

## Francis Dorothy 'Fannie' Jones Abbey Earl Puckett (1870-1963)

By David H. Egger, dhe1@psu.edu

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Fannie, abt 1951

To my wife Betsey Abbey and her sister Kay, growing up in Smethport, Pennsylvania, Aunt Fannie was a legendary figure who lived in California. Fannie corresponded with Betsey's grandmother Nettie Abbey and Betsey's mother in Smethport and on a few occasions visited the Abbey homestead there. Fannie considered Smethport to be a link to her beloved first husband Jay Brewer Abbey, and Nettie was Jay's sister-in-law. In 1963 Betsey and Kay observed the burial of Fannie's ashes on top of Jay in Rosehill, the Smethport cemetery.

I decided a few years ago to research the history of Aunt Fannie. Many of the sources are not annotated here but can be seen on ancestry.com on my tree Nearly All Our Ancestors 2. I was aided in the search by a number of the letters that Fannie wrote, by notes supplied by Richard and Margaret Meacham Wiebusch and by several articles from the Los Gatos Daily Times including her obituary. Margaret Wiebusch is Fannie's grandniece. The newspaper articles are from Abbey family files and emailed files from Margaret Wiebusch. Most of the family photos came from Margaret. The solo photo of Dorothy Sparks was posted on ancestry.com by R. Plummer.

### JONES ANCESTORS AND RELATIVES OF FANNIE JONES

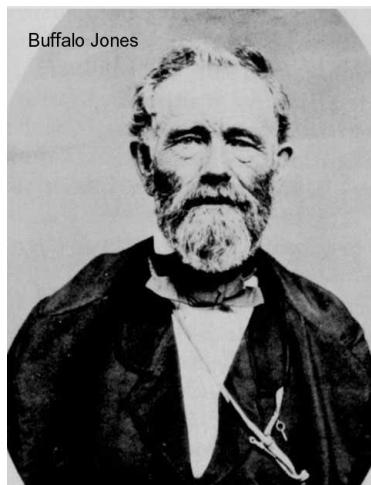
Records and family histories compiled by Douglas S. Jones (<http://jones-seattle.org/genealogy/jones-history.html>) indicate that **Solomon Jones**, the 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather of Fannie Jones, was born either in Wales or England. He emigrated to Knox County, Tennessee, which contains Knoxville and is in eastern Tennessee. There he married **Lydia Sill**, and they had four children: **Isaac N Jones** (Jemima), **Zachariah 'Zacheus' Jones** (Elizabeth Key), **Samuel Jones** (1787-1838, Mary Britton), and **William Jones** (1789-1857, Elizabeth Drake). Solomon, his son William, and two children of William moved to London, Madison County, Ohio in 1814. Zacheus and Isaac, with children, would follow in 1815, among the first settlers of Lawrenceville (Limerick) in Madison County. Both Zacheus and Isaac died in 1823, apparently in the massive malaria outbreak that hit that portion of Ohio in 1823.

Sons of Isaac N Jones<sup>1</sup> were Zachariah 'Buffalo', Isaac Newton, William R (1812-1893), Barney, and Samuel (~1817-1887).

**Zachariah 'Buffalo' Jones (1806-1874)**, the granduncle of Fannie Jones, is the reason that Isaac Newton Jones, Fannie's grandfather, ended up in San Jose, California, as discussed below.

Zachariah married **Mary Erwin** (1811-1895) in 1829 in London, Ohio. They journeyed to the San Jose area, Santa Clara County, California in 1846 with five children: Clark Jones, Laura Jane Jones (~1840-1852), Sarah Margaret Jones (1833-1904, Josiah Belden, a wealthy entrepreneur and the first mayor of San Jose), Reuben Barnett Jones (~1835-1871, Mary Jane Henderson), and Samuel Erwin Jones (~1838-1892). In California they had two more children: Martha 'Mattie'

Jones (1847-1900, Seth Brooks Hunt, a carriage maker in Visalia), and Mary E Jones (~1850-1911, Benjamin Rounds Foss).



Zachariah Jones kept a hotel and boarding house, The Half Moon House, in San Jose beginning in 1847, the first hotel in San Jose. A year later he bought a sawmill at Lexington on Los Gatos Creek, two miles south of what would become the town of Los Gatos, and laid out a town that he called Jones Mill. Los Gatos is immediately southwest of San Jose in the foothills of the Santa Cruz mountains. San Jose Evening News 1-23-1922, in an article on Los Gatos: *"The only road through the [Santa Cruz] mountains was one originally used by the Ohlone Indians, then by the padres on their travels between missions. John C. Fremont traversed these mountains during his scouting party of February, 1846. Shortly thereafter, the road was improved and was given the name of 'Jones Road' after Zachariah Jones."* Jones sold the mill and

480 acres in 1860.

Zachariah Jones was a blacksmith and a fighting man in Ohio, but then converted to Methodism. He was widely known in San Jose as a religious firebrand. Accounts vary on why he was called Buffalo Jones, one that his thunderous sermons in San Jose gave rise to the name Buffalo, and another that he resembled a buffalo. A story from San Jose History is a testament to his fervor: *"Thanks to the dozen or so taverns in Saratoga (then called McCartysville) and the teetotalling Methodism of Los Gatos logging entrepreneur Zachariah Jones, Jones' thirsty loggers made their own damn road to the beer joints on Saturday nights, where none had existed before. After a few months of stepping over snoring loggers on their way to Sunday morning worship, the ladies of McCartysville in 1855 formed the Women's Christian Temperance Union and set about plaguing the saloons. The rest of the story is a testament to what sober minds can accomplish."*

The religious fervor of Buffalo Jones evidently bordered on insanity, with episodes of mania. He was committed to the state insane asylum at Stockton and died there. The June 1871 Stockton State Hospital records state that his father had been insane nine months and that he had a brother (Samuel, 1787-1838) who was insane. His daughter Mary E Jones was committed to Stockton for seven months in 1883. His son Reuben committed suicide in 1871.

