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

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Dersailles, Indians 47042

VOLUME XVI

,

- -

10

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 a specold records from the Courthouse. They will also check about used furniture that is up for sale.

are are

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 Coounty Historical Society. Occupant of the grave was 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 grand-children. 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 httplistedein 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 & arawer) 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

Crates Stephen Johnson, A.B., Minister, 757 Shelby St., Indianapolis, Ind. Preston S. Hyde, A. B., A. M., Missionary, Lucknow, India. Richard N. Hargitt, B. S., Supt. Schools, Cochran, Ind. Lonis Ross, A. B., Supt. Schools, Metamora, Ind. Joel P. Davis, A. B., Bookkeeper, Ashland, Wis. Leora Leona Jones, B. S., Indianapolis, Ind. Hortense Martin, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind. rene Martin, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind.

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

Joel C. Walker, A. B., Minister, Enterprise, Oregon Hill, Ind.

Agnes Wilson, A. B., Teacher, Greensburg, Ind. 1900.

Samuel J. Copeland, A. B., Teacher in New Orleans University, New Laura D. Askin, A. B., Forest Hill, Ind. Orleans, La.

Howard Elbert Robertson, B. S., Student in Boston University, Boston, Albert H. Green, B. S., Bookkeeper, Buffalo, N. Y.

Birna R. Smith, A. B., Student in Medical College, Louisville, Ky Frank B. Ward, A. B., Minister, Sardinia, Ind. J. Ratcliff Willey, B. S., Farmer, Sharptown, Ind. Florence Mary Sargent, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind. Eleanor M. Robertson, A. B., Deputy, Ind. Massachusetts.

Student in Boston University, Boston, Mass. Victor B. Hargitt, Ph. B., Minister, Sugar Branch, 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. Florence Belle Barclay, B. S., Teacher, Sparta, Ind. Anna Clark Bennett, Ph. B., Shelbyville, Ind. Roscoe H. Martin, A. B., Moores Hill, Ind. Lucy Pelsor Ross, A. B., Metamora, Ind. Edwin H. Boldrey, B. S.,

MIOORES HILL COLLEGE.

Graduates in Music.

Edith Spencer, Nurse, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Lanra E. Jenninga, Teacher in Music, Greenfield Schools, Indiana. Anna Johnson Meeds, Birmingham, Alabama.

Edna Shook Shockley, East St. Louis, Illinois

Illinois

Alta Blackmore, Typoher in Music,

Hattie George Willey, Sharptown, Indiana. Louise Goddard, Ciney, Illinois.

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

"grandmany 1900s to complete this series. I hope to find a source for and known of them would be in our parent" generation our readers. post Many O.F



It is that time again. I will swim to the surface and start to write. Remember the pens that were advertised to write underwater? This would have been the ideal time to have a good supply of them. Here it is the last day of June and almost 9:00 P.M. I can see the lights of the tractors in the field trying to finish up their planting.

Our News Editor, Alice Glover and Husband Dr. Bill, Director from Franklin Township celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss with open house at the Milan Elementary School last Saturday June 22. It was a great day for them with their family all present. Daughters, Edith and Angie and Son Fred. Many friends were there to celebrate with them.

The Osgood Alumni had a big crowd this year. It was their 55th. Two members of the 1926 class were present. Margueritte Risk Winters and Walter Fruechenicht. Leah Laswell was present from the class of 1921, her 75th year. Leah was also a teacher.

Holton-High School held their alumni at South Ripley elementary school. Lucille Williams was from class of 1926. Wilbur Lane and Leslie Fox represented their class of 1927. Wilbur received a Holton H.S. T. Shirt for the eldest in attendance. This was given by Wilbur Myers. Cross Plains held their alumni same night across the road in the High School and we all ended up going home in a thunderstorm. Just what we all needed more rain!

Since the genealogy part of the Historical Society has been moved to the old Versailles Bank Building on the square, we have been starting to stay open there every day from 1 to 4 PM. As the staff builds up it will become easier. The workers are all volunteers. The big move was made in one day—so now it's where was it—where is it now? The Museum is still open week-ends Sat & Sun 2:30 to 4:30.

I must tell you a little something about the dedication of the Ripley Co Veterans memorial which was mentioned in our last bulletin. It took place May 27th. No one ordered rain but it showed up. Parts of the service had to be cancelled but it was a most impressive memorial service. Mrs. Alan Franklin shared her umbrella with me. The rain did not seem to dampen any spirits of the day. We stood under the poplar tree, beautiful with its blossoms, as Judge Carl Taul welcomed us all and hoped he had not left out any distinguished guests since the program had been organized, reorganized, organized and reorganized about four times that morning. Thank the Lord that it stopped raining at program time and the crowded courthouse corridor emptied out. It would never have held the crowd. The biggest round of applause was for, Harold Hopkins, Veterans Officer as Project coordinator. The Hog Roast was held at the Firehouse instead of Courthouse yard as planned.

There are still available bricks if you wish to have your veteran included. The cost is \$40.00. You can obtain information from Ripley County Memorial Fund, PO Box 185, Versailles, In 47042

Hooray and about time! A contract for roof on the Covered Bridge over Otter Creek was awarded to Terry LaBolt. The bids were let at the Commissioners Meeting on May 7. 8 years of promises and finally something is being done.

I will miss being a V. I. D. (Very Important Digger) for the ground breaking for the new IHS Building on July 13. David Dreyer has consented to fill in for me to represent Ripley County. Thanks, David!

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.
SHELBY Twp.; Mrs. Howard Lane, 7192 S Co Rd 400 W, Versailles, IN 47042 MUSEUM CUR.
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

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 17
Versailles, IN
47042