

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Indiana Historical Society Workshop
- U.S. Epidemics
- "Sifting Through Dirt in Land Records"
- Ancestral & Family Group Sheets
- Ye Olden Times

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 5
SEPTEMBER 2006

Wells County Tracer

WCGS September Meeting

This month's genealogy meeting will be held on September 16th at the Wells County Historical Society at 420 West Market St. in Bluffton.

Reminder: The Bluffton Street Fair will begin the following Tuesday. It is quite likely that they will be preparing to set up the Industrial Tent along Market St. right in front of the museum, so **remember** that there is some room for parking in the back of the museum, as well as along the side streets.

Cemetery Display at Museum

I placed a display in the Wells County Historical Museum of the conditions of the cemeteries of Wells County. The pictures and information was on display for the entire month. I rated the cemeteries as Good Bad and Neglected. On a map of Wells County I pin pointed with different colors of push pins the cemeteries and the condition they are in. It proved to be a very colorful map. I also drove to every cemetery and with my daughter Amanda's help, took pictures of the present condition of each cemetery. These pictures were the main part of the display. After the display was removed from the museum part of it was transferred to the Bluffton City Building where the Wells County Historical Society has a display case. The cemetery display is still there. Then on Aug 21, I participated in the WCHS Collectors and Hobby

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GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



Some cemeteries are heavily overgrown.

Question and an Answer

Why am I mailing the newsletter to people who normally get it via email? First, I need to know who is not getting it via email. I had only heard from a small handful that they could not get the newsletter, then I found out later that there were others who also had not been getting it. Therefore, it was decided to mail this month's newsletter and ask: who has not

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Newsletter Editor...

WANTED: The Wells County Genealogical Society is looking for a newsletter editor. The current one (that be me) is returning to school to get a master's degree. This will really cut into time to work on the newsletter. I plan

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President's Corner

Here we are Sept already. A few things to think about: First: Election will be coming up soon, I hope you are all willing to step up to the plate and do your part in keeping our society the great organization we have now. Second: Fall clean-up at the Old Rock Creek Cemetery. We will have a cleaning day again at the Old Rock Creek Cemetery after the first frost. Hopefully the weeds will be down so we can find more stones and be able to clear more brush from the area. Third: we need to keep plugging away at the Deed project. I have entered nearly 1800 names this summer, with many more to do of course. We need to keep reading those pages and entering the names. It is much easier to do the computer entry than do the reading. I want to personally thank each of you who have helped in any way to get the reading done. Final note: Just wanted to let you know that the WCGS library has had some activity. This is also due to the hard work of those who helped make it happen. Keep up the good work!!!
Connie



Indiana Historical Society Workshop Highlights Research

The Indiana Historical Society will offer a chance for people to learn about how to use a research library in an upcoming workshop at the Indiana History Center, located at 450 W. Ohio St. in Indianapolis. Staff from the William H. Smith Memorial Library will provide an orientation about the library and its vast collection of materials concerning the history of Indiana and the Old Northwest. The orientation will include a tour of the library, including access to some behind-the-scene areas not normally available to the public. The orientation will provide instruction on the various methods of searching the IHS collections, including how to access its growing digital image collection available at <http://www.indianahistory.org/>. Participants will also be able to see many of the library's treasures. Seating is limited, and registration is required by Sept. 15; cost is \$10 for the general public and \$8 for HIS members. A registration brochure can be downloaded at http://www.indianahistory.org/pub_prog/genealogy/gen_programs.html#September30

For more information or to register, call the IHS at (317) 232-1882 or (800) 447-1830.

Since 1830, the Indiana Historical Society has been Indiana's storyteller, connecting people to the past by collecting, preserving, interpreting and disseminating Indiana history. The independent, nonprofit organization also publishes books and periodicals; sponsors teacher workshops; provides youth, adult and family programming; assists local historical groups throughout the state; and maintains one of the largest collections of material on the history of Indiana and the Old Northwest. The Indiana Historical Society is one of the oldest and largest historical societies in the United States. The Society is located in the Indiana History Center at 450 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

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show with the cemetery display. The display attracted many interested individuals and four took applications for membership to our Society. I talked until I was hoarse that night so many questions were ask. At this show I also mentioned the projects we have going and what the future holds for the Society, many thought each of our goals and projects were very important to the community. I hope you too will see how important what we do is and continue to actively participate in the projects of the Society. *Submitted by Connie Brubaker*



Any family tree produces
some lemons, some nuts,
and a few bad apples.



(Continued from page 1)

to continue with "Ye Olden Times" cause I enjoy going through the old newspapers, but I really need for someone else to take over putting it together and getting it out to everyone. This does not have to be for the entire year, but only for the months I am in school if you don't want to take it on permanently. I have been using Microsoft Publisher, but Adobe Pagemaker would work, too. I can get you the "template" that I use and give you basic instructions on how to put it together. It does not have to be emailed to everyone, so please don't let that be a reason to stop you from trying it. Anyone who is interested in doing this or just wants more information to see if they are interested, please contact me at lvtforp@parlorcity.com or (260) 758-2332.

Minutes of the July Meeting

The July meeting opened with President Connie Brubaker presiding. There were 9 members present:

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Geri Brown | Connie Brubaker | Pat Dyson |
| Lynn Elliott | Joan Gavilanez | Barb Grubb |
| Mickey Jones | Susan Price | Linda Thomas |

Minutes of the May meeting were approved. Treasurer, Mickey Jones, reported an ending balance of \$1,002.34.

Correspondence was read.

Old Business:

A contribution from Tom Stair and Gerri Brown of sheet protectors was welcomed.

A contribution of 2 film readers was accepted from the LDS Library at Decatur. Tom Stogdill made arrangements for this donation. It was decided to have 1 reader at Cami Mount's home and 1 reader will be located in the Wells County Genealogy Society's Library. The readers will help make the deed project a much easier. Cami is still looking for volunteers to help with the project.

