

On the Bench

The Story of

Egin Bench

By Fern C. Humphries



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ON THE BENCH

The Story of Egin Bench, Fremont County, Idaho

Compiled and Written By

Fern C. Humphries

Idaho Centennial Year 1890 -1990

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1991

Fern C. Humphries
Egin, Idaho

DEDICATED

To the early settlers on Egin Bench
and to all the people who have been born,
have lived or died
"On the Bench"

To all of my family
for their love and support
including Tyler and Jeremy Humphries,
my two grandsons who were born in their home
on Egin Bench

And to all who have helped
to make this book possible
by their contributions of information
and their encouragement.

PREFACE

This book has been written for two reasons. The first is to serve as a memorial and a tribute to those who were the pioneers to this area and to those who have worked so hard to make this area of Egin Bench the beautiful home-land for those of us who live here today.

The second reason is to serve as a record of at least a small part of the history of the Egin Bench and it's people.

Hopefully in the reading of this record, it will remind each of us of the great heritage that we have in this beautiful land.

In the process of creating this record, it is hoped that it reflects gratitude for being a blessed people in a blessed land.

IDAHO - LAND OF MY HOME

Oh, Idaho, land of my birth,
A special place I love to be,
Majestic mountains reach the sky,
And rivers run toward the sea.

A place of beauty and nature
Where the air is freshened by dew,
Where life is free as a bird's song
And the sun shines in sky of blue.

O, Idaho, land of my dreams,
The place where I make my dear home,
Where my family lives and loves,
Where happiness is all my own.

Oh, Idaho, beautiful state,
Your flag waves so proudly today,
Just below our bright stars and stripes,
The symbol of true freedom's way.



TABLE of CONTENTS

Part I	Idaho - 1800-1879	Page 2
Part II	Settlers to Egin Bench	12
	1879-1990	
Part III	Business on Egin Bench	29
	1879-1990	
Part IV	Churches	37
Part V	Schools - Egin, Heman and Edmunds	46
Part VI	Pioneer Families on Egin Bench	50
	1879-1990	
Part VII	Other Families on Egin Bench	156

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Illustrations were done by

Reneta Humphries Adamson

and

Fern C. Humphries

IDAHO'S CENTENNIAL YEAR

1990

Today as I look out over the land
 Across the green fields to the hills of sand,
From majestic Tetons touched by the sun
 To the western range where antelope run,

I marvel at such a beautiful scene,
 I'm glad I live in this valley so clean,
Where the waters of old Snake River flow
 And crops of the farmers around us grow.

I think of what it was like years ago
 When the wild animals tracked up the snow
As it lay so deep in the drifted pile;
 It was so still you could hear for a mile;

When Indians roamed in search of wild game,
 Before the explorers and trappers came,
And the miners that were both young and old
 Were seeking their dreams of finding some gold.

People have come from all parts of the earth
 Looking for freedom and a place of worth.
They have made their homes, their churches and schools
 With long, hard labor and their meager tools.

Through the years of a century or so,
 Changes have come to this land that we know,
From horse and buggy to auto and train,
 Things have been developed for man's own gain.

As we travel this land of Idaho,
 We know it's a place for children to grow.
May we think how blessed we are to be here,
 Proud to live----Idaho's Centennial Year.

F.C.H.

PART 1

IDAHO - 1800 - 1879



It is dawn on the bench, Egin Bench. If a person stands at the rim of the bench, he can see for miles across the beautiful Upper Snake River Valley. To the east, the rising sun is sending rays of light through the sky above the majestic Teton Mountains. Across the valley and to the south, the night lights are going out in the town of Rexburg, where it nestles at the foot of the Rexburg Bench. Looking farther toward the south, the valley spreads out for miles and through this valley the winding Snake River flows. Toward the west the sunlight rests upon the buttes, and straight to the west it paints pink tones on the distant jagged mountains. To the north, and much closer, the morning light shows beautiful waves of sand that have wind-drifted, forming the ever-changing Sandhills. Beyond are the Junipers, small mountains covered with juniper trees, which are flanked in the far distance by the snow-capped mountains that form the Continental Divide.

Now one looks closer at the beauty of the bench upon which he stands. In the springtime and early summer, it is covered with fields of green, fed by man-made canals carrying life-giving water to the crops of grain and potatoes. As fall comes and the grains ripen, the colors change to a golden hue. Many trees line the canal banks. Small streams of water run through the fields as they carry the water necessary to maintain the unique sub-irrigation system that has been used on the bench for many years. In some fields, large wheel lines or circular sprinkling systems are spraying a silvery mist of water over the crops. Giant tractors with enclosed cabs pull intricate machinery through the fields. Some times the drone of a small airplane is heard as it leaves a trail of chemicals over the crop. Fine homes and buildings dot the landscape and cars and trucks speed down the paved highways.

But Egin Bench and it's surrounding area was not always like this. Before 1800, only tribes of Indian people had touched this land. There were no canals, farms and modern life as we see it today.

This land was a hunting ground for Indian tribes traveling through the valley, for there was an abundance of wildlife. Among them were the Blackfoot, Lemhi, Crow, Bannack (sometimes spelled Bannock), Shoshoni and a group called the Snakes that were originally from the Shoshoni Tribe. Also, there was a group called Tukuarikas or Sheepeaters who hunted the higher mountains from the Yellowstone to the Salmon River and lived on mountain sheep. The Snake Indians had their main camp in the area where the South Fork and Henry's Fork of the Snake River come together, and they hunted the hills to the east and south of Rexburg. The Bannack Tribe lived mostly in the area between the Portneuf



Mountains and Raft River, but sometimes they made raids into the Upper Snake River Valley. The Crow Indians were mostly from the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming and north to the Yellowstone River. They sometimes joined with the trappers against their foes from the Blackfeet Tribe. The Blackfeet lived in Marias River Valley of Montana from where they made raids into Idaho and also Wyoming. It is said they were called Blackfeet because they would burn the prairie to cover their tracks after a raid. They were known for their raids and hostility and feared by other tribes as well as by the white men. The Lemhi Indians lived in the Salmon River area but they came to the Snake River plains to hunt. They were a gathering of people from several tribes, brought together by Chief Tendoy, who was a friend to the white man. (Note: See David L. Crowder's book about Tendoy for an interesting account of these people.)

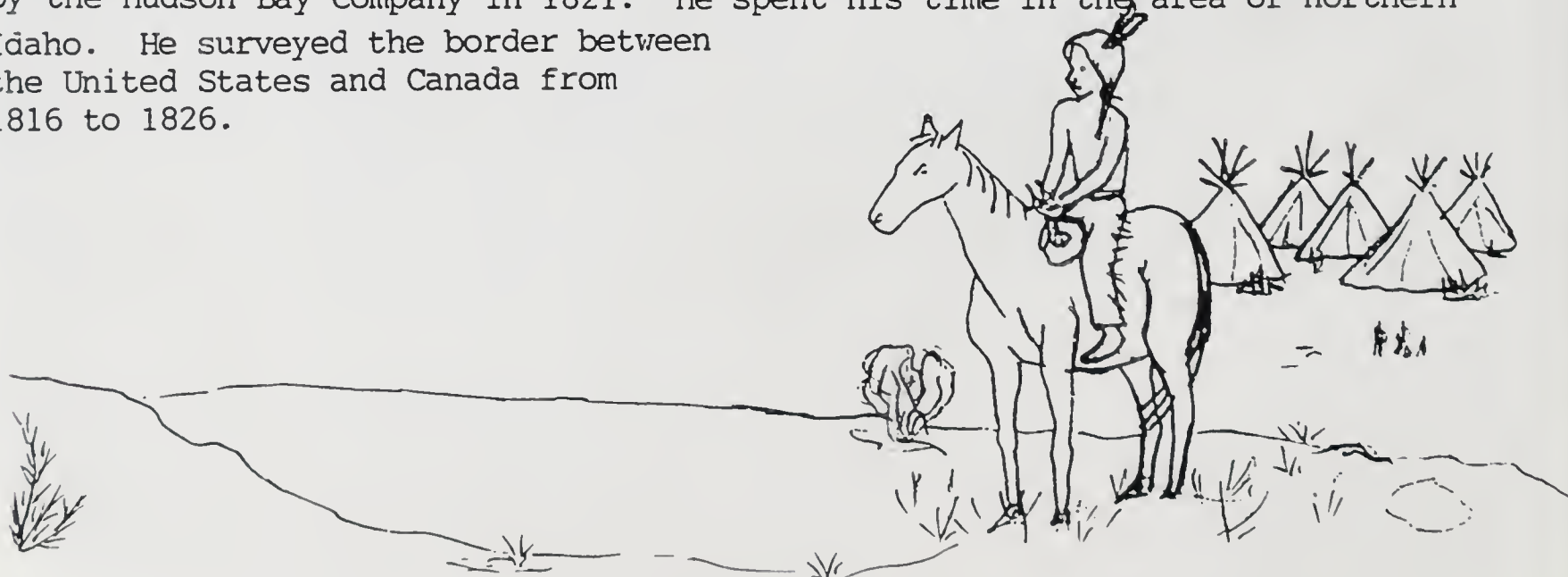
The Indian people traveled by horseback or on foot and their homes were portable teepees or lodges made from poles and hides of the animals which they killed for food. Some of them were a peaceful people, while others were more aggressive and often war-like.

The first group of white men to come into what is now the state of Idaho was Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their group. They were sent by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the west. They came over the Lemhi Pass onto Idaho soil on August 12, 1805. Their group was guided by Sacajawea, who was accompanied by her husband, French trapper, Toussaint Charbonneau and their baby son, Batiste. Sacajawea was born in Lemhi Valley about 1787 to a Shoshoni family but was captured about 1799 by Blackfeet Indians.

Lewis and Clark spent about four months on Idaho soil. They explored, made friends with the Indians, made maps of the area, and when they returned to the east, they claimed the land for the United States. In two years time, they had traveled to the Pacific Ocean and back to the east again.

In September 1809, John Colter entered the Teton Basin. He had come west with Lewis and Clark, traveled to the Pacific with them and left their party as they went back east. He trapped and explored in Yellowstone and the surrounding area, but it is not known whether he came into the Upper Snake River Valley.

Another man, David Thompson trapped the first beaver in Idaho in 1808 and built the first building in Idaho, which he called Kullyspell House. This building later became a trading post located where Hope, Idaho is now located. He trapped for a Canadian fur company called Northwest, which was later bought by the Hudson Bay Company in 1821. He spent his time in the area of northern Idaho. He surveyed the border between the United States and Canada from 1816 to 1826.



As the eastern part of the United States developed, more people became interested in the land to the west. Many explorers and trappers pushed westward.

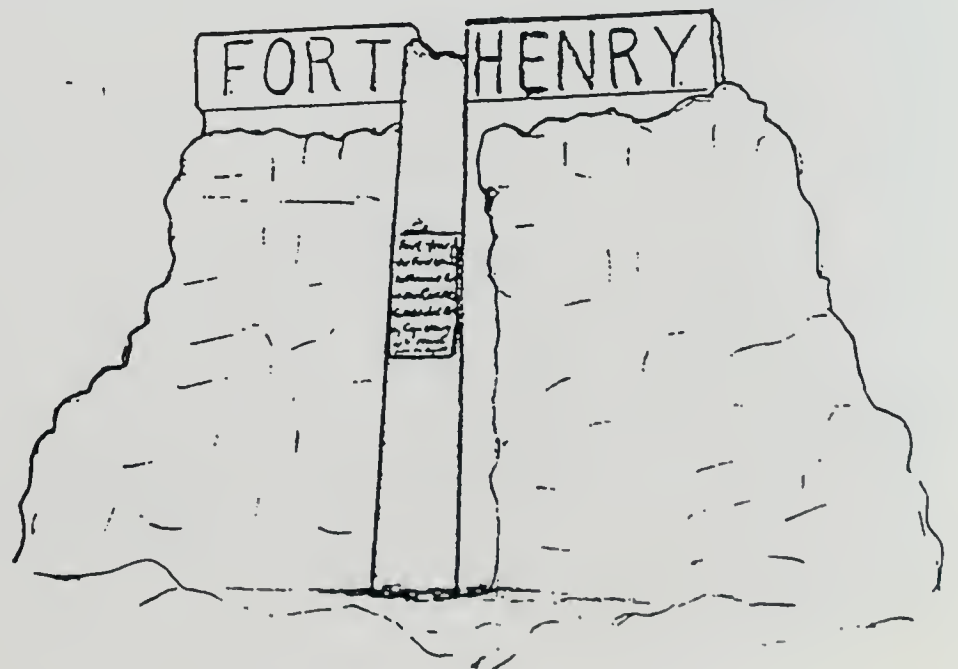
The first of these men that came into the Upper Snake River Valley was a man named Andrew Henry. He was a trapper working for the Missouri Fur Company, which was the first company to work in the Southern Idaho area. He explored and trapped in the west and in 1810, he and his men built the first white man's settlement west of the Rocky Mountains. They built several cabins about five miles down river from the present day town of St. Anthony. These cabins became known as Fort Henry and were also referred to as Post Henry. There is a marker on the Salem-Parker Highway leading to the Egin Bench located just south of the Henry's Fork River Bridge. There is some question about the exact spot where the buildings stood, but the marker does remind us of approximately where the sight was. Fort Henry helped in the development of the area, as it served as a stopping place for the travelers as they made their way through the country.

Traveling with Henry were Edward Robinson, Jacob Reznor and John Hoback, who were called the Kentuckians. They later left the Henry group and while traveling with John Reed, they were all killed by Indians in 1812.

Henry's men spent one winter at Fort Henry and suffered many hardships as the winter was very severe and food was scarce for them, so the following season, they moved on.

About this time, John Jacob Astor started the Pacific Fur Company to work the Columbia Basin. Some of his men traveled around South America in the ship 'Tonquin', which was loaded with supplies, and built Fort Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia River. Another of Astor's men, Wilson Price Hunt led a group of 64 men, one woman and two children overland looking for good areas for trapping. In 1811, they camped at Fort Henry. Some of the men were Donald McKenzie (who joined the Hudson Bay Fur Company and returned to the area in 1818), Ramsey Crooks, and Robert Stuart. Pierre Dorian served as a guide for this group and he had with him his wife, 'Madame' (an Iowa Indian) and their two sons, Batiste, who was five years old and Paul, who was only three. The men built canoes and some of them tried to travel down the river from Fort Henry. Their canoes capsized and they had to give up that kind of travel. After this group reached the Columbia Basin, Robert Stuart led some of this group back to the east over a route that later became the Oregon Trail. On this return trip in 1812, they reported seeing two snow covered peaks that put out smoke, indicating volcanic activity.

In 1819, an Iroquis Indian named Vieux Pierre discovered the area which became known as Pierre's Hole. He later died there and it was named for him.



About 1822, William Ashley was trapping in Idaho, including the Snake River Valley. He was a partner with Andrew Henry. They later formed the Rocky Mountain Fur Company in 1833.

Other men who trapped in the area with them were Jedidiah Smith, Jim Bridger (who was just 19 years old), David Jackson, Jim Beckworth, William Sublette, Joe Meek, Finan McDonald, Louis Varques, Edward Rose, Thomas Fitzpatrick, and Hugh Glass, who was mauled by a bear and left to die, but survived. (See the books, Mountain Men Series by LeRoy R. Hafen and also Story of Thomas Fitzpatrick for more about these men.)

Another trapper that traveled through Southeastern Idaho was Donald McKenzie, a big red headed Irishman. He mapped all of the streams flowing into the Snake River between 1819 and 1822 while he was trapping. He was involved in organizing the first Rendezvous of Trappers.

In 1825, Peter Skene Ogden was trapping in Southeastern Idaho and was killed by Indians on the Portneuf River.

One of the men who came west with Andrew Henry, who did a lot of exploring in the area was Jedidiah Smith. He was known for always carrying his Bible and rifle and was called the 'Knight in Buckskin'. He was the first American to cross the South Pass in 1824 along with six other trappers. He spent several years trapping beaver on Lost River and around Eastern Idaho. Smith was the first overland explorer to cross the frontier into California. He was killed by Indians along the Sante Fe Trail about 1831.

In 1831, Christopher 'Kit' Carson, working for the Rocky Mountain Fur Company trapped along the Sweetwater River, into Jackson Hole, across Teton Pass, through Pierre's Hole, and into the Snake River Valley. From there he trapped to the head of the Salmon River and also Bear River. Later in 1834-35, he spent the winter at the forks of the Snake River near present day Menan. He was at Fort Hall in 1839, before becoming a guide for Captain Fremont and the army expeditions in to the western United States.

One record tells that there were nearly 300 trappers working in Idaho Territory in 1832. Many of them attended the rendezvous at Pierre's Hole and it was in connection with that gathering that the largest battle between Indians (Blackfeet) and trappers occurred. Thirteen trappers and twenty-six Indians died in that battle.

In 1832, Captain Bonneville was the first man to take wagons through South Pass. He spent some time camping and hunting in the area and it is recorded that he was camped on Henry's Fork of the Snake River, probably in the summer of 1833. Bonneville county was named after him.



One of the men who attended the Rendezvous in 1832 was Nathaniel Wyeth, who established Fort Hall on July 14, 1834. He named it after Henry Hall, who was the oldest man in the group with him. It is believed that the original site of Fort Hall was ten miles northwest of the mouth of the Portneuf River. Wyeth left some men there and went on to Walla Walla.

Another man who was in this area from 1834-1843, was Osborne Russell, who was known as the 'Rocky Mountain Boy'. (His journal has been published.) Also in 1834, Jason Lee, a Methodist Preacher conducted the first Protestant service held west of the Rocky Mountains at Fort Hall.

About 1835, Fort Boise was built by the Hudson Bay Company and that year Samuel Parker, Marcus Whitman and Henry H. Spaulding came into the territory as missionaries. Eliza Spaulding and Narcissa Whitman came with their husbands and were the first white women known to come over the Rockies. (Their journals have been published) The Spauldings had the first non-Indian baby born in the Idaho Territory and they named her Eliza. She was born November 15, 1837 at Lapwai Creek, near the Clearwater River.

Other missionaries followed and among them was Father DeSmet with Aeneas, the Iroquis. They traveled with the American Fur Company to Pierre's Hole in 1840, where they began teaching Christianity to the Flathead Indians. The next year he came into Eastern Idaho and later he founded the first Catholic Church in Idaho on the Coeur d'Alene River. The Old Mission Church was built by Father Nicholas Point and the Indians and it is the oldest building in Idaho today. Father DeSmet, with Father Ravalli, probably brought the first seed into the west for planting.

The Hudson Bay Company took over the operation of Fort Hall from about 1842 until about 1856. On May 30, 1843 Captain John C. Fremont left Kansas on an exploring expedition to the West. He followed the Oregon Trail to Fort Hall and surveyed along the Snake River to Fort Boise and across the Blue Mountains to Walla Walla, down the Columbia River to Fort Vancouver and he arrived there November 7, 1843. Charles Preuss was a map maker in his group and with Tom Fitzpatrick and Kit Carson as guides, they selected sights for military posts in the West. Fremont County, Idaho was named after him.

On August 14, 1848, the Oregon Territory was created, which included the area which is now Idaho. A little later, on March 3, 1853, the Washington Territory was created and this also included Idaho.

In June 1855 Brigham Young, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (also known as the Mormons or L.D.S.) sent Thomas Smith and twenty six others to build a mission for the Indians north of Salt Lake City. They built Fort Lemhi in Idaho where they planted crops, which the crickets took the first year. After a second year of the crickets taking their crops, they finally had good crops in 1857. That winter the Indians attacked the fort, killing some of the one hundred people who had settled there, and they were instructed by their leaders to return to Utah. Only mounds of dirt where the deserted walls once stood remain of Fort Lemhi today.



TO THE PIONEERS OF FORT LEMHI

Today I looked back to yesterday
While speeding along a smooth highway,
Where years before, brave pioneers trudged
To make their way by their sweat and blood.

In my thoughts I tread their weary way,
Passed through their hardships of yesterday,
Fought savage elements, endured toil,
Built ditches to irrigate the soil.

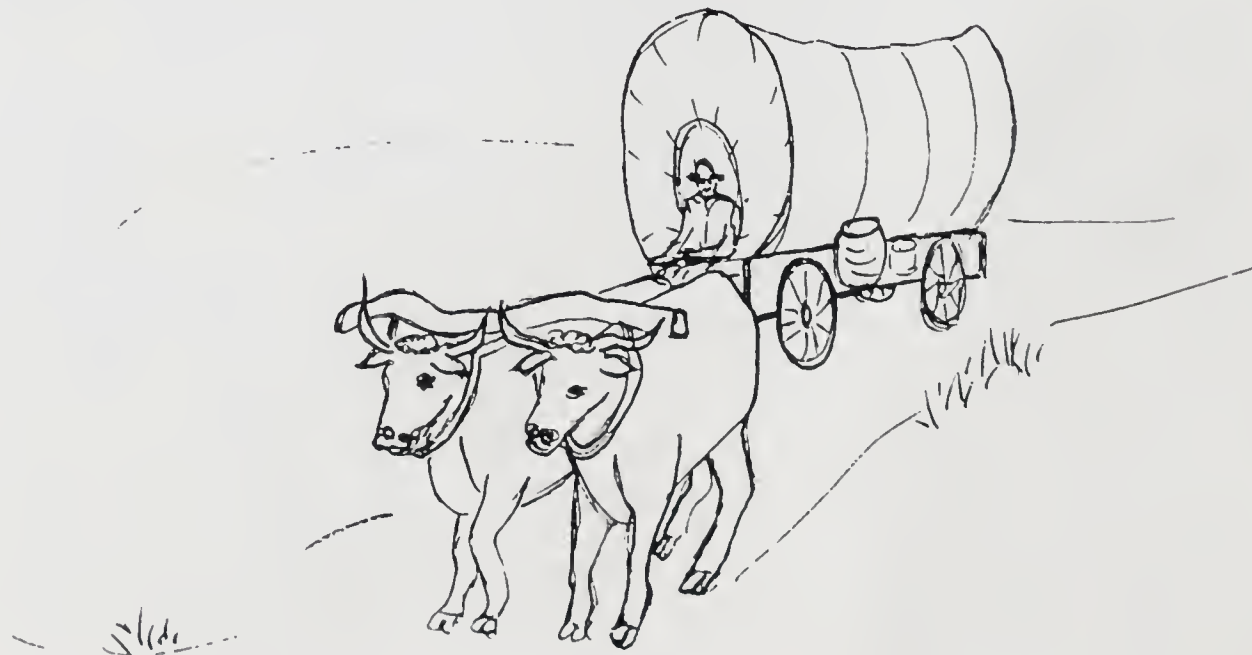
Today I touched crumbling walls of dirt,
Scant remains of their protective fort;
Stood on hillside in the valley there
Where they buried their loved ones with care.

I struggled through the cold and the heat,
Times when there was not enough to eat.
I saw Indians attack that day,
Leave suffering and death on their way.

In sorrow the settlers left behind
The efforts of their hand, heart and mind,
Not to know that many later years,
A valley of ranchers reap their tears.

Pay tribute to brave ones long ago,
Who fought the Indians, cold, and snow,
For what they believed in, heart and soul,
Left their sacrifice on peaceful knoll.

(Written by Fern C. Humphries on April 16, 1966,
after visiting the ruins of Fort Lemhi.)



In April of 1860, the first lasting settlement was started in the southern part of Idaho at Franklin, by thirteen families who were also members of the L.D.S. Church.

By this time, many of the beaver were gone from the Upper Snake River Valley and most of the trappers had left the area. A few stayed in the area and made homes. One of these men was called Beaver Dick, whose real name was Richard Leigh. He lived with his Indian wife, Jennie, east of Henry's Fork of the Snake River in 1860. They had six children, Richard, Jr., John, Ann Jane, William, Elizabeth and a baby which was born Dec. 17, 1876. In 1876 there was an epidemic of smallpox among the Indian people and Jennie and all of their children died in December of that year. They were buried west of where Rexburg was later established. When he was over fifty years of age, he married Sioux Tadpole, a Bannock girl who was then 14 or 15 years old. He had helped deliver her when she was born, and her family, who were related to his first wife, promised her to him. They had three children, including Willie who died in 1918, Rosa who married a Mr. Koops and lived at Salmon and later at Fort Hall, and Emma who married Mr. Thompson and died in 1940. Some of her family still lives in the area where Beaver Dick spent most of his life, including a granddaughter, Vera Thompson Baldwin. (Note: Mrs. Baldwin was chosen to represent Fremont County as Grand Marshall for the Idaho Centennial celebration activities in 1990.) Beaver Dick died 29 May 1899 and was buried near the Teton River. Some of his diary is included in a book by Edith M. Schultz Thompson, Beaver Dick - The Honor and the Heart-Break. Other trappers of this time period were Peter Weaver, 'Big Foot' Smith, the Pierce brothers, Jim Burns, and Tex Parker, who wintered with others south of Rexburg, the area now known as Texas Slough.

By 1862, gold had been discovered to the north and there were 750 people at Bannock, Montana. The following year Bannock had a population of about six thousand people. Because of the increasing number of people coming into the area, Eagle Rock Ferry was built in 1863 about nine miles north of the present city of Idaho Falls.

On March 3, 1863, Idaho Territory was created. The bill was signed by Abraham Lincoln. The first governor was William Wallace and the capitol was at Lewiston in northern Idaho until 1864, when it was moved to Boise. At first it included Wyoming and Montana, but they became separate territories in 1864 and 1868.

The part of Idaho which is now Fremont County was first a part of Oneida County with the county seat at Soda Springs until 1866, when it was moved to Malad, where a post office had been established in 1865. Fort Hall also had a post office by 1865.



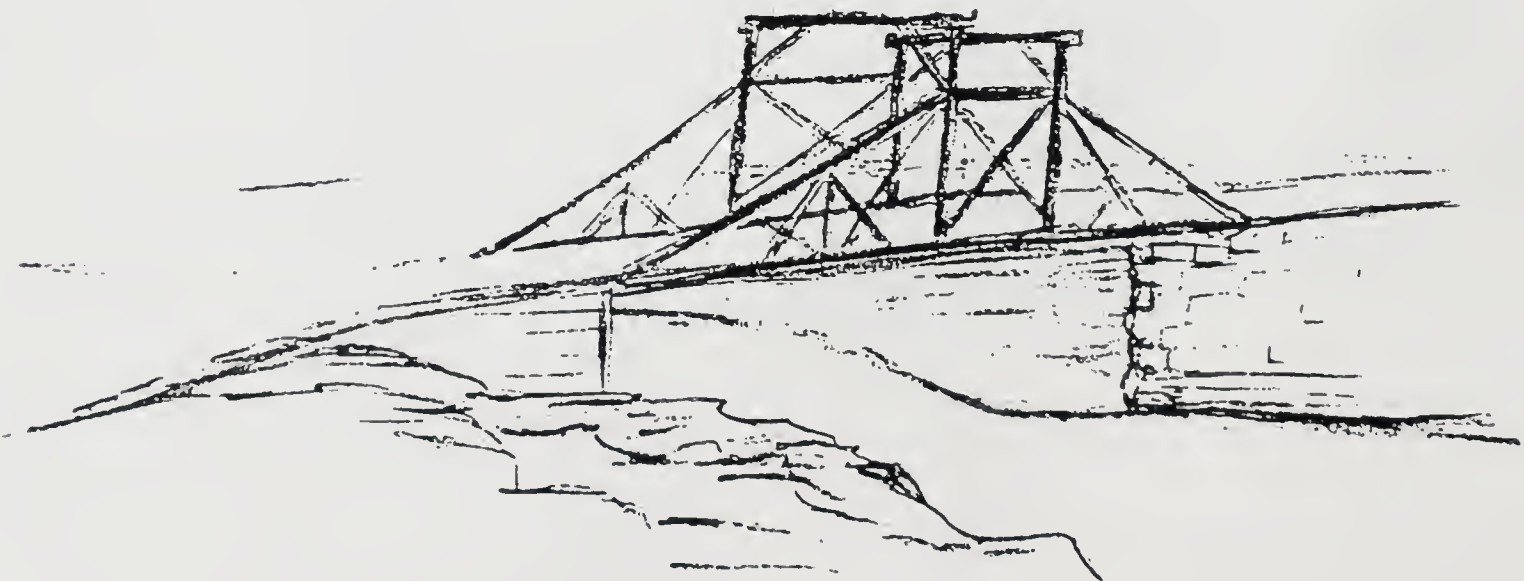
The winter of 1864-65, while the ice was thick enough to support the weight, the streamers were put across the Snake River and Taylor's Bridge was built by Matt Taylor, W. F. Bartlett and Edgar M. Morgon, who had formed the Oneida Road Bridge and Ferry Company. They had purchased the Eagle Rock Ferry prior to building the bridge.

In 1866, the telegraph had been brought to Taylor's Bridge by Edward Creighton's workmen as they worked to reach Virginia City, Montana. That same year, the first ditch was built by Thomas Lowder (or Lauder) taking water from Willow Creek where Highland Park in Idaho Falls is now located. This was probably the introduction of irrigation into the Snake River Valley.

High water in June 1867 washed out Taylor's Bridge, but it was soon rebuilt by the industrious men of that day. There was a lot of travel through the area by wagon and stagecoach. There were way-stations through the valley by this time. They included Gibson's at the mouth of the Blackfoot River, Yam Patch Inn located north of the present day town of Firth, Cedar Point located at the bend of the river north of Shelley, and Eagle Rock, both at the site of Taylor's Bridge after it was built and also nine miles up the river at the site of the first ferry. The Anderson family had a store at Eagle Rock. Also there was Market Lake located where Roberts is now and Sand Hole on Camas Creek. At these stations travelers were fed, fresh horses were available and also blacksmithing.

In 1870, a man by the name of Sawtelle built a small house at the base of the mountain that was named for him in the Island Park area. He ranched there and within a short time a way-station was in operation in that area. Also that year Keenan City, a mining town in the eastern part of what is now Bonneville County, had a population of about eight hundred people. Gold was discovered on Caribou Mountain there during that year.

Families were starting to settle in the Snake River Valley. A town was forming at Market Lake. In 1871, John and Albert Lyon settled on Lyon Creek which later became Lyman Creek. They were cattlemen, but were also the first crop farmers in the valley. In a couple of years, their brother-in-law, J. F. Barry joined them and they built the first four room house in the valley.



In 1872, Stevenson and Langford had ascended Mt. Hayden, the highest of the Teton Mountains and also Dr. Hayden reported seeing hay being harvested near Mt. Sawtelle. On March 1, 1872, Yellowstone Park was created. By this time people from the east had started coming to see the wonders of the west and stage lines were taking them through the area now known as Eastern Idaho, mostly coming through from the south. The Orville Buck family settled on Willow Creek in the spring of 1874. Mrs. Buck became an unofficial midwife in the valley. The first white child born at Taylor's Bridge was John D. Wright in 1874.

In 1875, herds of cattle ranged the Snake River Valley. On June 25, 1876 the Battle of the Little Bighorn occurred between the people of Chief Crazy Horse and General Custer and his men. During 1876 and 77 there was a smallpox epidemic among the Indian people in the area. Vaccine was brought from Fort Hall and Ogden, Utah, but many died.

In 1877, the Nez Perce War took place when settlers moved into Wallowa Valley where the Nez Perce people of Chief Joseph had lived in peace for many years. President Grant ordered the settlers to leave the valley and he set it aside as a reservation for the Nez Perce Indians (1873). The settlers refused to leave and in 1875, due to pressures from Oregon's Governor Grover and others, the government reversed that decree and allowed the settlers to homestead there. It finally resulted in skirmishes between the Nez Perce warriors and the armies. Chief Joseph led his people on the flight that took them across Idaho, into Montana, over Lolo Pass and back into Idaho. Major battles were fought at Whitebird, Clearwater, Big Hole, and Camas Creek to the north of Egin Bench. Jim Hayden's freight outfit was massacred at Birch Creek. The Nez Perce people covered about 1300 miles in about four months before Chief Joseph, because of the deplorable state of his people, gave his renowned speech of surrender, "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever", on October 5, 1877. There was a lot of aggression by other Indians about this time and in the summer of 1878, some of the people who had settled in the Snake River Valley gathered at Taylor's Bridge for protection. The Bannack Indian War occurred that year when the same Indians that fired upon a. D. Wilson's party of Geological Survey men at Henry's Lake were defeated at Heart Mountain by Colonel Miles' troops on September 4, 1878.



Many things were happening in the Upper Snake River Valley by the year 1879. In the spring of that year, John Poole explored and then later he settled Poole's Island. He was appointed as the first Presiding Elder for the L.D.S. Church in the area. When he arrived, he found the Joseph C. Fisher family had already located near the Menan Buttes. On June 12, 1879, the first train crossed the Snake River at Eagle Rock and the building of the railroad progressed to the north to the mining at Birch Creek, Nicholia, Viola, Salmon City, Spring Mountain and Yellow Jacket. Camas became the largest shipping point for nickel for a period of time and towns were developing at Market Lake, Camas and Dry Creek, which later became Dubois, and Market Lake later became Roberts. Towns were already established at Oneida, Oxford, Fort Hall, Blackfoot and Eagle Rock as the building of the railroad had progressed northward. Oxford was located west of Franklin and Preston and was first settled by the John Sant family, ancestors of the author of this book. The land office for this area was first located there before it was moved to Blackfoot.

The summer of 1879 was very dry and a prairie fire started in the area later called Sunnydell south of where Rexburg was later established. Sixty mile per hour winds carried the fire north to Island Park area and also into the Teton Basin. Two families that had made their homes in the area of Rexburg, the Barrys and Boquas, saved their homes by plowing around them.

SNAKE RIVER VALLEY

We're going to Snake River Valley
It is so beautiful there you see,
With rivers and mountains and prairies
And with deer running free as can be.

We'll build us a little log cabin
And a fence all around it, will be.
We will clear off some land for planting,
Lots of work there for you and for me.

We'll watch the sun rise o'er the Tetons
And set behind mountains in the west,
And if we obey God's commandments,
I know that we will always be blessed.

F.C.H.

PART II

SETTLERS TO EGIN BENCH 1879 - 1990

PIONEERS TO IDAHO

Come, come, come, it's time to go
On our way to Idaho.
Gather all the things to take
To build our home by the Snake.

Don't forget the children, dear.
We would miss them so, I fear.
They would cry their poor eyes out
Looking for us round-about.

So we have the wagon full.
It will be a load to pull.
Our good team is hitched to go,
Take us all to Idaho.

Gather 'round to say good-bye,
Don't let grandma see you cry.
Wrap the baby up so warm;
Keep her safe from any harm.

You boys will have to drive the sheep.
Little Anna, don't you weep.
Jennie, help your mother now,
Don't forget to watch the cow.

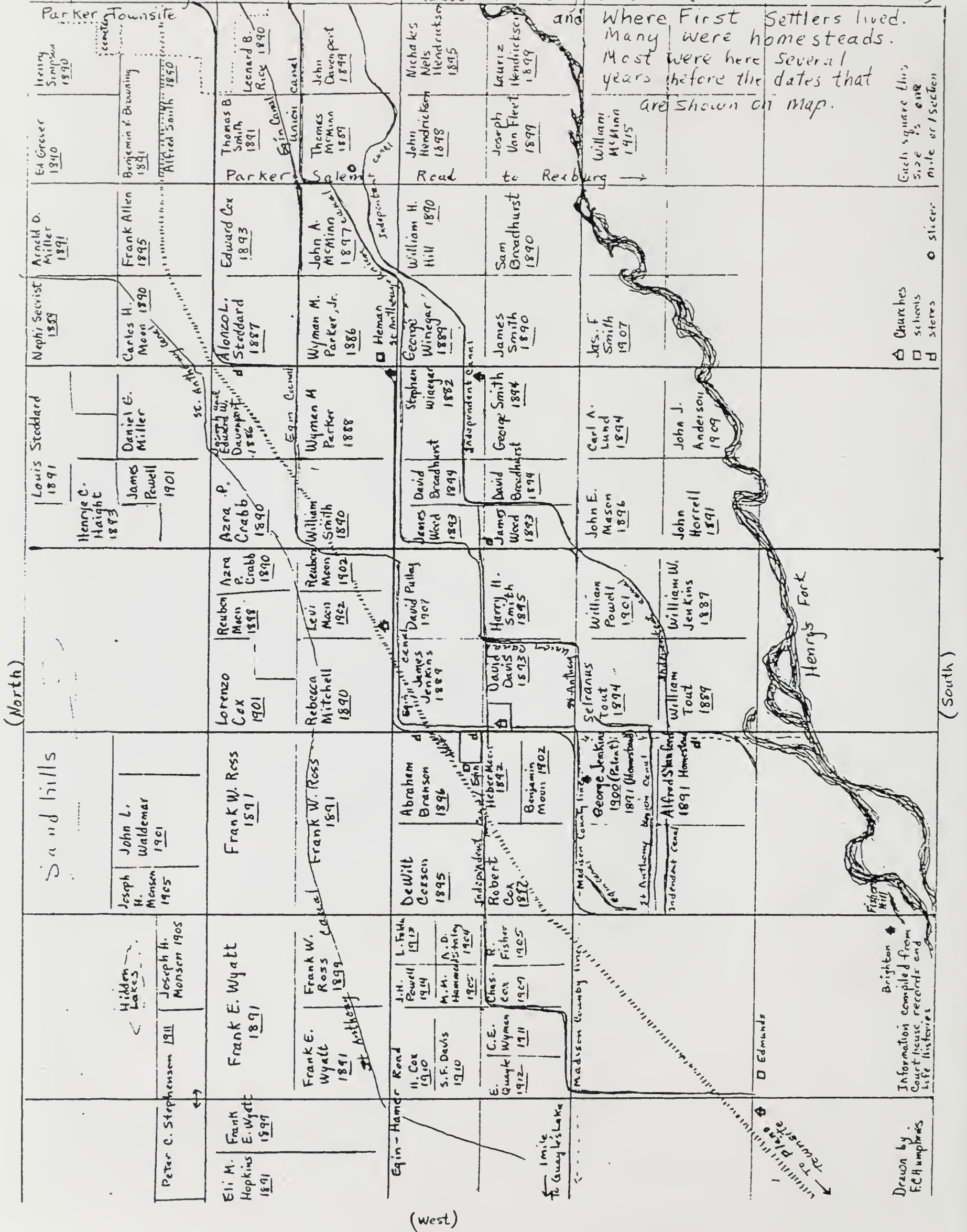
Off we go along the trail,
O'er the hills and through the dale.
Trudge along through the cold rain
And hot sunshine on the plain;

'Til at last we reach our goal,
Build our cabin on that knoll.
We will watch Snake River flow
Through the grassy banks below.

F.C.H.



Map showing when patents (First) were granted (under lined dates) and Where First Settlers lived. Many were homesteads. Most were here several years before the dates that are shown on map.



Brighton
Information compiled from Court house records and Life histories

Drawn by F.C. Humphreys

(West)

(North)

(South)

PART II Settlers Come to Egin Bench 1879 - 1990

During the summer of 1879, settlers came to Egin Bench, fifteen miles north from the Menan Buttes. One of the first families to arrive was Stephan Winegar and his sons, who came in early July. Another family that came was John Powell, whose wife was with him and was the first white woman to live on the north side of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. There were also Thomas and William McMinn, A. F. and Wyman Parker, William Rawson and his wife Mary, Sam and John Rawson, who came about that time, settling on Egin Bench.

Also coming to the Upper Snake River Valley area about the same time were H.Y. Yager, Mr. Wolf, Richard and William Broadhurst, George Beard, George Spencer, Thomas and William Pierce, Robert Greenwood, Samuel Haskell, A.P. Berry (or Barry), Thomas and Harry Smith, Dennis Small, George Young, Mr. Green and his son, and Mr. Sells and his daughters. There were also three trappers besides Beaver Dick who were living in the upper valley. They were William Beers, Robert Pugmire and Bill Robison.

Shortly after they arrived, a baby girl was delivered to Mr. & Mrs. Wyman Parker by Mrs. Orvill Buck, a midwife from the Eagle Rock area. This child may have been born at Eagle Rock, as other claims are made of who the first child born on Egin Bench was. One source gave Sarah Ann Powell daughter of John and Jane Powell as being the first, but searching further proved that she was a child about eight years of age when her parents came to be some of the first settlers on Egin Bench. Another source gave Louisa Emily Rawson, daughter of Frank and Lucy Rawson as being the first white child born in this part of the country on February 16, 1882. However, the life story of the John and Jane Powell family showed that their son, William Henry was born on August 18, 1881. It is uncertain to this author if this child was actually the first born on Egin Bench.

The first winter at Egin was very severe. The snow was deep and it was very cold. They did not have enough feed for their livestock and they lost many of them that winter. The river froze, causing the water to rise and flood two of the cabins which they had built on the lowlands, forcing about 20 people to spend the rest of the winter in one cabin.

Some say that without the assistance of Beaver Dick Leigh, they would not have made it through that first winter as good as they did. They found it necessary to help each other in order to survive and to overcome the problems that they encountered in this new wild country.

This first little settlement of cabins was located on the lowlands near the Henry's Fork of the Snake River, where the grass hay was plentiful and water was close by. The next summer, Stephan Winegar built the first house up on the bench in 1880. This house was located about a mile north of where their first cabins were.

They called the little settlement Garden Grove, but in 1880 when they applied for a post office, they were turned down because the name was too long and was already being used in other areas of the United States. They met together and the name was changed to Egin, from an Indian word meaning

cold. The Egin Post Office was established on July 19, 1880, with Adelbert F. Parker appointed Post Master by President Hayes. It served all of the area on Egin Bench and east to Cave Falls and north to Kilgore. George S. Winegar was appointed as Egin Postmaster on August 28, 1883 and he served for four years.

At this time (1880) about 1500 people came to Caribou City, located south east of Eagle Rock. They were drawn to that area by mining after gold was discovered on Caribou Mountain. The railroad had reached Silver Bow in Montana from Oregon that year.

As some people traveled through southeastern Idaho freighting or for various other reasons, they like what they saw there and eventually many people started coming to the area to make their homes, taking up homesteads. Many of the settlers coming were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, coming from Utah. A later part of this book will be devoted to the growth of this church on Egin Bench. For the present, we will consider only a few major events in this section.

The people coming to the 'Bench' soon realized that they needed water in order to raise crops there. They were an industrious, hard working people. In 1880, Richard Broadhurst, C. Harry Smith, George Spencer, Leonard Winegar, and Bill and Thomas McMinn surveyed for the Egin Canal. They used a go-devil and a spirit level on a long, straight two by four. By 1881, they had began to build the Egin Canal, having organized the Egin Canal Company. In two years, on June 1, 1883, water was first turned into the canal and soon water was being taken from the canal for irrigation. The Egin Canal was finally completed by 1886. It was not as large as it is today and it was sixteen miles long at that time. The work was done with shovels and slip scrapers being pulled by horses and guided from behind by a man, using lots of muscle and endurance. The first half mile was carved from the rock with hammer and chisel, with sweat, tears, and brawn. The men would camp along the canal where they were working and sometimes the women in that neighborhood would bring food to them. The labor performed was rewarded by shares of water. Other shares were sold.

BUILDING CANALS IN THE VALLEY

Heav-ho, get up there horse,
Let's pull another load.
We must build this canal
Before the days turn cold.

Heav-ho, just one more time,
Let's give it all you've got.
Pull it up and over
To fill that shallow spot.

Heav-ho, up on the bank,
This part will soon be done,
Just a little longer
Before the setting sun.

When we finish this job
And turn the water in,
We'll irrigate the grain
And hope to fill the bin.

It was back-breaking work for them to develop this new land. These were hard times with money scarce and they couldn't afford gloves and shoes so some of the men wrapped their fingers and palms with string dipped in bear grease to protect their hands from the hard labor as they built the canals and cleared their land. Many times their feet were wrapped in canvas for protection, sometimes in place of shoes or in order to save the only shoes they had.

After the canals were completed on Egin Bench it took time for the underground water level to raise sufficiently for the water to come into the wells and for the miracle of sub-irrigation to come to be. Note: To sub-irrigate, farmers put water onto the land through headgates into ditches and laterals from six to twenty rods apart. This raises the level of the sub-water which is controlled by the amount of water applied to the surface of the ground.

Besides being concerned about providing homes and the needs of life for their families, these early settlers were also concerned about the education of their children. The first school on Egin Bench was held in a log cabin which was built on the south part of the Winegar homestead for a place for people to meet, socialize and for the educating of their children. It was taught by George Wood and was a private school.

In 1883, the Rexburg town sight was chosen and the first cabin was built there for Jane Ricks, where the Madison County Courthouse now stands. John Powell and William Rawson from Egin Bench assisted in the building of that cabin. The post office was established there the following year on April 1, 1884 with Thomas Bassett as postmaster. For a time (1889-1892) the town was known as Kaintuck on postal records and then officially became Rexburg in 1892.

The first ferry across a river in the Upper Snake River Valley was built five miles west of Rexburg, across the Henry's Fork of the Snake River and was put into operation in 1883. It served many travelers until it was discontinued about 1890. It was known as the Ricks & Company Ferry.

Also in 1883, the town sight for Parker was chosen on the 'Bench' and was named for Wyman Parker, who was the Presiding Elder of the L.D.S. Church in the branch that was established there. The cemetery was also started there in 1884 with Thomas Parker being the first person buried there.

Other areas that were being settled about this time was Wilford, where the Birch brothers came first, followed by the Nelson, Heninger, Singleton, and Chase families. (See History of Wilford by Ruby D. Johnson.) William F. Rigby had a sawmill running in the valley.

By 1884, there were about 1500 acres under cultivation in the Upper Valley, and that was the year that L.D.S. Church President John Taylor blessed the land and all therein, at a conference meeting held under the old bowery in Rexburg.

In 1885, Joseph Curr settled in the Fall River area, which was later known as Chester and James Siddoway became Teton's first settler. He put in a water wheel and together with William Naylor built the Teton Flour Mill.

On Egin Bench more families were coming. When the Lem Rice and Henry Jenkins families arrived from Canada in 1885, they found the following families were already there: Harry Simpson, Joe Rudd, Frank Mason, Alfred Smith, Len Rice, George Crapo, Arnold Miller, William Carbine and Wyman Parker. Most of these families were from Farmington, Utah and had settled at the eastern part of the 'bench' where Parker was being established.

At this time, there were no bridges across the Snake River except at Eagle Rock. When the rivers were low, they would ford them. It was often quite treacherous to make these crossings. One place where the people of the Egin Bench area frequently forded the Henry's Fork was called Eagle Nest Ford and was probably near where the bridge now crosses the river. It was one of the best fords anywhere along the river. When the water was high, they had to cross at the ferry west of Rexburg, with travel being done on the west side of the river from Eagle Rock to the ferry and then over to Rexburg to the east or coming on north onto the 'bench'. Most shopping was done at Market Lake, where the railroad went through to Montana. Many of the settler's families were coming to there by train and being met by husbands who had come ahead to build cabins and prepare for them. Whenever someone made a trip to Market Lake they usually shopped for others who could not go, and the mail was also brought in from there. About that time, pay for a full days work pitching hay was one dollar and a sack of flour cost \$3.00.

Some of the other families that had come to Egin Bench by 1885 included William Powell, Frances Rawson, James G. Wood, H. A. and Jacob Grover, Joseph C. and Edward W. Davenport, William Chandler, Ephriam W. Jenkins, James and Hyrum Lucas, James Horby Mason, David Davis, Sam Smith, Nephi Secrist, Thomas Workman, David Edgar and Daniel Gardner Miller, the Stoddards, Hiatts, and Fishers.

On January 16, 1885, Bingham County was created with Blackfoot as the county seat. It included the area which is now Bingham, Bonneville, Jefferson, Madison, and Fremont counties. By that time, the Oregon Shortline Railroad had been completed between Omaha, Nebraska and Portland, Oregon.

In 1886, a group of men from Egin Bench built a road seventy miles long through the Fall River Meadows to the Lewis and Clark Fork River. These men included the Winegar brothers, William and Richard Broadhurst, A.F. Parker, Andy McMinn, and Samuel, James and C.H. Smith.

It has been recorded that by 1886, there were 7744 acres cultivated land in the Upper Snake River Valley. That was also the year of the diptheria epidemic in that area. It is believed that about sixty-eight people died.

In 1887, the first newspaper in the Upper Valley was the 'Rexburg Press', which was founded by Phineas Tempest and succeeded by the 'Silver Hammer', which was edited by Ben E. Ricks, during that year. Also in 1887, Willis Winegar took the first contract to carry mail, receiving \$54.00 per year.

The first building on the St. Anthony townsite was a blacksmith shop built by othe Egin Ditch Company and Davenport Brothers, when they made a saw mill beside the Egin Canal, where they cut over sixty thousand feet of lumber.

The St. Anthony Union Canal was started in 1886 and finished in 1887. It was surveyed the same as the Egin Canal, using a spirit level attached to a straight board which was 16.5 feet long and had two legs, with the lower leg being one eighth of an inch longer than the upper one, thus giving and eighth of an inch fall per rod to the canal. It got its name because it merges with the St. Anthony Canal at the west end of the bench after traveling about thirteen miles. A diversion stream branches off along the south edge of the sands and becomes Hidden Lake.

A meeting was held on October 15, 1887 at Parker for the shareholders in the Egin Irrigating Company, for the purpose of increasing the capitol stock of the company. A.D. Miller, Alfred Stanford, W.M. Parker, M.L. Stoddard and William Broadhurst were trustees of the company with W.M. Parker as secretary.

On November 10, 1887, Wyman M. Parker, Jr. was appointed post master of the Egin Post office following George S. Winegar. The next year service to the northeast was discontinued at Egin when Charles H. Moon was named as the post master of St. Anthony on October 3, 1888. The St. Anthony Post Office was established in 1887 and Brighton was established in 1888 and it was then changed to Edmunds in 1889 with William Coxson as Postmaster. Edmunds was discontinued in 1905. Also the Plano Post Office was created later in 1898 with Ralph Bartlett as Postmaster until it was discontinued in 1905.

The Territory of Idaho was nearly changed several times between the years of 1863 and 1890. Washington Territory wanted the northern part and asked the United States for it in 1866, 1874 and again in 1882. Montana also wanted the Coeur d'Alene mining district and Nevada made plans in 1887 to take part of the Idaho Territory if Washington took the northern part. Also some people wanted the southern part to become part of Utah. Governor Stevenson telegraphed President Grover Cleveland informing him that the people of Idaho wanted to keep the Idaho boundaries as they were and President Cleveland never signed the bill that would have split the territory. By 1888, the United States Government was considering making Idaho Territory into a state. The territorial government placed a university at Moscow and in 1889, a group met and wrote a state constitution. There needed to be sixty-thousand people before they could become a state. A census taken early in 1890 showed there to be over 88,000 people in Idaho Territory, so on July 3, 1890, President Benjamin Harrison signed the bill making Idaho the forty-third state. The capitol was located at Boise.

The following year on January 2, 1891, Eagle Rock was changed to Idaho Falls. During that same year, an outbreak of diptheria in the valley brought death to at least twenty persons.

On March 4, 1893, Governor McConnell approved an act creating Fremont County from Bingham County. This was the first county to be created after Idaho became a state. The following were the first county officers: F. A. Pyke, R. J. Jardine and John Donaldson as County Commissioners; F. S. Bramwell as District Court Clerk, J. B. Cutshaw as Sheriff, T. J. Winter as Treasurer, Miles R. Cahoon as Probate Judge, Milo Adams as Surveyor and Wyman Parker, Sr. as Coroner. St. Anthony was the temporary county seat even though it was made up of only a few cabins at the time. After some tension between people in the area, St. Anthony was made the permanent county seat on September 22, 1894.

In 1893, a bridge was built of timber across the South Fork of the Snake River at Lorenzo, south of Rexburg, to make travel up the valley easier. It soon collapsed under the weight of a herd of cattle. It was eventually rebuilt.

On April 13, 1893, Lemuel T. Rice became Postmaster on Egin Bench. He had a merchantile at the Parker townsite so the post office was moved to Parker on May 18, 1894. The people to the south west wanted to have a post office closer, so after two months, President Cleveland re-instated the Egin Post Office on July 9, 1894. with Charlotte Davenport acting as a post mistress. She was followed by Annie Smith on October 2, 1894.

Work was started on the Indepentent Canal in 1895 and it took three years to build it fifteen miles long. Today it runs for 24 miles through the Egin Bench area. They built the Last Chance Canal in 1899. It was contracted by Lemuel Rice and Joseph Rudd with Samuel Smith as foreman. They were also assisted by E.J. Rudd and Clem Rice. It travels for seventeen miles over the northern area of the 'bench'.

In 1897, the telephone from Market Lake to St. Anthony was put in. Gideon and Willis Winegar from Egin helped cut and haul the poles from the Island Park area for the line. A directory published in January 1902 had thirty-four telephones listed with only six of those being residences. It was many years before most people were able to have a telephone in their homes in the rural areas. At this time, land with permanent water rights was selling from \$15.00 to \$50.00 per acre and land without water was selling for one dollar per acre.

In 1898, the steel railroad bridge was built at Eagle Rock and on July 19, a contract was made to run the railroad from 'Sand holes' on the Oregon Short Line in an easterly direction to St. Anthony through the Edmunds, Egin and Parker communities, approximately thirty miles. Also that year, the Fremont County Journal Newspaper was started at St. Anthony.

By 1900, numerous families had taken up homesteads to the north of Egin Bench in an area just north of the sand hills. They found it very hard to farm there and after repeated crop failures from drought and from plagues of crickets, most of them moved from that area, many of them coming back to the Egin-Parker area by about 1910.

In May of 1899, they began building the railroad from Idaho Falls to St. Anthony. It was completed and a grand celebration was held on December 8, 1899 with many railroad and state government officials being present. General Manager of the Oregon Shortline was W. H. Bancroft, one of the best railroad men of the West. Other officials were David Burley, Dan S. Spencer and S. W. Eccles, who had recommended the development of the railroad in this area along with William F. Rigby, a member of the state legislature. Rigby was very involved with getting the railroad through and helped secure the right-of-ways for it.

The Snake River Telephone Company was incorporated and they built a toll line from Market Lake to Rexburg in 1899.

On December 20, 1900, Isaac Packer became Egin Postmaster with the post office in his store located on Judge James G. Woods property (where the Ernest and Luella Orr home is located in 1990).

The United States Census taken in 1900 showed 865 people living at St. Anthony, Idaho, which was still not incorporated at that time. Fremont County had a population of 12,000 people. In just two years, the population at St. Anthony was calculated as 1,346 people. There was a completed Presbyterian Church, a Methodist Church, a better school being built and plans for an Opera House, flour mill, hotel and a park.

The year 1901 brought the beginning of sugar beet industry in the Upper Snake River Valley. In 1904, a contract for building a six hundred ton sugar factory plant (which was also known as a cutting plant or most commonly called the 'slicer') to be built about six miles north west of the main sugar plant, which was built in 1903 at Sugar City. The auxiliary plant or 'slicer' was built near the Union and Independent Canals along the present-day Salem-Parker Road. There was a rock cistern where the beets were dumped and juiced. It was connected to the Sugar City plant by a pipe line to carry the beet juice from Egin to Sugar City. Men like Nephi Orgill had to check the pipeline every day to make sure there were no leaks along the line. The Sugar City factory was the largest sugar factory in the United States at that time. The plant at Egin operated until 1915, when it was dismantled. The sketch at the bottom of this page depicts what is remaining today of the rock cistern. The beets processed in this plant were all hauled in a wagon pulled by a team of horses similar to the sketch below. The plant at Sugar City reached it's peak year in 1933. It was eventually closed and by 1947, had also been dismantled. After that the beets were hauled to various beet dumps on the railroad and were transported by railway to the Lincoln Sugar Factory located east of Idaho Falls. By the 1970's there were very few sugar beets being raised on Egin Bench.

Shortly after 1900, preparations were being made for electricity to come to the area. In August, 1901, F. W. Blackford, who was an agent for Hodges Brothers Bank in Butte, Montana, made an agreement with the Egin Canal Company granting a right of way where the Egin Canal left the river to where a power plant was to be built. This power plant was completed in June 1902, and street lights were turned on in St. Anthony for the first time shortly after. This was just a start. More time and work was needed before electricity was available to the people on Egin Bench.

Changes came in the postal service to the area quite frequently. Lucy Workman was appointed as a post mistress at Parker on February 7, 1901 to replace Emiline Winegar. Ruth A. Stanford was named Egin Postmistress on April 15, 1902, until June 24, 1904, when President Theodore Roosevelt appointed Andrew Anderson as post master. The Post Office was located in his store at the Egin townsite, where Jim Dunn lives today. The Egin Post Office was discontinued on August 15, 1907 and the mail service was moved to the Parker Post Office for the area. The mail still had pick up and delivery at Anderson's store and this service was still provided after John and Ada Leedom bought the store. The deliveries were made by the St. Anthony to Roberts Stage Line, which went through Egin with passengers and mail. Then from February 20, 1908 to November 30, 1942, Martin Davis was the mail carrier, using a one horse cart to deliver the mail for many years, in Egin.



The Egin Twonsite was dedicated on May 6, 1902. The document drawn up read as follows;

"Know all men by these presents, that we, William Tout and Katie Tout, his wife, Abraham Branson and Louisa Branson, his wife, and David D. Davis and Lovisa G. Davis, his wife, do hereby set apart and dedicate as the townsite of Egin, Fremont County, Idaho, the following described tract of land, to-wit:

South half of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter; the north half of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 14, and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 15, Township 7 North, Range 39, EBM.

And we hereby give, grant and dedicate as thoroughfares all streets, with width and length designated on a plat, subject to the control of the properly constituted authorities thereof. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this sixth day of May, 1902."

Signatures witnessed by I. A. Packer, who had just built a new store on the new site, and Freeman D. Higley, who owned much of the townsite land.

The town was laid out in blocks 33 rods square. Four blocks were west of the Egin Canal and four blocks east of it. Main Street had lanes on both sides of the Egin Canal. The west side lane ended on the south at the Independent Canal. The east lane extended south one more block to include the Egin Church. Other streets parallel to Main Street were Tout Street, one block east, and Branson Street, one block west. Davis Street bisected Main Street and paralleled the Independent Canal for four blocks. Higley Street paralleled Davis Street one block to the north. The Townsite Plat was notarized by Alfred Stanford and was recorded May 24, 1902.

In 1903, Charles C. Moore, Fremont County Representative, introduced a bill that brought the State Industrial School to St. Anthony. (Note: Charles C. Moore was a teacher in St. Anthony and also at Heman around 1900. He was elected Lieutenant Governor of Idaho in 1918 and served two terms and then he was elected Governor and served two more terms.) The cornerstone for the school was laid in 1903 and the first superintendent was Professor H.S. Humpherys.

Towns and communities were really growing around the valley by the early 1900's and on January 14, 1906, the town of Ashton was incorporated. In August of that year, the little town of Teton had completed a water works plant, giving them electric lights. The town of Parker had fourteen businesses which included a hotel.

The Fremont County Courthouse was built in 1909 in St. Anthony. It was designed by Wayland and Fennell of Boise and built by Perham and Harris. The brick came from Utah and the cost was \$47,000.

There was an outbreak of typhoid fever in the community of Egin about 1909 and several families lost loved ones to the disease.

About 1910, John T. Fisher, who had homesteaded on Egin Bench in 1884, became Sheriff of Fremont County, after having served as a county commissioner for several years, beginning in 1898. He served as sheriff again from 1915 to 1918. On November 18, 1913, Fremont County was divided, taking from it Madison and Jefferson Counties.

In 1914, the West Belt Loop of the Union Pacific Railroad was built through Egin. A siding for the Heman Potato Company was first called Davenport Siding and then changed to Heman. There was a beet dump there, as well as the potato operation belonging to the Davenports and Remingtons.

April 6, 1917, Congress of the United States declared war against Germany. The Second Idaho Regiment was called to serve and included soldiers from Egin. One of those soldiers was Otto Neilson.

The Prohibition Amendment to the Idaho State Constitution became effective on May 1, 1917 and Idaho became a 'dry' state.

On March 4, 1917, was the first dog race from Ashton to West Yellowstone that was held for many years. This was an event that brought people from many places into Fremont County to participate and to observe. A special train came from Pocatello at one time to bring people to the races.

In September 1918, the United States government required all men of the ages 18-46 to register and they were then subject to draft for military duty as needed. On November 11, 1918, the armistice was signed, ending World War I. This was a day of rejoicing for the people throughout the land. 1918 was also the year of a very bad flu epidemic in Southeastern Idaho.

On February 1, 1919, Clark County was created from the western part of Fremont County.

Ten years later on October 29, 1929, came the crash of the stock market which put the United States into a depression. The following years were very hard for most people. Sometimes the wages for a hard days work was only a dollar and many people could not find any employment, even at those low wages. Some left the area to seek work in other areas. During the fall of 1931, there were many farm foreclosures. There was also a drought condition in the area, making the situation very bleak for many. In the fall of 1932, the price of hay was \$5.00 a ton, for a large cow was \$25.00, a large pig was \$8.00 to \$10.00, a dozen eggs was ten cents and a pound of butter was fifteen cents.

Then in March of 1933, the banks closed for two weeks. After they reopened the government became more involved in the economy and gradually conditions improved in the country. With the coming of World War II, people began to prosper again. The Island Park Reservoir was being constructed during the depression in the 'thirties' and men worked for fifty cents to \$1.25 per hour, depending on the work they did and if they used their equipment. In 1933, land on Egin Bench was selling for about \$100.00 per acre. A good used tractor could be bought for about \$250.00 and in 1936, a new car cost from 6 to 9 hundred dollars, depending on the make and model.

In 1933, an archaeological dig uncovered evidence of old Fort Henry. In 1937, Beaver Dick Park was dedicated west of Rexburg, honoring the early trapper-settler whose first family died in that area. His daughters, Emma and Rose were both in attendance at the dedication.

With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, the United States went into World War II. During the war, some people left the area to work in ship yards and other jobs associated with production for the war. Some things like gasoline, tires, sugar, and shoes were rationed and stamp books were issued to each family, giving them an allotment of what they could buy of the rationed items. Many families had someone serving their country during that war. Some of the young men gave their lives in defense of our country and our freedom. Among them were Ray Josephson, son of Isaac and Hilda Josephson, Tad Otto Neilson, son of Otto and Ora Neilson. and there may have been others of which this author is not aware. How proud we should be to pay tribute to those who made that great sacrifice for freedom and also to their families. It was a wonderful day on May 8, 1945 when the war in Europe ended, known as V-E Day. V-J Day came August 14, 1945 when the war was ended with Japan. During the war Irene Weaver and Raymond Mason served with the Fremont County Civil Defense.

Young men from the area also served in the United States Armed Forces when the country was involved in action in Korea about 1950, and again in Vietnam about 1968.

In February 1948, 21 school districts in Fremont County were consolidated into the one district that exists today. The local schools of Heman and Egin were closed at that time.

On August 17, 1959, the Hebgen Lake earthquake, which was centered to the north near the Idaho-Montana state line, was felt throughout Eastern Idaho. It affected some of the wells in the Egin area and left a few cracks in concrete, knocked things from shelves, and awakened people in the night in the Upper Snake River Valley.

Another event which affected many people in the Upper Snake River Valley was the Teton Dam breaking on June 5, 1976 and flooding thousands of acres, wiping out most of the Wilford and Sugar City area, affecting a great part of Rexburg except the part built on the hill, and flooding the lower areas near the river as it went down stream along the Snake River. Eleven people died as a result of the flood, but it was a miracle that more were not lost. The people on Egin Bench could see the flood water enter the Henry's Fork just south of Egin. Some had family who lived in the flooded area. Most people in the valley were affected in some way by this disaster.

Through this century of development and growth, many changes have taken place. In farming, which has been the occupation of most of the people who have lived on Egin Bench, the changes have been great. When the settlers first came, they actually carried water to make a few things grow. As they developed the irrigation system with canals to carry water onto the land that they had cleared, they were able to accomplish complete cultivation in time. The first crops were grain, alfalfa and sometimes corn. At one time, a molasses mill was built just across the Egin Canal south of the Ed Cox homestead, where they processed the sugar cane that was being grown. It was operated by a man by the name of Larsen.

