

THE QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE  
Ripley County, Indiana, Historical Society, Inc.

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

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**SPRING MEETING 1991**

The next meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society will be held April 14, Sunday, 2 o'clock; at the Olean Lutheran Church on SR 129 in Olean. The program will be presented by Peggy Ehlers. She is a member of the Ripley County Soil Conservation Board and she and her husband raise exotic animals. Our meetings are always open to the public.

**ITEMS FROM THE WINTER MEETING**

The January meeting of the R.C.H.S. was held on Sunday the 13th. We apologize for getting the date wrong last time. We met at the Elrod Community Building with 27 members and guests present.

Pres. Chester Henderson called the meeting to order; everyone introduced themselves by name and township. The secretary's minutes were accepted as read.

Chester appointed the following three ladies to serve on the nominating committee. Katheryn Manship, Alice Glover and Truly Draut. They are to secure directors from the following townships: Laughery, Otter Creek, Shelby and Washington for a three year term. President Henderson had contacted the majority of the directors for their approval for the copier that the directors had been considering buying for several months. Approval was granted.

Bea Boyd gave the treasurer's report and explained that the new copier had been purchased. The monies from the Tyson Fund had been used for this piece of equipment.

Dan Goris was introduced and conducted the program on "The Civil War". Mr. Goris explained his interest about the Civil War started in his early childhood. As a youth he lived in Indianapolis and had worked in the Childrens' Museum. Over the years he has collected many artifacts. Some of which he had on display. He told of Indiana's part in the war. Indiana was always able to reach her quota with volunteers. The 6th Regiment was made up of men from Ripley Co. and the Madison area. The north was very unorganized at the start. Men did not know the North from the South, as they did not have any standard uniforms. Many hardships were encountered. One person that he mentioned was a man from Dillsboro by the name of Fischer who had died from disease in Memphis, Tenn. Men from Indiana were involved in the Battle of Bull Run, in northeast Virginia. Many men were lost, ending in victory for the Confederates. The only military action which took place in Ripley County during the war came in 1863 when General John H. Morgan led Confederate cavalrymen across the Ohio River from Kentucky through Indiana to Ohio.

Mr. Goris has information he is happy to share with anyone who might be searching for relatives or friends who might have served in the Civil War.

## SPRING IS SPRINGING !!!

The daffodils are in bloom which means the museum will have its' doors open to the public soon. That means we will be needing members to act as hosts on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30. It is open starting Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

There will be an opportunity to sign up at the April meeting. If you have not done it in the past, I'm sure you will find it an interesting experience. Sometimes it is an opportunity to visit with very interesting people. At other times we poke around and get better acquainted with the many things in the museum. I always discover something new. If you cannot be at the next meeting contact either Herbert Thompson or Kathleen Lane to pick your day to help.

## R.C.H.S. SERVICES AND CHARGES

The dues are \$3.00 this year; they will be \$4.00 for 1992, per person, payable at the beginning of each year. You will find a number on your mailing label denoting the date of your membership. Those who have paid \$100 life membership will find "Life" beside their name. If dues are not paid no bulletin will be sent after January.

If you wish name and address of others working on your family line please send a self addressed, stamped envelope; no fee. There will be a \$2.00 research fee for each surname or question dealing with specific points concerning Ripley County. We cannot do a complete family history. Charge for copies: 25¢ for 8" x 11" and 50¢ for 11" x 17". We are not a paid staff. Family History Committee members do this voluntarily.

## CHURCH PROBLEMS

From The Ripley Journal, 28 Jan. 1892

The janitor of the Osgood M.E. Church wishes to inform tobacco chewers that he will not tolerate the practice in the church any longer. Read the notices on the walls and heed the warnings he gives. When you enter the church, leave your cud outside. He intends to prosecute someone if this is persisted in.

## AN UNWANTED GUEST

The local paper had an interesting story about the old M.E. Church in 1896. This was the small wooden church which was built during the Civil War. The church was beginning to show its' age and was needing some repairs. One of the stones in the foundation had been removed during some needed repairs and during this time a mother skunk decided it would be a perfect home for her family.

The members were unaware of their uninvited guest until Sunday morning services when the mother, for some reason, became "unhappy" and showed her displeasure in a way skunks will when angered. This unpleasant turn of affairs caused an early exit from the church. The last sentence was "Does anyone know how to get rid of skunk?"

It is unknown how the church solved the problem, as the next few issues of the paper were missing.