Mary Erwin Jones died in 1895 in Visalia, California, where her daughter Mattie Jones Hunt lived. She is buried with her husband in the Seth Brooks Hunt plot in Oak Hill Cemetery in San Jose.

**Isaac Newton Jones (~1814-1850)**, Fannie's grandfather and the brother of Zachariah Jones, was a lawyer and Prosecuting Attorney in London, Ohio. There he married **Francis Andrews** (~1819- ), a native of Connecticut. Francis was college-educated, an artist and a musician. They had two children in Ohio: Julia A Jones and William Jones. In the late 1830s the family relocated to far western Missouri. Isaac was a lawyer and circuit judge in Clinton and Platte Counties. Two more children were born in Missouri: Leon Erskine Jones and Worth Walter Jones. |

**The Jones family relocated to San Jose, California, in 1848.** We'll let Fannie tell that story, with embellishments, I suspect, as printed in *Frances Puckett Goes to Ohio* [Los Gatos Daily

Times 11-30-1953].

*“Grandfather Isaac Newton Jones... came to California, and to San Jose, to defend his **brother's [Zachariah] right** to a 12,000 acre Spanish grant. He settled in San Jose and built his law office where the Auzerais building now stands. But the family's history was hard and tragic. They set out for California with 100 head of cattle. They traveled in a covered wagon, and the two oldest sons rode*



*ponies to hold the loose herd together. The family found the travel rugged and rough. They were attacked by hostile Indians and overpowered. Isaac Newton Jones was, however, a linguist, and spoke seven languages, including the Indian dialect. He talked to the chief of the attacking tribe, and convinced him that massacre would benefit him not at all. The Indians accepted a large portion of the Jones' cattle and departed peacefully.*

*With their food supply thus depleted, the remainder of the journey was still more trying, and before the hungry family arrived in San Jose they had slaughtered one of their ponies to feed themselves. Upon arrival, Grandmother Jones was very sick. Her ailment was described as a bad cold, and Isaac wrote to his brother in the Santa Cruz mountains that he expected her to die at any moment. It was not Grandmother Jones who died. Within 24 hours of the time Isaac posted his sad letter, he was dead, and his eldest son, William, was also dead. They died of cholera. Grandmother Jones rose from her sickbed and gathered her three children, Julia 14, Leon 11, and Worth Walter Jones 2 (who was to become Frances Abbey Puckett's father) about her and announced 'I'm going to open a boarding house for the gold miners!' She opened her boarding house and charged the miners \$10 per day. In two years she saved enough to send her two boys back to Pennsylvania to live with her sister, Mrs. Grace [Andrews]Wightman."*

**Julia A Jones** (~1836~1859), the daughter of Isaac and Francis Jones and the aunt of Fannie Jones, stayed in San Jose when the boys were shipped back to Pennsylvania. She would then have been about 16. In December of that year, 1852, she married **Joseph W Johnson**<sup>2</sup> (1818-1880). He was one of the proprietors of the Bella Union saloon and lodging house, probably the place where Julia's mother worked. In the 1852 California State Census he appears nine names down from the Jones family. At the time of their marriage he was Sheriff of Santa Clara County, leaving that office in 1853 to become an attorney, a County Judge, and the ninth Mayor of San Jose from 1863 to 1867. He held the position of Justice of the Peace until his death in 1880 from a heart attack. Julia and Joseph had two children: William C Johnson (~1856- ) and Nellie H Johnson (~1858-1880, Edwin Humphrey Ayers). Those children were soon without a mother, because in the 1860 census Joseph W Johnson appears as a widower.



**Leon Erskine Jones** (1841-1922), son of Isaac and Francis Jones and the uncle of Fannie Jones, was sent with his brother Worth in 1852 to live with their aunt Grace Andrews Wightman and her husband Elisha Wightman, a farmer in Mead Township, Crawford County, Pennsylvania. Leon fought in the Civil War, as recounted in *Records of Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, with a Complete Account of the Twentieth National Encampment*, by William H Ward (1886), p. 529: "*LEON E JONES was born in 1841 in Platte City, Missouri; has been a merchant, contractor, and farmer. Enlisted July 12, 1862, in the 12th Pennsylvania Cavalry and served as private, sergeant, 2nd lieutenant, and 1st lieutenant; commissions dating June 24, 1864 and January 11, 1865; was attached to the Army of West Virginia; took part in the battles of South Mountain, Boonesboro, Antietam, Winchester, Gettysburg, and Kernstown; was wounded at Kernstown; carried the dispatches from Grant to Sheridan while the latter was at Harrisburg, Virginia, bringing him down the valley on his famous ride; rode 110 miles in fifteen hours in carrying those dispatches; was honorably discharged in March, 1865. Comrade Jones joined Phil Sheridan Post G A R of San Jose, California, of which he was adjutant; was transferred to George H Thomas Post of San Francisco; is a resident of Santa Cruz, California.*"

By 1869, after the Civil War, Leon and his brother Worth were back in San Jose. In March 1870 Leon married **Mary Jane Cutler** (1849-1905), daughter of Simon Metcalf Cutler, the San Jose Postmaster. Their children were Mabel E Jones (1870-1907, Horace Edward Montague) and Henry Cutler Jones (1872-1956, Harriet Bradner). After the death of Mary Jane in 1905, Leon married her half-sister **Nellie Lucinda Cutler** (1857-1917).

