

Breyfogle Sentinel Dispatch

April 2007

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Volume 3 – Number 2

From the Editor

It is finally starting to look like spring here in Iowa! We had more winter in February and March than in the rest of what we think of as winter. We had a huge ice storm at the end of February that left us without power for 30-hours, then the next weekend we had a blizzard that left us buried under snow with ice for a base. We hope that wherever you are the weather is moderating and providing you with at least a glimpse of spring.

We were very pleased to receive so many nice comments on our first newsletter for 2007; we received more comment on this story than any other we have presented. We have published a couple of the comments as they add a little more detail to the story and thank those that wrote for allowing us to publish their comments.

Life Beyond Berks County

In the February 2007 issue of this newsletter we began a discussion of the Breyfogle family's move out of Berks County, PA. And as a refresher, we really don't have any real evidence of the first ancestor to leave Berks County, but we do know that the move westward by the Breyfogle family occurred about the same time that new lands were opening up for settlement.

We will use the Federal Census files as our primary resource on the movement beyond Berks County, and although some of the data from these reports is sketchy we feel the work of Flora Grumman and Lewis W. Breyfogle will support most of the information we will present.

It appears that Lockport, NY was the first location for a Breyfogle to settle outside of Berks County, as covered in our first article, and the 1830 census reported that Benjamin Breyfogel had settled in Nimishillen Twp, Stark County, Ohio. We are not sure this is a descendent of Johann Petar Breyvogel, as it appears this person was born about 1790 and we do not have a record of a person in the lineage with this birth year. This same person also shows up in the 1840 Federal Census but is not shown in the 1850 Census.

The 1840 Federal Census is the very earliest definite link to Breyfogle's we can connect to Johann Petar Breyvogel living outside of Pennsylvania. As indicated in the first article on this subject, we have Charles C. Brafogle living in Somerset Twp, Niagara, NY. We are assuming this is the son of Jacob D. and Catharine B. (Dreilbelbis) Breyfogel, which makes

him the brother of Josiah (B. 1806), Joshua D. (B. 1806) and Jacob (B. 1814) Breyfogle. Joshua D. Breyfogle was listed in this 1840 census as living in Delaware, Ohio along with several other cousins, which include Daniel (B. 1808), Israel (B. 1809), and Reuben (B. 1811). These cousins were all sons of Solomon D. Breyfogel who was born about 1805 and died about 1817.

The point of this report is to indicate that although New York seemed to be the first point outside of Berks County for the family, Ohio was the second and it was in this state that the Breyfogle family seemed to establish itself before heading further west.

The movement of our ancestors from Pennsylvania to Ohio followed a pattern that is noted on the website www.ohiohistorycentral.org. In this article it is noted, "People of Germanic origin were among the earliest white settlers of Ohio. Most migrated from Pennsylvania during the late 1700's and the early 1800's along Zane's Trace. Many came to help build the numerous canals constructed during the 1820's and 1830's."

Zane's Trace, as noted in the online encyclopedia, www.wikipdeia.org, was a frontier road constructed during 1796 and 1797 through what was known as the Northwest Territory. It is named after Col. Ebenezer Zane who directed the construction of this road, and a portion of the trace was later incorporated into the National Road and eventually become part of US Route 40. The website www.route40.net indicates that this was the first road cut into the wilderness and was billed as the shortest distance between Wheeling, Virginia (now West Virginia) and Maysville, Ohio on the Ohio River. Zane petitioned Congress for permission to build this road and was so impatient that he started the project without support from Congress.

Although this road is noted as the primary path of the early immigrants to the state, it should be noted that the original Breyfogle homes were established in Delaware, Ohio, which does not lie on the Zane's Trace. Delaware is located about 20 miles north of Columbus Ohio, where the National Road crossed the state. The National Road construction began in 1811 and reached Illinois by 1839. The National Road begins at Cumberland, Maryland and was the first major improved highway in the United States.

This road was a collection of other roads and when completed became a portage between the Potomac and Ohio Rivers and was billed as the gateway to the

West. Unlike the early roads in this country that were nothing more than a clearing between the trees, this road was the first in this country to utilize the Macadam surface. This consisted of creating three layers of stones laid on a crowned surface with side ditches for drainage.

This would result in a road that would provide easier passage regardless of the weather. Since we don't know the exact method of passage by our ancestors from Pennsylvania to Ohio, we can only say that regardless if they traveled by foot, horseback, or by horse drawn wagon, the Breyfogles would have enjoyed easier travel than their ancestors who traveled by the "Great Road" from Philadelphia to Kutztown.

