

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

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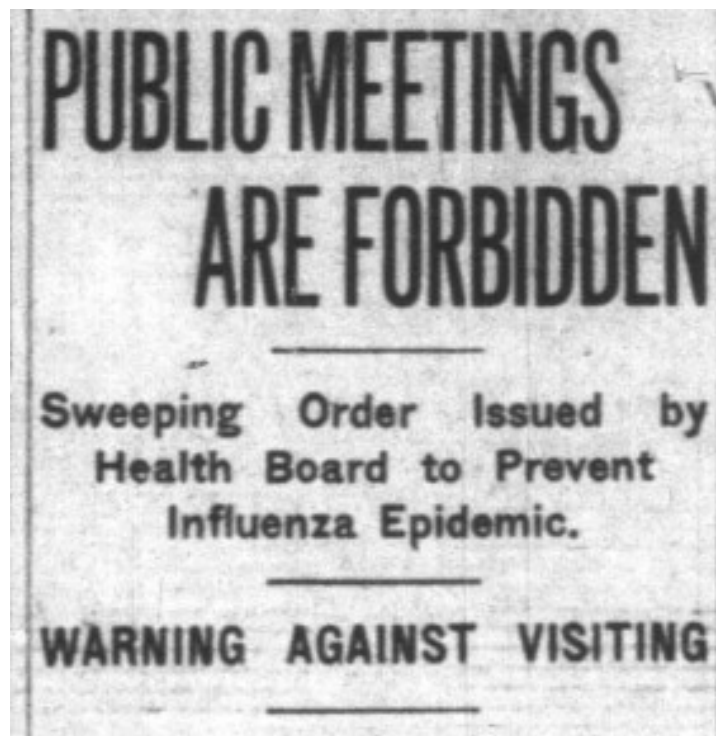
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Roots and Branches

Volume 17—Issue 3

May 2020



Although this headline is from an Indiana newspaper published in 1918, it could just as easily have been published in a newspaper of today. The world is the strangest place right now. Public places are closed, schools are closed, those of us who are able, are working from home. One nice thing about this stay at home order is the time it gives us for Genealogy research.

Watch our Facebook page, we will share items of interest in the area that you can participate in virtually. Know that we miss you all and we look forward to meeting together again one day soon.

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.

Theresa Tyner, Director of Library Services at CDPL did a presentation introducing herself to the group at our February meeting. When you are in the library, swing by and tell her hello.



Theresa Tyner



March's meeting was the first casualty of COVID-19. The photo on the left is from an issue of Montgomery Memories article on the Great Flu Pandemic of 1918 by Karen ZACH. You will read more from that article later in this issue.

This is certainly a time in history none of us are soon to forget. I encourage you all to keep a journal of events or thoughts. It will be a treasure to future generations who look back and wonder what we did during these long days working from home and what were our thoughts and fears.

Instructions for health from 1918 So much like advice given in 2020



To Prevent Influenza!

- Do not take any person's breath.
- Keep the mouth and teeth clean.
- Avoid those that cough and sneeze.
- Don't visit poorly ventilated places.
- Keep warm, get fresh air and sunshine.
- Don't use common drinking cups, towels, etc.
- Cover your mouth when you cough and sneeze.
- Avoid Worry, Fear and Fatigue.
- Stay at home if you have a cold.
- Walk to your work or office.
- In sick rooms wear a gauze mask like in illustration.

Using Funeral Home Records for Genealogy by Christine Woodcock

Once you have found the obituary for your ancestor's death, take note of the name of the funeral home that handled the arrangements. Then, contact them to see what information they have in their records regarding your ancestor.

Funeral homes keep detailed records about the individuals that they provide service to and care for. Funeral home records can be a valuable resource. The funeral home will have a copy of the "funeral card" or the card given to those who attend the service, a copy of the death record, and information on the next of kin. They will also have a list of all of the newspapers that the obituary for your ancestor was published in.

