

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

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XVI

JANUARY 1992

NUMBER 1

NEW ADDRESSES REQUIRED !!

Your new address is needed before the next bulletin is mailed. Those who have address changes due to the new 911 system be sure that Bea Boyd has your new address and your \$4.00 for 1992 dues before the next bulletin is due. Mrs. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

WINTER MEETING

The winter meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society will be held in Franklin Township, Sunday, January 12 at 2 o'clock in the First Baptist Church, Milan. The location is 3 blocks north of the Baker (formerly Volz) Garage; one block south of the R.R. Inn on Main St. Any interested people are welcome to attend.

NOTES ON THE FALL MEETING

The October meeting of the R.C.H.S. was held at the United Methodist Church in Delaware. Grace Dunbar was our hostess and the church members made us very welcome. The Choir entertained us with several pieces; readings and welcome message were appreciated. Introductions were made. It was announced that Edward Richter was 102 years old that day.

Bea Boyd asked that a replacement be appointed as Ripley Co. historian. She has had that duty for 10 years and feels it is time for a change.

The next meeting is to be held in Franklin Township.

Jamie Schantz gave the program on wool and spinning. She had old and new spinning wheels, various kinds of wools and yarns; some different types of sheeps wool, mohair from angora goats and angora wool from rabbits. She described various dyes from nuts, barks, roots, etc. She had niddy-noddys, told of "walking wheels" and let anyone who wished take a try at spinning. She began her spinning while living in Milwaukee. One of her wheels came from New Zealand.

The Church Ladies served generous refreshments after the close of the meeting.

MYRON KELLY, Director from Washington Twp. was subject of "Meet Your Neighbor" in an October Versailles Republican. Myron, a World War II veteran keeps watch over the graves of Revolutionary War Soldiers in a cemetery buried deep in the woods and abandoned for over 100 years in Washington Twp. The cemetery is at the original site of the Washington Regular Baptist Church. Some stones are written in German but the ones that stand out are for five serving in the Revolutionary War; BEALL, GRIMES, LIPPERT, McDONALD and PENDERGAST. Myron makes the trek to the old cemetery two or three times a year, taking decendents and other interested people.

Several times with companions he has cleared it and tried to interest younger people. "They deserve more than an overrun thicket." Myron says.

by Bea Boyd

Here's good news for all of you who have been asking about the supplement to the Ripley County History Book, published in 1989. This book will not be as large as the first one. If you missed getting your family history in the first book, get started on it. It will take longer than you think. The cost of the book will be \$35 plus postage and handling, pre-published price. You can send your order to: Ripley Co. Book Fund, P.O. Box 20, Osgood, IN 47037 Contact persons from each local will be available. These will be published later.

Items taken from "COTTON'S KEEPSAKE"

[We today must deal with drugs, drunk drivers, etc. but in the 1850s ..]

HART'S MILL, owned by William Hart, an early settler, an excellent and good citizen. Mill consumed by fire in 1843, full of grain and no insurance.

Daniel Paul had a little girl burned to death, her clothes having caught fire by a candle, and four others badly injured by the explosion of a powder keg. One is totally blind, an inmate of the State Asylum, smart and intelligent. Throwing crackers about at Christmas was the cause of the explosion. Children, be careful with powder, it is a dangerous plaything. Ann Eliza Stepp, a little girl, inhaled the hot steam from the nose of a boiling tea-kettle, and soon after died -- poor little thing!

John Campbell was killed at a log-rolling, a large log passing over him, leaving him a mangled corpse. John Sellers and Israel Seaborn, both hung themselves in 1855, and Isalah Doves shot himself through the heart deliberately, in 1854. Benjamin Hall was badly bitten by a copperhead, in 1823. Alexander Boyle died with a fearful cancer, in 1853. James H. Connell was badly injured at a raising, in 1844 -- jaw bone broken all to smash, but recovered. Mrs. Eliza Kennett was thrown from her horse, and killed upon the spot. The babe in her arms was uninjured, as by a miracle.

