

WHITEWATER VALLEY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Box 941

Connersville, IN 47331

Vol. 9 No. 1

March 2009

Individual membership dues are \$9 annually payable in June of each year.

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month except December.

Website: www.rootswebancestry.com/~inwvga

COMING EVENTS.

March 17, April 21 and May 19 – WVGA meetings at Trinity Episcopal Parish House at 7:00 p.m. In July we will be taking a trip probably on a Saturday – date and place to be decided later.

April 25, 2009 – 20th Anniversary Conference of IGS at Marriott Center East, 7202 E. 21st Street, Indianapolis. Emphasis will be on military genealogy. (It has been decided to alternate the conferences between Indianapolis and Fort Wayne thus the 2010 conference will be in Fort Wayne and 2011 in Indianapolis).

WELCOME

Welcome to new members – Jim and Sylvia Gibson. We now have 44 members.

RUSH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Rush County Genealogical Society was officially formed on January 10. Their meetings will be held the first Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. at the Rushville Public Library Meeting Room. Dues are \$15 for an individual, \$20 for family and \$5 for student. Dues run from January 1st to December 31st every year. Their website is www.rushcogs.com and mail address is P. O. Box 293, Milroy, In 46156.

FAVORITE WEBSITE

www.searchforancestors.com/utility/birthday.html

From this website you can determine birth date by knowing death date and age such as 69 years, 5 months and 3 days old. You can also find out what the relationship is between you and another

person such as second cousins five times removed. There is a time capsule function . You put in a date, maybe your birthdate, and find out such things as who was president, average annual income, cost of bread and top songs of the year.

www.cdpl.lib.in.us/lh - Crawfordsville District Public Library. This website has several data bases of good information if you have ties to Montgomery County, Indiana.

www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/index.php - Allen County Library's genealogy center has been involved in digitized collaborations for more than a year. They have partnered with Family Search to build this family history archive along with other libraries around the country. Thus far ACPL has contributed over 2,000 volumes to this project. These digitized works are fully searchable and downloadable for free.

www.archive.org/index.php - another collaboration of ACPL with Internet Archive. ACPL has already placed more than 4,000 public domain family and local histories on this website for free use and downloading.

RESEARCHING IN CINCINNATI

If you have not been to the Cincinnati Library, next time you go you will find that the genealogy section has moved. It is still on the 3rd floor but in the NW corner of the floor. Also you will find that the death certificates are now on open shelving. Before you go looking for death certificates, go to www.ohiohistory.org/dindex and get date of death, microfilm number and death certificate number. This will make your research so much easier when you get to the library. The library is also open on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. with free parking on the street.

WEBSITES

Karen Creamer has been quite busy working on the websites. She is webmaster for the Franklin County website and also is working on our website. Be sure and send her the surnames you are researching so she can add them to the list.

The index for the Pioneer Cemeteries is now on the website. The cemetery listing is in two books thus there are two listings on the website.

QUERIES

In last issue Barbara Craig had submitted a query on her Myres family. Here is an addition to it.

Ephraim Myres/Myers was “from the Carolinas” and “in pioneer times” settled on “Congress Land” in Columbia Township. In December 1828 bought Lot 1 in Connersville. He may have previously lived in Cass and Wabash Counties. He had stock in the Wabash Canal. Ephraim died 4 September 1844 and his wife was Polly Lawson. There were 10 children but only 8 listed in his estate – Aaron L. Thornton (?), F., America Ann (m Sanford Honeywell) Keturah (Kitty) Caroline, b. 5 August 1826 three miles west of Connersville, d 15 February 1916. She married Elijah Alfred Corbin Jr. on 19 March 1848. He was born 17 February 1821 and died 29 October 1893 (my Gt. Gt. Grandparents who lived in Jennings Twp., near Everton, and are buried in Everton Cemetery), Rebecca R., Eleanor C., Matilda M., Sarah F. (last 3 were minors at time of Ephraim’s death) Was there a deceased daughter Elizabeth J., b 17 May 1824, d 14 Dec 1845, 2nd wife of Elijah A. Corbin, m 13 March 1845? Did he then m (3) her sister Keturah? Cannot locate burial place for Ephraim or Polly. Did Polly leave Fayette Co. and live with one of her children elsewhere?

