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Wooster OH 44691

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2035 McKaig Rd  
Troy OH 45373

Don Williamson  
1088 Milky Way  
Cupertino CA 95014

# PONTIUS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Number 119

NEWSLETTER

April 2022

## Message from the President—Harry F. Pontious

Dear Pontius Family Association Members,

Greetings All, I hope the year is off to a good start for you all. We are doing well in Virginia, but wishing the weather would stay warm. It is already a busy year for the Association.



Ginger and Betty have been working to get the Springfield meeting set up. There should be some fun as well business accomplished this year.

On March 19, 2022, the Board of Directors voted to establish an Association Legacy Fund and Award Program as requested by Loren Pontious at the July 2021 business meeting. To establish this program, the Bylaws need to be revised. The proposed Bylaws amendments are contained in this Newsletter. This proposal only adds Legacy text to the present Bylaws with no other changes to the previously approved text.

At the July 2022 annual business meeting, we will be voting to add this Program and a Legacy Committee to the Bylaws. Please review the Bylaws amendments before the business meeting. I would like to vote on this issue prior to our annual elections segment. That way, if you, the members do approve creating this Program, we can hopefully fill the two positions on the new Legacy Committee at this year's meeting. Keep in mind that this vote is only to establish the Program. Protocols to administer the application, disbursement, amount and number of awards, and funding will come afterwards. If you have any questions about this Program or the Bylaws, please email me at [hfpjr@hotmail.com](mailto:hfpjr@hotmail.com) or call me at 540-308-7704.

Denise and Rita have already made our accommodations and catering arrangements for the 2023 meeting in Pennsylvania. Remember that in 2023, we will have our reunion in June, not July. Our celebration of the 285 anniversary of our ancestors arrival in America will be enhanced by the September 2023 trip to Germany. Although Bernadette and I would love to go with you, medical and mobility issues preclude our traveling so far by air.

I have written a future Bridge Builder article to compare emigrating in 1738 with doing it in 1965. The 1965 experience concerns Bernadette coming to the United States from the German speaking part of France. We hope you will find it interesting.

See you in July in the Land of Lincoln!

Harry F. Pontious, Jr., President  
[hfpjr@hotmail.com](mailto:hfpjr@hotmail.com) 540-308-7704

Directors Emeritus: John David Rees,  
Eileen Pontious Surridge, Ruth Zimmerman

The Pontius Family Association is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to research, education, and preservation of family history and genealogy.

April 1, 2022

**2022 BYLAWS AMENDMENTS TO INCORPORATE  
A PFA LEGACY & AWARD PROGRAM**

**To amend the PFA Bylaws dated December 5, 2020, effective April 16, 2021.**

ARTICLE II - Purposes

Add: **(f) To provide a Pontius Family Legacy Fund and Award Program to foster family heritage and involvement in the Association. Program to be separately funded by bequests and other donations.**

ARTICLE V - Directors

Add: **Section 10. The Board of Directors (BOD) shall establish the maximum number and amount of the Legacy Fund awards allowed per fiscal year. As a means of Legacy Fund sustentation, the Board of Directors may authorize the raising of funds and/or transfer of funds to the Legacy Fund. The Board of Directors retains the right to suspend or to terminate the Legacy Fund and Award Program and transfer any available funds to the PFA general fund. Thirty (30) days notice shall be given to the membership and be approved by the majority attending an annual PFA business meeting.**

ARTICLE VI - Officers

Section 4. Duties of the Officers are as follows:

President

Add: **The President shall chair the Legacy Committee.**

Treasurer (a)

Add: **and bequests**

Add: **(d) maintain a separate accounting method for the Legacy Fund**

ARTICLE IX - Committees Section 1. Nominating Committee

Add: **and the Legacy Committee**

Section 3. Membership Committee

Add: **The Membership Committee shall take attendance at each annual business meeting.**

