

# The Lippoldt Genes

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## Family Trees Keep Growing and Growing and.....

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### Going Back to Indiana

The trip back home to Indiana was great, even though I did not make it to where I grew up, Batesville, Indiana. On the following page, Mona shares her recollections of the trip and what we discovered. One thing is for sure, we have some very nice family. Besides the Lippoldt sisters, I got to meet and visit with Tevaults. Bill Tevault in Huntingburg, Hilbert Corn in Washington, Lila Tevault Wilson and her husband Denzil in Princeton, Melba Hanselman, Don and Helen Katter in Jasper and George and Anita Tevault in Petersburg. It was also really great to visit with Ruth Fink and Nancy Fink Carey in Petersburg. I got to meet Nancy's daughters and two of the grandsons. On my way back to North Carolina, I stopped in Louisville, where the DiCola's met me for a mini-reunion, and I got to meet Bonnie and Guy Wade.

### Some trivia...

At the Internet site of the U.S. Census Bureau, you can query their 88,799 last name's file to determine the frequency and rank of a surname in the 1990 census. I am including here a few names of interest to me. If you want to check out names, go to:

[http://www.census.gov/genealogy/www/names\\_earch.html](http://www.census.gov/genealogy/www/names_earch.html)

Name	%freq	rank
WHITE	.279	14
LEE	.220	24
SPIVEY	.011	1121
FINK	.009	1311
FIELDING	.002	5876
HELSTROM	.000	19150
LIPPOLDT	.000	81962
TEVAULT	"shucks! not found"	

### How are we related?

I am glad that my computer genealogy program figures out relationships. Otherwise, I could be easily confused by the "relationship charts". One chart is in the shape of a diamond, another a square and a third one is a rectangle. They each work the same. In the simplest terms, you figure out what relative you have in common with the relative that you are determining relationship, then you find your relationship to the common relative, and the one you want to know how is related to you finds their relationship to the common relative, and where both columns meet you have your relationship - anyone follow that? Well, let me confuse you further! In the case of Mona and me, we are "second cousins, once removed". The removed part had me shaking my head until I came across an explanation in the book "Do People Grow on Family Trees? Genealogy for Kids & Other Beginners" by Ira Wolfman. On page 40 of the book, there is an explanation of short-hand terms that explain how relatives are connected. A cousin is a relative descended from a common ancestor, excluding your brother or sister. A first cousin has two of the same grandparents as you and second cousins have the same great-grandparents. Removed indicates that you and the relative are from different generations. Once removed would be a child of your grandparent's siblings. Mona is my Dad's second cousin and she is my second cousin, once removed. Mona's daughters are my third cousins, and my son, Ian is their third cousin once removed. I am glad I have the computer program to figure that out.

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*The Lippoldt Genes*

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## Mona's Account:

### Lippoldt Cousins Meet in Indiana

The weekend of June 6, 1997, Sonja Lippoldt Montgomery, Linda Lippoldt Spivey and Mona Lippoldt Amthor met in Jasper, Indiana for a long weekend of researching the Lippoldt family. Sonja and I arrived on Saturday, Linda joined us Sunday evening. Of course the long weekend went by too quickly! We visited the Huntingburg and Jasper Libraries. The Jasper Library had church records from St. James Lutheran Church of Holland, IN. We found Fred and Mary Lippoldt in fact had 12 children. The church records also documented Emma Lippoldt Fark's spouse as well as a child, Alfred. John and Amelia Lippoldt had a son Jesse John that died at birth. Sunday morning Sonja and I decided to search the cemeteries. Our first stop was to visit with Anna Mary and Don Feldmeyer of Huntingburg. We enjoyed meeting and visiting with them. Anna Mary collected quite a bit of information from those that attended the Meyerholtz get together on June 1. We made a trip to Holland to see the St. James Lutheran Cemetery. Buried there are Fred and Mary, Bertha, and Emma. Since Stendal is just 7 miles from Holland, we decided to stop by the St. Peter's Lutheran Cemetery. At St. Peter's we found John, Amelia and Jesse Lippoldt graves, William and Caroline Lippoldt Meyerholtz, as well as a Victor Lippoldt. We haven't connected him to us yet. (Just give us time).

