

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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July 2023

HAPPY 4th of July

Number 3

▲ **July Quarterly Meeting**

Our next meeting will be held July 9, 2023 at the Ripley County Historical Archive. The meeting will begin at 2:00 pm. Refreshments will served by Jackson Twp. & others. Join us for our Ice Cream social. We look forward to seeing you in person.

▲ **Library Hours**



NOTICE: The library is 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 rchslib@gmail.com 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, Secretary 812-701-9238.



▲ **Annual Dues**

Remember to renew your membership for another year. 2023 Yearly Dues were due in January. Mail your renewal for 2023 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, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Contact Cheryl Welch if you are interested in volunteering.

▲ **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 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 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.

Notices and events:

Main Street Versailles dedicated the Holdsworth Entertainment Pavilion on June 3. The pavilion honors Mr. & Mrs. Holdsworth for their dedication to our students, schools, and community. It was a great night of celebration and music.

The pocket park area has sidewalks, benches, picnic tables, bike racks, pergola and swings, and public restrooms.

Many events have been held since the dedication. Follow Main Street Versailles on Facebook for the latest events.

July 1 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

July 4 – Historical Society Closed

July 8 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

July 15 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

July 22 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

July 29 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

July 29 – Taste of Versailles – Legionfest, 119 S Washington Street, Versailles 11:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

July 29 - Ripley County Historical Society Museum open 11: a.m. – 4: p.m.

August 5 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

August 12 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

August 19 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

August 26 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

September 2 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

September 4 - Historical Society Closed

September 9 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

September 16 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

September 22-24 – Hosmer Fest, Versailles State Park

September 23 – Market on the Square, Versailles 9 a.m. - noon

September 27 – October 1 – Versailles Pumpkin Show, on the square

November 11 – Tri Kappa Winter Wonderland Art & Crafts Bazaar, South Ripley Elementary School, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

If your community has an upcoming event you would like mentioned in our September newsletter, contact us at rchslib@gmail.com before August 15, 2023.

RIPLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES

The Ripley County Historical Society held their quarterly meeting March 26, 2023 at the archives. Eleven members were present.

President Cheryl Welch called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Barbara Eades read the minutes from the last meeting. They were approved as read.

Owen Menchhofer presented the treasurers report. It was approved as presented.

Old Business:

- Barbara Eades gave a report of the painting quote. After discussion, it was decided to look into what is behind the paneling and above the drop ceiling before proceeding. The quote for replacing the steps has not been received.
- Holding the quarterly meeting at other locations was discussed again. Delbert Abplanalp moved to continue to hold meetings at the Ripley County Historical Archives as it would be less confusing. Owen Menchhofer seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.
- Memorials were given to St. Jude in memory of Frank Keenen and to Batesville Food Bank in memory of Gordon Arnold.
- A box of Dave Porter memorabilia was received at the Historical Society. These items have been donated to the Osgood Museum. They reported they were glad to have the items and there were many photos and items they did not have. Sandra Gloyd reported the Osgood Museum has put a contact number on their door for those wanting to visit during closed times.
- The Secretary position is vacant due to the death of Frank Keenen. Fred Glover nominated Barbara Eades. Duane Drockelman seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

Nominations for Directors for the following townships serving 2023-2026 are as follows: Laughery – Diane Arnold, Otter Creek – Mike Stratton, Shelby – Cheryl Welch, Washington – open. Nomination for filling the remaining term for Brown Township – Barbara Eades. Roger Abplanalp was nominated to serve as Director At Large.

Officers are elected for a one year term. Nominations are President – Cheryl Welch, Vice President – Duane Drockelman, Secretary – Barbara Eades, Treasurer – Owen Menchhofer. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Sandra Gloyd moved to accept the list as presented. Owen Menchhofer seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

New Business:

- Ripley County Historical Society Museum hours for the summer were discussed. Decision was made to keep as current, open by appointment only, and to open for special events held locally.
- A discussion was held regarding increasing annual and life memberships and the possibility of having different levels available. This was tabled until the next meeting.
- The discussion of a Facebook page was held. Due to the time needed to administer the page, it was decided not to have a Facebook account. Directors and officers may post upcoming Historical Society events of their personal Facebook page.

Helen Einhaus has been recently been recognized as the 2023 Ripley County Woman in History by the Ross' Run Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute Vietnam Wall and the Cost of Freedom exhibit will be at Rush County Fairgrounds, 1299 N Sexton Street, Rushville, IN from August 30 – September 3, 2023. The exhibit is open 24 hours a day with free admission.

The next meeting will be held July 9, 2:00 p.m. at the Ripley County Historical Archives. Refreshments will be served by Jackson Township.