Add: **Section 5: Legacy Committee: The President shall chair this committee of three members. At each annual meeting of the Association, two (2) members shall be elected by the members of the Association for one (1) year terms. It shall be the duty of the Legacy Committee to administer the Legacy Fund and Award Program. The Committee shall (a) establish the protocols for the application and distribution processes of the awards; (b) have the authority to select recipients and designate varying amounts for the individual awards up to the maximum set by the Board of Directors; (c) have the authority to solicit voluntary contributions to keep the Fund financed; (d) permanently maintain hard and electronic copies of all applications, verifications, responses, and all supporting documentation for continuity and audit purposes; (e) send separate copies of all verified, approved, and funded applications to the Treasurer. The Committee shall give a report at the annual PFA business meeting.**

*Drafted by the 2022 Bylaws Committee: David Bongorno, Betty Hall, and Harry Pontious*

*Reviewed by the Executive Committee on April 1, 2022*

*Reviewed by the Board of Directors on April 6, 2022*

## Message from our Springfield Reunion 2022 Host—Ginger Johnson:



Dear Pontius Family Members,

We have the opportunity to be together again while we explore the legacy of Lincoln and crucial American History. Springfield, Illinois is the setting for the 2022 Pontius Reunion. The dates are July 14, 15, and 16. This is a remarkable town. It is the State Capital and the home for 17 years of our 16th U.S. President and his family.

Our own Betty Hall is a well read and knowledgeable Lincoln expert and can give us special knowledge about the man considered to be a symbol of democracy and equality around the world. She is preparing wonderful information for self-guided tours and even donating many books about Lincoln which will be for sale.

We will be staying at the **Carpenter Street Hotel, 525 North 6th Street**, Springfield, Illinois 62702. It has a free shuttle service to nearby attractions and the Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport. There is a fitness center, daily continental breakfast, free Wi-Fi, and 24-hour front desk. Microwave and refrigerator are in the room. Parking is free. This economical hotel is within walking distance/shuttle/car of the historic locations mentioned.

The cost is \$89.00 per night. A block of reservations with queen and king beds is being held for the Pontius Family by calling (888)779-9100 only up to June 14, 2022. Local phone is (217)789-9100. Please check cancellation requirements when making your reservations.

We will be using the nearby YMCA, 601 N. Fourth Street, for the Pontius Board Meeting Thursday 7:00 - 8:30 pm, for the Genealogy Meeting Friday 8:30 – 10:30 am, and for the General Business Meeting Saturday 9:00 - noon. Our Friday Meet & Greet Meeting will be held at Saputo's Italian Restaurant with lunch included from 11:00 – 12:30.

We will be able to almost follow Abraham Lincoln's footsteps as we explore much of the downtown Springfield of Lincoln's time. Nearby, on your own, you can pass by the Lincoln Herndon Law Offices where he practiced, the State Capital where he gave the "House Divided" speech and the Great Western Train Depot Station where he boarded the train for Washington after giving his departure speech. It will be like walking in his shoes. Watch for interpretive signs.

Two main history visits planned with the Chamber of Commerce, are a group visit to the Lincoln Home on Friday at 12:45 and to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum on Saturday at 1:45. It will be quite interesting to see the parlor, kitchen, and bedrooms of the family at the Lincoln Home. The modern Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum is amazing and innovative and a true gem. It is considered to be the best presidential library in the United States.

On your own you may want to visit Oak Ridge Cemetery and the Lincoln Tomb, where he rests with some of his other family members at 1500 Monument Ave. Open daily 9am to 5:00pm 217-782-2717. Face masks may be required inside the tomb.

Also nearby, the Dana-Thomas House, is a Frank Lloyd Wright prairie school style home open Monday through Sunday, reservations suggested. 9am to 4pm. Donation. Call 217-782-6776.

There are a variety of restaurants and shops in Springfield, and it will be easy to find dining and shopping choices. Dining opportunities range from dine in, drive by, and carry out. A couple of the local favorites at several restaurants are horseshoe or pony-shoe sandwiches. The hotel is allowing us to use the common area for dining, if desired.

