

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

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

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VOLUME XII

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NUMBER 4

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AUTUMN MEETING

The fall meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society will be held October 9 at 2 o'clock in the Museum Annex. The program will be presented by Bea Boyd on the History of the R.C.H.S. Note, this is a change from the previous meeting plan.

NOTES FROM THE SUMMER MEETING

The heat was on! July 10, 1988 The Ripley County Historical Society held their summer meeting in the Annex at Versailles.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Randy Young. Introductions were made. Thirty people were present. The secretary's report was read and approved. Bea Boyd gave the Treasurer's report. A balance on hand, as of June 30 was \$340.72. This also was approved as read.

Chester Henderson informed the society he had received two bids to fix the leaks in the roof and gutters. The matter was left for the directors to decide later. Myron Kelly said a gentleman was asking if the Society would be interested in having a buck rake to exhibit in the museum. Everyone thought it was a good idea. Myron will see about getting the rake for the museum.

Randy Young asked that members contact their state representative about returning the marriage licenses back to the old form rather than the new, which does not contain the names of their parents. This is a great help in genealogy work.

As there was no other business the meeting was turned over to "Bo" Susnick who showed his antique tools. He had a very interesting program. He challenged several people to recognize the different tools he displayed. There was a traveler wheel, bunion stretcher, hitching hammer, fro hammer, pie peal and all different kinds of building tools. He stated he liked hammers of which he has several different kinds. One thing you should never do is to clean up the old tools and make them look like new. Dates and names on the tool will add greatly to its value. I think everyone learned that necessity is the mother of invention. Almost every person had a tool for the job that he was going to do.

Howard Lane's presence will be greatly missed around the museum and annex. He was always on hand to help wherever he could; build it, fix it or solve most any problem we had.

ALL MEMBERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE --- The 1989 membership is now due. Repairs and upkeep are getting ever more expensive. We received a \$2,000 grant from the Tyson Fund this year which will help immensely. We are very grateful.

The Ripley County Historical Society has lost 3 members recently by death;

Howard Lane, Versailles

Betty Dieselberg, West Harrison

Elmer Drake, Versailles

The Society extends its deepest sympathy to the families of these deceased. As many members live at a distance we would appreciate it if the family would notify us when the death of a member occurs. Please address to: P.O. Box 525, Versailles, IN 47042

#### SOCIETY MEMBER SPEAKS AT LOCAL MEETING

The Tuesday evening, September 6, program of the Senior Citizens Mutual Interest Group was a very interesting and informative one given by Mr. Herbert Thompson, of Versailles, on the churches that had been in the area of the now Jefferson Proving Ground.

In December 1940 the news was announced that 55,264 acres, 23,150 in Ripley Co., 22,000 in Jefferson and the balance in Jennings was to be purchased for installation of a military reservation to be used as a testing ground for the \$51,000,000 powder plant built by the U.S. Government and Dupont at Charlestown, IN.

Mr. Thompson showed photographs of each church projected on a screen and told the fate of the church.

At St. Magdalen Church, 53 of the 60 families were forced to move. The parish had been started in 1830. The last mass was held in this beautiful church, built in 1861, on February 16, 1941. They purchased 2 acres of land on 421, south of Versailles, across from what is now Silver Bell Nursing Home, but did not build there. Instead they made the Bank Building at New Marion into a church.

Bethel Baptist with a ministry started in 1828 was disbanded. Later they would gather for yearly reunions at North Vernon Park.

Marble Corner Methodist - the last day services were held, a telegram from the White House was read. It was from Eleanor Roosevelt.

Pilgrim Holiness Church founded in 1922 at Marble Corner.

The Liberty Christian Church in Jefferson Co. was the only church not to be destroyed. It was moved from Proving Ground across the then State Road 29, now 421, near Bellview. This is the Oldest Christian Church in the state.

The Otter Creek Baptist in Jennings County, founded in 1848 moved to a school house in Nebraska, IN. Their cemetery was also moved N.W. of Nebraska on Zenas Road.

Mr. Thompson also mentioned the cemeteries moved from Jefferson Proving Ground, referring to the article, "Where Are The J.P.G. Cemeteries Now?" This article appeared in the Ripley County Historical Society Bulletin, April 1982, Vol. VI - # 2.

