Chaplin James Russell leads us in the Dedication of the new Cemetery Sign presented by the Nail-Ray Association.

left: Rebecca Thomas Markel, (Henry Nail 5th generation descendant and Thomas Ray 6th generation descendant) on left and her great-niece Kathryn Rebecca Thomas, (Henry Nail 7th generation descendant and Thomas Ray 8th generation descendant) place floral wreath at site. Twenty years ago when Katie was four she placed a wreath at the dedication of the Revolutionary War Veteran's marker for Thomas Ray. Notice the new red oak tree planted behind the sign. The cemetery sign is made of red oak, the most durable of the native hardwoods available to our pioneer ancestors when they settled this area in the 1820’s.

right: Chaplain James, Pastor Larry, and Chief Architect and General Construction Foreman Tom pause at the sign. Job well done gentlemen!
BUSINESS MEETING  
Saturday Morning, June 9, 2001  
Comfort Inn Motel  
Shelbyville, IN  46176

left: In session on Saturday morning at the Comfort Inn Motel  
right: The Officers Table: Dori Rammelsberg-Dvorak, secretary reads the minutes of the 2000 business meeting as President Tom and Treasurer Beck listen.

Highlights of the Business Meeting:

- **President Tom** thanked Lynda and Beck for their assistance in planning our meeting
- Minutes of the 2000 meeting were approved
- **Treasurer Beck** reported Balance-on-Hand as of June 6, 2001 was $1894.74
- **President Tom** reported our “Big Book” is now located in 38 libraries across the country!
- Next year’s meeting to be held in **Virginia**
- **President Tom** appointed Janet Morgan Ross, David Ross, and Barbara Snow to serve as “local planning and steering committee” for next year’s meeting
- **Phyllis Miller Fleming** presented an excellent program on the InGenWeb Project. You can check it out at [http://www.ingenweb.org/shelby/index.htm](http://www.ingenweb.org/shelby/index.htm)

BOGGSTOWN INN AND CABARET

As usual the weekend began with dinner and entertainment on Friday evening at the Boggstown Inn and Cabaret.

left: **Past President Chuck** admires his birthday cake!  
center, top: **Cousin Pat Thomas Montgomery** and husband **Buss** dance the anniversary waltz – 52nd Wedding Anniversary  
center, bottom: We await our delicious dinner  
right: **Dick** you do have the “cutest little baby face”
Saturday afternoon we gathered at the gravesite of Dorothy Thomas Plymate (1912-2001) located in the Forest Hill Cemetery, Shelbyville, Indiana.

Chaplain James Russell led a beautiful memorial service for Dorothy including reminiscences from her Nail-Ray cousins and neighborhood friends.

Pastor Odom read Dorothy’s favorite scripture passages (Isaiah 40:31 and 2 Corinthians 9:8); excerpts from friend Dick Chegar’s eulogy were read by James, and daughter-in-law Lynda led those assembled in singing “Because He Lives”.

SUPPER AT THE PLYMATE HOUSE

left: Visiting on the Plymate porch  
center: Janet Morgan Ross and husband David swing while enjoying supper  
right: Grandpas sometimes make the best playmates - right Benjamin?

left: Past-President Chuck, our gracious hostess Lynda, and our cateress supreme Cora Marie Goodrich present our bountiful table  
right: Inside the house, the summer kitchen is the spot to enjoy food and friendship
left: We proudly prepare and wear our very own “family tree”
center: Those who “served us” (food, beverage, first aid, delivery assistance and extra napkins for the fried chicken) our meal
right: Time spent together in the basement of the church

left: Beck conducted “The Shaking of the Tree” in the sanctuary of the church
right: The pulpit of the Old Union Church is adorned with pictures, posters and other memorabilia of our ancestors.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

New Lines Heard From: Since last year’s meeting, we have had correspondence with two “new-found cousins,” Jill Knitl and Eldon May. Jill, who lives in Florida, is a descendant of Hudson Ray through Zebedee Ray. Eldon, who lives in Kansas, is a descendant of James Wray through Jordan Wray. Both Jill and Eldon have sent us extensive information about their branches of the family, and Janet Ross, our genealogical editor, has organized it for inclusion in the next edition of our “Big Book.”

