

WHITEWATER VALLEY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Box 941

Connersville, IN 47331

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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.rootswebancestry.com/~inwvga

MEETINGS

Regular meetings will be September 17, October 15, and November 19 at the Trinity Episcopal Parish House.

As this newsletter is printed, plans are being made for Heritage Days in October. The exact date hasn't been set yet.

Jeanne Regan-Dinius of the DNR will also be giving a program in October.

The Holly Fair will be held in November and we will be sharing space with Louanna Booth to market our new booklets.

SOCIETY OF INDIANA PIONEERS

The Society of Indiana Pioneers is seeking to identify exceptional pioneers to recognize and honor their efforts in building early Indiana foundations.

Each year from 2013 through 2016, 15 to 20 counties will be selected for honoring their pioneers.

The counties for 2013 are Blackford, Brown, Clay, Daviess, DeKalb, Dubois, Fayette, Franklin, Gibson, Greene, Jackson, Kosciusko, Madison, Newton, Porter, Randolph, Vanderburgh, and White.

Nominations have been submitted for John Conner, Oliver H. Smith, Caleb Blood Smith, and Judge Samuel Parker.

BICENTENNIAL

The bicentennial celebration is now over. Those involved were disappointed that rain occurred 7

out of 10 days and the skies opened up and it poured on the parade but all in all the weather could have been worse. As we are experiencing hot and humid at the end of August, those involved with the bicentennial are thankful for the cooler days that were experienced.

The bicentennial was a success and that is attributed to over 500 volunteers – yes that figure is correct. Add to that number all the businesses and organizations that helped.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION BOOK

The Bicentennial Celebration book is at the publishers for a graphic artist to design the book. That process takes 3 weeks then the committee will proof read the book. Following that procedure the book goes to the printer and it will take 8 weeks to be completed.

It is still the hope of the committee that the books will be mailed prior to Christmas. Due to several issues such as procrastinators and committee members not functioning, the book was late going to the publishing company. They have pledged to do everything within their power to get the book done in a timely manner.

In addition to articles by the day chairmen and event chairmen, there will be pictures – lots of pictures. 417 pictures were submitted and until the layout is completed, it will not be known how many pictures will be used. The book will contain a list of the financial sponsors, volunteers, businesses and organizations that helped.

QUERIES

This has been a busy summer for genealogy research. Here are some of the recent requests received:

Benjamin and Nancy Jane Konklin Ball moved to Indiana in 1824. Angie Rios is seeking dates of death for them and burial location. Some of their children, Elizabeth M. C. Ball Plummer, George Washington Ball and Jarvis Ball are all buried in Fayette County. Son, Jackson, died at Bourbon, Indiana.

Dan Orr is seeking information on Robert M. Orr who is believed to have died in Fayette County. Robert had a land grant deed for 80 acres in Orange Township. He wants to prove the children of Robert.

Patrick Jones is researching his 4th great-grandfather Christian Brown that lived in Waterloo Township. He states that if anyone is researching Henry Donham Lee Lambert, son of Clayton Lambert, he has researched them pretty extensively and can provide blogspots for them.

Gary Crull is seeking information on Louis Grover and Cora Marshall Johnson. Although they are listed in Washington Twp., Rush County in 1930, he remembers his mother saying she attended school at Bentonville.

Mary Lou Kator needs proof for a DAR application that John William Stevenson Stinson is the father of James H. Stinson. She has a death certificate for James H. Stinson that lists John Stinson as his father, however, the DAR wants additional proof of the father-son relationship.

If you have information on any of the above, let me know and I can provide you with contact info.

INDIANA SOLDIERS IN THE OREGON GAR

The latest issue of the IGS Quarterly lists Grand Army of the Republic members that had Hoosier roots but lived their lives in Oregon.

While the GAR was the largest Civil War veterans' organization, not all veterans belonged to it. The following is the listing of members from this area.

John N. (V.) McClure – b. 12 July 1840 in Fayette Co., In; entered service 28 Dec. 1863 and mustered out 15 Jan. 1866. He died 29 April 1919 and is buried at Forest View Cemetery, Forest Grove, Washington Co., Oregon.

