



# Klock Connections

A Klock Family Newsletter

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**Milo Nellis**

Milo Nellis was born December 18, 1877 the son of James D. Nellis and Amanda Lepper. He had two brothers and one sister. His brothers were; Homer and John David and his sister was, Alice Byrd who married Floyd Butler. The Milo Nellis line goes back to William Nellis and Magdalena Klock, daughter of Hendrick Klock. His line also goes back to John Henry Dyslin who married Ann Catherine Klock who was a grand- daughter of Col. Jacob Klock.

“Tradition” says that Hendrick Klock had two daughters, Barvalis ( Barbara ) Klock who married Christian Nellis and Magdalene who married William Nellis. Although doubt now exists if a daughter of Hendrick Klock ever married William Nellis. It is now believed that William Nellis married Ana Sabina Dygert and Magdalene Klock married Lt. John

Bellinger. The “Genealogy of the Mohawk Valley Bellingers and Allied Families by Lyle Frederick Bellinger”, says that Hendrick Klock had three daughters; Barvalis, who married Christian Nellis; Margaret who married William Nellis; and Maria Magdalena who married Lt. John Bellinger.

I go by the Klock/Clock Genealogy, in my Klock Family Tree. Although tradition should never be ignored, it may be wrong in this case.

Milo Nellis was very interested in history and genealogy. He did a lot of research on the Klock and Nellis Families. I have a booklet and several newspaper articles that Milo Nellis wrote on the Mohawk valley history as well as genealogy. Milo Nellis was a postal clerk in the Railway Mail Service and an optometrist, practicing in the St. Johnsville area for many years.

Milo Nellis was married twice, first to Luella Snell and they had two children, a son, Alton who died in infancy and Marian Luella who married Ross Dewitt Dickson. Second he married Sara Jornigan and had two children, Alice Byrd and John Davis. Milo Nellis died in 1968 at the age of 91 and is buried in St. Johnsville Cemetery.

While researching, I found the following newspaper clipping in the Fort Plains Museum that was published in the paper, probably the Enterprize News, between 1900 to 1905.

## **A Miraculous Escape Postal Clerk Who Fell From a Mail Coach Going 40 Mile an Hour**

Milo Nellis, of St. Johnsville, is a postal clerk on the Central Railroad. When the train on which

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## Milo Nellis Continued

he was working was whizzing through Rome last Saturday afternoon at the rate of 40 miles an hour, he fell out of the door and still lives to tell the story of his miraculous escape from instant death. At the Rome station the mailbags for the local post office are kicked out the door of the mail car. Saturday afternoon as Mr. Nellis kicked the bags out, the iron rod against which he was braced gave way and he followed the bags out the door. He struck on the ice and rolled for about 100 feet, going along with the train. When he came to a stop he gathered himself together and walked to the depot. There were several persons about the depot who witnessed the accident and many of them turned their heads in order that they might not see the awful sight of a mangled human form. The only scratch Mr. Nellis received was on his hands, which came in contact with the ice as he struck. There were quite badly swollen. He was a little sore, but no bones were broken. Chief Clerk Lynn Hall, of Verona station, was in charge of the car, and Clerk Judd Hood, of Oneida, was also on the car. Hood worked the crane which catches the mail bag at the Rome station. He was horrified to see Nellis disappear through the door, for he knew that there could probably be but one result from such a fall. Hall at once pulled the whistle cord, and as the signal was not obeyed, he pulled the break cord and the train stopped about half a mile west of the station. Nellis' satchel and other effects were sent by a trainman. Mr. Nellis visited a physician so as to make sure that he was all right, and returned to his home on the 6:29 p.m. train.

The Fort Plain Museum has a lot of information about the History of the Mohawk valley, cemetery records, obituaries. When in the valley, it is a great place to visit. Debbie Skivington is President of the Fort Plain Museum and a Klock descendant. The Museum is in the process of setting up a research room for visitors.



