1. First ball thrown down new lanes:
Pat Haynes, who wanted “Doc” to throw the ball on her behalf.
2. Four Hour Bowling Party:
John Kessler
3. \$100.00 cash:
Vince Martell of Kankakee

After the honorary balls were thrown, the lanes were opened to anyone who wanted to throw a ball down the new lanes. If you got a strike, you were given a free game of bowling.

The bowling alley first opened in the fall of 1950. “Doc” Schanlaub was one of the pin setters (or pin boys) who re-set the pins by hand after each ball. This was, of course, before the days of automatic pin setters. The first leagues were formed in January of 1951.

MOROC CO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

The bowling alley will be open at 6 p.m. every evening except Sunday for open bowling until the Leagues begin in the fall.

Lois Hensel is asking for donations of old bowling balls to make lawn ornaments to raise money for the CDC in Jasper County. Please contact Lois for more information.

* * *

Construction continues at Morocco Elementary School. The foundations have been completed on the two new buildings and steel frames have been erected.

* * *

We were pleased to see that Wheatfield Grain has removed the debris from their lot that faces Beaver Street. It is our understanding from the last Town Board Meeting that it has been taken to Sumava Resorts to help reinforce the levee there. It is a joy to see the level lot again. Thank you.

* * *

The building on the northwest corner of Polk & State Streets across from Sellers' Station was recently painted. It now has a fresh coat of white paint.

* * *

On July 31st and August 1st, The Lions Club sponsored Morocco's 3rd Engine and Tractor Show. It was held at the Lion's Club.

* * *

We are sad to report that Morocco Sport & Hardware (across from Greenfield's Cafe on 41) has gone out of business.

* * *

JB Laundry Service is now selling the *Morocco Times*. In addition to being a laundromat, there are several tanning beds (including a stand up tanning bed) and drop off laundry services available. For those waiting for their laundry, a television, several arcade style games, and snacks are available.

* * *

J&B Equipment moved a barn to the back of their lot at their Polk Street location.

* * *

The Morocco Public Library was closed the morning of August 14 so the staff could participate in a staff development program. The staff and Board of the Newton County Public Library thanks everyone for their understanding and support.

Morocco Cooks

We would love to include your recipe(s) in the *Morocco Times*. If you would like to have your recipes included, please mail (or e-mail) them to us and we will do our best to work them in as space permits.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Cinnamon-Apricot Oatmeal Cookies

By: Joanne Swart

½ cup water
1 pkg. 8 oz. dried apricot halves, diced
1 cup butter flavor Crisco
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
¼ cup granulated sugar
1 egg
2 tsp. vanilla
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
2 tsp. Cinnamon
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
1 cup plus 2 tbsp. chopped pecans
3 cups quick oats (not instant or old fashioned)
uncooked

Place ½ cup water in a small saucepan. Heat to boiling. Dice apricots and place in boiling water. Reduce heat to warm. Cover; steam for 15 minutes. Let cool. Reserve liquid.
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease cookie sheet with butter flavor Crisco.

Combine butter flavor Crisco with brown sugar, granulated sugar, egg, and vanilla in a large bowl. Beat at medium speed until well blended.

Combine flour, cinnamon, baking soda, and salt. Mix into creamed mixture at low speed until just blended. Stir in nuts, apricots, and reserved liquid from the apricots. Stir in oats with a spoon.

Drop rounded tablespoonfuls of dough 2 inches

apart on cookie sheet.

Bake 10-11 minutes. Cool and enjoy.

Makes 3-4 dozen cookies.

Cajun Potato Cakes

5 lb. red potatoes, peeled and chopped.
Salt, pepper, cayenne pepper to taste
1 onion, grated
2 eggs
Flour
Oil for frying

Boil potatoes in salted water for about 20 minutes.

Drain potatoes and mash well, adding salt, pepper, cayenne pepper, onion, and eggs. Mix well.

Shape into cakes about 2 inches in diameter and ½ inch thick, roll in flour.

Place in refrigerator overnight.

Re-dust with flour, fry in ½ inch of oil in a Teflon-coated skillet turning once until brown on each side.

Makes 24 cakes.

Gerald's Ratatouille

1 small eggplant, cut into ½ inch cubes (this may

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

be omitted, if unavailable, just add more squash)

½ cup olive oil

1 large or 2 medium onions, thinly sliced

1 small zucchini, cut into bite-sized pieces

1 small yellow squash, cut into bite-sized pieces

1 large red pepper, sliced and cut into bite-sized pieces

2-3 stalks celery, sliced into bite-sized pieces

½ pound mushrooms or more to taste, sliced

2- 3 large tomatoes cut into bite-sized pieces

1 teaspoon salt

2-3 garlic cloves, thinly sliced

3-5 whole bay leaves

5-10 whole allspice

Sauce:

1 large can or jar (26 ounces) spaghetti sauce. I use Hunts 3-cheese spaghetti sauce or Del Monte chunky spaghetti sauce with garlic and herbs.

