

Breyfogle Sentinel Dispatch

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From the Editor

As we begin the New Year, which will be the second year of publication for this newsletter, we want to thank everyone who has contributed news articles and other information to our ongoing research. Our continuing effort to capture family stories and put them to paper for future generations is greatly aided by your submissions.

This issue of the Breyfogle Sentinel Dispatch is dedicated to the contributions from one of our readers. It began as a brief exchange of e-mail in which we discussed her grandmother and her connection to the Breyfogle surname. Before long Mary Jane Foster became very active in capturing the information you will see in this newsletter. This is a wonderful job of gathering information and we can't thank her enough for all her hard work.

For those following our series of articles on life in 18th Century Pennsylvania we assure you that we will return to that topic in the next newsletter. As always, your contributions are very much appreciated, regardless of length.

About the Author

Mary Jane Foster was born in the Midwest but grew up and was educated in Southern California, where she resides. Her two adult daughters have made their homes near hers in Orange County, and two years ago Mary Jane's younger daughter and her husband added a grandson to the family.

Mary Jane has a background in daily newspapers and journalism, currently working as a writer, editor and Web publisher for the management division of a global commercial real estate company. In her spare time, she delves into family history with an eye toward introducing the next generation of her family to the fascination of history that forges a personal link with the past.

Grace Breyfogle -- "Grace Notes"

Grace Breyfogle was born in Johnson County, Kansas, in 1874, the second daughter of Lewis W. Breyfogle's second marriage, to Laura A. Pennock. Lewis had been widowed with two small children and came from Ohio to settle in Kansas just as the territory was attaining statehood. There he established a farm and family that grew to three



Grace Breyfogle Jones
1917

daughters and two sons by the 1880s, plus his older son and daughter, both born in Ohio.

Grace and her older sister Lizzie, although two years apart, were educated together, and both graduated from the Johnson County Public Schools with diplomas dated June 1, 1889. In an interesting foreshadowing of future inspirational mottos, the Johnson County diplomas of that era were inscribed, "No Pains, No Gains." (I have both diplomas framed and signed by the Superintendent of Schools, plus two members of the County Board of Examiners.) The two girls went on to attend Baker University, a Methodist-run institution in Baldwin, Kansas, where their younger brothers later enrolled.

Several Kansas-related history books relate the tragic deaths in July 1894 of Lizzie and the family's youngest child, 12-year-old Lena, while driving in a horse-drawn buggy through a train crossing near their farm. A detailed newspaper report from the time termed it "A Frightful Accident" and "the saddest and

most terrible accident that ever happened in this county and probably this section of the state." For Grace, it must have been especially wrenching to become suddenly the oldest child and only surviving daughter in the family – losing both her little sister and Lizzie, with whom she had grown up almost as twins through their childhood and teens.

Three Killed at a Crossing.

OLATHE, Kan., July 9.—Two young ladies named Lizzie and Lena Breyfogle, daughters of ex-Senator L. W. Breyfogle, and Miss Carroll, who reside about a mile northwest of Lennox, were in a buggy crossing the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Memphis railroad track near their home when the buggy was struck by a passenger train, killing them instantly.

In 1895 Grace graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Baker University. While a student, Grace was a charter member of the Tri Delta national sorority. Her diploma is written entirely in Latin and signed by each of her instructors in the subjects of Latin Language & Literature, English Literature & History, Pedagogy, Biology, Mathematics and Greek Language & Literature. She had planned to attend Vassar College after graduation but having lost both sisters only a year earlier, Grace chose to remain closer to home. She subsequently earned a certificate in music from Baker and was considered a fine pianist.

Family lore has it that the Breyfogles brought the first piano into the Kansas Territory. It must have belonged to Grace's mother, Laura Pennock, and the story passed down is that when the piano was played, bands of local Indians often would hear it and come to stare in the windows, fascinated by the odd new sounds. The family discovered that the way to usher them away from the farmhouse was to offer leftover foodstuffs. The Indians would take the food, throw it all together into their blankets and depart in peace.

In other relatives' notes on the Breyfogles, Grace's father, Lewis W. Breyfogle, is remembered for his interest in learning, and his support for her college education was a good indicator. It was highly unusual in an era when many men never completed high school – or even began it. Her father's philosophy was that *all* his children should be educated and able to support themselves, if necessary, showing a remarkable attitude for a man in the 1890s.

