

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

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XVI

JULY 1996

NUMBER 3

SUMMER MEETING

The Ripley County Historical Society will hold their next meeting Sunday, July 14 at 2 o'clock in our new location on the west side of the square in Versailles.

The program will be given by Kathleen Lane. Julie Underwood is assisting her in preparing a presentation on unique and little known items and facts about the museum and items contained there.

NOTES ON THE SPRING MEETING

Sunday afternoon, April 14, the R.C.H.S. met in the old bank building on the Courthouse Square. A large number of members and friends were present to view the building which is in the process of being purchased by the society.

President, Betty Roepke called the meeting to order. After all introductions the secretary's and treasurer's reports were both approved as read. During the business meeting several items were brought to the attention of the Society.

Alan Smith said there must be a leak in the water line at the annex. He will check and see what needs to be done.

Kathleen Lane was in need of volunteers to help keep the museum open on weekends. Julie Underwood needed people and trucks, vans, etc. to help start moving items from the annex to the new property. She will get the list ready for all volunteers. Joan Krall presented the slate of directors to be elected from Franklin, Jackson and Johnson townships. Dr. William Glover, Kathryn Manship and Julie Underwood. There were no nominations from the floor. The three were elected by acclamation.

The afternoon program was given by Tom Weaver from Switzerland County. Over the past years he has been involved with several counties in securing different types of grants both state and federal for their historical society. There were lots of questions.

The summer meeting will be July 14 at 2 o'clock in the old Versailles Bank building, with Washington Township as host.

A directors' meeting was held at the close of the general meeting. The following were appointed: President, Scott Smith; Vice President, Julie Underwood; Secretary, Alice McCoy; Treasurer, Bea Boyd. Alice Glover will continue as bulletin editor and Kathleen Lane as Museum Curator. Julie will set up a moving day. Julie and her mother, Sandra Meisberger will attend the commissioners meeting and get more information about storing special old records from the Courthouse. They will also check about used furniture that is up for sale.

DEATHS AMONG OUR MEMBERS

GRIFFIN WATERS, 85 died March 30, 1996. He was the son of John and Eva Alice Lehman Waters. He was a long time member.

On March 4th we were informed of the death of Melba Sherwood, Brookings, OR by a letter from Edwyn Sherwood. Melba died July 18, 1995. She was a decendent of Harvey Buchanan.

SOME ITEMS FROM THE PAST

Osgood Journal; 25 Oct. 1922. Personal item. Gravestone of David WILSON, who died 1830 at age of 107 was on display at the meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society. Occupant of the grave was great, great, great grandfather of Henry and Hazel BELLMAN. The grave was on the old KUNTZ farm near St. Paul.

Versailles Republican; 15 July 1931. Article: BELLMAN, Henry, well known farmer dies unloading hay 8 July 1931; 76 years of age, was born and reared at Manchester, upon the farm now owned by his brother Motice. Married Elizabeth GRITTMAN 1880, established a home near St. Paul M.E. Church, had 5 sons and 2 daughters. Surviving widow, 1 son, John, at home, 2 daughters; Mollie SCHWEAR at Sunman and Hattie SCHWEAR of near Osgood; 1 brother Motice near Sunman; 1 sister Mrs Maggie STEINMETZ of Indianapolis; 8 grandchildren. St. Paul's Church and Cemetery.

Osgood Journal; 16 April 1936. Article: BELLMAN, Mrs. Elizabeth nee GRITTMAN died at the home of daughter Hattie SCHWEAR, 10 April 1936; 80 years. near Osgood of broken hip. Survived by one other daughter, Mrs. Mollie SCHWEAR of Sunman, 1 son John at Sunman, 8 grandchildren, 1 sister Sophia of Bonell. St. Paul's M.E. Church and Cemetery.

