

Genealogy
Club of
Montgomery
County IN
Corporation

Join us for a
journey
through
history and
time.
An Odyssey
for those
beginning or
experienced
in genealogy.

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Roots and Branches

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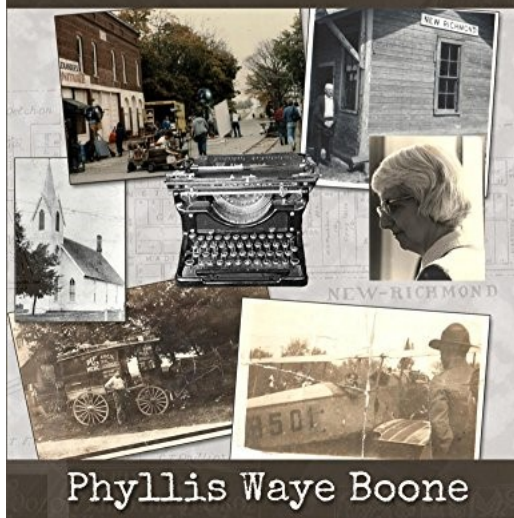
August 2018

"A Life of Research"



Author Stephanie Cain joined us in July to talk about her Grandmother's book, *New Richmond, IN: A History of the Greatest Little Town on Earth*.

New Richmond, IN A History of the Greatest Little Town on Earth



This book is a history and personal memoir of New Richmond from it's early days as a prairie hunting ground to it's claim to fame as the fictional town of Hickory in the famous movie *Hoosiers*.

Drawing on notes made all her life and local newspapers going back to the late 1800's, Phyllis Boone brings history to life and this is one great read.

CDPL has a copy of the book or it can be found on Amazon or by contacting Stephanie Cain. When she is not writing or speaking, she can be found at the Lew Wallace study where she works.

Feel free to find us and Like us on FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/Genealogy-Club-of-Montgomery-County-Indiana-Corp-1814527675437018/>

The Family Bible Project is available on the Crawfordsville District Public Library web site at: <http://history.cdpl.lib.in.us/bibles.html> The Bibles have been transcribed and scanned and are searchable by family name. As of May 2017, there were 135 Bibles online with more being added every month thanks to an IGS grant and club volunteers.



Steve Simms

Summarized Secretary’s Report By Steve Simms, Secretary

The Genealogy Club of Montgomery County, Indiana, continues to meet the second Tuesday of every month at Crawfordsville District Public Library at 7pm. Visitors and new members are welcome to all meetings.

Future of the Past. In May, Angela WHITE and Bill HELLING gave us a preview of the Presto Training—the new search engine available at the library.

In June, Shannon HUDSON presented the **Elston Grove Historical District** tour. Fascinating look at the movers and shakers of Crawfordsville’s early days. See page 6 for more details.

In July, Stephanie CAIN spoke to us about her grandmother’s book *New Richmond, IN: A History of the Greatest Little Town on Earth*.



GCMCC club members continue to work on Deck Cemetery in Franklin Township. Two stacked stones were cleaned and repaired in June as part of our Stone Repair and resetting workshop See additional information and pictures about the workshop in page 5. Since then, David Champa (pictured to the left), has been repairing stones and resetting them with help from other club members. Dan Hampton, the contact person for Deck Cemetery - a closed family burial ground, has expressed his appreciation to the club for their continued work.

We are always looking for people willing to help clean, repair and set stones. Additionally, keep an eye out for future information about cleaning an old section of a cemetery in Alamo area possibly in September.

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

A special story about a local Eagle Scout and our own Shannon Hudson and the restoration of the African-American Cemetery in Thorntown is on page 4!



The Tragic Death of Pamela Bledsoe LANE

Excerpts from letters written by Henry LANE to Walker BOURN, husband of Willey JAMESON, Pamela LANE's sister

10 Dec 1842

I shall now try to give you an account of our travels and I will imitate the prudent historians and only relate the most important incidents. Then firstly of the first of our upsets in the Stage, it occurred about eight miles from Zanesville in Ohio. There were ten of us in the Stage when it was precipitated over a precipice of about twenty feet, but no one was much hurt, except Senator SMIT, Gen'l CARUTHERS of Tennessee, Gov. WALLACE and myself of Indiana. I had one of my ribs broken by the fall and have suffered a great deal from it, but I am now nearly well, Pamela was slightly bruised on the head but she is entirely recovered and is in fine spirits and excellent health...