**Fort Klock Stock and Dairy Farm**

The first settler on this farm was Johannes Klock in 1742, who constructed his residence in 1750, occupied it until 1787. From him the title passed to John I. Klock in 1799, to Adam I. Klock in 1810, and came into the possession of Amos Klock in 1860. Fort Klock Stock and Dairy Farm was one of the historical farms of Montgomery County, having been used as a fort during the Revolutionary War. The New Century Atlas Montgomery and Fulton County Published in 1905 states when Amos Klock was the owner of this old farm it was one of the most valuable and productive farms of Montgomery County. It was noted for its graded and full-blooded stock and high-grade dairy. The milk was delivered to the Mohawk Condensing factory. About 180 acres, situated on the Mohawk Turnpike, were in oats, corn, etc. and there is a timber lot of beech, birch, maple, hemlock and pine. The water was obtained from springs, brooks, and the Mohawk River. The Farm consisted of an old stone residence, barn 85 X 40, with Horse Barn 35 x 25, Silo 18 X 30, Store House 35 X 25, Wagon House 20 X 30 and Milk House 20 X 50.

In 1954, the Tryon County Muzzle Loaders were able to obtain a lease on the property from Alex Don, and its restoration began. The property was later purchased from his descendant. The focus of the group also changed from a Gun Club to the Fort Klock Historic Restoration, a club dedicated to the preservation of the Old Fort.

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## Fort Klock Continued

The National Park Service designated the Fort Klock homestead as a national historic landmark in 1973. Fort Klock, now a 30-plus acres complex is located about two miles east of the village of St. Johnsville on Rt. 5. Fort Klock is open to the public Memorial Day through Mid October for visitors. Site interpreters are available to share their knowledge and to lead visitors through the ancient stone house, Dutch barn, country school and blacksmith's shop, Tuesday through Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you received the Fort Klock Newsletter, in July, you saw an amazing similarity between this newsletter and the one Fort Klock published. That is because I have volunteered to do their newsletter. With the help from the people at Fort Klock. They will e-mail me the articles, I will cut and paste, print and mail them from Michigan.

In order to receive The Fort Klock Historic Restoration Newsletter, you will need to get on their mailing list. To do this you need to be a supporting member. To become a supporting member of Fort Klock, send \$15.00 to:

Fort Klock Historic Restoration  
Stephanie Price, Secretary  
P.O Box 42  
St. Johnsville, New York 13452

Please note your check for "Membership Dues". Fort Klock is a not-for-profit organization and depends on membership dues, donations and fund-raisers, to survive. Your check will help them continue provide the wonderful services for the community and keep the doors open for us and visitors from all over the globe. The newsletter will help keep you informed as to how your money is being spent. I will be publishing a Fort Klock Historic Restoration Newsletter every three or four months.

## My Sincere Condolences

My sincere condolences go out to my cousin, Jerry Klock of Sand Lake Michigan, on the death of his mother. ( My Aunt ) She passed away yesterday, July 18, 2005. June Hopkins married Ervin Klock, the son of Jacob and Cora Ricketts Klock, on June 26, 1948. Her husband, Ervin Klock died in April 1984. They had seven children; Barbara Jean, who died in infancy, Judy, who died April 05, 1999; Jerry Lee, who married Holly Zielke; Jimmy Klock who died in June 1978 when hit by a car; Beverly; Rosemary and Shirley.

I am sorry I was not able to attend the funeral which was held Thursday July 21, 2005, but my sincere condolences go out to you and your family.

## Act of Kindness Returned

Catherine Klock was just seven years old but remembered well the day an Indian, painted up in his war paint, entered her house and led her family to safety.

Catherine remembered when a sick Indian came to her farm, her mother, Catherine Kraus Klock, took the Indian in her home and nursed him back to health. When he was feeling better the Indian left one night, without a word of thanks. Not thinking more of the incident, life went on as usual on the Klock farm, until August 2, 1780. Catherine Kraus Klock was the wife of Honjost Klock, (Also known as Joseph, and Jost Klock.) son of Hendrick Klock. He was a farmer and soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a private in Capt. Adam Leipes' Company.

