

# WHITEWATER VALLEY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Box 941

Connersville, IN 47331

**Vol 7, No. 3**

**June 2007**

## COMING EVENTS

June 8 & 9 Gen Fest for Grant County and surrounding counties. See [www.marion.lib.in.us](http://www.marion.lib.in.us) for details.

July 17 – WVGA Meeting

August 15-18 – FGS at Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, In. See [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) for details and registration form.

August 21 – WVGA Meeting

## RECENT MEETINGS

Charlie Hughes was a constable in Connersville and he told about his job and brought a list of the businesses in downtown Connersville in the 1950's. It was interesting for the members to try and remember these.

Julie Schlesselman, Head of History and Genealogy at the Brookville library told of the town of Fairfield and its demise. She brought several scrapbooks. John Updyke has a website about Fairfield which is very interesting. It is [www.fairfieldindiana.com](http://www.fairfieldindiana.com).

## FAVORITE WEB SITE

Brigham Young University has a couple of websites worth checking out

<http://ce.byu.edu/is/site/courses/freecourses.cfm>

[www.immigrants.byu.edu](http://www.immigrants.byu.edu) (this one is in the infant stage but will eventually help you trace your ancestors when they moved from one country to another.)

Tri County new website: [www.genstuff.net](http://www.genstuff.net)  
Visit it and watch it grow

## A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

If you have family from Franklin County, you may be interested in submitting an article for their new book "A Glimpse of the Past." The cost is \$20 to submit plus \$5 for each photo you wish to use. The listing includes 750 words, If

you need more, an additional 750 words is another \$20. Info can be submitted by e-mail in a word document. If they do not have to re-type it, this eliminates the possibility of typo's. Info can also be dropped off at their office. Deadline is July 13, 2007.

You might want to include a brief summary of how your family came to settle in Franklin County, any noteworthy historical relatives, connections to local sports, art, business, music, club or organization.

To find out more you can contact Sherry at [webmaster@thebrookvilleneews.com](mailto:webmaster@thebrookvilleneews.com).

## FROM THE FILES

Summer time and time to think of reunions. Here are a couple from past newspapers.

*Connersville News Examiner*, August 6, 1936

### CUPP FAMILY REUNION

A basket dinner and miscellaneous program featured the annual Cupp family reunion held Sunday at Roberts Park in Connersville. Mrs. John Booth of Milroy presided during the program which was interspersed with vocal selections by Raymond Hanna Jr. of Oxford and Robert Samuel Magee of Indianapolis.

Memorials were given for the members who died during the past year by the secretary, Mrs. Roy Harvey of Brookville. Officers for the coming year are: Mrs. James Sample of Metamora, president; Mrs. John Booth of Milroy, vice president; Mrs. Roy Harvey of Brookville, secretary-treasurer; Raymond Hanna of Oxford, O, Alfred Sample of Richmond and Walter Jolliff of Connersville, committee for the next reunion.

Games added to the amusement of the day and late in the afternoon light refreshments were served to guests from Oxford, Indianapolis, Brookville and Milroy. The 1937 reunion will be held the second Sunday in August at Roberts Park.

## CALDWELLS PLAN 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE

*Connersville News Examiner* Sept. 5, 1936

The annual reunion of the Caldwell family will be held at Roberts Park, September 13.

The reunion association will celebrate this year the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the coming of the Caldwells to Fayette County, Indiana. Four brothers, Joseph, Train, James and Manlove Caldwell entered land in 1811 in what is now Harrison and Posey Townships of this county.

In addition to the usual basket dinner a program of games, contests and entertainment has been arranged to start at 10:30 o'clock. Officers of the association are Howard C. Caldwell, Indianapolis, president and June Jeffrey, Connersville, secretary.

(Note: I did not find any report of the reunion in the paper after it was held.)

From July 2007 Family Tree Magazine

Tired of the same old traditional reunion activities? Had enough of simply talking about your dead relatives? Liven up your clan's next gathering with a family history tour: a guided exploration of the old neighborhood including visits to family homes or farms, workplaces and houses of worship.

