

**Jackson Brigade Editor's Report, July 2014**  
**by John M. Jackson**

Next month, our newsletter will complete its 22<sup>nd</sup> year. The first newsletter was mailed, free of charge, to known Jackson-Cummins descendants in March 1992. Jacob Jay Jackson, a descendant of both Col. Edward and John Jackson Jr., served as editor of the publication, then titled *Jackson Brigade Express Newsletter*. The text was printed on a dot-matrix printer, photocopied, and stapled. The copy work was done at PDQ Print Shop in Clarksburg, WV.

In 1995, Linda B. Meyers, also a descendant of Col. Edward, assumed the role of editor, and that same year, the newsletter took on more of a magazine-style format, with advances in technology providing improved text and graphics. A regular, fixed publication schedule of August - November - February - May commenced with the August 1995 issue.

In 1999, John Jackson, of the Henry Jackson line, became responsible for having the newsletter printed in Little Rock, AR (University Printing) and mailed, and the following year succeeded Linda as editor. Also in 2000, the publication's title was changed to *Jackson Brigade Quarterly*. Printing and distribution moved with John to Blacksburg, VA in early 2001, with the print work performed by A-1 Copies of Blacksburg.

Beginning with the November 2010 issue, Nancy A. Jackson, of both the Col. Edward and John Jackson Jr. lines, became editor and also oversaw printing and distribution. Nancy was assisted by Joyce Elbon Neeley and Phillip Elbon. Nancy compiled material to be used in the *Quarterly*, and Joyce served as layout coordinator. As an employee of PDQ Print Shop, Phillip took care of the printing. Nancy, Phillip and Joyce worked as a team on distribution.

In November 2013, John resumed as editor, but printing and distribution continue to be done in Clarksburg by Nancy, Joyce and Phillip, with print work done at PDQ. After printing, Phillip and son Phillip Jr. place copies in envelopes for mailing. Joyce makes mailing labels and prepares them for printing. After receiving the copies from Phillip, Nancy checks the labels against the membership list provided by the secretary before taking the *Quarterly* to the post office.

An every-name index to the first 15 volumes of the *Quarterly* is available on the Jackson Brigade website ([www.jacksonbrigade.com](http://www.jacksonbrigade.com)). Complete tables of contents, arranged both alphabetically and chronologically are also available and are up-to-date through volume 21.

Few changes are anticipated in the newsletter's format in the near future. In the August issue, we debuted a new department on landmarks named for family members, and a new department on Jackson family inventions may appear in the near future. Within the next year or two, we plan to publish a special issue devoted to the topic of slavery.

This report ends with a plea: The editors have strived to bring new stories to our members, but most of what we publish has already been printed elsewhere. We would much rather publish new, never-before-seen (or rarely seen) material. Some members may be reluctant to share, mistakenly thinking that their stories are of no interest. What is considered ordinary today, however, will be considered history by later generations. In the August issue of the *Quarterly* are guidelines for submitting items for the newsletter's regular departments. While these guidelines are specific, the great majority of the newsletter's format is unstructured; we ask only that material have some family connection. Maybe you'd simply like to share some family stories. Dan Hyde's success in filling more than 70 pages with submissions of family stories from 15 different contributors in just a few months is proof that we have an untapped wealth of family lore. Please consider preserving your family's heritage by sharing it through the *Quarterly*.