



Roots and Branches

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

Dian 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.

2011 Executive Officers

President :	Joann Spragg	Vice President :	Bob Smith
Secretary :	Linda Templin	Treasurer :	Mike Mitchell
Activities Director:	Dian Moore	Membership :	Mike Mitchell
Reporter:	Nelson Wilson	Ex Officio Cemetery Committee Director :	Kim Hancock

2011 Committees, Chairpersons and Committee Rosters

Activities:	Chair ; Dian Moore	R : Ruth Evans, Helen Aker
Finance:	Chair ; Mike Mitchell	R : Ted Ratcliff
Membership:	Chair ; Mike Mitchell	R : Sam Evans,
Public Information:	Chair ; Linda Templin	R : Nelson Wilson, Dellie Craig,
Nominating:	Chair ; Joann Spragg	R : Doris Jones
Cemetery:	Director ; Kim Hancock	R : Judy Harvey, Ted Ratcliff, Dian Moore
Grants:	Chair ; Ted Ratcliff	R : Kim Hancock
Bylaw Review:	Chair ; Sam Evans	R : Ted Ratcliff
Refreshments:	Chair ; Doris Jones	R : [Monthly Meeting Pledged Volunteers]

Are You O-Pun Minded ? *The ability to make and understand puns is considered to be the highest level of language development. Nine of the 10 first place winners in the International Pun Contest were in last issue, [Vol 7, Iss 4, Aug 2010] . Here is the last one :*

A group of friars were behind on their belfry payments, so they opened up a small florist shop to raise funds. Since everyone liked to buy flowers from the men of God, a rival florist across town thought the competition was unfair. He asked the good fathers to close down, but they would not. He went back and begged the friars to close. They ignored him. So, the rival florist hired Hugh MacTaggart, the roughest and most vicious thug in town to "persuade" them to close. Hugh beat up the friars and trashed their store, saying he'd be back if they didn't close up shop. Terrified, they did so, thereby proving that only Hugh can prevent florist friars.

Future Club Program Planning

Subject to change. Watch for posters.

Activities

May10, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting ; 7:00 PM

Dian Moore, Chairperson

Program: "GRIDS ON THE GROUND, URBAN ORIENTATION ; PART 2" ;

by Jim Swift, Liscensed Surveyor

June14, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting ; 7:00 PM

Program: "COMPUTERS AND GENEALOGY" ; *by Larry Truitt, Retired Pastor*

July 12, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting ; 7:00 PM

Program: "AN INDIAN PRINCESS IN YOUR FAMILY ?" , *by Charles Hill,*

Genealogist, Indiana State Library

July 22, 2011 3rd 2011 Pizza Supper & After Hours Library Research, Open To Public; 5:00 - 9:00 PM

August 9, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting ; 7:00 PM

Program: Round Table Sharing , *A Civil War Ancestor ; Dian Moore, Moderator*



Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.
Summarized Secretary's Report

Linda Templin, Secretary



The August, September, and October, 2010, meetings of the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County, Corp. were held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Donnelley Room of the Crawfordsville District Public Library. Judy Harvey, president, presided over each of the meetings. The minutes were presented in written form, approved/corrected, and passed. The Treasurer's reports were given.

At the August meeting the program was "Find A Grave" by Ronald and Marcus Fine. Refreshments were provided by Helen Aker and George Scharff.

In September Mike Mitchell, treasurer, started accepting annual dues from members. All members are asked to complete a new membership and information form so current records can be updated. It was announced that a new free web site for Indiana records for cemetery, burial, birth and death records might be helpful in your genealogical research [<http://www.indianagenealogyindex.com>]. Refreshments were provided by Jerry Price and Andrew McCorkle..

The Annual Dinner was held in October and catered by Allen's Country Catering. The proposed 2010-11 budget was approved. New officers were elected and installed as follows: President, Joann Spragg; Vice-President, Bob Smith; Secretary, Linda Templin; Treasurer, Mike Mitchell; Activity Director, Dian Moore; and Reporter, Nelson Wilson. The Annual Award was presented to Judy Harvey for her two years of service as president, and to Ruth Evans for her four years of service as activity director. The program for the evening was "Orphan Train" presented by Barb Taylor of Crawfordsville. She gave some history about the Orphan Train and shared her own family history involving the Orphan Train.

