



Genealogy – Looking To The Future While Preserving The Past

by Robert T. Hockersmith

Very early in my searches among the tombstones of Saline County, Arkansas I came across the following inscription:

Remember friends as you pass by,
as you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, so you must be,
so prepare for death and follow me.

This simple verse expresses a fundamental truth about this world and our brief passage through it. There comes a day in the life of each of us when the illusions of youth give way to the harsh reality that death is both final and universal. It is a tacit function of religion to soften this reality with the assurance of another, better life where we shall know no sorrow. But even those of us who live, as I do, trusting in the promises of Jesus Christ, know that death means a parting (if only temporary) from those we love, and a disengagement from the concerns of this world.

It has always seemed to me that this final separation is made the sadder if death must mean that eventually we are forgotten--our deeds unknown, our contributions unnoticed, our

sacrifices unappreciated, and our very names unrecorded. Yet, it is incontrovertible that death begins the process of being forgotten, and, for all but a few of the most famous among us, this process is largely complete when our grandchildren die. What a shame then that the passions that have excited us, the sorrows that have tempered us, the faith that has sustained us, and the joy we have found in life, must be forgotten, even as we are.

And yet, what claim might we make upon the attention of future generations if we have ignored the claims upon us? By what right do we ignore our ancestors and yet hope that our descendants might take some note of us? It seems to me a simple matter of equity that those who would wish to be remembered ought to take some care to preserve the memories of those who have gone before. It is in this spirit that this newsletter is humbly offered. It is my penance, the payment and tribute I make to those who have gone before--to those who have made us who we are.

I have been granted a rare privilege through the preparation of these newsletters, for I have come to know, sometimes in a very personal

and intimate way, people who died before I was born and others whom I never met. Many times they have led remarkable lives, filled with the flavor of their times. I trust that through some of these writings you may come not only to some greater understanding of them and of our own specific heritage, but also to some appreciation of the universality of the human condition.

Our family history is often a narrative of hardship and deprivation, but it is also the tale of perseverance and of triumph. It is a history of a God-fearing family endowed with that pioneer spirit that formed this nation into the greatest on earth. If it is the story of death and tribulation, it is also the story of birth and renewal. Above all else, it is hoped that the chronicling of our family will serve as a reminder that we are all embarked upon a great adventure, full of wonder, full of purpose, where the loveliness of life is no lie, nor is the promise of a better one to come.

A VERY UNUSUAL QUERY

I received the following query in July:


"I was born Larry Hockersmith in West Palm Beach, Florida 1961. My birth parents were Jerry Lilliard Hockersmith & Bessy Hockersmith. I was born a twin with a brother named Jerry Lilliard Hockersmith Jr.

who died in 1966. My father was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and Mother in Saint Louis, Mo.

With your genealogy interest do you have any information that might be useful to me? Any insight you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

After my twin died I was put into foster care along with my three other siblings. I was later adopted in 1972. I'm trying to put some pieces of my life back together.

Many thanks in advance--Larry L. Lynch (Hockersmith)

If anyone can assist Larry in locating his parents, grandparents or any relatives, please contact me. I do have a means of contacting Larry. Ed 

From the INTERNET

Gwen E. HOCKERSMITH was recently promoted to Air Force Master Sergeant (E-7).

Can anyone tell me where Gwen fits into our family tree?

TODAY'S HEADLINES

**NELLIE HOCKENSMITH GEORGE
to celebrate 95 birthday!**

Nellie is a native Kansan, born August 10, 1902, in the farm home south of Radium. She is the grand-

daughter of H. C. And Emily Hockensmith who moved to Kansas from Illinois in 1875. Her parents were Eddy S. and Hattie Hannah Ives Hockensmith.

Nellie and her late husband, Chester, are parents of six children: Ellamae Nightingale, Billings, MT; Clara Link, Uniontown, P A; Jewel Schartz, Larned; Geneva George, Indianapolis, Indiana; Chet George, Cream Ridge, NJ; Bev Hungate-Aldrich, Great Bend. The family hosts a reception in honor of their mother at the Larned Methodist Church on Saturday, August 2, 1997, from 3-5 p.m. You are invited to join in this celebration.

For several years, Nellie was employed as a cook at the Larned State Hospital and the Larned Schools. Since retiring she has been traveling as well as quilting at home and at the Methodist Church. Nellie has crocheted Afghans. for her children, 22 grandchildren and most of her 29 great-grandchildren stressing the fact that "keeping busy has helped me keep going all these years."

