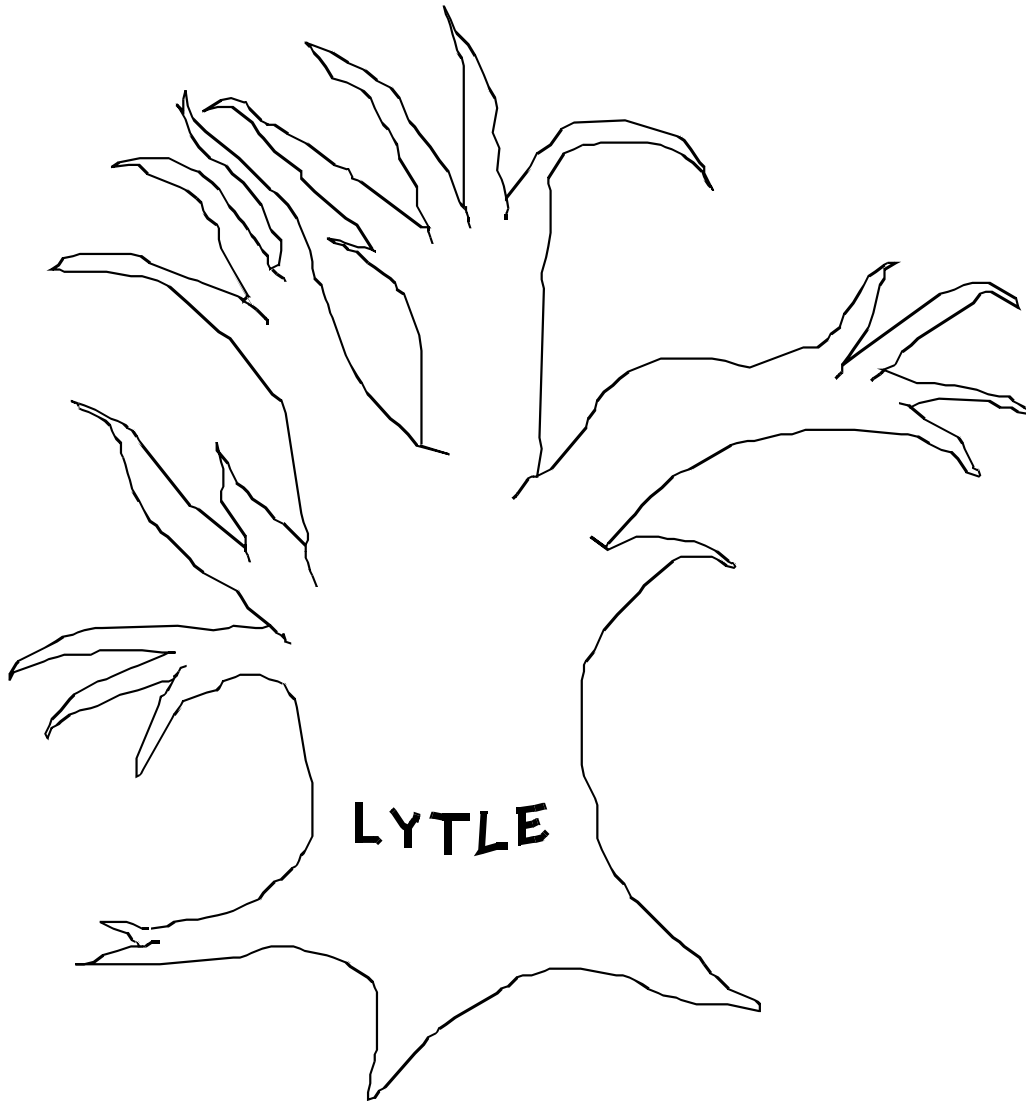


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Can You Top This?

We received the following article from Gilbert & Lottie last month. To them, a belated congratulations on a long & happy marriage!



Richardsons to celebrate 65 years

Gilbert and Charlotte Richardson will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary with an Open House on July 2 from 2-4 p.m. at the Salem United Church of Christ, rural Steinauer, Neb. Hosting the event are their children Arlan and Carmen Richardson, Larry Richardson, David and Rachel, Gracey and

Garrett Richardson, Dusty Richardson, Nicolas Richardson, Veva and Curt Cheney, Brian Cheney and Tim Cheney.

They were married June 26, 1940. Cards can be sent to 409 Richardson Ave., Lewiston, NE 68381. No gifts please, just your presence.

