

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

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XIV

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FALL MEETING TO BE AT NEW MARION

The autumn meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society will be October 14 at 2 o'clock at the New Marion Baptist Church. When coming from SR 421 turn west on CR 450S to the Michigan Rd. then north. The Church is on the west side of the road at the edge of town.

The program will be presented by Geraldine Walker. She is an elementary teacher at Milan, a native of Oklahoma and will tell of her Indian Heritage.

ABOUT THE SUMMER MEETING

The July meeting was held on the 8th of July at the home of Charles and Betty Roepke near Sunman. It was a rather warm summer afternoon but lovely big trees furnished shade and there was a nice breeze.

The meeting was called to order by the president Chester Henderson who asked for self introductions. The secretary's minutes were read and approved. Bea Boyd gave a detailed account of the monies she had spent the past three months. Her report was also approved. Mr. David Dreyer of Indianapolis was present and introduced Berna Steinkamp, a cousin who has helped him in writing several of his papers and books about the settlement of this area by translating many of the old documents from the German.

The program was then turned over to Delbert Knudson, Ripley County Conservation Officer. He had display cases of Indian arrow heads and other stone weapons and tools he had found in the area. Several had been found in and around White Water.

There are quite a few new rules about digging in places where Indian artifacts are found. You might own or buy property and start to build and run into some artifacts. You would be stopped by law to have it checked before doing any more digging. Mr. Knudson said as a boy he was always looking for arrow heads.

After the meeting cool drinks and homemade ice cream were enjoyed.

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A biography of GENE STRATTON-PORTER has been published by the Indiana Historical Society. "GENE STRATTON-PORTER: NOVELIST AND NATURALIST by Judith Reick Long is available from the Society, 315 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis, IN and area book stores for \$19.95.

The dues are \$3.00 per year, per person, payable at the beginning of each year. You will find a number on your mailing lable denoting the date of your membership. Those who have paid \$100 life membership will find "Life" beside their name. If dues are not paid no bulletin will be sent after January.

If you wish name and address of others working on your family line please send a self addressed, stamped envelope; no fee. There will be a \$2.00 research fee for each surname or question dealing with specific points concerning Ripley County. We cannot do a complete family history. Charge for copies: 25¢ for 8" x 11" and 50¢ for 11" x 17". We are not a paid staff. Family History Committee members do this voluntarily.

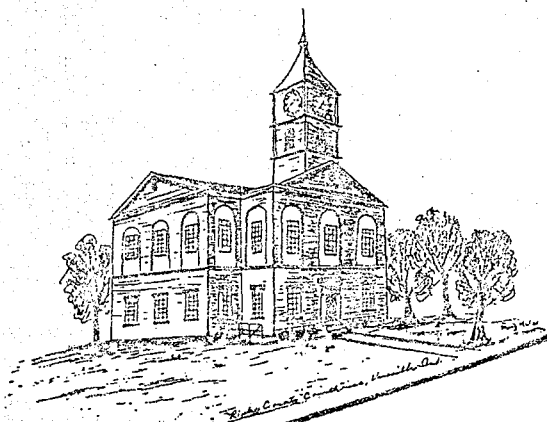
During July and August Bea Boyd opened the archives annex on Monday afternoons. There were people here from Arizona, Ohio, Missouri, Washington, California and of course Indiana and various local people. One lady came every Monday. This gave her an opportunity to work on her family history.

One Monday I (Bea) was in Columbus at 1 o'clock but Mr. Thompson opened the archives and I arrived late. It was the day that the solar cars were coming from Madison to Indianapolis. We met a number of them on the road. It was quite thrilling to see history in the making. Indiana's Rose-Hulman had an entry. The cars came from Florida to Michigan. The Michigan car won. The next competition will be in Australia.

Kathleen Lane, curator, Herbert Thompson, Leonard and Kathryn Manship put in many Saturday and Sunday afternoons at the museum and annex this summer. The museum will be closed for the winter except for Saturday afternoon of the Pumpkin Show. For those people needing services or information from R.C.H.S. the volunteers must consolidate their trips. Some drive as much as 14 miles so must conserve on gas and time.

