



SWOPE NEWS

REUNION

Saturday July 16, 2011.

At the Black Buggy Evansville.

A.E. Swope
1870-1955

Kate Swope
1870-1939



Mayme
1890-1953

Ralph
1892-1948

Elnora
1894-1997

Laura
1900-1991

Kathryn
1903-1981

Alice
1905-1985

Isabel
1908-

Year 2011

No 1 April

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ISABEL

Mother will be 103 in April! She started off 2011 with pneumonia in January. She was in the hospital for a week, then in Rehab another four weeks.

Amazingly she recovered from the pneumonia but is still working with Therapy to regain her strength. She was able to go back to her Assisted Living room March 4th but requires some assistance.

Now she has another problem. The facial skin cancer that was removed last August has returned. This time it is under the skin and Drs say it could threaten her ear and mouth if she doesn't have radiation. We hate for her to go through that but evidently it is deemed necessary. She will probably start the Radiation in the latter part of March. I was with her for four weeks and will probably return to help out around April 1st.

She still plays a mean game of Skip-Bo and manages to beat us more than half the time. Son Don goes by every day to visit, take her to appointments, play Skip-Bo, etc. Daughter-in-law Sara Mac is there to help also. Most of her grandkids and families have been able to visit. Brian and family, Amy and family from Georgia, and Cindy and her family up from Ft Lauderdale. My husband Charlie was there a week.

I know she would enjoy cards of encouragement and also Congratulations for her 103rd Birthday on April 18th!!

Her daughter, Gyanne Germano Smith

FROM TED GLACKMAN

Every two years, the AIAA Foundation recognizes up to seven outstanding educators for their accomplishments in exciting K-12 students about math and science and preparing them to use and contribute to tomorrow's technologies.

The 2011 winners were announced during the 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting, in Orlando, FL, 4-7 January 2011. Each recipient of the Educator Achievement Award and a guest will receive an expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC for the Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala set for 11 May 2011. The visit includes a tour of Washington, DC, plus travel and lodging. It's a trip and celebration they'll never forget.

Please join AIAA in congratulating these seven incredible educators. They are responsible for inspiring their students to aim high and dream big. Their impact on their students is seen every day as those students compete successfully in various competitions and continue to study Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) at some of the best universities. We

interviewed them and asked why they do what they do.....there were some very insightful answers.

(I have included just Penny's interview.-Editor.)

Penny Leon Glackman



When did you decide that you wanted to become an educator?

I think it was always part of me, 'being a 'teacher', but I really fell into teaching because a friend of mine needed an assistant. My own children were in pre-school, and I had the time and inclination to work with her. From there I was in a small private parochial school and then on to a public school where I have worked for 20 years. At Merion Elementary School I felt I found my true calling as I evolved into an educator who found great passion in her work.

What makes you excited about working with your students?

Watching students grow and develop into lifelong learners with an enthusiasm for learning, knowing, understanding, and imagining are all parts of what excite me about working with children.

What are the greatest challenges that you face as you inspire your students?

I think the greatest challenges in today's world involve keeping children engaged in the learning process, keeping up with technology, and helping students to stay focused in a world filled with a wealth of stimuli including a plethora of distractions.

Can you tell us about a time when you knew that your teaching had made a difference with a student or their family?

A former student wrote an essay for his college admission application that focused on a person who had a great influence on him. As a shy and awkward fifth-grader in my class, he had an intellectual curiosity that was fueled by the learning environment provided. His boundless curiosity, clear intelligence, his imagination and enthusiasm for learning, all created a student for whom I felt I made a difference. I was incredibly touched by his essay, and became aware of the influence that not only I may have made as an educator, but of the lasting influences of so many educators. My former student is now pursuing a program in astrophysics at the University of

Chicago, with his sights set on remote sensing and planetary science.

Why aerospace education?

I cannot think of another topic that excites and stimulates the imagination and desire for learning the way aerospace does for my students. The enthusiasm for learning more and more about space exploration blossoms and develops all during the year as it is threaded throughout the curriculum in my classroom. It is exciting for my students, it is exciting for their families, and it brings excitement into my teaching and keeps me enthusiastic as an educator.

What is something that we would not know about you from reading the nomination package?

