



A.E. Swope
1870-1955

SWOPE NEWS



Kate Swope
1870-1939

2010 Reunion July 24



Mayme
1890-1953



Ralph
1892-1948



Elnora
1894-1997



Laura
1900-1991



Kathryn
1903-1981



Alice
1905-1985



Isabel
1908-

Year 2009

No 3 December

Editor Paul Swope

Email paul@swopes.org

DEAR FAMILY,

My name is Amy Tice. I'm Anne Isobel Swope Germano McKeeby's granddaughter, and Don and Sara Mac Germano's daughter. This is the first article I've written for the Swope Family newsletter. I've enjoyed reading it for years, and have saved most of them.



They came in very handy earlier this fall, when my son Fuller's 5th grade class was studying the Civil War. He had to do a report on what life was like as a soldier during that time. Although we've always lived in Georgia, he chose to do his report on the Union (because they won!)

He picked Infantry soldier as his topic, not knowing that his great, great, great grandfather, Albert Asbury (A.A.) Swope, actually was one!

To complete the project, we got out and read through all of the Swope newsletters relating to A.A. Swope, then went online and got some additional information from the Swope website. Paul Swope was very helpful by sending a lot of information - thank you, Paul! Fuller also got information and pictures about that time period from other online sources.

The report is too long to include in the Swope newsletter, but I thought you might find interesting some facts we found out about the Swope family. For instance, did you know that the Swope family originated in southwest Bavaria in Germany, and that they moved to Rotterdam, Holland in the 1600's to escape religious persecution because they were Jewish? They became Christian before they immigrated to America in the early 1700's. They lived in New York before moving to Pennsylvania in 1720. Swope was spelled Schwab until 1749, when it somehow got changed to Swope.

A.A. Swope's mother was from the Patterson family, who'd come to America with the Pilgrims. His father had trained as a doctor, but never practiced; he was a farmer. They ended up in Indiana because they'd traveled there to meet a friend who was going to move with them to California during the 1849 "Gold Rush," but the friend died before they got there, and A.A.'s father liked the area so much that they settled there instead!

Interestingly, many people in Indiana supported both sides during the Civil War, although Indiana was officially a Union state. A.A. was 19 when the War began. He and his 3 brothers served in the Union army, and all survived the war. A.A. was in Company F of the 24th Indiana

Volunteer Infantry. He fought in some of the major battles which helped to finally bring the war to an end, especially the 6 week Siege of Vicksburg under the command of Major General Ulysses S. Grant!

After the war ended, A.A. went back to his family's farm in McCutchanville. He left it though, when he married widow Sarah Erskine, whose 3 year old son Henry had inherited his father's 110 acre farm and the original home built on it in the 1820's. Their only son, Albert Edward (A.E.) was born there in 1870. By 1877 Sarah and Henry had died (leaving A.A. the property,) and A.A. had remarried. In 1893 A.A. gave the farm to A.E. and his growing family, while he moved to Evansville and started a contracting business. Members of the Swope family continued to live in the home until it was finally torn down in 1955. (This land is the land on Swope Lane and is now Airport Land.) (Note – They have now, 2009, removed all the trees from the land on Swope Lane.)

The (James Asbury Swope) farm land is now part of both the Evansville Regional Airport and the Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery. (This land was the 40 acres on St George Road that A.A.'s Father had.)

Besides being highly successful farmers, both A.A. and A.E. were interested and active in local politics as members of the Republican Party. They both held elected positions over the years. A.A. was even a Justice of the Peace! A.A. died in 1904 at age 62, and is buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Evansville.
Amy.

FROM GYANNE SMITH

Mother continues doing well for her 101 years. Charlie and I are going up for Thanksgiving and look forward to a seeing her and the rest of the Georgia kin. We will stay with brother Don and Sara Mac. Their daughter Amy and family will be there for Thanksgiving Day.

I had a One Woman Show the month of October, showing 41 paintings, mostly watercolor. Sales were slow and not as good as my last show two years ago. I think the economy put a damper on that.

All in our family are doing well and those needing jobs still have them.

Grandson Josh is going home from Pharmacy school for Thanksgiving.

Grand daughter Sarah just finished dancing in the school production of Carousel and has been cast in the newest production, one of only 2 sophomores to get a part.

