

## The HOCKENSMITH Family <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Pioneers of Emmitsburg, Maryland

### The History of Elias Lutheran Church

Emmitsburg, Maryland  
(1757 - 1972)

by William Ronald Fearer, STM

#### Appendix I

#### A Genealogical Study Of Tom's Creek (Elias) Lutheran Congregation

By "Samuel Carrick"

*(Samuel Carrick was the pen-name of a local Emmitsburg historian named Beryl McPherson, who died a few years ago. Ed.)*

"the Old order changeth, yielding place to new,  
And God fulfills Himself in many ways."

In the year 1757 the Rev. John George Bager (Baugher), Lutheran pastor and missionary from Conewago (Hanover), Pennsylvania, established the Tom's Creek (now Elias) Congregation in the vicinity of the present town of Emmitsburg, Maryland. The Lutheran families were few in number and scattered but Pastor Bager brought them together and under his guidance they bought an acre of ground on Tom's Creek and built a log meeting house. The ground surrounding this edifice was set aside for use as a graveyard.

Just who were the "fathers" of the Tom's Creek church? If that question could be answered with any degree of accuracy a genealogical study of the pioneers would not be too difficult to research and write. Unfortunately the early records of the congregation are scattered and fragmentary. No accurate count can be gained from them. The old burial ground at Tom's Creek is the only source, at the present time, from which a list of names can be garnered, and this will not be complete by any manner of means, for due to time and vandals many of the grave markers originally in the plot were taken up and either destroyed or put to other uses. However, some estimates can be made, based upon the stones remaining at Tom's Creek and Elias churchyard.

A careful study of the records of the Monocacy Lutheran church show that at least a third of the founders of Tom's Creek church came into Frederick County with the

so-called "Monocacy settlers" and were from York and Lancaster Counties in Pennsylvania. When that settlement "died out" some of the villagers moved on into the Tom's Creek region. There had been a flourishing church at Monocacy and naturally these families desired to have an established place of worship within riding or walking distance of their new homes.

No matter where they came from, no matter what their background or economic standing, they were pioneers on what was, at that time, the far western frontier. When they settled in the Tom's Creek Hundred, the Indian menace was still very real. A little daughter of the Zimmerman family was "captivated" by the savages in 1758 but was returned to her people some years later. Her remains are interred in the Zimmerman graveyard. She was a member, according to a fairly reliable tradition, of the Tom's Creek congregation.

**The HOCKENSMITH Family** - As early settlers in Frederick County, Maryland, it is quite possible that they "came in" with the Monocacy settlers, although there is no definite proof of this. The land in Tom's Creek Hundred taken up by George HOCKENSMITH, first of the family to settle in the locality, adjoined the plantation of George SMITH.

George HOCKENSMITH was a son of Conrad and it was the father who supposedly lived within the bounds of the Monocacy Settlement and is buried there. Conrad (1) HOCKENSMITH was married (the name of his wife is not known) and was the father of at least five children, namely George (2), first of the family to live in the Emmitsburg District; Jacob (2), who apparently followed his brother, George (2) into Tom's Creek Hundred, and married Elizabeth, the daughter of George and Christiana SMITH. Jacob (2) was an Ensign in the "Gamecock" company of Captain William BLAIR and saw service in the War of the American Revolution.

The three known remaining children of Conrad (1) HOCKENSMITH were Michael (2), who also lived for a time, at least, in The Emmitsburg District; Henry (2), who

attended the meeting protesting the Stamp Act in 1770; and Conrad (2) HOCKENSMITH, of whom nothing is known, at this time.

It was at the HOCKENSMITH Tavern that the name of the town, hitherto known as "Poplar Fields" was changed to Emmitsburg. Historian HELMAN writes of this historic occasion: "The company had quite a merry time, having drunk the health of the newly baptized town; they returned home full of sanguine expectations as to the rapid growth of the infant settlement. The population at that time consisted of just seven families."

There has long been some question as to the actual site of the HOCKENSMITH Tavern. Mrs. Carrie (Fuss) LONG, the daughter of Meade FUSS, who owned the property at one time, remembers the late Charles GILLELAN saying that the old tavern stood, "On the road from Emmitsburg to Taneytown, going east at the first bridge - brick house on one side of the road; barn on the other. The present house was built about 1804 by the GILLELANs. At that time, or thereabouts, the tavern was torn down. It stood back of the present house, down in the yard near the old well."

Tradition states that George (2) HOCKENSMITH built the tavern and served as "mine host" until his death. It was shortly after this that the property was sold to William GILLELAN.

In time Mr. GILLELAN tore down the old tavern and erected the present brick house.