I am a grandmother of two boys, 7 years old and 7 months old. My 7 year-old is my 'best baking buddy', and we share a great enthusiasm for the original Star Wars Trilogy!

What is the best piece of advice you would give someone when working with students?

Find a passion of your own that you can infuse into the curriculum, and use this as a way to engage students in the learning process. The ultimate goal is to create students who are motivated to become lifelong learners and whose intellectual curiosity and imaginations are nurtured in your classroom.

From Gyanne Germano Smith:

When Mother was in the hospital recovering from pneumonia, she dictated 12 pages of her memories to me. Here is an excerpt which she titled herself, written exactly as she dictated:

"This Is My Life"

(by Anne Isabel Germano McKeeby)

"My first job as a child was getting coal from the coal shed and taking it inside to the stove for Mother's cooking. There were 6 in my class at school: 3 boys and 3 girls. Our teacher was a disciplinarian. One time she sent me out in the hall for whispering. Sometimes on the way home from school, we'd pick asparagus. We'd often go to the grape vine orchard and eat our fill.

My Mother was a kind, thoughtful person. She worked hard, canned fruit and vegetables, worked in the garden: hoeing, spading. She was always taking in strangers who had no home. Once

she took in a man and when she went to make up the bed, it was full of bedbugs. She took the bed down piece by piece and burned it up in a fire in the yard.

The rain on our tin roof sounded so good. We had no heat upstairs. Alice, Kathryn and I slept together. When one wanted to turn over, she'd say "Spoon" and we'd all turn.

Mother made quilts. She was more of a hard worker outside than inside. "Not much on cakes and pies." One meal I always enjoyed was beef hash.

Dad made sorghum syrup from sugar cane down in the woods.

Mayme was my oldest sister. She was like a second Mother to me.

Ralph, my only brother owned the gas station/store in McCuthanville.

Elnora was very hard working. She made butter with an old fashioned churn. I remember her beating the dust out of rugs outside and putting them back down, stretching them on fresh straw. She cleaned the gas chimneys every morning. They were all smoked up. There was a bush of gooseberries in the garden. Elnora made pies that were sold at the Windmill Restaurant during the war (WWII). Elnora was the hardest worker. She did everything.

Laura wasn't around much when I was little. She was a secretary at the YMCA. She fixed dinners at her house for us. She was a good cook.

Kathryn was always fun to be around. She laughed a lot, joked. She was the "boy" Dad always wanted. She, Alice and I shared a room and bed. I always thought I was a "Tag-A-Long". She and Alice chummed together. Alice and I became closer later. She went to Ohio State with me one year. I went to Evansville College for one year, then went to Ohio State and graduated from there. (about 1930).

Ohio State is where I met my husband Guy (Germano). He looked so handsome with his black hair and dancing brown eyes, whirling the girls around on the dance floor. I dated him a long time. Of all the boys I could have chosen, I chose the Italian boy from far away. Our marriage was June, 1934. The church was full of flowers and friends. Alice was my Maid Of Honor. At the rehearsal, I was excited and silly and the preacher tried to calm

me down, saying "This is the serious part". After the service, all the guests came to our home for a nice breakfast. Then we left for our honeymoon. Cooksey drove us to New Harmony where we had a cabin on the Walbash River. We enjoyed rowing on the river to a knoll where we would read Shakespeare to each other. We lived our first year in Evansville in a 2 room apartment that was in an old house once owned by the Cooks of Cooks Brewery"

There was a lot more but to write it all would fill the Swope Newsletter! Not bad for a soon to be 103 year old, huh?

ABOUT KATHY SPEICHER

Mom was in the hospital about the same time Paul was, the first week of February. She had let an infection go too long and by the time she had McKayla take her to the MEC she was feeling pretty bad. They put her on a strong antibiotic and low and behold she had a reaction to it. She got severely dehydrated. When she finally consented to return to the doctor her blood pressure was so low they immediately sent her to the hospital. They ran multiple tests, pumped her full of fluids and more antibiotics and scolded her about her smoking. She began to feel better the next day but they kept her for a few more. Once home, she continued to recover and went back to work. I think the only remaining symptom is she still seems to tire out easily. Maybe the warm weather and sunshine will help that.

The moral of the story would be to pay attention to our bodies and not let ourselves get so dehydrated.....some symptoms are thirst, loss of appetite, chills, dry skin and head rushes as well as confusion. The affects can be painful and very serious! We will save the smoking lecture for another time!