In addition to the occupations listed in the article above, Leon was a Deputy Sheriff, Manager of Capitola, an amusement park in Santa Cruz,

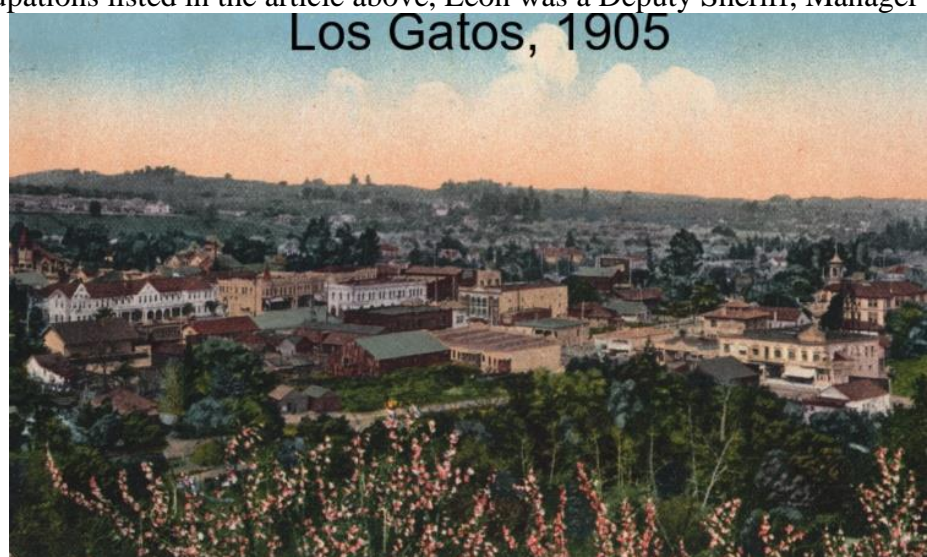
Assemblyman in the California Legislature, hotelkeeper, and coiner in the U.S. Mint! He lived in San Francisco and Santa Cruz, but from 1908 until his death at 301 Johnson Avenue in **Los Gatos**. It was there that

**Fannie Puckett** visited

him in 1910. His wife Nellie was with him until her death in 1917. He spent his last days at the **Abbey Inn** in Los Gatos, cared for by his niece **Francis Dorothy Puckett**.

An obituary appeared in the San Jose Mercury News, (published as San Jose Mercury Herald), 10-15-1922, v. CIII, issue 107, p. 3: "*Pioneer Dies. The many friends and comrades of Leon E Jones, a member of Los Gatos Post G A R, will be saddened to learn of his death early Saturday morning. He passed away peacefully after an illness extending over many months.*"

*Mr. Jones, who was born in Platt City Missouri in 1841, crossed the plains with his parents at the age of nine years riding a horse all the way to California on the nine months trip. At the*



*outbreak of the Civil War he returned east where he enlisted as a private in the Pennsylvania volunteers. When the war was over he again returned to California, making this his home ever since.*

*While living at the family home of Johnson Avenue in 1917, his wife Mrs. Nellie L Jones died. Since this time he has never regained his normal spirits mourning for her. The deceased has been making his home with his niece Mrs Frances Puckett at Abbey Inn since last January. He is survived by his son Henry of Lemon Cove, Cal. The remains are at the Melvin Funeral parlors. Funeral arrangements will be announced later, interment taking place beside his wife in Santa Cruz."*

## **SMITH ANCESTORS OF FANNIE JONES**

In 1852 Worth Walter Jones and his brother Leon Erskine Jones were sent from San Jose to live with their aunt and uncle the Wightmans in Mead Township, Crawford, Pennsylvania. One of the Wightmans' nearest neighbors was the family of Chauncey Sheldon Smith (1807-1891), a farmer, and his wife Dorothy Hart Smith (1817-1905). Worth Jones grew up with, went to school with, and married one of the Smiths' daughters, Nancy Jane. The Smiths are therefore grandparents of Fannie Jones.

The children of Chauncey and Dorothy Smith were: Julia Ann Smith (1845-1929, Isaac Wimmer), Catherine Elizabeth Smith (1846-1915, John Wimmer), Adaline Dorothy Smith (1848-1931, Frank Kelley), Nancy Jane Smith (1850-1879, Worth Walter Jones), David D Smith (1851-1937, Alice Hartel), William T Smith (1854-1848, Emma Strauss), and Sidman Solomon Smith (1856-1932, Jennie Cunningham and Ella Agnes Albaugh). Those children, except for Nancy Jane, are Fannie's aunts and uncles. In one of Fannie's letters the last days of her uncle Sid are mentioned.

Chauncey Smith was born in Litchfield, Woodbury, Connecticut. Trees in ancestry.com trace his ancestry back to Thomas Smith born in 1724 in New Haven, Connecticut. He came to Crawford County in 1840. Two years later, in Fairfield, Crawford County he married Dorothy, who was a Fairfield native.

## **THE PARENTS AND SIBLINGS OF FANNIE JONES**



Worth Walter Jones

**Worth Walter Jones** (~1846-1884), son of Isaac and Francis Jones, was sent with his brother Leon to live with their aunt and uncle the Wightmans in Mead Township, Crawford, Pennsylvania in 1852. Like Leon, he had returned to San Jose by 1869. In 1870 "Werth W. Jones" was living with his brother Leon E. Jones in San Jose and working as a clerk for Spring & Co. at the corner of Santa Clara and Market Streets in that city. Sometime before 1870, however, he had returned to Crawford County and married **Nancy Jane Smith** (1850-1879).

As mentioned above, Nancy Jane was a neighbor in Mead Township



Nancy Jane Smith Jones

who grew up with Worth.

