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

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The Family Bible Project is now 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. There are currently 52 bibles online with more being added every month thanks to an IGS grant and club volunteers,
The Genealogy Club of Montgomery County, Indiana, continues to meet the second Tuesday of every month at Crawfordsville District Public Library. The Club currently has 51 members. Visitors and new members are welcome at all meetings.

In August, Chandler Lighty, from the Indiana State Library, spoke on *Indiana Memory Project*. Indiana Memory is a collaboration between libraries, cultural institutions and museums that offers free digital access to collections concerning Indiana Heritage. Additionally, he spoke on the Indiana Digital Historic Newspapers available through the Indiana State Library and the Indiana Historical Society.

The September Annual Dinner had a program by Michael and Ann Packham and Stephen Thompson about the *Probate Record Preservation Project*. The current LDS project is digitizing Montgomery County Probate Records, 1824-1888, and showed examples of the information contained in the Probate Records. They also gave a brief introduction to the use of the Family Search website and encouraged everyone to add their family tree information and pictures to the site.

The October meeting was used for 2015 club reorganization and projects for the coming year. Please see page 7 for committee information.

The Club After Hours Genealogy Research continues quarterly in January, April, July and October on the fourth Friday of the month, 5-9pm. Reservations are required by 5pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. This is a great time to get help with your research.
Annual Dinner and Meeting took place in September. 38 attended the dinner and meeting.
Daniel Rankin and the Shakers

My Great Great Great Great Grandfather was Daniel RANKIN. He was born circa 1754, probably in Maryland. During the Revolutionary War, he enlisted in the Maryland Regiment in 1776 and served until December 27, 1779. He served at Valley Forge, White Plains, Fish Kill and Middle Fork. In 1792, he married Eleanor (Ellinder) TONGUE (TONG) in Loudon County, Virginia. Eleanor was born Aug. 7, 1771 in Frederick County, MD.

Daniel and Eleanor moved to Adams Co. OH in the late 1700’s and in 1801 Daniel purchased 100 acres of land on the East Fork of Eagle Creek in Adams Co, OH. This land would be in the area south and east of present-day Decatur, OH.

Starting in 1805, many families living on Eagle Creek, including the Daniel RANKIN family, were converted at camp meetings to Shakerism. “After five or six years or 1811, the 150 believers from Eagle and Straight Creeks were moved to Union Village and Busro in Knox County, Indiana. The Busro settlement was located sixteen miles north of Vincennes on Busseron Creek in Busseron township of Knox County.” (Ohio Archeological and Historical Quarterly volume 46)

In preparation for the move to Indiana with the Shakers, Daniel sold his 100 acres of land and other articles. On March 4, 1811, the 10 members of the Daniel RANKIN family with their belongings joined fellow Shakers that boarded one keel boat and a flat boat ready to set sail for the mouth of the Wabash River in Indiana. They stopped in Jeffersonville, Indiana, unloaded and set up the wagons (the horses having gone by land) so that on March 9, 1811 three wagons with seven families started from Jeffersonville for Busro, a distance of 120 miles. They arrived there on March 16, 1811. (A Cincinnati news article of 1811 reported that over a hundred families of Shakers from southwest Adams and southeast Brown counties floated past Cincinnati en route to form a Shaker village on the Wabash River in Indiana.)
Because of troubles with Indians, the War of 1812 and especially because of deaths caused by Wabash river bottoms malaria, many of the new settlers gave up and returned to Ohio. The Daniel RANKIN family, among others, must have decided to abandon the settlement at Busro and return to Ohio through Kentucky late in 1812. An entry in the Shaker records* for November, 1812 about a group traveling back to Ohio by horse and wagon notes: “We started early – passed through Lexington (KY) soon in the day - where Daniel RANKIN took the road to Limestone (modern Maysville, KY) – and all his family (except the oldest son, Daniel, who stayed with the Shakers) followed him to the old place on Eagle Creek, Ohio. The rest of the company moved on…” When Daniel and Eleanor and all of his family except Daniel Jr. returned to Adams County, Ohio, they lived on the land that he had sold in 1811 until he could repurchase it. On June 2, 1814, Isaac PORTER sold Daniel RANKIN back the 100 acres that Daniel had sold him in 1811.