These items were given to me at the last RCHS meeting but I did not write the gentleman's name on them and my "brain did not retain" i'm sorry to say. If he will contact me I will be glad to give him due credit. AG

WE NEED -----

Since we have moved into our new digs we have more room and could use more furniture for working. If anyone has tables or chairs that need a new home we would certainly appreciate them. Contact Julie Underwood at 689-4526.

We also need staff for the new building and as always we are still short for week-ends at the museum. The system that seems to work best for the bank building is to sign up for one day a week and be responsible for that day. If you can't be there get someone to cover for you. Contact Joann Krall 689-4358 or Kathleen Lane 689-5317, FOR MUSEUM.

CORRECTION TO TOWNSHIPS CEMETERY BOOKS

Thanks to Johnson Township Trustee and wife, Bill and Ginger Bradford, it was brought to our attention that the Blair or Old Turkey Creek Cemetery is in Johnson Township. The Brown Township cemetery records published in 1984 has ~~it listed in~~ that book while it is not listed in Johnson Township. The original information states cemetery is located at foot of Ridge on Laughery Creek near the Tebbing Farm in Brown Twp about 4 mi. SE of Versailles. The actual location is at the corner of Johnson Twp Section 33. This land is now owned by the Ellermans. As Trustee, Bill and Ginger have spent many hours working in this cemetery. Violet's record was done in 1931. No update since. Partial listing of some of the people buried there are: Bailey, Blair, Conn, Ellerman, Hallforth, Heinrich, Hillig, Parker, Rand, Roberts, Theis, and others. Information contributed by B. Boyd.

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

"More Room" by Verne W. Dowers Apr. 20, 1996
261 pg hardback book from Verne Dowers

"Our 50 Year Salute" North Vernon Sun & Plain Dealer
from Bea Boyd May 13, '96
In Newspaper Project Microfilm Catalog (in inventory drawer)
from Bea Boyd

Descendants of David McKee & Lydia Billings, additional surnamas involved (primary ones: MAIN, MUSGRAVE, FUNKHOUSER, HINSHAW.)
from Mary Ellen Boyer, AZ. June 10, '96

4 pg interview Elrie Shaw by Randy Nealis. re: JPG June 26, '96
from Bea Boyd

"The Breeze" Bi Monthly Magazine Amateur paper - Edited at
Holton IN Dec. 1916 issue.
from Arriest Udey, Holton.

GIFTS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE

Annual dues for R.C.H.S. are \$5.00 per year, payable January 1.
Life membership is \$100.00

If you wish the name and address of others working on your family line please send a self addressed, stamped envelope, no fee. There is a \$2.00 research fee for each surname or question dealing with specific points concerning Ripley County. We cannot do a complete family history. We are not a paid staff. Family history committee members do this voluntarily. Charge for copies: 25¢ for 8"x11" and 50¢ for 11"x17".

The Ripley County History Book II is available for \$55. There are books on Johnson and Brown township cemetery records - \$7.50 + \$1.50 if mailed. Please send requests to:

Mrs. Donald Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

Joel P. Davis, A. B., Bookkeeper, Ashland, Wis.
 Preston S. Hyde, A. B., A. M., Missionary, Lucknow, Ind.
 Richard N. Hargitt, B. S., Supt. Schools, Cochran, Ind.
 Crates Stephen Johnson, A. B., Minister, 767 Shelby St., Indianapolis, Ind.
 Leora Leona Jones, B. S., Indianapolis, Ind.
 Hortense Martin, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind.
 Irene Martin, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind.
 Lonis Ross, A. B., Supt. Schools, Metamora, Ind.

1899.

Otto L. Curl, B. S., Reporter on Post, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Frank H. Collier, A. B., A. M., Minister, Crothersville, Ind.
 Loren M. Edwards, A. B., A. M., Minister, Anderson, Ind.
 Minnie A. Hall McCormick, Bedford, Ind.
 Lester B. Rogers, B. S., Teacher, Paris Crossing, Ind.
 William F. Smith, A. B., A. M., Minister, Shelbyville, Ind.
 Clarence R. Stout, A. B., A. M., Minister, Laurel, Ind.
 Edna Lytle Jennings, B. S., Student in Elocution in Cincinnati, Moores Hill, Ind.