The After Hours Workshop continues to occur from 5 to 9 pm on the fourth Friday of January, April, July, and October. To attend you must sign up by the preceeding Wednesday. Notify Dellie Craig or Dian Moore at CDPL or by calling them at 765-362-2242, ext 4. You must be inside CDPL before it closes at 5pm. Those attending the workshop first meet in the Donnelley Room for pizza dinner. Donations are accepted to cover the cost of the pizza. After dinner, the attendees are escorted to the local history department to work on genealogy research. Computers are available. Assistance is available if you should need some help finding information, using computer, etc. If you desire to leave before 9pm, you will need to be escorted to an exit door.

The November, December, 2010, and January, 2011, meetings of the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County, Corp. were held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Donnelley Room of the Crawfordsville District Public Library. Joann Spragg, president, presided over each of the meetings. The minutes were presented in written form, approved/corrected, and passed. The Treasurer's reports were given.

At the November meeting the club had their annual organizational meeting. Members volunteered for various committees and donation of refreshments for the coming year. The club decided to apply for 501c3 status, which would mean any donations made to the club would be tax deductible; and it would be easier to obtain future grants, since most applications for grants now have this as a requirement. Mike Mitchell will complete the forms and obtain the financial records required. Refreshments were served by Mike Mitchell and Ted Ratcliff.

In December, the club had their annual Christmas Party. All members shared snacks for refreshments.

Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp. Summarized Secretary's Report

Linda Templin, Secretary



The program for the evening was a roundtable discussion of "Share A Family Artifact" by the club members. For committee reports, Ted Ratcliff did report that IDOT will not be providing a road sign for the O'Neill Cemetery. He will look into the possibility of the club providing a private sign.

At the January meeting the club the program was "Elston Family Genealogy Expanded" presented by Tamara Hemmerlein, Executive Director of Montgomery County Historical Society. Refreshments were served by Helen Aker and Dancy Scharf. Committee reports were given. Ted Ratcliff reported two quotes for a private sign at O'Neill Cemetery. The proposal was tabled at this time. Mike Mitchell reported that the application for 501 c3 had been mailed. The possibility of the club obtaining Tax Exemption for club purchases was discussed and tabled.

The After Hours Workshop continues to occur from 5 to 9 pm on the fourth Friday of January, April, July, and October. To attend you must sign up by the preceeding Wednesday. Notify Dellie Craig at CDPL or by calling her at 765-362-2242, ext 118. You must be inside CDPL before it closes at 5pm. Those attending the workshop first meet in the Donnelley Room for pizza dinner. Donations are accepted to cover the cost of the pizza. After dinner, the attendees are escorted to the local history department to work on genealogy research. Computers are available. Assistance is available if you should need some help finding information, using computer, etc. If you desire to leave before 9pm, you will need to be escorted to an exit door.

From Eleanor E. Borkenhagen,

Obituaries from California

Huntington Beach, CA

WOODSON, Thomas Theodore "Ted"

100 A design engineer who invented the GE automatic clothes washer, Ted died peacefully with family present in Pomona, CA, June 11.

A direct descendant of one of America's First Families, (Jamestown, 1619), Ted was born in Crawfordsville, IN. He received his B.S. from Purdue and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Ohio State. He was active in peace and reconciliation movements. After 26 years as an industrial engineer at GE and Waste King he taught at UCLA where he authored the acclaimed Introduction to Engineering Design and founded the poverty-relief Brazil Project, later working for USAID in Brazil. Through UNESCO, he traveled around the world to promote engineering education. At Harvey Mudd College he co-founded the first of its kind Engineering Clinic and initiated the MESA program to bring minority students into engineering. He was married for 50 years to Marjorie Lois Bollinger, who died in 1985;

he then married Mildred Shaw in 1986. After retirement from HMC in his 80's he became a driving volunteer force for Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity. Last December, 150 friends and family gathered to celebrate his 100th birthday.

He is survived by his wife Mildred, his children Dr. Loren Woodson, Dr. Craig Woodson, and Claire Woodson Schlotterbeck, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

He will be greatly missed for his warmth, good humor, integrity, Golden Rule values, and quintessentially American can-do ingenuity.