Bible Records: As part of her presentation on the InGenWeb project, Phyllis Fleming asked us to consider making our family Bible records available for posting on their website. Janet Ross is in the process of transcribing the records we have into the format necessary for posting. So far she has Bible records for the families of James Wray, Gilly (Ray) Byerly, Samuel Nail and Cherry (Wray) Nail, Wiley Wray, Perlina (Nail) Steward, Zebedee Ray, and Charles Wesley Wray. If anyone has Bible records for any of the other early branches of our family, please send us a photocopy so that Janet can get them transcribed and posted on the web.

NEXT YEAR – VIRGINIA!

For the past few years, our Ray researchers have been concentrating their efforts on tracing the ancestry of Thomas Ray and Elizabeth (Pearce) Ray before they settled in North Carolina. Most leads are pointing toward Virginia. At our business meeting this year, we decided it’s time for our whole group to make a pilgrimage eastward to explore these new-found roots. Therefore, next year’s Nail-Ray Family Meeting and Reunion will be June 7-9 in Virginia! President Tom Plymate appointed Janet and David Ross and Barbara Snow to serve as the “local committee” to plan the week-end’s events and make the arrangements. Highlights will include a bus tour of the Pearce and Ray home sites and lands; we’re also hoping to arrange a pitch-in get-together with our new-found Pearce and Ray cousins who still live in the area. Optional side trips (for those who come early or stay late) include Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown. Look for more detail in our Spring 2002 newsletter.
The family of HENRY NAIL (1771-1827) and MARY (Keller) NAIL:

From JOHN NAIL and MARTHA RAY:
Through Christina Nail (l) Berry: James M. Russell (wife Clarene), Collierville, TN
Through Perlina Nail (l) Steward: Julia (Smith) Sherer, Tower Hill, IL
Janet (Morgan) Ross (husband David), Springfield, VA

From SAMUEL NAIL and Cherry Wray:
Through Rebecca Nail Thomas: Thomas G. Plymate (wife Lynda), Springfield, MO
Charles W. Cochrán, Greenwood, IN
Rebecca (Thomas) Markel, Shelbyville, IN
John M. Thomas (wife Jean), Shelbyville, IN
J. Mark Thomas (wife Karen), Brownstown, IN
Kathryn Rebecca Thomas, Seymour, IN
Jill Louise Thomas, Brownstown, IN
Robert E. Thomas (wife Arlene), Shelbyville, IN
Patricia (Thomas) Montgomery (husband Floyd), Waldron, IN
Peggy (Montgomery) Risley (husband Mark), Shelbyville, IN
Rebekah Risley, Shelbyville, IN
Rachel Risley, Shelbyville, IN
Michael Risley, Shelbyville, IN

From OBADIAH NAIL:
Through Warren Nail: Charles E. Nail, Noblesville, IN
John Chesser (wife Linda), Shelbyville, IN
Through James A. Nail: Lillian (McGrew) Guthrie, Bloomington, IN
Opal (McGrew) Bolin, Casey, IL
Helen (McGrew) Shepherd, Portland, OR
Evelyn (McGrew) Mitchell, Box Elder, SD
Mary Ann (McGrew) Freels, Albany, GA
Leana (Shepherd) Hoogerwerf (husband Dennis), Yuma, AZ

The family of THOMAS RAY (1762-1829) and ELIZABETH (Pierce) RAY:
From HUDSON RAY:
Through Barnabas Ray: Billie Lee (Alcott) Rammelsberg (husband Glen), Blairstown, IA
Dori (Rammelsberg) Dvorak (husband Tom), Dysart, IA
Nathan Alcott Dvorak, Dysart, IA
Benjamin Thomas Dvorak, Dysart, IA
David Walter Ross (wife Janet), Springfield, VA
Through Zebedee Ray:
Through Mary Ray Goodrich: Richard Weakley, Shelbyville, IN
Julia Lavina Goodrich, Fairland, IN
Cora Marie Goodrich, Fairland, IN

