

The Quarterly Bulletin
RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
Library – 125 Washington Street
Museum – Corner of Main and Water Streets
Versailles, Indiana 47042

www.rchslib.org

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July 2021

HAPPY SUMMER!!

Number 3

▲ **July Quarterly Meeting**

Our next meeting will be held July 11, 2021 at the Ripley County Historical Archives. The meeting will begin at 2:00 pm. Refreshments of icecream and cookies will be served. We look forward to seeing you in person. Masks are optional.

▲ **Library Hours**



NOTICE: The library is now open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 1 pm-4 pm. For those not able to visit us in person, email your requests for information to staff@rchslib.org or regular mail to P O Box 525 Versailles, IN 47042. We look forward to serving your research needs.

NOTICE: The Museum is open by appointment only. To schedule an appointment call Cheryl Welch, President 812-621-0418, Duane Drockelman, Vice President 812-852-1313 or Barbara Eades, Director at Large 812-701-9238.



▲ **Annual Dues**

Remember to renew your membership for another year. 2021 Yearly Dues were due in January. Mail your renewal for 2021 to RCHS at P.O. Box 525, Versailles, IN 47042 Dues: Annual \$15; Life \$150.

▲ **Research**

Research is free to all members and \$7.00 for non-members. Copies/scans are \$1.00 per page for everyone and can be sent via email or in paper form. To take pictures of copies a \$2.00 charge will be taken. Please make your research requests via email or regular mail.

▲ **Volunteers Needed**

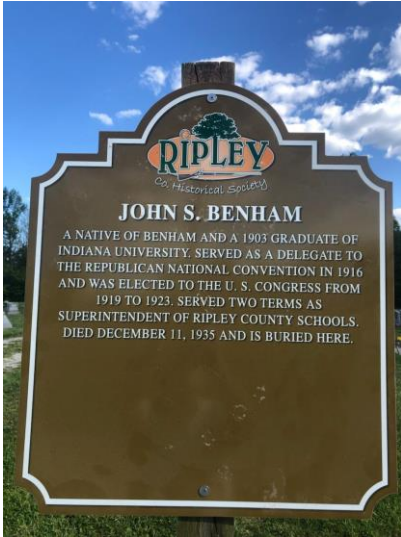
We are looking for volunteers to donate 3 hours of their time one day a week, Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. If you live in Delaware Township, please consider volunteering to be a director from your township. Contact Cheryl Welch if you are interested in filling any of these positions.

▲ **Books**

See our list of books available listed on the last page of this newsletter. The WWII War Veterans Book, titled *LEST WE FORGET* by Joan and Norris Krall is still available. It can be obtained for \$25 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 (3) 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). Checks should be made payable to Ripley County Historical Society. Books may be shipped for a \$7.50 shipping and handling fee.

DIRECTORS

Delaware Township has an open position for Director. If you are interested in serving your community through the Historical Society, please contact Cheryl Welch, President.



HISTORICAL MARKERS

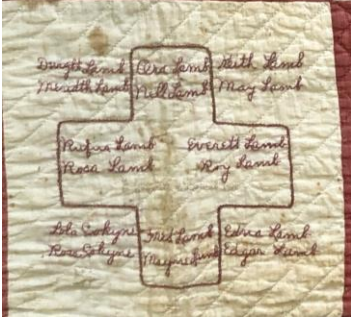
RCHS members Owen Menchhofer and Mike Stratton finished installing 10 replacement plus one new local historical marker. Over 40 of these are located throughout the county highlighting particular people and events throughout all eleven townships. The historical marker program was begun by former county historian Helen Einhaus back in 2008. The replacement markers were made by the Heitz Sign Company in Madison and paid for through a gift to RCHS by the Lanny Copeland family. The John Benham marker pictured above is located at the entrance of the Benham Cemetery.