In our first article we discussed the possibility that the young Breyfogle men may have traveled to Lockport to take part in the construction of the Erie Canal. As we look at early Ohio history we find that the Ohio legislature established the Ohio Canal Commission in 1822 and under their guidance routes were chosen for a canal system to connect Lake Erie to the Ohio River. Work on the canal system began in 1825 and was largely completed by 1833.

It may be possible that the Breyfogles who settled in Ohio may have worked on this project, or perhaps it was the opening of the canal system and the construction of the National Road that attracted them to the opportunities in central Ohio made possible with a water and land route. We can't be sure why they chose Delaware instead of other communities, but at this point our research indicates this was the second major settlement by the Breyfogles in America.

Delaware, founded in 1908, is located near the center of the state of Ohio, about 20 miles north of Columbus. Delaware was incorporated in 1816, and is the county seat of Delaware County. Located along the bank of the Olentangy River, the town was founded by Colonel Moses Byxbe and Henry Baldwin. According to the Ohio History Central (www.ohiohistorycentral.org), a web site that provides an on-line historical encyclopedia, "The two men sold lots within the town for thirty dollars each. Although houses began to spring up as early as 1807 and 1808, it was not until 1815 that the town was officially incorporated. In addition to a number of houses and businesses, there was also a courthouse built at that point. Among the earliest settlers was a Baptist minister, but within the first few decades of settlement a number of other religious groups established churches, including the Methodists, the Presbyterians, the Episcopalians, and the Lutherans.

"Because of its location on the Olentangy River and proximity to Columbus, Delaware prospered from its early years of settlement. In addition to a number of local stores and taverns, the town also supported a number of early industries, including sawmills, a

flourmill, and a woolen factory. A number of lawyers and doctors called the community home, as well as about two thousand other inhabitants by the 1840s.

"These early businesses prospered due to Delaware's proximity to numerous transportation routes. In 1851, the first railroad passed through Delaware. It connected the community with both Columbus and Cleveland. Numerous other railroads eventually came to Delaware, expanding the city's reach and influence even further. Delaware grew so quickly that the community established its own streetcar system by the beginning of the twentieth century. There also was an inter-urban service that ferried people between Columbus and Marion. This system provided Delaware residents even more access to nearby communities."

Since we know that several Breyfogle's are listed as living in Delaware in the 1840 census we must assume that they arrived here prior to the census period, or in other words during the mid to late 1830's. Since many of the early business ventures



Rutherford B. Hayes

were established shortly after the town was incorporated it is logical to assume that these descendents of Johann Petar Breyvogel may have relocated here to find work.

Perhaps one of the most notable residents of Delaware Ohio was Ohio Governor and President Rutherford Hayes, born October 4, 1822. His father passed away 2-months before his birth and he was raised by his mother and her brother. He began his education in Delaware and later finished in other schools. There is no way to know for sure, but perhaps some of the Breyfogles and their children may have met this future president in the early days in Delaware.

Although Ohio experienced more than its share of industrialization during the mid to late 1800's, the primary business prior to 1850, like most of the country was agricultural. In fact, by 1849 Ohio produced more corn than any other state.

In our next edition we will concentrate on a few of the Breyfogles that made their home in Delaware Ohio. Among them is Joshua D. Breyfogle and others that traveled to California during the 1849 Gold Rush and later joined the Union army during the Civil War.

Delinquent Property Taxes

In a random search of www.newspaperarchives.com for connections between this community and Breyfogles, we found an official announcement of property that would be sold for payment of back

taxes. It listed Daniel Breyfogle as the owner, but we are not sure he is related to our line.

This does bring us back to a census file we referred to in our opening article that showed a Benjamin Breyfogel living in Nimishillen Township, Stark County, Ohio, and as we stated, we do not know if he is related nor do we know the given names of his children listed on the form.

We have transcribed a portion of this full-page article below:

Sale of Lands and Town Lots Delinquent for Taxes for 1855 and 1856

The following is a list of the Lands and Town Lots in the County of Stark delinquent for the non-payment of State, County, Poor, Bridge, Township, road, Special, School House, Public Building and Corporation Taxes for the years 1855 with the interest and penalty due thereon, and the Taxes of 1856 added,

Nimishillen Township			
Owner	Town	Value	Total
Breyfogle, Daniel	Harrisburg	306	4.05
Breyfogle, Daniel	Same	18	.23

SOURCE: The Ohio Repository, Canton, OH 12/31/1856

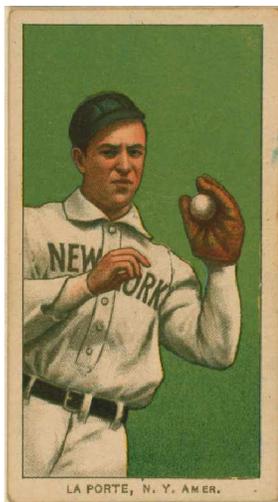
Unknown Breyfogle

As you may be aware, we use www.ancestry.com as one of our primary research tools. Since this site continues to add additional resources it is our habit to search for any occurrence of the Breyfogle surname on a regular basis. In a recent search we were surprised to find a person with the middle name of Breyfogle and also the fact that he was a professional baseball player for New York.

