

The Quarterly Bulletin
Ripley County, Indiana, Historical Society, Inc.
Library – 125 Washington Street
Museum – Corner of Main and Water Streets
Versailles, Indiana 47042

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▲ The Ripley Co. Historical Society will meet Sunday, January 12, at 2:00 at the Archive Library on the West side of Versailles Courthouse Square. The program for our next meeting will be given by Betty Roepke, on (It will be a surprise). Refreshments will be provided by Shelby Twp. members, Cheryl Welch & Sandra Meisberger.

▲ Research \$5.00 for non-members and all mailed requests, and \$.50 per page copied for everyone.

▲ The WWII War Veterans book, titled LEST WE FORGET, is still available. It can be obtained for \$35 at (1) Batesville Historical Society which is located on George Street next to the Post Office, (2) the Osgood Museum on South Buckeye Street (on Friday or Saturday afternoons) or in Versailles at the Ripley County Historical Society Library on the west side of the Courthouse Square (open every week-day afternoon from 1 to 4). Also, LEST WE FORGET can be ordered for shipment by mail for \$40. Checks should be made payable to Ripley County Historical Society. We give our heartfelt thanks to Joan and Norris Krall.

▲ Members that are willing to receive the newsletter via email, some will also have postal mailing. The email for sending your request is printed above.

▲ A new book has been donated to the RCHSL by Lyle C. Bultman, Naples, Florida. The title is "From Germany To Indiana, The Ancestors and Descendants of Oliver W. Bultman and Edna B. (Hoyer) Bultman." If anyone is interested in getting a copy can contact Lyle C. Bultman by phone: 239-682-7316, or by email: lyleaki@yahoo.com.

The RCHS Archives Library is open for public research weekdays 1 – 4 pm, except holidays, Pumpkin Show week, also the week before and between Christmas and New Year. The Library will also be closed during inclement weather. **NOTICE:** The Museum will be open on Sunday Afternoons 2-4 p.m. through Labor Day & on Pumpkin Show Saturday Sep. 28th. Questions call 812-689-3031. **NOTICE:** 2014 Yearly Dues are due in January 2014. Mail your renewal for 2014 to RCHS at P.O. Box 525, Versailles, IN 47042 Dues: Annual \$15; Life \$150.

THE FOLLOWING BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE:

<i>Ripley County History, Volume 1</i>	\$65	<i>Versailles, IN School Life 1818-1966</i>	\$ 20
<i>Brown Twp. Tales</i> by Alan Smith	20	<i>Osgood, IN Sesquicentennial 1856-2006</i>	17
<i>Tales of Versailles</i> by Alan Smith	16	<i>Vintage Postcards</i> by Alan Smith	20
<i>Jackson Township Cemetery Index</i>	13	<i>Johnson Township Cemetery Index</i>	10
<i>Milan, Indiana, A Storied Past</i>	16	<i>Lest We Forget WWII</i>	35
<i>Broken Wings</i> , By Robert Kelly	20	<i>Assorted Jefferson Proving Ground Books</i>	
Shipping Charges added for all books	5		

Ripley County Historical Society Minutes
October 13, 2013

The autumn quarterly meeting, held at the Society's Archives building on October 13, 2013, was called to order by President Cheryl Welch at 2:00 p.m. Cheryl led the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes of the summer quarterly meeting, prepared by Director-At-Large, Sandra Meisberger, were read by Secretary Frank Keenan, and approved as read. Treasurer Menchhofer's report was distributed by President Welch and unanimously approved.

President Welch reported that the Society's asset of Walmart stock was initially issued in Norris Krall's name. Inquiries made concerning transferring said stock into the Society's name revealed that the brokerage and/or attorney fees involved would be costly and that such costs would diminish the value of this asset. Accordingly, the Society has cashed in the stock, receiving \$18,512.00. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to authorize Treasurer Menchhofer to invest the cash-out in a safe investment. (In the past the Society has typically invested cash assets into "certificates of deposit" from reputable institutions paying competitive rates of interest. Also noted is the fact that certificates of deposit are typically short term, ranging from mere months up to two years, after which they must either be renewed or cashed-out. Thus, should the Treasurer initially select a short term certificate of deposit, his decision to renew it would entail a review of the continuing competitiveness of the rate at that time being provided.)

