



**BBS**

Volume 17, No. 2

**Back/Bach Genealogical Society**

# Descendant News

August, 2010

## News Letter Articles

By Danny Back

The purpose of any news letter is to keep members of the organization informed about the past, present and future. In each issue I would like to include articles about the family, notice of events, birth and death announcements and updates to the family genealogy. To this end we need your help.

Would you please send me any information you would like to share with the Back family.

I have received some excellent material for the newsletter from members and I thank them. It will be included in future issues.

Danny Back  
P. O. Box 63  
Patriot, IN  
47038

e-mail [dlback@earthlink.net](mailto:dlback@earthlink.net)

## 2010 BACK-BACH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

There will be no organized tour on Friday. However there are a number of local attractions that

you might be interested in if you arrive early on Friday. We have included a list in this newsletter.

### Friday Evening October 9th

By Stella Elam

Once again we will meet at the Court House Café for our Friday get together.

The Court House Café offers grilled chicken @ \$8.95, 8 oz. Ribeye @ \$12.95, 10 oz Ribeye @ \$15.95 and grilled Salmon @ \$12.95 (includes 2 vegetable sides). The desserts are superb. I do not need your money for this meal in advance but I do need you to indicate if you plan to join us for this meal and your entrée choice. Serving time is 6 p.m.

New attendees will find the Café on Main Street and as its name indicates, near the Court House.

### Saturday October 10th

By Milton Back

#### Registration

Our meeting place is, once again, the Pine Mountain Grill. Registration will be from 10-12 and 3-4 on Saturday. The conference room will be open all day for your convenience in

socializing. Coffee and Danish will be furnished in the morning; you're on your own for lunch.

### Saturday Morning Activity

On Saturday morning, one of two possible activities will take place at 11:00 am. First, an effort is being made to schedule a gravestone dedication at a local cemetery by The Sons of Confederate Veterans. If the dedication is not possible, there will be a Back Family Confederate History presentation at the Veterans Museum in downtown Whitesburg.

If you would like to participate, please meet with Richard Smith at 10:00 am at the registration desk in the Pine Mountain Grill.

### Business Meeting

There will be a business meeting from 1-2 Saturday afternoon. Please attend as we have a number of items to discuss that affect the future of the Society.

### Program

We are fortunate again this year to have Stephen Bowling as our evening speaker. Stephen is the Director of the Breathitt County Library and Heritage Center.

He will be discussing the recent acquisition of materials concerning the Back/Bach families which were assembled by Dr. Wilgus Bach and presented to the Breathitt County Heritage Center and Archives at the Breathitt County Public Library by Mary Sue Smith, granddaughter of Dr. Bach. Details of the contents of these materials were printed in a recent newsletter, and are some of the most important materials concerning our heritage as members of the family. Stephen calls this collection "the Rosetta stone or the Holy Grail for Back and Bach family researchers". Stephen has graciously consented to bring these materials to the meeting for your discussion and viewing. In order to give everyone time to view the materials, Stephen will have them set up at 5:00 pm, one hour prior to the start of the evening's activities and dinner, so plan on coming early to view them and ask Stephen any questions you may have. This is a meeting you should not miss!

### **Entertainment**

We are pleased that the group '7 South' will be with us again with their excellent playing and singing for first class entertainment. '7 South' now has 7 members composed of Libby Smith, Donna Breeding, John Caudill, Lisa Braswell, Blake Breeding and Artemus & Darlene Campbell. Libby is the wife of Richard Smith, local artist, educator and our popular auctioneer.

Libby and Richard are longtime members of BBGS and we are fortunate to have them with us each year. Richard was in-

strumental in assisting with the cemetery project we conducted last year and we greatly appreciate his willingness to provide his assistance and advice.

### **Auction**

We will be holding the auction again this year. Proceeds from the auction are used to offset the cost of the annual meeting. Please bring an item to auction.

Pre-registration forms with the fee must be received by October 1 2010.

### **PLACES OF INTEREST**

Below is a list of places you might want to visit during the day on Friday and Saturday

### **BREAKS INTERSTATE**

**PARK.** PO Box 100  
627 Commission Circle  
Breaks, VA 24607  
(276) 865-4413

Breaks Interstate Park is often called "The Grand Canyon of the South." Perhaps the scale of the 5-mile-long, .25-mile-deep gorge that forms the park's centerpiece cannot rival that of the Grand Canyon, but the canyon is among the longest and deepest east of the Mississippi River. The raging Russell Fork of the Big Sandy River has carved the solid sandstone over millions of years to break through Pine Mountain.

