

Genealogy
Club of
Montgomery
County IN
Corporation

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

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Roots and Branches

Volume II—Issue I

November 2013



It is another new year for the Genealogy Club! We have several new projects and programs in the works and we are encouraging participation in existing projects as well. In this issue, we are honoring men and women who have served our country through the armed services. In addition, we have been organizing for the year, learning about a class that wants to be remembered, and helping others locate their relatives. Feel free to join us in this continuing adventure! Enjoy!

The Bible Project is in need of more old Bibles. If you would like to have the handwritten information from the center pages (Marriages, Births, Deaths, etc.) of your Family Bibles included in the Bible Project, please scan or copy the title page, the publication date, and the family information. These pages can be brought to a meeting or emailed to the library at gen@cdpl.lib.in.us. You can also bring your bible to the library to the Reference Department (2nd floor) and the information can be copied there.

2014 Executive Officers



Joann Spragg
President



John Hooper
Treasurer and
Membership



Bud Arnold
Vice President



Dian Moore
Secretary



Lynn Scharf
Activities



Judi Kleine
Reporter



Dian Moore

Summarized Secretary's Report

From minutes by Linda Templin and Dian Moore

The Genealogy Club of Montgomery County, Indiana, continues to meet the second Tuesday of every month at Crawfordsville District Public Library. The currently Club has 57 members for the 2013-2014 year. Dues are accepted all year. Visitors and new members are welcome at all meetings.

The September meeting was the annual meeting with a dinner catered by Allen's Country Kitchen. Officers elected are: Joann Spragg, president; Bud Arnold, vice president; Dian Moore, secretary; John Hooper, treasurer; Judi Kleine, reporter and Lynn Scharf, activities.

Awards of appreciation were presented to Linda Templin and Mike Mitchell for their years of service as secretary and treasurer.

A program on Family Tree Maker was presented by Donna Sargent.

The October meeting was a business meeting to organize for the 2013-2014 year. New projects were discussed and it was decided to devote the January After Hours program to offering support to 4 H members with genealogy projects.

The Club After Hours Genealogy Research continues quarterly in October, January, April and July. The gatherings are the fourth Friday of those months. To attend you must register with Dellie Craig at the Crawfordsville District Public Library at 765-362-2242 ex 118 by the

Wednesday prior to the Friday program, and be in the library building before it closes at 5 pm. We first gather in the basement meeting room for a pizza supper. Donations are accepted toward the purchase of the pizza. After dinner the attendees go upstairs to the Local History Department to research. Computers and assistance are available. You may leave at any time before 9 pm.

By Dian Moore, Secretary



Donna Sargent, speaker, discussed Family Tree Maker software and gave tips for its use



Linda Templin, Award of Appreciation Recipient



Joann presenting an Award of Appreciation to Mike Mitchell



Members of our club who served in the Armed Forces were recognized at our October meeting. Several members provided additional information to honor our veterans on the following pages. Thank you to those who served and submitted info.



Bill Stieg



Bob Miller



Jerry Price



John Cowen



Bud Arnold

Project Committees for 2014

4-H Committee:

Dellie Craig
Judi Kleine

Scholarship Committee:

Susan Miller
Linda Templin

Bible Project Committee:

Ruth Evans
Sam Evans
Mike Mitchell
Dian Moore
Linda Templin

Bylaws Review Committee:

Dian Moore
George Scharf

Cemetery Committee:

Kim Hancock
Judy Harvey
Judi Kleine
Ted Ratcliff

Grants Committee:

Charlene Hutchison
Ted Ratcliff

Standing Committees for 2014

Activities Committee: Lynn Scharf, Chair
Ruth I. Evans
Charlene Hutchison
Dian Moore
Linda Templin