The Cemetery Workshop held in June was a great success. The group worked on resetting 4 stones. There were 5 new inscriptions found and these will be added to the records. There is still a large pile of limbs to be removed, but that should be finished in the next few weeks.

A report was given on the progress of the Poneto History book. Anyone having pictures or other memorabilia pertaining to Poneto is urged to contact Lynn Elliott at 260-827-0117 or lelliott2@sbcglobal.net.

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WELLS COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: CONNIE BRUBAKER
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VICE PRESIDENT: CAMI MOUNT
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SOCIETY RELATED EVENTS

September 16—Meeting

October 21 —Work in Old Rockcreek Cemetery

November 18—Lynn Elliott

Epidemics in U.S. 1657-1918

In case you ever wondered why a large number of your ancestors disappeared during a certain period in history, this might help. Epidemics have always had a great influence on people — and thus influencing, as well, the genealogist trying to trace them. Many cases of people disappearing from records can be traced to dying during an epidemic or moving away from the affected area. Some of the major epidemics in the United States are listed below:

| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| • 1657 | Boston | Measles |
| • 1687 | Boston | Measles |
| • 1690 | New York | Yellow Fever |
| • 1713 | Boston | Measles |
| • 1729 | Boston | Measles |
| • 1732-3 | Worldwide | Influenza |
| • 1738 | South Carolina | Smallpox |
| • 1739-40 | Boston | Measles |
| • 1747 | CTNY, PA, SC | Measles |
| • 1759 | N. Amer. [areas inhabited by white people] | Measles |
| • 1761 | N. Amer. & West Indies | Influenza |
| • 1772 | N. America | Measles |
| • 1775 | N. America [especially hard in NE] epidemic | Unknown |
| • 1775-6 | Worldwide [one of the worst epidemics] | Influenza |
| • 1783 | Dover, DE [“extremely fatal”] | Bilious Disorder |
| • 1788 | Philadelphia & New York | Measles |
| • 1793 | Vermont | [a “putrid” fever] & Influenza |
| • 1793 | VA [killed 500 in 5 counties in 4 weeks] | Influenza |
| • 1793 | Philadelphia [one of the worst epidemics] | Yellow Fever |
| • 1793 | Harrisburg, PA [many unexplained deaths] | Unknown |
| • 1793 | Middletown, PA [many mysterious deaths] | Unknown |
| • 1794 | Philadelphia, PA | Yellow Fever |
| • 1796-7 | Philadelphia, PA | Yellow Fever |
| • 1798 | Philadelphia, PA [one of the worst] | Yellow Fever |
| • 1803 | New York | Yellow Fever |
| • 1820-3 | Nationwide [starts Schuylkill River and spreads] | Fever |
| • 1831-2 | Nationwide [brought by English emigrants] | Asiatic Cholera |
| • 1832 | NY City and other major cities | Cholera |
| • 1837 | Philadelphia | Typhus |
| • 1841 | Nationwide [especially severe in the south] | Yellow Fever |
| • 1847 | New Orleans | Yellow Fever |
| • 1847-8 | Worldwide | Influenza |
| • 1848-9 | North America | Cholera |
| • 1850 | Nationwide | Yellow Fever |
| • 1850-1 | North America | Influenza |
| • 1852 | Nationwide [New Orleans-8,000 die in summer] | Yellow Fever |
| • 1855 | Nationwide [many parts] | Yellow Fever |
| • 1857-9 | Worldwide [one of the greatest epidemics] | Influenza |
| • 1860-1 | Pennsylvania | Smallpox |
| • 1865-73 | Philadelphia, NY, Boston, New Orleans Baltimore, Memphis, Washington D.C. A series of recurring epidemics of Typhus | Smallpox Cholera Typhoid Scarlet Fever Yellow Fever |
| • 1873-5 | N. America & Europe | Influenza |
| • 1878 | New Orleans [last great epidemic] | Yellow Fever |
| • 1885 | Plymouth, PA | Typhoid |
| • 1886 | Jacksonville, FL | Yellow Fever |
| • 1918 | Worldwide — high point yr., more people were hospitalized in WWI from this epidemic than from wounds US Army training camps became death camps, with 80% death rate in some camps | Influenza |

Source: Sept-Oct, 1997, Newsletter - Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County "Source: Ancestors West, SSBCGS, Vol 20, No 1, Fall 1993, South Bend (IN) Area Genealogical Society via Julie Burnett, Sue in Arizona and Judy Nordgren SMCAGS

Quick definitions

Bilious disorder: A term loosely applied to certain intestinal and malarial fevers accompanied by vomiting, fever and sometimes jaundice.

Cholera: Acute, infectious disease characterized by profuse diarrhea, vomiting, and cramps. It is spread by feces-contaminated water and food.

Influenza: Acute, contagious, infectious disease, caused by any of a specific group of viruses and characterized by inflammation of the respiratory tract, fever, and muscular pain.

“Putrid” fever: Typhus

Scarlet Fever: Potentially fatal disease in which the body is covered with a red rash first appearing on the neck and breast, and accompanied by a sore throat.

Smallpox: Contagious disease with fever and blisters

Typhus: An acute, infectious disease characterized by high fever, dizziness, and headache; transmitted by lice and fleas.

