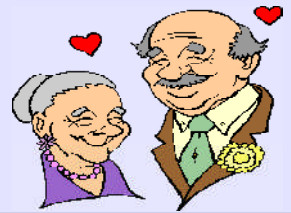


Brentsville Neighbors



Information About Brentsville
Shared Among Neighbors

February 2007



Welcome Neighbor!

Just one short year ago we sent out a request for your first-hand account of life in or memories of Brentsville. The good news is – a number of you stepped up to the challenge and your stories have appeared over the past twelve months. The so-so news is – more of you are working on a story but it just hasn't come together yet. The bad news is – there are a lot of you who have wonderful information to share with us but are afraid to try writing it down. So we are looking for the results from the middle group (you know who you are) to carry us through the coming year. This is the most talked about section of the newsletter and we have yet to find anyone who has had a bad or discouraging word about any of the stories.

So, DID YOU KNOW that February is National Embroidery Month, National Grapefruit Month, National Snack Food Month, National Weddings Month, Responsible Pet Owner Month, Return Carts to the Supermarket Month, Creative Romance Month, and Canned Food Month. Sometimes they get carried away but these are really on the books.

Someone once said that a town is more than the buildings. More than the history. More than the infrastructure that ties it together. We believe the most important part is the people. So this month we are dwelling on the people. Brentsville is probably not unlike any other small country town in one respect. The people are known by a familiar name. A nickname if you will. Something to call our friends and family other than their given name that is a link to the bond between those involved. And Brentsville had a bunch of them! Consider this a check to see how well you know the people of Brentsville. Page two has a list of 91 names of Brentsville residents – some a long time ago, some still here. Page five has 93 nicknames (some people went by more than one). See if you can match the names on page two with the nicknames on page five. One way is to use the numbers. If you think #14 on page two goes with #22 on page five, write it as 14-22. And you would be right! If you find more than one that fits, make it ##-##, ##. (We won't give them away.) There are more that we didn't record but this is a nice start. Thanks to those who helped put this together! The pictures on pages three and four go with some of the names. We hope this is enjoyable!
Nelson & Morgan

This month:

- People of Brentsville and their Nicknames - - - - - pages 2 & 5
- Pictures of the Brentsville people - - - - - pages 3 & 4
- Where Wild Things Live: The Dandelion - - - - - pages 4 & 6
- Citizens at War - Part 3, by Paul Spencer - - - - - pages 6 & 7

People of Brentsville and their Nicknames

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Ardena Marye Eanes | 35. Homer Lee Pearson, Jr. | 68. Nicholas Webster |
| 2. Barbara Wade Evans | 36. Howard Elgin Counts | 69. Ora Nettie Heflin Keys |
| 3. Benjamin Thomas Whetzel | 37. Issac Golladay | 70. Osbourn Barton Counts |
| 4. Benjamin Wynnett Wolfe | 38. James Floyd Wolfe | 71. Patricia Ann Keys Blake |
| 5. Casper Whetzel | 39. John Frederick Wolfe | 72. Robert Allen Keys |
| 6. Cassius Thomas Keys | 40. James Mifflin Keys, Jr. | 73. Robert Caton |
| 7. Catherine Lorraine Counts
Corner | 41. James Mifflin Keys, Sr.. | 74. Robert Earl Landis |
| 8. Catherine McCuin Keys | 42. James W. Carter | 75. Robert Stevens |
| 9. Charles Golladay | 43. James Wesley Keys | 76. Robert W. Ritenour |
| 10. Charles Henry Shoemaker | 44. John Thomas Keys | 77. Rosella Holsinger Keys |
| 11. Charles Pearson | 45. Joseph Charles Braden | 78. Roy Freeman Bean |
| 12. Clyde Walton Wolfe | 46. Joseph Clarence Keys | 79. Samuel Roby Keys |
| 13. Clyde Wesley Breeden | 47. Josephine Molair | 80. Susanna Catherine Patton
Keys |
| 14. Cynthia Lenora Eanes | 48. Katherine Taylor White | 81. Thelma Ellen Landis Wade |
| 15. Daniel Jackson Breeden | 49. Kendrick Montague Bradshaw | 82. Violet Keys Shoemaker |
| 16. David Charles Keys | 50. Kenneth Hilman Keys | 83. Virginia Amelia Keys Braden |
| 17. David Lee Landis | 51. Kurnel Major Hartman | 84. Walter Carter |
| 18. Donald Carter | 52. Lafayette Keys | 85. Warren Alfred Gallahan |
| 19. Dorothy Lee Bean Furrow | 53. Lester Parsons, Jr. | 86. Warren Carter |
| 20. Douglas Gilbert Keys | 54. Lilly Myrtle Keys Landis | 87. Weldon Eugene Keyton |
| 21. Edith Melvin Turner | 55. Lloyd Glendon Keys | 88. Willard Keys |
| 22. Elenor Golladay | 56. Lucy Bean Hartman | 89. William Golladay |
| 23. Elizabeth Keys | 57. Margaret Aliene Keys Venere | 90. William Norton Wade |
| 24. Ella Mae Hartman | 58. Mary Hartman | 91. Wilson Petty |
| 25. Ermine Wade | 59. Mary Katherine Burdette
Breeden | |
| 26. Faye Golladay | 60. Mary Louise Keys Bell | |
| 27. George Alfred Braden, Jr. | 61. Marilyn Snouffer | |
| 28. George Alfred Braden, Sr. | 62. Maurice Rouzie Keys | |
| 29. George Dewey Keys | 63. Stanley Maurice Keys | |
| 30. Georgie Lou Bowman Keys | 64. Melvin Leonard Carter | |
| 31. Gilbert Stewart Counts | 65. Myrtle Mae Walter | |
| 32. Giuseppina Marie Bean | 66. Nelson Bradshaw | |
| 33. Harold Wright | 67. Nelson Joseph Keys | |
| 34. Herbert Leo Stanley | | |

