

The Quarterly Bulletin of the  
**RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

Library – 125 Washington Street  
Museum – Corner of Main and Water Streets  
Versailles, Indiana 47042

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► The April meeting of RCHS will take place at the Archives-Library building at 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 9, 2006. The program for this meeting will be presented by Bill Gloyd who will relate a brief history of the town of Osgood and give us a preview of the big celebration of Osgood's sesquicentennial during the forthcoming Labor Day weekend, August 31 to September 4, 2006. Bill is a member of the committee documenting the history of Osgood and planning for the big event. This program will prepare you to plan your visit to our old railroad town during this event.

► A reminder to everyone seeking research help: Do not send your request by e-mail. We are not staffed sufficiently to handle all the e-mails. You must send your request in regular mail accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped, large envelope and a check for \$3 for each family name requested, you will be billed for the copying cost and any extra postage when material is sent. Also, send enough information for us to be sure we know the person on whom, you are requesting information.

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THE FOLLOWING BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE:

Ripley County History, Volume I	\$65	Vintage Postcards by Alan Smith	\$20
Ripley County History, Volume II	55	Brown Township Cemetery Index	10
(Sold Out)		Johnson Township Cemetery Index	10
Brown Twp. Tales by Alan Smith	20	Mailing fees added for all books shipped.	
Tales of Versailles by Alan Smith	16		

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**IS THIS YOUR LAST BULLETIN?**

Be certain to check the expiration year shown on your mailing label. If it is earlier than 2006, your membership has expired. Remit your dues to our Treasurer immediately to keep your membership current.

Due to the increased costs of fuel, postage and supplies, it has become necessary to increase membership dues. Effective for memberships beginning in 2007, annual memberships will be increased to \$10.

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Mail your renewal to RCHS or to Beatrice Boyd, Treasurer, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

**Dues:** New memberships are \$10.00 for the first year.

Renewals are \$5.00 through 2006.

Renewals are \$10.00 per year for 2007 and following

Life memberships are \$100

## MINUTES OF THE RIPLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The January meeting of the Historical Society was held in the Archives Building on Sunday, January 8. There were 24 members and guests present, each introduced their self and gave where they were from.

The minutes of the October meeting were read by Henry Walker and were accepted as read. Bea Boyd passed out a copy of the Treasurer's annual finance report, it was accepted. Due to high fuel costs and an increase in postage it was decided to raise the dues for 2007 to \$10.00. We are out of the Vol. II history books and the cost to reprint was too high so we will not have them anymore. \$9000.00 was paid toward installation of the new air conditioning unit and another \$7000.00 will be due when installed.

Sandy Meisberger gave the program on the Daughters of American Revolution. There are also organizations for SAR (sons), and CAR, (children). To belong one must have an ancestor who served in the Revolutionary Army or in Government service. It takes very well documented ancestry records to be accepted. The organization promotes Patriotism on National level, as well as through local Chapters. They have kept alive the Spirit with which the United States were founded. Sandy gave a program that was most interesting as well as a History lesson for all. Thanks to her and the Local Ross Run Chapter of DAR.

Meeting was adjourned and refreshments provided by Center Township were enjoyed.

The next meeting will be April 9 at the Archives building. The Host Township will be Delaware Township.

Betty Roepke, President,

Henry Walker, Secretary

### UGRR TASK FORCE SEARCHING FOR CRAVENS AND OSGOOD DESCENDENTS

We are searching for Descendents of Hon. James Harrison Cravens and wife Sophia Capito Cravens also A. L. Osgood Family. The Indiana Historical Bureau later will be sending press releases regarding the two state historical markers that have been awarded. One marker commemorates the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad and the second marker is in recognition of Hon. James Harrison Cravens. However in preparation of the August 26th afternoon dedication of the markers we are preparing an invitation and guest list and we are hoping to locate descendents of the Cravens and Osgood families. Hon. James Harrison Cravens, an abolitionist and legislator, was born in 1802, Augusta County, Virginia and died December 4, 1876, at his home here in Osgood. His wife, Sophia Capito Cravens, was born 1802 in Pendleton County, Virginia, and lived in Indianapolis in her later years. Their children were James William, Joseph Robert, Mary Ann, John Oscar, George Daniel, John Kenny, Amanda Medora Cravens Ewing and Junius Edgar Cravens. A. L. Osgood was the chief civic engineer when the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad was built in the early 1850's and the towns people named our town of Osgood in his honor. It is possible that he was of the New York City area. It will be appreciated if anyone could help put us in touch with descendents. Please contact: Helen Einhaus, Ripley County Historian, 643 Columbia Avenue, Osgood, IN 47037; [hteinhaus@seidata.com](mailto:hteinhaus@seidata.com).

### Osgood History Tidbit - THE SECOND LARGEST DAIRY IN THE COUNTRY

The B&O time table has footnotes requiring stops here and there for milk, but we suppose they just deduct the fifteen minutes of time for the loading and unloading of cans at Osgood, and say nothing about it. Another fact connected with this milk business, is that W. D. Willson the famous dairyman has the next largest dairy in the United States, only one concern handling more of the lacteal fluid in the great territory.