The first child of Worth W Jones and Nancy Jane Smith was Frances 'Fannie' Dorothy, born in 1870. Following Fannie were Emma Louise in 1873, Leon Erskine in 1875, Maude J in 1877, and Alice Mae in 1879. All the children were born in Crawford County.

Worth Jones was living in San Jose in 1870; Fannie, who was born in April 1870, and her mother were living with her parents, the Smiths, in Mead Township. To complicate things, according to a 1951 newspaper article on Fannie, when she was a baby in Pennsylvania, her father went to California. Her mother's parents refused to allow the mother and baby to accompany him, so he gave up on California and went home. But he talked so much about the wonders of California that at the age of two she said "**I want to go there.**" How to interpret all this? Probably Worth made at least two trips between Pennsylvania and San Jose between 1869 and 1872 or 1873. He presumably was in Pennsylvania after 1873, when the rest of the children were born.

Nancy Jane Smith Jones died in November 1879. That event evidently put the family into a tailspin. The children were all farmed out to relatives and friends, and in the 1880 census we find that Worth was a boarder in the household of Henry Crumling in Fairview, Butler, Pennsylvania, age 32, with no occupation listed. Worth was killed when he fell off an oil derrick in 1884 in Scio, Allegany, New York. He and Nancy Jane are interred together in the Greendale Cemetery in Meadville, Crawford, Pennsylvania.

After the death of their mother, Fannie lived with her Smith grandparents in Mead Township. Maude and Leon lived with Charles and Maude Sprague in Fairview Township, Butler, Pennsylvania. Charles Sprague would appear in the 1920 census as the father-in-law of Maude's husband, so perhaps Maude had been adopted. Emma lived with her uncle David D Smith in Ravenna, Ohio. Alice became the foster daughter of Cyrus and Mary Jane Chatley in West Fairfield Township, Crawford County. [US Censuses and emails from Margaret Wiebusch]

**Emma Louise Jones** (1873-1959) married **Harry Lee Barnaby** (1866-1942) in 1892 in Portage County, Ohio, where she had been living with her uncle David D Smith. Harry was a sawmill operator. Their children were Paul Jones Barnaby (1893-1948, Dorothy Gladys McGaw), Walter Lee Barnaby (1898-1979, Doris Shirley Jones), Charles S Barnaby (1903-1963, Mae Elizabeth Manion), and Alice Louise Barnaby (1911-1924). For a few years after their marriage, Paul J Barnaby and his wife Dorothy were traveling Lyceum entertainers. In 1921 they held copyrights on a few plays and musical dramas.



Alice, Fannie, Emma 1927

**Leon Erskine Jones** (1875-1958), named after his uncle, married **Cora Ophelia Carpenter** in 1902 in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. They were divorced in 1907 in Wood County, Ohio, her home before and after the marriage. She apparently did not remarry and died in 1913. Leon then married **Elva Francis McCaw** (1875-1951) in 1917 in Bannock County, Idaho. He was a farmer in Bannock County, near Pocatello, and Cowlitz County, Washington, and then retired to



Salem, Marion, Oregon, where he and Elva died and are buried.



Maude & Wm Quay, Alice & Melvin Meacham,  
Emma & Harry Barnaby 1931

**Maude J Jones** (1877-1946) married **William Hendricks Quay, Jr.** (1870-1957), a general practice physician, in 1893 in Cattaraugus County, New York. Dr. Quay attended Allegheny College and received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Medical College. He practiced primarily in Townville, Crawford County. He was a physician through the two influenza epidemics in 1895-1897 and 1917-1919. The children of William and Maude were Charles Allen Quay (1895-1946, Ivy Florence Harding), William Hendricks Quay

III (1896-1966, Eleanor P Aston), and Albert Harrison Quay (1903-1986, Margaret Jeffries).

**Alice Mae Jones** (1879-1970) married **Melvin Coburn Meacham** (1870-1939) on 22 Aug 1899 in Ravenna, Portage, Ohio. He was a farmer in Randolph Township, Portage County. Their children, all born in Randolph, were Grace E Meacham (1900-1989), Mable P Meacham (1903-1994), and Elmer Dean Meacham (1917-1998, Isabel McIntyre). Neither Grace nor Mable married. Grace was a public school teacher. Elmer was a graduate of The Eastman School of Music and Syracuse University. He was Music Director and Choral Director in the Solvay School District, Onondaga County, New York.



Alice Mae Jones

## MARRIAGE OF FANNIE JONES TO JAY BREWER ABBEY



Jay & Pitt Abbey with their mother  
Emily Pattison Abbey

Fannie married Jay Brewer Abbey in 1884 in New York. Jay was the son of Nathaniel W Abbey and Emily Phoebe Pattison from Smethport, McKean, Pennsylvania. His Abbey lineage can be traced back many generations. His great-grandparents John Abbey and Lydia Wolcott were among the first permanent settlers of the Potato Creek valley in Norwich Township, McKean, Pennsylvania. They arrived in 1815 as members of a group from Norwich, Chenango, New York. The group was lured to Pennsylvania by promises of mineral wealth and rich farmland. Neither promise turned out to be true until years later when oil was discovered. Nathaniel was a carpenter, builder, and County Commissioner in

Smethport. Jay was the brother of Pitt Eben Abbey, the grandfather of Betsey Abbey.

Jay's obituary states that he was a telegraph operator for a number of years. In about 1886 he

opened a grocery store in Smethport and conducted that business until 1894, when he sold out and moved to Scio, Allegany, New York, and took up the occupation of farming.



A 1951 Los Gatos newspaper article says that Jay and Fannie made a honeymoon trip to Ohio, where they visited her sister [Emma], who had grown up with an aunt and uncle there. The farm they established had livestock, including a cow whose broken leg Fannie fixed with a cast of flour, salt, and cold water. They had eight children, five of whom lived more than a few days: Maud in 1886, Pearl in 1888, Rex in 1892, Forrest in 1894, and Dorothy in 1897. All except Maud were born in Smethport. I will discuss them individually later on.