Monday morning bright and early we headed to Petersburg to meet up with George and Anita Tevault. George had graciously offered to be our tour guide for the day. It is a good thing or we could still be wandering around in search of the Log Creek Church and Cemetery. The beautifully kept country church and cemetery are surrounded by trees. Gilbert Schmitt from Boonville also met us there. At

the cemetery, Louis and Luvisa Lippoldt are buried and many Tevaults, Scales and Skelton's. We have now connected the Scales and Skelton's to the Lippoldt clan.



Sonja, Mona, Gilbert & George 6/97

That same afternoon we visited the Petersburg Library. We looked at land and census records. Our search validated much of the information we already had. If any of you are familiar with researching old records you know translating handwriting of census takers can be a challenge, thus we found one of the most creative spellings for Lippoldt - spelled Teapold! Sonja and I headed home Tuesday morning leaving Linda to go it alone. As it turns out Linda was very successful in her searches. With Linda's great detective work we now have Fred Lippoldt's will and his and Mary's marriage license. The ship record validating Henry and Elizabeth Lippoldt's trip to the US has been found! They arrived in Baltimore in 1843 on the Bremen ship Marianne. The passenger list shows Henry, Anna, Johann, Fred and a sister Mary. This is a very exciting find. Linda also copied a paragraph from a book that talked about Fred, Mary and their family. It looks like our Lippoldt tree is coming together nicely. I guess the next trip is going to have to be Germany. Any German translators want to volunteer to go along? A very special thanks to George Tevault for taking the time to drive us around

the area and share a lot of history with us. On a side note, George pointed out where my Grandmother (Ethel Powers Lippoldt) lived. It was nice to finally meet Gilbert Schmitt who I have had contact with over the Internet. We are very excited about all of the new information we have come up with. Hopefully soon Linda and I can produce a family tree to send to everyone.

*Mona flew from Texas to Alabama, where her older sister Sonja lives. They drove up to Jasper where we stayed at the Power's Inn, a bed and breakfast.*

## Where is the gold?

Dale White has provided me with copies of two newspaper reports on Thomas White's unsuccessful lawsuit against family members and other in 1933. Thomas claimed that his deceased mother's buried gold was found after 40 years, dug up and that he did not get his rightful share. The case was tried in Boonville and the jury only deliberated either six or fifteen minutes before deciding that the treasure did not exist. The jury heard from either 24 or 60 witnesses, depending on the newspaper accounts. The story that unfolds is about the success of a shrewd business woman, the widow of Sam White. Sam built up a business in Daviess County, Ind. on the White River. He was a frontiersman, boat builder and farmer who established a business of shipping corn, livestock and other products to southern markets. When Sam died in 1854, Sarah "Sallie" White and their three sons, Thomas, Frank and Jacob were left to carry on. Because widow White did not trust banks, she was in the practice of hiding their money. The recollections were that she had money in a sack buried in the seed wheat stored in her barn, a teakettle full of gold in the ash hopper, and a pot buried at the base of either an apple or Gillead tree. It was estimated that there could have been as much as \$20,000 in gold. In 1890,

Sallie lay dying, Thomas at her side, when she tried speaking no words came out. He believed that she wanted to tell him where her gold was buried. After her death, he searched all over, but found nothing. There were reports of using a gold finding machine, and consulting a fortune teller. Then in 1930, someone under cover of night dug a bigger hole than Thomas ever did on what used to be the White farm. Thomas was sure that the treasure had been found, and although the jury disagreed, the mystery was not solved.