People of Brentsville



Ardena Marye Eanes



Casper Whetzel



Cassius Thomas Keys



Catherine Lorraine Counts
Corner



Charles Pearson



Clyde Wesley Breeden



Cynthia Lenora Eanes



Daniel Jackson Breeden



David Lee Landis



Edith Melvin Turner



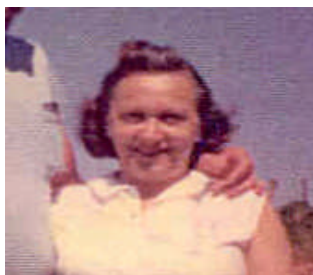
Ella Mae Hartman



Faye Golladay



Georgie Lou Bowman Keys



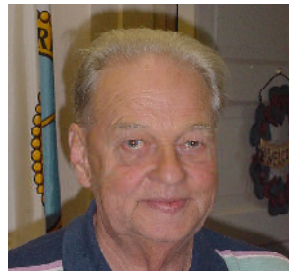
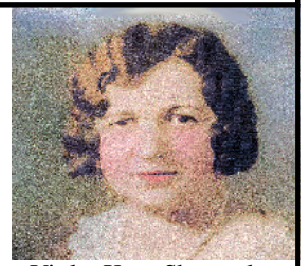
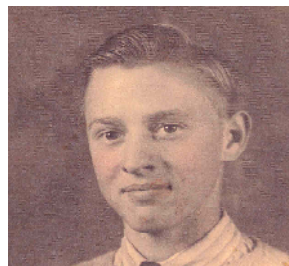
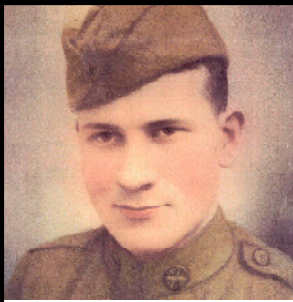
Giuseppina Marie Bean



Homer Lee Pearson, Jr.



