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The Nugget

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P.O. 77105, San Francisco, California, 94107

The Families of the Signers of the California Constitution
from the work of George R. Dorman

George Dorman, late resident of Fresno, California and member of the California Genealogical Society for many years, died in 1983. He left behind the work of a lifetime of fascination with genealogy. His large personal library was donated by his widow, Kathleen, to the C.G.S. and now occupies the Dorman room at the library. His massive collection of research notes and files was recently donated to the California State Library in Sacramento.

Among his files were notes on the families of the signers of the California Constitution. He collected this material over many years, evidently with the intention of some day publishing a book like a similar one which exists on the signers of the United States Constitution. A true perfectionist, Mr. Dorman never felt his work on the subject was complete and the book never materialized.

In the next several issues of the Nugget, we hope to bring forth the work that was completed, edited for publication. The source material is a collection of hand-drawn charts, notes from libraries, newspaper clippings, letters, etc. -- the accumulation of years of gleanings. Often, the same chart appears more than once, retyped at a later date with new information added. Most often, the resources are carefully recorded.

The Convention was organized at Monterey, Sept. 1, 1849, the conventioners being chosen by a variety of means, including both popular acclaim and appointment. Slavery was unanimously voted down; the state boundary was defined to exclude the area now known as Nevada, which was deemed ungovernable from the coast; provisions were made for a system of public schools; the question of taxation was settled. The original copy of the California Constitution is on display at the State Capital building in Sacramento.

Family of Myron Norton, California Pioneer:

1. Thomas Norton of Guilford, b. 1582, d. 1648; came to America in 1639.
2. Thomas Norton b. 1626, d. 1713; m. 5-5-1671 Elizabeth Marson, dau. of Nicholas Marson. She d. 1-31-1699 in Saybrook, Ct.
3. Samuel Norton b. 11-6-1681, Saybrook Ct.; d. 7-13-1767 aged 86 years. He left widow Dinah, believed to be the daughter of Benjamin Beach and granddaughter of Deacon John Birdsey.
4. David Norton of Goshen Ct., b. Feb. 1726 in Durham, Ct.; d. 11-2-1752 in Goshen at age 44. He m. 1-29-1752 Anna Brownson (Bronson) who was b. June 1726 and d. 12-7-1816 aged 90 years. She of Southbury, Ct.
5. Capt. John Norton, Rev. War Veteran, b. 11-29-1758, Goshen, Ct. and d. 8-25-1828, Bennington, Vt. Harwood's diary in the Bennington Museum shows Capt. John Norton was in battle at White Plains, N.Y. and at Harlem Heights, L.I. He was also one of the guards at the execution of Major Andre. He m. 3-6-1782, Lucretia Buel, the dau. of Jonathan and Lydia (London) Buel. She was b. 6-3-1763 and d. 8-15-1882 in Bennington, Vt.

Nine children:

1. Judge Luman Norton, b. 2-9-1785, Williamstown, Mass.; d. 1859, Bennington, Vt. A county judge and town representative. He m. Lydia Loomis, b. 1786, d. May, 1877.
 2. John Norton, Jr., b. 2-25-1787, Bennington, Vt.;
 3. Clarissa Norton, b. 6-10-1789, m. Samuel Canfield of Arlington, Vt.
 4. Lucretia Norton, b. 1-1-1791, m. Buckley Squires of Bennington, Vt.
 5. Laura A. Norton, b. 12-13-1793, m. Cyrus Hills of Arlington, Vt.
 6. Jonathan Buel Norton, b. 5-26-1797, m. Harriet Peck in Bennington, Vt.
 7. Eliza Norton, b. 3-5-1800, d. in Bennington, Vt.; she m. Franklin Blackmer.
 8. Lydia Norton, b. 5-29-1802, m. Henry Safford.
 9. Norman J. Norton, b. 6-7-1806, m. Dorcas Esty
6. John Norton, Jr., b. 2-25-1787 at Bennington, Vt.; d. 11-27-1850 at age 63. He m. 2-16-1814 Perces Smith, dau. of Ephraim and (Pomeroy) Smith. She was born 9-10-1791 at Bennington and d. 7-29-1876, aged 70 (sic) years. Her father and grandfather John Smith were both at the Battle of Bennington and both signed the Bennington Declaration kept by the Historical Society of Montpelier.