A Memorial Service will be held at Monte Vista Unitarian-Universalist Congregation, 9185 Monte Vista Ave., Montclair, Saturday, June 26th at 1:30.

Donations in Ted's honor may be made to Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity, 2111 Bonita Ave. La Verne, CA 91750.

Jordan, Cecil E., 75, resident of Orange for 42 years. A native of Crawfordsville, Indiana, born 3/9/35, passed away peacefully 11/8/10. He was a machine business owner and mechanical engineer. He bravely battled MDS for 8 years. Preceded in death by his parents and one sister. Survived by wife of 57 years, Deloris; sister Sondra; brother, Tom. Beloved dad to Vicki, Jane, Kevin, Neil and Karen; "Pa" to 9 grandchildren (1 girl, 8 boys) and 2 great-grandsons. He had many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, adopted kids, young adults and grandkids in his neighborhood, at Starbucks, St. Josephs, and Windsor Apts. Funeral 11/16 at La Purisima, Orange, 10 am. Donations requested to St. Joseph Foundation, C. Jordan Mem Fund. Also please donate blood to honor him and all who gave blood to keep him alive for the past year. 13 Nov 2010

The New Market Depot



NEW MARKET DEPOT

painted by Mary E. Bryant, Montgomery County Artist

in the county. The Logansport, Crawfordsville and Southwestern Railroad surveyed and established its route through what is now New Market in 1869 and built from 1870 to 1872. A family in the area sold buttermilk to the building crew and they began to call the area Buttermilk Town. Later more products were offered and bought and it became a 'new market' in the area.

A station house was to be built in 1872, and presumably was, since the freight agent resigned in 1873. The Logansport, Crawfordsville and Southwestern Railroad was so crooked it was called the Pumpkin Vine Railroad, or the Long, Crooked and Short Winded Railroad. The Logansport, Crawfordsville and Southwestern Railroad merged with the Frankfort and Logansport Railroad, the Crawfordsville and Frankfort Railroad, the Crawfordsville and Rockville Railroad, the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad and the St. Louis, Vandalia and Terre Haute Railroad to become the Vandalia Railroad which was then part of the Pennsylvania Railroad and Penn Central.

An excursion was planned from Frankfort to Terre Haute. Cattle cars were washed and lined with muslin for passengers. One of the cars had a top. The others were covered with tree branches. The train was to be in Terre Haute by 10 am but was by then only as far as Crawfordsville. They eventually arrived in Terre Haute to start the return trip, and it started to rain. It rained downpours. They stopped at every bridge on the return trip and the train crew got out with lanterns to inspect for damage. They made it back to Frankfort by 5 am and every bridge on the route washed out after they had crossed.

A photo of the New Market Depot that I found does not match the painting. A second floor may have been added or removed. The structure burned and a baggage car served as depot until a new one was built. The depot was torn down when passenger service ended and a shed was built for freight.

After I thought I had finished researching for this project all I knew about Mary E. Bryant was that she was not in the index of *Journal Review* obituaries. She was not in the next to latest city or county directories and she was not in the White Pages. I was planning to ask if any one knew anything about her. But when I took the painting off the wall, I found a letter taped to the back from Ms. Bryant to the library when she donated the painting in 2005. At that time she was living in Texas and was 90 years old. She painted the Depot in 1930.

New Market was the last town in Montgomery County to be formed. It came into existence after 1869 when Montgomery County voted \$125,000 to aid in the construction of the last railroad built

Can You 'Picture' This ? Carol Towsley Collection

Carol Towsley of Waterloo, IA writes :

"I am hoping someone can identify some or all of the photos I am sending. They might be Bowers, Dunbar, Peterson, or ? . It would be wonderful to know who they are and who's house it was. If you need any more info, please contact me at : MKtowsley1@gmail.com ."



Possibly Thankful Frances (Ratcliff) Bowers [see pg. 7] at the left ?



Unknown house and family.



Left:

This photo has been identified by Ted Ratcliff who has a matching copy in his family collection. The man is Thomas Jefferson Bowers, and the woman is Thankful Frances (Ratcliff) Bowers. The baby in her lap is Bertha Maude Bowers, b.1879 in Indiana. Ted says that Thomas was also Indiana born.