## genealogical queries

As a service to readers interested in genealogy we publish queries in each issue. Please make them as concise as practical. Typewritten copy is preferred. If handwritten, make sure it is very legible. The charge is 50¢ per query to society members and \$1.00 per query to non-members; payable in advance by check or stamps. Please send queries to: Mrs Donald Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

Query: Looking for pictures of my grandmother, ELLEN MARGARET (SCHMIDT) NEITMAN; her parents FREDRICK SCHMIDT and CATHERINE OLDT; her grandparents WILLIAM SCHMIDT and MARIAH and GEORGE J. OLDT and CATHERINE KUNTZ.

Janet Sadler, 6467 Stonehurst Dr., Huber Heights, OH 45424

Query: Michael REIL m. Margaret MERL at Saint Magdalen 1851. She was a sister to my great grandfather. Among their children were John, Ellen, Catherine, Mathew and Nicholas. I would like to exchange information and family history with any descendants of this family. John M. Louis, 940-D Monterrey Court, Crown Point, IN 46307

Query: Seeking information on Florence O'CONNOR, Florence was a daughter of Hiram. She had 2 daughters; Vera PEARCY VERBARG m. Erhand KROMM; Caroline VERBARG m. Elmer RICHARDSON.

Query: Seeking information on the JEFFRIES family. Need date of death of Elizabeth PEARCY JEFFRIES m. Thompson JEFFRIES. He was born in 1815 and d. 1894. Thompson is son of David. Sheryol Miller, 204 Silverstone Dr., Englewood, OH 45322

Query: I would like to have information on Peter RUTLEDGE 1760-1836. He served in several battles of the Revolutionary War and his wife was Mary Sanford. I am a descendent of his son, Abraham RUTLEDGE WHO WAS BORN IN Kentucky 1786,7,8 or 9 and died in 1840 in Vermillion County, Illinois.

Orville Rutledge, 1315 - 6th St., Onawa, IA 51040 Ph. 712-423-1168

Query: Seeking ancestors and descendants of Gottlieb HORSTMAN Sr. b. 1814 in N. Germany.

Ruth Ann Stockinger, 3620 Red River Rd., New Castle, IN 47362

Query: Heinrich KUNTZ b. Aug. 22, 1804. Need info on father, mother and wife Saloma, parents. John KUSTER m. Barbara AMACHER in Switzerland. Need info on parents of both, also birthdate. Have names of children on both.

Zeida Clark, 3312 Orange Ave., Ft. Pierce, Fla. 34947

Query: Would like to contact anyone researching HENDRIXSON, ENGEL/ENGLE, DOLE, TAYLOR or anyone who has copy of "On the Taylor Trail" by Ardis G. Ringdahl Taylor.

Verne L. Hendrixson, 825 N. West St. Box 28, Buhler, KS 67522

Query: Need place of burial of James HORTON d. 14 May 1861 in Ripley Co. IN. Would like info on all three wives and his father Robert HORTON.

Query: James MARTIN d. 24 Aug. 1900 in Ripley Co. IN. He is buried at the cemetery at Benham. Can anyone tell me where? He was grandfather of Mattie HORTON that m. a BENHAM Betty Wyss, 1413 S. Liberty, Independence, MO 64055 816-836-3487

Query: Wish to find descendants of the children of John AUSTIN and Mary Reading (Carter) WHITEHEAD who settled on a farm south of Sunman, IN in 1818. They had 10 children between 1815 and 1839. Lucinda Adaline and Theodore Austin b. N.J. Isaac Johnson, Sarah Elizabeth, Phoebe Ann, Amelia A., Mary Theresa, William Erastus, John Augustus and Charles Franklin b. IN. Ruth M. Ehr Gott, 4511 Columbus Ave. K 75, Anderson, IN 46013

from searcher to searcher

When people come to the archives looking for genealogy info we invite them to fill out a file card stating the family they are re-searching and their own name and address. In this way we hope to put people in touch with others who are working on the same family lines, to their mutual benefit. We will print these names as room permits.