Six children:

1. Edward Norton, b. 8-23-1815, Bennington.
2. Maria Norton, b. 1818, d. 1864; m. Stephen Breckenridge (he b. 1816, d. 1857)
3. Clarissa Norton, b. 10-20-1820, d. 5-4-1888; m. Joseph C. Norton (no relation), a Bennington merchant who was

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born 1818 and died 1885.

children:

1. Frank Edward Norton, b. 9-19-1855, d. 5-6-1931;
m. Jane Drake of Troy, N.Y., b. 7-11-1860, d.
12-3-1841

child:

Gertrude Norton, b. 10-12-1891, Troy, N.Y.

2. Lizzie Norton, b. 7-29-1857

4. MYRON NORTON, Judge, b. 9-22-1822, Bennington, Vt.; died
unmarried 4-16-1886, Los Angeles, Cal. at age 63.

A signer of the California Constitution.

- 8+ 5. Henry S. Norton, b. 12-8-1827, Bennington, Vt.

- 9+ 6. Franklin Blackmer Norton, b. 5-23-1830.

7. Edward Norton, b. 8-23-1815, Bennington, and died there 8-3-1885.

He became part owner of a pottery works from 1861-65. Vestryman
and Treasurer of St. Peters Protestant Episcopal Church and member
of the Mt. Anthony Masonic Lodge. He married 1) Helena Lincoln,
(sister of Charles Lincoln) who was b. 4-29-1833 and d. Nov. 1856.
He married 2) on 1-14-1862 Sarah Edson, dau. of Cyrus and Sibyl
(Wilcox) Edson of Minot, Me. and Mendon, Vt.

Five children:

1. Florence Norton, b. 7-29-1857, d. 9-14-1857.
2. Mary P. Norton, b. 5-23-1859, d. 9-17-1942; mar. 6-17-1903
Robert Knight of Brooklyn, N.Y. No children.
3. Emma S. Norton, b. 10-12-1862, d. 11-5-1937; Graduate of
Mt. Holyoke College. She mar. 11-14-1894, Clark H.
Emmons of Minneapolis. He was born 10-22-1849 and died
in 1929.

Two children:

1. Edward Emmons, b. 8-28-1895, Minneapolis, Minn.
A graduate of the Connecticut Academy of
Agriculture. He m. 12-12-1923, Helen White, a
graduate of Bennington High School.

Two children:

1. Helen Louise Emmons, b. 9-29-1924, m. 8-17-
1946, in Bennington, Frank Hogel a graduate
of Bennington High School. She graduated
from Northfield and Syracuse University.

children:

1. Susan Hogel, 4-7-1949
2. Elizabeth Hogel, 3-28-1951
2. Harriet Norton Emmons, b. 10-18-1926; grad.
Northfield H.S. and Jr. Coll. She married
6-29-1949, Osborne Gaines, b. June 1926,
grad. Northfield and Conn. Coll. Agric.

Child:

Christopher Gaines, 7-6-1956

2. Winchester Emmons, b. 5-14-1900, drowned in
Minneapolis, 7-25-1923.

4. Helena Louise Norton, b. 9-19-1866 and was living at 308
Pleasant St., Bennington Vt. in 1958. She went to
school at Wellesley for one year.
5. Edward Lincoln Norton, b. 3-20-1865 and d. 12-13-1894. He
was successor to the pottery works on the death of his
father.

A farmer in 1885. He married in 1859 at Bennington, Lydia Slocum
who was born 12-4-1831 and died in Aug. of 1862.