The 5 images above and right are unidentified persons, as are the six on the following page. In addition, there is one 'print' and six matted tin types in the collection at the library which are too dark to allow clear facial feature definition if published. If you think there is a possible identification, visit the library and look at any of these more closely where less fade and publication diffusion exists.

Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.

Can You 'Picture' This ? Carol Towsley Collection

The following six are matted 'prints' with the photographer and his location copied from the matte.



Clark Photographer
MAIN St., Thorntown, INd.



C. W. Johnson Photographer
No. 15 MAIN St. N. Side
Thorntown, INd.



CLARK'S Photograph + DENTAL Roc.
No. 7 MAIN St, Thorntown, IN.



Chas. W. Johnson Photographer
No. 15, North Side of Main St.
Thorntown, IN



J.H. Fox Photographer
Chillicothe, OH



H.O. Heichert Photographer
Frankfort, IN



The Orphan Train

The October 2010 program was about the 'orphan train', and was presented by Barbara Fine. [on the right in this photo. Her sister Janet Fields is at left] Both are descendants of an orphan train passenger. The following is a description of the beginnings of this movement and its evolution into modern day foster care. It, and the images at left are credited to Wikipedia. Other sources also add that early on Indiana was the largest recipient of orphan train deliveries to the Midwestern region. Some of those strange "farm hands from Ireland" in your family's census?



The **Orphan Train** was a social experiment that transported children from crowded coastal cities of the United States to the country's Midwest for adoption. The orphan trains ran between 1854 and 1929, relocating an estimated 200,000 orphaned, abandoned, or homeless children. At the time the orphan train movement began, it was estimated that 30,000 vagrant children were living on the streets of New York City.

Two charity institutions, The Children's Aid Society (established by Charles Loring Brace) and The New York Foundling Hospital, determined to help these children. The two institutions developed a program that placed homeless city children into homes throughout the country. The children were transported to their new homes on trains which were eventually labeled "orphan trains." This period of mass relocation of children in the United States is widely recognized as the beginning of documented foster care in America

History Brace believed that institutional care stunted and destroyed children. In his view, only work, education and a strong family life could help them develop into self-reliant citizens. Brace knew that American pioneers could use help settling the American West, so he arranged to send the orphaned children to pioneer families. "In every American community, especially in a Western one, there are many spare places at the table of life," Brace wrote. "They have enough for themselves and the stranger too."

When the movement began, it was estimated that 30,000 orphaned or abandoned children were living on the streets of New York City. Many were sent west to find families and new homes, on trains that became known as "orphan trains". Sometimes there would be 30 to 40 young children riding with two or three adults. The children ranged from newborn babies to older teenagers. Conditions on the early trains were poor, little better than than cattle cars . In later years, conditions improved.

The children were encouraged to break completely with their past. The children would typically arrive in a town where local community leaders had assembled interested townspeople. The children would usually be put up on a "stage like" podium for viewing and inspection. The townspeople would inspect the children, perhaps feeling muscles and checking teeth, and after a brief interviews take the chosen ones home. Children might sing or dance to attract interest. Sadly, many siblings were separated during this process because the parents were only allowed to take one child. After a trial period, some children became indentured servants to their host families, while most were adopted, formally or informally, as family members.

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Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.

The Orphan Train

Between 1854 and 1929, more than 200,000 children rode the “Orphan Train” to new lives. The Orphan Train Heritage Society maintains an archive of riders' stories. The National Orphan Train Complex in Concordia, Kansas maintains records and also houses a research facility.

Two famous former orphan train riders are Governor John Green Brady of Alaska, and Governor Andrew Burke of North Dakota. [Ed. Note: Although The Children's Aid Society would rather you believe that no failures occurred in this system, a few did. A third famous (in-famous ?) rider was outlaw and gunfighter Billy The Kid.]



Program reception The program was not without criticism. In its early days some viewed it as a form of slavery, while some pro-slavery advocates saw it as part of the abolitionist movement, since the labor provided by the children helped to make slaves unnecessary.