They were the parents of eight children ranging in age from four to fourteen, Adam, Anna, Joseph, Fredrick, Jacob Jost, Catherine, Elizabeth and Margaret. It was 1780, Tories and Indians were raiding, burning and scalping throughout the Mohawk Valley. On August 2, this same Indian

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## Act of Kindness Continued

returned the kindness showed him with saving the lives of her family. Honjost, (Joseph) was away on a march with Gen. Robert Van Rensselaer guarding bateau's to Fort Schuyler, (known today as Fort Stanwix) The Indian's and Tories broke up into small bands, in order to raid, loot, kill and burn more thoroughly.

In one of these raiding parties was the Indian that Catherine had nursed back to health. He left his raiding party in order to go to the Klock farm. Bursting into the house, he seized the terrified woman by the arm and making sure her children were with her said,

"Come Quick!!" He took the frightened family a long distance, and then pausing just long enough to top a hill, he had the Klock's look back so that they could see that their farm and building were on fire. He then directed them to the safety and shelter of Fort Plain, (named Fort Rensselaer at that time). The children could hear the war hoops of the Indians as they went about burning the church and other buildings. It was the kindness shown to a sick Indian that was returned that day which saved this Klock Family. The next morning, while some of the buildings were still smoking and small fires were burning, when Col. Abraham Wemple's Regt. of Albany County Militia arrived at Fort Schuyler.

The raid left its mark in the memory of a seven year old girl by the name of Catherine Klock. She grew up and became the wife of Ludwig Bauder and had 11 children, three sons, Charles, Levi and Michael, became settlers in Cleveland, Ohio. Catherine moved to Cleveland after the death of her husband Ludwig Bauder. She lived out the rest of her life in peace and security of her sons home relating stories of her childhood to her grandchildren.

Information from a clipping found at Fort Klock written by Cathann Berry. Date unknown.

## Welcome Jenny!

Congratulations to Adam and Shelia Smith on the birth of their daughter, Jenny Elizabeth Smith. (I have Jenny's line like this; Adam David Smith and Sheila Beth Van Weelde, David Robert Smith, Robert John Smith, Roy J. Smith who married Isabel Harriet Bennett, Bernard Chester Bennett, John Milton Bennett who married Harriet Louisa ( Hattie ) Klock, Harvey Klock, George G.I. Klock, George I. Klock, Johannes Klock, Henrich Jr. Klock, Hendrick Klock)

Jenny was born July 3, 2005 at 10:10 p.m. and weighed in at 7 lbs. 10 oz. and 22 inches tall.

Information from the Great Grandparents, Bob and Barbara Smith of Flint, Michigan.

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### Please note:

If your address is in (blue) you are due to re-new your subscription to Klock Connections. If it is (red), this is the last newsletter I can send unless you renew your subscription by the end of the month.

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## Genealogy Continued Cemetery Listing For Klock's

### Village of St. Johnsville St . Johnsville, New York

Klock, Zebina R.; 1846-1925; Burial Date-3-26-25; Section-15; Lot #-943. Additional information: Married twice, Marie Freeman and Gertrude Anna Robinson. Born June 12, 1846, d. March 22, 1925. Four children with Marie and two with Gertrude. Line (Nehemiah, Johann George, George I., Johannes, Henrich Jr. and Hendrick)

### Klock Churchyard Cemetery

Couch, Margaret (Klock ) d. 11/11/1832, age 24 yrs. 1 mo. 3 days, wife of John Couch (Line; Henry I. Klock, John J., Johannes J., Hendrick Klock)

Klock, Henry J., d. 3/20/1851, age 78yrs. 5 mo. 3days, spouse of Margaret Rouse. (Line; John J., Johannes J., Hendrick Klock) Cemetery records have, Henry J. Klock, Jr.