We have been unable to connect him to the family

line so thought we'd turn to our readers, especially you baseball fans out there. Here is the information as presented at www.ancestry.com:

Name: Frank LaPorte
Birth name: Frank Breyfogle LaPorte
Nickname: Pot
Birth Place: Ohio, United States
Birth Year: 1880
Death Place: Ohio, United States
Death Date: 25 Sep 1939
Height: 5'8"
Weight: 175 lbs.
First game date: 29 Sep 1905
Final game date: 03 Oct 1915
Bats: Right
Throws: Right
Draft: Not Applicable



Letters to the Editor

Our article in the February edition of the Breyfogle Sentinel Dispatch brought us several comments, the first is from Marsha (Breyfogle) Vaughn:

By coincidence, there was a family that lived a short distance down the rock road from my parents home for many years. There was a brother, his wife and their newborn child that was in one of the planes that crashed. What are the odds that a Breyfogle and victims of the airline disaster would be an eighth of a mile apart? We were aware that the family sued the airlines for their loss and reached a rather substantial settlement.

As always, when we mention a reader we like to tie them into the family line, and when we did so this coincidence seemed stranger yet. You see Marsha is the daughter of Vincent Lee and Mildred Elizabeth (Schall) Breyfogle of St. Louis, MO. Vincent was the son of Forrest Wesley Breyfogle (the first Forrest W.). Now isn't that where we started? We announced the birth of Forrest W. Breyfogle V, this led to the story of the airline crash, now the granddaughter of Forrest W. reports that they had a neighbor with a loss on the airline crash with a different Forrest Breyfogle as flight engineer, hmmm, it is a close world isn't it?

Our next comment came from the niece of Forrest Breyfogle, Donna (Breyfogle) Ruward:

I'm writing because of the story about the mid-air collision in the last letter. Forrest Breyfogle is my uncle. The cousin mentioned, that worked for United, is my Dad, Ralph Breyfogle. Although I was only 9 years old I still remember when my folks told me about the crash and what had happened to Uncle Forrest. My Mom told me years later, that somewhere in Flagstaff, AZ there is a memorial telling about the crash and listing the names of all the people who died.

I really don't remember much about Forrest, but I do know that on June 29, 1944 Forrest married Evelyn Shlinker. And they did adopt 2 children, one boy, John and a girl. I think her name is Jane. Our family lost contact with Evelyn and the children over the years. I think Evelyn continued to live in the Kansas City area.

Cover Image

The newspaper clipping that appears on the cover of this edition shows an unknown Breyfogle as Captain of the Ohio Wesleyan College football team. Can you identify him for us?

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

dan@breyfogle.com

Mason City, IA 50401
USA

To:

**College Football – October 23, 1899
Newark Daily Advocate, Newark, OH**

WESLEYANS WON

**Saturday's Foot Ball Game From
Denison by Score 12 to 0.**

The football game here Saturday afternoon between the Ohio Wesleyan University team from Delaware, and the eleven from Denison university at Granville, resulted in a victory for the Delaware boys by a score of 12 to 0. A good sized crowd witnessed the game.

training and better team work. Denison's line was the heavier and every time the O. W. U. boys bucked the center they lost ground but they made it up by runs around the ends and all round team work. The features of the game were the runs of Binkley and

Henderson, who made the two touchdowns, Binkley landing the ball over the line after a pretty 30-yard run. Priddy kicked the two goals. The first touchdown was made when the first half was two-thirds over and the second was made early in the second half. Twenty minute halves were played.

The line up:

Delaware.	Position	Denison.
Carter	.....Center	.....Gabel
Penn	.....right guard	.....Geston
Henderton	...left guard.....	Megaw
Ewing	.....right tackle.....	Bynon and Jones.
Yoder	.....left tackle.....	Russell
Breyfogle (capt.)	right end.	Lockbridge
Hill	.....left half.....	Weston
Nash	.....right half	Swing (capt.)
Skeel	.....quarterback.....	Green
Priddy	.....full back.....	Beck