To continue the genealogy of the HOCKENSMITH family into the third generation, the line of Ensign Jacob (2) HOCKENSMITH, son of Conrad (1) and brother of Lieutenant George (2) HOCKENSMITH, is given in some detail for Jacob (2) remained in the Emmitsburg District and here reared his large family. Ensign Jacob (2) married Elizabeth, the daughter of George SMITH, of the "Cattail Branch." Jacob (2) and Elizabeth (Smith) HOCKENSMITH were the parents of the following children:

Henry (3) HOCKENSMITH, Jacob (3) HOCKENSMITH, Peter (3) HOCKENSMITH, Elizabeth (3) HOCKENSMITH, Mary (3) HOCKENSMITH (died unmarried and buried

in the family plot in old Tom's Creek churchyard - grave marked), David (3) HOCKENSMITH, Catharine (3) HOCKENSMITH (died unmarried and interred with others of her family in Tom's Creek churchyard - grave marked), Magdalena (3) HOCKENSMITH, Polly (3) HOCKENSMITH (married a man named McCLEAF), John (3) HOCKENSMITH, William (3) HOCKENSMITH, and Sarah C. (3) HOCKENSMITH.

Of the above, John (3) HOCKENSMITH married Barbara, the daughter of John SLUSS, another of the founding fathers of the Tom's Creek congregation. John (3) and Barbara (Sluss) HOCKENSMITH, were the parents of seven children, nearly all of whom resided in the Emmitsburg District.

John (3) HOCKENSMITH, his wife, and several of their children are interred in the Tom's Creek Lutheran and Reformed churchyard.

William (3) HOCKENSMITH married Alice \_\_\_\_\_ (?), and they, too, lived in the vicinity of Emmitsburg. William (3), his wife, and their children were members of the Lutheran Church. This branch of the family is also interred in Tom's Creek churchyard.

Sarah C. (3) HOCKENSMITH, in company with her sisters, Mary (3) and Catharine (3) HOCKENSMITH, died unmarried and was buried in Tom's Creek graveyard. The three sisters together with their bachelor brother, David (3) HOCKENSMITH, lived on the "old HOCKENSMITH farm" until all had died at which time the land passed into the hands of "strangers."

**The SMITH Family** - Within the past year there stood in the approximate center of the present burial area of Tom's Creek Lutheran churchyard a pyramid-stone with the following inscription cut thereon:

"George SMITH/Born 1720/Died 1793/Aged 73 years./Christiana SMITH/wife of George SMITH/Born 1720/Died 1790/Aged 70 years./To the memory of/Our Ancestors/They were amongst the/Earliest Settlers/in this locality/March 21, 1746/A patent was granted for a Tract called/Cattail Branch/Where they lived and died./"

Historian HELMAN writes of George SMITH and his land grant:- "The first patent in this

vicinity was to George SMITH, on March 21, 1746, for five hundred acres, near the lands of OHLER, ECKARD, HOCKENSMITH, and others. He was born 1720 and died 1793. The survey is called 'Cattail Branch.' George SMITH was the father of eleven children, four boys and seven girls. His son, John (2) SMITH was a sergeant in Captain William BLAIR's Gamecock Company in the Revolutionary War. He had two sons-in-law in the same company, John CRABBS, Corporal, and Jacob HOCKENSMITH, Ensign.

Buried near his father and mother is Sergeant John SMITH, of the famous Gamecock Company. The black slate marker at his grave states that he died May 12, 1783. His age is not given.

There are, all told, in the SMITH plot three black slate stones, without inscriptions which obviously mark graves of members of that family. Located near the SMITH graves are the CRABBS family burial plot. A daughter of George and Christiana SMITH married Corporal John CRABBS, of Revolutionary War fame. Here there are two marked graves and three black slate stones without inscriptions. No doubt John CRABBS and his wife are interred in the family plot.

Christina, wife of Michael (2) ROW and daughter of George (1) and Christiana SMITH, is buried here by the side of her husband. Both graves are marked.

Ensign Jacob HOCKENSMITH and his wife, Elizabeth, another daughter of George and Christiana SMITH, are also interred at old Tom's Creek churchyard, in graves that are now unmarked.

One of the early mills erected on Tom's Creek, in the Emmitsburg District, was built by one John CRABBS. This man was probably the pioneer ancestor of the family in this locality. John CRABBS attended the meeting held in 1770, at the schoolhouse on Tom's Creek, to add his voice to the protest against the Stamp Act. It was probably a son of miller John CRABBS who married a daughter of George and Christiana SMITH, and fought in the War of the American Revolution.

James A. HELMAN writes as follows of the mill built and operated by the CRABBS family until 1849, at which time it was sold to

Samuel MAXELL (MAXWELL). "CRABBS built the mill, also known as MAXELL's, on Tom's Creek, below the pike."

