



Roots and Branches

"As long as we enjoy each other, educate and promote genealogy and serve the community we should grow and prosper."

Diane Moore, President 2008; 'President's Letter'; Vol 5, Iss 2, Feb 2008

Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.

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

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Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.



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Please refer all original queries, questions, comments, answers and information about published queries or club activities and membership, in person, by mail, phone or E-mail per the appropriate contact information in the data block directly above.

2008 Executive Officers

President:	Dian Moore	Vice President :	Kim Hancock
Secretary and Reporter:	Pat Wills	Treasurer:	Alberta Krout
Activities Director:	Ruth Evans	Membership:	Alberta Krout
Newsletter Editor:		Nelson Wilson	

2008 Committees, Chairpersons and Committee Rosters

Activities:	Chair ; Ruth Evans	R : Linda Templeton, Dian Moore, Delli Craig
Finance:	Chair ; Alberta Krout	R : Mike Mitchell, Bob Smith
Membership:	Chair ; Alberta Krout	R : Mike Mitchell, Ted Radcliff
Public Information:	Chair ; Pat Wills	R : George Scharf, Nelson Wilson, Delli Craig
Nominating:	Chair ; Pat Wills	R : John Hooper, George Scharf
Cemetery:	Chair ; Kim Hancock	R : Judy Harvey, Richard Wills, Dian Moore, Archie Krout
Grants:	Chair ; Ted Ratcliff	R : Mike Mitchell, Judy Harvey
Bylaw Review:	Chair ; Kim Hancock	R : Pat Wills, Archie Krout
Refreshments:	Chair ; Eileen Hutchison	R : Doris Jones, Linda Templin

Welcome To New Members

We have been blessed to have the following new members join with us to research, learn, and grow yet another family tree. Let's warmly welcome to the club:

August 2007	September 2007	October 2007	November 2007
<i>Helen Aker</i>	<i>Martha Mae Maxwell</i>	<i>Lee A. Shroyer</i>	<i>Charlene Hutchison</i>
<i>Marti Swanson</i>			<i>Denise Gripp</i>
December 2007	January 2008	March 2008	April 2008
<i>Linda Kiple</i>	<i>Jasmine Robinson</i>	<i>Rob Durrett</i>	<i>Jim Long</i>
		<i>Deanna Durrett</i>	<i>Shirley Fruits</i>

Past Club Members Visit In April



Left: Visitors to the library in the first week of April are old friends and past members of our club, Charles and Chere Humphreys. The Humphreys are now residents of the state of Utah [that's right near to the Idaho potatoes, as you can tell by the satisfied look of well being on Charles' face]. While living in the Crawfordsville area, they were active club members for many years, having left a lasting imprint on club members and club activities, as well. Among other things, you will note their by line on the searchable on line database transcription of the several books of the county cemetery stone reading project, and you may remember their generous monetary contribution to the club treasury on behalf of the cemetaery restoration project. If you'd like to drop them a card or letter, the address is :

Charles and Chere Humphreys

190 N 1200 W

Orem, Utah 84057

Summarized Secretary's Report

Pat Wills, Secretary

Summary of the Club's meetings for Feb 2008, Mar 2008, and Apr 2008

The Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp. meets in the Crawfordsville District Public Library on the second Tuesday of each month.

In **February**, the Club purchased a handheld GPS (Global Positioning System) for use in establishing cemetery corner mapping coordinates. This information will be furnished to the State DNR .

Kim Hancock reported that 2 new stones for 2 of the veterans buried in the O'Neill Cemetery have been ordered by Claude Johnson, Montgomery Co. Veteran Service Officer. The first Beginning Genealogy Workshop will be held on February 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Donnelley Room of the library. Dian Moore will teach. Kim Hancock reported that we had received a letter from the Indiana Genealogical Society granting our club \$500 for the O'Neill Restoration Project, the award to be presented to a club member at the annual IN Genealogy Society conference on April 5 in Evansville.

The program for February was presented by Matt Vest, a Wabash College senior who spoke about "German Catholics in Southern Indiana."

In **March**, Dian Moore reported that 14 individuals took advantage of the Beginner's Workshop on February 25. Continuation of this activity will be temporarily suspended until further interest is evident.

The club will be producing a 2009 calendar .The first Calendar Committee meeting will be at 10:00 am on March 10 at the library.