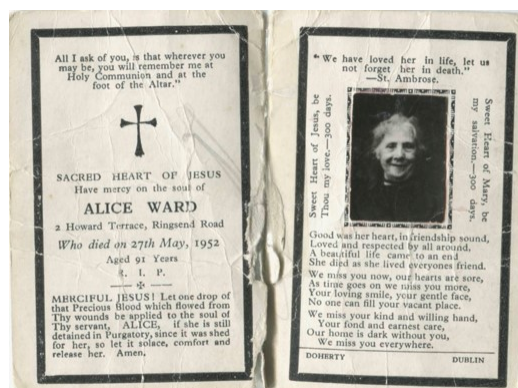
If an autopsy was performed on your ancestor, the funeral home can supply you with the information for the name and address of the coroner as well, which will allow you to contact that resource for detailed information and details surrounding the cause of death. The funeral home can provide you with the name of the deceased's family physician, the name of the insurance company (if the insurance company paid for any part of the funeral), the name of the clergy that performed the service, and often they can provide you with information about where to find a will for the deceased.

During the interview conducted by the funeral home at the time that the funeral arrangements were made, a number of details are provided. These may include:

- education
- church affiliation
- military service
- membership in clubs, lodges or other organizations.

Plans for the service might include:

- the place, time and location
- the names of any pallbearers (and perhaps their relationship to the deceased).
- music played
- readings
- prayers
- speeches or eulogies.



Historic Memorial Card courtesy of <http://agraveinterest.blogspot.com/>

You will learn whether there was a burial or a cremation, the date of the burial or cremation and if cremated, the disposition of the cremains (whether they were buried or perhaps given to a family member for safekeeping, etc.).

Don't be shy. Start writing letters requesting the information you are looking for regarding your ancestor. This information will provide you with the details you need to help "flesh out" who your ancestor really was.

The Great 1918 Flu Pandemic

By Karen Zach



It is almost impossible to count the flu victims for Montgomery County and here is one of the reasons. Supposedly the first flu victim (although there were several others sick and died before then as an article just a few days later noted that the number of deaths and new cases was lowering but in other parts of the state the epidemic had broadened), was Virgil TOMLINSON, the principal of Wingate High School. On his death record (died 11 October 1918), he is listed as dying of acute nephritis which is serious kidney inflammation. In his obituary, it is noted that he passed from Bright's Disease which is the same thing, chronic kidney inflammation. However, the obituary went on to say that his final demise began with the flu which lasted about three weeks and developed into the more serious diseases. Born September 13, 1890, he was a young man at his death, and was the son of Jacob and Mary Cochran TOMLINSON. He married Clara SIMMS October 17, 1914 and she, along with his parents and one sister, survived. Botany and Agriculture were the subjects that he taught. Thus presents one of the problems of "counting" the victims.

There were many names given to this epidemic. Pandemic; French Flu; Spanish Flu; Catarrh; LaGrippe, Grip and Sweating Sickness. It is believed the soldiers coming home from other countries (although many who never went over had it before these came home) at the close of the war brought it home. Ft. Riley, Kansas is attributed to have started the whole thing. The flu began early in the year but with a milder form, whereas by the time fall arrived, people became deathly sick. Businesses suffered immensely as people stayed home. Advertisements purporting remedies flooded the local and national news.

The second recorded death (October 13th) was Ruth WATSON, also quite young, born April 30, 1893 whose Death Record also does not mention the influenza but pneumonia, which about 90% of the time went along with the other. She was the daughter of James REYNOLDS and Alice BURK and is buried at the Masonic Cemetery (Oak Hill, Grant Avenue now). Her husband was extremely sick at the time of her death with the flu, but no record says he passed.

The oldest person dying of the flu in Montgomery County that I found was 79 years 10 months 12 days, Sophia BRENT, wife of Zach WILLIAMS who was born in Kentucky Feb 11, 1839 and passed away two days before Christmas in 1918. Two exceedingly young ones died, one at birth because his mother was so sick with pneumonia caused from the flu and Garner ALLHANDS, two months old. Obituaries for the children who died during the Flu Epidemic of 1918-1919 were extremely touching "Ruby BOTTOROFF was a sweet child, kind and unselfish in her little ways, and a favorite with all who knew her."

Thirty-four men and 25 women were tallied and the ages of the majority were 21-30 years old, next age group 31-40 and then 11-20. These figures go along with government data as per ages of Influenza victims; however, on an Indiana whole, there were slightly more female deaths than Montgomery County had.

