

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

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XIV

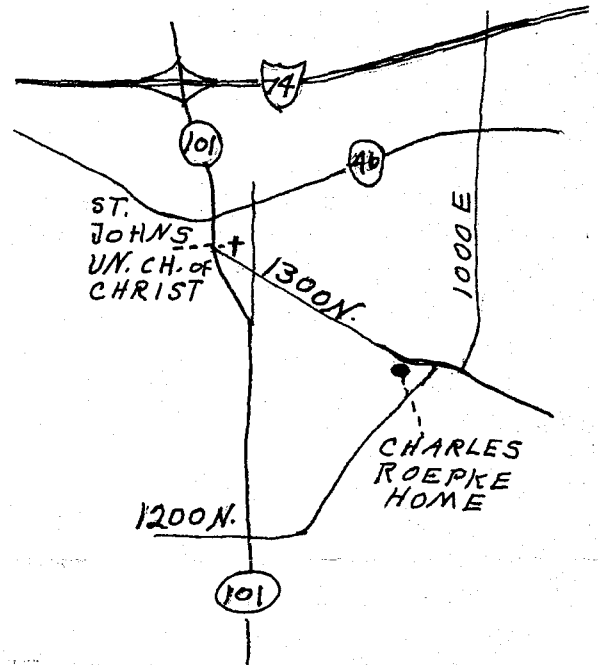
JULY 1990

NUMBER 3

THE R.C.H.S. MEETING TO BE NEAR SUNMAN

The summer meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society will be held at the home of Charles and Betty Roepke, S.E. of Penntown. If you go on 1300 N. their home is 9/10 of a mile from SR 101. If you go on 1200 N. it is 1.3 miles from SR 101 to their house. The meeting will be July 8 at 2 o'clock.

The program will be presented by Delbert Knudson, Ripley County Conservation Officer. He is a collector of Indian artifacts. This should be an interesting program. The public is always welcome at our meetings.



NOTES ON THE SPRING MEETING

The spring meeting was held at the home of Irmina Lower in Versailles on a beautiful day with a large crowd in attendance.

Pres. Chester Henderson opened the meeting by asking those present to introduce themselves. The minutes from the winter meeting were read and approved. Treas. Bea Boyd had a wonderful report. She said "Norris Krall has just given me a check for \$7259.83". This in payment for the members help with the Ripley Co. History Book. Everyone greatly appreciated this amount of money. Bea also explained the winters bills. She had a balance of \$1379 in the checking account.

A letter from Mrs. Dreyer (David Dreyer's mother) asked if the society would be willing to store some antique furniture (oak table, etc.) until a permanent home might be established. It was agreed.

Chester and several others have repaired the book shelves in the archives.

Alan Smith was in charge of the program. Everyone had been looking forward to his presentation. His slides covered a span of many years. From 1860 some pictures of buildings and homes from Versailles and surrounding areas, old pictures of the Versailles Pumpkin Show, Carl V. Smith's 1920 Cole 8 automobile was of great interest. Many memories were brought back to life as different ones would say "Oh, I know him or I remember that when it was ---"

At the close of the meeting Mrs. Lower served refreshments and showed many of her lovely antiques.

The following people were elected to serve as directors from the following townships: Franklin, Dr. William Glover; Johnson, Chester Henderson; Jackson, Phyllis Miller. The present officers volunteered to serve another year.

Bea Boyd will have the Archives open on Mondays from 1 to 6 o'clock during July and August.

The big Tulip Poplar in front of the museum had an abundance of beautiful blossoms this spring. Maybe it was trying to make up for those like ours that got frozen at the wrong time and had none and those that were destroyed by tornadoes, a tragic loss of priceless treasures.

#### FOR GENEALOGY SEARCHERS

When people come to the archives looking for genealogy information we invite them to fill out a file card stating the family they are researching and their own name and address. In this way we hope to put people in touch with others who are working on the same family lines, to their mutual benefit. We will print these names as room permits.