Also Frank Myers is looking for info.

Margaret (Maggie) Johns Myers Wood died in Tennessee in 1896. Frank has a copy of a telegram addressed to Mrs. Ed Wilson dated March 28, 1896 “Prepare grave at once for your mamma. Meet train Connersville with hearse ten thirty tomorrow morning.” Where is she buried? (If she is buried at City Cemetery, she does not have a marker and her name is not on the master list

FAYETTE COUNTY TOWNS/HAMLETS

In the 1880’s there were several towns or hamlets in Fayette County. Here are the ones listed in the 1917 Barrows History Book.

Ashland – was established as a post office in 1847. Name was later changed to Null’s Mills then Nulltown.

Berlin – located half way between Alpine and Nulltown on the West side of the canal.

Philpot – located in the northwestern part of Connersville Township on the Indianapolis and Cincinnati electric line. Post office established in 1832 at Philpotts Mills and in 1837 the name was changed to Longwood.

East Connersville – village on the East side of West fork of the Whitewater River. Although it was a part of the town of Connersville it had its own separate town government.

Fairview – had post office from 1835-1836. Re-established in 1840 as Groves. In 1847 the name was changed to Melrose. Name changed back to Groves in 1849 (not sure when name was changed back to Fairview).

Hawkins – located in southwestern part of Harrison Township and given name from the store of M. P. Hawkins.

Redville, Redtown or Stumptown – located on the banks of Williams Creek in the southwestern part of Harrison Township. 5 houses were built in one area and painted venetian red which explains the first two names. It is not known where the name Stumptown originated.

Bentley – located in the southeastern part of Jackson Township near the Franklin County line.

Lyons Station – name was changed to Lyonsville by railroad company because there was a town by the name of Lyons in Green County.

Danville – was given that name in 1824. It was later known as Fayetteville before becoming Orange in 1833.

Plum Orchard – changed to Bentonville in 1838.

QUOTE

Genealogy is not fatal, but it is a grave disease.

TWINS MARRY TWINS

Frank Myers shares the following from the Genealogy and History of the McCormick and Martz Families.

Moses and Isaac (twins) married Tabitha and Lavina McCormick – the twin daughters of John and Bethiah McCormick, the first settlers of Indianapolis. They celebrated their fourth birthday the next day after they landed at what was to be their new home the 27th day of February 1820. Although they were only four years old they could remember the incidents of the journey and would talk entertainingly of the time when they were the only white children in Indianapolis and their only playmates were Indian children.

Even after Indianapolis had grown to be a great city they made pilgrimages to the spot where the early home was established in the wilderness and would take great pride in showing their friends where the first cabin was erected. After the death of their father which occurred in 1825, Tabitha and Lavina were taken back to Connersville to live with their Grandfather, where they remained until their marriage.

TWINS HAVE A ROMANCE: In the early days of the country the opportunities of bringing the young people together were not as numerous as they are today, but the spelling school, the singing school and the husking and quilting bees afforded excellent opportunities to the young people to form attachments and so it was with these young people.

At a singing school near Connersville these young people met and even though the Martz twins were not gifted to any remarkable degree in musical harmony the McCormicks possessed fine voices and were excellent singers, making the welkin ring with the strains from the old “Missouri harmony.” While the boys may not have been very deeply interested in running the musical scale they were interested in the race for the hands and hearts of the two charming girls. Suffice it to say that the race was not of the long meter kind but was soon ended in the marriage of the Martz twins to the McCormick twins. The double wedding occurred November 27th, 1834

at Connersville. As was the custom in those early days a great infair dinner was given at the Martz home near Dublin. The journey was made on horse back. When the bridal party left Connersville there was as much excitement created as tho there had been a circus in town, and the people came from miles around to catch a glimpse of the contracting parties. The twin brides were mounted on two-milk-white horses and led the procession.

