

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XIX

NUMBER I

FEBRUARY 1988
PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1988

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168
Tel. 839-3146

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 West Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
R. R. 2, Box 86
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 539-4311

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library 101 S. Indiana Danville, IN 46122 Attention: Lori Wynn Tel. 745-2604	Plainfield Public Library Guilford Twp. Hist. Col. 1120 Stafford Rd. Plainfield, IN 46168 Attn: Susan Miller Carter Tel. 839-6602	Hendricks County Hist. Museum Danville, IN 46122 Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M. For further information call (317) 745-4055 or 852-2810
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Margaret Baker, Editor
(Mrs. C. Rawleigh Baker)
9 Round Hill Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2115

William Hendricks, the man whose name our county proudly bears, said a history of his life would be "No brilliant incident, no disgraceful event - no virtues other than those of an honest man."

WILLIAM HENDRICKS, an essay by
Judge Jeffrey V. Boles, president HCHS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for selecting me as your president for 1988-89. The very first thing I learned was how dedicated and hard all the members have worked to bring us all a better understanding of Hendricks County history. I want particularly to thank Libbe Hughes for helping me get started.

1988 will be an exciting year. Our meetings will be February 7, 1988, in the Hendricks Circuit Courtroom where Judge John Kendall will present the program on "A Brief History of Hendricks County." We will videotape his speech and keep it for our files. The May 1st, 1988, meeting will be at the Old Central Normal College in Danville, now Danville Junior High School and Blanche Wean will speak on a history of Central Normal College. The August 7, 1988, meeting will be in Pittsboro and we hope to have Leslie Olsen from Channel 8 speak on "Unearthing Indiana's Past." We are considering an early evening meeting for August 7th. Our final meeting for the year will be on November 6th, 1988, in Plainfield and we hope to have Judge Vincin Helton talk about important people from Hendricks County.

We have developed an exciting agenda for 1988. It is as follows:

1) Encourage new members; 2) Encourage more study of Hendricks County and Indiana history in our schools; 3) See what we can do about selling more of our copies of History of Hendricks County 1914 - 1976 and supplements; 4) In February, we need to consider appointments to the Museum Board; 5) Help the Museum find some "Old Suit Cases;" In February, we also need to set a meeting for all of us for an exciting project we have to offer involving the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana survey of Hendricks County historic sites and structures. The survey could begin in December of 1988 and we need member's thoughts.

Think about bringing a new member to our February 7th, meeting and the agenda we have set out for this year and let us know what you would like to do to help.

Judy Pingel is actively involved in helping with the meetings and you might want to call her at 745-4127.

The other day when I was at the doctor's office, I was asked the history of the name of our County. In this bulletin I have presented an essay on William Hendricks, the man whose name our county proudly bears.

As you all know, all of this is put together by Margaret Baker and she deserves our special thanks. See what you think of the essay. Looking forward to your comments. See you February 7th. Thanks for your confidence.

Jeffrey V. Boles, Pres.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1987

Our last meeting of 1987 was held Nov. 1st in the beautiful Plainfield Public Library with Libbe Hughes, vice president, presiding. Carolyn Kellum gave the devotions based on the theme from Ecclesiastes, "For everything there is a season."

After reports from the secretary and treasurer, Dorothy Kelley talked about activities at the Museum which is attracting more and more visitors, thanks to Dorothy's enthusiasm and devotion and that of her faithful helpers.

The subject of an excellent talk by John C. Miller was W. T. HORNADAY, PLAINFIELD NATIVE SON, AMERICAN NATURALIST. That John had researched his subject thoroughly was made more evident by the pictures, maps and other articles he used to illustrate his talk. W. T. Hornaday is another native Hendricks Countian who can serve as an excellent role model and an inspiration to our generation as well as to generations to come and John certainly did him justice with his talk.

Thus ended a year of interesting meetings and outstanding programs that will challenge the Program Committee for 1988 ... a challenge they have already risen to as you will soon discover.

WILLIAM HENDRICKS

"The Most Popular Politician in Indiana."

An Essay by
Jeffrey V. Boles
Judge, Hendricks Circuit Court

"Lest we forget - Lest we forget."

On December 20, 1823, Governor William Hendricks signed Legislation establishing a new county in his own honor ... Hendricks County ... to be located just west of Indianapolis and Marion County.

Who was William Hendricks? What did he do? Why is he known as Indiana's "Most Popular Politician?"

Imagine and remember the times of William Hendricks ... just a short time in Indiana and world history 1810-1837.

Imagine you are 28 years old as you leave a valley home in eastern Pennsylvania with a printing press to come to Indiana as "An adventurer without friends." You have no job and are "A stranger in search of opportunities," to Madison, Indiana.

Imagine an Indiana of less than 25,000 people inhabited by wild beasts and savage men. The people you meet are wracked by the scourge of fever. Towns are burning with the flames of local jealousy, while soldiers live without pay, and war widows and orphans starve.

Imagine an Indiana of bankrupt people in financial panic, frightened by a staggering National Debt. In Indiana land went unsold for one dollar an acre. All trade was conducted by barter because the money system was controlled by corrupt capitalists and bad bankers in Vincennes and Philadelphia.

Imagine it taking ten days to travel from Corydon to the village of 600 people in Indianapolis, because there were no roads.

Imagine getting news four to six weeks after things happen, in a country where the population has tripled in less than 40 years.

Imagine the fatal blight of slavery (like a creeping cancer) destroying the newly formed union.

Remember the Indian slaughter of Pigeon Roost, the terror of Tecumseh, and the fear of the Black Hawk War.

Remember the effect of the first white man ever judicially put to death in America for murdering an Indian.

Remember our America threatened on all shores by England's superior Navy of 1042 ships against America's 27. A Spanish King claims Florida, while Russia and Turkey menace Europe and beyond. South America and France are in bloody Revolution. Napoleon Bonaparte is in lonely island exile on St. Helena.

Does that time in history have a hauntingly familiar sound today?

Enter William Hendricks ... a patient gentleman. A husband and father of nine children, a teacher, and editor of the second newspaper in Indiana - the Western Eagle.

Hendricks was to become a lawyer, district attorney and prosecutor, secretary to the Indiana Constitutional Convention, state representative, Indiana's first member of the United States House of Representatives, Governor, United States Senator, and a faithful servant of the people of Indiana from 1811 until 1837.

William Hendricks was born on November 12, 1782, and was brought up on a family farm in Ligonier Valley, Westmorland County in eastern Pennsylvania. He was a self educated laborer and factory hand. He graduated from Jefferson College in Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1810 and took his printing press west to Cincinnati, where he taught school and studied law.

Hendricks moved to Madison, Indiana, in 1812, and lived there the rest of his life. He was to become part of the "Hoosier Triumvirate" of William Hendricks, Jonathan Jennings and James Noble.

In 1813, Hendricks was unanimously elected Clerk of the Indiana Territorial House of Representatives. When the new State of Indiana was approved by Congress and President James Madison, Hendricks became the Secretary of the State Constitutional Convention. In only 20 days the Convention wrote the first Indiana Constitution.

On August 5, 1816, Hendricks was elected as Indiana's first member of the House of Representatives in Washington, a position which paid two dollars a day. It took two to three weeks for Hendricks and his wife, Ann Paul Hendricks, to travel by horseback to Washington to attend deliberations.

Hendricks served three successive terms in the House dealing with local issues of the times concerning where to print the laws of the Union, the critical press of Indiana, bringing newspapers and a postmaster to Corydon. National issues involved paying soldiers, developing roads, securing Florida, paying pensions, dealing with Indian property, selling public land to pay for defense, debts, and expansion to the Pacific. Hendricks always kept the people of Indiana informed of what he did by writing letters and circulars to the people of our State. He answered all questions and mail from voters and never hid behind his office.

On August 5, 1822, Hendricks became the only Governor of Indiana to be elected unanimously. His strength in the election reflected the statewide feeling

that he was the most popular politician in Indiana.

Governor William Hendricks moved the capital from Corydon to Indianapolis, personally revised and published the laws of the State so that our people would know the rules that governed them. As a self educated man, he recognized the value of education and promoted the cause of education throughout the State. Hendricks supported construction of roads and canals. He actively encouraged public building in Indianapolis according to Engineer Ralston's plan for a model city patterned after the nation's capital.

Governor Hendricks was particularly interested in the construction and completion of the Cumberland Road east and west across Indiana - our Highway 40. By 1835, the Cumberland Road was gravel graded and bridged across most of Indiana.

On February 12, 1825, Hendricks resigned as Governor after being elected to the United States Senate. He continued to champion the causes of the people of the State. No political party could claim him as a backer. He became known as the "Popular Non-Partisan of the People" attending 95% of the calls to vote, while he served two terms in the Senate representing Indiana's people.

When he lost the 1836 election after 9 ballots in the General Assembly, he never again held public office. He retired graciously to his estate in Madison to manage his affairs as a quite wealthy man.

William Hendricks' nephew Thomas later became Governor of Indiana and Vice-President of the United States. Thomas Hendricks' impressive statue stands, without identification, on the southeast corner of the State House lawn in Indianapolis.

William Hendricks did not like to pose for artists. No portrait of his was known to exist until 1919, when his portrait was discovered in a painting titled The Old House of Representatives of 1822, done by Samuel F. B. Morse.

William Hendricks practiced politics as the art of the possible in an era of good feeling for the future of Indiana and America. He never attempted to speak on subjects he did not understand.

William Hendricks established the foundation of the State of Indiana like no other public servant over a period of 25 years, as the first member of the House of Representatives from Indiana, the Governor that moved the capital of our State to Indianapolis, the man who made the Cumberland Road across Indiana possible, and United States Senator.

Hendricks summed up his life simply by saying a history of his life would be "No brilliant incident, no disgraceful event - no virtue, other than those of an honest man."

On May 16, 1850, Hendricks died suddenly on his estate in Madison after inspecting his burial vault. William and his wife, Ann Paul Hendricks are buried in Fairmount Cemetery in Madison. Their gravestones list only their names, birthdates, and dates of their death. Biographer William Wesley Wollen summed up William Hendricks' career by saying "In the contest for fame there is sharp competition, and those only win who have endurance and mettle ... Hendricks was talented and energetic and he won."

NEWS FROM PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Board of Trustees of the Plainfield Public Library has approved additional funding to staff the Guilford Township Historical Collection two more nights per week, beginning in March.

Also, additional staff will make the local history materials available for use one additional Saturday per month.

Evening hours are 6 - 8:30 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Saturday hours will be from 9-noon and 1-5 p.m. on the second and last Saturdays of the month.

Persons are encouraged to call the library to confirm hours before coming from a distance, says Historical Librarian Susan Carter.

Regular hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from noon until 5 p.m., as well as evening and weekend hours previously mentioned.

The library has an extensive research collection for Hendricks County. It concludes microfilm census and available indexes, copies of all the published histories and W.P.A. index, W. P. A. vital statistics indexes and the H.C.H.S. Ancestor/Decendant volume.

Other research aids are a name and subject index to Plainfield newspapers (dating from the late 1800's through the mid-1950's), a Hendricks County obituary index (late 1800's - to date), and a file of local authors and artists. These resources are unique to the Plainfield library's collection.

Complementing these indexes are extensive holdings of microfilmed newspapers from Danville and Plainfield. A reader/printer is available to make paper copies from microfilm.

Published histories of other Indiana counties, some with accompanying indexes, as well as general historical and biographical books on a state level, may be used.

Another resource is a file of family history materials which have been donated by researchers concerning Hendricks County families. The library is grateful for donations of well-documented research. Often, by placing a copy of one's research where other genealogists may use it, the donor makes contacts and receives additional information.

For further information on the Guilford Township Historical Collection of the Plainfield Public Library, call Historical Librarian Susan Carter at 839-6602.

MUSEUM MUSINGS

Approximately 113 curious visitors attended the CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM Open House. The weather was cool and crisp with no rain or snow.

The Christmas tree was a real live cedar. As is our custom, we used no electrical decorations ... they were all home made of popcorn, corn shucks, peanuts, wool shavings and more. Duane Martin of Martin's Florist, North Salem,

decorated the house and all the bannisters even out to the street. He used red and white poinsettias and evergreen. The house was really alive and our thanks to Duane.

During the week before Christmas school groups from Brownsburg, Plainfield and Danville came to visit. The boys seemed to favor the military room and the jail cells while the girls liked the upstairs and the doll house. The corn sheller was a big attraction, too. The kids pronounced the place "Really Neat!"

Do any of you have any old suit cases you no longer use? If you do, please keep us in mind, for we have a project in the works where we need them.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A DOCENT? It's fun ... it's interesting ... and it's gratifying work. Come and get some first hand experience!

THE WORK ROOM OR THE FORMER JAIL KITCHEN

This room was the original kitchen for the jail residents as well as the prisoners up to the time the new jail on the east side of town was completed. The old fixtures, refrigerator, range and sink still work.

As we enter the room from the hall, we notice the door on our right that is the entrance to the basement. A metal desk is piled with business papers and acquisitions. The ceiling is even higher than the one in the parlor, of patterned metal, presumably tin. A short entrance way leading to another room contains drawer space with a shelf above, and of course, this shelf is full of many things including wig stands and wigs. The model is dressed in a black crepe lavishly decorated with beading, circa the 1920's. A coat rack holds dresses of long ago to be used some day on our models. A deep window seat is not only an inviting place but serves as storage place, too. Too bad they went out of style!

Jewell

REMEMBERING

Our Society has suffered great loss in the recent deaths of two of our active members, Floyd Hufford and Harold Templin.

Floyd was a former president of the HCHS and was active and interested as long as his health permitted. Harold was always thereon the front row taping the programs especially for his father, William Templin, but also for the purpose of recording history.

It has been said, "Grief is the price we pay for love. Love is eternal. Death is a horizon, and the horizon is only the limit of our sight." It has also been written, "Death is not extinguishing the light, but putting out the lamp because the dawn has come."

To Margaret and Dorothy and their families, we extend our deepest sympathy. We, too, will miss these loved ones.

THE STORY OF CENTRAL NORMAL COLLEGE

Education in Indiana has always been changeable and controversial so modern problems are based upon historical successes and failures.

When the pioneers came into Indiana "reading, writing and arithmetic" were taught in small groups. As the population increased the one room school provided the facility. As a means to higher education high schools grew up in many communities.

About 1850 the need for trained teachers was felt and small colleges called "Normal Schools" were organized. Many of those in Indiana were formed in the philosophy of the Albert Holbrook school which had been started at Lebanon, Ohio. Its philosophy was to train students to develop personally and also how to teach other students.

Indiana small colleges were started in Terre Haute, Muncie, Valparaiso, Marion and Ladoga. In 1876 the school which had been started at Ladoga became over crowded and the administrators sought means of growth. A building in Danville which had been vacated by the Methodist Seminary was available.

The merchants of Danville purchased the building and offered it to the administrators at Ladoga. Because of some controversy the school was moved quickly by residents of the Danville community. Many interesting stories are told by those who drove carriages and buggies to Ladoga and of the students and faculty who came on the train. Moving occurred in 1876.

These stories are covered in a book which is in process of publication. This book is a summary of year books, catalogs, minutes of the Board of Trustees as well as articles written by Edward Eikman, Virgil Hunt, Miss Bertha Watts and Wilbur Richards.

Special articles include letters of the CNC boys from foreign fields, achievements and development of the National Rehabilitation Program for the Blind as developed by Russell (Sam) Williams, a graduate of CNC. As many names of persons who attended the school should make it interesting for genealogist.

Interest in the book has been shown by many alumni who have ordered the book which should be ready for distribution early in April.

To order - mail check for \$25.00 to Box 128, Danville, IN 46122. Make check payable to Central Normal - Canterbury College.

Blanche Wean, Treasurer

THANKS TO HENDRICKS COUNTY NEWSPAPERS

Hendricks County has always been blest with newspapers. Libbe Hughes, in the fine talk she gave at a recent meeting, told of the early papers and the important part they played. They were the greatest method of communication then, and now, they are some of the best sources for history buffs and genealogists.

Today, in spite of television and radio and instant news flashes, our Hendricks County papers are filling a need. It is nice to know immediately when

something important happens. I am glad I live in this age of satellites and instant sights and sounds from all over the world, from the moon and outer space, and I have no desire to turn back the clock, but, to me, the printed word is still more satisfying than the hurried remarks by an announcer with one eye on the clock.

The following articles about Hendricks County of the past were "lifted" from local papers. This is not the first time we have done this, so it is time to say "Thanks!" to THE HENDRICKS COUNTY REPUBLICAN, THE PLAINFIELD MESSENGER, THE BROWNSBURG GUIDE-GAZETTE, AND THE HENDRICKS COUNTY FLYER. You make life in Hendricks County more fun!

CENTURY-OLD PINE UPROOTED

Strong winds in Danville early Dec. 22 uprooted a century-old pine tree at 10 Cartersburg Road on Danville's south side at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Chenoweth and two daughters. The tree was one of a pair of "husband-wife" trees, believed to have been planted by an Irishman named Edward Courtney in 1857. He was then a farmhand for David Matlock, the builder and first owner of the house there. Mr. Courtney later married Mr. Matlock's granddaughter and became third owner of the residence, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(From Hendricks County Republican)

ALL AGES COME TO STONE'S CROSSING

CLAYTON - A new "ice cream parlor and pizza place" in Clayton has become a meeting place for all age groups. Stone's Crossing opened a few weeks ago, and owner Jan Kroger calls it "Cascade country."

A huge Cadet silhouette on the back wall emphasizes the point, and some of the waiters after school (and after practice) are Cadet football players.

But in the afternoon, Stone's Crossing takes on a different flavor - that's when the older folks come out for a dish of ice cream. They're the ones who remember when the building was the Grant Stone Store, general merchandise.

Sibyl Green, one of the afternoon "regulars" is Grant Stone's daughter. Her father, after teaching school for a few years, came to Clayton in 1905 and started the business, she recalled.

He bought it as an existing building, but in fact, his father had made the brick for the building in 1897, for the original owner.

Mrs. Green and her husband ran the general store from 1950 to 1960, after her father retired.

Instead of bolts of dress goods, today Jan Kroger is selling ice cream from cones to shakes, pizzas and sandwiches. There are booths and tables to "eat in", or pizza can be ordered to carry out.

Part of the decor is a reminder of the building's past - and the town's. Enlarged photographs of the days when it was still the Grant Stone Store are featured along the booth wall.

Because Jan encourages young people to come in, there are video games, too.

"We've found the day usually starts with the local workers around town coming in for lunch, then older folks drop by for ice cream, and after that, the school kids start. At suppertime, the pizza orders start rolling in."

After Cascade home games, the place is usually full to overflowing - a trend she wants to encourage. The hours encourage it, too. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Stone's Crossing is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday from 2 to 10 p.m. The store is closed on Wednesday.

(From Hendricks County Flyer)

BELLEVILLE REMEMBERS CADLE

One of the older towns in Hendricks County, Belleville has been marked in many ways by its past history, but no one has left a bigger impact on the town and its immediate area than E. Howard Cadle, a wellknown evangelist who arrived in the early 1930s.

Cadle built a summer log tabernacle on a campground on U.S. 40 just east of the town that also included cabins and "Chicken Dinner" restaurant for the hundreds of people who attended "camp meetings" there every summer.

Cadle also built a modern tabernacle in downtown Indianapolis. His radio show was widely heard throughout the Midwest and South.

In addition, he bought an orchard and 1,100 acres of farmland, as well as lots within Belleville itself. This led to his construction of six homes, three barns, an apple storage house, and a modern sawmill with which to provide the lumber for the rest.

In the late 1800s there were two or three blacksmith shops, a sawmill, tannery, and a couple of brick and tile factories.

Little remains today of all this, but there is still much of Cadle's work to be seen. The houses he built and sold in town are nearly all in good repair, but the log tabernacle is gone, as is the chicken dinner restaurant and the fancy board fence with which he lined U.S. 40 for several miles.

The apple sales house he built on the corner of U.S. 40 and Ind. 39 remains, and is still an apple house, now operated by Kehrein Orchards. Stone pillars that marked the entrances to a house, the tabernacle and the restaurant and campground are still standing. Cadle's own home, south of Belleville, is still a handsome dwelling. It was termed a "mansion" in its day.

The modern sawmill, however, is gone and there appear to be no photographs of it. It was located in the west half of the block where the Bell Inn is now.

(From Plainfield Messenger)

COATESVILLE VITAL 40 YEARS AFTER
TORNADO THAT DEMOLISHED TOWN

COATESVILLE, IN - Coatesville community leaders plan to mark the 40th anniversary of the Good Friday tornado that virtually destroyed the town as a way to celebrate the community's regrowth.

Phyllis Schilling, of Schilling's Variety, said despite the destruction Coatesville managed to remain vital while other rural communities have over the years shriveled up.

"I just think it's so wonderful that a lot of the town was able to build back," Schilling said, "I'd love to be able to project the fact of how the town has grown back and grown ahead and has managed to thrive and keep businesses in town."

No dates for the celebration have been set. Organizers are trying to develop plans while gathering pictures and information about the tornado.

The tornado struck Hendricks County March 26, 1948. Many long-time Coatesville residents remember where they were and how they survived when the twister hit.

Schilling was in the nearby community of Hadley at the time. Schilling's mother grabbed her daughter, and ran downstairs.

"Our house didn't go, but the garage and the chicken house were gone," she said.

Schilling's brother went to Coatesville to help in the rescue and stayed for three days. The roof was ripped off the building that Schilling's store now occupies.

Wayne Kivett, of Kivett's Plumbing and Heating, relived the tornado with Schilling Thursday. Kivett used a cutting torch to free one of three victims trapped in a car just north of his shop when the twister hit. The other two people in the car died.

Approaching from the southwest, the tornado slammed into the town just before 6 p.m. It roared out of town in five or six minutes, but in that short time destroyed dozens of houses and several businesses.

Twelve Coatesville residents were killed and dozens were injured. American Red Cross crews arrived and the Indianapolis police and fire departments rushed in to assist.

Among the demolished businesses were Darnell's Elevator, Coatesville State Bank, Campbell & Powell Mortuary, Hudson Clothing Store, Coatesville Herald and Ernest Miller's Garage. Three of the town's four churches also were destroyed.

Twenty children who were practicing for an Easter program managed to flee Missionary Baptist Church before it collapsed. One resident told reporters that 80 of the town's 125 homes were destroyed and another 20 were damaged. An estimated 300 of the town's 500 residents were without shelter.

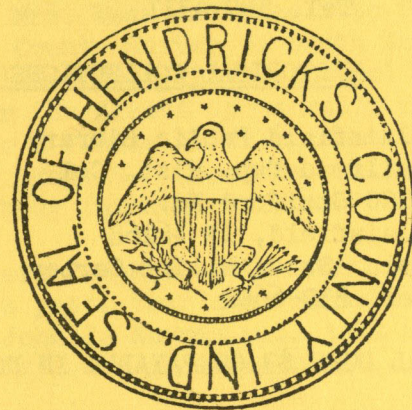
An 8mm film of the destruction is being transferred to videotape, Schilling said.

Those who wish to help or supply information may call Schilling at 386-2500.

(From Indianapolis News)

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XIX NUMBER II
MAY 1988

PUBLISHED BY
THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

Patricia Cox
310 Urban
Danville IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1988

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168
Tel. 839-3146

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 West Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
R. R. 2, Box 86
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 539-4311

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Margaret Baker, Editor
(Mrs. C. Rawleigh Baker)
9 Round Hill Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2115

Libbe Hughes, Assistant Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

"You cannot help men permanently by doing for them
what they could and should be doing for themselves."

Abraham Lincoln

PRESIDENT'S SPRING MESSAGE

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We had an excellent turn-out of over 125 people for our February meeting where Judge John Kendall spoke on the history of Hendricks County. It was exciting for me to see all of your faces in Court here. This was certainly the kind of audience I like to see at my work.

We are all looking forward to Mrs. Blanche Wean's talk on the history of Central Normal College to be held at the Danville Junior High on May 1st at 2:00 p.m.

Since our February meeting, we have donated the Central Normal College books Judge Kendall presented us to the Danville Library and they are available for anybody who would like to take them out. We also, as an historical society, gave the Danville Public Library a copy of Professor James L. Cooper's Iron Monuments To A Distant Posterity, a survey of bridges in Indiana. We are also donating one copy to the Clayton Library.

On February 17th, 1988, we had a meeting where Bill Dory and Marsh Davis of the Historical Landmarks Foundation met at Mrs. Blanche Wean's office with Jewell Bell, Carolyn Kellum, Mrs. Wean and myself to finalize the plans for the publication of the Hendricks County Survey to begin in December of 1988. This is an exciting project that identifies all historical homes and places in our County, publishes them, under the direct sponsorship of the Hendricks County Historical Society. There is a financial obligation we must meet and we are seeking ways to sponsor this project. Once the publication is complete, it will be a valuable tool for everybody interested in our County.

Please mark your calendars for August 7, 1988, where Leslie Olson will speak on unearthing Indiana's past, that's at Pittsboro Christian Church, and for November 6, 1988, where John J. Newman will talk about photography in the nineteenth century and identify your photographs.

Our Bulletin still needs essays and contributions. If you have an interest and like to write, please let Mrs. Baker know. We are interested in your work.

I am in the process of writing a story on "The Fall Creek Massacre--March 22, 1824 and the events of that day". The result of the case was the first white man ever executed for killing an Indian. Our Governor William Hendricks played a role. I hope to have the article finished before the end of the year.

We have some exciting things in store this year. I hope this message finds you all well and as excited as I am about the beautiful spring flowers.

See you in May.

Best regards,

J. V. Boles, President
Hendricks County Historical Society

February 2, 1988

An almost standing-room-only crowd gathered in the Circuit Court Room of the Hendricks County Court House, February 2nd, to hear retired Judge John A. Kendall speak on the history of Hendricks County. He took us down memory lane (and beyond) in his thoroughly researched and interesting paper.

He spoke at length about the Friendswood community where he spent his childhood and about the people who lived around there. Among these fine folk were the gentlemen who organized and owned the three successful ice cream companies... The Furnace Ice Cream Co., the Jessup-Antrum Ice Cream, and the Ballard Ice Cream Co.

It was fascinating to hear him speak so affectionately about his early home and the people who lived there. However, after he had taken his grandchildren recently on a tour of what is left of the community, one of them said, "Grand-dad, I wasn't too impressed with your home town."

Well, maybe through childish eyes and ears, Friendswood and the people who lived there weren't too "impressive", but, in years to come, that child will realize, just as we who heard him speak, what a great impact these people, including Judge Kendall, himself, have made on the destinies of Hendricks County.

Judy Pingel, vice president, presided at the business meeting, and following the program, the group enjoyed a social hour in the jury room with refreshments courtesy of our president. (Thanks, Judge)

May 1, 1988

We have the promise of the weather man (we think) that May 1st will be a perfect day, so a good crowd is expected for our next meeting which will be held at the old Central Normal College building, which is now the Danville Community Junior High School. Principal James Disney will be on hand to welcome us and to direct us to the meeting room.

The building, known to most of us as Hargrave Hall, was named for Prof. Charles Hargrave, who could have been known as "Mr. Central Normal College". No other one person could deserve that title more for he served in almost every capacity known to the college ... from student, janitor, teacher of many subjects, registrar and president. Although other bigger institutions tried to lure him away, he spent his life devoted to CNC. The building itself is almost sacred to many of us who spent so many happy and instructive hours there.

And no one could speak with more authority and more devotion about Central Normal College than Blanche Wean who deserves the title, "Mrs. Central Normal College" herself. The story of her life has enough material for a best seller. Her childhood spent at "her father's coat-tails" in his place of business in Bloomington, her dramatic breakthrough when she was allowed to enroll in the Indiana University's previously all-male Indiana School of Business; her struggles when she came to Danville as Head of the Business Department at Central Normal College make for an "only in America" story.

This was during the Depression and she was faced with the prospect of maintaining a household, rearing three small daughters, and often feeding hungry students on the magnificent yearly salary of \$1,500 a year.

She will tell the story with love and from personal experience and what a story it will be! Be there at 2:00 prepared to enjoy yourselves.

MORE ABOUT CENTRAL NORMAL COLLEGE

HOW WE MISS RUTH PRITCHARD:

She has, however, left us much of value in her notes and records which she kept in RUTH PRITCHARD'S NOTE BOOK.

The following material was found in the Corner Stone of the Danville Academy, which was the fore runner of Central Normal College. She copied this information in her meticulous hand writing from records in the Archives at DePauw University. It contains the names of 291 men and the amounts they subscribed for the Danville Academy building. The amounts range from as small as \$2.00 to \$500 and totalled \$10,055.52. The list abounds in names familiar as the movers and shakers of early Hendricks and especially of Danville.

At the end of the list is the following statement:
"The above is a full statement of the amount subscribed for the Building of the Danville Academy up to this date August 14, 1860."