Finance Committee: John Hooper, Chair
Dellie Craig
Mike Mitchell

Membership Committee: John Hooper, Chair
Sam Evans
Mike Mitchell
Nelson Wilson

Nominating Committee: Joann Spragg, Chair
Susan Miller
Lynn Scharf

Public Information Committee:
Dian Moore, Chair
George Scharf
Nelson Wilson

HONORING VETERANS FOR THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE



World War II Honoree

World War II Veteran

Served Sept 1944—Nov 1945



BRANCH OF SERVICE
U.S. Army

HOMETOWN
Lafayette, IN

HONORED BY
Judith L. Huddleston, Joseph L.
Shoemaker, Daughter & Son

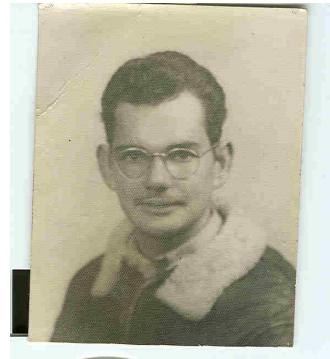


ACTIVITY DURING WWII
PACIFIC THEATER OF OPERATIONS; OKINAWA, 27TH INFANTRY DIVISION
'NEW YORK', COMPANY A, 105TH INFANTRY REGIMENT.

Medals received: Purple Heart, WWII Victory Medal and 2 Bronze Stars
Submitted by Judith Huddleston, member—this is Judith's father



TEC 5 Donald E Kleine of Milan, Indiana was drafted 5 Dec 1944 before he completed high school. He served two years as part of the 44th Tank Battalion and was stationed on Okinawa when Hiroshima was bombed. His battalion broke camp and "burned everything they couldn't take with them" and headed to Tokyo as part of the Occupation force in Japan. He was responsible for troop transportation and vehicle repair. After returning home he completed his high school classes and graduated. Submitted by Judi Kleine, member—this is Judi's father-in-law



Staff Sergeant George Scharf from Crawfordsville, Indiana was in the service for five years, 32 months of it overseas, in what was first called, "The Army Air Corps," which became, "The Army Air Force" while overseas; and, in 1947 became, "The Air Force."

The picture in his bomber jacket was taken somewhere in Algeria just before the invasion of Sicily.

Submitted by George Scharf, member



Ray S Mitchell, from Indiana, served in a Calvary Regiment in Manila, Philippines during the Spanish-American War.
Submitted by Mike Mitchell, member—this is Mike's grandfather

"If you go long enough without a bath, even the fleas will let you alone." **Ernie Pyle** (1900-1945) born in Dana, Indiana; reporter and author killed by a sniper in the South Pacific

"This will remain the LAND OF THE FREE only so long as it is the HOME OF THE BRAVE."
 Elmer H. Davis (1880-1958) Born in Aurora, Indiana—writer, radio journalist and Director of the Office of War Information during World War II



Corporal Robert Milton Shelton from Crawfordsville, Indiana served 3 years in the Army, 18 months in Korea in 1951 and 1952 with the Ambulance corps. He died in a vehicle accident on July 28, 1952 while home on leave.

Submitted by Judi Kleine, member—this is Judi's uncle



Harold C Mitchell, from Terre Haute, Indiana, served in the Navy during World War II. He was stationed out of Pensacola, Florida
 Submitted by Mike Mitchell, member—this is Mike's father

Ensign Samuel D. Evans went through NROTC on scholarship at the University of Illinois. He received a commission in the U. S. Naval Reserve. He first served 2 ½ years on the Destroyer USS Hickoks (DD-673). The ship was based in Newport, RI, but visited many areas in the Caribbean including Jamaica, Trinidad, and Cuba carrying out anti-submarine exercises. In 1956 the Hickoks joined the 6th fleet in the Mediterranean for a 6-month period. During the fall and early winter of 1957 the ship was mothballed and decommissioned at Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. Sam was then assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Tarawa (CVS-40) based in Quonset Point, RI. The Tarawa was again a part of the anti-submarine effort. He completed duty in late May of 1958.
 Submitted by Sam Evans, member



Additional Resources can be found at:

American Battle Monuments Commission Databases on Cemeteries and Memorials for Veterans of World War I, World War II and Korean War—<http://www.abmc.gov>

The Nationwide Gravesite Locator - Search for burial locations of veterans and their family members in VA National Cemeteries, state veterans cemeteries, various other military and Department of Interior cemeteries, and for veterans buried in private cemeteries when the grave is marked with a government grave marker—<http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov>