Yellow fever: An acute, often-fatal, infectious disease of warm climates--caused by a virus transmitted by mosquitoes

(Definitions are compilation of definitions from various websites)

Finally, these specific instance of cholera were mentioned:

1833Columbus, OH, 1834 New York City, 1849 New York, 1851 Coles Co., IL, The Great Plains, & Missouri

Family Group Sheet

| Husband: Eli Watson Moorman | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Born: August 01, 1822 | in: Greene Co., Ohio |
| Married: May 25, 1847 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Died: October 27, 1892 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Father: Pleasant G. Moorman | |
| Mother: Molly Moorman | |
| Wife: Lovina Arnold | |
| Born: November 30, 1827 | in: Dalton, Wayne Co. (Medina Co.), Ohio |
| Died: May 19, 1908 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Father: Samuel B. Arnold | |
| Mother: Mary Phillips | |
| CHILDREN | |
| 1 F | Name: Rebecca Moorman Married: Spouse: L. J. Farr |
| 2 F | Name: Mary E. Moorman Born: April 13, 1849 Died: January 15, 1867 |
| 3 F | Name: Arabelle Johnson Moorman Born: July 31, 1850 Died: July 05, 1940 Married: November 16, 1869 Spouse: George W. Cassell in: White Co., Indiana in: Hartford City, Blackford Co., Indiana in: Roll, Blackford Co., Indiana |
| 4 F | Name: Eliza Moorman Born: Abt. 1858 Died: Bef. 1958 Married: Spouse: ? Long in: Indiana |
| 5 M | Name: John Milton Moorman Born: July 31, 1860 Died: December 09, 1932 Married: May 22, 1880 Spouse: Emma J. Love in: Wells Co., Indiana in: Benzonia, Benzie Co., Michigan |
| 6 F | Name: Matilda Alice Moorman Born: February 18, 1865 Died: Bef. 1965 Married: September 27, 1884 Spouse: George H. Snow in: Wells Co., Indiana |

Lexicon May Hold More Than Words

For those of us who seek old family Bibles in hopes of finding notations made of births, deaths, marriages, etc., don't overlook your "old family dictionary."

My mother, who had only an eighth grade education, was somewhat of a wordsmith and definitely was not one to have a Bible taking up space in her house -- but she did have an old dictionary wherein she noted, in the back of the book on a blank page, all the priceless family data that got me started on my genealogy journey.

So, take a peek at those old outdated dictionaries you might be considering useless and ready for the trash bin. Not only are these old books an excellent resource for checking on words and definitions that may be omitted in present-day dictionaries, but they may hold the secret to your family's mysteries.

By Lorene Frigaard in Anaconda, Montana
Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 16 Aug 2006, Vol. 9, No. 33.

Family Group Sheet

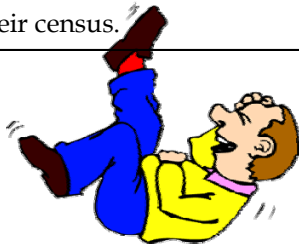
| Husband: Thomas Jefferson Arnold | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Born: June 10, 1844 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Married: December 08, 1864 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Died: December 28, 1912 | in: Montpelier, Wells Co., Indiana |
| Father: Samuel B. Arnold | |
| Mother: Mary Phillips | |
| Wife: Nancy Jane Brotherton | |
| Born: April 28, 1846 | in: Indiana |
| Died: March 06, 1921 | in: Indiana |
| Father: John Brotherton | |
| Mother: Mary Jane West | |

Ancestral & Family Sheets

This month's sheets are more of those sent in by Keith Hudson. If you would like to contact Keith, you may reach him at 6647 Coon Hill Rd., Munith, MI 49259 or email him at keithah@hotmail.com.

Send your family group sheets and ancestral charts to Connie Brubaker (7077N 100W, Uniondale, IN 46791) or Linda Thomas (5391N 400W, Markle, IN 46770).. Please let us know if you do not wish them published in the newsletter.

Old genealogists never die,
they just haunt cemeteries and
lose their census.



Finding Females

In areas whose legal systems derive from the English common law -- such as the United States, much of Canada, and the United Kingdom -- a name change usually does not require legal action, because a person can choose to be known by any name (except with intent to defraud) without taking any legal action.

In many jurisdictions whose legal systems derive from the civil law -- such as France, Spain, the province of Quebec, and the state of Louisiana -- however, the default position is for a woman's "legal name" to remain the same throughout life. Women there who wish to change their names legally usually must apply to do so via the same formal procedure as any other citizen who wishes to change a name.

When searching ship passenger lists, especially for your Italian, Dutch and French female ancestors, look under their maiden names. That's how they may be recorded even though they were married at the time.

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 16 August 2006, Vol. 9, No. 33.

AmeriSpeak
Expressions of
Our American
Ancestors

Family Group Sheet

Husband: Eli Arnold

Born: June 12, 1829 in: Stark Co., Ohio
 Married: June 13, 1875 in: Blackford Co., Indiana
 Died: September 29, 1927 in: Huntington, Huntington Co., Indiana
 Father: Samuel B. Arnold
 Mother: Mary Phillips
 Other Spouses: Hannah Maria Nixon

Wife: Lurinda Hart

Born: July 19, 1840 in: Stark Co., Ohio
 Died: August 10, 1914 in: Indiana
 Father: John Wink Hart
 Mother: Margaret Blyth

CHILDREN

| | | |
|--------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 M | Name: Albert Curtis Arnold Born: 1877 Died: February 01, 1921 Married: October 25, 1902 Spouse: Clara McIntire | in: Indiana in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| 2 F | Name: Susan J. Arnold Born: May 1880 Died: Bef. 1980 | in: Indiana |

Family Group Sheet

Husband: Alfred Redding

Born: February 07, 1817 in: Wilkes Co., North Carolina
 Married: March 09, 1865 in: Wells Co., Indiana
 Died: May 20, 1888 in: Wells Co., Indiana
 Father: William J. Redding
 Mother: Delphia Brown
 Other Spouses: Sarah Henderson, Elizabeth Sale

Wife: Cynthia Arnold

Born: January 14, 1834 in: Medina Co., Ohio
 Died: June 21, 1928 in: Montpelier, Blackford Co., Indiana
 Father: Samuel B. Arnold
 Mother: Mary Phillips
 Other Spouses: John Custard

CHILDREN

| | | |
|--------|---|---|
| 1 M | Name: George Henry Redding Born: May 10, 1866 Died: October 09, 1950 Married: Spouse: Della | in: Indiana |
| 2 M | Name: Willis Brown Redding Born: April 24, 1872 Died: March 17, 1954 | in: Bluffton, Indiana in: Defiance, Ohio |

THEY SAID: Ain't got the sense that God gave a goose

WE SAY: Dimwitted

THEY SAID: As useful as a milk bucket under a bull

WE SAY: Not needed or not necessary

THEY SAID: Busier than a one-eyed cat watching nine rat holes

WE SAY: Extremely busy

THEY SAID: Beef bunkles

WE SAY: Beef short ribs

THEY SAID: Butter beans

WE SAY: Lima beans

THEY SAID: Glue bait.

