

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

Volume 16—Issue 5

February 2020

As we count down to the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote, here is a tidbit from the Indiana State House.

**1920**—Governor James P GOODRICH called a special session of the Indiana Legislature to ratify the Women's Suffrage Amendment of the United States Constitution. Indiana was the 26th state to approve the amendment, which became effective nationwide in August, 1920. In signing the document, Governor GOODRICH described the measure as "an act of tardy justice." Watch for an article in the July issue of this newsletter from local Historian and Club member Dian MOORE.



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

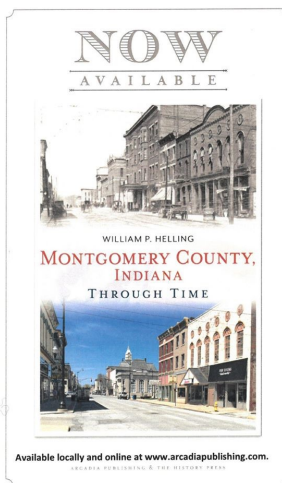
## Summarized Secretary's Report By Steve Simms, Secretary

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.

Jim SWIFT came in November to discuss "How the Earliest Pioneers Found Their Land." We always enjoy having Jim present, he is informative and entertaining.



Jim Swift



December we had our annual Christmas get-together. We shared many stories over snacks. We also discussed Bill HELLING's newest book *Montgomery County, Indiana Through Time*. You can find it locally at the Carnegie Museum or through the Historical Society at the Henry Lane House and online at [www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com) as well as Amazon or Target.

In January, Tom Neal shared his story and pictures from the restoration of his home. Wonderful historic details and the updates to the home were a treat for all of us.



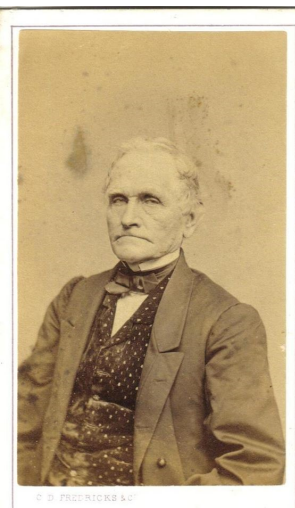
In December 12, 2019 we were saddened to learn that our oldest Genealogy Club member, George Pollam SCHARF passed away. George was born on December 16, 1919. He was stationed at Camp Shelby, Mississippi until the attack on Pearl Harbor when he transferred to the Army Air Corps. Visitation was held at Sanders Priebe Funeral Care, 315 S Washington St, in Crawfordsville on Saturday, December 21, 2019 and the Celebration of Life Ceremony held immediately after with Dr. David Taber officiating. The family requested in lieu of flowers, a memorial donation in honor of George be made to the American Cancer Society. We will miss George and the lifetime of history he shared with all of us. We wish his family well and send them our thoughts and prayers.



It is not so much the length of the step that counts,  
as the direction in which it is taken."

- - - Benjamin Harrison

## Looking Back By Tippecanoe County Historical Association



Isaac Compton  
ELSTON

The ELSTON name has an interesting story about a man who had great influence over the growth and development of Lafayette but never lived in the county.

Isaac Compton ELSTON was born in Elizabethtown, New Jersey in 1794. As a young man of about twenty, ELSTON migrated west as far as Vincennes where he started a mercantile business. Soon after 1820, he moved north and opened his business in the new community of Terre Haute but remained there only until 1824, when he arrived in Crawfordsville. Crawfordsville at that time was the location of the Federal Land Office for lands located in the northern half of Indiana. Lots of potential settlers were arriving there on a daily basis, scouting for potential homesites and attending land sales. It was a great location for his business which prospered.

The following year, William DIGBY who was then a resident of Vermillion County, Indiana showed up at the land office and purchased an 84-acre tract of land, most of which was on the east bank of the Wabash River. DIGBY thought it would be a good place for a town and a survey was completed laying out a plat for a new town that DIGBY named Lafayette. DIGBY had paid \$105 for the land and a small fee to the surveyor who laid out the town. DIGBY knew a good thing when he saw it and 3 days later he unloaded the townsite to Samuel

SARGEANT for \$240, more than doubling his investment and in addition, DIGBY had reserved Ferry rights across the river and 20 acres north and east of the original town plat which he eventually sold to SARGEANT for an additional \$60.