27 Dec 1842

Oh my dear friend how shall I tell you that Pamela is taken from me, that I am alone on the wide earth, that I have no wife, no home, no hope, in a moment the only prop which sustained me is removed, the only link which bound to life is broken... Pamela was taken on Wednesday morning the 22nd of an attack of bilious cholice [sic] and died at half after eleven on Thursday night.

The National Intelligencer on Dec. 24, 1842 stated that Pamela died in Washington D.C. at half past 11 o'clock, on the evening of Dec. 22 at the age of 27.

The article further stated that Pamela Bledsoe LANE, wife of the Hon. Henry S. LANE, Representative in Congress from the State of Indiana, was in "remarkable" good health and her friends and family were "distressed and saddened" by the news. "The sweetness of her temper, the amiability of her deportment, and the example of her piety will be missed".

In the 10 Dec 1842 letter written to members of Pamela's family (See above), Sen. Henry S. LANE stated that he and Pamela were traveling in a stagecoach that "*precipitated over a precipice of about 20 feet*" and Pamela had only suffered a bruise on her head. Henry suffered from a broken rib.

The stagecoach had 10 people aboard so it appears that it was commercial transportation. Gov. David WALLACE, father of Lew WALLACE and governor of Indiana from 1837 to 1840 was one of the passengers in the stagecoach. He served in the House of Representatives from 1841 to 1843 with Henry S. LANE. Henry had not met Lew WALLACE at that time.

Henry and Pamela were traveling to Washington D.C. because Henry's duties as Senator from Indiana required his attendance for the current session of Congress. Until the day before her death Pamela apparently enjoyed her usual good health. The attending doctors believed that she suffered from a bilious colic episode that caused her death. Henry thought that she only had minor injuries and was distraught after Pamela's death according to his letter dated 27 Dec 1842 (See above).

What is bilious colic? Biliary colic, also known as a gallbladder attack or gallstone attack, is when pain occurs due to a gallstone temporarily blocking the bile duct. Typically, the pain is in the right upper part of the abdomen, and it can radiate to the shoulder. Pain usually lasts from one to a few hours. According to a conversation with a surgeon friend, an injured gall bladder could take days to cause death. Is it possible that injury to Pamela's gall bladder could have occurred when the carriage went over the precipice in Ohio?



Pamela's funeral was held at the residence of Mrs. BRAWNER on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue near the Railroad Depot. She was born Feb. 11, 1814 in Mt. Sterling, Ky. She married Henry S. LANE on Dec. 24, 1833 and died Dec. 22, 1842. She was actually 28 years old at the time of her death, not 27 as stated in the National Intelligencer. She was buried in the Congressional Cemetery, Washington, District of Columbia, USA in Range 47 site 102.

Historical Information Compiled by Dian MOORE and Ann HARVEY, Montgomery County Historical Society

www.wikitree.com/wiki/Jameson-1246 - Find A Grave: Memorial #126463543

Rest in Peace: Grant Allows Work to Continue on Historic Cemetery by Leann DOERFLEIN

A recent article published is of special interest to the Montgomery County Genealogy Club because a frequent speaker and local historian, Shannon HUDSON has gone above and beyond in helping an Eagle Scout with his project on the Colored Cemetery in Thorntown. This was a recent topic for our club. Keep reading for more information.

"A desire to do more for those buried at the Thorntown Colored Cemetery drove Eagle Scout Reece THOMPSON to apply for more funding to continue his work there.

THOMPSON, in partnership with the Sugar Creek Historical Society, will receive a \$15,000 Heritage Support Grant from the Indiana Historical Society to survey the site, place a metal historic looking fence around the perimeter and, if approved, purchase a historic marker for the cemetery.

