

The Quarterly Bulletin of the
Ripley County, Indiana, Historical Society, Inc.

Museum -- Corner of Main and Water Streets
Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XIX

JANUARY 1999

NUMBER 1

JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting will be held January 10th, at 2:00 P.M., in its building on the court house square. The program for this meeting is to be given by Eric Smith, and it is going to be on Antique Stoves. A good wood cookstove would be great right now with this frigid weather we are having, don't you think?

The October meeting was held the 11th of October. The minutes were read and the treasurer's report was made by Bea Boyd.

The sales of the reprinted 1st volume of the Ripley County History has been wonderful; with people purchasing the Sets, Vol I & II, as often as they buy just the Vol I book.

Membership is picking up nicely. In the last quarter there have been 5 or 6 new members signed up by the librarians.

A binding machine has been added to the inventory of machines that RCHS has. Dare we hope that another township cemeteries book is in the works for publishing? Maybe a members cookbook is on the agenda? Stay tuned for further information.

The old archives building has had a facelift. New siding was installed this past fall, and various minuscule repairs done at the same time.

Y2K. Is your computer system compliant? Don't know? If you are an internet surfer, you can go to the following URL, and do a few tests on your system and see what your system will do on January 1, 2000.

<http://www.zdnet.com/vlabs/y2k/whatisthetest.html>

The Ripley County Historical Society met October 11, 1998 in the RCHS library on court house square in Versailles.

The meeting was called to order, by President Alice McCoy. Everyone introduced themselves with name and township or city. Alice read the Secretary report that was in the newsletter that was put out in August. She explained that the newsletter was out in August instead of October so that people could be informed of the sale of the Volume I History Book.

Treasurers report was given by Bea Boyd of the accounts and book sales and money from the Tyson Fund, in the amount of \$500. President McCoy said we appreciate the money received from the Tyson Fund and also all donations made.

A grant from Eli Lily had been applied for. The application for the grant was done by Carolyn Hahn. It was reported we would receive \$57,000 to be used on the Museum building only. We would receive the money in November.

President Alice reported that the signs came in on 2 October. They have poles and bolts with them. The Hanging Tree sign will be placed at that site. Alan Smith had checked to see where the property was and who owned it. It was owned by the Cliff Hill cemetery so this is no problem. The sign was installed in November by Alice McCoy and Alan Smith. There are four signs for the Museum. They will be placed on the Manship farm on 421 between Osgood and Versailles by the Feeder Auction Barn and at Hoosier Hills corner. Two signs remain to be placed.

The By-Law committee asked for extra time since they had been busy with book sales.

President Alice reported on the Directors meeting.

Alan Smith said he would be chairman of the Building and Property committee. Carolyn Hahn will check with contractors on the Museum building.

The Bake Sale during the Pumpkin Show, headed by Betty Roepke, was reported on. The winner of the pillows from the raffle was Betty Bustle of Dabney. The winner of the Volume II History Book was Cheryl Welch of Correct.

Lori asked about purchasing newspapers on microfilm. This was postponed because the purchase of the reprint books had diminished the checking and savings accounts.

President McCoy read a letter from Helen Einhaus regarding the Ripley County Millennium Committee. Helen had attended the 7 October 1998 meeting, representing RCHS. Their next meeting would be on 28 October.

A suggestion was made by Fran Campbell regarding having a key available at the archives for the Museum in case one needs to get in with a patron. Kathleen Lane said Dan Goris has the key to put a lock on the front door of the museum. Charles Roepke says to put in a dead bolt lock.

Alice said we needed a director from Delaware and Franklin Townships. We also need a Secretary. Lori asked about the secretary being someone besides a director. Alice says unless the By-laws are changed it will not apply.

The meeting was turned over to Betty Roepke, Vice President and program director.

David Dreyer from Indianapolis, introduced his cousin Allan Sunman and wife Ann. Allan gave a quick version of his line. He is a direct descendent from William Sunman. George Sunman, a bookbinder, was his grandfather. Alan's father was born in 1893 and died young. Alan has four children. Arriving late were some Sunmans from Greenfield and Rushville. David Dreyer announced it was a Sunman reunion. Mary Hess from Cincinnati, related to the Sunmans, attended the meeting.

A program was given by Kevin Vinson from Sunman. He has restored Pipe Creek Cemetery in Adams Township. Richard Wortman was the first white man in the township to be buried there. He died 23 June 1850 at the age of 60. He was a Kentucky Volunteer in 1812. Many Clarks, Hazens and soldiers in the Civil War are buried there. Kevin became interested in restoring when he did his own home. He is now restoring the old Price Hotel. It contains a bar bought from Hudepohl in 1905 and is being preserved. George Price was a son-in-law to Schucks. Everyone enjoyed the pictures he had brought.

Also from a distance was Martha Binford from Louisville. Formerly of Holton she was the daughter of John Ward and wife, who was a Shockley. John Ward was druggist and Postmaster at Holton in the early 1900's. They moved to Indianapolis. Mrs. Ward is still living at the age of 103.