The GPS device was placed with Ted Ratcliff and Mike Mitchell for a glarn'in the ropes'h. We may be furnishing meeting pictures of interest to local newspapers for the purpose of increasing our community awareness profile.

Our March program was presented by the father and son team of Jim and Henry Swift. Henry presented an excellent power point entitled "The 10 O'Clock Treaty Line" followed by Jim who spoke about "Early Surveying Procedures"

In **April**, Kim Hancock reported that 2 new stones for 2 of the 14 veterans buried in the O'Neill Cemetery have been received and stored until able to set them. Sometime in July a special ceremony will be held in the cemetery honoring the 14 veterans now resting there. Dian Moore attended the IN Genealogy Society conference on April 5 to accept the grant of \$500. for our cemetery work expenses,

Dian reported that the IN Genealogical Society is looking for volunteers for data entry into the Indiana Marriage Index.

The Calendar Committee recommended that we print fewer copies for the 2009 year to reduce costs, and that the photo theme will feature old schools of Montgomery County.

Volunteers are needed to select pictures, research and do computer work.

Dian Moore presented the April program entitled "A Mennonite Journey to Montgomery Co, In".

Future Club Program Planning

Subject to change. Watch for posters.

May 13, 2008 Regular Monthly Meeting

Program: "Cemetery Restoration – Proper Way To Repair Broken Tombstones" by Kim Hancock

June 10, 2008 Regular Monthly Meeting

Program: Round Table Sharing Of Short Stories (5 minutes max.) Of Your Civil War Ancestor(s)

July 8, 2008 Regular Monthly Meeting

Program: "Who Are The Moravians?" by Ruth Evans and Richard Wills

August 12, 2008 Regular Monthly Meeting

Program Content: How Local History Services At The Indiana Historical Society Can Help Us In Our Genealogy Research, by the Assistant Director of Local History Services at I.H.S., Stacy Klinger

August 22, 2008 Third 2008 Pizza Supper And After Hours Library Research Meeting, Open To Public

Jeannie Regan-Dinius, DNR-DHPA **Preserving the Past for the Future: Indiana's
Director of Special Initiatives Statewide Cemetery and Burial Ground Registry**



Jeannie Regan-Dinius

In recent years, the public has become more concerned with the deteriorated condition of historic cemeteries and the number of vanishing cemeteries or cemeteries that are in imminent danger of being lost. For these reasons, in July 2000 the Indiana General Assembly passed IC 14-21-1-13.5, which authorized the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology (DHPA) to survey and register every cemetery and burial ground in the state. Developing such a statewide registry will help communities identify and protect their ancestors' final resting places while safeguarding the cemetery heritage that belongs to all Hoosiers.

The statewide Cemetery and Burial Ground Registry project started in February 2001 when one staff member was hired to begin the task authorized by the general assembly. Realizing that one person could not survey every site (around 20,000 in IN), the DHPA began recruiting local area partners for the project. These are comprised of historical societies, museums, county historians, genealogical organizations, and other preservationists.

The partners will be using a survey form which will gather general information such as a cemetery's name, location, description of the site's physical condition, and details of any needed preservation efforts. Other information fields will consider a variety of other details. The amount of information gathered will vary from cemetery to cemetery, depending on available information. For some sites, the only completed data fields will be the cemetery name and location. Due to the huge number of cemeteries involved, this project will not document individual burials, marker inscriptions, or stone types. Various groups have already done such readings in the past, and other groups are currently working on reading projects.

Editor's Note : The club has enlisted as a voluntary partner in this endeavor through the purchase of a Garmin eTrex Legend, a DPHA approved, hand held Global Positioning System (GPS), which will provide the four corner point locations (global latitude and longitude) of a cemetery within a 10 meter positional accuracy.

Most Indiana genealogy and historical researchers are familiar with the *Index of Names of Persons and of Firms*. Every Indiana county has one due to the WPA efforts in creating most of them in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Montgomery County, and a few others, did not participate in the WPA project. However, in the 1970s the Indiana Historical Society finished the project and created indexes for the counties that were not covered in the original project. Bridgie Hackstaff (later, Brelsford) supervised the construction of the Montgomery County index in 1979. Bridgie worked at the Crawfordsville District Public Library and that may have been the start of the plentiful indexes now at the library. Included in the Montgomery County Index are 30 years of books which were published after the WPA project. The library also has a card file of local history subjects and people in local, state wide and broader publications. We have just started to digitize this card file for addition to the computer. It is a continuation of the *Persons and Firms* index, but also includes clubs and churches. There currently are almost 1600 digitized entries representing two drawers of cards. More are being added nearly every day from the remaining 9 drawers. You can find this index on line in two ways: Go directly to the web page by entering <http://history.cdpl.lib.in.us/organizations.html> , or go to the library home page , select “Local History” from the top left quadrant selections, and then “Index of Persons and Organization” from the right column selection. Both are public access free search addresses.