Of course, these tallies mainly just come from the ones I found combing all of the 1918-1919 newspapers and death records. Imagine there are another dozen or so, plus as I said before it was sometimes hard to tell as other diseases stemmed from the flu and pneumonia.

Several dying left orphaned children, such as Zola LEWELLEN SMITH, who was just 32 at the time of her death with heart trouble, aggravated by influenza. She left a daughter, Nellie, age 10 and son Russell age 8. Melissa HARRIS PEARSON died at age 35, leaving six young children.

Others from here, especially several soldiers, passing away in other places from the flu included Ernest CEDARS who died on Long Island, (Camp Mills) New York with the flu that developed into pneumonia while he was studying in the Medical Corps. He was the youngest son of William Franklin and Edna GEGNER CEDARS. Russell PICKETT, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ora PICKETT of Alamo, also passed away of the influenza while training at Great Lakes. He was just 22 years old, having been born August 26, 1896 near Alamo. Capt. Ernest WARBRITTON died of pneumonia while in England during the war and likely it began with the flu, as well, since it was the height of the influenza epidemic (October 1918) in the base camps. Others listed as “died of pneumonia,” but probably of the flu were Ruby Clair BARNES, Floyd Scuyler BOWMAN, Charles BIBLE, John Franklin CONNOR, George Wallace COOK, Aetna ELMORE, Harold EVERSON, Everett HARSHBARGER, Forest HICKS, Harley JONES, Bruce KELLY, Clair McCRERY, Russell PICKETT, Guy STEPHENS, Raymond TODD, and Grant PEFFELY. John ENGLAND and William J. KESSLER most definitely died of the flu. Albert COONS had just left Crawfordsville and gone to Colorado Springs to try to regain his health after a severe case of the flu which developed throat problems and later tuberculosis. He had a young wife, Grace and a child, Mary. Albert was but 30 years old.

It is no doubt that Montgomery County was struck fairly hard, but not as badly as other counties and Indiana as a whole had one of the lower rates. Many felt this was due to how the physicians and local pharmacists, teachers, families and the like took hold and helped those in need. In conclusion, let me say, RIP to you all!

“Washed a load of pajamas so that I would have clean clothes to wear to work this week
~Anonymous

Upcoming Events

May 12, 2020—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting
CANCELLED

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

Jun 9, 2020—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting

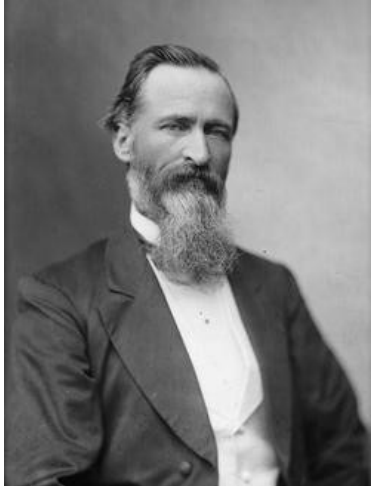
Jun 26, 2020—5pm
4-H AFTER HOURS

Jul 14, 2020—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting

Jul 24, 2020—5pm
AFTER HOURS—ALL

Honorable Michael D. White

By Chapman Brothers, Chicago



**Honorable Michael D
White, Ex Member of
Congress**

This distinguished gentleman is the senior member of the firm of White, Humphrey & Reeves, attorneys-at-law, of Crawfordsville, Ind. The firm to which he belongs is recognized as able and reliable.

Mr. WHITE was born near Springfield, Ohio, September 8, 1827. His paternal ancestors came from Vermont, and his maternal from Ireland. His grandfather WHITE was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, in which he was wounded, and died in Lafayette, Ind., about 1837. The parents of the subject were Alanson and Mary (DAUGHERTY) WHITE. In 1829, they removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and there our subject was reared on the farm and attended the common school. At the age of twenty-two years, he entered Wabash College, where he enjoyed superior advantages for four years, but left college his senior year on account of failing health.