H. S. McCammack, Agent

And Ruth added:

On page 22 of 1860 N.W. Indiana Conference minutes of the Methodist Episcopal Church:

"Very marked prosperity has attended this institution during the past year. A large and commodious building is now in course of erection. One hundred feet front by forty-five feet deep, at a cost of about \$14,000, which in addition to the building now occupied, will afford ample convenience for purposes of the school. We recommend the appointment of A. G. Gee and N. L. Brakeman as visitors."

I treasure all the material Ruth Pritchard has left in my possession and we are all richer for the vast amount of historical information she has scattered about among libraries, historical societies and museums. What an impact this tiny lady has made!

AND STILL MORE CENTRAL NORMAL COLLEGE

A copy of the CENTRAL NORMAL COLLEGE QUARTERLY dated August, 1930, surfaced from the depths of my "catacombs" which is the only way I can describe all the "stuff" I have stashed away without organization or system. It was sheer luck that I ran across this quarterly at this time when the accent will be on CNC at our next meeting.

Headlines read: GRADUATING CLASS OF 1930 LARGEST ... followed by TOTAL OF 252 GRADUATED FROM VARIOUS COURSES ... and followed by BACCALAUREAT DEGREE CONFERRED ON 102 STUDENTS AT SCHOOL'S GREATEST COMMENCEMENT.

The article continued: "The graduating class of 1930 was the largest Central Normal College ever had. Last year 88 received the A.B. degree as compared to 102 this year.

"The demand for Central Normal graduates increases more rapidly than does the number of graduates from year to year. All the Commerce, Music and Art graduates had positions before Commencement Day. Nearly all the graduates of the class of 1930 have jobs for next year."

It lists all the graduates and where they would be teaching. Space doesn't permit naming all of them but I am tempted to mention a few in hopes they will ring a bell with some of you old timers: Reed Andrews, Pansy Baker (my sister-in-law), Lawrence Bannon, George Bosley, Russell Bratton, Maurice Brewer, Harry Bridges, Thelma Chatham, Paul Cockrill, Edward Cushman, Edward Dean, Raymond Demaree, Fred Fleming, Edgar Franklin (my brother), Grace Gastina, Helen Hamilton, Mary Ellen Harrison, Fern Jordan, Alberta Harness, Robert Lanum, Sewell Leitzman, Helen Lininger, Hurst Livengood, Stanley J. Lyon, Carlos Mackey, Alice McCoun, Maurice McNeeley, Helen Mosier, Faye Nelson, Amy Nichols, Maxine Osborn, Dallas Renn, Geraldine Roberts, William Rodebeck, Frances Seipel, Almeda Shearer, Mary Elizabeth Swisher, Dorothy Whitman, Milne Williams and many others.

Teachers and professors whose pictures appeared included Beulah Jones Wilson, professor of Reading and Phonics; Orma Weber, Professor of Music; Mary Barton Johnson, professor of Typewriting and Shorthand; Madonna Myers Barnes, Director of Physical Education and Leslie L. Steinbach, Head of Science Department and Dean of Men. Frank Barnes, coach and director of Physical Education was mentioned as well as Grant Walls, Assistant Coach.

An article on EXPENSES AT C.N.C. reads "Central Normal College has been and is now, and will remain the least expensive school in which to obtain an education. The following are expenses for the Regular Year of 36 Weeks:

	High	Low
Board	\$144.00	\$108.00
Room	72.00	54.00
Tuition	126.00	126.00
	\$342.00	\$288.00
Expenses for one term of 12 weeks		
Board	\$ 48.00	\$ 36.00
Room	24.00	18.00
Tuition	42.00	42.00
	\$144.00	\$ 96.00

Central Normal College held an unique and an envious spot in the history of education in Indiana. The number of students, many of whom could never have received an education any place else, have scattered through out the world and their influence on the thousands of lives they have touched can never be over estimated. Truly it was a sad day for Hendricks County, and especially for Danville, when Central Normal College was forced to close its doors in 1945.

IN MEMORY

Death again visited us and took from us two members who will be greatly missed.

Wendell Barrett, a Plainfield native, and a graduate of Plainfield High School, continued his interest in Plainfield through his membership in the Guilford Township Historical Society, the HCHS, and the Historical Collection at the Plainfield Public Library. He contributed many Worrell and Barrett family papers, pictures and books. He was the author of a 1921 publication, SOIL SURVEY OF LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA.

Irma Clark Harger, a Hendricks County native, who passed away recently, had lived an active life until her last illness. She taught 40 years in the Indianapolis schools, and after she retired to her home in Danville, became an active member in a number of organizations including the HCHS.

We extend to the families of these two active, energetic senior citizens our deepest sympathy and we assure them that the many contributions that they have made will be remembered and appreciated.

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

Ecc. 3:1

MUSINGS AT THE MUSEUM:

We hope the ice and wind storms are all in the past. In spite of all the aggravation, the museum seemed to weather the storms very well.

Several school groups visited. These groups number around 90 students per school. After each visit the museum gets a flurry of "Thank-you" notes. They always tell what appealed to them the most. It is usually pronounced "pretty neat."

Clubs meet here too. They come away most enthusiastic. They see so many things that some of their families had that it was a pleasure to see again.

Among other things we received this winter and spring included a crazy quilt made of velvet. There were two cream color silk skirts that were worn by a very tall, slender woman. That waistline! We didn't measure it but it could have been eighteen inches! It surely took a little help from the family to get her into that.

From the Ruth Pritchard estate came her personal collection of cemetery records from all over the county. It was a labor of love for the dear lady, and she had spent countless hours compiling it.

THE ADULT BEDROOM

Today we'll take a look at a bedroom. This one is the adult bedroom which is just across the hall from the library that we visited a while back. As we enter the room we notice on our right is a clothes rack filled with assorted wearables no doubt put there after ironing. Sh! The baby is asleep at the foot of the bed in an 1874 cradle. Next, a wash stand with pitcher and bowl, assorted boxes of gloves and a glove sizer. Now you will wonder about that, but it ensures that your

gloves will fit perfectly. It is made of silver and velvet.

Above the wash stand is a framed collection of hair curlers from years back. Next is a display case that keeps jewelry from collecting dust but keeps it visible. The bed is made up with a feather bed and topped off with a pretty applique quilt.

Over the head of the bed is a framed marriage license. The picture next to it is of a log-rolling taken a short distance northwest of Danville. The next two pictures are likely of a family.

The old sewing machine by the bed holds a fancy parlor lamp. A curling iron has been inserted in the chimney to show how irons were heated. There is the usual clutter found on a dresser, and a hat on a stand. The seated model wears a fancy night gown, holds a brush and the quilt over her lap looks like a log cabin design.

In the window-well and old trunk are an assortment of purses. All sizes, fancy and plain. The stand table holds a glove box and a fine collection of hat pins, both plain and fancy.

Next we look at the closet. It is about the size of closets of that time--tiny. An armoire or free-standing wardrobe is filled with period clothes. On top are hats. The next old trunk is loaded with coverlets. On the floor is a travel case. Here is another clothes rack filled with things to finish drying. The wastebasket is reed. On the floor is a needle box--the kind you used to see in stores. Above all this on the wall are more family pictures and a framed marriage license. The black silk gown that is on the model is floor length and pleated all around like those today. The lady it was intended for was very tiny for it is too small for our model.

The old sewing machine is a very early model. From all appearances some one has been sewing and left all the materials out. There is a stand of empty spools, some other project over behind it. A glass jar with an assortment of buttons. Well look, here's a darning egg! Here's a sea-shell holding a pin-cushion. Two sewing baskets filled with spools, buttons and two pairs of spectacles. Must have left in a hurry to have left specs there.

There's a door that goes out into the attic. Some pigeons are having a chat. The little sewing rocker is so comfortable that one hates to get up. The three mannequins in the corner are wearing various wearables, including a set of hoops for a hoop-skirt. This one is leather. A sea-shell holds the door open. The rocker in front of the door looks to be very old. The rugs are crocheted and other rugs are woven rag types.

This about does it for this room. Another time we'll look at another room.

Jewell

QUERY

Wishing to correspond with anyone knowing of the family of Gideon Morris listed in Hendricks County census of 1860 with his wife Marietta and daughters Eliza, Nancy, Elizabeth and Lavina. Also Nancy Morris who was 75 years old. He is gone from 1870 census. Was he in Civil War? At least one of his daughters, Elizabeth, (my line) was still in Hendricks County in 1881.

Is there a list in Hendricks Co. of Civil War veterans that did not return? Since Gideon Morris seemed to disappear between 1860 and 1870 I'm wondering if he could have been a Civil War casualty.

Mildred Uland
R 3, Box 194
Bloomfield, IN 47424

Hoosier Celebration '88 * * * * * PLAINFIELD ROOTS PROJECT

As we look forward to Plainfield's part in Hoosier Celebration '88, we find ourselves intrigued by the people of our county. Who are they? Where do they come from? What part did their families play in Hendricks County's history?

From these thoughts came the idea of the Plainfield Roots Project. Wouldn't it be great to get as many county residents as possible to trace their family trees and then display the results at the time of the Homecoming Celebration in October?

By sharing their research, we would all learn more about our town and county -- how they developed and what fascinating people live here. What better way to celebrate a town, a county and a state than by finding out how its people all fit into the picture?

Individuals are asked to complete basic genealogical forms and to donate copies to the Plainfield Library's local history section where they will be added to the files of the Guilford Township Historical Collection. There, they will be kept on a permanent basis.

Packets containing information and blank forms will be available for participants by May 1, 1988. Those who complete and return the forms to the library will be awarded a certificate of participation to recognize their part in the Hoosier Celebration '88 project.

AHM GRAVES Realtors is underwriting the cost of both the packets and the certificates.

The Heritage Committee is sponsoring free workshops in beginning genealogy techniques at the Plainfield Library. The sessions will be publicized in the local newspaper, or you may call the Historical Librarian at 839-6602 to have your name put on a waiting list for the next class.

While you're waiting for the workshop, a good way to get started in your genealogical research is to begin filling in a five-generation chart as far back as you can. You may be surprised how much you already know. Then comes the fun of confirming dates, looking up legal documents and discovering your family's history.

COME ON! JOIN THE FUN! BE A PART OF THE PLAINFIELD ROOTS PROJECT!

Announcement has been received from the Indiana Historical Society that plans are well underway for Traces, a new quarterly magazine of Indiana history.

Dr. Thomas A. Mason and the editorial staff of the Society are working toward the inaugural issue for Winter 1989. Treating many aspects of Indiana and Midwestern history, the magazine will aim at a general public readership.

IHS members will receive Traces as a benefit of membership, and it will also be available at bookstores and newsstands.

For information on Society membership, call 232-1882 or write: Indiana Historical Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-3299.

Susan Miller Carter, Indiana County Hist.
c/o Plainfield Public Library
1120 Stafford Road
Plainfield, IN 46168

ELLIS PARK TO OPEN 75TH SEASON

(The following article appeared in a recent issue of THE REPUBLICAN and was written by Brad Andrews, our first full time Park Superintendent. Brad, a graduate of Indiana University, is doing a splendid job at the park, and it is quite evident that it is a labor of love. Incidentally, Brad is one of Blanche Wean's numerous and talented grandsons and, like his grandmother, seems to have a strong interest in history. Congratulations, Brad, and keep up the good work. Every where you turn down at the park is evidence of your tender, loving care.)

When Ellis Park opens its gates, March 21, it will mark the 75th season for the Danville park.

The year - 1913. Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States of America. The unsinkable Titanic lay on the bottom of the frigid Atlantic Ocean. Prohibition swept across cities and towns throughout our country.

Closer to home, the town of Danville, Indiana, was in its 88th year. Danville was a flourishing college town. It was a growing community which foresaw many needs. An organization which was comprised of mainly young merchants envisioned the possibilities a park would give to a growing town. Among these men of vision were: W. C. Osborne, President of the First National Bank, Alvin Hall, Publisher of the Danville Gazette; J. D. Hogate, Publisher of the Danville Republican; F. Brewer Hadley, owner of the House of Hadley (clothing); Charles Hargrave, Vice-President of Central Normal College; Joe Hess, owner of Hess Clothing Store; Scott McCurdy, owner of the local buggy shop.

So it began. With the town growing and Central Normal College flourishing, this group of people formed a committee which had a specific goal in mind. The goal was to establish a park for the college students and boys and girls of the local community. It was originally referred to as the "Danville Play Ground." This could be a place where sporting events could be held as well as somewhere the children could get off the streets to enjoy some recreation.

The first step of the committee was to find a site suitable for such a park. As reported in the Jan. 2, 1913 issue of the Danville Republican, the committee stated that "the land lying between Rockville Road and the traction line" was most suitable. (The traction line refers to the railway line which ran from Indianapolis to Danville - commonly known as the old inter-urban line). The land was owned by William A. and Jenny King. The land adjoined the property owned by the Central Normal College. Originally, Mr. King had no desire to sell this piece of land. The lawyer representing the park committee, Otis Gulley, said "the town had a right to purchase the land for park and recreational purposes."

When talk of the park first surfaced, many townspeople opposed it. The Feb. 2, 1913 issue of the Danville Republican quoted one person as stating "one may walk ten minutes in either direction of town and be in any number of nature's parks." But shortly after this, many citizens appeared at the Feb. 29, 1913 Town Board meeting showing support for a "public play ground." The Republican publisher, Julian Hogate, reported on the meeting stating that "when the people of Danville ask for a playground, they have every argument of humanity and health on their side." C.N.C. professor and committee member, Charles Hargrave, spoke in favor of the park in a different manner. He said, "by obtaining this land, the people of Danville secure a sufficient piece of property which will protect the water supply of the town for all time. The water plant sat (and still does) on the eastern boundary in the park. Hargrave said that "as long as the town doesn't own this land, there is a possibility that someone may tap the water supply, thereby weakening the flow of the wells which supply the town."

At a board meeting on April 24, 1913, The Republican reported that the Town Board unanimously approved both a public play ground and a sanitary sewer system for its growing town. On this date, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution for the issuing of bonds for \$5,000 for the William A. King property. The decision was made to sell five bonds of one thousand dollars each (bearing 4½%). On May 15, 1913, the bonds were issued and purchased by E. M. Campbell and Company. They bore \$34.40 and matured in 5, 9, 13 and 20 years respectively. Later (June 23) two more bonds would be sold at \$1,000 each. On April 24, Florence Dugan donated a strip of land fifty feet wide for an entrance road. A deed was made on May 24, 1913 by Jenny and William A. King to the Town of Danville. The purchase price was \$4,030. The amount sold was 20.1 acres. (Approximately \$200 per acre).

On June 5, 1913, H. C. Sandusky of Cincinnati was given the contract to lay out and beautify the new park at an expense of \$80. He would oversee road and tree layout. Mr. Sandusky met with the Town Board and the park committee after surveying and staking the grounds. He stated "a dam is to be built at the rear of the water plant. A dam of sufficient size will be erected so a stage of water three feet to the traction (inter-urban tracks) will be provided. The dam will have a spillway for surplus water. A driveway will be built through the grounds and some rustic bridges will span the creek. It is also in the design to build a cascade down the face of the bluff." What would the park be named? Readers of The Republican were invited to send in their considerations.

By June 1913, the Danville play ground was already quite a success being used by "scores of people hungry for an outing." As reported in the June 5 Republican, "boys continue to swim in their garb provided by Mother Nature and thereby preventing women from visiting the park. As of this week in June 1913, an ordinance was passed that bathing suits must be worn."

The committee wanted Tennis Courts, a bathing beach and ample ball grounds in the park. The ball diamond was located at the North end of the park. It was

reported that "no better ball field in the State would be found." The Commercial Club voted to organize a semi-professional baseball team. On May 1, 1913 The Republican announced that county-wide interests towards try-outs were overwhelming. The new park would be home to The Danville Browns. A new grandstand was built by Clarence Carter Construction. It was 84 feet long with seating for 400 people. There were two dressing rooms and two restrooms beneath the stands. Admissions were charged to the games and revenues were deposited into the park fund. Grandstand receipts were originally said to be used for new driveways, new trees and rustic bridges, however it was later revealed that this money went to pay for John Bryan's (park superintendent) \$50 a month salary. The diamond was dedicated Saturday, June 12, 1913. The game was between The Browns and the Central Normal College team. The Browns won the game 26 to 20. The Browns played such teams as the Nebraska Indians, the Indianapolis Black-Sox, an All-Star Chinese team, an All-Star Filipino team, a U.S. Navy Club, the Bridgeport Independents and the Ladoga Tigers (which had former Cincinnati Reds and a Detroit Tigers players on its roster).

An article in the July 18, 1913 issue of The Republican, Mr. Hogate printed, "work on the park seems to have been suspended. Nothing had been done towards arranging tennis courts or a small diamond for the young ones. It is a matter of deep regret that the board seems unwilling to proceed with the construction of the dam for bathing." Engineering estimates for the dam was set at \$950. At a meeting later in the year, the board talked of other improvements such as the tennis courts and croquet grounds to be added by the summer of 1914. A plan to build a cement basin-type bathing place just east of the creek was discussed. They would fill this with city water.

In August 1913, a Chautauqua (a people-gathering event of where numerous talents perform, such as magical acts, literary lectures, Shakespearian plays, grand operas, humors, band music, etc., a fair of sort held under a huge tent) was held in Danville. Governor McNutt attended along with 1800 other people. He spoke at the event. The Republican (Aug. 18, 1913) said McNutt praised Danville for its park scheme and said that he would advertise from other platforms what Danville had done for its "little cusses and big one's too." A great applause swept the tent. The Chautauqua was held at J. W. Thompson's lot (presently the field directly north of Walt Land's property on East Broadway). The street was then called South Street. The name of South Street was changed because of its confusing connotation. South Street ran East to West. When people came to town for the Chautauqua, they found South Street to be confusing. So in August 1913, many people who lived on South Street signed a petition to change the name of the street. Many suggestions were to name it after the Chautauqua (perhaps Chautauqua Avenue). But no, this was too hard to spell, let alone pronounce. So it was left up to the people living on this street to name it. They came up with Broadway-referring to its "broad thoroughfare" which carried throngs of people to the Chautauqua. At the same time, Main Street was almost renamed "Park Avenue" as it swept by the park. But this was voted down being not suitable for the commercial district.

On Sept. 18, 1913, at a Trustee's meeting, the board and park committee purchased some 1400 trees and shrubs. A contract was signed with the Lafayette Nursery Co. For a total of \$440, the trees would be set out by a Mr. Cline (an employee of the Nursery Company) as Mr. Sandusky supervised. This was done in October 1913. (Four years later Park Superintendent, John Grahm drove his one horse team and wagon to Putnam County and purchased several Black Walnut trees which still thrive in the front lot of the park.

Seventy-five years have past as Ellis Park (named in honor of Harve Ellis -

Park Superintendent for 40 years) is still flourishing. The park is a thriving recreational facility visited by thousands and thousands of visitors each season. The legacy which was passed on to us by our grandparents will again be passed on to our grandchildren as time goes on. The idea that was created in 1913 will hopefully serve this town from now on.

*This history was done on Jan. 26-29, 1987, by Park Superintendent Brad Andrews. All materials were taken from materials (microfich) at the Danville Public Library. They may be found under The Danville Republican - 1913).

CAMPAIGN TIPS

The air is full of campaign rhetoric (or haven't you noticed?) so here are some words of wisdom ascribed to Abraham Lincoln that might win a few votes if a candidate would adopt one or several of these for his campaign slogan. They are called the Ten Cannot-ments:

1. You cannot bring about prosperity by discontinuing thrift.
2. You cannot bring about prosperity by discontinuing thrift.
3. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
4. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
5. You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich.
6. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.
7. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
8. You cannot establish security on borrowed money.
9. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence.
10. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should be doing for themselves.

"THE BOOK" that we all have been looking forward to has rolled off the presses and is ready for all who want to take another delightful trip down Memory Lane. Its pages are filled with tales of the school's early struggles, through its "glory days", down to the sad time when its doors were closed for the last time.

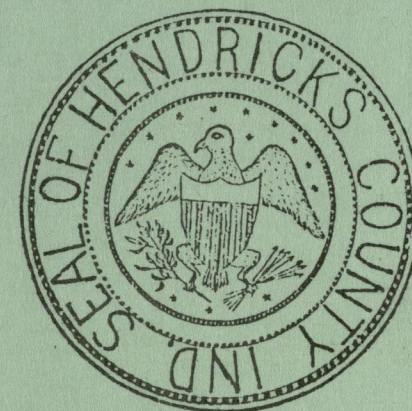
Central Normal College brought with it many things not only to Danville, but to Hendricks County. The hundreds of students brought with them the excitement, the exuberance and the joy of carefree youth as well as the serious seeking of knowledge; the faculty contributed refinement and culture that created an aura of intellectual gentility. These things went with the closing of Central Normal College and, unfortunately, they have never returned.

It is interesting reading for any one, but especially to those thousands who have ever had any connection with CNC. If you have ever enrolled in CNC, you will find your name among the almost nine thousand listed in the back of the book. It is quite a book. As the critics now observe, it is a good "read".

Blanche Wean, of course, is responsible for this book with the able assistance of Virgil and Elizabeth Hunt and many, many others. Copies may be purchased at her office or ordered at P. O. Box 128, Danville, IN 46122. The price is \$25.00 plus \$2.00 postage.

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XIX NUMBER III

AUGUST 1988
PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 123
DANVILLE, IN 46122

Patricia Cox
310 Urban
Danville IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1988

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168
Tel. 839-3146

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 West Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
R. R. 2, Box 86
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 539-4311

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Margaret Baker, Editor
(Mrs. C. Rawleigh Baker)
9 Round Hill Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2115

Libbe Hughes, Assistant Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

There is no doubt that it is around the family and the home that all the greatest virtues, the most dominating virtues of human society are created, strengthened and maintained.

Winston Churchill

PRESIDENT'S SUMMER MESSAGE

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On May 1, 1988, we had a good crowd at the Danville Junior High to hear Mrs. Wean talk on "The History of Central Normal College". It was amazing for me to watch your faces as Mrs. Wean talked about many of the memories you all share.

We owe a special thanks to Judy Pingle and her group for the refreshments. Many people stayed around and toured the school. You can sure tell Mr. Jim Disney is proud of his school and job. Mr. Disney stayed with us after having conducted the Junior Class Prom at school the night before. We all appreciate his efforts.

Remember August 7, 1988, at 2:00 p.m., we will have Leslie Olsen from Channel 8 TV, and Gary Ellis, State Archeologist, present a program entitled UNEARTHING INDIANA'S PAST. Music will be furnished by the fine Sextet from the Pittsboro Christian Church.

We will meet at the Pittsboro Christian Church on North Meridian Street, across from the grade school. You can park on the west side of the church. A reception will follow.

I have recently learned that Mr. Bob Boyd, Principal of the Danville South Elementary School, has received a very interesting grant. Mr. Boyd will be videotaping places and things of historical interest in our County and will be interviewing people who know things about our County history. We should follow along what he is doing. I am sure he will share the results of his work with us. When more information about the project becomes available, I will pass it along in this column.

I hope you are all having a great summer. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Pittsboro Christian Church on August 7, 1988, at 2:00 p.m. Maybe by then we will have gotten some rain and be back on track with what the weather should really be like for summer. Years from now we don't want to be talking about the drought of '88.

See you in August.

Jeffrey V. Boles, President

MAY MEETING

On May 1st we gathered in the old CNC - Canterbury Gym, now the Danville Community Schools Junior High Gym, to hear Blanche Wean give the history of that beloved old school. Since 1931, when she became Head of the Business Department, she has been an intrinsic part of that institution. It can be said that she still is, for, since those doors were closed for good, she has been the guiding spirit in the still - active Alumni Association. Central Normal College sent teachers out to every county in the state, and to every state in the country and its influence can never be measured. It was an impressive story and the history of that small but mighty school makes one of the most interesting and important

chapters in the history of Hendricks County.

We enjoyed coffee, punch and cookies while we browsed over school memorabilia.

AUGUST MEETING

We will meet again, August 7th, at the Pittsboro Christian Church where a fine program has been planned. Leslie Olsen, from Chanel 8 TV, and Gary Ellis, State Archeologist, will present a program Unearthing Indiana's Past. Music will be furnished by the Sextet from the church. If you have heard this group sing, you know they are well-worth coming to hear.

The Pittsboro Christian Church is on N. Meridian St., across from the Grade School, and parking is on the west side of the church.

This meeting promises to be just another interesting one such as we have become accustomed and I promise you it won't be any hotter than it has been! So don't miss it.

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

Last time, we griped about the weather. We're still griping about the weather. Ma Nature and her mood swings!

The museum has been seeking a kerosene chandelier. We notice that there is one right about the foot of the stairs. It looks like it has a round wick and it is decorated with flowers. Just because electricity was not in use didn't mean homes didn't have pretty lamps. We have several. There is the bracket lamp in the kitchen that is far from plain; the little parlor lamp on the melodeon and an even smaller one on the parlor organ. We have some plain ones too. There is one on the fireplace mantel, on the stand-table and another on the piolian.

The museum had a table of Central Normal-Canterbury College memorabilia at the recent college reunion.

The Hendricks County garden Club planted periwinkles in the flower bed after the tulips finished blooming. The project has kept someone stepping to keep watering, but the periwinkles are blooming nicely.

Among the items received by the museum was a lard press. We already had a sausage grinder. I expect if we'd look around we'd find some butcher knives. There's a "how-to" book on butchering up in the library that tells all in detail from locating a proper spot for the fire to cleaning up afterward. We're in no hurry to start! We also received a crank-type telephone. It hasn't been installed yet but it would have to be in a handy place so it wouldn't take very long to get there when it rang--either for that number, or any other ring on the line. One way to get on the spot news. There was one thing certain--there was no privacy. One talked before an audience unless everyone was out. Listen to the receivers go up to tell how many there were on the line. There was one thing that is a pet peeve today--teen-agers using the line to excess that was not a problem then.

Just notice an item stating that a Sears Roebuck Catalog published in 1902 cost the customer 50¢. Look at their price today!

THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

A child's delight, one could almost hear them squeal! We're greeted by Teddy Bear in his high chair (we start our docents young). The pictures on the wall are of assorted subjects. Here's a cradle, or rather there are four cradles of assorted sizes, with dolls to fill them. The quilt on the bed is made up in tiny squares. A seventeen year old girl made it. The bed also has a new feather bed. We notice a child's size roll-top desk. Makes a good place to work on coloring books. A rocking chair from the 1920's was just the right size to get one's feet on the floor. Here are three doll buggies. Look at this fancy one! It is not a doll buggy, but made for a real life baby. It is made out of reed and has high wheels and looks pretty delicate. The window-well has an assortment of toys and a couple of dolls. Over here are two miniature displays of old-time homes. One is in the 1880's when "home" was over the store. This day bed is not restricted to children's use. This wash stand with its pitcher and bowl was the closest thing then to a bathroom. This washstand also has three tiny lamps on it. This folding seat was used in buggies to provide more room and was used by the children and those adults whose rheumatiz hadn't caught up with them. A wardrobe filled with children's clothes, lots of fancy ruffles and no permanent press. As we go on toward the door we see games, tricycles, a fancy oil lamp, a baby basket, tiny shoes. As we are about to leave, we notice a tiny desk with a slate and slate pencil. All this had the makings of noise but those below knew that was okay until all was quiet.

Jewell

CENTRAL NORMAL BOOK WELL RECEIVED

Approximately one half the books "Central Normal - Canterbury College 1876 - 1951" have been sold. This book contains over 400 pages of materials including the story by Dr. W. Lawson on moving the college from Ladoga, through the Trustee's minutes, articles about faculty and campus leaders with campus activities of athletics, music department, business department with special articles about Sam Williams and Miss Watts. About 10,000 names of persons who attended has been of special interest to families interested in genealogy.

Books may be secured from CNC-Canterbury Office, Box 128, (249 S. Wayne St.) Danville, Indiana. Price \$25.00 per copy. Add postage \$2.00 if mailed.

THE ROBERT H. KING BRIDGE FAMILY

Home base was at Danville, Indiana, in Hendricks County. Robert H. King (1893-1964) began to contract for bridge construction in the early 1920's so these dates set the time frame for our story.

I have always thought it exciting that I was a bridge builder's kid. I was born in 1924, so when I was a little girl Mr. King's mother lived in the house just west of Ellis Park. Down under the hill was a barn and long lot. This area was used for storage of extra lumber and machinery and the barn provided a warm, dry work space. Sometimes my father took my little sister and me with him to spend the day. We visited with Mrs. King and enjoyed looking at her bird books.

Most of all we loved to play across the swinging bridge, swing in the wide swings and roller skate in the shelter house.

If you take an Indiana map and circle all the spots where bridges were built by the King Construction Company, you touch every part of our state. Three bridges were built in Illinois also, in those early days. Meredosia, Illinois, was a long way from Hendricks County. There I attended first grade and the next summer we were at Vergennes, Illinois. A bridge was also built at Little York, Illinois, according to Hazel Lothridge who has helped me collect data. Bill Lothridge (1904-1975) worked for Mr. King for a total of 38 years.