Isaac Golladay



Dandelion

Asteracea Taraxacum species
(See page 5)

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Abie | 37. Freddy | 74. Poppa |
| 2. Ape | 38. Frog | 75. Rastus |
| 3. Billy | 39. Goat | 76. Red |
| 4. Birdie | 40. Goggie | 77. Rocky |
| 5. Black Eyed Susie | 41. Goose | 78. Rosie |
| 6. Blackie | 42. H.L. | 79. Rusty Buck |
| 7. Bo | 43. Herb | 80. Sammie |
| 8. Bobby | 44. Hustler | 81. Shorty |
| 9. Brad | 45. Jake | 82. Simmie |
| 10. Brute | 46. Jew | 83. Sis |
| 11. Bucky | 47. Jim | 84. Sissie |
| 12. Buddy | 48. Jimmie | 85. Sister |
| 13. Bub | 49. Jo | 86. Skinny Minnie |
| 14. Bud | 50. Joe | 87. Sonny |
| 15. Buster | 51. Joey | 88. Sparky |
| 16. Butch | 52. Johnnie | 89. Spud |
| 17. Buzzy | 53. Judge | 90. Target |
| 18. C.W. | 54. Junnie | 91. Tights |
| 19. Capper | 55. Kaki | 92. Via |
| 20. Cash | 56. Casey | 93. Welby |
| 21. Cillie | 57. Kate | |
| 22. Cindy | 58. Ladybug | |
| 23. Cookie | 59. Libbie | |
| 24. Cop | 60. Little Jew | |
| 25. Cotton Top | 61. Lou | |
| 26. CT | 62. Mamie | |
| 27. Deanie | 63. Miff | |
| 28. Deedle | 64. Monty | |
| 29. Dinny | 65. Mote | |
| 30. Doc | 66. Myrt | |
| 31. Dollar | 67. Nannie | |
| 32. Dolly apple seed | 68. Nick | |
| 33. Don Juan | 69. Pat | |
| 34. Doug | 70. Peanut | |
| 35. Eleanor | 71. Peggy | |
| 36. Fatie | 72. Feeney | |
| | 73. Pina | |

Where W I L D Things Live

Dandelion

Asteracea Taraxacum species

They are tap-rooted biennial herbaceous plants, native to temperate areas of the Northern Hemisphere of the Old World. A bright yellow flower head (which is open in the daytime but closes at night) is borne singly on a hollow stem which rises 4-30 cm above the leaves and exudes a milky sap (latex) when broken. A rosette may produce several flowering stems at a time. The flower head consists entirely of ray florets. The flower matures into a globe of fine filaments that are usually distributed by wind, carrying away the seed-containing achenes. This globe is called the "dandelion clock", and blowing it apart is a popular pastime for children. The number of blows required to completely rid the clock of its seeds is deemed to be the time of day. There are usually 54 to 172 seeds produced per head, but a single plant can produce more than 2000 seeds a year. It has been estimated that more than 97,000,000 seeds/hectare could be produced every year by a dense stand of dandelions.

The plant can be eaten cooked or raw in various forms, such as in soup or salad. They are probably closest in character to mustard greens. Usually the young leaves and unopened buds are eaten raw in salads, while older leaves are cooked. Raw leaves have a slightly bitter taste. Dandelion salad is often accompanied with hard boiled eggs. The leaves are high in vitamin A, vitamin C and iron, carrying more iron and calcium than spinach.

Dandelion flowers can be used to make dandelion wine. The recipe usually contains citrus fruit. Another recipe using the plant is dandelion flower jam. Ground roasted dandelion root can be used as a coffee substitute. Drunk before meals, it is believed to stimulate digestive functions. Sold in most health food stores, often in a mixture, it is considered an excellent cleansing tonic for the liver.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dandelion>

Citizens at War

Part 3

By Paul Spencer

And the next day. (16 April 1862). Camp 1 mile from Catlett's Station. "We found the roads in terrible condition and almost impassable ...I am established near an Old Overseer's House of Mr. Quesenberry, who has been a Union man but Franklin's Division killed 600 sheep for him & other animals in proportion, for which Franklin refused to give him a receipt or make any acknowledgement." (20)

31 May – at Catlett's Station – "Hunted up General King who was at Quesenberry's, whose property is nearly all destroyed by Wadsworth's guards – As vile a set of brutes as can be found." (21)

9 June 1862 Camp near Catlett's – there was trouble about sheepstealing and hog killing. I have about 21 men arrested...this matter of Guards for property, patrols for rogues etc kept me up much of the night." (22)

McClellan's Peninsular campaign ended in failure and by the end of August the Battle of Second Bull Run was fought just a few miles away. The resounding Confederate victory at gave a temporary respite to the people of Brentsville as all Union forces in the area were recalled closer to the Washington fortifications.