SARGEANT knew a thing or two about promotion. Crawfordsville was then the nearest place that even approached "civilization" and it didn't approach it very close, but there were people there who were already considered "movers and shakers" and one of them was the merchant, Isaac Compton ELSTON. SARGEANT struck a deal with ELSTON and two others agreeing to sell them five/eighths of all the odd-numbered lots in the new town for \$130. The original plat of the town was from the River to 6th Street and from South Street to North Street and consisted of 140 lots in total. So, now Sargent had a paid-for sales force located in Crawfordsville who were happy to boost the new town as they unloaded their new Lafayette properties.

That was only the first of Mr ELSTON's involvement with Lafayette and Tippecanoe County. The photograph of Mr ELSTON is from about 1855. He died in Crawfordsville on 24 October 1867.

We don't own our family history, we simply preserve it for the next generation.



## Kelso Family of Waveland

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By Karen Zach

What an exciting honeymoon, taking the evening trip to Chicago to go to the fair in 1891. Dr. Reese D. KELSO was born in 1866 in Montgomery County, his father, Thomas KELSO, passing away the next year and his mother, Martha Miranda HUMPHRIES passing away fourteen years after her son. Martha was much younger than her husband and their only child was Reese Davis KELSO; however, he had several half brothers and sisters – KELSO's by Thomas (James; Miran; William Rice and John A.) and some by his mother's second marriage to Aaron J. WOLFE (Myrtle, Pauline and Bessie) along with three or four who died quite young.

Aaron Johnson WOLFE had gone to the Waveland Academy where he had known Martha. He was an outstanding saw miller and the son of Henry C. WOLFE, who built several bridges in our area. Aaron was a wonderful father figure to Reese and the whole family, well-loved by everyone in the community. Fairly active politically, he served on the school board, was Township Trustee, Knights of Pythias member, and a Woodman plus was extremely active as was Reese's mother, Martha in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Although no specifics are found where Reese received his early education, it is likely it was at the Waveland Academy where most of the upper echelon attended and where he was probably friends with Victoria KRITZ, daughter of Henry Seymour and Mary Ann BRUSH KRITZ. Henry was the head of the Academy for many years. They would often be found at the same parties or at the same wedding and he went hunting with her relatives and other Waveland friends. Both had amazing singing voices and would be on the same entertainment listings at churches and other affairs.

Reese attended Wabash College where he was in the Sigma Chi fraternity and even after leaving that school and changing career paths going on to Chicago to attend Rush Medical College, he would often return for games and field days. Victoria KRITZ attended and graduated from Shortridge High School in Indianapolis but returned and forever stayed in her beloved hometown of Waveland.

The KELSO family in America dates back to the early 1700s when William KELSO arrived from England to Baltimore, Maryland and married Ann HUTCHINS. Their son, Thomas KELSO married Penelope RUTLEDGE and they died in Shelby County, Kentucky where their son, Thomas was born in 1804 who came here, passing away in Montgomery County in 1867. Thomas was first married (and had several children with) Anna HANNA from a well-known southwestern Montgomery County family. When she passed away, he married Martha Miranda HUMPHRIES, 42 years younger than he and they were the parents of our subject, Reese Davis KELSO. His father passed away when Reese was but a few months old.

Reese was given his Montgomery County Medical License on April 29th in 1892 and promptly began an amazing career as a local Allopath. He was also falling deeply in love, thus at the Waveland KRITZ residence with a few family and friends present, on the 26th of April in 1893, Reese age 28 and Victoria KRITZ age 23 married with Rev. H.L. KINDIG of Lebanon officiating and Rev. HM HOOKS assisting. Reese and Victoria were born and raised in the little village where they married and would later die. Indeed, they were both astonishingly good looking. Almost immediately after their wedding ceremony, they



Dr. Reese D. KELSO

Spent their first ten days as man and wife in Chicago where he had made friends and acquaintances with many during his years of study at the medical school. They saw sites and attended the Chicago World's Fair at its opening.