The potatoes were first raised in gardens to supply the needs of the families. Eventually, they realized that potatoes and sugar beets did well in the Egin area. The early methods of planting and harvesting were laborious and slow, done by dropping seed potatoes into furrows by hand. Gradually equipment was developed to make it easier and faster, first planting a row at time, then two and now they do six rows at once. Because the soil is sandy on the 'bench', potato combines were first successfully used here. The yield of potatoes is excellent and high quality, smooth, uniform potatoes are usually harvested on Egin Bench. They are usually slightly darker in color than those grown in lower elevations. The first potato storage was built about 1917. (See Part 3 for information about potato businesses.)

The raising of sugar beets was common soon after 1900, but since 1970 we rarely see them grown in this area. (Some information on the beets has already been given).

Seed peas were raised in the area about 1925-1945 and at one time St. Anthony was the seed pea capitol of the world with seven companies located there. Many people were employed by them, especially young ladies.

Methods of farming changed greatly through the years from man-powered shovel, fork and scythe to horse-drawn machinery to high powered, technical tractors and equipment. Growing crops by using the unique sub-irrigation was the accepted way for the farmers until about 1980, when sprinkler systems started to appear on the 'bench' and by 1990, most of the farms are using them. Sub-irrigation has become difficult for those who still use it, as the underground water plane does not rise sufficiently at times.

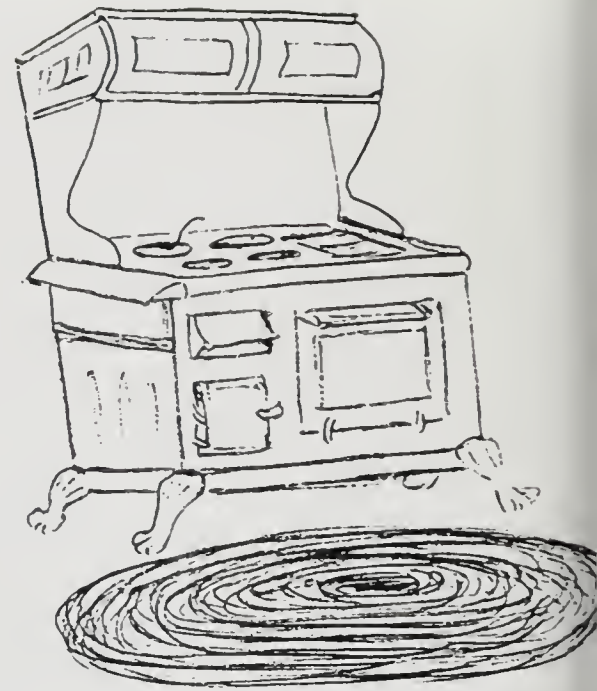
The economy of the nation has changed a great deal and during the 1970's prices sky-rocketed, actually to triple the amount of the cost for some things in a short period of time. Many wives went to work to help meet the expenses of their families and the high cost of living.

Miraculous discoveries have been made by men and those who have lived through the greater part of this century have seen travel progress from horse-drawn buggies and wagons to fast automobiles, buses, trains and airplanes and have even seen rocket ships carry men into space. Medical discoveries have made it possible for men to live with artificial limbs and organs and the average life span of man has been extended many years.

A common evening meal in the days of the settler was a bowl of 'lumpy-dick' which was made by stirring lumps of flour and cream into hot milk. Today the family eats a full course meal of vegetables, meat and desserts, sometimes prepared in their microwave in just minutes. The housewife of that day washed

clothes by hand in a tub with a scrub board and then later with a hand turned washing machine. She heated the water on top of the hot kitchen range which was usually burning wood but sometimes coal too. She had to carry the water in and sometimes it had to be hauled from somewhere before she could start her washing. She heated her old flat iron on the top of that hot stove and pressed the wrinkles out of the clothes. She cooked their meals on top of that hot stove, even in the heat of the summer.

Some of us in 1990 can only imagine the excitement of getting electricity for the first time. For those of us who experienced it, it was a great occasion. The neighbors gathered at the homes of those who had the first electricity, the first radio, the first telephone or the first refrigerator to see how it worked. Another welcome improvement to the home was indoor plumbing.



THE OUT-HOUSE

By Fern C. Humphries

Some folks called it 'the privy'
And others called it 'the john'.
Some folks called it 'the out-house'
And were glad when it was gone.

It was only four by five
With cracks that let in some light,
And when the wind blew so hard,
Snow or Sand drifted into sight.

The first one out in the morning,
Had to clear a path to it's door
And brush the snow from the seat
Onto the rough wooden floor.

The paper that was always there
Was never the soft white roll;
Pages from the old catalog
Were dispensed down hand-hewn hole.

How blessed the day we welcomed
Indoor plumbing that came to be,
And the trek out to the out-house
Was no longer necessity.



A few remnants of the past remain about the community as reminders to the older people of their youth and their growing-up years in a rural area. A few homes that were built around 1900 do remain, some much as they were in their original state, others built onto and changed so they no longer look as they did then. Some families have saved or collected and placed in their yards some of the relics of the past including parts of old wagons and of farm equipment that was used in the early days as the pioneers of this land worked to develop their farms. Occasionally we may see the remains of an old granary or of an old barn, usually not being used as it originally was.

THE OLD BARN

The old barn stands deserted now,
The door hinges are coming off,
A shaft of sun leaks through the roof
On old hay molding in the loft.

It stands a symbol of the past,
Of the farmer who labored there
To build it so that it would last
Through the years as he toiled with care;

A symbol of a by-gone time
When all the work was done by hand,
From dawn 'til dark, he worked so hard
As he plowed up the rich brown land.

As crops he gathered in the fall
And stored beneath those rustic beams,
He taught his children how to work,
The joys of life fulfilled his dreams.

'Tis a symbol of love of life
And of enduring to the end,
Always serving and protecting,
Standing by as a loyal friend.

F.C.H.



The main means of providing for families that live on Egin Bench has been farming. The first settlers to come to the area came to take up the land, building their homes and clearing the land for cultivation. They plowed and planted crops with their hand hewn tools before the irrigations systems were built, depending on rain to bring the moisture needed to make them grow.

The following poem is dedicated to these first farmers, but should also serve as a reminder to the people of today that they should be thankful that this simple hand plow has become obsolete many years ago and has been replaced by all forms of modern machinery that makes it possible to farm many acres of land in the same length of time it once took for a few acres.

PIONEER FARMER

He trudges along behind his horse
Guiding the old hand plow,
As the forged blade turns over the soil
The sweat runs down his brow.

From dawn to dark they work together
Beneath the searing sun
Testing the strength of man and beast
Until the field is done.

He plants the crop with faith and a prayer
That good spring rains will flow
To bring the moisture that is needed
To make his first crop grow.

May we of modern day remember
This hardy pioneer
Who worked so hard to break this land
That is our home so dear.

F.C.H.



With the changing times, many things became obsolete, including the old hand pump. The coal oil and kerosene lamps and lantern were no longer essential after electricity became available. Our lives have changed greatly during this century and we now live in a world filled with complicated, automatic, computerized, technical devices that make up what is referred to as a push button world.



WINDS OF IDAHO

By Fern C. Humphries

There is one thing sure that I know,
There's lots of wind in Idaho.

The soft morning breeze in the grass
Coming down from an eastern pass,
Melting snow in a warm chinook,
Turning it to a new spring brook;
Cooling the day in hot July,
Whipping clothes hanging out to dry,
Tumbling weeds across the land,
Building mountains out of sand;
Stripping the golden autumn leaves
And making naked all the trees,
Bringing down the cold northern air
And making snow drifts everywhere;
Chilling a man right to the bone
When he listens to it moan.

Newcomers to this land soon know,
There's lots of wind in Idaho.

The following section of this book tells just a little about some of the business ventures that have existed on 'the Bench' through the years other than farming, which had been the most important occupation for residents of the area. (Note: The businesses included here are not in the actual order that they were established.)

The first business was very likely operated by the Winegar family in their home, where they sold a few necessities and had a post office for an unknown length of time.

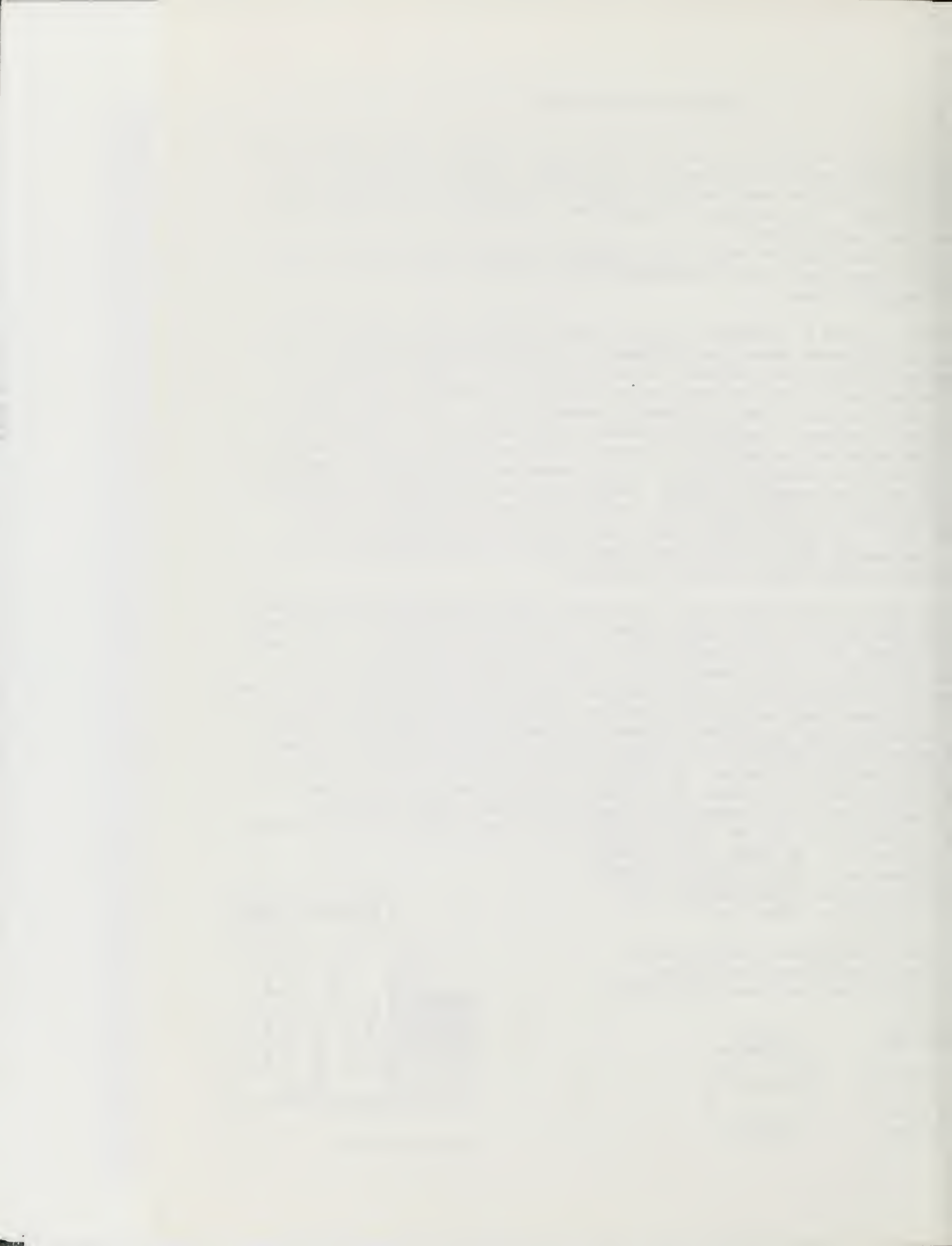
In 1883, Edward W. Davenport and his wife Clarissa came to Egin Bench settling on 160 acres where the old Heman railroad siding was later. They soon opened a store in an addition on the north side of their log home, which was located on the southeast corner of their homestead. (This land is still owned by descendants of Edward Davenport, Sr.) In 1886, their son Joseph C. Davenport bought their home, land, and store. Joseph later built a new store on the south east corner of the north half of the homestead (where Bryon Davenport's home is now) sometime before 1890. Besides operating the store with his family, Joseph also hauled produce and supplies from Market Lake to Dillon, Montana. He died on one of these freighting trips in 1894. If this business was closed because of his death is not known. The second store would have looked similar to the drawing on this page which was done from an actual photograph.

About 1900, Isaac Packer had a store with a post office and weigh station which was located on the Judge James G. Wood half section that was later owned by Joseph Orr and his descendants and is on the east side of the road one mile east of the Egin townsite. Mr. Packer sold the building to a Mr. Lund and it was moved to the Egin townsite, where he run the store for a time.

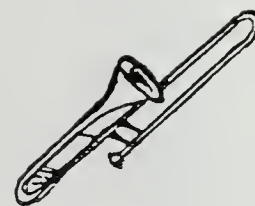
Mr. Lund soon sold his store to Andrew Anderson and information was found indicating that an Andrew Anderson was operating a store with a post office about 1904, located at the corner north of where the canal crosses the road at the Egin townsite. (Jim Dunn's residence is now located there.) It was called Anderson's Store and tokens like the drawing on this page, showing both sides of the token, were used for trade in the Anderson's Store. It was later sold to John and Ada Leedom, who operated a store there until at least 1925 or later. Mrs. Leedom was blind and had a great love for others, especially children. This couple never had any children of their own.

Around 1900, Alfred Stanford also ran a store located about a mile and one-half south of the present Egin Store.





During the early days when people were first getting established in this area, they had to be very resourceful to provide the needs of their families. Many people trapped, hunted, and fished the river, selling their catches to people in other areas. Every winter when the river was frozen, ice was cut in blocks and hauled up to be stored in sawdust in ice houses for later use. This was the only means of refrigeration until electricity was available to the area. Some men did freighting or worked as guides to help provide for their families. Many families sold the produce from their land and their labor directly to the folks in the nearby towns as they developed, including milk, eggs, and butter, vegetables and berries.

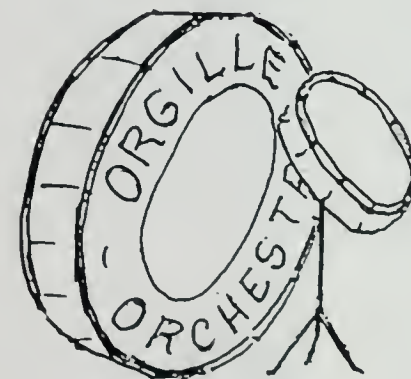


Sam Smith and his family operated a dairy and he delivered door-to-door in St. Anthony in his horse drawn buggy with 'Hillside Dairy' on the sides. This was probably about 1910.



Some families used their talents in music to help provide for their families: One such family was the Nephi Orgill family, who had a good sized orchestra and traveled around the Upper Snake River Valley playing for dances. Another group of musicians was the Mason's from Parker and later Ross Dunn had an orchestra that played for many years even into the 1970's.

Around the turn of the century, the community of Parker on the eastern end of 'the bench' was a fast growing little town and numerous businesses were being established there, which was an asset to all the people in the area. The Mason brothers opened a barber shop on January 24, 1907, at which time there were fourteen businesses including a hotel opened by E. H. Lee in 1906. We might note here that in 1907 flour was selling for \$.65 per sack at Miller Brothers in St. Anthony. Several stores came and went including the Parker Co-op where the basic staples were sold for several years, and one owned by Frank Bramwell, followed by Claus Karlson from 1900 to 1905 and then William Remington for several years. Jed Earl built his store in Parker about 1908 and that business existed through two locations and several owners until the Millwards sold it to Dan Neville in 1953 and he ran it until 1972. At one time there were also a roller skating rink, and hall, a lumber yard, a confectionery, and even a millinery shop in Parker. From 1910 to 1930 there was a creamery on the corner west of Parker on the corner by Crapo Brothers Trucking Shop, and Alex McFarland from the Heman area had a drive-in eating place on that same corner for awhile.



In 1904 the Utah and Idaho Sugar Company began building the auxiliary plant which was also known as 'the slicer', on the Parker-Salem road and a hotel was built there to house those who worked at the plant. The Nephi and Emily Vawdry family ran the hotel, where the men ate and slept in shifts and the beds were changed after each shift. The sheets were laundered and pressed daily by Emily and her daughters, using the old flat irons and the hot cooking range of that day to heat the water and the irons and also to cook the meals for each shift of men.

The use of the slicer was discontinued and beet dumps were built at Plano, Egin and Parker when the Railroad was built across the length of the bench about 1915. A ramp was built at each location where the team of horses pulled the wagon up and the beets were dumped down into the railroad cars, to then be hauled to the factory at Sugar City, or Idaho Falls area.

A large cattle company had their headquarters on the corner north of the present Egin store. This company was there by 1891 and was run by Frank W. Ross and F. E. Wyatt. They took over the St. Anthony Union Canal system and had contracted to get the construction done to complete it. This company may have been the same as the Egin Bench Ranch Company or the Egin Bench Land and Cattle Company that at one time owned about three square miles from that corner running west and to the sandhills.

Another large livestock company that operated in Fremont County early in the development of the area was the Wood Livestock Company, but their main operation was not in Egin. Through the years the Siddoway's Sheep and the Engett's Sheep Companies have had part of their operation in Egin, especially their lambing sheds, and are still located in Egin at the present time, both being to the north of the Egin townsite a mile or two.

As irrigation systems were developed and farming techniques were improved, the people of the area found that beets and potatoes both did well in the sandy sub-irrigated soil of Egin Bench. An early packing and shipping operation for the potatoes grown was developed at the Heman Siding after the railroad came to the bench, by Charles S. Davenport and J.J. Remington, shortly after 1915.

Sometime in the 1920's the partnership of Frank W. Ross and F. E. Wyatt built a dirt potato pit and scale house at Egin and also one at Parker. Elmer Rigby, of Idaho Falls ran the first potatoes stored in this pit at Egin and he hired B. M. Tibbitts, Sr. to work for him in 1928. At this time the potatoes were hauled to the pit by team and wagon.

A short time later B. M. Tibbitts, Sr., in partnership with Gene Zundel, purchased this operation. About 1932, they built a small potato warehouse. About 1933, they also purchased an operation in Rigby and they ran both of the operations under the name of Tibbitts and Zundel, Inc. Mr. Zundel was manager of the Rigby operation and Mr. Tibbitts of the Egin operation. As both families grew, they found the need to dissolve the partnership, so



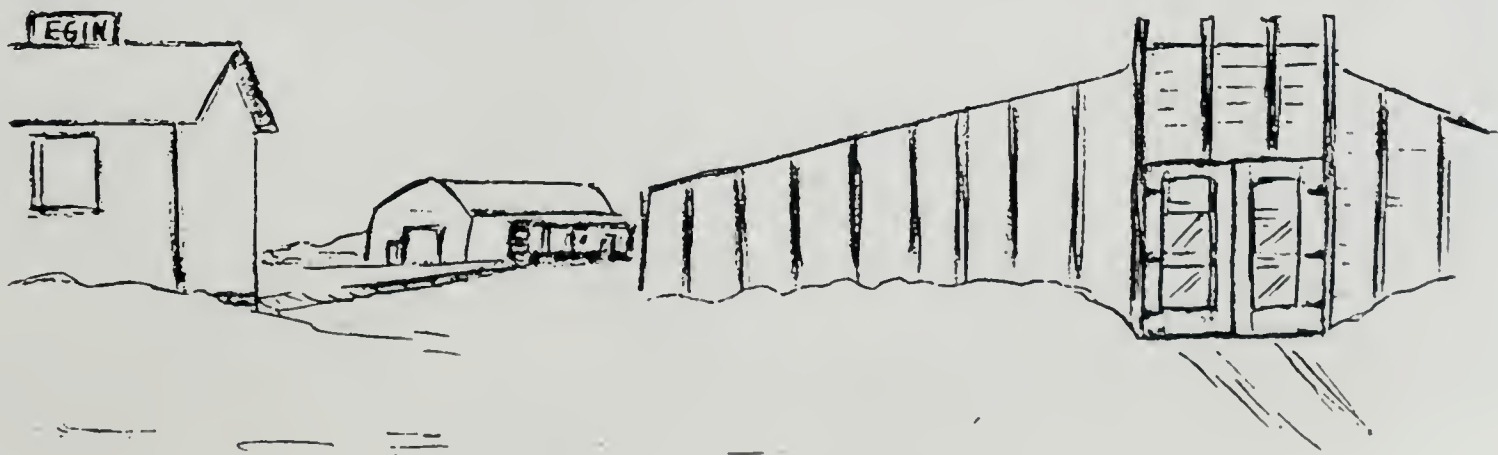
Mr. Zundel took the Rigby operation and Mr. Tibbitts the one in Egin. The original warehouse where they sorted, packed and shipped the potatoes burned down in 1948. It was completely rebuilt on a better and larger scale. About 1950, Mr. Tibbitts formed a partnership with his two sons, Byron, Jr. and Cleve under the name of B. M. Tibbitts and Sons. After that they expanded their operation to include farming and cattle, located to the west on two different pieces of property.

About 1957, Lew Brainard, who married B. M. Tibbitts, Sr.'s daughter, Darlene, joined the business. By the 1960's they had one of the largest potato storage buildings in Idaho, capable of storing over 100,000 cwt. It was built of clear-span steel and concrete, insulated and had an air-conditioning sytem that put air through ducts in the floor and forced it up through the potatoes, making it possible to keep and ship potatoes through July. Special stories about their operation were featured in the local newspaper and also a national trade publication included a story on the new storage and told of one of the oldest potato shipping firms in Idaho being one of the first to grasp new ideas.

Another fire destroyed the warehouse about 1974 and it was again rebuilt and stands as it is today. The roof of the storage unit which was built in the 1960's was caved in late in the winter of 1989 due to heavy snow and it was repaired that summer ready for the next season. This company has hired many people through the years in the sorting, packaging and handling of the beautiful crops of potatoes grown by the farmers on Egin Bench. These famous Idaho potatoes have been shipped all over the nation by this local company. Following the death of Byron, Sr. in 1967 and Byron, Jr. in 1971, the company is presently managed by Cleve M. Tibbitts and Lew Brainard, joined by Byron, Jr.s son, Scott and Cleve's son, Evan.

During the late 1940's a two story building was erected by Ray Crabb just south of the railroad tracks near the Egin railroad siding, where the potato warehouse is located. The Crabb family lived upstairs and ran a cafe and had a pool room on the main floor. It was called the Crab Apple Inn and was also called Tuffy's Tavern when it was run by Pet Personie for a while. It burned down one night, while no one was there and was never rebuilt.

As things became more modern and vehicles became the mode of travel, there came a need for men to work with construction and some of the men who became involved in heavy equipment work were Floyd Mason, Alvin Winegar, and Ross Dunn. Ross and his son, James, operated the Dunn Land Leveling Company and made improvements on many fields in the area. They also had the Egin Garage in a log building first and then the present building which is now called



the Egin Service and was operated by Jim Dunn for a time with his son Wayne joining him for quite a few years before he took over the mechanic work. Then about 1988, Wayne left the business and since that time it has been run by Charles Dunn, another son of Jim Dunn's. He also does some work with the heavy equipment.

Other men who have had shops where mechanical service have been available to the people of the area included Blaine Orgill, who had a shop in the old Heman school house, where he worked for quite a few years until it burned down in 1982.

Mayhew (Hoot) Hillman has had a radiator repair shop by his residence which he is still operating. At times others have assisted him in the work there. Garth Hillman, his nephew also has a radiator repair shop next to his.

Terry Palmer has a shop at the present time located on the Palmer property overlooking the river bottoms where the first settlers came.

Another business venture that appeared on Egin Bench was the building and operation of several green houses where they raised hyponic tomatoes. These were built during the 1980's by several families including the Doug Parkers, Louis Stoddards, and Dell Millers, and lasted for only a few years, with all operation of them discontinued by 1988.

The ladies of the area, and some of the fellows, too, have enjoyed the services of two local beauty shops. One was run by J'Lene Orr from the early 1970's to about 1985. The other is presently being operated under the name of 'D's Beauty Shop' by Deanna Rydalch.

A catering business was run by Sheral Heninger and her family for a few years around the early 1980's and another by the LaRue Hunter family at about the same time and these families helped many young couples make their wedding receptions very beautiful.

Jordon Stoddard has a carpentry shop, 'Juniper Mountain Mill', where he specializes in building doors and cabinet making. He is assisted in his business by his son Breck, who frequently runs the backhoe, and his son-in-law Gary Zundel and others.

DeVerl Stoddard also has a business in operation in Egin, which was first started as Stoddard Construction Company in 1973 as a partnership with his father, Marion Stoddard and his brother, Gene Stoddard. That partnership was later dissolved and he continued as DEPATCO and Sons. They build cabinets in the shop and DeVerl also serves as a building supervisor and construction representative for Maverik Country Stores since 1982.

The Egin Merc has the distinction of being the oldest business still operating on Egin Bench. During the Idaho Centennial Celebrations this year, it was honored with a certificate presented at the annual Fisherman's Breakfast by the Fremont County Centennial Committee for being in business over seventy years.

The old part of the building was built by Joseph Franklin White in 1919. At an earlier time he had run a store in the Plano area at the west end of the bench. He bought a farm in the Egin area and moved his family there, where Ivan and Salome Mathie now live. He observed that the railroad was building a line through the farming community of Egin Bench. He felt that it would be a good place to build a store. Fourteen year old Charles Pulley (who later became his son-in-law) hauled the first load of lumber to be used for forms for the cement building. After the building was completed, a community dance was held on the new hardwood floor.

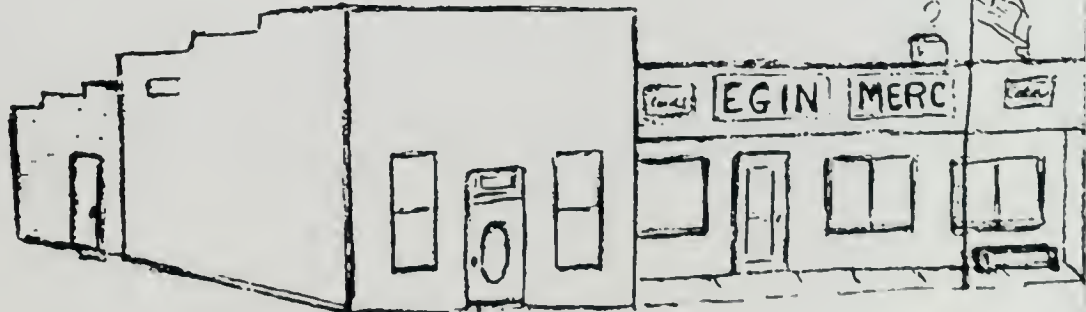
Groceries were then brought in by train from Scowcroft's in Salt Lake City. They carried a full line of groceries in the store and a few household necessities such as coal oil for their lamps. People could order in shoes and overshoes at the store, which were shipped in by train.

The property where the store was built was originally part of the Abraham Branson homestead. It then belonged to Robert and Mary Kendall and later to Alfred Stanford and also Jesse L. Stanford prior to Joseph F. White owning it.

The White family lived in a small home on the northeast corner of the property (where Ronald and Edna Staley now live) while they were running the store. In 1923, Mr. White decided to build a store in Yellowstone Park, so he sold his forty acres to Ernest Bradshaw and the store to Eugene (Gene) and Mary Zundel, who was farming in the area and was also associated later with B. M. Tibbetts in the potato business.

Zundel's ran the store for several years before selling it. Part of the time they leased it to Ernest Blazer, who had previously ran a store in Plano and lived there. In his journal, Mr. Blazer, now deceased, told of running the Egin Store and that on February 19, 1926, after the nine o'clock closing time, a fire broke out and was discovered about 1:00 P.M. They had to board it up, rebuild inside and restock before resuming operations.

Earl Rumsey bought the store from Mr. Zundel about 1929. He built the house, garage and the shed where the coal was sold from. Mr. Rumsey was still in ownership of the store in 1946 doing business as the Egin Merchantile Company. He did lease the store out for a few years and during some of that time, he was holding public office.



According to an article in the local newspaper, Alfred 'Bish' Ricks took a second option to operate the Egin Store for a three year period in 1937. Mr. Ricks hired Elvin Rydalch to work in the store for a time and he and his wife, Geoganna lived in a little house that was located just to the northwest of the store. Clarence Matthews from St. Anthony may have helped in the operation of the store for a time also.

Edgar and Irene Schatt Carpenter bought the store about 1947, and their family lived there and ran the store for a few years.

In 1950 Carl Bradshaw bought the store and he started building the north addition onto the store about 1953. He acquired the old Egin School building, which was located about a block south and west from the store, and tore it down to use the material to build onto the store, doing the work himself, over a period of about three years. Some of the brick was used to build a fireplace, planter boxes and to lay a brick driveway in the back yard. They also moved the old giant-strides pole to the back yard. Mr. Bradshaw had one of the first television sets in the area and he stayed open late so the people could come in and watch it.

Eddie Bradshaw and Arden Klinger and their wives were stockholders with Carl Bradshaw when the store was sold to Melvin and Josie Muhlfeith in May of 1958. They changed the name of the business to the M & J Merc. They prepared and served meals in the back room, with most of their customers coming from the Tibbitts Potato Warehouse located just south across the railroad tracks from the store. Sometimes farmers in the area hired boys from the state school to work on their farms and they would make arrangements to feed them lunch there with a guard posted at each door while they ate.

As the Muhlfeith's opened their business the morning after the 1959 earthquake at Hebgen (north in Montana) they found their water was very brown and there were groceries scattered on the floor. They sent someone to their farm in Plano for water and cleaned up the broken pickle and catsup jars so they could open for business. It took two days for the water in the area to clear up.

In the early 1960's they hired a contractor to lay a cement floor, doing half at a time so they could carry on their business, and they also had new light fixtures put in and the wiring improved. Their family helped in the store and after they were grown up, the Muhlfeith's sold the store.

Len Humphries and LaRalph Christensen and their wives bought the store on July 1, 1972. They changed the name of the business back to Egin Merc. After a few months, they realized that the income from the store would not support two families, so Len and Fern Humphries became the new owners. By the time this book is printed, they will have been running the Egin Merc for eighteen years. Their children have helped in the store and are now grown up.

Times and the economy have changed a great deal through the century of time from the first store-type selling and trading of a few essentials from the home of the Winegar's, to the busy country store of the mid-century which provided the people of the community with many of their needs, to the

present day country store which provides only the convenience type items which were not purchased in town at the super market. However, there is one thing that has not changed about the country store. It is still a place where friends and neighbors gather and share their experiences, their joys, and their sorrows. It is a place where they take a break from the long day of work in the fields. It is a retreat from the heat of the summer day, the rain or wind storms, or the cold of the winter.

When Egin Bench was first being settled, the people who came here came for the purpose of building their homes and farming. Now many of the local residents travel to work other places, some many miles away. They are trained in many occupations and professions. The people who have had businesses on Egin Bench have contributed a great deal to the community along with the good farmers who have developed the land and made it the beautiful green fertile land that we see in the summers of today.

There may have been other businesses that have operated in Egin through the years, and if so, it is with great regret that they have not been included in this account.

PART IV



CHURCHES

Religion and education were important in the lives of the early settlers who came to the Upper Snake River Valley and Egin Bench. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (referred to as L.D.S. or Mormon) had a strong influence on the development of this area. Many of the people who settled were members of this church coming in from Utah, where they had earlier come to settle from the east, and Europe. After settling the Utah Valley, the colonization started to branch out from Utah. Franklin, Idaho and the Bear Lake area were the first areas to be permanently settled by Mormon Pioneers coming into Idaho. As the railroad extended north, men became interested in the Snake River Valley. One of these men was John R. Poole, who was appointed Presiding Elder over any company of member of the L.D.S. Church who settled in that area. At that time, he was under the leadership of President William B. Preston as part of the Cache Valley Stake. On November 25, 1881, the Island Branch was organized with John R. Poole as Presiding Elder for all settlers north of Eagle Rock. There was also a branch of Cache Stake organized on Egin Bench on November 28, 1881 at a meeting held at the home of Stephan Winegar with Wyman M. Parker chosen as Presiding Priest and with Frances Rawson and John Powell as teachers, Robert Greenwood as choir leader and Thomas G. Parker as clerk. On Jan. 8, 1882, the Egin Sunday School was organized with William Rawson as superintendent and with twelve members. On January 8, 1882, the Parker Sunday School was also organized with James Wood as superintendent, Frances Rawson first assistant and George K. Jenkins as second and Elnora Winegar as secretary. (Note: some information found gave the impression that these two Sunday schools were actually the same)

On December 6, 1882, the first L.D.S. meeting house in the Snake River Valley was completed at Egin, Idaho on the east end of what was later known as the Clarence Rhodehouse farm, south of the Winegar farm. (It was built of logs.)

On December 18, 1882, Thomas E. Ricks was called by President John Taylor to preside over all the members of the L.D.S. Church in the Snake River Valley, thus organizing the Bannock Ward. He was also presiding over the Egin Branch, with counselors Henry Flamm and Francis C. Gunnell. By the direction of Pres. Taylor, Pres. Preston came to the valley with Bishop Ricks to select a location of a central point for religious, educational and commercial enterprises and to prepare the way for rapid colonization of the country. They arrived at Egin Bench on January 5, 1883. After traveling about the upper valley for several days, they chose the place where Rexburg now stands for a settlement on January 11, 1883. Also they made arrangements for fencing a co-operative farm at Egin. Some of the success of the early settlers in colonizing new areas can be contributed to the way everyone worked together to help one another build homes, canals, irrigation systems, roads, meeting houses, schools, etc. They maintained this community farm for the new-comers and the poor in the area. During the year 1882, on February 16, the Edmunds Anti-Poligamy Law was put into force in the country and this affected some of the families in this area as well as those in Utah, who were practicing poligamy, causing some of the men to go into hiding to keep from being arrested.

On February 4, 1884, the Upper Valley area became the Bannock Stake, which included the following branches: Menan, Parker, Lewisville, Lyman, Teton, Eagle Rock, Wilford, Iona, Salem and Burton with Thomas E. Ricks as president, William F. Rigby and James E. Steele as counselors. They had a total of 815 members and by 1885 that number had increased to 1448 members.

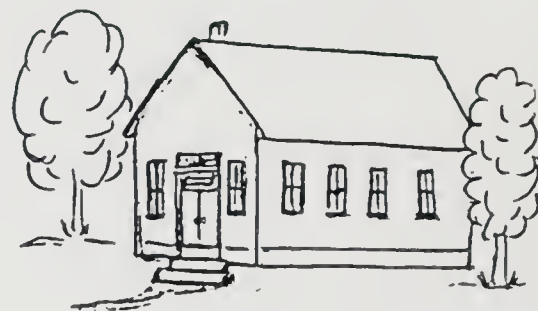
May 19, 1886, Brighton Ward was organized with Ruben Hiatt as bishop. They built a log cabin for a church house on top of what later became known as Fisher's Hill. On November 15, 1891, the Egin Ward was organized with Harry H. Smith as bishop. This ward may have been created from part of the Brighton and Parker wards. Some information indicated that it replaced the Brighton ward and that the church building was moved to a more central location where the William Liebert home now stands. In 1892 Relief Society was being held in Egin. A quilt was sold for four dollars according to an old Relief Society Record Book which was started that year. A list of the women who participated in this organization is included in this section of this book. It also showed that there was a Hiatt Relief Society in January of 1897. Hiatt Ward was organized November 4 or 5, 1895 from part of Egin Ward and then later in 1900 it became Plano Ward. In 1893, all wards in the area had classes in obstetrics available to them.

On June 9, 1895, Bannock Stake, which was made up of twenty wards, was divided to make Bingham Stake. Egin and Parker Wards were included among these wards. On August 6, 1898, the name of the stake was changed from Bannock to Fremont.

Below is a map showing the communities where wards were organized by about 1900.



In 1900, under the direction of Bishop Oliver LeGrande Robinson, a new chapel was built by the people of the Egin Ward. It was located where the ball park is now at the old Egin townsite, and was built of red doby brick that was made at Egin. This brick started to crumble in a few years and had to be replaced with lumber. (See sketch at right.)



Some of the people of the Egin area who were not members of the L.D.S. Church attended meetings in St. Anthony. There were two churches already completed there by 1899. The Presbyterian Church was the first church in the town of St. Anthony and was located where the Community Church was later built. Then the Methodist Church was built on the south side of the river. A Reverend Wilson was the first pastor at the Presbyterian Church and Reverend Hoffman for the Methodist Church. Later the Catholic Church was built and probably stood where their church is today and also Episcopal Church and the Baptist Churches were built but the Baptist Church later burned down.

The L.D.S. members who lived at St. Anthony first belonged to the Parker Ward. The first held in St. Anthony were in a small log building on Main Street. On July 22, 1901, a meeting was held to organize the St. Anthony Ward. Meetings were held for a time in the Opera House or Bartlett Hall or the school until a white frame building was completed in January 1904 on the south side of the river where the State Highway Maintenance Station is now located. William Carbine was their bishop.

January 10, 1909, the Yellowstone Stake was organized at a meeting held at Parker, with Daniel G. Miller called as president and Marion J. Kerr and James E. Fogg as his counselors. A stake tabernacle building was started in 1910 but was not dedicated until October 26, 1916 by President Joseph F. Smith.

On January 10, 1915, the Heman Ward was organized from part of the Egin and part of the Parker wards, with John William Rhodehouse as bishop. It was named for Heman Hunter, who had served as one of the bishops of the Egin Ward. The small chapel was located where John and Jana Poulsen live now nearly two miles east of the present Egin Bench L.D.S. Church.

On December 10, 1939, the ground-breaking was held for the L.D.S. Temple at Idaho Falls. After years of work and faith, for these were the years of World War II, the beautiful temple by the river was completed and dedicated on Sept. 23, 1945 by President George Albert Smith. It was the first L.D.S. Temple built in Idaho and has been a special blessing in the lives of many members of the L.D.S. Church in the Snake River Valley, and surrounding area.



During World War I, the women made bandages and they also gleaned wheat in the fields to help provide where there were needs.

The settlers on the 'Bench' were a very hard working people and worked together to develop the land and they also enjoyed many good times together in recreation. They enjoyed getting together for picnics under the old bowery at Egin where the ball park is now to celebrate the Fourth of July. A special treat was homemade ice cream, using ice that had been cut from the river during the winter and stored in sawdust in the ice houses.

Another event was the March 17th celebration of the anniversary of Relief Society which usually included a banquet at noon and a dance in the evening. Dances were a popular recreation for the people of the community, as they attended as families, pushing back the benches, putting the little ones down to sleep on them on quilts and spending the evening dancing to the music provided by some of the local people who shared their talents. Today this is still a special occasion in the ward, usually celebrated with a dinner and a program prepared by the women of the Relief Society.

Through the years the people in the area have celebrated the 24th of July in honor of the pioneers coming to Utah and to the west. A parade has been held at St. Anthony since it was started in 1910 by William M. Hansen. The people of Egin have entered floats in the parade and have been recognized for the excellent ones they have built. In 1937, an unusual float represented Egin Bench. On the side of the float it read, 'EGIN's CROP OF 1937' -- What Will The Harvest Be? There were fourteen women riding on the float with their babies, all born that year. They included: Myrtle Weaver, Blanche McNee, Lucille Staley, Luella Orr, Hilda Fowler, Lillian Rumsey, Fern Hendrickson, Rose Edwards, Vie Powell, Irene Terry, Grace Armstrong, Algeva Armstrong, Carrie Liebert, and Annie Bradshaw, who held Ethel Pulley's baby because Ethel was sick. These Pioneer Day celebrations were discontinued during World War II, but were resumed again and have become one of the best in the Upper Valley. The family-attended community dances were replaced by the Gold and Green Ball, which was sponsored each winter by the Mutual Improvement Organization of the ward. In recent years these dances have nearly become a thing of the past, and community dances are rare. Recreation is done more as individuals or families, and is found in a variety of activities. The L.D.S. Church does provide a program for the youth including Scouting for the boys and a Young Woman's Program which includes camping and service activities. Also they provide Cub Scouting and Primary activities for the children.



About 1947, the Egin L.D.S. church building was condemned and the meetings were then held in the Heman Church and the Heman school house and for a time at the Parker church house. On February 1, 1948 the Heman and Egin wards were combined to form the Egin Bench Ward with Eldon P. Romrell as the bishop. On March 25, 1950, a ground-breaking was held for the new chapel to be built where it stands today near the railroad tracks. This new chapel was dedicated on August 3, 1952 by Elder Ezra Taft Benson.

Robert D. Orme, the bishop of Egin Bench Ward, was called to be the new stake president for the Yellowstone Stake in December of 1967.

On July 24, 1973, ground-breaking ceremony was held for a new stake building, which was completed and ready for the dedication which was held on March 23, 1975, with Elder ElRay L. Christiansen dedicating it. This was soon followed by the name of the stake being changed from Yellowstone Stake to St. Anthony Stake with Robert Smith as president, Eldon P. Romrell from Egin and Dr. Lloyd Barrett as his counselors.

The Egin Bench chapel was re-dedicated on March 12, 1978 by Bishop Richard J. Clark of the Presiding Bishopric, after extensive remodeling was done to provide a larger chapel, more classrooms, more modern kitchen, etc. (Bishop Clark is a brother to local resident, Maxine Hillman.)

On June 5, 1976, disaster came to the Upper Snake River Valley with the breaking of the Teton Dam, which flooded many acres of ground to the east through the Wilford, Sugar-Salem and Rexburg areas, destroying farmland, homes, schools, churches and businesses as the water swept down the valley. Though it did not hit the Egin area, the lives of most people in the valley were affected by this flood. Many people from Egin helped with clean up and with housing people who were left homeless, some of them friends or relatives. The Egin Bench Relief Society prepared at least six quilts to give to families who had lost theirs in the flood. It has been estimated that over a million hours of service was rendered in the following weeks of clean up, many people coming from other areas, including people from Utah by bus to help restore the community. Ten years later if a person drove through the area there were very few signs left of the disaster that hit that June day.

Through the years of development in the Upper Valley, the L.D.S. Church has effected the lives of the people in the communities. Through the Relief Society organization of women of the church, many hours of service have been given to uplift and help those who were sick, hurt, mourning or in need. In the pioneer times before modern transportation, the women walked miles to give service, to assist when babies were born, to help with the care of the other children and fill other needs of their neighbors. Before the days of funeral homes, the women made the burial clothes, prepared the body for burial and then set with the body for the family when there was a death. Usually some of the men built a casket.



Bishoprics of the Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on Egin Bench

Egin Ward

<u>Date</u>	<u>Bishop</u>	<u>Counselors</u>	
Nov. 15, 1891	Harry Havelock Smith	Hyrum Lucas	David Davis
Sept. 10, 1899	Oliver LeGrande Robison	William H. Hjort	David Davis
June 29, 1902	Heman Hyde Hunter	Charles Wardle	Joseph Orr
	Bishop Hunter died June 4, 1907 while he was bishop.		
June 16, 1907	John William Rhodehouse	John William Palmer	Joseph F. White
Jan. 3, 1915	Ward divided, Heman Ward created		
Jan. 3, 1915	Joseph Orr	Joseph F. White	Henderson Cox
June 1, 1930	Ernest Bradshaw	Emmet Hunter	Frank H. Fowler
Sept. 27, 1936	Joseph A. Johanson	Joseph Cruser	Edward Bradshaw
Sept 15, 1940	Charles Merrill Cruser	Ivan Mathie	Arland Davidson
	(to Feb. 1, 1948)		

Heman Ward

Jan. 10, 1915	John William Rhodehouse	Ingwat G. Hendrickson	Francis Z. Decker
	also	David Hunter	Clifford E. Anderson
July 29, 1917	Junius F. Wardle	Ingwat Hendricksen	Ira Davenport
	also	Harold McFarland	
Sept 27, 1936	G. Otto Neilson	Oakley Hunter	Hardin H. Clark
	(to Feb. 1, 1948)		

Egin Bench Ward

Feb. 1, 1948	Heman and Egin wards were combined to create one ward.		
Feb. 1, 1948	Eldon P. Romrell	Charles M. Pulley	Lenold A. Davidson
	1952	also	Frank Stoddard
Mar. 9, 1958	Robert E. Neilson	Blaine Wardle	Myrl Davidson
		later	Ivan Mathie
Nov. 15, 1964	Robert D. Orme	Marion L. Stoddard	Kesl Hunter
Dec. 10, 1967	Marion Leslie Stoddard	William Richards	Kesl Hunter
Apr. 10, 1974	Kesl Ray Hunter	D. Wayne Swensen	Stewart Dexter
July 24, 1977	Donald Wayne Swensen	Stewart Dexter	Louis Stoddard
		also	Harvey Willford
Feb. 6, 1983	Mark Lloyd Orme	William Richards	DeVerl Stoddard
May 3, 1987	Stewart Dexter	Gary Taylor	LaVar Hunter
Jan. 6, 1991	Gary F. Taylor	B. Garth Hillman	Burke D. Hanks

The following is a list of the women of Egin Bench who served their church, and their community as they served as officers of the Relief Society Organization of the L.D.S. Church.

Egin Ward

- 8 July 1893 Harriet Lucas, Pres., Lucy Rawson & Catherine Jenkins, Counselors, Lovisa Davis, Sec. (10 Yrs), Clara E. Mason, Treas.
(from original minutes of meeting held that day)
- 1895 Alice Hiatt, Pres.
(Note: She could have been president of the Brighton Ward Relief Society. Also she could have been the same as the Catherine Jenkins above, as she married in 1894, but there was also Catherine Davis Jenkins, who was her mother.)
- 4 Oct. 1894 Lucy Rawson, Pres., Emily Smith & Catherine Jenkins, Counselors.
1900 Emily Smith moved, Catherine Jenkins & Matenia Nielson Hjort, became Counselors.
- 9 May 1906 Matenia Hjort, Pres., Fanny Hunter, Counselor
(date unknown) Catherine Davies Jenkins, Pres., Lovisa Davis, Counselor
- 24 Jan. 1915 Lovisa Davis, Pres., Counselors unknown, Thursia Bradshaw, Sec.
- 20 July 1919 Anna Johanson, Pres., Ellen Orr & Cynthia Orgill, Counselors, Thursia Bradshaw, Sec. and she also replaced Cynthia as Counselor. Ellen Orr died 15 January 1920, Olga Anna Cox Cruser replaced her.
- 9 Mar. 1929 Olga Anna Cox Cruser, Pres., Thursia Bradshaw, Counselor, Clara Liebert, Sec.
- 27 Aug. 1933 Lucille Staley, Pres., Anna Johanson & Thursia Bradshaw, Counselors, Clara Liebert, Sec.
- 11 Nov. 1940 Anna moved, Salome Mathie took her place, sustained 9 Feb. 1941. Lucille Staley died 23 August 1941, while she was President.
- 1 Sept 1941 Ethel Pulley, Pres., Irene Weaver & Salome Mathie, Counselors, Clara Liebert, Sec.
- 31 Oct. 1943 Lora Bradshaw, Pres., Ethel Pulley & Irene B. Cruser, Counselors, Sarah Davidson, Sec.

Note: On January 3, 1915, the Egin Ward was divided and Heman Ward was created on January 10, 1915.

Heman Ward

- 10 Jan. 1915 Francis H. Hunter, Pres., Jane R. Powell, Sarah Ann Smith, Counselors, Lettie Rhodehouse, Sec., Mary J. Winegar, Treas.
- Sept 1919 Ruth Stanford McFarland, Pres., Edna V. Wardle, Emily Ingram, Counselors, Luella Hunter, Sec., Edna Wardle, Treas.
- 26 Aug. 1926 Mary Truscott Rhodehouse, Pres., Hattie R. Davenport, Ethel Anderson, Counselors, Hattie R. Wardle, Sec.-Treas.
- May 1927 Ruth McFarland became Sec., replacing Hattie Wardle
- 6 May 1928 Lucy Matilda M. Hendrickson, Counselor, replace Ethel Anderson, who moved.
- 2 Feb. 1930 Hilda R. Josephson, Sec., replacing Ruth McFarland, who died on December 17, 1929.
- 10 Aug. 1930 Matilda M. Hendrickson, Pres., Luella Hunter, Alice McFarland, Counselors, Hilda R. Josephson, Sec.
- 7 June 1931 Luella Murdock Hunter, Pres., Alice McFarland, Edna Wardle, Counselors, Hilda R. Josephson, Sec.
- 6 June 1937 Alice McFarland, Pres., Evelyn McFarland, Ethel Orr, Counselors, Hilda R. Josephson, Sec.

Relief Society Officers, continued.

- 26 Nov. 1939 Hilda R. Josephson, Pres., Evelyn McFarland, Lottie Miller, Counselors, Evelyn McMinn, Sec.
1942 Lottie R. Davidson Miller, Pres., Alice McFarland, Counselor Stella Hunter, Sec.
1943 Anna Romrell, Counselor
1946 Stella Hunter, Pres., Hilda R. Josephson, Lucille Stoddard, Counselors, Cora W. Hunter, Sec.
- 1 Feb. 1948 Egin and Heman Wards were combined to make Egin Bench Ward
- Egin Bench Ward
- 8 Feb. 1948 Thursia Bradshaw, Pres., Ethel Pulley, Lottie D. Miller, Counselors, Clara Liebert, Sec.
12 Nov. 1950 Hilda R. Josephson, Pres., Irene Weaver, Luella Orr, Counselors, Stella Dunn, Sec.
19 Dec. 1954 Verna D. Hunt, Pres., Clara Liebert, Edna Orr, Counselors, Myrtle Weaver, Sec.
26 Feb. 1961 Helen Bradshaw, Pres., Hilda R. Josephson, Wanda Stoddard, Counselors, Stella Dunn, Sec.
Blanche Stoddard replaced Wanda Stoddard as Counselor.
8 July 1962 Fern Hendrickson, Pres., Stella Hunter, Hilda Josephson, Counselors, Stella Dunn, Sec.
Jan. 1965 Fern Davenport, Pres., Clara Davidson, LaRue Hunter, Counselors, Anna Jane Anderson, Sec.
14 May 1967 Clara Davidson, Pres., Blanche Stoddard, Carol Orme, Counselors, Anna Jane Anderson, Sec.
Vivian Hill replaced Carol Orme as Counselor.
25 July 1971 Anna Romrell, Pres., Ellen Weatherston, Janice McNee, Counselors, Maxine Hillman, Sec. Stella Hunter later replaced Maxine as Sec.
17 Dec. 1972 Vera Bradshaw, Pres., Lana Stoddard, Melvina Richards, Counselors, Rhea Orr, Sec.
28 May 1974 Thelma Neilson, Pres., Mabel Josephson, Melvina Richards, Counselors, Joan Palmer, Sec.
26 Sept 1976 Lucille Orgill, Sec., to replace Joan Palmer.
Beatrice Rhodehouse was Secretary for Second Session Relief Society
27 Mar. 1977 Fern C. Humphries, Sec., to replace Lucille Orgill.
23 Oct. 1977 Lana Stoddard, Pres., Marie Orr, Patrice Hunter, Counselors, Fern C. Humphries, Sec.
26 Nov. 1978 Sheral Heninger, Counselor to replace Marie Orr, who moved.
14 Oct. 1979 Fern C. Humphries, Pres., Clara Davidson, Tamra Orr, Counselors, Thelma Neilson, Sec.
2 May 1982 Shirley Dexter, Pres., Carol Orme, Arlene Moores, Counselors, Thelma Neilson, Sec.
17 Feb. 1985 Edna Orr, Pres., Verlyn Stoddard, Luena Dunn, Counselors, Merla McMinn, Sec.
17 Jan. 1988 Faye Wardle, Pres., Pat Stoddard, Melvina Richards, Counselors, Ruth Orr, Sec.

In the minutes of a meeting held on July 8, 1893, which were found in an old Relief Society Record Book discovered in a box back stage in the Egin Ward church house, the organization of the Egin Relief Society is recorded.

MINUTES of a meeting of the Relief Society of Egin held at

Egin on the 8th day of July 1893.

Pursuant to notice heretofore given, the members of the Relief Society of

Egin, met at Egin on the 8th day of July 1893, at 2 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of forming a charitable and benevolent association.

Harriet Lucas was elected President, and Louisa G. Davis was elected Secretary of the meeting. The President stated the object of the meeting.

The following articles of association were read and unanimously adopted, to wit:

(Insert articles of Association).

The following named persons were then elected Directors of said association, viz:

Harriet Lucas, Lucy Rawson,
Catherine Jenkins, Clara E. Mason
Louisa G. Davis

The following persons were duly elected Trustees to hold the legal title to real estate for the association, to wit: Emily Smith, Sarah A.

Jenkins, and Alice Jenkins
It was then unanimously resolved that the President be authorized and ~~The Directors were~~ instructed to see that the legal title to all real estate belonging to the association be vested in the trustees above named.

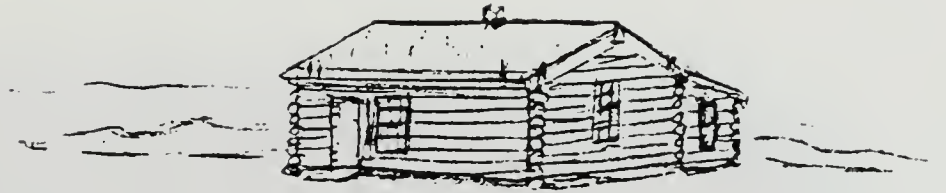
The meeting adjourned ~~since~~ ~~at~~ ~~two~~ ~~o'clock~~ ~~until~~ July 13/93 - 2 pm.

Louisa G. Davis
Secretary.

Harriet Lucas
President.

PART V

SCHOOLS



The first school on Egin Bench was taught in a log cabin that served as a church and school house built on the Winegar homestead south of their home. George Wood taught that first school, which was a private one.

During the winter of 1883, James Thomas Bulmer Mason came to Egin Bench and taught school in the first school building erected in what is now Fremont County. The building was built of hand-hewn quaking aspen logs, chinked and plastered with clay and with a clay roof. The had hewn logs for their seats. The next winter James Horby Mason, his father, taught the school held there with several of his own children attending. The schools were not supported by taxes and was supported by each student paying a form of tuition, usually in material things such as meat, produce, flour, firewood, fence posts or sometimes in services.

In January 1885, a public school was established at Egin as School District No. 17 of Bingham County and was held in a small log building located at the Heman corner where the larger brick school was built later. It was first called the Central School. Also there was a school established on the A. D. Miller, Sr. homestead two miles north and a mile east of the Central school, and was known as District No. 36. Then the Parker school house was built on the W.M. Parker place southeast of the present townsite. These schools had one teacher for all grade levels in one room. They had wooden benches, and used slates to do their written work.

The brick school at Egin, located straight south of the present-day Tibbitts Potato Warehouse, was built about 1904. Later an addition was added to make a larger school house.

The brick school building at Heman was built in 1915 for \$50,000. Teachers lived in the south part of the building during the 1940's and the classes were held in the two larger rooms in the north part of the building. There were large divider doors that rolled back for larger gatherings and parties, dances including wedding dances, were sometimes held there. Two or three teachers taught there, depending on the number of students that they had.

This drawing at the right is from a picture of the Egin School. There was a bell on top and a hand water pump in the yard. Many of the local people who have grown up here attended school in this building. Most of them walked to school or went by horse or rode in sleighs in the winter.

Schools were usually built about five or six miles apart so students could get to school by these means of transportation.



The Edmunds School was built in 1925 and was first known as Joint Rural High #1. There were as many as sixty students attending there at times. It was located in Plano, just east of the Plano L.D.S. Church, and was a high school for students from Egin, Edmunds and Plano. When the Fremont County Schools were consolidated on February, 20, 1948, the young people who attended high school from Egin went to St. Anthony, those from the Plano and Edmunds area went to Sugar City and the junior high school for them was still held at Edmunds. Junior high students from Egin also went to St. Anthony. The grade schools at Egin and Heman were closed at that time and those students went by bus to Parker to attend school.

The consolidating of schools brought about the closing of most of the smaller country schools. At one time there had been a grade school at the old Plano townsite too. The first old building there was sold to Ernest Blazer for \$125.00 and he opened a store in Plano. There was a new school built and many years ago there was also a church in the Plano townsite until 1945, when the Plano school was closed and all the students from there went to Edmunds until 1945.

The next step after consolidation of the schools was the disposal of the buildings. The Egin school house was bought by Carl Bradshaw and he took it down and salvaged the materials over a three year period, using them to build on to the store at Egin, which he owned at that time.

The Heman school building was used by the Egin Bench L.D.S. Ward after it was organized from the Heman and Egin Wards in 1948, until the present chapel was ready for use in 1952. In 1955, the Heman school house was purchased by Blaine and Lucille Orgill and they used it for storage, made a mechanic shop in it and had their own private meat cutting room. That building burned down on November 17, 1982.

The Edmunds school house was used for a junior high school until 1953, when a fire burned a school house in Sugar City and the elementary students from there were moved to Edmunds. It was used as an elementary school from then until 1966, when it was closed and all students from that area were sent to Sugar City to school. It was torn down and Clair Blaser bought the brick to use in building his home. The community of Plano has a small park at the location where it stood. (see sketch of Edmunds school below)

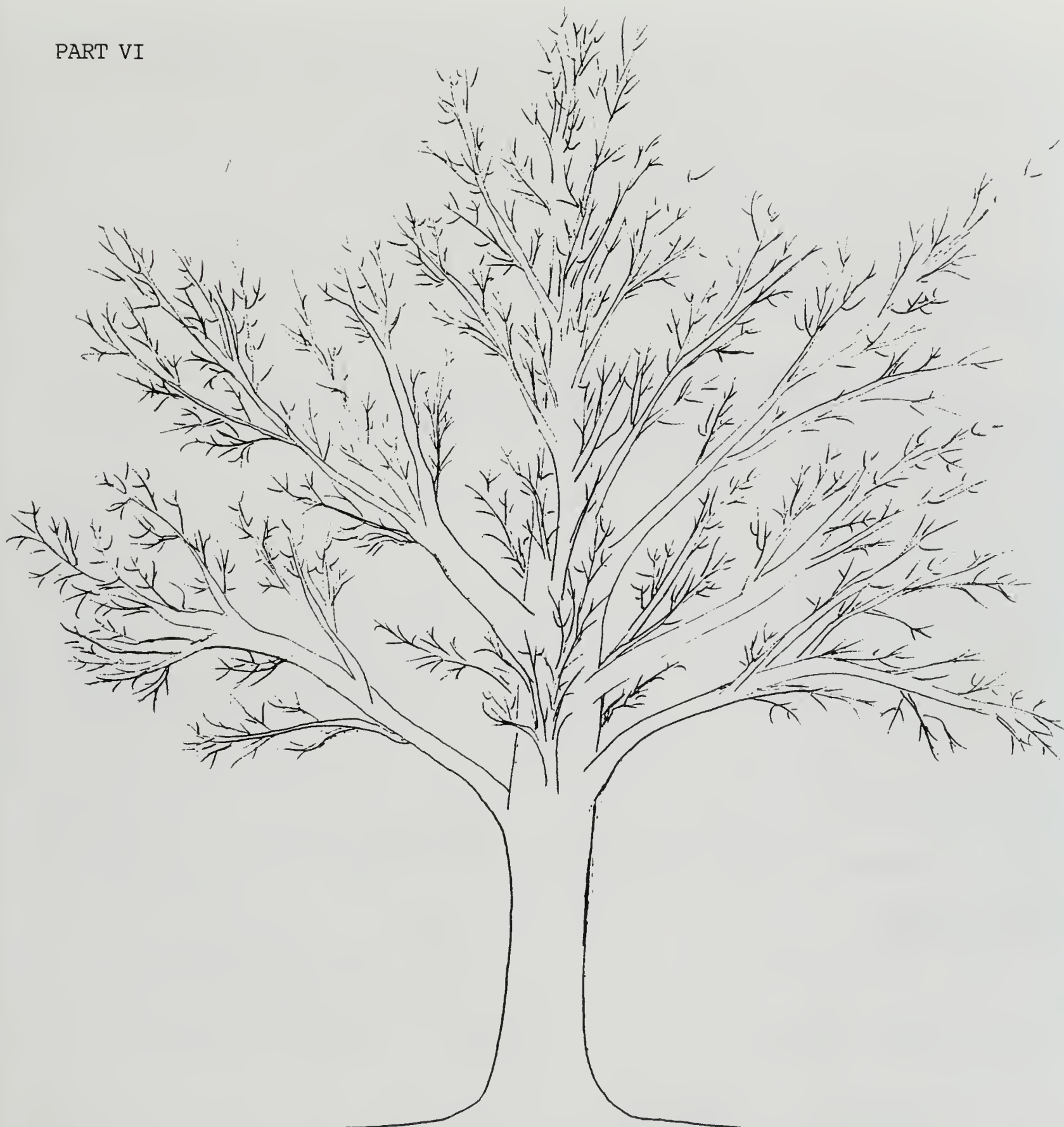
Students from the community of Egin still go by bus to Parker where the school has been improved several times through the years, and to St. Anthony where they attend South Fremont Junior and Senior High Schools.



Education is an important part of our lives, but not all education comes from books. Extra activities are also a learning activity and beautiful programs presented by the children for their families were prepared and presented many years ago. I had the opportunity to see an old program from 1916 which had been preserved by a couple who had been participants when it was presented. It was from the old Egin School and following is a list of the pupils and their teachers who were at the Egin School in 1916.

Grammar Grades taught by George B. Miller	Intermediate Grades taught by Miss Alta Grete	Primary Grades taught by Irene D. Sothern
Jennie Weaver	Annie White	Orville Norris
Verna Davis	Zella Jenkins	David Castro
Alma Moon	Ada Powell	Sherman Powell
Kenneth Cox	Arvilla Orr	Adah Jenkins
Mable Orr	Golden Cox	Daisy Staley
James Armstrong	Polly Castro	Elizabeth Seller
Marion Weaver	Stanley Liebert	Verona Blake
Robert Armstrong	Jesse Branson	Clayland Orr
Vernal Sorenson	Alphreda Norris	John Seller
Leslie Moon	Charles Pulley	Oletta Brown
Leslie Wardle	John Castro	Edwin Strange
Joseph White	Vilda Moon	Emery Castro
Clysta Cox	Gladys Moon	Clifton Moon
Frank Moon	Conda Jensen	Myrtle White
Josie Moon	Gazel Sorenson	Blanche Pulley
Tommy Smithwaite	Herbert Strange	Eva Powell
Agnes Terry	Sara Branson	Sylvan Orr
Leland Jenkins	Arvilla Weaver	Leonard Anderson
Leona Liebert	Ilda Sorenson	Leonard Sorenson
LaVoy Sorenson	Lovell Orr	Everett McNee
Orrin Pulley	Floyd Castro	George White
Leslie Rawson	Mae Gooch	Sheldon Wardle
Delos Wardle	Ethel White	Arthur Moon
Floyd Powell	Francis Terry	Sarah Orgill
	Alverda Stange	Chloe Terry
	Alice Castro	Gatha Norris
	Archie Moon	
	Loyd Moon	
	Mary Smith	
	Athal Orgille	
	Leah Wardle	

Thanks to Everett and Blanche Pulley McNee for sharing this with us.



Pioneer Families

on

Egin Bench

The destiny of many people have been the consequences of the pioneer families who chose to come to Egin Bench to settle.

In the early days, marriages were mostly within the area and many of the family trees of today started from those pioneer families.