My father, Paul Clark, his brothers, Earl and Beuford Clark, James Weddle, Thomas Pritchett, Robey Russell, James Hayes, and Malcolm (Mutt) Lothridge along with wives and children were the nucleus of the King "bridge gang". Work crews were hired from local laborers.

Paul Clark spent all of his working days with Mr. King except for the time of depression between 1931 and 1935 when he worked for the Hendricks County Highway Department, and during W.W. II when both Paul and Mr. King served with the Navy Seabees.

Earl Clark was away during those same periods of time but then continued in bridge construction as long as his health allowed. Beuford Clark died from appendicitis in 1936.

Robey Russell was the semi driver and hauled materials where needed. Mr. King usually had two bridges in different localities going at the same time.

We always waited anxiously on contract letting day to find out in which direction we would be moving. All of the families involved had permanent homes and only moved the barest of necessities in those little two-wheeled trailers with their wooden side racks.

Wooden packing boxes became kitchen cabinets when stacked and with the addition of print curtains. Regular open bed springs had home-made wooden corner legs attached to become portable beds. Canvas cots and chairs, card tables and folding chairs were essential and utilized. The heaviest article was the coal heating stove. A small laundry stove and/or kerosene stove was used for cooking.

Perhaps the new home was a summer kitchen on a farm near Fairland. My sister and I shared a tent bedroom close by. That was the only time in my life I lived on a farm and that summer, when I was seven, was a real learning experience. Perhaps the new home was half a house; rooms upstairs in a house or even up over a grocery store. In Charlestown we had the old fashioned well with bucket, rope and wooden crank. The next move was to Seymour (that hot summer of 1936) and there we were blessed for the first time with a real bathroom. Seymour also had three air-conditioned movie houses and a dairy store that sold three dops of ice cream for a nickel. Sand, melons, tramps at the door, baseball games at the park and Ruth and Jimmy Hayes expecting J.B. and sharing our house--all memories of that famous summer.

During the 20s and 30s we sure couldn't be choosy about living conditions when several bridge families descended on small Indiana towns all at once. Before we moved to Eaton, in 1938, house trailers came on the market. They were about 27 feet long. Couch in one end, convertible table and seats in the other. Ice box and a little gas stove; a closet and a few cabinets--that's all. Not modern,

but how nice they seemed. They were parked in private yards where we shared a pump for water and the out-house with the family.

Those trailers eliminated all the disinfecting, scrubbing, packing, unpacking and the worry of finding a place to call home. They were a great boon to construction workers. The brand of our first one was Covered Wagon.

When the bridge was located on a new highway, there were often great stretches of mud and rutted dirt. This was next to impassable during bad winter weather. At Charlestown my mother's legs were frostbitten when she accompanied my father out to the bridge location. Her wool skirt picked up the snow then slapped her legs on that long one mile hike.

At Seymour it was just the opposite. Loose sand everywhere just like a desert. Unions were causing trouble and it was here that my father got a gun permit and had a gun in his car. Here also that robbers came and stole gasoline. My parents bravely caught them.

We always spoke of the temporary bridges where daddy had to light the lanterns each evening. I just recently found out that some of our group referred to these as the run-arounds. At Morgantown there were four to build. I well remember the smell of the lumber and the rattle of the boards. What fun to hunt for the prettiest rocks in a pile of gravel.

At La Crosse, up in La Porte County, we were close to the Dunes Park and to the Field's Museum in Chicago. At Marion we got to see the famous Easter Pageant in one of its earliest performances. We were often close to a state park and took advantage of learning all we could about this great state of Indiana.

What is it like to go to two or even three schools in one year? Well, I liked to meet new people, have new teachers and make friends but it wasn't that easy for my little sister. She mostly stayed in my shadow and my friends were hers. When I reached high school my parents decided that during the school year mother would stay at home, in North Salem, with us girls and daddy could live in the house trailer during the week and come home over the week-end. Cars were better by this time and it worked out.

Wherever the community we made friends, attended church and school activities but most of all had our family. Yes, we led the gypsy life but we had our roots--our home and extended family back here to come home to. Our bridge family enjoyed the simple life and there was a closeness that was precious.

James Hayes is the only living member of the old bridge workers and he lives in Danville as does Hazel Lothridge. Bonita Clark lives in Clermont. The rest are gone but the heritage lives on. Larry Lothridge, son of Bill and Hazel, is in construction work as is Charles Clark, son of Earl and Charlotte. Robert H. King married Martha Harvey and we all know that the George Harvey & Son Construction Company is headquartered in Danville. My job is just to help you all remember how it was.

Mary Ann Clark Moore
310 S. Jefferson St.
Brownsburg, Indiana 46112

CENTRAL NORMAL COLLEGE CATALOGUES

NEEDED BY DANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Danville Public Library needs the following Central Normal College Catalogues. Would you check around and see if you have one you could donate so the Danville Library will have a complete set.

1937 - 1938

1940 - 1941

1941 - 1942

1942 - 1943

1943 - 1944

1944 - 1945

1945 - 1946

1946 - 1947

1947 - 1948

1950 - 1951

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Registration is underway for "Genealogy Resources at the Indiana State Library" with Diane Sharp at the Plainfield Public Library from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10.

Ms. Sharp, who holds a B.A. and an M.L.S. from Indiana University, has worked in the State Library's genealogy division since 1968 as reference librarian. She is currently assistant to the head of the division and is familiar with many aspects of family history research.

The Heritage Committee of Plainfield's Hoosier Celebration '88 is sponsoring the program in connection with the Plainfield Roots Project.

Any person with Plainfield or Hendricks County connections is encouraged to sign out a packet of information and forms at the library, complete the genealogical information and return it to the library for inclusion in the Project files as a permanent historical reference source.

In addition to current Hendricks county and Indiana residents who are participating in the Project, Plainfield Roots packets have traveled as far as Kansas, Missouri, Arizona and Idaho as former residents document their roots.

Upon completion and submission of the genealogy forms, participants will be given a certificate of recognition for their contribution to the library's local history files.

Certificates will be presented at the library's Heritage Celebration open house on Saturday, October 1 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Heritage Celebration will be one event in Plainfield's town-wide Hoosier Celebration '88 Homecoming Weekend, September 30 through October 2. The open house will feature a concert by musicians from the Central Indiana Folk Music and Mountain Dulcimer Society and refreshments courtesy of Marsh Supermarkets.

The library will be open for touring and special exhibits with historical emphasis will be on view.

For further information on the Plainfield Roots Project or the library's local history collection, phone the Historical Librarian Susan Carter at 839-6602 or write Plainfield Public Library, 1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN 46168.

County Seat Society Promotes Genealogy

The County Seat Genealogical Society - Primary Sources, met recently at the home of Mrs. Henry Cox, to prepare the third edition of the quarterly, the County Seat Scraps.

The Society was formed April 12, 1987, for promoting and aiding research in the field of genealogy. The primary aim is to "copy" primary source records and use them as the basis of the quarterly publications.

Excerpts of records which appear in the publication are: wills, deeds, probate records, marriage records, miscellaneous records, original land entries and any other available county records. The society will occasionally publish records from other areas, as they become available.

Membership to County Seat Genealogical Society-Primary Sources, is open to all. The publication of the Society, County Seats Scraps, is free to members.

For further information for becoming a member, or submitting queries please contact Pat Cox, 745-2628 or write 310 Urban St., Danville, IN 46122.

Death, again, entered our ranks and took two faithful members - Geraldine Scott and Martha Every - Clayton. Both had taught school for many years and, at retirement, returned to their native Hendricks County. We extend our sympathies to their loved ones.

"Cast all your cares on Him" 1 Peter 5:7

NOTICE -

Family newsletter - BRENGLE BRANCHES Concerning all branches of Brengle/Bringle/Pringle surnames and allied lineages. Published quarterly - \$15 per year - free unlimited queries.

Charles Bringle - Editor
6619 Pheasant Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21220

This letter came from Joan L. Robinson, 8531 Barr Lane, Garden Grove, CA 92641. We are printing it because it so interesting and explains the letter she enclosed.

May 8, 1988

Dear Mrs. Baker,

I have been working on my husbands family history for several years. The first Robinson came from Virginia in 1830 and settled in Putnam County. My husbands grandfather was Dr. Josias H. Robinson who practiced in Putnam and Hendricks counties. This letter I have enclosed was written by one of Josias' younger brothers, Dr. Lawson D. Robinson, to his wife Mollie. They were married in Hendricks County in 1860. One interesting thing is Lawson is listed in Putnam, Floyd Township census in 1860, as a medical student. He then turns up in Hendricks 1860 census with wife, Mary, and is listed as a doctor.

I thought this letter might be interesting to some one in Hendricks as he mentions several people he had heard from there. It also gives an interesting account of the war where he was. The little girl, Aggie, he mentions was his first child, Agnes. He later had three sons, Josias Arthur, Oscar James and Lawson Jr. Lawson Jr. died very young and is buried in West Branch Friends Cem. For some reason then Lawson left Hendricks and went to Brookfield, MO. and died there in 1872 at only 32. I have no evidence that Mollie and the children went with him.

I have other letters written by him to Mollie and one to his brother-in-law. This letter was written on small slips of paper about 5 inches by 6 inches and someone taped them together, so where the tape is it is almost impossible to read, thats why there are some blank spots.

You may print this letter if you would like to.

This line of Robinsons were also related to the Matthews family. The children of James and Lavinia Robinson were - Ahijah who married Sirnetta McClintock (from Hendricks) - Josias, Anderson, Cassandra, Julian, Eveline, Lawson, Jane and James.

I have just about finished my research and will try to get it printed this year. I will try to donate a copy to your library.

I will also be back there in Sept. and will try to visit your museum this time. I am also trying to get Josias Robinson's medical bag to donate. My sister-in-law has it and she wants to put it someplace like that.

Sincerely,

Jean Robinson

Moscow, Tenn.
April 19th 1863

My dearest Mollie,

This beautiful Sabbath evening just after I got tired writing in my daily journal and tired of reading my new numbers of the Herald and Era and Chicago Medical Examiner and tired of talking with everybody your very interesting and affectionate

letter came to hand. And now you can't imagine how much good it does me. I shall answer immediately as it adds new life to my pleasure and causes my heart to beat with as much joy as I have had a time since your last visit to Hendricks County! But I don't like to hear of your sporting with young folks parties in my absence! I am afraid the same law will have to be past (passed) in Indiana that they were compelled to pass - Ky. viz. A law 'Army Widows' should not marry until they had official notice of the death-their husband in the Army! There they were marrying on every mere rumor of the death of their loved (?) husband, where often the rumor is false and the husband is still living!! I guess though, as I have not been gone very long yet that you could wait, if you were to hear of my untimely 'end' until it was confirmed second time! But there is no harm in your having the one you want picked out in case such a thing should happen!! Ha! Ha! Ha! But enough of this. Enjoy yourself the best you may dear, it is alright with me for I know you must have a lonely time of it. Anyway conduct yourself my dear with an eye single to the mutual benefit, happiness and comfort to yourself, Aggie and myself in future times. You know what course of conduct on your part during my absence will be most conducive to that end and I need not here say anything further about it. I have the fullest confidence in your judgement.

I wrote mother yesterday and in that letter I told her that our regt. had from here to Miss. to take a 'twist' with the rebels. They left about 130 sick and convalescents here in my charge together with all the camp equipment and C&C. I was not here when they left, but was absent by R R on official business pertaining to the regt. Drs. Butterfield and Russell went with it. I would liked the best in the world to have went, for they are sure to have a fight. I do not know whether they come back here and continue to guard this ward or whether we will be ordered to join them in a day or a few days. Will let you know and only if we leave here finally. I rather dislike to leave a railroad and go off again away from any mail facilities and connection with you as we did before. But I am ready for anything our country's good requires at my hands. Nothing in this world could please me more to have you come and see me, but as I said in my letter last Sunday, difficulties seem unsurmountable. And just now, as all the time, it looks as though this enemy were going to attack this road somewhere and cut us off from Memphis and the river. I should to have you and Aggie here when such a thing occurred. As before said, we will patiently await for course of events for awhile and trust to king providence. I have a new Testament dear, and it gives me great pleasure to read it's lesson. I am becoming quite a Christian. Our sick say I am worth 400 of the chalains even as a moral advisor. They don't know I have is very as soul doctor. Probably a little of both. Oh! yes Dear did you get a medical journal with a letter in it which I sent you!! Tell me. Yesterday the good people of New Elizabeth sent the boys here a box of good things and among others, Mrs. Richardson sent me a nice can of green peaches and Mrs. Ger a nice cake of maple sugar and some other good woman, I know not who, sent a can of 'tomato catsup' and one of nice apple butter and a lot of cakes! I think it was Mrs. Dr. Matthews of Clayton as it came from there.

Some moths ago when Bill Richardson wrote to me his lady sent a letter also and so did Mrs. Hull when Oscar wrote. I answered them when I wrote to their husbands. Then when sisters Jane and Julian wrote me Mrs. Cleman wrote me a very lovely, friendly letter which I answered sending her letter in one to Julian. I thought I would mention these things so that no one might lie to you about it and cause you to think I was secretly corresponding with married women! I shall never do an act, Dear in your absence that I would not be willing for you to witness rest assured of this. I am truly glad you have got moved and have left Mrs. Wilson's rat harbor. I gave you my sentiments on that subject a day or since and will not repeat it.

Our boys are gone without any tents or anything to shelter them and last night it stormed and rained torrents all night the poor fellows suffered and were thoroughly drenched to the skin. Oh dear! how I would like to see you and sweet Aggie this evening. Last night I dreamed and vividly of you both. I dream of you almost every time I go to sleep and what is remarkable I always have sweet and cheerful dreams about you! Well, dear be a good and faithful Christian and I will do likewise and God will take care of and bless us all. You improve very fast in writing, my dear, and write very interesting letters. Continue my love to write often and long and you know I will. I am keeping a daily journal for you to read when I get home. I will make it as interesting as possible for you. Give my love and kisses to all and tell Aggie, bless her, that Pa wants to see them bats'awful bad! Rest assured Dear that I will be to see you as soon as a half a chance offers itself. My love and a 1000 kisses to you and Aggie and all. May God bless us all in the constant prayer of your affectionate and devoted

Lawson

THE KOO-KOO KU KLUX KLAN

One of the darkest chapters in the history of Indiana and Hendricks County, was during the reign of the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan was organized by Confederate veterans in Tennessee and was directed against newly franchised blacks after the Civil War.

The second version of the Klan was organized in 1915, and its circle of hate was widened to include Jews, Catholics, the foreign born, radicals and labor unions. By 1920 it claimed a membership of 5 million and Indiana was in the throes of its power.

D. C. Stephenson, in 1924, became the grand Dragon of the Klan in Indiana and practically dominated the politics. It was reported that Stephenson made more than \$2 million dollars in 18 months selling Klan memberships and regatta. Stephenson boasted he was the law.

His reign of terror, however, came to an end when he was arrested, charged and convicted of murder in a sadistic sexual attack on Madge Oberholtzer. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Harvey Jacobs, Editor of the INDIANAPOLIS NEWS, where I read the above information, found a song, published in New York in 1921, which proved that, as he said, in spite of the tensions of the times, there was still some redeeming humor. The title of the song is THERE'S A BUNCH OF KLUCKS IN THE KU KLUX KLAN, and the lyrics go like this:

In the daily papers, there's a certain society,
That gets notoriety now.

I've read all about it, and between you and me,
They seem looney somehow.

There's something wrong no doubt,

And here's how I figured it out.

Chorus: There's a bunch of Klucks in the Ku Klux Klan,

And they're all KooKoo, that's true.

With their awful hoke,
They're an awful joke,
When you watch the things they do.
We ought to pile 'em, in some asylum

And never let them out.

Kause we don't know and they don't know,

What the deuce it's all about.

There's the grand high punk with his grand high bunk

And his grand palace, too.

But I've just found out how he got that palace, and I'll tell you,

Each little Kluck pays one little buck.

But he's out of luck, Kause he'll get stuck,

When he finds out they're all Kuckoo,

In the Koo-Koo Klux Klan.

The following article came from The Plainfield Messenger. The Messenger nearly always prints an article or two that takes us on a trip down Memory Lane. Thanks, Messenger.

Plain And FANCY

From Periwinkle Porch

Go back, if you can, to 1958. Now define: acid rain, compact disc, food processor, frequent-flyer program, condominium, major credit card, floppy disc, media conglomerate, cocaine cartel.

Do you ever wonder, as you go through your daily routine, what your forbearers would have thought of some of today's concerns and conveniences, today's priorities and preoccupations?

We do - often. The musings usually take the form of a fleeting thought which flashes through the mind when we see some new fashion-of-the-minute, witness a landmark building being destroyed or simply prepare a no-muss, no-fuss lunch in the microwave.

"What would Grandma think of this?" Or, on the other side of the house, "What would Grandmother say about that?"

Sometimes the answers are simple. The Grandmother who knew that everyone's knees were unattractive would be no happier to witness the return of the mini-skirt than she was to see it break on the scene the first time around.

(This same lady would be appalled to discover that in 1988, no downtown Indianapolis department store has a fabric department - or a sewing notions department. But then again, few of her six granddaughters are inclined to sew at all, much less make each season's fashions anew for the family as she did.)

Grandmama, who was a milliner before her marriage and who told of her shoes sliding down the train aisle on a buying trip to New York, would no doubt be amazed that her granddaughters are veterans of multiple trans-oceanic flights. Grandmama never boarded an airplane, and we now regard train rides as a novelty.

Some of the conveniences we all take for granted would, we suspect, be gratefully adopted. To name a few, the availability of antibiotics and vaccines, the prevalence of air conditioning, easy-care fabrics, modern washers, dryers and dishwashers.

Not to say that the women might not view some or all of the above as frivolous luxuries. Certain to fall in the "frivolous" category - and found in our households or workplaces - are TV, stereo and video recorders with remote control, electric coffee grinders, pencil sharpeners, typewriters and answering machines.

And then there is the category labeled "Downright Baffling." Here we find UPC scanners at the grocery, home computers, cars that talk to their drivers, automated teller machines, self-cleaning ovens and satellite dishes... and microwaves. Yes, microwaves. Mr. Coffees.....Push-button phones that sound more like birds chirping than telephones ringing.

The disappearance of drug stores from the downtown area would surprise them. So would picking up a prescription along with a mango and a set of dishes in the vast marketplace of today's superstores.

Grandmother, who learned to drive late in life, would be shocked to find that most places these days there's no "man with a star" on his cap to pump her gas. If she wanted her car's oil changed, there's a place up the street which specializes in that process (and not much else).

Today's service station attendant, mail carrier, firefighter, police officer, doctor, lawyer, banker - titles which almost surely brought to Grandmother's mind a male presence - are likely to be women.

What would the grandmothers think of women's increased opportunities in the work world, they who fried the bacon their husbands provided?

Is it possible that one of them would applaud the progress of the women's movement or would they both prefer that their granddaughters be old-fashioned girls?

This we cannot tell.

Since Grandmama's death in 1958, much has changed. First grader then, we're now the mother of a first-grader and sure of one thing. There've been a world of changes in 30 years. We could never begin to explain them to anyone from 1958.

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

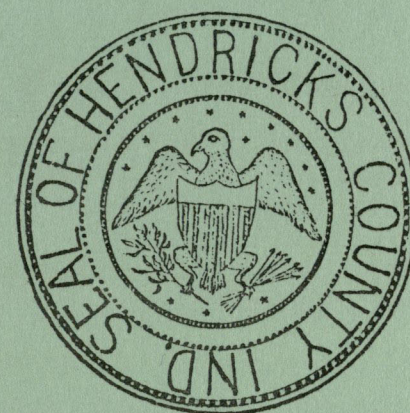
NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XIX NUMBER IV

NOVEMBER 1988
PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1988

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46163
Tel. 839-3146

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 West Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
R. R. 2, Box 86
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 539-4311

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Margaret Baker, Editor
(Mrs. C. Rawleigh Baker)
9 Round Hill Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2115

Libbe Hughes, Assistant Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

PEOPLE WHO WONDER WHERE THIS GENERATION IS GOING SHOULD
REMIND THEMSELVES WHERE IT CAME FROM IN THE FIRST PLACE

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN

PRESIDENT'S FALL MESSAGE 1988:

What a super Fall this year promises to be. I can look out my window here at the Courthouse and see the beautiful Fall colors beginning. It renews my faith and is a great gift for all of us. Hope everything is going well with you all.

We all owe a big thanks to Margaret Baker for all of the work that she has done in preparing our Hendricks County History Bulletins. She is easing herself out of that job and will be helped by Libbe Hughes, who is taking over the responsibility. We all owe Mrs. Baker a great big Thank You for the time and effort she has spent in preparing the Bulletin.

Our August meeting was well attended. Leslie Olsen from WISH TV gave a super program. You can really tell why she is a TV Reporter. Her enthusiasm and knowledge of the subject were something we all will remember.

We owe a big debt of gratitude to Mary Jeanette Winklemann and the Pittsboro Christian Church for their kind hospitality for our August meeting.

The Danville South Elementary Fourth Grade is preparing a project on Hendricks County History. If any of the members have any interest in their projects, would you contact the following teachers with any help you might give them: Mrs. Tripple - cities, towns and settlements, Mrs. Boatman - history, Mrs. Zieliński - folklore, Mrs. Cramer - transportation, Mrs. Monts - geography & natural resources, Mrs. Martin - agriculture & industry, Mrs. McCoy - graphics. Their telephone is 745-2131. I am sure the students of South Elementary would appreciate any help our members might be able to give them on the topics assigned to teachers.

We are all very excited for our November meeting. John J. Newman will speak on Art for Profit. He wants you to bring photographs to examine, date, and recommend the best ways to care for them. This will be an exciting meeting.

We need to have election of officers at the November meeting. I have appointed a Nominating Committee of Mary Jeanette Winklemann, Chairman, Telephone 892-4351, Eloise Castetter, Telephone 839-4038, and Grace Cox, Telephone 745-2552. I am sure that they would appreciate any input you have for officers.

We are planning the 1989 Program Schedule. Lynn Hopper of the Hendricks County Flyer and Indianapolis Star has agreed to give a program on antiques. Mrs. Hopper is a recognized expert on antiques and writes the Sunday column in the Indianapolis Star.

If you have some ideas for programs you want to see in 1989, let me know.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FOR 1989

The following dates:

February 5th, 1989 Meeting
May 7th, 1989 Meeting
August 6th, 1989 Meeting
November 5th, 1989 Meeting

We are committed to our big project, the Indiana Historic Cities Structures Inventory, to begin in December. As this gets underway, I'm sure our members will be given a chance to participate in writing the book. The Hendricks County Historical Society will be sponsoring the survey. We are still looking for a benefactor.

See you at the November 6th meeting in Plainfield at the Library. Carolyn Kellum will be our hostess.

SPECIAL NOTE: We all want to wish a Happy 90th Birthday to Frances Fisher. Her birthday is November 11th, 1988. There will be a reception for her November 12th, 1988 at the Pittsboro Christian Church from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

AUGUST MEETING

The Hendricks County Historical Society met at the Pittsboro Christian Church the afternoon of August 7, 1988. The meeting was called to order by Judy Pingel, Vice President. Invocation and welcome was given by Louise Broyles substituting for Frances Fisher of the host church. President Judge Jeffrey Boles told the story of a chair used for the President of the United States to sit on while he was visiting at Danville. The chair that was used was presented to Dorothy Kelley. Then Judge Boles introduced the speaker for the afternoon, Leslie Olsen, Education Reporter for Channel 8 TV. She told a story of underwater adventure off the coast of Key West, Florida, and spoke of the Ball State University Archeology Department's work with a 1000 year old burial ground. Mary Jeanette Winkelmann introduced the Pittsboro Christian Church Sextet who sang three numbers. The meeting was dismissed and refreshments were served by the host church.

Our next meeting, on November 6th, will be at the Plainfield Public Library beginning at 2:00 p.m. Former State Archivist John J. Newman will present the program entitled "Art In Profit In Indiana: A History of 19th Century Indiana Photographs With Some Notes As To Their Care." Mr. Newman requests that members bring some photographs for him to examine and possibly date. The Guilford Township ladies will provide refreshments and Carolyn Kellum will be our hostess. The library is located at 1120 Stafford Road. Hope to see you all there as this is certain to be an informative meeting.

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

The Hendricks County Historical Museum was open on Sat. Oct. 15, 1988 for Swap and Shop. This festival coincides with the Covered Bridge Festival in Rockville, IN. Both towns are on U.S. 36, or we used to call it Rockville Road. Traffic those days are usually bumper-to-bumper.

The Hendricks County Garden Club planted the flower bed with white periwinkle. Garden Club members faithfully watered it and the result was a cloud of white. After the weather cooled off the flowers were even showier. But--we had a killer frost.

The museum takes on an air of festivity when clubs come to visit. Some of the visitors may be new club members who have never come before. The chatter will be questions, comments, and some downright hearty laughter. Large groups of grade school pupils come and it will be nice when pupils from all over the county get to visit. The atmosphere is pretty lively when they stop by.

The pictures that are brought in tell stories of the towns they come from. One can pretty well tell the life of those times from pictures. Collections of newspaper articles say "you were there!" when history was made. The clothing of yesteryear tells of the life of that day. The clothes go well in our old-time fashion shows we take to nursing homes occasionally along with other memorabilia of that day. The residents love it! Some of the modern lassies have more than a little trouble with the tiny waistlines!

THE MILITARY ROOM

As we enter we see beginning on our right, we notice three framed button collections. Standing right under them is part of the paraphernalia used by the G.A.R. in their ceremonies. Lying on top are two gavels and an old-time ballot box. When we open the closet door we'll find it pretty full but it is not like Fibber McGee's. Right over the restroom door is an elaborately framed collection of medals. Right beside the door is a framed newspaper: "The New York Herald" at the time of President Lincoln's death. Beneath it hangs a W.W.I uniform. Coming on along the wall we will notice a tall armoire (wardrobe) and in it we find an overcoat worn by Col. A.D. Streight of the 51st Regiment. Col. Streight's picture hangs on the wardrobe wall. Several volumes of the Adjutant General of Indiana Reports containing a roster of enlisted men, will be found on the shelves as well as volumes on the affairs of the "Women's Relief Corps" (W.R.C.). We see some more G.A.R. "Grand Army of the Republic", paraphernalia. We have several flags.

This next display shelf is what fascinates boys of all ages. Among things we see on the top shelf is a black leather helmet, a billfold, more the size of of a lady's clutch purse. Well, the money was bigger. Maybe that's why it went further! Hm? A long picture taken Mar. 1918 at Fort Hamilton, New York. There are a couple of hard helmets and a C.D. helmet, plus some air-raid instructions. The second shelf holds an assortment of small books and pamphlets related to the military service. There is a W.W.I felt hat, a cap and two bullet-proof helmets. Tucked in there is a picture of the east side of the square in Danville in Civil War Days. The third shelf has more large flags and a host of survival equipment. The fourth shelf holds more of the above mentioned. The boys almost get carried away by it all and have more fun trying on the caps and helmets.

We begin now on the south wall. A 48 star American Flag hangs on the wall. Right below it, on the floor, sits a big, old dinner bell. The model done up in his parachuting equipment makes this writer jump every time she comes into the building. That door leading onto the lift used to be a window but had to be changed to conform with regulations. There's a fern stand and a small table holding some neat little firearms. Next we notice a Navy uniform, an Army uniform and a Salvation Army uniform. On the east of the door is a large collage of mementoes of W.W.II. On it is a full page newspaper account in tall bold headlines proclaiming "Peace at last!", the Japanese Surrender of W.W.II. The "Ketchikan, Alaska Chronicle" newspaper was the publication. Among other things we notice: Rationing books, tokens, savings stamps, gasoline coupons.

The east wall has a W.W.II Wac's uniform, a W.W.II Army nurse's uniform and two service flags. We have a leather jacket that Ralph Wilcox wore when he flew missions in W.W.II. The display shelves contain a variety of items, largely W.R.C. property. Next is a case containing an assortment of medals. Beside that is a melodeon, originally from one of Danville's older homes. Gracing the top of the melodeon are two Civil War pictures. One is a framed picture of a reunion of Civil War volunteers. The building is familiar but we can't place the name. An auto-harp, some call it a "zither", leans against the wall. Behind the melodeon hangs the Sesquicentennial quilt that is such a treasure. A dining room chair has a fur cushion to lean against and the quilt thrown over it is made of silk in the log cabin pattern. The black georgette dress on the model is trimmed with beading, undoubtedly a 1920's creation. A plant stand holds two books concerning W.W.I. The pedestal in the center of the room is part of the W.R.C. materials. As we are about to leave the room we see a medium size picture entitled "A Soldier's Record" - which gives mustering in and mustering out dates and name of a soldier. This concludes this tour. Another time we'll look at another room.

Jewell

DEATHS

It is with great sorrow that we note the passing of society members Mary Canganelli, Franklin Ramsey, Fred Osborn, Howard Hopkins (brother of Frances English, Marie Hopkins, and Eloise Castetter), and Willard Heiss. They shall be sorely missed. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to their loved ones.