The young KELSO couple felt they had much future time together and were elated a couple of years after their wedding to have their first child, Helen who was deemed the sweetest one ever born in the little town. Both her parents were equally adored for his up-to-date medical skills and ever-growing practice and her mother for the excellent church work she did and her delightfully sweet disposition. Helen would follow in her footsteps, adding a brilliant mind, serving a long time as one of the Waveland town librarians.

Not long after little Helen was born, her father began having kidney trouble, even going to Florida for several months and returning home much better and back into his practice. Elected president of the county physicians association was quite impressive but it was really probably way too much for him as his health quickly declined and he sank rapidly. All his many doctor friends, church and family members worked hard to save the beloved man but to no avail. He passed Oct 30th in 1896 of the kidney disease called Bright's. He was a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, a Mason and active member of the Presbyterian Church. He was buried in their church cemetery.

The home Reese and Victoria had built as they were preparing to wed is still standing at 208 E. Green Street. Helen lived there until in her 50s when she met and married a kind and good man, William ISAACS. His children, beloved neighbors (I was one – loved that lady), church members and cousins were all she had left (and all that was left of that side of the KELSO family when Mr. ISAACS passed away before her. She also was close to her two step sons, John Henry ISAACS and Gerald ISAACS.

Helen also dearly loved her stepfather, (census called her KLEISER more than once vs. KELSO) Albert KLEISER who passed away in 1937, her mother in 1955. One-hundred and one was Helen's age at her death in the Ben Hur Nursing Home on September 15, 1995. She was a dear soul and loved to tell her friends all about her parents, being so proud of her mother's local involvement and her father being a doctor. Rightfully so, sweet lady, rightfully so!

This is my wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness that multiplies, health for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dreams, joy to fill your holidays. ~David Dellinger

### Upcoming Events

**Feb 28—5pm**  
**4-H AFTER HOURS**

**Mar 10, 2020—7pm**  
Genealogy Club Meeting

**Apr 14, 2020—7pm**  
Genealogy Club Meeting

**Apr 24, 2020—5pm**  
**AFTER HOURS—ALL**

**May 12, 2020—7pm**  
Genealogy Club Meeting

**May 22, 2020—5pm**  
**4-H AFTER HOURS**

**Jun 9, 2020—7pm**  
Genealogy Club Meeting

**Jun 26, 2020—5pm**  
**4-H AFTER HOURS**

**Jul 14, 2020—7pm**  
Genealogy Club Meeting

**Jul 24, 2020—5pm**  
**AFTER HOURS—ALL**

## Genealogy Research Discovers a Crawfordsville Brewing History in our Family Tree

By George W. Lorenz

While working on the LORENZ Family History, I learned that my Great Grandfather, Johann Adolph Heinrich LORENZ, “Henry”, age 5, arrived in Baltimore MD in 1832 from Germany with his parents, Siebert & Sophia and brothers, William, Heinrich, Lewis, Charles and sister, Sophia. In 1853 Henry purchased an existing Brewery building in Crawfordsville, Indiana. It was located in the triangle encased by Lafayette Ave, at Market St and Grant Ave, the western boundary of the town.

In January, 1855 Henry married Augusta REINHARD. They had five children, Frederick, Mary Anna, Caroline, William and George, from December 1855 to October 1867.

The brewery prospered. The local newspaper archives have been an excellent resource for information on the LORENZ Brewery. Henry was granted a license in 1859 to retail his beer by the dram or drink. To assure superior quality, the beer was tested and found to be pure by Dr. T.W. FRY a practical chemist.

In 1864 Henry dug a “Lagering Cellar” under the street, which was used to cool the beer and store it in hogsheads. He delivered his Lager to retailers and pubs as far away as Cincinnati and Chicago.

In 1867 Henry LORENZ was elected Councilman for Crawfordsville’s First Ward. He was also active in other civic duties. In 1869 Henry served as referee in the Crawfordsville Regatta.