A new drawing of the courthouse done by Mary Ann McCoy, Clerk of Ripley County Circiut Court. This was sketched on the bottom of her stationery. This is one of her many talents.

submitted by Bea Boyd



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 each to nonmembers, payable in advance by check or stamps. Please send queries to: Mrs. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

Query: Nancy MELTON b. ca. 1808 m. 1. Harvey MURDOCK 1827, 1. John H. DAVIS, 1846. Need parents, siblings. Did Nancy and John have children? When and where did Nancy and/or John die?

Query: Need parents Eli MURDOCK who resided Ripley Co. from late 1820s until death 1869. Who were his parents? Did he have siblings? Census says born N.Y. Where?

Query: Harvey MURDOCK and Nancy had sons named ELI b. ca. 1830, JOHN b. ca. 1834, and JAMES H. b. ca. 1838 Can anyone tell me what happened to them?

Would appreciate response from anyone having information concerning the MELTON / MURDOCK / DAVIS families.

Sharon M. Hutcheson, 2509 S. Berkley Dr., N. Little Rock, AR 72118

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 Hope, IN 47246

HE SAW THE FIRST TRAIN COME TO OSGOOD
 from: Osgood Journal; 5 October 1927

John Hancock of Indianapolis, while here Thursday, told of a few of his early recollections of Osgood. He lived here or near here when quite young. He said Osgood was then known as Claytown. He says he saw the first train that was run on the B. & O. pull into Osgood. It consisted of a dinky locomotive and two coaches and carried with it two fifers and two bass drummers who regaled the passengers with martial music while the train stopped.

He said that the trains then were fired with wood and that the wood was cut and piled along the tracks and that the passengers often helped load the tenders. The water was obtained at Laughery Creek and pumped into the tanks by hand using a pump that was operated by six men. All this is very interesting at this time because it is the centennial celebration of the B. & O. this week.

submitted by Kathryn Manship

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

Hoover - Huber Family Assn. P.O. Box 12, Elk Grove, CA 95759-0012
Vol. 6, No. 4

The Stewarts of Ripley Co., IN and Beyond. Descendants of Alexander Wilson Stewart and his wife Hannah Connell Stewart. 2 vols. compiled by Betty Jean (Stewart) Andrews, 121414 N. 3rd. St., Apt. 18, Grandview, MO 64030 (or) Rt. 1, Box 272, Long Lane, MO 65590

Received 6-27-90 from the State; Newspaper microfilm: Versailles Republican from 10-28-1908 thru 1913. Ripley Journal 1907 - 1910. Osgood Journal 1911 - 1926.

Center Twp. Cemetery Directory
by Mary Manship C.G.R.S. and Kathryn Manship

"Read and Learn More About the Bayers. The Baylor Family Escutcheon" by Elsie B. Young, R. 1, Box 1677, Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538

The Stevens Family Centennial History 7-30-90
from Scott & Dorothy Clevenger, 1415 N.W. 14th St., Corvallis, OR 97330

The Wolley Saga by Nellie Wolley Gatchell 8-6-1990
from Nellie E. Gatchell, 12501 Village Circle Dr., Apt. 233 St. Louis, MO 63127

Schmidt Materials, Family History 6-20-1990
from: Mabel Steele, 3111 Meadow Ln., Ponca City, OK 74604 and Maudie Roan, 1412, 25th St., Woodward, OK 73801

Huntington, LaFever obituaries 8-14-1990
from: Ida Leagazewski, 608 Reddick St., Mishawaka, IN 46544

Bounty Land Warrenty application for widow of Nathan Roberts
from: JoAnn H. Nichols, 46 Chestnut St., Brattleboro, VT 05301

Indiana at Gettysburg 1913 - 50th Anniv. 8-1990
"Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson
from: Mrs. Lola Draper Jackson (Mrs. Amos)

Box of Books from Mrs. Tuttle

Table used in Sunman Bank Board Room
from: Mildred Dreyer

Historic Vernon, published by Vernon Clionian Society
Purchased by R.C.H.S. 9-1990

Jackson Family History (new edition)
from: William C. Jackson, R.R. 2, Box 24 C Kentselaer, IN 47978

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525

Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1991 meeting.

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