WE SAY: An old horse.

THEY SAID: toe babies

WE SAY: strawberries

Family Group Sheet

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Husband: John Custard | |
| Born: | in: North Carolina |
| Married: August 13, 1854 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Died: May 06, 1863 | in: Helena, Arkansas |
| Father: ? Custard | |
| Mother: ?? | |
| Wife: Cynthia Arnold | |
| Born: January 14, 1834 | in: Medina Co., Ohio |
| Died: June 21, 1928 | in: Montpelier, Blackford Co., Indiana |
| Father: Samuel B. Arnold | |
| Mother: Mary Phillips | |
| Other Spouses: Alfred Redding | |
| CHILDREN | |
| 1 M | Name: Samuel Custard Born: 1856 Died: Bef. 1928 Married: July 29, 1876 Spouse: Elmira Mossburg in: Indiana in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| 2 M | Name: John Custard Born: 1857 Died: 1861 in: Indiana |
| 3 F | Name: Anna Custard Born: 1860 Died: Bet. 1928 - 1960 Married: April 28, 1877 Spouse: Quincy M. Newman in: Indiana in: Huntington, Huntington Co., Indiana |
| 4 F | Name: Elizabeth Custard Born: Abt. 1862 Died: Bet. 1880 - 1942 in: Indiana |

(Continued from page 1)

received a newsletter in March, May and/or July? It may be that I have been emailing the link to you and you have not been receiving my email. If you find that you have not received one in those months, please let me know and I will mail you a printed copy and take you off the email list. Call me at (260) 758-2332 or email me at lvtforp@parlorcity.com. Second, my computer crashed Thursday and it is still not running right and can't be fixed right now, so even if I weren't wanting to ask about the above, I'd still be printing and mailing them.



Family Group Sheet

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Husband: James Turner | |
| Born: December 09, 1829 | in: Greene Co., Ohio |
| Married: April 08, 1852 | in: Wells Co., Indiana |
| Died: October 08, 1891 | in: Jackson twp, Wells Co., Indiana |
| Father: Johnathan Turner | |
| Mother: Mary | |
| Wife: Mary Arnold | |
| Born: March 29, 1831 | in: Ohio |
| Died: April 16, 1927 | |
| Father: Samuel B. Arnold | |
| Mother: Mary Phillips | |
| CHILDREN | |
| 1 M | Name: George Turner Born: January 1858 Died: October 25, 1944 Married: January 16, 1879 Spouse: Eva E. Krise in: Wells Co., Indiana in: Indiana in: Wells Co., Indiana |

Rich Uncle or Poor Speller?

Thanks to Rita Hallett, who writes:

In the death records of an ancestor of mine, it says he died of "new money disease."

At first I thought what could this be? Then I laughed and said it as they probably did -- pneumonia.

I sure wish it had been "new money."

Previously published in Roots-Web Review: 9 August 2006, Vol. 9, No. 32

Family Group Sheet

Husband: John Peter Agustus Leonard

Born: November 08, 1837 in: Metz, Alsace- Lorraine, France
 Married: January 09, 1859 in: Wells Co., Indiana
 Died: April 24, 1913 in: Hartford City, Blackford Co., Indiana
 Father: Mathew Leonard
 Mother: Anne Balliard

Wife: Susannah Arnold

Born: March 11, 1837 in: Medina Co., Ohio
 Died: December 27, 1923 in: Hartford City, Blackford Co., Indiana
 Father: Samuel B. Arnold
 Mother: Mary Phillips

CHILDREN

| | | |
|--------|--|---|
| 1 M | Name: Albert Austin Leonard Born: October 12, 1859 Died: April 18, 1878 | in: Indiana |
| 2 F | Name: Clara May Leonard Born: November 07, 1864 Died: February 12, 1956 Married: November 07, 1882 Spouse: John Marcellus Leiber | in: Indiana in: Blackford Co., Indiana |
| 3 F | Name: Emma Retta Leonard Born: November 25, 1866 Died: December 01, 1927 Married: September 07, 1885 Spouse: Emsley Brewington | in: Indiana in: Indianapolis, Marion Co., Indiana in: Blackford Co., Indiana |
| 4 F | Name: Lizzie Lettie Leonard Born: May 18, 1872 Died: August 18, 1964 | in: Indiana in: Hartford City, Blackford Co., Indiana |
| 5 F | Name: Mary Nettie Leonard Born: February 04, 1875 Died: December 28, 1970 Married: June 19, 1899 Spouse: George T. Fulton | in: Blackford Co., Indiana in: Hartford City, Blackford Co., Indiana in: Blackford Co., Indiana |
| 6 M | Name: John Calvin Leonard Born: June 23, 1877 Died: June 05, 1963 Married: Spouse: Helen Vanclere | in: Indiana in: Hartford City, Blackford Co., Indiana |
| 7 F | Name: Mary Jane Leonard Born: Aft. 1880 Died: Abt. 1964 | |

Sifting Through Dirt in Land Records By Lori McLeod Wilke

<http://www.geocities.com/dillysdillys/AngusMcLeodII.htm>

I remember vividly a trip to South Carolina with my family -- the memory includes standing on a bridge looking at the Mill Pond property where my father had spent his childhood summers. He was explaining to me that his grandfather had not owned this property but rented it after the Civil War. I asked about the land our family had owned and was told that it had gone out of the family when a McLEOD widow had left it to her second husband.