Media references

- Good Boy (Little Orphan at the Train), Norman Rockwell painting
- Eddie Rode The Orphan Train, song by Jim Roll and covered by Jason Ringenberg
- The Orphan Train (Take Us In), song by U.Utah (Bruce) Phillips

ORPHAN TRAIN (Utah Phillips)

*1. Once I had a darling mother, though I can't recall
her name
I had a baby brother who I'll never see again
For the Children's Home is sending us out on the
Orphan Train
To try to find someone to take us in*

cho:

*Take us in, we have rode the Orphan Train
Take us in, we need a home, we need a name
Take us in, oh won't you be our kin
We are looking for someone to take us in*

*2. I have stolen from the poorbox, I've begged the
city street
I've swabbed the bars and pool rooms for a little
bite to eat
In my daddy's old green jacket and these rags upon
my feet
I've been looking for someone to take me in*

*3. The Children's Home they gathered us, me and all
the rest*

*They taught us to sit quietly until the food was
blest
Then they put us on the Orphan Train and sent us
way out West
To try to find someone to take us in.*

*4. The farmers and their families they came from
miles around
We lined up on the platform of the station in each
town
And one by one we parted like some living lost-
and-found
And one by one we all were taken in*

*5. Now there's many a fine doctor or a teacher in
your school
There's many a good preacher who can teach the
Golden Rule
Who started out an orphan sleeping in the freezing
rain
Whose life began out on the Orphan Train.*

Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.
Seen Along The Way



2011 Executive Officers

Lft to Rt : Ruth Evans & Judy Harvey (Retiring) : Joann Spragg, Bob Smith, Linda Templin, Mike Mitchell, Dian Moore, Nelson Wilson [Offices; Top of Pg 2]



Mr & Mrs Ted Ratcliff



**At Left :
 Btm Lft & C'wise ; Roland Fine;
 Sharon Fine;
 Aaron Davidson;
 Marcus Fine**



Mr & Mrs Bud Arnold



Charlene Hutchison



Robert L Darrah



**Mr & Mrs Michael Spragg;
 Joann is 2011 Club President**

**Visitors:
 Mr & Mrs Larry Rooze**



Tamara Hemmerlin



Mr & Mrs George Scharf

**Retiring Club Officers:
 Lft; Ruth Evans, Activities
 Rt; Judy Harvey, President**



Robert Garner



Mr & Mrs Bill Steig

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

Murfreesboro Tenn June 11 1863

Dear Wife I received your kind and good letter yesterday and was very glad to hear that you and the children were all well well we ought to thank God for his kindness to us in times when this cruel and unholy Rebellion has caused us to be seperated for a short or longer time God only knows but dear wife let it last long or short I will try and live with God asure as I can for you must know how many temptations surround a soldier but you would say that temptation make a christian stronger I do pray that it may be so with me and when I get home we will live a happy together and praise the lord all the rest of our lives and when the great day of judgement comes then we can enter that holy city and praise Christ who died that we mite be saved how I would like to be back and hear brother Shanklin preach at the Middletown I am sorry to hear of Rosey being sick but pray to god to help you to cure her I got the babys picture and think it is a good one I think he is a find boy he looks like John Franklin I think as nearly as large tell johnny he will have to grow faster or Jason will be a man first we have been going very near all the time since we got our horses and was very near sick when I got back off of our last scout but have got to rest five days and feel a great deal better we could have been home enjoying the sabity of our family if it had not been for the Butternuts at home I hope the draft will make them go into the service I received your letters a few minutes ago and you said you had not got a letter from me fer two weeks I wrote you one a few days ago and I expect you have got it before this time you said the children had the argue and you could not get it back as then give them a pound every four or five days after you get it back and then wait 4 or 5 days and give them another pound and so until you give four or five pounds and I think that this will brake it I have been in four skirmishes and have got through safe. well Hiram was here and staid all day yesterday with me I had a letter wrote to Emandy they have been harvesting here for the last ten or twelve days the wheat is short and withery but I think is purty well filled I would like to know how the draft is going and write and let me know as soon as you can for I am anxious to hear and know all the fortituluss I will tell you the price of a few things down here Potatoes are 6.00 dollars a bushell eggs 50 cents a dozen butter 60 cents a pound Give my best respects to Jim and John Small also to George Small give my best regarde to Doctor Green and George also to all my friends, my love to you and kiss fer the children I remain your loving husband untill death

William G. Keys

To his loving wife

E. Keys



William G. Keys with that promised colt navy revolver holstered at his waist . ref. Vol. 6, Iss 4, Aug 2009