The cemetery, located just west of Thorntown, tucked between soybean fields on County Road 825 West, is a piece of Thorntown history that has been forgotten by many. Thompson said he was drawn to the cemetery because of its importance to history.

"You would talk to people about it and they had no clue there was a Colored Cemetery or where it was," THOMPSON said. "The goal was to preserve history and to let people know the role that African Americans played in Thorntown."

The cemetery is the only African-American cemetery in Boone County. Burials entered into official records date back to 1869. The cemetery has only five headstone-marked graves and there are only 27 burials at the cemetery recorded. However, a survey completed by Ball State Applied Anthropology Laboratories as part of Thompson's Eagle Scout project show that there are as many as 49 buried there.

Thompson worked on the restoration project for the forgotten cemetery from January to August 2017. In partnering with the Sugar Creek Historical Society, he researched the history of the grounds and raised money for headstone cleaning, signage replacement and the radar detection study that determined the true amount of gravesites. After the funds he had raised were exhausted, Thompson felt there was more to be done for those buried in the cemetery."

To read the full article, go to the tribstar.com website at this link: [lick http://www.tribstar.com/indiana/news/rest-in-peace-grant-allows-work-to-continue-on-historic/article_3ced8b04-e773-52fe-b03c-e8457cd57cb8.html](http://www.tribstar.com/indiana/news/rest-in-peace-grant-allows-work-to-continue-on-historic/article_3ced8b04-e773-52fe-b03c-e8457cd57cb8.html)



Reese Thompson

Genealogy Updates



Dellie Craig,
Local History

The library has seen lots of activity lately with the 4H Genealogy entries (Taylor KROUT received Grand Champion for her project. Congrats Taylor and great work Linda TEMPLETON in helping all our 4H'ers with their research.

We have also had researchers like Janet COBB and her mother, Phyllis PAETZMANN, looking for information on their ancestor James WILSON and his wife, Lydia WARNER.



David and Rebecca CRESS came from out of state on May 7th to research their FRANKLIN family.



The Learn How to properly Re-set and Plumb Stones Workshop was held on Saturday, 16 June 2018 at Deck Cemetery in Franklin Township.

During the workshop community and club members cleaned and repaired two stack stone monuments that were leaning precariously. The first stone

marker was small for the three infant children of M & C HAMPTON. The base, which had sunk and was not level, was removed, cleaned and reinstalled level and plumb on a new compacted stone base. The cleaned marker was then re-set and secured (shown in picture to the left).

After completing the small stone, we moved to the much larger stacked stone marker of Catherine BRAUN. We were fortunate to have received our new tripod so we could lift the

pieces to remove them for the repair. One section of Catherine's stone was laying upside down partially buried between her and her husband's markers (as shown in right). That piece just happened to be the engraved portion. Prior to this project, we did not know whose stone we were repairing. We spent the hot day learning how to repair, plumb and reset stones so they will be able to remain for years to come. Thank you to all who participated and helped to accomplish our tasks.



Elston Grove District By Shannon Hudson



Shannon Hudson

Crawfordsville's Elston Grove Historic District encompasses over 140 buildings in a predominantly residential section of Crawfordsville. It developed between about 1835 and 1935 and includes architectural structure examples of Italianate, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the district is roughly bounded by Green Street on the west, College Street to the south, Main Street on the north and the railroad tracks to the northeast. Until the population and industrial boom of the 1880s, the neighborhood was sparsely populated. After Colonel Isaac Elston died in 1867, part of his estate was turned into a public park called Elston's Grove. Around the turn of the century,

the neighborhood was home to prominent factory owners including the Poston Paving Brick Company founders. Poston Bricks can still be found in many streets and alleys in Crawfordsville.

About 1898, Poston Brick Co.'s I.G. Poston and his wife, Josephine, built their two-and-half story brick Queen Anne at 401 East Wabash across the street from the Lane mansion, where Henry's widow, Joanna, still lived. Legend holds that Poston created the brick's mold, then destroyed it after the home was built. The home boasts 2 ½ stories with an irregular floor plan and a complex roof. The double hung, wood windows have one light in each sash. There are square windows in the gables, a conical roof at the northwest corner, and a brick and wood porch. The paneled wood and glass entry door greets visitors.