Other combinations also will work.

1 tablespoon mixed Italian herbs (oregano, basil, etc.)

¼ - ½ cup sugar, depending on the acidity of the tomatoes

1-2 tablespoons tomato paste plus 1 tablespoon water

1 tablespoon white vinegar

In a large bowl cover egg plant and squash with salted water (about 1 teaspoon per quart of water) and let soak for at least 30 minutes, drain. Par-boil the red pepper, drain, slice and set aside.

In a deep 3 quart casserole or 9” x 13” inch Pyrex pan arrange the vegetables and the onions that have been sautéed in the olive oil. Add all

the other ingredients to the mix, except the sauce.

In a separate bowl combine all the ingredients for the sauce, and stir until combined.

Cover the vegetables with the sauce and bake in a 375 degree oven for 30 minutes. If the vegetables are not as done as you wish, lower the heat to 350 degrees and bake an additional 15 minutes.

This is a recipe that can be altered to fit the availability of ingredients. There is no scientific measure for the vegetables, or spices, just follow your intuition and taste buds.

Happenings

The Patriot Guards welcomed home Chief Warrant Officer Greg Willis from Iraq with honor. Greg's wife Sherry managed to get him to the library where he was very much surprised to find the Patriot Guards lined up holding flags to welcome him home.

Greg was then lead in a parade through town following the Patriot Guards on their motorcycles before returning to the library for snacks and refreshments. Greg had just returned home from being in Iraq for seven months although he was gone for just over a year. He said it was a life changing experience that puts things in perspective. He is very happy to be home. It was truly an amazing thing to experience. Welcome home Greg!

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy



* * *

Amanda Wiseman of Morocco was crowned the 51st Queen of the Newton County Fair. She is the daughter of Mike & Debbie Wiseman.

* * *

Carly James of Morocco was crowned Little Miss at the Newton County Fair. She is the daughter of Cary & Gayle James of Morocco.

* * *

Lauren Walker, daughter of Greg & Lynn Walker of Morocco, has been named to the Dean's List at the Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences spring semester of 2009, in recognition of outstanding academic achievement. Eligibility for the Dean's List is reserved for those students who have completed at least 12 graded credit hours in a single semester, earning

at least at 3.7 GPA.

Lauren is a 2006 graduate of South Newton High School. She will return to Indiana University as a senior in the fall. Keep up the great work Lauren!

* * *

Bailey Family Reunion- 60 descendants of former Morocco residents, Perry O. and Aggie B. (Cox) Bailey attended the 70th Annual Bailey Reunion on Sunday, August 2, 2009, at the First Christian Church in Brook. Four surviving Bailey children were in attendance: Stella Rainford, Clinton, Illinois; Hettie Abbot, Thayer, Missouri; Pauline Garmong, Morocco; and Paul Bailey, Monticello, Indiana. Five generations were present, including seventeen grandchildren of Perry and Aggie. These included Doug Hiestand and wife Cathy of Snohomish, Washington who had traveled the furthest distance. Others traveled from as far away as Missouri, South Carolina, and northern Wisconsin to enjoy the afternoon of family, fellowship, and good food. A good time was had by all. (Submitted by Eleanor Bailey of Lafayette, Indiana. Thank you Eleanor!)

* * *

Todd and Amber Porter of Lake Station, are happy to announce the birth of their second child, a son, Aidan Alan Porter, born June 25, 2009 at 11:52 a.m. at St. Anthony's Hospital in Crown Point. He weighed 8 lb. 11 oz. and was 19½

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

inches long.

He is welcomed home by big sister Gracie, who turned 3 on June 21, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Rich and Pat Hertaus of Lake Station, Ind. Great-grandparents are the late William and Eileen Comstock of Lake Station.

Paternal grandparents are William and Marcia Porter of Morocco. Great-grandparents are Carolyn Wynn and the late Alfred Wynn of Morocco, the late Verna Korth Pech of Roselawn and the late Ira Porter of Morocco.

* * *

Morocco Elementary will begin all day Kindergarten this year. In addition to regular book rental fees, there is a one time \$45.00 cost for all day Kindergarten that will cover the entire school year. Superintendent Brian Smith said all day Kindergarten has increased enrollment from 20 students at the end of the school year to 28 or 29 students at last count. All day Kindergarten is optional this year however, it will be mandatory next year.