James O'Connell – b. 13 June 1841 in Franklin Co., In., entered service 19 September 1865 and was discharged 19 Sept. 1868. He died 19 Dec. 1928 at Springfield, Oregon and is buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery, Springfield, Lane Co., Oregon.

Simeon Miller – res. Fayette Co., In; entered service 23 Oct. 1861, discharge details not specified. He died 29 Sept. 1923 at North Bend, Oregon.

John Anderson Wilson – b. 1841 in Fayette Co., In. He entered service 23 Apr 1861, mustered out 6 Aug. 1861, re-entered service 2 Dec. 1861 and mustered out 4 Sept. 1865. He died 1 Aug. 1921 at Hood River, Oregon and is buried at Idlewilde Cemetery, Hood River Co., Oregon.

MEMOIRS OF MY FAMILY AND MY OWN LIFE by: Hannah Jane Washburn

(A recent acquisition to the FCP Library is the memoirs of Mrs. George Washburn. The following are excerpts from the lengthy article)

“I was my father's 14th child (Dr. Daniel Duval Hall), the last one he had, how I loved him.

When in church we sat in what they called the Amen corner. Father could hear the door when it opened, and the Sexton would put up his hand, and father knew he was wanted. He was the best loved physician in town because he was a Christian.

Daniel Duval Hall was born in King and Queen County, Virginia, November 12, 1803. When he was twelve years old he was thrown from a horse and his head lodged between two posts and his scalp was split open. This caused him to have a heavy scar, which extended from halfway up his forehead to the top of his head. When he was 21, he went to Baltimore, Maryland, and into the office of Dr. Warfield to study medicine, which students did in those days.

After finishing his studies he began to practice medicine in Virginia. His uncle, a bachelor, had given him his education. He was a man of means, and I think he must have been a woman hater. Perhaps he had been disappointed in love when young. He told father that if he did not marry, he would leave him quite a sum of money, but father spurned the offer. Money was not his object in life, he wanted to help sick people, and do all that he could.

Father married Martha Ann Stubbs from Gloucester County, Virginia. Virginia was a slave state, and father, not believing in slavery, freed his slaves and with four friends, loaded their household belongings and families on wagons and drove to Indiana and settled on farms near Connersville, Fayette County. This was in 1836. He did not live long at the farm; he sold it and moved into town on account of his children going to school. He was determined to have them have an education, and he wanted them to have

a religious education also. His practice grew and he was much loved as a physician for both body and soul.

Father and his first wife had 8 children. She died in 1843 giving birth to twins, one of which died at birth and the other lived only a few weeks. This left him with 6 children.

He had a large practice and could not stay at home to care for the children. He met my mother (Elizabeth J. Wiggins) while she was caring for a sick friend. At once he thought she would be the one to care for his motherless children. He asked her to marry him, which she did. It was a great responsibility, but she never regretted it. Father was past 40 years old. Mother was in her 21st year, but was equal to the task. To this union was born six children, I was the youngest of them.

Father was very fond of music. He bought the first piano that was brought into Connersville. When I was nine years old I began to take music lessons. My teacher was Miss Conwell. I kept good time and learned very fast. Mother did not have to urge me to practice. At 14 I was asked to be the organist at church. I played for them, when I was home, until I was married.

In the fall of 1861 the Civil War started. Father enlisted as a surgeon, and went to Camp Morton at Indianapolis. My brother John enlisted at the same time. He had to have father and mother's consent before they would take him as he was in his 16th year. They both joined the same regiment, the 36th Indiana Volunteers. They were soon sent south. Father did not stay for the duration of the War, he was taken sick and so he resigned, but after the big battles the Governor sent for him to go to the front, for he was a good surgeon and they needed him at the front. I hope I will never have to go through another war.

Brother John was killed in the Battle of Stones River (near Murphreesboro) Tennessee Dec. 31st 1862. He felt it his duty to go and help free the slaves. He was in his 17th year and was killed on my 10th birthday.

When the war broke out, and father enlisted, mother had a family to look after; she took in boarders to help with the expenses. She soon had the house full, for she was a good cook. She was willing to help while father was in the war. The children helped. Each had a part to do, and we did it. We were brought up to work.

