

Original Charter Members

Brief Biographies

1. James Hausman and Marion Carol (Dietrich) Mara

The idea of an Episcopal Church in Brown County began with James and Marion Mara and they remained the main promoters in it becoming a reality. With a group of Episcopalian friends they began its organization in 1959.

James was born September 24, 1915. He helped develop, manage and was the first director of the Episcopal Waycross Camp and Conference Center. He and his wife Marion and children lived at Waycross. Marion was born May 23, 1919. She had been the owner of the Quilt Parlor in Nashville. She and James had three children: James H. Jr., Sydney Ann and Stephen Dietrich.

James passed away November 13, 1990, age 75 in Bloomington Hospital. Marion passed away Feb.18, 2006 at the Brown County Health and Living Center, in Nashville, at age 86. Both are buried at Greenlawn Cemetery in Nashville.



2. Lennis A. and Judith M. (Gregory) Baughman

Lennie was born June 19, 1924, in Helmsburg and was a life long resident of Brown County. He worked at Eli Lilly in Indianapolis and also was manager of Waycross Camp and Conference Center for 26 years. Lennie was devoted to many charitable causes, an active member of the community, as well as an avid sports fan.

Judy was born in Tennessee, lived in Indianapolis until age ten, then moved with her family to Brown County. She and Lennie were married in 1942 and lived intermittently in Indianapolis, Brown County and Morgantown, finally settling in Brown County. She was office/housekeeping/food manager at Waycross. She enjoys painting, puzzles, cards and people.

Lennie and Judy had two children; Jim and Greg (deceased). Lennie passed away on September 9, 2008 at age 84 and a celebration of his life was held at Waycross by Rev. Jonathan Hutchison. Judy, her son Jim and his wife Jennifer currently (2009) enjoy the serenity of the Hurdle Road family home.



3. Frank Andrew (Andy) and Judith (Judy)Rogers

Frank Andrew (Andy) Rogers was born, and raised in Bloomington, IN. His family were Episcopalian, attending Trinity Church in Bloomington. His father went into partnership with Mr. Johnson, purchasing the Nashville House Restaurant and Inn in Brown County.



After graduating from Indiana University, Andy went into business with his father. He built the Season (originally a Ramada Inn), bought the Ordinary (originally The Old Hickory) and the Brown County Inn.

He married Judith Elinor Tritten and they had two children, Jane Safford and Anne Elinor. Judith was born in Toledo, Ohio, but grew up mostly in Indianapolis. She was an elementary school teacher, children's librarian and worked for the Monroe County Library. Judy passed away in February 1985.

Andy's second wife is Frances (Fran) and their children are Gina and Andi. Currently (2009) he and Fran continue to operate their businesses and live here in Brown County. Andy's daughter Jane (Rogers) Herr currently is the publisher and editor of the St. David's newsletter.

4. John Merriwether and Mary (Mickie) Lynn (Seip)Williams

John Merriwether Williams was born on August 27, 1921 in Washington, Georgia. He was a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force during WW II, attended University of Tampa, Ball State University and Indiana University. John taught Industrial Arts at Brown County High School and was principal at the new high school in 1963. He also taught at Starr Commonwealth School for Boys in Albion, Michigan and Arsenal Technical High School in Indianapolis. He was an avid hiker, archaeology, a member of the Indianapolis and Sierra hiking groups. He was a world traveler, visiting Central and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia, often hiking in these countries.



Mickie was born in Hayden, Colorado and grew up mainly in Plymouth, Indiana. She attended Lindenwood College and Ball State University, teaching kindergarten in Brown County and Indianapolis. Mickie met John in Plymouth when he came to visit his sister, who was married to the priest at the Episcopal church. They Mickie and John were married there on December 30, 1947. They have three children: John Merriwether Jr., Ann and Sarah.

John and Mickie moved to Brown County, Indiana in 1958 where John began his teaching career. In 1964 they moved to Michigan, then to Indianapolis and then back to Brown County in 1989.

John passed away on June 1, 2009, age 87 at his home. Mickie continues (2009) to enjoy their Brown County home, family, friends and St. David's church.

5. Fred and Jeannette Rigley

Charles Frederick Wildermuth Rigley was born July 1, 1914, in Owosso, Michigan. Fred attended the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida and the Art Students' League in New York City as well as studying under private instructors. At the urging of Adolph Shulz, Fred visited Brown County and then relocated here in 1950.



He was a landscape painter and was known for his Indiana landscapes.

