

# Falls of the Ohio Genealogical Society

## First Families of Clark, Floyd, and Harrison Counties, Indiana

### Biographies of 2022 Inductees



#### Clark County

##### Elizabeth Chappell (1810 – 1880)

**Elizabeth Chappell** was born February 17, 1810, in Clark County, Indiana. Elizabeth married **William Knowland** on February 3, 1831 in Clark County, Indiana. **William** and **Elizabeth** had seven children. **William** (ca 1836) , **Eliza Victoria** (1841), **James** (ca 1842), **Thomas Paul** (ca 1846), **Elijah Washington** (1849), **Simon Kenton** (1852), and **John** (1855). All of their children were born in Clark County. In the 1860 census they were living in Charlestown, 1870 in Henryville, and 1880 in Otisco. Her husband **William's** occupation was listed as a silversmith. **Elizabeth Chappel** died on May 1, 1891 in Clark County, Indiana. **William** and **Elizabeth** are listed in the Hanna Memorial Presbyterian Church records in Clark County.

Submitting descendants: **Susan Higdon, Rhonda Jo Higdon Cole**

##### William Knowland (1808 – 1895)

**William Knowland** was born April 8, 1808 in Virginia. He married February 3, 1831 in Clark County, Indiana to **Elizabeth Chappell**. **William** and **Elizabeth** had seven children. **William** (ca 1836) , **Eliza Victoria** (1841), **James** (ca 1842), **Thomas Paul** (ca 1846), (1849), **Simon** (1852), and **John** (1855). All of their children were born in Clark County. In the 1860 census his occupation was listed as a watchmaker in Charlestown, 1870 a silversmith in Henryville, 1880 a silversmith in Otisco. **William** died March 15, 1895 in Clark County, Indiana and he is buried in Seatick Cemetery in Clark County, Indiana. **William** and **Elizabeth** are listed in the Hanna Memorial Presbyterian Church records in Clark County. As an additional note **William's** great great grand-daughter **Susan Higdon** does silversmithing.

Submitting descendants: **Susan Higdon, Rhonda Jo Higdon Cole**

##### William Patrick (1808 -1895)

History of the Ohio Falls Counties and Their Cities, Volume 2, states, " **William Patrick** was a North Carolinian, coming here in 1800. He settled on Six Mile Creek. Wives: **Mary Jacobs** and **Nancy Dores**. Children: **Rebecca, Jeremiah, John, Matilda, Elizabeth, Mary, William D., Nancy, James, and Sarah**. In the 1800 U.S. Census, William is listed in Salisbury, Rowan County, North Carolina; **William** is listed in the 1807 voter list and the 1812 militia list for Clark County, Indiana. **William** and **Mary Patrick** are buried at New Chapel cemetery in Utica, Clark County, Indiana.

Submitting descendant: **Alice C L Chapman**

##### Basil Prather (abt 1740-)

**Basil Prather** was born in Maryland and served during the Revolutionary War. About 1765, **Basil** married **Clorenda Robinson**, and together, they had twelve known children: **William, Walter, Thomas, Basil R., Samuel, Chlorenda, Lloyd, Simon, John, Aaron, Asa, and Susannah**.

In the 1790 census, he resided in Iredell County, NC. In 1820, he was listed in Clark County, Indiana. He and **Clorenda** are buried at New Chapel Cemetery. History of the Ohio Falls Counties and Their Cities states that "Among the early settlers along the Ohio River were the **Prathers**, who came from Maryland in 1801, and settled above Jeffersonville in the present township of Utica."

Submitting descendant: **Alice C L Chapman**

## Floyd County

**Francis C. Lang, Sr (1760-1847)**

**Francis C. Lang, Sr.** was born ca 1760 in Rockingham County, North Carolina. He was a Revolutionary War Veteran, enlisting in 1780 as a Private in the Company of Capt. **Charles Smith**. This regiment was out of Charles County, Maryland. He married **Rebecca Linder** February 6, 1797. The couple had six children. **Rebecca** died before 1819, when Francis married **Nancy Kennedy** July 29, 1819 in New Albany, Floyd County, Indiana. Francis later moved north into Greene County, where he died July 19, 1847.

Submitting descendant: **Caleb Jackson Lewis**

**Joseph Ross (1810-1892)**

**Joseph Ross** was born on April 1, 1810 in Virginia (According to the U. S. Census of 1850). It is thought that he came to the state of Indiana with his two brothers, **John** and **William Shelby**. They settled in Floyd County in 1823 when **Joseph** was 13 years old, near Georgetown. Joseph bought property in the county by 1831 from **Jacob Engleman** and his wife, **Elizabeth**. He was married to **Sarah "Sallie" Summers** in 1837 in Floyd County by **Henry Bonebrake** of the United Brethren Church. I believe his first child, **Jacob**, was born (1839) in the county before they moved on. By 1840, **Joseph** was living in Orange County, where 5 of his 6 children were born. These were **David** (1840), **Wm. Shelby** (1849); **John Henry** (1851), **Nancy Jane** (1855) and **Mary Ann** (1858). He then moved to Milltown, as 1863 tax records attest. According to the county history, he was one of the first settlers in that part of the county (Crawford). He lived a life of industry and prosperity and at his death was placed among the most well-to-do farmers of the county. He died and was buried at Milltown Cemetery in Harrison County at the age of 82.