Augusta LORENZ, 32, died on July 27, 1868. Henry was widowed with five children, the youngest, George, just 9 months old. Henry took the loss very hard and over time the business began to suffer. On April 22, 1870 Henry died by suicide. He was buried alongside Augusta in Oak Hill Cemetery, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

In September 2016, my wife Emily & I Visited Crawfordsville District Public Library’s Local History Department to meet with Dellie CRAIG, Local History Specialist to review information about Henry LORENZ. Dellie was a big help.

We shared information and photos we brought with us and she shared documents that were part of the Local History Archives. We promised to keep in touch and send her additional information we had at home. Dellie posted an article with the photos covering our visit in the “Genealogy Club of Montgomery County Indiana” newsletter.

In October of 2018, while doing a random search on Google, I found an article written by noted Author Rita KOHN featuring the establishment of Backstep Brewing Company in Crawfordsville. The co-founders, Jim BOROS, Pat PENNINGTON and head brewer, Josh MILLER were interviewed by Rita. She asked, “What tie-in to Crawfordville’s original brewing traditions do you plan as you build your beer portfolio?” Josh’s answer just knocked me over! “Making a beer as a tribute to Henry LORENZ the first known owner of a brewery in Crawfordsville (Lorenz Brewery) has been discussed”.

I reached out to them and introduced myself as Henry’s great grandson and asked if they did brew a tribute beer. He told me that yes in July 2018 they



featured “Pilsner Lorenz” and put it on the menu with a brief history of Lorenz Brewery. Pat invited Emily and me to visit them if we ever were in the area. In May of 2019, we were on our way to North Carolina and would be driving close by so we asked if they would be available for a visit. We let him know that we had a framed photo of Henry and asked if he would hang it in the “Tap Room”? They were delighted.

We put a plaque together featuring Henry’s photo, copies of the newspaper notices granting his license, his election to councilman, an ad for the brewery in the local City Directory, a Backstep Logo and a copy of the menu featuring “Pilsner Lorenz”. The dedication on the back of the plaque reads;

*To Pat Pennington, Jim Boros and Josh Miller. The Lorenz family presents you this token of our thanks and gratitude for brewing the “Pilsner Lorenz” beer in July of 2018 as a tribute to Henry Lorenz. We were moved by your sense of Crawfordsville brewing history as you began your business. You and the Backstep Brewery are now part of that storied history. You exhibit a wonderful entrepreneurial spirit and we wish you much success in your “Brewing Adventures”.*  
George W. Lorenz (Henry’s great grandson)

Upon hearing what we were going to do, our oldest son Kent asked if he could join us. Then his son Tyler, our grandson asked if he could come. We were thrilled. Three LORENZ generations were to present the plaque to Jim, Pat and Josh.

This would not have happened if not for Dellie spending time and helping us along our journey, so we asked her to join us. Then we asked Rita KOHN, who without her article we would not have known about Backstep and the tribute “Pilsner Lorenz”.

On May 16, 2019, we all met at Backstep and presented the plaque. We took lots of photos and had a wonderful visit. Dellie contacted Nick HEDRICK at the Journal Review in Crawfordsville and let him know what we had done to thank the owners of Backstep. Nick contacted me for an interview. Dellie sent him photos and he published an article with a photo of the three founders and the three generations of LORENZ’s, along with a photo of the plaque that now hangs in the Backstep Brewing Company.



Another batch of “Pilsner Lorenz” was brewed for the Oktoberfest Celebration held at Pike Place on September 28, 2019.

Emily and I were unable to attend; however, Josh MILLER provided us with enough “Pilsner Lorenz” for us to serve at our LORENZ Family Celebration to be held at our home on October 6, 2019. The event was a great success and the “Pilsner Lorenz” was enjoyed by all. We had 19 of the 21 members of the LORENZ Family in attendance.

Doing genealogical research is rewarding in many ways. This particular journey gave us an added reward, the new friends we met and the way they shared their time and interest in our history. There are still many things to uncover in the LORENZ Family History. This phase has been a most wonderful highlight.