Cheryl reported that it appears that powder post beetles are attacking the Society's log cabin. Frank Keenan stated that he would check with Perma-Chink in Noblesville and see if they could be treated with borate and applied by Society volunteers. Mike Stratton reported that some of the newly-installed historical markers have been vandalized, one of which cannot be repaired. Mike suggested that we might want to revisit the idea of the Society's offering a modest reward for information leading to the perpetrators. Cheryl reported that she and Delbert Abplanalp visited the Osgood Museum recently and presented a program on the "Osgood Connections" to the mid-nineteenth century criminal gangs in the County. Osgood presented the Society a check for \$75.00 for Delbert's program. President Welch reported that Joanne Krall has suggested that the Society give a couple of free copies of the Krall's WWII County Veterans book to the American Legion and other veteran groups in the County, and to the county schools libraries as well. Additionally, Lyle Boatman has requested that the Society gift a copy of the Ripley County History book to John Boatman. A motion was made and passed to do so.

Following the meeting the program was presented by Sheriff's Deputy Kindel Hankins concerning the "American Youth Outreach Unlimited" program that he runs in Ripley County. This group reaches out to students in the county schools, who following interviews and a written essay, are chosen to participate in an all-expense-paid visit to Yellowstone National Park. Kindel related how greatly the kids enjoy it; how it broadens their horizon and enhances their people skills and self-confidence; and give them a great sense of wonder and awe for the physical and spiritual beauty of nature. Following the program given by Jim Waldo on American Youth Unlimited, refreshments were provided by Washington Twp. members.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Keenan
Secretary



RIPLEY COUNTY DEER POPULATION IS AN ASSET

By Tom Krumm

Ripley County was a popular hunting area for many years before Indiana became a state in 1816. Several Indian tribes came to our county from the states of Ohio and Wisconsin to get deer and other wildlife to meet their needs. Visiting Frenchmen would supply the Indians with muzzle loaders and jewelry in exchange for furs and deer hides, which became a popular clothing material for settlers on the frontier.

Ripley County became a destination for white men beginning in 1809 when the Buchanan family acquired some land on the Southern border. Ripley County had a population of 1,822 white men in 1820. White tail deer provided both clothing and meat needs for both the white men and Indian hunters. The white population grew to 20,977 by 1860, and then remained level until 1970. Our county has grown to 28,000 today. White settlers cleared much of the land and became farmers. They did not hesitate to hunt deer to supply some of their food and clothing needs. There were no hunting rules in effect to protect the deer in our county.

The deer population was completely gone in 1930. Six hundred deer had to be imported from Michigan in 1934 to begin a new deer population. Strict hunting rules were created and enforced to protect the deer. When I was a kid in 1956, my Dad had to drive us 450 miles North so we could go out and see deer in the fields in upper Michigan. The Indiana deer population gradually increased to 5,000 in Indiana by 1960. By 1991, the population of deer had increased to 350,000. Last year, 134,004 were harvested (11 deer per square mile) in the state of Indiana.

Deer hunting has now become a major attraction in our county. Hunters rent land in the fall so they can sit in a tree and hunt them. Today, there are now over 4 deer available per licensed hunter. The total U.S. population of white tail deer now exceeds 32 million, which is an increase of 800% since 1950. The turkey population is now over 8 million and they help keep hunters interested in visiting us more than once a year.

Over 40% of the business at our local body shops can be traced to damage caused by deer. There are several meat processing businesses that enjoy a good portion of business butchering deer. Several hunting supply shops sell the ammunition and guns needed to harvest deer. If you call the police after hitting a deer, you can provide meat to the needy.

Deer are a low overhead asset. They are willing to live under trees out in the open, and they do not require medical care or rent assistance. Their kids don't go to school. They do have on bad habit; they like to eat corn, beans, garden produce in the fall; but they provide fertilizer at no charge.

Overall, I think Ripley County citizens receive more from deer than we give them. I'm sure glad someone was smart enough to re-establish the deer population in Ripley County.

County, Indiana, Historical

Ripley



Society

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

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Brown Twp. - Mr. Frank Keenan, 3241 E State Rd 62, Cross Plains, IN 47017	Secretary
Center Twp. - Mr. Charles Wm. Gloyd, P.O. Box 195, Osgood, IN 47037	
Delaware Twp. - Mrs. Lois Workman; 4823 N Co Rd 350 E, Osgood, IN 47037	
Franklin Twp. – Mr. Fred Glover, 5611 E Co Rd 300 N, Milan, IN 47031	
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Lori Hoffman; 5565 E. Lower Dry Fork Rd. Madison, IN 47250	Web Master
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