Indiana State Library has military resources for the War of 1812, Civil War, World Wars, Korean War and Vietnam, plus information on military records available from the National Archives—<http://www.in.gov/library/3114.htm>

The Indiana War Memorials which operate to acknowledge and honor the value and sacrifice of the soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines has a database of Hoosier veterans—<http://www.indianawarmemorials.org/>

The National World War II Registry has three government databases and a Registry of Remembrances—<http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>

The National Archives has World War II Army Enlistment Records, Prisoners of War, Records About Japanese Americans Relocated During World War II and Duty Locations for Naval Intelligence Personnel online that can be searched if you have Serial Number and name of the soldier—<http://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-list.jsp?cat=WR26>

The Library of Congress has a Veteran's History Project that collects interviews of veterans. The database can be searched or your veteran can be added to their information—<http://www.loc.gov/vets/>

The United States Army Heritage and Education Center has a digital archives of photographs, military manuals/publications, reference biographies and databases—<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/>



George P. Scharf
CHS Class of 1938
Secretary

CRAWFORDSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL—Class of 1938

The Lives of our Class Members

Shortly after the 45th anniversary of the graduation of the class of 1938 from Crawfordsville High School, classmates Virginia Boze Scott and Jean Cunningham Marthey decided to form a committee to plan and prepare for our 50th anniversary. This golden anniversary took place in 1988. Ten class members who lived locally volunteered to serve on the committee. The group then decided that to commemorate our golden anniversary we would assemble a document consisting of a autobiographic page from each class member telling about their lives after graduation to the time of our 50th.

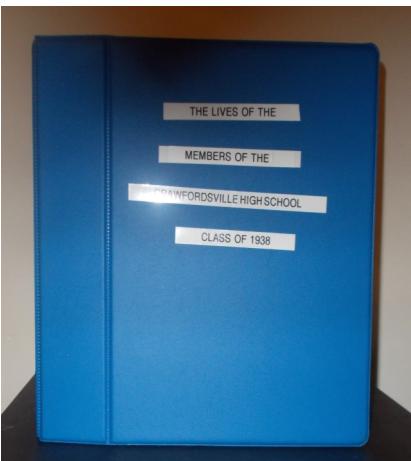
With the help of other committee members, Virginia, now our class chairman, and Jean, now our class secretary, along with committee members set about the job of getting the addresses, phone numbers and an autobiography page from all living class members. In addition, we gathered information to write a biography of classmates who had died. The response of class members was good. Classmates not only wrote a page about their lives since graduation, but often they sent us the addresses or phone numbers of classmates we did not have. Some sent information on missing classmates or the names of local relatives we could contact for information. This was especially helpful when the classmate was deceased. The upshot of this activity was that after a year or so we had the addresses and phone number and the information needed to have a biographical page on each member of the class of 1938.

All this information gathering activity resulted in a 50th anniversary booklet called, *The Way We Were*. It consisted of a biographical page on the life (to that date) written by or for each class member. The project was so well received by class members that for our 55th anniversary we assembled a booklet of classmate pictures called, *The Way We Are*. Subsequent to our 55th celebration class chairman, Virginia Boze Scott, continued collecting letters from classmates, obituaries, newspaper articles and other information on class members. She told me and other committee members her idea was that this compendium would become a history of our class of 1938. Other committee members also started contributing classmate information to Virginia.

While Virginia continued collecting class information, I started publishing a class newsletter two or three times a year. The purpose of these newsletters was to provide information and pictures of classmate activities to our widely scattered class members. With the death of Jean Cunningham Marthey in 2000, I became the class secretary. When Virginia Boze Scott died in 2009, one of her sons brought me Virginia's collection of class information. The son stated it was

Virginia's wish that someone continue with the class history project and I have been doing so since that time.

I have consolidated all class information into a single volume that is five inches thick as is shown in the pictures. Content of the volume starts with a dedication to the three classmates who lost their lives in World War II. Then comes an introduction telling how this history of the class of 1938 came about.