Joel C. Walker, A. B., Minister, Enterprise, Oregon.
 Agnes Wilson, A. B., Teacher, Greensburg, Ind.

1900.

Laura D. Askin, A. B., Forest Hill, Ind.
 Samuel J. Copeland, A. B., Teacher in New Orleans University, New Orleans, La.
 Albert H. Green, B. S., Bookkeeper, Buffalo, N. Y.
 Howard Elbert Robertson, B. S., Student in Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts.
 Eleanor M. Robertson, A. B., Deputy, Ind.
 Florence Mary Sargent, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind.
 Birna R. Smith, A. B., Student in Medical College, Louisville, Ky.
 Frank B. Ward, A. B., Minister, Sardinia, Ind.
 J. Ratchiff Willey, B. S., Farmer, Sharptown, Ind.

1901.

Florence Belle Barclay, B. S., Teacher, Sparta, Ind.
 Anna Clark Bennett, Ph. B., Shelbyville, Ind.
 Edwin H. Boldrey, B. S., Student in Boston University, Boston, Mass.
 Victor B. Hargitt, Ph. B., Minister, Sugar Branch, Ind.
 Roscoe H. Martin, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind.
 Lacy Pelsor Ross, A. B., Metamora, Ind.
 Claude B. Sylvester, A. B., Minister, Batesville, Ind.
 Will A. Vayhinger, B. S., Clerk, Osgood, Ind.
 Dowd B. White, A. B., Teacher, Alexandria, Ky.

Graduates in Music.

1892.

Edith Spencer, Nurse, Cincinnati, Ohio.

1893.

Laura E. Jennings, Teacher in Music, Greenfield Schools, Indiana.
 Anna Johnson Meeds, Birmingham, Alabama.

1898.

Edna Shook Shockley, East St. Louis, Illinois.

1899.

Alta Blackmore, Teacher in Music, ———, Illinois.

1900.

Louise Goddard, Ciney, Illinois.

Fattie George Willey, Sharptown, Indiana.

1901.

Olive Brenton, Osgood, Indiana.
 Pearl Robinson, Winton Place, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Nettleton Hodapp, Teacher in Music, Seymour, Indiana.

I hope to find a source for the post 1900s to complete this series. Many of them would be in our "grand-parent" generation and known by many of our readers.

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
Box 525
Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1997 meeting.

ADAMS Twp.; Mrs. Charles Roepke, 9644 E Co Rd 1300 N, Sunman, IN 47041
BROWN Twp.; Mrs. Alice McCoy, 5616 S St Rd 129, Versailles, IN 47042 SEC.
CENTER Twp.; Mr. Norris Krall, 4499 N Old Michigan Rd, Osgood, IN 47037
DELAWARE Twp.; Mr. Scott Smith, P.O. Box 274, Batesville IN 47006 PRES.
FRANKLIN Twp.; Dr. William Glover, 5611 E Co Rd 300 N, Milan, IN 47031
JACKSON Twp.; Mrs. Kathryn Manship, 3378 W Co Rd 600 N, Osgood, IN 47037
JOHNSON Twp.; Mrs. Julie Underwood, 998 W Co Rd 450 S, Versailles, IN 47042 V.PRES.
LAUGHERY Twp.; Mrs. Carolyn Hahn, 13403 N Delaware Rd, Batesville, IN 47006
OTTER CREEK Twp.; Mrs. Donald Boyd, P.O. Box83, Holton, IN 47023 TREAS.
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WASHINGTON Twp.; Mr. Myron Kelly, 1028 S St Rd 101, Dillsboro, IN 47018
Miss Mary Manship, 3378 W Co Rd 600 W, Osgood, IN 47037 C.G.R.S.
Mrs. Alice Glover, 5611 E Co Rd 300 N, Milan, IN 47031 BULLETIN EDITOR

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