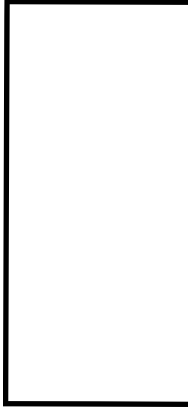




Vol. 10, No. 2 — Dec. 2003



The Denbow Diaspora
17 Coventry Lane
Athens, Ohio 45701-3718

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December 2003 "An International newsletter for Denbows" Vol. 10, No. 2

A Denbow — By Any Other Name — A Rose, Smith, Emmons or Wheatley!

By LaMont Bankson

A GOOD LOOKIN' MAN

While not a direct Denbow descendant, I got in touch with one of the editors, (CJD), of the *Denbow Diaspora* several years ago regarding a mystery for one of my ancestors. My ancestor, William Bishop (see photo on right), was often in the same vicinity of the Ohio Denbow clan in and around the Woodsfield, Monroe County area.

The connection between Denbow and Bishop was tenuous at best but, as we genealogists know when stuck, we look at friends and neighbors of the family for answers to those ever persistent, beat-your-head-against-the-wall, I'll-never-solve-this, why-did-I-ever-start-my-genealogy questions.



A group of veterans at Moose Ridge Cemetery in Monroe County, Ohio, probably on Memorial Day circa 1910. Two are identified (l to r): Reuben Bishop (second) and Thomas Bishop (fourth). Please note: Original photo is blurred.

My ancestor William Lewis Bishop married Flora J. Rose on June 12, 1883 in Woodsfield and in about

1885 fell off the face of Ohio not to be seen again by this family tree shaker until April of 2003.

So what does all this have to do with Denbows you ask? Patience my dear reader, patience. For every good discovery, there is a dull back-story. A thousand pardons...

For the last ten years or so I have looked for Wm. Bishop, my g2-grandfather high and low, every public record I could find, every obituary, census, city directory, you name it, I looked at it. I even fired off an email to CJD



From l to r: Irvin Simon Bishop and wife Edith Mae McKim in "Wild West" gear probably at a costume party in the 1950s. Irvin is the son of Wm. Lewis Bishop and Flora Rose, sister of Sarah Catherine Rose, wife of James Tanner Denbow.

who is a hail fellow, well met, but alas he could shed no light on the matter. CJD and I however discovered that while we collectively had no idea about William, we certainly shared a common ancestor via the Rose family.

Now Flora Rose, remember her, had a sister Sarah C. Rose who was born September 14, 1853. Sarah, who obviously knew a good lookin' man when she saw one, married James Tanner Denbow and low and behold the Bishop family and the Denbow family were united in Holy Matrimony as in-laws several years later when Flora married my William Bishop.

ROSES & SMITHS & EMMONS, OH MY!

Shall we get on to the good parts?

Sarah C. Rose who married James T. Denbow was the daughter of Simon A. Rose. According to a *History of Monroe County, Ohio, by H.H. Hardesty & Co.*, Simon emigrated from Germany, where he was born April 23, 1830. Simon and his parents first lived in Wheeling, West Virginia, and later moved to Seneca Township, Monroe County, Ohio in 1816. (Notice the difference between birth year and the year they moved to Seneca, Ohio.) After living in Seneca they moved to Centreville, Belmont County, which was home until 1850 when they moved back to Monroe

Motel 6

I-77 & US 50 (exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-424-5100
www.motel6.com

95 rooms. All easily accessible, ground floor rooms with doorstep parking. Cable television with HBO, free local calls, data ports and outdoor pool. Pets permitted. Restaurants nearby.

North Bend State Park

Just off US 50 (exit 176), Cairo, WV
304-643-2931, 800-CALL WVA
www.northbendsp.com

29 rooms. Lodge rooms feature solid oak furniture, two double beds, bath, air conditioning, color TV with satellite reception and telephone, non-smoking and ADA rooms. Each room also has a coffee maker and hair dryer. Outdoor pool, games area, hiking trails. Conference rooms, 8 deluxe cedar cabins, full-service restaurant.

Red Roof Inn

3714 East 7th St (I-77 & US 50 - exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-485-1741, 800-733-7663
www.redroof.com

106 rooms. Business king rooms offer recliners, 25" remote control televisions and desk with large work area. Meeting room. Free morning coffee, cable television with ShowTime, Free local calls. Pets permitted. Several restaurants adjoining.

