

# CHRONICLE

Family Poop Sheet since 1990  
Volume XI, Issue 20, November 20, 2000

I have just met (via e-mail) another descendent of the Mondy/Monday clan, Joelean Greenhalge of Longmont, Colorado. Her mother was Linna Stephens, the daughter of our Uncle Arch and Aunt Millie Stephens. She sent me the descendents down to the 4<sup>th</sup> generation, – fills three pages.

We haven't heard from Ina Hall for months and months though I have begged her to write. We even heard she had gone blind. Well I am happy to report she isn't blind and she didn't leave us without warning. I received a long letter from her and after you have read it you will understand the delay.

## **Ina says:**

I thought it was time I give an account of myself. On August 25, 1999 I became very sick about 2:00 AM. My daughter called EMS and my son in Cuero. He came immediately and took me to the hospital in San Marcos. I had an infection of the sinus and of the urinary tract and they said if I had waited a little longer it would have been too late. They started an IV immediately and filled me full of antibiotics. I was in the hospital for a week then they discharged me.

Son John took me to Cuero and entered me in the Cuero Nursing Home which is a very nice home.

A few months after entering the home I took pneumonia and severe diarrhea and they put me back in the hospital in Cuero where I spent a week while they X-rayed me and found I had a stone in my bile duct. They did not remove it because I was too weak.

In March I was elected Queen of the

Home and crowned. I thought it was nice of them, considering my having been there such a short time. I won a doll house filled with furniture. It was very pretty and I gave it to Granddaughter, Marie, which made her very happy.

On July 28<sup>th</sup> of this year my son and family left for Europe, a Christmas Present from John's in-laws for a three-week vacation. While they were gone, my daughter and her family came to Cuero to spend a few days at John's home and picked me up the first evening to spend time with them. About 2:00 AM I became very sick at my stomach and my back began to ache. My daughter called EMS and they took me to Cuero hospital where they advised my daughter to take me to Victoria to see a specialist. In a couple of days, the doctor tried to remove the stone through my mouth. He was only able to raise it enough for my bile to flow and wanted me to come back later.

Near the end of August I fell at the nursing home. A couple of aides tried to lift me onto a bed but pulled a muscle loose so back to Victoria I went. I stayed there a few days. They thought I had a heart attack but they ran all kinds of tests and could not find anything wrong with my heart. About a month later I went back to the hospital and they removed the stone.

I was ninety years old on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, 2000. My daughter and son gave me a party at the Community Center near my old home. They served buffet style ham, turkey, with all the trimmings. More than 125 people came bringing birthday cards and money. I received more than \$200. It was a very good party.

(Ina Hall cont'd)

John is Supt of school in Cuero, soon will have been here two years. They have built a beautiful new home here and rent out the home they own near San Marcos. Their son will finish high school soon and plans to go the U. of Texas in Austin. Their daughter is there now, - a straight A student.

Jean Thomas, my address is below so you can write whenever you wish.

At the time I became ill Ramona's husband was scheduled for surgery to take care of a colorectal tumor which was malignant for which he had been taking chemo. They removed the tumor and he seems to be doing OK. A couple of years ago Ramona had a breast removed. She went for check-up this week and the doctors were pleased

Lois, you were mistaken about my losing my eyesight. It is true I had glaucoma twenty years ago but they have it arrested. I go the doctor once a year and he says my eyesight is good for my age.

Well, as you can see, I didn't write because I was too busy being sick.

Ina Hall  
1310 E. Broadway  
Cuero, TX 77954

Hey, You all!

Send in your story about how you think maybe your Guardian Angel may have been watching out for you. Most people like Guardian Angel stories.

Whenever Thanksgiving comes around each year we are reminded of the first Thanksgiving when our forebears feasted on turkeys. It is very doubtful that a single turkey decorated that first feast. Why? Powder and shot was very costly and a man would not dare waste in on a scrawny bird

like the turkey. There were lots of geese and ducks which would have been a better investment of resources. A deer was better still. Rabbits and other small game was easily trapped and the waters were filled with fish, lobsters, crabs and other food. No, I doubt there were scrawny turkeys being served. Now if these turkeys had been Butter-ball turkeys, they would have been more attractive.