Fred married Mary Jeannette Greene July 5, 1945 in Michigan. Jeannette was born February 11, 1914 in Richmond, Michigan. She attended the University of Michigan and the Harvard School of Business. Fred and Jeannette operated Rigley Studios, an art supply and framing store in Nashville. They had two children; Ellen Katherine and Joan Elizabeth.

Jeannette passed away March 12, 1993 in Nashville at age 79. Fred passed away March 22, 2009 in Nashville at age 94. A celebration of his life was held at the Brown County Art Guild.

6. **Herbert and Gladys Mayme (Christie) McDonald**

Herb and Gladys owned McDonald's IGA, which was founded by Herb's grandfather, John Tom McDonald in 1891. Herb was born June 2, 1898, in Brown County. His family had operated grocery and dry goods stores for four generations. He was a Navy veteran of WW I, and an avid baseball fan. Following the navy he moved to Indianapolis to work for Gatewoods Grocery Supply Warehouse, where he met Gladys.



Gladys was born September 15, 1906, in Indianapolis. She and Herb McDonald married on August 13, 1930, in Pine City, Minnesota. They moved to Brown County in 1933, to take over the grocery store. Gladys and Herb had one child, Jack McDonald. St. David's Church was very close to her heart.

Herb passed away October 17, 1971, at his home in Bean Blossom at age 73. Gladys passed away June 3, 1992, in Nashville at age 85. Both are buried at Weeping Willow Cemetery in Bean Blossom.

7. **Thomas Edward and Roxena (Besse) King**

Tom was born November 27, 1911, in Columbus Indiana. He was an electrician in the Navy during World War II and worked for Public Service Indiana. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and he and Roxena were avid sports fans.



Roxena was born November 18, 1917, in Danville, Illinois. She and Tom were married January 5, 1946, in Danville. They had four children: Eulala M., Deirdre, Roy William and Arthena N. King. She enjoyed reading and sewing, making all her children's clothing.

Tom passed away April 23, 1989, at Bloomington Hospital. Roxena passed away Aug. 1, 2000, at her home on Coffey Hill. They both are buried at Greenlawn Cemetery in Nashville.

8. **Nellie Louise (Jewell) and Harold A. Meyrick**

Nellie Meyrick was born July 28, 1895, in Decorah, Iowa. She was a graduate of Columbia University in New York City and served in the Nursing Corps during World War I. She married Harold (Dutch) Meyrick April 8, 1929,

in Chicago. She was a devoted member of St. David's Church

Harold (Dutch) Meyrick was born March 19, 1899, in Decorah, Iowa. He was the owner of Thermolator Company in Indianapolis. He was a veteran of World War I and moved to Brown County in 1948.

Harold passed away May 30, 1968, Indianapolis, Nellie passed January 4, 1983, Decorah, Iowa. Both are buried at Greenlawn Cemetery in Nashville.

9. Elizabeth and Dr. Harold C Percival

Elizabeth was born June 30, 1896, in Indianapolis and attended Normal School, teaching English, German and Patriotism upon graduation. She married Dr. Harold C. Percival on June 28, 1921, in Indianapolis. Elizabeth and Dr. Harold had three children: Robert A., Donald H., and Margaret. In 1946, the family moved to Brown County, Indiana where Dr. Harold opened a dental office.



Dr. Harold C. Percival was born April 4, 1894, in Rutland, Vermont. He attended Indiana University and served in the U.S. Army during both WW I and WW II in the dental corps.

Dr. Percival passed away on April 2, 1969, in Indianapolis and Elizabeth passed away June 15, 1976, at the home of her daughter in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Both are buried at Brown County Memorial Park in Nashville.

10. Dr. Robert (Bob) A. and Elizabeth (Betty) Percival

Dr. Robert Percival was born October 24, 1928, in Indianapolis, to Dr. Harold C. and Elizabeth Percival. He served in the U.S Army in the Dental Corps. Following the service he attended Indiana University and Ohio State, then establishing his dental practice in Brown County.



Betty was born in Brooklyn, New York. She met Bob when her father, a U.S. Marine recruiting officer, was stationed in Indianapolis, and she and Bob attended Howe High School in Indianapolis. Betty attended Indiana University, receiving a degree in Social Service. She and Bob were married on August 22, 1963, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Indianapolis. Betty was Bob's office assistant for many years. They have five children: Robert Harold, Elizabeth Louise, Laura Marie, Suzanne Lynn and Daniel Anthony.

Currently (2009) Bob and Betty are retired and reside in the Nashville area.