* * *

Army National Guard Private Ronald F. Edison has graduated from the Infantryman One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. The training consisted of Basic Infantry Training and Advanced Individual Training. He is the son of Veronica Bohlin of Morocco.

* * *

Gerald Born recently returned home from a trip to Lake George, NY where he also stopped at the Corning Museum. He shared lunch with author Brad Hartman this past week.

Editorial

I just returned from visiting my family in Ohio which is why the paper is a couple days late- my apologies. I had a wonderful visit with my family and finally met one of my two step-brothers for the first time at our first stop near Cleveland, Ohio. He is a very intelligent and impressive young man of 18 who will be finishing high school this year. He lives in Lithuania and speaks English beautifully. His mom (who is a wonderful woman with a great sense of humor) is married to my dad.

After leaving Cleveland, we headed south to visit my Grandma. We stayed there for the remainder of our trip. The kids enjoyed their great-grandma very much.

On our way home, I had the pleasure of briefly stopping at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio and seeing some of the WWII planes on display there before the kids became restless (and I had visions of them destroying priceless air relics).

It was good to get away but it's great to be home. There is no place like Morocco.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Features

Morocco's Kit Homes

When people think of kit homes, they usually think of Sears Modern Homes more commonly referred to as Sears Kit Houses. Sears was only one of the many companies to offer mail order kit homes during the first half of the 20th century. Other companies that offered kit homes included Aladdin, Wardway, Gordon-Van Tine, Montgomery Ward, and briefly the Lustron Company.

Sears Modern Homes were sold between 1907 and 1940. The homes were ordered from a catalog and would be delivered by train to your local train depot. During the years that Sears Modern Homes were sold, the railroad was the predominant shipping and transportation method which is why kit homes are often found near train depots.

Finding a Sears Modern Home proves to be a very difficult task. At the closing of the Sears Modern Homes sales department, all records including sales records and promotional items were destroyed. It is estimated that 100,000 Sears Modern Homes were sold between 1907 and 1940. There were over 500 different models of homes available and most homes offered reverse floor plans and other customizations. Add another 70-100 years of living in these homes, remodeling, room additions, siding, new windows, covered porches, and other renovations and finding a Sears Modern Home becomes nearly impossible.

From talking with people around town and doing other research, I have found three possible Sears Modern Homes in Morocco and I'm almost certain there are more. Often times, kit homes will have stamped (numbered) lumber that can be seen in exposed attic joists, under stairs, and in basements. If you think you have a kit home and would like help identifying your home, please contact me.

Lustron Homes

Lustron Homes were prefabricated metal homes. They are the grandchild of the Armco-Ferro steel home called “The Mayflower” which was one of the homes on display at the 1933 World's Fair at Chicago. Several homes on display were porcelain enameled steel homes but “The Mayflower” was the only home on display that was designed to be a mass-produced, affordable solution to America's housing needs.

In 1935, 16 of the World's Fair display homes were moved either by truck (after dis-assembly) or by barge (in one piece) to Beverly Shores, Indiana. Once the barges arrived at Beverly Shores, the homes were rolled off the barges using telephone polls onto a structure made of timber that was built out onto Lake Michigan. The homes were then raised to street level using a series of three steps that lifted the homes to Lake Front Drive. Beverly Shores was real estate developer Robert Bartlett's attempt to build a resort style community on the shores of Lake Michigan. Today only five of the 1933 Chicago

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

World's Fair Homes remain, including “The Mayflower”, and all are currently under renovation.

“The Mayflower” was made by the American Rolling Company (Armco) and the Ferro Enamel and Supply Company. It is better known as the Armco-Ferro House. It is a two story home designed for a family of four. Its exterior is made of porcelain enameled steel. It is interesting to note that the corrugated steel panels of the home are bolted together to create a seemingly frame-less home. It can, in theory, be placed on its side, bottom, or top without damaging its structure. This design would later inspire the Lustron Corporation to create its homes as an affordable solution to America's post WWII housing boom.

The Lustron Corporation sold approximately 2,500 prefabricated porcelain enameled “kit” homes between 1948 and 1950. It is estimated that roughly 1,400 Lustron Homes still exist today. There are two known Lustron Homes in Newton County; one at the corner of 4th and Ray Streets in Kentland and the other is my home on College Avenue in Morocco better known as the “old Castongia place.” I would like to mention that the Lustron in Kentland still has its original yellow porcelain enameled steel exterior. My

home, which was also yellow, had siding added to it in the 1970's when a room addition was built. The original exterior can still be seen in one of our enclosed porches.

