#### FIRST FAMILIES OF BLAIR COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA Blair County Genealogical Society, Inc. 431 Scotch Valley Road Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 Phone: 814-696-3492

### Membership requirements:

1. Any person is eligible if they can prove they are a direct descendant of a Blair County resident in 1846.

2. Illegitimacy is not grounds for denial.

3. A one-time non-refundable application fee of \$25.00 must accompany application on submission.

4. Sufficient proof of descent of every ancestor claimed to form the direct line must be provided. After application is reviewed you may be notified whether further documentation is needed. The application can be resubmitted with additional proof without additional expense.

5. Applicants who have had their descent approved will receive a certificate from the First Families of Blair County Pennsylvania.

6. Deadline for applications is December 31 for induction the following year.

7. A brief biographical sketch for each early settler claimed would also be appreciated, but is optional.

8. This application becomes the property of The Blair County Genealogical Society and will be remain private unless permission is given otherwise.

9. The ancestral charts will be used for a First Family publication. Please share as much information as you can.

10. The documentation (bible records, etc.) will become the property of the society unless you request otherwise. This information may be used at a later date for publications in the Society.

### **Application instructions**

1. Submit the completed application with photocopies of proof documents. Do not send original documents. Photocopies should be  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by 11 and legible whenever possible.

2. Do not use highlighter, staples, tape of any kind, white-out products or labels.

3. Print or type your full name on back of each document submitted.

4. Organize your proof documents by generation before beginning to number them. Number each piece of evidence in the upper-right hand corner according to corresponding number on the documentation record sheet.

5. Use full names of all persons, include maiden name for all females.

6. Married females must include a photocopy of their marriage record.

7. Divorce records are required to show name change from previous marriage.

8. Proof of ancestor's residency in Blair County, 1846, must be furnished.

9. Use genealogical format for dates, Example: 7 Feb. 2007

10. Documents must include proper documentation. (Title, page number, volume number, town, borough, and/or township, etc.) Microfilm must show reel number and full name of microfilm/fiche etc.

#### **Applicant**

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Spouse's Name		
Phone Number	E-mail Address	
I give permission for the Blair County Ge	nealogical Society to share my application to help	o others in their search. (Yes / No)
I,application, are true to the best of my	do hereby swear/attest knowledge and belief.	that the statements set forth in this
Signature of Applicant		Date

### FIRST FAMILIES OF BLAIR COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

#### BASIC RULES OF EVIDENCE

Primary or direct evidence provides the answer to a question it was created at (or very near) the time the event occurred by someone present at the event such as a Doctor. Vital statistics, courthouse, or other governmental records, school records, etc., are usually considered excellent proof. See examples below:

Primary Sources	Estates	Government records
Birth Records, delayed birth	Administrations	Poll List
Marriage Records	Estate Settlements	Real Estate Taxes
Death Records	Inventories	School Records
Divorce Records	Final Settlements	Insurance Applications
Diaries	Signed Receipts	Jury Lists
Bible Records (depending on date,	Guardianship Records	Naturalizations
hand writing etc.)		
	Land Deeds	Military Records (Pensions)
		Social Security Applications

Secondary evidence is evidence copied or compiled from other sources written long after the event by someone who may not have been present at the event or passed down from generation to generation. Census records, newspaper clippings and obituaries, old letters, or other family records (contemporary to the facts reported) and with corroborating evidence are considered almost as authentic.

Secondary Sources
Census Records: (copies not transcriptions or indexes)
Church records: Baptismal, membership, marriages, deaths, burials, etc.
Newspaper: clippings, obituaries, legal notices, etc.
Bible: (contemporary to the fact), depending on date, handwriting, etc.
County Histories:
Cemetery Records:
Tombstone Photos:
Family Histories: other documents must be used to back up family histories
Old letters

1. Documents used as proof must stand-alone or in conjunction with other acceptable documents, must actually state the fact to be proved.

2. Land or tax records are acceptable only if they specify that the individual was a resident of the county since many early landowners never lived in the county they owned land in.

3. Female ancestors must be identified by their maiden names.

4. Married female applicants must include a copy of their marriage record to prove their change of name.

5. A direct line from applicant to ancestor must be proved at each step, including the spouse in each generation. Collateral descent is not acceptable.

6. All proof documents must state their source. Proof is required for each date listed for both parents in each generation.Bible records must include a photocopy of the title page with the publication date and current owner's name and address.7. Tombstones are acceptable for births and deaths (when no birth or death record exists) and for relationships actually stated on the stone. Such as: wife or child of etc. Published compilations of tombstone readings are acceptable when the

tombstone no longer exists. Obituaries from newspapers may also be used to prove birth or death when no record exists. 8. Circumstantial evidence such as implied facts or hearsay is not accepted as proof. Examples are: a father is not proved as being in an area just because his child was born there. The birth only proves the mother was there. Owning the same land as an earlier owner by the same name does not necessarily prove Blood descent, whether the land was inherited or purchased.

### PROOF SHEET

Please fill in completely – "at" refers to City, Township, County, and State. Please number from document which applies to generation in PROOF BOX.

1.,		Proof Box
born on	at	
<b>2.</b> , I am the child of		Proof Box
born on	at	
died on	at	
and his wife	born on	at
died on	at	
married on	at	
3. The said	was the child of	
	born on	Proof Box
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at
<b>4</b> . The said	was the child of	Proof Box
	born on	
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at
<b>5.</b> The said	was the child of	Proof Box
	born on	
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at

<b>6.</b> The said	was the child of	Proof Box
	born on	
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at
7. The said	was the child of	Proof Box
	born on	
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at
8. The said	was the child of	Proof Box
	born on	
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at
9. The said	was the child of	Proof Box
	born on	
at	died on	
at	and his wife	
born on	at	died on
at	married on	at

### DOCUMENTATION RECORD

Document	<b>Document Description</b> Include all identifying information such as author/title, volume/page number, census source, cemetery
Number	Include all identifying information such as author/title, volume/page number, census source, cemetery name/location etc.

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Number	Include all identifying information such as author/title, volume/page number, census source, cemetery name/location etc.

First Families of Blair County

Biographical Sketch of \_\_\_\_

Write a brief account of your First Family ancestor. Start with a chronological sequence, birth, marriage etc. You could write about the ancestor's childhood, occupation, hobbies, military service, daily life, and/or any subject that interest you.

	i
Written by	
Date	

First Families of Blair County - Ancestral Charts

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A-7	1			
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Died A-15	Married Died Place			
Diana	Married Died Place			
Place	Married Died Place			
PIQCE	Married Died Place Born			
PIGCE	Married Died Place			

First Families of Blair County - Ancestral Charts

Submitted by	Name	Address		City	State
First Family				,	
Ancestor					
	Name				
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			B-8		Tilana
Location	(City, Boro. or Township)			Born	
				Place	
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		Born		а	
		Place			
		Married	B-9		
		Died	<u>u</u> -y	Born	
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2				Place	
Father of A-	v				
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	*	Mother of B-2		Died	
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				Place	
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		Father of B-3		Place	
		Born			
		Place			
		Married	B-13		1
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Jackson of A		-		Place	
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Born		ł			
Place			B-14		·····
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