

Vital Statistics Editor's Quinquennial Report

My journey with Vital Statistics for the Blaisdell Papers began in March 2009. Although I do not have a long track record, I feel that I have come to know so many of our Blaisdell cousins and ancestors personally. My day begins and ends with genealogy. To use **Phil Freimann**'s words "My heart beats genealogy."

Although my undertakings do not compare with **Ellie Blaisdell**'s, I have the desire to learn more each day about how you live and the details of your lives. My daily email and verbal encounters enable me to visualize a face to face conversation with each of you.

Like Ellie Blaisdell, I am not a Blasdel, but have been married unknowingly to one for 48 years! Our journey into this family began in Blackshear, Georgia on June 24, 1962. At that time **Earl** knew nothing of his Blasdel heritage, but as the years past and I was busy with DAR from my own heritage being a granddaughter of **William the Conqueror** 45 generations ago!

In 2002 our lives took a sharp turn toward Indiana. Much to our surprise a new chapter in our lives began with more lineage than one can possibly imagine. Earl's Aunt **Sarah Richmond Kiser** had corresponded with cousins throughout Indiana and Illinois all of her life. A lifetime of genealogy material was at our fingertips.

From that point forward Earl and I visited family cemeteries, courthouses, historical societies, libraries and spoke to cousins or interviews with people that knew cousins. What an exciting time in our lives to finally meet so many cousins!

Earl is living a dream of knowing that he is not really an only child of an only child of an only child as he had always been told...With his love of history he is now attaining a goal of joining the Sons of the American Revolution as a descendant of Lt. **Jacob Blasdel**.

Earl and I look forward to getting to know each of you in the future and you are always welcome to join us at our home near St. Louis in Belleville, Illinois.

Margaret (Walker) Guss
Vital Statistics Editor, 2009-

Vital Editor's Statistical Report

	<u>Obituaries</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
June: 2010 ed.	40	9	12	40
Dec: 2009 ed.	34	22	12	34
June: 2009 ed.	31	6	7	31

*** Developing one edition of the *Blaisdell Papers* requires most of a 40 hour week, at a minimum of three months prior to sending to the publisher. As your Vital Statistics Editor, I work on the next edition a portion of each day prior to the completion of the previous edition because the Vitals continue to flow in 12 months out of the year. This involves research, phone calls to cousins, correspondence and verification of records between **Carter**, Phil and me.