From **Bessie and Bertha** in Springfield, MO  
Dear Chronicle Cousins and Friends:

Well the election is over, or is it, and at this time we do not know who will be the next president.

Here in the Ozarks we have had a change in the weather. It has been so mild that my lilacs thought it was spring and put on new leaves and some blooms. Well they got their little blooms nipped last night when the temperature dropped below freezing and the weatherman says it will drop even lower tonight and we may even have a little snow. We have had rain on and off for the past few days. We needed it for we are still below normal.

We are doing well, just waiting for the arrival of that new Great-Granddaughter which might occur any day now. Will be glad for Angela to get it over with. They were able to move into their new home last weekend and are sure happy about that.

We receive word from our granddaughter in Artesia, NM that their little one is having trouble with his ears and may have to have surgery on them. They will be seeing a specialist next week. He is only 2 1/2 years old. They report having a 3 inch snow.

Son Harold is getting ready to go deer hunting next week. Don't know whether Angela's husband will be able to go with him because of the impending birth of their little one. Kevin usually goes with him but he has moved to Montana to work as a

paramedic for the Fire Dept. there. Whether his other son, Jeff, will be able to go he doesn't know yet.

As far as we know, the relatives here in Springfield are all about normal. Bertha and I have been busy this week making blackberry jelly. We got the blackberries back when it was too hot to work them up so we froze them. Also made a batch of apple butter. One of Sue's friends gave her the apples but she didn't have time to do anything with them so she gave them to me. Also got some pears and have canned about 16 pints. Bertha has also been canning pears, but I don't know how much. So if the winter comes on and we can get bread, we can live on jams and jellies. (-) (-) (-)

Hope all of you have a happy Thanksgiving with plenty to eat. I don't know how many we will have this year but there will be a lot to eat for everyone will bring a dish and there will be plenty of leftovers.

God bless all of you and to each of you we send our love, Bertha and Bessie.