The meeting was dismissed and refreshments were served by Carolyn Hahn of Laughery Township.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone interested in the history of Ripley County and its preservation and is by calendar year. \$10.00 for new membership, \$5.00 renewal, Lifetime membership \$100.00. Membership includes this quarterly bulletin. Make remittances payable to Ripley County Historical Society and send to Mrs. Don Boyd, Treas., PO Box 83, Holton In 47023. Members may check the number(or word Life) following their name on the address side of this bulletin if in doubt of membership status. Suggestions and criticisms of our organization and quarterly bulletin are always welcome.

GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

As a service to readers of this bulletin who are also interested in genealogy we publish a limited number of queries in each issue. Please make them as concise as practical. Type-written copy preferred, but if handwritten make sure that names, dates and addresses are very legible. Please send all queries to Society Treasurer. Mrs. Don Boyd Po Box 83, Holton, In47023

OTTER VILLAGE CEMETERY

A grant is available for repair work in the Otter Village Cemetery. They need matching funds for the Grant.

Already some funds have been donated by persons with folks buried there.

Otter Village is the oldest cemetery in Center Township, Ripley County. It was in OtterCreek Twp until Center was formed, taking a part of 4 Townships. Otter Village was on the Old Michigan Road--The cemetery and church were located on the road west. There are several beautiful carvedstones, bearing the marking of Knapp.

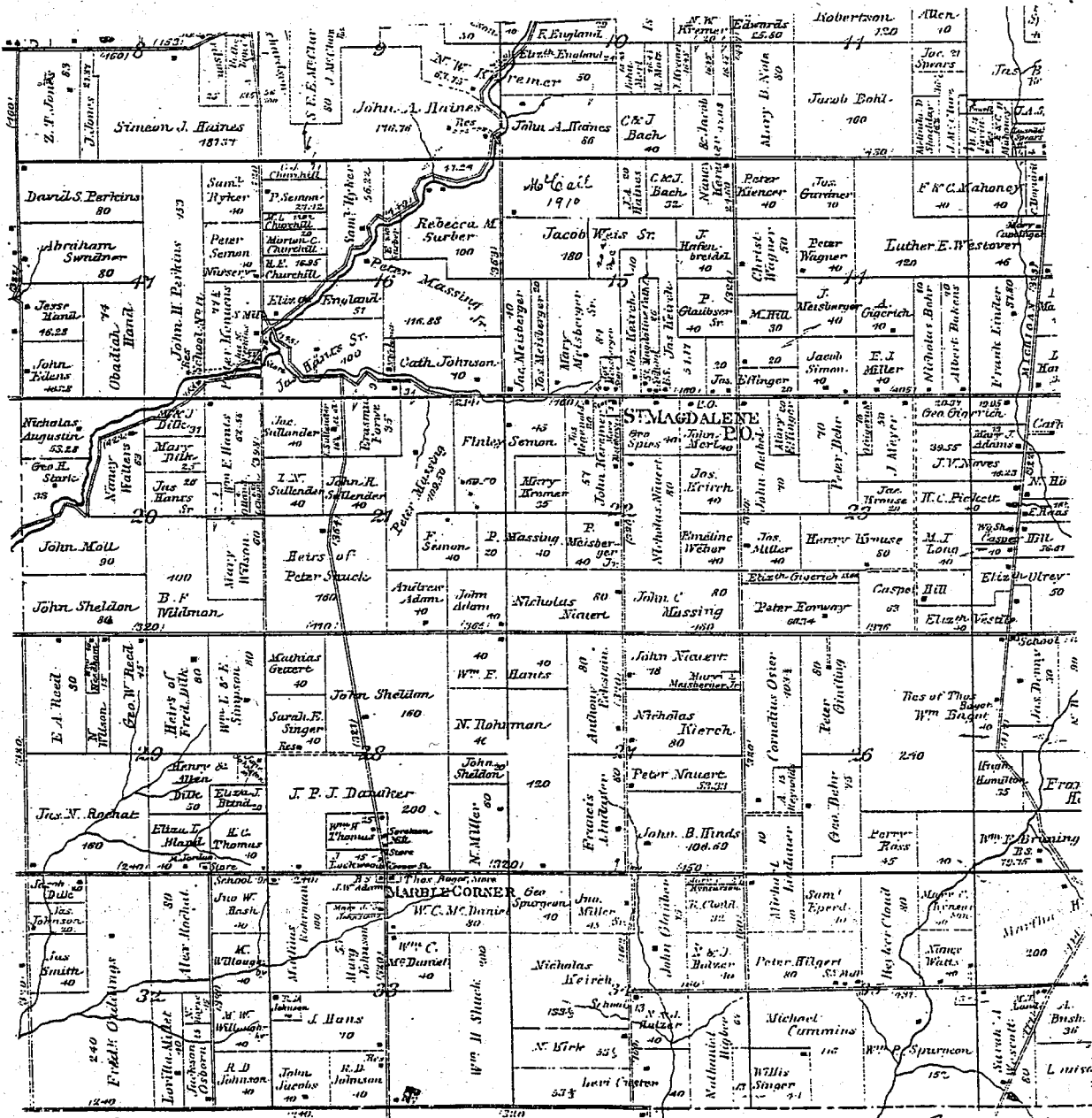
Andrews, Bostic, Conover, Edens, Fullmer, Gabelman, Hendrixson, Lakin, Martin, Newman, Peterman, Pickett, Ross, Ruby, Sparling, Strimple, Vanosdol, Williams and Young are some of names of persons buried there.