Kim Lawton

HELLO FAMILY

I think we missed spring. The temps are over 80 and it seems like summer! Worse part, no rain. Back to drought conditions and burn bans. Not a good start. Richard has started mowing grass and our air-conditioner is running.

The family is doing good, grandkids are growing up. Had a scare with Dad (Paul Swope).

He was in ICU for 4 days, but he bounced back and is his old self, which we are all thankful for.

I'm still working horse shows, designing and maintaining web sites and have picked up a job at the local Civic/Fitness Center. I guess I'm just a gluten for punishment working all these jobs.

My horses are fine and I might have to start riding them to work if the fuel prices keep going up! I told my boss she needs to put a barn/stalls at work.

Hope everyone is doing well and will be at the reunion this year.

Paula Sue Swope, TX

9737 CLIPPINGER RD

Everyone is telling about their hospital stay so I guess I have to tell about mine.

My son John found me the morning of January 15th. I was out cold and he had to call the ambulance to get me to the hospital. I don't remember any of the EMPs in the house and very little of the emergency room. They took me to emergency and then was in ICU for four days. I was a total of six days in the hospital.

It seems my problem was a urinary infection. The blood pressure was near nothing. They started pouring fluid and antibiotics in me. There were all kinds of tubes in and out of me for five days.

Paula came up from Texas and stayed with me for four weeks. I am home now and feel a little better every day. I guess a hospital stay takes a lot out of any person. That was the first time I was ever in the hospital as a patient

Glad to be home, Paul Swope.

LEISURE LANE

Not much going on here at Leisure Lane, just two old folks and two spoiled cats. My new hipo is doing fine, we had home physical therapy for two weeks after my two weeks at the nursing home but that ended last week. I still have to do my exercises twice a day and practice getting in and out of the car and bed. That's harder than you think with the left knee fused! We also try to go for a walk every day. We have made it to church the past few weeks .I don't know if I could have made it through all this without the support of our church and the good Lord.

We've had early spring weather here for about a week, we made a trip by our old house to check on my spring flowers and later in the week Gene went by and picked a bouquet of daffodils. One morning last week I was on the computer here by the back door when a little house finch was sitting on a post by the porch singing his little heart out for his lady friend. She evidently thought it was much too early to start nest building because she completely ignored him. That made me think that spring can't be too far away!

We need to do some work on our old house to get it ready to put on the market. We're hoping the housing market improves soon but aren't very optimistic. Gene continues his great job of cooking, cleaning, doing laundry and general handy man but I'm looking forward to taking over some jobs in the near future. We are able to get on meal a day, at noon, from the complex here that helps a lot. They also have a beauty parlor on the premises also, so I can get a haircut when I need it. That's about all the news here but I'm looking forward to reading all the exciting things everyone else in the family is doing! Till next time, God willing,

Nancy

HAPPY GREETINGS, HAPPY SPRING!

When we moved into this new home, 53 years ago, it was pretty much unfinished. Only necessary improvements were added all those years between, because life got in the way!

My Jim was active with McCutchanville Fire Department, followed by our three sons in teen years, and that's a lot of action on the back steps that led to squeaky and ugly stairs!

Well, not today! I have beautiful carpeted new steps – NO squeaks – I even enjoy going up and down them now! Well I sorta do.

We have a wedding in the family in June. Brenda and Brad McCandless son Adam will marry Celina Smith.

Happy Easter to all!

Evelyn France.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQ FREEDOM

As a member of B Battery 2nd Battalion 116 Artillery Regiment from Florida, we were



informed at our summer camp in 2008 that our parent unit the 53 Infantry Brigade

Combat Team would deploy to the Iraq Theater of operation early in 2010. This was gave all units in the Brigade time to train and be proficient for the mission. As time progressed each Battalion got their mission, ours had two missions. B Battery of the Battalion was to guard the Port of Ash Shuaish, Kuwait. We would work jointly with both the U. S. Navy and Coast Guard at the most active military port in the world.

Our Brigade was placed on active duty on 1 Jan 2010. Four days later we moved to the mobilization station at Fort Hood, TX. While there we would completed convoy training and trained in vehicle mockups that were computer simulations. We then left the states on 3 March to enter the theater to begin the missions assigned to each unit.