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Dead Ends

Some people trace their ancestry backward in time, adding grandparents further and further back, and to them this is genealogy. Others enjoy finding their living relatives, starting from one of the ancestors. And many people do both. Oftentimes, you learn a lot about your ancestors by finding living relatives who know more than you do. Part of the excitement in hunting for relatives is wondering what stories they can relate, what names they might add to the tree.

So it always a bit sad when you find a dead end -- some relative with no living descendants.

Such is the case, now, with one of our Lytles. Eunice Lytle was the oldest daughter of Francis Lytle and his third wife, Martha Bulla. She came in between Newton (1837-1900?) and Luke (1840-1930), being born on June 15th, 1839. Eunice was married to Jonathan Cry, and like the two brothers she was closest to, she lived in Wayne County, Indiana, at one time. In 1860 she is listed with her husband and three children. By 1870, Jonathan is listed by himself, and only one of the children, Martha, can be found, as a "ward" of John and Elizabeth Reeder, living in Grant County, Indiana. We believe, therefore, that Eunice died between 1861 and 1868, the latter date being when Martha is entered into the Quaker records at Back Creek Quaker Church in Grant County.

Four years ago, this newsletter reported that a marriage record was found for Martha Cry. She was married to Frederick Lowrey just south of Grant County, in Madison County, on February 10th, 1884.

And now, at last, she has been found again, in the 1900 and 1910 censuses. She is still with Frederick Lowrey, but in 1900 has moved to Montgomery County, Kansas. Others from Indiana went their, including Eunice's older sister, Jane (Lytle) Benbow. Then, in 1910, Martha and Frederick can be found in Polk County, Missouri. In both censuses, they have an adopted daughter, Eva. In 1910, Martha is 50 years old, so it is doubtful that she ever had children of her own. None of this family has been found in the 1920 or 1930 census. Perhaps a marriage record will turn up for Eva, and we will find an adopted branch of the Lytle family tree.

A few more branches which died out include:

Harmon Lytle (1822-1845). His only child, Harmon Jr., died in the Civil War. He is the only adult child by Francis' wife Winnie Carter with no living descendants.

Albert Lytle (1836-1859), was the oldest child of Francis and Martha. He lived to adulthood, but never married. Not the same Albert otherwise mentioned here, but his nephew.

Stanford Lytle (1841-1864) and **John Lytle** (1845-1864) were both sons of Francis and Martha who died in the Civil War and were never married.

And then there are a few lost branches where it is unknown if there are living descendants.

Alfred Lytle (1806-1840), brother of Francis and Albert, had a son Francis (1835"-1862), left no descendants.

Francis Lytle (1820-?), son of Albert, had a son, William B., who might be the William Lytle married in Grant County in 1876, or maybe not.

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Deborah Lytle (1842-1903?), daughter of Francis, is known to have married twice, first to Willis Brewer, who died in the Civil War, then to George Kephart in Atchison County, Missouri, in 1867. She has not been found since, but is likely the sister of Demerious and Louisa who was reported to have died in Colorado in 1903.

Eleanor Lytle (1851-1908) has one daughter, Maude, in the census. Some say Maude may have been an adopted daughter, but this is not clear. She married Elijah Townsend, and nothing further is known.

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Twenty and Counting

Yes, you are reading the twentieth year of Lytle Plantation News. And we seem to be running out of material. After this year, expect to receive an annual bulletin around Christmas time each year. Be sure to forward your changes of addresses so we know where you are!

Dear Ancestor (author unknown)

Your tombstone stands among the rest;

Neglected and alone.

The name and date are chiseled out

On polished, marbled stone.

It reaches out to all who care

It is too late to mourn.

You did not know that I exist

You died and I was born.

Yet each of us are cells of you

In flesh, in blood, in bone.

Our blood contracts and beats a pulse

Entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled

One hundred years ago

Spreads out among the ones you left

Who would have loved you so.

I wonder if you lived and loved,

I wonder if you knew

That someday I would find this spot,

And come to visit you.