A wonderful ending banquet is planned Saturday at the Springfield Art Association, 105 North Fifth Street. Gather at 5:00. Grounds are pleasant and the porch is picture perfect. The Art Gallery adjoins the Edwards Place, and we have a mini tour planned. This is the current home of the "courting couch" on which Abe and Mary Todd sat during the early days of their romance. The original piano used for their wedding music is also there. Location is a few blocks from the hotel. Parking is available.

Registration form and tentative schedule are included in this Newsletter. We also plan to print PFA t-shirts and hoodies this year, and a pre-order form is included in this newsletter if you are interested.

Blessings, Ginger Johnson  
314-210-7893 (cell)  
Gingerabc@sbcglobal.net

## **LINCOLN BOOKS and PONTIUS FAMILY T-SHIRTS & HOODIES:**

We are going to do something different this year. I have been collecting (mostly "gently used") books on Abraham Lincoln. I even have multiple copies of some books. Instead of putting them in the raffle, we decided to just sell them. The prices will be \$3.00 for most of them but there are a few for \$1.00 and \$2.00. Some are even free. So bring your dollar bills. Don't spend \$20, \$30 or even \$40 on a new book. All proceeds go to help with the cost of the Springfield reunion. If you are interested in having a list of the books beforehand, send a request to [schotziewas1809@gmail.com](mailto:schotziewas1809@gmail.com).

We are also going to offer T-shirts and Hoodies this year. Instead of having a particular place and date on them, they will just have the PFA name and emblem. T-shirts will be \$13.00-\$15.00 and Hoodies will be \$31.00-\$37.00 depending on the size.

**If you want a shirt or hoodie, you must pre-order on the enclosed Order Form which is on the back of the Registration Form. Orders must be received by Monday, June 20.**

If you would like to order and will not be attending the reunion, we can arrange for the item(s) to be shipped to you, and you will be charged for the shipping cost.

Betty Hall  
319-358-6673 (h)  
schotziewas1809@gmail.com

## Springfield Reunion 2022 Schedule

### Thursday afternoon

2:00 – 5:30 Register—Pick up name tags and reunion schedules.  
Pick up pre-ordered t-shirts and hoodies.  
Drop off raffle items and hospitality goodies.  
Buy books about Lincoln.  
Buy raffle tickets.

Dinner on your own.

7:00-8:30 PFA Board Meeting at Spinning Room at the YMCA.

### Friday

8:00 – 9:00 Registration table open.

8:30 - 10:30 Genealogy session led by Micheal Pontious in Spinning Room at the YMCA.

11:00 –12:30 Meet & Greet Meeting and Lunch at Saputo’s Italian Restaurant.

12:45 – Lincoln’s Home (tour led by docents / participants must be on time).

### Saturday

9:00 –12:00 General Mtg. & Election of Officers & Board of Directors - large room at YMCA

1:45 – Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

5:00 – Gather at Springfield Arts Center for mini tour of Edwards Place and gardens.

6:00 – Group Photos on porch.

6:30 – Dinner, raffle, and closing remarks by Harry Pontious.

*“The best way to predict the future is to create it,” Abraham Lincoln, Republican governor of Illinois.*

### **Message from the Editor—Bobbie Bongorno**

At our PFA Board Meeting via ZOOM on 3/19/22, the Board voted to increase dues as of 7/1/2022. The last time dues were increased was 2011. The cost of printing and postage have gone up considerably since then. Current dues are \$10.00 a year which includes receiving the Newsletters and Bridge Builders.

The following will be the new rates effective 7/1/2022:

\$12.50	1 year	\$ 4.00	1 yr. JUNIOR (no Bridge Builder)
\$24.00	2 years	\$120.00	Life – 69 and under
\$35.00	3 years	\$100.00	Life – 70 and over

Please pass along our Membership Form to your relatives and encourage them to join.



If you have anything you would like to have included in the next Newsletter, please let me know. We would be glad to include items of interest to our membership, including family announcements or travels. Send to: 21810 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland OH 44118 or Bjbongo@sbcglobal.net or call 216-360-9561 or 216-308-0584.



Pontius Family Association  
Membership Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

(If wife, please include maiden name.)

If known, Pontius Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Address Information: If you live in another location part of the year.