### **Letcher County's Coal Miners' Memorial -**

2514 Hwy 317  
Jackhorn, KY 41825

Phone: 606-633-9887 or 606-855-4432

Located in the Community Center, the Letcher County Museum is the site of the Coal Miner's Monu-

ment. The monument is a memorial to all of those in Letcher County who suffered for the "black gold." Also see exhibits, antiques and coal mining artifacts.

**Pine Mountain**, the second highest peak in Kentucky. See black bear, deer and elk as well as a variety of small animals and birds. Travel along scenic Little Shepherd Trail, a one-lane paved road, from Kingdom Come State Park to the Pine Mountain Trail Overlook near Whitesburg. Hunt in the Hensley/Pine Mountain Wildlife Management Area. Hike the historic Scuttle Hole Gap wagon road or the Pine Mountain Trail Linear State Park. Take 119 out of Whitesburg.

### **Bad Branch Falls State Nature**

**Preserve.** A 60-foot waterfall is the focal point of this 2,639-acre preserve that is home to one of the largest concentrations of rare and endangered species in the state.

**Directions:** From the junction of KY 15 and U.S. 119 S.E. of Whitesburg, follow U.S. 119 south 8.0 miles. Turn left at junction with KY 932, travel east for 2.0 miles to gravel parking area on left side of KY 932.

**Appalshop**, a multi-media arts center that includes June Appal Records, Headwaters Television, WMMT-FM, nationally acclaimed performing arts company Roadside Theater, monthly bluegrass music shows and many other attractions. Located in downtown Whitesburg. **Phone:** (606)633-0108

### **Historic Downtown Whitesburg.**

The downtown area is a recently designated National Register Historic District that takes visitors back in time to 1912, when eastern Kentucky's first coal boom began. It includes many examples of the work of Italian stone masons who

established their own Little Italy in Letcher County.

**The David A. Zegeer Coal and Railroad Museum.**

P.O. Box 4

Jenkins, KY 41537

Phone: 606-832-4676

Jenkins was a model city built by Consolidation Coal Company in 1912. The museum chronicles the building of the town and the development of the surrounding coal fields.

**Lilley Cornett Woods.** This old growth forest was preserved by coal miner Lilley Cornett, whose family passed it on to Eastern Kentucky University for use as a research station and living museum of natural history. Lilley Cornett Woods is open daily from 9am -5pm from May 15 to August 15. For the months of April, May, September, and October LCW is open on Weekends Only from 9 am- 5 pm.

From Hazard and Whitesburg, KY Travel using State Highways 15, to 7, to 1103 . Call (606) 633-5828.

**Carcassonne Community Center.**

Located in Blackey

Built by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression, this former one-room school now hosts an old-fashioned square dance on the second Saturday of each month. Musicians include nationally known banjo master Lee Sexton, a regular at the square dance which has operated continuously for more than 50 years. Dancers from Carcassonne have been featured at the Kentucky Folk Life Festival and at the Smithsonian Institution.

**Fish Pond Lake.** This pristine manmade lake is one mile west of Payne Gap off U.S. 119. Once the site of a mining camp, the valley was dammed and flooded in 1961 to create this shining centerpiece

to the 895-acre Little Laurel Park. The lake is home to freshwater jellyfish and a resident trout population, as well as bass, catfish and other Kentucky species.

**Genealogy Room at the Harry M. Caudill Memorial Library.**

People born here and people who have never been here come to the Harry Caudill Library to find kin-folks amongst the handwritten family histories and published works in the genealogy collection. The library is open 9-5 Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; 9-7 Tuesdays; and 9-4 Saturdays. It is located at 220 Main Street in Whitesburg, in the heart of the Downtown Historic District.

**The Kentucky Coal Museum**

brings back to life one of the most unique and interesting aspects of early coal mining – the company store. Housed in the old commissary built by International Harvester in the 1920s, the museum features four stories of exhibits on the history of mining and the life of the coal miner. Visitors can enjoy a step back in time to the coal miner’s workplace, his home and his community. Artifacts, antiques, photographs, and machinery make up the more than 30 exhibits.

The Kentucky Coal Mining Museum is located deep in the heart of the Appalachian coal fields in a former coal camp town, Benham, Harlan County, Kentucky.