Three children:

1. Ada Norton, b. 4-22-1860, d. 9-16-1928; unmarried.
2. Clara Norton, died in Los Angeles, unmarried.
3. Helen Louise Norton, b. 4-22-1860, d. 5-10-1936; mar.
Charles Lucius Allen, b. 1858, d. 1940; General Manager,
President and Chairman of the Board of the Norton
Abrasive Co. of Worcester, Mass.

child:

Mary Norton Allen, who lived at 6 Academy St.,
Worcester 9, Mass. in 1958.

9. Franklin Blackmer Norton, b. 5-23-1830 in Bennington and died 1-3-
1886 in Worcester, Mass. He established a new pottery works in
Worcester and began manufacturing abrasives there later. He was
ill and felt he was too old to embark upon a new business project,
so he sold the abrasives part to a group headed by Charles L.
Allen [see above, #8] and a Mr. Jepson. After his death, the
pottery business lasted only a few years, however the abrasives
business grew large. He married Jane Fenton (daughter of Senator
Richard Fenton?) who was b. 8-19-1829 and d. 12-12-1907.

Six or seven children:

1. Alida Norton, mar. John Rice; no children.
2. Myron John Norton, unmarried.
3. Flora Norton, b. 10-11-1862, d. 1-15-1941; married 10-5-
1885 in Worcester, Mass., Frederick A. Keyes.

Six children:

1. Edward Norton Keyes, b. 7-23-1887; married 10-9-
1915, Anna Lee Williams and resided at 74
Woodland Rd., Short Hills, N.J.
2. Stuart Hobbs Keyes, b. 9-10-1889; m 5-16-1914 to
Marion O. Taylor and resided in Fairview, Vt.
3. Robert Frederick Keyes, b. 3-4-1893; American Steel
and Wire Co., Worc. Married 3-4-1939, Helen
Dodge and resided at 15 Harwich Ct. in Worc.
4. Philip Bradford Keyes, b. 5-11-1897; Eddy Match
Co., Ltd., Ottawa, Can. Married 10-8-1920,
Winifred Grant and resided at 31 Fairfax St.,
Ottawa, Can.
5. Marion Keyes, b. 4-4-1895, m. 6-7-1924, Clarence A.
Bettman. They resided at 59 W. 12th St., New
York City 11, N.Y.
6. Margaret Keyes, b. 11-16-1901 and d. 4-23-1957 in
Paris, France. She was secretary for Thomas S.
Lamont of J.P. Morgan & Co. in New York City.

4. Arthur Norton, left Worcester.

5. Fred Norton, died young.

6. George Norton, died young.

7. "John" Norton. This may be the same as Myron John Norton.

1. Henry S. Norton, b. 12-8-1927 in Bennington and died there 1-13-1893.

NORTON FAMILY

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

Norton
Family

The Nortons of Fayette County, Pennsylvania

By

Virginia Norton Herring

The following is a collection of information about part of the Norton family. This branch of the family began in Fairfield CN and moved to Fayette County PA near the end of the eighteenth century. Several generations of the family had 6 or more children, most of whom survived to adulthood and married. Since my primary interest is in the direct line to my father, **Joseph Herbert Norton** (I have placed the names of ancestors in my particular line in bold type), this survey will not follow all of these descendants except to make occasional reference where there was someone notable in a particular place or activity.

The Nortons were very active in the founding and early growth of Connellsville, and the surrounding communities. Descendants of these early settlers seemed possessed of a strong entrepreneurial spirit and pioneer energy, which moved them on from Connellsville to other places, such as Mt. Vernon, OH and South Norfolk, VA, where they also left their mark. Some, such as Eugene Trump Norton, remained in Connellsville and built it to a thriving community, which had its heyday in the 19th and early 20th century.