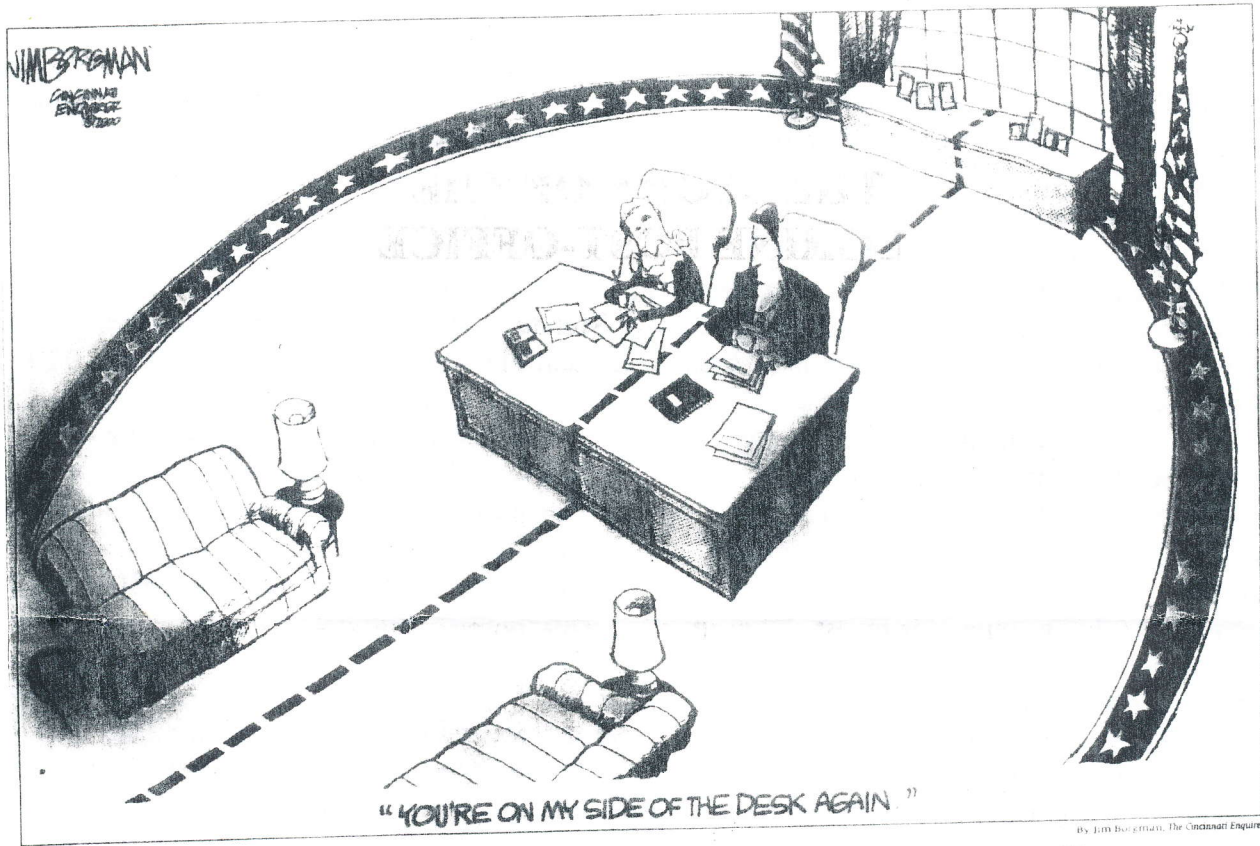
Well, it will soon be Christmas and we will be getting Christmas cards showing the "Wise Men" at the stable. Not so. For 41 days after the birth of a son, the mother was considered "unclean" and only her closest women friends could visit her. So it was at least 41 days after the birth of Jesus before the Zoroastrian Sages visited them. In accordance with their religion, they presented gold (70 little rods, the size of needles in a little case) frankincense (a small amount of the powder in a wooden chest) and myrrh (a small vial). This was known as "The Gift of God" and according to their religion, God said, "gold is the token of my Kingdom, incense is the token of my Divinity, and myrrh is the token of my Passion."

The Zoroastrians are having trouble in India with their religion (what else is new). The Parsi, as they are called, make up a tiny but prosperous community in Bombay. Their religion is strange to us because instead of burying their dead in the ground for worms to eat, they place their dead on a high scaffold for vultures (buzzards) to eat. The corpse is devoured in about two hours. (Takes worms 50 years to do it.) The problem is, their vultures are fast disappearing and they are proposing raising them in an aviary which will cost them a fortune to build. At least their problem is not religious warfare.

Just received an e-mail from Margaret Barnhart (what would we do without her) who has been looking into the Mondy/Monday clan and she says, "I just mailed a packet to you containing a lot of material. I am so bogged down in Mondy/Monday material I can't make heads or tails of it. I have decided to take a break from it and work on branches I know more about, like the Hancocks, Carters, and Hurns. In one case I noted that the date on a headstone differed from McNabb's records. I trust McNabb's record above that on the headstone because they are required to keep exact records.

The Randolph County History, which was scheduled to come out this fall, appears to be in trouble. Rose Publishing Company who was to publish the book is having financial problems and has sold the publishing rights to some other outfit and they are crying for more history and more sales, so now it is all up in the air.

*[Peg, maybe I can dig up a bit more history. I just assumed that the book was closed. For example; there is the story of the*



postoffice at Lorine. I have discovered a bit more about it that ought to be in the History of Lorine. What do you think?)

On October 30, **Mary Jean Jinks** celebrated her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. Ercil and Lester White, Judy Washburn, and Margaret and I sent flowers. Her daughter, **Jeanie** says: "The flowers you sent Mom for her birthday were the loveliest fall bouquet I have ever seen and she loved them. She had a lovely birthday. We had lunch at Appleby's, one of her favorite places, where about ten waitresses sang to her and showered her with balloons. Then the manager came and picked up the tab for all of us. Our server took a lot of pictures.

She was a bit unhappy with the staff at the Health center who kept making a big thing of her age.

