DESTINATION LODI

A HISTORICAL JOURNEY

SAMUEL FRANK HOUSE

CIRCA 1880

The house on the hill at 210 South Broadway Street has always fascinated me, you only see it in winter; the trees in summer hide the lovely stately home. I stopped by; spoke with owner Lauren Clutter who gave me tour.

It is my understanding it has been in the Clutter family for many years. Once turned into a two family home, now a single home, this lovely home has wide white woodwork, pocket doors to a sunroom, the kitchen updated. The owner’s business Little Bear Photography studio is located in the front room. Once again, I find Lodi is full of talented people.

Homebuilder, Samuel J. Frank was a well-to-do retired farmer of Harrisville Twp. He was actively involved in general farming and dairying business and was very successful. Samuel was born in Richland County, 01/23/1844. His parent were David (12/25/1817) and Elizabeth (1815) Frank. His education acquired in district number 3 of Homer Twp. He married Sarah J. Fetzer (4/2/1853), of Canaan Twp. on 12/9/1875. Her parents were George and Sophiah Fetzer. Samuel and Sarah had one child, a daughter Ida A. Frank (4/1879).

Ida married Howard Garver, a farmer, continued to live in the house built by Samuel. They had two daughters, Britta and Harriett.

Daughter Harriett married Fred Baird and continued to live the house with Ida for a few years. I spoke with daughter Valen who said they lived in the house while her father was in WW 11. When he returned they moved down stairs and Grandmother Ida moved upstairs. We all know Fred who owned C.W. Sommers.

Their daughter Valen married Delbert Miller who lived and raised their family in Lodi.

From what I can gather, Mary Garver owned a large amount of land in the same area. With some research, it appears she was related somehow to Albert Harris. Valen said she had an Aunt Mary so I am guessing this might be her. Valen did say her Aunt Mary owned a seasonal hunting camp in Pa. Valen was not sure if Mary Garver was her grandfather’s sister or sister-in –law. I will keep searching, for I want to do a Harris family tree for our historical museum.

I have received many positive comments on my articles and I thank you. If you go to Medina Post Southern Medina Co. on line, search under Destination Lodi or my name, it will bring up all my articles. We are working on updating the website to provide articles, include events and keep all informed on our fundraising for a home.