Abraham, Issac, Benjamin, James, Jofin and - - - Lorenzo !!?? by Nelson Wilson

My maternal 2G grandmother appeared to have materialized out of thin air, although her family surname [which was TOUT] abounded in Hendricks County from the 1830s through the 1870s. I had to identify every one of these folks and establish to whom they belonged before the “odd couple out” could be declared my 3G grandparents. Sorting this bunch was like finding the real person in a carnival hall of mirrors. Ten kids to a family, with boys in the majority, was the norm, all named after parents and grandparents and uncles and aunts, sometimes without a middle initial or name to uniquely identify them. And the bible based names rolled on for generations on end! At one point, I thought 2G grandmother was the daughter of one of the several 'John' named men, so in searching the every name 1850 Federal Census I found the second young son of this John appearing as - - **Lorenzo Dow** Tout. Now, this name wasn't in my bible, and wasn't anywhere else in this family either. Another mystery for some future solution.

Fast forward about 4 years to 2007. A friend loaned a copy of a publication which contained a compiled set of essays written by various folks in Montgomery County for original publication in issues of the Journal-Review in 1975, prior to the nation's bicentennial celebration in 1976. I decided to read the whole thing after I read just one essay of prime interest, and I'm glad I did. The original publication date of the following essay extraction was July 16, 1975 , from the Journal-Review Bicentennial Series, the essay titled “Pioneer Cabins Were Earliest Houses of Worship”, written by Pauline Walters. The third paragraph of the essay:

“**Lorenzo Dow, a famous pioneer preacher**, spoke at many camp meetings in Montgomery County in those early days. In 1835 he was in Crawfordsville and spoke for an hour where the soldiers monument now stands.”- - - - - “He was a true pioneer, preaching his fiery speeches throughout the county. If he wasn't invited to a cabin for his meals, he would go into the woods and eat berries. He was an eccentric, a wild – demeanored (sic) man, but truly religious.”

Well, hello 'Lorenzo' ! He certainly must have preached very effectively in Hendricks County as well as in Montgomery, leaving the same impression of high personal respect . A note: Apparently the boy who got the name 'Lorenzo' didn't hold it in as much esteem as did his parents. After the first two censuses were recorded [Lorenzo, a minor, living with parents], he spent the rest of his life in Hendricks County as just “**Dow**” Tout.



Left : At the left side of the photo is **Matt Vest**, a Wabash College senior in Political Science from Prince's Lakes, IN who presented the evening's program entitled "German Catholics in Southern Indiana" : a look at German religious architecture throughout southern and central Indiana and the effects that German immigrants in the 1800's had on that magnificent architecture. At the right side of the photo, accompanying **Matt**, is **Laura Connors**, "Quality of Life in Indiana" grant facilitator for Wabash College. Grants are furnished through the generosity of Lilly Endowment, Inc.



Above Left & Right : **Matt** chats with club members after the presentation about the circumstances and the cooperation shown him by present day church and monastery leaders in committing the many never publically exposed inteior scenes to film rercord for this presentation.

Right : **Matt Vest** receives a bound copy of a Journal-Review 150th Year Anniversary book from **Dian Moore** , club president, as a token of the clubs appreciation for his efforts in presenting the excellent evenings program.

Pictures by:

Delli Jean Craig





Above: The two part evening's program featured the father and son team of **Jim Swift, Boone County Surveyor**, here shown delivering his segment entitled "Early Surveying Procedures", and student son **Henry Swift**, whose segment was entitled "The 10 O'Clock Treaty Line".

Top Right : **Henry Swift**, displaying the **Swift** smile.

Middle Right : **Henry** is receiving a copy of The Journal-Review 150th Anniversary book from **Dian Moore**, club president, for his fine presentation.

Lower Right : **Henry**, with his award, and father **Jim** smile for the camera.