## Helstrom

A GGG Grandfather of Ian's came from a small town not far from Stockholm. Jeri Campos has shared the translations of letters from Sweden to presumably John Edward Helstrom in Texas. The letters were dated 1911, 1918 and 1920. The letter in 1920 was from a nephew, Wilhelm who was writing to wish John a happy 70th birthday. The nephew was a teacher. He acknowledged that everything was expensive, especially imports from America. He also mentioned that they were just beginning to get electricity in their town. He sent a picture of himself and his fiancé. He told what different family members were doing over the summer. Jeri also had some notes from "Aunt Madge" of what she could remember being told about John, her Grandfather. He was 21 when his parents sent him to America because they had heard it was a land of milk and honey. John was the eldest and was given responsibility to buy a home for his family. He landed in New York in 1868 where he was met with hatred and contempt because he was "foreign". Madge said, "this attitude of the American people puzzled him as long as he lived." He discouraged his parents from making the trip. In later years a younger brother came over but returned home after a year. In 1871 John moved to Texas. He first worked on a ranch for a Mr. Tandy Stroud, who he claimed to be the best friend he ever had. John married Josephine

Archibald of Mississippi. They eventually settled in Pleasant Hill, TX. At the time of his death in 1922, he was living with a daughter in Hughs Springs. John Edward Helstrom was a naturalized citizen, a Mason and a Woodsmen of the World.

## Heard from you

I have heard from a lot of relatives since the May newsletter was sent. Averill Fielding and Elna Khachigan have expanded on the Fielding family from their personal knowledge. Dale White has shared his year's of research to take us back several generations of Whites. Jeri Campos has sent me the Helstrom lineage that she has put together, Karen Crigler has a bible that verified the Louis & Jane Lippoldt family. Jim Meyerholtz was generous in sharing his computer genealogy file of some 8,000 entries. Jim also gave me the little nudge to learn to use a scanner. My success spurred Mike Tevault to take ad-vantage of a Best Buy deal on one, and he is also adding pictures to his genealogy program. I still have the Walker & Spivey notebooks from J. Frank Spivey. They are extensive. Dick & Mark Tevault have clarified some of the questions I have about our ancestors. Don & son Gary Scales helped me expand the Scales. Both Bonnie Wade & Ruth Mary Martin have sent me pictures and other memories. As I write this newsletter, I am communicating with Emily Moore about the Grossman family and Nancy & Gary Kapperman about the Martins. E-mail is exchanged regularly with the Tevaults: Bill, George and Mike. Again, thanks to all for sharing.

## Book Review

At the end of June, I got a call from Don Scales who now lives in Bradenton, FL. He had also just returned from a trip to Indiana. As we were talking about his stomping grounds, he shared that he had

written a book, not about genealogy, but about some experiences he had. I asked him to send me a copy of the book, which I eagerly read on the 4th of July. The 330 page book is titled "Between Log Creek and Jockey". Don describes three years of growing up as a teenager during the depression on his grandfather's farm. The homestead was less than three miles from Log Creek Baptist Church. And Jockey is a small town on the road to Folsomville. Don's account is full of the hardships endured by the family who had moved to the farm from Oakland City. Even so, there is a lot of warmth and humor in the story he tells. Don reflects on the determination and perseverance of his parents and others around him. He also describes the natural beauty of the area. Otto read the book and commented "I finished his book-very interesting- brought back a few memories. I'm positive the Stendal mailman was my grandfather Tevault . he drove a Model A Ford with a rumble seat and the dates fit; another coinkydink with the book, the Stendal mail carrier - Bill Tevault was the next door neighbor to the Stendal McGlothins store owners." If you want your own copy of the book, send Don a check for \$19.50 (which includes shipping) to his address at 813 Spring Lakes Blvd., Bradenton, FL 34210. The house on the dust jacket of the book is the actual old farmhouse. Don said "the fence in front of the house did not sag as shown. The artist did this in order to give a better view of the porch where we spent so much time."

## Devolt-Tevault

I have been able to acquire a copy of June Rickett's book on the study of the Tevault's from 1782 - 1982. I referred to the book in the February issue. Reading the book is a lot easier than trying to scan a microfilmed copy. June is not well and lives with her daughter Susan

Witherspoon.

In a letter from Susan, "Mother said to tell you that her materials were given to a Ms. Betty Ahleman at the Princeton (Indiana) Library and with the stipulation they were to be made available to the public."