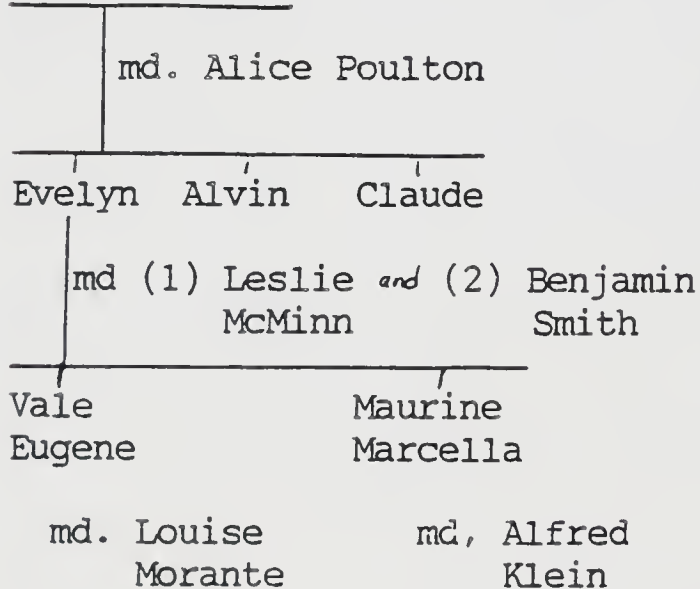
In this section is presented some of the family trees that have grown on Egin Bench since 1879. Some have grown large, having many branches and deep roots, having been here many years. Some families are young, and new to the area.

This part of this book is in alphabetical order by pioneer families. It concentrates on those lines of the families where there are still people living on Egin Bench. It is noted on many of the families charts, how many generations have lived on Egin Bench.

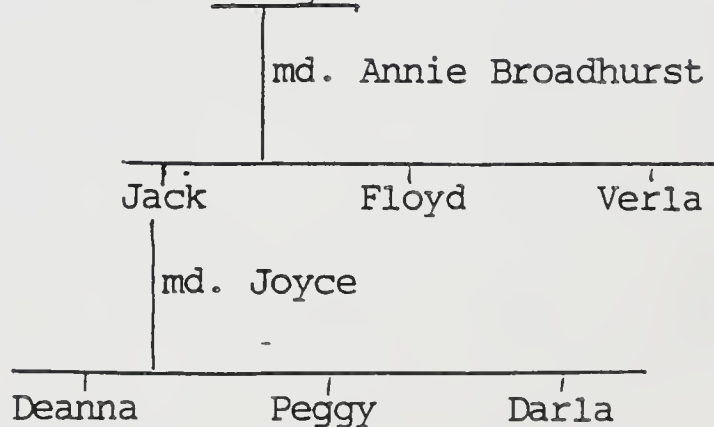
The Adams Family

George B. Adams and his wife had seven children, including

William Alvin



George



James Blake was born August 23, 1855 in England and came to America to settle on the Jordon River near Salt Lake City. He married Elizabeth Beckstead, who was born about 1862. They came to the Upper Snake River Valley where they bought property in the Rexburg area and the Egin Bench on February 25, 1905. The Egin property was 160 acres which had been homesteaded by Sylvanus Tout in 1895. They raised hay and grain for their large herd of sheep. They later went out of the sheep business and he became affiliated with the Utah Idaho Sugar Company at Sugar City. He served as counselor in the Fremont Stake Presidency about 1910-1915. During the flu epidemic of 1918, they had five children die, including their son Frank, whose life sketch follows. James Blake died in 1939 and his wife Elizabeth in 1940.

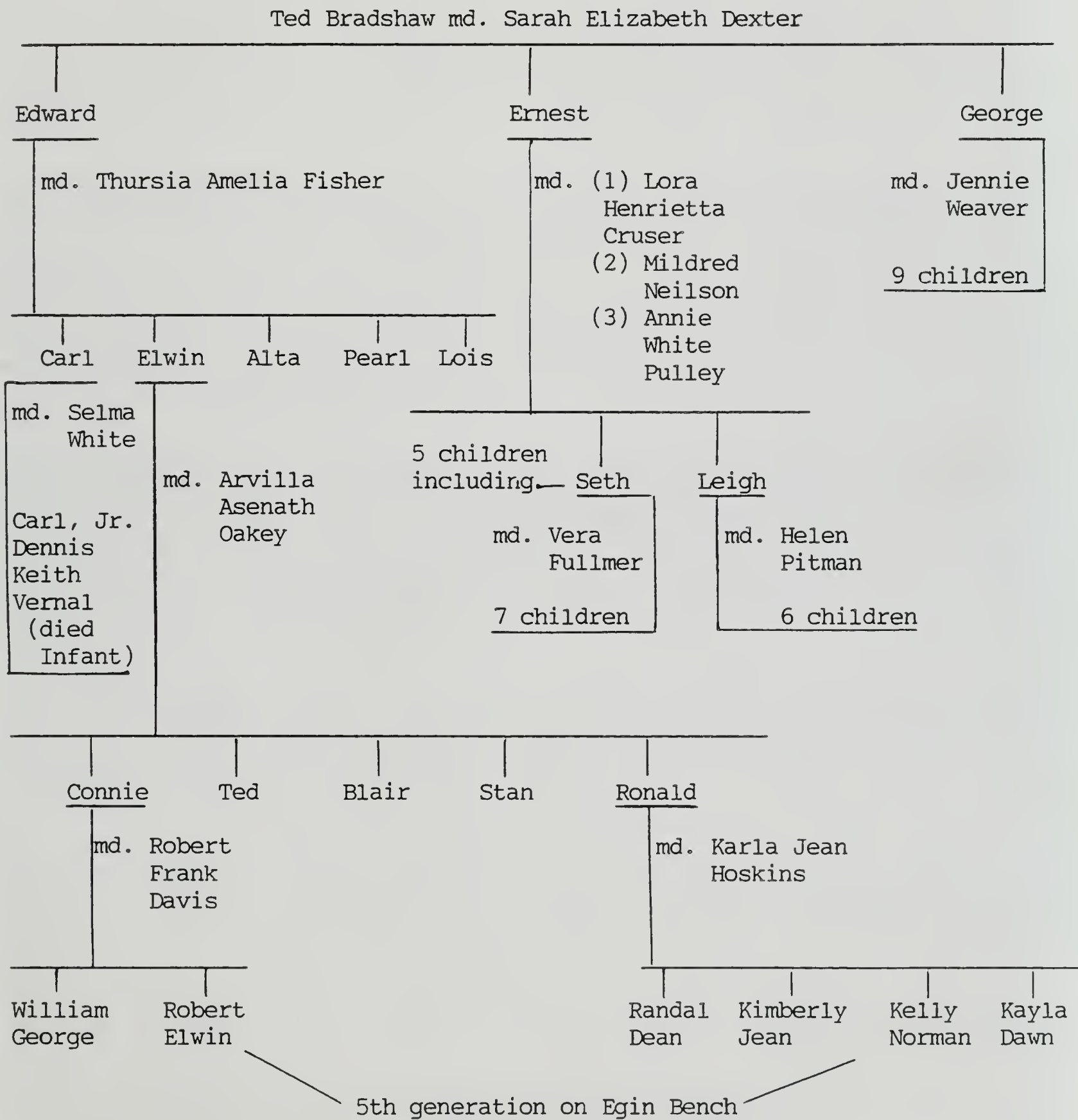
Francis John Blake was born September 21, 1884, at South Jordan, Utah to James and Elizabeth Beckstead Blake. He came to Egin Bench with his parents in 1905. On December 4, 1911, he bought eighty acres from his mother. She had sold the other eighty acres of their property to her brother George Beckstead from Salt Lake. Frank built a log home a quarter of a mile east of where Jack Blake, his son, now lives in 1990. Frank, as he was known, was married to Edna Mae Hunter on September 25, 1907. Shortly after their marriage their home burned down. He had also built a new granary south of their house so they lived in that until they built a new brick home just east of their son Jack's present home. They had five children, all delivered by Lovisa Davis who was their neighbor. The children are Verona, Keith, Jack, Hazel and Blaine. Frank died during the flu epidemic, on December 6, 1918, leaving his young family for his wife to care for alone. After he died she moved to St. Anthony, but she kept the land in Egin. Edna Mae Hunter was born November 25, 1885 at Oakley, Cassia, Idaho, to William Edward and Lillie May Severe. Her family had also come to Egin Bench, living on the property just east of the the Heman corner, where Jim Blake farms at the present time. Edna lived alone many years, passing away on September 4, 1973 at Idaho Falls.

Jack Hunter Blake was born on January 14, 1913, at the family home in Egin, to Francis John and Edna May Hunter Blake. He was delivered by Lovisa Davis, who was neighbor and served as a midwife to many in the area. Jack's father died when he was about five years old and he grew up in St. Anthony and attended schools there, where he was active in sports and Future Farmers of America. He spent a lot of time helping run the farm at Egin and in 1930, he returned to Egin to live and raise sheep and cattle. In September 1935, he married Mae White in Salt Lake City and brought her to Egin to live. They bought the farm from Jack's mother on June 29, 1951. Mae White was born January 26, 1912 in St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho, to John McArthur and Mary Ann Hubbard White. She graduated from St. Anthony High School and attended Heninger's Business College in Salt Lake City and also Utah State Agriculture College in Logan, Utah. She worked as a secretary before their marriage. Jack and Mae have the following children: Jack Robert (died October 17, 1987), Barbara (Fogarish), Thomas Reed, Maurita (Hendricksen), Ted White, who lives on Egin Bench and farms with his father, and Francis John, who was named after his grandfather but is known as Fran. Robert, Tom, and Ted all served in the military, Robert as a radar technician in the Air Force three years in Italy and Turkey, Tom in the 116th Engineers, National Guard in Viet Nam, and Ted in the National Guard.

Ted Blake was born June 1, 1949 and grew up on the farm of his parents in Egin. He served in the National Guard. He lives on Egin Bench and is farming with his father. He married Sally Davis on October 29, 1966, and they have had four children, Jade Davis, Angie, Seth (died at 3 months), and Megan.

The BRADSHAW Family - five generations on Egin Bench

Ted Bradshaw married Sarah Elizabeth Dexter. They came to Egin about 1904. They had three sons who lived most of their lives on Egin Bench. They may not be in the order of birth.



Edward Bradshaw was born November 6, 1888 at Alma, Wyoming to Ted and Sarah Elizabeth Dexter Bradshaw. His family came to Egin when he was about thirteen years old. He married Thursia Amelia Fisher on May 14, 1912. They lived on his farm in Egin and he farmed all of his life. Thursia was born April 10, 1894 at her parent's home on Fisher's Hill in Plano, Idaho to Robert and Ellen Randall Fisher. She grew up there on the farm where she helped her parents and learned to work hard. They grew their food in one of the first orchards that was planted in the area and in their garden. and on their farm. She attended the Edmunds School. She also graduated from Ricks Academy as a member of the first graduating class. After her marriage, while living in Egin, she served as secretary of Relief Society, then counselor in the Egin Ward and in 1948 she was the first Relief Society President of the newly organized Egin Bench Ward. They had five children, Carl, Elwin, Alta (Hunt), Pearl (Klingler), and Lois (Perrenoud).

CARL BRADSHAW was born February 19, 1915 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho, to Edward and Thursia Fisher Bradshaw. He was born at the family home and grew up there on the farm. He married Selma White and they had four children, Carl, Jr., who now lives at Santa Clara, California; Dennis, who lives at Bountiful, Utah; Keith, who lives in Connecticut, and Vernal, who died in infancy. He bought the Egin Store about 1950. (See history of Egin Merc in the Business on Egin Bench part of this book.) After 23 years of marriage, he and his first wife were divorced and he later married Lyla McMinn. She died in 1985 and he now lives at St. Anthony, Idaho. He has been known by many as 'Shorty'.

Elwin Robert Bradshaw was born May 22, 1917 at Egin, Idaho to Edward and Thursia Amelia Fisher Bradshaw. He grew up on the farm of his parents on Egin Bench. He married Arvilla Asenath Oakey on December 3, 1936. They lived in the Heman and Egin area where he has also farmed all of his life. He has also run some farming operation in the Kilgore area. His wife Arvilla was born January 13, 1913 at Plano, Idaho to Charles Ernest and Mary Ann Robertson. She grew up in the Plano area. Their children are Connie, Ted 'E', Blair, Stanley 'J', and Ronald Dean.

Connie Bradshaw was born October 12, 1937 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Elwin Robert and Arvilla Asenath Oakey Bradshaw. She attended school at Heman and Parker and then graduated from Sugar Salem High School. She married Robert Frank Davis on October 23, 1959. Robert was born July 16, 1930 at Wilford, Idaho to George Rueben and Anna Hortense Smith Davis. He grew up at Wilford on his parents farm, attended schools at Wilford, and Sugar City, where he graduated from high school. He served in the United States Navy in Korea. He has worked in farming and raising sheep and is an Idaho State Sheep Inspector. He and his family recently built their log home. Their children are William George and Robert Elwin.

Ronald Dean Bradshaw was born December 22, 1950 to Elwin Robert and Arvilla Asenath Oakey Bradshaw. He grew up on a farm in the Egin-Heman area and attended school at Parker and then St. Anthony, where he graduated from high school. He attended Ricks College and was in the National Guard. He works as a truck driver. He married Karla Jean Hoskins on June 5, 1971. Karla was born on September 19, 1953 at Ogden, Utah to Norman and Bertha Morrison Hoskins. She grew up in the Sunset, Utah area where she went to school. Their children are Randal Dean, Kimberly Jean, Kelly Norman, and Kayla Dawn.

ERNEST BRADSHAW was born June 10, 1891, at Almy, Wyoming, to Ted and Sarah Elizabeth Dexter Bradshaw. Their family moved to Egin Bench in 1904, where he grew up along with his brothers, George and Edward. His life was spent farming and raising cattle. He served on the Board of the Davis Lake Land and Livestock Association and was also a watermaster for many years. He was married to Lora Henrietta Cruser on March 18, 1914, at St. Anthony. He served as Bishop of Egin L. D. S. Ward from June 1, 1930 to September 27, 1936. After his wife died, he married Mildred Neilson. She also died and he was then married to Annie White Pulley, who was a daughter of Joseph Franklin White. He lived on the farm just west of the Egin store until just shortly before his death, when he and Annie moved into Rexburg for a couple of years. He died in Ashton, Idaho on April 23, 1982.

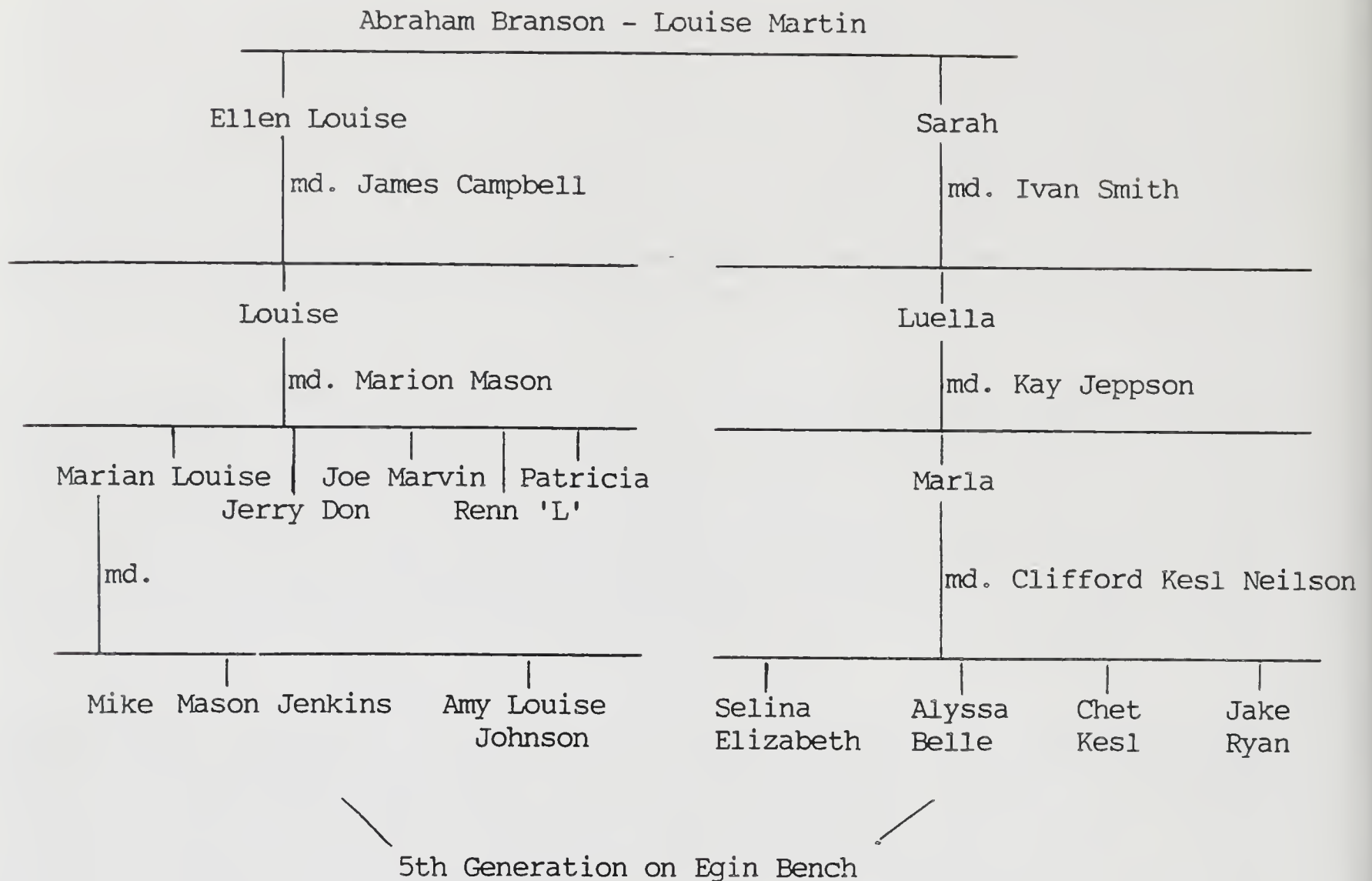
LORA HENRIETTA CRUSER was born October 18, 1892 at Fairview, Utah, to Christian and Annie Elnora Peterson Cruser. She came to Egin with her family in 1899. She was married to Ernest Bradshaw on March 18, 1914. She loved people and gave much service to her family, church and community, including serving as chairman of the Cancer Foundation for 25 years and as Relief Society President in the Egin Ward from October 31, 1943 until February 8, 1948, when Egin and Heman wards were combined to create the present-day Egin Bench Ward. She died at Egin Bench on May 9, 1962. She and her husband, Ernest, had five children. They included Seth and Leith.

Seth Bradshaw was born to Ernest and Lora Bradshaw. He married Vera Fullmer on October 21, 1935. After their marriage they lived in Parker, St. Anthony, Twin Groves, Hibbard and one winter in Portland, Oregon while Seth went to a trade school. They lived for a number of years at Egin. He worked for the State of Idaho. He died January 31, 1974 from a heart attack at his home. His wife, Vera was born May 9, 1919 at Hibbard, Idaho to Cecil Ross and Rose Sommer Fullmer. She grew up in Hibbard near her grandparents. She and Seth had seven children including twin daughters that died at birth. She worked for seventeen years as a school cook in Fremont County Schools and as the District Supervisor of the hot lunch program. She served as Stake Primary President, President and Counselor in Y.W.M.I.A. and President of Egin Bench Ward Relief Society from December 17, 1972 to May 26, 1974. She now lives at Rexburg.

Leigh Bradshaw was born to Ernest and Lora Bradshaw. He married Helen Pitman on August 1, 1949 and they lived at Egin. They had six daughters. She was the daughter of Lawrence Gray and Marjorie Blanche Smith Pitman and was born April 8, 1929.. While living at Egin, she served as president of the Egin Bench Ward Relief Society from February 26, 1961 to July 8, 1962. Leigh died and she later married Jay Loveland and moved to Twin Groves where they had one son.

George Bradshaw - see Weaver Family History, he married Jennie Weaver.

The Branson Family- five generations on Egin Bench



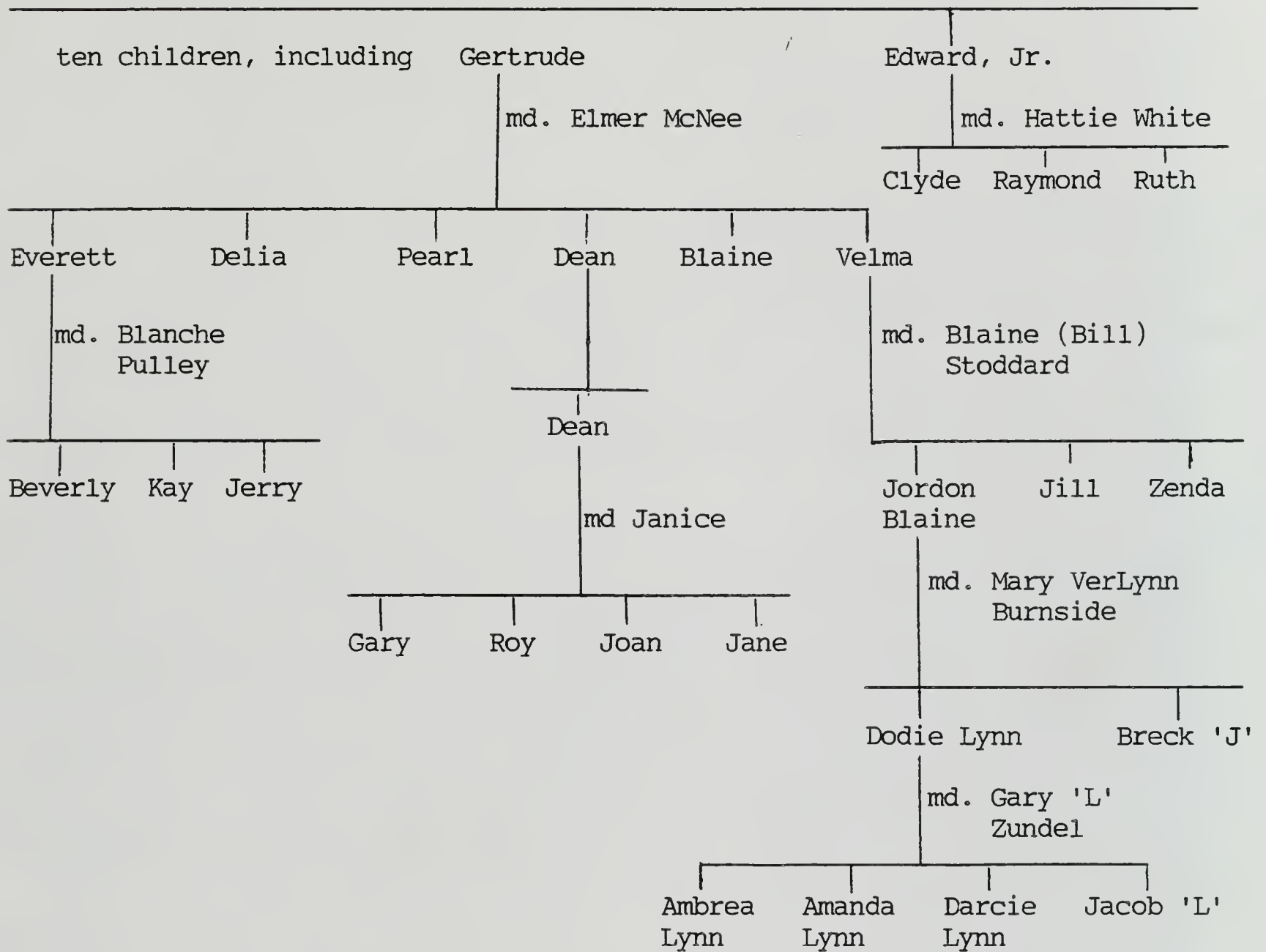
Abraham Branson was born September 3, 1859, at Nottinghamshire, England. He married Louisa Martin on November 5, 1880. She was born June 16, 1860. They came to Egin Bench, where they took up a homestead about 1888, on the quarter section where the Egin store is now located. They had thirteen children. Two of their daughters have descendents that still live on Egin Bench, Ellen Louise and Sarah.

Ellen Louise Branson was born December 10, 1881 at Ogden, Utah and came to Egin Bench with her parents when she was still a child. She met James Campbell and they were married October 16, 1899. He worked as a freighter and they lived in Teton Basin for a time before coming to Egin Bench to live on part of her father's homestead. He died September 10, 1929 and she died February 12, 1939. One of their children is Louise Campbell Mason, who lives on part of that original Branson homestead. (See Marion Mason Family History.)

Sarah Branson married Ivan Smith. Their daughter, Luella Smith married Kay Jeppson and they are the parents of Marla Jeppson Neilson, who lives on Egin Bench. (See Kesl Neilson Family History.)

COX, McNEE, and STODDARD family - six generations on Egin Bench.

Edward Cox - Mary Ann Smith



Sixth generation on Egin Bench

Edward and Mary Ann Smith Cox came to the United States from England. He fought in the Civil War. They decided to leave the coal mining town of Youngston, Ohio where they lived and bring their family of ten children to the West. Some of the older sons were old enough to homestead and did so when they came to Egin Bench about 1886. This couple's homestead was located on the west side of the Parker to Sugar City road north of the 'slicer'. Edward was born December 28, 1836 in England and died in June 1910 and was buried at Parker. The children of this couple included Gertrude, who married Elmer McNee, and Edward, Jr.

Edward Cox, Jr. was born January 3, 1882 in Youngstown, Ohio to Edward and Mary Ann Smith Cox. He was four years old when his parents came to Egin Bench to settle. The land which his father homesteaded later became his. He married Hattie White on February 22, 1904. She was born on December 17, 1884 in Utah. They had three children, Clyde, Raymond (died when he was one year old), and Ruth. He was a good farmer and was aware of new methods and improved equipment. He was among the first to grow potatoes on the bench as a farm crop. He had also been involved with some of the work on the early canals as a young man. He died April 17, 1964 and Hattie died April 2, 1974 and were buried at Parker, Idaho.

Elmer McNee was born November 20, 1876. He was in the Spanish American War, when he was seventeen years of age. He came to Egin Bench about 1900. He worked as a sheep shearer with hand shears. He worked for his mother's brother, Ed Cox on his farm. He was a ditch rider for the St. Anthony-Union Canal using a horse for transportation as he checked the canal. He married Gertrude Cox on November 20, 1905 and they homesteaded on Poverty Flats on the west end of Egin Bench, past Plano. They also ran the Galbraith place closer into Plano while Galbraiths went to Florida. Then they moved to the eighty acre farm at Egin, which was the north part of the Alfred Stanford homestead, where their son now lives. Elmer died about 1919, leaving Gertie with a young family to raise. She died in February 1973. Their children were Everett, Delia, a son Pearl who died in infancy in 1908 from diptheria, Dean, Blaine and Velma.

Everett McNee was born December 21, 1906 at Parker, Idaho in his grandparents Cox's home, to Elmer and Gertrude Cox McNee. He attended school at Egin to the eighth grade. His father died when he was thirteen years and being the oldest, he went to work to help his mother provide for their family. He was married to Blanche Pulley on January 16, 1928 at Rexburg. They lived in West Yellowstone, where he worked for two summers. Then they went to Centennial Valley in Montana for two years. He cleared the Hebgen Lake of timber. During the winters, he worked for B.M. Tibbitts. In 1934, they moved back to Egin and built their little log house on the corner of his parents farm. He worked for Tibbitts until 1941 when they moved to the Hargus farm (now Raybould's) and farmed with horses there until 1959. Then they moved to Wilford until 1973, when his mother died and they moved back to the home-farm where they still live after sixty-two years of married life together. Blanche was born on May 12, 1908 to David M. and Elizabeth Ann Boden Smith Pulley on the Pulley homestead. She attended school at Heman until seventh grade, when her parents moved to the east end of the Egin townsite (east of the present ballpark). She attended high school at St. Anthony about three years and worked in the Allen Seed House there for awhile. Their children are Beverly, Kay, and Jerry.

Blaine (Bill) H. Stoddard was born August 11, 1913 at Plano, Idaho, to Sheldon William and Maude Hillman Stoddard. He spent his childhood there until at about the age of fifteen years, he went on his own, earning his way working around the area. He married Velma Gertrude McNee in October 1936. Velma was born November 1, 1918 at her parents home a mile south of the Egin townsite, to Elmer and Gertrude Cox McNee. She grew up there and she and her brother Blaine rode their ponies to school and sometimes in the winter they were pulled on a sleigh by their dog, going to Egin and then Edmunds, where she graduated from high school. After their marriage, Bill and Velma lived at Kilgore for awhile and then spent four years in California. They returned to Egin to live where Bill spent the rest of his life. He died January 31, 1985. Velma remained on their property with their son nearby. In the fall of 1990, she was married to LaMont Hall, and they went to St. George for the winter. Bill and Velma's children are Jordon Blaine, Jill (Gardner), and Zenda (Blake).

Jordon Blaine Stoddard was born July 16, 1942 at the home of his Grandmother McNee on Egin Bench to Blaine (Bill) and Velma Gertrude Mcnee Stoddard. He spent his childhood on the farm and attended the Edmunds School until the seventh grade, when the students of the area were transported to Sugar City, where he graduated from high school. He married Mary VerLynn Burnside on July 8, 1960. They lived for about seven years in Egin and in 1967, they moved to Sugar City until the Teton Dam broke and destroyed their home in 1976. They stayed with his family until they got a HUD trailer and lived in it while he built their new home overlooking the Henry's Fork and the valley beyond. Jordon farmed for a short time after their marriage, but soon went into construction work, and started his own business - Jordon Stoddard Construction - about 1967. He built their own home in Sugar City and then built many homes in the valley after that. Later he became more specialized and his business became Juniper Mountain Mill, where they make special doors and cabinets, and much of their work goes to the Jackson Hole and Sun Valley areas. VerLynn was born January 31, 1942 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Charles and Jeanette Jensen Burnside. Her family lived at Victor where they owned a hotel until they moved to Rigby when she was in the sixth grade. They were there for a couple of years and then moved to Sugar City where she attended high school, until their marriage. She later received her GED and also graduated from a College of Personology in California (through correspondence). She does counseling from her home and gives lectures and workshops. She served as counselor in the Relief Society Presidency of Egin Bench Ward 1985-87. Their children are Dodie Lynn and Breck 'J', who works with his father in his business.

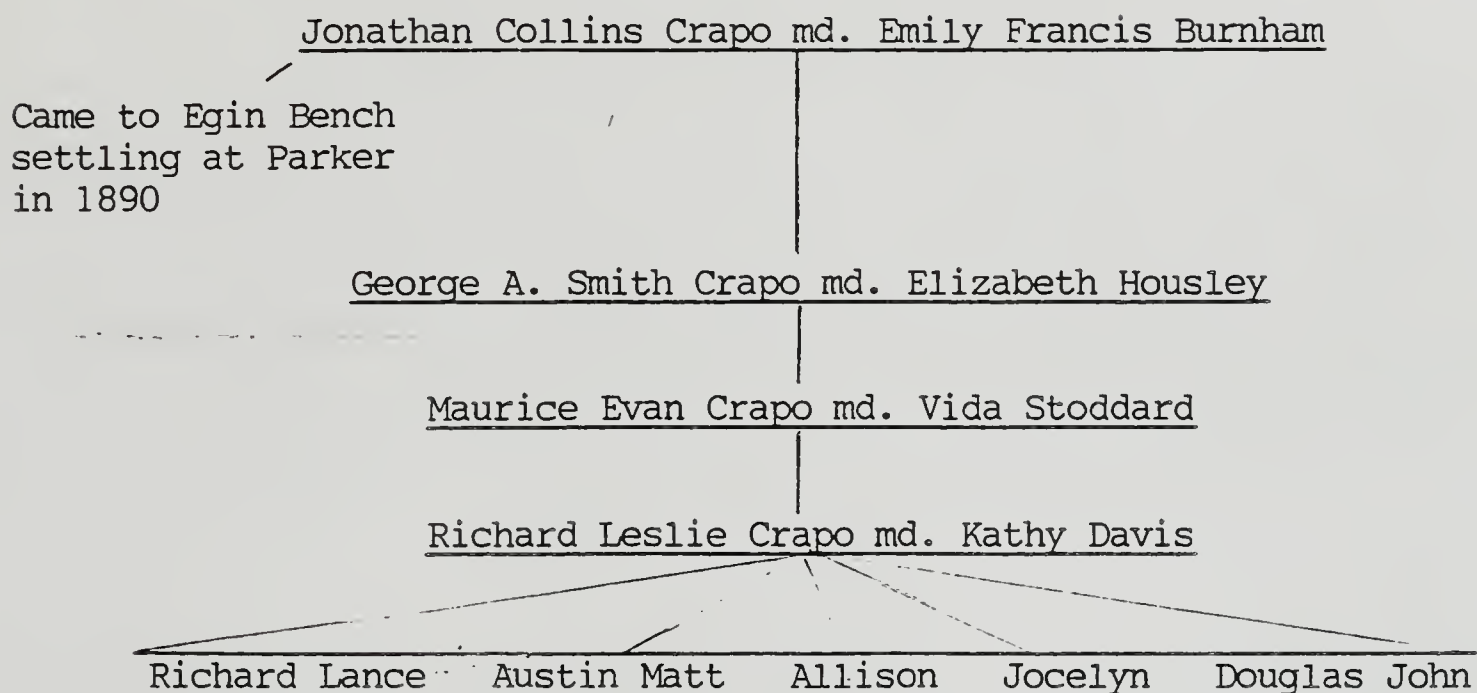
Dodie Lynn Stoddard was born February 12, 1961 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Jordon Blaine and Mary VerLynn Burnside Stoddard. As a child, she lived in Egin and then Sugar City, where she attended school. She was married to Gary 'L' Zundel on October 29, 1976. Gary was born May 26, 1959 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Neil Emery and Bonnie Jean Rowe Zundel. His father worked for a tree service and they lived in many places including Puyallup and Sumner, Washington, Rexburg and Idaho Falls (in 1964). They also lived in Utah and were there when he was five and their trailer home caught on fire and they had to get him out. He attended school in Utah, Sumner for eight years and Rexburg. In 1968, his parents moved to Egin, moving a home on to some of the property of his grandparents, next to them, and he attended school in St. Anthony until his marriage. After they were married, Dodie and Gary lived in Rexburg for about two years and then moved a trailer home onto some property near her Grandparents Stoddard. He has always worked in building and millwork,

Dodie Lynn Stoddard and Gary 'L' Zundel, continued.

now working with his father-in-law at Juniper Mountain Mill. He has done some carvings of wild life in wood, some of which are on display at a gallery in Sun Valley. He has served as a counselor in the Young Men's Presidency twice, as counselor in the Sunday School and also as counselor in the Elder's Quorum Presidency of Egin Bench Ward. Dodie has served as President of Primary at the age of 22 years. She certified as an Emergency Medical Technican of Fremont County in 1989 and as an Advanced E.M.T. in 1990. Their children are Ambrea Lynn, Amanda Lynn, Darcie Lynn, and Jacob 'L'. Ambrea and Amanda had two sets of five generations of living family members when they were little.

Blaine McNee was born at Egin on August 5, 1916 to Elmer and Gertrude Cox McNee. He attended school in Egin and high school at Edmunds. He and his sister Velma usually rode their ponies to school and sometimes in the winter they rode on a sleigh pulled by their dog. He married Luella Grover on February 4, 1938. She was born February 12, 1916 to Thomas and Sarah S. Smith Grover. They lived in Egin where he farmed his mother's farm. In 1940, they moved to California near Long Beach and then came back to Idaho to purchase a Davis farm in Wilford. He died February 9, 1976 and the Teton Dam Flood of June 1976 destroyed their home so Lucille moved to Parker, where her parents had lived.

THE CRAPO FAMILY - five generations on Egin Bench



Jonathan Collins Crapo was born February 4, 1830 to Joseph George Crapo and his wife Mary Hicks Collings and was the oldest of eleven children. They all came west to Draper, Utah to settle and he married Emily Francis Burnham who was born November 21, 1840 at Quincy, Illinois, and they had twelve children. They came to Idaho to Kilgore area and then in 1890 they moved to Parker just in time to help build the St. Anthony Canal. He dug one of the first successful wells in the area. He brought in some of the first nursery plants and planted shade trees and berry patches and gave away many starts. He was a successful farmer and died at Parker on October 23, 1911 just six weeks after his wife Emily.

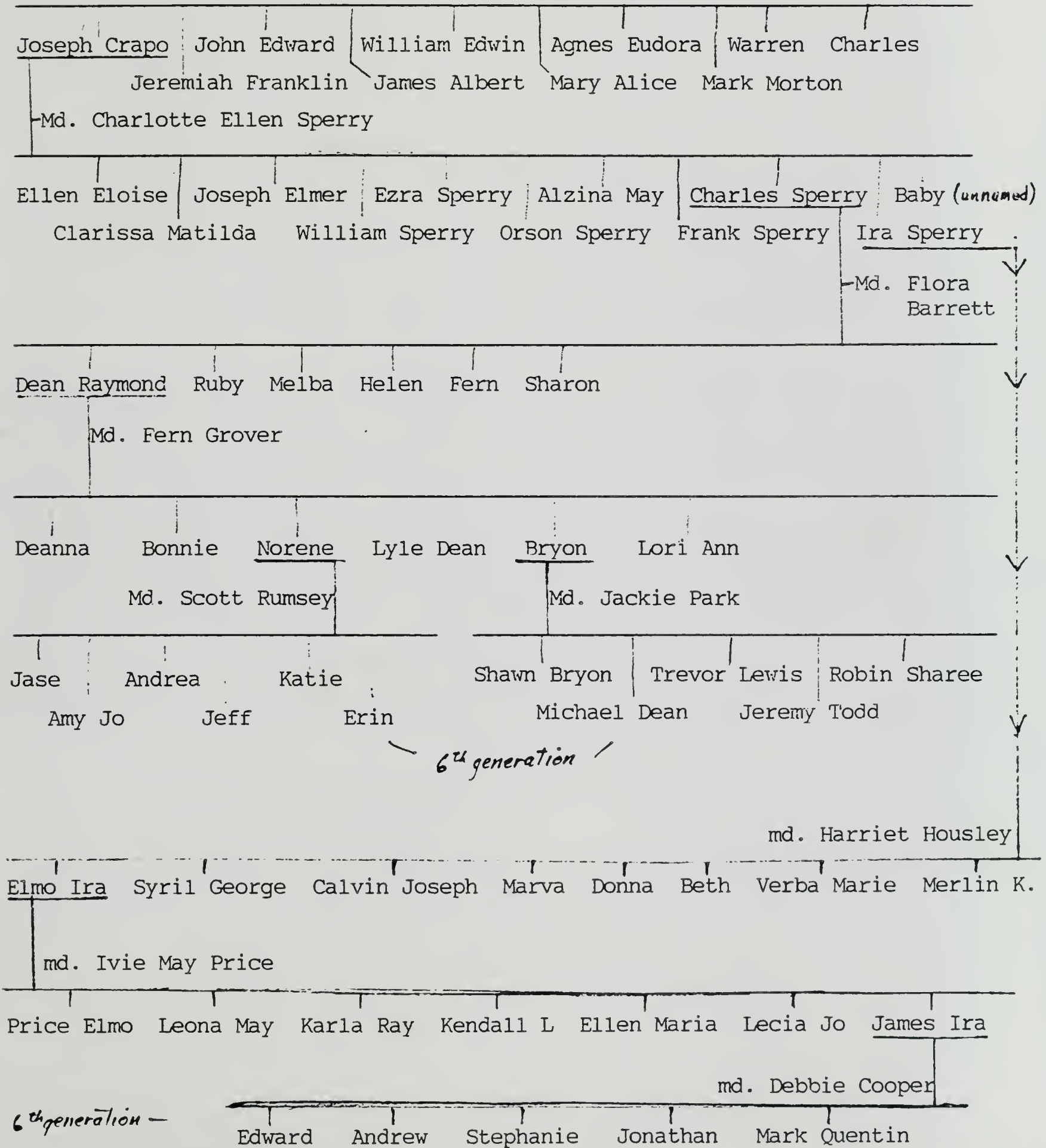
George A. Smith Crapo was born January 23, 1876 at Draper, Utah to Jonathan C. Crapo and Emily Francis Burnham. He was named after the man who blessed him -- George Albert Smith. He was the ninth child of twelve children. His family came to Idaho in 1888 settling at Kilgore and then coming to Parker on Egin Bench in 1890. He attended school at Parker and also the Ricks Academy at Rexburg. He married Elizabeth Housley on March 31, 1905. Six children were born to them, including George Lavell, Carrie, Winford Whitney, Helen Elizabeth, Maurice Evan and Fredrick Myron. He died of pneumonia March 19, 1916, leaving a young family, which his wife raised alone and lived 44 years as a widow.

Maurice Evan Crapo was born August 11, 1912 at Parker, Idaho to George Albert Smith Crapo and Elizabeth Housley. He married Vida Lucille Stoddard on March 15, 1934. She was born November 3, 1915 at Parker to Leslie Marion Stoddard and Olive Lucille Ingram. They had both grew up on the bench, had attended school at Parker and High School at St. Anthony. They were active in the community and the Parker Ward L. D. S. Church. Their first baby, a daughter was stillborn and was followed by five sons, George, Richard Leslie, Blair, Bruce K., and David Val.

Richard Leslie Crapo was born July 20, 1943 at St. Anthony to Maurice and Vida Stoddard Crapo. He attended Parker school and high school in St. Anthony, Idaho. He received a Bachelor's Degree from Utah State University and worked in Las Vegas, Nevada before returning to Parker to join his family in farming. He married Kathleen Davis, daughter of John Lee and Barbara Nielson Davis of St. Anthony. Kathy, as many know her, had spent most of her life in St. Anthony and also attended Utah State University. After their marriage they spent twelve years living at Parker where they had four children. They moved to a new home at Egin the summer of 1981. He is still farming with his brothers and they operate a trucking business. Kathy finished her education at Idaho State University two years ago and is now teaching at South Fremont High School in St. Anthony. Their children are Richard Lance, Matt Austin, Allison, Jocelyn, and Douglas John.

The DAVENPORT Family - Six generations on Egin Bench

Edward Wilcox Davenport - Clarissa Danforth Crapo



Edward Wilcox Davenport was born in Massachusetts and came to Utah in 1851. He was a shoemaker by trade, having learned the trade by becoming an apprentice at the age of twelve years. He and his wife, Clarissa Danforth Crapo, came to Egin Bench about 1883. They acquired 160 acres of land left by Jacob Grover when he was killed by lightning on July 22, 1882. Edward and Clarissa built a home and established a merchantile store about 1883 on the southeast corner of the property. It was a log house with a dirt roof and a small addition on the north side for the store. In 1886 they sold the store to their oldest son, Joseph Crapo Davenport. After filing on the land under the Homestead Act on June 10, 1886, Joseph turned the south 80 acres of the property to his brothers, William and Warren. (Note: Joseph Elmer Davenport bought this land from them about 1904 and it is still owned by members of the Davenport family, Lynn Davenport and his sisters.) Edward and Clarissa had ten children. See the previous page for their names. After selling his store to his son, he and his wife moved to Monida on the Idaho-Montana state line and in 1900, they moved to Hood River, Oregon, where some of their children had settled. He died there 27 June 1904. She died at Portland, Oregon 11 January 1911.

Joseph Crapo Davenport was born 5 August 1849 in New Bedford, Massachusetts, to Edward W. and Clarissa D. Crapo Davenport. He married Charlotte Ellen Sperry 5 February 1871 at Paradise, Cache, Utah. She was born 18 November 1851 at Kaneshville, Iowa. Joseph came to BeaverCanyon with his brother William to do logging and then came to Egin Bench, where his parents came in 1883. He and his wife bought his parents place including the store in 1886. Sometime before 1890, Joseph built a new store on the south east corner of his half of the farm. (This was located about where Bryon and Jackie Davenport's home now stands). In 1892 he built a new house of log with an adobe addition on the west side. (This was located about where Dean and Fern Davenport's home now stands.) It was about 40 rods north of his store. He made many trips from Market Lake (Roberts) to Dillon, Montana with a team and wagon to haul produce and supplies. It was on one of these trips that he suffered from appendicitus and died on 4 January 1894 leaving his widow with a large family to raise by herself. She was able to accomplish this, teaching her family how to work and help each other. She died 3 February 1931. She was known by many as Lotté.

Charles Sperry Davenport was born on 21 February 1890 to Joseph C. and Charlotte E. Sperry Davenport, on the family homestead on Egin Bench straight west of Parker. He grew up on the homestead with eight older brothers and sisters. His father died when he was very young and the children learned to work hard to help their mother run the farm. On March 10, 1915, he married Flora Barrett, daughter of Nathan Augustus and Eliza Ellen Chesley Barrett, who had come from Utah to Driggs and then settled in Parker in 1910. Charles and Flora, or Flo as she was known, were blessed with six children, Dean, Ruby, Melba, Helen, Fern, and Sharon. They also raised a niece. Charles homesteaded a 320 acre dry farm east of the Junipers, to the north of Egin Bench, where they lived in the spring and fall for three years, moving back to the bench in the winter. He also did carpenter work, operated a road grader for the county, and did work for the St. Anthony Union Canal. Later he went back to farming on his mother's farm with his brother Ira, and they built a potato packing business with J. J. Remington known as Heman Potato Company. When their mother died,

they each purchased part of the farm. In 1948 his son Dean bought Ira Davenport's part of the farm and he and Charles worked together until Charles retired and eventually sold his part of the farm to his son, Dean. Charles was a talented man, especially gifted at singing and with his brother Ira and two nephews, Vivian and Harold Davenport, they made up the Davenport Quartet and did a lot of singing in the community. He and his wife were active in their church, holding many responsibilities and also served their community, on the school board, and in political capacities. He died 8 October 1966, and she died 5 February 1980.

Dean Raymond Davenport was born 6 February 1916 at his Grandmother Davenport's home at Parker. He grew up in that community and attended school there. On 20 September 1940, he went into the National Guard and spent 14 months at Fort Lewis, Washington. Then he went to San Diego, California and started working for Consolidated Aircraft Factory helping build B-24 Bombers, just three days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. He worked there for a year and then went back into military service in the Air Corps, where he learned to fly small airplanes at Blackwell, Oklahoma. Then in July 1943, Consolidated Aircraft got some of the men out of the Air Corps to go back to work for them and it was during this time that he married Fern Grover on 29 May 1944 in the Salt Lake L. D. S. Temple. She was the daughter of Royal Andrew and Minnie Isabell Larson Grover, born 11 July 1918, at Parker, Fremont, Idaho. She grew up and attended schools there also. Dean and Fern lived in San Diego until he was called back into active duty in July 1945 and served in Amarillo, Texas until he was discharged on 20 of February 1946. He then returned to Egin Bench to farm with his father. Dean and Fern have both been active in their church. She served a mission to Texas-Louisiana before their marriage. He served a stake mission, and has been a bishop's counselor, Sunday School President, Finance Clerk and they filled a mission together to Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1982. They have the following children: Deanna, Bonnie, Norene, Lyle Dean, Bryon, and Lori Ann. They bought the north half of the original Davenport Homestead from his uncle and his father, part of it in 1948 and part in 1966. This Davenport farm is a Century Farm, owned by members of the same family for 100 years.

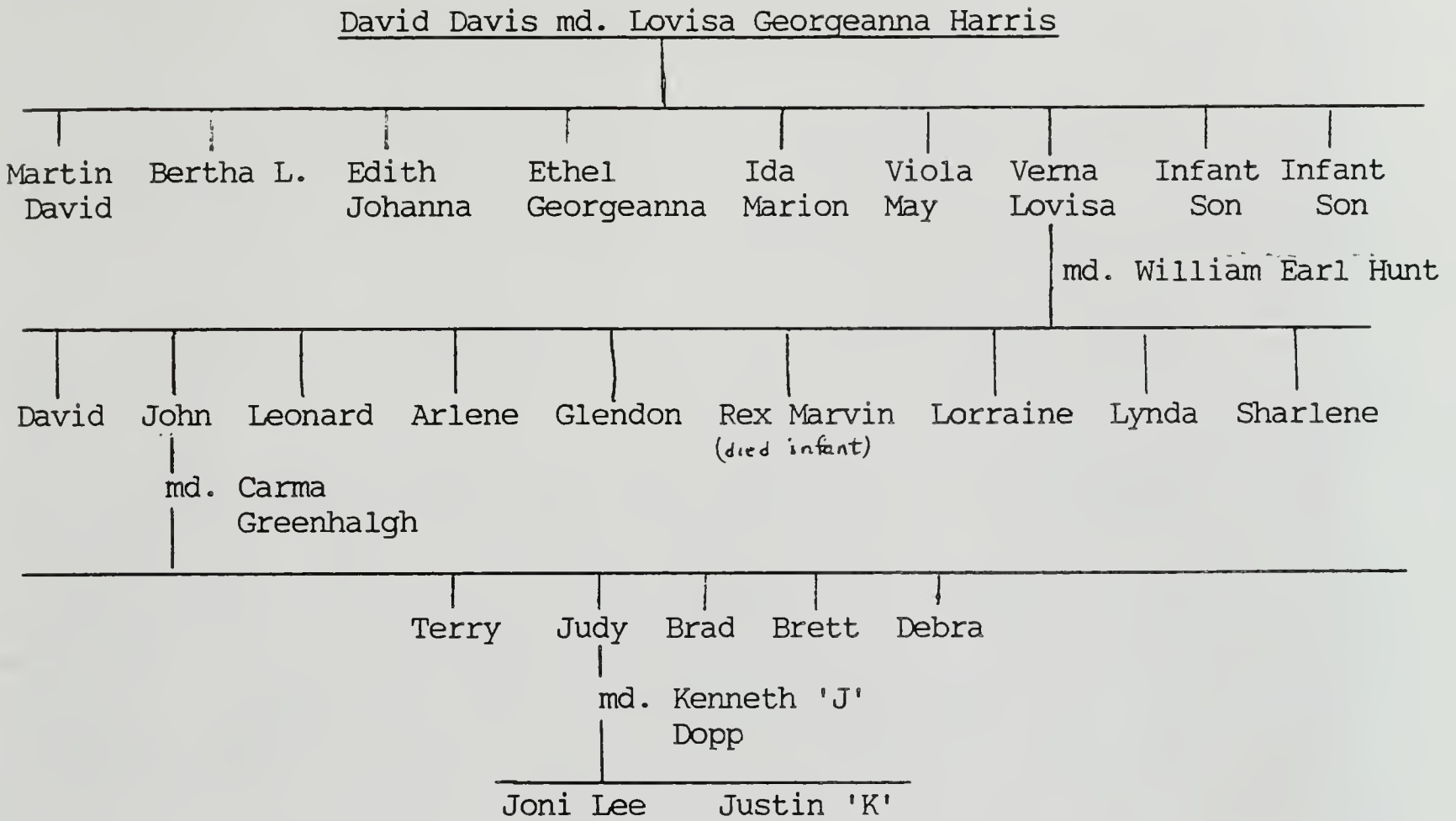
Bryon Davenport was born to Dean and Fern Grover Davenport 3 February 1955. He grew up on Egin Bench, attended school at Parker and St. Anthony. He married Jackie Park on 19 August 1977. She was born 29 March 1957 at Rexburg to Wilbur and Irene Park. Their children are Shawn Bryon, Michael Dean, Trevor Lewis, Jeremy Todd, and Robyn Sharee. He does some farming with his father. They have a home south of his parents on the original Davenport homestead.

Ira Sperry Davenport was born April 9, 1892 to Joseph Crapo and Charlotte (Lottie) Ellen Sperry Davenport at Heman, Idaho. He was known in the area for his singing with his brother Charles in their youth and they were joined later by two nephews, Vivian and Harold Davenport to make up the Davenport Quartet. Ira married Harriet Housley on June 10, 1914. Harriet Housley was born June 7, 1894 at Paradise, Cache, Utah to George John and Ida Brenchley O Bray Housley. She spent her childhood in Utah before coming to Idaho, where she met Ira when he was singing at the St. Anthony Theatre. They had eight children born to them including Elmo Ira, Syril George, Calvin Joseph, Marva, Donna, Beth, Verba Marie, and Merlin Kay. She died May 22, 1936, when some of her children were still small. Only Elmo was married and he and his wife helped Ira with the younger children until he remarried to Nora Sayer in 1943. Ira worked on his mother's farm on the Egin Bench with his brother Charles where they along with J.J. Remington operated one of the early potato packing businesses which was known as Heman Potato Company. When his mother died in 1931, he purchased half of the farm she had owned. He had built a home next to the original log house. In 1948, he sold his part of the farm with his home to his nephew, Dean Davenport and settled in Rigby where he ran a small neighborhood grocery store for many years before he retired. He passed away on January 11, 1986.

Elmo Ira Davenport was born February 13, 1915 at Heman, Idaho to Ira Sperry and Harriet Housley Davenport. He received his education in the area. At one time he along with some of his family had a dance band in which Elmo played the violin. On October 3, 1935, he married Ivie May Price. During World War II he worked in an airplane factory in San Diego, California. They came back to The Sugar City area where he started a chicken hatchery. In 1946, his brother Calvin took over the hatchery and he moved to Rexburg where he started a radio business which became the present-day 'El Gene's'. Elmo and Ivie have the following children: Price Elmo, Leona May, Karla Ray, Kendall L., Ellen Maria, Lecia Jo and James Ira.

James Ira Davenport was born August 14, 1954 at Rexburg, Idaho to Elmo Ira and Ivie May Price Davenport. As a child, he enjoyed coming to Egin to visit his grandparents. He attended school at Rexburg and on September 4, 1974, he was married to Debbie Cooper. Debbie Cooper was born July 22, 1955 at Rexburg, to Glen H. and Beatrice Miller Cooper. She grew up in Rexburg area and attended school there. As a child, she also enjoyed coming to visit her grandparents at the Miller farm on Egin Bench. It was a natural choice to find property on Egin Bench to make their home after their marriage. While living there, they had two sons, Edward and Andrew. Then they moved to Orem, Utah in February of 1979 and lived there ten years, renting their home in Egin while they were gone. They had two more children, Stephanie and Jonathan while they were there. They returned to their home in Egin to live during the summer of 1989. James now works as an air conditioning and refrigeration technician at Ricks College. In June 1990, another son, Mark Quentin was born them. The land they have their home on was part of Debbie's great grandfather's homestead. Their home is just a half mile north of Jame's great grandfather's homestead.

The David Davis Family - five generations on Egin Bench



David Davis was born August 19, 1857 in Britton Ferry, South Wales, where he lived until he was ten years old. At that time, he emigrated to the United States with his parents after joining the L.D.S. Church. They spent two years in Joliet, Illinois and then he came to Utah with his mother on the first immigrant train. He remained in Utah even when his mother returned to Illinois and on January 5, 1882, he married Lovisa Harris in the Endowment House at Salt Lake. Lovisa Georgeanna Harris was born March 4, 1862 in Harrisville, Utah to Martin Henderson and Louisa Sargent Harris. Her father was the founder of Harrisville and she grew up there on a farm where she helped her family raise silkworms. David and Lovisa lived in Willard, Utah until 1885. About March 1, he left by team and wagon for the Upper Snake River Valley to establish a new home for them on Egin Bench and that fall Lovisa and their small children, Martin and Berthacame by train to Camas to join him. They homesteaded a quarter section (160 acres) of land on the northeast corner of the intersection south of the present Egin townsite, and built a log house 16 X 19 ft. from cottonwood trees. The roof was made of poles covered with rushes and topped with a clay soil pounded down hard to shed the water. The floor was hard packed dirt, covered with rushes for warmth. Their prize possession was a rag carpet which was given to them by Lovisa's mother. They described the land as flat, level, sandy ground covered with bunch grass. Herds of deer roamed about. There were no trees up on the bench. They planted Lombard Poplar trees from cuttings they brought from Utah. They hauled water from the river to keep them alive and for culinary use. David went to work helping to build the Egin Canal. Lovisa took care of the garden, chickens and livestock. Fences were made from cedar posts from Juniper Mountain to the north and poles from the quaken aspen from the river bottoms, which were tied to the posts with wire. During the first years the only hay raised was along the river and David and some of neighbors built

a scaffold to stack the hay so the overflow from the river could not reach it. After some years of long hard work and the availability of water from the canals being completed, the people of Egin began to prosper. David and Lovisa built a two story brick home where they raised their family and where others were always welcome. Many people including some of the school teachers boarded in their home. They planted black walnut trees from seed and had a large berry patch. Lovisa served as Primary President for 21 years in Egin and Relief Society President from 1915-1919, along with other services she rendered. Among these were many hours given to deliver babies and to nurse the sick following a special nursing course she took from Dr. Ellis Shipp in 1901. Lovisa and David had nine children including Martin David, Bertha L., Edith Johanna and Ethel Georgeanna, who were twins, Ida Marion, Viola May, Verna Lovisa and two sons who died in infancy. Lovisa died on November 15, 1956, in St. Anthony at age 94, and David died on March 31, 1947, at age 89.

Verna Lovisa Davis was born February 23, 1900 at Egin, Idaho, to David and Lovisa Davis. She grew up on her parents farm in Egin where she learned to work hard. On December 15, 1920, she was married to William Earl Hunt in the Salt Lake L.D.S. Temple. They also lived on the farm of her parents, later buying part of it and there they had nine children. Three of their sons served their country during World War II, David in South Pacific, John in Italy and Leonard in Japan. Verna was Egin Relief Society President from December 19, 1954 to February 26, 1961. She worked with youth in the 4-H program and she and her husband were voter's registrars for many years. Beside the oldest three children already mentioned, they also had Arlene, Glendon, Rex Marvin who only lived three days, Lorraine, Lynda, and Sharlene. Verna and Earl lived in their home at Egin until about 1981, when they moved to Ashton, Idaho to be near their daughter. Verna is still living there and was honored by her family in February 1990 for her 90th birthday. She had lived on her family's original homestead for more than 80 years.

William Earl Hunt was born December 29, 1896 in Richmond, Cache, Utah to John Ebenezar and Caroline Andrus Hunt. He was 2 years old when his family moved to Ora, Idaho where his father traded his horses for a farm that had a two room log house with a red pine floor. He later traded his shotgun for a horse and bought another one. *Earl* worked for M.J. Kerr at an early age to help buy the groceries for his family, receiving three dollars a week for plowing, harrowing and chores. He went to school to eighth grade and he and his brother, Purcell attended high school one year at Rexburg, living in a covered wagon. When World War I came, he registered and was called into the Army stationed in California in 1918, then to New York and New Jersey and was discharged July 27, 1919. He met Verna Davis at a dance before going in the army and found her waiting for him when he returned. They were married on December 15, 1920. He worked in the Scouts and M.I.A. and was Superintendent of Sunday School in 1930. He was the Constable at elections for many years and a school trustee. He farmed for about forty years and also worked with Bill and Stan Liebert in farming. He also worked for B.M. Tibbits on his farm and helped keep the canal checks in good condition. He enjoyed the fishing trips he took his family on. He died February 28, 1984 at Ashton, Idaho.

John Eldon Hunt was born May 16, 1924 at Egin, to William Earl and Verna Lovisa Davis Hunt. He grew up at Egin and attended school there and graduated from Edmunds High School at Plano. He served his country in Italy during World War II 1944-1947. He married Carma Greenhalgh and they bought a farm in Wilford where they lived until 1951. They moved to St. Anthony, he became a Fremont County Deputy until 1954 and then worked as a St. Anthony City Police Officer until 1956. He worked as an insurance adjuster for Farm Bureau until 1989 when he retired. His wife Carma was born January 8, 1927 to Leonard and Annie Allen Greenhalgh and grew up at St. Anthony, Idaho, graduating from high school there. Their children are Terry L., Judy, who lives in Egin, Brad, Brett, and Debra.

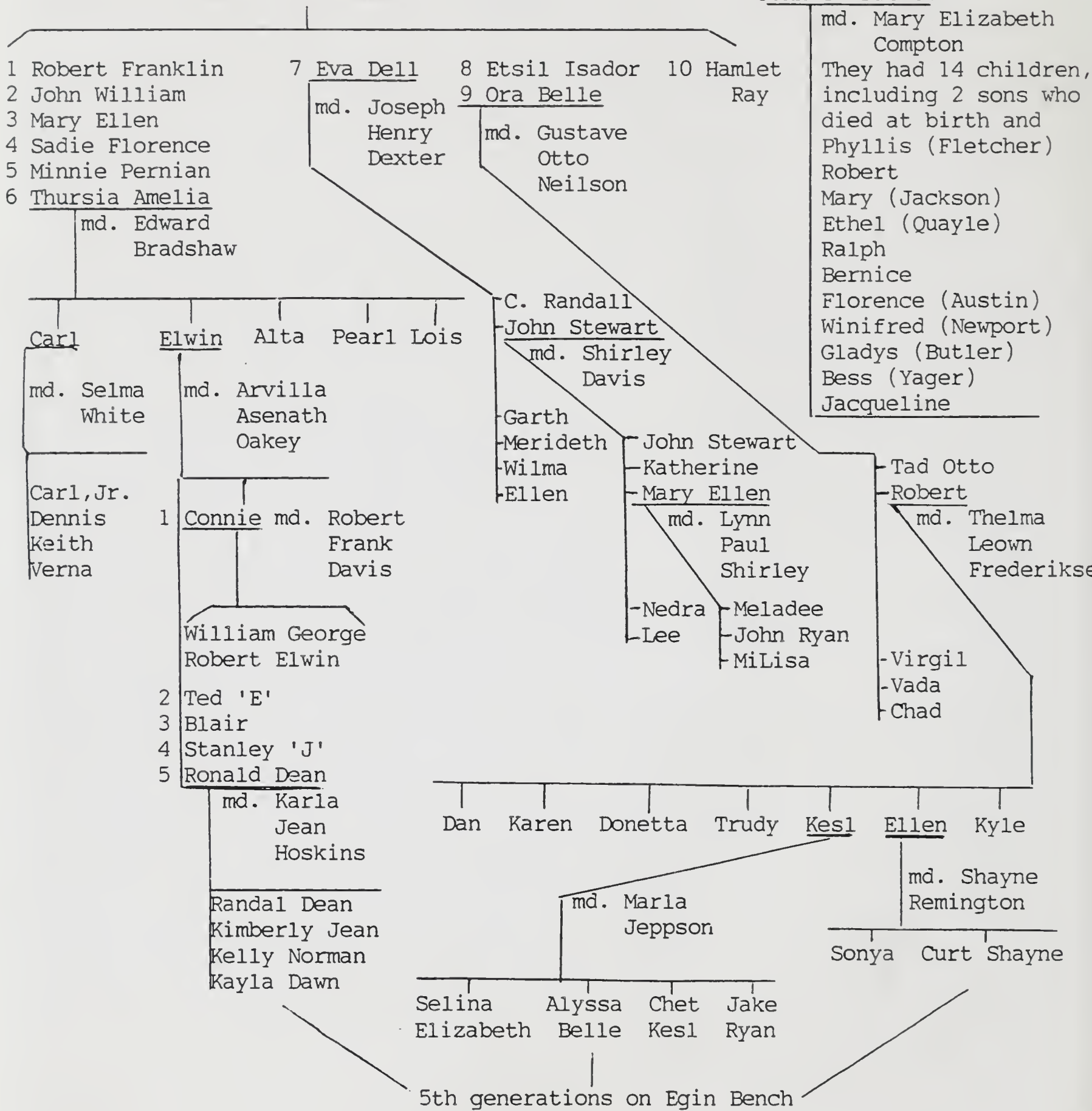
KENNETH J DOPP was born on June 12, 1942 at St. Anthony, Idaho to Kenneth O. and Julia Johnson Dopp. He grew up and went to school, graduating from high school there at St. Anthony. He served in the National Guard for about eight years and now works for Idaho Forest Industries at St. Anthony. He enjoys raising horses on his acreage at Egin. He married Judy Lynn Hunt.

JUDY LYNN HUNT was born on May 9, 1948 at St. Anthony, Idaho to John E. and Carma Greenhalgh Hunt. She went to school at St. Anthony, Belgrade, Montana, and graduated from high school at Twin Falls, Idaho. She now works as office administrater for Dr. Kunz and Dr. Holgate, dentists at St. Anthony, Idaho. They have two children, Joni Lee, born April 24, 1976 and Justin 'K' born March 14, 1979.

The FISHER Family - five generations on Egin Bench
 Two brothers came to the 'bench' about 1882 or 84.