**The ROWE (ROW) Family** - According to a fairly reliable family tradition three brothers (ROW or ROWE) left Germany, or the Palatinate, and emigrated to Pennsylvania, about the middle of the eighteenth century. They landed in the New World (probably at Philadelphia), and from that point on went their separate ways. One, Andrew (1) ROW settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and there took up a plantation. He was married, about 1742, to a distant cousin, one Sally ROW. It is believed that Andrew (1) ROW was one of the "Monocacy settlers." That being the case the entire family lived for a short time, in the Monocacy Settlement. From that point three of the sons, namely Michael (2), Arthur (2), and George (2) ROW moved on into Tom's Creek Hundred.

It is not known just where Andrew (1) ROW and his wife are buried. They could have found a last resting place in the old Monocacy churchyard or their graves might be in Tom's Creek Lutheran churchyard. In either case the exact site is not known.

The three sons of Andrew (1) and Sally ROW, who took up lands in Tom's Creek Hundred, are interred in Tom's Creek Lutheran churchyard and their graves are marked. The known facts pertaining to the brothers are as follows:

Michael (2) ROW, born 1750; died 1831; married Christina SMITH, daughter of George and Christiana SMITH, who are numbered among the early settlers in the locality.

Michael (2) and Christina (Smith) ROW were the parents of at least twelve children as follows: Catherine (3) ROW HENRY, Michael (3) ROW, Mary (3) ROW HARTZELL, Elizabeth (3) ROW ZOLLINGER, Lucy Ann (3) ROW, the wife of John SLUSS, William (3) ROW, Margaret (3) ROW, Sarah (3) ROW FISHER, John (3) ROW, Christiana (3) ROW WEANT, Samuel (3) ROW, Joseph (3) ROW, and George (3) ROW.

Arthur (2) ROW was born 1753 and died 1823. His wife, Sarah Ann ROW, was born 1760 and died 1828. The grave of Arthur (2)

ROW in Tom's Creek churchyard is marked by a government stone, while the grave of his wife is unmarked. Undoubtedly the family erected markers for this Revolutionary soldier and his wife but these stones have long since disappeared. It is reasonable to assume that Sarah Ann ROW is buried beside her husband.

Arthur (2) and Sarah Ann ROW reared a family of some eleven children as follows: Samuel(3) ROW, George (3) ROW, Frederick (3) ROW, Abraham (3) ROW, Michael (3) ROW, Jacob (3) ROW, a soldier in the War of 1812-1814, John (3) ROW, Joseph (3) ROW, Elizabeth (3) ROW married Thomas RADFORD, Julian (3) ROW, married Frederick FLOHR, Barbara (3) ROW married John YOUNG.

According to tradition both George (2) and Michael (2) ROW, the brothers of Arthur (2) ROW, were also soldiers in the War of the American Revolution. This is probably true for just about every man or boy, of an age for service, took part in that conflict.

The notes pertaining to the ROW (ROWE) clan are brought a bit beyond the third generation mark in order that the family background of Nathaniel ROWE, the Gunsmith, of Emmitsburg, might be included.

Nathaniel (3) ROWE was a son of George (2) and Mary Ann ROW. He (Nathaniel) married his cousin, Elizabeth (4) ROW, the daughter of Joseph (3) and Susan (Baker) ROWE. Joseph (3), in turn, was the son of Arthur (2) and Sarah Anne ROW.

Nathaniel (3) ROWE learned his trade under John ARMSTRONG, the first Gunsmith in Emmitsburg. Both were masters of their craft.

The text concerning the SMITH and ROWE families was included to show how all these families intermarried with each other. Remember that at this time, there simply were not that many people living in the area and 'pickins' for a mate were limited at best.

The article states that George HOCKENSMITH was the first of the family to settle in the locality. Clearly we can place his father, Conrad, not only in what is now Frederick County, but we can place him in the Tom's Creek area (100 acres located between the two branches of the Middle Creek of Tom's Creek) as early as 24 May 1743. The first record I can locate concerning George takes place in Frederick County in Nov 1756 and his roll was as witness to a business transaction for his father. I believe George was then about 14 years old.

Next it is stated that Conrad "supposedly lived within the bounds of the Monocacy Settlement and is buried there." It cannot be proved or disproved, at this time, that Conrad resided for a time at the Monocacy Settlement. We have no record of Conrad's whereabouts between the time of his emigration (27 Aug 1739) and his first recorded transaction in America (24 May 1743), a period of 3 years and 270 days. But I very seriously doubt that he was buried there. It is much more likely (and family tradition supports) that he is buried in a now unmarked grave in Tom's Creek (now Elias) Lutheran churchyard.