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

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ When are you there? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Pontius Ancestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of Ancestor: (i.e. grandmother) \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you hear about the PFA? \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fees:

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 year \$10.00      \_\_\_\_\_ 2 year \$18.00      \_\_\_\_\_ 3 year \$27.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior \$3.00 (ages 1-21—will not receive Bridge Builder)

\_\_\_\_\_ Life (69 and younger) \$120.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Life (70 and older) \$100.00

Make checks payable to: Pontius Family Association

Mail to: Pontius Family Association, 21810 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44118-4816.

If paying by PayPal, please add \$1.00 to cover the processing fees.

Use PontiusTreasurer@gmail.com.

## Message from the Archivist - Micheal Pontious

I have been contacted by two individuals concerning information and or sharing information about their families. I have been working to help these individuals since the last newsletter.

One of them is not directly related to the Pontius family. Her connection is through Bernice May Pontius 1895-1983, N-632(10)5\*, who married (1916) George Joseph Criley 1893-1957 and their child Mary Regina Criley 1923-1994, N-632(10) 5\*4, her aunt. She did have some useful information for the Nicholas side of our Family which I confirmed, as much as possible. What I had in our records stopped with George Washington Pontius 1862-1937, N-632(10). I have added his wife, their children, and their families.

The other contact was about the article in the last Bridge Builder "Questions from Early Pennsylvania" by James Panches. Those Censuses before 1850 are difficult to interpret to say the least. Every time I try to interpret any information out of them, I usually get more confused. In my opinion, the information available is very limited and a lot of assumptions are required. Unfortunately, sometimes that is all you have to go on or other people's trees which can add to the confusion. I prefer to find other sources, if available, for documentation.

It was brought to my attention that wills typically list the children in order of their births which I was not aware of. I have seen some wills where the children were separated, sons from daughters. If they were listed by age, I did not check at the time. I have also seen where the youngest son was listed first.

I have also been sent a nice article about the naming custom in Germany and Pennsylvania which I would think would be a great article for a future Bridge Builder. I will be contacting the author to see if he would allow us to publish it.

I was just recently contact by a N. Anderson who had just learned about the Pontius Family Association from her mother, B. Anderson. She is a Pontius on her maternal side, and her grandfather was G. V. Pontius, Jr. B. 1929. She wanted to know more about her Pontius side. We did have her brother in our records but not her. I sent her what we had for her Pontius Family, and she gave me what she had. Turns out she is related to Johann Nicholas Pontius.

A note about PFA numbers:

If any of the members disagree with any PFA numbers I give out, contact me with what you think it should be, and we will work it out. I can only go on what I have in the file, and they are definitely not written in stone. I have no idea how the numbers were determined before me. I will be open to any discussions on these determinations.

To date, the file has grown to 25,452 entries.

Micheal Pontious  
402-290-9261  
mspontious@cox.net



**FUTURE REUNION DATES:** Please mark your calendars and join us.

2022 We will be meeting in **Springfield, Illinois, July 14, 15, and 16.**  
Home of Abraham Lincoln. (Registration form in this newsletter.)  
Hosted by Ginger Johnson.

2023 We will be meeting in the **Denver, Pennsylvania area June 1, 2, and 3**  
for the **285th Anniversary** of Johannes, Nicholas, and Maria in the USA.  
Hosted by Rita Christman and Denise Millard. (Note: Reunion in JUNE)

2023 Trip to **Germany September 14-25.**  
Hosted by Carol Pontious and Marcelle McMillen.

2024 We plan to be in **Orange County, Virginia.** (Dates to be determined.)  
Hosted by Harry F. Pontious, Jr.

### **GERMAN TRIP 2023**

We reached our goal and have 37 travelers signed up for the trip.



The next deposit will be due August 1, 2022.

Please reach out to Carol Pontious if you have any questions or if you are interest in going and have not yet signed up. There are only a few spots left.