So this year, forgo the sack races and pull off your own transformative tour.

A few ideas for stops on your tour

1. Your ancestors' home, apartment or any other place of residence.
2. Family church or temples
3. Cemeteries where relatives or neighbors are buried.
4. School relatives attended
5. The courthouse where they filed their paperwork
6. Train depot your relative traveled through
7. Buildings where ancestors worked
8. Business your kin would have frequented (neighborhood grocery, butcher, hardware store, bank)

9. Social clubs they belonged to (such as Elks or Eagles)
10. Movie theaters or dance halls
11. Social clubs they belonged to (such as Elks or Eagles)

Even if the structures are no longer standing – or they are used for different purposes today – it's still worth visiting the sites: You'll feel a profound connection to your past knowing you're standing in the place your ancestors did.

## HISTORY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

Franklin County Historical Society has reprints of Reifel's History of Franklin County for \$75 plus shipping. Contact them at P. O. Box 342, Brookville, In 47012 for purchasing details.

## QUERIES

SHEPLER: Wm Shepler (abt 1821-1891 in Fayette Co., IN) m 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth White in Butler Co., OH Married 2<sup>nd</sup> Martha Elizabeth Hull in Union Co., IN. Offspring included: Mary Ann b Nov 2 1841, Lydia b 1865, Wm Lincoln b April 1, 1867, Ulysses 'Grant' b October 1868, Schuyler Colfax b May 1870, Henry Wilson b Oct 19, 1872, Nellie Elizabeth b Dec 6 1874, Daniel Monroe b Aug 27 1877, Arthur Garfield 'Tom' b June 20, 1880, Lucia birthdate unknown. Question: I've been searching for William Shepler's parents for 15 years. He's my brick wall. Does anyone know anything?

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Indianapolis, In 46236

GREGG/WELLS: Would like to share information on and make contact with descendants of my gr grandmother, Sarah Ann GREGG, b June 22, 1834 Connersville, In. She married Charles W. WELLS. Her mother was also a Sarah Ann GREGG, b 1814 and is shown on the 1840 Connersville, Fayette Co., IN census with 2 girls age 5-10.

Peggy Riggs Kopp  
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CLARK/HENDERSON/ABRAMS/  
TOMMASON/McCONNELL

Was their father Benjamin CLARK b VA? Who was his wife? Where did they live in TN?

Samuel CLARK b abt 1810 TN-m 1831 Fayette Co., In to Louisa TOMMASON  
William CLARK b abt 1811 TN – m 1835 Fayette Co., In to Sarah ABRAMS  
Joseph CLARK b 1813 TN – m 1838 Fayette Co., In to Matilda HENDERSON  
Walter CLARK b 1819 TN – m 1836 Fayette Co., IN to Eliza McCONNELL

WRIGHT/McCOMAS/OSBORN/HARRIS/  
MILLER/NEWMAN/LOWRY/BARRETT

My 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandparents, James Gilbert WRIGHT and Lucinda McCOMAS who married in 1830 in Rush Co., IN. James was the son of Rev. Reuben WRIGHT and Anna (Gilbert) WRIGHT who married in Sussex Co., VA 1798. Reuben & James were both Methodist Episcopal ministers and Reuben co-pastored a church in Knightstown, IN. James & Lucinda WRIGHT moved to Jasper Co., IL in 1840. Reuben & Anna were in the 1850 census in Wayne Co., IN. Other surnames associated with this family are: OSBORN, HARRIS, MILLER, NEWMAN, LOWRY & BARRETT. These Wrights also lived in Green Co., OH and Logan Co., OH and don't appear to be related to the "WRIGHT Bros" family. Thank you for any help in tracing this family.

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HUBER/BRUMFIELD/OCHILTREE

My great grandfather, Charles Boerstler Huber, Jr. died at his farm just north of Connersville on 09 Jan 1887 and is buried in City Cemetery. His second wife was Amanda Brumfield, born in Connersville on 06 May 1842. She died at Connersville on 21 Jun 1908, at the Fayette Sanitarium. I believe this is the property south of Connersville known as Elmhurst.