Daniel and his family lived on his original 1804—100 acres of land until his death in 1833. When he originally purchased the land, it was in Adams County, OH. However in 1818, the county lines were redrawn and Daniel’s 100 acres ended up in Brown County, OH. Thus it appears that Daniel moved from Adams County to Brown County when in fact he never moved at all. Needless to say his adventure with the Shakers did not turn out as Daniel RANKIN and his family had expected.

* Shakers of Ohio: Fugitive papers concerning the Shakers of Ohio with unpublished manuscripts. John Paterson MacLean, Heer Printing Co., Columbus, Ohio 1907, pg.303.

This article was excerpted from the RANKIN FAMILY written by John H. COATS, Kalamazoo, MI., brother of Ruth (COATS) EVANS.

Note: Information found on Wikipedia states that the Busro or West Union Settlement was the western most Shaker settlement. It was only inhabited from 1809-1827 and had around 300 Shakers, including many “free blacks”, living in the settlement by the summer of 1811. Indian attacks, violence from existing settlers, swampy land, disease, tornados and New Madrid fault earthquakes were some of numerous trials the Shakers faced in Indiana. The area today is privately owned farmland.

“We must be truthful and fair in the ordinary affairs of life before we can be truthful and fair in patriotism and religion.”

Expanding our Collection

Chris Atkinson called from Shingletown, (near Redding) California a couple weeks ago saying he was coming across country to bring a photo to the library on October 27th. The panoramic photograph of the "1923 Alamo Homecoming" taken on 2 Sep 1923 was from his deceased brother Curtis Atkinson's collection. Chris thought Crawfordsville would be the best place for it. The first thing he said during the visit was -- "Its home, where it belongs." Chris is pictured below holding the photograph.

Additionally, Tom and Donna Staggs from Michigan, who have been members of our Genealogy Club, came to Crawfordsville for genealogy research September 29-30. They also met with Judy Harvey, who they had not seen in several years.

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
The Genealogy Club of Montgomery County—Committees

Standing Committees for 2015

Activities Committee: Lynn Scharf, Chairman
Dian Moore
Steve Simms
Ruth Evans

Finance Committee: John Hooper, Chairman
Mike Mitchell
Dellie Craig

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

Nominating Committee: Lynn Scharf

Public Information Committee: Larry Hathaway, Chairman
Nelson Wilson
Judi Kleine

Project Committees for 2015

4-H /Scholarship Committee: Judi Kleine
Dellie Craig
Linda Templin

Bible Project Committee: Dellie Craig
Ruth Evans
Dian Moore
Mike Mitchell

Bylaws Review Committee: Larry Hathaway
Dian Moore

Cemetery Committee: Larry Hathaway
Kim Hancock
Judy Harvey
Dian Moore

Grant Committee: Judi Kleine
Charlene Hutchison
Ted Ratcliff
On Fri, Oct 3, 2014 at 8:53 AM, Janice Pranger <jan.pranger@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

I'm looking for an obituary, cemetery or death record for my 4th great grand aunt, Phebe VANCLEAVE HARRIS, b. c. 1764 Rowan Co., NY, daughter of William VANCLEAVE and Abigail FROST.

Col John Vawter wrote an article about her in 1754 from Morgantown that was picked up in the Louisville Journal and the Kentucky Statesman. He interviewed her on 20 Jun 1854 on behalf of Lyman C. Draper.

Phebe was 14 when her family left NC for Kentucky with Daniel's Boone's party, and she lost a sister and an aunt in the Long Run Massacre. Vawter describes her as 91, 45 years a widow, and a devout Baptist.

In 1850, Phebe HARRIS was living with her son, James HARRIS in Brown, Montgomery, IN; by 1856, James was living in Wapello Co., IA, and Phebe is not with him on that census.

Her other children included Jonathan HARRIS, Ellenor HARRIS who married Jonathan TEETOR, Jane HARRIS who married Edmund BRYANT, Abigail HARRIS who married Thomas ALLISON, and Elizabeth HARRIS who married Andrew WOODFILL. Phebe appears to have outlived at least two of her daughters.