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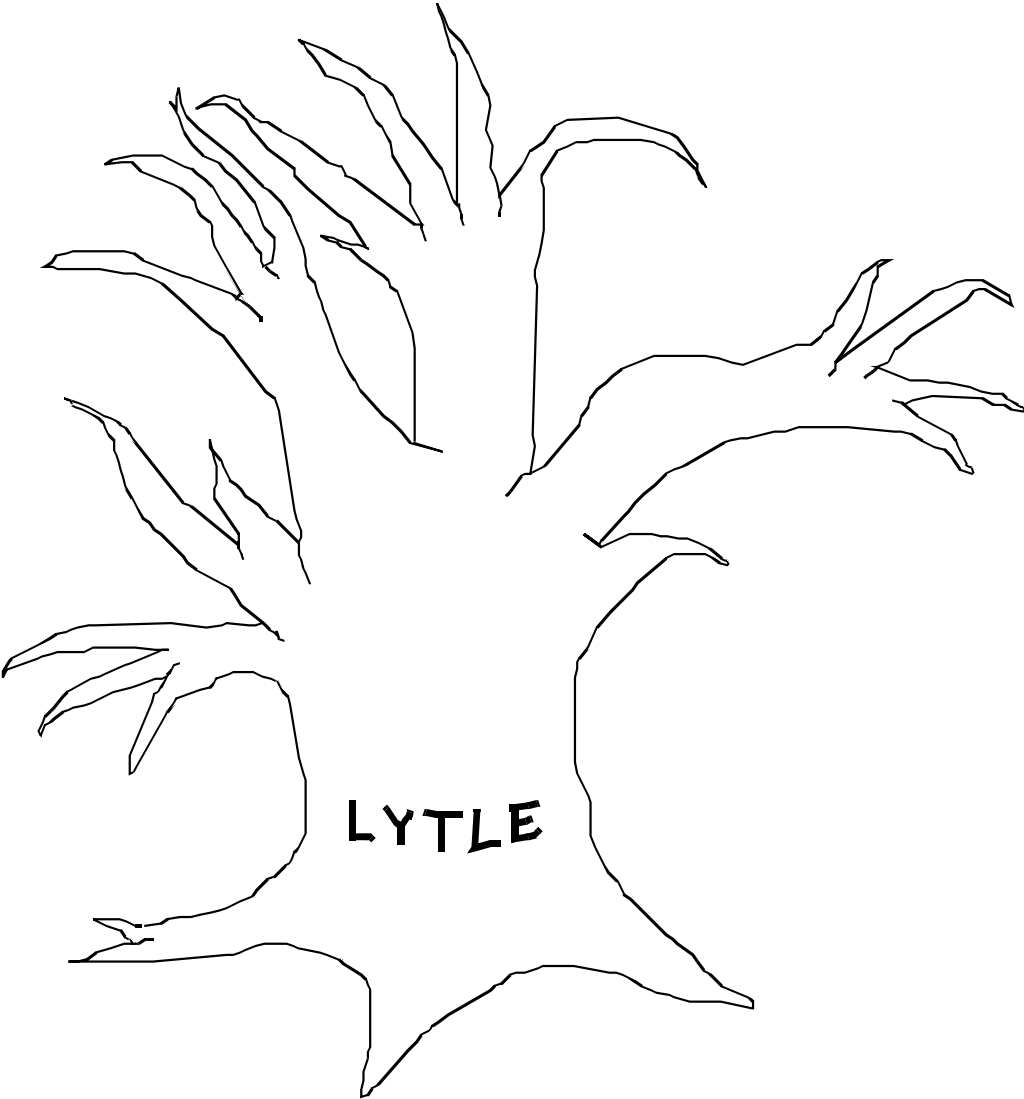
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Last Word on Zella?

When we last caught up with Zella Nicolaus (Volume XVIII #4, October, 2004) it was in newspaper articles from the year 1896.

The following two articles appeared in October, 1899, regarding "Zella Nicholas", who was Rosella Lytle, the daughter of Wesley Lytle (1839-1902) and great granddaughter of Francis Lytle (1796-1880). When last we heard of Zella, she was attempting to maintain an acting career, as well as a husband. Neither appears to have lasted.

Her Meteoric Career to Have an End in an Indiana Village

There are many who remember Zella with a smile at their folly in adolescence. But Zella has found the world to be a glitter and, tired of it all, has returned to her home in a quiet Indiana village to spend the remaining years of her life "far from the maddening crowd's gabble strife." With the exception of a few individuals, Zella will be best remembered by her flash into the life of Howard Gould, while her meteor was speeding across the horizon. More than a year after Zella had left Cincinnati, she appeared in New York. She had been in New York some months when the press dispatches carried out one night a rich bit of gossip to the effect that Zella had a claim against George Gould for \$10,000, on which she threatened suit unless instant payment was made.