Owen Menchhofer gave a very interesting program on “Wreaths Across Ripley County; Where Are We, and Where Will We Go?” REMEMBER those US veteran who have fallen...HONOR those who serve, and...TEACH the value of freedom to our children. Wreaths Across Ripley County is partnered by the Ripley County Historical Society and the Ripley County Community Foundation. Some interesting tidbits:

- In 2021, Tanglewood Cemetery was the first cemetery in Ripley County to place a wreath on every veteran’s grave.
- In 2022, Ripley County was the first county in Indiana to place a wreath on every veteran’s grave. This included over 4000 graves in 110 cemeteries of which forty wreaths were placed at the courthouse and annex lawn remembering 55 veterans from cemeteries in remote locations. There are 7 cemeteries in the Versailles State Park. A wreath remembering those veterans was placed at the CCC memorial by the park entrance.
- The oldest veteran grave located in the county is in the Buchanan Cemetery in Brown Township of George Buchanan, Revolutionary War, b. 1721, d. 1818. He served with the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment.
- Owen related many moving stories about veterans told to him during the months of research and placing of wreaths.
- Thanks were given to the many, many volunteers who made this possible.
- National Wreaths Across America Day- Ripley County is December 16, 2023. Donations may be made through the Ripley County Community Foundation, 13 George Street, Suite B, Batesville, IN 47006. Wreaths are \$17 each.

Who We Remember – From the Revolutionary War to present day conflicts, our veterans are devoted sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers.

Where We Remember – Wreath Laying ceremony at the Ripley County Courthouse as well as various cemeteries throughout the county.

How We Teach – Touching hundreds of school, scout, civic and religious groups across the county. Wreaths Across America curriculum for K through 12 is available at <https://learn.wreathsacrossamerica.org/teach>.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m. Refreshments were served by Franklin Township.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Eades, Secretary

Note: Washington Township has been filled by Gary Johnson.

MRS. HELEN TODD EINHAUS – A WOMAN IN HISTORY

Helen Einhaus of Osgood, IN was recently recognized as the 2023 Ripley County Woman in History by the Ross' Run Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Helen has devoted many hours to Ripley County history and her community. Her interest in genealogy began in the 1960's. She has researched her lineage back for many generations and became proficient in locating genealogy and historical facts. She was instrumental in the publication of two



volumes of the Ripley County History books, worked to update cemetery records, helped document the Underground Railroad history, worked on the John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail Project, Ripley County Basketball Hall of Fame and helped place many historical markers in the area. She co-wrote the town of Napoleon's history for their Sesquicentennial celebration in 1970. Helen served as a volunteer at the Ripley County Historical Archives Library for many years and has worked with researchers from all over the United States and several foreign countries. She has been a member in the Tri-County, Genealogical Society as well as historical societies of Ripley and Switzerland counties and Kentucky and western Pennsylvania. Helen is also a Charter member of Ross' Run Chapter NSDAR since it was organized in 1974 where she held many offices and for many years, she used her skills as a researcher and historian as Chapter Registrar. She officially served as the Ripley County Historian from 2001 – 2007.

Helen has previously said that her obsessive hobby has been like a treasure hunt or a puzzle with a missing piece that often is illusive, but very rewarding once the mystery is solved." Mrs. Einhaus has always stressed to family, friends, and community residents, to make sure to record our family history for future generations. She previously stated "We need to make the community aware of the importance of preserving our heritage and history. If you aren't interested now, maybe your children or grandchildren will be someday."

Ripley County history and genealogy are not the only accomplishment for Helen. She was born in Switzerland County and in 1938, she, her siblings, and her parents moved to the Napoleon area in Ripley County. She graduated from Napoleon High School in 1948 and later from Indiana Central Business College in Indianapolis. Her career began as a legal secretary for Judge Clarence F. Merrill in Indianapolis. Judge Merrill had served at the World War II Nuremburg war crimes trials. She typed the manuscript for the book Merrill wrote about the trials experience. Later she worked in Washington, DC as secretary for the legal counsel of the World Import-Export Association. She was also secretary to a financial officer of an airline in Indianapolis and worked for twenty years in the Human Resources department of Decatur County Memorial Hospital in Greensburg. Somehow, she also found time to marry Wayne Einhaus a classmate of Napoleon High School and raise her children, David Einhaus, Karen Black, and John Einhaus.

Thank you, Mrs. Helen for researching and preserving the history of Ripley County and being such an integral part of our community.

Ross' Run Chapter NSDAR honored Helen and her many accomplishments at a reception April 16, at the Versailles Baptist Church.

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
Story of the Bradt 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

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

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Brown Twp. - Mrs. Barbara Eades, 3953 E. Olean Rd. Versailles, Indiana 47042	Secretary
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