Klock, Margaret, (Rouse) d. 2/28/1835, age 49yr 5mo 12days, (wife of Henry J. Klock)

Klock, Margaret, (Fox) d. Jan 14, 1800, aged 87 yr. 1mo. 11 days, spouse of Johannes Klock.

Klock, Anna, (maiden name Klock) b. Feb. 15, 1752, d. Oct. 17, 1804, aged 52 yr. 8 mo., 2 days. wife of Jacob I. Klock, daughter of Johanguergh Klock and Maria Catharine Walrath) Granddaughter of Hendrick Klock.

Klock, Dorato, b. Sept. 20, 1777, d. Feb. 4, 1800, aged 22 yrs. 4 mo., 14 days. , (daughter of John I. Klock) No record of marriage.

Klock, Jo. d. 1822 -- No information

Klock, Betty d. 1831 age 27 years, 1 month, 22 days.-- No information

Klock, Dorothy (Zimmerman) b. Oct. 15, 1773 d. Sept. 01, 1805, (first wife of Joseph G. Klock, married June 11, 1792 )

Klock, Eve, aged 3 years 6 mo. and 6 days (daughter of Joseph G. Klock and Dorothy Zimmerman)

Klock, Wm., aged 3 mo. 18 days--No information.

Klock, Elizabeth (Devendorf) b. Sept. 03, 1772 d. Oct. 01, 1836, (4th wife of Joseph G. Klock)

Klock, Joseph b. April 03, 1769, died June 11, 1846 age 77 years months 10 days. (spouse of Elizabeth Devendorf, Elizabeth Moyer, Christina Borst and Dorothy Zimmerman) Joseph was the father of 10 children. Five with Dorothy Zimmerman and five with Christina Borst (Line: George G.

Klock, N., d. 1828, aged 17 (?) y. 5 mo. 23 days. -- No information

Putman, Elizabeth (Klock), , died Feb. 1, 1830 Age. 34 years, 5 months & 4 days. Wife of George Putman. Line of Elizabeth, Joseph G. Klock, George G. Klock, Johanguergh "Old George" Klock, Hendrick Klock.

Loomis, Catherine (Klock) wife of Ashbel Loomis, b. August 22, 1770, d. May 28, 1831 (Line; Jacob George Klock, Johanguergh Klock, Hendrick Klock) Catherine "Katie" and Ashbel Loomis had 8 children.

Hose, Dewitt C. (son of David and Lydia Hose) died Feb. 13th 1847. Age 2 yrs. 3 mos. & 28 days.-- No Information

Nellis, Christian, b. 1697 d. 1771. (husband of Barvalis Klock, daughter of Hendrick Klock)

Klock, Hendrick b. 1663 d.1760, aged 92 years.

Cox, Asher died June 30th 1771 in the 28th year of his age.--No information.

Note: There are several more of our Ancestors Buried in the Old Klock Burial Ground in unmarked graves or marked with a small limestone marker with nothing inscribed on them.

### **Indian Castle Cemetery New York**

Klock, Nehemiah b. May 26, 1824, d. 8 June 1850 aged 26 years. Married Almira Shall. Three children; Zebina Robert, Calvin Enrique, Nehemiah Jr. (Line of Nehemiah; Johann George, George I., Johannes, Henrich Klock Jr, Hendrick Klock) Nehemiah died when kicked by a horse.

Klock, Almira Shall 1826-1899 wife of Nehemiah Klock (Almira remarried a John Wagner after the death of Nehemiah.

Klock, Tiney, d. June 21 1867 aged 22 days, dau. of Zebina Robert Klock and Marie Freeman Line of Tiney; Zebina, Nehemiah, Johann George, George I., Johannes, Henrich Klock Jr, Hendrick Klock)

We place monuments on graves not because a person died, but because they lived!