For a long time both the Goulds and Zella Nicolaus refused to give any information as to the nature of the dispute. Finally it devolved that Zella had in some manner obtained a check for \$10,000 from Howard Gould, on which it was necessary for her to have the signature of George Gould as trustee. Knowing how the check had been secured, George Gould refused to sign it; not only this, he firmly declined to discuss any plan of compromise. More than this, Zella declares, he got possession of the check on the pretense of endorsing it, and then refused to give it back. Zella stormed about a great deal, threatening all sorts of legal procedures, but the case never came to court. The public was never taken into the confidence of either party as concerns the final outcome of the dispute. Zella said she was "satisfied," but avoided direct answer to the question as to whether she got the \$10,000. She continued to live at the best hotels and to dress in the most magnificent of Paris-made costumes.



ZELLA NICOLAUS.

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Repents Her Deeds

Zella Nicolaus Sorry for her Life

Goes Back to Her Indiana Home After Basking in the Sunlight of Notoriety for Several Years -- Her Ill-gotten Money is All Gone

It would be easy for a clergyman of any denomination to preach a sermon on the brief, meteoric career of a young woman, who, after acquiring lasting and unenviable notoriety in New York after going to the limit of the swiftest pace the metropolis can afford, has at last turned back to her mother, whom for many years she had neglected, and in the quiet of a little western town has sought to blot out the memory of all that has happened since first she left the homestead. This young woman, Zella Nicolaus, was not so beautiful as she was brilliant. Her charms were as subtle as they were manifold. There was more in the intensity of her eyes than in the arching of her eyebrows, more in the winning expressiveness of her mouth than in the curving lines of her lips. There were no dimples in her cheeks, and her brow was low and unattractive, but when her intense spirit lighted up her countenance, there were men that went to her more surely than if she had been brilliantly beautiful. Her career before the public was like the passing of a bird through a crowded room -- all eyes were upon her for the time. Never heard of before, the papers gave many pages to her doings, and her name became a by-word in many households. Her first mention came with a breath of scandal that involved the name of one of the sons of Jay Gould. For a time it was impossible to discover which of them it was that had become involved with the clever young woman, and, in fact, the general public was never quite satisfied which one she had ensnared. The Goulds had always had great influence at police headquarters, Jay Gould himself having befriended and enriched Superintendent Byrnes. The most desperate methods were employed to hush up the details of the affair, but gradually they came to light, and in the end George Gould, as the head of the family, took the matter in hand. A successful financier, he found it no easy matter to handle the young woman who opposed her wits to his. She had in her possession a check for \$40,000 signed by a Gould name. It was his desire to get hold of it. She had been unable to cash it, and as a last resort went to George Gould's office. After some maneuvering Mr. Gould said to her: "I do not want so large a check to go through the banks in your name," and in a businesslike manner he held out his hand for the little slip of paper which meant so much money to the owner. "Give it to me and I will give you the money. See! Here is \$500 as an evidence of good faith."

For once Zella was outwitted. "Here it is," she said, producing it from her handbag, "and of course, you will give me the money --"

"When you can get it," remarked Mr. Gould, as his hand closed over the check and it passed to his pocket. Then, rising and opening the door, he said "Good day."

But that was far from being the end of the incident. If Mr. Gould depended upon the police to protect him from further annoyance by the young woman, he was disappointed. The department was powerless. The determined Zella was not to be bluffed out of what she considered to be her rights in the matter, and she persisted until the Goulds were glad to make a settlement in order to have her "shut up and stop being a nuisance."

The money, whatever the amount may have been, was soon spent and the brilliancy of Zella's career was at an end. There was a man -- Al Ruhman -- who figured as her husband for a time, but he soon left her, and she traveled the broad road of pleasure with no restraining hand. Inevitably came an

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appearance on the stage, which was a flat failure, and soon the public lost all interest in her. No one cared to know of the limits to which she was going. She was hidden from view.

Not until it became known that her last dollar, her last friend was gone, and that the wages of sin were being paid, did anyone give her even passing attention. Her appeal that she might be permitted to go back to her mother, when all others had forsaken her, awoke some sympathy. The mother herself had sent the erring daughter \$5, all she could spare. It was not enough to take her to the faraway Indiana town. But others came to help her and now she has gone. Her health is shattered. Her brilliancy is gone. It is not likely she will ever be heard from again.