I begin with **Dr Asa Norton**, a medical doctor in Fairfield County, CN, who was descended from George Norton. (George entered Salem MA in 1626, from England.) Asa was trained as a medical doctor by the practice of being "bound" or apprenticed to a practicing doctor for two years. He renewed his "bonding" for a third year, before entering practice on his own. Dr. Norton married Mabel Booth in 1760. They had five children, beginning with Sarah, born in 1761, who married Abraham Baldwin in 1784. (Abraham and his family were also prominent in the early days of Connellsville history.) Asa and Mabel moved to Connellsville, in Fayette Co. PA sometime after 1795. Their second child was Philo, born in 1763. Philo married Ann Baldwin in 1782. Ann was cousin to Abraham and daughter of Daniel Baldwin. Asa and Mabel's other children were Nathaniel (1765), Asa Jesse (1769), and John (about 1775).

Our particular family branch descends from Asa and Mabel's son **Philo Norton**. Philo and Ann Baldwin moved to Connellsville in 1797.

Philo and Ann had ten children.

1. Carlos Alonzo was born in 1784 in Fairfield. He was 13 when the family relocated to PA, where he met and married Mary Booth. He is listed as a graduate of Jefferson College (now Washington-Jefferson College in Washington, PA) in 1805. We know that in 1823 at age 39 he served as a Burgess of the Borough of Connellsville.
2. Maria was born in 1786, and in 1808 married Thomas McGiffin. McGiffin died in 1831 and is buried in Washington PA.
3. Daniel Sheldon was born in 1788, and would have been 9 years old when the family made the move to PA. He married his cousin Mary Baldwin in 1811, but she died in 1815. His second wife was Sally Banning, who was the daughter of the first tannery operator in Connellsville. In 1816, Daniel left PA and went to Mt. Vernon, OH, participating in the government and beginning several industries and businesses there. He died and was buried there.
4. Julia Ann was born in 1790 and died at age 16.

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5. Sally was born in 1792 and died at age 26.
6. Nancy Ann was born in 1795. She married Hiram Herbert in 1834.
7. Lester Leroy was born in 1797, and married Harriet Cooke. The (Jordan) biography indicates that in 1812, Lester Leroy and his brother Daniel Sheldon built and operated a cotton mill in Connellsville.
8. Eloisa Ann was born in 1799 and died unmarried at age 52.
9. Cornelia Augusta was born in 1800 and married James McIlvane
10. Philo Leroy was born in 1803 and married Jane Cramer.

Philo Norton traveled to Attakapas Parish LA with his brother Asa Jesse Norton in the year 1804, and purchased a plantation there. A letter written by great-grandson Alonzo Norton in 1934 reports that Philo took his wife and all nine children with him to LA. In 1811, Philo died in LA and is buried there. His wife Ann returned with her children to Connellsville and lived there until her death in 1832. She is buried in Connellsville.

Our branch of the family tree further descends from Philo's son **Lester LeRoy Norton**. After Daniel left for OH in 1816, Lester continued and expanded the operation of the cotton mill and carding plants. Later, he converted his buildings to a foundry, and began working with iron ore. Eventually he began producing coke, and was one of the first persons to export that fuel from Connellsville. Mr. Norton was well educated, and very involved in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He helped found the church which is still active in Connellsville today.

Lester LeRoy and Harriet had 11 children.

1. David Baldwin, born in 1821 and who died at 1 year of age.
2. **Philo**, born in 1823. He married Martha Herbert. She died in 1904, he in 1908. They both are buried in Connellsville
3. Margaret C. born 1825 and died unmarried in 1850 in Connellsville.
4. Lester LeRoy, born March 25, 1827, died in 1892 in Chicago, Ill. He is buried in Logansport, IN.
5. David Cook, who died at age 5.
6. Ann B, born in 1831, who died age 3.
7. Olevia, born 1833, died at the age of 3 months.
8. Abraham Baldwin, born 1834, died age 19.
9. Lester Leroi born 1837, died age 18
10. Harriet Cooke born 1840, died age 15
11. Dorcas Clarke born 1842 died at age 8.