An identification plate listing our home as a model 02 home with a serial number of 01277.

Lustron homes are made entirely of steel and arrived on a specially designed delivery truck. There were over 3,000 pieces used to make one home. The walls, ceilings, doors, roof, cabinets, closets, and exterior are all steel. The homes have ample closet space and lots of unique built-in features such as a book shelf in the livingroom, a vanity in the master bedroom, metal pocket doors, and a 'passthrough' between the dining room and kitchen. They even came with a Thor brand dishwasher/clothes washer- quite the innovation during the late 1940's. Sadly our Lustron, like most, is without its Thor dishwasher/clothes-washer.

Another unique Lustron feature was the use of radiant heat. The furnace was bolted to the ceiling in the utility room and heated the ceiling tiles which were supposed to “radiate” the heat down similar to how the sun warms the earth. Our heating system was upgraded to accommodate our room addition but I'm told these heating systems left something to be desired at foot level, especially under tables.

Locating a Lustron home, thanks to their unique metal construction is surprisingly easy. All Lustron homes are one story and most (even if



MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

they have been re-sided) have their original shiny metal roofs. If you're lucky enough to find a Lustron Home with its original exterior, it will look as if it's are made of giant tiles. Lustron Homes came in funky colors such as Maize Yellow, Dove Gray, Surf Blue, Desert Tan, and pink.

*Due to time constraints and the enormous task of locating kit homes, I will write about kit homes as I locate them. Next month, I should have two kit homes (one Sears and one Gordon Van Tine) featured. If you know of any kit homes, please contact me. Our contact information can be found on the back page.

* * *

Morocco Author Bradley S. Hartman is sharing his new book “Jessie” exclusively with the *Morocco Times*. Each month will feature a new chapter from “Jessie.” After it has been printed in the *Morocco Times*, Brad will offer discounted copies of “Jessie” to subscribers of the *Morocco Times*. Please note that “Jessie” is a work of fiction and the views and opinions expressed in “Jessie” are fictional and not that of the *Morocco Times*.

Jessie

By: Bradley S. Hartman

She could see a small town off in the distance to the east. Other than that she was at a loss as to where she was and why she was there. Looking around her immediate vicinity, all she could surmise was that she was in a farm field and her

worldly possessions consisted solely of the clothes on her back. Standing up, she brushed the soil from her jeans noticing as she did how long her legs were and how the pants fit them like a second skin. Brushing her back, she found she had a small butt and looking higher she saw a plain white blouse with pearl buttons running down its front which covered her small firm breasts. The knowledge that she was twenty one years of age came out of the blue as it popped into her head along with the name, Jessie.

Seeing a path through the chest high corn, Jessie made her way out of the field never noticing the way the corn became healthier as she passed by. Hitting a patch of pavement, she turned in the direction of the town and began walking. Everything was fascinating to her as she walked, from the smallest breeze to the scampering chipmunk which crossed her path with its head watching her all the way. Even as she passed, the chipmunk stayed hidden but watched her pass by before coming out of the grass and watching her go from the road. As Jessie got a few feet away, the little creature began to follow.

The sight of the single ray of light beginning to lower itself from the heavens was in complete timing with her every step was seen by a small boy on his bike sitting a ways back in his parents' driveway. He had been sitting there afraid to go out on the road to his friend's house because of the boy next door who enjoyed picking on him because of a club foot. As he saw the girl walk past she turned her head and winked at him with the most brilliant green eyes he had ever seen.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Instantly a feeling came over him that swept away all his fear for the bully and for the first time that day he smiled as he got his bike rolling and put his two perfect feet on the pedals. As he came to where the drive met the road, he stopped and watched the girl’s hair bounce with her every step as it caught the sunlight in its brilliant strands of red. Putting his foot against the pedal to take off, the boy hesitated as he saw a small chipmunk run in front of him after the red haired girl.

Jessie was in a world of wonder at what she saw as she got closer to town. Stopping to watch children play on a wooden object that had ropes tied to boards and a flat piece of something smooth at a forty five degree angle which a small girl slid down laughing all the way, she smiled. When the little girl waved, Jessie waved back and continued on her way never seeing the small car coming up on her.

Yvonne Gibson was coming back from Willow Slough where she had just met Morocco’s newest resident, a private eye named Jesse Hunter. Her mind still on him and the incident three days ago at Bogus Island and how she was going to spin it into a lead story for her paper, The Morocco Times. Looking up, she swerved to the shoulder barely missing the red haired girl bathed in a brilliant ray of light.