Robert Fisher md. Ellen Emmeretta Randall

John T. Fisher



Robert Fisher was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on April 1 1859. He started freighting with his father, Robert Fisher, Sr. His father used ox teams and he went with him when he was about eight years old into Montana, to Butte and Virginia City from Corinne, Utah. When he was old enough to handle a team, he used a mule team. They used to put the eggs in grain so they would not break. On one trip, with his father's ox team, they became snowed in at Pleasant Valley above Spencer and before they got home they lost several of their oxen. On another trip he was just one day ahead of Chief Joseph's Battle at Kilgore and coming back he met General Howard's wounded men going to Virginia City. He and his father both knew Chief Joseph and also Chief Pocatello personally. Robert came to Rexburg and then took up a 200 acre homestead on Egin Bench about 1884, where he was one of the most progressive farmers in the county. He was president of the Woodmen of the World Building Association. This building was located on Main Street where Rexburg Music now is and was one of the finest in the state of Idaho in 1915. There were stores on the first floor and a dance hall upstairs where they held community dances. (Note: Stewart Dexter, a grandson, used to box there.)

Robert married Ellen Emmeretta Randall on December 21, 1882, her wedding ring was made from a gold nugget that he found on one of his freighting trips. Ellen was born April 27, 1862 at Virgin, Washington, Utah to Charles Franklin Randall. While she lived in Utah she did sewing to sell in stores in Ogden. She died December 1934 and Robert died February 17, 1942.

See the preceeding page for their children.

Thursia Amelia Fisher - see Bradshaw Family Histories.

Eva Dell Fisher was born September 25, 1898 in Plano, Idaho on the homestead of her parents, Robert and Ellen Emmeretta Randall Fisher. She grew up there and graduated from the eighth grade at Edmonds School. She married Joseph Henry Dexter on August 29, 1917. They made their home on Egin Bench, where they lived all of their married lives, about 67 years. She served as a 4-H leader for more than fifteen years and was an election judge for a few years. Her husband, Joseph was born June 21, 1895 in Alma, Wyoming to John and Eva Dunsford Dexter. His father died in a mine accident shortly before he was born and his mother died when he was just six months old. His aunt, Sarah Elizabeth Dexter Strange Bradshaw raised him. When he was eleven years old they moved to Egin Bench in 1906, where he went to school and grew up on the farm. He farmed and raised horses. They were the parents of six children, C. Randall, John Stewart, Garth, Merideth, Wilma, and Ellen. Eva died December 9, 1984 and Joseph died June 13, 1989.

John Stewart Dexter was born December 31, 1919 at Plano, Idaho to Joseph Henry and Eva Dell Fisher Dexter. He grew up in the Edmonds area just a mile south of where he now lives. He attended grade school and high school at Edmonds. He joined the National Guard and left St. Anthony in September 1940 with about 72 men from St. Anthony area. Some of them stayed together through their service. Dean Davenport from Egin was in the same group. When World War II was declared, they went into the regular army. He was stationed at Fort Lewis and then served in the South Pacific, in the Medical Corps at a battlefield hospital for nearly five years. He married Shirley Davis on February 23, 1945, while he was on furlough. They lived in San Francisco for about three months until he received his discharge. Then they lived in St. Anthony until 1972. In May they moved to Egin Bench for him to farm with his father. He served as a Stake Missionary in the Yellowstone Stake and as a counselor in the bishopric of the Egin Bench Ward in 1974. Since May of 1987 he has been Bishop of the Egin Bench Ward. His wife Shirley was born February 6, 1926 at Gunlock, Washington, Utah to

John Stewart Dexter (continued)

George A. and Patience Hope Neilson Davis. She lived there until she was three years old, when her family moved to Pioche, where she attended schools and graduated from Lincoln County High School. She has served as Egin Bench Ward Relief Society President from May 2, 1982, to February 17, 1985. Their children are John Stewart who served a mission to Australia 1965-67, Katherine (Thueson), Mary Ellen (Shirley), Nedra (Covington) and Lee Max who served a mission to London, England 1979-81.

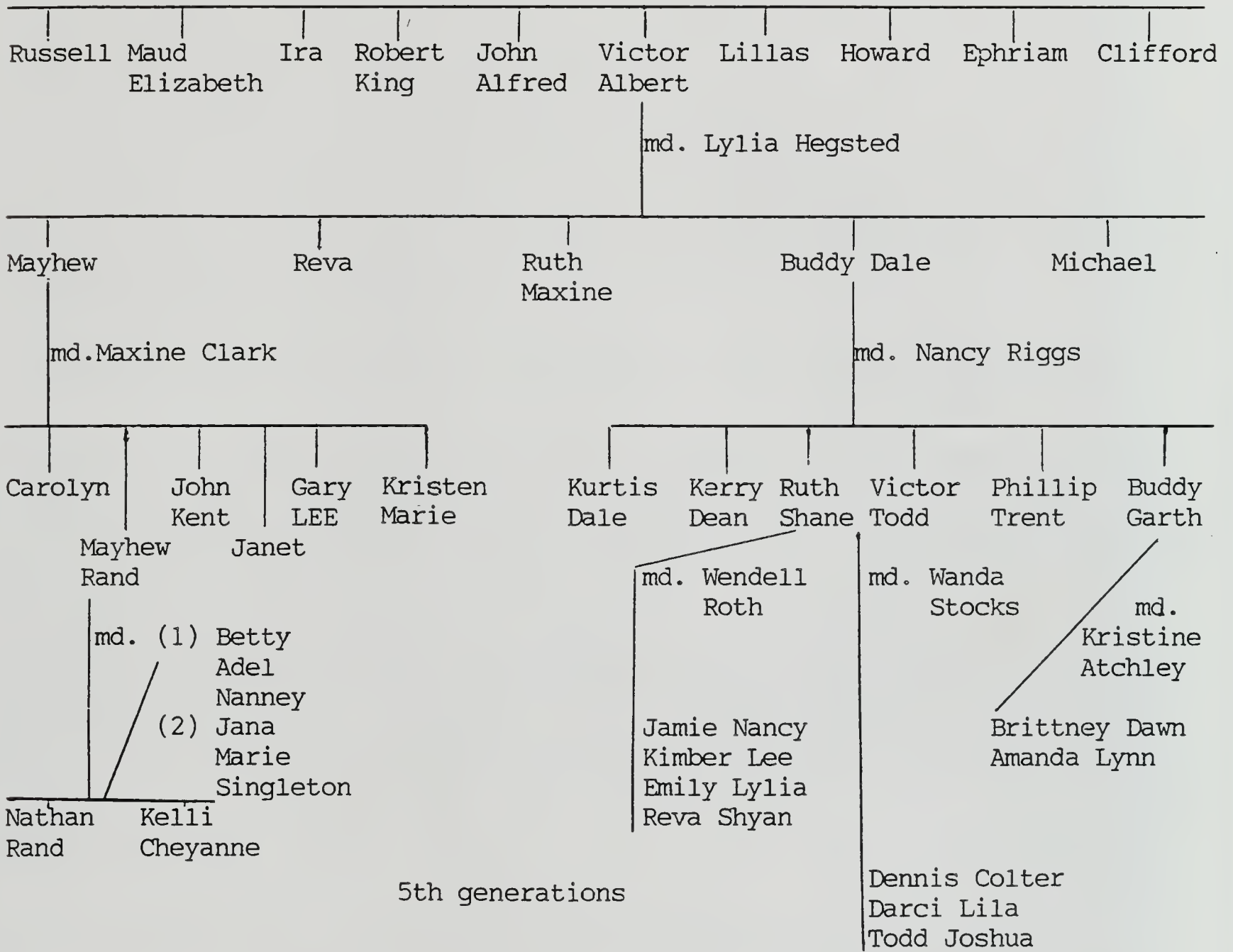
Mary Ellen Dexter was born November 15, 1951 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to John Stewart and Shirley Davis Dexter. She grew up at St. Anthony, attended schools there and graduated from South Fremont High School. She married Lynn Paul Shirley on March 9, 1987. He was born September 29, 1949 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Leo and Mary Shirley. He grew up in Sugar City, attending schools there and graduating from high school there. He also attended Ricks College and served a mission to the Eastern Atlantic states. After their marriage they lived in Arizona for two years and during the summer of 1989, they moved to Egin Bench to live. He works for Crapo Brothers and farms and she works in the office of Artco at Rexburg. Their children are Meladee (Gardella), John Ryan, and MiLisa.

Ora Belle Fisher - see Neilson family histories.

John T. Fisher was born June 5, 1862, near Ogden, Utah to Robert and Elizabeth Brereton Fisher. He attended school to age of fourteen and then with his father and older brother Robert, he worked on their farm and engaged in freighting to Bannock, Virginia City, Deer Lodge and Butte, Montana. In 1884, he and his brother filed claims on adjoining homesteads on Egin Bench, where some of the property is still known as Fisher's Hill and where he built a brick home across from the Brighton Townsite. In 1888, he married Mary Elizabeth Compton and they had fourteen children. (see preceeding family chart)
John was elected as county commissioner in 1898 and as Fremont County Sheriff in 1910, and served until 1918. He was also very involved with the irrigation systems of the area, serving on several boards and committees, working to maintain the water rights in the county. He was also president of the St. Anthony Chamber of Commerce while living in St. Anthony. He and his wife were honored by their family in 1948 on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. She died January 21, 1949 and he died at age of 96 in 1958.

The HILLMAN Family - Five generations on Egin Bench

Mayhew Hillman - Elizabeth Atkinson



5th generations

Mayhew Hillman was born in 1861 at Fort Harriman, Utah to Ira K. and Mary Petty Hillman, early pioneers to Utah. His father died when he was young, in 1865, leaving ten children. His mother died March 26, 1901. Mayhew started working in freighting with mule team at age fifteen, working throughout Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, which he did until 1888. At that time he took up a homestead of 160 acres located two miles from the Edmunds Post Office, where he developed a fertile farm with a good herd of cattle, horses and sheep. He was known in the valley as a good farmer with good judgement. He had kept the mules that he freighted with and they were used to build canals. He brought the Domino Hereford bull into the area. He served as president of the People's Irrigation Canal Company of Edmunds and owned an interest in the Egin Canal. He became part owner of the buildings occupied by Rexburg Hotel, Farmers Implement Co. and the newspaper office and bought Doctor Hyde's home on West Main Street in Rexburg by 1915. He had married Elizabeth Atkinson in 1884. She was the daughter of Alfred J. and Ann Botting Atkinson of Clarkston in Cache Valley, Utah. Their children were Russell, Maud Elizabeth, Ira (who died age five), Robert King, John Alfred, Victor Albert, Lillas, Howard, Ephriam, and Clifford.

Victor Albert Hillman was born December 24, 1896 to Mayhew and Elizabeth Atkinson Hillman. He grew up on his parent's homestead in the Edmunds area of Egin Bench and attended school at Plano, Edmunds, and Ricks Academy. He served our country during World War I. He married Lylia Hegsted from the Rexburg area on May 14, 1921. She was born August 3, 1902. They moved to the Egin farm about 1926. Lylia had a butter mold with which she molded her butter and she had her own label with her name printed on to wrap it and she took it to Earl Rumsey's store at Egin to trade for things she needed. That was about the time of the depression. The children were allowed to occasionally take a dozen eggs which they had gathered and trade for candy. They would receive about eight cents worth of candy. Victor died about 1971 and Lyla died in November of 1975 or 76. Their children are Mayhew, Reva May, Buddy Dale and Mike.

Mayhew (Hoot) Hillman was born June 11, 1922 at Hibbard, Idaho to Victor and Lylia Hegsted Hillman. He grew up at Edmunds and on the farm in Egin where he now lives. He attended school at Heman, Egin and then two years of high school at Edmunds. He married Maxine Clarke on November 14, 1942. Maxine was born April 8, 1923 at Burton, Madison, Idaho to John Roland and Nora Redford Clarke. She grew up in the Rexburg area where she attended school and also attended Ricks College. He was a Staff Sergeant in the United States Air Force, stationed in England and flew a full tour of bombing missions over Germany during World War II. After his discharge, they lived at St. Anthony and then about 1970, they moved to Egin when they bought the place from his mother. He was a route mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service for 31 years on the Egin Route. When he started, the route was only 26 miles long, as they only traveled the main road and now it is 76 miles long since most residences get delivery to their homes. He had an automotive repair shop for twelve years and has had a radiator repair shop by his home for the last twenty years. He has an old 1929 White truck that he bought from Otto Neilson that was out of the first fleet that Yellowstone Park had. He has served as president of the Young Men's MIA and is a ward clerk in the Egin Bench Ward for the second time. Their children are Carolyn, Mayhew Rand, John Kent, Janet, Gary Lee, and Kristen Marie.

Mayhew Rand Hillman was born May 23, 1947 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Mayhew and Maxine Clarke Hillman. He grew up at St. Anthony where he attended school and graduated from high school. He attended Ricks College during 1966 and then served a mission to the East Central States - Tennessee and Kentucky. After his mission he went back to Ricks College. He married Betty Adel Nanney and they had two children, Nathan Rand and Kelli Cheyanne. His first wife died about 1985. He had worked as a professional musician, living in the Boise area from about 1969 until 1986, when he came back to Egin Bench to live. He married Jana Maria Singleton on November 24, 1989. Jana was born March 28, 1956 at Ashton, Fremont, Idaho to Jesse Madsen and Emma Gail Virgin Singleton. She grew up at Wilford, attended school at Teton and St. Anthony and graduated from the South Fremont High School. She graduated from Ricks College and then from Utah State at Logan. She taught several years and then attended Idaho State University to complete her Masters Degree. She teaches at Madison Junior High School, where she is also a counselor.

Buddy Dale Hillman was born to Victor Albert and Lylia Hegsted Hillman on September 21, 1931. He married Nancy Riggs in July of 1951. He served in the United States Army in Korea. He farmed on Egin Bench, living first at Egin and then Parker, coming back to Egin where they lived until 1984, when they moved to Arizona most of the year and come back to Egin for a short time during the summer. He sold his farm to the Blair Parker family in 1989. He enjoys fishing and has fished many areas of the West. Their children are Kurtis Dale and Kerry Dean, twins, Ruth Shane (Roth), Victor Todd, Phillip Trent, and Buddy Garth.

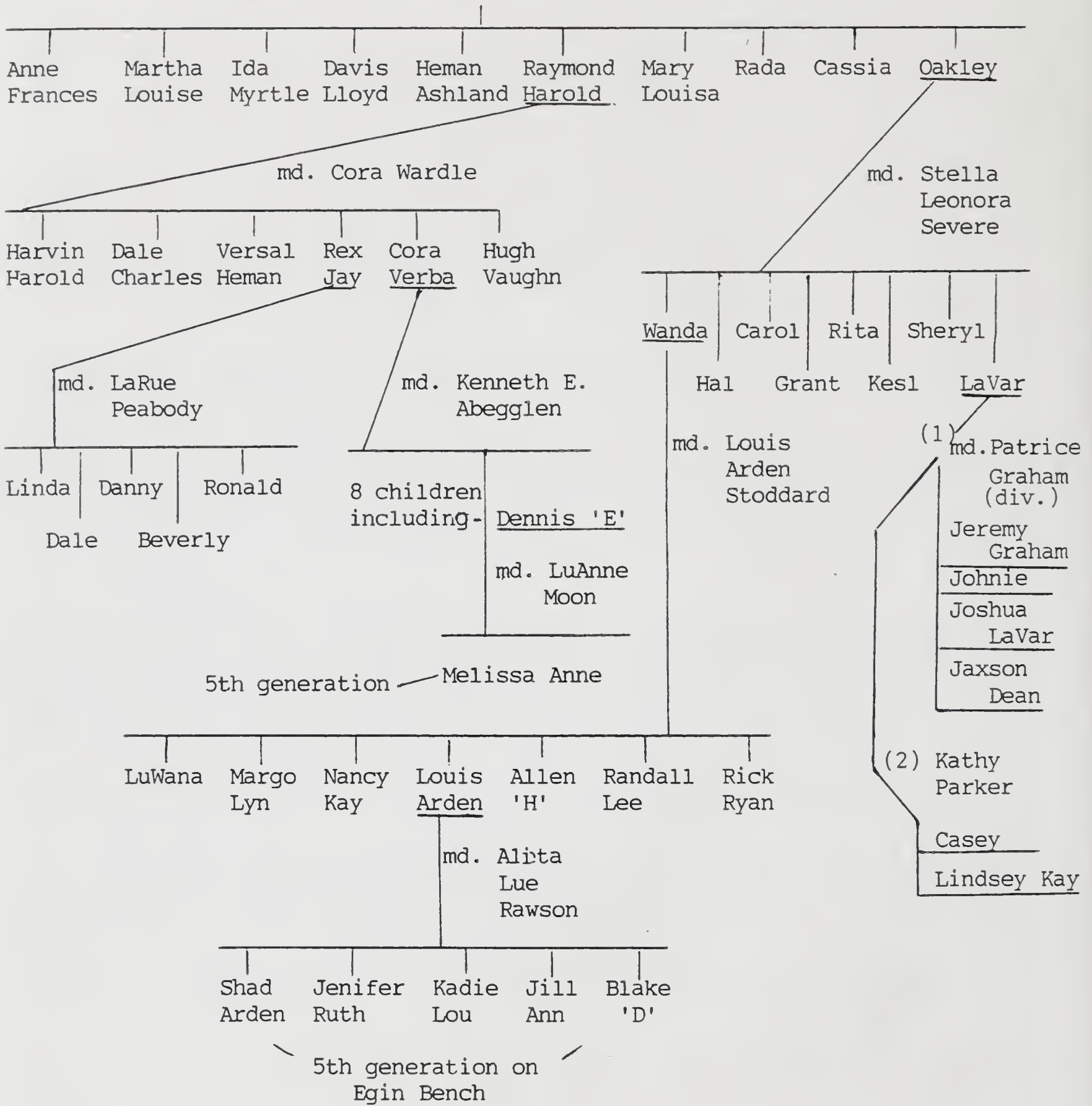
Ruth Shane Hillman was born May 27, 1954 to Bud and Nancy Riggs Hillman. She lived on the Victor Hillman ranch, which was called the 'old house' during her early childhood. Then they moved to Parker and when she was nine years old, they came back to Egin. While living at Egin their home burned down, and they had to rebuild. She was married to Wendell J. Roth of Lyman, Idaho in June 1973. They lived at Lyman for sixteen years, since their marriage and in May 1989 they bought her parents home in Egin. They have four daughters, Jamie Nancy, Kimber Lee, Emily Lylia, and Reva Shyan.

Victor Todd Hillman was born in Rexburg, Madison, Idaho on March 10, 1957, to Buddy Dale and Nancy Riggs Hillman. He attended schools at Parker and St. Anthony. He married Wanda Stocks July 13, 1977. She is the daughter of Dennis and Gleena Stocks. They live on Egin Bench and they have three children, Dennis Colter, Darci Lila, and Todd Joshua. Todd is a salesman for Upper Valley Farm Service at Sugar City. He sometimes plays in the evenings in a band.

Buddy Garth Hillman was born March 25, 1965 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Buddy Dale and Nancy Riggs Hillman. He attended schools at Arizona, Parker and St. Anthony where he graduated from South Fremont High School. He married Kristine Atchley December 31, 1983. She was born December 12, 1968 at St. Anthony Fremont, Idaho to William and DawnEtte Riggs Atchley. She attended schools at St. Anthony and Salt Lake City. She also attended Ricks College. Since their marriage they have lived at Egin, then at Gillete, Wyoming and St. George, Utah before coming back to Egin in 1988. He has opened a Radiator Repair Shop at Egin. Their children are Brittney Dawn and Amanda Lynn.

The HUNTER Family - Five Generations on Egin Bench

Heman Hyde Hunter - Fannie Frances Fawson



Heman Hyde Hunter was born at Grantsville, Utah on April 10, 1864, to Edward and Martha Hyde Hunter. There he helped his family with raising sheep and at the age of twent one years, he went to Oakley, Cassia, Idaho, where he raised sheep for about twelve years. He married Fannie Frances Fawson on October 3, 1885. They came to Egin about 1898 and located on the farm which was later owned by their youngest son, Oakley. They continued to raise sheep and also horses. He was called to be bishop of the Egin Ward and served from June 29, 1902 until his death from pnuemonia on June 4, 1907 at Egin. When the Egin Ward was divided and a new ward created, it was named Heman, honoring him. Their children were Anne Frances, Martha Louise, Ida Myrtle, Davis Lloyd, Heman Ashland, (who died in infancy while they were still at Oakley) Raymond Harold, Mary Louisa, Rada, Cassia, and Oakley.

Fannie Frances Fawson was born to Abraham and Louise Kilpatrick Fawson on August 19, 1867 at Grantsville, Tooele, Utah. She came to Egin with her husband, Heman Hyde Hunter and most of their children in 1898. She served as the first Relief Society President of Heman Ward after it was organized. Their family donated ground for the Heman church house, purchased the old school house and moved it across the street, where they remodeled it for the church house, where John and Jana Poulsen now live. The Heman Ward was named after her husband, who died while serving as bishop of the Egin Ward. Fannie also was called to work on the first Relief Society Stake Board when the Yellowstone Stake was organized in 1909.

Raymond Harold Hunter was born December 13, 1896 at Oakley, Cassia, Idaho to Heman Hyde and Fannie Frances Fawson Hunter. He came to Egin with his parents about 1898, where he grew up on their farm. He married Cora Wardle of Egin on February 13, 1918. Cora was born August 5, 1899 at South Jordon, Salt Lake, Utah to Charles and Harriet Rhodehouse Wardle. After their marriage they lived at Egin (Heman) with their home located just north of his parents. Their children were Harvin Harold, Dale Charles, Versal Heman, Rex Jay, Cora Verba, and Hugh Vaughn.

Rex Jay Hunter was born July 30, 1925 to Raymond Harold and Cora Wardle Hunter and grew up in Egin area. He served in the United States Army Engineers in World War II, stationed in the Phillipines. He farmed at Kilgore and lived there several years. He married LaRue Peabody on July 18, 1948. He took over his parent's home and farmed at Kilgore, Parker and Egin and raised cattle. He served as Superintendent of Sunday School at one time. He died October 13, 1975. Their children are Linda, Dale, Dan, Beverly, and Ronald. After he died LaRue later married Milton Nelson, and they spend part of their time at the home in Egin.

Cora Verba Hunter is the daughter of Raymond Harold and Cora Wardle Hunter. She married Kenneth Abegglen and they live in Wilford area. Their children are Randall 'K', Dennis 'E', Terry 'H', Darius Jay, Patricia Lee, Garin Wayne, Ricky Lowell, and Darrell Wade.

Dennis 'E' Abegglen was born July 3, 1949 to Kenneth E. and Verba Cora Hunter Abegglen at St. Anthony, Idaho. He grew up in Wilford and attended schools at Teton and South Fremont, where he graduated. He served and L.D.S. mission to the Southern States. He joined the National Guard at St. Anthony shortly after the local group went to Vietnam and was stationed in Kentucky. He attended Ricks College. In 1972, he started working at the Youth Services Center,

Oakley Hunter was born July 7, 1906 at Heman, Fremont, Idaho to Heman Hyde and Fannie Francis Fawson Hunter. He grew up in the Heman area on Egin Bench helping on his parent's farm. He married Stella Leonora Severe on December 14, 1927. He served as a ward clerk and a counselor in the bishopric of Egin Ward before being called as bishop of the Heman Ward on March 31, 1941, serving until it was combined with Egin Ward on February 1, 1948. He served for two terms as Fremont County Commissioner and also was chairman of the Parker Cemetary Board for many years. He had a good sense of humor and enjoyed a good story. He enjoyed singing in the choir. He was a good farmer and farmed all his life on the same farm where his father farmed. He died at Pocatello, Idaho on July 3, 1982.

Stella Leonora Severe was born October 26, 1907 at Oakley, Cassia, Idaho to Lyman Carlos and Alvaretta Grant Severe. After her mother's death when she was a child, her father moved his family to Egin Bench where he later was married to Myrtle Hunter and they had a large family. Stella graduated from Ricks Academy with a high school degree. After their marriage, Oakley and Stella lived on the farm in the Heman area, and also operated a ranch at Fog Butte north of St. Anthony for about eleven years. She was a good cook and homemaker and served as secretary-treasurer of the Fremont County School District 17 during the depression years. She served as President of the Heman Ward Relief Society and also as President of Primary and Young Woman's Organizations, and as ward organist for many years. She died June 13, 1988 at St. Anthony. The children of Oakley and Stella are Wanda (Stoddard), Carol (White), Rita (Barney), Sheryl (Hillman), and sons, Hal, Grant, Kesl, and LaVar, who still lives in Egin on the farm of his father and grandfather. Wanda has raised her family in Egin, see Louis Stoddard history. Hal and Kesl have both lived in Egin part of their married lives. Kesl, Hal and LaVar all served in the military. Hal served a mission to New England States, Grant to Great Lakes Mission, and Kesl to the Gulf States Mission.

Kesl Ray Hunter was born April 18, 1938, at Heman, Fremont, Idaho to Oakley and Stella Leonora Severe Hunter. He grew up on his father's farm where he helped with the work. He served in the Army Reserve from 1956 to 1963. He served an L.D.S. mission to the Gulf States Mission from 1958 to 1960. He married Linda Mae Widdison on October 27, 1961. He farmed on Egin Bench until about 1977, when he sold his farm and moved to the Blackfoot area. While at Egin, he had served as a clerk and counselors in the bishoprics of Egin Bench Ward before becoming the Bishop on April 14, 1974 where he served until July 24, 1977. He farmed in the Blackfoot area also and then worked as a technician at the I.N.E.L. Kesl and Linda have three sons, and a daughter, Monte Ray, Troy, Cory, and Keslyn.

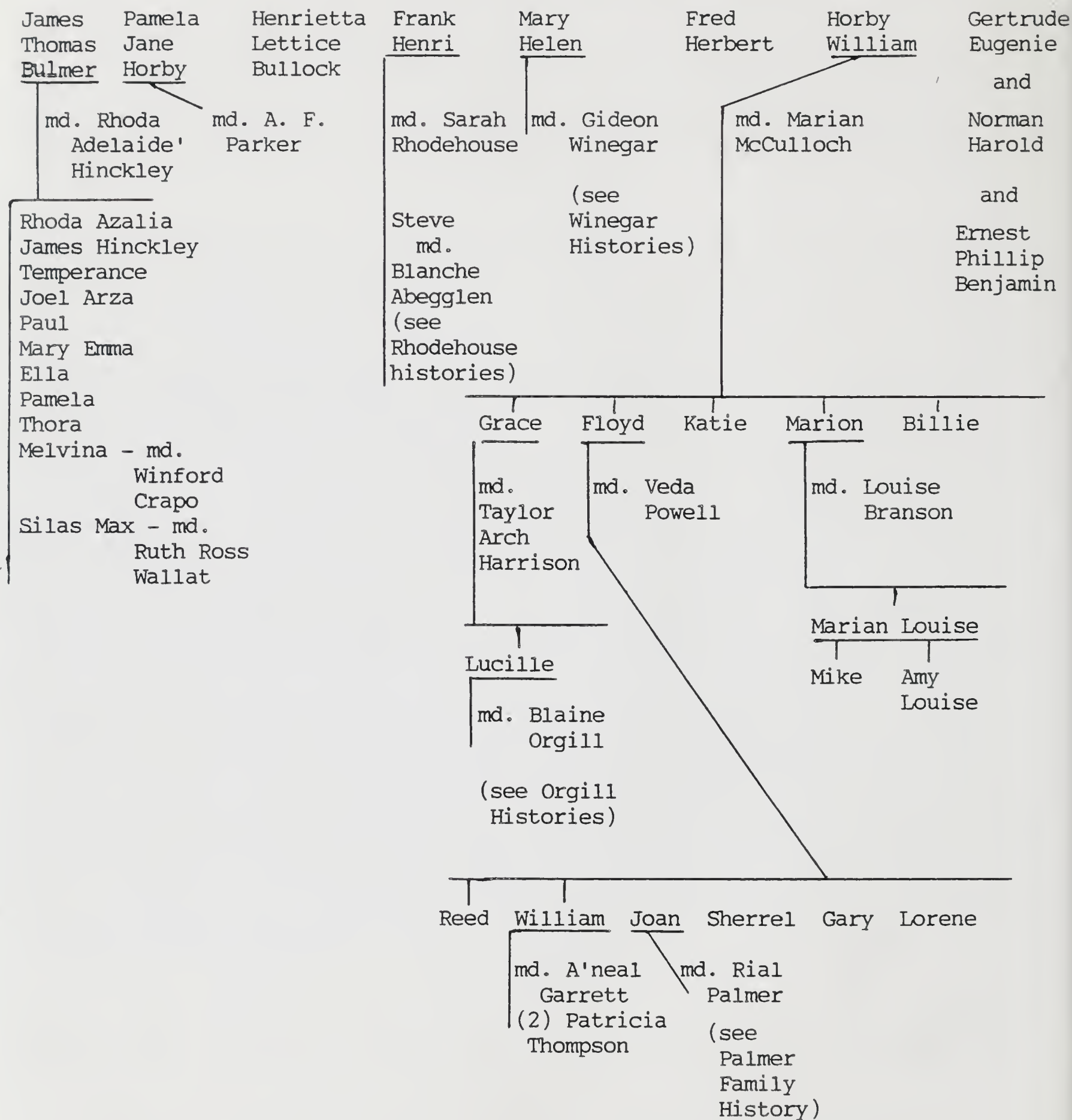
Lauchie LaVar Hunter was born November 13, 1950, to Oakley and Stella Leonora Severe Hunter. at Ashton, Fremont, Idaho. He attended schools at Parker and St. Anthony, graduating from high school there in 1969. He served in the United States Army in Viet Nam from 1969 to 1971. After his return home he was married to Patrice Graham, daughter of Dean and Colleen Graham, in 1971. Their marriage later ended in divorce. Their children are Jeremy Graham, Johnie, Joshua LaVar, and Jaxson Dean. When LaVar's parents retired from farming, he took their place on the farm, where he still lives. He married Cathy Parker on July 6, 1984. Cathy was born March 18, 1959 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Lawrence and Marjorie Lefford Parker. She grew up in the St. Anthony and Wilford areas, graduating from South Fremont High School in 1977. She attended Eastern Idaho Vo-Tech School at Idaho Falls, graduating in 1978 as a certified dental assistant with an Associate Degree. She has worked for Kunz & Holgate, dentists in St. Anthony. Cathy and LaVar have two children, Casey Hunter and Lindsey Kay Hunter. LaVar is preparing to graduate from Ricks College later this year (1990).

Dennis 'E' Abegglen, continued.

where he is still employed. He married Luanne Moon on October 4, 1974. LuAnne was born May 31, 1953 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Arch C. and Bernice Louise O'Nele Moon. She attended school at Parker and St. Anthony where she graduated from South Fremont High School. She graduated from Ricks College in 1973. They have lived at Egin since their marriage, where Dennis has built their home north of her parents. They have one daughter, Melissa Anne.

William Edward Hunter was born November 30, 1858 in Utah. He married Lillie May Severe, who was born June 8, 1864. They left Utah and came to Idaho after their marriage, settling first at Oakley, Cassia, Idaho. In 1900, they brought their ten children and settled on Egin Bench, buying the east half of the Alonzo Stoddard homestead, east of the Heman corner across from Davenport's. William and his half brother, Heman, were the only members of their large family to come to Egin. William, Lillie and their children lived in a small log house with a dirt roof for awhile and William cut logs in the Fog Butte area north of St. Anthony and hauled them down to Parker by team and sleigh where they were sawed at Clark Jackson's Lumber Company. The next year, they had a lovely two story home built, which featured a beautiful staircase in side and ornate trim on the exterior. Their children walked to the Heman school a mile to the south. He served a mission to the Southern States in 1910 and the older children ran the farm, hauling beet pulp by team and wagon from Sugar City daily to feed the cattle. After his return, he and his sons went into the sheep business. Their children included William Leslie, Mary Elizabeth (Winnie), Edna May (Blake), Clyde and Chloe, twins, Hazel, Sarah Irene, Vera Leona, Acle Ermit, Murray Clifford, Irma Althea, Edward who froze to death at age fourteen trying to get the sheep in from the north, Gladys and Karl. William died January 24, 1930 and Lillie died July 25, 1940. See Blake Family history for Edna's sketch.

James Horby Mason - Pamela Bullock



Note: Joan's family have six generations on Egin Bench.

James Horby Mason was born September 28, 1841 to Thomas and Jane Bulmer Mason in England. He and his mother emigrated to America in 1848 after she joined the L.D.S. Church in August 1844. With a limited education, he became a school teacher at twenty years of age. He had an uncommon literary ability and participated in amateur theatricals, and composed comic songs which he often sang. On August 10, 1861, he was married to Pamela Bullock, whose parents, Thomas and Henrietta Rushton Bullock had also joined the same church in England, and came to Salt Lake City. She was born June 15, 1842 in England. James also married Clara Eardley, daughter of John and Ann Cross Eardley, on April 9, 1867. He farmed and taught school in Utah until he moved his family to Egin Bench in May 1884, after his oldest son James had come the previous year and had encouraged them to come to Idaho. He taught school at Egin that coming winter and then in 1886, he started teaching in Rexburg but soon learned that there were papers out for his arrest on a charge of unlawful co-habitation for which he was later arrested along with many others and was imprisoned. After his release, he gardened and raised seed, selling both the seed and the produce, which he delivered in his single buggy pulled by his little brown mare. His wife Clara died on February 2, 1913 in Parker and Pamela died in Egin on April 28, 1921. He died at Parker on December 3, 1926. He had introduced many varieties of trees and plants into the area. He and his son James had also been members of a brass band and had played on many occasions in the area. Pamela had served as the first Relief Society President in Parker in 1886. She became completely blind for many years before her death. See the preceding chart for the names of his children with his wife Pamela. The children of James and Clara were John, Clarence, Louis, Harry, Cecil, Clara, and Joseph H., who was born in Egin.

James Thomas Bulmer^{Mason} was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on September 20, 1862, the first child of James Horby and Pamela Bullock Mason. When he was about twenty years old, Thomas Lutz invited him to go to Idaho and they came late in 1883 to Rexburg. He heard of an opening for a teacher and on December 31 he walked from Rexburg crossing the river on the ice and along the bench to Stephen Winegar's home and post office where he stayed overnight. The next morning Mr. Winegar took him to W. M. Parker, chairman of the school board and he was hired for three months. He encouraged his parents to come to Egin Bench, which they did the next summer, coming to a quarter section of land which James had filed on that had two cabins he had built. On December 18, 1887, he married Rhoda Adelaide Hinckley. She was born on November 6, 1869 at Coalville, Utah to Arza Erastus and Temperance Ricks Hinckley. He brought his bride to live on Egin Bench in a little one room cabin that he had built. They lived there until they built a two story log house behind it in 1900. He served a mission to the Southern States in 1893-95 when he was thirty years old and had three children and also a mission later to Great Britain 1915-1918. He spent most of his life farming and had a large garden. He helped build four canals on Egin Bench and did much to build up the land and the community. He died August 28, 1934 after living in an apartment near the Salt Lake L.D.S. Temple for a few years, spending his time working in the temple. His wife Rhoda served as a Relief Society President for fourteen years and as a Primary President as well as supporting her husband on his missions and caring for the needs of their family. She died in October 1937. Their children are listed on the preceding chart.

and Pamela Bullock Mason. In May 1884 he came to Egin Bench with his parents where he grew up in the Parker-Egin area. He served a mission for the L.D.S. Church and then worked in a factory in Ogden, Utah. He married Marian McCulloch from Rexburg on July 6, 1901 at Parker. They moved often as he took various kinds of employment to support his family, including working on the railroad at Pocatello, building refrigerator cars, and he also helped to build the Inkom Cement Plant. He built their furniture and crafted other items and painted many pictures. He was a good singer. He moved his family to a farm in Burton where his wife became ill with flu and died on February 20, 1920. He soon moved his family to a farm in Parker. Their youngest son died with pneumonia on June 24, 1934 and he never got over the loss, taking sick himself and he died December 21, 1934. Their children are Grace, Floyd, Katie, Marion, and Billie.

Fred Herbert Mason was born to James Horby and Pamela Bullock Mason August 18, 1874 at Morgan, Utah. The first 32 years of his life he helped his mother. He and his brother Frank took up claims on ground south of Parker that had not been proved on. There he built a kiln to fire bricks that he made from the clay soil on his farm and he built a lovely brick home for his mother where she lived the last years of her life. (This home is presently owned by Cyril Burt.) On October 5, 1914, he married Yerba Sophia Matson. In 1906 he left his wife and young baby behind to serve a mission to Australia for two years. Yerba, who was a Swedish emigrant, died May 13, 1924 leaving six children, ages 4 to 18 years, including Herbert Spencer, Ruth, Richard Matson, Yerba Edith, Fred Phillip, Robert Clinton. Fred later moved to St. Anthony where he served as Justice of the Peace and Coroner and also Probate Judge for fourteen years. He married Caroline Rice (Workman), a friend from childhood, on March 7, 1931. She died March 7, 1941. He served as St. Anthony City Judge and Clerk from 1940 to 1945 and then served a mission to the Central States in 1945. He died January 13, 1960.

Paul Mason, son of James Thomas Bulmer and Rhoda Adelaide Hinckley Mason, has accomplished many things in his life. As a young man he worked in a law office and then after attending school for only six months, he passed the bar exam. He invented an automotive sled similar to the modern day snowmobile in 1922. He was first to put a hook on beet knives and hooks on the corner of a hoe to separate beets from weeds. He developed a substance to preserve eggs. He was Technical Advisor for Motor Vehicles and a director when he retire. He wrote the Motor Vehicle Code and helped to unify regulations. He wrote the book, "Mason's Parlimentary Procecedures". He died about 1987 in California.

Silas Max Mason was born June 23, 1912 to James T.B. and Rhoda A. Hinckley Mason. He lived in Parker through his youth and went to Las Vegas, Nevada as a young man where he worked for the Postal Service for three years and then served a mission to the Northwestern States. Then he moved to southern California where he lived from 1935 to 1953 and worked for the Postal Service. He had two daughters, Mary Ann and Suzanne from his first marriage. He went to Blythe, California about 1953, where he attended a chiropractic school and received his license to practice in California, which he still has. He liked the theatre and acted in 'Cain Mutiny' at Blythe College, where he also taught some classes. He developed a 200 acre ranch from brush and gullies near Blythe and was the first to irrigate from cement ditches in that area, dividing into twenty acre plots. He also met and married his second wife, Charlotte Ruth Ross Wallat while at Blythe. They came to Egin about 1985 and built the first home in the area with passive annual heat storage. During his life he has spent a year and half in Costa Rica, some time in Mexico, Venezuela, and Equador, has been to Alaska and has climbed Mt. Whitney in California. Max and Ruth spend the summers in their Egin home and winters in the south.

Floyd Mason was born February 16, 1906 at Blackfoot, Idaho to Horby William and Marian McCulloch Mason. He attended school at American Falls where his family lived for a time until they moved to Pocatello and then to the area southwest of Rexburg where he graduated from eighth grade at Rexburg. They were living there when his mother died when he was fourteen years old. He served for three years in the U. S. Army at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He started working in construction in California when they still used mule teams. He worked in construction most of his life and acquired his own heavy equipment for land leveling, etc. He worked on the Island Park Dam for about three years. He married Veda Arvilla Powell in April 1932. They lived in several places before they bought the home on the Egin townsite where Veda now lives on February 22, 1943. The three front rooms were built in 1966 by a contractor, Mr. Alvord and her father added the back rooms in 1944. There they raised their children after their first son Reed died at birth. They were William (Bill), Joan (Palmer), Sherrel (Wright), Gary and Lorene. Floyd died March 3, 1977.

Veda Arvilla Powell was born December 12, 1914 at Egin, Idaho in a little log house built by her father about 1904. Her parents are Henry and Nellie Packer Powell and they raised their family on Egin Bench, teaching them to work hard and take care of what they had. They lived on what they raised on their farm and in the garden. They seldom went into town. They learned to swim in the canals, walked to school and many of the places that they went and they studied by the light of a kerosene lamp or later a gas lamp. She attended Egin School and Edmunds High School. She was married to Floyd Mason. (See his life sketch for more about their life.) After Floyd died in 1977, she was married to Marvin Kirby on November 21, 1981 and they lived in Idaho Falls until he died there on March 22, 1990. She then came back to her home in Egin where she now lives.

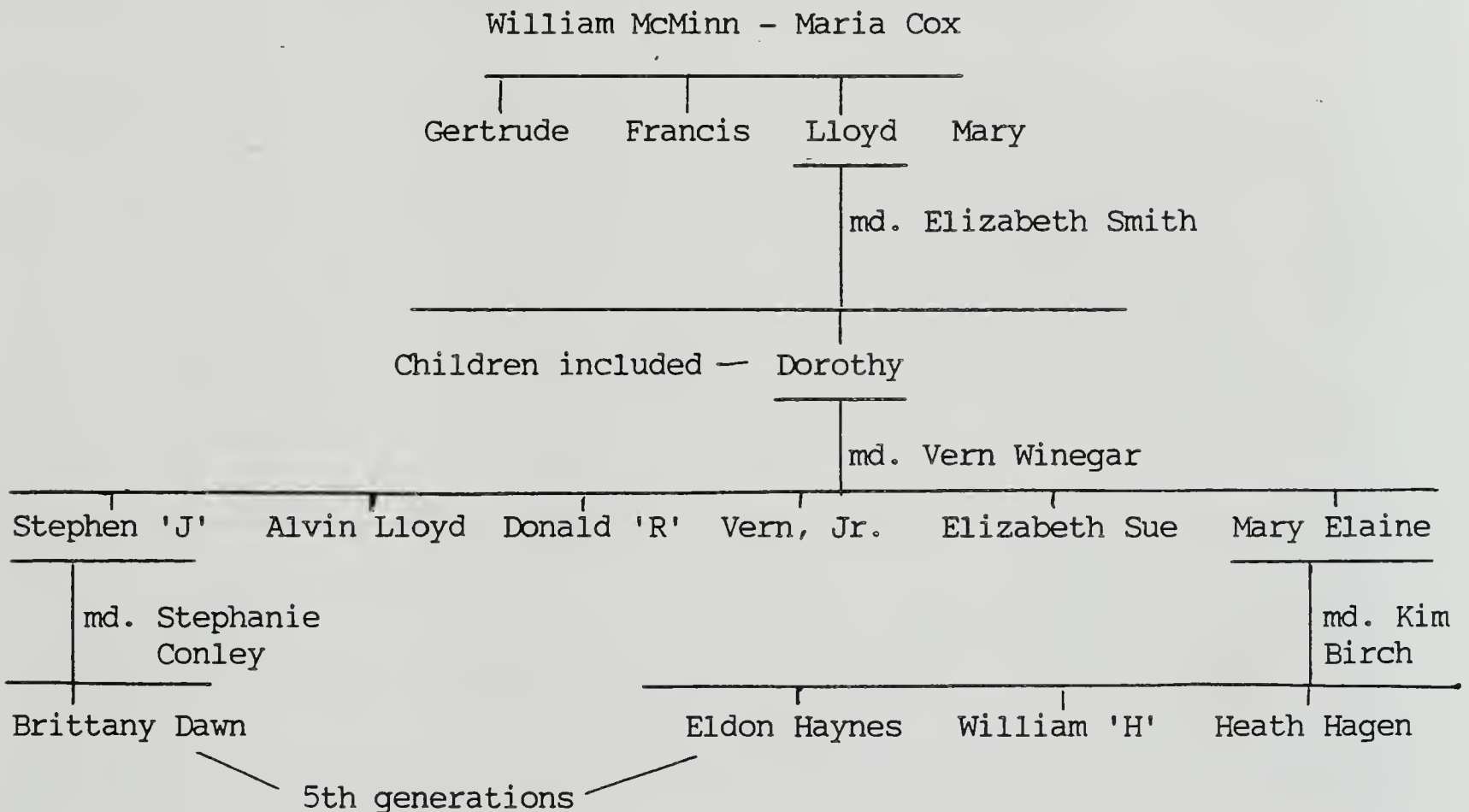
Henry William (Bill) Mason was born October 6, 1934 at Egin, Idaho in the log home of his grandfather, Henry Powell. (This the property now owned by Larin Palmer, a great grandson of Henry Powell) His parents are Floyd and Veda Powell Mason. He started school at Egin but his father worked in construction so between 1940 and 43, they lived in many places. When he was in third grade, his parents bought their home one block south of the Egin School where he spent the rest of his childhood, graduating from eighth grade the last year that school was held there (1948). He graduated from high school at St. Anthony in 1952. He married A'Neal Garrett on October 30, 1953. A'Neal Garret was born January 28, 1934 to Earl and Ida Garrett. She grew up in St. Anthony and attended school there, graduating from high school. Bill and A'Neal lived in St. Anthony, Idaho Falls and Billings, Montana before buying a home a half block east of his parents home in Egin in 1978. They lived there until October 1983, when they sold their home and returned to Billings. In 1986, they came back to Egin where A'Neal died in July in the family home Bill had grown up in. Bill lived in Twin Falls for awhile. He has spent much of his life driving truck on long haul trucking. On November 14, 1986, he married Patricia (Trish) Thompson Wright and in November 1987 they moved back to Egin where they now reside. Patricia (Trish) was born March 17, 1943 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to James L. and Clarice McKinlay Thompson. She grew up in St. Anthony where she attended schools and graduated from South Fremont High School. She was married to Curtis Charles Wright and they had four sons, Kevin Curtis, Shane, Ryan Lee, and Cody Lynn. They were later divorced. She attended the Eastern Idaho Vo-Tech where she gained her nurses training, graduating as an L.P.N. in 1980. She works as a nurse and is now attending Ricks College to become a Registered Nurse. Bill and A'Neal had four daughters, LaKauna, Sharla, Wendy and JoLynn.

Marion Mason was born January 10, 1912 at American Falls, Idaho to Horby William and Marian McCulloch Mason. He attended school at Pocatello, Rexburg, Heman, and Parker. He married Louise Campbell on March 14, 1932. Louise was born May 9, 1913 to James and Ellen Louise Branson Campbell at Victor, Idaho. She attended schools at St. Anthony, Boise, Nampa, and Egin. After their marriage they lived in several places until after the death of her mother, then her brothers and sisters decided she should have their land in Egin so they moved a little house on the property where they still live today. The home her parents had lived in had burned down after her mother's death. Marion has worked many years with heavy equipment and worked on the roads when they were improved in the Egin area. He drives the Senior Citizen bus in the area now. Their children are Marian Louise, who lives next to her parents with her son Mike, Jerry Don, who died in infancy, Joe Marvin, Renn 'L', and Patricia B. (See Abraham Branson Family History for Louise's family)

Marian Louise Mason was born October 21, 1933 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Marion and Louise Campbell Mason. She lived at Idaho Falls for many years before coming back to Egin Bench to live near her parents. She has two children, Mike Mason Jenkins, who was born January 25, 1952 and lives at Egin with her and Amy Louise Johnson who was born September 3, 1969 and died Sept. 10, 1979. Marian is often called Mamie because as a tiny child, her grandfather Mason lovingly called her that.

The McMinn Family - Five Generations on Egin Bench

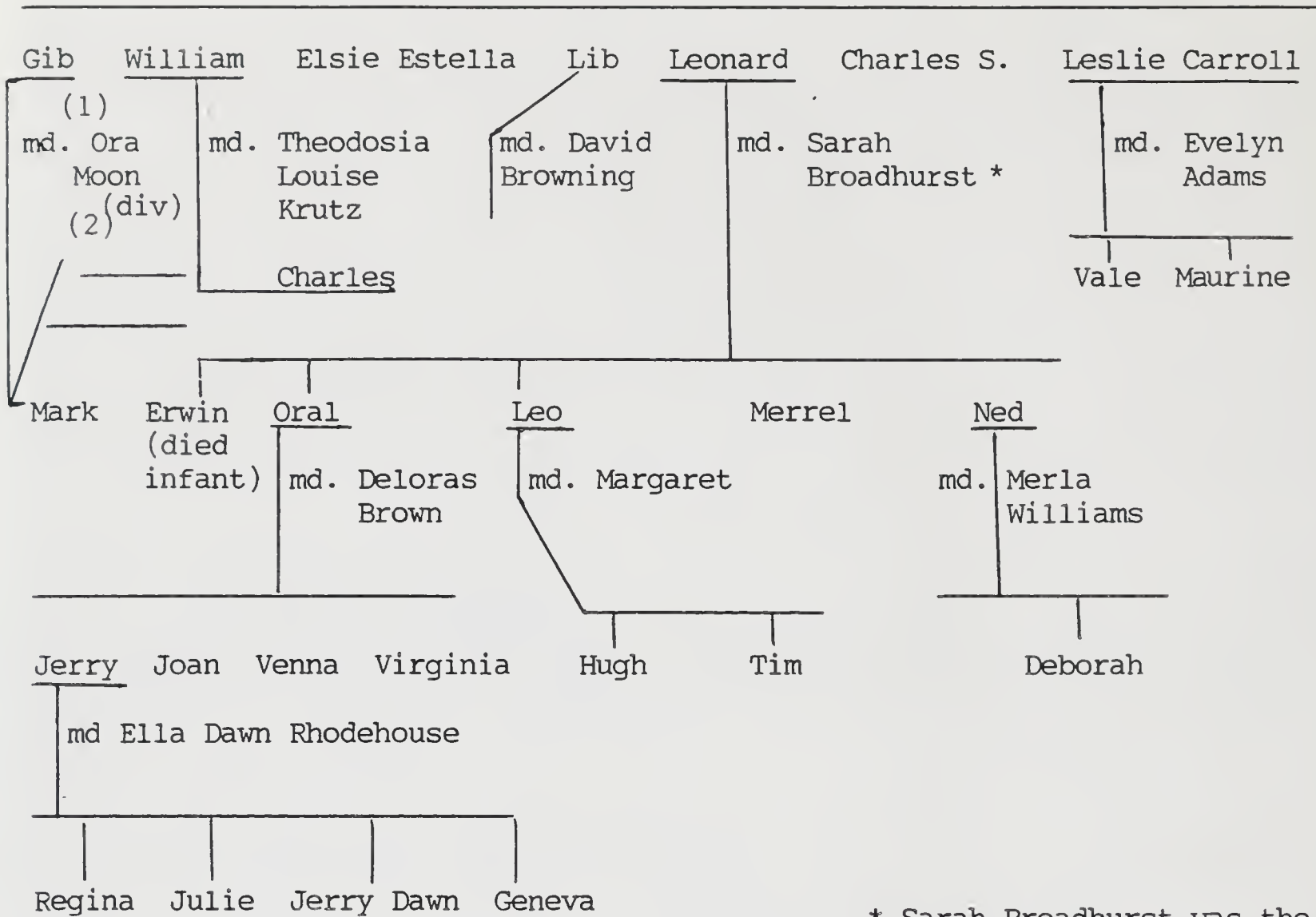
Three McMinn brothers came to Egin Bench sometime between 1879 and 1833. They were William (Bill), John Andrew (Andy), and Thomas (Tom) the sons of John Andrew and Elizabeth Fredrick McMinn.



William (Bill) McMinn was born August 10, 1860 at Salt Lake City, Utah to John Andrew and Elizabeth Fredrick McMinn. He came into the Idaho area to trap and became known as 'Cipriano' by his Indian friends. He was a friend of Beaver Dick Leigh. He took up land near old Fort Henry and married Maria Cox on March 2, 1897. They lived east of the Fort Henry Monument of today. Their children included Gertrude, Francis, Lloyd and Mary. Maria was born at Youngstown, Ohio on August 1876. She died October 25, 1945. William died May 11, 1941.

Lloyd McMinn, their son, married Elizabeth and took over the farm of his father when he was ready to give up farming. Their children included Dorothy whose history is with her husband's, Vern Winegar with the Winegar Family Histories.

John Andrew McMinn - Georgeanna Pierce



5th generation

* Sarah Broadhurst was the daughter of David Broadhurst who was one of the first settlers on Egin Bench.

John Andrew (Andy) McMinn was born in 1852 in Nova Scotia and came to Utah by 1857 with his parents, as a child. He married Georgeanna Pierce on December 1878. Their children were Gib, William, Elsie Estella, Lib, Leonard, Charles S. and Leslie Carroll. Andy came to Egin Bench in 1883 and homesteaded 160 acres of sage brush land southwest of Parker and just east of the Heman School (not there at that time). He built a log cabin just under a slight bench, located on what is now the Parker-Salem Highway. He and his brothers, Tom and Bill, worked hard to help build and bring water to the land. Tom had learned surveying while he was working on the railroad and helping to build irrigations systems in Utah. When there was a shortage of teams of horses for working on the canals, Andy traded eighty acres of his homestead for a big grey team from Ed Cox. Andy planted orchards and berry patches and gardens. They had dairy cattle and chickens and Georgeanna took the eggs to Parker every Saturday to sell them. Andy made a claim on land east of Swamp Hollow, where he put in a dam and started a fishery. Their oldest son, Gib, was a very successful potato farmer on Egin Bench. He married Ora Moon. They had no children and were later divorced. He remarried and had one son, Mark. Their sixth child, Charles S. never married. As a five year old child, he was an outstanding violinist and became accomplished.

William McMinn was the son of Andrew and Georgeanna McMinn. He married Theodosia Louise Krutz. She had come west from Missouri where she was born and grew up in 1912 and she taught school at Edmunds. After their marriage in 1914, they lived at Parker and she taught school at Heman. One of their sons, Charles lived south of Parker on the Parker-Salem road. William died in 1930 and she remarried and retired from teaching, and left the Egin area.

LEONARD McMinn was born about 1896 to John Andrew and Georgeanna Pierce McMinn at Egin, Idaho. He spent his whole life in the area. He married Sarah Broadhurst of Egin. They filed for a homestead just east of Andy's. The later broke up their homestead and bought some other homesteads. When she inherited some land, they farmed that and bought the Pulley place, where he built a nice house and barn and did well raising potatoes until the depression came. They had a summer home and pasture on Sand Creek. Part of their Egin land still belongs to Jerry McMinn, a grandson and to Merla McMinn, who was the wife of their son, Ned. Sarah died in 1938. She was the daughter of David Broadhurst, an early settler to Egin Bench. Their children were Erwin, who died in infancy, Oral, Leo, Merrel and Ned.

Oral McMinn married Deloras Brown and their children are Jerry, Joan, who died at birth, Venna and Virginia.

Jerry McMinn was born October 30, 1936 to Oral and Deloras Brown McMinn. He married Ella Dawn Rhodehouse, who is the daughter of Lorraine and Clarence Rhodehouse. Jerry and Ella Dawn lived on some of the ground that had been in his family since they settled on Egin Bench. Their children are Regina (Hall), Julie (Borron), Jerry Dawn (Wren) and Geneva. Jerry and Ella Dawn were divorced and he still lives in Egin in his home.

Leo McMinn was the son of Leonard and Sarah Broadhurst McMinn. His wife was Margaret McMinn, who taught school for many years in the St. Anthony schools retiring about 1988. Their sons are Hugh and Tim.

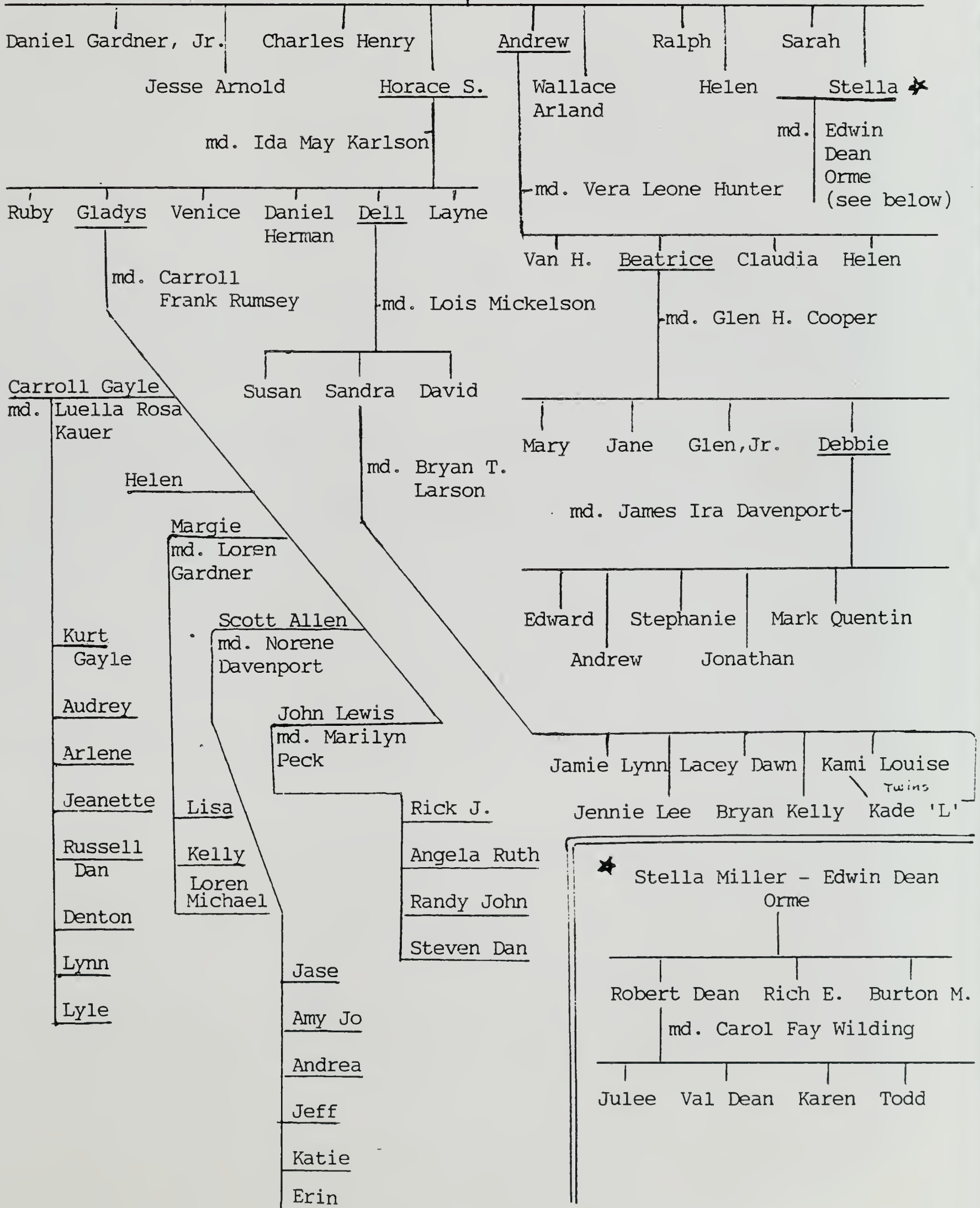
Ned McMinn was born April 20, 1927 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to Leonard and Sarah Broadhurst McMinn. He married Merla Williams on December 11, 1954. She was born April 20, 1936. As a child she lived at Salem until 1943 and then her family moved to Rexburg. After their marriage, they lived in the Hilma Henricksen home across from McFarlands. They spent their summers at Sand Creek for many years. They had one daughter, Debra Laurene, who was born January 24, 1963 and died accidentally on December 3, 1976. Ned died February 12, 1983. Merla still lives in Egin.

Leslie Carrol McMinn was born October 12, 1900 at Parker, Fremont, Idaho to John Andrew and Georgeanna Pierce McMinn. He married Evelyn Adams on March 23, 1924. Evelyn was born December 28, 1908 at Parker, Fremont, Idaho to Alvin William and Alice Poulton Adams. Her mother was from Parker and her father from Teton Basin. She grew up in St. Anthony where she attended school, including high school. After their marriage, they lived at Sand Creek until 1934, when they moved to Egin to the property that local people know as the Leo and Margaret McMinn place. Her husband died March 23, 1948 from a lingering illness of seven years. They had two children, Vale Eugene, who married Louise Morante and Maurine Marcella, who married Alfred Klien. Both of the children attended Heman school and graduated from Sugar City High School. Vale attended school at Moscow, Idaho and also served in the United States Navy. Evelyn married Ben Smith on August 21, 1950. See the Smith Family Histories for more about him. Evelyn still lives in Egin in the Smith home which was built by Ben's father.

Thomas (Tom) McMinn was born October 26, 1857 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He came to Egin Bench with his brothers, William and John Andrew and took up a homestead. He married Amanda Lyons on October 25, 1888 and they lived on his land on Egin Bench for two years. Thomas filed on land on Spring Creek, surveyed and helped his neighbors, the Sadorus family, build two small dams on Spring Creek and change the course of Sand Creek to supplement the water supply. They sold the Egin land so they could put improvements on the land on Spring Creek and they lived there at Sarilda. They were not able to have children, but they cared for some foster children and finally adopted two daughters. Amanda was born at Clarkston, Utah on July 24, 1872 to Caleb and Sarah Rice Lyons. She was in third grade when her family came to Egin Bench in 1886 and her father homesteaded and also rented some land from Thomas McMinn.

The MILLER Family - Five generations on Egin Bench

Daniel Gardner Miller - Helen Mariah Smith



Daniel Gardner Miller was born May 29, 1859 at Farmington, Utah, to Daniel Arnold Miller and Hannah Bigler Miller. He grew up in a large family where he was taught good standards and learned to work hard. His education was limited, but it was while attending school that he met the girl that he later married. When they were grown, on December 23, 1880, he married Helen Mariah Smith. They lived at Farmington for a few years and then he came to Egin Bench where he acquired 360 acres of land and built a log cabin. The following year he brought his wife and little son by wagon to their new home. Several other families came from Farmington about the same time and they helped each other as they worked to develop their farms and the area. After having seven sons, he was called to serve a mission for the L.D.S. Church to the southern states from 1895 to 1898, leaving his wife to care for their family and run the farm with the help of their boys and others. After he returned home, they had three daughters born to them. After a few years, they bought a house in Parker to be closer to the schools for their children. He was Bishop of the Parker Ward from 1902 to 1910 and then he was called to be the first president of the Yellowstone Stake when it was organized, serving from 1910 to 1925. By that time, his health was no longer good. Also his wife, Helen, had died on April 16, 1922. Later his leg was broken and his back injured when he was hit by a car and though he was able to get around with crutches, he was not able to walk again. He died February 10, 1941. Their children were Daniel Gardner, Jr. Jessie Arnold, Charles Henry, Horace S., Andrew, Wallace Arland, Ralph, Helen, Sarah and Stella.

Horace S. Miller was born February 12, 1888 to Daniel Gardner and Helen Mariah Smith Miller. He grew up in the Egin-Parker area where his parents had a homestead. He served a mission to the southern states for the L.D.S. Church from 1910 to 1912. He was married to Ida May Karlson who was born March 24, 1892 at Oakley, Idaho to Claus Herman and Henrietta Severe Karlson. Her family had come to Parker in 1900 where her father ran a store. Horace and Ida lived at Kilgore where he worked in the mill. Then they moved to the dry farm north of Parker where they lived about ten years. He drilled one of the first wells in the dry farm area in 1919. Later they moved back to Parker. He served as Superintendent of Parker Ward Sunday School and Ida worked in Relief Society for many years. They also enjoyed working in geneology. He died in November of 1957 from a heart attack and she died October 17, 1965. Their children included Ruby, Gladys, Venice, Daniel Herman (who served in the Marines during World War II), Dell (who served in the Army in Korea), and Layne (who served in the Air Force in Germany). See Rumsey histories for Gladys.

Dell Miller was born February 4, 1929 to Horace S. and Ida May Karlson Miller. He grew up in the Parker area and attended school at Parker and St. Anthony High School. He served in the U. S. Army in the Korean War. He married Lois Mickelsen on July 2, 1955 and they lived in the Parker area for eighteen years before coming to Egin. He bought some of the property of his uncle Andrew Miller located near the sand hills. He has farmed and worked with cattle most of his life and is now working for Davis Lake Cattleman's Association. Lois Mickelsen was born June 5, 1933 at St. Anthony, Idaho to Chris and Mary Ann Hill Mickelsen at Richvale, Idaho near Pack Saddle Lake. She attended school there and graduated from high school in St. Anthony. Their children are Susan, Sandra, and David. See Orr family for Sandra Larson.