PLAINFIELD ROOTS PROJECT

The first certificates of participation have been awarded in the PLAINFIELD ROOTS PROJECT, sponsored by the Local History Section of the Plainfield Public Library for the preservation of family history information in Hendricks County.

To date over 250 ROOTS packets have been signed out by participants who wish to document their genealogy and donate a copy to the library for safekeeping. The packets are made available free of charge through the courtesy of A.H.M. Graves Realtors. Upon submission of the completed packet, each participant is awarded a certificate which is bordered in gold.

The packets include information on Hendricks County and Plainfield history, sources for genealogical information in the county and a supply of genealogical forms and charts.

In addition to participants from Hendricks County and other areas in Indiana, packets have also been signed out by residents of Florida, Illinois, Nebraska, Arizona, Missouri, Nevada, Idaho and California.

Persons requesting packets to be mailed to them are asked to address their requests to Historical Librarian, Plainfield Public Library, 1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN 46168. Please include \$2.00 to defray postage and handling costs; checks should be made payable to PPL - Gift Fund.

1988-89 Season Set for Guilford Township Historical Society

The program for the GTHS' upcoming season is as follows. Interest persons are always welcome at meetings and individuals are invited to join the Society. Annual dues are \$2.00 per person and may be sent to Dorothy Carneal, Treasurer, 135 N. Vine Street, Plainfield, IN 46168, or paid at the October meeting.

Officers are John C. Miller, President (839-6883); Harriet Craven, Vice-President; Esther Stafford, Secretary.

Thursday, October 27, 1988

7:30 p.m.

Plainfield Public Library,
Meeting Room C

"BUT THEY DIDN'T CATCH ME!"

Pranks and Adventures

Emcee: Bill Stafford

Thursday, January 26, 1989

7:30 p.m.

Plainfield Public Library,
Meeting Room C

THRESHER'S A-COMIN'

Helen Hammond

&

THE PENN CENTRAL'S LAST RUN (film)

John Copeland

Thursday, March 23, 1989

7:30 p.m.

Plainfield Public Library,
Meeting Room C

PLAINFIELD'S MUSIC MAN: CHESTER DRAKE

Resource person: Frances Drake

Thursday, May 25, 1989

7:30 p.m.

Plainfield Public Library,
Meeting Room C

PLAINFIELD PAST-TIMES

By An Old-Timer

Thursday, July 27, 1989

PICNIC: 5:30 p.m. (pitch-in)

PROGRAM: 6.45 p.m.

Plainfield Public Library,
Meeting Room C

PLAINFIELD'S SESQUICENTENNIAL
1839-1989

Planning Committee:

Harriet Craven, Chairperson

Henderson Davis

Ida Mae Miller

CONGRATULATIONS

The HCHS would like to take this opportunity to congratulate two area librarians upon their retirement. Ruth Fuson retired October 22 from the Coatesville Public Library where she has been librarian since 1976. Mary M. McMillan, Plainfield Public Library director for 24 years, plans to retire effective December 31. Both ladies have been instrumental in improving and maintaining library services for area residents. Their contribution to our county is priceless and we wish them the very best.

EDWARDS' CASH & CARRY

In this excerpt from an Oral History interview for the Plainfield Public Library's Guilford Township Historical Collection, Blanche Winsted Edwards recalls how she came to start Cartersburg's "convenience store." The small building which housed the Edwards Cash and Carry store recently burned.

The interview, entitled "Reminiscences of Cartersburg, Indiana," was taped in October of 1976 and is one of several available for reference at the Plainfield Library. The interviewer was Susan Miller Carter.

SM What year was that when you started your store?

BE In '68, January '68.

SM And how did you decide to do that?

BE The little store?

SM Right.

BE Well, I'd been . . . see they had closed the grocery store that we had here in town. We didn't have anyplace you could buy a loaf of bread or a bottle of milk or anything.

XM What was the name of that store they closed?

BE Burton's. They sold . . . they closed . . . they moved to Belleville. And then Dorothy Bayse and her husband, and Wayne Pickerel had it last. He was working up town and he just couldn't do both. So he decided to sell out. Well, then, he had that building down there and he just sold it all out. People just went by and just got rid of it. It was about two years we didn't have no store at all here, I had this little building rented down here to a preacher. So I come in home one evening and I failed to get a loaf of bread, you know. I go through Amo, Coatesville, Clayton, all those places. I go right by those stores and I could have stopped and got some bread. My son was here and I said, I was kind of aggravated, and I said, "You know what I have a notion to do? I have a notion to just go right down there in that little old building and put in a little store and start up and sell milk and, you know, all that stuff you want right quick, and bread, and stuff like that." John said, "well, that's a deal. I'll help you." So he, the first thing I knowed, he had bread men coming up here, milk men, and everybody else. And he said, "Now let's open up that store right away." And I said, "Now John, we've got to have shelves, you got to have it fixed so you can start the store. So I went and got the license uptown and I was out on the paper route and I stopped in up here at the Big Wheel, you know where that is? That's where I ended up my Star route. That would be the end. So after my husband died I generally ate breakfast in there every morning before going home. So I was in there one morning and a salesman came in and I said to him, I said, "You don't have any idea who would have a counter and a candy case and stuff like that runs a store because you're in places like that, that would have such as that that you could buy second hand. I'm thinking about putting in a little store, and I don't want to go and buy all new stuff because I don't know how long I'm going to keep the store going." He said, "Yes, I know a place. Right up

here at Trailer City. They've cut down their restaurant and they've stored about half of their stuff." So I get in my car and I drive up there. And they said yes. They had stored their stuff over in a barn over here on 36 and I said, "Well, I don't have time to go over there this morning but let me make an appointment and I'll meet you and we'll go over there and see about it. Maybe I'll buy it." So I did. They even hauled it out here and put it in the building. That's how I started the store.

SM Well, that's real service.

BE So we really started with all that stuff. About the only thing we bought new was coolers, like for pop and stuff like that.

SM And do you cook, too? Do you have sort of a little restaurant there?

BE We have Stewart sandwiches and coffee. And then you have the Hostess stuff and Chesty. And then they buy candy and stuff like that, more trash, I think.

SM So people can come in and visit there.

BE And buy candy and have ice cream and we sell a lot of pop.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Indianapolis Star staff writer Beth L. Rosenberg reported on the fire which closed the doors of the twenty year old Edwards' Cash & Carry. The fire started in a Coca-Cola machine on the front porch and resulted in extensive damage to the building. Blanche Edwards, an 85 year old great-grandmother as well as the store's proprietor, hopes to repair the building and open up shop again soon.

A GIFT OF LOVE

The Danville United Methodist Church is the fortunate recipient of two sets of Danbury Mint medals. These sets are for sale and the proceeds will go to the church. The donor prefers to remain anonymous.

THE LIFE OF JESUS is a 24-medal set of 24 k gold on sterling. Each medal depicts, in beautiful, detail, an episode in the life of Christ. On the back of each medal is a biblical quotation pertaining to the occasion shown on the front. It is well known that these limited editions increase in value as the years go by, so this valuable set would become an important addition to some one's collection.

MEN IN SPACE is a limited 24-medal bronze set depicting each space exploit, starting with Alan Shepherd's first sub-orbital flight of 297 miles. With the recent long-awaited, heart-stopping successful flight of THE DISCOVERY, renewed enthusiasm for the space program is bound to increase by leaps and bounds. What more timely gift for some young space enthusiast or aspiring astronaut than this beautiful MEN IN SPACE set which will be a priceless possession in years to come.

Both sets are encased in a luxurious, hand-rubbed American walnut chest. TAKE NOTICE, PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS Christmas is coming.

If you are interested, or know of some one who is, contact the church office. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 820 West Mill Street, Danville, IN 46122 or call 1-317-745-4330.

PLAINFIELD POET IS FINALLY RECOGNIZED

(Editor's Note: The following story appeared in a recent PLAINFIELD MESSENGER column under the title PLAIN AND FANCY. The article was prompted by one of our members, Carolyn Kellum.)

Here's the story we promised you last week. Taken from a newspaper in Alstead, New Hampshire, via the "Olney Current," from Olney Friends School at Barnesville, Ohio:

"Nearly fifty years after it was written, a Canadian publishing company will pay \$12,000 to an octogenarian poet of a children's poem. Executives from the Canadian affiliate of Scholastic Inc., looked for almost four years to find Edith Newlin Chase, an 82-year-old author, teacher and mother. On Thursday she will get her royalty check for the "New Baby Calf."

After Scholastic TAB published the poem in 1984, 115,000 copies sold in French and English before the poet, who grew up in Plainfield, was located in 1987.

The newspaper article continues, "Chase ... found her earliest literary inspiration while growing up on a farm in Plainfield, IN. She collected the feed tags from 100-pound bags of grain and tied them together to form a notebook that stayed in her shirt pocket while she did chores. The feed tags were free writing paper, 'money was scarce...and I had no allowance,' recalled Chase. ..."

Edith Newlin Chase says, "I am pleased that the poem has been put into a form that seems to appeal to many children, and may help them learn to read, as well as help them enjoy calves, I hope."

Carolyn Kellum, who tipped us off to this happy story, said, "It's such a fairy tale -- so wonderful that it turned out so "right" for her (the poet)." According to Carolyn, Edith Newlin Chase had two older sisters, Alice and Anna, and a younger sister, Martha.

The Newlin family lived in the brick home which now belongs to Raymond and Eleanor Heald near Sugar Grove. When Bob and Margaret Rumsey were in New Hampshire, they visited the Chases in their home.

The local library has Edith Newlin Chase's book on order so (barring any unusual delays in shipping) it should be available for check out before summer's end.

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED

(Editor's note: It is reported that this paper was read at a class 50th Reunion ... where we don't know, but it does almost shock us to realize how times have changed!)

WE WERE BEFORE the pill and the population explosion which, inexplicably, went hand in hand. We were before television, before penicillin, polio shots, antibiotics and frisbees, before frozen food, nylon, Dacron, Xerox and Kinsey. We were before radar, fluorescent lights, credit cards and ballpoint pens. For us, time-sharing meant togetherness, not computers; a chip meant a piece of wood, hardware meant tools and software wasn't even a word.

IN OUR TIME, closets were for clothes, not for coming out of, and a book about two young women living together in Europe could be called Our Hearts Were Young and Gay. In those days bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagens. We were before Grandma Moses and Frank Sinatra and cup-sizing for bras. We were before Batman, Grapes of Wrath, Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer and Snoopy. Before DDT and Vitamin pills, vodka (in the U.S.A.) and the white wine craze, disposable diapers, jeeps and the Jefferson nickel. Before scotch tape, Grand Coulee Dam, M&M's, the automatic shift and Lincoln Continentals.

WHEN WE WERE in college - pizzas, Cheerios, frozen orange juice, instant coffee, and McDonalds were unheard of. WE thought fast food was what you ate during Lent.

WE WERE BEFORE FM radio, tape recorders, electric typewriters, word processors, Muzak, electronic music and disco dancing. Almost no one flew across the country, and Trans-Atlantic flights belonged to Lindberg and Amelia Earhart. WE were before Israel and the United Nations. Before India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Iceland, and the Phillipines were independent countries. Since our graduation 92 countries - 48 of them African - have become independent nations.

WE WERE BEFORE pantyhose and drip-dry clothes, before icemakers and dishwashers, clothes dryers, freezers, and electric blankets. Before Hawaii and Alaska became States, before men wore long hair and earrings and women wore tuxedos.

WE WERE BEFORE Leonard Bernstein, yogurt, and Ann Landers, plastics, hair dryers, the 40-hour week, the minimum wage. WE got married first and then lived together. How quaint can you be?

IN OUR DAY cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mowed, coke was something you drank, and pot was something you cooked in. We were before coin vending machines, jet planes, helicopters, and interstate highways. In 1933, "made in Japan" meant junk; and the term, "making out" referred to how you did on an exam.

IN OUR TIME there were five and ten cent stores where you could buy things for five and ten cents. A nickel would give you a ride on the subway or the ferry, or make a phone call or buy a coke or enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. A new Chevy coupe cost \$659.00, but who could afford that in 1933? Gas was eleven cents a gallon. If anyone in those days had asked us to explain CIA, NATO, UFO, NFL, JFK, ERA, or IUD, we would have said alphabet soup. WE were not before the difference between sexes was discovered, but were before sex changes. WE just made do with what we had.

SENIOR CITIZEN STRIKES BACK AT POMPOUS SPECIALISTS

(Editor's note: Betty Pierson, of Indianapolis, is a board member of the Shepherd Center, an interfaith organization for older adults which sponsors classes, lunches, recreational activities, outings etc. very much like our Senior Center in Danville. This article appeared in the INDIANAPOLIS STAR a few years ago. Since we have a few Senior Citizens in our membership, we thought this article would produce a few chuckles.)

Way back in 1917 when I was born, I had to muddle through my baby years with just the occasional help of the family physician, who made house calls and took care of birthing, babies, boils, bunions, blisters, an occasional appendectomy and even put pennies on the eyes of the dying.

Then came the days of specialized medicine, and by the time I had my first child in 1943, I had an OB/GYN and an anesthesiologist to share the limelight and a pediatrician standing in the wings.

Through the ensuing years I became so friendly with surgeons, orthodontists, ear-nose-and-throat men, ophthalmologists, psychiatrists, podiatrists and even oncologists that we were on a first-name basis. The cast grew by leaps and bounds.

Now gerontologists have sprouted like spring dandelions, all wanting to get into the act, and specializing in this new breed of humanity called Senior Citizens. We have been put under their microscopes, and to justify their existence they have made predictions about what to expect from these poor old folks who were never expected to still be around.

Unfortunately, they are all so green -- and the field so new -- I'm afraid I'll be pushing up daisies before they can tell me much about myself that I don't already know.

The obvious changes they mention are hardly worthy of our notice. We all know our hair turns gray, then white if we are lucky -- or just thins and falls out if we aren't. Our teeth get full of holes and usually have to be replaced by dentures. Our skin loses its elasticity and becomes dry and wrinkled. Our joints stiffen, causing arthritis and hammer toes.

And we all have illnesses and ailments which are peculiarly and preciously our very own.

No, gerontologists are interested in the insidious changes -- the kind that sneak up on us so gradually we aren't even aware of them until it is too late. They have made some earthshaking discoveries.

They are prone to saying things like: "Older adults have increased reaction time. They take longer to respond to an event or stimulus."

Did it ever occur to them that we just might have learned at last to "look before we leap?" Or that "discretion is the better part of valor?" Or that perhaps we are just "taking time out to smell the roses?"

After all, time is what we have the most of. These doctors also say we have less energy and poop out faster, but they salve these wounds by saying we can overcome these little problems by "avoiding time pressures" and "limiting daily activities."

I'm going to use those excuses the next time I bypass housecleaning.

These specialists love to be pompous. How about "sensory acuity declines?" Why can't they just say, "They can't see worth a damn any more?"

Our eyes take longer to adapt to darkness. How well I know! Have you ever walked into one of those dimly lit restaurants and found yourself groping around for the table? Or walked into a dark theatre and can't see the seats?

Cataracts can play tricks on us. Normally, they have a yellow cast, causing a change of colors for those with them. Blue is seen as green. Red seems to be orange. Purple is seen as black.

If I come up to you and say, "I love your pretty green dress" when it really is an azure blue, you will know -- and should tell me -- that it is high time I see an ophthalmologist. If you, too, think the dress is green, we should hold hands and go together.

Or how about: "Hearing losses affect certain sounds. Older adults usually have more difficulty hearing high tones."

I don't believe it. High cackles and voices may get on my nerves, but I certainly can hear them. It is the low, mumbling voice that drives me up the wall.

And how about TV? Do you ever have to turn up the sound to catch the supposedly witty conversation during a gripping scene, only to have them switch to a commercial, and blow you back in your chair with the volume? That's not hearing loss -- that's advertising!

Taste gets into the act, too. "After the late 50s, there are declines in sensitivity to all four types: salty, bitter, sweet and sour."

They are right there! Dill pickles today just aren't as salty and sour as they were when I picked them out of the grocery pickle barrel years ago. That Hershey bar isn't as yummy as it was when I was a kid. (Or is it the fact that I'm spending 35 cents for a nickel candy bar that's cutting down on its sweetness?)

I don't think it is all "taste" either. There is no way a cup of instant coffee today is going to taste as satisfying first thing in the morning as that good, old cup poured from a percolator you have heard go "pe-tuck, pe-tuck, pe-tuck" for ten minutes.

For you sexy senior citizens who are lucky enough to have someone to be sexy with, the word is "Go for it!" Watch your medications, go easy on "happy hour" and don't worry. Sex is good exercise and won't upset the rhythm of your pacemaker.

It may take a little longer, but like Heinz ketchup, it is "Slow Good."

Fortunately, our "intellectual functioning" doesn't even start to decline until somewhere between the ages of 70 and 80, and even then it isn't such a big deal. It rarely interferes with our ability to function.

I'm not too sure of that when these specialists make pronouncements like, "Older people perform best when they work with familiar material in familiar ways. They find it difficult to manipulate unfamiliar material in unfamiliar ways." Would you mind running that by me again, please?

If we have "marked intellectual decline," it usually is caused by "medical or psychological problems," and "the belief that older people have poor memories is a myth."

I don't buy that, but I'm glad they think so. "Mental capacity remains at a normal level." Wishful thinking perhaps, but it keeps me going. "If the older person is depressed, he is more likely to have a poor memory."

Nuts! I think it is the other way around. My poor memory is likely to make me feel depressed. I feel terrible when I can't put a name on a face -- and worse when I stand before the open refrigerator door and can't remember why I opened it.

The advice they give is the only thing that justifies their existence. "Have a confidante. Having intimate, stable relationships where there is someone to really talk to serves as a buffer against the losses of aging."

Now I know why I enjoy the Shepherd Center. It is the one place where I can find people of my own age to really talk and relate to.

To learn something new, to share an old but well-remembered experience, to laugh and enjoy a meal I didn't cook, and to have fun with my peers rests and restores me -- and is a great buffer. The love and concern we feel for each other is an extra plus that makes Wednesdays my red letter days.

Thanks to Shepherd Center, I won't have to muddle through my Act III alone, and I bless them for it.

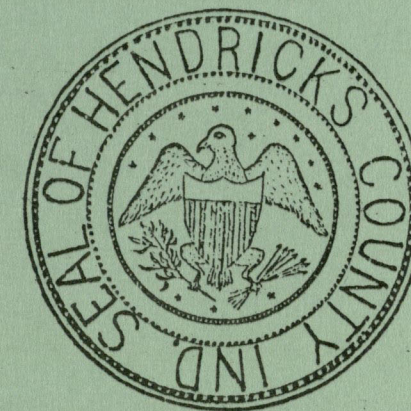
HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XX NUMBER I

FEBRUARY 1989
PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1989

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 W. Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
20 Clinton Court
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-5322

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori-Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Libbe K. Hughes, Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

A page of history is worth a volume of logic.

-Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have a great line-up of things to do for 1989. Let me get right to them:

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY MEETINGS

1989

February 5, 1989, 2:00 p.m.:

In the Hendricks Circuit Courtroom, Danville, Indiana. A tribute to Margaret Baker and lecture by Bill Dory and Marsh Davis on the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory to be done in Hendricks County for 1989 sponsored by the Hendricks County Historical Society. A reception will follow in the Circuit Court Jury Room.

May 7, 1989, 2:00 p.m.:

Pittsboro Christian Church, Pittsboro, Indiana. Wendall Trogdon, Author, and Gary Varvel, Chief Artist, of the Indianapolis News will present a combined program on Indiana history and cartoon newspaper art. Wendell Trogdon has published many books on the history of Indiana and writes a daily column for the Indianapolis News. Gary Varvel is the chief artist for the Indianapolis News, a Danville resident, and excellent political cartoonist.

August 6, 1989, 2:00 p.m.:

Lynn Hopper, Editor of the Hendricks County Flyer and antique expert, will present "show-and-tell". Members are urged to bring antiques to be discussed, valued, and identified by Lynn Hopper. Plainfield Public Library.

November 5, 1989, 2:00 p.m.:

Back by popular demand of our members, John J. Newman, Director of Records Management Section of the Indiana Supreme Court, will present an encore of his knowledge of photography and other items of interest of the members of the Hendricks County Historical Society. Brownsburg Public Library.

I hope we can make a tradition of beginning our meetings with the February meeting here in Circuit Court. I also hope the weather is with us. Our first meeting will be very important because our recognition of Mrs. Baker as well as the explanation of our big project for 1989.

I hope this message finds you all in good health. From the window here at the courthouse, things look really gray. I'm looking forward to the Spring flowers. See you in February.

Best regards,

J. V. Boles, President

WELCOME OUR NEW EDITOR

As you will all notice, we have a new editor ... Libbe Hughes. I have long felt that the Bulletin needed some perking up ... some new ideas ... maybe some young blood. I have had my eye on Libbe for quite a while, but she is such a busy lady that it took me some time to work up the nerve to ask her. But when I did, and she agreed to take over the helm, I was delighted.

Libbe is a natural for this job. She is vitally interested in the Society, she is articulate and she writes beautifully. And praise be, she is young!

To all those who have helped with the Bulletin since its inception 18 or 19 years ago, I want you to know how nice it has been to work with you. It has been a labor of love ... love of the work and love of the many friends I have made through it. I urge you to keep your contributions coming for Libbe, for without them, the Bulletin would be pretty dull.

To Jewell who willingly assumed the duty of calling her helpers to assemble the magazines, sort and tie them according to the strict postal regulations, and haul them to the post office (all this in addition to her duties as secretary) well, all I can say is that she is well named. She is truly a Jewell.

Libbe has been fore-warned that I can't easily break habits that have been ingrained for so many years so I will probably be poking around at bulletin time. She also knows that I will be here to help if she ever needs it.

But it is so nice to shift the responsibility over to younger, stronger and more capable shoulders. Thanks Libbe, and good luck.

Margaret Baker

NOVEMBER MEETING

The Hendricks County Historical Society met in the Plainfield Public Library Meeting Room on Sunday, November 6, 1988.

Our vice-president, Judy Pingel, opened the meeting and extended greetings to members and guests. About 45 attended. The treasurer's report was given and accepted. The secretary's report was read, and after correction, was approved. Museum board vacancies were in part filled. Guilford Township--Robert Castetter, Liberty Township--Ruth Rogers, Lincoln Township--Mary Ann Moore. Franklin, Brown and Washington Townships are still vacant. Dorothy Kelley gave her museum report. She showed a suit-case she had prepared for showing when she talks to school groups. This case was assembled for reading. Mary Jeanette Winkelmann, chairman of the nominating committee, offered the following slate of officers: President, Judge Jeffrey Boles; Vice president, Judy Pingel; Secretary, Jewell Bell; Treasurer, Blanche Wean; Historian, Marie Hopkins. The slate was accepted.

An announcement was made of a birthday reception for Frances Fisher on Saturday, November 12, 1988 at the Pittsboro Christian Church.

Dates of next year's meeting were announced: Sunday, February 6, Sunday, May 7, Sunday, August 6, and Sunday November 5.

The Historical Survey by "Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana" was discussed by President Boles. The book will come out after we get a benefactor to back the project.

Judge Boles introduced John Newman, the speaker for the afternoon. His subject was "Art for Profit." Mr. Newman described photography, an art form, from its beginning around 1840 and its evolution to the present time as it was applied to both business and social uses. He told how to identify photography from era to era. He gave several tips on how to care for photographs. A lively

question and answer period followed.

Meeting adjourned.

Refreshments of doughnuts, cider and coffee were served by the ladies of Guilford Township.

Judge Jeffrey Boles, Pres.

Jewell Bell, Secretary

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting of the HCHS will be held on Sunday, February 5, at 2:00 p.m. in the Hendricks County Courthouse, Danville, Indiana. We will meet in the Circuit Courtroom ... if the stairs look too forbidding, try the elevator!

Members (and the general public, of course) are invited to attend the program given by Bill Dory and Marsh Davis on the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. The society is sponsoring this project to be completed in Hendricks County in 1989. Also scheduled is a tribute to Margaret Baker, past editor of the BULLETIN. It will be the perfect opportunity to thank Margaret for her hard work and unending devotion to the BULLETIN. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

It's a big courtroom, and the HCHS officers would like to see it filled. So mark your calendar and plan to attend.

GREETINGS FROM THE EDITOR

By now, most of you know that Margaret Baker has done an unspeakable thing. She has requested 'early' retirement from the editorship of the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORY BULLETIN. In doing so, she has also asked me to take over as editor of the BULLETIN. And without looking, I have jumped headfirst into an enormous challenge!

I had the opportunity to observe the November BULLETIN 'going to press' and was amazed at the work involved in its production. As editor, the submissions have to be gathered from the contributors or written first-hand, edited, captioned and/or introduced. The BULLETIN must be made readable, the articles have to appear in some semblance of continuity, thanks must be given, members congratulated, programs touted, meetings announced. Then there is that awful, dreadful wait ... was there enough material to fill ten pages??

Margaret is the sole reason this society has a first-rate quarterly. She has selflessly devoted twenty years of time and effort into making the BULLETIN the cornerstone of the Hendricks County Historical Society. We are all of us in her debt.

You will please note that Margaret's retirement from the HCHS is far from a severance of all ties. She has provided us with a history of Baker & Son hardware which is included in this issue. She has also faithfully promised to hold the hand of the BULLETIN's fledgling editor. I plan on keeping her very busy in the coming

months with that task alone.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find an article titled "Editor's Policies". These policies were included to update readers and contributors with the HCHB's guidelines.

I fully believe it is the editor's primary responsibility to encourage the contribution of articles. And the BULLETIN provides an excellent format for the reproduction of privately held manuscripts which have not previously been available to the public. Using the HCHB in this manner insures that the BULLETIN remains a valuable research tool for students of Hendricks County history.

As editor, I am interested in reviewing materials (letters, diaries, family histories, business ledgers, etc.), in any form, for possible inclusion in the BULLETIN. These submissions are vital to the continuation of the HCHB as an informative journal of Hendricks County past and present.

This year promises to be an exciting one. Plainfield is making plans to celebrate its sesquicentennial and the HCHS programs are as intriguing as always. So there is much work to be done. Your comments and suggestions, as well as your contributions to the BULLETIN, are greatly appreciated, so please contact me at any HCHS meeting, by telephone, or by mail.

Best wishes for the New Year,

Libbe

EDITOR'S POLICIES

The HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORY BULLETIN is published quarterly and precedes the February, May, August, and November meetings of the Hendricks County Historical Society.

The HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORY BULLETIN is provided free of charge to members of the Hendricks County Historical Society. Society dues of \$3.00 per year may be made payable to the HCHS, PO Box 128, Danville, Indiana 46122 or presented to the secretary at any meeting. The HCHS is a non-profit organization. Please notify the secretary immediately of any change of address to avoid a delay in receiving the BULLETIN.

Contributions are most welcome and will be printed on a first come first served basis. The editor reserves the right to make any necessary corrections in the manuscript for clarity, to edit the contribution in consideration of available space, and to reject manuscripts which do not meet the standards of this publication. In lieu of payment, the contributor's name will be presented with the article.

Contributions submitted to the BULLETIN for publication should be mailed to the editor's address. All contributions become the property of the BULLETIN. Contributors should keep a copy of submissions for their own use.

The editor of the HCHB does not assume responsibility for errors on the part of the contributors, but every effort will be made to publish accurate material.

Genealogical queries will be published in the order they are received as space permits. Please limit to 100 words and be certain the submission is legible. Queries should have a connection to Hendricks and/or surrounding counties.

The comments and suggestions of HCHB readers are always welcome. Your interest in the production of this publication is necessary for its continuation.

CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM--Museum Musings

Christmas at the Museum was a success! The weather was made to order. The sun shone and there was no rain!

The house was beautifully decorated by Duane Martin, Martin's Greenhouse, North Salem, Indiana. He used lots of Poinsettias, ribbons and evergreens. One saw greenery peeking out from the most unexpected places. Thanks, Duane, for a beautiful job. The tree, a ceiling high cedar, was decorated by Miss Nancy Moore's Special Education Class of White Lick Elementary School in Brownsburg. They did a fine job of decorating and their work was much appreciated.

Owen Stamper played carols on his public address system and it make a real welcome. Lucille Stamper played Christmas music on the piolian. It all sounded great. Music always adds so much to the festivities. Thanks Owen and Lucille!

The fragrance of hot cider punch wafted throughout the house, inviting one and all to have some with their homemade cookies. Approximately 200 people attended during the open house. That number included several school classes.