[picture of Nellie GEORGE]

Nellie George

I received the above newspaper clipping from Robert James HOCKENSMITH of Charlottesville,

VA, who is Nellie's nephew. Thanks Robert.

Nellie Gladys HOCKENSMITH was born 10 Aug 1902 in St. John, Stafford Co., KS. She married Chester Saylor GEORGE on 25 Jun 1929. She is the daughter of Eddy S. HOCKENSMITH (14 Apr 1863 - 27 Dec 1947) and Hattie Hannah IVES (27 Nov 1873 - 6 Nov 1941) who were married on 27 Oct 1898. Nellie is the granddaughter of Henry Clay HOCKENSMITH (11 Apr 1830 - 10 Aug 1915) and Emily GOODNER (15 Sep 1832 - 24 Apr 1920) who were married 27 Oct 1856 in Carrollton, Green Co., IL. She is the great-granddaughter of Andrew J. HOCKENSMITH (1803 - 20 Aug 1872) and Mary PARKS (circa 1808 - ?) who were married in 1826 in Madison Co., KY. We do not know the parents of Andrew. His descendants comprise one of our Family Tree's "Unattached Branches".

First Generation

1. **Andrew J. HOCKENSMITH.** Born 1803 in KY. Died 20 Aug 1872 in Macoupin Co., IL. He married Mary PARKS, 1826 in Madison Co., KY. Born Circa 1808 in KY. They had the following children:

- 2 i. Henry Clay HOCKENSMITH
- 3 ii. Sylvester HOCKENSMITH
- 4 iii. Vienna HOCKENSMITH
- 5 iv. Elizabeth HOCKENSMITH
- 6 v. Mary J. HOCKENSMITH

- 7 vi. Minerva HOCKENSMITH
- 8 vii. Albert R. HOCKENSMITH
- 9 viii. Ely HOCKENSMITH

Second Generation

2. **Henry Clay HOCKENSMITH.**

Born 11 Apr 1830 in Madison Co., KY. Died 10 Aug 1915 in Stafford Co., KS. He married Emily GOODNER, daughter of Jacob GOODNER & Susannah ?, 27 Oct 1856 in Carrollton, Green Co., IL. Born 15 Sep 1832 in Murry Co., TN. Died 24 Apr 1920 in Stafford Co., KS. They had the following children:

- 10 i. Albert Ormond HOCKENSMITH
- 11 ii. Viola Adelle HOCKENSMITH
- 12 iii. Eddy S. HOCKENSMITH

3. **Sylvester HOCKENSMITH.** Born 30 Nov 1832 in KY. Died 3 Nov 1858 in Macoupin Co., IL.

4. **Vienna HOCKENSMITH.** Born Circa 1835 in KY.

5. **Elizabeth HOCKENSMITH.** Born Circa 1836 in IL.

6. **Mary J. HOCKENSMITH.** Born Circa 1840 in IL.

7. **Minerva HOCKENSMITH.** Born Circa 1845 in IL.

8. **Albert R. HOCKENSMITH.** Born Apr 1849 in IL. Died 14 Jul 1928 in Los Angeles, CA.

He first married Lucinda Leeds BARNGROVER. Born 21 Oct 1839 in Kokomo, IN. Died 20 Apr 1900 in

Salina, Saline Co., KS. They had the following children:

- 13 i. M. Rose HOCKENSMITH
- 14 ii. Herbert A. HOCKENSMITH
- 15 iii. Otto HOCKENSMITH
- 16 iv. Lew Earl HOCKENSMITH
- 17 v. Ernest W. HOCKENSMITH
- 18 vi. Nellie HOCKENSMITH

He second married Margaret Elizabeth SIL VIS, daughter of Levi SILVIS & Elizabeth HALL. Born 4 Jul 1853 in Armstrong Twp., Indiana Co., P A. Died 13 Sep 1932 in Los Angeles, CA. Buried in Glendale, CA.

9. **Ely HOCKENSMITH.** Born 21 Oct 1851 in IL. Died 30 Jan 1852 in IL.

Third Generation

10. **Albert Ormond HOCKENSMITH.**

11. **Viola Adelle HOCKENSMITH.** Born Circa 1859 in IL. Died Circa 1878 in Ellinwood, KS.