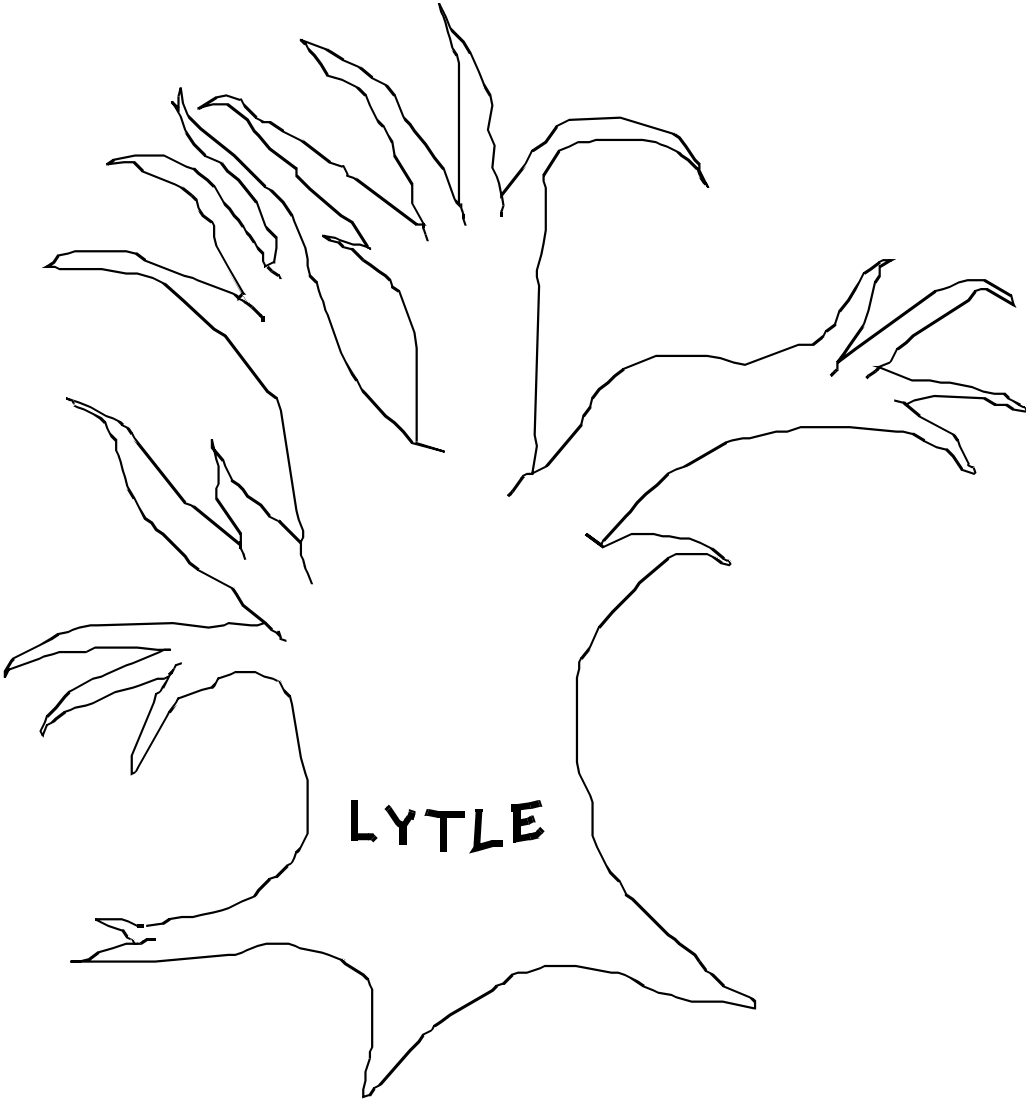
ZELLA NICOLAUS.

Indeed, the above article may have prophesied truly. Even though written in late 1899, Zella has not been found in the 1900 census, even though it has been searched otherworldly for her various names. Her parents were living at that time in Wabash County, Indiana, but she is not with them nor apparently near them in the census. No other records has yet surfaced for her after this date. Perhaps she changed her name to avoid the notoriety?

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Carter History For Sale

The Carter family of Duplin County, North Carolina, has at several ties to the Lytle family, possibly an important one for many of the readers of this newsletter. The first wife of Francis Lytle Jr. (1796-1880) was said to be Winnie Carter in their oldest son's (Rev. James Lytle, 1818-1904) obituary. James's sister Jane, however, names her as Winnie Blizzard. Blizzard is more likely, and DNA matches suggest this is correct. If true, the Carter connection is likely through her probably parents, Hezekiah Blizzard, and Leah Carter. Either way, she was a granddaughter of Solomon Carter. There is, in fact, another granddaughter named Winnie Carter, whose son Enoch Quinn Jr. was married to Sarah Lytle, daughter of Albert Lytle and Winnie Tucker. Solomon Carter is also the grandfather of Kezziah (Carter) Blizzard, who had three grandchildren marry into our Walden and Swaney branches. Thus, all of the Lytle branches from James, Thomas, Tobias, and Francis Moore Lytle, as well as daughters Elizabeth Freeman, Mary Buller, Jane Benbow, Anna Brown, Winnie Edgerton, and cousin Sarah Quinn will be delighted to know that the ancestral Carter home is still standing.