After graduating from Baker, Grace returned home to Lenexa and did not work outside the home, as would

have been typical then. Her education probably lessened her marriage prospects in that farming area, and it wasn't unusual for educated women to remain unmarried. However, in 1900 a young doctor from Iowa moved to Johnson County (Charles W. Jones, MD), having bought out the practice of the elderly physician there, and on Christmas Day 1902 he and Grace were married. For many years he was the only physician in the area and had a busy practice, traveling to Kansas City daily to attend hospitalized patients.

As was often the case in those days, the couple lost two infant daughters in the early years of their marriage, but their family grew with the birth of Kathleen in 1907 and Mary Jane in 1913. They moved to 214 S. Chestnut Street in Olathe when Mary Jane was very young, and the home remained in the family until about 1980. It is a lovely Victorian, two-story house with attic, basement, a large, tree-filled yard and two-story "carriage house" at the end of a long gravel driveway. It is there today, well maintained and currently used as law offices, and it was part of a 1991 Historic House tour held in Olathe.



Kathleen and Mary Jane Jones - 1915

Grace enjoyed entertaining, so the home hosted many club meetings, bridge sessions, luncheons and dinner parties, according to her younger daughter, Mary Jane. Grace sewed beautifully, both for herself and her little girls, and a little room at the top of the stairs was dedicated to her sewing projects. She also enjoyed what would today be considered "crafts" such as drying and arranging flowers for "winter bouquets" to decorate her home during bleak, snowy months.

Grace remained close with her brothers, although Warren moved to California, and Charles followed afterward. But while Charles and his wife Marian lived in Kansas City, the families would visit each other, usually on Sundays. They must have shared a sense of humor, because the family “signal” if someone wasn’t home for visitors who came to call was leaving a piece of lawn furniture upside down. It was so much more interesting than just leaving a note on the door!

Grace and her family vacationed in Long Beach, California, twice in the early 1920s, taking the train across the country to enjoy the Pacific Ocean and mild weather. Grace was interested in living in Southern California, at least in part due to the climate, because she been very ill with pneumonia in 1918 and feared another bout would be fatal. That was, in fact, what happened. In November 1925, she again was stricken with pneumonia, and in an era before antibiotics, Grace died just a few days later.

Her funeral was held in the front room of the family home she loved, and her daughter Mary Jane, who was 12, recalls it being crowded with family and friends coming to pay their respects. Grace had been a member of many groups, including her Tri Delta sorority, the Olathe Culture Class, the Luncheon Club, the Garden Club, American Legion Auxiliary, the Methodist Church and several bridge groups.

Grace’s birthday is incorrectly noted as Nov. 15, 1874 in some sources. It was, in fact, Nov. 13 of that year. I have a lovely brooch, a very large cream and brown cameo pin with gold trim that belonged to Grace. On the back, engraved in the flowing script of that time, is this dedication: “To my sweetheart wife, Grace B. Jones, Nov. 13, 1907.” Dr. Jones was a loving husband – and a man much too wise to have mistaken his wife’s birth date.

Lewis W. Breyfogle died in 1907, and his farm was divided among his remaining children. Grace was left the “Home Place,” as the Lenexa farmhouse was called, and her brothers were given pieces of farmland – perhaps because Lewis felt she would be more likely to keep the farm in the family. According to Grace’s daughter, Mary Jane, Warren went to Los Angeles to seek his fortune, and Charles had little interest in the farmland, either. Subsequently, Grace and her husband bought out her brothers’ shares of the original farm, providing “seed money” to them for their business enterprises, and the Jones family retained the land for many years as an operating farm.

Years later, after Grace had died, her husband finally sold the land, and subsequently much of it was developed as part of the upscale westward expansion of homes and businesses from Kansas City. By the late 1990s, Johnson County had become one of the fastest-growing areas in the nation; at least a part of it was rooted in the former Breyfogle farmland where a century earlier, music from the territory’s first piano had echoed across the fields.

Mary Jane Foster, November 2005

You Can’t Go Home Again

We’ve all heard that statement, and certainly returning to a hometown or a childhood memory after many years brings its own concerns. How will the places have changed? Will I recognize anything? Will it be too painful to revisit the past? It’s a different story for everyone, but here’s a sample of my own impressions.

I had not walked down the streets of Olathe, Kansas, since just after my high school graduation, during what would be the last of my annual summer visits to my grandmother. Suddenly it was 2005, and I was there again, now a grandmother, myself. I was drawn by a need to reminisce as well as a healthy dose of curiosity about past family members – both for my own satisfaction and to find touch-points for future generations.