Left : **Bill Steig** examines an old tripod and transit brought by **Jim Swift**, an instrument very similar to that used by the original U.S. Land Office surveyors. **Bill** is imagining himself setting up, folding, and carrying this device for six miles a day thru heavy forest, briar thickets, ravines, over deep rivers, across interstates and vast mall parking lots. Well, **Bill's** also a progressive thinker.

Pictures by:

Delli Jean Craig



Top Left : At the regular April monthly meeting, we heard an excellent program entitled “ *A Mennonites Journey To Montgomery County*” tracing and outlining the immigration of *Dian Moore's* ancestors. *Dian* is shown here receiving her copy of *The Journal-Review 150th Anniversary* book from *Dian Moore*, club presi--- **Wait a minute! What's going on here? She's already got one!??**

Top Right : *Lee and Rita Kirkpatrick* from Florida stayed on to attended our April After Hours meeting to continue research they had been conducting for nearly a week on their Montgomery County and surrounding county ancestral families.

Below Right : Left to right are *Pat Wills, Ted Ratcliff, Kim Hancock, Richard Wills,* and *Alberta Krout* working on research of soldiers buried at O'Neill Cemetery .



Middle Left Upper : *Pam Regan* and *Karen Zach* share family tree research.

Middle Left Lower : *Bill Steig* and *Carla Rice* at microfilm readers.



Near Right : *Mary Mills* browsing the local history shelves.

Far Right : Left to right, *Mike Mitchell, Tom West,* and *Nelson Wilson* surfing the genealogy web.

Pictures by:

Delli Jean Craig



Querys are questions submitted to the Club membership at large by a person or persons seeking information or information sources to resolve those missing pieces of their puzzle that can reveal a truer picture of the past.

#1 Who are the school hack drivers proudly displaying their rig and teams in front of Wingate School? Is that a woman driver second from the left?



Please reference all newsletter query contacts by volume number, issue number, and inquiry number for clearer communication. See page 2 for contact directions.

#2 Where is specific location of this soldier's grave. Can anyone help?

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS IN MONTGOMERY CO. IN. By Pat Wills

NELSON LARGENT

Born: September 27, 1763 ; Hampshire County, VA

Service: Drafted summer of 1781 @ age 18. Served 6 mos. under Captain Miller until Cornwallis's defeat. He was age 19 @ that time.

Died: 1840 - 1850; Union Township, Montgomery Co., IN

Buried: *Unknown. Need information.*

Ref : Waters: "Roster of Revelutionary Soldiers in Indiana"; Supplement p.62

Pension application on Sept. 22, 1834

Pension R6166 VA - - rejected

Pension List 1852 p.408

D.A.R. Vol. 2 p.64

Karen Zach, Montgomery Co. Genealogist.

Re: Came to Montgomery County from Ohio; likely Champaign Co.

Married : **Probable wife,** Sarah ?? (re: 1850 census; age 78)

Probable Children : All born in Champaign County, Ohio

Randal Jonathan

Samuel (Died in Mont. Co., IN) Sarah

Nelson Jr. Nancy (Issac Cox)

A Civil War soldier's letter home - - - original by Wm G Keys

Camp at Murfreesboro, Tennessee March 18th 1863

Dear Wife

I take the present opportunity to let you know that I am well and hope that these few lined will find you enjoying the same great blessin I have yours of the 15 th mst and was very glad to hear from you and the children Hiram is writing for me I sent home fifty dollars to you by the state agent I want you to write and let me know whether you get it or not Tell Tomy that I sent him ten dollars of Confederate mondy I want to know whether you got the lockets that I sent to the children John and rose Tell John that I have got ot pretty for him well likes is dull here in Camp thare is and acts pass here now to let five men out of ot hundreds go home and stay 30 days as quickley as my line comes I will come and see you all tell Johny and Lind Small that I would like to be there to cut wax with them and have ot change his koste I think that you blame me to much for not coming home it has been impossible for me to come home here in the army is not like being at home you cant go where you please those that comes home is men that guards prisoners up in the states where thare is no enemy close at hand to pounce upon them here it is quite different.