ABPLANAP, Peter & Magdalena  
by Randy Young  
R. 2, Box 366  
Osgood, IN 47037

BEHR, Mary Elizabeth  
by Norma Carolyn Haas Luke  
6141 Chickasaw Drive  
Olive Branch, MS 38654

ACTON, Wesley  
by Susan Acton  
P.O. Box 155  
Elizabethtown, IN 47232

BALDWIN, William Franklin  
by Randy Young  
R. 2, Box 366  
Osgood, IN 47037

ANDERSON, Merrit & Mary Ann  
Rubin & Rebecca  
by Dale E. Anderson  
515 Churchill-Hubbard Rd.  
Youngstown, OH 44505

BUCHANAN  
by Ruth Keith McComb  
554 Cedar Lane  
Lady Lake, Fla. 32659

AHRENS / HEINRICH  
FRUCHNICHT / JOHNCORT  
by Sally Widener  
212 N. Hunterville Rd.  
Batesville, IN 47006

BURTON, Hiram & Sibyl Dudley  
by Janice R. Burton  
3460 S. Russel Rd.  
New Berlin, WI 53151

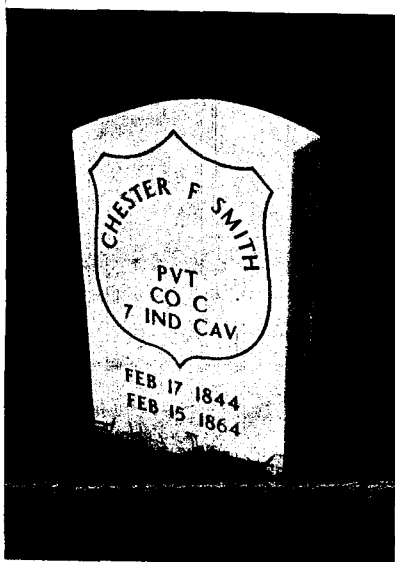
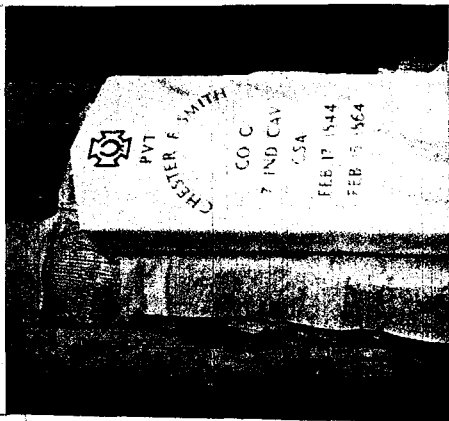
BENHAM  
by Sue Reager  
15 Sunshine Dr.  
Martinsville, IN 46151

BROWN, Absolum  
by Marian Hyatt  
14790 So. Ferguson  
Columbus, IN 47201

BARTHOLOMEW, James  
by Mrs. Jo Bartholomew  
9606 S. 700 E  
Lafayette, IN 47905

COLE, Shuble / Schuble  
by Lucille Summers  
1430 Camellia Dr.  
Munster, IN 46321

## CONCLUSION OF THE TOMBSTONE STORY



As we ended the last episode, Uncle Chester Smith's Confederate tombstone was setting on some fence posts in the lot and a Union stone had been ordered. We worried about the first stone; would they want it back?-- if so how could we wrap and ship it?

When we returned from visiting some of our kids this spring we found a card from a freight company in Cincinnati -- "Please call us." it said. It was nearly bed time so -- "We'll call them in the morning." The phone woke us at 7 A.M. I think they were worried about getting rid of it. It was delivered later that day and much to our relief, it was a UNION tombstone! Then came a day in May when it was dry enough to wade into the Smith Cemetery (on 200 N, about 1¼ miles E of SR 129). Doc Glover and Henry Walker (also related to Chester Smith) combined their talents and set the new stone in time for Memorial Day.

I wonder if the person who made the first tombstone flunked history and if he still had a job.

So finally, mission accomplished!  
Better 126 years late than not at all.

## GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

5 pages. Murray family group sheets

by Ruth A. Reaume, 68 Crocker, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

18 pages on history of Mathias Merl

by grandson John Mathias Louis

Map of Dearborn County Jan. '90

by Duane Pierce, 3221 Villa Vista Dr., Des Moines, IA

2 sheets on Collicott 1775 - 1986 June '90

from Betty Collicott, P.O. Box 253, Cozad, NE 69130

Highlights of Switzerland County History ca 1940

from Vevay Historical Soc., Tom Weaver

STEWART -- 2 pages

Stevens -- 23 pgs. family history, genealogy sheets and copied pictures.

We of the R.C.H.S. greatly miss Bo Susnick who left us last year. He has given programs and been helpful to the society on many occasions.

Jesse Beach of Greenbank, Whidbey Is., Washington was a member of our society. He died in May; was the brother of Bea Boyd and Mildred Cizek.

CHARTER MEMBERS OF DEC. 31, RIPLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ORGANIZED AT VERSAILLES INDIANA, JULY 14, 1921

Peter Holzer, Osgood	Perry N. Brown, Napoleon
Monta Royce, Versailles	May V. Wagner, Osgood
Chas. S. Royce, Versailles	Ethel McKittrick, Milan
Laura M. Breeden, Versailles	R.P. Lamb, Milan
Rowland H. Jackson, Versailles	Dr. Jess. W. McClure, Milan
Mrs. D.C. (Anna) Yater, Osgood	Dr. Verudo W. Bigney, Sunman
Mrs. G.G. Holman, Osgood	Mrs. Lizzie Bradt, Versailles
Violet E. Toph, Versailles	Mrs. Lizzie Ellerman, Versailles
Grace A. Robinson, Versailles	Albert B. Wycoff, Batesville
Fannie W. Holman, Osgood	Herman Wanning, Batesville
Pearl D. Roberts, Osgood	August Bloemer, Batesville
Louis A. Bruns, Sunman	Mrs. D.W. Miller, Terre Haute
Florence Olmsted Wilson M.D. Versailles	Mrs. A.D. Cook, Lawrenceburg
Clara B. Jones, Osgood	Mrs. Emma King Benham, Benham
Jos. A. Harsmer, Versailles	Carl Wood, Indianapolis
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Daniel K. Marsh, Versailles	Mrs. Kathryn Bruns, Sunman
Wm. D. Robinson, Versailles	Henry Price, Sunman
M. F. Bohland, Batesville	John Beer, Sunman
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Mrs. Luella Batby, Osgood	Mrs. Elizabeth Cowles, Sunman
Harry W. Thompson, Versailles	Mrs. Matilda Shuck, Sunman
Mrs. Dorcas M. Krick, Milan	Chas. Wesler, Batesville
	Leonard Beer, Sunman

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

CORRECTION from the April issue (with apology from the typist)

Query: When (between 11 Sep. 1850 and 26 June 1860, census dates) did Henry SCUDDER die in Laughery Twp., Ripley Co? When (before 5 Feb. 1846) where did first wife Catharine CROWELL die? IN or OH?

Miss Janet Jordan Bitler, 449 Commercial St., Weymouth, MA 02188-3724

Query: Want info on grandmother McCoy's family line. My grandfather Robert W. McCOY's 2nd wife Lutitia (Letitia) SCOTHORN b. 28 June 1843, d. 9 Mar 1884, m. 21 Oct 1865. Her parents; Isaac SCOTHORN b. PA c. 1805 and Elizabeth b. Del. c. 1800, according to the 1850 census records. Their children: George D., Nancy, Sarah, Elias, Elizabeth, all born in PA, Mary A. and Lutitia both born in IN. Also info on Levi HOUSE and Moses LUTZ. Are there descendants of these families still in Ripley County? I have a picture of my great-grandfather Aaron Lines MAXWELL. I am interested in contacting any family members to exchange information and pictures.

William C. McCoy, Rt. 6, Box 274, Hardy, AR 72542 Tel. 501-856-2389

Query: Seek info on Lousia KOTTERMAN b. 1820 in Prussia. Was she first wife of Heinrich STAPELKEMPER who lived Batesville? Did any siblings of either come to America?