Now as to Conrad having at least five children, I don't necessarily dispute this claim. We just don't know the names of any daughters, if he had any, but we do know that at the time of his death, he had only four living sons and Henry was not listed among them. The meeting attended by Henry HOCKENSMITH on Sunday, 28 Aug 1770 is well documented and is not in question here. What is in question is whether Henry was a son of Conrad. If he was, then he must have died prior to his father and thus would not be mentioned in his will. The truth is that we simply don't know. There was a Henry HOCKENSMITH who married Mary STALL (died 1785), daughter of Henry STALL. They had a son named Henry HOCKENSMITH, Jr. Was this the same Henry who attended the anti-tax meeting? Was this Henry also

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#### **EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON THE PRECEDING ARTICLE**

First, let me thank Peg KWADRAT for providing the material in this article. Let me also encourage each of you to do likewise.

The preceding article on the Elias Lutheran Church certainly gives us some 'local color' of the area in which our forefathers lived. There are, however, some inconsistencies in it which need to be identified and discussed.

the son of Conrad? He certainly appears to be too old to be a grandchild of Conrad. Again, honesty dictates that we state that we do not know!

Concerning the children of Jacob (2) and Elizabeth (Smith) HOCKENSMITH - It appears that the author has mixed the actual children of Jacob (2) with the children of John (3) HOCKENSMITH. The actual children of Jacob (2) and Elizabeth (Smith) HOCKENSMITH are as follows:

- i. Henry, born 29 May 1768,
- ii. Elizabeth, born circa 1770,
- iii. John, born 18 Aug 1774,
- iv. Jacob, born 24 Jun 1779,
- v. Peter, birthday unknown,
- vi. David, birthday unknown,
- vii. Mary, birthday unknown,
- viii. Catharine, birthday unknown,
- ix. Magdalena, birthday unknown,
- x. George, birthday unknown,
- xi. William, birthday unknown.

According to my sources, the wife of John (3) HOCKENSMITH was Barbara, the daughter of Andrew SLUSS, not John SLUSS. She was born in 1778 and married John on 8 Jun 1799. Again, according to my data, they had ten children, not seven.

They are:

- i. Catharine, born 15 May 1802,
- ii. John W., born 24 May 1804,
- iii. Mary (Polly), born 13 Nov 1804,
- iv. Elizabeth, born 1805,
- v. Daniel, born 19 May 1805,
- vi. William, born 9 Sep 1812,
- vii. Sarah, born 31 May 1815,
- viii. Lucy Ann, born 24 Jun 1819,
- ix. Eli, born 25 Feb 1822,
- x. Barbara Louise, born 8 May 1826.

The William (3) HOCKENSMITH who married Alice \_\_\_\_\_(?) was, I believe, William (4), son of John (3), son of Jacob (2).

The three sisters mentioned in the last paragraph are, in fact, the daughters of John (3) HOCKENSMITH. David (3) HOCKENSMITH did not remain a bachelor. He married Catharine MILLER on 30 Aug 1819 and they had two sons and a daughter before he died circa 1829 in Frederick County, Maryland.

Most of the data contained in this article appears to come from the writings of James A. HELMAN in a 1906 book entitled History Of Emmitsburg, Maryland. This is an excellent reference book, full of details of everyday life in Colonial Maryland. But remember, since its release, we have had almost a century of family research to refine the data contained in it.

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#### **THE MEETING ATTENDED BY HENRY HOCKENSMITH**

*from History of Frederick County Maryland, Vol. 1, written by T.J.C. Williams and Folger McKinsey, published by Regional Publishing Co., Baltimore, Md. C. 1979.*

*'originally published in 1910' from pages 80,81, and 82*

The tax for the support of the established church was a heavy burden on Frederick County, the amount assessed for the support of All Saint's parish being £1000 pounds a year. The Governor and Council contended that the expiration or repeal of the law under which this tax was collected revived an older law under which the tax was even greater. This matter figured in the election of 1773 and the anti-tax sentiment prevailed.

From this time onward the agitation which preceded the Revolutionary War continued to increase in Frederick County as in other parts of the country and many non-importation societies were formed and became active. In Oct 1769 a number of wagons loaded with prohibited goods came to Frederick from Pennsylvania. They were stored away and delivery refused. The first meeting held in Frederick County took place at a school house on Tom's Creek near TROXELL's Mill. This was on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 1770. It was largely attended and addresses were made by Walter DULANEY and William ELDER, son of Guy ELDER. The following resolution was adopted. -

"Resolved by the inhabitants of Tom's Creek, Frederick County in the province of Maryland, loyal to their king and country that we reaffirm the Magna Charter of our civil and religious rights, as granted by Charles of England to Lord Baltimore and the

inhabitants of this colony as reaffirmed on the first landing of the Pilgrim Fathers of Maryland, that there shall be perfect freedom of conscience and every person be allowed to enjoy his religious and political privileges and immunities unmolested."

