

# WHITEWATER VALLEY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Box 941

Connersville, IN 47331

**Vol. 12 No. 2**

**June 2012**

Individual membership dues are \$9 and dues for a couple are \$12.00. **DUES ARE DUE JUNE 1.**

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

Website: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inwvga](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inwvga)

## **DUES**

**It's the first of June which means dues are due. Checks can be mailed to PO Box 941, Connersville, In 47331**

## **MEETINGS**

WVGA meetings will be June 19 and August 21. The July meeting will be a joint meeting with Wayne County Genealogy Society--details later.

## **OFFICERS**

Officers elected at the last meeting were President Pat Cudworth, Vice President John Johnson, Secretary Pat Summan and Treasurer Sue Frank.

## **OTHER MEETINGS**

This is the year for the Indiana Historical Society to sponsor Midwestern Roots. It will be at the Marriott East in Indianapolis July 20 and 21.

The theme is "Where Do You Think You Find It?" There will be a wide range of nationally known speakers to help with your journey to find your family history. There are also some pre-conference activities on Thursday, July 19. One such activity will be a tour of Crown Hill Cemetery at a cost of \$30 or \$10 for IHS members.

Costs are \$150 (\$125 IHS Member) for conference registration that includes lunches but not Friday evening banquet and presentation. Friday only registration is \$90 (\$75 IHS member) which does not include Friday banquet. Saturday registration is \$90 (\$75 IHS member). To see more about this meeting go to [www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots](http://www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots).

## **PIONEER REUNION**

The Franklin County Pioneer Reunion will be October 11, 12 and 13 at Brookville. If you haven't attended in the past, this may be your last chance. See the Franklin County INGenWeb site for details: [www.ingenweb.org/infranklin](http://www.ingenweb.org/infranklin)

## **HERITAGE DAYS**

Historic Connersville will be sponsoring Heritage Days October 27 and 28. Watch for details in the newspaper. One thing that will be held will be the reenactment at City Cemetery.

## **DNR CEMETERY COMMISSION**

On April 28 the DNR Cemetery Commission meeting was held in Brookville.

Some of the state laws have been changed.

Family members are allowed to visit family cemeteries on private land 3 days each year. The date or dates on which family members will visit the cemetery must be agreed upon between the landowner and family members.

Township trustees do not have automatic access to cemeteries. They need to set up a visit with the landowner.

Cemeteries that are without funds or sources of funds for reasonable maintenance, have suffered neglect or deterioration, may be the burial grounds for an Indiana pioneer leader or veteran of an American War, including the Revolutionary War and either was established before 1875 or is a burial ground for a veteran of the Civil War are to be maintained. The important change here is that the previous date was 1850.

## **COUNTY CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT**

Randy Morehead, county cemetery superintendent resigned May 1. Although Randy loved his job it became impossible to work with the county commissioners, council and some

courthouse employees. The county hired John Walters, former cemetery superintendent to mow 18 cemeteries at a cost of \$1,800 till Memorial Day. After that the county will contract with someone to mow and also someone to do stone restoration.

### **BICENTENNIAL**

Plans are moving forward for the bicentennial June 28 to July 7, 2013. At the last meeting the sub-committees reported much work that has been done. Many people will be needed to work and it's not too late to volunteer to help. Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at the Miller Building at 6 p.m. and last no later than 8 p.m.

### **NEW HISTORY BOOK**

The new Fayette County History Book has been mailed to the publishers. It will contain over 300 biographies, several business, church, club and organization pages plus approximately 90 pages of history. The committee will be able to view the first layout in about 6 weeks.

### **COVERLET**

As county historian I received an inquiry from a man that found a red, white and blue woven coverlet in a box in a barn he was cleaning out. It says "Wove in Fayette County Indiana 1847". Do any of you have any information on early coverlets? I still need to check a book that Pauline Montgomery from Cambridge City wrote. If you have any info, please let Pat S. know.

### **HELPS FOR RESEARCHING**

DON'T assume the spelling of the name is as you know it now.

DON'T believe that census indexes are complete. Check the microfilm.

DON'T assume the relationship to the head of the household is as stated.

DON'T assume the wife is the mother of any or all of the children listed.

Don't forget to copy all the data from the top of the page and to the right of the occupation column.

DON'T forget to look over the neighbors. Look for married daughters, sisters, etc.

DON'T think that the records before 1850 will not be helpful. It will give an indication of the number and ages of people living in the household.

DON'T forget to look into adjoining townships and counties. Families often owned land on both sides of a road, which may have been a township or county line.

DON'T forget to look for other types of census that were taken, such as state or school enumerations.

### **THE CENSUS TAKER**

The Sences Taker in our town, bein taken sick, he deppertised me to go out for him one day. And as he was too ill to giv me informashun how to perceed, I was consekently compelled to go it blind. Sittin down by the road side I drew up the follerin lists of questions which I proposed to ax the people I visited:

Wat's your age? Whar was you born? Air you married? And if so how do you like it?

How many children do you got? And do they sufficiently resemble you as to proclood the posilitiy of their belongin to any of your naber's?

Did you ever hav the measles, and if so how many? Hav you a twin brother several years older than yourself? How many parents hav you? State wether you are blind, deaf, idiotic or got the heaves.

But my questions didnt work. I got in a row the furst house I stopt to with some old maids. Disbelivin to their age, I endeveded to open their mouths and look at their teeth, same as we do with horses, but they floo into a vilent rage and tackled me with brooms. Taken the sences requires experience, lik any other buizniss..

Artemus Ward

(spell check had fun with this one)

### FAVORITE WEBSITES

Mortalityschedules.com

Provides free transcriptions of 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 census mortality schedules in which enumerators recorded information on all people who perished within the 12 months preceding the census.