Tell **Mark Miller** his birthday card gave her a big thrill

### CONA HAS MOVED

I got a card from Cona (Mondy) today saying that she had moved and giving us her new address. She says, "I didn't move because I wanted to, but because I had to. I am on oxygen all the time and since my house has gas furnaces and gas range, I couldn't stay there."

[Cona was 90 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October]

Cona's new address is

Cona Mondy  
3393 Kirby Rd.  
Apt 236  
Memphis, TN 38115  
Phone (901) 365 3695

How many Floridians does it take to change a light bulb?

They don't know, they just keep counting, and counting, and counting.

*Amelia*

(7)

# THE STORY OF THE LORINE POST-OFFICE

by

Harrison C. Mondy  
(November 15, 2000)

Although I am not the oldest living grandchild of James Campbell Mondy, I have considerable data at hand, and hearing no objection from any of my cousins, I have taken onto myself the task of writing the history of a very small village, which because of its post-office, came to known as Lorine.

Approximately five miles northwest of Pocahontas, in Randolph County, Arkansas, there is an all-weather spring known as Five Mile Spring. It was here that teams were watered after pulling a wagon from Pocahontas. There was a rather large watering hole that seldom went dry that the team waded into to drink their fill. If the watering hole was dry, then water was drawn from the spring which was a hole several feet deep and poured into buckets for the horses to drink. The next place where water would be available was at least thirteen miles, so Five Mile Spring was important.

About 20 - 25 miles north of Five Mile Spring was (is) another village known as Elm Store. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 1874, James Campbell married Rhoda Alice Sammons and they moved into a two-room log house, a few miles south of the village. He was twenty, she was a few months short of sixteen. There was a lean-to section used for cooking and a loft used for sleeping when necessary. It was in this house, which can be located by a pile of stone from the fireplace, that Rhoda Alice gave birth to nine children, the last of which was my father, Lloyd Waymon Mondy. The firstborn was Earnest Lafayette (1875) followed by a second son, Sular (1877) who died at age eighteen and was buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery, near Elm Store. Then came four girls: Sarah Caldon (1880), Hattie Jane (1883), Erva Deen (1885), and Mattie Deliah (1888). The girls were followed by three boys: Daily D. (1889), Edgar Newton (1893), and Lloyd (1895).

On August 8, 1897, Rhoda Alice died and was buried beside her son in the Walnut Grove cemetery.

James Campbell Mondy was an excellent black smith and realized that no smith existed at Five Mile Spring although there were many farmers in the area. Also, it was within walking distance of Pocahontas and if he had no work to do in his own shop, he could always work temporarily, in Pocahontas. In the early part of 1902, he moved his family to Five Mile Spring where he set up his black smith shop and built a two-storey building, the lower floor of which contained a country store.

The store had scarcely been completed when many people began to agitate for a post office. Either in late 1902 or early on 1903, a petition was circulated asking for the establishment of a post office in the general store at Five Mile Spring with James Campbell Mondy as Postmaster. Among those carrying the petition around the neighborhood were Dona (Caldona) and Mattie Mondy. My mother remembers their coming to her home (about a mile north of the store) and her father, James Wesley Carter, signing it.

Some time during the summer of 1903, approval was granted by the St. Louis Division of the Post Office Department, but they must supply a name acceptable to the Post Office Department. My mother has told me many times how the name of the post office became Lorine. There lived, a few hundred yards east of the store the Waddell Standiford family and they had a little girl about eight to ten years who often came to the store. She was a beautiful child and was well loved by the men who often gathered at the store. As the men were trying to decide upon a name, Lorine Standiford came into the store and one of the men suggested Lorine for the name. Others agreed and the name of Lorine was accepted by the Post Office Department and Lorine Post Office became an entity on September 11, 1903.

Now a Post Office must be secure so that only the postmaster and the proper recipients of the mail have access to it. A section of the store about 8 ft by 8 ft was partitioned off. The wall portion facing the patrons was a wall about six feet high into which the section containing all the PO boxes was mounted. I never counted the boxes but I'm sure there must have been at least 20 of them and there may have been more. These were standard boxes about 4 or 5 inches wide and about 8 inches tall. (I'm guessing from memory) Each box had a door on the front with a combination lock and a dial to operate it. When the mail arrived, the Post Master took it into the little cubicle and sorted it, putting each article into the box which was open on the back. If the addressee was waiting, I'm sure he was handed his mail.