PIERCEVILLE: Father Williams, George M. Stites, Nathaniel Dixon,

Wm. D. Bratton, A. Henthorn, O. Gookins, E. P. French, Clarke and James Jordan, and their good ladies, well deserve a favorable notice at my hands, as does friend Brooks, Wood, Squire Hill, Milliken, the Snodgrasses and others, of South Milan, just below. A man by the name of Tanner, I believe, years ago, in attempting to follow the Brookville trace home, from Versailles, got lost in a snowstorm, and perished. A young man here, was once fiercely beset with a panther, but escaped unharmed.

ELROD ...

Squire Elrod, postmaster, merchant, and inn-keeper, gave me kind and good entertainment and a free pass, aside from his cheerful patronage to my work. He deserves to have his name published in large capitals, to be preserved as a memorial of him for ever. Here my personal acquaintance is limited, but they did a generous part by me. The Stevenses, McCabes, Vandolans, Mckittichs and others, have long resided here, and whose kindness I gratefully acknowledge.

ELLEN REINKING 95 died recently. She was a teacher for 27 years.

She spoke at the Jac-Cen-Del High School dedication as she had taught in each of the townships.

The woods across the road from the High School on SR 421 was given to the school by Ellen.

She had made her home at Manderley Health Care Center for ten years. She kept active and enjoyed extensive reading up until the last.

by Bea Boyd

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. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

Query: Catherine ENGEL / ENGLE / INGLE, b.20 Nov. 1842, m. Alexander Jesse Hendrixson 16 Apr. 1857 in Dearborn Co, IN. Moved to Kansas 1886, d. 11 May 1890, bur. Lodianna Cem., Rice Co., KS

Query: John and Martha HENDRIXSON, bur. Connelly Cem., Sunman, IN. Parents of John C., Sinthian, Elijah, Abrams, Alexander, Lucinda, Henry, Jacob, Thomas and George. Would like to exchange information on any of above.
Vern Hendrixson, Box 28, Buhler, KS 67522

Query: I have genealogical information I would like to share with anyone named KREMER or RIEHL.
John M. Louis, 940-D Monterrey Court, Crown Point, IN 46307

Two up-dated searcher to searcher cards:

WOODHULL, James and Isabelle (Sutton)
SUTTON, Joseph and Rebecca (Oliver)
Mrs. Joan Woodhull, 231 Tracy Road, New Whiteland, IN 46184-1023

Here is some Postmaster information for St. Magdalen. The Post Office was established on 6 April 1871. Isadore M. Manovich was the first Postmaster starting on 4 August 1871. Nicholas Holzer took over on 6 February 1872. My great grandfather, John Merl, became Postmaster on 13 October 1873, and kept the job till 28 June 1889 when Finley Meisberger took over. The Post Office was closed on 30 November 1905. This information came from "The Postal History of Indiana" by J. David Baker (Cat. No. 383.0977.)

Thanks to John M. Louis for this item.

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

LEMON genealogy - 2 pages 9-24-1991
from Vincint A. Lemon, 7904 Blue Lake Dr., San Diego, CA 92119

History of Versailles Lodge No. 7, F. & A.M. by the Lodge

Book "Minutes of Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren Church" (267 pgs.); 2 newspapers "The Evangelical Republican" 1858, Vol.2#8&9.
from Mrs. Dorothy Petty, Greensburg, IN

Ripley County's Part in World War 1917-1918 Book owned by Uncle Harrison Benham and presented to his nephew, Leonard Andy Benham.
by Martha Benham

Unplated Shelby Christian Church Cemetery Record Oct. 1991
by Mrs. Rachel Ward.

Logansport and the Michigan Road
from Cass Co. Historical Society

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525
Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1992 meeting.

ADAMS Twp.; Mrs. Charles Roepke, R. 3, Sunman, IN 47041 PRES.
BROWN Twp.; Mrs. Alice McCoy, R. 1, Versailles, IN 47042 SEC.
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Mrs. Alice Glover, R.R. 2, Box 25, Milan, IN 47031 BULLETIN EDITOR

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