One year on the farm so restored Mr. WHITE's strength, that he felt able to begin the study of law, and entered the office of Gen. Lew WALLACE. After his admission to the Bar, he formed a partnership with Gen. WALLACE, which continued until 1858. Mr. WHITE, early in life, displayed some of those gifts of speech which afterward placed him among the orators of the State. His legal attainments were acknowledged during his first year of practice, as he was then elected Prosecuting Attorney for Montgomery and Boone Counties. For a time he was a partner with the distinguished James N. BINFORD, and gave special attention to criminal law.

In 1860, Mr. WHITE defeated Gen. MANSON for the State Senate, in which body he served as a member of the Committee on Federal Relations, a committee of much importance at that time. In 1876, he was called still higher, and received the election to Congress over the Democratic Greenback candidates. His majority of fourteen hundred and ten over the Democrats was with one exception the largest Republican majority by any Congressional Candidate in the district. The Honorable Godlove S. ORTH, the next candidate, had a majority of only ninety-eight votes.

Since his retirement from Congress, Mr. WHITE has attended closely to his profession, in which he has been eminently successful. The marriage of our subject took place April 29, 1858, to Laura E., the daughter of Dr. J. G. McMEEHAN, an old physician, now living at the age of eighty-six years. Mrs. WHITE's birth took place May 14, 1837, in Crawfordsville, Ind., and the following children do honor to their parents' name: Millie, now Mrs. W. A. STILLWELL, of Minneapolis, Kan.; John L., of Buffalo, N. Y.; George R., a telegraph operator in Monroe County, Ind.; Grace, a graduate of the High School of the Class of '89, and who, for three and a half years, has been delivery clerk in the Post Office; Anna L., who is at home; and Robert, a child of thirteen, at home. The family are members of the Christian Church, in which Mrs. WHITE is a pleasant lady of culture and refinement, and one whose friendship it is worth one's while to cultivate. She commands the respect of the people equally with her husband, and is a most fitting companion of the honorable man with whom her married life has been passed.

Mr. WHITE is a member of Masonic fraternity, is a plain, unassuming man, popular with all parties, an able lawyer, and has gained the cognomen of “honest Mike WHITE.” He is one of the most popular members of the Montgomery County Bar, and no complaint has ever been made as to trickery in connection with his life. He has quite a reputation as an orator, and has modeled his career after that of the Honorable Henry S. LANE. His efforts on the platform are frequently marked by flashes of fire equal to those of his great predecessor, and in earnestness of purpose and logical elucidation, he is not inferior to Indiana’s gifted orator.



<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/7772237/michael-doherty-white>

“In many ways, it is hard for modern people living in First World countries to conceive of a pandemic sweeping around the world and killing millions of people, and it is even harder to believe that something as common as influenza could cause such widespread illness and death.”

~Charles River Editors, 1918

Notes from a Newbieor not so Newbie anymore



Judi Kleine

During this strange season of life, I have had a lot of distractions and not enough time to spend on my research. There is so much I still want to know. As a result, I have spent some of my time learning with Family Tree's free webinars and the virtual Indiana Genealogical Society's Annual Conference. I have started exploring new types of records and have re-evaluated what I already found—hoping to find more clues into this mystery we call family.

For example, I really want to know:

1. What happened to my great grandfather Harold Edward RARIG after he divorced my great grandmother? He disappeared into thin air. I was stunned to learn a few years ago that my ancestor was his second wife and it does not appear that his first wife died. Is it possible that he was a serial “divorcer” or maybe a bit of a rolling stone—not wanting to stay in one place for very long? He was listed as a teamster or a bus driver by trade in various sources. Did he move elsewhere and marry again?
2. Where did my family originate? Records from my Great Aunt Ruby ROBBINS LOUGH shows a long history of the ROBBINS family from England, Scotland and Wales before traveling to the “New World”. Several generations were in North Carolina before migrating into Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana. It seems like every generation of the ROBBINS' had at least 12 children with the same names used from generation to generation. It becomes very confusing deciphering who is who. I have started filing records by name and birth year to try to keep it straight. Interestingly, my daughter lived in North Carolina for 5 years and had multiple people approach her thinking she was a local until she spoke to them. She favors the ROBBINS side of the family, but growing up in Indiana did not give her the local inflections in speech. She probably spent time with some of her thousands of cousins in NC and did not even realize it.
3. How, when and why did all my husband's families migrate across the ocean from Germany, France and Ireland? Where are they from exactly? The generic Bavaria or Bayern Land found in some census records does not tell me much. Since we have a trip planned to Germany later this year, we would both really like to explore the ancestral hometowns and church records. I just hope we still get to embark on this adventure, which is uncertain at this time due to travel restrictions. I am finding that getting information on family migration and origins is a lot more complex than I expected. There are just so many people and places—and such limited information without digging a lot deeper. I was able to find a large portion of the KLEINE branch in the Hille area on historic Prussian land. We were always told that the WOLIUNG branch came from the Alsace-Lorraine area which was in France or Germany depending on the year. The fight over that area has been going on for centuries.