WE PAY TRIBUTE

Dorothy F. Abplanalp, 90, of Napoleon passed away at 1:30am, Thursday, June 24, 2021 at the Manderley Health Care Center in Osgood. She was born near Osgood on May 3, 1931 the daughter of Raymond and Jennie Follmer Butt. She was married to Delbert Abplanalp on February 6, 1954 and her husband of 67 years survives. Other survivors include two sons, Roger (Dee) Abplanalp of Osgood and Larry (Brenda) Abplanalp of Napoleon; one daughter Peggy Abplanalp of Indianapolis; two grandchildren Joe (Linsey) Abplanalp of Greensburg and Chelsea Abplanalp of Aurora; one great-grandson Xander Abplanalp; one brother Ray (Doris) Butt of Batesville; Mrs. Abplanalp was a 1949 graduate of Napoleon High School. Her working career spanned several years where she had employment with Griner's Grocery in Napoleon, Dr. George S. Row in Osgood, and the Napoleon Lumber Company. Dorothy gave much time back to the community which involved her being secretary of the Brunner-Lamb School District Flower Club, cataloging burials for the St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Napoleon, genealogist for the Bultman Reunion, and placing flags for the veteran graves at St. John Cemetery. Dorothy helped compile information for books available at the Ripely County Historical Society. Her cherry pie was legendary and she enjoyed preparing birthday and holiday meals for her family. She also enjoyed reading and gardening. Dorothy was a lifetime member of the St. John Lutheran Church in Napoleon where she taught Sunday school for several years. She attended the St. Paul Lutheran Church at Smyrna and was also a member of the Ripley County Historical Society and the Osgood Historical Museum. Funeral services were held on Monday, June 28th at Stratton-Karsteter Funeral Home in Versailles with Doug Brougher officiating. Burial was in the St. John Lutheran Cemetery at Napoleon. Memorials may be given to the Alzheimer's Association or the St. John Cemetery in care of the funeral home.



SIGNATURE QUILTS

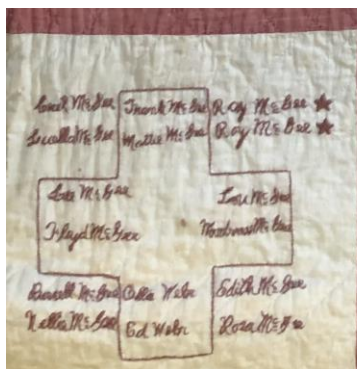


Quilts that have signatures on them date back to the mid-1800s. At that time in history, people were spreading out across the United States, and these quilts were valued reminders of family and friends that had remained behind. Because these quilts were treasured keepsakes, many of them received special care and are still in good condition today.

Fundraising quilts were signature quilts made specifically to raise money for a particular political point of view, organization, charity, and often for a church doing missionary work. For a small contribution (sometimes a dime), an individual or family name would be applied to a block and added to the quilt. Fundraising quilts are easily recognized, because they often contain large number of signatures. Due to the sheer number, sometimes the signatures are the only design elements on the quilts.

The Ripley County Historical Society Muesum has no less than three signature quilts. This month we are featuring a quilt made following WWI purchased by George Sparling of Osgood, IN for \$25 and was donated to the Ripley County Historical Society Museum. Names were embroidered for 10¢ with the proceeds being donated to the Red Cross.

Ripley County names are from Cross Plains, Elrod, Milan, Osgood, and Versailles as well as names from Bennington, Fairview and Patriot in Switzerland County, Jefferson County, Elwood, IN and Harris, IL. Veterans are marked with red, silver or gold stars. Gold stard lost their life while serving. Fifteen war mothers are included in the names. Can you find your family name on this quilt? This quilt will be on display during the quarterly meeting held July 11 at 2:00 pm. To see this and other items in the Ripley County Historical Museum, call 812-689-3031 to make an appointment.