Jay died in Scio in March 1900 of apoplexy (sudden death, probably from a cerebral hemorrhage). His obituary reads, in part: *"The deceased is survived by a loving wife, four young children -- three girls and one boy -- and one brother, P E Abbey of this place, who mourn the loss of a loving husband, father, and brother, and the community in which he lived, an honest and upright man. The remains were brought to Smethport on Monday, and the funeral services were held in the M E Church on Tuesday at 2 p.m. Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery."*

By the time of the census at the end of June 1900, Frances D Abbey, widow, was a housekeeper in the Earley home in the Town of Scio, Allegany, NY; her children had been dispersed -- Dorothy, Maud, and Forrest were living with Leslie Patterson, a relative, in McKean County, Pennsylvania, and Pearl was living in the home of George Smith in Scio. It seems unimaginable to us today that she would so easily give up all her children, but at the time viewpoints were different. Widows had little opportunity to have employment or childcare. All the children, in later years, seem to have maintained good relationships with her.

## **FANNIE JONES ABBEY GOES WEST**

Fannie immediately fulfilled her dream at age two of going West. On May 27, 1905, in Portland, Oregon, she married George Washington Earl (1846-1926). The marriage must not have lasted long, because in 1910 she was a guest and private family nurse in the home of Harry W Stone, YMCA Secretary in Portland. During the time in Oregon, according to Frances Puckett Going to Ohio (reference above), *"for a period of three years she was with the YWCA in Gerhart, Oregon. At that time she bought a ranch, with the intention of opening a resort for young people. But after she and Fennimore Cooper Puckett were married in 1915, and had lived for a year on the ranch, they decided that the intellectual climate would be richer in Los Gatos and moved there."* She was actually in Los Gatos in September 1910, to visit her uncle Leon Erskine Jones, and fell in love with it. *"I want to live and die here. I feel as if I'm on Heaven's own doorstep."*

Fannie and Fennimore Cooper Puckett (~1863-1936) were married, in April 1915, in Los



Gatos at the home of her uncle Leon Erskine Jones. An obituary in the McKean County [Pennsylvania] Democrat, 12-17-1936, says that Fennimore was a prominent lecturer and author, that he attended Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and the Unitarian Theological School in Meadville, Pennsylvania, and that he was employed on the editorial staffs of newspapers in Texas and Chicago for a number of years. After the wedding Fannie and Fennimore spent time in San Francisco and Portland before proceeding to their ranch in Estacada, Oregon (about 35 miles southeast of Portland).

#### FOUR ABBEY INNS

Abbey Inn, 10 San Jose Ave



A PLEASANT PLACE FOR REST AND RECREATION

home [hotel]” in two weeks. About 1921 it was sold, and the second Abbey Inn, a rest



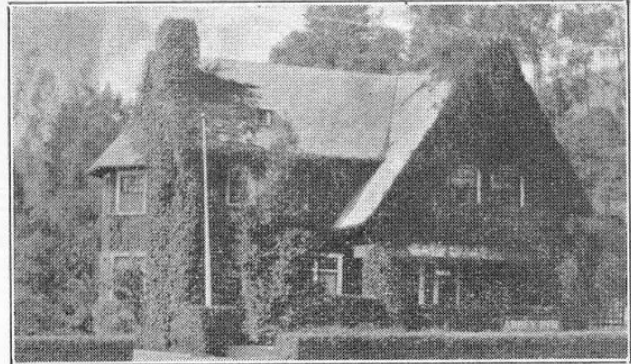
55 Palm Avenue, Los Gatos, in 1976

restored in 1924 as the “Abbey Inn.” That was the third Abbey Inn.

The fourth and final Abbey Inn was at 1 Bayview Avenue in Los Gatos, at the end of West Main Street, established sometime before 1928. It was “at first a boarding house and social center for travelers and later a boarding house mostly for female teachers in the area” (1978 newspaper article on its imminent razing). Fannie added two cottages to the main building on

In 1918 Fannie and Fennimore Puckett established the first Abbey Inn at 10 San Jose Avenue (later San Jose-Los Gatos Rd., then Los Gatos Blvd.). A March 18, 1918 newspaper article says it was to open as a “first-class family

Abbey Inn, Hollywood



A PLEASANT PLACE FOR REST AND RECREATION

home, was established at 1906 Highland Avenue in Hollywood, California. In short order the Pucketts returned to Los Gatos, however. Town records of Los Gatos indicate that the “Francis D Puckett house,” a Queen Anne at 55 Palm Avenue in Los Gatos, was

1 Bayview Avenue, Los Gatos



the property.

In 1953 Fannie moved to Ohio to be with her daughter Pearl Cox, and the Inn was to be run by her granddaughter Betty Stimmel, daughter of Maud, and husband Howard. That arrangement evidently did not last long, because Fannie sold the Inn in 1955 and resided at the Odd Fellows Home on Fruitvale Avenue in Saratoga, Santa Clara County, until she died in 1963. Her ashes were inurned at the Odd Fellows Crematory in Santa Cruz and buried in Smethport on top of Jay.