OUR RESTORED KITCHEN

As we enter the door we encounter a collection of churns. Two look more like miniature washing machines and there is the old dash churn, probably the best known. This one has a stone jar but some we've seen were wood. One that wasn't so videly used had a rocking action to get butter. Right over them on the wall is an assortment of articles including a wooden apple butter stirrer, a gadget to clean soot out of the lower part of the range, and real ice tongs that used to be so much a part of the scene. That portion of the wall that juts out is all that's left of a fireplace that formerly was there. The kerosene lamp, a match-holder, and a hot pan holder adorn the wall by the blue and white enameled kitchen range. Coal ranges could burn wood too. On the extreme top of the range is a coffee-mill, a toaster (not electric), a grey enameled coffeepot, and a quart size glass canning jar with glass lid. There is a glass of jelly, a pint glass can, with zinc lid holding some raisins. Inside the warming oven are assorted stove lid lifters and a stove shaker (used to get rid of ashes from the firebox). On the stove cooking surface, a grey enameled coffee pot--giant size. Also assorted cast iron waffle bakers, a teakettle and a kettle is a large wooden spoon in it. None of the items are light weight!

Down on the floor beside the range is a can of kerosene (coal-oil) and a coal bucket of corn-cobs. There is a fire-shovel in the coal bucket. A big juice can holds cobs soaking in oil to start the fire. Some of you will say "That's messy!" Well, it was, but one had to be careful. The best way to learn that, is to have to clean up your own mess!

The old kitchen table dates away back. It is a single wide board and

entirely handmade. It was always used "as is" and never had a finish applied. On it we see quite an assortment of relics. A bread slicer, well it really is more of a guide to keep slices even. Candle molds, yes the folks then had to make their own candles. A glass milk bottle is next, non-disposable and returnable. Also we see a lunch pail, better known to those who carried them, as dinner buckets. This one is made of a sort of fiber-board. Another item some use today is a slaw chopper. There are probably some other things I may have overlooked.

We mustn't overlook a very useful item that wasn't held in too high esteem except by those who didn't have to use it. None other than a dear old rug beater. Did the younger crowd--and some older ones too, welcome the electric vacuum sweeper! On shelf high on the wall are plates. Some are commemorative plates, others would be used as "best" if at all. Under the table is a quartet that helped toward singing "Washday Blues". If you are thinking "What next!" it is a wash boiler--copper--and 3 washboards. An item that many women liked to use in their canning was a "Conservo" canner. The steam would aid in helping preserve food. The rustic cane seated chair looks inviting. Someone left her knitting and a doll-baby there until she got back.

As we move on around the wall we notice a child's bath tub. This one is made of plain tin. In the days when water was measured by the bucket-full, it was pretty nice to not need so much. One of the first electric-powered washers largely made of copper. It holds a lot of water. There is a burner under the tub to keep the water hot. Some varieties of soap seen are some real for sure lye soap. The kind that took the skin as well as the dirt. There is a cake of Fels Naptha soap. According to the ads in its hey-day, there was none better! It is a stand-by with some for use in washing off the oil from poison ivy.

Well, will you look! A doll baby in its high chair! It's trying to tell us something but we just can't seem to understand what it is. The baby is all dressed up in a white baby dress with lots of tucks and the hem is a wide band of crochet lace. In the corner is a sink with a pitcher-pump. Right over the sink is a mirror. Well, one day that corner served as a sort of clean-up place. There hangs the well-ironed linen roller towel, and on the shelf right above the towel are shaving supplies. One wonders about the kerosene lamp right over the sink. It wouldn't be such a good idea to flip any water while the lamp was lit, or someone would be in trouble! Look right under the sink and see the jugs stored there. The model wears a pale yellow cotton voile dress from the 1920's era. It is trimmed with insets of lace and has hemstitching on the long shawl collar. More things along the west wall include a fireless cooker. According to the ad appearing in a magazine around that time, this cooker could do about any kind of cooking. Today we'd call it the forerunner of the crock pot. It doesn't have to be watched either. On the wall right above the cooker is a cabbage shredder, krout cutter or whatever you want to call it. Beside it on the wall is a "Spatter ware" blue and white baking pan, two more commemorative plates. On the old ice box right below is quite an assortment. A small stone jar, long-necked amber bottle, dust pan, stone canning jar, a sign for the ice man, an assortment of butter paddles, butter molds, a smaller clear bottle, match holder, cabbage cutter, wooden spoons. There is a stick of sealing wax and a package of sealing wax that looks like it was never opened. On the shelves we notice two graters. One, in particular, looks hand-made. The grater is made with what looks like nail holes. The bottom shelf has 4 milk bottles (glass) ranging from 1 qt. to 1/2 pt. and a 1/2 gal size crock with bales.

The model wears a dust cap and dress of printed material circa 1940's and she has on a black satin apron with black lace trim. Decorative! The china

closet contains pretty dishes of both china and glass. Underneath the cupboard is an assortment of a jug, jar, pitcher, a cream bucket--all stone ware. Included is a wooden bowl. The next model's dress is of printed material. Looks like what was worn during the 1950's and 1960's. A high-chair stands in the corner. Now along the south wall is a white enameled kitchen cabinet. This style was several years ago before the streamlining began to take place. We notice on top is a nice assortment of cook-books leaning beside a metal breadbox. The shelves contain an assortment of baking-powder cans, flavorings, spices, whatever is used for baking. We notice an egg beater and potato masher. Down on the work surface we see a cake-mixer. It has to be clamped onto the cabinet to keep it from "walking off". We see a small stone crock and small stone jar. There is a larger stone jar, a recipe cabinet, two very old amber glass quart canning jars. The flour is right there in the bin so sift away! Handy? Well, in its day it was the last word in equipment. Right next to the door is a dining room chair. Well, someone might just happen in for a cup of coffee.

We've been all around the room. We'd better talk about the dining table. It is round, covered with a white linen table cloth finished with drawn work embroidery. The china is "Tea Leaf" pattern, the silverware is a sort of bone handled material. The glass spoon holder is obviously Victorian or before, at one time a "must" on every table. Under the table is a braided rug. Woven rugs are in the door and cabinet area.

That does it for the restored kitchen. Another time we'll visit a different room.

Jewell

SPECIAL THANKS

The editor of the HCHB would like to extend a special thank you to Susan Carter, Plainfield Public Library Historical Librarian. It is obvious to any visitor to the Plainfield Library that Susan spends long hours and much energy working with the Guilford Township Historical Collection. Yet, she devoted a good deal of time and effort in assisting with the compilation of this issue of the BULLETIN. Her advice, suggestions, and encouragement; cheerfully given, have proved to be invaluable. Thank you Susan!

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR HCHS DUES?

Take a minute and think back to last November, before the nasty weather, before the holiday chaos. Did you remember to send in your society dues? While the dues of only \$3.00 a year per family are easy to forget, that money is very important. Renewing your membership insures that you continue to receive the BULLETIN and your money helps to cover our publication costs. Without your support, this society would cease to function.

So please talk to our secretary, Jewell Bell, or any of the society officers at the February meeting to pay your dues or check on your membership status. You can also mail your \$3.00 (check or money order made payable to the Hendricks County Historical Society) to HCHS, P O Box 128, Danville, Indiana 46122. Be certain to include your name, address, township, and phone number with your payment.

This February issue of the BULLETIN may be the last one mailed to non-paying members, so please renew today!

IN MEMORIAM

Once again, Death has entered our ranks. We note with great sadness the passing of Naomi Joseph, W. W. Smitherman, Ernestine Blair Wallace, and Mary Bartley (mother of Betty Jo Bartley). We share the grief of their families.

Readers of the BULLETIN may be interested in reading the article entitled When Robert Louis Stevenson Was One Of Us in the December, 1988 issue of American Heritage magazine. The article by Margaret Hodges details the noted author's marriage to Fanny Vandegrift Osbourne on May 19, 1880. Fanny Vandegrift was born in Indianapolis March 10, 1840 and the Vandegrift family later moved to Hendricks County.

The American Heritage magazine is available at area libraries.

HELP WANTED!

There is a wide range of diversity within the boundaries of our county, as we are all aware. It would be very easy to allow the BULLETIN to concentrate on Danville or the larger towns, but each town and township in Hendricks County has individual characteristics. These characteristics, borne of geographic and economic differences, are certainly important and deserve our attention. Therefore, the HCHB would like to recruit a staff of volunteer correspondents from all over the county to report on the people, places, and events unique to each area. These observations are crucial to the continued expansion and improvement of the BULLETIN's focus on the entire Hendricks County area.

It should also be noted that this 'staff' will be quite informal--no assignments, no quotas, just one or two articles a year as suitable topics suggest themselves. Anyone interested in being a correspondent should please contact the editor by mail or at any HCHS meeting.

SOME THOUGHTS EXPRESSED BY A CHARTERMEMBER REGARDING THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORGANIZED July 13, 1967 AS AN OUTGROWTH OF THE INDIANA SESQUICENTENNIAL JUBILEE IN 1966.

As I grew up History wasn't too popular. It meant memorizing such dates as 1066, 1492, 1620, 1914, 1918. All were important but school oriented. I always loved those memory sessions when Mother and Dad and their relatives and friends recalled "when we lived at Fleener" or "when Goldie was born" or "when an uncle went into service" or "the year we lived in Waverly" or "after he came out of service." Of course those weren't labeled as history. They gave "relativity"--relation between individual action and world actions.

But how our world has grown since those days! It takes serious study of relations these days to help us understand our personal interests in relation to world activities. I feel the point of view of all of us has been changed because of our consciousness of past events.

The idea of the Hendricks County Historical Society was started by such folk as Ruth and Roy Pritchard, Ruth Hall, Floyd Hufford, Frances Fisher, and many others too numerous to recall. There were some local problems which needed to be solved: What to do with the papers and records in the basement of the Court House; the records of the cemeteries; the passing of such leaders as Judge Brill; the tearing down of the white house which had served as the underground railroad station; the forgotten stories of the Van Buren Elm; the half-way house; the layout of the County seat in Danville or Bellville; the opening of the National road east to west through the state and through Hendricks County bringing many settlers, drovers and animals.

Even families began to point out the respective background of the Hadleys, the Clays, the Arnolds and many others with the background of the Quakers and Disciples. All these questions made many of us feel that we could make a contribution to the future by recalling them. A gift of \$1,000 was received from Mural Keeney toward a Museum and when a new jail was built, the 1867 jail and sheriff's residence became available for a Museum.

In 1974 the Hendricks County Sesquicentennial was celebrated. This raised the question of preservation and then the publication of the History of 1976. This really was an experience! Everyone was given the opportunity to contribute and did. The publication committee received more copy than could be used and produced stories and incidents unpublished before.

For those who worked at the job it meant new friendships, new knowledges and the opportunity to act on a county relationship. We learned the background and problems of other townships and who the leaders were. We feel this has changed the whole county. If you do not have a History of 1976, you should purchase one to learn of the many things in the county you may not know. A partial list is the transportation changes, the school systems, the early academies, the methods of farming, the factories and mills throughout the county, electricity, the county media, Hendricks Community Hospital, Cartersburg Springs, and almost three quarters of a century when there was a college at Danville with a registration of 1300 to 1500 at its peak. This was Central Normal College and later Canterbury College.

Personally, I have seen how Dorothy Kelly, Harold and Dorothy Templin, Roy and Ruth Pritchard, Roy and Frances Fisher, Floyd and Margaret Hufford, Sherman and Lois Crayton, Clark and Carolyn Kellum, Ed and Mary Jeanette Winkelmann, Ruth Hall, Grace Cox, Jewell Bell, Margaret Baker, the Josephs, Joe Davidson, George Heavilin, Maynard Noland and many others have "been there when needed." I pay tribute to all those who have served the Hendricks County Historical Society during the last 20 years when the Presidents of the Society have been: Presidents of the Hendricks County Historical Society 1967 to 1989.

1967-1968	Frank Litherland	1973	Sherman G. Crayton
1969	Mildred Smith	1974	Floyd Hufford
1970	Scott Hosier	1975	Dessie Huddleston
1971	John Gambold, Jr.	1976	James I. Shockley
1972	Margaret Baker	1977-1978	Mary Jeanette Winkelmann

1979	Randall Joseph	1985	J. Robert Carter
1980-1981	Marian Worrell	1986-1987	Betty Bartley
1982-1983	Maynard Noland	1988-1989	Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
1984	Lois Crayton		

(This article was written by Blanche Wean who has served as treasurer since 1967)

Danville residents were shocked and not a little saddened to see Baker and Son Hardware close its doors in October, 1988. The store, built on good service, quality products, and personal attention to the customer; was a landmark on the Danville town square. Thanks to Margaret Baker for providing us with a history of the store and the people responsible for its success.

BAKER HARDWARE

END OF AN ERA AS BAKER HARDWARE CLOSES ITS DOORS

He may have had only a dime in his pocket, but he had a dream in his heart. He may have had only a third grade education, but he had a master's degree in ambition and determination. He may not have been polished nor articulate, but he could communicate with his fellow men with a seemingly never ending supply of idioms and apt expressions that would go straight to the point. Charles E. Baker was man who could not be ignored. You either liked him or you didn't. There seemed to be no half way. But whether you did or you didn't, you had to respect him.

The Baker name has been an integral part of the Hendricks County business community since 1923. Horace Greely's advice, "Go West, young man, go West!" meant nothing to Charles E. Baker, a farm boy in Crawford County, Illinois, for in April, 1906, when he was 26 years old, he came east to Danville, Indiana. He was the proud owner (though in debt for) a black wagon, a pair of ponies, and a contract with the W. T. Rawleigh Company, a company that produced remedies for almost everything (so the story goes), flavoring extracts, ground spices and stock food among other things.

He realized full well that he would have to economize in every possible way, yet his ponies had to be cared for, for they would keep him in business. Danville, in 1906, was filled to capacity with Central Normal College students, so he rented a barn, still standing on South Indiana Street. There the ponies would be fed and warm from the wintry blasts, but where would he sleep? With his rough and ready nature, it was no problem at all ... he would sleep in the hay loft ... and that he did.

He soon became known as "The Rawleigh Man", a much loved and much looked forward to visitor throughout the county. Stories as to his sales tactics vary, but it was generally agreed that he was quite a sales man. As the late Lowell (Bill) Kirtley used to say, "He could sell you a barn without any sides!"

Children looked forward to his visits, for whether he made a sale or not, he had a stick of gum for each child, a rare treat in those days. So, since he kept pretty much on schedule, he was never surprised to see youngsters swinging on a gate or sitting on a fencepost eagerly awaiting his visit.

During his travels, his fame as a square dance caller spread, so when the Rawleigh Man was due to arrive, it called for a gathering somewhere in the neighborhood for a square dance.

His eating and sleeping habits had to very flexible during this time. He actually was at the mercy of the good people upon whom he called. He soon learned, however, sometimes with painful trial and error, where the best cooks lived and where the cleanest beds were located, and he timed his calls carefully.

His route grew and he prospered, so much so, that he returned to Lawrence County, Illinois, and married Miss Shirley Rebecca Rodrick, and brought her back to Danville. When his only son was born, he named him "Rawleigh" in tribute to the man and to the company that gave him an opportunity to make good.

The coming of the automobile age made him quickly realize that the future of the horse and wagon Rawleigh Man was limited, so with his acute sense of timing, he looked around for something with a future. This led to the establishment of the Baker and Son Funeral Home and the Baker and Son Hardware. The "and Son" has always been a part of the name. When twelve year old Rawleigh was informed of this, he was less than impressed, especially when he realized that it meant getting to the store early in the morning to sweep out, and reporting there right after school until closing time, and on Saturday nights until 10:00 p.m. But that was the way it was, and with Charlie Baker, there was no arguing!

The Baker Hardware started as a used furniture store, then stoves were added and finally it became a hardware store. Located in the building at the north west corner of the square, until recently known as the Danner building, debts were at last paid and business began to thrive. It was at this point that I imagine Charlie Baker began to think of relaxing a bit in the knowledge that the future of the businesses he had worked so hard to establish would be secure in the hands of his son. Then came the devastating fire of 1935 which practically wiped out the retail business.

I have never known a Baker to waste time feeling sorry for himself, so, characteristically, father and son acted quickly, picked up the pieces, salvaged what they could, bought the building on the southeast corner of the square from Joe Hess where the hardware store still stands.

They went in debt again, buckled down and prepared to start all over. The building needed extensive and expensive remodeling (more debt), a new heating system (more debt), and with new young blood in the organization, modernization in many different ways (more debt).

As time went on, the hardware business thrived, and the need for more storage space led to the decision to excavate under the full length of the building. When this project was well underway, the old building gave notice in no uncertain terms that it was in danger of collapse. This called for restructuring of, not only the building, but again of the finances.

Through all these hectic years of the struggles to establish a business I never once heard a word of complaint. Rawleigh always seemed to be optimistic, almost glorying in each new challenge. He had a quiet confidence that was contagious. How do I know so much about these years? It was at this time that my foolish heart dictated that I was to join forces with this remarkable family... a decision that I never once doubted and never once regretted.

In 1943, Rawleigh bought the hardware store from his father and later on the funeral home. Although the deals between father and son were the same as any business deals between individuals, with father making no concessions to son, in his heart, Charlie Baker never relinquished ownership. It was his ... it would always be his, and I think most of us can understand why.

For the past 53 years, Baker and Son Hardware has stood on the corner serving almost all people in almost all ways. "I could always find what I wanted in Bakers," I have heard said many times. It was simply "The Store" to many people. To say simply, "I am going to the store" meant going to Bakers to many families. Did you need some glass cut ... or pipe cut ... or a handful of nails ... or a lamp fixed ... or a sweeper ... or some paint mixed ... or something delivered ... just call Bakers. It was that kind of store that gradually went out of style with the coming of shopping centers and super markets and cut-rate stores. With the difficulty of parking and the exodus of most other retail stores from the square, Baker and Son Hardware stood alone for several years.

Bruce Baker, who already was part owner of the store, purchased the rest at the death of his father in 1979. With the increasing demands of the funeral business and the ambulance work, a service he was still giving, he found it almost impossible to handle the changing retail business as it should be conducted. It was an agonizing decision. He remembered his father and his grandfather, and the hardships they had overcome. However, he was reassured by the rest of the family that Charlie Baker and Rawleigh Baker were quick to recognize change when it came and to adjust to it. "If they were here today," he was advised, "they would say, 'Bruce, it is time for a change.'"

So, in October, 1988, Baker and Son Hardware closed its doors, leaving a long history of service, the kind that is rare today. Old fashioned hardware stores may become out dated, but it is our hope that hard work, determination, ambition and faith in the future may never go out of style for that is what made Baker and Son Hardware possible for 64 years.

(When our new Editor, Libbe Hughes, asked me to write the history of Baker and Son Hardware, I intended to keep it very impersonal for I had never been actively involved in that business. As I wrote, however, I realized that since those I loved so very much were so actively involved, I could not keep it impersonal. So if this has turned out to be more a tribute than a history, so be it. Margaret Baker)

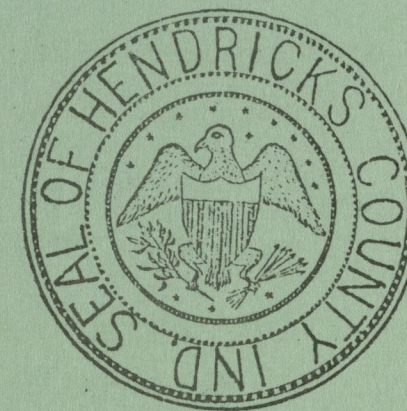
HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XX NUMBER II

MAY 1989
PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1989

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 W. Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
20 Clinton Court
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-5322

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Libbe K. Hughes, Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

"The object of education is to prepare the young
to educate themselves throughout their lives."

- Robert Maynard Hutchins

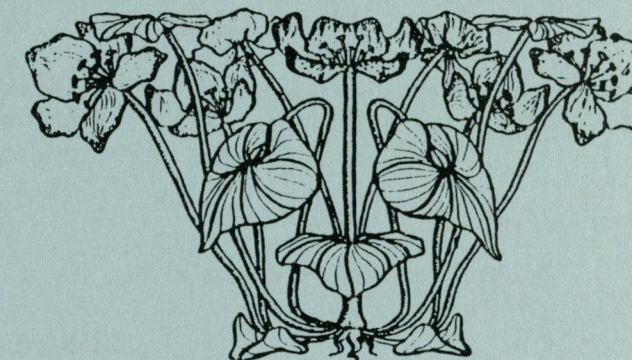
JOIN US!!

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hendricks County Historical Society wants you for a member! For over two decades, the Hendricks County Historical Society has been actively preserving local history on the county level. The society sponsors the Hendricks County Historical Museum in Danville which houses a large collection of 19th and 20th century artifacts and is open to the public free of charge. The Hendricks County Historical Society publications list includes the History of Hendricks County 1914-1976, which was compiled by society members. Current projects include the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Survey being done in cooperation with the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana.

The Hendricks County Historical Society holds meetings four times a year, the first Sunday in February, May, August, and November; at locations throughout the county. All meetings include a guest speaker and a program of interest to society members. Society dues of \$3.00 per family per year entitle members, at any level of personal involvement, to receive the Hendricks County History Bulletin free of charge. The BULLETIN is published quarterly prior to each society meeting and is filled with articles on all aspects of Hendricks County history.

If you have not yet renewed your membership, please take the opportunity to do so now. If you are not currently a member, please join now. Your support is vital to the Hendricks County Historical Society and its ongoing attempts to preserve the heritage of Hendricks County.



HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWNSHIP _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

Please mail this form and \$3.00 per family to the Hendricks County Historical Society, PO Box 128, Danville, Indiana, 46122. Make check or money order payable to the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

President's Message

It seems like we had no Winter at all and Spring is already here. I know the flowers around our house are really in bloom. This Spring brings us some exciting projects. In the bulletin here, you have a letter for Harold Hiser, President of the Mid-State Bank, pledging his help for us in the Indiana Historic Site and Structures Inventory that we will be sponsoring for Hendricks County.

We will need the assistance of members from every community so that the surveyors can have accurate information about the various areas of our County. Anybody who wants to be involved in that, please, let us know at the May meeting.

Our Flag Contest is coming along. We already have several entries. If you know of anybody who wants to enter the Contest, please, have them get their entries in by May 1st.

Our May meeting will be a good one. Gary Varvel, Artist, and Wendell Trogdon, Historian, for the Indianapolis News, will be our guests. They are an excellent duo. I have seen Gary Varvel give art political cartoon shows and he is tremendous. We all know Wendell Trogdon as an excellent author and chronicler of Indiana History. These are super people. Please make plans to be in Pittsboro on May 7th, 1989, at 2:00 p.m. at the Pittsboro Christian Church.

If you have not paid your 1989 Dues, please do so, so we can continue the work of the Historical Society.

If you know someone who might be interested in summer employment who has a background in Architecture as a student or vocation, please let me know. The Historic Site Inventory will need some people to help. Marsh Davis has promised to consider Hendricks County residents first. It would be a super job for the Summer for someone who is in the family of a Historical Society member and is looking to a career in Architecture.

I hope this message finds you all doing well. It won't be long at all until all the fields are plowed. The plants are growing, the Race is over, and Summer is upon us. Enjoy the days! See you in May.

J. V. Boles, President

Mr. Jeff Boles, President
Hendricks County Historical Society

Dear Jeff:

Thank you for the inquiry into possible assistance with the work of the Historical Society.

Mid State Bank of Hendricks County is happy to be able to help with the work of your organization. The necessary research involved with the compilation of Hendricks County history will require a lot of time and some financial support.

Please do not hesitate to call on our Bank when we can fill a need with your endeavors.

MID STATE BANK
Harold E. Hiser, President

FEBRUARY MEETING

The Hendricks County Historical Society met on Sunday, February 5, 1989 in the Circuit Court Room of the Hendricks County Court House. In spite of the bad weather, approximately 40 persons attended.

The meeting was opened by our vice-president, Judy Pingel. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and accepted. The museum report was given. There was no old business.

New business: The Historical Society plans a flag for Hendricks County. A contest will be held for those wishing to submit a design. The contest is open to all who wish to participate. Margaret Baker was honored for her efforts on the Bulletin down through the years. Margaret is retiring from the post as editor of the Bulletin. Libbe Hughes, who succeeds her, spoke briefly. Judy Pingel presented Margaret with a plaque and a bouquet of flowers. Margaret recognized Blanche Wean and told of her many contributions to the society. Margaret then led the group in singing "Happy Birthday" to Blanche in honor of her recent birthday.

The meeting was turned over to president Judge Jeffrey Boles who announced that Mid State Bank represented by Harold Hiser will underwrite our preservation project. President Boles then introduced William J. Dory, Jr. Greencastle, and Marsh Davis, Indianapolis of the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. They told about how the Foundation works. Quoting from the leaflet, Locating Hoosier Landmarks: "The primary purpose is to identify districts, buildings, structures, sites and objects that will eventually be included in a statewide preservation plan." The funding for the project comes by a grant from the Historic Landmarks Foundation and matching funds raised locally. Slides were shown on some of the Foundation's work. We were told that the project would take approximately 4 months to do.

Meeting adjourned and the group retired to the Circuit Jury Room for delicious refreshments.

Judge Jeffrey Boles, Pres.
Jewell Bell, sec'y.

MAY MEETING

Our next meeting will be Sunday, May 7, 1989, at 2:00 pm at the Pittsboro Christian Church. Gary Varvel and Wendell Trogon of the Indianapolis News will be our guest speakers. It's sure to be better weather than in February, so make plans to join us at the Pittsboro Christian Church, 216 N. Maple, Pittsboro. It promises to be an entertaining program and we hope to see a large crowd, so bring a friend!

MUSINGS AT THE MUSEUM

Spring is right around the corner! The museum is thinking about spring too. The models are coming out of their winter wraps and before long, we'll be opening

doors to let in more fresh air. The flower bed is coming to life as we noticed some blossoms recently. Before long, tulips will be bursting forth. School groups come to visit. They enjoy seeing how people used to live before push buttons.

The museum has received several things throughout the winter. Among items received was a landscape painting by the donor; attachments for an 1885 treadle sewing machine, (Attachments looked different then from those today); a W.W.I helmet; an all wool army issue blanket; a shovel used during the ground-breaking for the First National Bank in Danville in the early 1970's; framed photos of ten past presidents of the forementioned bank; two hats, and a service command book.

We have two volunteer ladies from Brownsburg that come every couple of weeks and they really work up a storm. And is their help ever appreciated!

We need docents! Don't you want to be a docent? A gift of gab isn't required but it does come in handy. Two or three persons make a nice group. That way one person can stay near the door to greet visitors and show the main floor while others can show the other floors and be available to answer any questions the visitor might ask.

Jewell

THE FARM TOOLS ROOM (Basement)

This time we will see two rooms in the basement that house the farm tools. Watch the stairs as we don't want anyone to fall!

On our left as we come through the door we see an open cabinet containing quite an assortment of hand tools. On the wall we notice a collection of barbed wire from down through the years. To name most of the kinds, there is the Brinkerhoff-1885; Glidden-1876; Crandall-1879; Allis-1881; Kelly-1868; and another one dated 1878. Each is a different shape. On the top shelf we see a blood cup. Blood pudding was a delicacy in an earlier day. Here is a horse taken from a barn weather-vane. Next is a booklet of pointers on taking care of livestock. Here's a very old screw-driver and a sharpening hone for knives. Next is a calf-weaner. No cow would ever put up with that! A plane, one of the many planes we'll see, on the second shelf. Each is capable of making an ornamental molding. Here are a few time honored knuckle-skinner wrenches. The shelf next to the bottom has a very old screw-driver. It appears to be older than the one we mentioned earlier. Here is a straw hook, or some might call it a meat hook. A door knob set where one knob is black and one is white. Some used the white knob outside and the black knob inside. We notice a large iron skillet (would hold a lot of meat), and a couple of wrought iron nails. The bottom shelf has an axe-handle--no axe! Also there are tongs, and a couple of machetes. We always referred to them as corn knives. They were used in cutting corn stalk for the fodder shredder or ensilage cutter, or even to leave in the shock. Next is a wooden vise that is quite a bit different from the metal vises although then perform the same task. Before the modern saws came along, logs were smoother with a tool called an adz. This one looks more like a tomahawk. We see two long handled sickles, various sizes of mauls, another adz with an even shorter handle than the first one. Oh oh, here's a scythe! Now that one takes practice to get a nice mowing job. Here are a pair of house jacks. Those andirons came out of the Seminary Building of the former Central Normal College. Here's another item that is used more for decoration than what it was formerly used for, and that is an eight-gallon size

milk can. The lid was shaped to keep rain and dust out of the can during transit which in the earlier days was a flat-bed truck.

Here in this corner is a safe minus doors. There is a small drawer near the top with wood knobs. The next shelf has a bee smoker, and a railroad lantern. The next shelf down is a plane, another tool that helped put lumber into a usable state. On top is the favorite of boys of all ages--automobile horns. One looks like a two-tone horn and the other is a Model T. It sounds frequently when a group is down here. Also here is an oil bottle from the days of the Handy Oiler Co. here in Danville. It was located in the vicinity of the Fabric Shop. This is a magnet from a Model T Ford. Next is a tire pump and a Delco light battery (or what is left of one). Over head we see a hand saw and a fire shovel, and over the door is a cross-cut saw.

