

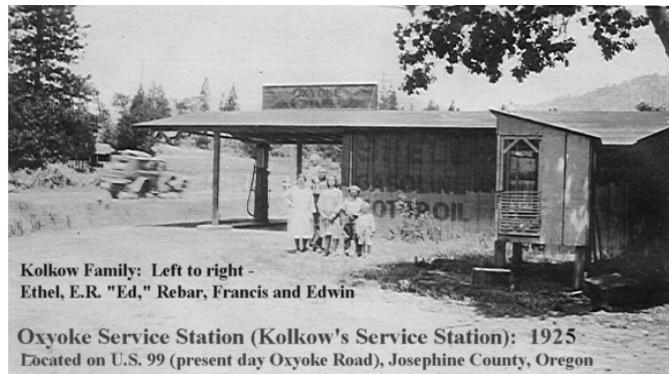
## Held It

Clarence and Bernice (Brazille) Kolkow, Storytellers  
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society  
2001

Bernice Mae (Brazille) Kolkow was born in 1922 seven miles down the Illinois River from Selma, Oregon. Clarence Born Clarence Ray Von Kolkow was born November 24, 1924 at his folks' residence that became known as the Oxyoke Service Station in Josephine County, Oregon (Photo 1).

The Kolkow and Brazille families would learn about the old town of Three Pines after they settled there in the mid-1920s. Except for some residences and the Three Pines School, the town had basically disappeared in the late 1910s with the demise of the Three Pines Lumber Company.

Clarence's mother, Ethel Kolkow, and her four children, Bill, Reba, Francis, and Edwin settled in the Grants Pass area in August 1924, after having traveled by Model T Ford from Southern California. Ethel acquired some property at the junction of old U.S. 99 and Jump-off Joe Road, and with the help of her elder son build a one-room shelter. This was the family's home until the husband and father, Edwin Kolkow, sold his garage/service station in Little Lake, California that same year.



Kolkow Family: Left to right -  
Ethel, E.R. "Ed," Rebar, Francis and Edwin

Oxyoke Service Station (Kolkow's Service Station): 1925  
Located on U.S. 99 (present day Oxyoke Road), Josephine County, Oregon

*Photo 1. Oxyoke Service Station, Three Pines, OR: 1925*

Courtesy of Clarence & Bernice Kolkow

The shelter, with additions, became home for the family, which grew to include four more children, Clarence, Charles, Ralph, and Mary. In 2000 it is located at what is now the junction on Monument Drive, Three Pines Road, and Oxyoke Road. Edwin Kolkow went into the same business he had in Little Lake. The family also sold pop there and eventually the iceman would deliver big blocks of ice to the station to keep the pop cold. It was about a nickel for a 50-pound block of ice.

The Kolkow's service station had a two-holer outhouse up the hill a little ways. One time some people pulled in for gas in a big fancy 1932 Lincoln and the lady asked Clarence's mother where the restroom was. After she was told the lady asked if there was running water in it. Clarence's mother replied, "Not until you get up there." The ritzy people had a very difficult time using an outside toilet. Many of them "held it."

Walker, Mike. March 16, 2001. *Clarence and Bernice (Brazille) Kolkow's Memories*. Education Chair for Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. Hugo, OR.