Bed and Breakfast

Historic Harnett House Bed & Breakfast

1024 Juliana St, Parkersburg WV
304-483-1029
www.harnethouse.com

European style, Victorian elegance and West Virginia hospitality in a completely restored 1885 three-story, 34-room mansion. Full Victorian breakfast of meats, egg dishes, breakfast breads, fruit, juice, coffee and tea.

Williams House Bed & Breakfast

5406 Grand Central Ave, Vienna, WV
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Offers a "Grandparent Hospitality" experience! Clean, cozy rooms with bath, antiques, yummy, full breakfast featuring Barbara's homemade fare, fireplace conversation, porches, pool, much more. Limited availability.

For further information point your browser to:
<http://www.parkersburgcvb.org/lodging.htm>

100 rooms. Three years in row Highest Quality Award-winning hotel featuring complimentary breakfast, newspaper, local calls, hair dryer, 70 channel cable TV with HBO, pool, horseshoes, barbecue pits, bus/truck parking, restaurant adjacent.

Econo-Lodge

1954 7th St (I-77 exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-428-7500

www.econolodge.com

65 rooms. Newly remodeled rooms. Outdoor pool, 25" TV, free HBO, Jacuzzis, with 18 suites with microwave, refrigerators, iron, iron board and hair dryer. Continental breakfast, bus parking, restaurant adjacent.

Expressway Motor Inn

633 Emerson Ave (I-77 & WV 2/68 North - exit 179), Parkersburg, WV
304-485-1851

46 rooms. Newly remodeled rooms, free HBO, television with remote control, air conditioning, Jacuzzi's, free coffee and donuts, bus parking.

Hampton Inn of Parkersburg

I-77 & WV 14 (exit 170), Mineral Wells, WV
304-489-2900, 800-426-7866

www.hamptoninn.com

68 rooms. Complimentary continental breakfast buffet, free telephone calls, non-smoking rooms, complimentary USA Today, free in-room movie channel, outdoor pool, data ports, iron and ironing board in all rooms, exercise equipment.

Holiday Inn of Parkersburg

225 Holiday Hills Dr (I-77 & US 50 - exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-485-6200, 877-985-6200

149 rooms well-appointed rooms and suites. Exercise room, indoor swimming pool, hot tub and sauna in a tropical landscaped holiday atrium. Full service restaurant featuring and lounge. Meeting and banquet facilities for up to 500.

Knight's Inn

I-77 & US 50 (exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-420-2420, 800-553-4532

www.knightsinn.com

51 rooms. Easily accessible to I-77, all ground-floor rooms with convenient parking. Meeting rooms, Jacuzzis, free local calls and data ports. Restaurants nearby.

Microtel Inn

104 Nicolette Rd, I-77 & WV 14 (exit 170), Mineral Wells, WV
304-489-3892, 888-771-7171

www.microtelinn.com

53 rooms. Safe interior corridor motel. King and Queen-size bed rooms. Remote controlled TV with 45 channels plus HBO. Non-smoking and handicapped rooms. Free complimentary breakfast. Motel staff that has great hospitality to offer our guests.

County, Wayne Township. At the time that this biographical sketch was written (ca. 1882) Simon's parents, Reinhart and Catherine Rose were both deceased. Simon married Sarah E. Smith in Monroe County, February 9, 1850. Sarah was born April 10, 1829 in Monroe County. The family comprises: William R. b. November 15, 1850 (7 months after the wedding, infer what you will), Sarah C. (Denboro) (sic), b. September 14, 1853, resides in Centre Township (again based on 1882 as publishing date), Simon F. b. August 6, 1856, George W. b. October 26, 1859, Mary E. (Yoho) b. March 30, 1862, Flora J.

b. November 16, 1864 and Lana E. b. June 6, 1867.

In addition to the above H.H. Hardesty goes on and states that Mrs. Rose's (Sarah E. Smith) father, William Smith was living at age 72, and her mother, Sarah (Emmons) at age 68. In addition, according to Hardesty, Simon C. Rose held the office of trustee in Wayne Township for two years, 1866 & 1867. Two brothers of Mrs. Rose, Robert & James Smith were also in the Civil War. Robt. Served three years in the 116th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and James was in the 7th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. Both were honorably discharged.