Father had a large country practice, and he wanted to get around quick, so he drove spirited horses. He had many accidents. He went in a gig much of the time. Sometimes he would have a man set me up on the rod back of the seat and I would ride home. He made such a pet of me, and humored me. I was a spoiled child.

A country doctor has a varied life. Once, late at night the bell rang. He went to the door. Two men were standing there. One said "this man has lockjaw". Father said "You had better say it is unlocked". The man's lower jaw was hanging down on his breast. It had come out of place. Father asked where his gloves were, for he knew the man would bite him when it went back in place. When it did, it cracked like a pistol shot. The man started to tell how it happened, and it partially slipped out of place. Father called to mother to get something to tie it up. Mother had to get up, although she was but in her night dress. After they had gone, father shook with laughter. Mother said "You ought to be ashamed of yourself, laughing at the poor man". Father said "I am laughing at you running around in your night dress." She must have been a funny sight. Now women go on the street without much on. They think they look smart, but I do not.

After father died she still kept boarders, which helped her to drown her sorrow. One fall, the Methodist Conference met in Connersville. Mother knew many of the ministers. On Sunday, while knowing she was going to have many for dinner, she went to church. A man asked her how she could sit so quietly through the sermon when she knew that she was going to have so many for dinner. Mother replied that she did not take her dinner to church. She had invited 8 ministers, and with her boarders she had 28 for dinner. Mother was a good manager.

After father's death, I started going to Asbury (now DePauw) College at Greencastle, Indiana. I got so homesick that I could not eat or sleep, and studying was out of the question, so I went home and began to give music lessons.

When I was fourteen (1867), Mr. Payne came to board with us. I fell in love with him and my love for him continued as long as he lived.

Mr. Payne had gone to Colorado for his health. In two years he came back to see me. He asked me to marry him, and I accepted and he went back to Colorado. In January 1874 he wrote me to come west and be married. Mother objected because she

thought I would lose him (he had tuberculosis) but I thought I might be able to nurse him back to health.

My sister Lucie lived in Laramie City, Wyoming, and I could be married in her home. On February 16th I started. It was a long trip in those days for a girl to go alone. The Indians were bad along the Union Pacific Railroad at that time. We did not know what time they would attack us, no wonder mother was anxious about me. The afternoon of the 19th I reached Laramie. Sister was delighted to see me. What a bleak place it was. I thought I would freeze.

Mr. Payne came up from Denver and we were married February 23, 1874. In May of 1875 our first baby was born weighing 12 pounds. He did not live but 24 hours, which was a great sorrow to us. Our second child was born April 18, 1876. In June the doctor thought we had best change climates so mother took the baby to Indiana and I went to Minnesota with my husband.

The change of climate was not good for the baby. He took Cholera Infantus. Mother telegraphed us. I did not want to leave my husband, but he insisted, and I started out. I did not get to him; he died two days before I got there.

Mr. Payne died February 25, 1877. Two days before he died he told me he wanted his body sent to Connersville, thinking I would always live there. We had been married three years and two days. These sorrows did not drive me away from the Master, but only drew me nearer to him.

My husband's bosom friend, George J. Washburn, wrote and wanted to keep in touch with me. Little did I think that after more than two years he would want to marry me. We were married in September 1879 in Colorado where Mr. Washburn lived.

Our son, Howard, was born in 1880. What a joy he was to his father, and what a wonderful son he has been to his mother. Any mother could be proud of such a son.

Howard attended grade and high schools in Denver, and then went to the School of Mines, Golden Colorado, graduating in 1904.

He married Mary Susan Morris at Farmington and to this union were born two daughters.

Mr. W. was taken sick in December 1916 and died April 22, 1918. He was buried in the Farmington Cemetery in Missouri.

This history has been told in simple language, not using any high flown words.

I hope my old Family Bible will be kept in my son's family for it has the births, marriages and deaths in it, and the records may come in handy after I am gone. Read and follow its teachings and you will hear the words "Well done. Enter into the joy of the Lord".