Seekingmichigan.org

Collection of nearly 1 million Michigan death certificates 1897 to 1920. Prior to this website there was not a readily available statewide index for 1915 to 1920.

Accessgenealogy.com

Free site that keeps growing with recent additions ranging from early South Carolina marriages to the roster of the 1<sup>st</sup> North Dakota Volunteers.

### FROM THE FILES

*Connersville News Examiner*  
April 23, 1933

James Parker, 74, Commits Suicide

James Parker, age 74, committed suicide Saturday afternoon at his home a mile east of Glenwood, by shooting himself in the head with a shotgun. His body, still seated in a chair, was found by Lewis Matney, owner of the house where Parker lived, about 15 minutes after the act was committed. Mr. Matney had talked to the aged man not more than half an hour before, and had returned to the home after having been gone for a time. Coroner, H. W. Smelser investigated.

Relatives who survive are three brothers, Frank of Glenwood, Alva of Connersville and Carl of Iota.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. today at the Frank Parker home in Glenwood by the Rev. W. M. Hopper of Orange. Burial was at Dale Cemetery.

### Commits Suicide at Wife's Grave

Standing over his wife's grave in the Bentonville Cemetery, Walter Rowe, 34 committed suicide Saturday night by shooting himself in the temple with a revolver. His body was found lying across the grave Sunday afternoon. He had been in ill health for some time, and had been despondent since the death of his wife, five years ago. He was a resident of the Bentonville vicinity, and a member of the Christian church there.

Survivors are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rowe of Alpine; two brothers, Theodore, of Connersville and Clarence of Galveston, Tex.; and eight sisters, Mrs. Mark Morris and Miss Dorothy Rowe of Connersville, Mrs. Edward Milliron of Mansfield, O., Mrs. Allen Markham of south of Connersville, Mrs. Walter Locke of Bentonville, Mrs. Jesse Elkin of Falmouth, and Margaret and Edna Rowe of Alpine.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Bentonville Christian Church with the Rev. T. F. Hale officiating. Burial will be in the Bentonville Cemetery.

### SENIORS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

A large crowd attended the commencement exercises held Saturday night at the Fairview school auditorium for 14 high school seniors.

The class address was delivered by J. William Bosse, deputy superintendent of public instruction in Indiana. The program was; Melody in F (Rubenstein), Melody of Love (Engelmann) and processional march by the high school orchestra; invocation the Rev. C. F. Ault, "Heart's Longing" (Zamecnik) orchestra; address: music by the orchestra; presentation of diplomas by County Superintendent Claude L. Trusler.

The graduates were: Carlos E. Clark, Henry C. Culbertson, Pauline Dolan, Bonetha Fegley, June E. Jeffrey, Garnette I. Johns, Wayne Logan, Lenora McElfresh, Lois Martin, Helen L. Powell, Lois Mae Spotts, Mary A. Thomas, Mary E. Thorne, and Wayne S. Wiley.

### **FINDS RING, LOST 50 YEARS**

A wedding ring lost nearly 50 years ago by Mrs. Elizabeth Looney of Rushville was found on the Gabe Powell farm near Bentonville by Mrs. Ida Powell. The ring was in good condition with the engraving still legible.

### ***CONNERSVILLE NEWS EXAMINER***

July 24, 1931

#### **Birthday Party**

In observance of the third birthday anniversary of her little daughter, Barbara Joan, Mrs. Lawrence Morris entertained with a party yesterday afternoon at her home, 318 West Fifteenth Street. She was assisted by her son, Lawrence Harry.

Games and contests were featured and prizes were won by Betty Jane Jacobe and Marietta Jane Ward.

Lovely refreshments were served in the colors of pink and green and a large white cake lighted with pink candles in rosebud holders was used as a centerpiece for the table which held many pretty gifts.

Guests at the party were Gloria and Patricia Bailey, Betty and Ruth Porter, Shirley Dee and Marietta Jane Ward, Helen Stout, Betty Jane Jacobe, Betty Lou Stewart, Doris Ann Myers, Martha Naylor, house guest of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Grist, Junior Morris, Mrs. Glen Myers and Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Ward.

### ***THE EVENING NEWS***

February 9, 1905

South Orange

Lou Matney was in Connersville last Saturday on business.

H. E. Stephen and wife visited with Mr. and Mrs. John L. Moore in Rush County last week.

Marie Matney has been quite poorly the past week or so.

Finley Carney was sick last week. Dr. R. W. Sipe attended him. Mr. Carney has just passed his 78<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Elmer Abercrombie was at his father's in Franklin County last Saturday and Sunday to see his brother who has been sick all fall and winter with consumption.

Mrs. Lucy Moore is still bedfast with pneumonia. Mrs. "Clif" Long and children have been sick and Mrs. N. F. Bowen and Mrs. Chas. R. Stevens were not able part of last week to see their mother, Mrs. Moore.

On the night of the 1<sup>st</sup> Instant, when returning from Claude Kramer's, Dan Neukam's horse fell with him in the road knocking him unconscious. George W. Coon had started to church at Pinhook and passed the mare going home and a little farther on his horse scared (?) at Dan lying by the roadside. George called to Dan and got him roused up and he said he was not hurt. He walked one and a half miles to him home, put the mare in the stable, took off the bridle, halter and rope, hung them up and went to the house and inquired of the folks where he had been and what for. He was bruised up considerable but is now able to be at work again.

### **GENEALOGY HUMOR**

My family tree is a few branches short! All help appreciated.

My hobby is genealogy, I raise dust bunnies as pets.

A family tree can wither if nobody tends it's roots.

After 30 days, unclaimed ancestors will be adopted.

FLOOR: The place for storing your priceless genealogy records.

Genealogy is like playing hide and seek: They hide....I seek.