Can you offer any suggestions about how I could research Phebe's death, which probably occurred not long after 20 Jun 1854, very possibly in Montgomery Co., where it would be of interest to the large VANCLEAVE clan there? Sincerely, Jan Pranger

On Sat, Oct 18, 2014 at 3:54 PM, Linda Widau <swidau@kc.rr.com> wrote:

I sure have a big problem. I am looking for a Nancy ALEXANDER b. 1798 Ky, d. 29 June 1880 Montgomery County. Married David Armstrong SHANNON 28 Dec 1819 in Washington County, KY. Died in Scott, Montgomery Co, IN. I have all the paper trail for them to this point. Who were her parents?

I found a James H ALEXANDER with this family in 1850 Montgomery Co. He was a few years younger (brother maybe). Then I did a search and found Scott Deeds (said KY but?) Deed Book G Page 539. Dec. C, 1820 "Wm ALEXANDER's hrs. to Wm, T. COLE, W T PHILLIPS and wife Margaret (Peggy): Wm ALEXANDER; D A SHANNON and wife, Nancy SHANNON: Ann S ALEXANDER; Jas H. ALEXANDER. I have searched and searched and still have no clue because "Nancy" doesn't pop up anywhere. I thought maybe Joseph ALEXANDER B 1756 IRE D. 19 Nov 1839 Montgomery Co IN S32091 might be the one. But again no Nancy in all the records I have uncovered. My Grandparent SHANNONs were in Putnam County..Fincastle to be accurate. It is just this Nancy ALEXANDER that has me befuddled. I don't really think that she is a Joseph ALEXANDERS daughter. But how did she get to Montgomery Co. and why did David Armstrong SHANNON go too. There are no living male "Shannons” in my line as far as I know. I am past Regent of the Kansas City Chapter DAR and have exhausted that! Belong to fold3 and ancestry.com. My info on ancestry is not correct for Nancy. I was fishing for information when I put that out there. Was hoping someone would say "NO NO, this is the correct info!" No such luck. We have a wonderful Genealogy Only Library here in Lees Summit, MO. I just can't find anything on Nancy. Would appreciate any help.

Thank you,
Linda Shannon Widau, swidau@kc.rr.com, (816)741-1828
Upcoming events

November 22, 2014—10am-11am
Indiana State Library One-on-One Family History Consultations on the Third Saturday of every month. Email spfundstein@library.in.gov to schedule an appointment.

November 22, 2014—10am-noon
Indiana Historical Society program “How Hoosiers got Hitched: Marriage in Indiana” cost $10—Indiana History Center, Indianapolis register at www.indianahistory.org

December 5, 2014—3-6pm
Lew Wallace Study Holiday Tea & Fashion Show - cost $25, call 765-362-5769

December 6, 2014—8:45am-11:30pm
Montgomery County Historical Society Bus Tour to Madison, IN “Christmas Tour of Homes” reservations at 765/362-3416

December 7, 2014—1pm-3pm
Indiana Historical Society program “Growing Little Leaves: Teaching Children Genealogy Basics” Cost $8—Indiana History Center, Indianapolis register at www.indianahistory.org

December 9, 2014—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting
Christmas Pitch-in

December 20, 2014—10am-11am
Indiana State Library One-on-One Family History Consultations on the Third Saturday of every month. Email spfundstein@library.in.gov to schedule an appointment.

January 16, 2015—10am-11am
Indiana State Library One-on-One Family History Consultations on the Third Saturday of every month. Email spfundstein@library.in.gov to schedule an appointment.

January 23, 2015—5-9pm
Free After Hours Program at CDPL
Reservations required by January 20th
Call 765-362-2242 x118 or email delliejean@yahoo.com

February 10, 2015—7pm
Genealogy Club Meeting
Refreshments provided by Judy Harvey

April 25, 2015—9am-5pm
Indiana Genealogical Society Annual Conf at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN featuring Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL, of The Legal Genealogist
Register at www.indgensoc.org/conference

All articles and other submissions for the February newsletter must be submitted by January 24, 2015

Submitted by member Nelson Wilson
He found this on Facebook
The annual dues of the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County Indiana Inc. for the period October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 were due in September 2014. 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).

**GENEALOGY CLUB OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY CORP**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Date_________________  _____ New  

_____ 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