The following information is available from Southland Historic Preservation in Raleigh, North Carolina:

Point of View Plantation has come back to life after five decades residing empty and forgotten. The colonial home had trees growing into its foundation and vines smothering it which SHP and local citizens recently removed. The building's engaged roof was lowered in the 19th century thereby enclosing a former full-length second-story porch with Caribbean origins, of which only a handful of surviving 18th century examples remain in North Carolina. *Point of View* may readily be restored to its original form and is available to purchase on its original site.



Solomon Carter acquired a 760-acre land grant in 1768 upon which he established his plantation home Point of View. Early records indicate that Carter's home and mill were established along the Northeast

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Cape Fear River on Matthews Branch, the very tributary where the house and millpond are located today. Sited on a knoll in the relatively flat lands of the Coastal Plain, the house was originally constructed as a two-and-one-half-story building with a second story porch, lending credence to its name Point of View. For reasons unknown, the roof system was lowered by Alexander Carter after inheriting the property from his father, and Alexander is likely responsible for outfitting the house with its present Federal detailing. Adding more to the mystery, aspects of the interior detailing were never fully realized, as the walls of the larger second-story room remain unplastered and sheathed. One section of wall still contains its original scratch-coat of plaster, revealing the deep trowel marks designed to help bond the finished coat. Next to the plaster section is another part of the wall retaining its uncovered hand-split lathe. The room's remaining studs and ceiling beams show no evidence of any nails, lathe, or flush boards ever applied. The pegs in the corner posts remain pointed and uncut, protruding three inches into the room. The dwelling may be the oldest "unfinished house" in the South. SHP would like to see the home restored to its original configuration, which likely included an engaged main roof over the second story porch akin to Harmony Hall in Bladen County, and the 1780s Daniel Sloan House in Duplin. A boxed stair climbs to the third story garret which possesses magnificent wide pine floorboards and a small firebox, evidence of its use is visible in the surrounding charred floorboards. Fireplaces also existed in the two second-story rooms, but the present chimneys serve only the first floor hall and parlor hearths, indicating that the current chimneys are not original. Sections of the original beaded clapboard remain on the house and are applied with a mixture of hand-wrought nails. Rosehead nails are also found in the building's corner boards and roof system. The house retains ten original doors along with three fireplace mantels. Removal of the 1950s drywall in the hall recently revealed a section of raised-panel wainscoting and painted horizontal wallboards. *Point of View* resides on a 185-acre farm in a quiet, rural section of northern Duplin County. The structure will require a major restoration including a new well and septic system (the soil does perk). No plumbing has ever been installed in the house, new electrical and mechanical systems are needed. Eighty percent of the framing and subframing is in excellent condition, including the long roof rafters that clearly reveal their original arrangement. With the roof raised to its original height, the third floor would provide the interior of the house approximately 2,000 sq. feet of floor space, with an additional 500 sq. feet on the first and second-story porches. Additional land, (and options for land) are being offered by the property owner.

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For more information, contact:
Southland Historic Preservation
<http://www.southlandhp.org/default.htm>
Telephone: (919) 616-5832
Address: 1150 Apple Blossom Court
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

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Silver Anniversary Celebrated

Your Editor-in-Chief, Rik Vigeland, and his wife Linda (nee Manning) celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 13, 2006. Numerous family and friends were on hand at their house in Canby, Oregon, to help celebrate. They followed up with a trip to Norway and England with their daughters Anna and Laura.

In Memory

Bertha Richardson was the wife of Bud Richardson (1908-1985), who was a son of Una Lytle and Leonard Richardson, and a grandson of Luke Lytle (1840-1930). The Richardsons were some of the first Lytles I met when I started research back in the early 1980's, and Bud, along with sister Mildred and brother Gilbert, were first cousins of my grandfather Harry Hahn. Bertha was present at the Lytle Family Reunion in Rock Port, Missouri. Many of our readers will remember her from that event. Thanks to Ellen Ford of Lincoln, Nebraska, for sending the following obituary.