While there our duty day would last up to 15 hours because of the time it took to travel from our quarters to the port. While we were on duty it was similar to those old war movies where they men on guard duty. We were tasked to sit in guard towers man the main gates where we would search vehicles that were entering. Our second mission was providing the port with a quick reaction force in the form of 4 trucks with weapons mounted. These trucks would provide additional security in case of terrorist incident.

Those that have never left the state, and I don't mean taking a ship to the islands off the coast, you are put in a drastically different environment. You see things that you would see only in zoos, like camels, pit vipers, and camel spiders. The driving habits of the local people were sure different. They would often driving at night without their headlights on, make their own off ramps on the main roads, drive at incredible speeds

– more than here in the US –and leaving the vehicle at the scene of an accident. These are but a few examples.

We think it is hot while we are working here. Well, just imagine 120 degrees in the shade. Starting in July and on through August the temperature averages above 120 degrees, and over 90 at night. The only relief is air conditioning, but those buildings are few and far between when you are on-duty.

Our deployment ended the middle of December 2010 when we flew back to Ft. Stewart, GA for demobilization. We spent a week getting pay, medical and psychological debriefings.

Staff Sergeant Allen McCutchan, Winter Haven, FL

NEIL

Out son, Allen, deployed in January 2010 and returned December 2010 to Kuwait. He was one of about 3,000 Florida National Guard soldiers to deploy. From January 2010 through February 2010 the unit trained at Ft. Hood, TX. There they learned about convoying and guarding in simulations that were similar to Kuwait. Their primary duty was to guard equipment departing Iraq.

Allen returned to the US the middle of December to Ft. Stewart, GA. He resumed working for JC Penny at their distribution center in North Lakeland. Since he now has 21 years of military service in he doesn't know if he will continue in the FL Guard.

Judy & I are busy in our retirement here in Winter Haven. Judy spends a lot of time substituting in the county school system. She spent the last week of March in an autistic classroom where she has become the 'designated sub' for the room. We also stay busy with Eastern Star activities in two chapters. I help at the church's thrift house.

Neil McCutchan

RIGGS

We had seven of our family join us in Florida for Spring Break. We all had a good time together. Roy had been in Brussels from Monday thru Thursday and then he and Katie and Micah flew down on Friday arriving in at the Miami

Airport at Midnight - getting a rental car and driving mid-way to our place and on in on Saturday morning. We played some games, played shuffleboard since the three main things Micah wanted to do was Shuffleboard, swim and eat, eat and eat. Roy also sang a solo for church at early service and that was nice since it was Ross' birthday.

Maribeth, Jay , Grant and Faith drove down and got in Sunday evening - we all had dinner here and also Breakfast before Roy, Katie and Micah had to go back do to Miami Monday morning and boarded and cruise ship and a cruise. Grant and Faith went to Alligator Land and then we all took off and went to Lion Country Safarria. They went to the Ocean and boggie board and came back with a REAL sunburn. Wind was strong and all their tanning lotion got put out into the ocean, They left for home Friday morning. It was great to have some of the family and grandchildren here.

Please pray for our Grandson Danny who is headed to Afganistan. It worries us with the position he is in and with the shape Afganistan is in right now.

We have enjoyed Florida this winter - we have for the past 15 years, but will be heading for Indiana the last of April. We are hoping that spring has sprung up there.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Reunion.

Love, Mae and Ross

HELLO FROM KAREN SWOPE!

Not a whole lot different here. I love Spring. I have daffodils blooming and tulips getting ready to bloom.

I am still working full time, singing in the choir and the worship team and I am still the secretary of the Administrative Council at church.

Megan is now at Dahlgren Virginia doing her second schooling. She will graduate the end of September. Not sure at this point where she will go after graduation.

Still waiting on orders for Will to go to his school, this will be in Ft. Lee Virginia. In the meantime he is still doing his weekend drills once a month. When he gets back from his school he plans to go to college and get a job.

Dad gave us a scare when we had to call for an ambulance for him January 15th. He was in the hospital until January 20th. He seems to be back to his old self again. Thank God!

I guess that's it for now. Hope to see ya'll at the reunion this year!