RICHMANN & RICHTER & PFLEFFER  
by Maudie Roan  
1412 - 25th St.  
Woodward, OK 73801  
405-254-3747

O'NEEL/O'NEAL/O'NEIL John, James Sr.  
by Verda Bigsley Elizabeth, Jack  
N. 104 Crystal  
La Crosse, WA 99143-0055

RABOURN, Solomon  
by Carol Funk  
7521 Conady Lane  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

RYKER, Sarah, James, Rose  
by Beth Weiss  
S.S. 1-4-40  
Lethoridge, Alberta TIJ 463

PURCEL, Moses & wife Sarah  
Bap. Minister, Ripley Co.  
by Tony Marostica  
Box 442  
Rye, CO 81069

RUTLEDGE, Peter  
by Lucille M. Summers  
1430 Camellia Dr.  
Munster, IN 46321  
also Orville Rutledge  
1315 - 6 St.  
Onawa, IA 51040

PEARCY, Jeffries  
by Sheryol Miller  
204 Silverstone Dr.  
Englewood, OH 45322

ROBINSON, Lurana K.  
by Mrs. Mildred Robitaille  
9744 Old Warson Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63124

RUSSELL, CRAIG, IUPPENLATZ  
by Gloria & Jack Kelly  
1961 Granger Rd.  
Medina, OH 44256

ROGERS  
by Lee Rogers  
Box 1  
Canaan, IN 47224  
812-839-4642

PEARCY, JEFFRIES, GAULT  
RALSTON, THOMAS, ELLIS  
by Sherol (Percy) Miller  
204 Silverstone Dr.  
Englewood, OH 45322  
Ph. 513-836-7425

ROBERTS, Chas. Edw., Susanna Fallis  
by Norma (Holland) Roethal  
Six Meadow Park Cir.  
Belmont, CA 94002

RISINGER  
by Betty Larrison  
P.O. Box 171  
Hope, IN 47246

RAMER/RAYMER/REAMER/REEMER  
by Margaret E. Blessing  
672 Tanglewood Rd.  
P.O. Box 95  
Versailles, IN 47042

## GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

Tyson History compiled by Kathryn Manship, researched by Mary F. Manship C.G.R.S. ... placed in family files. 1-7-'91

"Allison Power of Excellence" 75 year Allison History, 2 vol. set.  
Book 1; Allison Transmission division General Motors  
Book 2; Allison Gas Turbine Division G.M. 1915-1990.  
from F. Blake Wallace v.p. & Gen. Mgr. Allison Gas Turbine Div. and  
Robert M. Clark, Gen. Mgr. Allison Trans. Div. Jan. '91

Family group sheets; SMITH, CARNINE, VANNUYS, DEMAREE, BICE, QUICK  
who settled in Ripley Co. before 1850.  
from Jim Mardis, 1836 Swift Place, Beavercreek, OH 45431

Family Sheets; SAMS/DOWERS, MORGAN/WELCH  
from Clifford Sams, 3307 Manito Blvd., Spokane, Wash.

6th Annual Thayer-Sleeth Scrapbook, 1990  
from Jerri Thayer, Osgood, IN

HENDRIXSON, DOLE, TAYLOR: 4 sheets  
from Verne Hendrixson, 825 N. West, Box 28, Buhler, KS 67522

Family info; JACKSON, OSBORN, HORTON, SISSON, BRINSON  
FROM Betty Wyes, 1413 S. Liberty, Independence, MO

HUNTINGTON, HENDERSON  
FROM Ida Leszezewski, 608 Reddick St., Mishawaka, IN 46544

Indexed Contents of A.G.'s Report for IN (Terrell's) 2 copies  
from Dan Goris

Wilson History -- 6 pages

Church History written German by David Dryer

KUSTER-KUNTZ 6 sheets from Rom and Zeilda Clark

### in memory

Flora Ballman died 28 February 1991 at Columbus, IN. She was 92 years of age; born 28 February 1898 in Cincinnati to Henry and Josephine Strube Brodbeck. Her husband, John died in 1977.

Flora was a faithful member of the Ripley County Historical society, attending all meetings. After she moved to Columbus she still contributed to the Society with very interesting letters of how things were when she was young. They are in the BALLMAN family file.

### A NEW BOOK

"LINCOLN'S YOUTH: Indiana Years, Seven to Twenty-one, 1816-1830"  
Written by the late Dr. Louis A. Warren and available from area bookstores, the Indiana University Press and the Indiana Historical Society at a cost of \$19.95.

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525  
Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1991 meeting.

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BROWN Twp; Mrs. Alice McCoy, R. 1, Versailles, IN 47042 SEC.  
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Miss Mary Manship C.G.R.S. R. 3, Box 87, Osgood, IN 47037  
Mrs. Alice Glover, R.R. 2, Box 25, Milan, IN 47031 BULLETIN EDITOR

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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