On around the room we find a buck-saw, another pie safe. Among the items on top of the safe is a picture of a threshing scene that will certainly bring back memories. This pie safe has the perforated metal doors and sides just like when it was used in the donor's home. There is a little drawer on the bottom. We see wooden-wheeled roller skates. Here's an assortment of shucking pegs and hooks, a must in the days before the corn picker and combine. Oh look at this nice covered basket! In the corner is a set of scales, a well used coal bucket, and a kerosene lantern with a red globe. Now don't get excited at the mention of a corn dryer! This one isn't that big. This one is the kind that could be hung on a nail almost anywhere. There is a track from an old barn as well as several types of hay forks and a pulley and a gourd. None are used much now. These three items go back a piece in time too, we speak of three ox-yokes and a stage coach horn. Stories have been told that the horn could be heard from a long distance. Well, there wasn't so much noise competition. We see some mauls, a giant spinning wheel, a wooden bucket and a wooden trough. Over here is a child's wagon from long ago and loaded in it is another child's wagon of not so long ago.

On the island on the floor is another display of tools. Carpenter tools, and field tile that dates way back. One piece couldn't be over two inches in diameter. Here's a sausage mill mounted on its own trestle. Couldn't you imagine that this little one gallon jug has been used many years in harvest time. Filled with cold water and wrapped in a gunny sack, it made the rounds a lot of times. The last of our tour in this room is this "What's it for" board. It is a peg-board framed and equipped with an assortment of small tools, for example, a lemon squeezer (not the stainless kind either), a wooden potato masher, and an old time bottle opener.

Now, we'll go into this other room for more tools. These are larger than the other tools we saw before. Over in the corner on our left as we enter the room is one of the first power-washers. Good-by wash board, what a relief! Here's a bushel basket made of wood, not plastic. Next are bellows from a blacksmith's shop, a tool that draws children like a magnet--a corn sheller. It is hand operated and provides more fun! Here's the bottom half of a wooden cheese box. It's been a long time since we've seen one of those. Here is another wooden bucket as well as the stocks that were used during Hendricks County Sesquicentennial. Relax, we don't use the stocks for what they were originally intended. We have a single furrow horse drawn walking plow, and a horse drawn seeder. Over in the corner is a wooden chest, one side for flour and the other side for corn meal. A portable corn-stalk shredder stands along the east wall. The shredder is handoperated and would be o.k. for the fellow who didn't need to cut much fodder at a time.

That does it for these two rooms. Another time we'll look at some more rooms here in the basement. Watch the stairs as you go up.

IN MEMORIAM

With sorrow, we record the passing of long-time member, Maxine Cox and extend our sympathies to her family. Mrs. Cox's work with the Danville Public Library, where she worked for many years, will long stand as a tribute to her dedication to the county.

RENEW YOUR DUES!! RENEW YOUR DUES!!

Elsewhere in this issue, BULLETIN readers will find a full-page plea for members complete with a membership blank. Long-time members of the HCHS know how important their dues are but newer members may not realize that the money generated from memberships pays for the production and mailing of the BULLETIN and covers the cost of most other society expenses.

If you enjoy receiving the BULLETIN, consider that for \$3.00 a year you receive four BULLETINS . . . that's only 75¢ an issue! What a bargain!! With the application and return envelope in this issue, we've tried to make the renewal process as simple as possible, but it's up to you. We depend on your support and now is the time to show that support. We will be updating the membership records in time for the August meeting, so beware! Nonpaying members will be dropped from the list before the August mailing. Therefore, it is vital that you renew your dues today.

A sincere thank you to members who have already renewed their dues. Your commitment to the society is greatly appreciated. Since the society is always eager to gain new members as well, how about posting the application on a public bulletin board in your area or passing it along to a friend. That little extra effort on your part will help to keep the HCHS strong!

RENEW YOUR DUES!! RENEW YOUR DUES!!

MARGARET BAKER DAY

The Hendricks County Commissioners proclaimed February 17, 1989, Margaret Baker Day in Hendricks County. In a brief ceremony at the courthouse rotunda, County Commissioner Richard Myers presented our very own Margaret Baker with a copy of the proclamation recognizing her work in the HCHS. Margaret has devoted an enormous amount of time and effort editing the BULLETIN and assisting in countless other society projects. We are indeed fortunate to have her amidst our ranks. Congratulations, Margaret!

IN THE WORKS

The BULLETIN has received a request from Ms. Alexandra Lapierre, 124 West 60th

Street, Apt. 33D, New York, New York, 10023, for information on Fanny Vandegrift Osbourne Stevenson, wife of author Robert Louis Stevenson. Fanny Vandegrift was born in Indianapolis March 10, 1840, and the Vandegrift family later moved to Hendricks County.

Ms. Lapierre is researching the Vandegrift family and its ties to Hendricks County for development into an article or book. She is interested in any details on the Vandegrift family, their property in Hendricks County, Fanny's sisters, and any existing correspondence or family papers. HCHS members are urged to write Ms. Lapierre immediately at the above address with any available information. Ms. Lapierre also indicated in her letter that she is searching for Mrs. Dan Centers of Indianapolis who is one of the last surviving relatives of Fanny Vandegrift Osbourne Stevenson. Any information on Mrs. Centers whereabouts would be greatly appreciated.

QUERIES

Wish to correspond with descendants of SAMUEL GWYNN (ca. 1789-1850) and wife MARGARET (ca. 1786-1855), who are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Liberty Township, Hendricks County, Indiana.

Doris Anderson
R 1, Box 93
Wyaconda, MO 63474

SOUTH ELEMENTARY SOFTWARE

This school year the fourth graders at the Danville South Elementary have had first hand experience researching Hendricks County history. The school was awarded a one year grant from the state Department of Public Instruction which provided Apple computers and the funds to develop a computer program designed to teach Indiana and Hendricks County history.

The students in six classrooms did all necessary research through the local library and with special guest speakers and wrote stories on various aspects of Hendricks County history including folklore, agriculture, business, transportation, and ghost towns. Art teacher Mrs. Marti McCoy designed the on-screen graphics and did the computer programming. The system includes an introductory program, question and answer sections, and a word processor used to present the students' stories. A teacher's manual will be completed in the near future.

South Elementary principal Robert Boyd is especially pleased with the project since the fourth graders are learning about Hendricks County history and developing computer skills at the same time. The completed project will be used to teach future classes about our county but congratulations are due to this year's students. They have produced a history of Hendricks County written by fourth graders that will be used to teach future classes for a long time to come.

What follows is a sampling of their efforts.

Pathway of Interurban

The Indianapolis Interurban railroad was the railroad that ran from Indianapolis to Danville. The first car that ran the route was August 30, 1906. They quit using the railroad in 1931.

A route started in Indianapolis and went to Danville along State Road 36. In front of the Hendricks County Hospital the railroad made a turn and headed straight for Ellis park. On its way it passed through private property which is now the Conservation Club. At the Conservation Club there are parts of a bridge. There used to be a mound of dirt piled even with the top of the bridge and the park hill top. The train ran across the top of this mound like an elevated railroad.

Where the top of the park hill and this mound met was a milk station. The milk from this area went into making Ballard Ice Cream.

When the railroad was abandoned, people came in and took the dirt and cinders as fill. Ellis park used a good part of the cinders to cinder all the park roads and to widen the running track.

The Interurban tracks paralleled Columbia Street until it came to Indiana Street. It crossed 36 and started to make a loop around the depot on Broadway and stopped at the opposite side of the depot at Hackelman's Body Shop which is built onto what is left of the depot.

Mary Ann Moore of Brownsburg contributed this 1917 obituary, noting that it shows how families cared for their own in a different age than we live in. It also provides a wealth of family history, and Flossie Bryant and Victor Carpenter are names recognized throughout the county.

PAST AND PRESENT

A trip through local cemeteries shows us quickly that many babies and young children died in those days gone by. Young mothers often passed away leaving children to be raised by relatives. The obituary of James M. Leathers, written in 1917 by Flossie Bryant, tells how he lost two young wives.

Obituary

"James M. Leathers, son of Thomas Jefferson and Nancy Leathers, was born in Morgan Co., Indiana, September 16, 1832 and died at the home of his son, Lewis (Montclair, just south of Lizton), September 25, 1917 aged 85 years and seven days."

"He was married to Nancy Jane Carpenter on March 10, 1861. To this union were born two sons, Lewis and Thomas Jefferson. On June 20, 1867 the wife and mother died leaving to him the care of the two young children."

"He was again married, September 15, 1872 to Erie Evans, who departed this life July 30, 1878 again leaving to his care two children, Lizzie (Clark) and Omer Leathers."

"On September 13, 1891 occurred the death of his son, Thomas, a noble young man consecrated to the best and highest service of Christian life. In the passing of this loved one, the sadness of separation remained always with the father."

"James M. Leathers lived a quiet unobtrusive life, honest and upright in all his dealings, a good neighbor, a strong advocate of temperance. A few days before his death he expressed a desire that he might live to see prohibition prevail throughout the land."

"Early in life he united with the Christian Church and remained a consistent member, attending service as long as he was able. The hope and service of a Christian life were his and this should be an influence of great helpfulness to his children, grandchildren, and friends."

"In his declining years and last days of his illness, his life was made comfortable by the loving care, patience and devotion of his son, Lewis and wife, who looked after his every need and cheered his loneliness. Thus a quiet life has passed from among us and may his memory be a blessing to others and his Christian fortitude and resignation an example to his family."

(Onarga Leathers Cole gave me this obituary. It certainly provides family history. James M. Leathers was a farmer who owned 210 acres. He was a member of the Montclair Christian Church. It is said he played the violin. He died just about the time his grandson, Paul Clark (son of Lizzie) left for service overseas in World War I.

Victor Carpenter, local auctioneer for many years, used to laugh and tell my family we were 'kissing cousins'. I am the daughter of Paul Clark and I enjoy knowing all the Leathers children of my generation. Mary Ann Moore)

STATEHOUSE RENOVATION

The Indiana Statehouse is not located in Hendricks County, of course, but readers of the BULLETIN may be interested in the following 'facts and figures'. The recent renovation of the Statehouse, considered one of the more noteworthy preservation efforts, should be of great interest to Hendricks County residents.

The Statehouse in Indianapolis celebrated its 100th birthday back in September, but visitors to the Capitol are still enjoying its renovated splendor.

The most recent Statehouse renovation, undertaken in 1986, is said to be one of the more noteworthy historic preservation efforts in America.

Several detailed rehabilitation projects were undertaken including:

- * Approximately 4 acres of plaster walls and ceilings stripped, painted, and decorated with the original 1886 designs, equivalent to 3.6 football fields.
- * Approximately 1,500 gallons of paint to recreate the original 1886 designs and refinish the area above the rotunda.
- * 125,000 leaves (6"x6") of Dutch metal "composite gold" leaf used for gliding the skylight, ballustrades, and plaster details, equivalent to approximately .75 acre.

* Approximately 45,000 board feet of white oak used in wood work and rehabilitation of doors, equivalent to 85 average trees.

* Restoration and replication of monumental entrance door hardware.

* Approximately 124,500 feet interior marble and limestone cleaned, equivalent to 3.4 acres.

* Approximately 4.25 acres of Indiana limestone cleaned on the exterior of the building, equivalent to 4 football fields.

Our present Statehouse is Indiana's fourth Capitol building, and was the largest, most ambitiously planned state house built in America up to that time. The public's first glimpse of the grandeur came on January 6, 1887, when the General Assembly held its premier session in the building. The completed Statehouse cost \$2 million to construct.

After the Bicentennial in 1976, the public experienced a renewed interest in America's heritage. This new awareness was reflected in the preservation and restoration of historic buildings. In 1986, plans to restore the Statehouse to its former Victorian elegance were begun. Two years and \$10 million later, the work was completed.

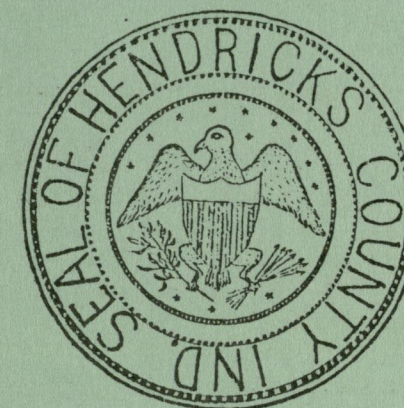
Indiana Collection
PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 123
DANVILLE, IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME

XX

NUMBER III

AUGUST 1989
PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1989

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168
Tel. 839-3146

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 W. Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
20 Clinton Court
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-5322

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

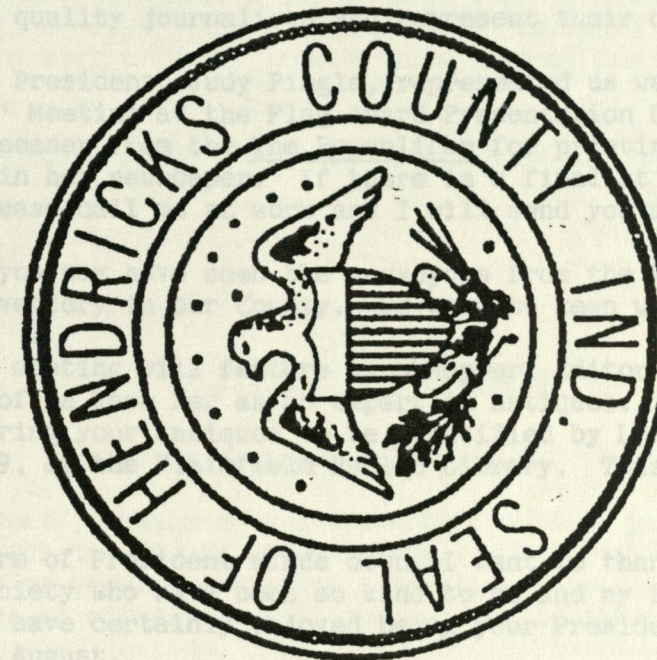
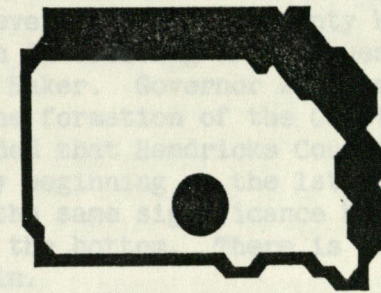
The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Libbe K. Hughes, Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

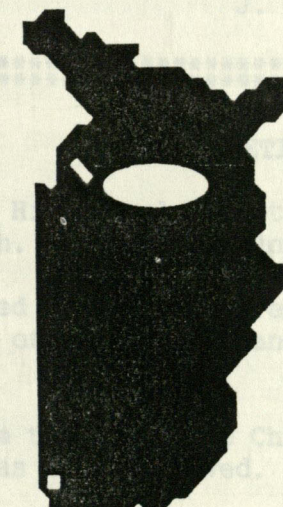
Get your facts first, then you can distort them
as much as you please.

Mark Twain

HENDRICKS COUNTY,
INDIANA



FOUNDED 1824



Flag entry submitted by:

Dennis M. Petri
Petri Printing Company
16 West Main Street
Danville, Indiana 46122

President's Summer Message

I hope this message finds you all in good health and enjoying our beautiful summer weather.

By now I'm sure everybody in the County knows that we have a new Flag for our County. I have an interesting trivia question that was brought to my attention by Margaret Baker. Governor William Hendricks, on December 20, 1823, approved an act for the formation of the County of Hendricks. In Section Two of the act, it was provided that Hendricks County shall have all the rights and privileges of a County beginning on the 1st day of April, 1824. I don't think April Fool's Day had the same significance back in 1824. Therefore, our new Flag has "Founded 1824" at the bottom. There is a picture of the Flag with this edition of the Bulletin.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to the people at the Pittsboro Christian Church for the fine meeting we had with Gary Varvel and Wendell Trogon. They certainly are quality journalists and represent their craft well.

Our Vice President, Judy Pingle, represented us well at the Hendricks County Commissioners' Meeting at the Flag Award Presentation Ceremony. We should also thank Betty Weesner from the The Republican for printing the finalists of the Flag Contest in her newspaper. If there is a finalist that needs a copy of the newspaper, please call me at work and I will send you one.

Many of you may have seen the surveyors from the Historic Sites and Structures Inventory in our County. We want to keep up to date with that project.

Our next meeting will feature Lynn Hopper, Editor of the Hendricks County Flyer. Many of us know her as an expert in antiques. She will present "Show-And-Tell". Bring your antiques to be identified by Lynn Hopper at 2:00 p.m., August 6, 1989, at the Plainfield Public Library. This will be an exciting meeting.

As my term of President winds down, I want to thank all the members of the Historical Society who have been so kind to me and my family throughout these two years. I have certainly enjoyed being your President. Looking forward to seeing you in August.

J. V. Boles, President

MAY MEETING

The Hendricks County Historical Society met on Sunday May 7, 1989 at the Pittsboro Christian Church. Sixty-five people signed the register.

The meeting was opened by our vice president Judy Pingel. She welcomed the guests and told something of the Society and the Museum, the flag project, and the landmark foundation.

The mixed sextet from the Pittsboro Christian Church sang several numbers. Their beautiful singing was well received.

The secretary's report was read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Dorothy Kelley gave the museum report. She told of visitors to the museum, and how the museum's articles are loaned for community events. The vice president requested that anyone who had any extra room to house the gentleman working on the landmarks project to let it be known.

The flag entries were on display. The Historical Society members voted and the entries receiving the most votes will be turned over to the Hendricks County Commissioners for their final selection of the winner.

President Judge Jeffrey Boles introduced Wendell Trogon and Gary Varvel, writer and chief artist for the Indianapolis News. Both told something of their families early in the state's history. Mr. Varvel illustrated as fast as Mr. Trogon talked. He told of life when he was a youngster, mentioning old-time news commentators, radio programs, and battery radios. He told of the first Farmall-20 farm tractor, and farming with horses. Exerpts from his books were entertaining.

The meeting adjourned and we all partook of the goodies the Middle Township ladies provided.

Judge Jeffrey Boles, Pres.

Jewell Bell, Sec'y.

AUGUST MEETING

The next HCHS meeting will be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday, August 6, 1989 at the Plainfield Public Library. Guest speaker Lynn Hopper, of the Hendricks County Flyer, will present a program on antiques. Members are asked to bring any antiques for Lynn to identify and evaluate. It's certain to be an informative meeting, so make plans to attend.

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

During the month of May, students from Westlake Schools in Marion County, Clayton Schools and Bonnie Mitchell's grade 3 Space Cadets of Danville South Elementary School visited the museum. The Space Cadets brought their Space Capsule. They contributed space related items and will reopen the capsule when they are in the 8th grade, and again when they are about to graduate from high school.

We received a picture taken at the dedication of the bridge southwest of Danville on S.R. 39. That bridge was replaced just a few years ago. There was a picture of the members of the Danville Masonic Lodge (1950). Most of the members shown there are now deceased. More of the articles we received included a comforter contributed by Autumn Care of Brownsburg. It contains names of

patients and what they were known for in their active lives. There is a collection of articles, some of which were memorabilia from the Civil War. We recently received an early desk telephone that was used before the dial system went into effect. Someone brought in an 1877 grey brick and a story about bricks. There is a nice toy assortment that shows what youngsters used to play with. We received a very nice painting.

We can always depend on the Hendricks County Garden Club to provide a pretty flower bed. This year it is planted with marigolds and red and gold scabiosa. Thanks, ladies, you always give us something pretty to look at!

Jewell

THE WASH ROOM

This time we'll take another look at the basement. There's a little nook over here by the stairs that contains laundry equipment. Over here on shelves is an assortment of items. One is a pitcher and bowl set of white enamel trimmed with black enamel. It served the purpose in its day. Other items on the shelf include our collection of irons. Here's an old flat iron that like all of irons then--it didn't have a heat resistant handle. Everything had to be ironed too! Those irons make pretty good door stops today. This iron is a charcoal iron. That would save many steps. Here is a gasoline iron that was a big help too. All those were nice where electricity was not available. That eliminated lots of steps between the stove and ironing board. Then along came the electric iron, a "must have" as soon as electricity became available. There wasn't any more worry about spilled coals that would start a fire, nothing to run a chance of exploding. A fuse could blow, but who thought of that until it happened. Time out while someone located some fuses. There is quite an assortment of electric irons.

The washer is a rocker-type. The tub is corrugated and the rocker had ridges that imitate using a wash board. This one has a hand operated wringer. Using that kind of machine helped use up calories.

Here is a copper wash boiler. It was about the only way to have hot water for washing. Here's a small wash board. Just to look at one of those spelled DRUDGERY in capital letters. Behind the washer is a stand for tubs. There is an ironing board back under the stairs. It is one that has to be propped up with a cabinet or whatever is handy that will hold it. The ironing board right by the stairs is a little smaller and has folding legs. It is all set up and ready to use. It is a modern wash room for its time many years ago. Our great-grand-mothers would say; "For land's sake!" if they could see our equipment today.

There is a poster right over the ironing board that tells beginners how to wash. You want to take time to read it.

"Receet For Washin' Close"

Build fire in back yard to "het" kittle of rain water.
Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is "peart".
Shave one "hole" cake of "lie sope" in "bilin" water.
Sort things--make 3 piles--1 pile white, 1 pile "cullard", and 1 "werk" britches and rags.
"Stur" flour in cold water to smooth, then thin with "bilin" water.
Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard then "bile"---"rench", "blew" and starch.
Turn tubs upside down.

Take white things out of kittle with stick handel then "rench", "cullare"
don't "bile" just "rench" and starch.
Go put on a "cleen" dress, smooth hair with side combs, brew cup "tee" set
and read a spell and Count "Blessins"
Advice--Spred tea towels on grass, rags on fence--"Pore reench" water on
flower beds.
Scrub porch with hot "sopy" water.

Note--the words in "quotes" are spelled just as they are in the original piece.
Now we know how to wash!

BACK ISSUES OF BULLETIN AVAILABLE

Need an extra copy of the HCHB to give to a friend? Perhaps you're missing
a few issues from your personal collection. There are back issues of the BULLETIN
available at \$2.00 per copy at the Hendricks County Historical Museum gift shop or
contact Jewell Bell at 745-4055.

CONGRATULATIONS PLAINFIELD!

Plans are underway in Plainfield to organize a celebration for the town's
sesquicentennial. As this issue of the BULLETIN goes to press, plans have been
made to center the event around Quaker Days held on Saturday, September 9, 1989
at the Friends meeting grounds in Plainfield. The celebration will move that
evening to the high school grounds where there will be fireworks, cake and
ice cream. The public is invited to attend and society members should be
certain to mark their calendar. Watch the county newspapers for further details
on the upcoming events.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness we note the passing of society members Leona Blair,
Mildred Hosier, and Howard Lewis. We extend our sympathies to their family.

The most recent death of Floy Spencer takes another long-time member of the
HCHS. Floy was not only an active member for many years, but she was the owner of
a beautiful Hal Wilson coverlet made in 1848. As most of us know, Hal Wilson was
Hendricks County's most famous weaver of coverlets. Mrs. Spencer allowed us to
use her coverlet as the beautiful design on the back of the front and back cover
of our HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, 1914-1976, as well as on the fly leaf.
(Incidentally, a few copies of the valuable book are still available and they are
getting more valuable with each passing year.)

"We all will remember Floy for her dedication to our Society, and we send our
sympathies, too, to her family."

LATE ITEM

Frances Fisher Falls

Another of our dearest members, Frances Fisher, broke her hip in a fall at
her home in Pittsboro and is hospitalized at Urbana, IL, where her daughter lives.

Frances and Roy Fisher were two of the main forces in the formation of the
HCHS in 1967, and Frances has contributed many interesting articles to THE
BULLETIN through the years.

We are happy to report that Frances is making progress and she would be glad
to hear from her many friends. She will receive cards and letters at 1106 McHenry,
Urbana, IL 61801.

HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY

Due to the sponsorship of the HCHS and Mid State Bank, the Historic Landmarks
Foundation of Indiana has been conducting a survey of historically and architec-
turally significant structures within Hendricks County. The Indiana Historic
Sites and Structures Inventory attempts to document and photograph all structures
in the county that were developed before 1940 and still retain historical or
architectural integrity. Structures may include houses, outbuildings, cemeteries,
any pre-1940 sites that have not been altered significantly.

Field work in the county, conducted by Ball State graduate Jeff Huntington
and Valparaiso law student Donna McCoy, began in May. The Foundation surveyors
traveled every road in the county locating pre-1940 structures for the inventory,
photographing the site, talking with the owners where possible, and completing
the necessary documentation.

Ann Davis of the Historic Landmarks Foundation indicated that surveying of
individual townships will be completed by the end of July. The Foundation will
determine historical districts in such towns as Danville, Plainfield, and North
Salem, and field work will be completed by late August.

The material will be edited and prepared for publication in softbound book
form. Society members will be asked to assist in proofreading the material and
completing any necessary research. The finished publication, which will include
photographs of outstanding sites within Hendricks County, should be available
for sale by December.

WELCOME TO THE HCHS

Our ever-efficient secretary, Jewell Bell, reports that we have received
several new members to the society this year. A sincere welcome to our new
members. Your interest and support are greatly appreciated. We hope to see lots
of new faces at the August meeting in Plainfield.

If any other members have failed to renew, just a reminder that those \$3.00

a year dues entitle you to the BULLETIN and enable the HCHS to continue its work. Contact Jewell Bell or any society officer at the next meeting to pay your dues.

Also, the society would like to extend congratulations to member Lori Wynn Vittetow upon her recent marriage. Best wishes, Lori!

INDIANA HISTORY ON TAPE

The Plainfield Public Library now has a series of 44 Indiana history radio programs, "The Nineteenth State," available for circulation on 22 audio cassette tapes.

The gift of the Indiana Historical Society, which co-produced the programs in conjunction with Media Indiana, Inc., the tapes are a part of the Indiana Collection at the Plainfield Library. The IHS made the tapes available, free of charge, to the largest library in each of Indiana's counties.

Glimpses of Indiana's past and present are provided by the statewide radio series which touches on the people, events and values that have shaped Hoosiers' lives.

Hoosier Chris Schenkel narrates the programs which are enlivened by both music and sound effects.

The tapes may be borrowed with a valid Plainfield Public Library card or with a reciprocal borrower's card issued by Plainfield Library to a cardholder from another library in the county.

Topics available include the following:

IC Tape #1 The Birth of the 19th State. The processes and powers which led to Indiana's statehood in 1816 are described in this program.

IC Tape #1 Indiana's Boys of Susser. A review of some of the Hoosier state's classic baseball talent of the major leagues.

IC Tape #2 Lost Bills. Legislative history notes from our Statehouse as to the sometimes mysterious disappearances of proposed and passed bills.

IC Tape #2 The Clown Prince of Vincennes. The beginnings and later successes of the entertainment career of Red Skelton.

IC Tape #3 Indiana's Canals. A Hoosier History Revisited dramatization segment uses file material, spoken in the words of a canal boat traveler, to describe the unpleasant realities of slow canal passenger service.

IC Tape #3 Thanksgiving Day, 1886. A dramatization of a Thanksgiving Day celebration in a Hoosier household one hundred years ago.

IC Tape #4 The Battle of Tippecanoe. Hoosier History Revisited segments tell of the strategies, the battles, and the personalities of the conflict.

IC Tape #4 Hoosiers at Pearl Harbor. A somber recollection of the experiences of Hoosier survivors of the Japanese attack on the Hawaiian Islands on December 7, 1941.

IC Tape #5 The New Madrid Earthquake. A regional episode, with dramatizations of the great shakes of 1811 and 1812.

IC Tape #5 The 1937 Flood. Descriptions of the Ohio River flood.

IC Tape #6 Indiana's State Seal. The story of the adoption of Indiana's official seal in 1963.

IC Tape #6 Steamboating on the Ohio. Historical details of the vessels and personalities which plied the Ohio River in grand style during the last century.

IC Tape #7 Indiana, the Colony. Indiana's "colonial" days are described in this program detailing the Northwest Ordinance.

IC Tape #7 Indiana Constitution of 1851. The politics and provisions of the Hoosier state's second constitution.

IC Tape #8 Lyles Station, Indiana. The history of a remarkable black settlement in southern Indiana known for its successful citizens.

IC Tape #8 Indiana Steel. The history of the Calumet Region's industrial giants and their social side-effects - good and bad.

IC Tape #9 Indiana and the U. S. Constitution. The Ex Parte Milligan case and the experiences of a 26-year-old Indiana attorney entrusted with writing the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution illustrate a few ways in which the Hoosier state has shaped the Federal document.

IC Tape #9 The Governors of Brookville. Personal descriptions of four Indiana governors from this small southeastern Indiana community.

IC Tape #10 Kay Wright Sewall. A scholar, a teacher, a women's right activist.

IC Tape #10 Sherman Minton. A review of the life of the former U.S. Senator from Indiana who was the first Hoosier appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

IC Tape #11 The Draining of the Prairie. The "instant" creation of hundreds of thousands of acres of prime northwest Indiana farmland through the draining of the Kankakee River region in the late nineteenth century.

IC Tape #11 Terror on Palm Sunday, 1965. The story of tornado-puzzled Russiaville, Ind. as told by its residents.