If any of you watch "So You Think You Can Dance", one of Sarah's best friends has made it to the top 14 (as I write this). She and Jacob danced together at the same studio during High School days. Vote for him if you watch the program!

Have a blessed Christmas season.
Love, Gyanne

HELLO FAMILY,

What a great summer and fall we've had! Richard and I traveled to Ft Sill, Oklahoma to meet up with Karen, John and Megan and watch Will's graduation from Army Basic Training! We had a wonderful time and everyone is so proud of Will!

November found me in Evansville meeting up with John and Karen to go to Megan's Navy Boot Camp Graduation in Great Lakes, IL. We had a great time and spent 3 days being typical tourists on the Illinois Shore! Megan was so glad to see us, her computer and cell phone. Well, probably not in that order.

The second week I stayed with Dad and helped him and John work on Karen's new house! What a house! Karen and Will are going to have a wonderful place to live.

Richard is doing great and so are the boys and the grandkids. God has been so good to us.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas.
Paula Sue & Richard from Texas

FROM TEXAS

I have to address what has recently happened down here in the Ft. Hood area. With the recent incident and what has surround it, the out pouring of people caring, running to long blood lines and standing for three to four hours to donate blood. Cards, flowers and support just steady pouring in.

My friends and I had been on Ft. Hood just three days before that on Tank Destroyer Blvd. I was giving my grand tour since I had spent so

much time there in my old "Officer Wife's days". I have always had a fondness of Ft. Hood and the soldiers who are deployed there. I was telling my friends of all the times there, some good, some bad, but also telling her the history of this place and the different divisions etc. I did explain to them how I felt Ft. Hood was too open and at times it worried me. I was always worried about a "terriost" getting in. Less than four days later I am to learn that no matter what you are not safe, it happened from within. Of course like so many others we were sick with grief.

But then something really unusual happened as a result of all this bloodshed. I found out something come Veterans Day. This affected so many people, even the civilians who had never been in the service. We started receiving phone calls all days Veterans Day. People were calling us and thanking Manfred for the time he served, some remembered that I had spent time at Ft. Hood. I was amazed. We even got long distance phone calls. That night I thought about it. I have only one wish. That the feeling will stay long after the shock of what happened at Ft. Hood is gone. That people reach out and touch and remember to thank anyone who has put his/her time in the service. It was great. Veterans Day felt like Christmas to us. To all in our family who have helped so much, lost a loved one, gave their time, paid their dues. Thanks you and have a Very Merry Christmas.
Manfred and Jo Schlottmann and Jared Mykael Macias

CARDINAL DRIVE EVANSVILLE

Well there have been a few events in this part of the family. My Daughter Deb, had a bad bout of Rectal cancer...The Cure done the most damage. She is still in recovery of that... Well last Month she has a Heart attack, caused from so much Kemo, and radium treatments. They fought it too aggressive.. For as Small as she is... The doctor told her that they usually don't survive a heart attack like she had.

I am recovering from Corporal Tunnel Surgery. They kept putting off surgery, and it got to the point the surgeon, said it was extremely severe...and he had to do more extensive surgery than he thought. He said that's

why its taking so long to heal... still sore in my wrist, hand still swollen, and discolored. Harlan said I was rushing it, and I'm sure I am. I'm in pain..... been almost a month.

His Knee is bothering him really bad..... Hey.... where are those "GOLDEN" years.....LOL.

I hope all of you are well...We had a nice Thanksgiving with my dad; he is 88 now, and My 83 year old Aunt. I am so thankful I still have them, and he does so good, and so does she. Plus we were with the rest of the family, the rest of my family. . . .But as I always say..I don't have to have a special day to be thankful....I am thankful every day...and as for all the good food.... I have plenty of that too. I feel guilty over the ones who don't have much to eat.

Well every one,,,stay well, and God Bless each and every one of you....Till later
Kitty, and Harlan

FROM INDIANAPOLIS

Still keeping busy at the Hoosier Village Retirement Center. I have a new address, though have not moved!!

Address: 5687 Cherryleaf Dr.
Indianapolis, 46268

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!!!!
Lois France

FROM JO

We are all involved in Advent at our Methodist church. I absolutely love this time of season. We drove to Ft. Hood and saw all the Christmas Lights along Lake Belton while we stayed at Lake Waco the last ten days. I had a car load full and they all had a blast. We are having a shopping day for our children at church where they can shop for their parents at the Elf's Workshop while feasting on Comet's Chocolate Chip Cookies, Dancer's Delightful Milk, and Donner's Donuts. Know they will have a blast. Games and music and later that day word is that Santa is coming to town to see the kids so they will have a fun filled day. I hate that at my age I am getting this excited about it.