Lester LeRoy and his family lived in both Connellsville and Brownsville, but returned for the last time to Connellsville in 1873, likely in Sept. as the result of the financial ruin brought about by the Panic of '73.

Our family line continues through Lester's second child, **Philo Norton**, who married Martha Herbert. Martha's father was Joseph Herbert (bringing this name into the family tree). The Herbert family was also among the earliest settlers of Connellsville. Joseph Herbert served as the local postmaster for over 30 years. Philo worked his father's farm, and later worked in the mills and foundry, eventually becoming very involved in the manufacture and sale of coke. He built the coke works at Davidson, later one of the biggest in the area, owned numerous properties and sank the first mine shaft along the Youghiogheny River. At various times he owned and worked (wholly or in part) the Norton-Davidson Coal and Coke Co (later the Connellsville Shaft and Mine Works; and the Norton, Faber, and Miskimmer Co. He served the local government in various ways. In 1866 the family moved to Bridgeport (later known as Brownsville), but like his father, returned to Connellsville in 1873. The previously mentioned financial crisis affected Philo deeply. He left his wife and children in Connellsville, and moved to Thomasville, NC, where he owned some property and some mineral rights. There he lived out his days, studying geology, and even producing a major project on NC minerals for the state government. This material was subsequently displayed at an Exposition in New Orleans. Philo died in 1908 in NC, and is buried in Connellsville.

Martha Norton, who remained with her children in Connellsville, became very active in the Christian Church there (A room in today's church building, formerly a kitchen, is dedicated in her name and she and Philo are memorialized in some of the church's stained glass.)

Philo and Martha had eight children.

1. Maria Herbert, born 1850, died unmarried at age 24
2. Margaret Cooke (Margie) born 1851, died unmarried in Pasadena CA, and is buried in Connellsville.
3. Carlos Alonzo born 1853, married Annabelle C. Both lived and died in Pittsburgh, but are buried in Connellsville.
4. **Joseph Herbert** born 1855. He married Mary Booth who died in 1906 and is buried in Norfolk VA. His second wife was Katie Ellen McCoy, whom he married on July 4, 1916. She died in 1970 and is buried in Chesapeake, VA. J. H. died on August 3, 1942 and is buried in Norfolk VA.
5. Abraham Baldwin born 1858, and died sometime after 1942. We do not know where he is buried. He was married twice. His second wife was Sarah Adda Sisley, who died in 1942 and is buried in Connellsville PA.
6. Clarence LeRoy born 1861. He married Blanche M. He died in 1952 in Mars, Butler Co, PA.
7. James McIlvaine, born 1864, who died at 1 year of age.
8. Eugene Trump, born 1866. Eugene married Clara Hayes Barge in 1893. She died in 1895 and is buried in Connellsville. He later married Clara's sister Bess Barge Porter who died in 1930 and is buried in Connellsville. Eugene was part of the first graduating class of Connellsville High School, after which he went to work at First National Bank, and rose through the ranks to

become president of that institution in 1915. He and his family were very involved in the building of the present Christian Church in Connellsville, and he was a prominent and engaged citizen in every respect. He was part of many civic organizations, rose through the ranks of Masonry, and was particularly involved in institutions relating to education. On Jan. 31, 1927, leaving New York City after a business meeting, he died from injuries suffered in a train wreck in NJ. The Connellsville Daily Courier spread the news with banner headlines, and many front page articles. The coverage continued for several days, throughout the funeral and during the period of mourning.

Philo and Martha's son **Joseph Herbert Norton** was my grandfather. Born in 1855, he spent his early years working on the family farm. In 1877, he moved to Petrolia in Butler CO PA, where he worked for the Hazelwood Oil Co., and met and married Mary H. Boothe. Together they had four children. In 1881, the Hazelwood Oil Co underwent expansion, and J.H. and Mary moved with the company to McKean Co. PA, where they lived in a large house at Red Rock, and participated in the life of Foster Brook township. They were members of the Christian Church there, and J. H. served for many years as the postmaster.