Carol Pontious

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Regular Changed to LIFE Membership**

Linda Pontius McJessy of Chicago IL	Member since 1997
Crystal Jo Stevens (N-65-10-1141*) of Parsons KS	Member since 2019

### **BRIDGE BUILDER**

Please continue to send any articles for future issues to our Bridge Builder Editor, Joan Pontius at 4879 Manor Lane, Ellicott City MD 21042 or joanpontius@yahoo.com or call her at 443-963-4403.



## DECEASED MEMBERS

*Remembering their families in sympathy.*

We have printed partial obituaries in this Newsletter. To read the entire obituary, please search on Google or contact Bobbie Bongorno at 216-360-9561 to have a copy mailed to you.



### **Della Elizabeth Pontious (1930 – 2021)**

Della Elizabeth Pontious, age 91, of St. Peter, Illinois died September 3, 2021, in Altamont, Illinois. Della was born on January 14, 1930, in Bible Grove, IL, the daughter of Burnie and Lillie L. (Specht) Brooks.

She was a retired schoolteacher. Her teaching career spanned 40 years (1954-1994). Della married Myron D. Pontious on July 27, 1952, and celebrated 61 years of marriage. She was a member of the Macedonia Christian Church, the Fayette County Ladies Home Bureau, and the St. Peter American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, a Sunday School teacher, and a 4-H leader. She loved to play the piano and organ at church. She camped, rode horses, and expressed her artistic talents through oil painting, entering some canvases in regional art exhibitions. Della loved to travel, visiting all 50 states in North America, the Caribbean, and European countries.

Della is survived by her son and daughters: Brent Pontious (wife Deborah) of rural St. Peter, IL; Mitzi Schwertfeger of Plymouth, WI; Michele Perkins (husband Keith) of Effingham, IL; sister-in-law, Joyce Brooks of Bible Grove, IL; 6 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Myron Pontious; brothers, James Brooks and Jeff Brooks; and son-in-law, Carl Schwertfeger. Graveside service at Old Loogootee Cemetery in rural St. Peter, Illinois.

*Della and Myron (J-7362312w) (deceased 12/4/2013) joined the PFA in 2001 as Life members. Their daughter, Mitzi Schwertfeger (J-73623121) joined in 2007 as a Life member.*



### **Elaine Louise (Young) Wagenaar (1925 – 2018)**

Elaine Wagenaar died in Valley, Nebraska on January 10, 2018, at 92. She was born in Elma, Washington on March 31, 1925 to Fred and Muriel Young. She graduated from Redmond High School in Oregon in 1943 and enlisted in the United States Army. While in the Army, she married Gilbert Wagenaar at the Presido in San Francisco on September 21, 1946. Elaine and Gilbert were married 71 years.

Following WWII, they moved to the Tri-Cities. In 1980's she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in accounting from Washington State University. The couple had four children, Dewey, Daniel, Dale, and Dana. Elaine was passionate about the PTA, Campfire Girls, Boy Scouts, and President of the DAR. She loved researching her genealogy and heritage. Elaine and Gilbert lived in Richland up until 2012, when they moved to Omaha, NE to be closer to their family.

Elaine is survived by her husband, Gilbert\* of Omaha, NE; sister Darlene McCulloch of Eagle Point, OR; daughter, Dale Pritchett and husband Blaine of Elkhorn, NE; grandchildren, Daniel Pritchett of Elkhorn, NE; Aaron Pritchett and wife Tara of Bennington, NE; Larissa Travis and husband Jeremy of Valley, NE; and 6 grandchildren Skyler and Carter Pritchett; Brody, Drake, Gage, and Grady Travis. She is preceded in death by three children Dewey, Daniel, and Dana; and granddaughter Mary Katherine Pritchett. Military service and interment at Sunset Memorial Gardens-Einan's.

*\*Gilbert Leonard Wagenaar (born in Spokane, Washington 1/29/1927) died March 8, 2020 at 93. Elaine and Gilbert joined the PFA in 1983 and became a Life members in 1995.*



## **Dr. Daniel Merle Pontius (1943 – 2019)**

Dr. Daniel Merle Pontius, 76, died August 4, 2019, in Lansing, Michigan. He was born March 17, 1943, in Canton, Ohio, to Paul & Martha Pontius. He graduated in 1961 from Hoover High School in North Canton, Ohio and from Capital University in 1965. He earned his Doctor of Osteopathy degree from the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine in Missouri in 1972.