Many years later I became interested in genealogy and was able to speak to those who researched before me. Interestingly, the story of the loss of our family land showed some bitterness and was still passed down through the years. Sensing this bitterness, I became curious about what the real situation had been, but for years was unable to learn the truth.

Two years ago during my annual research trip to South Carolina I found several land deeds in which my great-great-grandmother was purchasing property. Not taking the time to read anything other than names and witnesses, I quickly made copies

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YE OLDEN TIMES

A monthly addition to your genealogy society newsletter. Edited & typed by Linda V. Thomas. We continue on with excerpts from *The People's Press* of 1859, then add just a tad from the *Bluffton Banner* of 1859.

Note: there were some misspellings, or perhaps just different spellings from what we see today. I am copying them exactly as they are in the newspapers, so if you see a misspelling, it is because it was there in the original paper.

TAKE NOTICE.

THE VENDUE notes of T. W. Callen, late of this County, are in my hands for collection. Those knowing themselves indebted, will please call and settle, and thereby save cost.

S. KEELY.

Washington Hotel—Daily Stage Line to Fort Wayne every morning, Livery Stable—Wilson Deam, Proprietor, Main St., Bluffton

MARRIED—By N. Kellogg; Esq. on the 3rd inst. Mr. Amos Quick and Miss Rachel E. Bay.

The People's Press, Feb. 4, 1859, p. 2

QUARTERLY MEETING.—We are requested to give notice that the United Brethren Church will hold a quarterly meeting at their church in Bluffton, commencing on Saturday the 12th of February, next; services to commence at 1 o'clock P. M. Rev. Mr. Miller, the presiding elder, will be in attendance.

George Merritt, daguerrean artist, would respectfully tender to the public his grateful acknowledgments for the liberal manner in which they have patronized him during his short stay in Bluffton, and would say that he may be found at his rooms over T. W. Van Horn's for about two weeks, where he would be happy to wait upon all such as wish to secure a life like likeness.

CURRENT WINE.—It is said that an excellent article of domestic wine is to be had at Townsend & Freeman's store in small quantities only. Those fond of the article would do well to

call and taste for themselves. We learn that many have had the cup of enchantment proffered to them filled with this delicious beverage, and that

Many have sought to obtain a drop,
And marveled why they tasted not.

It is a fact that Henry Prillaman, druggist, one door south of Deam's Hotel, in addition to his very ample stock of drugs and medicines, paints, &c., keeps a full assortment of the choicest family groceries which, in point of quality and cheapness of price, cannot be excelled in Bluffton, or its vicinity. Among his stock may be mentioned coffee, tea, sugar, rice, prunes, tobacco, & c., which he will dispose of for cash or ready pay only, on very advantageous terms to purchasers.

Millinery Store—Bonnetts and other fancy goods, Bleaching & Pressing done to order, and on the shortest notice—L. C. Bulger, Corner of Main and Washington streets, Bluffton

Blacksmith—horseshoeing and wagon or buggy work—J. Litzel, west end of Bluffton on Market street.

Saddle and Harness Maker—Carriage, Buggy and Draft Harneess, Saddles, Bridles and Collars. Repairing attended to on the shortest notice—O. C. Mitchell, five doors east of Starr's Corner on Market street.

Watch Dealer and Repairer—Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Musical Instruments, &c.—Charles G. Quick, In Horton & Cook's Hardware Store.

Dry Goods—Nice LAWNS from 6¼ to 20 cts. Per yard: PRINTS from 8 to 12½ for best fast colors: Heavy SHEETINGS at 9 cts. Per yard. All kinds of Country Produce taken in exchange for Goods, and the highest Cash price paid in Cash, for Wheat and Corn.—Townsend, Freeman & Co.'s, Bluffton.

BLACKSMITH SHOP.

SAMUEL JONES respectfully inform the public that he has opened a shop in Bluffton, a little west of the jail, where he will be happy to accommodate all who may stand in need of his services. He will pay especial attention to shoeing horses, and flatters

himself that he can give satisfaction to those who may entrust work to his care. Charges always reasonable.

The People's Press, Feb. 4, 1859, p. 3

"VENI, VIDI, VICI,"

When rendered into Vernacular
MEANETH, I CAME, I SAW, AND I BOUGHT A
GOOD WAGON!

MANUFACTURED out of the best of seasoned timber, and in the most approved style, by the undersigned who is prepared to execute all orders with dispatch. Repairing of all kinds done on short notice at his WAGON SHOP on Market street, three squares (?) west of the Court House. M. KARNES

Grocery Store—T. W. VanHorn (successor to VanHorn & King), Bluffton.

Druggists or Merchants—H. Prillaman, Bluffton; W. C. Stockton, Murray; W. P. Wilson, Zanesville; J. J. Johnson, Ossian; E. Rothchild, Newville.

Shingles and Lath—Nathanel DeHaven, Bluffton.

Marble Works—Monuments, Tombstones, Headstones, Table Tops—E. F. Wood.

The People's Press, Feb. 4, 1859, p. 4

Dry Goods—Ready-Made Clothing, Tailor (Mr. Gordon)—Keely & Gordon, the corner store in Gregg and Wiley's brick block.

Medicine and surgery—Dr. C. T. Melshheimer—Office, for the present, at his residence on the S. E. corner of Cherry and Johnson Streets.

Attorneys and Counselors at Law—Notary Public (Vanhorn), N. Vanhorn and M. Jenkinson, Front room, up stairs, over Studabaker's Exchange.