IC Tape #12 Indiana's Guerillas of the Philippines. A gripping episode detailing four horrific years in the life of Indiana's Clay Conner.

IC Tape #12 Fanny Wright. A woman described by Walt Whitman as a brilliant woman of beauty and estate...doing good.

IC Tape #13 Tony Hulman, Part I. The life of popular Indiana businessman and gentleman, Anton Hulman, Jr. of Terre Haute.

- IC Tape #13 Tony Hulman, Part II. A continuation of Hulman's career at the helm of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.
- IC Tape #14 Indiana Limestone. The history of Indiana's limestone industry is reviewed via on-location interviews with quarry owners and Indiana's Geologist Emeritus from Indiana University.
- IC Tape #14 The Gas Boom. The abundant gift of trillions of cubic feet of natural gas beneath the surface of Indiana was tragically squandered during the late nineteenth century via ignorance.
- IC Tape #15 Hoosier Fourths. The episode recalls details of Fourth of July celebrations in various towns across the state dating back some 140 years ago.
- IC Tape #15 Indiana's Pan American Heritage. Many angles of Indiana's connections to the Pan American world (of which it is a part) are examined in this episode taped at Pan American Plaza, Indianapolis, during the tenth Pan American Games held in our capital city.
- IC Tape #16 Major Taylor. A primer on the life of Indiana's great bicycle racer of the 1890s.
- IC Tape #16 Hoosier Celebration '88. The statewide, bi-partisan call for Hoosiers to examine their roots and invite all to come "back home again to Indiana," is described in this show.
- IC Tape #17 Middletown U.S.A. Theatre. Dr. Edward Strother, professor emeritus of theatre at Ball State University, has painstakingly researched the development of theater in Muncie, Middletown, U.S.A., and presents some of his findings.
- IC Tape #17 Studebakers. The entire episode is a dramatization of the building of the Studebaker empire as told by John Mohler Studebaker, the last of the brothers, who retired in 1915, at age 81.
- IC Tape #18 Music of the Old Northwest, Part I. Substitute host Tom Cochrun, sitting in for Chris Schenkel, along with folksong researcher Charlotte Daniels recall some of the folktunes of late 18th century America and their respective histories.
- IC Tape #18 Music of the Old Northwest, Part II. More tunes and tales from the late 18th century.
- IC Tape #19 George Rogers Clark. The military accomplishments of Northwest Territory defender George Rogers Clark are highlighted.
- IC Tape #19 Indiana Radio On The Air. Our series looks at the history of its own medium in Indiana from 1920 to 1950.
- IC Tape #20 Herb Shriner, Part I. The first installment of a two-part series on the life and career of the humorist who was born in Toledo, Ohio, "...but moved to Indiana as soon as I found out about it."
- IC Tape #20 Herb Shriner, Part II. The second of two episodes.

IC Tape #21 A News Conference With Benjamin Harrison, Part I. Episode takes place in the year 1897 a "news conference," complete with historians and reporters asking questions about the life and career of our 23rd President.

IC Tape #21 A News Conference With Benjamin Harrison, Part II. The conclusion of this popular two-part news conference.

IC Tape #22 Pioneer Holiday Music. Folk tunes sung by our Old Northwest pioneers at Christmastime were featured in this episode.

IC Tape #22 Pioneer Holiday Traditions. This episode takes listeners to Fort Wayne to learn about Indiana's Hanukkah traditions as celebrated in the 1820s.

For more information on the tapes, please call the Local History/Indiana section of the library at 839-6602. Library hours are 10-8:30 Monday through Thursday and 9-5 Friday and Saturday. The library is located at 1120 Stafford Road, at the corner of Stafford and Simmons Street. Borrower's cards are available free of charge to Guilford Township residents.

Special thanks to Susan Carter, Plainfield Public Library, for submitting the following article from the Guilford Twp Historical Collection. Long-time county residents are sure to find familiar names amidst these reminiscences.

Notes of the Green-Carter-Hadley Family of Plainfield, Indiana

by Otis Webster Green, 1950

Hiram Andrew Lindsay Green, my Father, was the youngest child of Hiram and Mary Lowder Green (sometimes spelled Greene). His brothers were John, Linley, and Simpson, and his sisters were Minerva and Louisa.

His Mother died when he was 8 years old, and his brother John (20 years older) and his wife, took him into their home for awhile. Then Aunt Rachel Rushton, his mother's sister, a Quaker, brought him to her home, where he remained until her death. Aunt Edith Day, another sister, took him and Aunt Rachel's boys, making a family of 9 boys and 1 girl, to bring up as her own. She was very good to all of them.

Uncle John Day, her husband, had some fine cattle, of which he was proud. Once the boys left the barn door open, some of the cattle got in and ate so much rich food that they foundered and several died. The boys were much frightened, but when the good old Quaker saw how frightened they were all he said was, "Boys, thee must be more careful in future if ever thou art to prosper." It made a great impression on my Father, who often told the tale. He was very fond of the Quakers and respected them, although he never became one of the Sect.

"Uncle" Henry Hensley, and "Aunt" Mary Hensley, (courtesy titles only) and their invalid daughter, lived in a large house built to accommodate the visiting Quakers who came to attend the Yearly Meeting of Friends, at the Friends Church, Plainfield, Indiana. The Western Yearly Meeting drew Quakers from many lands; we had in our home when I was a boy, two women who were delegates from England

and Ireland. Once one came from York, also. The Hensleys were fine old people, generous and good, but when he died, their money gave out as he had lent and given it too generously, perhaps. The two women of the family were reduced to poverty. They had a small garden and a little fruit in their yard, and nothing else. I remember Mother sending me when I was a little boy, to visit them many times, particularly on Sundays, and I always took a basket in which she put as much food as I could carry and they could decently accept; fried chicken, cake, pie, bacon, etc. Once I recall taking 6 pieces of chicken, and I came home and cried with the shock of my first meeting with poverty, because she said to me, "Tell thy Mother that Aunt Mary said this food would keep them for several days."

My cousin, Eber Green, talked to me and wrote to me about the family several times. His name was a corruption of the French Hebert. His research had told him that the family came from North Carolina, and there were many records once at Guilford Courthouse, but that had burned, so he had several gaps in his researches, that could not be bridged, although he had made a family tree that he thought was correct. The family descended from General Nathaniel Greene's family. This was a family tradition of long standing. He sent me a bookplate from London, which was made for Everard Green, May 1906, this was sent to him by an English cousin. It had been made and attested to by the Royal College of Heralds. It shows three stags, with antlers, a device that appears on various types of heraldry for both Greens and Greenes.

I was born in Plainfield, Indiana, Oct. 28, 1868. (Note: he died in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 4, 1951.) My father, and several of his cousins, although they were all very young at the time, went to the Civil War as soldiers for the Northern side. They insisted upon staying together as much as possible. In those days, with the heavy toll of battle on the fields, many a young soldier rose from the ranks to high officers' titles. Three of these boys, including my Father, refused Captaincies (a gesture they were later to regret when it came to claiming pensions to which they were entitled) because they wanted to stay together. As my Father often said, "It was bad enough to be there, and see all the dying around one, without losing touch with the only living friends and cousins one had." He was wounded in the leg and left on the battlefield for dead. He was picked up by Confederate soldiers and taken to Libbey Prison, where his leg was treated as best they could under their straightened circumstances, when there were few doctors and fewer nurses, and too many dead and dying of both sides to care for. He carried a bullet in his hip all his life, for it was never removed by surgery. He said the "Johnny Rebs" game them as much as they could, as much as they had for themselves. He was never bitter about the war, and never would talk much about it, but he instantly silenced any angry talk about the Southerners as mean or vindictive. He always said, "They did what they thought was right, and so did we; it's over now." Then he would leave the room. He would never discuss the war nor the hardships nor the misery nor the starvation. But he could never eat beans again, as that was the staple food during his prison days.

When I was 11, I was sent to the Friends Academy at Plainfield; I was too young to go but the headmaster was a friend of my Father, and he asked me to become a student, so I did. I was graduated at 16. I went to Butler College, Indianapolis, Indiana, where I graduated in 1880. I was a member there of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, where I roomed for a time with Benjamin Marshall Davis, of North Salem, Indiana who later became my brother-in-law. I married Gertrude Johnson of Irvington a suburb of Indianapolis, on Oct. 16, 1895. We had two daughters, Marian and Emily. My sister-in-law, Emma Johnson, married Marshall Davis in Irvington, August 1, 1912. Both marriages took place at the home of the brides' Father, Albert Johnson, a former banker in Clayton, Indiana.

To be continued

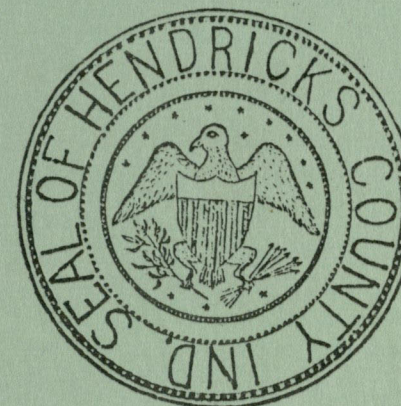
HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

Susan Miller Carter
517 E Main Street
Plainfield IN 46168

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XX NUMBER IV
NOVEMBER 1989
PUBLISHED BY
THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1989

PRESIDENT

Judge Jeffrey V. Boles
407 E. Mill St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-6100

VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

HISTORIAN

Marie Hopkins
1634 Forest Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168
Tel. 839-3146

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 W. Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
20 Clinton Court
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-5322

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Lori Wynn
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Hist. Col.
1120 Stafford Rd.
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attn: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

Hendricks County Hist. Museum
Danville, IN 46122
Open Tues & Sat 1 - 4 P.M.
For further information call
(317) 745-4055 or 852-2810

ANNUAL DUES \$5.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Libbe K. Hughes, Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

When I want to understand what is happening today
or try to decide what will happen tomorrow,
I look back.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

JOIN US!!

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hendricks County Historical Society wants you for a member! For over two decades, the Hendricks County Historical Society has been actively preserving local history on the county level. The society sponsors the Hendricks County Historical Museum in Danville which houses a large collection of 19th and 20th century artifacts and is open to the public free of charge. The Hendricks County Historical Society publications list includes the History of Hendricks County 1914-1976, which was compiled by society members. Current projects include the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Survey being done in cooperation with the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana.

The Hendricks County Historical Society holds meetings four times a year, the first Sunday in February, May, August, and November; at locations throughout the county. All meetings include a guest speaker and a program of interest to society members. Society dues of \$3.00 per family per year entitle members, at any level of personal involvement, to receive the Hendricks County History Bulletin free of charge. The BULLETIN is published quarterly prior to each society meeting and is filled with articles on all aspects of Hendricks County history.

If you have not yet renewed your membership, please take the opportunity to do so now. If you are not currently a member, please join now. Your support is vital to the Hendricks County Historical Society and its ongoing attempts to preserve the heritage of Hendricks County.



HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWNSHIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

Please mail this form and \$5.00 per family to the Hendricks County Historical Society, PO Box 128, Danville, Indiana, 46122. Make check or money order payable to the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my last message to you all as President of the Historical Society. As the leaves out my window here in the Courthouse are beginning to turn red and gold and fall is about to break its beautiful colors upon us, I think back to the time when Mrs. Wean asked me if I would be President of the Historical Society. I want you all to know how much I have been honored by your vote of confidence. The time has gone so quickly. It just seems like yesterday.

To all of you who have been so nice to me and my family, I send you sincere thanks. Judy Pingel has been a tremendous help and always there when needed. You all know that Margaret Baker and Libbe Hughes have contributed so much to working on the history bulletin and we certainly couldn't get along without Jewell Bell.

We have had some exciting programs in the past and look forward to a super 1990. Our November meeting will have an encore performance by John J. Newman at the Brownsburg Public Library on November 5, 1989. Our nominating committee will present a new slate of candidates to lead the Historical Society.

For all of you who have been so nice to me and my family, thank you so much. To the new friends we have made and to the old friends that the Historical Society allowed me to renew friendships . . . you have made this past two years a time I will always remember.

As they say at the beginning in the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race, "till we meet again . . . good luck and God speed."

J. V. Boles, President

AUGUST MEETING

The Hendricks County Historical Society met on Sunday, August 6, 1989 at the meeting room of the Plainfield Public Library. Approximately 65 registered. The meeting was presided over by our vice president Judy Pingel. The secretary's report was read and approved as read. The treasurer's report was read and accepted. The museum report was given by Dorothy Kelley, curator of the museum. She told of effort being made to have a telephone installed. She had approached the commissioners for more room in the museum.

New business: The Society voted to raise its dues to \$5.00 effective immediately. Judy Pingel reported on the landmarks project. The flag (from our contest) will cost approximately \$25 to \$30. We're not positive about the cost. A get-well card was signed by all for Frances Fisher who sustained an injury. Lynn Hopper told that September 9, 1989 was designated "Happy Birthday, Plainfield" day. She told of activities connected with the festivities. Judy Pingel thanked everyone who contributed to the success of the meeting. Mary Jeanette Winkelmann, Carolyn Kellum, and Blanche Wean were appointed to be the nominating committee for officers for the coming year.

Judy Pingel introduced Lynn Hopper, of the Hendricks County Flyer, who talked about "antiques". She brought along a stack of reference books she called

her "experts" that she used during her talk. Many beautiful objects were brought in with as many fascinating stories. She checked every item with her reference books. One item used to shoe horses was used up to the Civil War but was not used afterward.

The meeting was adjourned. We moved to the refreshment table to partake of the assorted goodies furnished by Guilford Township ladies.

Judy Pingel--Vice pres.

Jewell Bell--Sec'y.

DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE!

NOVEMBER MEETING

The next meeting of the Hendricks County Historical Society will be held Sunday, November 5, 1989, at 2:00 pm at the Brownsburg Public Library. Former State Archivist John J. Newman will give another presentation on photography and related materials. Those members who attended Mr. Newman's program last November will surely agree that he is an informative and entertaining speaker. So make plans to attend. The library is located at 450 S. Jefferson Street.

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

The museum sees many classes of school students enter its door. If there are many, the group will be divided and part will tour other places as well. That way the tours last quite a while. The teachers require the students to write "thank-you" notes. That way it is learned what they were really interested in. Everything is "neat".

Among items the museum received are two American Flags. One has 45 stars and the other has 48 stars. There are dishes, a pair of very old ice skates made of wool and iron. There is a trustee's record book dated 1913; newspaper clippings and school pictures; and a World War I army uniform.

The museum was open both days of "Swap and Shop", a street fair. We had fine Indian Summer weather, and several visitors turned out.

The flower bed is still a blaze of bloom in spite of the frost and freeze. The Hendricks County Garden Club members really do a great job of fixing us something pretty to look at. Thanks, ladies!

DUES ARE DUE!!

Start Your Christmas Shopping Early!

The HCHS has the answer to all your Christmas gift-giving worries. The HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, 1914-76 and index makes a perfect Christmas gift

for friends and relatives nearby and far away. Books of this nature increase in value as time passes, so don't be surprised if the price increases next year. There are several copies left, so contact any of the society officers if you are interested. You can finish your holiday shopping early and benefit the society at the same time.

DUES ARE DUE!!

IN THE WORKS

The County Seat Genealogical Society has passed along the following request. Any information HCHS members may have would be greatly appreciated by the County Seat members.

The County Seat Genealogical Society has embarked on a project of obtaining and recording burials in Hendricks County, Indiana. Since many records are no longer available, and since many of the stones have deteriorated to the point they are no longer legible, or have been "removed", we would like to invite everyone who has knowledge of such burials to assist us with this project. If you know of family cemeteries that are no longer active, or if you have records or knowledge of burials that may not be listed in any cemetery or mortuary records, we would appreciate very much hearing from you. Such information may be given to Jim Cummins, 220 So. Jefferson St., Danville, IN 46122; Eloise Latshaw, 112 Parkridge Dr, Danville, IN 46122; Betty Hadley, 172 S. 225 E, Danville, IN 46122; or Patricia Cox, 310 Urban St., Danville, IN 46122. We are also planning to record information on mortuaries and stone cutters, since the inception of Hendricks Co.

DUES ARE DUE!!

Special thanks to Mary Ann Moore for the following glimpse of Christmas Past. And best wishes to all of our members for a safe and merry holiday season!

CHRISTMAS 1932

Today, in 1989, I compare what I see with what I had. TV commercials play toy ads before the autumn leaves come tumbling down or the goblins and black cats make their departure.

Store shelves are loaded and lists grow longer and costlier.

At garage sales the dollies are topsy-turvy in boxes and plastic laundry baskets. Their curls are tangled and dresses wrinkled; a smudge may mar a little pink cheek - but mostly from being tossed aside, not played with. How many dolls does a little girl own? or stuffed bears, dogs and such?

Was there ever a doll so treasured as Gracie was? She needed a mother so badly. Not every little girl would have welcomed her. She was somewhat like a welfare child.

Times were so hard in 1932, in the town of North Salem, that the merchants decided to give each child a gift. The line of children crept forward ever so

slowly. How many? Perhaps fifty, more or less. The night was clear and cold. Chill bumps added to the excitement and anticipation. I surely can't remember what anyone else received, not even my little sister. But finally I was handed an orange, a stick of candy and a doll - Gracie!

We only got new dolls every few years. I had 2, Virginia and Dottie Lou. Mother loved to sew, consequently my babies were properly outfitted.

Now this new doll was really a "cheapie". She had painted on eyes and hair and legs that couldn't bend, however she became a real member of our play house family. She meant just as much as if she were porcelain dressed in satin and lace.

Gracie lived in the corner of the living room, behind the leather davenport. She usually slept in the wicker doll buggy and left the little white bed for the others.

A couple of years passed and some toes wore off. Inside she looked like a gingersnap cookie. Eventually the sawdust filled tummy broke loose and Gracie had to go.

In 1936 a real life-size rubber doll baby took her place. Delores was my last childhood doll.

When I think back I realize Gracie taught me some lessons about life. As I look around our museum, at the many dolls cherished by mommies and kept down through all these years, I'm so glad they weren't garage sale surplus.

DUES ARE DUE!!

The following is a continuation of an article from the August BULLETIN. These reminiscences of several prominent Plainfield families was written by Otis Webster Green in 1950.

NOTES OF THE GREEN-CARTER-HADLEY FAMILY

He often told about how he became a banker; he and his brother Edwin had a business there and the farmers nearby would bring him their money whenever they had sold cattle or produce and had large sums of money which they did not wish to keep in their homes overnight, as farms were far apart and everyone knew when sales had been made. Finally the burden of carrying all this became too great, so they chartered a bank, which he carried on alone for many years, as his brother died as a young man. He was a generous man and made many loans throughout the state to farmers who were in need, which he never intended to collect even as he made them. He often said, "You cannot collect money from people if they will go hungry without it."

They moved to Irvington because his daughters, Gertrude and Emma and son Arthur would be near Butler College, to continue their education. The two girls had been enrolled at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana for a high school course, but only Gertrude remained for the two years, as Emma did not like it and refused to remain. Her mother, who was ill in Florida, had to return to take her out of school and back home. Their cousin May, daughter of Edwin Johnson, was also a pupil for a time at St. Mary's.

Mr. Johnson had one share of stock in Butler College, May 1, 1805, assigned from George W. Snoddy, a minister, and the Father of his wife Mary Ellen Snoddy.

I have my father's Civil War Diary, a small book he kept when on the battlefield. It is hardly decipherable now, but contains references to his cousins and notes about equipment he had issued to them; he was Company Clerk for a while. There are references to his cousin Giulia, to whom he and the cousins wrote, and "to Miss R. R. for T. B. Fultz", a comrade who could not write, "On Monday May 2, Colonel Loomis made a brief, pathetic speech." On April 24 he "Burlesqued Dan Sheets." And "rec'd Comfort Bags from Mary Wooley" (his niece.) On one sheet, now gone, he had written after the war was ended, "Up all night singing and rejoicing." The case of the little book is worn out. I also have a small carving of a castle made by a fellow prisoner at Libbey Prison, carved from horn, something he made to pass the long hours of imprisonment.

My father once told of lowering an old fishing net from the window of the prison (how they got it I do not know) and in it the townspeople would put as much as they could of their own very small food stores, because they knew the men of both sides were near starvation. This was, as I have written, something he did not like to talk about, but it was typical of his attitude toward the "Johnny Rebs".

I had one sister, Dorinda, who married Ralph Morgan of Plainfield; he died after two years, and she had one son, James Green Morgan, whom she brought up by teaching English Literature and Latin in various high schools, including Shortridge in Indianapolis. Her son died when in his 25th year, without issue.

My father had a drug store in Plainfield for many years, and also owned several farms at various times. Once he had five farms, including a large stand of black walnut trees.

I turned over to the Indiana State Library several deeds signed by various United States Presidents, granting land to members of both mine and my wife's families. Elias Hadley, one of my ancestors, was a great land owner all his life. He was a Quaker by birth but he liked to sing, and was known for his big, powerful voice, which he used whenever he had a chance. The Quakers did not approve of singing, nor of any music in church (at that time), and they had a church divided down the center so that men sat on one side and women on the other. Sometimes I was taken there as a small child by my Grandmother. I remember one time when no member of the group "was moved to speak". The Presiding Elder rose, and after an hour of silence, dismissed them. Anyone with "a message" might "speak in meeting", unless silenced by the Presiding Elder, but I am told that these times of complete silence were not uncommon.

Elias Hadley was finally dismissed from the Meeting by the Elders who disapproved of his singing too much, but he met the group sent to inform of this, at the door, and sang "Rock of Ages" so movingly that there were many tears shed and he was instantly invited to return to the Meeting as a full member. I was told by my grandparents that he did so for a time but never again became a member in full standing as he really held it against them that he had once been dismissed for what he considered "a trifle and an old-country (meaning England) form." Later my parents found the old notebook in which the records of the Meeting were kept for many years, and there were so many disputes in it that my Mother was moved to destroy it, a proceeding she and I later regretted. The "no music" idea continued for some time, but was finally overcome. One of the Presiding Elders, I recall, always spoke of "the Paseltree" meaning the Psalter.

His ideas were a mixture of what his English parents of different faiths had brought to this country, plus his own. He also spoke of the "P-sams" until his daughter finally induced him to say Psalms. Why he mentioned these words I do not know, but I heard my parents speak of it several times, with amusement but not mockery. As they said, "It was then a new country with all the lack of comforts but the strong faiths of a hardy pioneer people. It was no longer a real pioneer district, but it was still a pleasant, rural community."

My parents were "Uncle Lindsay" and "Aunt Jennie" to everyone. After my Mother's death, when she had lived in Indianapolis for several years, away from all those she had known during her adult life, we were astonished at her funeral because chairs and chairs and extra chairs had to be brought into Flanner and Buchanan's Fall Creek Mortuary room, as people came from far and wide to pay their respects to "Aunt Jennie", people we knew and many we did not know. For a quiet, shy, retiring old lady, it was a remarkable outpouring of affection.

As my Father grew older, he developed a very tender skin, so he allowed his beard to grow to avoid shaving. The beard at his death was very long, white, and silky, so that the children used to say "Uncle Lindsay looks just like Santa Claus, and he always has a pack of candy to give us, too."

The "Hadley Hair" was famous in those parts; it turned pure white rather early in life, and was very silky, sometimes, in one of the very old Hadleys, like a thin, silvery halo. Elias Hadley's hair was said to be like that; I have heard it mentioned many times by my elders, who always called it "The Hadley Hair". I do not know whether this was a local term or not.

Jane Hadley (12/16/1845) ninth child of Elias and Lucinda Hadley, and grandchild of Jeremiah and Mary Hadley, married in 1884, Hiram Andrew Lindsay Green (whose father had dropped the final e from his surname for some unknown reason). Father's dates were (3/8/1841-1/30/1913).

Jane Hadley, my mother, was one of several children born to Elias Hadley (8/5/1809) and Lucinda Carter (5/5/1814-4/9/1899). She was the daughter of Mordecai and Ann Cox Carter of Guilford County, North Carolina.

Elias Hadley (8/5/1809--12/8/1884) was the third son of Jeremiah and Mary Hadley.

The Carters moved by various stages to Butler County, Ohio, as "progressives" went Westward. They had 16 children, of whom 12 lived to maturity; Sophronia, Hiram, Nancy, Jane, Mary, David, Susan, Enos, Emma, Addie (Adelaide), Oscar and Arthur were their children.

There were many Pennsylvania Dutch living in Ohio, and all the Carter girls were famous cooks, who said they "cooked part Carolina and part Pennsylvania Dutch", as they took on "receipts", their word for recipes, from every place they had lived. I remember some of the excellent Pennsylvania-Dutch cooking my Mother made; I was very fond of "egg gravy", which consisted of soft-fried eggs on biscuit, covered with cream gravy made from bacon drippings. Also my mother took on the Dutch idea of sweets for every meal, and often served two kinds of pie with breakfast, one a fruit pie and the other a cream pie, because my father had been so starved for sweets during his Civil War days that he could never get enough of them again. He did not smoke nor drink, but he always carried a small sack of candy in his pocket, which he would dole out to all the children he passed on the street or who came to the drug store. I never remember a time when he did not generously give me candy, but one thing he had

never had himself was a balloon, so he thought them a foolish waste of money and never bought me one. I always wanted one more than anything else, so when my children were small, they never passed a balloon-man without getting one apiece.

My Mother also made the famous sweet pickles the Dutch women loved, and so did all who tasted them. But I do not remember that she ever served the traditional Dutch seven sweets and seven sours, although she did serve three or more kinds of jellies and preserves at one time, and always two cakes, one a pound cake of which she was justly proud. She always saved the pieces left from making piecrust to make small jelly tarts. They consisted of a ring of crust placed on a flat crust circle, with bright red jelly in the center. My own children liked these quite as well as my sister and I had when we were little.

Mother had a special version of the Dutch "Shoo-fly pie" (a name she thought vulgar and would never use) called "Molasses Pie", that we liked as children but my Father liked apple or old-fashioned cream pie best, so we had those most, of course. He was a gentle, quiet man, but we obeyed him without question, as people did in those days. He liked to study architecture, and traced many famous buildings for hours at night during the winter when we would be sitting before the fireplace in the "sitting room". His friends all said, "Lindsay should have been an architect; he would have made a good one." He always answered, "I would have had to go to England to study, and by the time the war was ended, I felt grown and had a family."

My Aunts Susan, Addie and Mary were equally good cooks. In fact "The Carter girls" were always called on to make special dishes for any big gathering in the community.

One of the great favorites made by all the "Carter girls", Jane, Addie, Susan etc., was Hickory Nut Cake. It was a very delicate white cake of two or more layers, in which they used ground hickory nuts as part of the flour, as well as chopped hickory nuts in the fluffy white icing. Naturally this took a great deal of gathering of many nuts, picking out the nutmeats and preparation before the actual cake baking. I cannot remember how many times I have spent hours preparing those nutmeats, but the finished cake was a great delicacy and much prized in the community. I do not know that this was part of their Pennsylvania Dutch heritage. It sounds more like their equally-noted Southern cooking. But whatever it was, the Carter girls were proud of it and had every right to be.

When my wife and I were married, she had learned to cook by watching the "hired girl", Molly York, an English girl who taught her how to bake and roast meats. But my mother agreed to show her how she cooked, because she always said, "I can't tell you but I can show you." So she taught her to make pies and cakes and the "Hadley green beans" that everyone so liked. But as my Mother had lived on farms all her life, with all sorts of produce to use, my wife said, "She always starts every item with something like this: take a dozen eggs, a pound of butter, two pounds of sugar and a quart of whipped cream!" This was not quite true, but it really was true that all the people of the community in those days had plenty of good food all the time unless some unusual misfortune had befallen them, then they were cared for by their neighbors as a matter of course.

My Mother was Father's second wife. He married a very young girl soon after his return from the war, who lived only a year, dying of tuberculosis. I do not recall her name. Tuberculosis or "consumption" as they called it, was rampant in those days, carrying off many people in their early lives.

Elias Hadley was the son of Simon Hadley. One of his sons was Joshua, and Joshua's son was Jeremiah Hadley (10/16/77--6/15/1846) Jeremiah and Mary Hornaday Hadley (1/13/1780--6/26/1863) were the first of the immediate family in Indiana, and the fourth generation of their family in the United States. Their children who lived to maturity, Ruth, Jonathan, John and Elias, all born in Guilford County, N. Carolina, were the fifth generation in America, and the second in Hendricks County, Indiana. They came from the Village of Hadley, Chatham County in what is now Guilford County, North Carolina. Quakers, they abhorred slavery, so moved Westward because of increasing difficulty of competing against their slave-owning neighbors.

My Father loved poetry, and wrote some himself, which he asked my Mother to "destroy when he died." He copied many poems in his small Civil War Diary and also in his regular account books. One page would have accounts and on the back would be poems he had copied or written himself. My cousin, Nancy Hadley (Eickhoff) gave one of these account books to the Indiana State Library; it was the Hadley and Green Drugstore Account Book, but it had been kept and made by my Father.