William G. Keys and wife, Esther Matilda Thomas Keys with daughter Elizabeth Keys, circa 1851

Murfreesboro Ten June 15 1863

Dear wife

I now take my pen in hand to let you know that my health is tolerably good at present and I hope those few lines will find you all well and harty well I received your most kind and welcome letter a few days ago which gave me pleasure to hear from you but was sorrow to hear of your trouble affliction but I hope by the time you get this you all will be well both in body and mind well we still make it count when we go out for we take some every time we go out scouting well they have been harvesting here for several days and the wheat is generally good well we are marching or scouting prety near all the time well the citizens say they cant possibly save all of their harvest for we take all of slaves away from them and their horses and mules too so you can see thare ant much chances for them and some of them get down on their knees and beg of us not to take their horses for they say they cant live without something to rase grain with and then we take them and tel them if they will tel their friends to throw down their guns we will not bother them but just as long as they continue to hold arms they need not expect to see any better times soon for we will stay with them for a while yet anyhow. well I captured a very nice pair of boots and a pare of shoes and 8 pare of socks and a big officers overcoat and a shawl the boots shoes and socks I sold for 650 well I dont know as I have anything more to write only I send my best respects to all the neighbors so not more at present only write soon as no more but I still remain your affectionate husband til death

William G. Keys

To Esther Keys

***NOTE: The transcriptions on pages 8 & 9 are copied as is with spelling as it was in the original letters. These letters purport to have been penned by William ; the actual writers are unknown, although it does appear that they have been written by a soldier of common schooling for the period. William has said that he is too slow to write such in the limited time spent in camp, and the previous letter is a really large one. Kim Hancock**



William G. Keys with that promised colt navy revolver holstered at his waist . ref. Vol. 6, Iss 4, Aug 2009



William G. Keys and wife, Esther Matilda Thomas Keys with daughter Elizabeth Keys, circa 1851

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS In Montgomery County PART 4 of ?



About 6 years ago my husband and I started research in the county for Revolutionary War soldier burials as a personal project for the Sons of the American Revolution (S.A.R.) of which my husband Richard Wills is a member, affiliated with the Wm. Henry Harrison Chapter in Lafayette, IN. The overall S.A.R. project is to find, clean and/or repair the veteran's old grave stones, or, to have them replaced. As my husband Richard is the only member in Montgomery County, we took this county's project upon ourselves. There are around 135 cemeteries in the county, of which we have visited about 75. We found information on 35 Revolutionary War soldiers reportedly buried in this county and have only found the actual burial sites of 18. They all have been documented on the internet by a S.A.R. member who lives in Scottsburg, IN. In the next several issues of this newsletter we will be sharing information about those we have found.

Right : Pat's husband Richard Wills, an 8th generation grandson of Revolutionary War veteran Joseph Alexander.



JACOB LEVI LOUGH

Jacob was born Sept 9, 1760 in Bucks County, PA. His parents were Nicholas and Barbara Lough of Hamburg, Germany. He joined the service as a teamster under Captain Lighterhizer of the German Battalion. As he was too young for regular service, he was used as a fifer, later serving as a Sargent to the end of war. He was in the Regiment of the Continental Army, also serving with Lafayette and with Green. He was at Valley Forge in May and June of 1778. The German Battalion disbanded in 1780, and the soldiers incorporated into the regular army troops.

He was married to Nancy Warner, in Berkley County, VA in 1784. They had 11 children, two of which are buried in Waveland Methodist Cemetery, Montgomery County, IN. He died Oct 6, 1833 and is buried in Union, Cass County, MI in a family plot. We have some information on the children, birth, marriage, death and where buried. The family records were kept by Mrs Ruby Lough of Rockville, IN. There are many relatives living in Montgomery County, IN at this time.

JACOB MILLER

Jacob was born in Virginia around 1755-1756. He was in the service in 1781 in Loudon County, VA, and served as a private under Captain Abraham Kirkpatrick of Col Thomas Posey's VA Regiment at Yorktown. He was married to Margaret Dick, and they had 7 children.

Jacob died July 25, 1839 and is buried at the Masonic Cemetery (now called the Oakhill Masonic Cemetery on Grant Street in Crawfordsville). The grave has a nice stone, at the bottom of which it says he also served with George Washington. A small iron plate beside the stone states that he was a Revolutionary War soldier.