In 1977, he moved to Colorado Springs, CO, as a general surgeon at Eisenhower Hospital, he continued in Manistique, MI, and Lawrenceville, IL, until retirement in 2013. He was a lover of all animals, enjoyed snowmobiling & snowmobile racing, and traveling in the motor home with his family. He was an avid sports fan, especially when it came to the Ohio State Buckeyes.

Dr. Pontius was very proud of his German heritage and joined the Pontius Family Association to continue to learn about his ancestors and "The Bridge Builder" surname.

Survivors include: wife, Judyann Pontius of Lansing, MI; children: Aimee (Christopher) Crespino of Peyton, CO; Ryan (Stephanie) Pontius of Colorado Springs, CO; Lindsey (Jason) Harper of Ann Arbor, MI; Tama (Rich) Cunningham of Lansing, MI; 12 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Interment in Canton, Ohio.

*Daniel (N-4243141 & N-5\*4\*43141) joined the PFA in 1972 and became a Life member since 2000. His father, Paul Henry Pontius (d. 5/30/1997) joined in 1967 and became a Life member in 1978.*



## **Jacqueline Marie (Pontious) Riley 1924-2021**

Jacqueline Marie Riley, 96, passed away April 16, 2021, in Bellevue, Washington. Daughter of Pearl Abney and William E. Pontious, she was born in Ryderwood, WA, October 13, 1924. She graduated from Winlock High School in 1942 and attended the University of Washington.

In January of 1945, Jacqueline married John Warren Riley, who was a JG in the United States Navy. She and her husband were very active in state and national politics. Jacqueline was the state secretary and office manager of volunteers for Adlai Stevenson in 1952 and worked on other state and national campaigns.

After her two youngest children entered college, she returned to the UW herself to finish her education and completed her bachelor's degree in English and Political Science. She and John traveled extensively visiting nearly every corner of the globe. Traveling frequently to different parts of Mexico and attending language schools, she became fluent in Spanish and later studied French. She adored the culture, people, and languages, as well as the arts and music.

Jacqueline was the mother to five children, four sons and one daughter. She was a wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother, fondly referred to as "Tutu" by her three granddaughters. Every photo taken showed her smiling, hands often extended in the air, capturing her joy of the moment.

*Jacqueline (J-74(15)63\*) and John (deceased 9/2/2014) joined the PFA in 1988 and became Life members in 2000.*

## **MARY WOODEN** (1930 – 2021)

Mary Elizabeth Dark Wooden, of Charlotte, North Carolina, passed away peacefully at home at the age of 91 on July 25, 2021. A beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she will be greatly missed. Mary was born in 1930, in Waterloo, NY, to Charles William and Elizabeth Meyer Dark. Mary was an only child. She was preceded in death by her husband of 36 years, Robert Aubrey Wooden. She is survived by sons, James “Jim” Robert, William “Bill” Arthur (Juanita) Wooden; daughter-in-law Debbie; 5 grandchildren; and 2 great grandchildren.

Mary, or “Grandma”, as she was commonly known by her family, was a hard-working, strong and diligent woman. She completed the nursing program at the University of Buffalo and married her husband, Robert A. on June 19, 1954. As a Navy officer’s wife, she fulfilled the duties of a strong community leader in each of the US Navy stations to which her husband was assigned. She utilized her nursing training in the healthcare system, as an instructor at the local community college, as well as to better the lives of neighbors and friends. A fun anecdote included the time that she took care of Jimmy Buffet prior to his fame, when he crash-landed a boat into the backyard of the family home. She was also an accomplished seamstress, taking on many personal and philanthropic projects... making clothes for her grandchildren’s dolls, and countless quilting projects for children as part of “Quilting Angels” of central Florida and North Carolina. Mary was a Breast Cancer Survivor, successfully completing treatment in 1998.