Some things do change, and the old drug store/soda fountain may have become a parking lot, but most towns still retain meaningful landmarks. Exploring these sites in person takes a visitor beyond old dates and names for a feeling of how the family’s history



Dr. and Mrs. Jones' House on Chestnut Street - 2005

has been interwoven with local life, past and present. One personal connection: My grandfather, Charles W. Jones, was once the area's only physician, having arrived from Iowa in 1900. For more than 50 years he worked and dreamed of a local hospital for his patients, but it only became a reality shortly after his death. A surgical suite was dedicated to him in the first hospital, and today a newly rebuilt, 200-bed Olathe Medical Center provides top specialty services for this fast-growing region. A wall display thanks the "C.W. Jones, MD Foundation" for its support, and he would be pleased to see many names of his neighbors and friends among the donors honored there. Long ago, a patient wrote to our family, "When Doctor Jones came to care for us, we began to feel better as soon as we heard his voice." I'm glad his voice spoke up in the community on behalf of his patients – and that people still benefit from his concern for them.

The lovely Victorian home he shared with my grandmother Grace (Breyfogle) Jones and, after her death, his second wife Ruby (Kennedy) Jones is now a law office, somewhat remodeled, but remaining so true to the home's original layout that it made me gasp to walk through and remember little details I'd forgotten over the years. The staircase newel posts that just fitted my hand as a child . . . the little storage area under the front stairs that made me feel like a giant at age 7. . the leaded glass front door that cast rainbows on the entry floor on a sunny afternoon. My sincere thanks to the law group there now for indulging my delight in touring the old home again and for the care it's receiving in their hands.

In short, the experience was fun, sentimental, exciting, thought provoking, a little intimidating – and very, very worthwhile. If you've not been back home for awhile, I highly recommend the trip.

--Mary Jane Foster

L. W. Breyfogle - 1880 Census

Breyfogle L. W.	ms	on	42	Farmer	
- Laura A.	ms	7	31		
- Frank	ms	on	19	Son	1
- Jessie	ms	on	18	Son	1
- Lizzie	ms	7	2	Daughter	1
- Grace	ms	7	5	Daughter	1
- Warren	ms	on	3	Son	1
- Charles	ms	on	1	Son	1

1880 Federal Census Shawnee Twp., Johnson County, Kansas
The 1880 Federal census for East Shawnee Township, Johnson County, Kansas listed the family of L. W. Breyfogle as follows:

- L. W. Breyfogle - Farmer

- Laura A. – Keeping House
- Frank – Son
- Jessie – Son (Actually his daughter by first marriage – error in original census form)
- Lizzie – Daughter
- Grace – Daughter
- Warren – Son
- Charles - Son

Train Accident

Space does not allow us to reproduce the entire story published in the *Olathe Mirror* concerning the train accident that took the life of Lizzie and Lena Breyfogle. But we felt this story of the loss of family members of Grace that we should offer a few excerpts from this article to illustrate how significant this loss was to the family and community.

The first excerpt gives precise details of the accident and notification of the family: "Last Friday evening the north bound Missouri, Kansas & Texas passenger train No. 14 ran over and killed three young ladies at the crossing about one and a half miles northeast of Lenexa.

"The unfortunate young people were Miss Lizzie Breyfogle, aged 21 years, and Miss Lena Breyfogle, aged 12 years, daughters of Hon. L.W. Breyfogle, an old citizen of this county and member of the board of county commissioners, being in attendance on a session of the Board here in Olathe when informed of the frightful catastrophe by a telephone message from Lenexa; also, Miss Edith Correll, aged 13 years, the daughter of a tenant residing on Mr. Breyfogle's farm about nine miles north east of Olathe."

"The young ladies were returning home from Lenexa, driving two horses to a spring wagon, and the accident occurred at the deep cut crossing northeast of Lenexa, which so many who have traveled over the Memphis railroad have noticed and remarked was very dangerous. The train was running at a high rate of speed, 35 or 40 miles an hour, going down grade, and struck the wagon squarely, it being impossible for the engineer to see the vehicle or team until they were coming out of the cut in the wagon road, the horses almost running and only a few feet away. In but little more than a second of time before the collision, the engineer, Mr. F.A. Woodworth, could do nothing to avert the dreadful result. The engineer stopped as quick as he could and found the two younger girls dead on the pilot of the engine, but the oldest had been carried at a distance of about three telegraph poles to the north of the crossing where she had fallen to the ground, and was still alive but died in a minute or two later. The train men gathered the bodies up tenderly and placed them on the train which then backed up to the station at Lenexa and gave them into the hands of their sorrowing friends."

The paper also gave this brief sketch of the accidents victims: "The Misses Breyfogle were daughters of ex-Senator L.W. Breyfogle, one of the most

prosperous and influential farmers of this county, a member of the board of county commissioners, and president of the First National Bank at Olathe.