Andrew Miller was born November 13, 1890 to Daniel Gardner and Helen Mariah Smith Miller. He grew up on Egin Bench and married Vera Leone Hunter on November 20, 1912 at the William E. Hunter home in Egin. In 1920, he moved his family out on the Junipers but his crop failed so they moved back to Egin. In 1922, he moved his family to Canyon Creek where he farmed with Gardner Miller. Later he moved back to Parker, buying 20 acres from his father and worked at odd jobs. In 1924, he was working at a sawmill when lumber fell from the truck injuring his hip and affecting him the rest of his life. He died June 29, 1966 and his wife Vera died April 29, 1960 and both were buried at Parker. Vera did lots of quilts and tatted and crocheted lace and knitted baby shawls and scarves. She worked hard but found time to read to her children in the evenings after washing clothes on the board. Their children were Van H., Beatrice (Cooper), Claudia, and Helen (Carter). Their son Van served in the Army during World War II.

Beatrice Miller was born to Andrew and Vera Leone Hunter Miller. She went to school at Parker and also attended St. Anthony and Rexburg schools. She was married to Glen H. Cooper on October 10, 1936 at Driggs, Idaho. Glen Cooper was born February 8, 1911 at Osborn County, Kansas to Mark LeRoy Cooper and his wife Nellie Lenora. He grew up and graduated from High School. He learned the air conditioning, refrigeration and electrical trade. He was in the Sea Bees in the Navy stationed in Hawaii during World War II where he used his trade working on war ships. After their marriage they lived in Rexburg, Salt Lake City and Idaho Falls before coming back to Rexburg in 1953 where he established his business known as Glen's Refrigeration, which he is still engaged in. Their children are Mary, Jane, Glen, Jr., and Debbie who married James Davenport and lives in Egin. (See Davenport Family History)

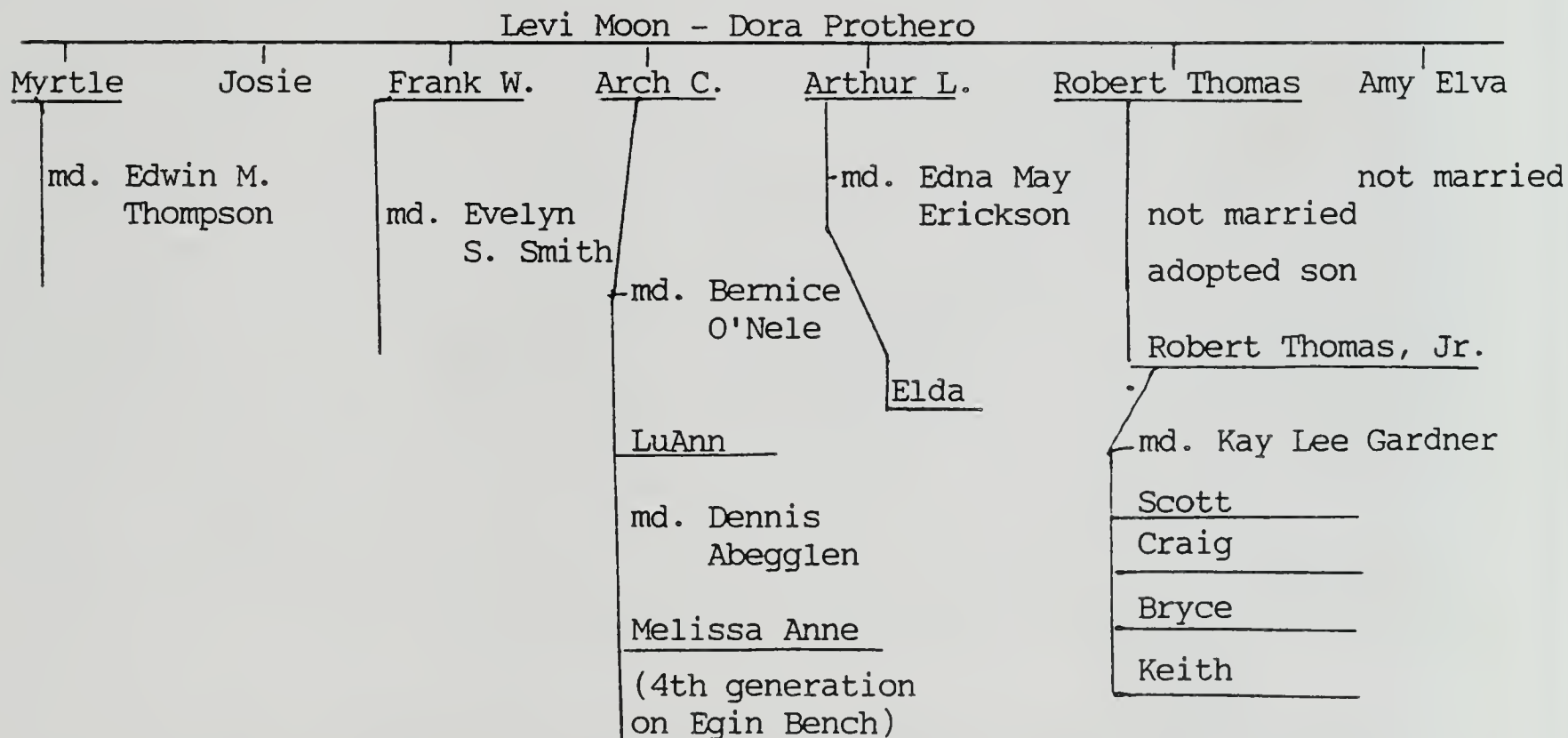
Stella Miller was born October 27, 1904 to Daniel Gardner and Helen Mariah Smith Miller. She grew up in the Parker area, where she attended school. She graduated from four years of high school and one year of college at the Ricks Academy in Rexburg, Idaho. She married Edwin Dean Orme on December 3, 1924. He was born about 1898 to Samuel W. and Mary Agnes Smith Orme. He served a mission to the Central States (1919-1922). They had a ranch after their marriage, in the St. Anthony area, where he worked with livestock. He was a counselor in the St. Anthony First Ward Bishopric (1937-41) and was on the Yellowstone Stake High Council (1943-53). He died May 13, 1980. Stella still lives in St. Anthony. She was a counselor in the Yellowstone Stake Relief Society Presidency (1958-62). Their children are Robert Dean, Rich E. and Burton M.

Robert Dean Orme was born April 28, 1926 at St. Anthony, Idaho to Edwin Dean and Stella Miller Orme. He grew up on a ranch helping with the livestock and other farm work. He attended school at St. Anthony, where he graduated from high school in 1944. He was drafted into the United States Army in August, 1944, during World War II and was stationed at Fort Roberts in California and in France on the front lines until word came of his acceptance at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. He was discharged from the Army and enlisted in the Navy, going to Bainbridge, Maryland and then assigned to a naval destroyer. He served until 1946, and returned home to Idaho after his discharge. He attended University of Idaho for two years, and then served an L.D.S. mission to North Central States (1948-50). He married Carol Fay Wilding from Sugar City area, on December 27, 1950. They lived in the St. Anthony area, where he served as Bishop's Counselor. After they came to Egin Bench to live, he was called to be Bishop and he served from November 15, 1964 to December 10, 1967. At that time, he was called to be the Stake President presiding over the Yellowstone Stake from 1967-1975. When he was released from that calling at the dividing of the Yellowstone Stake to create St. Anthony Stake, he was ordained to be a Patriarch to serve in the St. Anthony Stake. His wife, Carol, also served a mission to the North Central States. She has served as counselor in the Egin Bench Ward Relief Society from 1967-71 and again from 1982-85. She has served on the Relief Society Stake Board for Yellowstone Stake in 1965 and on the St. Anthony Stake Board from 1982-84. She served on a Ricks College Stake Board from 1987-90. Their children are Julee, Val Dean, Karen, and Todd. Robert and Carol still live on their farm on Egin Bench. They both sing with the Melodaires, a singing group made up of people from the Upper Snake River Valley. Carol is also known for her beautiful paintings of scenery and flowers.

The MOON Family-five generations on Egin Bench

Hugh Moon lived in Utah when pologamy was practiced by members of the L.D.S. Church. He had three wives, (1) Maria Emeline Mott, (2) Elizabeth Kemmish, and (3) Jennett Nicol. He had seven children with Maria, nine children with Elizabeth and eleven children with Jennett. Seven of these children came to Idaho, settling on Egin Bench. They were Alice Elizabeth, who married Joseph Henry Pulley and Asenath, who married Joseph T. Robertson and were both daughters of Hugh and Elizabeth. Five children from Jennett's family came. They were Lydia, who married David Pulley (see Pulley histories), Joseph Benjamin, Levi, Reuben, Heber and John. Some of the Moon family histories follow.

Joseph Benjamin Moon was born November 14, 1858 at Salt Lake City, Utah, the son of Hugh and Jennett Nicol Moon. He married (1) Clara Malinda Wells on October 4, 1882. Their children were Orra Myrtle, Alvin Manassa, who married Alice Tout), Jonathan Wells, William Ray and Oscar Erastus. After Clara died he married Adelia Whittaker Call. He came to Egin Bench about 1890 and settled on an eighty acre homestead located on the corner south of the present day Egin Store. He built the block home that stands on the corner there. He died on August 16, or 22, 1915 from a bee sting while he was picking apples.



Levi Moon was born November 17, 1861 at Buttermilk Fort, Millard, Utah (now Holden). He came to Idaho to the Malad area with his parents about 1869. He came to the Snake River Valley with his brother Reuben in 1886 or 1887 and purchased land from Marion and Lou Stoddard. Levi was not married so while Reuben went back for his family, Levi went to Anaconda, Montana and worked in logging. He came back to Egin and they cut logs in Island Park and floated them down the river to St. Anthony and hauled them to Egin to build their homes. They grubbed the sagebrush from the land so they could farm it, raising hay and grain and cattle and later peas and potatoes. Levi married Dora Prothero on January 31, 1895. Dora was born November 18, 1878. Their first home was a one room log house with a dirt roof and floor. Her first broom there was sage brush tied to a willow stick. About 1901-02 they built their home, which still stands and their daughter Amy lives in it.

Levi Moon - continued

The whole family worked together and there were hard times and happy times. Levi wasn't a person to go to a lot of things in the community but he always attended the funerals in the area to show respect to his neighbors. He died at Egin on May 10, 1948 and his wife Dora died October 12, 1954, also at Egin. Their children were all born at Egin and are listed here on this page.

Myrtle J. Moon (Thompson) was born August 18, 1896 at Egin. She married Edwin M. Thompson on January 18, 1921. After her husband's death, she came back to Egin to live across the street from the Egin church house until she died, 1978.

Josie Moon was born April 2, 1899 at Egin. She never married, and died in 1967.

Frank W. Moon was born March 11, 1902 in his parents new house at Egin. He married Evelyn S. Smith on 24 April 1936. They lived on the corner north of the Egin store where he farmed until about 1984, when they moved to Rexburg after selling their farm. He died November 9, 1986. Evelyn lives in Rexburg during the summer months and goes to California during the winter.

Arch C. Moon was born March 3, 1905 at Egin and grew up there on the farm. At the age of thirteen, he went to work. He bought the piece of ground that his daughter lives on now from John Branson and had paid the mortgage off when he was seventeen years old. He farmed all of his life. He bought on of the first manure loaders in the area, and some say he was a man who got excited about farming, and enjoyed it. He married Bernice O'Nele on January 20, 1951. She was born at Central City, Nebraska to Walter E. and Anna Louise Whistler O'Nele and grew up there on their farm. She attended school in a one room school house with a bell on top that is still standing today. She graduated from high school during depression time and went to work and eventually came west where she met her first husband, who was in the military service and was killed in World War II in France. Their son, Darrel Flint was born while her husband was in basic training and they lived in New Orleans before he went to France. After his death, she came west again to live with her sister-in-law in Parker where she met Arch Moon. After their marriage, she came to Egin to live on his farm where they still live today. They have a daughter, LuAnne (Abegglen) who lives north of them in Egin. See her family history with her husband, Dennis in the Rhodehouse family. Bernice is well-known for her hand work and sewing, especially her beautiful quilts.

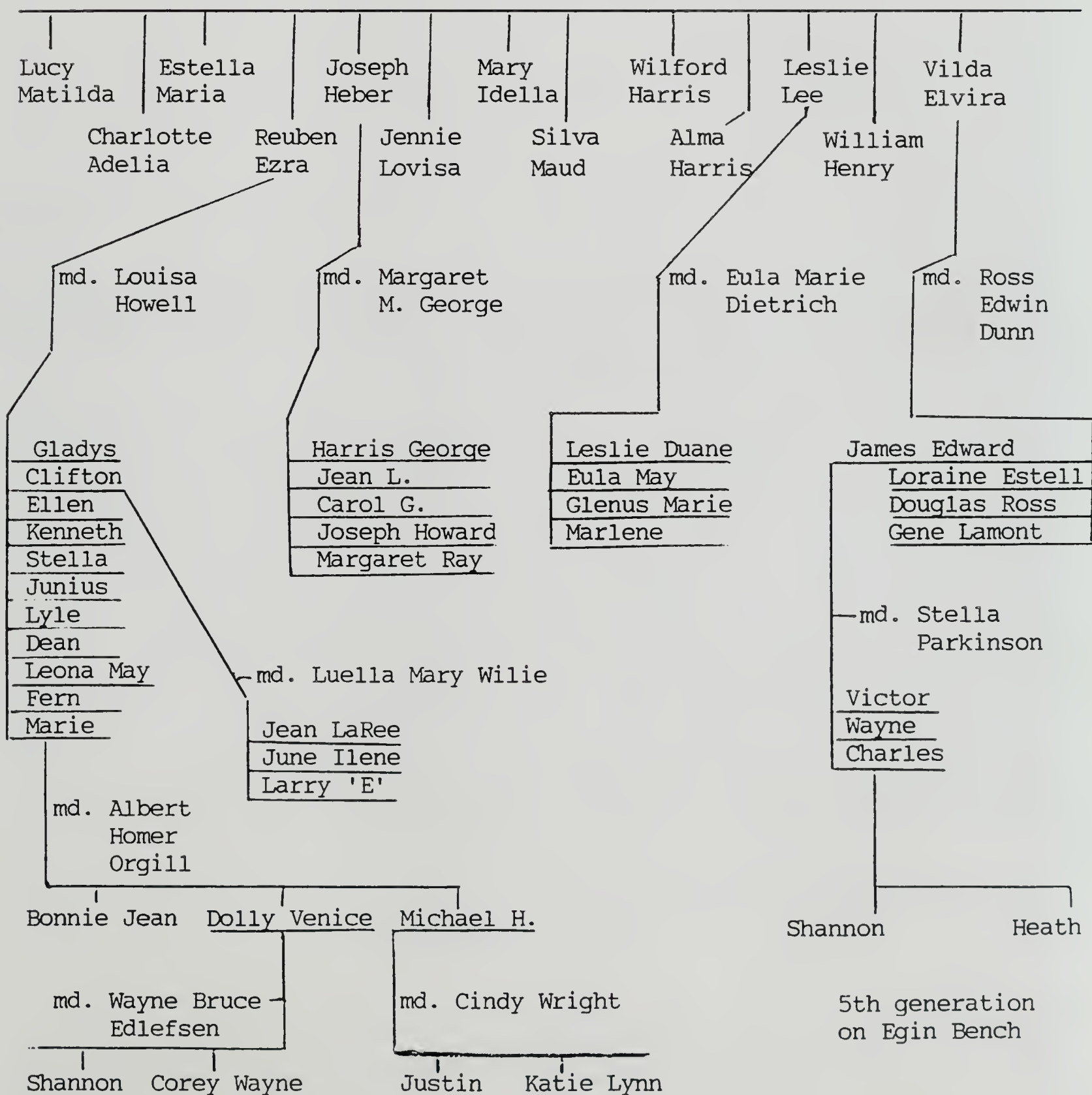
Arthur L. Moon was born August 7, 1908 at Egin. He married Edna May Erickson on November 23, 1927. She was the daughter of William and Alice Anderson Erickson. They made their home just east of the Egin church house where he farmed. They had one daughter, Elda. He died about 1975, Edna about 1988.

Robert Thomas Moon was born June 10, 1912 at Egin, where he grew up and attended the Egin School and one year at Edmunds school. He assisted in forming the Davis Lake Land and Cattle Company. He raised prize Hereford cattle on the farm that had been his father's homestead. He never married but adopted a son, Robert Thomas Moon, Jr. He helped his sister Amy, whose health has been poor most of her life. He died August 10, 1989.

Amy Elva Moon was born December 8, 1917 at Egin, on the farm where she still lives, the original homestead of her father, Levi Moon. In spite of her poor health, she has a happy spirit and provides an enjoyable visit. She never married.

Robert Thomas Moon, Jr. was born March 11, 1956 and was adopted by Robert Thomas Moon, who raised him on the family farm in Egin. He attended schools at Parker and St. Anthony. He married K'Lee Gardner on August 11, 1972. K'Lee was born June 21, 1957 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Val and Annabell Gardner. She grew up and attended schools in St. Anthony. Since their marriage, have lived in Egin where he is now running the farm, which was the homestead of Levi Moon. They have four sons, Scott, Craig, Bryce and Keith. K'Lee has worked with Cub Scouts and in the Parker School P.T.O.

Reuben Moon - Lucy Emma Harris



(5th generation on Egin Bench)

Reuben Moon was born February 5, 1863 at St. George, Washington, Utah, to Hugh and Jennett Nicol Moon. Their family moved to Malad in 1869. His father died on September 23, 1870, when Reuben was about seven years old. He grew up at Malad and on May 4, 1881 he married Lucy Emma Harris at Malad. He came to Egin Bench about 1886 or 7 with his brother Levi and they bought land from Marion and Lou Stoddard. Reuben went back to Malad to get his family and brought them to Egin in 1888. Lucy had been born on September 14, 1862 at Kaysville, Utah to Joseph and Charlotte Green Harris. Her family had moved to Woodruff, Idaho when she was a teenager. After their marriage, Reuben and Lucy lived in a small house on Henderson Creek near Malad, Idaho. After they came to Egin they cleared the land, working hard to prepare it for farming and as they raised crops and were able to, they bought other land, including the Freeman Higley home and orchard land on the Egin townsite in 1904. This property was just east of the new Egin School that was built about that time and included from the Dunn home on the north, the garage, Marie Moon's home, Howard Moon's home and south to the little rock building on the south, and west to the school. In 1919, Reuben mortgaged the property in Egin to buy property at Fairfield, Idaho. Farming at Fairfield was very difficult and he eventually lost every thing- both properties. His son, Joseph and his wife Margaret were able to purchase the Egin townsite property from the mortgage holder and allowed Reuben and Lucy to return there in 1927. It had been a very hard experience in their lives, and they never got over it. Reuben died at Egin on October 16, 1928 at 65 years of age. Lucy lived at Egin until 1946, when she went to live at Fairfield with daughters, Jennie and Stella. She died there on November 20, 1948 and was buried at Parker with her husband. They had thirteen children. See following histories for the children and some of their families that have lived on Egin Bench.

(1) Lucy Matilda Moon was born in December 1882, south of Malad at Henderson Creek to Reuben and Lucy Harris Moon. She came to Egin Bench with her parents when she was about five years old. Her father and his brother Levi built a two story house of logs, which Levi got out and her father hewed them to about eight inches thick. They also built most of the furniture such as bunk beds, Lucy and her younger sisters and brothers learned to work hard even as children, dragging the brush into heaps as their parents chopped it so it could be burned. It took several years of hard work to clear their land. She started school in a little log school where the brick Heman school was later built. Late in 1917, she married Ingwat Gron Henricksen. They lived a half mile east of the present Salem-Parker road (where Kesl Hunter built his home). They never had any children until they adopted their son, Raymond in 1915. Raymond married Fern Crusier in 1936 and they had five children, Carol Rae, Barbara, Neal, Marsha, and Harris. Lucy Matilda, known by many as Aunt Til, developed arthritis as she became older but it did not keep her from working in her garden, supporting herself with her cane as she went. She died July 10, 1956.

(2) Charlotte Adelia Moon married Henderson Cox. Their children are Marion, Winnie May, Ralph E., Marie, Eula, Edna and Clyde.

(3) Estella Maria Moon

(4) Reuben Ezra Moon was born in November 1887 at Malad to Reuben and Lucy Emma Harris Moon. He came to Egin Bench with his parents while he was an infant and grew up in Egin. He married Emma Louisa Howell. Their children were Gladys, Clifton (whose history follows), Ellen, Kenneth, Stella, Junius, Lyle, Dean, Leona May, Fern and Marie (whose history is with her husband, Homer Orgill).

Clifton Merle Moon was born July 23, 1908 at Egin, Idaho to Reuben Ezra and Emma Louisa Howell. He attended schools at Egin and St. Anthony. He helped with farming, worked for B. M. Tibbitts and then went to Fairfield when many of his family went there to farm. He later came back to Egin and went to work for Tibbitts again, where he worked for many years. He married Luella Mary Wilie in 1935. Luella was born December 1, 1918 to Robert and Rebecca Weeks Wilie. She grew up at Archer to the fourth grade and then her family moved to Rexburg, After they were married, they lived in several places including Sugar City, Rexburg and Pocatello (during World War II). They came back to Egin to live in the little house just west of the Egin church house. They bought the property where she still lives and moved a log shop from Dunn's onto it and then built their own house. They worked hard through the years, including doing the janitorial work at the Egin School for three years. Louella worked 19 years at Tibbetts, and then at the potatoe houses in Lewisville, and Roger Brothers north of Rexburg to total thirty years. Cliff, as he was often called, later went to work as a Custodial Supervisor at Ricks College, until he retired. He died May 11, 1985. Their children are Jean LaRee, June Ilene, and Larry 'E'.

Marie Moon, daughter of Reuben Ezra and Emma Louisa Howell, married Homer Orgill. See her history with his.

- (5) Joseph Heber Moon was born May 14, 1890 at Egin in the two story log home, which was located where Arch Moon now lives. His parents were Reuben and Lucy Emma Harris Moon. He attended school at Egin, attending only five years until he learned to read and write well. He worked with his father on the farm. In 1916, he served an L.D.S. mission to the Eastern States Mission and was at Washington, D.C. for the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as President of the United States. After he returned to Egin, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1918 and was on his way to Europe when the Armistice was signed ending the war. He served in France and Germany until 1920, his assignment being to help exhume the dead, identify and prepare the bodies for shipment to the United States. After his return to Egin in 1920, he met Margaret McMillan George, courted her and they were married June 15, 1921. They first lived in a small brick home where DeVerl Stoddard now lives (1990). She was teaching school. During the summer of 1922, they moved to Fairfield where Joseph's parents and other families had moved. Farming was poor and Reuben Moon was losing everything. In 1925, the mortgagors allowed Joseph and Margaret to buy the Egin townsite property which Reuben had owned. Joseph continued to farm and operate a blacksmith shop at Fairfield and Margaret taught school until 1937, when they moved back to Egin Bench. Joseph went to work as a repairman and welder for B.M. Tibbitts and also set up at Ross Dunn's garage to do machinery repair on the side. When Ricks College first had vocational classes, he taught welding for a time. He died July 4, 1952, at the Veterans Hospital in Salt Lake City following a long illness. Margaret McMillan George was born on December 3, 1897 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Thomas Phillip and Margaret McKay McMillan George. They were a musical family, her father a violinist and teacher and her mother was also a teacher. Her older sister, Belle, taught the younger sisters to add harmony to their singing. Margaret studied piano, violin, voice and guitar at Ricks College. She attended high school at St. Anthony, graduated from Ricks College and went to Albion to study until 1918, when she started her first teaching job at Marysville, north of St. Anthony. She taught at Egin 1919-20, at Burton 1920-21, Fairfield 1922-23 and for eleven of the next fourteen years while she was having her five children. After moving

Margaret McMillan George, continued.

back to Egin in 1937, she taught music lessons. She had surgery and after recuperating, she taught music and art at Ashton Elementary and High School. Then she taught at Farnum. The fall of 1940, she returned to Egin and taught lessons and from 1941-1944 she taught and was principal of the Egin School. In 1944, she moved to St. Anthony so her children could go to high school and she taught there - drama, speech and art, directing operettas, and plays for which she painted the backdrops. In 1949, they moved back to Egin. They had bought a house and moved it in and while they were fixing it up, her husband took sick. After he died, she continued to teach at Parker until 1957. She sold World Book, retiring in 1965. She started painting to help her recover from illness, surgery and depression. She then had a little studio built by her home in Egin and gave art lessons to many people of the area. Due to health problems, she used a wheel chair the last few years of her life. She died February 16, 1986 at Twin Falls.

(6) Jennie Lovisa Moon, was named for Lovisa Davis, who delivered her. She married Albertus Cox. Their children are Martha Fern, Wayne W., Evelyn M, Warren, Donald M., Lorena, Verl A., Jennie A., Virginia, Howard Dale, Betty L, Marlyn D., and Eldon E. Cox. They lived about where Ronald Bradshaw lives now.

(7) Mary Idella Moon

(8) Silva Maud Moon married Abram Thomas Rawson and their children were Ellis, Melvin L. Weston A., Leslie M., Hazel Joy, Ruth L.

(9) Wilford Harris Moon

(10) Alma Harris Moon married Clysta Cloe Cox. Their children were Marjorie, Alma Boyd, Melba and Rulon Leon.

(11) Leslie Lee Moon was born June 4, 1902 at Egin Bench, Fremont, Idaho to Reuben and Lucy Emma Harris Moon. He grew up there and went to school in the Egin School to the eighth grade. He worked for his father with the cattle and sheep and on the farm. Their family moved to Fairfield, Idaho. He married Eula Marie Dietrich on September 17, 1924 at Fairfield, Camas, Idaho. Marie was born December 21, 1908 at Simpson, Kansas to Leon and Clara Jane Watson Dietrich. Her mother died in 1918 when Marie was a child. She lived in Missouri, and back to Kansas. She came west to Fairfield, Idaho to live with her brother about 1920. After their marriage, they lived at Fairfield and then moved to Egin Bench in 1927, where they made their home and raised their family. He worked for B.M. Tibbitts Company from 1927 to 1959. She worked there from 1941 to 1959. They were custodians of the Egin Ward church house from about 1961 to 1981. Leslie died on November 10, 1975 and Marie had continued on with it until 1981 (with the help of Edna Staley). After they had come back to Egin they moved their little house in from Grassy Ridge, and Ross Dunn wired it for electricity about 1934. They got a telephone about 1942. Their children were Leslie Duaine, Eula May, Glenus Marie, Dorothy (died at birth), and Marlene.

(12) William Henry Moon , died when three days old.

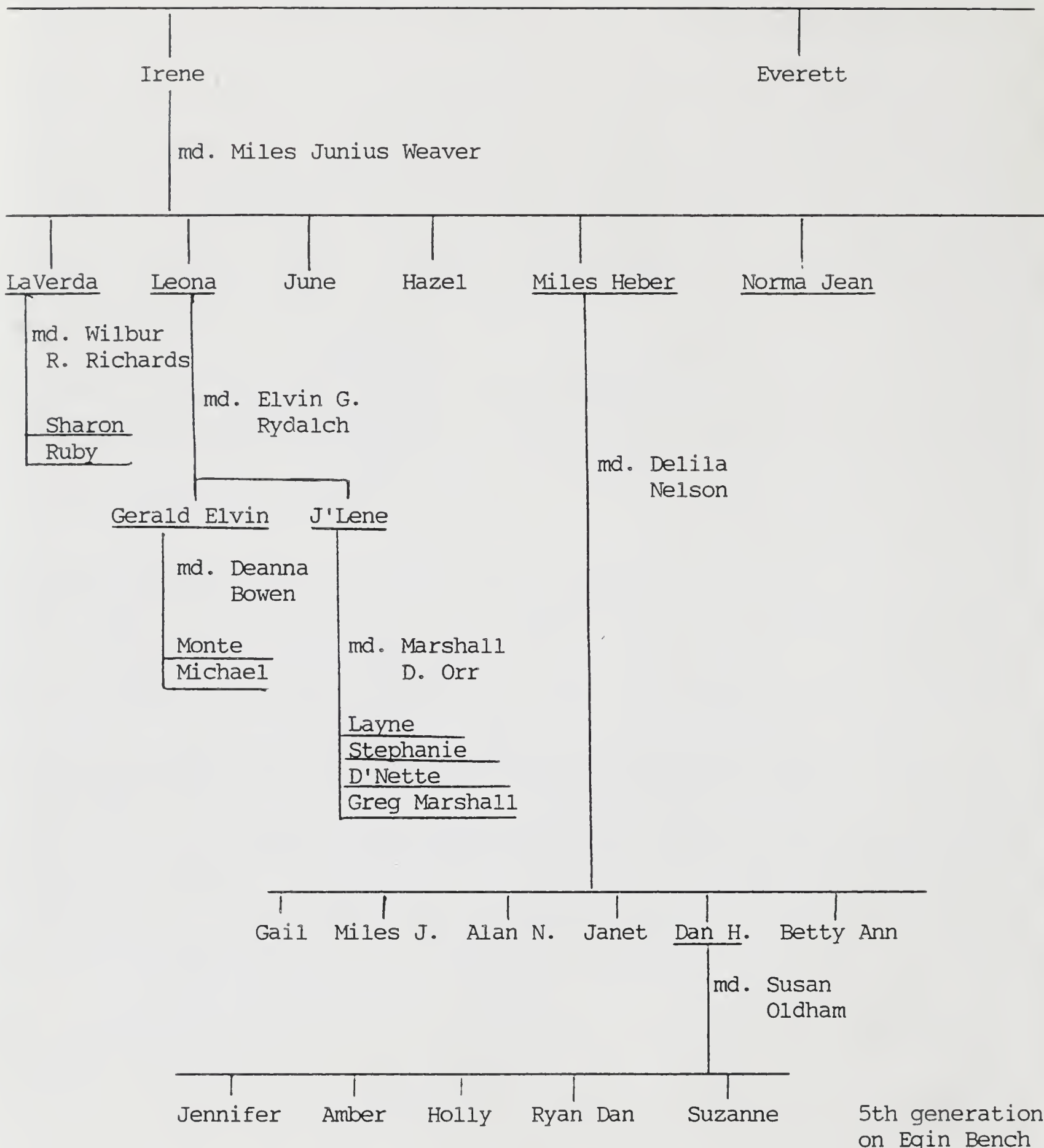
(13) Vilda Elvira Moon (Dunn) was born May 30, 1906 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to Reuben and Lucy Emma Harris Moon. She grew up at Egin where she attended school until 1919, when her family moved to Fairfield, Idaho to live. There she met Ross Edwin Dunn and they were later married on December 11, 1923 at Gooding, Idaho. They lived at Fairfield for a time and also in California for awhile before coming to Egin Bench where they made their home and lived the rest of their lives. Vilda served as President of the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Organization. She died in October 1974. Their children are James Edward, Lorraine Estell, who died, Douglas Ross and Gene LaMont. Ross Edwin Dunn was born March 15, 1903 at Ferdanand, Nez Perce, Idaho to Henry Clay and Flora Mae Dexter Dunn. He grew up and attended schools in the Fairfield area. He served two years in the United States Army. He worked as a well driller in Fairfield. He helped build the air field at Pocatello, Idaho and the Island Park Dam. He started the Dunn Landleveling business, He built the Egin Garage, now called the Egin Service, first in a log building and then the large building still being used. At one time he owned and operated the Valley Block Plant. He started and lead an orchestra for many years, playing for dances all around the Upper Snake River Valley. He was Fremont County Road Supervisor for a time and was once mayor of Egin. After his wife, Vilda died, he married Murial June Enbank Moon on January 11, 1975 and they continued to live in Egin. He died January 31, 1984. June now lives at Gooding, Idaho.

James Edward Dunn was born September 24, 1924 at Fairfield, Cassia, Idaho to Ross Edwin and Vilda Elvira Moon Dunn. He attended Egin Grade School, Edmunds High School and Whittier High School in East Los Angeles. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II as a tail-gunner on a B-17, stationed in England. He has worked as a service station operator while in California; as a mechanic, starting the Egin Service, which he operated for forty years and has now turned over to his son Charles since he has retired. Jim and his father started the Dunn Land Leveling business, doing a lot of improvements on the land in the area. Jim and Charles Parkinson, from Plano, made the road to Quayle's Lake. He married Stella Parkinson December 29, 1945. Stella was born January 18, 1926 at Plano, Madison, Idaho to Charles Leslie and Laura Jane Coleman Parkinson. She attended school at Edmunds, both the grade and high school, and also Ricks College. She has served as an organist and as secretary of both Primary and Relief Society in Egin. Jim has helped as a scout master and has been a 4-H leader. Their children are Victor Clay, Wayne B. and Charles Meridith.

Charles Merideth Dunn was born June 24, 1949 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho. He grew up at Egin, attending school at Parker and St. Anthony, where he graduated from high school. Then he attended a trade school in Pocatello where he learned auto body repair. He married Finette Jarvis and they had two children, a daughter Shannon, and Heath. They were divorced. Charles moved to Egin after that to make his home and take over the Egin Service, which his brother Wayne and his father had previously ran. He also runs the heavy equipment which his father and grandfather had done.

Wayne Dunn lived most of his life at Egin, attended Ricks College, learned the trade of automobile mechanic and run the Egin Service with his father for many years. He and his wife Luena and their children moved from Egin to the Boise area about 1988.

Heber Moon - Annie Maria Harris



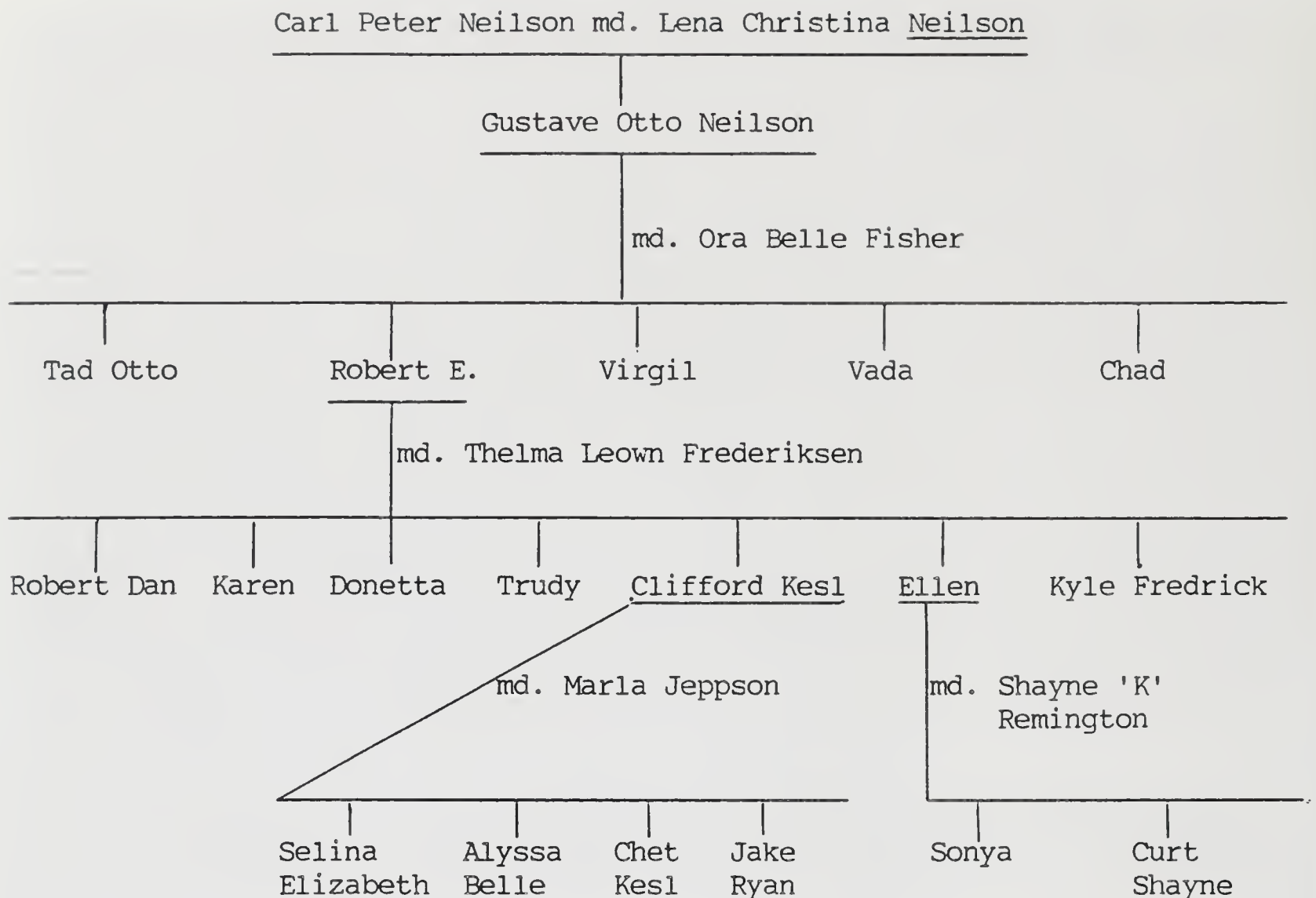
Heber Moon was born August 11, 1868, to Hugh and Jennett Nicol Moon at Farmington, Davis, Utah. He came to Idaho to Malad with his parents when he was one year old and grew up there. In 1890, he came to Egin Bench and took up a homestead of eighty acres, which is the land where his grandson, Miles Weaver lives now. (This farm was honored as an Idaho Centennial Farm.) Heber built a two room log house on his land and then went back to Malad and married Annie Maria Harris on October 8, 1891, and they came to Egin to live. They cleared the sage brush and planted orchards, berries, gardens, and grain and they acquired livestock. Three of his brothers, Joseph Benjamin, Levi and Reuben had also homesteaded on Egin Bench about the same time that Heber did. They helped with the developing of the canals on the bench. He built a cement-block home in 1906, which is the home his grandson still lives in. Heber and Annie had two children, Irene and Everett. Everett died from pneumonia while he was a student at Ricks Academy in Rexburg on January 15, 1914. He was on one of the first football teams at the academy. Irene married Miles Junius Weaver and her husband worked for Heber Moon running the farm as Heber grew older from about 1922 until 1937, when Miles died suddenly. At that time Miles Heber Weaver took over the operation of the farm under his grandfather Heber Moon's direction. Heber and Annie celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in October 1941 with a party and dinner at the Egin Bench Church. Heber Moon died on November 17, 1947 and Annie on February 4, 1950. For Irene's history see Weaver family.

John Moon was the other brother who came to the area but he settled at Sand Creek. His wife was Mary Sarilda Sadaris.

Other notes on Moon families-

Johnny Moon, the son of Benjamin Moon built the little red house across from Lieberts about 1920 and he and his wife Rosie lived there. Many young newly wed couples have lived there through the years, including Leona and Elvin Rydalch, LaVerda and Wilber Richards, Leona and Don Rumsey, Miles and Delila Weaver, Gerald and Deanna Rydalch, Scott and Vicki Orr, Kevin and Betty Ann Weaver Gerard, Glendon and Michelle Nelson.

The NEILSON Family - five generations on Egin Bench



5th generations on Egin Bench

Carl Peter Neilson was born in Sweden and was married there to Lena Christina Neilson, who was also born there and her maiden name was Neilson. He sailed for the Swedish Government for nineteen years. She had worked in a bakery shop in Stockholm. They came to the United States and settled in Denver, Colorado and also lived at Cortez for a few years around 1890. They lived in Salina, Utah and then moved to California where they were living in 1898. The next year, they came back to Salina, for a time before moving to Blackfoot and then Moreland, Idaho. In 1907, they came to Egin and bought the property under the hill where Andersons live now. In 1909, he homesteaded 320 acres on Sand Creek. Later in life, they sold the farm to their son, Otto and were moving to Oregon when she became ill, and died. He returned to Egin area to live.

Gustave Otto Neilson was born December 28, 1895 at Salina, Utah, to Carl Peter and Lena Christina Neilson Neilson. He attended school at Salina, Blackfoot, and Moreland, Idaho and then went to the old Center #17 at Heman where he graduated from the eighth grade. His family had come to Egin Bench settling in the Heman area on the ground where Cleone Anderson now lives. His father also had homesteaded land on Sand Creek and he grew up helping his father and others to clear land and farm it and take care of the livestock. He enlisted in the United States Army June 20, 1916 and was stationed as a guard on the Mexican border. Then after World War I started, he was sent to France where he saw action on the front lines as a sergeant. He returned home in 1919 and on

Gustave Otto Neilson (continued)

June 22, 1920, he married Ora Belle Fisher. He was a farmer the rest of his life and also hauled milk, starting about 1928, for many years, sometimes doing two routes at a time. He served as Heman Ward Bishop from September 27, 1936 to March 31, 1941. He was also a scout leader and served on the Yellowstone Stake High Council (1945-57). He was Fremont County Commissioner for ten years during the 1950's and was on the State Executive Committee for District #6 and on the Committee of the National Association of County Officials. In 1983, he was chosen grand marshal of the Fremont County Pioneer Day Parade. His wife, Ora was born October 24, 1900 at Plano, Idaho to Robert and Ellen Randall Fisher, in the little log house where all of her brothers and sisters were born. She learned to work hard on the farm which was her father's homestead located on what we now call Fisher's Hill. The children in their family walked two miles to attend the Edmunds school. She and her sister Eva often sang together at social functions. After their marriage, Otto and Ora lived on the Neilson farm, under the hill and then in 1943, they sold that and bought the Crusier farm, where Otto still lives. They also bought an 800 acre farm at Kilgore. They were hard workers. Ora was a good cook and homemaker. She served as a counselor to Cora Hunter in the Y.W.M.I.A. in Egin and as a counselor in the Yellowstone Stake Relief Society from 1946-53. It was really hard on both of them when their oldest son, Tad lost his life during World War II while he was serving in the Phillipine Islands. Ora died on September 14, 1981 and Otto is still living in his home on Egin Bench, one of the oldest people residing there. Their children are Tad Otto, Robert, Virgil, Vada and Chad.

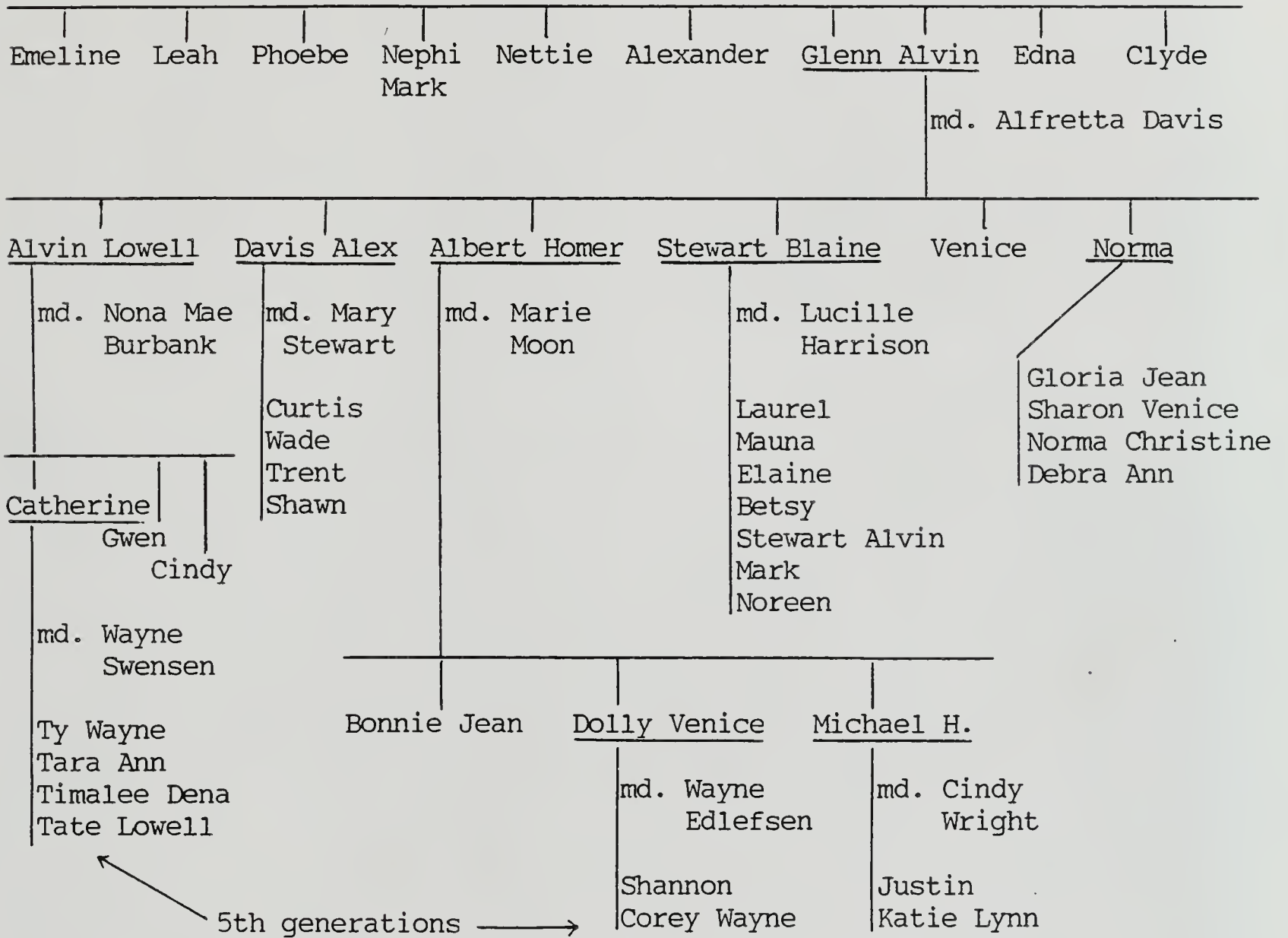
Robert E. Neilson was born June 25, 1924 at Heman, Idaho to Gustave Otto and Ora Belle Fisher Neilson. He grew up on Egin Bench, attending the Heman School. He served in the United States Army in Germany (1944-46) during World War II. He served a mission to the East Central States (1947-49). He was married to Thelma Leown Fredericksen on September 6, 1950. Thelma was born August 23, 1930 at Kilgore, Idaho to Olaf and Mary Leown Harris Frederiksen. She grew up at Kilgore, where her parents operated the store until 1963, when they sold it and moved to Rexburg. Her mother was postmistress at Kilgore for 35 years. After their marriage, Robert and Thelma lived on the farm on Egin Bench, He has been a farmer all of his life. Robert was Egin Bench Ward Bishop from March 9, 1958 to November 15, 1964. He also has served in Scouting and as one of the presidents of the 113th Quorum of Seventies. Thelma served as Relief Society President in Egin Bench Ward from May 26, 1974 to October 23, 1977, and also as secretary of the same organization from 1979-82. Their children are Robert Dan, who served a mission to the France-Belgium Mission 1971-73, Karen (Crowther) Donetta (Rhead), Trudy (Hower), who served a mission to Sweden 1978-79, Clifford Kesl, Ellen (Remington) who served a mission to Phoenix, Arizona 1984-86, and Kyle Fredrick, who served a mission to Independence, Missouri, 1985-87, and is living at Egin while attending Ricks College.

Clifford Kesl Neilson was born December 6, 1960 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Robert E. and Thelma Leown Frederiksen Neilson. He attended school at Parker and graduated from South Fremont High School at St. Anthony. He married Marla Jeppson on November 18, 1983. Marla was born August 7, 1961 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Kay and Luella Smith Jeppson. She grew up in the Archer area and she graduated from Madison High School at Rexburg. Since their marriage, they have lived about one year at Rexburg and then moved to Egin Bench where they live near his grandfather. Children are Selina Elizabeth, Alyssa Belle, Chet Kesl, and Jake Ryan. Marla is a descendant of Abraham Branson. See his history.

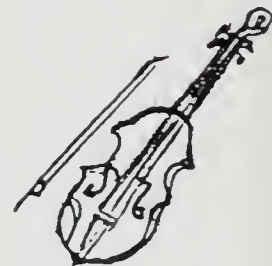
Ellen Neilson was born August 24, 1963, at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Robert E. and Thelma Leown Frederiksen Neilson. She attended school at the Parker-Egin Elementary and at St. Anthony, where she graduated from South Fremont High School. She attended Ricks College and served a mission to Phoenix, Arizona 1984-86. She married Shayne 'K' Remington on September 5, 1987. Shayne was born January 1, 1962 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Kenneth and Arlene Coles Remington. He attended school at St. Anthony, where he graduated from South Fremont High School. He attended Ricks College and he served a mission to the Phillipines. He grew up working in farm work and is farming at the present time. Their children are Sonya and Curt Shayne.

The ORGILL Family - Five Generations on Egin Bench

Nephi Orgill - Catherine Emeline Bills



Nephi Orgill was born November 13, 1851 at Hartshorn, Derbyshire, England to Joseph and Elizabeth Lowe Orgill. He and his ten brothers and sisters inherited a musical talent from their mother. Nephi learned to play the coronet at an early age and played for the King and Queen of England. At the age of seventeen, he left his family and with his coronet and a few belongs, he came to America in 1868. He joined a wagon train as a bugle boy and made several trips across the plains to earn the money to send for his parents and most of their children to come to America. He met Catherine Emeline Bills and they were married in 1876. They lived at Draper, Utah and had ten children who were also gifted in music and were sent to good teachers, becoming accomplished musicians. In 1901, the family moved to Egin, Idaho to live, arriving with a small team of horses, two cows, Nephi's coronet and 35¢. They arrived to late to plant a crop but cleared land to prepare for the next season. They lived in tents until they could build a small log cabin. They later built a lumber home. Nephi Orgill worked in the beet industry, walking the line nearly every day from the 'slicer' on Egin Bench to the sugar plant at Sugar City, checking for leaks in the pipe. It was hard for their big family to provide, but they all worked hard and lived off the land a great deal. Nephi organized the Orgill Orchestra consisting of his children with Alvin playing the drums, trumpet and bass horn, Clyde playing trumpet, Alex playing violin, Mark playing clarinet and violin, Glenn playing base violin and piano, Edna, violin, Ed Norris (a son-in-law) trombone and Nephi playing his corenet. They started this in 1909 and traveled from Marysville on the north to Lewisville on the south by team and wagon or sleigh, returning home just in time to start work in the fields, receiving two dollars for each piece. Their son Alexander served a mission to Great Britian in 1912, meeting his father's two brothers while he was there. He also served in the army in World War I and was seriously wounded in the Battle of the Argonne Forest. Their son Mark lived most of his life at Egin and served in the bishopric there. Nephi's wife, Catherine died September 2, 1931 and Nephi was still playing his coronet when he was ninety years old. He died January 14, 1940.



Alvin Orgill lived most of his life at Egin and after marrying Alfretta (Retta) Davis on September 9, 1913, they moved into the family home and farmed and raised their six children, Lowell, Alex, Homer, Blaine, Venice, and Norma. Alex, Homer and Blaine all served in the Armed Forces during World War II. Alvin died on September 9, 1963 and Retta on September 8, 1977.



Lowell Orgill was born at Egin, Idaho and lived his life there. He went to school at Egin and then to high school at Edmunds. He started to farm when he was fifteen for his father and herded sheep for him and his Uncle Glenn Orgill. He married Nona May Burbank on February 1948. She was born at Deweyville, Utah. Her family moved to Wilford in 1933. Her parents are Lester L. and Persis J. Tippetts Burbank. She graduated from Sugar-Salem High School in 1945. She became a Licensed Practical Nurse and worked at the Fremont General Hospital for a number of years and at Youth Services Center and has also done home nursing care. She has a talent in music, which she has used in singing and directing. She has served as President of Primary and Young Women's M.I.A. along with many other callings. Lowell has served as Sunday School Superintendent and counselor and counselor in the Elder's Quorum. He worked for many years at the Youth Services Center. They live in the home which his parents built. They have three daughters, Catherine, Gwen (Klingler), and Cindy (Brenchly).

Catherine Orgill was born March 13, 1944, at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Lowell and Nona Burbank Orgill. She attended school at Parker Elementary and graduated from South Fremont High School. She graduated from Ricks College and from Brigham Young University. She married Donald Wayne Swensen on August 11, 1966. Wayne was born July 28, 1943 at Blackfoot, Bingham, Idaho to George and Blendena Thompson Swensen. He attended school at St. Anthony, graduating from high school there, in 1962. He graduated from Ricks College and Brigham Young University. He served an L.D.S. mission to Norway (Nov.1, 1962-May 1965). He served in the United States Army, First Calvary (1965-68), and was stationed in California, Georgia, Vietnam and Oklahoma. They were married while he was on furlough and Catherine went with him, except while he was in Vietnam, when she stayed in the apartment where they were when he left to go overseas. They lived at Provo, St. Anthony and Parker before coming to Egin where they had a new home in 1973. He teaches in Fremont County School District. Catherine is teaching in Bonneville District #93. He has been Sunday School President, Stake Missionary, Counselor and then Bishop of Egin Bench Ward from July 24, 1977 to February 6, 1983. He enjoys working with youth in community sports programs. Their children are Ty Wayne, who served a mission to Dominican Republic and is attending Ricks College, Tara Ann, who attended Ricks College, Timalee Dena and Tate Lowell.

Homer Orgill was born on Egin Bench on August 6, 1921 to Alvin and Retta Davis Orgill. He was born in a little house that sits on the Lowell Orgill property, the original home of Alvin and Retta. He went to school in the old red brick Egin School. He rode a horse to attend the Edmunds High School for two years. He enlisted in the National Guard in 1940. His dad had to sign for him because of his age and he was the youngest man in Fremont County to go. He served for 42 months in the South Pacific out of the six years for which he enlisted. He was discharged in 1945 and he married Marie Moon February 7, 1946. They bought the old Charles Foster place in Wilford and lived there for about a year before selling it again and moved to Egin, living in the old house he had been born in and then in a house on Glenn Orgill's place. Then he bought an acre of ground from his brother Lowell where they still live. He had his back hurt and after that he worked 25 years as a night man at the Youth Training Center, retiring in 1974. Their children are Bonnie Jean (Harrop), Michael, and Dolly Venice (Edlefsen).

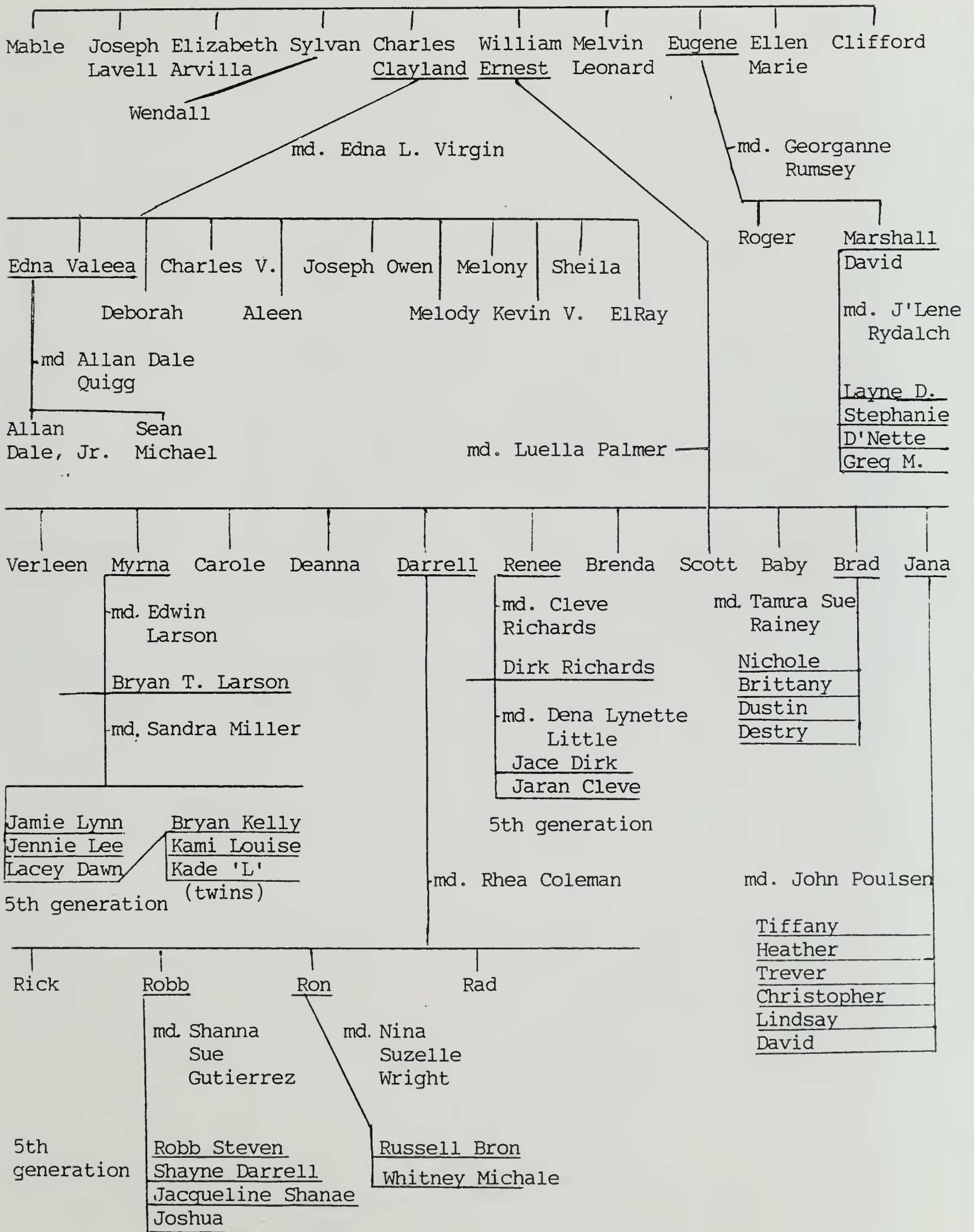
Michael H. (Mike) Orgill was born September 24, 1949. He attended school at Parker Elementary and at St. Anthony. He married Cindy Wright and they have two children, Justin and Katie Lynn. He works for Tri County Equipment in Rexburg as a partsman and his wife works at West One Bank as a Customer Service Representative. They live in a home in Egin.

Dolly Venice Orgill was born November 19, 1952 to Homer and Marie Moon Orgill. She attended school at Parker and St. Anthony. She married Wayne Edlefsen. They live next to her parents on Egin Bench and she has worked for Tibbitts Potato Co. Wayne worked for Western Farms in Parker until he had to retire about 1988 due to losing his eyesight from diabetes. He raises pigs, taking care of them and feeding them himself. Their children are Shannon (Sommers) and Corey Wayne.

Stewart Blaine Orgill was born January 25, 1923 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to Alvin and Alfretta (Retta) Betsy Davis Orgill. He went to grade school at Egin and to the Edmunds High School one year. His earliest recollections were of his grandparents, his grandfather Orgill being a small man but very dynamic and his grandmother being a good cook, especially her sugar cookies. His grandfather had a brass band and later the Orgill Orchestra. He remembered the crash of twenty-nine, the great depression and how no one had any money but they still had plenty to eat. They were a provident people and knew how to get things done, making their own clothes, growing their own food and helping each other. He recalled when electricity was first brought to Egin Bench, in the 1930's. The first place to have it was the Egin Store. Some homes were wired with a Delco battery system before that and they were able to convert it over when electricity came. His mother was the first on their road to have a refrigerator and lights, and neighbors came in to see it and the first ice cubes that it made. Lester Davenport and Archie Woods did most of the wiring for electricity in Egin and Blaine helped them and learned from them a knowledge of electricity. He also learned to do some plumbing. Blaine married Lucille Harrison December 13, 1941. They herded sheep on the Junipers for awhile and Lucille found it to be quite a change from living in town, where she had grown up. They trailed sheep from Grassy Ridge to Bishop Mountain, living in a tent. For a time, they lived at Twin Groves and then in St. Anthony. In 1952, they bought a home in Chester. In January 1955, they bought a lot in Egin where the old Heman School was and built a basement house, adding the upstairs later. He farmed with his father and brothers and raised cattle and sheep. He worked for the Fremont County on the road crews and he also worked fifteen years at the State Youth Center. Then he made a shop out of the old school and did mechanic work there. He was a water master for the St. Anthony, Union and Last Chance Canals and also the Independent for a while. Lucille Harrison was born September 14, 1923 at Teton City, Idaho to Taylor Arch and Grace Lucille Mason Harrison. They lived at Parker when she was a young girl and she can remember walking through the fields to the big house when her great grandfather Mason died and seeing him in his casket. (That would have been James Horby Mason.) Their family also lived at Sugar City and St. Anthony, where she graduated from high school. Blaine and Lucille have the following children: Laurel, Mauna (Laprier), Elaine (Radford), Betsy (died accidently in 1956), Alvin, Mark, and Noreen. Blaine and Lucille enjoy working in their yard and every summer it is a pleasure to drive by and see the beauty they have created there.

Norma Orgill has a home on part of the original farm of her father. She teaches school at the St. Anthony Central School. Her youngest daughter Debra Ann lives at Egin with her mother. Other daughters: Gloria, Sharon, and Norma Christine.

The ORR Family - five generations on Egin Bench
 Joseph Orr - Ellen Eliza Lyon



Joseph Orr was born in 1877 at Freedom, Sanpete, Utah to Charles Richard and Caroline Derricott Orr. They moved to Bear Lake when he was five years old, where he grew up. He attended the Agricultural College at Logan, Utah for two years, 1895 and 1896. He was married in 1899 to Ellen Eliza Lyon. She was born in 1880 to Charles and Mary Balls Lyon at Hyde Park, Cache, Utah. Early in 1900 many people from Bear Lake area were going north to settle in the Snake River Valley and some in Canada. Among them were J. W. Hymus and his wife Rosa, who was a sister to Joseph. He and his family came to Egin Bench and then wrote back with reports of good crops, plenty of water and many acres of land still in sage brush and grass. Joseph and Ellen decided to sell what they couldn't take in their wagon and get a ticket for Ellen and their four month old baby girl. Joseph loaded their few possessions along with a baby calf, hay, oats, and twelve hens in a box into the wagon and tied the cow behind and along with his brother-in-law who had returned to Bear Lake for the rest of his family's possessions, they left November 17, 1900 for Egin Bench. They traveled by an eastern route and arrived in Egin at the Hymus home on November 26, meeting his wife and baby who had arrived by train in St. Anthony November 22. They had only \$1.60 to see them through the winter. They rented forty acres south of the David Pulley ranch, part of which the Hymus family were renting. They borrowed a mower and cut grain stubble which had a good stand of alfalfa and harvested it to feed their cow and horses through the winter. The Relief Society sisters had gleaned grain from the fields to loan out in case of emergency and he borrowed enough to feed his family and animals through the winter. He was able to pay it back the following year. In 1903, he bought twenty acres and later the twenty acres east of it and they worked hard to grub and stack the sage brush. They later build new buildings, garden, berry patch and an orchard of 65 trees. Here they taught their large family profits of hard work. Joseph had a beautiful singing voice. He served as Bishop of Egin Ward from 1915 to 1930. He also served as county commissioner for two years from 1918 to 1920. His wife Ellen died from complications of childbirth in January of 1920. Joseph farmed until 1942 when he turned the farm to his sons and went to Arizona during the winters, coming back to Egin for the summers. He married Lola Isabelle Taylor Hathcock in Arizona. He also died in Arizona on February 10, 1965. The children of Joseph and Ellen are Mable (Behnke), Joseph Lavelle, Elizabeth Arvilla (Parkinson), Sylvan, Charles Clayland, William Ernest, Melvin Leonard, Eugene, Ellen Marie and Clifford.