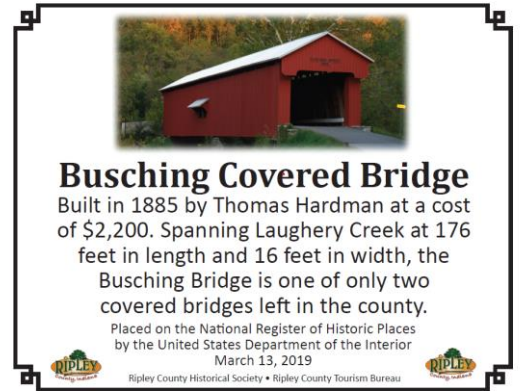




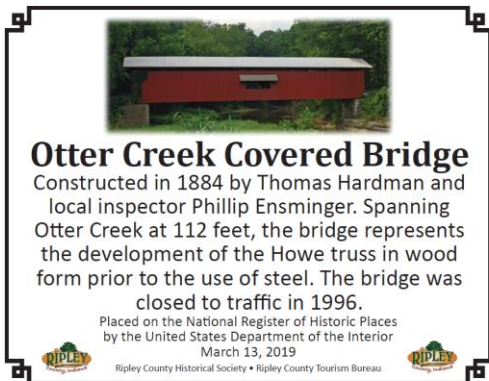


HISTORIC BRIDGE SIGNS DEDICATED

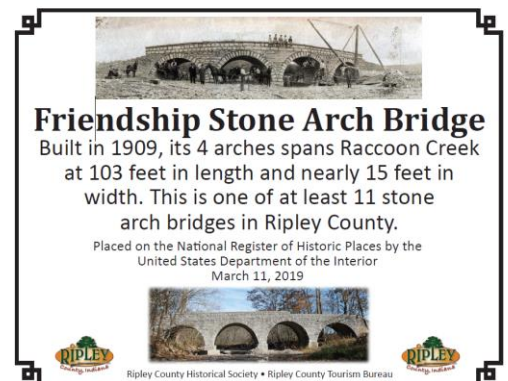
Three bridges in Ripely County entered in the National Registry of Historic Places March 2019 were recently dedicated with signs. Many thanks to Terry Trowbridge, Ripley County Tourism Director, Kathrine Taul, and Mike Stratton, County Historian.



Busching Bridge located at Versailles State Park entrance.



Otter Creek Covered Bridge located about 1½ miles northwest of Holton.



Friendship Stone Arch Bridge located on Olean Road near Friendship.

BOOKS FOR SALE

A Century of Schools	by Alan Smith	\$20.00
Adams Township Cemetery Directory		\$10.00
Broken Wings	by Robert Kelly	\$20.00
Brown Township Cemetery Records		\$10.00
Brown Township Tales	by Alan Smith	\$20.00
History of Adams Township	by Harold Freeland	\$20.00
Historic Travel Guide to Ripley County	by Paul R Wonnig	\$20.00
In These First Bright Days of Elvis Book I	by Josephine Rascoe Keenan	\$16.00
In Those Dazzling Days of Elvis Book II	by Josephine Rascoe Keenan	\$16.00
In Those Glory Days of Elvis Book III	by Josephine Rascoe Keenan	\$16.00
Jackson Township Cemetery Records		\$13.00
Johnson Township Cemetery Records		\$10.00
Lest We Forget a Tribute to the World War II Veterans of Ripley County		
	by Norris & Joan Krall	\$25.00
Milan, Indiana: A Storied Past 1854-2004		\$16.00
Napoleon & Vicinity Sesquicentennial 1820-1970		\$12.00
Old Timbers	by Chilton Thompson	\$23.00
Osgood Indiana Sesquicentennial 1856-2006		\$17.00
Passing Point	by Don Morrison	\$ 8.00
Revolutionary War Soldiers and Patriots with Ties to Ripley County Indiana		
	by Marlene Jan McDerment	\$34.00
Ripley County, IN Vintage Post Cards	by Alan Smith	\$20.00
Ripley County History Volume I		\$65.00
Ripley County History Volume II	(Paperback)	\$25.00
Passing Point	by Don Morrison	\$ 8.00
Story of the Bra Fund, the F. Hale Bradt Family and their Versailles, Indiana Farm 1906 – 2001		n/c
Sugar Branch #1	by Don Morrison	\$16.00
The Dark Line #2	by Don Morrison	\$20.00
Come Safe Home #3	by Don Morrison	\$20.00
Tales of Versailles	by Alan Smith	\$16.00
Versailles, Indiana School Life 1818 -1966	by Alan Smith	\$20.00
Wilbur's War (Abridged)	by Hale Bradt	\$15.00

New Reference Book – *The Cades Cove Story* by Randolph Shields (Cades Cove, TN). Includes Cades Cove Land Grants, Land Sales Report, Burchfield Store Records 1911-1912. Thanks to Donna Linville for donating this book.

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