Information follows on how the class committee prepared for our 50th celebration. Then comes our anniversary publication, *The Way We Were*. In this section each class member now has an individual archival plastic sleeve in the document. It holds the article written by or for each of the 137 class members (73 boys, 64 girls) who graduated. There is also a sleeve for three original class member who never finished their senior year, but participated in class activities after the war. These plastic sleeves also hold updates on classmate's lives that had been sent to Virginia or me after our 50th celebration. The sleeve also contains other biographical information we have gathered on his or her life such as their obituary, spousal obituaries, pictures, newspaper articles, letters they have written updating their autobiography page, etc. This biographical sleeve section is followed by our 55th anniversary photo booklet, *The Way We Are*. Then come letters announcing our class luncheons, newsletters, and reports on our 60th through our 2013—75th reunion. Ten classmates of the 16 still living at that time made it to our diamond reunion celebration. The next section is odds and ends about activities classmates participated in while in high school such as athletics, music programs, speech arts and social club events. Newspaper articles, pictures and letters from classmates that are not included in their individual plastic sleeves can be found here. A copy of our 1938 *The Athenian* concludes the written material in the document. However, it is followed by a special plastic sleeve containing DVD's of some of our anniversary celebrations, luncheons and other activities. Originally all these were on video tape, but I have transferred them to DVD's. Hopefully as DVD technology becomes obsolete (as tape has) someone will transfer the videos to new mediums as they develop. Otherwise, in some future year there will not be any machine left that can play these DVD's.

The status of this five inch thick volume of information combining Virginia's, other classmates and my work is essentially complete. However, there is still more to be done. I am in the process of using the internet and other means to obtain the obituaries of 14 classmates that we know are deceased, but we have no post 50th anniversary information about them. Many obituaries and other articles I have are newspaper clippings or are printed on acid paper and are beginning to fade or fall apart. I am in the process of copying these to archival paper. I still have a number of post 50th anniversary class functions to transfer from tape to DVD. I may never be able to get all this done, but upon my demise my family and any surviving classmates know the document is to go to the Local History Section of the Crawfordsville District Public Library. There it will be available for research and the addition of new information on classmates should any come to light. As there are, at this writing, only 15 of us left, all in our nineties, I doubt there will be much to add except obituaries. No more articles to add like the one on the classmate who helped develop sonar for the navy in World War II, the classmate doctor who delivered over 2,000 babies or the classmate nurse who during the war met her future husband in a hospital in Italy.

Let me summarize the biographical sketches found in this document on the lives of the CHS class of 1938 - -- three classmates gave their lives in World War II. Three classmates lost their spouses in the war. Sixty-one classmates, men and women, were in all four of the military service branches. Four classmates stayed in the service until they retired. We made our living in more than 31 different occupations, (this number depends on how you define occupation) some changing career fields several times. A few made a lot of money, some had difficulty making ends meet. I have made no attempt to count the number of spousal changes or children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren mentioned. We lived, worked and died in 21 different states and after the war many no longer considered Crawfordsville home.

The autobiographies and the other information in this compendium illustrate the lives of one high school class that lived through the Great Depression of the 1930s and World War II. We also lived during some of the greatest social and technology changes in American history. This volume of work should represent well the part the members of the Crawfordsville Indiana High School Class of 1938 played in being what newscaster and author Tom Brokaw called,

“THE GREATEST GENERATION”.



Dellie Craig,
Local History
Librarian

People come from near and far away to use our Local History Department Information!

Robert and Nancy Airhart, two of our genealogy club members from Hawaii, visited Crawfordsville District Public Library on Wednesday, 16 Oct 2013 to research his **AIRHART** genealogy. Interestingly, Robert's grandparents, William and Pearl (**WHITECOTTEN**) **AIRHART** owned the Ben Hur Dairy Lunch at 120 North Washington St, just north of the Courthouse (currently the parking lot north of the Courthouse). The 1926 City Directory lists the following people at that address:
 Harold S **AIRHART** (waiter)
 Leo W **AIRHART** (clerk)
 Wm W and Pearl M **AIRHART** (owner)
 Buren L **AIRHART** (manager)



Robert will be sharing photographs of his family taken around 1926-1927. These will be included in our online image database once they are received.