From JAMES WRAY:
Through Cherry Wray: Descendants listed under her husband SAMUEL NAIL, above.
From GILLY RAY BYERLY:
Through Elizabeth Byerly Hill: Katy (Morse) Bruce (husband Bob), Kenney, IL
Dallas Michael Morse, Kenney, IL
Joan Morse, Kenney, IL

From SUSANNAH RAY BASS:
Through Frances Bass Thayer: Lolita (Thayer) Guthrie (husband Mearl), Bowling Green, OH
Carla (Guthrie) Sanner, Marion OH

From MARTHA RAY NAIL: Descendants listed under her husband John Nail, above.

-------------------------------

GUESTS: Rev. and Mrs. Odom (Larry and Ruby), Muncie, IN
Phyllis Miller Fleming, Shelbyville, IN
Maurice Holmes, Shelbyville, IN
Wilma and Marion (“Smiley”) Rutherford, Shelbyville, IN
Thelma Merry, Shelbyville, IN
Kirt Fuchs, Wilkinson, IN
CORRESPONDENCE

Notes and phone calls from Nail-Ray Cousins unable to attend the 2001 meeting:

- Ruth Brady, TN, had a stroke this spring; she is at home recovering
- Janet Thomason, AZ, & Janis McCord, CA, a letter of greetings and good wishes
- Helen Ray Lawson, VA, letter telling us about her grand-daughter Jamie Long a figure skater with accompanying newspaper article and photo of her with Michele Kwan
- Mary Ann Williamson, TX, letter “I wish Frank and I could attend but it is impossible, have a wonderful time”
- Don and Joane Trout, IN, letter “we keep thinking ever year we will come, but have to work, sounds like a fun weekend”
- Barbara Snow, VA, letter “sorry I can’t be with you this year”
- Rolland Nail, IN, letter “have a good time together; I did not know of Dorothy’s death until receiving the newsletter”
- Dick Mansfield, OR, wrote that his mother Julia Pauline Smith Mansfield is 99, and in assisted living
- Pat Lorentzen, CA, “I lead a very busy life -- participate in a volunteer program Docent on Amtrak’s Coast Starlight Train between Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo”
- Cherry Page, CA, letter and phone call “you certainly do have a beautiful event planned”
- Barbara Nail Brittain, TX, letter “hope one day to make the reunion”
- Thelma Shanks and Nancy Cannon McDonald, IL, sent regards via Julia Sherer
- Eleanor Neumayer, MD, phone call, “I had a serious fall and am now in assisted living quarters -- if ever you are near me please stop in”
- Terry and Barbara Keller, IL, phone call “won’t be able to attend this year”
- Lolita Guthrie, OH, shared that her oldest sister Catherine Thayer Fisher passed away
- Mary Noonan, CA, letter “wish I could be with you especially at the beautiful home, my health is fair -- wish I could make the trip to Shelbyville once more”
- Sue Bogardus, KY, had a heart attack “doing fine after having stint put in”

NOTES

- Dues reminder – all dues ($10.00 per mailing address) should be paid by October 1, 2001
  send to the association address:
  Nail-Ray Association
  2442 Boggstown Road
  Shelbyville, IN  46176

- Next year’s meeting dates – June 7–9, 2002

- The Nail-Ray Association extends a sincere “thank-you” to:
  o Emogene and Walter Plymate for “time and talent” given to Beck and Tom in publication of the newsletters
  o Ed Kanouse for his help in making the home place “sparkle” and also to Ed and his son Devin for pouring the concrete base for the new cemetery sign
  o Vieva Higdon for preparing the church in it’s “finest dress” for our homecoming

HAVE A NICE SUMMER