Herbert Thompson, knowledgeable historian is an active member of the Ripley County Historical Society. He contributes many hours as did his wife Lois until her death in 1984. He was with Versailles Republican Newspaper for 40 years and also employed at Jefferson Proving Ground.

by B. Boyd

The centennial of Benjamin Harrison's election as president of the United States will be celebrated in the I.H.S. display, "Tippecanoe and Morton, Too" opening at the Society Aug. 1 through Nov. 7

The history, intent and impact of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 is explored in the book, "Pathways to the Old Northwest", recently published by the I.H.S. celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Ordinance's passage. It sells for \$6.00, available through the Society by writing or visiting the offices at 315 W. Ohio, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or call at (317) 232 - 1882.

Both amateur and professional photographers will be vying for 18 cash prizes totaling \$3,000 in the I.H.S. annual photography contest. From Monday, Aug. 1 through Friday, Oct. 14 they will accept color and black-and-white prints dealing with the contest theme of "Signs of the Times". Negatives or slides from which prints are made must have been taken after Jan.1, 1985. Winning photos from previous years are not eligible. "The contest is designed to enlarge and improve the Society's photo collection. Entries must document some aspect of life in Indiana that is, or will be, of historical value" said Louis J. Foerderer, contest chairman. For more information call him at (317) 232 - 6568 or 1882.

An exhibit comprised of contest entries will be displayed at the Society from Monday, Nov. 14 through Sunday, Jan. 15.

HOT NEWS FROM THE RIPLEY COUNTY FAIR BOOK -- 1914

Single admission -- 25¢	Children 6 - 12 -- 15¢
Horse or mule and vehicle -- 10¢	Automobile -- 25¢
2 horses or mules and vehicle -- 15¢	Season ticket -- 65¢
Child's season ticket -- 35¢	Grand stand -- 25¢

The Town of Osgood

Population 1,800; one of the Best Towns located on the B & O R.R., 52 miles from Cincinnati. In an excellent farming district and has the following businesses:

One Electric Light Plant	Seven General Stores
Two Drug Stores	Two Banks
Three Hardware Stores	Two Furniture Stores
Three Blacksmith Shops	Two Restaurants
Three Barber Shops	Four Hotels
Two Livery Barns	Five Saloons
One Creamery	Public Library
Four Churches	Commissioned High School
Two Dentists	Six Doctors
Two Veterinarians	One Auto Garage
Three Limestone Quarries	Largest Dairy in U.S.
One Foundry	One Flour Mill
Two Saw Mills	Two Planing Mills
One Printing Plant	One Marble Works
One Poultry Exchange	One Cigar Factory
Two Meat Markets	Two Band L. Associations
Three Millinery Stores	One Grain Elevator

information presented by Mildred Cizek

## GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

Please make queries as concise as practical. Typewritten copy is preferred but if handwritten, make sure that it is VERY legible. The charge is 50¢ per query to society members and \$1.00 to non-members, payable in advance by check or stamps. Please send all queries to the treasurer; Mrs. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

Would like to correspond with anyone having information on John S. and Rebecca (Gowen) ROSS. Arrived Ripley Co. 1856 from Madison Co. Ky. Children: James L., Margaret Ann, Mary Frances, Elizabeth Maudeval, Rebecca and Mary Ozella.

John R. Ross, Box 154, Brockwell, AR 72517

Samuel M. ENT born 1792, married Sarah ?. Samuel died 1839 in Ripley Co., IN. Related lines include BAILEY, HARE and AUSTIN. Their son, Charles married Mary Austin. Who were her parents? Known children of Charles and Mary were: William, Sarah F., Emma A., Charles, Elizabeth, Morton, Wesley, Harry and Letitia who married Valdesso O. Burns in 1865. Would like to hear from anyone interested in these families. All letters answered.

Dora Mae Turner, P.O. Box 53, Chandler Hts., AZ 85227

Sophia SMIER / SMEAR b. Nov. 1848 d. 4 Jan. 1873 m. John M. HINER 30 Jan. 1872 in Ripley County. I wish to correspond with anyone having knowledge of her or her family.