Charles Clayland Orr was born in 1908 at Egin, Idaho to Joseph and Ellen Eliza Lyon Orr. He attended school at Egin and at Edmunds. He worked with his brothers and sisters on the family farm. He filled a mission to the Southern States. Later he rented the family farm from his father and after his marriage he bought the farm from his father. He also rented several other acreages over the years. He did carpenter work in his spare time and loved to read and study the scriptures. He married Edna L. Virgin on March 11, 1949. Edna was born January 8, 1922 at Sugar, Madison, Idaho to Enos Owen and Minerva Cluff Virgin. She was the oldest of eight children and attended school at Sugar City, graduating from Sugar-Salem High School. She attended Ricks College and after she graduated she came to Egin to teach school on January 1942, taking Hazel Weaver Hendricks' place in first and second grade, under Merrill Crusier as principal. She then taught the first four grades under Margaret Moon as principal for two years and then taught third grade at Central School in St. Anthony for three years. She served a mission to the Eastern States and after she came home she married Clayland Orr. After the older children were in school, she taught

Charles Clayland Orr, continued.

private kindergarten in one of the rooms of the church, with pupils from Egin, Plano and Parker. In 1968, she went back to teaching full time and taught at the Parker-Egin School first grade for twenty years, retiring May of 1989. During the years she also received her BA degree from ISU in Pocatello. The family of Clayland and Edna included Edna Valeea (Quigg), Deborah (Charles), Charles V., Aleen, Joseph Owen, Melody and Melony, triplets who died at birth, Kevin V. who also died in infancy, Sheila (Gould), and ElRay who also died in infancy. Clayland Orr died in March of 1975.

Edna Valeea Orr Quigg was born January 22, 1950 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Clayland and Edna Virgin Orr. She attended Parker school and was an honor student at South Fremont High School where she graduated. She then attended Ricks College and ISU at Pocatello. She filled a mission call to Japan from 1974 to 1976, being in Japan when her father died in 1975. On February 14, 1980 she was married to Allan Dale Quigg, Sr. Allan was born July 13, 1954 in Idaho Falls to Claude Erskine and Donna Marie Olaveson Quigg. He grew up in Shelley and attended school there where he graduated from high school. He attended Ricks College and filled a mission for the L.D.S. Church in Hawaii. Valeea works at City Hall in Rexburg and Allan works for a cement company in Idaho Falls. They have two sons, Allan Dale, Jr. and Sean Michael.

William Ernest Orr was born October 27, 1910 at Egin, Idaho, to Joseph and Ellen Lyon Orr. He was raised in a large family of six brothers and three sisters. He attended school at Egin and at Edmunds High School. He was a hard worker and farmed, raised cattle and had a dairy. He married Luella Palmer on June 1, 1933. Luella was born January 22, 1915 at Egin, Idaho to John Willie Etna May Wardle Palmer. She attended school at Heman, Idaho and later worked in a seed factory. After their marriage they made their home on Dr. West's farm in Egin and then in the fall of 1935 they moved to the Moon house by the railroad track west of the Egin Church (present building). They lived there for six years until the fall of 1940 when they purchased the farm of Thomas Ball where Luella lives today. They worked hard to make improvements on the land and the house. They raised grain, potatoes and hay and also had a dairy to help with the income for raising a large family of eleven children. In 1951, a new home was built to fill the needs of this family. The days were filled with planting crops, hauling hay, digging potatoes, threshing grain and trailing the milk cows to and from the pasture in the river bottoms, and everyone learned to help. After many years of hard work, Ernest died on September 20, 1971, after suffering a stroke. Luella finished raising the family. In 1968 and '69 their son Scott served our country, stationed in Fort Lewis and then in Viet Nam. Luella served an eighteen month mission in the Fort Lauderdale Florida L.D.S. Mission. She returned to her home where she lives at the present time. Their children are Verleen (Triplet), Myrna (Larson), Carole (Young), Deanna (Kerbs), Darrell, Renee (Richards), Brenda (Sutton), Scott, a baby boy who was dead at birth, Brad and Jana.

Bryan T. Larson was born November 1, 1958 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Edwin T. and Myrna Dawn Orr Larson. He is the grandson of Ernest and Luella Palmer Orr. As a child, he lived at Pocatello and Bear Lake. Then his parents moved to Ashton and finally to Parker in 1968, where they still live. He attended school at Bear Lake, Ashton, and Parker and graduated from South Fremont High School. He married Sandra Lynn Miller on June 16, 1978. Sandra was born on May 11, 1959 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho, to Dell and Lois Mickelsen Miller. She grew up in the Parker area, attending school there and graduating from South Fremont High School. After their marriage, they lived for a short time in Rexburg and then moved to Egin for about a year. Then they lived in St. Anthony for a short time before moving to Parker for two years. They moved to Egin to live in 1982, where they still live. Bryan works for Crapo Brothers in their farming operation. He has served as Egin Ward Sunday School President for several years and in the St. Anthony Stake Sunday School presidency as the first counselor for a year. Their children are Jamie Lynn, Jennie Lee, Lacey Dawn, Bryan Kelly, Kami Louise, and Kade 'L', who are twins.

William Darrell Orr was born April 13, 1940 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to William Ernest and Luella Palmer Orr. He attended school at Egin, then Parker and also South Fremont High School. He learned the art of farming from his father, helping with all phases of it and he helped milk the cows. He also worked for Dr. Harlo Rigby on his farms at Egin, Rexburg, Henry's Lake and Chester. On November 4, 1960, he married Rhea Coleman. Rhea was born at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho on August 10, 1940 to Alexander Ostberg and Emma Rigby Coleman. She is an identical twin to her sister Reta (Allgood). She attended school in St. Anthony, where she graduated from South Fremont High School in 1958. She then attended Twin Falls Business College. Darrell still farms the land where he grew up and has built his home to the south of his mother's home. They have taught their four boys to work hard as they grew up on the family farm, and helped run other property also. In his spare time, Darrell enjoys the game of golf and he helps Rhea with the yard. Rhea helps with the harvest, is active in the Egin Ward, works at Artco, and is a member of the St. Anthony Lady Lions. She has served as Fremont County's Chairman for the Idaho Centennial Celebration of 1990, which has kept her busy for several years as preparations were made and carried out for this special event.

Robb W. Orr was born June 26, 1962 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to William Darrell and Rhea Coleman Orr. He attended school at the Parker-Egin Grade School and graduated from South Fremont High School in 1980. He has farmed all his life since he was first big enough to help, moving pipe on the land that they sprinkled, milking cows and also working for others when he was not needed at home. He married Shanna Sue Gutierrez on October 24, 1981. Shanna was born July 20, 1963 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Augustine and Connie Salazar Gutierrez from Newdale, Idaho. Robb and Shanna have lived in Egin most of the time since their marriage except for two years when they moved to Dubois, Idaho while Robb worked for Blaine Larsen. He had worked for Stone's Town and Country Motors when he was a senior in high school and he went back to work for them after they moved back to Egin. Now he is working for Dell Raybould Farms in the Egin and Rexburg areas. Robb and Shanna both enjoy sports and Shanna teaches gymnastics in Rexburg. Their children are Robb Steven, Shayne Darrell, Jacqueline Shanee, and Joshua. These children are the fifth generation of Orr's to live on Egin Bench.

Ron C. Orr was born December 26, 1973 in St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho, to William Darrell and Rhea Coleman Orr. He attended school at Parker-Egin Elementary and graduated from South Fremont High School in 1982. He played football until an injury and surgery ended his activity during his senior year. He farmed with his father from his childhood. After high school, he went to work for Housley's in St. Anthony in their pump and plumbing business. On June 1, 1984, he was married to Nina Suzelle Wright who was born June 14, 1965 at San Jose, California to Keith Kinwood Wright and Joyce Hill Parkinson. Ron and Suzelle both enjoy sports and have both served in the youth organization of the Egin Bench Ward. They have Russell Bron and Whitney Michale, children who are fifth generation Orr's to live on Egin Bench.

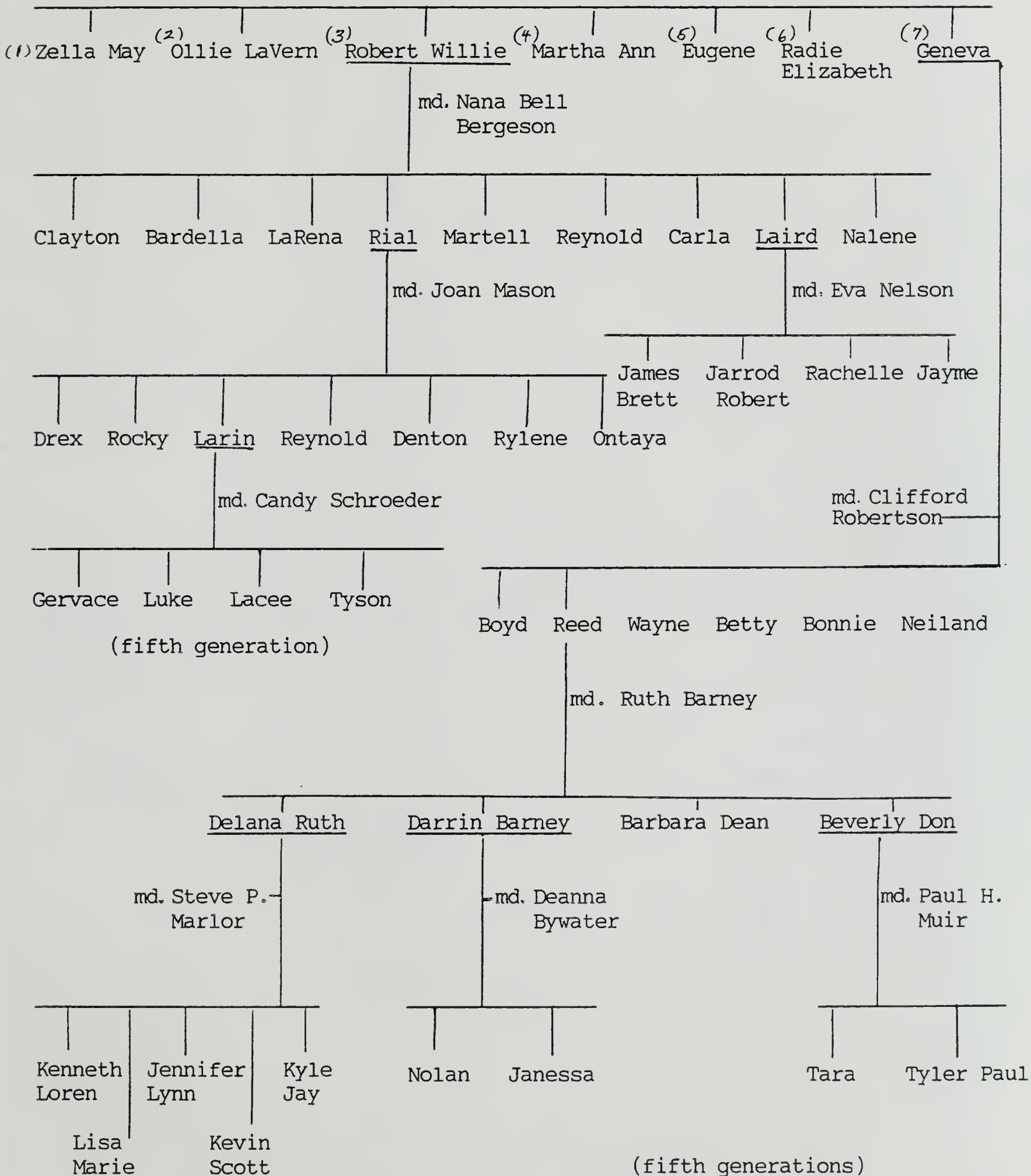
William Dirk Richards was born January 25, 1964 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Cleve and Renee Orr Richards. He attended school at Parker and graduated from South Fremont High School at St. Anthony. He attended Ricks College and then served a mission for the L.D.S. Church to Dallas, Texas. He was married to Dena Lynette Little on January 11, 1985. Dena was born April 24, 1966 at Driggs, Idaho to Vern and Karen Hamblin Little. She grew up in that area and graduated from Teton High School. She met Dirk while she was attending Ricks College. They lived in Parker for a while after their marriage and then they moved to Phoenix, Arizona while Dirk attended DeVry Institute of Technology for two years, training as an electronics technician. They moved to Egin when they came back to Idaho, where they are buying the former Wilber Richards home. Dirk is workin for E.G.&G.Idaho at Idaho Falls. They have two sons, Jace Dirk and Jaran Cleve. These children^{are} descendents of Joseph Orr and his wife, Ellen who settled on Egin Bench about 1900.

Bradley J. Orr was born May 22, 1952 at Egin Bench, Fremont, Idaho to William Ernest and Luella Palmer Orr. He attended school at Parker-Egin Elementary, South Fremont Jr. and Sr. High Schools, where he graduated in 1970. He then attended Ricks College. He served a mission to Columbus, Ohio. On June 11, 1976, he was married to Tamra Sue Rainey. Tamra was born September 4, 1955 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Cecil and Rula Rainey. She attended schools in Rexburg where she graduated from Madison High School in 1973. She worked for American Land Title Company half days while she was in high school her senior year and continued to work there until their first child was born. The fall after their marriage, they bought some ground from Brad's mother and put a home on it and moved to Egin in the spring of 1977. Brad works for Idaho Forest Industries. He has served as a counselor in the Elders Quorum and in the Sunday School at Egin Bench Ward. Tamra has served as the president of the Young Women's Organization and as counselor in the Relief Society. They have four children, Nichole Tia, Brittany Lynn, Dustin Bradley and Destry Bradley, who are twins. Tamra and Brad had to postpone their wedding reception because of the Teton Dam breaking. They were able to go ahead with their wedding but the State Police would not have let Brad into Madison County if he had not of had his marriage license. It was a difficult time for her family but they wanted them to go ahead with their wedding, and by the time they had their reception on July 9, they had just lifted the curfew in Madison County.

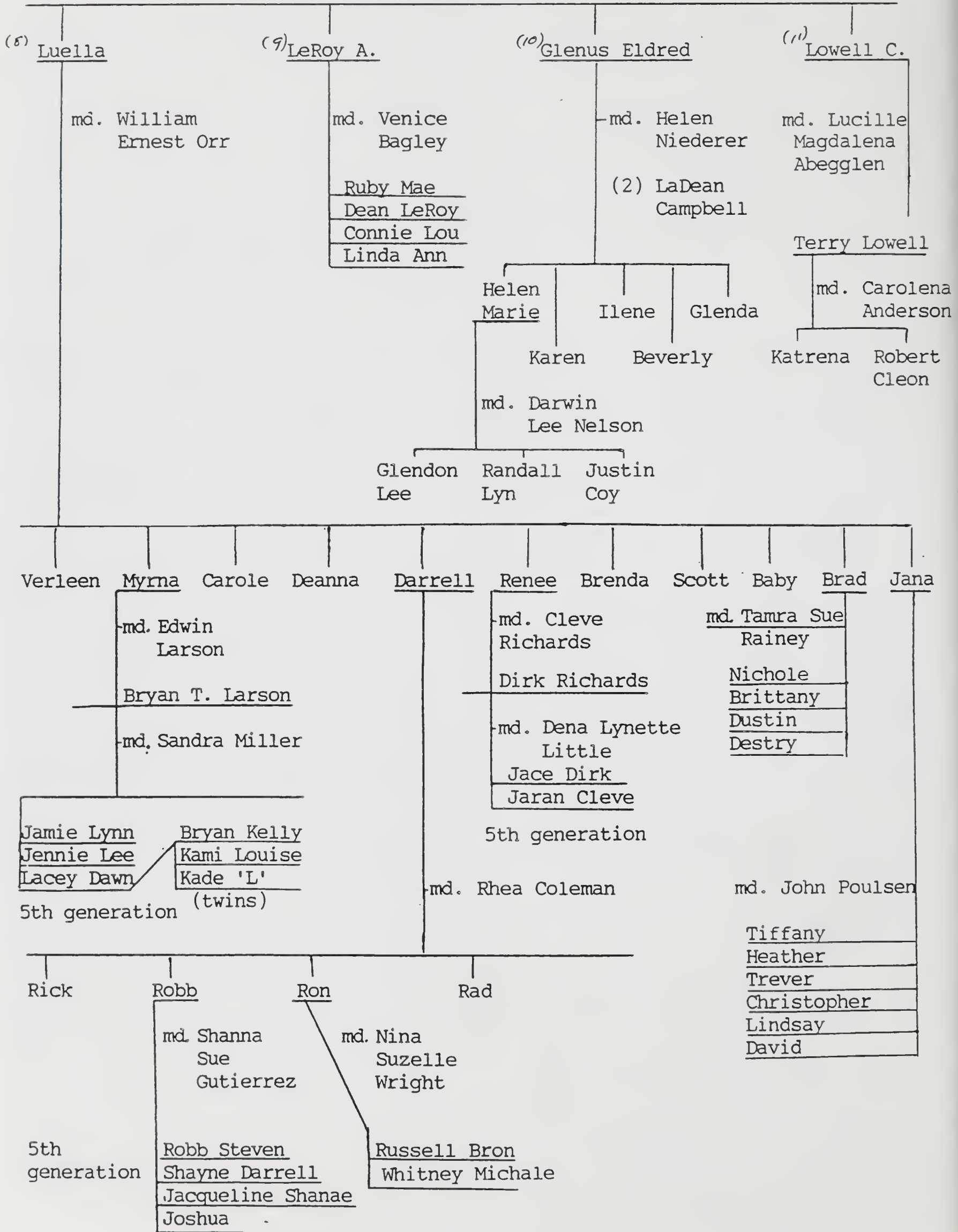
Jana Orr was born July 9, 1955 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to William Ernest and Luella Palmer Orr. She grew up on the family farm on Egin Bench and attended school at Parker and St. Anthony, graduating from South Fremont High School there. She attended Ricks College and was married to John Poulsen on July 13, 1974. John was born at Murray, Salt Lake, Utah to Blair and Grace Poulsen. His family moved to Sunnyside, Utah until he was in fifth grade and then to Gooding, Idaho where he graduated from Gooding High School. He attended Ricks College before their marriage. He worked for Blocks Stores and they lived in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, and Bountiful, Utah before they came to live on Egin Bench in 1976. They live in the old Heman church house, which was remodeled into a home. John has worked as a retail sales clerk, as a golf pro, for a dairy farmer, as a maintenance man and manages a gas station. He has served as the Elders Quorum President, and activity committee chairman in the Egin Ward. Jana has served in the Primary presidency as a counselor and in the Young Women's presidency and as Stake Women's Sports Director. They have six children, Tiffany, Heather, Trever, Christopher, Lindsay, and David.

Marshall David Orr was born at Egin, Idaho on May 15, 1940 to Eugene and Georganne Rumsey Orr. Both of his parents grew up at Egin. His father was the son of Joseph and Ellen Eliza Lyon Orr. His mother was the daughter of George Bradley and Anna Bell Strong Rumsey. Marshall grew up on his parents farm and learned to run the equipment and also repair it. He loved animals and taking care of them. He learned to sing at an early age with his mother's encouragement. He and his brother Roger walked to school the first three years while he attended the Egin School. Then it was closed and they rode the bus to Parker. He graduated from high school at St. Anthony. He took a lot of responsibility on the family farm as a young man. He was married to J'Lene Rydalch on November 3, 1961. J'Lene was born June 16, 1943 to Elvin G. and Leona Weaver Rydalch. She grew up on their farm at Egin and attended school at Parker and St. Anthony where she graduated from high school and she also attended a beautician school and became licensed. After their marriage they worked hard and were able to buy a farm and build her a beauty shop on their home in Egin. They had four children including Layne David, Stephanie, D'Nette, and Greg Marshall. Many farmers were forced to take other jobs because of bad prices for produce and high cost of farming operation. Marshall took another job and eventually lost his farm. About 1985, their marriage ended in divorce. By that time all of the children except Greg were on their own. Later Marshall met Ruth Barney Robertson, who had also been recently divorced and they were married on November 27, 1986. Ruth was born May 24, 1938 in Rexburg, Madison, Idaho, to Moses Allen and Ester May Underwood Barney. Their family lived in the Hibbard area on a small farm west of Rexburg where they raised a big garden and the girls helped with the canning. She attended school at Hibbard and Rexburg, graduating from Madison High School. She married Reed Delane Robertson on June 20, 1957. Because of his work, they lived in many places in Idaho, Washington, Montana and Utah. They had five children, Delana Ruth (Marler), Darrin Barney, Barbara Dean, Beverly Don (Muir), and Clifford Allen. In December 1984, Reed and Ruth were divorced. After she met and was married to Marshall, she came to Egin to live bringing her son Clifford to join Greg in their home.

John Willie Palmer - Etna May Wardle



John Willie Palmer - Etna May Wardle



John Willie Palmer was born December 27, 1879 to Robert and Charlotte Eliza Parr Palmer at West Jordon, Salt Lake, Utah. He was the sixth of twelve children and grew up on the farm west of Salt Lake City. He married Etna May Wardle on October 24, 1900. Etna was born on May 15, 1882 at South Jordon, Salt Lake, Utah to Issac John and Martha Ann Egbert Wardle. She was a twin, but her twin brother died when they were just past three months old. Etna grew up in Utah. After their marriage, John and Etna came to Idaho about 1905, where they purchased forty acres. They worked hard to clear the sage brush and make their home. There they raised their family of eleven children, teaching them to help with the farm work and the care of the farm animals. The property where they lived had originally been owned by two families, the Rawson's and Strange's and they moved the two homes from under the hill up on top and made one home from the two, overlooking the valley and the river below. They had cows which the family milked by hand, churned the butter by hand and sold it door to door in St. Anthony, delivering it in a one-horse buggy, sometimes as much as a hundred pounds in one week. John and Etna lived out their lives there on the farm and Etna died on May 11, 1952 and John on January 28, 1957. Their children were Zella May (died at 3 years of age), Ollie LaVern (married Joseph E. Parkinson), Robert Willie (see history) Martha Ann (died in infancy), Eugene (died in infancy), Radie Elizabeth (who married Clarence Rydalch), Geneva (see history), Louella (see history with Orr family), LeRoy (see history), Glenus (see history), and Lowell (see history).



Robert Willie Palmer was born January 3, 1906 at Egin, Idaho to John Willie and Etna May Wardle Palmer. He grew up on their farm and learned to work hard with the horses and cattle. He attended school at the Heman School. He married Nana Bell Bergeson in March of 1926. Nana was born January 15, 1909 in Parker, Idaho to James and Mabel Allen Bergeson. She attended school at Parker and learned homemaking skills from her mother. After their marriage, 'Bob' and Nana moved to Egin to live in one room. About 1938, they bought their farm, which their son, Rial owns at this time. They milked cows by hand and farmed and he bought a truck so he could haul milk to the creamery for the farmers in the area. He often picked up medicine or other needed items for people or took them into town with him. He bought his first tractor about 1942, and later a threshing machine so he could do threshing of grain for the farmers in the area. He also acquired a ranch north east of St. Anthony with lots of pasture for the cattle. Nana died on February 16, 1958 from cancer and their son Reynold was killed in a car accident in Jackson, Wyoming on July 2, 1958. In November 1960, Robert married Mary Bybee and she helped with his large family. They built on to the house and he continued farming until he died on December 20, 1970 from a stroke. Robert and Nana's children were Clayton, who married Rosena Mortenson (div.) and Fern Empey, Bardella, who married Vaugh Johnson, LaRena, who married Delton Brower, Rial, who married Joan Mason, Martell, who married Gwen Shirley, Carla, who married Barry Redford, Laird, who married Eva Nelson, Nalene, who married Dave Burch, and Reynold, who died, was just older than Carla.

Rial Leon Palmer was born June 24, 1933 at Heman, Idaho to Robert Willie and Nana Bell Bergeson Palmer. He attended eight years of school at the Heman School, just a half mile north of their home. He learned to help on the farm at an early age. When he was nine years old, his father got his first tractor and Rial had the responsibility of driving it home from Rexburg. They had land at Kilgore also and Rial went with his older brother Clayton to stay there each summer. Rial's eyes were very bad in his youth and he did not finish high school. He married Joan Mason in 1952. Joan Renee Mason was born January 31, 1936 to Floyd and Veda Powell Mason. She lived in many places during her early childhood because her father worked in construction. When she was seven years old, her parents bought their home in Egin, where her mother is still living. She attended schools at the Egin School, just north of their home for six years and then went to Parker for two years. After their marriage Rial and Joan lived for awhile in the Egin area where Rial farmed and also worked for his father-in-law in construction. Then they left the area, living at Moses Lake, Washington for a few years until they came back to Egin in March of 1971, buying Rial's father's farm after his death in 1970. In May of 1972, their eleven year old son, Denton, died in an accident on their farm and during that same year, three of their boys had narrow escapes. When Rial was thirteen years old, he had received the first pair of large contacts in the state of Idaho in an effort to help him see better. He couldn't wear them very long but they did help him to see. In 1956 he received his first small hard contact lenses and they helped him see much better. About 1987, he had cornea transplants in both eyes, one at a time, which has helped a lot. Their children are Drex, who married Trisha Rigby, Rocky Leon, who married Trixie Swensen, Larin, whose life sketch follows, Reynold, who married Sharon Oldham, Denton, who died in 1972, Joan Rylene, married to Doug Barker and Ontaya Renee married to Robert Morgan.

Larin William Palmer was born October 3, 1956 at Moses Lake, Washington, to Rial Leon and Joan Mason Palmer. His family lived at Moses Lake, where he attended school. After they moved back to Egin in 1971, he attended school in St. Anthony. He married Candy Schroeder on June 16, 1978. Candy was born August 20, 1960 at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, to Richard Dean Schroeder and Ethel Larson. She attended schools in Minneapolis, Minnesota and in Rexburg and graduated from South Fremont High School in St. Anthony, Idaho. After their marriage, they lived in St. Anthony for a few months before they bought their home in Egin from his uncle and aunt, Robert and Sherrel Mason Wright. It was originally built by Larin's great-grandfather, Henry Powell in 1904. Larin works as a truck driver. They have had four children. Gervace, their first son died at birth, and they have Luke, Lacey and Tyson.

James Laird Palmer was born December 6, 1946 at Rexburg, Idaho to Robert Willie and Nana Bell Bergeson Palmer. He attended school at Parker Elementary and high school at St. Anthony. He married Eva Nelson on July 29, 1964. Eva was born April 21, 1948 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Joseph Elmer and Ina Leona Byrnie Nelson. She attended school at St. Anthony, where she grew up and graduated from high school there. After their marriage they lived in Moses Lake, Washington for two years and moved back to Egin in 1966 to help his father farm. That fall he joined the National Guard and received his basic training at Fort Lewis, Washington and Fort Leonardwood, Missouri. Then he again returned to this area to help his dad farm at Egin and St. Anthony. Laird served in Viet Nam, leaving in August 1968 and returning in 1969. He returned to Egin and they bought the property on the south side of the road that was the Lee Hill estate. There he built a new log home in 1977, where they live today. Their children are James Brett, who is married to Pennie Dickerson, Jarrod Robert, who died, Eva Rachelle who is married to Scott Allen and Jayme who is still at home with her parents.

Geneva Palmer was born October 30, 1912 at Egin, Idaho to John Willie and Etna May Wardle Palmer. She grew up on the family farm at Egin, attended the old Heman School, graduating from the eighth grade. She was married to Robert Clifford Robertson on March 5, 1930 and they lived on the Robertson homestead in Plano, where they remained the rest of her life. She served for sixteen years as a counselor in the Relief Society in Plano. She died November 7, 1989, from cancer. Her husband is still living in their home. Their children are R. Boyd, Reed D., Wayne N., Betty (Madsen), Bonnie (Cook), and Neiland Clifford, who died in a farm accident in 1982. Four children of their son Reed and his first wife, Ruth Barney, now live in Egin. The youngest, Clifford, lives with his mother, Ruth Orr. The life sketches of the married children follows next.

Delana Ruth Robertson was born September 29, 1959 at Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho to Reed Delane and Ruth Barney Robertson. Due to her father's occupation, they moved a lot and she attended schools at Iona and Lewiston, Idaho, Clarkston and Walla Walla, Washington, Tyhee, Idaho and Roy, Utah where she graduated from high school and a beautician school both in May of 1977. She married Steve Parley Marlor on July 27, 1979. Steve was born April 17, 1955 at Oak Harbor, Washington to Frances (Frank) and LaWan Ririe Marlor. His father was in the military and they moved often during his youth, finally to settle in Ririe, Idaho, where he graduated from high school in 1973. He served in the U.S. Army for two years, spending part of the time in Germany. Since their marriage, they have lived in Idaho Falls and Ririe, Idaho and at Billings, Bozeman and Lewistown, Montana before coming to Egin to live in 1987. Their children are Kenneth Loren, called Kenny (from husband's first marriage), Lisa Marie, Jennifer Lynn, Kevin Scott and Kyle Jay.

Darrin Barney Robertson was born September 5, 1961 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Reed Delane and Ruth Barney Robertson. He grew up in several places in Montana, Washington, Utah, and Idaho, where he attended school. He graduated from Dubois, Idaho High School. He attended Utah Technical School and then served and L.D.S. Church mission to San Antonio, Texas, after which he went to the Colorado Gunsmith Trade School. He married Deanna Bywater on January 16, 1986. Deanna was born February 12, 1967 at Bountiful, Utah to DeWayne and Louise Hunsaker Bywater. She moved from Utah to Twin Falls with her family when she was five years old, and there she attended school and graduated from high school. She attended the Career Beauty College at Rexburg, Idaho. They lived in Rexburg for a short time after their marriage and then moved to Egin Bench about 1986. Darrin is now working at Cal Ranch and also attending Ricks College studying Animal Science and Agri-Business. Deanna works at Artco. They have two children, Nolan and Janessa.

Beverly Don Robertson was born February 3, 1967 at Lewiston, NezPerce, Idaho to Reed Delane and Ruth Barney Robertson. She attended various schools as her family moved and graduated from Butte High School in Arco, Idaho. She attended Ricks College and was married to Paul Harold Muir on November 8, 1986. Paul was born December 5, 1962 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Hazen and Verna Henderson Muir. He grew up there and graduated from Madison High School. He served a mission to North Carolina and attended Ricks College for a while. He is engaged in dairy farming with his father. They came to Egin to live about 1987. They have two children, Tara and Tyler Paul.

Luella Palmer - see Orr Family Life Sketches

Le Roy A. Palmer was born at Egin, Idaho on February 12, 1917, the ninth child of John Willie and Etna May Wardle Palmer. He attended school at Heman and helped his family on their farm during his youth. Since he grew up, he has worked at farming, shearing sheep and was employed by B. M. Tibbits & Sons potato warehouse for 32 year, while he also ran his own farm. On September 26, 1940, he married Venice Bagley. Venice was born September 3, 1920 at Victor, Idaho to Fredrick and Florence Luceal Peterson Bagley. Her family moved to the Salem area north of Rexburg when she was a child and she attended schools there, graduating from Sugar-Salem High School. LeRoy and Venice made their home in Egin after their marriage, where they farmed. Venice served as president of Primary Organization and secretary of Young Woman's Organization of the Egin Ward, for many years. She had open heart surgery, which helped her for a time but she died November 22, 1986, after having a heart condition most of her life. LeRoy retired from farming in 1984, but keeps busy with creating things, including making pens from old cedar posts, welding and repairing various things in his shop and helping others. In 1989, he met LaRue Galbraith and they were married on October 6, 1989. They still live on the farm in Egin. The children of LeRoy and Venice are Ruby Mae (Gardner), Dean LeRoy, Connie Lou (Larsen), and Linda (Bird).

Glenus Eldred Palmer was born May 14, 1919 at Egin, Idaho. He was the tenth child of John Willie and Etna Mae Wardle Palmer. As a boy growing up on the family farm, he learned to work hard along with other members of his family. They milked about ten cows, fed the calves and pigs, the cows and chickens each morning before they went to school. They helped their mother churn the cream into butter, sometimes making as much as one hundred pounds a week. They also helped her deliver it in their one horse buggy, taking it from house to house in St. Anthony on Saturdays. He helped his father put up ice in a bin of sawdust, cutting about two foot squares from the river when it was frozen, and putting layers of sawdust and ice in their ice house. He attended school at Heman.

He married Helen Niederer of Rexburg on January 30, 1940. They bought a piece of farm ground near his parents on Egin Bench and built a home and he farmed all of his life. They had five daughters before Helen died on July 12, 1967. They are Marie (Nelson), Karen (Pincock), Ilene (Anderson), Beverly (Orr) and Glenda (Chapple). Glenus married LaDean Campbell on May 25, 1968. LaDean was born October 12, 1933 at Rigby, Jefferson, Idaho to Gerven and Myrtle Johnson Campbell and she grew up and attended schools in the Rigby area. Glenus and La Dean still live on his farm in Egin.

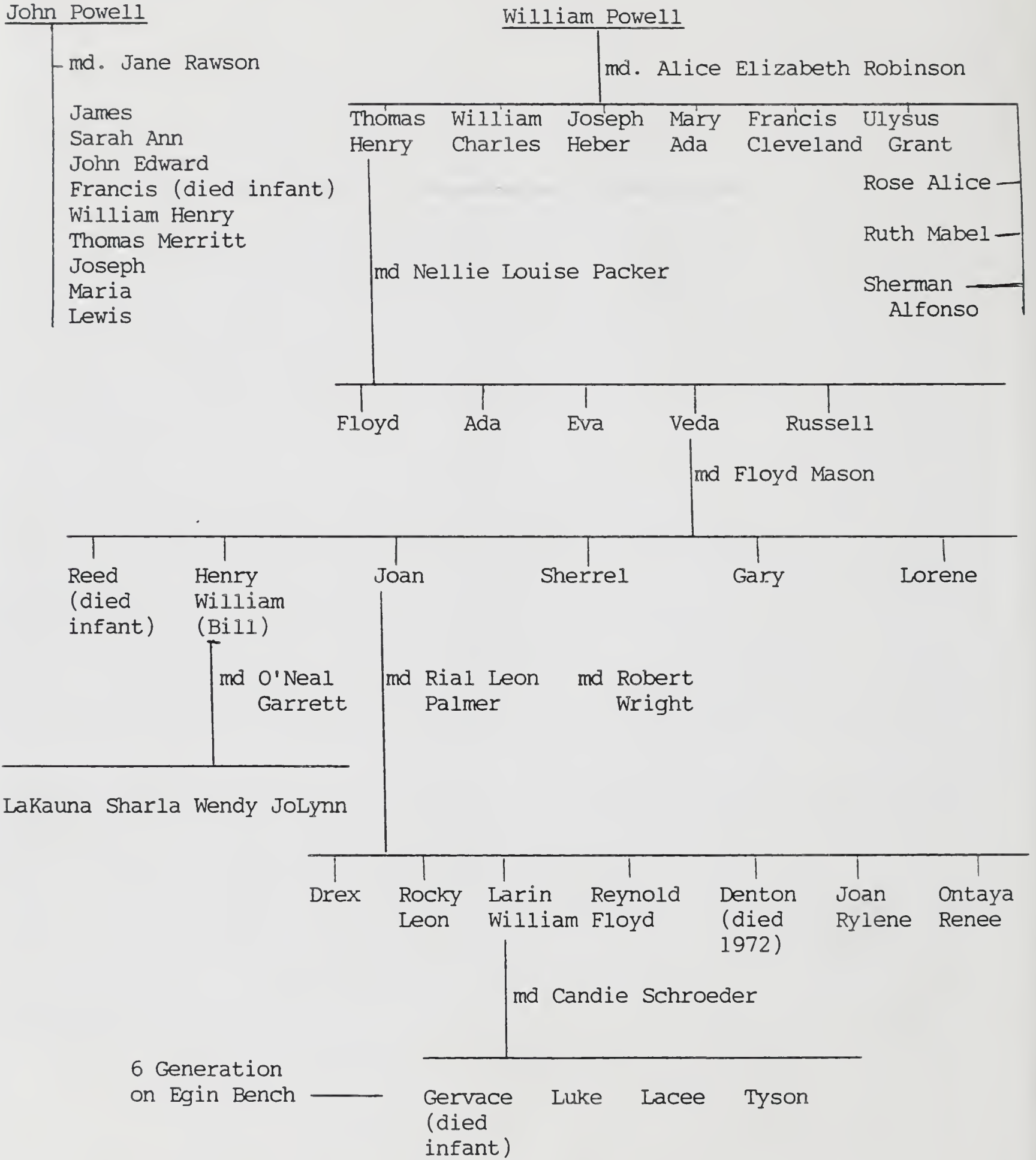
Helen Marie Palmer was born June 22, 1941 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Glenus Eldred and Helen Niederer Palmer. She grew up on the farm with her sisters, learning to help with the animals and the farm work. She attended school at the Egin School in the first grade and then it was closed and she went to the Parker School and St. Anthony schools, graduating from high school there. She was married to Darwin Lee Nelson on June 24, 1960. They lived at Parker for a few years and in 1971 they moved to a new home in Egin where Marie still lives. Their marriage ended in divorce later. They had three sons, Glendon Lee, Randall Lyn (known as Randy), and Justin Cory, who is still at home with his mother. Marie enjoys working with horses and has helped many young people in the community learn to care for and ride horses through the 4-H program, serving as a 4-H leader for fifteen years, for which she received a special pin.

Lowell Cleone Palmer was born December 20, 1922 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to John Willie and Etna May Wardle Palmer. He was the youngest of eleven children and grew up on the family farm on Egin Bench, overlooking the river and the Snake River Valley. He attended school at Heman, graduating from the eighth grade and then he attended high school at Edmunds in Plano, several miles west and south of their home. He served as Staff Sergeant in the 27th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army in Okinawa and Japan. He married Lucille Magdalena Abegglen. Lucille was born September 4, 1914 at Wilford, Fremont, Idaho to Laurence Edward and Lucy Jane Hubbard Abegglen. Her mother died when she was just nine months old and she was cared for by her father's uncle and aunt until she was nine years old. At that time her foster mother passed away and she went to live with her grandparents, Conrad and Magdalena Abegglen at Wilford. She graduated from eighth grade at Wilford and graduated from Sugar-Salem High School. She attended the L.D.S. Business College in Salt Lake City. After their marriage on November 26, 1948, they made their home on the Palmer farm in Egin. It was originally the farms of early pioneer families of Rawsons and Stranges, until Lowell's parents bought it around 1905. They had moved the two houses that were located below the hill and made one home on top of the hill, which looked similar to the drawing below. Lowell and Lucille made their own home, where they live today. The house he grew up in still stands at the top of the hill, overlooking the valley. Lowell has spent his life farming, caring for his livestock and doing repair work. He attended Veterans School held at St. Anthony for three years with Lowe Rudd as instructor. He has served in the Egin Ward as Ward Clerk for 12 years and as Membership Clerk for 12 years. Lucille worked at St. Anthony City Water Office as bookkeeper, as a cashier at J.C. Penney Co. in St. Anthony for three years, as Fremont County Deputy Treasurer, 3 years, as appointed County Treasurer for one year, and as elected County Treasurer for one term of two years. She was also a cashier for public dances held at the St. Anthony Armory and at Warm River. While on that job she met Lowell. She has served as an organist in the local L.D.S. ward for a total of thirty-three years, 11 years of that in Primary, 13 years in Sunday School and 9 years as the ward organist. They have one son, Terry.

Terry Lowell Palmer was born April 18, 1951 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Lowell Cleon and Lucille Abegglen Palmer. He grew up on the farm of his parents which was also the farm of his grandparents Palmer before that. He attended school at Parker and St. Anthony, graduating from high school there. He then attended I.S.U. Deisel Mechanic School at Pocatello, Idaho. He married Carolena Anderson on October 25, 1974. Carolena was born on August 11, 1955 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Cleon and Anna Jane Coleman Anderson. She grew up on her parents farm near the Henry's Fork of the Snake River, less than a mile from the Palmer farm, where she and Terry made their home after their marriage. She attended Ricks College for a year before their marriage, after graduating from South Fremont High School. Terry has a Palmer's Repair Shop and works on tractors, machinery and cars. Their children are Katrena and Robert Cleon.



The POWELL Family - six generations on Egin Bench
 Two Powell brothers were early settlers in Egin.



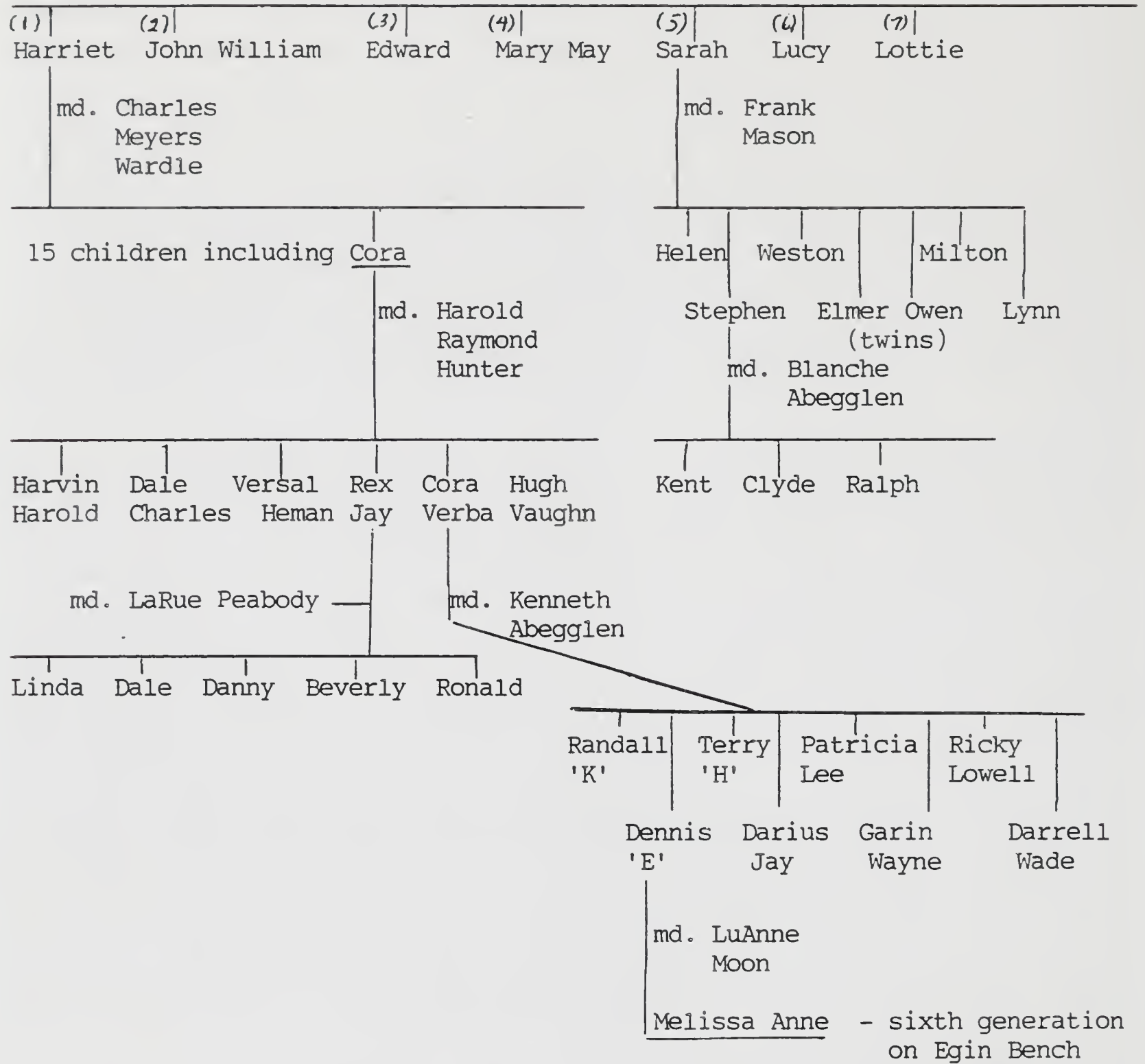
John Powell was born February 6, 1847 in England to Edward and Anne Tongue Powell. He was their first child. When he was about eight years old, his parents joined the L.D.S. Church and he was about nineteen when they came to America and to Utah by ox team. He met Jane Rawson and they were married April 6, 1870. Jane Rawson was born in England August 27, 1851 to John and Sarah Chantry Rawson. She married George Truswell before she was eighteen years old but he did not come to America with her when she decided to come with her brothers. Later she married John Powell and he adopted her son from her first marriage. John and Jane came to Idaho in 1879 and homesteaded near the river at what later became known as Egin, arriving about the same time as the Winegar's. John worked hard as all the early settlers did to provide for his family. He lived on his homestead until he died December 10, 1907. Later Jane bought a home in St. Anthony where she lived until her death on April 3, 1932. She was honored many times at parades and celebrations for being the first white woman to live on the north side of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. Their children were James (who John adopted), Sarah Ann, John Edward, Francis (died in infancy), William Henry, Thomas Merritt, Joseph, Maria, and Lewis.

William Powell was born December 18, 1852 in England to Edward and Ann Tongue Powell and came to America with his family when he was fourteen years old, settling in Upton, Utah. Later he met Alice Elizabeth Robinson and they were married October 2, 1881. Alice Elizabeth Robinson was born in England to Thomas Henry and Mary Clark Robinson on March 11, 1864. Her family came to America in 1878 and settled in Salt Lake City. Both the Powell and the Robinson families had joined the L.D.S. Church in England. William and Alice came to Egin on June 2, 1883, bringing their infant son Thomas Henry. They built a cabin near the river, near William's brother John Powell, who had come in 1879. They had no furniture so he made a table from the side of the wagon, a bed frame from logs, and they used stumps to sit on. There was not much to eat, so they picked wild berries and dried them and lived from the land. They worked hard and suffered many hardships. He helped clear land, build canals, and he worked for a time on the Ross and Wyatt Ranch and also at the Slicer. They acquired land on the Bench where they built a three room home (where Darlene Weatherston now lives), and planted an orchard and farmed. About 1920, they sold the farm in Egin and moved to St. Anthony. William suffered for a long time with cancer before he died March 9, 1927. Alice died March 19, 1946. Their children were Thomas Henry, William Charles, Joseph Heber, Mary Ada (died one month old), Francis Cleveland, Ulysus Grant, Rose Alice, Ruth Mable, and Sherman Alfonso.

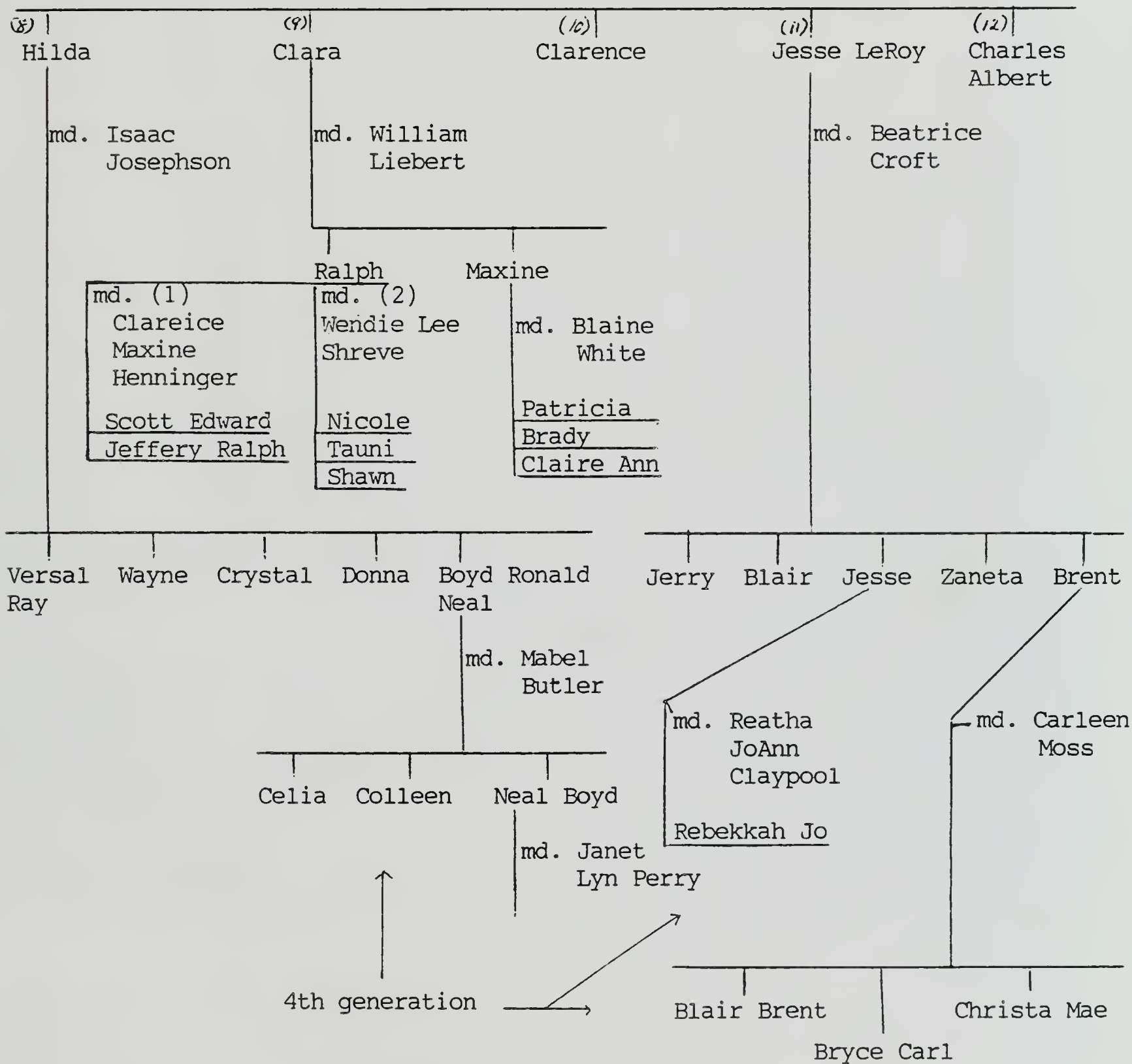
Thomas Henry Powell was born April 22, 1882 in Upton County, Utah and came to Idaho with his parents, William and Alice Elizabeth Robinson Powell, when he was one year old. They lived on the river bottom land below Egin Bench where his father homesteaded. He learned to work hard and as a young man he worked on the Ross and Wyatt Ranch, which was so large (about two square miles) that it took half a day to plow one round. He helped with building and maintaining canals. He married Nellie Louise Packer November 19, 1902 in Egin. Nellie Louise Packer was born November 26, 1880 at Franklin, Idaho, in a dug-out home in the side of a mountain, to Isaac Hoffman and Lucy Charlotte Berry Packer. Her family came north about 1898, first to Twin Groves, then to Marysville, and finally to Egin where her older brother Isaac had a store with George Wood. Henry and Nellie were hard workers. He worked as a farmhand in the Egin area and also in the Centennial Valley of Montana. He also worked at the 'slicer' for the Sugar Company. He built a home for his family located at the east end of the Egin townsite. It is now owned by Larin Palmer, his great-grand-son.

Henry loved dancing and music and often played the violin (fiddle) at dances, sometimes with Mark and Glen Orgill. Henry Powell died on November 16, 1961 and his wife Nellie died July 6, 1975. Their children are Floyd, Ada (Beck),

William Herdley Rhodehouse - Mary Truscott



William Herdley Rhodehouse - Mary Truscott



William Herdley Rhodehouse was married to Mary Truscott at Treasureton, Idaho on April 21, 1879. (Treasureton is a community in the dry farm area northeast of Preston, Idaho) They heard of the fertile farmland in the Upper Snake River Valley in 1901, and in the fall of that year, they brought their family of ten children (two more were born later) to Heman area of Egin Bench. They lived for a time in a home on the east side of the road across from the Hunter's farm before they purchased a large brick home where Brent Rhodehouse lives now. They farmed and had a large dairy herd which they pastured in the river bottoms. Mary made butter and cheese to sell. She was president of the Heman Ward Relief Society from 1926 to 1930, during the depression years when money was scarce. She was known for her special loving care of the sick. William ran the boiler at the beet slicer, which was in operation from about 1905 to 1917, and sometimes he walked the pipeline to Sugar City to check it for leaks. William Rhodehouse died October 13, 1936 and his wife Mary died in June 1950. Their children were as follows:

Harriet, who married Charles Wardle. (see Wardle history)

John William, who married Lettie Arminda Smith. He was born August 11, 1882 at Oxford, Idaho and lived at Treasureton with his parents before coming to Egin Bench with them where he was called at the young age of twenty-five years to be Bishop of Egin Ward where he served from June 16, 1907 to January 3, 1915. He also served two missions to California from 1904-1906 and from 1926-1927. He died November 18, 1955 at Hawthorne, California and he and his wife had six children.

Edward, who married Elnora Gardner.

Mary May, who married Orrin Davenport.

Sarah, who married Frank Mason, and they built and lived in the home where Rand Hillman now lives, across from the Hunter farm. Their son Stephen married Blanche Abegglen and they made their home next to them. Steve and Blanche had three sons who grew up there, Kent, Clyde and Ralph. Frank Mason died in 1963, and Sarah in 1970, and Stephen died September 21, 1979.

Lucy, who married August Anderson.

Hilda, who married Isaac Josephson, her life sketch is included in this book.

Clara, who married William Liebert, her life sketch is included in this book.

Clarence, who married Lorraine Stotts.

Jesse LeRoy, who married Beatrice Croft and whose life sketch follows.

Charles Albert, who married Evelyn Stewart.

Hilda Rhodehouse was born December 20, 1896 at Treasureton, Idaho to William Herdley and Mary Truscott Rhodehouse. Her parents brought their family to Egin Bench when Hilda was about six years old. She attended school at Heman in the little white building that was used for a school and then was later the Heman church. Her first memory of attending church was in the Egin Church that stood where the ball park is now. She helped her family and also went to help her aunts in their homes at times. As a teenager, she helped Myrtle Sevier cook at an eating place south of the Egin Store near the railroad tracks. She always loved to dance. On November 8, 1916 she was married to Isaac Josephson in the Salt Lake L.D.S. Temple. They lived for a while at Egin and then in March 1918, they moved to Dehlin (east of Iona, Idaho) to work on a dry farm, shortly after the premature birth of their first child. About 1924, they moved back to Egin Bench where they raised their family, which included Versal Ray, Wayne, Crystal, Donna, Boyd and Ronald. Two of their sons served in the armed forces. Ray served during World War II as a co-pilot, where he gave his life for our country in the South Pacific. Wayne served also and was stationed in the United States. Hilda was always busy and was involved especially in Relief Society for many years including as president in the Heman Ward from 1939 to 1942 and as president in the Egin Bench Ward from 1950 to 1954, after the Heman and Egin wards were joined in 1948. Her husband Issac died on October 26, 1963 and later on March 3, 1966, she was married to William Burt. He died on September 16, 1988. She is still living in her home on Egin Bench.

Boyd Neal Josephson was born January 9, 1931 at Heman, Idaho, to Isaac Versal and Hilda Rhodehouse Josephson. He lived in the Heman area where he attended elementary school after which he attended high school at Sugar City. He served an L.D.S. mission to the Northwestern States Mission from 1951 to 1953. He graduated from Ricks College in 1956 with the last four-year graduating class, receiving his BS degree in education. He taught school for four years in the Sugar Salem School District, and then in 1960 he moved to Salt Lake where he taught in the Granite School District. He married Ella Mabel Butler in the Salt Lake Temple on June 1, 1961. She is the daughter of Joseph LeRoy and Signe Leonia Bessie Bruse Butler and was born February 3, 1942 at Salt Lake City, Utah. Boyd and Mabel lived in Salt Lake until 1973 when they moved to Egin Bench, where they first bought the property which was the east part of the Clarence Rhodehouse farm and then later buying his father's farm, living south of his mother. They are the parents of three children, Celia, Coleen, and Neal Boyd.

Neal Boyd Josephson was born October 10, 1965 at Salt Lake City, Utah to Boyd Neal and Ella Mabel Butler Josephson. He spent his early childhood in Utah, attending school there and also at Parker after his family moved to Egin in 1973. He graduated from South Fremont High School at St. Anthony, Idaho. He married Janet Lyn Perry on July 2, 1986. Janet was born July 1, 1964 to Clayton and Nona Perry at Ashton, Idaho and her family moved to Sugar City where she went to school and graduated from high school. Neal and Janet lived in the Wilford area until the summer of 1990 when they moved to Egin Bench.

Henry Liebert was born February 22, 1862 in St. Louis, Missouri. He married Anna Johanna Baurick on December 14, 1895. She was born January 17, 1875 in Germany. They met in Butte, Montana, and they lived there until 1902, when they came to Egin Bench. They bought eighty acres for \$320.00 from Joe Jenkins about a mile south of the Egin store. They raised their family there, which included William Edward, Leona (Penny), and Stanley. Their family were close friends with the Henry DeCamp family who settled on the property to the west of theirs. Henry Liebert died April 19, 1928 and his wife died July 23, 1910.

William Edward Liebert was born April 29, 1898 at Butte, Montana to Henry and Anna Johanna Baurick Liebert. He came to Egin Bench with his family in about 1905. He married Clara Rhodehouse in July 1924 and they lived in Egin, where he farmed with his father. Early in his life, he started working with bees and his children helped him gather the hives and extract the honey. Clara died October 14, 1970 and he still lives in his home with his children living near him on the family farm on Egin Bench. Their children are Maxine and Ralph and their third child, Henry, died at birth. Clara was born February 5, 1899 at Treasureton, Idaho, to William Herdley and Mary Truscott Rhodehouse. Her family came to Heman on Egin Bench and settled on a farm where she grew up in a loving and compassionate family. She was active in church organizations but she especially loved Relief Society, where she served as secretary many years.

Maxine Liebert was born July 23, 1925 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to William E. and Clara Rhodehouse Liebert. She attended grade school at Egin and high school at St. Anthony. After graduation she worked at the First Security Bank at Rexburg. She married Blaine Lee White on December 4, 1944 in the Logan L.D.S. Temple. When Blaine returned from the war, they moved to Plano, where they raised three children, Patricia Lee, Brady, and Claire Ann. Maxine served as Relief Society President in the Plano Ward and also in other callings. She also worked in the bank until she retired in November 1987. She and her husband established a home on the east corner of her father's farm in Egin where they now live.

Blaine Lee White was born July 28, 1925 at Plano, Madison, Idaho, to Lee L. and Matilda Ann Smith White. He had five brothers and three sisters. He attended school at Edmunds and Plano. In July 1944 he was drafted into the United States Army and was sent to Camp Hood, Texas for basic training. When he came home on furlough, he married Maxine Liebert in the Logan Temple. He was shipped out to Europe in December 1944 and was in the Battle of the Bulge in Germany, where he was wounded and spent three months in a hospital in England and was then flown to a hospital in Walla Walla, Washington. He returned home in September 1945 and they moved to Plano where he farmed with his father and brothers and had a large dairy and beef herd. He served as Sunday School Superintendent and was active in the Seventies Quorum, there and in Egin Bench Ward after they moved to Egin. He was also an Executive Secretary to the bishop in Egin Bench. He works in Rexburg now.

Ralph Edward Liebert was born August 26, 1930 to William Edward and Clara Rhodehouse Liebert. He grew up on the family farm which had been his grandfather's and then his father's. He attended school at St. Anthony and Rexburg. He married first, Clareice Maxine Henninger. Their children are Scott Edward and Jeffery Ralph. She died about 1969. He later married Wendie Lee Shreve on March 7, 1970. Wendie was born February 6, 1936 at Jameston, New York to Charles Eugene and Doris Marie Rhoades Shreve. She grew up in New York, and married Jonathon Donald Hungerford. They had two children, Jonathon, who died at age thirteen after being hit by a car and Gale (Dredge). Wendie's first husband died about 1958 of complications from polio. Ralph's first wife had also had polio. After their marriage, Ralph and Wendie had three children. Nicole (Gneiting), Tauni (Beard), and Shawn. Ralph now operates the farm where his father and grandfather had also farmed.

Stanley Liebert married Carrie Zeimer. Before his marriage, he lived with his brother Bill's family for a time and he and Bill farmed together. Stanley and Carrie had one daughter, Patsy.

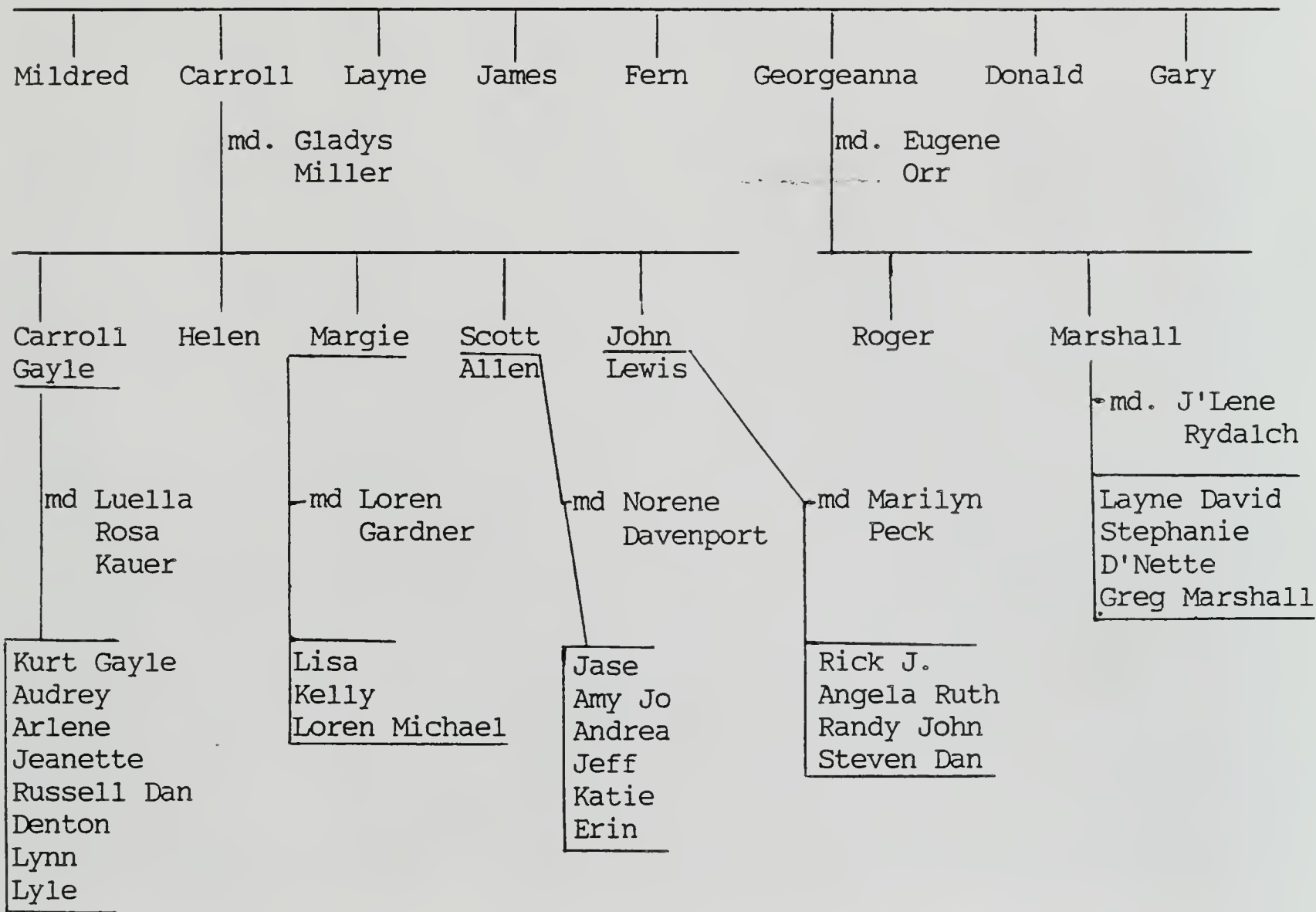
Jesse LeRoy Rhodehouse was born April 18, 1903 at Heman, Idaho to William H. and Mary Truscott Rhodehouse. He grew up on his parents farm where his son Brent lives now and attended school at Heman. He married Beatrice May Croft on the 20th of March, 1947. Beatrice May Croft was born June 10, 1917 at Marysville, Idaho to Ray and Edith Sprague Croft, in a log house with a dirt roof. The walls were covered with factory material which was white-washed. She grew up there and graduated from Ashton High School. She had a son Jerry by a first marriage which ended in divorce and he was adopted by Jesse after they were married. They settled in Egin where they had a dairy farm and also raised beef cattle, as well as hay, grain, potatoes and sugar beets on the land located where Beatrice still lives. They built the present home about 1950. Their first child, Blair was drowned in an irrigation ditch where Brent Rhodehouse lives now, when he was two years old. Jesse died on April 30, 1964, leaving Beatrice and their children to run the farm, which they did until 1971, when she sold most of the farmland. Their children are Jerry, who lives in Utah, Blair, who died as a child, Jesse Gail, whose life sketch follows, Zaneta, who lives in Utah, and Brent Croft, whose life sketch also follows.