Among those who attended the 'meeting', we find the names of .....Henry HOCKENSMITH, .....John CRABBS, .....Arthur ROW ..... et al."

**FAMILY REUNION**  
**for the descendants of**  
**Conrad HOCKENSMITH**

Our annual Family Reunion will be held on Sunday, 30 July at the home of Mary Frances HOCKMAN on Ridge Road near Shenandoah Junction, West Virginia.

The festivities will begin at noon with a pot-luck dinner, so be prepared to bring a covered dish. The get-together will last until everyone leaves!

These family reunions were first started in the summer of 1946 and we have not missed a single year since. This year will mark out 49th consecutive year! Does anyone know if any family member has attended every year?

I urge you to support this family activity with your attendance, if at all possible. Remember - if you can trace your roots to a HOCKENSMITH or a HOCKERSMITH - we are ALL related! WE ARE ONE FAMILY! COME OUT AND MEET YOUR COUSINS.

For more information, you may call Mary Frances at (304) 876-6477 or Barbara MAXWELL at (304) 267-2242.

**PLAN TO BE THERE**

**CELEBRATIONS**

**¾ BIRTHDAYS ¾**

3 May 1949 - Janice Marie (Greene) HOCKERSMITH - 46 years.

6 May 1924 - Betty Geraldine (Gibler) CRUM - 71 years.

7 May 1935 - Charlotte Marie (Gibler) MUCKEY - 60 years.

8 May 1926 - Harold E. HOCKENSMITH - 69 years.

11 May 1960 - Thomas Kerry HOCKERSMITH - 35 years.

12 May 1979 - Jennifer Jeannine HOCKERSMITH - 16 years.

13 May 1991 - Dale Alan SAGER - 4 years.

16 May 1982 - Terry Allen BOONE - 13 years.

17 May 1930 - Leona Delores (Gibler) CAMPBELL - 65 years.

18 May 1918 - Clyde HOCKENSMITH - 77 years.

21 May 1935 - Kermit Forde STANFIELD - 60 years.

2 Jun 1967 - Elizabeth Alice (Beth) HOCKERSMITH - 28 years.

3 Jun 1924 - Calvin Coolidge SHOCK - 71 years.

3 Jun 1954 - Vicky Lee JOHNSON - 41 years.

3 Jun 1964 - Paula Jo (Pete) (Boone) PEARSON - 31 years.

4 Jun 1919 - Martha Jene (Rhode) MURPHREE - 76 years.

6 Jun 1932 - Shirley Francis (Parker) JOHNSON - 63 years.

6 Jun 1950 - Douglas Clarke HOCKERSMITH - 45 years.

7 Jun 1971 - Scott Allen BOONE - 24 years.

11 Jun 1921 - Margaret Lois (Hockersmith) GORBETT - 74 years.

11 Jun 1933 - Adele HOCKENSMITH - 62 years.

13 Jun 1915 - Carl C. HOCKENSMITH - 80 years.

19 Jun 1972 - Jill Marie HOCKERSMITH - 23 years.

21 Jun 1918 - Charles Harry HOCKENSMITH - 77 years.

24 Jun 1942 - Deane Howard HOCKERSMITH - 53 years.

24 Jun 1943 - Richard Lamont BOONE - 52 years.

24 Jun 1963 - Philip Frank HOCKERSMITH - 32 years.  
24 Jun 1964 - Debra Sue (Christofferson) ERICKSON - 31 years.  
27 Jun 1963 - Loni BECKER - 32 years.  
28 Jun 1933 - Greta Ray (Lothrop) HOCKERSMITH - 62 years.  
28 Jun 1948 - Donald Fred GREENE - 47 years.  
28 Jun 1965 - Marcella Rae (Christofferson) WEST - 30 years.  
30 Jun 1973 - Heather Marie ATTEBERRY - 22 years.  
Jul 1937 - John Scruggs HOCKENSMTIH - 58 years.  
2 Jul 1920 - Jane Louise (Hockensmith) RUSSELL - 75 years.  
2 Jul 1945 - Gay Ellen (Hockersmith) HOEVERS - 50 years.  
4 Jul 1984 - Sarah Elizabeth EPPERSON - 11 years.  
7 Jul 1970 - Christine (Padilla) BROOKS - 25 years.  
8 Jul 1910 - Ruth Iowa (Berger) BLAKE - 85 years.  
8 Jul 1966 - Deborah Lynn HOCKENSMTIH - 31 years.  
13 Jul 1935 - Robert Lee HOCKENSMTIH - 60 years.  
16 Jul 1907 - Robert Lee HOCKERSMITH - 88 years.  
16 Jul 1919 - Margaret Ring BOONE - 76 years.  
18 Jul 1935 - Marion Gilbert MUCKEY - 60 years.  
21 Jul 1945 - Rodger Andrew REINIER - 50 years.  
26 Jul 1955 - Wanda Faye JOHNSON - 40 years.