From the Osgood Journal, September 11, 1895

BEA'S BUZZING

Q-1-04 I would like to hear from anyone connected with Stieg-elmeyer or Hinnenkamp Families. Vicki Moffett, 26296 Spaniel Lane, Sun City, CA 926586.

Several comments came about the Levi Stone. Mr. H. W. Abplanalp from California sent the note he found in the 1850 census. The census enumerator felt called upon to include the following explanatory note--such notes are rarely found in the census records. "Isaac Levi, Revolutionary war pensioner. b. Hungary May 10, 1736, crossed the Atlantic in May 1758 and entered Rev Army August 1776 in his 41st year, served 4 years, died Delaware Twp, Ripley County In Sept 21, 1850 age 114 without an hours sickness" DAR Historian Ross's Run Historian gives his age as 101. This goes with the dates on the Stone. They were taken from his army Pension application.

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Times have certainly changed. 100 years ago a man was arrested in North Vernon, in our adjoining County of Jennings. for smoking a cigarette on the street. He was fined \$25 plus costs = \$34.20. plus 35 days in the Vernon jail. I guess you could look at it as cheap for over a month vacation.

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To--descendants of Henry Myers, Rev. Soldier buried in the Myers Cemetery on Benham Road 900E A myers Reunion to be held July 28-29 2006 at Holton. If you haven't sent in your reservation or want more info contact Norman Myers 1500 Gay Rd Apt 20B, Winter Park, Fl 32789 of Lewis 32N @ aol.comm or Martha Myers lttp://members.aol.com/Myers genealogy. Norman has been working on this since last August. He is planning some more restoration work at the cemetery.

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1856--March 1st Osgood was laid out in NW Quarter of section 22, twp 8, Range 11E by George W. Cochran with 367 lots.

1856--May 16th Poston was laid out by Thomas Smith and James Yater, in S 1/2 of SW quarter of Sec 31, Twp 8 R 11. Poston was later renamed Dabney after the O&M RR crossed the County. Some conductors on the train did not always call out the station in a loud, clear voice and there was confusion between Holton and Poston, causing some passengers to get off at the wrong station.

1858--Sept 7, Center Twp was enlarged by additions from Otter Creek and Jackson.

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Montgomery Allen lived on the Hassmer Hill Farm (then owned by Dr. Cornett). He worked for Dr. Cornett and lived near the Purcell Covered Bridge (now Versailles Lake). John Allen, his brother, came from Bracken Co. Ky in 1820 and bought Government land near Pleasant Hill and paid for it with Hops. at one time he had a Hotel in Versailles.

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The following is a list of persons on a mail route in 1926. this route left the Holton Post Office, heading south down Marion St through what is now Jefferson Proving Ground, to Nebraska in Jennings county then back east, covering Hopewell.

W.W. Shaw	James Morris	Lena Stewart
Calvin Quire	Frank Fox	Valentine Shonk
A. E. Overturf	Cleve Fox	Nuel Richie
Ernest Emil	D. D. Harrell	David Gordon
Dan Brunner	J. J. Harrell	J.E. Williams
Roy Blair	Mark Bell	William Naylor
Cliff Fox	Jacob Buffo	John Planalp
Fred Flick	Lula Shonk	John Montgomery
John Flick	Noble Shephers	Mort Boswell
Charley Flick	William Gabel	Jas. Montgomery (Continued)
Anna M. Flick	Apr 2006	



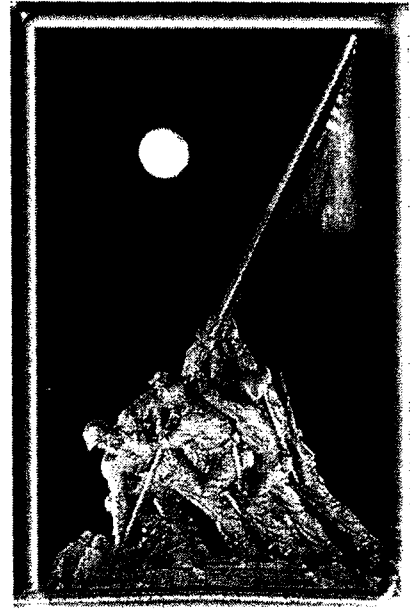
# SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

*God  
Bless  
America*

## IWO JIMA MEMORIAL

October 6, 2001, the US declared "War on Terror" which included the invasion of Iraq on March 20, 2003. Many of the Ripley County youth are involved in this continuing battle for freedom. This has been a long and distressful time and the end is not in sight. Our hearts are heavy with the loss of our precious military personnel, but our hearts and souls are overwhelmingly thankful for the dedication and sacrifice of these Heroes. It is an appropriate time to remember some of our country's other heroes.

The Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington DC is the largest bronze statue in the world and depicts the six brave soldiers raising the American Flag on top of the rocky hill on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima during WWII. The following speech was taken from the internet.