**Portal 31 Exhibition Mine -**

Portal No. 31 offers visitors the unique experience of touring an actual coal mine by rail car. Visitors will adorn the traditional protective gear of the coal miner as they enjoy animated exhibits along the tour. The site also features a 1920s lamphouse, bathhouse, L&N train depot and loadout system. Portal 31 is located in Lynch, Kentucky. Call for information & reservations. 606-848-1530

**Poor Fork Arts & Crafts Guild -**

218 W Main St

Cumberland, KY 40823

Phone: 606-589-2545

Established in 1981 by local artisans and craftsmen in southeast Kentucky, the guild is a non-profit arts and crafts retail store which serves as a venue for local artists to exhibit and sell their works. The store is operated by volunteers, and provides an excellent place for local citizens and tourists to buy gifts and souvenirs that are 100% hand made.

**Pine Mountain Settlement School -**

36 Highway 510 | Pine Mountain, KY 40810

Telephone/Fax 606-558-3571 or 3542

A National Historic Landmark, Pine Mountain Settlement School was founded in 1913 as a boarding school for mountain children and as a settlement serving the community through economic, health and cultural initiatives.

**Godbey Appalachian Center -**

Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College

700 College Road

Cumberland, Ky. 40823

606-589-2145, ex. 13130

The Center's mission is to promote the preservation of the Appalachian culture by stimulating artistic expression, to serve as a resource for the region's history and cultural traditions, to provide a forum for the arts through cross cultural experiences, and to promote the arts in education. The Appalachian Center regularly hosts arts exhibits and performing arts series.

**Clover fork Museum -** The Cloverfork Museum was established in 1995 in hopes of giving all a glimpse into a way of life that only a coal miner in Eastern Kentucky and his family can relate. The

1930s home is furnished with dated antique furniture and has two buildings filled with mining artifacts, memorabilia, a solid copper moonshine still on display and numerous pictures of Harlan County.

This was the former Jack Taylor home, located six miles above Evarts on Hwy. 38 at Highsplint, Harlan County, Kentucky.

**Annual Appalachia Day Homecoming celebration at Alice Lloyd College** in Pippa Passes. Includes exhibits, demonstrations, arts & crafts, traditional mountain music and much more

**The Appalachian Artisan Center** is located in historic downtown Hindman and is home to an extensive selection of handcrafted items.

### Lodging

Super 8, Whitesburg, KY  
606-633-8888

Parkway, Whitesburg, KY  
606-633-4441

Super 8, Hazard, KY  
606-436-8888

Days Inn, Hazard, KY  
606-436-4777

Hampton Inn, Hazard, KY  
606-439-0902

Guesthouse Inn & Suites, Hazard, KY 606-487-0595  
( formerly Holiday Inn Express )

Best Western, Wise, VA  
276-328-3500

The Inn at Norton, Norton, VA  
276-679-7000

### STEERING COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

**Milton Back, President**  
**(304)744-1141**

4201 Japonica Lane  
Charleston, WV 25312  
[miltonback@msn.com](mailto:miltonback@msn.com)

*Represents and promotes the Society; oversees general operations; collects, reviews and edits genealogical data; responds to general inquiries and acts as meeting host.*

**Danny Back, Vice-President and Newsletter editor**  
**(812) 594-2628**

P.O. Box 63  
Patriot, IN 47038  
[dback@earthlink.net](mailto:dback@earthlink.net)

Organize and publish the Descendant News

**Stella Elam, Executive Director** (606) 633-8941

4638 Hwy 7 South  
Blackey, KY 41804  
*Collects dues and fees; maintains and reports on financial, membership and administrative records; coordinates meetings, registration and special projects.*

**Billie Jo Caudill, Treasurer**  
(606) 633-0640  
357 Judy Branch  
Blackey, KY 41804  
*Manages financial accounts.*

### REGIONAL CONTACTS:

**South Carolina: Karen Back**  
334 Crepe Myrtle Dr.  
Greer, SC 29651

**Houston. Patrick J. Back**  
18627 So. Lyford Dr.  
Katy, TX 77449  
(281) 550-86564

### Southeast:

**Shirley Back Fowler**  
15874 Hancock Rd.  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
[sugfox@juno.com](mailto:sugfox@juno.com)

**West: Greg Back**  
20702 El Toro Rd. #130  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
[gregback@netzero.com](mailto:gregback@netzero.com)

### Membership Drive

The current membership year ended June 30th. Unless you are a lifetime member, please use the form enclosed to renew your annual membership. Society membership assures that you will receive the Descendant News, membership directory, and meeting notices.