Attorneys and Counselors at Law—G. S. Brown and L. P. Milligan, Office with Dr. Horton.

CASH PAID FOR HOOP POLES
500,000 hoop poles wanted at J. C. Silver's mill in Bluffton, by

SANDERS & CO.

The People's Press, Nov. 23, 1860, p. 1

MARRIED—On the 22d inst., by Rev. JOSEPH A. WILLIAMS, Mr. J. W.

FREEMAN and Miss L. C. BULGER, all of this place.

Accompanying this notice was a nice, large and delicious cake, which was particularly acceptable to the office hands. Of course, the happy pair have the best wishes of the Press office and all concerned for their future happiness and prosperity.

AGRICULTURAL NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Wells County Agricultural Society will be held at the Court House in Bluffton on

Saturday December First, 1860.

The annual election for officers to serve for the ensuing year will take place at that time. The Treasurer will present his annual report, and a full and complete exhibit of the financial affairs will be laid before the meeting.

Steps will also be taken to procure grounds for the Fair, and to place the society upon a solid basis. It is important that every member of the society should attend.

The executive committee will be in attendance to settle all complaints which may be laid before the Board. Let no one stay away.

DAVID T. SMITH, Secretary.

Sheriff's Sale.

Henry R. Colrick }
Vs. }
The Cincinnatti } In the Court of Common
And Ft. Wayne } Pleas, of Allen county
Rail Road Company. }

By virtue of an Execution to me directed, I will expose for sale at Public Auction, at the Court House door in the town of Bluffton, in Harrison Township, Wells County, Indiana, on the 7th day of December 1860, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. of said day the following property to wit:

The rents and profits for a term of years no to exceed seven, of the following premises to wit: The East half of the Southeast quarter of Section six (6) in township 27 North of range 13 East in Wells County Indiana, and on failure to realize therefrom the full amount of the judgement, interest, thereon, and costs, I will at the same time and place by public auction as

aforesaid expose for sale the fee imple (sic.) of said premises.

Executed as the property of said Cincinnatti and Ft. Wayne Rail Road Company at the suit of Henry R. Colrick.

M. MILLER, Sheriff, W. C.

**PLOUGHS, REAPERS,
AND
WHEAT DILLS**

The subscriber has for sale on very reasonable terms, Howe's umbarbed plows, which are considered the best patterns ever offered to the public. Also, Karle's harvesters and wheat drills, which are considered the best article of the kind ever offered to the public, performing its work in the most satisfactory manner. For terms, call on the subscriber, 2 miles N. W. of Bluffton. John Routh (Ed. - or Kouth)

General Merchandise Store - George Arnold, at Studabaker's Old Stand.

Sheriff's Sale.

Charles High } In the Court of Common
vs. } Pleas of Wells County.
Joseph Richey }

By virtue of an Execution to me directed, I will expose for sale at Public Auction, at the Court House door in the town of Bluffton, in Harrison Township, Wells County, Indiana, on the 7th day of December, 1860, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. of said day, the following property to wit:

The rents and profits for a term of years not to exceed seven, of the following premises to wit: the South half of the South east quarter of the North east quarter, and the North half of the North east quarter of the South east quarter of section 30 in township 27 North of range 12 East, also In lots No. 223 and 224, as known and designated on the recopied plat of the town of Bluffton in Wells County, Indiana, and on failure to realize therefrom the full amount of the judgement, interest thereon, and costs, I will at the same time and place by public auction as aforesaid expose for sale the fee simple of said premises.

Executed as the property of Joseph Richey, at the suit of Charles High.

M. MILLER, Sheriff, W. C.

The People's Press, Nov. 23, 1860, p. 2

*In the Wells Circuit Court,
February Term 1861.*

Rebecca W. Barrows }
vs. } Petition for Divorce.
Hiram Barrows. }

Hiram Barrows will take notice that on the 20th day of October, 1860. Rebecca W. Barrows by her counsel, WITHERS, MORRIS, AND WILSON, filed her petition in the Wells Circuit Court, praying for a Divorce and alimony from said Hiram Barrows, which petition will be heard at the February Term of said Court, to be held at the court House, in said County, on the 1st Monday in February 1861.

T. L. WISNER Clerk.

J. L. WILSON. JOHN MORRIS.

WILSON & MORRIS,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law.

Bluffton, Wells County, Ind.

Having formed a business relation with Judge Morris, of Fort Wayne, we solicit a continuance of the liberal patronage heretofore received. Strict personal attention given to cases taken to the Supreme Court of the State of Indiana.

OFFICE - In the room occupied by the late firm of J. L. & E. R. Wilson, in Studabaker's exchange banking office.

J. L. WILSON

FARM FOR SAE.

The undersigned offers for sale his farm 1/4 mile south of Bluffton, containing 160 acres, 90 cleared and under improvement; 100 grafted apple trees, bearing choice fruit; good house, barn, and other out buildings Also a good frame dwelling house in Bluffton. For terms, apply to the undersigned in Bluffton. W. R. WINTERS.

The People's Press, Nov. 23, 1860, p. 3

HE UNION SAVED

THE SUBSCRIBERS ARE HAPPY to announce that to the public that not only is the Union saved, but they have now in successful operation, their

Planing Machine

Which is calculated to dress flooring, weatherboarding, and all kinds of lumber, at the following rates per 100 feet, to wit:

For oak flooring, - from 80cts to \$1.00.
" ash " - - - - - 75

" poplar " - - - - - 60
 " facing poplar lumber, - - - - 30
 " " and joining siding, - - - 30

Those who contemplate building will find it greatly to their advantage to give them a call. The machine is gauged so as to reduce lumber to any desired thickness or width.