Diana Gailbreath, 412 Hatchett Creek Rd., Venice, FL 34292

Wilbur VOEGE b. June 25, 1909 Ripley Co. IN d. Oct. 14, 1983. He m. Oct 22, 1930 to Mary MIESEL. He was son of Albert and Flora Manchoffer Voege. Marking on cemetery at Cloverdale, IN Putnam Co. Information contributed by Martha M. Williams Reelsville, IN

## GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

Names found in Hillig Family History 8 sheets June '88  
by Wanda Roberts

Civil War Record of John W. Roberts, Pvt. Capt. Loyd's Co. 83rd Ind. Inf. enlisted Versailles Aug. 21, 1862, died Nov. 21, 1863 Paducah, KY Justice Family History, 18 pgs. including Squire Justice's Civil War record.

by Mike Jones, 607 1st. Ave. E. Williston, ND 58801 June '88

Tucker Family group sheet, 2 pgs. June '88  
by Ella Glee Gartrell, 717 Guanby Pl. E., Westerville, OH 43081

Jesse Cole Family - 2 pgs. June '88  
by Mrs. James Lugenbell, 572 Brim Rd., Onalaska, WA 98570

St. Nicholas Directory and St. Nicholas School Directory (school file)  
by St. Nicholas Church June '88

Samuel Jackson Family History 7 pgs July '88  
by Marion T. Jackson, Ind. State Univ.

Peterman Family, 11 pgs also Ludwig, Thackery Families July '88  
by Ruth Peterman, 3220 33rd Ave., S. Minneapolis, MN 55406

Hoosier Disciples of Christ pertaining to Yater, Clyde families of  
near Osgood & history of the Christian Churches in IN (church file)  
by Moss W. Yater, 2325 Yorkcrest, P.O. Box 12331, Knoxville, TN  
37912

Ripley Co. 1980 Plat Directory with maps July '88  
by Leonard Manship

St. Nicholas Church Directory (church file) July '88  
by St. Nicholas Catholic Church.

St. Jacob's United Church of Christ, Blue Creek, Sunman. History  
written for 150th Anniversary 1988. (church file)  
by Betty Ann and Charles Roepke, Sunman

1st. supplement to 1st. Edition of Banta pioneers and records of  
wives and allied families. (family history file) July '88  
by Kathleen Lane

Cole Family 10 pgs July '88  
by Mrs. James Lugenbell, 572 Brim Rd., Onalaska, WA 98570

"Pathways to the Old Northwest" from the Indiana Historical Society

Commsoft Family Group Sheets including Summers, Brown, Peter, Young,  
Cole, Collen, Waggoner, Allen, Heaton, Waddle and Yater of Ripley Co.  
are in the Yater Family file. July '88  
by Mr. Lynn A. Howard, P.O. Box 261, Stoughton, WI 53589

Additional information has been added to the following family files.  
Fletcher, Walter E. Kieffer and June Hamblin Kieffer, Landwehr, John  
Walsh, Brower. July '88

Joseph Hennegin Family 10 pgs Aug. '88  
by Helen L. Polenc, 825 S. Diomede, Palmer, Alaska 99645

Cemetery inscriptions in genealogy division, Ind. State Library,  
Ripley Co. (with cemetery records) Aug. '88  
Anonymous gift

Charles and Mary Austin Ent, 2 family group sheets Aug. '88  
by Mrs Dora Mae Turner, P.O. Box 53, Chandler Hts., AZ 85227

Jeffersonville Land Entries 1808 - 1818 Aug. '88  
Janet C. Cowen. purchased - \$26.95

Indiana descriptions of University microfilms 1947 - 1983 Aug. '88

Handwritten history of the Baptist Church of Jesus Christ of Otter  
Creek, Jennings Co., Ind. 14 pgs written by Joe Daughtery, May 3, 1971  
no name of donor given (church file) Sept. '88

List of Ripley Co. men in the 68th Reg. Cos. A, B and F in the Civil  
War. (military section) Sept '88  
by William Dodd Brown, 4511 N. Artesian Ave., Chicago, IL 60625

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525  
Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1989 meeting.

ADAMS Twp.; Mrs. Charles Roepke, R. 3, Sunman, IN 47041  
BROWN Twp.; SEC. Mrs. Alice McCoy, R. 1, Versailles, IN 47042  
CENTER Twp.; V.PRES. Mrs. George Cizek, 433 S. Buckeye St., Osgood, IN 47037  
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BULLETIN EDITOR Mrs. Alice Glover, R. 2, Box 25, Milan, IN 47031

The Ripley County, Indiana  
Historical Society, Inc.  
Box 525  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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