The mail that had been picked up along the way had to be cancelled before giving it back to the carrier. Often, the person mailing a letter did not have a stamp and simply put two pennies in their mailbox and asked the carrier to purchase a stamp for the letter. [I found this is still a practice in certain parts of the country when I accompanied a rural mail carrier on his route. He often found in a box, a message to some storekeeper to send certain groceries to so-and-so by the next mail.]

Now the duties of the postmaster included much more than passing out mail. He had to keep a record of the number of 1-cent stamps, 1-cent postcards, number and size of parcel post stamps, books of stamps, and postage due stamps, both postage and parcel post. In addition to these records, he had to record every post office money order, keeping separate records for out-going and incoming money orders. See the attached list dated June 30, 1914 covering an unknown length of time.

To present an idea of how many people used the Lorine Post Office, here is a list of names of people who sent money orders during May in 1914.

William Smelser to Mutual Aid Union; E.P Hawkins to John Darcy Company; **H.H. Mondy** to Chicago Spectacle House; John Jackson to Babson Brothers; William Smelser to R.H. Witlow; **Millie Jane Stephens** to Pure Food Company; E.P Hawkins to Montgomery Ward; Jam N. Lewis to Chicago Spectacle House; Wm. Roach to R. Mathewson in Kentucky, Kentucky; J.R Alphan to Janson and Craven; J.H. Jackson to Strauss and Schram; D.E. McCallister to Sear Roebuck; M. V. Wait to Sears Roebuck.

In the following month I see that Aunt Millie Jane ordered again from the Pure Food Co., and that Allie Colman ordered something from Speigle May Stern. Of greater interest to me was that R.B Hicks ordered a suit from the National Cloak Suit Company for \$6.00.

It appears that it was not until 1909 that J.C found out he was to keep records of the number of envelopes and post cards he cancelled along with his sales and he began to record both. Eventually this caused the Post Office Department to charge him with (no name shown but bordering on fraud).

In their charge they presented a table showing the sales in one column and the cancellations in another, beginning with the first quarter of 1909 and running through September 1913 during which period he sold only \$503.79 worth of stamps and postcards but cancelled \$522.09. They claimed that in a fourth class post office it was usual for sales to exceed cancellations by from 10% to 25%, whereas his cancellations exceeded the sales, which they claimed was unusual. Grandpa wrote the following letter to the St. Louis Division of the Post Office Department:

“Gentlemen: There is a cause for this over-plus of cancellation and this is it. Lorine is located on Star Route No. 47110 from Pocahontas, Arkansas to Dalton, Arkansas. Some time about 1906 the Lima Post Office was discontinued and this threw all the patrons of Lima, Arkansas to patronize Lorine, Ark, about 13 miles from Lorine to Dalton and 5 miles from Lorine to Pocahontas.

“Now Dalton, Ark is located on the west side of Elevenpoint River, and the mail carrier commenced to pick up letters from there and this is a big territory to collect from and the mail was brought to Lorine to be cancelled so my cancellations sometimes exceeded my sales. At the time mentioned above this was a lodging place for drummers and they would mail out a lot of letters and never bought their stamps from me. They always carried their stamps with them. One man I remember mailed out \$1.15 worth of mail one day and did not buy a single stamp from me.”

There you have Grandpa's explanation as to why he often cancelled more letters than he sold. It seems perfectly clear to me but the PO Dept. seems to have had a rule of thumb that said the sales should exceed the cancellations by at least 10% but instead, the Lorine Post Office had more cancellations than sales.

When the Lorine Post Office was finally discontinued the following year because the Mail Route had been reclassified from a Star Route to a Rural Route and altered (to pick up Water Valley PO, I think) they had a final audit of JC Mondy's account and found that they ought to fine him.. When he told them he only had \$20.00 they fined him that amount. From October 1, to November 14, 1914, the total sales amounted to \$7.47 and I cannot find the cancellations for that period.