Back/Bach descendants and their spouses are invited to join, and other interested persons are welcome. Please feel free to copy your application form to enroll new members.

If you have any hesitation about joining or renewing your membership, or about asking others to join the Society, take a moment to reflect on the rich history of the Back/Bach family. Our ancestral roots go deep, nourished through the centuries by individual experiences and contributions to the efforts of early Germany to become a unified country; to young colonial America becoming a free united society; and to the advancement of the United States today. As we, the present generation of Back/Bach descendants, draw strength from our ancestral roots, we should be challenged to do our part to nourish those roots for future generations. Please join us in passing this rich family heritage to our young people.

# 2008 BACK FAMILY HISTORY CD

For those of you not familiar with the Back/Back books "A Back Family History" were a two volume set published in 1994 by the Back/Bach genealogy society. This was not a commercial venture but information about the Back's by the Back's. The books contain information on over 36000 people tracing the family back to the 1500's. A limited run of 500 copies of the books were printed. The books are now out of print and the plates were destroyed.

In 2001 the books were re-issued on a CD. In 2005 an update to the books was created.

The 2008 BACK FAMILY HISTORY on CD is now available. This new CD looks similar to the original books with all the additions and corrections. The CD contains records for about 27,000 relatives. The price for this CD is \$25 including postage. All proceeds go to the Society to continue their work.

The new CD contains updates on branches of the family we had very little information about. Some 3000 new names were added and over 2500 individual entries were edited.

The comprehensive index contains over 40,000 names. This new index tells how each individual fits into the family (i.e. child of, spouse of, etc.) Also the index is easier to search as the names are listed as full names (i.e. Henry Edward Back) and Last name, first name (i.e. Back, Henry Edward).

If interested complete the form below.

---

A BACK FAMILY HISTORY CD

## ORDER FORM

Please Send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of "A Back Family History 2008" CD @ \$25.00 ea. This price includes shipping, handling and tax.

Total amount of enclosed check \_\_\_\_\_.

Please do not send cash. Make Checks payable to Back/Bach Genealogical Society. We regret that we cannot accept Credit Cards. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Return payment with this form to

Back/Bach Genealogical Society  
4638 Hwy 7 South  
Blackey, Ky  
41804

Ship to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_.

Address \_\_\_\_\_.

City and State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please type or print clearly to ensure prompt delivery of the CD's

MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Night Buffet: \_\_\_\_\_ Adults attending @ \$25.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Children Attending @ \$10.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_  
No charge for children under 3 years of age .

Please indicate here if you are interested in having your FRIDAY evening meal at the Court House Café. You do not need to pay now,. but I need to know if you are interested.

I need 20 to guarantee a hold of the room.

I can still cancel if enough are not interested. \_\_\_\_\_ number attending.

Check your food preference please: Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_

You would provide your own transportation from the motel to the Court House Café

**Reminder:** Annual membership covers one year from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. If you have not paid this years dues please fill out the form on the last page and include it with your payment.

Make checks payable to the Back/Bach Genealogical Society  
Back/Bach Genealogical Society  
4638 Hwy 7 South  
Blackey. K Y 41804

This form, with your check, MUST be back in my hands NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1 ST in order for me to make arrangements with the Pine Mountain Grill, the transportation company, and the Court House Cafe

**Back/Bach Genealogical Society**  
**4638 Hwy 7 South**  
**Blackey, Kentucky**  
**41804**

**Back/Bach Genealogical Society**  
**Membership Application / Renewal**

Descendant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Please print name clearly as it should appear on Membership Materials.  
 Spouse's name goes below

Spouse's Name (only if joint membership): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Check one  NEW  RENEWAL

E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Back/Bach descendant number, if known/applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one to indicate level of membership desired and amount enclosed:

REGULAR  
 Individual \$7.50 per year  
 Husband/Wife \$10.00 per year

SPONSOR  
 Individual \$20.00 per year  
 Husband/Wife \$30.00 per year

LIFETIME  
 Individual \$100.00 (One time)  
 Husband/Wife \$150.00 (One time)

Annual membership covers one year from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.  
 Make checks payable to Back/Bach Genealogical Society. We regret that we cannot accept credit cards. Return payment with this form to:

Back/Bach Genealogical Society  
 4638 Hwy 7 South  
 Blackey, KY 41804

Recruited by (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Your name will be placed on our mailing list immediately when your application is received. If you need extra forms or have questions about your membership status, please call Stella Elam at (606)633-8941.