I obtained a copy of Amanda's will at the Fayette County Courthouse. It was signed on 11 Mar 1908. It states in part, "I will and devise to my friend Estelle M. Ochiltree, the framed picture of my deceased husband, Charles Huber, which picture hangs in my room at the Fayette Sanitarium in Connersville, Indiana."

With the above background information my query is to ask if anyone has ideas as to how I might determine if the painting of my great-grandfather Huber is still in existence. Are there descendants of Estelle Ochiltree that I may correspond with? Is there any chance that it might still be at Elmhurst? My objective is not necessarily to gain possession of the painting, but, rather, to learn of its existence and obtain a photograph of it.

I will certainly appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Jan D. Huber  
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### CENSUS

The date a census taker wrote on his form isn't as important as the official census date.

Enumerators were supposed to list individuals' ages as of the date specified by the Census Bureau. For instance: Jan. 1 was "census day" for the 1920 enumeration so someone born Feb 12, 1909 should be recorded as ten on the census form even if the census taker visited in April.

Here are the official census dates

1790 – August 2  
1800 – August 4  
1810 – August 6  
1820 – August 7  
1830 – June 1  
1840 – June 1  
1850 – June 1  
1860 – June 1  
1870 – June 1  
1880 – June 1  
1890 – June 1

1900 – June 1  
1910 – April 15  
1920 – January 1  
1930 – April 1 (Oct 1, 1929 in Alaska)

### PIXEL POINTER

Don't save your "master" copies of digitized photos as JPGs: Every time you open a JPG in your photo editing software, then alter it and resave it as a JPG, the pixels are compressed and the image is slightly damaged. After several saves, your image will begin to look pixelated and blurry. Instead, save the image as a TIFF – the file size will be bigger, but the image will retain it's clarity.

### GRADUATION

Taken from *The History of Harrisburg/Fayette Central School*

Class of 1933

Nina (Caldwell) Clanin  
Helen (Cox) Kenworthy  
Ethel (Cregar) Morris  
Howard E. Kenworthy  
C. Francis Martin  
John L. Parker  
Lucky (Parker) Ailes  
Viola (Rowland) Halstead  
Estella (Welch) Best

Faculty

Herbert R. Brauchla – principal  
James L. Williams – teacher  
Hope Kerr – teacher  
M. Louise Moffett – teacher  
Claude Trusler – county superintendent  
Charles Anderson, Trustee

The senior class of 1933 has the distinct honor of being the first graduation class in the new school building at Harrisburg High.

We watched the new building go up as sophomores in the old building. In the fall of 1931 they added the junior year and our class attended Harrisburg instead of going to Connersville.

The building was nice and it was good to have a gym, inside restrooms and showers.

Current events were the first on the school's agenda. Mr. Brauchla read the most important topic followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Then he would say "So much for that," which meant get to work. We had wonderful teachers who took the time to be a friend and a teacher. Enrollment in 1932 was 248 pupils and 8 teachers.

Activities were limited possibly due to the depression.

John Parker recalled going to school during the depression and how tough it was. On graduation day several friends and family members came to take part in the event. All bringing gifts, John's father placed them in the back seat of the car until the ceremony was over. However, when they returned to the car, all the gifts had been stolen. As John points out, there was very little theft in those days, but the depression caused people to do things that they normally wouldn't do. It wasn't a total loss, his sister showed up later with a gift.

### GENEALOGY LIBRARY

At a recent meeting Laura Smith of Richmond who is also a member of WVGA gave a talk on some of the things that their club in Richmond did that helped improve membership and attendance.

One of the things she talked about was that they now have their own genealogy library in Richmond. Our members have been discussing such an endeavor for us. A couple of locations have been discussed and are being checked out.

Before such a project can be undertaken, it is quite important that we know of the interest of our members. On the next page you will find a survey form and it is very important that you complete this and return it ASAP.

Such a project is going to involve expense, the need for materials, manpower to staff the library when it is complete etc. Please complete the survey and give us your honest opinions.