... To be continued in next month's issue.

**The Morocco Courier
Part Three**

By: Gerald Born

1948... November 4... Augustin Is Again
Publisher of *Courier*.

With this issue of the *Courier*, Allan B. Augustin again becomes the publisher having taken over the interest of the estate of Leo R. Hight on Monday (November 1), Paul Garner, administrator of the estate, announces that any bills due the *Courier* up to and including October 30 may be paid at the *Courier* office and all such bills are now due and payable. Bills contracted after November 1 are due the new publisher.

(List Allan B. Augustin as Publisher and Editor and Freda Brewer as Loal Editor)

1949... November 3... Augustin Relinquishes
Control Of *Courier* To New Publishers.

And new editor and publisher is now at the helm of the *Courier*. Mr. and Mrs. R. Vernor Ellis of Crown Point completed a deal with Allan B. Augustin, owner and publisher, last week for the purchase of the newspaper. They took possession on Monday (October 31) morning.

Mr. Ellis, the new editor, has been publishing the *Crown Point Register* for the past four years, and with competent local management, will continue in the business there also. He plans devoting a large portion of his time to the *Courier* and at present has an eye open for a residence property in Morocco.

A native of Illinois, Ellis was initiated as a

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

printer's devil at the early age of nine. Almost continuously since, he has been associated with printing, newspapers, and commercial establishments in the middle west, east and south.

Mrs. Ellis comes from a newspaper family. She graduated from the Milo Bennett linotype school and at present is chief linotype operator on the *Register*. Also in the immediate family are two daughters of Mrs. Ellis, Carol and Jean Bohler, who are in the student body of the Crown Point High School.

The retiring publisher, Mr. Augustin, came to Morocco with his family in 1931 when he purchased the *Courier* from Leslie Miller. He and his family have resided here since that time, although during several years of the intervening period, he owned and operated three other newspapers.

In 1942, he leased, then sold the paper to Leo R. Hight, who published it until his death in the fall of 1948. At that time Mr. Augustin resumed the duties as editor and publisher. For the present at least, he will continue to be working at the *Courier* office completing some unfinished business and assisting the new publisher.

(R. Vernor Ellis and Lee Ellis listed as Publishers. R. Vernor Ellis as Managing Editor; Freda Brewer as Society Editor and Gene S. Parsons as Sports Editor... Beginning with 1951, July 19 issue there was no Sports Editor listed... Beginning in January 1952 there was no Society

Editor listed, only Managing Editor R. Vernor Ellis... Beginning in January 1954 it was listed as Published by R. Vernor Ellis, Managing Editor. Lee no longer mentioned.)

1976... June 24... New Management For The *Morocco Courier*.

Negotiations are practically complete for the transfer of the ownership and publication rights to the *Morocco Courier* to Mr. and Mrs. Keith Robinson of Rensselaer, who are also owners of the *Rensselaer Republican Publishing Company*. The *Courier* will be an addition to a number of other publications owned and operated by the Robinsons. The change in management is planned to become effective as of June 28, 1976, and the first issue of the *Courier* in July 1976 will be the responsibility of the new owners.

Retiring as editors and publishers of the *Courier* will be Mr. and Mrs. R. Vernor Ellis who have directed the operation of this almost century-old newspaper since November 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis plan to continue to make their home in Morocco but as of the moment plan no further involvement in any business enterprise.

We are not informed of Mr. Robinson's plans for the future of the *Morocco Courier*, but it is our understanding that the publication will continue on much the same basis as theretofore and from the same location. According to our information, the new on-the-scene manager of the *Courier* will be Mr. Gerald Kenning, currently of Rensselaer, but formerly managing editor of the

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Kankakee Valley Post News at DeMotte. Mr. Kenning had much to do with the development of the *Post* from an extremely modest little publication to a very substantial operation.

It is with somewhat of a feeling of melancholy that we (Vernor and Lee Ellis) will leave the office of the *Courier* at the close of business on June 26, 1976 and relinquish control to somebody else. For almost 27 years, the *Courier* has been our baby and we have come to almost completely identify with it.

During the past more than a quarter of a century we have published the *Courier* without missing a single issue and there have been only very, very rare occasions that the *Courier* has missed the mail. And during our tenure as publishers of the *Courier* we have not had a vacation longer than a weekend.

However, as we think back over the years we have spent together in the *Courier's* management, we find that we have very little bragging to do about our accomplishments, neither, we feel, do we have any reason to feel apologetic concerning the newspaper produce we supplied for the community. We had a job to do and we made an effort to get that job done in an acceptable manner... R. Vernor and Lee. Ellis.