One of her favorite hobbies was collecting historical artifacts and studying family genealogy. A human oracle, she maintained meticulous records of both sides of the family tree and made substantial contributions to the historical societies in the Geneva, Seneca Falls and Waterloo areas of upstate New York. Her grandchildren’s’ favorite memories of time spent together include visiting Disney World, reading Harry Potter books aloud, visiting the beach, and playing board games on her living room floor. She will be deeply missed.

*Mary (N-3266\*41\*) and Robert (deceased 10/1990) joined the PFA in 1989 as Life Members.*

## **DECEASED Non-MEMBERS**



### **Naomi “Elizabeth” Pontius Schubach** (1922 – 2021)

Naomi “Elizabeth” Pontius Schubach, 99, passed into God’s kingdom November 30, 2021. Born June 19, 1922 to Rahla and Ruby (Rutherford) Pontius. Elizabeth was raised in an octagon house near Green Springs, Ohio, attended Bowling Green State University and taught for 31 years.

On Christmas Eve, 1944, she married Donald Schubach, and they raised two daughters. After Don’s death in 2000, Elizabeth moved closer to her daughter’s family in Grove City and volunteered well into her 80’s at Buckeye Woods Elementary School. A member of several active and retired teachers’ organizations, Elizabeth was a 75+-year member of Green Springs’ Eastern Star Icedore Chapter #299. She and Don served several times as Worthy Matron and Patron. She belonged to the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio and was a lifelong member of the Green Springs United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir.

Preceding her in death were her parents (her mother at 98); her husband, Don; and at 95, her brother James Pontius of Bloomfield Hills, MI. Elizabeth leaves behind daughters, Janett Calland and Beverly (Leon) Barrick; sister-in-law, Norma Pontius; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great grandchildren.

*Elizabeth was not a member of the PFA. Elizabeth’s brother, James Roscoe Pontius (J-244122) (deceased 10/29/2020) and wife Norma were PFA members since 1991, and his daughter Ann M. Pontius (J-2441221) is currently a member.*

Roberta J. Bongorno, Treasurer  
PONTIUS FAMILY ASSOCIATION  
21810 Fairmount Boulevard  
Shaker Heights OH 44118-4816

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Bridge Builder** *Articles for the next Bridge Builder are needed!* Please submit to our Editor, Joan Pontius, 4879 Manor Lane, Ellicott City MD 21042 or joanpontius@yahoo.com or call 443-963-4403.

Future **Newsletter** articles may be sent to Bobbie Bongorno at bjbongo@sbcglobal.net.

**Reunion Photo Books** Picture books created by Dave and Bobbie Bongorno are available for past reunions. If you would like a copy, please send \$7.50 each to cover the booklet and postage to: Pontius Family Association, Roberta Bongorno, 21810 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland OH 44118-4816. Be sure to indicate which year(s) you want. PDF versions are available for free—email request to Bjbongo@sbcglobal.net.

2019 Hannibal, Missouri

2018 Iowa City, Iowa

2017 Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania

2016 Richmond, Virginia

2015 Frankenmuth, Michigan

2014 Bryan/College Station, Texas

2013 Denver, Pennsylvania

2012 Circleville, Ohio

2010 St. Louis, Missouri

2009 Belleville, Michigan

2008 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



**Email List** - If you are not already on our “email” list and would like to receive PFA updates between the published Newsletter mailings, please send your email address to Bobbie at bjbongo@sbcglobal.net.

Be sure to edit your settings to allow our group email to be received.

**Address Changes** - Please remember to send any address changes to Bobbie Bongorno at the address above or Bjbongo@sbcglobal.net or call 216-360-9561. Thank you--this helps us keep our postage costs down. Also, if you know of someone's passing, please forward specific information and/or obituaries.

**Membership Applications and Registration Forms** are available at [www.pontiusfamilyassociation.org](http://www.pontiusfamilyassociation.org) or from Bobbie Bongorno at 216-360-9561.

**Register NOW for our Reunion July 14, 15, and 16, 2022, in Springfield, Illinois !**