Poston started a brick factory in Crawfordsville in 1901 with 12 kilns. The company became the largest in Crawfordsville mainly due to its use of Crawfordsville's excellent shale. I.G. later built factories in Veedersburg, Martinsville, and Springfield, Illinois. Workers started out manufacturing paving bricks then later included face brick in 1904 which came in more than fifty tones and gradations of rich, natural colors that could be bought with a Poston, Arcadian and Oriental facade. The Crawfordsville factory was located on the east side of the Terre Haute and Louisville Railroad, south of East College Street (near East College and Vandalia Streets).



Photo of Poston Brick workers circa 1908 from CDPL Archives

The plant employed sixty men, and about one fourth of its production was shipped to a Chicago market. The balance was being distributed over the entire country including possibly the Indy 500 track. In 1929, The Oriental was still being manufactured by the company and was the first textured brick ever manufactured in the United States. Purdue University bought a LOT of the Poston Bricks from Attica. In the years from 1927-1960 over 25 large academic buildings on the campus were faced with Poston Bricks.



Poston's brother Clarence, who lived in the house at 203 Wallace Avenue started the brick factory in Attica in 1907. In 1903, he and his wife Ella built the Arts and Crafts style house as the British and American movement began to revive handicrafts. The movement was also the inspiration behind the Craftsman and bungalow styles.

The Arts and Crafts Movement represented the backlash against excessive Victorian architecture and the machine-driven Industrial Age. It represented a return to a pre-industrial, handmade society for the "common man".

When the movement made its way to the United States at the turn of the 20th century, Gustav Stickley, founder and editor of *The Craftsman* magazine and a well-known furniture maker, became the American leader. Originally, the term "Craftsman" meant a home built from a plan in Stickley's magazine, but it has come to mean homes built in the Arts and Crafts style. Stickley preached that these homes would give working-class families the chance to experience a home that was easy to build and maintain. Bungalows and Craftsman homes remained popular until the ranch style emerged after World War II. Most were built of natural materials, built in lights and fixtures, fireplaces, porches, low-pitched roofs, exposed beams and open floor plans. Even though Clarence and Ella built a brick-making factory in Attica in 1907, he retained his residence in Crawfordsville.

Another Poston Brick home in the Elston Grove area can be found at 109 S Wallace. Built in 1907, the home was constructed in the Bungalow style of architecture. The original Indian word "bangla" was a small thatched hut for wayfarers. During the British colonial occupation of India in the 19th century, the English adapted the concept to their needs by designing one-story houses with wide, covered verandas and an open floor plan to facilitate cross-ventilation and protection in the hot, dusty Indian climate. The brick face is an invention of Poston Brick. The unique porch features pillars that are octagonal.

Note: The Montgomery County Historical Society offers guided tours of the Elston Grove District.





Ted Ratcliff

In Memory of Ted Ratcliff

Ted Everett RATCLIFF, Crawfordsville, passed away Wednesday, July 11, 2018, at the age of 77 after a long valiant fight with cancer. He was surrounded by his wife and children.

He was born Aug. 23, 1940, at Kingman, to Dale Wilkey and Elinor MYERS RATCLIFF. He married Betty Jane HOLLER from Terre Haute on Feb. 10, 1962, at Clinton. She survives along with his children, Lori (Jeff) ABNEY of Goshen and Brett RATCLIFF and DeDe (Mitch) GROVES, both of Crawfordsville; nine grandchildren, Lindsay DIEMER, Jacey (Jason) LIETCHY, Lexy and Brady ABNEY, Brennen and Christian RATCLIFF and Scout, Caden and Aryn GROVES; and four great-grandchildren, Kanyn, Luka and Kace DIEMER and Alena RATCLIFF.