Twenty-seven was a favorite date in the family. The marriage not only taking place on that date but this was their birthday – February for the McCormicks and May for the Martzs.

Incidentally, each branch of the family had twelve children – seven sons and five daughters. In the family of Moses and Tabitha there were two sets of twins. But four days elapsed between the time of the birth of the oldest children in each family and six days between the youngest. After their marriage Moses and Isaac took charge of their father’s farm in Wayne County and managed it for three years, assisting also in the mill after which they removed to the land which they had purchased of the government in Hamilton County. The date of their arrival where the new homes were to be established was September 8, 1837. Here these sturdy pioneers of Western Civilization continued to live until they had all passed the allotted three score and ten years.

(Note: Peter Martz father of the Martz twins settled on a farm on Symons Creek in Posey Township in Fayette County near the Wayne County line. He built the first mill in that part of the country, running it in connection with his farm.)

ATTEMPT TO BURN BARN

(Connersville Evening News January 16, 1909)

Indications point to an attempt to burn the stables south of the race track at Roberts Park yesterday morning. Ed Stolz, who drives to the park each morning and leaves his horse in the stables during the day, discovered a small fire, blazing merrily in one of the stalls. He put out the fire with snow. It had consumed the partition between two stalls, and if let alone would soon have involved the whole building.

An investigation showed that a buggy had entered the park, apparently not long before Mr. Stolz's coming. It had driven directly eastward from the west entrance and instead of following the beaten roadway into the valley, had kept on due east and descended the steep hillside. The tracks were traced to the very door inside where the fire was found. Several stubs of matches were found near by. The horse had not stood long, as there were few tracks. The buggy had gone out of the park by the beaten road. The damage to the stable was small.

FAIR PLAY

(Adapted from Family Tree Magazine)

Few would dispute the Internet's role in facilitating genealogy research. But it is too easy to copy facts from the Web and plunk them into your tree without acknowledging or verifying sources.

Bad behavior happens all over the Internet, not just on genealogy sites. Communicating over the Internet can be compared to driving a car. People curse at other drivers, make obscene gestures, and behave like savages. Most of them would never act that way at work or at home. The interposition of the machine seems to make it acceptable. The most common online pet peeve is spreading misinformation and using others' research without giving credit. It hurts when some distant cousin "harvests" what took you years to find without so much as a thank you.

Fortunately, most genealogists say the benefits of online research outweigh the negatives. Most genealogists don't mind when you use their research, but they do want the credit. Always attribute information you find online, just as you would from a book or magazine. Link to the site it came from or thank the researcher who sent you a tree. Offer compensation for copies and postage and be willing to share what you know.

Worried about sending your hard-won files to a stranger? Start slowly by responding to questions, rather than sending all your files.

Online research can be great and remember the benefits of sharing. Had someone not shared

with you, you may still be looking for your great great grandmother.

LEARNING LEGAL LINGO (From Family Tree Magazine)

Affidavit: statement of facts, signed under oath by the party making it.

bastardy bond: the father on an illegitimate child agrees to pay support

et al: Latin meaning "and others"

et ux: Latin meaning "and wife"

guardian: a person appointed by the court to manage property or protect the rights of someone who is unable to do so, such as a minor child.

guardian ad litem: court-appointed person who represents someone who's incapable of managing his or her own affairs; usually appointed for a specific court action

infant: a person under the age of legal majority; often 18 or 21

instant or inst: the same month as the previously mentioned date.

interlined: addition of words to a document, inserted between words or lines already written

issue: children of a person

moiety: half of something

orphan: a minor child who's lost one or both parents

sine prole or s.p.: Latin meaning "without issue"

surety: one who agrees to be responsible for another, such as assuming financial responsibility for debts in case of default.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE

This is a NBC genealogy based TV program starting April 20, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. There will be 6 episodes.