Hardesty goes on further and states at the time of publication that Simon C. Rose was a farmer and "stock-raiser" in Woodsfield, Monroe County, Ohio. According to a death notice in the Monroe County Courier, Simon died November 8, 1907 in Stanberry, Gentry County, Mo.

Whew... that's a lot of information to digest and get into the database. Well before you go off and start typing let's talk about Sarah Smith's father William.

William Smith was a farmer in Summit Township, whose address was Lewisville, Monroe County, Ohio according to a biographical sketch I have a copy of. I do not know from whence it originates. (H.H



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This newsletter is published two or three times a year by the co-editors, who are proud to claim that it is the only newsletter in the world "For Denbows by Denbows."

Hardesty, History of Monroe County?)

According to the sketch, William was born in Washington County, Penn., August 22, 1801 and settled in Monroe County in 1816. (See confusing dates above, perhaps a solution?) William's parents were Robert Smith, who was born (gotta love this location) on Muddy Creek, three miles above Peach Bottom and Elizabeth Hanley, born in County Armagh, Ireland (Kiss Us, Were Irish!!). His wife, Sarah Emmons was born in Fayette County, PA June 20, 1811 and was the daughter of Lewis Emmons and Sarah Wheatley. According to the sketch both of his parents are deceased and they settled in Monroe County in 1816. Their children are: Rachel A (Wise) born September 11, 1831, *deceased*, Sarah (Rose) b. April 6, 1834, Hester A. (Cashner) of Pittsburgh, PA born August 10, 1836, Robert H., January 11, 1842, Margaret, December 15, 1843, Unreadable [probably James] b. March 7, 1846, Catherine (Pryor) b. June 1, 1848, William b. August 11, 1850 and Louis b. February 11, 1855.

The sketch goes on to say that two of the sons, Robert and James were in "the late war." In addition to the information from H.H. Hardesty it says Robert enlisted in the 116th OVI Co. F in the Fall of 1862, was taken prisoner at the Battle of Winchester and held a short time and further was in all of the battles of the regiment. James

enlisted in 1862 according to the sketch in the 7th Virginia Volunteer Infantry. (A unit that later became the 7th West Virginia.) When William's father, Robert settled in Monroe County in 1816, Monroe County had only been settled a few years. "The county was a wilderness with no more than six families in the bounds of Summit Township." The Smith family were members of the first

Editor's Note: According to a rough "hand calculation" – to be confirmed later by my computer genealogical program – LaMont Bankson is my third cousin – CJD

church in the county and the nearest school was in Woodsfield, 4 miles away. Sarah Emmons Smith's older brother, Thomas also attended this school. The teacher was Elijah Andrews. Sarah Emmons Smith's family also settled very early in the county at Woodsfield after coming from Pennsylvania.

Well by now you are either overwhelmed with names, dates and locales or have the onboard brain capacity to organize data the likes of which would have made Einstein blush like a 15 year old girl getting a compliment from the boy she has a crush on.

We're almost done...

According to *Monroe County, Ohio Newspaper Abstracts, Volume 4, Page 7 by Rita Kopp 1994* William Smith died at his home in Summit Township on February 2, 1894 at 92y5m11d, from a stroke. James and Robert live in Polk Co., Mo., and Margaret married John Underwood and

Parkersburg, West Virginia: Hotels and Motels

AmeriHost Inn Parkersburg North

401 37th St (Just off Murdoch Ave/WV 14), Parkersburg, WV
304-424-5300, 800-434-5800
www.amerihostinn.com

78 rooms. Indoor pool, whirlpool, exercise equipment, in-room iron/board, hair dryer, complimentary continental breakfast, adjacent to Grand Central Mall, restaurants nearby.

AmeriHost Inn Parkersburg South

201 Hospitality Lane (I-77 & WV 14 -exit 170), Mineral Wells, WV
304-489-3111, 800-434-5800
www.amerihostinn.com

61 rooms. Adjacent to Cracker Barrel. Meeting rooms, executive whirlpool rooms, indoor pool, whirlpool, HBO, in-room coffee, irons/boards, hair dryers, exercise facility and complimentary continental breakfast.