Bertha L. Richardson Bertha L. Richardson, 97, Lincoln, formerly Crab Orchard, passed away Saturday, July 22nd, at the St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

She was born Feb. 2, 1909, near Liberty, Nebraska, to James and Emma (Dugan) Nelson. Bertha graduated from Liberty High School in 1927, and received an associate degree from Sterling College in Kansas in 1929.

She began teaching elementary school in the fall of 1929. In 1965, she received her bachelor of science in elementary education from Peru State College. Her career spanned 35 years, 30 of which were at Lewiston Consolidated Schools.

She married Ormal "Bud" Richardson on June 7, 1934. They lived and farmed in the Lewiston area their entire married life. In 2002, Bertha relocated to Lincoln. She was active for many years in Order of the Eastern Star, Legion Auxiliary, United Methodist Church and many other community activities.

She is survived by two children, her daughter, Patricia and son-in-law and Marvin Frank of Lincoln; son, James, Ripon, Calif.; grandchildren, Teresa Parke of Gretna, Kenneth Frank of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Pamela Kenaston of Lincoln, Stacey and Andrew Richardson of Ripon, CA; six great-grandchildren; sisters, Isabelle Trent of Dayton, Ore., and Faye Little of Vancouver, Wash.; many nieces and nephews. Bertha was preceded in death by her parents, husband, four sisters Marie Morrill, Reva Mack, Nelva Tegtmeier and Barbara Hood and two brothers, Waldo Nelson and James Wallace Nelson.

Memorial services were held at the United Methodist Church in Tecumseh on Wednesday morning, July 26, 2006, with Reverend Evie Gulachi-Johnson officiating. Organist, Cheryl Meister accompanied soloist Cinda Goodrich as she sang "How Great Thou Art" and "In The Garden" and congregational hymn "The Old Rugged Cross". Honorary pallbearers were grandchildren Teresa Parke, Kenneth Frank, Pamela Kenaston, Stacey Richardson and Andrew Richardson. Inurnment was at the Lewiston Cemetery preceding the service.

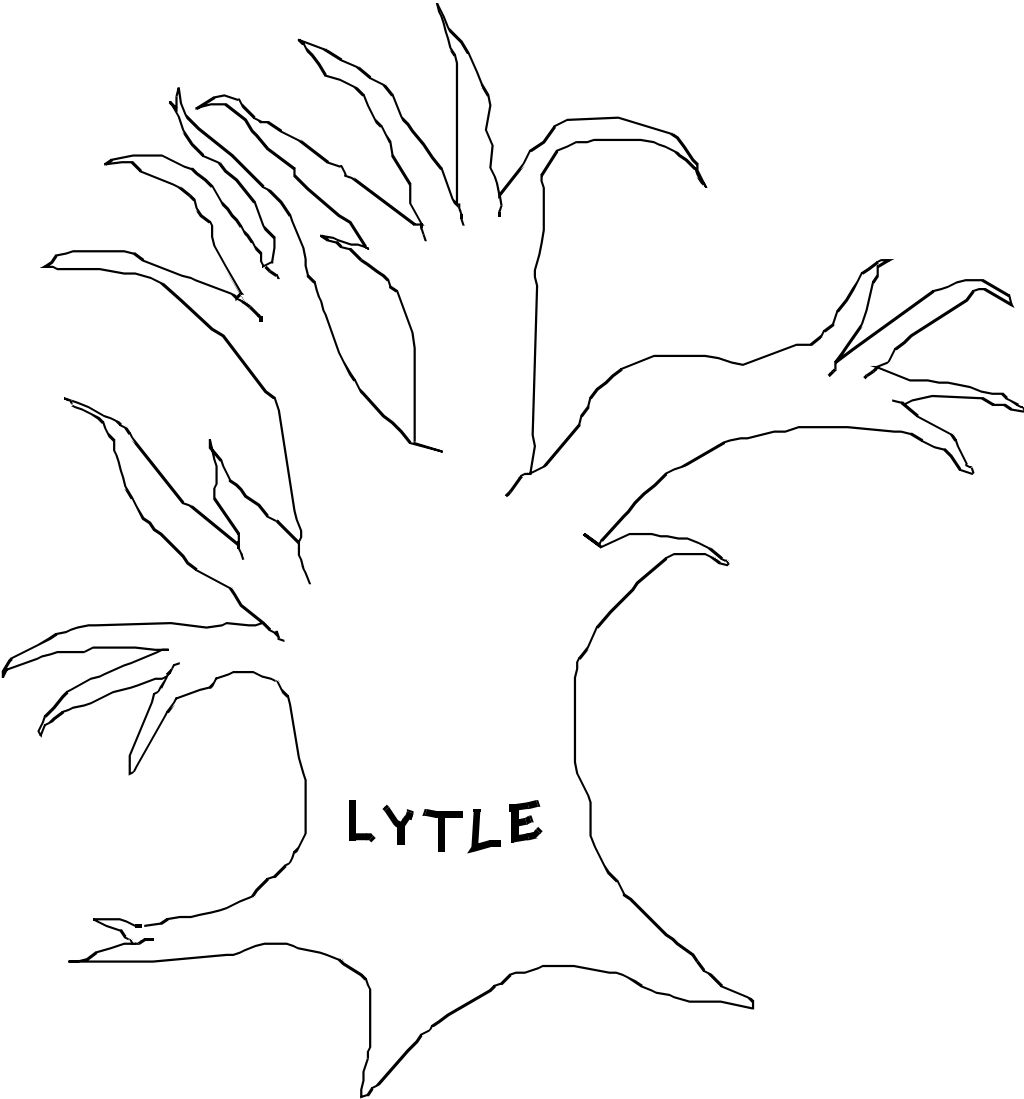
Memorials may go to the Nebraska Children's Home, Omaha, or the family's choice.