His boy, William, is buried beside his father. William Miller built the first cabin in the new town of Crawfordsville, and was one of the first 7 founders of the Crawfordsville Presbyterian Church

GEORGE WASHBURN

George was born in Susser County, New Jersey about 1756. According to what we can find of his service record, he was in the Revolutionary War from beginning to end, and later was with Daniel Boone in Kentucky. Married twice; first to Azula Robins, to which union 5 children were born, and secondly to Eleanor Rankin, the widow of another Revolutionary War soldier, Daniel Rankin. He died March 9, 1850 and is buried in Round Hill Cemetery (now called Wilson/Killen) in Coal Creek Township, Montgomery County, IN, located on the old New Richmond Road between 750N and 850N. His stone is in good condition.

In Beckwith's History of Montgomery County, he is listed under his grandson's name, Nicholas Washburn. **Cont. Next Pg**

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS In Montgomery County PART 4 of ?



PRESLEY SIMS Presley was born in Stafford County, VA in 1753. He served under Captain William's Regiment, Col Montroy's VA Company, as a Private. He was married to Nancy Bridwell, they had 2 known children, Presley Jr and Charles, with a possible third boy, Burress. These were found in the 1840 federal census, which also states Presley Sr with a "pension, age 90". We have no death date. In the 1850 federal census, no male Sims were listed. Presley Sr is buried at Mt Pleasant Cemetery, near the Pleasant Hill school. He does have some living relatives living here in Montgomery County, IN, one of whom is Roberta Hamm. *Series Part 1 in Vol 7, Iss. 2, February, 2010*

Lafayette's Letter from Kansas

Transcription by *Ruth Evans*

America Jane Rankin Kerr [at RIGHT] was the daughter of Charlotte Odell Rankin & Samuel Rankin. She was born 7 April 1835 in Tippecanoe County, IN. America Jane had 4 siblings: Marietta Matilda, Benjamin Selkirk and the twins, Nancy Caroline & Lafayette Odell. Lafayette Odell Rankin immigrated to Kansas and this is a letter he sent his sister, America. He & his wife Hester had a daughter called Pink and a son, Snid, who was a foreman for the Kansas City Stove Works in 1890. This Rankin family descended from Daniel Rankin, a Revolutionary War veteran.

Sept. 7, 1890

Well Sister, I received your letter this morning, was glad to hear from you was all well. It found us the same. You see where I left off writing three weeks ago, company came & I have not had an opportunity to write since. I think a great deal of my nephew Robert. If he had of stayed here, he would have been married by this time for there are so many pretty girls on the hill. He could not withstand the temptation.

The boys are working at the K. C. Stove Works. I quit city work and went to house building. This has been a great year for building churches in Kansas City. If church building was as good at all other places as here, H_L would be for rent in a year or two.

The boys bought an organ & Pink (his daughter) is taking lessons. She can play several pieces. We have music every evening. James Hollingsworth from the Quaker settlement lives in the house next to us. They have three young ladies that are fine singers. Miss Crum, Miss Pound and two young ladies by the name of Howard are here every evening so you can judge that I am getting tired of music.

I must write something about Kansas. I think a Kansan is very foolish for leaving the state, unless they have a chance to go to heaven. Kansas corn and Kansas wheat, Kansas rye and oats, Kansas sunny skies, Kansas grit & Kansas soil, Kansas enterprise, Kansas mines & Kansas mills, Kansas valleys, plains and hills, Kansas sun and rain, Kansas homes & farms, Kansas fruit & shades, Kansas schools and Kansas marms, Kansas buxom maids, Kansas culture, Kansas wealth, Kansas iron rails, Kansas health, prohibitions and empty jails.

As it is late this is enough foolishness for the present. Write soon. L. R.

P.S. I think of going to Texas in 2 or 3 weeks to stay all winter.



America Jane Rankin Kerr was the Great Grandmother of Ruth Irene Coats Evans



Right :Ruth Irene Coats Evans

Genealogy Club of Montgomery County IN Corp.

205 South Washington St.
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Phone: 765 362-2242 Ext 118
E-mail: gen@cpdl.lib.in.us



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List family/families you are / may be researching :

Research activities: _____

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