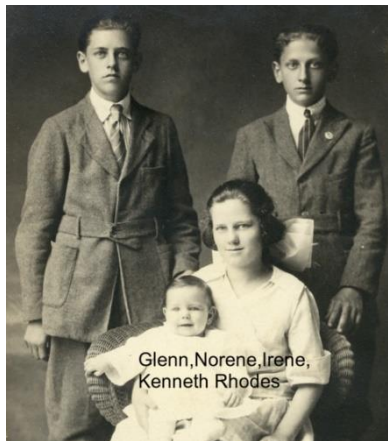
## THE CHILDREN OF FANNIE JONES AND JAY BREWER ABBEY



Maud Louise Abbey

**Maud Louise Abbey** (1886-1950) was living with her brother Forrest and sister Dorothy in 1900 with Leslie Patterson and his family in Smethport. Leslie was a first cousin of Jay Brewer Abbey. Maud married **William Henry Rhodes** (1883-1963) in 1903 in Summit County, Ohio. At that time he was a farmer in Freedom Township, Portage, Ohio. He later worked, among other jobs, in a rubber factory, for a coal supply company, and in a chair factory. Maud was

divorced from William in the early 1940s and went to live with her mother in the Abbey Inn in Los Gatos. In Los Gatos she was briefly married to **John Philip Grigsby** (1879-1961), a carpenter whose sons worked in the film industry. She died on her mother's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in the kitchen of the Abbey Inn, as she helped her mother prepare dinner. She appears on the same



Glenn, Norene, Irene,  
Kenneth Rhodes

tombstone as her first husband and son Rex in Maple Grove Cemetery in Ravenna, Ohio.

Children of William H Rhodes and Maud were Glenn William Rhodes (1904-1966, Frances B Moledor); Kenneth Charles Rhodes (1905-1981, Mabel Helen Pore, Luna Aileene Stillman), an automobile salesman in Ravenna and, briefly, Port Townsend, Washington; Irene Rhodes (1905-1927); Norene Frances Rhodes (1920-2009, Burnell 'Dutch' Griffith), a hairdresser in the Ravenna and Blackhorse areas of Portage County; Betty Louise Rhodes (1923-2002, Howard Monroe Stimmel); and Rex Rhodes (1826-1945).

In 1932-1933 Betty went to school in Baltimore, Maryland, living with a sister of William H Rhodes, because William Rhodes was out of work and taking care of Rex was tiring Maud (postcards from Maud to Nettie Abbey in Smethport, Pennsylvania). Rex had an epileptic condition; he died in the Ohio Hospital for Epileptics in Gallipolis, Gallia, Ohio.

I indicated above that in 1953 Fannie Puckett moved to Ohio to be with her daughter Pearl



Wm H Rhodes, Maud, Fannie 1927



Cox, and the Inn was to be run by her granddaughter Betty Stimmel and husband Howard. That arrangement evidently did not last long, because Fannie sold the inn in 1955. The Stimmels returned to Ohio but not before their daughter Betsy was born in 1955 in Santa Clara County, California.



Pearl and Elmer Cox

**Pearl Valeria Abbey** (1888-1981) lived with a family in Scio, Allegany, New York in 1900, after her father died, the place that her parents had a farm. She later relocated to Ohio.

William Haine, a physician, had sold his practice and moved his family to 836 Adams Street in Warren, Ohio. Dr. Haine traveled extensively, leaving his large family on Adams Street for long periods of time. Due to hard times for the family and to make ends meet, his wife Cornelia and children took in boarders. Among them was one young lady, Pearl Abbey, who lived with the Brainards on Atlantic Street but took her meals with the Haine family. Pearl became close friends with their cousins, the four Cox sisters, then eventually their brother **Elmer Haine Cox** (1884-1966), whom she married in 1911 in

the Brainard home.

The Haine Book ([haine.org/uk](http://haine.org/uk)) relates that "*Elmer graduated from Bloomfield High School [Trumbull County] in 1902, in a graduating class of three. Following graduation, he attended Ohio State to learn cheese making. He became the head cheese-maker at Clover Hill Factory after his father retired.... Four children were born to Elmer and Pearl, the eldest at Clover Hill, and the two youngest in Warren.*

*After closing the cheese factory in 1920, Elmer and Pearl decided to go to California for a month's visit. So they put their car on blocks in the garage and left the house in care of family. Charles was 8 years old and Robert 4. They traveled by train to Los Gatos, California, where Pearl's mother Frances Abbey had settled and was operating The Abbey Inn. While they were there, Pearl became ill with a gallbladder attack. Elmer took a job in an ice cream factory in Fresno, and so they decided to stay on longer, in fact for a year. Charles recalled that he would dream of being back at Clover Hill, and when brother Bob asked if he had taken him along Charles said 'No' and Bob cried. They had enjoyed such good times at Clover Hill and couldn't wait to get back home. So in the spring of 1921 the family returned to Ohio -- but not to Clover Hill. They rented out the house at Clover Hill. Elmer got a job with General Motors Sunlight Electric plant in Warren, and they bought a house at 534 Bank Street. Elmer retired from GM after 30 years of service. Grandpa Cox kept "pogy bait" (candy) he called it, on the top shelf in the kitchen. His face would light up, as he passed it out to the kids. He did all the grocery shopping, and every Christmas time would buy a large turkey for the Cox Christmas feast at Clover Hill....*

*Elmer and Pearl are buried in the Brownwood Cemetery [ North Bloomfield, Trumbull County]."*

The Cox children, all born in Trumbull County, were Charles Philip Cox (1912-1996, Hazel Fern Carlson), Robert Lee Cox (1916-1999, Ester Elizabeth Niemi), John Henry Cox (1922-



2010, Marian Irene Payne), and Emogene Valeria Cox (1924-1976, Eugene Irvin Ruehle). John Cox worked for over 50 years at Aetna Freight Lines as an accountant and administrator.

**Rex V Abbey** (1892-1892) appears on the same stone in Rosehill Cemetery in Smethport as his father Jay, and his mother Fannie's ashes are in the same plot.