Arrangements by Wherry Mortuary, Tecumseh.

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Bulletin Schedule Change

This bulletin completes twenty years of the *Lytle Plantation News*. And we've run short of news. Really. For the past two years, it has been difficult to find articles every three months. Some family bulletins get by with sharing recipes and photos and such, but most of the readers of this newsletter are spread far and wide, and not many know each other. So, we have stuck to printing the history and genealogy of the Randolph County Lytles, along with the families that they have married into.

For now, I plan to send out an update every holiday season. If any amazing discoveries take place, you will find out.

Please be sure to send in your change-of-address notices, otherwise it will be hard to find you.

I would like, though, to launch two projects in the meantime. First, a Lytle family history book, comprised of all the past bulletins, organized into narrative form, covering each family and generation in detail, along with genealogy charts and high-quality photographs. When it is ready, an announcement will be made to inform you all of size and price. You will probably want several for all your relatives, right?

Secondly, since we are well into the 21st century, it is time to take advantage of falling prices in the area of genetic testing. There are several types of genetic tests now available, generally in the \$200 range. Some tests require at least two participants in order to compare results. In all cases, the DNA test is performed from a sample gathered with a cheek-swab.

I propose that the following tests be conducted:

1. African heritage test. This will require tracing an unbroken female line from one of the original slave women of the Lytle Plantation. Such a person has yet to be located, though some lines have been traced from the late 1700's up to the early 1900's. In each case, though, the line has either died out, or been broken by having sons and no daughters. And some lines simply disappear with no forwarding address.
2. Ethnicity test for the wife of Frank Lytle. We can speculate whether she was white or mulatto, but a test identical to #1 could be performed on any female line descending from Frank's wife. A few eligible participants are known.
3. Ethnicity test for the first wife of Frank Lytle Jr. She was Winnie Carter, and there were numerous mulatto Carters in North Carolina. This test is identical to #1 and #2. Several cousins (female line descent) from Winnie Carter are known and eligible. Note: men can be tested too as long as their maternal line leads to Winnie Carter.
4. How many wives did Frank Jr. have? Family tradition says there was a wife between Winnie Carter and Martha Bulla. If test #3 is performed, then another test on a descendent of Sarah (Lytle) Huff would should show results different than those of a descendant of Winnie Blizzard.
5. Lytle group test. This one is only for you male Lytles out there. Two or three participants (or more) would be ideal, since if their results all match, that means we have documented the family correctly. Further, the male line could be compared to other Lytles or even Littles (the internet says several other families have already performed this test!) to see if there is a connection. If there is none, the results could also be compared to other families in the Randolph County area to provide possible clues - in case Thomas Lytle was somehow not the father of Frank.

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[2022 Update: Several of the above tests have been completed. Please see later bulletins or the Facebook group “Lytle Plantation” for updates.]

The Lytle Plantation bank account currently has over \$500. Since the newsletter is going to an annual issue, donations for postage are no longer needed. Any further contributions will go toward the genetic test projects. It has been quite some time since we put out a specific call for donations, but a total of about \$700 would allow us to conduct all of the above tests.

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