Query: Searching for any descendants of or info on WORST/WURST/WERST families of Dearborn Co. and surrounding area. Martin b. 1800-1810, Francis, Henry, Mary Ann m. Jacob STRALEY 1831, Peter m. Susanna HAMERLE in 1843. Who were children? Who did first 3 marry? How are Peter and Andrew related to others? Where is Malachi buried? When? Some lived near New Alsace. Anything about them appreciated.

Midge Clutter, 120 Holland Ct., Creve Cour, IL 61611

Query: Would like to contact descs. of three of my great great aunts who came from Prussia to Ripley Co. in 1847. Margaret "Gretel" MERL, b. 1828, m. Michael, 8 Jan 1851, Gertrude MERL m. Mr. Klein, Magdalen MERL m. August UTZ. I am desc. from their brother, John MERL. (UTZ; James A. and Jackson E.; farmers, Milan, Washington Twp. 1880)

John M. Louis, 940-D Monterrey Court, Crown Point, IN 46307

Query: I am seeking the names of the parents of Lydia WALTON b. 1827 in IN. Lydia m. Laurentine BARTLETT in 1842 in Ripley Co. They lived in Dearborn, Monroe and Brown Cos. Lydia d. 9 Feb 1903 in Brown Co. In 1839 Sydia WALTON, along with Andrew and Fannie Walton bought land in Ripley Co. How was Lydia related to Andrew and Fannie?

Query: I am seeking the names of the parents of David BARTLETT b. NY 1808 who lived in Ripley Co. from 1833 - late 1850's. Some of David's siblings (Laurentine and Lucy) lived in David's household. David and his second wife Susan moved to Atchison Co., MO. David d. late in 1870.

Query: What happened to Lucy BARTLETT PHELPS who m/2 to Thomas GUION of Ripley Co. in 1842? Lucy's first husband Abner PHELPS d. in Ripley Co. Lucy was the sister of David BARTLET.

Glenda Knipstein, 11900 Oak Trail, Austin, TX 78753 (512) 836-6644

The GRAUE Family 1750 - 1980, lineage of John Henry Graue; hardback book containing 354 pages, index, 30 photos. Cost \$25.00 including postage and handling.

Norman Peters, Box 21117, Washington, DC 20009

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525

Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1991 meeting.

ADAMS Twp; Mrs. Charles Roepke, R. 3, Sunman, IN 47041  
BROWN Twp; Mrs. Alice McCoy, R. 1, Versailles, IN 47042 SEC.  
CENTER Twp; Mrs. George Cizek, 433 S. Buckeye, Osgood, IN 47037 V. PRES.  
DELAWARE Twp; Mrs. Grace Dunbar, R. 3, Osgood, IN 47037  
FRANKLIN Twp; Dr. William F. Glover, R.R. 2, Box 25, Milan, IN 47031  
JACKSON Twp; Mrs. Phyllis Miller, P.O. Box 22, Napoleon, IN 47034  
JOHNSON Twp; Mr. Chester Henderson, R. 1, Dillsboro, IN 47018 PRES.  
LAUGHERY Twp; Mrs. Carolyn Hahn, R. 4, Box 268, Batesville, IN 47006  
OTTER CREEK Twp; Mrs. Donald Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023 TREAS.  
SHELBY Twp; Mrs. Howard Lane, R. 2, Versailles, IN 47042 MUSEUM CURATOR  
WASHINGTON Twp; Mr. Myron Kelly, R. 1, Dillsboro, IN 47018  
Miss Mary Manship C.G.R.S. R. 3, Box 87, Osgood, IN 47037  
Mrs. Alice Glover, R.R. 2, Box 25, Milan, IN 47031 BULLETIN EDITOR

The Ripley County, Indiana  
Historical Society, Inc.  
Box 525  
Versailles, Indiana 47042

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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1989  
RICK FLEDDERMAN  
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BATESVILLE, IN 47006