We are experiencing a cold front that is bringing snow to the Dallas Ft. Worth area but so far all we have here is a freeze warning. Jared is now at the age where he is an "experienced" tree

decorator. He has his tree, the "teddy bear" tree all decorated and looking good and is on me to get mine up but I am dragging on that.

We are lucky to have good enough health to enjoy ourselves and hope that all have the same this year. It is so nice to be with family and friends at this time of the year. I know I will be the cook at Christmas as I got out of it during Thanksgiving by having it at my "sisters" house. It was the first time she had done it in years and she was one tired cook so guilt has me stepping up to the plate.

Jared is in UIL and will be entering a speech story contest and if he is related to me at all we expect him to do well. He has really enjoyed it and this year has had a blast riding bicycle, running the treadmill with dad, and going for walks with dad. It is so good yet so sad to see him growing so fast. He has told me that he will never marry so that he can take care of me. (anyone want to bet on that one) So all is good and we wish all a Merry Christmas.

Jo Sosbe Schlottmann and family

FROM S. E. BROWNING RD

I'm one of the late ones getting in news for the Newsletter, I keep waiting for something newsworthy to happen! One thing I'm sure of, you don't go very far or very fast on a walker!

We did celebrate Thanksgiving at Grant and Carlas home. All our local family, Laurie and her friend Amy, Logan, Grant, Carla, Ella and Gavin plus Katie made it down from Bloomington. We enjoyed everything; Gene made his special pecan pies. Having little grandchildren sure is entertaining for two old people; of course having the older grandchildren is pretty nice also.

We were surprised a few weeks ago to go down Petersburg Rd. and see that the airport had removed all the trees from Swope Lane. I'm sure that many of them had been there since Grandpa and Grandma lived there. The airport needed to expand the approach to the runway, such is progress I guess.

We haven't put up any Christmas decorations yet, all our young neighbors already have theirs up but I don't want to have to dust again before Christmas. I am working on Christmas cards and will take this space to wish all

of the family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Love from Nancy, Gene and the kitties Scout and Boo.

FROM CLIPPINGER ROAD

Not much here. Angel and I are doing well, no problems.

Been helping John do some remodeling on the house Karen bought. It's a 1950s house and had very small closets. John has been trying to give her more closet space. Also the inside had to be repainted.

Been keeping the web sites updated ok. Sometime it gets to be a job. Trying to keep up with emails is the hardest part. It seems like every time I send a group mailing there is some emails that come back.

I'm still with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Don't examine boats any more though. I just got to old to climb in and out of the boats. Afraid I would hurt myself or mess up someone's boat.

Take care.

Paul Swope

FROM FLORIDA

Mae had major surgery September 16 and is doing fine but wears out. Just got back from a cruise to the Panama Canal. We stop in 5 countries Mae was not able to do everything but we had a good time.

In August Levi went to Romania to sing with the gospel group on a mission trip. Roy's two girls and Roger's girl are in college.

This is the first year we will not be home for Christmas--just got to FL before we went on the cruise--we are enjoying the warm in FL now.

Ross & Mae

KAREN SWOPE'S FAMILY

There are several updates from my family since the last newsletter.

I moved into my new house on Halloween. I love it! I am still unpacking boxes. John and Dad have been staying very busy remodeling things to suit me.

I came down with Swine Flu just after moving in and my doctor put me in the hospital for three days. Ugh!



Will graduated from Army Basic Training on August 14th. John, Paula, Megan, Richard and I had a great trip to Fort Sill Oklahoma for the big

event. Two of Will's friends, Clay and Joe, also followed us in their vehicle to see him graduate. He is now finishing his senior year of high school. When he graduates high school he will go for his Army schooling.



Megan graduated from Navy Boot Camp on November 6th. John, Paula and I made the trip to Great Lakes Illinois to attend. We had a wonderful time sight seeing around the area. She is now on hold

for her school to start. She will be home on leave December 18th through January 3rd. I am very excited about having her home for a while. She hasn't even seen the new house yet. I hope everyone has a very blessed Christmas!
Karen

Letter from Jesus about Christmas

It has come to my attention that many of you are upset that folks are taking my name out of the season.

