



The

Generation

Next

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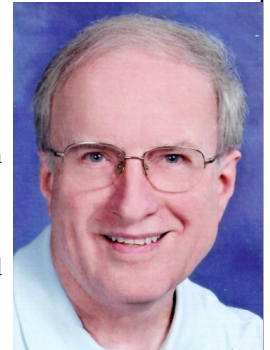
**Our building on Main Street in Lexington is closed right now**, but the volunteers of THE FORT-Lexington Genealogical and Historical Society- are willing and able to help you with questions or need for historical research.

We **check our email daily**, so just email us and explain your request and we will put an experienced volunteer in contact with you for some personal help. Email us at [thefortoflex@aol.com](mailto:thefortoflex@aol.com)

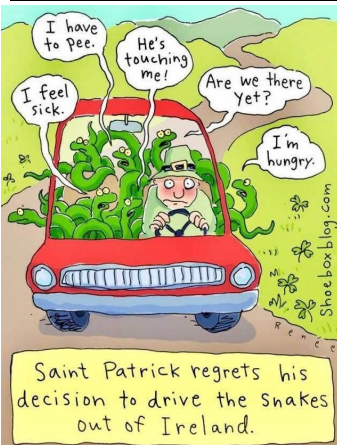
Hope to hear from you soon.  
**From Your FORT Volunteers**

***Sadly sharing the news of the passing in March 2021 of two long-time FORT members.***

Stanley Richard Jacobs, 74, of Largo, FL, passed away on Sunday, March 14, in Palm Harbor, FL. Stan was born on March 4, 1947, in Fairbury, IL son of Richard and Wiladene Hewitt Jacobs. He was a 1965 graduate of Chenoa High School, graduated from Bradley University, attended San Diego State University and Illinois State University. While a member of the Bradley Chorale, he sang on Broadway, in Washington D.C., and toured Europe. Stan did extensive research into his family's genealogy and generously shared his knowledge. He made several trips to England, Ireland, Scotland, and Germany, where he found Jacobs relatives living and farming. Stan was a founding member of Kirk of the Lake Presbyterian Church of Pinellas County, FL, and served as Elder. He had a beautiful singing voice, enjoyed classical music and opera, classic cars and auto shows, kayaking and sailing, and the Tampa Bay Rays. We will miss Stan's visits and emails to THE FORT.



Linda Irene Heintzman, 64, of Lexington, died Sunday March 21, at her home surrounded by family. Burial will be in Pleasant Hill Cemetery near Lexington. Linda was born September 5, 1956 in Bloomington, the daughter of Burl and Bernadine Adreon Grimsley. She married Fredrick Heintzman on February 14, 1975. Survived by her husband Fred; two sons: Thomas (Jennifer) Heintzman, Williamsville; Timothy (Emily) Heintzman, Bloomington; and one daughter, Angela Heintzman of Bloomington; one brother, Richard (Donita) Grimsley, Lexington, one sister, Patti Kemp, Vero Beach, Florida; and three grandchildren: Louis and Joseph Heintzman and Brody Roberts. Linda was employed at Lexington Library and later at Lexington Schools as a librarian for 24 years, before retiring in 2015. Linda volunteered teaching Bible School, helping with Boy Scouts, Girl Scout troops, as well as being a devoted football, volleyball, baseball, and softball mom. She was also a dedicated volunteer and Board Member of Lexington Genealogy and Historical Society for over 25 years where her legacy of service lives on in the many projects she organized over the years.



Check out the updates on **FIND A GRAVE** pages in **McLean Co. Cemeteries!!!** Our **FORT VOLUNTEERS** have spent hours making updates from our books to make the data as correct as possible.

**Protect Your Valuable Research....**

Jeannette Austin's *Yesterday Newsletter* about historical people and events appears on her website [yesterday.substack.com](http://yesterday.substack.com). Our FORT member Nancy Miller shared "I'm Spillin' the Beans" where Jeannette warns us to preserve our genealogy records. A summary of some of Jeannette's important points follows:

In the old days, events were written in the family bible, but when this went out of style many records were lost. Your research work can disappear, too. About 1995 online resources grew when websites became popular and much personal genealogy was posted online. Family group sheets and pedigree charts appeared like magic and a universe of free genealogy became readily available. When Ancestry came into being, they scooped up small genealogy sites and much of the free genealogy seemed to disappear overnight. Fewer print materials forced more online sources. Quantity and quality are questioned. For example, information in the online Wikipedia is written by interested persons, and is credible when they provide references, but we must be suspect.

Now we seem to be in dire times. Warnings of a massive DNA database of genealogical information might be secretly stored. Old records from the vaults of court houses are being moved to off-site storage. Books are being purged from libraries and our dictionary is being re-written with woke expressions inserted and meanings of words changed. If you have an old dictionary or history book, value it as rare. The ominous cancel culture seeks to destroy the past and re-write history the way they want it to be. It is all happening while we are asked to isolate from others. Public archives and libraries are closed, and, when these facilities re-open, we might find many surprises.



Genealogists dig into old records to learn about the era in which our ancestors lived and survived. What will they say about us later, in a different era, when the circumstances will be different? Our own personal research records will stand for truth. Our task today is to preserve the records of the past. Please find a way to protect your valuable research. It is the single-most important thing to be accomplished this year.