The Hampton Legion found itself back scouting in the area. Sgt. WA (Bill) Mickler led the scouts, and included among their number were the aforementioned E. Prioleau

Henderson, and Jack Shoolbred. They mostly boarded at differing homes in Prince William County and obviously had some system for regular gatherings and reporting. Robert Towles was a Brentsville local who had joined the 4th Virginia Cavalry, but was now a scout for the Legion. For a time he lived in a haystack which apparently was not as difficult as some may imagine. "We were convenient to the homes of several friends and wanted for nothing." (23)

On the 9th of January 1863 Mickler and his scouts surprised a Union Cavalry squad in the Main Street of Brentsville, claiming to have killed 5 and wounded 3. The day after the attack the area was infested with Federal cavalry trying to find some traces of the rebels. The report of Union Brigadier General William W. Averell commanding the First Cavalry Brigade, Centre Grand Division highlighted the problems facing the Union cavalry. "The scouting party sent to Brentsville reported that they were at Brentsville at 2pm... and found Colonel Davis, 12th Illinois Cavalry also there with 150 men. Also a party of seventy scouts of our cavalry on the road from Dumfries to Brentsville." However, not one rebel was found. Averell went on to note of "...many young rebels who assemble, scout and form scouting parties at the shortest notice. Upon the approach of any superior force they are suddenly transformed into idle, loitering citizens, without arms, and professing great ignorance of the country." (24)

As for the people of “Yankee settlement” the war was no better than for their neighbors. Usually being in Confederate held territory would have meant that their crops and goods were in as constant danger of being taken as the long term Virginians. Also E. Prioleau Henderson tells us that the rebel scouts often stayed overnight at houses in the settlement “... much to these good Union people’s disgust.” (25) The Deats family was one who lived here. The two youngest sons of the family are known to have signed on for the 4th Virginia Cavalry with one giving his life for his adopted country. However Henderson’s testimony tells us that most of these families remained true to the Union and at least one served as a temporary Union scout later in the war.

Widows or women whose husbands were in the Confederate Army ran most of the houses and farms used by the scouts. Retaliation for those caught harboring them was common. In one case, that of a Mrs. Mayfield, the Union troops had taken everything they could - “...chickens, geese and ducks, ... food and linen.” Mickler’s scouts ambushed the Union raiders and were able to retrieve the goods. (26) But the incident stands as testimony to the fate that awaited many. Many homes and farms in the area were burnt to the ground.

With most of the men away, “Women were forced to run farms with the help only of old people and children...the farms ran short of tools and implements - for it was all but impossible to replace any metal parts of plows, wagons, hoes, etc”. (27) Rice C. Bull of the 123rd New York Volunteer Infantry related to his diary - “On January 18, 1863, moved from Fairfax to Dumfries. Our way that day had been through a bare country with few houses, many of them abandoned. The

farms did not seem to have been cultivated for many years. The fields were covered with dwarf pines and cedars; among the trees could be seen the old rows where in past years either corn or tobacco had been planted.” The places most severely pillaged were those abandoned by their owners. Despite orders to the troops from some commanders to respect private property, a house standing empty, an open pantry or liquor closet, or a lone horse presented irresistible temptation...” (28) On another day Bull tells of another raid he had witnessed on a Rebel house...”They fed their horses at the barn, ripping off the planks...while they were filling the wagons, four officers went over every part of the house, even the drawers and trunks. These men wore the trappings of Officers!” (29)

Further evidence is provided by two letters from Vivian Towles of Company A, 4th Virginia Cavalry. Firstly May 20, 1863 -”I have written in Mother’s letter an accurate account of the late misdoings of the Enemy in Pr. Wm. in which some of our best friends, ladies distinguished for piety, virtue and all goodness have been made to taste almost the last dregs of the bitter cup of war.” (30) Later in another letter he added -”Yankee cavalry swept through the old neighborhood and ran the scouts out. They caught three of our Co. in bed at Effingham and took horses from Mr. Howison the third or fourth time...How much I hope that that Country will be relieved of its despoilers very soon and forever.” (31) (James Howison was a plantation owner, near Brentsville.)

Part 4 will continue in March

Brentsville Neighbors

Information About Brentsville
Shared Among Neighbors
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