How I personally feel about this celebration can probably be most easily understood by those of you who have been blessed with children of your own. I don't care what you call the day. If you want to celebrate My birth, just GET ALONG AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

Now, having said that let Me go on. If it bothers you that the town in which you live doesn't allow a scene depicting My birth, then just get rid of a couple of Santas and snowmen and put in a small Nativity scene on your own front lawn. If all My followers did that there wouldn't be any need for such a scene on the town

square because there would be many of them all around town.

Stop worrying about the fact that people are calling the tree a holiday tree, instead of a Christmas tree. It was I who made all trees. You can remember Me anytime you see any tree. Decorate a grape vine if you wish: I actually spoke of that one in a teaching, explaining who I am in relation to you and what each of our tasks were. If you have forgotten that one, look up John 15: 1 - 8.

If you want to give Me a present in remembrance of My birth here is my wish list. Choose something from it:

1. Instead of writing protest letters objecting to the way My birthday is being celebrated, write letters of love and hope to soldiers away from home. They are terribly afraid and lonely this time of year. I know, they tell Me all the time.

2. Visit someone in a nursing home. You don't have to know them personally. They just need to know that someone cares about them.

3. Instead of writing the President complaining about the wording on the cards his staff sent out this year, why don't you write and tell him that you'll be praying for him and his family this year. Then follow up... It will be nice hearing from you again.

4. Instead of giving your children a lot of gifts you can't afford and they don't need, spend time with them. Tell them the story of My birth, and why I came to live with you down here. Hold them in your arms and remind them that I love them.

5 Pick someone that has hurt you in the past and forgive him or her.

6. Did you know that someone in your town will attempt to take their own life this season because they feel so alone and hopeless? Since you don't know who that person is, try giving everyone you meet a warm smile; it could make the difference.

7. *Instead of nit picking about what the retailer in your town calls the holiday, be patient with the people who work there.. Give them a warm smile and a kind word. Even if they aren't allowed to wish you a "Merry Christmas" that doesn't keep you from wishing them one. Then stop shopping there on Sunday. If the store didn't make so much money on that day they'd close and let their employees spend the day at home with their families*

8. *If you really want to make a difference, support a missionary-- especially one who takes My love and Good News to those who have never heard My name.*

9. *Here's a good one. There are individuals and whole families in your town who not only will have no "Christmas" tree, but neither will they have any presents to give or receive. If you don't know them, buy some food and a few gifts and give them to the Salvation Army or some other charity which believes in Me and they will make the delivery for you.*

10. *Finally, if you want to make a statement about your belief in and loyalty to Me, then behave like a Christian. Don't do things in secret that you wouldn't do in My presence. Let people know by your actions that you are one of mine.*

Don't forget; I am God and can take care of Myself. Just love Me and do what I have told you to do. I'll take care of all the rest. Check out the list above and get to work; time is short. I'll help you, but the ball is now in your court. And do have a most blessed Christmas with all those whom you love and remember:

***I LOVE YOU,
JESUS***

FROM THE EDITOR

REUNION

The date and place for 2010 has been set for July 24 2010. It will be at McCutchanville Church as it has in the last years. The date I sent in an email a while back had some conflicts so this is a revised date. Come at 11am and visit, set to eat at 12 noon. Bring your favorite dish to share.

Remember the shirt colors, those that observed the colors had a good time with them.

See the web page at www.swopes.org/reunion.htm there are pictures from the 2009 reunion on this web site. If you would like to print some pictures ask me for a CD of the pictures.

ADDRESS

We have been trying to keep all the addresses up to date. If you want the latest list let me know and I will get you one. Please try and keep the list up to date. If any of your family needs to be added let me know.

EMAIL

All of the family that is on the email list gets an up-to-date email list by email. There have been some bad addresses, if you have email and have not been getting updates, get your email address to me.

ACCOUNTING

Anyone wishing to audit the check book and account is welcome. I will have a sheet showing the up to date account at the reunion.

NEWS LETTER

We are still on a three a year news letter cycle. They go out April, August and December. I always need articles of family interest to fill the space. Please get them to me in a timely fashion. We can have up to eight pages without additional postage required.