Nancy CARTER ROBBINS
and sister Martha CARTER

Newbie or not—continued

4. How did the 7 ROBBINS brothers actually make it to Parke County, Indiana from North Carolina with only one shot gun and 2 machetes to cut their way through the then thick forests? Did they know where they were going or did they just walk until they found what they were seeking? I am guessing there was a lot more information/supplies/etc. than what was passed down through family lore.

5. What did our families do—what was their trade? I seem to have a lot of farmers in my family. Greg has some blacksmith tools and a violin that were passed down to him from some great—great... I have my grandmothers treadle sewing machine (in rough shape) and an old flat iron. If these items could only talk and whisper their secrets to us.

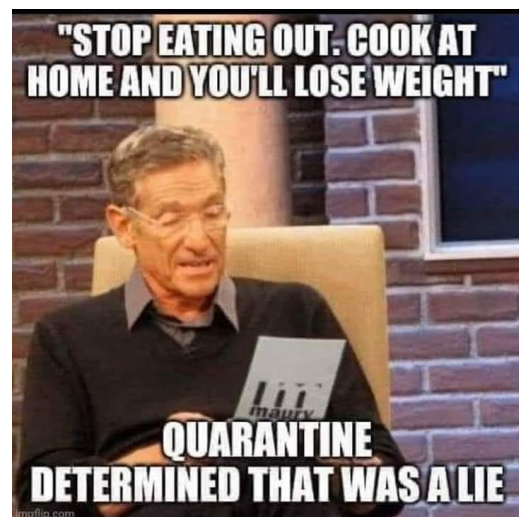
Again, I just want to know so much more about those that came before me. I love to explore. I look forward to a phrase coined during a college trip to Europe, “Feel the History”. I really want to touch the land where our ancestors were born and lived. I want to understand the joys and trials they experienced



Cereldia Lucretia “Lillian”
CARRELL RARIG

while living in the time period. How did they overcome adversity? Why did they feel the need to leave what they knew for the unknown and uncertainty? How did they handle the long journeys to get to their future destinations? How did they start over with little to nothing? All I know for certain, is that our families were made of some strong stuff to have endured what I am not sure I could. The luxuries of today, have made us soft. Could I have birthed 12+ children, daily fed and clothed my family while being a helpmate with the livestock and planting? I would probably have grown up learning the skills needed to survive if I had been born during that time. I guess I will never know what I am capable of until I am required to do it. I need to thank my ancestors for making me stronger than I realized. I am not sure why I feel the need to ramble today, but thank you for listening.

All articles and other submissions
for the August 2020 newsletter
must be emailed to
Stephanie Simms at
stephief@live.com
before the end of July 2020.



Spending a lot of time baking these days?
From Purdue Archives

INDIANA FLOUR



Bread from Indiana wheat. The flour produced in Indiana can be used to make good, highly nutritious bread, excellent pastry, rolls and hot biscuits. Statistics indicate that the average person in Indiana consumes one barrel of flour a year and this requires approximately 15,000,000 bushels of wheat. The wheat crop of the state amounts to 30,000,000 bushels and the flour mills in Indiana have a total daily capacity of 25,000 barrels of flour.