The Tevault's are very fortunate to have such a complete work compiled by June, and to have the materials in a public library to boot. I was in Hendersonville, NC last week and a genealogist there looked through the book and was most impressed with the documentation and thoroughness.

If June has any copies left, the cost is \$20 and shipping of \$5. Her address is 2510 Weaver Rd., Herrin, IL 62948.

## Fielding

I have a copy of Faye Dowd's summary of the Fielding's. She says that the earliest ancestor who came to Virginia in the 1600's may have been Rev. Roger Fielding. Over the years some Fielding's moved to Kentucky, Tennessee and then Florida. She documents a Thomas W. Fielding, Sr. (Ian's GGGG Grandfather) living in Tennessee in the early 1800's. He was the father of William L. who's oldest son was Sterling Brewer. Sterling was wounded in the Civil War. He came to Florida and married Martha Isabel Barnett in 1875. They lived south of Lakeland. Claude B. was one of their six children, and Marguerite's Dad. My search for a Fielding in Virginia who might have served in the Revolutionary War turns up an Eppa Fielding married to Mary Ann Bacye. The abstract of the pension file lists their children as John, Ambrose, Eppa, William, Jesse, James, Nancy and Louisa. The only other Fielding patriot was Ebenezer from New Hampshire. And the search continues.

## Help translating

As a result of the Indiana trip, the search for Lippoldt connections has shifted to Germany. Even before then we were depending on Otto to get out his trusty German dictionary to help us with phrases. He was tempted to

spend \$35 on the software program, titled "Easy Translator" by Transparent Language. He, Mona and I have been exchanging Internet addresses of sites of possible interest. Otto told us about Lippoldsweiler and Lippoldsberg, as we were searching for the Lippoldt surname and finding persons currently living in Germany. After using the new software Otto commented that the translation is "not perfect but it's better than I can do with the dictionary and a whole lot quicker and easier." Well we really piled on the sites to translate then. When I asked him if he thought he had got his money's worth, he replied "I've been busier than a German Shepard in a pack of wolves translating today so I think its paid for." Another time he said "I'm as busy as a German Shepard on a sheep ranch with this translator." Before our August vacation, I read a microfilm of vital records from 1808 to 1812 from Gesmold, Germany. That is the place listed on the ship record that the Lippoldt's had resided when they boarded the ship to America. I sent a few pages of the document to Otto -- one was obviously a birth certificate. At about that time Mona learned that one of her co-workers was from Germany, knew "old German" and her mother was still living in Hanover. Karen offered to help with the translating. I sent Mona at least 50 pages of the document where either a Lippoldt or Dickmann was mentioned. It turns out that some of the text is in Latin, should have guessed that when Otto said "it was Greek to him." We look forward to the information we might get from the translations. Karen even thought she could make some sense of the diary pages that we have from the Feldmeyers. Stay tuned....

## Tevault Reunion

Have heard from a couple of the fellas who attended the Augut 16, 1997 reunion of the descendants of William Harrison Tevault. There were probably about 60-70 people there all together with a good representation of Walter Earl Tevault's descendants and even two descendants of Jesse Tevault. Thanks to Anita Williams and Mark Tevault for coordinating the gathering. Hope they have rested up and are ready to plan the one for 1999.

## Saving some trees

If you have access to a Windows compatible computer, I can easily share the genealogy that I have collected so far on a disk rather than a paper printout -- and as cousin Karen Lippoldt Crigler points out, cut down on the paper I use. One of the components of my software is "Reunion Player". This browse only application lets anyone view all the information in a Reunion family file, yet they can't change that information. The Reunion Player is a FREE application and may be freely distributed for non-commercial purposes. If you will send me a blank 5 1/4 disc in a reusable mailer, I can copy both the Reunion Player program and my files to the same disc and send it to you in return mail. When there are major additions to my files, send the disc back to me for updating. If you have a Macintosh computer, I can either get my Mac friend, Beth Moore to copy the player and files, or we can attach the files to an E-mail, or have you download the player and file. The Mac and Windows versions of the Reunion Player can read files created with either version of Reunion.