12. **Eddy S. HOCKENSMITH.** Born 14 Apr 1863 in Harlin, Dewitt Co., IL. Died 27 Dec 1947 in Ellinwood, KS. He married Hattie Hannah IVES, 27 Oct 1898. Born 27 Nov 1873 in Wapella, Dewitt Co., IL. Died 6 Nov 1941 in Moscow, KS. They had the following children:

- 19 i. Viola Adelle HOCKENSMITH
- 20 ii. Nellie Gladys HOCKENSMITH

21 iii. Chester Albert HOCKEN-
SMITH

22 iv. Walter Edmund HOCKEN-
SMITH

13. **M. Rose HOCKENSMITH.** Born
Circa 1871 in IL She married Thomas
SPADER.

14. **Herbert A. HOCKENSMITH.**
Born Mar 1872 in IL. He married
Mary F. ?

15. **Otto HOCKENSMITH.** Born
Circa 1876 in KS.

16. **Lew Earl HOCKENSMITH.** Born
Mar 1879 in KS.

17. **Ernest W. HOCKENSMITH.**
Born 18 Mar 1879 in KS. Died Oct
1969 in Kansas City, MO. He
married Lola? .

18. **Nellie HOCKENSMITH.** Born
Sep 1881 in KS. She married Samuel
TURLEY.

Fourth Generation

19. **Viola Adelle HOCKENSMITH.**
Born 4 Sep 1899 in St. John, KS. Died
27 Apr 1923. She married Ralph
Emerson CURRAH, 6 May 1921.

20. **Nellie Gladys HOCKENSMITH.**
Born 10 Aug 1902 in St. John, KS. She
married Chester Saylor GEORGE, 25
Jun 1929. They had the following
children:

23 i. Ella Mae GEORGE

24 ii. Clara GEORGE

25 iii. Jewel GEORGE

26 iv. Geneva GEORGE

27 v. Chet GEORGE

28 vi. Beverly GEORGE

21. **Chester Albert HOCKEN-
SMITH.** Born 15 Sep 1905 in St.
John, KS. He married Viola May
PINKSTON, 2 May 1926.

22. **Walter Edmund HOCKEN-
SMITH.** Born 16 Sep 1910 in Larned,
KS. He married Marion Grace
MERRITT, 27 Jan 1930. Born 1912 in
St. John, KS. They had the following
children:

29 i. Kenneth Lionel HOCKEN-
SMITH

30 ii. Rita Jean HOCKENSMITH

31 iii. Robert James HOCKEN-
SMITH

Fifth Generation

23. **Ella Mae GEORGE.** She married
? NIGHTINGALE.

24. **Clara GEORGE.** She married ?
LINK.

25. **Jewel GEORGE.** She married?
SCHARTZ. .

26. **Geneva GEORGE.**

27. **Chet GEORGE.**

28. **Beverly GEORGE.**

29. **Kenneth Lionel HOCKEN-
SMITH.** Born 27 New 1931 in KS.

30. **Rita Jean HOCKENSMITH.**
Born 13 Dec 1932 in KS.

31. **Robert James HOCKENSMITH.**
Born 25 Aug 1939. He married
Margie Avalee LAWSON. They had
the following children:

32 i. Mark HOCKENSMITH

Sixth Generation

32. **Mark HOCKENSMITH.** Born 26 Sep 1962 in Warrenton, V A. He married Tammy S. RANDOLPH.

NEW INFORMATION

I recently located my 4th cousin, Shaneen TULEY-CORSON of Richmond, CA. Shaneen is the only child of Mary Lynn (McAlister) TULEY BELL. Mary Lynn is the youngest daughter of Mary Virginia (Dot) (Hockersmith) McALISTER, who was the d/o Tilford Lee HOCKERSMITH, third son of Alfred Rice HOCKERSMITH, second son of Conrad Rice Hockersmith, son of Edward Hockersmith who died in Jessamine Co., KY in 1808.

Shaneen informed me that: "I am in possession of a writing by A. R. Hockersmith which reads as follows:

In Memory of Conrad Hockersmith departed this life Dec 18th 1844 aged 65 years & 26 days. Mark the perfect man and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace. The above is a copy of the inscription on my father's tombstone in Russellville Kentucky taken this 12th Nov 1865. May my last end be like his. A.R. Hockersmith"

From this one little note we now know that Conrad Rice HOCKERSMITH died on 18 Dec 1844. But better yet we know that he lived for 65 years and 26 days. Using the Rule of 8870, we can calculate his date of birth as 22 Nov 1779. Since we have no record of any

Hockersmith being in any state other than Maryland prior to 1789, I would venture to say that in all likelihood, Conrad Rice was born in Maryland. This, in my opinion, is a major find! I have been looking for this information for twelve years!

Thanks Shaneen!

<p>Disclaimer: 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>