Beginning with 1976... July 1 issue... K.B. Robinson as Publisher and Gerald Kenning as Editor.

Gerald Kenning continued to be listed as Editor

through 1977... March 31 issue. No change in Publisher.

Garth Snow listed as Editor from 1977... April 14 issue to 1979... June 21 issue. No change in Publisher.

Regina Warfel listed as General Manager from 1979... June 28 issue to 1980... September 25 issue. No change in Publisher.

New publisher beginning with 1980... October 2 issue... Hoosier Northwest, Inc. No Editor or Manager listed thereafter.

(This series of articles on the *Morocco Courier* ran in the June 20, 1989, June 27, 1989, and July 4, 1989 issues of the *Morocco Courier* and were written by Gerald Born.)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

A quick note to let you know that after reading in the Times about Morocco telephone numbers. I wanted to mention our family's telephone number.

My Father, Gordon Carter, was telephone man in Morocco for approximately 30 years and my Mother was night operator.

Our telephone number was 20 and my Dad's license plate was also 20.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Just a point of interest- keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Carter-Parsons

Backward Glance

By Gerald Born

Peggy Rhanor invited me to attend a reunion of the Potts family on Sunday, July 12th which was held at their auction barn just outside of Kentland, Indiana. Peg’s brother, Bill Potts from Leister, North Carolina, who runs a convenience store there, had planned a visit and Peg and her husband, Lon, had worked hard preparing for the event and getting the word out to over a 100 descendants of the William Ernest “Erne” Potts to attend. About 70 were on hand to celebrate the reunion. Several came a great distance to attend—Kenny and Christy Potts, Bill’s son and wife from Leister; Joyce Jagers from Las Vegas; Bill and Sherry Potts from Lakeland, Florida, and five generations of Peg’s late sister’s family, (Peg filling in for her sister for the photo opt).

By noon of that delightful, sunny day the cars started to arrive and unload their cargo of covered dishes, family pictures, and new additions to the family. Tags were made giving the name of the attendee and the ancestor that tied them to the family. There was a nice breeze blowing and even though the temperature was getting warmer, the auction barn was comfortable and the decorated tables provided a very pleasant atmosphere for the event.

When asked how I was related, I had to confess that I had no direct Potts ancestor, but that I had many relatives that were related to the Potts clan. My mother’s uncle, Bill Nichols had married Louella Potts and had whisked her off to Oklahoma City where he went to superintend the building of the new Capitol building’s woodwork. My aunt, Mary Wright, who lived in Hammond, had rented a room to Doris (Potts) Cobb, the mother of Marjorie (Cobb) Denton, when she moved to the city, as they had been friends in childhood and remained friends for many years.

However, it was the Graves relationship with “Erne” Pott’s wife, Bertha Johnson, which I had helped Peg sort out, that was of most interest to this family and one of the reasons I had been invited to the reunion. John Fudge (yes, it is a family name) Johnson, married Mary Graves, a brother of my great-grandfather, Harvey Newton Graves. Their son, James Lawrence Johnson (1862-1921) had married Florence Elizabeth Garrard (1865-1944), who was the daughter of Henry H. and Euphamia (Doty) Garrard, and their daughter Bertha Hope Johnson (1888-1950) had married William Ernest Potts, the son of Joseph McCormick and Mary (Baker) Potts, whose family lived near Morocco. It was from the marriage of “Erne” and Bertha Johnson that most of the ones assembled descended.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy



the young Bertha (Johnson) Potts.

Among the pictures Peg had gathered was a four generation photo of Mary (Graves) Johnson (whose likeness I had never seen), her daughter-in-law, Florence Elizabeth (Garrard) Johnson, her daughter, Bertha Hope (Johnson) Potts, and her daughter Vaneta (Potts) Falk. A copy of this photo accompanies this article, as does a photo of

It was very heartening for me to see how much interest there was in the past as many members of the clan gathered around the photo table, studied the photos, and asked questions about what they were viewing. I had even brought a copy of the 1985 *History of Newton County* in which June Harter, who worked for years on the Potts family history and was my mother's first cousin, once removed, had provided a photo of Ephraim and Elizabeth (McCormick) Potts, the original settlers west of Morocco from whom all of the Potts in this part of the country had descended. Elizabeth McCormick is also a relative, a cousin of my great-great-grandmother, Elizabeth (McCormick) Archibald, of Tippecanoe County, Indiana; where both of their families lived before coming to Morocco. Much of Purdue University is located on the farm land that once belonged to “Uncle Philip” McCormick.