"My name is James Bradley from Wisconsin. My dad is on the Iwo Jima Memorial and I have written a book called 'Flags of Our Fathers', about the boys on the Memorial. Six boys raised the flag. The first guy putting the pole in the ground is Harlon Block. Harlon was an all-state football player. He enlisted in the Marine Corps with all the senior members of his football team. They were off to play another type of game. A game called 'War.' But it didn't turn out to be a game. Harlon, at age 21, died with his intestines in his hands. I don't say that to gross you out, I say that to point out that there is no Glory in war, only horror.

"Another boy was Rene Gagnon from New Hampshire. Inside the webbing of his helmet was found a photo of his girlfriend. Rene put that in there for protection because he was scared. He was 18 years old. Boys won the battle of Iwo Jima, Boys mostly ages 17 to 19, not old men.

"The next guy was Sergeant Mike Strank. Mike is my hero. He was the hero of all these guys. They called him the 'old man' because he was 24. When Mike would novitiate his boys in training camp he would say, 'You do what I say and I'll get you home to your mothers.'

"Another guy on the statue is Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian from Arizona, Ira walked off Iwo Jima. He went to the White House with my dad. President Truman told him, 'You're a hero.' Ira told reporters, 'How can I feel like a hero when 250 of my buddies hit the island with me and only 27 of us walked off alive?' Ira Hayes had the images of horror in his mind. He died dead drunk, face down at the age of 32, ten years after Iwo Jima.

**“Also on the statue is Franklin Sousley from Kentucky. A fun-loving hillbilly boy. Franklin died on Iwo Jima at age 19. When the telegram was sent to tell his mother that he was dead, it went to the local general store and a barefoot boy ran the telegram up to his mother’s farm. The neighbors who lived a quarter of a mile away could hear her screams.**

**“The last guy on the statue is my dad, John Bradley from Wisconsin, where I was raised. My dad lived until 1994, but he would never give interviews. When Walter Cronkite’s producers, or the New York Times would call, we were trained as little kids to say, ‘No, I’m sorry, sir, my dad’s not here. He is in Canada fishing. No, there is no phone there, sir. No, we don’t know when he is coming back.’ My dad never fished or even went to Canada. Usually, he was sitting right at the table eating his Campbell’s soup. But we had to tell the press that he was out fishing because he did not want to talk to the press. My dad did not see himself as a hero. Everyone thinks these guys are heroes, ‘cause they are in a photo and on a monument. My dad knew better. He was a medic and a caregiver. In Iwo Jima he probably held over 200 boys as they died. And when boys died in Iwo Jima they mostly writhed and screamed in pain.**

**“When I was a little boy, my third grade teacher told me that my dad was a hero. When I went home and told my dad that, he looked at me and said, ‘I want you always remember that the heroes of Iwo Jima are the guys who did not come back. did NOT come back!!’**

**“So that is the story about six nice young boys depicted by the statue of raising the flag. Three died on Iwo Jima and three came back home. Overall 7,000 boys died on Iwo Jima in the worst battle in the history of the Marine Corps.”**

**No longer does the monument seem like just a big piece of metal with a flag sticking out of the top. We need to remember that God created this vast and glorious world for us to live in freely, but freedom comes at a great sacrifice. Let us never forget Revolutionary War to the War on Terror and all the wars in between that the sacrifice was made for our freedom. Remember to pray for this great country and to pray for those fighting to maintain our freedom.**

**List of U.S. Wars to Preserve and Protect Freedom**

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<b>Revolutionary War</b>	<b>1775 - 1783</b>	
<b>War of 1812</b>	<b>1810 - 1815</b>	
<b>Civil War</b>	<b>1860 - 1865</b>	
<b>World War I (WWI)</b>	<b>1914 - 1918</b>	<b>US involvement 1917 - 1918</b>
<b>World War II (WWII)</b>	<b>1939 - 1945</b>	<b>US involvement 1941 - 1945</b>
<b>Korean War</b>	<b>1950 - 1953</b>	
<b>Vietnam</b>	<b>1961 - 1970</b>	
<b>Desert Storm</b>	<b>1990 - 1991</b>	<b>US involvement 1/1991-3/1991</b>
<b>Terrorist Attack on U.S.</b>	<b>9/11/ 2001</b>	
<b>US War on Terror:</b>		
<b>Afghanistan</b>	<b>10/2001-_____</b>	
<b>Operation Iraqi Freedom</b>	<b>3/2003 -_____</b>	

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**Reminder: Every day that you wake up free, IS A GREAT DAY!**

**MAY GOD BLESS OUR HEROES!**



Versailles, IN 47042

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- Delaware Twp. - Mrs. Lois Workman; 4823 N Co Rd 350 E, Osgood, IN 47037
- Franklin Twp. - Mrs. Esther Edmondson 7653 E Co Rd 800 N, Sunman, IN 47041
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The Ripley County, Indiana,  
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