When three generations are present in a family, one of them is bound to be revolutionary.  
~Elise Boulding



## New CDPL Databases Presentation photos by Dellie Craig

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Through future newsletters, we will be sharing Dellie's presentation to the Dorothy Q Chapter of the DAR on December 21, 2019. The presentation is on "New CDPL Databases plus Local History Collections Digitized. 18 were in attendance.



Dorothy Q Chapter  
DAR House

## New CDPL Databases plus Local History Collections Digitized

Added since 2017

Presented by **Dellie J Craig** -- CDPL Local History Specialist  
President of the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp  
21 December 2019 at Dorothy Q Chapter house in Crawfordsville, Indiana



Databases Presentation continued....

### Marian Morrison Local History Collection



**LOCAL HISTORY AREA -- Starting place**



**ARCHIVES AND DIGITIZING AREA**



**Dellie Craig**

### Marian Morrison Local History Collection

**COMPUTERS FOR GENEALOGY USE ONLY**



**RESEARCH TABLE AREA**

All articles and other submissions for the May 2020 newsletter must be emailed to Stephanie Simms at [stephief@live.com](mailto:stephief@live.com) by April 24, 2020.

*I*F YOU LOOK DEEPLY INTO THE PALM OF YOUR HAND, YOU WILL SEE YOUR PARENTS AND ALL GENERATIONS OF YOUR ANCESTORS. ALL OF THEM ARE ALIVE IN THIS MOMENT. EACH IS PRESENT IN YOUR BODY. YOU ARE THE CONTINUATION OF EACH OF THESE PEOPLE.

THICH NHAT HANH

WORDS @ MYBEAUTIFULWORDS.COM



## Databases Presentation continued....

## Marian Morrison Local History Collection



### **MICROFILMS AND READERS**

One machine just goes to print

Other two machines connect to computers  
(can print and save to flashdrive)

**RG (Local History General)**

**RA (Local Author)**

**RL (Montgomery County)**



## Changed in 2018 from “DB textworks to Presto”

Search All Databases



Using the above feature you will see the first 5 listings in each category. But there is an additional button to show full list

Use the links below you have option to choose individual databases to search.

Events, Cemeteries, Bibles, Genealogy Vertical File, Guardian, Local History Collection, Images Montgomery County Magazine, Marriage, Naturalizations, Persons & Firm, Scores (music), Teachers, Veterans, Vitals, and Yearbooks

After 15 years, and our CDPL databases growing, Bill Helling and Angela White decided to finally upgrade to Presto for more thorough searching .

This made for several changes and patrons weren't too happy with it at first. **Change takes time!!!**

Patrons learned how to do searches on individual databases. Then, they found they could better search by using “Search All Databases.” They now are enjoying having best of both worlds.



## New Genealogy bookmark for 2019-20



Check out our website:  
**[www.cdpl.lib.in.us/  
services/reference/  
genealogyclub](http://www.cdpl.lib.in.us/services/reference/genealogyclub)**  
 OR find us on Facebook:  
**Genealogy Club of  
Montgomery County  
Indiana**



The Family Bible Project is  
 available on the CDPL  
 Presto database:  
**[http://history.cdpl.lib.in.us/  
Presto/home/home.aspx](http://history.cdpl.lib.in.us/Presto/home/home.aspx)**  
 Over 135 bibles online  
 thanks to an IGS grant and  
 club volunteers



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.

Join us for our  
**After Hours** program  
 at the library in 2020:

January 24  
 April 24  
 July 24  
 October 23



Contact us:  
 765-362-2242 ext 118  
[delliejean@yahoo.com](mailto:delliejean@yahoo.com)





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Find additional  
interesting articles at  
[http://cdpl-  
history.blogspot.com](http://cdpl-history.blogspot.com)

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, 2019 to September 30, 2020 are due in September 2019.

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](http://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  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Date \_\_\_\_\_  New  
 Renewal

Individual  Family  Institutional  Business  
\$10/yr \$25/yr \$15/yr \$50/yr

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check if it is acceptable to email you a pdf copy of the newsletter

Family/Families you are researching:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mail application and payment to: Genealogy Club of Montgomery County Indiana Corp., 205 S. Washington St., Crawfordsville, IN 47933