When Lucinda Hadley was widowed and elderly she came to live with my parents. I remember her sitting in the Sitting Room, before the fire, wearing her pale gray Quaker clothes, and her bonnet over a lace frill about her hair. She was exceedingly "fixy" in my Mother's term, and had to have every single bit of her costume just so. The Quakers were "Plain People" according to their own way of thinking, but I recall the women as being "fixy". She had a bible which she read constantly. And by her side, on a small table, was a glass jar with a fancy top, filled with horehound and licorice and sassafras drops, which she would hand to all the children when they pleased her. If they did not please her she would give them a tap on the head with her thimble..not a hard blow but a sure sign of annoyance.

My wife's Grandfather Jeremiah Johnson was not so mild. A stern Englishman who was listed always as "Jeremiah Johnson, Esq." or "Jeremiah Johnson Gentleman". He once struck her when she was only four years old, across the leg with his cane because she walked between him and the fire. He kept riding horses and made many trips across country on horseback. He kept indentured servants, bringing over several from Ireland. Among these were the O'Toole Family, Johnny, Ann, and their children, who stayed with the Johnsons for years. But the Quaker Hadleys and Greens and Carters did not approve of servants, so had none except "hired girls and hands", which somehow they did not equate with the word servants, although often they were.

My cousin Nancy Hadley (Eickhoff) told me that since her mother was unwell she grew up "for all intents and purposes motherless." As a child, she frequently felt in need of petting, so would come to our house where Grandmother Lucinda Hadley would take her on her lap, rock her, and give her some sweetmeats. After that Nancy felt able to face the world again.

I do not recall that sort of treatment, but I do remember that she often taught children to tell the time by the Seth Thomas clock on the mantel, which

my daughter now has. She was very proud of that clock, and brought it with her when she came to live with us.

My wife's family was brought up on "good old English porridge" for breakfast, with salt mackerel for Sunday breakfast. I do not remember eating either until I was grown, as it was very different from our type of food. We had chicken and fresh pork and sausage and cider and maple sugar and vegetables all from our own farms, country food of a fine taste, we all thought. I do not now see how my parents ever managed to grow and can and handle all that food, but everyone around them did it, too. I can remember my Mother stuffing sausage into casings in the summer kitchen, a large room attached to the rear of the house where all the rough work of the kitchen was done. There were hams hanging there, and strings of dried apples, and there were all sorts of jars and jugs and bottles full of foods stored for winter.

My Father was always amused because my daughters, having never lived in the country, were unable to tell the difference between a horse and a mule, calling all of them, including ponies, horses. He liked to drive to Indianapolis to buy supplies for the store and farms. China came from what is now "The Mutual China Company". Once, when I was four, he took me there and the manager or owner picked me up and told me to choose anything I liked to take home as a gift. I chose a small house of English Staffordshire ware, which I still have. It stands on our mantel across from another Staffordshire piece, an English Spaniel, given to my daughter by her Uncle, Benjamin Marshall Davis. It was his only toy as a child; orphaned, he lived with grandparents, who were very good to him but did not realize that as a child he had no companions nor playthings in their home. He acquired the dog much as I did the little house, and it stood on his desk after he became a Professor of Science at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, one of Ohio's four great state universities. These "toys" meant so much to us that we both kept them carefully all our lives. My Father brought my daughter the ornaments from Germany he bought at the Mutual China Company and Charles Mayers', Indianapolis; and a six foot tree from one of his farms, for her first Christmas...a tree so tall we had trouble standing it in the house after it was fastened to a box he had brought, that Mother had covered with red cloth sprinkled with stars. When I was a child we made our own ornaments, and I remember Grandmother Lucinda stringing cranberries for wreaths to ornament the mantelpiece. It was not a Quaker custom, but she did it anyway.

I hope I have all the dates right, but it was a long time ago. However, I remember my home and my parents with affection and respect.

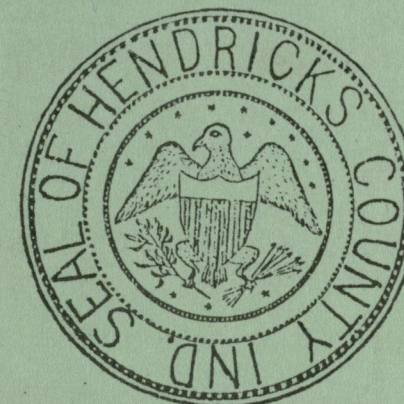
HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
DANVILLE, IN
PERMIT #303

Susan Miller Carter
517 E Main Street
Plainfield IN 46168

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XXI NUMBER III
AUGUST 1990
PUBLISHED BY
THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1990

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Judy Pingel
R. R. 1, Box 153
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 745-4127

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

VICE PRESIDENT

Betty Bartley
1223 S. 450 W.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2828

HISTORIAN

Grace Cox
494 W. Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

GENEALOGISTS

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
20 Clinton Court
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-5322

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 E. Road 200 N.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

Miss Grace Cox
494 W. Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library 101 S. Indiana Danville, IN 46122 Attention: Lori Wynn Tel. 745-2604	Plainfield Public Library Guilford Twp. Hist. Col 1120 Stafford Rd. Plainfield, IN 46168 Attn: Susan Miller Carter Tel. 839-6602	Hendricks County Hist. Museum Danville, IN 46122 Open Tues 9:30 - 3:30 Open Sat 1 - 4 For further information call (317) 745-4055 or 852-2810
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ANNUAL DUES \$5.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Libbe K. Hughes, Editor
85 Cartersburg Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4833

"History is the record of an encounter between character and circumstance."

- - Donald Creighton

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Time really flies when you are (A) having fun and (B) trying to do a thousand things at once. Both these conditions have existed for those of us that are involved in the museum these days. The expansion/renovation is quite an undertaking and each job started seems to lead to a geometric progression of other things to do. My son (who probably regrets being home from college by this time) has been drafted for some of the heavier moving chores. He has discovered the two "Murphy's Laws of Rearrangement": (1) if it is in the basement, it should be in the attic and (2) the harder it is to move the more likely these crazy ladies are going to want it moved.

I am looking forward to the August meeting, when Bill Compton, a history teacher at Tri West High School will talk about the Civil War and Indiana's role in it. Bill is very knowledgeable and is a good speaker so I am sure we all will enjoy the program. The Pittsboro Christian Church is air conditioned so we should be comfortable in spite of the heat wave. If any of you have any Civil War items to bring in we will have display tables set up and we will discuss some of the things shown.

Looking forward to seeing all of you,

Judy

AUGUST MEETING

The Hendricks County Historical Society will meet on Sunday, August 5, 1990, at the Pittsboro Christian Church. The church is located at 216 N. Maple Street. The meeting will begin promptly at 2:00 pm and refreshments will follow the program. Mr. Bill Compton, a history teacher with Tri West High School, will discuss Indiana's role in the Civil War. With an informative speaker, an interesting topic, air conditioning, and refreshments, we can guarantee an entertaining afternoon.

MUSEUM METAMORPHOSIS

If you haven't been to the museum for a while, you're in for a pleasant surprise. Since the County Commissioners granted use of the south annex, the museum has gained some "breathing room". The overcrowded conditions have been relieved by setting up five new exhibit areas in this new section.

The Central Normal/Canterbury College room has already been visited by the alumni during their recent reunion. The medical history room is nearly complete. The sewing arts room is also set up, with only a few more finishing touches to go. Work in the Relander Collection/Indian History room is the next item on the agenda. The remaining area will be used as a gallery for changing exhibits. There is also office space for the Historical Society and for the Genealogy Society.

Arrangements are being made with the Field Services Division of the Indiana Historical Society to bring the museum staff up to date on the latest techniques in preservation and conservation of local history collections.

Through the efforts of the museum workers and curator Dorothy Kelley, our museum has accumulated one of the finest local history collections in the state. We hope that the expansion and the conservation work we are about to begin will make ours truly a museum on the move.

CENTRAL NORMAL REUNION

Like the mythical village of Brigadoon, the campus of Central Normal College came back to life on June 23 for the Central Normal College/Canterbury College Alumni Reunion. Over 200 former students and faculty gathered at the site of the college to reminisce and to renew acquaintances.

Representatives of the Historical Society and the Museum were present at the Reunion. At the banquet, vice president Betty Bartley gave a talk on the influence of the early faculty, and president Judy Pingel informed the alumni of the expansion of the museum and the new Central Normal/Canterbury room. Alumni were invited to attend an open house at the museum immediately following the reunion.

The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of a portrait of Prof. Charles Allen Hargrave by his grandson, Homer "Buzz" Hargrave, Jr. Danville Junior High School principal Jim Disney accepted the portrait, which will be displayed in Hargrave Hall.

In conjunction with the reunion, the museum has issued a print featuring eight scenes of the campus. The 11" x 17" print is suitable for framing and available in the museum gift shop for \$3.00. The gift shop has also added other CNC items such as tee shirts, paperweights, and placques.

Excuses, Excuses

Society members are likely to notice the absence of the summary from the May meeting in this issue of the BULLETIN. Due to HCHS Secretary Jewell Bell's bout of ill health, the report was not available when this issue was compiled. If you are curious about the May meeting, it was most enjoyable and the refreshments were quite tasty. Come to the August meeting in Pittsboro so you won't have to wonder about such things! If any member has a question concerning the contents of the May Secretary's report, please contact one of the officers.

This editor certainly hopes Jewell is back on her feet soon. She is invaluable in the process of developing the BULLETIN - contributing the Secretary's and Museum reports along with miscellaneous stories of interest to BULLETIN readers, keeping membership records current, preparing the BULLETIN for mailing, and reminding the editor of her duties! Hurry back, Jewell!

Special thanks to the society officers who have assisted in the production of this issue, especially Betty Bartley who provided the museum update.

Historical Society Secretary Jewell Bell is recuperating from a recent illness. It is hoped that she will be at home by the time this Bulletin is mailed. Members wishing to send cards may address them to her at 212 E. 200 N., Danville, IN 46122.

Get well soon, Jewell!

Area residents are unlikely to have forgotten the severe summer storms and tornadoes that swept through our county on June 2nd causing considerable damage. The home of society members Frank and Mary Bunn of North Salem was destroyed by a tornado at that time. We extend our sympathy to them on the loss of their possessions.

There is a lot happening at the museum these days, so if it has been a while since your last visit, make it a point to stop. The museum always needs docents, especially since the display areas have expanded. So if you are interested in volunteering, contact curator Dorothy Kelley, or any of the society officers.

HCHC ESSAY CONTEST

The HCHS sponsored an essay contest on any aspect of Hendricks County history for area elementary school children this spring. The submitted essays were excellent and it was a tough decision picking the winners. Thank you to all the participants and congratulations to the winners! The winning essayists were presented prizes at the May meeting and their entries are reprinted below. Rebecca Eileen Seger's entry on the Lizton cholera epidemic was the county-wide winner. The contest will be an annual event sponsored by the society for each school year.

CHOLERA!

By Rebecca Eileen Seger
North Salem Elementary - Sixth Grade

August 23, 1873

Dear Diary,

Hello! I'd like to introduce myself to you, Diary. I'm a young tailor in New Elizabeth Town. I met a family of three on August 20th. Their names were William and Fannie Davis, they have a son too. Fannie was 18 and 2 months of age. Their son is young, but I have forgotten his name. Fannie died yesterday of cholera and the funeral was today. Her son has cholera too. I'm going to go check on him. I'll write again tomorrow.

August 24, 1873

Dear Diary,

William and Fannie's son died yesterday. He died 18 hours after he was stricken with cholera. When I checked on him yesterday, he died.

August 29, 1873

Dear Diary,

Dr. Dicks who drove a two-wheeled cart, day and night, attending every cholera case, got stricken with cholera today. He died a couple of hours later. All of the death that has happened, makes me so depressed.

August 31, 1873

Dear Diary,

Yesterday two people died. They were the wife and daughter of Squire Hall. That makes 4 deaths in his family. He was stricken once too but he recovered. I wish I knew how people get cholera. I hope I don't get it. I'm really scared.

September 5, 1873

Dear Diary,

It is evening. Today one of my friends who is between the ages of 50 and 60 died. Her name was Mrs. Burgess. She was a stout lady and she was my friend. I'm very sad.

September 6, 1873

Dear Diary,

Today Noah G. Haggard died. One more cholera victim. He was a elderly carpenter who helped make benches for the New Christian Church.

September 7, 1873

Dear Diary,

The Helmick family of eight all died of cholera except for one boy named Newton. One of the other boys died behind the stove of their house. People did not want to go get the body. They were so frightened of getting the disease, cholera, they lassoed the body, dragged it to the door, and buried the boy in a dry goods box. Lots of people are buried at night and buried in their bed clothes they had died in. Some were wrapped in muslin.

September 10, 1873

Dear Diary,

I have discovered today that I have cholera. It takes a very long time to write letters. I'm very sad and - - - - -

This letter is unfinished because the young tailor died. Like many people, the tailor saw many deaths of friends and family. They didn't have the medicine to help. People died in a few hours after they were stricken with cholera.

Cholera is an infectious intestinal disease. The victim suffers diarrhea and vomiting which results in loss of body fluid. Loss of fluid becomes too extensive, so that even blood fluids and the tissue can be reduced. After a while the dehydration and changes in body chemistry result in shock and the victim might die.

I am very glad I'm not living in a time like that. I think you should be thankful too!

COPPER POT CEMETERY

By Jeremy Oliver

Pittsboro Elementary - Fifth Grade

Stilesville has one of the most famous cemeteries in Hendricks County the Copper Pot Cemetery. The Copper Pot Cemetery has 19 unmarked graves. In the unmarked graves lie the people that died after eating the tainted food from the copper pot kettle. Old tombstones are losing their carving marks, names and dates are not unreadable. Old headstones list age in years, months, and days. There is a tombstone of a tree in the same plots. Three persimmon trees in the cemetery are over 160 years old. Joel Garrison was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and is buried in the Copper Pot Cemetery. Caliard Brown was a World War I veteran and he is buried in the Copper Pot Cemetery. David E. Macy, Vietnam veteran, is buried in the Copper Pot Cemetery. I did the Copper Pot Cemetery because I wanted to know about the Copper Pot Cemetery.

THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC OF NEW ELIZABETH

By Jenny Toussant

Pittsboro Elementary - Sixth Grade

"Hello, Mary!" Jane yelled joyfully, skipping toward her best friend.

"Good morning, Jane. The weather sure is fine today, isn't it?"

"Oh yes! Just dandy!" replied Jane happily.

"Would you like to walk down to Sarah's house?"

"That would be fun! Let me go ask my ma," Jane yelled back, running for the house.

When Jane returned, the two girls walked off down the long, dirt road. When they arrived at Sarah's house, they found her pa and brother working in the fields.

"Well hello there, young ladies," Sarah's pa called out to them. "Can I help you?"

"Yes. May we please see if Sarah can play?" the girls inquired.

A sad look came into his eyes. "I'm sorry, gals, but she can't play. She's got the dreaded cholera. I'm sorry. If you like, I'll tell her you came by."

"Thank you, sir. We'd appreciate it if you would tell her," Mary said, hardly being able to hold back the tears coming into her eyes.

"We'd better be going now, since it's almost time for supper," Jane managed, struggling just as hard to keep her tears back.

The two girls turned around slowly and walked for a while in silence and tears. Finally, Mary spoke.

"The last person in the world I thought would get that was Sarah - she's hardly ever sick!"

"I just hope she doesn't die," Jane whispered back through her tears.

The 'dreaded disease, cholera' the two girls were talking about was the cause of the epidemic which had spread through what's now Lizton between August 23 and September 6 in 1873.

The next day, Jane walked over to Mary's house.

"Hello, Mrs. Lane," Jane said to Mary's ma when Mrs. Lane had opened the door. "Can Mary play?"

A worried expression came over Mrs. Lane's tired face. "I'm sorry dear, but she has come down with cholera."

"Oh, no! First Sarah, now Mary. Poor Mary," she cried, tears spilling over her cheeks.

"I'm so sorry, dear," Mrs. Lane comforted. "I'd let you see her, but you might get it. I'll tell her you're thinking of her, though."

"Thank you, Mrs. Lane," Jane sobbed quietly. "Good-bye."

That night, Ray, Jane's younger brother started getting sick to his stomach every few hours. Then he started having diarrhea. Jane's ma instructed her to stay away from any place that he went. Ray definitely had cholera, Jane realized with growing horror. Who was going to be next?

That question was answered three days later when Jane's mother started to get the symptoms of cholera. By then, Mary had died and Sarah was getting closer to death every minute. A few other people had already died. No one dared even touch these bodies for fear of contracting the disease.

(Three weeks after this story began)

For Jane it had been the longest three weeks of her life - but the pain was still there, and would be for the rest of her life.

This epidemic, which took place in New Elizabeth (now Lizton), killed 24 people, 22 of which were buried in Vieley Cemetery (now Union Pioneer Cemetery). On some of the gravestones 'cholera' was written. Only four of the grave stones can still be read.

The Story of Lizton

By Elizabeth Devlin

North Salem Elementary - Sixth Grade

"Grandma"

"Yes dear?"

"Tell me a story."

"Okay, once upon a time there lived a girl named Gold...."

"No, no, no! I already know those stories. "Didn't your grandma tell you any stories when you were little?"

"Yes, as a matter of fact she did."

"Oh, goodie! Will you tell me?"

"Ah, you don't wanna know!"

"Ya huh! Please, please, please?!"

"Oh...okay. Well ya see a long time ago a terrible disease called cholera struck the town of New Elizabeth."

"Where's New Elizabeth at, Grandma?"

"Well, it's right where you're sitting. You see, Lizton used to be called New Elizabeth."

"Oh, okay."

"As I was sayin', the disease, cholera, came to New Elizabeth's in August and September of 1873. Many, many people died from this dreadful disease. For instance, William and Fannie Davis and their young son came to New Elizabeth from Needmore. They came on a Wednesday, and before dawn on Friday, Fannie felt violently ill. She died on Friday afternoon. She was just one of the many unfortunate people who died of cholera. There were no new cases of cholera after September 13, 1873. Cholera lasted about 3 weeks, with 24 deaths."

"Golly! In 21 days, 24 people died!"

"I know, it was terrible! Some people say cholera killed New Elizabeth. Before the cholera struck, New Elizabeth was a prosperous village. The extension of the railroad through the town in 1869 had opened a thriving lumber business. But after the cholera had struck, the five Sourwine families who had pioneered New Elizabeth's lumber trade, moved to a different town. The community's leading factory burned down. The stave and lumber factory was torn down, and the sawmill was sold and moved out of town. And that's the end of my story."

"Grandma, tell me more about Lizton. I mean New Elizabeth."

"Okay, well...Lizton was laid out by Jesse Veiley, in 1851. He called it

New Elizabeth, in honor of Mrs. Elizabeth Veiley. Later, the name was contracted to Lizton, at the request of telegraphers. By 1914, New Elizabeth had a population of 250 people."

"Boy, today there are definitely more than 250 people."

"Yes, you're sure right about that."

"Grandma, did the kids back then go to the Dairy Bar?"

"No dear, I'm afraid they didn't."

"Well, why not?"

"Because there wasn't a Dairy Bar back then. The first business was the State Bank of Lizton. It opened on December 1, 1910, in the K. of P. Building. It has always been a strong bank, and it was the first financial institution in the county to open after the bank moratorium in 1933."

"Did they have school back then?"

"Yes they did. The first school in what is now Union Township was taught in a cabin, that had been used for a dwelling. The school stood west of the creek on the Archibald Alexander farm north of the State Road. It is unknown who taught the first school here, but it is known that Elias Leach came to the township from Kentucky in the spring of 1836 and taught school there for about 8 months, until he was stricken with inflammatory rheumatism and he then had to quit. That was the last school taught in a cabin."

"Didn't they have school buildings, grandma?"

"It's funny you should bring that up, because I was just about to tell you that Lizton's first schoolhouse was built in 1837, on the west side of the Archibald Alexander farm. It was built of logs, hewn on two sides. It had a stick and mud chimney fireplace in the east end, a door on the south, two small high glass windows on the north, and one long glass window on the west, made by leaving out one log. The clapboard roof sloped to the north and south. The seats were made of slabs of logs with log pegs for legs. The seats were so high that a small boy or girls feet would reach about halfway to the floor. There were wide slabs, like shelves, along the north and west walls."

"Gosh, Grandma, my school is nothing like that! My feet touch the floor."

"Well, dear, we've come a long way. Are you ready to hear more about Lizton?"

"Ya!"

"Okay then, about 1848 a Christian Church known as Alexander's Church was built just north of the log schoolhouse, also on Alexander land. Then, in 1851, Jesse Veiley with Job Hadley as his surveyor, laid out the town of New Elizabeth along the State Road. A postoffice was opened by Thomas C. Parker on July 28, 1851, possibly in a store. Before this, people in the area had to go to Pittsboro for their mail."

"Boy, Grandma, I wouldn't want to go to Pittsboro to get the mail. I'd rather cross the street."

"I agree. Well Katie did you learn alot?"

"Ya, but tell me more, please!"

"Alright. Between 1875 and 1890, five brick one-room school houses were constructed in Union Township. Three of these replaced log houses."

The Indianapolis and Bloomington Railroad was built through the county just north of the town of New Elizabeth. Before the trains started in 1869, local residents erected buildings and started businesses on both sides of the tracks. The postoffice was also moved, and in 1869, mail was hauled by train instead of stage coach and wagons. It was about this time when New Elizabeth's name was changed to Lizton. New Elizabeth was too long for the railroad telegraphers."

"Grandma, I know why the mail was hauled by train instead of wagons."

"You do? Why?"

"Because it was faster!"

"Ohhh?"

"Yep, that's why?"

"Now, back to my story. There were new additions that were added to the town, and growth had been rapid since the frame one-room school had been built. When William Brown was trustee about 1875, a new school building was built on the east

side of the Lebanon road. It was a brick two-room building facing the west with a yard fenced with narrow boards.

This two-room building was soon outgrown, and when James E. Scott was trustee, about 1883, he added a full second story and put open stairway in the hall. The upstairs which was one large room until 1898, when a movable portion was installed also was used as a town hall or opera house, there being a platform in the north end of the room."

"I didn't know that one room could be made into an opera house."

"Well, see, you learned something. Now, in 1896, a high school was started in the upstairs area, with Grace Lowe as the first high school teacher and the principal Dr. S. O. Leak, teaching the 7th and 8th grades.

In the spring of 1905, the north wall of the schoolhouse cracked, leaving a bulging wall. The school was immediately closed."

"The reason it was closed is because the wall could've hurt somebody."

"Yes, I know. And if someone was to get hurt, the school could be sued. Now back to the story. L. K. Parr, the principal that year, had desks and school supplies moved to various places. The first three grades, with Eldora Nelson as teacher, were moved to the G.A.R. Hall over the hardware store. The next three grades, with Lizzie Leach as teacher, used the Odd Fellows Hall over the general store. The High School occupied the front room of the house.

A new eight-room building was erected during the summer of 1905. George W. English was trustee at this time and Cly Humston was the principal. Some of the township's one-room schools were closed and children came to the new Lizton school. Some of them drove horses and buggies and put them up at the Mahan barn.

"At my school, nobody does that! The teachers drive cars and most of the kids walk or ride a bus."

"I know. In the spring of 1917, Lizton High School had a super basketball team. They won most of their games."

"Grandma, my school has a couple of basketball teams."

"You see dear, Lizton has come a long way. Somethings change and somethings don't change. I guess that's just the way it is!"

"Thanks Grandma, I can't wait to tell the kids at school and my teacher how exciting Lizton is!"

HCHS President Judy Pingel recently received the following thank you note from one of the winners in our recent essay contest.

May 7, 1990

Dear Mrs. Pingel,

Thank you so much for the lovely medal. It's so pretty! The refreshments were excellent. I especially enjoyed the snickerdoodle cookies! It was a very interesting film strip. I really liked it, and from it I learned alot! The whole program was an enjoyable treat!

I'm sorry I only entered one year in the contest. When our teacher first informed us of the contest, all of my reading group wasn't too thrilled. But in only a couple of days, we managed to finish them up. It was really neat learning about Hendricks County. I only wish this project was available to 7-12 grades. I'm sure they would find it very interesting.

I would just like to thank you and all the rest of the Historical Society on behalf of a wonderful program!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth T. Devlin

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

The Hendricks County Historical Society has an impressive list of publications for sale including a county history and index, reprinted Prairie Farmer's directory, and an architectural survey of structures located in the county. These items are available for sale at each meeting or society officers can always assist if you wish to purchase an item from our publications list.

Several members have suggested topics they would like to see represented on the list or books they would like reprinted as was done for the Prairie Farmer's directory. The society officers would like nothing better than to expand the society's publishing efforts, but that involves money. With most of the money raised in dues being spent to produce the BULLETIN, the money from our publication sales will dictate how much (if any) publishing the society does in the future. So if you have been debating about an item on the list, please remember that your purchases will benefit the society immensely.

PUBLICATIONS LIST

HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY 1914-1976

Edited by John R. McDowell

--a collection of historical material and biographical profiles written by the people of Hendricks County. Hardbound, 640 pages, illustrated.

PRICE: \$35.00

INDEX TO HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, 1914-1976.

Softbound, 62 pages.

PRICE: \$6.00

INTERIM REPORT: HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1989

Softbound, 144 pages, illustrated.

--Listing of all pre-1940 structures of historical and architectural significance, along with brief histories of the county, townships, and towns.

PRICE: \$12.50

PRAIRIE FARMER'S DIRECTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, 1920

--Includes directories of farmers, breeders, automobile and tractor owners of the county, along with other valuable and interesting information. REPRINTED 1985.

Softbound, 230 pages.

PRICE: \$18.00

HONORING OUR HERITAGE IN HENDRICKS by Ruth Mitchell Pritchard. 1974

Softbound, 43 pages, illustrated

--The stories behind the drawings on the Hendricks County Ancestor-Descendant Certificates issued during the Sesquicentennial.

PRICE: \$3.00

HENDRICKS COUNTY SESQUICENTENNIAL PLATES: \$5.00 (With purchase of any two items above, receive a free plate)

Betty Bartley uncovered this interesting article by Pearce Relander in the museum. The museum houses a substantial collection of artifacts donated by the Relander family detailing the culture of Native American Indians.

MONOGRAPH ON MY BROTHER, CLICK RELANDER

by PEARCE RELANDER

It does not take long to absorb memories that will stay with you for a long, long time, maybe forever. These remembrances are Indiana for I was born here and remained here about a year, then moving (California for a year, and then the return to Indiana for the next five years) when I recall without difficulty my first copper-toed boots, the miraculous blaze of Haley's Comet across the skies when I was enclosed in the back box or "trap" of a buggy when we were returning at night from somewhere. There was, of course the gradual absorption of general life on the farm; which also included, by the way, the birth of a brother.

Then back to California to a variety of places and the death of my mother. This was followed by a stay in Yorba Linda (B.N. - Before Nixon - but not by much) Here began regular school attendance under the eye of an Aunt but I was acutely aware by that time that the customs, life, terrain and even wild life of California was far from that of Indiana. Then back to Indiana again to another aunt, a grandfather and grandmother. Here Hoosier thoughts began to solidify in me as probably they did also in my brother.

There was school, the house and adjacent buildings and their animals, the fields to be tilled, the pond and the woods.

School was necessary and there was no bussing problem by the simple fact that there was no bus. We walked, weather or not. And the school was communal, if you wish to use the word in that context, for it was only one large room. The hot lunch problem was also a joke for the two cloakrooms, one for each sex, were on either side of the entranceway and far from the stove and lunch was always a cold or sometimes semi-frozen delight. However we always ate it for we were young and it tasted good. Then there were the schoolyard games which never varied very much or were imaginative in type but were heartily enjoyed by all.

Cliques were formed both at school and on the road to and from our fount of education. Many friendships were made and, strangely, no enemies of any importance. News and gossip was exchanged and, being a boy, I was sure the news was handled by the boys and the gossip by the girls. That is a feeling difficult to overcome. Most of all, my brother and I could have been treated as an alien element for we were never allowed to attend school in overalls or everyday clothes but we had to "dress up" every day before we started our daily scholastic journey. We had to remove these clothes as soon as we arrived home for a farm is twentyfour hour factory. This sartorial differentiation did not make us two basically different from the others for I can clearly recall that when another boy and I were sent to a nearby woods to collect a tree for Christmas at school it was not at all difficult to connive with the other boy to spend all day at the task. It is hard to find a better common denominator than a mutual desire to avoid attending school as much as possible especially when you are very young.

In the house things were not quite the same either. For one thing it had a mammoth steam furnace for the rooms were many and the ceilings were high. It was also one of the few rural residences in that area that boasted such a contraption and it required a lot of stoking. The kitchen stove burned wood as did the fireplace and the ashes of the two latter were usually kept separate from those of the coal burning furnace for wood ash could be "bleached" for lye to be used in the making of soap if you were also provident enough to save all the old unusable greases and fats until you had an ample supply. All it took then was an iron kettle and the know-how.

To Be Continued