The family also had some property in South Norfolk VA. In 1888, J. H. made a trip there, and in partnership with T H Synon began the area's first railway, a horse car line known as the Berkeley St. Railway. Eventually the family relocated to the South Norfolk area, while J. H. continued to be involved in business both there and in PA. Mary died in 1906, and J. H. had a brief marriage to a second wife named Cammie.

Around 1910, after the completion of the Berkley Bridge to Norfolk, the horse car line was sold to the power company and the streetcars were electrified. J. H. began a shirtwaist blouse factory (the LeRoy Shirtwaist Co.) in South Norfolk VA. The business later moved to new quarters in Berkley, and made middy suits (gym uniforms) for several New England women's colleges. Later the factory began making raincoats out of oiled silk, the first of the kind manufactured in the USA, different from previous rain garments because they were light in weight. Eventually, under the name J H Norton Company, they manufactured ladies ready to wear clothing: skirts, suits, and dresses.

J. H. and Katie Ellen had one child. J.H. was actively involved as one of the charter members of the Church of Christ (Disciples) in South Norfolk, gave land and helped build its first building. He retired from business in 1938, and died after a brief illness in 1942. He is buried in Norfolk VA.

With Mary, J. H. had four children:

1. Edna Martha born March 23, 1879. She later married Charles Lipscomb, and had two children: Charles and Marion. Edna died Feb. 25, 1958 and is buried in Baltimore, MD.

2. Blanche born in 1881. She married Will Lindsey. They had a son, Raymond Lindsey, who was adopted from one of Will's relatives. Blanche died in 1969 and is buried Norfolk, VA.

3. Florence Booth born in 1884. She married Hoite Agey, and had son Norton Agey, son Hoite, and son Buell. After Hoite Agey died in 1911, Florence married Harry Kratzig, and had a daughter Florence and a son Paul. Florence died in 1972 and is buried in Norfolk VA.

4. Lewis Boothe Norton born in 1887. Lewis married Mae Pharo and they had a daughter, Dorothy. Lewis and Mae were divorced. He then married Lena Davis, who died in 1962. Lewis died June 5, 1960 and is buried in Norfolk, VA.

J. H. and Kate McCoy had only one child, my father, **Joseph Herbert Norton**, born March 27, 1922. On March 3, 1940 he married Mildred Walton Beckett. They lived in South Norfolk, VA. After graduation from Maury High School in Norfolk, Joseph Herbert began as a civil service worker in the Norfolk Navy Yard in 1940, and entered service in the US Navy in 1944. He was discharged from the Navy in 1946, and returned to work in the Sheet Metal Shop in the Navy Yard. He moved to the Production Dept. and assisted in the design, construction and outfitting of the Electronics Building. He later assisted in preparing the shipyard to overhaul submarines. He worked four years in the Sea Systems Command in Washington DC and returned to the Norfolk shipyard as head of the Maintenance Control Division before his retirement in 1973. Joseph Herbert was, like his uncle Eugene, active in the Masonic Lodge. He was raised a Master Mason in 1944, and continues his membership to this day. After retiring from the shipyard, Joseph began a company which sold sandblasting equipment to local businesses and shipyards. He used the name used by his father, the JH Norton Co. This company was later sold to his son David, and is now doing business as the Norton Sandblasting Co. He and his wife Mildred had three children.

1. Virginia Frances, She later married William Lewis Herring and they had five children: Katherine Wilma, Ann Beckett, John Lewis, Alice Elizabeth, and Eleanor Frances. Virginia is an Episcopal priest in Greensboro, NC

2. **Joseph Herbert, III**. He graduated from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA in 1973, and worked in city planning in the City of Richmond for many years. He married Lorraine Pfeiffer. Like his father, Joe was active in the Masonic order and served as Worshipful Master of Varina Lodge in Richmond, Va. He was also president of the Shrine Chanters in the year 2001 and enjoyed singing with them on many occasions. Joe and Lorraine had two sons: **Joseph Pfeiffer** and Michael Walton. The family attended St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Richmond, VA and was active there in many ways. Joe sang in the choir, and served on the vestry, holding the position of both senior and junior wardens more than once. Joe died June 28, 2001 and is buried at St. Thomas in Richmond, VA.