Upcoming events

November 14, 2013—5:30-6:30pm

Indiana State Library Program "Technology for Genealogists"—ISL, Indianapolis, IN FREE register by Nov 10 at www.in.gov/library

November 16, 2013—9am-4pm

Genealogical Society of Marion County Conference "Photo Research and Preservation" presented by Joan Hostetler—IHS Center, Indianapolis, IN register at www.genealogyIndy.org

Judi Kleine is collecting old wedding pictures and marriage information from members for the next newsletter—please submit them at judikleine@gmail.com or bring them to a meeting

All articles and other submissions for the February newsletter must be submitted by January 24, 2014

December 10, 2013—7pm

Genealogy Club Meeting—Pitch-in Christmas treats

January 14, 2014—7pm

Genealogy Club Meeting Refreshments provided by Judi Kleine and Linda Templin

January 24, 2014—5-9pm

Free After Hours Program at CDPL Reservations required by Jan 21st Call 765-362-2242 x118 or email gen@cdpl.lib.in.us

February 11, 2014—7pm

Genealogy Club Meeting Refreshments provided by George and Lynn Scharf and Judy Harvey

Seeking Information

From: Cafi Cohen <cafi.cohen@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 3:08 PM

Subject: Re: Genealogy Research

To: DIAN MOORE <dianmoore@wildblue.net>

Dian -- Thanks for your speedy reply. I do understand about not wanting to spend hours at the courthouse, and I'm having someone peruse indices at Indiana State Library to cut down on time in Montgomery County. Here are some of the individuals I'm working on in Montgomery County. I would love hearing from anyone working on the same folks; I can share LOTS of original documentation. Thanks so much for sharing this with your genealogy club.

SURNAMES: **FOSTER, MC CRAY, SPOHR, CLINE, MONFORT, GOT**T.

William **FOSTER** (1779, Rockbridge Co., VA - 1863, Montgomery Co., IN) & wife Mary Ann (**MCCRAY**)

FOSTER (1783 - 1867)

This couple lived in Walnut Township, Montgomery County, in 1840 and 1850; by 1860, they reside with an apparent daughter in neighboring Putnam County

Likely children (family reconstructed almost entirely with indirect evidence):

1. William Reed **FOSTER** (1809 - after 1870)
2. Selina Jane **FOSTER** (1811-1833) m. David **SPOHR** (1802-1878)
3. David Campbell **FOSTER** (1813-1861) m. Ellen U. **CLINE** (1817-1873) in Montgomery County—26 May 1836
4. --?-- [male] **FOSTER** (c. 1816 - ?)
5. Nancy McCray **FOSTER** (1819 - 1899) m. Aaron **MONFORT** (1808 - 1870) in Montgomery County—21 February 1851
6. James **FOSTER** (1822 - 1896) m. Mary Jane **GOTT** (1830 - 1910) - 19 July 1849 in Montgomery County

Many buried in Indian Creek Hill Cemetery. A much more famous Alexander **FOSTER** who died in

Montgomery County in 1843 is a likely cousin of William **FOSTER**.

Thanks again,
Cafi Cohen

Donna L Staggs, 48855 Howard Drive, Lawrence, MI 49064 is seeking information on the **BIGGERS** family who lived in Howard Township, Parke County very close to the county line. The family is recorded in both Montgomery County and Parke County land records, marriage and death records. She has located Elizabeth Chapman **BIGGERS** in Montgomery County Death Records Book H-35, p 58 listed as “**BIGGUS**” who is buried in Old Union Cemetery, Waveland, Montgomery County. She is hoping to find more family members in the area and is particularly interested in cemetery records, birth, marriage and death records. If anyone has information on this family please write to her (she does not email).

**GENEALOGY
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Ext: 118
Dellie Jean Craig
E-mail:
gen@cdpl.lib.in.us

Web: cdpl.lib.in.us/
geneclub

Find additional
interesting articles at
<http://cdpl-history.blogspot.com>



Join us for a journey through history and time

**GENEALOGY CLUB OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY CORP
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Date _____

New
 Renewal

Individual
\$10/yr

Family
\$25/yr

Institutional
\$15/yr

Business
\$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