3 Jun 1972 - Allan Laverne & Deena Maxine (Cooper) BOONE - 23 years.  
5 Jun 1993 - Earl Scott & Laurel Evelyn (Shock) MOORE; Conway, AR - 2 years.  
7 Jun 1958 - James Lee & Greta Ray (Lothrop) HOCKERSMITH; Dickinson, Galveston Co, TX - 37 years.  
11 Jun 1993 - John Randolph & Karen (Floyd) SHOCK; Ft. Smith, AR - 2 years.  
21 Jun 1990 - David & Carol Joan (Lockwood) FOLEY - 5 years.  
22 Jun 1974 - Douglas Clarke & Linda Jean (Burton) HOCKERSMITH; Bloomfield, Davis Co, IA - 21 years.  
15 Jul 1972 - Charles Wayne & Joyce Jean (Hockersmith) ALLEN; Little Rock, Pulaski Co, AR - 23 years.  
16 Jul 1977 - Michael Gary & Elaine Louise (Deay) MUCKEY; Lawrence, Douglas Co, KS - 18 years.  
17 Jul 1981 - Michael & Caprice Lee (Boone) SCHUTTE - 14 years.

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HOPE  
YOU  
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HAPPY  
FOURTH

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**LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF  
GEORGE HOCKENSMTIH  
WRITTEN 8 DECEMBER, 1798  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND**

In the name of God Amen the eighth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight I George HOCKENSMTIH of Frederick County and State of Maryland being weak in body but of sound mind and memory thanks be unto God calling into mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this

**$\frac{3}{4}$  ANNIVERSARIES  $\frac{3}{4}$**

8 May 1982 - Craig & Melissa Sue (Boone) BIERS - 13 years.

my last Will and Testament in manner following principally and first of all I recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it and for my body I recommend it to the Earth to be buried in a Christian and decent like manner at the discretion of my Executors nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form - Item my will is that all my just debts & funeral expenses be in the first place satisfied & paid by my Executors -

Item I give devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife one house and lot in Emmitsburgh also one half lot of ground joining the same together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging also one hundred and fifty pounds current money out of my estate to be paid her in three payments the first payment of fifty pounds to be paid her within three weeks after my decease the next payment of fifty pounds to be paid her twelve months after my decease and the remaining fifty pounds to be paid her two years after my decease Also I give and bequeath unto my wife one black mare saddle and bridle.

Item I give and devise unto my beloved daughter Cathrine one house and lot in Emmitsburgh known by number one hundred twenty one in the plat of the said Emmitsburgh with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging To Have and to hold the said lot of ground with the appurtenances to her, her heirs and assigns forever. Also I bequeath unto my said Daughter Cathrine fifty pounds current money to be paid her in three payments viz. Ten pounds to be paid her in three weeks after my decease and the remaining forty pounds to be paid her in two equal annual payments from the date of the first payment all the rest of my real & personal estate to be sold by my executors when they see cause and the money to be divided in manner following among my beloved children to wit George & Samuel to have each fifty pounds current money more than any of my daughters, Susan, Nancy & Elisabeth each to have one hundred dollars more than Mary, Martha & Eve further my

will is that none of my children are to receive any of their shares until they are of age and further my will is that my son Samuel is to have fifteen pounds current money to be expended on him by my Executors in schooling and cloathing if they see cause otherwise to be given to him over and above his other share also that my Executors shall bind him to some beneficial trade at their discretion also that all beds bedsteads and cloaths be by my Executors divided into six parts out of which my beloved wife is to have her choice of one part and my son George and daughters Susanna, Nancy, Elisabeth and Cathrine are to cast lots for choice of beds all my children to receive equal payments according to the sum due them and that all moneys coming to any of my children that may be under age to be laid out on Interest for their use until they come of age and I do by these presents empower my Executors herein after named to make Deeds of Conveyance of all the real estate. I may die seized of and which they are by those presents empowered to sell as fully and amply as I myself could do were I personally present. And lastly I do nominate constitute and appoint my trusty friends Henry WILLIAMS & William RUBERT whole & sole Executors of this my last will and Testament disannulling & hereby making void all other former wills and Testaments by me heretofore made confirming this & no other to be my last will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first within written.