Purdue Archives shared this interesting tidbit in light of all the hours we are spending at home and one of the many ways we might spend our free time. This Indiana Flour booklet was published in 1923 and is filled with useful baking tips and recipes for breads, cakes, rolls, pastries, and cookies that sound as delicious today as they did back in 1923.

<https://earchives.lib.purdue.edu/digital/collection/AESCircular/id/9068/rec/8>

“How can a nation be called great if its bread tastes
like Kleenex?”

--- Julia Childs

In Memory of Ted Ramsay



Ted R. RAMSAY, 87, passed away Friday evening, Feb. 28, 2020, at Franciscan Health Crawfordsville.

Ted was born Dec. 31, 1932, at Milligan, the son of Fred and Margaret (nee WEBSTER) RAMSAY. He graduated from Russellville High School and began work at RR Donnelley and Sons before serving in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 until 1955 at bases in the United States and Germany. After his service he returned to RR Donnelley and Sons working in several positions before he retired from the press lineup completing 43 years of employment.

Early in life Ted joined the Russellville Community Church and after his marriage he attended the Waynetown Christian Church. Ted married Barbara McMANOMY at the Waynetown Christian Church in 1958 and she survives him.

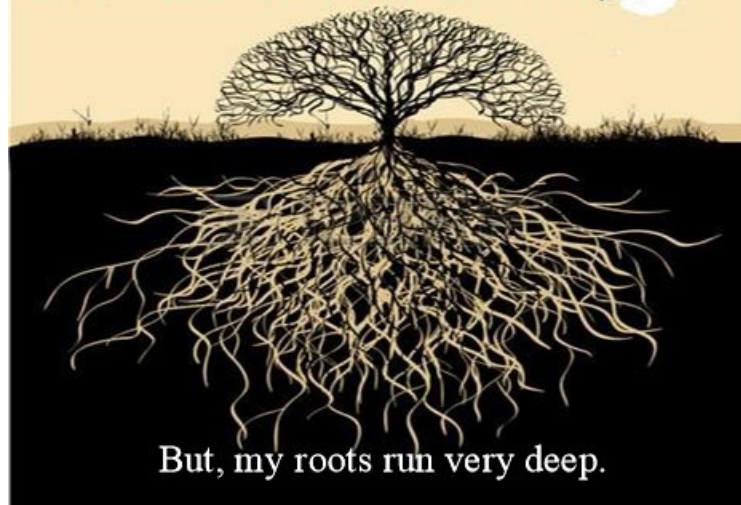
Ted had many interests and was very active in the Alamo Masonic Lodge #101 where he was a 33rd degree mason and was a member of the Rose Croix line Shrine at Terre Haute. He was also a member of the Rockville American Legion, the Crawfordsville Eagles, the historical society, maintained his family genealogy, loved to garden, camp, fish and boat. He was a proud blood donor having donated 11 gallons over his lifetime.

Ted is survived by his wife, Barbara of Crawfordsville; sons, Royce (Susan) of Omaha, Nebraska, Don and Rex, both of Crawfordsville, and Jon (Jackie) of Poland, Indiana. His grandchildren include: Jane (Frank) PEASLEE, Alan, Kinli and Kandis RAMSAY, Meagan (Adrian) STAARNES, Daniel Warren, Isaiah, Lian, Owen and Luke RAMSAY. His great-grandchildren are Charlotte and Penelopee STARNES, Parker WARREN and Charlotte RAMSAY. He was preceded in death by sister Devota STEVENS.

Visitation will be 3-6 p.m. Friday, March 6 at Shoemaker Funeral Home, 202 Bratton Road, Waynetown, followed by a funeral service at 6 p.m. with Masonic rites and military honors. Cremation will then take place and his ashes will be placed in the Waynetown Masonic Cemetery with a private family service.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.ShoemakerFuneralHome.com.

My part of the tree may look small...



But, my roots run very deep.

**GENEALOGY
CLUB OF
MONTGOMERY
COUNTY IN
CORPORATION**

205 S WASHINGTON
CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN
47933

Phone: 765-362-2242

Ext: 118

Dellie Jean Craig

E-mail:

delliejean@yahoo.com

Web: [cdpl.lib.in.us/
geneclub](http://cdpl.lib.in.us/geneclub)

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 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