Parkersburg Inn

4009 East 7th St
I-77 & US 50 (exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-485-6551, 866-254-4351

67 rooms. Cable television, telephone, air conditioning, heated swimming pool. Free coffee, newspaper and local calls. Restaurants nearby, Bob Evans just ½ block away.

The Blennerhassett

320 Market St (4th & Market Sts), Parkersburg, WV
304-422-3131, 800-262-2536
www.theblennerhassett.com

91 rooms. Beautifully restored full-service hotel in downtown Parkersburg. Complimentary newspaper, HBO and health club privileges. Free parking. Award-winning Harman's Restaurant and Lounge. Meeting and banquet facilities.

Comfort Suites of Parkersburg

I-77 & WV 14 (exit 170), Mineral Wells, WV
304-489-9600, 800-228-5150
www.comfortsuites.com

116 suites. Award-winning hotel featuring microwaves, in-room coffee, hair dryers, iron and ironing boards, refrigerators, indoor/outdoor pool, Jacuzzi(s), fitness center, hot tub, sauna, complimentary breakfast, meeting and banquet facilities, lounge.

Days Inn of Parkersburg

I-77 & WV 14/31 (exit 185), Williamstown, WV
304-375-3730, 800-329-7466
www.daysinn.com

DNA Project Gains Steam, Still Needs \$\$\$ & Volunteers

Here's a quick update on the DNA project. We have now raised about half of what we need to get this project underway. As you may recall we need \$600 and we now have close to \$300 in the Denbow Diaspora DNA Fund. So keep your funds coming in, and we can get this project underway soon. On the facing page you will find a donation form to make that process as painless as possible. Your continued interest in supporting this project is gratefully appreciated.

The volunteer front has also advanced in recent months. We now have five volunteers representing the possible seven families groups that we would like to include in this research. Remember that only men are eligible to volunteer for giving DNA samples. We will, however, gladly accept financial contributions from the distaff side of the family!

It should be pointed out that donating the DNA sample is a painless procedure, usually involving no more than a light scrape inside the mouth on the cheek. A kit will be sent to each volunteer, who will obtain the sample in the privacy of his own home and then send it back to the lab in a provided container. Here's a quick summary of the volunteer status to date:

Robert Bruce Denbo, Lindenhurst, Ill. — Indiana clan
Carl J. Denbow, Athens, Ohio — Ohio clan
James Denbow, Round Rock, Texas — Iowa clan
Needed — representative of Maryland clan
Gene Bauer — Maine clan
Bernard Denbow — Devon, England clan
Needed — representative of African-Caribbean Denbow clan

If interested in filling in one of the "needed" categories above, please contact Carl J. Denbow at denbow@frognet.net, or 17 Coventry Ln., Athens, Ohio 45701-3718 USA.



Right: New photo identified as John Denbow, who was born in 1797 and died in the Civil War. This photo is in a locket and is a colored glass negative.



Left: This tintype photo is believed to be of John Denbow, 78th OVVI; the ID was made by carefully comparing it with a known portrait of this patriarch of the Ohio Denbow clan.

Denbow Diaspora DNA Donation Document

New Photograph of John Denbow (1797-1862) Emerges

Garren Snyder, of Addison, Ohio (near Gallipolis) has unearthed a photograph that was identified as being John Denbow, the patriarch of the Ohio Denbow clan. On the next two pages, we will reproduce this new photo as well as a portrait of John Denbow and another photo believed to be of this same man. The interesting thing about the photo from Garren is that John appears to be a man in his late 30s or early 40s. Since John was 48 when photography was invented in 1845, he would have had to have been at least that age for this photograph to have been of him. On the other hand, we do know that he appeared “young for his age” as he fooled the enlistment officers into thinking he was 44 years old (as his enlistment papers say) when he was actually 63 at the time he joined the U. S. Army to fight in the Great Slave Holders Rebellion, as the men of the 78th OVI referred to the conflict of 1861-65. As you examine these photos, look closely at his left eye (right as you face the photograph). In both photos you will notice a slight cross-eyed look, with this eye canted in farther than normal — perhaps a “lazy eye.” This does suggest the same person. Also, the notation on the photo from Garren was made ostensibly by Hamilton Denbow, a grandson of John’s who was a contemporary of older family members who would have known John during his lifetime. As you look over these pages, I’d be interested in hearing your personal analysis. They would make great letters to the editor in next issue. Hint! Hint! — CJD



Left: Portrait of John Denbow that family tradition says was the man who fought in the Civil War with five of his sons. This portrait is in the possession of the family of the late Irvin “Bean” Denbow of Lewisville, Ohio. It had been handed down in his line for several generations.