Jesse Gail Rhodehouse was born October 27, 1950 at St. Anthony, Idaho to Jesse LeRoy and Beatrice Croft Rhodehouse. He grew up on the family farm at Egin and attended school at Parker Elementary. He graduated from high school at St. Anthony, Idaho and attended Idaho State University at Pocatello for a time. He helped his mother run the farm after the death of his father in 1964. He served a mission for the L.D.S. Church to the Australia West Mission from 1969 to 1971. He served in the United States Air Force and while he was stationed in the Ohio area, he met and later married Reatha JoAnn Claypool on November 13, 1973. They lived in Ohio for a couple of years before coming to Egin to live. JoAnn was born February 16, 1951 at Mansfield, Ohio to Burton and Norma Jean Goss Claypool and grew up there where she attended school and graduated from high school. Jesse and JoAnn have one daughter, Rebekkah Jo who is known also as Becky. They live on property that was originally part of his father's farm. JoAnn works at Ricks College as a secretary in the Public Relations Department and Jesse is attending school there at the present time.

Brent Croft Rhodehouse was born December 9, 1953 to Jesse LeRoy and Beatrice Croft Rhodehouse at St. Anthony, Idaho. He attended school at Parker and graduated from South Fremont High School at St. Anthony. His father died in 1964 and he helped his mother and older brothers run the family farm on the banks of Henry's Fork of the Snake River until she sold the land in 1971. He served a mission for the L.D.S. Church to San Antonio, Texas from 1973 to 1975. He married Carleen Moss on June 16, 1984 and they made their home near his mother until 1989 when they put a new home on the property that his Grandfather Rhodehouse's home had stood on many years ago, on Egin Bench. Carleen Moss was born at New Plymouth, Idaho to Carl and Lois Coulson Moss. She grew up and attended school at New Plymouth where she graduated from high school. She attended college, graduating from Ricks and BYU. She served a mission to the Quito Equador Mission from 1976 to 1978. She has taught Home Economics at South Fremont High School at St. Anthony for several years. Their children are Blair Brent, Bryce Carl, and Christa Mae.

The RUMSEY Family - four generations on Egin Bench

George Bradley Rumsey - Anna Bell Strong



George Bradley Rumsey was born October 15, 1861 in Afton, Union, Iowa to John Emery and Roxy Lucretia Read Rumsey. His father died when he was a very small child and his mother moved to Minnesota for about six years before she remarried. They lived in Minnesota and Wisconsin until 1872 when they moved to Kansas where his mother died on June 28, 1873. He was twelve years old and his brother was 8 and they walked back to Minnesota alone to live with their Aunt Caroline. When George was eighteen, he came west to Ogden, Utah and started freighting with ox team to Eagle Rock. The next year, he was freighting with a twelve mule team to Montana. He married Minnie Matilda Adams at Malad, Idaho in 1881. He continued freighting and they lived on Birch Creek and at Lemhi, at Malad and then later in the Bitterroot Valley of Montana. August of 1889, they moved to Teton Basin where they lived for ten years. At that time, it was called Hayden, Bingham County, Idaho. While they were there, he was the postmaster and also Justice of the Peace and he performed many weddings. They had many experiences with the Indians that traveled through the area every season. They knew Beaver Dick and his second family. In November 1899, they moved to St. Anthony where his wife died on December 2, 1903 of complications of childbirth. He was left with seven living children, (2 others died in infancy) the youngest being only a few days old. Neighbors helped him raise the baby. Their children were Carrie, George Adams, Effie (died infant), Sarah, Nellie, Jessie (died infant), Mary, Earl, and Ross. After a time, about 1905, he married Anna Belle Strong and they had eight children including Mildred, Carroll, Layne, James, Fern, Georgeanna, Donald and Gary. Donald served in the military during World War II in the invasion of Normandy at Omaha Beach. James also served his country in the armed forces. George ran several bands of sheep and after his children were mostly grown, he bought a farm at Egin Bench located where Siddoway's Sheep Company is now. There he raised hundreds of horses, which he would break and train for plow horses. Later they moved back to St. Anthony where he died September 12, 1945. His wife Anne had a talent in art which she enjoyed and shared for many years before she died on October 29, 1969.

Carroll Frank Rumsey was born April 3, 1910 at St. Anthony, Idaho to George Bradley and Anna Belle Strong Rumsey. As a child he sold papers and took out ashes for the two hotels in St. Anthony to earn money to go to the Rex Theatre or the 'Old Grey Opera House' which was located where Housley Pumps is now. There were wooden sidewalks on each side of the dirt streets and a narrow wooden bridge spanned the river and during the winter there were no cars in town, just sleighs. He met Gladys Miller in 1930 and courted her until the night she graduated from high school. They went to Bozeman, Montana and were married on May 19, 1934. The next year, he took his wife and new baby son to Clayton, Idaho where he spent the summer placer mining for gold on the Salmon River until the creek he was working went dry. They then returned to the Egin Bench area. The next few years were the Depression and 1937 found him working on the Island Park Reservoir Dam laying steel and removing stumps until he injured his hand. He returned to Egin and worked with his father and then he bought the ground which he still owns, from the Egin Bench Land Company. He later bought fifty five acres from Merrill Cruser also.

Gladys Miller was born December 20, 1916 at Parker, Idaho to Horace S. and Ida May Karlson Miller. She grew up in the Parker area. She enjoyed horse-back riding and after her marriage she enjoyed raising good gardens and sharing it with others and helping others. Her health became poor later in her life especially after the birth of her last child, and this limited her activities.

Gladys Miller (continued)

About 1974, she was found to have cancer, from which she died on January 19, 1977. Her husband, Carroll still lives in their home on Egin Bench but he has turned the management of the farm over to his son John. Their children are Carroll Gayle, Helen (who married Golden Orr from Plano), Margie, Scott Allen, and John Louis. Their life sketches follow for those living in Egin.

Carroll Gayle Rumsey was born March 10, 1935 at Parker, Fremont, Idaho, in his grandparents Miller's home. He was the oldest child of Carroll Frank and Gladys Miller Rumsey. He grew up on Egin Bench, going to school at Egin, then Parker for the eighth grade when the Egin school was closed and he graduated from high school at St. Anthony, Idaho in 1953. During the summers of 1952 and 1953, he went to Montana to work on a ranch with his friends, Warren Weaver and Ray Bradshaw. He enjoyed the out of doors and was good on a horse, even in his youth. During his teen years his mother was quite ill and he took a lot of the responsibility in the care of the younger children and took the baby to his Aunt Georgeanna's home while he attended school. He acquired a 1951 Chevy pick-up for himself at that time. On June 14, 1955, he married Luella Rosa Kauer. Luella Rosa Kauer was born December 1, 1936 at Burton, Madison, Idaho to Fred James and Vera Christina Hinckley Kauer. She attended schools in Burton, graduating as Salutatorian in 1949 and graduated from Madison High School in 1953. She attended Ricks College and then worked as a telephone operator. Since their marriage, they have farmed in the Egin area. In 1969, they built a new brick home on the northwest corner of the family farm. They have enjoyed many camping and fishing trips and evenings spent square dancing. Gayle served in the Egin L.D.S. Ward as Sunday School Superintendant and Young Men's Secretary. He has also been on the Parker Cemetary Board and the Fireman's Board. Luella has served in all organizations of her church and she enjoys oil painting and quilting. She has worked at the Parker school and now works at a bank in St. Anthony. Their children include Kurt Gayle, Audrey, Arlene, Jeanette, Russell Dean (who died in 1963 while an infant), Denton, Lynn and Lyle, who are twins. They have all married and left Egin at this time.

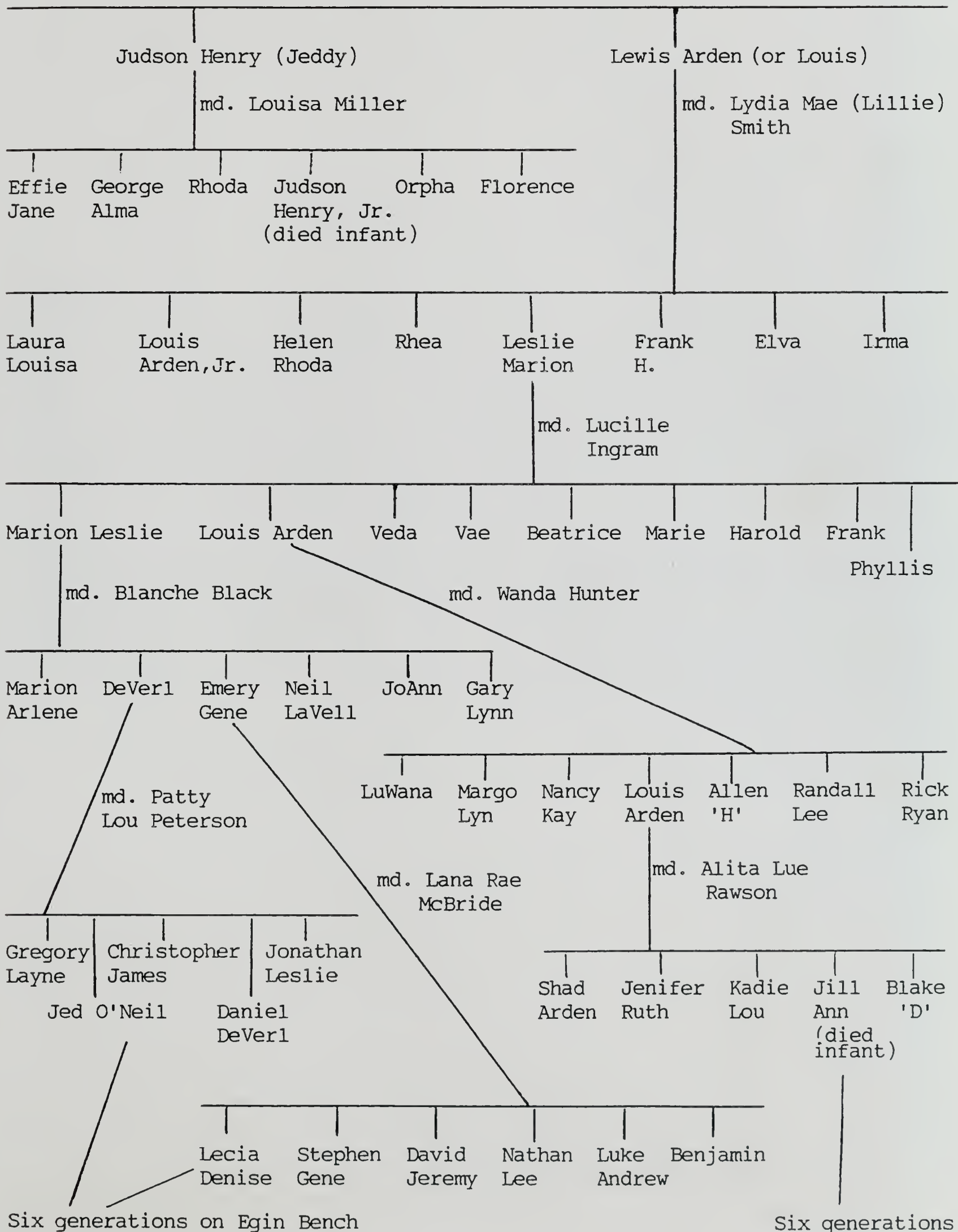
Margie Rumsey Gardner was born to Carroll Frank and Gladys Miller Rumsey at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho on October 26, 1945. She grew up in Egin on the family farm and attended school at Parker and St. Anthony, Idaho where she graduated from high school. She married Loren Gardner on July 9, 1965. Loren was born September 23, 1944 to Ross and Erma Gardner. He attended school at Teton and St. Anthony. He served in the U. S. Air Force for four years, including twenty-six months in Panama and 14 months in Washington, D.C. Loren and Margie were married while he was in the service and she went with him to live at Washington, D.C. After he was out of the military, they lived in California for about ten years where he worked in building and construction. They came to Egin Bench to live about 1978, making their home on a lot at the Rumsey family farm. Loren now works at Idaho Forrest Industries and Margie works at Sunspiced, Inc. at They have three children, Lisa, Kelly, and Loren Michael, who is married to Tammi L. Stephens.

Scott Allen Rumsey was born May 22, 1949 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Carroll Frank and Gladys Miller Rumsey. He grew up on the family farm on Egin Bench, attended schools at Parker and graduated from high school at St. Anthony, Idaho. He served a mission for the L.D.S. Church to the Southwest Indian Mission in Arizona and New Mexico. He married Norene Davenport on May 15, 1971. Norene Davenport was born July 2, 1950 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Dean and Fern Grover Davenport. She grew up on the farm which was originally her grandfather Davenport's homestead. She attended school at Parker Elementary and then at St. Anthony, where she graduated from high school. She also graduated from Ricks College in 1970. They now live on part of the Rumsey family farm in Egin. They have six children, including Jase, Amy Jo, Andrea, Jeff, Katie, and Erin. Scott works at Intermountain Farmers and Norene works at a bank in Rexburg.

John Louis Rumsey was born December 12, 1952 at Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho to Carroll Frank and Gladys Miller Rumsey. He grew up in Egin on the Rumsey farm. He attended school at Parker and St. Anthony and graduated from South Fremont High School. He married Marilyn Peck on October 27, 1972. Marilyn was born April 26, 1972 at Rigby, Jefferson, Idaho to Leonard and Ruth Cordon Peck. She grew up at St. Anthony, attended schools there and graduated from South Fremont High School. She has served as president of the Egin Bench Ward Young Woman's Organization and Primary Organization. They have lived on the Rumsey farm since their marriage and he now manages the farm for his father. Marilyn works at Artco at Rexburg and they have four children: Rick J., Angela Ruth, Randy John and Steven Dan.

The STODDARD Family - Six generations on Egin Bench

Judson Lyman Stoddard, Jr. md Alice Maria Cotterell



Judson Lyman Stoddard, Jr. came to Egin Bench in 1884 and with his brother Marion and his son Judson Henry. They cut the logs and built a small log home with a dirt covered roof. Their families came in the spring of 1885. They settled in the Parker area. His wife was Alice Maria Cotterell. He became President of the Seventies Quorum of the L.D.S. Church in the Rexburg area. In 1890, he was Superintendent of Sunday School in the Parker Ward and Alice was President of the Relief Society there for many years. Two of their sons, Judson Henry and Louis (Lewis) Arden, raised their families in the Parker-Egin area.

Judson Henry Stoddard, sometimes called Jed or Jeddy, was born October 24, 1869 at Farmington, Davis, Utah, to Judson Lyman and Alice Maria Cotterell Stoddard. He came to Egin Bench as a teenager. He was a good horseman, even as a youth and he rode for large cattle companies on the range from Nevada north to the Snake River Valley. He and his father owned one of the first horse drawn threshing machines in the area. He married Louisa Miller October 8, 1896 and they first lived on a homestead where Buzz Miller now lives. Later they moved into Parker. He helped with most of the funerals in the area for there were no morticians at that time. He and Lionel Parker bathed and dressed the bodies of the men who had died and stayed with the body to keep ice bags around it until the burial. The Relief Society women did the same for the women who had died. Judson planted his crops in the spring and when he had the sub irrigation regulated, he would go to the Yellowstone National Park to work as a guide, taking tourists through the park with horse and buggy. Their children were Effie Jane, George Alma, Judson, Jr. who died when 13 days old, Orpha and Florence.

Louis Arden Stoddard was born May 11, 1863 at Farmington, Utah to Judson Lyman and Rhoda Chase Stoddard. He married Lydia Mae (Lillie) Smith, who was born May 13, 1864, at Farmington, Utah to Lott and Laura Burdick Smith. In Aug 1884, they came to Idaho by team and built a cabin on ground between Parker and Egin, where his brother Marion lived near Wyman Parker. They filed on a homestead claim on the land now owned by Arch Moon but they became discourage when the wind blew the grain out and went back to Utah. They returned to Idaho again about 1900, and eventually lived in Parker in 1902. Lillie died August 16, 1940. Their children are Laura Louisa, Louis Arden, Jr., Helen Rhoda, Rhea, Leslie Marion, Frank H., Elva, and Irma. He served as counselor in the Parker Ward bishopric from 1924-29.

Leslie Marion Stoddard was born December 25, 1893 on a Christmas day in a humble home with a dirt roof and floor at Parker, Idaho to Louis Arden and Lydia Mae Smith Stoddard. When he grew up he worked for Utah-Idaho Sugar Company, where he earned \$4.50 for a ten hour day driving a six horse team with six sections of harrows to level the ground. He also worked in the Centennial Valley of Montana and helped build the railroad bridges from St. Anthony to Roberts, Idaho. He married Olive Lucille Ingram on October 2, 1913. They lived in Parker, then homesteaded a tract of land on the junipers thirteen miles northwest of Parker. Then they farmed in Egin a few years and moved back to Parker. He loved horses, was active in his church and served for twelve years on the Fremont County Board of Education. He died in May 1976. His wife Lucille was born January 12, 1895 in Nephi, Juab, Utah to Mary Emily Jenkins and Thomas Henry Ingram. Her family moved to Driggs, Idaho when she was small and her father bought a farm on Egin Bench with a large eight room house on it when she was nine years old, about 1904. Her family moved to Gridley, California for a few years and then back to Egin where she met her

Leslie Marion Stoddard and Olive Lucille Ingram, continued.

husband. They lived in Parker for a few years. During World War II, they were living in Egin and had two sons and three son-in-laws serving in the armed forces, all returning home safely. She was second counselor in the Yellowstone Stake Primary Presidency in 1946. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1973. He died in 1976.

Their children are Marion Leslie, Louis Arden, Veda (Crapo), Vae (Mace), Beatrice (Stone), Marie (Hathaway), Harold, Frank and Phyllis (Bradshaw).

Thomas Henry Ingram was born March 27, 1869 at Nephi, Utah. He married Mary Emily Jenkins on September 1, 1892. She was born at Nephi, Utah on October 27, 1872. They lived on a sheep ranch at Nephi and he served a mission for the L.D.S. Church to the Southern States after the birth of their first child. They moved to the Teton Basin after he returned from his mission. They found the winters there was hard on their sheep so they sold out in 1906 and bought an eighty acre farm one mile west of the Heman School where his grandson, Louis Stoddard now lives. They left for a short time and went to Gridley, California to start a branch of the L.D.S. Church there. They came back to Idaho to the farm in 1911. As they were returning by train, it had a wreck and he had to camp by the tracks to protect their belongings for a couple of days until their things could be transferred and he could come on to Idaho. Emily died on March 11, 1946. Later he married Ada Nelson and they were later divorced and he married Carolyn Runsdan in 1950.

The children of Thomas and Mary Emily were Lucille (Stoddard), Vera Gladys. Note: When they retired from farming, they moved to their daughter Lucille's home at Parker and Lucille and her husband, Leslie took over the farm at Egin.



Marion Leslie Stoddard was born July 11, 1914 at Egin in the home of his grandparents Ingram (where his brother Louis now lives), to Leslie Marion and Olive Lucille Ingram Stoddard. His family lived in the Egin and the Parker areas and also on a dry farm at the north east corner of the junipers from the time he was about three years old until he was about six, when they moved back to Egin and then to Parker, where he started school. They lived on his grandfather Louis Stoddard's homestead during the summers and moved into Parker to go to school in the winter. They stayed on the homestead two years and walked in to Heman to attend school. He worked for his uncle, Sam Smith (who married Laura Stoddard), on his farm where Marion's son, DeVerl now lives. When he was seventeen, he went out on the range with the sheep for a couple of summers. He and his father helped build the highway from Teton to Sugar City about 1934, working with four head of horses abreast pulling the dirt with a Miskin scraper from the hole north of Teton onto a bridge with a hole in it where they dumped the dirt through to load the trucks below. He married Blanche Black October 3, 1935. Blanche was born July 12, 1916 at Wilford, Idaho to Henry Harrison and Lydia Birch Black. She grew up on her parents farm in Wilford. Her father knew Beaver Dick Leigh and his second family. Blanche attended school at Wilford and graduated from high school at Sugar City. After their marriage they lived at Parker. Marion worked summers for fourteen years for J.J. Remington and Sons and he also run a potato sorting crew sorting potatoes all over the valley during the winters for thirty-three years. In 1943, they moved to the Brisbine place across the road from the State School west of St. Anthony, where they farmed for fourteen years. In 1960, they moved to the farm in Egin where they still live. Marion served as clerk in the St. Anthony Third Ward for 11½ years while they lived there (1948-58). After they came to Egin Bench he was called to serve as Bishop of Egin Bench Ward on December 10, 1967, after serving for three years as Bishop's Councelor. He was Bishop until April 14, 1974. Their children are Marion Arlene (Orr), DeVerl (see following history), Emery Gene (see following history), Neil LaVell, JoAnn (Jensen) and Gary Lynn, who was killed by lightning in June 1977 while working on the farm at Egin.

DeVerl Stoddard was born August 5, 1939 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Marion Leslie and Blanche Black Stoddard. He grew up there and attended schools there, graduating from high school at South Fremont in 1957. He served an L.D.S. Stake Mission in Yellowstone Stake 1958-59 and then a mission to Central Atlantic Mission 1959-61. While he was away, his parents moved to their farm on Egin Bench. He graduated from Ricks College in 1964 and from Utah State University with a Bachelor Degree in Industrial Arts Education in 1966. He also completed his Master's Degree there in 1972. In January 1980, he received his Real Estate License. He married Patty Lou Peterson June 15, 1963. He served in the Idaho National Guard 1962-68 and finished Idaho Military Academy at Boise (1964-5) as Second Lieutenant. He has taught school at Bonneville High School east of Idaho Falls (1966-69), at Youth Services Center west of St. Anthony (1970-71, 1972-73) and as assistant instructor in Elctronics at Utah State University (1971-72). He worked in farming during the summers (1968-75) and worked in construction in partnership with his father and brother as Stoddard Construction Company (1973-75) and they worked as a corporation (1975-81). In 1981 he started his own business known as DePatco and Sons. He is also a building supervisor for Maverick Country Stores since 1982 and is a Real Estate Agent for Archibald Agency in Rexburg. He has been President of the Parker School PTA (1974-5) and has been involved with the Republican Party of Fremont County. He has worked in Scouting, has been President of Egin Bench Ward Elder's Quorum, President of Stake Seventies

DeVerl Stoddard (continued)

Quorum, President of Sunday School and a Counselor in the Bishopric.

Patty Lou Peterson (Stoddard) was born December 13, 1939 at McCook, Red Willow, Nebraska to Leslie Heber and Emily May Beal Peterson. She attended schools at Emmett, Idaho, where she graduated from high school in 1958. She graduated from College of Idaho at Caldwell, Idaho with a Bachelor Degree in 1962 and from Utah State University with a Masters Degree in 1973. She received her Real Estate License January 1980. She taught school at the Youth Services Center 1962-64 and 1970-72. Also she taught at Intermountain Indian School at Brigham City, Utah 1964-66, and at Bonneville High School east of Idaho Falls 1966-67. She now assists her husband in their business as his secretary. She has been a President of Parker School PTA, has been a 4-H leader and has worked in scouting. She has been President of Fremont County American Cancer Society. She has served as counselor of Egin Bench Ward Relief Society and Primary and on the Stake Board of Relief Society and Primary. Their children are Gregory Layne, recently returned from Tokyo South Mission and attending Ricks College, Jed O'Neil, now serving in the Phoenix Arizona Mission, Christopher James, Daniel DeVerl and Jonathan Leslie.

Emery Gene Stoddard was born August 3, 1942 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Marion Leslie and Blanche Black Stoddard. He attended schools in St. Anthony, where he graduated from South Fremont High School. He attended Ricks College, graduating there and going on to graduate from Utah State with a Bachelor of Science Degree. He served an L.D.S. Mission to Western Canadian Mission. He married Lana Rae McBride on November 5, 1964. Lana was born March 16, 1945 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Ray James and Ila Katie Grover McBride. She lived at Archer, south of Rexburg until she was six years old. Then her family moved to Ashton, Idaho where she attended school and graduated from North Fremont High School. (She attended Ricks College to complete her education while she was expecting their fifth child.) After their marriage, they lived at Egin for a short time and then went to Trejo, Montana where they both taught school due to an emergency need of teachers there. After three years, they moved to Logan, Utah in 1969. Lana worked as a long distance telephone operator while Gene finished his college education. In March 1971, they moved to Egin. Lana taught a kindergarten in her home for a few years and Gene taught Drafting and Electronics at Madison High School for five years. He had worked during the summers building houses and in 1976, he went into construction full time until 1980, when their family moved to Gallup, New Mexico for about three months and then they also spent about a year living at the Mojave Desert. They came back to their home in Egin, which they had built in 1975. Gene has taught at South Fremont High School for several years now. He has served in Scouting and as Young Men's President and Sunday School President at Egin Bench Ward, and as a Stake Missionary. Lana has served as President of Primary, Young Women's, and Relief Society (1977-79) and as a Stake Missionary. Their children are Lecia Denise (Monsen), Stephen Gene, who recently returned from a Mission to Bolivia, David Jeremy, who is serving a mission in the Phillipines, Nathan Lee, Luke Andrew and Benjamin 'J'.

Louis Arden Stoddard was born December 7, 1927 to Leslie Marion and Lucille Ingram Stoddard. He grew up in the Parker and Egin area. He attended school at Parker and at St. Anthony, where he graduated from high school. He married Wanda Lou Hunter December 16, 1946. Wanda was born April 8, 1929 at Hemen to Oakley and Stella Leonora Severe Hunter. She grew up on her parents farm on Egin Bench, attending school at Heman and then Sugar City, where she graduated from high school. She attended Ricks College. Louis worked on the county road crew in Fremont County and also worked for Crapo Brothers before he started farming where he still lives today. His farm and home were once owned by his grandfather Ingram, and then was run by his father. It was originally part of the James Wood homestead. Louis has given many years of service in the Scouting program, has served as first counselor in the Egin Bench Ward bishopric from 1977-83. He is on the St. Anthony Stake High Council and he and his wife are temple officiators. Wanda developed her music abilities and has taught music lessons since before their marriage. She has used her talent in serving as an organist through the years. She served as a counselor in the Relief Society about 1961. Their children are LuWana (Martin), Margo Lyn (Vane), Nancy Kay (Dial), Lewis Arden, Allen 'H', Randall Lee, and Rick Ryan.

Louis Arden Stoddard was born August 30, 1953 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Louis Arden and Wanda Lou Hunter Stoddard. He attended schools at Parker and St. Anthony, graduating from high school there in 1971. He grew up on the farm of his parents on Egin Bench. He attended Ricks College. He married Alita Lue Rawson on November 21, 1972. She was born November 7, 1953 at Pocatello, Bannock, Idaho to Lorn D. and Jenny Lou Broadhurst Rawson. Her family were descendants of pioneer families to the area, including the Fisher family. Alita attended schools at Idaho Falls until third grade, then at Arco for three years and then St. Anthony, where she graduated from high school. After their marriage, Arden and Alita lived at Grace, Idaho for about ten years where they farmed. About 1983, they came to Egin to live. Arden has farmed all of his life. He has been involved in Scouting for many years. Alita has served as counselor in the Primary Presidency in the Egin Bench Ward. Their children are Shad Arden, Jenifer Ruth, Kadie Lou, Jill Ann, who died in infancy, and Blake 'D'.

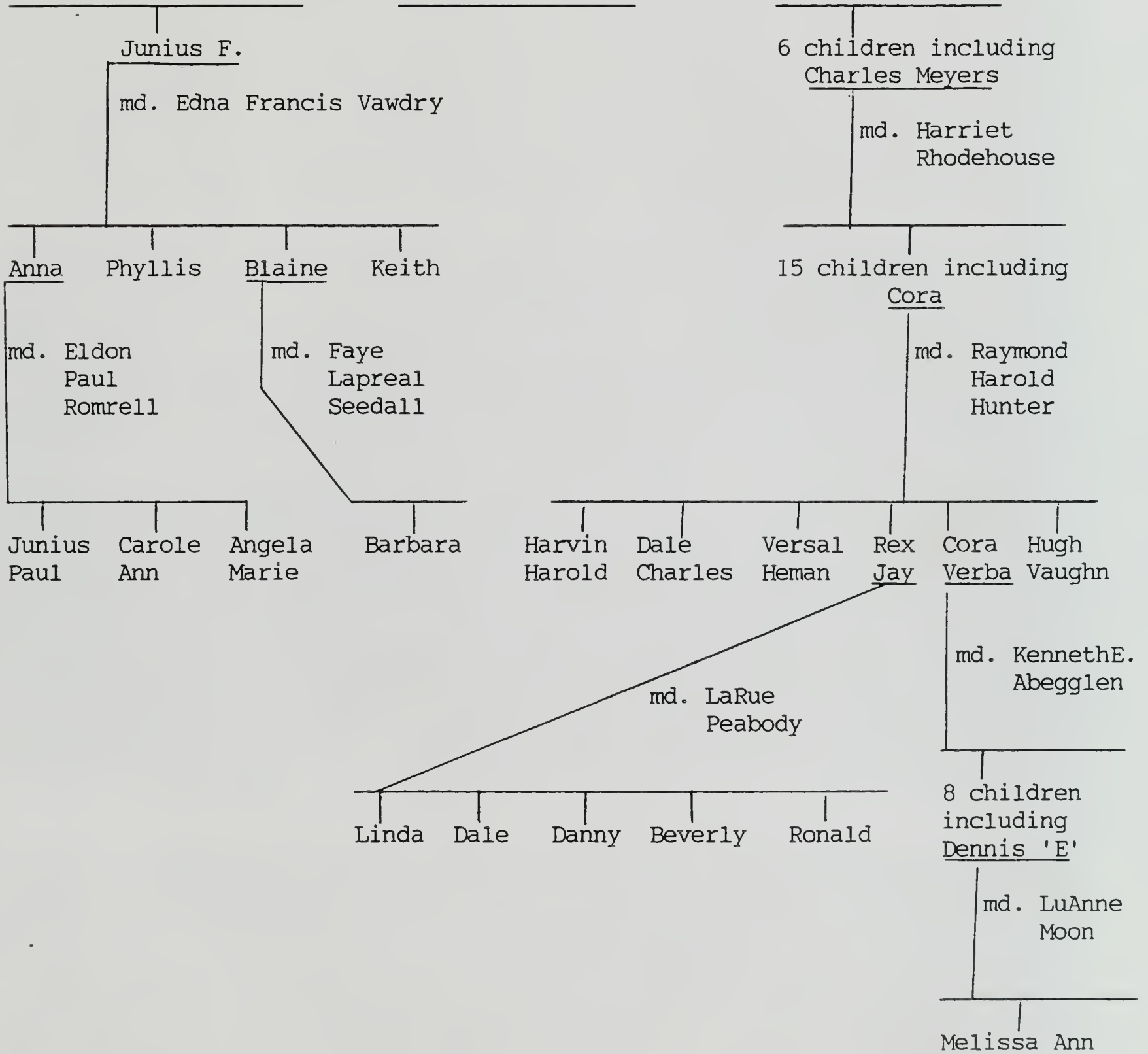
The Wardle Family - six generations on Egin Bench

Isaac John Wardle

(1) Martha Ann Egbert

(2) Mary Ann Ashton

(3) Sophia Meyers



6 generations on Egin Bench

Isaac John Wardle was born June 14, 1835, in England. He learned ropemaking in his youth and worked in mines until he was 18 years of age. He came to America May 26, 1856 and to the west with the Martin Handcart Company. He settled in South Jordan, Utah. He married Martha Ann Egbert on April 17, 1859 and later married Mary Ann Ashton and Sophia Meyers. His first wife died in child birth April 5, 1869 and Mary Ann raised her son. In 1900, Isaac and his son, Junius F. left Utah in search of land. They traveled into Wyoming, and then down into Idaho by way of Flagg Ranch, coming to Marysville. In 1901, he bought the Nephi Secrist homestead two miles west of Parker and moved his family there. In 1911, he bought 52 more acres on the south of his property from John R. Moon. In 1916, he sold his farm to Junius and his wife but continued to live there with his children. He died October 30, 1917. His wife Mary Ann died December 7, 1916 and Sophia died March 21, 1938.

Junius F. Wardle was born in South Jordan, Utah on June 9, 1879 to Isaac John and Martha Ann Egbert Wardle. He grew up there and in 1901, the family came to Egin Bench to live, settling on the land that is still owned by his son Blaine and his daughter Anna. Junius served a mission to Australia about 1908. He was married to Edna Francis Vawdry on November 26, 1913. In 1916, they bought his father's farm, where he farmed and raised sheep until they moved to St. Anthony in 1942. He had served as the Bishop of the Heman Ward from 1917 to 1936, nearly twenty years. He also was a probate judge, and a county commissioner in Fremont County. He died July 12, 1963. Their children are Anna, Phyllis (who died in infancy), Blaine and Keith, (who died at ten years of age from a ruptured appendix). His wife, Edna was born January 9, 1889 at Draper, Utah to Nephi and Emily Francis Vawdry. She came to Egin Bench with her parents in 1902, settling at Parker. About 1905, they moved to a farm a mile west and half mile south, where her father worked for Utah-Idaho Sugar Company and run the 'slicer', which was an auxiliary plant to the one at Sugar City. She and her sisters helped their mother run the thirteen room hotel where the men stayed that worked there. The men worked shifts and so they ate and slept in shifts and they changed the beds after each shift, and washed for them and cooked for them, all on the hot cook stove, ironing with flat irons heated on the stove, and washing with water heated on the stove.

Anna Wardle Romrell was born November 11, 1915 to Junius F. and Edna Vawdry Wardle, at Heman, Fremont, Idaho. She grew up there on her family's farm. She loved music and dancing, and used her talents in the community and church through the years. She served in many church callings, including on the Sunday School Stake Board and the Relief Society Stake Board and as the Relief Society President of the Egin Bench Ward (1971-72). She was married to Eldon Paul Romrell on November 30, 1937. Eldon was born January 6, 1915 at Sugar City, Idaho to Lorenzo John and Emma Eggertz Romrell. He grew up there, where he attended school. They lived there after their marriage for a couple of years and in 1939 they moved to Egin Bench to run the farm her father had owned. He has been active in the community and has served as Bishop of the Egin Bench Ward right after the Heman and Egin Wards were joined, from 1948 to 1958. He has also served as first counselor in the stake presidency from 1975 to 1981. He is now Welfare Region Agent over St. Anthony, Rexburg and Ricks College Regions. They still live on the farm which was her grandfather's. Their children are Junius Paul, Carole Ann, and Angela Marie.

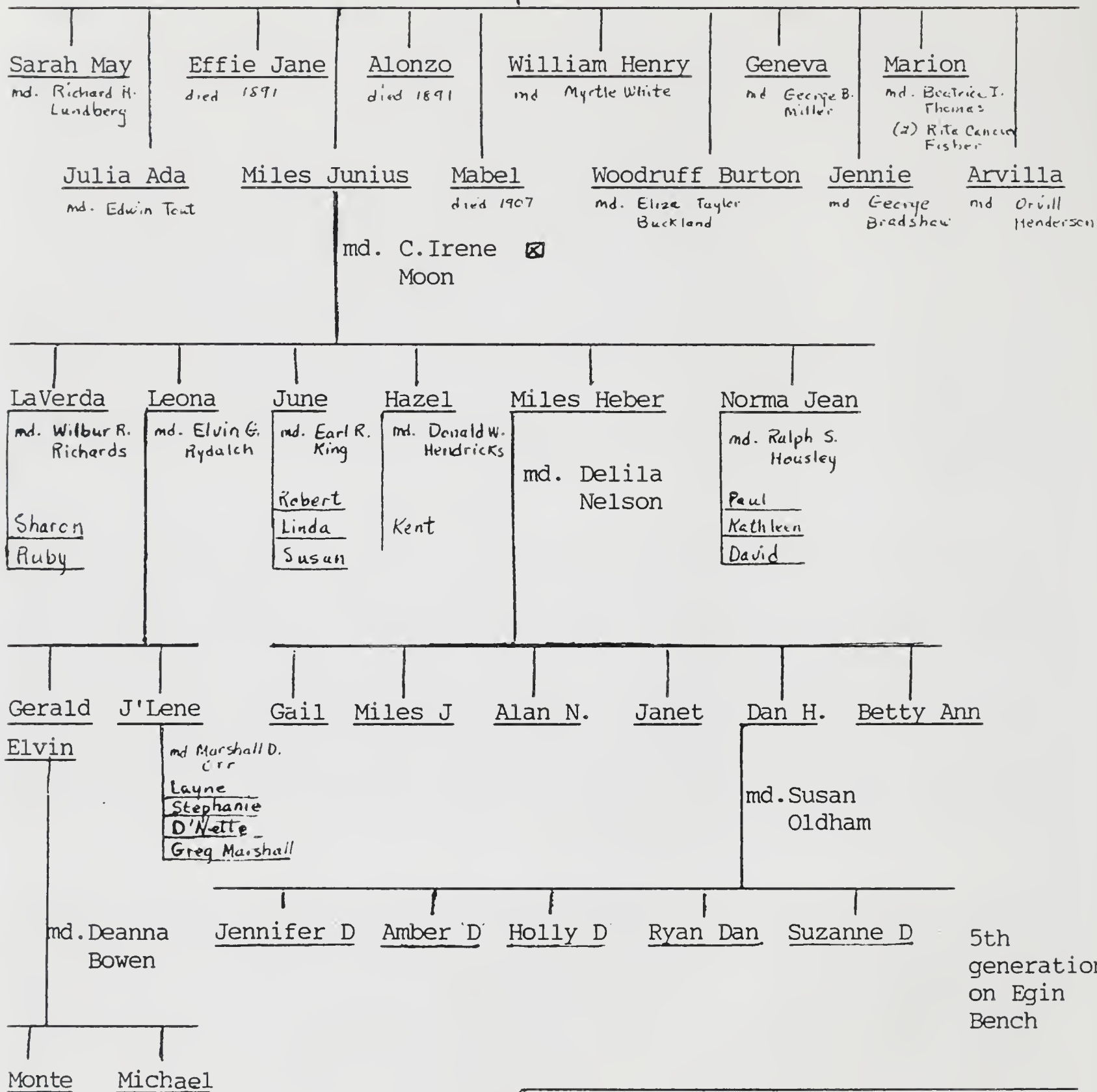
Blaine V. Wardle was born at Egin, Fremont, Idaho on his parents farm. They were Junius F. And Edna Francis Vawdry. He attended school at Heman, Parker and high school at Sugar Salem, where he graduated. He then attended Ricks College and the University of Utah. He also attended Central Washington College at Ellensburg, Washington. He entered the United States Air Force and was in training when he was injured and received a medical discharge in 1943. Later on June 28, 1944, he was married to Faye Lapreal Seedall. Faye was born December 15, 1922 on her parents farm northeast of Idaho Falls, where she grew up. Her parents were John Lawrence and Deon Elizabeth Smith Seedall. She attended school at Ammon, Crowley and Ucon, where she graduated from high school. She also attended Ricks College, where she graduated and then graduated from Brigham Young University. Blaine has farmed since his youth. Faye taught school in Central and Teton and South Fremont Junior High School, retiring from teaching in 1984 after thirty four years. Blaine and Faye are both talented in music, and have given long hours of service in the community and church, sharing their talents, and helping others to develop theirs. Blaine has worked in scouting and has served as counselor in the bishopric (1958-60) and for thirteen years as executive secretary in the Egin Bench Ward. Faye has served as Stake Young Women's President (Yellowstone Stake) and is now serving as Relief Society President in the Egin Bench Ward (since January 1988). They have one daughter, Barbara.

Charles Meyers Wardle was born December 18, 1870 at South Jordan, Salt Lake, Utah to Isaac John and Sophia Meyers Wardle. He married Harriet Rhodehouse. Harriet was born April 21, 1880 at Clifton, Oneida, Idaho, to William Herdley and Mary Truscott Rhodehouse. They lived at South Jordan after their marriage and then came to Egin Bench about 1900. While they lived at Egin, Charles was a counselor in the bishopric. In 1906, they moved to Victor where he served as Bishop in Teton Basin. Their children were Mary Sophia (died Infant) Charles Marvin, Cora (married Raymond Harold Hunter), Wilford Dell, Almeda, Lawrence Owen (died 1 week old), (last three born in Egin), Verda, Vella Martha, Isaac John, William Hurdley, Golden Fielding, Harriet Priel, Porter Russell, Reah, and Ray Meyers (died infant).

Nephi Vawdry was born May 9, 1858 in Cheshire, England to Thomas and Hannah Brough Vawdry. His family were converts to the L.D.S. Church, coming to Draper, Utah in 1860. He married Emily Francis Crapo on February 23, 1887. She was the daughter of Jonathan C. and Emily Frances Burnham Crapo. They lived at Draper until they moved to Parker in 1902, where her parents had settled. Nephi became Parker Constable and also worked as a carpenter. Emily was a seamstress, and a nurse and their daughters worked in the Karlson and Earl stores at Parker. About 1905, he moved his family to the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company 'Slicer' farm southwest of Parker. Here Emily ran the thirteen room house for the company employees, where they fed and boarded the men. Emily and her daughters did all the cooking, cleaning, washing and ironing. Nephi was the manager of the farm. The beets were hauled in by wagon, weighed, dumped, sliced and the juice was piped to the main factory in Sugar City. While they were living there, a son Ray and daughter Anna died from the flu epidemic. After the 'slicer' was closed, they moved back to Parker. Nephi was Fremont County Road Supervisor, constable, deputy sheriff, and also carried mail. They boarded school teachers in their home. Nephi died on June 29, 1920. Their other children were Laura who married Lionel Parker, Edna who married Junius F. Wardle, (see Wardle history), Emily who never married, Vilda who married Dallas T. Swing (deceased) and then Arthur Powers, and Eldon.

The WEAVER FAMILY - five generations on Egin Bench

MILES JOSEPH WEAVER md. ANNIE MARIA LINDSAY



Hugh Moon md. Jennett Nicol
 children included Heber Moon
 md. Annie M. Harris
 their children included
 ☒ Charlotte Irene, who married Miles Junius Weaver

Miles Joseph Weaver and his wife, Annie Maria Lindsay Weaver left their home in Bear Lake County the fall of 1900 and brought their seven children and all of their belongings by horse and wagon to a two room house on a homestead on Egin Bench. The house was just south of where the railroad went through the Egin townsite and the farm was half mile square to the north and east of the house (where Gerald Rydalch now lives).

About a month after their arrival, a daughter Jennie was born to them. They worked hard to provide for their family and raised fruits and berries, including cherries, raspberries, dewberries, gooseberries, currants, apples, plums, and pears and farmed also.

Miles died in April 1909 from Typhoid Fever, a dreaded disease that had hit the community. Their son Marion also had it but survived. Before becoming ill, Miles had gone to the homes of others in the area who had the disease to render much need assistance to his neighbors. He was known as an excellent dancer and singer and had a long white beard so he played the part of Santa at the Christmas gatherings. After his death the older boys took over the operation of the farm to support the family and they sold raspberries for one dollar for a dish pan heaped full. In August 1918, Annie also died very suddenly leaving five children still at home, the youngest being thirteen years old. (See the family chart for their children.)

Miles Junius Weaver was born October 11, 1887, at Montpelier, Idaho to Annie Maria Lindsay and Miles Joseph Weaver. He was known through his life as Junius. He came to Egin Bench on September 1, 1900 with his family at age 13, with he and his younger brother Bill driving the livestock. His father died in 1909 and his mother in 1918. As a young man, he drove stage through Yellowstone Park. He was a hard worker and a man of generosity, sharing the bounty of his fishing and hunting with his neighbors and trying to provide well for his family. He had an unusual ability with medicine and helped his family through illnesses and also helped in the community with veterinarian needs. He was talented in music, being able to play most instruments he picked up and he sang well, and reflected his love of music in his home. He built a little home just west across the tracks from the present Egin Bench L. D. S. Church. He also moved his family to Fairfield, Idaho for a few years at a time when quite a number of people from the area went there. That did not work out well for them and he returned to Egin where his father-in-law, Heber Moon offered for him to take over his farm, which he did. He was running the farm when he died on November 6, 1937, at fifty years of age, leaving his widow Irene and their children, June, Hazel, Miles Heber and Norma Jean. Their oldest daughter, LaVerda was already married at that time.

Charlotte Irene Moon was born July 12, 1892 in a log house on the family farm which she resided on most of her life. Her parents were Heber and Annie Maria Harris Moon. Grandma Winegar was the midwife who delivered her, and Matilda Moon (later known as Til Hendrickson) who was only ten years old, took care of the new mother and baby. Irene learned to work hard as her parents came to Egin one year before her birth and it took many years grubbing brush to clear the land for the farm that now exists. Irene and Rossi Jenkins were the first students to graduate from the Egin School. She met Miles Junius Weaver and she accompanied him on the piano when he sang at many gatherings. They were

Charlotte Irene Moon, continued.

married December 20, 1910. They built a two room house west of the present day Egin Bench Church. They moved to Fairfield, Idaho about 1920 for a few years before coming back to live on her parents farm and run it from 1922 to 1937. Her husband died suddenly the night of November 6, 1937 and her son Miles took over the operation of the farm at that time. She was a good cook and was loved for her concern and service to others. She wanted to stay busy when she was older so for a number of years, she distributed Avon Products. The last three years of her life, she had poor health and passed away on June 22, 1973. Her children were LaVerda Marie, Leona Fawn, June Moon, Hazel Gay, Miles Heber, and Norma Jean.

LaVerda Marie Weaver was born June 16, 1911, at Egin, Idaho to Miles Junius and Irene Moon Weaver. She attended school at Egin, Edmunds, and graduated from high school at the Ricks Academy at Rexburg. She worked in seedhouses in the upper valley. On April 14, 1932, she married Wilbur Reece Richards. They lived for two years at Twin Groves and then for four years at Sugar City before coming to Egin Bench where they bought forty acres from Heber Moon located across the road from the Egin Store. They moved a little house on to the land and later built on to it to make a nice home. They lived there the remainder of their lives. He worked in farming, was a water master on the St. Anthony Canal for many years and also ran a road grader for Fremont County. He loved to fish and they liked to dance. She loved music and used her talent to accompany singing many times and in many places, including playing for her daughters when they sang. Their children are Sharon and Ruby. Wilbur died suddenly on February 10, 1967. LaVerda sold World Book Encyclopedias for a number of years, working with Margaret Moon from Egin. She had the opportunity to travel a little, including going to Hawaii. She died at her home in Egin on February 22, 1986. She was the closest neighbor to the compiler-author of this book.

Leona Weaver was born July 17, 1913 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to Miles Junius and Charlotte Irene Moon Weaver. She grew up on the family farm, and on March 4, 1933, she was married to Elvin G. Rydalch. Elvin was born April 21, 1912 to Davis and Ester Parkinson Rydalch. Their children were Gerald Elvin and J'Lene. (his sketch follows and J'Lene's is with Marshall Orr's) Leona died on February 13, 1962. She was a jolly person, was interested in drama and helped with plays and activities in the area. Elvin farmed on the land where their son Gerald now lives and had the home built there. He liked to hunt and fish. He died May 28, 1970.

Gerald Elvin Rydalch was born June 1, 1940 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho (in the Charles Pulley home) to Elvin G. and Leona Weaver Rydalch. He attended the Egin School for first two years and then went to Parker and St. Anthony, where he graduated from high school. He also went to Utah State College. He married Deanna Bowen on November 11, 1960. Deanna was born June 2, 1940 to Arnold and Nellie Brower Bowen. She grew up in the Twin Groves area and attended school in St. Anthony, where she graduated from South Fremont High School. She also attended the Excellis Beauty School in Idaho Falls. After their marriage they lived in the Egin area where he farmed for two years and then they lived in Ogden, Utah after he went to work for the Mountain States Telegraph and Telephone Company as a lineman. He worked for the telephone company through two name changes, as it went to Mountain Bell and then became U. S. West Communications, which it was when Gerald retired in the spring of 1990. Gerald and Deanna returned to Egin to live in the home where he had grown up and farm the ground in 1970. They built a shop on the home where Deanna has operated 'D's Beauty Shop since about 1973. They have two sons, Michael and Mont, who are both married.

Miles Heber Weaver was born November 23, 1920 to Miles Junius and Charlotte Irene Moon Weaver at Egin, Fremont, Idaho. He attended school at Egin and Edmunds High School where he was active in sports and learned some wood working skills. His father died when he was sixteen years old and under his grandfather Heber Moon's direction he took over running the farm. In January of 1943, he enlisted in the army and served in Europe as an advanced surgical technician. He returned home in 1946 and was married to Delila Nelson on April 9, 1946. He again took over the farm and has been running it since that time. He also has acquired the property to the south, which was originally homesteaded by Joseph Benjamin Moon, making a total of 160 acres of original Moon homesteads. This farm is being recognized and honored during the Idaho Centennial year of 1990 as an Idaho Centennial Century-old Farm still owned by members of the original homestead family.

Delila Nelson Weaver was born August 29, 1927 at Sunndell south of Rexburg, Idaho to Delos and Miriam Hodgson Nelson and grew up there where she attended the Sunndell school and one year of high school at Archer until it was closed and then she graduated from Madison High School. Miles and Delila have raised three sons and three daughters in Egin including Gail, Miles J., Alan N., Janet, Dan, and Betty Ann. Miles and their son Dan keep busy with farming and he enjoys an occasional fishing trip. Delila helps on the farm, has been involved in church, 4-H and community service. Their home is graced with a number of paintings, displaying a talent she has developed since her family has grown up. Their yard boasts flowers and gardening surrounding their rock home which was built in 1906. Miles was born in this home and has spent a good part of his life there, still sleeping in the same room he was born in. In the Weaver family it has been tradition to name the first son Miles for about five generations.

Dan H. Weaver was born August 15, 1955 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho, to Miles Heber and Delila Nelson Weaver. He grew up on the family farm and he attended school at Parker and then graduated from South Fremont High School at St. Anthony, Idaho. On April 6, 1973, he married Susan May Oldham. She was born August 3, 1955 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Laurence Burl Oldham and his wife, Joan Sutherland Oldham. She attended schools in Rexburg and graduated from Madison High School there. They have made their home in Egin since their marriage and Dan farms with his father there. Susie has adjusted from city to farm life and their family enjoys the quiet peaceful country living and how green every thing is in Egin in the spring. They have the following children: Jennifer Dee, Amber Deanna, Holly Diane, Ryan Dan, and Suzanne Danelle.

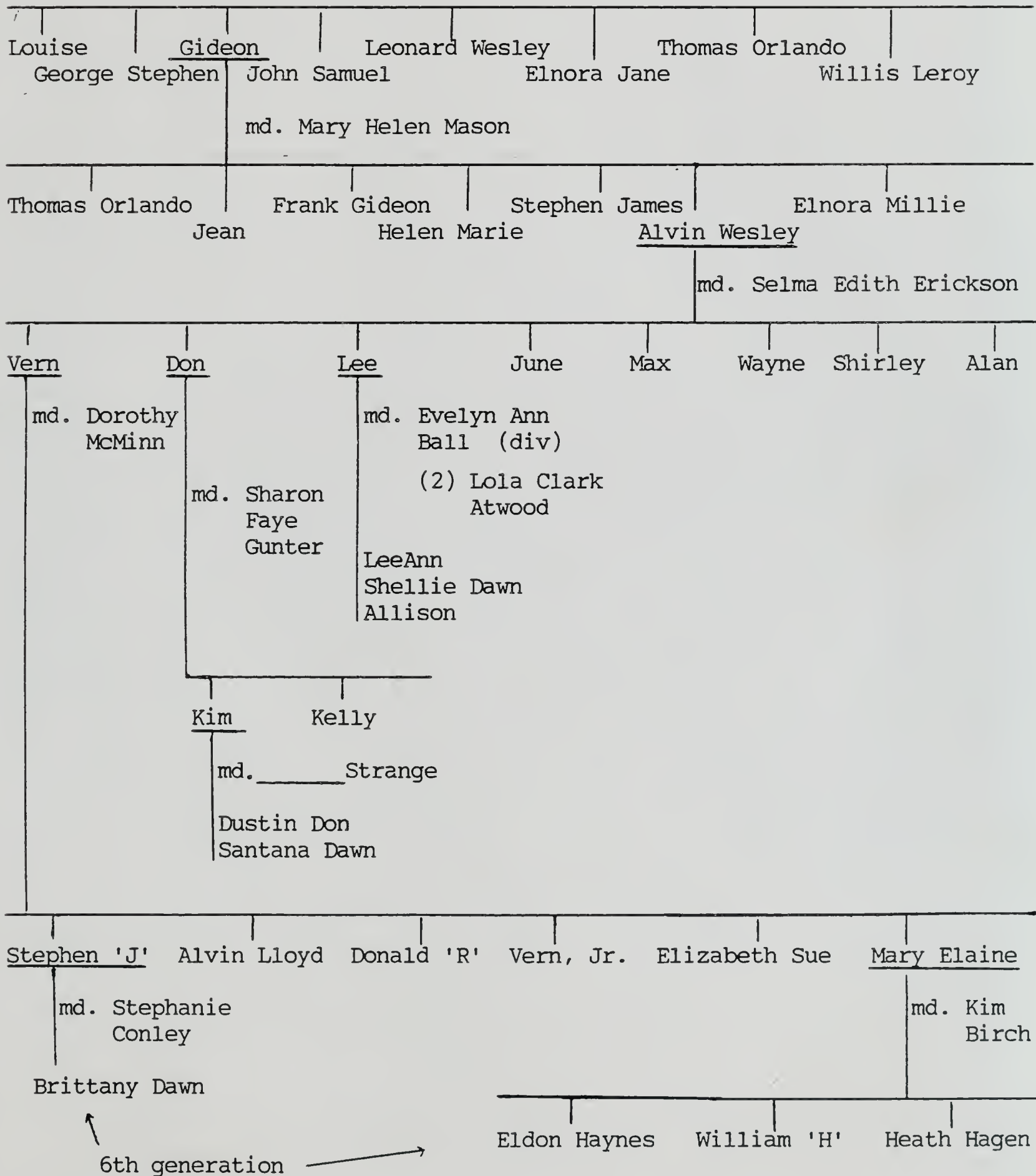


Jennie Weaver was born October 20, 1900 at Egin, Idaho, just one month after her parents, Miles Joseph and Annie Maria Lindsay Weaver came to Egin Bench to live on a homestead. She attended schools in the Egin grade school, which was a one room brick school to which two rooms were later added. She graduated from grade school and received two more years of high school training there. George B Miller, who was one of her teachers, later married her older sister, Geneva. She loved to sing and especially enjoyed the programs that he directed. She was only eight years old when her father died, and she learned to work hard picking berries to sell in St. Anthony. Her mother died in 1918 and she went to work picking peas in the seed pea packing firms in St. Anthony. On May 24, 1919, she married George Bradshaw and they lived at the DeCamp farm, (north west quarter of section 22) west of the Liebert's farm, where they rented 240 acres. They lived in a tent for two years, and also lived at several other locations on Egin Bench before going to Idaho Falls for two years. They came back to the DeCamp farm where he worked for B. M. Tibbits for about fifteen years. In 1953, they retired and bought five acres with a home at Annis, Idaho. They had six daughters and three sons born to them but the oldest daughter and the oldest son both died in infancy.

William Henry Weaver, also known as Bill and his wife Myrtle lived across the canal from Marie Moon until about 1946 when they moved south a little ways and lived across from the Jim Dunn home. They later moved to Rexburg.

The WINEGAR Family - Six generations on Egin Bench

Stephen Winegar - Lois Smith



Stephen Winegar was born on March 23, 1830 at Onondagua County, New York, to Samuel Thomas Winegar and his wife, Rhoda E. Cummins Winegar. The family came west through Ohio and being at Nauvoo for a time before Stephen and one of his brothers came to Utah about 1848. He married Lois Smith on August 1, 1850. He was a tall, slim man with light complexion. He had asthma quite bad. They lived in a small log house in Salt Lake City until about 1871. While they were there, he worked on the building of the temple and tabernacle. He cut and hauled the big posts that hold up the balcony in the tabernacle. Their children were born while they lived in the Salt Lake area. In 1871-72 they moved to Randolph, Utah, where he ranched and raised cattle. They then decided they needed more land as his sons became grown, so in June 1879, he loaded his mowing machine and hay rake in his wagon and with his three oldest sons and several other men, they traveled north looking for a place to build their homes. They arrived on the north side of the North Fork of the Snake River at what became known as Egin Bench in July, and decided that this was what they had been looking for. They started to build houses and they put up about 150 tons of wild hay. After completing a two room house, the boys went back to Utah and brought their mother and younger brothers to Idaho. Louisa had married and Elnora remained in Utah with her. They had good weather most of the trip, leaving on October 25, 1879 and arriving just about the time that the winter snows came. The youngest son, Willis told in his diary that they camped the last night on the south fork of the Snake River. It was very cold and too late to ford that night. The next day, William Broadhurst rode his horse across before they tried the wagons. The water came way up on the wagon boxes, but they crossed safely and arrived about four that afternoon at the North Fork where Stephen was waiting for his family. The winter was very cold that year and the river froze up with ice and flooded the other two cabins that had been built near the Winegar cabin by the John Powell family and a group of bachelors. They had to move in with the Winegars for part of the winter. The next year, Stephen moved his home onto the bench where he homesteaded. A few acres of that ground still belongs to his great grandson, Vern Winegar. The house was the first one on the bench, had two rooms each about 16 by 20 feet, was built of quaking aspen, had a dirt floor, dirt roof and a fireplace. Stephen Winegar and his family helped in the development of the Egin Bench community. The first Sunday School was held in their home and they had the first post office there. He also operated a small store from his home for a time. They erected a building on his farm to be used as a school house, dance hall and for church and meeting purposes. It burned down in a few years. Stephen Winegar died February 8, 1903 during the cold of winter on Egin Bench. He had taught his sons early in their youth to protect themselves from the wild and his sons were well known as guides throughout the area and did a lot of hunting, trapping and exploring in the region, even into Wyoming and Montana. They were lovers of the outdoors, and early in the 1880's, they entered the basin in Wyoming, which became known as Winegar's Hole. They used these abilities to help provide for their families.

Stephen's wife, Lois Smith was born October 4, 1833 to John Benjamin Smith and Jane Young in West Whetby, Ontario, Canada. Her family went to Nauvoo when she was four years old. In 1840, her father, mother and brothers George, James, William and sister Cynthia Jane all died with Cholera. A baby sister Emaline lived about a year and then died also, leaving Lois alone. She lived in the home of the Prophet Joseph Smith. She



came to Utah when she was sixteen, where she also lived in President Brigham Young's home until she married Stephen Winegar. She was a small woman, with dark eyes and hair. She was a hard worker and a good cook. She served as a midwife many times after they came to Idaho to Egin Bench, where she was the second white woman to live north of the river. She went day or night to help the sick. She learned the use of herbs from the Indians who became her friends. She made buckskin coats for her sons and beaded them like the Indians did. She had tragedy in her life. Her son, Thomas Orlando died at age of ten years and Leonard Wesley, and older son, was shot accidentally when he was 27 years old, leaving a wife and small child. Also her husband Stephen had asthma very bad and could not do very much work. She was left a widow when he died in 1903, and stayed in her home until she passed away September 3, 1916.

Gideon Winegar was born January 31, 1857 at Mill Creek, Salt Lake, Utah, to Stephen Winegar and Lois Smith Winegar. Their family moved to Randolph, Utah about 1871 where they had a ranch. In 1879, he came to the Snake River Valley with his father and two brothers looking for a place to make a new home. They liked what they saw when they came to the 'bench' and stayed and built a home of logs and harvested wild hay. The boys went back to move the rest of the family. His father had made all the arrangements for the sale of their Utah property before he went to Idaho so they loaded up and returned to Idaho. Their father taught his sons how to protect themselves in the great outdoors, and they loved it. During the 1880's Gideon and his brothers went into the large basin in Wyoming and spent the winters trapping, and that area was widely known as Winegar's Hole. Their travel was done by horse-back with pack animals. On one of Gideon's trips into the hills he noticed the excellent timber that was so plentiful and was better for building than the aspen and cottonwood, so he decided to cut trees and float them down the river to a point where it could be loaded on wagons and hauled home. It was probably on one of these trips that the inscription "Gideon Winegar 1882" was inscribed upon a large rock on the bank of the Henry's Fork above where it joins with Warm River. He used some of these logs to build his home, which is still standing, although it has been added to and remodeled. It is surrounded with evergreens and cedars which he selected from the hills and planted, hauling the water from the river to keep them alive. That was before the Egin Canal reached their land. Later when they were trying to force water through potato rows in this water hungry sand, it was discovered that the land would 'sub' irrigate.

Gideon married Mary Helen Mason on October 10, 1895 and they raised their family in the log home that he built on Egin Bench. He spent most of the summers as a guide, taking people into the hills



with his pack horse outfit on hunting and fishing trips. Gideon and his brother Willis hauled the telephone poles from Island Park when the telephone line was put in from St. Anthony to Brighton by Fred Lovejoy in 1895. Mary Helen was born on July 26, 1869, at Morgan, Morgan, Utah to James Horby and Pamela Bullock Mason, pioneers from England. He father tried farming and then went to teaching school and his family was well educated. They came to Egin Bench in May of 1884, where he taught school.

Gideon and Mary had seven children as follows: Thomas Orlando, Jean, Frank Gideon, Helen Marie, Stephen James, Alvin Wesley, and Elnora Millie. Tragedy came to their family in 1903, when three of their little ones died from typhoid fever. Thomas Orlando, age six died February 1, 1903, Frank Gideon, age four died February 16, 1903 and Helen Marie, age two, died February 19, 1903. Also Gideon's father died February 8, 1903. Later, on April 28, 1916 their daughter Jean, age eighteen, died. A short time later, after having completed the building of a hay barn, and then the harvesting of his pea crop, Gideon had blown the pea straw into the new barn. While attempting to level this dusty straw out, he fell into a hole and with it being impossible to climb back out, he had to paw his way to the door with his hands. This ordeal filled his entire system with dust and after much suffering and complications, he passed away on July 18, 1918. Mary was unable to run all of the land and needed to pay off some debts so she sold all of the land except a few acres. She struggled to provide for her family and they had to each help the best they could. She passed away on April 1, 1932.

Alvin Wesley Winegar was born May 24, 1906, to Gideon and Mary Helen Mason Winegar at Egin, Fremont, Idaho. He was their fifth child, but three of their children died from typhoid fever in 1903 before he was born. Some of his earliest recollections were of his father bouncing his sister Nora and himself on his knee and telling stories or humming to them until they got drowsy, while his mother did her dishes, and then she would put them into bed and place a large smooth rock that had been heated in the oven into the bed by their feet. and sing to them until they fell asleep. He told of trips to town (St. Anthony) in the horse drawn, white-topped buggy as being special occasions. In the winter, short trips were made in the open bob sleigh with quilts and heated rocks to keep them warm. He remembered the worry his parents had of the well going dry towards spring and each year they would dig it a little deeper. They went to church at the Egin Ward three miles west of their home and Irene Weaver was one of the teachers he remembered. He first went to school in the old white building, which was called Center School and he watched them build the new brick school at Heman. Luella Murdock Hunter was a teacher that he long remembered as a loving person. The first automobile he saw was a Saxon Super Six owned by Joe Wardle and the first tractor was called Samson and was owned by Ed Cox. His father took them to see the train when it first ran down down through Egin a mile north of their home. About this same time, he remembered the first telephone they had with batteries and a crank on the side. It had a mouth piece that was hinged so it could adjust to the height of the person using it. The year he was twelve, his father died. He had to start helping with the family expenses and at fourteen, he started working out for others. Most of their food came from what they could grow on their farm. He was born, grew up and also raised his family in the same house that his father, Gideon, had built. On October 24, 1931, he married Selma Edith Erickson, the daughter of William and Alice Anderson Erickson, who had lived next door to them in Egin for some time. Selma was born May 22, 1915, at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho She had polio as a child and walked with a limp. She had surgery to straighten her leg later in her life. Alvin and Selma worked hard to raise their family.