If you would like to help on this project send your check to Otter Village Cemetery Acc. Deadline Feb 1.

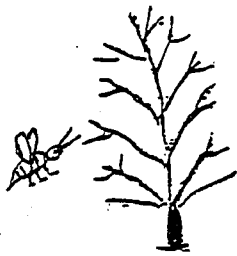
Attn, Kralls
4499 N. Michigan Rd
Osgood, In 47037

Happy New Year

Very old families of Shelby Township are the Tomases, Johnsons and Grishaws; ^{Thomas} Mrs. Thomas gave this concerning the "Corner". "Once upon a time it was rumored that marble was found in a valley in Jefferson County, Indiana, hence the valley where it was found was called Marble Valley. When people came into the southwestern part of Ripley County, they decided to call the little log school house where church was held the Marble Corner school and church because it was at the corner of Marble Valley. This old building was nearly a mile north the present little village of Marble Corner on the farm of Ed Rea. A second school was built where the present cemetery is, then the third school just across the road from the cemetery. The church was built east of the school in 1893, an M. E. Church. (Violet Iph record)



1892 map of Marble Corner (Now Jefferson County Grounds)



BUZZING' ROUND
your
FAMILY TREE
by
Bea

Just south of Nebraska, Indiana in Jennings county there is a cemetery. I have heard it called the Catholic Cemetery. I decided to check it out the other evening while on my way home. I jotted down some of the names of the ones buried there. There were several Leahighs, John b. 1803-1891 and his wife Bridget. Also Kiblers, Fallon, Doyle, Bergold, Hanlon, Lyster and Colemans. The cemetery is taken care of very well. It is right by the Proving Ground fence. It was rather a dumb thing to do, since it was the first day of Hunting season and that was not the best place to be. Since the October Bulletin was sent in August, I don't know if I am ahead or behind. We've had Pumpkin Show, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. So I hope your holidays were great. The R.C.H. S. Library stays open week days 1-4 with a different staff each day.

Smitty and Alice got the sign put up in the spot where the Hanging was and Smitty and Bill Dobson put up the museum signs in Designated spots. Perhaps now there will be more awareness of the Museum.

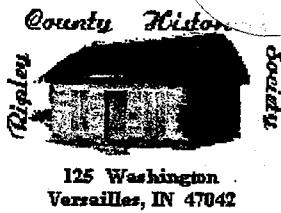
WCPO-TV, Cincinnati aired some scenes from Farmers Retreat. They told how the town's name was changed during the Civil War when Morgan came through Indiana the farmers all went to this secluded area. Hence--Farmers Retreat.

The 2nd printing of Volume I was a big success. Many took advantage of the special sale price of the set before October 1. Joan, Alice and Betty wrapped the books for mailing.

I saw in the paper where New Marion Memories published in 1994, report by Joan Haas Harmon that 653 books were sold. The committee would like to encourage other local school alumni to capture their school before it is lost. They were encouraged to do their book after reading Holton School Book. Carl Ebel was a big help on their book and the town lost a valued citizen. Carl was also a member of the R. C. H. S. The wreath was hung on the door of the Museum for him.

The Versailles Baptist Church Choirs presented a Patriotic Salute to honor the memory of Myron Kelly on August 31, 1998. This program was the planning and dream of Myron. He planned the program but passed away on Sept 4, 1997 before he could carry out his dream. It was given 7:00 p. m. just the way he planned, (Music was in charge of Mary M. Moorhead) to an overfilled church. Veterans of the County and other churches were recognized. In attendance was Mary, his widow, Son Robert, wife and Grandson. Magnificent!

I hope you are looking forward to a good 1999. It is always nice to think we have an opportunity to do better in the next year. Happy New Year.



OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

- 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
- Center Twp. - Mr. Norris Krall; 4499 N Old Michigan Rd, Osgood, IN 47037
- Delaware Twp. - To Be Filled
- Franklin Twp. - To Be Filled
- Jackson Twp. - Mrs. Kathryn Manship; 3378 W Co Rd 600 N, Osgood, IN 47037
- Johnson Twp. - Mr. Alan Smith; P.O. Box 414, Versailles, IN 47042
- Laughery Twp. - Mrs. Carolyn Hahn; 13403 N Delaware Rd, Batesville, IN 47006
- Otter Creek Twp. - Mrs. Donald Boyd; P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023
- Shelby Twp. - Mrs. Howard Lane; 7192 S Co Rd 400 W, Versailles, IN 47042
- Washington Twp. - Mr. Henry Walker; 5793 E Co Rd 200 N, Milan, IN 47031

V. President
President

Treasurer
Museum Curator

HONORARY

- Miss Mary Manship - 3378 W Co Rd 600 N, Osgood, IN 47037
- Lori Hoffman - Bulletin Editor & WebMaster

C. G. R. S.

**The Ripley County, Indiana
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