A SASH MACHINE

Will be put in operation shortly, when window sash, window blinds and panel doors, of the best quality will be furnished on reasonable terms. The machine is at present located at the steam mill of J. C. Silver, Esq., N. W. of town, where they will be found ready to accommodate all who may desire their services. Please call on Fridays and Saturdays.

H. PRILLAMAN & Co.

F. M. TUMBLESON,

Eclectic Physician and Surgeon

Having permanently located in Bluffton tenders his professional services to the citizens of the town and surrounding country; hoping from past experience and strict attention to business to merit a liberal share of public patronage.

N. B.—Special attention paid to Chronic diseases.

Office with Van Horn & Jenkinson, over Studabakers Exchange.

LIVERY

AND

SALE STBLE.

The subscriber is devoting his time and attention to his livery and sale stable on Wabash street, in the rear of the Washington Hotel, where he is prepared to accommodate customers, both old and new, with elegant "rigs" at fair rates.

Horses bought and sold on the most advantageous terms. The public are respectfully invited to call on

WILS DEAM

N. B. Horses will be kept, fed, and wel cared for, by the day, week, or otherwise, a very moderate prices.

The People's Press, Nov. 23, 1860, p. 4

COUNTY OFFICERS.

Thos. L. Wisner, *Clerk*;

John McFadden, *Auditor*;

M. Miller, *Sheriff*;

Samuel Dailey, *Recorder*;
 Peter Studabaker, *Treasurer*;
 E. A. Horton, *Surveyor*;
 Nathaniel DeHaven, *Coroner*;
 John Ogden, Samuel B. Arnold,
 and William Linn, *Commissioners*.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

NAMES POST OFFICES

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Lemuel Bachelor, | Warren, Huntington Co. |
| Noah Cloud, | " " " |
| James Osborn, | Zanesville, Wells Co. |
| Joseph Beatty, | " " " |
| William R. Taylor, | Murray, " " |
| William McBride, | Barber's Mill, " " |
| Samuel Gehrett, | Reiffsburgh, " " |
| David Canady, | Nottingham, " " |
| David Truesdale, | Fox P.O. " " |
| Amza White, | Bluffton, " " |
| Charles Grimes, | " " " " |
| Bowen Hale, | " " " " |
| Jonathan Garton, | " " " " |
| Joseph R. Lafever, | Ossian, " " |
| Jacob First, | Liberty Cent'r, " " |
| Hampton Osborn, | " " " " |
| George Turner, | Montpelier, Blackford Co. |
| Benjamin Lowry, | " " " " |

No Paper Next Week.

We shall not issue a paper next week. Upon putting the question to vote, we found an overwhelming majority of our office help warmly in favor of the above arrangement. "Christmas times come but once a year," and printers must not be blamed for inclination to cease their intricate toil, for at least one week, and mingle with the happy throng in a proper observance of this festive season.

When we next greet you, kind readers, the Old Year will have passed away and the New been born. The time for turning new leaves will then be at hand again, and we sincerely trust that all who have read a dark page during 1859, maybe be enabled to turn to one beautifully illuminated in 1860; and that to those to whom the Old year has been a pleasing song, may the New be naught else than a continuation of the same.

To our patrons, one and all, and to their wives, children, and relatives, we most earnestly wish a "Merry Christmas and happy New Year."

CHRISTMAS BALL. — Grand

preparations are making for a Christmas Ball, at the Washington Hotel, on Monday night next, the 26th inst. From the number of tickets issued, and the interest manifested by the beaux and belles generally, we have no doubt it will be a pleasant affair. Ticket, admitting gentleman and lady to ball and supper, \$2. those who are fond of "tripping the light fantastic toe, " and of good suppers, should attend at the Washington, on Monday night, by all means.

THIEVES.—We learn from a gentleman from Rockcreek township that thieves are operating quite extensively in that vicinity. Such articles as corn, potatoes, bacon, &c., frequently disappear mysteriously from the possession of the rightful owners. In one instance, a poor widow lady was robbed of nearly all the provisions she had in her house. In another, a gentleman one morning found a considerable quantity of corn missing from his crib, and near by discovered a leaded pistol which the thief had accidentally dropped—showing conclusively that he had gone prepared to murder in case of being caught at his thieving operations. [This was at Uncle Johnny Maddox's; and the widow lady above referred to, is Mrs. Stover.]

The citizens of that township would better hold a meeting and elect a posse of Detective Policemen to ferret out and bring to justice the rogues who are annoying them.

DEER.—Any number of fine deer have been taken by our hunters this season. The sport must stop, however, for a time, after the first of January.

HO! FOR NEWVILLE.—To-night there will be a splendid Ball at Biberstine's Hotel, in Newville, where there is one of the finest ball-rooms in the State.

Wils Deam is on hand as usual to (*illegible word*) up top rigs to convey pleasure-seekers by the hundreds. Go to Wils's, and either engage a seat in the magnificent four-horse Gondola Sleigh, or hire a horse and sleigh on your own hook, and speed away to Newville.

This world is but a fleeting show,

And while the earth is cover'd with snow,
 You might as well (allow us to say)
 Enjoy the still fleeter sleigh!
 —Spakeshear.

THE MAIL COACH.—Mr. Case's mail Coach is now making its tri-weekly trips from here to Ft. Wayne, on a four-horse sleigh.

Bluffton Banner, Dec. 23, 1859, p. 2

(Continued from page 2)

New Business:

A work day was planned for the Old Rockcreek (Crum) Cemetery for October 21, 2006. It was just recently discovered that this cemetery was the 1833 site of the Crum School. The first burial in the cemetery was in 1846.

A discussion was held on the possibility of a book on Wells County's one-room schoolhouses. If there is anyone interested in helping with this project, please contact Connie Brubaker.

Street Fair booth volunteers are needed for 3 to 4 hour stints. Volunteers are also needed for the Historical Museum.

WCGS welcomes 2 new members.
 Lynn Stoppenhagen and Gail Desnoyer.