"Miss Lizzie, the oldest daughter, was a highly educated and accomplished lady and was 21 years of age. She had been attending school at Baker University, Baldwin City, Kansas, for several years past and would have graduated from that institution in another year.

"Lena, the 'baby,' was 12 years of age and was an unusually bright and kind-hearted child.

"Edith Correll, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Correll, was about 12 years old and a mother's pride."

We conclude with this excerpt describing the funeral services: "The funeral services were held at the family residence on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, Rev. R.S. Finley of the M.E. church officiating. He preached a very eloquent sermon from the text: "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." – John xiv:2, after which Prof. O.G. Markham, of Baker University, made a short address.

"The remains were followed to their last resting place in the village cemetery, at Lenexa, by the largest procession ever seen in this part of the state, it being estimated that between 1500 and 2000 people were in attendance, from every quarter of the county. Although Miss Edith Correll was not related to the family of Mr. Breyfogle, all were buried side by side, in one grave.

"The heart broken families and relatives of Messrs. Breyfogle and Correll have the heartfelt sympathy of the people of Johnson County in this sad hour of affliction."

C.W. Jones, Grace Breyfogle Marry

From the *Olathe Mirror*, January 1903

Dr. C.W. Jones of Lenexa and Miss Grace Breyfogle, daughter of L.W. Breyfogle of near Lenexa, were married at 6 o'clock Christmas afternoon at the home of the bride's father, Dr. Alderman of Kansas City officiating. The young couple left on an afternoon train to St. Louis, where they will visit relatives of the groom a few days. Dr. and Mrs. Jones will reside in Lenexa where the doctor has built up a large practice. The bride is the daughter of L.W. Breyfogle, president of the First National bank, and one of Johnson county's very estimable young ladies.

Obituary – Grace B. Jones

From the *Olathe Mirror*

Thursday, December 3, 1925

MRS. C.W. JONES' DEATH

Pneumonia Fatal to Wife of Physician

Her Illness of Only Six Days Duration – Funeral Service at the Home Wednesday and Burial in Lenexa Cemetery*

Profound is the sorrow and deep is the grief for Olathe and Johnson County for one of her best beloved women, Grace B. Jones, wife of Dr. C.W. Jones, has passed on, after an illness of only six days with pneumonia. Her death occurred at 2:40 a.m., Sunday, November 29, 1925.

The funeral service was held at the home, 214 South Chestnut, Olathe, Kansas, at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, December 2, conducted by Rev. Alva C. Brown, pastor of the First Methodist Church, this city. Burial was made in the family lot in the Lenexa cemetery.* The pall bearers were S.B. Haskin, E.H. Haskin, W.J. Rhoades, J.S. Pellett, H.D. Lanter and C.J. Cowley.

Mrs. Bert Gilbert sang "Face to Face," and Mr. Ed Bradshaw of Lenexa, "The End of a Perfect Day."

Mrs. Jones had accompanied Dr. Jones on his visit to the various hospitals in Kansas City on Sunday, November 22, and was apparently in the best of health. Early Monday morning she was taken ill, the doctor at once pronounced it pneumonia, and hurriedly called Dr. Lindsay S. Milne, Kansas City's best specialist and general practitioner, his brother, H.H. Jones, MD, FACP, Winfield, Kansas, a trained nurse from Kansas City and with this array of physicians and nurses the fight for her life was started, but without avail. The family was stationed at Camp Doniphan, Lawton, Okla., while Doctor Jones was in the service, and here she suffered an attack of pneumonia in the right lung, which weakened it greatly, making this attack harder to ward off.

Miss Grace Breyfogle was born on the home farm east of Lenexa, her parents being the late Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Breyfogle, pioneer residents of this section of Johnson County and one of the most prominent and strongest families in the county.

Mrs. Jones graduated from Baker University receiving her degree and later took a postgraduate course in music.

It was there she became a founder member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority and was its first secretary. On Wednesday while she was ill a Founders Banquet was held at the University and Mrs. Jones was scheduled to appear on the program.

Always mindful of minor details which might cause anyone inconvenience she had her husband call and tell those in charge that she was unable to attend last year by reason of having the flu, that this year she was ill with pneumonia, but that next year she would certainly be present. She was also a member of the Aelean, a literary society in connection with the University.

On Christmas Day 1902, Miss Grace Breyfogle was married to Dr. C.W. Jones, and the home was made in Lenexa for six years. While living there two daughters, Genevieve and Josephine died in infancy. In 1908 Dr. and Mrs. Jones moved to Olathe, where they have since resided.

