

## Likely Club hears genealogy reports

Likely Literary Club met recently at the home of Susan Reichenadter with 17 members present. After a short business meeting, Beulah Patterson, Kathleen Jay and Matey Long presented genealogy reports on their families.

### Beulah Patterson

Beulah's maiden name was Sperry. The English meaning is believed to be that Sperry is a descendant of Spearman. A fourth cousin researched the family back eight generations to Martin Walk, perhaps born in the 1600s. The family is not sure which European county they immigrated from.

Charles Christian Walk was born in 1805 in a Moravian community named Friedberg, N.C. The Moravian faith is believed to have originated in Czech and is closely related to a form of United Brethren faith. Charles and his wife Lydia moved to a Moravian community named West Salem, Ill., in 1844. Their daughter Sophia married Aaron Robinson and their third child was Laura (Beulah's great-grandmother), who married Almond Sperry. His mother was born in England. They both lived in the West Salem area at the time of their marriage.

Laura and Almond had six children in nine years — two were twins. Laura died at the age of 34. Beulah's grandfather was her last child. He was named Harry Blaine Sperry and was born in 1885. Harry married Maude Hallie Blakney. They had five children and Beulah's father was the second child. Most of their married life was spent in the area of Fithian, a small community west of Danville, Ill. They were farm people and Beulah recalled special memories while visiting her grandparents.

Beulah reported that her grandmother Sperry's family had a Count in it. His name was Richard Tilton and he was named the Count of Great Egg Harbor of Gloucester. This was her great-great-great-great-grandfather. Thought to have been born around 1808, he married Sarah Lake and soon came to America.

Beulah's mother's maiden name was Smith. John Phillip Smith, her grandfather, was born in Glasgow, Ky. He came to Indiana at the age of 15. He married Ethel Foxworthy, having six children with Beulah's mother being the first. Beulah is the oldest of six children and was born in Fithian, Ill.

She moved to Crawfordsville at the age of 6. At the age of 34, her father was drafted and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. From his diary she related several of his wartime experiences.

Beulah met Bob Patterson, her future husband, in 1946. Bob had also served in the Navy. They were married in 1949 and came to Mooresville in 1958. Bob and Beulah have both been in the Mooresville school system. They left Mooresville for a short time, but soon returned to call Mooresville home and have since retired.

### Kathleen Jay

Kathleen reported on her father's family since she had lived most of her early life with them. Lenore Carter, her grandmother, was born in Bernardsville, N.C., on Oct. 4, 1869, and her grandfather, Nicholas Emmett Anders, was born May 28, 1869. Bernardsville is north of Asheville about 15 miles on the edge of the Blue Ridge Parkway. They were married in January 1887. In 1888 a daughter was born and died two days later. On Sept. 18, 1906, 18 years later, Kathleen's father was born.

Her grandfather was a logger and owned a sawmill, cutting timber from the Great Smoky Mountain area. At one time he owned 600 acres but during the depression in the '30s he lost this. In the early 1900s the family moved into a large frame house across the mountains from Bernardsville in a community called Beech. This is the house where Kathleen's father was born in 1906. Her father helped in the lumber business until the grandfather quit and started a blacksmith shop. Then he started farming, but as times worsened in the late 1920s he came to Indiana to look for work. While in Indiana, he married, and he later returned to North Carolina and moved in with the grandfather. Kathleen was born in May 1930 and a sister Barbara was born in July 1935.

In 1937, they sold the home and the new owners made it into a lodge. It is now on the Historic Register. The father and grandfather bought a farm five miles from Upland, about one mile from where Kathleen's mother grew up. The grandfather died in 1946 at the age of 79 and the grandmother in 1951 at the age of 82.

In 1951, Kathleen met Nelson Jay, who had just graduated from Purdue.

His first teaching assignment was Van Buren High School, where she had graduated in 1948. They were married in 1951 and lived in Van Buren, where he taught for two years and their first son, Jeffery, was born. In 1953 they moved to Sheridan where Gregory, Jennifer, Jimmy and David were born. Nelson went with Eli Lilly in 1959 and the family moved to Baltimore, Md., where they lived for four years. In 1963, the family returned to Indiana and lived at Valley Mills. They purchased a farm in 1972 on Joppa Road from Art Lusty. A house was built on the farm in 1976 and the Jay family moved from Valley Mills in 1977 to Mooresville.

### Matey Long

Matey reported on her mother's family, whose name was Bear. The name is sometimes spelled Bar and Bare. The family came from Switzerland to America in the early 1750s and settled in Lancaster County, Pa. In the early 1800s the family moved to Putman County, Ohio.

Matey's grandfather, Franklin William Bear, was born Feb. 4, 1886, in Van Wert, Ohio. He married Margaret Matilda Hicks (born Oct. 8, 1890) on April 9, 1910, and they lived on his farm which was the place of his birth. He was a farmer and they were of the Mennonite faith. To them were born 12 children and Matey's mother, Rowena, was the third child.

Margaret Matilda Hicks Bear's grandfather, John Lincoln Hicks, was a second cousin to President Lincoln. Matey's grandfather died April 24, 1967, and the grandmother on July 6, 1946. She shared several interesting events associated with her grandparents.

Rowena Bear Hammond, born Nov. 18, 1913, married Gaylord Eugene Hammond on May 13, 1938. To them were born three daughters with Matey being the youngest. Her father died Feb. 23, 1974, and the mother still resides in Van Wert.

Matey married Dennis Keith Long on April 22, 1967. To them were born twin daughters on Aug. 6, 1972. Matey and Dennis moved to Mooresville on April 1, 1991, where Dennis is presently serving as pastor of the Mooresville Friends Church.

Likely Literary Club's next meeting will be Thursday at the home of Ciela Dalton.