Karen

FROM THE EDITOR

REUNION

The date and place for 2011 has been set at Saturday July 16 2011. The place will be the Black Buggy Restaurant, Evansville Indiana. The Black Buggy in Evansville is at the corner of Lynch and Green River roads. We have a banquet room reserved from 11:30 through the lunch hour. The cost is \$9.99 per person, pay upon entering. Children have reduced pricing. You will not have to prepare anything. Just bring your appetite! All food, drinks, and desserts are included in the price.

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. I have put some of the 2010 reunion pictures on the web site. If you would like to see more pictures or 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. If you would like a copy of the account sheet I can email it to you. I will have a copy of the accounting sheet 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 keep the family up to date. Please get them to me in a timely fashion. We can have up to eight pages without additional postage required.

I have been charging all of you 5 cents a page over the years for printing of the News Letter. As with everything nowadays all the costs are going up. The cost actually has been more than 5 cents per page for some time but the time has come when I have to raise my price for printing. Even the paper has taken an increase. Starting with the December 2010 issue I will be charging 7 cents per page. If anyone wants the job of editor I will gladly give it up.

WEB SITES

Black Buggy

<http://www.blackbuggy.com/index.htm>

Swopes <http://www.swopes.org/>

McCutchanville Church

<http://www.mccutchanvillecc.org/>

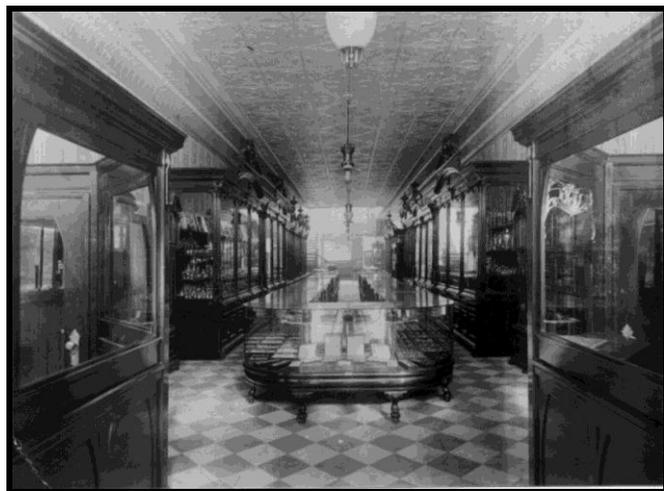
McCutchanville Cemetery

<http://www.mccutchanvillecemetery.org/>

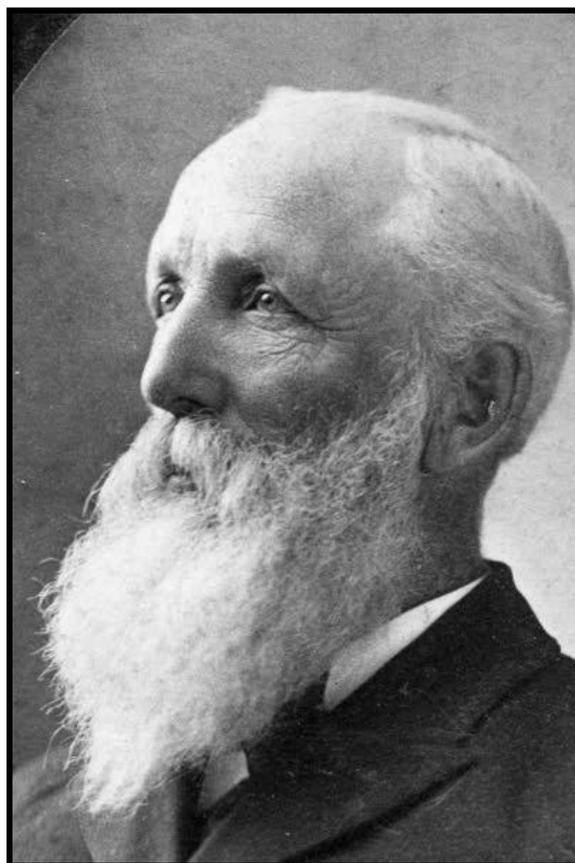
Bluegrass Church <http://www.bluegrassumc.org/>



Michael Sheldon Swope during Civil War.



Swope/Nehf Jewelry store about 1920



Michael Sheldon Swope before his death in 1929.