Submitting descendant: **Nancy Poinsett Delullo**

## Harrison County

**David Austin (1781- 1865)**

**David Austin** was born May 12, 1781 in Surry County, North Carolina. **David** was a farmer in Harrison County. He was the son of **David** and **Elizabeth Scott Austin**. He married **Morning Critchfield** and had eight children. **David** died in 1865 in Harrison County, Indiana. They are both buried in Hancock Chapel Cemetery in Harrison County Indiana.

Submitting descendant: **Loretta Deaton Byrne**

**James Robert Bruce II (1760 - 1835)**

**James Robert Bruce II** was born in Orange County Virginia April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1758/1759. His parent's were **James Robert Bruce Sr.** and **Margaret Ann McMahon**. **James Sr** was a Carpenter along with his dad **John Bruce** and together they built many houses in Brucetown Virginia.

**James II** married **Mary Polly Runyon** March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1778 at Coxes Creek. This was said to be named after a relative **David Cox** that had come there several years past. It is now called Nelson County, Kentucky. They came to Harrison County in 1806/ 1807 as documented. They had 14 children. **James** was said to be a farmer. **James** died at the age of 75 in Harrison County.

The **Bruce Family Cemetery** can be seen from Hwy 62 outside of Corydon, Indiana. There is a large monument erected by several descendants. **James** and his wife are buried there in Crypts above the ground as well as several family members. The stones have fallen over and are difficult to read but are documented in "Find a Grave." These applicants are 8th, 9th, and 10th generation descendants.

Submitting descendants: **Rebecca Ann Hunt Riley, Sam Patrick Riley, Alyce Helen Scott, Angela Dawn Riley Scott, Curtis Neal Scott**

**John Cline (1752 - 1843)**

**John Cline Sr.** was foreign born about 1752. In 1777 **John** enlisted into **George Washington's** Continental Army for three years. **John** was at Valley Forge the winter of 1777-1778. He also served in the Battle of Brandywine. **John** married **Rachel Bennet** after he served in the Revolutionary War. They had eleven children. They moved from Shelby County, Kentucky to Harrison County, Indiana about 1808. **John's** pension was approved at \$8.00 per month. **John** died in January 1843 and is buried in an unmarked grave on his son Nicholas' farm in Franklin Township, Harrison County.

Submitting descendant: **Gary Cline**

**Arthur Critchfield (1757 - 1814)**

**Arthur Critchfield**, son of **Margaret** and **Joshua Critchfield Sr** was born about 1757 in New Jersey. In an American Revolution Pension Statement, his wife **Lucy Scott Critchfield** said they were married on February 10, 1777 in Surry County, North Carolina. Arthur was a private who served several tours in the Revolutionary War from 1777 to 1781. He served under **Captain James Shepherd**. He also served under **Colonel Benjamin Cleveland** and **Major Walton**. **Arthur** and **Lucy** had nine children. Arthur died August 29, 1814 and was buried in Blue River Township in Harrison County Indiana.

Submitting descendant: **Loretta Deaton Byrne**

**Morning Critchfield (1780 - 1849)**

**Morning Critchfield** was born March 10, 1780 in Surry County, North Carolina. She was the third child of **Arthur** and **Lucy Critchfield**. She married **David Austin**, son of **David** and **Elizabeth Scott Austin**, on March 11, 1811 in Harrison County, Indiana. Morning is buried in Hancock Chapel Cemetery with her husband **David Austin**.

Submitting descendant: **Loretta Deaton Byrne**

**John Strange (1807-1860)**

**John Strange** was born in 1807 to **Phillip Strange** and **Catrene Ash** in Kentucky. Both the **Strange** and **Ash** families came from Charles County, Maryland. **John's** father, **Phillip**, died in 1817 in Hardin County, Kentucky. By 1829 **John** had moved to Washington County Indiana where he married **Mary Ann Goldsberry**. They were listed in the 1830 Blue River Township, Harrison County Indiana census. The family was again listed in Harrison County in the 1840 census. **John** and **Mary** had six children. No record was found of land ownership in either Washington or Harrison County. **John** is listed as a farmer in the 1850 census. **John** died about 1860.

Submitting descendant: **Bob Sterrett**

**Joysey T. Austin (1825 - 1887)**

**Joysey T. Austin** was born April 10, 1825 in Harrison County Indiana. She is the daughter of **David** and **Morning Critchfield Austin**. She married **Henry Whitman Totten** on February 8, 1844 in Harrison County Indiana. **Joysey** and **Henry** had ten children. They are both buried in Totten Cemetery in Crawford County Indiana.

Submitting descendant: **Loretta Deaton Byrne**