**Forrest Clark Abbey** (1894-1942) lived with his sisters Dorothy and Maud in the home of Leslie Patterson, his first cousin once removed, in 1900. Forrest was adopted by Pitt & Nettie



(l to r)Maud,Dorothy,Forrest,Pearl,Fannie 1927

Abbey, his uncle and aunt, in 1902. At 15 he was living with Edmund Palmer in Bradford. His 1917 WWI Draft Registration card says he was living in Ravenna, Ohio, a teamster in the employ of W H Rhodes (his brother-in-law). In 1930 he was an auto mechanic and in 1940 an electric motors lathe operator. On his WWII Draft Registration, Forrest stated that he was residing at a War Department Terminal in Cleveland, working at Painesville Machine Co. His wife **Amy Elizabeth Dole** (1892-1973), whom he had married in 1915, was

living in Orwell, Ashtabula, Ohio.

His obituary in the McKean County Democrat 12-17-1942: "*Forrest Clark Abbey passed away suddenly at his work as government inspector at the Painesville Machine Shop, Painesville, Ohio. Born in Smethport Oct 27, 1894, he was the only son of the late Jay B Abbey and Francis Abbey Puckett of Los Gatos, California. On Oct 30, 1915 he was united in marriage to Amy Dole of Orwell, Ohio, in which vicinity he lived until about a year ago when he entered the government service.... Besides his grief stricken widow, he is survived by his mother, Mrs Frances Puckett of Los Gatos; two sons and two daughters: Arnold Jay of Cleveland, Leon Charles, air cadet examiner, U S Army, stationed at Louisville, Kentucky, Mrs Jane Cross, Champion, Ohio, Mrs Edith Ann Supinski, Painesville, Ohio, five grandchildren, three sisters, Mrs. Maud Rhodes, Los Gatos, Calif, Mrs. Pearl Cox, Warren, Ohio, Mrs. Dorothy Adams, many nieces and nephews....*"

Children of Forrest and Amy were Arnold Jay Abbey (1917-1986, Minnie Alice Aunger), Jane Carolyn Abbey (1919-2004, Daniel Adrian Cross, Sr.), Edith Ann Abbey (1920-1982, Joseph George Supinski, Donald Carl Rose), and Leon Charles Abbey (1921-2007). The first husband of Edith Ann died at Anzio Beachhead, Italy, in WWII.



George&Emma Pattison Sparks

**Dorothy E Abbey Sparks** (1897-1964) was living, along with Maud and Forrest, with Leslie Patterson in 1900. A couple of years later she was adopted by George and Emma Pattison Sparks. Emma was the niece of Emily Phoebe Pattison, the mother of Jay Brewer Abbey. In December, 1915, at the home of her adoptive parents in Hazelhurst, Pennsylvania, she married

**Roy 'Jack' Joseph Williams** (1897-1973). Hazelhurst is a village a few miles west of Smethport. Roy was 18 and Dorothy 17. The couple moved to Ravenna, Ohio, where in 1930 Jack was an automobile salesman and Dorothy a dress seamstress. At that time they had two children, Ronald 13 and Pearl 11. They visited her parents in Hazelhurst in 1931, leaving the children for an extended visit with their grandparents.

On 16 September 1934, Maud Abbey Rhodes wrote to Nettie Abbey in Smethport that Dorothy was having a hard life with her husband (Roy Williams). Testimony at the 1935 divorce proceedings of Roy Williams vs. Dorothy Williams details, on his part, drunkenness, threats, adultery, non-support, and desertion; he spent one year in jail in Ohio for desertion. After the divorce, he established himself in Port Allegany, McKean County, and married three more times. In 1952 Roy J Williams received a two-year appointment as constable of Port Allegany!



In 1936 Dorothy, by then living in Bradford, McKean County, attended the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Pattison Reunion in McKean County along with her son Ronald and his wife. Two years later, still living in Bradford, she visited relatives in Smethport with her mother, **Fannie Abbey Puckett**.

In December 1939, in Ashtabula County, Ohio, Dorothy married **Walter J S Adams** (1887-1944), a second marriage for both. He was born in Scotland, a drug salesman. The couple lived briefly in Cuba, New York and then in Buffalo, New York. Walter died in Buffalo in 1944.

After Walter's death, Dorothy lived for a time with her mother in Los Gatos. By 1950 she had moved to the Los Angeles-Long Beach area. She died in Santa Ana, Orange County, where she lived with her daughter Emily Pearl Williams Fagin. Dorothy did much of the raising of her granddaughter Dorothy Louise Van Orman Camplin.

The son of Dorothy and Jack Williams was **Ronald George Williams** (1916-1986). In April 1935, in Jamestown, Chautauqua, New York, he married **Muriel Julia Harmon** (1916-1987). Ronald and Muriel were high school sweethearts in Port Allegany. In the 1950s he and Muriel lived in Casper, Wyoming, where he worked for Standard Oil of New Jersey. They had a boy and three girls.

The daughter of Dorothy and Roy 'Jack' Williams was **Emily Pearl 'Connie' Williams** (1917-1995). She was born, like her brother Ronald, in Arcade, Wyoming, New York. She was married five times. The first was in 1934 in Bradford, Pennsylvania, to **Elmer Graves Van Orman** (1909-1977). They had a daughter **Dorothy Louise Camplin** (1936-1986, Edward Whitaker), who was adopted by Connie's second husband **Howard Brandon Camplin** (1915-1990). Connie married Howard in Maine in 1940. At that time Howard lived in Saint Petersburg, Florida, and she in Cuba, New York. By 1946 both lived in Florida along with daughter Dorothy. The final marriage that I know of was to **Herman Fagin** (1912-1992) in 1959 in Las Vegas. She died in San Bernardino County, California, as did Herman.