Still remain your Husband

Wm G Keys

Dear Sister,

I receve your letter of the 5th mar and was glad to here from you and the children I am well and hope that these few lines will find you and the children all well I wrote a letter to Joseph But have not got no answer from it I come to spend the day with William we dont see one and a now very offten you ask me some questions that I could answer but I cant tell Thomas that I send him ot about this here battle no more at present

Ever Yours

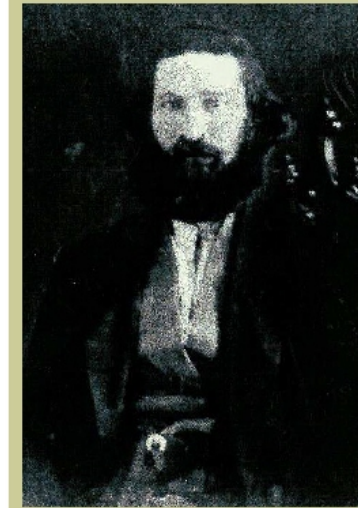
Hiram Searles

Chb 25 th

PS Thare was a man dide here in the hospitle Sence I have been writing this letter.

***NOTE: This transcription is copied as is with spelling as it was in the original letter. This letter is written by Hiram Searles for William Keys, beginning with William's greetings to his wife, and with an addendum of his own which appears to call William's wife [Esther Keys] 'Sister', but I have yet to positively determine this relationship. Hiram's mother was living with Esther Keys 7 years later per the 1870 census, and was listed as being born in Delaware, the same birth state as William Keys father. - Kim Hancock**

Editor's Note: Per 'The Inflation Calculator' at www.westegg.com/inflation/ the 1863 \$50.00 William sent to his wife Esther noted in this letter (another/same in the March 11 letter [Vol 5, Iss 2, FEB 2008]) would be equal to \$1027.08 in last year's (2007) currency.



Cemetery Restoration Project -- O'Neill Cemetery

The \$500 grant awarded by the Indiana Historical Society to the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County for the O'Neill cemetery restoration work was received at the Society's annual conference in Evansville on April 5th .

The weather has finally begun to turn in our favor, allowing us to work in the cemetery the last three Saturday's in April. We have set the new stones of John Neely and Robert Smith, two of our Civil War veterans whose stones were found broken and beyond repair. We have also set two additional repaired stones and several bases in preparation for setting of more stones that are still in the repair process. Last Saturday we also found two more stones, one listed in the DAR reading of 1963, the other a new one, bringing the list of unrecorded stone names we have found to an additional 23 names.

The month of May & June will include the finishing touches and resetting of the last of the 17 stones to clean and repair. All the tombstones that have been repaired still need the finishing touch of filling in the cracks where stone fragments have been epoxyed. Included in the restoration process will be getting the cemetery ready to be mowed and cared for properly in the future by the Ripley township trustee.

O'Neill Cemetery Restoration - Along The Way

Left : Early on, the restoration process was recognized as a struggle against Nature. Being "learn as you go" amateurs, we first tried burnt sacrifice to the gods of Nature for mercy in the attack on the rank undergrowth. This was 100% unsuccessful due to fire materials constantly being totally consumed before a volunteer sacrifice could be located. Actually, none was ever was found.

Right : Among several strategys employed was an all out Declaration of War which allowed the club to call out its 1st Volunteer Militia Reserve, a colorful Zouave unit. Here we see a member showing his deep respect to Alberta Krout, club treasurer, who is also the units paymaster. The existence of the later function is a mater of controversy since we don't pay them anything.



The above practices of building fires and bowing deeply were discussed by the Executive Committee and voted to be eliminated. They were causing us to get behind in our work.

O'Neill Cemetery Veterans Memorial Ceremony

Plans are being set with local American Legion and VFW post Commanders Steve Middleton and Glenn Conkright for a special memorial ceremony to be held at the cemetery site on July 12, 2008 in honor of the 14 veterans of the civil war, the war of 1812 and the Mexican war that the restoration has revealed. Local, state and national military, veteran, and government offices will be represented. YOU can be too!

“ Ya cain't make a silk purse out'n a sow's ear, but with 'nough elbow grease ya can make sitch a dang good copy ya cain't tell the differnce from a real'un ” -- Abe Martin (with slight paraphrase)

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Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Membership: New

Membership Class & Fee Schedule :

Renewal

Individual ___\$10 / yr

Family ___\$25 / yr

Institutional ___\$15 / yr

Business ___\$50 / yr

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ . 00

List family/families you are / may be researching :

Research activity: _____

Skills/Experience Assessment

Genealogical records used: _____

Genealogical resources used: _____

Genealogical computer programs used: _____

Other experiences related to local history, church records, cemetery records and/or preservation : _____

Program suggestions : _____

Projects we as a club could do : _____

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