a. **J.P.** (Joseph Pfeiffer) graduated from William and Mary College in Williamsburg, VA in 2001, with a degree in Business Administration. He married Beth Rachelle Adam and they live in Raleigh, NC, where he works for Merck Pharmaceuticals. Their first child was Joseph Daniel.

b. Michael Walton. He graduated from the University of Virginia in 2003 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He married Sarah Brooke Kennedy, and they live and work in Richmond, Va.

3. David Lynn. He married Cindy Burbil, who died in 1980. He later married Brenda Ingersoll and they had two daughters, Kelly Lynn and Katy Leigh. David owns and operates Norton Sandblasting Co. in Chesapeake, VA.

Other descendants of the Fayette Co. Nortons have been traced to families living in OH, IN, MN, WA, TX and CA.

**Please send us your stories. Share your research with others.
Don't let your ancestors be lost in time. Send your articles to:
The Fayette County Genealogical Society
24 Jefferson Street, Uniontown, Pa. 15
Or email your word document to fcgs_mail@yahoo.com.**

Fayette County Genealogical Society Meeting Minutes for 18 July 2009

The meeting was called order by President, Joan Peake, at 1 PM. There were 14 members present.

The secretary read the minutes of the May meeting. They were accepted by Sonia Cesarino and Warren Wortman. There was no report for June as the group met at the Coal and Coke Heritage Center on 13 June 2009.

The treasurer's report for May and June was read and accepted by Pam Brown and Leona McCracken.

Announcements made included -

Heritage Quest was renewed by the vote of the officers and Board of Directors.

There will be no August meeting.

The anniversary party will be held on 19 Sept 2009.

The North Hills Genealogists will hold a Fall Conference in Pittsburgh on 24 Oct 2009.

The FGS Seminar will be held in Little Rock, AR on 2-5 Sept 2009.

Arrangements for the anniversary party were discussed. It was decided to have the members bring a dish. The sandwiches and cake will be provided by the Society. There will be a book grab bag.

Joan gave a short review of the courthouse tour. The Fayette County Archivist joined the tour and explained some of her projects. The original will packets have been moved offsite. The offices of the Prothonotary and wills were visited.

The Library Lock-IN was a success. We had three sessions covering the Uniontown Library Pennsylvania Room, the use of Heritage Quest and how to begin you genealogy. Joan spent most of her time at the library lock-in demonstrating Heritage Quest.

Don Green told us about the Coal and Coke Heritage Center tour. They were shown pictures of the living and working conditions in the patches and mines.

The speaker for the day was Charles Novak. He was a former president of the Virginia Genealogical Society and is now on the Board of Governors.

Many land grants were awarded from 1601-1632 These covered Greene, Washington, Westmoreland, Fayette and part of Allegheny counties.

1741 - Virginia founded the Ohio Company which stretched to the Pacific Ocean.

1763 - England and France signed a treaty and France gave up all the land east of the Mississippi River.

1774 - The Quebec Act gave all Virginia land north of the Ohio River to Quebec. West Augusta was formed from the Laurel Mountains on the east to the eastern side of the Allegheny River. This area covered the Ohio, Yohogania and Monongahela counties of Virginia.

1779 - A treaty was ratified by the Pennsylvania General Assembly and Virginia signed in 1780. Congress agreed in 1783.

1784 - Virginia gave up all land NW of the Ohio Rover and the southern boundary of Pennsylvania was agreed on.

1786 - Virginia terminated jurisdiction in SW Pennsylvania.

Chuck told us records can be found in Washington County and at Coulson Hall at WVU.
Our next meeting will be the 15th anniversary party on 19 Sept 2009.