George HOCKENSMITH \* seal \*

Signed sealed published pronounced & declared by the said George HOCKENSMITH to be his last will & Testament in presence of us who in the presence of the Testator have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto:

Robt FLEMING  
John MATHEWS  
Christian SMITH

Frederick County September the 10<sup>th</sup> 1799  
Then came Robert FLEMING, John MATHEWS & Christian SMITH the three subscribing witnesses to the foregoing last will and Testament of George HOCKENSMITH late of Frederick County Deceased and made oath on the holy

Evangels of Almighty God that they did see the Testator therein named sign and seal this will that they heard him publish pronounce and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament that at the time of his so doing he was to the best of their apprehensions of a sound and disposing mind memory and understanding that they respectively subscribed their names as witnesses to this will in the presence and at the request of the Testator and all in the presence of each other.

Geo MURDOCK Regr

Frederick County September the 10th 1799 Then came Henry WILLIAMS and William RUBERT and made oath on the holy Evangels of Almighty God that the aforegoing instrument of writing is the true and whole will and Testament of George HOCKENSMITH late of Frederick County Deceased that hath come to their hands and possession and that they do not know of any other.

Geo MURDOCK Regr

(Side Note)

I Martha HOCKENSMITH widow of George HOCKENSMITH late of Frederick County Deceased do hereby renounce and quit all claim to any bequest or devise made to me by the last will of my husband ??? & proved according to law and I elect to take in lieu thereof my Dower or legal share of the estate of my said husband.

To George MURDOCK Regr Wills

Oct 17th 1799

her

Martha X Hockensmith  
mark

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## OLD FAMILY LETTERS

Do you have some old family letters lying around collecting dust? Does one of your cousins have that incredibly romantic love-letter from your grandfather to your grand-mother?

Why not share them with the rest of the family? These old letters give us a glimpse into the past that no history book can. They show us how our ancestors thought, how they talked, and what they felt.

Have them copied (or translate them yourself) and send them to me for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Tim Hockersmith

## WHERE WE ARE AND HOW WE GOT THERE

$\frac{3}{4}$  KENTUCKY  $\frac{3}{4}$

The first recorded account concerning a member of our family in the boundaries of the Bluegrass State was recorded on 15 Oct 1804 in Fayette County; but this document (a lawsuit) makes reference to a much earlier agreement between Christopher KEIZER and Conrad HOCKERSMITH whereas KEIZER purchased from HOCKERSMITH a Maryland note for £425. This event is recorded to have occurred on 28 May 1789 in Fayette County, KY. No reference can be found which would place a member of our family in Kentucky earlier than this date. This Conrad is believed to be Conrad HOCKERSMITH, Jr., the son of the original immigrant. This same lawsuit describes that Conrad HOCKERSMITH received this note from Leonard DOBBIN and the note was originally dated 7 Nov 1779. We also know that Conrad, Jr. was in Frederick County, MD until 16 Aug 1788 when he purchased the land known as "Family Study" from his father. We suspect that Conrad left Maryland and moved to Kentucky sometime within the 285 day period between 16 Aug 1788 and 28 May 1789.

About two years later in 1791, we have recorded the death of Elizabeth (Hockersmith) CLARK, wife of Henry CLARK of Lincoln County, KY and oldest child of Edward and Eve HOCKERSMITH also of Lincoln County. Elizabeth was born in 1774, probably in Maryland. At this time we do not know the father of Edward, but we can logically assume that it would be either Conrad Jr. or Michael.

Documented in the Draper Collection - Kentucky Papers is a compilation of interviews (circa 1843-44) by Rev. John D. SHANE entitled "Historical Collections", Vol. IICC, pages 283 & 284. One of those interviews is presented below:

"Woodford County -

No. 16 \_\_\_\_\_ HOCKERSMITH

From near Hagerstown. Came west in 1791. By York River, past Fort Pitt and to Limestone, they met with two fresh graves of men, murdered by the Indians. They were

also warned to take care as they passed through, lest the Indians should attack them at the Blue-Licks.

Scott was out in the spring and summer (1791). In the summer & fall of 1791. WILKINSON's expedition to the towns. They were not at home and he made about 40 prisoners, squaws and children. About 35 to 40 days. Went by the way of Cincinnati; and came by Louisville.

Harmar's Campaign, opened from Cincinnati to Maumee a road for 3 pieces of artillery (cannon)."

The name of Michael HOCKERSMITH is listed on the Fayette County, KY tax list for the first time (as far as we now know) in 1792. We believe (but cannot prove) that this is Johann Michael HOCKERSMITH (born 14 Jul 1743, s/o Conrad. We can place Michael in Frederick Co., MD until the 1790 census, which lists him, his wife, his 7 sons and 4 daughters. No other records after this date can be found on him in Maryland.

Henry HOCKENSMITH is mentioned in an advertisement in the Kentucky Gazette newspaper in 1793 as being near Georgetown, Scott Co., Kentucky. In 1796 Henry and Jacob HOCKENSMITH purchased a farm on the North Elkhorn river of Franklin County from Lewis CRAIG. It is believed that these two were brothers and sons of Jacob, s/o Conrad.