It pleased me to be able to renew some old friendships and make new ones. At lunch (and I have to say the Potts are wonderful cooks) I sat across the table from David Falk and his wife, Dawn, and their daughter Ary. He is the son of “Dick” Falk and runs a window dressing business near Chicago. “Business is still good,” he reported, “as people always need to cover their windows.” I had a chance to talk with Becky Prouty, who was there with her husband, Max, who has a used car sales lot on Highway



MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

#231 on the north edge of Rensselaer. My classmate Edmere (Smart) Falk and husband Don were there. Joe Falk, whose law office is in Kentland, was there with his wife, Nicole, and daughter, Lauren; they all were pouring over the photos. I chatted with “Junior”, or Vern Falk, and his wife, the former Donna Bennett, whom I had not seen since High School. And it was good to renew friendships with Peg and Lon’s daughters, Tanya; there with her husband, Kevin Atkinson; Tammy and Kent Sondegrath came from Lafayette, Indiana and children. Of course, I see Lon Rhanor, Jr. almost every Friday night at the auction and he was there with one of his daughters, Maegan Rhanor.

Family ties, that is what defines our small community and makes it what it is—a place to share hopes, aspirations and memories. And from here fingers reach out across this huge country of ours sharing our families with many states.

Government In Action

Morocco Town Board Meeting Highlights

August 4, 2009

-Greg Willis' homecoming was recognized. Greg said “it was hot,” reaching 131 degrees at one point. He said it was quite the life experience that really put things into perspective. He appreciated the support and the warm welcome home.

-Brian Smith, the new superintendent of the North Newton School district was on hand to introduce himself and give an update on the Elementary School Project. Despite recent

rumors, the children will have recess outdoors (weather permitting), they will not be shipped off to other schools, and they will be served hot lunches. The cafeteria will be finished, there will be a path to the playground, and temporary walls will be installed to prevent the children from accessing areas that are under construction.

-An agreement is in the works to bring Ivy Tech classes to the Government Center in Morocco.

-The town may be eligible to receive an additional grant of up to one million dollars to update and fix the town's storm sewers. The grant would be from a 250 million dollar Disaster Relief Fund that has been set up for the state of Indiana. The town was encouraged to get their application in as soon as possible so that they are at the top of the list for funding.

-The grant to fund the hydrant and main project from Rural Development should be approved within the next two to three weeks. The town was approved for 75% funding.

- Scott Adams, Commander of the American Legion gave an update on the Grand Re-Opening of Legion Lanes and thanked the Town of Morocco and everyone for their hard work and support.

- Since the “tree removal” budget for the year was wiped out due to the ice storm at the beginning of the year, \$2,000 was approved for tree removal. There are at least three trees that need to be removed and one of them is quite

MOROC CO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

large.

- While the town is not paving roads, they are fixing sections that they had recently cut into. The road by the Car Wash will be repaired as it had been cut to install larger drainage pipes for the Elementary School Project. The “speed bump” that formed by the Hilltop Tavern will be removed and the approach near the police station by the alley on Washington will be fixed.

- The Mug-A-Bug mosquito spraying machine has been removed from the town truck due to the lack of rain.

- They are working on a plan to begin graveling the alleyways in town.

- As the town prepares for the hydrant and main project, they are working to determine encroachments for utilities and right of ways. Should your property have a fence, flower bed, shed, etc. that would need to be moved, you will receive a letter from the town asking you to move it. It was mentioned that this is not likely to become a “big deal” and wouldn't affect many residents.

- Four residents will lose water for a day as they work on the water lines for the Elementary School.

- Attorney Pat Ryan wanted to know if the town had an unsafe building or demotion policy. This will be discussed at a later date.

- Town Marshal Shaun Wynn received 28 calls for service during the month of July. He issued 7 warnings, 4 citations, and made no arrests. He said there were a lot of vehicles in town that were being left unlocked and things are being stolen from those unlocked vehicles. He arrested someone the night before the meeting for stealing items from a car and anticipates making another three or four arrests in the near future. Wynn requested \$3,000 for part time deputies while he is in training at the Police Academy. He also requested up to \$400 for a Class A Graduation Uniform and shorts for his current uniforms and roughly \$1000 for new weapons.

Community Calendar

The Kelly Miller circus will be in town at the Lion's Club Park on Wednesday September 2, 2009.

The Morocco Farmers Market continues on Saturday mornings from 8-11 a.m. at Betty Kessler Park on State Street (next to Napa). It will continue through the end of October.