Although Lorine Post Office passed out of existence on November 14, 1914, people continued to get their mail there. One letter from some produce company was delivered to J.C. Mondy, Lorine, Arkansas in 1925. The first piece of mail I ever received was a 1924 Christmas Card from one of my aunts, addressed to Master Harry Mondy, Lorine, Ark. I still have it, thanks to my pack-rat mother. For many years, Lorine appeared on all Arkansas maps. I think it was finally omitted after WWII.

Now you know why my autobiography is called *I REMEMBER LORINE*.

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<sup>23</sup>  
<sup>80</sup>  
<sup>16</sup>  
<sup>240</sup>  
**J. C. MONDAY, P. M.**

**BLACKSMITH AND WAGON MAKER**  
**DEALER IN FANCY GROCERIES**

LORINE, ARK., June 30, 1914

1676	1¢	stamps,	\$16.76
1000	2¢	" "	20.02
188	10¢	" "	18.80
227	8¢	" "	19.16
45	5¢	parcel post due stamps,	3.25
45	1¢	" " " "	.45
37	25¢	parcel post stamps,	9.25
213	5¢	" " " "	10.65
129	2¢	" " " "	2.58
255	1¢	" " " "	2.55
732	2¢	no 5 stamps envelopes	15.19
449	2¢	" 7 " "	9.79
52	1¢	post cards,	<b>52</b>
117		books of stamps, 25¢ each	<del>29.25</del>
154		Postage due stamps,	2.08
			\$158.30

I am unable to tell what length of time is summarized by this report; I don't believe it covers all the time since the start. At least we can get an idea of the various records he kept. Grandpa kept all his records very neatly typed on his old Woodstock typewriter.

( 5 )

## OPEN LETTER TO THE CHRONICLE FAMILY

Dear everybody:

I hope you enjoy the story about the Lorine Postoffice. Many of you were acquainted with Grandpa's store, where the postoffice boxes remained until after he died. I think Josh Stephens took it to his home. I wonder who has it now?

That old Woodstock typewriter probably saved me \$50,000 dollars, – I mean it. You see it was on a shelf right behind the cabinet where all of Grandpa's candy was kept. It was so easy for me to "type" with my right hand while my left hand was engaged in reaching inside the cabinet and seizing a piece of candy. I ate lots of candy and I did not floss nor always brush my teeth afterwards. Of course I did not tell Mom I had been eating candy. Grandpa didn't seem to care; sometimes he would say, "That will ruin your appetite", never, "That will ruin your teeth".

By the time I was 17 I had to have a partial plate and by the time I was about 20 I had to have a full set of dentures. The total cost of the dentures was \$300. and I still have them. But I have never spent another dollar (except for an occasional toothbrush) on teeth since that time. On the other hand, I'm sure Margaret has spent \$50,000 dollars on fillings, caps, bridges, root canals, tooth paste, flossing thread, etc., etc.. I guess I dare not suggest that all kids have their teeth pulled at age 20 and get dentures, but it would save them a lot of money.

Grandpa charged a quarter for pulling teeth (and he pulled a lot of them), even pulling some of mine. He was also a barber and charged 10 cents for a shave. Many of you cousins remember the big barber chair he had on the up-stairs front porch. Did you spin in it like I did?

Report: I have spent \$506 dollars for stamps this year and, thanks to a few people, I have received \$471 in donations – almost enough to cover it. The ten pages for this issue will cost about 79 cents per each, \$57.57 total for the 73 families. Almost every dollar donated came from people who also write letters. The other 50 or so families contribute nothing. Now anybody can afford a 20 cent post card and write something on it – at least tell what kind of weather you are having in your neck of the woods. Think how good you will feel – you won't be haunted by that nagging feeling that you should have written a letter to all those 72 families who are waiting to hear from you. If you are not interested in the Chronicle, let me know and I'll take your name off the list. If you are interested, do your part. Make the Chronicle a newsy Chronicle.

I love you all, please write.

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