I wish to donate the following amount to the dedicated *Denbow Diaspora DNA Fund (DDDF)*, with the understanding that these funds will be used exclusively for the lab fees in conjunction with DNA testing done by a reputable laboratory. I wish to donate the following:

_____ \$100 (covers one man’s lab fees)
 _____ \$50

_____ \$25
 _____ Other

Name : _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____



Denbow or Denbo Line: (Please check one)

___ Maryland

___ Indiana

___ Maine

___ Ohio

___ England

___ Kentucky

___ Iowa

___ Other, please specify _____

Discovery as a result of work with Athens Historical Society

Morgan's Raid Claims Denbo Victim

One of the editors (CJD) has been involved in planning the Helen and Foster Cornwell Memorial Lecture for the Athens County Historical Society and Museum (ACHS&M). In his capacity as chairman of the Cornwell Committee, he has secured the services of Edwin Bearss, probably the most noted Civil War lecturer in America. He will be talking on the subject of "Making Georgia Howl" — *Southeastern Ohio Boys March to the Sea with Sherman* on Sunday, April 25, in Athens. If any *Diaspora* reader is interested in attending or finding out more information, please contact me. You can also visit www.athenshistory.org and read a news release that I wrote on the subject.

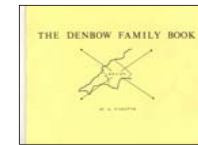
Oh yes, about the Denbo casualty of Morgan's raid. I was able to get Lester Horwitz to introduce Mr. Bearss. He is the author of *The Longest Raid of the Civil War* (Cincinnati: Farmcourt Press, 2001) and, when I talked with him on the phone, he said he wondered if I knew that some of my family had moved to Indiana and dropped the "w" off the end of the name. I answered that I did and told him about the *Diaspora* newsletter. He then told me that a Denbo lady had been killed by the raiders. Here's the relevant excerpt from the book (p. 67):

“ . . . And \$4,303.34 in goods were taken from Douglas Denbo & Co. The Denbo family suffered an even greater loss when Mrs. Cynthia Booker Denbo, who was a 'large woman,' collapsed of exhaustion after Confederates made her carry water many times up a steep hill. She was also made to drink from every bucket to be sure she didn't put poison in the water. She never recovered and passed away July 16, 1863. She was fifty-six years old and is buried in the little Denbo cemetery about two miles west of Corydon. When the Confederates rode out of town, they left behind eleven of their wounded to be cared for by the Corydon citizens. There is a Morgan's Raid historical monument in the Corydon Courthouse yard.”

Two popular publications still available from
The Denbow Diaspora Bookstore . . .



The Regimental History of the 78th Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry in the late War of Rebellion can be purchased for \$40.00. Originals bring up to \$450 from rare book dealers.



The Denbow Family Book, by W. A. Roberts, also a reprint, sells for \$18.00. This book contains more information than is available in any other one source on the Denbow family in England.

Both prices include postage and handling. To order, send a check or money order to the editorial offices, payable to: *The Denbow Diaspora*.

Current Issue Dating and Numbering

You are probably receiving this issue, dated December 2003, in February 2004. The reason for this is that most of the issue was prepared in November, but a family crisis prevented it from being finished and mailed before the end of the calendar year 2004. On Dec. 23, my mother-in-law, who was diagnosed with a lethal cancer in the spring, was taken to the hospital with breathing difficulties. She was released five days later with oxygen and went back to her home in Bexley, Ohio, where she passed away on Jan. 12, 2004. Our family appreciates your continued prayers and support. You'll note that this issue is registered as Vol. 10, No. 2. This represents our commitment to printing Vol. 11, No. 1 in late May and another issue in the fall of 2004. We would appreciate articles from you to help us fulfill this pledge. Finally, since the above was written, I have had TWO hard disk crashes. One was a physical crash and required the purchase of a new hard drive. The other involved the destruction of the master boot record and required hours of work with sophisticated partition reconstruction software to rebuild the MBR. None of this is what you'd call fun! — CJD