Transitions

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy



Donald George Clarkson

Donald George Clarkson, September 29th, 1917 - July 16th, 2009, age 91, passed away on July 16, 2009 at George Ade Memorial Health Care Center.

He was born to George and Bethel (Guinn) Clarkson on September 29, 1917. Don married Barbara Hanger, the love of his life on May 17, 1941 and they shared 68 years of marriage. Barbara and their two children, Sandra Stuckman and husband Noel of DeWitt, MI and Joe Clarkson and his wife Claudia of Thomson, IL, survive him.

He started farming at age 16 and raised corn, soybeans and beef cattle. When Don retired from farming in 1983, he and Barbara moved to Morocco. His “farm” then included a large vegetable garden and beautiful flower gardens including roses.

Don’s Christian faith was very important in his

life. He was active in the Christian Church, now the United Church of Morocco, as a teacher, Sunday School superintendent, elder, bishop, choir member and janitor. He was a role model for many church member of all ages.

His community activities included the Morocco Town Water board, the Newton County Tax Assessment Review Board and poll worker for the election board.

Don is also survived by his brother Lyle, Sacramento, CA, sister Ruth (Jim) Grieger and her of Hanna, IN, sisters-in-law Dianne Hendryx and Gartha Clark of Morocco, IN and several generations of nieces and nephews who loved and were greatly loved by Uncle Don.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions for those who wish can be made to the United Church of Morocco, 104 W. College Ave., Morocco, IN.

Don’s family wishes to thank Dr. Stephen Spicer and staff at the Clinic of Family Medicine and staff at the George Ade Memorial Health Care Center for the excellent care and love they gave Don.

Services: In-state at 9:30AM, Service at 11:00AM at United Church of Morocco on Tuesday, July 21st, 2009

Cemetery: Oakland Cemetery
2450 S. US 41
Morocco, IN 47963

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Branden Ray Brammer

Branden Ray Brammer, 18, of Donovan, died at 4:15 a.m. Wednesday, July 22, 2009, as a result of an automobile accident.

He was born May 31, 1991, in Rensselaer, Ind., the son of John "Jack" and Vickie Deardurff Brammer.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. Monday at the Segur-Knapp Funeral Home in Watseka and one hour prior to the funeral services Tuesday.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Beaverville.

Vickie Brammer

Vickie Brammer, 56, of Donovan, died at 8:45 p.m. Saturday, July 25, 2009, at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

She was born May 10, 1953, in Rensselaer, Ind., the daughter of Richard Deardurff and Joy Bartholomew.

She married John "Jack" Brammer.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. today and one hour prior to the services at the Segur-Knapp Funeral Home in Watseka.



Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home with Pam Munson and Stephen Deardurff officiating.

Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Beaverville.

Hope Lydia Minton

Hope Lydia Minton, age 45, of Morocco, passed away on July 28, 2009 at the Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. She was born on Dec. 13, 1963 in Gary to Henry Lee Minton and Virginia Doris (Long) Metros.

Hope worked for Ice River Springs in Kentland, and had previously worked for IN Tech in Morocco, for 13 years. Hope is survived by a son, Noah Cady of Schererville; a daughter, Cassie Cady of Lake Village; a grandson, Nathan Stump; her mother, Virginia Doris Metros of Roselawn; sisters, Anna Grzych of Roselawn and Wendy Minton of Indianapolis; brothers, Michael (Dawn) Minton of Mt Ayr, and Henry "Hank" (Lisa) Minton of St Paul, VA; a special friend, Don and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, step-father and a nephew. Friends and family may call from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. August 1 at Jackson Funeral Service, 200 Third St. SW, DeMotte, IN. Funeral services will be held at 12 p.m. Saturday at Jackson Funeral Service, 200 Third St. SW, DeMotte. Per Hope's request cremation will follow.

Memorials may be made to The Family.

Also see www.jacksonfuneral.com

View online guestbook at myrepublican.info.

\$2.00 per issue

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 8

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

August 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

This and That

On your mailing label, above your name and address, you will find your expiration date for the *Morocco Times*. If your subscription has expired, please bring your account current and if I have made a mistake and didn't update your expiration date after you paid, please let me know. Please keep in mind that if your payment was received AFTER August 6th, 2009, I have not had time to process it due to my vacation. Thank you!

* * *

I have had people express interest in reading about homes in Morocco that have been moved either to Morocco or in Morocco. A good example of this is the George Flowers house which Tim Storey moved from State Street to Polk Street just north of town. If you have any information on homes that have been moved, please contact us.

* * *

Please send Morocco related news to MoroccoTimes@yahoo.com or to our mailing address found on the back page.