He attended Kingman School for 11 years, graduated from Clinton High School and graduated with a bachelor's degree from Indiana State University where he was active in Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and a member of both ISU Marching Sycamores and the Symphonic Band. He received his Chartered Life Underwriter designation from Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, in 1983. He was a 1968 charter member of the West Central Indiana Association of Life Underwriters and held all the local offices prior to the merger with Lafayette chapter in 2005. Mr. RATCLIFF owned and operated a State Farm Insurance Agency in Crawfordsville for 41 years until his retirement in 2006. Prior to that, he had been employed with United Parcel Service. Since his retirement he has enjoyed participating as a member of the Crawfordsville Senior Golf Association and the Lew Wallace Preservation Society. His memberships included the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, Fraternal Order of Eagles #1005, Elks Club 483 and Loyal Order of Moose #6. He was also an active member of the Montgomery County Genealogical Society and had served on the board of directors of the Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club as well as a board member of Oak Hill Cemetery. He was a longtime member of the Crawfordsville Jaycees and was in the local, regional and state organization. He was awarded a JCI Senatorship #17857 in 1974 in recognition of his community activities. He previously served on the board of directors for the Chamber of Commerce, Boys & Girls Club, Campfire Girls, was a past Webelo Leader as well as a youth basketball and softball coach. He was an ardent IU and ISU basketball fan and enjoyed most spectator sports, especially when watching his grandchildren participate. He sponsored and played on several softball teams through the Park and Recreation Department and CASA.

Ted will be missed dearly by his friends in the genealogy club.

But fate ordains that dearest friends must part.
~Edward Young

Upcoming events

August 14, 2018—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting

September 11, 2018—6pm
Genealogy Club Annual Dinner Meeting

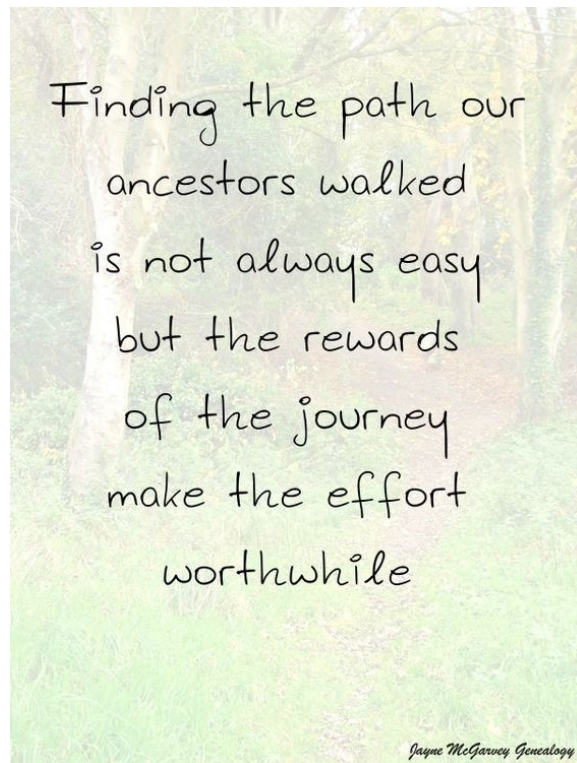
October 9, 2018—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting—Refreshments:
Mary Cramer and Eva Legg

October 26, 2018—5-9pm
After Hours Program at CDPL

November 13, 2018—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting

December 11, 2018—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting—Refreshments:
Everyone

All articles and other submissions for the September newsletter must be emailed to stephief@live.com by August 31, 2018.



If you share a common ancestor with somebody,
you're related to them. It doesn't mean that
you're going to invite them to the family reunion,
but it means that you share DNA.
~Henry Louis Gates

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Join us for a journey through history and time



The annual dues of the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County Indiana Inc. for the period October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019 are due in September 2018.

They may be given to Dellie Craig at the Crawfordsville District Public Library or mailed to the Club Treasurer (John Hooper, 1576 E 400 N, Crawfordsville, IN 47933).

You can find current and past Genealogy club newsletters and a membership application on the Crawfordsville District Public Library Website www.cdpl.lib.in.us Find us under the services tab and click on Genealogy Club of Montgomery County

**GENEALOGY CLUB OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY CORP
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Family/Families you are researching:

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