There will be a special meeting Saturday, August 26, on how to use your genealogy research to join patriotic organizations.

The regulations and care of cemeteries was discussed. Many of our old cemeteries are in need of a fence to surround them. It was suggested that if you are aware of this problem, the Township Trustee should be contacted so the fencing can be budgeted for next year.

The symbols and meanings of stone carvings was presented.

Adjournment was at 11:45.

Submitted by Lynn Elliott

Genealogy quips:

FLOOR: The place for storing your priceless genealogy records.

Heredity: Everyone believes in it until their children act like fools!

Genealogy: Tracing yourself back to better people.

Cousins marrying cousins: Very tangled roots!

I think my ancestors had several "Bad heir" days.

Shh! Be very, very quiet I'm hunting forebears.

(Continued from page 7)

of these deeds for later reading. I was surprised to read later that on one of them that grandmother Harriet had purchased 110 acres at public auction in 1880 from the estate of Angus McLEOD, her brother-in-law who had died in 1864 during the War Between the States.

Also revealed was the fact that the sale was taking place due to an 1867 lawsuit that had been filed by the estate against the widow of Angus and her second husband. I had stumbled onto a record that could lead me to the truth of the family stories and why there was such bitterness. I had found the estate file for Angus during the previous years' research trip but had had no information about a lawsuit.

It was a year later before I was able to return to South Carolina and search for the lawsuit. It had not been indexed or copied as had many other records, so finding it meant going through drawers of the actual documents that pertained to it. This in itself was exciting but when we found the case, we were over the moon.

Returning home, I spent hours with a magnifying glass going over what remained of the lawsuit and to my delight I found the truth of that old family tale. Angus McLEOD and his wife, Eliza, lived on what is believed to have been the original homestead property of Alexander MacLEOD, our immigrant ancestor.

Angus inherited that land upon his mother's death around 1835. He and Eliza lived as neighbors of his first cousin, Annie McLEOD and her husband Col. BOYKIN. As stated earlier, Angus had perished in the War Between the States but, his first cousin, Annie, had also died during the war while her husband was a prisoner of the Yankees.

Col. BOYKIN returned home after being pardoned to find his wife dead as well as his neighbor and cousin by marriage. Within six months of the end of the war, Eliza found that Angus' estate was bankrupt and the executor of the estate was forced to sell all of the land but that legally hers by dower law. [See dower rights: <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~hornbeck/deathrec.htm>]

Other than the land and an empty house and outbuildings, she was destitute. She and Col. BOYKIN were married a few months later. During the insolvency proceedings, the land was divided one-third to Eliza and two-thirds to the executor who was to sell the land to pay off the debts of the estate. Col. BOYKIN purchased the two-thirds from the executor and absorbed it into his holdings.

Unfortunately, the land that had been of high value before the war, of lesser value during it, was, after the war, sold for less than six cents an acre and did not cover the debts that were suddenly coming out of the woodwork. Within a few months, the executor filed the lawsuit to force the BOYKINs and others to pay their debts to the estate in order that he could pay off the other debtors. It was obvious from the records that he was forced to do so because his own assets were being attacked by the debtors of the McLEOD estate. Unfortunately, the decree which would have proven the claims of those who filed for payment from the estate was missing from the file, but the order for the sale of the dower lands of Eliza McLEOD BOYKIN after her death in 1880 was included -- hence the deed in which I found my great-great-grandmother purchasing Eliza's dower lands on the courthouse steps!

Was my family's bitterness about the "loss" of the estate justified? The facts don't seem to bear out the bitterness they held against Col. BOYKIN. At the very least it is my belief, after learning all of this, that Col. BOYKIN married the destitute widow of his cousin by marriage and long-time neighbor and that he did so in kindness.

I have learned the "rest of the story" told to me so many years ago that although more than 200 acres of the family land was "lost" to the second husband of a widowed McLEOD, it was not stolen by that husband through the apathy or ill-will of Angus McLEOD's wife. It was lost, as was many a Southern family's land, due to the aftermath of a cruel war and the effects it had on Southern finances. The house, the outbuildings and 100 acres of our original homestead, gone out of family hands in 1867 had returned to the family in 1880, and was held for another 15 years before finally being sold in 1895.

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Membership Form

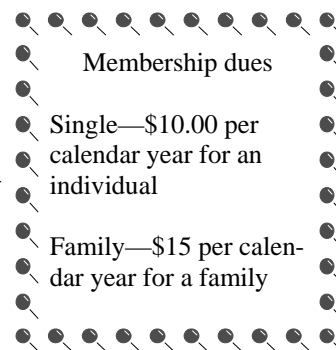
Name: _____

Address _____ E-mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Surname(s) Researching: _____



WCGS ITEMS FOR SALE

| | Members | | Non-Members | | Quantity | Total Amt. |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|------------|
| | Book | Shipping | Book | Shipping | | |
| Early Settlers of Blackford and Wells Counties (Book) | \$40.00 | \$5.00 | \$45.00 | \$5.00 | | \$ |
| Wells County Will Book (index of wills) | \$15.00 | \$5.00 | \$20.00 | \$5.00 | | \$ |
| Both books | \$55.00 | \$6.00 | \$65.00 | \$6.00 | | \$ |
| Poneto Newspapers on CD (16 issues from 1901-02) | \$ 5.00 | \$1.00 | \$ 6.00 | \$1.00 | | \$ |
| BWGS Membership--\$10.00 individual/\$15.00 family | (Circle one) Individual or family | | | | | \$ |
| Total Amt. Enclosed | | | | | | \$ |

Mail to: _____ (You can also pick items up at Pages from the Attic, one mile north of Uniondale on Co RD 100 W)
 Wells County Genealogy Society,
 P.O. box 54,
 Bluffton, IN 46714

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 Bluffton, IN 46714