Alvin was employed for 27 years for Lobnitz Brothers Land Leveling, running a D-8 Caterpillar. He leveled many acres of land around the valley. He also helped level and terrace the land for Ricks College. He spent lots of time and money doing geneology work and was proud of his ancestors. He was active in Scouting and was on the Heman School Board. He enjoyed the outdoors and took his boys hunting and fishing. He and Selma traveled after their family was older. On August 12, 1968, after attending his church meetings that day, he passed away suddenly. After several years, Selma married Adrian Stocks and continued to live at Egin, near her son. Adrian died after five years of marriage and Selma moved to St. Anthony, where she lives now. She serves as a foster grandparent at the Idaho State Youth Center.

Vern Winegar was born May 5, 1932 at Egin Bench, to Alvin Wesley and Selma Edith Erickson Winegar. He grew up on part of the Winegar farm that had been his great grandfather's homestead. He attended school at Heman. He was in the United States Air Force for twenty two years (1950-1972), spending time in Guam, Turkey, Alaska as well as many places in the United States. He married Dorothy McMinn on January 28, 1955 and they lived in many places including in Florida, Mississippi, Alaska, Arizona and others. Dorothy was born on November 11, 1935 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Lloyd and Elizabeth Smith McMinn. She grew up in the Salem area and attended schools at Salem and Sugar City. Their children are Stephen 'J', Alvin Lloyd, Donald 'R', Vern, Jr., Elizabeth Sue and Mary Elaine (Birch). They live in the house Gideon Winegar built.

Stephen 'J' Winegar was born November 30, 1956 at Chandler, Arizona. He lived many places as a child and finished his schooling at South Fremont High School, in St. Anthony, after they moved to Egin to the home which his great grandfather had built, on the original Winegar homestead. Stephen married Stephanie Conley in September 1983, and they now live next to his parents. Stephanie is the daughter of John and Donna Conley from the St. Anthony area. They have one daughter, Brittany Dawn. Stephen works at Clair & Dee's in Rexburg.

Mary Elaine Winegar was born February 3, 1961 at Tacoma, Washington to Vern and Dorothy McMinn Winegar. She attended school and graduated from South Fremont High School at St. Anthony. She married Kim Birch on August 27, 1982/ Kim was born August 18, 1957 to Verl and Bonnie Birch. He works for B. M. Tibbitts Potato Company. Their children are Eldon Haynes, William 'H' and Heath Hagen. They live a mile south of her parents in Egin.

Don Winegar was born on November 27, 1933 at Egin Bench, Fremont, Idaho, to Alvin Wesley and Selma Edith Erickson Winegar. He attended school at Heman, St. Anthony, and Sugar City. He was married to Sharon Fae Gunter on June 23, 1954. About one year after their marriage, he was drafted into the United States Navy. They spent a year at Corpus Cristi, Texas, and Don spent the second year on an air craft carrier in the Pacific. After completing his service for our country, they lived in the Heman area of Egin Bench until the present time. Don served about two years in the Sunday School Presidency. They have two children, Kim, who they adopted when she was seven days old and a son, Kelly who was born to them. Kim lives near her parents with her two children, Dustin Don Strange and Santana Dawn Strange. Sharon was born August 5, 1935 at her parents home in Marysville, Fremont, Idaho to Walter D. and Marjorie Spencer Gunter. She went to school at Marysville and graduated from high school at Ashton, Idaho. She is a talented singer and often uses her talent.

Lee Winegar was born July 11, 1935 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho to Alvin Wesley and Selman Edith Erickson Winegar. He served in the United States Army (1953-56). He married Evelyn Ann Ball, daughter of Gerald Richard and Emma Marie Seivers Ball. They had three daughters, LeeAnn (Dutton), Shellie Dawn (Gilmore), and Allison. They were divorced and he later married Lola Clark Atwood on April 1, 1987. He has worked as a policeman, from which he took a medical retirement. He is presently a bus driver for Fremont County Schools. Some of his memories include getting out wood with a team of horses and of the hunting and fishing trips with his dad. About 1951, when he was about fourteen years old, his father bought an old school bus and made it into a motor home and took his wife, Selma and the six youngest children on a trip to Florida where his brother Stephen lived and they spent Christmas there. The bus was parked on the point of the Island Park Reservoir for several years (until it was vandalized) and they spent a lot of time there. Lee and Lola live on an acreage on Egin Bench where every summer they have a large garden filled with beautiful flowers.

PART VII

Other

Families

on

Egin Bench

1879 - 1990

CLEON ANDERSON was born October 3, 1931 at Salem, Madison, Idaho to Lee Earl and Afton McCulloch Anderson. He attended Sugar Salem Schools.

ANNA JANE COLEMAN was a born July 23, 1931 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho, to Alexander and Emma Rigby Coleman. She attended school at Franklin and at Wilford, Idaho and graduated from South Fremont High School in St. Anthony, Idaho and also from St. Mark's Hospital School of Nursing in Salt Lake City, Utah in September of 1952.

Cleon and Anna Jane were married on August 18, 1954 in the Idaho Falls L.D.S. Temple. Cleon, who is known by many as Andy, was working for Dr. H.B. Rigby as his ranch forman and Anna Jane was Dr. Rigby's office nurse. They moved to Egin Bench in October of 1958, where Cleon continued to work for Dr. Rigby until the doctor died. At that time they bought the Rigby property in Egin, located under the bench, in the area where the first settlers came in 1879 and built their cabins.

Cleon was Fremont County Grassman of the year in 1968, and served two terms as a director of the Fremont-Madison Cattleman's Association. Anna Jane worked as a registered nurse at Fremont General Hospital in St. Anthony for over twenty years, and since October 1982, she has worked at Madison Memorial Hospital in Rexburg. She has shared her ability to care for the sick with her family and neighbors many times through the years. She has served as President of the Cowbelles in the area and been active working in all of the organizations of the L. D. S. Church, including Relief Society Secretary in the Egin Bench Ward.

They are the parents of three children, Carolena, Douglas, and Donald, who are all married and live in Egin. See Terry Palmer history for Carolena.

DONALD C ANDERSON was born January 1, 1958, to Cleon and Anna Jane Coleman Anderson and grew up on the family farm at Egin, Idaho. He attended school at Parker and St. Anthony, graduating from South Fremont High School where he had served two years as President of the Future Farmers of America. He was married to Teresa Davidson on February 8, 1980.

TERESA DAVIDSON was born March 14, 1960 at Pocatello, Idaho to Farrell and Darlene Walker Davidson. She spent her childhood at American Falls, Idaho Falls and then lived at Rexburg where she graduated from Madison High School. She attended and graduated from Career Beauty College at Rexburg and works part time as a beautician. She is working with Cub Scouts in Egin, and they have three children, Heath, Camille (Cami), and Hayden. They live on the farm at Egin and also have four hundred acres at Kilgore where they raise hay, barley and pasture beef cattle. Donald serves as a stake missionary.

DOUGLAS C ANDERSON was born January 1, 1958 (a twin) to Cleon and Anna Jane Coleman Anderson and grew up on the farm at Egin, attending schools at Parker and St. Anthony, where he was active in F. F. A. and graduated from high school. He served a mission for the L. D. S. Church to the Pittsburg Pennsylvania Mission. He was married to Kaye Rees on March 14, 1980.

KAYE REES was born April 24, 1961 at Rexburg, Idaho to Leonard Brigham and Amy Viola Hobbs Rees. She grew up in Newdale and attended schools at the Sugar Salem Schools. They live on a farm in Egin near his parents and brother and they are also buying 240 acres at Kilgore. They are active in their church and have three children, Bridgette, Jessica, and Hadley.

Kerry Dean Buxton was born October 8, 1957, at Driggs, Idaho, to J. Farrell and Helen Jeanne Holman. He grew up in the Bates-Driggs area, attended school at Teton where he played football and wrestled. He served an L. D. S. mission to Western Samoa. He attended and graduated from both Ricks College and Brigham Young University with a B.S. Degree in Agronomy. He worked as a landscaping foreman for a nursery in the Provo area and landscaped the homes of several well known people including Paul H. Dunn. He is presently working as a loan officer and assistant Vice President at Valley Bank in Rexburg, Idaho. He has won blue ribbons on his oil painting, creates his own outdoors and western scenes with woodburning and enjoys singing. He was married to Kathleen Cook on October 28, 1983.

Kathleen (Kathy) Cook was born January 2, 1962 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Reynold W. (Bill) and Elvia Notario Niño Cook. She grew up mostly in the Archer area south of Rexburg, but also lived for a time in California and Mexico. She attended Ricks College where she was on the ballroom dance team and was also Lambda Delta Sigma President. She received her Associate Degree in dancing and went on to B. Y. U. graduating with a B. A. Degree in Spanish-Education and with minors in dance and fashion design. She was an International Folk Dancer while at B. Y. U. and their first child was born while she was a student there. Their children are Sheena, born August 7, 1984, Radley Jay, born May 29, 1986, and Brayden Lane, born April 4, 1989. They came to Egin Bench to live in 1987.

WILLIAM EDWARD BEAN was born 28 July 1934 in Sacramento, California to Dr. Raymond Hedley Bean and Edlyn Berniece Whitcraft and attended schools there and college at San Louis Obispo, before joining the Navy in 1954. He spent about thirteen years in the Navy, in many interesting places, ending up in Blackfoot, Idaho stationed at the INEL. He was married to Marsha Rae Davis and they had three children, Sharon Marie, Eugene Edward, and Scott David, before they were divorced in 1973. He became a member of the L. D. S. Church while living at Paul, Idaho and met his second wife, Cheryl Ann Harmon soon after. They were married August 22, 1974, and brought together their families.

CHERYL ANN HARMON was born 14 December 1946 at Wendell, Idaho to Billy W. Harmon and Eunice Marie Wayment. She attended schools in Gooding, Fairfield, Burley, Bliss, Egen and Hazelton, Idaho where she graduated from high school. On February 12, 1965, she married Roy F. Murphy and they had four children, Steven Roy, Thomas W, Gregory Lincoln and Suzanne Louise. They were divorced and she moved her family to Burley, Idaho. After she was married to William (Bill) Bean, they lived in Burley, then Pocatello before moving to Egin Bench in June of 1984. Together they had four children, William Edward, Jr., George Henry, Bryan Raymond, and Douglas Charles, who along with Tom, Gregg and Suzanne, came to Egin to live. Of these children, Tom is married and attends University of Iowa and Gregg is a Military Policeman and has been serving in Panama, and Suzanne graduated in June, 1990 from Career Beauty College in Rexburg. She and the four youngest boys live at home in Egin. Their family moved to Hyrum, Utah for about a year and have just returned to their home in Egin to live. Bill serves in the U.S. Army Reserves where he is the L. D. S. Group Leader in his company, and he has been active in Scouting, and Cheryl also has been involved in Cub Scouting and does family history research for her own family and others. She served a genealogy mission for 10 months while they live in Utah at the Cache Regional Family History Center at Logan.

EDGAR and IRENE LENA SCHAAT CARPENTER lived at Egin for a few years. They ran the Egin Store while they were there. She was born Dec. 19, 1912 at Teton to Peter and Mary Krug Schaata and grew up in the St. Anthony area. After leaving Egin Bench this couple was divorced and she later married Smith Passey and lived in the Burley area where Mr. Passey died in 1980. She came back to the St. Anthony area and she passed away April 16, 1990. Ed and Irene had three sons: Lorin, who went into the U. S. Air Force about 1947 and never came back to Egin to live, and now lives in Florida; Elwood, who lives in Massachusetts; Norman, who lives in California. These three men returned to Idaho for a day when their mother died and stopped by the store to recall some of the memories of their youth at Egin.

Joseph Cruser and his wife Olga Anna Cox Cruser bought a farm at Egin on February 2, 1920. Olga was born March 7, 1887 at Fairview, Sanpete, Utah to Henderson and Martha Elizabeth Brown Cox. Joseph and Olga were married on June 20, 1906 in Utah. In 1918, they moved to St. Anthony, Idaho and then came to Egin. She was a talented musician and used that ability to serve. She also served as a Relief Society President from March 9, 1929 to August 27, 1933. She died February 12, 1938. They had seven children, including Charles Merrill who was their oldest.

Charles Merrill Cruser was born September 6, 1907 at Fairview, Sanpete, Utah to Joseph and Olga Anna Cox Cruser. He came to St. Anthony with his family and then to Egin. He grew up helping on the family farm. He became a school teacher and taught 34 years in the Snake River Valley, including at the Egin and Heman schools on Egin Bench.

The DAVIDSON Family

Lorenzo S. Davidson married Anna Louisa Peterson while they were both living in Utah and after a few years they came to Idaho and homesteaded in the Darby area east of Driggs, Idaho. They raised sheep, beef and dairy cattle. They did well but the winters were so hard there that they decided to come to the Uppers Snake River country. They bought the homestead of Frank and Fred Mason for cash and brought their family in May 1912, to live on the eastern part of 'the Bench' just south of Parker. They had sold their sheep and some of their cattle but the property had a good home on it and plenty of pasture. They had nine children but three of them had already married in the Teton Valley and so they had remained there. Those coming with them were Mary, who later married Charles Housley, Lenora, who married Harve Tyler, Nathaniel, who married Ella Grover, Arthur, who married Lottie Rhodehouse, Arland, who married Elizabeth Pearce, and Eskil, who married Mary Newton. Arthur, Arland and Eskil all served L.D.S. missions from the Parker Ward.

Lorenzo Davidson died April 24, 1924 and his wife died March 9, 1925.

Arland Davidson was born July 8, 1890, at Fairview, Sanpete, Utah, to Lorenzo S. and Anna Louise Peterson Davidson. He moved to Driggs, Idaho with his parents when he was two years old, where they lived until May 1912, when they moved to the Mason homestead south of Parker, Idaho. He served a mission from the Parker L.D.S. Ward to Stocholme, Sweden and due to the outbreak of the World War, he finished it in the Southern States Mission. He married Sarah Elizabeth Pearce on March 8, 1918 at the Salt Lake L.D.S. Temple.

Sarah Elizabeth Pearce was born November 23, 1892 at Paradise, Cache, Utah, to Thomas Joseph Pearce, Sr. and Mary Alice Davenport Pearce. (See Edward Davenport history) She worked for her sister and neighbors to earn money to go to high school during 1914 and 1916. When she came to Idaho to visit her brothers, she met Arland Davidson and they were later married. They lived on his homestead in Dehlin area (15 miles east of Idaho Falls) for a few years, until Arland's mother died. They moved to Parker to take care of the farm that she left. Later they came to Egin and rented a farm. After a time, they were able to buy their home there. Sarah was active in the L.D.S. Church and served as secretary of Relief Society and worked in Primary and M.I.A.

Arland was also active, serving twice in Dehlin Ward and once in Egin Ward as Councelor to the Bishop, and was well known for his spirituality and teaching. They had seven children, Blanche Elizabeth, Alvin Lorenzo, Hyrum, Anna Vernessa, Thelma Pearce, Myrl Wesley, and Ethel.

Arland Davidson died September 1979 and his wife Elizabeth on January 31, 1985.

Alvin Lorenzo Davidson was born November 27, 1920, at Iona, Bonneville, Idaho, to Arland Lorenzo and Sarah Elizabeth Pearce Davidson. He spent most of his youth in the Parker-Egin area. He attended school at Parker and Egin and also graduated from high school at Edmunds in 1939. He served a mission to the Western States L.D.S. Mission around Denver, Colorado, from 1940 to 1942. He met Clara Elvina Salerno and helped teach her about the L.D.S. Church, which she joined in 1943. They were later married on March 15, 1945 in the temple at Cardston, Alberta, Canada.

Clara Elvina Salerno was born May 28, 1922, at Salida, Chaffee, Colorado, to Peter Paul and Frances Cribari Salerno, one of their twelve children. She grew up in Salida and worked as a clerk and as a secretary. Her parents immigrated from Italy and raised their family as member of the Catholic Church. Her sister Mary was already converted to the L.D.S. Church in 1939. After their marriage, Alvin and Clara came to Egin to live and he helped his father on the farm. He also worked as a carpenter, a trade he had learned while he was in the Merchant Marines, where he was a seaman and saw action in the South Pacific. Alvin and Clara adopted five children: Linda Kay, who served a mission to the Great Lakes, Carol Jean, Clarlyn, who served a mission to Rome, Italy, Paul Alvin, who was in the Marines, and Rick, who was in the National Guard. Alvin and Clara bought their own farm on Egin Bench in 1950, located south of the Egin store 1½ miles, where Alvin built the home they now live in. None of their children have remained on Egin Bench to live.

Clara worked for Fremont County School District as a supervisor of the hot lunch program for many years. Alvin and Clara have given many hours of service in church. She has served as Relief Society President, M.I.A. President, Primary President, and also on the Stake Boards of all three organizations. She and Alvin have served two missions together, to Nevada Las Vegas, 1987-88 and to Mississippi Jackson Mission, 1989-90. Alvin has served as Stake Missionary in the Yellowstone Stake in 1960, on the stake High Council in that stake and as a ward clerk from 1981 to 1987. Also Clara was the first Junior Sunday School Co-ordinator in Egin where she served for fourteen years.

Lee Emanuel Edwards was born October 14, 1909 at Lenon, South Dakota to Frank and Margaret Edwards. He grew up in South Dakota and left there at twenty-two years of age to travel and work. While traveling from Seattle back to Lenon with a friend, they ran short of money and got a job at the William Thompson Dairy at West Yellowstone, Montana. There he met Rose Franks in 1935 and later that year on November 21, 1935, they were married. Rose Amadell Franks was born March 29, 1911 to W. Thomas and Rose Jane Rawson Franks, at Lostine, Wallawa, Oregon. Her early childhood was spent at Lostine and she started school there. Her father was killed in a logging accident when she was about eight years old and her mother brought her three children, Emerson Wilcox, Rose and Anna Mae, to St. Anthony, Idaho to live with her parents there. Rose's mother later married John Wells Moon and they lived across from the present Egin church house. They had two daughters, Ora Cleone (Miller) and Virginia Faye (Blood). John was a good father to all of the children. The time came when money was scarce and Rose left school when she was a sophomore to go to work for the William Thompson family at West Yellowstone, tending children, cooking and cleaning. She was still working there when she met Lee and they were later married. After their marriage, they lived at Pocatello that first winter, then Egin Bench, West Yellowstone, St. Anthony, and Shelley before coming back to Egin about 1943, to live in the little house south of the Egin Store across the tracks near Tibbitts Potato Warehouse, where Rose worked for eighteen years and Lee worked until 1955. He then ran road graders and snowplows for Fremont County for nine years and for Madison County for three years. They bought a piece of property across from the Egin church house and moved the little house that they were living in north of the store to the property where they have lived since that time. They have four children, Marjorie Janice (Enno), a son, Jerry Lee, who died after a few months, Phyllis Ann, and Sandra Irene (Wood). Rose died July 31, 1986, after having poor health for many years.

William Erickson was born on November 3, 1880 at Ogden, Utah to John and Johanna Jansson Erickson. He came to Idaho with his parents settling on Egin Bench in 1885, where his father and his brother Alfred homesteaded near Quayle's Lake. He was later married to Alice Anderson on July 1, 1909. Alice Elnora Anderson was born May 31, 1891, at Gunnison, Utah to John August and Emma Olson Anderson. She came to Idaho with her parents about 1899, after her father came earlier and bought a three room log house on 160 acres from Jim Smith on Egin Bench. The family came by train, taking three days to make the trip. Her father developed a dairy and later bought another 160 acres from Carl Lund. Her brothers and sisters were August Gustus, Hannah Elizabeth, Harry E., Ralph Amel, Clifford Ernest, Dora, and Edith. Also two brothers, the oldest and youngest that had died young. Alice was just older than Dora. After their marriage, William and Alice homesteaded a dry farm on Sand Creek. They had five children as follows:

Edna May, who married Arthur L. Moon, son of Levi and Dora Moon
Grace Vionna, who married Walter James Cox, son of Charles and Mary Cox
Eva Evelean, who married Otis S. Curr, son of Otis S. and Hannah Curr
Selma Edith, who married Alvin W. Winegar, son of Gideon and Mary Winegar
Robert William, who married Dora Jean Armstrong, daughter of William and Dora Armstrong.

They bought five acres at Heman so the children could be near a school in the winter. Later they lost their dry farm by being swindled, and moved to the Heman property which had lots of berries and they sold berries and garden produce to provide for some of their needs. William's brother Alfred had homesteaded some property near Quayle's Lake and at that time it was a slough area, full of cattails, etc. They used hand scrapers pulled by horses to clean an area of it so their cattle could get water. Later their neighbors helped clear some more of the area and create the lake as it is today.

William Erickson died February 25, 1929 at Heman, Idaho. After his death Alice married Archabald McFarland and had two more children, Archie Dean who later married Carlene Bratsman and Laddie Gean, who married Mary Dell Butterfield, daughter of Max and Ellen Knight Butterfield (Weatherston).

Note: Selma and Alvin Winegar's great grand children are sixth generation on Egin Bench from the Erickson and Anderson families as well as the Winegar families. See Winegar Family History.

ARDEN ARVIL HADDON was born 9 June 1940 at Lorenzo, Idaho to Arvil and Lawiene Haddon. He grew up there and attended Rigby, Idaho schools. He joined the United States Air Force and served in Texas and at Spokane, Washington. He married Anna Lee Stocks on 20 August 1965.

ANNA LEE STOCKS was born 4 March 1946 at Rexburg, Idaho, to Adrin and Veneda Schwendiman Stocks. She grew up in Newdale, Idaho, where her grandparents were early settlers and built some of the first homes there. She attended school at Sugar City where she graduated from high school.

They have lived at Rigby, Idaho and then at Hermiston, Oregon before they came to the Parker-Egin area to live for the past thirteen years. He works for the State of Idaho. Their children are Michael Arden, Kenda Lee, who is married to Johnny Sanchez and lives at Idaho Falls, Lisa, who was born on 24, February 1973 and is attending South Fremont High School and Layne Arvil, who was born 24 February 1981.

MICHAEL ARDEN HADDON was born 10 March 1966 at Rexburg, Idaho, to Arden Arvil Haddon and Anna Lee Stocks. He married Heidi Miller at Parker on 26 September 1987. She was born 5 June 1965 at Logan, Utah to Randall Dean and Arlene Wright Miller. They live at Egin and have two daughters, Sherri Elizabeth and Marie Anne. They are also expecting twins during the summer of 1990. Prior to their marriage, Michael graduated from South Fremont High School. He is now working at Sun Glo as a shipping supervisor. Note: Their twins were born and were named Rachel Lynn and Sara Michelle.

Burke D. Hanks was born March 16, 1956 to Max W. and Lois Quayle Hanks. He grew up on Egin Bench in the Plano area. He started school at the old Edmunds Grade School that was located across the road to the east of the Plano Church. He then attended Sugar Salem Schools, graduating from high school there where he was active in sports, drama and music. He attended Ricks College and served a mission for the L.D.S. Church to Anaheim California from 1975-1977. After his mission he again attended Ricks College where he met Karey Goelzer who was the Relief Society President in their student branch. They were married on June 16, 1978.

Karey Goelzer was born July 30, 1958 at Puyallup, Washington to William David Lester and Dorothy Fletcher Goelzer. Her parents were divorced while she was a child so she went to school in Idaho Falls where she lived with her mother and spent summers with her father and grandmother in Washington. She graduated from high school in Idaho Falls where she was active in the drill team and was an honor student. She attended Ricks College, studying to be a teacher, received a scholarship to B.Y.U. After their marriage, Burke and Karey lived in the Idaho Falls area for a short time before moving to Utah, where they lived for about five years. About 1985, they moved to Egin Bench where they bought the Jack Adams property and where Burke farms with his father and his brother. They have five sons, Sidney Max, Benjamin William, Landon Burke, Andrew Neal, and Jordon Goelzer.

Richard 'D' Heninger was born at his parent's home in Ogden, Weber County, Utah on January 14, 1929. He attended school in Ogden, including Weber College, where he received an Associate Science Degree in Forestry and went on to Utah State University to receive his Bachelor of Science Degree in Timber Management. He also served in the United States Army, part of the time stationed in Japan after which he became employed by the U.S. Forest Service. In November of 1971, he moved his family into a new home they had built on Egin Bench overlooking the river. He retired from the Forest Service on January 4, 1985 and later went to work for D. & A. Inc. for three years and also worked for Intermountain Farmers for a few months before again retiring.

Sheral Tanner, his wife, was also born at Ogden, Weber, Utah on March 3, 1937 and attended school there before going on to attend the University of Utah. They were married on April 4, 1958. They lived several places, including in Utah and also in the Driggs area. After they came to Egin, Sheral worked for one year in Special Education for Fremont School District, before she started a catering service which she did with the help of her family until 1988. In 1981, she started working at Porter Printing in Rexburg as account specialist. Their children are Noall Zeke, Sherene, Sherese, and Zane Richard. They have all left the Egin area at this time.

Francis Marion Hiatt married Alice Catherine Jenkins on July 25, 1894. Alice was born November 9, 1874 at Ogden, Utah to Ephriam Wells and Catherine Davies Jenkins. Their family came to Egin Bench in May 1883. Alice and Francis had ten children, including Francis Marion, Mabel (Wesley) and Veeda (Young). Alice had a beautiful singing voice and her husband played the violin and they often preformed for dances in the community. She served as Relief Society President in Egin about 1895. She died at Sugar City, Idaho August 16, 1950. They had moved to Oregon about 1902 and then to Rupert, Idaho about 1912.

Brad Ritchie Hill was born April 23, 1962 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Harold and Reva Ritchie Hill. He grew up at Rexburg and attended schools there, graduating from Madison High School. He attended Eastern Idaho VoTech where he received his Journeyman Electrician License. He now works as an electrician. He married Lori Ann Nef on April 27, 1979. She was born July 15, 1962 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Norman and Phyllis Allgood Nef. She attended schools at Rexburg and graduated from Madison High School. They moved to Egin Bench in 1981. She has served as President of the Young Woman's Organization and he is now serving as counselor in the Elder's Quorum Presidency in the Egin Bench L.D.S. Ward. She is working in Cub Scouting. Their children are Stephanie, Kimberly, Nicholas, Cody, Chad and Janelle.

William L. Hjort was born July 17, 1845 in Denmark. He came to America in 1861 and came on to Utah, walking all the way in a handcart company. He married Matenia Hansen Nielsen on November 7, 1868. She was born in Denmark and came to Utah in a wagon train in 1861. William and Matina had eleven children born to them. They came to Egin Bench in 1894, where they bought part of the Abraham Branson homestead. They first built a two room cabin and later, about 1907, they bought the house that Edgar Childs had built the year before just south of their home. (This is the house where Veda Mason now lives.) They moved to Canada in 1909 for two years and then came back to their home in Egin where they remained. She was Relief Society President in Egin Ward (May 9, 1906. One of their children, Mae Velate (Smith) lived at Egin where the Jack Blake home now is. Matenia died January 2, 1922 after living alone from August 12, 1917, when William died, at their home in Egin. William had the first blacksmith shop in the area.

Donald Holmes and his wife, Jolene McRae Holmes bought property in Egin about 1986. They moved to it on July 1, 1989 from Dubois, Idaho, where he was born and raised. She grew up at Thornton, Idaho. He works for Fremont County Road and Bridge Department and works at the telephone office at Dubois, Idaho.

Daris William Howard was born July 12, 1962 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho to Merrill William and Joyce Hale Howard. He grew up on the family farm at Twin Groves, north of St. Anthony. He graduated from South Fremont High School in 1980 and attended Ricks College, Brigham Young University and received his Master's Degree in Applied Mathematics from Utah State University. He served an L. D. S. Mission to Rochester New York. He now teaches math and computer science at Ricks College and also does computer programming. He is assistant financial clerk in the Egin Bench Ward. He was married to Donna Gail Walker on May 4, 1984. Donna was born January 19, 1965 at Covina, Los Angeles, California to John Lawrence and Nancy Rae Stone Walker. She lived in California, Texas and Missouri during her childhood and graduated from Lakewood High School, in California, a school of 2600 students, where she was active in musical productions. She graduated from Ricks College and attended Brigham Young University. She now teaches piano and clarinet lessons in their home. Their children are Celese Amy, Annicka Lynn, Trissa Laurel, and Scott Richard.

Len 'C' Humphries was born November 15, 1928, at Woodville, Bingham, Idaho to William Chesley and Marilda Louisa Chaffin Humphries. He spent his early childhood at Woodville, Ammon, and Coltman areas, all in the vicinity of Idaho Falls, graduating from eighth grade at Fairview School north of Idaho Falls. He attended high school at Ucon for a time until he enlisted in the United States Army, going to Fort Lewis and then serving two years in Tokyo, Japan as a Military Police and guard for the War Crimes Trials (1947-50). After a brief time home, he served a mission for the L.D.S. Church in Japan from 1950-53. When he returned home, he met Fern Christensen and they were married June 9, 1954. Fern Christensen was born December 16, 1935 at Banida, Franklin, Idaho to Ralph Oswald and Hannah Cole Christensen. Her family lived on a ranch in Star Valley from the time she was two until she was nine years of age, when they moved to a farm they bought north of Idaho Falls. She attended school at Etna, Wyoming, Ucon, Idaho and then Bonneville High School where she graduated. After they moved to Egin Bench she served as Relief Society President of Egin Bench Ward from 1979-1982. She also has served two years on the Ricks College First Stake Relief Society Board, 1988-1990. Their children are Len 'C', Jr., Reneta (Adamson), Gerald 'J', Venae (Bowman), Alex Chris, and Beth. Len was employed for a wholesale grocery company from 1954 to 1968, working as warehouse foreman at Idaho Falls and Pocatello and then as warehouse manager at Missoula, Montana from 1968-72. He purchased the Egin Merc at Egin Bench and moved his family there July 1, 1972, and they have operated the store since that time. His father lived with them for two years at Egin and became acquainted with many people in Egin. He (William) had worked for Wood's Livestock Company herding sheep across the desert from the Egin area in 1916 as a young man.

Len 'C' Humphries, Jr. was born November 13, 1955 at Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho to Len 'C' and Fern Christensen Humphries. He attended schools in Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Idaho and Missoula, Montana before coming to Egin Bench with his parents in 1972, where he graduated from South Fremont High School. He served a mission for the L.D.S. Church in Washington, D.C. and Sao Paulo, Brazil from 1975 to 1977. He married Johanna Haeberle on December 16, 1977. She was born March 1, 1958 at Franklin, Williamson, Tennessee to John Albert and Joan Phyllis Templin Haeberle. Her parents were converts to the L.D.S. Church and came to Idaho to live when she was a child, living first in the Twin Falls area and then at Rexburg, where she graduated from high school, and attended Ricks College. Since their marriage, they have lived at the Egin townsite. Len has worked in air conditioning and refrigeration at El Gene's and at Ricks College in Rexburg. While working there he also served with the Fremont County Sheriff's Reserve for about eight years, with six years of that time as president of their group. In the summer of 1988, he became a full time deputy sheriff for Fremont County. He has served as a clerk in the Egin Bench Ward, as a counselor in the Elder's Quorum, and counselor to the bishop of a Ricks College ward. Johanna has served for about ten years as an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) in Fremont County and is now certified as an advanced EMT. She has been both Secretary and President of their organization. She is Secretary of the St. Anthony Stake Primary Organization. Their children are Aimee, Benjamin, Samuel, Heidi, and Dixie.

Gerald 'J' Humphries was born May 11, 1959 at Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho to Len 'C' and Fern Christensen Humphries. He attended school in Idaho Falls, and Pocatello, Idaho and Missoula, Montana. He came to Egin Bench with his family in 1972 where he attended South Fremont High School. He helped his family in their store and he liked to ride motorcycles and work on cars. He trained with Simon Gisin in painting and after working for him, he started his own business painting houses. He also worked for farmers in the planting and harvesting of crops in the Egin and Hamer areas. He became a licensed pilot. On September 5, 1986, he married LaRaye Cook Terrill. LaRaye was born at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho on July 14, 1959, to Calvin and Nila Cook. She grew up in the Rexburg area where she was active in sports at Madison High School. She married John Terrill and they lived in Idaho Falls. They had three children, Laura Lee, Mandi, and Christopher. They were later divorced. Since their marriage, Gerald and LaRaye have lived on Egin Bench where their two sons, Tyler and Jeremy, were born at home. Gerald works for a parts company at St. Anthony and LaRaye works in Idaho Falls as head housekeeper for a large motel.

Ephriam Wells Jenkins, Sr. was born February 13, 1850 in South Wales, the son of William Wells and Elizabeth Rosser Jenkins. He married Catherine Davies August 19, 1869. She was born December 5, 1857 in Wales to Edward and Catherine Williams Davies. Ephriam and Catherine came to America in 1871, arriving by the first train into Ogden, Utah. In 1883, they brought their six children to Egin Bench to make their home. They came with six other Jenkins families, including John E. and Fannie Jenkins Mason, James and Sarah Ann Rawson Jenkins, George and Alice Smithhurst Jenkins, William and Catherine Jenkins Tout, Joseph and Margaret Weatherspoon Jenkins, Thomas and Margaret Broom Jenkins, Elizabeth Jenkins and her husband _____ Stanford, and Frances and Alice Jenkins Hiatt. Ephriam engaged in commercial fishing on the Snake River from the Menan Buttes to Henry's Lake, packing the fish in ice and hauling them by the wagon full to Market Lake to the railroad. The Jenkins families all helped to build the canals on the bench. Catherine served as Relief Societ President of the Brighton Branch from 1886 to August 9, 1889. She would walk about five miles with her neighbor, Lovisa Davis to attend meetings, pushing the babies in a cart to the little church house west of the Robert Fisher home in Edmunds. She many have also served as President of the Egin Relief Society from about 1910 to January 3, 1915, when the ward was divided to make the Heman Ward. She died September 24, 1924 at St. Anthony. Her husband died January 6, 1930. They had eleven children, many of them listed above.

Joseph A. Johanson was born December 16, 1875 at Salt Lake City, Utah to John and Marion Larson Johanson. He lived in several places in Utah and he worked many jobs but mostly in farming. His mother died when he was sixteen. In 1898, he came to Rexburg to work where he met Anna W. Blunck and they were married on May 21, 1902. Anna Wilhelmina (Minnie) Blunck was born in Kiel, Germany on January 20, 1881 to Claus Christian and Anna Margarethe Schluter Blunck. Her parents joined the L.D.S. Church in 1880 and after many years of hardships, they finally had all their family together in America and settled in Burton, Idaho. She graduated from Dr. Ellis Shipp's nursing class in 1901. After their marriage they lived in the Rexburg area and he built log houses for himself and others. Then they home-steaded 160 acres of dry farm land south east of Rexburg on the Herbert Bench in 1905. He left his wife and seven children living in Rexburg while he served a thirty month mission in Sweden. He returned in 1918 and moved his family back to the dry farm and then on March 1, 1919, he bought a 250 acre farm, including river bottoms, on Egin Bench from Joseph F. White. They lived there for ten years before selling it and moving to Rexburg area again. In 1931, they came back to the farm at Egin, living there until 1940 when they sold their farm to their daughter Salome and her husband, Ivan Mathie. Joseph served as Bishop of Egin Ward from December 27, 1936 to September 15, 1940. Anna served as Relief Society President from July 20, 1919 to March 9, 1929. She helped many of the ward members when they were ill and when their babies were born she went each day for ten days to care for them. She also cared for her aged father-in-law while they were living at Egin until he died March 4, 1930 at about 96 years of age. Joseph and Minnie served a short mission to the Northwestern States in 1943. Anna died August 23, 1950. Their children included Alva Joseph, Marguerite, Lillian, Helen, Blanche Dora, Annie, Hyrum John and Salome Mary.

Salome Mary Johanson was born January 18, 1917 at Rexburg, Idaho, to Joseph Andrew and Anna Wilhelmina Blunck Johanson. Her father had left for a mission and did not see her until she was nearly two years old. She came to Egin with her family in 1919, where she grew up on their farm and attended the Egin School for seven years. They had a ten acre orchard and berry patch, which she helped in. Her brother Hyrum, who was two years older than her died of Typhoid Fever when he was twelve and it was hard for her to lose her best friend. She attended school at Rexburg while they were living there and then she graduated from Edmunds High School in 1934. She attended Ricks College for two years, graduating in 1936. She met Ivan Mathie while attending college and they were married December 1, 1937. Ivan was born July 31, 1909 at Rexburg to James Baird and Elizabeth Rowe Mathie. He grew up there, attending school there. After their marriage, they lived in his home in Rexburg until he left for his mission in the Western States Mission (1938-1940) and she moved to Egin to live with her parents. She taught school at the Egin School for two years until her husband returned. They stayed in Egin and farmed with her father and then bought the farm from him, where they still live today. After their children were nearly grown, she went back to school, teaching in the winters. She also attended Ricks College and graduated in 1956 in the last year of their four year program. She also attended summer school at Utah State University, Brigham Young University, University of Michigan and L.D.S. Church College of Hawaii. She and Ivan served in the Tongan Mission (1964-66) and also in the Great Australia West Mission (1974-75). They have also toured many many countries, including spending two months in 1972 with an L.D.S. Church College group in Mexico, called Project Mexico '72, where Salome was appointed Dean of Women for the students participating. It was a study group, but they also taught the people in that country about ways to improve their standard of living. In 1973, they went on a world tour which took them into twenty-five countries. Their children are Marilyn (Parker), Karen (Bagley), and Kent, who lives in Egin.

Kent 'J' Mathie was born February 12, 1946 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Ivan and Salome Mary Johanson Mathie. He grew up on the family farm on Egin Bench, attending Parker and St. Anthony schools, where he graduated from high school. He served in the United States Army from January 13, 1967 to January 13, 1969. He was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington until March 3, 1967, when he went to Viet Nam for one year. When he returned home on leave, he was married to Judy Ann Crain on April 5, 1968. They went to Fort Benning, Georgia to live while he completed his assignment. In 1969, they came to Egin Bench to live. Kent attended Ricks College and graduated in 1971. Judy was born November 9, 1948 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho, to Dean and Elva Schwendiman Crain. She grew up in the Wilford area, attending school at Teton and St. Anthony, where she graduated from high school. She also attended Ricks College. They now live south of his parent's home, on the farm. Their children are Troy Jay, Jodie Ann, Dahlon Ivan, Rhonda Kaye, and Melissa Sue.

Alexander McFarland came to Egin Bench late in the 1890's from West Weber, Utah. His family had been converts to the L.D.S. Church, who immigrated to Utah from Scotland. At Egin, he met Everina Johanna Henricksen. She was born in Norway about 1879 and had come to Utah with her parents when she was three years old. She had come to Egin Bench a short time before Alexander. They were married and lived in the brick home which they built that still is standing at the corner on the Parker-Salem Highway where the road from the Egin church house intersects. At one time they had an ice cream stand on that corner also. There they raised four sons and four daughters, including John Wallace, Ingbor Dorothy (Sorgatz), Marie (Ainge), Alta LaVerne (Forgione), Thomas Blaine, Vernon Dellas, June (Case), and Van 'M'. Alexander died in December 1945 and Everina died in October 1956.

Thomas Blaine McFarland was born June 30, 1912, the sixth child of Alexander and Everina Johanna Henricksen McFarland. He attended the Heman School and Sugar Salem High School. He has spent his life on the farm, which had first been homesteaded by John A. McMinn, where his parents had spent their married life. His family had one of the first telephones in the area. On August 30, 1935, he married LuDean McKenna from Hibbard, west of Rexburg, in a double ceremony with his cousin Vada Henricksen and Shirley Winters at Bishop Junius F. Wardle's home. LuDean was born November 30, 1914 to Josiah and Margaret Clements McKenna, who had come to Utah from Sweden and Ireland. She attended school at Hibbard and high school at Rexburg, Idaho. After their marriage, Blaine and LuDean lived on the McFarland farm. In 1941, Blaine and Les McMinn cut and hauled the logs from Island Park to build their home, where they still reside. They raised sheep, cattle, potatoes, hay and grain on the farm and also milked cows. In 1965, he had an accident, while operating his caterpillar tractor, which required surgery and his arm to be in an 'airplane' splint, keeping it up all of the time for six months. He continued to do his farm work with one arm, shearing sheep, irrigating and even milking the cows. They farmed until 1974, when they sold most of the land. They spent several winters in Arizona after that and they enjoy camping and fishing. They raised five children on their farm including Betty Rae (Briggs), Dellis Blaine, Thomas Neal, Linda LuDean (Clements), and Shonna Marie (Davis).

Betty Rae McFarland was born April 12, 1937 at Egin. She attended school at Heman, Parker, and Sugar-Salem High School where she graduated. She married Harold Welker Briggs in 1955. Several years after their marriage, she went to college and received her Bachelor Degree at Idaho State University and then a Master Degree from Utah State College in Logan. Harold was born March 1, 1934 to Harold and Hazel Welker Briggs. He graduated from high school at Sugar-Salem, received his Bachelor Degree from Ricks College in 1956, the last year of their four year program. He received the Masters Degree from Idaho State University in Pocatello. He served from 1956-1958 in the United States Army, stationed first at Fort Lewis, Washington and then assigned to Camp Desert Rock in the Nevada Desert the last year of the atmospheric atomic testing. They lived in Las Vegas and Seattle during that time. Hal, as he is known by many, taught at the Youth Services Center west of St. Anthony for three years, and during that time they put a trailer by her grandparents home in Egin and lived there. Then they moved to Los Angeles, California where he taught at a private school for three years. In 1965, they came back to their home at Egin and lived about five years until they purchased a home in St. Anthony. He has worked as a counselor at the high school there for about twenty years, and Betty has been responsible for the resource room, until three years ago when she started working in the gifted student program at the school. During the summer of 1990, they put a new home on property south of her parents and moved back to Egin Bench to live. Their children are Richard 'M', Jacqueline 'S' (Tug), and Merinda Ellen, called Mindy (Peterson).

The Pulley Family

David Alexander Pulley married Lydia Amelia Moon on April 8, 1873. She was the daughter of Hugh and Jennett Nicol Moon, born April 8, 1855 at Salt Lake. David and Lydia came to Egin Bench about 1889 and bought the property where Mayhew Hillman now lives, which had been a tree claim, where acres of trees had been planted. Their children included David Morgan Pulley, who later lived east of the ballpark in Egin. Lydia died January 8, 1925.

David Morgan Pulley married Elizabeth Ann Boden Smith, daughter of William and Annie matthew Smith. She was the oldest sister to Ben Smith. Among their children were Charles Morgan and Blanche (McNee) (see Cox, McNee family history)

Charles Morgan Pulley was born July 15, 1914 in Egin to David Morgan and Elizabeth Ann Bowden Pulley. He attended Egin School. He was married on December 24, 1923 to Ethel Lorena White. She was the daughter of Joseph Franklin and Elizabeth Mae Chandler White and was born February 13, 1905 at Plano, Idaho. Her father had a store at Plano before they moved to Egin in 1907. At Egin they farmed and also had a store located where the Egin Merc is today. She helped on the farm, carrying water to the new trees in the large orchard that they planted. After their marriage, they continued to live on Egin Bench, where they farmed at several locations and where they raised their six children (except their oldest who died very young). Ethel served as Relief Society President in the Egin Ward from September 1, 1941 to October 31, 1943. Charles died April 25, 1986 at Rexburg, Idaho and Ethel died September 3, 1985 also at Rexburg. Their children are Donna, Dean C., Verlene, Arva, Belva, and Janet.

Note: Ethel's brothers and sisters were Joseph, Annie, (then Ethel) Myrtle, George, Lewis, Bertha, Altora, Roy and Loren.

The Quayle Family

Ernest Young Quayle was born December 9, 1935, at Heman on Egin Bench, to Tom H. and Louie Severe Quayle. He grew up at St. Anthony, Idaho and attended schools there, graduating from South Fremont High School. He attended Ricks College and University of Utah. He served in the 116th Engineers of the National Guard, receiving training at Fort Ord, California. He has worked most of his life in construction and ranching. He was married to Joyce Parker in 1958. Their children were Chris Blaine, and Bobby who both died in infancy, Lorie Kay, and Thomas Micheal, who lived for a time at Egin, graduated from South Fremont High School and who died July 23, 1990 from an electrical accident. Ernest and Joyce were divorced and he later married Phyllis Bergeson on August 15, 1969. Phyllis was born November 27, 1946, at St. Anthony, Fremont, Idaho, to Jess and Mary Trupp Bergeson of Parker, Idaho. She was also the granddaughter of James and Mabel Allen Bergeson who had come to Parker before 1919. The Bergeson's and the Allen's were homesteaders on Grassy Ridge about 1910. Phyllis grew up at Parker and attended school there and graduated from South Fremont High School in 1965. She also graduated from Glenn E. Clark Business College at Idaho Falls. and has attended Ricks College. She is known at Egin for her understanding of gardening, which she enjoys. Their children are Kale Clinton Bergeson, Ann Marie and Maurita Lei. Ernest has served as President of the Egin Bench Ward Sunday School and Elder's Quorum, and Chairman of the Ward Activities Committee.

Ernest's mother, Louie Severe was a half-sister to Stella Severe Hunter.

His father, Tom H. Quayle was the son of Ernest and Julie Ann Young Quayle. Quayle's Lake was named after the older Ernest Quayle. He farmed in several locations on Egin Bench, including at Parker, Heman, Egin and Plano and he also had a ranch at Shotgun Valley in Island Park. His home was located in Plano near the lake. He also had a home in Salt Lake City and Julie would take the children there to attend school in the winters. The home of Ernest's great grandfather Thomas Quayle is presently being used for the Utah State Historical Society in Salt Lake City and is on the Utah Registrar of Historical Homes.

Francis Rawson was born about 1845 to John and Sarah Chantry Rawson in the same house in Swanwick, Derby shire England where his father, grandfather and great grandfather were born. When he was about five, his parents joined the L.D.S. Church and his father soon became the Branch President until his death on June 10, 1868. Francis and his sister, Jane had been preparing to go to America but it was decided that their mother and her four youngest children should go first, leaving the older children with their grandmother Rawson. Francis and his brother Joseph were married after she left and his twelve year old brother George died on January 4, 1869 from the effects of an accident. On October 6, 1869, Francis, his wife Lucy and their baby, his brother John and sister Jane arrived in Ogden, Utah on the first train coming to Ogden. He worked in mining in Utah. About 1882, he came to Egin Bench to settle. His brothers John, William and Samuel and his sister Jane Powell all came to Egin Bench but some of them left after a few years. While he lived in Egin, he was the first President of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association north of Oneida Stake and in February 1884, he became a counselor to Bishop Parker when the first Egin Ward was organized (renamed Parker Ward) for seven years and was a counselor to Bishop Harry Smith when the Egin Ward was organized. He later moved to Diamondville, Wyoming. His wife was Lucy Kemp (or Camp) who was born August 27, 1845 at Mansfield, Notts., England to Henry and Ann Lyman Kemp. She served as the Relief Society President in the Egin Ward from October 4, 1894 until they moved from the area. Later in her life she returned to Egin and died there December 1, 1913. They had seven children: Sarah Ann, William, Lucy, Jane Elizabeth, Amelia, Louie Emily, and George Francis, the last two born at Egin. (1882 & 1884)

The RIGBY Family

Samuel Eckersley Rigby was born February 6, 1876, to William F. and Sophia Eckersley Rigby at Wellsville, Utah. His father had six wives. Samuel was one of fourteen children born to his mother. The family moved to Teton Basin in 1890. Sam was a home missionary in Jackson Hole at nineteen years of age. He married Vilate Remington of Parker on December 20, 1899. They lived at Parker and on the homestead at Teton Basin, at Thornton in 1911 and at St. Anthony. Vilate died in 1922 and he later married Mary Pearl Richards Weldrum. They lived on a dry farm north of Felt during the depression. They sold that and moved to Twin Groves to run a dairy farm. Before the depression he owned lots of stock and property and operated Fremont Livestock Company. He died April 13, 1957. The children of Samuel and Vilate were Leland S., Rulon Remington, Venice, Gene R., Faye Vernal, Raymond R., Belva E. and the child of Samuel and Mary was Lon W. Rigby.

Rulon Remington Rigby was born to Samuel E. and Vilate Remington Rigby at Parker, Idaho. He grew up at Parker and at Rigby's Well on the Junipers. He was a true outdoorsman. He married Virginia Wayment in June 1925. She was the daughter of Cornelius and Cedenia Wayment of Weber County, Utah. She came to Idaho to work in the seed house at St. Anthony where she met Rulon in 1924. They were married and lived at Rigby's Well in a one room house. Then they lived at Parker, Idaho, in Nevada, and at Wallace, Idaho as they went where they could find work during a time that was hard for many people. They worked hard and acquired livestock and 340 acres of ground. He passed away in 1950 and she was later married to Max Marotz of Greentimber in the Ashton area. Rulon and Virginia's children are Rulon Eugene (sketch follows), LaDell (married Victor J. Miller), Monty Wayment (sketch follows), Shirley Vilate (married Boyd Yancey), and Laron (married Mary Karen Munk).

Rulon Eugene Rigby was born November 7, 1926 at Felt, Idaho, to Rulon R. and Virginia Wayment Rigby. He grew up in Fremont County. He served in the United States Army at the close of World War II. He married Zola Carlson in 1948. He worked at various jobs at several locations including the Cobalt Mine at Cobalt, Idaho in 1957 and then at Hopperdeitzel Cheese Factory at St. Anthony and the Challenge Dairy at Rexburg. In 1959-60, he served a Stake Mission for the L.D.S. Church. He started a family business of cutting and selling timber, which his family did together for seventeen years. They moved to Egin about 1973. Zola was born February 18, 1930 at Parker, Idaho to Joseph Emmanuel and Althery Bright Carlson. She grew up at Parker. Their children are Sherwin, who served in the United States Military in Vietnam, and married Irene Aslett; (2) Darwin Eugene, who married Judy Summers and he served in the National Guard; (3) Julie, who married Dennis Murri; (4) Kevin, who married Alice Whitmore; (5) Mickie, who married Russell Wilcox, later divorced; (6) Tami, who graduated from Ricks College and served a mission to Ventura, California 1982-83; (7) Kelly, who married Sandra Taylor, later was divorced; (8) Fawn, who married Don Whittaker; (9) Robin Leigh and (10) James Travis. Note: Eugene is usually known as Gene.

Monty Wayment Rigby was born to Rulon Remington and Virginia Wayment Rigby. He married Shirley Bowman and they had several children. He moved to Egin about 1973 and was married to Leilani Jean Hope. They had one son, Jeremy Levi and they were later divorced. Monty still lives in his home at Egin.

Oliver LeGrand Robinson was born at Farmington, Utah on October 28, 1860 to Oliver Lee and Lucy Miller Robinson. He married Alice Smith on March 6, 1884 at Salt Lake Endowment House. They had eleven children. He also married Mary Jane Lamb on June 9, 1886 in the Logan L.D.S. Temple and they had eight children. He spent most of his life farming and came to Egin on April 1, 1899, bringing his large families, and adding four more children after they moved to Egin. He was called to be the bishop of the Egin ward on September 10, 1899, and while he was bishop he supervised the building of the church house which was located where the ballpark is now. He was released on June 29, 1902 and he moved from Egin in December of that year. He died in Utah on July 1, 1948.

Samuel Smith was born May 8, 1814 in England. He married (1) Myra Taylor and they had three children including William and probably Samuel and Mary Ann (Cox). He married (2) Cecelia Prosser and they had eleven children including Harry Havelock and George Washington Smith. He was a coal miner who brought his family to Randolph, Utah from Pennsylvania where they had worked in the coal mines. He opened mines at Almy, Wyoming. In 1882, he brought his family to Egin Bench, where he homesteaded. He died August 21, 1886 at Egin of lung disease. His wife Cecelia died September 19, 1889 at Egin also. Their son George W. Smith died 1934.

William Smith was born in 1851 at Cleveland, Ohio to Samuel and Myra Taylor Smith. He worked in the coal mines in Pennsylvania at the age of eight years with his father. He came west with his family to Utah and to Almy, Wyoming, where his father opened mines. He homesteaded on Egin Bench about 1882, where the sagebrush was as high as a horse. His brother Samuel and Havelock and their sister, Mary Ann Cox and her husband had already come. He was married to Annie Danks-Matthews Boden in 1878. Her first husband was Thomas Boden and they had Elizabeth Ann and two other little girls that died. William and Annie worked hard to make a home in the wilderness and there they raised Elizabeth and their children, Samuel, Celia Viola, Cynthia Lola, Blanche Claudia, and Benjamin. They often boarded school teachers in their home. Annie was the Egin Postmistress in 1894. Their youngest child Ben was born January 1, 1898 in his parent's home on their Egin Bench homestead. He attended school at Heman for eight years and then a short time at St. Anthony. He also attended Ricks Academy for a time. His father William died December 29, 1913 of cancer after suffering for seven years. Ben was fifteen at that time and he took over the farm and took care of his mother who had poor health for many years. She died February 1, 1934. Ben's brother Samuel married Laura Stoddard, daughter of Leslie Stoddard. Their daughter was Evelyn Smith Moon, wife of Frank Moon of Egin. Samuel farmed with Ben for many years. On August 21, 1950 Ben married Evelyn Adams McMinn. (see McMinn and Adams Histories) Ben farmed the Smith farm for many years until his health became poor, and then he leased it out. He loved music, enjoyed collecting and listening to it. He had excellent penmanship.

Harry Havelock Smith was born at Mineral Ridge, Ohio, on December 12, 1862, to Samuel and Cecilia Prosser Smith. His parents moved to Egin Bench in 1882, where his mother died in September 19, 1889. Harry was married on October 6, 1886 to Emily Christensen. Emily was born August 16, 1870 at Grenholdt-Fladesogan, Denmark. They came to Salt Lake City in 1882. Harry H. Smith homesteaded 160 acres on Egin Bench in 1896, located just east of the David Davis homestead. He served as bishop of the Egin Ward when it was first organized on November 15, 1891. He was serving as bishop when the Hiatt, which later became Plano Ward, was created from the Egin Ward on November 4, 1895. Their family moved to St. Anthony in 1900 and to Stavely, Canada in 1907. He died in Canada on September 6, 1947 five years after his wife's death. One of their daughters, Edna May, who was born May 26, 1892 at Egin was married to Jesse L. Stanford on October 11, 1911. He had also been born at Egin to Alfred and Elizabeth Stanford, who had one of the early pioneer stores in Egin.

Ira Urban Staley was born March 15, 1886 at Arlington, South Dakota to Aaron Dickerson and Maria Floyd Peaslee Staley. His family moved to Moscow, Idaho when he was a young boy. In 1903 the family moved to Egin Bench. They built their home on 80 acres 1½ mile south of the Egin store. Ira married Lucille Marie Johnson on November 1, 1923. Lucille was born on April 12, 1902 at Burton, Idaho, to Joseph and Maria Ellen Siefert Johnson. Her mother was from Egin. Ira and Lucille farmed the eighty acres where they built their home. Ira owned a steam engine threshing machine and he traveled around the area during grain harvest, harvesting the grain crops of many farmers. Lucille worked hard raising their family and providing room and board for some of the local school teachers. She raised large flocks of chickens. She was serving as Relief Society President at Egin Ward when she died on August 22, 1941. They had five children, Ira Blaine, who died when two days old, Ronald Urban, whose history follows, Joseph Aaron, who died the day he was born, Melvena, whose history follows, and Janice Nellie, who lives in Rexburg. Ira remarried after a few years. He died on September 1, 1951.

Ronald Urban Staley was born August 6, 1931 at Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho to Ira Urban and Lucille Marie Johnson Staley. He attended school at Egin and at Edmunds High School. He spent most of his life on Egin Bench except for two years in the United States Army Infantry 1954-56, part of that time in Korea. He worked in farming, about seven years for himself and about 15 years working for other farmers, including Eldon Romrell. In 1978, he started working as a boiler operator at American Potato, where he still works. On October 23, 1951, he married Edna Frances Priest. Edna was born April 19, 1933 at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Edward F. and Mary Alice Perry Priest. She grew up in Rexburg and attended school there, graduating from Madison High School in 1951. They have lived in Egin since their marriage, moving to the property where they now live.¹⁹⁶⁸ Edna worked at B.M. Tibbitts Company for six years and then in 1976, she started as the assistant custodian at the Egin Bench Ward church house, assisting Marie Moon for five years. Since 1981, Ronald and Edna have been the custodians of the church. Their children are Ronald Scott, who married Shellie Wasden on November 8, 1980 and they lived at Egin until they were later divorced. She still lives at Egin with their four children, Lauralie, Christopher Scott, Mallorie, and Chaycie; and Eric Ira, who married Michelle Farley from Parker and lives at Parker and they have two children, Angela Nichole and Trevor Michael.

Melvena Staley was born November 6, 1934 at Egin, Fremont, Idaho in the family home to Ira Urban and Lucille Marie Johnson Staley. Her mother died when she was just six years old. She attended school at Egin, Edmunds, St. Anthony, and Rexburg. Her father died when she was sixteen. Melvena was married to William M. Richards on July 31, 1953. William M. Richards was born September 8, 1930 at Parker, Fremont, Idaho to Ralph and Myrtle Richards of Twin Groves. After their marriage, they spent the next two years traveling while he was in the United States Army. They returned to Egin in 1955 and built their home on part of the Staley farm. They have made their living by raising crops on Egin Bench and cattle on part of the Richards ranch at Twin Groves. William (Bill) has served in the Egin Bench Ward Bishopric twice as a counselor and Melvena has served in the Relief Society as a counselor twice. They have six children including Teresa (Klingler), Kevin Ralph, William Todd, Tamara Lou, Daris J., and Jared Thayne.

Gary Frank Taylor was born July 22, 1946 at Ogden, Utah to Ursel Frank and Opal Smith Taylor. He grew up from age of one year at Grace, Idaho where he graduated from high school. He attended Dixie College at St. George, Utah for two years and then transferred to Utah State where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree of Agronomy. He worked briefly in construction and also for a short time for Utah Power and Light Company. In 1971, he came to the Upper Snake River Valley to work for United States Steel Farm Service as a sales man. In January, 1977, he became manager of the business at Rexburg. This company became Intermountain Farmers in December 1987. He began serving as a director on the Independent Canal Company on Egin Bench in September 1987. He was married to Vickie Jensen on June 21, 1973. Vickie was born May 5, 1954, at Rexburg, Madison, Idaho to Hugh L. and BarDee Donaldson Jensen. She grew up at Kilgore, Idaho where she attended school for two years and then attended at Dubois, Idaho, until she was twelve, when her family moved to Plano, Idaho. She graduated from Sugar Salem High School. She worked about four years for Dr. Farrel Young in Rexburg. Since moving to Egin, she has served as a counselor in the Primary and Gary has served as Sunday School President, Elder's Quorum President, Counselor in the Bishopric and was called to serve as Bishop of Egin Bench Ward, sustained January 6, 1991. Their children are Vickie Marie, Susan Jensen, Ginger Jensen and Matthew Gary.

William Davis Zundel was born November 24, 1901 at Ogden, Utah to Daniel and Betsy Hill Zundel. He lived at Willard, Utah during his youth and he attended school there. He traveled about working in several states, including Montana and California, until at the age of twenty three, he came to Egin Bench to work for his brother Eugene on his farm. From that time on, he was a farmer. He married Margaret Dougan on November 21, 1926. They started their married life in a small building on his brother's farm, where they worked for shares of the crop. Later they purchased the farm and eventually they moved to the Egin townsite, where they lived out their lives together and celebrated fifty years of marriage in a place that they loved - Egin Bench. Margaret was born February 7, 1906 at Ogden, Utah to James and Margaret Martin Dougan. They moved to Menan, Idaho to a homestead there. She attended Midway High School. She went to Salt Lake City to work in the L.D.S. Children's Hospital and at a department store and then returned to Menan to work at a dress shop in Rigby. She was talented in dancing, playing the piano by ear, speaking, acting, painting and sewing. They both enjoyed reading and reciting. Bill, as he was known by many, loved to hunt and fish. Their family worked together and played together. Bill was a good farmer and worked long, hard hours to help his crops flourish. They grew beautiful gardens from which Margaret canned much of their food. Bill died August 18, 1976 and Margaret died December 12, 1975. Their children are Margaret Betty (Peggy Davidson), Geraldine Zola (Gerry), Milton Brent, Leland Stewart, Jean (Liebenthal), Neil Emery, and Steven William.

Neil Emery Zundel, the son of William Davis and Margaret Dougan Zundel, was married to Bonnie Jean Rowe. She was the daughter of Winnifred Stevens and Geogre Russell Rowe. They moved a home in on a piece of property next to his parents in Egin townsite and lived there for several years. They now live in Brookings, Oregon after spending several years in Montana. They were the parents of several children, including Gary 'L' Zundel, who now lives in Egin. His life sketch is included with his wife with the Cox, McNee and Stoddard family.

Harvey Willford was born March 26, 1943 at Pocatello, Bannack, Idaho, to Frank and Wanda Willford. During his youth his family moved frequently until they settled at LaBell, in the Rigby area, where he graduated from Rigby High School. He served a mission to the Cumorah Mission and he graduated from Ricks College and also from Brigham Young University. He married Harriet King on June 2, 1970. Harriet was born June 15, 1945 at Darlington, Idaho, to Ellis and Hilda King. She grew up at Darlington, in the Lost River Valley of Idaho where she graduated from Butte County High School. She graduated from Ricks College and then from Brigham Young University. She taught school at Pocatello, Idaho and then at Blackfoot, Idaho. Harvey taught school at Blackfoot for two years also. He worked for thirteen years painting houses in the valley. They lived at Sugar City after they left Blackfoot, and then at Pocatello and Rexburg. They came to Egin Bench in June of 1978, when they bought the home of Fenimore Davidson. Harriet is talented in homemaking skills and music. She has served in Relief Society and Primary as a counselor. Harvey is talented in sculptoring and art, interested in antiques, has served as a counselor in the Egin Bench Ward Bishopric (about 1980-83), and is serving as 1st Counselor in the St. Anthony Stake Mission Presidency. Their children are September (Ember), Sheridan, Sherma, Andell, Barrett and Brandon (twins), Meridee, Cameron, and Sterling.

OTHER FAMILIES LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY OF EGIN BENCH DURING 1990 included:

Richard Arnold and his son J. J.
David and Lori Chapman and children
Antonio and Carmella Miranda
Cruz and Bobbi Miranda and children
Sylvan and Reva Mason
Clyde and Irene Maycock
Monte and Shelley (Staley) Newman and children
Wendall and Jane Orr
Harry and Deloras Rawson and children
Lyle and Pauline Schmardebeck and Melonie
Tony and Carol Stevens and children
Jeff and Cristen Tupper and children
Darlene Weatherston

This book has been prepared as a personal Idaho Centennial project. It is not a complete history of Egin Bench, as that would be impossible to gather. I regret any errors in its' contents and appreciate all who have contributed information
Fern C. Humphries

EGIN

The Twentieth Century was yet unborn
When the homesteader appeared, tired and worn.
He came to this bench we call Egin,
And became the first to settle the region.

On the horizon he came to a stop,
He studied our bench from bottom to top.
He looked at the grass and measured the brush
and the slope they checked for canals to rush.

From morning 'til dark they would toil.
The ditches they dug to water the soil.
For a cabin to live in they chopped the tree.
They swung ax and shovel 'til weary of knee.
The fields increased and the bench turned green.
They experienced years of plenty or lean.
The settlers stayed with sweat, faith and fear.
They offered mighty prayer, shed many a tear.

The years came and the years went.
Several generations now we have spent.
The cabins are houses; the teams are gone.
Buggies have engines, people sleep past dawn.

A new generation we have here today.
We farm an entirely different way;
From huge tractors that plow sixty acres a day,
To combines which load eight rows each way.

The wind may blow and the snow still fall,
But of Egin's changes, we haven't seen all.
On these beautiful crops so ripe and fine,
Water is spraying from a new pipeline.

- LaRalph Christensen.

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