The 1800 Kentucky census lists the following eight family members:

1. John HOCKERSMITH - Fayette Co.,
2. Henry HOCKERSMITH - Franklin Co.,
3. James HOCKERSMITH - Franklin Co.,
4. Conrad HOCKEYSMITH - Jessamine Co.,
5. Edward HOCKEYSMITH - Jessamine Co.,
6. Edward HOCKEYSMITH - Jessamine Co.,
7. Michael HOCKEYSMITH - Jessamine Co.,
8. Michael HOCKEYSMITH, Jr. - Jessamine Co.

So you can see that by the year 1800, Kentucky was populated with family members who were brothers, uncles, nephews, and first cousins. Two of Conrad's

sons (presumably), Michael and Conrad Jr., two sons of Jacob, and their descendants were all early pioneers of Kentucky.

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### **CURRENT FAMILY RESEARCHERS**

**Tom SCOTT.** John Thomas was born Sat. 19 May 1934 to John T. and Ruth Marion (Curlee) SCOTT, Jr. Ruth was d/o Edward M. and Katherine Mason (Saunders) CURLEE. Katherine was d/o John W. and Ida Reeves (Hockersmith) SAUNDERS. Ida was d/o John Mason, s/o John, s/o Edward HOCKERSMITH who resided for most of his life in Logan County, KY and who died in Kaskaskia, Randolph County, Illinois in 1818. Tom resides at 1304 East Ninth Street, Bonham, Texas 75418.

**Jeannine HOCKERSMITH.** Elizabeth Jeannine was born Thu. 11 Apr 1929 to Gordon R. and Elizabeth Marie (Johnson) MERCHANT. She married Robert Clifford HOCKERSMITH forty-five years ago on Sun. 7 Aug 1949. Robert is s/o Clark Clifford, s/o Martin Luther, s/o Francis Marion, s/o Thomas Jefferson, s/o Jacob and Anna Keziah (Skinner) HOCKERSMITH. Bob and Jeannine have two sons and a daughter. They live at 299 Leisure World Blvd., Mesa, AZ 85206.

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### **LET'S ALL GET ON-LINE**

All of you who have home computers have a unique opportunity to conduct family research right from the comfort of your home!

As more and more genealogical data is entered into computers, this data is being offered for sale or is put into the public domain and is available free of charge.

Several of the larger services such as CompuServe, Prodigy, and America Online (aol), have their own genealogy sections which offer researchers the ability to communicate directly with others all over the country.

Many towns have a local Bulletin Board (BBS) which are connected with Boards in other cities via a network called FidoNet. There are several genealogy-based echos which can be subscribed to by the System

Operator (Sysop) of your local Bulletin Board. Check with your Sysop to see if these echos are available in your area. The Internet also offers a wealth of genealogical data which can be downloaded right into your home computer.

Family researchers can stay in close contact and share information with other family researchers without writing letters or making long-distance phone calls.

The following family members can be reached on-line:

1. Tim HOCKERSMITH (your editor) = tim\_hock@aol.com and also at tim\_hockersmith@f158.n112.z1.fidonet.org
2. Ed HOCKERSMITH of Newark, DE = ehockers@aol.com
3. Steve HOCKENSMITH of Chicago, IL = moscoops@aol.com
4. Peg KWADRAT of Reston, VA = kwadrat@us.net
5. William R. HOCKENSMITH of Eagan, MN = willhock@aol.com
6. Erik HOCKENSMITH of Virginia Beach, VA = blastman00@aol.com
7. Donald HOCKENSMITH of Grandview, MO = donalddh354@aol.com
8. David HOCKENSMITH of Bluffton, IN = hockeypoo@aol.com

### **A CALL FOR FAMILY PHOTOS**

How would you like to see a photo of yourself, your children, your grandparents, or great grandparents in this newsletter? For living family members, I ask that you send me a photo that I can keep.

I realize that photos of the dearly departed fall into a different category. These cannot be replaced; but they can be duplicated! If you can afford it, get the photo duplicated and send it to me to keep. If you cannot afford it, send me the original and I will have it duplicated and return the original to you. Individual, B&W photos are preferred, but we can use any photo. Please label the back of the photo with your name and address (if you need the photograph back), the name of the subject or subjects, when and where the photo was taken, and as much biographical data as is possible.

<p><b>Disclaimer:</b> This newsletter is written, edited and published by Robert T. Hockersmith, 1213 Lions Den Drive, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-4617. I intend to publish additional volumes quarterly [or at least semi-annually] as interest, time, and resources will permit. The data contained herein is deemed accurate, but is not guaranteed.</p>
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