Mrs. Jones, when but a small girl became a member of the Methodist church at Old Asbury, the county church, four miles east of Lenexa. She is a member of the Culture Class, of the Luncheon Club, and is a member of the Tri Delta Alliance of Greater Kansas City.

She was a wonderful mother and a true helpmeet to her husband in every sense of the word. She was his inspiration. Her devotion to her two daughters and her husband was marked.

Toward all she was charitable in her views, choosing to see the good in everyone rather than the ill. When we think of our departed friend the memory of her life comes to our mind, her acts of kindness, her gentleness of speech, her love for everyone.

In the death of Mrs. C.W. Jones the entire community suffered a distinct loss, and the heartfelt sympathy of her host of friends is extended to the husband and family.

We like to remember Mrs. Jones as having seen her and her daughters on Sunday, just a week before her illness, at the dedication of the Methodist church at Lenexa, where she had placed a large Memorial window in memory of her parents.

Surviving are her husband and two daughters, Kathleen and Mary Jane, three brothers, Charles Breyfogle and Warren Breyfogle of Los Angeles, and Frank Breyfogle of Chanute; a sister, Mrs. L.B. Kiefer, Los Angeles.

Out of town relatives at the funeral services were Dr. and Mrs. H.H. Jones, Winfield, Kansas; Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Hunt, Hannibal, Missouri; H.H. Hunt, Hannibal, Missouri; Joseph O. Hunt, Excelsior Springs, Missouri; Frank L. Jones, Kansas City, Missouri; Mrs. Richard Jones, Kansas City, Missouri; Mrs. Warren L. Breyfogle and Mrs. Charles C. Breyfogle, Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Breyfogle, Chanute; Miss Fannie McBride, Hannibal, Missouri; Lewis Breyfogle, Akron, Ohio; Beecher Breyfogle, Garden City, Kansas; and Miss Grace Keifer Taylor, Chicago, Illinois.

Obituary – Joyce (Gluck) Breyfogle

Our desire was to concentrate our entire effort in this newsletter to a single topic but when we received this notice from the surviving family of Warren Breyfogle we felt we needed to include it in this issue. We of course offer our condolences and prayers for this family.



Joyce (Gluck) Breyfogle
January 27, 1929 – October 1, 2005
It is with profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Joyce Breyfogle on October 1, 2005 at Grace Hospital. Joyce was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother who was

passionately committed to her family. She was a miraculous gardener, an avid card player, and a fabulous cook, who loved to entertain family and friends.

Joyce was born in Morris, Manitoba on January 27, 1929, the daughter of Gustav and Theresa Gluck. As a girl she lived in Ste. Elizabeth and moved to West Kildonan with the family in 1946. Joyce worked at Searle Grain before marrying Warren Breyfogle in 1951. Together they farmed with Warren's parents on the family dairy farm near Ste. Agathe and then lived in Winnipeg for a few years before acquiring their own farm near Rosser. This was the perfect location to raise their seven children and to pursue their lifelong gardening passion.

Once all of the children were in school, Joyce returned to the workforce, doing accounting at Eaton's. When Warren and Joyce sold their farm, they spent a few years living in St. James before retiring to their cottage at Sandy Hook. Recently they had moved to the Lions Manor in Stonewall.

Joyce was predeceased by her parents, Gustav and Theresa; brothers Wilfred and Ralph; and sister Alma. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Warren; by her seven children, Donna (Doug Langrell), Debbie (Jerry Jones), Wilfred (Rhonda Turner), Marvin (Christie Newson), Wendy, Terry (Chris Burch), and Tim (Jackie); also by twelve grandchildren, Kate, Thomas, Brent, Kelly, Lee, Adam, Candy, Abby, Sarah, Daniel, Colin, and Joseph; and great-granddaughter Kendall. Also mourning Joyce's passing are her brother, Rodney Gluck (Gerry); goddaughter, Carol Buhr (Ernie); godsons Gus Beitz (Becky) and Kerry Gluck (Cheryl); and numerous nieces and nephews. All will deeply miss Joyce's irreplaceable nurturing and supportive spirit.

Thank you to the Grace Hospital staff, especially those in ICU and on the third floor. The family's gratitude is extended in particular to Drs. Shepertycky and Paunovic, and to Abby and Catherine on the third floor, for your care and compassion.

A memorial service was held at 2pm, Thursday, October 6 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 600 Cambridge St., Winnipeg. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Joyce's memory to the Grace Hospital Foundation, 300 Booth Dr., or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba, 200-6 Donald St., Winnipeg.

You may contact us by mail or e-mail with comments, articles, or questions:

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