Dorothy Louise Camplin Whitaker had two children, **Connie Louise Whitaker Cooper** (1959-2020) and **Mark Anthony Whitaker** (1961-2002).

There is an interesting story concerning Elmer Graves Van Orman. Long after he and Connie were divorced, in 1960, he pled guilty to manslaughter in Van Nuys, California. He was then an

oil field worker. The incident involved drunkenness and knocking down and kicking a next-door neighbor.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>The obituary of Samuel Jones (~1817-~1887), cited by Douglas S. Jones, reads “**Samuel Jones**, a former highly esteemed citizen of London, died in the insane department of the County Infirmary last Sunday evening, aged about 70 years. He was a brother of **William Jones**, the banker, now of Columbus, and has been insane for forty-five years. He was transferred from the Central Insane Asylum at the time of the fire in that institution to the County Infirmary. Wed. June 29, 1887. No death record recorded." That insanity makes him the brother to whom the Stockton Asylum record of Zachariah ‘Buffalo’ Jones refers. Accordingly, we now have four brothers: Zachariah, Isaac Newton, Samuel, and William (1812-1893).

These brothers were sons of one of the four sons of Solomon Jones: Isaac N, Zacheus, Samuel, or William. One of the sons of Zacheus was John C Jones. A Madison County history says that he was one of four children along with a daughter. That leaves no room for four more brothers, so we can eliminate Zacheus. Samuel Jones lived in Ohio but not in Madison County, so we can eliminate him. William Jones had sons Job K, Isaac, John, William, and James. Those do not include a Zachariah or a Samuel, so we can eliminate William. By process of elimination, that leaves Isaac N Jones as the father. Moreover, he is known to have had sons William, Barney, Zachariah, Isaac, and Samuel. I conclude, therefore, that Isaac N Jones was the father of Zachariah, Isaac Newton, Samuel, and William.

The daughters of Isaac N Jones were Lydia S (1809-1871, John B Croney), Elizabeth ‘Betsey’ (~1816- , Nathaniel Evans), and Mary ‘Polly’ (1818-1890, Vincent Chamberlin).

<sup>2</sup>The life of Joseph W. Johnson reflects on early times in San Jose, now at the center of Silicon Valley. From the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office website: "*Joseph W. Johnson, our second Sheriff, was born in North Carolina on the 29th day of October 1818. At the age of 31 years, he left New Orleans by ship and sailed to California, arriving here October 10, 1849. During the year of 1851 and early 1852, Johnson held the positions of Bailiff and Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff John Yontz. Johnson took office on April 5, 1852, beating W.B. Thompson in the September 1851 election. During Johnson's short career as Sheriff he was responsible for the hanging of two men at the county jail. Ramon Romero was hung on November 26, 1852, for Grand Larceny, probably horse stealing. Then an Indian named Guadalupe was executed on December 17, 1852 for the murder of another Indian. Johnson left the Sheriff's office on October 3, 1853.*

*Horse thieves and murderers were running wild in the early days of the county. On one occasion in 1853, Sheriff Johnson and a posse of men sought out two Mexican bandits who were holding out in a home near San Jose. The Sheriff was able to seize one of the banditos without a struggle. As he was leading the extremely large prisoner out the door, the bandit threw off the Sheriff and started running. The Sheriff's pistol miss fired as he tried to draw down on the fleeing murderer. Another posse member mounted his horse and quickly caught up with the bandit. The man refused to surrender, forcing the deputy to shoot him dead.*



*After leaving office, Johnson continued to serve the people of San Jose and Santa Clara County. He became an attorney, a County Judge, and the ninth Mayor of San Jose from 1863 to 1867. He held the position of Justice of the Peace until his death in 1880. On Tuesday, March 22, Johnson went to the Bank Exchange Saloon on First Street and after a brief conversation with the proprietor ordered himself a drink. Within minutes he collapsed and died. He was 61 years old."*

In 1860 J W Johnson 39 b. NC, justice of the peace, lived in San Jose with Willie C 4 b. CA and Nellie H 2 b. CA. In 1870 Joseph W Johnson 51 b. NC, justice of the peace, lived in San Jose with Willie C 14 and Nellie H 12. Evidently the Julia A Jones to whom he was married died between 1858 and 1860. In July 1871 he remarried to Mary Francis 'Fannie' Younger (~1836-1892), also her second marriage, who had been left a widow with four children. They had a son Joseph Evans Johnson (1874-1944). Fannie's first husband was J M Williams (~1829-~1871), a lawyer and District Attorney in San Jose. In 1870 the Williams family had lived next-door to Joseph W Johnson and his children.

An obituary appeared in the San Francisco Bulletin: "*Death of Justice Johnson at San Jose. San Jose, March 23d. – About 11 o'clock today Justice Joseph W. Johnson fell dead in the Bank Exchange saloon on First Street. He had entered a few minutes previous, and after looking at the morning paper and chatting pleasantly with the proprietor, with whom he drank, started out. He was seen to stagger, and just as assistance reached him, he dropped to the floor. A doctor who was passing was called in, who pronounced him dead. An inquest was held this afternoon. The testimony went to show that for some time past the deceased had been suffering with what was supposed to be rheumatism of the heart, and on Saturday last had applications placed over his left lung, as he found it difficult to breathe. He said yesterday that he thought he would go off with heart disease. He was at his courtroom a few minutes before his death, and gave orders regarding the day's work. The verdict was that death resulted from heart disease. Judge Johnson was born in North Carolina, and was about 61 years of age. He came to Santa Clara County in 1849. He was one of the proprietors of the old Bella Union saloon and lodging-house, which occupied the present site of the Auzerais House. In 1851 he was elected Sheriff of this county. Subsequently he was elected Mayor of San Jose. For the past eighteen years he has been a Justice of the Peace."*