

## Jacob Arner (1759-1838) Descendants to Ruth Nicholson

Jacob Arner I was forced into the Rebel army to become a drummer boy when he was very young. Once near Niagara, he crossed the river and joined Butler's Rangers under Captain McDonnell's Company. He was trained as an artificier, a person with metal skills. He married (Marie) Barbara Arnold (b March 16, 1767; d January 1818) on March 16, 1787. She was the daughter of prominent Loyalist, Frederick Arnold, who had moved from Pennsylvania to the Thamesville area. Jacob was granted Lot 27 of the New Settlement, Gosfield, a lot that had been initially assigned to his father-in-law, who had made no improvements on it.

Jacob Arner and Barbara Arnold had 6 children: John (d in infancy), Jacob Jr. (b 1793), Susan, Magdalene and Elizabeth (1794-1835) who m Joseph Julien (1795-1850), my 4<sup>th</sup> Gr Grandparents. Elizabeth and Joseph Julien had 2 sons: Jacob and (Joseph) Stephen (1813-1849).

Stephen m Matilda Armstrong (1818-1842) and they had 5 children: Joseph (d in boyhood), Jacob III (killed through a horse accident at age 6), Simon, Stephen and Henry (1840-1905), my gr grandfather. My mother, Alta Ferriss Hutchins, always stated that her grandfather, Henry was a triplet and that a girl child died at age 5 months. I think Stephen was one of the triplets. Matilda died in 1842 at the age of 24. Henry would only be 2 years old. All the Juliens are buried in the Julien Cemetery, now known as the Everett Cemetery, S. of Thamesville. Only worn away white stones remain. This left Stephen with 3 young sons. On April 25 1845 Stephen married for the second time. His new wife is named Catherine McFarlin. From this marriage 1 son, Alexander Julien is born. Stephen dies on April 26 1849 at the age of 36. His young son Alex is only 18 months old. John Winter witnesses Stephen's will. Four months afterward, John Winter marries Catherine McFarlin Julien on August 30 1849 and they had 9 children together. They raised Alexander Julien but the other 3 boys were dispersed, never to receive the land and financial support promised to them in their father's will. However, Alex does end up living on the farm until his death in 1907.

Oldest son, Simon (1836-1925) would be 13 or 14 years old. He worked at a saw mill in Wallaceburg. Later he moved to Alberta and finally moved to Detroit where he died in his 90<sup>th</sup> year. Stephen and Henry, age 9 were taken care of by their Gr Aunt and Uncle, Mary Arner Huffman and Henry Huffman, who had no children and who lived in the New Settlement. The boys were given additional names: Abraham Stephen Julien and Henry Huffman Julien. Upon the death of the Huffmans, Stephen and Henry inherited part of lots 43, 46 and 47, Colchester. Henry Huffman died in 1852 and Mary circa 1857, so the boys inherited their land at the age 17.

My gr grandfather, Henry was known as an innovative farmer and a conservationist. A newspaper article tells of new breeds of cattle that he imported. He was widely known for being one of the first to feed and breed Canadian geese. Jack Miner, who ended up starting a geese sanctuary in the Kingsville area, got his first eggs from my grandfather. Apparently the geese liked to lay eggs in Miner's old brick yard better than by the lake, where Henry Julien lived. He was interested in pure bred horses and one he was showing at the local fair was poisoned, no doubt by a jealous competitor. He practiced veterinary science and helped many local farmers with their ailing animals. He was a very intelligent man, held in high esteem.

Henry Julien (1840-1905) m Sarah Iler (1840-1926) in 1860. They lived on Lot 46 front Colchester (next to ViewPointe Estate Winery today) and they had 8 children: Eliza (d in infancy), Elizabeth Matilda (spinster), John, Edward (bachelor), Lucinda, Sarah Jane, Susan and Rosella, the youngest and my grandmother. Rosella Julien (1880-1974) m childhood sweetheart, Philip Ferriss II (1881-1968) in 1912. They had 2 children who were both born on Boxing Day: Herbert Arnold (1913) and Alta Ruth (1916). My grandfather, Philip, was apparently in poor health and his doctor told him to move to town and take on an easier life style. He sold his farm, on Cedar Beach, to 3 Detroit millionaires when he was only 42 to move to Leamington. From there on he helped widows, cut grass, did woodwork, was a “jack of all trades”, became a deacon at First Baptist Church and loaned money to those he felt were deserving in one way or the other.

My mother, Alta Ferriss Hutchins (1916-1997) married my father Edwin Earl Hutchins (1919-1996) November 14 1949. They had 3 daughters: Ruth Anne (b 1951), Mary Kathryn (1954-2004) and Susan Rose (b 1960). We lived on a beautiful hundred acre farm, Lot 84 Con 9, Malden in Essex County. MPP Eugene Whalen and Minister of Agriculture in the Trudeau years stated that Edwin had the best farm in the county. He always had high productions of corn, wheat and beans and he had the first cage layer White Rock Chicken hen house in the county. My brother-in-law, Scott Wilkins now owns the farm and he will be opening Dancing Swallows Winery in 2016 with grapes being grown on this farm. It is a proud heritage.

Ruth Nicholson, UE  
Feb. 2015